

# MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

DECEMBER

EDITION 116

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



## MATARANGI FOUR SQUARE TURNS ONE

On November 30 Matarangi Four Square celebrated its first birthday, and in typical generous style, owners Sharon and Darren Walker spent the day giving back to the community with a sausage sizzle fundraiser for Te Rerenga School.

In November last year, Sharon and Darren put up their Four Square banner above their old shop for the first time and have since been amazed by all of the fantastic customer feedback they have constantly received and all the new friends they have made since.

“Our customers are loving having a much improved product range, with fabulous prices, compared to the old general store we operated previously in Matarangi,” said Sharon. “We have the best customers and are pleased to be able to provide them with the products they need that make their lives easier,”

The couple are really proud of their staff who have helped them over their first year. “We have the best team members that take pride in the store, really look after the customers and are always helpful and greet them with a smile,” says Sharon. “We have had awesome feedback from our customers about how good our staff are, how they make everybody feel welcome, and give 100% customer service.”

Matarangi Four Square won the highest customer response rate for the Four Square Customer Survey based on store sales for 2019. This is a massive accomplishment for such a small community store. There are 166 Four Squares in the North Island and they were placed 6th in total number of completed surveys. They would like to thank each and everyone that completed the survey online because it helps them find new ways to become better.

The couple love being part of the Four Square banner and truly appreciate all the resources that they now have available to them, such as deliveries to our back door, range review tools, IT help, deliveries 6 days a week over the summer season, and easy access to new and exciting products like produce and meat. They had none of that under their old Matarangi General Store days and find it so much easier to provide their customers with what they are needing when we have all of these tools available.

With the new store there have been many improvements that have proven to be really popular with locals such as the bakery that wasn't available at the old general store and products such as danishes, bread rolls, croissants, doughnuts, sandwiches, fresh loaves of bread, and biscuits all made in store. On the deli side delicious ready to cook pizzas and cooked chickens are becoming a lunch or dinner favourite for both permanents and weekenders.

Reflecting on a fantastic first year, Sharon and Darren want to give a special thank you to their fellow Four Square operators who have provided mentorship to them over the last 12 months. “Damien and Renee Langley at Four Square Coromandel for being the very best neighbours possible, and always being there for us when we either text, phone or email, and Ants & Jess Pedersen at Four Square The Lakes in Tauranga for always having fresh ideas that we love and borrow,” says Sharon. “We would also like to thank Stacey and Sally Rolton of Pak N Save Kaitaia, who were instrumental in getting us into the Foodstuffs family. When we were completely overwhelmed last summer, they changed their holiday plans to come down and help us.”

Sharon and Darren and their awesome team members are looking forward to their second year in operation and continuing to play a vital role in the community. With a successful vibrant shop they are able to continue to support the various community groups around the district, which include:

Te Rerenga School, Matarangi Fishing & Boating Club, A Taste of Matarangi, Matarangi Tradies, St Andrew's Community Church, Westpac Rescue Helicopter, Pink Ribbon Morning Tea, Matarangi Summer Carnival, and Matarangi Fire Emergency NZ.

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## CONTRIBUTORS

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

Ian Patrick; Stu Arnold; Sharon Clay; Alastair Brickell; David Key; Pete Murphy; Bronwyn Rinui; C.J Palmer; Faye Flegg; Jenny Atmore; Te Rerenga School; Leigh Cunningham; Maree Taylor & 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.

### THE TEAM

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### FREE CLASSIFIEDS

All notices are FREE for the public. Please email or text your info by the last Friday of the month.

### BUSINESS ADVERTISING

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### DELIVERIES

The rural letterbox deliveries are the first Friday of every month.

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## THE GOOD SORTS SPY

The good sorts of the month have to be the local volunteers who have participated in the recent working bees to get the golf course and facilities looking ship shape and ready for the summer season. Well done people the good folk of Matarangi thank you and salute you!

If you know of any good sorts, please email the editor: [contact@matarangibeachpaper.com](mailto:contact@matarangibeachpaper.com)

## CONGRATULATIONS CORNER

Congratulations to Sharon and Darren Walker on the first birthday of Four Square Matarangi. What a wonderful asset this store has been to our community! Darren and Sharon are obviously a super busy couple and celebrated their 17th Wedding Anniversary on 30 November with a quiet night in. According to Sharon, Darren proposed to her while she was on the back of a jetski in Crete during their big OE. They married locally in Whitianga.

If you know of people that need congratulating, please email the editor: [contact@matarangibeachpaper.com](mailto:contact@matarangibeachpaper.com)

## VOX POPULI

Recently a new dog sign has been placed at one of the entrances to Matarangi Beach. It has been placed directly in front of the beautiful harakeke, which is often photographed both by locals and tourists. I would like to see the sign moved to a less prevalent position back down the path where people are still able to know the dog rules and enjoy a beautiful New Zealand view.

— Tara McAuley —

*Vox Populi* is a Latin phrase that literally means "voice of the people". If you have any opinions you wish to share, please email the editor: [contact@matarangibeachpaper.com](mailto:contact@matarangibeachpaper.com)



# OUR COROMANDEL

THAMES  
COROMANDEL  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

December, 2019

## MERRY Christmas from TCDC

Mayor Sandra, Council and the Mercury Bay Community Board wish you and your family and friends a happy, safe and sunny Coromandel Christmas and New Year.



Mayor  
Sandra



Tony Fox  
Councillor



Murray  
McLean  
Councillor



Deli  
Connell



Rekha Giri-  
Percival



Jeremy  
Lomas



Bill  
McLean

[tcdc.govt.nz/Your-Council/Councillors-and-Community-Board-Members](http://tcdc.govt.nz/Your-Council/Councillors-and-Community-Board-Members)

### Our Christmas Hours



Our Council service centres will be closed 25-27 December and 1-3 January 2020. We are open 30 and 31 December from 9am-4pm, except for Coromandel Town, which will be closed from 3pm on 24 December. Normal hours for all service centres resume on 6 January. For general enquiries over this time email: [customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz) For urgent enquiries call our 24-hour service line: 07 868 0200

### Kerbside rubbish & recycling collections



Our summer schedule of extra Kerbside rubbish and recycling collections begins on Friday 27 December in Matarangi and continues until 8 February 2020.

[tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside](http://tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside)

If you leave town before your collection day, you can drop off your rubbish in blue Council rubbish bags and recycling free at any of our Refuse Transfer Stations (RTS).

#### Mercury Bay North

Kuaotunu to Whangapoua

Tuesday



Friday



The Matarangi RTS is at 101 Matarangi Dr. It's open to extended hours from 16 December to 23 February 2020:

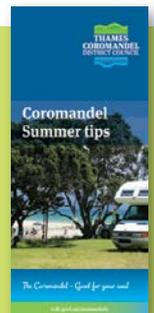
Monday to Friday: 12:30pm – 5:30pm  
Saturday: 10:30am – 5:30pm  
Sunday and public holidays: 10:30am – 6:30pm

[tcdc.govt.nz/rts](http://tcdc.govt.nz/rts)

### Summer water use

Water status updates are broadcast daily on local radio stations, our Council's facebook page or the front page of our website under alerts. [tcdc.govt.nz/water](http://tcdc.govt.nz/water)

For all you need to know about fire permits, dogs on beaches, alcohol bans and other council services check out our summer tips info. [tcdc.govt.nz/summertips](http://tcdc.govt.nz/summertips)



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24 JANUARY  
2020**

### HAVE YOUR SAY ON KAURI PROTECTION MEASURES

We're asking for feedback on proposed new earthworks rules to protect kauri in urban zones of our Proposed District Plan.

The new rules, proposed by the Environment Court, are designed to prevent the spread of kauri dieback disease and promote kauri protection. It's being proposed anyone carrying out earthworks near a kauri tree get resource consent and prepare a kauri dieback disease risk management plan. Near a kauri tree means the area covered by the tree's root system.

Consultation runs until 24 January  
[tcdc.govt.nz/s293kauridieback](http://tcdc.govt.nz/s293kauridieback)



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TCDC/0158



# SUMMER TENNIS @ MATARANGI

Matarangi Summer Tennis Tournament organiser CJ Palmer is gearing up for another fabulous event to be held on Saturday January 4th at the Sands Crescent Courts.

The main change this year is the dropping of the Ladies Doubles and replacing it with a Mixed Doubles event. The main reasons being the small response for entries for the Ladies Doubles event last time and a lot of enquiries asking if there was to be a future Mixed Doubles event.

“This is an evolving tournament so I’m sure there will be other tweaks and changes over the years. We will be adding a gold coin donation sausage sizzle which will be run from 12-2pm on the day,” said CJ.

Players should note that the tournament will be running a short set format (first to 7, with finals first

to 11). This is to make sure players get through all the games in the one day and not too onerous for the players.

“Along with Monet Johnson of You Travel Whitianga as the main sponsor, Pip Perry from Ray White has kindly offered to donate a Spot Prize (names picked out of a hat at Prize giving). The tournament will now be scheduled on a Saturday. Last year it was run on a Sunday which precluded some people from playing as they were returning home that day.

Last year a number of people bought a picnic rug and hamper and got a spot under the trees that line the perimeter surrounding the courts to enjoy the tennis. Better than Stanley Street!

*Caption: Murray James and Ernest Raina getting in some tennis practice before the January 4 tournament.*

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

Tournament : Matarangi Summer Tennis Tournament

Date : Sat 4th Jan

Venue : Sands Crescent Courts

Sponsors: You Travel Whitianga & Pip Perry from Ray White Real Estate

Start time : 9am for player briefing with play to commence at 9.30am

Events: Mens and Mixed Doubles

Entry: Limited to first 16 pairs in each event

Entrance fee: \$20 per pair (pay on the day)

Prizes: For winners and runners up

Plate Events: So guaranteed 2 games.

Registration to: cjrpalmer@hotmail.com or Mob : 0272719376



# SHOOTOUT AT THE LADIES GOLF

The ladies golf group at the Dunes course have been running a ‘Shootout’ qualifying competition throughout the year. The winner of the qualifying

day for that month gets to play on in the final shootout round usually at the end of November. Should a player win a second monthly qualifying round

during the year the next best player for that day qualifies for the end of year final. In total ten players qualify.

On the final shootout day, the qualifiers play together, with the player having the worst score on each hole dropping out until the winner is found after 9 holes. Ties are resolved by a putt-off or chip-off as decided by the referee, except for the final hole, which is replayed if halved. Sadly, this year because the women golf player numbers are currently small, we had only eight qualifiers, so the shootout was played in just 7 holes.

Congratulations to Sue Karl who became the 2019 shootout champion after winning the final hole against runner-up Noeleen Mulligan. Sandra Bowen was placed third. Thanks to Carol Wyborn for being our referee.

*Featured: Sue Karl was the winner of the Matarangi Ladies Shootout beating Noeleen Mulligan in the final.*

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## — WHAT HAS MRAI DONE? —

Ian Patrick came up with in no particular ranking order this list of MRAI activities and successes over the last ten years. To join the Matarangi Ratepayers Association contact David Macdonald Phone: 07 866 0968

- The successful 2001 appeal to the Environment Court resulted in a new Structure Plan for Matarangi, with all that devolved from it; e.g. The Esplanade Spit walkway, revised landscaping & environment standards, local regulations for storm water discharge, buildings setback from harbour edge, funding for utilities upgrades...the list goes on. Refer to the decision document for details.
- Advocated over several years and succeeded in achieving the boat ramp upgrade.
- Public toilets at the shops.
- Retaining the name "Village Green" against a council plan to name it the "Omara Reserve".
- Advocacy to maintain the current level of water supply against a developer anxious to downgrade the minimum requirement.
- Contributed to the upgrade of the original Fire Station siren to 3-phase and to the 2011 Emergency Sirens upgrade. Provision of quality all terrain stretchers for the Matarangi Volunteer Fire Force and donation to Matarangi Volunteer Fire Force for defibrillator.
- Initiation and preparation of Matarangi tsunami evacuation plan.
- Donations to Matarangi Summer Carnival, and assisting them with successful funding applications to TCDC Community Treasure Chest for the years since Hanover Group demise.
- Initiating and implementing provision of blue walkway posts throughout Matarangi. Installing bollards along shore reserve and numbering of beach access ways as reference points in case of emergencies.
- Harassing TCDC into action over storm water works, water treatment plant, sewage treatment. Storm water drainage work by council along Kenwood Drive, Kowhai Avenue, and Matarangi Drive between the entrance and Fernhill Crescent, as well as a resolution to the Taupata Way problem, is a direct result of the 2001 Environment Court ruling and continued pressure from MRAI.
- Initiating successful prosecution of developers for consent breaches.
- Impeding TCDC & developers in actions we believed detrimental to the public good; e.g. the current potential for subdivision of golf course/open space land
- Matarangi Reserves Management Group. MRAI has cooperated with, and facilitates their activities such as: Initiating improvements to Ocean Close parking space and installing bollards. Initiating improvements to Village Green, bollards replacing ugly fence, and ongoing installation of playground. Planting entrance reserve native trees and the avenue of Magnolia.
- Review of Subdivision standards and continued advocacy on issues around protection as open space of golf course land and connectivity through subdivisions have resulted in a comprehensive updating of the Structure Plan in the council's current Draft 10-year plan, incorporating all the points we have fought long and hard for.
- Influenced the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the shopping centre and persuaded council to correct dangerous errors in the original construction.
- Initiated handover of privately owned tennis courts to TCDC at no cost then succeeded in committing TCDC to upgrade the Sands Crescent tennis courts to a high standard
- Influenced TCDC action on footpaths opposite Dunes clubhouse and between Fernhill Rise and Waimaire Ave.
- Co-operated with the golf course owners to assist in an appropriate location for the new implement shed.
- Achieved sensible revision of the level of street lighting in Matarangi, reducing newer area's excessive illumination and adding some improvements in the older areas.
- Extensive preparation of final submissions to draft 10-year plan researched and written in house with significant cost savings to members.
- Constructed a public notice board for community use at the shopping centre and constructed and supplied new book shelves for the community library at materials cost only.
- Donated funding for the Matarangi Fire Force's new fire truck.
- Influenced council to apply open space zoning to the golf course land in their 10-year plan.
- Provided new nets for the developer owned tennis courts and drainage for the courts adjacent to the shopping centre and engaged contractors to fell pine and gum trees overhanging the court at the shopping centre.
- Initiated discussions between Burfoot and TCDC that led to the developer gifting 6 tennis courts to the council as reserves.
- Supported the A Taste of Matarangi Festival in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020.
- Reserves group promoted and facilitated provision of a shade sail over a portion of the Village Green playground for protection from summer sun through the Reserve Management Group and partially funded with a generous donation by Richardson's Community Library, erected in February 2018.
- Successfully negotiated with Council and Burfoot Ltd to provide generous harbour side reserves for public use and trailer parking, a reserve buffer between the Fire Station and residential development and inclusion of the Fire Station carpark in public amenities to maintain and improve the amenity value and quality of future subdivision to keep standards higher than previous stages.
- Reserve group created and designed a sign in the Village Green to be produced and supplied by Council depicting the history of Matarangi.
- Reserve Group initiated street signage installed by council with directions to the beach, boat ramp and public toilets.
- Reserve Group initiated and part paid for new planting including the Magnolia avenue on the reserve land at the entrance to town.
- MRAI succeeded in initiating and executing the successful purchase of the open space of the golf course and forming a Community Trust to control the land in perpetuity. 33 Currently advocating for a more secure second pipeline across the harbour to protect Matarangi's water supply.



Early in November our Junior classrooms had an exciting visit to Whitianga to see the FLY DC3. They took with them several boxes of small items to pass on to the IGYBP charity and got to have a tour of the plane. The charity collects essential supplies for women, men and children who have to leave their homes in a hurry due to domestic violence and puts them into back packs, hence the name acronym for 'I Got Your Back Pack'. The school was delighted by the community response which donated numerous items for the back packs.

Our Year 6-8 students had a marvellous trip to Wellington mid-November, and were great ambassadors for Te Rerenga School at the various places visited including Weta Workshop; Te Papa; Parliament; Wellington Museum; Space Place; Wellington Zoo and the Westpac Stadium. We were very fortunate in gaining three grants to assist in the cost of the trip to Wellington. \$2,240 from the Parliamentary Services



Travel Fund; \$3,170 from Pub Charities and \$3,105 from Lion Foundation.

*Above: Scott Simpson MP with the Te Rerenga students at Parliament*

*Below: The children watching the DC-3 arrive at Whitianga*



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## A TASTE OF MATARANGI SPONSORS SUPPORT WELCOMED

A Taste of Matarangi is a day to celebrate and have fun with the whole family. On the 4th of April 2020 the Village Green will come alive with entertainment and activities, providing you with a great day of food, wine and music by the beach.

Our home-grown local festival gives you the opportunity to sample a selection of fine wines, locally brewed beer and tasty cuisine from more than 40 vendors. The all day line up of musicians is your sound track for a relaxing day with family, catching up with friends and making new ones!

Since the first A Taste of Matarangi in 2013, we have always had the loyal backing of sponsors, volunteers and supporters of the festival. The generosity and dedication of the Matarangi community is crucial to our festival and is what enables us to continue.

The organising committee would like to give a huge thank you to all our sponsors, existing and new, who make this much-loved community event possible. Please support them and let them know you appreciate their support for the A Taste of Matarangi festival.

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event in Matarangi - buy your tickets online now at [www.atasteofmatarangi.co.nz](http://www.atasteofmatarangi.co.nz)

Look out for the January edition of The Matarangi Beach Paper for announcements of the "Cook Off", new musicians as well as a competition to win festival tickets.

Wishing you a happy and safe Christmas and holiday season from the A Taste of Matarangi organising committee.

### TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

From Richardsons Real Estate in Matarangi, Coromandel Adventures in Coromandel, the Whitianga I-site and through the website at [www.atasteofmatarangi.co.nz](http://www.atasteofmatarangi.co.nz)

Thanks to our major sponsors -All About Whitianga, Coromandel More FM and Creative Fuel.

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# Condolences

Our very deepest sympathy goes out to Holzgang, Gordon and Falleni families, on the recent loss of their father, Louis Holzgang, who died suddenly at his home in Matarangi on November 4th aged 89, and Toni's husband, Brett, who lost his battle with cancer on his 65th birthday on November 5th. Both Louis and Brett had been residents in the Matarangi area for many years. Louis, originally from Switzerland moved with his wife Elfie to the area in 1960. Louis was an active member of our community and was on the Te Rerenga School committee as secretary/treasurer for 12 years. Louis and Brett supported our community over the decades, including the build of our Matarangi Fire Station and hall and supporting our local school. RIP Louis and Brett.

## OBITUARY FOR BRETT GORDON By Maree Taylor

Family and friends gathered in the Gordon orchard, on a beautiful sunny day, to say their farewells to Brett who sadly passed away on the 5th November 2019. The day was just as Brett wanted. A day of remembrance, laughter and great memories.

Brett was born in Auckland on the 5th November 1954 but grew up the family farm on Waiheke Island. He was the oldest of the Gordon children and a 4th generation Gordon to live on the farm. His schooling years were on Waiheke and he then moved to Auckland to start a building apprenticeship. Brett met Toni while he was in Auckland and they married in November 1978. Their first home was in Beachlands where they welcomed into the world their two children Claire and Abbie. In 1986 they sold up in Auckland and made the move to Matarangi where Brett built their first home. The family were the 5th permanent residents in Matarangi and soon became one of the locals.

One Labour Weekend the local council turned up with a Fire Engine and the community were given to task to fund raise and build the Fire Station. When there were enough funds to start the building Brett, being a builder, was put in charge to get the building underway. Brett could see that Matarangi was growing, as new families and bach owners were moving in, so he pushed for the building to be as big as they could possibly get it. So the foundation of the existing Fire Station and Hall was built.

Brett and Toni then purchased a property on the main road where they started their own little market garden selling fresh vegetables from a road side stall.

They lived there for some time and then had the opportunity to purchase their current property. It was an existing orchard, but overgrown. It was a mammoth task to bring it back into shape but the family set about and it was soon producing beautiful oranges and mandarins. Brett and Toni lived in a small two room shed for a few years before Brett built their existing home on the hill



overlooking the Whangapoua Harbour. Brett loved fishing and spending time with his family. He was very proud of his grandchildren, Bo and Jack, as they have also taken on his love of fishing.

Toni and family paid special thanks to the Oncology Team for gifting them extra time with Brett, the Palliative Care team and the Cancer Society for the care and dedication given to Brett, making it possible to keep him at home in his happy place. Also to the Matarangi community for the many visits, phone calls, meals and to many who helped get the orchard ready for the memorial.

Brett was a loving husband to Toni, treasured father of Claire & Reuben & Abbie, and awesome Poppa to Bo and Jack.

*Featured: Brett Gordon loved fishing and spending time with his family. He and wife Toni were the 5th permanent residents in Matarangi moving to the village 1986.*

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### MELBOURNE CUP DAY PARTY:

TOP - Danielle Threadgold, Shirley Meullers, Jude Hall and Shirvani Hall  
 MIDDLE - Teresa Kedzlie, Lou Bradley, Brenda Riggs and Sharon Clay  
 BOTTOM - A great crowd gathered once again for Matarangi's Melbourne Cup Day. A group of keen racegoers (Graham, Stu, Peter, Pete, Alwyn and Barry) were out to win!



### TRADIES XMAS DINNER:

TOP - Ruth and Bob Fisken, Puku Stevens, Sue Sinclair and Pip Teklenburg were amongst those who were celebrating at the Tradies Christmas Dinner on November 30.  
 BOTTOM - Those at the dinner were in great cheer celebrating Christmas Matarangi Tradie style. A super effort by the organisers Sharon Clay, Sue Sinclair and Pip Teklenburg and those locals who sponsored this wonderful evening to spread festive fun in our community.



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## ATOM BINGO NIGHT:

Matarangi Locals turned out in full force to support the A Taste of Matarangi Bingo Night Fundraiser. The next event will be held 4th of April 2020 on the Village Green.



## WHERE IN THE WORLD IS THE MBP?

George Rinui with Bob Segetin and Phil Mosen on the Chathams

George Rinui writes that he recently had the pleasure of hosting his first visitors from Matarangi, Bob Segetin and Phil Mosen, who came and stayed a week with him on the Chatham Islands.

"They're having a ball with lots of fishing and eating, meeting the locals and discovering the island, said George."

Matarangi based George was seconded back to the Chathams during the year as part of his Fisheries Enforcement role with MPI. Prior to coming to Matarangi George and wife Bronwyn were permanently posted on the island.

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](mailto:contact@matarangibeachpaper.com)



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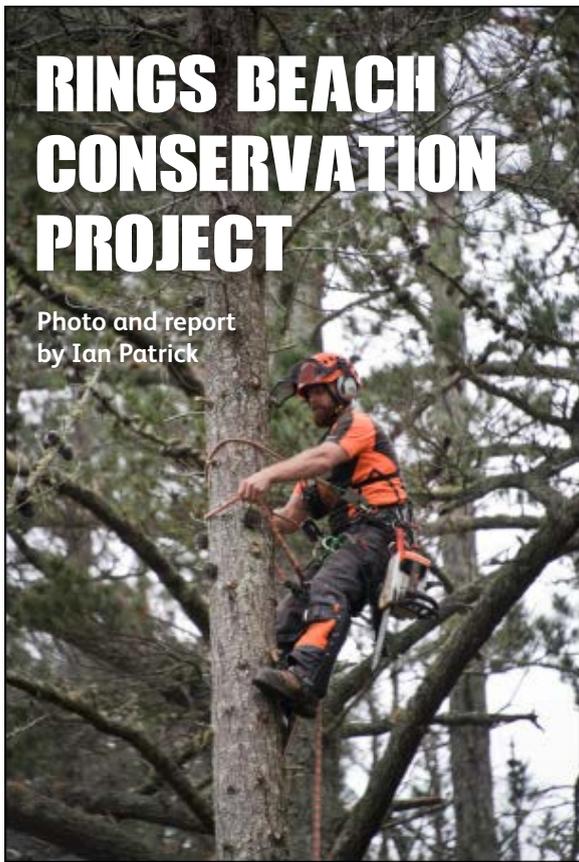
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# RINGS BEACH CONSERVATION PROJECT

Photo and report by Ian Patrick



a native forest re-populated by native birds, including the several kiwi which have self introduced over the last two years. The grant includes a further \$40,000 for cutting next winter," reports Ian Patrick.

"Also funded by WRC was 50 new Goodnature gas operated self-setting traps to extend the trapping network. These are currently being trialed to determine the most effective locations to enhance our predator elimination rate."

During June a decision was made to operate as an independent body in light of the increasing scale and value of our operations and the need to control the groups own funds. Previously at the request of DOC the group had worked under the umbrella of the Coromandel Peninsula Coastal Walkways based in Tairua, but the Rings Beach project had come to represent a significant proportion of their activities and administration needs were growing.

To that end the Rings Beach Wetland Group Inc. was incorporated on June 19 and a committee was formed consisting of:

- CHAIR: Carrie Parker
- SECRETARY: Dave Fitzgerald
- TREASURER: Kathy Speirs

Our volunteers have all paid a subscription of \$10 per annum, if anyone else wishes to offer support in this way by becoming a member please contact Kathy. To this end the wetland group has started a Group contact account ringsbeachwetlandgroup@gmail.com

Ian MacDonald was appointed Patron and Ian Patrick have stepped aside as he and Diane are planning to sell their house and move south. When project founder Bruce Smith asked Ian Patrick to take on the secretarial role and free Ian MacDonald up to run the project they had little idea how effective and ambitious it would become. "We have a keen team of dedicated volunteers doing great work, Bruce's vision has been realised, even exceeded, and I have fulfilled my promise to Bruce so leave with a sense of satisfaction," said Ian Patrick.

"I look forward to returning in 50 years to see the final result!!"

**Featured: Local arborists Tricky Trees were contracted to remove the Wilding pines.**

It has been an eventful and milestone year for the Rings Beach conservation project.

Earlier in the year, after cutting wilding pines in the Rings Beach valley a steep drop was revealed on a rocky, uneven and narrow stretch of the track.

With the efforts of Walkway Solutions, who carried out the successful upgrade to the Matarangi track some time ago, and with helicopter transport of their equipment, a repair was effected making that area safer for walkers. This was generously funded by a number of community minded Matarangi residents for which the group are grateful.

"In July we received the second tranche of the Waikato Regional Council funding, \$40,000 to pay for the ongoing wilding pine felling program which in time will eliminate pines from the reserve and promote eventual restoration to

## MATARANGI SECURITY CAMERA UPDATE

The security cameras located by the main entrance to Matarangi were funded by donations from the Matarangi Community and from the Matarangi Rural Fire Force. Over time with a change in circumstances the ownership question became unclear. Recently the newly formed Matarangi Community Trust has offered to take responsibility for the cameras and has funded a technician to visit and service the cameras and to make sure they are working correctly.

The Matarangi Community Trust are also in discussions with TCDC (the camera and recorder are housed by them) and the NZ Police who have access to the video footage when needed. Access will only be by the police when a complaint is laid with them and they think it may be useful. It is therefore very important that if you have a problem that you ring the police on 105 and lodge a complaint.

Video recording is functional 24/7. Over time the Matarangi Community Trust will investigate additional functionality with a view to making Matarangi a safer community.

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# MATARANGI BOAT AND FISHING CLUB

The weather seems to be slowly settling down with the water temp creeping up to 16 degrees last weekend. This rise in temperature heralds the starting of the spawning season, especially when 18 degrees is reached, so if any larger snapper are bagged consider retuning the females, especially if they have bloated stomachs. The females can be recognised by having a white under chin area whereas males normally have a grey mottled chin. The fishing has been hard going this last month with some having reasonable success, but the majority of anglers have been returning to the ramp with maybe a gurnard. The Kontiki fishermen have been having very limited success, but those fishing really early or later at night have been catching reasonable fish.

On the 28th December we will be running our annual BAR CROSSING ADVISORY SEMINAR. This event will take place at the Matarangi Fire Station at 9am. Everyone is invited to this complimentary event, which focuses on the Whangapoua Harbour and the bar.

The ANNUAL JANUARY 2nd FISHING COMPETITION will be held again this year. This event is open to everyone with some fantastic prizes plus spot prizes. Tickets will be available from Mark and Shirvani at MATARANGI BEACH REALTY and Darren, Sharon and the team at the FOUR SQUARE MATARANGI. Ticket prices are \$15 for Club members and \$25 for non-club members. The full prize list is published on the ticket and will be published in the Christmas edition.

The scallops are still scarce and on the small size with the fish inside wasted and pale. Several divers have not caught any legal sized scallops during a dive. The actions of the commercial fraternity that can take them at 90mm has had a lasting detrimental effect on the beds over the last 5 to 10 years. The continual dredging has destroyed the scallop's environment and it will be several years before it recovers, if it ever does.

Be aware that the bar doesn't have a major

channel at the moment. Also be aware that the sand has drifted well into the harbour. Updated photos of the bar, courtesy of Mark and Shirvani at MATARANGI REALTY, can be viewed at Matarangi Realty, the Fire Station and at the boat ramp notice board. 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

## MATARANGI RURAL FIRE FORCE

A very quiet month for call outs with only one medical to attend. Although it has been quiet for call outs we have been very busy with training and other events.

I would like to congratulate Russell Povey, Neil Robins, Cameron Smith, Grant Buttigieg and Andrew Clarke for completing a four day Rural Recruits course here in Matarangi. You would have seen all the activity and vehicles around the Fire Station during the 9th to 12th and a lot of hard work went into preparing and completing the course. They are all now qualified Fire Fighters.

We also had a number of our volunteers complete a Working with Aircraft course on the 17th. The helicopter spent about 3 hours working with the team and they all really enjoyed the experience. As you can see we are putting a lot of work into preparing for the upcoming fire season as it looks like there may be a hot summer ahead of us.

Bob Segetin and myself attended the annual United Fire Brigades Association AGM and conference in Christchurch. This is always well worth while as they have some great speakers and interactive workshops. A remit was passed to finally fully amalgamate the

two advocacy groups, the UFBA and FRFANZ so that we are now represented by only one group which makes things much simpler as we work with Fire and Emergency NZ.

Bob and I also attended the 25 Year Service Gold Star presentation to Jason Hoyland at Whitianga Volunteer Fire Brigade. Congratulations to Jason for outstanding service to his Brigade and community.

Stay safe everyone, Stu Arnold



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# Puku & Kerre's Wine Club



Thursday November 13 was a busy night at Wine Club, with 9 wines presented by Clearview's entertaining and enthusiastic founder/ winemaker/ owner, Tim Turvey, and his charming manager of 11 years, Lisa Clarke. With a story for every wine, Tim gave us a grunty Rose, three Chardonnays, a Merlot, Syrah, Cab/ Merlot/ Malbec and a delicious 'finisher' of a dessert Red. A great bonus was a dry and spicy Gewurztraminer, perfect for balancing spicy food.

Clearview's location at Te Awanga on the Cape Kidnappers coast in the Hawkes Bay, utilises the unique microclimate of the area to produce a very wide range of wines for every palate, for immediate drinking, or for (recommended) cellaring. If you are ever in the area, Clearview's Red Shed Restaurant combines the cellar door and a lunch restaurant.

The evening concluded with delicious roast pork in buns with apple sauce, the roast expertly carved by Steve Threadgold.



All the wines presented can be purchased from Puk and Kerre's Liquor Store, and we look forward to welcoming Lisa and Clearview's Auckland Rep, Michelle, to A Taste of Matarangi in 2020.

All these wines are available at Puku & Kerre's Liquor Store.

*Left: Paul Dickinson, Steven Bowden, Pauline Dickinson, Harry Karl, Sue Karl, and Cora Bowden deep in discussion.*

## NEW COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Our Mercury Bay TCDC councillors have new positions of responsibility over the next 3-year term. Cr. Murray McLean has been appointed the Deputy Mayor and Cr. Tony Fox has been appointed to the Infrastructure portfolio and as the TCDC representative to the Waikato Regional Transport Committee. Rekha Giri-Percival has been elected as chair of the Mercury Bay Community Board. Rekha took over the Chairperson role towards the end of the last council term following the passing of Paul Kelly.

## KUAOTUNU TOILETS GET SPRUCED UP

The public toilets at Blackjack Reserve in Kuaotunu are closed until 14 December due to getting a spruce up in time for Christmas and the peak holiday season. In the meantime, if you do need to spend a penny while in the village the closest 24-hour conveniences are at the Kuaotunu Domain a brisk 5 minute walk away. When the toilets reopen after the upgrade, they will have new concrete skirting, new cladding and a wider path. While new outdoor showers will be installed, these won't be ready for use until the water supply is upgraded in the New Year. Do keep an eye out for new artwork on the outside walls, to be added by a local artist at later date and a fresh new front garden, which will be re-planted next winter.



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# STARGAZERS SIGHTS

with Alastair Brickell of Stargazers Tours & BnB

Mercury passed in front of the Sun on November 12 to give us the exciting Transit of Mercury and it has now started to move around behind the Sun so will be very hard to spot as it is pretty much lost in the Sun's glare this month. However, early risers may get a glimpse of it very low on the eastern horizon just before the Sun rises after Christmas. We will have our last chance for a while to see the gas giants Jupiter and Saturn this month as they also appear to move very close to the Sun.

On the other hand Venus continues to appear higher and higher in the western twilight sky this month as it moves further away from the Sun from our point of view. Readers with a good telescope will be able to see that its shape is becoming less round and more crescent like as it travels to the side in its orbit around the Sun and is gradually getting ever closer to us. Over the next few weeks it will look more and more like a crescent Moon. Unfortunately no surface details are visible even in a large telescope since it is totally covered in clouds high above its torrid 450°C surface.

Mars will be very faint but just visible in the early morning eastern sky and the International Space Station (ISS) will also make some nice passes overhead this month if it sticks to its predicted schedule.

- December 4 – Venus is visible low in the western twilight sky just above much fainter Jupiter. You will need a very unobstructed western horizon to see Jupiter though as it is now so low.
- December 5 – Venus now sits about half way between Jupiter and fainter Saturn somewhat higher up in the sky.
- December 6 – Extremely early risers or perhaps late sleepers will get a glimpse of the International Space Station (ISS) travelling low in the southern sky from 3:13am until 3:17am when it will disappear in the SE. You will need a good view of the southern horizon to spot it though.
- December 11 – The western twilight sky will have bright Venus just above and to the left of much fainter Saturn. A somewhat brighter Jupiter will be right on the horizon.
- December 15 – The ISS will make a bright pass high overhead tonight starting at 10:16pm in the NW and travelling rapidly to the SE where it will disappear at 10:24pm.
- December 17 – The eastern twilight sky will show that Venus has now moved further away from the Sun so is now some distance above and to the right of Saturn.
- December 18 – The ISS will appear again tonight in the NW from 9:26pm and travel overhead to set in the SE at 9:35pm.
- December 22 – Today marks the summer solstice, the point at which the Sun moves furthest to the south and the days are the longest, but not yet the warmest.
- December 23 – The early morning eastern sky will reveal a thin crescent Moon with faint and slightly reddish Mars just to its right.
- December 24 – The crescent Moon has become even thinner and now sits about halfway between faint Mars above it and slightly to the left with the red giant star Antares about the same distance to the right of the Moon. Mars, being a planet, generally does not appear to twinkle like the stars. Tonight children with keen eyes may be able to see Santae Australis heading our way from the direction of the North Pole.
- December 25 – Observers with a good view of the eastern horizon and sharp eyes may be able to catch a glimpse of faint Mercury very low in the pre-dawn sky just to the right of a very thin crescent Moon.
- December 27 – The western twilight sky will show a very thin crescent Moon just to the left of Saturn but you will need an unobstructed horizon to see this.
- December 29 – The crescent Moon now sits just above and to the right of bright Venus in the evening twilight. The ISS will make not one but two passes overhead tonight as it completes its approximately 90 minute orbit around the Earth. The first starts at 10:16pm low in the SW and finishes at 10:20pm in the SE as it disappears into the Earth's shadow. The second pass starts at 11:51pm in the SE and only lasts for about two minutes until 11:53pm when it passes into the Earth's shadow, now much higher up in our sky as the Sun moves ever further below our feet casting a bigger shadow in the sky.

**Hatha Yoga** ... with Jose Kakebeke

Sessions:  
\$15 Single,  
10 Concession Card  
\$130, &  
Gold Card \$10

Tuesdays: 10 - 11.30am & Thursdays: 9 - 10.30am  
Saturdays: 3rd Age & Limited Mobility Class 9 - 10.30am  
Venue: Kuaotunu Hall

Ph: 021393299 or 078664888 / jose.kakebeke@gmail.com

**THE 2018  
MATARANGI  
SANTA PARADE**

Sunday 22nd December at 11am

Come to Matarangi Drive outside the shops!!



# PUZZLE CORNER

OUR MONTHLY PUZZLE CREATED BY DAVID KEY

The first sale of the day was herbal soap made by a crafter whose name did not begin with a D.  
 This like the wand was not the cheapest item of the first five items sold that day.  
 A laser cut gift was sold for \$20 which was not created by one of the girls and was cheaper than Mary's item.  
 The fifth sale of the day was for the amount of \$40 it was something the girl that created it was very proud of.  
 Dawn's product sold 2nd and like Annette's was not one of the two most expensive items.  
 Derek made elaborate Macrame products but one of these was not one of the first three products sold.

Order	Item	Price	Sales
1st	Herbal soaps	\$4	
2nd	Wands	\$6	
3rd	Macrame	\$20	
4th	Laser cut gifts	\$25	
5th	Eco Cleaners	\$40	

**NOVEMBER SOLUTION:**  
 Adult tickets are \$45 and  
 Concession tickets are \$24

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## Pestie Corner

Hello Everyone,  
 Well as I write this, the countdown to Christmas is only one month away and with us is the hot, sunny weather. Something we have all been waiting for but so too are the bugs and insects that plague us during the Summer.  
 Ants are coming out in droves so be careful and watch out for their tell tale ant mounds in the soil. If you are using gel, make sure you have the bug stations in the ant trail so they can take the gel back to the nest. Exterior boundary sprays to your house can also help deter them.  
 We are also starting to see some early signs of wasps as they emerge from their Winter hibernation. Look for their flight paths to find their source but do not try and attack their hives by yourself if you do not have the right equipment. Remember, their nests can be bigger than you can see with multiple access points, especially in the bush.  
 Spiders have been prolific as well, especially on black or dark coloured houses

due to the heat emitted. Spraying for spiders will remove them but leave the cobwebs for at least 2 weeks to give them time for the insecticide to get on their bodies and to ensure you get any hatching spiders as well. Then sweep off with a soft broom.  
 Midges, Sandflies and flies are starting. Just in time for our BBQ's. Again, spraying and flytraps can sort them out especially for those close to waterways. Midges and mosquitos can be treated by spraying directly on to lawns and plants to minimise their effects on us.  
 Despite all of this, we would like to say thank you to all our customers for using our services over the past year, to everyone with suggestions for Pestie Corner, we look forward to your input and questions and from us we wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a fantastic New Year, be safe on the roads and see you in 2020.  
 Stephen & Sharon Clay  
 Peninsula Pest Services Ltd



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# Local Events Guide

[allaboutwhitianga.co.nz](http://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](mailto: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 &amp; Social Club 1-4pm Ph Lia 866 2054

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

Mens 9 Hole Golfers tee off 10.30am. @ 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

Ladies "Allsorts Exercise" Class beginning June 10th at the fire station 10.15 - till 11.15 ( after Ladies Pilates) - duration 1hr. Phone Christiane 0273122584

Books and Banter Club. First Monday of the month - 7 to 9 pm. Bring a book you have enjoyed to share and swap. Coffee and tea and BYO wine. Phone Cora on 0212226707 if you wish to attend and for venue details. Numbers are limited!

Kuaotunu Library. Open 24/7 when you become a member. Contact Maxine: 07 866 4341 or 027 293 0369.

### TUESDAYS

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

Ladies Golf 9 and 18 golfers Tee off at 10am @ 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 10 - 11.30 am

### 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](mailto:robyn.balfour2@hotmail.com)

 Kuaotunu ICONZ for Girlz. Growing Girls for Good. Held at the Kuaotunu Hall. Wednesdays at 4pm-5.30pm (during the school term). For Girls aged 8-13 years old. For more information, please contact Robyn 020 409 39674 or email [robyn.balfour2@hotmail.com](mailto:robyn.balfour2@hotmail.com).

### THURSDAYS

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 Golf 9 and 18 golfers Tee off at 10am @ 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

Hatha Yoga 9 - 10.30 am

Kuaotunu Steiner Playgroup - the contact to Kindergarten 07 8660094 and the time from 9 am to 11:30 am.

### TUES, THURS & SAT

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

### SATURDAYS

Hatha Yoga 3rd Age. 9-10.30am (For over 60 yr olds and/or for people with limited mobility)

### SUNDAYS

Matarangi Markets start Labour Weekend.

## Upcoming Events

### SANTA PARADE

22nd Dec 19 - 11am Matarangi Shops

### MATARANGI FIRE STATION OPEN DAY

27th Dec 19 - 10am

### BAR CROSSING SEMINAR

28th Dec 19 - 9am at Matarangi Fire Station

### SCHOOL PTA BBQ FUNDRAISER

28th Dec 19 - 11am

### MATARANGI COMMUNITY TRUST COLLECTION

31st Dec 19 - 2pm - 5pm

## Classifieds / Notices

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES

For more information, and to collect a shoe box please call Robyn on 020 409 39674

### EXCEPTIONAL SECTION 4 SALE

Whangapoua Beach, Coromandel. Elevated + All Day Sun + Sea Views + Private Access + Concrete Driveway + 4.6 acres + Native Bush + Three Building Platforms for a dwelling, boat shed or heli pad + 5 mins to Boat Ramp + Spray Free + Beehives + Walking Distance to

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### MAH JONG GROUP

Anyone interested in a Mah Jong group in Matarangi, please contact Sheila 021 1858567

DECEMBER 2019 TIDES WHITIANGA					
	High	Low	High	Low	High
5	02:08	08:08	14:39	20:46	
6	03:00	09:01	15:28	21:37	
7	03:54	09:55	16:18	22:28	
8	04:48	10:48	17:07	23:17	
9	05:41	11:38	17:55		
10		00:04	06:30	12:25	18:42
11		00:50	07:17	13:11	19:28
12		01:34	08:02	13:56	20:14
13		02:18	08:47	14:41	21:00
14		03:02	09:32	15:28	21:48
15		03:47	10:18	16:16	22:36
16		04:34	11:05	17:05	23:25
17	05:22	11:55	17:56		
18	00:17	06:13	12:46	18:49	
19	01:11	07:06	13:40	19:45	
20	02:08	08:03	14:35	20:42	
21	03:07	09:03	15:32	21:40	
22	04:09	10:04	16:30	22:39	
23	05:10	11:06	17:27	23:38	
24	06:09	12:05	18:24		
25		00:34	07:05	13:01	19:19
26		01:28	07:58	13:55	20:12
27		02:18	08:48	14:46	21:02
28		03:06	09:35	15:35	21:50
29		03:51	10:20	16:21	22:35
30		04:35	11:04	17:06	23:19
31		05:17	11:47	17:50	

Source: LINZ

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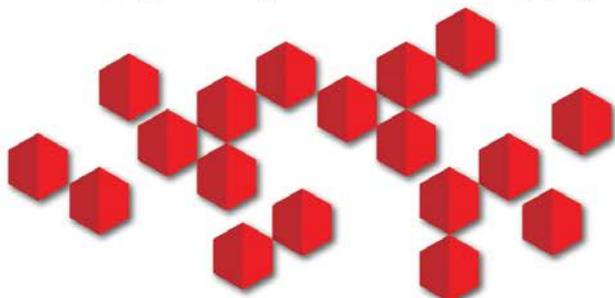


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5 3 Land Size: 883 m2

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**W**ishing you all a safe, happy & fun holiday at the beach!

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