

MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

Edition 107

March 2019

Including Simpsons, Kuaotunu, Otama, Opito, Rings and Whangapoua Beaches



FROM LUKE'S CAFÉ TO LISA'S KUA KAWHE

This past summer Luke's Café has evolved into Kua Kawhe with German born Lisa Hinreiner at the helm as the independent space-leasing manager. Isabel Gilbert Palmer recently chatted to Lisa at the corner cafe in Kuaotunu village that so many of us call our own. Meeting Lisa bought to Isabel's mind the Café's beginnings 19 years ago when Pippa Reilly transformed a corner of what was then Paul's Garage into a small art studio and gallery, later adding a small wheeled coffee cart and launching the now ubiquitous Coffee La La to the village. Since then, a lot of coffees have been drunk and locals have watched the café corner evolve into the present day Kua Kawhe.

Lisa Hinreiner was born in Rosenheim, Bavaria and trained to be a Laboratory Technician. Specialising in Microbiology with an emphasis on the dairy products, her work led her to the quality assurance department of the French company, Danone. Lisa worked with a New Zealander in the lab and when she heard about the how green, safe and natural New Zealand was there was no reason not to come!

How did you get to be here in Kuaotunu in particular?

I enrolled at one of the Language Schools in Whitianga. The best part of that was I home-stayed with Jude Calder and got to know his family and friends, which made being here easy, and I wanted a new life far from home. I like my lifestyle here, the people, my yoga classes, free diving, the beach, the bush and my work of course and for my boyfriend, my love interest!

How did the cafe work at Luke's start for you?

I was drawn to the Barista work and developed a passion for it. I took up all the other work that goes with being permanent café staff. Luke gave me freedom to manage more and more and suddenly I am where I am and how the cafe is now. He gave me the opportunity of a lifetime, here in paradise, to lease the space and go from there.

How has your first summer been?

It's been great. I had a pop up coffee corner in Little Luke's next to the reserve just over the crazy summer to relieve the demands in the cafe and it worked. It's over now for the year but probably it will show its face again when it is needed.

But we did long days, 6am to 6pm every day. There are 13 staff, but as things get quieter there will be Dany, Laura and Ashley in the Cafe. I have the Bake shop in that little corner that was the store room, with Carolyn as Head Baker and Hiromi. We pride ourselves that everything we serve is made on the spot and are thinking of more gluten free baking, maybe waffles, some user friendly take out soups, stews and curry dishes for people to take home, especially those who live alone or don't have big families to cook for anymore.

Do you plan any changes for Kua Kawhe?

Maybe personal tea blending, special tonics, herbal drinks and elixirs. I kind of miss my lab technician work so this would fill that gap. Also a little more earthy, such as more plants, botanicals, a little greener. I will always support local handmade, batch cooked, preserved items and promote them. Good art work in the gallery corner as well. I have set aside the space more consciously for these things. During winter I might run some hand-making workshops, for example tea blending at night. I will get over summer first before I think more about that.

Article by Isabel Gilbert Palmer; Cover photo courtesy of Felicity Jean Photography of Kuaotunu.

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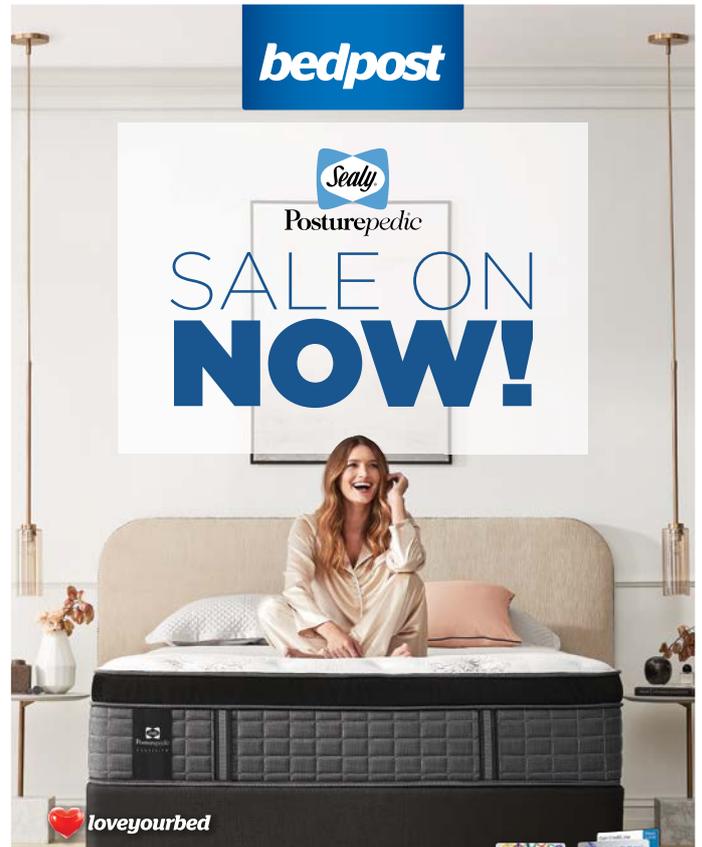
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CONTENTS

- 3 Vox Populi
Good Sort of the Month
- 5 School Bell
Congratulations Corner
- 7 Editorial
- 8 A Sign of our Time
ATOM Report for March
- 9 Thunderbird Club visits Grey's Beach
- 10 ARC Photo Action
- 12 Where in The World?
- 13 Dumping Fish – That's Rotten
- 14 10 Days Of Art In March
- 15 Matarangi Rural Fire Force
- 16 Matarangi Boat and Fishing Club
Logic Puzzle
- 17 Okey Dokey Wedding
Stargazer Sights
- 18 Events Guide & Classifieds
February Logic Puzzle Solution
Tide Chart



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CONTRIBUTORS

The Matarangi Beach Paper thanks the following people for their contributions in this edition...

Isabel Gilbert Palmer; Sharon Clay; Alastair Brickell; David Key; Stu Arnold; Pete Murphy; Bronwyn Ririnui; Jaine Were; Raewyn Williams; Te Rerenga School & The Good Sorts Spy.

...because without these contributions and stories, your local paper wouldn't be quite the same. Thank you!

CONTACTS & DEADLINES

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

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Good Sort of the Month

Over the Summer months we have had multiple views on Facebook about dogs on the beach and walkways with and without leads and the amount of poop left behind by what I call "lazy" dog owners. Poop bags thrown in the sand dunes and on other people's lawns, dog poop randomly left on walkways, berms and other places.

As the conversation went on and on, a proactive person did something about it. She contacted TCDC to have Doggie bins placed in spots around the beach.

To the "lazy" dog owner who stated that she "couldn't carry her dog poop back home as it was too far", duly dropping her poop bag on our Good Sorts front lawn, maybe you can now manage a walk to the bin instead! The same goes for all the other "lazy" ones. We hope you will also use these bins rather than spoiling our beautiful piece of paradise.

I think a HUGE thank you to Chris Cotton is in order for this. Chris, the 'Good Folk of Matarangi' salute you!

VOX POPULI

This month's Vox Populi contribution is from Jaine Were

"What a different summer it has been having our new Four Square in Matarangi!

No longer did we have to arrive laden with stock to last our holiday & avoid the dreaded trip to the supermarket in Whitianga. Sharon and her team have provided us with everything we need & a great quality of fruit and veg... not to mention the outstanding service.

Wherever possible we shall give them our 100% support!!"

Vox Populi is a new column in the MBP. Vox Populi is a Latin phrase that literally translates as "the voice of the people." If you have any thoughts that you want to share in 50 words or less, please email the editor: contact@matarangibeachpaper.com

OUR COROMANDEL

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DISTRICT COUNCIL

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

March, 2019

Improvements at Meri Te Tai Reserve

Our Council will continue its work with the Whangapoua community to create a concept plan for the future of Meri Te Tai Reserve. The improvements will look at the toilet, rubbish facilities, playground, barbecue and picnic area, improved dune

The Meri Te Tai Reserve.



protection planting and the storage shed. All these elements will be tied together in a comprehensive design that creates a revitalised reserve for all to enjoy. The design will be sensitive to the community's aspirations and Whangapoua's serene coastal setting it lies within. Here's an overview of our next steps:

1. A community meeting to discuss draft concept plans will take place at the Meri Te Tai Reserve at 11am on 1 March.
2. Formal public consultation process via

our Council's website and social media from 11 March to 29 March.

3. Review of concept plan 30 April 2019.
4. Further discussion with community.
5. Plan finalised (integrating public feedback) 30 May 2019.

In the meantime work on essential improvements to the public toilet effluent field is planned to start on 1 May 2019. This is to replace the existing waste water system as the old one has passed its operating life.

These improvements follow the more than \$2 million our Council has received from the Government's Tourism Infrastructure Fund for the following three projects:

- \$1,426,841 for an upgrade of visitor infrastructure in Hahei to respond to growing tourist numbers visiting nearby Cathedral Cove.
- \$467,500 for an upgrade of existing toilet and wastewater facilities at Whangapoua Beach, which is the last stop before heading to New Chum Beach.
- \$108,352 for the provision of public toilet facilities at Onemana Beach.

www.tcdc.govt.nz/tifprojects

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW OUR COUNCIL WORKS

Come to one of our two-hour workshops aimed at demystifying how Council works. The sessions will cover how budgets and rates are structured and how activities are funded.

These workshops start at 5.15pm and are open to anyone interested in how our local government works, including those considering standing as a candidate in October's local elections.

6 March – Mercury Bay TCDC office, 10 Monk St, Whitianga

12 March – Thames War Memorial Civic Centre, 200 Mary St

More on the 2019 local elections:
www.tcdc.govt.nz/elections



The Playground Creations planned design for the new playground on the Esplanade.

Whitianga Town Centre Upgrade stage two

The next stage of work on the new look of the Whitianga Town Centre will start after Easter.

Work involves creating a new playground and footpath at The Esplanade and improvements to the lower end of Taylors Mistake, which includes the beautification of the stream edge of Carina Creek.

Developments to the children's playground will start on 29 April, after the end of the school holidays. The work on The Esplanade footpath will start in May, while work on Taylors Mistake will start before Easter and will not impact business owners or the Repco Beach Hop events.

www.tcdc.govt.nz/whiticentreupgrade



Mercury Bay
Community Board
UPDATE

The Mercury Bay Community Board will next meet on Wednesday, 10 April at the Mercury Bay Service Centre at 10 Monk St in Whitianga. You can view the agenda online two days before the meeting at www.tcdc.govt.nz

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Check our Kerbside collection days for your area on our website at www.tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

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events

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Blacksmith Lane
www.mercurybay-artescape.com

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Thames Heritage Festival
www.thamesheritage.co.nz

11-17
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Repco Beach Hop
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The School Bell

The local children have settled back into Te Rerenga School with enthusiasm for the new year's learning. The major focus of the learning inquiries during 2019 will be related to marking the 250 years since the first onshore meetings between Māori and non-Māori during Captain James Cook's arrival on the Endeavour to Aotearoa New Zealand in 1769. A national education programme called Tuia Mātauranga, has been developed and is aimed at inspiring children to explore the history of voyaging and navigation, and to consider how our dual heritage can lead to a shared and sustainable future for our country. During term 1 the topic to be explored is Voyaging, while later in the year topics will be First Encounters, New Zealand History and the Legacy of Learning.



We have been making full use of our swimming pool in the February heat and our Year 5-8 children this week participated in the Country Schools' Swimming Sports at the Mercury Bay Area School, along with the children from Whenuakite and Coroglen Schools.

Great excitement throughout the school has been the announcement that we are going to hold a whole school musical towards the end of June in the Whitianga Town Hall. The children have already begun to prepare for this during their weekly music lessons with Anita Prime and Helen Rhind.



The Te Rerenga children are so privileged to have the talented singer/song writer, Anita Prime as our music specialist. Anita owns Prime Music Academy and is a graduate of Trinity College in London. She has sung internationally, and at the 2011 LA Music Awards she won the Best Music Video for "La La La" as well as being nominated for Best International Artist.

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Congratulations Corner

Congratulations to our local girl Ella Tomkins who was the 2018 Dux at Mercury Bay Area School. Ella, your community is very proud of you and we wish you well as you embark on your next academic and sporting journey. This year Ella will be attending the Auckland University of Technology, Tai-Ohomai Institute of Technology campus in Tauranga where she will begin her degree in Sport and Recreation.

Congratulations to one of Matarangi's original residents Alan Crowcroft who recently celebrated a significant birthday milestone at the fire station hall with a few beverages with his friends. Alan and his late wife Ruby moved to Matarangi back in the 1980's. This was a time when you could count the permanent residents just by using your fingers.

If you know of people that need congratulating, please email the editor:
contact@matarangibeachpaer.com



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CUVIER ISLAND'S SECRET WARTIME HISTORY

Today Cuvier Island, some 25km offshore from Matarangi Beach, is a benign conservation sanctuary that is home to an unmanned lighthouse. However, 75 years ago during the Second World War the island was home to a small yet secret naval radar station that played its part in keeping New Zealand safe.

On Cuvier was one of a number of radar stations established around the New Zealand coastline from early in 1942 when the country was at its greatest risk of invasion. In the months before hand, German naval raiders had sunk numerous ships around the New Zealand coast including in the Hauraki Gulf, and when the construction was going on, the naval battle of the Coral Sea between the Japanese and US navy was being fought just a few hundred miles off the Queensland coast.

The Cuvier radar station was strategically erected on the highest point of the island on a ridge that overlooked the northern shipping approaches to the Colville channel. The station was noteworthy, due to its extremely difficult access. A road was bulldozed to it from the lighthouse settlement, which in itself was a significant engineering undertaking in not only getting a heavy dozer onto the island, but also the construction itself.

The supply and installation of radar equipment on Cuvier was led by the Public Works Department who had the responsibility for the design and construction of the station and involved the erection of masts and rotating aerials; the provision of special control gear boxes and electrical generating sets; making arrangements regarding fuel; erecting buildings to accommodate personnel; installing water supply and sewerage facilities.

With the road built to the site the next biggest obstacle in building the Cuvier station was getting materials from Auckland to the island, and then hauling them to the steep and remote site. The PWD had to deal with the vicissitudes of tides and weather and the steep bush covered country onto the high ridge. A regular supply of rations had to be obtained for the working parties, and the men were generally kept as contented as reasonably possible in the face of trying conditions and prolonged absences from home.

The materials used in constructing the Cuvier station were transported in barges towed by small launches, usually at night because radar was a new technology and operational security was paramount in wartime. The vessels going to Cuvier also had to avoid the minefields laid in the outer Hauraki Gulf by the German Cruiser Komet in the previous year.



Radar came to New Zealand in the closest secrecy, immediately after the outbreak of war. Early in 1939 New Zealand was invited to send physicists to England to receive information about a 'new secret technique of a most important character concerning defence.' They returned to New Zealand in October 1939 with an ASV radar set and technical information.

A decision of the Chiefs of Staff Committee to establish sixteen radar coastwatching stations in New Zealand, controlled and manned by the Navy, had been approved by War Cabinet in July 1940. However, the first priority for local radar was to equip the naval fleet and it was not until September 1941 that the green light for the construction of the stations was made. Moving quickly the DPW and navy worked together to commission Cuvier station in early 1942 just weeks after the fall of Singapore and the drive into the South Pacific by the Japanese fleet. The ultimate complement of each station was one officer, eight or nine seamen operators, and two mechanics. The stations were self-contained units with good living quarters, storage for food, water and oil, and diesel-driven electric generators.

The further development of radar in New Zealand was largely owing to the initiative and enthusiasm of Dr. E Marsden and a small group of young scientists. They were strongly supported by Commodore Parry of the Navy who appreciated the great tactical importance of radio direction-finding in defending New Zealand. Because the UK Admiralty was preoccupied with the major problems of design and production and of equipping the ships of the Royal Navy, the early development of radar in New Zealand was largely a matter of kiwi ingenuity and improvisation; but remarkable success was achieved.

It was not just men who were involved in the radar development in New Zealand during the dark days of WW2. Miss Elizabeth Alexander was Head of Operations Research between 1942-1945 in the secret Radio Development Lab (RDL) in Wellington. Because of the high level secrecy of her wartime role during that time little is known about Miss Alexander and her work in helping to defend New Zealand.

Today Cuvier radar station is now derelict but the bulldozed road although partly overgrown is still well defined. Cuvier Island was named after the French naturalist, Baron Cuvier (1769-1832) by D'Urville the French navigator. The island was known to the Maori as Repanga.

Photo Credit: DOC

Featured top left: Cuvier Island Lighthouse from Radar Point

Featured top right: Cuvier Radar Station

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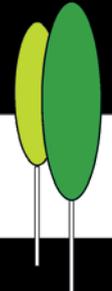
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- View the festival Terms and Conditions on the website.
- Check out the programme for 2019: the festival opens at 10am so you can find your spot and take the time to look around at the delicious food options and arts and craft stalls. The Te Rerenga School cooking competition starts at 11am and The Great ATOM Cook Off will start at 12.30pm. Live music begins on stage at 10.45 continuing throughout the day and there will be raffle draws at 2.45pm. You can purchase raffle tickets at the merchandise tent from 10am until 2pm. For information about our fabulous musicians go to Festival Info on our website.
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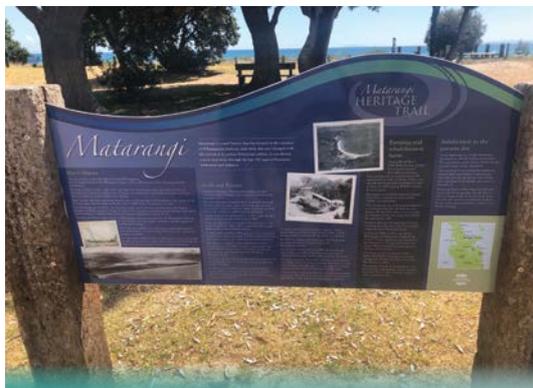
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A SIGN OF OUR TIME

The Heritage Board that was installed on Matarangi's Village Green in 2018 is a fascinating account of the history of our area. It was erected by the Matarangi Reserves Management Group in conjunction with the TCDC. Ian Patrick, TCDC and local iwi collaborated to compile the history and wording.

The board covers a chronological timeline from the arrival of Maori to the present day. Early Maori history, the kauri timber milling and gold mining that occurred in the area in the late Nineteenth century and the establishment of rehabilitation farms after World Wars One and Two are all detailed. If you are a history buff and would like to know more about our area, it is worthwhile heading down to the Village Green to have a read!

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THUNDERBIRD CAR CLUB VISITS KUAOTUNU



A line up of ten early 1960's era Ford Thunderbird classic cars met up at Kuaotunu on February 16th parking up on the Grey's Beach reserve. Nicknamed the "T-Bird" these are rare cars in New Zealand but amazingly we have five examples here on the Coromandel. The Thunderbird with its 7 litre V8 was a large personal luxury car mostly built in coupe or convertible form. It was popular in the late 50's and early 60's and personified the JFK era America, big bold, extravagant and powerful.

The Ford Thunderbird Owners Club of New Zealand was founded in 1994 with the main objective to preserve, promote and enjoy the Thunderbird and to have fun, fun, fun while doing it – hence the Beach Boys 1964 song about the T-Bird and driver.

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ADVENTURE RACE COROMANDEL (ARC)

On Saturday 16th February 71 teams totalling 230 competitors entered into the gut-busting ARC Adventure Races that centred on Kuaotunu village.

The ARC Long race covered some 120km of arduous Coromandel Peninsula terrain with a 24km kayak, followed by a two-three-hour trek, further kayak, trek and rafting stages, a mountain bike ride and rifle shooting with a total time out in the field of between 15 hours and 24 hours.

The shorter course ARC Express race started and finished in Kuaotunu and saw competitors take on a course involving swimming, trekking, rafting and mountain biking as well as the rifle shoot. Competitor times for the express race were between 7 and 11 hours with a number of school teams entered including a contingent of 50 from New Plymouth.

Strict protocols were in place this year to protect the forest from Kauri Dieback Disease were carried out by the Spirit of Coromandel Trust, organisers of this weekend's race, which is into its 19th year this year.

Photos courtesy of Mike Stanton



ARC Racers beach trekking at daybreak.



Keith Stephenson giving his Pre-Race Briefing



Robert, Oscar, Heath and Rhys from New Plymouth Boys High said they were having an awesome time on the ARC Express



Under starters orders at Kuaotunu for the Express race



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The development of the subdivision at 68 Skippers Road is a hive of activity, with much of the infrastructure well underway. With the road now benefitting from new tar seal, curbs and channels completed, we are on track for titles to be issued in November 2019.

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WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Sue and Ross Faulkner of 'The Fairway', recently spent time on a South Atlantic Cruise that took them to Antarctica. They took along the MBP with them to remind themselves of the Coromandel summer. Getting down to the ice has been a life-long dream for Sue in particular. "Antarctica has always been top of my bucket list since I was a child and was told stories about my great uncle who went down with Douglas Mawson in 1912," said Sue.

Sue gave the MBP a quick rundown about their South Atlantic adventure. "We boarded our ship the Plancius in Ushuaia, Argentina for the 19-day cruise to The Falklands, South Georgia, the Antarctic Peninsula and the South Orkneys. The passage making was remarkably calm, even the infamous Drake Passage was flat!"

"Only 114 passengers were onboard so we had plenty of opportunities to go ashore and on zodiac cruises. The weather was remarkably good, temperatures around 2-7 degrees and even had snow one morning. We saw 1000's of penguins, lots of seals, whales and sea birds. We even had a Minkie whale swim over to our zodiac for a look, then it went under the boat. It was just one of the many highlights of the cruise," said Sue.

We love receiving your 'Where in the World is the Matarangi Beach Paper' photos. Please email your photos with a caption to the editor contact@matarangibeachpaper.com



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— DUMPING FISH — THAT'S ROTTEN —

It appears we have lazy fishermen and divers in our midst who just think it is OK to dump fish carcasses and scallop shells where-ever they like. This has upset quite a few locals lately with fish waste being dumped at places like the end of the Matarangi Wharf. People are concerned that this will attract stingrays and sharks, but it is also a hazard for young children and dogs, swimming and playing in the area.

Such has been the concern, that the Matarangi Boating and Fishing Club recently issued a statement on their Facebook page asking people to please dispose of their fish frames appropriately. "There has been dumping of fish frames and scallop shells off the end of the Wharf. Please refrain from doing this as it attracts sting ray and possibly sharks. Not good if your kids are swimming there. Please take them back out to sea or to the tip."

A number of people have shared some positive suggestions on FB for people who are perplexed as to how they can get rid of their waste. Putting them through your garden mulcher to make burley is one such idea. Another idea if you are a bit of a cook is to utilise your fish heads and frames to make your own fish stock. Raewyn Williams contributed her recipe and has given permission for it to be re-printed in the MBP. "We make fish stock out of the heads and frames as it is far superior to the store bought stock. The excess we dig into the vege garden as it makes excellent fertiliser. Alternatively, we freeze them and dispose of them in the general rubbish", says Raewyn. Raewyn also gave a few other little tips. "I also keep vege peelings and the ends of leeks, manky bits of celery, carrots, onions and skins etc and freeze them until I want to make stock. We also planted a bay tree which grows surprisingly well in the sandy Matarangi soil", adds Raewyn.

For those of you that don't know, there is a website called FreeFishHeads.co.nz whose philosophy is to



reduce fish waste. This is a site for people who want to give their fish heads and frames away or for people who would like some for free. Currently in the Whitianga/Coromandel area alone there are approximately thirty people registered who would like fish heads. All they ask is that you remove the guts and gills (but don't chuck away the roe) and keep the heads and frames cool. You can also register on their site if you have some to give away.

FreeFishHeads.co.nz is just one of the initiatives supported by LegaSea to ensure more fish in the water. LegaSea is a non-profit organisation that was established in 2012 by the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council. Their mission is to restore our coastal fisheries and elevate public awareness of the issues that affect recreational fishers. Advocacy for recreational fishing rights and marine conservation, as well as research and education on our fishing resources are all things LegaSea do on behalf of all New Zealanders. <https://legasea.co.nz>

The MBP thinks these are all great suggestions. Of course the lazy ones probably don't care and will still be too lazy to do the right thing and take these ideas on board. For those of you who are thoughtful and responsible and care about protecting our environment, we hope this gives you some new ideas.

— RAEWYN'S FISH STOCK RECIPE —

Fish heads and frames (gills removed otherwise stock will be bitter)

- 2 onions
- 3 celery stalks
- 1 bunch parsley or mixed herbs
- 3 bay leaves
- 1 tablespoon black peppercorns

Roughly chop vegies and add with fish heads and frames to stockpot.

Add cold water to cover and simmer 45-60mins. Cool and strain into glass jars or zip lock bags and freeze until required.

Excellent for chowders, soups, smoked fish pies & cooking rice. Enjoy!

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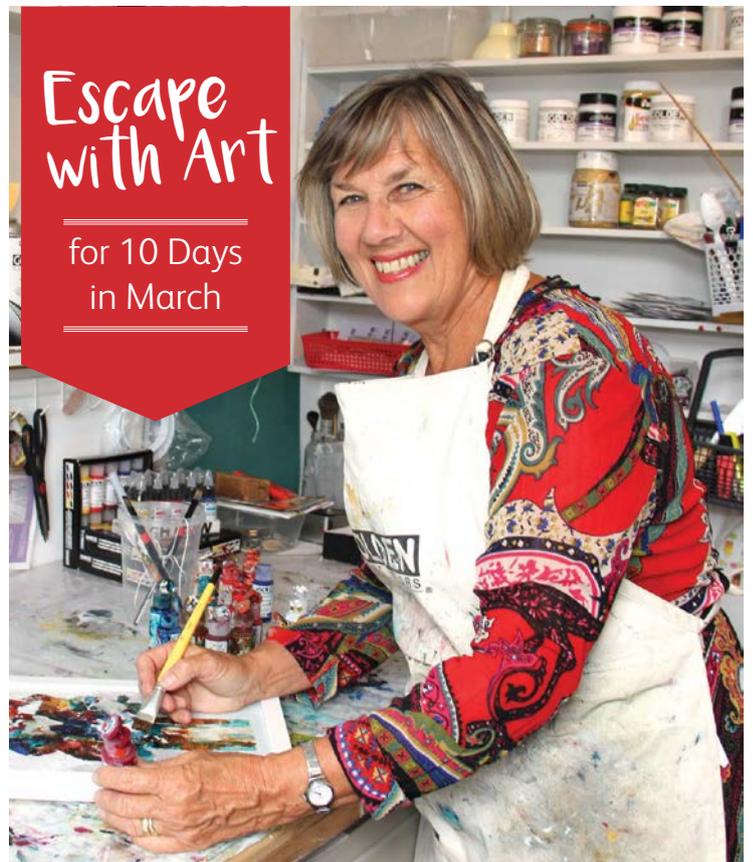

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 Pumpkin Pie competition!



Mercury Bay will be showcasing their talented artists during the 2019 Mercury Bay Art Escape with the Artists Open Studio Tours being held during the first two weekends in March. In our area seven local artists will be having open studios in either Kuaotunu, Opito Bay or Rings Beach. Their studios will be open 10-4 so look out for the Art Escape flags!

The Open Studios weekends give everyone an opportunity to experience a wide range of styles practiced by the 36 member artists and 3 art groups. Studio visitors will encounter a range of media including woodworking, pottery, sculpture, harakeke weaving, glasswork, mosaics, jewellery, painting, photography and printmaking.

On Sunday 3 March there is also the opportunity to be involved in creating a large scale collective sculpture with renowned Kuaotunu based sculptor Chris Charteris. The sculpture making is from 11am to 1pm and viewing until 3pm at the Kuaotunu Town Hall. This year Chris, hopefully with your help, will be creating a massive mandala-like indoor sculpture out of 1000s of Ngā Tīpa (scallop shells).

The midweek programme 4th to 8th March, includes a Street Art Festival in Whitianga organised by Mercury Bay Art Escape to highlight the national Tuia - Encounters 250 commemorations. Te Whanganui a Hei (Mercury Bay) has great seafaring significance. This is where the great navigator Kupe visited many centuries ago and in 1769 was one of four landing sites for Cook's ship The Endeavour. The festival will feature internationally recognised street artists Flox, TrustMe and Charles and Janine Williams. Alongside local artists, Mercury Bay Art Escape patron Michael Smither, Monique Rush, Anne Bowden, Peter Nicholson, Dave Fowell and other popular street artists from the Coromandel and Hamilton. This exciting free event will allow visitors to watch 12 new murals painted on walls in the Whitianga central business area. A free guide, giving festival details is available from the Art Escape website and the Whitianga i-site.



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>>> LOCAL OPEN STUDIOS <<<

OPITO BAY

Gaylene Lonergan - Silk painting
Gaylene's themes include include marine life, beaches, birds and skiescapes.
11 Ohinau Drive, Opito Bay

RINGS BEACH

Warwick Lidgard - Painting
Warwick has painted since the 1950s but by the 1990s watercolours were largely put aside for acrylics and oils. A former student of Colin McCahon.
191 Bluff Road, Rings Beach

KUAOTUNU

Lutz Gaebler - Mixed media, pottery and sculpture
Lutz uses imagery and forms with photomontage and clay sculpture.
Try Fluke Studio,
462 State Highway 25, Kuaotunu

Michaela Palacios - Lampworked glasswork

Michaela specialises in lampworking which is a form of glass blowing using a torch to melt glass rods.
WANT Nursery
85 Waitaia Road, Kuaotunu

Ian Preece - Photography

Ian specialises in photographing the Coromandel Peninsula's natural environment.
37 Peebles Lane, Kuaotunu

Roimata Taimana - Drawing

Roimata specialises in fine ink drawings.
37 Peebles Lane, Kuaotunu

Colin Verner - Mixed media - wood & ceramic

Colin constructs and carves wall mounted relief sculptures from recycled wood and other materials
19 Cemetery Road, Kuaotunu

To find out everything visit www.mercurybayartscapes.com

Featured: Artist and art tutor Wendy Walls from Whitianga.

MATARANGI RURAL FIRE FORCE

Thankfully with the dry weather we have had so far this month we have only had one medical call. But we have been busy with training for the dry weather and have had a crew on standby to go to Nelson to deploy to the Tasman Fire. It is thought that this fire will not be fully out until at least the middle of March.

Most of the Waikato and Bay of Plenty are now on a restricted Fire Season with the Coromandel on a full Fire Ban.

We now have our Easter Fishing Competition raffle on sale. Thanks to Mercury Marine and Peter Brown for donating a six horse power four stroke outboard motor for the winning ticket drawn on Easter Saturday. Tickets are available at the Fire Station and will be on sale at the Shopping Centre on Saturdays soon. Tickets are \$5.00 each or a book of five for \$20.00. We certainly appreciate the support of Mercury Marine who donate an Outboard Motor for our raffle each year.

By the end of March details and tickets will be available for the Easter Fishing Competition and Auction on Saturday 20th April with ANZAC Day following close behind, A busy few days for our volunteers.

Don't forget there is still a total Fire Ban in place.

Stay safe everyone.

Stu Arnold

The BIKE Man



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MATARANGI BOAT & FISHING CLUB

The fishing has definitely been on the improve over the last week. It always seems to happen as soon as the holiday season finishes and the children are back at school. The Kontiki fraternity are reporting great catches with upwards of 6 fish on a set. One fisher from a kayak only 50 metres out caught some fantastic snapper weighing up to 4 kilo. Soft baits were doing the damage. Unfortunately, the weed is still hanging around but is getting less and less by the day.

Remember the scallop season closes 30th March for recreational fishers. There are still some at Opito but they are getting thinner. Hopefully the commercial fishers will let the coastline from Otama to Matarangi recover this season so we can all get a feed next season. After the big blow with the big swells, it was interesting to note that no scallops were washed up a few days later as normally happens. This is more evidence of overfishing by the commercial sector.

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council is holding the NZ Nationals this week and it has been disappointing to note the number of bill fish being caught in this area. The majority of bill fish caught in this area are tag and released. It is disappointing when you are so far offshore to witness light aircraft spotting schools of baitfish for

the purse seine fishing boats. This recreational fishery could become a big money spinner for charter operators who release their catch instead of it being processed for fish meal.

The Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club has three teams entered this year. Unfortunately, no teams have been able to land a bill fish, but at the time of print have been successful in landing inshore species on light line weights. We await the final tally on the 23rd Feb.

If anyone requires information regarding how to read the bar, evaluating the break and how to cross the bar safely, please contact me and we will endeavour to take you out and explain any queries.

DONT TAKE RISKS, IF IN DOUBT, DONT CROSS THE BAR. WEARING A CORRECT FITTING LIFE JACKET IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT WHEN CROSSING A 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!

Peter Murphy, President, 0212690058

STOP PRESS!

The 2019 New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Nationals preliminary results:

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club were represented by 4 teams for the 2019 Nationals and achieve the following places:

Snapper 2nd 4kg section; 4.364 kg with 109.1 points. Peter Murphy

Inter club - 3rd in skipjack tuna with 368.7 points.

Coromandel regional section - MB&FC 3rd

MB&FC top boat; Chasing Tail 1st, Sumarun 2nd, Crusader 3rd and Scorpion 4th

The MBP gives its hearty congratulations to all the MB&FC competitors for their outstanding results for such a small Club.

LOGIC PUZZLE

— FEBRUARY SOLUTION —
 ON PG 18

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Okey Dokey Wedding

Matarangi Beach Paper's designer, Shannon Okey of Okey Dokey Designs, is now Shannon Nicolson.

Shannon is the daughter of the late John Okey, from Whangapoua, who was our wonderful RD2 Matarangi mail man, for a number of years.

Her maiden name will live on through her Graphic Design business, Okey Dokey Designs.

Congratulations to the newly married couple Shane and Shannon Nicolson!

Pictured is their barefoot wedding on Shakespeare Cliff.

Photos by Felicity Jean Photography



Stargazers Sights

Early in the month we have a rare chance to see the three planets, Jupiter, Saturn and Venus together with the Moon in the early morning sky.

March 2: Saturn can be spotted immediately above a crescent Moon in the early morning sky with brilliant Jupiter above and to the left and stunningly bright Venus below.

March 3: A very thin crescent Moon now lies next to brilliant Venus in the east.

March 11: The NW evening sky shows the crescent Moon located just above and to the left of reddish Mars with the unmistakable shape of the Pleiades or Matariki further to the right.

March 12: Mars is now below and to the left of the crescent Moon with Mararaki below and to the right.

March 28: Bright Jupiter lies above the Moon in the early morning sky with much fainter and slightly yellowish Saturn below and to the right.

March 30: By now the Moon has moved to be just below yellowish Saturn.

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Local Events Guide

allaboutwhitianga.co.nz

Visit the **All About Whitianga** mega-website for the latest event information from Whangapoua to Hot Water Beach

FREE... Classified adverts are FREE for the public.

Email details to: contact@matarangibeachpaper.com | Deadline is the last Friday of the month.

Regular Events

MONDAYS

Men on Mats (Pilates for Blokes) @ 8-9am. Ph Christiane, 0273122584

Matarangi Ladies Pilates @ 9-10am. Ph: Christiane, 0273122584

Kuaotunu Craft & Social Club 1-4pm Ph Lia 866 2054

Kuaotunu Library 1-4pm Ph. Maxine 027 293 0369

Mens 9 Hole Golfers tee off 10.30a.m. @ The Dunes

Contract Bridge: 7pm St John's rooms, Tiki Rd, Coro. Town. Info ph Colin: 866 5428

Yoga: 7am Vinyasa @ Kuaotunu Hall. Ph: 021 08 100 125

TUESDAYS

Men's Coffee Morning (1st Tues of every Month - 7th March). 10am @ Pipers Café.

Ladies 9 Hole Golfers tee off 11a.m. @ The Dunes

Matarangi Craft Group. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month 7-9pm. Meet at the Matarangi Fire Station. Contact: Lesley 07 866 0788.

KAMAG meeting 5:30pm, every 2nd Tuesday of the month @ Kuaotunu Hall. All welcome.

Hatha Yoga Beginners & Intermediate at Kuaotunu Hall 10 - 11.30am \$15, 10 concession card \$130, Gold Card \$10 jose. kakebeeke@gmail.com 021393299 or 8664888

WEDNESDAYS

Kuaotunu Steiner Play Group. 9:30-11:30am Ph: Ina 866 2841

Men's Golf. Tee off 10am. Meet @ The Dunes just before tee off.

Women's Coffee Morning (1st Wed of every month). 10am @ Pipers Café. All welcome!

YOGA: 7am Vinyasa @ Kuaotunu Hall. Ph: 021 08 100 125

ICONZ for boys. The Adventure begins here. Anchor - Year 1-3 (5-7 year old). Adventure - Year 4-6 (8-10 year old). STARTING TERM 2 Extreme - Year 7-9 (11-13 year old). Held on Wednesday evenings, Kuaotunu Hall, from 5.30pm - 7pm. Any inquiries, please contact Robyn 020 409 39674, or email: robyn.balfour2@hotmail.com

THURSDAYS

Haatha Yoga 9-10:30am at the Kuaotunu Hall

Ladies 18 Hole Golfers tee off 9.30 a.m. @ The Dunes

Mens 9 Hole Golfers tee off @10.30 a.m. @ The Dunes

Ladies 9 Hole Golfers tee off @ 11.00 a.m. @ The Dunes

Ladies Keep Fit 9-10am @ Matarangi Fire Station. All Welcome Phone Barbara 866 2687

Matarangi Craft Group meets every Thursday at 10:30am @ the Matarangi Fire Station. Info: Linda Segetin at 866 5653

TUES, THURS & SAT

Rings Beach Wetland Volunteer days. 8.30-12.30 Ph: 866 5338

SATURDAYS

Haatha Yoga 3rd Age & Limited Mobility Class 9-10.30am. Venue: Kuaotunu Hall

SUNDAYS

Matarangi Markets start Labour Weekend.

Upcoming Events

2-3 MAR; 9-10 MAR

Mercury Bay Art Escape - Weekend Tours 2019!

4-8 MAR

Tuia 250 Whitianga Street Art Festival. 10-4pm at the Whitianga CBD Blacksmith Lane.



SAVE THE DATE IN APRIL

Easter Weekend, Good Friday and Saturday 10am-4pm; Sunday 10am-1pm. Kuaotunu Village Hall

6 APR

A TASTE OF MATARANGI at the Matarangi Green. Tickets from Four Square & Richardsons

February Puzzle answer

Atrocious Antony charged \$90

Bitter Bob charged \$80

Charming Charlotte charged \$110

Dangerous Dave charged \$200



WHITIANGA TIDES MARCH 2019

| | HIGH | LOW | HIGH | LOW | HIGH |
|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 | 3:56 | 9:57 | 16:12 | 22:23 | |
| 2 | 4:52 | 10:54 | 17:07 | 23:20 | |
| 3 | 5:47 | 11:49 | 18:02 | | |
| 4 | | 0:13 | 6:38 | 12:40 | 18:53 |
| 5 | | 1:02 | 7:25 | 13:27 | 19:41 |
| 6 | | 1:46 | 8:09 | 14:11 | 20:25 |
| 7 | | 2:26 | 8:49 | 14:50 | 21:06 |
| 8 | | 3:04 | 9:29 | 15:28 | 21:45 |
| 9 | | 3:41 | 10:07 | 16:06 | 22:24 |
| 10 | | 4:18 | 10:45 | 16:43 | 23:02 |
| 11 | | 4:57 | 11:23 | 17:22 | 23:42 |
| 12 | | 5:37 | 12:04 | 18:03 | |
| 13 | 0:25 | 6:21 | 12:46 | 18:48 | |
| 14 | 1:11 | 7:09 | 13:33 | 19:36 | |
| 15 | 2:03 | 8:03 | 14:25 | 20:30 | |
| 16 | 3:01 | 9:01 | 15:23 | 21:29 | |
| 17 | 4:02 | 10:03 | 16:25 | 22:32 | |
| 18 | 5:04 | 11:06 | 17:30 | 23:34 | |
| 19 | 6:06 | 12:08 | 18:33 | | |
| 20 | | 0:35 | 7:04 | 13:08 | 19:33 |
| 21 | | 1:33 | 8:01 | 14:05 | 20:30 |
| 22 | | 2:28 | 8:55 | 14:59 | 21:24 |
| 23 | | 3:21 | 9:47 | 15:51 | 22:16 |
| 24 | | 4:13 | 10:38 | 16:42 | 23:06 |
| 25 | | 5:03 | 11:27 | 17:31 | 23:56 |
| 26 | | 5:54 | 12:16 | 18:19 | |
| 27 | 0:45 | 6:44 | 13:05 | 19:08 | |
| 28 | 1:36 | 7:36 | 13:54 | 19:58 | |
| 29 | 2:28 | 8:30 | 14:45 | 20:51 | |
| 30 | 3:22 | 9:25 | 15:39 | 21:47 | |
| 31 | 4:16 | 10:21 | 16:34 | 22:44 | |
| LINZ | | | | | |

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