

The Valley Profile

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RETAILERS FACE MASK REFUSAL

Four Square Thames owner Nalin Patel believes managing noncompliance is going to be "the new norm" for businesses.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

By KELLEY TANTAU

A Thames hairdresser has resorted to locking her door during the day to prevent fake contact tracing sign-ins, while a supermarket owner has had to bar entry to those who refuse to follow the rules.

Noncompliance with mask-wearing and QR code-scanning is becoming a growing concern for the Thames Business Association and its members,

chief executive Sue Lewis-O'Halloran told *The Profile*.

At all alert levels, businesses such as supermarkets and retail stores legally must have a way for people to record their entry into the premises, and all customers legally must wear a face covering.

But Sue said she'd been told that some businesses had become "increasingly frustrated and frightened" by people who refused to follow Covid-19 re-

quirements to sign in and wear masks.

The Profile visited a cafe, a retail store, a supermarket, and a hair salon along Pollen St on a Friday afternoon, and all of them had witnessed noncompliance to some extent.

Four Square Thames owner Nalin Patel reckoned it was going to be "the new norm".

"You always get a few of those people, but we just tell them to put a mask on, otherwise we

won't let them in. If they are really rough and want to create a problem, we just tell them to go away."

"Most people" listened when told to put on a mask, he said, but a small percentage refused to don one, even when provided for free.

"Some of them have exemptions, and I ask them to show it to us, but some don't even want to do that."

The ones who do get provided

an exemption sticker to wear while in the store. This prevented other customers from getting concerned and aggressive, he said.

Meanwhile, across the road at Walter & Co, owner and hairdresser Leanne Grinder has had to lock her door to ensure the safety of her clients.

She's had people go into the salon and provide fake phone numbers and names when

CONTINUED P2



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Businesses face mask noncompliance

CONTINUED FROM P1

filling out the contact tracing forms.

“Our rules are different to most shops because we are in close contact, so that was the only way I could control people signing in and following the proper processes,” she said.

“Locking the door just makes me feel like I can breathe better and not get so stressed.”

Leanne said because it was difficult to socially distance, it was “very important” to know who was coming into the salon and to get their proper details.

“We’ve had fake sign-ins, fake phone numbers... This is about making our clients know they are coming somewhere safe and that they can relax here.”

The Thames Business Association (TBA) is urging compliance in order to ensure businesses can survive the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic.

“At the TBA we are very concerned for each and every business, members or not,” Sue said.

“The fabric of our town is interwoven with our [member] businesses – not just on Pollen St, Queen St and in Goldfields Mall; in Kōpū as well and south to Hikutaia and north to Te Mata.

“Every business depends on us to help them survive through these uncertain times, and they will only be able to do that if each and every member of our community respects the protocols – scan and mask,



The Thames Business Association is urging everyone to comply with QR scanning rules in order to ensure businesses can survive the Covid-19 pandemic.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

scan and mask, scan and mask.

“Our lives and our livelihoods depend on every one of us doing this,” she said.

DETAILS: The Delta variant of the Covid-19 virus is more transmissible by droplets. Face coverings stop droplets spreading when someone speaks, laughs, coughs or sneezes. More info: covid19.govt.nz.

MASK RULES IN LEVEL 2

YOU MUST WEAR A MASK when on public transport, in taxis, visiting a healthcare or aged care facility, inside a retail business (supermarkets, shops), vet clinics, public venues, and visiting the public areas within courts, tribunals, local and central government agencies, social service providers, and premises operated by NZ Police.

YOU DON'T NEED A MASK in a close contact business (hair dresser, etc) or a cafe or restaurant, but are encouraged to wear one when you are not eating or drinking.



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Thames Tides

Wed Oct 27	Thu Oct 28	Fri Oct 29	Sat Oct 30	Sun Oct 31	Mon Nov 1	Tue Nov 2
 Morning: 12:05am 3.1, 12:22pm 3.2 Afternoon: 6:03am 0.8, 6:31pm 1.1 Sunrise: 6:18am, Sunset: 7:46pm Best At: 5:40am, 6:05pm Rise: 12:59am, Set: 10:21am	 Morning: 12:47am 3.0, 1:07pm 3.1 Afternoon: 6:45am 0.9, 7:20pm 1.2 Sunrise: 6:17am, Sunset: 7:47pm Best At: 6:31am, 6:56pm Rise: 1:48am, Set: 11:16am	 Morning: 1:32am 2.9, 1:58pm 3.0 Afternoon: 7:32am 1.0, 8:13pm 1.2 Sunrise: 6:16am, Sunset: 7:48pm Best At: 7:21am, 7:46pm Last Quarter Rise: 2:32am, Set: 12:16pm	 Morning: 2:22am 2.9, 2:53pm 3.0 Afternoon: 8:26am 1.1, 9:09pm 1.2 Sunrise: 6:15am, Sunset: 7:49pm Best At: 8:11am, 8:36pm Rise: 3:10am, Set: 1:19pm	 Morning: 3:17am 2.9, 3:50pm 3.1 Afternoon: 9:28am 1.1, 10:07pm 1.1 Sunrise: 6:14am, Sunset: 7:50pm Best At: 9:00am, 9:24pm Rise: 3:44am, Set: 2:24pm	 Morning: 4:17am 3.0, 4:46pm 3.2 Afternoon: 10:32am 1.0, 11:04pm 0.9 Sunrise: 6:13am, Sunset: 7:51pm Best At: 9:48am, 10:12pm Rise: 4:15am, Set: 3:30pm	 Morning: 5:19am 3.1, 5:40pm 3.3 Afternoon: 11:31am 0.9, 11:59pm 0.8 Sunrise: 6:11am, Sunset: 7:52pm Best At: 10:36am, 11:00pm Rise: 4:44am, Set: 4:38pm

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	Min	LOW
Coromandel	-0	05	-0 04
Whitianga	-0	02	-0 06
Tairua	+0	10	+0 20
Whangamata	-0	07	-0 08
Waihi Beach	-0	12	-0 13

Ngatea weight loss journey starts online

By KELLEY TANTAU

A community Facebook group has been the catalyst for two Hauraki mums to lose the baby weight and get motivated.

Christina Lynch and Aimee Chipperfield lost a combined 37kg after taking part in a 12-week weight loss challenge posted on their local Facebook page.

Christina's husband Cameron also took part, and he dropped 18kg.

There's now an eight-week "summer shred" challenge, and the trio are encouraging anyone wanting to get their blood pumping to give it a go.

The initiative started back in May, when Ngatea resident Adam Matete challenged his local Facebook community to lose weight across a 12-week period.

The post got an overwhelmingly positive response, with businesses getting on board to donate spot prizes, as well as a grand prize of \$500 donated by Paton Kitchens.

There was a weigh-in at the start of the challenge, and then again at four week increments, with the winner of the four and eight week weigh-ins winning gym memberships from Hauraki Fitness Centre.

"It was impressive, and a bunch of us felt that way," Christina told *The Profile*. "I've lost weight in the past, I've



Christina Lynch, left, with daughter Ava, Cameron Lynch, and Aimee Chipperfield with son Hugo.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

been to gyms, I've had a personal trainer... this is the most weight I've ever lost in one go, and honestly, the difference for me was the community."

Christina and Cameron have a daughter, Ava, 1, while Aimee has a son called Hugo, who has just turned 11 months.

The women wanted to lose some baby weight and said having each other to motivate them throughout the challenge

made all the difference.

"We had only known each other a couple of weeks, but we became really close through this challenge... and [Cameron] said he should probably do it too after all the sympathy eating during my pregnancy," Christina said.

They also credited friendly rivalries for keeping them motivated during the August Covid-19 lockdown.

"I set up a couple of distance challenges during lockdown," Aimee said. "The first was doing anything: biking, swimming, running, and the second one was a walking challenge. I won the first one and Christina won the second one, and we rivalled; we pushed each other."

Members of the group also climbed the notorious Jacob's Ladder staircase in Thames, among other activities, while

Cameron cut out sugar from his diet, something he said he was most proud of.

Christina is now running a second challenge, an eight-week "summer shred" that began on October 13 and will continue until early December.

Around 28 participants are taking part, and Christina invited anyone interested to join the 'Ngatea 12 Week Challenge' group on Facebook.

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Motocross team rocks pink for breast cancer

By KELLEY TANTAU

Atop-ranking motocross team and the colour pink is not a common marriage, but for more than a decade Hauraki Plains College has flown the flag for breast cancer.

For at least 10 years, the school's motocross team, which this year won the North Island King of the Schools series, have been donating money to the NZ Breast Cancer Foundation.

Team spokesperson Amanda Fitzpatrick told *The Profile* it was a cause that hit close to home.

"Everybody in New Zealand has been touched by breast cancer somehow. Years ago, we lost a mother from the team, and I lost my sister-in-law. We've also had mothers who have survived it.

"So, it's very important to us," she said.

The school was known for wearing pink high-vis vests while competing, a decision that faced some opposition when it was first implemented.

"Over the years, there were a couple of kids and families that refused to wear the pink for whatever reason, and they had to leave the team," Amanda said.

But that didn't stop them from standing up for the cause.

"Pink isn't a school colour, but we have managed to get compensated to wear that pink



Annabel Jeyes, left, Bree McCowatt, deputy principal Jaco Dreyer, Joseph Goudie, Kyle McMillan, and Jayden Woods stand by the breast cancer awareness sales table. Photo: SUPPLIED

so that we can fly the flag for breast cancer," she said.

"Other families have been really appreciative and [principal] Ngaire [Harris] is very supportive of the motocross team."

This year, they have designed "snoods" - a fabric face covering that can sit around the neck before being pulled up to wear as an alternative option to a face mask.

They've created two designs - one with the school motto, and the other with the motocross team's logo.

For Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which runs throughout October, the school decided to sell merchandise, as well as the motocross snoods, to raise funds for the charitable organisation.

They've already raised \$600 from the sales and donations.

"Our boys don't think anything of it. It's sort of the norm, and they're not silly about it," Amanda said.

She also thought the snoods were a more hygienic alternative to face masks - especially when it came to high schoolers.

"There's nothing clean about kid's masks."

But the biggest thing was that the riders knew how to "pay it forward".

"For me, the biggest thing is that the motocross team has been so lucky over the years. We've been gifted money, we've been gifted donations, and we've been given funding for gear, so we need to be able to teach our kids to pay it forward," she said.

"And they do know how to pay it forward and they do know how to think about someone else."



Young Entrepreneurs

A group of Year 13 Business Studies students have made the top 8 of 78 teams and over 400 students across the region, to take part in the regional finals of the Young Enterprise challenge in November. The group of budding entrepreneurs designed a card made of recycled paper with embodied seeds which can be planted - the gift that keeps on growing. At the finals, the team will present to a panel of business managers at the Wintec campus and will be judged on innovation, sustainability of the product, how successfully the business was run and delivery of the presentation. The



Seeds of Joy team L-R Molly Smith-Soppet, Irene Irvine, Charlotte Macreath, Zarnae Dowd, Macy Jenkins

group are appreciative of the community support with many people purchasing online because of COVID restrictions. "This is the fourth year in a row that an HPC team has made it to finals," according to Business Studies teacher Mr John Tate. "It's a fun opportunity and the experience of running their own business makes the learning real, relevant and hands on."

Science

Well done to Ryan Courtney who has been selected as one of 56 students in the country to attend the Science Academy programme at Otago University next year. Ryan will be in his final year at HPC and the programme will



Ryan Courtney

give him the opportunity to work alongside, and be challenged by, leading scientists across a wide range of disciplines. The programme is fully funded and includes two residential science camps on the University of Otago campus, a summer science camp in January and a winter science camp in July.

Rowers Take To The Water

The first week of the term break saw 47 students heading for Lake Mangakino to give rowing a go. Most of the students were new to the sport, being helped out by more experienced rowers. "While it was hard to get some of the basics sorted, the camp was fun and in between rowing, there were plenty of other things to keep us busy," commented Year 9 student Jayden Woods. Fellow Year 9 rower Ethan Harrison agreed: "The coaches and senior rowers were great



Giving rowing a go

and we are really looking forward to after school trainings and getting underway with the season."

Masking Up Made Easier



Morgan with a HPC snood

Raising funds for NZ Breast Cancer, the HPC MotoX team had their own face coverings made in the form of a snood. Being of light, quick dry material and able to be folded into multiple layers, a similar snood is available for students and staff. No more forgetting your mask for the bus ride; no more sore ears, no more clogging up dumps with disposable masks and no more fogged up glasses.

Bookarama browsers bag a bargain

By KELLEY TANTAU

Susanne Single browses the magazines in the food section at Bookarama. It's lunch time, and she's hungry, she says.

She is one of many pursuing the titles inside St James Church, Thames, for Thames Valley Zonta Club's annual Bookarama.

"I come here every year to have a look at what's on offer," she tells *The Profile*.

"Books and magazines are very expensive in the shops, so this is a great way to have a look at what's out there. The only thing is, you need to bring some time."

The volume of books on offer this year is, as Susanne says, "overwhelming". There are hardcover novels, fiction, and non-fiction, history, and culinary.

The Bookarama is the club's only fundraiser which goes on to help projects locally, nationally, and internationally. It's a fundraiser Susanne doesn't think will ever go out of style.

"The whole discussion about books disappearing from our lives... I don't think they ever will. "Everybody likes a hard copy in their hands, seeing the letters written, using their senses to feel the book, and to look at the writing... it will keep persisting," she says.

"I think it would be so sad if it disappears from our lives, but when I see this... I know it won't. People will always enjoy books."

The sentiment is shared by



Susanne Single browses the food section.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU

Bookarama team leader Althea Loveday, who is stacking books in the next room.

She says books are tangible and have a future.

"You can use a Kindle, but there's something about turning a page of a book."

"I think there will always be room for publishing, whatever the book is, and we're glad that there is," she says.

The Bookarama this year followed new guidelines, such as only allowing 50 people in the church at a time and the wearing of masks or face coverings.

At Friday lunchtime, there is a good number of browsers, and Althea says compliance hasn't been an issue.

"We haven't had to tell anyone to wear a mask. We've been very lucky."



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Coastal input sought

Meetings will be held throughout the Thames-Coromandel this week as the district council seeks the public's input on protecting its coastlines.

Thames-Coromandel District Council has come to a "new stage" in its Shoreline Management Plan project, which aims to ensure communities and coastlines remain thriving as the climate changes.

Council has four Coastal Panels working to define and reduce the coastal flooding and erosion risks to people, property and assets.

The work undertaken will decide which sustainable flood and coastal defence measures are appropriate for each of the peninsula's four main geographic areas.

The coastal panels were now at the "what should we be doing" stage of the project, a council statement said.

"We need public input on the adaptation options for protecting and enhancing our coastline. These will allow us to adapt to the impacts of coastal hazards.

"The options being considered range from soft solutions, such as dune restoration and wetland regeneration, to hard solutions such as stop banks, rock walls or managed retreat."

In June and August, 2018, respectively, council adopted the Thames-Coromandel Coastal Management Strategy and Thames-Coromandel Coastal Hazards Policy, committing to the preparation of Shoreline Management Plans for the district.

The plans are intended to provide a sustainable framework for coastal hazard risk management, addressing more immediate issues but considering them in the context of how communities may need to adapt in the longer-term.

This week's public meetings will help residents understand which protection and management options may be the right ones for their stretch of coastline.

At the meetings, council staff will explain the erosion and inundation risks to specific areas of coastline and will seek input on managing the coast.

DETAILS: Meetings at the Thames Civic Centre on October 29, 5pm - 7pm; and at the Te Puru Hall, October 30, 9.30am-11.30am, with meetings in other centres around the peninsula until October 31. More info: www.tcdc.govt.nz/smp.

Locals support Steam Day event

By MEGHAN HAWKES

The recent Hauraki Prospectors Association Steam Days held at the Goldmine Experience on Tararu Rd was very successful, president Alan Young says.

"We are very appreciative of the community and local support with this weekend. It hasn't been an easy road. Covid's taken up to 80 per cent of our visitors," he said.

Two static steam engines restored by the prospectors - one from 1870 and the other 1890, were in action during the event on October 16-17.

The 1870 engine has taken close to 2000 man hours to rebuild.

"It's a great team that's done this, to run a day like this. It starts at 6am to fire a boiler and get it up and running," Mr Young said.

Among the weekend visitors were Heather from Turua and Craig from Te Aroha.

It was not their first visit but "we just love the heritage of Thames, the town is fascinating".

It's now full steam ahead for the association - they have a blacksmith's shop under construction and an 1877 A & G Price steam engine to be restored next.

More information online at: www.goldmine-experience.co.nz.



ABOVE: Smoke from the boiler and steam from the whistle.



LEFT: One of the Hauraki Prospector Association's restored steam engines going 'balls out'. The origin of this saying comes from the engine's governor - when the red rotating balls are fully out the engine is running at maximum speed.

Photos: MIKE HAWKES

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Haka wars

Paeroa College celebrated te wiki o te reo Māori last term. The school created a new haka for 2021 to reflect the belief that hard work and collective effort will benefit everyone - Mahi tahi kia kaha - work together, be strong. Afterwards, students celebrated with a full school kai tahi (eat as one) at the end of the day. Nga-tohu won the waiata challenge and the haka wars.



Ngakotu – winners of the waiata Challenge and the haka war, with staff also taking part.

Photos: SUPPLIED/PAEROA COLLEGE



Wairua Parata leads Maru.



Brodie Robinson, left, and Ashton Chwesik, members of Ngakotu.



Tara compete in the annual haka wars.



Ariki Emery-Thompson and Timoti Wiperi – leaders of Rapiri.

Scott Simpson

MP for Coromandel

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See What's in Store For You



Warehouse garden centre set to blossom

It will take about eight weeks for the new Warehouse Garden Centre at Goldfields Shopping Centre, Thames, to blossom.

Work on the garden centre is underway, which will transform the front of The Warehouse and the entrance to Goldfields.

The current work is the final stage of The Warehouse upgrade, which has seen the shop being transformed inside with the advent of new lighting, layout and the inclusion of Warehouse Stationery.

Plants and stock inside the Warehouse garden centre will soon become visible from the footpath.

While work is underway, garden centre items will be available from a temporary site alongside the Coinmax Shop and Thames Covid-19 vaccination centre.

Meanwhile, Goldfields has been working with potential new tenants while existing tenants are looking to move and expand their retail offering.

Bed Bath and Beyond is now undertaking a new fitout of the former Warehouse Stationery shop, and once Auckland moves to Level 2, work should be completed within two weeks.

This will mean Bed Bath and Beyond will enjoy an additional 82 square metres of shop floor

space.

Postie is upgrading their store and moving to a bigger space with a fresh new look and more room for shopping.

The new store will have more stock, with the full Postie range of new season fashion and essentials for the whole family available in-store.

Changes are also occurring with the likes of upgraded lighting in the centre concourses, while shops are also changing to LED lighting.

Sixty-six lights have been changed to the new technology which provides a better light coverage while using less electricity. All of the lights in the new Bed Bath and Beyond shop are the new LED technology.

External centre lights have also been upgraded at both the front and rear of the shopping centre.

And a revised rubbish solution is now being sought to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

Short-term action has been taken to restrict the amount of litter, which has the potential to find its way into the surrounding foreshore.

Regular litter picks around the fringe of the centre are being undertaken while anyone disposing of rubbish and litter are asked to use the many bins available.



This will assist in protecting the foreshore bird and marine life – neighbours to Goldfields across the rear boundary.

ABOVE/RIGHT: Big changes ahead for the Warehouse and Bed Bath & Beyond.



Business association gains ‘influence in numbers’

The more members making up the Thames Business Association, the louder its voice can be heard, chief executive Sue Lewis-O’Halloran says.

Even in these “troubled times”, strength in numbers can make a difference.

The Thames Business Association (TBA) is eager to grow its membership from 300 to 400 this year, in order to ensure more work can be done to advocate on behalf of its members, who run businesses from Te Mata in the north to Hikutaia in the south.

“A strong membership allows the association to speak with one collective voice,” Sue told *The Profile*.

“And when a member needs a little help or a lot of help, we can stick-handle them through the process.”

The Thames Business Association is a volunteer-driven, not-for-profit organisation that aims to make a positive impact on businesses and the community.

Founded in 2018 by local business owners who recognised the need to have a collective voice, its membership includes corporates, sole proprietors, and community organisations.

Thames resident Warren Sly joined the board last year and recently became the chair.

He believes his primary mission is to advocate for the members.



Thames Business Association chief executive Sue Lewis-O’Halloran and board chair Warren Sly are eager to grow the organisation’s numbers.
Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

He said the TBA was able to support individual businesses needing help with district council consents, fees, rules and regulations, as well as to share the concerns of its members with council staff and Thames ward councillors.

The association also offers network and training opportunities such as the Breakfast and

“A strong membership allows the association to speak with one collective voice.”

- Sue Lewis-O’Halloran

Lunch programme, featuring keynote speakers and sharing of challenges, plus the new Lunch

and Learn programme, which offers training on topics of interest to members.

Members are always invited to the monthly Business After Five events, which offer further chances to network.

The TBA hosts the annual East Waikato CanDo Careers and Employers EXPO, introducing its members to senior high school-

ers looking for training, apprenticeships, and employment opportunities.

Last year, the business association installed an Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera at a member’s site between Kōpū and Thames, after a lengthy fundraising effort.

Within one month, it had already caught a dozen stolen cars or number plates travelling into and out of Thames.

Alistair Mason of Mason Investments, a TBA member, said being a part of a business association was worthwhile.

“I’m a firm believer that every business community needs a credible organisation to represent their interests, and the hard reality is, it takes money,” he said.

“I’ve been an active member of business associations for years and strength of numbers makes a difference.

“Some members may think that the cost is not justified in these troubled times, but in fact it is more important than ever to have a credible body lobbying for them.”

Membership fees are invoiced annually, with options for a corporate business, sole proprietor, community organisation, and the new associate category.

More information can be found on the association’s new website: www.tba.nz.

Every member matters.



www.tba.nz

- Members’ login
- Online processing of payments and membership application
- Hyperlinks to your website; TBA will create a page for you if needed
- Registration for events, Eg: Lunch and Learn, breakfast and lunch programme
- Jobs board

Join us.

Become a member and join the team...

Annual fees

Corporate: \$200 +gst

Sole Proprietor/NGO: \$100 +gst

Community Organisation: \$50 +gst

Associate (new category): \$50 +gst

For Individuals who don’t fit into the above categories but want to support the TBA

Download the membership application at: www.tba.nz or email manager@thamesbusiness.co.nz

It’s so important to feel connected in a community. Being a member of the Thames Business Association has provided me with social opportunities and partnerships. It’s an investment in finding my place in this community to thrive and grow my business.

Suze McElroy, Member



Calf Club fun

Matatoki and Hikutaia schools were two of several to host their annual calf club days last week. Hikutaia School was eager to host its Ag Day on October 19, with around 24 calves, two lambs, six goats, and 10 small pets taking part alongside their owners. Principal Wayne Whitney said it was the school's 79th Ag Day and a return to the feeling of 'normality' for the students. He even had a calf named after him. Meanwhile, Matatoki School students showed off their cute calves and lambs on October 21. There were also indoor exhibits featuring creative displays, as well as food and drink. *Valley Profile* reporter **KELLEY TANTAU** went along to both events.



Matatoki's Mackenzie Read waits to enter the ring with Bubbles.



Sasha Flooks' kid Pineapple gets up close and personal at Hikutaia School.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU



Bella and Amber Hunt with Peaches and Enzo.



Hikutaia's Kenzie Walmsley with her goat Ziggy.



Tu Walker-Moehurori with Felicia, Patrick Casey with Whitney, and Beau Williams with Arrow.



Junior Aranui strikes a pose with lamb Timmy.

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Rural Life



Tamzin Forsyth-Lees gives a drink to calf Molly at Matatoki.



Cousins Cole Williams, front, and Noah King arrive at Hikutaia School with their calves.



Jayden and Leah Richmond, with calves JJ and Milkshake.



Matatoki student Amber Bergersen cuddles up to her lamb Spotty.



Jacob Read's lamb Daisy wins leading.

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Rural Life

Rook numbers falling thanks to reporting

Paeroa has been named one of several Waikato hotspots for rooks, one of the most destructive farm production pest birds in the world.

Thanks to the help of landowners reporting sightings, the numbers of rooks in the Waikato region are now believed to be below 40. But with spring in the air, Waikato Regional Council is again asking landowners to report rook sightings for targeted pest control to prevent the wary, invasive, big black bird from becoming a problem on farms. Council biosecurity officer Andrew McConnell said rook sites were located and treated in Paeroa, Mangakino and Tirau last year, thanks to the help of landowners. The largest rookery, in Mangakino, was made up of six birds, he said. “The largest colony ever found in New Zealand was nearly 1000 nests but, thanks to control, such groupings are a thing of the past,” he said. “We’ve been controlling rooks here in the Waikato since 2002, when their numbers were around 200. After

last year’s control work, we believe it to be below 40.” Now’s a good time of the year to start seeing rooks as it’s breeding season, which is when they congregate. In the Waikato, rook hotspots are in Paeroa, from Te Poi to Matamata, Mangakino to Taupō and in Hamilton. Once rookery sightings have been called in, a drone is used to survey for the presence of eggs and/or chicks in nests to ensure only active nests are treated. “Males are known to build nests regardless,” Mr McConnell said. “Using a drone means we don’t waste resources on empty nests, and it improves efficacy by getting the timing of control right.” Council relied on landowners to report rook sightings because “it’s a bit like looking for a needle in a haystack for them, especially as their numbers get down”, he said. “They’re also very wary so it’s important that landowners don’t try get rid of them themselves. We don’t want to scare them; it becomes tricky locating rooks once they have been spooked.” Rooks, which generally build nests in pine or eucalyptus trees, are one of the most destructive farm production pest birds in the world. “They feed on newly sown



crops and destroy paddocks by tearing them up in search for grubs. A large rook population can completely destroy entire paddocks.” Rooks were introduced to New Zealand in the 1860s to control insect pests. **DETAILS: Report rook sightings to 0800 BIOSEC (0800 246 732) or www.waikatoregion.govt.nz.** PHOTOS: Rooks have been found in Paeroa. Photos: PIXABAY

WHY ARE ROOKS PESTS? Rooks feed on newly sown crops, often pulling young plants from the ground. They can also damage pasture by tearing it up when searching for grubs. When large numbers of rooks are present, some damaged paddocks will need to be completely resown. Farmers have also had a whole season’s silage damaged by rooks tearing holes in the plastic wrapping.

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GARDENING

Plant your warm season crops

At some point during November, the soil warms to a steady 16 degree minimum. This is the time to plant those warm season crops that will provide us with the makings of many a delicious meal over the summer months to come.

VEGETABLES
Beans, sweetcorn and root vegetables should be sown directly into the garden now. They will germinate quickly in the warm soil and will benefit from having their roots undisturbed thus growing strong root systems.

Sow direct now: beetroot, carrots, celery, lettuces, radishes, rocket, spinach, spring onions and brassicas (protect from white butterfly). Also sow pumpkins, zucchini, eggplants, basil. Potatoes - continue to mound up earlier planting to protect new tubers from light as crops start to make rapid growth.

Sweet Corn: sow short and long maturing varieties at the same time to give a spread of harvest. Once established, keep weed free and water regularly. It is also time to start planting your tomato seedlings. Just remember to protect all your seedlings from slugs and mulch where possible to retain that heat and moisture.

FLOWERS
Plant up summer flower borders. Regular cultivation around young plants is important to control weeds and stimulate growth. Water when necessary. If there is room for more plants, sow seeds directly into permanent growing positions.



Bearded Irises are starting to come into their own.

Photo: M NIMBS/PIXABAY

nent growing positions.

Bearded iris – These are starting to come into their own, flowering beautifully. Once flowering is complete late in the month, divisions can be taken from the main plant and transplanted immediately. Plant summer flowering gladioli. Dahlia cuttings can be planted out. Protect from slugs and snails. Water frequently and mulch. Seeds to sow: marigold, petunia, polyanthus, salvia, alyssum, cornflower, phlox.

Bulbs to plant - Begonia, canna, carnation, chrysanthemum, dahlia, delphinium, gerbera, gladiolus, hippeastrum. Roses - continue with pest and disease sprays. Water frequently if dry, weed and mulch.

FRUIT
Earliest varieties of plums and cherries mature by late November. Feed fruit trees and water when necessary. Mulch to help retain heat and soil moisture.

Apples and Pears: early season varieties will need thinning if necessary. Do this after the initial fruit drop which is usually 10-14 days after petal fall. Grapes: new growth is rapid, excessively long tendrils should be trimmed back to five or six buds above the bunches of fruit.

Citrus: after fruit set, tree nutrition is important. Apply citrus food and a good handful of sheep pellets now and again late summer. Water when required and mulch. Berries - keep well-watered and cultivate to remove weeds. Spray when necessary. Strawberries: cultivate to control weeds. Water well and feed with strawberry food. Keep mulched.

COMPOST HEAP
Turn over heaps. As the warmth increases the composting is much more rapid. If they are dry add a little water to further the decomposition.

- Ngatea Garden Circle

Don't over-water indoor plants

If you are reading this, you either have indoor plants or you may be thinking about getting one - be careful they are very addictive!

I am no expert but after 40 years of growing and selling plants they have taught me a lot.

First, light is one of the most important things, get the position of your plant correct and you are halfway there. Most are happy in nice brightly lit rooms with defused sunlight. There are others that do well in darker spots like aspidistra or ferns.

Next is watering. Most houseplants are killed from over watering. Once again, it depends how warm the house or room the plants are in but generally a good water every 7-10 days in summer works, unless a particular plant like a Zamia or ZZ, succulents or cacti can be left longer. In winter the touch test is best if soil on the top of the pot is moist walk away.

Another reason plants suffer from root rot from too much water, is

when they leave the plant shop and are taken home and replanted in a pot that's too large. There is then too much soil holding water around the roots for too long. Ideally most house plants like to be contained and grow best in a smaller pot while young. My rule of thumb is to repot when it gets too big into the next size only pot and so on as it grows.

Another little tip is to keep your plants free of dust. Just wipe with a wet tissue every so often. This helps eliminate bugs and diseases. September-October is a great time to repot, clean and refresh your houseplants. It's also a good time to start your spring and summer feeding programme. I use 'plant runner' which I have found very good but there are other great foods for specific plants, just always follow directions on the packaging and your plants will thank you for it.

I could ramble on so the next little write up will be about feeding your house plants and bugs.

- Morag Standbrook, The Plantery



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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2 Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	3 Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	4 Plant root crops, Liquid Feed	5 New Moon	6 Non planting Day	7 Non planting Day
8 Non planting Day	9 Plant above ground crops	10 Plant above ground crops	11 Non planting Day	12 Non planting Day	13 Plant above ground Crops, Liquid Feed	14 Plant above ground Crops, Liquid Feed
15 Non planting Day	16 Non planting Day	17 Non planting Day	18 Plant above ground crops	19 Full Moon	20 Non planting Day	21 Non planting Day
22 Non planting Day	23 Plant root crops, Liquid Feed	24 Plant root crops, Liquid Feed	25 Non planting Day	26 Non planting Day	27 Non planting Day	28 Non planting Day
29 Non planting Day	30 Plant root crops, trees and shrubs		November 2021 Moon Planting Calendar			

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Sudden death at Punga Flat hut



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

The fire was burning and there was a billy on it when Catherine Hill popped her head in to see William Cruickshank. It was a Sunday evening in July 1901 and Catherine was going up the Shellback Creek, in the direction of Punga Flat near Tararu. She supposed William, a 57 year old miner, had gone out to collect firewood so she waited at his open door for half an hour but he never appeared. Puzzled, Catherine started searching the hut. She thought perhaps he was in the bedroom lying down but finding he was not there she went into the kitchen. To her shock she discovered William lying on the floor. She touched his hand and called out to him, but got no answer. Catherine hurried out and over the Eureka Hill, calling for Thomas Ross, who lived nearby. She told Thomas that she thought



Punga Flat. Photo: SUPPLIED

William was dead and Thomas went for the police. Constable's Steevens and Lipscombe found William lying on his back on the floor with his head under the table. He felt quite warm. Thinking he may still be alive Steevens unbuttoned his shirt and placed his hand on his heart, but William was dead. It appeared as though he had been sitting at the table when he was stricken. Constable Steevens searched the body but found no property. In William's bedroom, he found the sum of £3 16s 6d. The only items of any value in the hut were cooking utensils and bedding. He could find no will. He locked up the place securely before leaving. William was placed on a stretcher but it was with some difficulty the body was removed

from the hut to the road. The weather was bad and Thomas Ross and Mr Dunn helped the police by taking turns to carry the body. Finally it was transferred to a spring cart and taken to the public morgue at Thames, arriving shortly before 11pm. At the inquest Catherine Hill said she had known William for 17 years. She had never heard him complain. She now thought he had been no more than five minutes dead when she first called at the house. William was last seen alive the afternoon before, by Thomas Ross who was walking up the hill. William was standing at the door of his hut, smoking his pipe. Thomas asked him if he had seen the horses, and William replied: "Yes I saw them at the 'John o' Groat'." - a mining claim. Dr Callan's post mortem examination showed William's body was a good deal wasted. Both heart and lungs were diseased, particularly the right lung - quite sufficient to account for death, but the immediate cause was a sudden failure of the heart's action owing to the diseased condition of the valves. William, who put the billy on and then sat down and died, was from Aberdeen, Scotland. He was single and had lived 39 years in New Zealand. He had no relations in the colony. William is buried at Tararu.

ENTERTAINMENT



The Dirty Firth will play at Kauaeranga Hall. Photos: SUPPLIED

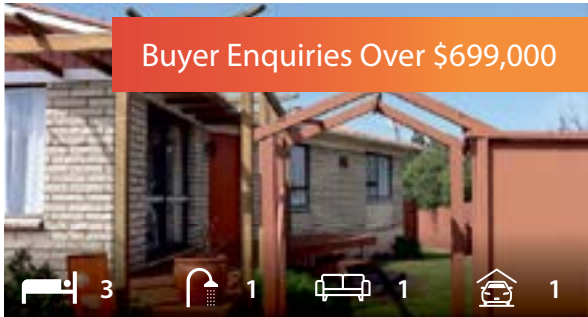
Local acts to combine





Covid-19 restrictions have meant recent acts scheduled for Kauaeranga Hall have been unable to travel to perform. So organisers are going local with headline act *Sean Kelly & The Super 8s*, supported by *The Dirty Firth* on October 30 at 7:30pm. Kelly, a truly local icon, is debuting his latest creative masterpiece by presenting an audio-visual concert of live Irish music played to a back-drop of old Super 8 movies his father took. These classic clips are taken in and around Derry and Donegal in Ireland between 1958 to 1988. The videos include footage of Sean's family, his parents' wedding in 1960, the first videos from the 1960s of Sean and his five siblings, Irish landscapes, urban and rural, school-life in Derry, and videos of the army on the streets of Derry during 'The Troubles'. This live music will carry you back to a place and a time long past with songs and stories that will make you laugh and at times be brought to tears. This is a concert for young and old as that is what is featured on screen. And in a first for Kauaeranga Music, local band *The Dirty Firth* will be the supporting act, playing a mixture of their own music and well-known foot-tapping favourites. **TICKETS: Door sales \$25, Pre-book \$22 txt: 021 912 993 or kauaerangahallmusic@gmail.com or Lotus Realm 714 Pollen St, Thames**





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HARD

23

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HARD

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4	2	8	6	9	1	7	3	5
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EASY

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JUMBO CROSSWORD

43

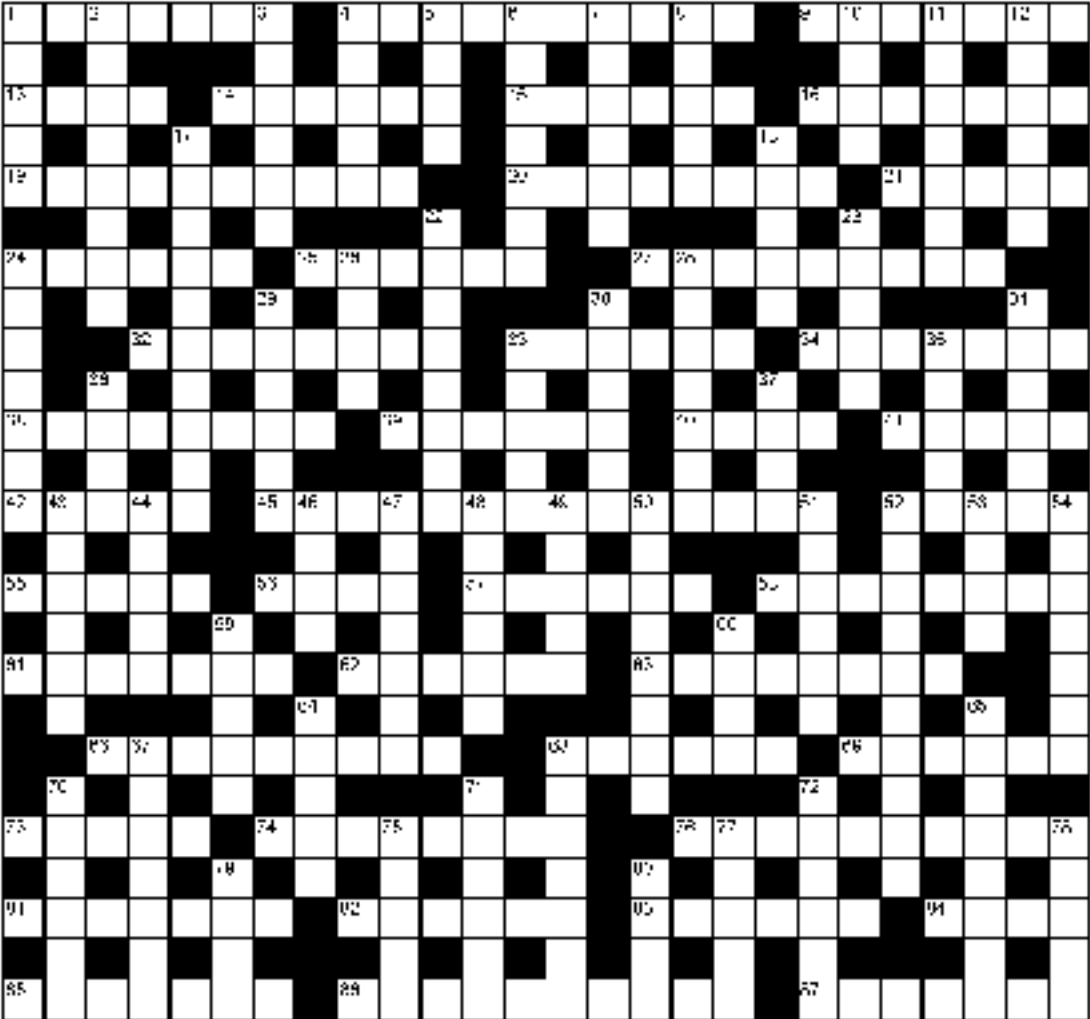
ACROSS

1 Meat seller (7)
4 Entirely without money (5-5)
9 Arrest authorisation (7)
13 Fat (4)
14 Of the same opinion (6)
15 Beat (6)
16 Superior skill (7)
19 Putting together from parts (10)
20 Start off (8)
21 Lace mat (5)
24 Image-capturer (6)
25 Char (6)
27 Political party's policy declaration (9)
32 Capsize (8)
33 Mislead (6)
34 Scotsman's pouch (7)
38 Serenely joyful (8)
39 South American river (6)
40 Exposed (4)
41 Unexpected drawbacks (5)
42 Stiff (5)
45 A wild random guess (1,4,2,3,4)
52 Valuable quality (5)
55 Extent, range (5)
56 Finest (4)
57 Layers (6)
58 Modifying (8)
61 Ore-processing plant (7)
62 Vast crowds (6)

DOWN

1 Light wood (5)
2 Tedious (8)
3 Get one's goat (6)
4 Beelzebub (5)
5 Likelihood (4)
6 Jewish vernacular (7)
7 Palm fibre for weaving, tying (6)
8 Army colour (5)
10 Unit of area (4)
11 Dishing (7)
12 Cuddle closely (6)
17 Made do (10)
18 Narrow band (5)
22 Send out by radio (8)
23 Sneaks a look (5)
24 Iron lever (7)
26 Hint (4)
28 Human-like robot (7)
29 Emotional shock (6)
30 Column support (6)
31 Bargain (6)
33 Twelve (5)

35 Contacts by telephone (5)
36 Monarch (4)
37 Close (4)
43 Revenue (6)
44 Drive forward (5)
46 Ooze (4)
47 Alternatives (7)
48 Within (6)
49 Goes sour (5)
50 Waxed lyrical (8)
51 Body organ (6)
52 A sad spirit (anag) (10)
53 Inadvertent mistake (4)
54 Squeeze harder (7)
59 Conditions (5)
60 Had debts (4)
64 Fence steps (5)
65 Strewn with dropped rubbish (8)
67 Book (7)
68 Ship's warning device (7)
70 Signal light (6)
71 Measuring duration of (6)
72 Way out (6)
75 Tropical fruit (5)
77 Water body (5)
78 Long narrow hilltop (5)
79 Cosy (4)
80 Cart du jour (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Psalm, 4 Woollens, 9 Famine, 14 Atlas, 15 Slippery customer, 17 Steam, 18 Sue, 19 Thinned, 20 Telepathy, 21 Clutch, 24 Projector, 25 Martyr, 26 Pursue, 29 Scholastic, 31 Nor, 32 Relate, 33 Errs, 35 See, 37 Bare, 39 Enclosure, 40 Publicise, 41 Laces, 42 Befriend, 47 Cemetery, 51 Using, 55 Manhattan, 56 Aluminium, 58 Ewer, 59 Cod, 60 Suit, 61 Cliché, 62 Gas, 63 Decoration, 66 Cygnet, 67 Bright, 69 Adaptable, 72 Seldom, 73 Mad Hatter, 75 Almonds, 77 Vat, 80 Harsh, 81 Give a dog a bad name, 82 Natty, 83 Shadow, 84 Cleverer, 85 Feint.

DOWN: 2 Sulphuric, 3 Lupin, 5 Onyx, 6 Loudest, 7 Entrepreneur, 8 Samba, 9 Further, 10 Mask, 11 Needle, 12 Slash, 13 Essence, 14 Amateur, 16 Eye for an eye, 22 Septic, 23 Cyclops, 24 Pioneer, 25 Morsel, 27 Survive, 28 Stable, 30 Coop, 32 Retch, 34 Seedy, 36 Kite, 38 Age, 42 Bombs, 43 Funding, 44 Ivan, 45 Nettle, 46 Mince, 48 Memorabilia, 49 Trestle, 50 Rue, 51 Unicorn, 52 Gadget, 53 Substantiate, 54 Kind, 57 Incite, 64 Ombudsman, 65 Wealthy, 66 Craving, 68 Glasgow, 70 Awesome, 71 Fourth, 72 State, 74 Havoc, 76 Ounce, 78 Shed, 79 Rate.

New rubbish plan proposed

By KELLEY TANTAU

Rubbish bins of different shapes and sizes were rolled into the centre of a district council meeting this month, in an effort to picture what Hauraki's waste collection could look like come 2023.

To combat the continuous contamination of recycling happening at the kerbside, Hauraki District Council is putting an option out to residents that features four separate crates for recycling: one each for glass, paper, plastic, and tin. These would be accompanied by a landfill wheelie bin and a food waste bin.

It is the council's preferred option out of four that are now out for public consultation until November 22.

The change comes after the council revoked its existing Waste Management and Minimisation Plan to replace it with a newly developed plan. It also aims to reduce the amount of waste heading to landfill and promote compliance at the kerbside.

"There will be a bit of confusion, but it'll last about a month, because if your crates are getting left at the kerbside, you'll pretty quickly work out that it's not going to be recycled, and when the good behavior gets rewarded by your bins getting emptied, you'll



The current set-up for rubbish and recycling in Hauraki.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

carry on with that," Deputy Mayor Paul Milner said.

"I think people know they're doing the wrong thing, but they don't care because there's no consequences."

According to a council report, from June, 2020, to June, 2021, the district's waste rose by 50 per cent, significantly higher than population growth in the same period.

Most waste collected was taken to Tirohia Landfill; however, council said this site may not be an option in the future due to its dwindling capacity.

An audit of kerbside waste also showed up to 11 per cent of content in kerbside bags could be recycled, while 63 per cent was organic (either green waste or food waste), which

could be composted.

Cr Milner believed getting rid of the yellow kerbside bags was the "way to go" to ensure people were putting waste in the right place, while Mayor Toby Adams said once a bin had a lid that closed, people's "laziness" became apparent.

That was why, with whatever option chosen, council needed to put "some decent money" into a "proper campaign".

"If we try and do it on a shoestring, we'll get nothing, because change freaks people out, it doesn't matter what it is," he said.

"You've got to get the education out there, the reason behind it, the benefits that it has, and actually spend some money on it to make a difference."

LETTERS

Send your letters to the editor at editor@valleyprofile.co.nz or PO Box 550 Thames, 3540. Letters must include your full name and address, be 250 words or less and may be edited, abridged or rejected at the editor's discretion.

ELECTORAL EXPENSES

It was most disappointing to read in *The Valley Profile* (October 13, 2021) that the police have been asked to investigate the electoral expense return for Josie Anderson, candidate for both councillor and mayoral position in the 2019 local body elections.

How can those initiating this fail to recognise it as such a blatant act of racism and political manoeuvring! Hauraki council recently ignored the chance to have Māori wards because they were too 'busy' dealing with Covid matters. Now you are trying to manipulate who can stand at the next election. Isn't it arrogance to consider you can maintain the same council ethos for over fifty years. I know it's fifty years because Dad's cousin stood down from his position so Basil Morrison could be elected the youngest councillor in New Zealand. Isn't it time to move into the 21st century having acquired a good knowledge of Aotearoa/New Zealand's, and in particular, Hauraki's past history and take genuine steps to redress the clear injustices and wrongs which are still holding this country back. We need the wisdom and generosity shown by Māori ever since colonisation as a counter balance to some of the more stupid decisions pakeha are capable of making. Yes I'm angry!

- Dawn Sinclair

MAYOR'S REPLY

First thanks again for yet another email. I would like to clear some facts up as you have made a presumption that council made the rules or follows up on the rules in

regards to elections.

The Electoral Commission is the body that follows the law and we as members of the public have to follow these rules. Nothing about this has to do with race and would be the same rule for any person.

A question was asked at council when asking for a recommendation to appoint this same company for the next elections. This particular question was one of a couple of questions and it was the question about procedure.

Next about wards, we were given a small time frame to decide whether to have Māori wards. What we were not given is the time to talk with all our local iwi to see if this was the best outcome for iwi or was there other ways to decide on what would work for iwi best, not us, and they are well aware that this is the best way forward. We have made this clear to all our community at the time that council would work closely with iwi and make decisions that they were apart of in way of conversations, not have the story told to them.

We did not use Covid as an excuse, we used it as a fact as we had planned to hold iwi meetings on this issue along with many subjects that we feel iwi play an important role in and lockdowns made that decision a tough one but one right for New Zealand as a whole to stick to the rules.

We have never tried or will try to manipulate who stands or is elected.

- Toby Adams
Hauraki district Mayor

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CLASSIFIEDS

Death Notice

JONES, Kenneth Francis (Ken):
20 March 1931 - 13 October 2021

Ken hung up his gumboots at Waikato Hospital aged 90 years.
Loved husband for 61 years of the late Pat.
Father, Father-in-law and Sabba of Tricia and Yossi, Guy (in heaven), Benjamin, Adam and Natalie and Subbaraba of August (Tauranga). Paul and Trish, Dom, Madi and Michael (Te Puke). Kath and Dave, Bex, Torrens, Jed and Bridget (Wellington). Philip and Mary, Cameron and Macgregor (Nelson). Loved companion of Patricia Grieson.

Dad has a lovely garden so please, in lieu of flowers make a donation to heartkids.org.nz/donate

"A special thanks to Liz Vitasovich for her care and friendship."
Thanks to Thames and Waikato hospitals.

A memorial service to celebrate Ken's long and wonderful life and to say farewell will be held at 431 Pipiroa Road, Ngatea on Sunday, November 21 at 11am (current restrictions permitting).

Communications to Jones Family, 431 Pipiroa Road, RD1 Ngatea.

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BIG NEWS AT WASSCHIRO



Dr Peter Wass shaking hands with new Chiropractor Dr Tim Jack

Dr Peter is retiring after 25 years in Thames and will be transitioning to locum work.
"I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all my patients over the years. I'm very much going to miss everybody. It has been a privilege being of service in this wonderful community.
I leave you in the safe hands of Dr Tim Jack who will be continuing our tradition of quality, caring, chiropractic care from 22 October."

Dr Tim Jack and Dr Charlotte Jack are taking over the practice at 701 Pollen Street. They are eager to be a part of the town and to get to know everyone well. They lived and practiced in rural Far North Queensland, Australia for 8 years, running chiropractic practices there and are now excited to be back in their homeland of NZ.



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TRIVIA QUESTIONS:
1 - What year was the very first model of the iPhone released?
2 - Who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize (in 1903)?
3 - Which Avenger is the only one who could calm the Hulk down?
4 - How many films did Sean Connery play James Bond in?
5 - In which year did Usain Bolt set his 100m in 9.58 seconds world record?
6 - Which show is the highest-grossing production on Broadway ever?
7 - Who is often credited with creating the world's first car?
8- What country won the very first FIFA World Cup in 1930?
9 - What's the primary ingredient in hummus?
10 - Which bone are babies born without?
11 - Which city in India would you find the Taj Mahal in?
12 - On Sunday 18th June 1815, which famous battle took place?

TRIVIA ANSWERS:
1 - 2007 2 - Marie Curie 3 - Black Widow 4 - Seven 5 - 2009 6 - The Lion King 7 - Karl Benz 8 - Uruguay 9 - Chickpeas 10 - Knee Cap 11 - Agra 12 - The Battle of Waterloo

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SPORTS

Six out of six for Valley

HEARTLAND RUGBY

Thames Valley scored a noteworthy fourth win away from home when they defeated Horowhenua-Kapiti 28-11 at Levin last Saturday. This gives them six wins out of six in the Bunnings Warehouse Heartland Championship. The team can now look forward to two matches at Te Aroha to complete the round robin section of the competition. Valley are still in second place on the points table – two behind South Canterbury, who have gained two more bonus points than the Swamp Foxes.

The game at Levin was not an easy one and a lot of play was confined to the forwards, which meant Thames Valley's danger men in the backline did not receive as much possession as they would have liked.

After both sides had opened their scoring with two penalty goals, it took until the 35th minute for the Swamp Foxes to crack Horowhenua's defence and put Sam van der Valk over for his first try of the season.

Todd Doolin converted and half time followed with the score at 13 for Thames Valley and 6 for Horowhenua-Kapiti.

Early in the second half, Doolin scored a vital try which he failed to convert. At 18-6 the situation was looking more comfortable for the Swamp Foxes but Horowhenua fought back strongly and they were



Valley's top points scorer Todd Doolin scored 15 points.

Photo: TVRFU

rewarded in the 63rd minute when Darren Falaniko scored a try. In the process, Doolin received a yellow card for a high tackle. This try was not converted but with a man down and Horowhenua closing the gap to 18-11 Thames Valley were under threat.

Once again, the spirit and commitment of the Swamp Foxes shone through and they more than held their own for the rest of the game. Telly Hemopo took over the goal kicking and gained three points from a long range penalty goal. Then in the final minute, Valley strung several phases together and Cameron Dromgool finished the movement off with a good try. Doolin was back on hand to convert the try and

make the final score, Thames Valley 28, Horowhenua-Kapiti 11.

Prop forward Te Hui Kutia was named player of the day and Todd Doolin, in only 5 matches for Thames Valley, has now scored a total of 79 points.

Thames Valley will now meet King Country at Te Aroha next Saturday.

Scorers: Thames Valley: Sam van der Valk, Todd Doolan, Cameron Dromgool; tries: Doolan, 2 con, 2 pen; Telly Hemopo pen. Horowhenua-Kapiti: Darren Falaniko try; Jack Tatu-Robertson 2 pen. Competition points-top six: South Canterbury 30, Thames Valley 28, Whanganui 20, North Otago 20, Mid Canterbury 20, Horowhenua-Kapiti 18.

ENTERTAINMENT

Thames theatre company to be part of global event

Thames Music and Drama will join thousands of theatrical organisations across the globe when they produce their own local production of Music Theatre International's *All Together Now!: A Global Event Celebrating Local Theatre*.

Theatrical licensor Music Theatre International (MTI) created the revue for theatres around the world to use as a local fundraising event performed over the same weekend of November 12.

A fantastic selection of songs are featured in this brand new musical, from shows including *Rent*, *Les Misérables*, *Into the Woods*, *Matilda*, *Hairspray*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Once on This Island*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Mamma Mia!* and many more.

"We are incredibly excited to be a part of this global event," MAD president Diane Connors said.

"We will be one of 1600 community theatres across 36 countries staging this revue all at the same time.

"It makes me feel connected to people around the world

once again. The past 18 months have been a challenging time for everyone, particularly arts organisations," she said.

"We look forward to welcoming our patrons back with this truly wonderful revue."

MTI president and chief executive Drew Cohen said the performance was all about bringing people back to the theatre, whether they were audience members or cast, crew, and musicians.

"The revue features songs from the world's most iconic musicals, so there is definitely something for everyone to enjoy," he said.

"Our goal with this worldwide event is for organisations to provide hope, inspiration and excitement to their communities through the transformative power of musical theatre."

DETAILS: Thames Music and Drama's upcoming production of Music Theatre International's *All Together Now!: A Global Event Celebrating Local Theatre*, performances November 12-14, 2021. Keep an eye out for exact performance dates via www.thamesmad.co or on Thames Music And Drama's Facebook page.

Thames Valley Swampfoxes



VS



King Country

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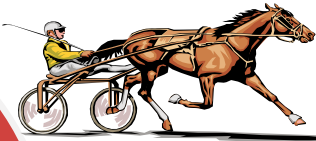
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What I like about the Valley Profile is that they provided a one-stop service including graphic design, photography, reporting and advertising. Their professional presentation of my life and work made me feel welcome to join the Thames- Coromandel business community.

- Susanna Kruger

TGIF night out with the Thames Harness Racing Club

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SPORTS

Swampfoxes get pre-match mana from Goldfields

By KELLEY TANTAU

There was a Swampfox sighting down at Goldfields School last Thursday, when members of the Thames Valley rugby team took time to shake hands and sing waiata with students ahead of their annual charity match.

Goldfields Special School in Paeroa is the official charity of the Swampfoxes.

For the past two seasons, the students have helped design a charity jersey, worn by the players and later sold at a post-match auction.

In 2019, the team raised \$19,500 after winning their Heartland match against South Canterbury.

The year before, they raised \$19,340, after wearing the jerseys in their match against Horowhenua-Kapiti.

This year they'll come up against King Country at a game in Te Aroha on October 30.

Winger Joe Cooke and flanker Matt McCahon said the Swampfoxes had a special connection with Goldfields, and said the support of the students translated on to the field.

"When we get out there this

weekend, we'll have them behind us, which will be awesome," Matt told *The Profile*.

Joe, who had visited the school on Norwood Rd previously, said he and the team were taken on a tour to see what the school had available to them - but also what was lacking.

"So that's sort of where we come in. We can support them with a bit of koha, as well as just have a bit of fun with the kids.

"The team represents a big area, so for us to be able to come together as a group is awesome and it gives back directly to them."

The players understood this year's charity jerseys would feature the portraits of the students.

Principal Cam McKenzie said the team's support had been "amazing".

"The students really love it when they come in. They're great role models and we really appreciate their support."

Cam said they usually allocated the funds raised to "something specific" - and this year, he was hoping to purchase a platform that can raise students in wheelchairs up on

"The students really love it when they come in. They're great role models and we really appreciate their support."

- Cam McKenzie



Thames Valley Swampfoxes spent an afternoon with Goldfields School students last week.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU

to a stage.

In the past, students have had to perform in local events at ground-level, because many stages weren't accessible, he said.

"And we've got a rule that if we can't all go on stage, none of us do."

DETAILS: Thames Valley vs King Country, 2pm, at Boyd Park, Te Aroha. More info: thamesvalley-swampfoxes.co.nz.

RIGHT: Members of the Thames Valley team meet and greet.



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