

# MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

MBP193  
MARCH 2026

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



## Kauri 2000 Bids a Proud Farewell

Last Saturday, Trustees both present and past, donors, supporters and volunteers, gathered at the Kuaotunu Hall community to mark the official winding up of the Kauri 2000 Trust. After twenty five years of commitment to the conservation of the Coromandel Peninsula, this final get-together was a proud celebration of a vision that has quite literally changed the face of our landscape. The afternoon, organised by Jill Kaeppli and Barb Richie, served as a heartfelt thank you to the hundreds of people over the years who turned a modest millennium idea into one of the region's most successful conservation stories.

Outgoing Trust Chair Alison Henry in her speech, noted that the project had succeeded far beyond what anyone could have imagined in those early days. She reflected on how the journey began in 1999 following a simple but inspired conversation between Viv McLean and Cliff Heraud. Faced with a collection of kauri seeds and the approaching milestone of the new millennium, they hatched a plan to plant 2,000 kauri trees to commemorate the year 2000. It was a bright idea that captured the public imagination, and as Alison noted, as we drive around the Peninsula today, we can see the enduring legacy of that spark in the flourishing stands of green that now dot our hillsides. As the trust winds up a quarter of a century on 55000 Kauri were planted because of the conversation between friends.

The success of the Trust was built on the shoulders of many who are no longer with us, and Alison took care to honor their memory. She paid tribute to the Trust's late Patron, Dame Cath Tizard, and the legal expertise of John Jenkinson, who first set up the charitable trust. She also acknowledged the foundational work of early stalwarts like Max Johnston, Mark Mentzer, and Keith Stephenson, whose passion in the formative years ensured the Trust's roots held firm. Special mention was made regarding the co-founder of the project Cliff Heraud who passed away in 2015.

The afternoon was a wonderful reunion for the "Kauri 2000 family," with many current and former trustees attending to share memories and toast to their collective achievements. Jill Kaeppli who has been a significant driver of the trust in recent times retold many an amusing and poignant anecdote about people and places who touched the journey of the trust throughout its years. Among those present were Sarah Cooper, Cherry Ladd, Maurice Kirkby, Rose Harsant, and Vicky Block. Trustee Dave Fitzgerald was unable to attend but his tireless work over the years was highlighted. It was particularly special to have a special message read out to those gathered from Viv and Percy McLean who now live in retirement in Whanganui. They reflected on the friendships, memories and huge legacy the Kauri 2000 project has provided.

Alison also emphasised that the Trust's achievements were never a solo effort. She extended a huge thank you to the Bank of New Zealand (BNZ) for their unwavering financial support over the decades. The partnership with the Department of Conservation was also highlighted as a cornerstone of their success, with special mention given to the pivotal role played by former area DOC manager John Gaukrodger. Furthermore, the work was deeply enriched by the Trust's partnership with Iwi, specifically Ngāti Hei and Ngāti Huarere, whose kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and connection to the land remained central to the mission.

While the Trust is formally winding up, Alison assured the crowd that its legacy is far from over. The remaining funds have been strategically gifted to four main beneficiaries to ensure the work continues. These include the University of Auckland for critical research into Kauri dieback, and urgent restoration work on Blackjack Hill following the devastating fire in January 2025. Locally, funds will support the ongoing conservation of the Matarangi reserve and track, alongside the continued protection of the Pukenui reserve at Wainuiototo (New Chums Beach).

Whilst it was clear that while the organisation may be winding down, the 55,000 Kauri they planted will continue to be an reach enduring gift to the future of the Coromandel.

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## CONTACTS & DEADLINES

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

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The Matarangi Beach Paper thanks the following contributors: Kauri 2000 Trust, Matarangi Medical Centre, Mark Hall, Te Rerenga School; Alastair Brickell; Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club; Dave Fitzgerald, and Roadster Club, because without these contributions and stories, your local paper wouldn't be quite the same. Thank you!

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## Matarangi Medical Clinic Opens with Dawn Ceremony

Featured: Lorraine Macallister and Mel Asquith of the Mercury Bay Medical Centre

Early rising locals gathered at the Matarangi village shops at daybreak on Friday, 21 March, to celebrate the official opening of the new Matarangi Medical Clinic. The ceremony, led by local Iwi, marked a significant milestone for healthcare accessibility in the Northern Mercury Bay.

The event began with a moving karakia and mihi whakatau led by Joe Davis of Ngāti Hei, who blessed the facility. The ceremony concluded with a karakia from John Bradfield and a tautoko waiata from Wanda Brljelivich of Ngāti Huarere, symbolizing a community-wide start to the clinic's mission of supporting local wellbeing.

"The medical clinic will be a valuable asset for not only Matarangi but also for the surrounding communities of Whangapoua, Kuaotunu and even Coromandel. Thanks to all those involved who brought this vision to life," said Wanda.

A satellite of the Mercury Bay Medical Centre, the clinic was brought to fruition by their dedicated medical and administration team, Centre Co-Directors Mel Asquith and Lorraine Macallister said the Medical Centre was immensely proud in establishing the clinic and getting it up and running in time for the busy Easter period, ensuring both permanent residents and holiday visitors have reliable care close to home.

The new clinic aims to provide better local access to healthcare for residents and visitors in the northern Mercury Bay area, reducing the need to travel to Whitianga for regular GP services. It will be offering a full range of general practice services.



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KUAOTUNU



The pristine waters of the Whangapoua Harbour and the surrounding reaches of Matarangi and Kuaotunu are at a breaking point, according to local residents and Iwi who are now calling for urgent community intervention. Despite tens of millions of dollars in rates and developer contributions flowing into the Thames-Coromandel District Council (TCDC) over the last decade, advocates argue that infrastructure spending has failed to keep pace, leaving the environment vulnerable to systemic failure.

Local resident Andrea Dickinson has launched a formal petition to pressure the TCDC into action following a series of infrastructure lapses. She points to a decision by the Council to defer the 2025/26 desludging of the local wastewater treatment plant for fiscal reasons as a primary catalyst for recent environmental damage. This decision proved costly when January's "weather bomb" hit the region, causing wastewater and sludge to overflow into the Mapuriki Stream and out into the harbour.

Andrea expressed deep frustration over the Council's subsequent handling of the spill, noting that the TCDC took considerable time to advise the public that the harbour was unsafe for swimming or shellfish gathering. She noted that no physical signage was placed at the wharf or around Matarangi to warn visitors and residents of the health risks, and there has been a notable lack of updates regarding water testing results.

The decline of the harbour is a source of profound concern for Ngati Huarere, the local Iwi who have lived around these shores since the arrival of the Arawa waka. Iwi spokesperson Wanda Brljevic stated that the Iwi is in full support of

the petition and has long advocated for a pristine natural harbour. She explained that the Iwi continues to hold serious concerns regarding the wastewater treatment plant and the long-term effects of its discharge on the ecosystem.

"We would be negligent in our kaitiaki responsibilities if we did not do our best to safeguard our home for future generations," Wanda said. "The whenua is for all to enjoy, but that privilege also comes with a responsibility to protect and enhance the gift we have been given, or that enjoyment will be taken from us."

Adding a scientific perspective to these concerns is Whangapoua-based ecologist Meg Graeme. Having lived next to the harbour for years, Ms. Graeme has observed the shifting ecological health of the area firsthand. Her observations support the community's fears, providing expert weight to the visible changes in the harbour's vitality and the general degradation of its natural systems.

The environmental shift over the last two decades has been stark. Long-term residents recall a time when flounder were abundant and shellfish were pristine. Today, those populations have become sparse and marginal, while mangroves have begun to flourish in the degraded conditions. While a new water treatment plant has been promised for over ten years, the community is still waiting for a definitive commissioning date.

The "Save Our Harbour" petition outlines immediate mitigating steps the Council must take, including a commitment to regular desludging and a proposal to move the discharge drain to the western side of the plant. This move would allow wastewater to be dispersed into a higher flow rate area of the harbour, rather than the low-flow Mapuriki Stream. These demands come as the TCDC seeks consent to increase daily discharge from 650,000 litres to 2.2 million litres.

Andrea Dickinson, the Ngati Huarere Iwi, and local experts are now urging all residents and visitors to get behind the movement by signing the "SAVE OUR HARBOUR - New Zealand" petition on Change.org. They believe that if the Council does not front these concerns immediately, the remains of the beautiful harbour could be destroyed. By adding their names to the call for action, the community can send a clear message that the current situation is dire and requires an immediate, firm commitment from the TCDC.

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## Heartland Outreach Coming to Matarangi

The Matarangi community is warmly invited to drop in and connect with local support services when the Heartland team from Whitianga Community Services Trust visits the community on Friday 1 May, from 10am to 12pm, at the local Fire Station.

Heartland is a Ministry of Social Development initiative designed to help people in rural communities access government and community services closer to home.

Whether you need help connecting with services, navigating forms, or simply want to talk to someone face-to-face, the team is there to help.

The outreach sessions are free, friendly and no appointments are necessary. Just drop in during the session and have a chat. Heartland can assist with a wide range of queries and help connect people with the services and support they may need. Everyone in the Matarangi community is welcome to come along.



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## Sun, Sea, and Success: Te Rerenga School PTA Fishing Competition

What a difference a few days makes! After Thursday's fierce storm left many wondering if the boats would even hit the water, the skies cleared just in time for the Te Rerenga School PTA Fishing Competition this Saturday. In a stunning turnaround, the Coromandel turned on a beautiful day, rewarding eager anglers with calm seas and plenty of sunshine.

The event was a massive success, but it wouldn't have happened without the incredible "engine room" working behind the scenes. A huge, heartfelt thank you goes out to the organisers for their tireless dedication. In particular, we want to acknowledge Rachel Colquhoun, Margaret-Anne Visser and Odette Wilson. Their immense hard work and coordination were the backbone of this competition.

The reserve area outside the Whangapoua Fire Station, served as the perfect hub for our weigh-in and prizegiving. We were incredibly fortunate to have Howie Taylor from the Matarangi Boat and Fishing Club as our official weighmaster. Howie's expertise added a professional touch to the afternoon. In the Snapper competition Hayden Disken was 1st with a 3.880kg fish beating out Thomas Marland in second and his wife Amber Diskin in third. Berend Kingma, a visitor from Hamilton won the \$1000 prize for the best average weight Snapper with a 1.296kg fish. In the children's section Zim Parr reeled in a grand 4.238kg fish, narrowly edging Tawa Maiden 4.115kg haul with Flynt Hendrikson in third. In the Kahawai section

Mac Vause caught a 2.018kg fish, heading Ava Szentiyani-Ross and Fletcher Diskin. Amirah Brown caught the top Trevally, Tawa Maiden the top Yellowtail and Tucker Evans the top Piper.

Of course, a community fundraiser of this scale relies on the generosity of those around us. The PTA are deeply grateful to the local businesses who stepped up to support the school. Whether through prize donations, sponsorships, or services, their contribution ensures our children at Te Rerenga School have the resources they need to thrive.

The PTA would like to thank:

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*Featured: Scott Booth of Coat to Coat painters presenting Hayden Disken with his \$500 prize for landing the heaviest Snapper (3.880kg).*

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# SCHOOL BELL



The term has just flown by and with it has come some staff changes. Mark Commins was recently farewelled, and we have welcomed Dirk Jost as our new caretaker. Dirk moved to Matarangi in 2023 from Auckland, where he was property manager at Baradene College. Our music teacher Maria Dove is retiring at the end of the term and Tanya Marshall is also finishing her role as Teacher Aide. We thank these people for the great contributions they have made to our kura.

Congratulations to all of our swimmers who participated in the Thames Valley Swimming Sports on March 20th, especially to Mary-Mei Foreman who was the 12 year girl individual champion, and to Niko Varga who was 4th overall for 12 year boys. Mary-Mei won four of her events with placings

in others, while Niko got several placings. Struan English gained 1st place in the 11 year boys 50m breaststroke, and Jessica Lendrum was 3rd in the 9 year girls 50m freestyle.

Highlights of the past month have been Harold and the Life Education caravan visiting and on the 20th March we had a crazy socks day with children wearing to school their boldest and brightest, most eye-catching socks. It was our way of saying, "Listen up, the Down syndrome community has something to say!" April 2nd is World Autism Day and we are going to join the global campaign to "Light It Up Blue" by wearing blue clothing or accessories on the day.

We have also had our goal setting interviews with the children and parent/caregivers meeting with their teachers. Through the learning journey it is important that all children know where they stand, where they need to go, what they need to do to achieve this and be able to share that with their parents.

Finally a huge thank you to the Whangapoua Community Association for their generous

donation of \$1000. They selected our school as one of their charities to receive a donation from the funds raised at the Whangapoua Fishing Competition, held in January. Their donation is greatly appreciated.

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

Mary Kedzlie Principal



There were 5 call outs for our brigade this month. You may think that is not many, but the importance of a code purple medical, which indicates "life threatening" is one of utmost importance.

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One of the call outs was a van rolled on this side of the Burma Hill. A notorious camber at the bottom of the hill has witnessed many accidents and something that Transit NZ should look at a bit more closely.

April is a busy month for the Brigade with our fishing competition on the 4th April followed by the fish auction afterwards.

This event helps raise money for the brigade outside the budget of FENZ. We thank all our sponsors that make this day successful.

We will also be hosting the ANZAC service on Saturday 25th April starting at 10.45am at Cordyline Cres with the march to the station followed by the service.

Everyone is welcome. If you are able to bring a plate for afterwards that would be much appreciated.

Stay Safe  
Mark Hall

Chief Fire Officer  
Matarangi Volunteer Fire Brigade



## A Splash of Colour: MX-5 Roadsters Brighten Matarangi

Matarangi residents were treated to a vibrant sight earlier this month when a "conga line" of Mazda MX-5s and Miatas swept into town. On Saturday, March 7th, the MX-5 Club of New Zealand and NZ Roadsters made Matarangi a key stop during their annual Coromandel SH25 loop.

The midday break saw dozens of the iconic little convertibles—ranging from the classic pop-up headlight models of the 90s to the sleek modern RFs—neatly lined up on the lawn in front of the Matarangi Fire Station. It wasn't just a rest stop; it was a chance for drivers from Auckland, Waikato, and the Bay of Plenty to stretch their legs and admire the coastal views.

The club, known for its "top-down" philosophy regardless of the weather, chose Matarangi for its relaxed atmosphere and stunning photo opportunities. After a quick catch-up and some local refreshments, the engines hummed back to life as the convoy headed toward Whitianga for a late lunch at Buffalo Beach.

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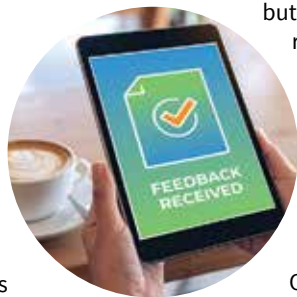
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## Reduced hours at transfer station proposed – Have your say

We're proposing changes to operating hours at refuse and recycling transfer stations in Matarangi, Coromandel Town and Pāuanui to help keep rates increases down – and we want to know what you think.

Our Elected Members are concerned forecast rate increases are unsustainable and are keen to explore ways to save costs – even if that means tough decisions.

The stations are open seven days a week



but we're proposing two options: reducing opening days to four (Friday–Monday) or keeping seven days but shortening hours to 10am–3pm. These changes are based on data showing when sites are most used. They also aim to balance cost savings with convenience.

Our preferred option is to reduce opening days, which could save the average household around \$4.19 per year in rates.

We are also exploring reduced mowing and garden maintenance, increasing fees and introducing new user charges for some services and reducing some rates remissions. These options would all help us minimise rates increases, but we want to hear what you think.

We are consulting on our Annual Plan which includes these options from 30 March to 28 April, and 7 May.

Your feedback will help shape how these services are delivered in your community.

There are plenty of ways to share your thoughts – from in-person events and pop-up market stalls to the quick and simple feedback form on our website and any Council office.

Find out about proposed changes and give your feedback at [tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan26-27](https://tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan26-27)

## BUSINESS AWARDS 2026

The Claymark Hauraki Coromandel Business Awards are set for 15 October 2026 at the Thames Civic Centre. This biennial event brings together local businesspeople from across the Hauraki, Coromandel and wider Waikato region for an evening of celebration, networking and recognition. If you'd like to be a sponsor, visit: [tcdc.govt.nz/HCBA](https://tcdc.govt.nz/HCBA)



## What's happening over Easter and Anzac weekends?



### OFFICES | DISTRICT LIBRARIES

Our offices (including AA services) and district libraries will be closed from Good Friday through to Easter Monday, and from Saturday 25 April (Anzac Day) to Monday 27 April (observed public holiday). You can still reach us 24/7 at 07 868 0200 or [customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz)



### DOG RESTRICTIONS

Please keep your dog on a lead in urban areas such as town centres and roads. Look out for Council's traffic light signage and check the rules in your area at [tcdc.govt.nz/dogownerguide](https://tcdc.govt.nz/dogownerguide)



### ALCOHOL BANS

Alcohol bans are in place over Easter weekend from 4pm Thursday 2 April to 4pm Tuesday 7 April, and over the Anzac long weekend from 4pm on Friday 24 April to 4pm on Monday 27 April. [tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol](https://tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol)



## Whitianga Esplanade update

On Wednesday 25 March the Mercury Bay Community Board met with Council staff to receive an update on the Whitianga Esplanade Redevelopment Project.

The board was briefed on the project's background, community feedback and where it is now – exploring feasibility of preferred options.

These investigations will help inform Elected Members who will decide whether or not to advance the project.

The board will meet again for its regular meeting on Wednesday 15 April, as detailed at the bottom of this page.



## LOCAL EASTER KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS

### SATURDAY 4 APRIL

Pāuanui



### TUESDAY 7 APRIL

Whangamatā South  
Mercury Bay South  
(Cooks Beach, Hāhei)



### WEDNESDAY 8 APRIL

Whangamatā North  
Onemana & Ōpoutere  
Whitianga



### THURSDAY 9 APRIL

Coromandel Town  
Coromandel Rural  
North  
Te Kōuma  
Mercury Bay North  
(Matarangi, Kūaotunu, Whangapoua)  
Thames Coast  
Manaia



ALL REFUSE AND RECYCLING TRANSFER STATIONS ARE CLOSED ON FRIDAY 3 APRIL, GOOD FRIDAY.  
Open all other days over Easter period.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING TRANSFER STATIONS OPEN DAILY FROM 8.30AM–5.30PM until end of daylight saving on Saturday 4 April. FROM SUNDAY 5 APRIL, HOURS REVERT TO 8.30AM–4.30PM DAILY  
[TCDC.GOV.TZ/RTS](https://tcdc.govt.nz/RTS)

OUR NEXT MERCURY BAY COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING WILL BE AT 10AM WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL AT THE MERCURY BAY SERVICE CENTRE 10 MONK ST, WHITIANGA.

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THE DUNES  
MATARANGI



SCAN TO DONATE

WE'RE HOSTING A PINK RIBBON BREAKFAST EVENT  
TO HELP FUND BREAST CANCER EDUCATION,  
PATIENT SUPPORT, RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

SAVE THE DATE!  
LAST YEAR WAS HEARTFELT, INFORMATIVE  
AND ENTERTAINING  
THIS YEAR WILL BE THE SAME  
FURTHER INFO IN THE MAY PAPER

SUNDAY 24th MAY - 2.30PM



AFTERNOON AT THE DUNES

PETER MOORE-JONES  
MEMORIAL TROPHY



THE DUNES  
MATARANGI

GOLF TOURNAMENT & COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY 9TH MAY



SAVE THE DATE & GET  
YOUR TEAM TOGETHER

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MONDAY: CLOSED

GOLF SHOP

THURSDAY: NEW GREENS  
OPENING TOURNAMENT  
FRIDAY: FROM 8.15AM  
SATURDAY: FROM 7AM  
SUNDAY: FROM 7.30AM  
MONDAY: FROM 7.30AM

PLEASE NOTE ALCOHOL CAN ONLY BE SERVED TO THOSE DINING ON GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER SUNDAY

FOR OTHER APRIL HOURS PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE, FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM

Happy Easter from us all at The Dunes

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Matarangi's golfing landscape reached a historic milestone this week. On Thursday, 2nd April, The Dunes Golf Club hosted the highly anticipated "teaser opening" of its brand-new greens—a project born from both environmental necessity and a deep respect for New Zealand's golfing heritage.

The journey to this moment began roughly eight years ago when Course Superintendent Raymond Fanning and his team first noticed the steady creep of coastal erosion. After years of relentless storms, the threat became a reality: three of the course's original greens were lost to the sea.

Fanning recalls that the true turning point came two years ago, when course owners and greenkeeping staff shifted from observation to action. "We began the process of planning what we have today," Fanning said, noting that the project became a rare professional highlight for his crew. "It was a great opportunity for the greenkeeping staff to be involved in the redesign of parts of the course."

While the layout has evolved, the soul of the course remains anchored in its history. Throughout the redesign, Fanning and his team were determined to protect the integrity of the original Sir Bob Charles design. This was particularly vital for the 11th hole—long considered one of the most iconic in the country. "We worked hard to retain as much of the specialness of the 11th as possible," Fanning explained.

The redesigned sections offered players their first look at the updated Course Master Plan. Key changes featured in the opening included: A new 10th: A challenging 395m (Blue tees); A new 14th: A precision-testing Par 3, measuring 139m from the back tees; and a new 13th: A formidable Par 5 (formerly Hole 14), now stretching to 526m. While the holes will now return to limited play to allow for final "grow-in" touches and maintenance, the event marked a triumphant stand against the elements and a bright future for one of the Coromandel's most beloved sporting assets.

*Upcoming Tournaments and Events: New Greens Opening Tournament: Thursday, 2nd April; ANZAC Haggie Friday, 24th April from 2pm ~Pre-register via The Dunes website~; Peter Moore-Jones Tournament: Saturday, 9th May; Richardsons Real Estate, Matarangi 18Hole Ladies Tournament: Friday, 22nd May.*

**Featured: (Top Left) The Dunes Greenkeeping team of Garry Searle, Raymond Fanning -Superintendent, Luke Steiner, and Max Gaskell. (Top Right) Our youngest member Fionn Fanning with Barry Tischmarsh our most experienced golfer getting ready for another round.**



**SAVE THE DATE: Pink Ribbon at The Dunes**

We're doing it again! After last year's heartfelt and informative afternoon, The Dunes Matarangi is proud to host another Pink Ribbon event to support breast cancer education, patient support, and advocacy.

Mark your calendars and join us for an afternoon that matters.

When: Sunday, 24th May  
Time: 2:30 PM  
Where: The Dunes Golf & Community Club

Last year was a standout—informative, entertaining, and full of community spirit. This year promises to be just as impactful. Whether you're coming for the stories, the support, or the company, we'd love to see you there.

Every dollar raised helps the Breast Cancer Foundation NZ fund life-saving research and provide vital support to those who need it most.

Full event details and ticket info are coming soon. For now, just save the date!

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# THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club



March has been a good month for fishing for both land and boat fishing. We have had some nice fish weighed in by both seniors and junior club members and a courtesy weigh for Tony Nicholson after a great day of fishing.

NZSFC Youth Nationals 3rd April - 18th April 2026

Junior anglers this is one for you. A great activity for the school holidays. You do not have to be a current financial member to fish in this tournament so please spread the word to all juniors out there.

Go to the Latest news section on lower part of our website for further details. [www.mbfc.co.nz](http://www.mbfc.co.nz) or email [matarangifishing@gmail.co.nz](mailto:matarangifishing@gmail.co.nz) to request an entry form.

NZSFC Nationals 2026. One team weighed in fish for this event.

Doris Day Ladies Day Out has a new date Sunday 26th April 2026. This coincides with ANZAC long weekend. Registrations and entry details are now open online. Ladies get a team together for a fun day on and off the water.

Go to : <https://www.mbfc.co.nz/newsarticle/149030?newsfeedId=2035672>

By the time this reaches our readers the first reading of the Fisheries Amendment Bill may have been read in parliament. This is not good news for recreational fishing. Visit this link to see how you can help overturn the bill <https://legasea.co.nz/kill-the-bill-write-to-your-local-mp/>

You can keep up to date with news on our website [www.mbfc.co.nz](http://www.mbfc.co.nz), Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/matarangiboatandfishingclub> and Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/matarangi.boat.fishing.club/>

**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

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club Inc.

## Stargazer Sights

### April 2026

Bright Jupiter still remains high in the northern sky but becomes joined by three fainter planets this month. Faint Mercury and even fainter Saturn and slightly reddish Mars perform a lovely dance low in the eastern predawn sky. They change position every night and get very close together so will be a lovely sight to follow in binoculars but be careful to keep these pointed well away from the rising Sun to avoid instant blindness. Brighter Venus is now becoming visible in the western dusk sky as it has completed its pass behind the Sun.

There will be a few Chinese Tiangong several International Space Station (ISS) passes to view this month but, 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.

April 3 – A bright ISS pass this morning from 5:51am moving right beside Mercury.

April 4 – There will be a very bright ISS pass from 6:40am in the SW moving right overhead.

April 6 – We have a bright Tiangong pass in the NW from 6:00am.

April 10 – We have a good ISS pass in the NW from 7:13pm.

April 11 – There will be two ISS passes tonight with the first from 6:27pm in the north followed by another after it has completed one orbit of the Earth from 8:04pm in the NW before it disappears into the Earth's shadow.

April 12 – There will be a bright ISS pass in the NW from 7:16pm.

April 13 – Very early risers will see a crescent Moon sitting high above three equally spaced planets. Quite faint Mercury lies above even fainter Mars and Saturn very low near the eastern horizon and there will be a bright ISS pass from 6:29pm in the NW.

April 14 – The predawn crescent Moon is getting thinner but closer to Mercury, Mars and Saturn very low on the eastern horizon and we have a low ISS pass from 7:18pm in the west.

April 15 – A tiny crescent Moon now sits just above the planetary trio before dawn on the eastern horizon and from 6:30pm in the west we have a bright ISS pass starting just beside Venus.

April 16 – A minute crescent Moon lies right next to Mars with brighter Mercury above and faint Saturn below just before dawn very low on the eastern horizon.

April 17 – The Moon is now too close to the Sun to observe but the planetary trio remains very low on the eastern horizon before dawn with the brightest, Mercury, getting closer to the others every day while Mars moves ever further down towards Saturn. From 6:33pm low in the west we have a good ISS pass.

April 21 – Mercury has moved to be with its fainter planetary sisters all in a bunch together before dawn very low on the eastern horizon which will be a lovely sight in binoculars. In the evening the crescent Moon lies below bright Jupiter.

April 22 – The crescent Moon now sits directly below Jupiter at dusk.

April 23 – The Moon now sits just to the right of Jupiter at dusk.

April 24 – The Moon is now above and to the right of bright Jupiter at dusk and even brighter Venus sits right beside the Pleiades or Matariki low in the west.

April 26 – Bright Venus now sits directly above the Pleiades or Matariki low in the NW at dusk.

April 27 – The three dawn planets are all equally spaced out very low on the eastern horizon with Mercury now the lowest but brightest with Mars and Saturn above and we have an ISS pass from 6:43pm very low in the south.

April 29 – We have a good ISS pass in the south from 6:44pm.

April 30 – From 7:33pm we have a short ISS pass in the SW.

## Where in the WORLD is the Matarangi Beach Paper?



Our "Where in the World is the Matarangi Beach Paper" photo for April has been sent in by Gavin and Erin Allden, who attended the wedding of Shania Teklenberg to Bayley Symonds at Karamea, at the top of the South Island.

Shania grew up in Matarangi alongside her three sisters—Hannah, Georgia, and Brooke—and she was thrilled to have all of them by her side as bridesmaids. The ceremony was held at the historic Karamea Village Hotel, which Shania's parents—long-time Matarangi residents Pete and Pip—purchased ten months ago. The 1876 hotel still maintains its original character, and the couple have already settled in as local favourites. Huge congratulations to Shania and Bayley!

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The MBP of April 2016 came out after Easter that year and there was quite a lot on that weekend. Kuaotunu delivered one of those nights people still talk about: the “K-town Hillbilly Hoedown” at the Kuaotunu Hall. It was a sell-out, with locals coming in from all directions — hills, coast, farms — the lot. More importantly, it raised a decent amount for upcoming hall projects, which was exactly the point.

What made it special was the newly done-up garden out the back. It turned into the heart of the evening, with barbecues running, kids tearing around playing games like apple-bobbing and wheelbarrow races, and plenty of time for a yarn. And yes, the Kuaotunu Kissin’ Booth made an appearance — and, from what was observed, it wasn’t short on customers.

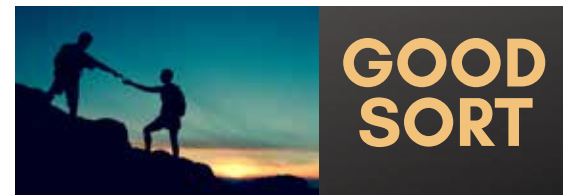
At the same time, there were a couple of issues bubbling away locally. Two petitions were doing the rounds. One called on the Thames-Coromandel District Council to

stop using Roundup, with concerns raised about possible cancer risks. The other pushed back against a proposed wireless repeater on Waitaia Hill, with worries about electromagnetic radiation. As always around here, people had views, and they weren’t shy about sharing them.

Fishing, of course, featured heavily — as it always does. The Doris Day Out Women’s Fishing Competition on April 5th was as competitive as ever. The Heaviest Snapper category saw Ella Tomkins take it out with a 1.917kg fish, followed closely by Millie Tomkins and Jude Hall.

Ella and Millie seemed to have a bit of a magic touch, especially fishing with Blue Lewis. Every year they were in the mix, and 2016 was no different — though it nearly went sideways. Blue had the weigh-in time wrong, thinking it was 4pm instead of 3pm, and was apparently mid-cold beer when someone pointed it out. Cue a hurried run to the weigh station, arriving just in time. Couldn’t have cut it much finer.

Then there was the Best Dressed Team, which went to the crew of the boat Grizz, going by the name “Fowl Hooked.” They turned up as chickens — five of them — fully committed to the bit. It was one of those efforts that just made everyone smile. The team, put together by Marie Murphy, included long-time friends and family — the kind of group that’s been doing things together for decades.



Our April “Good Sort” recognition goes to a man who defines the phrase “leading by example” — though he’d likely be the last person to tell you so.

Phil Mosen was brought to our attention by an appreciative MBP reader who felt it was high time his quiet contributions

## Girls Just Wanna Have Fun!

Matarangi’s own Simone Ririnui and Kerre Baker are quite the dynamic duo for their fearless leap from 12,000 feet! Their incredible adventure began when Simone received a tandem skydive voucher for her birthday—the perfect excuse to finally take to the skies.

When her friend Kerre mentioned that skydiving was at the very top of her bucket list, the duo decided to tackle the challenge together. Seizing a clear weekend at Tauranga Airport, these two brave ladies turned a thoughtful gift into a shared milestone.

They loved the breathtaking scenic ascent and the heart-pounding freefall over the Bay of Plenty plummeting to earth at up to 200kph even more. Kerre was very impressed with her landing technique and will explain it if you ask her!

were given a moment in the spotlight. Whether it’s a community project, a neighbor in need, or a local initiative that needs an extra pair of hands, Phil is consistently there, working away in his trademark quiet and capable manner. What makes Phil stand out is his humility. In a world that often demands a microphone, Phil prefers the background.

Phil, thank you for your tireless efforts and for making our community a better place, one quiet act of service at a time. Phil, when you have a spare half hour this month, pop on down to Lesley’s coffee cart for a complimentary coffee and muffin for your morning break. It’s a small token of appreciation for everything you do! The good folk of Matarangi salute you!



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## Monday

### Ladies' Pilates

Matarangi Fire Station  
9-10 am Christiane 0273 122 584

### Kuaotunu Craft & Social Club

Kuaotunu Hall  
1-4 pm Lia 07 866 2054

### Books & Banter (Book club)

7-9 pm 1st Mon each month Pauline  
dickinsonpauline@gmail.com

### Contract Bridge

St John's Room, 355 Tiki Rd, Coromandel  
Tadek 027 235 6335 or Tadekgawor@gmail.com

## Tuesday

### Croquet

Coromandel Croquet Assoc, Woolams Ave  
9.15 am-12 pm 07 866 8066

### Bridge for Beginners

The Dunes 3-5 pm  
Bronwyn 021 0231 1130

### Menz Shed

Matarangi Drive 8 am-12 pm  
(open at all times to members)  
Phil 021 0272 5230

## Wednesday

### Men on Mats (Men's Pilates)

Matarangi fire station 9-10 am  
Christiane 0273 122 584

### Pickleball – social play

Matai Place Courts - 9 am start during summer  
Kay 020 41200975  
Jenni 021 1700869

### Kuaotunu Steiner Playgroup

9am-12pm Phone: 07 866 0094

### Mah Jong

The Dunes 12.30-3 pm  
Lesley, 021 280 0780.

### Contract bridge

Mercury Bay Bowling Club, Whitianga 1 pm  
Tadek 027 235 6335 or Tadekgawor@gamil.com

### Kuaotunu Garden Group

2nd Weds of the month  
Kuaotunugardenclub@gmail.com

### Ladies Coffee morning

The Dunes, 10 am first Weds of the month

### Kuaotunu Dune Care Group

3rd Weds of the month  
Jenny 021 566 6035

## Thursday

### Pickleball – competitive play

Matai Place Courts 3.30-5.30 pm  
Grant 022 383 6351

### Walking Group

Meet at the Dunes 9.00 am  
Briar 021 361 944

### Craft Group

The Dunes, 12.30 fortnightly  
Lesley 021 280 0780

### Recreational Darts

The Dunes, 6.00 pm every other Thursday  
The Dunes 07 866 5394

## Friday

### Lawn Bowls

The Dunes, 2.15-4.15 pm  
Wayne Davis 027 458 9544

### Croquet

Woolams Ave, Coromandel 9.15 am-12 pm  
07 866 8066

## Saturday

### Pickleball for all

Matai Place Courts, 8.30-10.30 am  
Grant 022 383 6351

### Hash House Harriers

3 pm winter and 4 pm summer  
Bronwyn 0210 231 1130

### Brew Crew (Home brewing)

Fire Station Matarangi  
Phil Mosen 027 4761734

## Sunday

### Sunday Market

Matarangi Drive (in front of shops), 10 am-1pm  
Long weekends summer to Labour weekend  
Lesley 021 280 0780

## Golf

### The Dunes Golf Club Days - Affiliated Visitors

Welcome:  
Mens 9 Hole Monday [Back 9] and Thursday [Front 9] - 9.20am

Ladies 9 Hole Tuesday [Front 9] and Thursday [Back 9] - 9.30am

Mens 18 Hole Wednesday - 10am

Ladies 18 Hole Thursday - 10am

Mixed Hagggle 18 Holes Saturday - 10.30am to 11.30am ~Pre-register via The Dunes website~

Junior members hagggle (starting 12th of April) 18 Holes at 12.30 & 9 Holes at 2.30pm ~Pre-register via The Dunes website~

## March 2026 TIDES

## STARGAZERS

## Astronomy Tours

392 SH25, RD2  
KUAOTUNU

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

PH: 07 866-5343

## APRIL 2026 Tides

	High	Low	High	Low	High
1		00:56:00	07:08:00	13:26:00	19:38:00
2		01:43:00	07:53:00	14:10:00	20:22:00
3		02:26:00	08:35:00	14:52:00	21:04:00
4		03:08:00	09:15:00	15:31:00	21:43:00
5		02:48:00	08:55:00	15:09:00	21:22:00
6		03:28:00	09:34:00	15:47:00	22:02:00
7		04:09:00	10:14:00	16:27:00	22:43:00
8		04:52:00	10:56:00	17:08:00	23:27:00
9		05:39:00	11:40:00	17:52:00	
10	00:16:00	06:29:00	12:29:00	18:42:00	
11	01:09:00	07:23:00	13:23:00	19:38:00	
12	02:06:00	08:19:00	14:21:00	20:37:00	
13	03:02:00	09:15:00	15:21:00	21:35:00	
14	03:55:00	10:08:00	16:18:00	22:30:00	
15	04:45:00	11:00:00	17:11:00	23:21:00	
16	05:33:00	11:49:00	18:02:00		
17		00:10:00	06:21:00	12:37:00	18:50:00
18		00:58:00	07:09:00	13:24:00	19:38:00
19		01:47:00	07:57:00	14:12:00	20:27:00
20		02:36:00	08:46:00	15:01:00	21:16:00
21		03:28:00	09:37:00	15:51:00	22:08:00
22		04:22:00	10:30:00	16:43:00	23:02:00
23		05:19:00	11:26:00	17:37:00	23:59:00
24		06:18:00	12:25:00	18:36:00	
25	00:59:00	07:20:00	13:28:00	19:38:00	
26	02:01:00	08:22:00	14:32:00	20:42:00	
27	03:02:00	09:23:00	15:35:00	21:44:00	
28	03:59:00	10:20:00	16:34:00	22:41:00	
29	04:52:00	11:11:00	17:27:00	23:31:00	
30	05:39:00	11:58:00	18:14:00		

LINZ

## STARGAZERS

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

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P. McNeill, 2025 (repeat customer)

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R. Preston, 2025

"The boys were marvellous. Couldn't fault them!"

T. and L. True, 2025

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Stef  
LEAD Manager



Laura  
Mercury Bay G.E.M.

# /Richardsons

## Upcoming Deadline Sales



**Deadline Sale**



**Motivated Sellers - Substantial Home**  
124 Goldfields Dr, Matarangi

**Deadline - 1pm, 7<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
(unless sold prior)  
Keith Goodall 021 276 6474  
richardsons.co.nz/RM4394

**Deadline Sale**



**Make Your Offer Now!**  
313 Tangiora Ave, Whangapoua

**Deadline - 3pm, 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
(unless sold prior)  
Simone Parr 027 657 2980  
richardsons.co.nz/RM4289

**Deadline Sale**



**Escape to Whangapoua - Must Sell**  
116 Adams Rd, Whangapoua

**Deadline - 3pm, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
(unless sold prior)  
Simone Parr 027 657 2980  
richardsons.co.nz/RM4392

**Deadline Sale**





**Owners Have Purchased**  
5 Riria Way, Matarangi


**Deadline - 3pm, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
(unless sold prior)  
Simone Parr 027 657 2980  
richardsons.co.nz/RM4408


**/Richardsons**  
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**SOLD**






**201 Bluff Road, Rings Beach**

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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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**Happy Easter GET HOPPING THIS EASTER**





**Lakefront Living Architecturally Designed Deadline Sale**  
*Unless Sold Prior*

**218 HAMIORA STREET | MATARANGI**

 3 3 2 802m2

Stunning lakefront home positioned on a generous 802m<sup>2</sup> site, offering the perfect blend of modern design and relaxed coastal living. Designed by Mako Architecture, this quality holiday home features 3 distinct modules with striking Colorsteel rooflines and timeless ship-lap cedar detailing throughout. The thoughtfully designed 3-bedroom layout includes light-filled open plan living, a contemporary kitchen with quality appliances, and seamless flow to the outdoors. Enjoy resort-style living with a private pool, glass fencing, and expansive Vitex decking, all perfectly positioned to capture lake views. Complete with double garage, built in 2024, this is a premium lakefront opportunity not to be missed. **To be Sold by Deadline Sale (unless sold prior) On or before 8th May 2026 at 4:30pm.**  
Contact Mark & Shirvani for Viewing



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



**Shirvani Hall** Licensed Salesperson (REA 2008)  
M: 021 028 464 58 E: shirvani@beachrealty.co.nz

VIEW ONLINE [www.beachrealty.co.nz/](http://www.beachrealty.co.nz/) M1984

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Enquiry over \$1,000,000 



**181 Ngaio Drive, Matarangi**

\$569,000 



**119 Sands Crescent, Matarangi**

\$1,175,000 



**110 Hamiora Street, Matarangi**

\$1,029,000 



**Louise Bradley**  
027 348 1700  
louise.bradley@raywhite.com



**Pip Perry**  
020 4063 7380  
pip.perry@raywhite.com

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