

MATARANGI BEACH PAPER



Whangapoua
Matarangi
Kuaotunu
Otama
Opito Bay
Te Rerenga
Wharekaho

End of an Era as Puku and Kerre Hand Over the Keys

After three decades serving the Matarangi community, Wayne "Puku" Stevens and Kerre Baker are handing over Puku & Kerre's Liquor Store to local couple Chloe and Warren Byers, marking the end of one chapter and the beginning of another for the village's well-known business.

Puku's association with Matarangi began in 1995 when he and his eldest daughter, Sharon, purchased the original Matarangi General Store. It was a time of rapid growth for the village, with new subdivisions around Kowhai Drive, The Shores and The Sands helping transform Matarangi from a quiet coastal settlement into a thriving community. As the village expanded, the General Store became a central meeting place for residents and holidaymakers alike.

When Sharon wanted to expand her horizons beyond Matarangi, Puku joined forces with his partner Kerre Baker, and together they built a successful business partnership that later transformed with the opening of Puku & Kerre's Liquor Store and Sharon returning with husband Darren to takeover the Matarangi General Store.

For many, Puku and Kerre became the most familiar faces in Matarangi. Whether welcoming holidaymakers, or catching up long-time residents weekend, they

built lasting relationships through with friendly service and fantastic community spirit.

Puku became well known for his infectious laugh, love of sports, and a knack for relating to anyone, no matter their walk of life, while Kerre's organisational skills and knowledge of wine earned the loyalty of generations of customers. Her welcoming kindness to new residents to the village has always been genuinely appreciated.

Puku fondly recalls the famous faces that appeared over the counter. As a rugby and league fan, he was chuffed to sell legendary All Blacks coach Graham Henry a few bottles of wine. Another highlight in his 31 years was hosting all the Ropati brothers from the famous league family around the shop's tasting table.

Their contribution extended well beyond the counter. Over the years they generously supported local clubs, community groups and fundraising events, regularly donating prizes and sponsorship throughout the village. They were also the instigators of our fantastic annual Santa Parade.

Puku and Kerre also played a key role in the establishment and success of a Taste of Matarangi, with Puku providing the initial vision and Kerre serving on its committee



since its inception alongside Bronwyn Ririnui and Maureen Moss. Puku was also a committee member for many festivals.

As they prepare to step into a well-earned retirement, they want to thank the people of Matarangi for all their support and friendship.

Fortunately, the future of the business will remain in local hands. Puku and Kerre are thrilled it is going to a young couple who love our beach community and are excited to start their new adventure.

Chloe and Warren Byers have taken over ownership and look forward to continuing the tradition of community-focused service. As Matarangi residents, they understand the important role the store plays and are committed to maintaining its welcoming atmosphere.

"We are looking forward to meeting Puku and Kerre's customers," said Chloe and Warren.

Both Warren and Chloe are beach community people. Warren

hails from Piha and first came to Kuaotunu in 2001 as a young builder. Chloe is a true peninsula girl from Whangamata. Although the couple spent recent years living in Central Otago, once children Hugh (6) and Edith (4) came along, they planned their return to the Coromandel, choosing Matarangi as the best place to raise their family. In October last year, they made the move.

(Continued on Page 10)

Featured: Puku and Kerre with new owners the Byers family.



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Irene Thompson: Whittler, Master Carver and Passionate Gardener



The upcoming Kūaotunu Village Art Trail will celebrate the remarkable creativity that has long flourished on the eastern Coromandel. Featuring 25 thoughtfully curated art installations woven through village streets, dunes and public spaces, the trail will showcase an eclectic mix of painters, potters, sculptors and mosaic artists whose work reflects the character of this unique coastal community.

While the event shines a spotlight on today's talented artists, it also provides an opportunity to remember those whose creativity helped shape the cultural landscape of the Mercury Bay area. Few have left a more enduring legacy than the late Irene Thompson, affectionately known throughout the district as 'The Whitianga Whittler'.

Born in Rotorua on 19 October 1940, Irene Thompson (née Manley) was a woman of extraordinary talent and energy. Together with her family she farmed in the hills behind Matarangi, where she also developed magnificent gardens and established an impressive arboretum. Although best known for her intricate timber carvings, Irene was a gifted artist across many mediums and an accomplished seamstress whose creativity seemed to know no bounds.

Her generosity was equally remarkable. In later life she devoted countless hours to knitting rugs and toys for children

living in Romanian orphanages, quietly sharing her skills with those in need until her passing on 9 November 2018.

Across the Coromandel, Irene's craftsmanship has become part of the region's identity. Many residents pass her work every day, often without realising the hands behind it. Her carvings can be seen on the Kūaotunu Village entrance sign, at the Kūaotunu Rudolf Steiner Kindergarten, and on the Kauri 2000 signage at the Kūaotunu Reserve. Her work also features on the Rings Beach memorial commemorating those who served during the Korean War, while schools in both Te Rerenga and Coromandel Town proudly display her artistry.

Beyond educational settings, Irene's carvings have found homes at the Mercury Bay Museum, the local Rugby Club, Fire Station and Bowling Club, as well as in private homes, lodges and collections throughout New Zealand and overseas. Perhaps the most extraordinary chapter of Irene's story reached all the way to the White House.

During Ronald Reagan's presidency, a pair of beautifully carved New Zealand swamp kauri boots created by Irene occupied a place of honour on the President's desk in the Oval Office. The boots formed part of a collection of 21 pairs presented to senior



Pentagon officials by a visiting New Zealand general during a period when the United States was attempting to persuade New Zealand to permit visits by nuclear-powered and nuclear-armed warships. Although those diplomatic efforts ultimately proved unsuccessful, Irene's remarkable craftsmanship found an unlikely place at the centre of an important moment in New Zealand's political history.

As visitors explore the Kūaotunu Village Art Trail this year—following custom-painted welcome signs, outdoor installations and historical murals—they will also be walking through a community enriched by artists such as Irene Thompson. Her beautifully carved timbers continue to tell stories of place, people and history, serving as a lasting reminder that exceptional art can emerge from even the smallest coastal communities and leave an impression that reaches around the world.

The Kūaotunu Village Art Trail is not only a celebration of today's artists, but also a tribute to those whose creativity has become woven into the very fabric of our region. Irene Thompson's legacy remains one of the finest examples of how local craftsmanship can enrich a community for generations.

Featured: The late whittler Irene Thompson at work in her workshop studio.

Kūaotunu Matariki Dune Planting



On Matariki Friday, dozens of local volunteers participated in a community dune planting event along the Kūaotunu beachfront on the Coromandel coast. The project was organised by the Kuaotunu Dunes Care Group in conjunction with Coastcare and local conservationists.

The event focused on restoring native vegetation to areas of the foredune eroded by winter storms. Volunteers planted hundreds of native, hardy sand-binding seedlings, specifically pingao (golden sand sedge) and kōwhangātara (spinifex). These species trap windblown sand to naturally rebuild the dune systems, protecting the coastline from rising tides and storm surges.

Volunteers used spades and planting stakes to install the seedlings at specific depths to withstand coastal winds and salt spray. Following the completion of the planting, the event concluded with a community afternoon tea for the participants.

A Blast from the Past: Ryan Fox at The Dunes!



Ian Patrick took this fantastic photograph on December 8, 2013, capturing a young Ryan Fox teeing off on Hole 1 during a pro-am at The Dunes. Local golfers will remember this as the day Ryan famously drove the green on the 4th hole straight from the championship tee. The day on the course also featured fellow Kiwi sporting icon Richie Barnett. Ian noted that in those days Ryan carried his own bag—a true testament to the early grinding years of his spectacular career!



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THE VANISHED VILLAGE OF OPITONUI



Within the quiet forestry block of the Opitonui Valley, just inland from Whangapoua Harbour, lies one of the Coromandel's long-forgotten places. In 2026, the valley forms part of the commercial pine plantations of Whangapoua Forest, but beneath the pine needles and forest floor lie the foundations of a vanished settlement. Hidden among the trees are the remains of a once-bustling township that, for a brief period, ranked among the busiest industrial communities in northern Coromandel. This is the story of Opitonui: a nineteenth-century settlement that transformed from a major timber centre into a speculative gold-mining boomtown before disappearing almost completely from the map.

Long before gold fever reached the district, the Opitonui Valley was cloaked in magnificent stands of ancient kauri. Many of these giant trees were centuries old and among the finest remaining forests on the Coromandel Peninsula. European settlement accelerated during the 1860s as timber companies established operations to harvest the highly prized kauri for shipbuilding, bridges, wharves and homes throughout New Zealand and beyond.

The scale of the timber industry was remarkable. Moving enormous logs through the steep and heavily forested valley demanded considerable ingenuity. Bushmen built an extensive network of wooden tramways that carried

timber towards Whangapoua Harbour, where it was loaded onto coastal vessels. High in the surrounding hills, driving dams were constructed across creeks. When released, they unleashed powerful torrents of water that swept thousands of logs downstream to the mills below. It was dangerous, physically demanding work, but it fuelled one of the region's most valuable industries.

By the 1890s the most accessible stands of kauri had largely been exhausted, and the valley appeared destined to decline. Instead, it entered an entirely new phase. Experienced Thames miners John Lanigan and John McIsaac recognised that the extensive timber clearing had exposed promising quartz reefs. After prospecting the surrounding hills, they identified gold-bearing formations that attracted immediate attention from mining investors.

The discovery sparked intense speculation. An English-backed syndicate, the Kauri Freehold Gold Estates Ltd, purchased approximately 10,000 acres of land and invested heavily in developing what was expected to become one of the Coromandel's richest new goldfields. Roads, mine workings, crushing machinery and supporting infrastructure appeared with astonishing speed as confidence in the field grew.

Between 1899 and 1901, Opitonui became a thriving industrial township. Around 600 permanent

residents called the settlement home, while the wider population often approached 1,000 as miners, bushmen, engineers, gum diggers and coastal shipping workers moved through the district. For a valley that only a few years earlier had been dense native bush, the transformation was extraordinary.

A busy commercial centre quickly developed. Well-stocked general stores supplied everything from mining explosives and tools to groceries, clothing and household goods. A bakery produced fresh bread, a butcher supplied meat, and a Government Post and Telegraph Office linked the isolated community with the outside world. Mining managers communicated regularly with investors in Britain, while local families relied upon coastal steamers operating through Whangapoua Harbour to send and receive mail and supplies.

Community life flourished alongside industry. A public hall became the social heart of the settlement, hosting dances, public meetings, concerts and travelling entertainers. The Opitonui School educated dozens of children whose families had settled in the valley, providing a sense of permanence that few mining camps achieved.

A shared community chapel welcomed Anglican, Presbyterian and Catholic ministers, who travelled on horseback through the rugged countryside to conduct Sunday services, weddings and christenings.

Like most frontier mining towns, Opitonui also enjoyed a lively social scene. The Opitonui Hotel stood close to the principal mine workings, providing accommodation, hearty meals and a bustling public bar where miners gathered after long shifts underground. Closer to the coast, the Te Rerenga Hotel served workers employed at the stamper battery as well as travellers making the difficult journey around the Coromandel Peninsula.

Industry extended beyond the mines themselves. The Opitonui Sawmill, established in 1898, continued to process local timber for mine supports, housing and commercial buildings. Nearby livery stables accommodated horses, passenger coaches and the heavy bullock teams responsible for hauling machinery, timber and supplies through the valley's rough tracks.

Yet the prosperity proved remarkably short-lived. Although the initial ore samples were impressive, the richest gold occurred only in scattered, shallow pockets rather than in the extensive quartz reefs investors had anticipated. As mining pushed deeper underground, the amount of gold recovered declined sharply while operating costs continued to rise.

By 1903 the mines were no longer economically viable. Faced with mounting financial losses, the Kauri Freehold Gold Estates Ltd ceased operations, bringing the

valley's spectacular boom to an abrupt end.

The collapse was swift. Hundreds of miners and their families departed for established goldfields such as Thames and Waihi. Valuable machinery was dismantled and sold, while many timber buildings were either demolished or relocated by bullock team to nearby settlements. The school closed by 1904, and both the chapel and public hall gradually fell into disrepair. Although small-scale prospecting resumed briefly during the Great Depression of the 1930s, no significant discoveries were made and the settlement was never revived.

Following the Second World War, parts of the valley were allocated to returned servicemen for farming, while much of the remaining land was planted in commercial pine. Over the following decades the growing forest gradually concealed almost every visible trace of the former township, leaving only scattered archaeological remains beneath the trees.

Today, little remains visible beneath the pines, but the valley continues to tell an extraordinary story. Opitonui stands as a reminder of the Coromandel's boom-and-bust heritage—a place where hundreds of people built homes, established businesses, raised families and pursued fortunes, only to see an entire community disappear back into the forest within little more than a single generation.

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Following the Rivers: Basil Morrison's “Vision for Local Government”

As New Zealand grapples with ageing infrastructure, climate resilience and increasingly complex local government responsibilities, communities are once again asking whether today's council boundaries still reflect the regions they were created to serve.

While reflecting on the various proposals emerging for the future governance of the Coromandel Peninsula, there was one person whose opinion I particularly wanted to hear. Few New Zealanders have devoted more of their lives to local government than Basil Morrison.

Morrison entered public office as an Ohinemuri County councillor in 1971 before later becoming county chairman. Following the 1989 local government reforms, he became the inaugural—and longest-serving—Mayor of Hauraki District. He has also served as President of Local Government New Zealand, chaired the Commonwealth Local Government Forum and spent five years leading the New Zealand Local Government Commission, the independent body responsible for overseeing local and regional government organisations. Today, he serves on the Auckland Unitary Plan Independent Hearings Panel.

Few people possess a broader understanding of how local government has evolved, or of what underpins successful local and regional governance.

When I recently chatted with Morrison, our starting point was remarkably simple: before deciding how a region should be governed, we first need to understand what the region actually is.

That philosophy is not new. Following the Local Government Act 1974, which enabled council amalgamations, then Thames County Chairman Harry Kennedy argued that any future authority should unite the wider Thames Valley. Kennedy recognised that the peninsula and the Thames Valley were not separate places but parts of a single landscape linked by rivers, transport routes, commerce and shared interests. The proposal was never adopted, although he did succeed in bringing together Thames County, Coromandel County and Thames Borough. The broader vision, however, never disappeared.

Morrison revisited the concept during the reforms of the late 1980s, becoming one of the strongest advocates for combining Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki into a single authority. Local opinion, particularly around Waihi, ultimately favoured remaining separate and the proposal failed to gain sufficient support. Looking back today,

Morrison believes that decision denied the two districts the critical mass they would later need when dealing with central government.

“We would have had the size to become a major local authority where it really mattered,” he reflected. “That was in Wellington, where we would have had a much stronger voice.”

His comments shift the debate beyond administrative efficiency. Modern councils are increasingly expected to negotiate directly with Wellington over transport, flood protection, drinking water, environmental management, climate adaptation and economic development. Morrison believes communities with common interests need sufficient scale to influence those decisions while still retaining their own local identity.

One of the most interesting aspects of our discussion was that Morrison never began by talking about council boundaries. Instead, he spoke about rivers.

“The Ohinemuri River flows into the Waihou,” he observed.

At first glance, it sounds obvious. Yet it captures a philosophy that has guided much of his thinking throughout his public life. Rivers create catchments. Catchments shape settlement, agriculture, transport, environmental management and, for centuries, the relationships mana whenua have maintained with the landscape. If local government is to reflect genuine communities of interest, Morrison believes it should begin with those natural systems rather than administrative boundaries inherited from previous generations.

The Waihou River rises near the Mamaku Plateau before flowing north through the Thames Valley, gathering the waters of the Waitoa, Oraka and Ohinemuri rivers before entering the Firth of Thames. Although the Coromandel Peninsula faces the Pacific Ocean, its western communities have long been connected to this wider valley through commerce, transport and public services. Seen in that light, the Thames Valley and the Coromandel Peninsula are not separate regions but complementary parts of the same geographic system. One forms the inland basin; the other provides its coastal frontage and maritime gateway.

For Morrison, that geography provides the foundation for any future reorganisation. His preferred model would unite the Coromandel Peninsula, Hauraki Plains, Thames Valley and the upper Waihou catchment into a single unitary authority of just over 100,000 residents. He is less convinced by proposals extending an eastern authority deep into

South Waikato, believing they move beyond the natural Waihou catchment and create an increasingly artificial region.

Morrison also sees no contradiction in maintaining close links with the Bay of Plenty while remaining a distinct region.

“We can work with the Bay of Plenty because our interests align,” he told me, “but we don’t have to become part of the Bay of Plenty to achieve those outcomes.”

He believes neighbouring regions already cooperate successfully on transport, emergency management and economic development without sharing the same governance structure. A Thames Valley–Coromandel authority, he argues, could become a strong strategic partner of the Bay of Plenty while retaining its own identity. Equally, he cautions that any amalgamation proposal involving Tauranga must carefully consider the financial implications of sharing responsibility for one of New Zealand's fastest-growing urban areas.

Perhaps the most surprising aspect of Morrison's thinking is that he rejects the notion that a larger council must inevitably become more remote. Instead, he envisages a unitary authority responsible for strategic issues such as transport planning, flood protection, environmental management and major infrastructure, while genuinely local decisions would rest with strengthened Local Boards. Unlike today's Community Boards, which have only limited delegated authority, these boards would oversee parks, reserves, libraries, community facilities and neighbourhood planning, supported by permanent local service centres. Communities such as Mercury Bay, Thames, Waihi, the Coromandel, Hauraki Plains and Matamata would therefore retain a strong local voice while benefiting from the strategic capability of a larger regional organisation.

That balance between local identity and regional influence lies at the heart of Morrison's philosophy. Councils today face challenges unimaginable a generation ago. Ageing water infrastructure, increasingly severe weather events, climate adaptation, flood resilience, housing pressures and major transport investment all demand planning across entire regions rather than individual districts. Morrison believes eastern Waikato has too often approached Wellington through several relatively small councils pursuing similar objectives independently. A single authority representing more than 100,000 residents, he argues, would speak with a stronger and more coherent regional voice.

As our discussion drew to a close, I was struck

by the fact that Morrison does not regard this as a revolutionary idea. Rather, he sees it as completing a conversation that began more than half a century ago. The names of councils have changed, counties have become districts and transport networks have improved, but the underlying geography has remained constant. The Waihou still flows north to the Firth of Thames. The Ohinemuri still joins it at Paeroa. The Coromandel Peninsula remains the eastern gateway to that landscape. The relationships recognised by Harry Kennedy in the 1970s are still just as evident today.

Whether such a proposal ultimately gains political support is, of course, a matter for the communities themselves. There will be differing opinions about boundaries, representation, financial implications and the practicalities of reform. Those debates are both healthy and necessary.

As our conversation ended, Basil Morrison offered one final observation. The idea, he said, was never wrong. It was simply “35 years too late.”

A recent survey concluded with 54 percent of the 1,300 residents, visitors, and ratepayers indicating support for the East Waikato option. This preferred model proposes an amalgamation with the Hauraki, Matamata-Piako, and South Waikato districts. The North Bay of Plenty option—which joins Thames-Coromandel with the Tauranga and Western Bay councils—captured 34 percent support, while a unified Greater Waikato option attracted just 12 percent.



Featured: Basil Morrison former Mayor of the Hauraki District Council.

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**Ten Years On
in the MBP**

The Kuaotunu Food Forest officially launched at Luke's Café with a special screening of the documentary film titled Establishing a Food Forest: The Permaculture Way of Life. In the educational film, renowned permaculture expert Geoff Lawton explained the absolute basics of setting up a sustainable food forest, sharing practical advice on how to successfully guide a plot into becoming a mature, food-bearing garden.

Meanwhile, the culinary heat turned up at The Dunes as the Matarangi Master Cook contest featured its next three talented competitors. The local chefs planned an array of delicious recipes for the occasion, with Keith Law preparing his unique grape harvest chicken, John Rose cooking up his Mums Insanely Good Oxtail, and Ros de Coek offering an elegant Poulet d'Or served alongside a traditional Ragout de Haricots and Pomme de Terre.

The edition also highlighted the incredible endurance of two intrepid Auckland teenagers, Kade Ridley and Ian Lee, who decided that the school holidays would be the perfect opportunity to head to the beach and get some serious exercise along the way. The pair literally rode their bicycles all the way from their homes to Matarangi. This grueling two-day trip included an overnight stop at the Tararu Motor Camp before they tackled the heavy grind of the Thames coast. From Wilsons Bay, they conquered three major hills and two smaller ones to finally arrive. The challenging leg from Thames to Matarangi took them nine hours in total, where a welcoming party of proud family members was waiting to greet them.

In local fishing news, keen anglers faced off in the Kuaotunu Rural Fire Force Winter Slammer surfcasting competition. Gene Bryant secured the ultimate victory in the contest by landing a massive 5.4kg snapper, whilst Ian Simpson took out his own category title by reeling in the heaviest Kahawai with a fine 2.02kg catch.

**GOOD SORT OF
THE MONTH**



Hundy's Heroes

This month, we are incredibly proud to present a joint Good Sorts of the Month award to three local legends—Helen Griffiths, Mandy Drake, and Hayden Diskin—for their outstanding, multi-front efforts in rallying support for Phillip “Hundy” Parr and his family.

When the heartbreaking news broke of Hundy’s rare cancer diagnosis, this trio did not hesitate to step up to ease the immense physical and financial toll on Hundy, his fiancée Jaime, and their four boys.

Mandy Drake, Hundy’s best friend, immediately took charge of the logistics by creating and managing the official fundraising page. Her online hub has allowed people from all over the country to contribute, raising an incredible \$48,000 in just four Weeks.

Meanwhile, Helen Griffiths was busy organising a dedicated community fundraising mid- winter swim at Whangapoua. The event drew over 150 people and beautifully combined communities support with physical determination, to keep Hundy’s fight at the forefront

Joining the wave of support, Hayden generously put up prizes of two full days of fishing on board his vessel, Fatal Attraction. Hayden organised two raffles where 100 per cent of the ticket sales went directly to the Parr family. It was a complete sell-out and netted a huge \$10,000 boost for the Cause.

The selflessness of Mandy, Helen, and Hayden perfectly embodies the true spirit of our local beach communities. Thank you all for being a beacon of hope and showing us what it means to be true “Good Sorts”.

Do pop down to Lesley’s coffee cart to pick up your well-deserved coffee!

If you know someone in the community who has done something special, please drop us a line at contact@matarangibeachpaper.com to nominate them.

Cheque for \$8,740 is handed over for Rescue Helicopter

The Dunes Matarangi Golf Course has officially handed over a cheque for an incredible \$8,740.70 to the Coromandel Westpac Rescue Helicopter Trust

The impressive sum was raised during the recent Peter Moore-Jones Memorial Trophy Golf Tournament & Community Fundraiser. Golfers, non-golfers, and local business sponsors rallied together for a fantastic day on the green. The event honoured the memory of local greenkeepers Peter Moore-Jones and Peter Ansin, who were killed in a tragic helicopter crash 32 years ago.

From the highly competitive four-person Ambrose tournament to a lively community afternoon—which featured Neil Purchase bravely sacrificing his beard for the cause—the Matarangi community showed immense generosity.

The Dunes management and event organisers extend a massive thank you to everyone who played, bid, donated, and helped keep this vital, life-saving rescue service in our skies.

“We were thrilled to raise \$8,740.70 for the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust,” said Leanne Robinson of The Dunes. “Events like this are only possible thanks to the incredible generosity of our volunteers, sponsors, and supporters. We are sincerely grateful to everyone who helped make the day such a success, including all those who took part in the day’s activities. A special shout-out to our Tournament Committee for all the time, effort, and dedication they put into this event.”

Keep an eye out on The Dunes’ social media pages for next year’s date if you want to get involved in this special community event.

Featured: Leanne Robinson (The Dunes), Kayleen Smith (The Dunes Golf Committee), and Walter Russell (Patron of The Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust).



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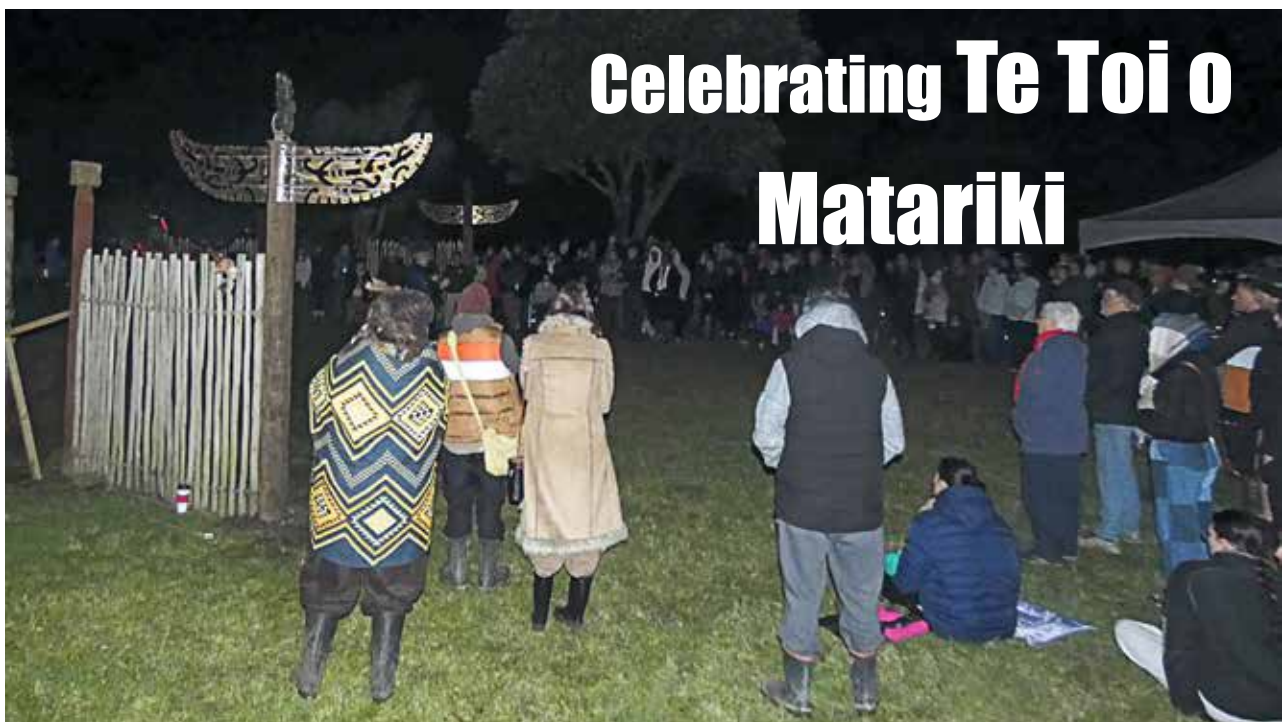
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Celebrating Te Toi o Matariki

The first light of Matariki drew a crowd of around 250 people to Blackjack Scenic Reserve on Friday, 11 July, as the Kūaotunu community gathered for its annual Hautapu ceremony. The dawn event formed the centrepiece of the Te Toi o Matariki Festival, bringing together residents of all ages from across northern Mercury Bay.

Festival coordinator Roimata Taimana led the vision and planning for the event. Working alongside local volunteers, performers, artists and community organisations, she created a programme that blended Māori cultural traditions with astronomy, art and community celebration.

As daylight approached, the Hautapu ceremony provided a time for remembrance, reflection and renewal. Known as Whāngai i te Hautapu ("feeding the stars with a sacred offering"), the ceremony began

with a waerea (cleansing prayer) to prepare the space. Those gathered then honoured Pōhutukawa—the star associated with those who have passed away—by speaking aloud the names of loved ones lost during the past year.

During Te Whāngai i ngā Whetū, participants made symbolic offerings to the stars, expressing gratitude for the previous harvest and hopes for abundance in the year ahead. Although the Matariki star cluster remained hidden behind the Blackjack ridgeline, participants instead looked towards Puanga (Rigel), the bright star traditionally used by local iwi to mark the Māori New Year.

Music and performance added to the occasion. Local musicians Wanda Brljevic and Toya Johnston led the gathering in waiata, followed by a kapa haka performance by pupils from Te Rerenga School. Astrophotographer

Ian Preece concluded the formal programme with a kōrero about the winter night sky and its importance in Māori seasonal traditions.

Following the ceremony, attendees shared breakfast together, and Taimana acknowledged the many volunteers, performers and supporters whose efforts made the event possible.

Celebrations continued later that morning with the opening of the Te Toi o Matariki exhibition at Kūaotunu Hall, where local artists displayed works inspired by the nine stars of Matariki.

Now firmly established on the local calendar, the annual Hautapu ceremony has become one of Kūaotunu's most significant community events, celebrating the Māori New Year while strengthening the bonds that connect the community.



THE DUNES
MATARANGI

Registrations Open for the The Dunes PGA Pro-Am

The Dunes has officially opened registrations for its highly anticipated signature event, the Dunes PGA Pro Am. Scheduled for Saturday, 10 October 2026, the tournament stands as a premier highlight on the golfing calendar.

It brings together an exceptional field of elite PGA Professionals and passionate amateur players for a day of fierce competition and top-tier hospitality.

The tournament features a format that pairs teams of three amateurs with one PGA Professional. Golfers can register either as a complete trio or as an individual entry to be placed into a group.

Players also have a unique opportunity to purchase their preferred PGA professional for an additional \$400 fee.

The competitive field will tee off together with a 10:00 am shotgun start on Saturday, 10 October 2026. The entry fee is \$200 per person. This player fee includes full tournament entry, the round of golf, a post-round meal, and prizes.

The continuous success of the Dunes PGA Pro Am is made possible through the generous support of sponsors. Pet-n-Sur leads the tournament support this year as the principal Platinum Sponsor. Vital Gold Sponsorship support comes from MINO Ltd, The Moss Family, and Pro Drive.

Organisers anticipate a rapid sell-out for this signature event. Players and teams are encouraged to submit their registrations early to secure a spot in the field for an unforgettable day of golf, camaraderie, and sport.

Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

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Out and About



1



3



2

1. At the Matarangi Saturday morning markets over the Matariki weekend, a number of local children from Te Rerenga School set up stalls to sell their wares to raise funds for their end-of-year camps to Wellington and Rotorua. Here are the Devoy sisters, Molly and Faye, with their hand-painted tote bags.

2. Enjoying the art exhibition at the Kuaotunu Hall over the Matariki weekend was Carolyn Wadey-Barron's mother, Barbara Wadey. Barbara was one of many who took the opportunity to view the works of nine local artists who were offering their unique visual interpretations of the nine stars of the Matariki constellation.

3. Lauren, aka Qui Qui, from Kuaotunu draws plenty of attention wherever she goes in Lil Toot, her 1989 Nissan Patrol fire-engine. The vehicle which still has its hoses and pumps started its operational life in a small village in Japan before being imported into New Zealand at the end of its operational life to a South Island car collector.

Lauren, who originally hails from Paris, France, fell in love with Lil Toot and bought the wee-wee fire-engine last year. At 37 years old, it has only done 14,000 kilometres.



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HOMES BUILT WITH INTEGRITY



The children and staff have returned to school for Term 3, after a refreshing break. The end of Term 2 was an extremely busy one with the senior children completing their wares for sale at the Matarangi Matariki Market to raise funds towards their camps in mid November. The Year 7 & 8 children will head to Wellington for a week of adventures, while the Year 5 & 6 children will experience life as a tourist in Rotorua. A big thanks to the PTA for covering the cost of the stalls.

Our Te Rerenga PTA is a group of dedicated parents who run fundraising events on behalf of the school. Fun and fundraising combine to ensure the children, and local community, have a wonderful time while raising funds. Their latest fundraiser was the Matariki Disco which was a hit! The children had a fantastic time. The disco raised \$983, once they covered their cost. Their next fundraising event is the annual Quiz & Curry Night, to be held on Saturday 8th August 2026 at 5:30pm. It is \$35 per person with 4 people per team held at the Matarangi Fire Station. Email pta@tererenga.school.nz if you wish to attend.

Matariki is about gathering, remembering and celebrating. The inaugural hautapu ceremony at Kūaotunu was wonderful. Congratulations to Roimata Taimana and Carolyn Wadey-Barron on a successful hautapu ceremony and ngā toi festival.

Tamariki involved in the kapa haka rōpū enjoyed participating in the celebrations and felt they were part of something special, singing waiata under te rangi o te ata.

Our annual Book Fair is coming on August 10th - 14th. A Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that provides the books kids want to read. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level and is a great opportunity for locals to visit our school and at the same time to purchase birthday or Christmas presents for their children or grandchildren! All purchases benefit our school library!

Finally, thank you to Rewi from Sauna Ora who raised over \$280 for Te Rerenga School sports equipment during Matariki Weekend.

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

Odette Wilson, Acting Principal

Photo Credit: Felicity Jean Photography



Matarangi Thirsty Thursdays Group World Cup Sweepstake Was All About Having Some Serious Fun

For a long-standing group of local blokes in Matarangi, the weekly “Thirsty Thursdays” gathering is usually reserved for a few cold beers, a bit of banter, and a lot of laughs. They are a great bunch of guys, always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in the community who needs it. But behind the fun and games is a vital cause: the group is centred around men’s mental health, focusing on building a positive and supportive brotherhood amongst local men.

On one particular Thursday, the conversation turned to a new venture: a sweepstake for the FIFA World Cup. “A \$20 buy-in would get you two teams to follow, and hopefully earn you some money back,” says local organiser Gavin Allden.

For the next five weeks, Thursday afternoons reached a whole new level of excitement. Everyone closely watched their teams compete, proudly delivered winners’ speeches to their losing counterparts, and generally celebrated or commiserated as teams advanced or got knocked out.

”It didn’t mean the end of the road if you were eliminated though,” Allden notes. To keep things interesting, five \$20 prizes were up for grabs for poor performance and bad luck. These included the first red card, the team with the most goals scored against them, and three “lucky loser” draws.

When the dust finally settled, four powerhouse teams were left to fight it out in the finals—and local competitor Mossy remarkably owned two of them. The final sweepstake standings saw Shannon finish in fourth place representing France, followed by Mossy in third place with England. Lloyd secured second place representing Argentina, but it was that man Mossy again who took out the top spot, winning gold with Spain.

The highly anticipated prizegiving was hosted at Gavin’s place on Thursday, 23rd July. There was just one catch: everyone had to dress up to represent one of their allocated teams.

”The efforts, as you can see by the photos, were far better than I ever thought a group of men our ages could pull together,” Allden laughs. “It was a great afternoon full of the normal banter and beer.”

The event was such a success that this supportive brotherhood is refusing to wait another four years for the next World Cup.

They are already brainstorming the next big project to rally behind. As Allden puts it: “We are not willing to wait another four years to do it again so we are already thinking about the next thing we can bet on—Thursday afternoons being a guaranteed bet.”





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Where in the World is the Matarangi Beach Paper?



Escaping the mid-winter chill! Robbie, Jessica, and Katie Lendrum traded the July school holidays for the sun-kissed shores of Plantation Island Resort in Fiji. While mum and dad enjoyed some well-deserved relaxation, the kids kept busy with island adventures at the famous Coconut Kids Club. Thanks for taking the MBP along on your tropical getaway!

Jackie Buckley & Martin van Doorn recently escaped the European heatwave by heading 3600 metres up Jungfrauoch, in the Bernese Alps of Switzerland. Jungfrauoch is commonly known as the 'Top of Europe' and is served by the highest railway, post office and chocolate shop – Lindt Swiss Chocolate Heaven – in Europe. Another wonderful place in the world where our Matarangi Beach Paper has popped up.



Keep them coming. Reader feedback is that people really enjoying the travels of the MBP so when on your next travel jaunt home or abroad do pack a copy of the paper with you.

Farewell Puku & Kerre Hello Chloe & Warren

(Continued from Page 1)

While Warren continues his building trade and will step into the shop from time to time, Chloe will lead the store team, bringing her background in hospitality and beverage industry sales to the business.

Long time employee Jo Simpson will be staying on as the store moves over to its new ownership ensuring continuity and day to day knowledge of the Matarangi customer base.

The Matarangi Beach Paper congratulates Chloe and Warren on their new venture and wishes them every success, while extending sincere thanks and best wishes to Puku

and Kerre for their outstanding thirty-year contribution to our community.



Featured: Fun loving Puku once dressed as Mrs Brown for a local party.

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The Matarangi Fire Report



July has been a quieter month with three medical call outs.

Training continues over the winter months to help hone our skills, ensuring we are ready for when the warmer weather brings everyone back to the beach.

Recently, our station was utilised for training new rural recruit firefighters, mostly from the Coromandel, with several attending from Maramarua and Pirongia.

If you want to know more about becoming a volunteer firefighter, come have a chat with me. We are always happy to bolster our crew.

Friday nights at the station over winter are always busy with members enjoying the warmth of the open fire, as well as great

service and food. If you are not a member, please pop down on a Friday and we will sign you up.

Our AGM is on the 16th of September, and we will have an opening for a new committee member. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please give me a call.

The annual Malcolm Spry Memorial Golf Tournament is on the 16th of October. It is always a popular event, and I hope to see you there!

Stay safe.

Mark Hall
Chief Fire Officer
Matarangi Volunteer Rural Fire Force



Matariki Stargazing

Matarangi local stargazers were treated to a spectacular early morning sky during the recent Dark Sky community event. Officially marking the start of local Matariki 2026 celebrations, the gathering brought families together in the crisp winter air to view a brilliant array of planets and stars.

Under exceptional viewing conditions, local astronomers Alastair Brickell and Paul Cook used high-powered telescopes to navigate attendees through the visible constellations, sharing scientific facts and cultural narratives.

The early morning offered an unforgettable cosmic lineup, beginning with a striking crescent Moon and a perfectly defined view of Saturn's rings. Although the Blackjack ridgeline temporarily obscured the main Matariki star cluster from the domain,

observers clearly viewed Puanga and other critical navigating stars. The ultimate highlight occurred just before dawn, when the team captured a stunning, high-magnification close-up of the Matariki cluster using a large research-grade telescope.

Local astronomer Alastair Brickell shared his enthusiasm:

"This year's Dark Sky community event gave us the best early morning sky in several years. Guests cuddled their hot drinks and Mars bars with a striking crescent Moon on display as was Saturn with its rings. Then to top it off we had a lovely view of Matariki shown close up in the large telescope just before dawn."

Featured: Bronwyn Dorrian taking a closer look at the rings of Saturn during Matariki.

THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

Our Matariki Land-Based Fishing Tournament was held on the 11th July with a great turnout of anglers of all ages enjoying the beautiful winter sunshine. You can view the results and photos on our website

Our new Fish of the Month competition is now up and running. This is open to all current Junior and Senior Financial Club members. At the time of writing the results for July were not available. This fish of the

month for August is Snapper. Click here for further information. <https://www.mbfcc.co.nz/fish->

If you're planning to join us again this season and haven't renewed yet, now's a great time to do so. Renewal information has already been sent to members by email. For anyone thinking about joining the Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club, memberships for the 2026/27 season are now open. <https://www.mbfcc.co.nz/>

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

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

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AUGUST 2026

Venus is our ‘Planet of the Month’ as it continues to dominate the northwestern dusk sky and rises slightly higher each night and appears as a lovely thin crescent in even a small telescope. Saturn will join the picture from mid-month but is only visible to early risers in the east although it will rise noticeably earlier each week. Faint Mars and Mercury are also visible low in the east at dawn while bright Jupiter is visible towards the end of the month at dawn. There will be a Total Eclipse of the Sun visible to travellers to the Northern Hemisphere on August 12.

There will be several International Space Station (ISS) passes to view 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. It is always best to check the website heavens-above.com for updated timings.

August 6 – The Moon sits above and to the left of Matariki and Aldebaran at dawn.
August 7 – The Moon now lies just to the left of the Pleiades or Matariki at dawn and half way between Saturn and Mars at dawn.
August 8 – The crescent Moon now sits below Matariki and above Mars at dawn.
August 9 – The crescent Moon now lies immediately to the left of Mars at dawn.
August 10 – The Moon sits below Mars and above and to the left of Mars low on the horizon at dawn and from 6:49pm in the north there will be a short ISS pass.
August 11 – The Moon is now just to the left of faint Mercury at dawn and from 7:48pm we will see the ISS pass right beside Venus before moving into the Earth’s shadow.
August 12 – We have a good ISS pass in the NW from 6:50pm beside Venus while MBP readers in the Northern Hemisphere will be treated to a Total Eclipse of the Sun today.
August 13 – There will be a bright ISS pass from 6:02pm in the NW.
August 14 – There will be a good ISS pass in the west from 6:51pm.
August 15 – The minute crescent Moon sits just below Jupiter at dawn while we have a good ISS pass from 6:03pm in the west.
August 16 – The thin crescent Moon now lies just beside Jupiter at dawn which is at its closest to Mercury but the Sun will be very close to them both and there will be a very low ISS pass in the west from 6:52pm. Venus is at its furthest from the Sun in the sky tonight.
August 17 – The crescent Moon has moved to lie just above Venus at dusk.
August 18 – The Moon now sits above and to the right of Venus at dusk.
August 19 – The Moon is now well above Venus at dusk.
August 20 – The Moon sits just above the red giant star Antares in Scorpio all night.
August 21 – Antares in Scorpio and the Moon lie right beside each other.
August 22 – The Moon in now just below Antares in Scorpio.
August 23 – The Moon now lies in Sagittarius right where the centre of the Milky Way and its black hole reside.
August 28 – There will be an ISS pass in the SW from 6:58pm.
August 29 – There will be a good ISS pass next to Venus in the west from 7:48pm.
August 30 – There will be a bright ISS pass in the SW from 7:00pm.
September 1 – There will be a very low ISS pass from 7:00pm in the west.
September 3 – The Moon lies above and to the left of Matariki or the Pleiades at dawn.

STARGAZERS
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How to Survive on Two Flushes a Day

The lanyard-wearing classes at the Thames-Coromandel District Council (TCDC) have once again demonstrated that arithmetic is an optional extra in local government.

In its latest Annual Plan, the Council has gifted Matarangi ratepayers a dazzling display of mathematical gymnastics that would leave an Olympic judge reaching for the scorecards. Fortunately for the rest of us, retired pharmacist Grant Short suffers from a chronic condition known as an allergy to unexplained anomalies.

Presented with TCDC’s latest collection of curious numbers, Mr Short did what any sensible person would do. He ignored the Council’s spreadsheets and went straight to Stats NZ.

This is rather like asking the professor to mark the children’s homework—which isn’t too far from the truth, because throughout his latter professional career his nickname was simply “The Prof.”

Mr Short isn’t simply a bloke with a calculator and too much spare time. he was entrusted by the New Zealand Pharmacy Guild to analyse the anonymised prescription data for the entire country. He then demonstrated why the contract being imposed by the 21 District Health Boards on Pharmacy-was fatally flawed. Finding dodgy numbers isn’t a hobby—it’s what he spent years doing.

His verdict? The Council’s rating model appears to rely on a sophisticated blend of wishful thinking, imaginary households and whatever happened to be left over after morning tea.

According to TCDC’s own methodology, the annual water allocation attributed to the average Whitianga property works out at around 60 cubic metres.

There’s just one tiny snag. Or should that be blockage?

The average New Zealand household uses around 200 to 215 cubic metres of water each year.

Apparently the average Whitianga family has discovered an extraordinary lifestyle unknown to the rest of humanity.

Forget showers. Forget washing machines. Forget watering the garden. A quick rinse, two flushes of the loo and perhaps a cup of tea appear to be the limit before the Council’s calculator politely informs you that you’ve exceeded the laws of mathematics.

By lunchtime you’d better stop washing your hands. By dinner the dishes can wait until tomorrow. By tomorrow you’re down to a one-flush allocation.

Mr Short then turned to the 2023 Census, where the plot thickens.

The wards that had meters for a decade or more before Whitianga, have a similar percentage of unoccupied homes as Whitianga. Yet somehow Whitianga receives dramatically lower attributed water volumes than the original metered sites (less than half).

Matarangi has double the percentage of unoccupied homes as Whitianga, but Council provided data suggests 140m per average site. At this point, readers may choose whichever explanation they find more believable.

Either Whitianga residents have quietly become the world’s greatest water conservationists, surviving on the hydration levels of a camel...or TCDC’s underlying assumptions have wandered off down the gurgler.

“If Council cannot resolve to treat ratepayers fairly and honestly,” Mr Short observed, “then I have absolutely no faith in their ability to manage amalgamation with any degree of analysis and competence.”

Which brings us to the truly entertaining part.

Some believe TCDC should become its own stand-alone unitary authority, taking on regional responsibilities such as transport infrastructure, environmental regulation, flood management and marine biosecurity.

Going it alone? Now that is a bold ambition. Most organisations would first aspire to master the difficult science of counting houses and estimating how much water people use before being let loose on responsibilities far more complicated—and considerably more expensive—than running a bath.

As The Prof might put it: “Perhaps the Council should try passing Arithmetic 101 before enrolling in Regional Government 501.”

Ratepayers are therefore left with one obvious question.

Should we really hand responsibility for an entire region’s future to an organisation that appears capable of being outsmarted by a toilet flush?

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Grant Does the Maths

Grant Short has sounded the alarm over a massive accounting discrepancy hidden within the CFO's recent water presentation to councillors. By reverse-engineering the billing formulas applied to metered wards—stripping away the \$577 fixed fee and tracking the \$1.71 volumetric charge—Short's analysis isolates the true average volume per meter, as demonstrated by Whitianga's average of 247m³.

Scaling these numbers across the district's metered networks exposes a staggering, unexplained deficit of 1,100,000m³ when cross-referenced against the council's official Annual Plan.

While Matarangi celebrates the recent opening of its new Matarangi Water Treatment Plant on the Opitonui River, this multimillion-litre variance raises critical funding questions for local residents.

Because Matarangi remains unmetered and relies on flat water-serviced set rates, any phantom or inflated volumes utilized in the council's district-wide budgeting risk skewing how infrastructure costs are allocated. If TCDC's metered projections are overstating actual usage by over a billion litres, unmetered communities like Matarangi may find themselves disproportionately subsidising capital expenditure pipelines based on deeply flawed, unverified demand assumptions.

Here are some questions we need as a community to get answers from Council about?

The recent presentation to councillors implies a total water volume that differs from the official Annual Plan by approximately 1,100,000m³. Can you explain exactly where this phantom billion-litre volume vanished to, or which set of data is incorrect?

Since reverse-engineering the average cost—done by removing the \$577 fixed fee and dividing by the \$1.71 volumetric charge—yields connection averages like Whitianga's 247m³, why then does scaling these figures across the district fail to align with the council's baseline infrastructure plan?

Given that Matarangi ratepayers remain unmetered and pay flat water-serviced rates, how can the council guarantee they are not disproportionately subsidising the district's capital expenditure programme due to these inflated metered consumption assumptions?

Were the average cost figures presented to councillors based on actual, verified water meter readings, or were they speculative revenue projections modeled on unverified demand?

What steps is TCDC taking to audit its financial reporting models so that ratepayers can trust the council's basic arithmetic before millions of dollars are committed to major infrastructure projects?

Te Rerenga School Winter Street Fashions 2026

Jett Threadgold likes to follow the seasons when it comes to his school attire and on those cold winter days like we had during the month when temperatures were just above freezing he will wear a wooly hat, sturdy shoes and gloves. A conservative, yet stylish look.

His great mate Jett Povey takes a different approach to his daily school attire which is more consistent throughout the school year and a bit more daring. Especially in the Winter season!

Jett Threadgold likes to follow the seasons when it comes to his school attire and on those cold winter days like we had during the month when temperatures were just above freezing he will wear a wooly hat, sturdy shoes and gloves. A conservative, yet stylish look.



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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 PlaceCourts - 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, 1pm
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

Twilight 9 Holes Friday - 2.30pm-3pm

Mixed Haggie 18 Holes Saturday - 10.30am-11.30am (Pre-register via The Dunes website)

Justice of the Peace

MATARANGI

Mary Kedzlie 027 2904940 or 07 8664096 (work).
Simone Parr Ph: 027 6572980
Ernest Raina Ph: 021 716 852

OPITO-KUAOTUNU

Geoff Martin Ph: 021942213
Sue Edens Ph: 027 486 8036

BB:

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123456789

Urgent Numbers

COASTGUARD 866-2883 (Emergency 111)
COROMANDEL DOCTOR 866-8500
RESCUE HELICOPTER 866-5147 (Emergency 111)
MATARANGI BEACH PAPER (Liam) 027 8689568
LANDSAR KUAOTUNU (Emergency 111)
MAREE TAYLOR (Celebrant) 021 0429127
MEDICAL CENTRE 866-5911
MP for COROMANDEL OFFICE 868-3529
MATARANGI RATEPAYERS 021 754 078
MATARANGI FIRE STATION 866-4325 (Emergency 111)
MATARANGI RESERVES MANAGEMENT GROUP (Robin 021548070)
ROAD CLOSURES 0800 444449
RUBBISH TIP 866-5427
RD2 WHITIANGA (Toby) 021 587 221
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)

CONTACTS & DEADLINES

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

THE TEAM
Editor: Liam Kedzlie
Deputy Editors: Teresa & Mary Kedzlie
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ALL ENQUIRIES
Liam 027 868 9568
contact@matarangibeachpaper.com

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August Tides

Date	High Tide	Low Tide	High Tide	Low Tide
6	06:05:00	12:16:00	18:25:00	—
7	00:39:00	06:57:00	13:13:00	19:24:00
8	01:35:00	07:54:00	14:15:00	20:27:00
9	02:36:00	08:56:00	15:21:00	21:33:00
10	03:41:00	10:01:00	16:25:00	22:38:00
11	04:46:00	11:03:00	17:25:00	23:40:00
12	05:48:00	12:02:00	18:21:00	—
13	00:37:00	06:46:00	12:56:00	19:14:00
14	01:30:00	07:39:00	13:47:00	20:03:00
15	02:21:00	08:29:00	14:36:00	20:51:00
16	03:08:00	09:17:00	15:22:00	21:37:00
17	03:54:00	10:03:00	16:08:00	22:21:00
18	04:38:00	10:48:00	16:54:00	23:06:00
19	05:22:00	11:34:00	17:40:00	23:50:00
20	06:06:00	12:22:00	18:29:00	—
21	00:36:00	06:53:00	13:13:00	19:22:00
22	01:26:00	07:45:00	14:10:00	20:18:00
23	02:20:00	08:41:00	15:09:00	21:16:00
24	03:18:00	09:40:00	16:07:00	22:14:00
25	04:16:00	10:37:00	16:59:00	23:07:00
26	05:11:00	11:28:00	17:47:00	23:56:00
27	06:01:00	12:14:00	18:31:00	—
28	00:41:00	06:47:00	12:57:00	19:12:00
29	01:24:00	07:29:00	13:37:00	19:52:00
30	02:04:00	08:10:00	14:17:00	20:31:00
31	02:45:00	08:51:00	14:58:00	21:12:00

LINZ

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SATURDAY 8 AUGUST 2026

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