

The Valley Profile

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Eateries in strife

The Thames Valley hasn't been spared from the chef shortage plaguing the country amidst the Covid-19 pandemic and changing visa regulations.

Restaurants and cafes in the district have had to reduce their hours or shake-up their menus to survive, and diners too may have to change their ways when it comes to eating out.

At The Falls Retreat in the Karangahake Gorge, they have had to change their business model due to the lack of skilled staff.

"We're completely changing what we do because it's not sustainable for us to continue, and I think that's what has been proven nationwide, with other well-known restaurants," co-owner Emma Walters said.

"Restaurants are busy and the demand is there, but we can't supply the demand. We can't open seven days a week, and we can't do what people want because we literally don't have the staff."

"This is a long-term problem, and restaurants and places like us are having to change what they do, particularly with operating hours, because we don't have the resources to do what we've previously done."

The Falls Retreat is now no longer offering a lunch and dinner menu, but are instead providing three different "dining experiences".

They recently advertised for a sous-chef and received one applica-

tion, Emma said, compared to 62 applications when they advertised the same position in June last year.

"There's a smaller pool of people to draw from, and because the borders aren't open, we've got no people coming into this industry."

Emma said the bistro often hired immigrants coming into New Zealand on essential skills visas.

"But the government is actually taking that away," she said. "So at the moment, not only are the borders closed, but even when they reopen, we're not going to be able to get staff."

All this meant diners would have to look at the hospitality industry through a different lens, she said.

"Eating out is a privilege, and I think we've kind of taken it for granted. Everybody thinks it's all back to normal - unless you're in an industry that can't go back to how it was."

In Ngatea, The Glory Company cafe has been looking for kitchen staff since April-May. Of the four applications, none had experience that fit the bill.

And at One-3One in Paeroa, manager Sarb Kaur was desperately needing another chef to join her

"We can't open seven days a week, and we can't do what people want because we literally don't have the staff."

- Emma Walters



Emma Walters and Brad King of The Falls Retreat.
Photo: SUPPLIED

Dining habits throughout the region must change as a chef shortage hits the district. KELLEY TANTAU investigates



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INSPIRED BY FLAVOUR

‘Dangerous’ bus route changes to go ahead

By KELLEY TANTAU

One family has obtained a small victory in avoiding their child’s “dangerous” new school bus stop, but others have not been so lucky.

In April, a public meeting between concerned parents and the Ministry of Education (MoE) was held to discuss changes to eight Hauraki Plains College bus routes, which would see students walk kilometres to get to their new bus stops, along busy rural roads and State Highways. The outcome was a “temporary reprieve”, with the ministry delaying implementation of some bus route changes

until Term 3. But with Term 3 fast approaching on July 26, Coromandel MP Scott Simpson confirmed the MoE was going to “implement their changes as originally drafted”.

“I raised the issue with the government ... and the sad news for parents is that the government seems not to be listening to their concerns, and I don’t have any sense the policy is going to change.”

However, a small change has been made to one of the routes. Parent Lisa Wiggins was told her daughter would have to be left on the corner of Bush Rd and Piako Rd to wait for her new bus, or walk to Bugger Cafe

along SH25 - where seven fatal crashes happened in the past five years. But in a letter from the college on June 22, her daughter and other children who lived close-by, could now be picked up at Kopuarahi School, a much safer alternative.

“While I’m very thankful that my child doesn’t have to walk down the roads, I really feel for the other parents who may not be able to make changes to their lifestyle to accommodate their kids.”

She said she and fellow parent and advocate Karma Vitasovich were “proud” they were able to make a change in some form.

“I think a lot of people think

that once a decision is made, you can’t change it, but sometimes you can. If you fight hard enough and long enough you can get things changed,” she said.

“When a kid’s safety is concerned, I think you can’t let it lie, you’ve got to do something about it. But I still believe that a child will be killed, and I just hope they can live with their decision.”

In a letter to Mr Simpson, Minister of Education Chris Hipkins said it was “not always feasible” to pick up every eligible student from their gate or road.

“The ministry has advised me

there is no basis on which to reassess the outcome of the route review,” he said.

Mr Simpson said that was bad news for parents and children.

“Ultimately, it means some children will be put at risk on some dangerous, high-traffic roads in our region,” Mr Simpson told *The Profile*.

“My advice to parents, and I think all responsible parents will do this, is to juggle their lifestyle and their day-to-day programme accordingly, because I don’t think any responsible parent is going to put their children in a situation where they are having to walk along these dangerous roads.”

CONTACT US

The *Valley Profile* is a community newspaper that delivers 100% local news in the Thames Valley region. We deliver 12,500 copies each Wednesday to every letterbox, reaching approximately 30,000 readers in Hauraki Plains, Paeroa, Thames, Thames Coast and surrounding rural areas, plus bulk distribution around the Coromandel Peninsula.

NEWS/EDITORIAL
Editor Teresa Ramsey
Ph 0204 0944 853
Email: editor@valleyprofile.co.nz

Reporter Kelley Tantau
Ph 022 619 4889
Email: kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz

ADVERTISING
Ad manager Nikki Sanders
Ph 022 1303 885
Email: nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz

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Waikino students help plant trees at Waikino Domain

Waikino School students and volunteers recently planted 1790 plants at the Waikino Domain.

The event was one of many tree-planting projects throughout the Hauraki district recently, supported by Hauraki District Council in collaboration with volunteers from community groups such as HELP (Habitat Enhancement Landcare Protection) and Waikato Regional Council’s Enviroschools programme.

Other recent projects include volunteers

and students from Paeroa schools planting 350 trees alongside the Aorangi stream and a two-year Trees that Count research project at council’s Millennium Forest in Waihi.

To help fund the projects, council secured \$10,000 from the Waikato Regional Council’s Environmental Initiatives Fund, on behalf of Paeroa’s Streamcare and the Waikino Domain Committee.

Council’s parks and reserves team also provided support in the form of equip-

ment, plants, labour and maintenance for the community-led initiatives.

Hauraki District Mayor Toby Adams said the government used the information gathered at the Millennium Forest research project to help set its policy for carbon credits.

“It’s well-known that planting trees is one of the best ways to offset carbon dioxide emissions,” he said.

“But this research has helped determine how much carbon is absorbed and how many trees are needed.”

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Thames Tides

Wed Jul 14	Thu Jul 15	Fri Jul 16	Sat Jul 17	Sun Jul 18	Mon Jul 19	Tue Jul 20
 Morning: 3:53am 0.8, 10:10am 3.3 Afternoon: 4:06pm 0.6, 10:26pm 3.5 Sun: 7:29am 5:19pm Best At: 3:21am 3:45pm Rise: 10:17am, Set: 9:21pm	 Morning: 4:37am 0.7, 10:52am 3.3 Afternoon: 4:50pm 0.6, 11:11pm 3.5 Sun: 7:29am 5:19pm Best At: 4:08am 4:32pm Rise: 10:47am, Set: 10:27pm	 Morning: 5:23am 0.7, 11:37am 3.3 Afternoon: 5:37pm 0.7, 11:59pm 3.4 Sun: 7:28am 5:20pm Best At: 4:55am 5:18pm Rise: 11:15am, Set: 11:32pm	 Morning: 6:11am 0.7, 12:25pm 3.3 Afternoon: 6:29pm 0.7 Sun: 7:28am 5:21pm Best At: 5:42am 6:06pm First Quarter, Rise: 11:43am	 Morning: 7:01am 0.7, 12:49am 3.4 Afternoon: 7:27pm 0.8 Sun: 7:27am 5:21pm Best At: 6:30am 6:55pm Set: 12:39am, Rise: 12:13pm	 Morning: 7:56am 0.7, 1:42am 3.4 Afternoon: 8:29pm 0.8 Mon: 7:27am 5:22pm Best At: 7:21am 7:48pm Set: 1:49am, Rise: 12:46pm	 Morning: 8:56am 0.7, 2:37am 3.4 Afternoon: 9:33pm 0.8 Mon: 7:26am 5:23pm Best At: 8:16am 8:45pm Set: 3:01am, Rise: 1:25pm

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.

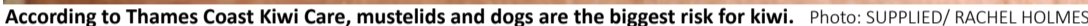
PLACE	Hr	Mn	Hr	LOW
Coromandel	-	0	04	-0 04
Whitianga	-	0	02	-0 06
Tairua	+	0	10	+0 20
Whangamata	-	0	07	-0 08
Waihi Beach	-	0	12	-0 13

By KELLEY TANTAU

“Anyone who has watched the sobering four-part series *Fight for the Wild* will understand just how staggering predator numbers are in New Zealand and how many of our native species are at risk of extinction if we don’t achieve the ambitious but critical predator

- *Sheena Beaton*

According to Sheena, recent surveys showed Te Mata kiwi numbers had increased annually by 15.7 per cent to an estimated 250-plus birds, which showed how successful the project was.



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First all-female barbershop through to finals

By KELLEY TANTAU

Renditions of *What a Wonderful World* and *Mr Sandman* have sent Hauraki Plains College’s first ever female barbershop quartet into the finals of a national competition.

Year 13 students Chloe Watson, Haley Munro, Jameena Aralar, and Daniella van Vliet make up the *Hauraki Harmonix*, a barbershop quartet who only just started performing together this year.

At the Waikato regional Young Singers in Harmony competition on June 21, they placed second in the female division, and were also named the ‘Top Novice’ group.

“When the four parts come together, it’s epic, it makes sense... they all work together to produce an awesome sound.”

- Jordana van Vliet

The girls were also selected as one of six quartets to go on to the national finals in Palmerston North in September.

“The Top Novice award is awarded to groups who are competing together for the first time,” head of music Jordana van Vliet said.

“They started singing together at the start of this year... but it’s quite common for a barber-

shop group in the competition to start performing together in Year 11 and track right through to Year 13. All four of our girls are in their final year of high school.”

Young Singers in Harmony New Zealand was established in the early 1990s with the aim to encourage and educate young people in barbershop a cappella singing.

Barbershop music was very popular between 1900 and 1919, and Miss van Vliet said it was characterised by its four performers, each with a different vocal range: lead, baritone, bass, and tenor.

“Each of the lines individually, excluding the lead, sound super out of place by themselves, but when the four parts come together, it’s epic, it makes sense,” she said. “They all work together to produce an awesome sound.”

Haley Munro is the tenor; Jameena Aralar the bass; Daniella van Vliet baritone; and Chloe Watson lead.

Together, they not only made up the school’s first female barbershop quartet, but also its first barbershop group in more than 10 years, Miss van Vliet said.

“In the 1900s, it was much easier to put four-part harmonies into the songs they had written, because they were typically much slower, so reviving that now, with how music



Hauraki Harmonix: Chloe Watson, Haley Munro, Jameena Aralar, and Daniella van Vliet.

Photo: SUPPLIED

has changed, fits so nicely,” she said.

“It’s something people are familiar with, even just from watching movies, but then it’s something completely different from what they’re hearing on the radio. It’s not got heavy drums or heavy bass, it’s just vocals, so I think it’s something a lot of people have an appreciation for because it’s some-

thing they can recognise but it’s also different to everything else they’re hearing.”

At the regional round of the competition, the girls performed The Chordettes’ *Mr Sandman*, and Louis Armstrong’s *What a Wonderful World*.

Miss van Vliet said a practise performance at a Rotary Club lunch in Ngatea provided them

with rave reviews.

The girls will now go on to perform the same repertoire at the finals on September 22-23.

“We’re quite proud of the girls because this was something that we didn’t initiate. We didn’t have to push, we didn’t have to hound, they put in the work. So it’s cool they are now reaping the fruits of their labour.”



Connecting with Character



Sports Leaders Alec Doddrell & Emma Gordon

Hauraki Plains College Sports Leaders, Emma Gordon and Alec Doddrell, led a group of students who recently attended an iSPORT Connecting with Character leadership day in Rotorua. Students listened to a number of high profile leaders who addressed students on the importance of character, including self-discipline, self-respect and self-responsibility. Emma reflected on the experience: “The most inspiring speaker for me was Willie Apiata, who is a former corporal in the New Zealand Special Air service and served in the Afghanistan war. With a tough upbringing, Willie’s story inspired me, showing his resilience, courage

and strong character which has built him up to where he is today. He also talked about front footing problems in order to get to where you want to go”.

For Alec Doddrell, he particularly enjoyed listening to Daniel Carter: “He was such an inspiring speaker. Daniel talked about all of his struggles and how he needed resilience and courage to deal with these.

The stories we were exposed to highlighted the extensive amount of hard work and determination that is required to achieve”.



Sports Leader Alec Doddrell and fellow student Michael Ellis with Richie McCaw at the I-Sport Connecting with Character day.

Seeds of Joy

Seeds of Joy is a group formed in Year 13 Business Studies class for the Young Enterprise Scheme. We have a passion for helping the environment and also for gardening so we decided to combine these two interests.

We have created a card made from recycled paper that we collect from school. Our cards are no ordinary cards;



We plan to sell our cards at local markets, online and at school. We currently have a spring flower mix card available, we will be expanding soon.

Molly Smith-Soppet and Irene Irvine with their cards that keep on giving.

they are filled with seeds so that once you have read the message, you can plant it. In this sense, our card is the gift that keeps on giving.

Lily's Kaimanawa Experience



Lily Hart making friends with Memphis, her Kaimanawa horse.

HPC student, Lily Hart, recently experienced taming her own Kaimanawa horse. All horse trainers have a different style, but I loved the gentle process we went through and how much we need to listen to the horses which is the Wilson sisters (Taupo) style of training. At the start of my experience Memphis was

very timid and nervous. As we got further into the process, we noticed that Memphis was grumpy. This turned out to be because she had stomach ulcers which were affecting her personality. Since Memphis started her medication, she has been a lot better and also happier; she now enjoys being touched and likes people around her. It is also a wonderful opportunity to take a horse and give it the best life it can possibly have. When you get a wild horse, I’m not completely settled as to what I want to do in the future, but my goal would be for horses to be a big part of it.”

Got a Trade. Got it Made.

It’s about giving back, according to two ex-HPC students, Trent Watters and Trent Jackson. The young builders were recently given a day off by their employer, Loveridge Enterprise Builders, and decided to spend the day helping with the college’s school house project.

Trent Watters left HPC ten years ago, and was part of the first group of students at HPC to build a house on-site for removal. “I wanted to give back to my school which got me ready for the outside world. Trent says that ‘he always wanted to be a ‘tradee’ and liked the fact that school wasn’t just about heading

off to university. The building and agriculture programmes in particular are great for the hands on kids”. Trent is now in an on-site foreman position, working on three houses concurrently.

When Loveridge Enterprises were looking for more workers 18 months ago, Trent Jackson’s name came up. The part time work experience for Trent Jackson then developed into a summer job and slowly progressed into full time work. “School was pretty simple really. I ate my lunch, played sport and found a job that was right for me.”

Building and Construction teacher Pete Carpenter also enjoyed catching up with his two past pupils. “It is always pleasing to see ex students becoming successful in industry and fantastic for Year 13 students to interact with the guys, talk about experiences and see what is possible when they leave the school gates.”



Trent Jackson (middle left) and Trent Watters (middle right) talk with Building Teacher Pete Carpenter and students in front of this year’s house project.

Joeleen sleeps through contest - and wins

By KELLEY TANTAU

There’s only 10 minutes left on the clock. Inside the familiar mall, there’s an odd sight among the loiterers and late-night shoppers: a row of four beds, and in each, four sleepers.

As the hour winds down, they each drift off into various stages of sleep, and there are three judges, watching the rise and fall of breaths, and craning their ears to hear the sound of a snore.

This is Coromandel’s CFM’s first ever sleep championships.

When the clock hits 7pm on July 9, the four sleepers are woken up from their slumber inside Goldfields Mall, in Thames, to a small crowd of supporters and family.

The winner takes home a brand-new queen size bed, mattress, and manchester package valued at more than \$4000.

When the winner is announced, the dozers - still half-asleep - congratulate one another, but it is Joeleen Hiku who ultimately comes out on top.

Joeleen, from Paeroa, was nominated to enter the competition by the Wickliffe family. She told *The Profile* she needed no strategy when it came to sleeping. “Once I’m out, that’s it. Not a lot can wake me,” she said. “I can pretty much fall asleep anywhere.”

Joeleen works as a night-shifter at the Te Aroha meat-



Joeleen Hiku celebrates winning Coromandel’s CFM’s first ever sleep championships, held at Goldfied’s Mall on Friday night. INSET: Joeleen fast asleep during the competition.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU

works. She also delivers a daily newspaper before sunrise, meaning she’s well-equipped to fall asleep during the day.

“I actually thoroughly enjoyed [the contest]. I got to have a sleep without my kids,” she said. “And I’ve never in my life owned a brand new bed.”

One of the judges, Goldfields Mall manager John Freer, said

each of the four participants downloaded the same sleep app on their phones, which could determine which sleeper had been sleeping most soundly.

“There were two people that were really close, and you could tell that. One of them actually went into a deep sleep a lot quicker than the other, then they both slept pretty soundly.

“You could tell from Joeleen’s body language that she was actually having a comfortable, nice sleep.”

The competition’s second-place winner was Poncho Wineti, who received a gift basket.

John said each month, they would endeavour to have a new activity at the mall.

Chef shortage hits district

CONTINUED FROM P1

two others. They only needed two chefs to run the kitchen, but currently that meant there was no wriggle room in case one of her staff got injured or ill.

“At the moment, it has been a bit hard, and we’re just looking for a good person who can handle the kitchen. In Paeroa, we couldn’t find anyone,” she said.

“We need another, so that if anything happens, we have a back-up.”

The Restaurant Association of New Zealand has developed the Future of Hospitality Roadmap – an industry-led framework to support the revival and replenishment of the sector. The first of its kind in the country, the roadmap sets out how the association proposes to not only attract more Kiwis to hospitality as a career, but also pave the way for the sector to be seen as a national leader.

One of the key objectives of the roadmap was to create workable solutions for issues faced by the industry, such as skill shortages. The association has also lodged a petition to parliament, calling the House of Representatives to urge the government to acknowledge the skill shortage in hospitality in New Zealand, and introduce workable immigration solutions by engaging with the sector. More info: www.restaurantnz.co.nz/hospo-reset.

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WHAT'S ON

Email your community event or club or group notice to editor@valleyprofile.co.nz by noon Thursday the week before publication. Listings are published at the editor's discretion and may be edited. Clubs and groups are responsible for keeping listings up to date.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 23: The Kumeu Vintage Brass Band: Free concert, 12:15pm at St Georges Church with soup and a bun following for \$5, cash only.
July 24: Choir Singing Workshop: With Jayne Tankersley, 10am-2pm at St George's Church Hall, \$20. Ph 027 373 9952.
July 28: Thames Continuing Education Speaker Series: Auckland University of Technology history professor Paul Moon, Thames Civic Centre, 10:30am.
July 30: Songwriters Soiree: Edward Castelow and O & The Mo at the Back Room, Pollen St, Thames, 7pm.
August 6: Moanataiari School Quiz Night: Bite Cafe, 6pm. Food and drinks available, silent auction, raffles. Register a team by July 30, text: 0210 263 4461.

August 8: Barbershop Men's Chorus, Mighty River Harmony: St Georges Church, 2pm. Tickets: cash at the door, adults: \$20; members: \$15; kids: \$5.
August 13-15: 150 Years of Thames Rugby: Thames Rugby & Sports Club, Rhodes Park, catch up function, invitational game and dinner: www.trsc.co.nz/150years.
August 21: Dog training for kiwi avoidance: at the Kauaeranga Visitor Centre, Ph 07 867 9080 or email kauaerangavc@doc.govt.nz.
August 21: Thames Valley Chess Championship: at the Thames Civic Centre. Must be level one to play. Free entry.
September 12: Trail Trilogy: Run or walk 10km to 140km on Hauraki Rail trail. More info: www.trailtrilogy.com.
October 5: Hotel California The Eagles Experience: A live concert and stage show, Thames War Memorial Civic Centre, 8pm. Tickets: eventfinda.co.nz.

LOCAL MARKETS

Kaiaua Seaside Market: at The Boating Club, Kaiaua, 9-1pm, last Sunday of month. Ph 027 489 7850
Karangahake Hall Market: Fourth Saturday of the month, 9am-2pm, 12 Crown Hill Rd. Ph 027 678 2035
Paeroa Car Boot Market: First and third Saturdays of the month, 101 Normanby Rd, weather permitting. Ph 07 862 7833
Thames Market: Every Saturday in Grahamstown, 8am to 12pm.
Turua Market: Third Sunday of the Month at Turua Hall, 9am to 1pm. Ph 027 696 7644

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Corinthian Masonic Lodge, Thames: Colin, Ph 07 868 8196 or 021 259 6699
Craft Market: Lynette Mapson, Ph



The Kumeu Vintage Brass Band will perform a free concert on July 23, 12:15pm at St Georges Church, Thames.

Photo: SUPPLIED

027 617 4470
Diabetic Support Group: Thames Hauraki, Barry Young Ph 07 868 6353
Goldfields Women's Institute: Ph 07 868 8984
Hauraki Bowling Club Mangatarata: Pene Koch, Ph 07 867 3380
Hauraki Cardiac Support Club Thames: Ph 07 868 6148
Hauraki Country Music Club: Tina Haakma, Ph 07 868 3443
Hauraki Golf Club: Len Cameron, Ph 07 867 7660
Hauraki Plains Co-operating Parish: Jane, Ph 027 471 4654
Hauraki Plains Diabetic Support Club: Ryan Corr, Ph 07 868 8551
Hauraki Plains Lioness Club: Jill McIntosh, Ph 07 867 7373
Hauraki Plains Rural Show: Sonia, Ph 027 431 5825
Hauraki Plains St John: Call or pop into the Op Shop, Ph 07 867 8073
Hauraki Plains Youth Cricket: Anna Dodunski, Ph 027 466 4126
Hauraki RSA Memorial Club: Ph 07 867 7898 (evg) or 07 867 7301
Hauraki Vintage Machinery Club: Ph 07 867 7281
Jig Saw Puzzle Library: Mangatarata, Ph 07 867 3250
Kerepehi Brass Band: Rowan Garrett, Ph 07 867 6762
Kerepehi/Paeroa Indoor Bowls: Ph 027 418 4300
Kerepehi Women's Institute: Ph 07 867 6002 or 07 868 8582
Mahjong: Nola Walker, Ph 07 867 7301
Music and Movement: Suzanne, Ph 027 337 2544
NAAM: 11am -12.30 Tuesdays, Thames. Leigh, Ph 027 497 8601
Ngatea Badminton: Jenny Adams, Ph 07 867 3028
Paeroa Bowling Club: Paul, Ph 021 0290 1508 or Gary Ph 07 560 9200
Ngatea Chinwag Cafe: 10am-12 Tuesdays, parish hall, Darlington St
Ngatea Community Garden: Jane, Ph 07 867 7245
Ngatea Garden Circle: Alice Douglas on 07 867

7463
Ngatea Indoor Bowling Club: Ph 07 867 6082 or 07 867 8015
Ngatea Lions Club: Bruce Foster, Ph 021 043 9280
Ngatea Playcentre: President, Ph 027 327 5536
Ngatea Pony Club: Nicky Hamblyn, Ph 07 867 7078
Ngatea Scouts: Kim Donaldson, Ph 07 867 7350
Ngatea Women's Institute: Nola Walker, Ph 07 867 7301
NZ Red Cross Thames: Betty Sutcliffe, Ph 07 868 6148
NZ Society of Genealogists Thames: Pam French, Ph 07 868 6492
Paeroa Citizens Advice Bureau: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am-1pm, Ph 07 862 8093
Paeroa Community Knitters: Lyn Ph 07 560 9200 or Sandra 022 610 1734
Paeroa Community Programmes: Ph 07 862 9129
Paeroa Drop In: Every Tuesday 9.30am-12.30, St John Rooms
Paeroa Grey Power: Secretary Gail Locke, Ph 07 862 6256
Paeroa Society of Arts: paeroaartsociety@gmail.com
Paeroa Walking Group: 9am, Mon, Wed, Fri, Elaine Lally, Ph 07 862 8409
Probus: Jill McIntosh, Ph 07 867 7373
Runner Runner Poker Club: Thursdays, 6.30pm at Punters Bar.
Scrapbooking: Pam Tonks, Ph 07 867 7780
Solarpunk Aotearoa: John McKeowen, Ph 021 063 5483
St Paschal's Catholic Church: Ph 07 867 7401 and 07 867 7056
Tai-Chi exercise Kaiaua: Stacy, Ph 09 576 3705
Tasty Books & Wine Tasting: Anne, Ph 07 867 3367
Thames 50+ Cycle Group: Chris, Ph 0274 998 159
Thames Bonanza Club: Meets third Thursday of month, Ph 07 868 6673
Thames Bridge Club: 401 Brown St, Monday and Thursday at 1pm, Tuesday at 7pm. Ph 07 868 8023
Thames Chin Wag Cafe: Mondays 10:30am, 608 Queen St, Ph 07 868 9790
Thames Continuing Education: Fourth Wednes-

day of month, Ph 021 564 339
Thames Creative Fibre Group: Dana Catley, Ph 07 868 7310
Thames Croquet Club: Dennis Karl, Ph: 07 868 2423
Thames Dahlia Club: Paul Silvester, Ph 07 868 9346
Thames Floral Art Club: third Monday of the month. Ph 07 868 9873.
Thames Hauraki Parents Centre: Meike, Ph 07 867 3163
Thames-Hauraki Scottish Country Dance Club: Ph 07 280 0631
Thames Heritage Network: Margaret Cropp, Ph 07 868 1024
Thames Lions Club: Ph 07 868 9873 or email: pandb@xtra.co.nz
Thames Menz & Womenz Shed: Tony Winter, Ph 027 290 0023
Thames PickleBall Club: Tuesdays, 10-11am, Ph 027 290 0023
Thames Probus Club: Meets second Tuesday of month, Ph 07 868 5573
Thames Rotary Club: Warren Sly, Ph 021 772 351
Thames Ruby Redz Red Hatters: Ngaire Potter, Ph 07 868 3421
Thames Senior Indoor Bowls: Tuesdays 9.30am - 12pm, St James Hall. Ph Val, 021 054 2337
Thames Steady As You Go: Falls Prevention group, Thursdays, 1:15pm, St Georges Hall, Ph 07 868 9790
Thames Tennis Club: Contact Maree, Ph 027 217 1682
Thames Toastmasters Club: Ph 027 296 8585
Thames Valley Adult Riding Club: Helen Pooley, Ph 021 233 1245
Thames Valley Zonta Club: Pam Harsant, Ph 027 495 5583
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Tramping in Thames area: www.sporty.co.nz/kauaerangatrampingclub
Turua Playcentre: Estelle, Ph 027 371 8511
Turua Scouts: Leanne Scott, Ph 027 329 7887 or 07 867 8388
Ulysses Motorcycle Club: Thursdays at L&P Bottle, Paeroa, 9:30am, Ph 021 028 28442 or 021 701 466
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The Final Farewell

The Valley Profile is running an End of Life advertising feature on July 28.

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The Valley

Profile



Thames ‘film heroes’ feature in enviro doco

By KELLEY TANTAU

An award-winning documentary film that tackles the looming threat of climate change, interpersonal politics, and the need to just be teenagers, was put together by some of Thames’ own.

High Tide Don’t Hide received a special mention for Best New Zealand Feature as well as won Best New Zealand Editing at the Doc Edge Awards on June 2.

The 80-minute film follows filmmakers Niva Kay, Phil Stebbing, Nia Phipps, and Emily McDowell as they document students’ lives ahead of what became the world’s biggest ever climate change strike.

Niva, from Thames, was responsible for the production, directing, and shooting of key scenes and characters throughout the town, the latter of which included the lives of Thames High students and “film heroes” Lillian Balfour and Helena Mayer.

“I rate these two a lot,” Niva told *The Profile*.

“I’ve known them since they were quite young, and seeing them grow up and become such leaders in our community, and through this process seeing them become more more aware and sophisticated has been awesome.

“Those young people really are the inspiration and the rea-



Lillian Balfour, left, Nia Phipps, Niva Kay, Emily McDowell, and Helena Mayer at the awards night on June 2.

Photo: SUPPLIED/DEANE COHEN

son we want to tell these stories.”

High Tide Don’t Hide was dedicated to Jeanette Fitzsimons, who was an environmentalist and former Green Party co-leader. She passed away in March last year, and Niva said it was special to have her included in the doco.

“She pops up in the film visibly a few times, and one of the

really nice things specifically about the story we follow in Thames is those intergenerational relationships,” she said.

“It’s been really special to have captured that, and to have remembered that the young people are standing up, but there are also those generations before them that have been fighting this fight.”

The film took two-and-a-half

years to come to fruition, and Niva said it has had an overwhelmingly positive response from school screenings.

“Our big goal at the moment is to get the film shown in every high school across the country,” she said, “and already it’s the most popular film in the Docs 4 Schools programme. It had sold-out screenings.”

Docs 4 Schools is run in con-

junction with the Doc Edge documentary film festival.

They provide a subscription-based video-on-demand platform for schools in New Zealand and across the Pacific islands. Each film comes with a free teaching resource to help maximise students’ educational experience.

DETAILS: For more info on the festival, visit www.docedge.nz

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Money advice on offer at Thames Budget Service

The Thames Budget Service has been in existence for more than 25 years. Originally, the service was started by members of the Dove-Il family to help those known to them with their financial management. A need was recognised in the community and the service was formally founded as an Incorporated Society. Since 2001, it has been a self-contained stand-alone service, which offers an efficient service to the people of Thames and the Hauraki Plains. Located at 415 Pollen St, Thames, the service provides people with financial mentoring and has a team of highly experienced mentors, Denise Lyon and Peggy Barriball, who have been there for many years and Jenny Yeun who has 20 plus years of experience. Margaretta Slaney joined the team in September, 2020, as the newest financial mentor and is the co-ordinator of the service. There are also two more mentors currently in training. Most people have a love-hate relationship with money. Those wanting to learn how to overcome it, can ask for help at Thames Budget Service. The Service can help by creating weekly budgets, working out long-term cash flows, and negotiating with creditors. Margaretta, who was born in the Netherlands and was a former primary school teacher, be-

came the Budget Service's co-ordinator last year. "I wasn't raised in a wealthy home, so I get what it means to not have a lot of money. Missing out on school camps, not having the trendiest clothes... I didn't have the hand-up to move forward, I have had the opportunity to learn how to manage my money and worked hard to get where I am now," she said. "So what a perfect job to have now to be able to pass on that knowledge and help others make money work for them. "We have a lot of people coming in to get budgets for their Kiwisaver Hardship applications, and we also get self-referrals because nowadays, both mum and dad could be working, but are still not able to make ends meet. "Covid has affected a lot of people, some people have lost their job or needed to change their job resulting in a lower income. Having to change the way we usually spend money isn't easy. "We want to know your story, and how you got to where you are so that our team can help you in your situation and not just give generic advice." The service can also provide Skinny Jump modems, for anyone struggling to pay for internet or who doesn't have internet at home. People can come in and get one, this gives 30GB a month for \$5. "We're all in the same boat, we all struggle with money from



Margaretta Slaney joined the team in September, 2020, as the newest financial mentor and is the co-ordinator of the Thames Budget Service. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

time to time, and it's okay to struggle, it's okay to ask for help." Margaretta said the team at Thames Budget Service is a welcoming, inclusive, judgement-free zone. It is also confidential and free. For more information, visit www.thamesbudgetservice.co.nz, or for an appointment to chat with one of our friendly financial mentors phone/text 027 870 7076, phone 07 868 5964, email: thbuds@gmail.com or call into 415 Pollen St, Thames.



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Skinny Jump

Skinny Jump is for homes that currently don't have a broadband connection because cost is a barrier. We are specifically interested in supporting those most at risk of digital exclusion* These groups are:

- Families with children in low socio-economic communities
- People with disabilities
- Migrants and refugees with English as a second language
- Māori & Pacifica youth
- Offenders & ex-offenders
- Seniors
- People living in social housing
- Those who are unemployed

If you identify with one or more of these groups and do not already have broadband in your home then you are eligible for a Skinny Jump connection.

*These groups were identified in the Governments Digital Inclusion Blueprint

Rural Life

Howl of a Protest planned for Ngatea

By KELLEY TANTAU

The Thames Valley has joined a long list of towns taking part in a nationwide protest against government regulations.

In Ngatea on July 16, farmers, tractors, tradies, and their dogs will take part in ‘A Howl of a Protest’, organised by farmer action group Groundswell NZ.

Local co-ordinator Colin Caldwell, a beef farmer from the Coromandel, said farmers felt like they weren’t “being heard by central government”.

“[The protest] is to point out that those of us that are making the food, we love doing it, but please government, don’t make it any harder than necessary.

“We’re all New Zealanders, we all love the environment that we’re in, so don’t broad-brush us with this poor policy.”

Under the government’s recently-announced clean car scheme, buyers of electric vehicles would be eligible for a rebate, while others could face levies on buying new combus-

“We’re all New Zealanders, we all love the environment that we’re in, so don’t broad-brush us with this poor policy.”

- Colin Caldwell

tion-engine vehicles such as utes.

Colin said the protest was “getting very big very quickly” and he encouraged people to come down to either participate or show their support.

“This is not town and country, this is support for one another,” he said. “Just like we’ve shown support for one another in the last year, let’s do it again.”

Groundswell NZ spokesperson Bryce McKenzie, another farmer who has been in the trade all his life, said the generations of farmers showing their support for the cause proved the industry was getting stick it did not deserve.

“People say that we’re not looking after our land, but I’m second generation, and the next generation has already started on this land. If we weren’t looking after our land, we wouldn’t be able to use it now,” he told *The Profile*.

“Farmers are just getting bogged down with regulations, and a lot of the regulations are



Farmers will protest the government’s new levy on new and imported utes. Photo: STEVE BUISSINNE/PIXABAY

unworkable, so it’s just got to the point where farmers need to stand up and say: ‘Look, we can’t deal with this anymore, it’s getting too tough on us’.”

Bryce said more than 46 towns had signed up to take part in the protest. Above all else, he wanted the event to be “peaceful”.

“We’d also like to feel that farmers have had their chance to have a voice, and to show their solidarity with tradesmen as well, because if farmers and tradesmen go on strike,

the only ones that know they’re striking are them, because nobody sees the work they do.”

And when it came to incorporating dogs in the day’s events, Bryce said it was because they “never let you down”.

“But that’s not necessarily the case with some of our politicians,” he said.

DETAILS: To join or support the protest, meet at noon in Ngatea’s main street. State Highway 2 Ngatea will be sign-posted on the day. More information: Groundswell NZ Facebook page.

THE CLEAN CAR SCHEME

From July 1, owners registering new or used electric vehicles can claim a rebate of up to \$8625 and plug-in hybrids can claim up to \$5750. To pay for the scheme, buyers of new or used combustion engine vehicles such as utes will face a fee of up to \$5175 for a new import or up to \$2875 for a used import. The aim of the scheme is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help the government reach its goal to be carbon-neutral by 2050.



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SPORTS



Paeroa College's Tyler Te Moananui scores a runaway try in the youth grade cup final. Photos: TERESA RAMSEY

Final face off for school boy rugby

Paeroa College took out the two top spots in an exciting round of matches in the Thames Valley secondary school rugby finals at Hugh Hayward Domain on Saturday.

Paeroa College were named the Coulter Cup Champions and Provincial Shield holders after winning the First XV championship final against Mercury Bay Area School. The final score was 18-15 after going into extra time. The years 9-10 youth grade cup final (pictured this page) was also won by Paeroa College, who took home the Passey Cup

and Ted Engebretsen Challenge with a 17-10 win over Hauraki Plains College.

In other results, Hauraki Plains College are the First XV Plate Final winners (Allen Fisher Cup), with a 31-25 over Whangamata Area School. The Future First XV Final winners (Major Chamberlain Memorial Cup Champions and Challenge Trophy) were Thames High School, with a 13-7 over Te Aroha College. The years 9-10 Youth Grade Plate winners (L Berry Esq Cup) were Waihi College, with their 26-10 over Whangamata Area School.

FIRST XV PHOTOS: P11



Paeroa's Kaleb Gurnick and HPC's Jed Coulter fly high in the line-out.



Leighton Fatamaka pushes through HPC players.



HPC's Rohan Landy proves hard to stop.



Cullen Crowe, HPC, prepares for the pass.



Karapi Hirma Gage outpaces an HPC player.

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SPORTS



Paeroa's Carlaus Taholo-Tauranga brushes off MBAS defence. Photos: TERESA RAMSEY



Paeroa College First XV player Kiwa Wehipeihana battles through a sea of Mercury Bay Area School players.



Jordan Williams Te Moananui pushes through.



Players reach for the ball in the line-out.



The two teams in a scrum.



Koby Christensen makes a run for it.



Paeroa player Ryu Watene-Johnson fend off his opposition.



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HEALTH & WELLBEING



Plastic free July and beyond

Every year, New Zealand households churn through around 1.76 billion single use plastic containers. With only 9 per cent of all plastic ever produced having been recycled, that means a staggering 91 per cent of all plastic is now in landfill or the environment.

For the past ten years, the month of July has been used to campaign the Plastic Free message, with an estimated 326 million people participating last year.

At Re-store Eco Market, living a sustainable and plastic free life is something owners Tash Donnelly and Vita Dryden strive for daily, and was a driving force behind them opening Re-store just over two years ago.

Re-store offers a sustainable shopping alternative that essentially eliminates the plastic waste from the weekly shop. With more than 700 plastic-free products from pantry staple dry goods to oils and vinegars, herbs and spices and cleaning and personal hygiene products for refill, not to mention sustainable items galore, there isn't much Re-store doesn't stock. "Many people are surprised at our range, especially when it comes to many of the 'hard to find products' that we stock," Tash Donnelly said.

"We've recently added frozen organic fruit and berries in bulk, New Zealand made premium cat and dog food and the extremely popular, Duck Island Ice cream, handcrafted here in the Waikato, to our range, with more customer requests making the stocklist every week. If we don't have it, we try our best to source it for customers or send them in the right direction elsewhere around town."

Vita Dryden's top tip for anyone wanting to start living more sustainably is to start small: "Concentrate on one or two areas that you can find easy plastic-free alternatives to. Once these become habit, you can make swaps in other areas of your life". Shopping more consciously doesn't have to be hard or 'cost the earth'.

Re-store's website is now live, with free click and collect or overnight courier options (www.re-store.co.nz). With reserved shop parking off Mary St on Service Lane 5, Re-store makes starting and maintaining plastic free living easy this July, and beyond.



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Characters come to life in show

Talented Karangahake School students gave their all in a recent staging of their school show, *The Turn of the Page*. More than 400 people were captivated by the production, which included four shows over three days, plus a dress rehearsal, all at Karangahake Hall. Principal Terry Watton said the show was loosely based on the Disney film, *The Pagemaster*. “Our local community has been amazing at supporting us and giving us some fantastic feedback,” he said. “Well done and thank you to everyone who was a part of the production and supported our school.”



Chaelli Shield plays ‘Horror’ and Sarah Brown plays ‘Horror sequel’ in the play.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Josua Tuivavalagi plays the main role ‘James’.



Demelza Hills is a Woodland Elf.



Regan Marshall is a formidable Captain Hook.



Eedee-May Kindred, Charlize Anderson and Ahuwera Taukiri are The Narrators.



Hineira Pio-Ainsley plays ‘Fantasy’.



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X-ray injury at School of Mines

While travelling on a coach, a very painful accident occurred to Mr Allan Kirkwood, of Karangahake. Mr Kirkwood was riding on the footboard in front of the coach, when just near a tunnel his foot slipped, and in trying to jump clear, he fell, the wheels passing over both legs. He was conveyed to Mr Verrall's residence, and Dr Craig was soon in attendance. Mr Kirkwood had sustained such a bad break to his left leg that the doctor would not allow him to be moved. In a curious twist Mr Kirkwood was to have been married that afternoon to Miss Ruth Morton, of Mackaytown. The wedding was held, the unfortunate man being married in bed.

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

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MEDIUM

3				4				1
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HARD

09

9

HARD

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MEDIUM

3 5 8 2 6 7 9 4 1
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EASY

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

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JUMBO CROSSWORD

- ACROSS

1 Port in Belgium (7)

4 Beau (10)

9 Unusually gifted youngster (7)

13 Leaf of a book (4)

14 Big cat (6)

15 Take a drink (6)

16 Serial part (7)

19 Easy (10)

20 Sample (8)

21 Of short duration (5)

24 Pre-euro French money (6)

25 Insubstantial (6)

27 Large triangular racing sail (9)

32 Wrongdoer (8)

33 Educate (6)

34 Natural polish (7)

38 Burn slowly without flame (8)

39 Unpowered aircraft (6)

40 Advantage (4)

41 Beg (5)

42 Great pain (5)

45 Bathers a bit wee (3,5-6)(anag)

52 Wheeled under-carriage of rail vehicle (5)

55 Quietens (5)

56 Play segments (4)

57 Tropical lizard (6)

58 Fecund (8)

61 Temperature scale (7)

62 Latticed metal screen (6)
- 63 Lays back (8)

66 Unable (9)

68 Ageism (anag)(6)

69 Alter slightly (6)

73 Group of notes played together (5)

74 Pass (8)

76 Evaluation (10)

81 Acquires (7)

82 Small harpsichord (6)

83 Land surrounded by water (6)

84 Mountain lake (4)

85 In tiers (7)

86 Literary work recast as a film or play (10)

87 Quandary (7)

DOWN

1 Pip fruit (5)

2 Pulling contest (3-2-3)

3 Jewels from sea (6)

4 Turns acidic (5)

5 Cereal heads (4)

6 Dry (7)

7 Symbol (6)

8 Jewish teacher (5)

10 Mature (4)

11 Merit (7)

12 Novel appliance (6)

17 With elegance (10)

18 False blow (5)

22 Weather shield (8)

23 Thin biscuit (5)

24 Shrub with drooping flowers (7)

26 Tops (4)

28 Short pithy saying (7)

29 Spurn (6)
- 30 Winged child (6)

31 African expedition (6)

33 Edges (anag) (5)

35 Volley of shots (5)

36 Alone (4)

37 Monster (4)

43 Ground-levelling machine (6)

44 Identifies (5)

46 Chop at roughly (4)

47 Spendthrift (7)

48 Sherried dessert (6)

49 Red powder (5)

50 Freakish (8)

51 Dirty, squalid (6)

52 Senseless nonsense (10)

53 Present (4)

54 Selected passage (7)

59 Native of Havana (5)

60 Measure of land (4)

64 Soothing ointment (5)

65 Tepid (8)

67 Provide a commentary for (7)

68 Disinclination to move (7)

70 Extreme irrational fear (6)

71 Short sleep (6)

72 Wrote (6)

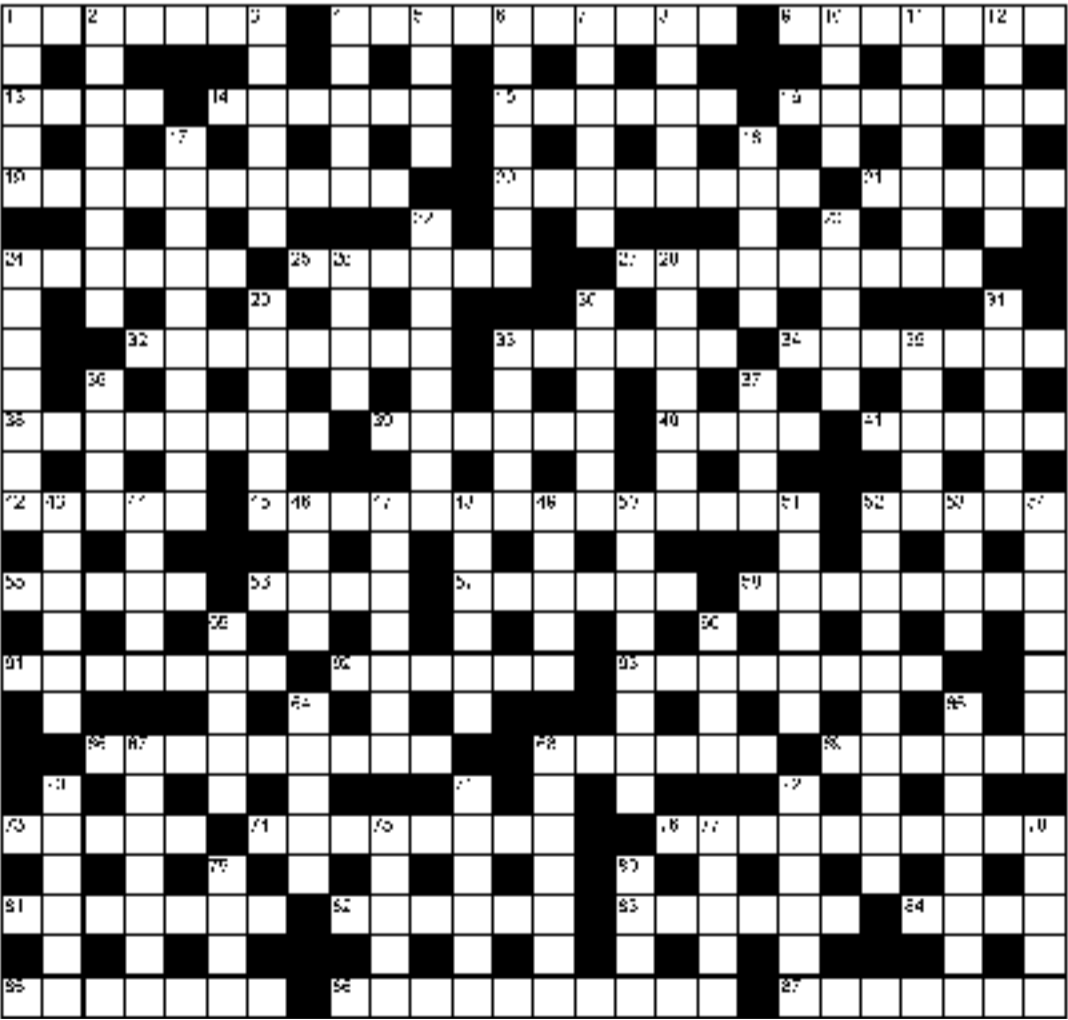
75 Quick (5)

77 Hairdresser's premises (5)

78 Athlete's foot (5)

79 Long ago (4)

80 Pacific country (4)



ACROSS: 1 Antwerp, 4 Sweetheart, 9 Prodigy, 13 Page, 14 Jaguar, 15 Imbibe, 16 Episode, 19 Effortless, 20 Specimen, 21 Briet, 24 Fiance, 25 Filmy, 27 Spinnaker, 32 Offender, 33 School, 34 Beeswax, 38 Smoulder, 39 Glider, 40 Edge, 41 Plead, 42 Agony, 45 The Water-Babies, 52 Bogie, 55 Calms, 56 Acts, 57 Iguana, 58 Profitic, 61 Celsius, 62 Grille, 63 Reclines, 66 Incapable, 68 Images, 69 Adjust, 73 Chord, 74 Overtake, 76 Assessment, 81 Obtains, 82 Spinnet, 83 Island, 84 Tarn, 85 Layered, 86 Adaptation, 87 Dilemma.

DOWN: 1 Apple, 2 Tug-of-war, 3 Pearls, 4 Sour, 5 Ears, 6 Thirsty, 7 Emblem, 8 Rabbi, 10 Ripe, 11 Deserve, 12 Gadget, 17 Gracefully, 18 Feint, 22 Umbrella, 23 Water, 24 Fuchsia, 26 Lids, 28 Proverb, 29 Reject, 30 Cherub, 31 Safari, 33 Sedge, 35 Salvo, 36 Solo, 37 Ogre, 43 Grader, 44 Names, 46 Hack, 47 Wastrel, 48 Trifle, 49 Rouge, 50 Abnormal, 51 Sorrid, 52 Balderdash, 53 Gift, 54 Excerpt, 59 Cuban, 60 Acre, 64 Salve, 65 Lukewarm, 67 Narrate, 68 Inertia, 70 Phobia, 71 Catnap, 72 Penned, 75 Rapid, 77 Salon, 78 Timea, 79 Once, 80 Filj.

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Public Notices

HAURAKI DISTRICT RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN



Hauraki District Council is proposing to prepare a reserve management plan for all parks and reserves they have decision making responsibility for in the district.

The management plan will include parks and reserves held subject to the Reserves Act 1977 and Local Government Act 2002.

In accordance with section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 the council gives notice of its intention to prepare the reserve management plan which will include a comprehensive review of the Hauraki District Reserve Management Plan 2006 and the addition of new reserves acquired since this time.

The council invites the public to submit written suggestions on matters that you would like considered in the plan.

For more information and to provide feedback please go to <https://weneedtobtalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/> or email comments to info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz before 4pm on Friday 13 August 2021.

Comments collected through this process will be considered when preparing the Draft Reserve Management Plan, which is intended to be released for public submissions at the end of this year.

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Goldfields WI marks 52 years

Members of the Goldfields Women’s Institute celebrated their 52nd birthday with lunch at the Nakontong Thai restaurant in Thames on June 8.

It was a very pleasant and relaxing time and the group also welcomed Margaret Reid from Pukekohe, who was visiting one of our members, to celebrate with them. The meal was superb and even a couple of members decided to indulge in dessert. This was a great way to mix without the pressure of a meeting situation and everyone enjoyed one another’s company. Members were reminded of the upcoming group day Goldfield’s WI is hosting on July 6. The next meeting will be held at the Thames Bridge Club on July 13.

KEREPĒHI WOMEN’S INSTITUTE

President Elaine Jolliffe welcomed seven members to our June meeting. We were low in numbers this month.

It was Elaine’s turn for the thought for the month: “The world has enough for everyone but not enough for greed”.

Our roll calls were something your mother cooked that you disliked and winter pyjamas for Middlemore Hospital. Set competitions were a jar of fruit jelly and a garden photo in shades of pink. We also had to decorate our programmes to be judged by Janice and Ian at



Kerepēhi Women’s Institute members donated blankets to Te Korowai in Thames. Photo: SUPPLIED

their place.

Marion won the raffle and 13 pairs of pyjamas were donated for Middlemore Hospital. Elaine and Carolyn travelled to Wellington for the 100-year conference with other members of our federation. After our meeting, we had a quick lunch followed by a musical afternoon at Ian and Janice’s place.

We all enjoyed lots of singing and Sophia entertained us too by playing the violin, followed by a shared afternoon tea. Jan and Elaine had taken blankets made by members to Te Korowai in Thames. Our next meeting is on July 13.

COMPETITION: Bloom: 1 Carolyn Giles; 2 Marion van Eyk; 3 Elaine Jolliffe. Spike: 1 Carolyn Giles; 2 Bev Adamson; 3 Jan Edmonds. Shrub: 1 Marion van Eyk; 2 Carolyn Giles; 3 Jan Edmonds. Vegetable: 1 Marion van Eyk; 2 Jan Edmonds; 3 Bev Adamson. Herb: 1 Jan Edmonds; 2 Carolyn Giles; 3 Elaine Jolliffe. Photos: 1 Marion Van Eyk; 2 Jan Edmonds; 3 Bev Adamson. Programmes: 1 Bev Adamson; 2 Jan Edmonds; 3 Debbie Smith.



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Senior B Plate - Field 2

2:00pm McClinchy Cup
Thames vs Mercury Bay
Senior A Final - Field 1

\$5 Entry - CASH ONLY

No Alcohol, Glass or Dogs permitted at the grounds





New toilets in Brown St, Thames, were officially opened on Friday. Photo: SUPPLIED

New Brown St toilets open

An upgraded toilet block now graces Brown St in Thames.

The \$367,250 toilets, co-funded by the Government’s tourism infrastructure fund and Thames-Coromandel District Council, features four new unisex toilets, with an extra men’s toilet containing two urinals.

There is also a unisex space, a baby changing area, and an accessible toilet.

It was opened by Thames Community Board deputy chair Cherie Staples on Friday.

“What I really like is how the facility blends in and matches the surrounding buildings as a nod to our unique Thames heritage,” she said.

“[Mayor Sandra Goudie] specifically asked me to relay a message at the opening, and that is that these toilets hold a special place for her as, and I quote: “They’re tucked away, nice and private, and they are my go-to Thames toilet’.”

The facility is made of permacrete for durability, while it has been designed to match the rest of the heritage architecture in Thames.

“I think it’s quite exciting to see new infrastructure that fits in so seamlessly in Thames,” Thames Community Board councillor Robyn Sinclair said.

“I think it’s even more exciting that local businesses were involved in construction; it’s something for the community that’s done by the community.”

SPORTS

King of the schools

Hauraki Plains College’s motocross team walked away from a great day of racing on July 2, being named the top overall school in both the Northland Schools SS MX Comp’s fourth round, and the King of the Schools series.

Team manager Amanda Fitzpatrick said the squad “nailed it” - demonstrating resilience and commitment on a challenging track few had ridden before.

“Absolutely fantastic results from a team whose majority [are] kids riding for fun on the farm or trails.

“A huge effort from all of our pit crew (parents) to get the kids there, of which we are all very grateful,” she said.

The King of the Schools series had 67 schools competing and was held in Ruakaka, Northland.

RESULTS: Northland Schools SS MX Comp fourth round results at Ruakaka: 1st overall school: HPC team; 12-14 years 125cc - Ruben Smith 2ng; 12-16 years 85cc - Harry Reichenbach 5th; Womens: Jenna Humphrey 1st, Jayden Wilson 5th; 15-19 years 125cc - Tyler Cooksley 2nd; 125 Novice - Ethan Harrison 5th. King of the Schools Final Overall Results: 1st Overall school: HPC team; 4th Tyler Cooksley 15-19 125cc; 2nd Reuben Smith 12-14 125cc; 1st Jenna Humphrey Women’s; 2nd Jayden Wilson Women’s; 3rd Paige Geck Women’s; 5th Maddison Allen Women’s; 5th Jacob Bailey 12-14 125cc; 4th Ethan Harrison 125cc Novice; 4th Kyle McMillian 85cc.



HPC riders, in pink, make a flying start out of the gate.

Photos: SUPPLIED/TANYA LEAMAN



HPC rider Ethan Harrison, centre, gets the hole shot.



The winning Hauraki Plains College motocross team.

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Look forward to hearing from all you Valley Profile readers.

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