

THIS WEEK
4 page issue!

Tairua Pauanui The Local Advertiser



WHAT'S YOUR SCORE?
Use the letters to make 4+ letter words

E	S	U
N	N	A
R	I	C

Beat Barry's 37.
Words must contain the middle letter. Plurals OK if 's' is in the grid.
Barry's answers online, under "issues".

Website: www.tairuaadvertiser.nz

17th June 2026

Phone: +64 7 864 8170 Email: tairua.advertiser@xtra.co.nz

Volume 26 Number 24

Step out with the Salty Steppers

As you may know, Salty Steppers is a relatively new club in town that is creating a bit of a buzz. The line dance club will be hosting its very first line dance social, Boots & Baubles, bringing together line dancers from across the Coromandel and beyond for an afternoon of fun, friendship, and plenty of dancing.

This will be the first event of its kind organised by the Salty Steppers and is sure to make an impact. It takes place on Sunday 21 June from 12.30pm until 5pm at Stonewood Farm, Hikuai. Entry is \$10.

The event will feature five hours of dancing, with

a playlist that will cater for a range of levels, from absolute beginners through to more experienced dancers. While everyone is welcome to attend, a line dance social is designed for people who have already attended some classes and have a basic understanding of line dancing. No dances will be taught on the day. Newer dancers and absolute beginners who have attended a few classes are encouraged to go along and experience the supportive and friendly atmosphere that line dancing is known for.

Organiser, Donna Brooke says the event is about much

more than just dancing. "One of the things we love about line dancing is the sense of community. As twee as it sounds, people arrive as strangers and leave as friends. Boots & Baubles is a chance to celebrate that community and give our dancers an opportunity to enjoy a real social dancing experience." With visitors expected from Coromandel Town to Thames, and beyond it will be a wonderful opportunity for local dancers to meet others who share the passion for line dancing.

Donna explained that strong interest has already been shown in the Salty Steppers social and they are looking forward to a fantastic



turnout. She said, "The event is being held at the beautiful Stonewood Farm Barn in Hikuai. So, it really will be something special."

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Short & Sweet

Roadworks will be affecting Sailors Grave Road this week. Sections of the damaged road will be under repair from Monday 15 June to Thursday 18 June, between 8am and 4pm (weather dependant). The road will be closed to traffic for 50 minutes each hour, then briefly reopened for 10 minutes to let vehicles through. Plan your travel accordingly.

When you shop at participating businesses in Tairua, over the next 11 weeks, you could go into a draw to win prizes of vouchers to 'spend' at locally. Tairua Business Association is running this promotion again this year, and entry is simple. Make a purchase over \$30 at a business displaying the competition signage, write your name and contact details on your till receipt and pop your entry into the box. There are fortnightly draws over the campaign period; the first draw is coming up on Monday 22 June. Support local business during this otherwise quiet winter period.

The Tairua River Trail organisers are now working towards the final design of the suspension bridge that will span the river. Last month the team released a concept image of what it could look like and Hikuai District Trust Chair, Derrick Adams said, "The concept sketch really got people excited. Now we're working with suspension bridge design specialists, Frame Group, to nail down the final design. This will be completed by October. Of the 156 planks "for sale" on the bridge, 40 have already gone. If you would like to show your support by "purchasing" a plank, visit: www.tairuarivertrail.org.nz then click the "Donate" tab.



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Major new investment welcomed

Recently, Coromandel MP Scott Simpson welcomed the announcement of major new investment in state highways across the Coromandel. Included in Budget 2026, the \$85 million funding allocation for the Coromandel will target strengthening roads and other critical infrastructure, improving the region's preparedness for future weather events. This will help us to be more resilient, reduce disruption, and help communities stay connected.

The Government has confirmed funding for resilience upgrades on State Highway 25 and the replacement of the Kirikiri Stream Bridge on State Highway 26 as part of its \$400 million package of state highway resilience projects announced in Budget 2026.


SH25, the main road

connecting communities around the Peninsula, is used by as many as 5,000 vehicles a day. The resilience programme for the highway has an estimated cost of around \$20 million and will target up to 11 high-risk locations which are vulnerable to slips, rockfalls and drainage issues.

The replacement of the Kirikiri Stream Bridge, on SH26 near Kōpū, will account for the remaining \$65 million allocated to the Coromandel.


Mr Simpson summed up saying, "We can't stop severe weather from happening, but we can be much better prepared for it. For the Coromandel, that means investing in the roads and bridges that keep communities connected, support local businesses, and underpin the region's tourism economy."

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Scott Simpson
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