

MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

INCLUDING SIMPSONS, KUAOTUNU, OTAMA, OPITO, RINGS, GREYS AND WHANGAPOUA BEACHES

MBP 134
APRIL 2021

EASTER
EDITION

A Mindful Morning

Photo credit: Jen Commins

The children of Te Rerenga School, staff and parents spent a wonderful Mindful Morning down at Opera Point last week. This was the third Mindful Morning that the school has undertaken over the past twelve months and exactly a year since the country went into national lockdown due to Covid 19.

The children took part in various mindful activities including mindful bush and beach walks, sand sculpture, observational drawing and just getting into 'the moment' and exploring nature.

Te Rerenga's journey into using mindfulness began at the beginning of 2020 and has now become firmly embedded into the school's local curriculum. Before implementing the programme the staff all undertook professional development training delivered by local child counsellor, Dr Pauline Dickinson and Teresa Kedzlie from the Hauraki Resource Teacher: Learning and Behaviour Service. This professional development included such things as the benefits that mindfulness has on student cognitive outcomes, their social and emotional skills and their wellbeing.

As a result of the professional development the school introduced a 'Mindful Moment' into each school day with all classes practicing some form of mindfulness. "While there are various stand alone mindful packages out there for children, we decided to be eclectic", said Mary Kedzlie, principal of Te Rerenga School. "We believe that one of the best places to practice mindfulness is in nature and our school has an amazing natural environment with bush, farmland and the sea and harbour right on our doorstep. It seemed logical to utilise this rich resource in this way. Being mindful in nature can help children see the strength and beauty of nature through things like water, trees, wind and clouds."

Mindful practice has been endorsed by the Education Review Office stating that student well-being is central to the successful implementation of the New Zealand Curriculum & their success as lifelong learners. It has also been endorsed by people like prominent NZ child psychologist Nigel Latta. Latta has said that if he had just one wish it would be to introduce mindfulness into every school in the country.

"We believe that mindfulness equipped our children and staff with resiliency to deal with what was a sad year personally for the school but also dealing with the impact of Covid 19," adds Mary. The response by children, staff and parents has been extremely positive. This was reflected in the school's 2020 community consultation where learning outside the classroom, utilising the local environment and mindfulness were especially mentioned.

Mary shared that enhancing student well being is also a focus of the local 'Kahui Ako' which is the across schools community of learning (COL). Local Matarangi resident, Mr Barry-George Colmer, a teacher at Coromandel Area School has responsibility for this as a Lead Teacher in Student Wellbeing for the Kahui Ako which covers the schools from Colville through to Whangamata Area School.

As one student said, "We go to Opera Point for mindfulness because it is a lot calmer, you have the gentle sounds of the waves, the salty smell of the sea and the soft sand. It is just so peaceful."

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CONTACTS & DEADLINES

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

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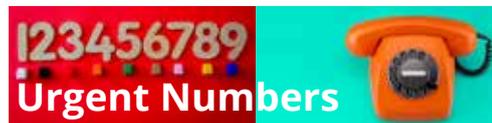
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The Matarangi Beach Paper thanks the following people for their contributions in this edition... Alastair MacCormick & Mark Bedford; David Key, Alastair Brickell, Mark Hall; Pete Murphy; Sharon Clay; Te Rerenga School & PTA; and Stu Arnold, ... because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

PROTECT OUR OPEN SPACE EASTER WEEKEND AT THE DUNES MATARANGI

Saturday 8.30am
Public Meeting at Dunes Community Centre (Dunes Clubhouse)
•Your questions answered
•Come to hear why protection of our Open Space matters to all Matarangi residents and ratepayers

Saturday 4.30 – 6.30pm
Open Space Walk and Sausage Sizzle
• Our first ever "Walk the Course" event. Walk from the Dunes Community Centre to the spit head, followed by a sausage sizzle and opportunity to connect

Saturday all day,
Sunday 10am – 3pm,
Monday 9am – 2pm
Help Centre at Dunes Community Centre (Dunes Clubhouse)
•Your questions answered
•Help to complete your submission

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The School Bell

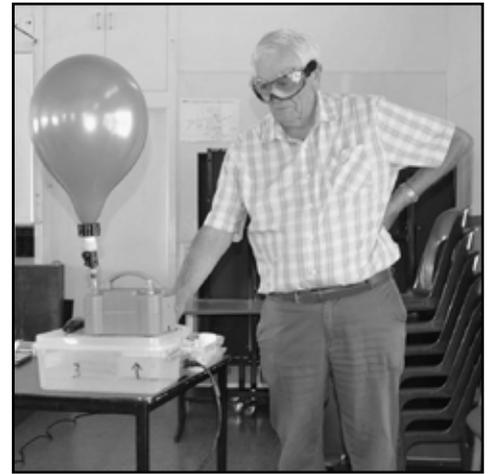
The students have had two very interesting but different speakers visit the school in the past few weeks.

Des Hunt who is a well known NZ author of books for children and young adults came and spoke to our Year 4 to 8 students in our Maunga and Rangi Rooms. Des who lives in Matarangi has been shortlisted for or has won awards for several of his books including 'Cry of the Taniwha' which won the Gaelyn Gordon Award for a Much-Loved Book in 2016. He was also the recipient of the prestigious Margaret Mahy Award in 2017. Des who was a science teacher wove together his story of being an author with his love of chemistry and physics. The children were thoroughly engaged throughout his fantastic presentation.

We were delighted when Dr Kate James, a Marine Scientist, came and shared her knowledge and expertise with the Year 3 to 6 students in our Wairere and Maunga Rooms. Kate is the mother of Jimmy, one of our students and the aunty of five other students at our school. Kate spoke about her Ph.D research about the invasive seaweed, indaria, that has caused havoc in the Hauraki Gulf.

We are very proud of two of our Year 8 students, Solomon Williams and Lila White, who regularly volunteer at the Kuaotunu Bird Rescue Centre. The bird rescue centre is a charitable trust and always appreciates donations to help them for caring for the local birds. Solomon is often feeding a baby tui or bathing blue penguins while he volunteers. This is a photo of him taken recently with a ruru. (Photo Credit Paula Williams)

Mary Kedzlie
Principal



The inaugural ladies night at The Dunes last week was a raging success with sixty five ladies attending.

It was the perfect evening for the ladies of the community to enjoy the ambience of 'The Dunes' with lovely nibbles and refreshments available. Two beautiful gift baskets were raffled. The first one was to raise funds for a chosen charity and was won by Jude Mikkelson. Sharon Walker and the team from Four Square Matarangi, also organised and donated a basket with the proceeds going towards library books for Te Rerenga School. The winner of that raffle was Maria Gawor.

Well done to Sharon Clay and team for getting this new event started. It will be an ongoing event held on the last Wednesday of each month. Here enjoying the evening are Denise Scheurich, Sue Sinclair and Diane Dobson.

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OUR COROMANDEL



News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

April, 2021

Comment on our Long Term Plan proposals until 12 April

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.

"This is a big one," says our Mayor Sandra Goudie. "We've signalled for some time that we're facing challenges around things like dealing with peak summer demand and affordability, increasing costs with rubbish and recycling, meeting national drinking water standards, planning for sustainable growth, addressing climate change – all under the lens of COVID-19."

"We need to increase our rates each year just to maintain what we currently deliver, but we share our communities' concern about the affordability of rates increases. So we're going out with a 'no-frills' budget, which means we will only spend money on essentials, and we're looking at how we can generate revenue in other ways," says Mayor Sandra.

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. Closing the refuse pits and the green waste disposal facilities to the public would save around \$125,000 each year (an average District-wide saving per rating unit per year of \$4.47).

How to have your say

ONLINE: tcdc.govt.nz/longtermplan2021

POST: 515 Mackay Street, Thames 3500

SERVICE CENTRES:

- Thames Service Centre
515 Mackay Street, Thames
- Coromandel Town Service Centre
355 Kapanga Road, Coromandel
- Whitianga Service Centre
10 Monk Street, Whitianga
- Whangamatā Service Centre
620 Port Road, Whangamatā

EMAIL: consultation@tcdc.govt.nz

BE PREPARED



The earthquakes on Friday 5 March were a timely reminder to get ready and be prepared – emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere.

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)'s Get Ready

website has fantastic resources to help you, your family, your workplace and your school to prepare for emergencies: getready.govt.nz

Our Emergency Management Unit has been working with community groups around the District developing emergency response plans tailored to local conditions and needs –

tcdc.govt.nz/communityresponseplans



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Easter Kerbside Collections

There will be no Kerbside rubbish and recycling collection on Easter Monday (5 April) and Anzac Day Observed (Monday 26 April). So collections those weeks will be one day late.



tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

Our Refuse Transfer Stations are closed Good Friday (2 April) and are open to their Sunday hours on Easter Monday (5 April). They are open 1-5:30pm on Anzac Day (25 April) and are open to their Sunday hours on Anzac Day Observed (Monday 26 April).

tcdc.govt.nz/rts



Mercury Bay Community Board
UPDATE

A word from our Board Chairperson Rekha Giri-Percival



"Council's budget and project proposals for the next 10 years are ready – now it's your turn

to have your say on the Long Term Plan. Have a read of the consultation document and if you feel strongly about something please submit on it, this is our roadmap for the future."

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

Cook Drive, Whitianga pedestrian crossing

– The newly installed pedestrian crossing has been damaged and reported to the police.

"This is unacceptable, and we'll continue to replace anything that is taken down," says our Roading Manager Ed Varley. "It's an unnecessary cost to the ratepayer and I urge anyone who knows about this vandalism to contact us or police." The Blind Foundation requested the crossing, which is located close to a busy intersection, be improved to provide a safer use by the visually impaired. This request was supported by the Board and didn't require public consultation as it was an existing pedestrian crossing.



Mercury Bay Skate Park – The steel shade shelters are being installed and the remaining landscaping is scheduled to be completed this month.
tcdc.govt.nz/skate

Whitianga Town Centre Art

– We're working with both the artist, James Webster and contractors to complete the installation of the ten Manukarere Pou in Taylors Mistake after Easter.



Next Community Board meeting –

9am, Wednesday 7 April in the Mercury Bay Service Centre, 10 Monk St, Whitianga.
tcdc.govt.nz/meetings for the online agenda (uploaded two working days prior to the meeting).



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ART ESCAPE 2021 PROVES POPULAR

Art-lovers came from near and far to visit Mercury Bay Art Escape's Open Studios during the event's first two weekends – and organisers are expecting another influx over Easter. The third and final Open Studios weekend is coming up on April 3 – 4. It was added to extend the programme after earlier Covid-19 restrictions prevented some people from travelling here in early March.

The event gives the public the opportunity to meet artists in their creative spaces, see their works in progress, and buy an original piece. Artists participating in Mercury Bay North include Gaylene Lonergan, Ian Preece, Ian Webster, Lutz Gaebler, Michael Smither, Michaela Palacios, Peter Matai Johnston, Roimata Taimana, and Warwick Lidgard.



Michael D Smither CNZM, one of New Zealand's most prominent master artists had original artworks and screen prints on view during the Art Escape weekends at The Dunes Golf Resort. Since 2014 Michael has been the Mercury Bay Art Escape Patron Artist and The Dunes were privileged to have him come and visit on the second weekend. Here he is with Christine Rabarts from Bread and Butter Gallery who is his personal agent.

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BIG TURN-OUT EXPECTED FOR EASTER MERCURY BAY ART ESCAPE OPEN STUDIOS

Mercury Bay Art Escape chair and Kuaotunu photographer Ian Preece says artists were thrilled with feedback from guests. "People who visited said they were impressed with the high quality of work. They enjoyed meeting artists and finding out about their processes. Pieces by our artists have now gone to new homes around the country. The Open Studios began more than a decade ago, and its reputation continues to grow, not just in Mercury Bay but around New Zealand."

Check the website to see where artists across the eastern Coromandel will be open at Easter: www.mercurybay-artescape.com/studios-open-easter-2021. Maps are also on the website to help you plan your self-drive art tour.

Meanwhile, the MBAE Showcase Exhibition is on at Hot Waves Café in Hot Water Beach until May 2. It features work from all Open Studios' participants and Mercury Bay Art Escape members. There, you can pick your favourite and vote for the coveted People's Choice Award. The artists 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.

When visiting our artists' studios and the exhibition, guests are reminded to please scan the QR code on entry. <https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-system/>

Please follow our Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/mercurybayartescape>) and Instagram pages <https://www.instagram.com/mercurybayartescape>, and sign up to our newsletter to ensure you have the latest information: <https://www.mercurybay-artescape.com/contact>.

Maps and guides available, along with information about the artists at www.mercurybayartescape.com or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Artist Gaylene Lonergan who specialises in silk painting was part of the open studio tour at her home in beautiful Opito Bay during the Art Escape weekends. Each January Gaylene also holds an exhibition in Opito Bay showcasing her work.

For more information, please contact Ian Preece on 021 134 7865

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WEEKEND WORKSHOPPING WITH FLOWERS AND NATURE WEAVES

On Saturday 10th April between 1.30-3.30pm and Sunday 11 April between 11 am-3pm local crafters will get their chance to learn from the best.

Davina Pranker, one of New Zealand's leading florists is coming to share her skills and experiences gathered over a professional career that exceeds thirty years at two workshops in Kuaotunu in April.

Davina has been invited by Hand Mades, a local group of crafters who meet during the winter months to knit, sew, patch, dye and support one another with tips and projects and regularly invites tutors to share their expertise.

She is Hand Mades 2021 guest tutor and steps out of her floral design studio and flower school at Vida Flores in Newmarket to visit here.

Saturday 10th April afternoon - Posies
A fun workshop where one can learn to make spiral

bouquets like a professional!

Who doesn't want to have this skill up their sleeve? Each workshopper is asked to gather and bring along a mixed bucket of garden flowers, foliage, twigs, grasses and local foraged botanicals and Davina will make contribute gorgeous commercially grown blooms for all to use.

Sunday 11th April morning - Nature Weaving
Using dried palm fronds each work-shopper will learn the art of random weaving to create a unique basket form. A class for crafters and curious - to - try alike!

Relevant tools and odd bits and pieces supplied for both workshops.

Take one workshop or do both. You can REGISTER at www.vidaflores.co.nz on the Flower School and Group Work pages. Local Enquiries contact Isabel Gilbert-Palmer on email: irishtown@mac.com



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The LTP and Matarangi – Our Open Space Challenge



Article by Alastair MacCormick - Chair of the Matarangi Community Trust and Mark Bedford - Chair of the Matarangi Ratepayers Association

The TCDC Long Term Plan is now out for consultation. It's available to be read online on the TCDC website at www.tcdc.govt.nz/Have-Your-Say.

This is our Matarangi Open Space Challenge – to protect it forever! It's not safe yet.

PLEASE SUBMIT NOW – TICK OPTION 2 or OPTION 3
ONLINE OR VISIT OUR EASTER HELP CENTRE
SUMISSIONS CLOSE MONDAY 12th APRIL
MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.OURMATARANGI.COM

TCDC failed to protect this open space in Matarangi (currently in popular use as a golf course, spit walkway and lawn bowls rink) and as a result this community has spent over 10 years fighting development of the land.

It's not safe yet. The Environment Court 2019 confirmation of the Open Space Zone is not a permanent protection against residential development.

Those who stepped up and acquired the land did so generously to give the community an opportunity to ultimately acquire the land and to protect it in perpetuity.

The Trust, Landowners and MRAI have all spent the past 2 years working with Council to identify different ways of funding the acquisition so the community can own and protect what we have forever. We can't let the Council avoid responsibility

Other LTP Issues Affecting Matarangi

Waste Disposal and the Matarangi Transfer Station

Council is urgently looking to reduce the cost of waste collection. Although the LTP no longer proposes closure of the Matarangi Transfer Station, Council needs suggestions for how to reduce costs. We know one item under consideration is to close the station to green waste. What do you think? Include your ideas in your submission.

Wastewater

Council has included a proposal costing up to \$18 million to replace the Matarangi treatment plant? This is needed to upgrade the quality and cope with the proposed new subdivision of 224 lots. You can comment on this and other infrastructure issues such as the water supply in your response.

for their failure to protect the land. Their preference to do nothing (Option 1) puts Matarangi back to where we were a decade ago with the Open Space land unprotected in private ownership.

Selecting Option 2 (or 3) in the LTP is, in our view, the best way forward. While not ideal, these 2 options give us the best opportunity to stay in negotiation with Council and retain what we have gained.

This is not just a golf course, it's special coastal open space, it's our community hub, the spit walk is a key part of the magic of Matarangi. This amenity adds value to all properties Matarangi.

We need your help to protect it.

Please submit and select Option 2 (or 3), in the Long Term Plan



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DORIS DAY OUT

LADIES FISHING TOURNAMENT

Saturday 17 April 2021



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1st – \$100 2nd – \$50

HEAVIEST OTHER SPECIES (NO SHARKS) (1 per angler)
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Sunday Games at the Dunes

The first Cards/Games afternoon of 2021 was held on Sunday 28th March at The Dunes. Participants enjoyed playing Canasta, Mahjong and even a domino game called Mexican Trains! The next Games afternoon will be on Sunday April 11th from 2 p.m. This is a great way to meet people in the community so come along and have some fun playing Canasta, 500, Bridge, Chess, Rummikub, Scrabble or whatever is your preference. You can even come for lunch prior, or just enjoy a glass of wine, bar snacks or pizzas. There will be someone from the Community Club Committee to welcome you and introduce you around if you are new to the community. (Featured: Shirley and Werner Muellers playing Mexican Trains with Trish and Kevin Comer.)



St Patricks Day Party

To be sure to be sure, there was a sea of green at the St Pat's Day celebrations at The Dunes.

Pictured (below) is our local Polish leprechaun Tadek Gawor with a true Irish rose, Ali Hackett.



Irish eyes were smiling hearing the beautiful lilting sounds of our greenkeeper Raymond and his wife Nicky (left).

Raymond who is originally from Ireland has been playing guitar for over 20 years. "They are very good" was a comment from many of those who heard them perform.

THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club



The water temperature is starting to fall, but the Kontiki boys and drone fishers have been quite successful off the beach. Boat fishing has been harder with fish being caught in deeper water and around bottom foul. The wind has been picking up in the late mornings making fishing quite uncomfortable.

the MPI web site. It is sad that over exploitation by the commercial sector and the destruction of the bottom habitat by dredges has resulted in this action being taken.

The Ministry of Primary Industries have just announced a proposed closed season for gathering scallops in an area from Wangamata to Kennedy Bay including all the offshore islands for a period of 2 years to allow this fishery to recover. This ban is to apply to Recreational, Commercial and Customary fishing with the banning of bottom dredging practices. All relevant information can be found on

A reminder that the Doris Day Ladies Fishing Competition that was delayed due Covid is being held on the 17th April. Tickets can be purchased for \$20 at Matarangi Realty and Matarangi 4 Square. This is turning out to be one of our largest tournaments with large cash prizes, goodie bags and a large array of spot prizes. Get your teams together for the best dressed team with prize money of \$900.00 on offer for the best dressed teams. Details are on the tickets.

Two good sorts were spotted one morning recently walking along the edge of the road that leads to the Matarangi. Wearing high viz vests and armed with rubbish bags they were seen collecting rubbish that was strewn by the roadside. Many thanks Werner Muellers and John Schoutens for your initiative and your care for our local environment ensuring it remains beautiful and pristine. The Good Folk of Matarangi salute you!

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Amended Proposal for a Community Marine Based Facility in Matarangi

The Matarangi Boat and Fishing Club Inc are pleased to announce that a proposal has been lodged with the council on the 25th February in relation to accessing council owned land close to the Matarangi wharf and boat ramp. The proposal is for a new Community Marine Based Facility to be developed, that will enhance the community of Matarangi. A feasibility study is now being undertaken by TCDC.

Current growth in the local community has highlighted a need for a standalone area for the Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club Inc (MBFC) to function now and in the future.

The proposed facility would be for the use of anyone in the community interested and partaking in the following pursuits and part of the MBFC-

1. Boating, fishing, diving, kite sailing, optimist boats, paddle boarding, jet skis, surfing, surf casting, kayak fishing etc
2. Vehicular and pedestrian access can be made from the existing boat trailer park and landscaping and planting will be included to enhance the area
3. A weigh station and future boat cleaning facility using

recycled water will be part of the area and is handy to those using the existing Matarangi Boat Ramp

We envisage the following activities to be undertaken in the future for the MBFC and Matarangi community at large.

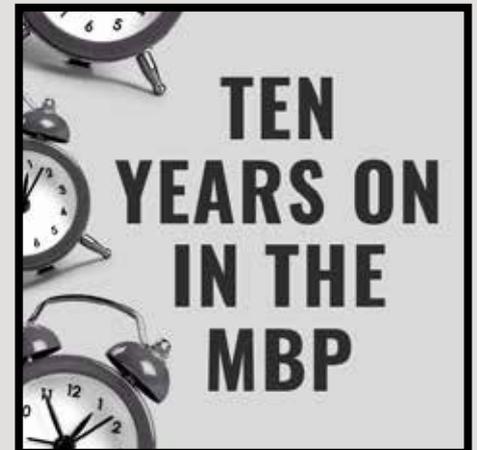
- Seminars on bar crossing to help new comers to the area in navigating the Whangapoua Bar including use of harbour channel markers and boating etiquette
- Coast guard facility as anyone requiring assistance from the Whitianga base from Opito Bay including Mercury Islands and north to Waikawau Bay have an hour or more wait time for help
- Weighing and cleaning of trophy fish for local and National records
- Teaching and promoting sailing skills eg Optimist class boats, kite surfing
- Teaching and promoting water safety courses for local school children and other interested parties
- Promotion of marine conservation with respect to rebuilding our coastal fisheries with local Iwi and other agencies
- Possible dive courses through a local Dive club and dive tank fills
- Courses for the community wanting to learn to paddle board, kayak, kite surf etc will also be included as and when the community requires them
- Competitions will be held at the venue and open to the members of the MBFC and the local community

Where in New Zealand is the Matarangi Beach Paper?



Here is Carolyn Managh at home in Dunedin reading the article about her book, 'Penguin Kind, 501 small sustainable actions under \$100 that was in a recent edition of the MBP. Carolyn's book is a great read reaching Number 2 in Paper Plus's Top 50 books right behind Chelsea Winter! We would love Carolyn to visit us up here in the Northern Bay some time sharing some of her great sustainable ways about reducing, reusing and recycling.

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



Ten years ago in the March-April edition of the MBP stories included the launch of a new brewing company here in the Northern Mercury Bay by Neil and Carol Vowles. Then editor Michelle Dobson organised through the paper an appeal for homemade preserves and sauces to assist the people of Christchurch who were suffering under the devastating earthquake. Nice one Michelle! It being Easter there was an Easter Egg recipe for the kids, and a glowing restaurant review by Michelle for Luke's Kitchen which got 5 Matarangi Stars - so much better than that Michelin 3 star nosh! The MBP also sadly reported the closure of Omaras Restaurant at the Golf Club so it is great to reflect that ten years on we have it back and once again thriving as part of the new Dunes setup. Lastly, Dave Isles photographed some spectacular dolphins for the photo page.

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THE WINE CLUB REPORT



It was a wine club like no other with the members being treated to Puku's Picks. It was the first tasting for 2021 and exactly a year since we all went into lockdown so there was a lot to celebrate. About 60 members gathered at the wineshop to hear the "informed" speakers present the wines that were showcased on the night.

The excellent tasting notes for the five wines in this report were prepared by Puk's partner Kerre. Puk respectfully introduced Kerre to the audience as his secretary, but we all know she is in actual fact the CEO!

Craggy Range Gimblet Gravels Rose 2020. The grapes for this rose were carefully selected for freshness and balance from the different red varieties grown in Craggy Range's Gimblet Gravels Vineyard in the Hawkes Bay. They were hand harvested then gently pressed for careful colour and flavour extraction. With strawberries and floral notes but an underlying dried apricot on the nose, the palate balances the sweetness savory of rose with perfection and fresh boysenberry and juniper berries on the initial entry. This drives through the palate that gives the wine infinite drinkability. As Puk said "It's red. It's cold and it is very nice."

Satellite Sauvignon Blanc 2019-Marlborough. This elegant Sav Blanc exhibits bright aromas of citrus, lemon pith, ginger, spice and tropical fruits. A classic Marlborough style that is juicy and crisp. This wine is lowered with stone fruit giving generous length of flavour. The one factor that sets this wine apart from its competitors is the structure gained from lower cropping vines that reach psychological (Oops, I think Puk meant physiological!) ripeness before picking. As Puk said "It's like a fruit salad but the beauty of this one is the price!"

Spy Valley Chardonnay 2017. A handpicked single estate wine from Marlborough which is harvested from their most mature vines and aged in barrels for 11 months. With aromas of roast nut, fig and white peach it is a wonderfully fruited and gorgeously composed chardonnay. The complex bouquet shows nectarine, orange peel, apple tart and cedar characters with a subtle brioche note. The palate is equally impressive, displaying excellent concentration & depth complemented by

a fleshy mouth feel and flowing texture. Puk said that he knows the area well as he spent some time there "under cover."

A surprise European mystery guest (but was he actually from the Hawkes Bay?) introduced the next two wines. Puk introduced this mystery man as "a bit of a celebrity" and was maybe recognised from visiting a wine club before with an auspicious red beret plopped on his head. With a dabble of French and Italian Jacques introduced the following wines:

Jim Barry 2017 Lodge Hill Shiraz. The shiraz plantings are nestled upon north facing slopes of this 480-metre-high altitude vineyard in the Clare Valley. A medium bodied yet complex wine that while elegant allows the liveliness and vitality of the fruit to shine through. Vibrant aromatics of purple fruited compote, spice and purple florals on the nose, the palate is dominated by dark fruits and brambles, spice and a hint of warming oak with a seamless flow and integrated tannin. Juicy dark fruit flavours persist through the finish, with a hint of violet to close. It is beautiful, bright and ready to enjoy now. As Jacques said it is a "classic steak and Ozzie BBQ wine."

The Margrain Rivers Edge Pinot Noir 2017 is harvested from vineyards on the terraces which stand proud over the meandering river valleys of the Martinborough region. This elegant and stylish wine has been barrel selected for its smoothness and charm. Rich in spice and earthy aromas it is intuitively appealing and should provide excellent drinking from 2019-2023. Fleshy red cherry, cracked hazelnut and a hint of mustard seed give a glimpse of sweetness which is quickly truncated by the rough flintiness of a well-worn matchbox striker. On the palate the wine comes into its own. Jacques reckons that this is the "closest you can get to a french burgundy."

The wine club now has over 100 members and Puku and Kerre would like to welcome and thank the new members who are coming from as far a field as Kuaotunu and Otama. The evening ended with John Hackett (aka Jacques) thanking them for another great evening.



Wayne 'Puku' Stevens and Kerre Baker first came to Matarangi in 1996 originally operating the Matarangi General Store and Liquor Store. They sold the Matarangi General Store to Sharon and Darren Walker and have been in their current premises as Puku & Kerre's Liquor Store for the last six years.

Green Fingers

MATARANGI AND KUAOTUNU GARDEN CLUB

Do you have green fingers or just enjoy the ambience of beautiful gardens? If so you may like to join the Matarangi and Kuaotunu Garden Club. It has plenty of space for more members.

The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month with members coming from Opito Bay, Kuaotunu, Matarangi and Whitianga. Membership is just \$10.00 per year with the new year starting June 2021.

"We have home and away meetings and our bus trips are a bit of fun and we get to visit some beautiful gardens. Home meetings are usually held in the homes of various members and we have a shared lunch, sometimes with guest speakers. We always have raffles, a market table and spike and bloom competitions," says club president, Pauline Dickinson.

Please feel free to email Pauline if you are interested in joining or talking to her about any questions you have. dickinsonpaulinem@gmail.com

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The Matarangi Fire Report



PAUL SHAW GETS MATARANGI'S 1st GOLD STAR



Paul Shaw receiving his 25 year Gold Star service award at the Matarangi Fire Station. Paul (centre) is pictured with Fire Chief Stu Arnold, Hon Scott Simpson MP, Cr. Tony Fox of the TCDC and Regional Commander Dave Guard (L - R).

On Saturday the 27th March the Matarangi Volunteer Rural Fire Force hosted a Gold Star award for the first time ever. Paul Shaw, a very worthy recipient, has had a distinguished 25 year record of service at local, regional and national levels.

This is a major milestone and congratulations to Paul for achieving this. Paul was recently appointed to a senior position in FENZ as the National Wildfires Specialist following a successful stint as the Principal Rural Fire Manager for the Waikato Region.

As part of our annual Honors night celebrating our volunteers service we also presented Brendan O'Connell with his 14 year Long Service Good Conduct medal. This was a wonderful evening and hugely enjoyed by everyone.

A fairly quiet month for call outs with only two to attend so far. There was one suspected vegetation fire which turned out to be a controlled fire and one Medical/landing zone for the Westpac Helicopter.

As you are probably aware the Fire Season has changed from Prohibited to Open so no permit is required to burn rubbish etc. Please still be careful and take precautions when lighting fires in the open.

With the recent earthquakes and tsunami warnings it is timely to remind you all of the siren activation when an event does occur. There are currently three sirens activated when an alert comes through, these are located at the corner of Waimarie Ave and Kenwood Drive, outside the Golf Club on Harbour Drive and at the Fire Station. These would be activated for a period of ten minutes with a continuous tone produced not rising and falling like a fire call out. They are operated from Civil Defense when the appropriate information comes through to them. They are currently all working but there are plans to change this in the near future.

Stay safe everyone,
Stu Arnold.



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PESTIE CORNER



With Sharon Clay of Peninsula Pests

It's a bit frightening just how fast this year is going compared to this time last year. We're quarter of the way through and daylight saving finishes this weekend. An insect that doesn't worry about time is the Argentinian Ant.

It is one of the world's worst invasive species and was originally established in Auckland in 1990. Despite efforts to eradicate them they are now a problem in an increasing number of towns and cities throughout New Zealand due to their ability to hitch rides in freight, potted plants, rubbish, vehicles etc.

A number of factors ensure the success of this species including multi-queened colonies, large numbers of offspring, rapid recruitment leading to dominance over larger ants at food sources, ability to exploit diverse habitats and food sources, they develop super colonies by mixing individuals from separate nests that are linked by foraging trails.

Worker ants are only 2-3 mm long, are a uniform honey-brown colour and when foraging can be seen moving steadily in defined continuous trails that can often be seen going up trees or shrubs, especially if these are flowering. The ants can't sting but some people can react to their bite.

The Argentine Ant will not only eat sweet food sources such as sugar and honey dew but also protein and this is the reason you see them eating dead insects including other types of ants. Treating any infestation is difficult due to their multiple nests, but regular gel bait and spray treatments can lessen the problem. Boundary spray to buildings, paths, pavers and gardens can help the containment of these aggressive ants. Total eradication is only viable when constant gelling finally gets back to the queens and eliminates them all.

Trivia: Argentinian Ants are ranked among the world's 100 worst animal invaders by the IUCN.



Stargazer Sights



WITH ALASTAIR BRICKELL OF STARGAZER ASTRONOMY TOURS

The first week to ten days of this month present a good opportunity to try and spot the tiny and elusive planet Mercury. We can use the Moon as a guide very low in the eastern sky just before sunrise as it is the closest planet to the Sun and thus never strays far from it from our point of view. The Moon can also help us find the constellations Capricorn and Gemini this month. Venus is now lost in the Sun's glare until May but early risers can see the gas giants Jupiter and Saturn before sunrise low in the east.

The International Space Station make several good appearances around the middle of the month early in the mornings and then moves to the evening sky.

April 5 - The Moon sits high above Saturn and Jupiter in the pre-dawn sky in Sagittarius.

April 6 - The Moon now lies just above faint Saturn with bright Jupiter below in the morning.

April 7 - Saturn lies above and to the left of the Moon while Jupiter is directly below its crescent in the pre-dawn sky. All three lie in Capricorn today.

April 8 - Jupiter and Saturn sit above and to the left of the Moon in the morning sky.

April 10 - A crescent Moon lies directly above faint Mercury low on the eastern dawn horizon with Jupiter and Saturn high above and with the ISS joining the show from 6:01am in the SW before eventually passing just beside Saturn.

April 11 - Faint Mercury lies just below and to the left of the thin crescent Moon just before sunrise. The

ISS pops out of the Earth's shadow about 5:15am just below the Southern Cross.

April 12 - The ISS makes an early pass from 6:03am in the western sky.

April 13 - Another early but bright ISS pass from 5:18am in the NW moving high overhead.

April 16 - A crescent Moon sits below and to the left of reddish Mars low in the NW dusk sky with the red giant star Aldabaran in Taurus above and on its left.

April 17 - The Moon now lies just beside reddish Mars low in the early evening sky.

April 18 - The Moon is now above and to the right of Mars and the ISS will briefly join the show from 7:34pm in the NW disappearing into the Earth's shadow three minutes later just beside the brightest star Sirius.

April 19 - The heads of the twins in Gemini make a nice triangle with the Moon tonight with reddish Mars below and to the left. The ISS will add to the spectacle from 6:47pm with a very bright pass high overhead slipping between the Moon and Mars.

April 20 - The ISS will make a nice pass tonight in the west from 7:37pm.

April 21 - The ISS again appears from the NW at 6:49pm and passes high overhead.

April 22 - Another ISS pass tonight from 7:40pm but low in the SW this time.

April 23 - The ISS makes another low pass in the SW from 6:52pm.

April 24 - A slightly higher and considerably brighter ISS pass from 6:05pm tonight.

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THE DUNES MATARANGI

Golf Shop hours:

Mon & Tue 9am – 3pm
Wed – Sun 8am – 5pm

Restaurant hours:

Restaurant - Wed – Sun 11am – Close
Pizzas – Fri, Sat & Sun 12 – Close

Green Fees:

18 holes \$50

9 Holes \$30

Other Coromandel Peninsula
golf club members : 18 holes \$30,
9 holes \$20

Hire clubs, trundlers and carts are available
via bookings.

Bookings:

To book tee times call (07) 8665394

Membership:

Enquire about our community club & golf club
memberships.

Become a golf member of The Dunes Golf Club.

Full \$990, Nine Hole \$695, Country \$790,
and Junior \$250.

Or if golf is not your thing join the new Dunes
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a family membership.

*Both golf and community club memberships will give you
10% discount on bar and restaurant prices (specials not
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Either call into the golf shop or phone 07-866
5394 for application forms or booking tee
times.

Further info is at www.thedunes.co.nz

Facebook: @thedunesmatarangi

Email: admin@thedunesmatarangi.com

741 Matarangi Drive, Matarangi

Golf and Community Club News

APRIL 2021

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



What a great turn out for the St. Patrick's Day Mixed Golf Tournament at the Dunes. Congratulations to the winning team 'The Dublin Trio' of Mark Deutsch, Grant Chambers and Roger Pagani. We hope you all enjoyed getting your green on ~ Sláinte~ To good health!



Congratulations also to Hugh Campain, Kaellen Campain, Brad Sims and Jeff Boys who won the Jack Daniels Ambrose Tournament held on March 26.

The golf club held another "Have A Go Day" on the 7th March. Again it was well attended this year by 15 men & women and 1 Junior. It would be great to see some of these taking up this great game as there was some promising talent there. Thank you to those club members who prepared and helped on the day and the 2 follow up Sundays.

Six of our lady members played in the Mercury Bay Ladies Tournament on the 11th March. It was a team event and the Dunes team of Marie Murphy, Dee Mear and Ann Dale came well up in the prize list. Well done girls.

Twilight golf has now finished for the year with the demise of daylight saving. Always fun. Looking forward to next year. More golf to come in April.

Good golfing everyone.



THE DUNES MATARANGI

PUZZLE CORNER with David Key

LETTER SUDOKU

W				C	I	G		
						C		N
		N		O			I	
C			I	G	W			
O								I
			C	O	N			E
	E			W		O		
N		M						
		W	L	I				C

This month the puzzle is a sudoku where we have swapped the nine numbers for nine letters.
The question is - At the beginning what all hosts are?

MARCH SOLUTION

A	U	T	D	I	O	N	C	E
I	E	C	N	U	A	T	O	D
D	N	O	T	C	E	A	I	U
T	A	N	E	O	U	I	D	C
O	I	D	C	T	N	U	E	A
E	C	U	A	D	I	O	N	T
U	D	A	O	N	C	E	T	I
N	T	E	I	A	D	C	U	O
C	O	I	U	E	T	D	A	N

The answer to the question as can be seen in the last column is Education.



The Books And Banter group is restarting on May 3rd and will be held on the first Monday of each month from 7-9 p.m.

“This book group is about sharing what we have read. We bring along a book, share with the group what we enjoyed about it and then we swap. As this is a home based group we can accommodate about 12 people. The host provides tea, coffee and something to nibble. It is BYO wine or any other option you like.” says Pauline Dickinson.

Please email Pauline with your phone and email address if you would like to attend and Pauline will let you know the venue details. dickinsonpaulinem@gmail.com

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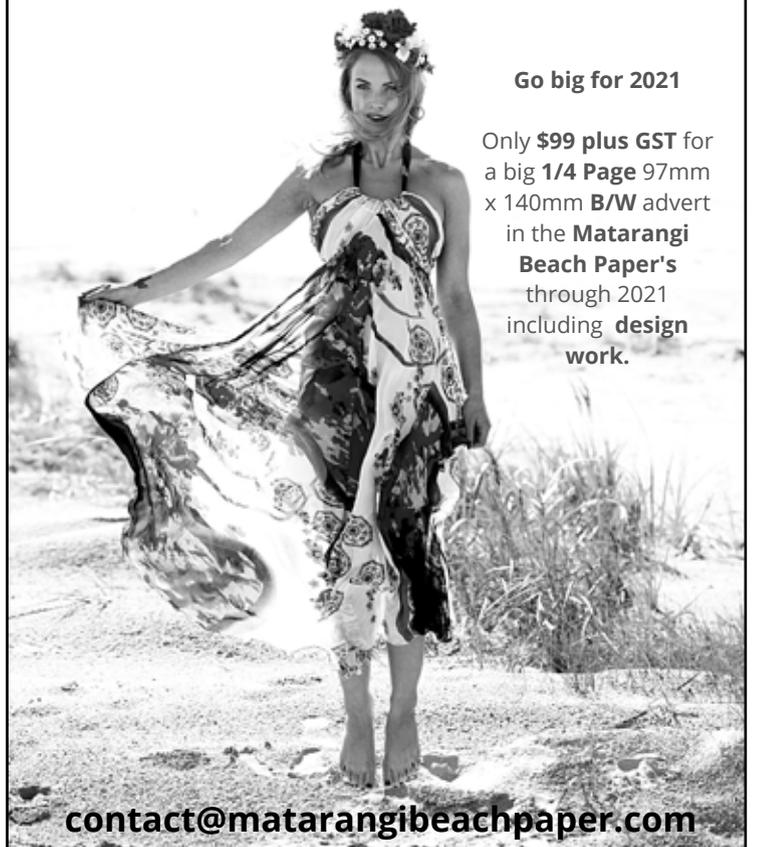
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EVENTS CALENDAR

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.

Books And Banter group is held on the first Monday of each month from 7-9 p.m. Contact Pauline. dickinsonpaulinem@gmail.com

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.

Ladies Night at The Dunes. Last Wednesday of each month from 6 p.m. Contact The Dunes.

Matarangi and Kuaotunu Garden Club. The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Contact Pauline. dickinsonpaulinem@gmail.com

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

Sunday Cards and Games Afternoon at The Dunes. 2 p.m. Held over the winter period outside of holidays.

STARGAZERS
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 KUAOTUNU
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 PH: 07 866-5343

APRIL 2021 TIDES WHITIANGA

	High	Low	High	Low	High
2		5:09	11:20	17:36	23:52
3		6:03	12:13	18:28	
4	0:47	6:00	12:08	18:24	
5	0:46	7:00	13:07	19:23	
6	1:48	8:03	14:10	20:27	
7	2:51	9:06	15:14	21:31	
8	3:52	10:07	16:17	22:31	
9	4:48	11:02	17:14	23:25	
10	5:38	11:52	18:04		
11		0:12	6:23	12:37	18:48
12		0:56	7:05	13:18	19:29
13		1:36	7:44	13:57	20:08
14		2:15	8:23	14:35	20:46
15		2:53	9:01	15:12	21:23
16		3:31	9:39	15:49	22:01
17		4:11	10:18	16:28	22:41
18		4:53	10:59	17:08	23:24
19		5:38	11:43	17:53	
20	0:12	6:27	12:32	18:43	
21	1:05	7:22	13:27	19:39	
22	2:02	8:19	14:26	20:39	
23	3:00	9:17	15:28	21:39	
24	3:56	10:14	16:27	22:37	
25	4:51	11:09	17:23	23:32	
26	5:43	12:02	18:17		
27		0:24	6:34	12:53	19:08
28		1:16	7:25	13:43	19:59
29		2:07	8:16	14:33	20:50
30		2:59	9:08	15:24	21:41
1		3:52	10:00	16:15	22:34
2		4:47	10:54	17:07	23:28
3		5:44	11:50	18:03	
4	0:26	6:43	12:49	19:01	
5	1:26	7:43	13:50	20:03	
6	2:26	8:43	14:52	21:05	

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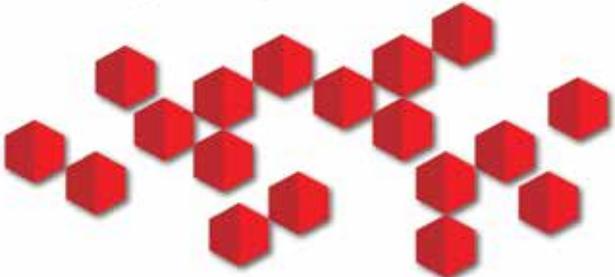


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Ref: RM4094 For details call:
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BAYLEYS

'The Bluff' at Rings Beach



165 Bluff Road, Rings Beach

ID: 2200805 Auction, (unless sold prior), 11am,
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M: 021 163 6514
B: 07 866 0098

Belinda Sammons
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