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| Hi all,Happy New Year!  I hope you have all enjoyed some wonderful family and friends time but it’s back to work for most of us and we held the first meeting of the new year on Tuesday 28th January.Our meetings are always held on the last Tuesday of each month in the small meeting room at the Matakana Community Hall.  Everyone is welcome to attend.  We always issue reminders on our Facebook page but if you would prefer to receive an email reminder please reply to this newsletter with the heading – Opt in – Monthly Meeting reminders.We have a standard agenda every month where we get the following updates or discuss progress on the following: * Auckland Transport, Auckland Council and Local Board Updates
* Groups e.g. Community Garden, Wastebusters, Community Hall and any other groups represented at the meeting
* Projects i.e. anything the MCG is activity managing or involved in

Our next meeting is a Quarterly Meeting so you are welcome to join us from 7pm for drinks and nibbles (provided by generous local sponsors and the MCG) before the meeting proper starts at 7.30pm.  The topic for this meeting is Pest Control and we will have guest speakers talking on this subject and what we can all do in our own communities.

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| ****Updates****  ****Auckland Transport, Auckland Council and Local Board****We have raised a number of road safety concerns with Auckland Transport and we are hoping to have a face to face meeting with an AT Engineer to walk them through the issues. These include better markings for the bus stop where particularly on market days it can be difficult for the buses and passengers to park and board.As you will have seen from our Facebook page and details on our website, interim remediation work is planned for Hill Street Junction. ****Community Garden****A new watering system has been installed in the Community Garden.  Many thanks to Brian Malloy for his expertise and time in installing the system.We also extend our thanks to members of the Community Garden team, our friends at Tumblewood and other members of the community who have been watering the trees around the village.  This has been particularly important in this hot and dry weather.****Community Fund Raising****We continue to be hugely grateful to a number of sponsors for their generous donations.  This will help continue with the many projects the MCG manages including the beautification of the village landscape and the maintenance of the free car park.  Any further donations should be made directly into the MCG Bank AccountMatakana Community Group - 12 3095 0186234 00You can set up a regular monthly amount via your internet banking. You can also talk to your accountant about the benefits of giving to a charity as donations over $5.00 are tax deductible.Once you have decided to give a contribution could you please email out treasurer Fiona Strathern on fiona.pakiri@gmail.com to let her know or contact me, racheldemler@gmail.com if you would like to contribute by cash or cheque. ****Caring in the Community****We have plans to add a Community Directory to our website and this will include information on services available, emergency contact details and volunteering opportunities.  When I first moved into this area I found the file in the Warkworth library a huge help and source of information.  We plan to take this online as well as producing some flyers that we can put in places such as the Information Centre and give out at our Locals' Lunches.Homebuilders are one of the key support networks in the area and I've included details of two new courses that start this month.  See the end of this newsletter or click through to our [website](https://matakanacommunitygroup.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=eda9839458a6782ccc4f03b86&id=829e5a3727&e=aea95cadbc" \t "https://webmail.xtra.co.nz/appsuite/_blank) for more details. |

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| ****Dates for Your Diary**** ****Mid Winter Pot Luck Lunch****Last year we held the first of what we plan to be an annual event, the Community Pot Luck Lunch in the Matakana Community Hall.  We will be looking at dates for a Sunday in July.  This is a multi-gernerational family event and as well as the shared lunch there will be games and crafts for the children and young at heart! ****Local's Lunch****The next Local’s Lunch will be at The Farmer's Daughter (Omaha Causeway) at midday on Wednesday 12th February.  New comers to the community and anyone interested in meeting new people are very welcome.  This is not just for residents of Matakana but for anyone in the surrounding area. If you would like join us, please contact Janis to register your interest. janis@workplacewisdom.co.nz ****Mahurangi Wastebusters Public Meeting****This is a great opportunity to find out all about the operations at Lawrie Road and Rusty Brook (Wellsford) and the group's upcoming plans. It will be held in the upstairs room at the Town Hall on Wednesday 12th February at 7.30pm.Could be a busy day on 12th February if you come to both! |

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That's it for this month. Don't forget the Quarterly meeting will be on Tuesday 25th February 2020 in the small hall behind the Matakana Hall . Everyone is very welcome to join us from 7pm with the meeting proper to start at 7.30pm.  The theme for this meeting is Pest Control and we will have guests and speakers on this topic. Please stay in touch by checking in on the  [Facebook page](https://matakanacommunitygroup.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=eda9839458a6782ccc4f03b86&id=07143bf31c&e=aea95cadbc" \t "https://webmail.xtra.co.nz/appsuite/_blank) and the  [website](https://matakanacommunitygroup.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=eda9839458a6782ccc4f03b86&id=22677f0127&e=aea95cadbc" \t "https://webmail.xtra.co.nz/appsuite/_blank). One of the 'hot' topics on our Facebook page (pardon the pun) has been issues with water.  Those of us on tank water are either patiently waiting for a delivery or are operating water conservation.  We are giving regular updates on both our Facebook Pages and the Website of where you can get a top up and ideas on how to conserve what water you have. For previous newsletters check out  [past newsletters](https://matakanacommunitygroup.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=eda9839458a6782ccc4f03b86&id=81ea6f2f89&e=aea95cadbc" \t "https://webmail.xtra.co.nz/appsuite/_blank) Best wishes Rachel ****Homebuilders Courses Starting in February 2020**** ****Parenting course with Liz Cole in Warkworth**** Date: Wednesday the 19 th of February 2020 (Six weeks) Time: 9.30am – 11.30am Venue: Homebuilders Family Services, 5 Hexham Street, Warkworth Liz’s parenting course focuses on building positive relationships between children and parents/caregivers to facilitate wellbeing for all. It includes topics such as understanding how children’s emotions work, brain development, self care, setting limits and play. The course provides ways of being with children so that children’s minds are soothed and therefore ready for learning, co-operation and fun. The aim is sincere empathy and ‘the sky is blue’ boundaries. ****Mindfulness course in Warkworth**** Date: Friday the 14 th of February 2020 (Six weeks) Time: 9.30am – 11.45am Venue: Homebuilders Family Services, 5 Hexham Street, Warkworth This informal course is a great way for anybody wanting to improve how they feel and respond in their day to day lives. It also covers topics useful for managing depression and/or anxiety, including information on communication, mindfulness, emotional regulation and distress tolerance. You can register by calling the  ****Homebuilders office on 09 425 7048****. If you require free childminding please let us know when you register. ****ALL HOMEBUILDERS COURSES ARE FREE****    |

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