

Whangamatā & Waihi NEWS

ISSUE 161 – 6 MARCH, 2026

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Pump Track World Champs rolls into town P16-17

Photos by Mark James

Beach Hop mag is here! P5



49 Year Pin awarded P9



Waihi College Athletics P18



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Four years and war still raging in Ukraine



Photo from Freepix

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine has now been raging for four years - and despite repeated attempts at peace talks brokered by the US, there appears to be no end in sight.

As the war marks the grim anniversary milestone on Tuesday, the bloody war of attrition continues, having claimed the lives of more than 15,000 Ukrainian civilians.

In the last year, Moscow has ramped up its use of drones by 200 per cent, regularly launching hundreds of strikes from unmanned aircraft.

Vladimir Putin's forces have also increasingly targeted Ukraine's

energy infrastructure, leaving millions without power or heat as they face their coldest winter in years, with temperatures as low as -26°C.

On the political stage, Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy has been forced to fight a battle on two fronts - trying to keep a volatile US president onside while also pushing back against Moscow's uncompromising territorial demands during fruitless peace talks.

Funding the war has also become a growing problem for Mr Zelenskyy, with the US cutting its aid by 99 per cent since Mr Trump returned to office in 2025.

HON SCOTT SIMPSON

MP for Coromandel

Changes coming to drivers licenses in 2027

We're making changes to the driver's licensing system which will make it easier and cheaper for young New Zealanders to get their licenses, while also keeping road safety at the forefront.

There is an extension to the learner license from six months to twelve months, giving inexperienced drivers more time for supervised driving practice. This time can be reduced back to six months if the driver completes a specified number of practice hours or an approved driving course.

The big change is the removal of the second practical test which will mean when a driver has completed their restricted licence period, they will be able to apply for their full licence without needing to sit another test.

This change, along with adjustments to learner licenses and eyesight checks, will reduce the total cost

of getting a Class 1 car license from \$362.50 to \$282.50 under the new system. That's a saving of \$80 and an easier pathway to independence for young New Zealanders.

All drivers will move on to the new system on 25 January 2027. This means people currently on their restricted licence can get their full licence without having to sit a test, if they have held their restricted for the minimum time and haven't had it extended by demerit points.

Getting a driver's license is a key milestone for most New Zealanders, and many of us still remember that feeling of freedom that being a licensed driver gave us. Making it simpler for young New Zealanders to get a driver's license is a practical change which shows that we're committed to fixing the basics and building the future of this country.

- Authorised by Scott Simpson MP, 614 Pollen St, Thames



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Scott Simpson

MP for Coromandel

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Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

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Waihi Police Report

Here's a quick update on what's been happening in our patch — the important stuff, delivered with a small smile.

Speed Changes – A Gentle Reminder

You may have noticed new speed limits around Waihi and through the Karangahake Gorge. If you haven't noticed... well, now's a great time to start.

These changes are in place to help keep everyone safe, and we appreciate drivers taking that extra moment to adjust. The Gorge scenery is beautiful — and even better enjoyed at the correct speed.

Rise in Drug Use & Drug-Related Offending

We're still seeing an increase in drug-related incidents. This isn't a trend anyone wants to see here, and we encourage anyone who needs support to reach out.

Help is available through:

- **Alcohol & Drug Helpline:** 0800 787 797
- **Are You OK:** 0800 456 450
- Local medical and community services

If something doesn't look right, trust your instincts and let us

know. It truly helps.

Vehicle Crime – Let's Not Make It Easy

There has been an increase in thefts from vehicles. Offenders are mainly after easy opportunities — so the less temptation left on the seat, the better.

Please remember to:

- Keep valuables out of sight
- Lock your vehicle, even for a short stop
- Report suspicious behaviour (the "that looks odd" moments often matter)

Turns out thieves don't have superpowers — they just like unlocked cars.

Thank You, Waihi Community

A sincere thank you to everyone who has contacted Police with information recently. Your observations, phone calls, and willingness to speak up are making a real difference.

We can't be everywhere at once — but with a community like ours, we're a whole lot closer.

– Rachel Gillingham, Community Constable, Waihi / Waikato East

Whangamata Police Report



Kids Helmets

Just a little reminder to parents to encourage your young ones to wear helmets while they're on their bikes. Some of the bikes (e-bikes) now are getting fast. It is likely they are at a level where they a NZ Drivers licence is required, but that is a topic for another day. First and foremost, safety! With some horrific injuries observed overseas, we don't want that repeated here.

Two People Arrested

A 38-year-old Whangamata male was arrested last week and appeared in the Waihi District Court, charged with wilful damage and breaching a Court order. He will appear at a later date for sentencing.

The week prior, a similar aged Whangamata male was arrested for breach of bail conditions and wilful damage. He will also appear at a later date in the Waihi District Court.

Scams

Scams still seem to be coming thick and fast. They are mostly via phone call saying your credit card or computer have been compromised. My instant advice is hang up straight

away and don't get sucked into their highly convincing conversation. Often the phone numbers appear as legitimate NZ phone numbers also.

Burglary

Still some insecure premises losing valuable items, lately from garages. Please lock up (properly) your belongings and don't give these thieves' a chance!

Speed Past School Bus

20km/h when passing a school bus loading or unloading children. Lets make an effort here please.

Crime Reporting

One last thing, Facebook is not a recognised crime reporting platform! For us to do something about something, we don't go checking Facebook for reports. 111 for urgent matters and 105 online or over the phone for non-urgent. You are also more than welcome to pop into the station Mon-Tue 10-3 or Thurs-Fri 10-3 (closed Wednesdays) to make a report.

Keep safe out there, drive sober.

– Sergeant Will Hamilton, Officer in Charge, Whangamata Police



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Community, harbour & what comes next – your BA5 update

Thank you for joining us at our recent Business After 5 – it was a wonderful evening.

Chair Patrick Kerr shared updates on several exciting initiatives, including a proposed landscape and signage plan for Port Road, gateway signage improvements north and south entrances and on SH25A, and upcoming events such as Beach Hop and Nostalgia Fair. We were also pleased to welcome Community Board Chair Mark Drury to the evening.

Harbour Care updated us on their pest control and bird monitoring work, with encouraging progress on self-resetting trap technology and a growing focus on biodiversity outcomes. The Lions Club also shared their fundraising activities and an exciting concept for a community Fun Ride.

Our guest speaker Ian Holyoake led a thought-provoking Q&A on stormwater, flooding, and harbour sediment. Using aerial mapping and locally collected samples, the discussion explored how short-term storm events and long-term sediment build-up are affecting tidal flushing, estuary ecology, and surf conditions. Flood risk modelling, LIM classifications, and the importance of long-term

master planning – particularly ahead of the 2031 discharge consent renewal – were all discussed.

There was strong consensus that these are cumulative, long-term processes – and that transparent, structured planning is essential to protect Whangamatā's environment and community wellbeing.

A special thank you to our host Norman Richards, owner of Beds*R*Us, for his fascinating demonstration of new pillow technology and for generously supplying an excellent spread of food and drinks on the evening.

Thank you again for your engagement and enthusiasm. We look forward to continuing these conversations with you.

Our Next BA5

Join us on Tuesday, 10 March at Smash Pipi. Our guest speaker, Denis Beaver, will be updating us on two of March's most anticipated events – the KickDown Festival on March 20-22 and Repco Beach Hop March 25-29. We hope to see you there!

- The Enterprise Whangamatā team
"Connecting business, community & place"

Celebrating 10 years of the brand



Whangamatā Harcourts celebrated their 10th birthday at their offices last Friday night. A wonderful evening with locals and splendid refreshments for all in attendance.

Welcomed by Bas Lennan, Manager of the Paradise Coast Realty Group office for the last year. He told the crowd "I love it here in Whangamatā, its a lot like old school New Zealand, that we will never get back. Celebrating the brand for 10 years in Whangamatā is a massive achievement, when you think of where the economy has been, businesses that come and go, the driving forces here and those also those from the Hamilton group".

Bas expressed deep gratitude to Alyce Rowe - Pauanui branch and Business Owner, Whangamatā locals, Hayley Hayward and Chris Brown, recognising their presence in our townships, and for all excelling in their roles.

Harcourts Central Regional Manager Chris Brierly said "at Harcourts we have four values, and they are: 'people first', 'do the right thing', 'be courageous' and 'fun and laughter'." He finds these qualities really shine through at the Whangamatā office, "I'm really excited to see what happens in the next 10 years here, well done team and keep up what you are doing."

- Jennie Black

CATCHES OF NOTE!

STRIPED MARLIN

Tagged & released 24/2/26
Grid: Heavy Metal Haulage
Angler: Ethan Jones
Weight: Approx 100kg
Tackle: 37kg
Boat: Te Ra
Skipper: Chris Jones



SNAPPER

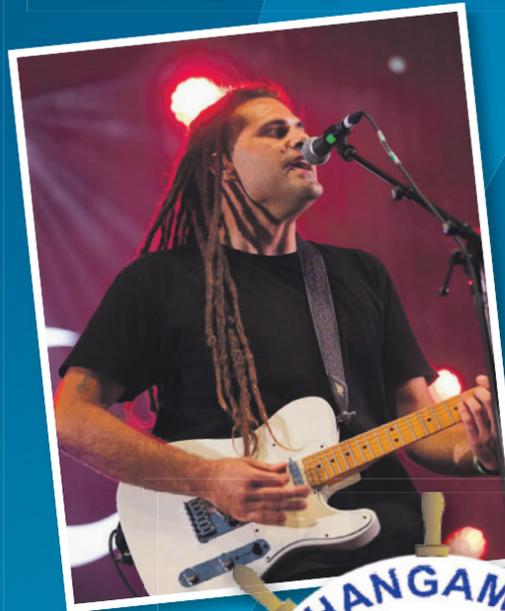
Grid: Heavy Metal Haulage
Angler: Judah Duncanson
Weight: 7.86kg
Tackle: 15kg
Boat: Te Ra
Skipper: Chris Jones

KINGFISH

Melissa Bishop Slaying x2 Kingfish
Grid: Kilwell Rotorua
Angler: Melissa Bishop
Weight: 8.72kg & 7.18kg
Tackle: 8kg
Boat: Next Contestant
Skipper: Jamie Douglas



SUNDAY SESSIONS



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END OF PORT RD AT WHARF

Repco Beach Hop 2026 magazine has arrived!

As the publisher of the infamous Repco Beach Hop programme, my small team of three, at Whangamatā News takes great pride in producing a whopping 14,000 magazines (seven pallets)!

The revenue earned from magazine sales give back to our community and emergency services every year.

With the incredible Beach Hop crew getting 1,500 entrant packs out last week, it's all coming to fruition.

We would like to thank all our advertisers, especially the local businesses that supported the publication, without you supporting this event, that supports your business, it would not go to press.

Programmes are available from over 25 outlets in Whangamatā: New World, all dairies, Info Centre, Pharmacies, Whangamata Club, RSA, Challenge Fuel, and more. In Waihi: The Underground Market, Waihi Paper Plus and the Waihi Information Centre.

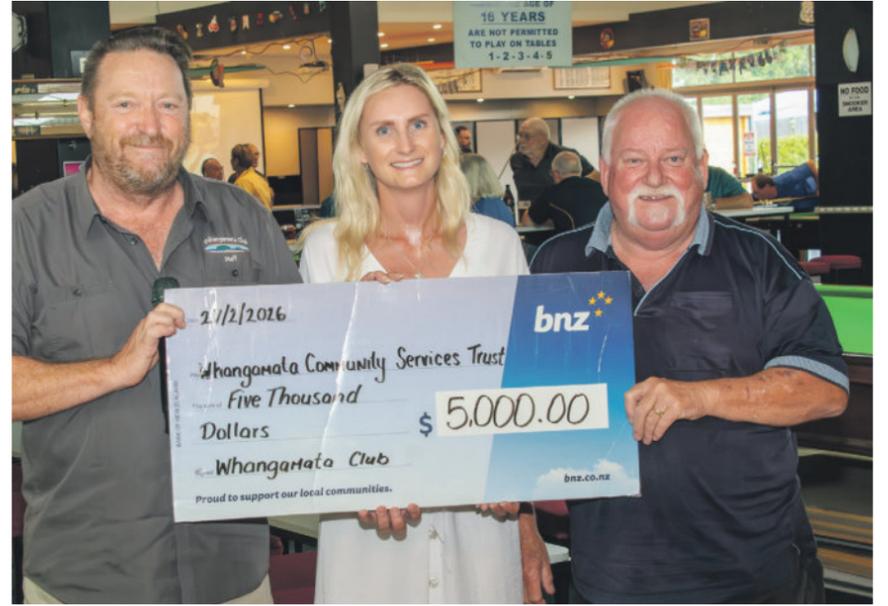
The programme is only \$5 and is the only way to win the 1967 Ford Mustang Convertible and the Harley-Davidson motorbike or the cash prize of \$10,000.

It is a cash payment system please.

- Jennie Black



Thank you Whanga Club



Mike Williams, Manager of the Whangamata Club presented an incredible \$5000 cheque to the ECST "I can't think of a more worthy group to award this to, we aim always to give a lot to the community, and thank the Community Services Trust for all that they do."

Jess Morrison, General Manager from the Eastern Coromandel Community Services Trust told us

"We are incredibly appreciative of the Whangamata Club's generous grant and for their investment into the wellbeing of Whangamatā."

"This helps us meet growing demand, continue offering practical help where it is needed most, and maintain the services that many in our community depend on."

"We are grateful to the Whangamata Club for recognising the value of this work and choosing to champion it. Community backing allows us to continue making a positive impact, and we are proud to be part of such a caring and engaged town. On behalf of our team and the many people we serve, thank you!"

- Jennie Black

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crowded trousers

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Whangamata Garden Club Dahlia Show results

Whangamata Garden Club held their annual Dahlia show this month. Even after wild and windy weather, our members turned up with some beautiful and colourful dahlias to exhibit.



We were delighted to have Amber Roberts from "Flowers and Fantails" who is a local Dahlia grower, judge the categories for us.

Winners of the varieties were:

Cactus:
1st: Marilyn Fowlie
2nd: Marilyn Fowlie
3rd: Robyn Thwaites

Pom Pom:
1st: Liz Claridge
2nd: Christine Robertson

Waterlilly:
1st: Christine Robertson
2nd: Christine Robertson
3rd: Doreen Spain

Vase of Flowers:
1st: Roselle
2nd: Jane Fowlie
3rd: Marilyn Fowlie

Other Varieties:
1st: Marilyn Fowlie
2nd: Christine Robertson
3rd: Jane Fowlie

Best in Show:
Christine Robertson

Photos by Ann Costar for Whangamatā News.

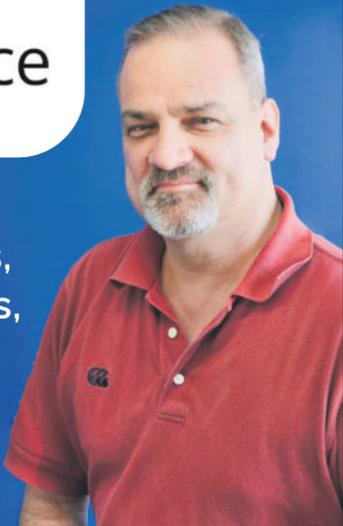



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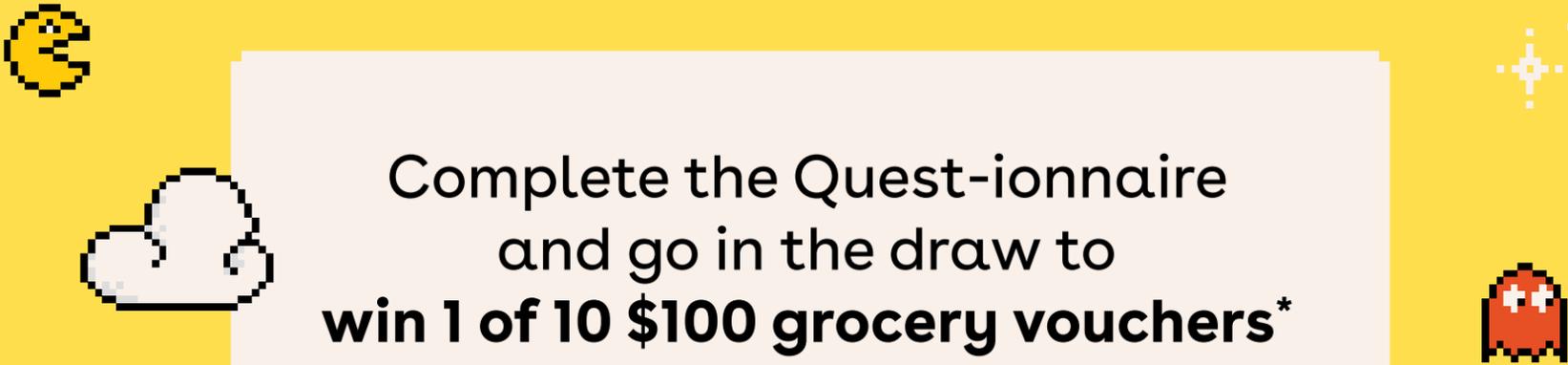
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I Fish. I Care. I Vote.



What do fish and politics have in common? Everything. Decisions made in Wellington shape our fisheries for generations. For better or for worse.

The latest glimpse at the National Party's 2026 Oceans and Fisheries Policy is underwhelming, offering little meaningful change to restore our coastal fisheries.

Without meaningful change, our slice of paradise will continue to bear the consequences of mismanagement, with more pressure on local fish stocks and more of our favourite, safe fishing spots closed off to the community.

National announced they would reverse the decision to allow five commercial ringnet (gill-net) fishers to target select species within Highly Protected Areas surrounding Kawaitu Bay, Rangitoto and Motapu Islands if they return to Parliament. This announcement seems odd considering National had the opportunity to oppose this decision during Parliamentary debates last year, but chose not to.

National also signalled that they would "consider reviewing the



trawl corridors" in the Hauraki Gulf. These proposals to restrict bottom trawling to select 'corridors' were put on hold last year by the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries, Shane Jones.

Both of these policies are a swing and a miss. An attempt to kiss and make up for the wrongs committed by their coalition partner, Shane Jones, steering the helm. A Minister outwardly supportive of bottom trawlers chugging up and down our coastline.

Preventing a couple of ring net fishers from operating in Highly

Protected Areas and making minor restrictions to bottom trawling is not enough to solve the declining abundance of some of our favourite marine species and the overall health of our marine environment.

If nothing changes, we can expect fewer fish in the water and more trawlers in our blue backyard. That affects not only the functioning of our coastal ecosystems, but also our way of life, our local economy, and the legacy we leave for the next generation.

Many locals have already noticed the shift and observed trawlers operating more often now in our favourite recreational fishing spots, even during tournaments. It's becoming more common to see a trawler working close to the shore than our neighbour surfcasting from the beach.

So, what would meaningful change look like that would benefit coastal towns like us and the marine environment?

It would take political courage to support commercial fishers transitioning away from bottom trawling in coastal waters between North Cape and Cape Runaway, known as Fisheries Management Area 1. That transition would encourage commercial fishers to adopt more selective, low-impact fishing methods, such as longlining.

Commercial catch limits for species such as snapper, trevally, kahawai and kingfish apply across this entire coastline. So if bottom trawling is only restricted within the Hauraki Gulf, fishers can simply shift their effort to the Coromandel, Whangamata and Bay of Plenty to catch their quota. This is displacement. It does not solve the problem.

Funnily enough, transitioning to longlining would also benefit the longevity of the commercial fishing industry. A healthy marine environment benefits all New Zealanders.

The LegaSea team will continue engaging with political parties on policies that prioritise long-term abundance and a fair go for future generations. Subscribe to our LegaSea newsletters to keep informed before you cast your vote this November.

Your voice and vote carry weight. It's time to stand up for policies that put the fish first.

LegaSea was established in 2012 by the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council to elevate public awareness of relevant issues and earn support by way of fundraising.

- LegaSea Opinion Piece
- on behalf of Phil Keogh

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Whangamata Harbour Birds: The Pukeko



The pukeko, also known as the Australasian swamphen or purple gallinule, is a member of the family of birds known as "Rails". This family also includes a number of other species also found in New Zealand including the Takahe, banded rail, weka and Australian coot. Its most famous cousin amongst these birds is the rare flightless Takahe (or "Notornis"), now found naturally only in the Murchison mountains west of Lake Te Anau.

Pukeko have benefitted a great deal from the clearing of land for agriculture and are widespread throughout New Zealand. Because of their relatively large size and conspicuous blue feathered chest and underparts, their bright red bill and frontal shield, long orange legs and toes and their white undertail feathers flashed at every step, there is little chance of them being misidentified. They are most commonly located foraging on swampy sheltered freshwater and semi-saline wetland habitats adjacent to open pasturelands, but are also to be found along roadside drainage ditches and the margins of shrub and forested areas.

Widespread throughout New Zealand, pukeko are particularly abundant in the North Island and the west coast of the South Island. Their Conservation Status is Partially Protected Native and are listed on the Gamebird Schedule of the Wildlife Act 1953. This allows them to be legally harvested during the duck shooting season in many areas. Where they congregate in large numbers they can be troublesome to some farming operations with damage occurring on some grain crops, garden vegetables and grassed paddocks. They aren't however a prized food item or a particularly challenging target species and there have been instances when landowners and managers have sought permission to reduce excessive numbers by controlled shoots or poisoning.

Pukeko are largely vegetarian, their

diet consisting of stems, shoots and leaves of grasses, sedges, rushes and clovers. Some animal matter is taken, including insects, spiders and earthworms.

Although pukeko are known to fly long distances and have successfully colonised many islands throughout Australasia, they are not strong flyers. When disturbed in places with ample cover they prefer to run or swim to safety, but will readily fly short distances to the nearest cover. Their take-off in such circumstances is laboured, running across the surface with rapid wingbeats, taking off with their long feet dangling and head and neck outstretched.

Pukeko enjoy all manner of mating and nesting scenarios. From monogamous pairings with well defended individual territories, to single male multiple female 1

groups, single female to multiple male groups, and even multiple male and female groups. Any of these groups may also have non-breeding helpers who share some of the incubation duties. If multiple breeding females are present, all lay in the same nest. In such circumstances the total clutch size can reach 18 eggs. Clutch size is usually in the order of 4-6 eggs per female. Male birds undertake most of the incubation duties. The eggs hatch after being incubated for about 25 days, with the chicks leaving their nests after a further 5 days. They are then fed by their parents and "helpers" for about 2 months before becoming independent.

Being a strongly territorial species, aggressive interaction between birds from neighboring groups can erupt quite frequently. This results in lengthy outbursts of posturing displays and loud screeching calls and is often followed by violent kicking and biting activity. Male birds are mostly involved in these conflicts.

- John Adams, Whangamata Harbour Care

Photo by Bevan Walker

Lions Pin presented

Ryan Brickwood attended the Lions meeting at the Whangamata Club this month to talk about his experiences at World Jamboree and on Spirit of Adventure.

Ryan shared photos and talked about how they have had a huge impact on him. He thanked the Lions for their contribution towards him attending both.

Ryan's younger siblings Adam and Chloe are currently fundraising to go to the next Scout World Jamboree in Poland. They talked to the Lions

about their fundraising for the event which is in August 2027.

Lions' President Ralph Pitcher received a 49 year pin which was presented by the Lions' secretary Mike Foley. Ralph is serving for a second year as President of the Lions.

A second award was presented to Past District Governor Lion Geoff Marsh for 30 years service both with Whangamatā Lions, his former Club, his zone and district duties.



Lions secretary Mike Foley presents pins to Ralph Pitcher & Geoff Marsh (right).



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Sediment Does Not Argue – It Accumulates

If you place a 1944 photograph of Moana Anu Anu beside a photograph taken today, the difference is obvious – even before you analyse it. What was once a wide open inlet is now vegetated with a narrow channel.

No single storm caused that change. No single decision created it. It happened gradually. It is cumulative.

To understand why, we need to look at balance.

Energy and Inputs

Every harbour operates on a simple relationship:

- How much material arrives
- How much energy removes it

Over time at Moana Anu Anu, both sides of that equation have shifted.

Land use across the catchment has increased the delivery of fine sediment and organic material. Forestry cycles, farming intensity, road building, urban runoff and marina development all influence what enters the harbour.

At the same time, changes to the inlet and surrounding infrastructure have altered how tidal energy moves through the system. When energy pathways narrow, flushing capacity changes.

Each change alone may appear manageable, and reasonable at the time.



Moana Anu Anu, Present Day. Foreground once used for water skiing. Now a vegetated state.



Moana Anu Anu, 1944. Open inlet. Broad tidal exchange. Wide water movement. In 1944, tidal water swept freely across broad sand flats. The harbour breathed with the tide.



Moana Anu Anu: the Sludge Factory, 2023. Exposed mudflat. Mangrove remnants. Narrowed channel. Elevated bed levels.

Together, they alter equilibrium.

When slightly more sediment stays behind each year than is carried away, accumulation follows.

And accumulation, repeated over decades, becomes transformation.

Open water becomes narrower flow paths.

Sand flats become raised surfaces. Vegetation establishes where depth once prevented it.

But the deeper change is ecological.

Shellfish beds that depended on clean, oxygenated sand are no longer present in previously documented abundance.

The seabed that once supported them has changed in composition and permeability.

Fish species that relied on shellfish-rich habitat and open feeding grounds are no longer supported in the areas where they were once common.

Sediment accumulation is cumulative.

So too is ecological loss.

As fine material builds year after year, the harbour's capacity to support shellfish and associated fish species reduces year after year.

The two processes move in opposite directions.

What Cumulative Really Means

Cumulative does not look dramatic from one season to the next.

It looks like:

- A slightly higher bed level.
- A slightly longer drainage period.
- A little less tidal reach.
- A gradual reduction in ecological capability.

Multiply those small shifts across 40, 60, or 80 years, and the picture changes significantly.

Our water-dominated inlet has transitioned into a sediment-dominated landscape with different hydraulic behaviour and reduced shellfish habitat.

Not suddenly. Quietly.

More Than Hydraulics

It is tempting to judge a harbour by whether it floods us.

Hydraulic performance – how efficiently water moves during a rain event – is measurable in hours.

Ecological performance – the harbour's capacity to support life – is measured across decades.

A system may convey water within

design limits while its ecological function steadily declines.

Accumulation and loss occur simultaneously; one cannot be measured without acknowledging the other.

Stewardship requires recognising both trajectories.

Stewardship

This is not about nostalgia. It is not about assigning blame to any single decision. It is about understanding interaction.

When energy pathways shift and sediment inputs increase, the harbour responds.

Sediment does not argue. It accumulates.

And over time, that accumulation reshapes not only the landform – but the ecological function that once defined it.

Understanding that cumulative interaction is the beginning of stewardship.

Because systems change gradually – until the change becomes structural.

And by then, options narrow.

– Whangamata Stormwater Action Group, Rob Boston & Ian Holyoake

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10 Mueller St, Waihi

Whangamata Clinic:
215 Aickin Road, Whangamata

Tairua Clinic:
1 Wharf Road, Tairua

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OceanaGold Update

6th March 2026



To find out more about opportunities with OceanaGold or our contractors, use the link below...



[www.waihigold.co.nz/
about-oceanagold/
careers](http://www.waihigold.co.nz/about-oceanagold/careers)

or scan this QR code



The Waihi North project ramps up

With approval now granted for the Waihi North Project, we're moving into the early stages of development, and with that comes a growing range of new employment opportunities across OceanaGold and our contracting partners.

Many more roles are also expected to be introduced in the coming months and years. These opportunities span from entry-level and support positions through to skilled operational, trade, and technical roles, creating multiple pathways for local community members and others interested in joining the mining sector.

We have a long-standing connection with the Waihi community. More than 22% of our current workforce attended Waihi College, and many of our staff contribute to local sports clubs, volunteer groups and community initiatives.

Developing local talent remains a key priority. We will continue delivering mining skills programmes for Year 12 and 13 students at Waihi College, supporting apprenticeship pathways through funded study, and running the Jumpstart driver licensing programme for both college students and the wider Waihi community.

These initiatives help remove employment barriers and equip locals with the skills needed to step into new roles as they arise.

The Waihi North Project represents a significant economic boost for the wider Hauraki District. In addition to creating new jobs, increased activity is expected to support local businesses, strengthen supply chains, and contribute to indirect employment across the region.

As the project advances, we look forward to welcoming more local people into the workforce and continuing our partnership with the community to ensure the benefits of growth are shared across Waihi and the wider district.



Correnso and Project Martha Community Meeting

March 12th

Our next Correnso and Project Martha Community Meeting will be held on Thursday the 12th of March from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

This public meeting is designed to provide an update about works in the existing Correnso and Project Martha (including Rex) mining areas undertaken since the previous meeting.

The meeting will be held in the OceanaGold Education Centre on the corner of Moresby Avenue and Savage Road. This meeting is open to the public and all are welcome. For queries on all other current or proposed projects, please visit or call the Project Information Office.



Services Trench update and State Highway 25 interruptions

Work to install infrastructure to carry water, power, and fibre optic cable between our Waihi Processing Plant at Baxter Road and company owned property at the end of Willows road, is now about 80% complete.

We're installing infrastructure to carry water, power, and fibre optic cable between our Waihi Processing Plant at Baxter Road and company owned property at the end of Willows Road, just north of Waihi.

These services will support the surface infrastructure for the Wharekirauponga Underground Mine.

The final bridge structure, which will run alongside the existing SH25 Ohinemuri River bridge, is scheduled to be lifted into place overnight on 16th and 17th of March.

This will require traffic interruptions between 6.00 pm and 6.00 am on both nights. A long stop will be in place in both directions, meaning vehicles can still travel through, but delays of 20-45 minutes are expected.

Access will be maintained for emergency vehicles if required.

We thank you for your patience while we get this work done.



For updates and more details on the Services Trench Project, visit:

www.waihinorth.info/services-trench.html



And for live SH-2 travel times and conditions, visit:

www.journeys.nzta.govt.nz



Works to begin near Gladstone Hill tracks

From early March, work will begin adjacent to Gladstone Hill to install an additional water diffuser in the Ohinemuri River, alongside our existing treated water discharge system.

Once the diffuser is in place, crews will excavate a trench and lay a new pipe connecting to our Water Treatment Plant. The work will take place in stages over several weeks, depending on weather conditions.

Due to the proximity of these activities to public tracks across OceanaGold land, we may need to temporarily manage access to the area to ensure public safety. Signs will advise of any diversions or short-term closures.

All tracks affected by the works will be reinstated once construction is complete, and there will be no ongoing access restrictions.

We encourage you to pay attention to the signage at track entrances and follow any posted diversions. We understand this is a popular recreation area and we will make every effort to complete the works as quickly as possible.

What is a diffuser, and why do we use them?

A diffuser is essentially a pipe installed in a river, with smaller openings along it that release treated water. The openings point upwards and away from riverbanks, and the pipe does not cross the full width of the river as a precaution against impacting fish migration.

Diffusers are used because they spread out treated water as it enters the river, allowing the water to mix quickly and safely with the river flow.

We have monitored water quality and aquatic life in the Ohinemuri River and its tributaries since 1981, several years before modern mining began.

Monitoring continues today at nine sites around Waihi, both upstream and downstream of our operations, including the Ratarua, Mataura, and Waitete streams and the Ohinemuri River.

More than 30 years of monitoring shows that water released from the WTP has not harmed the river's ecological health.

Investing in our host community

Sponsorships and donations approved in January

Bowentown Boating Club	Junior fishing tournament prizes	\$1,000.00
Firewood (in-kind)	Firewood for residents in need	\$6,837.68
Karangahake Public Hall Assoc.	Civil defence emergency safety equipment	\$3,400.00
Paeroa RSA & Citizens Club	Heritage building seismic strengthening	\$3,500.00
VeloSolutions	BMX comp. first aid and sound equipment	\$4,132.72
Waihi AFC	Gazebo shelter	\$3,281.26
Waihi Warriors Rugby League Club	New Junior player uniforms	\$4,000.00
	TOTAL	\$26,151.66



Sponsorship application form
www.waihigold.co.nz/sponsorship-donations



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us

Community Engagement Line: 0800 924 444 | Project Information Office: 86 Seddon St., Waihi
Email us via our website: www.waihigold.co.nz

Please note: We are not currently blasting in the Martha Open Pit. Any changes to this will be notified.



WAIHI WARM UP PARTY

for BEACH HOP 2026

Repco

Wednesday 25 March
Waihi Town Center from 10am



Beach Hop Parade

Arriving from
10.30am
Departing from
2.30pm

Register your team of 4, before 11.30 for your chance to WIN CASH prizes in the annual

Drag Race

from 12 noon. Register on the day or by email to info@gowaihi.org.nz

Best Dressed

Register before 11.30 on the day at the GO Waihi Tent outside Waihi Memorial Hall. Parade from 1pm



Waihi NEWS

Rock 'n' roll, cars and drags

“The Go Waihi Warm Up Party is almost here again — less than three weeks to go until Wednesday, 25 March, when this iconic Waihi tradition fires up for its 17th year. If you’ve been before, you’ll know the vibe: classic cars, great people, and a full day of colour and noise in the heart of Waihi.

Local and world-famous comedian Ben Hurley returns as MC again this year, keeping the laughs rolling and energy high alongside the engines. Festivities kick off from around 10:30am as 300+ classic cars and hot rods roll in from Whangamatā, followed by a stirring opening haka from Waihi College students. From there, it’s straight into the action: Drag Race competitors assemble at 12:00pm, with racing expected to begin around 12:15pm.

Then at 1:00pm, it’s time to turn Seddon Street into a runway with the Fashion Show and Best Dressed Competition — a highlight every year, and one that always brings plenty of style, creativity, and surprise.

This is a big call-out to anyone thinking about getting involved: entries are open and we need competitors for both the Drag



Race and the Fashion Show. With cash and other prizes up for grabs, there’s every reason to throw your hat in the ring — whether you’re backing your strength, your outfit, or both. Please email us your Drag Race team or Fashion Show entry at info@waihi.org.nz

On top of that, expect around 50 stalls serving a wide range of food, plus plenty of ‘50s rock ‘n’ roll

memorabilia— from T-shirts and art to cowboy hats, jewellery, and clothing.

Come and enjoy the cars, the colour, the competition and the energy — and please support our local retailers and community. We look forward to seeing you all there.”

– Photos by Mark James, Whangamatā & Waihi News



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Waihi NEWS

Pump Track World Championship qualifier incredible

Last Saturday, our very own Morgan Park pump track turned into an international racetrack as the Velosolutions UCI Pump Track World Championships Qualifier rolled into town. From 9 am, riders were at the track training with the main races taking place in the afternoon.

Riders from around Aotearoa and overseas battled it out on the

brand-new, world-class track. All chasing a spot at the finals in Beijing in October 2026.

Keep in mind, this incredible facility didn't just appear overnight. It's the result of five years of planning and fundraising by the Waihi Community Forum Charitable Trust, backed by our community, volunteers, local sponsors, OceanaGold Waihi and Hauraki District Council.

Whangamatā & Waihi News spent the afternoon at the track, soaking in the speed, the abilities, the competition, the excitement, like nothing we have ever seen before.

Enjoy our photo gallery, it was a privilege to be a part of it with an eager crowd.

- Jennie Black
photos by Mark James




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Waihi NEWS



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Waihi NEWS

Athletics day, great strength shown

A fantastic day last week at the Waihi College athletics day! 400 students were in attendance, showing support for fellow team members, incredible attitudes and talent.

The music, vibe, colours, bubbles and competitive spirit from all the participating houses. Great to see everyone trying out the traditional sports of javelin, shot put,

high jump, discus, long jump, even if it was new to the student. I can tell you I have never witnessed some of the speed running 100m and more, exceptional firsts.

We caught these great photos... This is what we love doing the most, seeing students achieving and loving sport!

- Photos by Mark James, Whangamatā & Waihi News



Kick off soon for AFC Women

Whangamata and Waihi News caught up with the women of the Waihi Womens AFC at training night on Thursday at Morgan Park.

The team is starting their 4th year in the Waikato league, and in 2024 they were promoted to 1st division. Captain Arian Toki told me that in '25 the team finished an excellent 6th with wins over some very good opposition.

There is a solid core of players but as with all sports you lose players

each season and gain some new ones, and Ariana invites any one who wants to have a go to come to training nights, 6pm Thursdays at Morgan Park.

The team is very social, with a serious side once on the pitch.

Get along, contact Waihi AFC with any queries.

Whangamata and Waihi News is happy to support Waihi AFC.

- Story & photos by Mark James



Waihi NEWS

Free Family Day part of community quest

The Western Bay of Plenty Community Quest came to Waihi Beach last Saturday - bringing an arcade-inspired adventure for family fun.

Each Community Quest event involves fun missions for adults and children to complete, trading their feedback for free food, prizes, and entertainment in a relaxed, playful setting.

It was great to see the young ones rock climbing - and I mean really high - fab food, and I was delighted to support the Karate Club fundraiser, face painting, photo booth, obstacle courses and basketball shooting, it was all going on!

Hope you made it! Thanks to our WBOPDC, the quest did not disappoint!

- Jennie Black, photos by Mark James



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CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES



Waihi Memorial RSA AGM on 21st March @ 10am

Remits and Nominations to be in by
28th February

Donna Taylor, Waihi RSA Club Manager

GARAGE SPACE WANTED

Two old bikers want a bit of garage space or similar for Beach Hop Friday & Saturday nights.

Bill, 021 962 986. Bill & June Allen.
bill-june@xtra.co.nz

Sports/Club results

500 CARD CLUB

We play every Wednesday 1-4pm at the RSA. Come along and join us.

18 February: We had 27 players.

Winner & Highest score:

Michael Paris - \$20 voucher

Runner Up:

Snow Harris - \$10 voucher

Average score:

Lyle Forsythe - \$10 voucher

Lowest score:

Dawn Styles - bar of chocolate

Raffle winner: Robyne Curd

- \$25 New World voucher

25 February:

Winner & Highest score:

Chris Hepi - \$20 voucher

Runner Up: Lloyd May - \$10 voucher

Average score:

Kathy Weir - \$10 voucher

Lowest score:

Dawn Styles - bar of chocolate

Raffle winner: Robyne Curd

- \$25 New World voucher

MAH JONG

19 February: We had 53 players with three tables of three.

1st: Sue Drury with 48 points

2nd: Jilly Witehira with 38 points

3rd: Trish Griffiths with 36 points on countback

Today's Lucky Number was 19 and was won by Rosemary Forsythe.

TABLE TENNIS

26 March: Played at the Whangamata Club. Roger Wolfe and Wayne Broome came 1st equal with 9 points, followed by Stewart Ford with 7 points and then Albert Driver with 6 points. Lots of laughs and close games.

Closure of streets to vehicular traffic

Pursuant to the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is hereby given that, the Thames-Coromandel District Council, for the purpose of the Beach Hop 2026, will close the following streets to ordinary vehicular traffic for the periods indicated hereunder.

Whangamatā

Wednesday 25 March 2026 and Thursday 26 March 2026
from 7.00am to 11.00am

- Ocean Road closed from Lowe Street to Williamson Road
Resident access maintained through closure points

Friday 27 March 2026 no road closures

Saturday 28 March 2026
from 7.00am to 5.00pm

- Port Road closed from Ocean Road to Hetherington Road

AND

from 10.20am to 5.00pm

- Port Road closed from Hetherington Road to Tuck Road

An approved copy of the Traffic Management Plan including road closure maps may be requested from Thames-Coromandel District Council.

A Lawrie

Chief Executive

Thames-Coromandel District Council



tcdc.govt.nz

BAYLEYS

NEW LISTING



Whangamatā 617B Harbour View Road

It's always better when we're together

Just moments from the boat ramp and backing onto the reserve, this three-bedroom home offers the perfect holiday base or easy-care permanent living.

Set on 459sqm (more or less), there's ample off-street parking, study nook, large balcony and double garage, ensuring space for family and guests. From early starts on the water to evenings by the fire, this is a home where life is simply better together.

bayleys.co.nz/2221587

459_{sqm} 3 2 2

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 26 Mar 2026

96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

View by appointment

Paula Kirkman 021 029 08007

paula.kirkman@bayleys.co.nz

Karl Davis 027 496 4633 karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

MH REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



NEW LISTING



Whangamatā 137 Patuwai Drive

Claim your slice of waterfront paradise

Positioned right on the water's edge, 137 Patuwai Drive commands a majestic estuary front-row setting, where calm waters and ever-changing tides create a truly captivating backdrop. Protected by the stunning reserve directly in front, the serene, uninterrupted outlook is secured - a view that will remain forever. Step outside your front door to the estuary and immerse yourself in this natural playground. Swim, kayak, paddle board, or simply savour the changing colours of sunset dancing across the water. Set on a generous 670sqm (more or less) site with a substantial 160sqm (more or less) home, this is a property rich in scale and scope. The home has been lovingly enjoyed by four generations of one family and is thoughtfully designed for casual living, while also presenting significant opportunity to renovate or further develop to truly capitalise on this exceptional waterfront position.

bayleys.co.nz/**2221568**

4 2 6

For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty

12pm, Wed 25 Mar 2026

501a Port Road, Whangamatā

View by appointment

Jerry Waddington 027 314 0707

jerry.waddington@bayleys.co.nz

M H REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

NEW LISTING



Whangamatā 109 Pacific View Drive

Owners relocating - Quality and views

Elevated and beautifully executed. Built by renowned Coromandel Homes, this substantial 218 sqm (approx.) circa 2021 residence sits on a fully developed, easy-care site. The design delivers modern comfort with a practical, future-focused layout suited to permanent living, professional couples or families seeking space without compromise. The heart of the home is a generous open-plan kitchen and living area that flows effortlessly to an expansive deck, creating a seamless connection between indoor comfort and outdoor entertaining. The kitchen is well-appointed with quality appliances and a butler's pantry, ensuring both functionality and style. A hydraulic lift enhances accessibility. With an immense internal-access garage with excellent storage and an additional toilet/basin adds further practicality. The ocean and surrounding views will dazzle you without doubt.

With the owners relocating, this is a compelling opportunity to act with confidence.

bayleys.co.nz/**2221592**

621sqm 3 2 2

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 2 Apr 2026

96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

View by appointment

Dale Sholson 021 636 519

dale.sholson@bayleys.co.nz

Gordon McGregor 021 998 810

gordon.mcgregor@bayleys.co.nz

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Best 'en Blanc' picnic in the park

Thank you to everyone who came along to Enterprise Whangamatā's Lunch en Blanc.

This year's event was proudly supported Whangamatā Harbourcare.

It was a great way to spend the afternoon - meeting new people,

enjoying beautiful weather and a picnic like no other!

A big thank you to Sally and the team at Enterprise Whangamatā for bringing it all together, proudly donating a \$600 cheque to Lyn Norris of Harbour Care Whangamatā.



The Lunch En Blanc \$600 cheque handover.

Whangamatā Tides 2026

MARCH 2026											
☾ New Moon: 4 th ☀ Full Moon: 19 th											
Date		High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Sun rise	Sun set
		AM		PM		AM		PM			
6	Fri	10:04	2.0	22:28	1.9	3:44	0.3	16:13	0.3	07:03	19:50
7	Sat	10:45	1.9	23:09	1.9	4:27	0.4	16:54	0.4	07:04	19:48
8	Sun	11:25	1.9			5:10	0.4	17:34	0.4	07:05	19:47
9	Mon	11:50	1.8	12:04	1.8	5:51	0.5	18:14	0.4	07:06	19:46
10	Tue	0:32	1.8	12:44	1.8	6:34	0.5	18:55	0.5	07:07	19:44
11	Wed	1:16	1.7	13:27	1.7	7:18	0.6	19:38	0.5	07:08	19:43
12	Thu	2:04	1.7	14:13	1.7	8:06	0.7	20:25	0.6	07:09	19:41
13	Fri	2:56	1.7	15:03	1.6	8:58	0.7	21:17	0.6	07:10	19:40
14	Sat	3:51	1.7	15:59	1.6	9:52	0.7	22:12	0.6	07:11	19:38
15	Sun	4:47	1.7	16:56	1.6	10:48	0.7	23:08	0.6	07:12	19:37
16	Mon	5:40	1.7	17:53	1.7	11:42	0.6		0.6	07:13	19:35
17	Tue	6:30	1.8	18:46	1.7	0:01	0.6	12:33	0.6	07:14	19:34
18	Wed	7:17	1.8	19:36	1.8	0:51	0.5	13:22	0.5	07:15	19:32
19	Thu	8:03	1.9	20:25	1.9	1:40	0.4	14:09	0.4	07:16	19:31
20	Fri	8:49	2.0	21:12	2.0	2:27	0.4	14:56	0.3	07:17	19:29
21	Sat	9:35	2.0	22:00	2.0	3:14	0.3	15:43	0.3	07:18	19:28
22	Sun	10:22	2.0	22:48	2.0	4:02	0.3	16:30	0.2	07:19	19:26
23	Mon	11:10	2.0	23:38	2.0	4:51	0.3	17:18	0.2	07:20	19:25
24	Tue			12:00	2.0	5:43	0.3	18:08	0.2	07:20	19:23
25	Wed	0:31	2.0	12:53	1.9	6:37	0.4	19:01	0.3	07:21	19:22
26	Thu	1:28	1.9	13:49	1.9	7:34	0.5	19:57	0.4	07:22	19:20
27	Fri	2:28	1.9	14:49	1.8	8:34	0.5	20:57	0.4	07:23	19:19
28	Sat	3:31	1.9	15:54	1.8	9:38	0.5	22:00	0.5	07:24	19:17
29	Sun	4:33	1.8	16:58	1.8	10:41	0.5	23:03	0.5	07:25	19:15
30	Mon	5:33	1.9	18:00	1.8	11:42	0.5			07:26	19:14
31	Tue	6:29	1.9	18:57	1.8	0:03	0.5	12:39	0.5	07:27	19:12

APRIL 2026											
☾ New Moon: 17 th ☀ Full Moon: 2 nd											
Date		High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Sun rise	Sun set
		AM		PM		AM		PM			
1	Wed	7:20	1.9	19:48	1.9	0:58	0.4	13:30	0.4	07:28	19:11
2	Thu	8:07	1.9	20:35	1.9	1:48	0.4	14:17	0.4	07:29	19:09
3	Fri	8:51	1.9	21:19	1.9	2:35	0.4	15:01	0.4	07:30	19:08
4	Sat	9:33	1.9	22:00	1.9	3:19	0.4	15:42	0.4	07:30	19:06
5	Sun	9:13	1.9	21:40	1.9	3:00	0.5	15:22	0.4	07:31	19:05
6	Mon	9:51	1.8	22:19	1.9	3:41	0.5	16:00	0.4	06:32	18:03
7	Tue	10:30	1.8	23:00	1.8	4:22	0.5	16:38	0.5	06:33	18:02
8	Wed	11:10	1.8	23:42	1.8	5:03	0.6	17:18	0.5	06:34	18:01

Waihi Beach Tides 2026

MARCH 2026											
☾ New Moon: 19 th ☀ Full Moon: 4 th											
Date		High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Sun rise	Sun set
		AM		PM		AM		PM			
6	Fri	9:59	2.0	22:23	1.9	3:39	0.3	16:08	0.3	07:03	19:50
7	Sat	10:40	1.9	23:04	1.9	4:22	0.4	16:49	0.4	07:04	19:48
8	Sun	11:20	1.9			5:05	0.4	17:29	0.4	07:05	19:47
9	Mon	11:45	1.8	11:59	1.8	5:46	0.5	18:09	0.4	07:06	19:46
10	Tue	0:27	1.8	12:39	1.8	6:29	0.5	18:50	0.5	07:07	19:44
11	Wed	1:11	1.7	13:22	1.7	7:13	0.6	19:33	0.5	07:08	19:43
12	Thu	1:59	1.7	14:08	1.7	8:01	0.7	20:20	0.6	07:09	19:41
13	Fri	2:51	1.7	14:58	1.6	8:53	0.7	21:12	0.6	07:10	19:40
14	Sat	3:46	1.7	15:54	1.6	9:47	0.7	22:07	0.6	07:11	19:38
15	Sun	4:42	1.7	16:51	1.6	10:43	0.7	23:03	0.6	07:12	19:37
16	Mon	5:35	1.7	17:48	1.7	11:37	0.6		0.6	07:13	19:35
17	Tue	6:25	1.8	18:41	1.7	11:56	0.6	12:28	0.6	07:14	19:34
18	Wed	7:12	1.8	19:31	1.8	0:46	0.5	13:17	0.5	07:15	19:32
19	Thu	7:58	1.9	20:20	1.9	1:35	0.4	14:04	0.4	07:16	19:31
20	Fri	8:44	2.0	21:07	2.0	2:22	0.4	14:51	0.3	07:17	19:29
21	Sat	9:30	2.0	21:55	2.0	3:09	0.3	15:38	0.3	07:18	19:28
22	Sun	10:17	2.0	22:43	2.0	3:57	0.3	16:25	0.2	07:19	19:26
23	Mon	11:05	2.0	23:33	2.0	4:46	0.3	17:13	0.2	07:20	19:25
24	Tue			11:55	2.0	5:38	0.3	18:03	0.2	07:20	19:23
25	Wed	0:26	2.0	12:48	1.9	6:32	0.4	18:56	0.3	07:21	19:22
26	Thu	1:23	1.9	13:44	1.9	7:29	0.5	19:52	0.4	07:22	19:20
27	Fri	2:23	1.9	14:44	1.8	8:29	0.5	20:52	0.4	07:23	19:19
28	Sat	3:26	1.9	15:49	1.8	9:33	0.5	21:55	0.5	07:24	19:17
29	Sun	4:28	1.8	16:53	1.8	10:36	0.5	22:58	0.5	07:25	19:15
30	Mon	5:28	1.9	17:55	1.8	11:37	0.5			07:26	19:14
31	Tue	6:24	1.9	18:52	1.8	11:58	0.5	12:34	0.5	07:27	19:12

APRIL 2026											
☾ New Moon: 17 th ☀ Full Moon: 2 nd											
Date		High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Sun rise	Sun set
		AM		PM		AM		PM			
1	Wed	7:15	1.9	19:43	1.9	0:53	0.4	13:25	0.4	07:28	19:11
2	Thu	8:02	1.9	20:30	1.9	1:43	0.4	14:12	0.4	07:29	19:09
3	Fri	8:46	1.9	21:14	1.9	2:30	0.4	14:56	0.4	07:30	19:08
4	Sat	9:28	1.9	21:55	1.9	3:14	0.4	15:37	0.4	07:30	19:06
5	Sun	9:08	1.9	21:35	1.9	2:55	0.5	15:17	0.4	07:31	19:05
6	Mon	9:46	1.8	22:14	1.9	3:36	0.5	15:55	0.4	06:32	18:03
7	Tue	10:25	1.8	22:55	1.8	4:17	0.5	16:33	0.5	06:33	18:02
8	Wed	11:05	1.8	23:37	1.8	4:58	0.6	17:13	0.5	06:34	18:01

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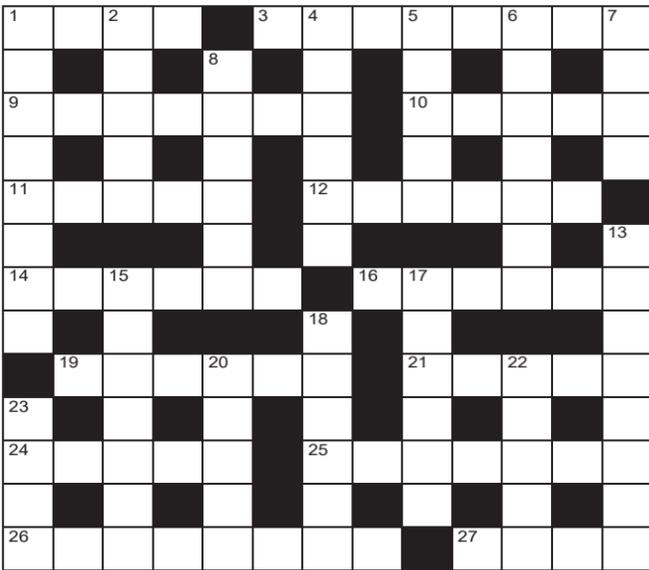
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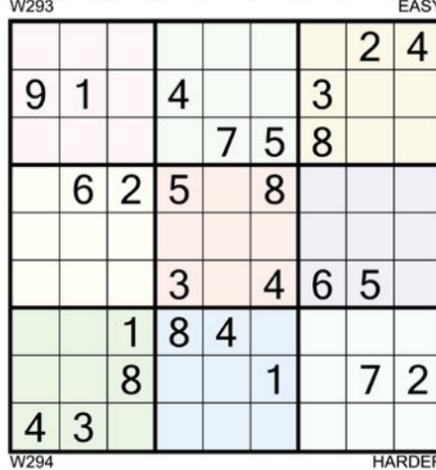
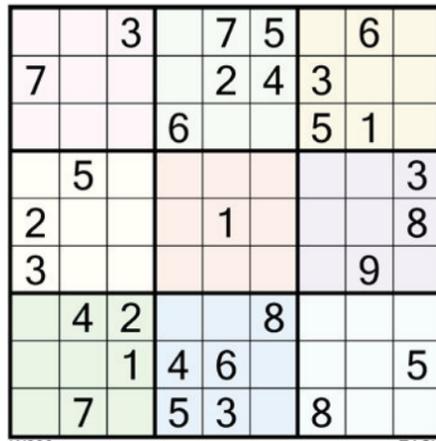


- Across**
 1. Shove (4)
 3. Sharply defined (5-3)
 9. Pillage (7)
 10. Possessor (5)
 11. Incompetent (5)
 12. Dally (6)
 14. Underling (6)
 16. Person who dies for a cause (6)
 19. Underground chamber (6)
 21. Hold tightly (5)
 24. Exterior (5)
 25. Authentic (7)
 26. Spread or diffuse through (8)
 27. Begrudge (4)
- Down**
 1. Molecule (8)
 2. From that time (5)
 4. Probable (6)
 5. Fruit of the oak (5)
 6. Vanity (7)
 7. Pleasantly sharp-tasting (4)
 8. Idle gossip (6)
 13. Prediction (8)
 15. Section of a book (7)
 17. Climb (6)
 18. Chess piece (6)
 20. Spooky (5)
 22. Foreign (5)
 23. Circular band of metal (4)

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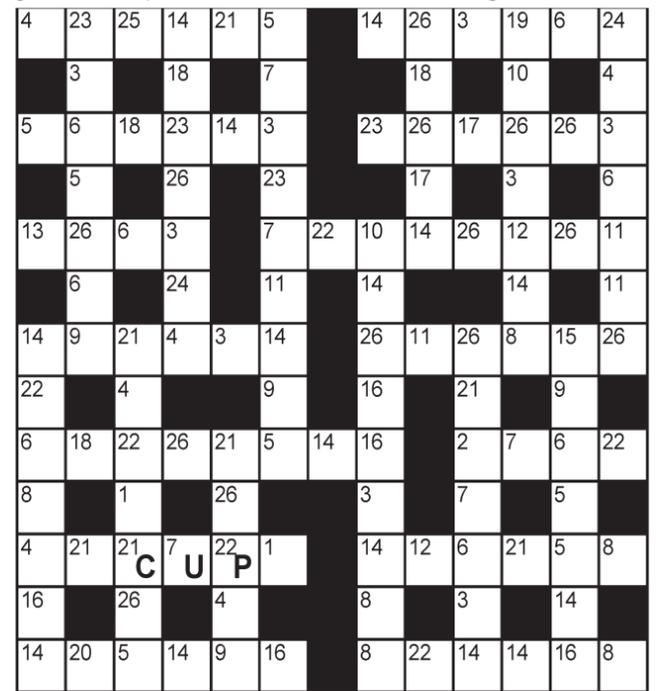
SUDOKU

Fill the grid so every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9



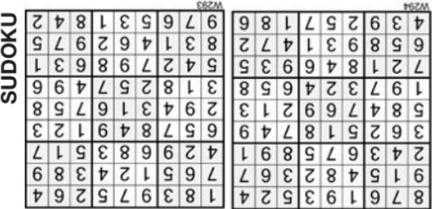
DECODER

Each number below represents a different letter. Find the correct letter for each number by working out the word from the letters given. To keep track, cross the letters off on the grid below.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13													
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26													

SOLUTIONS



DECODER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
U																									

CRYPTIC

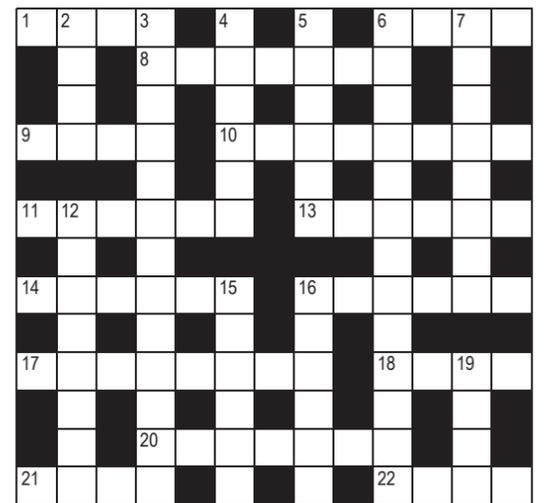
- Across:** 1. Soar, 6. Acts, 8. Ermises, 9. Peru, 10. Three ply, 11. Ethnic, 13. Embark, 14. Scrimp, 16. Rhymes, 17. Cookbook, 18. Iced, 20. Traduce, 21. Arks, 22. Sent.
Down: 2. Ogle, 3. Return tickets, 4. Emetic, 5. Entree, 6. Assembly lines, 7. Toll-free, 12. Tick over, 15. Prozac, 16. Rake up, 19. Elan.

CROSSWORD

- Across:** 1. Push, 3. Clear-cut, 9. Ransack, 10. Owner, 11. Inept, 12. Linger, 14. Lackey, 16. Martyr, 19. Cavern, 21. Clasp, 24. Outer, 25. Genuine, 26. Permeate, 27. Envy.
Down: 1. Particle, 2. Since, 4. Likely, 5. Acorn, 6. Conceit, 7. Tart, 8. Tattle, 9. Picture perfect so return to the country (4), 10. Some wood for Hank? (5,3), 11. Related to the racial characteristic of Elizabeth, Nicholas & Anne (6), 13. Break camp, leave cap and set out on new journey (6), 14. The old wall covering and piano are kept to be frugal (6), 16. Read homophones you may easily spot initially (9), 17. Instructions for chef you have to reserve (8), 18. Police dog gets frozen (4), 20. Slander at crude mistake (7), 21. Boats made partly of shark skin (4), 22. Reportedly a cheap sort of delivery (4).

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- Across**
 1. Inspire with height (4)
 6. Plays a Bible part ... (4)
 8. Rinse me out fur for coat (7)
 9. Picture perfect so return to the country (4)
 10. Some wood for Hank? (5,3)
 11. Related to the racial characteristic of Elizabeth, Nicholas & Anne (6)
 13. Break camp, leave cap and set out on new journey (6)
 14. The old wall covering and piano are kept to be frugal (6)
 16. Read homophones you may easily spot initially (9)
 17. Instructions for chef you have to reserve (8)
- Down**
 2. Flapless flagpole – have a look! (4)
 3. What you need to come back and get a refund (6,7)
 4. Most leave committees because they make you sick (6)
 5. Part of the assortment re-eaten at the restaurant (6)
 6. They are found in the factory and at school (8,5)
 7. They can't ring any money out of you, by the way (4-4)



- 12.** Get the big OK on the motor report when you hear it run (4,4)
15. Zap orc for antidepressant (6)
16. Produce leaves from nowhere? (4,2)
19. The enthusiasm found in freelancing (4)

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