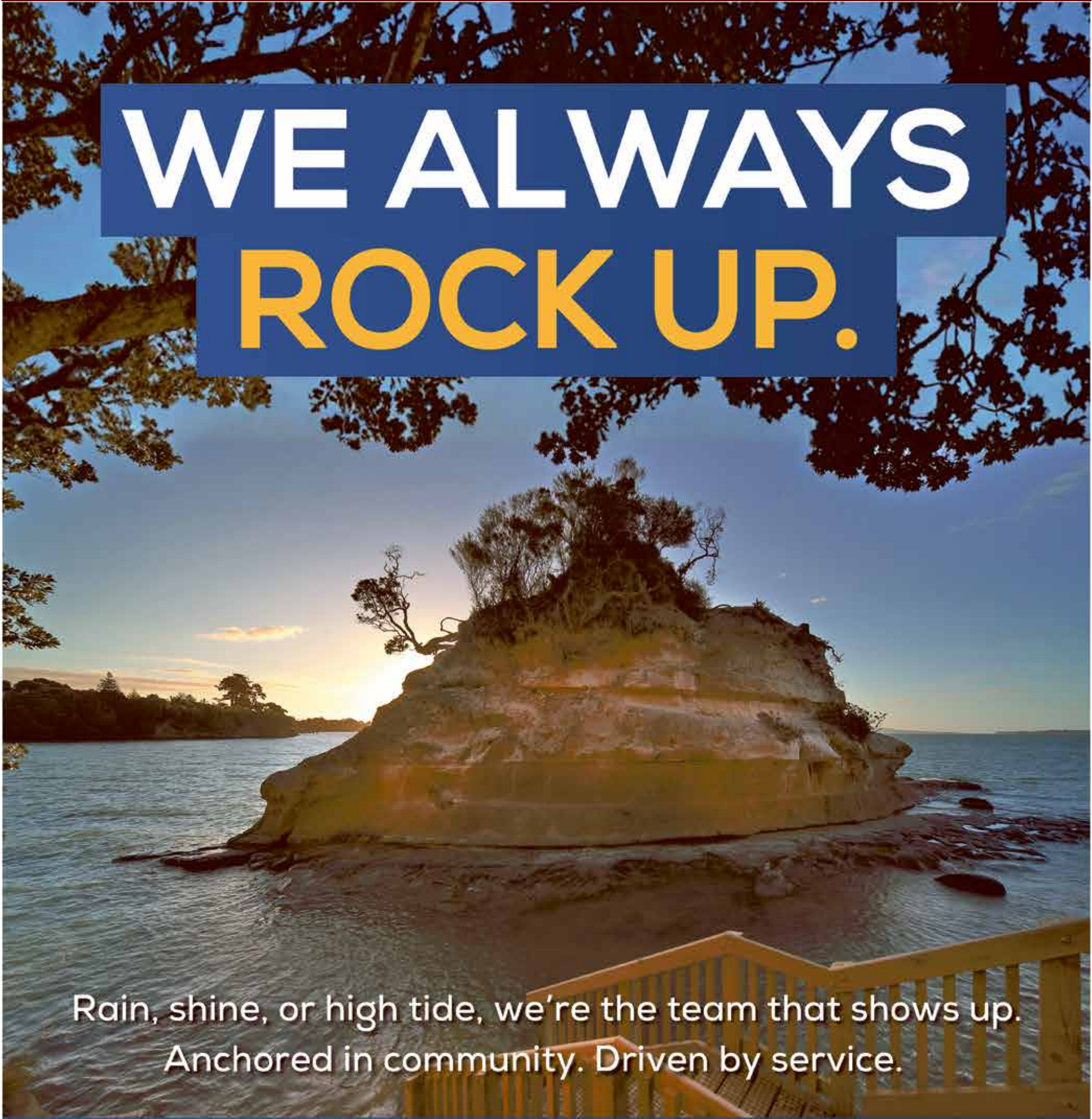


Pōhutukawa Coast Times

Issue
1638

25 September 2026



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PROUD TO BACK CRT (NZ)

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"...we can keep our response organisations like Fire and Police free to respond to more acute needs and we can't do it without the support of companies, individuals and organisations like Barfoot and Thompson."

With Barfoot and Thompson Beachlands and Whitford's support, CRT(NZ) is in a stronger position to carry on making our communities safer in times of emergency. CRT(NZ) and all of its volunteers are looking forward to what this relationship can bring to communities.

Over the past year, CRT(NZ) has grown – we now have 64 volunteers across Beachlands, Maraetai and Clevedon, with our Hunua team getting so big that we were able to split it into three distinct teams: Hunua, Ararimu and Paparimu.

Our teams have been training at least once a month and are becoming more proficient, with one recent exercise testing our ability to deploy shelter at three locations, which the teams managed to deploy from their home address to the shelter locations and set up to the point they would receive members of the public in 15 minutes. This is awesome and shows the importance of keeping teams made up from locals.

Over the past few months, our teams have helped with sandbagging in preparation for some forecasted bad weather, including assisting our friends at the local Marae with sandbagging and a couple of locals who needed generators due to power loss. We have helped with recent fun runs and the trolley derby, and we look forward to helping out there again soon.

It's activities like that mean we can keep our response organisations like Fire and Police free to respond to more acute needs, and we can't do it without the support of companies, individuals and organisations like Barfoot and Thompson.

Thanks, Barfoot and Thompson.

- CRT (NZ)



Always looking for more hands:

CRT relies on the dedication and generosity of volunteers, businesses, and individuals who share their commitment to making a difference. Whether you're interested in offering your time, skills, or resources, there are many ways to get involved and contribute to the resilience of our community.

To support or speak to the team, call 0800 437 029 or scan the QR code to go to their website.



25 September 2026

Maraetai Beach Hall turns 100!



The Maraetai Beach Hall is approaching its 100th birthday, and everyone is invited to the party. Details on page 2.

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The Pohutukawa Coast Times is distributed weekly to 6800 homes and businesses in: Whitford, Brookby, Beachlands, Maraetai, Clevedon, Ardmore, Alfriston, Kawakawa Bay, Orere Point, Hunua and Paparimu

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Community Newspapers
Association



The PC Times 20 years ago:

22 September 2006: Board annoyed by lack of action over alternative logging route.


PINE HARBOUR ELECTRICAL

Weekly Tide Chart

25 Fri		6:03am ▲ 2.8m	12:06am ▼ 0.8m	
26 Sat		12:27am ▼ 0.8m	6:49pm ▲ 3.0m	
27 Sun		12:10am ▼ 0.6m	7:32am ▲ 3.1m	
28 Mon		2:53am ▼ 0.5m	9:14am ▲ 3.2m	
29 Tue		3:36am ▼ 0.4m	9:57am ▲ 3.3m	
30 Wed		4:20am ▼ 0.4m	10:42am ▲ 3.3m	
1 Thu		5:05am ▼ 0.4m	11:28am ▲ 3.3m	

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Guest editorial by Franklin Ward Councillor Andrew Baker

On 1 October, everything other than public transport shifts from Auckland Transport’s overview to Council. This has been something the community and many politicians have been wanting and so here it comes. I will say, however, this could well be a “be careful what you wish for” moment. Having spent a long time on the local board, as a director on the board of Auckland Transport and several years now chairing the council committee responsible for transport, I think I have a pretty good understanding of the complexities of not only how our many and varied transport networks and systems need to operate to ensure we can keep moving around the region but also the funding. Funding is basically 40 per cent from Council and 51 per cent Government, with Government holding the trump cards as to priorities. If something we want to do isn’t supported through the Government Policy Statement, ratepayers must foot the whole amount which is a scary proposition.

Transport decision making and governance is now to be shared between Local Boards and the Governing Body. To provide a basis for that, we have created a road classification framework. Under the framework, Local Boards will be the decision makers for what are called local and collector roads whilst councillors will have the same responsibilities for arterial roads and on some local or collector roads where a project has an impact on an arterial such as an intersection.

The underlying reason for this is the importance of ensuring, as mentioned before, that our network is efficient and functional which would be put at serious risk if we had 21 different approaches to these things which could lead to huge inconsistency for people - for example on the Great South Road which travels through 8 different board areas.

There are around 2000 activities happening in the combined road corridors of Auckland every week, be it Council, Vector, Chorus, developers or landowners doing work. All these things at some stage need to go through an assessment and authorisation process because they impact on how we move around. Currently AT staff do this assessment via an authorisation through a specialist committee. However after 1 October, the legislation requires those decisions to be made by elected reps depending on the allocation through the framework. The challenge to local boards and councillors is to make that a quick and effective process that delivers better results than happen now. Any project that is more than something really minor will be discussed with local boards and councillors, including local boards having the ability to provide their thoughts on things for which councillors have decision making. The level of political involvement will be a lot higher, as will the accountability and transparency for elected reps as we will no longer be able to point the finger at AT and hide behind the “I didn’t know” excuse.

At the end of the day, whilst the legislation is more prescriptive and requires some decisions to be made by politicians, Auckland is moving to a system that is more akin to the rest of the country rather than unique to us.

Maraetai Beach Hall turns 100!

Maraetai Beach Hall is turning 100 years old, and the local community is invited to help mark the occasion at a special Centenary Celebration on Saturday 24 October 2026, from 10am to 12pm, at the hall on Rewa Road.

The event kicks off at 10am with a welcome from the community, followed by light refreshments. Guests will then be taken on a walk down memory lane with a special presentation celebrating 100 years of the hall’s history, before the morning wraps up with a game of bingo, complete with prizes. Everyone is welcome to attend and bring their own memories of the hall to be part of the story.

Maraetai Hall was built in just one day - on Labour Day in 1926 - on land owned by the Pollard family. Materials were donated by Herb Pollard, with labour organised by his brother-in-law, Reg Morris, and the wider Pollard family pitched in with both materials and manpower for the build.

The Pollards later gifted the hall back to the Maraetai community, and the family still holds regular reunions there.

According to heritage experts, the hall is an important and increasingly rare example of a particular style of public building in the New Zealand landscape.

Over the past hundred years, the hall has survived a fire and multiple debates over whether it should be sold off. It was recently refurbished with a new roof, new cladding, refreshed external joinery, a rebuilt entry staircase and a fresh coat of paint.

The hall is run by a committee of local residents who take bookings and help market the venue to the wider community.

Do you have any hall memorabilia?

The organising committee is calling on

the community to help build a special Memory Lane presentation for the big day. Anyone with old photos of the hall is encouraged to email them through to maraetaihall@gmail.com.

If you wish to join in the 100th celebrations, RSVP (for catering purposes) by 1 October to Aleisha on 027 518 1379 or email maraetaihall@gmail.com.


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“No closure on the horizon” for Beachlands Police Station

NZ Police Counties Manukau East have confirmed a new deployment model for Beachlands Police Station that will increase its opening hours and prepare it for future population growth.

Previously, the station was staffed for just two hours a week, from 11am to 1pm on Wednesdays. Under the new model, opening hours will expand to Monday and Thursday mornings, from 9.30am to 12pm, with a sworn police officer rostered on at all times, supported by local volunteers.

Police say the changes are about lifting service levels. Counties Manukau East Acting Area Manager Steve Albrey says: “There is no closure on the horizon. In fact, we are looking at bringing the service delivery up, to meet the needs of the community.”

The extended hours form part of a wider push to strengthen ties with the Beachlands community and open up additional ways for residents to get in touch.

Police say there continues to be a significant gap between what is seen and shared informally within the community (on social media and by word of mouth) and what is actually being formally reported. Without activity being reported, police say they’re often unable to identify genuine trends or justify a targeted response.

Residents are encouraged to report incidents even if the information is secondhand, for example something seen shared on a community Facebook page, so that it’s captured in the police system rather than simply being discussed anecdotally.

“If you see something on the Grapevine that you think needs reporting, report it,” says Counties Manukau East Area Communities Manager Simon Cornish.

In addition to the extended station hours, police are stepping up their community engagement with “Coffee with a Cop” events, where community groups or businesses can invite one of the local police team members along to chat with residents about issues of concern - or simply to meet and greet. Local police officers have begun regular sessions at Metlifecare’s Pōhutukawa Landing retirement village to educate older residents about fraud prevention.

A dedicated email address is another way residents can get in touch with local police for non-urgent issues - beachlands@police.govt.nz. The email is monitored regularly and can be used for non-urgent enquiries, requests for advice, or to arrange a face-to-face meeting either at Beachlands or Ormiston stations or, for



NZ Police Counties Manukau East staff (L-R) Simon Cornish, Kieran Masters, Peter Phillips and Steve Albrey pictured outside the Beachlands Police Station.

those with transport difficulties, at their own address. Police say the email is not a substitute for standard reporting channels, and that genuine emergencies should still go through 111, while 105 remains the phone number for reporting non-urgent crime and incidents - or people can report non-urgent matters online at police.govt.nz/use-105.

Coming into summer, police say locals can expect to see increased police presence at beaches and on the roads, checking driver alcohol levels.



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Maraetai Beach Early Learning: building genuine connections

At Maraetai Beach Early Learning, we are owned and operated by a local family, who have lived, worked and raised their whānau in the Maraetai Beach community. Our strong family and community focus and our love for this beautiful community led us to develop the centre alongside Maraetai Beach School. We have a close connection with the school and strongly support tamariki as they move through to primary education, with school readiness, school visits and participation in school events.

Relationships are at the heart of all that we do at Maraetai Beach Early Learning! And as a small centre of only 35, we build genuine and meaningful connections with our tamariki and their whānau. With excellent ratios and a team of 100% fully qualified, experienced, and passionate early childhood teachers, we are able to care for and support tamariki with authentic love and compassion. We celebrate diversity within our community and make sure every child feels a sense of belonging and knows they are cared for, valued and truly celebrated.

Our new, purpose-built centre provides an enriching and challenging home-away-from-home learning environment where holistic growth is fostered. Our play-based learning opportunities, routines and experiences help make learning inviting, fun and help promote a lifelong curiosity for exploration.

We are open Monday to Friday from 7:30am–5:30pm for ages 2 to school age and offer both short and full day options, with flexibility around times.

If you would like to know more, please give us a call, email us or visit our website.

You are always welcome to pop in for a visit, and our team would love to show you around!



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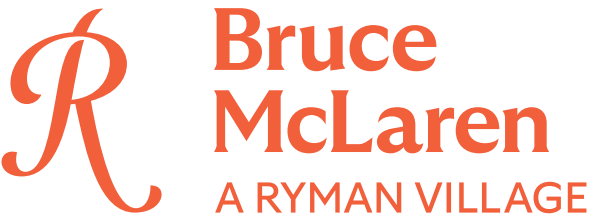
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2026 Elections - Candidate Profile

Each week the PC Times will put questions to local candidates* standing in this year's general election on 7 Nov 2026

*those standing in Papakura (for Clevedon and surrounds) and Botany (for the Pōhutukawa Coast) wards

Note from the editor: the *Pōhutukawa Coast Times* put the same questions to Prime Minister Christopher Luxon as it did to the other candidates standing for election in the Botany electorate. The PM elected to send us the following statement rather than answer the questions posed.

Candidate profile:
Christopher Luxon
National Party Candidate for the Botany electorate

Since 2020, I have been proud to serve as your National MP for Botany. I would like to warmly welcome all residents of Beachlands, Maraetai and Whitford to the electorate and I look forward to meeting many of you in the months ahead.

Having grown up in the wider Botany area, I have a deep appreciation for what makes this part of Auckland such a special place to live. From attending local schools and swimming at Cockle Bay Beach to delivering newspapers around the neighbourhood on my bike, many of my own experiences have been shaped by this community. Botany has always been a place of opportunity and today more than ever we need a government focused on strengthening our economy, delivering essential services



National Party candidate for the Botany electorate, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon.

and planning for the future. That is why I have spent the last three years focused on supporting economic growth, helping ease cost-of-living pressures, bringing down inflation and interest rates and creating opportunities for businesses, workers, and families. We cannot take this recovery for granted, the last thing we need is a Labour, Greens, Te Pāti Māori, TOP Government who are planning the biggest tax grab in New Zealand's history.

I look forward to continuing to work alongside local residents, businesses and community leaders on the issues that matter most to our community.

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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.

Speech

Today I am going to talk about my religion, Zoroastrianism, and how it helps me with ADHD. ADHD means my brain works differently. Even though ADHD can make some things more difficult, it also means I can be creative, energetic, and think in unique ways.

One of the most important teachings in Zoroastrianism is Good Thoughts, Good Words, and Good Deeds. These three ideas help guide me every day. Good Thoughts remind me to think positively about myself. When I make a mistake because of my ADHD, I try not to be too hard on myself. Instead, I remind myself that everyone learns differently, and I can always keep trying. Good Words remind me to speak kindly to other people and to myself. Sometimes, when I get frustrated, it is easy to say something without thinking. My religion teaches me to slow down, choose respectful words, and apologise if I make a mistake.

Good Deeds remind me to help others through my actions. Even small things, like helping a classmate, being kind to someone who feels left out, or doing my best at school, are good deeds. I may not be perfect, but I always try to do the right thing.

Living with ADHD has taught me that success is not about being perfect. It is about learning, growing, and never giving up. My religion gives me values that help me stay positive and make good choices every day.

- by Shayan, Year 6, Maraetai Beach School



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- 1 Tbsp cocoa

Method:

- Over a double boiler, mix egg yolks, vanilla and sugar until it turns light and creamy (around 5 minutes)
- In a large bowl whip the mascarpone and cream until soft peaks form. Gently fold in the egg mixture.
- Slice the banana bread into 2cm thick slices. Quickly dunk each slice into the espresso martini mix and then place into a large dish. Once the base is covered, layer a part of the mascarpone mix on top and spread to evenly cover the banana bread. Depending on the size of the dish, repeat for 2-3 layers.
- Sift cocoa over the top and place in the fridge to chill for 3+ hours.
- Serve and enjoy!



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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Across: 1. Teapot, 5. Abrupt, 8. Off, 9. Rorts, 12. Roster, 13. Alfresco, 15. Candy, 16. Theatrical, 19. Officially, 20. Rugby, 21. Aggrieve, 25. Ritual, 26. Retro, 27. Lei, 28. Lonely, 29. Member.

Down: 2. Earl, 3. Purr, 4. Toss, 5. Afro, 6. Rascal, 7. Tardy, 10. Often, 11. Testify, 13. Alto, 14. Ceiling, 15. Calibre, 17. Elder, 18. Type, 19. Obtuse, 20. Rural, 21. Ally, 22. Grim, 23. Item, 24. Vote.

Ag Day Photo Competition entries



Harlow May Celliers, age 13, Hūnua School, with Pippa & Piper.



Umar Hussain, age 8, Ōrere School with Princess Dahlia Wiltshire.



Ayden, age 7, Brookby School with Louffy.



Carter Hill, Year 5, Brookby School.

Email us a photo of you and your ag day pet:
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include:
Your name, age, school and your pet's name

entries close:
11 October 2026

TEAM BRIE RAY WHITE CROSSWORD

1		2		3	4		5	6		7		8
9							10					
				11								
12			13				14					
		15										
	16						17		18		19	
20		21			22				23			
24												
				25		26			27		28	
29				30					31			
				32								
33									34			
				35								

Across

- 1. Brew receptacle (6)
- 5. Sudden and unexpected (6)
- 8. Rancid (3)
- 9. Scams (5)
- 12. List of work shifts (6)
- 13. In the open air (8)
- 15. Lollies (5)
- 16. Excessively dramatic (10)
- 19. Formally (10)
- 20. Team sport (5)
- 21. Cause resentment (8)
- 25. Custom (6)
- 26. Fashion reminiscent of the past (5)
- 27. Garland (3)
- 28. Solitary (6)
- 29. Individual in a team (6)

Down

- 2. British peer (4)
- 3. Sound of contentment (4)
- 4. Throw carelessly (4)
- 5. Bushy hairdo (4)
- 6. Scallywag (6)
- 7. Late (5)
- 10. Frequently (5)
- 11. Give evidence (7)
- 13. Highest male singing voice (4)
- 14. Upper limit (7)
- 15. Quality of character (7)
- 17. Church official (5)
- 18. Printed characters (4)
- 19. Slow to understand (6)
- 20. Pastoral (5)
- 21. Co-operative partner (4)
- 22. Depressing (4)
- 23. Piece of news (4)
- 24. Ballot (4)

Answers on page 8



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WATER TREATMENT

Malmaks Water Shop

530 8872, 021 470 588

Allwater Pumps and Supplies Ltd

09 536 5444, 027 536 5444

Clevedon Pumps & Filtration

027 479 7741

WEDDING VENUES

Te Puru Centre

536 5360

Maraetai Beach Boating Club

536 6649

WINDOW CLEANING

NewZealandWindowCleaners@gmail.com

021 0856 4650

SPECIAL AGENTS

003

003

LICENSED TO SELL

Ian Boswell

027 285 9314

Jenny Chandler

0204 000 2564

Nicolette Hale

027 702 9157

Clare Dower

021 206 6822

#1 Top Salesperson Beachlands Branch 2025

BARFOOT & THOMPSON

003

WINNER 2025

Agent of the year

BEACHLANDS

BARFOOT & THOMPSON

003

WINNER 2025

Agent of the year

MARAETAI

COASTGUARD MARAETAI AWARDS NIGHT

BEYOND THE *Horizon*

BARFOOT & THOMPSON BEACHLANDS PROUD TO BACK OUR COASTGUARD.

Coastguard Maraetai volunteers give up their nights, weekends and public holidays to help keep everyone safer out on the water. Shore-based backing is important, so **like our Coastguard, we didn't hesitate when we received the call.** Years later, our partnership continues strongly, giving both our organisations much to be proud of. Barfoot & Thompson Beachlands were once again honoured to join the Coastguard Maraetai crew and their families at this year's Awards Evening, celebrating another huge year on and off the water.



2026 Award Winners



Fundraiser of the Year

Gary Copestake



Trainee of the Year

Eoin Emerson



Volunteer of the Year

Zharna Welch



Shore-Based Volunteer of the Year

Zharna Welch



Outstanding Service to Coastguard Maraetai

Russell Barlow



The Banks-Laxon Award

The New Waka Committee



Presidents Award

Robert Gray

A year on the water

6

URGENT CALLOUTS

147

TOTAL INCIDENTS

425

PEOPLE ASSISTED

6,427

CREW HOURS

226

FUNDRAISING HOURS

464

MAINTENANCE HOURS

2,843

CREW HOURS ON WATER

1,603

CREW HOURS TRAINING

RECOGNITIONS & SERVICE

Every qualification and service pin here reflects real hours of training, and volunteers who kept turning up when it counted.

DECKHAND

Tim Price
Eoin Emerson
Andrew Dwyer

QUALIFIED

Matt Featherstone
Michelle Anderton
Eddie Carpenter

MASTER

Russell Barlow
Joel Welch
Craig Carter

3 YEAR SERVICE

Tim Price, Garry Powell,
Joel Welch, Zharna Welch, Stephen Guyan, Alex Guyan

10 YEAR SERVICE

Dave Chapman
Andrea Chapman

Showing up. *It's what we do.* BARFOOT & THOMPSON

For sellers and buyers, landlords and tenants, and the community we call home.

SALES

The tricky ones? Bring them on.

When a sale needs more than the usual approach, give us a call. This year our team has stepped on a number of properties that hadn't sold elsewhere, and got the job done. Whether you're selling or buying, our team provides honest advice and real effort every step of the way.



RateMyAgent suburb winners five years running

2022 • 2023 • 2024 • 2025 • 2026

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Local knowledge. Fresh energy.

Rentals are leasing fast! We are currently experiencing peak demand for local rental properties, with quality tenants actively searching in your neighbourhood. Our team knows the area, its streets, its residents, and its tradespeople inside and out. Debbie and Vanessa bring fresh energy and local experience, working alongside long-standing team member Ally to deliver exceptional care for our landlords and tenants every day.

Looking for new management for your property? Talk to our property management team today to get your property leased quickly.



Debbie Mustill
Head of Property
Management
027 265 2933



Vanessa Robson
Property
Manager
027 839 7107



Ally Tan
Property
Manager
021 978 619

*We show up for our
community too.*

From Coastguard Maraetai and CRT (NZ) to local sports clubs, events, and causes, **we're proud to back those in the community that we serve.**

Meet the team who shows up.

Give any of us a call.



Daniel Wei

Branch
Manager

021 267 8027



Ian Boswell

Associate
Salesperson

027 285 9314



**Matthew
Brown**

Residential &
Rural Sales

027 549 4673



Nadine Bryant

Associate
Salesperson

021 265 7512



**Jenny
Chandler**

Associate
Salesperson

0204 000 2564



Mike Deverell

Residential
Sales

021 466 300



Clare Dower

Associate
Salesperson

021 206 6822



**Stuart
Fitzpatrick**

Associate
Salesperson

027 668 0287



**James
Gemmell**

Residential
Sales

027 231 5558



**Courtney
Gould**

Associate
Salesperson

021 635 220



Nicolette Hale

Residential &
Rural Sales

027 702 9157



Kathryn Morris

Associate
Salesperson

027 486 3488



Jessie Stewart

Residential
Sales

021 969 539



Logan Williams

Residential
Sales

021 034 9648

BARFOOT & THOMPSON
LICENSED REAA 2008

42 Wakelin Road • 09 536 4990
beachlands@barfoot.co.nz
Scan to view our website

