

Pōhutukawa Coast Times

Issue
1508

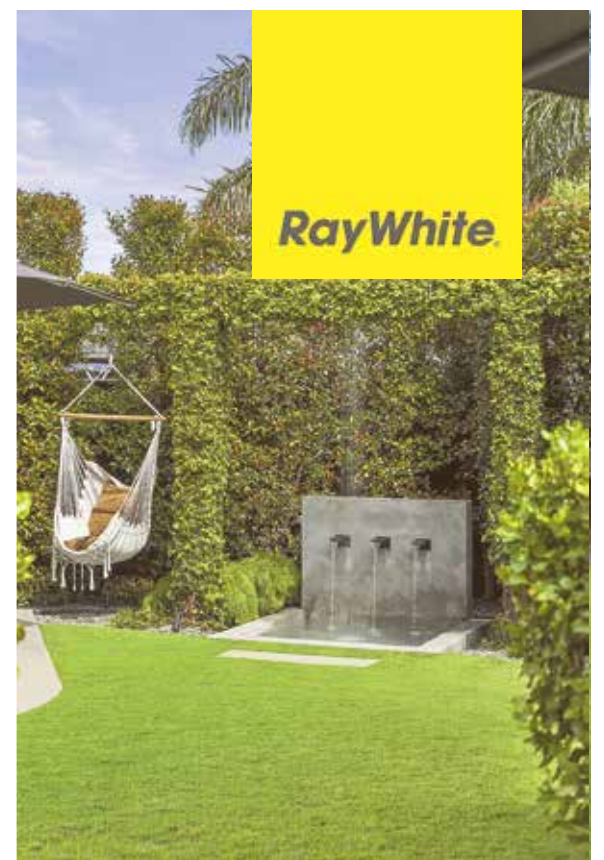
15 December 2023

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From our family to yours, we would like to thank you for your support in 2023. We have had a huge year, and due to your support we have been able to orient ourselves toward genuine market leadership on the Pohutukawa Coast.

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Most Recent Case Study: 25 Te Pene Road, Maraetai Beach

Auction Held 2:30 pm on 10 December, 2023
Location: On Site
Days On Market: 26
Total Number of Inspections: 47
Pre Auction Offers: N/A
Registered Bidders: 3
Active Bidders: 2
Sold Under The Hammer for \$2,075,000

Check Out The Full Video Coverage Here:
rwbeachlands.co.nz/watch-our-auctions-live

Bid Count
\$1,500,000 (Opening Bid)
\$1,600,000
\$1,700,000
\$1,800,000 (Vendor Bid)
\$1,900,000

Auction Paused For Negotiation

\$2,075,000 (On The Market)

Going Once
Going Twice
Third & Final

SOLD
\$2,075,000

15 December 2023

Watercare proposes multi-million dollar upgrade options for Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant

With its resource consent ending in 2025, and population reaching critical mass, Watercare has recently held two information sessions asking locals what they think about five different options for upgrading the Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant on Okaroro Drive.

Watercare says upgrades to the existing wastewater treatment plant are required due to the projected future growth in Beachlands and Maraetai communities, and the wastewater treatment plant nearing the end of its design life. The current plant's consent is due for renewal on 31 December 2025.

After consulting with members of the community and mana whenua in October, Watercare narrowed a long-list of 20 options down to 5 preferred options for dealing with the Pōhutukawa Coast's wastewater. In addition to upgrading the existing treatment plant, the 5 options also discuss alternative ways to discharge the wastewater.

The five options are summarised below (a full description is available at watercare.co.nz - search for Beachlands):

- **Option 2A:** Wastewater is treated at the existing Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant site then discharged to a tributary of the Te Puru Stream, via an overland flow discharge field covering about 4-6ha
- **Option 2B:** Wastewater is treated at the existing Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant site then discharged directly into a tributary of the Te Puru Stream
- **Option 3:** Wastewater is treated at the existing Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant site, stored in a lagoon then discharged via low pressure sprinkler irrigation to 750ha of land within a 10km radius of the treatment plant
- **Option 3a:** Wastewater is treated at the existing Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant site then discharged directly into a tributary of the Te



Map showing Watercare's option 4ae, which proposes piping treated wastewater via Te Puru to an outlet 2.9km offshore in the Hauraki Gulf/Tikapa Moana. Image / watercare.co.nz.

Puru Stream as well as being spread via low pressure sprinklers to 300ha of surrounding land

- **Option 4ae:** Wastewater is treated at the existing Beachlands Wastewater Treatment Plant site then carried via a pipeline to Te Puru Park, before being discharged via a 2.9km ocean outfall [pipeline] into the Tāmaki Strait

Total costs (including capital and ongoing operating and maintenance costs over the life of the plant) of the various options range from an estimated \$262M to \$574M.

At its recent information sessions Watercare asked for local residents' feedback about the location of discharge and level of wastewater treatment they prefer.

Watercare's project team will now confirm the best practicable option and a resource consent application will be prepared for Auckland Council to consider.

Watercare says it will ask Auckland Council to publicly notify the resource consent application to enable the community to make formal submissions on the matter.

HO HO 3
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Jenny 0204 000 2564
Nicolette 027 702 9157
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Christmas
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We wish you all the best for the holiday season and hope your Christmas will be a happy one shared with family & friends.
The yard will be closed Friday 22nd December from noon, until Monday 8th January 2024.
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Times

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EDITOR

Leanne Chamberlin

021 426 207

leanne@pctimes.co.nz

ADVERTISING

Melody Cutfield

021 0261 4467

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CLASSIFIEDS

advertising@pctimes.co.nz

DELIVERY/DISTRIBUTION

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ACCOUNTS

Pam Rutherford

accounts@pctimes.co.nz

The Pōhutukawa Coast Times is distributed weekly to 6500 homes and businesses in: Whitford, Brookby, Beachlands, Maraetai, Clevedon, Ardmore, Alfriston, Kawakawa Bay, Orere Point, Hunua and Paparimu

Member of the New Zealand
Community Newspapers
Association



The PC Times 20 years ago:
12 December 2003: Report will help
decide future of Pine Harbour boat
ramp.


PINE HARBOUR ELECTRICAL

Weekly Tide Chart

15 Fri		3:30am ▼ 0.5m	10:00am ▲ 3.3m	
16 Sat		4:17am ▼ 0.4m	10:48am ▲ 3.4m	
17 Sun		5:05am ▼ 0.4m	11:38am ▲ 3.4m	
18 Mon		5:55am ▼ 0.5m	12:29pm ▲ 3.3m	
19 Tue		12:50am ▲ 3.1m	6:48am ▼ 0.6m	
20 Wed		1:45am ▲ 3.1m	7:45am ▼ 0.7m	
21 Thu		2:42am ▲ 3.0m	8:46am ▼ 0.8m	

MARINE FORECAST – VHF CHANNEL 19
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Editorial by Franklin Local Board Wairoa representatives

Franklin residents will be asked if they would pay a \$52 annual targeted rate to help pay for pathways in the district when Auckland Council consults on its 10-year Budget.

That consultation does not happen until next year, but Board chair Angela Fulljames says Franklin has asked for the question to be included.

“We recommended the Governing Body consult on introducing a Franklin Local Board Paths Targeted Rate of \$52 (GST incl) increasing each year with inflation, on all rateable properties to fund additional paths investment as part of the 10-year Budget.

“Active transport modes - walking and cycling, are a priority for us. Our communities have shown a consistent interest in options that enable them to contribute to climate action at a local level, and we have so far allocated around \$2.4 million to progress paths in partnership with community groups.

“We have developed a programme for additional investment across all three subdivisions, Wairoa, Pukekohe, and Waiuku that would have to be funded by a targeted rate.

“Investment in paths infrastructure is a public good. The paths generate benefits to the entire area through improved connections between residential, transport, and urban hubs.”

The board is following through after an earlier public consultation indicated people were willing for information to be gathered so an informed decision can be reached.

“Early indications from meetings Franklin Ward Councillor Andy Baker and I are attending are that the more we as a board can generate in project revenue, and thus control within our area, the more likely we are to deliver these sorts of projects, given budget restraints,” Fulljames says.

Council staff have recommended the targeted rate – and annual inflation increases – to generate around \$20 million over the period of Council’s 10-year Budget 2024-2034.

The proposed paths would mainly be in urban areas and connect with existing paths as well as the wider public transport network.

At its meeting last week, the Governing Body agreed to consult on the targeted rate next year.

Strategy sets growth path

A strategy to govern the city’s growth over the next three decades has been welcomed by Auckland Council’s Andy Baker.

The Franklin Ward councillor says the Future Development Strategy is a way of ensuring homes, jobs, and infrastructure are built in the right places, and balances the need for development in urban or ‘brownfield’ areas with new ‘greenfield’ sites.

Baker says working with the board has resulted in specific features for Franklin, meaning work can be done that recognises the area’s features, especially existing and planned employment opportunities.

“A lot of our people must travel to work. We need to create a better balance if we want to enable investment in schools, transport options and meet our carbon emissions targets.”

Baker voted against the draft strategy because it did not sufficiently consider areas like Franklin, but the changes made give him confidence in the adopted plan.

“We have all seen prime land taken for housing, and that remains an issue, but the strategy also avoids development in flooding and natural hazard risk areas, where a high bar has been set for those wanting to develop, and some of the most at-risk parts of the future urban zone revert to rural zoning.”

He says the strategy seeks to concentrate development around existing infrastructure. “That is common-sense, the cost of building infrastructure to support developments outside those areas has proven challenging.

“The strategy will help create a city where people can live close to work and the amenities they need, which will in turn enable easier public transport, protect our environment and reduce emissions.”

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Police outline plan for patrols at local beaches over summer

As the holiday season approaches, Counties Manukau East Police are gearing up to ensure the safety and well-being of community members and visitors. With the influx of people during the summer months, particularly on public holidays and weekends, police say they are aware of the need to maintain a secure and enjoyable environment for everyone.

The policing team will have a strong focus on all local beaches including Beachlands, Maraetai, Umupuia, Eastern Beach and Howick. They will also have a strong presence at all major shopping centres.

A police spokesperson says: “During this time of the year, our beautiful beaches and public spaces attract large numbers of responsible, law-abiding community members who simply want to have a good time.

“However, we also recognise the presence of individuals engaging in public disturbances, breach of liquor ban and other unlawful activities.

“The operation initiated will focus on community reassurance, prevention, and road safety. Specifically, we are targeting issues related to alcohol, vehicle crime, driving offences, and retail theft in specified areas.

“Our ultimate goal is to deliver safer roads, safer communities, and safer homes.”



Police have teamed up with other organisations to ensure that local beaches like Maraetai (pictured above) remain pleasant places to visit over the busy summer holiday period.

Counties Manukau East Police will work closely with community partners including local iwi, Auckland Council, AT (Auckland Transport), Fisheries, Franklin Local Board, Howick Local Board, and the Pōhutukawa Coast Crime Patrol.

“Together, we aim to address and resolve the challenges that arise during the summer season.”

“We are committed to creating an environment where all community members can enjoy the summer months without the issues surrounding safety concerns and untoward behaviour.”

Police encourage everyone to stay vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour or unlawful activities.



DECEMBER EVENTS

10 Dec	9am	Blue Christmas
A time to remember loss & light a Candle for someone who has died		
24 Dec	9am	Carol Service
24 Dec	11:30am	Christmas Eve Service & Communion
25 Dec	10:00am	Christmas Day Family Celebration
31 Dec	9am	Last Sunday of the year

Minister: Mark Chapman | Contact Lyn 536 6774

5 Jacobs Way, Maraetai



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Metlifecare names new Clevedon retirement village Ōtau Ridge

Metlifecare has formally named its Clevedon retirement village Ōtau Ridge.

Ōtau (pronounced or-toe) is a name gifted to Metlifecare from Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, who are the iwi mana whenua, tāngata whenua of Clevedon and the Wairoa River (awa) that surrounds the village site.

Ōtau is the last recorded Māori name of the area before it was changed to Clevedon.

Metlifecare Development Manager, Joe Bartley, who is overseeing the Ōtau project, has engaged with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and the wider community, since Metlifecare purchased the site more than two years ago.

“We’re honoured to have the name gifted to us by Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki. The name Ōtau translates to a safe crossing place on the awa Te Wairoa. It speaks to a narrative of travel, safe crossing and a place to settle.

“We believe this analogy symbolises the journey many residents take as they move into a retirement village and embark on a ‘settled’ life and where they are cared for,” says Joe.

Construction of the first stage of the village, which includes 38 villas, commenced in June 2023 and is now well underway. Metlifecare expects to welcome the first residents late-2024.

“There has been a lot of early interest in this village from prospective customers



An aerial view artist’s impression showing Clevedon village and the concept design of new Metlifecare retirement village, Ōtau Ridge.

and we’ll be starting to market the village early in the New Year. We’re excited to be able to showcase just how special this village will be,” says Joe.

Metlifecare says its design philosophy for its development sites is to create villages that connect seamlessly with the surrounding landscape and community, and that Ōtau Ridge is no exception.

“The design team has put a lot of effort into ensuring this village will be something that future residents will be proud to call home.

“From the extensive landscaped grounds and access to the local walking and biking trails, through to unobstructed views of the Hūnua Ranges, and the high-end architectural and interior design of the

buildings, this village will perfectly fit into the boutique country lifestyle that makes Clevedon/Ōtau so unique.

“Ōtau Ridge will be a low-density village. Apart from the care and amenity building, it will consist only of single-level dwellings,” says Joe.

ART GALLERY

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Artist’s impression showing the reception area design concept at Ōtau Ridge.

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10:00pm All Souls, Clevedon

CHRISTMAS DAY - 25 December
9:30am All Souls, Clevedon
9:30am Christ Church, Alfriston

SUNDAY 31 DECEMBER
9:30am Christ Church, Alfriston

All Souls, 49 North Road, Clevedon
Christ Church, 1444 Alfriston Road, Alfriston

St Thomas’ Church Whitford
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Sunday 24th December - 9:30am
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CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
Monday 25 December, 9:30am

All Welcome



Season's Greetings

From the team at Barfoot & Thompson Beachlands

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And a Partridge in a Pōhutukawa tree.

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Beachlands Maraetai Rugby Club nominated for NZ club of the year

Beachlands Maraetai Rugby Club has been chosen as one of three finalists, out of over 400 clubs, for the ASB Sports Awards NZ Rugby Club of the Year.

“This is a really big deal for our small club,” says club president James Gemmell.

James says he believes the club was nominated for the award because of the experience its young players get out of a family-led and community approach.

“On any particular day at the club you’ll see coaches and volunteers who are mums and dads, putting in the hours to get the best out of our kids,” says James.

The club’s new approach with its “Have-A-Go Day” was a huge success this year, with players able to bring along their friends to see what the club is all about, without having to commit right there and then.

Another successful facet of the club is its girl’s ripper rugby division which has a steadily-increasing player pool and helps parents understand that rugby is a game for everyone.

Being nominated as a finalist in the Rugby Club of the Year category has topped off a successful year for the club, which has seen many young players recognised for their sportsmanship and skills at regional tournaments around the country.

“The club is honoured to receive this nomination and we’ll be celebrating by watching the ASB Rugby Awards live



Beachlands Maraetai Rugby Club members at the Global Games Festival of Rugby held in Christchurch in September.
Photo / Simon Watts www.bwmedia.co.nz

with our fingers crossed!,” says James. “Again, this nomination is for all of our volunteers who continue to help out with the club and of course the community who get in behind our car washes, golf days and auction night.”

The club will find out whether it has won when the ASB Rugby Awards screens live on Sky Sport at 7.30pm on Thursday 14 December 2023.

For more information about the club, follow the Beachlands Maraetai Rugby Club Facebook page, or visit www.sporty.co.nz/beachlandsmaraetai/

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Student Voice

LOCAL STUDENTS' NEWS, VIEWS & LITERARY TALENT

This column features news, views and literary talents of students from Beachlands, Maraetai, Clevedon, Brookby, Hunua, Paparimu, Orere and Ardmore Schools.

One student featured each week will be presented with a certificate and a \$20 book voucher, thanks to Barfoot & Thompson’s Beachlands and Whitford branches.



This week's voucher sponsored by
Jill Franklin

Gumboot Friday

My gumboots have blue, pink and purple (gumboots).

We have Gumboots Day because it means I have Hope. Because it is OK to not be OK.

- by **Hannah B**, year 3,
Brookby School



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MERRY CHRISTMAS

Wishing you a Merry Christmas from 003 - Ian, Jenny, Nicolette and Mark. A BIG thank you to all our vendors and buyers this year. Have a relaxing Christmas and roll on 2024!



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SOLD  26 Maraetai School Rd Pre-Tender Marketed and SOLD by 003	SOLD  65 Pine Harbour Parade Marketed and SOLD by 003	SOLD  59 Eighth View Avenue Marketed and SOLD by 003
SOLD  19 Ambrose Lane Pre-Tender Marketed and SOLD by 003	SOLD  21 Constellation Avenue Pre-Tender Marketed and SOLD by 003	SOLD  38 Liberty Crescent Marketed and SOLD by 003



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Back for our 6th year is our 003 12 Days of Christmas Gift Hamper Prize Draw. Simply enter on Special Agents 003 Facebook Page or Instagram to nominate a friend or family or community group to WIN our 003 Christmas gift hamper. Drawn 19/12/23

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SPONSORED CONTENT

Xtreme Beauty scoops third accolade at business awards

- by Xtreme Beauty

Xtreme Beauty Beachlands owner Kesh Nand has added another trophy to her cabinet, having recently won Business Excellence in Retail Trade at the recent 14th Annual Indian Newslink Business Awards.

Kesh says she was thrilled to receive the honour at a glittering ceremony attended by hundreds of VIPs, and that she is grateful to the judges and Indian Newslink.

“It’s an award that we dedicate to our team and all of our loyal customers,” she says.

In 2022 Kesh was named Businesswoman of the Year at the same awards, and in 2019 she won Retail Business of the Year.

Kesh has seen her business grow from strength to strength since launching Xtreme Beauty in 2015 at Botany Junction, followed by the launch of Xtreme Beauty Clinic and Spa at Ormiston Town Centre in early 2021. She also owns Xtreme Beauty and Xtreme Barbers in Beachlands.

Xtreme Beauty offer a range of services including waxing, threading, eyelash extensions, massages, facials, skin tag removal and skin needling. New



Xtreme Beauty director Keshwin Nand (right) receives the award for Business Excellence in Retail Trade at the Fourteenth Annual Indian Newslink Business Awards held on 27 November 2023. Kesh is pictured with Leader of the Labour Party Chris Hipkins (left) and Shekar Man managing director Saravanaa Bhavan.

services are added all the time. Xtreme Beauty is open late each day until Christmas, resuming normal hours in January. See the advertisement below for opening hours. While they take walk-ins, at this busy time of year Kesh encourages people to book in advance to avoid disappointment.



Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas

Christmas Opening Hours

December

Sat 16, 9am-6pm
Sun 17, 9am-7pm
Mon 18, 10am-5pm
Tue 19, 9am-6pm
Wed 20, 9am-6pm
Thu 21, 9am-8pm
Fri 22, 9am-8pm
Sat 23, 9am-8pm
Sun 24, 9am-5pm
Mon 25, CLOSED

Tue 26, CLOSED
Wed 27, 9am-6pm
Thu 28, 9am-8pm
Fri 29, 9am-6pm
Sat 30, 9am-6pm
Sun 31, 10am-5pm

January

Mon 1 - Mon 8, CLOSED
Tue 9, Resume normal hours



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SPONSORED CONTENT

Vet advice: what not to feed your dog at Christmas

- by Franklin Vets

Yep! It is tough when those big brown eyes are staring forlornly at you but as tempting as it is to share your food with your dog during the festive season, our treats can be extremely dangerous to your canine companion. Here is a list of some of the worst offenders and why they make the naughty list.

Grapes and raisins - no one knows exactly why and how these are poisonous to dogs, and the exact volume needed to cause symptoms is difficult to predict.

Christmas pudding and mince pies - these are full of currants, raisins and sultanas, which are toxic to dogs. Fat and suet can also cause severe stomach troubles, and they are usually laced with alcohol which is also poisonous to dogs.

Chocolate - in large enough amounts, chocolate and cocoa products can lead to gastrointestinal upsets, seizures or even kill your dog. Make sure chocolate coins, decorations and presents are kept out of reach.

Bones - cooked bones are brittle and splinter easily, which can lead to larger fragments getting 'stuck' causing

obstructions and smaller ones causing gut irritation and perforation.

Don't leave bones anywhere they can be found! Poultry is hollow-boned and the bones splinter whether raw or cooked so must never be given to your dog under any circumstances. Turkey stuffing and gravy can also cause upset tummies.

Onions, garlic, chives - these can cause stomach upsets and could lead to red blood cell damage. It takes a few days for signs of poisoning to appear.

Macadamia nuts - within 12 hours of ingestion these can cause dogs to experience weakness (especially in the hind limbs) and depression, tremors, vomiting and increased temperature lasting for 12 to 48 hours.

Fat - ham rind or the drippings from the BBQ tray can lead to upset stomachs or pancreatitis.

If you suspect your dog has consumed any of these foods contact us immediately. The quicker treatment is sought, the easier and more successful it will be.

The bottom line – don't let your dogs anywhere near human treats at Christmas, however much they appear to love them.



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Monday	18 December 2023	OPEN 8.15AM-5PM	
Tuesday	19 December 2023	OPEN 8.15AM-5PM	
Wednesday	20 December 2023	OPEN 8.15AM-5PM	
Thursday	21 December 2023	OPEN 8.15AM-5PM	
Friday	22 December 2023	OPEN 8.15AM-2PM	
Saturday	23 December 2023		CLOSED
Sunday	24 December 2023		CLOSED
Monday	25 December 2023		CLOSED
Tuesday	26 December 2023		CLOSED
Wednesday	27 December 2023	OPEN 8.15AM-5PM	
Thursday	28 December 2023	OPEN 8.15AM-5PM	
Friday	29 December 2023	OPEN 8.15AM-2PM	
Saturday	30 December 2023		CLOSED
Sunday	31 December 2023		CLOSED
Monday	1 January 2024		CLOSED
Tuesday	2 January 2024		CLOSED
Wednesday	3 January 2024	OPEN 8.15AM-5PM	

NO LATE NIGHTS until Tuesday 13 February 2024

Emergencies: Phone 111 Ambulance or contact EastCare, 260 Botany Rd, Golflands, ph: 277 1516, Healthline 0800 611 116 or our after hours service www.practiceplus.nz (fees will apply)

Beachlands Physio, Labtests & Pohutukawa Pharmacy holiday hours may differ from the medical centre so please check their websites or call them direct.

We wish you all a happy and healthy festive season from the team at Beachlands Medical Centre

Going on Holiday?

Don't forget to order your medication in plenty of time!

To order your repeat prescriptions and get results online please call reception for details and register at managemyhealth.co.nz

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Cat Friendly Clinic

Maraetai resident appeals for donations to support quake-affected Nepal

The 2015 earthquake which devastated parts of Nepal continues to impact residents in the Nepal's Langtang District, the most hardest hit by the quake, and a Maraetai couple are asking Coasters to help with donations of clothing and sturdy footwear.

Lyn Yeoman and husband Chris McMurray hosted a young Langtang resident, Tshering Lama, at their home in 2014. Lyn had worked in Nepal for several years and she says Tshering's family showed "wonderful kindness" to her. Tshering returned to Nepal, and a year later was due to be married when the magnitude 7.6 earthquake struck three days before her wedding. While Tshering and her family were unharmed, nine thousand people died in the quake, and a further 3.5 million were made homeless. The epicentre of the quake was between Kathmandu and Tshering's home district of Langtang. Langtang and the surrounding villages close to the epicentre were destroyed; first by the shocks and then by huge tsunami-like landslides coming down off the mountains, burying everything.

Lyn says most of the International Aid money that the Nepal government received from around world did not find its way to the areas hardest hit.

New Zealand Aid which did get through comprised small, local fundraising ventures, such as the fundraising efforts in Beachlands, Maraetai and Howick. "These funds went straight to relief work which

was managed by our son Isaac, who was in Nepal, and every cent was accounted for. Many locals, here, also assisted with provision of warm clothing and gear, which we later arranged to be back-packed up to Kyanjin Gumba. This was invaluable!"

Today, however, people in the Langtang District are still struggling to rebuild their lives. A lack of tourists during the Covid pandemic meant that many fathers working in Kathmandu lost their employment. With no government child support or pensions, and no free education, many Langtang residents struggle.

"Whilst much rebuilding has taken place, partly through aid funding, families have had to take out loans to pay school fees and costs," says Lyn. "There is no longer a local school in Kyanjin Gumpa, so local kids have to walk three days down (and up) the mountains and then take a local bus through the mountains to Kathmandu."

"Superficially things look ok because of the rebuilding, much of which was done through funds raised. But day to day costs are hard to meet," says Chris.

Lyn and Chris will return to Langtang after Christmas and are seeking donations of:

- Clothing: men's, women's and children's warm, lined jackets; wool hats and warm, wool jerseys (not synthetic); track suits and track pants; thermal clothes and wool socks (any sizes); babies' woollen blankets.



Maraetai resident Lyn Yeoman (pictured in foreground) drops donated supplies to residents of Kyanjin Gumpa, Nepal.

- Footwear: sturdy walking boots, tough trainers (with plenty of life left please, all sizes), men's boots especially important (many sherpas and porters carry packs, timber and supplies up the mountains wearing jandals or hole-ridden shoes)
 - Backpacks: (need 4 -6 packs) sturdy and clean. Sherpas and porters will use these to carry donated gear and the packs will be left for local porters in Kyanjin Gumba.
 - Day packs for children's school things.
 - Sponsorship: All parents want their children to attend school, but many parents can't afford school fees.
- Sponsorship is sought for Tibetan children through Kopan Tibetan School in Kathmandu, which is where most Langtang children (those who can) attend. Sponsors can meet the child they sponsor, and see their school.
- Rani and Gaugan at Maraetai Dairy have kindly offered to store donated goods in the interim, so any donations can be dropped there.
- "Sooner rather than later, would help avoid cluttering the shop close to Christmas," says Lyn. "If you have a substantial amount of stuff, call us and we will collect."
- Any enquiries can be directed to Lyn on 027 616 2220 or lyn.yeoman@gmail.com

Whitford sets its sights on eliminating pests



Predator Free Whitford talks to local landowners at its recent Bait & Trap day.

On Sunday 26 November Predator Free Whitford held its second successful predator education bait and trap event at the Whitford Tennis Pavillion, with the support of Predator Free Franklin.

A number of new properties came for advice and to receive materials to help them with their trapping efforts in the local community, as well as some properties that visited to top up on gear. As well as predator control gear, the team from Predator Free Whitford were also able to hand out pest plant control guides and Cut 'n Paste weed control gel, thanks to funding from Franklin Local Board.

In return, visitors gave generous donations to help 'pay it forward', to ensure the group is able to help as many properties as possible in its bid to suppress pests while working towards Predator Free 2050.

Trapping helps local native ecosystems flourish, and protects fruit, rose buds, chickens, stock feed and houses from rat and possum damage.

If you'd like to join Predator Free Whitford on its journey, sign up to the mailing list on predatorfreefranklin.nz, join the Predator Free Whitford group on Facebook, or email whitford@predatorfreefranklin.nz with your questions.

If you missed the last event, the Predator Free Franklin team will be happy to help you out at the Ōrere Point Market on 17 December at the Ōrere Hall from 10am-1pm. Many hands make light work!

Avondale

Paradise ICE SKATING

Botany

Christmas in Paradise

Celebrate the Festive Season at Paradise

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Glide across the ice WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY

ENJOY SKATING to Festive Tunes

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Dress up in Christmas-themed OUTFITS OR YOUR FAVOURITE UGLY SWEATER (PRIZES FOR DRESSED UP SKATERS)

DEVOUR CHRISTMAS treats

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Paradise Entertainment

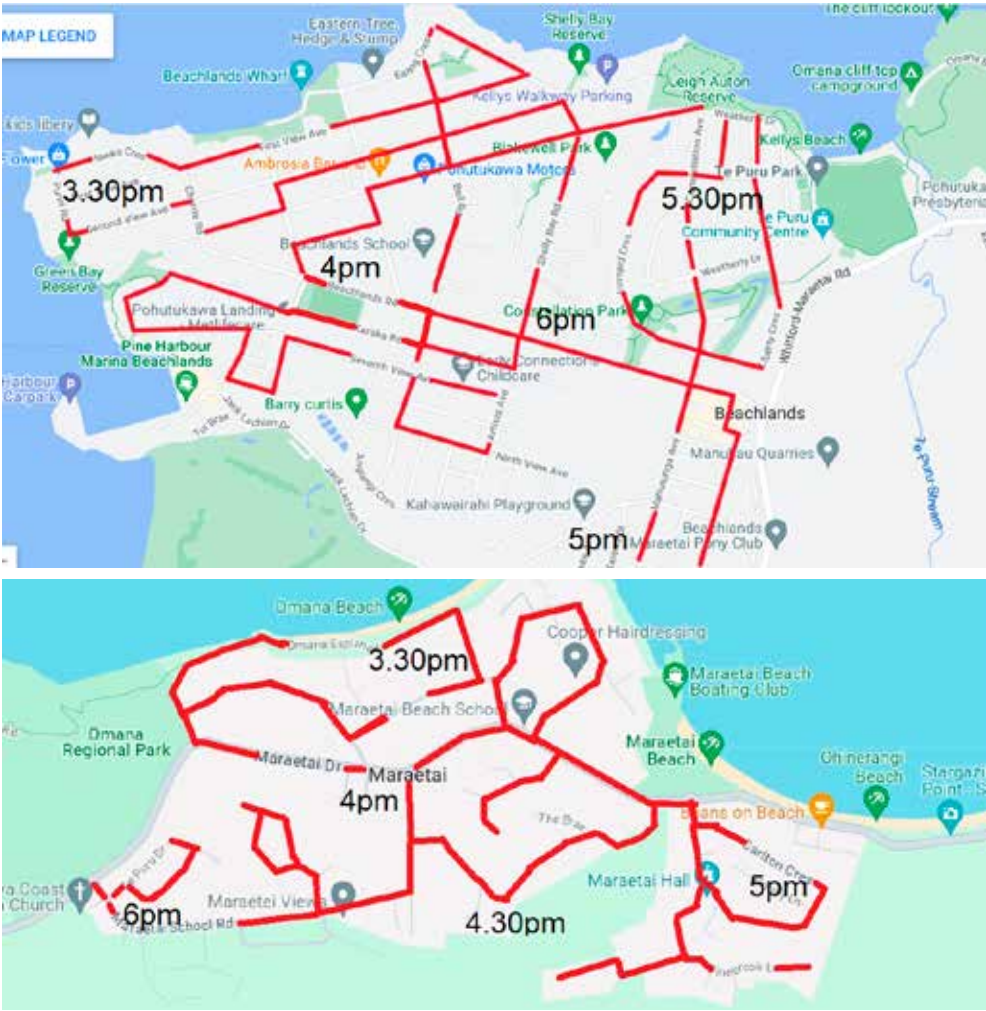
@paradise_ice_skating

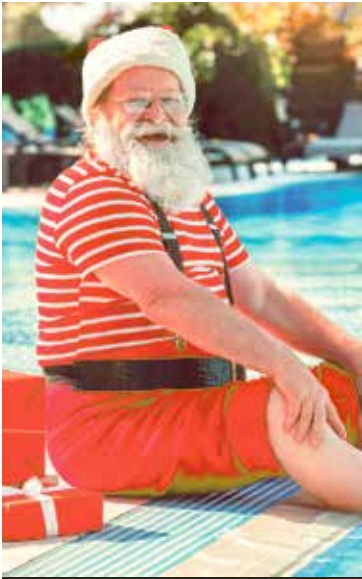
@paradise_entertainment_

'Tis the season to eat lollies

Beachlands Volunteer Fire Brigade will take Santa to the streets for its annual lolly run this Sunday 17 December from 3pm. The lolly run is the brigade's way of thanking members of the Beachlands and Maraetai communities for their support throughout the year.

Keep an ear out for their siren, Christmas carols and music playing as they travel throughout the area. While they cannot visit every street, they do their best to be accessible to everyone - see the route maps below.







HOWICK VILLAGE OPTOMETRISTS

From the Team at Howick Village Optometrists thank you for all your support over the past year. We hope you all have a wonderful break over summer spending time with friends and family.

Closed: 12pm noon on Saturday 23rd Dec
Reopen: 9am - 1pm on Saturday 6th Jan

We look forward to seeing you in the New Year

ph 534 8716 **www.howickoptometrists.co.nz**



Christmas has arrived at No5 Design

Our Rader Houses are selling fast, along with traditional decorations and fun crackers from Meri Meri.

Becca Project has been restocked.

There is a new shipment of Robert Gordon Pottery.

High Summer drop of Saben Bags in coconut ice and melon, pretty and bright for the sunny season.

Gorgeous linen tea towels from Thread Design.

We have an assortment of all your Christmas wants and needs! Pop in and let us help you buy the perfect gift for that someone special.

Shop @ no5design.co.nz

Phone 09 530 9333 Whitford Village
Open 7 Days until Christmas Eve



Exciting activities for all at Te Puru these school holidays!

- by Te Puru Community Centre

Schools are out for summer on Wednesday 20 December, unfortunately Mum and Dad may not be so lucky! Join us for a jolly good time at our upcoming 2-day Holiday Programme on 21 and 22 December!

On Thursday, get ready to unleash your creativity as we create beautiful ornaments to hang on your tree. Get ready to rock around Te Puru with us on Friday, as we celebrate the holiday season with a festive Christmas party!

Our team will return on 8 January with a lineup of engaging and enjoyable activities to keep you occupied during the break. From sports and gymnastics to baking and hut building, we have something for every interest. You'll feel right at home and likely to recognise friendly faces with our experienced Holiday Programme crew Maddie, Quinn & Zach.

Maddie is currently studying a Bachelor of Sports Management and is the Gymnastics Co-ordinator at Te Puru. A highlight for Maddie is getting to know all of the kids within the programme, learning what they enjoy, and incorporating their interests into our daily plans.

Quinn has been part of the Holiday Programme team for the past three years. He enjoys the abundance of energy that kids emit and ensures that there's never a dull moment at the holiday programme. Quinn is currently at South Seas Film School studying Filmmaking and Content Creation.

Zach is an experienced Holiday Programme supervisor at Te Puru. He enjoys giving our local kids the opportunity to make the most of their school holidays, in an environment where they're able to challenge themselves whilst having fun developing new skills and connections. With an interest in the connection between the human brain and health, Zach is currently completing a Bachelor of Health Science majoring in Psychology.

Registrations are open for our December and January programmes at: www.tepuru.co.nz, confirmation will be sent once full payment has been received. We recommend booking your spot early. Check out the January/February programme below.

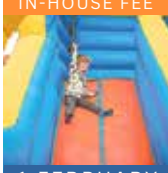
For Te Puru news, Gymnastics and our 2024 Holiday Programme, be sure to follow us on Facebook.



January / February 2024

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Children 5-13 years old | Register at: www.tepuru.co.nz | Full & Half Days

 8 JANUARY Super Science	 9 JANUARY Gymnastics	 10 JANUARY Heros & Villains	 11 JANUARY Explore Omana	 12 JANUARY Argentina Day
 15 JANUARY Kiwiana Day	 16 JANUARY Bake Off	 17 JANUARY Playgrounds	IN-HOUSE FEE  18 JANUARY Taekwondo	 19 JANUARY Wheels & Disco
 22 JANUARY Wearable Arts	 23 JANUARY Hut Day	 24 JANUARY Beach Adventure	 25 JANUARY Athletics Day	 26 JANUARY Movie & Shakes
 30 JANUARY Tumble & Tramp	 31 JANUARY Multisport Day	IN-HOUSE FEE  1 FEBRUARY Castle Mania	 2 FEBRUARY Slumber Party	 3 FEBRUARY Craft Day

Part Day: 9am-3pm \$45 | Full Day: 7.30am-6pm \$50 | In-house Fee \$55

holiday_programme@tepuru.co.nz | 09 536 5360

Stream restoration efforts to benefit from establishment of local nursery

The section of Papakura Stream which runs through Brookby has benefited from more than 88,000 additional native plants, planted by volunteers along the stream over 3,500 days over the past three years. Now the Conservation Volunteers New Zealand (CVNZ) team is asking for help from the local community as they begin to establish a large native plant nursery in the area.

CVNZ’s handiwork can be seen on both sides of Brookby Road near the school, along the stream which flows through Papatoetoe Pony Club’s grounds, and across the road where the waterway wends through privately owned farmland.

CVNZ coordinates local volunteers and corporate groups to carry out planting in the area, with the aim of improving the mauri of Papakura Stream which is the largest watercourse to enter the Manukau Harbour.

Since the Papakura Stream Restoration Project began three years ago, CVNZ volunteers have also collected 1,500kg of rubbish and removed 4.5 hectares of weeds from the area.

Trees for Survival, Forest and Bird and local landowners have also got behind the project, carrying out additional plantings and weed control.

A full time coordinator was appointed by CVNZ in 2023 to increase maintenance activities and closely monitor plant growth and survival. CVNZ will also begin



Members of Conservation Volunteers New Zealand celebrate a hard day’s mahi planting the Papakura Stream in Brookby.

impact monitoring to see what difference our efforts are making to biodiversity in the area. This will be done through bird counts, monitoring, bio blitzes, eDNA testing and water quality testing.

The scale of the Papakura Stream Restoration Project is huge. Until now CVNZ has purchased plants from around Auckland for the project, but now a new nursery is planned which will allow CVNZ to grow their own plants at Donalds Farm just up the road on Ara Kotinga. The farm was donated by the late Donald Pearson to NZ Young Farmers and is currently run as an educational model farm, giving school students the opportunity to experience hands-on farming.

To help build the nursery at Donald’s Farm, CVNZ is looking to the community for help with donating or providing discounted rates for any goods or services, either new or second hand, which could

help reduce the nursery’s set-up cost. Things like earthworks, fencing, irrigation, shade cloth, potting tables, growing units, shelving, sheds, a pump, plumbing, drainage, toilet and roofing are required, so CVNZ would be happy to hear from anyone able to help.

If you can help, contact SOGrady@cvnz.org.nz. Any monetary donations can be made directly via conservationvolunteers.co.nz/donate/

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Beloved cat reunited with Beachlands owners thanks to microchip

The importance of microchipping your pets has been highlighted by the recent return of Fluffy to her Beachlands home, after a two-month absence.

When the seven-year-old long-haired tabby failed to turn up for dinner one day, her owners began searching immediately.

“I was a bit like a crazy person, walking around the streets, calling her name into drain holes,” says owner Jo Flood.

The family posted Fluffy’s disappearance on social media grapevine pages all around South Auckland, and continued to search.

“The people around here were amazing, helping us look for her,” says Jo.

Their search even led them to Warkworth where a cat matching Fluffy’s description had been found. The family bought the cat home, only to realise shortly afterwards that it was not their beloved Fluffy.

“We knew within an hour, when we gave the cat a bath - Fluffy hates baths, but this cat really liked it!” says Jo.

The ‘foster’ cat remained with the Floods until its owners were eventually located. In the meantime, the search for Fluffy continued. Two months on, the family began to resign themselves to the fact that she might be gone for a while, though “we felt that Fluffy was still alive,” says Jo.

On 27 November Jo received a phone call from Auckland Council Park Ranger Mags Ramsey. The local rangers had found a cat near a dotterel nest at Omana, and had taken it to Franklin Vets to scan for a microchip. The 7-year-old microchip was still active



Victoria Alves Flood is very happy to be reunited with family pet Fluffy, who disappeared for two months.

and registered to the Floods, and Franklin Vets were quickly able to identify Fluffy.

Fluffy had lost a lot of weight and her long fur was matted, but she was clearly very happy to be reunited with her family.

Since then she has been “sleeping like crazy”, says Jo. She is being fed two-hourly to help her regain weight.

“We would never have found her if she

didn’t have a registered microchip,” says Jo.

Fluffy had ventured more than 10 kilometres from home. “She’s known for being a wanderer,” says Jo. “She visits the neighbours regularly. There are 11 cats in the area directly surrounding us, and she is apparently the boss.”

Since her return, Fluffy has been securely contained inside the family home.

Jo has some advice for other pet owners - make sure your pet is microchipped, and that the microchip is registered with the national registry (not just with your local vet). Being on the national register means pets can be identified no matter where they turn up.

Coastal Cat Rescue ‘Cat of the Month’

The gorgeous Charlotte and Checkers are not quite ready for adoption but are looking forward to meeting families considering inviting one, or two, adorable kittens into their homes.

Charlotte and Checkers are two of several kittens that are currently in care with Coastal Cat Rescue. These gorgeous kittens, and their kitten friends, will be ready for meeting soon. If you are interested in adding a furry friend to your family please get in contact and tell us a little about you, your current pets, home and family.

Kittens offered for adoption will be desexed, microchipped (registered to new owner), have received a minimum of their first vaccination, vet checked, treated for fleas and worms and come with six weeks pet insurance (subject to Terms and Conditions). An adoption donation will apply to help us continue to rescue more cats and kittens in need. If you would like to know more about the kittens we currently have in care, please email bailifscourt@gmail.com or join Coastal Cat Rescue on Facebook and PM.



RAYWHITE BEACHLANDS CROSSWORD

1		2			3			4		5		6
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29				30								
31												
				32								



Brianne Bignell
021 400 979
brianne.bignell@raywhite.com

RayWhite

Across

- 1. Daily drama (4,5)
- 7. Fourth letter of Greek alphabet (5)
- 9. Sum (5)
- 11. A vast age (3)
- 12. Style of music and dance (3-3)
- 13. Carnival (Sp) (6)
- 14. Food on a stick (5)
- 15. Large dog breed (6)
- 17. Fitness club (3)
- 20. Sardonic (3)
- 22. Solemnly renounce (6)
- 24. Dock (5)
- 25. Facilitate (6)
- 27. Listlessness (6)
- 29. Badger (3)
- 30. Having more years (5)
- 31. Overhead (5)
- 32. Small, fast battleship (9)

Down

- 1. Fallacious argument (7)
- 2. Upon (4)
- 3. Fitting (6)
- 4. Improvise (2-3)
- 5. Gesundheit (5,3)
- 6. Unoriginal or commonplace (5)
- 8. Small child (3)
- 9. Keepsake (5)
- 10. Distantly (4)
- 16. Aromatic herb (8)
- 18. Strongly dislike (5)
- 19. Beginner (7)
- 21. Touch (4)
- 22. Bear witness (6)
- 23. Extremely severe (5)
- 24. Haemorrhage (5)
- 26. Catch (3)
- 28. Sympathy (4)

Answers on page 14

Classified Ads

Professionals & Trades

BUY/SELL

JEWELLERY WANTED TO BUY

Old gold, rings, broken chains, unwanted jewellery for scrap etc. Paul Taylor Jewellers, Shop C7 Pohutukawa Coast Shopping Center. Ph 536 4200

SITUATIONS VACANT

YARD HAND - MORTON TIMBER

New Year! New job? Yard hand required at Morton Timber to join our small team in Clevedon 2024. "Life is short, work somewhere awesome."

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If that sounds like you, we'd love to have you on board! Phone Dean 09 292 8656.



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CROSSWORD ANSWERS:

Across: 1. Soap opera, 7. Delta, 9. Total, 11. Eon, 12. Hip-hop, 13. Fiesta, 14. Kebab, 15. Setter, 17. Gym, 20. Wry, 22. Abjure, 24. Berth, 25. Enable, 27. Torpor, 29. Nag, 30. Elder, 31. Above, 32. Destroyer.

Down: 1. Sophism, 2. Atop, 3. Proper, 4. Ad-lib, 5. Bless you, 6. Banal, 8. Tot, 9. Token, 10. Afar, 16. Tarragon, 18. Abhor, 19. Learner, 21. Feel, 22. Attest, 23. Penal, 24. Bleed, 26. Nab, 28. Pity.

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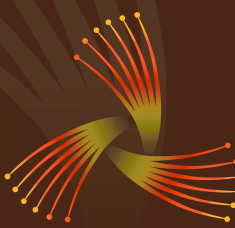


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