

November 2025
Volume 29 Issue 11

Coromandel Town Chronicle

www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz

The community magazine for Coromandel Town and surrounds since 1996

FREE
Community Magazine

Bike Park upgrade ready for summer

– see page 3



Sweet Louise Fundraiser PG 6



Saturday Market PG 15



Senior Club Champion PG 27



Haere mai. Welcome to the Coromandel Town Chronicle

View each Chronicle issue online at

www.coromandeltownchronicle.co.nz

Cover photo: Ride Coromandel Bike Park

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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.

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Letters 350 words max.
and articles 600 words max.

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Emergency

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

..... Editor's comment

Hello everyone.

The elections are finally over. We have a new mayor in Peter Revell, Coromandel-Colville Ward Councillor is Rob Ashman, and Kate James has come onto the Community Board. Thanks you to everyone who stood for election.

Coromandel is the name of our town, but also the name of this peninsula which seems to continually cause confusion. Ever since taking over publishing the Chronicle I have referred to Coromandel (the township) as "Coromandel Town", and the peninsula as "Coromandel Peninsula", by doing this, everyone knows where we are talking about. To me this is logical. Many businesses "over the hill" call themselves "Coromandel" – no wonder people have trouble working out where Hot Water Beach is!

And finally, I'm looking forward to seeing the ferry come and go every weekend bringing summer visitors and wish the best to Explore Group. Their website refers to Coromandel Peninsula and Coromandel Town as a distinction – so I'm happy about that!

Debbie

..... Letters

Dog rules

Dear Editor,

I wish to support Peter Pratt on his comments, in the last Chronicle, on dogs on Coromandel beaches. However, it is not just wildlife, it is dogs attacking people all over the TCDC area. A recent violent attack in Tairua, was treated very mildly with very little action being taken, despite the victim being hospitalised. Failing to prosecute people with unregistered dogs may be very friendly, but it puts peoples lives at risk. In Katikati a year ago a child was mauled to death, this can happen here and will if the TCDC neglects its obligations.

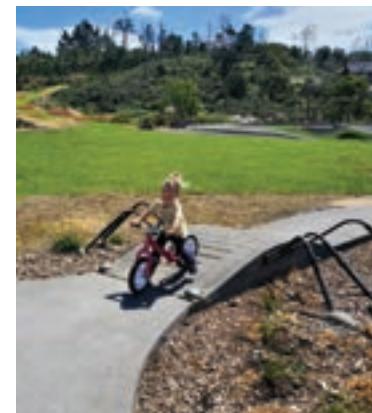
Dogs should not have priority, and should not be allowed to roam on restricted areas of beach, or in suburbs.

Yours faithfully,
Neville Cameron, Coromandel Town

Coromandel Bike Park – something for the whole family!

I just want to create awareness for a massively underused amazing facility that Coromandel has right on our doorstep. The Coromandel Bike Park has been there for a few years now but is hardly used. I started going there with my two year old daughter several months ago and she loves it! It is now an excursion we do several times a week but there is rarely anyone else using it. It is a huge facility with something for the whole family. The smallest track is suitable for wee ones and has plenty of "tricky" bits to keep them engaged. The next track up is a dirt track with ramps and jumps which Miss two year old still likes to ride on. Then there is the "big kids" track with much bigger jumps and technical parts. There is an asphalt pump track which is suitable for bikes and boards alike (which she loves to run around on) and several tracks that meander up through the bush, including a large part of the Harry Track. The bike park team have put in a lot of work recently, planting gardens, adding signage and building a new toilet and sheltered rest area making it a much more user friendly location. It could even be potentially used for children's birthday parties or just somewhere to send the kids to get them out of the house! It really is an asset to Coromandel Town and I hope to see it used more in the future.

From Charlene Scott, Coromandel Town



Aya and the Butterfly and The Orange Box

Thank you to Coromandel Area School for hosting Aya and the Butterfly in April and The Orange Box in October. Special thanks to Jamie-Rose Brown, Deputy Principal for welcoming the performers and making sure we had access to the hall.

Thank you to the Star and Garter Hotel and to Creative Communities NZ for your generous donation which enabled us to keep the entry affordable for everyone.

Thank you to the Coromandel Town Information Centre for recording attendees' names.

Thank you to all the adults who brought children to the shows and for your generous koha. We plan to bring more shows in April next year and we know that you'll spread the word so that even more children can enjoy quality puppet shows.

From Robin Munch, Coromandel Town

creative *nz*
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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.

Ride Coromandel Bike Park

By Logan Nicholls

What's been happening?

Over the last few months, our awesome volunteers and locals have been busy giving the bike park a bit of love and attention and we're excited to share some of the upgrades that have been happening.

Thanks to funding from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund, we now have a toilet on site – a huge improvement for everyone visiting the park! The carpark has also been expanded and tidied up with recycled plastic bollards by Future Post, which help define the area around the new facilities.

We've also built a new shelter with a seat, so there's a nice spot to relax out of the sun or rain – perfect for spectators. Inside, you'll find a plaque dedicated to the late Keith Stephenson who originally helped get this park off the ground.

To add more greenery, we recently held a planting day with native trees including our very special kauri.



Over the past few years, we've welcomed plenty of families and groups like the Youth Group and Adventure Time crew, who've all had a great time riding here. If you haven't been up for a visit yet, come and check it out! You can find our contact details by searching Ride Coromandel Bike Park online or visiting our website at www.ridecoromandel.com.

Just a friendly reminder – if a trail is closed, please respect the signs. It usually means the track's too wet, blocked, or needs a bit of maintenance. The Trailforks app always has the latest updates on track conditions.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone up at the park this summer. Grab your bike, bring your friends or family and come enjoy our little bike park with the big heart.

Road closed

SH25 Thames Coast Road – Boundary Creek Bridge work

A seven-day road closure will begin at 5am on **Wednesday 29 October**. The bridge deck is being replaced and there will be repair of its abutments (the structures at the ends of the bridge which support the bridge deck). The road will stay as a single lane until finishing works are completed.

By December the road will be back to two lanes making travel smoother for everyone.

Those heading north to Coromandel Town and beyond will need to take SH25A (Kōpū -Hikau road) on to Tairua and Whitianga. Those heading south will reverse that route.

Access will be maintained to all businesses and properties on SH25 along the Thames coast from north and south of the bridge.

SH25A daytime closures

Two weeks from **10 November**, Monday to Saturday. Closed each day 8am-5pm, open in the evenings under stop-go.

The 8am closure points will be at each end of SH25A, at Kōpū and near Hikau.



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Mana Wahine – Women in Law

By Georgia Makiri

Ko Moehau me Hauturu ōku
Maunga
Ko Manaia te awa
Ko Tikapa te Moana
Ko Tainui me Mātaatua ōku Waka
Ko Manaia te Marae
Ko Uri Nga Hu me Ngāti
Kiorekino ōku hapu
Ko Ngāti Maru me Ngāti Pūkenga
ōku iwi



From very humble beginnings where it all began growing up in Manaia in the bush with no power. To now, five long years studying at Te Whare Wananga o Waikato o Waikato University, I can proudly say I completed my bachelor of law with a minor in Māori and Indigenous studies in 2024. I completed my professional legal studies at the College of Law and was recently admitted to the High Court as a barrister and solicitor.

I am sharing my story in the hopes to inspire our young ones, our wahine or anyone in fact to go out there and follow your dreams! Failure is the key to success because if I had not learnt how to fail, I would not have succeeded.

Leaving school due to having my first child at the age of 14, I was constantly reminded of my failures in the eyes of society. All odds were against me – young Māori mother and uneducated, but giving up was not in my vocabulary and my whakapapa reminded me every day that I was meant for something.

To now being able to stand on my own whenua, my turanga-waewae and proudly say I faced adversity discrimination racism sexism and followed my path anyway is the most amazing feeling ever.

I am home to serve my people to help change the way the legal system views Māori and to establish changes within the system to create a better future for all our people.

My father was one of the biggest advocates for change for Māori and

although he is no longer here, I feel and hear him with every step I take, along with all my ancestors.

I currently work in employment law and love providing advocacy mediation advice and support to others. My plan now is to work on creating my own law firm. I am interested in family law, criminal law, Māori land law and Māori governance structures. I am eternally grateful for the support and love that has come from our community and I look forward to serving our community as a lawyer.



Coromandel Town Information Centre

We are looking forward to the increase in visitor numbers which we have no doubt Explore Group ferry service to and from



Coromandel three days per week, will bring. Please check out the website or pop in to see us for schedules and prices. We can book your ferry ticket or you can book via our website. Dogs on leads are welcome onboard and bicycles too. Please make sure if booking online to add these under additional information. Each ferry ticket includes the shuttle to and from the ferry and Coromandel Town.

We have new printed town map pads. We would like to thank and acknowledge our sponsors – The Pepper Tree Restaurant & Bar, Star & Garter and The Coromandel Oyster Company. Thanks so much Karen, Mike and Anne – your support is very much appreciated by all of us.

We would also like to thank the Coromandel Players theatre group and NZ on Air for their support this past year, we do receive commission from ticket sales for local events. Supporting our community events is something we like to do plus we like locals calling in so they can see what we do and what we have available. The Information Centre is here for the benefit of the whole community. This is a part of the community that is fun to support.

Don't forget to update us with community information if your group has made changes recently or you would like us to add your group to our contact list.

Check out our noticeboard or our website www.coromandeltown.nz to keep up to date with what's on offer in our community. If you wish to advertise your event, email the details to info@coromandeltown.nz or call in with the details and we can help you get "it out there" through the website and our "old school" form of communication – our blackboard outside the Information Centre in Samuel James Reserve, which we write up daily.

With summer just on the horizon, we will be extending our hours over the busy months, so keep an eye out for updates. We would ask that you encourage your visitors to utilise the Information Centre or our website when making bookings for the various attractions around the Peninsula as it is the commission we collect on these bookings that enable us to exist.

Welcome back to Sue from three months travelling through the UK – back just in time for our busy season, thank goodness.



James & Turner
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07 866 8805



COROMANDEL FISH - DIVE - HUNT



BOAT PARKING AT THE REAR OF THE SHOP - TURN BY THE FOUR SQUARE

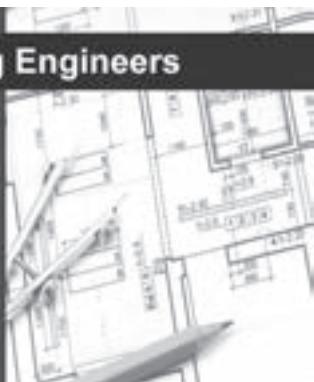
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Mahamudra Centre

Sacred art, transformative teachings, and exciting plans ahead

It's been a creative and contemplative spring at Mahamudra Centre in Colville, with another month full of inspiration, community, and practice.

October brought a special highlight – the Tsa Tsa Sacred Art Workshop, led by Matthew and Carina. Participants spent the weekend learning the ancient Tibetan Buddhist practice of creating tsa tsas: small sacred clay images that embody enlightened qualities and blessings. The workshop offered a unique combination of hands-on artistry and mindful reflection, with each step – from preparing the clay to moulding and finishing – becoming an act of meditation. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and we're delighted that Matthew and Carina will return next year to lead another of these meaningful workshops.

As November unfolds, we're looking forward to welcoming Venerable Robina Courtin back to Mahamudra for her upcoming retreat, **The Psychology of Tantra (28-30 November)**. This three-day program offers a practical introduction to the tantric approach to self-transformation – exploring how to work skilfully with our minds and emotions to reveal our innate wisdom and joy. Ven. Robina's dynamic, heartfelt teaching style makes complex topics clear, relatable, and deeply inspiring.

Meanwhile, our online Discovering Buddhism program with Venerable Thubten Khadro continues to thrive. Module Two: "How to Meditate" is currently underway, giving participants practical tools to build a stable and joyful meditation practice. Coming up next, Module Three: "Presenting the Path" begins on 12 November, offering a broad overview of the entire Buddhist path to enlightenment – from the early steps of developing compassion and renunciation to the wisdom teachings that lead to lasting peace. Whether you're new to Buddhism or deepening your study, this series provides a supportive and insightful way to explore the teachings.

Looking ahead, we're excitedly preparing for a strong summer program with Venerable Tony Beaumont, who will join us in the new year. Ven. Tony's warm presence and down-to-earth explanations have made him a much-loved teacher around New Zealand and abroad, and his upcoming retreats promise to be a wonderful way to begin 2026 with reflection and renewal.

Behind the scenes, our small team has been busy with website updates and facility improvements, making it easier for visitors and students to connect with Mahamudra both online and in person. You'll now find fresh content on our website, including new event listings, articles, and resources for study and reflection.

Travel note

If you're planning to visit Mahamudra Centre this spring or summer, please allow a little extra travel time. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is currently carrying out road improvements around the Coromandel. For live updates and detour maps, visit our Getting Here page or check CFM Roads before travelling.

For details on upcoming retreats, teachings, and how to get involved, visit www.mahamudra.org.nz – we'd love to see you here



Wild Stillness Retreats

By Beth & Vanessa

Summer Glow Women's Retreat – a time to pause, breathe, and shine

Take a deep breath and smile – it's time to glow! Join Beth and Vanessa from Wild Stillness Retreats for their annual Summer Glow Retreat, held from **26 February to 1 March 2026** at the peaceful Mahamudra Centre in Colville.



This spacious and soulful retreat invites women to pause, breathe, and reconnect with their inner radiance over 4 days and 3 nights of authentic presence. Through yoga, meditation, dance, creativity, and time in nature, participants are gently guided to explore what truly inspires them and to realign with their most authentic selves.

Each day offers nourishing practices including morning meditation and Hatha Flow yoga, evening Yin and Yoga Nidra, open dance with DJ Tiny Diva, Ayurveda-inspired wellness workshops, and creative sessions in journaling and pottery. All meals are organic and vegetarian, prepared with love to support your body and spirit.

With space for only 12 women, the retreat provides an intimate, nurturing environment for deep rest, laughter, and genuine connection – set against the stunning natural beauty of the Coromandel.

As summer begins to soften into autumn, this retreat is your invitation to glow from the inside out.

Bookings from \$820pp. For details or to reserve your space, visit www.wildstillnessretreats.co.nz or email wildstillnessretreats@gmail.com



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Tapu Sweet Louise Fundraiser

By Rosemarie Murphy

The Tapu ladies hosted a Sweet Louise Fundraiser in the Tapu Hall on Saturday 18 October.

Sweet Louise is the only charitable organisation in New Zealand dedicated to supporting women and men living with incurable breast cancer. Approximately 3,000 women and men are diagnosed with breast cancer each year.

Ladies from the Tapu Align to Go exercise group and Harley got together on Friday morning to set up the Tapu Hall and decorate it with boob posters, pink balloons and streamers ready to hold a pink morning tea for everyone.

On Saturday there were games to play (bra pong, toss the coin at the bottle and stick the nipple on the boob) with prizes of Pinky bars for the winners.

There were seven lovely raffles for seven lucky ladies to win. Many thanks to the generous people who donated raffles. One of whom was Leanne from Walter & Co, Thames – my wonderful hairdresser.

After the games there was a yummy morning tea – all provided by the women who attended.

We raised \$722 for Sweet Louise so a big thank you to all who helped and supported this event.



Coromandel Contract Bridge Club

By Judy Bronlund

Now that winter has passed, gone are the freezing days, it is so nice to be warm again. Our Monday evenings are going good with two or more tables each week. Visitors to Coromandel are most welcome to join in with us. Contact Jackie for information, we meet each Monday evening at the St John rooms.

Contact Jackie 021 061 6876

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Thames Animal Rescue

By Alice and John Parris

Firstly apologies having missed more deadlines than we wanted due to several trips to Waikato for surgeries as well as husband's back surgery in between mine. Both of us are recovering slowly, hugely grateful to all the support and home care we have been given,

The rescue kitties are very grateful for the generosity of those who have given financial and food blessings.

Over the years many ferals have come in and been tamed called tough love – meaning it's tough you are loved. Love is the bridge that has changed thousands of lost souls over the years. Our long termers still hold back on changes and strangers but another overwhelming occurrence has surfaced. A good friend of ours helps us with the unit, and with organising and taking us shopping. His love and devotion to our furbrates is incredible. Gobe, our biggest heaviest old boy, who has outside runs, has sorted friend out to such a degree, that the cat gets carried up the hill for his meals. Yes, cat sure sussed our friend out. Mascara, our cat who sits on window sill, has also made new friends with him, also our careworkers. She demands chat time, pats and cuddles. The biggest of all the day our friend stopped to chat and pat Wally. It not only put me in tears but I could not speak. Two days later I told our friend of Wally's history.

Wally came from Waihi in a litter of abused kittens. Not only did the father of that house abuse them but the kids too having learnt off dad which is incredibly sad. To gain trust is long slow process and what our friend had done was gain trust in him. Huge, really huge.

Wally sleeps with husband, the scrap begins of who has most of the pillow, no guesses who wins that one.

Despite how we are we carry on as they are in the unit with special privileges and outside during day. We will continue to keep it this way for the rest of their furry lives here.

Wanted: cat food – tinned, salmon, sachets, sardines, pet milk, kitten biscuits and toys.

Any financial blessings to Thames Animal Rescue Team 06 0457 0095150 01 with reference of where you would like us to spend the blessing.

Meow furr now.

Any enquiries to Thames Animal Rescue 07 868 2907 afternoons best

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Coromandel Independent Living Trust

Coromandel Community Van

Our van travels to Thames and back every Thursday. Door-to-door pick-ups and drop-offs are available within Coromandel town, or you can be picked up from our office at 150 Pound Street. A koha of \$15 for a return trip would be appreciated to help keep the service accessible.

Departure: 9am from the Resource Centre (150 Pound Street)

Return: 2pm from Pak'nSave, Thames

To book a seat, please contact us on 07 866 8358 or visit us at 150 Pound Street, Coromandel. Please note: The van will not be running on 30 October due to a planned road closure.

Breast Cancer Foundation's Pink Campervan is coming!

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ's Pink Campervan and specialist breast health nurses will be coming to visit Coromandel and Colville in November. Whether you have questions about mammograms, changes to your breasts, or want to know more about general breast health, the team is here to help. No appointments needed – just pop in for free breast health advice!

- Coromandel Town Centre – **Monday 17 November**

- Colville – **Tuesday 18 November**

- Coromandel (Coromandel Independent Living Trust) – **Wednesday 19 November**

For locations and dates visit www.breastcancerfoundation.org.nz/what-we-do/awareness-and-education/our-pink-campervans.

Summer hours at The Goldmine

The days are getting longer, the sun's shining brighter, and The Goldmine and Refuse Transfer Station are getting into the summer spirit! We're now open seven days a week from 8.30am to 5.30pm, so you've got even more time to drop off, recycle, and find those hidden treasures.

Te Mana Tangata Open Studios Tour

Our Te Mana Tangata team had the wonderful opportunity to explore six



Open Studios Tour



remarkable studios as part of the Open Studios Arts Tour – an inspiring day filled with creativity and learning!

We began our journey at the studio of Elisabeth Carter, before heading to Hauraki House, where we met Matilda Halley and admired a range of stunning local artworks. At Blind Creek Art Studio, screen-printing legend Pete Sephton generously shared his process and even let us try our own hand at printing cards.

Our next stop was The Workshop, where we discovered the beautiful creations of Kim and Kevin Brett and Charlene Scott. From there, we made our way to Gannet's Nest, where Kay Ogilvie introduced us to her pottery studio and kiln, showcasing her work alongside pieces by Iona Matheson. We wrapped up the tour with a visit to Paul Cornwall's studio, taking in his incredible art.

We're incredibly grateful for the opportunity to connect with such talented local artists and gain insight into the creativity that thrives in our community.

Te Puāwai – Native Plant Nursery

We've got lots of harakeke (NZ flax) ready for planting and needing to go to make room for next season's natives!

- Hardy and fast-growing
- Perfect for shelter, weaving, or landscaping
- Ideal for restoration projects or lifestyle blocks

All of our harakeke is reduced to clear, so now's the perfect time to stock up and get planting! Visit us at 100 Pound Street

during our opening hours and grab yourself a bargain. Open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am-3pm.

Employee Spotlight: Kevin Ngapo-French

By Sam Ward

Today I would like you all to meet the new big boss of CILT, his name is Kevin. Kevin is a great person to get to know. He has a lovely family. Kevin is a very kind man and very helpful. He helps us here at CILT, he checks on us and has morning meetings to help plan for the day's work. If you have any free time, come and meet Kevin and say hello!

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Patchwork & Quilters

By Sue Smith

We have a few of our members travelling overseas at the moment and look forward to their stories on their return. So, just a small group of us did another class using clothes line rope and fabrics. Thank you Sharon for revisiting this project. A variety of bowls were made and a couple of coasters.

If you are new to the area or even not so new we would love you to come along and join our group. We try and do a few small projects throughout the year and one big one. Some just do their own thing while others try it all.

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. New members welcome.

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



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Open Floor Dance with Lisa in Coromandel Town

by Lisa Corston-Blanche

Monthly Sunday Morning "Just Dance" sessions have begun! Thank you to everyone who came, and danced, and moved, and grooved. There was vigorous wild ride of life, shaking of the cobwebs dancing, and there were the subtle, quiet, soft movements and moments that open up a space to simply just be, no need to do anything or fix anyone.

I am so looking forward to our dance community growing as the months roll by, welcoming all humans who turn up on the dance floor. These are opportunities to simply be in good company with each other, familiar faces and strangers alike, without having to do anything or be anyone, we get to be just as we are. And, as summer cruises in, and life becomes even more active than how it is now, we are going to need these Sunday dances to provide us with space to press that pause, refresh and restore button, whatever that means or looks for you at the time.

My words are short and sweet this month. Just wanted to say hi! Deep gratitude for our Sunday beginnings, welcome, and if you begin to feel the call or pull to move only to the choreography that comes from within you, then see you on the dance floor soon. Know you are welcome.

Check out my website below if you would like to know more info.

Quote of the moment "Listen, with the body, to the music as if your body was the speaker" – Kathy Altman

November Tuesday Classes with Lisa: **4, 18 November** at Mana Retreat Centre, 10-11.45am, \$25 / \$20, or pay as you are able. (Also **11 & 25 November** with Pippa @pranadance)

November Monthly Sunday morning "Just Dance" with Lisa **Sunday 16 November** at Coromandel Citizens' Hall, 10.45am-12.15pm, minimal instruction.

Oh! And your first ever "Dancing with Lisa" class is free whether it be a Tuesday or Sunday, simply come up and say hi at the beginning of class.

Please note this dance space is for ages 14 and above. No alcohol/drugs.

Dance with you soon, Lisa.

If you would like to be on my email or txt reminder lists then flick me a message. My contacts: wildbonesopenfloor@gmail.com, facebook/instagram: wildbonesopenfloor, txt 021 175 4741. Otherwise see www.wildbonesopenfloor.co.nz for all other info

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Classic architectural lines! Wonderful 3brm Villa with dble garage/studio. Great decks. **\$795,000**



House plan in mind? 632m² section (Greenhills), existing plantings. Easy walk to town. **\$360,000**



So much space for kids & pets + 4 bay garaging! 3brms, open-plan living, large section. **\$775,000**



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Brilliant covered summer/winter deck, 3brms, 2 bathrms, garage, workshop & parking. **\$785,000**



SOLD



Great location within easy walk of town. 2brms plus garage. Ideal retirement or rental. **\$550,000**

Hon Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

Now that the local government elections have concluded, I want to congratulate everyone who put their hand up as a candidate.

While it can be daunting to stand for election, giving people a choice as to who represents them and the community is an essential part of democracy. Regardless of whether they were successful or not, each candidate contributed to this process by coming up with a policy platform, arguing their points, and getting people to think about what they want from local government.

I also want to thank everyone who took the time to listen or read about the candidates, and, most importantly, those who voted.

In news from Parliament, as the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs I was pleased to announce changes are coming to the Commerce Act which will modernise and improve competitive settings in our economy.

This is the first major update to the act in nearly 20 years, and key changes include a stronger, better-structured Commerce Commission, stopping unfair tactics like creeping acquisitions and predatory pricing, and clearer merger rules to give businesses certainty.

These new settings are about protecting consumers, giving small businesses a fair shot, and ensuring our economy can keep growing and innovating. The changes are reflected in amendments to the Commerce Act that will be introduced to Parliament before Christmas and passed by mid-2026.

Finally, as many local residents will know, the Boundary Creek Bridge on State Highway 25 has reached the end of its life and is being replaced. The bridge was built back in 1963 and has been reduced to one lane for a couple of years. Fortunately, work has already begun to upgrade this key transport link and make it fit for purpose and restored to two lanes.

While this replacement is needed and will be completed in time for summer, it will obviously lead to a period of disruption, most notably during the bridge's week-long closure which is scheduled to begin on **Wednesday 29 October**. During this time, detours will be via SH25A, so people should plan accordingly. No doubt the roading crew will be working to restore access as soon as they can; all we can do is wait and look forward to having the Boundary Creek Bridge fixed.



Library News

By Jasmine Strauss, Librarian

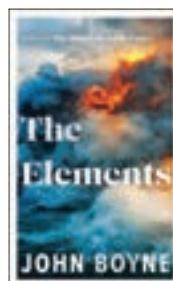
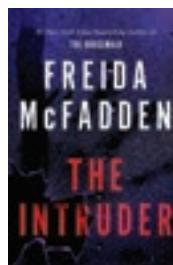
A big thank you to everyone who joined us at our recent book sale! It was great to see so many people stopping by and finding some wonderful treasures to take home. Many of the books we sold were kindly donated to us but already in our collection, or older library books that haven't been borrowed for a long time. Selling these helps us make space for the new books we get every month and the funds raised go towards supporting the library.

Speaking of new books, did you know that Carson's supplies them to us? They send us new books to choose from each month, which is fantastic. If you're ever in Thames, be sure to visit Carson's to check out their amazing collection of books.

Latest Books

Here's a sneak peek at our latest books! If you see something you like, feel free to put it on hold. These books fly off the shelves!

The Intruder by Freida McFadden



Freida McFadden is back with another gripping psychological thriller. In *The Intruder*, a stranger begins appearing at a family's home, and things quickly take a disturbing turn. It's a tense, fast-paced read with plenty of twists, just what fans of Freida McFadden have come to expect. If you enjoy a thriller that keeps you guessing, this is one to look out for.

The Elements by John Boyne

This story tells four connected stories about people dealing with guilt, pain, and hope. It's part of a set of five books we have in the library, all about how our choices affect our lives and others. If you liked the other books, you'll want to check this one out too!

What do I do with my plastic lids?

By Judy Rooney

Did you know that lids cannot go into the recycling bin? This is because they are too small to be sorted by the machinery at the recycling plant. So they have to go into the rubbish bin to go to landfill.

Solution

I have made an arrangement with The Bizarre, who will provide a bin to collect plastic lids, and I will deliver them to the Seagull Centre. Seagull Centre will

send to a recycling plant to be made into new products.

Drop-Off

At the Bizarre (during opening hours only). There will be a bin outside the door.

Please ensure that lids are clean and without liners.

Let's all do our bit to reduce waste to landfill!

Contact me for any questions
Judy Rooney 021 753 011



Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime

0800 550 330 • scottsimpson.co.nz
mpcoromandel@parliament.govt.nz
[scottsimpsonmp](https://facebook.com/scottsimpsonmp)



Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

CORO GYM

COROGYM@GMAIL.COM



Hunchie Davies 021 796 452

Excavations Landscaping Siteworks

Age Concern

New person in the Age Concern Hauraki Coromandel team

Hi – my name is Cate, and I've joined the Age Concern Hauraki Coromandel team – based out of the Thames office as the office coordinator. I'll be taking on some of the work from Jo, who has decided it's time to "retire" and spend more time in the garden and getting on with her hobbies and interests. You'll still hear from Jo when it's magazine time though!

I started in early September, just before the "Flowers for Friendship" event. It was an amazing and busy introduction to the team, and I'm what our next event with the creative community might be.

After 35 years in the corporate world based in Auckland and Wellington, I moved here in December last year to be a part of a more connected community. The summer weather alone is making the move a good choice, more chances of good weather for BBQ's. I'm looking forward to finding groups and interests – and maybe picking up a new hobby or two.



Presidents Cup Winners



Open Junior Triples Winners



Ecclestone Cup

Coromandel Bowling Club

By Judy Campbell



Combined
Clubs of
Coromandel

Our bowling season is well underway now and for

those that want to fill the calendar up even more, there are a lot of club and Thames Valley tournaments available to enter as well.

In September we held the first of our Open Optional Triples tournaments sponsored by The Top Pub – Coromandel Hotel. The winning team overall was a composite team comprising Danny Goodall, Andy McCowatt and Grant Sharpie.

We played for the Presidents Cup on the 25 September with Malcolm Stone and James Campbell taking away that trophy (see photo).

Our first tournament in October was an Open Junior Triples Tournament sponsored by Pipeline Hose Shop Coromandel. We had nine teams from around the Valley enter in that with Layke McNeil teaming up with Rodney Blakeborough and Dave Brewer to

win this overall (see photo).

On Thursday 9 October we played for the Ecclestone Cup with John Westray and Rex Peters winning the trophy and runners up were Malcolm Stone & Vi King. (see photo)

Twilight Bowls started on Tuesday 28 October with 32 teams competing overall in the five week competition. Both the 5pm and 6pm game times are full and we have six teams on a waitlist as well. This is proving to be a very popular community activity.

November sees a full calendar with another Open Tournament on **Thursday 6 November**, the playing of our Men & Women Club Champ Triples on **8/9 November**, the Coromandel Cup on **Thursday 20 November** and our Men & Women Club Champ Pairs on **29/30 November**.

Both weekends of the club champs will see some great play and you are welcome to come down and watch. Our bar will be open after play to enjoy a social drink as well.

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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Museum

By Maureen Kimber

What a great Community Opening Day for the Museum on 27 September and our thanks go to all the voluntary helpers – Kate and John, Alan and Richard, our local Band “Bits and Pieces”, Lindsay Garmson, Liz Hoskin who provided a working model of the granite quarry workings and the committee members who all made the day work so well. The Museum is presently opening four days per week from Thursday to Sunday until Christmas, when we will change to seven days a week until our winter closure. Our Volunteers’ Morning was also popular, with new people showing interest in joining our voluntary group.

The Arts Tour was a very welcome addition to the town in respect of tourists and school holidays, as was the re-opening of the Stamper Battery, and the Museum obviously benefitted from these two attractions. You may have seen the interview on Seven Sharp with Anne Marie and Ashley showcasing the Stamper Battery, so if you have never had the opportunity to visit this live piece of our history, please encourage family and friends to do so.

The “Mystery at the Museum” saga over the last few weeks reached the happiest conclusion on Saturday 4 October, with family members of the artist all gathering at Hauraki House for the unveiling of a beautiful artwork by Bev Campbell, which had been safely stored in the Museum for several years but never on display. Denise and Judy attended the morning tea celebrations on behalf of our committee, and once again we are proud to be part of showcasing our town’s history (see article to the right).

Our very successful Granite Quarry exhibition will be on display until Christmas, as is the restoration of the famed “Marj Moore” collection room, so you are very welcome to see our history come alive and not have the impression that all museums are boring. Our visitors’ book indicates that we must be doing something right in our Coromandel Town Museum!!

Have an enjoyable spring/early summer season and we will chat again in November.



Mystery at the Museum

By Angee McWatt

After many years in the planning, Beverley Campbell’s mural was finally unveiled at the Hauraki House Theatre to family and friends.

This mural was created over 50 years ago as part of the celebrations of schooling in Coromandel Town. For the last 20 years it has been kept in safe storage at the Coromandel Museum, after being donated by Karen McMillan when they began renovations to the current Star and Garter.

It was such a wonderful moment to be surrounded by my Great Aunt Beverley’s immediate family, my cousins – some I haven’t seen in a very long time – and for the younger ones it was our first meeting. It was amazing to share this special occasion in celebrating Beverley’s unique piece of artwork, and part of Coromandel’s history. Beverley’s eldest daughter Julie Catran, her children Amba, Sarah, Bentley, Fleur and their partners, and some of Bev’s many great-grandchildren were there to celebrate. My mother Lorelei McWatt and my niece Pearl were also there to support the family. Stories were shared of Beverley and her beautiful artworks, her and husband Don’s time living down Driving Creek next to Barry Brickell, and her beautiful garden.

I would like to thank Coromandel Players Theatre Group, Coromandel Museum, Karen McMillan, and John Walker, for helping me make this happen. I was truly over-come with emotion and love for my family and the amazing support I have received from the Coromandel Community.

You all will be able to see the mural the next time you come to the Hauraki House Theatre.



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Grey Power Coromandel Inc

By Patricia Whimp



The International Day for Older Persons was held by the Grey Power Mercury Bay in Whitianga on 1 October. A presentation by Resonate Health on "Deny or Defy" hearing. They have a new way of purchasing hearing aids. Check out the Grey Power Federation Magazine. Entertainment was by the Philippine community and the local church group. All visitors received a flax flower made by the OSCAR children, as well as morning tea.

The next Grey Power Coromandel newsletter has been published, and a copy can be received by email or pick up a copy from the Coromandel Library or Information Centre.

The President of the Grey Power Federation has an appointment with the Minister of Health – Simoen Brown with regards to the "Surgery Waiting List". If you are on a waiting list, there is a survey online. Survey needed to be completed by 28 October, but if you want to express that you are waiting and you missed this date, please contact the Grey Power by phone 0800 473 979 or by emailing fed-office@greypower.co.nz. The more information our President has, the better!

Grey Power Federation has been advised by GP Electricity that a "Power your Lunchtime" plan is now provided – Free Power from 12pm to 2pm daily! They have also divided up the day from off-peak, nighttime and peak times. Another reason for belonging to the Grey Power Association.

A new benefit for the Grey Power members is Carter's Tyre Services based in Whitianga. Worth checking out if you need new tyres, wheel alignment, battery replacement and more. Simply show your Grey Power membership card to receive the discount.

Grey Power Fuelcard is still a hit for Grey Power members. Members receive a substantial discount off pump price, and a tiny portion goes to the Federation to assist with advocacy to government. We have had 50+ new members to our association due to mostly the Fuelcard – thank you!

The next meeting is **Wednesday 19 November** at the Combined Clubs of Coromandel / Coromandel Bowling Club. This is our Christmas theme gathering – bring your best Christmas hat, a \$5 gift for under the tree and Christmas theme afternoon tea to share.

We look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting... Until next time, take care, be safe!

President – Brian 027 319 0172 (beeandgee@hotmail.co.nz),
Membership Secretary - Carol 021 081 66129 (carolcarson@xtra.co.nz). Treasurer – Patricia Whimp 0274 985 227 (greypowercoro@gmail.com)

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Preview of the ferry

By Debbie Morgan

On Tuesday 14 October Explore Group bought the ferry over to Hannaford's Wharf, Te Kouma. The Coromandel-Colville Business Association invited myself and others to join them. The weather cleared and we went out on a short trip around the harbour. The mood on board was positive – everyone is looking forward to this new travel option for visitors and locals alike.

Ferry services will have started by the time this November Chronicle comes out.

Please note: the prices Explore Group quote on their website are return ticket prices.



Timetable

Auckland to Coromandel		
	Auckland	Hannaford's Wharf
Friday	4.45pm	6.45pm
Saturday	9.30am	11.45am
Sunday	9.30am	1.30pm
Coromandel to Auckland		
	Hannaford's Wharf	Auckland
Friday	7pm	8.35pm
Saturday	12pm	4.10pm
Sunday	1.45pm	4.10pm

To book go to www.exploregroup.co.nz/auckland/coromandel-peninsula

~~~ GIVE A LITTLE SUNDAYS ~~~

\$12 PIZZA SUNDAYS

\$1 from every pizza is donated to a local community service.

This month:  
**Tikapa Touch**  
(Manai and Coromandel School touch team)  
New Zealand Secondary School Touch Tournament

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CONDITIONS APPLY

## Coromandel Garden Circle

By Sheana Goudie

This month we visited two gardens belonging to Linda W and Glenise R and we were treated to another fine day and beautiful gardens. These gardens were on very spacious properties and once again, the love and hard work were obvious with spring blooms, lush green growth and lots of vegetables growing in gardens.

The first visit was to Linda W's, which was a mature garden reflecting the length of time they had been there. It had raised vegetable gardens, pathways and hidden areas and a gorgeous stream where eels can be fed. The variety of plants, shrubs and trees was amazing.

A bit further up the road we had our second garden visit to Glenise R. This garden was much newer than the previous one. Another fabulous vegetable garden behind a fenced off area, every fruit tree you could



imagine and again on a larger property.

We gain so many ideas to transfer to our own gardens, so we are always appreciative of our members who open up their gardens for us to visit, get ideas and learn from.

Glenise was then kind enough to open up her home for our usual meeting with approximately 40 members attending, so this was no mean feat come afternoon tea time. Discussion was mainly around two further trips coming up and Thelma N was presented a bouquet in honour of her upcoming very, very significant birthday. She is one amazing lady! We also discussed again, the problems with pests – mainly slugs that are coming in their hundreds to feast upon our newly planted vegetables and flower plants especially with all the wet weather we have been having. After further research we have also discovered that the larger tiger slug however, is a beneficial slug for our gardens as beside feeding on fungi and other decaying matter, they do not eat the fresh green plants. They are also carnivores and feed on the other slugs that do eat our new seedlings.

The results of the competitions for October, were as follows:

Single Bloom: 1st Jill R, 2nd Glenise R, 3rd Linda W

Multi Bloom: 1st Linda W, 2nd Judy R, 3rd Thelma N

Mini Bloom: 1st Thelma N, 2nd Kelera K, 3rd= Medrina J / Sue O

Three of a kind:

## Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust

### New lottery

In a bold move to increase its funding base, the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust has launched a major new initiative and is now seeking community backing.

In conjunction with New Zealand Rescue, the Trust has ventured into a lottery as it looks to grow the resources to support delivering rescue helicopter services.

The two-tier lottery is being marketed nationally and provides a range of first-class prizes including a New Age Road Owl Caravan paired with a Land Rover Defender, and the opportunity to own a JB Motorhome 7.8 Queen.

Trust chairman, Whitianga's John Stephenson said under the two-tier approach two lotteries were running with only 6,000 tickets available for the JB Motorhome, and 10,000 tickets for the New Age Road Owl Caravan and Land Rover Defender option. Tickets from \$100.

"All ticket sales go towards supporting the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust which ensures that the life-saving emergency services remain available to people both living and visiting our wider region."

"Our latest venture enables people to support the trust and the work it undertakes with the chance of winning superb prizes."

While the trust does not operate its own helicopters it does have a hanger and base at the Whitianga Airfield. Helicopters service the region from Auckland, Waikato and the Bay of Plenty.

To purchase tickets go to [www.crhlottery.org.nz](http://www.crhlottery.org.nz)



CRHT Chairman John Stevenson (left), Trustee Lynda Pye, and Patron Walter Russell with one of the two lottery prizes

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## Coromandel Growers & Artisans Market

The market's shift to a new venue, the Anglican Church Hall and Grounds, has proven to be a good decision for the local "Coromandel Growers & Artisans Market" community market. With lots of room to expand, indoor space for café food, lovely grounds outside for more stalls and rainy weather backup, it will future proof this event for times to come.

We've had a wonderful line up of foods on offer to enjoy over the past month, to savour while at the market or to take home. On offer were whitebait fritters, mussel chowder, sushi, samosas, roti, curries, fried bread, freshly baked scones, Vietnamese rice paper rolls, gluten free breads, pretzels, pancakes, waffles, cakes galore, muffins, rawena bread, breakfast granola, chai drinks, hot chocolates, teas and coffees. Wow! Breakfast, morning tea and lunch all in one.

A range of delicious homemade chutneys, orange marmalade and the best plum jam in town, alongside the usual staples of avocados, eggs, citrus, home grown bananas, sprouts and seasonal produce are steadily available.

Locally made health products, including magnesium spray, honey balms, herbal teas and ointments are also on offer, while our massage therapist is busy meeting the demand for various treatments on the chair.

A lovely range of local honey, Artisan chocolates as well as hand-crafted items for gifts and souvenirs complete the range.

Locals and visitors enjoy the friendly atmosphere to catch up with friends over a coffee and treats, gathering around the cozy inside and outside tables to relish all that is on offer and stock up on goodies for the week.

If you haven't planted your garden for the upcoming season yet,



here is your chance to get some healthy, good looking vege and herb seedlings; November is still a good month to get them all in the ground before summer fully sets in and the ground gets too dry for planting. Try our beautiful heirloom tomatoes in all colours, green yellow and red, beans, peas, beets, capsicums, cucumber, zucchini, pumpkin, kitchen herbs and much more here.

The market team is looking forward to seeing you with us on Saturday morning from 9am to 1pm!

### Is your dog really "under control"?

Following on from his letter last month, Peter Pratt has now supplied a table to understand if your dog is under control and the reasons for "off leash" or "on leash".

| UNDER CONTROL = statutory obligation                                         | UNDER CONTROL ≠ practical reality                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Immediate recall</b> – Dog must return as soon as it's called.            | Even well-trained dogs can chase wildlife or run onto roads.          |
| <b>No Danger</b> – Must not rush at or intimidate other people.              | Even friendly dogs can knock down or frighten people.                 |
| <b>Nuisance</b> – Can't bark or harass other dogs, stock, or wildlife.       | Even a momentary chase can cause nest abandonment in protected areas. |
| <b>Predictability</b> – Owner must be confident of the dog's behaviour.      | Drive might be too strong for prey-focused dogs to resist a trigger.  |
| <b>Owner liability</b> – Responsible for any harm caused in off-leash zones. | In practice, regulation works best with on-leash as the default.      |
| <b>Implementation</b> – Some areas legally designated as off-leash.          | Many areas default to on-leash for safety, fairness and ecology.      |

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## Community Patrol

By Alexei McDermott

### Momentum builds for Community Security Patrol

Coromandel Town is moving decisively toward a more self-reliant approach to community safety, with a groundswell of support to establish both a Neighbourhood Support group and a dedicated Community Patrol.

This proactive step follows a recent community security meeting on 17 September, which saw a strong turnout of nearly 40 residents. Facilitator Alexei McDermott provided an overview of the current crime situation in Coromandel Town, which currently averages three reported low-level crimes per week. With just two community constables serving the town.

### A volunteer-driven initiative

The goal of the public meeting was to explore these security initiatives. It was highly successful, with residents actively participating. Following the public meeting, the newly formed committee wasted no time, holding its first organisational meeting on 7 October to solidify its structure and strategic plan.

### Urgent appeal: funding and patrol vehicle

To launch our patrols and deter crime immediately, our immediate priority is securing a dedicated vehicle. A high-visibility patrol car is the single most essential tool for crime deterrence, and we cannot begin operations without one.

As Community Patrols of New Zealand (CPNZ) requires new patrols to be self-funding, we have initiated a multi-pronged approach to secure the resources needed for long-term viability:

- Grant Applications: The committee is working to secure funding from trusts and community service organizations, backed by professional assistance.
- Public Donations & Crowdfunding: We are setting up a crowdfunding page and exploring local fundraising events to allow every resident to contribute directly.

We urgently need your support to secure our core resources.



Vehicle donor needed – Donate a suitable vehicle or offer a lead on one. Contact Alexei at [Alexei.tcdc@proton.me](mailto:Alexei.tcdc@proton.me)

Financial support – Donate directly to our bank account – Coro Community Network 38-9024-0242953-02 or contribute to our setup costs online – [www.pledgeme.co.nz/projects/8651-community-patrol-coromandel](http://www.pledgeme.co.nz/projects/8651-community-patrol-coromandel).

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From left to right: Back row – Mike Barton, Romilly Brickell, James Castle. Front row – Warwick Maher, Loes Beaver, Alexei McDermott

## Real Estate Matters

Q. I am very interested in a property that I have looked at. However it has a contract in place with a “cash out” clause for the vendors. My friends tell me not to make an offer as I will be wasting my time. Is it normal to proceed or should I keep looking?

This will come down to how much you really want the property.

In the current property sales climate, the market is full of these agreements with escape clauses (“cash out” is the commonly used term) in them. The reason for this is that while people are looking and wanting to move, they often have a property to sell in order to move forward. It may well be that they need to sell first in order to satisfy the lending criteria of the bank. So in short it could well be worth your while placing your offer and moving quickly to satisfy your conditions to exercise the escape clause.

In most cases, if not all, in these circumstances once the second offer is unconditional the vendor is on notice to advise the first offer to satisfy their agreement in the specified time or lose the purchase. During this time the vendor can not extend any portion of the first agreement. Often the first agreement will fall, especially if conditional to a house sale.

We are experiencing a slower market at present, termed a “buyers” market. When we are in this type of market you will find that the large majority of Sales and Purchase agreements will be conditional. As the buyers usually have time to do an extensive due diligence process, which in a faster market they may not consider taking the time to do.

Conditional to a raft of things, such as, finance, house sale, LIM reports and builder reports, or just straight due diligence clauses. These may extend from a few days to maybe several months to satisfy.

You have the choice of either endeavouring to cancel out the first agreement should it contain an escape clause, by trying to satisfy your conditions and exercise the escape clause, or by just entering into a back-up agreement, which means yours comes into position once the time frame of the prior agreement runs its natural time and comes to an end.

We are experiencing these agreements in the current market, especially in Whitianga for example, where most properties do have more than one agreement on them and the escape clauses are being exercised and the second agreement is successful.

Like any sale and purchase, it inevitably comes down to how much the two parties wish to make things work. How badly do you wish to own the property?

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



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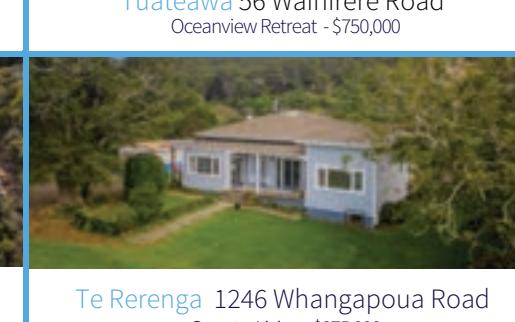
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Little Bay 973/975 Tuateawa Road  
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Te Rerenga 1246 Whangapoua Road  
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## Christ Church

From the desk of Father Andy

*“Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.” – Mother Theresa*



I've been thinking about time recently and the way that it seems to control us. We set an alarm clock for example to wake us each morning so we're not late for work. We give a significant part of our time each day to our work or else we don't get paid, the years come and go and we get older and perhaps we adapt our behaviours to match what we believe is appropriate for our age.. and once again it is November, Christmas is near and we wonder where time has gone, the year seems to slip by without us noticing.

At the beginning of last month we held a pet blessing service at Christ Church on Tiki Road, it was a lovely occasion and great to have four dogs present. Dogs like all other animals don't experience time as human beings do, they largely live for the moment although routine does have a part to play in their lives. I sometimes wish it were so for humans, to appreciate the present.

Appreciating the present isn't always an easy task though because we're so often looking forward, forward to the next thing we have to do, people to see, things to do, we necessarily fill our time and the present moment is gone.

The practice of “mindfulness” has become very popular today, it's the practice of paying attention to the present moment, including one's thoughts, feelings, and bodily sensations. It involves bringing active, open attention to “what is,” rather than dwelling on the past or worrying about the future. Mindfulness can help reduce stress and anxiety, improve focus, and boost overall wellbeing... the present moment is important!

A French priest from the eighteenth century, Jean-Pierre Caussade, wrote about what he called “the sacrament of the present moment”. He wrote that “The present moment is always full of infinite treasure. It contains far more than you can possibly grasp”.

In the Bible, Psalm 31 tells us that our times are in God's hands

and Psalm 90 tells us that a thousand years are in God's sight like yesterday when it is past or like a watch in the night. Time is so precious and we should treasure it, enjoy it and fill the time we have with goodness. A famous hymn “Jesus the joy of loving hearts” has these words in the final verse:

“O Lord, be Thou our strength and stay! Make all our moments calm and bright.”

Each Wednesday morning we open Christ Church for any who want to find a little bit of space and peace and quiet in the midst of a busy day and to appreciate the present. I call this “sacred time in a sacred place”, so perhaps if you want to find out a little more about the value of the present moment you might like to come along and join us.

Finally an appeal – we need someone to accompany the hymns on our keyboard/organ on Sunday mornings. If you can help please call me on 022 175 5684 and whether you can play or not, everyone is welcome to the service at 10am and/or morning tea at 11am in the hall. May blessings abound for you.

### Coming up

**Sunday 2 November** 10am – Remembering our departed loved ones  
**Sunday 9 November** 10am – Remembrance Day (Armistice)

## Coromandel Cancer Support Group

By John Walker

Our monthly meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 10am at the ambulance station. We have some people who come over from Matarangi which is great.

August was busy with Daffodil Day and we picked over 2,000 stems: thanks to some generous people around Coromandel. Last year the flowers were supplied by a couple in Cambridge, but this year they couldn't supply because the flowers didn't flower. We were able to supply several buckets for Matarangi and Whitianga which they appreciated. The Friday and Saturday morning we collected \$1,600, an increase from last year. Many thanks again to Chris from the Four Square for donating the healthy hamper which was won by a happy local. Daffodil Day is well recognised now as cancer affects many people and families, Te Korowai health clinic had a great display.

Funds raised help fund the Lions Lodge in Hamilton which caters for up to 74 people each night while they undertake treatment. Many thanks to all the people who donated both local people and visitors. A big thank you to our volunteers it would not be possible without you. Coromandel is a caring helpful community, may it continue.

## Himalaya shop : Colville

During November month the Himalaya shop will be open most days. Opening times will be around 10 a.m. and closing in early season sometime after 3 p.m.

If you are thinking of coming up to Colville it's probably best to phone/btx first to check if we are open that day. From 1st December we will be open 7 days.

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## Embroiderers' Guild

By Heather Arthur:

The anticipation is building for the 2025 Coromandel Embroiderers Guild exhibition opening at Hauraki House on **Thursday 6 to Sunday 16 November**.

Every year our members put forward the work they have completed over the year ... although some may have been started several years ago.

We think you will be amazed and hopefully inspired with the scope and quality of the display. Our work varies from traditional where you follow the instructions of a particular pattern to creative where a tutor will teach stitches and techniques and give you guidance to achieve your desired outcome. There are also those whose work becomes art using multimedia and ideas "outside the box".

At the exhibition there will be raffles and lots of little things to buy as well as the chance to choose the piece for Viewers Choice Award. So... who will have the most votes from this year's display? Come along and have your say! Last year's winner, Marilyn Jessen with "Under Firey Skies" also went on to win the viewers choice award in the Northern North Island Guilds' exhibition in Orewa last month. Our congratulations to Marilyn a great endorsement of her beautiful work.

This year our local member display is from Ann Walmsley which we look forward to. The guest judge for our President's Challenge is our own Coromandel felt designer Raewyn Penrose who will take us through her felting and embroidery journey. The title of the President's challenge is "inspired by William Morris".

The exhibition is the perfect opportunity should something inspire you, to consider joining our group, so please talk to our ladies to help get you on the road to create something you too will grow to love.

Our next Guild day is also the occasion of our AGM and this year we have four committee members stepping down and four new people to bring fresh ideas aboard.



A delicious Christmas lunch is served for all members after the meeting and opening of the exhibition. This is the last gathering for this year so Facebook will be resting but we will be back in February.

We meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at the Coromandel St John rooms at 10am. For more information contact Helen at [coromandelembroidery1@gmail.com](mailto:coromandelembroidery1@gmail.com)



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## Mana Retreat

Kia ora Coromandel Community,

At Mana we are continually moving through cycles of change, moving from moments of stillness to vibrant awakening. This rhythm is reflected

not only in the variety of retreats we offer but also within our team and community.

We hold deep gratitude for the love and care shared by Maria (one of our chefs) and Rata (marketing), as they embark on new adventures beyond Mana. At the same time, we warmly welcome back Tony, Rewi (maintenance and land care), and Gabriel (chef) from their journeys far and wide.

Alongside these changes in our community, our recent retreat calendar has reflected this dance of energy from the quiet grace of Auslansoul, a deaf yoga retreat, to the joyous harmonies of Tony Backhouse's singing retreat.

We were especially touched by the words of Irene Holub, founder of Auslansoul Yoga Retreats:

"As a deaf yoga teacher, I have hosted retreats in various locations across Australia and internationally. Each venue offers a unique experience, but Mana provided a particularly special and safe space for our attendees, many of whom travelled from different parts of the country and overseas. The openness and respect shown by your staff for our culture and language made us feel truly welcome and uplifted. There is a unique energy at the Mana Centre; simply walking among the trees and feeling their vibrations was incredibly uplifting and restorative for our souls. Thank you for creating such a space where we could breathe, laugh, and be truly present."

### Marketing and communications position

Please see classified ad on page 28.

### Community Open Floor Dance Classes

Upcoming dates: **4, 11, 18, 25 November, 9 December**.

Join us for a fun and expressive morning of movement. No experience needed, just come as you are and dance with us!

Time: 10-11.45am. Cost: \$25-\$20 (sliding scale).

We look forward to connecting with you soon.

Arohanui, The Mana Team

For all bookings and enquiries go to [www.manaretreat.com](http://www.manaretreat.com), 07 866 8972, [be@manaretreat.com](mailto:be@manaretreat.com), 608 Manaia Road, Coromandel

## UPCOMING RETREATS & EVENTS

Bookings: [www.manaretreat.com](http://www.manaretreat.com)

|              |                                                                 |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| OCT 31-NOV 2 | Humming with Karla Brodie                                       |
| NOV 6-9      | Silent Meditation Retreat with Amrit Saraswati and Scott Connor |
| NOV 14-16    | Relax & Wellness Weekend with the Mana Team                     |
| NOV 21-24    | The Perceptual Journey Continues - Osteo Study Group            |
| NOV 28-DEC 1 | Qi Gong Retreat with Hedwig Bakker                              |
| DEC 2-4      | Repotted with Lisa O'Neill                                      |
| DEC 5-7      | Relax & Wellness Weekend with the Mana Team                     |
| DEC 12-14    | Summer Working Bee                                              |
| DEC 15-JAN 4 | Summer Rest Period                                              |

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Open Floor Community Dance 7, 21, 28 Oct, 4, 11, 18, 25 Nov, 9 Dec  
TIME: 10:00-11:45AM

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

# rangatahi OUR CHILDREN

## Coromandel Community Preschool

By Shivawn Elliott

### Spaces available

Kia ora kotou. We currently have several spaces available on our “over two’s” side. Please feel free to pop in for a visit, pick up an enrolment pack and see if the centre is a good fit for you and your whānau. Whether you are looking for full or part time childcare, we can cater for your needs. We offer 20 ECE hours for our 3+ year olds and we also have WINZ subsidies available. Alternatively, please feel free to email us at [coropreschool@xtra.co.nz](mailto:coropreschool@xtra.co.nz) and we can email an enrolment pack through to you.

October was another great month for us here at Preschool. On Wednesday 8 October, we were invited to attend the Area School’s athletics day, where a group of Preschool tamariki joined in for a fun morning of sports and activities.

On Thursday 9 October we celebrated “Grandparents Day”. It was an awesome opportunity for the tamariki to invite their grandparents into the centre and share all the amazing things they get up to at Preschool. We finished off by singing some beautiful waiata and sharing some yummy kai. Thank you so much to the grandparents who attended and thank you to all the amazing kaiako and tamariki who organised such a special morning. Mahi tika ana!

On Wednesday 15 October, we were very fortunate to have Neville Lee from the Coromandel Fire Brigade come in and visit us with one of the Fire Trucks and talk to the children about fire safety. We then got to explore the fire truck and hear the sirens in action. This was very exciting for our tamariki! Ngā mihi nui Neville! Later in the morning we completed one of our routine fire drills.

In October we celebrated birthdays for Emily, Levi, Amelia, Kaeo and Isla. We also welcomed Avianna to the centre. Nau mai haere mai Avianna! We look forward to getting to know you and your whānau. We also farewelled Amelia who is now off to start her school adventure. Haere ra Amelia. We wish you all the best for the next part of your learning journey and we will miss having you here at Preschool.



Fire truck visit

We would like to take the time to thank everyone who supported our recent Samosa fundraiser. We are pleased to let you know that we raised \$634 and all funds raised will be going towards the artificial grass installation, as a part of our playground upgrade.

We would also like to thank Trevor and Lorraine Lang for donating the truck curtains, that we will be using to repair our safety mats. Kia ora Trevor and Renee!

We are looking forward to another great month at Preschool.

Check out our latest education review at <http://www.ero.govt.nz/review-reports/coromandel-community-preschool>.

The centre operates Monday – Thursday 8am-4pm and Friday 8am-3.30pm. We are situated at 155 Pottery Lane (Behind the Four Square) Please feel free to call in at any time for a visit



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## Colville Bay Preschool

By Emma Corner



Ka whāngai,  
 ka tupu, ka  
 puāwai  
 To nurture,  
 to grow, to  
 blossom.

Tēnā  
 koutou.  
 Here we  
 are in Term  
 Four, and  
 it's hard  
 to believe  
 we're  
 nearing the



end of another fabulous year! At Colville Bay Preschool, the days have been filled with sunshine, laughter, and learning. Our tamariki have been making the most of the warmer weather with bike rides, water play, bubble blowing, and preparing our gardens for spring planting. These hands-on experiences not only spark joy but also encourage creativity, curiosity, and care for the environment – values we nurture every day.

At the end of Term Three, we were lucky enough to join Colville School for a special ballet morning. A guest educator from the Royal New Zealand Ballet (RNZB) visited and led the tamariki through a series of fun animal-themed ballet dances, finishing with a reading of Dazzlehands by Sacha Cotter. There was so much movement, laughter and expression – the joy on the children’s faces said it all!

We’d also like to extend a huge thank you to our wonderful whānau and the wider community for their incredible mahi organising the recent curry night fundraiser at the Colville Café. It was a fantastic evening filled with delicious kai and great company. We are so grateful to everyone who came along and supported our little preschool – the food was absolutely scrummy and the aroha was felt by all!

At Colville Bay Preschool, we pride ourselves on being a warm, inclusive, and community-focused centre where every child is truly seen, heard, and valued. We follow a play-based learning philosophy, supporting tamariki to explore at their own pace, build confidence, and develop meaningful connections with others and the natural world around them.

If you’re looking for a nurturing and supportive early childhood environment for your little one, we currently have spaces available Tuesday to Friday. We’re also excited to now offer a van pick-up service from Coromandel on Tuesdays and Wednesdays – helping make preschool more accessible for busy whānau.

Visitors are always welcome, so please feel free to pop in, meet our friendly kaiako, and see what makes our preschool so special. We’re open Tuesday to Friday, 8.45am to 3.00pm, including during term breaks. We offer 20 free ECE hours for children aged three and over, and WINZ subsidies and the FamilyBoost payment are also available.

Haere mai – we’d love to welcome you into our vibrant, caring, and connected preschool whānau.

Colville Bay Preschool 2391 Colville Rd 2391. All enquiries please contact: [seniorteacher@colvillebaypreschool.co.nz](mailto:seniorteacher@colvillebaypreschool.co.nz) Or phone: 022 645 3272

## Coromandel Area School

By Tracey Adams

### Student scholarship opportunities at the Hillary Outdoor Education Centre

Our head girl Kaila Fenton was given the opportunity to spend a week at the Hillary Centre in Port Charles over the school holidays. CAS was offered a scholarship to nominate a student interested in outdoor education which made this possible. Kaila is exploring the possibility of tertiary level study to become an outdoor education instructor. Kaila and I had a chat about her experience and this is what she had to say about her experience:

I was the only student from CAS, there were seven girls all together, aged 16-18. When we arrived we were given our rooms. It was Sunday so we had the chance to settle in and chill out, most of the students didn't know anyone so we spent some time getting to know each other.

On the Monday we went over to Waikauwau and went surf kayaking. It was raining the whole day, but it was still fun. We did group challenges on the beach, that was pretty cool. We also had boogie boards so had a play on them in the surf. Later in the day we went back to Tangiaro and did some team challenges based on building trust with our other team members. One activity was we had to scale up a wall to get to the other side, we were blindfolded, it was very much about trusting your group members to guide you.

We went coasteering on Tuesday, we went to Otautu. We pumped up this massive paddle board that could take about 12 people. We paddled around to this little bay, put the board on the beach and then walked around the rocks to this spot where we could jump off the



rocks into the water. It was all about getting out of our comfort zone. For the city people getting into the ocean water isn't



From left to right: Kaila (CAS), Amelia (Hamilton), Annabelle (Auckland)

really something they do a lot. I have a massive fear of heights, so the water wasn't a problem for me, but the jumping was! But the people were amazing, everyone was supportive and encouraging.

We did a tramp on Thursday and stayed at a camp site in the bush, we slept in hammocks, I heard a kiwi! I scared the city girls by telling them pigs were going to come and eat them. One girl didn't sleep because she thought she could hear pigs, that was a bit naughty of me. I think that was the best nights sleep I had, I just feel so at home in the bush. The girls were awesome, I've made some new, and lifelong friends.

Our "night teacher" was Alex, we called him Mumma Duck. He is the one who helped me to apply for the Tongiriro course (Kaila is interested in the OE course based in Tongiriro), he wrote a reference for me. He was really cool. Our day instructor was Mikaela, she was really lovely. Because it was a holiday programme she didn't make us do things, but she was really encouraging and supported us to give things a go, particularly in getting outside of our comfort zone. It was a really good opportunity to go to a camp at the Hillary Centre.

The food was so good! We got cooked breakfast, cooked dinner, and pudding every night. And because I'm celiac I got to have a separate pudding every night because they were gluten free. They also had gluten free hash browns which I was very excited about!

For any student who gets given an opportunity like this, just because you're scared to do it, don't let that stop you, you should still do it. There's always a positive to be taken out of every experience, so take every opportunity that comes your way, it might change your life for the better!

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## 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 and participate in a wide variety of activities. Parents just fill out a membership form.

Closed public holidays.

After school: 5yrs+, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday – 3-5pm.

For 10yrs+ school term time:

Monthly Friday Night, outdoor games, **Friday 14 November, 5.30-7.30pm.**

Miniatures Game Club, Wednesdays 3-5pm, interactive games.

For more information, during open hours, call in, phone 027 217 9206 or contact us at [coromandelyouthgroup@gmail.co.nz](mailto:coromandelyouthgroup@gmail.co.nz)

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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# mahi toi ARTS

## Pastel Artists Coromandel

By Rosemarie Murphy

Pastel Artists Coromandel members have been busy in October. Saskia and I joined Rose Deane when she opened her Studio and Gallery for the Open Studios Art Tour in Coromandel this month. We were pleased to have quite a few people coming along for a look. Saskia sold a couple of paintings from Rose's Gallery and also one from Hauraki House. Rosemarie sold her Feast of Oranges painting of a Tui and some cards. All the comments were very positive and we have a few people who were



## NZTrio announce Hypnotique: the final programme in their 2025 season

NZTrio He Taonga Wairere continues to push the boundaries of chamber music with Hypnotique, a spellbinding programme that blends classical elegance, contemporary innovation, and raw emotional power. This final instalment in NZTrio's 2025 season will tour Aotearoa in November, with performances in Whangārei, Whitianga, Auckland, Dunedin, Christchurch, and Wellington.

Guest cellist Matthias Balzat joins violinist Amalia Hall and pianist Somi Kim for this tour. Matthias will officially become the trio's new permanent cellist in 2026, and Hypnotique offers audiences a chance to witness the next chapter of NZTrio's musical journey begin.



"It's been a real joy to perform with Amalia and Somi throughout the season, and I'm thrilled to officially join NZTrio as a core member next year. Hypnotique feels like a perfect way to mark that transition, it presents a diverse mix of works that challenge expectations of chamber music and I can't wait to share with audiences around Aotearoa," says Matthias.

The programme opens with a burst of energy in Lyell Cresswell's Moto Perpetuo, a virtuosic ride from one of Aotearoa's most



Winter Scene of Old Shed

interested in coming along to see what we do on Monday mornings.

To follow on from the Arts Tour we will have our Annual Pastel Plus Exhibition in Hauraki House on Labour Weekend, more on that next month.

Kyoko has done it again and gained another Merit in the Pastel Artists of NZ newsletter competition with her "Winter Scene of Old Shed". The subject was "Kiwi Shed". The judge was renowned Pastel Artist from Auckland, Michael Freeman.

His remarks were-

This painting has loads of character, from the subject through to the colours, textures (especially of the grasses) and mark making. It is also very much about the light – which is striking the branches and illuminating the front of the building and seemingly piercing through the outside window and onto the interior rear wall and also the outside fence or shed. Congratulations and well done Kyoko.

There are not many days left before Christmas when we will have our Christmas party and have a break from pastelling until February but there is still time to come along to Rose Deane's Studio to have a cuppa and check out how we do what we do.

Monday Mornings 9am-12 noon at 860 Tiki Road, Coromandel Town. Contact: Allan Beaver 07 866 8053 or Saskia Riemersma 027 296 1670

distinctive composers. French composer Gabriel Fauré's Piano Trio in D minor follows, rich with lyrical warmth and lush harmonic colour, then American composer Pascal Le Boeuf's Obliquely Wrecked fuses jazz, percussion, and electronic textures in unexpected and exhilarating ways. From across the ditch, Elena Kats-Chernin's Calliope Dreaming pays playful homage to Haydn, blurring the lines between classical tradition and modern whimsy. The concert closes with the emotional depth and romantic grandeur of Arnold Schönberg's Verklärte Nacht, in an intimate piano trio arrangement structured around the five stanzas of Richard Dehmel's haunting poem.

On Sunday 9 November – At St Andrew's by the Sea, Whitianga.

Tickets and more information at: [www.nztrio.com/event-directory](http://www.nztrio.com/event-directory)



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# Our Coromandel

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council



November 2025

## New Council line-up welcomes old and new faces

**Congratulations to all our successful election candidates who will form our new Council governance teams.**

A warm welcome to new Mayor Peter Revell who last month won the TCDC mayoralty with a final tally of 3,724 votes. Mayor Revell has announced the appointment of Councillor John Grant as Deputy Mayor, saying: "I'm excited about what we can achieve by working collaboratively across our communities, iwi partners, businesses and community organisations."



In Coromandel-Colville, Robert Ashman filled the Ward's spot on Council, with Gavin Jeffcoat, Jean Ashby and Jim Davis returning to the Community Board, alongside new arrival Kate James.

Elected members were to be formally sworn in for service at an inaugural meeting on 31 October. Watch the meeting at [tcdc.govt.nz/councilmeetings](http://tcdc.govt.nz/councilmeetings) or [youtube.com/c/ourcoromandel](https://youtube.com/c/ourcoromandel) and see the final results at [tcdc.govt.nz/votingresults](http://tcdc.govt.nz/votingresults)

## Long Bay Reserve

More than 2,100 pests have been removed and invasive weeds tackled at Long Bay Reserve and Esplanade, thanks to hundreds of voluntary hours over five years, in collaboration with our Council.



A big thank you to all involved, especially Forest & Bird Upper Coromandel, Remnant Restoration and Moehau Environment Group. Funding came from Waikato Regional Council, the Ministry for Primary Industries, Coromandel-Colville Community Board and Forest & Bird's own funds.

## 2024/25 ANNUAL REPORT

It's been a year of challenges, including rising costs and rapid political change. Despite the disruptions, we got a lot done. What did we deliver and did we meet our targets? Find out at

[tcdc.govt.nz/annuaireport2025](http://tcdc.govt.nz/annuaireport2025)



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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**Christmas and New Year deadlines are pending for:**

### Building and Resource Consents



- Resource and building consent applications submitted on or after Friday 19 December 2025 will not start being processed until Monday 12 January 2026.
- If you'd like your consent processed before Christmas, please submit your application before Friday 21 November 2025.

[tcdc.govt.nz/plan-build](http://tcdc.govt.nz/plan-build)

### LIM Requests



- Applications for standard and commercial LIMs must be submitted by Friday 5 December 2025.
- Applications received after these dates will be delivered after normal services resume on Monday 12 January 2026.

[tcdc.govt.nz/property-rates](http://tcdc.govt.nz/property-rates)

**tcdc.govt.nz**

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

## SH25 AND 25A CLOSURES

### BOUNDARY CREEK BRIDGE

Thanks to hard work behind the scenes, NZ Transport Agency is making sure the Boundary Creek Bridge seven-day closure, which was set to begin on Wednesday 29 October, will be as short as possible.

The concrete deck panels and supporting beams were prefabricated and contractors are working extended work hours during the seven-day closure. Remember, there's no through traffic allowed but you can use the detour routes marked on the map below. Please avoid the 309 and Tapu-Coroglen Roads if you're towing or driving a heavy vehicle.

Once the new bridge deck is installed, the road will reopen to single-lane traffic while finishing works are completed. By December, the state highway will be restored to two lanes and the neighbouring passing bay reinstated.

### FIND OUT MORE

[nzta.govt.nz/thames-coromandel](http://nzta.govt.nz/thames-coromandel)



### SH25A DAYTIME CLOSURES

A reminder from NZ Transport Agency that SH25A will be closed from Kōpū to near Hikuai for two weeks from 10 November, Monday to Saturday, 8am-5pm, to allow for major rebuilding at two steep sites. The 8am closure points will be at each end of SH25A, at Kōpū and near Hikuai.

# mahi toi ARTS continued

## Coromandel Open Studios Arts Tour

By Charlene Scott



### A successful two weekends celebrating creativity and community

Now that the dust has settled, it's time to pause, reflect, and thank the many people who helped make this year's Coromandel Open Studios Arts Tour such a huge success. Our 19th year was one for the record books – with over 800 visitors, record crowds at the opening night, and wonderful feedback from artists and guests alike.

The opening exhibition kicked off in style with an inspiring speech from Leo Magri of Coromind, who spoke beautifully about creativity, courage, and connection. His words set the tone for two weekends filled with art, conversation, and community spirit. The People's Choice Award went to new artist Iona Matheson for her striking bird sculpture, and three lucky visitors took home art prize packs donated by participating artists.

The Signature Hunt, introduced this year, was a huge success – encouraging visitors to explore multiple studios and connect with more artists. A large number of entrants took part, each visiting at least five studios to complete the challenge, with three lucky participants receiving vouchers to spend with their favourite artist.

Visitors came from near and far – Auckland, Taupō, Tauranga, Te Awamutu, Matamata, and across the Coromandel Peninsula – to meet artists, peek into studios, and take home a piece of the region's creative magic. The atmosphere was alive with inspiring conversations, new friendships, and happy artists.

None of this would be possible without the incredible support of our sponsors and

community. Our principal sponsor, Coromandel Richardsons Real Estate, has supported the Tour for many years, and we're deeply grateful for their continued commitment. Other generous sponsors include Coro Pies, Coromandel Fish, Hunt and Dive, Coromandel ITM, Coromandel Town Supply Brewery, Driving Creek Railway & Pottery, James and Turner, Juel, Papa Aroha Gallery, Pepper Tree Restaurant, Shelly Beach Top 10, Star and Garter Hotel, Tara's Bead Shop, The Coromandel Oyster Company, and Weta Café.

We cannot emphasise enough how vital these local businesses are to the financial viability of our event. Their generosity keeps the Tour alive and thriving – so please give them your full support. They deserve it!

We're also grateful for funding support from Creative Coromandel and the Colville/Coromandel Community Board, which helped strengthen the foundation of the event.

This year, we were thrilled to welcome Coromind as our new promotional partner. Their input was transformative – helping us reach a wider audience than ever before with professional promotion that we previously could only dream of.

Sincere thanks also to The Coromandel Town Chronicle and The Coromandel Informer for their ongoing coverage and encouragement. Their commitment to local arts and culture truly helps our creative community shine.

And of course,



heartfelt thanks go to our 33 incredible artists, who opened their studios, shared their talents, and welcomed hundreds of visitors with open arms. To everyone who came along – thank you for your enthusiasm and support. You're the reason this event continues to grow and inspire.

As we look ahead, we're already planning something extra special for next year – the 20th Anniversary of the Coromandel Arts Tour, happening on **3-4 and 10-11 October 2026**. Mark those dates in your diary now! We'll be celebrating two decades of creativity, connection, and community – with a few surprises along the way.

From all of us on the organising committee – Kim Brett, Charlene Scott, Raewyn Penrose, Vaughan Udall, Pete Sephton, Paul Cornwell, and special guest Fiona Cornwell. It was hard work... but absolutely worth it!

## Coromandel Art Group

By Lindsay Nicholls

We would like to welcome Bob to our group. It's great to have a male perspective in our chats!

He brings with him different ideas and style of work that makes our group quite diverse where we now have pastel, oils, acrylic, pencil, mixed media and 3D work artists. Something for everyone, so our annual exhibition later in January should showcase our diversity well.

Great to see Jacque again after her medical adventures!

The doors are starting to open at clubrooms with the sun and heat. Won't be long til we can paint outside for the morning.

Come join us at the Airdrome on a Thursday 9am-12pm.

Contact Lindsay 027 494 9738



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## Coromandel Players

By Debbie Morgan

The Coromandel Players took to the stage in October to perform two radio plays – Sherlock and The War Effort.

We had some new “players” on stage who stepped in late in the day to fill roles – thanks for joining us.

Thanks to everyone who came.

If you are keen to get involved in the theatre, or want to watch out for upcoming productions, then please follow us on Facebook – search “Coromandel Town Theatre Group - Coromandel Players”



## Creepy Coro Tales

The children for Coro Superstars will perform “Creepy Coro Tales” on **Friday 31 October and Saturday 1 November** at Hauraki House Theatre.

For more info and tickets contact the Coromandel Town Information Centre.

## Driving Creek Pottery Doings No. 9

By Matilda Halley

### Public talks with Māori clay artists, 2-9 November

Things are really heating up at Driving Creek as we get ready to welcome Ngā Kaihangā Uku (the Māori Clay Artists Collective) and friends from **2-9 November**. We have an amazing line up of public talks and events over the week - all low-cost or free, and open to everyone.

It kicks off with the Ngā Kaihangā Uku Presentation and Q&A on **Sunday 2 November**, 5-7pm at the Citizens' Hall (\$10 on the door). This is your chance to meet the full line-up of visiting artists, including Baye Riddell, Wi Taepa, Carla Ruka and many more.

Then, from Tuesday to Thursday (**4-6 November**), we'll have three nights of Artist Talks at the Citizens' Hall (5-7pm, entry by koha). Each evening brings a different mix of artists and ideas – from personal artistic journeys to research on kūmara, memory, and the revival of sacred clay practices. Full details on the website: [www.drivingcreek.nz/ngakaihangauku](http://www.drivingcreek.nz/ngakaihangauku).

To round off the week, the Ahi Kaa Exhibition opening takes place at Driving Creek Gallery on **Saturday 8 November** from 6pm (free entry, with kai and drinks provided). Ahi Kaa brings together work from members of Ngā Kaihangā Uku and invited friends. The exhibition honours the enduring bonds between artists and whenua and the shared commitment to keeping the creative fires burning. Join us again on **Sunday 9 November** at 11am for the Curator and Artist Talk.

This is going to be a truly special week of clay, culture, and connection. We hope to see you there!

In September, we hosted resident potters and clay artists Jenny Lange (Tāmaki Makaurau), Rosie Parsonson and Richard Darbyshire (Whangārei), Madison Cowper (Tāmaki Makaurau), painter Eve Breckenridge (US) and multimedia artist Chloe Mason (Te Whanganui-a-Tara). Full bios are on our journal: [www.drivingcreek.nz/journal](http://www.drivingcreek.nz/journal).

Thanks to all those who came to the Labour weekend pottery seconds sale. There were many bargains to be had. We hold these twice a year, at Easter and Labour Weekend, and they're a great opportunity to pick up some affordable gifts (no one needs to know they're seconds!).



## ARTIST TALKS

### NGĀ KAIHANGĀ UKU & FRIENDS

2025



MORE INFO AT [DRIVINGCREEK.NZ/NGAKAIHANGAU](http://DRIVINGCREEK.NZ/NGAKAIHANGAU)

**02 NOV** 5-7PM: NGĀ KAIHANGĀ UKU PRESENTATION AND Q&A  
COROMANDEL CITIZENS' HALL - ENTRY BY KOHA

**04 NOV** 5-7PM: ARTIST TALK WITH CARLA RUKA, KAELEB NGATAI & AMELIA BLUNDELL  
COROMANDEL CITIZENS' HALL - ENTRY BY KOHA

**05 NOV** 5-7PM: ARTIST TALK WITH RHONDA HALLIDAY, KARUNA DOUGLAS & TODD DOUGLAS  
COROMANDEL CITIZENS' HALL - ENTRY BY KOHA

**06 NOV** 5-7PM: ARTIST TALK WITH DOROTHY WAETFORD, FLEUR PALMER & MIKE O'DONNELL  
COROMANDEL CITIZENS' HALL - ENTRY BY KOHA

**08 NOV** 6PM: AHI KAA EXHIBITION OPENING  
THE DRIVING CREEK GALLERY - FREE ENTRY

**09 NOV** 11AM: CURATOR & ARTIST TALK WITH CHANTEL MATHEWS, NGĀ KAIHANGĀ UKU & FRIENDS  
THE DRIVING CREEK GALLERY - FREE ENTRY

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# mahi toi ENVIRONMENTAL

## MEG

By Steph Parkyn

It's been a while since we introduced ourselves!

Moehau Environment Group have been active in conservation for over two decades. When a small group of northern Coromandel locals first met in 2000 with the idea of "doing a bit of volunteer work to look after the environment" they never guessed that their idea would grow into Moehau Environment Group as it is today.

From the outset, our goals were to enhance biodiversity by engaging the community and doing practical work to achieve a standard of habitat restoration that would allow the re-introduction and recovery of endangered species. Now we employ a small field team to achieve the harder trapping and track clearing work, and still rely on committed volunteers to make a difference for our precious wildlife.

Today our projects include:

- 450 ha open-sided sanctuary in regenerating forest (MEGa Pest Attack) intensively trapped for multiple predator control to help our native plants and wildlife thrive.
- A mustelid trapping network over 16 000 ha for kiwi protection, stretching from around Coromandel Town to Port Charles
- Extensive possum trapping in vulnerable coastal pōhutukawa forests
- Waikawau wetland pest control and monitoring of rare wetland birds
- Tree planting and weed control programmes with the community and schools
- Backyard trapping in Coromandel Town

And every summer we hold a series of events to connect kids and adults with nature. Our Summer Holiday Programme will be launched in December so watch out for some favourite events like clay critters, kiwi night walk adventure, and our conservation display in Hauraki House from **12-14 January**.

We love the energy and excitement that our members and volunteers bring. If you think you might be interested in becoming a member or walking a stoat line and checking traps, or helping out at a weeding day, or volunteering to do some rare bird call listening, we'd love to hear from you on [info@meg.org.nz](mailto:info@meg.org.nz).

If you're new

to town or just want to know more about what we do, come along to our AGM on **Saturday 29 November** at 10am -12pm in the St John Hall, 355 Tiki Rd, Coromandel Town. All welcome.

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram, contact us at [info@meg.org.nz](mailto:info@meg.org.nz) or make a donation by visiting our website [www.meg.org.nz](http://www.meg.org.nz)



## Driving Creek Conservation Park

By Sophie Whittall and Kate James

### Students lend a hand at Driving Creek

The Driving Creek Conservation team has recently welcomed some extra help from students at Coromandel Area School. The school approached us to collaborate on an exciting new project that involves a weekly volunteer programme where students come to learn about conservation and lend a hand in our predator-proof sanctuary.

The first visit from the Student Volunteer Army was fantastic, we got to meet our group of nine students and show them around the sanctuary, and they got stuck into some mahi helping to improve our walking tracks. The students were so enthusiastic we got everything we had planned finished in record time. Shifting materials around, adding gravel to the tracks, and having plenty of fun along the way.

To wrap up the day, the students then got to check out our tree and cave wētā, our forest and green geckos, and learn a little bit about each of these species. We look forward to working with the Student Volunteer Army for the rest of the school year.



Student volunteers, Kahu (on the left) and Jed (on the right) helping in the sanctuary

## Forest & Bird

By Nicholas Conland

### Guardians of the shore: The kororā of the Coromandel Peninsula

As the sun sets over the Coromandel's golden beaches, tiny shapes begin to shuffle ashore from the waves. These are kororā, the world's smallest penguins, returning home after a long day fishing in the Hauraki Gulf. While their comical waddle charms onlookers, the lives of these little birds are anything but simple.

If you walk quietly along a Coromandel beach after dark, you might hear their soft growls or brays from areas above the beach – a reminder that even in our busiest holiday spots, wild creatures are all around us. The kororā is more than a coastal curiosity; it is a guardian of our shared shoreline and a living symbol of the fragile harmony between land, sea, and community.

The kororā, or Little Penguin (*Eudyptula minor*), stands just 25-30 cm tall. They nest all along the Coromandel coastline, in rocky crevices, sand dunes, and even under baches or homes. During the day, kororā can travel up to 25 km offshore, diving for fish, small squid, and other prey. At night, they return to their burrows to feed their chicks or rest beside their lifelong mates.

### Chicks alone on the beach

At this time of year, many kororā are raising their chicks who remain hidden in their burrows while their parents are out fishing. The chicks rely entirely on the adults' nightly return for food. This daily rhythm leaves the young birds vulnerable. While their parents are at sea, unattended chicks face threats from stoats, rats, cats, and off-leash dogs. Even human disturbance can cause stress or lead parents to abandon nests.

Coromandel Forest & Bird have found that some chicks in the Coromandel don't survive to fledging because of these pressures.

### An "at risk – declining" species

Nationwide, the Department of Conservation lists kororā as "At Risk – Declining". Around the Coromandel, colonies still exist, but their numbers are dwindling.

### How you can help

- Keep dogs leashed near beaches at dawn, dusk, and night.
- Avoid shining lights into burrows or disturbing penguins after dark.
- Report injured or stranded penguins to the local DOC office (0800 DOC HOT) or wildlife rescue.
- Join or support local predator-control and conservation groups working along the Coromandel coast.

Each effort, no matter how small, helps these charismatic little birds raise their chicks safely and continue their nightly commute from the sea.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PEARL BARRY



Some of the MEG team at a First Aid Training

# hākinakina SPORT

## Coromandel Golf Club

By Marilyn MacKenzie,  
Secretary



The spring golf season is in full swing at the Coromandel Golf Club, with plenty of exciting results and upcoming events keeping members busy both on and off the course. From championship victories to community fundraising, there's been no shortage of great golf and good spirit around the club.

### Golconda Cup 2025 – Net Competition

Congratulations to Craig Kerr, winner of this year's Golconda Cup with an impressive total of 141 (rounds of 68 and 73) over the best two of three rounds.

Just four shots behind were Ross Harper and Guy Richards, both putting in excellent performances to finish runners-up.

### Ladies Senior Matchplay Championship

Final was played on 10 October, with Jenny Coatsworth defeating Janine Kerr in a tightly contested match that went all the way to the 17th hole.

Congratulations to both players on an excellent final and a fine display of determination and sportsmanship.

### Ron Evans Memorial

On Saturday 11 October, members played for Ron's prestigious Club Jacket.



Chris Fielding, Nine-Time Senior Club Champion. Trophy presented by Men's Club Captain, Paul Lawrence

Competition for top honours was fierce, with 40 Stableford points looking like a potential winning score – until Shaun Hovell produced a remarkable round of 46 points to claim victory. That outstanding performance not only earned Shaun the Ron Evans Memorial Jacket, but also a place on the board for the best net score of 2025 (so far). A fantastic achievement – and one that Ron himself would have been proud to see.

### 2025 Men's Club Championship Finals!

Perfect weather, a stunning course, and an awesome crowd cheering on our champs!

Results: Senior – Chris Fielding Intermediate – Brian McLeod Junior – Guy Richards Junior B – Paul Lawrence

Huge thanks to all players for the great golf and sportsmanship, to Kevin and the green team of volunteers for the superb course, and to our supporters for the energy! Special shoutout to Janine for the sandwiches and cake, Peg and Max for the smoked fish and crayfish feast, and of course Men's Club Captain and Bar Manager Paul Lawrence for running another top championship – and the bar!

### Charity Tournament

The annual Charity Tournament will be held on **Saturday 8 November**, with a 10.30am tee-off. This year's chosen charity is Coromandel Area School, with proceeds supporting senior students attending Hillary Outdoors Coromandel – an opportunity that helps develop valuable leadership skills. Donations for the raffle table would be greatly appreciated and will contribute directly to this worthy local cause.

### Weekly Golf Programme

Monday – Junior Golf Programme: 3.30-4.30pm, course closed. A fun and supportive session for young golfers of all abilities.

Tuesday – Ladies Club Day: 9.30am tee-off (9 or 18 holes – Ladies & Men welcome) New to golf or never played before? Come along and give it a go! It's a friendly environment where you'll get plenty of encouragement and have some fun on the course.

Wednesday – Men's Midweek Club Day: 12.30pm tee-off (With the popular Meat Pack competition held on the last Wednesday of each month.)

Saturday – Mixed Members Club Day: 12.30pm tee-off

Affiliated visitors are always welcome on all club days.

Happy golfing.

Club carts are available for hire. Bookings are essential – call or text Marilyn on 027 253 7882



## Coromandel Croquet Club

By Raewyn McKinney

We have had some excellent days at croquet in recent weeks. The warm, sunny weather has encouraged members to come along and have a game or two.

As the summer progresses, conditions for croquet can only improve so our numbers should remain steady. Although we do play right through the year, there is no doubt that summer is a great time for the game of croquet.

Lately our greens have been looking superb, and I would like to acknowledge that this is due to the efforts of Lyn and Graham for their excellent lawnmowing, Mike for his great work servicing our lawnmower, and Daryl for doing a great job on the edges.

If you would like to try croquet, our summer hours are 9.15am on Tuesdays for "association croquet" and the same time on Fridays for "golf croquet".

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

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



## Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club

By Natalie

It's spring now and fishing inshore will improve as the water temperature increases, Snapper and Kingi's especially.

Work ups of whitebait and the early Anchovies / Pilchards will attract all the targeted table species, especially kahawai on the top and Snapper on the bottom of the workups.

Fish of the Month Winners for September were Daena Debenham - piper 0.09 and Stephen Joss – gurnard 0.545

November fish of the month for all members is kahawai, and Juniors – snapper.

Subs are due for the year 2025-2026.

It is 25 years since the Coromandel Recreational Fishing Club was started so our first competition for the year is going to reflect the best we can on that first Competition.

We would like to Thank Geoff from Laughing Frog for sorting out all the banners for this year's competitions.

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**BOAT HIRAGE** 5m Ramco Getaway. Suitable 2 persons. Day skippers certificate required. Enquire for further details. Mark 021 295 5532.

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Local clinic held every Friday at Coromandel Independent Living Trust between 9am – 3pm. ConTact C.A.R.E can help with Headaches/migraines/concussion, Back and neck pain, Sports injuries, Old unresolved injuries, Chronic and acute pain, Range of movement. To find out more or to book an appointment please contact Elly Smith on 027 311 7505.

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

## 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.

**PINK DRINKS** two hour bi-monthly lesbian and gay social gatherings. For further information phone Jules 027 392 3221.

# 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, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341.....                                       | 3-4.30pm |
| Coro Superstars, a performing arts group for 6-13-yr-olds, Anglican Hall, contact Claire 021 653 650..... | 5pm      |
| Bridge, St John rooms.....                                                                                | 7pm      |

## 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.....         | 5-6.15pm     |

## 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, Anglican Church Hall, Jeni Mudgway 021 022 75341 .....                                                               | 3-4.30pm    |
| Coromandel Tennis Club "club day" .....                                                                                            | 4.30pm      |
| Yin Yoga with Toni, Event Centre, \$10-\$20, limited spaces please txt to book a space, Toni 020 4076 1526 .....                   | 5.30pm      |
| Coromandel Pickleball, term time, Coromandel Area School gym.....                                                                  | 6-8pm       |
| 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    |

## 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 social evening at the Club .....                         | 3.30-7pm       |
| Coromandel Flying Club social gathering, all welcome .....                       | 5.30pm         |

## Every Saturday

|                                                                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Coromandel Homegrown Market, Anglican Church Hall, 1170 Tiki Rd....                    | 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  |

## Monthly

|                                                                                               |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>1st Mon</b> – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms, Michaela Green 021 0287 1879 ..... | 9.30am-3.30pm |
| <b>3rd Mon</b> – Coro Patchwork & Quilters, St John rooms, Michaela Green 021 0287 1879 ..... | 9.30am-3.30pm |
| <b>2nd Tues</b> – Cancer Support Group, St John rooms John Walker 027 482 0435 .....          | 10am          |
| <b>1st Wed</b> – 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. Jeni Mudgway 021 0227 5341 .....

1pm

**2nd Wed** – Car Club meeting at The Club, Bruce 027 249 0878.....

4pm

**3rd Wed** – Lions business meeting (winter time), St John rooms.

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

**Last Friday** – Quiz night at the Club, from Friday 26 September until next April .....

7-9pm

**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](mailto:corochronicle@gmail.com) with the subject "meeting" or txt/ph 021 235 6648. Please include contact name and phone number.

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New Listing



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New Listing



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New Listing



Enquiries Over \$770,000

### Coromandel, 33 Puriri Road

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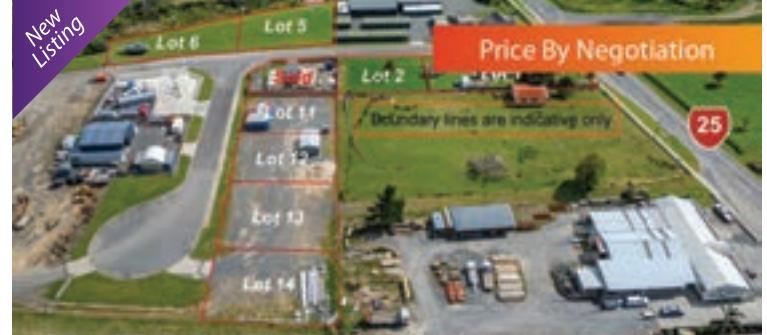


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SOLD



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# COROMANDEL RETIREMENT VILLAGE

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