

March 2025  
Volume 29 Issue 3

# Coromandel Town Chronicle

**FREE**  
Community Magazine

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

The community magazine for Coromandel Town and surrounds since 1996

## 50 years of Driving Creek

SEE PAGE 23



Mud PG 15



Museum open day PG 18



Student Leaders PG 21



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

**View online at  
www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz**

Cover photo: Driving Creek Railway and Pottery 50 year  
celebration

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**Send your letters, articles and advertising to  
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Letters 350 words max. and articles 600 words max.

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**Emergency**

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

..... Editor's comment.....

Natalie, my friend and proof reader of the Chronicle, passed away at  
the end of January – shortly after checking the February issue before  
it went to print. She had been helping me by checking the Chronicle  
for maybe 13 years. I think I first met her at the Information Centre. I  
will miss her. I'll keep it to that, as she is mentioned in three articles  
this month – from the groups that she was involved in.

Thanks to Liz Cameron for stepping in to help by proof reading the  
Chronicle this month.

On a lighter note – March already – that means it is autumn! I hope  
you have all had a good summer. I have been enjoying the beach  
and have been settling into a new school routine.

The calendar is a lot more empty this month. If you are involved  
with putting on an event in Coromandel Town or surrounds, then  
don't forget to let me know about it and I'll get it on the calendar!

And finally I would like to thank all the awesome advertisers in this  
issue. Without local business support the Chronicle wouldn't be able  
to exist. I appreciate all the support from our community.

*Debbie*



The Coromandel Town Chronicle on the other side of the world – Mair Reed  
pictured outside the National Stadium in Cardiff in January after her visit to  
Coromandel Town in December

**Letters**

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.

**Himalaya shop : Colville**  
Hi Everyone,  
The Himalaya shop will not be open every day during March  
month. We will, however, be open most days. If you are  
coming to Colville, maybe best to phone or text us first to  
check if we are open that day.  
Our late season hours will be 10a.m. to around 3p.m.  
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A close-up photograph of a person's hand in a blue work glove holding a solar panel component, possibly a junction box or a connector, against a blue background.

## Walking with Natalie

By Tracy Kendall

### In remembrance of Natalie Blasco

Those of us in the Monday Walking Group were deeply saddened to hear of Natalie's passing. We never expected her to leave us quite so suddenly. But then isn't death always unexpected?

One member of our walking group succinctly described Natalie as "a great human being", and that summed her up beautifully. Natalie was competently thorough in all she chose to give her energies to, and give she did, most generously to our community for many years.

Natalie was often found at the back of our walking group.



One of the final walks we did with Natalie as a group on the James' farm in December 2024

"Where's Natalie," someone would call out when we couldn't see her.

"Oh, she's coming" one of us would reply.

Natalie was behind because she'd stop to admire a flower, or take a photograph, or gaze wonderingly at the view. You see, Natalie wasn't focused on the final destination, but upon the journey. She actively practised mindfulness as she walked, a lesson we could all learn from. Natalie quite literally seemed to be cherishing every moment of our walks. If we had a question about any of the flora or fauna as we walked, we'd summons Natalie, and she'd reel off the Latin name, and give us the back story on the plant.

Natalie was a great conversationalist, with whom we walked many kilometres rain or shine, up hills, down valleys, across wind swept beaches, through shades of green kauri forests, and along the dusty back roads of the Coromandel. On these journeys, we talked with Natalie on many subjects as far reaching as, astronomy, photography, the intricacies of technology, books we'd read, travel we'd done, or wanted to do, and a myriad of other stimulating topics.

Along the way we'd often notice Natalie carrying a rubbish sack, her long copper burnished hair swinging in the breeze, as she bent down to pick up plastic lids, pieces of



Natalie at Fletcher Bay on the bike ride back to Colville in November 2023

string, and bits of rubbish. The Coromandel mattered to Natalie, and she took great care looking after her environment, as was evidenced in her own extensive garden. At the conclusion of our walks, Natalie always ordered a pot of tea when we went to our café treat stops, and she liked savouring her slice of cake too.

Though Natalie left us all quite unexpectedly, the very personal impact she had upon each of our group's life will remain profound, and lasting. We are grateful for the moments in time that we spent in her company. Natalie was unique and special, and will be dearly missed by us all in the walking group. We will remember her on our walks when the breeze caresses our faces, and the sound of the sea sighs upon the beach.

## Coromandel-Colville Business Association

By Jennifer Ashman, Chair, CCBA

### Ferry/freight investigation

Are you interested in exploring how we can bring back a ferry service to Coromandel town? How much would it benefit you?

Would it benefit the town? How much would you pay for a service? These are some of the questions that the Coromandel-Colville Business Association (CCBA) is looking to explore. We want to work together with the businesses and people of our ward to investigate costs and plans, coupled with the how, why, where and anything else involved in exploring the return of a ferry/freight service to the town.

You will know that the ferry has been sorely missed since Fullers ceased their service to our area over two years ago. The CCBA is aware that there have been attempts to engage with various parties to re-introduce a service however progress appears to be stalled. We are interested in collating information from all parties and will then be looking to host an open meeting within the next couple of months to discuss how we could move this project forward.

If you would like to register your interest in attending the meeting, or have any queries, questions, information, suggestions, contacts, costings or insights please contact us via my CCBA email [ccba.chair@gmail.com](mailto:ccba.chair@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you



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Opening hours: Visit us at 150 Pound Street (behind the CILT building) on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-3pm.

**Zero food waste event: a tasty start to tackling food waste**

We had an amazing turnout for the launch of our Zero Food Waste programme! The room was full of energy as everyone came together to learn simple, practical ways to make the most of their food. Chef Toni Calder kicked things off by showing how easy it is to turn leftovers into a tasty, no-fuss meal. Then, Jo Sanderson shared her canning expertise, proving that preserving food is easier than you might think. Best of all, everyone got to sample Toni's delicious dish and Jo's beautifully preserved foods!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us. If you'd like to learn more about the Every Bite initiative, reach out to Fee at [operations@cilt.org.nz](mailto:operations@cilt.org.nz).

**Coromandel Community Van**

Our van is back up and running, travelling to Thames and back every Thursday! Door-to-door pick-ups and drop-offs are available within Coromandel Town, or you can be picked up from our office at 150 Pound Street. A koha of \$15 for a return trip would be appreciated to help keep the service accessible.

Departure: 9am from the Resource Centre (150 Pound Street). Return: 2pm from Pak n' Save, Thames. To book a seat, please contact us on (07) 866 8358 or come see us at 150 Pound Street, Coromandel Town.

**Coromandel Financial Mentoring Service**

Food insecurity may be more common than you think, with an estimated 15-20% of New Zealand's population impacted by this serious social issue. If you or your whānau are experiencing food insecurity and are needing support, please contact the Coromandel Financial Mentoring Service on 027 316 4662. Bookings are essential for this service.

**Employee Spotlight: Jean Ashby**

By Sam Ward

CILT has had many members over the years, but none more fun-loving than Jean Ashby. Jean has been a part of the CILT family for many years and we all love her for it! She is fun, caring and very sweet. As our Whanau Support Services Coordinator, Jean is always there to help those in need or

who just need someone to talk to. Jean Ashby is a great human-being and a Coromandel legend, who we all love!



**Hot Spot – Coromandel Volunteer Fire Brigade**

**January callouts**

Cardiac arrest, ambulance lift assist, tree on fire at the Sugar Loaf, scrub fire Kuaotunu (two helicopters in attendance and lasting over three days), vehicle over cliff, Kuaotunu scrub fire hot spots, Hauraki House alarm, water incident – person involved, vehicle over cliff – person trapped, car fires x 2 and ambulance assist. While not a crazy summer but busy enough given the population in the area over the festive season. The range and variety of calls highlights the wide skill set needed and the wide training involved and still more than enough to put pressure on our team of highly trained fire personnel, all volunteers. We are very grateful to our volunteers and their employers in some cases, to permit staff time off to donate to such a worthwhile cause.

The recent vegetation fire in Kuaotunu highlighted just how dry its becoming. This one fire involved brigades from Coromandel Town, Whangapoua, Kuaotunu, Matarangi, Whitianga and Cooks Beach. A lot of people in a very tricky place. One only has to look around the peninsular to see the changes – everything is drying out. If you don't need to burn please don't. Its not going to take a lot to create a very expensive fire. Keep an eye on the Fire and Emergency website [www.checkitsalright.co.nz](http://www.checkitsalright.co.nz) to get the current fire weather status.

While May is still some way off, you may well see members of our brigade back on the steps of Long Bay or the Whangapoua hill in full kit training for the next Sky Tower Challenge. Please give generously if you see the tins. The Leukaemia Foundation is such a worthwhile cause and we annually have ten or more crew entering both for the thrill of the competition and the cause.

Thank you to all those who supported us at Keltic Fair, car parking on this day is one of only two fundraisers we do annually to keep our Brigade ticking over.

# Accountants

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**Grey Power  
Coromandel Inc.**



The Grey Power Coromandel Constitution is well underway for being re-written. Fortunately, the Federation has assisted us with drafting a standard constitution for all associations to us and then flavour for local content.

Interesting, while reading the original Constitution dated October 1994, "General Meetings shall be held three or four times per year". The current committee have decided that the new Constitution will be the same. The Annual General Meeting in May, and general meetings in August, November and February.

We encourage members to attend the Annual General Meeting in May to ensure that we have new committee members stepping up as some of the committee members are moving away and/or would like to resign.

Thank you to the members who replied to our questions regarding what, who, where, why for our Grey Power Coromandel. Most replies were around the inability to attend meetings due to age, health and roading challenges.

Between meetings, the newsletter that has been going for some time now, will continue. The committee are looking at delivering the newsletter to households within the town zone, to ensure members are kept informed with Grey Power activities and local events.

The Grey Power GoFuel Fuelcard is looking encouraging as we have picked up five new members which then allows them to apply for the Fuelcard. The newsletter will have more information about applying for the Fuelcard.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Grey Power Coromandel, please contact the below for information.

President – Brian 027 319 0172 (beeandgee@hotmail.co.nz),  
Vice-President – Barbara O'Reilly 027 209 8595 (bor375@gmail.com) or  
Membership Secretary – Carol 021 081 66129 (carolcarson@xtra.co.nz)  
or myself 0274 985 227 (greypowercoro@gmail.com)

**A one-day Women's Retreat  
with Wild Stillness Retreats**

By Beth and Vanessa



As the days begin to shorten and with the richness on offer in autumn, there is no better time to take a pause before we venture into the cooler days of winter. Time to breathe, and retreat amongst the trees.

Our lives are full and busy, and a long retreat can feel out of our reach. But sometimes, a day can be the difference between feeling overwhelmed, and being at peace. We want to offer you this special one-day retreat in April to celebrate and embody autumn's abundance.

Our retreats are handcrafted to flow in the rhythm and gifts of the season and allow you the chance to connect with and celebrate your true-self. We often hide who we are or what we want to be, because of expectations from society, friends, family and even ourselves. Our retreats offer you a space to let that all go and just be.

We will weave yoga, meditation, dance, ritual, rest, cacao and delicious food into a most abundant, rewarding and rejuvenating day. You will share the space with 11 other like-minded women and be guided by co-facilitators Vanessa and Beth.

The retreat will run from 9.30am until 4pm on **Sunday 6 April**.

Buffalo Lodge are offering you a special discount if you would like to add accommodation and stay a night or two to extend your retreat.

For more information and to book please visit our website [www.wildstillnessretreats.co.nz](http://www.wildstillnessretreats.co.nz) or get in touch at [wildstillnessretreats@gmail.com](mailto:wildstillnessretreats@gmail.com) with any questions

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## The Colville General Store

By Emily Macleod, Manager



In September 1978, something special began in Colville—something that would grow to become a beloved community hub. Affectionately known as “The Shop”, the Colville General Store has stood as a beacon of good food, good people, and good times for nearly five decades. With its 50th anniversary just three years away, we’re looking forward to celebrating this milestone while also reflecting on what has made the store such a lasting success.

From its roots as Delphin Traders, the store has always been more than just a place to shop. It was founded by a small group of cooperative minded people who were passionate about community health and sustainability, and who set up the business with a commitment to providing affordable, healthy food – organic whenever possible – as well as providing paid employment, contributing directly to the area’s prosperity.

Over the years, the shop has remained closely aligned with the founding organisation which still owns it, the Colville Cooperative Society. The Co-op’s kaupapa has provided support for numerous local initiatives such as the Colville Community Health Trust, Colville Junction, and Colville Bay Preschool. The success of the shop, as with so many other ventures in Colville, can be attributed to the support of the Co-op membership, the community, and the untold volunteer hours that are at the heart of this cooperative effort.

The years have certainly brought change. Rising costs, shifting shopping habits, and the rise of online retailers pose challenges, but we continue to adapt while staying true to what makes us unique. We work hard to source the healthiest food at the best possible prices, forging strong relationships with suppliers to keep costs fair. Our business decisions are based on what is good for our community and the environment. Best of all, as a small, independent store, we have the flexibility to maintain a personal touch.

A beautiful new mural created by Caitlin Maloney and her team of local youth graces the shop entrance. This mural reflects our values – respect for the people, the generations that have built our community, the sun and the green hills that nurture us, the blues of the sea and the sky, our ancestors looking gently down on us, and the sun on the very edge, representing the warmth of the sun and the warmth of our community.



We are more than just a store, the shop is a reflection of Colville itself – resilient, connected, and honouring the past while looking to the future.

## A Taste of Matarangi: A 10th Celebration of Community



The highly anticipated A Taste of Matarangi is just around the corner, taking place on **Saturday 5 April** at the Village Green Reserve in Matarangi from 10am-4.30pm. This vibrant event promises a day filled with exceptional food, music, and community spirit, as it celebrates its 10th anniversary in style.

### A feast for the senses

From street food to gourmet delights, A Taste of Matarangi showcases an impressive lineup of culinary offerings. Local brews and quality wines will also be on hand to complement the mouth-watering dishes, ensuring there’s something to tantalize every palate.

### Fun for the whole family

Beyond the food and drink, the event is packed with family-friendly activities and competitions. It’s the perfect opportunity to bring your loved ones together for a day of laughter and enjoyment. Kids and adults alike will find plenty to keep them entertained.

### Get festive and win!

Gather your crew and sort your best outfit for our Best Festive Dress Competition – dress to impress and be in to win!

Bake a cake with a festive theme and enter our Best Celebration Cake Bake-Off Competition. Get your thinking caps on now and show us your most creative, celebratory cake! Go to our website for more details.

The Main Stage – A Musical Extravaganza This year’s main stage lineup is one of the best yet, featuring incredible performances to mark the event’s milestone 10th anniversary. Prepare to sing, dance, and celebrate to the sounds of some of the region’s finest musicians.

### Supporting local charities

A Taste of Matarangi is not just about good food and music; it’s also about giving back to the community. This year’s event will support three key charity recipients: Te Rerenga School, KSAR (Kuaotunu Search and Rescue), and the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust. Guests are encouraged to bring coins for the charity bucket drop and raffles, while exciting auctions will take the stage to raise additional funds.

### Secure your tickets now

Make sure to purchase your tickets through the official event website to secure your spot at this unmissable event. Tickets – \$30 adult, \$5 children, under 5yrs free. While you’re there, consider making a donation to further support the event’s charitable causes. Tickets are selling fast, so don’t miss out!

### Stay updated

Keep an eye on A Taste of Matarangi’s Facebook and Instagram pages for the latest updates, including announcements about the food vendors, entertainment, and special activities.

Mark your calendars for a celebration like no other. We can’t wait to see you there!

A special thanks to our Gold sponsors: All About Whitianga, Coro Digital, CFM Coromandel.

For more information, visit [www.atasteofmatarangi.co.nz](http://www.atasteofmatarangi.co.nz), where you’ll find details on: how to get there, accommodation options, the music lineup, information about our chosen charities, competition details, our fantastic sponsors, terms and conditions, ticket sales and more!

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### Library News

By Paul Lawrence

This will be my last contribution to the Chronicle as the town’s librarian.

When I took up the position in 2022, I had no idea I would still be here into my 3rd year. I have decided that it is time I retired (as I had planned to do 7 years ago).

During my time at the library I have met so many wonderful people and shared a laugh or two. Three years ago, I knew very few people. Now I know just about everyone I meet on the street.

I offer a special thank you to all the volunteers, and the committee, who have had to put up with my way of doing things, and supported me through my tenure.

Now looking to the future. It is my pleasure to let you know, that Jasmine O’Neil will be starting as librarian on 10 March.

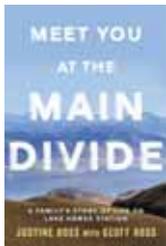
Jasmine brings many pertinent strengths and skills to her role, in particular her recent position as finance manager and human resource coordinator for Coromandel

Independent Living Trust.

I’m sure you will all join me in wishing Jasmine success in her new role.

**Meet You at the Main Divide – Justine Ross & Geoff Ross**

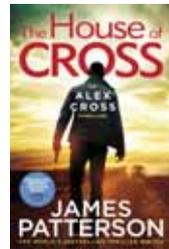
This is the story of Justine and Geoff Ross, the



founders of “42 Below” vodka, who decided to leave Auckland and buy the run-down 6500-hectare high-country sheep station at Lake Hawea.

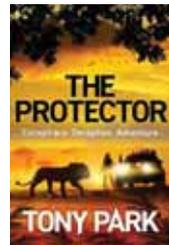
Freezing winters and scorching summers, were some of the challenges managing 10,000 merino sheep while showing that sustainability could still be profitable.

A good read about what is possible.



**The House of Cross – James Patterson**

The 33rd book in the Alex Cross series, number 34 due out in October 2025, finds Cross investigating a serial killer who is taking out America’s finest legal minds. When his wife and best friend go missing, the stakes get higher.



**The Protector – Tony Park**

Busting poachers, and freeing endangered anteaters, in undercover stings, is Professor Denise “Doc” Rado’s job. A risky operation backfires, her life is shattered, but she must still lead a group of donors

on a South African wildlife tour. But there’s a target on her back.

As they travel deep into Africa, it is Doc’s job to keep everyone safe. But from who or what?

## POETRY SPOT

### Summer haiku

By Bon Shmirvine

Blue skies and glassy  
Seas are signs of summer time  
Sand falls from right ear

# A TASTE OF MATARANGI

TICKETS \$30

A fabulous day of food, drinks & music by the beach

## 5 April 2025

# 10<sup>th</sup>

### Celebrating the 10th A Taste of Matarangi Festival

Supporting Our Community! — Charities: Kuaotunu Land Search & Rescue, Te Rerenga School, Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust

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## The Colville Project

By Katie Lowes

All of us at The Colville Project (TCP) hope you had a glorious break, relaxing and connecting with loved ones. For those local businesses who thrive at this time of year, we hope you have experienced great trade and are benefiting from the major roadworks our area has undergone as part of the cyclone recovery.

As TCP looks to map the activity of our board, team, and volunteers over 2025, we wanted to share with you the major milestones ahead. We welcome volunteers, both local and remote, and we welcome connection with anyone inspired by our mahi:

1. Resource consent
2. Funding/ Revenue resilience
3. Development of new sub-committees as we move forward with our on-site activity (e.g. weed management, completion of water tank installation, access improvements, and development of multi-use options).

### Visit from Scott Simpson

It was a pleasure to host Scott Simpson on site last month and discuss the nature of our long-term project and to ensure the aspirations of our district are heard. It was great to share the amazing feat of our wider community, itself having raised \$1.2 million to enable our land purchase and to contribute to funds tagged specifically towards the building stage of the Wellbeing and Education Centre. We also discussed potential opportunities and networking pathways for TCP, and Scott's contribution was very helpful in contributing to our next steps.



Sassy Acorn managing Ginger infestation

### Weed management

Thanks to Kate Pepper (WRC Senior Biodiversity Officer), Remnant Restoration Ltd (who are leading the weed management work) and our local community volunteers. Thanks go to Amajjika Kumara (TCP Funding) and the wider team for a robust ecological restoration proposal, centered on the Ecological Assessment and Restoration Recommendations report developed previously by Richard Webster of Remnant Restorations Ltd. TCP was successful in applying to WRC's recent Environmental Initiatives Fund.

### New kauri hygiene station

Before we broke for our summer shutdown we installed a Kauri Foot Wash Station donated by Waikato Regional Council (WRC). Special thanks go to WRC's Benson

Lockhart (Pest Plant Officer) for coordinating this; and to Rick Lambourne for doing the hard-yard-effort of the installation. TCP's values include being committed to achieving lasting positive impacts on our environment. With water tanks on the land we're developing fire safety. With the kauri hygiene station we are growing awareness of protecting our natural habitats and supporting regeneration of kauri on-site.

### Catching-up with DV Bryant Trust

It was a pleasure, as always, to connect with DV Bryant Trust's Raewyn Kirkman at the close of 2024. DV Bryant has been a long-time supporter of our vision. Our community has the capacity to develop our own solutions to our needs, problems and aspirations. The Colville Project's Wellbeing and Education Centre is part of one such solution. We appreciate the time and effort that Raewyn put in to come and meet us inside the Northern Coromandel Peninsula, and enjoyed sharing our planned next steps with her.

Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages for more news of our progress. Please email Katie admin@thecolvilleproject.nz if you'd like to get involved. Check us out: www.thecolvilleproject.nz, @thecolvilleproject

## Coromandel Lions

By Mary Farmer, Coromandel Lions Vice President



Hello everyone, this article will be short and sweet (just like me!).

The club were busy over the anniversary weekend outside Four Square selling our "famous in Coromandel" fritters. We had a great morning and as usual were well supported by locals and visitors alike, thank you guys doing this, you help with the community projects we do, you can feel really proud of yourselves.

During the next few weeks we will be getting the wood orders out and if you see the Lions truck, give us a wave.

We have plans in hand to be at the "A Taste of Matarangi" festival on **Saturday 5 April** with our fritters and I hope we will get to see many old and new faces in the crowd, come along and enjoy the day, it's normally a great little day out.

Just leaves me to say once more a big thank you to all that help the club support us in ways I can't believe, we have a great community here in Coromandel Town. I'm proud to live here.

Contact details are at the foot of the article, please call if you would like to get involved in our projects and or club.

Stay well and safe.

Contact details: President Sue Hughes 021 142 1124, Secretary Jean Smith 021 208 7576, Wood orders Sue Hughes 021 142 1124



Scott Simpson and some of The Colville Project team



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JUST PERFECT... in so many ways! Stunning mini lifestyle property of 8,726m2 only 800mtrs from town. Massive home with 3brms, 2bath, office, lounge and media room. Implement shed plus garaging. **\$1.595M**



Frame the view! Set high above stunning Wyuna Bay beach, where commanding harbour, range & gulf views are on show. Contemporary styled home – 4brms, 2.5 bath, office/sewing room & decking. **\$1.525M**



Phenomenal Hauraki Gulf & island views! Extremely private 3.18Ha pasture block adjacent to 2 covenanted bush blocks. 3brm, 2bath home, garage, plus large implement shed. Waitete Bay beach close by. **\$990,000**



Garaging Galore!!! Positioned to capture a northerly aspect, this well-presented property features a 2brm 'Initial' home with private decking & single garage. There is a brilliant separate large garage/shed. **\$635,000**



5.5Ha birdlife haven set on the north edges of town with stunning native trees, ponds, bush walks, Olive groves and gulf/island views. 2brm home, open-plan living, huge courtyards, garage/sleepout, privacy. **O/O \$1.35M**



STUNNING north facing views of the harbour, large 3,700m2 private section. **\$PBN**



Wonderful at Waitete Bay! 7.96Ha lifestyle block, 4brms, 2bath, BIG garaging. **\$2.1M**



Idyllic 7,069m2 setting with harbour views. 2brm home + 1brm cottage & studio. **\$POA**



Classic mid '60's renovated 3brm home on 625m2 well-fenced section. **\$650,000**



Renovated 3brm/2 bathroom home with garage, carport and small section. **\$620,000**



Look at those VIEWS! Wyuna Bay peninsula, 2brm holiday home, waterfront. **\$955,000**



Excellent for your family. 3brms, dble garage/wrkshp, s/pool, sleepout. **\$765,000**



24.5Ha lifestyle property, 2 x 3brm homes, sea views, massive garaging. **\$2.25M** <sup>+ GST (if any)</sup>



'Elizabeth Park'... Immac presented 2brm brick home, private rear yard. **\$550,000**



Get your design book out! Brilliant 2,953m2 vacant section, valley views. **\$450,000**



Bring your renovation/redeco flair! 3brms, 2 bathrooms, garage, fenced. **\$550,000**



'Elizabeth Park' just perfect for your senior years! 2brms, garage/studio. **\$475,000**



Waterfront at Tuateta. Bush section of 7,183m2 with camping/building site. **\$PBN**



A great price to start home ownership or as a possible rental, 3brms. **\$490,000**

## Coromandel Garden Circle

By Sheana Goudie

As per usual, we did not have a meeting in January, as everyone was busy with family and friends and our gardens had slipped down the priority list. Just as our thoughts were turning to our February meeting and catching up with each other, we received the devastating news that our Natalie had suddenly passed away in her treasured garden. Natalie Blasco was our wonderful secretary, researcher, fount of all knowledge and friend to all. Natalie also touched so many lives in different ways, from garden groups, walking groups, the Information Centre, garden and coffee buddies, and so many other connections in Coromandel and afar.

On Friday 7 February at Buffalo Cemetery, a gathering of seventy plus people stood in the sunshine, with a gentle breeze in the trees and bell birds singing. It was a Natalie day. Later stories, tears and laughter were shared by those who knew her at the Combined Coromandel Club. Thank you to all the Garden Circle members who provided the food, and to those who helped in a variety of other ways. RIP Natalie – you will never be forgotten.

Our February meeting was a garden ramble around four beautiful Te Mata gardens in the sunshine. Thank you to Jan Batson and Diane Dobson for providing the



One of the gardens at the February Te Mata garden ramble

yummy morning tea of delicious scones, loaves and muffins and especially to Jan for her superb organisation of the day.

Jan Batson, Myra Lincoln, Glenda Silvester hosted our morning garden visits and Joan Foote hosted us in her garden in the afternoon.

We took our own packed lunches and had a wander around the Rapaura Water Gardens at nearby Tapu. Some of us sat and chatted about the gardens we had seen, while others took in the sounds of the birds in the native bush and ferns, the meandering walks, the waterfall, the lily ponds and the sculptures dotted around the gardens.

What a day we were treated to, with four such different gardens and wonderful hostesses at each venue. The gardens were all very steep and challenging to garden in, but because they were so high up, the views were stunning. We all took home so many ideas for our own gardens, from layouts to



Garden Circle members at the February Te Mata garden ramble

pathways, plants and trees that grow and thrive in a variety of areas, expanding our knowledge, enjoying convivial company and the weather was great and not too hot.

As always, our meetings are open to visitors and we welcome new members to join us. Not everyone comes every week, but it is a great way to get to know your community and make new friends and connections.

Next meeting: **Wednesday 12 March**

Venue: The Club

Start time: 1pm

Speaker: Coromandel Independent Living Trust (CILT)

Arrangement: Reflection

Special: It's a Tart

## Chopper Chat

By Nigel Strongman, Trustee of the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust



Last month was a busy month for the Rescue Helicopters, with 18 missions by Auckland Rescue, seven of these to our side of the hill, Plus 14 flown by Waikato Rescue Helicopter, the details of which I am not privy too.

Yesterday, I attended our bi-monthly meeting for the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust, with one of the main items on the agenda being the updating of the Deed of Trust for Incorporated Societies, which every organisation such as ours must by law have. This deed sets out the rules and guidelines which we Trustees must adhere to, and so safeguard the assets and monies that we handle, and are in charge of. I am pleased to report that all the trustees have your best interests at heart, and will not in any shape or form tolerate anything detrimental to the trust.

One of the recent improvements to our base was the installation of a bulk tank for Jet A1 (Aviation Kerosine), the fuel that all the larger choppers run on. This fuel is available not only to the Rescue Helicopters, but also Police, Armed Forces etc, and is proving to be an absolute godsend in emergency situations. For example, the helicopters fighting the large fire near Kuaotunu recently could access fuel quickly, eliminating "dead time" flying to Thames or Auckland to refuel. This one event used about 14,000 litres of Jet A1. The availability of this service also means that should there be an emergency requiring a chopper well out to sea, the extra range that this gives them could easily make the difference between life and death.

Stay safe.

Nigel Strongman 022 670 1549

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## Coromandel Bowling Club

By Judy Campbell

We have had another sunny month of bowls with some great tournaments being played.

First of all though, I'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our sponsors who, without you, we wouldn't be able to run our very successful Twilight Bowls or our annual Seafood Fours Tournament.

Both of these tournaments I will give you a report on in the April Coromandel Town Chronicle. I will do the same with the Open Optional Classic Fours sponsored by Tide Water Motel and Tourist Park Coromandel that was played on Thursday 13 February and also on the 20 February for the Kolondyke Cup.

On 15 January we held our Twentymans Funeral Services Tournament with the winning team coming from Mercury Bay (David Weatherley, Nirie Reddy and Bryan Patterson) with two Coromandel Teams right on their tails (Belinda Goodall, Lindsay Nicholls and Dianne Burton 2nd and Jim Dicks, Judy and David Haycock 3rd).

Our Club Championship Fours were played on Saturday 1 February for both the men and the women. After some very good games our eventual M/W winners were: Allen Nicholson, David Weatherley, Kevin Sprott, Danny Goodall, Elaine Ashton, Linda Wright, Dianne Burton, and Vi King.

These two teams will now go on to represent the Coromandel Bowling Club at the Thames Valley M/W Champ of Champ Fours on the weekend of **Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 April** (venue yet to be confirmed).

Over the weekend of 8/9 February, Layke McNeil, Colin Gawith, Malcolm Stone, John Westray, Jason Dickison, Roger Gardiner and David Weatherley represented our club in the Thames Valley Interclub (Barribal Cup) event.

They played a mix of fours, pairs and singles over the course of the weekend and when the points were all added up, they had won the Thames Valley event overall. What a team!

The team now travel to Wellington, representing the Thames Valley, to play in the National Interclub "7" finals. This will be played from **Thursday 3 to Sunday 6 April** and it will be the first time a Coromandel team has played in the Nationals.

We wish the players all the best and know they will do the Coromandel Bowling Club and the Thames Valley proud.



Bowling Mens Interclub 7's

We have our Patrons Cup coming up on **Thursday 13 March** and we challenge Mercury Bay at our club on **Thursday 27 March** for the first of the Summer Cup games.

**Fundraising for a high-quality artificial carpet surface** This fundraising is ongoing and if you would like to support us by making a donation, this can be deposited directly into the: Combined Clubs of Coromandel Acc BNZ 02-0304-0038075-01 or email corobowlingclub@gmail.com with any queries.

Remember too there is always something to look forward to at the Coromandel Bowling Club so come down and join us at our lovely setting for a rollup at the club on Thursdays and/or Sundays or for a social drink and chat from 3pm every Friday.

## Coromandel Contract Bridge Club

By Judy Bronlund

Our first meeting night for 2025 was a great success with enough members for 2½ tables. We have been playing the movement that we played when we visited Joan van Oosterom for an evening of bridge, there we played four games with every other player. It makes an interesting evening. Thanks to Jackie and Jan for sorting us out. Visiting bridge players are most welcome to join us, contact Jan so that she can slot you in. We meet at the St John rooms each Monday evening.

Contacts Jan 027 478 8839, Jackie 021 061 6876

## Coromandel RSA

By Gary Pettett

We are coming up to our big day of the year ANZAC day on **Friday 25 April**.

The programme for the day starts at 9.45am as veterans assemble at the Citizens' Hall.

9.50am – parade marches to the cenotaph.

10am – service starts.

After the service the RSA club rooms will be open for morning tea and refreshments.

ANZAC day is celebrated on **Friday 25 April** to mark the anniversary of the Gallipoli landing.

ANZAC day is also a day to honour all New Zealanders who have served in overseas wars.

All welcome to our special day.



Mens Club Champ Fours



Ladies Club Champ Fours





**ANZAC DAY**  
LEST WE FORGET

**FRIDAY 25th APRIL 2025**

**Parade assembles at the  
Citizen's Hall at 9.45am.  
March to the Cenotaph  
for the 10am Service.**

**Attendees are welcome at  
The Club in Woollams Ave  
for refreshments after The  
Service.**

## Christ Church

From the desk of Father Andy

I like to think that punctuality is one of my virtues but am left wondering now after missing the deadline for February's Chronicle ... but I am writing this in plenty of time for the March edition so "Hello" again.



I hope the year has got off to a good start for you. Already it's March and I'm aware that "tide and time wait for no one". 2025 is gathering pace, and we're approaching "Lent" which begins with Ash Wednesday, observed on **Wednesday 5 March** this year. The word "Lent" is an old English word meaning "Spring Season" and it's marked in the northern hemisphere with those tell-tale signs that winter is slipping away and lengthening days and budding trees are the evidence of this.

This transition from one cold season and shorter days to another warmer one and longer, lighter days speak to me of optimism and hopefulness and this is really the thinking behind the season of Lent. The Christian people have always regarded Lent as a time for reflection, thoughtfulness and self-examination and some have included self-denial and devotions of various kinds into their spiritual journey during this time; the object of this has been to free themselves from life's clutter and baggage that can weigh us down and prevent us from appreciating the goodness of life and all the joy and delight that make life worth living.

Many of us fail to recognise the importance of reflection and I'm as guilty as the next person for that even though as a priest and previously a nurse I have had to commit to this helpful practice. We live in such a fast-moving and demanding world which emphasises the need to always be on the go, doing something, achieving and seeking success and we can potentially lose sight of what's good for the soul and that important process of reflection which encourages a healthy outlook on life. It's so important to stop occasionally and take a little time out for thoughtful reflection. In the Gospels we read of Jesus often going off by himself to pause and take stock of what had been happening during his day and find renewal for the next.

Carl Jung was an influential Swiss psychologist and said that "the privilege of a lifetime is to become who you truly are" and that's only possible when we take the time to get to know who we are, considering what motivates us, what influences and fashions our values and attitudes, what helps us make and develop healthy relationships. This what Jesus taught when he said "I have come that you may have life and have it in all its abundance".

At Christ Church on Tiki Road we've started opening the church building on Wednesday mornings from 9.30am through to 11.30am. The building is small but lovely and is sanctified by the love and

prayers of former generations and the current congregation are adding to that legacy with our own love and prayer. You may wish to come into the building to find a little peace and quiet for reflection that perhaps your own soul cries out for, so do feel free to pop in one Wednesday morning, I'm always there so call by and say hello, we're close to town on Tiki Road.

### Coming up

Every Sunday at 10am – The Eucharist followed by Morning Tea at 11am

**Wednesday 5 March** – Ash Wednesday at 11am – The Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes

**Sunday 9 March** – First Sunday of Lent at 10am – Visit of the Right Reverend Ross Bay, Bishop of Auckland

**Sunday 30 March** – Mothering Sunday – 10am – a service of thanksgiving for our mothers

During Lent at the 10am Service we will have a time to reflect on our thinking about God and the church and what it all means to us or perhaps what it doesn't mean to us? Perhaps you would like to come along and share your thoughts?

The Anglican Church welcomes enquiries from those seeking baptism, confirmation, marriage and other sacramental rites of the church and Fr. Andy is available to those seeking pastoral care. Phone 022 175 5684. Look out for Christ Church on Facebook



## Coro Chess Club

By Mike Mann

Who doesn't love a game of chess? If you turn up to Weta Cafe on a Friday morning, you will find enthusiasts ready to pit their skills against each other while having a few laughs.

This month events were spiced up with a bright blue and green set from a student-run business called ECOH.

ECOH is a student (16-17) run business that specializes in creating customizable 3D-printed chess sets. Their products are made using commercially biodegradable materials, making them eco-friendly and sustainable.

It is clear that enthusiasm for a game like chess is a wonderful conduit building connection between young and old.

A couple of things going forward: a local business man has asked if he can learn chess, and another proposed visit by the Thames and Whitianga clubs is in the wings.

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# Our Coromandel

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council



March 2025

## Make your voice count

Our local body elections are taking place on 11 October 2025. Our communities will have the chance to shape local decision-making by standing as candidates or casting their vote.

This year, our voting arrangements include the Mayor, nine councillors, and a Māori ward councillor from the new Te Tara o Te Ika Māori Ward.

Empower yourself and your community by ensuring you're enrolled to vote in this year's election. You can check or update your enrolment details at [vote.nz](http://vote.nz)

Remember, if you'd like to vote in Te Tara o Te Ika Māori Ward, you'll need to enrol in the Māori electoral roll first through [vote.nz](http://vote.nz)



Find out more about enrolment and the election at [tcdc.govt.nz/2025-elections](http://tcdc.govt.nz/2025-elections)

## ROAD AND RESEALING NEWS

### Te Kouma carpark



Work is scheduled to begin this month to refurbish a section of asphalt at Te Kouma Sugarloaf Wharf boat ramp carpark. Due to the budget and planned future upgrades, work will focus solely on pavement repairs to the roadway section. This will include releveling the worst parts.

### New speed limit for Woollams Ave

The speed limit on Woollams Ave Service Lane has dropped to 10km/h after ongoing community concerns about speeding traffic and the safety risks posed to people and businesses. New signs are expected to be in place by March.

### KEY DATES

FRIDAY  
4 JULY

NOMINATIONS  
OPEN

noon  
FRIDAY  
1 AUG

NOMINATIONS  
CLOSE AT  
NOON

from  
TUES  
9 SEPT

DELIVERY OF  
VOTING PACKS

noon  
SAT  
11 OCT

CLOSE OF  
VOTING AT  
NOON

FRIDAY  
17 OCT

OFFICIAL  
RESULTS  
ANNOUNCED



Coromandel  
-Colville  
Community Board  
**UPDATE**

A word from our Board  
**Chair Gavin Jeffcoat**

"The busy summer season is well behind us now with the weather, mostly, playing its part, and the persistent wind giving the fish an advantage over the fishers. The Community Board is back into our work with presentations from Waikato Regional Council about how they are coordinating projects to limit Kauri Disease, and from the Business Association who, among other things, are continuing to look at options to establish ferry services to Coromandel Town. This is seen as a significant opportunity for our community and a key link in the event of damage



to our roads. It's been tried before, but hopefully persistence will pay off. Good luck to Jenni and the team, you have our full support."

[gavin.jeffcoat@council.tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:gavin.jeffcoat@council.tcdc.govt.nz)

News in brief

**At its meeting last month, the Board:**

- Supported a road name change of 'Bell Way' for the private Right of Way at 891 Tuataewa Road, Little Bay
- Received an update on the Coromandel-Colville Community Board CAPEX Work Programme. All projects are running on track, except for a small delay to pavement repairs at Te Kouma Sugarloaf Wharf.



### Networking news

Recently, we met with some of our business and tourism groups, receiving updates from The Club – Woollams Avenue, Coromandel-Colville Business Association, Thrive Trust

(Coromandel Information Centre), Tourism Infrastructure (TIF) Bike Park, and CopperWorkx Coromandel.

### We're coming to Colville

The Community Board is going on the road to Colville Hall this month, and straight after we'll be holding a networking session for our northern communities. Please get in touch if you'd like to speak in either the public forum or networking session.

**The Board's next meeting is Tuesday 25 March at 9am**, Colville Hall. Meeting agendas and the 2025 Council meeting schedule are at [tcdc.govt.nz/agendas-reports-and-minutes](http://tcdc.govt.nz/agendas-reports-and-minutes)

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## Moehau ki te Moana at Colville Junction

Since 2021 Colville Junction has been managing a Freshwater Improvement Fund project to work with landowners to improve freshwater quality in the Moehau region. As we enter the final year of the Ministry for Environment Funded Moehau ki te Moana project, I thought it would be a good time to give you an update on what we have achieved. In the next issue I'll fill you in on what we have planned for the coming and final year of the project.



- Since the project began in 2021 we have:
- helped build over 18km of fencing to protect wetlands and rivers on ten properties in the northern Coromandel peninsula
  - planted 39,668 eco-sourced native plants grown in the Colville Harbour Care Nursery
  - completed monthly clearing and resetting of 320 snap traps. Since the beginning of the pest control programme (November 2017) till the end of February 2025 a total of 1003 rats and 4918 mice have been captured
  - we also service 101 possum traps.

In 2024 we increased our trap network to include a further 45 traps.

We are really proud of the work we do, and to make sure we are making a positive impact on our environment, we have multiple environmental and pest management monitoring activities to measure our success (and sometimes our failures) so we can improve our way of working and get better results. These include:

- annual stream health assessments within the planting areas and control sites
- twice a year shellfish monitoring at five sites
- twice a year 5 minute bird count surveys and shorebird census
- twice a year small mammal indexing (tracking tunnels) and possum chew card indexing
- and twice a year tree survival monitoring in all planting sites

We are also acutely aware of the importance of connecting people to the natural world and creating time and space for people to participate in protecting our environment and learn more about our local area and how to care for it. To this end we have offered:

- seven free community seminars on a range of topics from bird first aid to the brilliant Andrew Crowe presenting his book "Pathway of the Birds"
- eleven community working bees many of which were hosted as potting parties at the Colville Harbour Care nursery, where locals come to join in the fun of potting up native trees for the following years planting
- yearly sessions with the students at Colville School to collect data for the shellfish monitoring

We have also been very honoured to work with Pare Hauraki to develop a list of tōhu, indicator species, for the Moehau region. This is a brilliant resource to refer to when making an assessment of, and to track, ecosystem health in this region. We were also invited to attend a series of wānanga to learn more about the history of the region, what is mātauranga, how can we honour te ao Māori in our work and how we can all work together to protect and care for this beautiful place we are so lucky to call home.

This project has been a big undertaking for our small team at Colville Junction and we are so grateful for all the support we have received over the last few years, including additional funding from Waikato Regional Council, World Wildlife Foundation and Trees That Count. We have one more year and we are going to work really hard to make the most of it! Keep an eye out for our upcoming seminars and working bees in 2025, we would love to see you there.



PHOTO BY NATHAN MCCAULEY

Dotterel chick in Colville bay

### Hon Scott Simpson MP For Coromandel

The peak summer season has come to an end, but it's great to see a steady stream of visitors still enjoying some time on the Coromandel Peninsula. I really enjoy this part of the year; it's a bit quieter, but there's still plenty of events coming up on the calendar and hopefully more excellent weather on the way.

Down in Wellington, Parliament is sitting again and the political year is underway. In his first address to the House, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon outlined our Government's relentless focus on growth in 2025.

There isn't a golden ticket to achieve economic growth but we're committed to building on the progress we made last year which saw inflation ease, interest rates fall, and wages rising faster than inflation. In 2025 we're setting up a new crown-entity to attract foreign investment, actioning the fast-track legislation, working on comprehensive RMA reform, rewriting our health and safety laws, and reducing red tape for farmers.

While policies are important to growing the economy, changing our collective mindset to new opportunities will be just as critical. We must foster an environment where people are encouraged to start a new business or expand their current operations. It means embracing success and celebrating those individuals who are making their mark in their field of expertise.

Regardless of whether you live in Coromandel Town or anywhere else in the country, growing the economy makes us all richer. Economic growth means New Zealanders will have more opportunities to succeed and we'll be able to afford the public services that we want as an ambitious, prosperous country.



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## Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime  
0800 550 330 • scottsimpson.co.nz  
mpcoromandel@parliament.govt.nz  
scottsimpsonmp



  
 Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

## Coromandel Community Gardens

By Rachel Benmayor, Garden Coordinator

We have been having a dry summer which has slowed up the growth of the vegetables generally. Both gardens, Hauraki and CILT gardens, have suffered from being too dry to produce huge crops. Having said that there has been, and still is, a steady supply of zucchini, spinach, silverbeet, tomatoes and now the peaches are in full swing.

We had a great mud building workshop in January which was well attended, and we now have a beautiful new mudbrick walled herb garden bed. We are also attempting to make a Calceolaria garden seat which hopefully will be mosaiced by the art group at Te Mana Tangata. Big shout out to Henery who did a great job of instructing us into the art of mud. We plan to have more so keep your eyes open for posts on Facebook or posters around town.

Please feel free to cruise past the sharing shelf at CILT and Hauraki gardens to pick up vegies anytime. The gardens are also open to visitors at



CILT during business hours and of course the Hauraki garden is open all the time. We always welcome “new to gardening” volunteers as well as those who know their way around a trowel. We are an open and friendly crew and the gardens expansion

means help is appreciated anytime. Volunteer gardening day is Friday morning at 9am at the Hauraki garden, next door to Hauraki House.



Mud building workshop



The finished mudbrick walled herb garden bed

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COMMUNITY RESALE SHOP

**COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME**

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## Coromandel Growers & Artisans Market

By Susanna Borgstede

### Feed your heart and soul at Coromandel Saturday Market

They say sweet things are bad for you, well, we beg to differ. We all know that food isn't just healthy and nourishing, but also offers an experience. Sweet treats especially being joy and celebration rather than just naughty indulgences. Research found that, in moderation, sweet treats can provide health benefits, such as boosting mood, enhancing social connection, improving cognitive function, providing a quick energy source, promoting relaxation and enjoyment through taste satisfaction, especially when paired with healthy options like fruits or dark chocolate.

At the "Coromandel Growers & Artisans Market" we offer an enticing range of wholesome, delicious sweet treats that are also healthy and nourishing. Every Saturday our wonderful and talented bakers and chocolatiers are showcasing their scrumptious, freshly baked cakes, pastries, bliss balls, honey treats and lately even gluten free German waffles. We are proud to say that our homemade range reaches from the absolutely best carrot cake in town to delicious gluten free almond and orange cake, muffins, chocolate brownies, French apple tart, as well as the occasional ... wait for it ... homemade pavlova! Beautiful sugar free and dairy free chocolates, created with love and organically, ethically sourced ingredients, enhanced and flavoured with locally grown fruit, nuts and popcorn. Fresh chocolate dipped bananas and dried fruit medleys complete the mix. Savour some of these delightful treats, then wash them down with a drink of freshly squeezed orange juice, iced tea, coffee, hot chocolate or kombucha to complete the delight while

listening to one of our talented local live musicians.

Well, there you have it. So, come on down to the market on Saturday, treat yourself to some homemade deliciousness and all their benefits in style.

You'll find us on the Hike & Bike green, opposite the Four Square supermarket, every Saturday from 9am to 1pm. Just look for the flags and gazebos!



Sweet treats at the market



## Real Estate Matters

By Glenn Wells, Licensed Agent

"Hi, I am wanting to draw up a Sale and Purchase of a property, but do not want it to be sent to my lawyer. I believe I can do the conveyancing myself. Along with the advice from real estate salespeople, my broker, over things like my LIM, title and building report."

Yes, nothing stops you from doing your own conveyancing.

However, there are a couple of things to consider. This is likely the largest or one of the largest and most serious acquisitions of your life, why take a risk or gamble?

Licensed salespeople are not legal advisers, they give you information on what they can see in documents. But really you should always seek independent legal advice. Your lawyer is there for your best interest, to protect you!

Best practice would be to involve your lawyer and other professionals all along the way. Yes, at times this will carry a price for their services. But think of it as insurance. Especially when drawing up a Sales and Purchase agreement, your lawyer's insight and experience could potentially save you hundreds of thousands of dollars that you may not be able to replace.

You are always better off having your lawyer involved at the start rather than just at the end of the process.

There are a number of legal documents that will require perusing before you settle on your purchase. Most people would find these complicated, written in legal terminology designed to protect one party or the other. These are anything from building reports, council documents to loan documents through to title searches and settlement. You also may be dealing with Kiwisaver.

I get that often your broker is able to assist in some matters. However remember that they, like salespeople, get paid on the success of a sale. They are not impartial legal advisors.

You will be receiving communications from the vendor's lawyer as is the normal process of transaction as you go through your due diligence of conditions.

Salespeople, brokers, builders, council etc. are able to give advice on matters as they see them or understand them. Each may be an expert in their field. Each has a legal responsibility to be honest and transparent. However they are not lawyers, they are not totally impartial, they are charged with pointing out in a transparent manner any issues or pitfalls they see. But not in giving legal direction, that is where your lawyer is concentrated on your protection and best interest.

My advice. All ways seek independent legal advice, from start to finish of a home purchase.

Should you wish to discuss these or other real estate matters, contact Glenn Wells – Licensed Agent (licensed REAA 2008) glenn.wells@harcourts.co.nz or 0800 735 788

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**Coromandel 390 Driving Creek Road**  
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## Coromandel Town Information Centre

### Farewell Natalie Blasco

We would like to acknowledge the sad passing of Natalie Blasco.

Natalie has been an integral part of our Information Centre since 2012. Natalie was well liked, respected by many and an Information Centre “gem”.

Following are some cherished memories from those who knew her best.

Natalie was a mainstay of the Information Centre during Sandra’s residency as a volunteer and employee for many years. Her listening skills and patience, sense of humour and reliability made her an asset to her fellow workmates, trustees and visitors alike. Many of the photographs on our website are courtesy of Nat and the many articles and walking directions she penned for the benefit of visitors and our



website are very much appreciated and used today. Natalie also produced many colourful local brochures with photographs for the Information Centre.

Natalie was an integral part of getting the Information Centre registered as a charity via her proof reading abilities and refused to be paid for the extra work she put in to ensure the sustainability of the Centre.

Originally from California, she lived in Coromandel for over 20 years. Her enthusiasm for local history made her quite the resource which she drew on



Nat and Marni at Illume

originally as a tour bus driver on the Coromandel to Thames run. She was an amazing gardener which she loved to share with everyone and her huge “dinner plate” sized dahlias always graced the counter along with other arrangements. It is thanks to Nat’s introduction of the yearly ritual at the Centre’s Christmas parties of the present exchange and many a great time was had, especially when she arrived back after a visit home with an inappropriate gnome that everyone tried to snaffle!



Nat outside the Info Centre

“Our Nat” was an amazing friend and the group that she worked with at the Information Centre still kept in touch with regular coffee mornings after they all retired – Sandra, Jan, Rita, Suzy, Joan and Pam.

Nat was a valued member of the Coromandel Town Information Centre, she will be sorely missed – our condolences go out to her friends and family.

The Information Centre opening hours will be back to 10am to 3pm from 1 March



### Coromandel School of Mines and Historic Museum

Martin Carr demonstrating his craft

By Jennie James

For several years now the Museum has held a free open day on 6 February to celebrate Waitangi Day. This year we continued the tradition with the added attraction of Martin Carr, the local blacksmith, who kindly set up his forge in the grounds and spent the day demonstrating his craft. Many people left clutching nails he had hand forged for them which will be a lasting memento of their day in Coromandel. Over the course of the day we welcomed 46 people including locals, people from around New Zealand and overseas tourists. Everyone seemed to enjoy their time and we received much positive feedback and many compliments. People also generously left us donations for which we are very grateful. Be assured the money will be put to good use to enable us to enhance our displays and upgrade our services. We must be doing something right.

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## Thames Animal Rescue

By Alice and John Parris

Firstly, thank mews to everyone who has generously donated food to the cats, it's truly a lifesaver and a huge blessing. So too are the financial blessings, we are really blessed by our community and are so grateful.

We are ebbing into a really big month next month, and so much has changed since the day we started. For now we are running horribly low financially with not much room to move. We have been worse and we remember that very clearly, and it was thanks to our two people who helped the unit, that the cats still enjoy freedoms most others would never have and we just quietly go on. We are truly grateful to the Chronicle who we have written articles for, for many years, for keeping everyone up to date with the cats's doings, and right now we are in a very quiet space. Next month will make for far better reading

Wanted: cat food – tinned, salmon, sachets, sardines, pet milk, cat toys. Any financial blessings Thames Animal Rescue Team 06 0457 0095150 01 with reference of where you would like us to spend the blessing.

Meow furr now.

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

## Mana

Tēnā koutou Coromandel Community.

We are nearing the end of a busy summer, full of amazing retreat offerings and activities. In February, we had the pleasure of hosting several in-depth retreats, including Mindfulness and Lifestyle Medicine with Vidyamala Burch and Tonya Cruikshank (image on the right), Open Floor study group with Geordie Jahner and Sunshine Before The Dawn with Judy Satori.

Autumn is slowly approaching with sunny days, crisp nights and clear skies. Our gardens are bursting with produce, and the bush trails are alive with the sound of cicadas and birdsong.

We invite you to join us in the coming months and experience our diverse range of retreats. Whether you're looking to relax or re-charge your energy or delve into transformative practices, we have some great retreat options for you.

### Are you ready to receive?

Discover ways to create balance between giving and receiving and connect to your body's wisdom and intuition. Jade Ferriere returns to Mana, **Friday 21 to Monday 24 March**, for her three day women's retreat: The Heart of Receiving.

*"Many of us believe we're open to receiving, but what if we're actually giving in disguise?... Receiving can feel vulnerable, but the more you practice, the easier it becomes – Jade Ferriere*

### Want to learn more about plants as your medicine?

Learn about plant medicine and their benefits for overall health and wellbeing. We are excited to announce Clio Meyer, local body healer, massage therapist and herbalist is bringing her retreat "Breathing Forests" to Mana midweek this **Tuesday 6 to Thursday 8 May**.

*"Thank you so much for holding such a special retreat and for sharing your amazing plant knowledge... I admired this delicate approach and I felt very comfortable and so enjoyed the nourishing food, and treats...Most of all I got to learn a more respectful way to be with plants" – retreat participant*

### Come dance with us!

"Dance is the hidden language of the soul." - Martha Graham

Discover your own unique dance! You are welcome to join us for Open Floor Dance classes, a lively dance and movement practice that energises the body and opens the mind. When: **Tuesday 11, 18, 25 March**, 9.45-11.45am, \$15-20 sliding scale. All are welcome.

Wishing you a nourishing and inspiring month ahead.

Ngā mihi, The Mana Team

All bookings and enquiries: [www.manaretreat.com](http://www.manaretreat.com), (07) 866 8972, [be@manaretreat.com](mailto:be@manaretreat.com), 608 Manaia Road, Coromandel



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*Mana*  
**UPCOMING RETREATS & EVENTS**  
Bookings: [www.manaretreat.com](http://www.manaretreat.com)

MAR 4 - 9	5 Day Silent Meditation Retreat with Ashram Yoga
MAR 14 - 16	March Relax and Wellness Weekend with The Mana Team
MAR 21 - 24	The Heart of Receiving 3-Day Women's Retreat with Jade Ferriere
MAR 26 - 28	Medical Mindfulness for healthcare professionals
MAR 28 - 31	Qi Gong Retreat with Hedwig
APRIL 3-6	Yoga Sanctuary Retreat
APRIL 11-13	April Relax and Wellness Weekend
APRIL 18-21	Easter Coming Home to Yourself Retreat

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Open Floor Community Dance | MARCH 11, 18, 25 | TIME: 9:45-11:45AM | \$15-20

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## Coromandel Embroiderers' Guild

By Heather Arthur



What a great start to the new year, our first meeting in February was a real buzz, with so many members attending we even ran out of cups for morning tea... just wonderful to see everyone.

We asked you at the November exhibition



Viewers' Choice winner: "Under Firey Skies"

to vote for the Viewers' Choice award... and the winner was... Marilyn Jessen with her lovely "Under Firey Skies". Congratulations Marilyn.

Our show and tell table was amazing, covered in treasures, have a look on our Facebook page. The calibre of stitching is outstanding, from a fairy penguin doorstep to incredibly intricate samplers, guipure lace and creative trees, plus bags decorated with stitching from previous classes.

Our 1st class will be doing stumpwork technique.... doesn't sound very embroidery like does it...but some beautiful flowers, leaves and berries will surely come from it.

Do give us a call if you think you might enjoy doing some stitching, you might just love it like we do.

We meet the 1st Wednesday of each month in the St John rooms, Tiki Road, Coromandel Town 10am. Contact person is Helen Pearce Ph (07) 866 8460, cormandelembroidery1@gmail.com



## Patchwork & Quilters

By Sue Smith

Coromandel Patchwork & Quilters invite you to our exhibition to be held at Hauraki House, Kapanga Road, Coromandel Town on **Saturday 15 to Saturday 22 March**. Open daily from 10am-4pm. As part of our exhibition, on **Monday 17 March**, our group will have a day where we will be sewing together at Hauraki House and would love for you to come along to see what we are doing.

Our quilt we made last year is again this month's photo and will be given to a lucky winner at our exhibition.

We meet at the St John Ambulance Rooms on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Feel free to call in and see what we are up to.

Contact – President, Fiona Neal 027 373 6991 or Secretary, Tina Hvidberg Pedersen 021 594 706



Quilt we made together last year which will be a prize at our exhibition

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# rangatahi OUR CHILDREN

## Coromandel Area School

By Tracey Adams,  
Principal



### Meet our Student Leaders

2025 brings a new look to our student leader structure. A big thank you to the members of the Coromandel RSA Club who donated funds in 2024 to help the school purchase new blazers for our senior student leaders. Don't they look amazing! You'll see our students out at formal occasions looking the part within our community. Students will also be dressing in "number ones" to travel out of town and represent CAS with pride. Several students are joining student leaders from across the wider Thames Valley area later in March at a leadership camp at Opoutere.

Kaila Fenton, Keeli James-Murray, Atutahi Tenboom-Williams, Luca Phillips, Kendyl Short and Jamie Waara were all part of a student leaders group in 2024. We have discussed a student council structure they would like to implement in 2025 which will have representatives from across the school.

What do the students have to say about what they would like to achieve this year as leaders?

Kaila: I want to work on bringing our school together, bringing the primary and secondary together and organising fun events for primary students. I like being a leader because I have value for this school. I've been here since I was five years old.

Kaila is Y13 and is planning to either complete an outdoor education diploma next year, or perhaps head to Camp America.

Keeli: Written about Keeli in his absence. Keeli has a presence that exudes mana, younger students listen to him and look up to him. He is a friendly, kind and respectful role model and tuakana to the younger students at CAS. Keeli is a talented and passionate speaker of te reo and will often open school hui with karakia and whaikōrero. Keeli is in Year 13 and is working toward attending university with an interest in law and/or politics.

Atutahi: I like being a student leader because it gives me a chance to make Māori kids feel a bit more safe. In the time I have left at the school I'd like to see more of the



Student Leaders – left to right: Kendyl Short, Atutahi Tenboom-Williams, Kaila Fenton, Luca Phillips and Jamie Waara. Absent Keeli James-Murray

70% of our Māori students feeling proud of themselves. Hopefully by the time I leave the school our students will all be feeling safe and happy to be here.

Atutahi is currently in Year 12, he wants to pursue a career in music or as a mau rakau kaiako.

Luca: I like being a student leader because it gives younger students someone to look up to. I remember looking up to the student leaders when I was younger. Being a student leader also gives me opportunities to learn about leadership, go to some leadership camps and meet other student leaders from other schools.

Luca is currently in Year 12 and working towards either studying business or becoming an officer in the Navy.

Jamie: enjoys being a student leader so that when she is talking to her friends and any students who approach her with ideas, Jamie has a voice and is able to pass their ideas on and make things happen within the school. Jamie is in Year 12 and is currently working towards

going to university to study psychology.

Kendyl: I like the idea of being a leader because I remember when I was five years old and we had student leaders, I looked up to them. I like that I am now that person for our babies. I like that we're an area school and I like the idea of bringing the primary and secondary students together. We have some ideas that we are working on for this year.

Kendyl is Year 12 and is working towards attending Otago University to study physiotherapy.

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# rangatahi OUR CHILDREN continued

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By Belinda Williams, Head Teacher

*Ka whaangai, ka tupu, ka puaawai/ To  
nurture, to grow, to blossom.*

Nestled on the edge of tikapa moana, sits a wee blue building, the view from the long front deck takes in the estuary and our beloved Moehau mountain ranges. Our preschool is one of the most idyllic learning environments I've been lucky enough to work in.

Two lofty kauri trees stand tall protecting our tamariki and the newly refurbished playground from Te Raa, the sun.

When you stand on the deck or sit in our huge sandpit you can see and hear children totally engaged in their play.

You are surrounded by the sounds of our natural world and you can hear our tamariki talking and laughing with the older school children, as they peek through the fence between them.

Immersing ourselves in the natural world is one of the pou our centre philosophy is built upon, and stands alongside the values of learning through play, manaakitanga and whanaungatanga. We embrace the rich connections we have with our local community, but most of all we value our parent committee and our amazing teaching team: Maria Dove, Emma Corner, Ustrula Burns-Maybury (admin) and myself.

With a new year ahead of us, we welcome our new tamariki Iver and Taiao, and our newly appointed teacher Emma. We farewelled Kelly in December, as she transitioned to school.

We welcome new enrolments and have spaces available Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and transport from Coromandel Town can be arranged, so haere mai, come visit and see if this is the right place for you and your whaanau.

Open Tuesday to Friday, 8.45am-3pm including term breaks. 20 free hours for 3+ year olds and WINZ subsidies available.

Colville Bay Preschool, 2391 Colville Rd 2391. All enquires please contact:  
seniorteacher@colvillebaypreschool.co.nz or phone 022 645 3272

## Coromandel Youth Group at Hauraki House

We're back into our after school sessions, there's something happening every day After School 5yrs+, play and activities, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 3-5pm.

For 10yrs+: Adventure Time, explore outdoor activities our community has to offer, meet Monday after school at Hauraki House, ready to leave by 3.15pm, returning 5pm; Miniatures Game Club, Wednesdays 3-5pm, interactive D&D style games, no screens.

Coromandel Youth Group is for children aged 5-15yrs. We provide a supervised, fun environment where kids can hang out with friends, make arts and crafts and play! Parents just fill out a membership form. For more information, during open hours, call in, phone 027 217 9206 or contact us at coromandelyouthgroup@gmail.co.nz.

Alongside kind donations received, we are grateful for grants from: Lottery Waikato, Trust Waikato, COGS, D.V.Bryant Trust, Aotearoa Gaming Trust, NZ Community Trust, Star & Garter Hotel Give a Little Pizza Sundays. Thank you!



# mahi toi ARTS



## Coromandel Open Studios Arts Tour

By Charlene Scott

Call for artists!

We are looking for artists to join our annual Coromandel Open Studios Arts Tour. This well attended event is in its 19th year and happens on the first two weekends of October every year.

This year it falls on **Saturday 4, Sunday 5, Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 October** and there is an exhibition running the full duration of the nine days at Hauraki House Gallery on Kapanga Road. It is a free, self-guided tour where art lovers can visit local artists in their own studios. There are usually between 35-40 artists taking part with a wide range of mediums. The Tour is open to artists whose normal residence is within the boundaries of the Kerata Hill to the south, Colville to the north and the Whangapoua Hill to the East

If you wish to take part in this year's tour, please contact Kim Brett at k-n-k@xtra.co.nz for a registration form before the end of March. Or go to our website [www.coromandelartstour.co.nz](http://www.coromandelartstour.co.nz) for more information



Elisabeth Carter, one of the regular participants in the Tour

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## Driving Creek Pottery Doings No. 1

By Matilda Halley

2024 ended on a high note for us with a big party in November to commemorate 50(ish) years of Driving Creek at its current site. Hundreds of potters, conservationists, steam heads and Coromandelites converged on Driving Creek for a weekend of reconnecting and rekindling.

The weekend kicked off with the opening of Nottapotta in the gallery, an exhibition curated by Karl Fritsch. It included a fantastic selection of Barry's pots, paintings, wrerings and schemings, as well as work by his friends and contemporaries. It was a fascinating view into Barry's inner workings. Thanks to Hekiera Mareroa for giving a very fitting mihi whakatau to open the exhibition and the weekend of celebrations.

Kilns were lit early on Saturday morning and temperatures climbed alongside the festivities. There were three enlightening and highly entertaining panel discussions on Barry's legacy, Driving Creek over the years and on the future of the pottery and conservation park. A huge thanks to panelists Fatu Feu'u, David Black, Derek Brickell, Petra Meyboden, Ian Dalzell, Sue Pidgeon, Mary Lee, Heather Grouden, Victoria Grouden, Jess Ryan, Richard Webster, Kate James, Jaime Jenkins and Callum Trudgeon.



50th celebration festivities



Some of the Driving Creek old guard – top from left: Baye Riddell, Mike O'Donnell, Anneke Borren, Pete Sephton. Bottom: Sue Pidgeon, Heather Grouden, Ian Dalzell, Petra Meyboden, Romilly Brickell, Peter Lange, Ashley Thor, David Craig

Joshua Elliott gave a wonderful tribute to his mother, Wailin, who was such an integral part of Driving Creek throughout its history. David Craig and Kate De Goldi both gave spirited readings of Barry's "wretings" and Mahsuni Mutlu took a break from cooking to treat us to some traditional Turkish music.

A huge thanks to Neville Lee and his crew of helpers who prepared a beautiful hāngī in tribute to Barry, for all the guests to enjoy on Saturday evening. The very witty Peter Lange entertained us as we tucked into the kai, hosting a story time session where he opened the floor to everyone to recount their own Driving Creek stories. DC pottery kaumātua Baye Riddell and Mike O'Donnell closed the session beautifully.

As dusk drew in, baseyard station was transformed into a dance floor, with DJ Tiny Diva spinning beats. The mad potters and party animals stayed on after midnight to be involved in the experimental, performative firing of the Rollo kiln.

The weekend also saw the launch of photo archiving and oral histories projects, which will be ongoing as we work to record the various histories of Driving Creek. Special thanks to historian Pip Oldham and all who contributed their stories.

The celebrations wouldn't have been possible without the tireless work of Matt Sephton and Carolin Hahn and all the staff and volunteers who came together to make the weekend a success. Many thanks to all those who joined us and to the countless others who have come before. Driving Creek has always been about community and the weekend proved this spirit is alive and well.

This column marks the return of our monthly updates, to keep everyone informed with what's going on in the pottery up at Driving Creek. We will do regular profiles on our potters and artists in residence and let you know about any upcoming exhibitions and events.

In exciting news, the production pottery at Driving Creek are looking for an apprentice to join the team, see classified ad on page 28.

There are a couple of events in the pipeline for April, an exhibition of DC staff members' pots and art and the biannual Easter weekend pottery seconds sale. More details to come in the next issue.



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# mahi toi ARTS continued

## Pastel Artists Coromandel

By Rosemarie Murphy

We had a great first day back at Rose's Studio for the start of another year. Nearly all our members turned up but I don't think much pastelling got done as there was a lot of hugging and talking.



"Ancient Forest" by Andrea Noble

Two lovely ladies called in to see what we get up to and morning tea was a chocolate birthday cake for Saskia.

Congratulations to Andrea Noble for getting Second Prize in the PANZ Newsletter competition with her painting "Ancient Forest". The Judge was Susan Story PSA-MP, IAPS/MC.

Her comments about Andrea's painting were, "I was very impressed by the brave composition and limited palette used to create a bit of mystery in the woods. The trees curve away from the dark and bits of light hit the grass in carefully selected areas to help connect the shade and lit areas."

Well done Andrea.

The Annual PANZ Convention and Purely Pastel Exhibition will be held in Alexandra, South Island in April this year. Some of our members will be travelling down for this event.

We will be meeting every Wednesday morning from 9am to 12 noon at Rose's Studio, 860 Tiki Road, Coromandel Town. Call in for a cuppa and see what we do. We welcome new members.

Contact Allan Beaver ph (07) 866 8053 or Saskia Riemersma ph 027 296 2670

## Aya and the Butterfly

It's time to treat our tamariki to a quality performance.

Birdlife Productions (together with AOTNZ) are bringing a new puppet and music show to Coromandel Town in April.

The local organisers are raising funds for the show so that no child misses out – entry fee will be koha.

We have received funding from Creative New Zealand, and the Star & Garter Hotel are dedicating their March "Give a Little Sundays" to the performance. That means that \$1 from every pizza sold at Star & Garter on a Sunday in March is donated to the show. Please support this great cause.

Aya and the Butterfly is a heart-warming, joyful story suited to children aged 3 to 9 years old. It features plenty of magical puppet moments, music and songs, and lots of joining in!

Places will be limited. If you would like your child/ren to attend, you must register their names and the names of the adult accompanying them by Friday 11 April c/o j\_brown@coroarea.school.nz.

### Performance Details

**Tuesday 22 April** at 11am

Venue: Coromandel Area School Hall

Entry: Gold coin koha

All children must be accompanied by an adult.



## Thames Music Group

The Thames Music Group's first Sunday concert held at 2pm on **Sunday 9 March**, features Auckland Chinese zither ensemble Boya Guzheng. Since its establishment in 2020, Boya Guzheng has been composed of teacher, Lin Zheng, and several outstanding students from Zheng's Music Studio.

Her students have won platinum, gold, and silver awards in various international competitions. Lin has organised and performed numerous zheng pieces, including composing a suite of music, "Three Seasons in One Day" for zheng and pedal harp, a rare combination, which premiered in 2023. She has performed at prestigious venues such as the New Zealand Parliament and in major events as a soloist and ensemble member, in New Zealand and abroad.

By preserving and showcasing the rich heritage of traditional guzheng music, the group hopes to promote the instrument's cultural significance and artistic value to a wider audience.

The zheng is one of the oldest traditional instruments in China and was originally made from bamboo. As it has been in existence for more than 2000 years, it is frequently referred to as the "Guzheng", which is literally translated from the Mandarin as the "Ancient Zheng".

The zheng is a large zither with 21 strings, often used in both solo and ensemble performances in Chinese music. They are played horizontally, with players using artificial plectrums, except on their little fingers, to pluck the strings; and pitches are adjusted by pressing the strings on the left side of the bridges or by moving bridges.

Come join us at St George's Church to enjoy this unique experience. The superb acoustics of the venue really bring the music to life.

Details: Thames Music Group's Sunday Concert series presents Boya Guzheng, **Sunday 9 March**, at 2 pm, St George's Church, Thames. Entry \$20; TMG members \$15, under 18 years free.



Boya Guzheng

# Purnell

LAWYERS

## BRENDA FLAY, SOLICITOR:

Travels to Coromandel on Tuesdays.

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

**PARTNERS:** Hayley Green and Brenda Flay

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

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

**COROMANDEL OFFICE:** 150 Pound Street

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THAMES

WHITIANGA

COROMANDEL

# mahi toi ENVIRONMENTAL

## Spartina vs haloxyfop-methyl

By Charlene Scott

I wonder how many of you know of the upcoming (or possibly past by the time this is circulated) proposed aerial spraying of the Coromandel and Manaia Harbours of the toxic chemical, haloxyfop-methyl, to “control” spartina grass. If you were not one of the lucky few who were contacted directly by DOC, it’s possible you may have missed the 5x7cm notice in the January issue of The Informer. Or the few A4 printouts stuck to notice boards around town. If you did, the below is the basic nuts and bolts of the operation.

### Spartina Grass

- Is a very salt tolerant grass that grows quickly.
- May outgrow all native salt tolerant plants.
- Was introduced from Europe/North America for stock food and to “stabilise” mud flats as their roots form a dense mat



Spartina

- May alter the conditions required by shellfish by trapping silt and sediment
  - May change the environment needed for migratory birds to roost and feed.
- ### Haloxyfop-methyl
- Is an extremely toxic chemical primarily used for spraying weeds in food crops, forestry, farmland, orchards, etc.
  - Is toxic if swallowed
  - Causes serious eye irritation
  - May cause cancer
  - Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child
  - Causes damage to organs if swallowed
  - Is very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.
  - Says on the label: DO NOT apply directly or allow spraydrift into or onto water. DO NOT contaminate an aquatic environment with chemical or empty container.
  - Is claimed to only affect grasses and not other native plants
- Department of Conservation:
- Is conducting this operation under a Resource Consent issued by WRC and EPA.
  - Will perform initial spraying via helicopter then follow up spraying by hand.
  - Has recommended that the public avoid harvesting kaimoana within 500m of the spray zones for at least 5 days afterwards.

- Will post temporary signs at key areas during the operation.
- Tests the water for signs of toxicity after the operation (in tidal areas).
- Does not test or monitor the wildlife in the targeted areas after the spraying to see if they have been affected.
- Has not performed any public consultation\*
- Claims the use of this chemical is the only way of controlling spartina grass
- Has not explored other more natural solutions such as biodynamic brews or tree planting.

It seems we don’t have a choice in whether or not this spraying goes ahead, but we can be informed.

\*At the time of print, DOC have agreed to postpone spraying until a meeting with the community can take place.

For further information you can contact the DOC on [coromandel@doc.govt.nz](mailto:coromandel@doc.govt.nz)

## Response from DOC to the above article

By Jamie Carey, Biodiversity Ranger, DOC Coromandel

Thanks for the chance to respond to your writer.

DOC’s spartina control project is permitted through a Waikato Regional Council resource consent, and will be carried out under specific and detailed guidelines produced by the Environmental Protection Authority.

We are restricted in how much of the product we can use to avoid detectable harm to local populations of any aquatic life.

Those controls placed on DOC’s use of the product focus on environmental protection and public safety – communication and notification of spray operations are a key element of that. We take those responsibilities very seriously and are rigorous with our “checks and balances” to ensure we meet the conditions of our permission and resource consent.

The target weed – spartina – is sprayed at low tide when there is minimal opportunity for the herbicide to enter standing water and so it’s absorbed into the spartina plants.

Concentrations of the herbicide used are very low; the maximum we might use being 3ml of product per litre of water, which equates to 1.52g of active ingredient per litre of mixture which can cover more than 10m<sup>2</sup>.

We do advise that fishing, particularly gathering of shellfish, should be avoided for five days after spraying within 500m of spray sites. In the days immediately after an application of the product, we check for any dead fish or molluscs – and in several previous projects of this kind, DOC hasn’t recorded any negative ecological impacts, either acute or chronic. In the very unlikely event dead fish or molluscs are identified, we would work under the EPA’s guidance to understand the scale of the issue and how it occurred – and any repeat applications of herbicide would be halted.

It’s incorrect to say DOC has said this is the “only” method to control spartina – what we have stated is this is the most effective and efficient way of controlling the plant and therefore protecting our estuaries, flora and fauna from spartina’s continuous spread. “Do nothing” is not an option.

Lastly, regarding consultation, DOC staff do carry out consultation with adjacent landowners and residents, which is standard practice for any of our pest control operations. In this instance, a small group of residents requested more information on our spartina control, and we’re meeting with them to discuss it.

## Moehau Environment Group

By Bronnie Kennedy

March 2025, time to march into battle! I was amazed to hear, especially at our Hauraki House event in January, that locals are seeing more and more stoats around their homes. This is not just a problem in outer areas but also right in town itself. Stoats and other mustelids [ferrets, stoats and weasels] are a very real threat to our native birds. Moehau Environment Group continues to wage war on invaders, both pest species and plant invaders. We are fortunate enough to have dedicated members, supporters, and volunteers in our team, but we need more help. Volunteering with MEG is one way you can make a great contribution to preserving our amazing biodiverse environment. Volunteer hours you spend weeding, trap building, trapping, and bird listening events all make a huge difference.

Come along to an information evening where you can learn all about the trapping process, ask questions, see actual traps and how they work, talk to trappers, find out where trap lines are situated. Learn about our free traps available for backyard trapping. Find out about our weed control events and kiwi listening survey.

Where: Pepper Tree Restaurant, Coromandel Town

When: **Sunday 30 March 5pm**

Let’s work together to wage war on these pests that are waging war on our precious native species.

### Ginger Bash

Many thanks to the volunteers who joined with us and Driving Creek Conservation team recently. Great job everyone and thanks DCR for the coffee! We hope to have more of these soon and we will advertise on our Facebook page. Wild Ginger is a real problem. as it forms dense clumps in native forests, smothering young plants and preventing native seedlings from growing. This makes it a threat to native ecosystems.



# mahi toi ENVIRONMENTAL continued

## Driving Creek Conservation Park Team

By Saskia Wagner



### Wasp Invasion – New Zealand's battle against wasps

New Zealand is no stranger to invasive pests and we face a constant battle to protect its unique ecosystems. But there's a pest that often gets overlooked in the conversation: the German and Common wasps – *Vespula* wasps. This summer, wasp activity is more noticeable than past years, fuelled by the warm weather, few major weather events, and their typical seasonal increase in activity. Their presence is hard to ignore, especially when spending a lot of time in the bush or in the garden.

#### Why are they a threat?

*Vespula* wasps are not just a summer nuisance, they have a nasty sting and can cause severe allergic reactions.

They also have a massive impact on New Zealand's biodiversity, with their aggressive nature they disrupt the food

chain. German and Common wasps have no natural predators in New Zealand. They feed on sugary substances, like honeydew (in beech forests), fruit or nectar and therefore put pressure on native pollinators, such as bees and birds. In late summer, they shift to a protein-rich diet, consuming large quantities of insects – vital pollinators and gardeners of the forest, as well as an important food source for birds. They can also prey on geckos and even nestling birds.

#### What do they look like?

Common and German wasps are slightly larger than honeybees, both featuring distinct black and yellow stripes. To someone unfamiliar with them, they can easily be mistaken for paper wasps, which are typically smaller and have less yellow in their markings.

#### Where and how do I find them?

They usually build their nests underground or in banks, but will also take up residence anywhere warm and dry, such as attics, hollow trees, house roofs, eaves, and walls. If you search on sunny days, near dawn or dusk, the low light angles will highlight the flight path as wasps enter and leave their nest.

#### What should I do if I disturb a wasp nest and get stung?

Run! Wasps usually attack if they feel threatened and they will sting intruders to defend their nest. When



a wasp nest is disturbed, the wasps respond by rapidly beating their wings, which triggers other wasps to emerge and join in the defense. They will aggressively target anyone or anything within 7m of the nest, focusing especially on moving objects. When one wasp is angry and stings, the others will follow. Try to move away about 100m from the colony site and make sure that none of them are attached to your clothing.

Other not so fun facts about *Vespula* wasps: In certain areas in NZ their biomass now outweighs that of all other pests: possums, rats, and stoats put together; New Zealand has the highest densities of *Vespula* wasps in the world; Wasps destroy or seriously damage 8–9% of honeybee hives in New Zealand each year; The largest wasp nest ever found in New Zealand was four metres high.

Managing wasp populations involves a range of effective and safe strategies and every nest that is controlled will help our biodiversity. Spotted a wasp nest in the bush or at your place? Contact us today and get advice. Email: [conservation@dcrail.nz](mailto:conservation@dcrail.nz).



## C.L.A.I.M. (Coromandel Lobby Against Indiscriminate Mining)

By Pamela Grealey

### Sign of the times

This sign was created by Edward Mikaere and his three children, Ngakahu, Kaya and Ngaruna.

It's time again to bring out our signs as OceanaGold are fasttracking their mine in Nationally significant conservation land at Wharekurauponga (between Waihi and Whangamatā)... all but given the green light as I write this. The plan is to tunnel nearly seven kilometres – under streams and native bush which is home to the rarest frog in the world and several other threatened species, blasting and dewatering as they go.

Currently we hear the land is closed to the public as Kauri Die Back Disease is “a risk”. The area is closed to the public, including tramping clubs, but not to OceanaGold! In addition, OceanaGold have been given resource consent to drill at Te Rerenga. Once again we need to make our opinions visible.

Dust off your signs. As demonstrated in previous gold rushes, protection of the Coromandel range and gold mining are completely incompatible.

We have a choice: “Coromandel Good For Your Soul” or “Coromandel Come See Our Hole”.

To support CLAIM locally please email, [claimtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:claimtreasurer@gmail.com). For more information on this issue across the peninsula, please go to <https://watchdog.org.nz/>



Some inspiration for signs  
PHOTOS COURTESY OF  
ELIZABETH REED

## Forest & Bird

By Kate Donoghue and Kate James



The gold rush is on (again)!

The Upper Coromandel branch of Forest & Bird endorse the article by CLAIM in this edition of the Chronicle. Those of us who have spent decades living on the Coromandel remember well the enormous effort it took, by thousands of concerned locals, to stop some of the biggest multinational mining companies in the world from open-cast gold mining over huge tracts of land here during the 1980s and 1990s.

After extensive protests and disputes with local and central government during the 1990s, legislation was put in place that gave the Peninsula, so clearly unsuitable for mining, important protection. Back then we thought we had won, that we would not have to fight this battle again – to save this place from mining. Without this vital legal standing (which the current coalition government can overturn), it again becomes an ongoing fight to save this precious land from exploitation through mining. Watch out for the new “labelling” with many different terms and minerals and mining jargon. Let's look back and learn how we can protect this precious place for generations more to enjoy in the future.

For further information [www.forestandbird.org.nz](http://www.forestandbird.org.nz) or [www.watchdog.org.nz](http://www.watchdog.org.nz)

# hākinakina SPORT

## Coromandel Golf Club

By Marilyn MacKenzie, Secretary

### Opening Day 2025

Our opening day began with a ceremonial tee shot hit by Dave Dudson, our honored life member, which was truly impressive. A significant number of members took part, competing for the Bob Riley Mixed Bogey Trophy. The winning duo, Jenny Coatsworth and Bruce Fitzpatrick, showcased exceptional skill, leaving the rest of the field behind.

### Tuesday – Club Day Opening

Carol recovered from a tumble on the second hole to assist Kyung, Marsh, and Ross in securing our opening Tuesday Competition. A huge thank you to all participants who made the day so special.

### Surf 'n' Turf 2025

We would like to express our appreciation to the Edgar Family for their generous sponsorship of our annual Surf 'N' Turf Open Tournament. Their support is truly invaluable to us.

We acknowledge the contributions of all individuals who made this event a resounding success, including Max and Peg McLean for their generous contribution to the Surf components.

Kevin and the green team of volunteers, ensured our course was in immaculate condition. Our culinary team, comprising Eugene and Carol, while small in numbers delivered an exceptional dining experience. We appreciate the contributions of members who provided dishes to complement our BBQ and the outstanding efforts of our BBQ team, Bruce and Raewyn.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to our very generous raffle table. The bar staff efficiently managed hole 19, and Paul, our club captain, effectively coordinated a fantastic day.

Lastly, a huge thank you to everyone who participated. We value your support. How fantastic that everyone was a winner.

Monday's Junior Golf Program 3.30-4.30pm course closed during the junior golf program.

Tuesday's Club Day tee off 9.30am, 9 or 18 holes ladies and men, everyone welcome.

Wednesday Men's Midweek Club Day 12.30pm Tee Off, Meat pack last Wednesday of the month.

Saturday Mixed Members Club Day 12.30pm Tee Off.

Affiliated visitors welcomed to all club days.

Club carts available for hire, bookings essential.

For more information and if you would like to give golf a go, phone Marilyn 027 253 7882 or email coromandelgolfclub@gmail.com



Men's Club Captain Paul Lawrence presenting the Bob Riley Trophy to winning duo Jenny Coatsworth and Bruce Fitzpatrick

## Coromandel Croquet Club

By Raewyn McKinney



In last month's Chronicle I mentioned that our Club Captain, Lyn, was playing for Thames Valley at a tournament in Whangarei.

This month we have a photo of the Thames Valley team at the tournament, looking good in their uniforms. Lyn is second on the right. They had a great time at the tournament, and while they did not win, they did not come last either. Well done, everyone.

If you would like to try croquet, we meet at 9.15am on Tuesdays for "association croquet" and 9.15am on Fridays for "golf croquet". We provide all the equipment and a period of coaching before you need to commit to joining the club. Casual players are welcome to come along for a payment of \$5 per day.

If you would like to join us, contact Lyn on 027 466 2661 for more information.

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



Thames Valley team at a tournament in Whangarei

GIVE A LITTLE SUNDAYS



**\$12 PIZZA SUNDAYS**

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

This month:

**Aya and the Butterfly performance  
- Birdlife Productions**

**ALL DAY EVERY SUNDAY  
DINE IN ONLY**

**STAR & GARTER  
HOTEL**  
Coromandel Town

CONDITIONS APPLY

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# Classifieds

Classifieds cost 30 cents per word – please email your words to [corochronicle@gmail.com](mailto:corochronicle@gmail.com) or call/text Debbie on 021 235 6648.

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

**BALLET CLASS FOR ADULTS.** Venue: Coromandel Citizens' Hall, Wednesdays, 10am to 11.15am. \$15. Phone Marilyn Swan 027 336 5263. Registered Teacher and Life Member Royal Academy of Dance. Silver Swans® Licensee. Visitors are welcome.

**BRICK AND BLOCK LAYER.** Laurie Gorge (07) 866 8200, 027 494 9573, [buddy10@xtra.co.nz](mailto:buddy10@xtra.co.nz).

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

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

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

**HEAT PUMPS.** Sales and installation of Mitsubishi and Fujitsu heat pump/air conditioning. Based in Kuaotunu. Call Bill for a free no obligation quote 027 271 4803. [www.dynamiclectrical-whitianga.co.nz](http://www.dynamiclectrical-whitianga.co.nz). Warm or cool a medium sized bedroom with a Mitsubishi heat pump. Starting at \$2000 installed.

**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.

**NEED SUPPORT AT HOME?** My name is Maria and I am an ex registered nurse and I live in Tuataewa, Monday-Friday. I'm a kind, helpful and mentally strong person who can do personal care and support work for people in their home. Daytime and/or nighttime. Maria Utting: [mariautting@gmail.com](mailto:mariautting@gmail.com) 021 677 239.

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

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## 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](http://www.abbyshealinghaven.com)

## FOR SALE

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

**COROMANDEL FLYING CLUB HAY BALES FOR SALE** \$11.00 each. Pick up is at the Club. Call Pieter on 027 620 8915 or e-mail [info@coromandelflying.co.nz](mailto:info@coromandelflying.co.nz).

**FIREWOOD DRY!** Delivered Coromandel Town and surrounding areas, good rates, phone/text 022 635 2841.

**SHED 2.50X2.50M,** front height 2.40m, back height 2.24m, board & batten, iron roof, glass door, wired for 2 power points and 1 light. Needs hi-ab to move at purchaser's expense, \$2,300. Ph/text 021 252 3742.

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## SITUATIONS VACANT

### DRIVING CREEK POTTERY PRODUCTION POTTERY

**APPRENTICE** No experience needed. Applications close mid-April, start date July. See [www.seek.co.nz](http://www.seek.co.nz) or our social media accounts for details.

## 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.

## VOLUNTEERING

**DO YOU ENJOY CHATTING TO PEOPLE FROM AROUND NZ AND OVERSEAS?** The Museum are looking for reliable people to man the front desk. Hours flexible and training provided. Drop in and talk to us or ring 0211 602351 for more information.

Volunteering ads are free to place in the Chronicle (subject to space)!

# Coromandel Town weekly and monthly meetings

## Every Monday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym .....8am  
 Coro Walking Group, meet outside The Bizarre, Ruth 027 338 3545 .....8.30am  
 Coromandel Hikers' Group, Hauraki House, Murray Brown (07) 866 8602.....9am  
 Monday Walkers, Woollams Ave car park north end,  
 Tracy and Peter Kendall 027 333 4722 .....9am  
 Gold Fit at Coro Gym.....9.30am  
 Rummikub at The Club..... 1-4pm  
 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  
 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 Club – Association Croquet, Woollams Ave,  
 Lyn 027 466 2661 (summer hours) ..... 9.15-11.45am  
 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  
 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, \$15 per class.  
 Marilyn 027 336 5263..... 10-11am  
 Coromandel Home-school group, Julene 020 4060 8102 ..... 12.30pm  
 Kung Fu, Coromandel Hospital .....5-7pm

## Every Thursday

Coro Art Group, Coro Flying Club, 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, Event Centre, \$10-\$20, Toni 020 4076 1526 ..... 5-6.15pm  
 Coromandel Narcotics Anonymous 12 step addiction recovery meeting, at 100  
 Pound St (orange house). Contact Rosie 027 577 7716 ..... 6.30-7.30pm  
 Free drop-in Dharma talk or video at Mahamudra ..... 7-8.30pm  
 Coromandel Bowling Club – Club Day. Runs until 1 May.....9am

## Every Friday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym .....8am  
 Community Gardens volunteer day ..... 9am-12pm  
 Yoga for everyone, Anglican Hall, Kate 021 125 3152.....9am  
 Croquet Club – Golf Croquet, Woollams Ave, Lyn 027 466 2661  
 (summer hours).....9.15-11.45am  
 Chess Club, Weta Cafe, Mike 027 304 9252 .....9.30am  
 Playcentre, Woollams Ave..... 9.45am-12.15pm  
 Coromandel Bowling Club – Coaching/Rollup. Runs until 2 May..... 3pm  
 Coromandel Bowling Club social evening at the Club ..... 3.30-7pm  
 Coromandel Flying Club social gathering, all welcome ..... 5.30pm

## Every Saturday

Coromandel Homegrown Market, Wharf Rd (summer only)..... 9am-1pm  
 RSA Coromandel, RSA Club Rooms Woollams Ave.  
 President Gary Pettett 021 061 0852 ..... 3.30-7pm

## Every Sunday

Anglican Church Service ..... 10am  
 Coromandel Tennis Club "club day" ..... 2pm  
 Coromandel Bowling Club – Club Afternoon. Runs until 27 April..... 1pm

## 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 0435 ..... 10am

**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.  
 Sue Hughes 021 142 1124 ..... 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.  
 Sue Hughes 021 142 1124 ..... 6pm  
**Last Wed** – Coromandel-Colville Business Association networking meeting,  
 Combined Clubs, Woollams Avenue, everyone welcome (Feb-Nov)..... 5pm  
**Last Thurs** – Green Drinks at Star & Garter ..... 5pm  
**Last Thurs** – DCR Music and Art Night ..... 6.30pm  
**3rd Fri** – Dances of Universal Peace, The Pyramid, Sue 022 159 1571 ..10.30am  
**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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MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
<p><b>3</b></p> <p>High tide 10:31am (3.2m), 10:54pm (3.1m) Low tide 4:08am (0m), 4:39pm (-0.1m)</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>High tide 11:20am (3.1m), 11:43pm (3.0m) Low tide 4:57am (0m), 5:28pm (0m)</p> <p><b>Open Floor Dance at Mana</b> (see pg 19)</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>High tide 12:10pm (3.0m) Low tide 5:48am (0.1m), 6:17pm (0m)</p> <p><b>Ash Wednesday</b> (see pg 12)</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>High tide 12:34am (2.9m), 1:02pm (2.9m) Low tide 6:42am (0.3m), 7:09pm (0.2m)</p> <p><b>Patrons Cup at Coromandel Bowling Club</b> (see pg 11)</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>High tide 1:29am (2.8m), 1:57pm (2.7m) Low tide 7:41am (0.4m), 8:05pm (0.3m)</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Car boot sale, Woollams Ave carpark 9am-12pm <b>Coromandel Growers &amp; Artisans Market 9am-1pm</b> <b>Seafood Fours Tournament at Coromandel Bowling Club</b></p> <p>High tide 8:55am (3.1m), 9:16pm (3.0m) Low tide 2:38am (0.1m), 3:03pm (0.1m)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>High tide 9:42am (3.1m), 10:06pm (3.1m) Low tide 3:21am (0m), 3:51pm (0m)</p> <p><b>Seafood Fours Tournament at Coromandel Bowling Club</b></p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p>High tide 4:40am (2.6m), 5:04pm (2.4m) Low tide 10:55am (0.7m), 11:19pm (0.5m)</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>High tide 5:41am (2.6m), 6:07pm (2.5m) Low tide 11:53am (0.6m)</p> <p><b>Open Floor Dance at Mana</b> (see pg 19)</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>High tide 6:36am (2.6m), 7:03pm (2.5m) Low tide 12:17am (0.5m), 12:49pm (0.6m)</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>High tide 7:24am (2.7m), 7:52pm (2.6m) Low tide 1:08am (0.5m), 1:37pm (0.5m)</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>High tide 8:08am (2.7m), 8:37pm (2.7m) Low tide 1:53am (0.4m), 2:21pm (0.4m)</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>High tide 8:50am (2.7m), 9:17pm (2.7m) Low tide 2:34am (0.4m), 3:01pm (0.4m)</p> <p><b>Coromandel Growers &amp; Artisans Market 9am-1pm</b> <b>Coromandel Patchwork &amp; Quilters exhibition starts</b> (see pg 20)</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>High tide 9:29am (2.7m), 9:54pm (2.7m) Low tide 3:12am (0.4m), 3:39pm (0.4m)</p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p>High tide 10:05am (2.7m), 10:30pm (2.7m) Low tide 3:48am (0.4m), 4:14pm (0.4m)</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>DEADLINE: Coromandel Town Chronicle April issue</b> <b>Open Floor Dance at Mana</b> (see pg 19)</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>High tide 11:17am (2.6m), 11:41pm (2.6m) Low tide 5:02am (0.5m), 5:29pm (0.4m)</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>High tide 11:54am (2.5m) Low tide 5:41am (0.6m), 6:01pm (0.5m)</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>High tide 12:20am (2.5m), 12:34pm (2.5m) Low tide 6:23am (0.7m), 6:41pm (0.6m)</p> <p><b>The Heart of Receiving retreat at Mana</b> (see pg 19)</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>High tide 1:04am (2.4m), 1:17pm (2.4m) Low tide 7:11am (0.7m), 7:26pm (0.7m)</p> <p><b>Coromandel Growers &amp; Artisans Market 9am-1pm</b> <b>Coromandel Patchwork &amp; Quilters exhibition ends</b> (see pg 20)</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>High tide 1:54am (2.4m), 2:06pm (2.3m) Low tide 8:05am (0.8m), 8:20pm (0.7m)</p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p>High tide 2:53am (2.4m), 3:03pm (2.3m) Low tide 9:04am (0.8m), 9:23pm (0.7m)</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>High tide 3:55am (2.4m), 4:06pm (2.3m) Low tide 10:05am (0.8m), 10:29pm (0.7m)</p> <p><b>Open Floor Dance at Mana</b> (see pg 19) <b>Coromandel-Colville Community Board meeting</b> (see ad pg 15)</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>High tide 4:56am (2.5m), 5:12pm (2.4m) Low tide 11:04am (0.6m), 11:31pm (0.5m)</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>High tide 5:53am (2.7m), 6:14pm (2.6m) Low tide 12:01pm (0.5m)</p> <p><b>Summer Cup vs Mercury Bay at Coromandel Bowling Club</b> (see pg 11)</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>High tide 6:46am (2.8m), 7:11pm (2.8m) Low tide 12:28am (0.4m), 12:54pm (0.3m)</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>High tide 7:37am (3.0m), 8:04pm (3.0m) Low tide 1:19am (0.2m), 1:46pm (0.1m)</p> <p><b>Coromandel Growers &amp; Artisans Market 9am-1pm</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>High tide 8:27am (3.1m), 8:55pm (3.1m) Low tide 2:09am (0.1m), 2:37pm (0m)</p> <p><b>MEG Information Evening at Pepper Tree Restaurant at 5pm</b> (see pg 25)</p>
<p><b>31</b></p> <p>High tide 9:17am (3.2m), 9:44pm (3.2m) Low tide 2:58am (0m), 3:21pm (-0.1m)</p>	<p>Applications close for <b>The Bizarre Community Grants Scheme</b> (see ad pg 15)</p>	<p>High tide 9:17am (3.2m), 9:44pm (3.2m) Low tide 2:58am (0m), 3:21pm (-0.1m)</p>	<p>High tide 9:17am (3.2m), 9:44pm (3.2m) Low tide 2:58am (0m), 3:21pm (-0.1m)</p>	<p>High tide 9:17am (3.2m), 9:44pm (3.2m) Low tide 2:58am (0m), 3:21pm (-0.1m)</p>	<p>High tide 9:17am (3.2m), 9:44pm (3.2m) Low tide 2:58am (0m), 3:21pm (-0.1m)</p>	<p>High tide 9:17am (3.2m), 9:44pm (3.2m) Low tide 2:58am (0m), 3:21pm (-0.1m)</p>



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

- Rubbish and recycle collection for Coromandel Town, Te Kōhuna, Manaia, Coromandel Rural North, and Thames Coast.
- 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.

**COROMANDEL RUBBISH AND RECYCLING TRANSFER STATION**  
 Daily 8.30am-5.30pm (summer hours)

**Make sure your event gets listed**  
 To get your event listed, email the details to [corochronicle@gmail.com](mailto:corochronicle@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.

# ROB KEATLEY



New Listing

Asking Price \$650,000

**Tuataewa, 435B Tuataewa Road**  
[www.trinityrealestate.co.nz/property/435b-tuataewa-road-coromandel](http://www.trinityrealestate.co.nz/property/435b-tuataewa-road-coromandel)

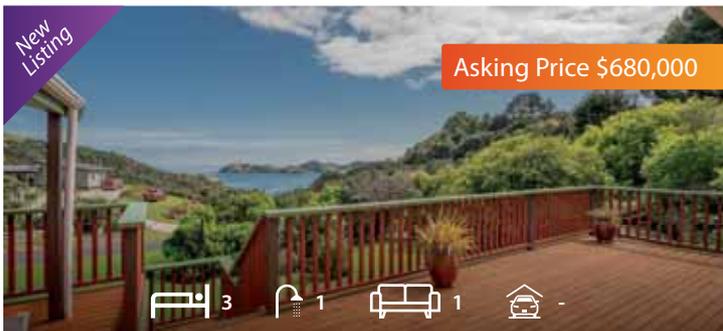


New Listing

Enquiries Over \$710,000

**Coromandel, 68 Watt Street**  
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2 2 1 2



New Listing

Asking Price \$680,000

**Te Kouma, 97 Kowhai Drive**  
[www.trinityrealestate.co.nz/property/97-kowhai-drive-coromandel-1](http://www.trinityrealestate.co.nz/property/97-kowhai-drive-coromandel-1)

3 1 1 -



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**Coromandel, 460 Tiki Road**  
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4 2 2 2



Enquiries Over \$1,295,000

**Coromandel, 2385 Wyuna Bay Road**  
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Asking Price \$2,295,000

+ SAV + GST (if any)

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Enquiries Over \$899,000

**Coromandel, 94B Whangapoua Road**  
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Price Reduced

Asking Price \$418,000

**Coromandel, 285 Bellville Drive**  
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