

**MBP 185
JULY 2025**

MATARANGI BEACH PAPER

WILSON, SIMPSONS, KUAOTUNU, OTAMA, OROKO, RINGS, GREYS AND WHANGAPUWA BEACHES

The ATOM Committee Gives Thanks to the Community And we Give Thanks to Them

A function was held at The Dunes on Sunday 8th June celebrating the success of the 10th A Taste of Matarangi festival. In doing so the A Taste of Matarangi organising committee expressed their sincere appreciation to the many volunteers and sponsors who contributed once again to another special and successful festival.

The festival originally started in 2013 and is the undisputed highlight of our annual event calendar. 2025 saw the 10th A Taste of Matarangi being held due to a hiatus during the Covid years. The event has grown significantly since that very first year welcoming 600 attendees and in 2025 reaching 2,000 attendees.

"A Taste of Matarangi is proudly run by volunteers. Volunteers truly make the difference with their help in setting up/packing down the site and assisting on the day is essential to making things run smoothly and we were fortunate to have volunteers who showed real enthusiasm and a willingness to go the extra mile. Their commitment made our job just that little bit easier and for that, we are very grateful," said Bronwyn Ririnui, Festival Event Coordinator in her address to the gathered guests.

Bronwyn then went on to thank the local businesses, groups, and organisations whose generous sponsorship brought this event to life. "As we are not government-

funded, we rely on sponsorship and ticket sales, and every contribution goes a long way in helping make the festival a success," added Bronwyn.

Running such a festival is no easy feat and comes at great expense. The costs have grown enormously since the first festival with an initial \$21,000 in the early years to over \$60,000 more recently. This has been a huge achievement as expenses have especially escalated in the post Covid years.

This year the festival donated \$15,000 to our festival charity recipients: Kuaotunu Search & Rescue (KSAR) \$7000, Te Rerenga School \$4000, and the Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust \$4000. Mary Kedzlie, Principal of Te Rerenga School says "the school is so grateful for the continued support of A Taste of Matarangi with this year's generous donation going to the school's new astroturf, something we desperately needed with our growing school roll." Since its inception, A Taste of Matarangi has donated an incredible \$150,000 to charitable organisations in our community. "A testament to the power of community and what we can achieve together," said Bronwyn.

Bronwyn also acknowledged the hardworking festival committee. Over the 10 events, there have been 24

dedicated committee members contributing to organising the festivals and three committee members have been on the committee since day one, Kerre Baker, Maureen Moss & Bronwyn Ririnui.

"I want to give a heartfelt thank you to the committee, both past and present for their commitment over the years. Coordinating an event like this is no easy task. It takes a combination of a special set of skills, passion, and time. Thanks to the efforts of our committee members, we've achieved great results. Quite simply, we wouldn't have a festival if it weren't for them."

At this stage a date for the next A Taste of Matarangi has not been set. "As this has proven to be a popular festival year after year, it is certainly our intention to continue with the event," said Bronwyn. "However, with a few members stepping down from the committee and a few role changes, the current team will be taking a well-earned break to reflect and plan ahead for the next chapter of the festival."

On behalf of the community the MBP would like to express our sincere gratitude to these unsung heroes who have brought something extremely special to our community, putting it on the map and at the same time, all for a good cause.

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CONTACTS & DEADLINES

This is your community paper. We welcome all your stories, photos, messages and contributions.

THE TEAM
Editor Liam Kedzlie
Deputy Editors Mary & Teresa Kedzlie
Printer Endeavour Print

ALL ENQUIRIES
Liam 027 868 9568
contact@matarangibeachpaper.com

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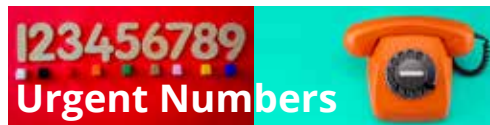
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CONTRIBUTORS:

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MATARANGI WASTEWATER PLANT

This 7-year project is to upgrade the wastewater treatment plant to meet new discharge consent requirements and provide increased capacity to meet the future demand.

The principal driver this financial year is to maximise improvements to the effluent quality to lessen ecological effects and mitigate cultural acceptance.

The project has a budget of \$765,118 of which \$60,115 has already been spent with a remaining \$135,118 over the next year.

The design will not commence until the conditions of Waikato Regional Council discharge consent are finalised.

The budget for obtaining the discharge consent is a separate project. Consultation with interested parties is continuing. The consent hearing has been re-scheduled by the Commissioners to late July 2025.

7.7% Rates Hike Locked In

The TCDC confirmed their plans and budgets for the coming financial year, with rates are going up by an average of 7.7% just as they forecast last year.

"Rising costs from inflation, water reforms, government changes to road funding and speed limits, and ongoing cyclone recovery repairs have made this a tough budget year, but we've made careful choices to stay on track," says the TCDC.

The question to be asked as average Matarangi rates are now hitting \$5000 p.a with half of those costs made up of charges to waste, fresh and storm water, is how can the TCDC in future start to control its own administrative and personnel costs? Will it put an end to the Matarangi Community collectively overpaying \$500000 p.a for its water services according to Grant Short's recent calculations?

A further question is with its new joint venture concerning water reforms - will they actually work? An issue that has not been explained is that the two councils who we are joining, fall under the BOP Regional Council in terms of overarching water resource management whilst we will still fall under in the Waikato Region.

Mercury Bay North Critical Structures Renewals

Renewal or reconstruction of damaged and poor condition foot bridges, stairs, platforms and other load bearing structures are planned to be completed over the next year. The budget for this work is \$133,76.

So far renewal works have been completed at The Village Green stairs, the Gray's Beach Foreshore Reserve viewing platform, and the Wharekaho (Simpson's) Joseph Rd Beach stairs.

Engineers have design work underway for two pedestrian bridges in Kuaotunu, a viewing platform at Opito Bay, and two sets of beach stairs at Rings Beach.

They have also assessed the condition of the Ocean Close boardwalk. This work to be undertaken this year will depend on available budget; remaining works will be done in FY 2025/2026.



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The Matarangi Fire Report



We held our annual honours night on the 14th June, recognising our volunteers length of service and presenting them with their medals and certificates. A big congratulations to all our recipients.

Last Wednesday, Matarangi had its first fully involved house fire, I want to thank our crew that responded to this as well as acknowledge Whangapoua and Whitianga Crews that also attended.

MVFB was alerted at 8.03:45am, At 8.07:33 Our appliance responded from the station and arrived at the address by 8.10:32. That is 6 minutes and 47 seconds which was amazing!. Our second crew were right behind them.

Everyone knew their roles and worked together well given the situation. As a non B.A. (breathing apparatus) brigade we concentrate on external attack to contain the fire and protect other structures at risk.

All that training knowing that it was a matter of when not if, really counted.

Our thoughts are with Jak, Chrissy and family that have literally lost everything. The support from the brigade will always be there.

In the meantime, please check your smoke alarms, dust them off, test them or put in new batteries if need be.

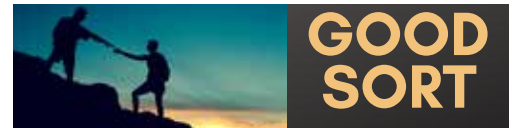
On a personal note, I am not a "what if" kind of person, but if Tony, who lives a few doors down, didn't bang on the door and get everyone out, what could have happened! We salute you!

Stay safe,

Mark Hall
Chief Fire Officer
Matarangi Volunteer Fire Brigade



The aftermath of the June 14th fire in Puriri Place which totally destroyed the Threadgold home. The family were eating breakfast when neighbour Tony Te Awhitu alerted them that their basement was on fire and they needed to evacuate immediately. The house was engulfed within minutes.



The Good Sort for July has to be Tony Te Awhitu was the call from many of the local public to the MBP editor over the last 2 weeks. As a concerned neighbour Tony alerted Chrissy Threadgold and her children as they sat eating their breakfast, that the their basement was ablaze and that they had better get out immediately. Such was the speed of the fire in taking hold that we could have had a dreadful tragedy on our hands.

Well done Tony, we salute you! Without your neighbourly concern and actions the 14th of June fire could have been much worse than it already was.

CONGRATULATIONS CORNER

Congratulations to Andrew Mullins who celebrated the big Five 0 birthday last week with a party held at the fire station.

Also congratulations to Mike and Chrissie Smith's son Ben, a firefighter at Auckland Airport, who for the 3rd time has taken the honours in the annual Fire Service Sky Tower Challenge. Ben did it in an amazing time of 8 minutes 39 seconds running up 51 flights of stairs in full kit. Olympic level stuff!

A Message of Heartfelt Thanks

On behalf of Jak, myself and our little family, heartfelt thanks goes out to the community for their love and support over the last fortnight.

I don't know the words to share right now but we are forever grateful for our community and everyone's kind words and generosity."

I'm so grateful and just want to make sure I can reach as many people as I can to thank them. Our hearts are full and we feel everyone's love.

Chrissy Threadgold

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Oh what a night!



A 1960/70s disco was a recent initiative developed by Matarangi residents, Jackie Buckley and Martin van Doorn, to bring members of the community together and raise some cash for a worthy local cause.

Martin, a professional DJ, has a passion for 60's and 70' music, and so it gave him enormous pleasure to host a disco for over 50 members of the community (aged 23 to 84!) at the beginning of June.

The enthusiasm of attendees matched that of Martin which led to a highly successful evening with many reaching to the back of their wardrobes for their dancing gear from yesteryear in which to boogie the night away.

The event was a sell-out ticketed affair, with participants bringing an amazing array of food to share and sustain the energy of the most rigorous of dancers!

Proceeds from ticket sales and from philanthropic donations reached \$1300 which have been donated to Matarangi Reserves Management Group (MRMG) in support of signage, equipment and installation of much-needed life-saving equipment at Matarangi Wharf.

It was a pleasure that Chris Palmer from MRMG was able to come along and talk to us briefly about the good work being undertaken by MRMG, as well as demonstrating his dancing prowess!

Based on the success of this venture Jackie and Martin hope to organise a follow-up community disco later in the year, the proceeds of which will once again go to a worthy local cause.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the next event!

BLUFF ROAD CONNECTIVITY PROJECT UPDATE

This project is aimed at establishing the feasibility of the construction of a suspension bridge across the cove where the track is currently closed (although still being used).

Spanning between the two headlands of the cove the proposed bridge avoids the large and dangerous rockfall slip and restores safe cycling and pedestrian connectivity between the Matarangi and the Kūaotunu communities.

MRRAI, KRRA and our specialist suspension bridge consultant, DC Structures Studio along with TCDC are well underway with a feasibility study on this potential project. We have been consulting and receiving input from local iwi during the preliminary stages and have recently in early June met with iwi on the progress of the study. The scoping of the Resource Consenting process to inform the Feasibility Study is also underway. We envisage the draft of the Feasibility Study to be due in July.

We also need to undertake some geotechnical engineering investigations for the suspension bridge anchorages at each of the abutments to better inform the viability or otherwise. Additionally, there is also an updated assessment underway of the risks and stability of slips from Rings Beach to Matarangi scoped for a walking and cycling track.

We envisage substantial progress on each of these engineering investigations by mid-August.

Considerable community consultation will commence subsequent to this initial feasibility work. Should the project proceed, it will need to be community funded and we are committed to open and robust communications should we proceed further as we will need strong community support.

Mark Bedford
Chair MRRAI

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The School Bell

We have come to the end of another action packed term!

After several months of planning and preparation, our new astroturf is installed. Many thanks to the various school groups and wider community that have made it happen through their donations and contributions of time and labour - including the Board of Trustees; the PTA; Russell Povey Concreting; Brendan O'Connell of All Terrain BobCat Services; A Taste of Matarangi; and Pub Charity. Te Rerenga students will be able to enjoy this new asset for many years to come.

Our Year 4-8 students participated with excellence, both in their sportsmanship and their skill level at the annual Country Schools Winter Sports Day at Whenuakite. A big thanks to all of the coaches who help prepare our teams for the winter season of sports.

Fay Devoy one of our Year 7 students travelled to the Poor Knights as part of her prize in a protecting our marine reserves competition from the Mountain to Sea Conservation Trust. To win the prize, Fay came up with the idea to create a special edition of the school newspaper The Te Rerenga Times, which Fay is the editor. The newspaper was about marine reserves and to show the people in our school and community why we need to conserve these areas for sea life.

Fay recounted her experience saying that "we were very lucky that the sun was shining and the waves were flat. When we got

out there we got put into groups and we were able to snorkel through the sea tunnel and all around the islands. As soon as I looked down, I could see so many fish. It was incredible! I saw heaps of different fish including massive schools of blue maomao. The next day we went for a walk to a beach called Whale Bay. It was so cool and it almost reminded me of the Coromandel. The water was crystal clear and perfect for swimming. Me and a new friend also had fun exploring the rockpools that were full of life. In the afternoon we had a go snorkelling in the estuary which was really great as well. Though it did creep me out when our instructor mentioned the stingrays! There were little fish and lots of mangroves which was cool. It was an amazing experience that I will remember for the rest of my life!"

Four of our student leaders, Hannah, Ava, Charlie and Mason, attended National Young Leaders Day in Hamilton. This is a reflection of the event by Hannah.

I recently had the opportunity to attend NYLD (National Young Leaders Day), and it was an experience I'll never forget. The event brought together students from all over the Waikato and Bay of Plenty, creating a really positive and energising atmosphere. One of the highlights for me was hearing from the speakers, each one had a unique story and message, and I found their honesty and passion incredibly motivating. They spoke about leadership, self-awareness, never giving up and the importance of staying true to your values, which really made me think about how I can apply those lessons in my own life. It was both inspiring and thought provoking. Overall I think it was a great experience and if you get the opportunity to go, you definitely should.

The PTA held a Matariki Disco. The children danced the evening away and had loads of fun. \$550 raised at the disco was donated to the Threadgold family, who tragically lost their home in a devastating fire the day before the disco. Our thoughts and love are with Chrissy, Jak and children as they adjust to the aftermath of this life changing event.

Ma te huruhuru ka rere te manu
Adorn the bird with feathers to enable it to fly.

Mary Kedzlie Principal

The Wine Club Report

The wine club always enjoys an evening with Maison Vauron. Maison Vauron is a well-known wine store and bistro located in Auckland. It is known for its excellent selection of fine wines, with a particular emphasis on French and European wines. Their store also offers a selection of gourmet products.

Gaston from Maison Vauron shared six tastings from their range. The first was the Clos Henri Sauvignon Blanc 2024. This organic Sauvignon Blanc is from the Clos Henri estate in Blenheim and is associated with Domaine Thomson in Central Otago.

Next was a rose, the Peyrassol Croix Mediterranee Rose 2024 from the Côtes des Provence. Three Reds then followed. First was the Dauphins Cotes du Rhone Rouge

2022. A very affordable drop which is a blend of Grenache Syrah & Mourvedre grapes.

Next up was the Domaine Thomson Explorer Pinot Noir 2024. Domaine Thomson has a personal connection to Burgundy in France and thus its style.

The final red was Château Le Vieux Fort Medoc 2020 from Bordeaux again a reasonably priced wine from a famous french region.

To wind up the night Gaston offered the aperitif Rinquiquin from Distilleries et Domaines de Provence. A liquor whose name means 'a refreshing drink' is a peach wine made from a mix of mix of peaches, peach leaves picked in autumn, cane sugar and white wine.

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MBP Business Focus: Bringing Brands to Life – The Creative Vision of Kelly Bowen

Nestled in the heart of the Coromandel Peninsula, Kelly Bowen is quietly making waves in the creative world with her boutique business, Kelly Bowen Design Studio and Byrdy Photography. A visual storyteller at heart, Kelly blends the worlds of photography, website design, and branding to help businesses and start-ups bring their unique visions to life.

With a background in graphic design and a natural eye behind the lens, Kelly offers a rare combination of services — designing beautiful, functional websites while also capturing the professional imagery needed to bring those sites (and brands) to life. “Everything is visual now,” Kelly says. “Having professional photography across your website and social media is what builds trust and tells your story. It helps people instantly understand who you are and what you offer.”

Her design studio is a creative haven for entrepreneurs who are ready to elevate their business presence. From logos to full brand suites, from social media content to digital strategy — Kelly ensures that everything is visually aligned, intentional, and tailored to each client's story.

Kelly's journey to creative entrepreneurship has been anything but linear. She began her career as a Legal Secretary before moving to London at age 23, where she spent five years working and traveling Europe. Her career pivoted when she joined Diageo Plc, a global leader in beverage alcohol, later transferring to Diageo Australia in Sydney. There, she thrived in the Corporate and Communications team working across global brands like Johnnie Walker, Baileys, Smirnoff, Tanqueray and Guinness. This fast-paced environment sparked her passion for communication, branding, and marketing.

From Diageo, Kelly transitioned into television media, working in News and Public Affairs at the Seven Network, one of Australia's leading broadcasters. While working full-time, her passion for design led her to study Commercial Arts at CATC Design School graduating in 2012. Outside of work, she was busy designing branding, logos for start-ups and wedding and social stationery — even spending a week interning at the iconic fashion label Spell in Byron Bay.

After starting a family and returning to New Zealand, Kelly launched her own fashion brand, Byrdy, and joined 5 women to start lifestyle store, Gathered Collab, in Whitianga. But her love for photography, design, and helping women-led businesses continued to call. She continued her creativity with Byrdy Photography shooting weddings and families, and more recently establishing Kelly Bowen Design to focus on websites, digital design services, branding, and creative content for businesses and entrepreneurs.

Now, Kelly is focused on supporting businesses with website design, visual storytelling and digital design that reflects their brand at every touchpoint. Whether photographing a local build, designing a new business identity, or launching a beautiful website — her creative fingerprint is unmistakable.

You can follow Kelly's work or get in touch at:

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When launching a new brand, working with a professional designer is essential to ensure your branding is not only visually aligned with your business vision but also set up correctly across all platforms. One of the most common issues I see — especially when revisiting past brand work — is businesses being left without the proper logo file formats needed for professional use. A professional designer will provide your logo in multiple formats (such as EPS, PNG, JPEG, SVG, PDF), ensuring you're covered for everything from social media to print signage, packaging, websites, and more. Without these, you risk low-quality, pixelated visuals and inconsistent brand presence. Getting it right from the start saves time, money, and stress — and sets your business up with a polished, professional identity from day one.



TCDC Approves Joint Water Services Organisation

Thames-Coromandel District Council has voted to join with Tauranga and Western Bay of Plenty councils to form a joint water services delivery organisation that will comply with new Government legislation and futureproof these essential services for our community. The decision to form a joint Water Services Organisation follows a year of research, meetings, workshops and community consultation.

In December 2024, Council narrowed down the options for future water services delivery under the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act to: an enhanced status quo (an internal water services unit) or; a regional/sub-regional Water Services Organisation. Other options were initially explored but expert advice found these not financially feasible.

The Council consulted with our community between 15 April and 15 May on what its preferred option was. Local community catch-up sessions, online Q&A sessions and meetings with iwi contributed to our Council's conversations about which option would serve the district best.

A total of 241 public submissions were received, revealing 51% supporting our Council's preferred joint water services organisation delivery model compared to 46% of submissions supporting the internal business unit model. Another 4% of submitters did not specify a preferred option. As part of this consultation 69% of submitters advised that the key consideration for future water service delivery was affordability.

The staff analysis recommended forming a joint water services organisation with Western Bay of Plenty (WBOP) District and Tauranga City councils as the best option to provide future affordability for local ratepayers while providing a mechanism to influence the design of the new joint Water Service Organisation. Joining the Waikato

Water Done Well grouping of seven Waikato councils or the Hamilton City/Waikato District entity were also considered to be good options but not as strong as the Tauranga/WBOP option.

Seven councillors and Mayor Len Salt voted in favour of this option, with a potential start date of 1 July 2027. Two councillors voted against (Councillor Morrissey, Councillor Rodley).

Council staff will now work with Tauranga and Western Bay councils to prepare a commitment agreement and joint implementation plan before reporting back to Council.

Chief Executive Aileen Lawrie noted “This is an important decision for council, which focuses on ensuring our water services will be delivered sustainably for future generations.”

A Water Services Delivery Plan will now be drafted up before being presented to the Department of Internal Affairs by 2 September 2025.

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Where in the WORLD is the Matarangi Beach Paper?



The MBP and Faye Flegg on a dinner cruise on the Darling Harbour, Sydney for the opening night of the annual Vivid Light Festival.

This is a spectacular light show event that uses the Harbour Bridge and Sydney Opera House as a constantly changing colourful canvas.



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2025 Matarangi Mid-Winter Swim



It was a beautiful but chilly day for the annual Matarangi Mid Winter Swim. On Sunday, June 22nd close to 60 hardy souls braved the sea to mark both the Winter Solstice and Matariki, including Jessie Drummond from Te Rerenga School. Jessie, along with her group of friends celebrated her 10th birthday by taking part in the plunge and afterwards were deservedly rewarded by birthday cake and hot chocolate.

Record Turnout for Matariki Planting at Grays Beach- Kuaotunu



The stars of Matariki are closely tied to planting and renewal, and this year's Matariki planting on Friday 20th June was one to remember.

Over 60 residents, visitors, friends and bach owners from Kuaotunu and surrounds came together to plant more than 1,600 native dune plants – our biggest volunteer turnout ever!

A heartfelt thank you to Roimata Taimana, Ngāti Huarere and Shelley Balsom, Ngāti Hei for blessing the event with a karakia, and to the TCDC Coastal team whose support with logistics made this large-scale planting possible.

After the hard mahi, a morning tea was held which was a chance to rest, reconnect and share stories.

Thank you to Rhonda, Carol and Kim for providing a delicious spread, much appreciated by all. This marks our fourth Matariki planting along Grays Beach, and it's rewarding to see the thriving results of previous years' efforts as we continue restoring and protecting our dunes.

We look forward to seeing familiar and new faces at upcoming Dune Care events. Everyone is welcome! Our next working bee will be Wednesday 16th July.

Jenny Crawford- Chair- KDCG

July 2025

Elusive Mercury will be readily visible early in the month low in the west just after dusk. However, it gets ever lower throughout the month as it approaches the Sun and eventually becomes lost to view. Meanwhile slightly yellowish Saturn rises towards midnight and the Moon can help us find it along with somewhat reddish Mars but in the early morning this month. Brilliant Venus still dominates the dawn sky while bright Jupiter has past from behind the Sun and joins it lower down late in the month.

There will be many Chinese Tiangong and International Space Station (ISS) passes to enjoy this month but, as usual, timings may change especially towards the end of the month if they have to be moved to avoid space junk. Always best to check the website heavens-above.com for updated timings.

July 3 – The Moon now sits just below and to the left of Spica in Virgo and we have a bright ISS pass from 5:42pm on the SW and then again at 7:19pm low in the west.

July 4 – We have a long ISS pass from 6:29pm in the SW.

July 5 – Another long bright ISS pass from 5:40pm in the SW.

July 7 – We have a long low ISS pass from 5:38pm in the SW.

July 8 – There will be a Tiangong pass from 5:59pm in the SW.

July 9 – Full Moon tonight.

July 10 – There is a long Tiangong pass in the west from 5:39pm.

July 13 – The almost full Moon sits high above slightly yellowish Saturn and to the left of the bright star Fomalhaut before midnight in the east.

July 14 – The Moon is now closer to Saturn and below Fomalhaut and early risers from 6:54am have a long bright ISS pass in the NW.

July 15 – Saturn sits just below the Moon near midnight and from 6:04am there is a long ISS pass in the NW.

July 16 – Saturn is now above the crescent Moon towards midnight and from 6:50am there is a bright ISS pass in the west.

July 17 – There is an early ISS pass starting high overhead from 6:01am.

July 18 – We have an early ISS pass from 6:47am in the SW.

July 19 – Matariki sits about half way between the crescent Moon and Venus at dawn.

July 20 – The crescent Moon is now just above and to the left of Matariki at dawn with brilliant Venus much lower down.

July 21 – The Moon sits just below Matariki at dawn with brilliant Venus below and to its right.

July 22 – Brilliant Venus sits above and to the right of the thin crescent Moon at dawn with Jupiter just showing on the horizon to its right.

July 23 – A minute crescent Moon lies just to the left of Jupiter low down at dawn.

July 25 – There is an early Tiangong pass from 6:11am in the west.

July 26 – We have a long Tiangong pass from 6:48am in the west.

July 27 – At dusk a minute Moon sits just to the left of Regulus in Leo with slightly reddish Mars high above.

July 28 – The crescent Moon sits just below slightly reddish Mars at dusk.

July 29 – The Moon now sits just above Mars at dusk.

July 30 – The Moon is now high above Mars at dusk and at dawn from 6:12am in the south we have an ISS pass moving beside the Southern Cross.

July 31 – The First Quarter Moon is high above Mars and directly to the left of the bright star Spica in Virgo.

August 1 – We have an early ISS pass in the south from 6:04am.

August 2 – From 6:47am in the SW we have a long bright ISS pass.



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Who Keeps on Pinching Gaylene's Flag?



In recent weeks Gaylene Earl who has her property on Waimaire Avenue has had her Maori flag which she displays on a fence inside her boundary taken on three separate occasions.

"I am not sure why folk would do this but I would like them back. I am happy to talk to the person about why they keep doing this. Only by meeting and talking things through can we hope to foster tolerance and maybe understanding," says Gaylene.

"It is a question of your right to freely express your flag on your own property and not have it interfered with or stolen."

Gaylene can be emailed at gayleneearl73@gmail.com



TEN YEARS ON IN THE MBP

Ten year ago in the July 2015 edition of the MBP we reported on local Matarangi Fire chief Stu Arnold being awarded Volunteer of the Year Award – Runner Up by Volunteering Waikato. Paul Shaw organised the nomination and had Stu up against some pretty serious players including people from the New Zealand Red Cross, Waikato District Health Board and the Stroke Foundation.

We also had an article about how the Kuaotunu Hall is continuing to evolve as an iconic hub for our local communities. In 2015 a lot of progress was being made in the restoration of local artifacts and landscaping around the hall. The Kuaotunu Hall today is a wonderful survivor from the 19th century that still plays a wonderful community role in the 21st century. Many small rural halls over the last 50 years have fallen into disrepair or have gone all together.

We also had a wonderful story about long-time local the late Louie Holzgang and his fifty year old apple juicing system made with an old Hoover motor and a handmade drum studded with screws to shred the apples and a hand press with a six ton jack. The apple shredder and press is based on what Louie saw as a young boy growing up in Switzerland. In 2015 it was still in operation and brought the whole family together from Louie through to his great grandchildren. The apple juice is called Most in Swiss. The family also made apple cider vinegar.

In other news, figures for the first six months establish that in excess of 6000 walkers have been recorded walking the Bluff Track and that eleven brave locals took to the Matarangi Beach surf for the 2015 mid-winter swim. In 2014 there were only six participants! The late Trevan Smith, who along with his wife Carol, started the annual Matarangi mid winter swims, would be absolutely delighted to hear that 11 years later, ten times that number showed up in 2025!

Matarangi Reserves Management Group: Mid-Winter Update

As a group the MRMG want to let our friends and neighbours know what we do as a committee, if you didn't know already.

Principally, as a group we have our ear to the ground listening to what the nice people of Matarangi are thinking about, and what they would like to see happen in the area in the future. The committee, with its excellent relationship with the council are committed to being the ears for the TCDC and will hand the wishes on to the right people.

Our group has plenty of great ideas to improve the well-being of our community but it's not as simple as to plonking a seat on a reserve or tennis court as people imagine. Every idea no matter how big or small must be discussed through the right channels.

The staff at Park and Reserves must follow the H&S guidelines and be seen to be using approved contractors to carry out the work. Budgets must be seen to be met.

This year the budget at the council is tight but some of the

issues that we have put forward to the council have been attended to.

Examples.

*Street signs have been replaced or repaired quickly.

*The palm trees in Mercury Views have been trimmed back to a much better height. No more scratched cars!!

*A large tree that fell across an access way to the beach from Kenwood Dr has been removed.

If you have seen something that needs attention don't hold back from using the TCDC WEBSITE and searching the RFS page in to log in a job. It's a very easy way to get quick access to help. If you have any ideas for improvements to our beautiful corner of the world, let us know, or put your hand up and join the committee.

You will be most welcome!!

Stu Vaughan.

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<https://www.ourmatarangi.com/join>



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Dark Sky Matariki Morning



Over the Matariki holiday weekend the Kuaotunu Dark Sky Trust hosted at the Kuaotunu Domain the 4th of their annual night sky observation mornings. Over 60 people braved the cold winter 5am start, to spot the elusive Matariki constellation and learn more about our magnificent dark sky from experts like Alastair Brickell and Ed Scorgie. Those who gathered enjoyed delicious BBQ sausages, Mars bars and hot coffee to fortify themselves as they gazed starward.

On the Kuaotunu Peninsula we have a world class night sky that lends itself towards further scientific discovery as well as opportunities in low impact and sustainable tourism. Having an international dark sky accreditation will be overwhelmingly a huge positive not just for the community, but also for the environment.

The Kuaotunu Dark Sky Trust was established under the auspices of the Kūaotunu Peninsula Biosphere Working Group (KPBWG) with a mission to maintain formal accreditation as a Dark Sky Community from the International Dark Sky Association.

Featured: Chris Serverne, Alastair Brickell, Ed Scorgie with Tom Scorgie in the foreground.

The Dunes
Golf Club
Report

THE DUNES
MATARANGI

The Winton PGA Pro Am is Back and Bigger Than Ever!



The most anticipated tournament of the year is here — The Winton PGA Pro Am returns to The Dunes, and this year, we're going even bigger with a two-day event!

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to play alongside the Pros and experience a truly premier tournament.

Enter before 31st of August to go in the draw for a major spot prize and The Dunes members will earn rewards points on their membership card just for entering!

Enter online or email Nicky Fanning : operationsmanager@thedunesmatarangi.com

We had three holes in one heroes during the month of June at the club.

Matt Fogarty aced a hole-in-one on the 18th hole on Saturday, 21st of June and Mark Deutsch aced his hole in one also on the 18th on Tuesday, 24th of June. The final hole in one hero was David Todd who aced the 13th last week — the second time he has holed in one at The Dunes. Super effort gentlemen!!

THE FISHING REPORT

Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club

Hello Anglers,

What a fantastic end to the 2024–2025 season! Over the past month, we've seen some awesome fish hit the scales, with both our Seniors and Juniors putting in a great effort.

Final Event of the Season

Matariki Kontiki/Drone & Surfcasting Competition – held Saturday, 21st June – Sponsored by Browyn Dorrian from Matarangi Monitoring Service & MBFC

A big thank you to everyone who took part in and helped run this event. Although no Snapper or Trevally were landed this time, we still had 6 Kahawai make it to the weigh-in. Congratulations to our winners!

Results:

1st – Bob Segetin 2.15 kg	2nd – Mark Fiskien 2.07 kg
3rd – Derek Ferry 1.886 kg	4th – Sue Sinclair 1.42 kg
5th – Tyler Kilnac 1.29 kg	6th – Amirah Brown 1.279 kg

*Stay Connected – New Club App Now Live!

We're excited to announce our new Mobile App, now available through the App Store! You can also find the link on our website. With the app, you can stay up to date with:

- Club News & Events
- Tournaments
- Weighmasters' contact info
- Membership details
- Fishing Grid & Leaderboard
- PhotoCard

*Membership Reminder

Whether you're renewing or joining for the first time, it's quick and easy. Head to www.mbfco.co.nz and click on the Membership link to get started. Thanks again for a great season – we'll see you out on the water!

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The WHITIANGA COASTGUARD can be contacted on CHANNEL 63 and the NOW WEATHER REPORT is on CHANNEL 20

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The Winton PGA Pro Am

At The Dunes, Matarangi

13th & 14th September



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WINTON



Entry Fee: \$200 per person

All entries received and paid before 31st of August will go in the draw to win the prize for 4 players to play at Te Arai Links.

The Dunes' members receive bonus points on their Membership Rewards Card

Payment Details:

Account Name: Matarangi Golf Course Ltd

Account Number: 02 0108 0500170 00

Particulars: Golf ID /Code: Surname / Ref: Pro Am

Entry will only be confirmed upon confirmation of payment. Entries close on 6th Sept.
Email Entry form to operationsmanager@thedunesmatarangi.com

Format of Play:

13th September: Pros and Amateurs: Best 2 stableford scores on each hole.

14th September: Pros only: Best Gross.

Team Composition:

1 Professional & 3 amateur affiliated golfers.

Eligibility:

Open to all affiliated amateur golfers with an official handicap.

Maximum Handicap Index for Men: 28 and Women: 34.

General Information:

Entry fees include green fees, practice round, polo shirt, buffet meal and prizes.

Enter as a team or be matched with someone.

All Pros and Amateur Men will play off blue tees. Women Amateurs will play off red tees.

1 x free practice round on Friday, 12th September between 9.00am - 1pm.

Draw for the Pro will be done on Friday, 12th Sept at the clubhouse - more information to follow.

\$400 to pick your own golf Pro.

Amateurs with a + handicap will be adjusted to zero.

*Event Terms and Conditions can be requested separately.



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6PM

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Ladies' Pilates

Matarangi Fire Station
9-10 am Christiane 0273 122 584

Kuaotunu Craft & Social Club

Kuaotunu Hall
1-4 pm Lia 07 866 2054

Books & Banter (Book club)

7-9 pm 1st Mon each month Pauline
dickinsonpauline@gmail.com

Contract Bridge

St John's Room, 355 Tiki Rd, Coromandel
Tadek 027 235 6335 or Tadekgawor@gmail.com

Tuesday

Croquet

Coromandel Croquet Assoc, Woolams Ave
9.15 am-12 pm 07 866 8066

Bridge for Beginners

The Dunes 3-5 pm
Bronwyn 021 0231 1130

Menz Shed

Matarangi Drive 8 am-12 pm
(open at all times to members)
Phil 021 0272 5230

Wednesday

Men on Mats (Men's Pilates)

Matarangi fire station 9-10 am
Christiane 0273 122 584

Pickleball – social play

Matai Place Courts 9.30-11.30 am
Grant 022 383 6351

Kuaotunu Steiner Playgroup

9am-12pm Phone: 07 866 0094

Mah Jong

The Dunes 12.30-3 pm
Sheila 021 185 8567

Contract bridge

Mercury Bay Bowling Club, Whitianga 1 pm
Tadek 027 235 6335 or Tadekgawor@gamil.com

Kuaotunu Garden Group

2nd Weds of the month
Kuaotunugardenclub@gmail.com

Ladies Coffee morning

The Dunes, 10 am first Weds of the month

Kuaotunu Dune Care Group

3rd Weds of the month
Jenny 021 566 6035

Thursday

Pickleball – competitive play

Matai Place Courts 3.30-5.30 pm
Grant 022 383 6351

Walking Group

Meet at the Dunes 9.00 am
Briar 021 361 944

Craft Group

The Dunes, 12.30 fortnightly
Lesley 021 280 0780

Matarangi Dune Restoration Group

Village Green, 9.00 am 1st Thurs of the month
Kay Airey 0204 120 0975

Recreational Darts

The Dunes, 6.00 pm every other Thursday
The Dunes 07 866 5394

Friday

Lawn Bowls

The Dunes, 2.15-4.15 pm
Wayne Davis 027 458 9544

Croquet

Woolams Ave, Coromandel 9.15 am-12 pm
07 866 8066

Saturday

Pickleball for all

Matai Place Courts, 8.30-10.30 am
Grant 022 383 6351

Hash House Harriers

3 pm winter and 4 pm summer
Bronwyn 0210 231 1130

Brew Crew (Home brewing)

Fire Station Matarangi
Phil Mosen 027 4761734

Sunday

Sunday Market

Matarangi Drive (in front of shops), 10 am-1pm
Long weekends summer to Labour weekend
Lesley 021 280 0780

Golf

Mens 9 Hole: Monday (front 9) and Thursday
(back 9) at 9.30am.

Ladies 9 Hole: Tuesday (front 9) and Thursday (back
9) at 9.30am

Mens 18 Hole: Wednesday - 10am

Ladies 18 Hole: Thursday - 10am

Saturday Haggale: 8am -12pm.

MAY 2025 TIDES

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July 2025 Tides

	High	Low	High	Low	High
3	00:23:00	06:43:00	12:52:00	18:56:00	
4	01:10:00	07:30:00	13:43:00	19:48:00	
5	01:58:00	08:19:00	14:37:00	20:41:00	
6	02:47:00	09:09:00	15:32:00	21:35:00	
7	03:37:00	10:01:00	16:26:00	22:28:00	
8	04:29:00	10:52:00	17:16:00	23:19:00	
9	05:20:00	11:42:00	18:04:00		
10		00:08:00	06:09:00	12:28:00	18:49:00
11		00:55:00	06:57:00	13:12:00	19:32:00
12		01:41:00	07:43:00	13:55:00	20:14:00
13		02:25:00	08:27:00	14:37:00	20:56:00
14		03:09:00	09:12:00	15:20:00	21:39:00
15		03:54:00	09:56:00	16:04:00	22:23:00
16		04:39:00	10:43:00	16:50:00	23:09:00
17		05:26:00	11:32:00	17:40:00	23:58:00
18		06:16:00	12:25:00	18:34:00	
19	00:50:00	07:09:00	13:23:00	19:33:00	
20	01:46:00	08:05:00	14:24:00	20:35:00	
21	02:45:00	09:06:00	15:28:00	21:40:00	
22	03:47:00	10:07:00	16:31:00	22:43:00	
23	04:49:00	11:08:00	17:31:00	23:43:00	
24	05:50:00	12:05:00	18:26:00		
25		00:40:00	06:47:00	12:59:00	19:18:00
26		01:33:00	07:40:00	13:48:00	20:06:00
27		02:23:00	08:29:00	14:35:00	20:52:00
28		03:09:00	09:15:00	15:20:00	21:36:00
29		03:54:00	09:59:00	16:03:00	22:19:00
30		04:36:00	10:43:00	16:46:00	23:01:00
31		05:18:00	11:26:00	17:30:00	23:43:00
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P. McNeill, 2025 (repeat customer)

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R. Preston, 2025

"The boys were marvellous. Couldn't fault them!"

T. and L. True, 2025

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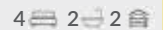
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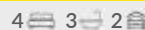
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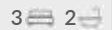
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