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Fish farm proposed

Environmental concerns have been raised about a proposed kingfish farm forecast to export \$110 million in product per year. ALICE PARMINTER reports



An invasive seaweed, lack of environmental mitigation planning and animal welfare issues were among the objections raised at a recent hearing for a proposed kingfish farm forecast to export \$110 million worth of product annually.

However, supporters of the application say the proposed fish farm will have significant economic and community benefits for the region, and could create

up to 350 jobs.

The hearing, held in Paeroa on April 17-21, involved a coastal permit application lodged with the Waikato Regional Council in 2020.

The application had been publicly notified, and a number of submissions both for and against were discussed at the hearing.

The applicant was Pare Hauraki Kaimoana, a company owned by the Hauraki Māori Trust

Board, which represents 12 iwi in the Hauraki region.

It proposed the development of a farm within the Coromandel Marine Farming Zone (CMFZ), a 300 hectare area located 13.5km offshore from Coromandel Town in the inner Hauraki Gulf.

Pare Hauraki Kaimoana already holds 240ha of space within the CMFZ, plus an additional 60ha of settlement space allocated under the Māori commercial

aquaculture claims settlement act 2004.

It sought consent to farm caged kingfish, along with mussels, sea cucumbers, sponges, kelp, algae and seaweeds.

"[It] will provide significant social, cultural and economic benefits to the iwi of Hauraki, as well as the Thames-Coromandel District and Waikato Region," the company's application said.

"Pare Hauraki Kaimoana pro-

vides well over \$1 million per annum in the form of grants for kaumatua, marae, education, arts and sports."

The company said its farming activities would promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources in the coastal environment, while also safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of the Hauraki Gulf.

"The proposal will contribute

CONTINUED ON P2

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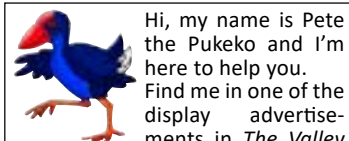
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Environmental concerns for fish farm

CONTINUED FROM P1

to the government's objective for aquaculture in the regions of New Zealand to become a \$3 billion industry by 2035," the application stated.

However, a submission from Forest and Bird asked that the application be denied outright on several grounds, including the possible impact on the environment, the likelihood of increased waste and nutrients being released into the Hauraki Gulf, and the potential for the spread of pests.

Protect Our Gulf, an advocacy group based on Waiheke Island, also strongly opposed the application, stating it "failed to meet the requirements of the resource management act".

The group drew parallels between this farm and salmon farms in the South Island, which have struggled with warming seas, animal welfare issues and mortality rates of "over 20 per cent per year".

Several other submissions supported the application in part, with many raising concerns about the lack of detail around managing potential adverse effects.

The Department of Conservation had issues with the potential effects on seabirds and other marine life.

It also was concerned about the farming of undaria, a highly invasive species of kelp it



Approximate location of the proposed farm near Coromandel Town.

labelled a "pest", known to out-compete native seaweeds.

However, Pare Hauraki Kaimoana's application noted the seaweed species had been established in the Waikato region since 2002.

The Ministry of Primary Industries stated the application was unclear on specific details, such as "potential changes in water quality, benthic [sea floor] impacts, indigenous biodiversity, biosecurity management, and proposed consent conditions to manage environmental effects, which require further development. Further, management plans for seabirds

or marine mammals have not been provided".

A submission from Thames Coromandel District Council supported Pare Hauraki Kaimoana's application, stating it would contribute positively to the Coromandel, Waikato and national aquaculture economy and to Māori economic wellbeing.

Hauraki District Council was also supportive, acknowledging the widespread benefits the farm could have for the community, including employment and support of local iwi.

Pare Hauraki Kaimoana's proposed farm would include

"[It] will provide significant social, cultural and economic benefits to the iwi of Hauraki, as well as the Thames-Coromandel District and Waikato Region."

- Pare Hauraki Kaimoana

five farming blocks.

Three of these would hold a total of 36 kingfish pens and the remaining two farming blocks would hold the other species.

At full development, the farm is forecast to produce approximately 8000 tonnes of kingfish (live weight) a year.

The application listed its potential export revenue at approximately \$110 million per annum, and said the farm had the potential to create more than 350 full-time roles, both directly and within related industries. A likely export market for kingfish would be Japan, the application stated, where it would be used for sashimi.

The company also lodged a request asking for a rule change to the Waikato Regional Coastal Plan, to allow it to place subsurface anchor lines and anchor structures outside the boundaries of the CMFZ.



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Thames Tides

Wed May 10	Thu May 11	Fri May 12	Sat May 13	Sun May 14	Mon May 15	Tue May 16
<p>4:14am 0.6 4:34pm 0.4 10:29am 3.3 10:59pm 3.4</p> <p>7:05am 5:24pm</p> <p>Best At 3:52am 4:23pm</p> <p>Set 11:45am Rise 9:06pm</p>	<p>5:07am 0.6 5:24pm 0.5 11:21am 3.3 11:54pm 3.4</p> <p>7:06am 5:23pm</p> <p>Best At 4:54am 5:25pm</p> <p>Set 12:37pm Rise 10:18pm</p>	<p>6:04am 0.7 12:15pm 3.2 6:20pm 0.6</p> <p>7:06am 5:22pm</p> <p>Best At 5:54am 6:22pm</p> <p>Set 1:20pm Rise 11:32pm</p>	<p>12:52am 3.3 1:12pm 3.2 7:03am 0.7 7:21pm 0.7</p> <p>7:07am 5:21pm</p> <p>Best At 6:49am 7:15pm</p> <p>Last Quarter Set 1:56pm</p>	<p>1:54am 3.3 2:13pm 3.1 8:05am 0.7 8:29pm 0.8</p> <p>7:08am 5:20pm</p> <p>Best At 7:41am 8:05pm</p> <p>Rise 12:44am Set 2:26pm</p>	<p>2:56am 3.3 3:19pm 3.1 9:06am 0.7 9:38pm 0.8</p> <p>7:09am 5:19pm</p> <p>Best At 8:29am 8:53pm</p> <p>Rise 1:55am Set 2:53pm</p>	<p>3:55am 3.3 4:25pm 3.2 10:06am 0.6 10:40pm 0.7</p> <p>7:10am 5:18pm</p> <p>Best At 9:16am 9:39pm</p> <p>Rise 3:03am Set 3:19pm</p>

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MOON AND FISH KEYS

New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter
Good Fishing	Fair Fishing	Not So Good	

TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES
To determine tide times at the following places, add (+) or subtract (-) the given time difference from the Thames times listed in the calendar.

PLACE	Hr	Mn	Hr	Mn
Coromandel	-0	05	-0	04
Whitianga	-0	01	-0	05
Tairua	+0	10	+0	21
Whangamata	-0	03	-0	05
Waihi Beach	-0	12	-0	12

Survey shows anxiety over road closure

By ALICE PARMINTER, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

Four-hour bus trips to school, failing businesses, and isolated family members are the new, inescapable reality for many Coromandel residents due to the Kōpū-Hikuai Rd closure, an online survey shows.

Minister of Transport Michael Wood will announce Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's rebuild plan for the road on May 9, after the main highway was closed earlier this year when cyclones caused a large slip to take out a 130m stretch of the road near the summit. Options include a bridge, bypass or retaining wall, and it's expected to take around a year to fix.

Meanwhile, the majority of 716 residents taking part in an informal survey about the road closure said the road closure was having an adverse effect on their lives.

Titled *Impact of SH25A & SH25 Road Closures*, the survey was conducted by the Pauanui Ratepayers and Residents Association. Initially aimed at Pauanui residents, it quickly attracted responses from across the east coast, Thames and as far afield as Auckland and Hamilton.

"The business we have slaved away at for the past 15 years will need to close down," one respondent said.

"We have put everything we have into building our successful tourism business. That could all be taken away from us if we don't have the funds to pay [bills]."

Another simply stated: "our



Residents are feeling the isolation, as SH25A remains closed.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

business is failing".

Several responses talked about losing workers or being forced to work fewer hours due to the longer commute times. Business owners also made comments about how quiet they had been.

"Business sales [are] down 30 per cent," one said.

"I have had to refund \$2000 worth of Airbnb bookings and cancellations and [have] no further business due to the road and cancellation of events," said another.

Extended travel times were also affecting schooling, and many families were becoming increas-

ingly isolated from family members on the other side of the slip.

"My kids now travel four hours a day to school on a bus, the bus now costs an extra \$100 per week. My fuel bill has nearly doubled," one respondent said.

Another said their parents, who are in their 70s and live in Pauanui, were feeling more vulnerable and isolated. "We miss being able to see them as much - [our] family is separated by the journey in an unexpected way."

Medical access was a major concern, with many wondering how they would get help in an emer-

gency.

"I'm unable to work from my work base in Thames Hospital as I work in the community and need to service the whole peninsula, which is not realistically possible with the extra distance [and] we have been unable to get to medical and dental appointments," one healthcare worker said.

"I care for my severely disabled partner who relies on an easy route to Thames hospital for treatments," another resident said.

Anna van Limpt, the association's administrator, said the words "stressed", "anxious", "iso-

lation" and "trapped" were recurring themes.

"It is about people's commute, being apart from family and friends, local businesses suffering, school kids with long commutes, extra time to get to healthcare, families being apart during the week, massive extra costs on fuel and accommodation," she said.

"And now the proposed average 11.4 per cent rates increase could just be the final straw for some, many."

Anna said the weekends in Pauanui were a lot quieter, with noticeably fewer people visiting. "The campground, motels and shops are suffering and need the weekends to get through winter. For many visitors, it takes a long weekend to make it worth coming over and allow for the extra travel time," she said.

"Unfortunately with a couple of long weekends ruined due to rain and cyclones, it only adds to the pain. We hope that the local Coromandel businesses will be able to survive, but many are struggling."

One business owner from the Pauanui Village Shopping Centre, who did not wish to be named, said their business was 30 per cent down over the past three months, and they knew of another business who was down by nearly 70 per cent.

The results of the survey were presented to both local and central governments.

Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency responded, saying although fixing the road was a priority, a temporary option was

CONTINUED ON P8

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Four Square Paeroa staff Matt Carter, left, Glenn Robinson, Tim Watts, and Hazel Bidois.

Photo: GORDON PREECE

Many offerings for the community

Paeroa's newest grocer has felt "a real sense of pride" to deliver fresh products to his community in the past six months.

Tim Watts has owned Four Square Paeroa alongside his wife Lauren since November last year after previous stints at Northland stores since 2020.

"I grew up on an orchard outside Cambridge and Lauren in a dairy in Renwick so the concept of serving the community is in our blood and the desire of getting into Four Square was something we had wanted to do for a number of years," he said.

"Being a locally owned and operated community store and serving the community is pretty special, and building the relationships with all the different customers we've got and meeting their families, there's nothing quite like it really."

Tim said his store on the main street,

which has 17 staff, offers fresh produce, meat, fish, bakery alongside supermarket staples and had recently introduced seafood and chicken and chips.

"Chicken and chips has been a game changer for us and is bringing so many new customers into the store," he said.

"We are constantly listening to what products our customers want to see in store and have ranged hundreds of new products delivering on the range and value that our loyal customers expect."

Tim is also a Positive Paeroa committee member and can be seen sponsoring sport and community projects. He plans to launch more community initiatives this year alongside other local businesses.

"We are fortunate to be able to serve. Thank you to every one of our customers, your support means so much to Lauren and I," he said.

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Further \$520k for rail trail rebuild

By KELLEY TANTAU, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

Hauraki district councillors may have been apprehensive to provide another half-a-million dollars to the Hauraki Rail Trail Trust, but in the end, all voted in support.

Now, because the funds were unbudgeted, ratepayers will be impacted.

At its April 26 meeting, Hauraki District Council unanimously voted to provide \$133,000 for the trust's Waitakaruru to Kōpū project, and a further \$387,000 for its Pūkoro to Kaiua project.

The \$520,000 spent will not impact rates for this financial year [2023/24] but could cost ratepayers an extra \$2.36 in 2024/25.

The Hauraki Rail Trail has sought funding from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment - which could reduce the rating impact - but that is yet to be confirmed.

Paeroa ward councillor Carole Daley measured funding the two sections of the trail against the impact on ratepayers.

"For us to approve an extra \$520,000 on one issue - and I'm not saying it's not worthwhile - but at the end of the day, we've either got leeway to spend \$520,000 unbudgeted on one thing at this stage or not. I know that we want to fix everything," she said, "but how come our council can be the backstop to spend this kind of

Hauraki District Council has voted to provide \$520,000 for Hauraki Rail Trail works, including \$133,000 for its Waitakaruru to Kōpū project.

File photo: SUPPLIED/CHRIS PARKER



money when you can't get information out of regional council?

"I know that it's a very worthwhile cause, but so is us trying to balance the books for our ratepayers."

While elected members recognised the importance and popularity of the trail, Waihi councillor Josh Martyn did feel the decision

was a "large, unbudgeted expense" that council should consider carefully, while Plains ward councillor Ray Broad suggested further information be brought to the table.

According to a report presented to elected members, the trail's section from Pūkoro to Kaiua needed completion to remedy storm damage and relocate Rays

Rest. The chenier shell along the waterfront gets "picked up and moved around" every storm event, it said, and the section had been rehabilitated three times - contributing to a budget overspend.

Meanwhile, the Waitakaruru to Kōpū section of the trail is currently closed as Waikato Regional Council undertakes work on its

flood protection scheme and stop-banks.

The long-term intention for the trust was to reinstate the trail on the stopbank, while the short-term focus was to build a goat's track, but the timing and feasibility remains unknown.



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Aerial dancer spins tales of the circus

By ALICE PARMINTER, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

Live music under the stars, a circus tent behind her and caravans all around - it's one of Tapu resident Pixi Robertson's earliest and strongest memories.

The petite 72-year old, who was born in Australia, spent most of her working life inside a circus tent.

Her eclectic career has come in handy, as she has spent her retirement writing books about the circus.

"I trained as a ballet dancer but didn't get very far on account of my height," she laughs.

"[But] this chap Alfie Warren advertised for a new partner and he wanted a girl who was under six stone. I was a girl and I was light, and I had dance background."

Pixi answered the ad, and thus began her career as an aerial dancer.

It turned out Alfie was a cousin of the Ashton family, the proprietors of the renowned Australian Ashton family circus established in 1850.

"He had an act called a Riesling act, where someone lays on their back and juggles props and people on their feet. So I got to be one of the props being juggled," she says.

Following her stint at Ashton's, Pixi travelled to Europe and found a job with a flying trapeze act in Germany.

"I was in my caravan putting my makeup on and the band warmed up," Pixi says.

"That memory from when I was four or something just came flooding back. I thought, 'bloody hell, here I am in Germany in a circus!'"

It wasn't all glitz and glamour in the big top, though.

"I started at the top really - the flying trapeze has always got a lot of cachet - but it's a lot of hard work, it's hard sweat learning it," she says.

"You've got to put the gear up and down, and do all that stuff."

Pixi travelled for years with various circus companies. Spending every waking hour with the same people, relationships were sure to blossom.

Back in Australia, a clown in the Circus Royale had caught her eye, and they were married in the tent. They had a son together; of course he was a

natural performer as well.

"My son and a couple other members of the family were trained to do the flying trapeze," Pixi says.

After she stopped performing, Pixi pursued a degree in fine arts.

She quickly transferred to the English department, and began writing about what she knew best: the circus.

There was little time for drafting stories though, as Pixi was still occupied with work - first as a teacher and director in a circus skills school; and finally as a personal assistant at Ashton's circus, back where it all began.

Three years on, Pixi moved to New Zealand, where her son was now performing.

Retirement finally gave her time for the stories in her head.

"Since I've been here, all I've done really is just write," she says.

"All these circus stories just keep coming up - I just thought of another one this morning!"

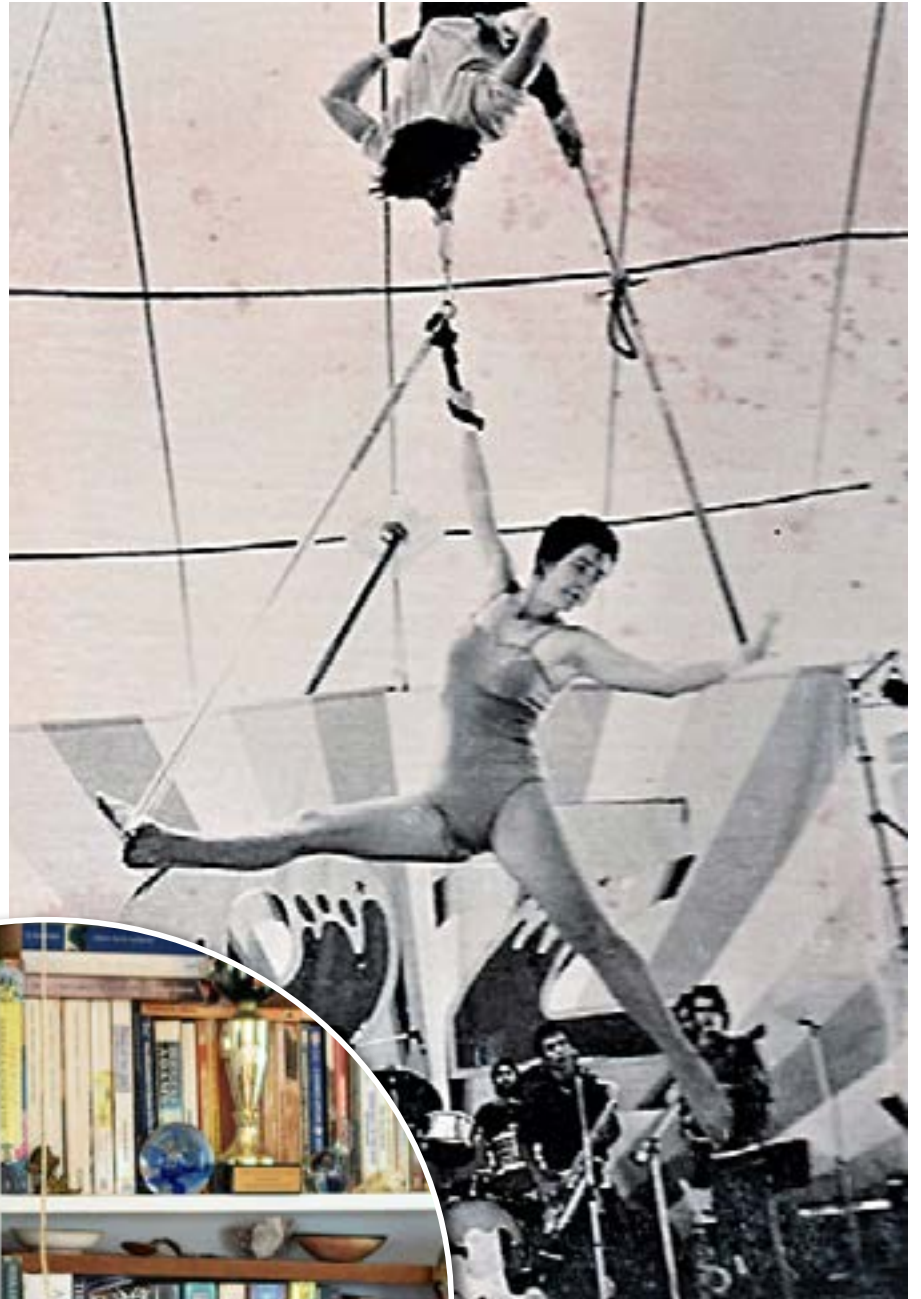
Pixi's works include picture books for children, romantic fiction, a yet-to-be completed detective series - all informed in some way by her life experiences.

Her current focus is a detailed non-fiction work chronicling the history of Ashton Circus. It's a huge project; she's looking forward to getting back to some fiction when the manuscript is complete.

But she's never too far from reality in her writing. "[My books] are so deeply embedded in the reality of the circus culture rather than the fantasy,"

"That memory from when I was four or something just came flooding back. I thought, 'bloody hell, here I am in Germany in a circus!'"

- Pixi Robertson



Above: Pixi Robertson and her husband Jim rehearse at Circus Oz in the late 1970s in Adelaide. Photo: SUPPLIED

Inset: These days, Pixi spends her time writing about circus life.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER



she

says.

And

she has

plenty of

memories to draw

from.

"[I remember] being in a tent when

there's tigers in the show," she says. "When the tigers run out and sit up on their pedestals you can see the people's faces just change because - you know how big a tiger is, well when it's maybe [from here to here] away from you, it's pretty impressive. "That's a really strong image for me."



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Car trial converts the 'EV-curious'

By KELLEY TANTAU, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

John Leenman and Kathryn Jury have heard the odd and the outrageous about owning an e-vehicle.

They've been told they won't be able to tow anything; they won't be able to charge the car in the rain; and they won't be able to drive through puddles.

But these misconceptions are being quashed as they inspire people to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by offering a trial of an electric vehicle [EV].

The Hauraki Resilient Communities Trust, of which Kathryn is the chair and John is a founding member, established the trial around seven months ago. Since then, 20 members have signed up for a test run, taking the car on daily excursions or weekend trips, with four of them going on to purchase their own EVs.

John and Kathryn are now encouraging more people to get involved with the scheme.

"A few years ago, very few people knew about EVs, so a situation like this provides an opportunity for people who are EV curious - who might have heard a bit of buzz about it - to have a play for a few days or take [the car] to get the groceries," Kathryn said. "To experience it for themselves in the real world."

The car, owned and operated by the trust, is a BYD Atto 3. It has a 60kWh battery, which



John Leenman and Kathryn Jury sit inside the BYD Atto 3, which is available for trial runs.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

has an expected range of 300-400 km depending upon driving style, weather, and road conditions.

Not only does it have "funky" door handles and voice activation, but John said the BYD battery was "probably one of the safest on the market".

"The batteries have a unique chemistry that allows them to be fully charged and be left fully charged for a couple of weeks, with no ill-effects on the battery," he said.

"That's a new thing. Also, the fire risk with the BYD is, I would say, non-ex-

istent, because it operates at a lower temperature and doesn't get as hot when it's charging or when it's in use."

John also explained that used batteries didn't end up in landfill because the materials they were made from were "too valuable".

"A situation like this provides an opportunity for people who are EV curious... to have a play for a few days."

- Kathryn Jury

"They'll be given a second life as storage for solar, and, when they are finished, they get recycled."

Both John and Kathryn have been driving EVs for around eight years. Every additional EV on the road meant one less petrol car was being used, therefore reducing emissions.

"It's very personal for me," Kathryn said. "We've all got to do everything we can right now."

"I've got five grandchildren," John added, "and they're not going to have the life we've had, the way things are heating up, so we just have to do what we can."

The Hauraki Resilient Communities Trust is awaiting charitable status and has other community resilience projects in the pipeline.

DETAILS: More info: contact John at john.leenman55@gmail.com or phone 021 301 318. People can also learn more by visiting: www.hrct.org.nz.



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‘It is isolating’, residents lament

CONTINUED FROM P3
not possible.

“Unfortunately, the steep topography at the SH25A Taparahi site doesn’t allow us to build a quick or temporary access for regular vehicles,” Waka Kotahi said.

“The access routes that have been formed for the drilling rigs have steep grades and are only viable for machinery with tracks.

“We cannot install temporary staging across the face of the slip, as this will be at risk should the face move further.”

The survey also drew responses from the offices of Prime Minister Chris Hipkins, Opposition Leader Christopher Luxon, local MP Scott Simpson and Thames Coromandel District Council chief executive Aileen Lawrie. All agreed that the road’s fix was a priority and acknowledged the distress and pressure local communities were under.

The association was still awaiting a reply from Thames-Coromandel Mayor Len Salt, Anna said. She noted members of the association were disappointed with his comments during a recent interview on Radio New Zealand to discuss the survey.

“He seems to downplay the issue and not acknowledge how bad people are actually affected and how much it impacts their lives.

“It is not about ‘enjoying the longer drive and stopping for a coffee’,” she said.

Mayor Salt said the council

had been bombarded with communications following the storm events in the summer, and wasn’t sure why their missive had been overlooked. He was, however, disappointed with the association’s criticisms.

“We’ve lobbied extremely hard with the government and with all of the agencies involved,” he said.

“There is a huge amount of work going into... ensuring that they understand the urgency and the priority of this, and our council has been working as hard as we possibly can to make sure that a solution is put in place as soon as possible.

“I’ve been really clear with people that we are not going to see SH25A completed by Christmas time unless we get lucky, but I want people to be realistic about the challenges ahead of us and I don’t want to give them false hope.”

The Mayor has scheduled a public meeting at Tairua Town Hall on May 12 at 1pm, to further address the concerns of Tairua and Pauanui residents.

“We are acutely aware of the impact that this has had on the people of Tairua and Pauanui in particular, because they are at the far end of the places that you need to try and reach, and that’s made it much more difficult with 25A being closed.”



The slip in Karangahake Gorge closed the road for several hours last week.

Photo: SHARON KATE MCHARDIE-ROYCROFT

Karangahake Gorge under stress

By ALICE PARMINTER, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

State Highway 2 through the Karangahake Gorge is under closer scrutiny from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, following a spate of major slips in the area.

The main highway, which traverses the length of the gorge, was closed earlier this year due to slips caused by Cyclone Gabrielle.

Another closure came last week when a section of dirt and vegetation plummeted down the hill and blocked both lanes near Crown Hill Rd. The highway remained closed into the night, forcing travellers to detour along SH25 through Thames, or south into the Bay of Plenty.

Waka Kotahi said the road through Karangahake Gorge was

a vulnerable section of highway, and would benefit from increased resilience works. The agency has increased patrols by its roading contractors, as well as stepping up monitoring by geotech engineers.

“Further stabilisation of the bank will be carried out this year on SH2 near Crown Hill Rd,” Waka Kotahi system manager Cara Lauder said.

“We have been assessing what can be done to improve drainage in the gorge in the immediate future, and have already completed all our usual maintenance works since the big storm. Larger improvement works are currently being scoped, for further resilience work.”

Ms Lauder said the increased

frequency and extreme nature of weather events across the country is putting pressure on Waka Kotahi’s capacity and funding.

“Climate change and its effects are impacting the condition of the roading network,” she said. “While the overall annual rainfall total has not increased by much, the intensity has, resulting in much higher numbers of intense rainfall events affecting both local roads and state highways.”

Waka Kotahi’s ongoing resilience programme aims to protect New Zealand’s roading network against the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels and severe weather.

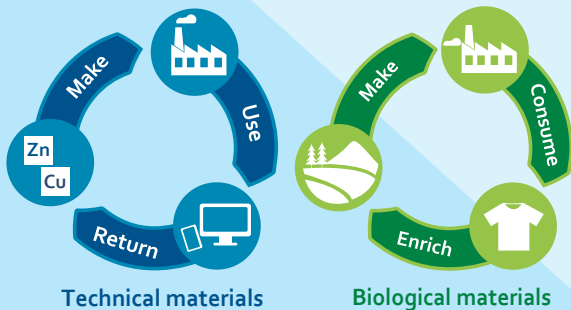


No time to waste

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Going round in circles

That’s the goal for a waste free society and our new kerbside collection service starting on 1 September 2023 is a big part of that goal! A circular waste economy means we keep resources in use for as long as possible. It’s a big shift away from the wasteful ‘take-make-dispose’ system.



Why the change?

We can all help to do more to reduce the environmental harm, greenhouse gas emissions and economic loss that our current waste system creates, so new legislation is on its way.

Consistency counts!

From February 2024, councils across the country will only accept the same materials in their household mixed recycling collections and the good news is, you’re already recycling the standardised items – paper, cardboard, plastics 1, 2 and 5, steel tins and aluminium cans and glass jars and bottles. Food scraps collections must be introduced nationally by 2030. We’re starting ours on 1 September 2023.

Can we do recycling even better?

Yes we can! We’ve introduced soft plastics and liquid paper board collection bins around the district as those items can’t go in your kerbside wheelie bin. You’ll be amazed how much those items add up in your rubbish bin, so sort them out before you throw them out.

What are soft plastics?

- Bread bags and soft produce bags
- Frozen food bags
- Bags and wrappers for toilet paper, cereals, snack foods, and dairy products
- Lightly foiled bags e.g. chip packets and confectionery
- Courier packs and bubble wrap
- Garden potting mix bags
- Dry pet food bags

Wash soft plastics while doing the dishes and hang them out to dry on the dish rack then pop them clean in the council collection bins! It’ll save you heaps in disposal costs at kerbside.



INTERESTING FACT

Plastic lids from milk bottles and fizzy drinks need to go in your landfill bin/bag.

Why? Although the lids are recyclable, loose lids can block the sorting equipment. Keeping the lids attached to the container doesn’t work either, as the lid is a different plastic number to the bottle, and would need to be sorted separately. Also, remember to always rinse out your milk containers – sour milk is smelly!

Drop off locations	Soft plastics	Liquid paperboard (TetraPak™)	E-Waste (*available in September)
Council service centres: Paeroa, Ngatea and Waihi	✓	✓	
Refuse Transfer Stations: Paeroa and Waihi	✓	✓	* ✓
The Hauraki Repair and Reuse Centre, Paeroa	✓	✓	✓
Four Square, Ngatea and Paeroa; New World, Waihi; and Countdown, Paeroa	✓		



Find out more about soft plastics, liquid paperboard cartons and E-Waste at <https://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/rubbish-recycling/recycling>

Counting down to 1 September 2023

This is the biggest change to our kerbside collection service in ten years, so we’ll be sure to cover every topic over the next four months. You’ll also receive a handy flipchart with your bin delivery in August detailing everything you need to know about the bins, when they go out and what can go in them.

Check our website and sign up to our **In the Loop** newsletter and follow us on Facebook for regular updates.

Thames firefighters swap study for stairs

By GORDON PREECE

Recognising the support given to blood cancer and leukaemia patients sparked Daniel Palmer's interest to scale a fundraising challenge for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand.

Daniel, along with his Thames High School mate Millar Morton and seven other Thames volunteer firefighters, will ascend 51 flights of stairs carrying 25kg of gear for the Firefighter Sky Tower Challenge on May 20.

Daniel, who has been a volunteer for more than a year, told The Profile he entered the challenge because he recognised the work the organisation does.

"I do know a few people who have been positively affected by the leukaemia and blood cancer organisation, and while they've been struggling with blood cancer they've helped out a lot with living costs, the treatment, and everything like that as well," he said.

"It's a good organisation to be fundraising for, so that was one of the reasons I wanted to do it and another reason was the challenge.

"There's quite a bit of competitive nature in there as well but it's mainly because I really believe in the organisation we're fundraising for, they do a really good thing and they help out the



Daniel Palmer, left, and Millar Morton will climb the Auckland Sky Tower for charity. Photo: SUPPLIED

people that they support."

Daniel, who joined the fire service to find a place in the community after he and his family moved to Thames from Fiji in 2021, said he and Millar had spent every weekday over the

past two months training for the challenge.

"We've been waking up at 4:30am every morning and we would go to the gym and we'll do a workout based on muscle building and whether that be for

our legs or our core, anything that's related to the Sky Tower," he said.

"Then from there we would go to Jacob's Ladder... we would run that with all of our firefighting equipment including

our [breathing apparatus], and masks on just as we would in the Sky Tower Challenge."

Millar, who has around eight months' experience as a volunteer firefighter and is also Thames High School head boy, said they had been "really stoked" with the community donations.

"I've been really stoked with how the local community has supported Daniel and I, everyone's been super kind, really willing to donate," he said.

"Daniel and I have put up posters around town so people have been donating to the QR Code and we also uploaded the poster to the Thames-Coromandel Grapevine [Facebook page] and we received lots of donations through that.

"A lot of family have also been stepping in."

Millar and Daniel have raised a combined total of nearly \$3500 for the charity, and donations will remain open a month after challenge day.

Millar said he and Daniel will be aiming to complete the challenge around the 15-minute mark.

"If I really push myself on the day I would be able to get somewhere between 13 and 16 minutes but 15 minutes is the goal," he said.

DETAILS: To donate, visit www.firefighterschallenge.org.nz/thamesfirebrigadeteam.

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Rural Life

Fed Farmers oppose increases to 'Ute Tax'

Federated Farmers are opposed to increases to the 'Ute Tax' announced this morning, says transport spokesperson Mark Hooper.

"This is just another cost on a productive sector already under huge pressure with rapidly increasing costs and slipping commodity prices.

"We've opposed the Ute Tax from day one because farmers don't have viable or reliable alternatives to get the job done on their farms - and now the government is increasing it," Hooper said.

"Farmers aren't driving utes as some sort of status symbol. We have a genuine need for reliable four-wheel drive vehicles to tow equipment and get around our farms safely."

The government will increase the maximum fee charged on the registration of a new ute to \$6900 (up from \$5175 previously), and the registration of a used ute to \$3450 (up from \$2875).

Rebates for zero emission vehicles will reduce from \$8625 to \$7015 for brand new models, and increase from \$3450 to \$3507 for used imports.

For vehicles that emit one to 100 grams, such as plug-in hybrids and smaller hybrids, the rebate will reduce by around \$1500 to \$1700 for new vehicles and by \$200 to \$500 for used vehicles.

"Farmers shouldn't be taxed on their work vehicles to subsidise wealthy Tesla owners in Remuera and Karori. That's just wrong.

"[This] announcement is a bitter pill to swallow for farmers who are already

being hammered with all sorts of cost increases," Hooper said.

"Instead of heaping new costs on to a productive sector, the government should be focusing on sorting out the state of our pothole-riddled rural roads.

"If they don't get on to that soon, we might need a ute to go anywhere."

Transport Minister Michael Wood said more than 100,000 rebates had been granted since the government's Clean Car Discount scheme came into effect in 2021.

"We currently have one of the fastest uptakes of EVs in the world," he said.

"The scheme is successfully exceeding industry and government projections, with 20 percent of all new passenger car sales being electric in 2022. A substantial increase from eight percent in 2021.

"The scheme is facilitating an increase in the number of EVs entering the fleet we did not expect until 2027. As planned we are further targeting the scheme to maintain its success, and ensure it will be self-funding until its next review."

The scheme was now forecast to reduce emissions by 3.4 million tonnes by 2035, he said.

"That's an additional 50 percent out to 2035 over and above what was forecast when it started. It will deliver twice the emissions reduction forecast between the start of the scheme and 2025.

"The [scheme] is doing what we set out to achieve, which is reduce transport emissions and provide transport options to New Zealanders that will lower household costs is the long term."



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Search for missing men after capsizes



As part of a Valley Profile series, **MEGHAN HAWKES** explores our local history by seeking out stories of life and death in the Thames Valley

On Saturday 24 June 1876, far out in the Waihōu channel, a boat was observed to capsize, galvanising Mr Murphy of Thames Customs into action.

He found a boat afloat at the end of Grahamstown wharf and with volunteers from the Thames Navals, immediately rowed out to help. The men succeeded in rescuing a party of exhausted Māori who were struggling to keep their footing on a bank.

They were brought near to Grahamstown wharf but the tide would not float the boat. Tom Simons waded through the mud with a dingy and pushed it to the boat. Another volunteer also waded through the mire with a bottle of brandy.

After the group was brought ashore, they were taken to the Tai-pari's house at Shortland. The boat had capsized after being caught in a squall, with pigs on board. The pigs rolled over, further upsetting the craft. The rescuers were praised for their gallant actions which prevented the party from drowning.

But somewhere out in the Waihōu, undetected, were Minnie and Plummer, two Hikutaia Māori. They had



Grahamstown wharves in the 1870s. left Hikutaia for Thames in Mr Kelly's yacht on Thursday loaded with gum but never reached their destination.

It was not until Monday, five days later, that the alarm was publically raised. Information began trickling in and a search started. Three people on a fishing smack saw a yacht coming out of the Waihōu River mouth at about 2.30pm on Thursday. It appeared she either got on the bank or came to an anchor. They saw two men on board tying up the jib. They watched for awhile but a heavy squall came on about 4pm and they turned their attention to their own safety.

When they looked again, they saw she had disappeared. They supposed she had changed her position so did not report the sighting.

Two men working at the Sundown claim about 3pm saw a yacht on the Thames bank. They watched her for about 20 minutes, and saw the sea breaking over her, but no people about. They thought that the crew had left her and gone ashore. The boat was again noticed on Saturday at the same time that the Volunteer crew was rescuing the party from the capsized boat. It was also passed by the Harbour Master when piloting

the *Minnehaha* down the channel.

Mr Kelly, owner of the missing boat, began searching on Wednesday and found it about two miles beyond Thames. She was swamped, and most of her cargo lost, besides a few bags of gum and a case of empty lemonade bottles. She had not been capsized, although her mast was gone and the anchor down. There was no trace of Minnie or Plummer.

In a distressed letter to the *Thames Advertiser* regarding "the melancholy catastrophe" which ended the lives of Minnie and Plummer – "two respectable and trustworthy" men – Mr Kelly lamented that the affair had become public talk long before he reached Thames overlaid from Hikutaia.

"Is it not astonishing that, with all appliances at hand, a small yacht should be left in such a perilous position within sight of Grahamstown, and not even a boat be launched by the harbourmaster to save her?"

It was evident that the vessel had been caught in a squall at near low water. Most likely Minnie and Plummer had been stuck on a bank, the sea breaking over them, and they had perished in a vain attempt to reach the shore and were taken out to sea.

Photo: SUPPLIED

Pōhutukawa marks coronation

By GORDON PREECE

A pōhutukawa tree plaque was unveiled on May 6 to mark the coronation of King Charles III at a park in Thames named after his great-great-great grandmother, Queen Victoria.

Attended by around 30 people, the event at Victoria Park was part of a \$1 million planting effort by Trees That Count in partnership with the Department of Conservation to mark the occasion across Aotearoa.

Thames-Coromandel Mayor Len Salt said the event was an opportunity for the community to celebrate a new chapter in the history of the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

"We need to acknowledge the

history that's gone before and the challenges of our own history, but at the same time we need to celebrate all the positive things and the strengths that we have as part of the commonwealth," he said.

Former district Mayor Sandra Goudie sent a letter to the monarch last year inviting him to visit Thames so he could honour Thames-born RAF officer Sir Keith Park. Mayor Salt said he supported the invitation and he would be writing to the sovereign again to let him know he was welcome to visit the district the next time he was in the country.

"The billy is on, the scones are in the oven and the marmalade sandwiches are on the way," he said.



Mayor Len Salt unveils the coronation plaque.

Photo: GORDON PREECE

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Education



Waihi College student leaders

Waihi College moved away from their traditional leadership roles at the start of 2022. Instead of a Head Boy and Head Girl with deputies, they decided to have several roles where the students could work together with equal leadership in a more collaborative way. Waihi College leaders for 2023 are: Leader of Learning Maya Dodd, left, Leader of Community Meg Thomas, Leader of Environment Meika Laman-Trip, Leader of Wellbeing Lucy Walton, Leader of Te Ao Maori Naelene Donaldson, Leader of Sport Joseph Frew, Leader of Arts and Culture Jack Dinnage, Board of Trustees student representative Farish O’Flaherty, Leader of Service Divyash Swamy.

Waihi skaters score silver

By GORDON PREECE

The Waihi Miners under ten years inline hockey team were “stoked as a team” to skate to a silver medal win at an invitational Auckland tournament in early April.

Co-coach Jason Walker told *The Profile* the team competed at the Mt Wellington Invitational Tournament held between April 7 and 10 in Panmure, and while they fell short in the final, their overall performance was “awesome”.

“They were awesome really, we just wanted them to go out there and have fun and hit some pucks around...we don’t aim for wins, we aim for smiles,” he said.

The team played against the Auckland Vipers in the final, and the score

ended up being 7-5 to the Vipers.

“They were a really strong team so they did very well against them.”

Jason said the tournament was also part of the club’s mission for more juniors to pick up a hockey stick.

“We’re keen to get [the current team] to play as much hockey as they can, because we’re sort of growing a bit as a club,” he said.

“We don’t have a heap of players so we do have to borrow a few players to get the kids that we have in the team playing.”

“If you ever want to give hockey a go, you’re more than welcome to come down and give it a try if you want.”

Training nights for the team are held on Tuesdays from 4:30pm at the Waihi Events Centre.



The Waihi Miners under 10 inline hockey team.

Photo: SUPPLIED



WAIHI COLLEGE

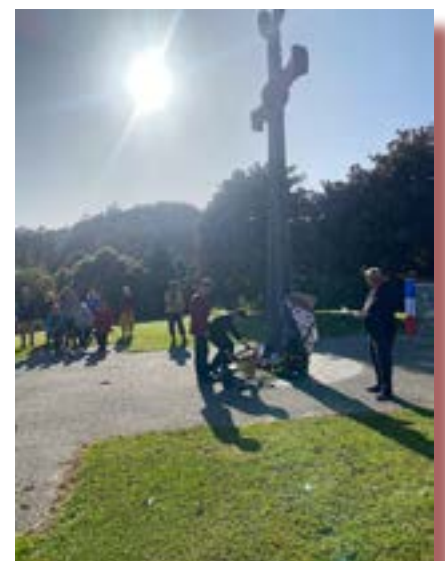
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Waihi College and ANZAC

Our Waihi College Student Leaders were honoured to be involved in the recent Tunnellers and ANZAC Day memorial ceremonies. Starting with the dawn services in Waihi and Waihi Beach, then continuing on to the Waihi Heritage

Vision and Tunnelling Company Descendants ceremony at the Tunnellers Memorial in Gilmour Park and finishing with the Waihi Civic ANZAC Day Service at the Memorial Hall. Meg Thomas and Joseph Frew

laid wreaths at the Waihi Beach dawn service, while Divyash Swamy and Maya Dodd laid wreaths at the Waihi Service. Naelene Frew and Jack Dinnage did a beautiful job of reading the ANZAC Odes in Te Reo and English and Farish O’Flaherty did an excellent formal speech. We are extremely proud of not only our head students who represented Waihi College with mana and grace, but to all the Waihi College students that showed up and paid respects to our ANZAC heroes. Thank you to all those involved, for including our students each year and making Waihi/Waihi Beach such a great community.



Check out the Keeping Informed section of the Waihi College website to stay informed with all things Waihi College www.waihicol.school.nz

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46 Arawa Street, Pipiroa **\$970,000**



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RN1481 🏠 4 🛏 2 🚗 4 🚲 2

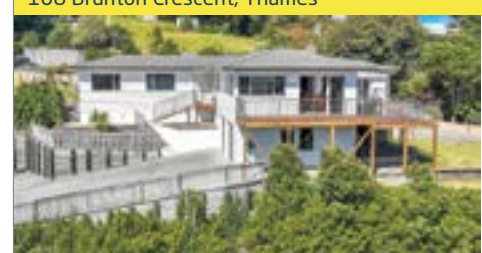

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RRP230 🏠 4 🛏 2 🚗 2 🚲 1

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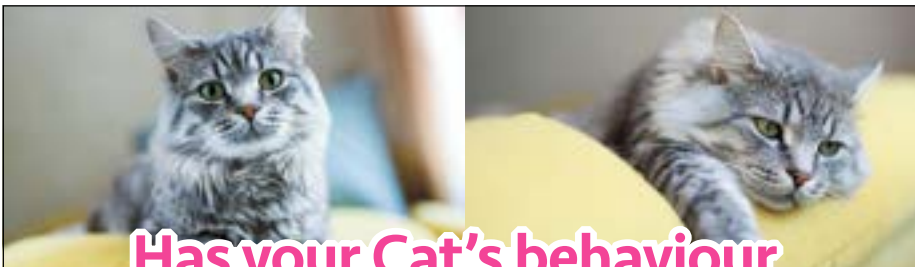
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Has your Cat's behaviour changed with the weather?

Think about your cat's activity & answer true or false...



Climbing up stairs

Uses 'bunny-hop', with both backlegs hopping at same time, and/or stops for a break.

TRUE FALSE



Climbing down stairs

Angles body to the side, descends one stair at a time, and/or stops for a break.

TRUE FALSE



Chasing moving objects

Slows down or takes breaks during play and/or may have thinner frame near the tail

TRUE FALSE



Jumping up

Hesitates before jumping up, doesn't clear jumps in one leap, and/or uses arms to pull the legs up.

TRUE FALSE



Jumping down

Hesitates jumping down, makes smaller jumps vs. one big one and/or reaches downwards the ground instead of leaping

TRUE FALSE



Running

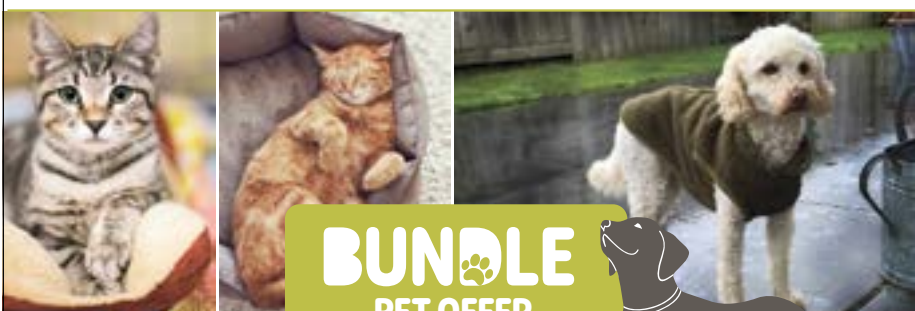
Moves at a slower speed and alternates between jogging & walking, and/or back feet angle together

TRUE FALSE

How many statements were true for your cat?

Your pet will do their best to hide their pain - it's survival instinct.

If you answered 'true' to the statements above, it could indicate that your cat is in pain. As our pet's caregiver, it is important we pay attention to these signs and manage our pets quality of life. If you have noticed a change in your cat's behaviour **book a pet health check, they will love you for it.**



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Health & Wellbeing

Capture the moment

OPINION



By MICHAEL WILKES

It is ironic that we never want to miss a moment and yet often end up missing the moments that truly matter.

I recall watching a video of my first

child riding down a hill towards me, a monumental moment that I wanted to capture.

Like many of us, I viewed the moment through the screen of my phone until he got the speed wobbles and crashed in front of me.

Had I been present in the moment, I would have caught him without a doubt.

Last Saturday, I walked through a café in central Auckland and noticed people more preoccupied with maintaining an image than living in the moment.

They snapped photos of their food and surroundings, seemingly forgetting to appreciate the present moment.

This constant need to capture every potentially cool moment for the 'gram' is unhealthy and leaves us with a shallow connection to those moments.

Recently, a friend shared with me about her wedding day and how she recollected some advice I gave her.

I told her to take the time to pause and appreciate the moments, take mental snapshots of the bits that really mattered for her.

She said that she still values that ad-



Don't miss the moments that truly matter.

File Photo: PIXABAY

vice and reflects back on those special moments.

In our work with students, we emphasize the importance of being a Noticer.

It is a skill many of us have lost as the years go by, as busyness takes over, and as kids come on the scene.

Being a Noticer means having the ability to pause, be still, and be present in the moment.

A simple act like taking an intentional breath, a conscious pause to appreciate the moment, or stilling one's busyness can do wonders for the soul.

So today, in your hectic busy life, take a moment to pause, breathe, and put your phone down to fully enjoy the moment before you.

Whether it's watching a sunset, hearing the giggle of your child, or reminding yourself of how much you love your significant other by watching and adoring them again like you may have in years gone by.

- Michael Wilkes is a Living Well Trust Youth Worker

Could your cat have arthritis?

Arthritis can affect cats at any age, but it usually occurs as they get older. Learn how to spot the signs and adapt your care.

Inside a cat's joints, the surface of the bone is usually covered with a thin layer of smooth cartilage and lubricated with a small amount of fluid, which allows the joint to move freely and without friction. Arthritis occurs when the joint is damaged or its naturally smooth surface changes, resulting in the rough bone rubbing together. Not only is this very painful for your cat, but it also further damages the cartilage and causes new bone to form around the joint, making it tiffer and limiting movement. This is called osteoarthritis, or degenerative joint disease.

More than 80 per cent of cats over the age of 10 suffer from osteoarthritis, but it often goes undiagnosed. This common problem refers to inflammation of joints, causing pain, discomfort, and stiffness. In cats it commonly occurs in stifles (knees), hips, elbows, the spine, and even feet.

Just like humans, cats generally develop arthritis as they get older due to general wear and tear on the joints. However, it can occur at an early age following an injury. Arthritis is often under-diagnosed in cats due to their innate ability to hide pain. Owners are also less likely to see any signs of joint stiffness.

Arthritis is a progressive disease and symptoms develop and worsen over time. However, cats are very good at hiding symptoms of pain so it can be difficult to identify. You may notice that your cat becomes reluctant to play or use stairs. They may avoid jumping up or down from high ledges that previously wouldn't pose a problem for them. It can often be an incidental finding when a cat is being x-rayed for another issue and can be surprisingly severe on x-ray yet not very ap-

parent on clinical examination.

The condition becomes worse in cold weather, so if they appear stiff or slow during the winter months, this could be a sign of arthritis. Other cat arthritis symptoms include: reduced movement; difficulty jumping up on beds or moving up and down stairs; reduced grooming with matting in hard-to-reach areas; irritability and a change in attitude; less activity (for example, bringing you fewer 'presents' indicates their inability to hunt).

If you think your cat may be showing signs of arthritis, speak to your vet for a complete health check and advice. They may recommend further x-rays or other scans to diagnose the condition.

There's no cure for arthritis however there are a number of ways to manage the pain.

Environmental treatments include: providing a balanced, high-quality diet and maintaining a healthy bodyweight; gentle exercise can reduce pressure on the joints and keep them moving; regular nail trimming; warm soft bedding; providing ramps for areas where they can't jump up to anymore; providing litter trays so they don't need to try and go outside; regular assistance with grooming if unable to groom itself properly any more.

There are a number of natural supplements available for cats, some of which have scientific data supporting their claims. Our staff can advise on those available. Specially formulated diets for arthritis are also available.

Medication includes: non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, pentosan injections and other pain killers.

If your cat is showing some of the signs of arthritis causing pain in your pet cat, please seek veterinary advice from our trained professional staff at Anexa.

- Supplied by Anexa Vets

SPORTS



Deane Young was at Netherton School to show off his skills in drifting and promote 'keeping it off the streets'. INSET: A student tries out the headgear. Photos: KELLEY TANTAU

Paeroa drifter makes his mark

By KELLEY TANTAU, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

A Paeroa man spreading the word about the high-intensity motorsport of drifting has been called a “role model for young boys” during his visit to a local school.

Deane Young was at Netherton School on the Hauraki Plains ahead of the fourth and final round of the D1NZ Pro-Sport Series, which will be held at Baypark Stadium in Tauranga this weekend.

It’s a competition for the young guns and the rising stars of drifting in Aotearoa New Zealand, and Deane is hoping for a capacity crowd.

“I’m super excited. It’s my first time driving the track and it’s inside the stadium, concrete walls everywhere, so it’s going to be crazy,” he said. “The car looks nice now, but we’ll see what it looks like afterwards.”

The car - a Nissan Silvia S13 - has been a labour of love for

Deane for the past five years.

It’s also been a costly one, with thousands of dollars being spent on developing the car as Deane’s skills in the sport have progressed.

“The car itself has changed so much over the years, and so has my driving,” he said.

“We’ve poured a fair bit of money into it to get it where it is at the moment, but to get into drifting, you don’t need to spend money.”

“I’m just one of those ones where nothing is ever good enough, so we’re always changing and wanting more power, and as my driving style gets better, we change the car to match it.”

Deane, 30, was a student at Pārāwai School in Thames before he moved to Tauranga. He now lives in Paeroa and was at Netherton School on April 28 to show off the sport of drifting and educate pupils about “keeping it off the streets”.

Principal Brook Hill said

Deane’s presence provided valuable insight for the students, who often see drifting on social media.

“He’s very humble with his achievements and he’s a really cool role model for our boys. What they’re exposed to on social media are a lot of games which can be influential.

“If they see that you can have hobbies like this, but you do it in a safe place and be encouraged, I think that is awesome.”

The students were able to sit in Deane’s drift car and ask questions before being treated to a live drifting demonstration.

Afterwards, the school erupted in applause.

“He’s one of Paeroa’s own,” Brook said, “and from the school’s perspective, we need to start tapping into the community and start getting any community members coming in and being present - particularly when they’re taking something like this, something they’re really passionate about, and doing something



Deane Young drives a a Nissan Silvia S13.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

with it.”

“Success comes in all different shapes and sizes,” she said.

“You can be an academic success, you can be a sporting success, but you can also take your passions and your hobbies and go with it and go far.”

Deane competed in two competition events in 2021 and 2022,

both years finishing in seventh place out of 25 drivers.

DETAILS: The Grand Final of the 2023 Valvoline D1NZ Championship will be held on Friday and Saturday this week. For info, visit: www.d1nz.com or www.youngdrift.co.nz.



Scott Simpson
MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime
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Nola Jackson outside her new Magic Scissors venue on Pollen St, Thames.

New salon for Magic Scissors

Magic Scissors on Pollen St offers "everything haircuts" for men, women and children without the need to lock in appointments.

Nola Jackson has owned the business for seven years and has operated from her new Pollen St venue for seven months after shifting from another Pollen St venue.

"I've got a following of regular customers from down the road, people just want to walk in and get their haircut without appointments," she said.

"Haircuts for men, women and children, pixie styles, short back and sides, layers,

long hair, short hair, trims and restyles, basically just everything haircuts.

"People either get their haircut as soon as they walk in or enjoy chatting with other customers while they wait."

Nola said it was also good to see tourists returning to the Coromandel Peninsula after Covid-19 and a wet summer.

"The Coromandel Peninsula still has a lot to offer over winter months too, like getting a haircut or enjoying a winter's walk on a quiet beach and relaxing with a hot chocolate at a local cafe," she said.

Magic Scissors' new address is 453 Pollen St, Thames (across from Mitre 10).

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Notice of AGM Saturday
27th May 2023 10:00am
AGENDA

- Apologies
- Minutes of previous AGM
- Matters Arising
- President's Report
- Manager's Report
- Presentation of Statement of Accounts
- Subscriptions
- Confirmation of Returning Officers
- Election of Board of Appeal
- Election of Auditor
- Election of Committee
- General Business

**President
J Gailbraith**
CARD CHECK AT DOOR

**Nga Motu Aroha Ahu
Whenua Trust
Annual General Meeting**
Venue: Paeroa Scout Hall
Address: Wood Street,
Paeroa.
Date: 27 May 2023
9am Owner Registration
10am: Meeting Begins
Agenda:
Reports, Financial,
Ratification Trust Deed,
Election New Trustees
Further information
on Nga Motu Aroha
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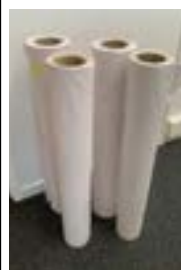
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Road, Ngatea and Rosemont Road, Waihi.

The Rating Information Database is also
available on Council's website
www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Ratepayers may object to information in
the Rating Information Database where
information is incorrect or has been omitted.

Objections must be in writing and posted to:

Rating Information Database
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PO Box 17
Paeroa 3640

Or emailed to info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz

LD Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council



Temporary Road Closure

Pursuant to the Section 11(e) of the Tenth
Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974,
notice is hereby given that for the purpose of a
Motorsport Rally Hillclimb event, the following
road will be closed to ordinary vehicular
traffic for the period indicated below. During
the period of closure provision will be made
for ordinary vehicular traffic, which would
otherwise use the road, to use alternative
routes.

Period of closure: Sunday 21 May 2023,
9.00am to 5.00pm.

Road to be closed: Pukewera Road, Waihi.

Alternative provision for ordinary vehicular
traffic will be made with signs, cones and
barriers to redirect traffic on detour.

It will be an offence under the above
regulations for any person otherwise than
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the road for ordinary vehicular traffic during
the proposed period of closure.

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What is self care? What do you do if someone you know isn't feeling good? Throughout this workshop we'll discuss some of these pressing questions. We'll learn about mental health terminology, Te Whare Tapa Wha - a Maori model of health & well-being and how to ask the right questions to someone who is fragile and what to do if you're concerned about someone's mental health.

Thanks to the support of RWNZ and Manatū Wāhine - Ministry for Women

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
FRIDAY MAY 19	10AM - 2:30PM	Whangamata Memorial Hall, 326 Port Road, Whangamata



Our presenter Maureen, is a registered nurse with a wide range of experience in nursing education, and practice. She has undertaken further study in education, research, leadership and managing risk. Maureen is passionate about facilitating learning and promoting health & well-being. She is currently working part-time as a registered nurse in aged residential care, undertaking contract work in nurse education, facilitating health & wellbeing workshops and studying part-time for a Doctor of Health Science.

Open to all genders and ages including RWNZ members and non members.
Gold coin donation with lunch provided.
Numbers limited so be in quick! Register by Friday 12th May 2023 to:
Mary McTavish jhmemcts@gmail.com



Sculptors, potters, painters and photographers from Paeroa, Thames, Coromandel and other Central North Island areas gathered at Mikkelsen Gallery for a meet and greet on April 19. Owner Wendy Mikkelsen said the event was targeted at the 20 to 25 artists who exhibit at her gallery on Paeroa's main street in hopes of making it a "creative hub". "It's about people finding new ways of doing things to sell their work but being part of the artists community," she said. "We've got some new artists coming on board so it's nice to introduce them to the gallery and I'm just wanting to create that creative hub here where people feel connected to each other as well and not isolated. The environment for art has changed... people are uncertain about their futures so I think that has an impact on art as it is not a necessity, it's a luxury but it doesn't stop people making art."

LETTERS

Send your letters to the editor: editor@valleyprofile.co.nz or 2 Queen St, Paeroa, 3600. Letters must include your full name and address, be 250 words or less and may be edited, abridged or rejected at the editor's discretion.

SISTER CITY

How disappointing to see Paeroa indulging in Sister City relationships again. (*Valley Profile*, April 5). Our current Mayor is indulging in a ratepayer-funded trip accompanying a previous HDC mayor to Beijing. I thought we had moved on after the last episode when HDC naively snuggled up to China in a sister city relationship while at the same time approving a mysterious Taiwanese academy being located at Golden Valley outside Waihi. Did no-one point out the diplomatic insanity of a small council

representing a mere 20,000 people trying to play with the big boys. This is an issue of national security and these decisions should be made at national level. If our elected councillors cannot see the clear conflict of interests in small councils making such decisions, it is obvious why we need a more centralised decision making process to protect Aotearoa/New Zealand's standing and reputation.

- Dawn Sinclair, Waihi

Hauraki District Council was given right of reply but declined to respond.

FAIRWAY TO USA AMBROSE GOLF TOURNAMENT

(a fundraising event to help local Paeroa Golfer Ryan Courtney get to University in the USA)

Sunday 28th May Paeroa Golf Course

Sponsored by Archgola Outdoor Shelters

Teams of 4

SHOTGUN START 10AM

\$35 Per Player - includes afternoon tea

(Non-golfers welcome) Handicap: Male 36 max

Ladies 54 max

Email: courtneys.christmastrees@xtra.co.nz for entry form

Contact Clark for more information: 0274589878

Auctions: - Amazing auctions will be available from 4.30pm

Prizes - include vouchers, golf accessories, clothing, and much more!

Raffles - Available

Hole 10 - Buy a tee shot!

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SUDOKU

Fill the grid so every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9

		1	2	3				
9	2	5		6				8
	7		5			9		
				7		2		5
	1	2				7	4	
4		7		2				
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			8		9	6		

EASY

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MEDIUM

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HARD

99

99

Puzzles © The Puzzle Company
www.thepuzzlecompany.co.nz

HARD

3	2	1	7	9	6	8	4	5
9	8	4	3	5	1	6	2	7
7	5	6	8	4	2	9	3	1
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8	1	9	6	7	4	2	5	3

MEDIUM

8	1	9	5	6	4	3	2	7
3	7	6	8	1	2	4	5	9
4	5	2	3	7	9	8	6	1
1	6	3	4	8	7	5	9	2
7	4	5	2	9	6	1	3	8
9	2	8	1	5	3	6	7	4
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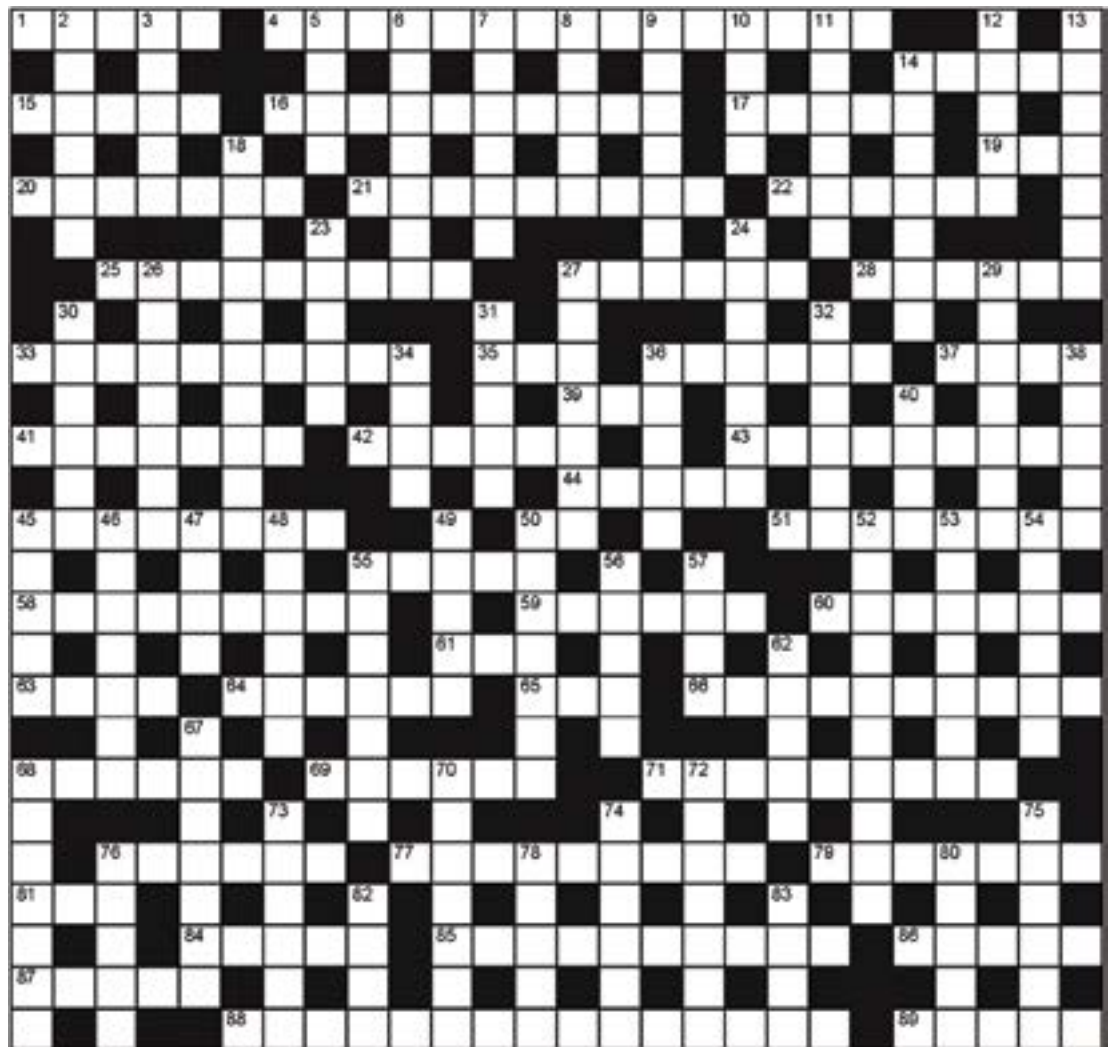
EASY

8	4	1	2	9	3	5	6	7
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6	3	9	4	7	1	2	8	5
5	1	2	9	3	8	7	4	6
4	8	7	6	2	5	1	9	3
7	9	4	3	5	6	8	1	2
1	6	8	7	4	2	3	5	9
2	5	3	8	1	9	6	7	4

JUMBO CROSSWORD

119

- ACROSS**
- 1 Group of eight (5)
 - 4 By small, scattered or sporadic amounts (2,5,3,5)
 - 14 Pale brownish yellow (5)
 - 15 Craze (5)
 - 16 Replicas (10)
 - 17 Burnt identifying mark (5)
 - 19 Be in debt (3)
 - 20 Hereditary (7)
 - 21 Wild animal collection (9)
 - 22 Feels (6)
 - 25 Interpret (9)
 - 27 Day nursery (6)
 - 28 Tyrant (6)
 - 33 Scientific study of projectiles (10)
 - 35 Unit of electrical resistance (3)
 - 36 Touched lips with (6)
 - 37 Thin metal sheet (4)
 - 39 Play on words (3)
 - 41 Cut short (7)
 - 42 Staple (anag)(6)
 - 43 Rebel (9)
 - 44 Roof overhang (5)
 - 45 Impasse (8)
 - 50 Yak (2)
 - 51 Gather together (8)
 - 55 Wall painting (5)
 - 58 Obsessive desire to burn things (9)
 - 59 Be indecisive (6)
 - 60 Place for washing and ironing (7)
 - 61 Liquid from infection (3)
 - 63 Office table (4)
 - 64 Bawdy (6)
 - 65 Appropriate (3)
 - 66 Stores (10)
 - 68 Seductiveness, appeal (6)
 - 69 Meal (6)
 - 71 Sulphur (9)
 - 76 Neckwear (6)
 - 77 Silent (9)
 - 79 Coal holder (7)
 - 81 Wholly (3)
 - 84 African scavenger (5)
 - 85 Debase by adding inferior material (10)
 - 86 Leftover sediment (5)
 - 87 Lifting device (5)
 - 88 Fast in understanding something (5,3,3,4)
 - 89 Adolescent (5)
 - DOWN**
 - 2 Mountain hut (6)
 - 3 Banished person (5)
 - 5 Without feeling (4)
 - 6 Military withdrawal (7)
 - 7 Be disloyal to (6)
 - 8 Venerate (5)
 - 9 Feel contempt for (7)
 - 10 Gown (4)
 - 11 Defeated (6)
 - 12 Bedlam (5)
 - 13 Sale document (7)
 - 14 Long adventurous journey (7)
 - 18 Performed very softly (mus)(10)
 - 23 Allegation (5)
 - 24 Vehicle's substructure (7)
 - 26 Akin (7)
 - 27 Intricate (7)
 - 29 Adage (7)
 - 30 Military greeting (6)
 - 31 Swag (5)
 - 32 Against (6)
 - 34 Graceful water bird (4)
 - 36 Rogue (5)
 - 38 Turning machine (5)
 - 40 Let go (4)
 - 45 Tricked (5)
 - 46 Spray can (7)
 - 47 Branch (4)
 - 48 Frank (6)
 - 49 Complaint (5)
 - 50 Experienced sailor (3,4)
 - 52 Facts and figures (10)
 - 53 Grand house (7)
 - 54 Voice box (6)
 - 55 Large tent (7)
 - 56 Condition (5)
 - 57 Vault (4)
 - 62 Spacious (5)
 - 67 Respire (7)
 - 68 Prepayment to author (7)
 - 70 Alligator pear (7)
 - 72 Conductor's platform (7)
 - 73 Elaborate rich cake (6)
 - 74 Brood of chickens (6)
 - 75 Predicament (6)
 - 76 See-through (5)
 - 78 Tobacco for sniffing (5)
 - 80 Trunk (5)
 - 82 Bathroom powder (4)
 - 83 Celebrity (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Sibling, 4 Busy as a bee, 9 Precise, 13 Airy, 14 Potato, 15 Strife, 16 Barrier, 18 Tie, 20 Propaganda, 21 Nickname, 22 Girth, 25 Sneaky, 26 Cajole, 28 Mint sauce, 33 Baritone, 34 Coasts, 35 Hatchet, 39 Fragment, 40 Recall, 41 Mead, 42 Moist, 43 Learn, 46 Put on a pedestal, 53 Crust, 56 Study, 57 Left, 58 Tavern, 59 Escapade, 62 Snooped, 63 Nicety, 64 Interval, 67 Restarted, 69 Design, 70 Stance, 74 Bandy, 75 Spyglass, 77 Fraternity, 81 Rim, 83 Interim, 84 Poncho, 85 Advent, 86 Sofa, 87 Crosier, 88 Settlement, 89 Highest.

DOWN: 1 Swamp, 2 Borrowed, 3 Global, 4 Bland, 5 Spot, 6 Absence, 7 Africa, 8 Elfin, 10 Roam, 11 Cardiac, 12 Sleuth, 17 Backgammon, 19 Empty, 23 Foreseen, 24 Radar, 25 Skilful, 27 Agog, 29 Isthmus, 30 Kidnap, 31 Ballad, 32 Census, 34 Cramp, 36 Choir, 37 Lava, 38 Gala, 44 Extend, 45 Radio, 47 Used, 48 Outline, 49 Anthem, 50 Envoy, 51 Earliest, 52 Lustre, 53 Characters, 54 Utah, 55 Treacle, 60 Petty, 61 Stag, 65 Crypt, 66 Antidote, 68 Endless, 69 Disrobe, 71 Banner, 72 Mascot, 73 Stench, 76 Gnome, 78 Rivet, 79 Yeast, 80 Pile, 82 Maze.

SPORTS

Connor hoops televised umpire shot

By GORDON PREECE

Waihi netball umpire Connor Pascoe was “over the moon” when he was given the opportunity to take the next shot in his umpire journey.

The Waihi resident, who has umpired at Waihi Netball Centre since he was nine years old, told *The Profile* he was scheduled to umpire a televised match between the Mystics Men’s and Stars Men’s at the Trusts Arena in Auckland on May 6.

The match was a Sky Sport-broadcasted curtain raiser for the Northern Mystics vs Southern Steel match in the ANZ Premiership.

“I went over to umpire a premier competition in Tauranga [on April 27] and my coach and umpire lead, Pam Clayton, came up to me and we had a bit of a discussion about it and she asked ‘would I like to go up to Auckland... and do this game?’,” he said.

“I was over the moon getting asked because what an awesome opportunity to be introduced to that higher level.

“At the start of this year, I was also fortunate enough to be selected for the national watchlist, so there’s a group of umpires that are there which New Zealand sees potential in to work towards the ANZ Pre-



Connor Pascoe in action as an umpire at last year’s FujiFilm Business Innovation NZ Secondary Schools Netball Champs.

Photo: SUPPLIED/Netball NZ

miership.” The 23-year-old, who also umpires weekly Tauranga Netball Centre matches, said his biggest umpire stint before the match between Mystics Men’s and Stars Men’s was at the New Zealand Men’s Netball Nationals held in Christ-

church in August last year.

“I ended up being appointed to the A grade final for that tournament and that was awesome, an amazing experience,” he said.

“I did it with an amazing umpire from Australia who had

come over and it was just awesome, I really enjoyed it even though I was wrecked after it. It was a fast and high intensity game.

“We’ve got some national tournaments coming up so I’m hoping to get appointed

to those and other than that... look forward to what the season brings.”

Connor said he also played goal attack and centre for the Waihi-based Tane Toa men’s netball team between 2019 to 2022.

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