

The Valley Profile

100% THAMES

100% LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

626 Pollen Street 07 868 6124

TRUST YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS

Totalspan Coromandel 1/46 Kopu Road, Kopu, Thames
P 07 869 0400 E coromandel@totalspan.co.nz

0800 TOTALSPAN
TOTALSPAN.CO.NZ



Slip slidin'



The kids of Pūriri School had a blast at their colour run fundraiser on March 16. They slipped, slid, ran, crawled and climbed through various obstacles while being doused with water and coloured powder. The funds raised from the event will go towards a new playground for the school, which principal Lydia Lester said was sorely needed. "It is in disrepair and needs to be replaced." Read more on P5

Cyrus Yates and Lucas Lee-Blackmer take a dash down the slippery slide. Photo: SUPPLIED

We all know the drill...

RED is a NO



GREEN is a GO



Phone us today

0800 4 MY BIN (0800 469 246)
www.smartenvironmental.co.nz



**Book this space:
only
\$50 + GST**
Contact Nikki today!
022 130 3885 | nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz

Productive year for Rotary as projects near completion

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

The Rotary Club of Thames is looking towards another “exciting” year as its membership continues to grow and projects near completion.

President Jacquie Mitchell told *The Profile* that within the past year, seven new members had signed on to volunteer their services.

“We’re really pleased about that,” she said. “Many of them are people who moved into the area and who joined from a social perspective to start off with, before getting involved with our projects.”

Last year, the club provided grants to organisations that were affected by the severe weather events. Some of the projects, Jacquie said, were now completed.

“We got the funding from higher up in Rotary, both from New Zealand and Australia, and they wanted to know what we would make contributions to within the community.”

“Thames Museum was in quite dire straits, especially when the [Kōpū-Hikuai] bridge was closed, because there were no visitors coming through. The Thames Bridge Club, during much of the rainy weather, had a leak in the roof which poured into the building and rotted a whole lot of things.”

So, a grant was given to both Thames Museum and Thames Bridge Club to help “prop them up” during the difficult time, Jacquie said.

Members of the club have also been out, rain or shine, to build and transplant a number of shelters along the Hauraki Rail Trail.

Members of the Rotary Club of Thames have been out, rain or shine, to build and transplant a number of shelters along the Hauraki Rail Trail.

Photo: SUPPLIED



Working with the Thames MenzShed, as well as the neighbouring district councils, the project - which celebrates the international club’s 100 years - was well under way, Jacquie said.

“There’s 16 of them planned for the area and we’re just over halfway,” she said.

“Most weeks, there will be several Rotarians who go rain or shine down to where we are erecting the shelters and painting them and setting them up so that they’re ready to go.”

Hauraki Rail Trail Charitable Trust chief executive Diane Drummond said the shelters were a “wonderful project” and were “popping up like mushrooms” across the Waikato. “As of today we have 10 of the 16 shelters installed. This project has been a fantastic collaboration with the Area 4 Ro-

tary Groups of Thames, Paeroa, Te Aroha, Matamata and Morrinsville, and is one of their centennial projects, celebrating 100 years of Rotary in New Zealand,” she said.

“The shelters are being built offsite near Te Aroha West then taken to the installation sites by hi-ab.”

While many clubs throughout the country were facing declines, Jacquie said Rotary Thames remained a “small but active club” in which its volunteers were vital to ensure its longevity.

There were about 18 people involved and more were always welcome, she said.

“It’s very good to be active within the community and feel that we have the community’s support.”



Hi, my name is Pete the Pukeko and I'm here to help you. Find me in one of the display advertisements in *The Valley Profile*, then email admin@valleyprofile.co.nz with your full namepostal address, and the business name and page number of the ad by the following Monday to go in the draw to win a Lotto ticket. Last issue it was in the Aeroview Garden Centre ad.

PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT: Advertising Manager Nikki Sanders, Ph 022 130 3885, nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz; Feature Writer Davidda Hikatangata, Ph 022 174 3988, davidda@valleyprofile.co.nz.
NEWS/EDITORIAL: Managing Editor Teresa Ramsey, Ph 0204 0944 853, editor@valleyprofile.co.nz; Senior Reporter Kelley Tantau, Ph 022 619 4889, kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz; Reporter Alice Parminter, Ph 022 527 0988, alicep@valleyprofile.co.nz.
LETTERS: Send your letters to the editor: editor@valleyprofile.co.nz or 2 Queen St, Paeroa, 3600. Letters must include full name and address, be 250 words or less and may be edited, abridged or rejected at editor's discretion.
THE VALLEY PROFILE is delivered weekly to every letterbox in the Hauraki Plains, Paeroa, Waihi, Thames, Thames Coast, plus bulk distribution peninsula-wide, with an estimated reach of 35,000 readers. ISSN 2703-5700
OFFICE HOURS: 9am-4pm Monday to Friday: 2 QUEEN ST, PAEROA Ph 07 862 7077

FIND US ONLINE:
www.valleyprofile.co.nz or download the Coromandel App on your smart phone

Ziggy Series
The Ziegler & Brown range of portable grills provide superior quality, power and flexibility to help you discover a whole new world of outdoor entertaining!

TradeZone
Thames

SEE US AT:
READ BROS. HARDWARE
308 Pollen St, Thames
www.readbros.co.nz
07 868 6608

...for the Latest in Outdoor Essentials.

ICEY-TEK

The toughest, coldest box in the world. Tough, reliable, and value for money make the Icey-Tek standard and long box range the most popular in New Zealand.

Accountants
The Hauraki Taxation Service Limited

- Established 1982
- For out of town independent accounting advice
- Approved agents for Inland Revenue Department
- Offices in Thames & Coromandel Town

myob xero CASH MANAGER

328 Pollen Street, Thames
Ph/Fax: 07 868-9710
E: thames@haurakitaxation.co.nz

95 Kapanga Rd, Coromandel
Ph/Fax: 07 866-8660
E: coro@haurakitaxation.co.nz

Thames Tides

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5	Apr 6	Apr 7	Apr 8	Apr 9
 Morning 2:17am 3.0 Afternoon 2:34pm 3.0 8:30am 1.0 8:48pm 0.9 7:33am 7:09pm Best At 8:09am 8:39pm Rise 12:19am Set 3:54pm	 Morning 3:20am 3.1 Afternoon 3:35pm 3.0 9:32am 0.9 9:57pm 0.9 7:34am 7:07pm Best At 9:08am 9:36pm Rise 1:30am Set 4:36pm	 Morning 4:25am 3.1 Afternoon 4:42pm 3.1 10:36am 0.8 11:07pm 0.8 7:35am 7:06pm Best At 10:04am 10:31pm Rise 2:44am Set 5:11pm	 Morning 5:28am 3.3 Afternoon 5:51pm 3.2 11:38am 0.7 7:36am 7:04pm Best At 10:57am 11:23pm Rise 4:00am Set 5:43pm	 Morning 12:11am 0.6 Afternoon 5:54pm 3.4 5:27am 3.5 11:37am 0.5 6:37am 6:03pm Best At 10:49am 11:14pm Rise 4:15am Set 5:11pm	 Morning 12:07am 0.4 Afternoon 12:32pm 0.3 6:22am 3.6 6:52pm 3.6 6:38am 6:01pm Best At 11:40am Rise 5:30am Set 5:39pm	 Morning 12:58am 0.3 Afternoon 1:24pm 0.2 7:14am 3.7 7:44pm 3.7 6:38am 6:00pm Best At 12:06am 12:31pm New Moon Rise 6:45am Set 6:08pm

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	04	-0	04
Whititanga	-0	01	-0	05
Tairua	+0	11	+0	21
Whangamata	-0	02	-0	05
Waihi Beach	-0	11	-0	12

*Not for navigational purposes. Graphic supplied by OceanFun Publishing Ltd. www.tidewiz.com www.tidespy.com www.ofu.co.nz

Feminism and fire fighting for new deputy

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

The softly-spoken, petite woman sitting in the Thames Volunteer Fire Brigade office is not the image of a stereotypical firefighter. But Siobhan Flanigan, Thames' newly-appointed Deputy Chief Fire Officer, is working on changing that perception.

"I've been quite mindful that there is always going to be a little bit of a focus on me, being a female in this space," Siobhan said.

"But I find it all really quite awkward. I'm like, it's just a thing, that should all be normal anyway."

As well as being the first female to be appointed to the Deputy Chief role in Thames, Siobhan is also a representative of the Regional Women's Advisory Network for Fire and Emergency NZ.

"We really support inclusivity, changing the narrative and changing the language that we use," she said.

"So instead of saying firemen: just normalising it that we're firefighters, because you can't be what you can't see. We strongly encourage our management to make those changes as well."

Siobhan has her personal reasons for wanting to be such a role-model, despite her discomfort in the spotlight.

"I've got a 15-year-old daughter and it needs to be different for her.

"She needs to see that it's normal and that it's safe to put yourself out there in a male-dominated environment," she said.

"In an ideal world we'd have a 50:50 ratio within our brigade.



Siobhan Flanigan is the first female Deputy Chief Fire Officer for the Thames Brigade.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

We're all people; we're volunteers, we want to donate our time, we want to put out fires."

The Thames brigade, though, has always been a welcoming space for Siobhan and other women, and she credits the support of chief Greg Rendall and all the firefighters.

"I think we've got six female brigade members and it's just never been an issue," she said.

"It's a really interesting space to work in, and it makes me feel really lucky being in this brigade, seeing the support that I've been given that others might not have."

Women had a lot to offer the service, Siobhan said.

"You've got to have a little bit of smarts, physical strength, and a lot of drive. The physical side of things - I think that anyone can do it. It's more about technique. No matter your stature, you can make it work for you."

Determination is one of Siobhan's driving factors as well. When she began at the station 15 years ago, she was only four or five months postpartum.

"I just bought a hose back home and ran up and down my driveway with it, rolled it up... I found it

quite hard but it was a really good distraction to me, to own back a little bit of myself," she said.

"My [children] don't know any different, they've kind of just grown up around it."

There have been a few unexpected moments over the years though, inevitable in a position with so much variety.

"First house fire will always stand out. That was just a moment where all my training was put into action, and I don't think that anything could have prepared me mentally for what we were turning up to," Siobhan said.

"We train for the fire itself, but you don't train for the people whose house it is, and you don't train for the neighbours and the traffic congestion... There's so much more than just a house fire going on.

"House fires, medical emergencies, car crashes, hazardous substance calls, cat stuck on roof, patient lifts, false alarms, rubbish fires, chimney fires - [it's a] pretty big variety. And with weather events, we are on the go all the time. I think with Cyclone Gabrielle we had 15 or 16 calls in a day."

Part of what keeps Siobhan going is the strong bond she's formed with her crew members.

"Sometimes we can take those hard calls a lot harder, [but] we come back here and we have a good solid debrief," she said.

"[And] the family support is massive, for every one of our members. They keep things ticking. We leave birthdays, we leave Christmas Day... The kids sometimes miss out on having mum around but that's just how it goes."

For anyone who's interested in joining the brigade, whatever their gender, Siobhan said she'd encourage them to give it a go.

"I think that we all play a part in bettering society," she said.

"Just knowing that I'm helping someone... That person's going to remember the person from the fire brigade who held their hand while they were being cut out of a car. We're privileged to be in the position that we are."




FOR ALL YOUR CATERING NEEDS

For all your catering needs, Weddings, Funerals, Meetings, Team Building days, Parties, any occasion you need catered.

50-Seat Function Room available (Burton's Out the Back)

404 Pollen Street Thames

Ph: 022 380 9735

Email: burtonsbistro.catering@gmail.com

Website: burtoncatering.co.nz

Facebook: @burtonscatering

Lunch Bar opening hours: 7:30am-3pm Monday-Friday



YOUR LOCAL BUTCHER QUALITY EVERYTIME

PROFESSIONAL, HONEST AND RELIABLE HOME KILL PROCESSING AVAILABLE

CALL NOW TO MAKE A BOOKING

OPEN Mon - Fri 7.30am until 5.30pm & Sat 8am until 1pm

61 Belmont Road Paeroa 07 862 6959

The. Big. Sale.

50% off. Serenity Essence.

20% off. Serenity Peace.

50% off. Swisstek Select.

10% off. Design Mobil Renew & Vitality.

BedsRus Where dreams begin.

Sleepyhead

BAXTERS

BAXTERS FURNITURE & BEDS R US

205 SEALEY ST, THAMES | PH 07 868 6128

Appeal to honour Grace Millane a success

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

A charitable appeal in the memory of Grace Millane, the British tourist murdered in Auckland in 2018, saw an “outstanding” amount of generosity pour in when it was held across the Thames Valley for the first time.

Dubbed the ‘Love Grace Handbag Appeal’, the New Zealand organisers said its aim was to help women in need by collecting handbags and filling them with useful items.

It was set up by Grace Millane’s family following her death to combine her love for handbags with a legacy to end violence against women.

Leanne Grinder, owner of Walter & Co Hairdressing in Thames, was the local co-ordinator and drop-off base for the appeal.

She earlier told *The Profile* that any bags donated would be passed on to Hauraki Women’s Refuge: Te Whariki Manawahine O Hauraki.

At the appeal’s close in March, 116 handbags full of essential items - including toothpaste; sanitary products; tissues; lip balm; hand soap and plasters - were dropped off to the Women’s Refuge.

“Donated items came in from across the region - Whitianga, Tairua, Whangamatā, Ngatea and Thames, to name a



Leanne Grinder with the assortment of handbags donated for the Love Grace Appeal. Photo: SUPPLIED

few,” Leanne said.

“A special thanks goes to Mary Stilo Hair Co, Jen Hayward and Manaia Kitchen and Bar, Norma from

Whangamatā, and the Ngatea Gallery - as well as to everyone who dropped bags to me.

“The generosity has been outstanding and it was such

a pleasure to be able to give these to those that need it the most.”



Call for knitters to help make blankets for seniors

Age Concern Hauraki Coromandel has put out a call for people to help knit blankets over the next two months to give to senior people in the community who need them.

Age Concern’s Jo Sanderson invited people to contribute knitted squares, which must be exactly 17cm x 17cm, which can be either collected by the end of May either as squares or sewn together to create a blanket consisting of eight squares each way.

Using 4mm needles and DK or 8ply yarn of any colour, knitters needed to cast on 35 stitches adjusted to create an exact 17cm square, she said.

“Get a group of keen knitters together if you can - or just knit yourself,” Jo said.

“If you are a knitter and would like to knit a square or more, please get in touch with me now.”

DETAILS: Jo Sanderson from Age Concern Hauraki Coromandel, Ph: 027 324 0249, or email: coordinator@achc.org.net. Head to the Age Concern Hauraki Coromandel Facebook page for more info.



WHAT'S YOUR TAKE?



Give us your take on our long term proposals and budgets.

We've got some big challenges ahead, but we're tackling them head on:



A large roading repair and improvement programme



Costly coastal protection works



Ageing infrastructure must be replaced



Investing in community resilience and future growth



Managing rates spikes



Bringing our Thames Council offices up to scratch

The costs are big, so we're proposing a 'just the essentials' budget.

8 MARCH – 8 APRIL

tcdc.govt.nz/LTP-2024-2034

Pick up the Consultation Document from one of our service centres.



Photo courtesy of Mike Hill

NZ HIGHWAYMEN

Winter Tour 2024

THAMES WAR MEMORIAL CIVIC CENTRE

7.00PM WEDNESDAY JUNE 19TH



EDDIE LOW DENNIS MARSH GRAY BARTLETT BRENDAN DUGAN

Tickets available at Boots 'n All Goldfields Shopping mall Thames or Online at nzhighwaymen.flickit.co.nz All tour info www.nzhighwaymen.com or phone 0275566113

Special EASTER Offers

Transform Your Outdoors

Order a Canopy or Outdoor Blinds before the 30th April 2024.

GREAT OFFERS:

12 months interest free

Get up to \$1000 off a Canopy

Save \$250 on EziGuide Blinds

Call Daniel for your FREE Quote
0204 198 4000 / archgola.co.nz



Playground planning underway for Pūriri School

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

Pūriri School is fundraising for a new playground to replace the current worn-out apparatus which has reached the end of its life.

Principal Lydia Lester said the equipment refresh had been a priority for her since she joined the school early last year, and the whole community had been working hard to reach that goal.

“We’ve actually had to demolish part of the playground because the wooden poles and things were, over this last summer, split in the heat and so it’s even in more disrepair than what it originally was,” she said.

“The current playground, I think it’s 34 years old and when it was made, was made out of another old playground. So parts of the playground are over 50 years old.”

The school has been fundraising since the beginning of last year. Along with the colour run event on March 16, the students have been selling chocolates and putting on other events, including a quiz night and a book fair.

So far, a total of \$12,500 has been raised. Lydia estimated the playground would cost around \$90,000, and said she would be looking into grants to make up some of that figure.

The support of the community had been invaluable so far, she said, and she was thrilled with the way it had rallied around the school.



Kanae Fujii, left, with hosts Sloane, Imogen, Kim, Murphy and Vincent Popping.



Daniel Lester enjoys the colour run.



Aiya Watene has a blast.



Laynee Toko-Kaina, Florence Finlay.



Samuel Blackmer hits the obstacles.



Vincent Popping and his son Murphy Popping.

“Even if their kids don’t come to our school, they’ve really positively embraced our fundraising efforts,” she said.

“It’s cool to build that community as well - Pūriri is its own big community and [the school] is the only place for people to go to in terms of a public place to play with your kids or take your dog

for a walk or whatnot, and so having a playground there will really service the community.”

As for the playground itself, after community and student consultations the school has narrowed it down to two choices, each with features suitable for children of all ages.

“They’ve both got really good

elements of play and strength building and imaginative play, and ways that we can use it in PE as well as just playtime,” Lydia said.

“Each playground company that we’ve been to, we’ve asked them to speak to the students and share their ideas and listen to the kids’ ideas as well.

“Our biggest criteria was that it would cater to the younger kids as well as the older kids - we’re wanting a playground that will cater for our school and our students but also that will bless the community.”



MEGA Easter BED SALE

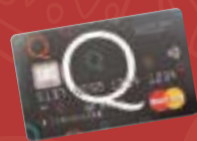
UP TO 65% OFF

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY*

Redeem Egg-straordinary Easter coupons in-store today!

flybuys 50 On purchases above \$2499

24 MONTHS INTEREST FREE*



- FREE** 2X Microfibre Pillows
With every sleepset
Valid till: 7th of April
- FREE** Delivery
On purchases of \$999 and above within 10km radius*
Valid till: 7th of April
- FREE** Old Bed Removal
On purchases of \$1999 and above*
Valid till: 7th of April
- FREE** Mattress Protector
On purchases of \$2499 and above*
Valid till: 7th of April

Shop 22, Goldfields Shopping Centre, Thames
Mon-Fri 9am - 5pm / Sat 9am - 4pm / Sun 10am - 3pm Ph: 07 868 3332

Minimum purchase amount of \$999 applicable. Lending Criteria, \$50 Annual Account Fee, Fees, Minimum Transfer Amount, Ts&Cs apply. Standard Interest Rate (currently 28.50% p.a.) applies to any outstanding balance at end of interest free period. \$55 Establishment Fee or \$35 Advance Fee applies to Long Term Finance Purchases. Beds4U reserve the right to amend any misprints or error within this advertisement.

BEDS4U.co.nz
Your local sleep experts

23 Beds4U Stores Across North Island

End of an era for community paper

OPINION

It was sad to see the closure of the *Hauraki Herald* early last month after 45 years of serving our region.

Three out of five of our *Valley Profile* staff worked at the publication for many years, but unfortunately felt we had to leave because of *Stuff's* decision to restructure, which ultimately resulted in the *Hauraki Herald* operating with no office and no staff stationed in this region.

Over the past few years, the *Hauraki Herald* has been run from *Stuff's* Hamilton office, with syndicated content not relevant to our area, and only one or two - and sometimes no local stories at all, often written without the benefit of local knowledge.

As a result, the publication turned into a shell of its former self and eventually closed.

Sadly, this is a trend that's happening nationwide. *Stuff's* decision to pull resources from its community titles has been concerning. Together with the announcements that *NewsHub* will be closing its newsroom and *TVNZ's* plan to lay off journalists, the state of journalism in this country is diminishing, especially in the regions.

A recent *Spinoff* survey estimates the number of journalists in New Zealand has dropped from 3381 in the 2018 census, to 1439 after expected TV news layoffs mid-2024.

Over the past decade or so, Face-

book and Google have taken much of our content and advertising, putting financial pressure on well-established publications. In addition, skyrocketing print and delivery costs have added to the downturn of the industry, especially now there's no newsprint manufactured in New Zealand. Importing costs and exchange rates add to the cost of getting your local paper to your letterbox.

Thankfully, there are journalists who recognise the importance of holding those in power to account, and how important that is for a democracy. Independent titles, such as the *Valley Profile*, are emerging from the ashes and filling the gap.

There are many of us who are still committed to producing local community journalism, throughout the Waikato and beyond. Advertisers who understand how effective print advertising is for getting their message across have supported *The Profile*, and for that we are very grateful as we rely on advertising to cover costs. We also feel grateful for the support our community has shown us during a difficult time for the media industry.

For many decades, the *Hauraki Herald* has been an incredibly strong community title, one we were proud to work for, and we are devastated to see its demise thanks to a tough climate, rising costs and lack of commitment from its owners.

- Teresa Ramsey, Profile editor



The last issue of the *Hauraki Herald*.

More than 150 years of 'local rags'

By MEGHAN HAWKES

A Paeroa 'Men's Magazine' was one of many Thames Valley publications to appear in the district over the years. Although its title was eyebrow raising, it was little more than an innocent endeavour in 1933 by the men in the relief camp for unemployed workers on the Paeroa racecourse.

Named the *Pick and Shovel* it was breezily written by contributors featuring stories mainly about themselves. Copies could be purchased by the public at the relief workers' boot repairing depot opposite the Criterion Hotel.

The first newspaper in Paeroa - the *Hauraki Tribune* - was first published in 1885, later being swallowed up in 1896 by its rival the *Ohinemuri Gazette*, which was established in 1891.

When the *Gazette* office was destroyed by fire in 1908, only a little printing paper and a few miscellaneous articles were rescued.

Undaunted, the *Gazette* said "The fire in our premises will necessarily disorganise our business to a great extent, but we are making arrangements to publish as usual." The proprietor of Waihi's newspaper placed his extensive printing plant at their disposal.

In 1921 the *Ohinemuri Gazette* changed its name to the *Hauraki Plains Gazette*, was incorporated into the *Thames Valley Gazette* in 1977, along with two other local newspapers, becoming the *Paeroa Gazette* in 1988. This merged with the *Thames Star* in 1998 to become the *Thames Valley Gazette*, but the new publication lasted less than a year. In the early 1990s, the *Plains Profile*, manned by



Linotype operators at work, 1913.

Photo: SUPPLIED

dedicated community volunteers, began its 30-odd year run bringing the news to the Hauraki Plains district. It was bought by Teresa Ramsey in 2020, renamed *The Valley Profile* and expanded to include Paeroa, Thames, Thames Coast, Waihi and the Coromandel Peninsula.

At the height of the Thames gold boom, an anxious wait for a speck in the sky was the lot of newspaper reporters between Auckland and Thames when pigeons brought news written on flimsy paper tied securely to their legs. These 'pigeongrams' sometimes only arrived five minutes before press time and reporters who were competent in every other way were at a loss when it came to the birds, making endearing noises while trying to steer the elusive messen-

gers towards them with pieces of stick.

The Thames Advertiser and Miner's News, Thames' first newspaper, was established in 1868, being printed in Willoughby St near the beach. After the proprietors of the *Thames Advertiser* parted ways, one of them started a new paper - *The Thames Guardian and Mining Record*. This lasted only a few months, folding in 1872. *The Thames Advertiser* also had its challenges including employees like Mr Riddle, a compositor whose job entailed assembling movable type and blocks to form pages for printing, who went on strike in protest at the employment of female labour on the paper. *The Thames Advertiser* had a variety of owners and was

CONTINUED ON P7

Thames Centre Pharmacy

Dispensary & Healthcare Advice

Efficient convenient prescription dispensing

<p>Open Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm (closed 12.45pm - 1.45pm)</p>	<p>Thames Medical Centre 817 Rolleston Street Thames</p>
---	---

Ph 07 8685100 – Fax 07 2800724
pharmacist@thamescentrepharmacy.co.nz

Our team are locals supporting locals

Snowden's
- MENSWEAR -

Autumn is here with Swannдри.
Knitwear, moleskin jeans,
outdoors wear, even socks!
Worth a visit.

Proudly locally owned and operated
for more than 50 years

520 Pollen St Thames,
Ph: 07 868 7056
www.snowdensmenswear.co.nz

METAL RECOVERIES

2006 LIMITED

SCRAP METAL BUYERS & RECYCLERS

PH: (07) 868 9422

Stephen Young

0274 820 536

P.O. Box 768, Thames

DEPOT: 26 QUEEN ST, KOPU THAMES

FOR EXCEPTIONAL
WINDOWS & DOORS

FAIRVIEW THAMES

10 Millar Place, Kopu, Thames

P: 07 868 9105 | office@fairviewthames.co.nz
www.fairviewthames.co.nz

Love
your
view

TradeZone

Thames

Industrial supply
specialists that work
for your business.

Contact us today:
admin@readbros.co.nz

SERVICES AVAILABLE:

- Key Cutting • Sharpening
- Wire Rope Swaging • Rope Slicing
- Cut-to-length Extrusions
- Dive Cylinder filling & testing on site

SEE US AT: READ BROS. HARDWARE
308 Pollen St, Thames
www.readbros.co.nz • 07 868 6608

‘Journalism rarely dies’ - a history of community papers

CONTINUED FROM P6

published until 1912, when it was merged with the *Thames Star*.

The second Thames paper was the *Times and Thames Miner's Advocate* established in late 1868 by William Shaw and published from Willoughby St.

It was considered a well printed and good literary newspaper, and the editor a very brilliant writer. It was predicted to give the *Thames Advertiser* a run for its money but by 1870 was no more.

William Shaw also established three or four more Thames newspapers - among them the *Thames Times*, *Weekly Leader*, and *Thames Evening Star* - but by 1870 most of them were defunct and the proprietor bankrupt.

“Journalism rarely dies,” noted an Auckland paper regarding Thames publications, “and when one newspaper has been extinguished, Phoenix-like another springs from its ashes”.

The Mail, an evening penny paper, now appeared from the office of the *Thames Advertiser*, and was owned by the same proprietors, Corlett and Wilkinson. It was not large but contained a fair amount of general news and thoroughly readable matter.

William Shaw's *Thames Evening Star* was taken over by new proprietors and in 1893 became known as *The Thames Star*. In 1912, *The Thames Star* absorbed the *Thames Advertiser*. *The Thames Star* was thrown back into the past in 1928 when a storm damaged transmission lines and took out the power.

With the greatest of difficulty, it



A busy newspaper office, 1922.

Photos: SUPPLIED

still published its daily issue which featured several different styles of typeface, announcing it was quite an achievement to be able to produce any sort of paper at all in the conditions that prevailed. *The Thames Star* eventually merged with the *Paeroa Gazette* in 1998 to become the short-lived *Thames Valley Gazette*.

Lasting longer was the *Waihi Daily Telegraph*, despite its proprietor, Mr McRobie, during a bitter miners' strike in 1912, receiving the following letter - “You dirty black-rimmed-whiskered mongrel; if you don't alter your hostile tactics towards the Waihi Miners' Union in your leading articles of your dirty guttersnipe rag, I inform you candidly I have 250 plugs of gelignite, 100 detonators, and six coils of fuse, which you shall swallow if you keep at the

rate you are going. Now, McRobie, I have warned you, so beware. I am in earnest. - Only a Striker”.

The *Waihi Daily Telegraph*, a committed supporter of the mining industry, began life as the *Waihi Miner and Hauraki Goldfields Gazette* in the mid-1890s. In 1900, the *Waihi Chronicle* became a daily competitor but only lasted until March 1901. Three days later, the *Waihi Miner and Hauraki Goldfields Gazette*, now renamed the *Waihi Daily Telegraph*, released its first issue touted as an up-to-date, one penny evening daily.

From 1906, there was competition from the *Waihi Times* but by 1908 this had gone bust. *The Waihi Daily Telegraph* ran until 1951, stopping publication shortly after the *Waihi Gazette* set up in opposition. In 1986, Independ-



Pigeon services loft, Auckland, 1899.

ent Newspapers Ltd acquired the *Waihi Gazette* as well as the *Thames Valley Gazette*, which folded in 1999. *The Waihi Leader*, started in 1981, merged with the *Coastal News* during the Covid-19 pandemic, and was re-launched as the *Hauraki-Coromandel Post*.

The *Hauraki Herald*, established in 1979, was one of the district's longest running papers, publishing for 45 years.

Through all their incarnations, local newspapers continued to document the life of their communities.

“The Cinderella of a town's activities can aptly be termed the local newspaper, nicknamed, laughed at, scorned, yet read from front to back and conveying to the

public a wealth of information both desirable and necessary in the business and social activities of the town and district it serves,” reflected the *Hauraki Plains Gazette* in 1937.

The ‘local rag’ also recorded the ebb and flow of life through its births, marriages and deaths columns and provided an outlet for public opinion to be voiced.

Very little stopped the presses rolling for long, even when a paper boy was caught in the printing machinery of the *Thames Star* in 1957.

While a doctor attended to him, mechanics used an acetylene torch to cut the boy free. After the press had been repaired, more papers were printed.

Thames Autos



A Division of Takamini Motors Ltd



R.M.V.T.



HOME DEMONSTRATIONS AND DELIVERIES AVAILABLE WE CAN COME TO YOU

— www.thamesautos.co.nz —

2013 Mazda Atenza
2Lt Auto



SPECIAL
\$12,990

2013 Hyundai i35
Auto, 2WD, Immac Condition



\$13,990

2014 Holden Cruz
Auto Turbo, High Spec



\$11,990

2012 Nissan Lafesta
2Lt Auto, 7 Seat



\$10,990

2006 Toyota RAV-4
2.4Lt Auto, Good Kms, Top Cond



\$6,990

2017 Nissan Qashqai
Auto, Top Range Model, Low 44kms



\$25,990

2006 Suzuki Swift
Auto, 1.5Lt, Low 80km



ONLY
\$6,990

2015 Kia Pro-Ceed GT
6 Speed Manual, NZ New



\$13,990

LEYLAND STOWE

Mob: 027 355 5152 Ph: 07 868 8981

or 0800 868 898

609 Pollen St, Thames RMVT
thamesautos@xtra.co.nz



No Deposit Finance available on all vehicles. Full workshop servicing & repairs available including Auto Electrical service

Rural Life

\$19m to upgrade Hauraki's stopbanks floated

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

The 42km network of stopbanks surrounding the Hauraki district worked wonders to protect towns from flooding during the severe weather events of 2023.

But within the next 10 to 15 years, the stopbanks - part of Waihou Valley's flood protection scheme - will need "topping up", which could cost ratepayers \$19m.

As part of its Long Term Plan discussions, Hauraki District Council is asking for residents' help to decide how much higher its stopbanks should be raised to.

Its preferred option is to raise the Hauraki-managed stopbanks up to 4m in height, costing \$19m and providing the community with the right level of protection from flooding.

"I think everybody was impressed by the [stopbanks] and were very thankful that council and central government had the foresight back in the late-80s, early-90s, to get them under construction," district Mayor Toby Adams said.

"Because had we not had them [in 2023], we would've all been in canoes, escaping to dry land."

Last year, the Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel districts were hit with heavy rain, slips, surface flooding, and road closures during the storms of Auckland Anniversary weekend and Cyclone Gabrielle.

The latter arrived in the rohe in the early morning hours of Val-



The network of stopbanks surrounding the Hauraki district protected Paeroa from flooding during the severe weather events of 2023.

File Photo: TANE BRADLEY

entine's Day, and warranted the floodgates at Criterion Bridge, Paeroa, to be closed for the first time since they were installed in 2018.

Mayor Adams said Hauraki District Council was again using its foresight to prepare for future rain events. By increasing the stopbanks, it would ensure they were fit-for-purpose "not only for today

but for the next 10, 20, 30 years or whenever they're needed," he said.

The Hauraki Plains is known for its soft soils and, according to council's LTP consultation document - now open for public feedback - with soft soils, the stopbank foundations consolidate under the weight of the stopbank over time.

Settlement also reduced the height of the stopbanks by about

15-25mm each year.

Therefore, council is proposing to add around 100mm over and above any settlement every 10 years for 100 years, which would provide a higher stopbank that addresses a changing climate, the projected sea level rise, and ground settlement.

It would also widen the base of the stopbank over time to support

the extra height and weight.

If storm events worsened more than expected, council could accelerate the amount it added to the stopbanks at each 10 year interval as required to respond to the increased risks.

"It's really hard to tell when things are going to hit us," Mayor Adams said. "We had events that caused severe flooding in our area, hence why we put in the stopbank structures to start with."

"We've since had other events where [the stopbanks] have performed really well, so we need to make sure they keep performing well. Now is the right time."

Hauraki District Council is also preparing to start work on a Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Plains. Funded by the government's Better Off Funding package, the plan highlights the ageing stopbanks, as well as other hazards including drought, earthquakes (along the Kerepehi Fault), and land subsidence.

DETAILS: Council's Stop-by for Stopbanks event, Waitakaruru School, April 5, 2:30pm-4:30pm. Residents can learn about stopbanks in the Western Plains Drainage District and the options for maintaining them to provide the right level of protection from flooding in the future. Consultation on council's 2024-34 Long Term Plan is also open for feedback until April 26, with hearings scheduled for May 14-16.



- Farm Effluent Equipment
- Full System Design
- Installation
- Service

0800 4 EFFLUENT | www.williamsirrigation.com

A1 Motorcycles

Servicing and Repairs

Workshop or On Farm

Road, Farm, MotoX

Ph : 027 2166867

Graham Cornes
A Grade Motorcycle Mechanic
graham@a1motorcycles.co.nz

Parts and Accessories

Road, Farm, MotoX

Ph : 027 2166860

Alison Cornes
parts@a1motorcycles.co.nz

www.a1motorcycles.co.nz

PAEROA FARM SERVICES LTD

118 Normanby Rd, PAEROA, 3600
Ph: 07 862 8263

We specialise in Milking Machines & Equipment, Effluent & Irrigation Systems, Filtration & Purification, and Water Pump Supplies & Installations.

To cover all your dairy needs.

Email: shop@paeroafarmservices.co.nz
web: www.paeroafarmservices.co.nz

FOR EARTHWORKS

- ▶ Digger, Bulldozer, Truck Hire
- ▶ Mulching, Gorse, Ti Tree etc
- ▶ Metal
- ▶ Suppliers of Hay Silage & Maize Silage

FOR CARTING OF

- ▶ Suppliers of Mangatangi River Rock
- ▶ Decorative Stones & Drainage
- ▶ Sand Shell
- ▶ Palm Kernel
- ▶ Fertiliser
- ▶ All Grades of Metal

T & A MCWATTERS LTD

PHONE TIM 027 278 5384

SMYTHES HAULAGE LTD

PHONE TIM 027 278 5384

Rural Life

Prolific pumpkins

Turua School held its annual Giant Pumpkin Festival on March 23. Despite persistent rain, plenty of people plodded along to peruse the giant pumpkins, partake in pumpkin goodies and participate in the plethora of pastimes. The school hall was packed as the popular quick-fire raffle was moved indoors, among rows of pumpkin-themed artworks on display. The main weigh-in resulted in a win for Karen Hedley, whose pumpkin measured a massive 157kg. Reporter ALICE PARMINTER popped in to marvel at the giant gourds.



Debbie May with sons Emerson, 9, and Austin, 7, at the Garden to Table stall.



There were plenty of oversized pumpkins at this year's festival.



The lawnmower-powered "train" was a hit, even in the rain.

Photos: ALICE PARMINTER



Eight-year-old Jaymee from Turua School tackles a giant candyfloss treat.



Turua Playcentre took first place in the group Decorate a Scarecrow category.



~~\$31,450 +GST~~

NEW GILTRAP T37-08

8 tonne HYD Tip Trailer
c/w steel tail door, auto gate latch, LED lights

~~\$29,000 +GST~~



DUNCAN ECO SEEDER

NEW Duncan Eco Seeder
Trailed 18 run complete with disc openers

~~\$34,690 +GST~~

~~\$32,000 +GST~~



Hauraki Plains Motors

1 Pipiroa Road, Ngatea • Ph 07 867-7021

A/Hrs Mike 027 440 4681, Miles 027-227-1121 Email: admin@hpmotors.co.nz

RIDE ON & ZERO-TURN MOWERS



STARTING FROM **\$8,188** + GST

T2290 T SERIES



STARTING FROM **\$7,403** + GST

GR2120 G SERIES



STARTING FROM **\$11,502** + GST

Z412 Z SERIES



STARTING FROM **\$7,403** + GST

Z232 Z SERIES



STARTING FROM **\$7,403** + GST

Z252 Z SERIES

IN STOCK NOW!

IN STOCK NOW!

IN STOCK NOW!

Central Motors
Hauraki

centralmotors.co.nz
60 Orchard Rd, Ngatea 3503, New Zealand
(07) 867 7524 | andrew@centralmotors.co.nz

Kubota

Rural Life

Hunters urged not to rely on luck to keep safe this roar

With the Easter break coinciding with the early part of the roar hunting season, there will likely be big numbers of hunters taking to the bush.

Recreational firearms user groups have been co-ordinating their messaging this year to ensure safety remains top of mind to the thousands of hunters who might take to the hills and bush chasing roaring stags or croaking bucks this autumn.

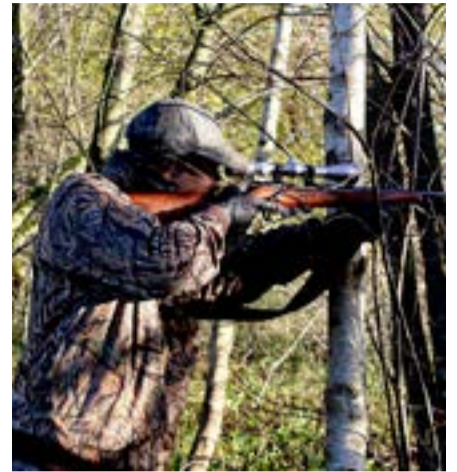
Te Tari Pūreke – Firearms Safety Authority, which chairs the Recreational Firearms Users Group, says New Zealand hunters in general have a good culture around firearms safety, but it only takes one mistake to ruin many people's lives and the deer roar has a spike in these types of incidents.

"Recreational hunting is a big part of many New Zealanders lives," Te Tari Pūreke director of partnerships Mike McIlraith said. "We just want everyone involved to have a great time away and to head home safe at the end to their loved ones."

Mike said Te Tari Pūreke will be running safety messages and has co-ordinated with key recreational firearms users groups who share the same safety goals for anyone out hunting this roar.

"Keeping themselves and others in their hunting area safe takes more than luck," he said.

"We've boiled it down to three key reminders for hunters this year – make a plan for your hunt and stick to it; always treat every firearm as loaded; and



Recreational firearms user groups say keeping safe takes more than luck.

File Photo: PIXABAY

identify your target beyond all doubt."

Mike said hunters were lucky to be hunting in a time of high deer numbers in many places with lots of opportunities for deer.

Hunters didn't need to be in a rush to shoot the first deer they see, they should take their time and wait until they see the whole animal, he said.

"All of this helps to keep the hunter calm and make 100 percent sure they have identified their target. If they have any doubts, then don't shoot," he said.

"Hunters shouldn't feel pressured to take the shot – no meat or no trophy is better than no mate. We want all hunters to have a great roar trip and come home safely."

WAIKATO TRACTORS LTD

f Waikato Tractors Ltd
waikatotracors.ltd

NEW MACHINERY



1.99% FINANCE P.A.*
20% DEPOSIT
60 MONTH TERM

T&Cs apply, see website for details

CONTACT OUR LOCAL SALES REP TODAY!

Graham Sara

027 654 0915

graham@waikatotracors.co.nz



USED MACHINERY



John Deere 6155M
Tidy 6155M with loader.
Cab suspension, trailer brakes,
Dromone Pickup Hitch, 650/65R38.
Has been through workshop check.
\$115,750 + GST



John Deere 6155M
2018. Very clean and tidy one owner,
low hour tractor. 1800 hours.
650/65/R38 80%, 540/65 R28 70%
\$169,900 + GST



New Holland L75
Good lifestyle or small block tractor.
\$19,990 + GST



Mericrusher 2.5 DT
Well suited for forestry clearing, farm-land clearing, soil reclamation, clearing and clean up after harvest and other demanding works.
\$79,990 + GST



Gaspardo Gigante 400 Pressure
WAS: \$89,990 + GST
NOW: \$85,000 + GST
0% FINANCE
36 MONTH TERM



Kverneland CLC PRO
12 leg 3m ripper with the famous Kverneland auto reset legs.
Ideal for maize stubble primary cultivation.
\$13,900 + GST

Get in touch with our team today!

2 Gallagher Drive, Melville, Hamilton
38 Progress Drive, Otohanga

07 843 7237
07 873 6221

www.waikatotracors.co.nz

Carving symposium returns

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

A creative symposium coming up later this month is welcoming community members across all generations and cultures to bear witness to the art of whakairo (carving).

Hosted and supported by Te Kura o te Kauaeranga Thames South School, the Ngākau Carving Symposium is returning for a second year.

It's a two-week public event that attracts professional and emerging artists from throughout Aotearoa New Zealand who share a deep passion for whakairo, working with kōhatu (stone) and rākau (wood).

Last year, 14 carvers from near and far created 20 carvings from pieces of an historic oak tree that sat on the school grounds and had to be cut down for safety reasons.

Completed carvings were delivered to businesses and organisations across the rohe (area), including the Thames Seagull Centre, Te Whariki o Mana Wahine Hauraki, Central Kids Kindergarten, Moanataiari School, Twentymans, Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki, and A&G Price, while Te Kura o Te Kauaeranga kept three carvings in its grounds.

Overall, around \$8000 was raised for the Rolleston St kura.

This year, the symposium will be held during the upcoming school holidays, from April 18-27.

"Building on last year's success, visitors to the 2024 symposium will witness a wide variety of rākau being utilised, all sourced from the district," spokesperson



Trevor Nathan at last year's Carving Symposium. File Photo: VALLEY PROFILE

Andre Barlow said. "Cyclone Gabrielle brought down some of the trees to be carved, while others were unearthed from along the coast after being buried for many years.

"Local kōhatu will also be sculpted, with some sourced from nearby rivers and others from the closest quarries."

Andre said Saturday, April 27 would be the symposium's final day where the carvings from the event will be auctioned. Kai will be available for purchase, and all were welcome to attend.

"This event is made possible by the support of our entire Thames community," Andre said. "Volunteers are currently being sought to help prepare meals for the artists or to have a presence on the grounds during the course of the

event. Alternatively, donations of kai (food) for the artists' meals would also be highly valued."

Ngākau was also seeking sponsorship for two artists, with part of the funding being paid directly to the artist in recognition of their mahi, and another part going to Te Kura o Te Kauaeranga.

All funds raised for the kura will be used for extracurricular activities for its tamariki, as well as contributing to non-Ministry of Education funded grounds and facilities development.

DETAILS: To get involved, email: ngakaucommittee@gmail.com. You can also follow updates and live feeds during the symposium by finding Ngakau Carving Symposium Hauraki Aotearoa NZ on Facebook.



Kōpū boat ramp set to open in May

It's full steam ahead for Thames-Coromandel's Kōpū Marine Servicing and Business Precinct which, once complete, could provide around 100 jobs.

With the marine work finished, contractors were now focused on the services, pavement, and accessways to the facility, Thames-Coromandel District Council said in a statement released recently.

Electrical installation has commenced; a base course has been placed on King St to form a road suitable for boats to access the existing boat ramp; new kerbs have been poured; footpath preparation is underway; and the installation of the culverts at the Quay St entrance has begun.

When it's finished, the facility

will consist of an 80m-long commercial wharf and floating pontoon enabling in-water marine servicing and vessel loading; an expanded, unsealed haul-out; an upgraded, concrete reinforced slipway; and a public boat ramp and car park.

"We're looking forward to opening it to the public in May," council said. "We'll be publicising the opening date as soon as it's confirmed."

During the culvert construction works in March, all traffic, including boat ramp trailers, will be diverted via the King St entrance to provide access to the existing boat ramp.

DETAILS: More info on the project can be found at www.tcdc.govt.nz.



Work on the Kōpū Marine Servicing and Business Precinct is coming along nicely, in time for its opening in May. Photo: URBAN SOLUTIONS

DAVE TAYLOR ROOFING

SPECIALISING IN:

Waterproofing Roofs and decks,
TPO Enviroclad • Butyl • Epiclاد • Torch On



TEL: 027 2707 277
EML: davetaylorroofing@gmail.com
WWW: davetaylorroofing.co.nz



AUTOWORKZ

THE A TO Z OF AUTO REPAIRS

FOR WOFS, LUBES AND ALL MECHANICAL REPAIRS

PRE 2000'S MOTORBIKE RESTORATIONS, SPECIALIZED PAINT WORK & REPAIRS

CALL DALE 867 7195 | 027 372 4797
autoworkz70@yahoo.com
KOHUNUI ST, NGATEA



DRIVING ACADEMY



Don't let a lack of a driver's licence make you miss out on that job.

Learner Licence Course

Driving Lessons to help you move from learners to a full licence

Defensive Driving Course

Advanced Driving Assessments

Don't wait - call or text 027 314 1577

now to book your space



Valley Education
free courses • free transport

Call or 07 868 7892
text us 027 314 1577

www.valleyeducation.co.nz

SPORTS

New rugby competition for women

RUGBY

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

There's a new rugby competition in the peninsula this winter, and it's aimed at bringing women into the game.

The Thames Valley Rugby Union has announced its inaugural Thames Valley Women's Rugby Club of Origin competition. Dates for the competition are yet to be confirmed but will likely be a six-week run beginning at the end of June. The competition will cater to newly-formed women's teams from clubs in the region, in a 12-a-side format.

Community rugby manager Scott Day said the competition was in response to a growing interest from women, and addressed a gap in the current roster of games.

"We've got 11 clubs, and we've previously fielded one women's team from the whole Thames Valley," Scott said.

"Now they [The Hauraki North Diamonds] run under the Hauraki North Rugby banner... And it doesn't capture all women. For people who live in Whitianga, Tairua, Whangamatā, it's just not feasible with the travel and the distance."

The TVRU spoke with all its clubs before Christmas to gauge interest in a club-based contest.

The result, Scott said, was six possible teams and a whole host of new players.



The new Thames Valley Women's Rugby Club of Origin competition begins in June. File Photo: K WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY

"We know that there are women that we haven't seen put a rugby jersey on before that are more than capable... We want to take the rugby to them," Scott said.

"This competition is suitable for all players: older women; younger women; women who have babies, or husbands playing rugby - and we can sort of play it by our rules rather than

Waikato Rugby rules." So far, Ngatea, Thames and Hauraki North clubs have indicated they will put up teams for the competition.

There will also be a further three combined teams: Waihi and Whangamatā will put forward a team under the Whangamatā banner; Waihou and the Cobras will form a Te Aroha team; and there will also

be a Coromandel team with some players from Whitianga.

Clubs are also being encouraged to organise some pre-competition fixtures.

"A lot of these women are playing rugby for the first time, so them going into a competition game without any preparation is just going to lead to injury, it's going to lead to women possibly not enjoying it because they're

not as fit as they need to be." Scott said the surge in interest from women was reflective of a culture change at clubs, as committees moved away from the "old-boy's club" model to a more family-friendly environment.

"Clubs have seen the success that the Hauraki North Diamonds have had," he said.

"They know that it turned the Hauraki North Club around last year in regard to bar takings and club culture... We want to try and create the platform for them to try and do that [too]."

The competition will be played on Sundays to allow families and volunteers to meet other commitments.

The TVRU is encouraging clubs to consider ways to make their clubrooms more welcoming to women, such as renovating changing rooms, adding sanitary bins and creating kid zones.

Scott is also hopeful the changes will encourage more women to become involved in other ways, such as referees and coaches.

"We've only got three female coaches, maybe, across the province," he said.

"I'd like to see that number get to 15 by the end of this year and I think that will naturally happen through the culture shift that we're starting to see."



AVAILABLE NOW
 • 2 bedroom Apartment on Level 2
 • Two Bedroom Villas
ENQUIRE TODAY!

STAGE 1 IS NOW COMPLETE
ENQUIRIES FOR STAGE 2 ARE WELCOME!

All apartments are within walking distance to Thames' shops, cafes and walkways.
The perfect location to enjoy your fun-filled retirement

Our open plan, single level apartments feature covered balconies with fantastic views of the sea, Kauaeranga River and mountains.

Each unit's elegantly finished kitchen, lounge, bedroom and bathroom offer stylish warmth and light.

All residents enjoy scenic views from each level's shared lounges, use of the Village Community Lodge and participation in all activities and amenities at your leisure.

PHONE US
 to view
 by appointment
Come and experience the difference!



Living the lifestyle, loving the choice...
A lifestyle village in Thames on the Coromandel

82 Richmond St, Thames 0800 868 5484 www.richmondvillas.co.nz

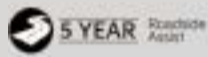


New Kia Stonic



Movement that inspires

FROM
\$25,990 +ORC



The Kia 5 Year Warranty Programme runs for 5 years or up to 150,000 kms (whichever occurs first). All other on road costs (ORC) are additional. Terms and conditions apply, see kia.co.nz for full details.

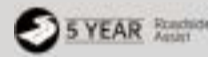
New Kia Seltos

LX 2.0L Petrol



Movement that inspires

SRP **\$29,990** +ORC



The Kia 5 Year Warranty Programme runs for 5 years or up to 150,000 kms (whichever occurs first). All other on road costs (ORC) are additional. Terms and conditions apply, see kia.co.nz for full details.

New Kia Niro

Hybrid 'Light'



Movement that inspires

\$44,990 +ORC



The Kia 7 Year Warranty Programme runs for 7 years or up to 150,000 kms (whichever occurs first). All other on road costs (ORC) are additional. Terms and conditions apply, see kia.co.nz for full details.

All New Sportage

Hybrid HEV 'Light'




Movement that inspires

\$53,990 +ORC



The Kia 7 Year Warranty Programme runs for 7 years or up to 150,000 kms (whichever occurs first). All other on road costs (ORC) are additional. Terms and conditions apply, see kia.co.nz for full details.

THAMES VALLEY KIA 321 Pollen Street, Thames
Ph 07 868 8951 • Paul Griffin 021 169 4036 • www.ThamesKia.co.nz



**LITTLE FOOT
PODIATRY**

721 Pollen St, Thames (Rose Cottage)

Mon - Fri 9am to 5pm

Twice Monthly clinics in Ngatea,
Te Aroha, Whangamata & Whitianga

littlefootpodiatry.co.nz
020 41941399 - littlefootpodiatry@gmail.com

Health & Wellbeing



Little Foot Podiatry offers a wide range of services.

Photo: SUPPLIED



Classic to contemporary styling

All aspects of colouring

Blonding specialists

"City styling in the heart of Coromandel"



558 Pollen St, Thames. Phone 868 6105
www.facebook.com/walterandcothames

www.walterandco.co.nz
Instagram@walter_andco

Looking after your feet

Little Foot Podiatry's main office is located at 721 Pollen St in Thames, and we offer a wide range of services to help you with foot issues.

If you have ingrown toenails, fungal nails, thickened nails, corns, callous (hard skin) or simply need regular maintenance to help keep the length of your toenails down and to keep your feet healthy, we can help.

If you are a diabetic who has complications or a history of complications with your feet, you may be eligible to be referred to us for some funded appointments - just ask your GP or practice nurse to send a referral to us via their secure referral system; "best practice".

Alternatively, if you are affiliated with Veterans Affairs, please contact your liaison and they will likely be able to refer you to our services for some funded appointments.

Biomechanical appointments are best

suitable when you are experiencing pain in your feet or lower limb, such as sore heels, sore arches, or difficulty walking.

At our Thames clinic, we have a selection of supportive footwear and can prescribe orthotics (customized supportive inserts) for your footwear if required.

Minor surgeries offered at Little Foot Podiatry are ingrown toenail surgery and verruca removal surgery.

There are conservative options also available for these conditions, which we will discuss with you during your appointment.

We also have satellite clinics that we visit twice monthly in Ngatea, Te Aroha, Whangamata and Whitianga.

For more information, please contact us: Phone: 020 4194 1399, Email: littlefootpodiatry@gmail.com.

- Supplied by Little Foot Podiatry

HOW ARE YOUR EARS? ITCHY, BLOCKED, RINGING?



Our experienced registered nurses provide

- ✓ Micro suction of ear wax and debris
- ✓ Management of ear infections
- ✓ Removal of foreign objects from ear canal

Adults \$60 Children \$40

- No referral required
- ACC and Veteran Affairs approved

Thames is every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
Paeroa is every second Friday

107 Sealey St Thames
Ph: 07 868 3250
Or book online at
www.earhealth.co.nz



Microsuction available at Ngatea

Greetings to our community. The introduction of ear microsuction we are now offering at Health Ngatea has been well received.

It is a gentle, safe and modern technique to clean the ear canal. It is performed under direct vision using a microscope and the cleaning is done by suctioning. The ear canal can get blocked with wax, skin and debris from infections or foreign objects.

Blocking of the ear leads to decreased hearing, pain in the ear canal, blocked sensation and imbalance.

Microsuctioning allows us to examine the ear canal and the eardrum in detail. It allows safe cleaning and assurance about the wellbeing of the ear.

Suctioning can be done safely in children with grommets too.

We are running a clinic every Tuesday morning from 9am to 12pm.



Please phone the practice to book your appointment. SPECIALIST ROOM FOR HIRE We currently have an available room within the practice for hire.

It is modern and well appointed, situated in the hub of Ngatea Community, easy to access with parking.

Please email our Business Manager Dwayne Stewart in the first instance for all inquiries: dwayne@health-tearoa.co.nz.

FLU CLINICS

We will shortly be commencing flu clinics. More information on this to follow.

- Supplied by Health Ngatea

Te Mata Hauora

TRADITIONAL MĀORI HEALING
PURE, MIRIMIRI, KARAKIA, RONGOĀ

Whangamatā Community Clinic
Saturday 6 April
10.00am - 2.00pm

Whangamatā Baptist Church
301 Port Road, Whangamatā

Walk-in clinic, no appointment needed
Koha is greatly appreciated for services
Rongoā for sale



Hosted by
Te Mata Hauora
a Io Matangaro

Supported by
Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki



Qualified Nutritionist: Personal Trainer: Health Coach: Life Coach with over 20 years of experience



Make 2024 your healthiest year yet!
(without giving up the food you love)

Learn how to manage your health for optimal energy and longevity.

Please contact me for details of my online coaching program for women who want to lose weight, get their nutrition sorted and get their health back on track.

www.outlookforlife.com
ginny@outlookforlife.com
021 028 58272

CALL THE EXPERTS

ARBORIST



TREE SHAPES

Qualified Arborists

- Treework Large & Small
- Stump Grinding ➤ Hedge Trimming
- Fruit Tree Pruning ➤ Chipping

For a free quote call
07 868 3985 or 0274 726627

CLEANING



AJ CLEAN UP CREW

- Lawn mowing
- Weedeating
- Hedge & tree trim
- Section clearing
- Gardening
- Rubbish removal
- Interior house clean
- New build clean/clear
- Odd jobs considered
- One off jobs welcome

0800 464 898
Alaine Hedges
027 242 7268
John Hedges
027 457 2018
Email: info@ajcleanupcrew.co.nz

BUILDERS

THINKING OF RENOVATING? WE MAKE IT EASY



Smith & Sons 0800 764 846
www.smithandsons.co.nz

DRIVING ACADEMY

DRIVING COURSES

Driving lessons
Learner Licence courses
Defensive Driving courses
Book now 027 314 1577 (text or phone)
admin@valleyeducation.co.nz

Valley Education
07 868 7892



Smart offers a variety of bin sizes from 80 litre wheelie bins to 30 cubic metres. Photo: SUPPLIED

EARTHWORKS & CARTAGE



Digger, Bulldozer & Truck Hire

- Mulching
- Cartage of Metal, sand, fertiliser, palm kernel, hay & maize silage

PHONE TIM 027 278 5384
T & A MCWATTERS LTD

ELECTRICIAN



Cool Electric

- Electricians
- Heat Pumps
- Air Conditioning
- Security Systems

07 868 7151
E: cooelectric@xtra.co.nz
W: www.cooelectric.co.nz

22C Ngati Maru Hwy, Kopu, Thames

FLOORING

Supply & Installation for Domestic & Commercial

- Carpet • Vinyl
- Laminate • Polyurethane

Contact us for your free Measure and Quote
Phone: 021 020 47027
Email: dan@thefloorman.co.nz



HAIRDRESSER



Magic Scissors

Pensioner ladies trim \$38
Pensioner ladies wash & cut \$48
Stylist Nola, over 30 years experience hairdressing.

Open Mon to Fri
453 Pollen St
Thames

HOMEKILL

Hunts Home Kills

For all your meat and game processing needs.

- We are dedicated to you, the customer.
- Hygienic, vacuum packed products.
- Professional facilities.
- Smoked meats are our specialty.
- 12 - 14 days hung on the bone, minimum
- Game orders over 10kg
- Premium custom orders to meet your needs

Ph: 0800 250 939 • Mob: Mike - 021 411 210
E: huntshomekill@gmail.com
W: huntshomekills.nz • Follow us on FB

FUNERALS



Valley FUNERAL SERVICES

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Our family serving yours — in the Hauraki & Thames Corromandel Districts

- Direct Cremation for Ngatea/Paeroa/Thames/Waihi \$2850 GST incl
- Traditional, Eco & Bespoke Funerals from \$4800
- Pre-Planning

Ph: 0800 862 6362
Des & Christine Necklen
Funeral Directors




MOBILE MECHANIC



mobile mechanics

We come to you...

- Servicing & repairs on all cars, trucks, campervans, machinery & small engines
- Batteries available

Phone Brian: 021 259 4779 or 876 5401
Email: robosvette@gmail.com

PAINTER



That Painter Ltd.

Residential & Light Commercial Painting
We paint like Picasso only cheaper!

- Interior & Exterior • Residential & Light Commercial
- Fully Insured • Workmanship Guarantee

Contact Stan on 0223137911
to discuss your project.

PLASTERER

TWINWOLF PLASTERING SERVICES

- Exterior Plastering specialist.
- 30 years experience
- All aspects of plastering including. Gib stopping, fireplaces, steps, foundations, patios, block walls and renovations.
- Specialising in exterior repairs & modern finishes.

Shannon: 022 428 2239
Twinwolfservices@gmail.com

PLUMBER



BROKENSHIRE & ROSS

YOUR LOCAL PLUMBING & HEATING SPECIALISTS



PLUMBER

Huntly Plumbers 2022 Ltd

FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING, DRAINLAYING & GAS REQUIREMENTS

Ph 07 828 9175
Email: admin@huntlyplumbers.co.nz
www.huntlyplumbers.co.nz



RUBBISH REMOVAL

Smart Bins

Skip bins, Wheelie Bins, Farm Bins

Phone us or book online
0800 4 MY BIN or
www.smartbins.co.nz

SEPTIC TANK CLEANING

ALLENS UNITED

Paeroa (2015) Ltd

LIQUID WASTE SPECIALISTS

0800 862 720 | 027 442 0067

SERVICES

Plumbing • Drainlaying
Roofing • Gas
Home Heating



P: 868 6096
A: 315 Pollen Street Thames 3500
E: brokey@outlook.co.nz
W: www.Brokenshire.co.nz

SCRAP VEHICLES



CARS WANTED CASH PAID

Any unwanted car, ute, van or 4WD No warrant, No WOF, Deregistered, not going?? NO PROBLEM

WAIKATO VEHICLE REMOVALS PH/TXT KEVIN 027 299 6165

SCRAP METAL



Scrappy Vorns

Buyers of all scrap metal & cars
Farm clean up specialists
Top prices paid

Phone Vern • 021 621 437

Book a CALL THE EXPERTS ad from just \$50 + GST per week* and one of our professional reporters will write a story about your business at no extra cost.


022 130 3885
nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz



CALL THE EXPERTS

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

TYRES & BATTERIES



► Stockists of all major tyre brands

- Exide Batteries with extended warranties
- Wheel Alignments.

314 Pollen St, Thames
Ph 868 8182

WINDSCREENS



We come to you!

Chip Repairs - Windscreen replacements
-Insurance claims

PH: 0272127750
www.precisionwindcreens.co.nz

Painters

Experienced Painter available, houses, farm buildings, fences, etc. Quality work, reasonable price. Ph 027 2142442

Professional roof painter. Mario Kerkhof 027 961 4055

Public Notice

Thames-Coromandel District Council Meetings – April 2024

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during April 2024.

Council meeting:
Tuesday 30 April 2024, 09:00 am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

Committee Meeting
Sustainability and Community Resilience Committee Meeting
Thursday 18 April 2024 10:00 am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

Community Board Meetings
Tairua-Pāuanui Community Board
Monday 8 April 2024, 10:00 am, Pāuanui Hub, 23 Centreway, Pāuanui

Whangamatā Community Board
Tuesday 9 April 2024 10:00am, Whangāmata Service Centre, 620 Port Road, Whangamatā


Thames Community Board
Wednesday 10 April 2024 10:00 am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

Coromandel-Colville Community Board
Tuesday 16 April 2024, 9:00 am, Coromandel Service Centre, 355 Kapanga Road, Coromandel

Mercury Bay Community Board
Wednesday 17 April 2024, 9:00 am, Mercury Bay Service Centre, 10 Monk Street, Whitianga


Due to new publishing deadlines, this notice is later than usual however all meetings are listed on Council's online Council Meeting Calendar and will be available to view online via Microsoft Teams. Please visit <https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/Our-Council/Meetings/Agendas-Reports-and-Minutes> for copies of agendas.

A Lawrie
Chief Executive
Thames-Coromandel District Council



www.tcdc.govt.nz

Last month's winner of the lotto ticket was H. Prince, who found Pete in the March 13th edition in the Ngatea Milking advert.



Go to page 2 for details on how to enter.

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

In Memoriam	For Lease	Public Notice	Public Notices
HAYWARD, Fay Mary: August 2, 1934 - April 2, 2023. Daughter of Ita and Hugh Hayward late of Ngatea. One year on and her family and friends still remember Fay's wide smile and sense of humour. We all miss her support, kindness and regularly reminiscence on past adventures. She will live in our memories forever. With love from her sisters and brothers - Phyllis, Lorraine, Bill, Diane, Frank, Kitty and Kevin (deceased) and their families.	Yards for lease, Thames and Kopu. Suitable for trucks, vehicles or trade business base. Ph 027 440 7101	End Times? Are we in the end times? Are you interested in meeting in Thames to discuss biblical end time prophecy, give me a call. Tony 027 440 4045.	AGM Upper Piako Wetland Management Association 10 April 7pm At the Kerepehi Bowling & Sports Club
	For Sale	Handyman	PAEROA GREYPOWER INCORPORATED Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday, 8th April 1.30p.m. at the Bible Chapel, Wharf Street, Paeroa. All Welcome. Gail Locke, Secretary.
	"ARTSHED" ART - PRINTS by DAVID T. MOLLER 20 WILLOUGHBY ST PAEROA PH 07-862-8033	Mowing, hedges, fencing, gardening, carpentry, painting, retaining walls, welding, waterblasting. Work is good quality and I will not attempt to work outside of my skills. Insured. Dennis Schuler 022 129 0169	
	Gardening	Storage	Hauraki RSA & Memorial Club and Hauraki RSA Poppy Trust Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 17th April 2024 at the Hauraki RSA & Memorial Club, 14 Pipiroa Road, Ngatea, 7.00pm "Proposal to amalgamate the Hauraki RSA & Memorial Club under one identity" The Hauraki RSA
	STUMP GRINDING. All sizes, all areas. Thames based. Ph 021 060 7659	Storage Unlimited 25 Ngati Maru Highway Kopu, Thames Clean, secure, dry Units available 7 x 3.6m and 7 x 5.5m Phone 07 868 9944	
	Need stump grinding? Any size, any number, anywhere. Different machines for different applications. Over 20 years experience. Short Back n Sides Ltd <i>We solve your stump problems.</i> 027 439 0367	STORAGE KOPU, PAEROA TE AWAMUTU "New Units" Ph 027 440 7101 07 868 3033 Safe n Sound Storage www.safestorage.co.nz	
	Storage	STORE 4 U Waihi. Clean, dry, alarmed. Call Lyn 0275 759 173.	
	Thames Valley Storage – secure, dry units available, two sizes. Call Trev 027 4076966		

Tiler

Professional tiling services. Ph Rob 022 408 4136

Trades & Services

FENCING CONTRACTOR
Residential & Rural Retaining walls & more
High quality workmanship
Competitive prices
Call Matt 021 1727 148

PEST CONTROL & CARPET CLEANING SERVICES
Phone: 027 379 4721
Commercial & Residential Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
Free Quotes

Pets

KENNELS
WAITAKARURU Boarding Kennels and Cattery. "A great place for your pet to stay." Carol and Bill Bell, Ph: 07-867-3344, SH25 Waitakaruru, RD6 Thames

Church Notices

Assembly of God
10am Sundays.
Scout Hall.
Baker St, Waihi

Thames Spiritualist Church, Sunday April 7, 2pm Grahamstown Hall. Speakers: Kay Moore and Davene

Fire Testing

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
✓checked
SMOKE ALARMS
✓checked
Ph Richard 027 933 2015

Storage

Storage Unlimited
25 Ngati Maru Highway
Kopu, Thames
Clean, secure, dry
Units available
7 x 3.6m and 7 x 5.5m
Phone 07 868 9944

STORAGE KOPU, PAEROA TE AWAMUTU
"New Units"
Ph 027 440 7101
07 868 3033
Safe n Sound Storage
www.safestorage.co.nz

STORE 4 U Waihi.
Clean, dry, alarmed.
Call Lyn 0275 759 173.

Tio Farm Supervisor - Coromandel Township

- Skippers Licence essential
- Part of Aquaculture Site Leadership Team
- Reports to Farm & Special Projects Manager

Who We Are:
Moana New Zealand's oysters are farmed in the pristine tidal waters of Aotearoa and our Pacific oysters perfectly capture the freshness and vitality of the waters they are harvested from.

What You'll Be Doing:
Reporting through to the Farm & Special Projects Manager this role will be accountable for overseeing and developing the farm and shore team on a day-to-day basis. This is a hands-on role, with a significant portion of time spent on the water, developing the team, and working with new technology and a flip farm system (no mud!) for harvesting oysters. You'll need the operational, technical and leadership horsepower to step into this role and helping to develop a team, establish credibility as a supervisor, mentor, and oyster farming professional. There is complexity and breadth to this role, along with challenges, and ambitious milestones. to be met.

Key Responsibilities:

- Actively contribute and support the development of a sustainable and cost-effective farming operation, with the highest standards of quality, health & safety, and biosecurity.
- Day to day direction, and allocation of tasks and activities to team
- Assist the maintenance of both the Pacific Oyster brood stock and experimental oyster lots of the selective breeding program.
- Establish and grow flip farm capability, output, and quality on our Coromandel farms
- Support the training, onboarding and induction of new and existing farm workers aligned to SOPS, code of conduct and Moana's farm standards

You will have the opportunity to combine your leadership, and aquaculture farm knowledge and capability, with your flair for creating great employee experiences and developing high performing teams.

What You'll Need To Be Successful:
This is a challenging and rewarding role, that requires an energised, resilient and experienced Aquaculture Farmer, or Lead Hand who is keen to step up, take on more responsibility and help develop a world class farming operation and team. Alternatively, you may be an Aquaculture Farm Manager looking to step into a role where you can fast track your career and be a key part of succession planning and future proofing our operations.


Key Requirements:

- Excellent aquaculture farming knowledge and experience
- Skippers Licence
- Capable of working under pressure to meet key deadlines
- Confident, with effortless way of leading, connecting, and working with people (all levels of experience)
- Sound Microsoft Office skills
- A strong work ethic, and a "can do", "no fuss" attitude
- Fresh ideas and efficient ways of working

Contact us if you would like to apply to this role, please submit your resume and a cover letter, C/- Moana's Recruitment Team at recruitment@moana.co.nz and in the subject box put the job title. Closing date for applications is 12:00 pm, 21 April 2024

DEADLINE

We can take your classified ads anytime before 12pm Mondays
022 130 3885 | nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz



Storage

TOTAL STORAGE LTD
KEREPEHI / PAEROA

We will beat any legit quote for storage in 10ft or 20ft containers
T&C's apply
021 67 67 99
info@totalstorage.co.nz

Handyman

THAMES HANDYMAN & BUILDING SERVICES

Building, home maintenance & general gardening services

Phone: Fleur or Crighton • 0273 913 283

The shadows of our past

OPINION



By MICHAEL WILKES

In 2020 just before my granddad passed away, I went to visit him at the rest home. He was clutching an ancient-looking wooden box and waiting for me with anticipation. He was 96 and his mind was as sharp as a needle even as his body failed. He was handing over all the family history he had been given from his parents. The moment was more significant than I cared to realise. You see all four of his children had passed away. His dad had died when he was only 13. And his mother passed when he was in his early twenties. He lost all his children to mental health battles and at least three or four uncles to suicide. This man knew the pain of tragic loss like few of us could imagine. And here was

a moment where he was passing on the family history to the surviving generation. In it were birth and death certificates, property purchase agreements, wills and pictures that dated back to the 1800s.

There were poems written by my great grandmother and a hand written sermon from my great grandad written back in 1930. And it all sat with me, at 32 I become the oldest member of my side of the family for my children.

Why do I share all this. Because history is important. Because we stand on the shoulders of giants. Because we have a culture that at times belittles the past generation; "Okay Boomers", and writes off the one to follow.

Yet we hold responsibility for the actions of our ancestors and bear accountability for how the generation to follow will turn out. I discovered that my family were watch makers for generations. And recently I had my dad's cousin visit from Aussie to see the contents of the box. She explained that the process of fusing gold to jewellery released mercury into the air.

My family for generations were joining the mad hatters and losing their minds due to that process.

And I suddenly experienced both a sense of sadness and



relief. Sadness for the generations before me who had unknowingly poisoned themselves and their family leading to so much death and suicide. And relief realising that my family were not simply crazy.

And it caused me to pause. Sometimes we don't want to go into that painful past. It hurts too much.

Yet sometimes revisiting that place of hurt is exactly what we need to do to move forward. Sometimes the trauma of our past is what is holding us from truly stepping into our future.

Sometimes we need others to help us work through the shadows of our past in order to step into a future that seems a little brighter.

I don't fear the mental health history in my family now because light was shone on the shadows of the past.

- Michael Wilkes is a Living Well Trust Youth Worker

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The March Meeting of the Goldfields Women's Institute commenced with the Aspirations and Prayer. The Motto for the Month – "The genius of modern technology is making things last 50 years and making them obsolete in three years" was read by Bev Schenkel. The roll call – A most relaxing holiday had members enjoying some relaxing times in New Zealand as well as overseas. The good deed – items for the Hospice Op Shop resulted in a box of 64 items being donated. Birthday girl this month was Val Bowen and raffles were won by Jeannine Oliver and Sue Fah. A report was given from the members who attended the Federation AGM in Kerepēhi in early March. The annual report had

been presented and we donated goods to nine community groups, including hospital and rest homes with a total of 3492 items and our institutes ladies volunteered 4817 hours of their time. Yearly trophy winners were Helen Udy, Sue Fah, Val Bowen, Bev Schenkel, Carole Bridle and Kate Wood. A good discussion was held regarding the type of knitting we should be doing and at the moment we are concentrating on making rugs for the rest homes as well as the baby rugs. Grace was said before relaxing over lunch.

COMPETITION RESULTS: Bloom: 1 Sue Fah, 2 Helen Udy. Cluster: 1 Helen Udy, 2 Sue Fah. Shrub: 1 Sue Fah, 2 Helen Udy. Orchid: 1 Sue Fah. Competition – Prem Baby Bootees: 1 Carole Bridle, 2 Bev Schenkel.

SPORTS

Send your sports reports and photos to editor@valleyprofile.co.nz



Bev Sharp and Kevin Lockley are the winners of the recently-held Paeroa Bowling Club singles championships. The weather was all over the place but we managed to get through all our games. The bowling was of a very high standard and all games were keenly fought. As a result of all the competition, our winners were found. The ladies championship was won by Bev Sharp and the men's was won by Kevin Lockley. They are both well deserving victors and their bowling was exceptional. Paeroa Bowling Club is very proud to have them as our singles champions.

- Martin Douglas, Paeroa Bowling Club

ADVANTAGE
THE TYRE PROFESSIONALS

Two Locations

Kopu Tyre Services
Main Road, Kopu, THAMES
Ph: 07 868-9660
Emergency Service: 0274 976 356

Valley Tyre Services
Cnr Station & Tawa Rds PAEROA
Ph: 07 862-7767

- ◆ Wheel Alignment Services
- ◆ ATV Tyres
- ◆ Alloy and Chrome Performance Mag Wheels
- ◆ 1 Hour Puncture Repairs
- ◆ 24 Hour Callout Service

www.advantagetyres.com

DON'T FORGET

Daylight Savings ends this Sunday April 7th

Thames Valley Club Rugby

SENIOR A Saturday April 6th

Hauraki North V Waihi
Te Aroha COBRAS V Mercury Bay
Whangamata V Paeroa
Waihou V Thames

All Senior A games start at 2.00pm (unless stated)
Teams named first indicate home team

SENIOR B

Te Aroha COBRAS	V	Mercury Bay	Sat Apr 6th	12.25pm
Hauraki North	V	Waihi	Sat Apr 6th	12.25pm
Waihou	V	Thames	Sat Apr 6th	12.25pm
Whangamata	V	Coromandel	Sat Apr 6th	12.25pm
Ngatea - Bye				

FORAGE
@ READ BROS. COOK • BAKE • CREATE

A unique collection of kitchen and homeware carefully selected each season for those who love to gift, cook and create.

Logos for FALCON, BAKEMASTER, and Ulster Weavers.

READ BROS.
EST. 1867
Hardware

A traditional hardware store where you will find quality goods and quality service, every time.

www.readbros.co.nz
308 Pollen St, Thames
07 868 6608



DIRECT CREMATION within 15kms of Thames: \$2950.00
DIRECT CREMATION requiring transfer from Whangamata, Tairua, Whitianga, Waihi, Paeroa, Ngatea and Coromandel: \$3195.00
DIRECT CREMATION requiring transfer from North of Coromandel or Waikato Hospital: \$3295.00
 Outside all of these areas: \$2950.00 plus mileage
 For additional information please refer to Twentymans website: twentymans.co.nz CONTACT: 07 868 6003



Please advise your Vet of your wish to use Forever Pets Crematorium



Visit the website: foreverpets.co.nz for further information.
 CONTACT: Forever Pets 07 868 6003.
 We guarantee the ashes you get back belong to your pet and only your pet.



SUDOKU

144

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

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

144

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

HARD

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

MEDIUM

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

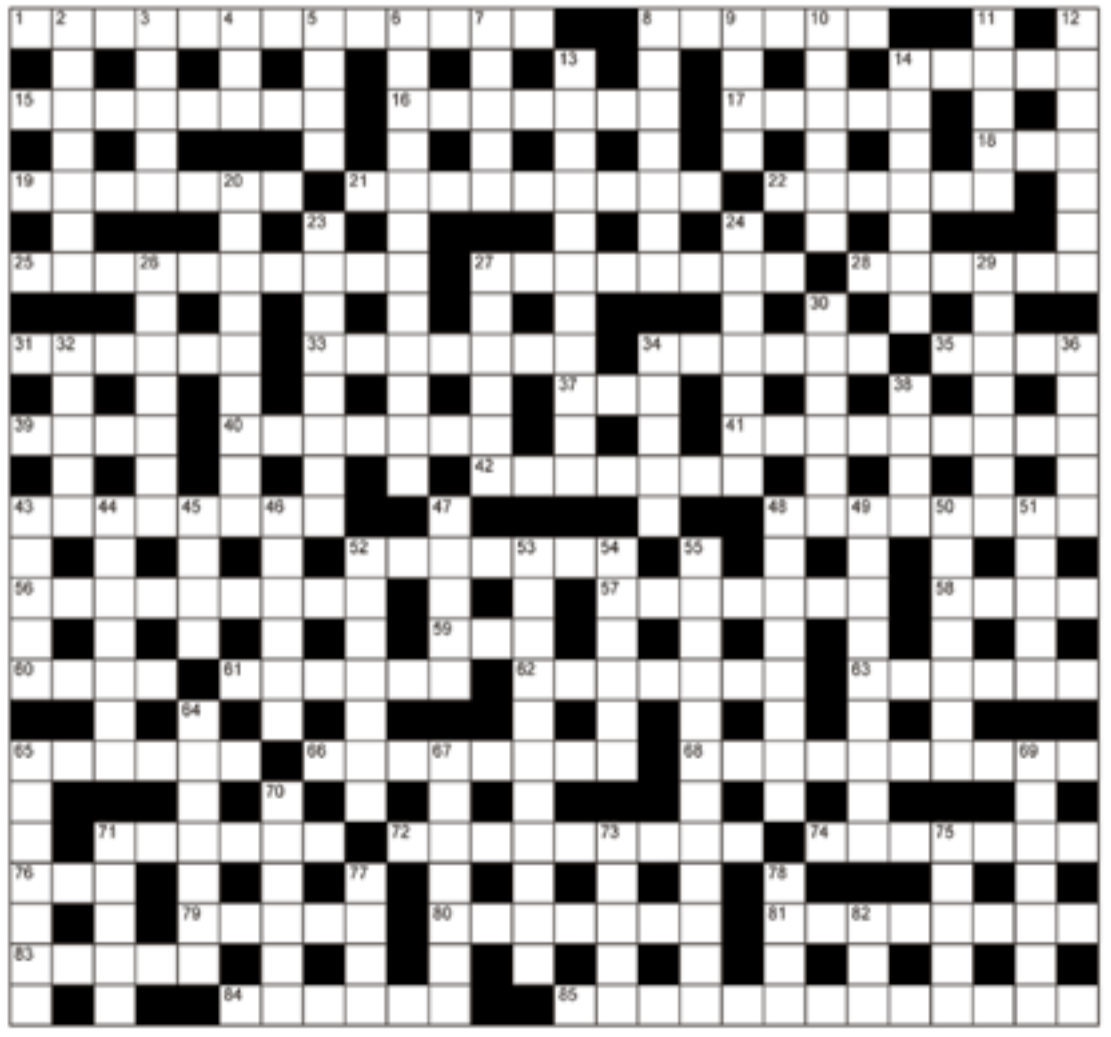
EASY

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

JUMBO CROSSWORD

164

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pretend not to see (4,1,5,3)
 - 8 Husband or wife (6)
 - 14 Garden tool (5)
 - 15 Ancient Hindu language (8)
 - 16 Make ready (7)
 - 17 Mournful song (5)
 - 18 Small round mark (3)
 - 19 Young tree (7)
 - 21 Competitor's advantage (4,5)
 - 22 Room to manoeuvre (6)
 - 25 Pasta in long slender threads (10)
 - 27 Racetrack (8)
 - 28 Chemist's grinding tool (6)
 - 31 Summer flower (6)
 - 33 Lockjaw (7)
 - 34 Make less harsh (6)
 - 35 Door out (4)
 - 37 Jump on one leg (3)
 - 39 Horse farm (4)
 - 40 Become better (7)
 - 41 Blue-green gemstone (9)
 - 42 Certificate (7)
 - 43 Profit or returns (8)
 - 48 Rural worker (8)
 - 52 Comfort in grief (7)
 - 56 Wet sport (5,4)
 - 57 Cocktail (7)
 - 58 Playthings (4)
 - 59 Decay (3)
 - 60 Paper quantity (4)
 - 61 Red wine (6)
 - 62 Supervise (7)
 - 63 Lace hole (6)
 - 65 Underside (2)
 - 66 Schools (8)
 - 68 Bully, browbeat (10)
 - 71 Bluest (anag)(6)
 - 72 Ancestry (9)
 - 74 Painkilling drug (7)
 - 76 Brim (3)
 - 79 Chain of mountains (5)
 - 80 Hair cleaner (7)
 - 81 Australian parrot (8)
 - 83 Grate (5)
 - 84 Fish covering (6)
 - 85 Advantage supplementing wages (6,7)
 - DOWN**
 - 2 Ignorant of (7)
 - 3 Of the nose (5)
 - 4 Drinks counter (3)
 - 5 Jot, small amount (4)
 - 6 A decrease in value over time (12)
 - 7 Give up (5)
 - 8 Directed (7)
 - 9 Probability (4)
 - 10 Flavoured water ice (6)
 - 11 Bow-legged (5)
 - 12 Small surviving trace (7)
 - 13 Joint business (11)
 - 14 Underwater plant (7)
 - 20 Stone fruit (9)
 - 23 Duck-billed Australian animal (8)
 - 24 Fine lustrous silk-like fabric (7)
 - 26 Tuneful (7)
 - 27 Scorched (6)
 - 29 Fabric (7)
 - 30 Fireplace floor (6)
 - 32 In search of (5)
 - 34 Parody (5)
 - 36 Flecked woollen cloth (5)
 - 38 Leap (4)
 - 43 Might (5)
 - 44 Pariah (7)
 - 45 Gain by work (4)
 - 46 Absent-minded scrawl (6)
 - 47 Chemically inactive (5)
 - 48 Short dagger (8)
 - 49 Outer skin layer (9)
 - 50 Excitable, fiery person (7)
 - 51 Poem (5)
 - 52 Rust (7)
 - 53 Remote (3-2-3-3)
 - 54 Fire remains (6)
 - 55 Garment worn indoors (8,4)
 - 64 Shell (7)
 - 65 Ship-stabilising material (7)
 - 67 Vehicle's underframe (7)
 - 69 Capital of Libya (7)
 - 70 Medical establishment (6)
 - 71 Left over (5)
 - 73 Waxed wick for conveying flame (5)
 - 75 Reflection (5)
 - 77 Prisoner's room (4)
 - 78 Land measure unit (4)
 - 82 Signal (3)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Taint, 4 Clear conscience, 14 Shape, 15 Spear, 16 Skyscraper, 17 Ghost, 19 Shy, 20 Caustic, 21 Trafalgar, 22 Medley, 25 Billiards, 27 Finger, 28 Mosque, 33 Trespasser, 35 Boa, 36 Nicety, 37 Wilt, 39 Tea, 41 Culpit, 42 Corset, 43 Realistic, 44 Entry, 45 Cardigan, 50 Zn, 51 Tapestry, 55 Banjo, 58 Principle, 59 Osprey, 60 Combust, 61 Oil, 63 Debt, 64 Lagoon, 65 Out, 66 Archimedes, 68 Dawdle, 69 Tiddly, 71 Associate, 76 Jackal, 77 Abhorrent, 79 Aniseed, 81 Due, 84 Theme, 85 Overweight, 86 Dared, 87 Ankle, 88 Against the clock, 89 Heart.

DOWN: 2 Appear, 3 Nears, 5 Like, 6 Assured, 7 Carafe, 8 Nepal, 9 Certain, 10 Edge, 11 Choker, 12 Daisy, 13 Recycle, 14 Stilton, 18 Misleading, 23 Cause, 24 Mercury, 26 Insipid, 27 Flatten, 29 Quintet, 30 Trauma, 31 Abuse, 32 Strata, 34 Room, 36 Natty, 38 Tacky, 40 Aide, 45 Coped, 46 Rainbow, 47 Itch, 48 Appeal, 49 Union, 50 Zoology, 52 Provisions, 53 Subject, 54 Rushes, 55 Bedouin, 56 Spite, 57 Beta, 62 Scoop, 67 Placate, 68 Deadpan, 70 Dubious, 72 Sundial, 73 Bad egg, 74 Browse, 75 Meteor, 76 Jerky, 78 Overt, 80 Scale, 82 Deli, 83 Chic.

Cadets care for Coro coastlines

The recovery of Thames-Coromandel's storm-battered coastlines is being given a boost from a group of new cadets learning how to take care of dunes to support their long-term resilience.

Three community members have taken up coastal kaitiaki roles with Thames-Coromandel District Council, getting stuck into work on dune restoration and storm recovery as part of Mayors Taskforce For Jobs (MTFJ) and Council's Recovery Fund - granted by central government.

Shelly Balsom, Geordie Wilson, and Roman Carley are all employed as Coastal Kaitiaki, working alongside senior council staff on dune care projects.

"We're planting to enable self-repair following erosion, so it's really important work. It's a change of scenery every day, going to different places, meeting different people," Geordie said. "It's awesome to be working outdoors, plus we get to jump in the ocean on our lunch break."

The community employment programme sees the cadets employed on six-month contracts. Their positions are jointly funded through council's Recovery Fund, and MSD Projects in Community Funding.

The Mayors Taskforce For Jobs covers their training costs, including help with attaining driver licenses, first aid courses and training to use agri-chemicals safely.

District Mayor Len Salt met with the cadets recently at Whitianga and said he was "so impressed" with the way they had "seized the opportunity".

"They're very quickly coming



From left: cadet Shelly Balsom, Mayor Len Salt, cadet Geordie Wilson, cadet Roman Carley, and TCDC's Andrea Whitehead. Photo: SUPPLIED/TCDC

up to speed with some of the big challenges for our coastlines, and are learning skills to help deal with those," he said.

"They're making a local impact in their own communities, which sets them up well for future work in our region as we all grapple with how to create resilient, sustainable environments to live in."

The Coastal Kaitiaki roles are recovery-focused to address dune erosion that occurred along the east coast of the Coromandel Peninsula, as a result of three stormy winters, including Cyclone Gabrielle. Natural dune repair depends on a good cover of native sand binding grasses. The cadets have been clearing dunes of weeds that washed in during the storm, as well as collecting seed for future plantings. "We're seeing the im-

pacts of these weeds taking over, our native plants need space to be healthy. There's already been a positive impact from the work our cadets are putting in and they've only been here a couple of weeks," council's coastal restoration coordinator Andrea Whitehead said. "They're learning a huge amount about the dynamics and natural processes of our beaches."

At the end of their contracts, council will support the cadets to update their CVs and identify further employment opportunities in the region.

Mayors Taskforce For Jobs is a movement of mayors around Aotearoa who are working together towards the vision of all young people 16-25 being engaged in employment, education, or training in their communities.

ENTERTAINMENT

Gliss to perform at St George's

Thames harpist Anna Dunwoodie and her quartet Gliss Harps will be entertaining at St George's Church on April 7 at 2pm.

Anna is now a Thames resident again having moved back to Thames after spending 20 years in Auckland.

"The harp has always been an instrument known for the sound of ethereal shimmering music which ripples from the fingers as tho it's heaven sent, but that's not the only way to play a harp," she said.

"Gliss Harps brings you a programme of music which defies any one label - where else could you hear four harps playing a tango or a ragtime number, film music or traditional songs, something classical or a waltz, a pop song or a hymn?"

A fun and interesting repertoire of ensembles and solos which showcases both lever and pedal harps and a variety of sounds and techniques which you may not have known were possible on the harp.

Harpists Anna Dunwoodie, Harrison Chau, Joelle Ireland and Kate Dodds have each been playing the

harp for more than half their lives and show an affinity for putting together a harp extravaganza.

Anna and Harrison are both graduates of the Auckland University School of Music, while Anna, Kate and Joelle are founding members of the Auckland Harp Orchestra (2013) an all comers harp ensemble which now functions as a hybrid ensemble with students all over New Zealand and performs concerts in Auckland and locally.

Anna and Kate are founding members of Gliss (2017) which has fluctuated in size from the original six members down to a trio, and currently is a quin-quartet - appearing as a quartet for our concert at St George's Church while our third founding Gliss harpist, Laura Robertson is on sick leave.

Following the concert, you are welcome to try playing a harp and take part in a mini harp lesson with one of the expert harpists who will show you some little harp tips.

DETAILS: General admission \$20; TMG Members \$15; Under 18s free.



CoromandelApp

SCAN ME



Local news and information at your fingertips!

Download the Coromandel App for up-to-date local news from around the Coromandel Peninsula and Hauraki districts, plus road and weather reports, local activities, trades & services, things to do, local markets, shopping, dining, community information and much more!

The Coromandel App is powered by your local team at the Valley Profile, with our award-winning journalists providing local news you can trust

Get your business on the Coromandel App for a cost effective way to reach your customers with listings, banners or in-story adverts. Pricing starts from just \$10 + GST per week!
Find out more: Ph 022 130 3885, nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz



DOWNLOAD FREE TODAY!



The Valley Profile

Waihi home of humble beginnings for dancers

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

Close to 100 dancers flocked to Waihi over the weekend of March 23-24 for an annual ballet competition that acts as “humble beginnings” for some talented youngsters.

The Waihi Performing Arts Competitions Society attracted competitors from across the country, including Tauranga, Taupō, Whitianga and Auckland, for its annual ballet competition.

Dancers aged from four-years-old to 18, and committee member Lisa Gifford told *The Profile* that the well-established event gave them a “platform to perform”.

“It’s a long-standing competition on the dance circuit,” she said. “For 30 years, it’s been running in Waihi.”

The society has two more events on the calendar for the coming months. The first is its jazz competition on April 26-28, and the second is its tap competition on June 21-23.

Both events will be held at the Waihi War Memorial Hall and are open for spectators.

Lisa, from Whitianga, said she - as well as two other committee members - danced in the same competitions when they were children.

She went on to teach for the Dance Education Centre in Thames for six years before



Junior, intermediate and senior variation winners with judge Katie Quirke.

acquiring her own premises in Whitianga for her En Pointe Dance Studio 17 years ago.

“It’s such a well-run competition and we’re in it for the kids and for the longevity of it,” she said.

“We want to provide them a platform to perform their art-form and some of these kids go on to have full-time careers in the industry, so this is their humble little beginnings, really.”

Lisa thanked Waihi businesses for coming on board with prizes and helping hands, and said that every addition gives the dancers “something more to look forward to”.

DETAILS: For more info, find Waihi Performing Arts Competitions Society on Facebook.



Brooklyn Atkins, left, and Blake Gifford-Hill with their prizes donated by Paper Plus for the under 8 competitors.



Aryana Whitley with her \$100 Diamonds on Seddon voucher. Photos: SUPPLIED



- Houses
- Garages
- Farm Sheds
- Commercial
- Garage Doors
- Auto Openers

We take care of everything from start to finish, including consents



Trade Qualified | Licenced Builders | Licenced Designer On Site

90C Kopu Road, Kopu, (next to bridge), Thames • Ph: 07 868 8663 or 0800 374 000
 info@carswellconstruction.co.nz • www.carswellconstruction.co.nz

