



MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

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


MBP 154
DECEMBER
2022

Merry
Christmas!
from the MBP

Coastguard Sub Unit planned for Matarangi

In an ideal world, vessels would not encounter difficulties at sea, but all activities involve risk and amongst other things, boating is influenced by unpredictable marine weather and constantly changing sea conditions. This is true of the Northern Mercury Bay, which has a large number of people who go out on the water for recreational fishing and water sports. However, next summer if all goes well there will be a Coastguard vessel based in Matarangi, which will help to alleviate that risk and keep us safer on the water.

Local business couple Daryl and Sue Sinclair are leading the effort to get Coastguard New Zealand's Whitianga unit to forward base a fully equipped and trained rescue craft on this side of the Kuaotunu Hill. Daryl and Sue say that progress has been very positive so far in their discussions with Coastguard. At the moment they are reaching out to local organisations, groups and individuals around Matarangi, Whangapoua and Kuaotunu to make this happen and move it forward.

With the arrival of their new Coastguard vessel Takareto, which was donated by Team New Zealand after the last America's Cup joining the other 9 metre vessel Te Morehu, it has given the Whitianga

Coastguard unit the opportunity to redeploy their 4.8m Naiad Scout Endeavor rescue craft and road trailer in Matarangi.

Whitianga Coastguard chief Graham Caddy says having the vessel based in Matarangi will enable Coastguard to better service the northern Mercury Bay area, particularly the Whangapoua Bar, which he says is most dangerous bar crossing in the Eastern Coastguard Command region. "Having a sub-unit forward based in Matarangi will enable a 30-40 minute faster time to respond to boating incidents and will be a huge advantage. The Whitianga unit is one of the busiest in the Eastern Command which covers the North Island coast from the Barrier down to the Hawkes Bay. Over the last year the units 40 volunteers rescued 193 people across 90 call outs."

Daryl Sinclair said he is pleased with the positive response from the Whitianga Coastguard unit regarding an idea he had to get a sub-unit set up locally. "We have the opportunity to get into this community a purpose built fully equipped Coastguard craft that can act as a first responder to local maritime incidents. I have already been in contact with some locals who have had Coastguard experience and they are keen to get involved. To

form a sub-unit forward based in Matarangi we would need to locally generate two fully trained crews of four to Coastguard New Zealand standards over the next 12 months. Each crew would have to have a skipper, which would involve additional training."

According to Graham Caddy, the whole area of health and safety with respect to our maritime environment is increasingly important and the law is demanding increased accountability and specialisation with how we respond to maritime incidents. "Maritime New Zealand and the New Zealand Police are the government agencies who oversee maritime search and rescue operations and through a joint service agreement they have delegated Coastguard New Zealand as the lead provider agency for maritime search and rescue services to the public within the 12 mile limit and including our inland navigable waterways such as our harbours and estuaries." Mr. Caddy however pointed out that when an incident happens within the beach environment and it is within the surf line their partners at Surf Lifesaving New Zealand have the responsibility. (Cont on Page 3)

Featured: Graham Caddy and Daryl Sinclair



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Seabreeze Mangawhai Floor Plan © G.J. Gardner Homes 2021

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G.J. Gardner. **HOMES**

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CONTACTS & DEADLINES

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

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Urgent Numbers

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COROMANDEL DOCTOR 866-8500
RESCUE HELICOPTER 866-5147 (Emergency 111)
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE 866-2075
MATARANGI BEACH PAPER (Liam) 027 8689568
LANDSAR KUAOTUNU (Emergency 111)
MAREE TAYLOR (Marriage Celebrant) 021 0429127
MEDICAL CENTRE 866-5911
MP for COROMANDEL OFFICE 868-3529
MPI - FISHERIES OFFICERS 088476224
MATARANGI FIRE STATION 866-4325 (Emergency 111)
MATARANGI RATE PAYERS 866-0968
ROAD CLOSURES 0800 444449
RUBBISH TIP 866-5427
RD2 WHITIANGA (Toby) 021 587 211
TWENTYMANS FUNERALS 8686003
TCDC AREA OFFICE 8680200
REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICE (07) 866 0172
ST JOHNS AMBULANCE 0800426285 (Emergency 111)
WHITIANGA POLICE STATION 866-4000 (Emergency 111)
COROMANDEL POLICE STATION 866-1190 (Emergency 111)

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The Matarangi Beach Paper thanks the following contributors... Te Rerenga School; David Key; Alastair Brickell, Sharon Clay; Bronwyn Ririnui; Howie Taylor; Mark Hall; The Dunes Golf Club; Rings Beach Wetlands Group because without these contributions and stories, your local paper wouldn't be quite the same. Thank you!

Coastguard Sub Unit planned for Matarangi



"With the setting up of a fully equipped and trained sub-unit in Matarangi, what this means is that in the future a vessel and two crews will be forward based there for first responder operations for on water incidents. With the Whangapoua bar one of the most treacherous bar crossings in the country getting increasing usage by boats, the time has come to move this forward. All the administration, training and communications side will be managed back at our Whitianga base allowing the Matarangi based crew and vessel to concentrate on the operational side."

Daryl Sinclair says that the community has a huge opportunity to get behind his initiative. "We have a purpose built coastguard vessel available to us, and an existing unit structure to come under, which makes the whole operational and compliance side much easier. These would have been high hurdles for local group thinking of setting up a coastguard level unit previously."

"There is a real need out there on the water with respect to safety, we have people keen to be involved and I am already looking to the future to find a place where we can house the vessel and road trailer. If any one can help us get things going here I would be grateful for their support and involvement. People can contact me on 0800 080 224 or email at info@rangehoodinstallers.co.nz," says Daryl.

The first Coastguard unit in New Zealand was formed way back in 1898. Today there are over 2000 search and rescue volunteers that are based at 63 Coastguard units around the country. Last year over 6,000 people were brought home safely after an emergency on the water. The Coastguard receives 30% of its funding from central government as part of the joint service level agreement as the designated maritime search and rescue agency. The other \$18 million is raised each year through the support of members, donors, funders and corporate partners. Coastguard's vision is - "No boaties' lives lost at sea" and their mission is to be the 'Go to' people for marine safety, education and search and rescue services.

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Coast to Coast at Dunes this New Year's Eve

The founder of this group, Wallis Toataua, resides in Daytona Beach Florida with his beautiful wife, Stacy Toataua, the bass player for the band. Originally from Rotorua NZ, Wallis has been playing Coast to Coast for over 38 years. Wallis and Stacy perform across the States on a regular basis. You can feel the energy when they walk into the room. They recently formed the band Coast to Coast and have brought in the talented Steve Leyland as the lead guitarist. Steve's wide range of musical ability adds lift to their performance. This year they are playing 3 venues in NZ. Matarangi New Year's Eve, Waiheke Island and Slovenly Manor in Devonport Auckland. They play a wide range of music and are a perfect band for all occasions. Come check them out and be prepared to have a great time. We are excited about playing for the good people of Matarangi. said band member Steve Leyland. The band will play from 2pm on the 31st.

MBP

Read it Online @

www.matarangibeachpaper.com

The School Bell

It has been a full on month at Te Rerenga School. Firstly a big thank you to our PTA for organising two great fundraising events. The annual PTA Halloween Trick or Treat evening was a huge success and the costumes and makeup on both children and adults were pretty impressive! It was wonderful to see the buzz of excitement on all our children's faces. This was followed the next night when the PTA had a barbecue and raffle fundraiser at the annual Melbourne Cup event held at Pipers. Again thank you to the community for supporting these events for the benefit of our local school.

The Northern Coromandel Schools zone athletics was held at Coromandel Area School, with a team of Te Rerenga students attending. Despite the weather being a bit drizzly at times, our students all represented Te Rerenga with pride and determination, winning a large number of first, second and third placings. Then on Tuesday 22 November a team of 11 students travelled to Te Aroha to represent the Peninsula North Cluster at the Thames Valley Athletics event. Congratulations to these students who gained top three placings: Ella Adlam - 3rd in the 10yr girls Long Jump, Lucy James-White - 2nd in the 11yr girls Shot Put, Angelina Parr-Stephen - 3rd in the 11yr girls Discus, iZac Hall - 1st in the 60m Sprint.

There was a great turn out and a positive hum of chatter for our recent 'Student Led Learning Conferences' and the children loved being able to share what they have been doing at school with their caregivers. The conference is all about being totally student led where they show their work and talk about their learning and progress.

The arrival at school of entries for our recent Lego Masters Competition and Pet Day caused great excitement and the creativity was amazing. The amount of effort that went into making the designs, be it a lego creation, a scarecrow, a vegetable animal or a sand saucer was incredible. We also had quite a line up of pets. A big thank you to Teresa (RTLb) and her lego team for planning the Lego Masters and to Mrs Wilson & Ruma Maunga for all the Pet Day organisation. A special thank you to our guest judges, and also to Four Square Matarangi for the ice blocks treat!

Finally, It is great that our senior students were able to get off on their annual camp, which was postponed last year. This week our year 7 & 8 students have been in Wellington and our Year 4, 5 & 6 students have been to Waimarino in the Bay of Plenty. I bet they have had the most amazing time!

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

Mary Kedzlie Principal



CONGRATULATIONS CORNER



A big congratulations to Seth Smith who is a student at Mercury Bay Area School and a former pupil of Te Rerenga School. Seth represented New Zealand at the recent World Under 16 Scooter Street Competition in Argentina and won a silver medal. That is awesome Seth. Well done on your achievement.

Matarangi Treatment Plant Upgrade

The incoming Community Board received an update on the upgrade the existing wastewater treatment plant to increase the capacity of the plant to meet the future demand at a cost of \$1,575,414

A resource consent hearing is anticipated with legal counsel appointed to be conducted early next year and the project is due for completion in June 2023. Council staff indicated that some alterations to the application are anticipated following improvements to the quality of the discharge because of upgrades on the existing plant.



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OUR COROMANDEL

THAMES
COROMANDEL
DISTRICT COUNCIL

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

December, 2022

Every vote counts in elections

Our new Council held its first meeting on 2 November, during which our new elected members were sworn in, Mayor Len Salt officially received his chains, and Councillor Terry Walker was appointed Deputy Mayor.

Speaking of changes that lay ahead for our Council, Mayor Len said: "The future for local government document sets out a pathway forward, and we get to have a say in that pathway. Today is the beginning, and I for one, can't wait to get started."



Above: Mercury Bay Community Board member Bess Kingi and Mayor Len Salt wearing the new kākahu Bess Kingi made.

The new Mercury Bay Community Board met for the first time on 16 November.

Meeting agendas are posted at least two working days before meetings on tcdc.govt.nz/meetings. Video recordings of meetings are uploaded to this page after every meeting. To speak at the public forum, register your interest with governance.services@tcdc.govt.nz

Your representatives



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We wish you a safe and festive holiday season. Don't forget some rules and services change over Summer.



CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES

Our Council offices are closed from 3pm on Friday 23 December, re-opening to normal hours on Wednesday 4 January 2023.



THAMES CENTENNIAL POOL

- Closed Saturday 24 to Tuesday 27 December
- Open Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 December
- Closed Saturday 31 December to Tuesday 3 January, re-opening Wednesday 4 January



LIBRARY SERVICES

Our libraries are closed from 12 noon on Saturday 24 December, re-opening on Wednesday 4 January at 10am.



ALCOHOL BANS

Our district has extra Christmas and New Year alcohol bans. This year, the ban for Xmas/New Year runs from 4pm on Friday 23 December to 4am on Monday 9 January. Check the locations and dates here: tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol



KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS

Our peak period summer Kerbside rubbish and recycling collection schedule for the Eastern Seaboard and Northern Coromandel begins Monday 26 December 2022 and ends Friday 10 February 2023. Collections are Monday to Friday (no weekends), starting at 7.30am. For details of your area check tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside For Refuse Transfer Station hours, check tcdc.govt.nz/rts



WATER RESTRICTIONS

Water restrictions may be in place this summer. Find out about your area at tcdc.govt.nz/waterrestrictions



LEAD THE WAY

Summer rules about where you can walk your dog are in place until 1 March 2023, with additional restrictions from 20 December to 31 January. Remember, dogs must be on lead unless specified otherwise. Find out more at tcdc.govt.nz/dogs



A SMARTER WAY TO PAY

There's a smarter way to pay for launching and trailer parking at ramps where fees apply. Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone, camera or Google Lens and follow the easy prompts to pay - right at the ramp. If you don't have a smartphone, you can still pay in person at our Council offices and participating retail outlets.

A reminder that the new QR payment system has replaced the physical ramp permits.

Learn more at tcdc.govt.nz/boatramps



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Matarangi Beach Summer

Festival Dec 22 - Jan 23

Santa Parade

18th Dec 2022 - 11am

Santa is coming to town, gather your mates & Decorate your fav set of wheels or put your best Xmas Costume on for our beach side parade All welcome and For the Kids Santa is coming.

Thanks to: Puku & Kerres Liquor Store

Fire Station Open Day

27th Dec 2022 - 10am

Get up close & personal with the MVRFF engines. Down at the Matarangi Fire Station Kids can even have a go with the fire hose.

Thanks to: FENZ

Kids Fishing Comp

27th Dec 2022 - 10am to 12noon

Bring your small fry (Under 12years) down to the Matarangi wharf for the kids to show up their parents for the kids fishing competition, Great prizes for the biggest sea creature, most fish and biggest fish

Thanks to: Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

Bar Crossing Seminar

28th Dec 2022 - 9am

We are presenting a 'Bar Crossing Advisory Seminar' at the Fire Station Everyone Welcome

Thanks to: Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

Show & Shine

28th Dec 2022 - 2pm - 4 pm

Calling all Matarangi Car enthusiasts's no matter what year make or model bring down your treasured ride for the first annual Show n Shine at the Matarangi Fire station. All welcome to view these classic beauties.

Thanks to: Beach Realty

The Big Dig

29th Dec 2022 - 10am

Hey Kids can you dig? If so get down to the beach off the village green find an ice block stick (Hands Only) see what your prize is. Age groups up to 5y,6 - 10y & 11 - 15Y

Thanks to: Richardsons Real Estate

Matarangi Rocks

29th Dec 2022 - 8am - 3pm

From the beach to the harbour and everywhere in between, We have

hidden 50 rocks that are easily seen. Hunt one out, Don't be a bore, A special prize is waiting in store So Pop Into the 4 Square for Details

Thanks to: 4 Square Matarangi

Pipers Schmack Down

Cook Out

29th Dec 2022 - 3pm

Showcase your best BBQ/Grill/Smoked dishes. Bring it down to Pipers Cafe + Bar for our Elite local foodies to judge

Thanks to: Pipers café

MVFB Collection

31st Dec 2022 - 3pm

Our amazing Crew at the Matarangi Volunteer Fire Brigade will be out and about show them some love with a gold coin donation

Thanks to: MVFB

Annual Fishing Comp

2nd Jan 2023 - 5.00am

The adults get a chance to show who the reel fisherman is! Tickets Avail online <http://www.mbfc.co.nz>

Thanks to: Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

Matarangi Mile

2nd Jan 2023 - 11am

For all you keen runners get your racing shoes or bare feet down to the Beach off the Village Green for the Matarangi Mile. If you're 12 years and over this one's for you. Plus great prizes for the place getters:

Thanks to: The Matarangi Beach Paper

Cardboard Cup

3rd Jan 2023 - 11.30am

If you're aged between 8-18 years get out all those cartons and boxes create your unique designed vessel ready to race on the day around the 50m course at the Wharf. Entry forms from Richardsons.

Thanks to: Richardsons Real Estate

The Rings to Matarangi Swim

4th Jan 2023 - 7.30am BackUp Day 5th

The Rings to Matarangi Beach Swim Brush off the wetsuits & get in the water for a swim from Rings to Matarangi.

<http://ringstomatarangiswim.co.nz>

Thanks to: Bill, Wilkie, Kirk & Sharpie

Sand Castle Comp & Beach Day

4th Jan 2023 - 12.pm

From individuals to families, young to the not so young, Show your creativity on the day with castles big or small, Down on the Beach Off the Village Green.

Thanks to: Beach Realty & Coromandel CFM

Matarangi Market days

Sunday 1st Jan 2023 - Sunday 8th Jan 2023
Sunday 15th Jan 2023 - Sunday 22nd Jan 2023

Mini Olympics

7th Jan 2023 - 3pm - 4pm

Mini Olympics get down to the Village green for a fun filled arvo with the Team at Coro CFM

Thanks to: Coromandel CFM

Angel Bay Pattie Tasting

7th Jan 2023 - 4.30pm - 6.30pm

Plus Heaps of summer sampling for children of all ages. At the village green

Angel Bay Pattie Tasting

11th Jan 2023 - 4.pm - 6.pm

Plus Heaps of summer sampling for children of all ages. At the village green



Celebrating twenty years of insanely good coffee

In a beautiful bush-clad valley just outside of Kūaotunu, Mark Tugendhaft and Nedilka Radojkovich of Coffee LaLa have been roasting insanely good coffee since 2002

Mark Tugendhaft knows coffee – he's been throwing back cups of it since he was a tough-talking 8-year-old in New York. Also something of a mad inventor, when an old friend turned up one day in 2002 with a handful of green beans wanting advice on how he could roast them, Mark was instantly intrigued. After looking around the house for something to use, Mark converted an old popcorn machine using a tin can as the roasting chamber, and Coffee LaLa was born.

This prototype roaster is still in use 20 years later as Mark uses it when refining new blends. Specific roasting times for specific beans is part of what makes Coffee LaLa so special – many roasters will put all the beans for a blend in together to be roasted, but LaLa roast the origins separately and then blend them after roasting. This allows each origin to be roasted to perfection rather than some beans being over or under roasted.

Mark is passionate about this roasting technique and credits it with Coffee LaLa's distinctive flavour profile, saying "at Coffee LaLa we don't do bitter!"

After the success of the popcorn roaster, an engineer friend helped Mark build some 2kg roasters and they then devised a sales campaign: they gave freebies to 20 of their friends! The feedback was great and the business grew from there, as locals discovered this freshly roasted goodness in their own backyard.

In the same year Coffee LaLa launched, Nedilka entered a bag into the New Zealand Coffee Awards, just as a lark. They could hardly believe it when, only a few short months after attaching a tin can to a popcorn machine, they won two national awards! Even better though, 16 awards were to follow in subsequent years. Nedilka still manages the day to day running of the business, and is the beloved voice of reason who holds everything together.

It's always been a truly local enterprise (once the beans arrive!). Two of the Coffee LaLa employees live in the same valley and walk to work through the beautiful regenerated bush. Mark and Nedilka were key supporters in the fight to save Kūaotunu from gold mining in the 1980s, and a percentage of their Green Spot Organic blend goes to Watchdog to continue the fight. Coffee LaLa is also available in cafes and retail stores around the Coromandel. If you're still not convinced that local is best, as Mark puts it, "if your coffee is coming from Auckland, it's not gonna be as fresh as ours!"

Photos by Felicity Jean Photography



The Coffee LaLa roastery was converted from Mark's pottery studio



Mark and Nedilka from Coffee LaLa

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Celebrating a Special Connection



The Rings Beach Wetland Group was delighted to receive a visit from the Smith family this month. The family was visiting our region to mark the 10-year anniversary of the passing of Bruce Smith (above right), one of the original founders of our group.

The Smith family has retained a close connection to Kuaotunu and especially to the walking track in the Matarangi Bluff Scenic Reserve, which was Bruce's brainchild 14 years ago. They have been delighted to see Bruce's vision for the track come to fruition and appreciate the enormous amount of work that has been contributed by the volunteer members of our group.

In recognition of this effort Brendan Smith (Bruce's son above left) decided in late 2021 to become a formal sponsor of the Rings Beach Wetland Group, via his Auckland-based company The Canvas Company (canvascompany.co.nz) which specialises in outdoor fabrics.

As Brendan explains, "Bruce's passion and dedication to this project

involved all my family, each one of us helped and supported what Bruce was doing. Mum (Kay), my three sisters, (Toni, Jennie & Coryn) and their families were all involved. Each visit to Mum and Dad in Kuaotunu meant a working day in on the track! This Wetland is a special place for all of us. We frequently walk the track, as do Bruce's grandchildren."

Chair Carrie Parker says that the Canvas Company's sponsorship has been a real help, given that the Rings Beach Wetland Group relies solely on donations and grants to finance its work. "The group is currently commissioning the creation of an information sign for the track, and this sort of expensive capital project would not be feasible without the help of sponsors such as the Canvas Company. The company's connection with Bruce makes it even more special."

If your company is interested in exploring how you could become a sponsor of the group, please email us at ringsbeachwetlandgroup@gmail.com.

PESTIE CORNER with Sharon Clay

My Mother once told me not to wish my life away as the years will come quicker than you want them to. How right she was - especially this year. It's been going so fast that I can't believe it's Christmas once more. But hey, isn't it great to see those Christmas Tree lights once more.

Speaking of light, that's when our most annoying insects turn up – Lake Flies, Midges, and Mosquitoes.

New Zealand non-biting midges or Lake Flies should not be confused with the biting midges found in the northern hemisphere, native biting midges or with mosquitoes. The adult Lake Fly are similar looking to mosquitoes. They are 5-10mm in size and do not bite, as they have no mouth parts. The adults only live for around 36 hours however, they can become a considerable nuisance when they congregate in very large numbers during warm weather. They may be seen in large clouds around lakes and will be attracted by lights and settle on light coloured surfaces.

There are of two main groups Biting midges (Ceratopogonidae); those that feed on the blood of vertebrates including humans, and those that feed on the blood of other insects. There are about 120 species in New Zealand, of which six may bite us. Scientists has found that

they appear to be mostly attracted to us through the carbon dioxide we exhale although body heat and odour are also contributing factors. Their bite can be quite severe for people with sensitive skins causing major rashes and welts.

Known as Waeroa to the Maori, New Zealand has 16 species of mosquitoes. 12 are endemic and 4 have been introduced. Measuring approx. 5millimeters long, it is only the female that bites as the males only feed off flower nectar.

One of the native species is called the Vigilant Mosquito. So called as it is a night time feeder with the high pitch buzzing and biting that wakes us from our sleep and seems to turn up just as we try and fall asleep.

The larvae are typically found in any containers that can collect rainwater and are called wrigglers as they often wriggle their way to the surface.

Although all of these are of great annoyance to ourselves, they do have an important role to play in the ecosystem of lakes being that they provide food for fish and birds. However, spraying can keep the numbers down, removing stagnant water sources and the use of things like Citronella based products can all help.

With that note, I thank you for reading my monthly bug ramblings and both Stephen and I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas with family and friends.

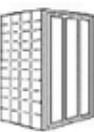
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(Above) Local MP Scott Simpson took with him the Matarangi Beach Paper to the COP27 Climate Change Conference in Egypt last month as part of the New Zealand Parliamentary Delegation. Mr Simpson said the conference was a great insight into the work that governments and other organisations are doing on the climate change front. He also pointed out that it was a work trip and all the kiwi delegation's time was at the conference. There was no time off to see the Pyramids!

(Right) Joan Van Der Helm (nee McLean) who lives in The Netherlands recently visited friends in Matarangi while home in New Zealand and took a copy of the MBP back with her. Joan who is married to Eric, was brought up in Thames and now resides in the pretty village of Zoeterwoude, which is near the city of Leiden. Here she is with the paper against a pretty typical Dutch backdrop.

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TEN YEARS ON IN THE MBP

Ten years ago the MBP acknowledged the passing of a legend in our community, Bruce Smith. Bruce was known for his tremendous passion and dedication for building the track around the wetlands between Matarangi and Rings Beaches, with the help of his mate, Ian McDonald.

The paper reported that significantly two days prior to Bruce's passing, dolphins came to Grey's Beach, staying for some time, playing and dancing right in front of Bruce's family home, putting on a jolly good show before leaving. Not long after the dolphin's

left, some orcas came in. They too stayed for a while and then left. Maybe this was their way of saying farewell to him.

At the time, the paper asked that if people would like to do something in memory of Bruce they may like to walk the wetlands track, look up and thank this bloomin' awesome chap for all his hard work towards restoring this little piece of paradise. We are sure many have done exactly that.

What a gift you gave to this community Bruce, which has been enjoyed by so many over the years. We also know your mate Ian has ensured that your legacy has been maintained and has continued on with your hard work. So please remember to give a thought and a nod of thanks to Bruce and Ian as you enjoy walking this special track this summer.

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Scott Simpson
MP for Coromandel



Season's greetings to all and a warm welcome to visitors to our region.

There will be plenty of summer community events planned and I'm looking forward to attending lots of them. I hope to see you there!

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Well another year of golf is coming to a close. Our Club Champs were held over the weekend of 26th & 27th Nov. A really good attendance of 60 plus Men and Ladies competing in a Strokeplay Format.

Results are as follows:

Ladies Silver Champion: Noeleen Mulligan, 178 R/Up: Sandra Bowen 183
 Bronze 1: Winner: Bronwyn Verner 203, R/Up: Edith Holtom 204
 Bronze 2 : Winner: Claire Hayr 229, R/Up Marie Murphy 231
 9 Hole Ladies : Winner Maree Cabaret 108 , R/Up Tracy Mosen 112

Men Seniors (Blue Tees) Ivan Adams: 154 , R/Up Tony Joblin 159
 Intermediate (white tees) Ian Hayr: 160, R/Up Justin Wilson 163
 Junior: Paul Dixon 178, R/Up Ray Green 180
 9 Hole Men : Nett Steve Airey 68, R/Ups Barry Titchmarsh & Graham Kemp 71
 It was great to have so many taking part

and staying for the prize giving for all the competitions played during the year. Men and Ladies Shoot Out finals were played over 9 holes on Thurs 24th Nov. Winners were : Maree Cabaret R/Up Sandra Bowen
 Mens winner : Stu Arnold , R/Up Tracey Mulligan

The last round of Interclub between Coromandel, Mercury Bay and the Dunes was played on Wed 30th. It was hosted by Mercury Bay this round and The Dunes were defending the Cup.

Sunday the 4th Dec we held The Dunes Open Xmas Hams Tournament and then the Ladies Close their years golf with a 9 Hole Yellow Ball competition followed by a light lunch and a drink at The Dunes on the 8th Dec.

Twilight Golf is still underway on Friday afternoons, so there is still plenty of golf to be played. That's it from us for the year.

Have a safe and HAPPYXMAS EVERYONE.



The winners of the 2022 Dunes Golf Club Championships following the prize giving. Sandra Bowen and Maree Cabaret were the Ladies 9 hole shootout finalists with Maree taking the title. Ivan Adams cleared the field with a 154 to take home the Men's senior title. Ivan is the youngest ever Men's Club Champion in the history of the club.

THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

November has come and gone with the weather yet again being unreasonable for getting out on the water for a fish. However, those who fish off the beach with kontikis and drones appear to be catching a few. I have had reports of the odd snapper being caught in the high 5kg mark.

With the busy Christmas season nearly upon us those that will be using the ramp facilities over this period please take a drive down to make yourself familiar with the new layout for launching and parking. The wharf is still off limits at this stage but keep eye out on our Facebook page or website for any updates that we receive from TCDC.

This year the MBFC will again be running a Bar Crossing Advisory Seminar. Everyone is welcome. This will be held at 9am, 28th December at the Fire Station.

We well underway with organising our annual 2nd January Fishing Tournament.

Details will be published on our Facebook page, website page and notice board by the fire station mid-December.

On behalf of the Club, I wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

You can keep up to date with news on our website www.mbfc.co.nz and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/matarangiboatandfishingclub>

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.

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Looking Back Locally:

The Great 1896 Kuaotunu Fire



The main street of Kuaotunu in the early 1890s prior to the great fire which burt' down the hotel, the store and share brokers, the butchers, the tailors and the drapers and nearly took out a number of other businesses and private homes.

On the morning of March 23 1896 a destructive fire broke out in Hennessy's drapery shop and quickly spread with great rapidity into other buildings in the township. Fortunately the weather was calm or the whole lower Kuaotunu village may have burnt down.

The Thames Advertiser the next day reported that there was a great effort on the part of the miners to attend to the fire and were able to save the Town Hall, Tamage's store, as well as the nearby McSheffrey's, Thompson's, and Peterson's private dwellings.

Buildings that burnt to the ground in the fire were the Hennessy's drapery shop, McLeod's the butchers, Gibbs and Gifford the tailors and the largest building in the township the Kuaotunu Hotel, including its adjoining billiard room and contents. Mr. G. S. Black had two offices in front of the billiard room adjoining the Kuaotunu Hotel. One office was used for share broking purposes, and the other as a general store, which was well stocked at the time.

The insurance value of the buildings burnt down was unknown, however estimates provided by the locals to the Thames newspaper were supposed to be £1000 on the hotel and billiard-room; and Gibbs and Gifford the tailors were said to have lost £70 of stock and £80 on the building. Unfortunately though the share broker and shopkeeper Mr. G.S Black had no insurance cover.

Great praise was given to Mr. McCarthy who discovered the fire and roused the inmates of the hotel, and also to Messrs.' Gifford and Ansley for their immediate assistance. Though it was saved considerable damage Mr. Tamage's store and the McSheffrey's stables also caught ablaze, but a Mr. Hornibrooke who was on hand and quickly extinguished these.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowan, of the Kuaotunu Hotel, were heavy losers in the fire losing all their clothing and jewellery. With the loss of the Hotel and belongings nevertheless the Cowan's quickly were able to set up a temporary bar in the Town Hall. However, Mr. Mathieson, billiard marker, who was in the billiard room when the fire struck the hotel, was severely burnt about the face and hands.



Another steady month for the crew with one medical, three helicopter landing zones and one motor vehicle crash.

We are lucky enough to have Mike Smith join our team in operational support as a key specialist in training our IRB crew. Mike is a Senior Surf Life Saving member and is bringing our brigade into compliance to meet the FENZ requirements.

Leading on from this is our aspiration to add to our Water Rescue equipment would be a minimum of one if not two Jet Skis. This will assist us immensely when we have bar crossing mishaps. As our boat rescue equipment doesn't come under FENZ funding we will be doing our own fund raising which includes the annual New Year's collection. If you wish to make a donation please get in contact with me.

Well roll on summer and enjoy

Mark Hall, CFO
MVFB



GOOD SORT OF THE MONTH



Great to have a nomination come in this month from Whangapoua.

The Good Sort of the Month is Kay Holmes for her wonderful job in looking after our local environment and keeping Whangapoua looking beautiful.

When Kay goes on her regular walk from the village out along the main road to the causeway she takes with her a plastic bag and clears up any roadside rubbish that she sees along the way.

A regular road user felt that it was about time that she was publicly thanked for her awesome efforts in keeping the community looking pristine. Thanks Kay for your wonderful work. You are our Good Sort of the Month and we all salute you.



The Matarangi Mile

January 2nd starts at 11 am @ the Village Green off Kenwood Drive



All runners over the age of 12 years welcome to enter in either the Mens or Womens race. Great prizes!

Competitors please be there by 10.50 am.

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The wine club members gathered recently to enjoy the wines of Peregrine from Central Otago

Peregrine is a 100% family owned business that was founded by Lindsay McLachlan an accountant and former international rugby referee. A certified organic winery it is named after the Peregrine falcon and is dedicated to helping protecting our native birds including the NZ falcon and saddleback. Situated 20 minutes from Queenstown this 'bird theme' is continued at their iconic winery which is designed to evoke the rotation of a falcon's wing in flight.

Jo Simpson warmly welcomed, in Puku and Kerre's absence, Justin from Peregrine. It was Justin's first visit to wine club and he acknowledged the support that Puku and Kerre have given to Peregrine and was delighted to share Peregrine's "Flight of Wines."

The first wine shared was the 2020 Peregrine Riesling. With the impact of Covid, Justin said this dry wine, wonderful due to the dry hot days and cooler nights, saved them. They nearly

didn't have a 2020 harvest due to a lockdown worker shortage. They had to pick themselves and anyone free was roped in. The Saddleback Pinot Gris 2021 a wine that is "made to drink by itself but also great with food," followed. Next was the just released 2022 Peregrine Rose made from 100% Pinot Noir Grapes followed by the 2022 Saddleback Rose. The final two wines were Pinot Noirs synonymous with Central Otago. The very affordable 2020 Saddleback Pinot a great BBQ wine in summer that is fabulous slightly chilled and the 2020 Peregrine Pinot Noir which Justin simply called "Purity."

These wines are available at Puku and Kerre's.

Photo caption:

Some of the wine club members saying hello to our friend Puku who has been in Hospital. All of Matarangi are wishing you well Puk on your road to recovery. We miss your smiling face and look forward to seeing you back in your beloved Matarangi really soon.

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TREE VANDALISM AT THE VILLAGE GREEN

Two mature banksia trees on Matarangi Village Green, in front of Cordyline Cres and Corokia Place beach access #10, have been intentionally poisoned. While they are not native, Matarangi has a lot of banksia trees in the reserves, walkways and public places, and tuis especially love these trees. They provide shade in the summer for everyone and are also public property.

The TCDC encourages anyone with information on this vandalism to contact them and to keep an eye out if anyone is attempting to continue poisoning the trees.

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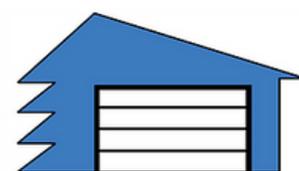
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Puzzle Corner!

WITH DAVE KEY

This month we have another Sudoku for you.

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			R	W				C
						R		
	N					A	C	
	C						O	
K	W	R						
					A		Y	F
		K			N			
F			C					

This month the puzzle is a Sudoku where we have swapped the nine numbers for nine letters. This is not that easy in fact its out of this world at least in the middle.

November Puzzle Solution on Page 18

Fabulous Fashions at Matarangi's Melbourne Cup



Nicky Clausen was the winner of the best dressed lady at the Melbourne Cup Party. Here she is pictured with Paula Ryan who donated her wonderful prize. The dapper Gavin Alden won the best dressed male.



This is a great month to see the planets with all five naked eye ones on view at times. Mars will be at its closest to us in its two year long orbit early in the month and is unmistakable with its bright ruby red glow low in the west early in the evening. It forms a nice squat triangle with the red giant star Aldebaran in Taurus on its right and the Pleiades or Matariki on the left and is the brightest object in that part of the sky. Jupiter is very bright high in the northwest while Saturn is considerably fainter lower down towards the west. Elusive Mercury can be spotted all month but especially around the 21st low on the western horizon, just after the Sun sets with brighter Venus very close by. It will be fun to watch them change places at the end of the month and binoculars will be helpful to spot Mercury as they both move in and out from the Sun which is why they never rise very far above the horizon. Be sure to never point your binoculars or a telescope anywhere near the sun as instant blindness can result!

The Geminid meteors may be visible late in the evening of the 14th towards the northeast before the Moon rises to spoil the view. There will be lots of International Space Station (ISS) passes to enjoy this month but, as usual, timings may change especially towards the end of the month if it has to be moved to avoid space junk. Always best to check the website heavens-above.com for updated timings.

December 8 – Mars is now positioned just above the bright full Moon.
December 9 – The Moon is now below and to the right of reddish Mars.
December 10 – There will be an ISS pass starting at 11:18pm in the SW.

December 11 – A bright and long ISS pass from 10:25pm in the NW moving below Jupiter tonight.

December 12 – A very long and bright ISS pass can be seen from 9:36pm passing just above Jupiter.

December 13 – Another good ISS pass from 10:24pm in the west passing just above the Southern Cross.

December 14 – There will be a good long ISS pass from 9:35pm in the west.

December 15 – There will be an extremely bright and long ISS pass this morning from 4:06am in the SW passing high overhead.

December 16 – Another ISS pass from 4:54am low in the west.

December 20 – Bright Venus continues to be visible as the Sun sets very low on the western horizon. Look for Mercury nearby.

December 21 – Venus shines brightly very low on the western horizon immediately after sunset with much fainter Mercury just above it.

December 22 – There is a faint and low ISS pass tonight from 11:59 in the SW that ends just before the Southern Cross as it passes into the Earth's shadow.

December 23 – Faint Mercury sits just above brighter Venus very low on the western horizon at twilight just before they set.

December 24 – A very thin crescent Moon might be visible sitting just to the left of bright Venus with Mercury above just after sunset. There is a low ISS pass from 11:07pm in the SW that stops just above the Southern Cross. Santae Australis could be spotted by restless children moving down from the northern sky tonight.

December 25 – The thin crescent Moon lies almost halfway between bright Venus and faint Mercury very low on the horizon with much fainter Saturn higher above. There will be an ISS pass tonight from 10:18pm low in the SW passing through the Southern Cross.

December 26 – The Moon lies just to the left of faint Saturn while Venus and Mercury can be seen very low on the western horizon at dusk. There will be two ISS passes tonight with the first from 9:28pm very low in the SW and the second from 11:04pm in the SW.

December 27 – The Moon now lies just above and to the right of faint Saturn with Mercury and Venus on the horizon at dusk. There will be an ISS pass from 10:16pm in the SW.

December 28 – The Moon sits about halfway between faint Saturn and bright Jupiter. There are two ISS passes tonight with the first from 9:26pm low in the SW and the second very short one from 11:03pm in the SW.

December 29 – Jupiter is right next to the Moon with Venus and Mercury at their closest tonight very low on the western horizon at dusk. A bright ISS pass tonight from 10:14pm in the SW passing high overhead.

December 30 – The Moon now sits above and to the right of bright Jupiter with much fainter Saturn further down and to the left. Venus has moved to be just above Mercury very low on the western horizon at dusk. An ISS pass tonight starts from 11:00pm low in the west.

December 31 – The Moon has moved to be further above and to the right of bright Jupiter. Another ISS pass tonight from 10:11pm in the west passing beside Jupiter.

January 1 – The Moon lies high above and to the left of reddish Mars halfway between it and Jupiter. A good long ISS pass tonight from 9:22pm in the west.

January 2 – The Moon lies above and to the left of reddish Mars.

January 3 – The Moon has moved to be just to the left of reddish Mars. An ISS pass tonight from 9:20pm low in the west.

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Matarangi Christmas Market at the Dunes a Huge Success



1



2



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4

Hats off to Sharon Clay for organising the Christmas Market at the Dunes on November 30th. The place was teeming with pre-Christmas shoppers and there was an amazing range of goodies on offer to stock the Christmas Stocking.

Featured: 1. Selling their beautiful calendar to raise money for breast cancer were Christine Bolland and Anne Walmsley. They still have some left to buy at \$25 2. Matarangi local Duan Poaneki (pictured with some fans) and his partner Emma have written their first children's book, Nga Tae O te Moana which is about taking care of our Oceans. 3. Sharon Clay with Harper and her nana Christine. 4. Local Rosie Jakicevich with her daughter-in-law Buffy Ellen Gill. Buffy was inspired to write her awesome cookbook Be Good after running up the Bluff Hill one morning.



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THE COUNTDOWN IS ON.....

Next year on 1st April, Matarangi's Village Green will be taken over by crowds of people, family activities, food stalls, wine, craft beer and live entertainment. A Taste of Matarangi festival has become an integral part of our community. It is recognised as one of the most popular events on the Coromandel coast.

A Taste of Matarangi is a tremendous example of what can be achieved by a community coming together. The organising committee have a major task each year to put this event together and with support from local volunteers, they make an outstanding contribution with their time and commitment to make this event a success.

If you want to get involved and be a volunteer for the 2023 festival. Contact Mary Kedzlie by email – atomvolunteers@gmail.com

"Another part of the festival success is receiving feedback from our audience. It inspires us to improve and help toward future planning," says Bronwyn - Event Coordinator. A sample of feedback received from past festival audiences: people love the festival atmosphere, it's a great event produced by such a small community, a fabulous - relaxed friendly day, love the music and the venue is superb.

It's not just the music that sets the vibe throughout the day. The food is always popular too and we like to provide a variety of food choices for people to enjoy as well. If you would like to provide food at the event. Applications for stallholders are now being taken – for enquiries email Christine Threadgold - atasteofmatarangi@gmail.com

How can you contribute? Sometimes we don't always have the time but would still like to contribute. We have an opportunity for local small businesses to jump onboard and provide sponsorship of \$100 towards an advertising package on the event day. Each year we have a sign with all our \$100 small business sponsors on show. This is promoted a week before the festival, located at the Matarangi shopping centre and then at two entry points on festival day. If you wish to support this event and take up this offer, please contact Bronwyn M: 0211584774 or Email: info@atasteofmatarangi.co.nz

Are you looking for a gift to give this Xmas? Festival tickets are great to pop into the xmas stocking. When purchasing your ticket online there is also an opportunity to donate to our festival charities.

For the 2023 festival we will be supporting our local Te Rerenga School and Kuaotunu Search & Rescue. Both groups provide great support for this event and are deserving recipients of the festival proceeds.

Make sure you are festival ready – check out our website for all you need to know and our face book page for updates and photos. You may see yourself there! Event tickets are ON SALE NOW at www.atasteofmatarangi.co.nz. Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year from the ATOM committee.

Glenn & Bev Rule the Rink



The 2022 Matarangi Bowls Champions are Glenn and Bev Le Leivre who won the title playing against last year's champs Cheryl and Robin Fleming. It was a match that entertained and delighted the Dunes bowling fraternity, who were seeing Glenn and Bev in action for the first time. Onlookers were very impressed with Bev's pinpoint accuracy and Glenn's relaxed and smooth bowling delivery. The couple originally from the Thames area have top class bowls pedigree with their daughter a top national level bowler.

Going seven 7 up after the first two ends Glenn and Bev put Cheryl and Robin under huge pressure and the reigning champs were not able to get themselves back into the game even though they gave it everything they had. A master class in bowls was what one keen club member quipped at the end of the competition.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

MONDAYS

Matarangi Ladies Pilates
 9-10 am at the Fire Station
 Ph: 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

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
 email: tadekgawor@gmail.com

TUESDAYS

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

Hatha Yoga 10 - 11.30 am @
 Kuaotunu Hall.

WEDNESDAYS

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

Mates on Mats (Pilates for Men) 9am till 10am,
 Allsorts 10am till 11am by arrangement
 Matarangi Fire Station
 Ph: Christiane 0273122584

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

Women's Coffee Morning (1st
 Wed of every month). 10.30.am @
 Pipers Café. All welcome!

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

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

Thursday Craft Group
 Meets at The Dunes 12.30 fortnightly all welcome.
 Contact Lesley 0212800780

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

Hatha Yoga 9 - 10.30 am @
 Kuaotunu Hall.

FRIDAYS

Hatha Yoga 3rd Age Chair Yoga. 9-10.30am

SATURDAYS

Matarangi Hash House Harriers 'run' the last Saturday
 (4pm) of each month. Location TBA each month.

SUNDAYS

Matarangi Sunday Markets start Labour Weekend.

BB: An adventure, activity, and values based ministry
 for boys aged 5-15 years old.
 For more information contact: Robyn 020 409 39674
 robyn.balfour2@hotmail.com please contact Robyn on
 020 409 39674.

November Puzzle
ANSWER

R	E	A	T	N	U	L	Y	H
H	L	U	R	E	Y	N	A	T
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E	H	R	Y	T	L	U	N	A
T	U	L	N	A	E	Y	H	R

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DECEMBER 2022 TIDES MERCURY BAY

	High	Low	High	Low	High
7		0:45	7:05	13:12	19:16
8		1:32	7:50	13:58	20:02
9		2:15	8:33	14:43	20:45
10		2:57	9:14	15:26	21:28
11		3:37	9:55	16:08	22:10
12		4:17	10:35	16:50	22:52
13		4:57	11:16	17:33	23:34
14		5:38	11:58	18:16	
15	0:17	6:21	12:41	19:00	
16	1:03	7:07	13:27	19:46	
17	1:52	7:56	14:14	20:34	
18	2:44	8:49	15:04	21:25	
19	3:39	9:45	15:55	22:17	
20	4:36	10:41	16:49	23:11	
21	5:32	11:37	17:43		
22		0:05	6:27	12:32	18:37
23		0:59	7:20	13:27	19:32
24		1:51	8:12	14:21	20:27
25		2:43	9:04	15:15	21:21
26		3:35	9:55	16:09	22:15
27		4:27	10:48	17:03	23:09
28		5:19	11:40	17:57	
29	0:03	6:13	12:34	18:52	
30	0:59	7:09	13:29	19:47	
31	1:56	8:06	14:24	20:42	
1	2:55	9:06	15:19	21:37	
2	3:55	10:05	16:14	22:33	
3	4:54	11:03	17:08	23:27	
4	5:50	11:58	18:01		
5		0:19	6:41	12:49	18:51
6		1:07	7:27	13:37	19:38

Dunes Golf & Community Club

DECEMBER 2022 THE DUNES MATARANGI

- 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.

- Sunday December 4th- Christmas Ham Tournament
- Sunday 11th December - Christmas Quiz from 3pm
- Saturday 31st December - Live Music 2pm onwards

STARGAZERS
Phone: 07 866 5343

SAVE THE DATE
A Taste of Matarangi
1 April 2023

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4 3 2

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Kylie Pullen

M: 021 163 6514

B: 07 866 0098

kylie.pullen@bayleys.co.nz

Belinda Sammons

M: 027 272 7728

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Mark Hall Licensed Agent (REA 2008)
M: 021 607 135 E: mark@beachrealty.co.nz

David Terpend Licensed Salesperson (REA 2008)
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