

May 2025
Volume 29 Issue 5

Coromandel Town Chronicle

www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz

The community magazine for Coromandel Town and surrounds since 1996

FREE
Community Magazine

Youth Sailing season finishes

SEE PAGE 26



Classic cars and fritters at the Fuel Stop opening PG 7 & 8



***Haere mai. Welcome to the
Coromandel Town Chronicle***

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www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz**

Cover photo: Coromandel Youth Sailing. Photo courtesy of Jenna James, (generative expanded using Photoshop).

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If you have any news stories that you'd like included please email corochronicle@gmail.com. If you are not sure how to put an article together for publication then find tips and advice on the website: www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz/html/guidelines.html

The Coromandel Town Chronicle is open for everyone to contribute, however the editor reserves the right to select the articles and letters that are published and edit them for clarity and space.

The Coromandel Town Chronicle is printed with vegetable oil based inks by Print House Ltd, Hamilton. An accredited FSC and PEFC printer.

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Letters 350 words max. and articles 600 words max.

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ISSN: 1178-721X (Print), 1179-4895 (Online)

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

I hope everyone had a good Easter weekend. It was a bit of a sad start with the cyclone bringing wind and rain, but then the weather really improved and it was good to see that town was busy. I went and saw the Easter exhibition at Hauraki House, and "Off the Rails" exhibition at Driving Creek Gallery. The Driving Creek exhibition is still on into May – if you haven't got round to going yet.

We are now coming into the last month of autumn – it sure doesn't feel that way with hot sunny days still.

I just wanted to point out a few of things from TCDC. They are asking on community feedback on how rates are calculated and the management of water. They are also asking about summer rubbish collections. Please see their ad on page 13 for further details.

Thanks to Annette Kaye for doing the proof reading this issue.

Have a good month,

Debbie



ANZAC Day roof sheet art installation along Ngati Maru Highway, Thames, by STM Roofing and Scaffolding

Letters

Email letters and opinion pieces 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.



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Raffle quilt being presented to Lisa

Patchwork & Quilters

By Sue Smith

Our exhibition was a great success. 270 people attended during the nine days we were open. Quite a few were overseas tourists. We had a great variety on show: 29 quilts and a number of cushions, lap quilts and bags etc. We had two workshops during the 2024 year and were able to display our work from both the Dresden Neighbourhood and Kawandi classes. 150 items displayed and if there was a favourite it would have to be the NZ Themed Quilt by Beverley.

Our raffle quilt was drawn on the last day and found a home with a local young lady, Lisa MacLeod. Congratulations Lisa and thanks for coming to St John Rooms to collect your quilt and spend some time with us checking out what we get up to. We have been asked if the funds were for a charity and in this instance the proceeds collected were to pay for the hire of Hauraki House and to purchase of some of the fabrics used to make the quilt. The coloured fabrics all came from our personal stashes.

We meet at the St John Ambulance Rooms on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, 9.30am to 3.30pm. Feel free to call in and see what we are up to.

Contact – President, Fiona Neal 027 373 6991 or Secretary, Michaela Green 021 028 71879



Some photos of the exhibition

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"We'll see you right"

Keeping an eye on the rātā: drones in conservation

By Emile Mountjoy (with a bit of help from Dad)

Tucked away in the northern valleys of the Coromandel, the rātā trees – those tall, spreading giants with their bright red summer flowers – are an important part of the landscape. These old trees are beautiful, but many are also under threat, especially from possums.

“Possums love rātā like ice cream,” says conservationist Tony Wasley, who has been involved in protecting these native trees for some time. “They’ll strip the new growth, and even a tree that’s stood for centuries can be badly damaged in just a few weeks.”

Tony has learned to spot the signs. Healthy rātā trees are usually full and green, sometimes flowering around Christmas. But when the leaves start to go and the canopy turns grey, especially if it’s more than halfway gone, it’s a sure sign the tree is in trouble.

The difficulty is that many of these trees grow in steep or remote places, making it hard to keep track of them. That’s where a bit of modern tech has come in handy.

I’ve been working with Tony using a drone to help check on rātā trees that are otherwise hard to reach. With the drone, we can get a closer look at the upper branches or even scan wider areas of bush without having to climb or bush-bash our way through.

“Having Emile and his drone on board has made a real difference,” Tony says. “It’s made it easier to monitor the trees, and to get a good close up of the canopy. Plus he’s fun to work with, and very keen!”

The same approach could be useful for keeping an eye on other trees, like kauri, which are at risk from dieback. From the air, you can



sometimes see early signs that might not be obvious from the ground, or you can inspect the trunk from a distance without damaging the roots and risking infection.

There’s still a lot to learn, but using drones has already opened up new ways of looking after our forests. And hopefully, it means we can help keep these special trees around a bit longer.

If you’re in the area and need some drone work – whether it’s for conservation, fenceline planning, or just getting quality 4k photos or videos of your property– feel free to get in touch. I’m on 022 604 7975 or emile.mountjoy@gmail.com

Coromandel Youth MP 2025 – Isabella White

By Scott Simpson,
Coromandel MP

Mercury Bay Area School student Isabella White will represent the Coromandel electorate at Youth Parliament 2025.

After a highly competitive selection process, I’m pleased to announce Isabella as

our electorate’s Youth MP. Thank you to everyone who put their hand-up for this role; it’s heartening to know that so many young New Zealanders are passionate about the future of our country.

I was really impressed by Isabella’s passion, work ethic, and desire to make a difference in our community. She’s already amassed an extensive CV, which includes two part time jobs.

Isabella is a house leader at her school, a Student Volunteer Army ambassador, a Blake Inspire Alumni, and she took part in Hands On at Otago 2025. She is also a member of Mercury Bay Area School’s environment club and is developing a proposal to reduce the school’s carbon footprint through fast fashion.

While Isabella’s tenure as Coromandel Youth MP will be highlighted by the two-day event at Parliament in Wellington on 1 and 2 July, she will be reaching out to her fellow students and the wider community in the coming months.

Being a Youth MP is a terrific opportunity to get the pulse of the electorate and to raise awareness of the issues important to youth.

Isabella’s tenure as Coromandel Youth MP covers the period Monday 28 April to Friday 29 August.



Scott with Isabella White



Tony and Emile

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The Colville Project (TCP)

TCP vision: The Northern Coromandel Peninsula is a model of an isolated rural community which is vibrant, resilient, and offers lifelong opportunities for growth, learning, and wellbeing.

Our key focus: leading the development of a Wellbeing & Education Centre for the benefit of our community.

Thank you to The Bizarre Community Grants Scheme (CILT)

We've received \$1,380 to support installation of our two 30,000 litre water tanks previously donated by Chris Ogilvie. Onsite access to water will greatly assist weed and pest management activities, ensure our kauri foot station functions, and supply water for firefighting. "Ngā mihi," to all concerned.

Pest management

Thanks to the neighbourhood pest management programme managed by Colville Junction, our pest management programme continues. In addition, two wild boar were recently caught on-site.

Webinar Series: Living and Thriving in the Northern Coromandel – call for contributors

During our recent visit, Scott Simpson mentioned the Coromandel has the highest percentage of non-resident home ownership in NZ; and that frequently bach owners retire to their holiday home only to leave it 1-2 winters later due to the realities of living in smaller, often isolated communities/ areas.



TCP is looking to develop a webinar series designed to support and connect our community, including those transitioning to our region. Such transitions definitely come with a unique set of rewards and challenges.

We are seeking contributions from a wide range of local experts and organisations to ensure the series provides comprehensive and valuable information. We invite healthcare providers, community groups, local service providers and tourism operators to lend their expertise. Your involvement will help us address key topics such as healthcare access, community integration, practical living considerations, and long-term planning. Together, we can empower individuals to thrive in our region and build an even stronger, more connected community. If you're passionate about the Northern Coromandel, have advice to share and want to make a positive impact, please get in touch and become a part of this initiative. Contact Amajjika amajjika@thecolvilleproject.nz.

Seeking volunteer/s to maintain our entranceway

TCP is looking to maintain our entranceway/roadside. Shortly we'll carry out preparation work to ensure a streamlined maintenance approach going forward. Is there anyone in our local community who would volunteer to regularly cut the grass in our roadside and immediate entranceway? This would suit someone with a tractor and slasher or ride-on mower. Contact Katie admin@thecolvilleproject.nz.



Mahamudra Centre

This June Ven. Khadro returns to New Zealand and to Mahamudra Centre to teach a retreat on purification and tranquility meditation, which is a Buddhist practice that cultivates a calm and focused mind through concentration, often using the breath as an object of attention.

Please join us by booking on our website mahamudra.org.nz or email Eleni in the office retreat@mahamudra.org.nz

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and who would be a character referee for you.**

Please contact me (by email only please), Leonard Heard, on heardleo@hotmail.com

ANZAC display at the Museum



Coromandel RSA

By Gary Pettett and Annette James

Our Local News

We held our AGM on **Saturday 5 April**. We welcome back Kevin Stone as president, with Gary Pettett taking up the position of vice president. We would also like to welcome two new committee members, Kelera Knapp and Annette James. Also, although she is not a committee member, Kate Turner has taken on the role of our welfare contact. Thanks Kate!

This month the 109th anniversary of the RSA Poppy Appeal was held two weeks before ANZAC Day, on 11-12 April, due to the proximity of Easter, which is later than usual this year. Our thanks to all of those who volunteered to collect over the two days. Much fun was had by all and we are proud to say we did very well. ANZAC Day celebrations will be held on Friday 25 April outside the TCDC Council buildings at 10am followed by a get together at the Club Rooms on Woollems Ave. We're hoping for a nice day! The attached photo is of a fantastic ANZAC display at the local Coromandel Museum. Our thanks to Alan Stewart who set the display up. It will be there until early June, so check it out if you're in the area.

We had a burger night to say thank you to all those members who support us by buying raffle tickets throughout the year.

We are looking forward to having a mid-year Christmas dinner, probably in late June or early July. Details will be probably be published in the next Chronicle. Bye for now.

Coromandel Bowling Club

By Judy Campbell

How quickly has this bowling season has gone!

We played for the Patrons Cup on 13 March and the cup was presented to the winning pair, David Weatherley and Val



Patrons Cup winners with Maureen

Arndt by our club Patron, Maureen Kimber.

On 27 March we had a full field playing for the first challenge for the Summer Cup against Mercury Bay. Our visitors (Mercury Bay) will have a real challenge on their hands when we meet up again as Coromandel finished the day with a very healthy lead overall. The next of the Summer Cup challenge will be on 23 April.

On Wednesday 2 April we held our annual Open Optional Triples Tournament, sponsored



Champ Singles Lindsay Nicholls



by Pepper Tree Restaurant & Bar. After a great day of bowls enjoyed by all, the winners were Jim Dicks, Andy McCowatt and Danny Goodall. Well done you three and thank you to Pepper Tree for their continued sponsorship and support.

Over the weekend of the 5/6 April we held our Club Champ Singles (women) competition which was won by Lindsay Nicholls. Lindsay will now go on to represent the club at the Champ of Champ Singles to be held on Saturday 26 to Sunday 27 April.

Our Men's Team of seven that travelled to Wellington to play in the National Inter Club Tournament enjoyed the experience and played some very good bowls. They came 2nd in their section but fell short of qualifying for the Sunday games. The weather wasn't that great unfortunately so they only got to play two games in total. Well done though to Colin, David W, Layke, Roger, John W, Malcolm and James.

Our season comes to an end with our presentation day on **Thursday 8 May** but prior that we have Lindsay and Colin playing in the Bowls3Five National Finals up in Auckland, and our club champs Fours, Pairs & Singles playing in the Thames Valley Champ of Champ tournaments.

We are very happy also to be hosting the Men's (Junior Year 1-5 players) Singles Champ of Champ tournament at our club on **Saturday 3 to Sunday 4 May** so please, come down and watch as there will be some very exciting games played.

Our AGM has been set for **Saturday 7 June** 10am and the CCC (Combined Clubs of Coromandel) AGM is set for **Saturday 2 August** 2.30pm. It's important we get as many members at both AGMs so please mark those dates in your diaries.

Remember too that there is always something to look forward to at the Coromandel Bowling Club so come down and join us at our lovely greens for a rollup at the club on Thursdays and/or Sundays or for a social drink and chat from 3pm every Friday.



Pepper Tree Triples winners



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Car Club

By Bruce Finan

The Fuel Stop is open and we had our Club cars displayed there. It was a hot day. Thanks members. Whitianga arrived the other Sunday and we joined them for lunch at the Star & Garter – 50 of us. There was a great display in the car park and it was good to catch up again.

The Car Club meeting on 9 April went very well and we caught up with Kevin and a few others at the Rugby Club. This is going to be a brilliant venue for our Car Fair next February with our own three marquees for this event. The Rugby Club is open Thursdays from 4pm and we are welcome to come down and be sociable.

Next meeting **Wednesday 14 May** 4pm RSA rooms.



The Car Club at the opening of the Fuel Stop

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Derek Stewart

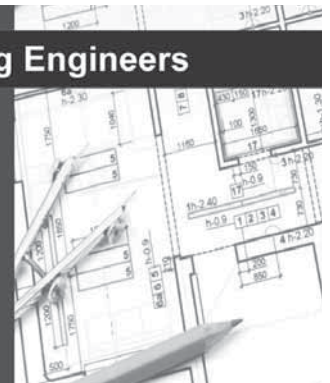
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Coromandel Lions

By Mary Farmer Coromandel,
Lions Vice President



Hello everyone. Firstly I want to apologise for missing the last issue. Life as they say has a habit of getting in the way, and mine has been busy. The deadline came and went, but I'm back!

We are well into wood deliveries and the contact number for orders is at the bottom of the article.

The Club was asked to attend the opening of the new Fuel Depot behind ITM and Alan James' depot.

This was a great success and all proceeds went to help little "Aroha" who is having to attend Auckland hospital along with her family. We wish her all the best in her recovery.

The attached photo shows one of our many happy customers having bought one of our Lions Club fritters plus a sausage from the Bowling Club stall. I name it "Coromandel surf and turf" – well someone had too.

We sold out at around lunch time and had many repeat customers from the crowd so the day was a success all round.

At our last dinner meeting we welcomed two well known locals. Maureen Kimber from the museum, was a Lion a few years ago. She enjoyed the happy atmosphere and said she will be back again. Any time Maureen, always welcome.

Along with Maureen, Gilbert James who is a very well known local mussel farmer and patron of many local groups, including ours by supplying the mussels that make our fritters as tasty as they are. Thanks Gilbert.

Over the next few (many) articles the club want to give a big thank you to all the locals that make our club tick along and be the supporter of the many groups we help, two of which are the library, and the Coromandel Area School where we help with fundraising for the many events the children attend.

To this end we want to thank the family of the late Mike Thompson for the use of his land for our depot, our main working bee spot, and storage area, and Alan James for the use of his land for the same use. These are the main reasons we can help as much as we do for the community.

Many thanks and keep reading for more kind hearted locals that work quietly in the background.

So it leaves me to say bye for now, keep safe, keep warm, see you next month.

President Sue Hughes 021 142 1124, Jean Smith secretary 021 208 7576, and wood orders Sue Hughes 021 142 1124



The Lions Club at the opening of the new Fuel Depot

Hon Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

While the autumn shoulder tourism season is quieter than our summer peaks, it's been great to see so many people visiting our region before we head into winter.

Events like the Beach Hop and the Easter long weekend certainly help to boost visitor numbers. Not only does that have an immediate economic impact for our communities (about \$10 million from the Beach Hop alone), but when those visitors return home, they tell their friends and family who end up booking trips to the Coromandel, as well. Those personal connections help to maintain and grow our reputation as the place to go to relax and explore.

As a whole, New Zealand's economy is turning a corner with the latest GDP figures showing a growth of 0.7% in the December 2024 quarter. There's still a lot of work to do but forecasts are predicting further growth in the future.

To keep this momentum up, the Government has announced a replacement to the Resource Management Act. By the end of the year, we'll introduce two pieces of legislation: the Planning Act and the Natural Environment Act, which will make it easier for people to get on and build things.

The laws will reduce regulation on private property and make greater use of standardisation. This will stop builders having to sift through council by-laws to understand what they can build and where.

Finally, Anzac Day is always a poignant day where people across New Zealand come together to reflect on what it means to serve our country. This year marked 110 years since the Gallipoli landings. Both my grandfathers served at Gallipoli and I spend every Anzac Day remembering them and doing my bit to honour our service personnel who have sacrificed so that we can live in peace.

A sincere thank you to our local RSAs who continue to work behind the scenes to assist veterans and to preserve the memory of all those who served. These volunteers organise the Poppy Appeal, as well as Anzac commemorations which are attended by so many around our region and the rest of New Zealand.

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Increase in battery-related fires

A 17% rise in lithium-ion battery-related fires was recorded last year according to data from AMI, with mishandling during charging, storage, and disposal being the primary causes.

AMI Executive General Manager Claims Wayne Tippet says that more than 50% of all battery-related fire claims pertain to when devices are not in-use or being actively monitored, for example, when being charged, stored or disposed of.

"We've received claims for drones, e-bikes, cars and even campervans which have caught fire while being left on charge for long periods of time, unsupervised."

"Also please don't throw batteries and battery-powered devices in your household waste," he cautions.

Fire and Emergency New Zealand's Community Education Manager Tom Ronaldson says that while there is nothing inherently dangerous about lithium-ion batteries, they can be a fire hazard if they are damaged, mishandled, or improperly disposed of.

Quick safety tips for lithium-ion battery powered devices

- Only use the charger that is specifically designed for the battery in your device.
- When charging household items such as laptops, gaming consoles or mobile devices, do not place them on soft surfaces. Charge them while you are awake, unplugging them before going to bed.
- Do not overcharge the battery by leaving it unattended for a prolonged period of time.
- Keep an eye on the battery while it is in use and remove it immediately if it starts to feel hot.
- Avoid exposing lithium-ion batteries to extreme temperatures, and do not puncture, crush, or otherwise damage the battery casing.
- Do not dispose of batteries in household waste. You can contact your local council for a recycling location.

Quick safety tips for EV, e-bike and e-scooter charging

- Where possible these should be stored and charged outside of the house in a garage, shed or carport, away from living spaces. Keep them away from any exit doors, escape routes and combustible materials.
- Only use electric vehicle charging adaptors supplied by the vehicle manufacturer or by an electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) manufacturer.
- Don't use any household adaptor (such as a multi-box, double plug or a travel plug) between EVSE such as an In-Cord Control and Protection Device IC-CPD and a socket outlet.
- Never use damaged or modified charging equipment, such as overseas equipment that has been fitted with a New Zealand plug.
- Don't use any faulty charging equipment, get it checked by the manufacturer.



Coromandel Museum

By Maureen Kimber

As part of our Museum's practise to have more of an involvement with our local community, we invited the R.S.A to put on a display commemorating Anzac Day, which proved to be a great success with our visitors and residents alike.

Our thanks go to Alan Stewart for his creativity and hard work and also to Geoff Kingsmill for photography and advertising posters. If you haven't had the chance to see this exhibition, we are extending our open days through May before closing for the winter months, so do encourage family and visitors to pay us a visit.

We would also would like to thank members of the Lions Club for their generous time invested in the Museum and also for supplying a very practical and much needed garden bench.

Our new retail section has also proved to be a winner, with a diverse range of products on sale. We are currently offering a "table sale" to enable room for new product when we re-open for the summer season in September.

Our AGM is set for **Sunday 1 June** at 2pm in the Elizabeth Park hall at the Settlement Trust in Rings Road. Our thanks go to all our present volunteers. The meeting is open to all residents, and we look forward to meeting with friends new and old.

We now have our own Museum Facebook page thanks to Anne-Marie, who is now managing the Stamper Battery for the new owners. We are working towards a package deal for visitors to include both attractions as a complement to each other.

Although the Museum is officially closed from Tuesday 3 June and closed throughout July and August, we do take bookings for groups by arrangement, so we look forward to hearing from you if that is something that is wanted. The museum will reopen late September. Our email address is coromandelmuseum@gmail.com and all details are on our Facebook page



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Coromandel Contract Bridge Club

By Judy Bronlund

As I am writing this email I am also packing my bag to go away for two weeks. The start of our bridge year has been fantastic as we have had two tables playing and occasionally 2½. Hopefully we can keep up these numbers.

Visiting bridge players are most welcome to come and join us, but first let Jackie know so that she can fit you in. Folk wishing to become members please contact Jackie on the number below.

We meet each Monday evening at the St Johns room.

Contact Jackie
021 061 6876

Coromandel Town Information Centre

By Carolyn MacKenzie

A huge thank you Pepper Tree Restaurant & Bar and Star & Garter for your continuing support of our Information Centre including the recent Sunday Pizza Night donation. We are very grateful for your generosity and continued support over many years. Thank you very much Mike and Karen.

Over the past twelve months we have had 11,289 people through the doors of our centre, with February being the busiest month with 1425 pax. This is on par with February 2024. We have especially noticed a huge interest from visitors in local walks. It is so great that people are keen to get outdoors. Often after enjoying one walk, people call in asking about other walks close by. We are very biased as we think Long Bay Kauri Walk is the best 50 minute bush walk on the Coromandel.

Did you know we have cool information on our website for locals too about walks, news, contact information on local businesses and community groups? It's really important to tell us if your group or business changes contact information as we like to give out up to date information. Check out www.coromandeltown.nz.

We have a huge following on our Facebook page so please call in with any event happening and we will help spread the word. Social media and our website is an important way to do this and you can also add your event poster to our noticeboard outside.

Sue, Viv and myself would like to say a huge "thankyou" and publicly acknowledge our volunteers, Boom, Bust & Beyond guides and trustees: Bronnie, Annette, Perry, Liz, Peter S, Peter K, Sue, Annette, Liz, Anne, Christine, Rob, Judy and Jan. We could not run our information centre without all these wonderful locals, some working behind the scenes and others at the coal face. Thankyou to each and everyone of you. You bring a wealth of knowledge, friendship and support in so many different ways and are true "Local Gems". We are so lucky to live, work and play in a community that cares about its people and environment.

Last, but never least, we do appreciate locals who send their visitors to us to book activities around the peninsula because this is a major source of income for us and every little bit of money made helps keep our doors open. Don't forget we have free maps that you are welcome to pick up, plus brochures about local activities if you're having visitors to stay.



Coromandel Town Information Centre website

Everyone knows the best place to go fishing is near a mussel farm

Please follow these guidelines to keep everyone safe

- Keep 30 metres** 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**

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STAR & GARTER HOTEL
Coromandel Town

CONDITIONS APPLY

Christ Church

From the desk of Father Andy

What's life all about? It's a question we may ask when there's a natural disaster like the earthquake in Myanmar last month or when there's conflicts like the ongoing situation between Russia and Ukraine. We may also ask the question when our personal circumstances change due to ill health, redundancy or bereavement. There are no easy answers in such circumstances and most of us will simply 'weather the storm' and hope for better times when the purpose of life is clearer to us. We all want "the better times".

I remember a school friend back in the UK fifty years ago ... yes fifty years ago! How can that be? How time slips through our fingers! I found him on Facebook a couple of years ago when I was at a loose end one evening and looking for old friends and acquaintances. I remember that he was quite fit and active at school and remained so for much of his life, even running his own gym and kick boxing academy. Ten years ago he was struck down with a devastating infection affecting his heart and after a spell in hospital for a diagnosis, and the insertion of a "Left Ventricular Assist Device" (LVAD) he had to reign in on his fitness regime and get used to a more sedentary and calmer lifestyle whilst a donor heart became available. The LVAD is a unit that helps a failing heart pump essential oxygen rich blood around the body.

Fortunately for my friend, a donor heart was found and after transplant surgery he has now resumed his former active lifestyle. What he hasn't resumed though is his former outlook on life. That has changed considerably since surgery. All that he used to take for granted are things that he now treasures and speaks often about his gratitude to his donor and the family who agreed to the transplant.

Life is so precious as is the wonderful world we have been given to enjoy. The experience of my friend is a reminder never to take things for granted but to relish all the rich experiences that come our way.

The Christian festival of Easter that we celebrated last month is all about life. It speaks of the energy and the life of God found in the person of Jesus Christ who was falsely accused and put to death on a cross outside Jerusalem many, many years ago, yet rose again to life to reveal to humanity the answer to that question, "What's life all about?" Perhaps such a thing would seem to be beyond human comprehension but the Christian Way has the astonishing truth of the resurrection at its core. Faith helps us to grasp the reality of this truth and as faith helps us to grasp that truth so we are claimed by it and life can never be the same, just like my old school friend after his transplant.

It's worth giving time to consider that question "what's life all about?" It's a good thing to consider and it's good to ask it at times other than when it becomes necessary. I hope that when you do consider it you may find it a creative and life-giving experience which brings with it a grateful heart for all the goodness we enjoy.



Coromandel Community Library

By Jasmine Strauss, Librarian

The cooler months are rolling in and it is the perfect time to cosy up with a new book. Things have been humming along here at the Coromandel Community Library, and we've got some fantastic new titles now on our shelves.

A big thank you to everyone who continues to support the library – whether it's popping in to borrow a book, donating your pre-loved reads, or coming along to our monthly car boot sale.

Speaking of which, don't forget our next Car Boot Sale is coming up on **Saturday 3 May!** It's always a great morning of bargain hunting and community spirit. No need to book, just turn up on the day with your boot full of goodies. \$5 per car, and all proceeds go straight back to supporting your local library.

Interested in becoming a member?

You're welcome to drop by the library during our opening hours to sign up: Monday to Friday 10am-1pm, Saturday 10am-12pm.

New books spotlight

***The Violinist's Secret* by M.J. Hollows**

Set in 1940s Prague, this gripping historical novel follows a young Jewish violinist whose music becomes both a lifeline and a weapon during the darkest of times. A powerful story of hope, resistance, and the secrets we carry.

***Secrets of the Watch House* by Jenny Ashcroft**

A haunting and romantic tale set on the windswept Cornish coast. When a young woman inherits a crumbling watch house, she uncovers long-buried secrets that connect her to a tragic past. Perfect for fans of historical fiction with a touch of mystery.



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COROMANDEL TOWN • WHANGAPOUA • MATARANGI • KUAOTUNU • WHITIANGA

Our Coromandel

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council



May 2025

DECISION TIME FOR THAMES-COROMANDEL

Kōrero mai – We're listening, tell us what you think.



Our district has three important issues to decide on and we'd like your feedback so our elected Council can make the best possible decisions for the community.

What does the future of water services look like?



Our Council would like your feedback on how best to manage Council's water services in the future. The Government's Local Water Done Well water services reform programme means councils throughout Aotearoa New Zealand must consider different management and operation models of our "three waters" – stormwater, wastewater and drinking water. Several models have been deeply researched and the

advantages and disadvantages of each weighed up. Another question is whether to keep water services 'in house' or team up with other councils? We're asking for feedback on the options until 15 May. We're holding meetings throughout the district and reaching out for feedback on the proposed options.

tcdc.govt.nz/lwdw

RATING REVIEW 2025

We're rethinking our rating system to ensure it is fair, transparent and best reflects the needs of our district.

We're proposing a shift from rating based on land value to rating based on capital value. It's the system that over 65% of councils across New Zealand use.

This isn't about increasing the total amount of rates collected – it's about

redistributing how rates are shared.

We're presenting three different options for you to choose from.

We're also keen to hear your thoughts how we approach second dwellings, or SUIPs (separately used or inhabited parts of a rating unit).

Find out more on our website and in our comprehensive Proposal Document.

Help shape the future of our rating system

The feedback period runs from 10 April to 12 May.



tcdc.govt.nz/ratingreview

Have your say about our summer rubbish collections

We've been asking our communities about our proposal to reduce peak summer rubbish and glass collections for our eastern communities to once a week instead of twice.

On Monday 5 May, there's a final opportunity to share your views in person with our staff and elected



members. You can attend at our Thames office, or online from our offices at Whangamatā, Whitianga or your own location.

Find out how to book a spot on our website.

tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan2025

tcdc.govt.nz/feedback

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

As the Tupu Kai (grow the food) and Fruit Tree Initiative wrap up, we're recognising the positive impact these projects have had across our communities.



After Cyclone Gabrielle, the recovery-funded Tupu Kai project helped isolated areas build gardens, ensuring access to fresh food during emergencies. Through this work, eight communities established community gardens, and 30 community groups across 23 communities planted 350 fruit trees throughout the district.

Together, these initiatives have strengthened community resilience, deepened connections to the land, and encouraged sustainable living for generations to come.



For info on the next Community Board meeting and Council meeting check tcdc.govt.nz/meetings



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Coromandel Garden Circle

By Sheana Goudie

For some reason my April contribution had only just missed the deadline, so this one will combine March and April's meetings.

Our March meeting had Fee Paine as our guest speaker who spoke about CILT (Coromandel Independent Living Trust), which started back in 1994. We learnt lots about CILT, so thank you Fee for your presentation which was very informative.

Our April meeting activities started with a quiz centred around plants and gardening. We then opened up to forum time which centred on a number of topics including growing frangipanis and bananas in Coromandel, gardening in raised beds, propagating hibiscus, controlling whitefly and uses for citric acid. We then concluded this part of our meeting with a survey to gauge who our members would like to hear as speakers in the future, and ideas and suggestions for competition themes. Thank you to those who filled in the questionnaire and a reminder to those who took them home to return them, as we wish to collate them for the incoming committee to help support the 2025/2026 programme. We will also share these results with everyone at one of our monthly meetings.

The results of the competitions for March

were as follows:

Single Bloom: 1st Medrina, 2nd Tracy, 3rd Lorraine

Mini Bloom: 1st Jeni, 2nd Medrina, 3rd Lorraine

Multi Bloom: 1st Jill, 2nd Tracy, 3rd Lorraine

Arrangement: Reflection – 1st Tracy, 2nd Medrina, 3rd Jill

Special: It's a Tart – 1st Medrina, 2nd Jill, 3rd Tracy

The results of the competitions for April were as follows:

Single Bloom: 1st Jill R, 2nd Cindy, 3rd Tracy

Mini Bloom: 1st Lorraine, 2nd Glenise, 3rd Medrina

Multi Bloom: 1st Linda W, 2nd Lorraine, 3rd Glenise

Arrangement: Fabulous Foliage – 1st Sheana, 2nd Tracy/Linda W. 3rd Jill R/ Medrina

Special: ANZAC – 1st Sheana, 2nd Medrina, 3rd Linda W

The next meeting will be the AGM and if you are able to or would like to be on our committee, we would love you to contact Kath Denize or any other committee member. We have some committee members who would love to step down and let some fresh voices bring new ideas. You do not have to commit to being at every committee meeting.

Next meeting: **Wednesday 14 May**. This is our AGM.

Venue: Meet in at The Clubrooms

Start Time: 1pm

Activity: AGM followed by our usual monthly meeting

Competitions: Arrangement: Love You Mum. Special: Just Autumn.

As always, our meetings are open to visitors and we welcome new members to join us. You can just come and see if this is something you would like to join, or maybe you are accompanying a member of the club and for any other reason you think this may be of interest. There is no compulsion to come every month, but it is a great way to meet people and make new friends. Love to see you there!



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CILT

EveryBite 4-Week Programme

Keen to waste less food and make the most of your kai? Join us for a fun four-week programme full of handy tips, simple tricks, and tasty recipes to help keep your food fresh and out of the bin.

We're kicking things off on **Saturday 3 May** at 11am with a hands-on session where you can try out seed sowing, learn how to preserve your harvest with canning, and watch a live cooking demo with the awesome Toni Calder. Everyone who comes along will also get a Four Square voucher to help get started on your zero food waste journey!

There'll be a shared lunch on us to enjoy after the session, so bring your appetite!

After four weeks of giving things a go at home, we'll wrap it all up with another in-person get-together to share what we've learned, swap ideas, and celebrate the wins. The average household throws away about \$1,200 worth of food every year – let's turn that around together!

To register for this event, please email us at operations@cilt.org.nz.

Te Puāwai – Native Plant Nursery

Grow native, support local! Are you looking to enhance your garden with native New Zealand plants? Te Puāwai Native Plant Nursery offers a wide selection, including: Harakeke (Flax), Ti Kouka (Cabbage Tree),

Mahoe, Kanuka, Manuka ... and many more!

Opening Hours: Visit us at 150 Pound Street (behind the CILT building) on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-3pm.

The Goldmine Opening Hours

The Goldmine ReUse Centre has now shifted to its daylight savings opening hours and will be closing at 4.30pm to align with the Refuse Transfer Station. But don't worry – we'll be open seven days a week for the foreseeable future to meet all your shopping needs. Drop by between 9.30am and 4.30pm, and see what treasures you can find!

The Bizarre Community Grants Scheme

We've been overwhelmed by the response this year and are excited to announce the successful applicants of our grants scheme for 2025. CILT extends its sincere thanks to all applicants for their dedication and commitment to enhancing our community, and to those who have shopped at The Bizarre over the last year. You may not be aware, but your generosity of donating and spending money at The Bizarre helps fund this incredible scheme.

A total of \$24,000 was allocated to 18 groups, ensuring that a wide array of community initiatives receive the necessary resources to thrive. Congratulations to the following recipients of the 2025 Community Grants Scheme. We look forward to celebrating your achievements as you strive to make a difference in our community.

Coromandel Playgroup – \$500
Harataunga Marae – \$2,000

The Combined Clubs of Coromandel – \$5,000
Coro Super Stars and Coro Sparkles – \$1,000
Colville Bay Preschool – \$1,000
Elisabeth Park Body Corporate – \$500
Manaaki Harataunga – \$1,500
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Harataunga – \$900
Coromandel Area School Sports – \$1,623.80
The Colville Project – \$1,300.10
Te Pūtahitanga o te Rukenga o Ngā Wai – \$1,360
Coromandel Rugby Football & Sports Club – \$1,547.80
Coromandel Community Library – \$600
Boot Scootin Coromandel – \$400
Uepu-A Hine – \$500
Manaia Mako Rugby League – \$1,689.10
Coromandel Area School Māori Kaupapa Unit – \$1,579.20
Colville Tennis Club – \$1,000

Employee Spotlight: Mike Mann

By Sam Ward

Mr Mike Mann has been a member of our CILT staff for many years. He helps support people as a social worker. Mike offers to talk to those who are feeling stressed, who have problems that they are trying to work out or who just need someone to talk to if they are feeling alone. Mike Mann is a very kind person (and a great chess player!) If anyone is looking for help (or looking for someone to play a game of chess), then give Mike Mann a call.



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Embroiderers' Guild

By Marilyn Jessen

Our Embroiderers' Guild meeting was quite abuzz last Wednesday when we discovered that we had featured with a three-page spread in the *Threads* magazine, the National embroidery guild magazine. The article was a write-up of our November 2024 exhibition held at Hauraki House, including photos of our wonderful work.

Considering there are 58 embroidery guilds around the country, we felt quite proud of this achievement. And to cap it off one of our members, Marie Keeses, hit the front cover with her beautiful embroidery of a kōtuku-ng-utupapa, or spoonbill. This is one of a number of birds Marie has stitched to send to family overseas. What a family heirloom they will become. Congratulations Marie.

Our meeting, as usual, highlighted upcoming events, the most anticipated of which is "retreat" where a group of more than twenty stitchers will be heading off to The Friary in Hillsborough for four days of stitching, workshop and socialisation. I have it on good authority that this event is much anticipated each year with socialising being the highlight of the four days. Jenny Hunter is the tutor and will be teaching a creative way to combine stitch, beads and pearls to create textured roundels or rock pools.

Our next workshop coming up is Dorset Feather embroidery to be taken by our very own Heather Constantine. This is a colourful embroidery incorporating feather, chain, blanket and fly stitches, all of which are easy stitches to learn. It is the way they are combined that creates the recognisable embroidery of the Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes whose members developed it.

If any of these activities sound like you, or you would just like to reach out to others who enjoy stitching and chatting together, then we could be the group for you. We're always interested in talking to new members or visitors, and you can take it from me as a relative newbie, this group is welcoming, encouraging, and very generous in sharing its knowledge. I can thoroughly recommend it.

We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Coromandel St John rooms at 10am. For more information you can contact Helen on (07) 866 8460 or email coromadelembroidery1@gmail.com



Real Estate Matters

By Glenn Wells - Licensed Agent

Q. If wanting to sell, should all buildings on my property be compliant to council regulations prior to my selling or going to market?

A. In reality this is not always something that people can afford, or are even interested in addressing, due to time constraints or just don't wish to do so.

There are a number of things that could be amiss. Often people are totally unaware of these matters, or purchased without having done a LIM many years ago as was often the case.

By obtaining a LIM from the Thames Coromandel District Council before going on the market, you can be better informed of what was permitted or if any alterations post 1992 have been recorded and consented. This is the best starting point.

A number of people rely on the salesperson obtaining information from the TCDC consents tracker when appraising to find out if all is correct.

The main thing is that should there be any doubt about something, then maybe have a builder or plumber or electrician do a check for your own satisfaction. This report if in writing is then available for the salesperson to have up-to-date information.

Should there be an issue and you are not in a position or time constraints mean you will not be rectifying it, then we need to ensure we advise people of the situation.

Transparency is a biggy today. People like to know. This may not put them off. But at least they can make some determinations about costs etc. before entering into a contract.

If you say nothing, and then these things come up during due diligence, people may overreact and pull out of the agreement. Pre-warning gives them the chance to think about it and allow for repairs or whether it even bothers them. Everyone is different about these things.

The short answer is yes, you can sell without all things being permitted or consented. But we must always be totally transparent to purchasers prior to them entering into a contract to buy.

If you need to sell and there are major issues, then you should think very seriously about how to manage the marketing, that the correct information is being advised to the public. Is the salesperson experienced enough or even willing to be in a transparent and open discussion with the purchasers?

Your choices here are very important to the best outcome of the selling process. No one wants to be challenged after the sale due because of some missed information – or worse – hidden information.

Should you wish to discuss these or other real estate matters, contact Glenn Wells - Licensed Agent (licensed REAA 2008), glenn.wells@harcourts.co.nz or 0800 735 788

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021 0201 9111



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Tuataewa 20 Puriri Place
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Te Kouma 44 Kowhai Drive
Yellow Stickered | Auction 26th April at 2pm



Coromandel 800 Buffalo Road
An Eagle's View | For Sale \$1,175,000



Coromandel 40 Victoria Street
For Those With Heart and Soul | For Sale \$999,000



Kennedy Bay 1182 Kennedy Bay Road
Outstanding Refurbished Retreat | For Sale \$629,000



Little Bay Lot 4/0 Little Bay Drive
Perfectly Positioned in Little Bay | For Sale \$699,000



Port Charles 24 Adlor Hill Road
Fisherman's Retreat | For Sale \$460,000



Coromandel 600 Buffalo Road
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Wyuna Bay 105 Huihana Lane
Gorgeous Views | For Sale \$449,000



Te Rerenga 1246 Whangapoua Road
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Tuataewa 15 Kowhai Place
Views with Removable Cabin | For Sale \$615,000

Ann's Good News, Naturally

How strong is your immune system – do you need to improve your intestinal health?



Do you:

- Take painkillers and/or anti-inflammatory medication (e.g., aspirin, cortisone, ibuprofen)
- Have a history of antibiotic use?
- Have extreme high or low blood fats (cholesterol)?
- Eat less than five servings of fresh vegetables, fruit and whole grains daily?
- Eat small frequent meals to prevent bloating and indigestion?
- Pass undigested food?
- Depend on laxatives (stool softeners, mineral oil, herbs)?
- Travel abroad where food and water are contaminated?

Do you experience any of the following:

- Gastrointestinal problems, (e.g., irritable bowel, ulcers, diverticulitis, lactose intolerance, diabetes, colitis)?
- Abdominal discomfort and/or distention?
- Belching, burping, bloating, food repeating?
- Flatulence and/or offensive gas?
- Indigestion due to strong feelings, stress at home, or at work?
- Abdominal pain or cramps?

- Relief from abdominal pain after bowel movement?
- Loose stool?
- Persistent diarrhea?
- Diarrhea or loose stool when you eat milk, spicy foods and fruit?
- Mucous or blood in your stools, or have black stools?
- Less than one bowel movement daily?
- Hard, dry stool?
- Constipation after consuming spicy, fatty, high fibre foods, excess coffee?
- Frequent or recurring viral infections (colds, flu, covid, long covid or post vaccine injury)?
- Bad breath?
- Yeast infections/rashes (anus, groin, genital, oral, skin)?
- General lack of energy?

If you have answered yes to two or more of these questions, not only is your intestinal health compromised, but your immune health is also malfunctioning

We know that 80% of your immune system's ability to protect you from invading pathogens depends on the quality of your digestive tract and its microbiome, or healthy bacteria.

Every body system, whether it be your cardiovascular, or nervous system, your respiratory or reproductive system, your urinary tract or your skin, gets its health

from healthy food nutrients via your digestive tract functioning at its best.

More Good News (after bad)

Family awareness – The tragic passing of this 36-year-old woman prompted her siblings to reflect on their choices leading to a profound shift in their perspectives on health and wellbeing.

In 2016, this Australian woman had contracted Viral Encephalitis after



Enjoy vegetables, fruit, good fats and protein

struggling with gut issues.

She had been exposed to the Herpes virus which caused significant brain inflammation resulting in personality changes, weakness, severe headaches, dizziness and blackouts. Her recovery was lengthy and the effects of post viral syndrome lingered for months.

As she gradually regained her strength, in 2022, her New Zealand based sisters, believing her health would further improve, strongly encouraged her to receive the covid vaccine.

Despite her powerful instinct to stay away from any unnatural chemicals – knowing they would reactivate that now dormant virus in her brain, she ultimately gave in to their demands. Tragically, after receiving the vaccine, she collapsed and was rushed to hospital where she died from severe brain inflammation. This heartbreaking loss was preventable.

Key takeaways for health and immunity:

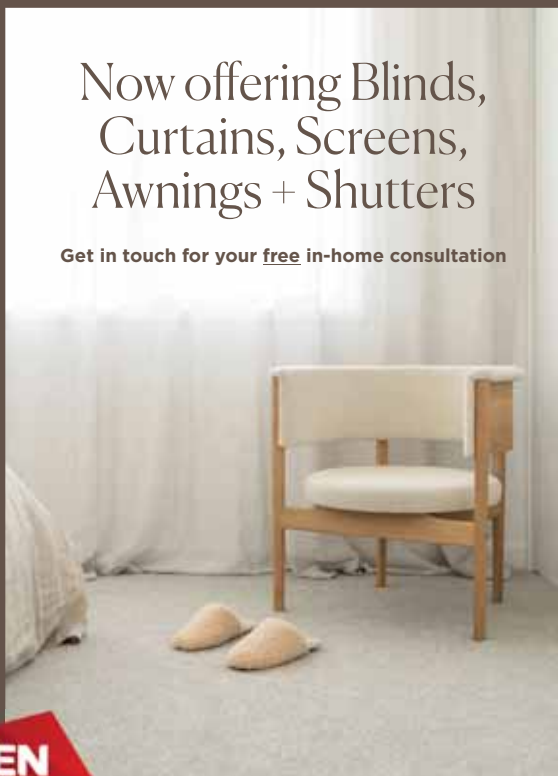
- Make informed decisions – investigate vaccine ingredients before proceeding.
- Optimize immune gut health and function. Know your best pre and probiotics.
- Embrace nutritious choices – daily enjoy vegetables, fruit, good fats, protein and wholegrains etc. Let food be your medicine.
- Avoid inflammatory foods – sugar, alcohol and processed foods. Love your liver.
- Know your best natural prescription – medicinal herbs, medicinal supplements, etc.
- Prevent or treat viral infections naturally – shingles, flu, covid,
- Live blood screening – seeing is believing – how strong is your gut immunity?
- Mineral assessment – www.activeelements.com, username 259077, password 579819.

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Grey Power Coromandel Inc

By Trisha Whimp

Annual General Meeting – Grey Power Coromandel

Date: **Wednesday 21 May**

Time: 10.30am

Venue: Combined Coromandel Club

Our Annual General Meeting is just around the corner and we're encouraging all members – especially new ones – to come along and get involved. This year we'll be seeking fresh faces for our committee as our current President and his wife will be stepping down due to moving out of the area.

Thanks to the new Grey Power GoFuel Fuelcard we've welcomed several new members recently. If you're one of them, we'd love to see you at the AGM – and perhaps you could even consider standing for the committee. Please don't be shy, your contribution could make a real difference!

Interested in joining Grey Power Coromandel? Get in touch with the contact listed below for more information.

President – Brian 027 319 0172 (beeandgee@hotmail.co.nz),
Vice-President – Barbara O'Reilly 027 209 8595 (bor375@gmail.com) or Membership Secretary – Carol 021 081 66129 (carolcarson@xtra.co.nz) or myself 0274 985 227 (greypowercoro@gmail.com)

Mana

Kia ora koutou, greetings to you all,

It's not long now and autumn will be drawing to a close. There's a quiet shift in the air – a soft turning inward as we move toward the stillness of winter. Around the Centre, there's a gentle, cozy awareness settling in – the fire once again warms the cooler nights and the gardens are quietly shifting. In the coming weeks, we'll be offering a series of gatherings and retreats – dance, music, and seasonal experiences that celebrate this sacred time of transition.

Movement and Meditation Retreat

Local dance facilitator Geordie Jahner invites you to her Movement and Meditation Retreat, running on **16-18 May**. With the assistance of Lauren Henry, this retreat offers a gentle, embodied journey into stillness, presence, and authentic self-expression. Grounded in mindful movement and enriched by quiet reflection, it's a nurturing space to soften, come home to yourself, and listen deeply to the wisdom within.

Open Floor Dance

Join us for a morning of movement, connection, and soulful expression. Open to all bodies and all backgrounds – no experience needed, just a willingness to show up and move. Through guided free-form dance we create space to release, ground, and reconnect with ourselves and each other. It's a beautiful way to begin the day in rhythm with the body and in harmony with the season.

When: **Tuesday 13 and Tuesday 27 May**. Time: 10-11.45am. Cost: \$15-20 sliding scale.

Community Garden Day

In celebration of the seasonal changes, we invite you to join us for a community garden day. Come as you are and reconnect with nature and others for a morning of mindful gardening. Lunch will be provided and there is no cost. Simply bring appropriate clothing for all weather and your favourite gardening tool.

When: **Wednesday 14 May**. Time: 9am-1pm.

Concert

Concert with Dylan Wade and Nur Peach (father and daughter duo) – inspirational, uplifting and upbeat music to listen and move with.

Dylan is an established music artist with decades of performance, recording, teaching and touring experience and Nur is an emerging prolific artist with a voice and songs for a brave new world. They both sing, play guitars and piano (Nur) and will be performing solo and together. Nur will also sing to a few songs with a backing track from her new album "Syncopate".

When: **Monday 12 May**, Time: 6-8pm, \$20 entry and kids are free (koha appreciated).

Here's to a season of warmth, gratitude, and meaningful connection.

Arohanui, The Mana Team

All bookings and enquiries: www.manaretreat.com, (07) 866 8972, be@manaretreat.com, 608 Manaia Road, Coromandel



James & Turner
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Mana
UPCOMING RETREATS & EVENTS

Bookings: www.manaretreat.com

MAY 2-4	Find Your Flow Retreat with Jo Monaghan
MAY 6-8	Breathing Forests – An Introduction To Wild Herbal Medicine with Clio Meyer
MAY 9-11	Mother's Day Relax and Wellness Weekend
MAY 16-18	Movement and Meditation: An Open Floor Dance Retreat with Geordie Jahner
MAY 20-23	Rise Up Retreat with Melly Rose & Samantha May
MAY 23-25	Bodylight Retreat with Edna Levy
MAY 28 - JUNE 2	Tranquility and Insight Yoga and Meditation Retreat with Susan Allen
JUNE 6 - 8	Repotted with Lisa O'Neill
JUNE 13 - 15	The Joy of Rest with Neal Ghoshal and Karla Brodie
JUNE 16 - 19	Thought Leaders Private Event

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Open Floor Community Dance	MAY 13, 27 TIME: 10:00-11:45AM
Community Garden Day	MAY 14, TIME: 9AM-1PM

be@manaretreat.com | 608 Manaia Road, Coromandel New Zealand, 3581
+64 (07) 866 8972

rangatahi OUR CHILDREN

Coromandel Area School

By Tracey Adams,
Principal

Staying local at CAS

With such a rich community, environment and such generous people around us, our tamariki and rangatahi have such amazing experiences available to them. This month the students are sharing their writing about an outing to Mana Retreat.

Our Trip to Mana Retreat

By Shani and Akerrah, age 9

When we got our bags from the classroom, we went down to the office and then we went to the vans. We were with Whaea Claire in the white van. While we were in the van we played some games and songs. Me and Akerrah were excited to get to Mana Retreat. It was our first time so I was a little nervous too.

When we arrived we had to take off our shoes. When we went down the hall we arrived at the kitchen to take off our bags.

Then we went into the Mauri Ora Area. We did some stretching and resting on the ground. The carpet was really smooth and fluffy. Whaea Claire played some energetic music and we did some fun movement and dance.

When we finished we had a walk to the sanctuary. While we were walking up, Remmi, Shani and Hughie almost got lost. This is because there were three paths, luckily Whaea Kendra and John told us the way. When we found the rest of the class I was exhausted and sore.

When we arrived at the sanctuary we heard a bell. The bell was so loud it scared me a bit. I was walking inside. When we got into the sanctuary we got to explore. It was quiet and the floor was smooth, with a large round greenstone in the middle.

COROMANDEL AREA SCHOOL



When we finished exploring the sanctuary we did some lying down and listening to some sounds. It was relaxing and calming. The sounds almost put me to sleep.

When we finished listening to the sounds we walked back down and did some writing and drawing.

I was grateful that we could explore a new place in Coromandel and learnt all about mauri ora. I would love to go again.

Mana Retreat

By Nataria (8) and Kazarae (9)

On Wednesday a group of us went to Mana Retreat. It was a very calming day. When we arrived there were fishes there. They were in a little pond.

In the morning, we did activities which were yoga, dance and meditation in a big beautiful room with a stained glass window in the middle of the roof.

After morning tea, we went on a long walk to the sanctuary. The goddess walk was a special path. The sanctuary looked like a castle and had a loud bell ringing. Inside we did sound healing. When the sound was playing, it felt like I was in heaven.

After we went back down the hill, we went into the centre again. It was so very tiring, our legs nearly popped off. Then we had lunch. After lunch we got to have a little bit of free play. I played tag for free play.

In the afternoon, we did art. We made a circle and you needed a white board. Then we were given this mini picture that looked like when we went to the sanctuary. Then we had to write a note at the back of it with kind words to ourselves. We could



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY MANA RETREAT LAST MONTH

say it or keep it to ourselves. It was nice to hear people's words that they had written.

Then we went back home in the white van. Nataria, Remmi, Cearn, Kaleb and Jacob were sitting at the back. Akerrah was sitting by Whaea Claire. When we got back to school the bell rang and we went back home.

It was an amazing day. I am grateful for going on the goddess walk and seeing such a huge piece of greenstone in the floor of the sanctuary. I really hope we can go there again.

Coromandel Youth Group at Hauraki House

Coromandel Youth Group is for children aged 5–15yrs. We provide a supervised, fun environment where kids can hang out with friends, make arts and crafts and play, play, play! To join parents just fill out a membership form.

We are open after school for 5+ year old for play and activities on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 3-5pm. Closed for public holidays.

For 10yrs+

Adventure Time: exploring outdoor activities our community has to offer. In March, Andy Marshall had us exploring construction with wood, from planning to shopping and then building a garden shed! Meet Monday after school at Hauraki House and be ready to leave by 3.15pm, returning 5pm.

Miniatures Game Club, Wednesdays 3-5pm, interactive D&D style games with no screens.

For more information call in during open hours or phone 027 217 9206 or contact us at coromandelyouthgroup@gmail.com.

Thank you! Alongside kind donations received, we are grateful for grants from: Lottery Waikato, Trust Waikato, COGS, D.V. Bryant Trust, Aotearoa Gaming Trust, NZ Community Trust, Star & Garter Hotel's Give a Little Pizza Sundays

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BRENDA FLAY, SOLICITOR:

Travels to Coromandel on Tuesdays.

Please phone the Thames Office (868 8680) for appointments.

PARTNERS: Hayley Green and Brenda Flay

THAMES OFFICE: 611 Mackay Street, P.O. Box 31, Thames

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Colville Bay Preschool

By Emma Corner, Kaiako

COLVILLE BAY
PRE-SCHOOL



Poipoia te kākano kia puāwai. Nurture the seed and it will blossom.

Kia ora koutou, my name is Emma and I am the new kaiako at the ātaahua Colville Bay Preschool which is nestled behind Colville School and right next door to tikapa moana. It is our own little slice of paradise. Here at Preschool, we have been busy celebrating sea week and exploring our local ngahere. For sea week, we went for a hīkoi to tikapa moana to explore the beach and learnt about Tangaroa and Hinemoana. We were invited to Colville School to learn about the moana from Bronnie who had an under the sea themed tent. The tamariki sat mesmerised in the moana tent as they learnt all about our sea creatures and how to be kaitiake o te moana.

We have started up our weekly hīkoi in to the local ngahere again this year. Our tamariki and whānau excitedly look forward to our weekly bush kura trips. We start our trip with a karakia to acknowledge and thank different atua to protect and look after us as we enter the ngahere. We hīkoi in to the ngahere and kōrero about the natural world area around us. We stop and have kai before we explore, play and kōrero about being kaitiake o te ngahere. On our most recent trip the tamariki found cicada shells, te whare pūngāwerewere and tied knots in ropes. But if you asked the tamariki what their favorite part of the trip was they would say dodging the cow paddies.

We said farewell to Rui and Naava in February as they have moved on to new and exciting adventures.

We need your support!

We are currently in a position where we need nine tamariki a day for our amazing preschool to stay open and financially viable. It would be heartbreaking for our community to lose such an incredible preschool that provides a marvellous service. Preschool is a home away from home that has strong connections and relationships embedded in to our remarkable community.

We welcome new enrolments and have spaces available Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Transport from Coromandel Town can be arranged, so haere mai, come visit and see if this is the right

place for you and your whānau. Open Tuesday to Friday, 8.45am-3pm including term breaks. 20 free hours for 3+ year olds and WINZ subsidies available.



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join us at
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Preschool



4
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mahi toi ARTS

The story of Gallery 6 Coromandel

By Vaughan Udall

Back in 2021 a shop stood empty in the heart of our town. Ed Buckett and Diann Cade came up with the idea of opening an art gallery.

Six local artists got together and decided to give it a shot over the coming summer months. So in the December Gallery 6 opened its doors to the public.

We still had restrictions from the pandemic and storms closed the roads, but locals rallied to support us.

It was hard at first but as restrictions were gradually lifted, roads reopened and overseas visitors started returning so we made the decision to keep going.

The annual arts tour gave us an amazing boost with all our artists creating their work in the gallery for everyone to see as it happened. This added to the exciting response.

The latest summer season has been incredibly busy with more than 100 visitors a day and by changing our gallery layout every month it means there is always fresh new work to view.

Now three and a half years later and with Easter fast approaching we are anticipating a busy few weeks before the quieter season begins.

But we won't sit on our laurels. We have many ideas, including painting workshops and demonstrations for locals to get involved in.

So if you're in town call in and say hello. You will usually find one of our artists usually working away on their latest creation. It might even inspire you to have a go yourself.

The gallery hours are 10am till 4pm daily.

Our artists are: Diann Cade, Donna Scatchard, Raewyn Penrose, Vaughan Udall with guest exhibitors Murray Rainey (potter) and Sally Tennent-Brown (jewellery).



Dylan Wade and Nur Peach concert at Mana

Dylan Wade and Nur Peach are excited to be playing a show together at Mana retreat centre for the first time! Although they have lived on the Peninsula for many years this will be the first proper concert for both Nur and Dylan at Mana. The concert is on **Monday 12 May** 6-8pm. \$20 entry (pay on the door) and kids are free (koha appreciated).

Dylan and Nur's (father and daughter) music is inspirational, uplifting and up beat and incorporates a wide range of styles and genres. Dad Dylan, is an established artist with decades of performance, recording, touring and teaching experience. He currently teaches music part-time at Coromandel Area School. Daughter Nur is an emerging powerful artist with a voice and songs for a brave new world. They both sing and play guitars with Nur also playing piano. They will be performing solo and together. Nur Peach will also sing a few songs with a backing track from her debut album "Syncopate".

CD copies of Syncopate will be on sale on the night.

Donna Dean: "Forgotten Gems" Tour, Te Ika-a-Māui

"Not many artists have the imaginations of a Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen. Or the creative lunacy of a John Prine, Randy Newman or Tom Waits." – John Apice U.S.A.

Donna Dean has been writing songs most of her life, songs about setbacks, struggle and success. Honing her craft for decades and sharing her songs in far flung places, from Pahiia to Prague, Te Kuiti to Texas and Corfu to Coromandel, Donna's songs linger in the hearts of her audience. She's a songwriter's songwriter with multiple APRA and Tui awards for her songwriting and record production. Her collaborations include the likes of songwriting legends Russell Smith, Willie Nelson, Jimmy Webb, Paul Kelly, Dan Penn & Spooner Oldham and Don Mclean. She wrote the title track to Rhonda Vincent's 2010 Grammy nominated bluegrass album "Destination Life" and her 2023 album, "Kisses & Other Things", produced by multi-instrumentalist/author John Egenes features American songwriter, multiple Grammy nominee Eliza Gilkyson.

This tour celebrates Forgotten Gems, songs written by Donna and recorded together with Russell Smith and The Amazing Rhythm Aces in Nashville and Auckland, tracks which won Donna her first APRA and Tui awards in 2003.

Donna's touring line-up features Dunedin bassist John Dodd, (a longtime stalwart of New Zealand music – Dodd has worked with an elite group of A-List artists over the years), and Dunedin based John Egenes, multi-instrumentalist, author, songwriter and cowboy poet. As well as accompanying Donna, Dodd and Egenes will perform a short set of their Americana/Kiwiana gems.

Experience Donna Dean for yourself. Not just another singer songwriter with a pretty voice, Donna is the real deal.

At Hauraki House Theatre, Coromandel Town on **Friday 23 May** 7.30pm, and Colville Hall on **Saturday 24 May** 7.30pm.

Tickets \$25 available at www.humanitix.com, door sales also available



Driving Creek Pottery Doings No. 3

By Matilda Halley



The Leach Connection

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for the opening of Off the Rails in the Driving Creek Gallery the Thursday before Easter. This exhibition runs until **Saturday 17 May** and features work by Callum Trudgeon, Hannah Rose Arnold, Louise Penberthy, Laurie Steer, Mary Lee, Sam Ireland, Paul Maysek, Paul Cornwell, Iona Matheson, Jaime Jenkins, Riccardo Scott, Matilda Halley, Carolin Hahn, Alex Moore, Bethany Harris, Kalou Koefoed, Meri McMillan, Browyn Blair and Jan Kocian. The gallery is open Tuesday through Sunday, from 11am to 3pm.

Some of you may have noticed a new face around Driving Creek recently. Ellie Woods has joined us from The Leach Pottery in Cornwall for a three month creative residency. Originally from Cumbria, Ellie studied fine arts in Liverpool before she was selected to join the Leach production team as an apprentice potter. She completed her three year apprenticeship last year and is now taking a short break from production to explore new ways of making.

Callum Trudgeon, our lead potter and former Leach apprentice, is keen to continue building ties between the two potteries. The hope is that Leach potters will benefit from the earthiness and creative freedom of Driving Creek and that our future apprentices might one day experience the

rigour of training at The Leach.

Bernard Leach's philosophy of pottery and living, as laid out in his 1940 *A Potter's Book*, was hugely influential to the generation of potters Barry belonged to. Leach's book was a guide to how and why we make. He preached the importance of pottery and the handmade in a rapidly industrialising world. While Barry pushed back against Leach's sometimes dogmatic views on the craft, there's no doubt that he and his contemporaries owed a great deal to Leach and his pottery "bible". Barry even arranged for Leach to visit him in Coromandel by seaplane during his 1962 tour of Aotearoa. He also met with Shoji Hamada, the Japanese co-founder of The Leach Pottery, in Christchurch in 1965.

The Leach philosophy seems to have lost some significance for younger potters working in Aotearoa today. However, Callum and I still believe that Leach's teachings, and especially the foundational skills taught through the Leach production training model, are just as relevant today as they were for Barry's generation. Maintaining this relationship will, we believe, be hugely beneficial for both potteries.

Ellie started her residency in typical Driving Creek fashion: by collecting and processing local clays. Inspired by the many residents and potters she's met, she has been exploring new ways of making and firing. She's been based in Wailin's old studio but also enjoys working on Barry's kick wheel up at Horopito Station in the evenings. Ellie has become part of the Driving Creek family, and she will be missed when she

leaves in May. We hope that the elemental nature of Driving Creek continues to inspire her when she returns to The Leach.

Joining Ellie on the residency programme in March were clay workers Jessica Adams (UK), Suemi Chiba (Australia), Abbie La Rooy (UK/Auckland), Jill McNaughton (Auckland), and Fiona Gates (Coromandel). Residency applications for the first quarter of 2026 are now open.

We have several workshops starting in May. The five week Kids' After School Art Class begins **Thursday 8 May**. For adults, we're offering a five day Intensive Throwing Course starting **Monday 5 May**. And for those not yet acquainted with the wheel, Iona Matheson is teaching a five day Hand Building Course from **Monday 26 May**. The full lineup of 2025 courses can be found on our website.



Leach potter Ellie Woods working on Barry's old kickwheel at Horopito Station

Art Group

By Lindsay Nicholls

It's been a busy first part of the year with lots of new things/projects developing within the group.

We have had instruction on prepping papers on staining with the end result being beautiful hand-crafted journals.

They are only bound by our imagination and it's endless the ideas that inspire us on our journey in making.

A wonderful way to spend a morning with like-minded creative folk. Can't wait to see the end results.

A few paintings are nearing completion and it's lovely to see them develop from a blank canvas.

Our clubrooms are so light and warm, it's a nice place to sit back with our morning cuppa. Even better when a plane just pops in for a day trip from Auckland.

If you'd like to join our group or you want to know more, pop out to the Airfield on Thursday morning 9am to 12pm.



Saskia and Lynne working



Off the Rails exhibition at Driving Creek Gallery ends Saturday 17 May

mahi toi ENVIRONMENTAL

MEG

By Bronnie Kennedy

Listen!

It's the time of year when kiwi listening projects are happening across New Zealand to monitor kiwi populations and their distribution. Listening for kiwi calls provides essential data on local kiwi populations. Armed with patience and warm coats, volunteers listen intently to the distinctive calls of kiwi at designated "listening stations". This year Moehau Environment Group is conducting a much larger survey than our usual annual monitoring sites. We aim to cover the entire area of our stoat trapping network from Coromandel Town to Port Charles, with over 50 listening sites. The survey helps us assess the effectiveness of our predator control. Twenty years ago when we began our trapping network it was rare to hear kiwi, but now thanks to our trappers mahi and the combined efforts of other predator control groups, Pare Hauraki, and DOC, the number and range of kiwi have been increasing. We're excited to find out how many we can hear this year! To cover all these sites, we need more ears. If you can commit to listening on three nights between May and July and would like to be part of this amazing event, please email us at: info@meg.org.nz (training provided).

More ginger

Another opportunity to help our native biodiversity is by attacking invasive wild ginger. Wild ginger can take over forest areas. It forms large mats of tubers that are so dense, native plants cannot grow through them.

Driving Creek Railway Conservation team and MEG are looking for volunteers to help continue work on a site in Kapanga/Coromandel Town with regular weeding sessions guided by weed expert, Richard Webster. The next is **Sunday 27 April**, 9am, meeting at DCR car park.

On **Saturday 3 May**, we have a special wild ginger weed-out with a boat trip offshore from Ōamaru Bay. Meet at the boat ramp 9am, returning noon. Let us know if you would like to join us on this mission and we will send more details. RSVP info@meg.org.nz.



Winter is approaching and so too are our Winter Lecture Series at Pepper Tree restaurant, Coromandel Town. Keep the following evenings free: **Sunday 8 June, Sunday 6 July, Sunday 3 August and Sunday 14 September**. We have a variety of speakers, a quiz evening and more.

Remember we can always use new members, volunteers and sponsors. Help us restore, protect and connect the biodiversity and habitats of the northern Coromandel.

Have a great month everyone! Noho ora mai!

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



Driving Creek Conservation Park

By Saskia Wagner

Protecting forests, one pig at a time

Over the past few months a dedicated pig hunter has played a crucial role in helping us protect native bush and biodiversity on Driving Creek property and Public Conservation Land by effectively controlling a growing population of feral pigs. These invasive animals pose a serious threat to native ecosystems – digging up forest floors, destroying seedlings, and disturbing habitat for vulnerable and endangered native fauna at Driving Creek Conservation Park, such as the Coromandel Brown Kiwi, Archey's and Hochstetter's frogs. Feral pigs are also believed to be one of the main vectors for spreading Kauri Dieback.

In spring last year the damage caused by pigs had become increasingly visible: large patches of upturned soil, snapped understory plants, and possum traps were pulled off the trees.

We partnered with Micheal Kuypers, an experienced local hunting contractor, who shares a passion for conservation and protecting Aotearoa's unique environment. Over a series of carefully planned hunts, he and his skilled dogs tracked and removed 14 pigs from areas of high ecological value on Driving Creek and Public Conservation Land.

The work was carried out in line with our conservation goals, ensuring

dog safety and following humane hunting practices. His

dogs are kiwi aversion trained and GPS tracked. The difference since feral pig removal has been remarkable: native seedlings are recovering, and our trail cameras are once again picking up increased activity from native species.

We're grateful for the expertise and respectful approach of Micheal, and we encourage anyone managing bush blocks to consider the hidden damage feral pigs are doing – and the role hunters can play in restoring balance and protecting Aotearoa's living taonga (as well as providing some meat for the freezer). Get in touch with Micheal via email about hunting or monitoring services: contractpro@outlook.co.nz.



Micheal Kuypers



Hunchie Davies 021 796 452

Excavations Landscaping Siteworks

Upper Coromandel Landcare Association (UCLA)

By Reihana Robinson, UCLA Spokesperson

Encomium

As the season winds down, we respectfully acknowledge our heavy loss of kaumatua Marcus Ward this past spring. Together with Anne, Marcus was a community anchor for his whole life living out on the West Coast of Moehau. He was a worthy recipient of the TCDC Community Service Award as he was not only an “unsung community hero” he worked without fanfare to make our area a better place. Marcus was one of the first UCLA petitioners.

Another mighty totara has fallen, our stories must be recorded. His legacy lives on in the hearts and minds of our farming community and beyond.

Aerial poisoning: Moehau

For readers new to the Coromandel, especially Hillary Outdoors readers this report will be 100% new information. For those who have resided here over the years and those returning visitors, we are still locked into the poison regime of the Department of Conservation (DOC), and sadly our local Moehau Environment Group (MEG) use cruel poisons alongside humane trapping methods of killing.

Again, our maunga Moehau is to be aerially poisoned. Again, the poison of choice is toxin 1080 leading to excruciating prolonged deaths for animals and birds. New Zealand uses the bulk of this dangerous and cruel poison manufactured in Alabama USA. Australia and Israel were the only other countries using poison 1080 according to 2015 figures.

Poison 1080 is designed to interrupt the Krebs cycle which affects all oxygen-breathing creatures, including birds such as ruru and hawks that eat poisoned possums or rats. We have no data on how many kiwi are chronically maimed by consuming poisoned insects.

Eco-FX (bought in 2022 by Rentokil) is contracted by DOC to dump monosodium fluoroacetate (1080) baits from helicopters in July 2025, although the EcoFX website says “autumn” and also states how they want to innovate their “services to safely, humanely and effectively manage rural and conservation pest issues throughout New Zealand” – oh such satire for a stand-up routine!

With the millions spent on aerial operations many locals could have been employed checking rat, stoat and possum traps on the Moehau tracks.

Wild pigs cannot be hunted for meat for the table as they eat poisoned possums. So, our whanau miss out. Kai that is readily available to hunters and trappers is to halt and wild pigs to die a gruesome death and be left to rot. As Kevin Prime, Ngati Hine states “ancient Māori would have made full use of the resource”.*

Please speak up against cruelty to oxygen breathing animals, birds and insects. Please call your local MP: Scott Simpson (0800 7273 6282 or 04 817 9999). Tell the local police of your concerns (105). Tell your local TCDC rep: John Morrissey (027 245 2700). Contact your Community Board representatives: Gavin Jeffcoat, Kim Brett, Jean Ashby (021 503 148) and James Davis.

History

The Upper Coromandel Landcare Association (UCLA) was established in 2006 when farming families around the Moehau Range north of Colville were served with a plan to physically fence them into a sprawling new 18,000-hectare eco-management zone...creating a coast-to-coast steel barrier by DOC, Regional Council and MEG.

85% of those living around Moehau supported a Statement of Opposition that cited, among other concerns, the certainty of blanket applications of toxin 1080 over the entire area. Despite successful opposition to the well-intentioned, hare-brained pest-fence project, the three-yearly poison cycle of aerial 1080 got underway, promoted by DOC and Regional Council. Residents received pages of information prior to the drop but absolutely no data post drop. Had MEG read its own commissioned cost-benefit study: *An Analysis of the Costs of Pest Control Operations in the Northern Coromandel* by Sandra Barns, they would have read learned of the “likelihood of reinvasions and ultimate project failure”. **

UCLA supports the Coromandel-Colville Business Association in its important goal to get the Fullers ferry up and running to assist with public transport alternatives. UCLA thanks ebullient Sharon Boyack for her ongoing contribution to our community through her provision of transport.

* *The Killing Nation New Zealand's State-Sponsored Addiction to Poison 1080* Reihana Robinson 2017

** *Rural Revolt in Defence of Coromandel's Wild Kingdom* Reihana Robinson 2019. This book documents environmental struggles on the Coromandel including First They Came for the Goats, Don't Fence Us In, Save Our Wild Pigs, Voices of the Coromandel

CLAIM

By Pamela Grealey

Gold glimmers again – but so does our resistance

Just like in the 1980s, the soaring price of gold is once again drawing mining companies to Te Tara o Te Ika a Māui – the Coromandel Peninsula. With over 60,000 hectares now under mineral exploration permits across the Hauraki, it's clear that the push to extract gold is gaining momentum.

OceanaGold, a multinational corporation, recently drilled an exploratory hole at Te Rerenga, raising alarm bells among locals who have seen this story in the region before – and know how badly it can end.

That's why we're back.

CLAIM is being revitalised to stand once again with a clear mission to stand with other local groups to protect the Coromandel from the harmful impacts of gold mining, now and for future generations.

Our message to mining companies and the government is simple: we do not need mining on The Coromandel.

This isn't just about opposing drilling rigs and exploration maps – it's about protecting the land, the health of our ecosystems, and the right of communities to determine their own future.

We stopped them once. We can do it again.

If you'd like to show your support, free Coromandel No Mining bumper stickers – generously provided by Forest & Bird – are available at Umu, Driving Creek Railway, The Goldmine and The Colville Store. Back in the day even our local law enforcement supported the cause.

Follow us on FaceBook: CLAIM – Coromandel Lobby Against Indiscriminate Mining for further information or mail us claimtreasurer@gmail.com



Police car from the 1980s with a “No Mining” bumper sticker

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hākinakina SPORT

Coromandel Youth Sailing

By Glenys Carr

Coromandel Youth Sailing have enjoyed a great summer sailing season out on our beautiful Coromandel Harbour. We are extremely proud of our young sailors, who within six lessons, mastered reaching and windward courses, tacking, gybing, stacking out and using their body weight to balance their boats. On a light wind day we sailed on an adventure to Whanganui Island and back chaperoned by the chase boat and a keeler. This season we have seen some masterful sailing of our older delta dinghies which has prompted some gear upgrades to make them easier to sail. The skiffs have proved to be double the fun, easier to capsize but easier to right too!

CYS thanks our fantastic local sponsors: NZCT, The Star & Garter Hotel, James & Turner, Coromandel Fish and Dive, Shelly Beach Top 10 Holiday Park, Coromandel ITM, Coromandel Four Square, Coromandel Lions, Grey Power, Smidge Sun Protection and Coromandel Fuel Stop. Some brilliant local individuals also came onboard: Peter Herbert, Pat Williams, Andy & Becky and "The Anchorite". Thanks to you all, the future is bright for our young sailors.

Coromandel Youth Sailing sail out from Heards Bay, Te Kouma. We are a voluntary, not for profit initiative and are currently part of Coromandel Youth Group. Our '24-'25 Summer season is nearly at a close but we will begin again in October/November 2025 with "Learn to Sail" and "Keep Sailing" courses. Age minimum is ten years and with water confidence.

For any enquiries contact Glenys Carr (CYS Coordinator) on 027 256 3260



Coromandel Pickleball

By Delwyn Nicholson

Pickleball is a very popular sport for all levels of fitness. The game is easy to learn but can be a fast paced game with practice. We welcome all new adult players from senior school age and up. We play Thursday evenings 6pm to 8pm at the Coromandel Area School gymnasium. Paddles and balls are supplied. Cost is \$3 per player. Come along and give it a go.

For any further information please contact Delwyn on 027 298 9073



Coromandel Croquet Club

By Raewyn McKinney

Most people probably think of croquet as an English game, and it is a fact that it is recorded as being first played in England in 1856.

However, these days croquet is truly an international sport with a strong following in Spain, USA, South Africa and Egypt as well as Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, with players in many other countries.

If you would like to try croquet, we meet on Tuesdays for "association croquet" and Fridays for "golf croquet".

As from 1 May, we will be changing to our winter hours, which means we meet at 9.45am on both days.

We provide all the equipment and a period of coaching before you need to commit to joining the club. Casual players are welcome to come along for a payment of \$5 per day.

The club is situated in Woollams Ave next to the Bowling Club.

If you would like to join us, contact Lyn on 027 466 2661 for more information



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COROGYM@GMAIL.COM



Coromandel Golf Club

By Marilyn MacKenzie

Sunday 30 March – Our Men's team participated in the Grand Final Handicap Strokeplay Competition, hosted by Te Aroha Golf Club. As a neutral venue, it welcomed 12 teams and our team secured 7th place. The greens proved to be extremely challenging. Congratulations to our team players Richy Neal, Shaun Hovell, Dawson Hansen and Hamish Rollinson. Sincere appreciation to Te Aroha for hosting the final.

Saturday 31 March – We would like to extend our gratitude to the Coromandel Hotel for sponsoring the Coromandel Hotel Mixed Open Tournament. The event proved to be a remarkable success and the funds raised will make a substantial contribution to our club's continued success. Our men's club captain is to be commended for rescheduling this tournament to be run concurrently with a visit from the prestigious Waikato Eagles. Although the weather may have been less than ideal, it did not detract from the overall enjoyment of the event. As always our amazing ladies team produced an outstanding meal, and Kevin and his team of volunteers are to be thanked for their diligent efforts in preparing the course. Paul Lawrence's expertise in organising the tournament was evident throughout. We are indebted to all participants for their enthusiastic support, congratulations to all winners.

Saturday 5 April – Coromandel secured victory, claiming the Hansen Shield for 2025, with Thames finishing a close second on an exceptional day of golf in ideal weather conditions. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Thames Golf Club members for participating in this special event established 67 years ago. We commend the Thames 9-hole members who took



Bottom Town with 2025 shield, an achievement certainly worth getting excited about

part in the competition playing 18 holes: well done. We acknowledge the invaluable contributions from both clubs' members ensuring the event's success.

Great results from our ladies Bay of Plenty pennant team who after three rounds ending just .5 of a point behind the winners, Paeroa. Thanks to all ladies who contributed to this success.

Saturday 12 April – The annual Top Town/Bottom Town challenge competition took place with Bottom Town emerging victorious by a narrow margin, 69.5 to 70.2. We appreciate the efforts of Men's Club Captain Paul Lawrence in coordinating the event.

The course has undergone considerable development over the past two months. We would like to express our appreciation to all individuals involved for their invaluable contribution.

Tuesday's Club Day – tee off 9.30am, 9 or 18 holes ladies and men, everyone welcome.

Wednesday – Men's Midweek Club Day 12.30pm tee off.

Meat pack – last Wednesday of the month.

Saturday – Mixed Members Club Day 12.30pm tee off.

Affiliated visitors welcome to all club days.

Club carts available for hire, bookings essential.

Happy golfing.

For more information and if you would like to give golf a go phone Marilyn 027 253 7882 or email coromandelgolfclub@gmail.com

Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club

Hi all, Plenty of big fish out there and huge schools of Kahawai too, as evidenced by the number of kahawai weighed in for March's fish of the month. No Parore were weighed in so the juniors prize was not taken. However, that didn't stop a junior member for taking out the heaviest kahawai 2.335 kg. Congratulations Ryan Debenham, \$100 in your pocket.

Fish of the month for April is gurnard for all members and yellowtail for the juniors. Make sure you weigh your fish in big or small, you just never know!

"Take A Kid Fishing" competition

Saturday 3 May is our "Take A Kid Fishing" competition.

Categories

Adults: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Snapper (adults must have a child entered on board or fishing with them to be able to enter).

6 and under: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Snapper, Heaviest Yellow Tail, Heaviest Piper, Heaviest Kahawai, Heaviest Parore, Most Unusual Species.

7-10 years old: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Snapper, Heaviest John Dory, Heaviest Kahawai, Heaviest Parore, Heaviest Trevally, Most Unusual Species.

11-13 years old: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Snapper, Heaviest John Dory, Heaviest Kahawai, Heaviest Parore, Heaviest Trevally, Heaviest Kingfish.

Entry price

Members – adults \$20, kids \$10 (13 and under at 1 July 2025).

Non-Members – adults \$25, kids \$15 (13 and under at 1 July 2025).

Full details on Facebook.



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8am – depart Coromandel

9.10am – arrive Thames

2 hours of shopping!

11.15am – depart Thames

Click & collect service available!

Bookings essential.

Classifieds

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

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A COROMANDEL PLASTERER. For new homes and all renovation requirements I offer 25+ years experience for a professional plastering finish. Doug Marsters 022 019 9255.

ABBY'S HEALING HAVEN 021 352 486. Chakra and energy clearing, crystal calibration 90 minutes – \$140, appointments via video link or in person. Organic Ayurvedic facial massage, 30 min – \$55. Breakthrough Tapping session, 60 min – \$100. An effective self mastery method for dealing with all stress and anxiety also self-sabotaging behaviors. Online or in person. Intuitive Tarot and oracle reading, 45 minutes - \$60. See more at www.abbyshealinghaven.com.

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BALLET CLASS FOR ADULTS. Venue: Coromandel Citizens' Hall, Wednesdays, 10am to 11.15am. \$15. Phone Marilyn Swan 027 336 5263. Registered Teacher and Life Member Royal Academy of Dance. Silver Swans® Licensee. Visitors are welcome.

BLINDS, CURTAINS, SCREENS, AWNINGS & SHUTTERS. Please phone or email Whitianga Flooring Xtra for your free in-home consultation (07)8662836 or sales.whitianga@flooringxtra.co.nz

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BRICK AND BLOCK LAYING SPECIALISTS. L.B.P. Phone Joel 021 0234 0210.

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COROMANDEL GARAGE DOORS. Ph: Gerry Packo 022 453 2188. E: corogaredoors@gmail.com; W: www.corogaredoors.co.nz.

COROMANDEL HONEY LTD. Local beekeepers. Honey for sale and manuka sites wanted. Call Evan on 021 533 826.

COROMANDEL STUMP

GRINDING. Local operator based in CoroTown. Contact now 027 451 2224 or email dynamictreecare@gmail.com.

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GENERAL HOUSE & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & HANDYMAN SERVICES. Phone Mike 027 240 9084. Coromandel and surrounding areas.

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GIB STOPPER/PAINTER. Alpha Drywall, Geoff, local 022 027 0290.

GLASS REPAIR Call or text Mike Coromandel Glass 027 661 0190.

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NEED SUPPORT AT HOME?

My name is Maria and I am an ex registered nurse and I live in Tuatēawa, Monday-Friday. I'm a kind, helpful and mentally strong person who can do personal care and support work for people in their home. Daytime and/or nighttime. Maria Utting: mariautting@gmail.com 021 677 239.

POOL QUEEN LTD. Mobile Pool and Spa services Coromandel Peninsula. Call the Pool Queen to have your pool clean. Sharleena Tucker 027 316 3384.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE. Section clearing. We have tractor/frontend loader, tip trailer, slasher, post banger, log splitter, chainsaw, mowing. Anything considered. Te Kouma, Coromandel Town area. Ph Tony 027 494 7692.

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FOR RENT

AIRBNB HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE at Abby's Healing Haven, sleeps five in a separate three-bedroom house, walking distance to Coromandel Town, private, charming cottage with everything provided and a new spa bath on the back deck. Details, photos and AirBnB booking link on www.abbyshealinghaven.com

FOR SALE

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OTHER

AGE CONCERN Falls Prevention Strength and Balance exercise class for seniors. Coromandel Gym, Pottery Lane Tuesday and Thursday, 10am, \$2. Vickie (07) 866 7894.

VOLUNTEERING

MEG are looking for volunteers to help continue work on a site in Kapanga/Coromandel Town with regular weeding sessions guided by weed expert. The next is Sunday 27 April, 9am, meet at DCR car park. Contact info@meg.org.nz.

THE COLVILLE PROJECT is looking to maintain our entranceway/roadside. Is there anyone in our local community who would volunteer to regularly cut the grass in our roadside and immediate entranceway? This would suit someone with a tractor and slasher or ride-on mower. Contact Katie admin@thecolvilleproject.nz.

Volunteering ads are free to place in the Chronicle (subject to space!)

Coromandel Town weekly and monthly meetings

Every Monday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym.....	8am
Coro Walking Group, meet outside The Bizarre, Ruth 027 338 3545	8.30am
Coromandel Hikers' Group, Hauraki House, Murray Brown (07) 866 8602.....	9am
Monday Walkers, Woollams Ave car park north end, Tracy and Peter Kendall 027 333 4722	9am
Gold Fit at Coro Gym.....	9.30am
Rummikub at The Club.....	1-4pm
Line dancing beginners class, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341	3-3.30pm
Line dancing, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341... ..	3.30-4.15pm
Coro Superstars, a performing arts group for 6-13-yr-olds, Anglican Hall, contact Claire 021 653 650.....	5pm
Bridge, St John rooms.....	7pm
Taizé 4-part harmony singing, Sally 027 302 4245.....	7.30pm

Every Tuesday

Croquet Club – Association Croquet, Woollams Ave, Lyn 027 466 2661 (winter hours)	9.45-12.15am
Age Concern seniors' exercise class, Coromandel Gym. \$3 Vickie 027 417 7077.....	10am
Yoga for everyone, Colville Hall, Kate 021 125 3152	10am
Playcentre, Woollams Ave.....	10.30am-1pm
Na Ihowa Ahau after-school kids club (term time only), Anglican Hall, Anita 027 259 1085.....	3.15-4.45pm
Tai Chi, Waikato Events Centre (above the swimming pool), Christina 021 113 4768	5pm

Every Wednesday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym.....	8am
Pastel Artists Coromandel, Rose's Studio, contact Allan (07) 866 8053.....	9am-12pm
Gold Fit at Coro Gym.....	9.30am
Ballet Class For Adults, Coromandel Citizens' Hall, \$15 per class. Marilyn 027 336 5263.....	10-11am
Coromandel Home-school group, Julene 020 4060 8102	12.30pm
Kung Fu, Coromandel Hospital	5-7pm

Every Thursday

Coro Art Group, Coro Flying Club, Lindsay (07) 866 7799.....	9am-12pm
Age Concern seniors' exercise class, Coromandel Gym. \$3 Vickie 027 417 7077.....	10am
Free Guided Meditation, Havalona Pyramid	10-11am
Movement for Equanimity (MFE), a well-being fascia movement class, contact Judy 021 0200 7550	3-4pm
Line dancing beginners class, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341	3-3.30pm
Line dancing, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341 ..	3.30-4.15pm
Coromandel Tennis Club "club day"	4.30pm
Yin Yoga with Toni, Event Centre, \$10-\$20, Toni 020 4076 1526	5-6.15pm
Coromandel Narcotics Anonymous 12 step addiction recovery meeting, at 100 Pound St (orange house). Contact Rosie 027 577 7716.....	6.30-7.30pm
Free drop-in Dharma talk or video at Mahamudra	7-8.30pm
Coromandel Bowling Club – Club Day. Runs until 1 May.....	9am

Every Friday

Step Aerobics at Coro Gym.....	8am
Community Gardens volunteer day.....	9am-12pm
Yoga for everyone, Anglican Hall, Kate 021 125 3152.....	9am
Croquet Club – Golf Croquet, Woollams Ave, Lyn 027 466 2661 (winter hours).....	9.45-12.15am
Chess Club, Weta Cafe, Mike 027 304 9252	9.30am
Playcentre, Woollams Ave.....	9.45am-12.15pm
Coromandel Bowling Club – Coaching/Rollup. Runs until 2 May.....	3pm
Coromandel Bowling Club social evening at the Club	3.30-7pm
Coromandel Flying Club social gathering, all welcome	5.30pm

Every Saturday

Coromandel Homegrown Market, Wharf Rd (summer only).....	9am-1pm
RSA Coromandel, RSA Club Rooms Woollams Ave. President Gary Pettett 021 061 0852	3.30-7pm

Every Sunday

Anglican Church Service	10am
Coromandel Tennis Club "club day"	2pm
Coromandel Bowling Club – Club Afternoon. Runs until 27 April.....	1pm

Monthly

1st Mon – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms, Michaela Green 021 0287 1879	9.30am-3.30pm
3rd Mon – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms, Michaela Green 021 0287 1879	9.30am-3.30pm
2nd Tues – Cancer Support Group, St John rooms John Walker 027 482 0435	10am

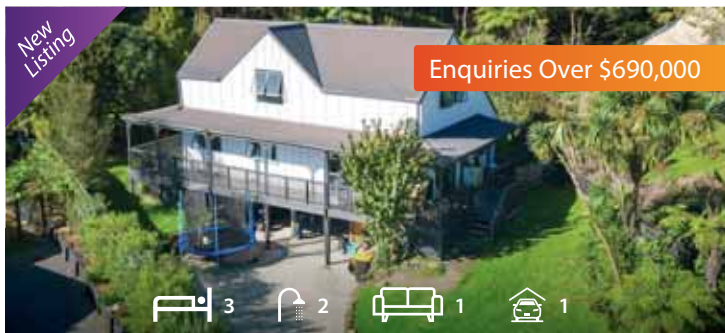
1st Wed – Coro Embroiderers' Guild, St John rooms, Helen Pearce (07) 866 8460.	10am-3pm
1st Wed – Lions dinner meeting (winter time), St John rooms. Sue Hughes 021 142 1124	6pm
2nd Wed – Garden Circle. Kath Denize (07) 866 7441, 022 413 6573	1pm
2nd Wed – Car Club meeting at The Club, Bruce 027 249 0878.....	4pm
3rd Wed – Lions business meeting (winter time), St John rooms. Sue Hughes 021 142 1124	6pm
Last Wed – Coromandel-Colville Business Association networking meeting, Combined Clubs, Woollams Avenue, everyone welcome (Feb-Nov).....	5pm
Last Thurs – Green Drinks at Star & Garter	5pm
3rd Fri – Dances of Universal Peace, The Pyramid, Sue 022 159 1571 ..	10.30am
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.

Advertisers' directory

Company	Page
Ann Kerr-Bell – Natural Medical Centre	18
Coro Gym	26
Coromandel Concrete and Landscape Services	12
Coromandel Marine Farmers' Association	11
Coromandel Plumbing (1986) Ltd	3
Coromandel Taxi	27
Coromandel Towing	14
Fairview Thames	16
Fish, Dive, Hunt	19
Four Square Coromandel	21
Gaia Decorators	2
GD Haulage	25
Good Energy	4
Harcourts	17
Hauraki Taxation Service Ltd	10
HD Diggers	24
ITM	3
James and Turner	19
James Drainage '97 Ltd	15
Johnston Fencing	2
Lady with a Sewing Machine	12
Llandem Consulting Engineers Ltd	7
Mana	19
Matarangi Plumbing	6
Matt Hobbs Plumbing & Drainlaying Ltd	15
Michael Wood Builders Ltd	10
Parr Builders	7
Peninsula Electrical Services Ltd	8
Peninsula Pest Services	26
Perfect Air Coromandel	32
Purnell Lawyers	20
Revell Architectural Design	4
Richardsons Real Estate	9
Rob's Small Motor Repairs	21
Scott Simpson MP	8
Star & Garter	11
TCDC	13
Tenant wanted	5
The Club – quiz nights	7
Trinity Network	31
Twentymans	12
Waitaia Nursery	20
Whitianga Flooring Xtra	18

MON		TUE		WED		THU		FRI		SAT		SUN	
Make sure your event gets listed To get your event listed, email the details to Debbie at corochronicle@gmail.com with the subject "event". Published subject to space availability, with preference to not-for-profit groups. Regular meetings aren't included here - please see weekly and monthly meetings on page 29.		Tide times and heights from Land Information NZ and are for Coromandel Harbour. For Thames times - 15min High and - 18min Low.		KEY ● New moon ○ Full moon		Rubbish and recycle collection for Coromandel Town (CT), Te Kōhuna (TK), Maniaia (MN), Coromandel Rural North (RN), and Thames Coast (TC) Put red lid rubbish bin and food scrap bin out		Put recycling bin (plastic 1, 2 & 5 lins, paper, card), glass recycling bin and food scrap bin out					
5 Intensive Throwing Course starts at DCR (see pg 23)	6 Quiz night starts at The Club (see ad pg 7)	7 	8 Coromandel Bowling Club presentation day (see ad pg 6) Kids After School Art Class startat DCR (see pg 23)	9 	10 High tide 5.18am (2.5m), 5.54pm (2.5m) Low tide 11.34am (0.5m), 11.53pm (0.6m)	11 Mother's Day	12 High tide 12.50am (2.7m), 1.18pm (2.5m) Low tide 7.10am (0.6m), 7.24pm (0.6m)	13  Open Floor Dance at Mana (see pg 19)	14  Community Garden Day (see pg 19) Coromandel Garden Circle AGM (see pg 14)	15 High tide 8.42am (2.5m), 9.11pm (2.7m) Low tide 2.30am (0.6m), 2.48pm (0.4m)	16 Movement and Meditation Retreat starts at Mana (see pg 19)	17 Off the Rails exhibition at Driving Creek Gallery ends (see pg 23)	18 High tide 10.46am (2.5m), 11.16pm (2.6m) Low tide 4.37am (0.6m), 4.47pm (0.5m)
19 High tide 6.43am (2.6m), 7.18pm (2.7m) Low tide 12.34am (0.6m), 12.56pm (0.5m)	20 DEADLINE: Coromandel Town Chronicle June Issue Quiz night at The Club (see ad pg 7)	21  Grey Power Coromandel AGM (see pg 19)	22 High tide 8.42am (2.5m), 9.11pm (2.7m) Low tide 2.30am (0.6m), 2.48pm (0.4m)	23 High tide 9.22am (2.5m), 9.50pm (2.7m) Low tide 3.14am (0.6m), 3.26pm (0.4m)	24 High tide 10.03am (2.5m), 10.31pm (2.6m) Low tide 3.52am (0.6m), 4.06pm (0.4m)	25 High tide 10.46am (2.5m), 11.16pm (2.6m) Low tide 4.37am (0.6m), 4.47pm (0.5m)	26 High tide 11.32am (2.5m) Low tide 5.25am (0.6m), 5.24pm (0.5m)	27  Open Floor Dance at Mana (see pg 19)	28  High tide 7.32am (3.0m), 8.03pm (3.1m) Low tide 1.15am (0.1m), 1.41pm (-0.1m)	29 High tide 1.53am (2.6m), 2.14pm (2.5m) Low tide 8.06am (0.5m), 8.29pm (0.6m)	30 High tide 2.50am (2.7m), 3.17pm (2.6m) Low tide 9.04am (0.4m), 9.31pm (0.5m)	31 High tide 3.46am (2.8m), 4.20pm (2.7m) Low tide 10.01am (0.3m), 10.31pm (0.4m)	COROMANDEL RUBBISH AND RECYCLING TRANSFER STATION Daily 8.30am-4.30pm (winter hours)
Hand Building Course starts at DCR (see pg 23)	Open Floor Dance at Mana (see pg 19)												



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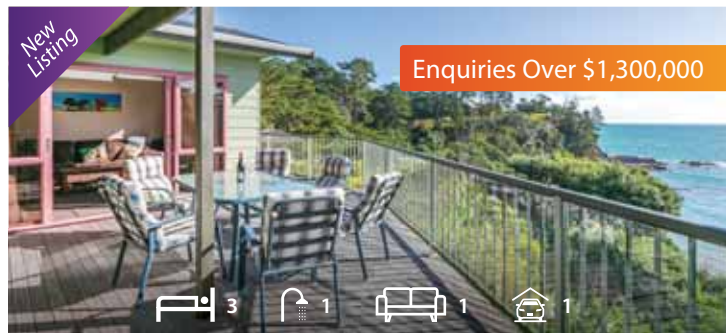
Enquiries Over \$690,000

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Coromandel, 27 Taurua Place

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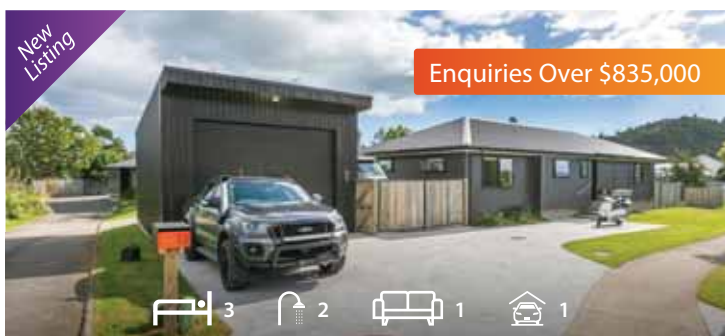
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Waitete Bay, 4E Torehina Heights

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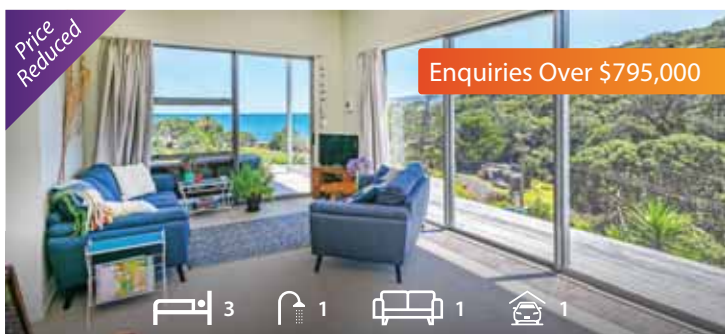
Asking Price \$1,750,000

5 2 2 2



Coromandel, 1757 Manaia Road

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Enquiries Over \$795,000

3 1 1 1



Coromandel, 18 Captain Amodeo Road

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Price Reduced

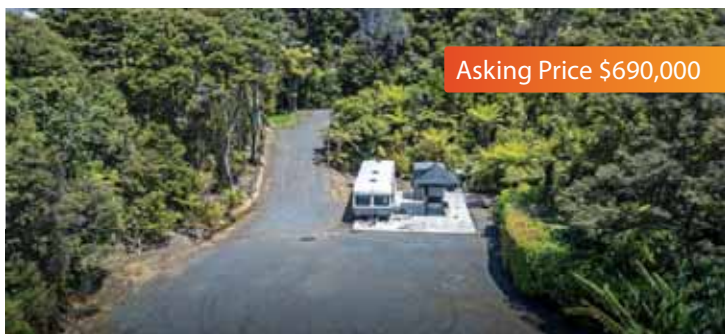
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Coromandel, 68 Watt Street

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Asking Price \$690,000



Little Bay, 3 Kayes Crescent

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Enquiries Over \$595,000

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Coromandel, 80 Oxford Terrace

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