

The Valley Profile



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HAURAKI PLAINS - THAMES - THAMES COAST - PAEROA - WAIHĪ - EVERY WEDNESDAY

065 April 13, 2022

Rex starts next chapter

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

Rex Simpson is sitting in a Turkish cafe along Karangahape Rd. The change in scenery from the quaintness of Paeroa to the vibrancy of Auckland comes at the perfect time for the radio station presenter.

"There is not a huge opportunity to be able to use your Gold Card around the Coromandel Peninsula," he says. "Here, there's lots of opportunities to be more mobile in my later years."

The 68-year-old has hung up his headphones after years of working on radio, most recently for Coromandel's CFM.

He took the leap and sold his Paeroa property to purchase an apartment in the centre of Auckland's thriving CBD, where he's now able to go to the orchestra, the art galleries, the cinemas, and sample cuisines such as Indonesian street food.

But the children's show creator responsible for the Saturday-morning favourite *What Now?* is also writing a book, and he's keeping to a strict schedule of writing or researching between 6am-1pm, then a stint at the gym, before stopping for coffee.

He hopes to have the first draft of his book, to be titled *Follow the Little Green Man*, completed by July.

"I was travelling quite a lot overseas when I was head of children's programmes for TV3, and more particularly when I had Kids TV, and I was buying and selling children's



Rex Simpson worked on Coromandel's CFM for two years, starting in March, 2020.

Photo: SUPPLIED

programmes," he says. "I never liked to travel direct, so I'd stop in Singapore or Hong Kong or Bangkok, and fly on to London, New York, and Los Angeles."

"I didn't necessarily know where I was going to be... and I would come out of the hotel and go to the first set of traffic lights and wherever the little green man said I should go, I would follow. Variably, I would end up somewhere interesting

with interesting people." When Rex began thinking about his life and his book, he realised intuition had always been his guide, as well as a little naivety.

"I think the thing that I've learned is that I am completely naive, and if I had thought too deeply about the consequences of the actions I took, I would've never done them," he says with a laugh.

Rex's career in radio began back in Gisborne when he was just a teenager.

He "surprisingly" won a radio DJ competition that gave him a sort of "celebrity status" around town. Before that, though, he'd already been practising his announcing with his hairbrush as a mic.

He joined Television New Zealand in Wellington as a presentation director in 1976,

before moving to Dunedin two years later.

He's been the brains behind children's television shows such as *Nice One Stu*, *Howz That?*, *You and Me*, and *What Now?* - the latter of which has been on New Zealand television for 40 years.

He was also the production manager for *The Renovators*, as well as *Praise Be* - a "hymn request" programme he primarily made for his adoptive parents.

A former Thames-Coromandel district councillor and board member, Rex joined Coromandel's CFM in March, 2020, just as the country went into its first Covid-19 lockdown.

When Dave Cull, an ex-Dunedin mayor Rex worked with on *The Renovators*, passed away in 2021, it provided Rex with a dose of perspective.

"If you put your life on a yardstick and you looked at how much had gone past and how much you had left, you'd see you only had a small portion of your life left to live," he says.

"When Dave died, it was a bit of a wake-up call for me to think about if I was living the life I wanted to live."

Rex says he is "so privileged and grateful" to have had the career that he has had, but that the time had come to hang up the headphones.

"We aren't the sum total of the work we do," he explains, "we're the sum total of the people we are."



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Electric buses considered

By GORDON PREECE

Locals could be riding electric buses with bike racks if Waikato Regional Council's proposed new bus services are given the green light.

Waikato Regional Council held a webinar on April 7 as part of its public consultation on proposed new bus services for Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki, which could be up and running by January next year.

The proposed new bus routes include a return service every two-hours from Waihi to Paeroa and morning and afternoon services between Thames and Te Aroha, with connections to Hamilton. They may also include connections for commuters from Ngātea and Paeroa into Thames, and routes from Thames to Coromandel, Whitianga, Tairua and Whangamatā.

A Waihi to Tauranga route was also proposed at the webinar.

Council regional transport connections director Mark Tamura told those on the webinar electric or hybrid options were being considered for the new buses.

"We regularly have to retender for public transport contracts and it's becoming part of our norm to request proposals which provide zero emission options," he said.

"Waka Kotahi [NZTA] has an expectation that all vehicles post 2025 that are entering the public transport fleet will be zero emission, so we're taking that very seriously and we're currently investigating options for buses."

Mr Tamura said bike racks for



The new buses are expected to be the same size as the existing Thames Connector bus, and fares may cost as little as \$5. Photo: GORDON PREECE

buses would also be considered, along with accommodating students with schoolbags or skateboards.

"In our regional services which connect between towns, we have bike racks on all those. In those urban services, one of the challenges is the loading and unloading times... which can delay the service... which impacts the timetable, reliability and journey times," he said.

"We're constantly looking at the review in these types of approaches, and we would encourage you to make your feedback now if you feel strongly about them."

Thames-Coromandel regional councillor Denis Tegg said during the webinar that people may also be able to travel by bus from Turua to Thames and Paeroa.

"The services would run from Paeroa through Ngātea and then it would come back to Turua and

on to Thames and vice versa."

The buses are expected to be the same size as the existing Thames Connector bus, and fares may cost as little as \$5, with seniors holding a SuperGold Card travelling for free. The service will cost \$163,000 in 2022-23 if council can secure 51 per cent of the cost of the proposed bus service from NZTA. This will be funded through a targeted rate for Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki residents.

The bus proposal is part of Waikato Regional Council's amendment to its 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

The public can continue to have their say until April 30 before council holds hearings and deliberations on the amendment on May 23 and make their final decision on June 20.

DETAILS: To make an online submission visit: waikatoregion.govt.nz/yourvoicematters.

In Brief

EX-TROPICAL CYCLONE
The MetService has issued orange heavy rain and wind warnings for the Coromandel Peninsula as ex-Tropical Cyclone Fifi approaches New Zealand from the northwest in what is being described as a significant weather event. The ex-tropical cyclone is expected to bring widespread impacts to the North Island, with heavy rain and severe gales for Coromandel for 12 hours from 6pm on Tuesday, April 12. Very large waves are also expected to affect northeast and eastern coasts.

GOODBYE PLASTICS 5
Thanks to funding from the Ministry for the Environment, Hauraki District Council's kerbside collections contractor now has equipment to sort rigid number 5 plastics automatically, which means number 5 rigid plastics can now go into kerbside recycling wheelie bins and council's Refuse Transfer Station bins. This includes ice cream tubs, margarine tubs, yoghurt tubs and pottles, take-out containers (not polystyrene) and prescription bottles.

CLASSIC YACHTS ARRIVING
The Historical Maritime Park and Museum in Paeroa will host around 15 classic yachts across Easter weekend, and they invite the public to keep an eye on the riverbank on Good Friday to see the boats as they navigate the river towards the park. The yachts will be arriving from Auckland, and will leave Kōpū, near Thames, around 1pm. They will arrive in Turua around 2pm; Netherton around 4pm; and at the maritime park between 4.30pm-5pm.

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Thames Tides

Wed Apr 13	Thu Apr 14	Fri Apr 15	Sat Apr 16	Sun Apr 17	Mon Apr 18	Tue Apr 19
 Morning: 4:09am 3.0, 4:37pm 2.9 Afternoon: 10:22am 1.1, 10:50pm 1.0 Sunrise: 6:41am, Sunset: 5:55pm Best At: 9:24am 9:47pm Fish: B Moon: Set 2:20pm, Rise 4:20pm	 Morning: 5:00am 3.1, 5:33pm 3.1 Afternoon: 11:13am 1.0, 11:39pm 0.9 Sunrise: 6:42am, Sunset: 5:54pm Best At: 10:10am 10:33pm Fish: F Moon: Set 3:24am, Rise 4:47pm	 Morning: 5:47am 3.3, 12:01pm 0.8 Afternoon: 6:22pm 3.3 Sunrise: 6:43am, Sunset: 5:52pm Best At: 10:56am 11:19pm Fish: G Moon: Set 4:29am, Rise 5:14pm	 Morning: 12:24am 0.7, 12:47pm 0.7 Afternoon: 6:33am 3.4, 7:08pm 3.4 Sunrise: 6:44am, Sunset: 5:51pm Best At: 11:43am Fish: G Moon: Set 5:36am, Rise 5:41pm	 Morning: 1:08am 0.6, 1:33pm 0.5 Afternoon: 7:18am 3.5, 7:53pm 3.6 Sunrise: 6:45am, Sunset: 5:50pm Best At: 12:07am 12:32pm Fish: B Moon: Full Moon, Set 6:45am, Rise 6:10pm	 Morning: 1:52am 0.4, 2:18pm 0.4 Afternoon: 8:05am 3.6, 8:38pm 3.7 Sunrise: 6:46am, Sunset: 5:48pm Best At: 12:57am 1:24pm Fish: B Moon: Set 7:56am, Rise 6:44pm	 Morning: 2:38am 0.4, 3:04pm 0.3 Afternoon: 8:53am 3.6, 9:24pm 3.7 Sunrise: 6:47am, Sunset: 5:47pm Best At: 1:51am 2:19pm Fish: B Moon: Set 9:11am, Rise 7:22pm

MOON AND FISH KEYS

New Moon First Quarter Full Moon Last Quarter

Good Fishing Fair Fishing Not So Good

TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES

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

PLACE	Hr	Mn	LOW
Coromandel	-0	05	-0 04
Whitianga	-0	02	-0 06
Tairua	+0	10	+0 21
Whangamata	-0	07	-0 07
Waihi Beach	-0	12	-0 12

Fundraising walk ‘all for Wendy’

By GORDON PREECE

W aerenga woman Alison O’Callaghan plans to walk the Tongariro Alpine Crossing to raise funds for Waihi lung cancer patient Wendy Fergusson.

Alison said she’d never met Wendy but wanted to do more after reading her story on the front page of *The Profile* in February.

“I read it and it stayed on the kitchen bench for about a week and I kept revisiting it and I just thought what a dreadful, awful predicament to be in to have to possibly sell your home as well as contend with an illness,” she said.

“It just pulled my heartstrings, and I just thought I’m gonna have to do something here, and this is why I’m gonna walk and raise money to help Wendy.”

Alison, who is one of The Supported Life Style Hauraki Trust’s rehabilitation coaches based in Thames, said she then donated \$50 to Wendy’s Givealittle page and contacted Wendy’s husband, Craig, to let him know her plans to raise more money for Wendy.

Craig told *The Profile* he was “gobsmacked” and “quite surprised” when he received Alison’s email.

“I asked her what made her do it and she said... seeing the photo of me with the wife and the dog apparently got to her so away she went,” he said.

“Alison’s a great human being and [I’m] super appreciative of



Alison O’Callaghan, left recently hiked The Pinnacles track as part of her training to walk the Tongariro Alpine Crossing to raise funds for Wendy Fergusson, pictured above with husband Craig.

Photos: SUPPLIED

what she’s about to embark on, it’s really good.”

Craig set up the Givealittle page for donations to cover costs of an unfunded drug called Imfinzi, after she was diagnosed with lung cancer in July last year. Craig said in February due to the full treatment cost of \$208,000, he and Wendy were considering selling their Waihi home to pay for it.

However, since then, Pharmac

has decided to now fund Imfinzi from August, bringing the costs of Wendy’s full treatment down to \$46,000, which means they no longer need to sell their home to pay for treatment.

Craig said he welcomed the news he and Wendy would no longer have to consider selling their home.

“It’s exciting and a great relief that we’re not having to sell, especially in the volatile market.

“[Pharmac] finally came to the party and it’s not just good for [Wendy] but good for everyone that suffers that horrible disease,” he said.

Craig said Wendy’s oncologist talked Pharmac into subsidising Imfinzi for Wendy from now since she was already taking the drug, rather than having to wait until it was funded in August.

Craig said Wendy was still having “ups and downs” through

her treatment at Hamilton’s Braemar Hospital but was having more good days than bad.

“[Her hair’s] still growing back, but she does have a bit of skin issues like rashes coming up and spots, which is one of the mild side effects of the treatment, but apart from that she’s not really suffering,” he said.

So far, just over \$11,000 has been raised through the Givealittle page to go toward the cost of Wendy’s treatment.

Alison said she had been training a lot for the 19km fundraising walk, which she plans to complete with her son, Rory. The pair will set out on April 22, which is also Wendy’s birthday.

“As part of one of our incentives, we have gym membership from the trust and I go four times a week.

“I also walked the Pinnacles two weeks ago, and that was quite a challenge,” she said.

Those wanting to support the fundraising walk could make donations to Wendy’s Givealittle page, she said.

“It doesn’t matter how little, it all goes to Wendy, and that’s the pure reason.”

Alison said she previously raised \$2000 walking the Tongariro Alpine Crossing in 2014 to support a Te Kauwhata family with a nine-year-old boy who had a “debilitating disease”.

DETAILS: To make a donation: givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-wendy-finish-her-journey.

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Easter story drives community service

By GORDON PREECE

The Easter story sums up Bill and Ngaire Tissingh's passion for decades of serving the Paeroa community.

The couple received the Hauraki District Council OnYa award for their outstanding community service in helping young people.

Bill said receiving the award was "humbling."

"I think especially for Ngaire, it was a real honouring of the things she's done in a very selfless way for many years just being a mum really to many people," he said.

"We have 11 of our own children but we've had over 100 kids live with us over the years and she just gives and has helped in all sorts of ways.

"I feel Ngaire and I have been esteemed, appreciated and valued and it's been great, we haven't done it for that, but I think we've been honoured by the community.

"We gave up sharemilking on our own behalf because we wanted to be more involved with young people."

Bill's community service portfolio includes founding Paeroa Christian School in 1987, where he was principal for six years and still serves on the board.

He's also served on the boards for Paeroa College, Paeroa Junior Soccer Club, Kauaeranga Valley Christian Camp, Christian Camping New Zealand and the Paengaroa-based Youth Encounter, which mentors kids to reach their potential through outdoor activities.

"I think any organisation needs quality governance to be able to maximise what those members of the organisation are



Bill and Ngaire Tissingh have received a community award for their outstanding community service in helping young people.

seeking to do, they really need that support and that oversight of a good governance board to help them stay on track," Bill said.

"Sometimes it can be rocky... I've been through some tricky times where you've had to negotiate some tricky things with the management side, but for the most part, it's been just a thrilling journey of being able to support and bring some strategic direction to an organisation."

Bill said the Easter story summed up his passion for helping young people through his governance roles.

"Easter is about God's son Jesus Christ coming to earth to lay down his life to be the lamb of god to take away the sin of the world," he said.

"So through what he's done, it gives us the opportunity to be able to be made right with God and look forward to an eternity with God, and I think part of being a christian is... to be centered towards God first but also to serve others.

"It's a responsibility we have, so it should come naturally to a christian regardless of who they are... the essence of christianity is service."

Bill said Easter was also a great time to reflect on the broader dimensions of life.

"I think that's the reality of the set of circumstances we find ourselves in right

"[Serving others] is a responsibility we have, so it should come naturally to a christian regardless of who they are... the essence of christianity is service."

- Bill Tissingh

now because there's a lot of uncertainty and a measure of fear and anxiety," he said.

"The good thing about being through a troubled time is that it can force you in a sense to re-evaluate your life values, purpose and direction and that's a pretty important thing to be doing on a regular basis."

Bill said plans to establish Paeroa Christian School in 1987 came from a meeting with concerned parents and a Christian apologetics camp he attended in Matamata.

"One of the things I'd begun to think about as a dad was the need to take more responsibility with what we put in front of our kids," he said.

"We had a meeting in September of 1986 in a home out at Netherton and the school started here in the [Paeroa Bible Chapel] on 1 February, 1987, and it started with 20 kids.

"About seven years later, with a roll of 51 kids, we were able to buy our own property down on Coronation St and move down there."

Bill said the main highlight of his eight to ten years with Paeroa Junior Soccer Club was setting standards for appropriate language used on the sideline.

"I remember years ago before I was involved in the board, I was shocked at some of the language that was used on the sideline at a college rugby game and I actually wrote to the board and said from a parent's point of view, I can't believe we don't challenge the use of the F word from the parents and the coaching staff," he said.

"If we don't accept it in school, why should we accept it on a Saturday morning on the side of a rugby field?"

"There are some things that need to be challenged and are best challenged when the kids are young and we set a culture around that."

Bill has also been involved with Paeroa Bible Chapel for around 30 years, taught bible in schools for nearly 50 years and he and Ngaire founded a christian child and family support service called the Open Home Foundation Thames Valley, which is an open home for anyone seeking refuge.

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Friday 9:30
Good Friday Reflections in Town Centre

Sunday 10am
Easter Sunday – 'Resurrection Hope'

Easter Mass Schedule 2022						
	Thames St Francis 111 Baillie St	Ngatea St Paschals 56 Pipiroa Rd	Coromandel St Colmans Kapanga Rd	Whitianga St Patrick's Campbell St	Tairua St Mary's Bennett Drive	Pauanui Combined Church Hall
Holy Thursday 14th April	7pm	7pm	No Mass	7pm	7.30pm	No Mass
Good Friday 15th April	3pm	3pm	3pm Combined Churches Liturgy	3pm	3pm	10am Combined Churches Liturgy
Holy Saturday 16th April	7pm	7pm	No Mass	7pm	No Mass	5pm
Easter Sunday 17th April	8.30am	10.30am	11am	8.30am & 10.30am	10.30am	6.30am Combined Churches Liturgy <small>Dawn Service @ Billy Point</small>

Building projects and confidence at WomenzShed

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

Women who had the tools but not the opportunity have been able to learn how to make and craft items from the blokes at Thames MenzShed - and perhaps impart their own advice on projects, too.

Since the Thames MenzShed, off Queen St, introduced a WomenzShed to the organisation in September last year, more than a dozen females have equipped themselves with skills in woodworking and carpentry.

Not only have they been building jewellery boxes and garden planters, but their confidence has been building, too.

“My grandson went overseas three or four years ago and left me a drill and his electric saw, and they sat in the garage for all that time, until I heard they had this WomenzShed,” Anne Thorneycroft said.

“It occurred to me that I could now go and use them.”

Fellow members Maria Hilton and Jane Lea also had the equipment, but they didn’t have the know-how. However, after joining, Maria was able to tile her own kitchen using the tiles she’d bought several years prior.

Meanwhile, Diane Adams came to the group as more of a sewer than a carpenter. She was used to working with materials where she could “take a bit in and let a bit out”.

“Working with wood, I just



Diane Adams, left, Jane Lea, Anne Thorneycroft, and Maria Hilton are four of the Thames WomenzShed’s 13 members. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

don’t get it, I can’t do that precise measuring,” she said.

But she was proud of the outdoor planter box she constructed recently, even if one corner was wonky and some of the boards were a bit too long.

“It’s a learning curve,” she said. “It’s a whole different world of terminology and types of wood, but coming here has nothing to do with my personal life, my work life, it’s just something I’ve wanted to do and never had the opportunity to do.”

The Thames Community MenzShed opened in 2018, and secretary Tony Winter said they had talked about establishing a WomenzShed back then.

He said 13 of the group’s 42 members were women, and they made up some of the most active users of the space.

“It’s added a dimension [to the group], and the women’s perspective is always good to have.”

The shed’s most important mandate was “fellowship” - where men and women could go to a safe environment, work on their own projects, and community projects, and fundraise

for the shed’s maintenance and upgrade.

New members were always welcome, he said.

DETAILS: Get in touch with Thames MenzShed or WomenzShed, email: thamesmenzshed@gmail.com or find the organisation on Facebook.



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‘School is safe, not a super spreader’

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

It’s not the high school that is the Covid-19 “super spreader” - it’s the weekend, a Hauraki principal has found, and he fears the students electing to stay home are missing out on more than just their education.

For the past three weeks, Waihi College has been running at about 50-60 per cent capacity, yet principal Alistair Cochrane knows the number of his students directly affected by Covid-19 was closer to only 20 per cent.

But “a large number” of families were electing to keep their children at home, and while some of the reasons were justifiable - students being immunocompromised, for example - anxiety around catching the virus at the college remained rife.

“There is a degree of anxiety out there around schools supposedly being super spreader places, but the data is not showing that. What we see on a Monday morning are numbers that are astronomical compared to the rest of the week,” Mr Cochrane said. “So, it’s not the school that is the spreader, it’s the weekend.”

Covid-19 numbers have declined in the Hauraki district, from 329 active cases on April 1, to 200 cases on April 10.

However, Mr Cochrane believed as many as a dozen families in Waihi were electing



Waihi College principal Alistair Cochrane wants to welcome his students back to school, after Covid-19 anxiety has kept many of them at home.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

to home school their children, despite only one application through the Ministry of Education coming across his desk.

“The seniors have NCEA as a motivator, so they tend to be a little more engaged than others; Year 7 and 8s’ attendance is far better than the rest; but

the ones that really worry me are the Year 9s and 10s.”

Mr Cochrane said he was “absolutely worried” for the students’ education, as a lot of the “pre-work” needed for NCEA, which starts in Year 11, was part of the programming in Year 9 and 10.

He said electing to stay home was not just having consequences for the students, but for teachers’ wellbeing, too.

Since the pandemic began, staff at the school have juggled the use of two teaching platforms: online, and face-to-face. Keeping up with both forms

was starting to have a “significant impact”, Mr Cochrane said.

“We’re starting to see teachers becoming really tired and rundown, and that won’t be helping with their well-being.

“Now, as a community, we need to be standing at each other’s shoulders, fighting the battle together, not in isolated pockets,” he said.

“Whilst I understand parents’ fear and their anxiety, as a community, we need to get back to work, we need to get back to school.”

From the beginning of next term, which starts on May 2, the college will host ‘Get Back Week’ - in which there will be events and freebies up for grabs during the lunch break throughout the week, including a sausage sizzle, quizzes, marble run, performances, and games.

“The benefit of going to school is not just the academic learning that the student’s do, it’s the socialisation, dealing with diversities, the etiquettes - all of those skills that in a time like this are probably more important than they were before,” Mr Cochrane said.

“If they are unwell or a close contact, they need to be at home, but if they’re not directly affected [by Covid], they need to be back at school for their own benefit.”



WAIHI COLLEGE



Kai Care Packs

Waihi College is fortunate enough to receive a free school lunch for every student each day of the week through the Free School Lunches programme. Our amazing Libelle staff are provided ingredients to make a whopping 613 lunches every day. These days due to COVID, we have less kids at school and a lot of the ingredients go unused. Thanks to the forethought of Michelle Pullen our Canteen Manager; Siobhan Fitzgerald our hospitality teacher; and Tracy Te Wake our staff Well Being Leader, these ingredients are now being turned into cooked dinners for our community. Every Thursday at lunchtime, the kitchen is abuzz with student and staff volunteers creating around 200 meals packaged up and ready to go out into our community two days a week. So far, we have made chicken and cheese tortilla wraps, delicious pasta bakes, pulled pork nacho wraps, spiced chicken with rice, pork and pumpkin curry, chicken nacho mix and much more. Thanks to Pravin at 100% Electrical in Waihi, we received a huge freezer at a great price and can freeze as many meals as we can make. We then get them out to the community via staff volunteers or non COVID effected pick- ups from the College hall.

Any ingredients that we can’t use go to the Baptist Church and the Salvation Army, who have always done an amazing job of getting supplies to those in need. The Salvation Army comes to the school most days and collects not just any leftover ingredients, but any of the unused boxed up lunches too. They are given to either the local primary schools or to families who need them. Between us, we are making sure we get the most out of this precious food.

It’s an amazing feeling to be part of such a great team and see the positive way in which it’s helping our community. We love that it is teaching our students the circle of kindness and the joy that comes from giving back to others. While our senior students are busy making up the meals each Thursday, our lovely cooking classes keep them fed with something delicious they whip up during class time. This is their way of saying thank you and completes that awesome circle of kindness that our taitamariki are learning so much from.

Although this initiative started due to our COVID positive whanau needing support, it became apparent quickly that many other families were going through tough times too, and it’s great to be able to spread the love and support to as many whānau as possible. The next step is to brainstorm how we can make this wonderful support system sustainable. We want as many kids as possible to come back to school, and are hoping Term 2 is back to a full school with happy kids ready to learn. In turn however, this will mean less available ingredients. We are working on finding a way around this and getting ourselves into a position where we can create meals for those in need, as well as have all our kids back at school!

If you would like to be part of this team, either with your time or donations, please contact us at wendys@waihicol.school.nz.

Mary St petition presented

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

Which is more important: safe travel, or a pretty street?

That was the question posed to Thames Community Board members as they were presented with a petition signed by more than 600 people calling for the reopening of Mary St.

The Thames road used to connect shoppers in Pollen St to travellers in Queen St through the CBD's only roundabout, but in 2020, Thames-Coromandel District Council closed the high-traffic thoroughfare to create 'The Vibe' - an open space with festoon lighting, tables, and garden planters.

In late February, two residents fed up with the street's closure took it upon themselves to start a petition, and at the community board meeting on April 6, they presented that petition with 641 signatures attached to it.

"The petition shows that the people of Thames believe the closure of Mary St to vehicles has greatly diminished the benefit of the roundabout," presenter Sheryl McConnell said.

"Traffic from the side of the township wishing to access the SH25 and Goldfields Mall and vice versa, is now having to detour around the most direct route.

"Does council have any evidence that the closure has benefitted the town beyond the re-



More than 600 people signed a petition against the Vibe in Mary St.

ward for looking pretty?"

The 600-plus signatures were collected over 21 days, with the petition being located at Carson's Bookshop, Snipz Hair Dressing Salon, Land for Books, and Four Square.

Greg Hampton, co-owner of Carson's Bookshop, told board members at the Wednesday meeting that 'The Vibe' was a well-intentioned initiative, but it was "misguided" and "deeply flawed".

"The shame is that it could have been a raging success if it were placed in a more suitable location, but again unfortunately, no other options were explored or presented to the community board for consideration."

He said The Vibe had made the town centre "disconnected and dysfunctional" from a

traffic-movement perspective, while its aesthetic had often been described as "tacky".

"The reality is that The Vibe sits empty on a daily basis... the container has been constantly offered for hire to the community with virtually no takers."

The closure was said to be a "temporary" project of up to two years, and was 90 per cent funded (\$320,125) by the Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency through its Innovating Streets pilot.

Thames-Coromandel District Council earlier told *The Profile* that at the end of March, council would prepare a formal evaluation with input from subject-matter experts including its roading team and police.



Logan Burnett and Maverick Wearing get up close to caterpillars.

I-spy birds and butterflies

Children at Central Kids Kindergarten in Ngatea have been busy learning about life cycles and transformations of plants, frogs, butterflies, chickens, and cicadas.

It has had them feeding mealworms to frogs, hearing chicks peeping from inside their shells, and watching a butterfly hatch.

Teacher Terri Bjerring said the learning experiences had all been "super interesting".

"Instilling curiosity and wonder, and a love of the land and nature, ensures our tamariki will gain appreciation and respect for papatūānuku - mother earth," she said.

"We aim to support a generation of 'eco warriors' - the modern day conservationists who are connected with each other and the world around them."

Mrs Bjerring said while not all the children loved small creatures



Nevaeh with a monarch butterfly.

Photos: SUPPLIED
crawling on them, they were learning to be brave and gain confidence.

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Sustainability key for Danielle

The 2022 Auckland-Hauraki Dairy Industry Awards Share Farmer of the Year winner is excited to see farmers moving forward with sustainability at the forefront of all aspects of farming, ensuring the New Zealand dairy industry will continue to produce top-quality milk for the world.

Danielle Hovmand was named the 2022 Auckland-Hauraki Share Farmer of the Year at the region's annual awards dinner held at the Thames Civic Centre recently.

The other major winners were the 2022 Auckland-Hauraki Dairy Manager of the Year Jimmy Cleaver, and the 2022 Auckland-Hauraki Dairy Trainee of the Year, Jamie McDowell.

Danielle, a second-time entrant, believed the awards programme pushed her outside her comfort zone and increased networking opportunities.

"By analysing my business and learning to capitalise on my strengths and overcome any weaknesses, I've gained a better understanding of my farming business, my farming system, where I want my business to be in the future and how I'm going to get there," she said.

Danielle didn't consider dairy farming as part of her career until a university placement during a summer break. "I was given the opportunity to try every aspect of farming.

"I enjoy challenging myself to make improvements to my farming system and that there is a clear pathway of progression within the industry."

Danielle, who won \$10,550 in prizes and six merit awards, is a contract milker for Sue Broomfield on her 106ha Patetonga farm, milking 270 cows.

The 25-year-old believes farmers are guardians for future generations. "I ensure I'm farming to high environmental



Danielle Hovmand has been named the 2022 Auckland/Hauraki Share Farmer of the Year. Photo: SUPPLIED

standards and going beyond good practice helps ensure the next generation of farmers can enjoy the land as I do."

"Since entering the awards programme, I've discovered there is a great sense of community within the dairy farming industry and everyone has gone above and beyond to help me better my farming practices."

Danielle holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science from Massey University and is currently studying towards a Diploma in Primary Industry Business Management through PrimaryITO.

"Every year I like to do something that helps me to grow my skill level and self-development," she said.

Danielle would like to see a change within the industry to mindsets around health and safety and work-life balance.

A committee member of the Ngarua Young Farmers club, Danielle also enjoys hockey and playing golf with her Nana.

"Work-life balance to me means enjoying what you do without being tied to it 365 days

"I'm looking forward to purchasing my own animals to develop into an efficient herd as well as looking after the land in the most sustainable way."

- Danielle Hovmand

of the year," Danielle said.

"Being able to remove yourself from the farm and trust the processes you have in place for someone else to step in and help you from time to time."

Danielle believes resilience is essential to get through the challenges of farming. "I need to ensure that the highs and lows of farming are balanced to ensure the sustainability of myself in the industry."

Completing her first season contract milking was a proud moment for Danielle, as was moving from managing a farm and working with other people on a daily basis to sole charge contract milking.

Danielle identifies the great working relationship with her farm owner Sue Broomfield as a strength of the business. "We both have a passion for the dairy industry and share similar values and views on how the farm should be run and standard it should be presented to."

"I've been very lucky to have a supportive farm owner who is will willing to share her knowledge but also allow me the space to make my own decisions and implement some of my own farming practices."

Future farming goals include securing a sharemilking role in the Waikato for next season. "I'm looking forward to purchasing my own animals to develop into an efficient and profitable herd as well as looking after the land in the most sustainable way."

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Call for comments on coastal plan

Waikato Regional Council is reviewing its regional coastal plan, and Thames-Coromandel's elective representative is hoping to see a strong response from the area.

The council is inviting public feedback through an online survey, and elected member Denis Tegg said the plan covered issues of "high public interest" to Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki residents.

"Our area is highly valued for its unique landscape and pristine beaches," he said.

"It's also an area visited by many New Zealanders for boating, fishing, swimming and diving, and utilised for a range of commercial activities.

"These recreational and commercial activities can impact our coastal environment.

"There are also hugely significant issues arising from the deterioration of fish, lobster, and shellfish stocks and from how we respond to sea-level rise and the increased risk from coastal flooding and erosion."

The coastline of the Waikato region's east coast includes the Hauraki Gulf, Tikapa Moana – Firth of Thames, and the waters off the Coromandel Peninsula.

Cr Tegg said the Regional Coastal Plan was an important policy tool that would help the council "strike a balance



Significant issues are arising from the deterioration of fish, lobster and shellfish stocks, Denis Tegg says. File Photo: UNSPLASH

between protecting the environment and using its resources by defining the way coastal and marine activities are managed and regulated".

"I hope there will be a strong response to the survey and that lots of people give us their comments so that the regional council can be sure that the proposed policy directions for the plan are on the right track."

Once the plan is finalised later this year, there will be an opportunity for formal public submissions.

DETAILS: The online survey is available by selecting the Coastal Plan Review at: yourvoicematters.waikatoregion.govt.nz

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OUR COROMANDEL

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council



13 April, 2022

Coastal communities discuss sea level rise

Over the last two weeks an initial group of our coastal communities has had discussions on proposed options to manage the hazards from climate change and sea level rise.

Our Shoreline Management Plans project team shared specific plans that have been developed over the last three years for selected areas of coastline most at risk of coastal inundation.

Online meetings were held for Moanataiari, Te Puru and Tararū last week, with other meetings held for several communities on our district’s eastern seaboard.

Recordings of all the meetings are available on our website at tcdc.govt.nz/smp

Coastal Panels – made up of community members, business representatives, Community Board members, and supported by our Council, Waikato Regional Council, Waka Kotahi NZTA, iwi representatives and others – have discussed and recommended coastal adaptation pathways for the 100-year period.

You can find these pathways on our website at tcdc.govt.nz/smp

In some communities, there are options to maintain or improve the existing defences. In others we have done a feasibility study on building new structures. Another



proposed strategy in some of our communities is to retreat from the area in the future.


The various pathways for different coastal communities are based on the predicted risks, as well as tolerance of the risk expressed to us by residents during previous public meetings and project feedback.

The online meetings of the last two weeks will be followed by in-person public meetings when COVID-19 conditions allow.

ANZAC PARADES AND SERVICES

- TAPU**
5.45am – Dawn Parade from Tapu Fire Station to Cenotaph, Tapu Hall, followed by service. Breakfast provided afterwards.
 - THAMES**
5.45am – Dawn Parade from the BNZ on Pollen Street to Mary Street footpath to Thames War Memorial Civic Centre for 6am service, followed by breakfast at the Thames Workingmen’s Club. Entry may be limited.
9.45am – Civic Parade from the BNZ on Pollen Street to Mary Street footpath to Thames War Memorial Civic Centre, followed by 10am service.
- For ANZAC Day events in other parts of the district check tcdc.govt.nz/whatson





Thames Community Board
UPDATE

A word from the Board Chair, Strat Peters

“Our Council has had quite a few consultations running in the past few weeks, some of them on local issues such as the Tairua Skatepark location and others on matters affecting the whole district, such as Kerbside organic waste collections and the proposed Annual Plan. Thank you to everyone who engaged in these consultations, they’re an important part of our local democracy. As we approach ANZAC Day, I think it’s important to remember those who put their lives on the line so that we may participate in our democratic processes. Local elections are later this year and we are encouraging candidates who want to represent the entire community to step forward to run for Mayor, our Council and our Community Boards. I can vouch that it’s a very challenging but rewarding experience.”

strat.peters@council.tcdc.govt.nz

Totara Valley Services Extension – Work to extend Council services up Totara Valley Road to enable residential development is underway. The stormwater culvert under SH25 and the relocated watermain are nearly finished. The site will then be disestablished until October when SH25 will be widened to incorporate a right-hand turn bay. Further stages will see Totara Valley Rd widened and drinking water, stormwater and wastewater services extended up the road, with completion scheduled for June 2024.

The Board’s next meeting is on 18 May in the Council Chambers at 515 Mackay Street, Thames. If you wish to speak to the public forum, contact governance.services@tcdc.govt.nz

Recordings of all our Council and Community Board meetings are posted on tcdc.govt.nz/meetings where you’ll also find agendas and minutes.

Easter and ANZAC Kerbside Collections

There will be no Kerbside rubbish and recycling collections on Easter Monday (18 April) and ANZAC Day (Monday 25 April). Collections will be one day later everywhere in the district following these public holidays. Check the Kerbside schedule for your area at tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

Our seven Refuse Transfer Stations (RTS) will all be closed on Good Friday (15 April) and are open from 1pm-5.30pm on ANZAC Day (Monday 25 April). Please note that RTS openings have been affected by staff shortages due to COVID-19. Check RTS hours and locations at tcdc.govt.nz/rts

Easter and ANZAC Library hours

Our District Libraries in Thames, Tairua and Whitianga will be closed Good Friday (15 April) and Easter Monday (18 April) but open as usual on Saturday 16 April from 9am-12pm.

Our libraries are open as usual Saturday 23 April from 9am-12pm and closed ANZAC Day (Monday 25 April).

tcdc.govt.nz/libraries

Thank you for your draft Annual Plan feedback

Our consultation period for our draft Annual Plan for the 2022/23 financial year closed on 11 April, and we received more than 100 thoughtful, well-considered submissions. Thank you to everyone who provided feedback on our proposals.

The Annual Plan updates the budgets and project priorities compared to what was forecast for the year on the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan (LTP).

For the consultation on the draft Annual Plan we proposed:

- Some changes to fees and charges, especially those for our boat ramps and wharves, to lessen the cost to ratepayers of maintaining these facilities
- Some changes to our proposed capital expenditure programme to take account of supply chain disruptions and cost rises due to COVID-19
- An updated proposal for the Matarangi open space land purchase.

As a result of these changes, the average District-wide rates increase for the 2022/23 financial year is proposed to be 8.3 per cent or \$272, compared with 7.7 per cent or \$253 forecast for the year in the LTP.

Next steps:

2-4 May	Hearings
24 May	Council deliberations on submissions
28 June	Council adopts final Annual Plan, fees and charges and sets rates

tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan2022

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SPORTS

Great shot

A seven-a-side under 13 preseason football tournament was held at Paeroa Domain on April 2, with the Paeroa Rangers facing off against teams from Ōmokoroa, Tauranga and Taupō. Reporter **GORDON PREECE** headed along to catch the action.



Paeroa carves through Ōmokoroa players.



Malachi Beisly lines up a tackle.



James Rawnsley is blocked by Taupō defence.

Photos: GORDON PREECE



Zylaa Tamihere-Te Kanawa runs on to the ball.



Paeroa players defend the Taupō attack.



Paeroa takes control of the ball.



A loose ball has players on the back foot.

Scott Simpson

MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime

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SPORTS



The winning HPC First XI. Photo: SUPPLIED

HPC wins 1A division cricket

The Hauraki Plains College First XI took out the Waikato Valley/Hamilton Secondary Schools cricket 1A division in an history-making win over Cambridge First XI recently.

When the Hauraki team left the field at Cambridge High School on April 2 after securing a resounding victory over the home team to clinch the championship title, it was a famous first. No Hauraki Plains College team had ever played in, let alone won, the Division 1A grade of the expanded cricketing set up for the region fifteen years ago.

After being asked to bat first, Hauraki's run quest began slowly against an accurate bowling line up. The sometimes cruel reality of cricket came into focus at the fall of the first wicket when the record setting batting hero from the previous week, Nihindu Wickramatunga, was clean bowled without a run to his name. But Cullen Crowe and Trent Ball steadied the ship and kept the runs coming with lovely strokeplay. Anthony Barker, who had top-scored against Cambridge previously, followed their good work and again dug deep in the team's hour of need. The on-field chatter by opposition players gradually lessened and finally disappeared, particularly after Jason Collins, also showing his true potential with the bat, supported Barker as the pair added 42 runs for the last wicket.

Wickets fell at regular intervals throughout the Cambridge innings. When Trent Ball held his fourth catch for the day, victory celebrations marked the dream becoming a reality for the Hauraki team.

MATCH DETAILS: Hauraki Plains College 172 all out in the 49th over, defeating Cambridge High School, 97. Anthony Barker 66, Cullen Crowe 32, Trent Ball 28, Nihindu Wickramatunga 4/16, Cullen Crowe 2/19, Logan Dondunski 1/12 Daniel Sproul 1/14.

- Mike Cotter

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Man dies after ‘binge drinking’ 90th birthday celebrated



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

John Quinn sold his coat for six shillings and a bottle and a half of rum. He had just finished breakfast but drank the half bottle before he left Hikutaia for his job on the new telegraph line. It was June, 1872, and 24-year-old John had been on a drinking spree for some days. He was last seen heading for work in the direction of the Hikutaia River, carrying the full bottle of rum. The main telegraph line – declared “the new wonder of technology” – was being constructed between Tauranga, Thames and Whangamata. Men worked in moveable camps following the line as it progressed, clearing trees from thickly wooded ranges and putting up posts. Māori assisted in erecting boundary posts, which had not always been the case – there had been land disputes between themselves and the government for several years. The camps consisted of tents, blankets, camp ovens, frying pans and food stores. As well




Post and Telegraph Office in Queen Street, Thames, circa 1900. Photo: SUPPLIED

there were saws, picks, wedges, mauls, Timber Dogs (clamps), axes, files and pulleys – all moved by horses and a waterman’s boat. The line was erected in a remarkably short space of time and inhabitants of Thames and Auckland could get answers to their messages in less than thirty hours from the time of sending. But the arduous work took a toll on men like John Quinn, who found relief in drink. John was discovered lying on the side of the road near a bunch of flax about a half mile from the Hikutaia creek. A bottle half full of rum was by his side. At the inquest, held at Thames’ Wharf Hotel, the jury viewed the body which had been brought down from Hikutaia in charge of Constable Madill. James Campbell, miner of Hikutaia, gave evidence that he had known John Quinn for about two weeks. He had last seen him about 11 o’clock on the day he left for work, when he took him across the creek. John was not at all sober. He had a bottle of rum with him.

Dr Alexander Fox said John had the appearance of a person who had died from a “species of apoplexy common in alcoholic poisoning” and the jury gave a verdict accordingly. Binge drinking was common among early settlers, many of whom were single men living in rudimentary dwellings in isolated areas. They found warmth, company and news in pubs, and often when they came to town they would go on an alcohol sodden “spree”, which could last for days. In the early colonial days they also drank spirits, not beer, which had to be imported and was cumbersome to transport. The miserable fate of John Quinn was compounded when, after the inquest, his body was left lying on the sand covered with a tarpaulin close to the Pacific Hotel. “We think some more suitable place might have been found for the reception of the body until it is buried,” admonished a local newspaper. The next day John Quinn was buried at Shortland cemetery.

The March 8 meeting of the Goldfields Women’s Institute commenced with the aspiration and prayer, and thoughts were given for Carol Cresswell who needs our support at this time. A very special 90th birthday was celebrated by Val Bowen, and at lunch a birthday cake with nine candles on them gave Val a real surprise, with everyone enjoying the lovely chocolate cake. A very warm welcome was given to Sheila Smith who was visiting us, and has been doing a lot of knitting during the past few months for which we are very grateful. The motto “How far that little candle throws his beams, so shines a good deed in a weary world” was read by Carole Bridle. The roll call – Funny joke or saying, had us in fits of laughter with some that were read out. The Good Deed was items for Women’s Refuge. Raffles were won by Jean Brady and Sheila Smith. Reports were given to members from the Founders Day celebrations and the Federation AGM. Goldfields WI was placed second in the scrapbook competition. The Heather Cryer Cup will now be a cup that will be presented at our own yearly competitions and the president will choose a member who has worked hard during the year for the good of Goldfields. After lunch, Jean Brady spoke about some of the things she has collected over the years, one in particular was a book on the history of trains in the Thames-Hauraki area. Bev Schenkel then showed us a selection of teddy bears that a friend of hers makes and then knits the clothes for them. COMPETITIONS: Bloom: Val Bowen 1, Helen Udy 2, Sue Fah 3. Cluster: Sue Fah 1, Val Bowen 2. Shrub: Sue Fah 1, Val Bowen 2. Orchid: Sue Fah

1, Val Bowen 2. Competition: (Prem Baby Booties): Carole Bridle 1, Sue Fah 2. KEREPEHI WOMEN’S INSTITUTE The Kerepehi Women’s Institute’s March meeting was held in Kerepehi Bowling Club. President Elaine Jolliffe welcomed six members. The thought for the month was read and supplied by Carolyn Giles: Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory. Carolyn also supplied the raffle, which was won by Marion van Eyk. We had one Birthday lady, Marion van Eyk, who is celebrating a special birthday next month. Marion will receive a pot plant and a present from the birthday bag. A report was given about council day, which we did well in, coming first in floral, two minute report and photography, second in handcraft tree decoration and Christmas stocking and third overall. We will be having a fundraising raffle for Mothers’ Day, raffle books will be available for sale at our April meeting. After lunch, we all played triominoes, a number game that made us think, which we all enjoyed. We were supposed to be having bowling lessons but it was rather rainy so it was changed. Our next meeting will be on April 12 at the Kerepehi Bowling Club at 10:30am, then we will be going to a Cafe for lunch. COMPETITIONS: Flower Bloom: 1st Marion van Eyk; 2nd Jan Edmonds; 3rd Carolyn Giles. Spike: 1st Marion Van Eyk; 2nd Jan Edmonds; 3rd Elaine Jolliffe. Shrub: 1st Jan Edmonds; 2nd equal Carolyn Giles and Elaine Jolliffe. Herbs: 1st Jan Edmonds; 2nd Marion van Eyk; 3rd Carolyn Giles. Vegetables: 1st Marion van Eyk, 2nd Kris Barnes, 3rd Jan Edmonds.



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

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

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MEDIUM

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HARD

45

45

5	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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HARD

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

MEDIUM

EASY	9	4	7	3	5	8	6	1	2
	5	5	3	6	2	1	7	4	8
	8	2	1	4	6	9	7	3	5
	2	6	3	8	4	5	1	9	7
	7	1	8	6	9	2	3	5	4
	4	5	9	1	7	3	8	2	6
	3	9	4	5	8	6	2	7	1
	6	8	5	7	2	1	9	4	3
	1	7	2	0	3	4	5	6	8

EASY

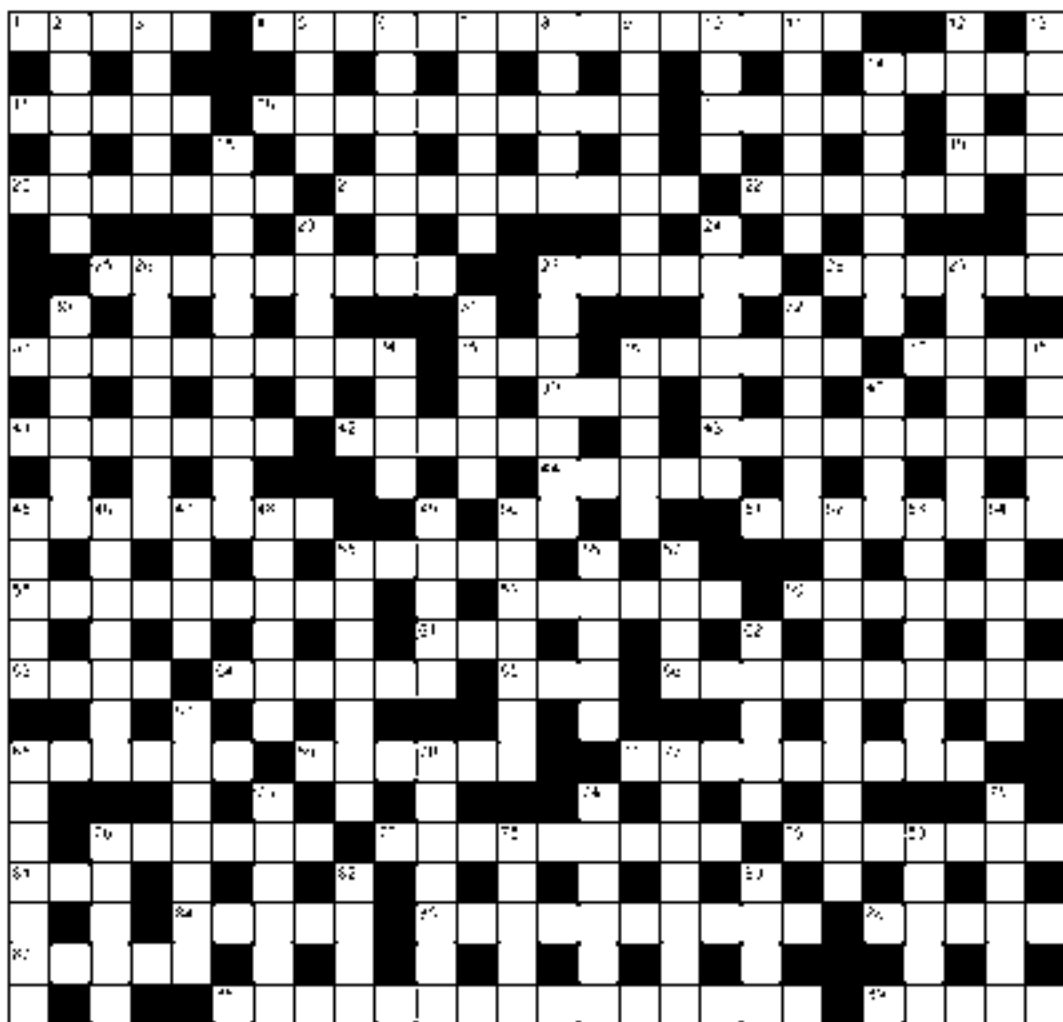
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JUMBO CROSSWORD

65

ACROSS

- 1 Tag (5)
4 Pour down (4,4,3,4)
14 Permission (5)
15 Alloy of iron and carbon (5)
16 Television or radio advertisement (10)
17 Cereal crop (5)
19 Fossil fuel (3)
20 Made-up story (7)
21 Not sure (9)
22 Lookout (6)
25 Wood worker (9)
27 Proverb (6)
28 Threefold (6)
33 Hospital for recuperation of the chronically ill (10)
35 Brim (3)
36 Waterway (6)
37 Young male horse (4)
39 Furrow (3)
41 Thrown spear (7)
42 Eastern temple (6)
43 Height (9)
44 Identified (5)
45 Execution postponement (8)
50 Proceed (2)
51 Tree with winged seeds (8)
55 Steam bath (5)
58 Telephone book (9)
59 Summer trousers (6)
60 Odd (7)
61 Auction sale item (3)
63 Building cover (4)
64 Sneaked a look (6)
65 Decay (3)
66 Rules of thumb (10)
- domestic fowl (5)
69 Inlaid design (6)
71 Oval (3-6)
76 Religious address (6)
77 Premises for members' activities (9)
79 Jemmy (7)
81 Chart (3)
84 Swear (5)
85 Acting obsequiously (10)
86 Restrict (5)
87 Grab (5)
88 What actors call Shakespeare's Macbeth (3,8,4)
89 Banquet (5)
- DOWN**
2 Reach (6)
3 Vote in (5)
5 Tiny particle (4)
6 Candidate (7)
7 Concurred (6)
8 Move around (5)
9 Render legally void (7)
10 Moist (4)
11 Unpowered aeroplane (6)
12 Piquant (5)
13 Communication, written or spoken (7)
14 Reading stand (7)
18 Meet halfway (10)
23 Blacksmith's block (5)
24 Without weapon (7)
26 Non-professional (7)
27 High female voice (7)
29 Condition in a contract (7)
- 31 Remote in manner (5)
32 Bread factory (6)
34 Honey drink (4)
36 Baffle (5)
38 Under stress, pressure (5)
40 Long heroic story (4)
45 Jockey (5)
46 Steal (7)
47 Unit of length (4)
48 Purplish-blue colour (6)
49 Erect (5)
50 Of the stomach (7)
52 Large branched candle holders (10)
53 Rocket-propelled weapon (7)
54 Brought up (6)
55 Disease indication (7)
56 Swap (5)
57 Male deer (4)
62 Wash soap out (5)
67 Whim (7)
68 Stain (7)
70 In a brisk tempo (mus) (7)
72 Schoolgirl's sleeveless tunic (7)
73 Quarter (6)
74 Pugilists (6)
75 Tooth decay (6)
76 Mar (5)
78 Bolster (5)
80 Correspond (5)
82 Tidings (4)
83 Early Peruvian (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 First, 4 Bury the hatchet, 11 Cobra, 14 Final, 15 Requirement, 16 Opulence, 19 Blister, 20 Agony, 21 Scrimshaw, 24 Dartboard, 26 Settle, 27 Jewels, 31 Fable, 32 Straddle, 34 Unbalanced, 37 Cot, 39 Careful, 40 Corset, 41 Reside, 42 Fife, 43 Wastrel, 46 Slanderous, 51 Possess, 55 Reap, 56 Voyeur, 57 Fitful, 58 Trainee, 60 Eel, 62 Tabernacle, 63 Arranged, 64 Slate, 67 Perish, 68 Rotate, 69 Idealists, 74 Remainder, 75 Focus, 76 General, 81 Foretell, 82 Hide-and-seek, 83 Ditty, 84 Lanes, 85 Work like a charm, 86 Yeast.

DOWN: 2 Icicle, 3 Spats, 5 Used, 6 Younger, 7 Hiring, 8 Home, 9 Tenacity, 10 Typist, 11 Collateral, 12 Bank, 13 Ageless, 17 Petty, 18 Violinists, 22 Worth, 23 Describe, 25 Ailment, 26 Spectre, 28 Panama, 29 Edison, 30 Hard up, 33 Atoll, 35 Dress, 36 Mute, 38 Trio, 43 Worst, 44 Scabbard, 45 Look at, 46 Spellbound, 47 Acre, 48 Deflate, 49 Return, 50 U-turn, 52 Oars, 53 Skillet, 54 Siesta, 59 Prospectus, 61 Delay, 65 Material, 66 Liver, 67 Painful, 70 Deutsch, 71 Tallow, 72 Cornea, 73 Cactus, 77 Exile, 78 Wren, 79 Peak, 80 Fear.

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HAURAKI BOWLING CLUB

Every year on the first weekend in March, Hauraki Bowls Club hosts a two-day tournament, our signature event for the season. This year, 14 teams competed for the much vaunted Peter Barker Memorial Shield. Two teams pulled out at the last minute due to Covid, but that did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of those taking part. Games were competitive, but played in good spirit and the green, food, weather and hospitality was, as usual, top notch. Our two Hauraki teams qualified for section one, but unfortunately didn't get past the quarter finals. After close contests in the semis, the finalists were found: Waihi Beach (skip Darryn Hawkins) and one of the teams from Kerepēhi (skip Peter Glass). Both teams had only lost one game each over the course of the qualifying rounds and had played very well and consistently, which set things up for an exciting climax to the tournament. However, it was Waihi Beach who prevailed in the end and had the opportunity to hold up the shield which was presented by our very own Ethne Barker. RESULTS: Section 1 Winners Darryl Hawkins, Jenny Loveridge, Garry Hewett, Penny Meanie (Waihi Beach) Runners-up Peter Glass, Lorraine Putt, Andy McCowatt, Mike Hitchcock (Kerepēhi). Section 2 winners Alan Peers, Steve Death, Grant Sharpe, John McCullough (Composite). Special thanks to our sponsors: Ngatea Milking Machines, Ecolab, Vocus, RE Thompson Builders and club members.



WAIHI BOWLING CLUB
David Hedley versus Moreen Hedley were the finals game in the graded singles held at the Waihi Bowling Club on March 26. The closely fought game was played without handicap points as both were graded the same, and both players showed off their draw bowls skills and at times up-shots to the delight of the audience. However, David was the winner on the day and a well-deserved finish to their association with the club as they prepare to join their family in Australia to live later this month. They will be greatly missed, Moreen as a special needs teacher in Paeroa, and David with his technical knowledge contributions to the bowling club. May they live to fight another day, on the bowling green that is. Bon voyage.

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in Ngatea are looking for a Cafe Assistant to join our growing team. Variable hours. Involves one weekend day. No experience required. Full training given. Contact Lorraine 021 246 9376

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Saturday 16th April . 8am - 10am. Grass area adjacent to 318 Kuranui Road Thames . Bric a brac ,household utensils etc .

Gardening

P.S. Gardens. Pruning, tidying, mowing. Ph 029 770 1339

Grazing

Available on the Hauraki Plains for yearling dairy heifers. 40-50 head. Long term. Ex dairy farm. Ph 027 354 3432

Situations Vacant


Choral Music Director

St. George's Community Choir (NZCF) has a vacancy for a music director/conductor with the ability to motivate and inspire our singers. We are a well established choir performing mainly choral music in Thames on the sunny Coromandel Peninsula.
For more information contact Karen Ruddock 027 373 9952 karen.m.ruddock@gmail.com

Situations Vacant


Part time Caregivers and cook/cleaner required. Ph 027 237 4413

Production Welder Vacancy



A&G Price is looking to fill a full-time role as a production welder at our Thames site. This role would best suit an entry level welder looking to build on their welding skills. The role is casting repair using SMAW & GTAW welding methods.
If this sounds like you, please apply through our SEEK add at <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/56490466>
Or email your cv to our Production Manager at: jacob.tyrell-baxter@agprice.co.nz
Alternatively, call in to our reception and fill out an application of employment form

Foundry Production worker



A&G Price have a vacancy in their foundry department and require a hardworking, reliable worker who is physically fit and not afraid of hard work. No previous experience required as all training will be given.
If this sounds like you, please email your cv to our Production Manager at: jacob.tyrell-baxter@agprice.co.nz or call in to our reception and fill out an application of employment form

For Sale

Firewood, Pine, \$100 per cube. Ph Steph 027 385 2806 or Mark 027 655 8661

Wanted

Motorcycles, 4 wheelers & side x sides. Going or not. Phone 027 216 6867. A1 Motorcycles

Handyman


Mowing, hedges, fencing, gardening, carpentry, painting, retaining walls, welding, waterblasting. Work is good quality and I will not attempt to work outside of my skills. Insured. Dennis Schuler 022 129 0169

Wanted To Rent

Single professional requires bedsit, downstairs flat or the like. Non smoker, no pets, quiet living. Thames/Ngatea area. Ph 021 234 1221

Situations Vacant


Minutes Secretary Paeroa College




We are currently seeking a part-time (approximately 5 hours/month) Minutes Secretary. This role supports the functioning of the Board of Trustees by attending monthly evening meetings and recording minutes. Applicants must be reliable, organised and adhere strictly to confidentiality requirements. The successful candidate will be proficient in word processing and computer skills.
Applications for this position close on 12 May or when a suitable applicant is found.
Please mark "Confidential" and send or email to yolandel@paeroacollege.school.nz
Attention: Principal's PA
Paeroa College
Te Aroha Rd, Paeroa 3673

OFFICE MANAGER

The Thames Budget Service is looking for a positive, outgoing and self-motivated office manager. Sole charge role – Monday to Thursday – 20 hours/week. You will be responsible for the smooth running of the office, promoting the Service, coordinating the activities of clients and financial mentors, managing the day to day finances of the Service and reporting to the Governance Committee. The role requires good computer literacy as we use a sophisticated client management database, social media and Xero. We offer a competitive hourly rate.
For more information about this role please contact: Denise Lyon Chairperson on 0277156192 or send your CV with a covering letter to chairperson.tbs@gmail.com




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Riders to mount up for fundraising trek

By GORDON PREECE

Paeroa boy Keaton Bonser-Hooton has loved riding horses since he was two.

The seven-year-old Goldfield's School pupil has been attending Riding For the Disabled (RDA) sessions for around five years, and mum Laura said the positive effects of riding horses has had on her son's life had been "absolutely huge."

"Keaton has down syndrome and we wanted him to get the therapy benefits of riding for disabled," she said.

"Keaton does a lot of core strength work, a lot of co-ordination, which is helping him with his growth and his fine motor skills.

"He learns to communicate because he's got to talk to the sidewalkers and listen to them... and it helps him with animal awareness as well, they get to pat the horses and help out."

Laura said Keaton had also gained strength in his stomach muscles, which had improved his balance.

"Everything about it has just changed him being able to be active, he can do something he loves doing - because he's not the most co-ordinated as far as running and ball throwing goes," she said.

Te Aroha RDA provides therapy riding for those with physi-



Keaton rides his favourite horse, Sooty, with help from RDA volunteer Marilyn Inch.

Photo: SUPPLIED

cal, mental and emotional disabilities from throughout Hauraki, Coromandel and eastern Waikato. It has around 65 riders each school term, with sessions taking place at its centre

at Waihou Recreation Reserve four days a week.

RDA treasurer Georgina Lloyd said the charitable organisation was currently fundraising to cover costs and build

new facilities.

This Easter weekend, several Komata farms just north of Paeroa will play host to the organisation's annual fundraising trek, which will be held on

a marked trail over easy hill country between 10am and 2pm on April 16.

"A lot of [that money] goes towards operating expenses, this year we're probably going to try and target fund it," she said. "We're looking to build an outdoor arena for the RDA."

The RDA decided to hold the fundraising trek again after last year's success, which Georgina said raised around \$1500.

"It's one of our main fundraiser events for the RDA, we held it last year and it was relatively popular, with a lot of positive feedback so we thought we'd host it again," she said.

"We have very generous land owners that have allowed us to use the farms for the ride. It's a 15km loop with a bit of varying terrain, and basically just good fun.

"The main thing is to try and get as many people as we can to the fun ride."

DETAILS: The fundraising ride costs \$30 per rider and will take place on April 16 over a marked loop track between 10am and 2pm. There will be spot prizes, a sausage sizzle and refreshments, which can be purchased on site. Camping is available, with guided treks offered on Easter Sunday and Monday. All funds raised will go directly to Te Aroha Group NZ-RDA.

REGISTER OR DONATE: email georgina.eliz@gmail.com.

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