

Residents' News

MARCH 2025



Hello everyone,

March is here already, Autumn has arrived, along with some refreshingly crispy mornings. The days are still nice and warm and ideal for getting out and about.

We hear the Valentines night went off well, and the upcoming dinner on **St Patrick's Day** will no doubt be a fun event also. The list for attendance is up on the noticeboard, as of 1st March.

Thank you to all who were able to come to the Friday Forum in February. Our guests from the Seagull Centre gave a very interesting presentation and it is great to know that progress is being made with innovative ideas to help the Land fill problem we have in our small country. The ideas take time to put in to practice and the Black Soldier Fly trial is a start for our region, (and the country), being able to address the commercial sectors which are currently not a part of Council's house-hold pick-ups. We have the list on the reception desk for those of you who want to take part in the trial, to add your name to. Some logistics around pick-up days etc. will be forthcoming and you will be notified as we approach the start date, around the middle of this month. For any further information, come and see us, or give us a call. The Seagull Centre has a website that you can also browse for information on projects/workshops (including the Black Soldier Fly Trial) they have running: just type in **Seagull Centre** and it will come up.

It is that time of year again for our Facility Fee meeting, to be held **Thursday 6th March** at **10:30am**, which you all will have received notification of in your letterbox, along with explanatory notes.

Later in the month, 24th & 25th March, Russell will be back to clean blinds, for anyone who wants this done. We are taking names at Reception.

We wish you all a lovely Autumn, with comfortable heat and lots of beautiful sunny days!

Have a great month everyone!



From Stephanie, Amy and all staff at Richmond Villas 😊

Message from the Committee:



St Patrick's Day: Monday March 17th at 4:30pm. Dinner \$15.

Come along and enjoy a fun night with prizes, jokes, music etc. Try a special wine. If you enjoyed Valentines Night then you will enjoy this one.

Flyer to come out with more details, but names can go on the noticeboard from **1st March 2025** – names must be on the board by **Friday 14th March**.

April 3rd will be a very interesting visit to the **Ngahutoitoi Marae** followed by lunch in Paeroa. Details to come.

Other things on the drawing board...

- [Men's Night](#) – in April
- [Art & Craft Show](#) with wine and cheese – in May
- [Mid-Year Christmas Lunch](#) – Saturday 21st June

▶ **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:***

❖ **Special Meeting to discuss Facility Fee: Thursday 6th March 10:30am.**
Will be held in the Community Lodge Dining Room.

❖ **St. Patrick's Day: Monday 17th March 4:30pm**
\$15 pp. Add your name to the list on the noticeboard by Friday 14th March. List on board from 1st March.
Pay at the door.



▶ ***Coming Up, April:***

- ❖ **Ngahutoitoi Marae visit – Thursday 3rd April** – more details to come..
- ❖ **Men's Night – Date TBC**

Happy Birthday to those born in March!

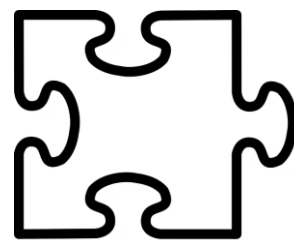


- 😊 08 Diane Williams 😊 08 Pauline Jenkison 😊 12 Stella Dixon
😊 15 Val Saunders 😊 18 Lynn Davey 😊 22 Elizabeth Hill
😊 24 Graeme Woodward 😊 24 May Hall 😊 25 Mary Pryor
😊 31 Glenis Hull
-

Regular Activities

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

- ❖ **BLIND CLEANING: 24TH & 25TH MARCH (Monday & Tuesday):** Russell will be coming back to the village to carry out venetian blind cleaning, \$28/blind, payable direct to Russell. Anyone who would like to have their blinds cleaned, let us know at the office, and we will add you to the list.
- ❖ **Spec Savers: Tuesday 4th March 9:45am.** FREE clean of glasses and minor repair, held in the small lounge off the foyer in the Community Lodge.
- ❖ **Thames BLIND & LOW VISION Support Group: Thursday 13th March 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**
- ❖ **Special Meeting: Thursday 6th March 10:30am.** Meeting to discuss the proposed Weekly Fee adjustment
- ❖ **JIG SAW:** most of the jigsaw puzzles have now been done!! Participants are running low on choice! – **any donations or swapping would be greatly appreciated...**
- ❖ **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!



- ❖ **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. *Contact Jilly Warburton 027 314 2582.*
- ❖ **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.**
NOTE: Session on Tuesday 18th will be held on Wednesday 19th instead.
- ❖ **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.



▶ **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.
 - ❖ **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 March 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.
NOTE: this is the same movie that was in the Feb. newsletter which wasn't able to be played last month (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.*
 - ❖ **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, but have also been seen lately in our construction area!

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.

.....

Book Review: "THE DIAMOND HUNTER"

Author: *Fiona Mc INTOSH*

When 6-year-old Clementine loses her mother to Malaria during the 1870's diamond rush in Southern Africa, she is left to be raised by her destitute, alcoholic father, James.

Much of Clementine's care falls to their trusty companion, Joseph One-Shoe and the unlikely pair forms an unbreakable bond.

This story is told over a period of 24 years. A breathtaking adventure story with twists and turns. A story about trust and betrayal, an ultimate quest for truth and a love that is truly priceless.



.....

General:

Reminder: Village Master Key / AFTERTHOURS 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.

PHONE: 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 forget, or who don't see the signage.



Grandma Mottle's Blarney Stones

Pound cake cubes dipped in frosting and rolled in dry roasted peanuts.

Prep Time: 15 mins Total Time: 15 mins Servings: 36

Ingredients

- 2 cups confectioners' sugar
- ½ cup milk, or as needed
- 1 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups dry roasted salted peanuts, finely chopped
- 1 pound cake, cut into bite-size cubes



Directions

1. Pour confectioners' sugar in a bowl. Gradually add milk, whisking constantly, until mixture has a thin frosting consistency; whisk in vanilla extract.
2. Place chopped peanuts in a bowl. Line a flat surface or a plate with waxed paper.
3. Dip 1 pound cake cube in frosting and roll cube in peanuts; place on wax paper to dry. Repeat with remaining pound cake pieces.

Dry roasted peanuts give a salty-sweet mix, a cake with a touch of lemon is apparently good too!



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

