

MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

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Funding Matarangi Amenities – Your Help is Needed

Guest Editorial by Alastair MacCormick and Mark Bedford

In 2019 MRAI sponsored the formation of a charitable trust, the Matarangi Community Trust (MCT). This is to enable the community itself to take on Matarangi projects on its own or jointly with Council. As an example, MCT could promote the development of a multi-purpose public sports turf for tennis, basketball, netball and volleyball.

Matarangi people have many good ideas for making things better for holiday makers and residents. The Ratepayers Association (MRAI) has an extensive wish list that includes improvements to and expansion of our local recreational facilities (see page 6 for the MRAI wish list).

It's exciting that some of these requests are from parents – there are more families with school-age children coming to live in Matarangi for its wonderful lifestyle and excellent local schools. Wouldn't it be great to provide them with more amenities for their sports and recreation?

While Council can include some of these

ideas in their future plans, in the present financial climate Council could take decades to deliver many of the items on the list. With an increasing permanent population and the continued growth of holiday settlements on the Coromandel, the Council is pressed to fund the necessary infrastructure of roads and footpaths, and water, wastewater and stormwater assets.

At this time MRAI and MCT have recognised that the Dunes Community Centre, with its Golf and Community Clubs, needs assistance from Council and the Matarangi Community to ensure this amenity can continue in the long term. Over decades MRAI and the ratepayers have fought to keep this property from residential subdivision. After a successful Environment Court action in 2018-19 the land had its Open Space zoning confirmed.

We need to be clear with ourselves that this zoning decision is not the end of the road that would ensure permanent protection of the land. That end point will require current and future owners of the property to be bound by covenants, registered on the land titles, that forever prevent residential subdivision. Without these covenants in perpetuity, any

current or future owner can apply to Council for a change in the zoning to allow subdivision.

In September 2019 a community-minded group of 21 Matarangi property owners formed a company to acquire the land and buildings of The Dunes open space property. They acted with urgency to pre-empt an undesirable outcome in the offing at that time. The company saw this as a first step to bring it into Matarangi ownership and that its ownership would be temporary. They saw the broader Matarangi community as the natural long-term owners of the property.

The company does not expect to meet any long-term operating deficits or the deferred maintenance and plant and equipment needs accumulated from a decade of neglect. Not surprisingly, there is no compelling reason for the owners to place on the property titles the covenants that would protect the land from residential subdivision in perpetuity.

(Editorial continued on page 6)

Photo Credit: Alastair MacCormick



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CONTRIBUTORS:

The Matarangi Beach Paper thanks the following people for their contributions in this edition... Alastair MacCormick & Mark Bedford; Lianne Webber; Michelle Dobson; David Key; Alastair Brickell; Mark Hall; Pete Murphy; Sharon Clay; Te Rerenga School & PTA; Chris Cotton and Stu Arnold, ... because without these contributions and stories, your local paper wouldn't be quite the same. Thank you!

CONTACTS & DEADLINES

This is your community paper. We welcome all your stories, photos, messages and contributions.

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MERCURY BAY ART ESCAPE TO GO AHEAD UNDER LEVEL 2

Artists across the eastern Coromandel Peninsula are still throwing open their studio doors for the annual Mercury Bay Art Escape in the first two weekends of March. However, the stricter hygienic regime and social distancing measures demanded of Covid 19 level 2 will be in place.

The 50 artists exhibiting represent a rich and eclectic mix of the arts and include flax weavers, furniture makers, jewellers, glass and mosaic artists, painters, photographers, potters, printmakers, sculptors, and woodworkers. Seven new artists are taking part for the first time. Visitors can meet the makers and watch them where they work. Find out what inspires these artists, see their works in progress, and buy an original piece directly from its creator.

“Mercury Bay has a fantastic natural environment and that’s one of the reasons we have so many talented artists here,” says Art

Escape chair and Kuaotunu photographer Ian Preece. “The light, the bush, and the coastline all provide wonderful inspiration and that’s reflected in the high quality of the work visitors will see during the Open Studios. The event is a major highlight of the Coromandel’s thriving arts’ calendar and we’re excited to have the largest number of artists and new artists for many years.”

Art Escape is a free event, with studios open the weekends of March 6 & 7 and 13 & 14, from 10-4. Download a map to plan your visit from our website at www.mercurybay-artescape.com/artists-open-studio.

Some of the artists who will be throwing their studio doors open are Gaylene Lonergan, Ian Preece, Ian Webster, Lutz Gaebler, Michael Smith, Michaela Palacios, Peter Matai Johnston, Roimata Taimana and Warwick Lidgard all of whom live in our own Mercury Bay North neighbourhood.



Mercury Bay Art Escape chair and Kuaotunu photographer Ian Preece.

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We have had a great start to the 2021 School Year with 110 students on the school roll and further roll growth throughout the year is expected. We were very pleased to welcome to our Te Rerenga School family the following new children and staff. Moana - Room 1: Avia Barton; Pippa Bay; Yana Brickell; Noah Comer and Ariana Haworth; Amelia Jones. Awa - Room 2: Pipi Marshall; Skyla Pullin; Jacob Pullin; and Ziphya Townsend. Maunga - Room 4: Beau Marshall. Rangī - Room 5: Indy Marshall; and Amelie Bunnin-Bank. Our new staff members are Mrs Danielle Threadgold (Office); Mrs Jen Commins - Wairere: Room 3; and Mrs Fiona Watts - Rangī: Room 5.

At Te Rerenga we love to get involved in the local community to help with sustainable projects. It was lovely to read an acknowledgement of the work our Year 6 students did last year, by the Matarangi Reserves Management Group in their report at the recent Matarangi Ratepayers AGM. "The Reserves Management Group, in conjunction with the senior pupils of Te Rerenga School planted a section of the dunes to the right of the walkway down to the beach. It was extremely pleasing for us to see the enthusiasm with which these pupils went about the tasks delegated to them and also to witness first hand, their ideals

regarding conservation." During 2021 Wednesdays is going to be a designated sustainable project day, with Mr Adshead and Mrs Watts working with groups of children doing sustainable projects. But of course we will also be making efforts to be environmentally focussed everyday!

During the school holidays we had the first paddock cleared of the long grass and this will now be kept under control as part of the on-going mowing at school. We are also intending to extend this into part of the paddock where the horses graze so that we are utilising more of the school property as open play space, and where children can ride bikes. We are seeking donations of bikes and helmets in a range of sizes for our bike paddock. If you have a bike or two, and also bike helmets, that your children have outgrown, or know of some that aren't being used, please drop them off at school. I know that sometimes bikes are left at the Matarangi Refuse Station, so if you happen to be there and see some in reasonable order let us know. We will also need to construct or get a bike rack for them too. So if you can help this too that would be fantastic!

Mary Kedzlie
Principal



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2021 – 2031 Long Term Plan

What's the future | Ka aha ā kō ake nei?

We're packing our bags for another 10-year Long Term Planning journey.

Our Long Term Plan (LTP) sets the budgets, projects, and levels of service for the next 10 years. To get it right, we need to know what you think.

We're holding a public consultation on our LTP proposals from 12 March to 12 April.

Our LTP is our roadmap for making sure our Coromandel communities are well served by us now and into the future.

Some items that will be of interest to Matarangi is the proposal that Council purchase the land and buildings currently occupied by the



Matarangi Golf Course from Matarangi Land Holdings Ltd.

Also to help save costs, we could make changes at our Matarangi Refuse Transfer Station.

Have your say from 12 March to 12 April.

When the consultation opens on 12 March we'll publish our LTP consultation document. This will have details on the budgets, projects and levels of service we'll be proposing for the 2021-2031 period, with a focus on the first three years.

Full details about how to give us your feedback will be on our website and in the consultation document. The LTP itself won't be finalised until your feedback has been considered.

tcdc.govt.nz/longtermplan2021

CLIMATE CHANGE DECLARATION DECISION

Our Council has directed staff to prepare a report by no later than April this year, to reconsider the strategic issues of climate change – and to make sure the decision not to sign the Local Government Leaders' Climate Change declaration is consistent with the requirement of the Local Government Act (LGA) and our own Significance and Engagement Policy, as directed by the High Court.

After a legal challenge, the High Court directed our Council to reconsider and determine whether or not to approve the Mayor signing the Declaration, consistent with the requirements of the LGA, our Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the High Court's judgement.

Once the staff report has been received in April, Council will then reconsider its decision to not authorise the Mayor to sign the Declaration. The Declaration is available on the Local Government NZ website: lgnz.co.nz Our Council report on the High Court's decision is in the agenda for the 9 February Council meeting on our website at tcdc.govt.nz/meetings

To read what our Council is already doing toward climate change mitigation, see tcdc.govt.nz/climatechange

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- The number next to your collection day, e.g. Tue1, is your recycling week.



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wheelie bin has your recycling week next to your collection day. Eg Tue2 means you're in a Week 2 area. Check the recycling week for your area on our Kerbside schedules at

tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

Our extended summer hours at our seven Refuse Transfer Stations (RTS) ended on Sunday 21 February and our regular hours have begun.

Check hours and locations for your RTS at

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LOOK FOR THE NUMBER



Mercury Bay Community Board UPDATE

A word from our Board Chairperson Rekha Giri-Percival

"We would like to thank everyone for their cooperation in conserving water. The February rain has given our reservoir levels a chance to recover, allowing us to move down restriction levels. The Long Term Plan consultation opens 5 March so give your feedback on what Council is proposing. You can find out how to submit your feedback above."

rekha.giri-percival@council.tcdc.govt.nz

The Board met on Tuesday 24 February. You can watch the recording of the meeting at tcdc.govt.nz/meetings or read about the highlights in our website News section.



Mercury Bay Reserve Management Plans (RMP) update –

There were over 100 submissions received for the Mercury Bay RMP with over 600 submission points. The hearings for Mercury Bay RMP will take place at 9am on Tuesday 9 March at the Whitianga service centre, 10 Monk Street. A more comprehensive summary of submissions will be presented to elected members at the decision making phase of the plan's development, after hearings. tcdc.govt.nz/rmps

Next Community Board meeting – 9am, Wednesday 7 April in our Council service centre, 10 Monk St, Whitianga. tcdc.govt.nz/meetings for the online agenda (uploaded two working days prior to meeting).

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Funding Matarangi Amenities – The Case for a Targeted Rate

Continued from Page 1

In response to this situation, MRAI and MCT have put a proposal to TCDC for a joint project to achieve perpetual protection for the open space and put the clubs on a sustainable financial footing.

The proposal makes a strong case for financial support from Council, based on decades of mistakes and omissions by successive Councils from 1978 to 2010 that have left Matarangi with much-valued open space still vulnerable to rezoning for residential development.

Council has included the proposal in its draft TCDC Long Term Plan 2021-31, which is expected to be out for consultation and submissions by the public from March 12th for a month. It will be published on www.tcdc.govt.nz. It is understood that three options will be proposed, including “Do Nothing” (Option 1). Our proposal envisaged the property could be owned by MCT on behalf of the community. Council officers have recommended TCDC ownership.

MRAI and MCT support Option 2 which envisages future funding being shared by Council and all Matarangi ratepayers. Council proposes to spend \$2 million on acquisition. Of this \$1 million would be paid down over 30 years from funds generated by a targeted Matarangi rate of \$150 per rateable unit. The funds generated from the targeted rate will also support operating costs of maintaining the open space facilities.

At the MRAI annual meetings held in 2020 and 2021, the members unanimously supported the proposal for a targeted rate. In voting this way they acknowledged that it is a small cost for the benefits received by the community following the 2019 Environment Court decision, which include a reinvigorated community, a rejuvenated golf course and bowling rink, and a vibrant Community Centre. The Open Space decision cleared the air for Matarangi property sales to boom and

property values have risen sharply, a major benefit to all Matarangi owners.

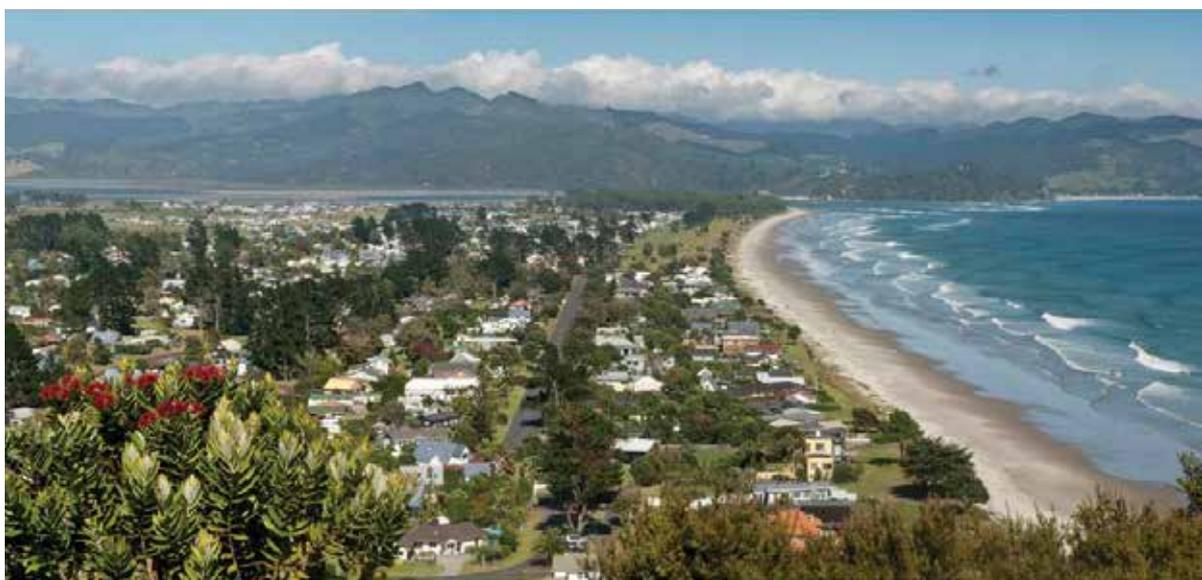
Acceptance of a targeted rate shows Council that we are prepared to help ourselves, not relying solely on Council, to look after and develop our amenities.

The Ratepayers Association and the Matarangi Community Trust are asking all Matarangi residents, ratepayers and supporters to make a submission to the TCDC LTP 2021-31 in support of Option 2.

THE MRAI WISHLIST

- Another children’s playground
- Improvements to the Village Green playground
- Courts for basketball, netball and volleyball
- A ground for field sports
- A home for the Fishing and Boating Club
- A cardiac fitness course
- Tennis court upgrades
- Early development of the Harbour Park
- Improvements to the Community Centre at The Dunes to provide better facilities for social club activities
- Maintenance and improvement of the 18 hole Dunes golf course
- Extension and improvement of the spit walkway

Alastair MacCormick chairs the Matarangi Community Trust
Mark Bedford chairs the Matarangi Ratepayers Association



At the MRAI annual meetings held in 2020 and 2021, the members unanimously supported the proposal for a targeted rate.

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“WE MAKE THE EARTH MOVE”



We have had two Good Sorts sent in this month to the MBP. One from Kuaotunu and the other from Matarangi, which the editor believes is the first animal in the ten year history of the MBP to gain such an esteemed community accolade.



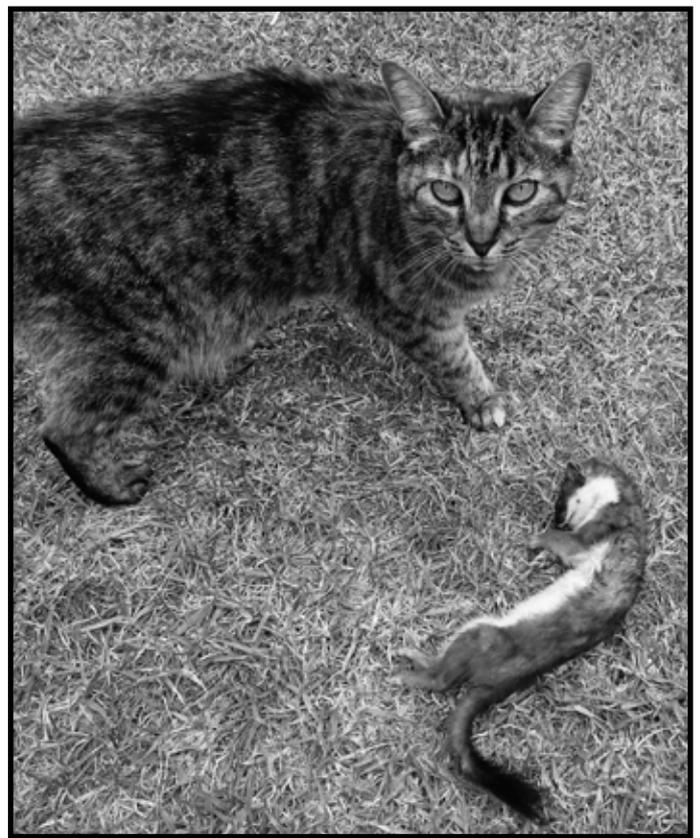
Beat this Postman Pat!!

I bet Postman Pat does not get to deliver the post each day to such a cool looking letterbox! The little ones at the Kuaotunu Steiner Kindergarten have a new letterbox thanks to our first nomination for Good Sorts of the month, Graham Hey and Colin Verner.

The new wooden letterbox at the end of the driveway to the kindergarten was designed and built by Graham and Colin to look like a little replica of the Kindy with its trapezoid windows and chimney.

When Colin and Graham found out that the Kindy needed a new letterbox they realised that they could create something better than the usual boring red plastic box, but something happy, fun and full of interest to our littles locals.

Well done Graham and Colin we salute you!



A PRIZE CATCH

Our second nomination for Good Sort of the month goes to 7year old Meiko Dobson.

Meiko arrived from the city as a 3 month old runt, one of 30 tabbies scrambling for attention. Grandma Di queried whether she would make a good mouse catcher. "Aye, aye!" said the young owner. Arriving at coastal Matarangi with a bush backdrop, she quickly took to the mice, was strictly told "No birds" (which did take a bit of discipline) and by the time she was 3 took a liking to rabbits.

Her trophy catch though (and the reason for being awarded 'Good Sort') is her latest hunt for stoats. The 'meek runt from the big smoke' has brought home 2 stoats in the last two months. She's a little super star! Well done Meiko we salute you!

Interestingly Meiko comes from the same family that raised 'Tequila' the dog, whose favourite sport was to swim and ride waves at Matarangi Beach.

Photo Credit: Dobby Dobson couldn't quite believe their darling cat caught this vicious stoat.

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CONGRATULATIONS CORNER



Congratulations to **Harry Karl** on turning the big 70. Harry spent a career in aviation firstly with the RAF as a fighter pilot and then with Air New Zealand. Harry spent most of his flying career on the Harrier jump jet with time spent in Germany where he met and married his wife, fellow RAF officer Sue, and then in the United States on exchange with the USMC. An interesting fact about Harry is that he celebrated his 19th birthday by going supersonic. These days Harry's interests are a tad less frantic though, but he is still busy with his involvement in the Reserves Committee, being a weighmaster at the fishing club, playing golf, doing woodwork in the shed, and being a new granddad. Happy birthday Harry!



Just as this edition was going to print the MBP learnt of another big birthday celebration. Congratulations to **Steve Clay** on attaining his Gold Card on turning 65. Steve owns and operates Peninsula Pests and is a member of the Matarangi Rural Fire Force and also the Boat and Fishing Club. I am sure the big day was well celebrated with Sharon, family and friends last weekend at Kelly Jade Ave.



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Congratulations to **George and Bronwyn Ririnui** who are celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary. Bronwyn has for a number of years been the driving force behind 'A Taste of Matarangi' as well as running her own therapeutic massage clinic here in Matarangi. George, a Fisheries Enforcement Officer with MPI and previously a Senior NCO in the NZ Army, has for a number of years been the Marshall of the annual Matarangi Anzac Parade. Kia ora mo to huritau marena George and Bronwyn.

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Ten years ago the Matarangi Beach Paper celebrated its first anniversary of publication. Some of the local news stories of March 2011 included the Matarangi Fire Force beating the Boat and Fishing club in the annual Fire v Fishers Challenge Cup. Top boat honours went to Grant Robinson's Fire Force team with a catch of 15.11kg. At Te Rerenga School Zoe Van der Putten and Caitlyn Yates were selected as the new head students for 2011 and the school also suffered a break-in with computers, cameras and guitars stolen. Lastly, CJ Palmer headed off in his 'nifty' pop-up caravan for a golfing tour of pennant matches all over the country and Jim Scott organised a volunteer's working bee at the Dunes to maintain the fairways and greens.

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Bill & Dawn Tucker: The Last Matarangi Farmers



Last month saw an end of an era when the last of the cattle to graze Matarangi were removed to make way for the subdivision expansion. Over the next few days the yards will be removed and the diggers will go in to create the next stages of the Beaches development.

Bill and Dawn Tucker who farm on the main road around 2 kilometres west of the turnoff have had some of their herd graze the Matarangi paddocks for over 25 years. "Recently we have only had 22 stock grazing there. Usually it has been around 50 dry stock on the place," said Bill.

"When we started using Matarangi it was as a winter runoff for our milking herd for just 6 weeks a year. But since 2007 we have run dry stock on the Matarangi paddocks," says Bill. "They have always

done well over there, they seem to have enjoyed being there as much as we have."

"We'd move the herd over by stock truck but to get them back to the main farm we would walk them home at about 4 in the morning in groups of 10 as it was more manageable and created less problems. Each morning we would take a group of them through the village, along the causeway, turn right at the turnoff, over Bonks Hill to our farm," recalls Dawn.

Bill and Dawn say that over the years they have had no real issues other than the odd escapade when a cow has wandered off. "We'd get a call and would be able to quickly sort it out. The people of Matarangi have been so understanding and helpful. We'd like to thank them for their kindness and how they have

let us take water for the herd over the years."

Dawn has lived in the district since she was aged two when her parents came to farm their property and attended Te Rerenga School. In those days there were only about 30 odd kids and just one small school bus. She met Bill in 1965 when he arrived from Taranaki to work in the Whangapoua Forest and was based in the Forest Service camp at Te Rerenga. They married in 1968 and raised 3 children.

Although they are the last farmers of Matarangi, and it is indeed an end of an era, Bill and Dawn will continue to farm their property just down the road and be part of the local community.

Photo Credit: Mark Hall

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THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club



The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council National fishing tournament was held over the last week of February. The Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club was represented by 7 teams. At the time of writing, the competition was still underway, but there have been some great catches weighed in. Fish weighed in included some respectable snapper caught on light weight line, a beautiful Albacore tuna caught by one of our lady members and a Mahi Mahi Dolphin fish. At this stage we haven't weighed in any Marlin although several are being hooked up in our area.

The local snapper fishing has improved with the water temperature above 20 degrees. Shore fishers and Kontiki fishers are reporting catches on every outing and those fishing the Puddle in boats are approaching their limits in 20 to 35 metres with very reasonable fish.

Our next competition is the very popular Doris Day Ladies Competition which will be held on the 17th of April.

This competition has been further promoted this year with the addition of further prizes for the dress up section and an expanded fishing section. A total prize pool of over \$2500.00!!!! Tickets are available for cash at The Matarangi General Store and Matarangi Realty. Special thanks to these businesses for their continued support. Thanks to the Vegar Family, NZ Rangehood Installers, Hudley's Office Furniture for their sponsorship and promotion of this major tournament.

Be aware that the bar doesn't have a major channel at the moment and has changed over the last 2 months. Also be aware that the sand has drifted well into the harbour. If anyone

requires information regarding how to read the bar, evaluating the break and how to cross the bar safely, please contact me and we will endeavour to take you out and explain any queries.

DONT TAKE RISKS, IF IN DOUBT, DONT CROSS THE BAR. WEARING A CORRECT FITTING LIFE JACKET IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT WHEN CROSSING A BAR.

The WHITIANGA COASTGUARD can be contacted on CHANNEL 63 and the NOW WEATHER REPORT is on CHANNEL 20

Safe Boating and limit your catch, don't catch your limit!

Peter Murphy, President. 0212690058



The Matarangi Fire Report



Another steady month for Call Outs with four to attend, two medicals, one Westpac landing zone and one large vegetation fire on the Port Jackson Road.

We have had a lot of interest in the FENZ National Golf Tournament to be held at the Dunes Golf Club during the second week of May and entries are now closed. We are looking forward to hosting this event and thank the Dunes Golf Course for their support.

We have our annual Fishing Competition and Auction on Saturday the 3rd of April subject to Covid restrictions. Tickets will be available at Beach Realty soon with Boats \$45.00, Land Based Fishing \$15.00 and Kids Competition \$1.00 each. A filleting service will be available

at \$2.00 per fish. The competition starts at 6.00am with the weigh in at the Fire Station between 2pm and 3.30pm. The fish auction will start at 4.00pm followed by the prize giving. The Kids fishing comp. will be between 12 noon and 2.00pm at the Matarangi Wharf. All fish must of legal size and children must be supervised by an adult. Please make sure all of your fish are kept chilled on ice as any spoiled fish will be rejected. If cancelled due to weather all ticket holders will go into a draw for prizes.

Don't forget there is still a total fire ban in place for the whole of the Coromandel Peninsula.

Stay safe everyone,
Stu Arnold



MATARANGI MARKETS NOW HAS LESLEY AT THE HELM

After three years of running the markets at Matarangi, Chris Cotton has handed over the reins to Lesley Inger. Lesley will now be responsible for organising the markets and the dates.

If anyone would like a stall please contact Lesley on 078660788 or 0212800780 email nzquilter@gmail.com Over the years the Matarangi Markets have raised much needed funds for local community groups. The most recent being a \$400 donation towards new playground equipment for Te Rerenga School.



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Stolen Bach Sign Devastates Family

Nearly 40 years ago in 1982, Maureen and Merv Cordes purchased a property in Goldfield Drive. They named their bach, "The Tigers Lair" after some celebrations with local bach owners many years ago. A very special sign giving a name to their bach was made and that has hung on the Cordes family bach for well over thirty years.

Sadly, sometime between the 1st February and 5th February someone has walked up onto the front deck of the Cordes property and has removed the varnished wooden sign with black writing. It is around 1 metre by 600mm in size and quite a heavy object to remove.



"The Tigers Lair is in honour of our mum Maureen who passed away 12 years ago. She was the life and soul of our family and we miss her very much," says daughter Lianne Webber. "The sign reminds us of our mum and the fun and family memories we have shared over the years."

Lianne says the family are absolutely devastated to have lost the sign and the sentimental value it means to their extended family, especially to her dad Merv for whom the bach and "The Tigers Lair" sign has huge significance. "We would desperately like the sign returned and would be happy for someone to put it back without any questions asked. We would really appreciate the locals keeping an eye out for any sightings to have this returned," says Lianne.

Lianne says that she and her two siblings have shared many wonderful holidays at Matarangi and have many precious memories of their family holidays. "Today we continue to share our good old kiwi bach with the next generation, Mum and Dad's grandchildren, along with many of our friends", adds Lianne. If you have any information about the whereabouts of "The Tigers Lair" sign please let Lianne know. Her contact phone number is 0272555468.

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Where in New Zealand is the Matarangi Beach Paper?



Ms Kedzlie, our local school principal holidayed in Oban on Stewart Island recently. Here she is reading the School Bell just to make sure she didn't make any spelling mistakes!

Ms Kedzlie also has a general knowledge question for her Te Rerenga students to find out!

Where else in the world is there a place called Oban? The first child that comes to her with the correct answer will earn the right to have 'Morning Tea with the Principal'!

We love to see your photos and see where the MBP has travelled to. Please email with a brief blurb to contact@matarangibeachpaper.com

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PESTIE CORNER

With Sharon Clay of Peninsula Pests

Wasps!! A word that brings fear to some people due to their aggressive nature in the way they sting when provoked but when treated with care they need not be something to be feared.

German, common and paper wasps, can be distinguished from bees by their shiny hairless bodies and distinct black and yellow or black and red stripes. Honey bees have much less stripes of browns. Bumble bees are much larger, are rounded and have furry bodies.

The Common and German wasps are most likely to build their nests in a hollow in the ground. This is usually in a dry place that is protected from excessive heat and rain such as in a bank or under a tree stump. Asian Paper wasp forms much smaller colonies than the common or German and the nest will have only a few tens of cells in an open type nest.

Wasps and bees have a painful sting, to which some individuals are more susceptible than others; on rare occasions a sting can cause anaphylactic shock. For those not allergic to wasp or bee stings a sting on the throat or mouth can still be dangerous if the swelling blocks airways. On such occasions seek immediate medical advice immediately.

Wasps or bees should not be tackled without a sound knowledge of the risks. Typically, you can see wasp activity or streams entering and leaving their nests but should not be approached without protection including full bee keepers' hat, gloves, overalls and covered shoes as once disturbed they will attack and sting. It is better to leave eradication to professionals especially where people are susceptible to stings

Trivia - Wasp nests can contain several thousand wasps each with a sting.



Kuaotunu Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten

PET ROCK DAY fundraising event

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EASTER SUNDAY FROM 10AM KUAOTUNU RESERVE

CATEGORIES: Age groups: 2-5, 6-9, 10-15 as well as adults, child/adult teams and artists. Entry by gold coin donation. All welcome to enter and/or come along.

Rocks can then be bought at the great 'ROCK AUCTION'!



MATARANGI RESIDENTS' GET CONNECTED

Getting connected to some of the best broadband in the world has become a whole lot easier for Matarangi households and businesses.

On Wednesday 24 February, Chorus experts were on hand at Piper's Cafe on Matarangi Drive to help residents who are yet to switch over to the Ultra-Fast Broadband (UFB) network.

The UFB network has been available in Matarangi since July last year and Chorus wants to help those that aren't yet

connected, to do so, so they can experience the benefits fibre brings.

"Whether it's not being aware fibre is available, not knowing how to get connected or thinking it's expensive to connect, we want to dispel any myths and provide good factual information so Matarangi households can jump on the fibre bandwagon," said Andrew Carroll, General Manager, Customer and Network Operations.

Meri Te Tai Mangakahia Reserve Toilet Block Replacement

Construction has been completed for the replacement of existing toilet on Meri Te Tai Mangakahia Reserve, Whangapoua. The Mercury Bay Community Board contributed \$200,000 for the park improvements along with \$467,500 from the central government's TIF (Tourism Infrastructure Fund) to make this project happen.

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Wed – Sun 8am – 5pm

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Restaurant - Wed – Sun 11am – Close
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9 Holes \$30

Other Coromandel Peninsula
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To book tee times call (07) 8665394

St Patricks Day Tournament - 17th March

10am Shotgun Start

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\$150 per team (includes buffet meal and prizes)

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Either call into the golf shop or phone 07-866
5394 for application forms or booking tee times.

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THE DUNES MATARANGI

Golf and Community Club News

MARCH 2021

*Come and ask about our Dunes Golf and
Community Club membership plans!*



Community Club

The Community Club Committee had its first working meeting on 12th February 2021. Mark Bedford, Chairman Matarangi Ratepayers Association Inc, updated the Committee on MRAI work towards securing appropriate open spaces for Matarangi. The Committee feels that our Club should be ready to support the recommendations from MRAI, once all the details become available. At the meeting the Committee reviewed the events calendar and discussed a range of events to be planned for the year. We will definitely be continuing with the events we started last year and will be looking at adding other "activities". Watch this space. Your club is growing: as at 12th February 2021 we had 409 members.

Bowls is continuing to be popular on both Wednesdays and Fridays. It is always nice to catch up with everybody after such a long break. Most players are pleased to see the end of the day and have a cold one at the bar. Play starts at 3.30pm Wednesday and Friday, don't forget to put your name down on the booking sheets at the golf shop.

A new initiative 'Ladies Nights at the Dunes' will now be held for the first time on Wednesday 7th April. Come along and meet with the local ladies to enjoy supper, drinks, networking and discussing life in our piece of Paradise. Cost \$15 pp which covers supper. The bar will be open. Contact the golf shop at 07 866 5394 or email Sharon at penpest.nz@gmail.com



Steve Vaughan last week chose the Dunes Golf Course for his attempt at the 72 hole Longest Day Golf Challenge to raise money for those living with cancer. Every day 63 New Zealanders are diagnosed with cancer. Steve raised close to \$4000 for his day on our local course with the proceeds going towards cancer research, prevention and support services for people who need our support the most. So far golfers around New Zealand have raised over \$400000 for the Cancer Society. Here is Steve with Simon Hill of the Dunes at the completion of his four rounds.

Golf Report

Its been a good start to our golfing year. Beautiful weather and the course looks amazing. The men are reporting good numbers on Wednesdays and Saturdays. It would be great to see a few more ladies on our Thursday Club days.

Five of our ladies travelled to Pauanui on the 22nd Feb. It was a Team event with all our stableford points counting. Let's just say we didn't come last but the other Clubs participating were very happy to see Matarangi being represented again!

The Club is again holding a "Have a Go" day on Sunday the 7th March. It is open to anyone wanting to give golf a try and potentially becoming a new member. Roll up at 9 a.m. for a 9.30 start, finishing at 11.30. Bring along a couple of irons maybe a 7 or 5 if you have them but there will be clubs available and balls will be supplied. There will be members there to give some advice and a few points to hopefully help your game.

St. Patricks Day tournament is to be held on Wed 17th March. Teams of 3 best 2 stableford points to count for your team score. Shotgun start at 10 a.m. Entry fee of \$50 each includes great prizes (some of which have been donated by Ricoh) and a buffet meal at the end of play. Wear or carry something green and come up with a Irish name for your team. Should be a fun day.

All members are very welcome to join in the Clubs scrambles on our club days. The 9 Hole men are now teeing off at 8.30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Happy golfing everyone from the Dunes.

PUZZLE CORNER with David Key

LETTER SUDOKU

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This month the puzzle is a sudoku where we have swapped the nine numbers for nine letters
The question is - In the end where do our kids go to get it?



Stargazer Sights
WITH ALASTAIR BRICKELL OF STARGAZER ASTRONOMY TOURS

March 2021

This month the Moon is a good guide to finding the twin stars Castor and Pollux in the constellation of Gemini where they form the heads of the twins lying on their sides. Pollux looks slightly pinkish as it is a red giant star while Castor is actually a complex system of six stars orbiting around each other.

Mars will be near the red giant star Aldebaran in Taurus in the early evenings and it will be interesting to compare their colours as both are of a similar brightness at the moment. Mars is getting fainter each week as the Earth moves further away from it. Jupiter and Saturn along with faint Mercury can be seen by early risers in the eastern pre-dawn sky low on the eastern horizon. Venus has moved to be behind the Sun this month so cannot be seen. However it will reappear on the other side as the 'evening star' next month just after the sun sets. The International Space Station (ISS) will be in the evening skies again early this month.

March 4 - The ISS will appear from 9:41pm in the SW tonight passing almost overhead before disappearing into the Earth's shadow.

March 5 - A bright ISS pass tonight from 8:53pm in the SW passing high overhead.

March 8 - The ISS makes a high pass from 8:08pm in the SW passing right through Orion.

March 9 - A crescent Moon lies high above Saturn in the eastern pre-dawn sky with bright Jupiter below and faint Mercury just above the horizon.

March 10 - The Moon now sits just above Saturn with Jupiter and Mercury below before dawn in the east.

March 11 - A thin crescent Moon is just to the right of bright Jupiter with faint Saturn above and Mercury below in the pre-dawn eastern sky.

March 12 - A very thin crescent Moon sits below three planets in the eastern pre-dawn sky with Saturn the highest followed by bright Jupiter and faint Mercury.

March 18 - The crescent Moon sits just to the left of the Pleiades or Matariki in the evening with reddish Mars to the right.

March 19 - The Moon is now above the Pleiades with reddish Mars to the right and the red giant star Aldabaran in Taurus above.

March 20 - The Moon has moved to the right of Mars tonight.

March 22 - The Moon sits to the left of the twin stars Castor and Pollux in the constellation Gemini

March 23 - The Moon is just above the red giant Pollux with Castor below.

March 25 - An almost full Moon lies just below the bright star Regulus in Leo.



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REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAYS

Men on Mats (Pilates for Blokes) @ 8-9am. Ph Christiane, 0273122584

Matarangi Ladies Pilates @ 9-10am. Ph: Christiane, 0273122584

Kuaotunu Craft & Social Club 1-4pm Ph Lia 8662054

Mens 9 Hole Golfers tee off

10.30a.m. @ The Dunes
 Contract Bridge: 7pm St John's rooms, Tiki Rd, Coro. Town. Info ph Colin: 866 5428

Yoga: 7am Vinyasa @ Kuaotunu Hall. Ph: 021 08100 125

Ladies "Allsorts Exercise" Class at the fire station 10.15 - till 11.15 (after Ladies Pilates) - duration 1hr. Phone Christiane 0273122584

Kuaotunu Library. Open 24/7 when you become a member. Contact Maxine: 07 866 4341 or 027 293 0369.

TUESDAYS

Men's Coffee Morning (1st Tues of every Month - 7th March). 10am @ Pipers.

Ladies Golf 9 and 18 golfers Tee off at 10am @ The Dunes

Matarangi Craft Group. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 7-9pm. Meet at the Matarangi

Fire Station. Contact: Lesley 07 866 0788.

Hatha Yoga 10 - 11.30 am @ Kuaotunu Hall.

ICONZ: an Adventure, Activity and Values based ministry for boys years 1-6. Where: Kuaotunu Hall Time: 5.30pm - 7pm More information: www.iconz.org.nz or contact: Robyn Balfour 020 409 39674

WEDNESDAYS

Kuaotunu Steiner Play Group. 9:30-11:30am Ph: Ina 866 2841 Men's Golf. Tee off 10am. Meet @ The Dunes just before tee off.

Women's Coffee Morning (1st Wed of every month). 10am @ Pipers Café. All welcome!

YOGA: 7am Vinyasa @ Kuaotunu Hall. Ph: 021 08100125

ICONZ for GIRLZ IFG is a Christian organization that offers a safe environment for girls to have adventures, learn new skills and make new friends. For ages: 8 - 14 years old Held at: C3 Church in Whitianga on Tuesdays at 4pm - 5.30pm Check out website www.iconz4girlz.org.nz For

more information please contact Robyn on 020 409 39674.

THURSDAYS

Ladies 18 Hole Golfers tee off 9.30 a.m. @ The Dunes

Mens 9 Hole Golfers tee off @10.30 a.m. @ The Dunes

Ladies Golf 9 tee off at 11:30 a.m @ The Dunes

Mens 18 golfers Tee off at 10am @ The Dunes

Ladies Keep Fit 9-10am @ Matarangi Fire Station. All Welcome Phone Barbara 866 2687

Matarangi Craft Group meets every Thursday at 10:30am @ the Matarangi Fire Station. Info: Linda Segetin at 866 5653

SATURDAYS

Hatha Yoga 3rd Age. 9-10.30am (For over 60 yr olds and/or for people with limited mobility)

SUNDAY MORNING

Beats & Beans Last Sunday of Month Hula Cafe 5 Albert Street Whitianga

PUBLIC EVENTS

Whilst we are currently at Level 2 and the uncertainty over future lockdowns is unclear, the MBP policy is to not list larger public events at this time, as information and requirements cannot be guaranteed.



Your local community paper for the Mercury Bay North

Email Liam at contact@matarangibeachpaper.com or phone 027 868 9568

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MARCH 2021 TIDES WHITIANGA

	High	Low	High	Low	High
5	0:11	6:20	12:32	18:49	
6	1:05	7:16	13:26	19:44	
7	2:04	8:16	14:24	20:43	
8	3:07	9:19	15:26	21:46	
9	4:11	10:23	16:30	22:50	
10	5:14	11:26	17:33	23:51	
11	6:11	12:23	18:32		
12		0:46	7:03	13:16	19:24
13		1:36	7:50	14:03	20:12
14		2:20	8:33	14:46	20:55
15		3:02	9:14	15:27	21:35
16		3:42	9:54	16:06	22:14
17		4:21	10:33	16:45	22:53
18		5:00	11:11	17:23	23:32
19		5:40	11:51	18:02	
20	0:12	6:22	12:32	18:43	
21	0:56	7:08	13:16	19:28	
22	1:45	7:58	14:05	20:18	
23	2:40	8:54	14:59	21:15	
24	3:38	9:52	15:58	22:14	
25	4:36	10:50	16:58	23:13	
26	5:32	11:46	17:56		
27		0:08	6:24	12:39	18:50
28		1:00	7:14	13:30	19:42
29		1:50	8:03	14:19	20:32
30		2:39	8:51	15:08	21:21
31		3:28	9:40	15:57	22:10
1		4:18	10:29	16:45	23:00
2		5:09	11:20	17:36	23:52

LINZ

STARGAZERS
 Phone: 07 866 5343

FEBRUARY PUZZLE SOLUTION

C	L	I	E	A	T	H	S	M
T	M	A	S	L	H	C	E	I
S	E	H	I	C	M	T	L	A
M	C	T	L	H	I	E	A	S
H	I	S	T	E	A	M	C	L
E	A	L	C	M	S	I	T	H
A	S	C	M	I	E	L	H	T
I	T	E	H	S	L	A	M	C
L	H	M	A	T	C	S	I	E

The answer to the question - He turns it to gold. The clue being the word in the middle "Alchemist."

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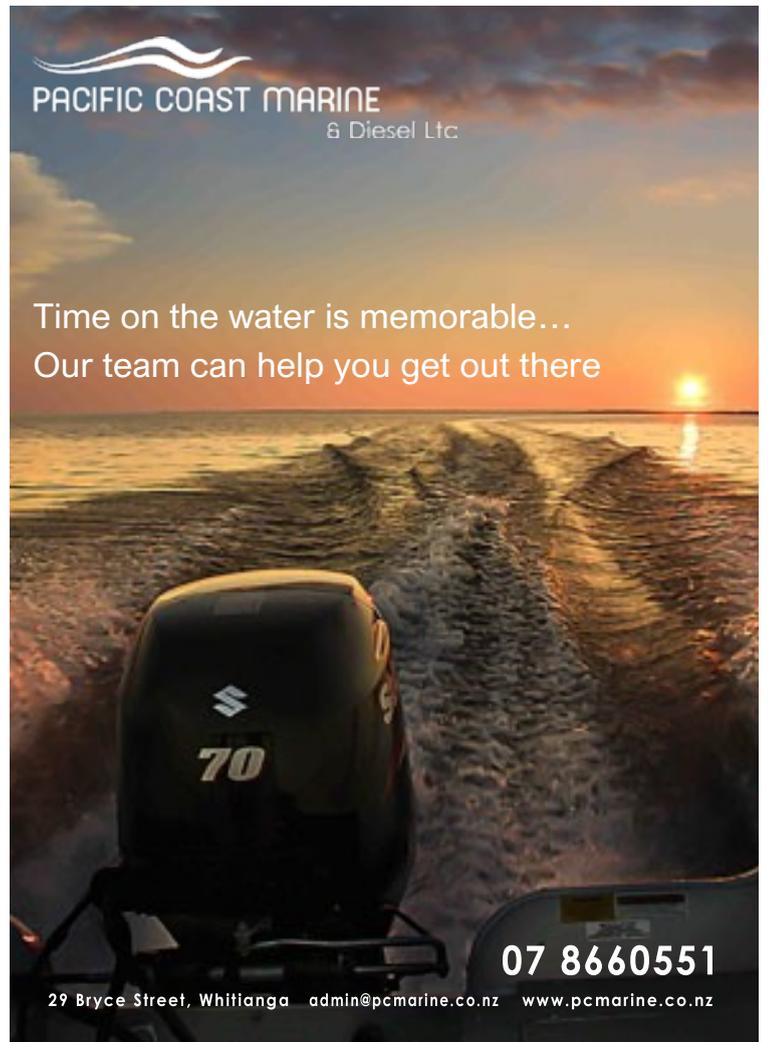
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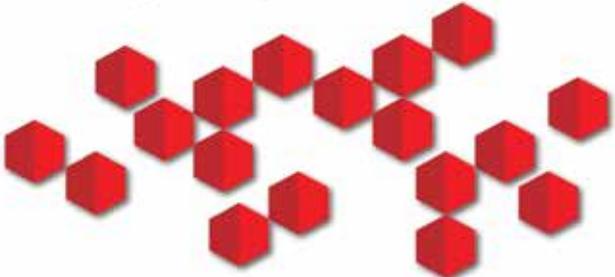
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SOLD

6 Stewart Place, Opito Bay

71 bids



12 registered bidders



SOLD

13 Kawhero Drive, Kuaotunu

15 bids



over accepted pre-auction offer



Two very successful auction campaigns achieving excellent results and setting new records.

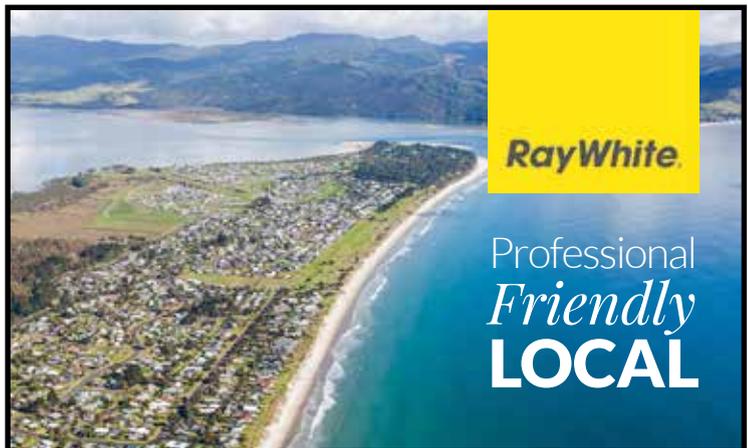
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