

Residents' News

FEBRUARY 2025



Hello everyone,

February sees all of our regular activities back up and running again. The Committee have continued to plan special get-togethers throughout the holiday period, and this month with Valentines Day falling on Friday 14th, they have a special **Valentines Day Dinner** at **4:30pm**. The usual Friday night raffles will be drawn as well as a Valentines raffle that is included in the cost of the meal. There is also a lunch outing on **Thursday 27th Feb to Kaiaua Hotel**.

See "Committee News" on Page 2 for an indication of what events the Committee have on the agenda for the next few months.

The first **Friday Forum** for 2025 will be on Friday 21st February, for anyone interested in a general catch-up/discussion on what is going on around the village.

We are waiting for a technician to come and look at the Spa Pool, so it is still currently closed, but it is great to see the Swimming Pool getting a lot of use, especially in the 2-4pm 'kids slot'- it's nice to see kids having fun in the pool.

Waitangi Day is on a Thursday this year, and a lot of staff have chosen to have Friday off as well. Gary will do the Greenwaste pick-up on Friday as usual and Robyn will be taking the 'Shoppers' to pak n save, as usual. We are confident that everything will continue to operate well, and is in 'good hands'. We are always contactable via our office phone number 24hours/day, and if for some reason this doesn't connect through, you can always try our cell phones (see page 6).

Enjoy the last month of Summer everyone, January has been somewhat unsettled weather-wise, but thankfully nothing extreme. The wind has been whistling but it has helped to keep that intense muggy heat away.

Take care all,

From Stephanie, Amy and all staff at Richmond Villas 😊



Message from the Committee:

February is here and the Committee have been making plans for the next few months' activities:-

- **Friday 14th February, Valentines Day** – we are having a dinner starting at 4:30pm with a choice of ham or chicken, plus desert for \$15.00. Names on the board by Wednesday 12th February.
- **Thursday 27th February** there will be a lunch at the **Kaiaua Hotel** – names on the board by Monday 24th February.
- **March 17th, St Patricks Day Dinner**
- **later in March/April** we hope to visit the **Ngahutoitoi Marae** in Paeroa, followed with lunch at the One Zone restaurant in Paeroa.
- **In April** we hope the men will put on a dinner (“**Men’s Night**”).
- **In May** there will be an **Art & Craft Show** with wine and cheeze etc.
- **Saturday 21st June** will be our **mid-year Christmas lunch**.

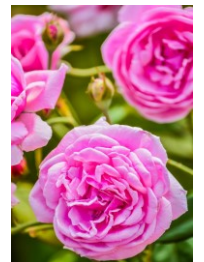
There are other things on the drawing board, details to come at a later date.

Thank you to all who came to our Strawberry Fest it was a great success enjoyed by many.

► **Friday Mix n Mingle Happy Hour: 4:30pm start.** Raffles: The weekly Raffle is drawn on Friday night @ 5:30pm. Tickets are \$1 for 2 draws; the **jackpot** is running – the winner must be present to collect the jackpot. *Come along at 4.30pm grab your Raffle Ticket and join in the fun & surprises.*

► **Events this month:**

- **Spec Savers: Tuesday 4th February 9:45am.** FREE clean of glasses and minor repair, held in the small lounge off the foyer in the Community Lodge.
- **Valentines Day: Friday 14th February: 4:30pm \$15 pp.**
Dinner, desert, music, raffle. Add your name to the list by Wednesday 12th February and pay at the door.
- **Lunch at Kaiaua Hotel: Thursday 27th February:**
Travel by carpool and village van. Departing from Community Lodge foyer at 11am. Names on the board by Monday 24th Feb.



► ***Coming Up, February:***

- **St. Patrick's Day** – Monday 17th March – details to come
 - **Ngahutoitoi Marae Visit & Lunch**, date TBC – details to come
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Happy Birthday to those born in February!



- 😊 01 Lorraine Hoggart 😊 02 Peter Clarke 😊 06 Betty Smith
😊 07 Leigh James 😊 11 Teddy Warburton 😊 14 Richard Watson
😊 24 Jilly Warburton 😊 24 Barney Bowen 😊 24 Janika Vethaak
😊 25 Barbara Van Arden
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Regular Activities

► Visitors entering the Community Lodge are required to sign in under our health and safety policy.

- ❖ **Thames BLIND & LOW VISION Support Group: Thursday 13th February at 10:00am.** Every FIRST THURSDAY of the month. This group is open to the public and is for anyone affected by low vision, including support people, e.g. partners and friends. Extend an invite to anyone you may know who can benefit.
► Any queries, contact **Michelle Mackie**, Community & Volunteer Coordinator at Blind Low Vision NZ. **Ph: 022-010-3254** or email: mmackie@blindlowvision.org.nz
- ❖ **Friday Forum: Friday 21st February, 10:00am.** Come along for a cuppa at 10am, Amy and Stephanie will join you at 10:30am, to discuss current happenings in the village and provide you with the opportunity to raise questions or offer feedback. Brief
- ❖ **Rates Rebate 2024/2025: Applications forms 2024/2025 are available at reception,** if you couldn't meet with them in August 2024, you can still complete a form and take into the council yourself to get it signed-off by a Council representative in your presence. If you need some help with completing the form please let us know.
- ❖ **TAI CHI – Fridays at 10:30am** – try out the relaxing and uplifting benefits of Tai Chi. Organised by Graham Woodward and done via You Tube on our **new projector screen** along with a lovely sound track. Come and try it out - a wonderful way to enhance your day! Tai Chi **will continue** through December & January – come and give it a go!
- ❖ **BOLIVIA – Every Wednesday at 12:45pm.** Do you enjoy playing cards? If interested in learning and playing Bolivia, come along and try it out. Played in groups of four, with partners. *Pauline Loader 027-4944-637 or Bronwyn Williamson 021-413-392.*

- ❖ **INDOOR BOWLS- Every Wednesday at 10:00am** in the Main Hall, Community Lodge
- ❖ **CHESS CLUB – Are you interested in playing Chess?** Please contact Dennis Matthews on 027 292 1376. Held on Level 2 in the small lounge (“Tea Room”) of the apartment block on Tuesdays at 10.00am, beginners are welcome.
- ❖ **CHOIR: 2.00pm Every Tuesday in the Community Lodge Main Hall.**
▶ Starting back up THIS TUESDAY, 4TH February.
- ❖ **Beginners Line Dancing:** With Judy every Tuesday at 9.45am
- ❖ **Exercises with Judy:** classes are held at the Community Lodge, Main Hall 10-11am Mondays.
- ❖ **Exercise Class with Jenny Brett: 11:00 am Mondays – exercise for strength and balance, can be done sitting or standing.** Come along and give it a go, or come and get back in to it (as the saying goes: use it, don’t lose it!) – *a very beneficial class for maintaining strength and balance.* Small charge of \$3 per class paid to Jenny, class is open to the public.
▶ Starting back up: Monday 3rd February 2025



▶ **Nymbal Website:**

Has anyone tried out this website that Jenny recommended to use over the holiday break? It is a FREE website that can be used anytime you feel like it. **It is an interesting concept that has a range of simple body exercises and can be done in combination with fun brain games like trivia! Fitness for both body and mind.**

If you want to try it out, you will need to download the App to a device (phone, laptop, TV) and then you can play it whenever you want.

▶ **Type in to your search bar: fallsfree.co.nz** which will take you to the website where you will be able to download the App from. _____

- ❖ **500 Card Group:** Mondays at 1:30pm: All welcome to join, we are happy to teach new players.
- ❖ **Line Dancing:** Tuesdays from 9.45am: Community Lodge, main lounge
- ❖ **Rummikub – Learn To Play:** Tuesdays, Wednesday & Thursdays, Learn to play every Wednesday at 2.00pm.
- ❖ **Mahjong – 1pm Tuesdays – New people welcome!**
- ❖ **Scrabble: Wednesday at 1.30pm,** anyone interested in playing scrabble or giving it a go please come along, currently a small group - *more players very welcome*

- ❖ **Needlework Craft Mornings 10.00am:** The Wednesday morning needle craft group is meeting in the Apartment Block ground floor lounge at 10:00am. *All welcome to come along.*
- ❖ **Crafts: Thursday's 10.00am** held in the Community Lodge craft room.
▶ [Officially back-up & running again 13th February 2025.](#)
- ❖ **Pool - every Tuesday & Friday 1.30pm** – **More players wanted** - come and join the Pool session!! This is a call-out for more people to come along and try it out – whether a beginner, a shark, a woman, a man - *all are welcome to join this fun activity!*

- ❖ **Movie Afternoon: Saturday 22nd February 2025, at 1.30pm:**
"Made In Italy" 2020 Comedy/Drama.

Starring: Liam Neeson and Micheal Richardson.

A Bohemian artist (Liam Neeson) travels from London to Italy with his estranged son (Liam's **real-life** son, Micheal Richardson), to sell the house they inherited from their late wife/Mother. They try to mend their relationship as they work together to repair a dilapidated house in Italy.



(Let us know suggestions for movies you would like to watch and we can try to source them for you).

- ❖ **Mix and Mingle Evening: Every Friday 4.30pm,**
at the Community Lodge.
- ❖ **Housie: every Sunday at 2pm, with Afternoon Tea at 3pm.**
- ❖ **Shopping Main Street: Every Thursday** – *Depart using the **Thames Connector at 09.47am** (from community lodge foyer) and the **Village Van will pick you up at 11.00am** outside the Civic Centre. **NOTE: NO** shopping trip on Waitangi Day (Thurs. 6th Feb.).*
- ❖ **Shopping Pak n Save: Every Friday** – **9.30am** *The Village Van will drop you off at Pak n Save and pick you up at 10.30am.*
- ❖ **Pre-Loved Clothes Rack** – for all newcomers who may not know – there is a very popular clothes rack in the craft room for anyone who has a garment (in good condition) that they no longer want. You can leave the garment on the rack for others in the village (free of charge). You can also help yourself to anything on there that you may fancy. The rack is emptied-out every couple of weeks, with anything left on it taken to a second-hand shop in town.

Hairdresser Appointments: **With Carina, Tuesdays & Fridays.** Appointments can be made via Reception.

❖ **VILLAGE PHYSIOTHERAPIST: Wednesday's 1.30am to 4.30pm, at the Community Lodge.** Half hour appointments.

Phone/txt **Julie: 027 281 4980** to book your appointment.



A reminder to please refrain from feeding birds in the village.

Wild birds don't need extra food from us, especially at this time of year....and it is healthier for them to eat naturally foraged food, rather than our scraps. Uneaten scraps can encourage rodents and the like, and clean washing on

the line can be spoiled! We also do not want to encourage Pigeons in to the village, which generally stick to the wharf area at present.

Reminder: GREENWASTE pick-ups every Monday and Friday mornings – except Public Holidays.

Please put your greenwaste out regularly to avoid a rotting pile and to keep the load light, for Linda to lift on to the truck.

Also, please leave it out the night before pick-up, or by 7:45am on Monday/Friday. Thanks.

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Book Review: "MOONLIGHT AND THE PEARLER'S DAUGHTER"

Author: Lizzie POOK

Banin Bay Western Australia 1896, where pearl diving is making rich men richer at the expense of other men's lives.

Eliza has sailed from England to Australia with her family where her father hopes to make their fortune on a pearling lugger. But pearling is a nasty business teeming with corruption, prejudice and blackmail. When one evening the lugger White Starling returns to the Bay after nine weeks away it is soon discovered that Eliza's father has gone missing at sea.

From that day on, Eliza begins to seek out the truth and to discover what really happened to her father.



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General:

Reminder: Village Master Key / AFTERHOURS contacts: Gary Pye holds a Master Key to ALL villas and knows how to access the Apartment master tags also. You can contact Gary outside office hours if you need to access your villa or apartment. Of course, Gary may not always be onsite, but there is a good chance that he is, and if not try Christine Rogers in Apartment 84 as a back-up.

► If for some reason the OFFICE phone is not connecting through, you can contact Amy or Stephanie on their cell phones - this is preferable to leaving a voicemail.

Amy: 021-150-0697 or Stephanie: 027-355-5068.

SPEEDING: Please make sure that your visitors are aware of the speed limit, **15km**, as it is predominantly visitors, service people, caregivers, who seem to forget, or who have not seen the signage.

Getting Around...

TOTAL MOBILITY SCHEME - Discounted Taxi Fares **50% off taxi fares!** To be eligible for the discounted fare you must apply for this through **Age Concern**. set-up charge is \$25 or you can JOIN Age Concern Hauraki-Coromandel for \$15 and get free set-up (saving \$10), as of 1st November 2024.

It is funded in partnership by central government and The Mobility Scheme, for people who are unable to drive due to a disability (for e.g. vision impairment). **To apply for a card,** phone **Age Concern: 07-868-9790** or email: info@achc.org.nz This is a simple and friendly process and worth doing for those times outside of Connector Van hours (9-3pm), or on weekends and public holidays, or any other time.

What are the benefits of joining Age Concern Hauraki-Coromandel?

- Free Total Mobility Card for any age if you fit the criteria. (As of 1st Nov 2024)
- Receiving the quarterly newsletter via email, or you can choose to have this posted.
- Receiving email updates and information on local events or news that may be of interest
- As a financial member, your voice can be heard at our Volunteer Board Meetings. You can meet with one or all of our Board members and/or present your case at a full Board meeting.
- You will be invited to our AGM and have voting and nomination rights.

What does Age Concern do? Age Concern Hauraki-Coromandel provides valuable services such as; their Volunteer Visiting Service, Chinwag Café, Steady As You Go, Driver Refresher courses, quarterly newsletters and the Total Mobility service. They are the 'go-to' for information.

St John Health Shuttle: Please allow **at least 24 hours** prior to your appointment booking. Call them between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday on **0800 934 287**. The shuttle will transport to Doctors/Hospital appointments in the Waikato district. A donation towards the cost of the journey is appreciated.

Thames Connector: Thames Connector, Monday – Friday, 9 – 3pm.

Free for Gold Card holders. Time tables available at Reception, and on TCDC website.

Thames Taxis: (07) 868 3100

