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COLONY OF CATS RESCUED

A passion for felines sees Turua woman Margaret Newall brave all weather to save cats in need of care and rehoming. KELLEY TANTAU joins her on her latest rescue, where a large number of cats were found.



It was raining when Margaret Newall stepped out of the car to reset humane cat traps scattered around a Hauraki Plains property.

Somewhere, there were still a handful of cats needing to be rescued, and eventually rehomed, but they were sheltering from the spring downpour.

Margaret, from Turua Animal Rescue, was last month notified of the colony of up to 14 cats residing at the

Hauraki homestead.

They had been looked after by an elderly lady who had since been moved into care. She had managed to catch around 10 of the felines, but it was expected a few more were still hanging around.

"I've been so busy. I go out and check the traps twice a day," she told *The Profile*.

The cats were semi-socialised, and Margaret expected them to range in age

from around nine months to nine years. But the scale of the colony, whilst impressive, was not surprising.

Margaret started up the rescue after last year's Covid-19 outbreak. She said there were "cats galore" throughout the Hauraki district, and this latest colony was not the largest she had heard of.

"People don't often think of the ongoing costs of having an animal. You've got

to think, a cat lasts up to 18-20 years. There's the annual check-ups, the annual boosters, the annual vet checks, but people do not take that into consideration sometimes," Margaret said.

"So I get a lot of cats that have been dumped down Orongo Rd, or dumped in a hay barn, or in a shed."

But it was not long before the cats - through Margaret - found another loving home. She once picked

up a "gorgeous" ginger cat that needed rehoming, and within 48 hours, it was sent to Tauranga to be with its new family.

And, after going back day after day to secure all the stray cats from the Hauraki homestead, two of the felines gave birth in Margaret's care.

There were now 19 cats rescued from the one property, including the five new-

CONTINUED P2

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

NEWS/EDITORIAL

Editor Teresa Ramsey
Ph 0204 0944 853

Email: editor@valleyprofile.co.nz

Reporter Kelley Tantau

Ph 022 619 4889

Email: kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz

ADVERTISING

Ad manager Nikki Sanders

Ph 022 1303 885

Email: nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz

MISSED PAPERS/ADMIN

Ph 027 396 2459

Email: admin@valleyprofile.co.nz

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Colony of cats just the tip of the iceberg

CONTINUED FROM P1

born kittens. Before being rehomed, they will get vet checked, desexed, micro-chipped, de-fleaed, wormed, and tamed.

"You've got to go in with a towel and get ready to wrap them, because that's the only way you can pick them up," Margaret said.

"Then, you just cuddle them like a baby, and just reassure them and say to them everything is okay and that they are in a safe place now."

Margaret said she tried not to take feral cats on, but "firmly believed" most cats had the ability to be tamed.

"But only if people put the time in."

The cats reside in converted aviaries that have been equipped with shelving, blankets, food, and water, and even an isolation area.

For the strays, it's like "seventh heaven," Margaret said.

Before establishing the rescue, Margaret was working full-time, but within a five week period, she was on the operating table.

"My life changed 10 years ago when my right foot was taken off at the ankle. There was so much that I couldn't do that I used to.

"Breast cancer changed it again," she said.

When she returned home after radiation, she needed something to do "to stop me



Margaret Newall braves the bad weather to reset one of the cat traps scattered around a Hauraki Plains property where strays reside.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU

from going crazy".

After her stepdaughter's ex-partner asked if she could take on a mama cat and three kittens, the rescue was born, and progress was now underway to make it a charitable trust.

"Donations are the biggest thing that keep me going. If it wasn't for the donations, I wouldn't be able to do this."

More info: Turua Animal Rescue Facebook page.

RIGHT: The rescued cats are semi-socialised, and Margaret expects them to range in age from around nine months to nine years.



Council commits to 'open-minded' Three Waters consultation

By KELLEY TANTAU

Hauraki's Mayor has said it would be "absolutely wrong" of council to make a decision to opt in or out of the government's Three Waters proposal without consulting with the community first.

All of the "facts and figures" still had to be obtained, he said.

Mayor Toby Adams told staff and councillors at a September 29 meeting that "far too much money and time" had already been spent on defending the government's process - which involved the council providing feedback about the reform before October 1.

The government's proposal is to take over the country's

drinking water, wastewater and stormwater assets currently owned and operated by 67 councils nationwide. The reform proposed to establish four new publicly-owned, multi-regional entities, which would take over from July 1, 2024.

Mayor Adams said there had been "a lot of push-back" from the community about why council had not yet made a decision on the proposal, but said "just opting out and making a stand" would be "wrong" of them.

In a feedback letter authored by Mayor Adams and approved by councillors last week, he voiced his concerns that larger communities' growth aspirations and community expectations could be given higher



Mayor Toby Adams

priority than smaller councils', such as Hauraki.

He also questioned any flow-on effects of the reform.

"We have concerns about what will happen to the local workforce and supply chain in the Hauraki district. We do not want local suppliers to be overlooked for larger suppliers. We also have concerns regarding

the economic effects of reform on other businesses in our towns if the workforce is subsequently located out of the district," the letter said.

"As you know, Wellington businesses felt the effects of central government employees working from home due to the various Covid-19 alert level restrictions. It would be the same for our local businesses if a large portion of the workforce is no longer physically working in our district on a regular basis."

He also noted that under the proposed Three Waters governance model, local councils would have a "significantly reduced - or no - level of direct control on the water service entities".

He was concerned the pro-

posed model would result in smaller councils' voices being lost, which was "unacceptable".

Concluding the letter, Mayor Adams said the feedback was "in no way an indication of [council's] intention to either opt in or opt out of the proposed Three Waters Reform".

"We believe it is necessary that the government does more work on providing public-friendly, accurate, and relevant information so all councils can undertake honest and effective engagement with their communities," he said.

"We have made a commitment to have open-minded, two-way communication with our communities and we believe the government should do the same."

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<p>6:47am 7:26pm</p> <p>Best At 12:25am 12:49pm</p> <p>Rise 6:47am Set 7:02pm</p>	<p>6:45am 7:27pm</p> <p>Best At 1:14am 1:39pm</p> <p>Rise 7:16am Set 8:13pm</p>	<p>6:44am 7:28pm</p> <p>Best At 2:04am 2:31pm</p> <p>Rise 7:47am Set 9:26pm</p>	<p>6:42am 7:29pm</p> <p>Best At 2:58am 3:25pm</p> <p>Rise 8:21am Set 10:40pm</p>	<p>6:41am 7:30pm</p> <p>Best At 3:54am 4:23pm</p> <p>Rise 9:01am Set 11:54pm</p>	<p>6:40am 7:31pm</p> <p>Best At 4:53am 5:24pm</p> <p>Rise 9:47am</p>	<p>6:38am 7:31pm</p> <p>Best At 5:55am 6:25pm</p> <p>Set 1:04am Rise 10:41am</p>

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MOON AND FISH KEYS

New Moon First Quarter Full Moon Last Quarter

Good Fishing Fair Fishing Not So Good

TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES

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

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



Olivia, Sienna, Caitlin, Ryder, Cove and Kyran (inset) take part in the Aitcheson family potato growing tradition. RIGHT: A potato yield from a previous year.

Photos: SUPPLIED

Family embraces potato-growing tradition

The Aitcheson family's annual tradition is a little different, but never fails to bring the family together. **KELLEY TANTAU reports**

The time is right to start up a quirky family tradition that pairs potatoes with plastic buckets.

Michelle Aitcheson and her family, all from Thames, take part every Christmas in a "potato in a bucket" growing competition.

The simple rule is that one whole potato needs to be planted inside a bucket. After that, she said, anything goes.

"Schools have always done potato-in-a-bucket competitions, and I just thought, let's do it too."

The tradition started back in 2019 and had become quite competitive, Michelle said.

There are 13 participants within the family, aged from three years to 83 years, and before this year, Mac the American staffy took part, too.

"Mac's just recently passed away, so this year he's going to have a memorial bucket," Michelle said.

"Every year, he had a bucket, but instead of a potato in there, there'd be packets of M&M's or pretend poo. The kids love it."

There are four generations of Michelle's family taking part, and four families all together.

She said the tradition was a bit of fun before Christmas.

"We're all busy during Christmas, and it just acts as



There will be a memorial prize this year from Mac the dog.

a little bit of a catch-up before some of the family goes off on holiday, or some of us work through.

"It's the busiest time of the

year, so it's just about relaxing and getting together."

The friendly competition also sees prizes awarded for: most potatoes grown; least potatoes grown; biggest potato; smallest potato; heaviest potato; and the oddest shaped potato.

This year, Mac's memorial prize will be for the heaviest potato yield overall.

"Everyone gets one potato and a bucket, and the only rule is that the potato has to be planted in that bucket and the potato has to be whole.

"After that, you can do what you like, whatever you think might make your potatoes

grow better," Michelle explained.

They use a variety of potatoes called 'rocket', which can be harvested anytime between 70, 80, or 90 days.

Eighty days from October 6 is Christmas Day. And while none of the Aitcheson family were gardening experts, Michelle said the tradition was an "easy, cheap" thing to do.

"It's cool to make traditions, and hopefully my grandchildren that are all young now will be able to do the same thing with their families," she said.

"It's something they can look back on and be happy about."

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Gate theft sparks child safety concerns

By KELLEY TANTAU

In the space of one week, a district council was called to clean up illegal dumping three times and replace a playground gate after it was stolen by vandals, sparking safety concerns.

A Thames-Coromandel District Council spokesperson said the playground gate theft was “concerning”, while the illegal dumpers could face prosecution.

On September 22, council staff reported that the safety gate at the entrance to Porritt Park Skatepark in Thames had been removed overnight by vandals.

It had since been recovered and put back in place, but was boarded up “for now”, so council was asking park users to enter and leave through one of the other gates.

“The theft of any item is concerning, but in this case whoever stole the gate put the safety of smaller children using the park at risk, with the busy state highway close by,” the spokesperson said.

“The gates at Porritt Park have taken a lot of use and abuse in the last five years and they’re at the end of their life so we’ve got some replacements on order.

“The design will be in keeping with the picket fence, but a bit different to the current gates to make them harder for children to swing on and harder to steal.”

This incident would be re-

ported to police and camera footage will be reviewed to help identify who was responsible, council said.

Meanwhile, the rubbish dumped in Tararu ranged from a discarded washing machine, an old cabinet, and non-compostable green-waste.

It costs council around \$62,000 to pick up and dispose of dumped rubbish such as this, including the loss of revenue had it been disposed of correctly.

“In general, we do aim to prosecute and so we try to gather evidence at the site, with a view to recovering the costs of clean up,” the spokesperson said.

“We also ask that people report any illegal dumping they see and try to provide information to identify the offender, but without putting themselves at risk.”

Much of the illegal dumping throughout the Thames-Coromandel district was at the gates of its Refuse Transfer Stations that had after-hours drop-off facilities, the spokesperson said.

“Items like furniture, white-ware, green waste and other things are sometimes left after-hours at the gates of the Matarangi, Tairua, Pāuanui and Whangamatā transfer stations. Very little dumping occurs at the other transfer stations.”

If one of council’s bylaws officers had clear evidence of dumping, a person could be fined \$100 for depositing or



A safety gate was stolen from a Thames park. BELOW: Rubbish was dumped at Tararu three times.

Photos: SUPPLIED

leaving litter in a public place, or in a private place without consent; or \$400 for depositing or leaving dangerous litter in a public place, or in a private place without consent.

“We can also prosecute under the Litter Act for more serious offences, where the maximum penalty if convicted is \$30,000,” they said.

In general, council asks that anyone noticing any damage to any council property to call 07 868 0200 or email customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz to report it.





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The Valley
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Colour fun at Hikutaia School

There was an explosion of colour at Hikutaia School on October 1 when students and staff took part in a colour run on the last day of term. Principal Wayne Whitney said the fun run came about following August's Covid-19 outbreak, which resulted in the school's annual cross country event being cancelled. The kids ran through an obstacle course while teachers, dressed in bright colours, pelted them with coloured powder. **KELLEY TANTAU** witnessed the action on the school field.



Huge smiles add to loads of colour and fun on the day.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU



Raven Godfrey-Evans braces for a splash of yellow.



Ali Koia-Hamling, left, and Jye Morrison have fun running through the chaos.



ABOVE: Michael Paynter-O'Grady got a good dose of colour.



RIGHT: Jacob Smith, back, Mckenzie Silva and Antonia Hoogeboom are a mess of colour after the event.



Buffy Tuailii squeals with laughter during the colour run.

\$150,000 funding boost for The Treasury

Heritage research centre and archive The Treasury has received a \$150,000 funding boost to help preserve the history of early families, businesses, and industries in the region.

Thames-Coromandel District Council and the Thames Community Board agreed to a combined community service grant of \$60,000 in Year 1, \$40,000 in Year 2 and \$20,000 in Year 3, and Hauraki District Council has confirmed \$10,000 per annum for three years.

The funding from the councils comes on the back of successful applications to the Lotteries Commission, the Ministry of Culture and Heritage Museum Hardship Fund, Trust Waikato, and a significant donation by a member of the Coromandel Heritage Trust.

The Treasury board chair Greg Hampton said the combined funding allowed the centre to employ a manager and collections assistant for 12 months from September.

It also allowed The Treasury to advance the build of its new website and IT infrastructure, including taking the catalogued and digitised archive items online sometime during 2022, known as the Collections Management Project.

"It's amazing how many people don't know about The Treasury and if they do know of the physical location, they don't know what we do," he said.

The Treasury was keen to raise its profile with the community and visitors to the region, and the funding granted in the two

councils' long term plans would help deliver that vision.

"The challenge for all charitable organisations like The Treasury is to have sustainable continuous funding streams, so the next step is working on a funding strategy with a specialist group to ensure our sustainability," Mr Hampton said.

Without The Treasury, the risk was that all the historic documentation hidden in garages and under beds around the region would be lost over time, he said.

"That's the value of the archive and having the professional people to manage and maintain that. Collectively all those pieces of information help to paint a picture of the history of our region and if we don't preserve it then it's gone forever."

The Treasury's establishment was testament to what a keen group of volunteers could achieve when they put their minds to it, Mr Hampton said.

The original founders raised \$1.1 million to build the purpose-built, temperature-controlled archive, which was completed in 2013. Among the treasures preserved within its temperature-controlled walls, are also what is thought to be some of New Zealand's first telegrams and full collections of some of the region's newspapers and collections from local historians and gold mining families.

The Treasury is housed in the historic Carnegie Library building on Thames' Queen Street. Its archive is a modern architecturally designed box that sits along-



The regional heritage research centre and archive, The Treasury.

Photo: SUPPLIED

side. The Treasury houses an important archive relating to the early history of Thames and the entire Hauraki Coromandel region.

Hidden inside are stories of families who forged some of New Zealand's foremost heavy industries. From steam engines built by A&G Price to Phoenix Breweries, famous for their German-style beer and the fact they eventually became part of New Zea-

land Breweries and later Lion.

For a small fee, people can drop in at the Carnegie Library building and be assisted by volunteers to find nuggets of early history from the homes or working lives of people and businesses throughout the region. Digitising the collection would mean all the information would be available online.

Mr Hampton said there was still a lot of cataloguing to be done and the documents housed

at The Treasury were rich and detailed and of interest to a wide demographic.

Around fifty volunteers offer their time to the service of helping visitors to source historical information or help catalogue the collections coming in. The Treasury would not be viable without the valuable contribution of our volunteers and we thank them greatly, he said.

More info: manager.thetreasury@gmail.com.



Jocelyn Bertrand donates a watercolour of the Kauaeranga Hotel. Photo: MONIKA LANGE

Painting celebrated at Thames Museum

A focal point in the Farming Communities display at the Thames Museum Te Whare Taonga o te Kauaeranga is a watercolour of the Kauaeranga Hotel by New Zealand artist, Jocelyn Bertrand.

A recent gathering of friends and members at the museum was held to thank Jocelyn for donating the painting, and to also thank Thames Creative Communities for a grant which enabled the museum to have the painting framed.

Jocelyn Bertrand, 91, has been an artist all her life. An astute high school teacher in Auckland recognised her talent, and so followed four years at Ilam School of Fine Arts in Christchurch. She

was able to raise enough money from the sale of her watercolours to go to England for a year.

The Kauaeranga Hotel was painted from a photograph, the hotel itself having burnt down for the second and final time in 1944.

Jocelyn felt her work at Lands and Surveys contributed to good renditions of buildings, and that she was still comfortable with the Kauaeranga Hotel painting, although she would have been the only person at the museum gathering to question the colour of a distant hill.

Lorenza Devcich, of Devcich Historic Farmstead, entertained the gathering with a fascinating background to the Kauaeranga

Valley community. Her family farmed and traded in the Valley beside the hotel.

Her grandfather bought the land in 1915, and provisioned the multitude of loggers and gum-diggers, as did the hotel.

Other features of the museum's Farming Communities display include a milkmaid's yoke, hand shearing tools and pack-horse panniers.

Over recent months, volunteers have been reviewing and refreshing many of the displays as part of an overall upgrading strategy. In addition, work has begun this month on preparing a new gallery which will showcase taonga Māori from around the area.

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Museum fundraises online during Covid-19 downturn

By KELLEY TANTAU

Thames Museum has turned to the web to help boost its fundraising efforts hampered by the latest Covid-19 outbreak.

In order to raise \$3000 needed to refresh the museum's foyer and purchase new slim-line display cabinets, Te Whare Taonga o te Kauaeranga (Thames Museum) has created a Givealittle page to reach people they otherwise wouldn't during the pandemic.

"During lockdown we of course didn't have any income or any prospect of having visitors from Auckland, where a lot of our visitors do come from," volunteer Carolyn McKenzie said.

"Also, with the Thames Market not happening on Saturday at the moment, it's very quiet here. So, we thought well, we have to do fundraising, let's do it online."

The launch of the Givealittle page is the first time the museum has ventured into online fundraising. Carolyn doesn't expect it will be the go-to once Covid-19 restrictions have eased. "We really enjoy doing things where we can have contact with the public in a real way," she said.

In the past, the museum has put on a weekend fundraising event that included a sausage sizzle, yard sale, face painting, and music. This year, the muse-



Thames Museum is run entirely by volunteers, including Carolyn McKenzie (pictured).

Photo: SUPPLIED/BEVIN JENKINSON

um's volunteers planned to have the event on Labour Weekend, October 25. They hoped to be able to hold another early next year.

"When we have had those fundraising days, Thames people have really come along in great numbers and supported us. We really appreciate that," Carolyn said.

The Givealittle fundraiser has amassed more than \$500

of its \$3000 goal, and will run until November 30. The money raised will be used to turn the foyer into a "welcoming timeline" - showcasing the evolution of the area - its geology, social history and heritage.

DETAILS: Donations can be made at: [givealittle.co.nz/cause/lets-fill-this-space-brilliantly](https://www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/lets-fill-this-space-brilliantly)

RIGHT: The Thames Museum is fundraising to develop its foyer.
Photo: SUPPLIED



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Rural Life

ON SHOW

Puriri School held their annual Calf Club event on October 1. Three calves and eight lambs were on show, and the entrants were judged by Hikutaia farmer Jeff Alley. Principal Jaimee Price said the day supported manaakitanga, which meant to extend love and compassion to others, including animals. Mr Alley said he was looking out for leading competency and “most obvious pet”. Reporter **KELLEY TANTAU** was there to see the morning unfold.



Lexie Thomas' lamb Stella has a bite to eat.



Baxter Thomas bonds with his lamb Macey just before the big day begins.



Beau Brown, 9, arrives with his lamb Angel.



Brooke Madgewick with her lamb Fidget.



Nakiesha Peters, 12, gives her calf Desire a drink.



Leroy Semenoff, left, and his calf Milo, with Lucas Lee-Blackmer, and Amber Rose Malligan.



Students get in a last minute groom before judging.

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Rural Life

Waikato records highest emissions

The Waikato region's contribution to the 2.1 per cent national increase in greenhouse gas emissions in the 2019 year reflects the region's vital role in New Zealand's electricity generation, primary sector and goods producing industries, Waikato Regional Council says.

On September 29, Stats NZ Tauranga Aotearoa released regional greenhouse gas emissions statistics for 2019, which showed the Waikato is the highest emitting region in New Zealand and experienced the largest annual increase (up 1085 kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents, or 7.5 per cent, from 2018).

Council chair Russ Rimmington said the region's diverse economy had a high proportion of primary and goods producing industries, which tend to have higher emissions than service industries.

"It's important to note that Stats NZ says the nationwide increase is due to coal use for electricity generation, and to a lesser extent an increase in agricultural emissions," said Cr Rimmington.

"The year 2019, like every year since, was rather dry so as a country we had to rely on electricity generated by imported coal. Of course, we have the Huntly power station here in the Waikato, so that much-needed electricity for the country was generated in our region



The Waikato accounted for 20 per cent of agricultural emissions in New Zealand, according to Stats NZ. (FILE PHOTO)

with the emissions included in our regional statistics.

"The report by Stats NZ also says the Waikato accounted for 20 per cent of agricultural emissions in New Zealand and that is not surprising given we are one of the most productive agricultural regions in New Zealand."

Cr Rimmington said there had been a shift in the last two years, with some industry starting to respond to the national commitment to reduce our emission levels and legislation being developed to achieve that, such as the national emissions reduction plan (now due in early 2022).

"We're already seeing work being done in the agricultural sector through the primary sector climate action partnership, He Waka Eke Noa, and hats off to our largest dairy manufacturer, Fonterra, which recently reported reducing greenhouse gas emissions from coal by 11 per cent in a year, primarily by converting its Te Awamutu site from coal to renewable wood pellets."

Climate Action Committee chair Jennifer Nickel said the council recognised the need to urgently reduce emissions and adapt to the changes already being experienced and coming in the future.

"I am heartened to see more national, regional and local climate action policy changes coming through, but there is a lot of lost time to make up.

"Last year we released our Climate Action Roadmap discussion document to give our organisational perspective on climate change and to invite any feedback to our approach or partnership opportunities to address both emission reduction and community adaptation efforts.

"We're wanting to work with iwi partners, businesses, industry sectors, infrastructure providers, local and central government and others to come up with solutions for a more inclusive, efficient and climate resilient economy.

"Our Waikato Regional Policy Statement supports the development of renewable energy, such as geothermal, wind and tide, while our regional land transport plan recognises that we must do much more to change the way we travel and move goods around, particularly through increased active and public transport service provisions."

Changes in household emissions were largely driven by transport emissions, which accounted for just over 90 per cent of total household emissions for all regions in 2019, while nationwide household emissions decreased 0.3 per cent.

Door opens for dairy workers

DairyNZ says the government's long-awaited decision to provide a pathway to residency is exciting news for thousands of eligible dairy farm workers.

Immigration Minister Kris Faafoi announced a new 2021 Resident Visa on September 30, which will provide a one-off, simplified pathway to residence for about 165,000 migrants currently in New Zealand, including around 9000 primary industry workers.

DairyNZ chief executive Dr Tim Mackle said the government announcement allows many valued international dairy workers to become residents and recognises their years of hard work on farms and positive contribution to the dairy sector.

"We are genuinely delighted for these workers and their families. Many dairy workers can now plan and look forward to a future in New Zealand with their families," Dr Mackle said.

"Their contribution will assist the dairy sector to continue playing a key role in New Zealand's economy.

"We appreciate that the government has acknowledged the pressure farmers are under, due to being short-staffed, and also recognise the critical role international workers play."

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Paeroa sisters marry in triple wedding

Covid-19 level rise



As part of a Valley Profile series, **MEGHAN HAWKES** searches through old newspapers to bring you the stories Thames Valley locals once read about themselves.

1938

A triple wedding at Paeroa saw three sisters married in one ceremony.

They were Miss Eileen McCracken, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs McCracken, of Tirohia, who was married to Thomas Campbell, of Paeroa; Isabelle McCracken, twin daughter, who was married to Arthur Simmons, of Paeroa; and Eva McCracken, fourth daughter, who was married to Albert Saunders, also of Paeroa. The ceremony was performed at the Presbyterian Church and the three brides were given away by their father.

The church was beautifully decorated with white camellias and asparagus fern. The brides all wore white silk velvet gowns of individual design, their trains topped with halos of orange blossom and they carried bouquets of arum lilies. Their mother wore blue suede crepe, with hat to tone and a fur stole. She carried a posy of violets and maidenhair



The triple wedding of the McCracken sisters at Paeroa in 1938.

Photo: SUPPLIED

fern. The reception was attended by 170 guests. The suggestion of a museum for Thames outraged one reader of the *Thames Star* who couldn't "see why people of this day had a desire to gather together a musty old collection of relics of the past, when they could with much benefit put their time and energies into livening up the present appearance of the town".

"There are many things more urgently required in Thames than a museum for antiques... how many people, I ask, would visit it or benefit by it? I venture to say that after the novelty had worn off, the collection would prove nothing more than a 'white elephant,' of which Thames has had plenty of experience in the past."

For several months, the *Thames Star* had sponsored a collection of photographs and objects of in-

terest to form the nucleus of an Old Pioneers' Museum. The area was rich in early history, and the present generation of residents, particularly those who had descended from the pioneers, were encouraged to seriously set about gathering and preserving artefacts of the early days, before it was too late. A large room at the Carnegie Library had been put at the disposal of a committee for housing the collection. What was wanted now was the formation of a Thames Historical Society to annotate and tabulate every item, verify dates, and organise displays. An honorary curator would be appointed to take charge, and the Museum put on a business-like basis.

A Queen Carnival was held to raise funds for a library and wireless set for Waitakaruru School.

The Carnival included a clay bird shoot, two garden parties and several social and card evenings, with a focus on electing a queen of the carnival. The contestants included a Township Queen, a Canal Queen and a Factory Road Queen.

"Clouds of dust and crowds of bumps" summed up the condition of the Thames Coast Rd, which was falling into a terribly dilapidated state. The dust nuisance combined with a pot-holed and corrugated surface gave motorists good grounds for complaint which fell on deaf ears. But it was the stretch of road from Kōpū to the Kauaeranga Bridge that was absolutely the worst part of the 80-odd miles between Thames and Hamilton, or between Thames and Rotorua. The surface was more like that of a washing board.

Parts of the Waikato, including Te Kauwhata and Waerenga, moved to Covid Alert Level 3 on Sunday night after positive cases were found in Raglan and Hamilton East.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced the level change at the 1pm media conference on Sunday, saying the region will be at level 3 for at least five days.

Household contacts of the Raglan case have since tested positive, Prime Minister Ardern confirmed on Monday morning, and whole genome sequencing has linked the Waikato cases to the Auckland outbreak.

She said the government was taking a similar approach in Waikato as it did with the recent lockdown in the upper Hauraki area.

"In terms of management of the boundary, the Auckland boundary will remain in place. There will be spot checks at Hamilton borders but it will not be a hard boundary," she said.

"Unfortunately it is just not possible to establish a workable hard border in such a highly networked area."

The Raglan case was tested on October 1 after feeling unwell. Their infectious period is determined to be from September 27.

DETAILS: More information, including an interactive boundary map can be found at: covid19.govt.nz. Locations of interest will be listed on the Ministry of Health website: www.health.govt.nz.

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RG1927 🏠 3 🗣️ 1 🚗 2 🛏️ 1

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- 2.1751ha of flat grazing land, loading race

RRP220 🏠 3 🗣️ 1 🚗 1

/Richardsons

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OPEN HOME SAT & SUN 11-12PM

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RN1384 🏠 3 🗣️ 1 🚗 1 🛏️ 1

Lot 11 Private Rd **Offers Over \$850,000**

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RN1388 🏠 3 🗣️ 2 🚗 2 🛏️ 1

306 Hill Street, Thames **Deadline Sale**

OPEN HOME SAT & SUN 2-3PM

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Amy Bustard
M: 027 262 6177
E: amy.bustard@trinitynetwork.co.nz

Adrienne Crawford
M: 027 298 4114
E: adrienne.crawford@trinitynetwork.co.nz

Kerry Trainor
M: 021 236 5978
E: kerry.trainor@trinitynetwork.co.nz

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M: 027 206 7616
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E: kerry.trainor@trinitynetwork.co.nz

Amy Bustard
M: 027 262 6177
E: amy.bustard@trinitynetwork.co.nz

Maree Simpson
M: 027 206 7616
E: maree.simpson@trinitynetwork.co.nz

Andrea Grant Pauanui
M: 021 043 6437
E: andea.grant@trinitynetwork.co.nz

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SPORTS



Paeroa Bowling Club patron John Pullan rolls down the first bowl of the season. Photo: SUPPLIED

Summer opening days go ahead for bowls

Paeroa Bowls finally had its opening day on September 25.

Originally set down for September 4, the opening day was postponed until the health and safety of their older members was recognised due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

After a short address by president Kevin Lockley, the season was officially opened by Hauraki District Deputy Mayor Paul Milner, who then proceeded to roll the Jack ball up followed by Patron John Pullan rolling the first bowl of the season.

Flooded greens caused the cancellation of the first tournament of the bowls season planned for September 31. Organisers were devastated after heavy rainfall flooded most of the rinks overnight.

Unfortunately, rain over the past month seems to have saturated the greens to a degree that the water now even after a small rainfall creates enough flooding to cause cancellations.

The board is currently looking at solving the situation. **KEREPĒHI BOWLS**

There was a smaller than usual turnout at Kerepēhi Bowls & Sports' summer opening (Sutherland Family sponsors) due to Alert Level 2+ covid-19 restrictions in place.

The restrictions meant there was a limit of 12 teams on the

day, which was postponed from September 5, as we were still in level 3 at that time.

All going well, the club was planning to hold the Kopu Engineering Optional 4's on September 26, and the Hudson Family optional fours on Sunday, October 10.

RESULTS: 1st 4 wins +37 points 26 ends (Thames) Herb Lawson, Ken Last-Harris, Bruce Graham, Mike Rooney; 2nd 3.5 wins 38 points 25 ends (Tui Park) Gary Hewit, Adrian, Katheryn, Darryl; 3rd 3 wins +26 points 23 ends (Kerepēhi) Leon Taipari, Mike Proctor, Don Cooper. Club Prize: Tracy Harrison, Shaun Harrison, Daniel Harrison, Mo Harrison.

SUDOKU

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

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

20

HARD

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

20

MEDIUM

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

EASY

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

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JUMBO CROSSWORD

40

- ACROSS**
- 1 Utter words (5)
 - 4 Asleep (2,3,4,2,3)
 - 11 Cove (5)
 - 14 Combine (5)
 - 15 Daunted (11)
 - 16 Aircraft flight recorder (5,3)
 - 19 Laugh quietly (7)
 - 20 Obstruct (5)
 - 21 Carry on (4,5)
 - 24 Sleeping room (9)
 - 26 Nincompoop (6)
 - 27 Admirable quality, feature (6)
 - 31 Urbane (5)
 - 32 Vegetable (8)
 - 34 Very tall building (10)
 - 38 Currently happening (7)
 - 39 Principality in Europe (6)
 - 40 Space to manoeuvre (6)
 - 41 Kiln (4)
 - 42 Bringing about (7)
 - 45 Strikes back (10)
 - 50 Magnify (7)
 - 54 Pen tips (4)
 - 55 Tainted (6)
 - 56 Subtle distinction (6)
 - 57 Relax (7)
 - 60 Intersection (10)
 - 61 Long-lasting (8)
 - 62 All set (5)
 - 65 Ledger entry (6)
 - 66 Protest (6)
 - 67 Make worse (9)
 - 72 Artificial (9)
 - 73 Of the moon (5)
 - 74 Knave (7)
 - 79 Mercifulness (8)
 - 80 Emergency worker (11)
 - 81 Throw up (5)
 - 82 Swagger (5)
 - 83 Share of the profit or benefit (5,2,3,4)
 - 84 Chock (5)
- DOWN**
- 2 South American cloak (6)
 - 3 Room within roof space (5)
 - 5 Carpenter's pin (4)
 - 6 Pest in audience (7)
 - 7 Inaugurate (6)
 - 8 Tidy (4)
 - 9 Egg dish (8)
 - 10 Shapeless semisolid lump (6)
 - 11 Firebomb (10)
 - 12 Ear part (4)
 - 13 Fabric (7)
 - 17 Feather (5)
 - 18 Watering devices (10)
 - 22 Fixed gaze (5)
 - 23 Journey break (8)
 - 25 Self-evident (7)
 - 26 Capital of Kenya (7)
 - 28 21 shillings (6)
 - 29 Musical composition (6)
 - 30 Break free (6)
 - 33 Genetic copy (5)
 - 35 Chain of mountains (5)
 - 36 Shortly (4)
 - 37 Narrow thin wooden, metal strip (4)
 - 42 Sneerer (5)
 - 43 Continuous (8)
 - 44 Frolic (6)
 - 45 Circular road junction (10)
 - 46 Finished first equal (4)
 - 47 Most protracted (7)
 - 48 Passage with arched roof (6)
 - 49 Pass into (5)
 - 51 River in Africa (4)
 - 52 Very old (7)
 - 53 Gluttonous (6)
 - 58 Task (10)
 - 59 Incensed (5)
 - 63 Less than zero (8)
 - 64 Steer clear of (5)
 - 65 Options (7)
 - 68 Vividly descriptive (7)
 - 69 Causes (anag)(6)
 - 70 Inflict a penalty (6)
 - 71 Shunting track (6)
 - 75 Not confined (5)
 - 76 Back part (4)
 - 77 Cow flesh (4)
 - 78 Reach maximum (4)

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Amusing, 4 Bear malice, 9 Meeting, 13 Brie, 14 Income, 15 Crying, 16 Written, 19 Mayonnaise, 20 Bordello, 21 Index, 24 Helium, 25 Mousse, 27 Obedience, 32 Hacienda, 33 Glance, 34 Ignored, 38 Stations, 39 Escort, 40 Look, 41 Ideal, 42 Young, 45 Try and try again, 52 Traps, 55 Vegan, 56 Halo, 57 Streak, 58 Evacuate, 61 Hessian, 62 Fairer, 63 Medicine, 66 Liverpool, 68 Tender, 69 Scheme, 73 Cocoa, 74 Scaffold, 76 Obligation, 81 Assists, 82 Domino, 83 Charms, 84 Toss, 85 Algebra, 86 Bareheaded, 87 Dynasty.

DOWN: 1 Album, 2 Unicycle, 3 Genial, 4 Buoys, 5 Area, 6 Macabre, 7 Layers, 8 Canoe, 10 Errs, 11 Titanic, 12 Needed, 17 Undulating, 18 Glade, 22 Assassin, 23 Beige, 24 Hearsay, 26 Owns, 28 Backlog, 29 Signet, 30 Pantry, 31 Decamp, 33 Gloat, 35 Order, 36 Raku, 37 Gobi, 43 Opened, 44 Nears, 46 Ream, 47 Avocado, 48 Desire, 49 Rarer, 50 Alarming, 51 Novice, 52 Technician, 53 Away, 54 Steeple, 59 Cadet, 60 Edge, 64 Space, 65 Perilous, 67 Idolise, 68 Tadpole, 70 Consul, 71 Docile, 72 Filmed, 75 Flora, 77 Bland, 78 Nasty, 79 Star, 80 Acid.

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In search of an approachable, team orientated, organised individual to assist a strong committee to continue to grow our volunteer organisation and the sport of netball.

Job description available, online meetings the preference, governance experience and netball knowledge advantageous.

Submit CV applications and cover letters to haurakinnetball@gmail.com by 31st October 2021.

Annual General Meeting to be held 21st November 2021.



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Public Notice

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THAMES WORKINGMEN'S CLUB AT 11.00 ON SUNDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2021

AGENDA

- Apologies
 - Minutes of the 2020 AGM
 - Matters Arising
 - President's Report
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Election of Executive for 2021 – 2022
- (Nomination Forms are available from the Secretary. sec.thames.rsa@gmail.com)
- General Business

Signed: Robert Williams – President

Public Notice

Hauraki Plains Netball Centre
Annual General Meeting
4pm, Sunday 21st November 2021
Ngatea Rugby & Sports Club
All welcome, email haurakinnetball@gmail.com for full agenda

A ghost walked into a bar and ordered a shot of vodka. The bartender said, 'Sorry, we don't serve spirits here.'

Two guys walked into a bar. The third guy ducked.

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SPORTS

Special Olympics called off due to Covid-19 outbreak

By KELLEY TANTAU

The 22 Thames Valley athletes gearing up for December's Special Olympics will no longer be able to attend, due to "financial and logistical complications" of the current Covid-19 outbreak.

The Special Olympics New Zealand board was "forced" to make the "heart-breaking" decision to postpone the 2021 Special Olympics National Summer Games, held in Hamilton, to December 2022.

Chief executive Carolyn Young said the latest outbreak and subsequent lockdown had put the games "at serious risk and could even jeopardise Special Olympics New Zealand".

Special Olympics Thames Valley chair and indoor bowls coach Anna Walters said the club was disappointed with the postponement, but fully supported the decision.

ment, but fully supported the decision.

"The National Summer Games is a huge event where athletes and whanau get to come together. "Our athletes want to compete in Hamilton [because] this is as local as a National Summer Games is ever going to be - so we would like to have as many friends and whanau there to support us, so we are happy to wait until we can do this safely," she said. The 22 athletes and their coaches come from around the Valley, prominently from Paeroa, Thames and Ngatea. They included Carla Van Deventer (swimming), Henry Munro and Simon Ashby (bocce), Jonathan Read (athletics), and Kim Forrest (indoor bowls), from the Supported Life Style Hauraki Trust.

Bocce coach Murray Thomas said the athletes were very disappointed after training for four



The Supported Life Style Hauraki Trust team.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

years to be selected for the nationals, but understood that it was the best decision to keep the country safe.

"Athletes are mostly reporting that it's an opportunity for further practise, and for one new athlete it's a chance to obtain the qualifications to be able for selection for

the postponed nationals in 2022."

Anna said the other athletes were all entered into the 2022 games, and could go back to training once the county was back in alert level 1. They hope to have six weeks of social training before breaking up for the summer.

Come March, Special Olympics

Thames Valley will host the first competition of the year with a bocce tournament.

"Our athletes are so adaptable and deal with change very positively," Anna said. "They are just as excited for December, 2022."

"This year was very disjointed and we did not attend as many practice events as we normally would, so we look forward to seeing the calendar for next year."

The Supported Lifestyle Hauraki Trust had offered its ongoing support for the Olympic team, Murray said, as did the wider community. "Without this support things like uniforms, transport, venues, catering and events would be a lot harder for our small team to fund."

DETAILS: To find out how to donate, or to keep up with the athletes, find Special Olympics Thames Valley on Facebook.

CLASSIFIEDS

Public Notice

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LEGAL NOTICE TO IDENTIFY PREFERRED CLASS OF ALIENEE (PCA) - PUBLISHED IN THE LOCAL THAMES, NEW ZEALAND PUBLICATIONS - THE VALLEY PROFILE AND THE HAURAKI HERALD IN SEPTEMBER 2021.

To all concerned, who are blood relatives / descendants of the following persons:

- Watene Te Wharemahihi Te Koau - 1797-1883
- Mita Whareroa Watene - 1825-1908
- Pirimona Watene - 1866-1942
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- Jenet Aloha Turuhira Watene Spencer and Ani Clipper Watene Maxfield - Living

You are hereby notified that Keola Ranginui Watene, deceased, bequeathed his property located at 9597 Kopu Road, Kopu, Thames, Coromandel District, to his sisters, Jenet Aloha Turuhira Watene Spencer, and Ani Clipper Watene Maxfield. Any blood relative of a former owner, or descendant thereof, interested in purchasing said property may declare their intention to purchase by contacting Kylee Jacobsen or Kay Beveridge at Jacobsen+Co Ltd., via email kay@jacobsenandco.co.nz, 25 Roche Street, PO Box 501, Te Awamutu 3840, New Zealand, or 14-15 Cherrywood Court, Otumoetai, PO Box 8248, Tauranga 3145 New Zealand.

The real estate listing for the property can be viewed at the following link. <https://www.bayleys.co.nz/2180443>

The legal description of the property is as follows:

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I had fantastic local feedback, people saw it, read it and came in. It reminded the community that we are here, and so many comments on Facebook. Thanks Valley Profile for enhancing my profile. - **GBD**

What I like about 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**

SPORTS

Valley undefeated on home ground

HEARTLAND RUGBY

Thames Valley remains undefeated in the Bunnings Warehouse Heartland Championship after a 30-15 victory over Buller at Te Aroha on Saturday.

Buller were no "easy beats" and defied their position at the bottom of the points table with a very good first half to lead 15-8 at the break. They had spent a lot of time on attack and their full back, Jesse Pitman-Joass took advantage of infringements by the Swamp Foxes to kick five penalty goals.

In a rare attack on Buller's line, Cameron Dromgool scored a try for the Valley and soon after Tiaontin Raoren, playing at first five eighth, slotted a penalty goal. Following some harsh words by the coaches at half time, a more focused Thames Valley side took the field in the second half. They immediately went on the attack and were rewarded with a try to Raoren.

There was no conversion and then Buller were unlucky not to add to their score when another penalty attempt by Pitman-Joass bounced off the post. Mid way through the half, Raoren scored his second try after a good build up by the forwards. He converted his own try to give the Swamp Foxes the lead 20-15. The kick off by Buller went out on the full and from the resulting scrum on the half

way, Luke Masirewa picked up the ball and after a great solo effort scored a try.

Once again there was no conversion and the game ended with Valley hot on attack and finally putting Trinity McQueen over for an unconverted try. This was another bonus try victory and they sit at the top of the points table equal with South Canterbury on 15 points. However, South Canterbury have the better points differential which make them the number 1 seed. For Buller: Jesse Pitman-Joass five penalty goals. For Thames Valley: Tiaontin Raoren, two tries, Luke Masirewa and Trinity McQueen tries. Raoren a conversion and a penalty. Next Saturday Thames Valley meet West Coast in Greymouth.



Valley's Luke Masirewa goes on attack.

Photos: JAKOB ANDREW



Tiaontin Raoren in a tight situation releases the ball to Will Newbold.



Ben Bonnar scores a try that wasn't awarded after a crooked lineout.

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