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New library building preferred



A concept drawing of Ngatea's proposed new library building.

Hauraki District Councillors would all prefer Ngatea get a brand new library, when the time comes to build.

The decision goes against the general feeling of the public, who preferred the current library get refurbished but

library get refurbished, but it could save ratepayers \$1m and ensure the longevity of the

As part of Long Term Plan discussions back in 2018, options for upgrading library services in Ngatea were considered.
Following extensive feedback

from the community, including a petition that was signed by more than 1200 people, council decided the Ngatea Library and Service Centre would stay in the existing council build-ing in Orchard West Rd, near Hugh Hayward Domain.

NGATEA LIBRARY: NEW TRUMPS OLD

Hauraki District Council prefers a new building for Ngatea's library, despite public preference to refurbish the old. KELLEY TANTAU reports

However, a report presented to council at its June 28 meeting, acknowledged disadvantages to this decision.

Firstly, the option to re-furbish the existing building would be more expensive than building a new purpose-built structure based on size alone.

structure based on size alone.
Refurbishing the existing building would also require more investigation to confirm feasibility and project risks.
Starting discussions, Deputy Mayor Paul Milner said the decision was about "old versus new"

The old potentially wastes a lot of money for little benefit; there could be asbestos in the ceiling, earthquake standards need meeting, the potential for repiling could be costly...

The new one would be good for the future, and there would be no wasted spaces, and it would therefore exceed or meet the community's expectations and I think that's quite important.

was for these reasons that Cr Milner believed a new, purpose-built facility would be the best option.

According to the report, the indicative cost for a new build was \$2.5m - \$1.2m over council's available budget for the project.

The cost to refurbish the existing building was \$3.5m - \$2.2m over budget. The report also noted it only cost \$1.68m and \$1.57m to build the new Waihi and Paeroa libraries, respectively, but councillors argued the past pricings were irrelevant. The report didn't state how much it would cost to remove the current building or what would happen to it. Plains councillor Ray Broad

said new was the only option. Upon talking to the Ngatea

community, he said many have told him they'd be comfort-able with a new build, so long as it achieved what the current building did.

A concept design which shifted the building so it was facing out onto the domain repre-

sented "the new Ngatea and the new Hauraki", he said. Mayor Toby Adams said as much as the Ngatea commu-nity was passionate about what they may or may not get in the they may or may not get, in the end, the whole district would

end, the whole district would be covering the cost. "We've got to be mindful that when the working party is tasked and charged with coming up with what is best for Ngatea, they can figure out what the fairest way is to pay for it."

New eventually trumped old. with councillors voting unanimously that their preferred option to investigate further was to remove the current Ngatea Library and Service Centre and rebuild a purpose-built facility.





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in The Valley Profile, then email admin@valleyprofile.co.nz or Ph/txt 027 396 2459 with your full name, the business name and page number of the ad by the following Monday to go in the draw to WIN a car valet from Thames Autos worth \$150! The prize is drawn at the end of each month.



Time capsule discovery a blast from the past

By KELLEY TANTAU

Moanataiari School has been handed a snapshot of the 90s after unearthing a time capsule that's been underground for more than 20 years.

more than 20 years.

Desperate to find the capsule ahead of the school's 50th reunion early next year, office and project administrator Julie White set out on a search that involved using social media to track down past principal Mike Rzoska.

"We knew it was in the garden but on Facebook, past students started talking about this time capsule and there were all these different stories that it had moved or that it was in certain areas," Julie said.

"There was a rock with a nail in it that pinpointed to where it was, but we didn't want to break into that until Mike came and told us it was there."

The school's caretaker Brendon Arnold got digging, and eventually pulled out a white tube with writing on it that said: Moanataiari School, December 16, 1997. After 24 years in the earth, the tube had sustained some water damage, but some of the objects easily identifiable were old school badges, classroom photos, a Hairy Maclary calendar, and a Telecom calling card. There were also cassette tapes and a yo-yo.

One of the items that was not

One of the items that was not so obvious was made up of a thread-like material, which Julie suspected could be an old school t-shirt that had disintegrated over the years.

over the years.
"The kids were hoping there



Moanataiari School students with the newly dug up time capsule.

Photo: SUPPLIED

was going to be money and gold," she said. "But there is a bit of money... an old 50 cents and 20 cents."

For its 50th reunion, set for March 11-13, 2022, the school is planning to bury another time capsule, and for it to be untouchable for another 25 years.

Good Fishing

This time though, they'll either use a stronger tube to seal the treasures, or will keep the capsule above ground. The school and its students will start thinking about what to include in it.

"There are really nice stories going around that kids remember this school and had a nice time

and made really fond memories here, so I think it's about getting all those people back together and celebrating it all," Julie said.

Any past students, staff, and whanau are invited to attend the reunion, and can get in touch with the school via Facebook or at moana.school.nz/contact-us.

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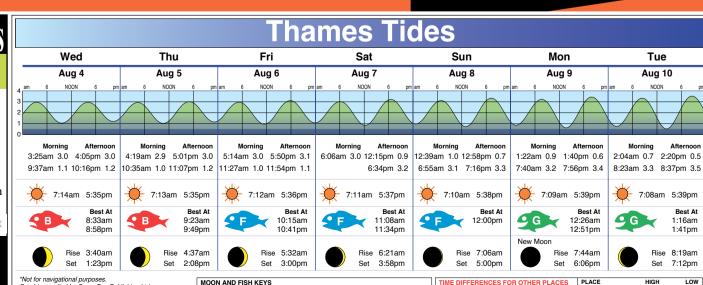
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Not So Good

accination centre officially opened after delay

By KELLEY TANTAU

From this week, up to 250 people a day can get their Covid-19 jabs at a new vaccination centre inside Thames Goldfields Shopping Centre.

The centre was initially scheduled to be officially opened on July 27 but was pushed back a week to ensure it had the "right start", Waikato DHB's Covid-19 vaccine programme lead Marce Munro programme lead Maree Munro told *The Profile*.

And with so many people to vaccinate in Thames and the surrounding area, the centre was expected to be open until the end of the year.

At an opening event on Monday morning, Maree Munro and Te Korowai Hauora O Hauraki chief executive Riana Manuel said the vaccination roll-out would be a "marathon" and was only made possible with the partnership and sup-

port of health providers.

There will be 15-20 staff working at the site, made up of vaccinators, administration and kai manaaki (support) staff, who will ensure each person is cared for during their vaccination experience.

Te Korowai, an iwi-based provider that delivers health services across the Hauraki and Thames districts, had been involved in the Waikato programme since its inception.

"We worked collaboratively with Te Korowai to run the vaccination centre at Thames Hospital, which was the main site for vaccinating the Group



Kaumātua Wati Ngamane speaks at the official opening of the Covid-19 vaccination centre in Goldfields Shopping Centre on August 2.

frontline health workforce in Thames," Maree said.

Te Korowai has also run mobile clinics in some of the Hauraki rohe's smaller and more remote locations, particularly targeted at vaccinating elderly.

Vaccinations would now shift from Thames Hospital, to the Goldfields vaccination centre, Maree said, while vaccinations would also be available from other health providers, such as Thames Medical Centre, Unichem Pharmacy, Thames, and Paeroa Medical Centre.

Around 18,000 people from Thames and its surrounds made up Group 3 of the Gov-ernment's vaccination roll-out

It included people who were aged 65 and over, had a relevant underlying health condition, were disabled or were in a position of caring for a person with a disability, or were preg-

Bookings for Group 4, the general population, were also open for people aged 60 and over. From August 11, people aged 55 and over would be able

to make a booking.

Thames Community Board deputy chair Cherie Staples told *The Profile* on Monday it was "so great and so very nec-essary" to have the vaccination facility open for the communi-

ty, iwi, and whanau.
"I'm sure this vaccination centre will do its share, if not more, in ensuring our community members are vaccinated and feeling at ease," she said. DETAILS: Operating five days a week, Tuesday to Saturday, the

Goldfields community vaccination centre is located inside Goldfields Mall near the entrance to . The Warehouse. Vaccinations at the centre will be by appointment only. Bookings are now open for people in Group 3, whether or not they have received an invitation. HOW TO BOOK: People can make an appointment by calling the na-tional call centre, Ph 0800 28 29 26, and asking to be booked into the Thames vaccination centre at Goldfields Shopping Centre. Bookings can also be made online at www.bookmyvaccine.nz.



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Students make paper with a purpose

Agift that keeps on giving is in the hands of Hauraki Plains College students, who have created a way to spread joy - as well as seeds.

Year 13 students Molly Soppet, Macy Jenkins, Charlotte Macreath, Zarnae Dowd, and Irene Irvine have created their business Seeds of Joy, as part of the Young Enterprise Scheme. The business turns the humble greeting card into environmentally-friendly product which provides its receiver with seeds to plant back into the earth.

"I saw this thing on [social media platform] TikTok about a company sending out care instructions on seed paper, and I thought that could be really cool for cards," Seeds of Joy chief executive Molly Soppet told The Profile.

"It's a gift that keeps on giving because people usually throw cards away and then remember the present, but what if the card was more of the present?

"It's a bit more sentimental than going straight to the gift."

The process starts by collecting recycled paper from the college. The students shred it up to create a paper mulch, and if they want to change its colour, they use natural dyes such as beetroot. The new paper is molded into shape and dried.



Seeds of Joy's Molly Soppet, left, Charlotte Macreath, and Macy Jenkins will be selling their eco-friendly product at markets.

Seeds are then added to the corners of the greeting cards. "My mum especially is quite sentimental about cards, she keeps all of them, so we made it so you can rip off the edge and keep the message that's writ-ten on the inside," production manager Macy Jenkins said.

The students stood outside Ngatea Four Square for an hour to obtain market research, and through their findings, they realised other people were sentimental about cards, too.

People also wanted to ensure the cards could be easily written on. Buyers can choose what seeds they'd like their card to hold, out of a range of herbs, flowers, and vegetables, as well as bee-friendly manuka and kanuka seeds. A portion of the businesses profits will go to the NZ Bumblebee Conservation Trust, which promotes the conservation and long term future of bumblebees in New Zealand.

"We've also got a negative carbon footprint," Molly said. "We don't create any waste because any paper that stuffs up, we can re-pulp it and re-use it."

The students will be hitting up markets around the Hauraki and South Auckland areas ahead of the scheme's Waikato/ King Country regional finals. Winners for that round will be announced throughout October, while the Young Enterprise National Awards will be held at Wellington in December.

DETAILS: People interested in buying greeting cards from Seeds of Joy can do so by emailing seedsofjoy1@gmail.com or finding the business on Instagram.



Wairua Sinfonietta



student Sean Ea recently participated in the Wairua Sinfonietta concert 'New Beginning'.

Wairua Sinfonietta is a volunteer-based orchestra which aims to encourage young musicians to support charities through concerts which raise social awareness and funds. All profits from the 'New Beginning' concert went to Pillars, an organisation which supports children and families who have a parent or relative in

Sean has been learning the violin for $11\ \text{years}$, practising 4 to 5 hours per week and travelling to Auckland weekly for lessons. nothing like the violin; I really love the feeling I get from playing - it feels like I am playing music and not just notes."

Sean also plays volleyball and is hoping for a career in Architecture.

RMK Awards



Well done to the most recent group of students who have achieved RMK badges. The badges reward those students who are endeavouring to do the right thing and their best work. RMK stands for Rangatiritanga,

core values Kaitiakitanga which underpin the Hauraki following the Hauraki Wav with a different badge for each 20 vouchers they receive.

Students earn vouchers for

According to the team who brought in the initiative,

Students really buy into the badge culture. So much of a school's time can be taken up with a small number of students who cause issues; this is one way we make sure that the majority of students who are doing the right

thing and are at school to learn are given the recognition they deserve. Further to badges, food and coffee vouchers are currently being













A+ for Jared



paper 11 Jared Jared's Stage

University was a well deserved reward for Year student Sewell. paper Algebra through

Receiving news

Massey University is one of several online courses which Jared is undertaking this year to keep himself challenged. He has completed an online course at New York University, on Cybersecurity Fundamental, also earning a 100% pass in. He is currently finishing his second course through eCampus NZ, the first in Web Development and the second in Technical IT Skills. In this semester, Jared is undertaking two further university papers: Calculus and Fundamental IT.

Jared is a recent recipient of a funding award through the Snow Douglas Trust, set up by Ngatea District High School past pupil Trevor (Snow) Douglas to provide financial support to HPC students in talent development opportunities as well as academic, sporting and cultural events at national level.

Jared has recently completed his Duke of

Edinburgh Silver Award and is now looking the complete requirements for the Gold With an eye to the Jared future, looking at degree Computer Engineering.



MotoX rides high at NZ Champs



Team of 18 take home second with only 3 points in it, at the NZ SS MotoX Championships on the last day of term two

One of Turua's longest living residents moves on

By KELLEY TANTAU

Joy Robinson can remember the plum trees that stood tall around the buildings of Turua.

She and her two sisters would climb them as kids.

"But we'd have to be quick," she told *The Profile*. "Because if the boys we went to school with got up the trees first, we didn't go anywhere near there because we would've been pelted with plums.

"We had to be very quick to get up the trees to beat the boys and pelt them."

At age 83, Joy was reputed to be one of the longest living Turua townspeople after residing in the Hauraki Plains town for more than seven decades.

She moved to Ngatea last week, making way for others to clinch the title.

Born in Westport, in the South Island, Joy moved up north at around age four, moving to a farm "up in the wop wops" of Tahuna.

Her family moved to Waitakaruru and Kopuarahi before they settled in Turua when Joy was aged 10. When they arrived, there was only a butcher shop and two dairies.

Turua was a Māori pā site before European settlement, and in the late 19th century, the village became one of the most important sites of kahikatea timber harvesting in New Zealand when the family of George and Martha Bagnall bought the Turua sawmill in 1875.

Joy remembers sitting on the big concrete blocks of the old sawmill, along the stopbanks of the Waihōu River.

And throughout the years, Joy's speed was always by her side.

As a Thames High School student, she was a champion in athletics, and specialised in sprinting. She used to go down to the Turua Domain and practise her start and have a "good sprint around".

At age 65, she was still able to beat her grandchildren in running races.

She said she had made many fond memories from throughout her time in Turua.

"I've seen a lot of things, and I used to know everybody in Turua," she said.

"I used to work in the post office, so it was easy to know everybody then. It was always a good place to live."

Joy had three sons: Kevin, Gary and Darryl. Her husband, Fred Robinson, resides in Ohinemuri Rest Home in Paeroa, where Joy visits him often.

At age 83, Joy Robinson is reputed to be one of the longest living Turua townspeople, after residing in the Hauraki Plains town for more than seven

decades. Photo: SUPPLIED





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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 EVENTSAugust 6: Moanataiari School Quiz Night: Bite Cafe, 6pm. Food and drinks available, slient auction, raffles. Register a team by July 30, text: 0210 263 4461.

August 8: Paeroa Little Theatre Auditions: 1.30pm at Paeroa Little Theatre. 'Twas the Fight Before Christmas by playwright Devon Williamson. Cast: Four women and two men, ages 25 to 65 years. Contact Sara for a script: Ph 027 479 8460.

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 kauaerangavc@doc.govt. email

August 21: Thames Valley Chess Championship: at the Thames Civic Centre. Must be level one to play. Free entry.

August 25: Ngatea Lions Cancer Morning Tea: Ngatea Memorial Hall, 10am, guest speaker, quick raffles, delicious morning tea. All proceeds will go to Cancer Support.

September 12: Trail Trilogy: Run or walk 10km to 140km on Hauraki Rail trail. More info: www. trailtrilogy.com.
October 2: TV Ulysses Twists

& Turns: Slow riding motorbike training, Ngatea Library carpark, 10am-2pm, \$5 per bike. Proceeds to Women's Refuge. All riders welcome.

October 5: Hotel California The Eagles Experience: A live concert and stage show, Thames War Memorial Civic Centre, 8pm. Tickets: eventfinda.co.nz.

October 16: Ngatea Garage Sale: Main street, Ngatea, 9am to 2pm. March 11-13: Moanataiari School **50th Reunion:** A weekend of events. FB: @MoanataiariSchool-Reunion2022, Registrations will open soon. moana.school.nz/ contact-us.

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 **Puriri Valley Market:** First Satur-

day of the month at Puriri Hall, 8am to 12:30pm. A variety of stalls on offer, Ph 027 4903 714 to book.

Thames Crafters Market: Second Saturday of the month at St James Hall, Pahau St, Thames, 8am to 2pm. Ph 07 868 7310.

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 027 617 4470

Diabetic Support Group: Thames Hauraki, Barry Young Ph 07 868

Goldfields Women's Institute: Ph 07 868 8984

Grey Power Thames: Carolyn Young Ph 07 868 6353 Hauraki Bowling Club Mangata-

rata: 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 Rural Show: Sonia.

Hauraki Plains St John: Call or pop into the Op Shop, Ph 07 867

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

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

Ngatea Chinwag Cafe: 10am-12



August 21: Dog training for kiwi avoidance at the Kauaeranga Visitor Centre, Ph 07 867 9080 or email kauaerangavc@doc.govt.nz for more information.

Tuesdays, parish hall, Darlington St, Ngatea

Ngatea Community Garden: Jane, Ph 07 867 7245

Ngatea Garden Circle: Alice Dougas 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 Sut-

cliffe, 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: paeroaart-

society@gmail.com
Paeroa Walking Group: 9am,
Mon, Wed, Fri, Elaine Lally, Ph 07
862 8409

Probus: Jill McIntosh, Ph 07 867

Runner Runner Poker Club: Thurs-

days, 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

Thames Continuing Education: Fourth Wednesday 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 Silvest-

Thames Floral Art Club: third Monday of the month. Ph 07 868 9873.

er. Ph 07 868 9346

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 sec-

ond Tuesday of month, Ph 07 868

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

Totally Thames Inc: Deb MacDonald Brown, Ph 027 228 8011

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 **Karangaleles Ukulele Group:**Wednesdays, 5:15pm, Ph 0204

0993 582 Ulysses Motorcycle Club: Thurs-

days at L&P Bottle, Paeroa, 9:30am, Ph 021 028 28442 or 021 701 466 Women's Loan Fund: Ph 07 868



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Film highlights 'human cost' of housing crisis

Inspired by the housing crisis, Thames director Gaysorn Thavat has created her first feature film, The Justice of Bunny King. KELLEY TANTAU reports

"The housing crisis

in Thames has re-

ally shocked me. You

outside of main cities

ing, but they can't."

Thames director was in-Aspired by the stories of people suffering under the housing shortage here and around the country when creating her debut feature film.

Gaysorn Thavat, from the Kauaeranga Valley, premiered her debut feature *The Justice*

of Bunny King, in Auckland last week.

It earlier had at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York.

It tells story of a mother-of-two with a sketchy past.

Her sharp tongue doesn't lend her to employability and the city in which she lives is in the middle of a housing crisis.

Gaysorn said she was inspired by the housing shortage both locally and nationally during the film's 12-year undertaking.

'The housing crisis in Thames has really shocked me," she told The Profile.

"You think in smaller towns outside of main cities people would be able to find affordable housing, but they can't. There just seems to be a shortage of it throughout the country which seems insane to me.'

According to a district council report, fewer than 40 new houses a year have been built in Thames over the last decade.

Gaysorn said it was an important discussion to be had.

"What I tried to do with the

film is highlight the human cost of treating our housing market like a monopoly gain," she said.

"I have loved seeing the film make it onto the big screen and to see the way that it does touch people.

"We've had a number of preview screenings and people

seem really affected by it, and I've had a lot of people come up its first showing think in smaller towns to me and say: thank you for telling the story, people would be able this is me, or the to find affordable hous- this is my situation, or this is

my sister.
"A lot of peo-- Gaysorn Thavat ple really connect with it and

really relate to it.'

The Justice of Bunny King follows the titular character (played by Essie Davis), who works as a "squeegee bandit" washing windows at traffic lights. Bunny uses her warmth and wit to charm money from gridlocked motorists, saving every cent to get custody of her children.

When Bunny promises her daughter a birthday party, she finds herself struggling against the social services to keep her

After Bunny is thrown out of her sister's house, she is now with no money, no home and her niece Tonyah (Thomasin McKenzie) in tow. With no help from social services, Bunny must break the rules to deliver the birthday and rescue her niece.



A fundraising event will allow Thames audiences to see the film on August 13-14 at Thames South's school hall.

Tickets can be purchased from Thames South School and at Carson's Bookstore on Pollen St. All funds raised will go to Te Whariki Manawahine O Hauraki (Hauraki Women's Refuge). The film can also be watched at cinemas

throughout the country.

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Rotary wheels a farmers market

have teamed up to develop a monthly farmers market located in Thames.

Currently the two organisations are seeking interest from parties who may wish to establish a stall at the proposed

As a fundraiser for the Rotary Club of Thames, all proceeds from the market will be returned to community projects. Those behind the concept said the focus would be on locally produced quality products. Food and beverages

headline the market while consideration will be given to other items which will enhance the market experience.

Rotary Club spokesperson Susanna Kruger said both the club and Goldfields wanted to provide an opportunity for local producers to display and sell from market stalls to residents and visitors.

She said Goldfields provided a central location along with the opportunity of the market not being impacted by weather as it could be housed indoors if required.

The thing for us now is to determine potential stallholders and have discussions with them to get them on board.



Susanna Kruger and John Freer at Goldfields Shopping Centre.

"Market day will be the last Sunday of each month with stalls being open from 9am to

'We believe this is an excellent opportunity not just for Thames, but our entire region. We have taken consideration from other successful farmers markets throughout New

Zealand and believe Thames. the Coromandel Peninsula and Hauraki Plains is perfect when considering our many local producers, combined with support from our residents and visitors.

Quality and fun are two key drivers for us," Susanna said. Rotary and Goldfields now

want to hear from any produc-

ers who are interested in finding out more and potentially having a stall at the market.

Those interested can contact Susanna Kruger, Ph 027 538 9789 or email: susannakruger20@gmail.com; or contact John Freer, Ph 027 483 9426 or email: management@goldfieldsshops.co.nz.

Thames Rugby on display

With Thames Rugby turning 150 this month you can see how the sport has evolved with the historic account on display at Goldfields.

The story of Thames Rugby, along with many photos, are included in the display, which has been prepared by Thames Rugby life member Vaughan de Groen.

A series of activities are planned over the weekend of August 13-15, including feature fixtures and functions.

Included in the display is the Greatest Of All Time Thames team, which was selected by Thames Rugby supporters - the team spanning 1870 to 2020.

Aspects covering the number of clubs which have made up Thames Rugby, the various groups involved, including women's rugby, high school and junior rugby, are all included in the

The display will remain in the Goldfield's concourse until the celebrations weekend



Three Waters info 'misleading' - HDC

Hauraki District Council could get up to \$15m from a Government support package to assist in the transition to the proposed Three Waters reform. KELLEY TANTAU reports

Central Government's messaging about its Three Waters reform has been "misleading", a district council has said, with too much emphasis being put on drinking water. In a Hauraki District Council

In a Hauraki District Council report released last week, staff believed drinking water was only a "very small part of the case for change and not the huge issue it's being made out to be".

it's being made out to be".

More emphasis, they said, needed to be placed on the more significant issues: the environmental outcomes such as cleaning up the district's rivers and streams; allowing for growth; and rates affordability

streams; allowing for growth; and rates affordability.

The Government is proposing to build a better system for New Zealand's three waters - drinking water, wastewater and stormwater. Currently, 67 different councils own and operate the majority of these services, and the reform proposes to establish four new publicly-owned, multi-regional entities which would take over from July 1, 2024.

Hauraki District Council chief

Hauraki District Council chief executive Langley Cavers said a Government support package had been developed in partnership with Local Government New Zealand, and comprised two broad elements to support transition to the new three waters system. A 'better off' element would see an investment of \$2 billion focusing on local government and community wellbeing; and a 'no council worse off' element; an allocation of up to around \$500 million to ensure no local authority was in a materially worse position financially to continue to provide services to its community as a direct result of the reform.

Hauraki's 'better off' allocation is \$15.1 million, he said.

The report said council wanted to consult its wider communities about their views and preferences on the topic.

es on the topic.

"However, at this stage we don't know whether there will be an option to opt out of the reforms, and what level of engagement with our communities will be required to support our course of action, as this is still to be decided," the report said.

"Everyone agrees we need to invest more in our drinking, waste and stormwater infrastructure... and that the scale of this investment is significant. However, there are still many unknowns around what the Government is proposing and a lot of questions that need to be answered."

Council staff were in the process of reviewing the financial information on the reforms that was provided in late June and will report on this review in August

Friends of Rotary acknowledged



Paeroa Rotary Paul Harris Fellowship recipients Rino Wilkinson, above, and Janet Tye, left, received the honour at a surprise event held at the Paeroa RSA recently.

Photos: SUPPLIED

By KELLEY TANTAU

Two friends of Paeroa Rotary have been honoured with a high award.

Rino Wilkinson and Janet Tye received a Paul Harris Fellowship on July 27, in thanks for their services to the community.

Mr Wilkinson, who is also a Hauraki District Councillor, told *The Profile* the award came as a huge surprise.

The night of the presentation, he'd been told by his family they were heading to the Paeroa RSA for an engagement party - but it was all a carefully planned ruse.

"I was getting prepared to speak at the engagement party, so my mind was working through things... but then the Rotary president [Paul Tormey] started talking about the Paul Harris award. Then he mentioned my name and Janet's.

"I was still surprised the day after."

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition was established in 1957 to show appreciation to encourage, and recognise, substantial contributions to The Rotary Foundation.

The recognition is named after Chicago attorney Paul Harris, who founded Rotary in 1905.

Mr Wilkinson first heard about the award at a Paeroa Rotary event back in 2014. That same night, he went home and said to himself: 'I want one of those one day'.

Seven years later, he's got it.





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Hympic spirit

To celebrate the Tokyo Olympic Games, Pārāwai School in Thames watched the opening ceremony highlights and took part in a "mini" Olympics of their own. Games included a modified hockey race, an egg and spoon race, a lily pad race, and a ping pong ball race.



The lily pad game looked to test the children's technique.



A modified hockey game was a fun challenge





Lung power was required for the ping pong ball race.

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Amy Bustard

Amy's passion for property and genuine love for working with people is what has driven her to start in real estate and her aim is to do real estate better.

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Amy has lived locally to Thames most of her life spending most of her time in Puriri, so knowing small communities well and what is like to live in one.

Amy understands that premium customer service, hard work and honesty are paramount to real estate.

Amv Bustard

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Andrea Grant

Andrea has observed many changes whilst accruing an extensive knowledge in her years of selling real estate

Andrea currently residing at the Lake Resort, Pauanui enjoys the opportunity to offer first class, innovative marketing, enabling her to show case the vendor's property and reach potential clients internationally, nationally, regionally and locally.

She certainly likes to be successful in her endeavours and considers, amongst her highest values, integrity, honesty and respect.

There is a notable strong passion for and commitment to people and care about achieving the best possible results, whether it is selling her client's property or helping them purchase their dream home. It is with a friendly approachable manner she has become a consultant who builds a comfortable rapport with each person she works with.

Andrea Grant

M: 021 043 6437

E: andrea.grant@trinitynetwork.co.nz



Maree Simpson

Maree is the third generation of her family born in Thames. Having grown up and raised her own family here she is an advocate for what a great place Thames is to live and work. She is a keen amateur historian but also likes to keep abreast of the future plans for the town.

She has most recently worked as Office Administrator for Turua School, but has also owned several businesses over the last 30 years in Thames with her husband Leith. Maree has an open and friendly personality and enjoys interacting with others. She will give every client her full attention, prioritising their wants and needs, being open and transparent in all her dealings and

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Rural Life



'Birds are where it's at' for roaming couple

By KELLEY TANTAU

Walking along rural roads, staring through binoculars, and peering down at their phones means Wendy Hare and Nigel Milius are always asked the question: are you lost?

That's what happened last week, when the husband-and-wife found themselves watching birds throughout Puriri's Neavesville Rd.

The pair, who live in Cooks Beach, are part of Birds New Zealand's national citizen science project, the New Zealand Bird Atlas. Its aim is to map the distribution of all the country's bird species between 2019-2024.

As part of the project, the whole country has been divided into 10km squares, Nigel said, and a block of 24 squares made up the southern and central Coro-

mandel areas. "I set myself a little project of trying to make sure each of those 24 squares get five hours of attention in each season of the project," he said.

"I'm also trying to use it to explore bits of the Coromandel I've either never seen before or have not been to for years."

Along Neavesville Rd, the pair spotted New Zealand pigeons (kererū) and bellbirds (korimako).

People can contribute their bird sightings to the NZ Bird Atlas eBird portal, and Wendy and Nigel said experience was not a prerequisite. Even logging findings from the back garden would be of help, they said.

The pair usually work as wildlife guides on expedition cruise ships, mostly venturing through the polar regions.

With Covid-19 putting a halt on many forms of excursions, Wendy, who is also



A kererū was spotted in Puriri. Photo: NEL BOTHA

involved with the Pūkorokoro Miranda Shorebird Centre, said it was fortuitous Bird Atlas was currently active as it kept them "entertained endlessly".

"I got into birding when I started travelling in my early 20s," Wendy said.

"I was always interested in wildlife, but it wasn't until I went overseas, got into birding, and came home and realised that the bird life in New Zealand was, on a global scale, right out there.

"We have species that are so different from anywhere else in the world and essentially, birds are really where it's at in New Zealand."

Bird Atlas will become the go-to authority on the state of birds in Aotearoa, providing up-to-the-hour data that will guide and influence national and regional Government conservation policy planning.

"While it's really great to be able to find the bitterns, the fernbirds, and the banded rails, it's also really good to get lots of data about blackbirds and sparrows and spotted doves and things in the back garden, too."

DETAILS: To find out more or to learn how to get involved, visit https://ebird.org/at-lasnz/about.

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Rural Life

Ahuwhenua entries open

aori sheep and beef farmers are Maon sneep and seel being urged to enter the 2022 Ahuwhenua Trophy competition.

The competition is designed to recognise excellence in Māori farming and was initiated in 1933 by the great Māori leader Sir Apirana Ngata and the Governor General at the time Lord Bledis-

Today, the Ahuwhenua Trophy remains the pre-eminent accolade to win in Māori farming and is recognised as the most prestigious and comprehensively judged award in New Zealand.

Pouarua Farms, near Ngatea, was named a finalist for the trophy this year.

The farms are jointly owned by Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Paoa, Ngāti Tamaterā, Ngāti Tara Tokanui and Te Patukirikiri. It comprises 10 farms throughout its 2,200ha: nine dairy units and one drystock unit. It is the largest single dairy platform in the Hauraki region, in which 4,600 cows are milked across 1,775ha.

Chief executive Jenna Smith earlier said being a finalist was an "honour".

Entries for the competition are open now and will close on December 10, 2021.

Chair of the Ahuwhenua Trophy management committee, which runs the competition, Nuku Hadfield, said it offered a unique opportunity for individual Māori farmers, trusts and incorporations to showcase their excellent farming enterprises to both Māori and the wider farming sector.

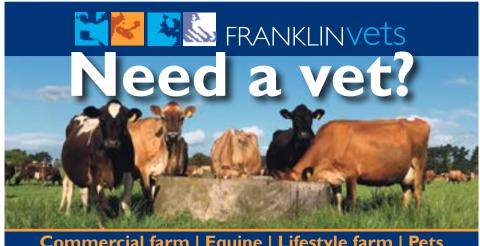
Speaking at the Red Meat Sector Conference where the 2022 competition was officially launched, Nuku Hadfield noted that Māori contribute more than 15 per cent of red meat exports and have done much to expand and develop their farming operations both in terms of sustainability and profitability.

She said previous participants in the competition said it was an invaluable exercise, and through the judging process they gained feedback that they otherwise wouldn't have got.

To mark the official launch of the Ahuwhenua Trophy competition for sheep and beef, the trophy was welcomed and displayed at the at Red Meat Sector Conference dinner attended by the Minister of Agriculture, Hon Damien O'Connor and close to 200 delegates. Andrew Morrison, Chair of Beef+Lamb New Zealand said it was very exciting to launch the competition at the conference.

He said having the trophy on display to such a large and influential gathering helped raise the profile of the event.

DETAILS: Entries for the Ahuwhenua Trophy close on Friday, December 10, and the winner will be announced at a gala dinner on May 27, 2022, in Hawke's Bay. The Entry Form and details about 2022 competition will be on the Ahuwhenua Trophy website in the next few weeks. More details: www.ahuwhenuatrophy.maori.nz.



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Cause of woman's death disputed in court



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

Hori Tamehana, standing amongst the brambles, was not sure what he was seeing. The teenage boy had gone to muster some sheep when he saw what looked like a fight between a man and a woman down on the beach at Miranda.

He was frightened but once the man left on horseback he approached the woman who was badly injured. He rode back to the settlement on the woman's horse to get help.

At least that is what he told the police.

The woman was Hihi Kiwi, in her early thirties and the wife of Rawiri - a tall, strongly-built, black-bearded man of about 35. She was brought to Tamati Wiremu's store in an unconscious condition and died early

the next morning. Rawiri said his wife had fallen from her horse and then been kicked by it but there were rumours of foul play. Hi-



The Auckland Supreme Court.

hi's body was exhumed and examined by Dr Dalziell of Pukekohe. He stated the injuries were not caused by the woman falling from or being kicked by

Rawiri and Hihi had gone to Miranda to sell sacks of wool at Tamati Wiremu's store on a December morning in 1900. Tamati's wife served them a few drinks and then the couple left on horseback for their home a few miles distant. They appeared somewhat under the influence but could ride their horses steadily. They followed

Photo: SUPPLIED

the track along the sea beach, Tamati accompanying them part of the way. Hihi was his cousin and after they talked he turned back to his store. The next thing he knew was that the boy came to his store on Hihi's horse. At least that is what he told the police.

At the tangi, a chief of the Ngati Whanaunga tribe asked that the matter be discussed. Rawiri insisted Hihi had fallen from a horse; Hori was certain he had seen Rawiri strike his wife.

At court in March, 1901,

Rawiri said Tamati was actually there after Hihi fell and he helped Rawiri put his injured wife on the horse.

Rawiri mounted his own horse, supporting his wife with one arm and guided the two horses with the other.

When they reached the incline down to the beach she fell forward. He stopped the horses and lifted her down. He could see she was badly hurt.

He washed her face with a piece of wet sacking and rode off to fetch his daughter who was about a mile from the accident site.

When they reached Hihi again several people had gathered on the beach.

Patu, mother of the boy Hori, called out "This is very bad work of yours. Why did you beat Hihi Kiwi?"

Rawiri denied it and said the injuries were due to a fall.

In the Supreme Court Tamati finally admitted that he did see Hihi fall off her horse. The boy Hori confessed he could not see very distinctly through the brambles. The case against Rawiri was flimsy.

The post mortem had been made 17 days after death. Tamati appeared to be trying to deflect attention from the fact that he and his wife had supplied Hihi with liquor at their store which may have contributed to her fall.

A re-trial of Rawiri resulted in a not guilty verdict.

Grant funding returned

Around \$1300 in unspent community grant funding has been returned to the Thames Community Board, following Solarpunk Aotearoa's festival cancellation.

Solarpunk Aotearoa planned for the town in May, and was to be "in essence, one big party", featuring live music, exhibitions, creative workshops, trade expos, and talks, among other community projects and displays.

However, organiser Deborah MacDonald Brown earlier told The Profile that since Totally Thames - who were presenting the festival - obtained \$6000 in funding from the Thames Community Board in August to run the event, no action had been taken to better the local

environment - the fundamental ethos of Solarpunk.

The festival was therefore cancelled, and at the Thames Community Board meeting last month, the \$1300 left from the \$6000 provided to the group from last year's round of community board grant funding was returned.

Around \$4700 was spent on associated activities, such as a native tree planting session at the Burke Street Reserve.

The money could now be used to offset any over-expenditures in other budget areas, council said.

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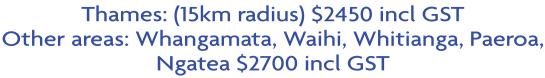
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Fill the grid so every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9

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ROSSWORD

 Surgical stitches (7)
 Capital put into an enterprise (10)

9 Ready (7)

13 Bacon rasher edge

14 Chirping insect (6)

15 Charge a liquid with gas (6) **16** Germ (7)

19 Causes for

complaint (10) 20 Stiffness (8)

21 Finger by thumb (5)

24 Bell tower (6) 25 Grief (6)

Militia (4,5)

32 Soldiers'

accommodation (8) 33 Acute insufficiency

Confidentiality (7) 38 Cosmetic

renovation (8)

39 Radioactive element discovered by the Curies (6)

40 Defeat decisively (4) 41 Totted up (5)42 Horizontal stair part

(5) **45** Innocent, naïve, over-trustful people

(5,2,3,4)

52 Outspoken (5) **55** Put on (5) **56** Nil (4)

57 Make dim (6) **58** Light gas (8)

61 Bringing up (7) 62 Huge people (6) 63 Court (8)

Excite pleasantly (9) Astonished (6)

Blunted (6) Card game (5) 69 Intrepid (8)

76 Bluish-green colour

81 American grassland

82 Old coin worth two shillings (6)

83 Bird enclosure (6) 84 Queen Elizabeth II's daughter (4)

85 States categorically

86 Pupil's text (10) Own up to (7) DOWN

Small branch (5) Real (8) Overly thin (6)

Fatuous (5) Calf meat (4)

Bird (7) Optical illusion (6)

8 Renowned (5) 10 Downfall (4) Spouse (7)

12 Disease of dogs (6)17 Checked and repaired (10) **18** Horse (5)

22 Enter unlawfully (8) 23 Paper quantity (5) 24 Helpful factor (7) 26 Killer whale (4)

28 Become too big

for (7)
29 Building assembled from ready-made sections (6)

30 Affection (6) Skin disorder (6)

Condescend (5) TV accessory (5)

36 Peak of perfection

(4) Board game (4) **43** Decayed (6) **44** Boring tool (5)

Mimicked (4) Self-centred person

Violet antiseptic (6) 49 Grows weary (5)

50 Final (8) Rehearsal (3,3) Common parlance (10)

53 Sprockets (4) 54 Oil from flax plant

59 Garden pest (5) 60 Upward slope (4) lcy rain (5) Coalition (8) List in detail (7) 65 67

Store of weapons (7) **70** Planks (6) **71** Oddball (6) Material (6)

Historical object (5)

77 Prompt (5)
78 Makes regular (5) Closed hand (4) 80 Visible aura (4)

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Shape, 4 Pipped at the post, 14 Gross, 15 Small, 16 Conspiracy, 17 Gouda, 19 Gel, 20 Heading, 21 Cinematic, 22 Yields, 25 Knowledge, 27 Keeper, 28 Swarms, 33 Commercial, 35 Arc, 36 Evoked, 37 Step, 39 Kid, 41 Disrobe, 42 Stucco, 43 Mousetrap, 44 Feeds, 45 Smallest, 50 Of, 51 Offender, 55 Nomad, 58 Rearrange, 59 Opaque, 60 Midwife, 61 Tar, 63 Writ, 64 Stable, 65 Oar, 66 Frightened, 68 Ghetto, 69 Crates, 71 Harboured, 76 Cobweb, 77 Sanctuary, 79 Slacken, 81 Rye, 84 Error, 85 Formulated, 86 Tabby, 87 Eases, 88 The back of beyond, 89 Beret.

DOWN: 2 Hamlet, 3 Paled, 5 Iron, 6 Pushing, 7 Drivel, 8 Tiara, 9 Haywire, 10 Pigs, 11 Studio, 12 Tongs, 13 Useless, 14 Gallows, 18 Answerable, 23 Debit, 24 Reforms, 26 Numeral, 27 Kickoff, 29 Retired, 30 Podium, 31 Lance, 32 Rebuff, 34 Lots, 36 Edges, 38 Paper, 40 Fete, 45 Strew, 46 Avarice, 47 Lure, 48 Sonata, 49 Smite, 50 Odorous, 52 Faithfully, 53 Nowhere, 54 Eiffel, 55 Newborn, 56 Sabre, 57 Gulf, 62 Limbs, 67 Stables, 68 Guarded, 70 Traffic, 72 Already, 73 Search, 74 Suburb, 75 Pebble, 76 Cease, 78 Curio, 80 Craze, 82 Crab, 83 Keen.

Mad science engages Matatoki students

Matatoki School students made some exciting discoveries during a day of hands-on science experiments recently. Exploding volcanoes, popping ziplock bags filled with gas, elephant toothpaste and trying to suck an egg into a bottle were some of the experiments keeping the children learning and entertained.





Jordan Rohrlach and Emilee Reynolds with their





The Science fair exhibition was held in the hall.



Rangi Marriner and Xavier Steele's expanding gas experiment.

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Lucie Miller and Riley Richards with the elephant toothpaste.

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large retail store. I lived in the suburbs, so naturally

caught the train to work.

On my first day, walking from the railway station to the store,

I spotted a man dragging a length of chain.

This got me to thinking why?

After about 2 weeks of seeing this same man every day dragging this

chain, and me not able to work out why,

I finally got the courage up to go and ask him.

He looked at me as if I was stupid, and said

"Have you ever tried to push one?"

Public Notice

TO ALL OWNERS OF PARISH OF TAUPIRI LOT 474B4A2A BLOCK NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO **CONSTITUTE AHU WHENUA TRUST**

An application to constitute an Ahu Whenua Trust over PARISH OF TAUPIRI LOT 474B4A2A BLOCK has been filed and will be set down for hearing.

The details are as follows:

VENUE: Level 2, BNZ Building, 354-358 Victoria Street, HAMILTON DATE: Tuesday 7 September 2021 TIME: 2.45pm

AGENDA ITEMS:

- a) Discuss and Constitute an Ahu Whenua Trust for this block pursuant to section 215 of Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993;
- b) Declare the Terms of the Trust pursuant to section 219 of the Act
- c) Appointment of Rochelle Maaka, April Teriaki, Te Mahia Koinaki, Kaikino Hotene and Evelyn Johnston-Raynor as trustees and vesting the block and assets in them in their capacity of trustees pursuant to sections 220 and 222 of the Act.

CONTACT: For further details or queries quote A20210007762:

The Registrar, Maori Land Court DX:GX10101, Hamilton Phone: 07 957 7880 micwaikato@justice.govt.nz

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Charity golf event to fundraise for cancer support

in that are going

... and they just walk

By TERESA RAMSEY

Agolf tournament in Thames on August 12 hopes to hit the mark to support people affected by cancer.

Support Cancer Thames spokesperson Jill Stent said the annual event, which was cancelled last year because of Covid-19, raised around \$2300 in 2019 with around 70 people taking part.

She hoped there would be a similar number of entries this year. "All the money we raise is spent on petrol vouchers, massages, counselling, food vouchers, for people who live in the Thames community - people

suffering from cancer and their families, and the wider area, like through chemo, half of the Thames Coast, them haven't any hair, Waitakaruru, Ngatea. [Money out with a bag of good-raised] just stays ies, looking stunning." here, it doesn't go
out of town like
Daffodil Day," she said.

"This is our only fundraiser

for the year ... this is the only money and you know how prevalent cancer is.

"And this is why this is so important that we raise money, because it's certainly wellspent here.'

The event was run with support from the Thames branch of the ANZ Bank, who take turns at organising the event every other year with the support group, she said.

Prizes donated by local businesses would be up for grabs on the day, she said.

"I have been door knocking for prizes for the tournament and the local support has been outstanding," she said.

The group also holds a very popular charity cake auction after the golf tournament to raise extra cash from cakes and goodies donated to the group. "Guys are paying for cakes

ing \$50 for a nut loaf, they're just so generous, they're just amazing. We have a proper auctioneer who runs that and it's a real fun thing. It's a feelgood dav.

The Thames Cancer Support group holds two coffee mornings for those affected by can-

The women's group meets at 10am on the third Wednesday of the month at the Thames Croquet Club rooms in Brown St; and the men's group, called Thames Men's Space, is held at 9:30am on the first Thursday of the month at the Thames Community Resource Centre in

Mackay St. "These women come

The support groups were important for those with cancer, as well as partners people who lost loved - Jill Stent ones, she said. "There are some

sad cases, some people have no support at all. It's a very strong group here.

The group also organises six Look Good Feel Better events at Richmond Villas each year.

That's a fantastic thing, these women come in that are going through chemo, half of them haven't any hair... and they just walk out with a bag of goodies, looking stunning, they get their wigs organised if they haven't already, that's a fantas-

DETAILS: The charity tournament, held at Thames Golf Course from 10am on August 12, is open to men and women. Players can compete in nine or 18 holes. Register for the event at the golf club shop. For more information about the tournament or any of the Thames Cancer Support groups, contact Jill, Ph 07 868 3334 or 021 109 2112, or call chairperson Maureen Hill, Ph 07 868 9764 or 027 271 6574.

Creative day out for fibre group

The Murphy tour bus that turned up at the Paeroa Band Rotunda from Thames carrying half our Thames Creative Fibre Group from Thames put a big smile on many faces not used to travelling to events in such luxury.

The group travelled to an exhibition and traders' open day in Cambridge held in the Raleigh Street Christian Centre Hall on June 24, organized by the Cambridge Creative Fibre Group.

A raffle based on where the bus wheel stopped was won and donated back to the club to assist in the cost of the trip.

Traders from as far as the Wairarapa and Hawke's Bay were in the packed hall with others from throughout the Waikato, Coromandel, and Thames selling everything enthusiastic spinners and knitters drool over.

Home spun wool and yarn was in abundance with a splattering of made-up woollen goods, dyes trinkets, spinning and weaving



The Thames Creative Fibre group.

Photo: SUPPLIED

apparatus for sale.

A demonstration of weaving on a large flat loom was intriguing for the uneducated, who could then go into the medium-sized exhibition room to peruse and buy garments and craft items displayed by the Cambridge group.

A large cafe area was popular with locals and visitors alike,

mainly because the cost of the large array of food with tea and coffee was on sale for \$2 per item.

At 2:30pm, the Murphy Bus picked us all up at the door, loaded with bags of goods for an en-joyable trip home and ending an excellent and enjoyable day out with club members.

- Lvn Barbour

Help us celebrate your club's success - email vour sports results to editor@vallevprofile.co.nz



Greenkeeper and Paeroa Bowls member Peter Glass rolls it up at a recent tournament at Kerepēhi Bowling Club. There was a good turnout of 18 teams who played on the Kerepēhi greens on July 25, after being postponed from July 18. There were a lot of very close games, and threatening weather all day, but just a few light showers. RESULTS: Winners were: 1st 3.5 wins 17 points 17 ends (Kerepēhi) Shaun Harrison, Dan McDowell, Daniel Harrison, Tracy Harrison; 2nd 3.5 wins 11 points 17 ends (Waihi) Noel Rae, George Love, M Matich, D Howell; 3rd 3 wins 15 points 17 ends (Kerepēhi) Lance Trow, Graham Pyke, Margaret Henderson, Kelsie Trow. Coming up - Sunday, August 8: O'Hagan Vision Care sponsored opt 4s; Sunday, August 22: Ngatea Meats/Paeroa Home Hardware opt 4s, which will complete the winter season at Kerepēhi Bowling Club. - Terry King

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Netball umpiring appeared 'out of the blue' for Reefe

By KELLEY TANTAU

 Γ or Reefe Benny, netball umpiring "came out of nowhere".

15-year-old Hauraki Plains College student, he only picked up the whistle after "taking the p*ss" and pursued it for the fitness and the chance to talk to girls his age.

Now three years and a myriad of games later, he's found a passion for the sport he never knew he had.

Reefe, who is deputy head boy and the junior academic leader at the college, started umpiring as a Year 10 student after his family took part in the Hauraki Plains Netball Centre's summer competition.

Last month, he umpired at the 2021 Netball New Zealand Under 18 champs, but before being able to attend, he had to pass a "yo-yo" test, which as-sessed his ability to keep up

around the court.
"In the Valley, the Friday night leagues are fast, but when going to Under 18s, we find it gets faster and the games be-come a lot more flowy and move from one end of the court to the other, so you have to be able to take off and stop at full speed," Reefe told The Profile.

When he started umpiring, Reefe said he wasn't aware of the pathways that could follow. but after undertaking more assessments and gaining more

experience, he began umpiring at Upper North Island Secondary Schools tournaments, and in 2019, umpired at the Under 16s North Island championship. "It came out of nowhere. In the past, I never thought I was going to be a netball ref, it just happened all of a sudden, he said.

Originally, I really enjoyed it for the fitness, and it gave me something to do, and I got to talk to girls my age. Now, the higher up I've gotten, I've found I genuinely have a passion for the game. At the Under 18 level, it's really good to watch '

At the higher levels, he's also had to learn to deal with dissent on the court.

"I've had one incident which was in a domestic league in Hamilton, and I copped a bit of slack there. But I sent them off, and they came back on with an entirely different attitude.'

Reefe said umpires can give players a caution, a warning, a suspension, and an "ordering off" - similar to a red card handed out in rugby.

"Cautions and warnings do happen quite often, but I've only ever given out one suspension over my three years and it was for dissent," he said.

Reefe has applied for a bachelor of health science and a bachelor of science at Auckland University, majoring in biomedicine, and hoped to



Reefe Benny, 17, was introduced to netball umpiring "out of the blue" three years ago.

Photos: SUPPLIED

still make time for umpiring when he wrapped up his final year at high school this year. He encouraged more people to give umpiring a go. "Across all codes, people should get involved more. I think especially in the Valley, where it's such a small region, the more sports we have with the umpires getting involved will make competition better for everyone.

RIGHT: Reefe Benney.



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