

# MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

INCLUDING SIMPSON'S, KĀSTUNU, OTAMA, OPITO, RINGS, GREYS AND WHANGAPOUA BEACHES

MBP 168  
FEBRUARY  
2024

## Water and Waste top MRAI Concerns

If there was a theme for the 2023 Matarangi Ratepayers [MRAI] Annual General Meeting it was water and waste. The impact on our community from water related weather events last year was significant especially as the lives of us here on the Coromandel had to also adjust to a challenging post-pandemic environment. In the Matarangi community the MRAI continued to work on the issues which have been mounting up even prior to the Covid outbreak in 2020 and the extraordinary challenges we had following the devastating Cyclones last summer – the Water Treatment Plant Upgrade, Water Treatment Plant Upgrade, our Storm water issues, and subdivision water storage tanks.

In his Chair's report given to a meeting of over 100 residents gathered at the Dunes this past Monday, Mark Bedford said the MRAI is in good heart with well over 400 members and noted the current estimate of resident population is around 1200. Mark said that MRAI will continue to support all of our local community as they have done for a very long time. "Almost all of our subscription income goes back to community organisations to support their very valuable work. Much of our advocacy work is carried on behind the scenes, and despite the occasional critic we are always beaver away especially as it relates to infrastructure, and as you will see during the AGM discussions, I am sure, the outcomes are not always perfect and we will never be able to meet everyone's expectations."

With respect to the major water related issues in the village - in summary, Council is still trying to reach agreement on the acquisition of the land where the new Water Treatment Plant is situated. A building

consent for the new plant scheduled for December can't be lodged until the TCDC have agreements in place. The new Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade is dependent on the new discharge consent, expected to be finalised this year with recent sampling results informing the scope and timeline of the project. With respect to our stormwater issues, these are complex and will take some time to remedy but there is a methodical assessment to the causes and the remedies to prevent recurrence. Mark thanked Grant Short, Brett Houston, Mike Smith for their work in this matter.

Other matters in the Chair's report included the status of the Wetlands, now at the Environment Court and the Bluff Road Connectivity project the MRAI and KRRA are jointly pursuing. Recent weather events have created seven active slips between Matarangi and Rings beach. MRAI, KRRA and the Matarangi Community Trust are advocating strongly for this walk-cycleway track and the TCDC supports this concept. However, Mark warns that until we have accurate costings and geo-tech findings we will need to be patient. MRAI welcomed the establishment of Matarangi Dunecare Group and their work will be vital to help regenerate the dunes along our coast to help protect from long term erosion. MRAI also provided grants to The Ring Beach Wetlands group, Te Rerenga School pump track, and A Taste of Matarangi. Mark thanked the TCDC for their positive relationship and thanked Mayor Len Salt, Bess Kingi, Rehka Percival and Dell Connell for their engagement and attending the AGM.

TCDC Mayor Len Salt in addressing the meeting said 2023 was not an ordinary year for the Thames-

Coromandel District and the effects of Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle will impact the council into the future. "We as a district suffered flooding and erosion across multiple sites. Six metres of rain fell last year when 3.5 metres is a normal year. We had the SH25A closure, plus the Tapu Coroglen as well as the 309 and the Thames Coast."

According to Mayor Salt the next council ten year long term plan, which is now underway will focus on roading, recovery and resilience. Reprioritisation of the Regional Land Transport schedule will see \$811 million for Thames-Coromandel. This is very much needed as historically the regional funding of roading infrastructure has underweighted the requirements of the peninsula over Hamilton and its surrounds. The Mayor correctly inferred that we have been the poor country cousins in this regard and much of the reason why our local roading lacks capacity and resilience is due to this funding bias.

With the revamp of Three Waters underway, Mayor Salt said what happens next is as yet unknown with respect to funding structures and where the TCDC fits inside all of that, either regionally or sub-regionally. Improved solid waste management is on the right path according to Mayor Salt but is still taking time to bed down. It is about reducing the 13500 tonnes to landfill each year and the requirements for waste management compliance that have come down from the Central Government. Council is always on the lookout to improve the way it does things.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

**Featured: MRAI Secretary Keryn Grey with Mayor Len Salt and MRAI Chair Mark Bedford**



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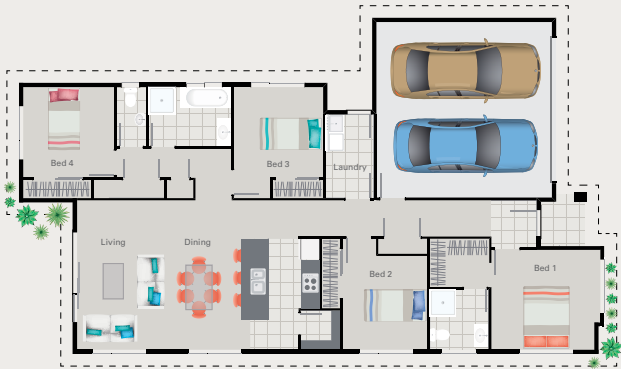
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## CONTACTS & DEADLINES

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

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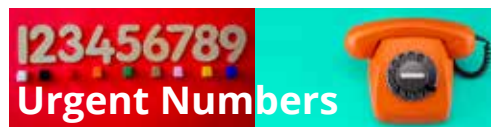
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The Matarangi Beach Paper thanks the following contributors... David Key; Dave Fitz; Alastair Brickell; Jodie Robertson; Grant Archibald; Amy English; Howie Taylor; Mark Hall; Bronwyn Ririnui; The Dunes Golf Club; and Jo Nicholson and Kay Airey because without these contributions and stories, your local paper wouldn't be quite the same. Thank you!

## Election 23: Where did the local Vote Go?

The final general election results for the Coromandel electorate were released at the end of last year and were able to give us a picture of how things went amongst the three local booths at Matarangi, Kuaotunu and Te Rerenga.

Though the booth results released only recorded the votes cast on Election Day last October 14th and not the record pre-voting or special votes it did reveal some significant trends in where each of the three communities lean to politically.

The results from those parties in a position to form a government were as follows:

In Matarangi there were 245 votes cast on Election Day with National receiving 114, ACT 44, Greens 26, Labour 24, NZ First 16 and Te Pati Maori 4. There was solid support for ACT amongst the minor parties who gained 17.5% of the vote, double their national average. There was also strong support for National with 46.5% of the vote well above their national average of 38%. The Labour vote in Matarangi simply collapsed with just 10% on the day who were beaten into 4th place by the Greens.

In Kuaotunu there were 227 votes cast with National topping the score sheet with 67, the Greens moving up to second place with a solid 54 votes counted. Labour did better here than in Matarangi with 43 votes, with ACT on 23, NZ First on 21, both roughly matching their results nationwide. There

was also a sole vote for Te Pati Maori however there was a strong trend for Te Pati Maori on the Peninsula in the Tainui Waikato seat. Kuaotunu was a strong patch for the Greens with 23.8% of the vote double their nationwide average of 11.6%.

At the Te Rerenga School booth, there were 54 votes cast with again National topping the poll with 17 votes ahead of NZ First with 11. Labour received 9 votes, the Greens 5, and ACT 4.

Collectively across the 3 local booths we were as a community more favoured towards the centre right parties (NAT, ACT NZF) with 317 votes of the total 526 votes cast on election day. The centre left parties (LAB, GRN, TPM) receiving collectively 165 votes. At the electorate level this centre right block attained 65% of the vote with the centre left block back on 28%, with all others gaining just 7%.

When it came to voting for our Member of Parliament, incumbency is a huge advantage with Scott Simpson receiving 168 votes in Matarangi, 82 in Kuaotunu and 23 in Te Rerenga. Electorate wide Scott achieved a massive 17500 majority with 25000 votes cast for him alone from a total of 47100 votes tallied. It was the 5th straight win for Scott as the MP for Coromandel. If Scott completes his 5th term he will become the longest serving MP to serve the Peninsula surpassing the Hon. Arthur Kinsella (1954-1969). Following the election Scott Simpson was selected to be the Chief Government Whip.

## MRAI AGM Continued



In his AGM address the Mayor noted that as a result of recent events there is a cost to living in paradise and that unfortunately like everywhere else around the country that will very likely mean rate rises. However, he was keen to point out that compared to some of the projected rates rises of many local authorities ours will be more moderate, due to the TCDC books being in better shape than many other local authorities. He does not expect us to have rises anywhere near that of Hamilton or Wellington.

"With roading and water infrastructure resilience and recovery, plus maintaining all the other things that the council is legally mandated to carry out under the Local Government Act, it will all cost and it is unavoidable. The Peninsula faces up to an infrastructure deficit, our changing demographics and climate change," said Mayor Salt.

# The Countdown is on for a community celebration!



As the countdown continues, the excitement for A Taste of Matarangi intensifies. Whether you're a foodie, a wine connoisseur, or someone seeking a day of music and relaxation by the beach, this festival promises an unparalleled experience.

So mark your calendars, gather your friends and family, buy your tickets and get ready for a day of indulgence at A Taste of Matarangi on April 6th. An unforgettable experience awaits!

For more information and to purchase your tickets visit [atasteofmatarangi.co.nz](http://atasteofmatarangi.co.nz)

As we celebrate another edition of A Taste of Matarangi we extend our deepest appreciation to our sponsors and encourage everyone to join us in supporting these fantastic businesses:

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## THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

Happy New Year to you all. What a cracker of a summer we have been having. The trailer park down at the ramp was certainly full most days over that busy period and still lots of activity down there. Great to see.

Just a bit of a recap of the events we held over the Christmas period.

The bar crossing seminar run by Peter Murphy late December was again well attended. Thank you for coming along.

The Small Fry comp was a hit with all of those who attended. We had just over 100 small fry down on the wharf and the pontoon trying to catch a prize. Everyone walked away with a goody bag and a few extras. Well done kids.

Some of our club members weighed in some good size fish over the Christmas/New year period. Also had a few courtesy weigh marlin as well.

49 anglers fished in our 2nd January comp. Was a great turn out. Phil Clay walked away with the early bird prize of a Bradley Smoker. Thank you to those who participated.

The Club is looking forward to hosting the Ladies Doris Day Out Tournament on the Saturday, 16th March 2024. So, ladies, book the baby sitter, organise the skipper and crew and start thinking about your costume. It is a great day with some awesome prizes and spot prizes to be won. Details for this competition will be on our website and Facebook page early February. Tickets sales are online.



MB&FC Club President Howie Taylor

We couldn't run these events without our sponsors. We thank you all for your generosity and continued support of the club and making each competition bigger and better. You can keep up to date with news on our website [www.mbfc.co.nz](http://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.

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

Tight Lines, Howie



## GOOD SORT OF THE MONTH



Pip Perry contacted the MBP nominating Mike Smith for the February Good Sort of the month.

"Mike tirelessly cleans up the Village Green during the summer. He works for the council but he does over and above what he would get paid for the job. He does it for the community," says Pip.

Good on you Mike. You do a sterling job cleaning up after everyone and keeping the village clean and tidy for everyone to enjoy.

The people of Matarangi salute you!

## A HUGE THANK YOU

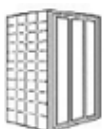
A public acknowledgement and huge thanks must be accorded to Simone Parr and her staff at Richardsons Real Estate for stepping up and doing the behind the scenes work to get our annual summer festival which is held over the New Year Period up and running. It is these unpaid voluntary community activities like organising and sponsoring events that make this community such a great place to live or visit. Our annual events held during the summer festival like the Cardboard Cup, Big Dig, Sandcastle Comp, Mini Olympics, Kids Fishing Contest and Santa Parade are fast becoming cherished classics full of family memories over the Coromandel summer.

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The Matarangi weather summary for 2023 from Grant Archibald's weather station in Puka Cres reveals quite a variable year weather-wise, with the overall theme being rainfall.

In 2023 we had an incredible 2105.6mm of rain with February being the wettest month with 440.8mm alone. More than half of the year's total fell in just 3 months January (310.6mm), February (440.8) and June (316.8mm).

January had the highest average temperature (20.0) and the day with the highest recorded temperature for 2023 was Feb 19th (28.9). Coolest temperature recorded was on Aug 4th (1.4).

Windiest month during 2023 was January (average 18.9km/hr) closely followed by May (18.7 km/hr). The least windiest month last year was March with an average wind speed of 9.8km/hr. The biggest wind gust recorded was a 101.4 km/hr blast on October 30th.

## PESTIE CORNER

Spiders must be one of the most common pests we get calls about, although mainly due to their unsightly webs covering people's homes. This month however, I would like to focus on a non-web making spider species: the infamous White-tailed spider.

There are two species of White-tailed spiders in New Zealand (one on the north island and the other on the south), although they both originate from Australia and look almost identical. They are easily identified by their dark grey, elongated body and distinctive white patch at the end of their abdomen. Adults will generally range between 1 - 2.5cm in length.

These spiders are nocturnal and active hunters. Their preferred prey? Other spiders mainly! Preferably the grey house spider, but also sometimes their own species and some other insects as well. Their favoured habitat is outside under dry bark and rocks, but they can come into homes looking for prey, respite from hot weather in summer, or a warm, dry place to

## The Matarangi Fire Report

### Brigade Thanks Public for a Safe Summer So Far and \$11000 of donations Towards new Rescue Craft

This summer, amazingly enough we have had one fire to attend. Credit must go to the many people that either live here or visited Matarangi in observing good safe practices in everything that they do to lower any risk of requiring help, Thank you!

Part of been a volunteer for an emergency service is planning on attending situations that requires help and quick action from a team trained in resolving issues that life throws at us all. We are lucky enough to have 26 volunteers with our Matarangi Fire Brigade that bring to us a host of life skills that complements the FENZ training, so we can be there when you need us.

A big thanks to the New Year's collection of just over \$11,000. This money has been put to good use with our RIB rescue craft getting a brand new four stroke 40hp, electric start, Mercury Outboard installed by Mercury Bay Marine.

We have a skilled water rescue team keen on putting the RIB through it's paces. It is great to see some very settled weather in the Coromandel as opposed the continuous cyclones that buffeted us this time last year.

While this nice weather continues take care and be safe.

Mark Hall

Chief Fire Officer

with Amy English of Peninsula Pest Services

rest in winter. This is why you might find them in the folds of curtains, in discarded clothes on the floor or nestled in between your sheets. Anywhere dark and warm really.

So, if they eat other spiders and insects - why do we all detest them so much? Isn't that a good thing? Well yes, it is, but unfortunately we have all heard stories about nasty White-tail spider bites. This is somewhat of a misnomer. Yes, they do bite, but generally only when handled or provoked, which can happen accidentally when you find them hiding in your bedsheets or discarded clothes. Generally, a White-tail bite will only cause some minor pain and swelling around the site for a few days. In rare cases, some might have a larger reaction to the bite, or develop an infection that causes further issues.

The best thing you can do to minimise the likelihood of White-tails coming into your home is to take away their food source by getting rid of other spiders hanging out on and in your home. If this is something you need help with, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

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## Stargazer Sights

January 2024 with Alastair Brickell

**This is the month of the planets and space stations!**

Jupiter remains a brilliant object visible just after dusk in the northeastern sky but is getting ever lower as it moves towards the Sun while much fainter Saturn lies very low in the west but will be very hard to spot and soon becomes lost in the Sun's glare.

The dawn sky early in the month has three more planets on view including elusive Mercury just above the eastern horizon for a while with slightly reddish but much fainter Mars and brilliant Venus lined up above it in that order. They are joined by the Moon in the same line early the month and it can be seen sliding past them from day to day. It is in a bit of a hurry as it has to be back in the same spot in just 28 days as it travels in its orbit around the Earth. We can also watch Venus getting ever closer to Mars from day to day and then moving past it towards the end of the month.

There will be a few Chinese Tiangong and lots of International Space Station (ISS) passes to enjoy this month and on February 9 we can see them both in the evening sky at the same time which is quite rare. As usual, timings may change, especially towards the end of the month, if they have to be moved to avoid space junk. Always best to check the website [heavens-above.com](http://heavens-above.com) for updated timings.

February 4 – The Moon sits just above the claws of Scorpio in the dawn sky with brilliant Venus in Sagittarius and fainter Mars and Mercury below.

February 7 – The thin crescent Moon is just to the left of the spout of the teapot or Sagittarius at dawn with Venus, reddish Mars and Mercury below.

February 8 – The Moon now sits right next to Venus next to the teapot's handle with Mars and Mercury below at dawn. There is a long ISS pass from 6:09am in the SW and another shorter one from 9:13pm in the north after it has completed one orbit of the Earth.

February 9 – The Moon is now very low down at dawn just above faint Mercury. A space station feast today with another two ISS and one Tiangong passes. The first long and bright ISS one will be from 5:20am in the SW and then again from 10:01pm starting just next to Jupiter in the NW and disappearing into the Earth's shadow next to the Southern Cross. This one will be joined by Tiangong from 10:03 in the SW which will also disappear into the same shadow high overhead.

February 10 – Another bright and long ISS pass from 9:13pm in the NW next to Jupiter.

February 11 – Right at sunset we have a minute crescent Moon just to the right of Saturn almost on the western horizon with an ISS pass from 10:02pm in the west.

February 12 – The thin crescent Moon at sunset is now above and to the right of Saturn low in the west in Pisces having moved to the other side of the Sun with a good ISS pass from 9:13pm in the west.

February 16 – The First Quarter Moon is now approaching the Pleiades or Matariki sitting just below and to the left of them.

February 19 – The dawn sky has brilliant Venus just above much fainter and slightly reddish Mars in the east while Mercury has slid below the horizon.

February 25 – We have a short but bright ISS pass from 10:03pm low in the SW.

February 26 – There will be another short but bright ISS pass low in the SW from 9:15pm disappearing into the Earth's shadow just after passing the Southern Cross.

February 27 – Brilliant Venus has now passed Mars low in the eastern dawn sky with a short but bright ISS pass from 10:02pm low in the SW.

February 28 – A short but brighter ISS pass tonight from 9:14pm in the SW.

February 29 – Brilliant Venus now lies some distance below slightly reddish Mars very low in the eastern dawn sky with a low ISS pass from 10:02 in the west.

March 1 – We have a long and bright ISS pass from 9:13pm in the west passing through Orion just before disappearing into the Earth's shadow in Gemini.

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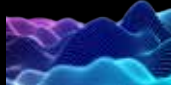
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## Conservation Conversations:

### 2024 Dune Restoration Planning Underway

No cyclones so far in 2024 has ensured a vastly improved start than last year. The 2024 hot and sunny summer with regular heavy rain has meant dune plants have remained green and healthy for longer and dune activities can be focussed on quality and timing rather than getting activities frantically completed in between cyclone events. Some of the August 2023 planted spinifex at Ocean Close have runners over 2m in length which is impressive growth for young plants.

Jo and I have been planning the 2024 Dune care programme along with Andrea Whitehead, Coastal Restoration Coordinator Coastcare. The 2024 coastal restoration plans have been finalised and sent off as funding proposals to various community organisations in Matarangi. We look forward to sharing these with the Matarangi community in the next few months and scheduling in each event in the MDRG calendar.

Local eco-sourcing of dune plants seedheads has been steady starting with the pingao seed in early January followed by the spinifex in mid to late January. Approximately half of all the seed heads you see on the beach are collected by MDRG volunteers, dried and stored for 2025 propagation by Coastlands specialist propagators in Whakatane. All the seed heads have been dried off for a few weeks in this gorgeous sun. Seedheads are huge this year, so hoping this equates to high quality plants to be replanted back along Mercury Bay dunes.

Many thanks to our seed collecting volunteers who have been hard at work in the cooler hours on the Matarangi dunes collecting bags of dune plant seed heads. If you are interested in volunteering for any of MDRG activities, please see the MBP Events Calendar.

#### Next Dune Event:

If you are interested in helping to restore the Matarangi dunes, come along to the monthly dune restoration event – held every first Thursday of the Month 09:00 – 11:00. Next dune restoration group event is Thursday 7th March 09:00. Meet by the Village Green BBQ area – Access # 8.

*Kay Airey & Jo Nicholson (Matarangi Dune Restoration Group Co-ordinators)*

## Ten Year LTP Journey Starts

The TCDC have started on the next Long Term Plan (LTP) journey, creating a road map for the coming 10 years that will guide council's long-term decision-making with the theme: Towards Resilience: Your Future, Our Commitment. The four key LTP priorities will be; a collaborative district, a vibrant and safe district, a connected and resilient district, and a district with sustainable services and infrastructure.

This planning document will outline all the services and projects that the TCDC is planning, what they're going to cost and how they'll fund them (including what rates increases are likely to be for the next 10 years).

This LTP will be focused on recovery from the extreme weather earlier this year and building resilience into the infrastructure and facilities our Council provides, as well as enabling that same recovery and resilience in our communities.

Council will be asking for the participation and feedback from staff, elected members, iwi, other partners including government agencies, ratepayers and local communities as they move through this process. They'll be seeking more of the public's informal involvement in the coming months, ahead of asking for formal public feedback on their main proposals in March and April 2025.

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# Week 2 in Review: Matarangi Summer Festival

## Sandcastle Champions



For Ben the team leader of Team Sublime winning the annual Matarangi Sandcastle competition had been a 20 year ambition and after 19 previous attempts he finally won! "I have been coming down to Matarangi each summer since I was a kid and every year I would enter the sandcastle comp and never win. But this year I have won it and I am absolutely stoked. It was a case of keep trying and never give up. Thanks to my mates who came and helped me get my win and to Mark and Shirvani from Beach Realty for always putting the event on each summer.

This year there were over 40 teams competing with the secret and fully independent guest judging panel most impressed with the quality of beach art creations. Of course the absolutely fabulous weather on the day helped. The MBP is looking forward to next year's competition to see if Ben and Team Sublime can defend their crown.

## Cardboard Cup Regatta



The 2024 Regatta saw more creative wonders built of cardboard and duct tape. Sponsored and organised again by the good crew at Richardsons Real Estate the annual Cardboard Cup was another watersports classic. It was a great turnout with around 350 spectators and around 20 participants competing for an awesome line up of prizes. Fortunately only a handful of crew ended up in the drink!

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## Where in the World?



Matarangi friends, Teresa & Mary Kedzlie and Harry & Sue Karl managed to organise a dinner to catch up with each other in India recently. They happened to be in Agra on the same day and of course had to have a photo taken with the MBP!



Dianne Sisson and Chris Best, who have a property in Sands Crescent, had a White Christmas this summer in Bragg Creek, Alberta, Canada, a town just out of Calgary. They took with them a copy of the MBP on their travels to remind them of home!

## Celebrating 20 Years at the Beach



Mark and Shirvani from Beach Realty were not just celebrating 20 years of doing the sandcastle competition on January 4th but more significantly celebrating 20 years as the real estate firm Beach Realty.

"We are not just celebrating that as a Beach Realty team we have passed the 20 year milestone, but also that Shirvani and I collectively now have 35 years of real estate experience," says Mark.

"At this time we also would like to thank the support of all those clients over the past 20 years whom we have worked for." We are proud too that we have been active in the community over the years giving our support where we can."

## Mini Olympics Family Fun



Around 250 children and adults showed up earlier this month at the Village Green for the fun-packed Matarangi Mini Olympics sponsored by 95 FM. This popular annual family event on the Matarangi Summer Festival calendar gave children both big and small, the opportunity to compete in traditional Kiwi novelty sports such as sprint races, sack races, and jandal throwing events.

Many thanks to Warren Male and his team from Coromandel 95 CFM for organising the activities and all the generous promo prize giveaways. It is the 35th year dating back to 1988 in which Warren has come to Matarangi.

The MBP's choice for MVP is Fleur Blackie who threw an Olympic standard Jandal throw, which we believe smashed the best efforts of the blokes. Not just for the distance thrown but also for technique and style!

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## Legendary Kiwi Golf Pro Breaks Dunes Course Record



*Featured: Greg Turner pictured here with the Course Superintendent Raymond Fanning.*

We had our very own New Zealand Golf Pro Greg Turner from Millbrook Golf Club play the Dunes on January 15th and he broke the course record playing off the Blue Tee's with an outstanding score of 68!

"It's my 1st time breaking a course record, and losing 4 and 3 to the local bandits! I must have left my bad clubs out of the bag because I only had half a set," said Greg.

"I really enjoyed playing here and it's my first time since the change of ownership. It's great to see a lot of passion put into the course and facilities! "

During his career on the Australian and European tours during the 1980's and 1990's Greg won the New Zealand PGA, the New Zealand Open, The Australian PGA, the Fiji Open, the Singapore Open, the Scandinavian Open, and Italian Open.

## The Battle of the Beaches



Last year's Battle of the Beaches Golf Tournament had such a huge response from entrants and sponsors, that organisers Jared Adams and Neil Purchase really wanted to make the 2024 tournament at the Dunes course on February 17th something special and unique. The duo have hit upon the formula of adding lots more hole prizes during the competition to play for along with the 4-person team Florida scramble Ambrose format.

"It's all about having more fun on the day and a bit of competition amongst the local golfers from Matarangi, Kuaotunu and Whangapoua. However this year we are getting teams coming up from Whitianga and Pauanui as well as Auckland to do battle," said Neil. "We are pretty close to filling the field of 144 players already which is an amazing response."

"There will be raffles, auctioning of items including some fantastic sponsors products after the competition, which will go towards growing and supporting Junior golf at the Dunes. We hope to look at getting a few junior golf sets for the club to use for juniors."



### Golf Shop hours:

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### Coming Events:

**Battle of the Beaches**  
**February 17th**

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## Puzzle Corner!

**WITH DAVE KEY**

Five friends all Journeyed to Auckland. Each journey took different times in a different vehicle.

	Bus	Car	Speedboat	Train	Truck	1:20	2:30	4:10	5:10	8:20	Coromandel	Hamilton	Hastings	New Plymouth	Rotorua
Amanda															
Bill															
Graham															
Harper															
Venus															
Coromandel															
Hamilton															
Hastings															
New Plymouth															
Rotorua															
1:20															
2:30															
4:10															
5:10															
8:20															

Amanda took the train on her way to meet Graham who travelled for more than twice the time, Graham did not travel in a car.

Closed roads made the trip from coromandel by road impossible so the traveller borrowed a speedboat. A good choice as it was one of the two quickest.

The Journey by car driven by one of the men because of delays took exactly twice as long as the journey taken by one of the women who did not come from Hastings.

Harper came from Rotorua and did not travel in a truck. While Venus had the quickest trip.

The trip from New Plymouth took five hours and 10 minutes.

*January Solution on Page 14*



Back in February 2014 we congratulated then 17 year old Hannah McClennan on being the 2013 Dux of MBAS. Hannah told the MBP that it was her intention to go on to University to study law and commerce. Another teenager achieving success was 18 year old Talia Kerridge from Te Aroha who was crowned Miss Matarangi Beach 2014 during the Matarangi summer festival giving her entry into the Miss Coromandel Peninsula contest up against other winners over the summer from Waihi Beach, Whangamata, and Pauanui. Gerald Christensen from Coromandel Town won Mr Matarangi.

## Congratulations Corner!

Congratulations to our local Kuaotunu photographer Felicity Jean Witters (aka Flea) who was chosen to be the official photographer at the recent wedding of Jacinda Ardern and Clark Gayford.

Felicity, we all know what an extremely talented photographer you are and we are thrilled that your wonderful talent was acknowledged and you were given this opportunity. Your community is really proud of you. This is the link to Felicity's website: <http://www.felicityjeanphotography.co.nz>

## Want a Free Trip to Thames & Back?



Until March 17th you can get a free return trip to Thames and back on the Coromandel Connector starting from Woollams Avenue carpark in Coromandel Town. The service operated by Sharon from Coromandel Taxis and sponsored by the TCDC saves you both money and hassle and runs on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays leaving at 8am and returning at 3pm. To book, please text the number on the van door above with your name and day. Return Journey text 027 341 3013 Thames Taxis.

On the Dunes course the Veterans were in good form over January with Tony Cotton shooting a 71 off the stick ahead of Geoff Atmore (73) and Graeme Kensington (74). On Saturday 18th January, a 'hole in one' was scored by Jude Corlett from Whangapoua using a 5 iron on the 5th hole. The shrieks of joy could be heard as far away as Whitianga reckoned the MBP's golf reporter C.J Palmer! Fundraising for A Taste of Matarangi saw a very well attended Bingo night down at the Fire Station. Ruby Crocroft took home the huge win of \$150 ahead of the 72 other players crammed into the station hall. Lastly Dr Dan Asquith, Nicole Cosandey and Chris Boniface hit the water off Hahei as part of a charity Ocean swim organised to raise money for the new X Ray machine for Whitianga. Through their efforts they helped raise \$1000 towards a vital piece of medical equipment that will save locals the time and money of a day trip to Thames.

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## Wellness & Living



# WOLF & PHOENIX MASSAGE : JODIE ROBERTSON

*Lisa-Marie Fitzgerald from Evolving Hearts sat down with Jodie Robertson from Wolf & Phoenix Massage to learn more about her practice, Kansa wand face massage and foot reflexology?*

*Lisa-Marie: Can you share a bit about your background and training as a massage therapist, particularly in the specialised areas of Kansa wand face massage and foot reflexology?*

Jodie: I studied Relaxation Massage at NZCM in Auckland in 2008 for 12 months, majoring in Reflexology and Holistic Pulsing. In the middle of lockdowns I became interested in studying face massage, specifically with a Kansa (which means Bronze) tool to increase the overall health benefits of the massage. I finished these studies via LCIC (London Centre of Indian Champissage International) gaining a Diploma in Ayurvedic Kansa Wand Facelift Massage.

*Lisa-Marie: What inspired you to specialise in Kansa wand face massage and reflexology? Are there specific benefits or experiences that drew you to these techniques?*

Jodie: With the Kansa Face Wand I have researched so

many positive results to this massage, not only to the face but the whole body system, as we work the Marma Points those are anatomical locations in your body where a concentration of life energy exists. The same exists for Foot Reflexology – this a powerful practice where you are able to work our entire body system from the feet with specific movements and massage – plus it's an incredibly relaxing experience. I was inspired to offer something beneficial and unique to the community.

*Lisa-Marie: How do Kansa wand face massage and reflexology contribute to overall well-being?*

Jodie: Massage is a very ancient healing method dating back over 5000 years ago to India and through many other cultures, passed down through generations to heal injuries, relieve pain and cure illnesses. There are also Huna teachings (wise principles showing a way to spiritual harmony, holistic attitude to life and self-realisation) associated with many of these techniques. There are as many different styles of massage as there are massage therapists! Both Foot Reflexology and Kansa Face Wand Massage work directly with our bodies energy systems and can release stagnant or blocked energy – promoting a greater sense of vitality – with the benefits of looking younger too! With Foot Reflexology you directly work organs and systems, eg lungs/respiratory, spine, digestion, shoulders etc of the whole body which are reflected in zones and maps of our bodies – our bodies are amazing

*Lisa-Marie: How do you believe Kansa wand face massage and reflexology contribute to holistic wellness, addressing not just physical aspects but also mental and emotional well-being?*

Jodie: There are many benefits for using the Bronze Kansa wand due to its mineral contents of copper, zinc and a little tin, too many to mention here – some of the potent therapeutic effects aside from lifting muscles and reducing fine lines are relief of sinus congestion, neck issues, headaches, increased circulation, lymphatic and blood flow. Copper aids absorption of iron into the body to help produce red blood cells. It also boosts the immune system and relieves stress. Many 'happy' hormones are released during massage which when used regularly have an enormous benefit to our mental and emotional well-being – even Doctors are now referring patients to receive massage. I use only organic hypoallergenic face oils that also have many therapeutic benefits.

*Lisa-Marie: Do you tailor your treatments to individual client needs? How do you assess and adapt your approach based on each client's unique requirements or health considerations?*

Jodie: Before each session I sit with my client while they sip on a cup of tea, they fill in an information form that we discuss and plan the session based on their requirements and health conditions if any. I also incorporate other modalities into my sessions, the most popular being Relaxation Back Massage. I work intuitively with each person and can adapt to individual needs.

I have just added to my small studio a number of therapeutic items for sale eg: Su Jok acupressure Finger Rings, Copper Tongue Scrapers and Silicon Toe Spacers.

*Text: Jodie on 029 914 4750 for an appointment or further information.*

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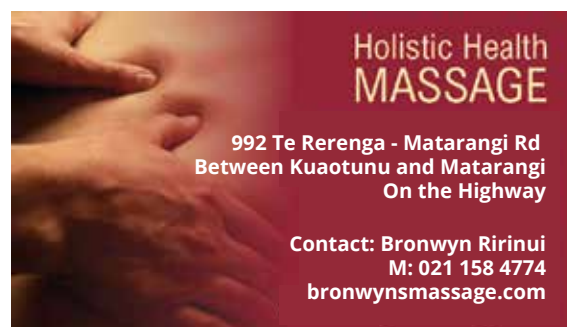
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**Books And Banter** group is held on the first Monday  
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dickinsonpaulinem@gmail.com

**Kuaotunu Craft & Social Club**  
1-4pm Ph Lia 8662054  
@ The Kuaotunu Hall

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### TUESDAYS

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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

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

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

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

**Kuaotunu Garden Group** meets on the 2nd Wednesday  
of the month. To contact the committee please email  
kuaotunugardenclub@gmail.com

### THURSDAYS

**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.

**Matarangi Dune Restoration Group**  
Meet first Thursday of every month at Village Green from  
09:00 Contact Kay Airey 02041200975 details.

### 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 info contact: Robyn 020 409  
39674 robyn.balfour2@hotmail.com please contact Robyn  
on 020 409 39674.

## Coming Events:

**Battle of the Beaches  
Golf Tournament  
The Dunes  
February 17th**

**A Taste of Matarangi  
Village Green  
April 6th**

## Dunes Golf & Community Club

**FEBRUARY**



### Club Days:

**9 Hole Men  
Mondays and Thursdays**

**9 hole Ladies  
Tuesdays and Thursdays**

**18 Hole Men  
Wednesdays**

**18 Hole Woman  
Thursdays**

### Bar and Restaurant hours:

**Wed - 12-6pm  
Thurs-Sat - 12-late  
Sunday - 12-6pm**

**Happy Hour 4-6pm on Friday  
Woodfired Pizzas every Friday!**

## STARGAZERS

### Astronomy Tours

392 SH25, RD2  
KUAOTUNU

[www.stargazersbb.com](http://www.stargazersbb.com)

PH: 07 866-5343

### FEBRUARY 2024 LOCAL TIDES

	High	Low	High	Low	High
2	0:38	6:42	12:55	19:12	
3	1:23	7:28	13:38	19:57	
4	2:13	8:19	14:26	20:47	
5	3:09	9:15	15:20	21:42	
6	4:08	10:14	16:18	22:42	
7	5:08	11:15	17:19	23:41	
8	6:06	12:14	18:19		
9		0:38	7:00	13:10	19:17
10		1:33	7:52	14:05	20:12
11		2:25	8:43	14:57	21:05
12		3:16	9:33	15:48	21:56
13		4:06	10:23	16:39	22:47
14		4:56	11:13	17:29	23:38
15		5:48	12:04	18:19	
16	0:31	6:41	12:56	19:11	
17	1:26	7:38	13:50	20:05	
18	2:24	8:38	14:46	21:03	
19	3:26	9:40	15:46	22:03	
20	4:29	10:43	16:47	23:04	
21	5:30	11:43	17:47		
22		0:02	6:24	12:38	18:42
23		0:53	7:12	13:26	19:31
24		1:39	7:55	14:10	20:15
25		2:20	8:34	14:50	20:55
26		2:59	9:12	15:27	21:33
27		3:36	9:48	16:04	22:10
28		4:13	10:25	16:40	22:47
29		4:50	11:01	17:16	23:25

LINZ

## STARGAZERS

### February Puzzle Solution

O	T	C	U	B	A	K	S	L
U	S	L	T	C	K	B	O	A
A	K	B	O	S	L	T	C	U
C	U	T	A	L	S	O	K	B
B	L	A	C	K	O	U	T	S
S	O	K	B	T	U	L	A	C
K	A	U	L	O	C	S	B	T
L	B	O	S	A	T	C	U	K
T	C	S	K	U	B	A	L	O



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**Kuaotunu Lifestyle Haven**  
38 Kawhero Dr, Kuaotunu

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richardsons.co.nz/RM4265



**Lake to the North - Deadline Sale**  
Lot 320, Stage 16, Matarangi

Deadline Sale 16th Feb 2024  
\$519,000

**Simone Parr**  
027 657 2980  
richardsons.co.nz/RM4250

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Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 29 Feb 2024  
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton - bayleys.co.nz/2201225



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



**Kylie Pullen**  
M: 021 163 6514 | B: 07 866 0098  
kylie.pullen@bayleys.co.nz

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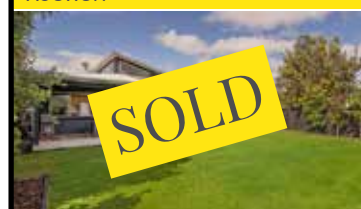


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