

Whangamata NEWS



ISSUE 3 – MARCH, 2019

BY LOCALS. FOR LOCALS. ABOUT LOCALS.



*Coming
to the Hop
– Emma and the Impala*

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MORE TO LOOK FORWARD TO: PAGES 6 & 7

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Welcome to the March edition of *Whangamata* NEWS

- a monthly magazine By Locals, For Locals, About Locals



Whangamata News

www.whangamatanews.nz

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FRONT COVER

Are you ready? Yeah!! It's Beach Hop! Emma Hughes from Auckland is pictured with her 1965 Chev Impala

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We welcome your letters, articles, photos, news tips and advertising enquiries.

- Letters must be no more than 200 words.
- We ask that articles be no more than 250 words although exceptions can be made.
- Photos should be at least 300dpi and in focus.
- Notices of upcoming events, sports results and club notices must be as brief as possible.

For editorial or photographic matters, phone Lesley on 021 664 784 or email wordy1@gmail.com

For advertising & advertorial information, phone Jennie on 021 0232 1661 or email jennieablack@gmail.com

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National

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





We welcome your letters! Email to: wordy1@gmail.com

Williamson Park 'fiasco'

The Whangamata Community Board can be held responsible for the Williamson Park fiasco.

Only Jan Bartley stood up to the council but the rest of the board supported the council's 15 year application for commercial events.

The board's vote in support was what the council relied upon for the consent application.

I have a history of emails I sent directly to the board members setting out the flaws in the council's proposal which they completely ignored. I am happy to make these available.

It has cost more than \$100,000 of ratepayers' money to bring the consent applications on behalf of promoters (who would usually have to make such applications at their own expense).

At the two-day consent hearing only Jan Bartley turned up; none of the other board members did. This is disgraceful.

We need people who have

professional independence and management experience prepared to stand up to council bureaucrats.

Friends of Williamson Park Society had to stand up in the absence of the community board; and employ a lawyer and experts.

The Commissioner accepted in large part our arguments. Now there can only be one fenced ticketed concert a year; the council now accept this.

The elections are in October and it is time to vote out our representatives who failed in their elected duty.

Whangamata is a diverse community with 30% of ratepayers who live permanently in the area; of the remaining 70%; about half come from the Waikato area and half from the Auckland area.

All the current community board come from permanent residents. So it's time for a change and rejuvenation.

Watch this space.

Gary Gotlieb
FRIENDS OF WHANGAMATA SOCIETY

A load of rubbish

Whangamata is a beautiful place to visit - has been for decades for our family.

But over the past few years I've notice more and more rubbish lying along the roadsides and in the sand dunes.

Once upon a time we used to see road crews picking up this rubbish - and still do in other towns.

The situation is definitely worse following rubbish days - bags left on the footpaths are attacked by dogs and gulls, attracted by smells of decay and rotting food.

And now we're not allowed to hang the bags on fences or power poles, the situation has worsened. Holidaymakers can't wait til Monday to put their bags out so they leave them out Sunday night - and that's where the problem starts.

I know there is free drop-off at the Whangamata dump but it's human nature to not bother to travel several kilometres - specially if you're in the Moana Anu Anu area - to dump one bag.

Gullinators, which TCDC seems to promote, don't seem to have taken off - in fact I haven't seen one over a rubbish bag!

What's the answer? Allow them to be hung up again on trees near the road? Put mesh rubbish crates on each block (what an eyesore that would be)?

I don't know the answer - but something has to be done. Come on council, put your thinking caps on!

Anne Ward
HAMILTON

> MORE ON P9

Letters

Whangamata NEWS welcomes your letters.

Your letters must be no longer than **250 words** and must be signed (no nom des plumes please).

Whangamata NEWS reserves the right to edit, or to not print, submitted letters.



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Whangamata NEWS

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Obituary: Max Christoffersen

Max Christoffersen didn't come into my life until about two years ago - but in that time his enthusiasm for life, his opinions on most things, and his willingness to help with any project made a huge impression on me and others in the community.

A respected journalist with roots in the Waikato, Max died in the back of an ambulance at Whangamata in the early hours of Saturday March 2, a life cut short at the young age of 57.

Max was a columnist for the Waikato Times for two decades, and more recently helped out in Whangamata, filling in during staff absences and supplying articles and ideas to Coastal News during my time as Editor there.

Max always expressed a deep affection for Whangamata. For decades when he was growing up, his family had a bach in Williamson Rd where they spent many happy hours holidaying and exploring.

When it was sold, Max mourned the loss - and continued to do so til his death - and the good times he remembered there were often a topic of conversation.



Max's widow Linda Thompson, also a long-time and respected journalist in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty, said two days after his death on Saturday March 2: 'I'm actually happy that he died at

Whangamata, his spiritual home.'

He had had heart problems for six years and was hoping his medications would keep him going til surgery could be performed -

sadly, that was not to be.

I remember his love for heavy metal music - not a genre I particularly like. But he often spoke about setting up a little radio station in Whangamata which, eventually, he did do, establishing a transmitter in the Pacific Heights area.

He already had a similar station operating from Mount Maunganui where he and Linda lived and had been involved in Contact Radio in Hamilton from the late 80s.

When a few years ago Max was asked by a friend in Whangamata to look after her cottage and cat(s) while she was away on a regular basis, he jumped at the chance and spent as much time as possible in the Hauturu Rd character cottage.

When it came to interests, Max had an eclectic range, from his collection of ape hanger bikes (I think that's what he told me) to his love of sporty cars and fashion.

Fellow colleague Stacey Renata described Max as such an interesting person.

'When he walked in to the office with his high waisted jeans and jersey looking every bit the rock

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man ... then he took his jersey off and he'd have a t-shirt with a picture of a cat on it - he loved cats!! It was hilarious.

'He had a naughty sweet tooth and I would tell him off ... he'd come into the office every day with a banana cake and eat the whole thing.

'When I visited him in Hauturu Street for a yarn ... because he loved a yarn - and not just any old yarn ... it was deep, emotional, the good nitty-gritty stuff - in fact it wasn't uncommon to come in to the office and Max and I would spend the whole day talking.

He wore his heart on his sleeve ...

Max will be missed by many who knew him through the media, as well as Linda and their two children Alexander and Kate.

Courtesy Lesley, Jennie & Peter of Whangamata NEWS - colleagues and friends.



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Stephen Richards and his best mate Strider have been dedicated crew members and supporters of Beach Hop for many years.

Hop fever grows

Emma Hughes, pictured on the front cover, says she is the luckiest woman, owning a 1965 Chevrolet Impala 2 door Coupe, 396 Big Block SS Supersport, pictured right.

Her partner Paul Westwood, who has been building and racing cars for years, said he thought it was time for Emma to have something of her own.

"I thought she could have it as her hobby and go cruising with her girls - and what better place is there than Whangamata?"

"I have been going to Beach Hop since I was a young lad - now I'm an old man at 42, but I'll still be going there when I'm in my tricked-up electric Harley Davidson scooter," Paul said.

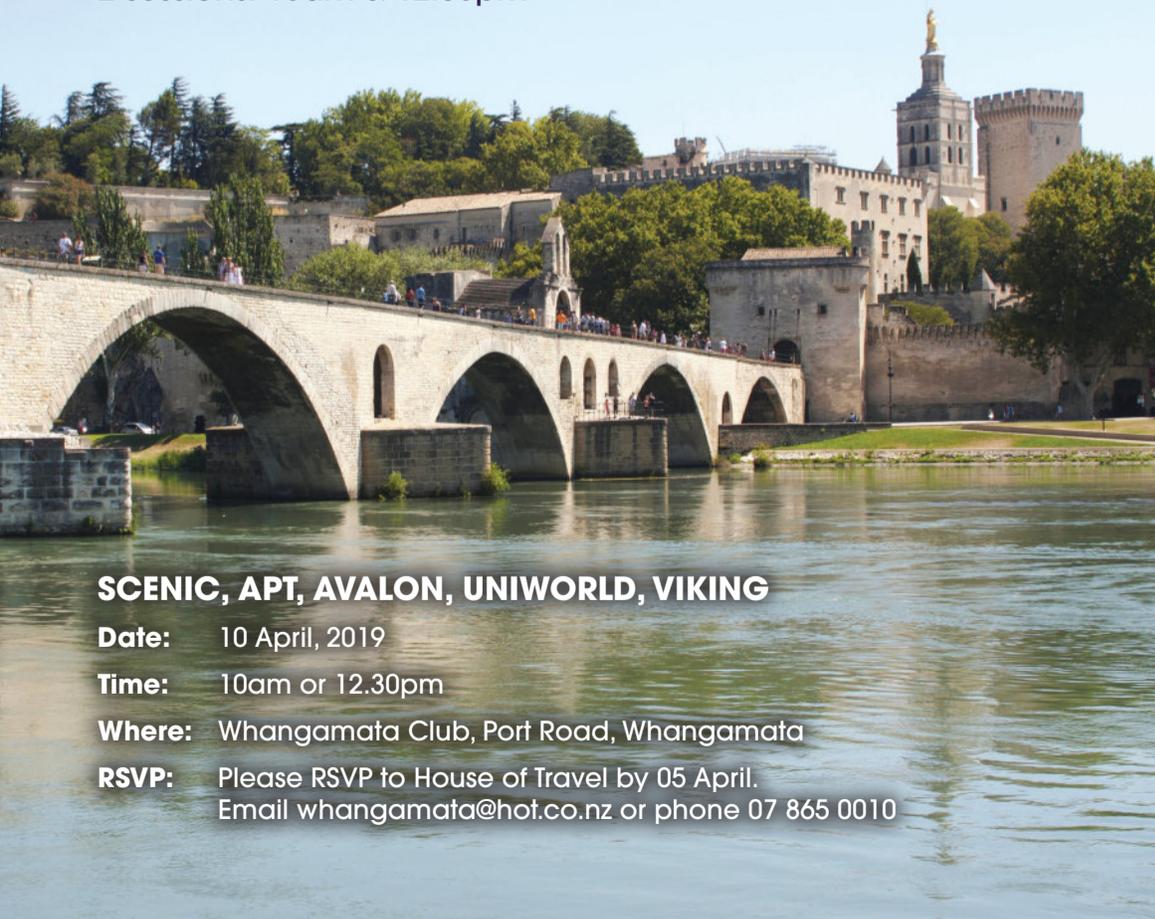
Also a regular at the Beach Hop and an integral crew member is Stephen Richards who is seldom seen without his constant companion, border collie Strider.

RIVER CRUISING

Information Sessions - Whangamata Club

Join our HOT Cruise team and hear the latest information on River Cruising. Morning and afternoon tea provided

2 sessions: 10am & 12.30pm



SCENIC, APT, AVALON, UNIWORLD, VIKING

Date: 10 April, 2019

Time: 10am or 12.30pm

Where: Whangamata Club, Port Road, Whangamata

RSVP: Please RSVP to House of Travel by 05 April.
Email whangamata@hot.co.nz or phone 07 865 0010



Here we are, only three months into the year and already the government has made waves that will hit the Coromandel and communities like Whangamata especially hard.

Some are calling their proposals for a Capital Gains Tax a 'bach tax' and for good reason. But worse the Labour Government's Tax Working Group has recommended one of the highest rates of Capital Gains Tax in the world.

It's a tax that will reap \$8.3 billion extra in its first 5 years from ordinary kiwis - small business owners, farmers, bach and lifestyle block owners will be the main targets.

Labour claims this is about fairness - there is nothing fair about saying owners of baches and lifestyle blocks will face a tougher Capital Gains Tax than corporates.

Baches in our communities provide a home-away-from-home by the sea. They are an integral part of the 'Kiwi way of life'.

Under the proposed scheme for Capital Gains Tax, all bach owners will face newly introduced taxes at the marginal tax rate of 33% if and when they decide to sell their second property.

Talk about destroying the Kiwi dream. The implications for the property market around the Coromandel and at Whangamata will be obvious and devastating.

New Zealanders already pay enough tax and the government should be looking at reducing taxes, not taking more out of the pockets of hard-working New Zealanders.

National has promised to repeal a Capital Gains Tax and will not introduce any new taxes in our first term.

On a happier note, Beach Hop 2019 is just around the corner and I'm sure that Noddy and the team have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to put on what is always a terrific event for Whangamata.

If past years are anything to go by, we're in for a fantastic display of retro nostalgia and one that I always look forward to attending.

Can't wait to get hopping!

Authorised by Scott Simpson MP, 614 Pollen St, Thames



Emma Hughes' 1965 Chevrolet Impala 2-door Coupe.

Wow! What a prize!

One of the prizes at Repco Beach Hop 2019 is this 2019 Harley Davidson XL883N Iron motorbike - it's never been on the road and is in pristine condition.

You can view the motorbike now at Whanga Books - but don't touch it!

For your chance to win the Harley Davidson, plus other major prizes, you must buy a 2019 Repco Beach Hop programme - still only \$5 - from selected outlets. Fill out the form and be in to win!



2019 Harley Davidson Bike is at Whanga Books



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Friday 29th March 7.30pm - 11.30pm

THE CHE ORTON BAND
Saturday 30th March - RSA Carpark 12.00pm - 1.30pm
Saturday 30th March - RSA 7.30pm - 11.30pm

KEVIN GREAVES
Sunday 31st March 5.00pm - 8.00pm

Annual Bowls Fun Day

Sunday 17 March from 8.30am
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Living Well with cancer

A free programme starting 8 April in Whangamata will explore how to live well with a cancer diagnosis.

Supportive care nurse Penny Parsons from the Cancer Society will deliver the programme, along with healthcare professionals who provide care and support locally.

The aim of the two-day programme, says Penny, is to give people practical tools they can use on their journey through cancer.

“Living Well gives people a better understanding and dispels some of the myths around cancer. There’s also a focus on developing self-care and advocacy skills and managing the side effects of treatment.

“People who have gone through the programme tell us they feel more informed, less anxious and more confident as they navigate the healthcare system.”

Penny says it’s also a good opportunity for people living with cancer and their carers to come together as a group.



Penny Parsons, supportive care nurse for the Cancer Society, supports people living with cancer in the Coromandel.

“A cancer diagnosis can be isolating. One of the benefits of the programme is the contact you have with the other people who are going through similar experiences and knowing you’re not alone.”

Living Well is suitable for anyone with any type and stage of cancer, as well as their carer. Classes run Monday 8 and 15 April, 10am-3.30pm.

Contact pennyparsons@cancersociety.org.nz or call 027 684 0004.

Funding for art projects

Thames-Coromandel District Council is offering a helping hand to arts groups or creative projects through the Creative Communities Scheme.

Applications for the current funding round are open until Friday March 29 and is for projects that will take place from that date until March 1, 2020.

The Creative Coromandel - He Mana Toi Moehau Trust Board, made up of representatives from across the Coromandel, administers the Creative Communities Scheme funds on behalf of Creative New Zealand.

Board members were pleased with the calibre of applications last year, which represented a wide range of art mediums, with an increase in Toi Maori (Maori art) applications.

Twenty applications were received with a total of \$61,022.08 requested. Sadly, the board only had funds of \$12,162.50 available. Funding is awarded to projects rather than the people undertaking the project. Applications need to meet one or more of the following criteria to be eligible for the funding:

Broad community involvement - The project will create opportunities for local

communities to engage with and participate in arts activities.

Diversity - The project will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity.

Young people - The project will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and actively participate in the arts.

As a general guide, applicants should provide the following details:

Provide dates for events.

Provide the name of the tutor and a briefing on each one.

Remember the timing of the projects e.g. projects that start before the date of the funding round cannot be considered.

Advise if the project will still go ahead if a portion of the funding request is granted.

Cross-check any budget figures that are provided.

Consider the eligibility criteria as set out in the applicants' guide.

Provide as much detail as possible about your event.



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Letters

> FROM P3

Thank you Dr Burke

In my thank you letter to those who helped me to survive when I collapsed at the RSA's Armistice Day commemoration, I omitted to mention Doctor David Burke from the Whangamata Medical Centre, who was apparently visiting at Moana House at the time.

My sincere thanks to you and to everyone who helped me return to this mortal coil!

Thank you.

Peter West

We welcome your letters! Email to: wordy1@gmail.com

Your letters must be no longer than **250 words** and must be signed (no nom des plumes please).

Whangamata NEWS reserves the right to edit, or to not print, submitted letters.



A beautiful afternoon on Whangamata Beach
- photo by Peter West.

Open Arts Studio Trail

The Whangamata Arts Collective launched the first Open Arts Studio two years ago during Easter 2017.

Whangamata is not included in the Mercury Bay Art Escape so we decided to have our own open studio event with a particular Whangamata "flavour" and style.

Our artists who open their studios, live mainly in Whangamata but also include artists from Whiritoa area and Opoutere.

Last Easter we had 36 artists showcasing their work in 14 Studios and Hubs.

As instigator and co-coordinator, I wanted to make sure we had the chance to showcase the many varied talents of our creative community.

One of the things visitors most seem to enjoy on our trails is the opportunity to visit one of the "Hubs", where several artists exhibit in the one studio and home.

Last year, our patron and well-known artist, Kate Jones Madill hosted a Hub at her Otahu Rd Studio and home during the Easter and Labour Weekend Open Studio events.

This gave visitors the chance to see stunning art pieces of painting, printmaking, contemporary mixed media, design fibre art, ceramics and sculpture in the one setting, with the added ambience of live music and a glass of wine.

A growing trend on the trail is for

visitors to do the studio trail on bike, following the guide map from studio to studio.

The Open Arts Studio Trail provides an opportunity for visitors to see behind the scenes into the working spaces of the artists, chat to the artists, and, of course, purchase that creative piece that they fall in love with.

We are looking forward to adding more studios and Hubs and to welcoming even more visitors at our Easter Open Studio Event: April 20 and 21, 10am- 4pm. Follow the Open Studio signs and enjoy the trail.

- By Open Studio Co-coordinator
Lynne Robinson



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Game fishing 2019

It was a slow start to Whangamata's 2019 game fishing season, with a few striped marlin landed in January but mostly on the small side - under 90kg.

The Whangamata Ocean Sports Club tag & release competition was won by Bailey Cook.

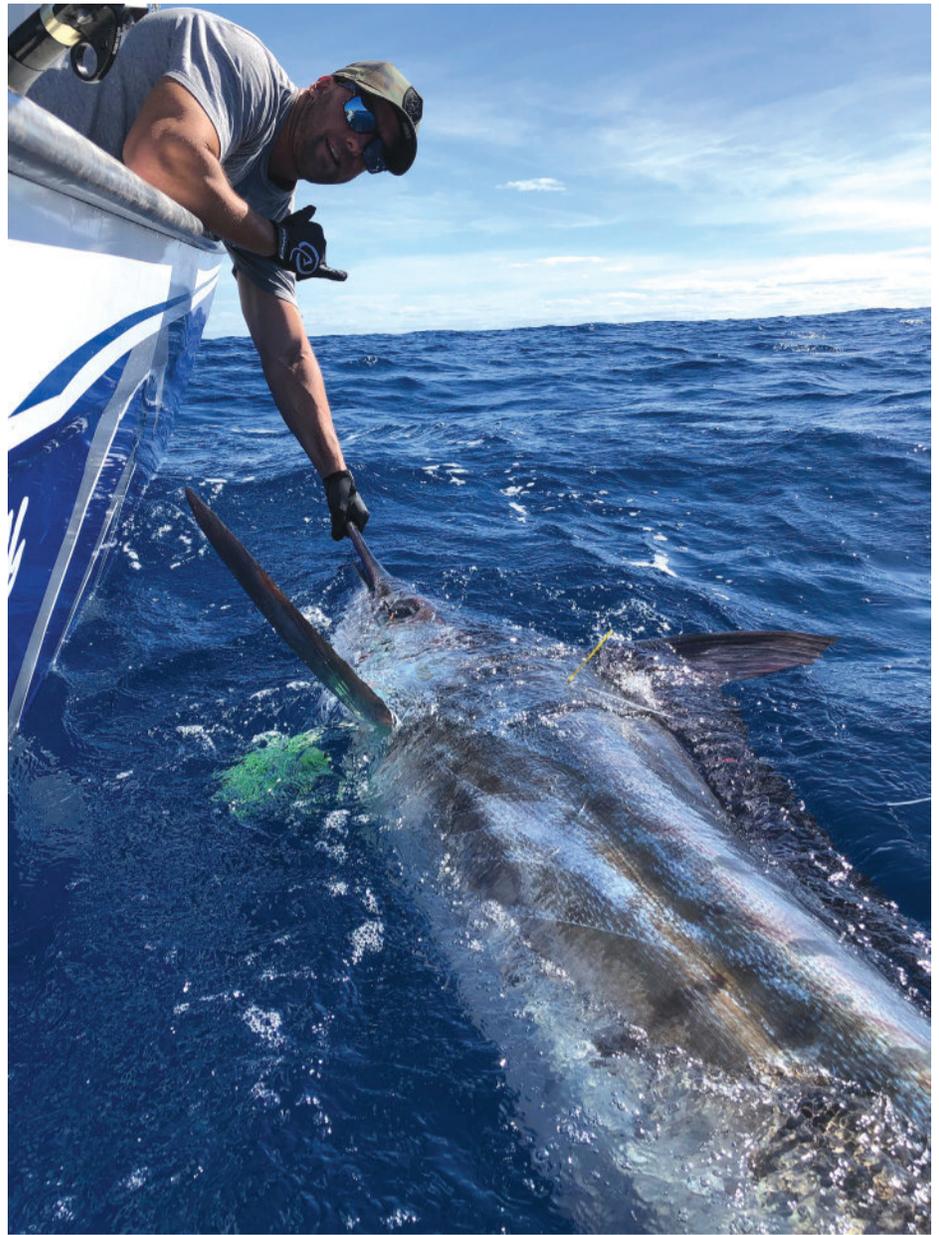
There were a few shortbilled spearfish landed - apparently very good eating!

With the clubs two big February tournaments on the horizon the excitement was building as Aaron Levien had a double hookup and tagged both stripeys the week before Nauti Girls.

Nauti Girls comp did get a tagged stripey and a late weigh in missed the marlin weighed prize. Catch of the tournament was a 67kg big eye tuna for Nicole Bryant.

The A1 Homes tournament was full of expectation with 560 anglers keen to get among the \$20,000 tag and release money plus a whole lot of prizes... alas, the weather gods cast a spell on the tournament and no fishing took place over the three days.

[> MORE ON P39](#)



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On our stage for Beach Hop

Tuesday 26th March from 7pm	Coastal Rockers Welcome Hop featuring Gerry Lee
Wednesday 27th March from 8pm	Tim & the Rockets
Thursday 28th March from 2pm - 4pm	Rock 'n' Roll Lessons "Circle"
Thursday 28th March from 8pm	Kiwi Plates Nostalgia Quiz Night featuring Gerry Lee
Friday 29th March from 2pm - 4pm	Rock 'n' Roll Lessons "Beginners"
Friday 29th March from 6pm - 8.30pm	Gerry Lee
Friday 29th March from 8.30pm - Midnight	The Lincoln's from Adelaide
Saturday 30th March from 8am - 3pm	RepcO Pre 49 Hot Rod Show
Saturday 30th March from 11am - 3pm	Al & the Wild Katz
Saturday 30th March from 6pm - 8.30pm	Gerry Lee
Saturday 30th March from 8.30pm - Midnight	The Lincoln's from Adelaide

CLUB DINING FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

Beach Hop licence applies, visitors welcome

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Welcome to Whangamata



Meet the Shields family - they have moved from one beautiful place (Tauranga) to another - right here in Whangamata.

Suzanne and Kevin Shields, the senior partners in the Estuary Store along with their son Daniel (Dan) and his wife Chantelle, are

just starting to relax after taking over the business just before Christmas.

'We hit the ground running,' says Suzanne, who has a background in banking, as a legal secretary, and as an op shop manager.

Kevin, the quiet one of the four,

was born and bred in Tauranga and retired as a detective in the Police Force last year.

Dan and Chantelle lived in Perth for three years before traveling and returning to Tauranga.

Looking for a lifestyle, the four decided to buy the Estuary Store as a business and have just come up for air after a very busy summer.

They all have specific roles that reflect their interests - Dan loves being in the water so he's in charge of the kayak hire; Chantelle runs the takeaway part of the business and is already gaining a reputation for her chips - and for her scones she bakes fresh every day; Kevin is happy to greet and serve the customers in the shop, and Suzanne is in charge of the financial side of the business, and helping Chantelle with the takeaways.

During the winter months, the family plans to have a little 'pop-up café' inside - a place for local residents to gather for a coffee, an ice cream or scone, and have a natter.

And for this month's Beach Hop, they have prepared a special takeaway menu.

Go and check them out - you won't be disappointed!

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WHANGAMATA TIDES 2019

March

☾ New Moon: 7th ● Full Moon: 21st

Date	High tide AM	Height (m)	High tide PM	Low tide AM	Height (m)	Low tide PM	Sun rise	Sun set
10 Sun	10:41	1.8	22:57	4:19	0.4	16:45	07:08	19:43
11 Mon	11:18	1.8	23:36	4:58	0.4	17:24	07:09	19:41
12 Tue	11:57	1.8		5:39	0.4	18:05	07:10	19:40
13 Wed	0:18	1.8	12:39	6:23	0.4	18:49	07:11	19:38
14 Thu	1:03	1.8	13:25	7:11	0.5	19:38	07:12	19:37
15 Fri	1:55	1.8	14:16	8:04	0.5	20:32	07:13	19:35
16 Sat	2:53	1.8	15:15	9:02	0.5	21:30	07:14	19:34
17 Sun	3:56	1.8	16:18	10:05	0.5	22:33	07:15	19:32
18 Mon	5:00	1.8	17:24	11:09	0.4	23:35	07:16	19:31
19 Tue	6:02	1.9	18:28		0.3	12:11	07:17	19:29
20 Wed	7:02	2.0	19:29	0:36	0.2	13:10	07:18	19:28
21 Thu	7:58	2.0	20:25	1:33	0.2	14:07	07:19	19:26
22 Fri	8:51	2.1	21:19	2:28	0.1	15:00	07:20	19:25
23 Sat	9:43	2.1	22:11	3:21	0.1	15:51	07:20	19:23
24 Sun	10:33	2.1	23:01	4:12	0.1	16:41	07:21	19:22
25 Mon	11:22	2.0	23:51	5:02	0.2	17:30	07:22	19:20
26 Tue		2.0	12:11	5:53	0.3	18:18	07:23	19:19
27 Wed	0:41	1.9	12:59	6:43	0.4	19:07	07:24	19:17
28 Thu	1:32	1.9	13:49	7:35	0.4	19:57	07:25	19:15
29 Fri	2:24	1.8	14:40	8:28	0.5	20:49	07:26	19:14
30 Sat	3:18	1.7	15:33	9:23	0.6	21:43	07:27	19:12
31 Sun	4:12	1.7	16:28	10:18	0.6	22:39	07:28	19:11

April

☾ New Moon: 5th ● Full Moon: 19th

Date	High tide AM	Height (m)	High tide PM	Low tide AM	Height (m)	Low tide PM	Sun rise	Sun set
1 Mon	5:06	1.7	17:22	11:12	0.6	23:33	07:29	19:09
2 Tue	5:56	1.7	18:15			12:03	07:30	19:08
3 Wed	6:44	1.7	19:03	0:23	0.5	12:51	07:30	19:06
4 Thu	7:29	1.8	19:48	1:08	0.5	13:35	07:31	19:05
5 Fri	8:11	1.8	20:31	1:51	0.5	14:16	07:32	18:03
6 Sat	8:52	1.8	21:12	2:32	0.4	14:56	07:33	18:02
7 Sun	8:31	1.8	20:52	2:12	0.4	14:36	06:34	17:01
8 Mon	9:11	1.9	21:32	2:53	0.4	15:16	06:35	17:59
9 Tue	9:51	1.9	22:14	3:34	0.4	15:57	06:36	17:58

Boat club supports harbour guardians

Whangamata Ocean Sports Club has donated a state of the art Garmin GPS to Whangamata Harbour Care (established in 1997 to look after the health of our harbour), to make the pest control programme run by the group just a bit easier.

Eight members of Harbour Care check traps and bait stations each week in the quest to rid the environs of stoats, rats and hedgehogs which kill nesting adult birds and nestlings.

Ocean Sports Club general manager Phil Keogh welcomes the opportunity to help the group that has the harbour's health at heart.

'Our members cherish the local marine environs and are delighted to donate a GPS to help in its improvement,' Phil says.

According to Harbour Care chairman John McCombe, every pest captured is a positive for conservation.

'We need more volunteers to maintain the required trap runs - most of the stations on a run can be checked in an hour once a week and training is given before you start the job,' John says.

John can be contacted on 0274 330 461 - he's waiting for your call!



Harbour Care stalwarts Ian Feasey and Kerry Gibb check the GPS with Ocean Sports Club general manager Phil Keogh

Choppy seas for waka contest

The end of February saw more than 15 waka ama teams from Taupo to Tutukaka descend on Whangamata for a weekend of competition.

Choppy seas led to a few waka capsizing as they struggled to get out to calmer water but safety was paramount with escort crews in powered craft on hand.

Courses were 8km and 15km long.

As one competitor said: 'It was hard work but great fun as well.'



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\$569,000

203C RANGI AVENUE

ROCK INTO RANGI

This property is all about location, it's just a short distance to the beach. It has 70s charm and can come with the matching furniture from that bygone era! Open plan kitchen, dining and lounge area at patio level for easy indoor/ outdoor living. Up a few stairs to the two bedrooms, toilet and combined bathroom / laundry. The master bedroom has direct access to a north /east facing deck. It's a compact freehold title with shared driveway but has its own off-street parking space. Given the location, it could work well as a casual rental. Have a look and explore how it could work for you.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7650



Sharon Laurenson
027 662 3164
sharon@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



\$675,000

117 CHEVRON CRESCENT

SEA VIEWS & TREE TOPS

Standing tall among the trees and in a bush setting, this character home invites intrigue. Expansive sea views from this elevated vantage point are an unexpected delight and especially good seen through the feature window on main living floor. Three bedrooms over 3 levels. An upper loft bedroom or hobby room. On the ground floor is a spacious family room, double bedroom and second bathroom/laundry. On the mid floor the open plan kitchen, dining and lounge and master bedroom have twin french door sets leading to a large north facing deck. The timber deck overlooks the meandering garden below. Do be led down the garden path to the private spa pool area nestled in the trees. A single garage and plenty of off-street parking completes the package. View by appointment and start to see yourself living there.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7610



Sharon Laurenson
027 662 3164
sharon@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



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317 LINTON CRESCENT

INDOORS & OUTDOORS BLEND

Great permanent or holiday home - this property will have wide appeal. Open plan living on the ground floor flanked by dual patio areas means the indoors and outdoors blend together in perfect harmony. Ideal for families who like to play, garden, BBQ and entertain. Three double bedrooms with the master on the ground level. A second lounge and two bedrooms on the upper level gives a little separation and alternative quiet space for reading, hobbies, an office or children's play area. Two bathrooms, one on each level, with a third toilet and shower attached to the garage and out buildings making the back yard ideal for campers in tents.

Easy care gardens with established trees, all fully fenced and gated for peace of mind while children or pets are roaming free. Located close to the Estuary for easy access to sheltered swimming areas and reserves.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7654



Sharon Laurenson
027 662 3164
sharon@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



\$635,000

500B PORT ROAD

SIMPLY RELAX

You choose! Either for permanent or holiday living, you can't go wrong here. With 2 good sized bedrooms, new carpet, lino and kitchen, the garage has been transformed to provide added sleeping for extra guests.

Spacious open plan living, with plenty of indoor/outdoor flow, plus covered deck and patio area to enjoy and relax by. But wait - the location is equally important as this lovely property is only a short stroll to Whangamata's main attractions, shops, cafes, beach, clubs and school. This easy-care property sits on a half share flat site of 809sqm.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7656



Wendy Jeffs
027 4219482
wendy@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



\$535,000

114B WEKA STREET

GRAB THIS CHANCE

Now is the time to come and secure your slice of PARADISE! You could make this your very own private little oasis. Set on an elevated freehold level section and fully fenced, the unit has 2 double bedrooms (large master with ensuite). Open plan kitchen/dining/lounge area with ranch sliders leading out on to a covered deck. Ample room for a boat or to build a garage if needed. This property could suit either your holiday or permanent living needs.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7655



Nancy Millett
021 517708
nancy@whangamatarealstate.co.nz

Whangamata

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\$659,000

605A OCEAN ROAD

HOLIDAYS START HERE

This solid beach bach is situated in a prime central beach location and is positioned for maximum sun on a front site. Open plan living with great indoor/outdoor flow. Two double bedrooms and the added bonus of being sold furnished all ready for your holiday memories to begin. Secure your holiday investment now.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7657



Colin Thompson
021 723723
colin@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



\$795,000

117 TUNA PLACE, ONEMANA

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

After 20 years of loving Onemana Beach and their house our Vendors now need to plan their next step in life and offer this property onto a new family to enjoy it just as much as they have. Three spacious double bedrooms, main with ensuite, all with decks and views creating a tranquil setting. Open plan lounge/dining with nicely appointed semi-separate modern kitchen. Rumpus room/separate lounge (easily converted to sleeper) and double garaging for parking, storage or maybe a games room. Located at the end of the ROW and elevated, you'll wake to bird song to start your day, each day.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7649



Julian West
027 2224364
julian@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



\$897,000

2121A WAIHI-WHANGAMATA ROAD

8 HECTARES, PEACE & PRIVACY

For those who really want to feel like they're in the country with its peace and privacy yet be close to town and beaches then this is it. The solid weatherboard home sits proudly on top of a hill in a sunny position with fabulous views over farm land and down the valley. The home has 3 bedrooms, large office, high stud double garage plus implement shed. The land is 6.28 hectares with a long flat ridge suitable for Horticulture. The elevated position means it is above many winter frosts. This is a special property with plenty of potential to add value.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7651



Dave Anderson & Renee Jacobsen
0800 365 912
dave@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



\$1,395,000

1/111 HUNT ROAD

SUPERB BEACH LIVING

A very spacious ground floor 3 bedroom apartment this one. Large open plan living with outlook to the sea and peninsula. Great sized modern kitchen, 2 bathrooms, plenty of outdoor living and the beach is just metres away. Very central to town also and you enjoy 3 basement car parks & lift access. Holiday or residential - great lifestyle. Solidly constructed from concrete block, this unit is one of just 6 in the complex. At 146sqm + 117sqm of tiled and decked outdoor area + the garaging, this is a generously proportioned apartment. Additional Features Include: -Heat Pump, Central Vacuum, Underfloor Heating, Security System, Keyless Access.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7641



Pete Sheppard **Chris Speedy**
027 609 4955 021 747 901
pete.chris@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



\$4,850,000

38 AILEEN PLACE

LUXURY WATERFRONT OASIS

Positioned on 5822sqm (nearly 1.5 acres) encompassing the end of a Peninsula on the Whangamata harbour is this tranquil green oasis. The serenity and 270 degrees ever changing water views generates a feeling of absolute peace and harmony. The sense of luxury begins when you stroll down the palm lined walkway admiring the stone cladding of the house and enter the beautiful entrance foyer. Your eyes are immediately drawn to the framed harbour view in front of you. There is no shortage of space here with approximately 851sqm of house plus 370sqm of decks. There are 7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 ensuites, 2 living rooms, dining room, office, library and a 3 bay 180sqm garage. Next to the swimming pool is the near new Cabana which fully opens to the pool area and has a bar, bathroom and full-sized slate billiard table. Add to this the mature palm trees and you get the feeling you're on a tropical island. Behind the Cabana is the all-weather tennis court. Incorporated in the home is a spacious 2-bedroom apartment plus an upstairs bedroom with ensuite, ideal for multifamily living or mum & dad to live. The property has been used for private functions and is currently used for extra income streams. Great for guests who desire peace, independence and luxury in a spectacular location.

www.whangamatarealstate.co.nz ref# 7644



Dave Anderson & Renee Jacobsen
0800 365 912
dave@whangamatarealstate.co.nz



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WHAT TO DO IN Whangamata

BIKE TRAILS / FISHING / WALKING TRAILS / SURF REPORTS / SWIMMING

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

March 16:
Coromandel Homes Whangamata Multisport Challenge. Contacts: Admin and entries - Bex, nzteamcolts@gmail.com, Ph 027 562 6047 - Race inquiries - Ryan, ryan@whangamataevents.co.nz, Ph 027 428 7258

March 16-17:
Whangamata Club Fishing Adjunct's Marlin Tag 'n Release Tournament.

March 17:
Whangamata RSA Annual Bowls Fun Day, at Bowling Club, Rutherford Rd. Entries close March 15. More info from RSA 865 9419.

March 17:
St Patrick's Day.

March 27 to 31:
Repcos Beach Hop 2019. Classic American cars, fashion, rock 'n roll, music, competitions and FUN! Find them on facebook: Beach Hop.

• If you have an event coming up that you'd like us to list or cover please let us know. Email details of the event, the date, the venue and the time to: wordy1@gmail.com



BEACHES

Whiritoa - 12km south of Whangamata. Swim or walk, collect shells.

Whangamata Harbour, Ocean Beach and Otahu Estuary - check these areas for yourself. The various spots are ideal for SUP, kayaking, surfing, swimming, diving, spearfishing, snorkelling, jetskiing and skiing.

Onemana - swimming is OK along the beach. The south end is safest for children. A good beach for surfcasting. Mussels and kina in the area around the rocks.

Opoutere - All the above activities. Access through the pine forest. Bird watching is an added attraction here.

Note: At all beaches, watch for rips and do not swim out beyond your comfort zone.



CYCLING

Just about anywhere is safe to ride in Whangamata as long as you respect the rights of other road users. The path from the Marina and along Moana Anu Anu estuary is ideal for walkers, runners and cyclists. Again, have respect for other users.



MOUNTAIN BIKING

Whangamata Ridges Park, five minutes north of Whangamata on SH 25 has numerous tracks from Grade 1 to Grade 6, offering exciting rides and spectacular views. The tracks are in a forestry area so please check accessibility before riding.

Facebook: Whangamata Ridges Mountainbike Park. Information also available from Pedal and Paddle shop, cnr Port Rd and Winifred Ave.



GOLF

Whangamata has two golf courses administered by the Whangamata Golf Club - the Titoki 18-hole course just south of town and the nine-hole Williamson course on Achilles Ave.

Whangamatagolf.net.nz
Email: whangamata@golf.nz



SURFING

Whangamata is renowned for its surf beaches - take your pick! There are several surf schools close to the beach. Check with the info-Plus Visitor Information Centre for further details.



WALKS

Whangamata and surrounds have numerous walks. In town one of the favourites goes from the Marina along the Moana Anu Anu estuary and river, with a fitness trail along the edge.

There are many kilometres of beach to explore - and if you get too hot, take time for a dip.

Pokohino Beach and Te Ananui are on forestry roads off Whitipiroua (Onemana) Rd, with fairly steep tracks down to each.

Walking tracks at the end of Peninsula Rd offer spectacular ocean views and over Whangamata.

Wentworth Valley - a popular area with walkers and campers. Not accessible if fords are flooded. About 1.5km heading south of town, turn right onto Wentworth Valley. Many attractions on the valley walks, including waterfalls and swimming holes. Grab a brochure from info-Plus Visitor Centre in Port Rd.

Numerous adjuncts and clubs, from athletics to yoga, meet regularly in Whangamata so check with info-Plus if there's anything specific you're interested in.

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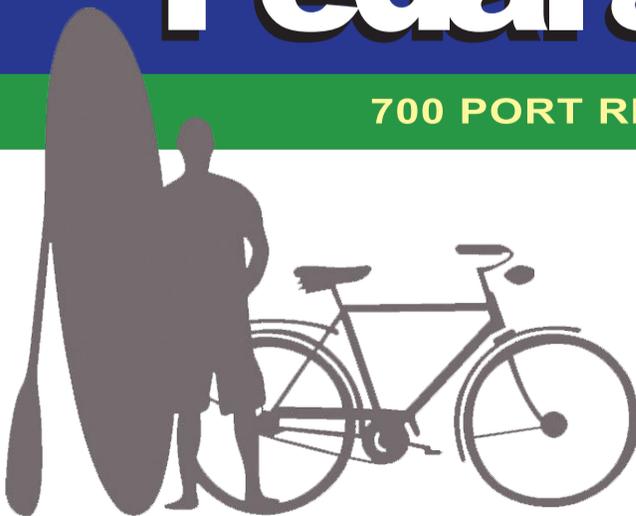
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Relaxing in the park

Visitors to Williamson Park this summer have been grateful for the shade provided by the Thames-Coromandel District Council's wave shelters - and also the opportunity to picnic and barbecue in the idyllic spot.

The shelters were established after many of the old pine trees in the park were felled, considered a danger to the public should they fall down during strong winds.

Pictured is a group of local people celebrating a family event in the park on a beautiful summer's day.



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St John Here for Life

HEART FELT THANKS....

In our community we have true 'heroes'. The St John area committee would like to extend our gratitude to Noddy Watts and Andrea Ross of Hot Rod Promotions for holding two Classic Car and Bike show events very recently and donating proceeds of more than \$4290 to our cause! Thank you both.



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F & B urges miners to go away

OceanaGold should pull out of its exploratory drilling programme on public conservation land, says Forest & Bird.

The company have announced that it has found gold and silver within Coromandel Forest Park. More drilling is planned.

'The Government has already announced that there will be no new mines on public conservation land,' says Dr Rebecca Stirnemann, central North Island manager for Forest & Bird.

'Even before the election, this area was subject to a separate promise that it would be added to Schedule 4 and mining would not occur.

'What's the point in continuing with drilling when the company won't be able to mine?'

'Even drilling has an unacceptable environmental impact,' she says. 'I've seen large areas in this forest which were cleared for accommodation and drill rigs.'

The area is home to Archey's frog, one of the most critically endangered frogs in the world.

'Archey's frogs don't leap, hardly ever chirp, and are notoriously hard to spot. Mining contractors could simply walk over them,' Dr Stirnemann says.

'The risk from any kind of mining in this area is too great.

'There is also an unacceptable risk of the company bringing kauri dieback disease into the area, which is currently free of the disease.

'The mining company should exit this area now, before more damage is done to this forest and the endangered species living there.'

Notes: 1. Schedule 4 is the list of conservation areas within the Crown Minerals Act where mining is currently prohibited. 2. More information is at: <https://www.forestandbird.org.nz/resources/gold-prospecting-conservation-land-puts-endangered-frogs-risk>

Grey Power Social Meeting

22 FEBRUARY 2019

Grey Power's first meeting for 2019 was very well attended and members were soon engaged in the world of newspapers and reporting with our two speakers, Lesley Staniland and Jennie Black from the newly established Whangamata NEWS.

For both, their passion for the world of print began early in life and throughout their careers both have seen many changes in print types, methods and technologies.

Lesley first "fell into" the life in Rotorua having rejected other careers. She continued in advertising and production in Hamilton despite a longing to write. Finally, when Lesley expressed a yearning to write while working at the Waikato Times she was given a chance to prove herself by being allowed at the sub editor's desk for 11 months after which she was appointed to the regional reporting team, taking her all over the Waikato

Her very first story was about the Gallagher Group who had developed an electric fence to control elephants. Soon afterwards she wrote the first story about Humphrey the sea elephant who famously ensconced

himself on Bridson's farm at Oputere.

Between The Waikato Times and the Coastal News Lesley had become a senior reporter transitioning through the Bay of Plenty - with a four-year stint down on the West Coast - with experience in all aspects of reporting. She said her least favourite was court reporting as she prefers to focus on positive events and outcomes.

Jennie, meantime, started her newspaper career in Tauranga with a small tourist paper, Focus. She went on to supervise advertising for five community newspapers for 10 years. She shared a delightful story with us about the very first full-page advertisement she had designed, proofread, and set herself. It was for Warnocks Menswear short-sleeved shirts, but somehow she had missed the "r" out of shirts. Too late, the edition was already on the streets! She later accompanied Lesley covering floods, slips, armed offenders and all manner of other events.

The pair went on to tell us that there are currently around 80 companies producing newspapers in New Zealand, including at

least one Chinese language one printed weekly in Auckland.

They enlightened us on the costs of advertising in the main media papers and how many of the advertisements are outsourced to India for design as labour is so much cheaper.

Jennie does the ads for their paper, while Lesley fills the pages with stories and other editorial. They assured us that they want contributions from locals - their by-line is "by locals, for locals, about locals." Lesley did caution us about sports results since they are a monthly paper at this stage but they would consider an all-encompassing monthly report from clubs. They agreed to look into regular reporting of the Community Board meetings as well.

The paper won't be home delivered but copies are readily and freely available around the town at numerous outlets and at Whiritoa and Onemana.

Thank you, Lesley and Jennie, for a very interesting morning. You left our meeting with the very best of wishes for success from a large number of Whangamata Grey Power members.

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Blank Canvas - Whiritoa

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Photos by Mark Cannell and Lesley Staniland



Trampers keep rescue service busy

A double winch extract by Westpac 1 Chopper (HES) was performed on Sunday March 3 after two people fell and injured themselves on the Coromandel.

Auckland & Coromandel Helicopter Trust Chief Crewman Mark Cannell said the helicopter had completed a winch extract of a man at the Pinnacles Hut when they received a call to Wentworth Valley where a teenager had received suspected hip injuries after falling.

Mr Cannell, a former Opoutere and Whangamata Area School student, said the helicopter located the girl at the base of the falls then returned to the helipad at the Hetherington Rd reserve to prepare for a winch.

'On returning to the falls we found that, for some reason, the girl had been moved to the top of the falls,' Mr Cannell said.

'We were able to carry out a "nappy" winch with a long rope and the girl was then flown to Thames Hospital with minor injuries.'

A 'nappy winch', Mr Cannell said, is rather like a big sling - imagine a stork carrying a baby!



Sit back, relax

Take a break and go and sit down by the harbour on any fine summer day - and be amazed at the variety of watercraft going by.

Stand-up paddle boards, kayaks, canoes, surf boards and even flutter boards, to the larger game-fishing boats or ocean-going craft are always fascinating to watch - and watching the passing parade makes you forget your worries for a while!

Photos by Lesley Staniland




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Good height achieved in this line out.

Building up for the season...

Ohaupo rugby pits it against Whanga

Whangamata greeted two bus loads of Ohaupo rugby players to begin their pre season build up last month.

The recent rain softened the Aickin Road playing surface nicely as the oval ball was kicked into play.

Whangamata's squad has been working hard with the focus on physical conditioning. The visitors Ohaupo, a Waikato hamlet located between Hamilton and Te Awamutu, play in the second tier Waikato club competition.

Both sides used this game to try out their formations and patterns of play. Whangamata's experienced back Brendon McKeown called the shots for the backline as they looked for openings in the Ohaupo defence.

The score line was irrelevant as mistakes and missed tackles were to be expected.

Four 20 minute quarters helped both sides in their shakedown. The next Saturday Whangamata hosted Tairua for another pre season friendly. Thanks to referee AJ for efficient officiating.

- by Don Mackay



This scrum formation is closely watched by referee AJ and visiting Ohaupo coach.



Ohaupo clear their scrum against Whangamata.

A MUST SEE SHOP THIS BEACH HOP!

Whangamata's NEW unique vintage themed shop

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OPEN HOURS:

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Whangamata Golf

The Whangamata golf club men's Handicap pennants side began their season at the Pines and Lakes golf courses in Pauanui recently.

They played Hauraki in foursomes - best ball competition in the morning. Then singles match play in the afternoon. At the half way point Hauraki led by 2 games against a half.

The Whangamata pair of Walters and Mackay equalised their foursomes as they won the eighteenth hole.

Earlier in this match Whangamata lead 4 up until the Hauraki pair of Taipiri and Morgan staged a dramatic comeback.

The final result was a win to Hauraki by 4 to 3.5 over Whangamata.

Non playing captain Keith reflected that his team needed to adjust to the conditions quicker and be more aggressive on the putting green.



Whangamata handicap pennants team reflecting at the after match function left to right Bill Marshall, Malcolm Burt, non playing captain Keith Adams, Doug Walters and David Branks.

RESULTS

Foursomes (Whangamata names first)

Walters and Mackay finished all square with Taipiri and Morgan, Marshall and Burt lost 3 and 2 to Mapson and Parker, Fishwick and Branks lost 1 down to Motton and Williams. Singles - Whangamata

names first Walters lost 2 and 1 to Taipiri, Mackay beat Morgan 1 up, Burt beat Parker 2 and 1, Marshall and Mapson all square, Fishwick lost to Williams 6 and 5, Branks beat Motton 3 and 2.

Whangamata Club Mahjong

8 February
There were 56 players. Winner was Eleanor Leopold with 40 points and

the Runner Up was Ngaire Hurst with 38.

Friday, 15 February

There were 45 players. Winner was Liz Brunton with 43 points and the Runner Up was Joyce Deeming with 38.

Saturday, 16 February

Several of our members went to the Whakatane Tournament where

Janet Randell came second.

Friday, 22 February

Winner: Heather Dansby-Scott, 42 points.
Runner up: Lynne Plowright, 36 points.

Friday, 1 March

Winner: Gael Butler, 36 points.
Runner up: Ila Pellow and Ngaire Hurst, both with 35 points.

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Shining for a cause

They shimmered and they shone – beautiful models in beautiful fashion – and all for a good cause.

Shimmer and Shine was a fashion parade held early in March to raise awareness of, and funds for, the organisation championing the cause for men and women who have suffered domestic violence.

Organised by travel broker Kay Gregan with veteran entertainer and singer Tina Cross, now aged 60 (59 plus GST, Tina says), the women who attended the show had a grand old time with music, singing, dancing and, of course, the fashion parade.

1. Kay Gregan and Tina Cross.
2. Mary-Lynne Carter.
3. Compere Bronagh Withell.
4. Laurene Walker.
5. Jude Oliver.
6. Tina Cross.
7. Diane Weren't.
8. The models – Mary-Lynne, Tina, Jude, Diane, Laurene and Vicki with compere Bronagh at rear left – play to the camera.
9. Tina and Kay cut the cake for Shine.



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Welcome to school!

Whangamata Area School last month held a powhiri to welcome their many new students including international students and new teachers.

The seven international students include three from Japan and four from Germany. Teachers Anita Martin and Karen Watts join the primary teaching team. Anita moves into room 8A while Karen moves into room 8B.

Amy Russell will teach drama

and performing arts while Carrie Burns is on study leave.

Kelson Simonsen assumes music teaching role for terms 1 and 2.

Michael Gastra is welcomed to the staff. He is an employment based teacher specialising in Te Reo Maori and French. Michael is part of the Teach First NZ programme.

- Words and photos by Don Mackay



New students and teachers at powhiri.



Tangata whenua, left to right, Matthew Thompson, Alistair Luke, Ian Fulton, John Boer and Paul Hughes practising before powhiri. These men sat on the pae pae - as warriors up front to defend.



International students, left to right, Don Stewart Director of International Students, Kaito Baba, Mao Miyamoto, Reimi Sakai, Sydney Lang, Anna Geiberger, Justus Siekmann, Nico Armbruster and International co-ordinator Dee Ross.

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Saturday 30 March from 12 noon
Saturday 30 March from 8 pm

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Mini Olympics

Age, wheelchairs, walking frames and canes were no barrier when it came to participating in the annual Hauraki Kaumātua Mini Olympic games event last month. Paeroa's Memorial Hall, was filled with serious competition and laughter as fifty kaumātua from the five Hauraki rōpū battled it out for the coveted trophy.

Each rōpū was easily identified by their different coloured uniforms. Whangamata, attired in their bright lime green tee shirts, reigned supreme, and their name will once again be inscribed on the trophy. Since the inauguration of the annual event hosted by Moehau (Coromandel) four years ago, Whangamata has scooped the pool each time with the exception of last year when Te Temu (Thames) came out on top. Not to be content with pocketing the spoils, Whangamata's second team tied for third place.

Even though the temperatures

were in their twenties, a mass warm up session was the order of the day prior to the commencement of the event which was led under the watchful eye of Bettina Hunter from Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki.

The teams then participated in a wide range of ten different games and activities that tested memory, co-ordination and movement. These included hoopla, stacking different coloured cups in several sequences, a race balancing a balloon on a racquet, stacking blocks and some thought provoking exercises involving healthy eating, to name but a few. A welcome lunch break gave everyone a chance to mix and mingle and gather their breath in readiness for the afternoon's activities.

Whangamata's trophy will once more be displayed in the local RSA until contested for again in next year's Mini Olympics.



Two teams of three Whangamata players took part in the annual Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki Mini Olympics recently. Teams One and Two consisted of, from left, Jaci Harris, Gina Goodhue, Michael Hunter, Val Yeates, Sheryle Winikerei, Ruhi Pene, and 92-year-old Norma Barton. Team one won their section while Team Two was third.

Bringing all ages together

Bringing junior and senior students together is one of the goals Whangamata Area School's head boy and girl have for 2019.

Ashleigh Crowsley-Howse, 17, and Callum Fulton, 16, have taken on a big responsibility for the year - but as they were selected by their peers they are confident they can cope with the duties required of them as well as keeping up with their study requirements.

They were among 10 students to go through a rigid selection process which included physical and mental challenges, after which the principal, deputy principal and the Outdoor Pursuits Centre tutor made recommendations on the best candidates for the positions.

Their challenges changed them both in some ways, says Callum.

'Before I went to the Outdoor Pursuits Centre I had a fear of heights - thanks to the activities we did there I have overcome that fear.'

Both Callum and Ashleigh are greatly interested in outdoor activities and Callum particularly enjoys surf life saving activities.

His goal is to become an engineer - either civil or electrical - at Canterbury University or at Tauranga where he can pursue his love of water sports.

Ashleigh is undecided at the moment. 'I've heard about the Camp America experience and wouldn't mind doing that. Otherwise I'd like to study to be a physiotherapist or a flight attendant.'

But before that happens, both Ashleigh and Callum want to see a more unified school - being an area school there are big age differences between new entrants and Year 13s.

They are also looking to fundraise for various projects and outings for the school.

Meanwhile, Principal Alistair Luke is happy with the school's progress.

Now in his third year as principal, he says the school roll has climbed to 500.

Outdoor and in-class programmes continued to flourish with extra physical education teachers coming on board in recent times.

Alistair says he has no plans to move on anywhere else in the near future.

'My family enjoy it here. This is a very versatile town, with the beach and the Wentworth Valley bush - never under-estimate the power of having everything within reach in a space of about five minutes!

'There's a little magic in this place and we're lucky to have what we have.'



Ashleigh and Callum with two of the junior school pupils, above, and Principal Alistair Luke loves it here in Whangamata.



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OUR COMMUNITY

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SUPPORT THOSE WHO COME TO OUR RESCUE...

AUCKLAND RESCUE HELICOPTER TRUST



The Auckland & Coromandel Rescue Trust's helicopters responded to a total of 13 callouts to the Coromandel Peninsula during February. Four of those were to the Whangamata area.

On February 3 they were called to a man in his 60s suffering a medical complaint. He was flown to Waikato Hospital in a serious condition.

February 8 had the team respond again to Whangamata to a male teenager suffering a medical complaint. He was flown to Waikato Hospital in a moderate condition.

Two days later the crew was called

to Whangamata to help a toddler with a medical condition. She was flown to Starship Hospital in a serious condition.

Finally, a callout was made to Opoutere to a woman in her 70s suffering a broken leg after being knocked over by a wave. She was flown to Middlemore Hospital in a moderate condition.

DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

- Area School gymnasium
- Bunnings, Aickin Rd
- Bowling Club, Rutherford Rd
- Combined Squash and Tennis Sports Club, Barroclough Rd
- Carters, 103 Lindsay Rd
- Coastguard, 619 Beach Rd
- Community Swimming Pool, Achilles Ave
- Fire Station, Port Rd and both fire appliances
- Medical Centre, Lincoln Rd
- Moana House, SH25
- New World Supermarket, Aickin Rd
- Onemana Rural Fire depot - Dial 111
- Onemana Surf Club
- Onemana Boatshed Café, Onemana Dr
- St John Ambulance station, Lincoln Rd
- St John Health Shuttles
- St John Op Shop, Martyn Rd
- Surf Club, Williamson Park
- TCDC Area Office, Port Rd
- The Marina, end of Beach Rd
- Titoki Golf Club, Waihi Rd
- Whangamata Club, Port Rd
- Whangamata RSA, Port Rd
- Whangamata Ocean Sports Club, Port Rd
- Whiritoa Rural Fire Station, Dial 111
- Whiritoa Surf Club, Kontiki Rd
- Williamson Golf Club, Achilles Ave
- Z Gas Station, Port/ Ocean Rd corner

WHANGAMATA COASTGUARD

FEBRUARY 2019 CALLOUTS

All assisted vessels and persons on board were returned safely to port.

08 FEB: Yacht. 15m. Mooring mishap. Answering a call from the Whangamata Harbourmaster CRV Gardner Rescue responded, freed the vessel, then rafted up and moved the yacht to the wharf.

Total Coastguard assistance 9 hrs.

10 FEB: Personal Water Craft. Position unknown. 1 POB. Near Onemana. As being unfamiliar with the area a call was received from the person aboard the PWC for directions to Whangamata. The direction was provided and then CRV Gardner Rescue was crewed and readied for launching. The CRV and crew were stood down when the PWC was seen

making passage in the Whangamata harbour channel.

Total Coastguard assistance 9 hrs.

13 FEB: Yacht. 12m. Engine failure. 1 POB. Near Patuhamo Point. CRV GJ Gardner Rescue responded, rafted up and assisted the vessel to a Whangamata mooring.

Total Coastguard involvement 14 hrs.

19 FEB: Launch. 12m. Transmission problem. 2 POB. 5nm E of Whangamata.

CRV GJ Gardner Rescue responded and tow assisted the vessel to a Whangamata marina berth.

Total Coastguard involvement 21 hrs.

20 FEB: Power-boat. 6m. Engine failure. 1 POB. 5nm N of Mayor Island. CRV GJ Gardner Rescue responded

and tow assisted the vessel to the Whangamata ramp.

Total Coastguard involvement 15 hrs.

21 FEB: Launch. 11m. Engine failure. 4 POB. Near Mercury Islands. The skipper contacted Coastguard Whangamata of his situation and need of assistance. A Vessel of Opportunity (VoOP) nearby responded to the radio transmissions and advised that they being of sufficient size and experience offered to assist the target vessel. This was approved and the VoOP located and tow assisted the vessel southward to Terakihia Point. CRV Gardner Rescue then met and tow assisted the vessel to a Whangamata marina berth.

A special thank you to DEVOCEAN the VoOP for their assistance.

Total Coastguard involvement 9hrs.

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OUR COMMUNITY gives a damn!

SUPPORT THOSE WHO COME TO OUR RESCUE...

WHANGAMATA POLICE

By Constable Greg Resink

GOT 'IM

Police are happy to advise and update that the burglar who was responsible for the theft of the transfer station lock box and a number of burglaries on Achilles and Leander has been caught.

A male in his 20s is currently in custody for which we hope is a lengthy spell behind bars.

A big shout to all the local and Waikato cops for putting in the hard work to bring this thug to justice.

ALCOHOL HARM

Again police have been busy with more alcohol-fueled incidents which have plagued town in recent weeks.

BURGS

Remember to keep your doors locked to keep those nasty little thieves out in the cold.

There have been a few low-lives hanging around so please call 111 ASAP if you see anything amiss.

Police are also looking for a Tow Dolly which was stolen last month so any information would be gratefully received - either pop in or call Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

DRUGS

We have had an increase in dodgy behaviour in and around the forestry - remember to wave if you are one who sneaks around at night.

Police are following some good leads on suspected poachers and drug cultivators so watch this space.

All in all town is chipping away very smoothly - the weather is cranking and people are happy which is great to see.

Listen to the rumble in the Jungle. Good luck to all who have registered for Beach Hop and make sure all vehicles are up to date as the PO PO will be out in force!

Police will be having a chat with local bar owners re their responsibilities regarding the sale of liquor during this time, so please make sure all licences are current and displayed.

Have fun and I hope the GENERAL LEE is in town - GOOD OLD BOYS!

HAPPY DAYS

ST JOHN



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MARINE BITES AND STINGS

Background

Jellyfish stings are a common marine injury in New Zealand. Vinegar is often promoted as first aid for jellyfish stings. However, vinegar is only effective for some forms of tropical jellyfish (most commonly box jellyfish), and it may actually increase the release of toxin from bluebottle jellyfish, which are the most common jellyfish in New Zealand.

How you can help

1. Flush area
2. Stop the patient from rubbing the sting area.
3. Flush the area with water and gently remove any tentacles.
4. If hot water is available, pour hot water over the area (or put the stung area in hot water) for 20 minutes. The water should be as hot as the person can stand it, without burning. A hot shower is a good option.
5. If hot water is not available and there is significant pain, apply ice.

General information

Jellyfish stings rarely cause significant harm but can cause severe pain. Pain is not an indication to go to a doctor, unless it is very severe and persisting for a number of hours. If the reaction is severe (difficulty breathing, fainting or severe swelling) - call 111 for an ambulance.

- Source: www.stjohn.org.nz, First Aid Library

WHANGAMATA FIRE BRIGADE



For February and early March our brigade responded to nine calls in total.

8 FEB: A rubbish fire threatening vegetation

9 FEB: Cardiac medical assist

16 FEB: Unauthorised barbecue on beach

- 17 FEB:** Patient lift/assist
- 21 FEB:** alarm activation in workshop
- 23 FEB:** Anaphylactic reaction.
- 1 MAR:** Alarm activation in business complex
- 3 MAR:** Medical assistance/ helipad.

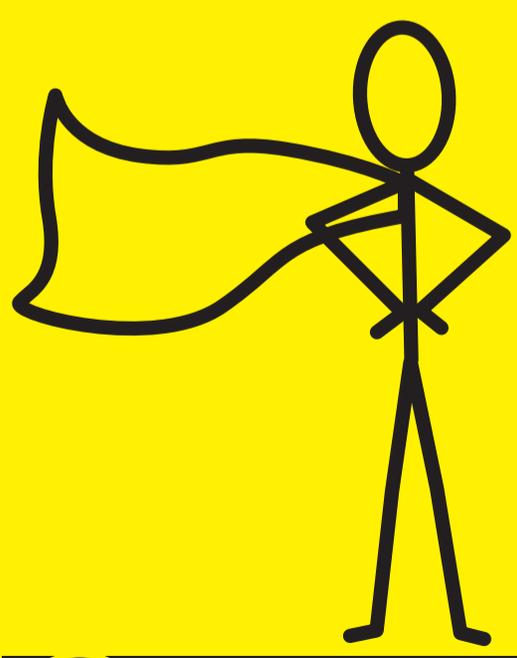
With the dry spell continuing, our district now is on high fire risk and water restrictions are in place also.

Please follow these requirements to help reduce the risk and to allow for water supplies if an emergency develops.

The side effect of when we do finally have rain is the oil content left on the roads over long periods, turning them into very hazardous when motorists do not drive to the slippery surface conditions.

The upcoming Beach Hop also increases traffic volumes to town so again, please just cruise and this improves safety to not only vehicles but also the high number of pedestrians.

Wishing you a great month, CFO Nigel Airey



PAK'NSAVE TO THE RESCUE!



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THAMES



Brits at the Beach

British cars, maypole dancers, a brass band, market stalls, old English games like quoits and criss cross, Cornish pasties, Beatles music and buskers...

Add to this a perfect sparkling blue Whangamata Harbour background and the sun shining brightly in the sky and you have all the ingredients for a perfectly successful Brits at the Beach day.

A number of events were held in Whangamata over three days, celebrating the 10th anniversary of the event.





Hundred-plus years of service recognised



Well done to the group for their awards. From left: Ivor Bray, Dave Ryan, Jan Seales, Dennis Molloy, Geoff March, Jim Hiley, Ralph Pitcher, Shirley George, John Hares, Iren Tyler, Maurice Sheppard, Sue and Mike Ellis.

Ralph Pitcher's 41 years service to Whangamata Lions was recognised when members gathered for their first social meeting of the year.

Held on February 25 at Whangamata RSA, a large turnout of members enjoyed a talk from Coastguard Vice-President Barry King.

Barry spoke about the Whangamata Coastguard's new 9.5m vessel, GJ Ranger Rescue, a faster and more robust craft than the old GJ Gardner Ranger which now serves as a training boat in Auckland.

In his younger days Barry served two years on board the Royal Yacht Britannia, and spoke with fondness of the crew's regular contact with the Queen Mother.

President Trish Schultz made awards to three members who have contributed time and effort to club activities.

John Hares was awarded a diamond recognition, Shirley George and Irene Tyler received gold, and Dennis Molloy and Dave Ryan each received a silver award.

Service award were also made: 2-year service pins to Mike and Sue Ellis and Maurice Sheppard; Shirley George 3 years; Jan Seales 9 years; Ivor Bray 10 years; John Hares 12 years; Jim Hiley 20 years; Geoff March 23 years - and Ralph Pitcher 41 years.



Lions visit

Members of the Lions District 202K Cabinet met in Whangamata last month and while they were chewing the fat on the serious stuff, partners were treated to a mystery tour of Whangamata.

They visited our beautiful beach, checked out work being done by Whangamata Menz Shed, had 'amazing' morning tea at Dandelion Café then went on to visit a private model railway where they also enjoyed a pizza lunch.

District 202K comprises more than 70 clubs from Whangamata and Te Kauwhata to the tip of the North Island, as well as clubs from the island nations of Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, American Samoa and Pago Pago.

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Daylight saving ends when clocks go back by 1 hour at 3am on 7 April, 2019.

The next season of daylight saving will start on 29 September, 2019.

Did you know New Zealand first introduced daylight saving time in 1927?

The current times have been fixed since 2007.

It's that time again, when it becomes clear just how bitterly divided our country really is.

Morning People:

Great! We get an extra hour of light in the morning - just when we need it most!



Evening People:

Just great. We lose an hour of light in the evening - just when we need it most!



Whichever side you're on, Don't forget to set your clocks back!

ZingerBug.com

Opoutere programme showing results

My ecology project in Opoutere has now been running for four years, so what has been achieved?

Like a lot of good things. I didn't really start the right way, so we have no base line of pest numbers to compare to. However, what we are seeing now is a noticeable lack of possums and rodents, especially rats.

A rat monitoring survey was done back in August 2017 by DOC. They were really surprised at the very low rat numbers and thought there was an error and redid the monitoring. They found that rat numbers out on the spit were very low, close to zero with many monitoring tunnels recording no foot prints at all.

A very noticeable tell tail sign of low rat numbers on bush life is the abundance of green seeds on certain trees. Rats have a tendency to eat these long before they are ready for birds to eat. We are finding that seeds are now reaching maturity when in the past they would have been eaten.

We have also noticed a massive amount of new growth this autumn and into summer especially on trees like Pohutukawa. Possums just love this new growth, it's like possum



chocolate. A tree showing distress from possum grazing will not have new growth shoots nor will it flower.

One thing that I have noticed on

my property, and neighbours have also noticed, is the lack of fruit eaten by birds. Birds did not eat my plums, grapes or tomatoes this summer. I believe this is because our native birds prefer their normal diet over exotic fruit.

This has been a noticeable change over the past few years. If their environment is healthy and supplying them what they need they don't come and eat the fruit that we all so love.

Something to consider for your property.

Next month - how did we do it.

- Chris Woudenberg

Climate change

The Thames-Coromandel District Council has not yet made a decision on signing up to the Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration.

The declaration commits councils to plans to reduce greenhouse gases, increase resource efficiency, promote public and low-carbon transport and support the use of renewable energy and uptake of electric vehicles.

When the declaration was discussed during a Council workshop on February 19, councillors expressed a desire for clarity on any financial implications of the document and the consequential rates increases it might place on ratepayers.

Councillors also indicated the importance for leadership and clearer guidance from central government as to what is specifically required of local government when it comes to risk and resilience matters such as climate change.

Thames-Coromandel District Council continues to be proactive in ensuring the Coromandel's communities are engaged, prepared, protected and safe in the long term.

• In February 2018 the council ad-

opted the Government's revised climate change guidance, as published in the Ministry for the Environment's 'Coastal Hazards and Climate Change Guidance for Local Government'.

• In June 2018 the council adopted its Coastal Management Strategy, which sets out a range of initiatives the council will take over the coming years to better manage coastal assets and understand the risk of coastal inundation and coastal erosion. The 2018-2028 Long Term Plan includes \$2.6 million over three years to help implement this strategy.

• The council's Proposed District Plan also includes policies that are aimed at protecting the natural features and landscapes of the Coromandel's coastal environments, and managing the effects of flooding, coastal erosion and tsunami.

• Among other initiatives, the council has supported the set-up of the Coromandel Electric Vehicle Scenic Touring Route, which is a network of fast-charging stations for electric vehicles at key points around the Coromandel on SH25. Progression of this discussion will likely be scheduled for a council meeting next month.

Keep your information safe



Nigel Boot of Boot IT Consultants.

Keeping your computer software, hardware and passwords safe was the topic of the Enterprise Whangamata BA5 (Business After 5) meeting on March 7.

There was a good turnout for the session presented by Nigel Boot from Boot IT Consultants in Aickin Rd.

Nigel said it was imperative to have decent virus protection, to have different passwords for different machines and programmes and the longer the better and least likely to be hacked into - and it was okay to write them all down in a book (but keep that book safe - like under the mattress!)

Developing good computer habits, such as making sure a link is to the actual company and not to someone pretending to be, restarting browsers and computers regularly to ensure everything is kept up to date, and recommending a website

to keep stuff up to date automatically were also emphasised.

Nigel recommended several different websites to protect our computers including Last Pass, TorGuard VPN, and finally to check every six months <https://haveibeenpwned.com/>

There was much interest from Enterprise Whangamata members and many questions were asked - and answered.



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Harcourts

Reflecting...

Walking the beach on a recent afternoon, Whangamata resident Lynne Robinson was intrigued by the reflections, as well as the shadows, of birds in the wet sand.



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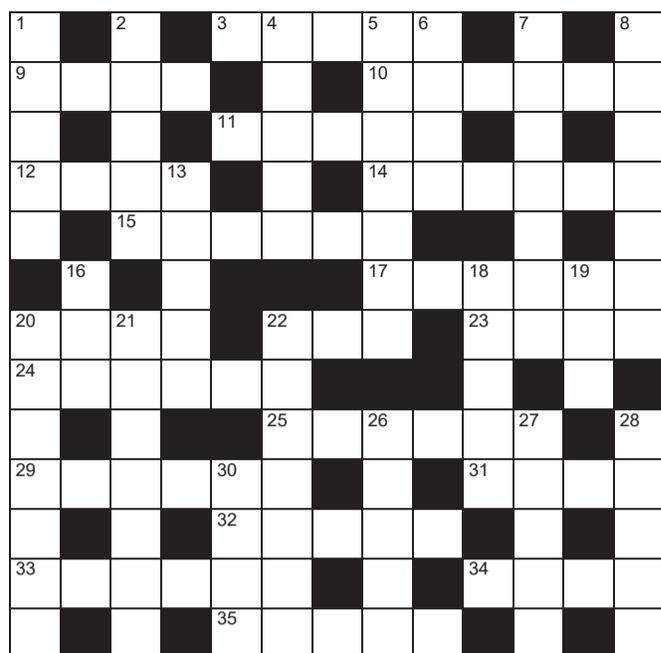


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QUICK crossword

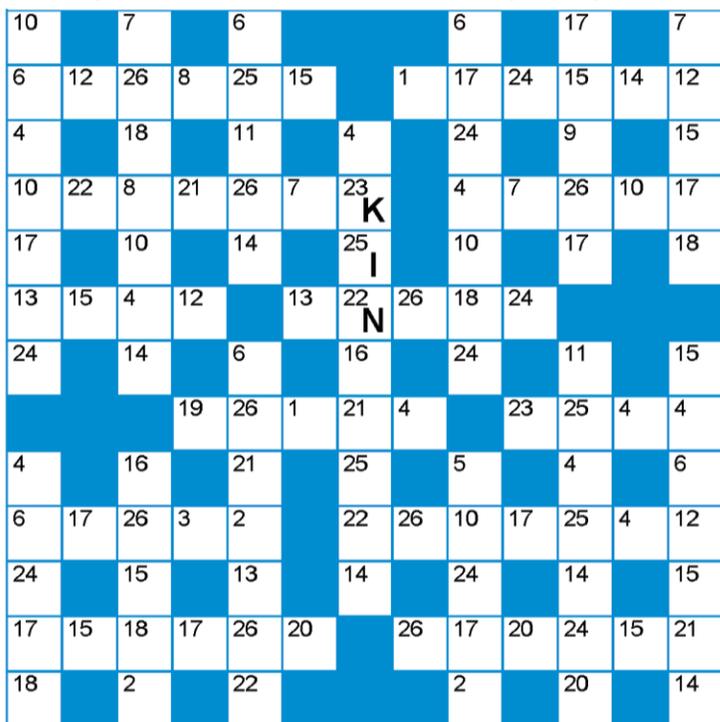


- ACROSS**
- Sea creature (5)
 - Chess piece (4)
 - Become misshapen (6)
 - Christmas hymn (5)
 - Search (4)
 - Alcohol (6)
 - Beach wear (6)
 - Sudden gust of wind (6)
 - Bother (4)
 - First woman (3)
 - Poke (4)
 - Modest (3-3)
 - Symbol (6)
 - Except (6)
 - Become weary (4)
 - Eccentric (5)
 - Ingenious (6)
 - Skin mark (4)
 - Uncanny (5)

- DOWN**
- Muscular contraction (5)
 - Nerd (5)
 - Partly, to some degree (5)
 - Worship (7)
 - Food shop (abbr) (4)
 - Well-liked (7)
 - Precious stone (7)
 - Sales booth (5)
 - Pair (3)
 - Troubled (5)
 - Lavatory (3)
 - Frill (7)
 - Puffed up (7)
 - Something ugly (7)
 - Cyclist (5)
 - Ground beef (5)
 - Cheerful (5)
 - Distort (4)

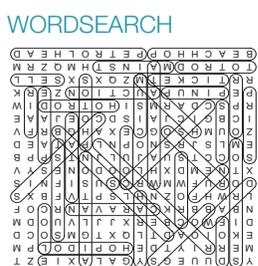
DECODER

Each number in our DECODER grid represents a different letter - there is a number for all 26 letters of the alphabet. Enter the given letters into all squares with matching numbers. The challenge now is to work out which letters are represented by the other numbers. As you get the letters, enter them into the main grid, and the reference grid. To keep track of the letters you have found, cross them off the alphabet provided.



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													
										N	K														

SOLUTIONS



DECODER

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26													
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													

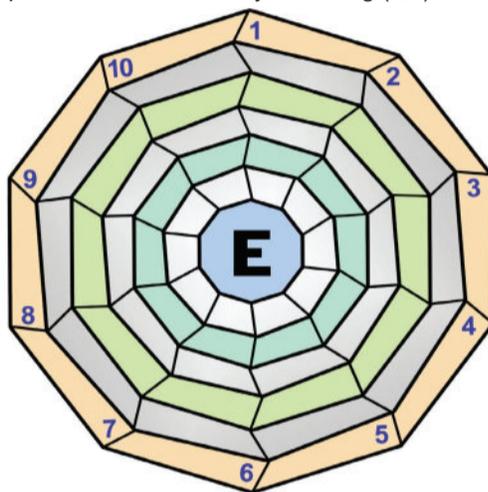
- TRIO** KER
- WEBWORD**
- Ukulele
 - Neptune
 - Perfume
 - Gunfire
 - Imagine
 - Outcome
 - Relapse
 - Lettuce
 - Welcome
 - Uptown Girl

CROSSWORD

Down: 1. Spasm, 2. Dweeb, 4. Quasi, 5. Kiosk, 6. Dell, 7. Popular, 8. Emerald, 13. Idolise, 16. Duo, 18. Upset, 19. Loo, 20. Frounce, 21. Swollen, 22. Eysore, 26. Biker, 27. Mince, 28. Merry, 30. Skew.

WEBWORD

Thye answers from 1 to 10 are all seven-letter words ending with E in the centre. If your answers are correct the letters in the outer ring moving clockwise from 1 will spell out the title of a Billy Joel song (6,4)



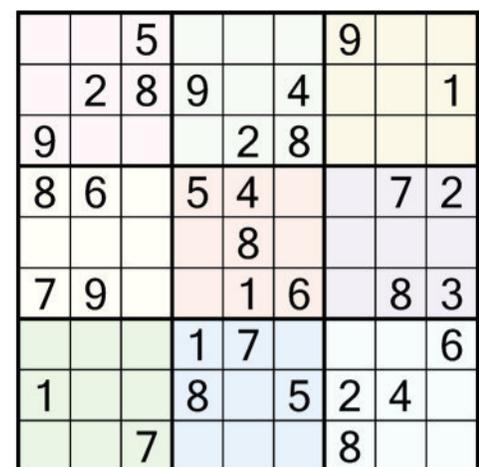
- Stringed instrument
- Scent
- Sewer's protection
- Result
- Greet
- A planet
- Shots
- Picture mentally
- Recovery setback
- Salad vegetable

WORDSEARCH - Beach Hop

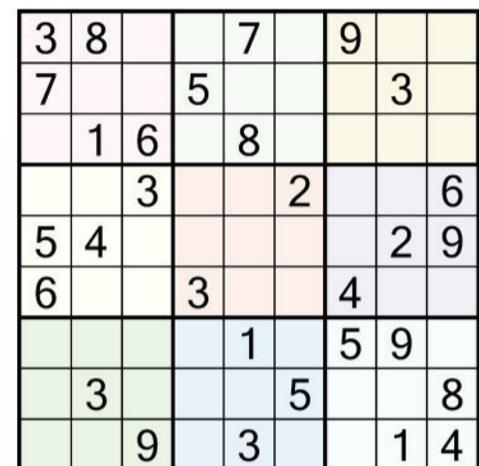
AUCTION	Y	S	D	U	U	E	G	S	Y	G	A	L	A	X	I	E	Z	T
BANDS	M	E	R	R	I	Y	T	D	E	H	O	P	I	D	O	L	P	M
BEACH HOP	E	K	O	I	O	A	D	T	L	Q	X	T	G	M	S	O	C	D
BOATS	D	I	F	W	O	C	B	E	R	X	J	J	L	V	U	O	D	M
CARAVAN	N	B	A	B	B	R	K	C	A	R	A	V	A	N	R	C	O	F
CHASSIS	L	R	W	H	F	O	Z	N	H	L	S	P	T	V	F	B	X	S
CLASSIC	D	O	R	U	F	W	M	W	R	C	S	U	S	I	F	N	I	S
CLUBS	X	T	N	E	M	D	X	H	L	O	O	D	O	N	E	S	Y	V
COOL	S	O	C	C	T	S	U	A	J	U	L	J	N	T	S	P	P	B
COUPE	E	M	L	S	J	R	S	N	O	P	N	L	P	A	T	A	E	D
CROWDS	Z	O	U	M	H	S	O	G	C	E	X	A	H	G	B	R	F	V
DEALS	I	C	B	G	I	C	J	A	I	S	D	C	O	E	J	A	A	E
DRAW	R	P	S	C	D	A	R	M	S	I	H	O	T	R	O	D	I	W
FAIR	P	E	P	I	N	U	P	A	U	C	T	I	O	N	Z	E	R	K
FORD	R	R	T	I	C	K	E	T	M	Z	Q	X	S	X	S	E	L	L
FUN	T	O	T	R	O	D	M	A	I	N	S	T	H	M	Q	Z	R	M
GALAXIE	B	E	A	C	H	H	O	P	P	E	T	R	O	L	H	E	A	D
HARLEY																		
HOP IDOL																		
HOT ROD																		
MAIN ST																		
MARCH																		
MOTORBIKES																		
MUSIC																		
NOSTALGIA																		
PARADE																		
PETROLHEAD																		
PHOTOS																		
PIN UP																		
PRIZES																		
REPCO																		
RETRO																		
ROCK N ROLL																		
SELL																		
SURF FEST																		
TICKET																		
TOT ROD																		
VINTAGE																		
WHANGAMATA																		

SUDOKU

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



W13 EASY



W14 HARDER

TRIO

Find the 3-letter sequence that completes these four words.

---B
---NEL
MA---
BA---Y



Sunny Whanga welcomes junior lifesavers

Six gold medals was a sweet way for Lucy Bartlett to sign off on her Eastern Region junior surf lifesaving career – now she has one more big carnival before hitting the senior ranks.

Over a sun and swell-drenched Whangamata weekend in February the 14-year-old Omanu club member was one of the stars of the Eastern Regional junior championships, picking up four individual titles, two team golds and helping her club to the overall title.

On a big final day, she took out the board race, diamond race and surf race – having won the beach flags on Saturday – and helped anchor the tube rescue and board relay teams.

As delighted as she was with her individual success, she was more thrilled with how her team had performed.

“It was a great couple of days – we’ve all been training really hard and we all put in a big effort over the weekend,” she said.

“And if we weren’t competing, we were down supporting each other, which is what it’s all about.”

It was also about the next generation of surf lifeguards getting experience in decent waves – Whangamata’s 1.5m swells the ideal recipe for the 500 carnival competitors, aged from 8-14.

While Omanu’s 187 points lead the standings, there were also notable performances from the host club –

Sienna Casson’s three gold in the under-8 division helped them into second place on 136 points – and big teams from Mount Maunganui (99 points), Papamoa (52) and Waihi Beach (50).

Although featuring smaller teams, Gisborne clubs Midway and Waikanae punched above their weight, finishing sixth and eighth respectively; Midway were led by three golds from Ella Sutton in the under-11 division, while Waikanae’s Rubi Hart and Chloe Kapene helped their club dominate the under-12 division.

Elsewhere, Red Beach athlete Kaiha Gilbertson’s elation at winning bronze in the under-13 diamond race, finishing behind Whakatane star Jamie Julian and Mount Maunganui’s Gene Baggott.

“I’ve never even made the final before!” he cried, before rushing off to share the excitement with his mates.

For most of the junior athletes, it was the final hit-out before the Oceans ‘19 New Zealand under-14 championships in Mount Maunganui.

“It was so nice racing in waves and Oceans is only three weeks away so this was an ideal buildup for all of us,” Bartlett said.

For full results, go to: www.liveresults.co.nz/competition/212

Text and photo by Jamie Troughton/Dscribe Media

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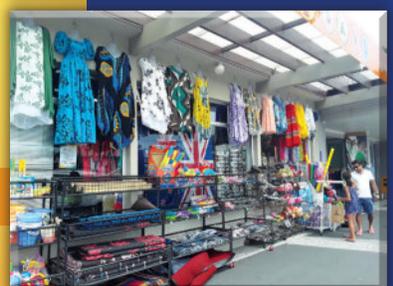
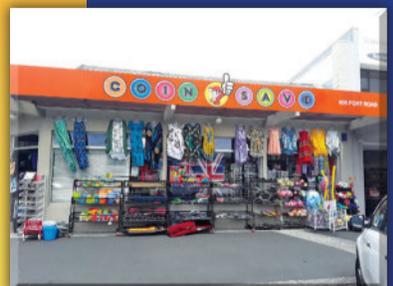
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Success on the water > FROM P10



Six hours later daybreak arrived and the crew embarked on a game fishing adventure heading out in the southern end of the BOP.

The weather was challenging with winds gusting to 30 knots - not ideal, but the crew got on to a big blue marlin which weighed in at 181kg.

It was packed in ice and the long road trip home began to arrive back in the tournament tent at 9pm.

WOSC awarded the team a special prize on the final night of the tournament for their efforts.

The crew again went to Waihou Bay the following Sunday where better conditions prevailed.

The crew was just settling down to the long day of trolling when the reel started to sing... a good fight ensued for local Murray Clarke who landed a 50.5kg yellowfin tuna... that's the best Sashimi you will ever have...

The moral of the story: Never give up!

Game Fishing is the best drug ever... with March being WOSC's Tag & Release tournament we can expect to see many more great photos and expect many more great stories...

- Fredrick Christensen



Some of the anglers looked at other opportunities, and it was Steve Trebilco and the crew of Korowai - Kayne, Muzza and one other, who left Whangamata at 2am on the Friday, heading to Waihou Bay on the East Cape as the weather looked fishable inside the shelter of the cape.

Waihou Bay is known to get that hot water current that flows down the Auckland trench taking bait and game fish into those waters.



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THE BACH

Looking back



While we bemoan the fate of many of the old Whangamata baches, a drive around town shows that many still stand and most are cherished by their owners.

If you have a bach you're proud to own and would like to see it featured in *Whangamata NEWS* as the Bach of the Month, please contact us: 021 664 784 or by email: wordy1@gmail.com



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