

December 2020
Volume 24 Issue 12

Coromandel Town Chronicle

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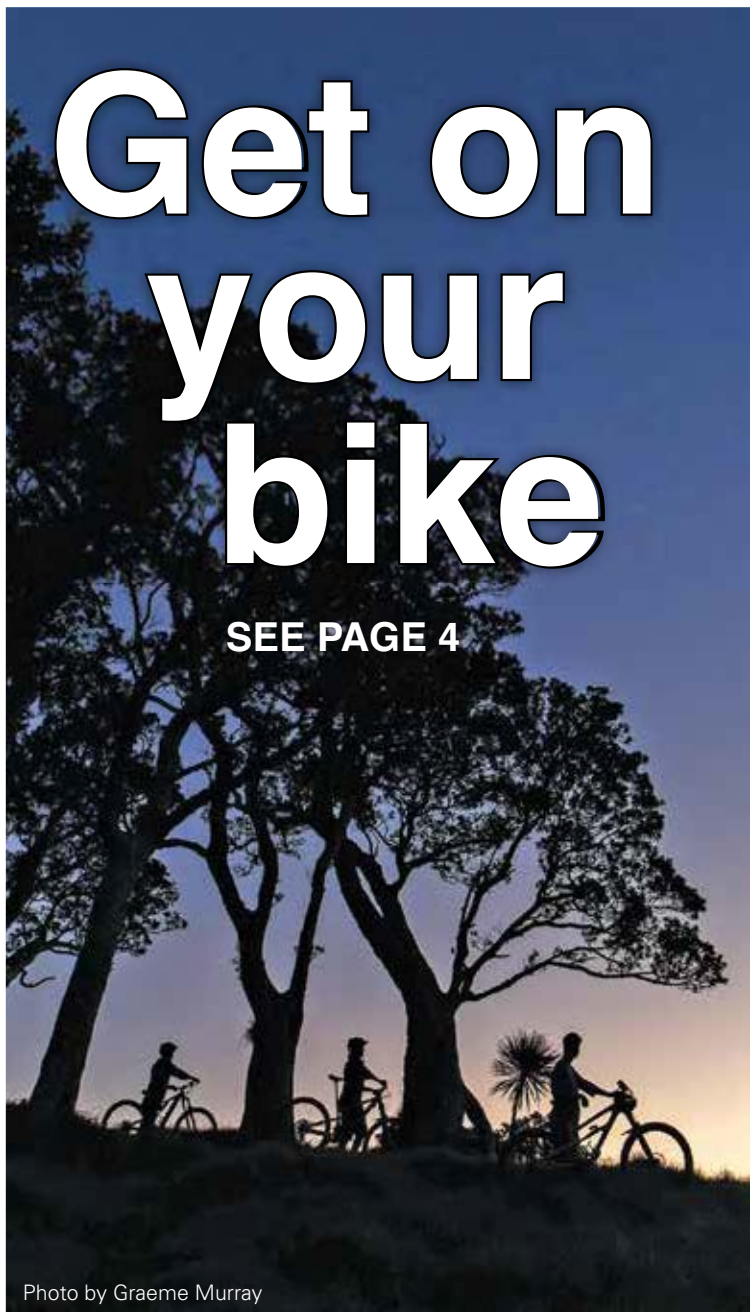


Photo by Graeme Murray

School production PG 25



Pastel workshop PG 26



Club champs PG 31





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\$5 entry day
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Coromandel Town Chronicle

Cover picture: Main pic – Cycling in Coromandel by Graeme Murray.
Sub-pic – the new pump track.

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www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz/html/guidelines.html

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Emergency

Call 111.

AED's in Coromandel Town: Fire Station, Ambulance Station, Four Square, Coro Family Health, Bowling Club/RSA, Te Korowai and Phoenix House. Although AED's are important, St John say performing continuous chest compressions/calling 111 takes priority.

Editor's comment

As I finish this issue of the Chronicle I hear that the BNZ in Coromandel Town will be closing as part of closures of small branches across the country. This is sad news for our small community – many of who don't use internet banking and need personal assistance. Sign of the times unfortunately.

Santa Parade and Christmas in the Park is on **Saturday 5 December** (see pg 5) followed by \$5 entry at The Waterworks (see ad opposite). Enjoy!

Happy Christmas to all my readers.

Debbie

Letters and opinion

Thanks to a true gentleman

I worked Advance Voting for Elections in October at the Coromandel Citizens' Hall.

Just as I was serving a very patient man, I had a (not so) mini meltdown, and had to take some time to compose myself again to assist this man. I do not remember your name, and your face is not clear either, but your kindness, compassion, empathy and understanding I will never forget.

You are a true gentleman and I thank you.

Carole McDowall

Thanks for 1080 awareness

Kia ora Debbie,

Thank you to the Coromandel Chronicle and also other media who have given time and space to our protest movement to ban 1080 poison in Harataunga, Kennedy Bay and our outrage over the taxpayer funded \$390,038 granted by WRC to a private business that registered itself in May 2020, and who were then granted funding in July 2020. How is this possible? This "company" is a shell organisation for the previously DOC-contracted companies Eastside Eradication and Eastside 2018, owned and operated by the same people. Te Ara Hou. Kennedy Bay Ltd are just another shell contracting organisation that promotes the use of 1080 and other residual poisons on multiply owned and privately owned Māori land in Harataunga, Koputauaki, Papa Aroha, Moehau and the entire upper Coromandel Peninsula. The idea of a pest-proof fence covering thousands of hectares to cut off the Coromandel Peninsula from pests has been proven by experts on more than one occasion to be foolhardy at best, and unfeasible at least (refer R. Robinson UCLA et al).

The \$1million granted to "groups" in the Upper Coromandel Peninsula via the Natural Heritage Fund all support the continued and increased use of 1080 and other residual poisons as the only means by which to restore our ngāhere back to its original state of being – pre-European, pre-Maori, Gondwanaland, e.g. Fantasyland.

I do feel that our voice is being heard, so will thank you in advance for publishing this if it is appropriate.

Nāku noa,

Nā, Sally Mihihara Steedman (a.k.a. Mihihara Harrison), Harataunga

Whale stranding

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Department of Conservation (DOC), I would like to thank all those who came together in an effort to refloat the pilot whales that stranded at Colville Bay earlier this month.

The stranding, which took place over two days and nights between 17, 18 and 19 October, demonstrated the great community spirit of the northern Coromandel, with local community members first on the scene in an immediate response which largely contributed to the successful re-floating of the pod that evening.

I would particularly like to thank Hauraki iwi, Dave Hamon, members of the Colville community and the area's rural fire brigade, Colville Sailing Academy, MEG, Project Jonah, WRC Harbour Master, Massey University, James Drainage and the Mahamudra Centre for Universal Unity for their collective efforts during the stranding.

Marine mammal strandings are difficult and emotional events. People have a strong connection to these animals, and whales in particular. Pilot whales are notorious for multiple strandings, and with both tide and time against our efforts it was a remarkable achievement to save the majority of this pod.

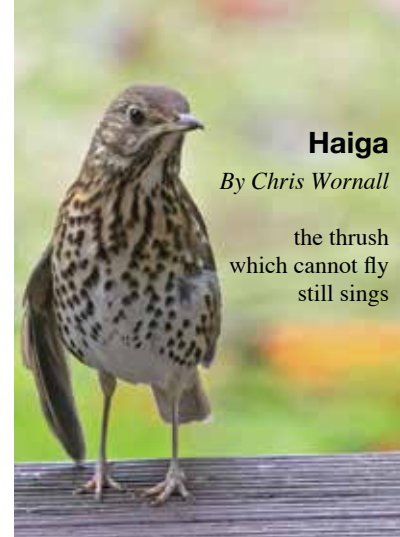
I am continually humbled by the passion, commitment and dedication shown by those who support these efforts. The events that unfolded over the course of the stranding became a superb demonstration of co-operation, and a commitment to conservation of wildlife.

Thank you all.

Nick Kelly, Coromandel District Operations Manager, Department of Conservation

Email letters to the *Coromandel Town Chronicle*

corochronicle@gmail.com. Contributions should be kept short, and should not exceed 350 words. The editor reserves the right to reject letters or edit them for clarity and space.



Haiga

By Chris Wornall

the thrush
which cannot fly
still sings

letters
continued
overleaf...

Letters and opinion continued

Don't Fence Us In

To the Editor and readers,
News in last month's Chronicle that Te Ara Hou Kennedy Bay Ltd has received regional council funding to explore a pest-proof fence across the peninsula from Kennedy Bay to Koputauaki is cause for concern.

Readers should be aware of an independent report by Sandra Barns of the Economics Department at the Waikato University School of Management, funded in part by Environment Waikato (now Waikato Regional Council) in 2004. That study analysed a similar pest-proof fence proposal by the Moehau Environment Group that was to run from Waikawau to Colville, but was abandoned.

The authoritative Barns report concluded the MEG fence project was not feasible. Among other factors, it cited extremely high multimillion-dollar costs of building and maintenance, potential adverse environmental outcomes, adverse impacts on the local economy, and last but not least, ultimate failure due to the inevitability of pest reinvasion.

All pest-proof fence projects also involve widespread application of toxins, including residual poisons brodifacoum and 1080, as an integral part of operations. This is even more likely when trying to maintain a "low-pest" area like Te Ara Hou proposes in an area where thousands of people live, work, and holiday.
Geoff Robinson, Port Charles

A big shout out to the friends of CoroTime

Hi Debbie,

I wonder if you would print a message of heartfelt thanks for the very special people of Coromandel Town who pulled out all stops to help me clear out the shop stock at CoroTime.

I was due to vacate the premises and close the shop on Friday 9 October. On Tuesday 6 October I tripped in my garage and broke my right hand. Being right-hand dominant meant that everything from then on proved rather difficult. I was unable to pack away the glassware and antiques, sort through the clothing and move furniture but a team of fabulous Coromandel customers and friends came to my rescue. If I try to name them I will miss someone so I'd rather not mention people individually; they know who they are. Needless to say I just want to express my gratitude. I could not have done it without you and your amazing community spirit. You all came to my aid when I really needed a helping hand. Excuse the pun. This epitomises the joy of living in Coromandel: being part of a caring, considerate, community. In recognition of my appreciation we had a wee party on the last night in the shop, but not everybody who helped was able to attend so I would be so grateful if you could print this to thank the amazing people of Coromandel Town.
Sue Philbin, CoroTime

Pumped up in Coromandel Town

Coromandel Bike Park

By Ally Davey

In December the Ride Coromandel Bike Park will open its first stages after 10 years of hard work behind the scenes by the Spirit of Coromandel Trust. Our primary purpose is to encourage people, particularly youngsters, into outdoor activities. Starting with the Bike Park as a central cycling hub for the community and visitors to Coromandel Town, our dream is to continue to extend trails into the surrounding hills, and long-term to collaborate with other bike parks around the peninsula, putting the peninsula on the map as a cycling destination.

The first stage began with building a unique, custom-designed pump track to world-class standards for international competition and fun for all ages and abilities. This Velosolutions pump track is a loop with undulating rollers and berms designed to be ridden without pedalling.

To ride, you use a pumping motion, pulling up on the face of the rollers and pushing down with your legs on the downside. It can be used with any bike from mountain bikes to bmxs, even kick trikes and skateboards.

No scooters or bikes with pegs are allowed as these can damage the surface of the track. Considerable effort has gone into building this track for many future generations. Please respect this and continue to educate anyone who may not be aware of this.

The pump track is located at 595 Hauraki Road, just past the entrance to the Refuse Transfer Station, on the left-hand side heading towards the golf course. Have fun and always wear a helmet for your safety. Parents might want to get elbow and knee pads for Christmas presents!

The second stage consists of descent trails built by Trail Pro and is designed to improve bike skills with jumps, flow lines, and berms. Suitable for all riding levels; come and give it a go! Future plans are to build a network of cross-country trails on the Hauraki Rd site to be open in early 2021.

Huge thanks to all of the local contractors and the muscle employed from Kennedy Bay, Colville, Coromandel and Little Bay to move 18,000 tonnes of fill, and over 2,000 wheelbarrow loads of asphalt to form the Pump Track alone. Also to the supporters and funders who have enabled such a fantastic community asset to be built.

We invite everyone to an opening blessing of the Pump Track and Descent Trails on **Sunday 20 December** at 2pm.

Stay tuned for the completion celebration of the Bike Park including the opening of the cross country trails in early 2021. Bike skills events, workshops and demonstration days are all planned for 2021.

For more information follow RIDE Coromandel on Facebook @RideCoromandel, instagram @ridecoromandel and check out our website for more details
www.ridecoromandel.com



The pump track from above

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Happy Christmas

Family Christmas Service

A Family Christmas Service will be held at Coromandel Elim Church, 745 Rings Rd on **Sunday 20 December** 10am. All welcome.

Christ Church news

By Barbara O'Reilly

Two things we find difficult: waiting and being patient. Right now it is the season for waiting; it is Advent observed by Christian Churches throughout the world. During Advent we are waiting for the birth of the Christ Child celebrated at Christ Church on **25 December**.

This year has been hard waiting for us. After a hot, sun-filled 2019 summer, a black cloud arrives in early 2020. Covid-19 hits us and we are swiftly enveloped with compulsory waiting and wondering. We still do not know when the waiting will be over, and what the outcome will be. We're waiting for things to settle down; will things ever be the same again?

The ancient sage Rumi wrote, "Patience is not sitting and waiting, it is foreseeing. It is looking at the thorn and seeing the rose, looking at the night and seeing the day." Comforting words indeed, but now in our time we are so used to accelerating change, there's no time to wait, and patience is in short supply. There is always something more to divert us.

Advent is a time for reflection and fasting. There are traditions that help to focus our minds and hearts and escape from the troubles that disturb us. In churches Advent wreaths will be lit with candles, four purple and at the centre a white. On the first Sunday of Advent (**29 November**) the first purple candle is lit, the candle of hope. We pray then for hope in the present darkness of our world. The second is the candle of peace, the third is the candle of love, and the fourth is the candle of joy.

After this patient, prayerful Advent time of waiting, we are ready and prepared, full of hope, and able wholeheartedly to celebrate and enjoy our promised freedom. On Christmas Eve the white candle is lit symbolising the coming of the Light of the World, Jesus Christ. In this state of mind and spirit, Rumi's saying is wonderfully true, we can learn to foresee glory. We know that we are blessed here; but there are many who are not so fortunate. Please pray with us for hope, peace, love and joy for all.

Sunday Services are at 10am at Christ Church Tiki Rd. Christmas Services are **Sunday 20 December** at 10am and 7pm Carols and Lessons, **Thursday 24 December** Vigil Mass, 5pm, **Christmas Day** Family Mass at 10am.

Santa Parade and Christmas in the Park 5 December

Christmas in the Park will include: 3pm Santa Parade (floats be in line by 2.30pm on Watt Street); floats will finish at the bottom school field. From here the fun begins with colouring competition, photo opportunities with Santa, live music, decoration/card making/face painting and Santa Run (organised by KiwiCan). This is some of what's on offer, but not all. Don't miss out on the fun, come down and help us celebrate with Christmas in the Park.

We are encouraging families to come and have a fun-filled afternoon followed by an early dinner, enjoying the music provided by locals.

Anyone interested in having a stall at this year's Christmas in the Park – please book your stall now – there is no fee. Fill out the form on page 32.

Stalls accepted will be at the discretion of the organising committee – it will be a first in, first served basis ... we don't want three sausage sizzles, or more than one coffee vendor.



Coromandel Town Community Christmas Lunch 25 December

"Twas the night before Christmas the elves were busy making fun new toys. There was something for everyone including the girls and boys.

On Christmas Eve they were finally done. Now all they were waiting for was the community lunch to begin, delicious food cooked lovingly by many hands, you would be hard pushed to find another repast so grand."

The lunch is open to all. Monetary donations can be left at Four Square (addressed: Attention Coromandel Community Lunch). If you want to help with preparing/cooking or donating food, or just helping on the day, we look forward to hearing from you. Please email: Coromandelchristmaslunch@gmail.com or phone Rita 027 210 3734. Those attending are welcome to make a donation if they would like to do so.

In these uncertain times due to Covid-19 our numbers may possibly be quite limited – make sure you register early to avoid possible disappointment. There is still time to register – just fill in the form on page 32.

We look forward to sharing a delicious Christmas lunch with you. From Damian, Lyn and Rita along with the elves.



Thinking about a renovation or new build and need some advice?

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PROUD TO BE LOCAL



Rethink Rubbish Coromandel Town

By Robin Münch

Our first BYO Cup Day was a great success thanks to local businesses Coromandel Gold Hemp and

Organics (who permanently stock our reusable cups), JAK's Café and Bar, Umu café, Wharf Road Café and Weta Café

So many wonderful locals supported the initiative that we're ordering more glass cups with the unique Rethink Rubbish Coromandel Town cork band. Look out for us at Christmas in the Park on **5 December**.

In addition to our cups, we also supplied clean jars insulated with hand-sewn bands. We're delighted that Weta, Umu and JAK's cafés have agreed to keep a stock of them on hand in case you forget to bring your own cup with you.

Ideally, we wash our reusable cups and put them straight back in the car or bag and use them wherever we go. Wouldn't it be great if they became part of our everyday thinking just like our reusable bags?

Back in the day, we took photos of Plastic-Free Coromandel Town bags in different locations. Here's a thought: if you go out of town and take your Rethink Rubbish Coromandel Town cup with you, take a photo showing the location, send it to rret@gmail.com and we'll post it on our Facebook page. Let's see how far our cups travel. We may not have a Hollywood star for a while like we did with our bags back in the day (see photo above), but we're sure to get some remote Aotearoa/NZ or even Australian locations.

We could go even further afield if you post a Rethink Rubbish cup overseas for Christmas and ask your friends and family to send a photo.



Mahamudra Centre

By Amrit Saraswati

The Art of Mindful Living

"When we practice mindfulness in our daily lives, we open to the wonders of life and allow the world to heal and nourish us." – *Thich Nhat Hanh*

Buddhism teaches that mindfulness is the key to a content and meaningful life. Without it we would be lost in the wanderings of our minds. To live mindfully is to be aware of what's happening in every given moment – without judgment and without interference, like a mirror that simply reflects whatever comes before it. It keeps us connected to everything, both internal and external. By being mindful, we have the choice and ability to transform challenges into opportunities for growth.

Interested in learning how to develop mindfulness? Join us at Mahamudra for the Art of Mindful Living Retreat with Hedwig Bakker on **4-6 December**. During this program we will focus on the following aspects: paying attention (present moment awareness), embracing what is beneficial, and dealing with challenges or difficult emotions

More Upcoming Events and Retreats

2 December, 6.30pm – Workshop on Contentment and Clarity at Whitianga Yoga Studio

10 December, 10am – Lama Tsongkhapa Day Guru Puja

13 December, 10.30am – Interfaith Celebration with free lunch

For info about events and courses, contact spc@mahamudra.org.nz or (07) 866 6851

Adult Ballet – weekly class

By Marilyn Swan

Our ballet class is established with new people arriving from time to time. Visitors and holiday makers to Coromandel are welcome to join at any time over the summer period.

I have taught ballet, contemporary and flamenco dance for 43 years at my two dance schools in Motueka Nelson and Hawke's Bay, and now, living in Coromandel Town, I am offering a weekly adult ballet class. This class combines an outlet for technical learning and development as well as artistic expression through dance to music. The weekly class is a unique way to keep fit, learn something new, or revisit something old. My experience allows me to adapt the classes to suit a range of levels from beginners to those with more advanced ballet experience.

I feel there is a sincere respect from all people attending the weekly ballet class for the Art of Ballet. It is a pleasure to share what I can of my ballet and dance experience in a relaxed way.

The ballet barre builds strength, flexibility and control. There are centre practice arrangements incorporating a variety of music to utilise the developing technique. Music is the essence of the ballet class and the group energy is positive.

Separate to the weekly ballet class there has been a Vocational Examination entrant. Rebekah Pearson asked me to enter her for the Royal Academy of Dance Intermediate Examination, so we set to work. Congratulations to Rebekah from us all involved. It is no mean "feat" to achieve this exam at any age, let alone as an adult.

This is from Rebekah, "Living in Coromandel these last five years, the only thing missing was a ballet class, and then Marilyn arrived! She made it possible for me to take my RAD Intermediate exam that I had begun work on twenty years prior and in three months trained me in a new syllabus. Although I found the exam a little nerve-wracking, I managed to pass with a Merit. My toes are a bit beat up but I couldn't be happier!"

During the last school holidays I was delighted to take two levels of children's classes. The children responded well. I would like to offer more children's dance workshops over the summer.

Finally and from a personal point of view, recently I received an email from a retired RAD Examiner who said, "The ladies are looking after their hips and the cafe after-class catch-up is very important!" We do like this last comment.

Adult ballet classes take place in the beautifully renovated Coromandel Citizens' Hall, 455 Kapanga Road, Coromandel Town on Wednesdays 9.50am-11.20am. \$10 per class. For more info contact Marilyn Swan – Registered Teacher & Life Member, Royal Academy of Dance. Ph 027 336 5263, email swanebbs@gmail.com

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Email: dynamictreecare@gmail.com



Calling the Coromandel home

One of the Coromandel's oldest and largest real estate businesses holds firm to its founding roots as it begins to celebrate 60 years in business.

With six decades in the local market, Richardsons Real Estate is well placed to know the "special place" the Coromandel holds in the hearts of those who live here.

Founded by father and son team Lance and Colin Richardson in 1960, strong family values run through the 10 offices across the Coromandel today.

Sales staff still talk about the "Richardsons culture", which is family-focused and centres on caring for their people through awards functions, social gatherings and staff training days.

Richardsons Managing Director Emma Ashworth says the knowledge within each office extends to not only the real estate market, but also local community knowledge, which comes from deep involvement within their home towns.

"Most of Richardsons 62 staff also grew up in their communities, so have called the Coromandel home for the majority of their lives," Emma says.

"Our staff understand the Coromandel region, their towns and are passionate about their communities. That is what our culture is based on – Personal relationships and community involvement," she says.

"Our team are loyal to their towns, and each office gives back to its community through local sponsorships and volunteer work in a range of community activities."

Understanding the Coromandel since 1960

Richardsons' founding roots are well chronicled in the book *Richardsons – 50 Years* marking the 50-year anniversary back in 2010.

It charts the story of how Colin Richardson cut his teeth in business operating "Moodies Dairy" – the local milk bar in Thames, a job that saw him become very familiar with the Coromandel while making deliveries for its frozen foods wholesale distribution business.

Later, he ventured into another business, George Shepherd Ltd, which operated as a toy, gift and stationary shop, and a new chapter was opened when he and Lance



The Coromandel Town Richardsons Real Estate team



decided to make use of the shop's real estate license. From there, Richardsons Real Estate was born.

At the time, the requirement to be a licensed real estate agent was to go down to the local magistrate to swear under oath that you were an upstanding citizen and they gave you one.

Marketing was a card placed in the shop window, with no photo. There were no mobile phones, internet or social media tools to drive the integrated digital marketing campaigns that see listings make a splash today.

Richardsons was the only residential real estate office in Thames until the mid-1980s. Over the years, its reach has grown organically to most towns on the Coromandel, as resident populations have grown and demand for both holiday and

family homes has increased.

Today, still an independent company, to celebrate 60 years in business on the Coromandel is testament to the people who are part of our Richardsons family.

Emma says the legacy of founders Lance and Colin is not forgotten with the team.

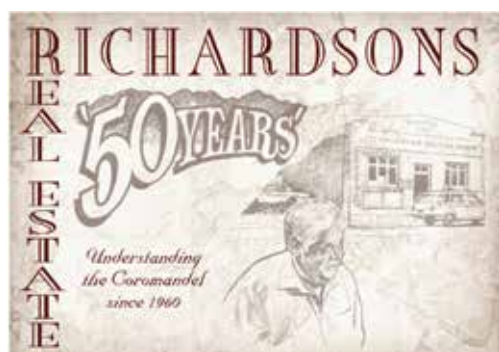
"Together, they established what is today the largest and most successful real estate business on the Coromandel," she says.

"We're still a business that's based on family and community and because we're working in our communities every day, we have so many wonderful experiences, from helping a first-home buyer into their family home, to receiving a letter from the local school thanking us for helping them," Emma says.

"The Coromandel region contains some amazing entrepreneurial businesses and organisations focused on benefiting our communities. It's the same kind of foundations that Richardsons Real Estate was built on," she says.

www.richardsons.co.nz

A few early days' photos from the book *Richardsons – 50 Years*



/Richardsons

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Meet the team... Kim, Robyn,
Melissa, Laurie-Ann & Lynne



New Listing



Absolutely stunning harbour panoramas



Exceptional privacy in a bush sanctuary



*A very rare and sensational opportunity to secure arguably one of the most desirable locations at Te Kouma. This absolute jewel of a property, sits proudly on 4.3452ha affording exceptional privacy and a stunning northerly harbour panorama. Combining a superb mix of bush, rolling lawns, orchards, landscaped gardens and extensive vehicle/boat parking areas, you will instantly appreciate the privileged lifestyle of owning such a wonderful coastal retreat. The home has been purposely designed to capture the glorious views from most rooms, while the extensive decking will have you enjoying morning coffees through to evening BBQs with sunbathing in between. The spacious open-plan living leads to the kitchen (scullery), 3 double bedrooms and two bathrooms, with the downstairs offering a further 2 bedrooms and a rumpus/art room. Your boat, tractor and aquatic toys will easily be accommodated in the large 72m2 garage. This property is in a league of its own! **\$By Negotiation**



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our loyal Clients, Customers, Landlords, Tenants & valued friends for the fantastic support you have shown to us throughout the year. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe & prosperous, Happy New Year ~ from Kim, Robyn, Melissa, Laurie-Ann and Lynne ☺ at
Richardsons Real Estate



New Listing

* Just perfect for your family! The large flat 1,165m2 section affords an abundance of space for parking and the children to play. The home offers open-plan living, conservatory and 4 brms. Double garage plus carport. Walk to town. **\$665,000**



New Listing

* A WONDERFUL natural sanctuary. Approx 1.43ha featuring landscaped gardens, ponds and a small paddock. Very private 3 brm home with superb decking. (Secured via a Licence to Occupy Agreement in the 'Lindisfarne' community). **\$735,000**

/Richardsons

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151 Kapanga Road, Coromandel

Ph: 07 866 8900 ~ Kim 021 533174

Robyn 021 448975 & Melissa 027 2498287

Rental Manager ~ Laurie-Ann 027 9276368



New Listing

* A prime setting within 'Greenhills'. This brilliantly positioned 631m2 section affords a great northerly aspect and an impressive 51m2 garage/workshop. Well-presented 3 brm Lockwood home (en-suite) and fantastic decking. **\$719,000**



New Listing

* An absolutely perfect starter home, rental or holiday base. Cross-Lease section with room to park a boat and a couple of vehicles. Great decking and a tropical style garden in the rear courtyard. Open-plan, 2 brms, 2 bathrooms, garage. **\$498,000**



New Listing

* As cute as can be! This charming circa 1900 cottage highlights wonderful wooden floors and high ceilings. 3 double bedrooms, separate lounge and an open-plan kitchen/dining room. 620m2 section with a large garage/workshop. **\$520,000**



New Listing

* Tree top living in Tuatēawa. Gardens and native bush meld perfectly on this 2,530m2 section and, with ocean views... it's a great place to escape! The 1 brm home is complemented by a double garage, good parking and vege gardens. **\$545,000**



Otautū Bay

* What an absolutely gorgeous WATERFRONT setting! This superb home features 3 brms, 4 bathrooms, office, huge open-plan living/kitchen and 4 bay garaging... WOW! Excellent decking for outdoor entertaining. Come and see/sea. **\$PBN**



* An ideal first home or rental proposition. 647m2 section with garage & carport. 3 brm home, lounge/dining, studio room, decking. **\$525,000**

* A private enclave of bush and pines tucked away at Colville. This 2.3ha block has a small stream and range views. Escape the crowds! **\$398,000**

9 SALES in the last month



More listings urgently required by a great team who are achieving great results...

Coromandel Budget Advisory Service

By Caroline Dunn

For some the holidays often means family visiting from aboard or travelling abroad themselves to visit families, meaning these holidays will be quite different for a lot of people in our community with travel being restricted. Here is hoping 2021 brings back connecting with loved ones overseas and celebrating special events together.

If New Year's signals a time for change, resolutions and like, have a good think now on how you would like your situation to be different in 2021 and make an appointment to see how we can help you with that vision. We hope you enjoy the holiday season and remember, don't let the pressures of the celebrations land you in a financial mess at the beginning of January. Having fun doesn't have to cost the earth.

Our last day in the office for the year will be **Thursday 17 December**; we will be re-opening on **Tuesday 12 January 2021**.

To make an appointment come and see us at our office in Tiki House, located opposite the BP or call us on (07) 866 8351. Our office hours are: Tuesday 9.30am-3pm, Wednesday 9.30am-3pm, Thursday 12-3pm.

Foodbank

As we do every year at Christmas, we have our Christmas hampers that we provide to families in need that have worked with our service throughout the year. We also try to collect gifts for the parcel recipients. BNZ are happy to again be our drop-off point for this. We will have a box instore where you can drop gifts off and mark with boy/girl and age range. This year we also thought we would try something different and will have gift tags instore with sex/age of recipients and if you wish you can match a gift to a tag. These will range from children through to pensioners. The gift box will be instore for the month of December; we will collect the gifts on **Monday 21 December** to be distributed with the food hampers.

If you have food items to donate to our weekly parcels or Christmas hampers, we have a collection box in Four Square, or items can be dropped off to Foodbank at Tiki House. Our last parcels for the year will be

Wednesday 16 December and we restart on **Wednesday 13 January**.

If you're receiving a food parcel via the Foodbank, remember you will need to provide your own boxes/bags to collect your groceries. Time slots in the pantry will need to be booked by contacting Budget Services prior to midday Tuesday on (07) 866 8351 or 022 018 0849.

You will need to book in with a budgeting mentor if you need assistance over a couple of weeks.

Community Garden

The Community Garden continues to run through the Christmas period. If you see Brooke there, please pop in and give her a hand. Watering the gardens and weeding is a big task at this time of year. Up until the Christmas break the volunteers' morning will still be on Wednesday 9-11am. If you have some spare time your assistance will be much appreciated.

We are hoping the next few weeks bring us glorious sunshine but also some much needed rain, so we don't end up with a watering ban like last summer.

Looking back on the year, we are extremely grateful for all of the support we have received from businesses and individuals throughout the community. We look forward to continuing to support our clients and having a successful 2021.

Merry Christmas from us all.

CILT - Coromandel Independent Living Trust

Kia ora koutou, we hope you are all enjoying these warmer days. Our office will be closed for the summer from **16 December until 13 January**, so if you are travelling to hospital appointments during this time, then please hold on to your signed appointment letter and we will process these when we return to work.

If you require a volunteer driver, then ask your GP, who will arrange the trip with one of our drivers.

The Coromandel Kiwi Can Christmas Run!

This year we are hosting the Kiwi Can Christmas Run on **5 December** to fundraise for this programme. The run (or walk) is 2.5kms, starting and ending at the Coromandel Area School after the Santa Parade at about 3.30pm. It is a fun day out so come along and get amongst it!

Entries are available on our website: cilt.org.nz/kccr, or at The Resource Centre. The cost is \$25 for adults and \$10 for youths under 16.



Possum fur

By John Veysey

Every time I go to sell my little bit of possum fur I am reminded of the enormous potential industry of possum trapping on the peninsula. This could be a huge money-spinner.

I set a couple of traps every night to protect the trees in our orchard, an area of one hectare. Over the year I catch between 70 and 80 possums. Some weeks I catch nothing and some weeks I might catch four or five. If I stopped trapping for a month or two we would quickly notice the damage to our trees. The possums we catch are different to those in other parts of the country. Our possums do not carry TB, neither do they eat wild pig meat. Our possums are strictly vegetarian, herbivores which do not attack birds.

In other parts of the peninsula trees can be saved by controlling possums once every four or five years down to 5 or 10%. I control our possums every day down to 0%. After I have taken the fur off I put the bodies out for the hawks. I could double my income from the possum fur by selling the possum bodies as well but this is no longer possible because of the animal poisons which are all over the place and you never know where. To protect our hawks from getting poisoned I open up every carcass and, if there is any sign of poison, I have to bury it.



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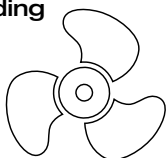
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Seasonal Markets

By Benni, Nalan & Bine

Seasonal Saturday markets in Coromandel to complement our current Friday market.

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Local, Home Made, Home Grown, Spray Free, Hand Crafted, Plastic Free.

Tables for sitting and enjoying the festivity, savouring a coffee and pastry. Art tables for the kids. Live music and singing. Bringing the community/locals and visitors together to celebrate the beauty, bounty and creativity of the Coromandel.

First market **Saturday 16 January 2021**, E-bike Square, Wharf Rd, Coromandel

10 stalls available at \$10 each.

For stall enquiries: coromandelmarket@gmail.com

Coromandel Embroiderers' Guild

By Jenny Penman

The unusual year that 2020 became has ended for our Guild now. One last workshop was squeezed into the programme in late October. This was an Italian embroidered mat workshop lead by one of our members, Margaret. Margaret is very skilled in her stitching and cutting away techniques and she passed on her knowledge to a small but keen group who were able to choose a mat size and pattern to suit that special place they had in mind.

The 4 November Guild meeting was our annual AGM with the election of new Committee members for the year ahead and the thanking of those that are stepping aside, having made their much appreciated contribution. After these formalities it was off to Hauraki House for the opening of our Annual Exhibition and the announcement of the winners in the President's Challenge. Each year the current Guild President selects a theme which all members are invited to interpret in an original piece of work. This year's theme was the all encompassing "Pulling Thread Through Cloth" and our judge was Robyn Hart, ANZEG Regional Representative for the Northern North Island. Helen Pearce took 1st place with her finely worked miniature pink dress "in the pink". Jill Wilson was awarded Merit for her "twists and turns" – a beautiful ecru and cream take on the magic cubes children's toy. This one will be a strictly white gloves on plaything though! Lesley Inger won the First Time Entrant Award with her thoughtful piece on the plight of the bee "where have all the flowers gone".

The Guild would like to thank everyone who took

the time to join us at our exhibition and the interest shown in our endeavours. For the first time this year, non-completed works were also shown to demonstrate some of the time taken, the techniques and the challenges that go into the finished product. The walls were also adorned with a series of black and white photos of our stitchers' hands busily at work at our Guild meetings. We are indebted to Katharina Hecht for these powerful images – which also provided much amusement in working out whose hands belonged to whom.

Our Exhibition Raffle results are "Creative Treasures" (066A red heart) Stephanie Stokes and "Gourmet Hamper" (056A blue heart) Sheila. Congratulations to both of these ladies.

Guild meetings will resume on **Wednesday 3 February 2021**.

For further information about the Coromandel Embroiderers' Guild and related activities contact Lettecia Williams (07) 866 6626



"In the pink" by Helen Pearce



"Twists and turns" by Jill Wilson

Changes are afoot at Coromandel Discovery and Bush e Bikes.

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RSA News

By Pat Williams

The Combined Clubs venue is in the middle of a major facelift with lots of good things happening at the close of this horrible year. Twilight Bowls, as usual, is being enjoyed by all of the participants.

Socialising is in full swing. On 17 October (just missed November Chronicle deadline) a social evening was enjoyed by those attending; a lovely meal was included.

Armistice Day

Our President, Kevin Stone, Doug Rogers, Committee Member (both Vietnam vets) and I placed a wreath at the Cenotaph. A service was held at The Club rooms, after which a light luncheon was served.

Christmas

On Sunday 15 November our Christmas Luncheon was held. It was very well

Combined Clubs Of Coromandel
THE CLUB

attended and all agreed the food was A1. Top marks to all involved. Next thing on the social calendar should be our Christmas visit to the Mercury Bay RSA Christmas Do. Those of us who attend always have an enjoyable day. As yet we do not have the date for this. Also I am trying to get ideas and people together so the RSA has representation in the Christmas Parade! Wish me luck.

Reminder... RSA subs are due on **31 December**.

Found my HUGS Poem. It's wondrous what a hug can do, A hug can cheer you when you're blue. A hug can say "I love you so" or "Gee I hate to see you go."

Till next time. Cheers and compliments of the Season to all.

Bowls Club

By Cherrie Rokela

We have been enjoying our new bowling season with open tournaments and club champs.

The Alternate Fours, sponsored by Megan and Daryl of Mussel Barge Snapper Safaris, was won by a composite team of David, Graeme, Irene and Brian (see photo).

Our Club triples have been completed. The men's champs are Colin Gawith, Ernie Groucott and Jason Dickson.

Ladies champs are Lindsay Nicholls, Sue McNeil and Philippa Medlock.

Congratulations to all, including our "newbie" members who are playing and enjoying the experience of Champ Bowls.



Our annual Twilight Bowls have commenced on a Tuesday evening, with a full complement of 32 teams, playing in two sessions. This a very popular tournament ... lots of laughs, drinks, sausage sizzle, and some serious bowling (sometimes!).

The school children are also playing their twilight sessions for an hour between 4-5pm. This is so good to see our bowlers of the future being involved.

Hon Scott Simpson MP For Coromandel

Members of New Zealand's 53rd Parliament have been sworn and Parliament will sit for just a few days prior to Christmas. It will have a very different look and feel to the last Parliament and I return as part of a much diminished National Party team. Leader Judith Collins has asked me to be National's spokesperson for the Environment, Workplace Relations and RMA (Environment). These are crucial policy areas and I'm very much looking forward to getting stuck into the cut and thrust of the work ahead. My friend and colleague Dr Shane Reti has been elected Deputy Leader and will, in my view be a very good number two to Judith.

2020 has been a year like none other for all New Zealanders. It's been challenging, confronting and full of unexpected change. Now as the year draws rapidly to an end, many people are thinking about a summer holiday. For us here in the Coromandel it will be a busier summer than our already usually busy summers traditionally are. All indications are that we will have even more people visiting the Peninsula than ever before.

Accommodation and hospitality providers will be operating at, and sometimes beyond, peak capacity. Services will be stretched and roads, beaches, parks and reserves heavily used. Public facilities will be under pressure too and added into the mix will be inevitable water use restrictions and total fire bans.

Whilst we welcome visitors to come and spend both time and money in our region, this summer I suspect will prove to be testing on multiple levels.

It's going to be a summer where we will all have to be patient, calm and generous of spirit but I know Coromandel folk will rise to the challenge as they have done so well during this unprecedented year already.

Along with staying safe, we must also remember to keep scanning into and taking note of the times and places that we visit this holiday season. Covid-19 has not fully disappeared from our shores but the best way to protect ourselves from this virus is to sign in, stay home when we are sick and to wash our hands constantly.

So notwithstanding the challenges of the year and those that are still ahead of us, I wish you and yours a safe, relaxing and joyous festive and summer season.

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MP for Coromandel

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Sitting and Sharing Wednesdays at Grace's Place

You and any interested friends are invited to a new Coromandel gathering.

I am offering a space for those interested in meditation to get together to develop friendships and support our practice, a time for thoughtful conversation and quietitude. I'm thinking of offering very simple food, time for silent sitting, walking in nature maybe, linger by the stream, some personal sharing, and a guided, loving kindness meditation to support ourselves in relating and let the ripples of peace radiate out, followed by tea and a supper snack and chat.

This is open to all and will be a regular weekly Wednesday evening from **25 November** and through December. I offer for you to come as often as works for you, for some or all of what is offered. Free but if you would like to, make a small donation that would cover costs.

Plan

Soup at 6pm. Sitting at 7pm. Supper at 8.30pm.

I'm really happy for people to come at 6pm and slip away at 7pm or 8.30pm. Or come for the sitting at 7pm.

Arohanui, Grace

I am a psychotherapist and a mindfulness meditation facilitator. I have recently moved into this friendly Coromandel Town. Phone or email me if you have questions: 479 Albert St, Coromandel 3506, mobile 021 1235 7056 email annasorensen@doctors.org.uk

Coromandel Garden Circle

By Trisha Whimp

Due to the weather this week, our garden circle meeting was delayed until Thursday when the sun shined on us all as we walked around two local gardens.

30 members met at the Robertson's garden where Glenise kindly gave a very interesting description of what she does with regards to her employment in the mussel industry, not only in Coromandel but around New Zealand. Spat can arrive at any time day or night that is checked for quantity, quality and healthiness. This was followed with a wander around her four-year-old garden. It was noticed that there are lots of new plantings and growth on trees since our last visit.

Then we travelled to the Lang's home. Lorraine has been in her new home for three years and there has been a massive landfill in her front lawn, so it is never level. Lorraine's garden is only two years old and is based on future-proofing for older age.... First year was, watch the weather patterns! Her garden has lots of interesting planting, new gardens, veggie pots, and still lots of plants in pots. They nearly lost their new lawn during last summer. Large cracks appeared and dogs love digging up the lawn. Gardens are mulched so little to no weeding, and has been enjoying developing her new garden.

The competition table had some amazing flowers/flower arrangements/beans to judge. Our sales table had interesting things to buy, including Snail Vine flower seeds and Jews Ear shaped fungi, which can be chopped up and put into casseroles! Raffles was an interesting collection of plants and garden gear – potato pot! Thank you ladies!

Afternoon was a wonderful spread from all of the members. We sometimes think we all come for the afternoon teas, and the gardens are second.

Next meeting will be at the Coromandel Bowling Club, starting at 12 noon on **9 December**. Members will bring a plate for potluck lunch. Arrangement will be "Christmas Table" and the Special is "Xmas gumboots".

Convenor of the Circle is Jeni Mudgway – 021 0227 5341

Coromandel Flying Club

Notice of 43rd Annual General Meeting of the Coromandel Flying Club Society Inc Ltd to be held at the Clubrooms, 1735 State Highway 25 on **Sunday 6 December** at 11.30am.

Potluck lunch to follow from 1pm. All very welcome

Any queries please contact the Secretary, Karen McMillan
ph 027 290 8171,
rossimcm64@gmail.com

PRIVATE SALE • Picturesque Artist Retreat

A one of a kind unique home in Coromandel Town set among wonderful landscaping and lush gardens including a pond and little native forest with kauri and rimu trees.

Away from the world, offering privacy and inspiration. Built to catch sun all day around, with outdoor decking flowing from the living areas through four sets of French doors.

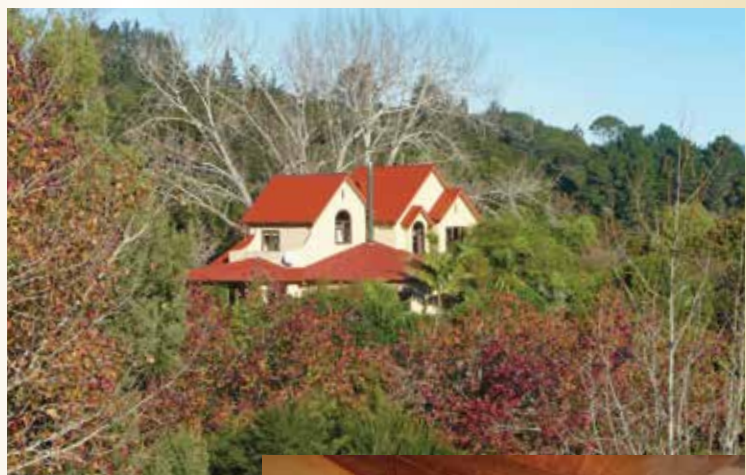
The house has wooden floors and cedar joinery throughout. The open plan living has a stunning high stud macrocarpa ceiling, there are lots of other interesting features in all areas of the house. The art gallery has its own entrance but could also be turned into an extra guest room.

The property is part of the Lindisfarne Community Trust.

Details and images via <http://homeonlindisfarne.weebly.com> and Trademe.

A home like this is a very rare find.

The property will be sold via private treaty.



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Museum News

By Raewyn McKinney

We are all looking forward to a wonderful summer season, with beautiful weather and plenty of visitors to the area.

Over the past few weeks, the museum has been open at the weekends and we have seen visitors from many different parts of New Zealand.

At any time, there are many reasons to visit the Coromandel.

Here is an article from the "Auckland Star" of 17 December 1902, that highlights some of the attractions of our region at the time:

"Gold Jubilee Exhibition.

The exhibition to commemorate the jubilee of the discovery of gold in New Zealand is to open at Coromandel in Christmas week. From the entries to hand at present indications point to there being a fine array of mining and industrial exhibits, as well as a splendid display of amateur work and a unique collection of curios. The exhibition will extend over a week, and during that time various outdoor events will take place, including a race meeting,

bushman's carnival, athletic sports, regatta, and aquatic picnic. In connection with the exhibition a flower show and a baby show will be held."

Just remember to take care over the holiday season, whether travelling or staying at home.

The following extract from "Thames Star" of 31 December 1928 shows that Christmas accidents are not a modern phenomenon, although the nature of the accident and the seriousness of the consequences have changed somewhat.

"Smash at Coromandel Maddeden Horse Bolts. Young Boy Hurt Injuries to Base of Skull.

An accident involving serious injury to a young boy occurred at Coromandel on Christmas Day. A cart and horse driven by Mr. J. Stevens, was proceeding along the road from Coromandel to Kikowhakarere when it was overtaken by a boy of about ten or eleven years, Master Syd Proctor, who was given a ride. When the cart was about halfway down the hill a strap of the harness broke and the horse bolted. Near the foot of the hill there is a horse shoe bend and

when the horse attempted to negotiate it, the cart struck the bank and overturned, partly wrecking the cart and throwing the occupants on to the road. The horse continued its mad career until it reached the creek at Kikowhakarere, about half a mile from the scene of the accident, bits of wreckage from the cart being scattered all along the road. Campers saw the horse and remains of the cart and guessing that an accident had occurred, some of them told a nearby resident while (others proceeded along the road to the scene of the mishap. On receiving word Messrs. Ron and Leslie Davies proceeded from Kikowhakarere in the former's motor car and were able to render help to the occupants of the cart. The man, Mr. Stephens, escaped with a few bruises, but the boy was not so fortunate. He was unconscious and had received serious injuries to the back of his head, and was bruised and shaken. Mr Ron Davies conveyed him to the



Coromandel Hospital, where Dr. Rawstron attended him. At the time of writing he was as well as could be expected but his condition is fairly serious. As far as is known there are no limbs broken."

On behalf of the committee of the Coromandel School of Mines & Historical Society Inc, I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The museum will be open from 1-4pm every weekend until Sunday 20 December. Daily openings will commence from Saturday 26 December

Celebrating life, love and memories



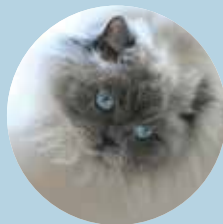
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Residents and holiday-makers enjoying all that the beautiful

Coromandel region has to offer over the summer holidays can rest easier knowing the Auckland Rescue Helicopter Trust will have crew based at the Whitianga hangar should their service be needed.

Under national patient guidelines, set by the government's National Ambulance Sector Office (NASO) in 2019, the Trust is required to have two helicopters and crews available at their Ardmore base during daylight hours every day of the year.

Last summer, this meant helicopter and crew were noticeably absent from the purpose-built Whitianga hangar and accommodation facilities, for the first time in 10 years.

"We understand that this decision weighed heavy on the shoulders of a wonderful community who have been so generous with their donations and warmly welcomed us every year," Northern Rescue Helicopter Limited CEO Craig Gibbons said. "We are therefore delighted to have worked through some logistical issues that will see the team back in Whitianga with the blessing of NASO."

However Craig's good news message comes with a word of caution. "At present, we are only able to have crews rostered on during daytime hours throughout the month of January," he says.

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Colville Easter Festival 21 – Fundraiser – Steve Carson Art Calendar 2021

Steve Carson has kindly donated 13 images of his interesting, colourful art work for the coming year's calendar.

The very popular Colville Festival 21 is planned for Easter weekend. More exciting acts are being sourced at present: bands, comedy, theatre, workshops, sculptures, kids' activities, etc., and Colville Sings Country, on Good Friday Eve.

Only 100 calendars at \$28 each have been printed and are available at Colville Store, Side Storey (Back Room Gallery) and CSSC (07) 866 6920.

For more info contact Ella 027 487 5131, Steve 021 711 489, or cssc@colville.org.nz



Coromandel Community Home Grown Market

Every Friday next to BNZ 8.30am-1pm. Offering you: fresh organic veggies, seedlings, baking, home produce, crafts, natural remedies and treatments. Growing every week. Christmas/New Year markets will take place on **Thursday 24, and 31 December**.

New stall holders welcome, please contact Sabine (07) 866 8932 or 022 424 4163

The Coromandel Workers Council

By Benjamin Rudolph

The Coromandel Workers Council (CWC) is a new worker support initiative set up by Pamela Grealey and Benjamin Rudolph. The aim of this new initiative is to provide workplace advocacy for all workers across the Coromandel Peninsula, from Whangamata to north Colville.

We recognised a need for worker representation on the Coromandel Peninsula as there is a significant number of low-waged, part-time/flexible and people deemed contractors by their employers working in conditions that can for the most part be considered inequitable. These inequitable working conditions are not always deliberate and with this in mind we are also looking to work with small and large business owners to ensure that they are meeting all of their obligations as employers.

On the first Friday of each month the CWC holds a clinic to provide support and information sessions to workers with questions about their employment conditions and contract terms. These clinics have highlighted a sad truth, that not all workers are aware of their rights or pay entitlements. Our clinics are also joined by a worker advocate from One Union, who we are affiliated to. This enables us to offer workers across the peninsula a representative in their workplace without having to pay union fees or dues. No appointment is necessary if you would like to come and speak with us on one of our clinic days. If you wish to get in touch with us before our clinic, please send us a message through our Facebook page or the contact page of our website www.cwc.org.nz.

With talk of a recession looming, we believe that there will be even more need to advocate for workers, many of whom have to work multiple part-time jobs just to survive. Many businesses will begin to face challenges that place even more uncertainty on those jobs where the worker will ultimately be left feeling desperate and fortunate just to have a job, that they will put themselves in a position where they are willing to forgo a basic expectation of being treated fairly in the workplace.

Employers, as I have already mentioned, do not always intend to create an unfair workplace. Sadly though this doesn't always prevent it from happening. With this in mind we are also keen to reach out to employers to complete a high level overview of their workplace environment and practises to see what, if any, changes need to happen.

Our next monthly clinic will take place on **Friday 4 December** 2-5pm at the St Andrews church, 1426 Rings Road, Coromandel Town.

If you would like to find out more about this event and why we set up the Coromandel Workers Council please visit our Facebook page: [@coromandelworkerscouncil](https://www.facebook.com/coromandelworkerscouncil) or check out our website www.cwc.org.nz. You can also call or text us on 027 296 5276

Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki Coromandel Whānau Health Clinic

Open Mon - Fri: 8.30am - 5pm

Christmas Holiday Hours 2020-2021

Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki
Coromandel Whānau Health Clinic
will be closed for the following
days over the Christmas break:

2020

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24
closed from 3pm

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25

Boxing Day

Monday, December 28

2021

New Year's Day

Friday, January 1

New Year's Day extra day

Monday, January 4

**“Meri Kirihimete e te whānau,
Ngā manaakitanga ki
a koutou katoa”**

Rongōa clinic

with Jo Shelford

Dec 10, 14; January 28

Foot Clinic with Ruth Wells

Dec 12

Dietitian Claire Cannon

Dec 9

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Saint Andrews Presbyterian & Methodist church welcomes Cornish guest organist

By Sue Philbin

On Sunday 15 November the congregation and special guests of St Andrews Presbyterian & Methodist Church in Coromandel Town were treated to an uplifting and heart-warming organ accompaniment from our guest organist, Philip Davey, the music director and organist at Truro Methodist Church in Cornwall, UK. By special arrangement Philip kindly recorded the organ accompaniment to eight hymns that the congregation sang in celebration of music and faith. As the recordings were played back, the congregation heartily sang in time and tempo to the magical music created by Philip, who has dedicated his life to playing the organ, teaching music, conducting choirs and bringing people closer to their faith through his talent, ability and willingness to share his musical gifts. As a result of continued lockdowns due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Philip took his music to the internet and has been sharing his hymn playing with his own congregation at Truro Methodist Church and more widely with friends across the world. It was through this outreach that St Andrews Presbyterian & Methodist Church were able to connect with Philip and he willingly contributed to the Sunday service. The congregation were blessed.

Philip's rendition of loved and cherished hymns was so successful that St Andrews Presbyterian & Methodist Church has invited Philip to play again on **Sunday 6 December**. This will be a special service for our minister and the congregation and we invite the people of Coromandel Town to come and share in this unique opportunity to sing to the accompaniment of one of the best church organists in the UK. The service will start at 11am and will be followed by morning tea. Save the date for **6 December**.



St Andrews Presbyterian & Methodist Church on a sunny spring day

Healthy brain – natural highs

Tired, exhausted? Experiencing brain fog, aches and pains, mood swings? Needing a stimulant for a lift, or something to calm you down? Craving coffee, alcohol? Have fixed attention for that brownie after work? Ongoing unexplained “weird and unusual symptoms”? Maybe itchy skin or ringing ears?

I am proud to say, I have had success over the years for my clients, with a huge range of health issues from poor coordination to headaches, from angry kids to dementia.

Does your nervous system and brain need attention?

Your brain weighs approximately 1.3kgs. Due to its high fat composition, it can easily attract and store toxins, which potentiate neurological disorders. Your brain allows you to experience delights of eating, music, the ecstasy of love, and for some, the bliss of inner peace. It has ability to hold countless memories.

However, for many, it is also the abode of fear, anxiety and deep depression. How your brain functions depends on chemicals, called neurotransmitters. These determine how you feel and think – your mood, alertness, level of relaxation and state of your memory. Some neurotransmitters are inhibitory, which settle you down. Some are excitatory and when needed, motivate or wire you up. They work together to keep mental balance and stability.

Neurotransmitters are made via complicated biochemical pathways from amino acids, the building blocks of the proteins you eat.

Other essential foods are needed to fuel these biochemical pathways, completing the conversion into neurotransmitters.

Include to eat daily – all whole foods, to provide the widest range of nutrients to potentiate this process, e.g., B vitamins from vegetables, whole grains (not cereals).

Avoid – (toxic) commercially processed foods, cereals, sugars, lollies, alcohol, cola, coffee, tobacco, vape inhalants, drugs – illegal and legal – if it contains no nutrients, what's its point?

Some of the hundreds of neurotransmitters are:

- Acetylcholine – the “brainy” neurotransmitter, improves memory and mental alertness.
- Serotonin, the “happy” neurotransmitter, to banish the blues and improve mood.
- Dopamine – the “feel good” neurotransmitter, helps to energise and feel in control.
- GABA – the cool neurotransmitter. Relaxes and calms you after stress.
- Adrenalin – the motivator. Stimulates you, helping you to cope with stress.

The secret of being naturally high is to know how to identify neurotransmitter imbalances, then turn the ratios around to create perfect balance and function. I can help you.

Two of the four steps to your natural high

- 1) Achieve optimum brain nutrition – Dietary improvements, certain supplements and medicinal herbs, will balance your blood sugar, fuel your brain and body. This allows you to break your dependency on substances that interfere with your normal brain chemistry and deplete your energy.
- 2) Take the questionnaire – My in-clinic questionnaire's score works out your specialised Natural High Programme, to adopt a naturally high lifestyle.

Know your mineral status, www.activeelements.com, username 259077, password 579819.

Avoid a toxic brain, feed it wisely, live preventatively. May your festive season be filled with a sense of natural joy, inner peace and optimum wellbeing.

Gift vouchers available – massage or naturopathic.





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Lions News

By Lion Lyn



Hi all, just a short note to wish a very Merry Christmas to everyone and God willing we will all be here for it! Before then, however, we shall be present at the Santa Parade aftermath armed with mussel fritters, and our Lions Smiles; see you all there. Labour weekend saw our volunteers, some members and grandchildren working hard outside Coro Four Square to fundraise, which is very much appreciated by all. All money collected is channelled back into the general fund for this community. As with previous years, we will be donating Lions Xmas cakes to the communal dinner on Xmas Day, to be enjoyed by all who attend (after which, it makes lovely dessert with custard and cream). Less than a month now to go, so don't sweat the small stuff, but we are always here, just a phone call away.

Numbers to ring are Pres Sue and firewood 07 211 9774 (landline) or 021 142 1124; sec Gordon (07) 866 2433; Cakes (07) 866 7722 Leave message and I will get back to you

Animal Rescue Thames

By Alice and John Parris and Minime

Firstly thank mews to everyone who has donated tinned cat food and sachets for the cats; these are much appreciated and needed right now. Also to those who have donated bedding and some truly amazing garage sale items. We wish you all a very blessed and safe Christmas and thank everyone who has supported our rescue kitties over the 2020 year and may 2021 be a far better year than this one. Without this support we could not continue to help the lost, forgotten, unwanted felines in our region.

Homed – nothing. We still have both torties but they require a very special home, either separate or together in a rural setting. They are gorgeous girls. Lizzie is typical tortie and has definite ideas that “dad” is hers and hers alone and no other cat may cross paths or sit on his lap, or this is met with a defiant thwack of tortie paw, not once or twice but a repeated full on effort. She has taken on many of the terrible tabby traits of barrelling through anything and everything at great speed, which is not great for anyone's china cabinet nor the magazine pile which ends up in all directions. Wiki, our black older boy, found a way to the top of a cabinet which had to be inspected by Lizzie as well, which meant a mantel clock and two large ornaments met a rather disastrous end. The clock is one piece but the ornaments sadly are now in the garden, which we were not thrilled with at all.

Fundraising – Christmas garage sale **19 December**, Grahamstown Hall, 768 Pollen St, Thames, 9am until midday. We will have a hall full of wonderful items for sale on the day. Bargains to be had. Come along with a can of cat food, tinned salmon, box of sachets, cat treats or toys and exchange it for a piece of lovely Christmas cake. We will also have a kitchen running with lots of yummy treats.

The loss of the Easter and Labour weekend garage sales has seriously affected our rescue unit. This is a huge financial loss. Funds are incredibly low and for what we raise over the raffle week, the Christmas garage sale has to suffice until April 2021. We have a loss in numbers of our volunteers and most of us are disabled in some way, shape or form so garage sales are becoming increasingly difficult. We will work with what funds we have and our numbers of animals in care will be held at a very low level due to the phenomenal costs of feeding, desexing, worm and flea treatments. It really is becoming too expensive to operate a voluntary charity such as this. We will do whatever we can to continue, more so those currently in care will take full priority until we figure out what the future holds for the unit.

Wanted – special homes for our older teen desexed kittens, wormed, deflead. Any financial blessings would be a massive help to us right now, donations of tinned cat food, sardines, salmon, pet milk all appreciated. Bank account – Thames Animal Rescue Team 06 0457 0095150 01.

Any and all enquiries to Animal Rescue Thames ph (07) 868 2907 (afternoons best time), 532 Thames Coast Road, RD5, Thames 3575

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email: info@thewaterworks.co.nz
phone: 07 866 7191

Coromandel Town Information Centre

By Sandra Wilson, Manager



What a year it has been. You might want to put the kettle on, then settle down and have a read. Can you remember the road works? It seemed to take a while but they got there in the end and we have forgotten about the inconvenience. We all seem to be getting used to the roundabout. New seating around the pohutukawa trees along the street is a welcome relief to many whist waiting for their partners who seem to have gotten lost in the fishing shop, bead shop, and hardware shop.

Then Covid-19 hit and boy did it make a difference in more ways than one. Not being able to shake your mate's hand or give them a hug. Not to panic buy. Learning to buy online. Relearning that washing and drying your hands is mandatory. Having your fresh fish delivered to your home, cafes having their food delivered to your home also. So many businesses worked hard to keep us going through lockdown. So many locals looked after their neighbours – checking on them, getting their shopping. Queuing for the supermarket, social distancing.

And now we are creating a new normal, whatever that looks like. Now down to business.

From **1-20 December** we will have a letterbox in the reserve for children's letters to Santa. This will be accessible daily during our open hours of 10am-4pm and children who include a physical or email address will receive a reply.

The Santa Parade and Christmas in the Park is on **Saturday 5 December**. See article on page 5.

On **Friday 25 December** you can join in at the Coromandel Town Christmas Community Lunch. This is open to all and monetary donations to support this event are greatly appreciated and can be left at Four Square. Volunteer help is also needed. Those who would like to attend need to sign up on the form on page 32.

The Keltic Fair will be on as usual, on **Saturday 2 January 2021**

Everyone knows the best place to go fishing is near a mussel farm. Please follow these guidelines to keep everyone safe.

- ↔ **Keep 30 meters** from working mussel barges at all times
- ⚠ **Don't tie-up** to a line being worked on
- 🪝 **Never cast your line** towards a mussel barge – farmers have been injured from flying hooks and sinkers
- ⚓ **No Anchors.** Tie-on to a longline buoy or use approved mooring hooks
- 🚤 **Minimise** your speed and wake
- 🚢 **Never drive across the lines**



www.coromfa.co.nz

at the Coromandel Area School grounds. This is always an extremely popular event that brings people from near and far.

Our wonderful new website – www.coromandeltown.nz – is now live, with pages both for visitors and the community, so be sure to check it out. Creating it has been a major undertaking and we're incredibly pleased with the results. Have a look and if you find errors, please let us know.

We are not just here for visitors, but also to support our local community. If you're putting on an event or would like to get some news out to the wider community, stop by and chat with us about your needs.

I would like to thank Natalie, Rita, Jan, Lynne, Pam, Liz, Suzy, Malcolm, Joan and Warwick (members of our team), who have faced many challenges this year.

From all of us to all of you, have a fabulous Christmas. Remember we are open every day except Christmas Day. Take care.

74 Kapanga Road, Phone: (07) 866 8598 or 027 521 5560,
Email: coroinfo@xtra.co.nz, Website: www.coromandeltown.nz

Patchwork & Quilters

By Bev Mayhead



Hi everyone. December is here and what a year 2020 has been!

"Peninsula Day" is an annual event which brings patchwork and quilting groups from around the Coromandel Peninsula together. This year it was held at Whangamata with a "Roaring 20's" theme and by all accounts it was a very enjoyable day. Coromandel was well represented with three carloads of ladies attending. We proudly presented our Coromandel 200 quilt for viewing and the room was full of wows and gasps of amazement at our creativity! Friends, goodie bags, vendors, two guest speakers, fabulous quilting displays and of course morning tea and lunch.

It is wonderful to be inspired by what other groups do and the standard of work was very high.

As a bonus the Aotearoa Quilts Aqua Challenge was on display. This is NZ-wide. We will host Peninsula Day next year.

Our Free-Standing Letters workshop was a great fun day with a variety of words coming to life in a bloom of colour!

We are winding up for the year soon and will resume again in late January. Perhaps you will join us next year! New members are most welcome.

On behalf of the Coromandel Patchwork & Quilters group I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Christmas.

Our meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 9.30am-3.30pm at St John Room, Tiki Road, Coromandel.
President Raewyn Penrose (07) 866 8880, Secretary Sharon Currie (07) 866 8762

Bus matters

By Lora Mountjoy



While the road from Coromandel to Thames is long and winding, the same can be said of the road to getting a local bus service on this route up and running.

The good news is that, true to their word, the Community Board are committing an initial sum of money towards this service in the upcoming Council Long Term Plan. If passed, the government will put in more funding via the regional council and we can expect to be able to bus to Thames once again.

For those who don't know about this issue, for several years now we have not had public transport which enables Coromandel people to go directly to Thames, to connect with services to other destinations like Auckland, and to return later in the day. This is a serious problem for those who can't drive for some reason or choose not to, for youth and the elderly, as well as for the planet with issues like traffic congestion and carbon emissions.

Luckily we live in a democracy and we can do something about this. The draft of the Long Term Plan will be going out for submissions in March next year and then we will be calling for support, and giving advice on how to make your voice heard. Till then, enjoy the holiday season and best wishes.

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Annaleise Russell 022 584 6065

Peter MacGregor 027 224 7332

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Coromandel, 98 Victoria Street

This well maintained & loved unit is positioned beautifully to capture all day sun.

One bedroom, one bathroom light-filled & spacious open plan living plus an attached single garage.

SOLD

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Maria Blundell 022 0815 817

NEW LISTING



Coromandel, 2595D Tiki Road

Elevated site gives stunning rural & harbour views with beautiful sunsets
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Four bedrooms (master with ensuite & walk-in wardrobe)

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Coromandel, 39 Whangapoua Rd

This 4 bedroom brick & tile home with ensuite & office sits on 5,559m2 of beautifully landscaped grounds & paddock. The 4 brick & tile units come with chattels intact. Everything you need to be earning income as soon as you move in.

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RURAL



Coromandel, 1240 SH25 Manaia

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This property is a must to see, it has a whole lot more to offer, beautiful bush, sea views, and lots of possibilities...

For Sale \$699,000

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SEA VIEWS



Te Kouma, 31 Kowhai Drive

Open plan kitchen/living, 3 bedrooms and two additional rooms to use as you please, this lovely home has all the space you've been looking for. Some water views and nicely situated for the sun. Double garage and room for the bigger boat at the front of the 1361m2 section.

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Mana Update

By Jade Ferrière

At the root of all growth is change, so it feels safe to say that 2020 has been a year of immense growth! For many people all around the world, 2020 has also been a year of uncertainty, fear and grief, as they attempt to come to terms as best they can with this global pandemic which has triggered so many changes. Even here at Mana, largely shielded from the harsh realities of the pandemic, we have inevitably dealt with many changes through the year – some of them unexpected and profoundly challenging.

A lot has transformed for us, as it has for others. With the end of the year approaching we are taking this opportunity to reflect on some of these changes – and ways we have grown.

- The centre was closed for five months!
- We had 24 group cancellations.
- We cared for three beautiful, stranded travellers during the Covid lockdown.
- We rebuilt our website and hosted the first (of many) online retreats!
- Our “social distancing” protocols introduced a new approach to serving meals and now we lavishly plate and serve each and every one of our guests.
- Mana’s well-loved, long-term cook Maria has stepped back, for now, for health reasons, after many years of deeply appreciated service and delicious and nourishing meals.
- We welcomed Toni Calder as a chef to the kitchen team and she has introduced new, sustainable, local and seasonal initiatives.
- We welcomed Charlene Scott to our team as the leader of housekeeping and teacher of our weekly community yoga class.
- We said farewell to Sal Chisholm (our bookkeeper) after decades working

in the office. She has embarked on a new adventure as a retired, soon-to-be grandmother.

- We said goodbye to Steven Hutton, our locally renowned website guy, as he too moves towards a new era of retirement.
- Our community created a local exchange for sharing produce and carpooling.
- After quite a few complications we finally re-carpeted the floor in the Octagon.

Fortunately, hidden behind the obstacles we have faced has been a gentle reminder that when we soften our resistance to change and instead regard it as an opportunity to grow, we find that we are far from helpless.

We have proactively done our best to adapt to all of the unforeseen circumstances that have unfolded this year. More than a few have taken some out-of-the-box thinking.

One of the other changes that affects our local community is the decision to hold a Summer Solstice picnic in the garden, instead of our usual Christmas Day celebration. For those of you who usually join us for Christmas Dinner, we welcome you to bring a plate of something delicious on **Tuesday 22 December** at 12:30pm instead, and join us for summer festivities.

The end of the year is a wonderful time to reflect on the significant experiences that have propelled us along our path. We hope that you find the time to ponder some of the ways that 2020 has been a catalyst for growth and transformation in your life and that you can see the hidden blessings alongside the obstacles. Here’s to the end of a very unusual year! Love and blessings from all of us at Mana.

CoroLocalLegend with Coromandel Four Square

Congratulations to Rick Ward of Coromandel, who is the recipient of a gift hamper from Coromandel Four Square. Rick has been nominated by Bill Chadderton who wrote,

“Rick, a member of the local Lions Club, spends a great deal of his time arranging working bees to cut and to provide firewood to folks in town. Much of his own time is freely given to loading truckloads of wood and delivering it to people and he does this without any thought of acknowledgement. Rick also organises a variety of other community activities including cooking mussel fritters as fundraisers at the Keltic Fair. I believe he is an altogether ‘good guy’ and someone whose voluntary efforts help make Coromandel such a special place.”

Thanks for your community spirit Rick, you are a true CoroLocalLegend! and on behalf of Coromandel Four Square we also say Thank You! We personally know the effort you go to and we love working with you in your voluntary efforts – good on you Rick!

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for their amazing community spirit?

Drop us a line telling us and they will receive acknowledgement in the Coromandel Town Chronicle as well as receiving a \$50 gift hamper from Coromandel Four Square.

Send your nominations to: Coromandel.
foursquare@foodstuffs.co.nz (subject line: Coro LocalLegend) or post to: CoroLocalLegend,
PO Box 5, Coromandel 3506. Kindly refrain from nominating family members





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4-6 DEC	Wild Grace with Sacha Paddy and Neal Ghoshal
11-17 DEC	Body Wisdom Module 6 with Geordie Jahner PhD
18-20 DEC	Summer Working Bee
22 DEC	Solstice Pot Luck Picnic in the Garden 12:30pm
2-8 JAN	Eyebody 2020 with Peter Grunwald
8-10 JAN	January Relax Weekend 2021
11-16 JAN	Sufi Retreat with The School of Sufi Teaching NZ






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Writers group

By Sue Gilmer

For our starter, we were given two characters and a place to incorporate into a story. Mine were – an enthusiastic gardener, a romantic novelist, a shop. This is what emerged.

Fun in the Shoe Shop, a Christmas Story

Gary looks at his watch. He should have left half an hour ago if he was going to catch the shop. “These spuds will have to wait until I get back.” Rinsing his hands under the garden tap, he grabs his keys. “Mustn’t be too long. That sweetcorn needs picking and I’ve got to stake these tomatoes before tonight.”

The shoe shop is on the edge of the village. One of those old fashioned ones with a bell that tinkles as you enter. Shelly looks up. “Hi Gary. See you’ve been in that garden of yours again!”

Noticing the mud on his trousers for the first time he smiles. “Oh, right. Didn’t have time to change. Just came in to get some new boots then I’ve got to race back.”

“They’re over there. Sing out if you need any help.”

The bell rings again and a young man enters. “Hello. I hope you can help me. I’m looking for a pair of dress shoes.”

“Yes sir. Over there. Next to that gentleman.”

John makes his way over to the shelf. He notices Gary picking up a pair of high sided leather boots. Gary is about to try them on

when he groans. “Wow, expensive. Too expensive for me.”

With a twinkle in his eyes, John suggests, “Maybe you could get someone to buy you them for Christmas.” Gary looks up and shows John the price. “Oh, I see what you mean. Well maybe a consortium.”

“Yeh, not a bad idea. I got given a crystal vase last year. I use it for sprouting kumara.”

The young man grins. “I could use that in one of my romantic novels... their eyes met over the crystal vase through a tangle of kumara leaves.”

Gary chuckles. “The crystal vase that held the promise of things to come.”

Laughing, John now in his element, could feel a story emerging. “The sound of caroling in the street vanished into nothingness as the full moon cast a golden halo...”

Shelly, seeing the fun going on in the corner couldn’t help herself. “No, no. It’s not the moon. It’s a star. The story could go something like this... and there, shimmering through the twilight, appears a star. Bigger, brighter than they could ever imagine.”

Now they’re all laughing. “Hey, you’re a natural.”

Shelly carries on... “and he whispers, what is your name?”

Gary, taking the cue whispers back.

“Mary. My name is Mary.”

And without a pause John adds “And he’s Joseph.”

They all burst into laughter again. Shelly

looks around the shop and giggles, “It’s just as well we don’t have any customers.”

Gary and John look at each other, “Then what are we?”

“Oh, right. But I know you now. You feel more like friends.” There’s an easy silence.

“You know,” says Gary. “It’s so good to have people to share with,” and before he has time to think he blurts out, “Hey, are you guys doing anything tonight. I’ve got some sweetcorn and new spuds that need eating. Interested?”

Shelly and John look at each other. “Yeh. Great idea.”


Then Shelly stops. “But I thought you’re too busy with that garden of yours.”

“Naw. Nothing that can’t wait. Anyway, it’s time for friends. It’s Christmas.”

Happy Christmas everyone.


Meeting update

Once again we had a full day. The starter for 20 minutes of spontaneous writing was “and the music played on”. Stories from earthquakes to singing dogs and pandemic memories were among the varied interpretations on this theme. Moving on to the recommended reading, *Audé*, a thought provoking book, was mentioned. Lunch in the sun was followed by sharing of our homework, 500 words using the starter “the smell of summer rain”. Another great day.



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- If friends or whanau are collecting you, we recommend that they pick you up directly at Hannaford's Wharf as capacity is limited on the shuttle bus into Coromandel Town. The shuttle bus meets the ferry and will transfer you to and from Coromandel Town (Samuel James Reserve carpark) and Hannaford's Wharf. There is no additional fare for this service.
- Advance bookings are advisable for all Fullers360 tours and bookable ferry services. We recommend arriving 30mins prior to departure to check in.
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2020	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
02/11/20-20/12/20	-	-	-	-	6.40pm	8.45am	8.45am
21/12/20-27/12/20	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	-	8.45am	8.45am
28/12/20-03/01/21	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am
04/01/21-10/01/21	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	6.40pm	8.45am	8.45am
11/01/21-17/01/21	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am	6.40pm	8.45am	8.45am
18/01/21-31/01/21	-	-	-	-	6.40pm	8.45am	8.45am
01/02/21-14/02/21	8.45am	-	-	-	6.40pm	8.45am	8.45am
15/02/21-28/03/21	-	-	-	-	6.40pm	8.45am	8.45am
29/03/21-04/04/21	-	-	-	-	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am
05/04/21-11/04/21	8.45am	-	-	-	6.40pm	8.45am	8.45am

DEPART WAIHEKE ISLAND: Orapiu Wharf

2020	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
02/11/20-20/12/20	-	-	-	-	7.45pm	9.50am	9.50am
21/12/20-27/12/20	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	-	9.50am	9.50am
28/12/20-03/01/21	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am
04/01/21-10/01/21	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	7.45pm	9.50am	9.50am
11/01/21-17/01/21	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am	7.45pm	9.50am	9.50am
18/01/21-31/01/21	-	-	-	-	7.45pm	9.50am	9.50am
01/02/21-14/02/21	9.50am	-	-	-	7.45pm	9.50am	9.50am
15/02/21-28/03/21	-	-	-	-	7.45pm	9.50am	9.50am
29/03/21-04/04/21	-	-	-	-	9.50am	9.50am	9.50am
05/04/21-11/04/21	9.50am	-	-	-	7.45pm	9.50am	9.50am

DEPART COROMANDEL: Hannaford's Wharf

2020	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
02/11/20-20/12/20	-	-	-	-	8.45pm	4.30pm	4.30pm
21/12/20-27/12/20	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.00pm	-	4.30pm	4.30pm
28/12/20-03/01/21	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.00pm	4.30pm	4.30pm	4.30pm
04/01/21-10/01/21	4.30pm	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.00pm	8.45pm	4.30pm	4.30pm
11/01/21-17/01/21	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.00pm	3.00pm	8.45pm	4.30pm	4.30pm
18/01/21-31/01/21	-	-	-	-	8.45pm	4.30pm	4.30pm
01/02/21-14/02/21	4.30 pm	-	-	-	8.45pm	4.30pm	4.30pm
15/02/21-28/03/21	-	-	-	-	8.45pm	4.30pm	4.30pm
29/03/21-04/04/21	-	-	-	-	4.00 pm	4.30pm	4.30pm
05/04/21-11/04/21	4.30 pm	-	-	-	8.45pm	4.30pm	4.30pm



Photo: C. Sutherland

By Carol Sutherland

The black swan naturally introduced itself to NZ alongside deliberate releases in the 19th century, which saw their numbers explode. According to Fish and Game and Birds Online (always a good site for bird information) populations around lakes decreased as aquatic plant populations declined due to increased siltation. However, they are found in large numbers in estuaries eating seagrass. This one was photographed in the mangroves just before the Te Kouma turnoff. They lay 3-5 pale green eggs from June through to November and can live up to 15 years.

mcgregorbaywetland@hotmail.com
welcomes wildlife photos

Grey Power Coromandel

By John Rabarts, President

Grey Power discounts

I was recently asked if you have to be 60, or 65 to get Grey Power Electricity and Broadband discounts. No – associate members under 50 and full members over 50 can get the power discount and add cheaper phone and broadband if they wish. For information on discounted rates for Grey Power Electricity and Broadband phone 0800 473 976 for a quote. Have a recent power account beside you when you phone or sign up online at www.greypowerelectricity.co.nz. You do need to join Grey Power Coromandel but you can phone for your quote then contact Carol (see below) to pay and arrange for your membership number. There are other discounts on Cook Strait ferries, Challenge fuels, health insurance, and more available to members and associate members (over or under 50 years). Membership rates, associate or full, are the same but associate members do not get local Grey Power discounts. All members get a free \$2000 serious disabling accident or death insurance.

Beware door to door sales

Mrs Grenill is in her 90's and lives on her own. She's still driving and able to care for herself, with some help in the kitchen and garden. A few months ago a woman knocked on the door and announced she was from "security". Mrs Grenill somehow assumed she was from government with an elderly safety support programme. The lady asked to look around and after some friendly chatter started talking about a security device. Mrs Grenill wasn't interested and said so immediately. The woman said "the government would pay". Mrs Grenill said she was "not interested" again. She is unsure how it happened but somehow the saleswoman managed to talk her into going to the bank and authorising monthly payments to a security firm. Back home the woman wired a gadget into the home phone system., then asked Mrs Grenill to sign a paper confirming that she had spent time at the home and installing the device so she could be paid. Sometime after the saleswoman had left Mrs Grenill managed to find the number of the security firm and phoned them to say she didn't want the alarm and could they please come and collect it. She also cancelled the authorisation with the bank. It was some time before the woman came and when she did she wanted a large sum of money to remove the device. Mrs Grenill, now very stressed, refused to pay her. Eventually the woman went with the device. Needless to say this whole experience left Mrs Grenill in a state of shock – about the fact she had been duped into going ahead with the proposal in the first place and had then taken a while to cancel it. She's never been taken in by a salesperson at the door before and realises she wasn't thinking straight when she went to the bank to authorise the fortnightly payments. When she told me her story (and had the bank papers to back it up) I realised she had been duped by a very capable salesperson. So be determined that if someone comes to your door offering you something you don't really want and didn't ask for – send them away pronto. *Jill Marshall. Grey Power Tauranga magazine quarter four 2019.*

That there is a Highway To Hell and only a Stairway To Heaven says quite a lot about anticipated numbers.

Coromandel Grey Power Membership is \$15 single member, \$28 for two at same address. Phone Carol Carson, (07) 866 7172 to join. President John Rabarts, email: john.rabarts@gmail.com



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DECEMBER, 2020



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

For Council Christmas hours visit
tcdc.govt.nz/contact-us

OPEN CONSULTATIONS

We have two items out for consultation

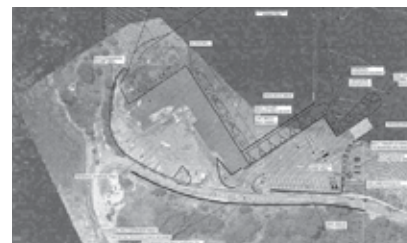
- Water metering
- Freedom camping

tcdc.govt.nz/have-your-say

have your
say

Te Ariki Tahī/ Sugarloaf Wharf project

This is a \$20million project in partnership with our Council, the Coromandel Marine Farmers and central government. The build will see the existing wharf platform raised and extended, four new berths for increased commercial activity and a separate facility for recreational boats. To see the detailed map visit tcdc.govt.nz/tearikitahi



- ☐ I support support the design
- ☐ I don't support the design

Please send us your feedback by either posting this to Thames-Coromandel District Council, Private Bag 1001, Thames 3540 or drop into one of our council offices. Or you can email nicky.sedgley@mitchellldaysh.co.nz

Kerbside Summer Collection

Our summer Kerbside collection service begins 26 December 2020 and ends 30 January 2021. Collections are not delayed after public holidays during this period.

tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

Coromandel Rural North	Coromandel Town & Te Kouma
Tuesday 	Wednesday
Friday 	

We are now only collecting plastic types 1 and 2 for recycling. Plus tins, paper and cardboard as usual. Bags hung from trees or poles, or left in a cage, will not be collected.



Our Refuse Transfer stations are open to extended hours from 14 December to 21 January 2021. Hours and locations:

tcdc.govt.nz/rts



Water restrictions

tcdc.govt.nz/water



FIRE RESTRICTIONS

fireandemergency.nz



ALCOHOL BANS

tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol



DOG RULES

tcdc.govt.nz/dogrules

Statutory timeframes

Statutory timeframes for processing applications pause over Christmas/New Year. See the relevant section of our website for deadlines.



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customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz
Private Bag, 515 Mackay St, Thames
Phone: 07 868 0200

TCDC/2019

Rangatahi

CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN

Kiwi Can

Kia ora koutou,

Thanks to everyone that dressed up and showed up to our Halloween Disco! We had amazing feedback, and it looked like the tamariki had fun! Special thanks to Rose Dudson and the whānau at Coromandel Playcentre for all of your help setting up, and the yummy baking that was donated. Thanks to you, the disco was even more epic!

This term the kaupapa/theme is Respect, and our catchphrase is: "We respect our school and community too. Caring for our environment is the thing to do." Tino pai to Room 1, 2, and Kereru for giving this catchphrase a go, especially with those big words! Over the last few weeks we have been unpacking "Respect for our School" by discussing with the younger students how we can respect the older students while they prepare for tests and exams by staying away from their areas and being respectful with how much noise we make! The older students made a Respect Chain with words and phrases on what makes our school special, and how we show respect. It was great to see links of the chain saying "leave the wildlife alone", "don't touch birds nests", "respect people's space". The tamariki put a lot of thought into these, and this chain is going to look so cool hanging up in the Kiwi Can classes!

Nga mihi nui from the Kiwi Can Team!

The Coromandel Kiwi Can programme is managed by the Coromandel Independent Living Trust, officially sponsored by Sanford Ltd and supported by The Lion Foundation



Te Rerenga School

By Mary Kedzlie, Principal



Rosie James, one of our Year 5 students has had her writing chosen to be published in the next issue of Toitoti magazine. Toitoti magazine is a national publication featuring the writing of young New Zealanders. This is a wonderful achievement. Rosie is the second child from Te Rerenga School to have her writing selected for this magazine in 2020 and we are very proud of her!

The Farm - by Rosie James

"Just run up and jump over it!" I shouted from the other side of the thick deep mud.

"I can't," she screamed, taking a couple steps back into the clayish bank. "I can't get across this stupid mud!", stormed my younger sister Dana.

"You did it on the way there!", I called. I was starting to get a bit cross now.

"Fine", she said nervously

She ran and jumped....

She soared through the air and landed in the middle of the thick deep mud.

"AAAAAHHHHHHH!!!" She screamed. Dana was up to her neck in mud and I had to pull her out.

That was only one of the adventures we had on the farm.

The farm has been in my family for around 100 years and through summer, autumn, winter and spring we look after the land together.

In summer we swim in the calm glittering sea by our house.

We bury each other in the sand. Summer is a dry and hot season and sometimes we have to feed out hay to the hungry cattle because the paddocks are bare. We shifted mobs of cattle into better pasture (if there is any) and we sorted them out so they were ready to sell.

In autumn the deciduous trees turn orange and yellow. It slowly gets colder. After the first autumn rains mushrooms pop up in the paddocks. We trudge for miles with knives and buckets searching for a whopper or a perfect fairy ring. We drove the cattle into the yards to be drenched (drenched means to give them medicine so they stay healthy). The mud was as sticky as glue. Once I got so stuck that I came right out of my boots! There are lots of potholes in our driveway and when it rains they fill up until there are deep puddles. We pulled on our wet weather gear and got absolutely soaked jumping and splashing in them.

When it gets colder and wetter and winter comes, we sit by the fire inside wishing it was still autumn. The big drops of rain lash against the house. Occasionally the weather is alright and we make the most of it by going on walks around the farm with Swandries.

In spring the ground dries up and lambs start to appear in the paddocks with their tired-looking mothers. When we go on tadpoling and fishing expeditions, the dogs and our pet sheep tag along.

As well as the sheep, all the cattle start having their babies too! We check them at least twice a day on the noisy quad bike. Sometimes there are abandoned calves which we raise every year. We buy calves from other farmers and feed them milk, they suck our fingers with their raspy tongues. They are always up before us, calling out and asking for their breakfast.

The morning gets louder and more desperate as we approach the paddock. Some are faster than others at drinking their food.

Sometimes the lamb's mothers leave the lambs and we have to rescue them. I always have a pet lamb every year.

For a hundred years my great-grandparents, grandparents and parents have had many adventures on this farm. I hope I will continue to have many more with my sisters. I'm very fond of my farm.

Mindfulness Monday.

Te Rerenga School has a focus on Mindfulness and recently we had a visit to Opera Point for a Mindfulness Monday, following up on one earlier in the year. It was a very special day for the children and adults alike, being able to enjoy the beauty of the bush and harbour right on our doorstep.

Coromandel Youth Group at Hauraki House

We're excited to be part of 2020 Christmas in the Park, where Youth Group staff will be face painting. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

School term times: Sunday 1-4pm, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 3pm-5pm, Friday night (school years 6 to 10) 6.30-8.30pm. Please make a gold coin donation for attendance.

December school holiday times: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 11am-4pm, Sunday 1-4pm, Friday night (school years 6 to 10) 6.30-8.30pm. Holiday entry is \$2. Bring your child along with a packed lunch and/or money for snacks, pies or hot chips.

Our last day for 2020 is **Thursday 24 December**. We reopen **Tuesday 5 January 2021**. Please note that for the month of January we will only be open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday (closed Mondays and Fridays).

For more information call in at the Youth Rooms, Hauraki House or telephone us on (07) 866 7061.

Along with the kind donations received, we would like to thank those that make this programme possible: Lottery Waikato, Trust Waikato, COGS, D.V.Bryant Trust

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Coromandel Area School

By Jamie Rose Brown



New staff introduction

We are very excited to announce that we have appointed another amazing teacher to our staff for 2021. Josephine (Jo) Baird has spent the last five years teaching Years 1 and 2 at Baird's Mainfreight Primary School in Otara. Some of you may recognise the name. Jo was a former student at our kura and has many ties to this community. Jo will be teaching in Room 2 in 2021. We can't wait to officially welcome her next year.

Our new assistant principal from 2021 onwards will be Trish Purdie-Nicholls. Whaea Trish is currently a science teacher at our kura, and with her former experience as a principal in Rotorua, we know she will make a great addition to our Senior Leadership Team.

Room 2 Explanation Writing

How to look after your dog – By Jaycee

Water. Food. Lunch. Dinner.

Name your dog.

My dog is called Tiki.

I love my dog.

How to build a chicken coop – By Elsa

You will need

Wood

Nails

Wire

Hammer

Now you need chickens.

How to build a real sword – By Reid

You will need

Iron

Iron cutter

Furnace

Then you have a sword.

You can use it as a decoration.

Our production

We are proud of the school production that was put together this year which was called Golden Times and based around a celebration of local tales told through drama, music, and dance. Thank you to Whaea Claire and Whaea Maria for going above and beyond to make this show spectacular.

Rotorua Island experience by Laraine

During the beginning of Term 4 the CAS Student Volunteer Army had the opportunity to stay two nights on Rotorua Island in the Hauraki Gulf to give environmental service in a very unique location. Rotorua Island is a pest-free wildlife sanctuary and conservation island.

Our EPIC team of 14 young people Y7-10 plus three teachers spent Saturday morning weeding the new takahe enclosure as the rangers are anticipating the arrival of a pair shortly. They also enjoyed exploring the island tracks, fishing, swimming, kiwi night hunting as well as learning about the island and what they are doing there in regards to breeding endangered native birds from the excellent rangers, Milly and Glen. They were fortunate with the weather. The team worked impressively and gave their best – receiving top feedback from the rangers for their efforts.

Cieara at the top of Moehau Mountain in the school production



Beginning of Term 1 date

Remember to stay up to date with what is happening by checking our Facebook page regularly and our calendar on the school website.

Friday 5 February is the first official day of Term 1, 2021. This day is for all students, Years 1-13, and the buses will be running on this day. We will start the day with a full school pōwhiri to welcome the new staff, students and whānau. This will be followed by morning tea for new staff, students and and whānau. Then we will begin our fun games day!

End of Term

We would like to say a huge thank you for your support this year! We wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. Remember that we have an epic one-day event on **2 January** on our school fields, so we will see you all the Keltic Fair.

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Arts

Pastel and Pencil Artists Coromandel

By Rosemarie Murphy

We had a lot of fun at our last workshop. We welcomed newcomers Kate, Jenny and two Julies.

We hope you had a great time, learnt a lot and will carry on pastelling.

Maxine Thompson from Rotorua was our tutor for two days. It was a pastel feast of tips, hints, techniques and demonstrations. At the beginning Maxine asked us all what we wanted to learn. The list was impressive, from trees, waves, dappled foliage and reflections to mist, glass, depth and dogs.

There was a mix of expertise in our group. Some had never tried pastel before and others had tried it but needed to know more.

After a demonstration of drawing a ball and learning how to shade it so that it looked round, everyone tried a small still life of an apple and a wine glass. Of course there was one who had to try some strawberries in the wine glass and afterwards put them back in the dish for lunch!

From there we moved on to a view from the lookout on Kereta hill with the tree, water, hills and mist.

There were eleven students but we all had our turn of Maxine's attention and advice.

Pictured are some of the really great paintings that we achieved.

Pastel Artists Coromandel meet every Tuesday from 9am-12 noon in the Coromandel Aero Clubs on Tiki Road. Our last meeting for the year will be **8 December** but we will be starting up again in February 2021. Our group is a fun-loving, supportive group who would love some new members. We welcome all abilities, even those who know absolutely nothing about art or pastel, so how about coming along to see what we do and have a coffee with us.

People to contact:
Allan Beaver
(07) 866 8053,
Saskia Riemersma
(07) 866 8829



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Portrait painting

Richard Pomare-Chrisp (ex Ecole der Beaux Arts, Paris) and David Broatch (ex Edinburgh School of Art) recommence portrait painting on **5 December** under fig tree outside Coro Bakehouse. Appointments optional (021 0245 7820). Adults \$20, children \$15, dogs \$10.



Photo is of Richard Chrisp with Bella – an adorable, intelligent, affectionate African grey parrot, who is learning English, French and Italian. Photo courtesy of Fiona Johnson

Watch This Space Coromandel

Explore ... play ... share ... grow ... critique ... develop ... strengthen ... learn ... discern ... show ... enjoy!

You may be forgiven for thinking this might be a column about children's development – in a sort of a sense it is, but this is an arts column. And WTS Coromandel is a non-profit, by-artists-for-artists initiative that is now five years old.

There are two branches to WTS. We run a winter Shared Studios programme that is ongoing May 'til September, involving studio time, workshops, visits and participants' exhibition. And we produce stand-alone themed and curated exhibitions, generally during the "off-peak" months.

Places in the programme are open to local artists as well as those from beyond the confines of Coromandel, and interdisciplinary work is encouraged.

This programme does not preclude involvement in other groups or learning situations – its boundaries are clear but fluid. Several WTS participants have this year been accepted into Creative Coromandel's government-funded "pARTner-Up" – a six-month mentoring programme for professional artists.

If you find yourself resonating with some of this, please feel free to give us a call and find out a bit more on how it all works. It's actually simple, friendly and accessible. And we would love to hear from you!

In the meantime, thanks to all who have been involved thus far, and a wonderful summer to all.

Sally Tennent-Brown 027 302 4245, John Eaglen 021 930 470, Fran Campbell 027 228 2553



Coromandel Arts Tour

By Kaye Anderson



The Arts Tour is over for 2020, but the artists are still here, as active as ever in their creative spaces.

Over the summer period, keep your eyes open for flags and signs indicating studios that are open. You could also pick up an Arts Tour brochure from the Information Centre and if you would like to see any artists in particular, give them a call to see if they are available for a visit.

The website www.coromandelartstour.co.nz is also a great place to see the breadth and depth of local artists' work, from ceramics and wooden furniture to paintings and drawings in a variety of media.

Enjoy your time in Coromandel!



Himalaya shop : Colville

Hi Everyone

The Himalaya shop will be open 7 days a week from 1st December. Our hours will be 10 a.m. to around 4 p.m. before Christmas, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. after the 26th.

We will not be open on Christmas day and Boxing day.

You may contact us on 07 8666 865 :home, or 07 8667 224: shop.

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Coromandel Art Group

by Barbara Peddie

Nearly the end of the year, and what an odd one it has been! I read somewhere that events this year like the Covid-19 lockdown have altered our sense of time – some things have been sped up, and other times seemed to drag interminably.

None of us, barring Val Gray, could paint at home in lockdown for some reason, but we have been beaver away since and hope to have a good showing for you in our summer exhibition. And to that end we have several mounting and framing sessions coming up.

Then there is our Christmas do, which is always a highlight.

Merry Christmas to all, and we hope to see you at the Hauraki House Gallery the first two weeks of February.



Art Auction!

By Emily Macleod

Lindsay Garmson, a long-time resident of the northern Coromandel, has produced the Coromandel Christmas Exhibition for over 30 years. This year is the 32nd exhibition and he has asked the many artists that he knows if they would like to donate a work of art to be offered for sale in an online auction to raise funds for the Colville Community Health Trust. Funds raised will support the Trust's efforts towards the new Wellbeing and Education Centre.

The Trust had been fundraising for years for a new health centre, when in 2016 it entered into a collaboration with Colville Social Service Collective to address issues of access to essential services for the residents of the northern Coromandel communities. This collaboration became The Colville Project, and as the first stage of this visionary plan, this new centre will provide space for existing and expanded health services, and social, education and training programmes and facilities.

The donated artworks will be displayed at Hauraki House and will be posted on the TradeMe auction site. This will give the artists nationwide exposure and The Colville Project good national coverage.

The Trust would like to thank all involved in organising and participating in this auction and showing us such tremendous support. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of so many people.

For more information about the beneficiaries or to donate, please visit the following websites:

Colville Community Health Trust: www.colvillecommunityhealthtrust.com,

Colville Social Service Collective Charitable Trust: www.cssc.net.nz,

The Colville Project Trust: www.thecolvilleproject.nz

The Importance of Being Earnest

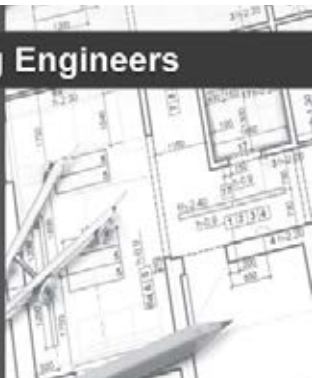
There might be a production of Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest in 2021. Possibly directed by Richard Chrisp. There are nine characters in the play – four male and five female for preferably experienced actors. Audition Dec/Jan for production in April. Contact 021 0245 7820 if you are interested.

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Coromandel Christmas Exhibition 2020-2021

Hauraki House – Coromandel Town
December 20th until January 15th

Artists exhibition include: Bronwynne Cornish, Michael Smither, Gian McGregor, Fatu Feu'u, Wailin Elliott, Tom Elliott, Lindsay Garmson, Pamella Annsouth, Anneke Borren, Cindy Alger, Fiona Tunnicliffe, Bev Thatcher, Rod MacLeod, Barbara Von Seida, Mike O'Donnell, Allan Beaver, Tom Folwell, Peter Sephton, Caitlin Moloney, Kim and Kevin Brett, Christy Benton, Kay Ogilvie, Tracy Johnson, Ian Webster, Mike Barton, Jan Kocian, Sam Ireland, Mike Cogswell, Annette Kaye, Raewyn Penrose, Marian Cogswell, Deborah Hide-Bayne, Iain Crichton, Petra Meyboden, Diane Cade, Jan Linklatter, Mary Lee, Joanne North, Rex Brett, Jenny Shearer, Sue Pidgeon, Ian Dalzell, Vaughan Udall, Andrew and Jeannie Van Der Putten, Bob Drummond, Chris Tryon, Frederick Church.

Come to the opening

– mix and mingle from 5pm – opening 6pm –

Sunday 20th December – all welcome.

Then the exhibition will be open from 10am until 4pm daily – Monday 21st December until 15th January (closed for Christmas Day).



Fundraiser

This years exhibition will be hosting a fundraiser for the **Colville Community Health Trust**.

Artists have donated an art piece to be sold by auction via Trade Me.

All details are available at the gallery or search for "Coromandel Christmas Exhibition 2020/21" on Trade Me.

Environment

Forest & Bird

By Sue Wright



Early Recollections

Over the many years since the Upper Coromandel Branch of the Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society was formed in 1988 by Judy Piesse, many projects and activities connected with environmental issues have been undertaken.

During the early years, we had working bees to plant the area of road reserve at Big Bay in Colville; and to plant along the cleared river bank at the Hauraki House Reserve. The Branch also helped the TCDC with the improvement of the Kauri Track at Long Bay and provided an information kiosk at the start of the track with photos and information about the plants and trees along the track. Bait stations and traps were installed and maintained here and at Wyuna Bay, to help control stoats and possums, in order to protect the weka released on Whanganui Island by DOC. Following the pest management programme, weka thrived on the island. They had previously been in decline.

Many happy picnics were laid out on the lawn of Dorothy James's home in Januarys, and for those so inclined, starting the New Year off with a swim was part of the enjoyment.

Three field trips were made to Tiritiri Matangi Island Sanctuary, where members spent enjoyable days planting, clearing invasive vegetation and helping to build boardwalks, and observing the bird life that was beginning to return with the pest eradication measures. This was a special experience enjoyed by all.

Members marked Conservation Days by carrying out beach clean-ups along the beaches of Coromandel Harbour. A highlight for 20 branch members was an eco-tour to Hawaii in 1998, where three islands were visited – a lasting memory for all.

Many other trips, both near and far, maintained the interest and appreciation

of the unique diversity of our flora and fauna. May the protection of our natural heritage by Forest & Bird be maintained for many years to come.



A planting working bee at the junction of the Port Charles/Port Jackson Road Reserve

Corolandcare

By John Veysey

In your previous edition we learned that Regional Council has granted Te Are Hou the princely sum of \$380,000.

Te Ara Hou consists of two men, Nic Hamon and Quentin Potae. This is their first year in business bringing the total number to nearly 70 enviro-groups which have sprung up on the Coromandel Peninsula.

Primarily this money is to cover the wages of these two men for four years. With this money they are expected to administer and negotiate with locals about building a coast to coast fence across the peninsula, and negotiate a 1080 drop over Maori and other private lands between the Tokatea and Waikawau.

When WRC was called Environment Waikato this type of negotiation was all done by a handful of council staff. These environment managers were in charge of possum control operations on private lands. They would line up an operation and then inform the landowners what was going to happen on their lands. This seemed to work fine until 2007 when the staff failed to convince the locals that, without a 1080 drop behind the town, the hillsides would soon be stripped bare of leaves by the possums. This was an emergency demanding immediate action.

This experience with council left a lasting impression. Some trust had been lost.

As it became more and more difficult to persuade private landowners to allow council contractors onto their lands, the council staff handed over this job to the enviro-groups. It is hoped that Nic and Quentin will be able to succeed where council staff had failed. The hope is so great that council is prepared to invest hundreds of thousands of dollars of our ratepayers' money into its fulfillment.

As each enviro-group takes a fee for administration and management we find that, even though more and more funding is being poured into wild animal control, less and less of it is paying for work in the bush. Huge amounts are being swallowed up by administration.

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Moehau Environment Group

By Nat Munnns

MEG AGM

The MEG AGM will take place in the Colville Hall on **Saturday 28 November**. The meeting will start at 10.30 am and be followed by light refreshments.

If you'd like to hear what MEG has achieved in the past year and would maybe like to join the committee, then please come along. Everyone welcome!

Join the MEG Team!

We are looking for someone to join our team of field rangers. The ideal candidate will have experience in the bush cutting tracks and installing trap and bait station infrastructure, ideally will be chainsaw certified and have current first aid training. The work is physically challenging so a good level of fitness and ability to work off track in the bush is required. The position will be 4-5 days per week depending on successful candidate.



If you are keen to get involved and help us support our native species, please apply in writing to info@meg.org.nz

MEG Stoat Trapping Operation Data October

2020

Predator and pest catch data from our entire stoat trapping operation for October 2020.

Species	Oct 2020	Total to Date
Hedgehog	4	394
Possum	0	83
Rabbit	6	119
Rat	230	19,301
Stoat	19	2,609
Weasel	8	972
Ferret	0	6

Weed of the Month – Moth Plant

Moth plant is a rampant evergreen vine with similar shaped fruit as the choko. Clusters of 2-4 bell-shaped white flowers (20-25 mm diameter), occasionally with pink streaks, appear from December to May, followed by the leathery pear shaped fruit pods.

The fruit pods contain a kapok-like pulp, which split open to disperse many black, thistledown-like seeds. Transported easily on the wind, the seeds can germinate long distances from the seed source and the resulting vine smothers and kills plants up into the canopy, preventing the establishment of native plant species.

Its milky sap is poisonous and causes dermatitis, so it's best to cover up when dealing with this pest plant. When eradicating this plant, destroy the seed pods first to minimise seeding.

Check out www.weedbusters.org.nz for more information on how to eradicate moth plant from your property.

Have a great month everyone!

Contact us at info@meg.org.nz or make a donation by visiting our website www.meg.org.nz

Postponement of CLAIM AGM

By Matt Sephton

The CLAIM AGM will now be held on **Saturday 20 February** at 2pm in the Colville Hall. Many of us have worked tirelessly for the last 40 years to ensure that the Peninsula is not ravaged by the effects of gold mining. Although many gains have been celebrated there is still a very real threat of mining even around Coromandel Town. All are welcome to the AGM next February in Colville where up to date information will be provided. Pass it on!

Merry Christmas

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Environment continued

UCLA December Conservation Report

By Reihana Robinson, spokesperson for UCLA

UCLA would like to remind locals involved in the important work of saving our native bush, that our own local community board has passed multiple non-binding resolutions to "Advocate on behalf of the Coromandel-Colville community that all animal pest control be undertaken by trapping, hunting and non-residual poisons (and Advocate that the Coromandel-Colville Ward be used as an example of how effective animal pest control can be using hunting, trapping and non-residual poisons."

In 2017 the Manu Waiata Restoration & Protection Society sought CCCB support to end DOC aerial 1080 drops and the Board resolved to "reaffirm its strong opposition to the use of 1080 in the Coromandel-Colville Ward and its support for alternative methods of pest eradication, e.g. hunting, trapping and cyanide."

Our community has spoken loudly, clearly and repeatedly that it wants safe and sensible pest control. Coromandel residents have urged an end to the increasing use of poisons that slaughter hundreds of non-target species, taint our drinking water, cause secondary poisonings, kill pets and working dogs, accumulate in our food chain, kill inhumanely, and threaten tourist and export-related jobs. And our Community Board has listened.

In 2017 the Moehau Environment Group (MEG) indicated to WRC's Judy van Rossem and Clare Crickett their intention to use 1080 in Port Charles, along Harriet Kings Road and on Moehau Community land. Four property owners in the Parakete Stream watershed all eventually denied MEG access to lay 1080 after MEG requested, and got, an additional \$41,000+GST from the Natural Heritage Fund on top of their \$366,000 operating grant. This information was published by WRC's Finance Committee September 2017.

On page 21 of MEG's 2020 application for funding from WRC,

retrieved via OIA, the map is 100% blacked out. No residents are able to determine from this what hazardous toxins, if any, are being laid, and where. This is of concern to many local residents. On behalf of our community UCLA will continue efforts to have this information released and currently await the results of the Ombudsman's investigation. The health and safety of neighbours should be paramount. We are seriously concerned for mokopuna and the kai we hunt.

McGregor Bay Wetlands

By Carol Sutherland

Wetlands Trending

Both the Wetland Society and the local Forest & Bird branch have written about the importance of wetlands. Wetlands are also listed as priority areas by the government in their environmental policy. There are some wonderful stories about communities saving their existing local wetlands (Golden Bay residents went so far as to buy one to protect it). Some are reverting areas back into wetland and others creating these wildlife turbo-charged areas on their own land. However, in New Zealand the reduction in wetland area is still the norm. Why? Recently the Environmental Law Initiative Trust looked into this. The primary driver was the desire for pasture. They also found that most councils have appropriate policy objectives and rules but a contributing factor to this decline was the lack of enforcement combined with a low-risk penalty for damaging drainage works. Councils have rarely declined wetland-related consents (>50% approved) and the public rarely given a say with >50% processed without notification or input by elected representatives.

At present the WRC are considering an application for resource consent for the replacement tidal gate. The Society would like it to be publicly notified. Who is in the wetland's corner when council staff process consents? Adjoining landowners are recognised as "affected parties" but the Society believes that the wetland is an affected party as well and deserves an advocate/s and a process that enables the public to contribute in decision making around a public wetland.

So as this year draws to an end we are again waiting for decisions, on the process and then on the outcome.

The kids have almost finished the McGregor Bay Wetland sign so we'll have that up before the year is out. Thanks to the artistic CAS students for this contribution.

We will also be putting up banded rail information signs along the causeway so pedestrians can read about these shy birds that people may see running up and over the road. They have been designed by "What's the story" Sonia Frimmel on behalf of WRC and TCDC. One of the birds killed on the road was of a condition that it was able to be mounted for educational purposes. Others have been spotted by walkers or handed to DOC and the birds have been put back into the wetland after reporting them to the Society. If you want to see what one looks like close up one can be seen in the Coromandel Accommodation window.

Please slow down on the Long Bay causeways as there are no footpaths or rail underpasses.

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Sport

Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club

By Sharon Toms & CRFC Committee

Our Labour Weekend tournament was a huge success with approx. 60 people registering. The weather was great and there were some fantastic catches! We would like to thank Raewyn and Tim Moreland for their donation of gift baskets for the smallest fish (one for male and one for female) and one to raffle.

Results of the tournament are as follows:

Seniors

1st Snapper – 9.280kg – Rob Davies
2nd Snapper – 9.131kg – Maree Hoborn
3rd Snapper – 8.420kg – Nikki Stephenson
Average – 1.350kg – Mike Liddington
Mystery – 4.135kg – Nikki Stephenson
Trevally – 3.519kg – Jane Simmonds
Kahawai – 2.340kg – Allen Mc Neil
John Dory – 2.795kg – Rob Davies

Smallest -M – 0.595kg – John Gibbons
Smallest -F – 0.630kg – Sue Boyce

Juniors

1st Snapper – 6.175kg – Sam Woodcock
2nd Snapper – 6.000kg – Layke Mc Neil
3rd Snapper – 2.180kg – Fergus Knox
1st Parore – 1.258kg – Kate Davies
1st Kahawai – 1.141kg – Fergus Knox
Most unusual – gurnard – Khiana

Our popular Meat Pack raffles are held on Friday nights at the Admirals Arms, only \$2 per ticket, with proceeds going towards Club prizes and the general running of the Club.

The Club "Fish of the Month Competition" for the \$100 prize is for the August 2020 – July 2021 current members only. Fish of the Month for December is piper. Congratulations to AJ Bromwich who won FOM for October with kahawai weighing 2.053kgs.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Here's to tight lines, as always.



Rob Davies with a couple of his fish caught at our Labour Weekend Tournament

Coromandel Golf Club

By Lynne Fenwick

Club Champ winners

Senior Men: Chris Fielding,
r/up Darry O'Keeffe
Intermediate Men: Max McLean, r/up Ross
Mudgway
Junior: Dave Dudson, r/up Ron Brooking
Junior B: Dave Paul Lawrence, r/up Peter
Tyron

Ladies

Senior: Eugene Weimer, r/up Peg McLean
Intermediate: Jenny Gilmore, r/up Philippa
Medlock
Junior: Elaine Everitt, r/up Carol Carson
New Players: Natalie La Maitre, r/up Fiona
Neal



Celebrating
100
years

Coromandel Golf Club is celebrating 100 years

If you have been a past member of the Golf Club or know of someone who was, such as a family member, neighbour or friend, please phone Lynne Fenwick 021 079 9349 or email coromandelgolfclub@gmail.com so we can contact them with details of our weekend celebrations.



Congratulations to all of our Club Champions for 2020

Coromandel Croquet Club

By Kaye Anderson

It's great weather for croquet right now! We will play through to **Tuesday 22**

December before taking a short break until **Tuesday 5 January 2021**.

However, if you're visiting Coromandel during the holiday season and would like to play a game of croquet, phone Andrea on 021 069 0494 and she will arrange a time when you can use the facilities.

We meet on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9.15am for a 9.30am start. If you are keen to join us and need more information, call Kaye on (07) 866 8968. Otherwise just come along on a Friday. The club is situated in Woollams Ave next to the Bowling Club.



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Christmas in the Park form – refer to article on page 5

☐ **Yes I would like to have a stall at the Christmas in the Park**

Business name/private stall holder name

I will be selling

Email address

Phone

☐ **Yes I would like to have a float in the parade**

Name/business

Drop form into Coromandel Town Information Centre or Richardsons Real Estate.

Coromandel Town Community Christmas Lunch form – refer to article on page 5

☐ I am coming to lunch. Number attending.....

☐ I need transport

Name(s)

Phone

Address

Because of Covid-19 make sure you write the name of everyone that will be attending on the form.

Drop completed form into Four Square or email to Coromandelchristmaslunch@gmail.com

Classifieds

Classifieds cost 30 cents per word – please email your words to corochronicle@gmail.com or call/txt Debbie on 021 235 6648.

PROFESSIONALS

123 IT COROMANDEL. Here to assist you with your phone, tablet, computer and smart TV setup, how to use them and how to resolve any problems. Call Benjamin on 022 631 9252.

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BALLET CLASS FOR ADULTS. Venue: Coromandel Citizens' Hall 455 Kapanga Road, Wednesdays 9.50am-11.20am \$10. Ph Marilyn Swan 027 336 5263. Email: swanebbs@gmail.com. Registered Teacher and Life Member Royal Academy of Dance.

BEGINNER YOGA WITH BECKS Tuesdays at the Anglican Church Hall, 170 Tiki Rd, 5.30pm to 6.45pm, \$10. All welcome, equipment provided. Phone 027 407 0079 for more info, www.rebeccaaleaker.com. The last class for 2020 will be on 15 December. First class for 2021 will be 12 January.

BICYCLE REPAIRS, servicing and sales. Find some of my bikes on my FB page (Miles Watson recycled bicycles and repairs). I can also pick up old bikes and parts from your house. 020 4150 6575.

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TREE SERVICE. Dismantling or pruning. Free quotes. Call Jeremy Haszard 027 421 0603.

The Teapot*By Sue Gilmer*

Standing on the shelf,
Looking down at you all,
Do you really see me for who I am?

Do you see my form and shape,
or do you choose just to see
what Father Time has given -
the cracks appearing with age that flaws my perfection.

Old Father Time.
He has a lot to answer for.
But he has also allowed us to experience life along the way.

Maybe the cracks in the teapot
aren't so bad after all.

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Coromandel Town weekly and monthly meetings

Every Day

Free meditation at Mahamudra (every day except 7-8 Nov & 21-29 Nov)..8.30-9am

Every Monday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym 8am
Coromandel Hikers' Group, Hauraki House, Colin & Elspeth (07) 866 7137 ... 9am
Monday Walkers, Woollams Ave car park north end, Irene 021 157 8408..... 9am
Gold Fit at Coro Gym 9.30am
Coromandel Playgroup, St Andrews Church Hall, Rings Road.
Contact Angee 021 255 0399 9.30am-12.30pm
SeniorNet Coromandel contact Loes (07) 866 8053 4pm
Bridge, St John rooms 7pm
Four-part harmony singing, Sue (07) 866 8833 7.30pm

Every Tuesday

Croquet, Woollams Ave, Kaye (07) 866 8968 9.15am
Pastel Artists Coromandel, Coro Aero Club Rooms (07) 866 7220 9am-12pm
Coro Walking Group, Lotto Dairy, Ruth (07) 866 7246 9am
Open Floor Community Dance, Citizens' Hall
(*come 15mins early if you're new or would like a longer warmup)9.30*-11.30am
Yoga for everyone, Colville Hall, Kate 021 125 3152..... 10am
Playcentre, Woollams Ave 10.30am-1pm
Beginner Yoga with Becks, at the Anglican Church Hall, 170 Tiki Rd, \$10.
Contact 027 407 0079 5.30-6.45pm
Coro Motorcycle Club, Star & Garter, John 027 234 1013 7-9pm

Every Wednesday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym 8am
Coromandel Community Organic Garden volunteers' drop-in time 9-11am
Gold Fit at Coro Gym 9.30am
Ballet Class For Adults, Coromandel Citizens' Hall, \$10 per class.
Contact Marilyn 027 336 5263..... 9.50-11.20am
Wing Chun Kung Fu. Internationally recognised Sifu. Waikato Events Centre.. 4pm

Every Thursday

Coro Walking Group, Lotto Dairy, Ruth (07) 866 7246 9am
Coro Bowls club day..... 9.30am
Coro Art Group, St Andrew's Church Hall, Val (07) 866 8911 9am-12pm
Tai Chi, Waikato Events Centre (above the swimming pool) 10am
Free Guided Meditation, Havalona Pyramid 10-11am
Yoga, Move & Relax at Trust Waikato Events Centre (upstairs Swimming Pool) contact Tina 021 201 9750 5.10-6.20pm
Zumba class every Thursday (school term only), Coromandel Area School Hall, Claire 021 653 650 5.30-6.30pm
Sunset Yoga with Vanessa, Colville School Hall, \$10. School Term only.
Contact 021 124 7267 5-6.15pm

Every Friday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym 8am
Yoga for everyone, Anglican Hall, Kate 021 125 3152..... 9am
Croquet, Woollams Ave, Kaye (07) 866 8968 9.15am
Playcentre, Woollams Ave 9.45am-12.15pm
Coromandel Home-school group, Julene (07) 866 8333 10am
Coromandel Tennis Club "club day" 4pm
Coromandel Flying Club social gathering, all welcome 5.30pm

Every Saturday

RSA Coromandel, RSA Club Rooms Woollams Ave. Courtesy van available.
President Kevin Stone (07) 866 7576..... 3.30-7pm

Every Sunday

Anglican Church Service 10am
Coromandel Tennis Club "club day" 1pm

Monthly

1st Mon – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms,
Jill (07) 866 7484..... 9.30am-3.30pm
3rd Mon – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms,
Jill (07) 866 7484..... 9.30am-3.30pm
1st Wed – Coro Embroiderers' Guild, St John rooms,
Win McMinn (07) 866 7508 10am-3pm
1st Wed – Lions Dinner meeting, St John rooms.
President Sue Hughes 07 211 9774 6pm
1st Fri – Gay Social Group, ph Roz 022 308 8975 7pm
2nd Wed – Garden Circle. Jeni Mudgway 021 0227 5341 1pm
2nd Tues – Meditation Discussion Group, ph Roz 022 308 8975 7pm
3rd Wed – Lions Business Meeting, St John rooms.
President Sue Hughes 07 211 9774 7pm
Last Thurs – Green Drinks at Star & Garter 5pm
1st & 3rd Sun – Church Service at St Andrew's Church, Rings Road 10am

If your meeting has been omitted, please email Debbie at
corochronicle@gmail.com with the subject "meeting" or
txt/ph 021 235 6648. Please include contact name and phone number.

Calendar of events
Coromandel Town
December 2020

**COROMANDEL
RUBBISH & RECYCLE TRANSFER
STATION & E-CYCLE HOURS**
Tues and Thurs 11am-4:30pm
Saturday, Sunday & public holidays
11am-5:30pm
Open extended hours from
14 December

**Make sure your event gets
listed** – To get your event listed,
email the details, your name and
contact phone number to Debbie
at corochronicle@gmail.com with
the subject "event" or txt on 021
235 6648. There is limited space
available, preference to not-for-
profit groups.

MON		TUE		WED		THU		FRI		SAT		SUN	
7		8		9		10		11		12		13	
High tide 12.28am (2.5m), 12.52pm (2.7m) Low tide 6.28am (0.5m), 7.06pm (0.6m)		High tide 1.18am (2.5m), 1.45pm (2.7m) Low tide 7.20am (0.6m), 8pm (0.6m)		High tide 2.13am (2.5m), 2.41pm (2.7m) Low tide 8.19am (0.6m), 8.56pm (0.6m)		High tide 3.14am (2.5m), 3.40pm (2.7m) Low tide 9.23am (0.6m), 9.58pm (0.5m)		High tide 4.18am (2.6m), 4.39pm (2.7m) Low tide 10.27am (0.6m), 10.58pm (0.4m)		High tide 5.22am (2.7m), 5.38pm (2.8m) Low tide 11.28am (0.5m), 11.57pm (0.3m)		High tide 6.22am (2.8m), 6.37pm (2.9m) Low tide 12.25pm (0.4m)	
14		15		16		17		18		19		20	
High tide 7.19am (3.0m), 7.34pm (2.9m) Low tide 12.53am (0.2m), 1.20pm (0.3m)		High tide 8.12am (3.1m), 8.29pm (2.9m) Low tide 1.48am (0.1m), 2.14pm (0.3m)		High tide 9.03am (3.1m), 9.22pm (2.9m) Low tide 2.40am (0.1m), 3.06pm (0.3m)		High tide 10.42am (3.0m), 11.03pm (2.8m) Low tide 4.18am (0.2m), 4.49pm (0.3m)		High tide 11.07am (2.9m), 11.52pm (2.7m) Low tide 5.05am (0.3m), 5.40pm (0.4m)		High tide 11.31am (2.9m), 11.52pm (2.7m) Low tide 5.05am (0.3m), 5.40pm (0.4m)		High tide 11.31am (2.9m), 11.52pm (2.7m) Low tide 5.05am (0.3m), 5.40pm (0.4m)	
DEADLINE: Coromandel Town Chronicle January issue		21		22		23		24		25		26	
High tide 7.19am (3.0m), 7.34pm (2.9m) Low tide 12.53am (0.2m), 1.20pm (0.3m)		High tide 8.12am (3.1m), 8.29pm (2.9m) Low tide 1.48am (0.1m), 2.14pm (0.3m)		High tide 9.03am (3.1m), 9.22pm (2.9m) Low tide 2.40am (0.1m), 3.06pm (0.3m)		High tide 10.42am (3.0m), 11.03pm (2.8m) Low tide 4.18am (0.2m), 4.49pm (0.3m)		High tide 11.07am (2.9m), 11.52pm (2.7m) Low tide 5.05am (0.3m), 5.40pm (0.4m)		High tide 11.31am (2.9m), 11.52pm (2.7m) Low tide 5.05am (0.3m), 5.40pm (0.4m)		High tide 11.31am (2.9m), 11.52pm (2.7m) Low tide 5.05am (0.3m), 5.40pm (0.4m)	
21		22		23		24		25		26		27	
Coromandel Christmas Exhibition 10am-4pm till 15 Jan (see ad pg 27) Daily ferry service begins (see ad pg 21)		High tide 1.29am (2.5m), 2pm (2.6m) Low tide 7.34am (0.7m), 8.11pm (0.7m)		High tide 2.20am (2.4m), 2.51pm (2.5m) Low tide 8.29am (0.8m), 9.03pm (0.7m)		High tide 3.14am (2.3m), 3.42pm (2.4m) Low tide 9.27am (0.8m), 9.55pm (0.8m)		High tide 4.11am (2.3m), 4.33pm (2.4m) Low tide 10.24am (0.8m), 10.47pm (0.8m)		High tide 5.07am (2.3m), 5.23pm (2.4m) Low tide 11.17am (0.8m), 11.37pm (0.7m)		High tide 6am (2.4m), 6.12pm (2.4m) Low tide 12.05pm (0.8m)	
28		29		30		31		KEY		DATES FOR YOUR DIARY			
High tide 6.48am (2.4m), 6.59pm (2.4m) Low tide 12.25am (0.7m), 12.50pm (0.8m)		High tide 7.31am (2.5m), 7.45pm (2.5m) Low tide 1.10am (0.6m), 1.33pm (0.8m)		High tide 8.13am (2.6m), 8.29pm (2.5m) Low tide 1.52am (0.5m), 2.14pm (0.7m)		High tide 8.53am (2.7m), 9.12pm (2.6m) Low tide 2.34am (0.5m), 2.57pm (0.7m)		Tide times and heights from Land Information NZ and are for Coromandel Harbour. For Thames times -15min High and -16min Low. Blue bin bags out Put recycling out (plastic 18.2, tins, paper, cardboard) RN = Rural North CT = Coromandel Town & Te Kouma TC = Thames Coast & Maniaia		January Saturday 2 – Keltic Fair Saturday 16 – Seasonal market (see pg 11)			

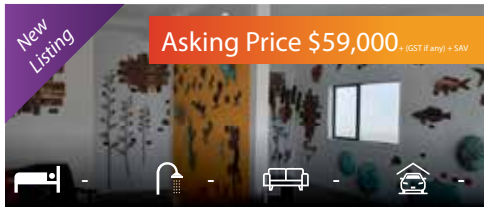
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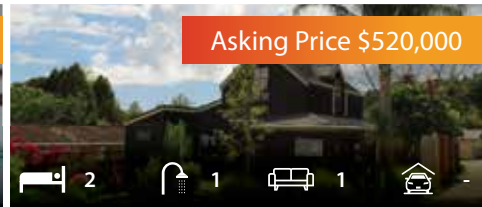
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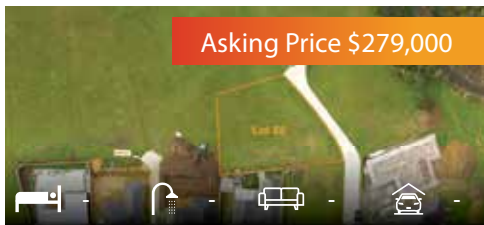
Coromandel, 527 Kapanga Road

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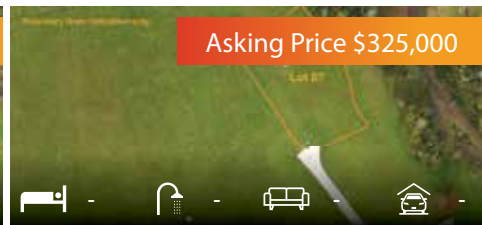
Coromandel, 13 Koromiko Drive

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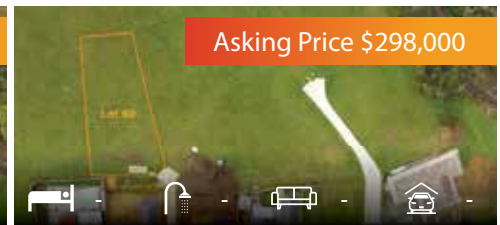
Coromandel, 1 Cherry Lane

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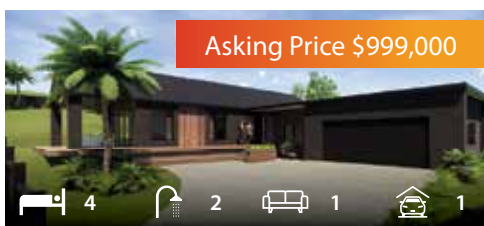
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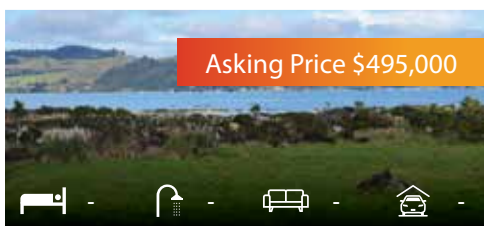
Coromandel, 201 Te Tiki Street

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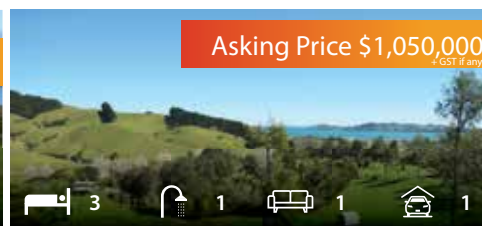
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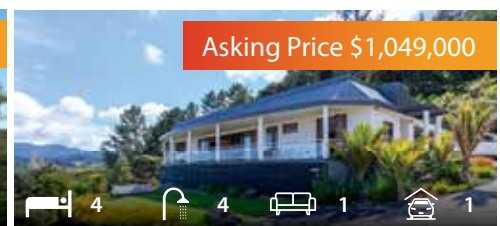
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