

## Welcoming in the New Year

Here in Pauanui and Tairua we welcome the New Year in with a spectacular fireworks display. Provided by Tairua Pauanui Promotions, it has become a look-forward-to event. Many of us remember with disappointment the year it was too stormy to go ahead!

For new folk to town, new residents or visitors, be assured that it's a sight not to be missed! Just before the stroke of midnight, you'll see crowds of people wandering through the walkways towards the estuary to view the lights exploding out of the purposebuilt barge in the harbour. Being so close to the fiery action seems to make the New Year's arrival even more special.

This local tradition is certainly not unique, although being set at the coast gives it an original flavour. New Year pyrotechnics are a widelyused way of welcoming in January 1st. But what about other traditions associated with New Year?

Jack Dykes, a Scot (via Australia) and new resident in Tairua, explained that in Scotland, Hogmanay is the celebration of the old year and the welcoming of the new. On New Year's Eve, Hogmanay parties are held. At this Hogmanay

celebration, on the stroke of midnight, the "lads and lassies" kiss, and the party concludes with the joining of hands and singing "Auld Lang Syne". To many of us, the lyrics are a little obscure but Jack said "Auld Lang Syne" is about remembering friends, family and times gone by.

Hot on the heels of Hogmanay, the tradition of First Footing is a very important one. A "first footer" was traditionally a tall, dark and handsome person who would be the "first foot" over the household doorstep after midnight bringing a gift for good luck, traditionally a piece of coal, and announcing "Lang may your lum reek", which translates to "Long

may your chimney smoke", to wish the household health, happiness and prosperity.

I was so grateful for Jack's explanations of these New Year celebrations as they are not unlike that which we experienced growing up as children of Geordie parents! Being nothing like tall, dark and handsome, I now understand why I was never asked to go outside and reenter the house with a piece of coal on New Year's Day!

As we all follow our own traditions of welcoming in the New Year, may our reflections of what has been, and our hopes for what is to come, be purposeful and uplifting. And may we be richly blessed in 2025.

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#### SHOWROOM OPEN SATURDAYS

# Short & Sweet

he rained off "Santa's Picnic on the Pepe" is now on this Sunday 5 January. Of course Santa has returned to the North Pole, but bring your picnic or BBQ anyway, and enjoy a relaxed afternoon of musical entertainment with Crowded Trousers, Adelle Eddy and Jono Peet! 1pm start, Pepe Reserve.

airua St John's summer raffle has five maior prizes that reflect the theme of "loyally local" in the form of vouchers from various businesses. Look out for the St John volunteers who will be selling the tickets at \$5 each, or 3 for \$10. Tickets are also in various stores around town. This year's proceeds will go towards the purchase of a CPR AED training manikin.

airua Fishing Club's annual "Coromandel Hobbies Kids Fishing Day on the Wharf" is this Saturday 4 January. Register at the Fishing Club from 8am, fishing starts at 9am. A \$2 entry fee includes a sausage from the sizzle and a drink. There are wonderful prizes, even one for the most interesting catch!

he first Tairua Craft Market of the year takes place this Saturday 4 January at Tairua Community Hall, starting at 9am. Get along to support local artisans, stock up on produce and preserves, enjoy a coffee and some tasty treats.

or what's happening this Summer, check out "Tairua - In the Mood for Summer, 2024-25" the local guide for events, eateries, and other businesses in town. Copies are available at Harcourts, The Old Mill Café, Surf and Sand Takeaways, Tairua Information Centre. Tati Frutti Food Truck, Tairua Lotto & Stationery, and Tairua Print.

### SERVICES



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## **PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### SEAGULL CENTRE'S SUMMER HOURS

#### Seagull Centre, Pauanui

NEW HOURS STARTING 12 December 2024 Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday 8.30am - 4pm

> Seagull Centre, Tairua Saturday and Sunday 8.30am - 4pm

Follow us on facebook Seagull Centre, Tairua/Pauanui

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# 'Ello, 'ello, 'ello A word from our local constabulary

Kia Ora Koutou and Happy New Year!

At the time of writing (23rd December) we're preparing for the influx of holiday makers. At the time of reading, I'm sure there will be plenty going on, hopefully more good and fun rather than mischief. We will report over New Year's events in our January issue.

On the 30th of November, a Burglar was caught in the act at a Paku address after the owner was able to provide real time information from Auckland while watching the offender on his CCTV camera. We arrived two minutes later and located the hooded bandit trying to make a get away out the rear ranch slider but was apprehended before he could open the door. It was also discovered that he had committed a drive off from Gull taking \$130 worth of Diesel. The 33-year-old from Hawke's Bay had a warrant for his arrest and was on other active charges for Burglary. He was subsequently charged with Burglary and Theft and remanded in custody.

On the 12th of December a van crashed into the back of a parked vehicle on Main Road, Tairua. The 41-year-old driver was found unresponsive. CPR was carried out however she was unable to be revived and sadly passed away. The Serious Crash unit attended and the death was referred to the Coroner. It was established that a medical event had contributed to the crash and subsequent passing. Our thoughts

## **PUBLIC NOTICES**

If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 021 425 408 are with family, friends and those who assisted at the scene of the crash.

The Tairua Burglar was back at it again on the 22nd December, this time entering a commercial premise on Main Road, Tairua just after 2am. A lock box containing cash and keys for the Gelato Caravan along with food and alcohol were targeted. Fortunately, a CCTV camera captured him up close giving Police a front row seat to his actions. Although he was wearing a full face covering, we were able to pick up on familiar mannerisms. The 37-year-old was also wanted for breaching bail. He was arrested later the same day in a Caravan where we located Drug paraphernalia, a broken lock box, cash, keys, alcohol, a full tub of Gelato and some Christmas Hams. His bail was opposed, and he was subsequently remanded in custody.

These two burglaries highlight the importance of CCTV for holding these offenders to account.

Acouple of reminders for summer: Please wear helmets on bikes, no passengers inside boats being towed, no occupants can sit in rear tray of Utes, don't let your children drive around in Golf Carts on the road or the footpath, be aware of the liquor ban which is being enforced with zero tolerance (S200 fine), remember to be water-wise whether boating or swimming, and abide by the complete fire ban.

We wish everyone a safe and happy New Year.

#### Nga mihi

Dylan & Tim, Tairua Police

### **PUBLIC NOTICES**



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## Harbour snags to avoid

It is the time of year when we experience an influx of visiting boaties to our area for the summer. The Tairua Harbour has several tricky aspects to it that everyone needs to know about.

One of those potential hazards is the underwater electricity cable that connects Tairua and Pauanui.

Powerco owns and maintains the local lines and cables that deliver power to us. Their underwater electricity cables play a vital role in keeping Pauanui and Whitianga powered. The Pauanui-Tairua cables rest on the seabed just north of Pauanui Waterways' entrance and between Pleasant Point and Tairua. If you are boating from Whitianga, the cable is located south of the marina entrance.

With the summer holidays in full swing, Powerco is

**PUBLIC NOTICES** 

reaching out to boaties to help keep everyone safe around these cables. Just like overhead power lines, marine cables can carry the risk of electric shock. It is recommended that you avoid anchoring near marine cables and that you steer well clear of the cable zones. Damaging these cables isn't just dangerous for you and your boat, it could disrupt power to Pauanui and Whitianga during the bustling summer season.

To make it easy, the cables are marked with warning signs onshore and buoys in the water. If you are local, advise our visitors what to look out for. If you are a visitor, check the warnings before you leave shore.

We hope everyone enjoys a safe summer on the water. If you would like more information, contact John Luke at Powerco on 021 963 812.

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Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel



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