

COROMIND



Issue 46

THE POWER OF CREATIVE THINKING

Why Do We So Often Treat
Creativity as Optional?

GOLDEN RATIO IS BACK

Thames High and the 48 Hour
Film Competition

THE JOURNEY OF PELROY

Soul, Dub and the Coromandel

THE NATIONAL SUCCESS OF AMPLIFY AOTEAROA

Young Coromandel Musicians Make
Their Mark on the NZ Music Scene

On Air



Watch & Listen

THE ULTIMATE COROMANDEL GIG GUIDE

Coromind now brings gigs and events from across the region into one place – powered by Eventfinda. From live music and exhibitions to festivals and community gatherings, our guide at Coromind.nz helps you stay in the loop.

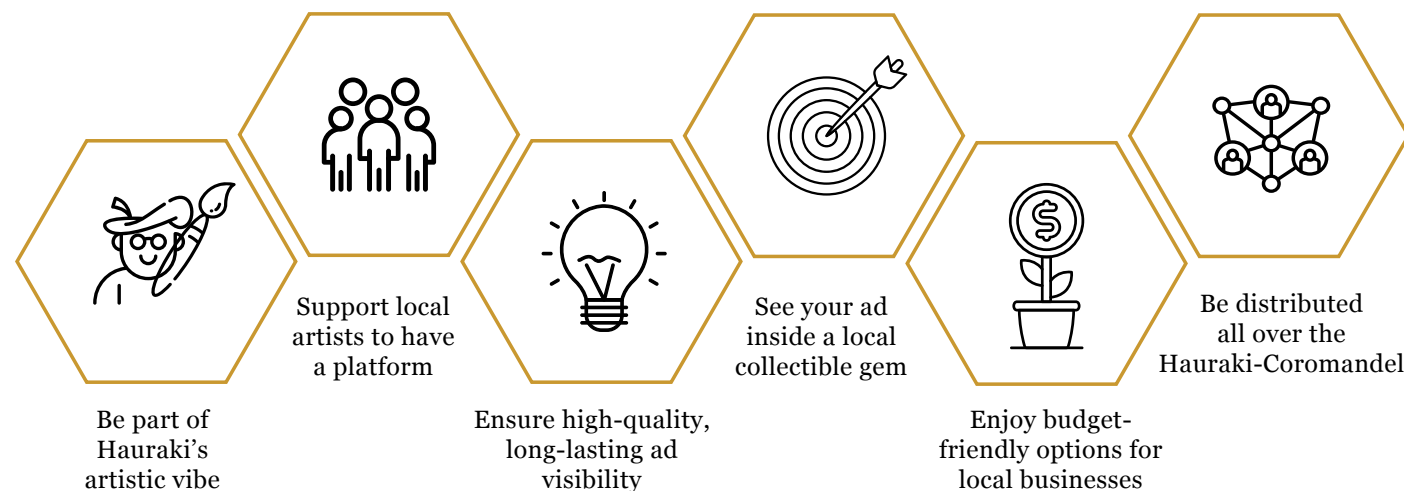
IF YOU'RE RUNNING AN EVENT AND WANT TO BE FEATURED, EMAIL US AT:

hello@coromind.nz



Contents

Reasons for your business to advertise on Coromind



COROMIND

MEMBERS

Not a business owner, but keen to support Coromind and receive exclusive perks? Go to www.coromind.nz and become a member of our growing platform! With a small contribution (\$5 per month!), you can make a big impact on our community project!

Get in touch: hello@coromind.nz

- 3 Mike O'Donnell
- 6 The Power of Creative Thinking
Why Do We So Often Treat Creativity as Optional?
- 8 The Man Who Wouldn't Build in Straight Lines
Henery Mackeson and the Eyefull Tower
- 9 Golden Ratio is Back
Thames High and the 48 Hour Film Competition
- 12 A Fresh Start
Stilo Hair Co. Creates Opportunities for Local Talent
- 13 From Cape Cod Shores to Coromandel Sands Series
What Do I Do With All This Missing?
- 16 A Quiet Corner of Tairua
Old Mill Café: Find Your Way to Mt Paku
- 18 Te Kawaurua ACC Navigation
Navigating ACC with Manaakitanga
- 19 The Journey of Pelroy
Soul, Dub and the Coromandel
- 21 Fifteen Months Out, A Backpacking Journey Can't Plan For That
- 24 The National Success of Amplify Aotearoa
Young Coromandel Musicians Make Their Mark on the NZ Music Scene
- 26 Proud to be Local
Carolyn McKenzie
- 27 Ross' Ramblings
Religions & Cults I've Never Joined | Part 1
- 30 Cuppa Words
Creative Writing in our Community
- 31 Protecting our Catchments
Building Resilience for the Future
- 34 Need a little Extra Space?
Undercover Storage Has You Covered
- 35 Sure Shot
Hauraki-Coromandel Photographers Series
- 37 The Waihi Makers Among Us
Crafty Ladies Waihi & Happy Space Mosaics

Team

Art Director

Taylor O.G.

Administration, Marketing & Production

Leonardo Magri, Lorelay Magri

Design/Layout

Reuben Watson

Audio Version

Lana Garland

Social Media

Milou Hiemstra

Cover Art

Mike O'Donnell

Contributors

Altbays, Ayana Piper-Healion, Carolyn McKenzie, Coromandel's CFM, Crafty Ladies Waihi, Driving Creek, Eggsentric Cafe, Gonzales Painting, Hannah Beasley, Happy Space Mosaic, Hilary Emerson Lay, Melissa Ireland, Moa Raud, Nur Peach, Old Mill Cafe Tairua, Rob Holding, Ross Liggins, Stilo Hair Co., Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki, Trisha Twigley, Undercover Storage, Viola, Waikato Regional Council

Proofing

Helen Oliver

October 2026 - Coromind is published by Flock Media Group

Readers' contributions of letters and articles are welcome. Publication of these is at the discretion of the editorial team and may be edited. Contributions will only be considered for the publication with the author's full name, residential address, and contact number. Opinions expressed in Coromind magazine are not necessarily those of the publishers.

Disclaimer: No responsibility is accepted for loss or damage suffered by anyone relying on the information within. No endorsement of any service or product advertised or featured is implied or assumed.



Mamu, the Messenger

Distillation. Still point.



1 + 1 = 3



Song of the Fish Woman



Featured Artist

These Mountains, These Waters Are Sacred

We are at a distillation, or still point – the most powerful moment of change in human evolution. It is so potent as to feel overwhelming, likened to stepping into chaos or a deep dark wellspring, a sacred spring depressed in the cusp of the grandmother's birthing, no choice but to surrender.

'Te Wharenui o nga Tangata Ika', the Meeting House of the Fish People, is a holy place the elders say we have almost forgotten, where we encounter Her, the 'Fish Woman', singing the sacred song, evoking ancient memory locked down in the betrothal of our own soul.

Hapū, pregnant with feeling, She implores the reply, to sing in the face of adversity. 'For everything is song', she says. 'As humans, you have the ability to create a whole new beginning, to sing in empathetic harmonic accordance, cellular vibrato, where the fractal image of the whole universe manifests'.

Do not be afraid of the world you listen to, where the keel of the heart drips the distilled potency of what is essentially the 'Elixir of Love', waters of our Holiest Nature, the appendix of ancestral story, to deliver, the birthing of an ancient divine seed from the stars, a new generation manifest here on Earth. All that has come to pass had to happen for us to be prepared to take the next step together. 'For love is all', She said.

Nau mai haere mai. Welcome to my world.

I was in these states of mind when Barry Brickell invited me to seek asylum in his workplace, to 'work myself out', generously providing shelter and wilding Hauraki clay. He knew the world I was in, and when Māori and Hawaiian Elders encountered my work exhibited in the Waikato Museum, they said: "You have found your way into the crypt of an ancient world, a meeting place few access. "Who better?" they asked. "A white man returned to the spring, listening. We remember you. You are tuakana, fallen and risen, and now we see you, descending, ascending. We see the crypt of the ancestors open, where it was closed for so long. We have been waiting, you are the Water Carrier, Seed Carrier, Waitaha Nui, a new Hapu of the Great Mother Earth."

I am blessed by the women in my life, and how they have held me, none more so than Min, a healer of ancient lineage, who tapped my spring and endured me. Her healing house was the House of Ashavan; her life's work, to bring the healer back into the home. When she died, she sent me back, "You have work to do," she said. To the children I turned. A new generation, ones who know the way of Wairua, Spirit and Magic.

Over the years, many disillusioned children have come into my life. Gifted, sensitive, of another world, weaving sacred thread, silver from the moon and stars, golden threads from the sun. They are of another dimension, the lovers of the seed. Te Timatanga Hou, children of a New Beginning.

When Māori elders saw us carrying the 'Heritage Seeds of a Nation', to Parliament, challenging GE, they also recognised the clay seed stones we gifted them, as bearing the marks of an ancient creation story. "Whaka manu, Whaka ika, Te Kākano a Rangi Atea", they said;

this is a divine seed from the sun, manifest here on Earth, of divine equation.

$$1 + 1 = 3$$

Interestingly, they also represent the wisdom of activated gold, activated in the Mother lode. And that is the great mystery of what I have channelled through the clay, and the waters of Hauraki. Te Waiora a Tane.

Moehau ki Paeroa ki Te Aroha o te Tara o Te Ika a Maui

All that we have given our lives to defend (the memory deep within our ancestral bones, the sacredness of these mountains, the Ecological language) where water's spirit reflects the memory of Her song. Taha Wairua. That deep sense of feeling. Vibration.

'Where by their ignorance and their arrogance they violate Her.'

Whakarongo. Listen to the message, Listen to the Waters, Earth and Sky.

Coromandel / Hauraki is a powerful geological matrix, tragically much abused, but still a remnant field of activation held at the southern edge of the world. While many only see the mother lode, the Gold, as a resource to exploit, there are those attuned, as they are to the auric field of one another, trees and waters.

In this immense time of change, what many register as anxiety and fear is actually the awe, and wonderment of what we have the potential to deliver. It is the measure of the sacredness we are given to birth.

'He Taonga tuku Iho'. A treasure connecting the past, present and the future.

It is time.



Words by

Mike O'Donnell

Clay Worker, Creative Activist, Storyteller



See More of Mike's Work

Scan Here

Or visit: www.coromind.nz/mike-odonnell/

Your *local* one stop shop,
for all things interiors



CARPET • LAMINATE • TIMBER • VINYL
TILES • PAINT • CURTAINS • BLINDS

Whitianga Flooring Xtra 68 Albert Street
whitianga@flooringxtra.co.nz (07) 866 2836

COAST 2 COAST
SCAFFOLDING & SHRINKWRAP
SPECIALISTS

- ▲ SCAFFOLDING
- ▲ SHRINKWRAPPING
- ▲ SECURITY FENCING
- ▲ SAFETY NETS

Call us for a FREE quote
07 866 5771

info@c2cscaff.co.nz
www.coast2coastbuildingservices.co.nz

PREBUILT HOUSE PACKAGES

BE IN
YOUR NEW HOME
THIS SUMMER!

BEACH HUT



1 Bedroom • 1 Bathroom • 50m²
HOUSE PACKAGE \$278,000*

HIDEAWAY



2 Bedrooms • 1 Bathroom • 66m²
HOUSE PACKAGE \$291,000*

SEAVIEW



3 Bedrooms • 1 Bathroom • 81m²
HOUSE PACKAGE \$337,000*

SEAGULL



3 Bedrooms • 2 Bathrooms • 92m²
HOUSE PACKAGE \$371,000*

Every package includes

- ✓ Delivery from our Whitianga yard (up to 35km)
- ✓ Standard timber pile foundations
- ✓ Baseboards
- ✓ Geotechnical report for foundations
- ✓ Building Consent with Thames Coromandel District Council
- ✓ Heat pump
- ✓ Fisher & Paykel oven, cooktop, rangehood and dishwasher
- ✓ Complete with quality flooring, curtains and blinds



TALK TO US ABOUT YOUR SITE
027 497 1183
evanshomes@xtra.co.nz



* Pricing based on a standard site. Evans Homes reserves the right to change or withdraw house packages without notice. Package inclusions are subject to availability. Additional costs may apply following site-specific engineering assessments. Package pricing excludes power, wastewater and stormwater connections and land.

blackjack surf
WHITIANGA

OPEN 7 DAYS
MONDAY TO SATURDAY 9AM - 5PM
SUNDAY 10AM - 4PM
35 Albert St, Whitianga 3510
Phone 07 866 5800
blackjacksurf@outlook.com

THE POWER OF CREATIVE THINKING

Why Do We So Often Treat Creativity as Optional?

There's a kind of creativity that is so embedded in daily life that it doesn't always get noticed.

It's there in the way someone fixes a broken gate with whatever they have on hand, or when a teacher reshapes a lesson because the class isn't engaged. It's there too in how a small business adapts in uncertain times. This creativity thrives in Aotearoa, but it isn't always named or admired – though it quietly shapes the decisions and work of everyday life.

You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.

— Maya Angelou

Pausing to recognise and name creativity can be complicated. We tend to place it in particular spaces (art rooms, studios, theatres, galleries) and associate it with certain kinds of people (artists, musicians, actors). But when we do that, we miss how deeply it runs through every aspect of life. Our ability to think flexibly, adapt, and imagine alternatives is essential – it's part of how we function and thrive. It is what makes us human. It isn't, however, always facilitated or nurtured.

Creativity is important because it helps us navigate our complex and changing world. It allows us to approach problems from different angles, adapt when conditions shift, and reshape what we already know into something useful or new. These ways of thinking are woven through everyday life, even when they aren't always recognised as 'creative'.

Economically, creativity is also highly valued. Employers routinely ask for innovation, initiative, problem solving, and flexible thinking – all qualities closely tied to creativity. It sits at the centre of originality and growth, but also quieter forms of leadership: responding when things don't go to plan, adjusting direction, and finding new ways forward in uncertain situations.

Creativity also carries deeply personal and social value. It supports self-expression, strengthens confidence, and helps people develop a stronger sense of identity. It can be a safe space to explore and process emotions, values and experiences. Shared creative experiences can foster connection between people and contribute to more engaged, compassionate communities. When creativity is encouraged, people often feel more capable of contributing ideas, participating fully, and imagining alternatives.

For a long time, creativity was named and valued more openly – in conversations about art, innovation, education, technology, and the future. It wasn't just 'nice to have'; it was treated as essential. Lately, that conversation has become harder to hear, muted by a push for measurable outcomes and cost efficiency. Less tangible abilities or outcomes have been sidelined because they are more complicated to quantify or compare.

So, there's a gap; creativity is widely recognised as valuable – economically, socially, personally – yet it isn't always given the space, time, or emphasis you'd expect if that value were fully acknowledged.

You can see this tension highlighted most clearly within the education sector, particularly in high school. For many students, traditionally creative subjects like art, drama, dance, music, can feel separate from the 'main' learning of maths, English, and science. They're often treated as enjoyable and expressive, but not essential. "What's the point?" can hover – especially if you aren't naturally confident with a paintbrush or instrument. Why spend time on lessons that don't seem to fit neatly into credits, or career plans?

So, what is the point? Well, creativity isn't just about what you make in a particular lesson; it's about how you think – how you approach challenges, connect ideas, and stay open to more than one answer. It moves with you into conversations, decisions, relationships, and work.

It should be a central part of how we approach learning across all subjects, not just confined to a sketchbook or stage. It deserves to be embraced and nurtured at the centre of learning. Celebrated and facilitated by leaders in the workplace. Embedded within our communities, councils and local government.

When it's nurtured, creativity builds confidence, connection, and more expansive thinking. When it's overlooked, people begin to doubt their ideas and hesitate to try.

Perhaps the real cost isn't what we can measure, but what we quietly lose when people stop feeling able to imagine, try, and make. The question is no longer whether creativity matters – we already know it does – but what happens when we begin treating it as optional.

Hannah Beasley is a researcher, educator, writer, and community practitioner exploring creativity, human potential, and the environments that help people thrive.

Words by
Hannah Beasley



WE'RE HIRING

**BUFFALO
BEACH PARTY**

JAN 2ND 2027

BE PART OF ONE (OR BOTH!) OF TWO EPIC
EVENTS IN THE COROMANDEL THIS SUMMER,
AND HAVE A BLAST WHILE WORKING

**CORO
CLASSIC**

JAN 3RD 2027

AVAILABLE PAID ROLES INCLUDE: BAR STAFF,
EVENT USHERS & CARPARK MANAGEMENT,
BUS MONITORS & SITE WORK

GET YOUR ORGANISATION TOGETHER FOR A
FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY, OR APPLY SOLO
FOR SOME EXTRA CASH AND GREAT WORK
EXPERIENCE

ARE YOU A RELIABLE TEAM PLAYER WHO CAN
STAY COOL UNDER PRESSURE, AND HAVE
GREAT COMMUNICATION?

EMAIL YOUR INTEREST TO HELLO@NEXGENTOURING.CO.NZ OR VISIT THECOROCLASSIC.CO.NZ TO APPLY

Don't Wait Until Summer To Start Your Advertising.

Spring & Summer advertising
spots are filling fast.

Get your business in front of locals
and visitors during the busiest
season of the year.

BOOK YOUR ADVERTISING TODAY:

hello@coromind.nz

COROMIND



DRIVING CREEK

THE MAN WHO WOULDN'T BUILD IN STRAIGHT LINES

HENERY MACKESON AND THE EYEFULL TOWER



Henery Mackeson met Barry Brickell in a Whangārei kiln shed, two self-taught tradesmen who agreed on one thing: straight lines make sick buildings. Years later, Henery helped Barry design the Eyefull Tower, wrapping it in a ramp that braces the structure and doubles as an emergency exit.

Henery has never called himself an architect. He builds from instinct, trusts a good engineer to check his work, and still lives in an earth house today, teaching earth building to anyone willing to learn. Proof that Driving Creek was built by pioneers who simply got on with it.

RAILWAY TOUR



ZIPLINE ADVENTURE



TWO WAYS TO EXPERIENCE THE MOUNTAIN THIS LONG WEEKEND

October brings the warmth back to the hills. Choose your speed at Driving Creek: relax on our iconic 1-hour Railway Tour up to the Eyefull Tower, or feel the rush of the peninsula's ultimate 8-line canopy Zipline Tour. Perfect for Labour Weekend family adventures!

Mention code word
"PIONEER" at the counter and
receive a free Driving Creek
Mini Brick to take home. Book
online at drivingcreek.co.nz.

[BOOK ONLINE »](#)

Scan to Book





- ✓ On site inspection
- ✓ Packing service (optional)
- ✓ Storage
- ✓ Specialist items

Your trusted local team since 2010

07 866 5589

www.nzmoveit.co.nz

info@nzmoveit.co.nz

GOLDEN RATIO IS BACK

Thames High and the 48 Hour Film Competition

Once again, Golden Ratio has participated in the 48 Hour Film Competition, a competition in which the title is pretty self-explanatory: 48 hours to make a 5-minute short film. On 31st July, we grouped up in Thames High School (which was also to be our filming location) to find out our theme and four mandatory elements; we ended up with The Hacker/Heist Film with: an extreme close-up, an interruption, a rumour, and an illustration/portrait. After getting all of our information as the costumes were being designed, our script writers spent all night brainstorming characters and putting together our script for 'THE GRATE HIEST'.

The next morning we all got straight to work. We had 8am to 10pm to get all of our scenes done, so we began by getting our filming sets ready, costumes prepared and make-up done to prepare for a long day of filming. Once everything was prepared, we began shooting.

There were disagreements, laughs and arguments, with our cameraman constantly changing, but overall we finished right on time at 10pm.

This year we had one person on our post-production team, so on Sunday, all of the work went to Yuna – she worked hard to shorten the film to 5 minutes from about 13 minutes without muffing the script up and making the film totally confusing. I'm happy to say she succeeded. With some terrifying problems exporting the video, we ended up uploading the film just on time at 6pm!

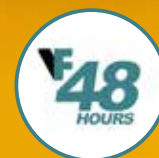
I personally don't mind if we don't win anything. I found this experience even better than last year as we've all learnt from past mistakes and have greatly improved. This time I'm proud to say I was a part of Golden Ratio's team this year! Despite a lot of us being busy with school work and extracurricular activities, I'm glad we all managed to group up again with some new faces this year. I'd like to give a special thanks to Coromind for once again sponsoring us for the challenge; without them we wouldn't have been able to participate. This time we'd love to try making an extended cut version for everyone to enjoy our original script. We'll try to make sure you all see us again for the challenge next year!

Words by
Trisha Twigley



Scan Here to
WATCH THE FILM

www.coromind.nz/golden-ratio-is-back/



TOP LABELS

Junkfood Shorts
Foxwood
Foil
Verge
Elm
Zafina
Betty Basics
Skechers Clothing
Preen

Plus lots more!

36 Albert Street, Whitianga - 07 866 4243
636 Port Road, Whangamata - 07 865 9697
570 Pollen Street, Thames - 07 868 6253

www.mainlycasual.com



coromandel
COLD

WWW.COROMANDELCOLD.CO.NZ



SAUNA ORA



JOIN US
FOR 1 HOUR
BEACHFRONT
SAUNA SESSIONS

- WHITIANGA - BUFFALO BEACH
- HAHEI CAMPGROUND
- KŪAOTUNU - BLACKJACK RESERVE
- MATARANGI VILLAGE GREEN

For more information and to book your session visit:
www.saunaora.co.nz



**ALL OVER THE
COROMANDEL**

**Your local real estate experts
covering the entire peninsula**

Whitianga
7 The Esplanade, Whitianga
07 866 0098
coromandel@bayleys.co.nz
MR REAULT LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

Thames
459 Pollen Street, Thames
07 869 0632
thames@bayleys.co.nz

BAYLEYS ALTOGETHER BETTER Residential / Commercial / Rural / Property Services

NZ windows
Since 1990

**High-quality
aluminium joinery
& balustrades**

07 869 5990
nzwindows.co.nz
1 Abrahamson Drive, Whitianga



MASTERCRAFT
KITCHENS WHITIANGA
Crafting memories one kitchen at a time.

Kitchens Laundries Wardrobes Sculleries

mastercraftkitchenswhitianga.co.nz
info.whitianga@mastercraft.co.nz



07 866 4111

anderson concepts
CONSTRUCTION

Hayden Anderson
hayden@andersonconcepts.co.nz
Ph. 021 366602
andersonconcepts.co.nz




WHITI CITY CABS

Local or International airport pick up and drop off

Day trips or Scenic drive

Medical Appointments

ACC registered vendor

Total Mobility

07 866 4777

Ask us about day trips and group tours!
enquiries@whiticitycabs.co.nz | www.whiticitycabs.co.nz

**PRIVATE
DRUM
LESSONS**
in Whitianga
& the Coromandel

Get in touch
magrileonardo@gmail.com



whiti IT
LOCAL TECH SUPPORT

**Computer help
at your home.**

Windows & Mac · Wi-Fi · Printers · Email

Call Ethan **07 866 0004**
Home visits in Whitianga

WhitiT.nz



A FRESH START

Stilo Hair Co. Creates Opportunities for Local Talent

There's something about a good visit to the hairdresser that goes beyond a fresh cut or a new look. It can give us a confidence boost, a chance to reset, and a space to chat. At Stilo Hair Co., owner Mary Hardstaff is also creating opportunities for young people to discover their potential and build a career close to home.

For more than a decade, Stilo has supported young people through both the Gateway programme at Mercury Bay Area School (MBAS) and local apprenticeships, giving students and aspiring hairdressers a chance to gain practical experience, develop their confidence and learn from professionals in a real salon environment.

Mary first became involved with Gateway in 2014, after being approached by the MBAS coordinator. Since then, she has welcomed around eight or nine students, usually for one day a week. Gateway allows students to experience an industry they may be considering for their future, while also working towards relevant unit standards.

"It gives the student a real-world taste of what their future career can look like," Mary says. "It helps them plan a pathway to employment straight out of school."

For Mary, however, the benefits go well beyond learning how to shampoo, blow-dry or style hair. Working with clients helps young people develop communication skills and confidence that can be difficult to build in a classroom.

"I often see shy, inexperienced students start at the beginning and by the end of the year they are so much more confident in communicating with clients," she says. "It may sound crazy, but just answering the phone or calling clients is hugely intimidating for teens in a world where we are used to texting or Snapchatting."

For some students, that first experience at Stilo has become the beginning of a genuine career. Three Mercury Bay students who started through Gateway have gone on to complete their apprenticeships and qualify as hairdressers, while four other local women have also signed on as apprentices over the years.

One former student, Nina, says Gateway helped her discover a genuine passion for the industry.

"Mary took me on as a Gateway student and I got to learn the ins and outs of the job. Doing Gateway made me realise that I had an interest and passion in the job. I completed my apprenticeship at Stilo Hair Co., which led me to become a qualified hairdresser."

Another former Gateway student, Hannah, has taken her career even further. After beginning her journey at Stilo, she went on to qualify and now works as a senior hairstylist on the Sunshine Coast in Australia, where she also mentors other stylists.

Mary is proud that Stilo can offer young people the opportunity to train locally. With fewer traditional apprenticeship opportunities available and more hairdressers working independently, she sees investing in apprentices as a way of future-proofing both her business and the wider industry.

"It's so rewarding to see them grow," Mary says. "And if they are a good fit for your business, you are essentially trying before you buy."

The benefits work both ways: young people can discover whether the industry is right for them, while businesses can find their next superstar.

For Mary, it all comes down to giving people a chance to take that first step. Her advice to young people considering their future is simple: take the initiative, ask about work experience and get through the door.

Sometimes, the beginning of a career starts with nothing more than an opportunity – and someone willing to give you one.

Words by **Leonardo Magri** Photos by **Lia Priemus**

**STILO
HAIR CO** EST. 2014

STILO.CO.NZ
07-866 4229
INFO@STILO.CO.NZ
STILOHAIRCO
f **STILO HAIR CO.**
30 MONK ST, WHITIANGA




What Do I Do With All This Missing?

The Distance Between My Heart and My Home

Your absence has gone through me

Like thread through a needle.

Everything I do is stitched with its color.

- Separation by W.S. Merwin

Homesickness is generally defined as 'a feeling of longing for one's home during a period of absence from it'. In the US, homesickness is most often associated with a child's first experience at sleepaway camp. They're away from home for the first time in their lives and they miss their parents/pets/home, sometimes to such an inconsolable degree that they have to be picked up early, sobbing and begging to go home. But homesickness can strike us at any age, in any place. Whether we're on a lengthy overseas trip or just visiting a friend for the weekend, an unexpected pang of missing home can stop us in our tracks.

I've been living in NZ for almost two years now. I'm finding my rhythm and building a life here: a phenomenal partner, a job I enjoy, a lovely community, and immense beauty everywhere I turn. Yet when people ask me if I'm ever homesick, my response is always the same: I don't miss my home; I miss my people. I'm very close to my parents, share a best-friend bond with my younger sister, and have many close friends. And I miss them all so, so much.

The longing is reciprocal, as my loved ones back home are also struggling with the distance. It helped immeasurably when my partner came home with me for two weeks last year and my family and friends could finally meet him, and it will help even more when people can eventually make the trek over here. The vast majority of my friends have never been to NZ, so they can't visualize what my life here looks like. Just for them to see my home, my town, the estuary walk they've seen in photos; all of these things will help my world become real to them. They'll have context. It will make the distance between us feel a bit less vast.

There's also the mind-bending time difference between us to contend with. Massachusetts is either 16, 17, or 18 hours behind NZ depending on what time of year it is. Catching up with my loved ones doesn't happen nearly as often as any of us would like it to, and when it does, it takes exhaustive planning: "Wanna talk Thurs? ... Your Thurs or my Thurs? My Thurs won't work ... I can do Sun afternoon! ... I can't - your Sun afternoon is my Mon morning - I'll be at work."

Repeat ad nauseam.

Sometimes when I hang up from a long chat with someone back home, I feel a warm afterglow and am left smiling for a while. Sometimes I feel empty. And sometimes I just cry. While writing in my journal recently about how much I long for the company of my friends and family, I flipped to a blank page and simply wrote:

"What do I do with all of this missing?"

Because what do you do with it? I don't want to move home; I really do love my life here. Yet I also don't want to always carry this profound, aching sadness in my heart. I haven't found a solution, but I've found things that help. I video chat with my parents and sister every Saturday morning (our Saturday morning, that is; their Friday afternoon). I swap voice messages with people on WhatsApp, since getting to hear their voices more often makes me feel more a part of their lives. We text little updates or sometimes just send a heart emoji. All of it says, "I love and miss you." But of course nothing changes the fact that it would take me 24 hours and a lot of money just to hug them.

In French, "I miss you" is *tu me manques*, which literally translates to "You are missing from me." In my case, it's: *ils me manquent* - they are missing from me. Everything I do is stitched with their colour.

Words by
Hilary Emerson Lay

MILES OF SMILES

COOKS BEACH - CATHEDRAL COVE - HAHEI - HOT WATER BEACH



Explore The Mercury Bay the easy way with a premium e-bike hire. Effortlessly glide from Ferry Landing to the white sands of Cooks, Hahei, Cathedral Cove and Hot Water Beaches, enjoying personalised coastal routes, local expertise, and the pure joy of sustainable adventure. Website: www.zoomandel.co.nz - E-mail: info@zoomandel.co.nz - Phone: +6421724217

SCAN THE QR CODE TO GO TO THE WEBSITE



ZOOMANDEL



www.zoomandel.co.nz

E-BIKE RENTALS

Karen McLeod Photography



Creative Photo Experiences

Which ever stage you are at in your life, I can capture stunning weddings, family memories or intimate portraits, headshots, unique product images & events, I am dedicated to bringing my passion for photography & creativity to every shoot.




FARMER AUTOVILLAGE

- Service
- WOF
- Tyres
- Wheel Alignments
- New/Used Vehicle Sales
- Motorhomes

Farmer Autovillage Whitianga
6 Abrahamson Drive
07 866 4134
www.farmerautovillage.co.nz

Trading Hours

- Monday - Friday: 7:30am - 5pm
- Loan Cars Available
- Parts & Services
- Sales Available by Request

Whatever the site, we'll help you create the perfect home.

Jennian
HOMES

614 Port Rd, Whangamata E: coromandel@jennian.co.nz P: 07 865 6767




TWENTYMANS
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Since 1867

From the first call to the final farewell we're here for you and your loved one every step of the way



07 868 6003
funerals@twentymans.co.nz
www.twentymans.co.nz



027 222 2286 info@ohlsonandwhitelaw.co.nz

www.ohlsonandwhitelaw.co.nz



A Quiet Corner of Tairua

Old Mill Café: Find Your Way to Mt Paku

Tucked away opposite the new marina at the base of Mt Paku, Old Mill Café has become one of those Tairua spots that locals know and love, even if plenty of people passing through town are yet to discover it.

For the owners, turning the Old Mill into the café it is today has been a labour of love. Through Covid, natural disasters, road disruptions and all the other challenges of running a hospitality business, they have put plenty of blood, sweat and tears into creating a space with a relaxed beach, bach and coastal feel.

Since taking over, the owners have given the café a complete refurbishment, including a refitted kitchen designed to handle the bigger numbers that summer brings to the Coromandel.

But while summer visitors are an important part of life in Tairua, Old Mill has always wanted to remain a place for the local community too.

The café has previously catered for the Tairua Bowling Club and now caters at Tairua Golf Club membership draws on the first Friday of each month. With the town's one-lane bridge currently being replaced and the town hall occupied by the work crew, local groups have had to get creative with their meeting spaces. The Salty Steppers have even started dropping in for a coffee and chat on Friday mornings after their class.

Old Mill also supports the Tairua Business Association with evening events from time to time, but perhaps its most important role is a simpler one: being a quiet place where locals can sit down, catch up and have a good yarn.

That relaxed atmosphere carries through to the café's monthly themed dining evenings, which have become a real feature. Inspired by the owners' love of travel, each dinner gives the chef a chance to step outside the everyday menu and create something different.

For customers, the evenings can be a chance to reminisce about places they have visited, while for others they might provide a little inspiration for a future adventure. The café deliberately steers away from the usual dining offerings in Tairua, giving people something a little different to look forward to.

Although the themed dinners are becoming increasingly popular, they retain a slower pace, making them as much about good conversation and catching up with local faces as they are about the food and drinks.

With summer on the horizon, there is plenty more to come. A fresh seasonal menu is planned for November, making the most of the new season's produce, while the themed dining experiences will continue throughout summer, with a break in December as everyone turns their attention to family and Christmas.

There is also a small retail area inside the café, while local artists have their work displayed on the walls with no commission. Dogs are welcome outside, and the team has built a strong following for Sandbank Smoothies.

Old Mill will also trade on Tuesdays from 27 December through to 7 February, giving locals and summer visitors another reason to make the trip down to this little corner beneath Mt Paku.

With the roads looking good, summer on its way and a freshly refurbished café ready for the season, it seems like a pretty good time to discover what the locals have already known for a while: Old Mill is a special little part of Tairua.



Bookings
07 864 9390 or
bookings@oldmillcafetairua.com

Hours
Wed to Sun - 8:30am to 2:30pm
27 December to 7 February: Open
Tuesdays also

Location
1 The Esplanade, Tairua, Marina

oldmillcafetairua.com
 Old Mill Waterfront Cafe Tairua
 oldmillwaterfrontcafetairua

ANYTHING FIBREGLASS
FIXED RIGHT



JP FIBREGLASSING
COMPOSITE & WOODEN BOAT REPAIRS

30+ years of experience

- ↓ Boat repairs & maintenance
- ↓ Gelcoating
- ↓ Campervans & caravans
- ↓ Surfboards & kayaks
- ↓ Automotive & aero
- ↓ Inflatable boat repairs
- ↓ Mobile gantry for easy boat removal

43 Moewai Rd, Whitianga
0210 464 825
johnbethell69@hotmail.com

Scott
Simpson
For Coromandel



Authorised by S. Simpson, scott.simpson@national.org.nz



Flooring Design

33 Belmont Road, Paeroa

07 214 7208

paeroa@flooringdesign.co.nz

Coffee
CART
ON-SITE!

Carpet | Garage Carpet | Laminate | Vinyl Plank | Timber | Roller Blinds - filter/blockout | Vertical Blinds | Venetian Blinds



Te Kawaurua ACC Navigation

Navigating ACC with Manaakitanga

As a kaupapa Māori organisation, Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki is the regional provider of Te Ara Tūhono, known as Te Kawaurua here in the Hauraki rohe (region) – a free, independent and culturally-responsive navigation service that provides tautoko me āwhina (help/support) for understanding and accessing ACC.

The connecting path

Te Ara Tūhono, meaning 'the connecting path', is ACC's kaupapa Māori navigation service. Established in 2023, Te Ara Tūhono grew from a need for more face-to-face navigation services, providing more equitable access to ACC services and supports. Kaumātua (elderly), rural communities and Māori are among the core groups that would benefit most from this service.

Bridging the gap

Jo is the kaiārahi (navigator) for our 'Te Kawaurua' ACC Navigation Service, and is dedicated to creating a safe, mana-enhancing experience for our whānau.

Our kanohi ki te kanohi (face-to-face), wrap-around approach aims to break down barriers to accessing the support that whānau are entitled to, and to bring manaakitanga into a space that can feel at odds with our values as a kaupapa Māori provider.

Jo describes it as bridging the gap – whether that gap be in knowledge, confidence, understanding of your entitlements, or just a hand to hold so that you're not facing the experience alone. "Especially for whānau with sensitive claims, who have gone through trauma, it's nice to have somebody face to face that you can have a conversation with and walk them through."

Trained to provide technically correct advice and support, Jo can help you fill in forms, provide awhi (wrap-around support) by accompanying you to hospital and doctors appointments, explain your rights and what your entitlements are, and speak to ACC on your behalf. Most importantly, she can provide a judgement-free listening ear.

A direct line into the ACC escalation team can provide insight into what is happening with a claim, and recommended next steps, that may not otherwise be clear. A little extra knowledge can go a long way, small details that can make all the difference as to whether or not a claim is accepted.

Doing this mahi on a daily basis makes Jo acutely aware of the challenges that whānau face – particularly when it comes to connecting to other supports within an over-stretched health system. Her advice for whānau who receive an injury is to be thorough with the details and follow up with your GP if things aren't right. "We as whānau need to advocate for ourselves, we have to be proactive, and when we're not proactive that's when we run into trouble."

"Te Kawaurua" is here to deliver this support throughout the Hauraki rohe to any whānau who need it, with no question too big or too small. "If you're concerned or have any queries about your ACC, why not just ask?"



Our service name, Te Kawaurua is a symbolic reference to our manu and currents (au) that supported the navigation of waka from Hawaiki to Aotearoa. The significance of Kawau to our kaupapa is for their well-known attributes of patience, awareness and purposeful action – all of which help influence and guide this kaupapa.



Jo is the navigator for our 'Te Kawaurua' ACC Navigation Service, and is dedicated to creating a safe, mana-enhancing experience for our whānau.

UNLOCK The Specials

2023 WINNER EXCELLENCE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE

2023 WINNER GARAGE OF THE YEAR

2024 WINNER COTTAGE OF THE YEAR

2025 WINNER GARAGE OF THE YEAR

2025 WINNER DISTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR

Save up to **\$3,000***

ON FULLY CONSTRUCTED BUILDINGS!

Ideal Buildings Coromandel
Sales.Coromandel@idealbuildings.co.nz | 021 879 356

Authorised by Miriam Ross, greens.org.nz

PARTY VOTE GREEN

for all of us.

✉ coromandel@greens.org.nz

📷 @nzgreenparty

To find out more about our Te Kawaurua service, whakapā mai –
Contact our team on freephone: 0508 835 676 – option 4

Email: accnavigator@korowai.co.nz
Website: www.korowai.co.nz

Whānau can self-refer or be referred from other health and/or community services.



TE KOROWAI
HAUORA O HAURAKI

THE JOURNEY OF PELROY



Soul, Dub and the Coromandel

Peter Matai Johnston is known variously as Pelroy, Dubious Bare, and MC Ising. Some may know him for his multi-media art, or for haunting local surf spots, but Johnston also has a deep affinity for and involvement in music. The singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and DJ's reggae-infused grooves and soulful voice have taken him exciting places.

Growing up in Kūaotunu, in the same house where he lives today, Peter Johnston was born into a musical family.

"My father, Peter Tiki Johnston, was a complete axe head, noodling on the guitar almost every day, from an early age. He played in bands before I was born. That's how he met my mum, who's also a musician. She became the singer in their band, whilst he played guitar and inserted peculiar backing harmonies. A lot of the rehearsals were at our house (when I was) growing up. They would gig a lot, and were the resident pub band during the 70s and 80s in Whitianga, often playing at the Whitianga Hotel and the Whitianga Club. I spent a lot of time in the backseat of cars in gravel car parks till closing."

With music so prevalent in his home environment, it's not surprising that Johnston found himself singing along to songs from an early age. He recalls two songs that had a particularly strong influence on him as a child.

"Bob Marley's 'Could You Be Loved' had a real catchy rhythm. It's a disco beat, which is really odd in comparison to the rest of Bob Marley's music. The other song was by an artist named Juice Newton called 'The Queen of Hearts'. I can remember tearing through our garden at 5 years old, singing the lyrics. It's still a catchy tune to me, and whenever I hear it, it takes me on a real nostalgic journey. I never really listened to any more Juice Newton after that, but I got heavily into Bob Marley later, and the whole reggae movement and dub."

Johnston became involved in Mercury Bay Area School productions from 10-13 years old, often taking a lead vocal role. Following that, he got more seriously into music, performing in school bands with another notable Whitianga music personality, David Rhodes.

Johnston wrote his first complete song, titled "Karma", when he was 15, and later, performed it in venues nationwide. At 16, entering a karaoke competition judged by members of prominent local band Castle Rock provided a lucky break of sorts.

"Some of my friends talked me into it. I entered, and I found myself getting further and further through the competition, all the way to the final, and then ended up winning it. Castle Rock were about to go on tour, and asked me if I wanted to join their band. And so, I just made a snap call, I left school and joined their band!"

The band, fronted by Dylan Wade Lajunen and including Bruce Peachy and Chris Smith, embarked on a tour of the South Island.

"We all had very different influences, and brought that all together, and somehow it worked. They were some of the best years of my life, and really opened my eyes to what playing professional music looked like. I'd only seen it from the dancefloor, and from sitting in the car outside, waiting for my parents to finish! But being on the other side of the stage, I was like: 'Actually, this works, this is quite good,

getting paid to do what you love!' The money was never great, but it was enough to get us to the next gig with a bit more left in your pocket, and you can't put a price on the experience, the music and the camaraderie. We toured the west coast of the South Island, all the way to Queenstown, and as we got further on, we started gelling more, and by the time we got back, we were like: 'That was epic! We should do that again!' We swapped drummers out, enlisting local skate legend, Mark Neighbours, and we did another tour of the South Island, and that was premium."

Following the second tour, Castle Rock disbanded when Lajunen embarked on extended overseas travel. Johnston visited Germany, then settled in Dunedin, where he became the vocalist for the reggae collective Zuvuya. He fondly recalls meeting his bandmates.

"There was a busking competition, and there were different people playing, and then these two guys got up and played. One had two congas, and one had a djembe, and they just shredded the place up with tribal Nyabingi, Jamaican, African drumbeats. And I was like, wow! These guys are incredible. They were Peter Hill (AKA Inspector Ital) and Matt Eddy (AKA Fat Eddy). I bumped into Matt later that day. We'd both grown up with similar influences, and we really connected. He had a music studio in his house, overlooking the harbour at Pūrākaunui in Dunedin. He introduced me to all this reggae I'd never heard before, which influenced my musical tastes greatly. I played a couple of my songs to Matt, and we started recording them. We found the rest of our line-up when we went to see a Bob Marley cover band called Grass Roots at the Empire Tavern in Dunedin. Alistair Wait (AKA King Al) was the bass player. The drummer was a legend by the name of Jarney Murphy, hardest working drummer in showbiz. Matt basically approached them and said, hey, you need to come and play in my band. I started singing with them, and the band got a new lease of life and started moving."

Zuvuya saw a fair bit of success, billing alongside NZ icons such as Salmonella Dub, Shapeshifter, Rhombus, Fat Freddy's Drop, Trinity Roots, Cornerstone Roots and The Black Seeds. A defining moment was opening for the legendary Jamaican producers Sly and Robbie at Auckland's St James Theatre. After three years, Johnston left the band and moved back to Whitianga. In the last few years, his music career has focused on DJ'ing bush doofs under the alias Dubious Bare.

"I've got quite a large selection of reggae and dub on vinyl that's basically 1969 to 1981, which for me is the golden era of reggae. It's the height of the rockers movement. Rockers is the style of reggae that I enjoy most. I also built a music collection of jungle and drum and bass that I DJ too. It's having a real resurgence in popular culture. Drum and bass is quite big at the moment, again. Jungle's always been there, it's a bit of a subculture that comes and goes in popularity. Music's always moving, returning back and referring to itself."

Words by
Nur Peach



Can't Plan For That

Aotearoa to Montserrat

I reread the carefully typed words I would use to resign. A breath in, a swivel of my chair, and a request for a private word with my manager. Five minutes later, my flight to Europe on 19 May 2024 was real. I was ready for an Instagram summer of cobbled streets and umbrella'd beaches.

Four months was an intimidating length to plan. Tourist traps laid at every click, ancient landmarks booked out with 'skip-the-line' tickets and promising authenticity. My notes app filled up with tips from friends – the best backpack brands and free views over Paris. Travel planning became an exercise in navigating the internet rather than a map.

Armed with a 112 day French Duolingo streak and 7kg of obsessed over luggage, my boyfriend and I left Aotearoa. The plan was simple: cleverly soak up summer and history in Spain, France and Italy, and fly back in September, refreshed for our life in Aotearoa.

Our first aeroplane exit was into the 87% humidity and 33 degree rubble and gloss of Kuala Lumpur. An attempt to walk from the train station to our hostel was met with suddenly ending footpaths, uncrossable roads and a brush with heat exhaustion. The hostel was shoddily fitted out, soaring 34 storeys high with a rooftop pool overlooking the city. Experiences were crafted for the travelling community through shared dinners, loud volunteers and free alcohol; I made friends quickly from Syria and Liechtenstein.

After Batu Caves, the national Mosque, and a 16-hour flight to London we arrived in the suburb of Islington with brick town houses like I'd only seen in movies. We cycled to London Bridge wide-eyed and impressed with the city so many of our friends now called home.

But the giddiness wasn't quite landing.

I turned to him and said, "Do you want to stay together?"

He said, "No. Do you?"

"No."

We cancelled bookings, untangled finances, and hugged goodbye two days before our 3-year anniversary booked in Paris the city of love.

The next day I wrote: I can get a visa and live here. I can do a ski season. I feel like I can do anything and make any decision,

but I have no confidence to. I sheltered with friends, starting the daunting process of making decisions alone. I hopped on the Eurostar to Paris struggling to find interest in anything. I stared despondently at the Eiffel Tower in the rain, not caring where I ate. Hoping it was just Paris, I trained to Barcelona, arriving at the party hostel my ex had booked. I did not want to party.

I ticked off the basic sights: Sagrada Familia, Park Güell, Barceloneta beach. In a whiffy bustling 22 bed dorm, I thankfully slept like a log. Timidness forefront, I sidled into the hostel communal areas, forcing myself to say hi to people. Cringing conversation by conversation, I gathered a little group of people around me from Bangladesh, Palestine, and Ireland. I tried to open my exhausted heart to a city that was exhausted with people like me. I expected ancient and authentic; I found chain and facade.

I escaped La Rambla by train to Montserrat Monastery, taking a friend's advice to stay overnight instead of the popular day trip. The rocky peaks suddenly soared from ground to sky, a natural fortress that had protected Catalan culture through centuries of attempted erasure.

From the moment I stepped into the cable car, I started having the friendly experiences I had romanticised about travel. Genuine laughs bubbled up for the first time as mountain air filled my lungs. Through rocky peaks, vast views revealed themselves. I walked and then ran, not knowing where I was going, the first time in nature since leaving Aotearoa.

By the time I got back down to the village, tourists had cleared on the last train. I ventured into the Monastery and grand Basilica for the evening service. The monks in residence moved in smooth procession and the famed boys choir filed out. The monumental 4,242 piped organ began. The rousing sound echoed in the most beautiful building I'd ever been in. I wept for the listless isolation I had felt and for my limitless future. Under the eye of the Black Madonna who had drawn pilgrims to her for centuries, I rose for a cloudless sunrise expanding over old glacial plains and knew I would be okay.

Words by
Ayana Piper-Healion



BAYSIDE CONSTRUCTION
RESIDENTIAL BUILDS
AND RENOVATIONS

baysideconstruction.co.nz
caleb@baysideconstruction.co.nz
027 537 5953



**COROMANDEL
TILING CO.**

DEAN RANKIN

Ph. 022 417 4911

Email. hello@coromandeltiling.com

Whitianga based but travel throughout the Coromandel.

Coastline Pool and Spa Ltd

• SALES

Chemicals | Pumps | Filters | Covers | Heaters

• SERVICE/REPAIRS • MAINTENANCE

Ph: (07) 211 9445 | 021 653 907
E: info@spapool.co.nz



**COFFEE
Lala
ROASTERS**

18 awards

Orders: www.coffeelala.com 07 866 5373

COVE CONSTRUCTION
BUILDING SENSATIONAL HOMES

GOT A PROJECT?

We have the team and skills to bring it to life.

AWARD WINNING BUILDERS
Check out our portfolio at:
www.coveconstruction.co.nz

CALL NICK TODAY: 021 666 350



LiquorLand
Whitianga
Welcome
Nau mai, haere mai ki
liquorland
Pro

Liquorland NZ Award Winner
Sel Granger award winner: Lance Popata
Excellence in Liquorland culture, principles & standards
Regional Franchise award
Liquorland Whitianga Mid North Island
Top 4 in New Zealand
Whitianga, thank you for your continued support!

Locally Owned and Operated
1A Lee Street – Whitianga
07 866 5942
whitianga@liquorland.co.nz

Wine. Beer. Spirits.
airpoints

MTC
Memory Twin Cinemas

The home of BIG SCREEN
entertainment on the Coromandel
COMING SOON

PRESSURE
BIG GIRLS DON'T COUNT
WHALEFALL

For our
screening
schedule
and trailers,
scan the
QR code

Alcohol
Licensed

1 Lee Street, Whitianga, 3510
Phone: 64 (7) 867 1001
mercurytwincinemas.com

Hunting & Fishing®

NEW ZEALAND

NZ's LARGEST OUTDOOR RANGE - 100% LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

WHITIANGA

2 REWETI DRIVE, WHITIANGA
07 260 5014

STORE HOURS

Monday to Thursday: 8am - 5pm
Friday: 8am - 6pm
Saturday & Sunday: 8am - 4pm

THAMES

103 KOPU ROAD, KOPU
07 868 8260

STORE HOURS

Monday to Thursday: 8am - 5pm
Friday: 8am - 6pm
Saturday: 8am - 2pm
Sunday: Closed

FRIENDLY STAFF - EXPERT ADVICE & INSPIRATION



WHITI TRIM AND SHADE

AUTO AND MARINE TRIMMERS

- Auto and Marine Upholstery
- Marine Canvas and Flybridge Clears
- Mesh and Clear Exterior Screens
- General Covers and Repairs
- Headlinings
- Shade Sails
- Ute Tonneau Covers
- And Much More!



Brendan Constable
027 503 5346 / 07 224 2079
whititrimmer@gmail.com
7 Dakota Drive, Whitianga

THE NATIONAL SUCCESS OF AMPLIFY AOTEAROA

Young Coromandel Musicians Make Their Mark on the NZ Music Scene

On 23rd August, a group of young musicians from the Coromandel hit the road to play to a sold-out audience at the Clarence St Theatre in Kirikiriroa Hamilton, for the "Amplify Aotearoa - Take it to a Bridge" concert. Put together by teacher Lachie Holt, Amplify Aotearoa pulls together a solid line-up of Aotearoa NZ music legends to perform alongside rangatahi from all over the North Island. Coromind magazine was stoked, back in March, to receive an invitation from Lachie to represent the Coromandel on the big stage this year.

"Gutter Black" was the iconic Hello Sailor tune our band was asked to rehearse. We were also stoked to hear that Harry Lyon and Stephen Small would be joining us on stage.

With musical direction from Stewart Pedley, our band was ready to rock Clarence St Theatre! We also had the opportunity to record the track at Dave Rhodes Productions studio in Whitianga.

Some of the NZ musicians who participated in this project were: Don McGlashan, Jordan Luck, Jason Kerrison, Jesse O'Brien, Andrew McClellan, Nathan King, Mike Chunn, Emlyn Crowther, Hollie Smith, and Lawrence Arabia.

A double-vinyl has been pressed and is for sale at JB Hi-Fi. By buying a copy, you are supporting a grassroots project that will allow Amplify Aotearoa to grow and reach more people in the upcoming years. Scan the QR Code below to buy yours.

A huge thanks to the whole crew behind this amazing project. It's awesome to see how much we can achieve when we come together as a creative community.

Also, a big shout-out to the The Coromind Band: Joseph May on bass, Zach Greenfield on drums, Riley Flynn on rhythm guitar, Cameron Johansen on vocals, Jade Kekesi on lead guitar, with backing vocals from Olivia Graham, Bonnie Roberts, and Wallace Roberts.

We're already looking forward to being part of Amplify Aotearoa again next year!

Words by
Leonardo Magri



SCAN
TO BUY
YOUR
ALBUM



or visit: www.coromind.nz/the-national-success-of-amplify-aotearoa/

Keeping The **Real** in Real Estate

Matarangi / 07 866 0322
www.richardsons.co.nz



Discover the refreshing difference of partnering with a real estate agency that is dedicated to transparency, trust, and a shared passion for outstanding service. With Richardsons Real Estate, it's not just about closing a deal — it's about making a real difference.

/Richardsons

Real Estate Ltd MREINZ
Licensed REAA2008



Simone Parr
Licensed Agent REAA2008
027 657 2980



Keith Goodall
Licensed Salesperson REAA2008
021 276 6474



Peter Sharp
Licensed Salesperson REAA2008
021 388 833



Helly Mobberley
Licensed Salesperson REAA2008
021 669 595



PLANNERS PLUS

5 Monk Street, Whitianga

Office Ph: 07 8671087
Email: info@plannersplus.co.nz
David: 027 4994833
Tracey: 027 4907988

See us for all your land development,
planning and resource consent requirements.
www.plannersplus.co.nz

W * A * N * T
WAITAIA NURSERY

85 Waitaia Rd, Kūaotunu, RD2, Whitianga

Thursday to Sunday 8.30am - 4.30pm
or by Appointment

Cam Hill: 021 620 798

www.waitaianursery.co.nz



0274 7 12 247

matarangiplumbing@gmail.com

Based in Whitianga

Give us a call — your trusted Master Plumbers
across Matarangi, Whitianga and the wider
Coromandel region.



Kowhai Coromandel
locally owned and
operated since 2006



- Roof painting
 - Roof restoration
 - Moss and mould treatment
- Proven systems, quality materials and
workmanship, all backed by Kowhai's
12 year product warranty. **Call Gavin now!**

www.kowhairoofs.co.nz
0800 KOWHAI

GAVIN BOND
027 683 7294

HOUSE SITES
RETAINING WALLS
LAND CLEARING
PILING AND FOUNDATIONS
ROADING AND DRIVEWAYS
LANDSCAPING
DRAINAGE



GROUND PREP CIVIL LIMITED

027 4757 262

andrew@gpcivil.co.nz

Supporting equity in the workplace



COROMANDEL
WORKERS
COUNCIL

We're here to advocate
for all workers across the
Coromandel Peninsula.
If you have questions or
concerns about your
employment we offer
free advice.

Get in touch today

027 296 5276

tautoko@cw.org.nz

cw.org.nz

PROUD TO BE LOCAL

Carolyn McKenzie



Carolyn McKenzie is the chair of Thames Museum Society Inc, which manages Te Whare Taonga O Te Kauaeranga Thames Museum, and writes for Coromind.

When and why did you move to the Coromandel Peninsula?

When we'd go camping at Port Jackson, we'd stop for lunch at Aeroview Café on the way back to Whangamatā. I eventually moved here in 2015. I'd recently visited Kaiaua, and looking across the Firth saw the sun reflecting off Thames and decided I wanted to retire here.

What's the best part about living in Thames?

The best part is being close to the sea, watching the oystercatchers come and go, friendly people and a town that is 'lived' all year round.

Have you always had an interest in history?

Yes. I loved history and geography at school. When I taught English as a foreign language and did translation work in Italy for 30 years, I was totally immersed in Roman and medieval history.

Do you find that there is a greater interest nowadays in our history as a nation and as an area/town?

I think there is. Our history is told in a less pākehā/settler-centric way, giving more weight to life here before contact with Europeans and evaluating the impact of that contact. Locally, the move away from the gateway image of Thames to a destination — through the Explore Thames initiative — has awakened an interest in every aspect of our town's history.

Where does Thames Museum sit in the overall heritage sector here in Thames and how do you evaluate TCDC support for the heritage sector?

Thames Museum Te Whare Taonga o te Kauaeranga is an active member of Thames Heritage Network. This sees the various heritage sites coming together as colleagues rather than competitors, from Bella Street Pump house, the Goldmine Experience, the School of Mines, the Treasury, etc. to the WJ Hall Arboretum, historic cemeteries and pioneer churches. Thames Community Board and council have been supportive of the museum, enabling us to carry out a number of projects.

We would like to see sustained funding equity across the heritage sector; greater recognition of the contribution all tourism sectors make to the whole town's well-being, especially eateries, accommodation, boutique and specialty shops; and greater involvement in maintaining outdoor heritage sites, e.g. the historic cemeteries. Genealogy is a thriving hobby — safe access to Tararu and Shortland Cemeteries is essential for family history researchers.

From a museum perspective, what would you name your greatest achievement?

I was involved with the creation of the Taonga Māori Gallery. Our team worked with Ngāti Maru for 18 months to create a very special place for local people to connect with their ancestors. The gallery is recognised now as a space for learning and participation for schoolchildren and people from all around the world.

What do you do when you're not volunteering at Thames Museum? How does Carolyn McKenzie relax?

I'm a member of Friends of Historic Kōpū Bridge. I love being on the bridge and am helping to paint 846 metres of rails. I have two books partly written, but don't have much time for creative writing now.

Go into museum nerd mode and tell us what your absolute favourite item on display is.

In the morning, before turning on the gallery lights, I love the way filtered light shines on the model pā in the Taonga Māori Gallery so that it's sleeping but alive. With the lights on, I enjoy talking to visitors about pā life, and what that entailed.



Supported by
Rob Holding

TUNE IN TO

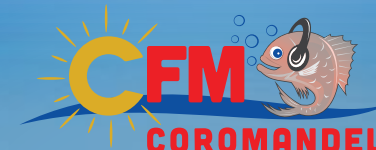
WEST COAST 94.0 FM

EAST COAST 95.1 FM

WAIHI 92.2 FM



SCAN ME



Coromind.nz | 26

RELIGIONS & CULTS I'VE NEVER JOINED

Curious About Belief, Just Not Enough to Sign Up

My first memory of a religious nature was attending a Bible class at the age of around six or seven. This seemed normal at that time, but fortunately it didn't last long as my parents didn't attend church and soon tired of dropping me off and picking me up again on a Sunday morning when other more exciting activities beckoned, like digging for toheroa on Muriwai Beach.

At Presbyterian elementary and high schools, we had to sing hymns and listen to Bible readings at morning assemblies. The only hymn I could really relate to was "For those in peril on the sea," given the fact that my grandfather's family were all master mariners and most of my hobbies were water-related. I have so far survived all of my many ocean, lake and river pursuits, so perhaps a Presbyterian deity, if one exists, was listening.

When I left high school, the principal, who was a Presbyterian minister, gave me some career advice. He suggested I either become a teacher or enter the church. I had been forced to enter several churches while at school, but becoming a minister seemed a bit over the top when I considered my ambivalent attitude towards the Christian conditioning I had been subjected to. In those days there was a definite division between Presbyterians (church of Scotland), Anglicans (church

of England), and Catholics (church of Rome), not only in Ireland but right here in Aotearoa. Many young people were encouraged not to become romantically involved with or marry members of the other denomination. Some converted to avoid this taboo. It all seems quite ridiculous now, but at the time it was taken quite seriously. My grandmother told me never to date a Catholic, but that's another story.

Although many Christians live lives of love and caring for others as Jesus preached, history paints another story, a bleak picture of mass killing and oppression carried out in the name of Christianity. The Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, the European Wars of Religion, the Conquest of the Americas were all carried out in the name of religion. Christian countries were involved in the Atlantic slave trade, and many extremist groups like the Klu Klux Klan in America and the murderous Lord's Resistance Army in Central Africa identify as Christian organisations. Even today's illegal war in Iran was started and is being financed by a so-called Christian country and a Jewish one. And the scriptures say, "Thou shalt not kill", and "Love your neighbour and your enemies." I have to ask myself why I would be a part of such religions.

In Sri Lanka, I met a group who called themselves The Children of God, and who were originally founded by a guy called Moses David who had what I considered to be some pretty wacky ideas and doctrines. He allegedly instructed female members to use their bodies and sexuality as a missionary tool to attract, comfort and convert lonely men. They tried to get me to join them and even gave me a biblical name. However, I wasn't lonely at the time and didn't fall prey to David's so-called 'hookers for Christ'.

After bidding farewell to those poor dependent misguided souls, I entered a Buddhist monastery and embarked upon an intensive course of Vipassana meditation. I continued this practice when I arrived in London and found it to be a very useful guide in later life. Although Buddhism has a religious structure built around it, I tend to see it as more of a philosophy, and a way of life. Its meditations give us the tools for quietening the endless chaos of our thinking mind and enable us to see how thoughts only hold the power that we allow them and that we can let them go if we so desire, thereby avoiding possible negative or chaotic outcomes. Unlike Christianity, there is no supreme god or creator who hands down laws for living – and the dire consequence of eternal hellfire should those laws be transgressed.

On returning to Aotearoa in the mid-seventies, I attended festivals like Nambassa and Sweetwaters, the hippy versions of today's Womad and Rhythm and Vines. At one of these festivals a rock band named Hari Bol played fast, repetitive and I guess religious songs, as they were representing the Hari Krishna movement that chanted and danced up and down Auckland's Queen Street several nights a week. They also ran a very good, very cheap vegetarian restaurant there. I went to some of their meetings, participated in their chanting and read some of their literature which was based on Hinduism. The chanting was fun and the food delicious, but the complicated strangeness of the religious stuff didn't attract me, nor did the saffron orange clothes that many of them wore, not to mention the strict vows of renunciation and celibacy that more serious members adhered to. I definitely wasn't ready to give up the pleasures of the opposite sex.

Another group who wore orange or purple clothes were the Rajneeshees. Their guru Bagwhan Shree Rajneesh had ashrams in India and other countries and preached against organised institutional religions and belief systems, offering instead a blend of Eastern mysticism, Western psychotherapy and human development techniques. He was against traditional marriage and encouraged free love, ideas that attracted thousands of followers worldwide, including some of my friends. To me, despite its claims of freedom from traditional values, it was still an organised group, and I doubted the validity of giving one man or any organisation so much power over me. However, by definition a leader needs followers just as much as followers need a leader. I guess at the time I needed to be neither a leader nor a follower.

Some friends at that time, a couple who had four children, joined an evangelical church in Auckland. Jonas was a high school art teacher, while his wife Jane was an artist in her own right who designed and made beautiful stained-glass windows. Unfortunately, their church discouraged involvement in music and the arts due to their materialistic, sensual and emotional nature, and so Jonas, being the so-called head of the family, forbade his wife and children from participating in any artistic or musical activities. They asked me to join them at one of their weekly church services which I did but to no avail. The holy spirit didn't enter me and I wasn't given the gift of speaking in tongues. I have watched YouTube clips of people in American mega-churches supposedly speaking in tongues. I couldn't understand any of it nor could I fathom whether anyone benefitted from it or not, but hey, who am I to judge any of the weird ways of others, especially if they don't seem to be doing any harm. Fortunately for all of us, Jonas and his family's infatuation with evangelism eventually waned and they were once again free to express themselves artistically and musically and I was able to resume having a captive audience for my twisted dirty jokes, thank god.

(to be continued ...)

Words by
Ross Liggins

LISTEN
TO ROSS'S
LATEST
RAMBLINGS

Scan Here



Or visit: www.coromind.nz/ross-ramblings-podcast/



MATARANGI SHOPPING CENTRE

OPEN DAILY
10AM • 7PM

MATARANGI LIQUOR STORE



PINNACLE COFFEE

THAMES OWN FRESHLY
ROASTED VIETNAMESE
COFFEE

Check out our website for more details:
pinnaclecoffee.nz | 027 525 4740



The Chef & The Butcher
invite you to check out our Lunch Bar
Catering for any event large or small,
in-house or out

404 Pollen Street, Thames
Phone 022 380 9735
<https://burtoncatering.co.nz>



NANNY NEAR U

Child Care
Registered Teacher
Dog Sitter

021 776 039

Whangapoua, Matarangi, Tairua
Kūaotunu, Whitianga, Coroglen, Coromandel
Whenuakite, Hahei, Hot Water Beach



PC Electrical Ltd

Registered Electrician / Inspector

07 866 5509 | A/H 021867646
36 Owen Street Whitianga
admin@pcelectrical.co.nz
pcelectrical.co.nz



LIVE MUSIC + TEXAS PETE'S BBQ

BUFFALO BEACH

est. *Club* 2025

Kick back with ocean views, great food, cold drinks and more. Check the website for the latest live music lineup.

Open 7 Days 12pm - 9pm
18 The Esplanade, Whitianga

BUFFALOBEACHCLUB.BAR

Guthrie Bowron

Inspiration starts here.

From start to finish - everything you need under one roof

Call us now for a free, no-obligation measure and quote

GUTHRIE BOWRON WHITIANGA
2/9 Joan Gaskell Drive, Whitianga 3510
07 866 0035 | sales@gbwhitianga.co.nz
facebook.com/gbwhitianga | guthriebowron.co.nz

OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 7.30 AM - 5 PM & SATURDAY 9 AM - 1 PM

THIS PAGE IS SPONSORED BY

THE EGGSENTRIC CAFE

PROUD SUPPORTERS OF CREATIVE WRITING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Look Up

It's humbling
Standing under a blanket of stars as a new day dawns
You can look up feeling like you're falling down into them
Like gravity is somehow reversed
Though the sun comes out
You know those same stars are still there
Shining bright behind the illusion of blue sky
A constant call to look up and remember
Who you are and how you impact the world
You exist
That is a miracle
To continue to exist against many odds
Not just exist
But thrive
Is also a miracle
And testament to who you are
What you've been through
What you're healing from
What you live with everyday
Invisible but not unseen
You are not little
You are not less than
You are a star shining bright
Illuminating pathways
Living hope
Sometimes we need to look up
Look up at the stars
And remember
We are all made from stardust
We all sparkle and shine
Just as bright as those stars
It's humbling
When you look up at the stars

By Viola

A Powerful Gift

The most powerful gift
I was given
was the gift to be alone,
not in separateness from you,
not in loneliness,
and not in fear,
just alone,
alone to hear
nature's many voices,
alone to feel a love
that has no boundaries,
alone for wisdom's choice
to know what next to do,
alone enough to know
that I am not alone

Poem and artwork by Melissa Ireland
www.listeningsbymelissaireland.com

LOCATED IN FLAXHILL BAY
10 MINUTES WALK FROM
THE WHITIANGA FERRY

FIND OUR HOURS HERE

WWW.THEEGSENTRIC.CO.NZ

it's back

2026

Sep-Dec

coromandelartbeat.nz
visit our website: scan code

the coromandel

artbeat

spring festival

it's back

2026

Sep-Dec

coromandelartbeat.nz
visit our website: scan code

Protecting our catchments

Building resilience for the future

Waikato Regional Council works alongside landowners and local communities to fence waterways, retire erosion-prone land, plant native vegetation, stabilise streambanks, manage pests, and improve the long-term health and resilience of rivers and catchments.

This work helps reduce flood risk, improve water quality, restore native habitats and protect infrastructure, creating healthier, more resilient communities across the Waikato.

Taking a catchment-wide approach

Healthy rivers start well beyond the river channel itself. By taking a catchment-wide approach, we can better understand how water, sediment and land use interact across the landscape, and identify opportunities to improve the health and resilience of waterways from the source to the sea.

Waikato Regional Council works with landowners to:

- provide information and advice, including on good management practices, responsibilities and regulatory requirements
- support sustainable land practices, including soil conservation
- improve water quality and biodiversity outcomes
- plan for changing weather patterns and increase climate and catchment resilience.

For more information about river and catchment management and how we can help you, contact the Hauraki and Coromandel Catchments Team.

[waikatoregion.govt.nz/
your-catchment-coromandel-zone](https://waikatoregion.govt.nz/your-catchment-coromandel-zone)

0800 800 401

Erosion and sediment reduction

Rivers are dynamic systems that naturally change over time, particularly during major rainfall and flood events. Improving channel capacity, stabilising riverbanks and reducing sediment entering waterways helps rivers function more effectively during these events, while reducing flood and erosion risk for communities.

In early 2026, Waikato Regional Council secured \$1.68 million from the Regional Infrastructure Fund (administered by Kānoa – Regional Economic Development & Investment Unit) for its Coromandel Peninsula Erosion and Sediment Reduction project. The three-year, \$2.8 million project extends flood mitigation work to remediate waterways that have been severely impacted by a series of weather events since 2023.

Work includes a mix of soft and hard engineering methods to control erosion, the removal of blockages and debris in waterways, and fencing and planting riparian margins to improve streambank stability during heavy flow.

Tackling hill country erosion

The Ministry for Primary Industries' Te Uru Rākau Hill Country Erosion Programme provides contestable funding to regional and unitary councils to protect erosion-prone hill country.

Hill country erosion remains one of the biggest challenges facing many parts of the Waikato region. Significant rainfall can result in land instability and send large volumes of sediment into different receiving environments.

In 2023, Waikato Regional Council secured \$2.86 million from the Hill Country Erosion Fund for a four-year regional work programme. A portion of this funding is invested in Coromandel and Hauraki catchments and contributes to a programme with an estimated total cost of \$2.28 million, including contributions by the council and participating landowners.

The council is working with landowners to reduce erosion on vulnerable hill country in the Coromandel Peninsula through willow and poplar pole planting, fencing to retire erosion-prone land from grazing, and native revegetation.

Planting reduces erosion, can mitigate peak flows and enhances biodiversity. This work:

- keeps productive soil on the land
- reduces sediment entering rivers, streams and the coastal marine area
- increases resilience to weather events and climate change.

We are now in our final year of the programme. The council has applied for a further four years of funding and anticipates a decision by the end of October.



Rock revetment to control erosion along the Ounoura River.



Obstructions and erosion along the Whangamaroro River.



Hill country retired and planted near Whangamatā.

Everyone has a role to play in improving catchment health.

NOT SELLING? WE SHOULD STILL TALK.



Wondering what
your property is worth?



Curious about what's
selling in your neighbourhood



Thinking about
buying?



Planning your next move -
even if it's a few years away?

Real Estate isn't only about selling houses.

Its about knowing your property,
understanding your market and
having the right people to call
when you need them

WHATEVER THE PROPERTY QUESTION, START WITH RICHARDSONS

/Richardsons
Licensed REAA 2008
richardsons.co.nz


10 OFFICES
across the region


KNOWLEDGE
that only locals have


ONE CONNECTED TEAM
working for you



Need a little Extra Space?

Undercover Storage Has You Covered

For boat, classic car, caravan and campervan owners, a purpose-built storage shed provides the protection, security and space your pride and joy deserves, keeping it safe, dry and ready for the season ahead.

Need to create more room at home? Located in Whitianga, Undercover Storage provides secure, flexible storage for locals, businesses and visitors from across the Coromandel and beyond. Whether you're decluttering, renovating, moving, travelling, or simply need somewhere to keep business equipment and stock, they've got you covered.

Locally owned and operated,
Undercover Storage has you covered.

Why choose Undercover Storage?

- ✓ Storage solutions for both residential and commercial needs
- ✓ **A range of unit sizes to suit different requirements, from 3 x 6m to 6 x 12m, with 3.6m-high doors**
- ✓ Purpose-built options suitable for small to large trailer boats and campervans
- ✓ Secure space for classic cars, boats, caravans and other valuable belongings
- ✓ Flexible options for small businesses, including equipment, tools and stock
- ✓ Monitored gate entry and security cameras
- ✓ **Convenient Whitianga location**

UnderCover
STORAGE

3251b State Highway 25, Whitianga

Caleb: 027 537 5953
Nick: 021 666 350

info@undercoverstorage.nz
undercoverstorage.nz

SURE SHOT

HAURAKI-COROMANDEL PHOTOGRAPHERS SERIES

Featuring Moa Raud

Moa Raud Photo
moaraudphoto.co.nz
@moaraudphoto (Instagram)

Turning Towards What is Real

In a world that's rapidly becoming reliant on AI tools for everything from spaghetti bolognese recipes to generated brand images, I find myself surrounded by the fear of being replaced. We're living in a time of very big changes and it can be intimidating in many ways; however, I've never been as sure about the importance of my art and work as I am today. I've found myself affected by the AI transition not in a fearful way but in choosing to go in the opposite direction, to be MORE human, more real and more authentic.

When I started taking family photos, I was aiming for those perfect shots, golden hour at the beach and a crisp picture of a smiling family looking into the camera. In the last few years, I've noticed something in my own art, and possibly in the wider industry too – change alongside the introduction of AI. As it's getting easier to generate perfect stock images, I've been drawn to go the other direction, towards the real moments, connection and emotion.

I've gone from valuing perfect light and beautiful locations to valuing human connection, authentic moments and photos that are felt. For me personally, this has led me to embrace a less posed, more natural approach and shift my focus towards in-home sessions, where I get to be part of my clients' everyday lives and capture them in their comfort zone, truly telling their story through my photography.

I grew up with a father who taught analogue film photography in the era of transition to digital photography. My dad fought with everything he had to keep teaching the old ways and to hold onto what's real. I never really understood what he went through until

recently, and I can now see history repeating itself in the next big transition. Just like my dad did, I'm wanting to hold onto what's real. I always loved shooting film, but only recently decided to do it professionally and to take my work and art to where my heart is. I received my scans from my first film session with a client earlier today, and looking through the photos made my eyes water, because they hold everything I am passionate about creating. Both the photos selected for this article are from that collection, and I think they speak for themselves.

I've been asking myself why I take photos – of my loved ones, of things around me, of other families, and once I found the answer, it all made sense. I read a while ago that 'photography is the closest we get to time travel', and that's it for me. As a mother of two littlies, I know how fast time passes and how we almost forget what life was like only a couple of years ago. My second child is nine months old and as I was telling a friend about my pregnancy the other day, I realised I had almost forgotten those long nauseous days. But then, a memory on my phone popped up, I looked at a photo from my pregnancy, and I got taken right back to that time. I can't help but think about myself in 50 years from now, looking at the pictures on my walls and flicking through the family albums to relive these days again. I think that's why these real moments matter more than ever, and why the art of photography is turning towards a more authentic approach. It was never about taking the perfect photo, but about preserving the most precious thing we've got, our real memories.

Words by
Moa Raud



Wheelbarrow ride

Settings:
f1.8, 1/4000s, ISO 400, focal length 50mm

My family session with Leilani's family in Whenuakite was child-led in the best kind of way. Their 3-year-old son, Ira, was full of beans and so excited to show me around, so we jumped between running around in the sheep paddock, family snuggles on the couch, and eventually found our way to the peak of the session: fun wheelbarrow rides with Dad pushing them around the backyard. I had to get them all together for a fun take on a typical portrait at the end of it!



Childhood joy

Settings:
f1.8, 1/500s, ISO 400, focal length 50mm

Rather than pose a family for a perfect shot, I like to let them interact and wait for a moment that makes me feel something. In this one, we had been reading a book, but Ira was ready for something new, so I suggested he could lie with his legs up in the air. His little sister, Flossy, crawled over to see what was going on, and we got some of the sweetest photos of pure childhood joy.



Moa and her kids

THE WAIHI MAKERS AMONG US

CRAFTY LADIES WAIHI & HAPPY SPACE MOSAICS

Having a creative outlet is a powerful thing. It keeps us inspired, busy and connected. Some people create quietly in their own spaces, while others choose to share their creations with the world.

The talented locals featured here are doing exactly that. From textiles, pottery and hand-carved wood to mosaics, they are turning their ideas and passions into beautiful, unique creations.

Meet these creative community members, discover their stories and get inspired!



CRAFTY LADIES

Colleen Spinetto

I started the idea for Crafty Ladies Waihi as I saw a need for an outlet to show off the unique pieces crafted by these creative people. It's a great opportunity for people to visit and see what's on display!

I am passionate about recycling. The fun part of crafting is sourcing my materials and turning them from shells to treasures, or from nature to fabric.

Sue Hagen

I am always stitching, quilting or eco-printing on fabric. This is an interesting hobby that keeps growing, and I like to sell my work to afford new materials.

Among my products displayed at Crafty Ladies, you will find cushions, scarves and beautifully quilted handbags, all made using wool, silk and cotton.

Bernadette Heibner

I am a local potter who began to explore pottery in my retirement years. I have made a large range of unique creations, including wall hangings, planter bowls, flowers and a range of garden art, such as mushrooms, hedgehogs and native birds.

Claire and Steve – Westwood

Your local Waihi artisan, specialising in unique hand-carved wooden pieces by Steve West. Discover beautifully crafted wooden boards and decorative pieces, each individually made by hand.

HAPPY SPACE MOSAICS

Sandra Watson

Around 20 years ago, I found a box of broken tiles and began experimenting with mosaics. It quickly evolved into a wonderful artistic journey, bringing recycled materials and reclaimed everyday objects together. This art form allows me to create a wide variety of pieces, from birdbaths and coasters to photo frames and plant pots. The possibilities are endless.

CRAFTY LADIES WAIHI OPEN DAYS

Join us for a glass of bubbles, cheese & crackers!

17th and 18th October | 10am–2pm

30 Galbraith Street, Waihi

Contact: Colleen on 021 664 994

or visit the Crafty Ladies Waihi Facebook page.

*Scan here for
all the details*



HAPPY SPACE MOSAICS

Workshops:

4-hour sessions with flexible dates and days

Contact:

Sandra on 022 303 3554

ZOO WILD PRESENTS

30 DECEMBER 2026

MONUMENT

COROGLEN TAVERN

COROMANDEL

FEATURING:

LADI6 / DAVID DALLAS CHAI / TEAM DYNAMITE



monumentfestival.nz

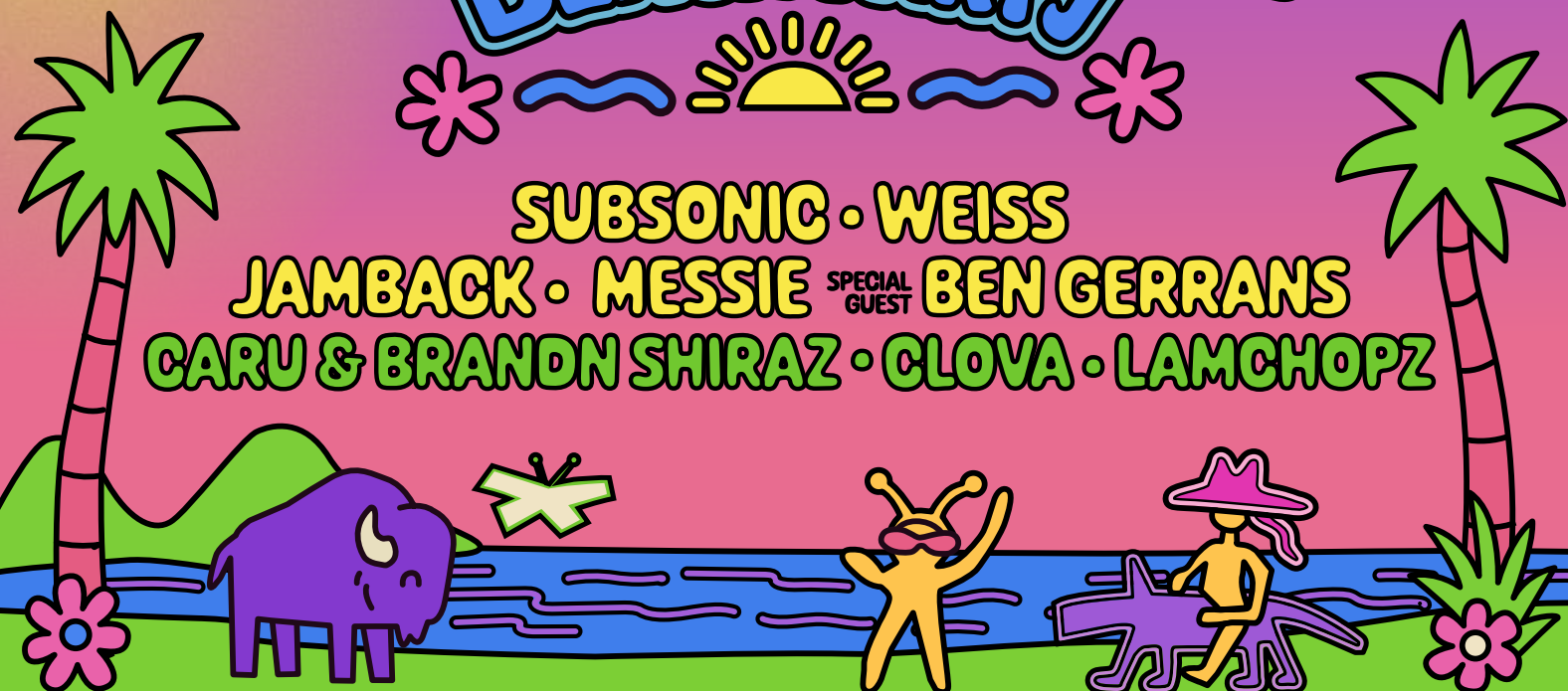
Hunt for your tickets at
eventbrite.co.nz



BUFFALO BEACH PARTY



SUBSONIC • WEISS
JAMBACK • MESSIE SPECIAL GUEST BEN GERRANS
CARU & BRANDON SHIRAZ • CLOVA • LAMCHOPZ



SATURDAY 2 JANUARY 2027

BUFFALO BEACH RESERVE, WHITIANGA

NEW YEARS PARTY

AT
COROGLLEN TAVERN

THE BLACK SEEDS
PIRAPUS • MUROKI
CHRISTOPH EL TRUENTO
FRANCIE LIDGARD • DJ SUNRAY

THURS 31 DECEMBER 2026

