

MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

INCLUDING SIMPSONS, KUATOUNU, OTAMA, OPITO, KINGS GREYS AND WHANGAPOU BEACHES

MBP 148
JUNE 2022

Part 2 of
Featured
Glenn Leach
Interview on
Page 8



Lens, Pens and Paper: Three Local Artist's to Exhibit

Photo: Courtesy of Ian Preece

The Driving Creek Gallery will be home to an exhibition of works from three Coromandel artists: Roimata Taimana, Phillip Fickling and Ian Preece. The exhibition, Lens Pen Paper, opens on June 4 and runs to Matariki, closing on June 26.

Ian says of the three artists "As well as being good friends, I'm a huge admirer of Roi and Phil's talent. The way they see the world and harness their skill and imagination to create amazing work is really inspiring. Our art, styles and process are all very different but at the core we are all storytellers, drawing inspiration from the world around us."

"I enjoy collaborative exhibitions as there is inspiration and energy from working with other artists as well as offering a variety of art for the public to view."

"The idea for the exhibition came about two years ago but was put on hold, like so many events, due to Covid. We are really pleased to be exhibiting at the Driving Creek Gallery. As a purpose-built gallery, it is an ideal space for running an extended exhibition over a number of weeks. This gives the artists time to plan and organise and the public more opportunities to visit. It is also exciting as all three of us will be exhibiting new work."

Roimata is a well-known local artist based in Kuatounu who works in a variety of media. Of his work, Roimata says

"I put as much of the natural world into my pieces as possible to stay connected with nature. Without nature we wouldn't exist, but nature can exist without us. So it's a tribute if you like. It exists for us to exist, so why is

man in such a hurry to destroy it or control it, we should all be nurturing nature. This is my existence now as an artist."

The exhibition is open over Matariki, the first time we will have had a public holiday to mark the event.

Roimata continues: "It has been so heartening in recent years to see more and more people – Māori and pakeha alike – becoming interested in te ao Māori. On all my works I include a pictorial signature which is made up of a star cluster that looks a bit like the Pleiades. The final weekend of the exhibition aligns with the first Matariki public holiday, and to be exhibiting at this time feels very special and very right."

(Continued on page 3)

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CONTACTS & DEADLINES

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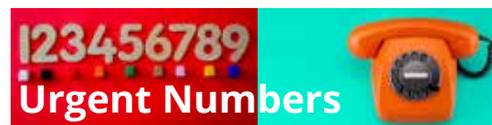
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The Matarangi Beach Paper thanks the following contributors... Ian Preece, Judy Nobilo; Isabel Gilbert-Palmer; Jackie Bucklet; Rings Beach Wetlands Group; Te Rerenga School; David Key; Alastair Brickell, Sharon Clay; Howie Taylor; Stu Arnold; Annemieke Kregting; and the Kuaotunu Dune Care Group; because without these contributions and stories, your local paper wouldn't be quite the same. Thank you!

Lens, Pens and Paper: continued from page 1

Phillip Fickling, currently based in Whitianga, studied at the Art Institute of Seattle and more recently worked for Weta studios before becoming a freelance artist.

Phil says "For our upcoming group show at the Driving Creek Gallery I'm taking the opportunity to put together a small retrospective of some of my personal works, several of which have never been seen by the public, including a couple of pieces dating back to the 1980s. Though I'm mostly known for my work with paper, some of my early wooden pieces will also be shown."

Phil will be exhibiting the work that was selected for the 2021 Wallace Awards.

Ian's photography is principally centred on the natural world - our environment and the things that live in it.

"We live in a beautiful country and the Coromandel has some of the best forest, coastline and beaches in New Zealand. Our ecosystem is unique with many of our plants and animals having only ever existed in New Zealand. There is a fight for survival in the face of introduced predators, habitat loss and other man-made effects."

"We have a strong conservation ethos here which is really inspiring. We have several places which are becoming bio-diversity hotspots including offshore islands like Tiritiri Matangi, Great Barrier and Rotoroa. Onshore, I've been very fortunate to have had access to Mahakirau Forest Estate to photograph some very rare and critically endangered native creatures."

"This is one of the main themes I want to explore in my work in this exhibition. By sharing this work I hope it helps to understand and appreciate what we have here which is the first step to valuing and protecting it."

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TEN YEARS ON IN THE MBP

Looking back to June 2012

In the MBP ten years ago came the announcement of a new event for Matarangi. An idea that Puku Stevens had bubbling around for some time came to fruition when he got together for a chat with Bronwyn Ririnui who had back in the Chatham Islands organised a music, wine and food festival. What has come out of this meeting was A Taste of Matarangi, which was first held on the 20th of April 2013.

Judy Nobilo hosted a sumptuous Pink Ribbon breakfast attended by 30 local women to raise money for Breast Cancer. The guest speaker was Jenny Edwards from Simpsons Beach who spoke about her own battle with breast cancer and the work of the Mercury Bay Cancer Support Group which she chairs.

Peter Hazael reported in to the MBP from Morocco. Peter was doing a solo motorbike trip around North Africa and was next going to depart for Central Europe. Peter was continuing the motorbike trip he undertook the previous year where he did over 20000 kilometres through Eastern Europe and Scandinavia. In his report he raved about the fishing in the seaside town of Adair and noted that Blue Lewis and Grunta would struggle to haul in all the fish it was so good.

Around 100 trees were planted on the Wetlands Reserve led by Bruce Smith and Ian McDonald including 21 children from Te Rerenga School. The planting of native trees in the morning finished with a picnic lunch prepared by then MBP editor Michelle Dobson. Ten years on it is probably not a good idea for the current MBP editor to offer to do the catering. He's not exactly Jamie Oliver in the cooking department according to the Te Rerenga School Principal.

Alastair Brickell of Stargazers was preparing for the once in a lifetime astronomical event that is the Transit of Venus and was preparing to set up a telescope at the Kuaotunu boat ramp on June 6th to enable the public to view the final stages of the transit.

Lastly on the 18th May 2012 Kerre "The Karaoke Queen" Baker hosted a fun and fabulous karaoke night at the Dunes.

Whats happening at Grays Beach Reserve?



It is restoration season, and a lot of people have been wondering what has been going on at the corner of the reserve on Grays Beach next to the estuary.

In collaboration with Coastcare Waikato-Waikato Regional Council, TCDC, DOC and your local Kuaotunu Coast Care Group, work is being undertaken to:

- Enable a healthy and resilient natural dune system to self-repair and build seaward over time.
- Maintain diversity of indigenous coastal species.
- Encourage natural regeneration of indigenous species

Without native vegetation, dunes cannot build out towards the sea and provide the necessary buffer for protection.

Dune restoration steps are a robust process. The area at Grays Beach has been sprayed and earthworks to a depth of 300 to 400mm will remove the seed layer and the area then recontoured with fresh sand.

Kuaotunu Dune Care invite you to a community planting event planned for Matariki weekend Saturday 25th June at 9am to plant sand binding plants like spinifex and knobby club rush on the cleared area.

Bring your spade and gardening gloves to help be part of this community event to celebrate Matariki, Māori New Year, which is a time for celebration, growth and renewal.

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Another Busy Month of Conservation Work for RBWG



Photo Credit: Jill Goodall

It was another busy month in the reserve for the Rings Beach Wetlands Group members. Our team of trappers continue to walk their trap lines and this month are still continuing to see plenty of mice and rats being caught in the traps. The catch stats were; Mice - 287, Rats - 99, Stoats - 2, Weasels -5, Hedgehog - 1 Cat - 1 (April 2022)

We have seen an increase in the number of weasel catches lately and have learned that this is a positive indicator of decreasing stoat numbers in our trapping area. This is welcome news to our trappers as stoats are such voracious hunters and pose such a great risk to the native wildlife.

Thanks

There has been a lot of rain lately and we want to say a huge thankyou to RBWG member Ian MacDonald for his daily efforts digging drains and general maintenance to help keep the full track walkable. Anyone who would like to help with track maintenance please drop us a line.

Upping our game

As a group we are constantly trying to catch more predators in order to ensure the native wildlife in the reserve has a safe environment to thrive in. The trapping teams want to up the game when it comes to trapping stoats and weasels and have invested in some new lures to target them. (Lures = types of bait that is used in the traps) To date we have focussed on using eggs in the mustelid traps however we have purchased 3 new types of lures and will place them, in addition to eggs, in different traps throughout the reserve.

One of the lures is an innovative scent infused ceramic lure 'PoaUku' of which the development was sponsored by Predator Free 2050. It is a long life, high quality lure with proven attractiveness for mustelids. The other two are types of compressed meat jerky, which will be replaced on a monthly basis. Each trapper will keep track of which lure is in which trap so we can monitor the effectiveness of each type by matching catches to lure location allowing us to fine tune our trapping efforts.

Track upgrades

Recently Department of Conservation has been working on long awaited upgrades of the Vodafone track, digging drains and grading the track starting at Rings Beach, going over the hill and past the Vodafone tower and down to the Matarangi entrance. For the past 2 days DOC have been using a helicopter to deliver many loads of gravel to locations along the track which will be spread out and compacted in the weeks to come. We are looking forward to enjoying the upgraded track and wish to thank DOC for making this happen.

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Pump Track Mums Endeavour to get local Track Built



Pump Track advocates Fleur Blackie with Kade and Chloe Watts with Sophie standing in the school paddock where the proposed facility will be located.

Local mums Fleur Blackie and Chloe Watts want to do something about the gap in the bike and skate facilities in the Northern Mercury Bay and have proposed the construction of a pump track can fill the gap of the beginner to intermediate bike, skate and scooter skills.

Fleur was really keen to get a pump track into the area and after talking with Chloe who has a background in landscape design she was willing to support her.

Fleur was really keen to get a pump track into the area and after talking with Chloe who has a background in landscape design she was willing to support me.

To the uninitiated a pump track is a circuit of rollers, banked turns and features designed to be ridden completely by riders "pumping" or generating momentum by up and down body movements, instead of pedaling or pushing.

Originally designed for the mountain bike and BMX scene, pump tracks are now also used by skateboards, scooter and accessible to wheelchairs. The first modern pump track was built in 2004 in Boulder, Colorado.

Pump tracks are relatively simple to use and cheap to construct, and cater to a wide variety of rider skill levels.

Fleur and Chloe were actually hoping to get a pump track built into the Matarangi area but after a quick conversation with Te Rerenga School

principal Mary Kedzlie they found that she was also really keen on a pump track for the school so that's when it all started.

Partnering with the school Fleur believes is the quickest option and makes sense as a central point for local children.

Fleur made contact with Velosolutions a specialist Pump Track builder who recently completed a pump track in Coromandel town and outlined what was deemed as the right fit for local children and something that all ages can enjoy and learn.

"Chloe and I then presented the Te Rerenga Board of Trustees with our proposal which outlined what we envision and the site in the school and where we plan to locate it on the school grounds," says Fleur. "At the moment the "proposed site for the track isn't being used and this new concept will give the children of Te Rerenga more options to play on, especially in these wetter months where more hard surfaces are required."

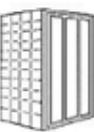
Fleur and Chloe realised how important it is for kids to stay active and given our location a lot of children aren't able to bike near their home or to school so having a local pump track would give kids the opportunity to bike, skate or scooter in a safe environment.

We are now seeking funding to support this project and any donations are greatly appreciated," says Fleur.

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RIP Ruru: A Morepork's Struggle to Survive even after the best of Care



remains sticky for months, and traps birds of various species. Fantails, waxeyes, grey warblers, sparrows, and Morepork are frequent victims; likely attracted to bugs stuck in the seed pods. Kingfishers and ruru see these small birds as easy prey, and become entangled.

Once trapped, birds struggle to fly as their feathers are glued together. As they struggle on the ground, they become covered in leaves and dirt. They are unable to find food, and they are vulnerable to predator. To survive, they need a specialised treatment at an experienced rehab centre.

We have successfully treated and saved many of those victims, but it takes a lot of time and care.

The poor Ruru we admitted a couple of weeks ago was hardly recognisable as a bird when found on the ground by someone walking their dog.

It was quickly put on the ferry to Whitianga and I collected it from there. My first thought was, oh dear where to start. Because we don't know how long the bird has been stuck, stabilisation is most important first. Fluids and pain relief were administered straight away.

That night I removed some of the sticky pods so Rurus legs and wings were free. But I knew the task of removing all would have to be done under full anesthesia as it would be too painful and stressful to do so otherwise. (Imagine having chewing gum stuck in your hair...)

The job went ahead the next day at Whitianga vets were Sue (Volunteer) and I carefull loosened well over 50 gluey pods as well as leaves, branches and other rubbish. We used several special products, and cannot cut, or pull any feathers as it will take too long for them to grow back.

We gave the Ruru some much needed rest after that for a few days and had chicken and Crickets on the menu each night . Doing really well he also gained weight and seemed so much better being able to move freely.

But it still needed more work as he was still looking a mess and needed a wash to clean off the substances we used as well as the remaining glue. We had a team ready at day 4 with a nice warm bath and the hairdryer and incubator ready to use after.

All went well, (not easy holding a Ruru in a bath as it has sharp bits at both ends). Each feather was carefully washed and rinsed, and after a drying session we left him alone warming up for the rest of the day.

The following days he went from strength to strength and even had a little fly around the room, proving he was ok to go soon. We planned a release but decided to give him an opportunity to put some more weight on for another few more days.

Then suddenly I noticed a change,he looked oddly at me one morning and was unable to move away when I went inside the cage to refresh the food. I was very concerned, and an hour later he was dead. We were devastated, after all that work.

The moral of the story is, we underestimate the stress these birds go through when handled by us humans. After all, they perceive us as a potential predator and aren't used to the presence of humans in most cases. (we believe a cerebral stroke or related brain event was the cause of death)

Stress can kill.
RIP Ruru
Annemieke (Kuaotunu Bird Rescue Trust)

People often like to hear success stories about the birds we take in but in fact only 50% of the wildlife we take in, is released again. It's not because we are incapable , but the reality is most patients that arrive here are already on their way to bird heaven, or need to be euthanized due to horrendous injuries.

The following story is about a Ruru (Morepork) that was caught in the parapara tree (Bird Catcher tree, pisonia brunoniana)

Parapara, also known as the bird catcher tree, is native to New Zealand. It typically grows on islands and coastal areas of the North Island, and is present in Auckland. In spring-summer, parapara seeds develop a glue-like coating which is designed to help with seed dispersal. This coating

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Glen Leach:

A Coromandel Icon

- Part II



Last month the MBP was fortunate to sit down with Glenn Leach at his Matarangi home for a wide-ranging 2 Part interview that ranges from his younger days through to his views about where the Coromandel should evolve in the future. Now living in Matarangi, the former TCDC Mayor and Councillor, Quarryman, Farmer, Diver, and Tourism Industry Pioneer still has a vision for the peninsula, a deep love for the place and still is a touchstone for many people who seek insights, common sense views, and the chance to tap into strategic thinking and experience. In this second part of the interview we talk to Glenn about his time as the TCDC Mayor and his insights into what makes a good Mayor.

In 2016 Glenn Leach stepped down as Mayor of the Thames Coromandel District Council satisfied that after two terms he had played his part in shaping the organisation into one of the more successful local authorities in the country. It was Glenn's love of the district and its people that drove what he did.

"I was proud that public satisfaction in the council improved by 15% since we undertook the restructuring process and was 10% higher than the national average by the time I stepped down," recalls Glenn.

The mayoralty journey for Glenn began 8 years earlier with the loss of his wife and business partner of 40 years Rennie. After hunkering down from this personal tragedy Glenn re-emerged with a drive for a fresh challenge - a return to local politics and this time not as a District Councillor, but the Mayoralty. The TCDC at the time was advocating in its district plan a 7.5 percent rate increase year by year something he found untenable. So in early 2010, Glenn started handing out to people who he met in his daily life around the peninsula small, folded business cards with simply his name and a few bullet points about why you should vote for him.

The year of the Mayoralty race was doubly important for Glenn in that he got married again to Trudi, who he also deeply thanks for her support as a provider of sage advice to him over his time as Mayor. "Trudi was a great reality check for me. She played an important role in both as a listener and as a questioner. Those discussions at the end of the day about the job as Mayor and what's going on around you were invaluable."

It was Glenn's second foray into local government as he was first a TCDC councillor for the Mercury Bay ward in 1989 through to 1995. Glenn considers his first foray on council a wonderful learning experience as there was a group of people on the council at the time whom had vast experience about their communities and local governance. This was a council era, which recognised the potential of tourism, and pressed for the full sealing of the SH25 loop. Having had that vital experience of previously being on council for six years and knowing not just what needed to be done but how to do it, Glenn hit the 2010 election campaign with gusto.

There was more to Glenn's campaign than the usual "I'm a nice guy - vote for me" approach of most local political campaigns.

Glenn had done his homework. His understanding of the issues within the governance structure and operational side of the TCDC were possibly at a depth of knowledge beyond all others who had sought the job before. In the nine months prior to the election there was a concerted effort by Glenn that started with an in-depth analysis of what was going wrong and he bought together a strong team of people to work on the project. One of those was Bob Birch an ex Air New Zealand executive and former TCDC councillor during Glenn's initial term on council during the late 1980s and early 1990s. What they came up with was not just an election campaign, but an actual blueprint to change council for the better.

The deep dive into the council by the small team that Glenn assembled around him, recognised the immense waste and inefficiency that was going on. There was overstaffing, the inability to execute projects on time and budget. Council seemed to have forgotten that they have a responsibility to the public that they were there to serve the people who pay the rates and not the other way round. There was a touch of top down arrogance to the way that the council operated at the management level and in Glenn's view they had forgotten that they were dealing with peoples lives.

"In 2010 there was a mood for change as right across the various local communities around the peninsula. There was an opinion that all decisions, budget settings and policy development of the Council had become too centralised and distant from their communities," recalls Glenn. "The feeling that they were no longer working for the people was a strong vibe out in the community and that the HQ in Thames was stymying community aspirations and local development. Council was losing its empathy with their ratepayers and residents and the social prosperity of the peninsula was suffering for it."

The 2010 election saw only one existing elected member returned - it was pretty much a cleanout at that election. Glenn felt the result gave the incoming council a strong mandate for a community empowerment-led approach and a vision for the Community Boards that gave them greater local leadership, more autonomy to make decisions and opportunity to solve local grassroots issues.

"When we arrived at council in 2010. We were nearly out of funding. We were that close to having a Commissioner appointed and going down the gurgler. To survive that we had to make an immediate decision to lift financing to 150% of rateable take."

"A big part of the recipe for change was revamping the community empowerment model. It meant that on the governance side of the council - the councillors sitting around the boardroom table had to become a team with a common purpose to get the improvement the ratepayers needed," recalls Glenn. "When I was on Council from 1989 to 1995 at that time we had a very devolved system of community boards but by 2010 the TCDC had moved away from this to being too centralised in Thames. Power had to be returned to the communities. But to get this through after the election meant hard decisions had to be taken about this process. We had to be tough as a council team and there was a fight with the

bureaucratic side of the TCDC to bring about this change. We needed change and that involved bringing in people like David Hammond as the new CEO who signed up for just a two-year term to make that happen. I really thank my other councillors for their unity and strength to get it through."

"When I took on the mayoralty the bureaucracy side of the TCDC had gone berserk and the project management side of the council was running amok. A culture had been allowed to develop that was all about saying no to anything and everything," recalls Glenn. "I had the goal as Mayor in making the council more efficient. I was also given a mandate for change following the 2010 election. I asked the question - Are we getting value here with the council the way it is and the way it is doing things?"

"Staffing numbers needed to be trimmed, which we did, taking them from 238 to down 178. That kind of restructuring is not an easy thing to do and does not make one too popular, but it had to be done. There were too many staff for an organisation of its size and they were not accessible to ratepayers as access to them was being managed. The public really had no idea whom to talk to when they had a problem,"

Following the restructuring process that overhauled staffing levels and saw the community empowerment approach bedded down over that first term Glenn and his council team began to see the results emerge. By the end of 6 years under the Leach Mayoralty team the TCDC had paid off almost \$20 million in debt, the bureaucracy was back under control, it had the lowest operating cost per property of any local authority in the Waikato region, and had managed to get rates under control - even reducing them by 6% in two successive years.

It was not all plain sailing and there were some serious challenges along the way. In 2011 Glenn and the council became aware of a possible arsenic contamination of the Thames subdivision of Moanataiari that could affect 200 properties. The Ministry for the Environment and Waikato Regional Council decided it needed to be rectified. However with a previous working life in the Quarrying business Glenn reached out and sought advice from an Australian geologist expert who took soil samples and under analysis it revealed that though the site exceeded the national safety standard for arsenic, there was no immediate harm to Moanataiari residents. That single decision by Glenn to follow his instincts and get independent expert advice saved the local ratepayers millions of dollars and decades of additional debt and is a point that should not be lost on ratepayers today.

There were disappointments along the way too. Glenn regrets that the Coromandel did not get the chance to become a heritage region during his second term as mayor under the "protected landscape" guidelines of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The other regret in that second term was seeing the Coromandel Great walks project stall. It aimed to link the whole district through a variety of great walks around the coastline and across the spine of the Coromandel. Glenn still believes that the Great Walks project in some form will eventually come to fruition with the next generation to champion it.

(Continued on Page 17)

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OUR COROMANDEL



News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

June, 2022

Final Annual Plan nearly ready

Our Annual Plan for the 2022/23 financial year has been further shaped by Councillors' deliberations on 24 May, after this paper went to print. The deliberations report for that meeting is on our website at tcdc.govt.nz/meetings

The Annual Plan sets the project priorities, budgets, rates and fees and charges for the year, and updates what was forecast in the Long Term Plan for the period.

We received 201 submissions during our consultation on changes to fees and charges

for boat ramps and wharves, a proposal to protect open space in Matarangi and an update to capital works projects, some of which have been delayed by COVID and supply-chain disruptions.

Our Council will adopt the final Annual Plan on 28 June.

tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan2022

Shoreline Management Plan public meetings

We've had online meetings in 10 communities around the district about specific plans to respond to the impacts of climate change and rising sea levels. We'll be holding in-person meetings in June to talk more about these plans and adaptation pathways, which can range from dune planting to defence structures to managed retreat. Keep watching our Council website, Facebook and email newsletters for the meeting dates. tcdc.govt.nz/smp

SHOUT OUT TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

The Mercury Bay Community Board would like to acknowledge the collective energies and mana of the volunteers in our community as part of National Volunteer Week – Te Wiki Tūao ā-Motu (19-25 June).



Thank you volunteers for your amazing generosity and dedication. Our Mercury Bay community wouldn't be the same without you.

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TDC.GOV.T.NZ/ELECTION

GET READY FOR OUR LOCAL ELECTIONS

Local elections take place across New Zealand this year with voting closing on Saturday 8 October.

Live here? Make sure you are on the Electoral Roll to vote. Go to vote.nz to enrol or update your details.

Own a property here but don't normally live here? You can still vote here as a Ratepayer Elector but you have to enrol separately from the Electoral Roll. Go to tcdc.govt.nz/election, download the Ratepayer Electoral Enrolment Form and follow the instructions on it.

CANDIDATES WANTED

We encourage people who want to represent all the communities in their area to run for Mayor, Councillor or Community Board Member. Nominations open 15 July.

tcdc.govt.nz/election

Kerbside collections

Our Kerbside recycling and rubbish collections will be one day later following the Queen's Birthday public holiday on Monday 6 June.



tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

Our Refuse Transfer Stations will be open to their Sunday hours for that holiday and on Friday 24 June for the new Matariki public holiday.

tcdc.govt.nz/rts

ALL GO FOR DOG REGO



Register your dog online by 31 July 2022

tcdc.govt.nz/dogs

How should we manage different uses of our harbour facilities?



HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR DRAFT MARITIME FACILITIES BYLAW – 6 MAY-10 JUNE

tcdc.govt.nz/maritimefacilitiesbylaw

Mercury Bay Community Board UPDATE

A word from our Board Chair Rekha Giri-Percival

"There's a lot going on behind the scenes as our area continues to grow. I had a walk through the site of the new Refuse Transfer Station on Moewai Rd and the layout looks good. The project is going well and we expect the station to be open by the end of the year, including a resource recovery centre to divert usable materials from landfill."



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

Matarangi Wastewater Treatment Plant –

The resource consent application to Waikato Regional Council for discharged treated water from the planned upgraded plant has been publicly notified, with the hearing date yet to be confirmed. The detailed design work for the treatment plant is on hold pending the outcome of the consent notification process. The upgrade is scheduled to be completed in the 2025/26 financial year.

tcdc.govt.nz/matarangiwastewaterupgrade

The Board's next meeting is on 15 June at 9am at the Board meeting room at 10 Monk St, Whitianga.

If you wish to speak to the public forum, contact governance.services@tcdc.govt.nz Recordings of all our Council meetings are posted on tcdc.govt.nz/meetings where you'll also find agendas and minutes.



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THE SCHOOL BELL

Congratulations to Innes Wilson in Year 5 who has had his story "The Roar" selected for publication in Toitoe 28 which will be published in Term 3. Toitoe is a nationwide magazine that goes into schools. It celebrates the creative spirit of young New Zealanders and publishes material with an original and authentic voice that reflects the cultures and experiences of life in New Zealand. Over the years a number of our young writers at Te Rerenga School have had their writing published in this wonderful publication. Toi Toi magazine wrote that they were thrilled to be publishing Innes's story as "his writing has so much voice and speaks to a unique part of Kiwi life. Innes and his family have just left our school on June 1st to move to a new farm near Walton. We are very proud of you Innes and wish you well!

'The Roar' by Innes Wilson

On Sunday morning my cousin Johnny and I woke up at Uncle Ryan's house in Kaitiki. My dad woke up first and then he woke me and Johnny. We put on our T-shirts and our pants. Then my uncle Ryan woke up and he got on a T-shirt and pants too. We all needed to wear long sleeved Hunting and Fishing sweatshirts because it was cold.

We jumped into the truck and Uncle Ryan told us to put on our whisper voices because we were heading into the deer zone. We drove for half an hour into the bush.

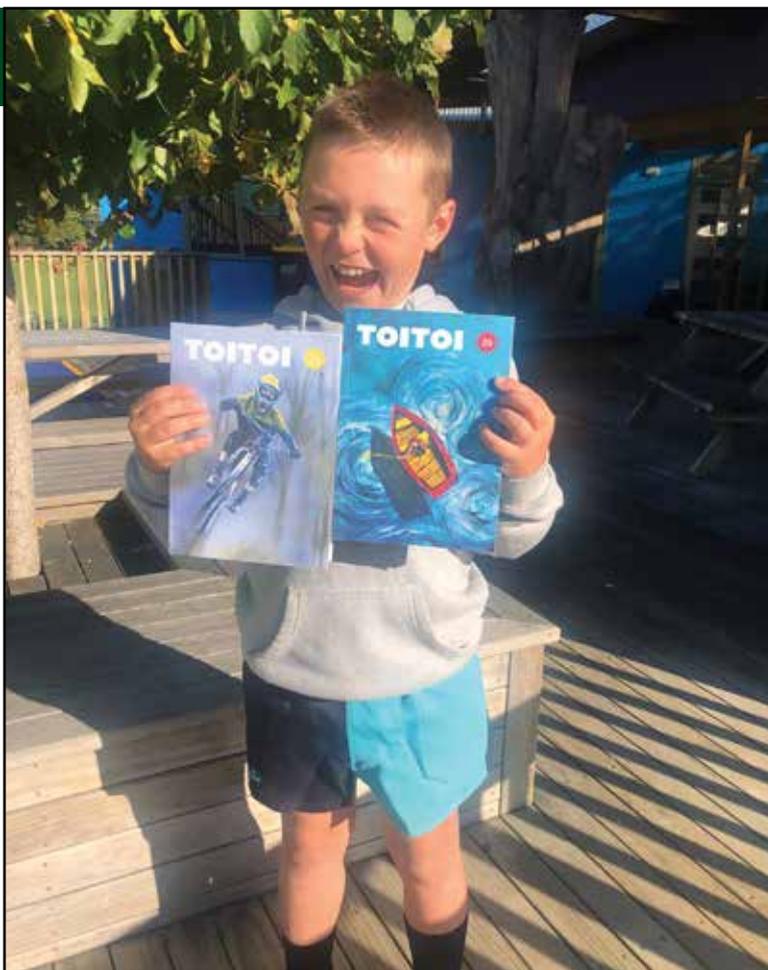
We left the truck and walked into the deep, cold bush, and then we came out into some steep, hilly paddocks. On the side of a slope amongst the bracken fern we stopped and saw some deer on the top of the hill. When I looked up I could see a big red stag, and then Uncle Ryan used a horn to make a roaring sound to call the stag closer so that he could take a shot.

He took out his rifle with a scope on it, and he lined up the cross in the scope with the stag. I got to have a look through the scope after my dad did. Uncle Ryan asked Dad, "Jerry, do you want to shoot this stag?" Dad whispered back, "Yeah, I'll have a shot." Then my uncle Ryan passed the gun over to my dad.

I could hear the stag roaring. He looked big and red and had big antlers. My dad looked through the scope and pulled the trigger. I wasn't looking because I was behind a bush so the deer wouldn't spot me. I heard the shot and I stood up to have a look. But I couldn't see the stag because it was behind a bush.

My dad shouted, "I got it!"

Me and my cousin Johnny started running towards where the deer was and we got to it and it was still half alive. It died in front of our eyes. We counted eleven points. My dad gutted it while it was still warm. Then we went on a walk and had some food.



Innes Wilson will have his story published in Toitoe magazine.

I spotted a fallow deer but we didn't shoot that one, because we already had one to eat. We walked all the way home and we hopped in the truck. Ryan drove us to the deer and put it on the truck. When all of us got back to Jason's house we had a nice talk and said thank you.

This was my dad's second stag, but his biggest.

It was an exciting day.

Ma te huruhuru ka rere te manu.

Adorn the bird with feathers to enable it to fly.

Mary Kedzlie
Principal

THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

With winter upon us and game fishing almost over it's time to concentrate on inshore fishing. Locals Bob & Phil had a good morning last week catching some nice snapper in close on the sand. Up off Opito trevally and snapper are running with both soft bait and bait working well.

In the harbour there are some good size stingrays so be careful where you set your net. Also, the big log is still there. Be careful crossing the bar with the sand build-up, so crossing 1 1/2 hours each side of low tide is my advice.

Blake Davis, fishing the Junior Nationals placed 10th on points in his class. Well

done, Blake. This is a great competition for our Juniors so keep this in mind for next year.

Don't forget the Queen's Birthday competition for fishing club members followed by the AGM on Sunday June 5th, 4pm at the Fire Station. Please come along, your feedback is welcome.

DON'T TAKE RISKS, IF IN DOUBT, DON'T CROSS THE BAR. WEARING A CORRECT FITTING LIFE JACKET IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT WHEN CROSSING THE BAR.

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

Safe boating and limit your catch, don't catch your limit.

Tight lines, Howie

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PESTIE CORNER



With Sharon Clay of Peninsula Pests

Carpet Beetle is the topic this month as it appears to be around quite a lot these days. They are destructive beetles that chew holes in various household items such as carpet, furniture, bedding, Manchester, clothing and accessories. In some people, they can cause an allergic or skin reactions such as dermatitis from their castings. Given the destruction of property and potential health risks associated with Carpet Beetles, it's important to prevent and control infestations in the home.

Adults are approx 4 mm long, are a compact oval shape. have a mottled banding pattern of pale-brown or yellow, brown and white scales, while others are plainer and blacker while the larvae is a light brown to yellow coloured grub.

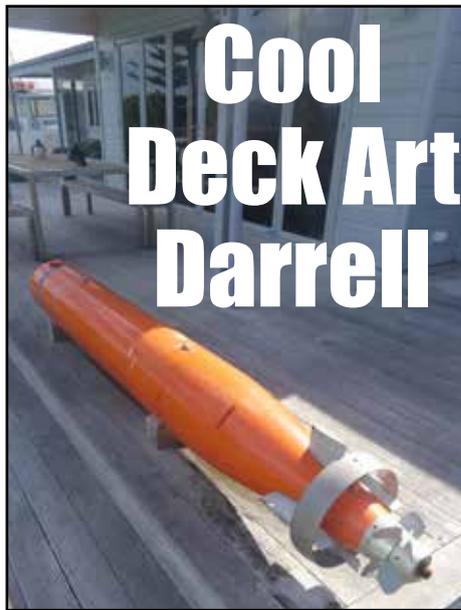
When disturbed, beetles fold and hide their legs close to their body, while larvae erect their bristle-like hairs in defence. Adults are attracted to light, while larvae prefer dark and sheltered places.

Despite their destructive tendencies, adult carpet beetles are predominantly found outdoors and feed on the pollen and nectar of flowers during the day. During breeding season, females sometimes venture indoors to lay eggs. Depending on where Carpet Beetle eggs are laid, larvae can be found either indoors or outdoors and are most active during the night.

Larvae can be found feeding on natural fibres including animal fibres such as silk, leather, feathers, wool and hair, plant fibres such as cotton and other foodstuffs. They eat skin and hair of dead animals and insects and spiders' webs. They are very noticeable on wool carpets where they are found feeding on the edges of carpets.

They are often found in crevices, junctions and seams of household fabric items such as wool insulation, curtains, wigs, musical instruments, especially the pads in woodwind instruments and felt found in pianos, taxidermy animal skins and Entomology collections.

To rid yourself of these pests, spray carpets, skirting boards, under furniture and around entrance-ways and to reduce the potential for allergic reactions, wear gloves and use a dust pan and broom to pick up mess. Ensure areas are well vacuumed and wipe hard surfaces with a moist paper towel, then discard into the rubbish bin. Wash any garments and linen suspected of being infested in the washing machine in hot water and then place into the dryer for at least 30 minutes.



Cool Deck Art Darrell

On the front deck over looking the harbour of Darrell Sinclair's house sits an interesting piece of bright orange deck art.

Now art but once upon a time this was an American made Mk44 air launched anti-submarine torpedo, well actually a training one. The real live ones were painted grey.

Back in the 1970's the Mk44 training torpedo was used by the P-3K Orions of RNZAF 5 Squadron to train crew in antisubmarine warfare against the Soviet Navy in the Pacific just in case their submarines ever attempted to blockade New Zealand's shipping lanes to the outside world or tap our undersea communication cables.

Darrell is a bit of a collector of all things nautical and has displayed throughout the garden all sorts of interesting objects such as lenses from lighthouses and these amazing Japanese glass blown net floats.

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CONGRATULATIONS CORNER

Congratulations to Steph and Scott Tidley on the arrival of their baby boy Oliver who was born on 19th May weighing in at 7lb 4oz.

Earlier in the month sixteen of Steph's Matarangi friends surprised her and spent a very happy afternoon celebrating her baby shower.

Organisers Maree Watkins, Pip Perry and Brenda Riggs did an amazing job of making the venue suitably festive with a fabulous balloon arch,

a cake made with nappies, bubbly, a sumptuous grazing table, and fun games.

Steph was showered with gifts and best wishes as she was excitedly awaiting the arrival of her bubbly.

Very best wishes and luck to Steph and Scott from your new Matarangi friends.

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Stargazer Sights

With Alastair Brickell of Stargazer Astronomy Tours

June 2022

There are up to five planets on show this month with them all lined up in the order of distance from the Sun. Slightly yellowish Saturn, the furthest, has been growing ever higher in the dawn sky is now visible after about midnight rising in the east. Early birds will still be able to see bright Jupiter below, about half way to the horizon, with much fainter Mars right next to it early in the month. Slightly pinkish Mars can be observed moving rapidly away from Jupiter each day tracking steadily towards brilliant Venus low on the horizon. Once again the Moon can act as our guide to them all from mid-month and at other times the fact that planets generally do not twinkle as much as stars can help us spot them.

There will be several good International Space Station (ISS) passes this month, around dawn early in the month and later in the evenings. However, these timings could well change slightly if the ISS has to move to avoid space junk. For up-to-date timings go to www.heavens-above.com and put in your location.

June 3 – An ISS pass occurs from 6:40am low in the south.

June 4 – A very low and early ISS pass from 5:52am today in the south.

June 5 – A good long ISS pass this morning in the south from 6:37am.

June 6 – A low ISS pass from 5:50am in the south this morning.

June 7 – A good bright ISS pass from 6:36am in the south passing right next to Venus.

June 8 – The ISS pops out of the Earth's shadow at 5:48am in the south heading towards Venus in the east.

June 9 – There is a good ISS pass from 6:33am in the east.

June 10 – A lovely early ISS pass from 5:46am which it pops out of the Earth's shadow right next to Saturn.

June 12 – A brief ISS pass from 5:44am shows it popping out of the Earth's shadow in the north.

June 17 – Very late in the evening the Moon lies directly above Saturn low in the east while the ISS makes a pass from the north at 6:10pm.

June 18 – The Moon has now moved to sit just to the right of Saturn in the late evening in the east. A bright but brief ISS pass tonight from 6:56pm in the north.

June 19 – The Moon sits low on the eastern horizon around midnight with Saturn above it. The ISS makes a bright pass from the north at 6:12pm.

June 20 – The pre-dawn sky has Saturn, the Moon, Jupiter and Mars all roughly equally spaced with brilliant Venus down on the eastern horizon. The ISS makes a short but bright pass from 6:59pm in the west.

June 21 – Early in the morning the Jupiter can be seen halfway between the Moon and Mars. There's a bright ISS pass from 6:09pm in the NW tonight.

June 22 – Jupiter and the Moon have a close encounter early in the morning sky. Another ISS pass from 6:57pm low in the west.

June 23 – It's now the turn of Mars to meet the Moon up close in the pre-dawn sky.

June 24 – The Moon now sits below Mars as it moves ever closer to Venus in the dawn sky.

June 25 – The Moon, brilliant Venus and faint Mercury on the horizon at dawn are all roughly evenly spaced. There will be an ISS pass from 8:04pm very low in the west and SW.

June 26 – The crescent Moon makes a nice triangle with the Pleiades or Matariki below it on its left and brilliant Venus below on its right and Mercury sitting almost on the horizon below the red giant star Aldabaran.

June 27 – A very thin crescent Moon sits below brilliant Venus in the pre-dawn sky and just to the left of faint Mercury.

July 2 – There will be a short and very low ISS pass from 6:42pm in the SW

July 4 – We have another low ISS pass tonight in the SW from 6:40pm.

Where in the World is the MBP?



Frouk Miller and Angela Williams took the MBP on their South Island Road Trip which included the Rail Trail and Otago vineyards. Angela had up until recently a bach on Puka Cres and Frouk for many years was a DOC Ranger looking after our local dotterels.



Fire Report

A very quiet month for call outs with only one to attend, a landing zone for Westpac Helicopter. This seems to be a fairly normal trend for this time of year but great to see everyone staying safe.

This is my last article for the paper as the new Chief, Mark Hall will be doing them from now on. I wish Mark and Deputy Brendan O'Connell all the best for the future and am sure the Brigade will go from strength to strength. We currently have twenty eight volunteers so the Brigade is in a very strong position and will continue to serve our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of our volunteers for your support and dedication over the last fourteen years and know you will continue to support Mark and Brendan in the same way.

Also thank you very much to our community for your support as without that our Brigade would not be able to function as we do.

Kind regards everyone, stay safe.
Stu Arnold

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THE KERR'S AT THE K STORE

Featured: Nicci Kerr settling in to the ownership of the Kuaotunu store.

Reported by Isabel Gilbert Palmer

Haere Mai to Kuaotunu to the Kerr family. To Nicci, husband Kieren and daughter Lexi . . .we're happy to get to know you and I guess you to know us too.

Their April immersion as the local store owners in Kuaotunu went head long into the exaggerated demands of Easter, Anzac Day and school holidays, which all rolled into a month for them of "all things new and with it," said Nicci. "A marvellous warm welcome by the community."

She praised Nina's helpful handover, which made the big leap from their previous life and professions in Christchurch to the possibilities for a vastly different lifestyle switch. Deeply grateful that the unmistakable friendly Fran and Holly, came with the shop with their expertise, and warm introductions to the local shoppers and timely teaching the family skills of how to scoop and balance the stores Killer ice-creams reputation.

Almost two months since their launch into Kuaotunu, their aspirations, enthusiasm and creative aim to be a Rural Artisan Store are clearly obvious. Those who've been in the over the last month will have seen some of this already, noting the potted flowers and plants in the window, the craft corner with local hand makes, the back shelf Deli, and little green grocery.

A further new touch are the gratis brownie squares with coffee - especially for the apres yoga groups, Anzac cookie fundraising on Anzac Day and their Sunday morning croissants, pain raisin (gone by 10am be quick) and specialty breads. Nicci and Kieren also have a new DIY tools and "stuff" space in the throes as well as a fancy wine and drinks shelving corner. Ahead in Springtime, look out for a country store ice cream parlour. Nicci says she welcomes suggestions as to what more they could do.

Here's to an open sesame policy to help the Kerrs make K Store just how we want to shop, hang out, meet up with others and create a new heartbeat in the village of Kuaotunu.

Ōmaro Spit Erosion Project: A Call for Volunteers

June 8th - 9am Start



Mark Bedford the Project Leader of the Ōmaro Spit Erosion Project says the group are pleased to have received the welcome news from Heritage NZ and Ngati Huarere that we can proceed with the first stages of our important dune restoration project

The group are now seeking a strong turnout of locals to assist in this important environment programme on June 8th and 9th if required to plant 4700 native halophyte sand trapping plants so they will require as many people as possible to lend a hand.

"If the group can get 40 to 50 volunteers on the day that would be ideal", says Mark.

The planting session will be supervised by beach restoration expert Greg Jenks, who has been the Ōmaro Spit Erosion Projects professional advisor throughout the project.

Volunteers are asked to meet at the end of Matarangi Drive at 9am and make their way towards the beach adjacent to the golf course bringing with them a spade, raincoat, gloves and drinking water. A full briefing by Greg Jenks will be given prior to planting.

This is stage one on this project, further work will be required next year as we progress with more planting towards the end of the Ōmaro Spit

Wanda from Ngati Huarere started the formal part of the two year erosion planting process with a Iwi blessing and karakia on-site on Thursday June 2nd.

The dunes restoration project at Ōmaro spit aims to restore the land affected by the substantial erosion at Ōmaro spit over recent times using well established and acceptable processes as previously outlined in the Greg Jenks report.

The initial funding for this project has been provided and supported by:

- Matarangi Ratepayers Association Inc
- Powerco
- Mercury Bay Community Board
- Matarangi Community Trust

For further information contact Mark Bedford (021 754 087)

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Pink Ribbon Day Events 2022

Pink Ribbon Fun and Funds



Photo: Trish Comer

A second successful Big Bacon Butty & Bubbly Brunch was hosted by local resident, Jackie Buckley, on Sunday 22 May in support of the Breast Cancer Foundation's annual appeal.

Following on from last year's event, Jackie decided to hold a follow up this year for Matarangi friends and neighbours with a view to increasing last year's proceeds of \$500. Unfortunately, Covid-related issues prevented some people from attending, however, 17 people squeezed into Jackie's house for the customary bacon butty and bubbles brunch, bringing with them a variety of contributions to be auctioned off at the event.

A warm-up quiz kicked the proceedings off and then it was over to our resident auctioneer, Jean Brooks, to persuade participants to dig deep into their pockets and bid for the 30+ items in the auction. Many of the items in the auction were made by those in attendance, with Robert Fiskens' home-made gin being the most bid-for item - much to the delight of Robert!

The whole event created a lot of laughter and goodwill, with a massive total of \$1,000 raised through the auction and koha. Generous donations were also received from people unable to attend. Total funds raised and heading their way to Breast Cancer Foundation come to over \$1300.

Thanks go to the generous members of the community who came with cash in their pockets, a willingness to get into the spirit of the whole event and who helped to raise this magnificent sum for a very worthy cause.

Matarangi Womens Pink Ribbon Breakfast @ The Dunes



Photo: Jackie Buckley

Bronwyn Dorian with organiser Sharon Clay at the women's breakfast event which drew in over 40 local women. Bronwyn, Glenys, Anita Beach, and Jude Collett were all prizewinners.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

MONDAYS

Men on Mats (Pilates for Blokes) **Matarangi Ladies Pilates & Ladies "Allsorts Exercise" Class** at the Fire Station with Christiane, are currently suspended due to Covid Traffic Light restrictions. Ph: Christiane 0273122584 for further information regarding the Pilates classes.

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

Contract Bridge. 7pm, St John's Rooms, 355 Tiki Road, Coromandel 3506 Info: Tadek Gawor m:+64 27 235 6335 e: tadekgawor@gmail.com

TUESDA

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

Hatha Yoga 10 - 11.30 am @ Kuaotunu Hall.

ICONZ: an Adventure, Activity and Values based ministry for boys years 1-6. New Time: 5pm - 6.30pm Tuesdays (during school term) Meeting at the Kuaotunu Reserve. More information: www.iconz.org.nz or contact: Robyn Balfour 020 409 39674

WEDNESDAYS

Contract Bridge
 1pm, Mercury Bay Bowling Club, 92 Cook Drive, Whitianga 3510
 Info: Tadek Gawor m:+64 27 235 6335 e: tadekgawor@gmail.com

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. New Time: 3.30pm - 5pm Tuesdays (during

school term) Meeting at the Kuaotunu Reserve. 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

SATURDAYS

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



Driving Creek Railway, Coromandel Town Exhibition Gallery 4-26 JUNE 2022 Queen's Birthday to Matariki

Dunes Golf & Community Club

JUNE 2022



Mens 18 hole: Wednesday 10 am
 Ladies 18 hole: Thursday 10 am
 Mens 9 hole: Monday 8.30am Thursday 8.30am
 Ladies 9 hole: Tuesday 10 am and Thursday 10 am
 Matarangi Bowling Group - meet up Fridays and Sundays from 3pm.

Happy Hour - Friday 4pm-6pm

Lades Night -3rd Wednesday of the month

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JUNE 2022 TIDES WHITIANGA

	High	Low	High	Low	High
2		2:39	8:42	14:51	21:08
3		3:21	9:23	15:31	21:48
4		4:03	10:05	16:11	22:29
5		4:46	10:47	16:52	23:12
6		5:30	11:32	17:37	23:57
7		6:16	12:19	18:25	
8	0:45	7:05	13:11	19:17	
9	1:36	7:56	14:06	20:13	
10	2:28	8:48	15:04	21:10	
11	3:21	9:43	16:01	22:07	
12	4:16	10:37	16:58	23:03	
13	5:10	11:32	17:52	23:58	
14		6:05	12:25	18:45	
15		0:53	6:59	13:18	19:37
16		1:47	7:54	14:10	20:30
17		2:42	8:48	15:02	21:22
18		3:36	9:42	15:54	22:15
19		4:31	10:37	16:47	23:09
20		5:26	11:32	17:42	
21	0:03	6:21	12:28	18:38	
22	0:59	7:16	13:26	19:37	
23	1:54	8:12	14:26	20:36	
24	2:48	9:06	15:24	21:33	
25	3:42	10:00	16:21	22:28	
26	4:33	10:51	17:13	23:19	
27		5:22	11:39	18:00	
28		0:07	6:09	12:24	18:44
29		0:52	6:54	13:07	19:26
30		1:36	7:38	13:48	20:06
1		2:18	8:19	14:27	20:45
2		2:59	9:00	15:07	21:24
3		3:40	9:41	15:46	22:04
4		4:20	10:22	16:26	22:44
5		5:02	11:04	17:08	23:26
6		5:44	11:49	17:53	

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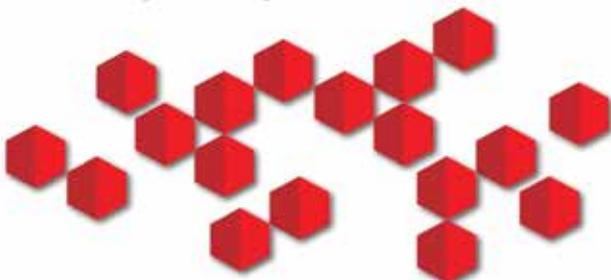


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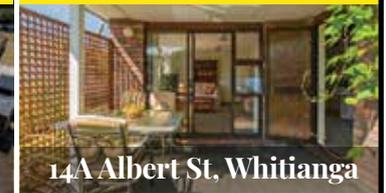


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