MBP 138
AUGUST 2021

MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

INCLUDING SIMPSONS, WAIOTUNU, OTAMA, OPITO, KINGS, GREYS AND WHANGAPOUA BEACHES

MASSIVE EROSION AT SPIT A SAFETY & CONSERVATION RISK

There have been dramatic changes to the dunal zone at the Omara spit end of Matarangi Beach over the last two months with substantial erosion of the foredune area. Much of it has been accelerated over the past month due to stormy conditions with heavy rain and high winds.

"The deterioration of the spit has been so rapid that they have wiped out hundreds of metres of the walking track and are fast threatening the 11th and 13th greens on the adjacent golf course," says Mike Friis, a local golfer.

"In May the damage was such that parts of the spit walking track needed to be closed for safety reasons as well as containing the damage due to erosion even further," says Mike. "The TCDC or WRC need to take responsibility rather than just ignoring the problem."

The TCDC owns the strip of land around the spit on which the walkway is located, but over time a substantial part of this has eroded to the point that the foredune has collapsed taking with it trees and soil deposits.

Adjacent property owners The Dunes have asked both the TCDC and the WRC to try and mitigate the erosion but both local authorities have declined to do so. The Dunes feel that because of their respective positions parts of the walkway now don't exist and other parts of it are dangerous.

"It is devastating to watch the ocean erosion at the end of Omara's spit. We have 2 greens, the 11th & 13th that are in jeopardy and potentially a 3rd green, the 10th under threat ," said Raymond Fanning, The Dunes Course Superintendent. "This will compromise the golf course dramatically and everyone is affected."

"We may have to retreat our signature 11th hole, the par 3. We have already lost a set of tees and TCDC's public walkway around the spit adjacent to the holes has been lost. Our aim would be to retain the greens and reinstate the walkway," said Mr Fanning.

Walking the Matarangi spit track has become a popular activity for many Matarangi locals and visitors since it was first developed in 2005 in conjunction with the Department of Conservation.

Over the years dune grasses (kowhangatara and pingao) have been planted to help the dunes recover from the 'blow outs' and storm damage. Wiwi and pohuehue has also been planted on the back dune areas over the years to protect the walkway and attempt to keep the access open.

According to long time Matarangi resident, Lindsay Arthur, who has observed the spit for over 40 years, around 200 metres have been lost since 1980. Lindsay has been tracking the loss of the spit closely over the last 7 years in particular using Google Earth and believes that over 50 metres of spit land has disappeared during that period taking with it Pohutukawa and bird habitat.

Just last August a group of two dozen locals undertook a planting regime at The Spit to mitigate the erosion as it was becoming a major concern as high winds continued to erode the sand dunes and throw sand all over the 11th Tee, fairway and green.

Some 1200 plants were planted under TCDC supervision as a trial to stem the erosion and define the walking track around The Spit. The latest storm has literally wiped all this hard work out.

The general public are still able to use a substantial part of the track, which provides walking access from either the end of Matarangi Drive or Kelly Jade Drive. However they now have to detour onto the beach for around 500 metres of the middle section. This is not ideal as there is always the risk of further disturbing the nesting birds in the area. New Zealand Dotterels breed on the Matarangi Spit area, and an open track helps assist protecting their habitat.

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

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Where in New Zealand is the Matarangi Beach Paper?

Mrs Brown came to town! Most Matarangi people stayed put this wet July but we were visited by the beautiful Mrs Brown, who has an uncanny resemblance to Puku Stevens.

Congratulations Corner!

Happy Birthday Blue! Matarangi legend Blue Lewis turned the big 80 last weekend. Blue is one of the original group of full time residents and instrumental in getting a number of local organisations and traditions off the ground.

New GM at the Dunes: Introducing Jonathon Cope

New Dunes General Manager Jonathan Cope is looking forward to his new job and coastal lifestyle in Matarangi with his partner Zoe.

"The Dunes is a hub of the community and I see great opportunities ahead," said Jonathan who comes from a hospitality background. Bringing fresh eyes to the job and international experience he sees his role as making the Dunes develop alongside the community in the years ahead. "I love golf and love the hospitality business, so here is the perfect job that combines the two."

Born and raised in Glendowie he attended Kings College, which backs on to the Middlemore Golf Course. "I played tennis and badminton as a child, but going to a secondary school right next to a top golf course was a huge attraction," said Jonathon. "As a pupil we could join for just $65 a year and were able to play six holes after school before it closed for the day."

After school Jonathon attended Manakau Institute of Hospitality where he completed his Diploma of Hospitality and began working in the industry around Auckland ending up with Phoenix the organic drinks company. In the mid 1990s he shifted to the booming tourism resort town of Queenstown before being headhunted to run a café and night club in Shanghai, China.

"It was an exciting time to be in China as Shanghai was booming. There was such massive change over the next 18 years when I was working there," remarked Jonathon. "However by 2018 with parents beginning to get older he felt it was time to return to New Zealand, bringing with him England born Zoe who was also living the ex-pat life in Shanghai.

The couple are settling in to Matarangi and relishing the move out of Auckland, the gentle pace of life and the beauty of the local area. Zoe who works for Melanoma New Zealand will continue to work remotely from Matarangi. Both Jonathon and Zoe are looking forward to contributing and becoming part of the local Community.

Out and About

Good coffee matters at Leslie Kopu's new cool looking coffee caravan 'Good Coffee Mataz' located outside The Dunes. It is open daily from 7a.m. for those early risers needing their coffee fix.

Ian Simpson catching up with his pals at the monthly men's coffee morning at Pipers this past Tuesday morning. If you are new to town it's a great way to meet the locals.

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Light Rail to Kuaotunu and other Coromandel Roading Woes?

Light Rail to Kuaotunu would be a stunning headline in 2021, but one hundred and twenty five years ago the then local MP of the Thames Electorate James McGowan (Liberal) was proposing in parliamentary debate the construction of a light railway between Kuaotunu and Coromandel. However, the second part of that headline above Coromandel Roading Woes would not surprise anyone in recent decades!

Back in 1895 the two townships of Kuaotunu and Coromandel Town were the second and third largest settlements on the peninsula and together were contributing significantly to the economic growth of the Dominion according to the Thames MP.

Mr McGowan raised light rail during the December parliamentary session of 1895 stating that Kuaotunu was contributing a significant amount of trade between the Coromandel and Auckland and that the long sea voyage was making life difficult. Fellow MP Mr Larnarch of Dunedin was also an advocate for light rail at the time and felt that 2 foot 6 inch gauge rail was an economical way to connect the fast growing communities and build prosperity in the regions.

Mr McGowan requested to the Dick Seddon led Government that there should be funds set aside for at least a route survey to be conducted. The Minister of Railways Mr Hall-Jones said that the proposal would be considered though the cost of the survey would amount to 500-600 pounds and that there was no budget for it at the present time.

By the July 1896 parliamentary session and with lack of progress on the Light Rail proposal the irrepressible Mr McGowan shifted tack and railed on the government regarding the poor state of roading on the Coromandel. In the house during the Member's debates he stated that the Peninsula was almost impassable to get around and relayed a story of two Kuaotunu constituents recently taking 12 hours by horse to travel the 20 miles to Coromandel.

"That such a thing should happen in a thickly populated district is unreasonable. The government should do something about these roads during the current session," said McGowan. The Seddon government regarded the road connection between Coromandel Town and Kuaotunu as an issue for the local authority as they gained considerable revenue from the goldfields in the vicinity. So even 125 years ago buck passing between public administrative entities was well versed.

In 2021 we still have transport poverty here on the Coromandel in how we get in and around the peninsula in both public transport options and as well as the lack of road and waterway transport investment through to Auckland, our lifeline to the nations economic powerhouse and gateway to the world.

The recent Waikato Transport Plan further exacerbates this status of the Coromandel sub-region being 'transport poor'. Because of fundamental structural inadequacies and political parochialism in how transport policy is developed and funded, the good transport solutions on the Coromandel will continue to miss the autonomous EV bus in the 'transport future' one could say. A better, safer SH2 through to Auckland, more EV charging stations and a return of a local public bus on the SH25 circular loop would be a great start.

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THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

Welcome to this month's report. It is with regret that I have to report that I have just witnessed a commercial scallop boat working about a kilometre off the Matarangi Bluff. During the storms that we have had recently, there have been no scallops washed up, indicating that the scallop beds have been decimated, yet the commercial sector are still destroying the habitat and not honouring the voluntary Rahui which has been instigated in this area.

There will be no chance of this fishery recovering as the individual scallops are so far apart that cross fertilisation cannot occur. So much for the Governments Hauraki Gulf Action Plan! I would like to thank the recreational fishers for their observance and respect for the Rahui.

The Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club will be holding their Annual Prize Giving dinner at The Dunes on the 4th September. Members, please keep this date clear. More information will be sent out next week. Tickets will be limited.

It has been pleasing to see a large work-up taking place in the puddle recently. These work-ups used to be a common occurrence but haven't been seen for several years.

Be aware that the bar will have changed considerably following the weather bomb, large swells and king tides. 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
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Peter Murphy, President. 0212690058

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THE SCHOOL BELL

We are excited to have started Term Three after a busy but wonderful Term Two. Our children were enriched throughout with wonderful learning opportunities and events and Term Three looks to be just as exciting.

Towards the end of the term, four of our Year 8 Leaders, Baxter, Elijah, Isobel and Lila, attended the National Young Leaders Day in Hamilton. The National Young Leaders Days (NYLD) are leadership events for primary and intermediate school students. These large scale annual events aim to develop student leadership. Since 2001, more than 110,000 students have been empowered to fulfill their dreams to become great leaders at a National Young Leaders Day. The children heard from a diverse range of speakers who shared their leadership journey, including Cam Calkoen, Brooke Neal, Shay Wright and Benny Tipene.

Further Leadership opportunities arose with our Year 7 & 8 students planning their upcoming camp in September at the Hillary Outdoors Centre. Over Term 2 they were very enterprising with various camp fundraising projects. This was an excellent learning experience, with the students planning their projects, costing out the products and working out their profit margins - some with a huge amount of success. The money raised has substantially subsidised the cost of the camp. Items for sale included, bags of pine cones, homemade candles, rimu chopping boards, anzac biscuit mixture in a jar, bath bombs, lip balm, surfboard wax, and hair scrunchies.

Last term we also introduced ' Good News Phone Calls' with the children calling home if they came to the principal's office with great work. The following is the wonderful writing Innes shared with his mother when he called home!

Banana Bread by Innes Wilson

My Mum makes the best banana bread. She makes it after school and puts it in the oven. My mum looks happy when she makes it.
When she makes it my mouth waters.
"I can smell it!" says my sister.
It comes out of the oven hot and then she cuts it. She shouts out, ``I want a piece of Banana bread."
My mum asks "Is it nice?¨
I say, "It is very delicious.¨

We are excited to be initiating this term for our year 3 & 4 students 'Te Karaehe Taiao' - a nature based, outdoor learning programme.This nature class will complement the Mindfulness Curriculum already taking place at school. We will utilise the natural areas and environments that our tamariki are familiar with, e.g. Te Rerenga, Matarangi, Whangapoua, Kuaotunu. The purpose of the Nature Class is to grow our students' wellbeing, resilience, risk taking and sense of connection and belonging to their environment, peers and school. We will endeavour to expose students to 'rich' learning experiences by enabling students to explore their instinctive urges and interests in a natural setting. Allowing time and space for students to explore their strengths and grow competencies such as, self management and communication skills is also an important aspect of this kaupapa.

Finally our warmest congratulations to our music teacher Anita Prime, being awarded a Queen's Service Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours. Anita received her award due to her wonderful work with youth in the community and also for her contributions to the music industry. Anita has been told that she will formally receive her award from the Governor General in November.

Ma te huruhuru ka rere te manu
Adorn the bird with feathers to enable it to fly.

Mary Kedzlie
Principal

Featured: Te Rerenga School music teacher Anita Prime, was awarded a Queen's Service Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours for her contribution to youth and the NZ music Industry.

GOOD SORT OF THE MONTH

The Good Sort of the Month is David Key.

David recently made some awesome room signs for the new classroom names at Te Rerenga School. The signs are made of wood, and utilise his awesome carpentry skills. David also made and donated some puzzles to challenge the children. Not only are the puzzles a fun way to learn, they look great too! David - the good folk of Matarangi salute you!

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FORESTERY SLASHINGS A HAZARD

Matarangi resident John Anson is one of a number of local residents concerned about the large number of forestry slashings that are washing up on local beaches quite frequently over recent months.

"Some of these logs are very substantial and potentially very hazardous to boaties, swimmers, surfers and fisherfolk and others. At some point there is real risk of serious injuries or fatalities," says John.

"We often see these waterlogged trunks in the ocean and at some point they must be apparent in navigable waterways." Many of the logs washed up have fire damage and seemingly have been in the water for quite some time. This suggests that they may have drifted north from as far away as the East Coast following the June 2018 storms in which thousands of tonnes of slashed and burnt logs were washed out to sea.

Peter Head, the Whitianga Harbour Master says they take the issue of logs being in navigable channels seriously, and will take action if they are aware of them. He says they have had very few reports of this in the last 3 years . Perhaps this is because boaties are unaware of how to contact him. They can do this by calling 0800800401 which is the number of the WRC marine team.

Chess Day Proves Popular

The Dunes Community Club hosted a very successful Kids Holiday CHESS programme on Saturday, 10th July. Organised by Nicky Fanning over 30 kids showed up, most with little previous experience to learn the basics of the great intellectual pursuit. Nicky who has played competitive chess currently coaches the chess programmes at Te Rerenga School & Mercury Bay Area Schools.

Four New Street Names Proposed

A growing Matarangi means more street and more street names to go with them.

Last month four new street names were proposed as part of the Stages 3 and 4 Beaches development.

Developer of the subdivision Winton undertook consultation with the Ngati Huarere ki Whangapoua Trust, proposing the four new street names to the Mercury Bay Community Board last month who accepted the proposal and recommended them to Council.

The new street names are; Sandspit Road, Motutere Drive, Riria Way and Kopani Road.

Motutere Drive relates to the Ngati Huarere name for their Maunga (mountain), which rises up behind Matarangi. Also known as Castle Rock the translation is 'floating island'. When a mist shrouds the base of Motutere, it appears like it is floating.

Riria Way is named for a Riria a female warrior from Ngati Huarere Tupuna who possessed great mana. Kopani Road translates to a trap door cover as well as a past Ngati Huarere rangatira.

It is the MBP's opinion that in the next round of new street names consideration is made in naming a street in honour of the late Paul Kelly. Paul, a long time and highly respected Matarangi resident was the former Mercury Bay Community Board chair who contributed greatly to this village. A street named in his honour we think would be highly appropriate.

Where is our Rubbish Going?

According to a recent TCDC rubbish audit, 79 % of what we throw out as household rubbish could be saved from placing in landfills by either composting kitchen food waste or recycling.

Of the material found in the kerbside bags, the majority was kitchen waste which was 52.4 % of the contents of the rubbish bag. Recyclable materials such as glass, paper and plastic made up 18.5 %of the material in kerbside rubbish bags.

"This audit shows just how much waste our communities are contributing to landfill that we don't need to be," says our Mayor Sandra Goudie. "If we all did our bit to compost and recycle correctly, think about how much we could achieve."

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Lilliput Library on Sands Cresent

Matarangi has its very own Lilliput Library at 166 Sands Crescent just outside Pam and John Anson's house.

Pam Anson came across Lilliput Libraries during a recent trip to the South Island and thought it would be fun to have one back in Matarangi. She commandeered her son in law's building skills and filled in the registration form and soon the 274th Lilliput Library was ready to go at the end of her driveway. Lilliput Library 274 is the first one in the Waikato Bay of Plenty region.

The Lilliput Libraries concept started in Dunedin as a spinoff of the Poems in the Waiting Room Project five years ago by Ruth Arnison and the micro libraries soon caught on around the Otago area. How they work is simple. The books are free for anyone to take away. You don't even have to become a member. Pam encourages folk to take a book now, return it or donate another one later.

If you're walking by the Lilliput Library and see a book that interests you, take it home. Next time you're passing you may want to return it or pop another book in the Lilliput Library.

Pam does not see it as competition to the local library down at the shops, but a complementary expansion of it and all part of the Lilliput Libraries philosophy of encouraging a love of reading.

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WINE CLUB REPORT

July's wine club featured wines from the Mucho Gusto Wine Company range. Mucho Gusto meaning "nice to meet you" is an Auckland based company that celebrates the world of wine selected by Steve Bennett, Master of Wine. Their rep Phil Wakelin selected six international wines from their range to share with the wine club members, who were keen to learn more about 'Old World Wines'.

CHEVALIER MONOPOLE BLANCS DE BLANCS BRUT. This bubbly is from the Mâcon region in France and is grown from 100% white grapes from just outside of Champagne. Made the traditional way, it is full of citrus notes and a breadth to the palate. It is a match made in heaven served chilled as an aperitif or with seafood, cold-cuts, white meats, salads, hummus & soft cheeses.

BARONE MONTALTO PINOT GRIGIO 2019. Pinot Grigio is now Italy's second most planted grape variety with a 500% growth since 2000. This white wine hails from the Terre Siciliane region and is a light-bodied, delicate white wine that is a natural pairing for light dishes such as appetisers, salads, or fish.

COMBE ROCHER RESERVE PAYS D' OC CHARDONNAY 2019. The Pays D'Oc benefits from the French Mediterranean climate with its coastline bordering the region in the South. Pale, bright gold in colour with enticing aromas of vanilla, lime blossom, lemon curd and pear, it has a creamy palate. Perfect with chicken in lemon butter, Niçoise salad, Quiche Lorraine, creamy cheeses, pork & rich seafood dishes.

GRAN FAMILIA RIOJA 2016. This wine from the Rioja region in Spain is a mix of 95% Tempranillo and 5% Graciano grapes. It is bright cherry red with sweet herbs and hints of spice. A great accompaniment to grilled meats, cheese and pasta dishes.

EL BURRO KICKASS GARNACHA 2019. A blockbuster Spanish red from the Carnena region. Dark plum and spiced cherry flavours this is a great BBQ wine.

MONTIDORI SANGIOVESE DOC ROMAGNA 2019. In a supercool squat bottle this is a rich, bold and fruity Italian red. Sangiovese is the grape variety of Chianti and the wine is produced in the hillside vineyards of Emilia-Romagna in the heart of Italy. It is a great accompaniment to charcuterie, cheese and meat dishes.

These wines are available from Puku and Kerre's Liquor Store.

MATARANGI RESPONSE SURVEY

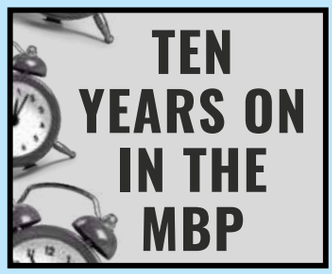
The Matarangi Community Response Group are encouraging as many people as possible to complete their Emergency Management survey currently in circulation.

The survey will help put in place a community response plan which will allow for a better local response and communication under a Civil Defence emergency.

Survey forms have been sent out this month from membership based organisations in the community for people to complete, as well as copies of the survey will be also available from Matarangi Four Square.

Participation in the survey is optional and there is no obligation for individuals to complete this form; however, the more information collated and public engagement provided the more effective our community response can be when a disaster or state of emergency arises.

The Matarangi Community Response Group would appreciate your prompt response and are aiming to have this process completed as soon as possible. Both Kuaotunu and Whangapoua will soon also undertake public engagement regarding emergency planning.



Ten years ago the paper reported on one of our founding families 'The Simpsons' who have lived in the area for five generations. Sue Simpson from Kuaotunu shared that the family has lived in the Whitianga area since the 1840s and at Opito from the 1860s. Originally, before farming in the area they set up a carrier business in Kuaotunu and used a horse and dray to transport people and cargo from ships moored in the bay.

Dianne Dobson, president of the Kuaotunu Garden Group told us about their recent Mid Winter Xmas dinner held at the Matarangi Fire station. They hosted the Whitianga Garden Group enjoying a magnificent traditional Christmas feast.

The Thirsty Thursday group which has been a long held institution for some of our Matarangi men branched out for a change enjoying a pizza and chianti night and even invited their wives along!

In golfing news the Matchplay men's final was played between Alwyn Riggs and Terry Smith. It was a great battle and down to the wire, with Terry winning on the 17th hole. Trivia was also shared and readers were informed that Hippo milk is pink and that in Chinese the KFC slogan "Finger lickin'good" translates to 'eat your fingers off!'

Finally the then owner/editor Michelle wrote about how the MBP likes to focus on positives rather than the negatives which still remains our philosophy today. "There are often times I hear of stories or news that I am told I should put in the paper. Sometimes it simply isn't appropriate. I believe we should focus on the positive, remember we are all different and certainly none of us is perfect. Let's keep this well sought- after paper the community communicator it is designed to be, rather than a tell tale gossip column that only feeds negativity," said Michelle.

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The Matarangi Fire Report

A very typical winter July with no call outs to attend. Nice to see everyone staying safe and well.

We have been busy with training though and this last weekend you will have noticed all the activity at the Fire Station.

We have just completed Medical Co Response re-certification courses, Half of our crew did the one day course on Saturday and the other half on Sunday.

I am pleased to say that all passed with flying colours.

This is a very intensive course but great to update all of our skills.

Some of our crew attended an Incident Ground Radio training exercise in Whitianga in the middle of the month and some did a 4 Wheel Drive training course.

We have our AGM for the Matarangi Volunteer Rural Fire Force Assoc. Inc. on Wednesday 22nd. September starting at 7.00pm.

Stay safe everyone, Stu Arnold

Stargazer Sights

WITH ALASTAIR BRICKELL OF STARGAZER ASTRONOMY TOURS

August 2021

Venus is now a lovely sight blazing brightly in the NW sky just after dusk.

Jupiter and Saturn in Capricorn are at their best this month as the Earth slips in between them and the Sun. Jupiter will be just about as big and bright as it can be on August 20 but both will be great viewing all month. Even a small telescope will show Jupiter's four biggest moons enact a graceful dance around their host from night to night and may even show two cloud bands like thin pencil marks across Jupiter itself. Saturn will rise about 1 ½ hours after Jupiter and since it is twice as far away from us is much fainter but still well worth a look in even a small telescope to see its rings which are quite wide open this year. It is unlike anything else in the sky.

The Persid meteor shower runs from about July 17-August 24 but the best few nights will be around August 12-13. You might see 1-2 meteors or 'shooting stars' per hour streaking across the sky coming from a point just below the northern horizon with the best time to look from late evening an hour or two after the Moon sets or even better after midnight till dawn. Even though these events are referred to as 'showers' they are more like drips from a leaky tap, but impressive nonetheless. They are sand sized grains of comet tail burning up brightly as they enter the atmosphere at about 40-60km per second and come from debris left by Comet Swift-Tuttle as it orbits the Sun.

The International Space Station(ISS) will make some nice passes this month but exact timings are hard to predict as it has had to move to correct it's normal orbit due to a problem with a Russian spacecraft attached to it.

August 6 – Early risers will see the ISS will pop out from the Earth's shadow at 6:06am low in the south then moving just above the Southern Cross.

August 8 – The ISS makes a nice pass at 6:09am in the SW.

August 10 – A minute crescent Moon sits just to the right of faint Mars with brilliant Venus above at dusk. Another bright ISS pass at 6:21am in the west.

August 11 – The crescent Moon is now just below bright Venus with very faint Mars almost on the horizon to the left at dusk.

August 12 – The crescent Moon, Venus and faint Mars all line up at dusk. Look for shooting stars tonight especially around midnight.

August 13 – The Moon is now high above bright Venus with faint Mars almost on the horizon at dusk. Look for shooting stars tonight especially around midnight

August 17 – Faint Mars reappears to sit just below Mercury which is slightly brighter at dusk. Look for shooting stars tonight especially around midnight. A bright ISS pass from 6:55pm in the NW.

August 19 – Mercury and Mars are extremely close together on the dusk NW horizon with Mercury the brighter of the two. A bright ISS pass tonight from 6:57pm in the NW near Venus.

August 20 – The almost full Moon sits above Saturn with bright Jupiter below. Two good ISS passes tonight with the first at 6:10pm in the NW with the second from 7:58pm low in the west just below Venus.

August 21 – Mercury has now moved to be slightly above faint Mars at dusk on the NW horizon. The Moon is now between Saturn and bright Jupiter.

August 22 – The full Moon is now next to Jupiter with fainter Saturn above.

August 23 – The Moon now sits below bright Jupiter with fainter Saturn high above.

August 24 – A low ISS pass tonight low in the west from 6:14pm.

August 31 - A very low ISS pass tonight from 7:10pm in the SW before it disappears into the Earth's shadow.

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PESTIE CORNER

With Sharon Clay of Peninsula Pests

Well, here we are again, half way through the year and despite the weather, my first golden face of a Daffodil has brought a smile to my face and made me think about my worm farm. So instead of talking about the pests that invade our lives, I'm going to talk about the gardener's friend – the wriggly earthworm.

We have over 200 species of native and endemic worms in New Zealand (173 of them native) and new species are still being found as I write this article. They have been here for over 65.5 million years. They are burrowing invertebrates meaning they have no bones but they also do not have eyes or lungs but do have a very simple brain. Their natural habitat is in soils, leaf litter, compost heaps, under stones and logs and beneath grass or pasture. Most are small in length but we do have one that grows to 1.3 metres in length.

As water can pass through their skin, it is important that they live in a damp habitat. Their bodies have many segments divided by rings. Each segment has muscles that enable the worm to wriggle and even change shape from short and thick to long and thin. The bump in the middle of the worm is called the clitellum and produces the cocoon for their eggs. Did you know that worms are hermaphrodites? This means that they are both male and female.
Worms are the great indicator of soil health. As they consume soil it goes down to their gizzards, where it's ground up into smaller parts then excreted as castes that you sometimes see in the soil. This process releases nutrients into the soil and plant roots and can improve the structure of the soil. As they pass through the soil they create burrows, which improve drainage.
Worm wee is another name for worm farm leachate which is the excess liquid run off collected in the bottom of a worm bin. I have been known to run amok with my watering can spreading worm wee in great abundance on my rose and vegie garden all in the hopes of having the biggest, brightest flowers and vegetables ever since.

Having lots of earthworms in your soil indicates that it is in a healthy condition. You can find between 7 to 12 million earthworms present under a hectare of healthy pasture soil in New Zealand.

Puzzle Corner!

WITH DAVE KEY

Five students at the local high school each made an item for their mothers birthday in the woodwork class.
Can you work out which student made what item out of what wood and the mark that they were given for the work by the teacher?

Item: Box, Chair, Coasters, Cutting Board, Game
Wood: Hardwood, Oak, Pine, Plywood, Rimu
Mark: A+, A-, B+, B, C+

	Box	Chair	Coasters	Cutting Board	Game	Hardwood	Oak	Pine	Plywood	Rimu	A+	A-	B+	B	C+
Alice															
Brendon															
Carol															
Denver															
Elle															
Mark: A+															
Mark: A-															
Mark: B+															
Mark: B-															
Mark: C															
Wood: Hardwood															
Wood: Oak															
Wood: Pine															
Wood: Plywood															
Wood: Rimu															

The cutting board, made with mixed hardwoods Denver stated was her favourite.
Carol made the chair and achieved a better mark than the boy who created the cutting board and the student that worked in oak.
The box made by one of the boys received the lowest mark due to inaccurate joints.
Alice used Rimu for her project and decorated it with detailed pyrography and received one of the top two marks.
The Plywood construction received an A- Grade, this was not Cathy and the girl wearing white was it a set of coasters.
Ethan received a creitable B- mark for his work.

July Puzzle Solution on page 14

DUNE PLANTING DATES FOR MATARANGI & RINGS BEACH

Volunteers are requested for the next three Dunes Restoration planting days in the local area this month.

First up is the Matarangi Kenwood Reserve restoration planting with Te Rerenga School students on Wednesday morning 18 August from 9am – 11am. A second planting session is the next day on Thursday the 19th from 9am. Meet at Kenwood Reserve by the toilets.

The dunes restoration planting day at Rings Beach is on Saturday morning 28 August from 8:30am – 10:30am. Meet at the restoration Western End.

Come along and help protect our beach environment. It needs all the help it can get!!

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THE DUNES MATARANGI

The Dunes Golf Report

July has been a pretty wet and windy month but in spite of that the men & ladies have been working their way through their respective programs and the course is in great condition. Sat Aug 7th is the monthly meat pack day, Stfd competition all members welcome.

The 18 Hole men have a foursomes Comp. on Aug 11th with drawn partners. One high and one low handicapper.

18 Hole ladies have another invitation for the men to join them on 26th Aug. It would be great to have as good a turn out as last time.Pleasing to see the 9 Hole Men and Womens numbers growing.
All the strong Northerly swells we have had this winter are severely damaging our beautiful coastline especially along the sandspit. The ladies tee on the 11th hole is completely gone and the mens now under threat as well as the 11th fairway and the 13th green. So sad to see.

Craig Batty had a very impressive 69 Gross off the Blue tees on Tues 20th July. Awesome round of golf.
Spring Mix and Mingle Tournament is coming up on the 25th Sept. 3 person Ambrose format. Teams to be drawn by the golf committee.Entry fee $40 which includes finger food lunch & prizes. Entries close Tues 21st Sept. An opportunity for all members to get together and have some fun.

That's it for this month. Good golfing everyone.

Community Club News

Kids Holiday Chess Programme – this was a huge success with 33 children participating in total, a four-year-old being the youngest. A Big thank you to Nicky Fanning for organising and hosting this event.

Have a Go Bowls – 7th August 10am – all welcome to come along and try outdoor lawn bowls. There will be Community Club committee members present to teach the basics of the game.

Quiz night held on 21st July – 13 teams participated. The winning team "Desperate and Dateless" consisted of Kieran Mullins, Christine and Danielle Threadgold and Candice Van de Ven.

The Thai themed dinner at The Dunes at the beginning of July was hugely popular. Look out for the next advertised Theme Dinner and book early!

Featured: Ladies Night on 28th July was a warm and woolly affair. Special guest Julie from Wool on Wheels thoroughly enjoyed telling a 'yarn' about her life. Julie came all the way from Auckland to showcase Wool on Wheels.

2022 Matarangi Community Calendar

Jo Malcolm is again busy organising next year's Matarangi Community Calendar to raise money for the Matarangi Community Trust.

Like last year a photography competition is underway to find wonderful photographs that celebrate Matarangi and a wonderful lifestyle we have here. The winning photos will grace the annual calendar.

The photos for the competition will need to be high resolution up to A4 and reflect why Matarangi is where your heart is. A couple of other pointers are that landscape is better than portrait, iPhone resolution is fine as long as it can be blown up to A4 and that if images have people's faces, please send in the photo their permission to use it.

Jo is aiming to have the 2022 Matarangi Community Calendar ready for sale again from Labour weekend. Getting snapping or go through your album and get them in by 15 August 2021

Please send entries to jomalcolmnz@gmail.com

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EVENTS CALENDAR

MONDAYS

Men on Mats (Pilates for Blokes) @ 8:30-9:30 am. Ph Christiane, 0273122584

Matarangi Ladies Pilates @ 9.30 -10.30 am. Ph: Christiane, 0273122584

Ladies "Allsorts Excercise" Class at the fire station 10.30 - 11.30 (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

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

TUESDAYS

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

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: The Dwelling Coghill St, Whitianga Time: 5.30pm - 7pm More information: www.iconz.org.nz or contact: Robyn Balfour 020 409 39674

WEDNESDAYS

Kuaotunu Steiner Playgroup. 9am-12pm Ph: Kindergarten 8660094 or Ursula 8665371

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: The Dwelling at Coghill Street, Whitianga on Tuesdays at 4pm - 5.30pm Check out website www.iconz4girlz.org.nz For more information please contact Robyn on 020 409 39674.

Kuaotunu Garden Group. Meets second Wednesday of each month. Contact Pauline. dickinsonpaulinem@gmail.com

Kuaotunu Dune Care Group
We regularly meet every third Wednesday of the month and other times for planting or specific projects. For information on where to meet contact Jenny ph 021566035

THURSDAYS

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)

DUNES GOLF & COMMUNITY CLUB

Golf:
Mens 18 hole: Wednesday 10am
Ladies 18 hole: Thursday 10 am

Mens 9 hole: Monday 9.30am (Tuesday 9.30am on public holiday weekends) and Thursday 9.30am

Ladies 9 hole: Tuesday 10 am and Thurday 10 am

Saturday Haggle: 10.30am

Activities:

Quiz Night Enter as a team of four - $40per person includes meals and prizes.

Ladies Night Fourth Wednesday of each month from 6pm

MAJOR EVENTS

Whitianga Oceans Festival
September 18, 2021 - 10:00am to 5:00pm
Tickets from;
www. https://oceansfestival.co.nz/

Rally Coromandel / Rally Street Party
September 4, 2021 7:00 am - 5:00 pm Rally Headquarters Moewai Park Rd, Whitianga

Mercury Bay Art Escape
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A Taste of Matarangi
Saturday 9th April
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AUGUST 2021 TIDES WHITIANGA

	High	Low	High	Low	High
6	4:50	11:07	17:28	23:37	
7	5:41	11:56	18:15		
8		0:25	6:30	12:41	18:59
9		1:11	7:16	13:25	19:41
10		1:55	8:00	14:08	20:23
11		2:38	8:44	14:50	21:06
12		3:22	9:28	15:34	21:49
13		4:06	10:14	16:20	22:35
14		4:52	11:01	17:08	23:22
15		5:40	11:53	18:01	
16	0:14	6:32	12:48	18:58	
17	1:08	7:28	13:49	19:59	
18	2:07	8:29	14:53	21:03	
19	3:10	9:32	15:57	22:07	
20	4:14	10:35	16:58	23:09	
21	5:16	11:34	17:54		
22		0:06	6:14	12:29	18:46
23		0:59	7:07	13:19	19:35
24		1:49	7:56	14:06	20:21
25		2:35	8:42	14:50	21:05
26		3:18	9:25	15:33	21:47
27		4:01	10:08	16:15	22:29
28		4:42	10:50	16:58	23:11
29		5:23	11:33	17:42	23:54
30		6:06	12:19	18:29	
31	0:39	6:52	13:08	19:20	
1	1:28	7:42	14:03	20:15	
2	2:21	8:37	15:01	21:13	

LINZ 2021

STARGAZERS
Phone: 07 866 5343

August Dune Planting Dates

Matarangi - Wednesday 18th from 9am and Thursday 19th from 9.am. Meet at the Green on Kenwood Drive.

Opito Bay - Saturday 28th Meet at 8:30am at the Western end of the Beach.

JULY PUZZLE SOLUTION

David	1st	Blue	3
Alex	2nd	Red	12
Cathy	3rd	Yellow	6
Brett	5th	Green	1
Elle	4th	White	4

Survey Forms for Pickup

Matarangi Emergency Response Survey forms are avialable for pick-up and drop off from Matarangi Four Square.

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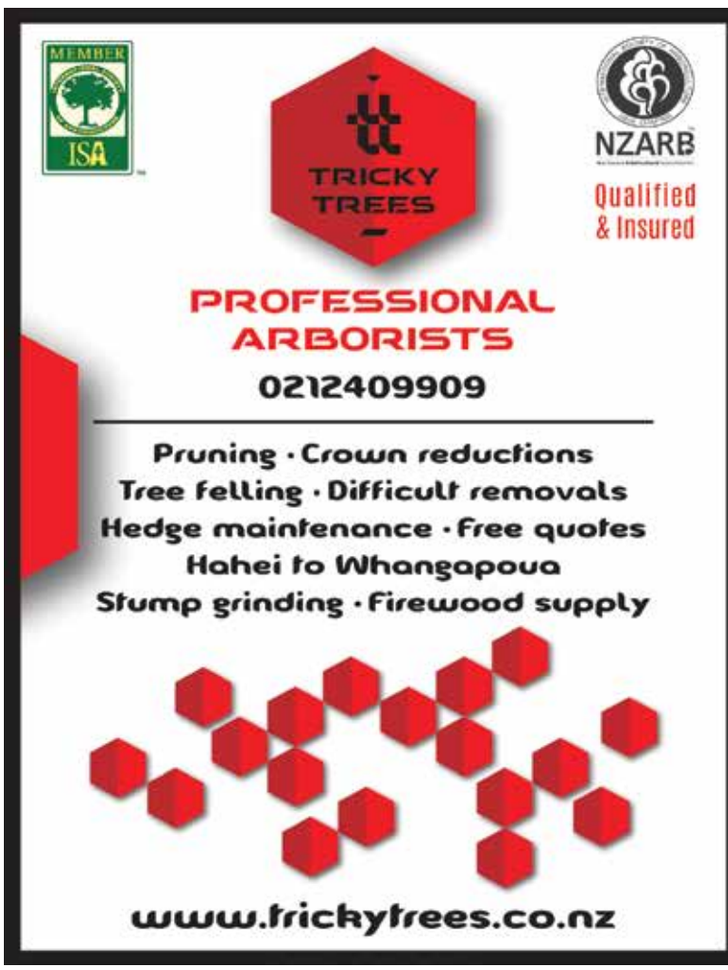
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Ref: RM4111 For details call:
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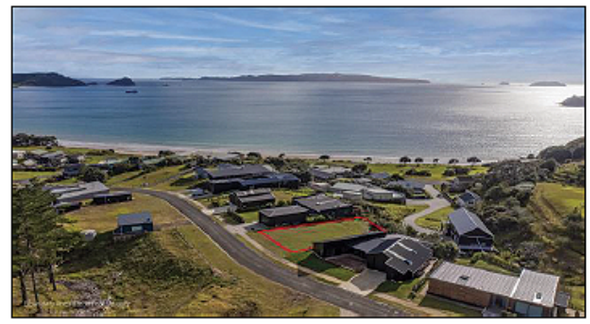
BAYLEYS

Paradise awaits in Opito Bay



29 Ohinau Drive, Opito Bay

ID: 2200844 Auction, (unless sold prior), 11am, Thu 9 Sept 2021, 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

Located on an elevated position overlooking Opito Bay and the Mercury Islands. This large 952sqm sunny section is surrounded by quality-built houses with plenty of room to build your dream holiday home or Bach. One of the few remaining sections left In the Ohinau development – contact the listing agents today for an information pack.

Kylie Pullen
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B: 07 866 0098
kylie.pullen@bayleys.co.nz

Belinda Sammons
M: 027 272 7728
B: 07 866 0098
belinda.sammons@bayleys.co.nz

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The Great Family Bach **PBN**

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- *Situated in the established part of Matarangi in Kenwood Drive*
- *4 bedroom North facing home with plenty of room for all*
- *Plus its only a short walk to the beach*
- *This Bach wont last long give us a call today*

Mark Hall *Licensed Agent (REA 2008)*
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Shirvani Hall *Licensed Salesperson (REA 2008)*
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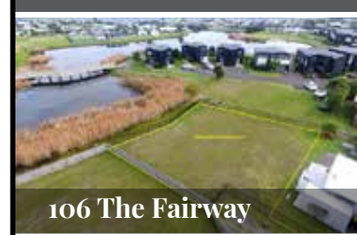

106 The Fairway

Enquiries over $400,000

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