



PARADISE COAST

# Whangamatā

ISSUE 82 - 16 DECEMBER, 2022

# NEWS

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## The wizardry of 200 performers

P16-17

**These are just some of the countries globally with ongoing conflict... Spare a thought at Christmas.**



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**HOME DELIVERED TO WHANGAMATA**

# Welcome to the second December 2022 edition of Whangamatā News

- a magazine By Locals, For Locals, About Locals

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Whangamatā NEWS</b>  |  | <a href="http://www.WhangamataNEWS.nz">www.WhangamataNEWS.nz</a>   |
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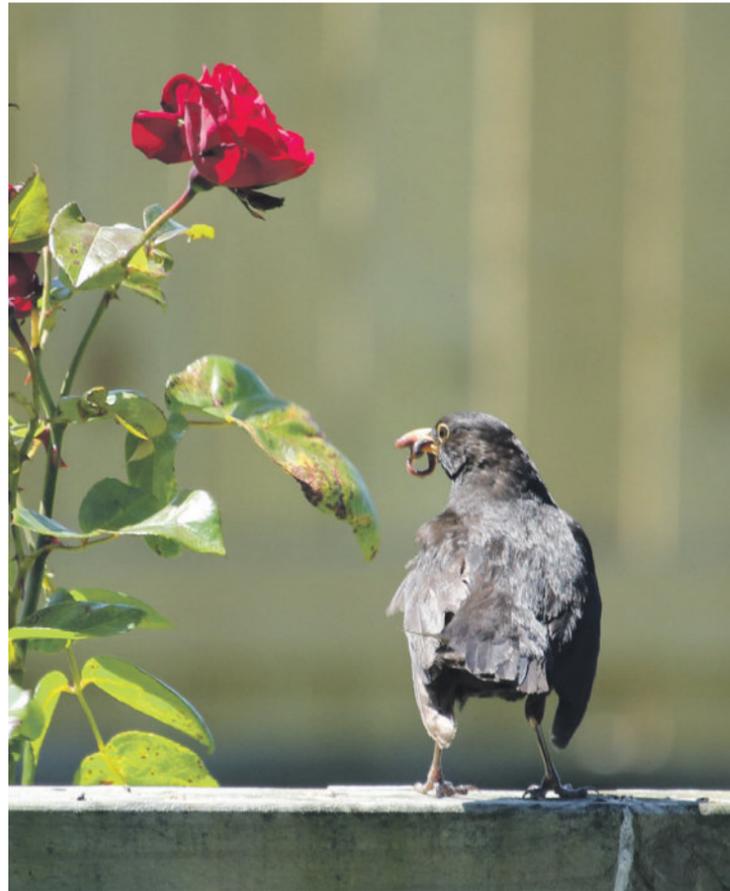
## We welcome your letters, articles, photos, news tips and advertising enquiries.

- We ask that articles be no more than 250 words, although exceptions can be made.
- Photos should be high resolution and in focus.

For editorial / photographic matters, phone Jennie on 021 0232 1661 or email WhangamataNews@gmail.com

## For advertising queries contact Jennie Black

Editorial/Sales Director  
Ph 021 0232 1661  
jennieablack@gmail.com



Whangamata local Brian Pittams sent us a fabulous shot of the blackbird nesting on his deck.

**Hon Scott Simpson**  
Member of Parliament for Coromandel

# Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

Whangamatā is set for another stunning summer and the festive season is a great time to share our part of the world with our families and friends, who look forward to returning year after year.

When people hear 'Coromandel' they immediately think about the classic Kiwi holiday and the fun to be had at our world-renowned beaches. Our communities really come into their own during the peak tourism season. We certainly get a kick out of seeing everyone enjoying our backyard.

Beyond the natural attractions, there will be plenty of terrific local summertime events to support and I can't wait to get around the Peninsula and catch up with everyone.

The Christmas and New Year break is also a time to reflect on the past year and prepare for the challenges ahead in 2023. Unfortunately, it looks like we will continue to grapple with a cost-of-living crisis and mortgage holders may be in for a particularly tough time.

And in terms of politics, 2023 is going to be jam-packed as we head for a general election and the Government attempts to push through the last policies on their agenda.

Merry Christmas and enjoy a well-deserved break with family and friends.

*Authorised by Scott Simpson MP,  
614 Pollen Street, Thames*

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|------------------------|---|
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| <b>MONDAY - FRIDAY</b> | 6.00am - 9.00am<br>11.00am - 12.00pm<br>3.00pm - 5.30pm |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>        | 7.00am - 9.00am<br>11.00am - 5.30pm                     |

**Scott Simpson**  
MP for Coromandel

Season's greetings to all and a warm welcome to visitors to our region.

There will be plenty of summer community events taking place and I'm looking forward to attending lots of them. I hope to see you there!

0800 550 330  
[mpecoromandel@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:mpecoromandel@parliament.govt.nz)

Funded by the Parliamentary Service.  
Authorised by Scott Simpson, 614 Pollen St, Thames.

# Addressing the housing & worker accommodation crisis

**The housing crisis, affordability and accommodation for workers is a national issue with many factors causing this - from rising property prices, lack of housing stock and stagnant wages. I'm acutely aware that it's a problem in our district - including Whangamatā.**

In my term as Mayor, affordable housing and options for accommodation for workers is a major focus.

Our first priority will be to support and facilitate the work done by companies and community groups already engaged in this area. Working more effectively alongside our communities, iwi and businesses from the ground up. We've entered a time when the traditional models of single family homes might not be the right answer for today's environment. COVID isolation, combined with inflationary pressure on house prices, fuel and general living costs has combined to change the way we live and work.

The expectation that once COVID was over, people would return to the office hasn't happened. Our homes became our offices (and classrooms) in many cases.

For many people in the Coromandel district, the challenges of travel and distance has meant a shift to more Zoom meetings and less time in the office. The shortages of suitable housing, particularly in the



**Len Salt, newly elected Mayor.**

Thames area, has also meant people travelling as far as Ngatea, Paeroa and even South Auckland to find accommodation. It means that the "working from home" pattern, for at least a few days a week is likely to continue.

With the rising costs of land and house construction, many people are looking for alternative designs to the traditional "three bed, two bath, garage" style home. A house with a self-contained unit allows for extra income, either as a rental to help with the mortgage or as separate accommodation for whanau and extended family. New papakāinga (housing) designs are being actively developed by iwi builders and developers. These community housing models might be a solution to some of the social issues driving youth offending today. Young people disconnected from

their wider whanau, isolated from aunties, uncles, grandparents and often trying to fend for themselves at home is a common theme. Those involved in the area of youth and crime intervention are acutely aware that the traditional housing models that we've been using for many years in New Zealand/Aotearoa do not provide the oversight and support of the wider whanau that is needed to ensure a safe and stable environment for young people at a critical time.

As a Council, we operate in a defined legislative and regulatory framework. Our delivery of core services is around zoning/planning and infrastructure. However, the need for finding innovative and different housing solutions around our district has become so critical that it needs urgent attention.

I've been visiting many parts of our district and finding examples of housing opportunities and worker accommodation are being developed in adaptive ways. North of Coromandel Town at Harataunga, an iwi collective is developing a sustainable and economically viable base for the combined whenua and whanau into housing and employment opportunities. In Mercury Bay, the Hot Water Beach Top 10 have been enabled to provide short-term accommodation for workers in this area.

In Whangamatā, Deputy Mayor Terry Walker and myself have met with Moana House to support their bid for more staff accommodation, vitally important to house new nurses and support staff arriving soon. We're also in discussions with other landowners around the town on a variety of options for providing short-term solutions for summer.

We're actively building stronger collaborations with agencies and stakeholders regionally and nationally to provide a compelling case for more support from central government to address the need.

At a national level, we've reached out to other Councils, like Queenstown Lakes, that have set up an independent not-for-profit, community owned organisation to develop community housing as part of the upzoning processes for land - to see if that's a model that can be emulated here in our District.

We're open to doing things differently, piloting initiatives and learning from agencies and communities about what has been successful to get workers into short-term accommodation and families into affordable homes.

**If you have ideas, have land that could be used for development or short-term accommodation - or have short-term accommodation property - I'd love to hear from you. [Len.salt@tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:Len.salt@tcdc.govt.nz)**

**We Wish You a Merry Christmas**

To all our valued clients - have a safe & blessed Christmas with family and friends! Hope to see you soon! - Cindy, Terri & Donna

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# Enough is enough!

**“We want action now, we deserve better”**

Whangamatā News caught up with Pratik Patel, owner of Slipper Superette, in Whangamatā, regarding a protest staged on Port Road following the funeral in Auckland of young dairy worker Janak Patel, who was fatally stabbed outside the Rose Cottage Superette, Sandringham, Auckland in late November.

Beyond sadness, it's tragic. A young man lost his life. How do we prevent this? What's the guarantee that this is not going to happen again?

We wanted to hear how our local owners and managers felt, and their view on how to handle such a horrible possibility - not just for these businesses, but all businesses that can be targeted.

Pratik tells us “The government's suggestion of a fog cannon (vaporises in the air to create heavy fog) and security in stores isn't enough. An intruder comes in armed with weapons, and what can the store staff do? Retailers need some sort of freedom, they need an emergency bell to the police station, could that work? The Auckland Police told dairy owners to let intruders do what they are going to do and workers should get out of there, leave the shop”.

Find an exit and just leave, but, as Pratik tells us, when you leave, you



From left to right are: Prem Patel, Harish Patel, Nirav Trivedi, Ajay Shah, Pratik Patel (Patrick), Dilan Patel, Rudra Patel, Hitesh Patel, Krutika Patel. The stores they run are Slipper Superette, Achilles Store, Coin Save, Chilli Cove and Whangamata Food Market.

are leaving your own property, it is through fear. The criminals come to the store, suss out cigarettes, vapes and return, even having the offenders on CCTV cameras is not enough to prosecute.

When asked if Pratik felt shop owners should be armed, he said “No, what's needed is much harsher penalties and consequences upon sentencing. There are 5.1 million people living in New Zealand and 3000 people living in a small town experiencing this, it's a big problem.

As a business owner, no one wants their wife or children running the business, if the head of the family is away on a buying trip for goods. The worry of leaving family alone in the store is a real concern. I asked him about using mace as a defence (that is illegal as is tear gas and some animal repellents), he said there is no time to act for these sorts of solutions.

You don't have a chance, it could only be a couple of minutes during the raid...

*It's unlikely in my view that an emergency bell to a police station is viable, but what about a piercing alarm going off outside and inside the store with a decibel so loud the offender would leave immediately?*

**I welcome reader support in Whangamatā, what is your community solution?**

*- Jennie Black,  
Editor Whangamatā News*



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 Thur 29 Dec ..... 10am - 4pm  
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# Fire Report

The year has been busy for our volunteers with 120 calls to date which exceeds last year's 106 total. Medical calls again are the majority with weather-related incidents second. Other calls make up the remainder.

With the holidays and new year approaching we have made preparations to assist where required. Some simple steps can help you reduce risks, such as

checking smoke alarms, monitor your young ones, travel at safe speeds, follow fire restrictions and respect those around you.

This allows everyone to enjoy what our great part of New Zealand has to offer.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable Christmas period.

- Chief Fire Officer Nigel Airey



The winner of our annual raffle is Whangamatā resident Rowdy who won a \$500 New World and a \$100 Bunnings voucher in our annual raffle. Without our local businesses support we do struggle to upgrade equipment.

Thanks also go out to all the people who have bought tickets.

**Pictured: Presenting the prize is DCFO Jim Barker, left, Rowdy centre, with Ricky Bowen, Manager of Whangamata New World.**

# Police Report

Hello Whangamatā, it has seemed recently that summer is on its way with some cracker sunny days and increasing temperatures... bring it on!

The Christmas Parade was a great success, which was followed by the Food bank collection the next day, so well done to everyone involved with them both.

As the silly season rapidly approaches, 'teenagers and alcohol' is a timely topic for this time of the year.

There are things you can do to help reduce alcohol-related risks for your teenagers. Remember, not drinking alcohol is the safest option, but here are some other things to bear in mind;

**1) Delay:** Most teenagers obtain alcohol from a parent, caregiver or family member. Research shows the younger you begin drinking, the more likely you are to drink harmfully later in life.

**2) Small Amounts:** Teenagers have a lower alcohol tolerance. If you decide to supply alcohol to your teenager, only give small amounts and favour low-alcohol drinks. Those rocket-loaded 7% RTDs or a bottle of spirits are not good options.

**3) Talk Openly:** Encourage an open and honest dialogue about alcohol and drugs, and set some clear boundaries and expectations.



**4) Supervise:** Consider an alcohol-free party if teenagers are present. An adult will need to actively supervise if you serve alcohol. If your teenager is at a party where alcohol is being served, the adult hosts must have your explicit consent to supply them with alcohol. Know where your teenagers are and what they are doing if they are going to drink, and remember the old adage that 'nothing good happens after midnight.'

**5) Driving:** The alcohol limit for anyone aged under 20 is zero. If your teenager drinks and drives, they can be charged. Breath testing will be stepped up in the area as the Christmas-New Year period approaches.

I would add most of this advice wouldn't go amiss for some of our young at heart as well.

Enjoy and stay safe out there,

- Acting Sergeant Jeff Waldron

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# Christmas carols in Santa's grotto at the RSA

The countdown to Christmas is on; Santa Claus is coming to town - our town. He's heading straight for the RSA's Christmas Tree Grotto where he will be welcomed to a rousing selection of Christmas carols by the Whangamata Carols in the Park singers.

This year, the RSA Christmas Grotto will again be held in the small hall at the Memorial Hall. The Whangamata Christmas in the Park carol singers will entertain on Thursday, Friday and Saturday 15, 16 and 17 December, while the Grotto will be open from 5pm to 7pm each night, the carol singers will entertain from 6pm to 6.30pm each night.

So, put the dates in the diary to visit the wonderland of the RSA's Christmas Tree Grotto where the carol singers will ring in the festive season with lots of old favourites and plenty of new ones. You and the littlees can have a chat to Santa while you're there!

### Dates for the family diary:

**15, 16 & 17 December, 6-6.30pm**  
RSA Christmas Grotto at Memorial Hall.

**23 December (Friday), 7pm**  
Christmas Carols at Onemana Reserve.

**24 December (Saturday), 7pm**  
Christmas Carols at Williamson Park, Whangamatā.

Join with your Community to enjoy the biggest, brightest and happiest start to Christmas 2022.

For further information contact Sandy Snook:  
email [smsnook12@gmail.com](mailto:smsnook12@gmail.com)  
or phone 021 113 8446.

And, of course, you can enjoy the beautifully decorated, brilliantly lit Christmas trees that make for a magical fairyland experience.



## Christmas generosity

Tēnā koutou Whangamatā. How wonderful the Santa Parade and carnival in Williamson park was on 3 December. The joy was palpable and it showed how something like this had long been missing in our wonderful town.

An event put together by people who wanted to ensure that summer was welcomed, that the children, their families and whanau had a place to gather, play games and enjoy the wonderful park that the Williamson family so generously donated all those years ago. An event that was run by volunteers and supported by donations of raffles and prizes ensuring commercialism did not put up barriers to attendance and participation.

The Whangamata Surf Lifesaving Club was humbled by the organisers looking to use any funds raised to help with the renovations it so desperately needs, and nothing spoke more of this generosity than Coastguard, also a charity, donating their prize money for best float to the club.

To Coastguard, the public, the donors, sponsors, volunteers, families, friends and whanau, to Whangamata Real Estate, Lions and the RSA, thank you so very much.

**Andrea Paynter**  
CLUB MANAGER, WHANGAMATA SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB (INC.)

## Constitutional challenge

Given the track record of this current Labour Government, it should come as no surprise that they have attempted a late night passage of legislation that threatens constitutional integrity and further erodes the power of the electorate. The involvement of the Greens in this matter now demonstrates that they too have been drawn into the murky depths that characterise this Government.

Far from displaying the traits of an "open and transparent Government for all New Zealanders",

Labour has acquiesced to powerful factions within their caucus to the extent that accepted democratic norms have been brushed aside. Confirmation of their contempt for the voting public is now complete.

**George Williams**  
WHANGAMATĀ

### We welcome your letters

We ask that letters be no more than 250 words, although exceptions can be made.

Email them to [WhangamataNews@gmail.com](mailto:WhangamataNews@gmail.com)



**RSA**

# WHANGAMATA

**Merry Christmas everyone**

We will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and 27 December  
Reopen on Wednesday 28 December  
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# A year of challenge and triumph for WAS

In many ways, it has been a year of two halves with the instability of various Covid restrictions in the first half, giving way to more settled and routine operation in the second.

Our students have continued to progress and flourish in their core learning. NCEA results for the school are shaping to again be well above both national and decile range averages, and we are proud to continue this growth trajectory in our core business. The introduction of core learning programmes in our primary years, most notably, Structured Literacy learning, and the Numicon Maths resource, are helping prepare our students for an NCEA qualification that is changing significantly in the next three years. This preparation journey starts as soon as a young person starts school.

The core skills of reading, writing, and mathematics will assume far greater importance in the new qualification structure and we are committed to ensuring that our students are prepared for this change, and equipped to meet it successfully. Outside the classroom, our students have experienced significant success. We are proud to continue to offer our Tokū Ara programme to students in Year 10. This is a 28 programme where students live free of technology at Wharekawa Lodge near Opoutere. Tokū Ara enters its third year in 2023.



3. The "Survivor's Club - Students who have completed all 13 years of their schooling at WAS (From Left Enika Cornwall, Pippa Leach, Kristy Blake, Brianna Fulton, Cheyenne Clark-Smith, Josh Crofksy-Lee, Amber Sullivan)

In other areas, our students have continued to shine. The introduction of a Surfing and Sports Academy three years back is starting to reap rewards for the individuals involved. Pia Rogers was this year selected to represent New Zealand at the World Junior Surf Championships in El Salvador. Hunter Ussher, a member of our Sports Academy won the Waikato Secondary Schools Golf Championship, several of our mountain bikers, surfers, rugby, basketball and netball players, and surf lifesavers have achieved national or regional placings and/or selections.

The role of the school continues to hold steady at around 530 students and we are continuing to experience significant growth in the secondary school. The roll of

our secondary school is now over 250 students and we are able to offer a broad and robust curriculum, alongside a range of sporting and cultural opportunities as a result. Two examples of such are our Wizard of Oz production which involved students from across year 1-10. The show hit the stage to an appreciative community audience last week and was well received by all. It was a great example of the beauty of an area school.

Looking further ahead, we have started with planning to send a music and cultural group to Rarotonga in 2024. Fundraising is underway and this shapes as a high point for students who are invested in the arts and culture. Finally, we had our senior prizegiving last week, and as we celebrated our leavers,

and crowned Bella Muir as our Dux for 2022, we were also able to hand over to our 2023 leadership team. Congratulations to Rory Bathurst and Lily Honeycombe who will be our Head Boy and Girl respectively in 2023. To all those who have supported our Kura in 2022,

A very merry Christmas and a happy new year from the team at Whangamata Area School. See you all in 2023.

- Alistair Luke, Principal



Pia Rogers - NZ Junior Surfing Representative and winner of the Dufty Cup for Outstanding Sporting Achievement for 2022.



Bella Muir - School Dux for 2023.

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# WHANGAMATA

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# Christmas Parade and family fair – the best yet!

What a fantastic day for everyone on Saturday, 3 December, with a mighty float parade along Port Road, complete with music, dancing, lollies flying, bubbles blowing and hoots of delight looking for the big guy in red!

It truly is a credit to all the volunteers who turned on a day of fun for the whole family. The best yet!

The parade was followed by the first Family Fair at Williamson Park that afternoon, with over 50 stall holders, raffles, sizzling sausies and traditional games of tug-of-war, sack racing, cornholing, candy floss whirling – and of course the day filled with sunshine and drew in a really big crowd.

Well done to everyone involved from the Whangamata Real Estate team, Whangamata Lions, and to all those who just made it truly spectacular.

Let's do this all over again next year!

- Jennie Black  
Photos by Mark James



**Whangamata Summer Festival**  
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# Whangamata men's golf stroke play

Youngsters Hunter Ussher and Otis Baxter powered their way to their Whangamata Golf Club stroke play championships last Saturday.

Hunter, with three sub-par rounds of 68, 68 and 63, cruised to his first senior title. Otis continued to improve with rounds of 78, 78 and 75 as he took the intermediate title.

Hunter and Otis are both Whangamata Area School students and have caught the golf bug in a big way.

Hunter shot a blistering 63, seven under par, on his final round this included eight birdies with only a solitary bogey. Otis was equal first on 158 with Bernie Sedon after the first two rounds.

In his final round Otis carved out a scintillating 75, one over on the front nine and four over on the back nine, to win by eight strokes.

A machine-like performance by Verne Russell with three rounds of 88 took him to the Junior title by six strokes over Rod Vause.



**Hunter Ussher Whangamata Golf Senior stroke play Champion.**

This stroke play trophy nestles alongside the Match play title Verne won earlier this year. Jim Barr confirmed his Junior B stroke play title as he was six strokes ahead of David Sayles. Jim is also a double champion as he won the Junior B match play title earlier this year.

- Don Mackay

# Superb day at shoot-out

It was shoot-out finals day at the Whangamata's Titoki Golf Course on 4 December. Many hopeful golfers fronted up for the 9 and 18-hole ladies and the 18-hole men's shoot-outs. The Titoki Golf Course was in superb shape and the weather was ideal for golf.

Charmaine Morrissey took the 18-hole ladies title with Rosemarie Rutherford runner-up. Chris Cotter beat a strong finishing Dale Webb to take the 9-hole ladies title.

The Home and Lifestyle sponsored men's shoot-out saw Don Mackay edged Rod Vause for the title. The qualifiers for the Men's shoot-out included many capable Whangamata golfers such as Kim Eng, Steve Goddard, Ross Hewett and Don Parlane. These shoot-out competitions are very intense events. The men play over twelve holes. On the first six holes two players with the highest scores drop out. Then over the next six holes a single player drops out. Until the final hole where only two players are left standing.

The last four players David Branks, Warren Glass, Rod Vause and Don Mackay teed up on the tenth hole. The hugely popular Warren Glass



**18-hole ladies shoot-out champion Charmaine Morrissey, left, and runner-up Rosemarie Rutherford.**

dropped out on this par five. Over to the par three seventeenth with David Branks dropping out. It was down to club legend Rod Vause and Don Mackay to shoot out down the final hole, the par five eighteenth.

These players matched stroke for stroke until Don Mackay completed an 'up and down' for a five and the Home and Lifestyle title.

Thanks to all organisers including Adjudicators Kevin Marr and Geoff Tempest, support staff Jim Barr, Charles Foreman and Steve Rutherford and food sponsor Dale Schoeman.

- Don Mackay



# Pre-Christmas twilight cricket

It was a stormy and brooding Thursday night at the Whangamata cricket oval as fierce rivals Darkside and Carters met in the pre-Christmas twilight cricket final.

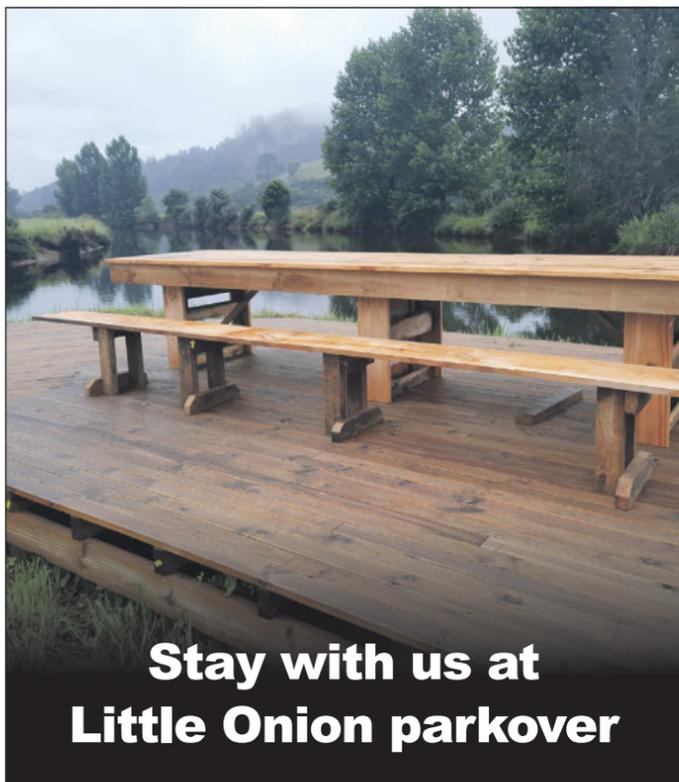
This final was set down for eighteen overs for each side. Carters batted first and both Che and Jed got through to 30 runs before needing to retire. Carter's total was 122 for 6 from 18 overs. The next highest scorer was 'wides' for a total of 26 runs, each time a wide is bowled two runs are added.

Darkside batted very sensibly with

four players reaching double figures Sam 15, Cory 17, Meet 18 not out and Hunter 19 not out. Darkside reached the winning total with two overs to spare. Local cricket fanatic Meet excelled for Darkside with three wickets and an unbeaten innings of 18 runs.

Darkside skipper Luke Baxter congratulated his side and thanked Richard Laurenson, Nathan, Suzy and umpires for making this final possible.

- Don Mackay  
Super Sports Reporter



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**Play with us Explore Whenuakura Island**

# Mah jong sees prize-giving success

It was a wonderful day for all those that attended the mah jong prize-giving on 9 December. A lovely Christmas lunch was provided - thank you to the Whangamata Club.

And the winners were...

### Jackie Godfrey Trophy

- 1st Pat Bigwood
- 2nd Erin Wyatt
- 3rd Gael Butler

### Top scores of the year

**Table of 4 with 50 points:**  
Heather Dansby Scott and Tina Palmer

**Table of 3 with 57 points:**  
Roger Kennerley and Philipa Dennison

### Championship Cups

**Winner** Daphne Inglis with 53 points

**Runner-up** Janet Randell with 52 points

### Beth Wigmore Trophy

**Winner** Judy McClintock

Personally, I have worked closely with Judy over the year and she puts in a lot of hard yards in the background so well deserved.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and new year. I am sure there will be lots of little gatherings and not just for mah jong!

- Philipa Dennison,  
Mah Jong Committee



Judy McClintock (left) was the winner of the Beth Wigmore trophy.



Pat Bigwood won the Jackie Godfrey Trophy.



Erin Wyatt (left) took second place in the Jackie Godfrey Trophy.



Daphne Inglis (left) and Janet Randell.



Roger Kennerley and Philipa Dennison won table of three.



Whangamata Club

Join Us AT THE **WHANGAMATA CLUB**

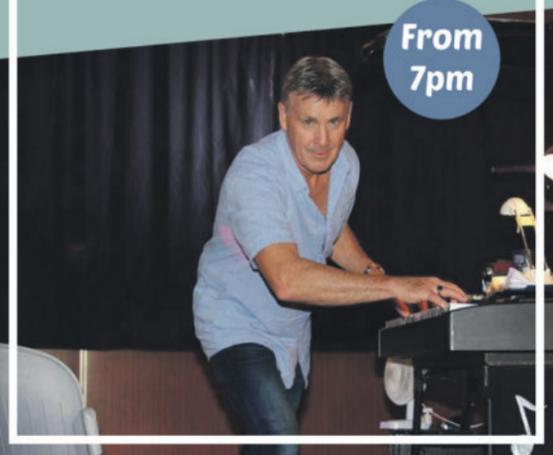


sky sports TAB



**Toucan**  
...duet better than one!  
V.A.C. Award Winners  
Ken Strong Karen Davy  
Playing Hits From The 50's To Now  
**Saturday 17th December**  
6.30pm  
Live at The Whangamata Club

The Whangamata Club Presents  
**Gerry Lee**  
New Zealand's Premier  
Rock n Roll Pianist  
**Friday 30th December**  
From 7pm





**2023**  
New Year's PARTY  
31ST DECEMBER  
Live Music provided by  
**Gerry Lee**  
6pm - 9pm  
**Red Tonik**  
9pm - 12.30am



**OPEN DAILY FROM 11AM**

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Monday to Friday from 3pm  
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**DINNER MENU**  
From 5.30pm daily  
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**RESTAURANT**  
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WHANGAMATA SLSC  
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# Summer Calendar

## DECEMBER 2022 / JANUARY 2023

|  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>JUNIOR SURF SEASONS</b></p> <p><i>Shoulder Season:</i><br/>Every Sunday from Labour weekend until 18 December</p> <p><i>Peak Season:</i><br/>21, 22, 23 &amp; 24 December<br/>no JS 25, 26 &amp; 27 December<br/>28, 29, 30, 31 December<br/>no JS 1, 2, 3 January<br/>4 to 29 January<br/>Wednesday – Sunday.<br/>Note there is no Junior Surf Monday or Tuesday</p> <p><i>Prizegiving and close down:</i><br/>Sunday 29 January 2023</p> | <p>TUESDAY<br/><b>27 DECEMBER</b></p> <p><i>Bar open</i><br/>4pm-7pm daily<br/>Members only<br/>Social membership \$40-00 per person.</p>  | <p>MONDAY<br/><b>7 JANUARY</b></p> <p><i>Surf Club Classic Harbour Swim</i><br/>(a Whangal/Neck® event)<br/>9am. \$30-00 pp.<br/>Register at the surf club from 7.45am.</p>  | <p>MONDAY<br/><b>2 JANUARY</b></p> <p><i>Whangamata Real Estate Sandcastle Competition</i><br/>From 11am; gold coin donation entry per person. Bring the whole family down to the Whangamata main beach for a sandcastle building battle!</p>  <p><i>'A Whangamata Real Estate Event'</i></p> <p><b>PATROL TIMES</b><br/>Patrols run every weekend from Labour weekend until Easter and during the week from 12 December 2022 until 20 February 2023. South beach flagged area patrols operate 26 December until 13 January 11am until 5pm.</p> |
|  | <p>SUNDAY<br/><b>1 JANUARY</b></p> <p><i>Annual door knock appeal</i><br/>Keep an eye out for our lifeguards in town, and an ear out late this afternoon as we drive around the streets. Come out and see us! We will be carrying donation buckets</p> | <p>WEDNESDAY<br/><b>4 JANUARY</b></p> <p><i>Surf Club Beach Fun Run &amp; Walk</i><br/>(a Whangal/Neck® event)<br/>12 noon. \$10-00 pp.<br/>Register at the surf club from 11am.</p> <p><b>G.J. Gardner. HOMES</b></p>  |  |
|  | <p>SATURDAY<br/><b>21 JANUARY</b></p> <p><i>Quiz Night!</i><br/>\$35-00 per ticket buy online @ whangamatasurf.co.nz from 27 December 2022. Note no ticket sales on night. Numbers strictly limited; R18</p>   |   |  |



- **32 people home for Christmas!** Last season our lifeguards patrolled for over **5200 hours**, rescued **32** people, and assisted another **109** to safety. They treated **81** first aid incidents with **11** people requiring further treatment at either the Medical Center or hospital; acted on **2576** occasions to prevent harm occurring so that risky situations did not become rescues, searches, first aid incidents or fatalities and provided educational services to **over 200** children through our Junior Surf programme.
- **Always swim between the flags. If you see someone in trouble, call 111 and ask for Police.**
- **Want to be a lifeguard, patrol support, general volunteer or social member?**  
Email us on [manager@whangamatasurf.co.nz](mailto:manager@whangamatasurf.co.nz)

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(07) 865 8401

[www.whangamatasurf.co.nz](http://www.whangamatasurf.co.nz)

*To all of our sponsors, members, supporters and friends; we couldn't do what we do without you.*

Thank you from the bottom of our collective hearts. Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

# Project Transform UPDATE:

The fundraising for Project Transform is well underway with a total of \$508,250 raised to date which is a fantastic result.

The funding has come from a variety of sources within the Whangamata community and beyond and includes a transfer from the Club's reserves and funds raised by the Whangamata community at the event in Williamson Park on Saturday, 3 December. The club extends a sincere thank you to all who have contributed to date whether it be monetary or in another way; the life blood of the club is the community and the volunteers whose hours of free time provide immense value.

Post further consultation with members some changes have been made to the proposed final design and layout. What this looks like will be on display at the club over the peak summer period – changes include a lift, and the club is looking closely at its environmental impact and sustainability including reviewing using the entire roof area for solar heating/ power source, changes to lighting, and looking at all the internal insulation. Please keep an eye on the club's Project Transform website; [projecttransformwslsc.co.nz](http://projecttransformwslsc.co.nz) for further details which will be posted before Christmas. This update will cover the changes to the original layout to further improve functionality, the status

of overall funding and detail the names of some of the very generous monetary funders.

We are hopeful that the land use application will be approved before Christmas and continue to work hard towards a goal of being able to commence work post the 2023/2024 season – the club's 75th anniversary year.



**Enquiries regarding the project can be made to 0800 403 020 or email [project@wslsc.co.nz](mailto:project@wslsc.co.nz)**

**Donations 021254 0027806 010 (note, this is '10' not '01')**

**If you see someone in difficulty please dial 111 and ask for Police.**

**\$2.5 million GOAL!**



## WHANGAMATA SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB (INC)



### Project Transform

Our 55 year old building is in a bad state of disrepair and is barely fit for purpose. The club is embarking on a major renovation and transformation project.



### Can You Help Us?

For full information please visit: [www.projecttransformwslsc.co.nz](http://www.projecttransformwslsc.co.nz)

**Email: [project@wslsc.co.nz](mailto:project@wslsc.co.nz)**

**Phone: 0800403020**

24 Hour answer phone service where a club member will be contacted and respond.

# Whangamata generosity shines through



Sarah Halliday (left) and Michelle Crook.

When Page Break and Post Shop owner Michelle Crook found out about the charity Kiwi Christmas Books, she knew that she wanted to join in.

"The charity arranges for new books to be collected and gifted to kids in need for Christmas," said Michelle.

The store contributed twenty books itself, and then put a sign up in the Post Shop to let customers know. Soon there were another fifty books added to the pile!

The next step for the book store was finding a suitable charity to gift the books to, and that's where the Eastern Coromandel Community Services Trust came in.

This year, the charity is supporting over 25 local families with

Christmas food hampers, plus its collating suitable gifts for placing under the tree.

General Manager Sarah Halliday says that the charity is absolutely blown away by the seventy books now in its possession.

"The books represent over \$1,000 in value, and they've come from locals and people living further away as well."

This the first year that Page Break has joined with the charity Kiwi Christmas Books.

"We'll be jumping on board again next year," said Michelle. "Meantime, we're keeping our eyes open for other community initiatives that make Whangamatā such a special place to live" she added.

# School Holiday Programme begins soon – book now!

The Eastern Coromandel Community Services Trust School Holiday Programme is fast approaching! Join in on a variety of activities around Whangamatā, bringing your children a fun and adventurous summer holiday.

We have four exciting weeks of



bush walks, kayaking, waka ama, barbecues, pony experiences, music lessons, boxing and so much more.

Give your kids a fun, safe and exciting break by enrolling them in our Kids Club. Spaces are limited, book soon!

Contact Jess Morrison: [jess.morrison@communityservices.org.nz](mailto:jess.morrison@communityservices.org.nz) or 027 470 1714 for bookings and enquiries.

**Cost:** \$25 (plus optional extras)

**Where:** Baptist Church, Whangamatā.

**Time:** 8.30am – 3.30pm

**When:** **Week 1:** 19-22 December

**Week 2:** 9-13 January

**Week 3:** 16-20 January

**Week 4:** 23-27 January

## An open letter of thanks



We write to say the biggest **thank you** to Whangamata Real Estate Limited, the Whangamata Volunteer Fire Brigade, Whangamata Surf Life Saving Club, Whangamata Police Station and Onemana/Opoutere Fire Brigade and the fabulous team of volunteers who organised and enabled the Food Drive earlier this month. Plus of course, our hearts go out to the huge number of locals who gave food, gifts and koha when the trucks went by. The collection was an incredible success and our cupboards are almost full in readiness for those who will need food parcel support over the festive and summer season.

We also want to use this opportunity to say thanks to all those volunteers who help us throughout the year, whether that be as Medical Drivers, Comfort Kai helpers, Holiday Programme or personal shopping support. We could not do what we do without you.

We always have space for more volunteers, so if you are interested, then please pop in to **505 Port Road** to learn more.

We would love to see you. And if you missed the food collection and would like to contribute, then please bring in your food, Christmas gifts or financial donation (noting that we now have eftpos available) during our opening hours which are **Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm**.

Your donation really does make a difference to the local community.

We wish you safe and enjoyable holidays,

*Sarah and the team*



Here's a photo of some of our volunteers at our annual Christmas catch up... what a great looking bunch!

*Wishing all my clients, past and future, a **very merry, safe Christmas** with family and friends this summer.*

Enjoy the fabulous weather and atmosphere of Whangamata – **there's no place like home!**



**Wendy Jeffs**  
LICENSED AGENT

027 421 9482

07 865 8499

[wendy@whangamatarealestate.co.nz](mailto:wendy@whangamatarealestate.co.nz)



**Whangamata Real Estate**

328 OCEAN ROAD,  
WHANGAMATA

# One More Minute – A Run to Remember

Whangamatā News caught up with Corey Choat after his marathon mega event last Saturday. Corey gave us his view of a very long day...

Starting at 5:30am, in a light but pleasant drizzle, myself along with 11 others, set off on what would be the hardest thing I have ever done. Both physically and mentally.

We were tracking along nicely, and the light mist of rain was helping to keep us all cool. People joined in throughout the morning. Some would stop and have a rest for a loop and then rejoin. That was the whole idea of doing the run as a loop. To allow people to run as much or as little as they would like, without feeling like they were to far away from the Rugby Club base. There were people from all over. Some came down from Auckland, others from the Waikato area and we even had a lady who was just out for a morning run join us. And that's what it was all about. Bringing people together to remember the 607 people we lost to suicide last year.

At about the 60km mark, I got a stitch that I just could not shake. The temperature went up and I had some tough conversations with myself. I battled through, but at times it brought me to a walk and then a complete stop. But when I stopped, the watch stopped too. I was determined to be moving for all 607 minutes. And that is what we did.

The support I had was absolutely amazing. The vibe in the group was something different. Over the 10 hours, on average, there would have been at least a dozen people running and walking with me. It was extremely humbling to see this



support and my eyes are welling up just writing this. At one time, I turned and saw about 15 people behind me. I almost burst into tears. It was a feeling I will never forget.

I am very proud of what we all achieved on Saturday. Many people ran the longest distance they have ever done. First Marathons for some or just the first run in a long time. It was all amazing to see. We had people come from all over to be a part of the day and we even had local Constable Ray Tora run 2.5km in full uniform. It was truly amazing.

We are yet to do an accurate telly of the money raised but it is somewhere around the \$20,000 mark. Which brings the total raised this year to over \$70,000.

Thank you to everyone who got involved. I will be forever grateful for your support, kind words, messages of encouragement, donations but above everything, I am grateful that you care. That you want to see change. And that you are happy to be you. Because you know what? You are all such Incredible humans. Never forget that.

With a tired body and mind, but a very full heart, I say thank you.

# Ski for me, Ski for you – I am HOPE

We all know someone in our lives who has faced challenges around mental health.

We will complete 100km on the Concept SkiErg at The Bach - Pop Up Bar, Port Road, Whangamatā on Thursday, 29 December kicking off at 9am.

Let us introduce ourselves - Ange Walker - ex Ironman - aged 60 (Uncle) and Patrick Begley - competitive hockey player - aged 22 (Nephew). We came up with this event to challenge ourselves to push through the hard times and came up with the concept to use it as an event to raise awareness and help others. Whilst this is a physical challenge, our mental strengths will also be tested. To assist youth to access the services they require we have chosen the I AM HOPE charity for this fundraising event.

This is *not* just a one-day challenge, we will be undertaking intense daily training sessions to ensure we are ready for the event. We started training 5 weeks ago and are completing roughly 13.5 hours per week to date.



Currently we are averaging 10km per 40 minutes.

If you are able to make a donation to this cause we would really appreciate your contribution:  
[givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/ski-for-me-ski-for-you](http://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/ski-for-me-ski-for-you)

We also invite you to join us on 29 December 2022 to support us on the day.

Whangamatā News will be following this event closely and caught up with Ange and Patrick for a photo session whilst they were in heavy training all of last weekend, my word these guys can pump it out!

## The Club with the million dollar view!

Bring the Family

**WE ARE OPEN FOR MEMBERS & GUESTS!\***

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOURS:**  
 Closed..... 25th - 28th December  
 Open..... 29th December - 3rd January  
 Closed..... Wednesday 4th January

**From week of 9th January:**  
 Closed..... Tuesdays & Wednesdays  
 Open..... for Breakfast 8am - 11:30am  
 Saturday & Sunday

**MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER  
 | FROM 4:30PM |  
 HAPPY HOUR FROM 5:30PM

\*Restrictions may apply due to capacity

4 FEBRUARY

### NAUTI GIRLS 2023

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END OF PORT RD AT WHARF

# End of show a stunner, magical, engaging, brilliant!



With over 200 students involved with the end of year performance of *The Wizard of Oz*, it absolutely had the audience enthralled.

Dorothy, and her magic red sneakers looking for a way home, involved all ages of the student body.

The music was sensational with the *Mighty Jungle* playing for the wee face-painted lion cubs, Cowardly Lion who lost his courage, The Tin Man who had a broken heart ("no heart - me ex broke it") and Scarecrow who was "nothing but horse food - and just like an old wagon wheel" - incidentally he

played a great air guitar with his broom. The Wicked Witch was incredible, evil and had a good cackling laugh.

We loved it all. The choreography, the costumes and especially the energy and the music: *We built this city on rock n roll, I'm bad* by Michael Jackson, *We're going on a mission in a rocketship* from the Little Einsteins (complete with ties!), *Ding Dong the Witch is Dead*, and of course my favourite *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*, and yes, *Home is Always Inside of You*.

**Congratulations Amy Russell - Drama teacher extraordinaire...**



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# SMOKY PALLET

FREEHOUSE

## SUMMER LINE UP 2022 /2023

MON 26/12 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ DANG3RUST

MON 27/12 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ HONEST MATT

MON 28/12 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ HONEST MATT

MON 29/12 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ HONEST MATT

MON 30/12 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ SMOKEY BARRACK

MON 31/12 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ DANG3RUST

MON 1/1 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ DANG3RUST

MON 2/1 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ DANG3RUST

MON 3/1 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ DANG3RUST

MON 4/1 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ DANG3RUST

MON 5/1 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ DANG3RUST

MON 6/1 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ GEORGE FM PARTY

MON 7/1 • 9.30PM - LATE  
DJ HONEST MATT

For any more info follow our social media:  
Facebook @smokypallet Instagram @smokypalletwhanga

# Ratepayers meeting worthy of attending

**Whangamatā News attended the Ratepayers Association meeting at the Whangamata Club last Saturday and it was full of insight. We heard summaries from Rob Boston, Warren Maher (recently elected to TCDC and WRC) and Terry Walker (Deputy Mayor and reelected Chair of the Community Board).**

The only thing lacking were paid members from the Ratepayers Association to the meeting - a shame because it was so very informative and had many must-know, upcoming progress.

There were some great updates from Harbour Care regarding planting, biodiversity and the mangroves issue.

**HELEN MCCABE FROM THE RESOURCE RECOVERY TRUST:**

Helen spoke of the Seagull Centre in Thames as an ideal model for Whangamatā to follow. As yet, they don't have a place to set up here but they are working on that. A lock up and a container is purposeful at present and stretching it out with E-Waste collections, batteries collections, ultimately collecting waste that isn't waste and can be prevented from going into landfill.

**WARREN MAHER FELT IT IS "A POSITIVE TIME AHEAD":**

A huge amount of policy is coming through and from central

Government at present, and in Tairua, where he resides, shares some of the local issues of harbour care, bar problems in Tairua and silting up.

Warren recognises mass planting, especially involving children assisting the programmes - they are our succession plans for the future.

**TERRY WALKER (DEPUTY MAYOR & COMMUNITY BOARD CHAIR):**

Terry looks forward to another three years in local Government under Len Salts directive.

The new council has gotten together and has had four days of inductions, working as a team, understanding each other's strengths to get things underway with a refreshing determination.

Terry commented on the Annual Plan Consultation, Capital Works programme and public consultation on the kerbside rubbish collection next year.

That will be changing to a new provider being Waste Management, introducing another bin option as the blue rubbish bag will no longer exist, so we will have glass, recycling, rubbish and food bins.

He spoke of the 2024-2028 Long Term Plan as a time for significant change.

New fees and charges, licenses of commercial operators and parks,

maintaining the type of operator that brings value to activities in the parks, asset management rose to a \$30m rise in value.

The rating system affects on that - apparently the Coromandel has the most complicated rating system in New Zealand. The first 3 waters bill has been passed. Amazing packages are unfolding working with Iwi and getting the best out of that relationship.

Whangamatā will have a spacial plan, a path going forward that the government will accept to improve housing in the areas.

Short-term accommodation, that's the biggest issue at the moment. We have to keep seasonal workers in retail - it is these summer monies that keep our businesses running over winter. Sadly, an example of this is Moana House Trust. They have had severe staffing issues for nurses, so they have had to fly people in from Nepal and Zimbabwe, as they are unable to get nurses from New Zealand. An accommodation block for the new arrivals is being looked at.

Although this is quite a short brief, it shows just how worthy it is to attend these meetings. If you aren't a member and you want a voice regarding rates and progress in our townships, I suggest you come along!

- Jennie Black

# Coming up after the break...

It's looking like the closest finish in years for the 22-23 Whangamata Club Business House Tennis. One of Whangamata's oldest sports trophies, the McKillop Cup, is played for every year by 13 local business house teams. This highly coveted trophy has many famous names engraved, including Sets On The Beach, Fuzzy Balls and the ambiguous Young Ones.

As we near the end of the first half and with the Christmas break just round the corner, the competition is fierce. Current cup holders The Seaside's (18 points) wobbled last week and lost the lead to long time contenders Cyclops (19). In third place are Kiss My Ace just three off the action and several others who could still make it.

No doubt all the teams will be conscious of the re-start date 7 February, will not over indulge in the festive season and be looking at some training runs in the New Year. The competition ends late March, spectators are welcome, from 5pm Mondays. The bar is open.

Can Cyclops hold on or will the power of The Seaside's prevail? We'll let you know after the break.

- Shaun Fay

## WHANGAMATA SPORTS BAR

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OPEN 7 DAYS - 10am to late

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SMOOTH & GROOVE  
PRODUCTION

Saturday, 17 December  
from 7.30pm  
and New Year's Eve  
8pm to midnight



CLOSED Christmas Day



NOW ON TAP  
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TRADIES: Monday to Friday 4pm to 6pm - \$8 Bottle Quarts

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# Opoutere School – a year in review

After another challenging year with Covid interruptions, Opoutere School has continued to grow in size and have many successes across the school curriculum's five frames of learning.

## PROFICIENCY - READING WRITING AND MATHS

The school's end of Year school wide achievement has seen a substantial increase in the number of students achieving at their individual levels. In particular, Literacy, where the school has been implementing school wide writing progressions.

Further to this, the Junior school has been involved with the Ministry of Education Better Start Literacy Approach (BSLA) across the junior school. Junior teachers have been taking part in Structured Literacy professional learning through Canterbury University which has been highly successful.

Opoutere School won the Thames Valley Overall Speech Cup with some impressive performances from senior students.

Next year, the school will begin implementing Numeracy Progressions and exploring professional learning focussed on Numeracy teaching strategies.

Strong support from teachers and experienced teacher aides has helped priority learners make positive growth with their learning.

## EXPERIENTIAL - LEARNING EXPERIENCES

The Junior Play Based Learning is working in harmony with Structured Literacy finding a positive balance where both learning and play complement each other. Teachers continue to provide hands-on learning opportunities in contexts that extend beyond the classroom.

The Senior classrooms all had enriched experiences during their camps. Kauri were at Opoutere Coastal Campground and finished the year with a hiko up the Waitawheta Valley for two nights at the DOC Hut. Totara finished the year spending two days based in Coromandel exploring local activities as a culmination to their "In My Backyard" inquiry. Our youngest seniors, Puriri, had a sleepover in the school hall.

In the sporting arena, Opoutere students experienced success by winning the Thames Valley Tackle competition and earlier in the year narrowly coming second overall in the Thames valley Ripper Rugby Competition.



An Opoutere basketball representative team recently won a school competition hosted at Thames High School. Many students also went on to represent at Thames Valley Cross Country and Athletics competitions, many of which placed in the top five.

Puawai (Junior Kapa Haka) and Tane Mahuta (Senior Kapa Haka) continued to grow their performances and skill sets. Both groups performed to a high level in the Ko te Rangatahi o te Tara o te ika Cultural Festival. Tane Mahuta had two noho wananga at the Wharekawa Lodge where the group developed relationships and performance. Both groups continue to grow in mana and performance.

## CONCEPTUAL - INQUIRY LEARNING

Students took part in contextual learning using student agency to self-direct their learning. Totara students completed an extensive inquiry into Pest eradication around the school. Possums, rats and Hedgehogs were all safely trapped as well as lots of learning about New Zealand's Pest problem. Puriri did an inquiry based around Māori Myth and Legends during Matariki week. Junior classes delved into Pūrākau around storytelling, drama, art and music. Junior teachers attended weekly sessions run by Te Koro Hauora o Hauraki. Kauri took part in a data collection of the local Tawa Tawa River. This looked at freshwater vertebrates and invertebrates including a focus on whitebait.

Seniors also took part in the Sustainable Coastlines project. Students participated in a beach clean-up where the rubbish collected was sorted/ weighed and the data collected and entered into a national database.

## ADVENTURE LEARNING PROGRAMME

Term 1 is Te Moana (the Ocean). The senior students took part in kayaking, surfing and fishing activities. The juniors learnt the tikanga involved with Waka Ama and the skill of paddling before venturing out onto the Whangamatā Harbour.

Term 2 is Matariki. The school had their annual Matariki Week. Students took part in their whānau groups four activities: Hiko, Cooking, Clay Art and Harakeke Weaving. Tuakana/ teina relationships blossom as the seniors support younger students with their activities. During the week, the school also held its annual Kaumatua (Grandparents) Day which the children always enjoy. The week culminated in a whole school whānau Hangi.

Term 3 is Te Whakataetae (Adventure Racing). Students practice their map reading skills, teamwork and communication in and about the local environment. Senior students also took part in further treks to the native behind the school and mountain biking in the local Whangamatā Mountain Bike Park.

The highlight for this term was hosting the Opoutere School Adventure Race. Teams from other schools entered and the race took part on the farm behind the school generously provided by the Mulhollands and Bridsons. This was a magnificent event and Opoutere won the Rangipo Trophy premiere Yr 7/8 mixed division.

The Juniors took part in the Junior Adventure Race locating checkpoints with their maps in the same farmland. They were supported by the Yr 7/8 senior students.

Term 4 is Te Haerenga (Expedition). Junior students completed their hiko to Waimama Bay and explored the Paritu River deep into the native valley behind the school, cutting tracks and exploring. Senior students had to complete a loop from Onemana and back, to a place they hadn't been to before in small teams. Their brief was to visit a remote beach and summit the highest point on the Peninsula, choosing any combination of trekking, mountain biking and kayaking. One group pushed themselves and completed an overnight expedition. They walked the Old Wires track, staying at Wentworth DOC campground, mountain biked to the Whangamatā Harbour, paddle boarded/kayaked to the Old Forestry Headquarters and trekked to Pokohino Beach then onto Onemana.



## KOTAHITANGA

The schools core beliefs of Mana (Self-identity and Self-confidence), Whānaukatanga (Relationships), Manakitanga (Respect for self, people places and environment) and Poutama (Striving to be our best) influence the choices Kaiako (teachers), kaiawhina (support staff) and tamariki collectively make and create the culture of care that exists across the school.

**Finally, the school welcomed two new board of trustee members, established the new Parent and Friends Association and received a positive report from the Education Report Office. A busy yet successful year full of learning and adventures.**

*– Jethro Dyer, Principal*





## Jennian Homes Coromandel Proudly building our community.

We'd like to wish our valued clients, Jennian team and subcontractors a very Merry Christmas and happy safe New Year.

Please support the Heart Foundation Lottery over the summer by visiting this stunning home located at...

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# Whanga Classic Surf Boat series sees plenty of action

**Whangamatā News had an incredible photographic day last Saturday with a huge surf, crashes and incredible strength displayed from all entries.**

The New Zealand Surf Boat Series is an action packed series of events held at key competitions throughout the season and is designed to celebrate the comradery and

competition of Surf Boats while finding the most committed and consistent crews.

The New Zealand Surf Boat Trial is for Under 23 and Open Male

and Female crews who wish to be considered for selection to represent New Zealand at the Trans-Tasman Surf Boat Challenge to be held on 4 February, 2023, at Waihi Beach.

**The following age groups were racing for series points:**

- Masters Men & Women
- Open Men & Women
- U23 Men & Women
- U19 Men & Women



Photos by Mark James





**THAMES  
COROMANDEL  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

16 December, 2022

## Meri Kirihimete | Merry Christmas from our Council



**DAVE RYAN**  
WHANGAMATĀ COMMUNITY BOARD  
BOARD CHAIRPERSON  
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**DENIS BEAVER**  
WHANGAMATĀ COMMUNITY BOARD  
BOARD DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON  
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**TERRY WALKER**  
DEPUTY MAYOR & SOUTH EASTERN  
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[terry.walker@council.tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:terry.walker@council.tcdc.govt.nz)



**GARY GOTLIEB**  
SOUTH EASTERN WARD COUNCILLOR  
[gary.gotlieb@council.tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:gary.gotlieb@council.tcdc.govt.nz)

“On behalf of our Council and the Whangamatā Community Board, I’d like to wish all Whangamatā News readers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, with best wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous 2023.”

MAYOR LEN



We wish you a safe and festive holiday season. Don’t forget some services and schedules change over summer.



### CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES

Our Council offices are closed from 3pm Friday 23 December, re-opening to normal hours on Wednesday 4 January 2023. For opening hours see [tcdc.govt.nz/contact](https://tcdc.govt.nz/contact). We are available on 07 868 0200.



### THAMES CENTENNIAL POOL

- Closed Sat 24 to Tues 27 December
- Open Wed 28 to Fri 30 December
- Re-opening on Wed 4 January. Visit [tcdc.govt.nz/swim](https://tcdc.govt.nz/swim)



### LIBRARY SERVICES

Our district libraries are closed from 12 noon on Saturday 24 December, re-opening on Wednesday 4 January at 10am. Our book drop will be open during this time. [tcdc.govt.nz/library-hours](https://tcdc.govt.nz/library-hours)



### KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS

Our peak period summer kerbside rubbish and recycling collection schedule for the Eastern Seaboard and Northern Coromandel begins Monday 26 December 2022 and ends Friday 10 February 2023. The collections will be Monday to Friday (no weekends), with collections commencing at 7.30am (not 9am). See [tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside](https://tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside) for collections for your area. If you’re leaving the area before your collection day, drop your material at your local Refuse Transfer Station. [tcdc.govt.nz/rts](https://tcdc.govt.nz/rts)



### LEAD THE WAY THIS SUMMER

Summer rules about where you can walk your dog are in place from Labour Weekend to 1 March 2023, with additional restrictions from 20 December to 31 January. The most important rule is that dogs must be on lead unless specified otherwise. Find out about off-leash dog exercise areas on: [tcdc.govt.nz/dogownerguide](https://tcdc.govt.nz/dogownerguide)



### WATER RESTRICTIONS

Water restrictions may be in place this summer. Check our water conservation tips. [tcdc.govt.nz/waterrestrictions](https://tcdc.govt.nz/waterrestrictions)



### ALCOHOL BANS IN PUBLIC PLACES

Our district has year-round, 24/7 town centre alcohol bans, plus additional Christmas and New Year alcohol bans on many of our beaches and seaside reserves. The ban for Xmas/New Year runs from 4pm on Friday 23 December to 4am on Monday 9 January. [tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol](https://tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol)



### SUMMER FIRE BAN

A total fire ban applies in the Coromandel from late December to early February each year. Check the rules here: [checkitsalright.nz](https://checkitsalright.nz)

[tcdc.govt.nz/summerinfo](https://tcdc.govt.nz/summerinfo)

## New Freedom Camping Bylaw in effect

Under the new bylaw, freedom camping is permitted in most public areas of the Coromandel unless it is prohibited or restricted in our new bylaw, Department of Conservation rules or national legislation. Our Council’s compliance team will be out seven days a week monitoring the district for compliance with the new bylaw.

If you want to freedom camp in our district:

- Please be a responsible camper and clean up after yourself;
- Freedom camp only in a certified self-contained vehicle;
- Use proper toilet facilities such as public toilets



and campervan dump stations;

- Look for our signs showing where freedom camping can take place;
- Leave freedom camping sites by the required time.

The bylaw lists areas where freedom camping is prohibited or restricted (allowed but with

conditions). Our bylaw also contains maps that show the locations of the prohibited and restricted areas grouped by the Community Board area they are in.

The new bylaw is on our website at [tcdc.govt.nz/freedomcamping](https://tcdc.govt.nz/freedomcamping). It applies to all areas our Council manages.



@ThamesCoromandelDistrictCouncil



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[customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz)

Private Bag, 515 Mackay St, Thames, Phone: 07 868 0200

# Sports results

## RSA 500 CARD CLUB

**7 December:** An enjoyable day was had by all.

The winner on the day was Colette Slack and Marj Hodgson won the chocolate bar. Three lucky

members won the Christmas meat vouchers.

P.S. Thank you for your assistance over the past 12 months and may I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

## TABLE TENNIS

**8 December:** Great turnout today with 20 players.

Barbara Hoy took out the top spot with three lads unable to catch her but all with equal second placings:

Wayne Broome, Gary Small and Roger Wolfe. Better luck next time lads!

Two more weeks of play before Christmas. See you at the Whangamata Club Thursdays at 12.50 to get on the draw.



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# GLAUCOMA

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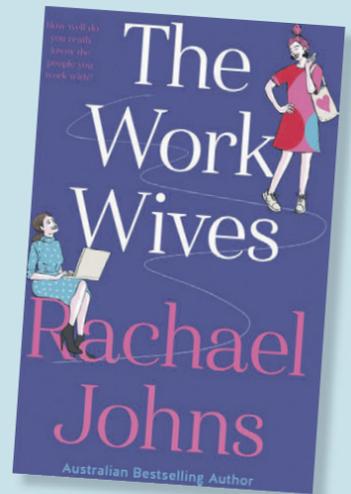
### THE WORK WIVES

RACHEL JOHNS

For work wives Debra and Quinn, it is a case of opposites attract. They are each other's lifelines as they navigate office politics and jobs. Outside work, they are also friends, but where Quinn is addicted to dating apps and desperate to find love, Deb has sworn off men.

Life becomes even more complicated by the arrival of a new man in the office. One woman is attracted to him, while the other hoped she'd never meet him again.

But when Deb, Quinn and Ramona are forced to choose between friends, love and family, the ramifications run deeper than they could ever have expected.



### DESERT STAR

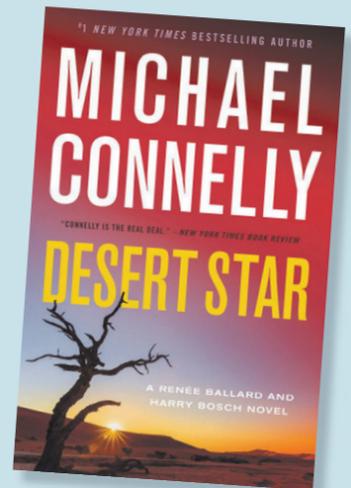
MICHAEL CONNELLY

A year ago, LAPD detective Renee Ballard quit the force, but then took back her badge after being offered her dream job: building a new cold case unit.

She makes Harry an offer - if he works as a volunteer investigator, he can pick up the cold case that has haunted him for years.

There's just one catch: they must first solve another murder.

United by single-minded determination, Ballard and Bosch blaze fresh life down cold trails in their pursuit of justice.



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# THANK YOU!

## Whangamata Grey Power Association

Wishes to thank all the local businesses who provide discounts to members of Grey Power.

Your participation in our Discount Scheme is greatly appreciated.

The Discount Book issued to financial members sets out discount provisions and conditions offered.

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- Carters Whangamata
- Challenge Whangamata
- Chilli Cove Eatery & Bar
- CoroVets Whangamata
- Fairview Windows Whangamata
- First National Real Estate
- Hart & Lowe, Barristers & Solicitors
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- Ray White Real Estate
- Southpacific Motel
- Stirling Sports
- Super Liquor Whangamata
- Table Talk
- The Estuary Store
- The Pottery Studio
- Unichem Whangamata Pharmacy
- Whanga Books
- Whanga Cool
- Whangamata Chiropractic Clinic
- Whangamata Cycles & Outdoor Equipment & Peddles & Paddle
- Whangamata Dental Care
- Whangamata Flooring Xtra
- Whangamata Foodmarket
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- Whangamata Upholstery Services
- Whangamata Window & Door Services

For new member enquiries, please call Maree on 021 211 9879.



# St John brings connection & companionship to residents

“For people passionate about giving, it’s really so rewarding”, that’s how Pauline Wotherspoon, team leader for the Hato Hone St John Whangamata Community Carers, describes the volunteering her team do at Moana House.

From running games and activities to simply spending time

with residents, the Community Carers provide much valued companionship and practical assistance. “We’re always looking for people to join our team”, says Pauline.

**Call 021 406 806 to find out more about this volunteering opportunity.**



Resident and Joy holding a chick.



Brooke and resident out in the garden.



Community Carers Pauline Wotherspoon and Lynda West.



**ST JOHN COMMUNITY CARERS  
RETIREMENT VILLAGE VOLUNTEER**

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OUT AT A LOCAL REST HOME?**

- Do you want to make a difference in your community?
- Able to spare a few hours a week for this rewarding role?

We are looking for friendly and caring people to join our Community Carer team in Whangamatā. Our St John Community Carer volunteers provide comfort and support to rest home residents. All that’s required of a Community Carer is to give a few hours of your time one day a week – or more, if you are able to.

**For more information, call Pauline on 021 406 806 or visit [join.stjohn.org.nz](http://join.stjohn.org.nz) – job number 50465**



[stjohn.org.nz/learnmore](http://stjohn.org.nz/learnmore)

*Whangamata*



## Just Keeps On Giving 115 Brook Place, Whangamata

Light, bright and inviting, this home will surprise you at every turn. If you love a relaxed style and fantastic indoor/outdoor living then this is the home for you. Imagine the fabulous entertaining with family and friends on the gorgeous deck leading out from the beautiful kitchen area. Great in all-weather with the stylish louvre system, just relax by the firepit on those clear nights under the star filled skies. This is a 3-bedroom home on a full site with comfy living areas, an Ensuite, wood burner, heaps of parking for cars, boats, campervan and jet skis and a wonderful studio in the garden, perfect for guests or even working from home. The location speaks for itself, so close to the stunning Otahu River inlet, a kayaker, and paddleboarders paradise. Just wheel your toys down to the aqua playground!!

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**RARE BIRD OPPORTUNITY**

Buy into the beach quarter! Original bach with garage on a full flat grassed site is a treat. The 2 large bedrms & o/plan living have space & yesteryear charm. Bathrm with sep toilet plus a 2nd WC in the garage. Unpack your bags & hit the beach or unleash your vision. No covenants. Act now to secure.



**Chris Scott & Liz Griffin**  
0274 500 022  
chrisliz@firstnational.nz  
Web# FNPC1188



NEW LISTING

**154 Paku Drive,  
TAIRUA**

FOR SALE, Price By Negotiation

2 | 1 | 1042 sqm

**PARADISE ON PAKU**

'Spectacular outlook'... Looking for that holiday bach or home with income potential, then your search ends here. Dappled amongst the trees, an entertainers slice of paradise surrounded by large decks for all the family to relax & unwind after a full day. This charming home enjoys an elevated position that flows over 2 levels with stylish coastal ease, the extremely sought-after location offers sensational panoramic views of Tairua Harbour & beyond.



**Neil Kember**  
021 0840 5991  
neil@firstnational.nz  
Web# FNPC1187



FINAL NOTICE

**111 The Grove,  
ONEMANA**

FOR SALE, **Deadline Sale** (unless sold prior)

**BEACH MAGIC PLUS INCOME**

Only 200 metres from the Beach Reserve is this unique property. Enjoying the quiet location of a no exit street, you find two homes on an elevated section. The main 2-level house has three bedrms, 2 lounges & 2 bathrooms, with the stand alone minor home having 2 bedrms & 2 bathrms.



**Carol Hatton**  
027 574 3758  
carol@firstnational.nz  
Web# FNPC1184

5 | 4 | 2



NEW LISTING

**1 Norfolk Place,  
TAIRUA**

FOR SALE, **AUCTION** (unless sold prior)

2 | 1 | 641 sqm

**LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL**

You don't want to miss out on this centrally located holiday home. North facing with all day sun. Generous decking to enjoy summer BBQ's & to relax with a glass of wine. Established trees & easy care gardens. Well maintained 2 bedrm Bach, garage has a 2nd bathrm & toilet just perfect for the overflow of family & guests. Get ready to enjoy all that Tairua has to offer, **Auction In Our Office at 1/237 Main Rd, Tairua on 27th January 2023 at 11am (unless sold prior)**



**Sandie Faiers**  
027 622 7717  
sandie@firstnational.nz  
Web# FNPC1189

3 | 2 | 1

**5 Tirinui Crescent,  
TAIRUA**

FOR SALE, **AUCTION** (unless sold prior)

**TOP OF THE WORLD**

Nothing beats a sensational view of Slipper & Shoe Islands & beyond. This property radiates design and quality. O/plan living with modern kitchen, pellet fire, wrap around deck to enjoy the vistas. 3 bedrms & 2 bathrms. 1257 sqm site.



**Auction In Our Office at 1/237 Main Rd, Tairua Friday 1pm, 16th December 2022 (unless sold prior)**  
**Neil Kember**  
021 0840 5991  
neil@firstnational.nz  
Web# FNPC1164



FINAL NOTICE

Whangamata  
**CHRISTMAS TREE FOREST  
& SANTA GROTTO 2022**

Come along and experience a magical forest featuring over 30 real Christmas trees beautifully decorated by our businesses, organisations and school children. The big fellow himself will be waiting for children to visit him in his whimsical Grotto and photographs are welcome. Bring along your gold coins for entry. Gold coin donations collected by the Lions will go to the Whangamata Community Trust to assist families in need. Make a night of it and enjoy a meal afterwards at Yings Restaurant at the Whangamata RSA! There is a free kids dessert with every kids meal!  
**Whangamata Memorial Hall - 5-7pm - 15th, 16th & 17th December 2022**





**Whangamata  
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LICENSED REAA 2008

*Don't just dream it, live it*

*Merry Christmas*

from the team at Whangamata Real Estate



As another year draws to a close, and we roll into summer, our beautiful beach is where everyone can come and sit back, relax, reflect, and enjoy our great town.

We would like to thank everyone who has bought, sold, or rented property through us in 2022 and we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday with whanau and friends.

Our team will be available to help you with any property inquiries you may have, our office will be open 7 days a week from 4th January.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## SITUATIONS VACANT



**ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT**

The Whangamata Club is looking for an Administration Assistant for our busy office. This is a permanent part time or full-time up to 35 hours per week including a weekend morning. Previous administration experience is essential with an emphasis on cash management, data input and secretarial duties. Competency with social media, website management and computer graphics are desirable.

Interested parties are to email C.V. and covering letter to [manager@whangamataclub.co.nz](mailto:manager@whangamataclub.co.nz)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**Whangamata Massage Worx Therapeutic Massage**

\$60 for an hour  
\$40 for half an hour  
Text 0274 98 76 56

## SITUATIONS VACANT

**Whangamata NEWS DELIVERERS WANTED**

for newspaper distribution in Whangamata. Are you over 11 years, honest & reliable?

For further details, please contact: **Luke 022 033 1983**  
[luke@eventday.co.nz](mailto:luke@eventday.co.nz)

## IN MEMORIAM



**Lilian Evans**

Passed away Christmas Eve 2021

A truly bubbly, warm and generous woman, all of us that knew her at the RSA and all the community groups she assisted over the years miss Lilian tremendously. She will be remembered by all of us for her laugh, her strength and her honesty, her golden hair and oh my word those phrases.

A golden heart - she will be missed by the whole community of Whangamata.

*Rest well, sweetheart.*

**URGENTLY REQUIRED Part-time caregiver**

Part-time caregiver needed in Whangamata to assist with personal care for lovely lady in her 70's. Good hourly rate offered, training provided.

**Phone Margaret on 865 6596.**

## PUBLIC NOTICE



**Whangamata Anglican Christmas Services**  
at the Community Church, 103 Beverley Tce, Whangamata

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Saturday 24 December 11.30pm  
Carols by Candlelight and Communion.

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Sunday 25 December 9.00am  
Family friendly Christmas Communion service. All welcome.

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**NEW STORAGE SHEDS**  
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*Are we getting our fair share?*

**ENTERPRISE WHANGAMATA**

Admittedly, the Coromandel wouldn't be an easy district to run. It's small permanent population, distance between villages and huge discrepancies in wealth would challenge any organisation. For many years Whangamata's rates have supported much more than just Whangamata. So, the question is, are we getting our fair share? Find out on December 20th at Enterprise Whangamata's Bis After 5 at Whanga Bar, when TCDC Economic Development Lead, Mitch King, will be there.

Come and tell us about your business and what you need and if you guess who our mystery Santa is you could win a Whanga Bar voucher.  
Free nibbles and soft drinks.

When: 20 December 2022, 5pm to 6.30pm  
Where: Whanga Bar  
What: Free finger food and soft drink. Bar open.



*Profit for business*

**Whangamata Tides 2022-2023**

December 2022 ☾ New Moon: 23rd • Full Moon: 8th

| Date   | High tide AM | Height (m) | High tide PM | Low tide AM | Height (m) | Low tide PM | Sun rise | Sun set |
|--------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------|---------|
| 16 Fri | 1:05         | 1.6        | 13:32        | 7:05        | 0.5        | 19:44       | 05:48    | 20:33   |
| 17 Sat | 1:52         | 1.6        | 14:17        | 7:53        | 0.5        | 20:32       | 05:48    | 20:34   |
| 18 Sun | 2:44         | 1.6        | 15:06        | 8:44        | 0.5        | 21:22       | 05:49    | 20:35   |
| 19 Mon | 3:40         | 1.6        | 15:57        | 9:40        | 0.5        | 22:16       | 05:49    | 20:35   |
| 20 Tue | 4:39         | 1.6        | 16:51        | 10:38       | 0.5        | 23:12       | 05:49    | 20:36   |
| 21 Wed | 5:38         | 1.7        | 17:47        | 11:36       | 0.5        |             | 05:50    | 20:36   |
| 22 Thu | 6:35         | 1.8        | 18:44        | 0:08        | 0.3        | 12:34       | 05:50    | 20:37   |
| 23 Fri | 7:31         | 1.9        | 19:41        | 1:03        | 0.2        | 13:31       | 05:51    | 20:37   |
| 24 Sat | 8:25         | 1.9        | 20:38        | 1:57        | 0.1        | 14:27       | 05:51    | 20:38   |
| 25 Sun | 9:18         | 2.0        | 21:33        | 2:49        | 0.1        | 15:22       | 05:52    | 20:38   |
| 26 Mon | 10:11        | 2.0        | 22:28        | 3:41        | 0.1        | 16:16       | 05:53    | 20:39   |
| 27 Tue | 11:04        | 2.0        | 23:22        | 4:33        | 0.1        | 17:10       | 05:53    | 20:39   |
| 28 Wed |              | 1.9        | 11:57        | 5:25        | 0.1        | 18:04       | 05:54    | 20:39   |
| 29 Thu | 0:17         | 1.9        | 12:50        | 6:19        | 0.2        | 18:58       | 05:55    | 20:40   |
| 30 Fri | 1:12         | 1.8        | 13:44        | 7:13        | 0.3        | 19:52       | 05:55    | 20:40   |
| 31 Sat | 2:09         | 1.8        | 14:38        | 8:10        | 0.3        | 20:48       | 05:56    | 20:40   |

January 2023 ☾ New Moon: 22nd • Full Moon: 7th

| Date  | High tide AM | Height (m) | High tide PM | Low tide AM | Height (m) | Low tide PM | Sun rise | Sun set |
|-------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|----------|---------|
| 1 Sun | 3:08         | 1.7        | 15:31        | 9:08        | 0.4        | 21:43       | 05:57    | 20:40   |
| 2 Mon | 4:07         | 1.7        | 16:25        | 10:07       | 0.5        | 22:38       | 05:58    | 20:40   |
| 3 Tue | 5:05         | 1.7        | 17:18        | 11:06       | 0.5        | 23:33       | 05:59    | 20:40   |
| 4 Wed | 6:00         | 1.7        | 18:10        |             |            | 12:01       | 05:59    | 20:40   |
| 5 Thu | 6:52         | 1.7        | 19:00        | 0:24        | 0.4        | 12:54       | 06:00    | 20:40   |
| 6 Fri | 7:39         | 1.7        | 19:47        | 1:12        | 0.4        | 13:42       | 06:01    | 20:40   |

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|----------------------------------|---|---|

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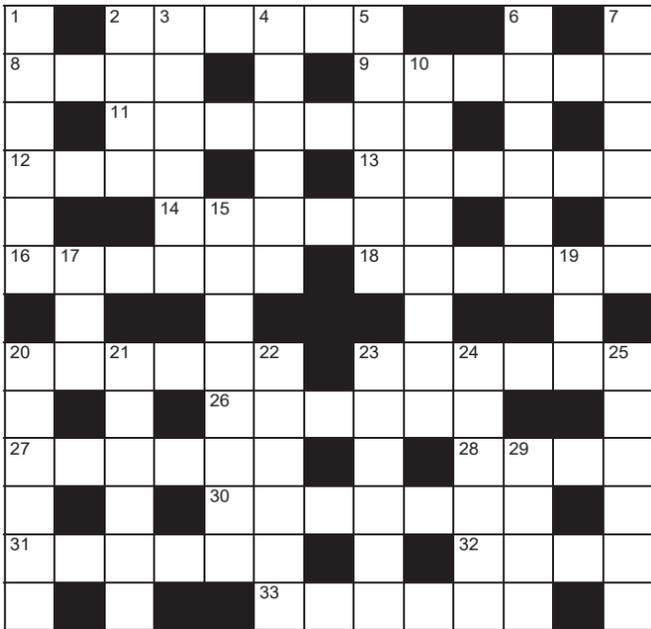
## Held a sporting or club event recently?



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It's FREE - it's what readers want and we want you!

**QUICK CROSSWORD**



- Across**
- 2. Quagmire (6)
  - 8. Instead (of) (4)
  - 9. Consequence (6)
  - 11. Standing height (7)
  - 12. Combustible black rock (4)
  - 13. Attack (6)
  - 14. Curt (6)
  - 16. Without haste (6)
  - 18. Pause (6)
  - 20. Fabric stiffener (6)
  - 23. Worn out, threadbare (6)
  - 26. Water boiling vessel (6)
  - 27. Come into sight (6)
  - 28. Retail outlet (4)
  - 30. In reality (L) (2,5)
  - 31. Orthodontic device (6)
  - 32. Money for the poor (4)
  - 33. Annual (6)
- Down**
- 1. Casual trousers (6)
  - 2. Flat-topped hill (4)
  - 3. Fugitive (6)
  - 4. Important traffic route (6)
  - 5. Angel (6)
  - 6. Renounce a previous belief (6)
  - 7. Ground floor theatre seats (6)
  - 10. Celebration (8)
  - 15. Barricade (8)
  - 17. Parcel of land for sale (3)
  - 19. Vase (3)
  - 20. Out, threadbare (6)
  - 21. Urgent request (6)
  - 22. Violation of a religious code (6)
  - 23. Layers (6)
  - 24. Chaste (6)
  - 25. Keyboard operator (6)
  - 29. Sacred (4)

**TRIO**

The same three-letter sequence will complete each of the four words

A \_ \_ \_ Y  
 \_ \_ \_ GS  
 AR \_ \_ \_  
 BE \_ \_ \_ IA

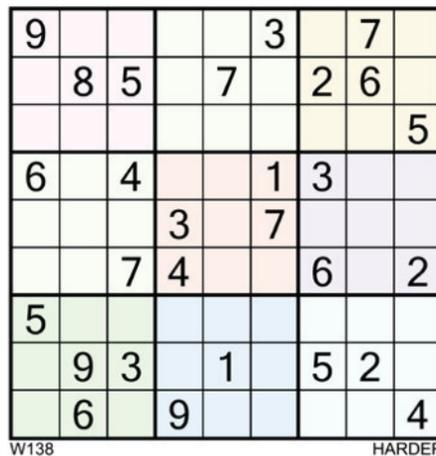
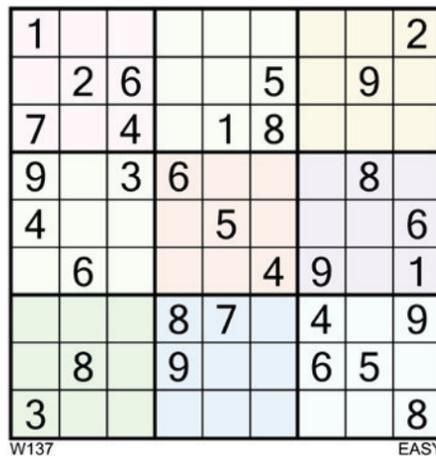
**WORDWHEEL**

Add one letter to make a 9-letter word reading clockwise or anti clockwise



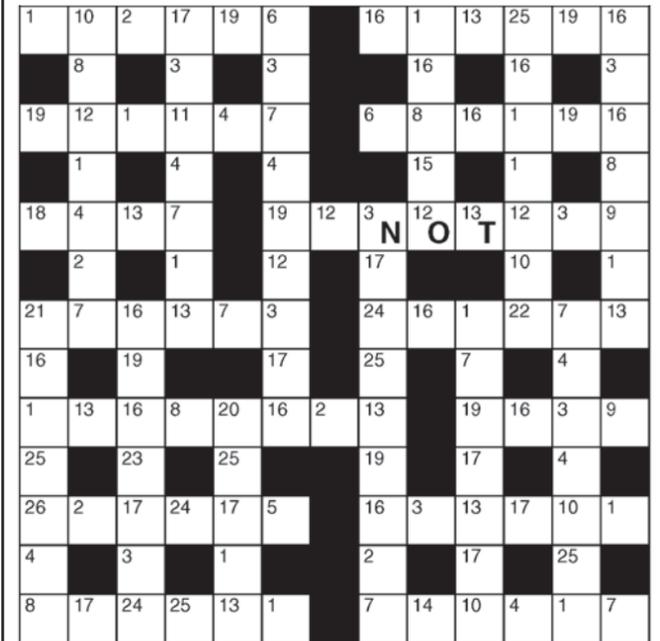
**SUDOKU**

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 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|    |    |    | N  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |   | O | T |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

WORKING SPACE

**SOLUTIONS**

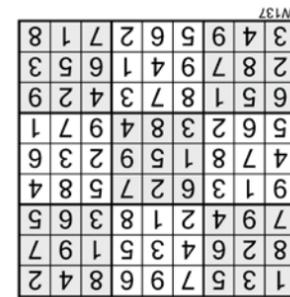
**CROSSWORD**

**Across:** 2. Morass, 8. Lieu, 9. Effect, 11. Stature, 20. Starch, 23. Savant, 26. Kettle, 27. Appear, 28. Shop, 30. De facto, 31. Braces, 32. Alms, 33. Yearly.  
**Down:** 1. Slacks, 2. Mesa, 3. Outlaw, 4. Artery, 5. Seraph, 6. Recant, 7. Stalls, 10. Festival, 12. Coal, 13. Assail, 14. Abrupt, 16. Slowly, 18. Hiatus, 19. Vase (3), 21. Urgent request (6), 22. Violation of a religious code (6), 23. Layers (6), 24. Chaste (6), 25. Keyboard operator (6), 29. Sacred (4).

**DECODER**

|    |   |   |    |   |    |   |   |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |    |   |
|----|---|---|----|---|----|---|---|---|----|---|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1  | S | R | N  | U | D  | P | 7 | 8 | L  | 9 | Y  | 10 | C  | 11 | O | 12 | T | 13 |   |    |   |    |   |
| 14 | X | V | 15 | A | 17 | I | J | M | 20 | W | 21 | B  | 22 | K  | Z | 23 | G | 24 | H | 25 | F | 26 | F |

**SUDOKU**



TRIO: GON

WORDWHEEL: FLOODGATE

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