Memorial butterfly garden a place for reflection, P3

The Valley



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069 May 11, 2022

M RAIDS RAMP

Two Thames stores are the latest to fall victim to ram raid-style attacks. Bollards could be the "effective deterrent" businesses need, but they require council consent. KELLEY TANTAU reports

Bollards could be the only thing standing between ram raiders and businesses ollards could be the only but standing in the way of bollards is council consent.

Following ram raids at a Thames electronics store and supermarket over the past few months, Thames' Stirling Sports and Spark were also hit by assailants behind the wheel.

The crimes occurred on the same night last week, May 5, and a Spark spokesperson told *The Profile* its front glass door was significantly damaged in the raid

aged in the raid.
"We have a high standard of security across all of our stores to protect our people and inventory, and are con-sidering further measures to

increase security," they said.
Bollards, typically made from steel, are used at store-fronts to reduce harm and

damage from vehicles by acting as physical protectors.

In Thames, Noel Leeming installed its own brightorange bollard after its entrance was destroyed by rance was destroyed by a holiday season smash-in.

But the bollard was put up without consent, which was needed, Thames-Coroman-del District Council said.

The store was preparing plans for something more

permanent, and the temporary bollards were allowed to stay in the meantime.

At Four Square Martina, the second of the two Four Square stores in Thames to be ram raided, owner Jaswinder Singh was talking to a company about the new roller door he will have to install after the fourth attack on his business since December.

"This has happened many times now, and this is the worst - the cost is very high to us and we're losing a lot of customers," he said.

The ram raiders smashed into the store around 1.20am on Anzac Day, destroying the front counter, which contained the shop's Lotto till. However, the offenders fled the scene with no loot.

"It's not anything we can control," Jaswinder said. But this is not easy.

He also said the store would be happy to put in bol-lards for an added security lards for an added security measure, if granted approval by council, but Thames-Co-romandel District Council's communications and eco-nomic development group manager Laurna White said bollards should be "consid-ered a last line of defence." "Ultimately, crime is a

CONTINUED ON P2



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Bollards 'effective' against ram raiders

policing and social matter and our council would like to support the work of police, social service agencies, business associations, and other community groups to lower crime rates in all our communities," she said. While council would consider

applications to install bollards in front of a given business, it would expect the applicant to demonstrate whether other security methods - such as secure cabinets for high-value goods, reinforced or shuttered shop fronts, and dye sprays - could first be installed in the premises, she said.

Bollards are visually intrusive, obstruct the footpath, and can create insurance and liability issues for shopkeepers who would be responsible for their maintenance and repair," she

But Coromandel MP Scott Simpson said council should: "tell that to the business owners who have stolen cars ramradied through their front window, doing tens of thousands of dollars worth of damage".

That's intrusive and visually upsetting as well," he said.

Mr Simpson said the current spate of ram raids, which had been happening all across the Coromandel electorate and throughout the country, was a sign of "general malaise" and the "soft on crime attitude" of the current government.

'That doesn't mean this is the first time we've had issues like



Stirling Sports Thames gets its front door repaired the day after a ram raid.

Photo: NIKKI SANDERS

"Several vears ago we had a spate of ram raids as well, and I can remember the Stirling Sports was attacked then.

The businesses decided to install roller doors and screens, but I noticed that in the raid of the Stirling Sports store [last week], they didn't seem to have any effect at all; they're still the victim of a ram raid," he said.

'So, bollards are They may not be what council considers visually attractive, but they are a deterrent to these young thugs who steal cars and drive them through the shop windows of hard working, lo-cal businesspeople, and I think

Good Fishing

Fair Fishing

council does have an obligation to work as seamlessly as they can with businesspeople from whom they collect a lot of rates and who are vitally important to

the fabric of our community."
Waikato Police earlier told
The Profile it had set up a dedicated team to investigate this type of ram raid offending and were taking a "district-wide" approach. Waikato Eastern Area commander inspector Dean Anderson said young offend-ers were highly motivated and

moved around the district. "Our response to youth offending is in accordance with New Zealand legislative frameworks such as the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989, which dictates how we will proceed and progress with children and youth through the youth justice process.

"That being said, rest assured where we find repetitive offend-ing – the offenders will be held to account.

He encouraged businesses to continue reporting incidents of crime in order to identify, arrest, and prosecute adult offenders, and refer youths through the Youth Justice process in the



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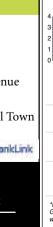


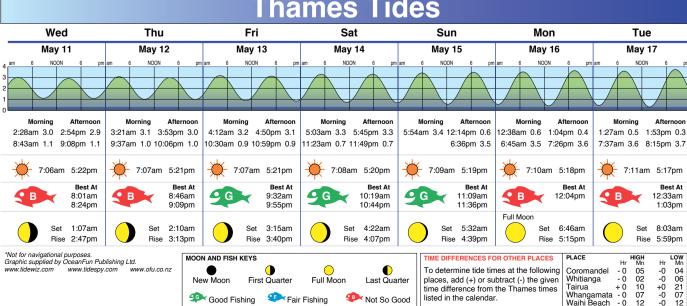
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Not So Good

Memories and monarchs at new garden

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

 $B_{\text{daughter Jessie}}^{\text{efore Penryn}} \ \, \text{Ballinger's} \\ \text{died from}$ cancer at age 20, the pair decided monarch butterflies could be their way to connect in the

Now, with the creation of a memorial garden tucked in the tranquil bush of Waihī, Jessie's spirit, and those of others' loved ones, can surround guests each time they wander through.

The Butterfly Garden, along the Mill Stream walkway, was established last year by the Waihī Herb Society where Pen-

ryn is president.

"We had a whole lot of swan plant seeds, and I'd been walking around Waihī looking for a suitable place to put in a butterfly garden," told *The Profile*.

"One of the reasons it personally meant something to me was because my daughter died when she was 20, and the monarch butterfly was very special between the two of us. I thought it would be a nice memorial to her, and it's proved to be that way.

Jessie was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma while she was still at university. Before she passed, the mother and daughter talked about how Jessie could get hold of Penryn through monarch butterflies, a



Waihī Herb Society president Penryn Ballinger plants at the butterfly garden with her grandchildren Bianca, 8, and Bjorn Ballinger, 10.

Photos: KELLEY

at home for 15 years. Since establishing the garden, Penryn has been approached by other people saying the butterfly was special to a loved one who "The response, I've found to be more than expected. I thought, eventually, it would get wellknown but people have just embraced it," she said. "It's a garden for reflection... as soon as you go

into it, you feel the tranquility and the peacefulness of it."

The garden is around six months old, and was established with the help of Habitat Enhancement and Landcare

cleared the bush of privet, black-berries, and wattles, and instead planted natives.

The Herb Society then spent a solid three months planting 1200 swan plants and 600 cosmos flowers, and creating paths leading to the picnic table donated by the nearby tennis club.

"When the garden was looking really nice and all the flowers were in bloom, it was amazing, and you could count well over 100 butterflies fluttering around

at any one time," Penryn said.

There are two butterfly hatchings a year: one in late-spring and the other in early-autumn, Penryn explained. But butter-flies have to have food, and there isn't quite enough of a mid-win-ter supply of the flowering plants they need, she said.

The caterpillars are also stripping the asclepias (milkweeds) at a fast pace, so Penryn has taken it upon herself to slow the dining down.

"I've rehomed hundreds of caterpillars to my house to stop them from stripping the plants," she said. "I'd be going down with my basket and coming home, and the whole back seat of my car would almost be crawling

Going into winter, the but-terfly population will decrease, Penryn said, but she and other volunteers will continue to establish the garden in anticipation for spring.



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uke of Edinburgh award received

By GORDON PREECE

Ayear 11 Paeroa College stu-dent has become the first to receive a Duke of Edinburgh Award for the college in many

Travis Cox has received the bronze youth achievement award after completing the award's four sections - volun-tary service, physical recrea-tion, adventurous journey and skills. The sections had to be completed and signed off with-in three months and one within

six months.

Travis told *The Profile* he was "pretty pumped" after receiving

"I told everyone about it and some didn't really understand so I had to kind of explain it to

them," he said.
Travis said his mum, Penny Cox, who is also the college's head of extracurricular activities, encouraged him to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh

award.
"Mum just told me about it...
she said you can, if it wasn't
[for] Covid, could go and meet
the Duke of Edinburgh, and so I thought it would be a cool idea.

Travis said he did motocross on a track near his home for his physical recreation, his Year 10 Camp in the Kauaeranga Vallev counted as his adventurous journey, drumming for his skills and taking care of the college garden for his voluntary

In addition, Travis also helped with the college's stu-dent breakfast every second



Travis Cox said he was "pretty pumped" after receiving the award.

Travis said taking drum lessons over Zoom last year due to Covid-19 was one of the challenges on his quest to achieving bronze.
"The teacher would say it

sounded great, and the next minute I'd be playing the exact same way and then she'd be like it doesn't sound the same and I'd be like yeah nah it definitely does," he said.

Penny Cox said the college was "super proud" of Travis and wished him all the best to achieve his silver award this year. "We're using Travis as our star, and now we're hoping

more will follow," she said.
"Wouldn't it be great if in three years' time, we got Travis up there with his gold and 20 kids up there with Silver and 50 kids up there with bronze, that's what we want to be doing.

what we want to be doing."

Penny said the college will work to get more students taking part in the award.

"Our first barrier is that it's \$80 just to enrol for a bronze and then [the price] goes up from there, so it's not a cheap thing," she said.

"But we're looking at trying to

"But we're looking at trying to overcome that because we don't want anything to stop a child from being a part of something Photo: GORDON PREECE

Penny said she'll be making the award available for Year 10 students to take part in this

year.
"Many kids are already committed to sport so that's their physical already, if they're al-ready involved in a community activity they've got their [voluntary] service, if they go into Year 10 camp then we can use that as

their expedition.

"So they've got three out of the four [sections] already so it's quite encouraging to show the students they can do this and get an award for it that they can be proud of."

Search on for TCDC chief

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

Thirty people want to have the top job at Thames-Coromandel District Council, but it's up to a recruitment panel consisting of elected members to deem who best fits the bill.

The council's former chief executive Rob Williams left the role earlier this year, after being in the position since 2016.
Council appointed its Governance and Strategy group manager Rex Capil as interim CE.
A council spokesperson told
The Profile it has engaged

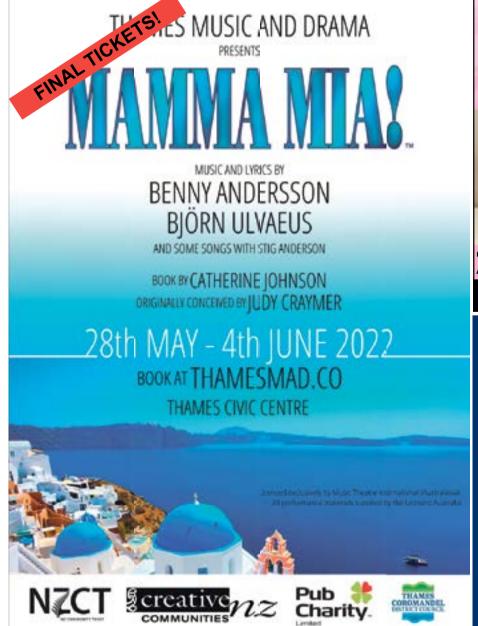
JacksonStone & Partners, a Wellington-based independent recruitment company, to assist with the hiring of the new chief

executive.
Council received about 30 applications for the role, which could come with a six-figure

According to council's 2020-21 annual report, the total remuneration for the chief executive was \$387,076, up from \$360,795 the year before.
The first cut of the shortlist

was now being prepared, before a recruitment panel that included elected members would carry out "a couple of rounds of interviews" to further narrow down the shortlist, council said. "We expect to identify a pre-

ferred candidate around mid-May and once due diligence checks are completed, the full council will make the final decision on the appointment around the end of May."







eymour says Kōpū could be streamlin

he long-awaited creation of The long-awaited creaming a new business and marine precinct in Kopū is the "perfect example" of an unstreamlined consenting process that needs to change, Act Leader David Seymour said.

The Thames Business Association invited the political leader to speak at Gastronomics on May 2, where Seymour asked attendees if they would prefer New Zealand be likened to an "idyllic island paradise" where cancer treatments were scarce, or a more "Singaporean" country that fostered growth.

To become the latter, multiple changes such as reforming the Resource Management Act was needed.

"At the moment, one of the biggest challenges we have is it takes longer to get permission to build things than actually build them, and the [Kopū] wharf is the classic example," he said.
"In the process of trying to get

consent for an all-tide wharf in this town that could allow the mussel trade to be done much more efficiently than driving up over long, winding roads, in the time we're waiting for the council and government to allow it to happen, the price has doubled.

It's gone from \$8m to \$15m.' Seymour said if the country had a "Singaporean vision", it would streamline the consent-



Act leader David Seymour presented at Gastronomics in Thames last week.

Rock Bottom Price!

ing process and "let the bloody thing get built".

"Instead, we decided to spend as long as it has taken to get permission, [and] the price has doubled and it may never happen, and that just saps the energy and the initiative out of people to the point they don't bother, or if they don't withdraw into themselves, they withdraw completely from the country.

Back in 2018, a feasibility study for Kōpū was completed and an application to the central government's Provincial Growth Fund for a business case to progress the project was approved.

Natural Layers of Latex!

Two years later, \$8.2m was approved by the government for the development of the marine and business precinct, but earlier this year, roughly 125 metres of mangroves halted the project as it awaited consent by an independent panel, on behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Consent was granted in March.

"We've got to get our RMA and resource management laws streamlined so that the presumption is towards development," Seymour said. "That is one of the major areas of reform rather than New Zealand just being a nice place to visit.'

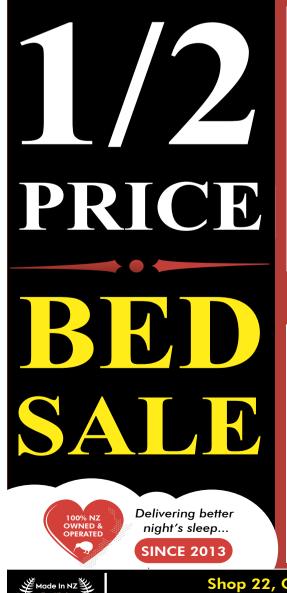
Seymour also told attendees of Act's policy to reward prisoners who complete literacy programmes and driver licensing tests with reduced sentences.

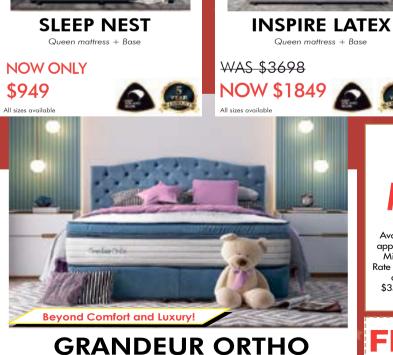
This would ensure those leaving prison would be able to have a form of identification and apply for jobs.

'All of this stuff we talk about under the banner of thriving communities is designed to stop the ram raids and the gangs taking over the place and the general social decay that people are reporting and getting angry and anxious about every day," he

"None of it is complicated."







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Thames Workingmen's Club has plans to attract younger members, and be a place for a working family to feel relaxed and comfortable.

Tradies welcome at Workingmen's

Thames Workingmen's Club has been a place to meet and socialise after a hard day's work since World War I.

The club, located on the corner of Pollen and Cochrane St, offers food and drink at members' prices, raffles, eightball pool, karaoke nights and fishing and golf tournaments during the summer, and now wants to encourage younger members, families and tradespeople to come along.

Special events have also been held, including a night with an Elvis Presley impersonator staged prior to Covid-19.

Manager Kelvin Ricketts said feedback from customers was all "very positive".

We get good comments on Facebook and we're hitting five stars on Google reviews," he said.

'We endeavour to get a five star review everytime, If it's a five I thank them, [and ask] what did you enjoy most? If it's less than five stars I say what have we done

wrong? How can we get the five?

With an ageing membership, Kelvin said the club had plans to attract younger members, which would see the club maintain its presence in the community and be a place for a working family to feel relaxed and comfortable.

"The Workingmen's Club has been a part of a lot of people's lives for a long long time," he said.

"Although a mature environment, cur-

rent members are welcoming, and would love to see new members come in and keep the place alive and vibrant.

Kelvin said the Workingmen's Club will introduce a Tradies Night with special raffles and kids under 10 years dining free with a special menu.

"We'll also bring in a Thursday 500 club, simply, if a club member is happy to pay a one-off joining fee of \$10 they get a personalised 500ml handle rather than the standard one," he said.

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Isobel celebrates 100 years in style

In the middle of a storm on April 29, 1922, a young hus-band rode his horse through cold, wet, and at times dan-gerous conditions to fetch the midwife.

That night, Isobel Marjorie Hellyer entered the world safely in a farm cottage in North-

Now 100 years later, family and friends of Isobel celebrated her life and the reaching of the centenarian milestone at Tararu Resthome in Thames.

Growing up in the country, Isobel had fond memories of travelling to school in Kauka-pakapa in a Model T Ford that was converted into a school

The students would travel by train, unsupervised, to neighbouring Helensville Primary School to participate in manual classes such as sewing and

She was very competitive in many sporting codes during her high school years including tennis, hopscotch, and rounders, before heading off to study at Auckland Teachers Training

College.
Isobel married Gordon Col-

gan in 1946, and they had two girls, Lyn and Jean.

The couple owned a 360-acre farm at Wainui, running short-horned cows which they milked. They also repend flook of milked. They also ran a flock of

romney ewes.
Isobel joined the Women's Division of Federated Farmers (WDFF), now Rural Women, becoming secretary and then rising to president and being



an active member until her Her husband, Gordon, had an avid interest in dog trialling, and Isobel was only too happy Isobel qualified to judge cookto participate. She became the secretary for the Helensville Dog Trial Club, a position she held for 14 years.

After Gordon passed away in ing and needle work at A&P shows in Warkworth, Kumeu and the Auckland Easter Show. Her volunteerism in this area

2003, the farm was sold and



Isobel was visited by Coromandel MP Scott Simpson on her 100th birthday.



Isobel Hellyer celebrated her 100th birthday by riding in a Ford Fairlane with classic car member Bruce Smith.

Isobel moved to the Hibiscus Coast where she happily lived out her well-deserved retire-

In 2017, at the age of 95, she relocated to the Tararu Resthome in Thames to be closer to her family. The Bupa facility has become her home and on April 29, residents and staff sang her happy birthday and Isobel was visited by Coromandel MP Scott Simpson to

acknowledge her 100th year. She even managed a ride in a Ford Fairlane thanks to a generous classic car member, Bruce Smith.

In Brief

IRISH MUSIC INCOMING Sean Kelly and The Super 8's is coming to Waihī and Thames. The shows will feature live Irish music played to the back-drop of cine movies taken in and around Derry and Donegal in Ireland from the 50s through to the 80s. Sean will be at the Lotus Realm in Thames, on Saturdav. Mav 14.

and at The Theatre in Waihi on

VISITOR SPEND DOWN

Saturday, June 4.

The latest data from Market View for visitor spending in the Thames-Coromandel district for the months of February and March shows that February took a 16.4 per cent dip compared to the same time last year. While the retail and trade sector was up 2.5 per cent compared to the previous February, spend on food and beverage, accommodation, and arts and recreation was down. In March, visitor spend was \$19.86 million, which was 5.9 per cent down on the same time last year.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Thames Museum urgently needs more museum hosts and volunteers, and welcomes interest from members of the public. Anyone with an interest in local history who enjoys meeting and welcoming people from near and far is welcome to enquire. Full training is provided. For further information, please contact Carolyn 027 868 6072 to learn more.

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The Helloworld Thames team is excited to see people booking flights to reconnect with family overseas or to travel the globe.

Helloworld team 'thrilled' to make it

he team at helloworld Thames are "thrilled" to have made it through the two "long" years of struggle for the indus-

try.
Owner Linda Abraham told The Profile it was exciting to come out the other side of the Covid-19 lockdowns and see people booking flights to reconnect with family overseas or to travel the globe.

"There are now a whole new range of forms, declarations, and visas that are new for the world of travel," she said.

'Some countries require all the details of vaccinations, some don't. Some require the traveller to be fully insured, some don't.

"The value of the travel agent is now more important than ever to navigate all of these.

With the number of airlines heading into and out of New Zealand now less than half of what they were pre-Covid, the number of seats available were

much more limited, Linda said, so early booking was essential.

"We are trying to work by appointment now, due to the length of time involved in navigating all the requirements and are also available after hours by appointment as well as doing phone appointments for people who have difficulty getting into the office or are further afield on the peninsula.'

Because the ladies naturally love to travel themselves, they have all booked holidays and are ready to fly with Pauline and Linda are off to Europe later this year; Jo is heading to New York, Jen is planning for Alaska, plus we all are look-ing at a sneaky little long weekend to the Pacific as well."

DETAILS: helloworld Travel Thames, 642 Pollen St. Current office hours: Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 3pm, work by appointment and after hours by arrange-

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www.valleyprofile.co.nz May 11, 2022, THE VALLEY PROFILE 09

New rules apply for duck shooting season

don't forget to seek permission before accessing private land. They're the messages from Federated Farmers around the

start of the 2022 duck-shooting season last Saturday, May 7.

"Enjoy yourselves for sure. But stay responsible and keep everyone safe," Federated Farmers vice-president and health and safety spokesperson Karen Williams said.

"Vehicles, firearms, and wa ter remain the key risks to duck hunters and mixed with a surge of adrenaline can be deadly.

Many farmers and other land-

ers on their properties but that access is a privilege, she said.
"You should seek their prior

permission and follow any instructions.

For sheep farmers, sheep measles is a big concern. Visiting hunters must dose dogs for worms at least 48 hours before going on to farmland.

Remember too, the Arms Act had changed, she said. Although some landowners are exempt from needing a duck shooting licence, for those who are not, getting caught without a licence or using lead shot will now most



Federated Farmers warns the Arms

likely mean a loss of your firearms licence.

There are also new rules for

There is a general exemption from the transportation requirements for farmers working, actively hunting or undertaking pest control on their own farm, but you are required to meet the new requirements if shooting elsewhere for the weekend and so are the recreational hunters travelling out to shoot at your place.

When transported on the road firearms needed to be inoperable, out of sight and away from any ammunition, she said. If you can't easily dismantle the

firearm and store a vital piece somewhere else, a trigger lock (which could include your bike lock) or putting it in a locked gun box will meet the requirements. Ammo should be locked in the glovebox if possible, but for big bulky boxes of shotgun ammunition out of sight and away from the firearm will meet the requirements.

"It's fun to celebrate the day but leave the beers or whis-key until after the firearms are locked away," Karen said. "Have safe fun with your friends and family so we can all continue to enjoy this great rural tradition.





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The measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) immunisation helps protect you against three serious diseases. Lots of people aged 17 to 32 didn't get fully immunised when they were children, this puts you at risk of catching and spreading measles. Get your **FREE** MMR vaccines now.

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If you have had COVID-19, it's recommended that most people wait 3 months after testing positive before getting any COVID-19 vaccination.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Two weddings and a show

After a long audition process that started in November last year, Laura Peacock was se-lected to play Sophie, one of the lead characters in Thames Music And Drama's production of Mamma Mia!

However you won't find that name anywhere in the show programme. Instead, listed beside the character's name you'll find "Laura Hulley". That's be-cause the recreational actress just married the love of her life, Hayden Hulley, on April 8.

It was an interesting experience for Ngatea resident, Laura, to be playing a bride-to-be in this famous musical, while preparing for her own nuptials.

She even tried on her actual wedding dress the same day that the wardrobe team kitted her out with one for her on-stage

wedding.

"It was strange having two fiancés at the same time," Mrs
Hulley said.

"But it has been amazing meeting so many incredible people in the MAD [Music And Drama] family. I haven't been on stage in over 15 years, so it's been a long time coming. When I saw Mamma Mia auditions advertised I knew I had to at least give

it a go - given that *Mamma Mia* is one of my favorite musicals."

In this popular, ABBA inspired musical, young Sophie suffers an anxiety attack when three men from her mother's past turn up for her wedding. But which one is her father?



Laura on her wedding day.

Laura didn't have any such concerns leading up to her wedding day. Like any bride, there was always going to be a little stress getting every detail organ-ised in time - after all it's a pretty special day and you want it to go perfectly. But Laura was no Bridezilla, calmly dealing with the myriad of last minute tasks, while juggling three rehearsals a week with the Mamma Mia cast.

However, the cast and crew had to laugh when Laura shared a social media post with them from her wedding reception. It

Photo: SUPPLIED/NJA PHOTOGRAPHY

read "I got married knowing who my Dad is, and also didn't let my mum steal my wedding!"

While the newly-weds enjoy a short honeymoon, the new Mrs Hulley is under strict instruction to keep working on her songs and rehearse Sophies' dialogue in between their long romantic walks.

You can see Laura Hulley as a bride on stage during Thames Music and Drama's season of Mamma Mia!, opening May 28 at the Thames Civic Centre.
- Diane Connors, Thames MAD

Aroha Quartet to perform

The Aroha Quartet will entertain at St George's Church on May 15 as Thames Music Group's first live concert for 2022.
Organisers said Thames Music

Group was delighted to welcome the acclaimed Aroha String Quar-tet with Rachel Vernon on clari-

Founded in 2004, this versatile Wellington-based quartet of Rob-ert Ibell, Haihong Liu, Anne Lo-eser and Zhongxian Jin is known for its "passionate musicality, impressive technique, and multicultural innovation".

"In this programme we feature the clear, pure sound of the clari-

"Rachel Vernon, NZSO Principal Bass Clarinet, joins us for two of the best-loved works in the chamber music repertoire: the gorgeous clarinet quintets by Mozart and Brahms.

"The middle work in this programme is a beautiful arrangement for clarinet and string quartet of Astor Piazzolla's Oblivion.

The Aroha Quartet performs regularly around New Zealand in centres from the deep south to the far north.

In 2014, they performed five concerts as part of Chamber Music New Zealand's Kaleidoscope series. Overseas trips have seen them participate in the prestig-ious International Summer Academy in Austria in 2010, give concerts and master-classes in China in 2010 and 2013, and perform at the Huntington Music Festival in Australia in 2011.

Thames Music Group is in its 44th year, presenting up to 18 live concerts each year, for the pleasure of audiences in the region, with the exception of the past two years because of disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. DETAILS: Sunday, May 15 at 2pm at St Georges Church, Mackay S, Thames. Tickets at the door: Adults \$20; TMG members \$15; Students \$5; Under 12s free Please note: face masks and social distance will be required.



The performers, from left: Robert Ibell, Haihong Liu, Anne Loeser,
Pachel Vernon and Thongxian Jin. Photo: SUPPLIED Rachel Vernon and Zhongxian Jin.





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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.

1895

At the Thames Police Court Henry White was charged with shooting at Piako a teal duck, on a day when it could not lawfully be taken.

White pleaded guilty say ing that he was inspecting the ponds and preparing for the season. He took his gun and shot a pukeko because he understood from the Ranger that this wasn't against the law.

In the course of his rambles a teal flew up in front of him and on the spur of the moment he shot it. White was a miner but for a long time had earned nothing. He said if he had broken the law he had already been punished for it, as he was being put to a great deal of expense in rowing from Piako and back to attend court.

The Waihi to Paeroa mail coach, coming down a steep hill known as Earle's near Owharoa, had its brake fail and rounded a sharp bend at a very fast pace. The coach capsized and all passengers were thrown out. It was carried to



Duck shooting on the Piako.

the bottom of the hill and over the bridge by the horses. The coach was destroyed and all passengers injured. The hill where the accident occurred was very steep, with many sharp bends, and the coach was

quite unmanageable without a

The first concert and soiree ever held at Omahu took place in the shape of a farewell to Reverend and Mrs Olphert. As the school building was much too small for the occasion the gathering was held in a newly built barn at Mr Rodgers.

Settlers worked all day erect-

ing seats, tables, and decorating the building.

A long table was loaded with eatables of all kinds; decorated with flowers and lit from above with a double row of wax candles. People came from all parts - boatloads from Turua and Netherton, bushmen from across the river, and riding and driving parties from Paeroa,

Hikutaia, and Puriri.
The Suburban Poultry Fanciers Club of Auckland chartered a special steamer to proceed to

Paeroa

Thames and help form a local Poultry Club. Alas the steamer arrived at such a late hour the tide did not permit them to land.

The incident so amused a reporter he couldn't resist noting that although every care was taken to make the sitting a suc-cess, the cause of the addling of the meeting was the non-arrival of a number of true yolk fel-lows from Auckland who were bringing the benefit of their

eggsperience.
While frustrated passengers waited on the steamer, those on shore mostly roosted about the meeting room, pecking at the predicament of the steamer which threatened to prevent the hatching of the Thames Poultry Club.

Someone suggested that she had run against a Plymouth Rock, while others left for home with feathers somewhat ruffled. Another meeting was planned where they could indulge in fowl language to their hearts content, and discuss discuss plans for the club which had been incubating for some time.

By GORDON PREECE

A Pink Ribbon Breakfast High Tea will be held in Paeroa on May 11 to support Breast Cancer Foundation NZ.

The event will be held at the former Paeroa racecourse lounge from 11am to 2pm with a \$10 entry fee going towards the Breast Cancer Foundation. Organiser Lyn McHugh said

people can register to attend or

turn up on the day.

"I know everyone that's gonna come along is going to have a really good time and it's a very worthy cause," she said.

Lyn said the event had 90

people booked in as of May 5, an increase from 70 total book-

ings last year. Breast Cancer Foundation chief executive Ah-Leen Rayner said breast cancer was already the leading cause of death for New Zealand women under 65, with Māori and Pacific women most at risk.

"Covid has not only sent New Zealand's world-class breast screening programme spiralling backwards, it's also harmed our ability to serve the women impacted by this up-heaval," she said.

"The money raised from every Pink Ribbon Breakfast, no matter how small or simple, will help to support these women.

The funds will also go towards our work to restore and transform breast screening in New Zealand in our mission to reach zero deaths from breast cancer.

DETAILS: Donations can be made at the event or online to the Breast Cancer Foundation: breastcancerfoundation.ora.nz. For more info: Ph 027 681 8610.



Paeroa's pink ribbon event is going ahead this year at the former Paeroa racecourse.

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Construction underway for new cricket nets

Tew "state of the art" crick-et nets at Rhodes Park will soon enable Thames' junior and senior cricketers to develop their cricket skills.

Thames Cricket Club president Scott Mackenzie said the project had been three years in the making, with 19 local sponsors contributing.

"Thames Cricket Club is a new identity and we had to become an incorporated society in order to be able to receive funding and organise the lease that was required with council to have the facility on council land," he said.

When we first started the project, it was around \$32,000 [to build] and through all the price rising and inflation over the last 18 months, it's rocketed up to \$40,000, \$45,000 or \$50,000, so that's been a challenge.

'But with the generosity of the local businesses and the funding grants that we've got, [it] has certainly enabled this project to go ahead.

Scott said the new nets would have three areas for

batting and bowling practice. "You could get three different families or teams using them at once and it's also great for all the visiting teams



Thames Cricket Club iuniors will soon have "state of the art" cricket nets at Rhodes Park in Thames.

Photos: GORDON PREECE

to be able to come and use them to warm up for their batting and bowling innings," he

Steel posts and concrete foundations for the new nets have so far been installed after the old nets were dismantled in April.

Scott said the new net turf was to be laid after winter and the nets would be ready in time for the 2022-2023 cricket season, which begins

October. "The Thames Cricket committee itself has been instrumental in making it happen, and to go through a tonne of work to make it happen. With all the challenges, it could've been easier just to

walk away from it," he said.

"But the committee stuck to it and bought it to life after three years of planning.

An official opening of the new nets will take place in spring.



Maree Simpson





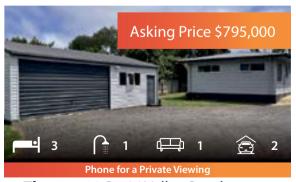
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SPORTS REPORTS



Thames Valley women's winners.

BOWLS

Thames Valley Men's 1-5 Open Fours played at Kerepēhi on 30/31 April 2022. Five teams have qualified for post section play. Quarter final: Stephen Hughes, Alan Cotter, Brian Stent, Lloyd Mercott, Whangamatā, defeated Wayne Heron, Shaun Harrison, Daniel Harrison, Adrian McGaughey (composite), score 16/15. Semi finals: Steve Morriss, Brian Thompson, Joep Smede, John Fox, Tairua, were defeated by Tony Lucas, Steve Whitley, Alan Smith, Ivor Clements, Whangamatā, 19/6, Dale Tegg, Chris Smith, Andrew McCowatt, Graham Osborne, composite, were defeated by Stephen Hughes 15/8. Final winner: (S) Stephen Hughes, Alan Cotter, Brian Stent, Lloyd Mercott, Whangamatā, R/up (S) Tony Lucas, Steve Whitley, Alan Smith, Ivor Clements, Whangamatā, score 22/8. Thames Valley Women's 1-5

Photo: SLIPPI

Open Fours played at Kerepēhi on 30-31 April: two teams have qualified for post section play. This being the final winners: (S) Pat Ridings, Anne Cleveland, Marlene Rule, Ros Mason, Hauraki, R/up (S) Kathryn McGaughey, Ann Murray, Chrissy Kelly, Penny Meanie, Waihī Beach, score 19/11.

RUGBY

H G Leach Club results for May 7. Thames Valley Senior A, Tom Jordan Cup: Thames Rugby & Sports Club 53 - 10 Paeroa Rugby & Sports. Whangamata Rugby & Sports 33 - 34 COBRAs. Coromandel Rugby & Sports. 12 - 41 Mercury Bay. Waihou Rugby & Sports Club 36 - 15 Waihi Athletic.

Senior B Elders Cup: Thames Rugby & Sports Club 07 - 21 Mercury Bay. Waihou Rugby & Sports Club 14 - 22 Ngatea Rugby & Sports Club. COBRAS 19 - 19 Waihi Athletic. More info: thamesvalleyswampfoxes.co.nz.

Orange, prune and walnut loaf

RECIPE

Hi everyone — isn't this autumnal weather beautiful at the moment? To celebrate the cooler days and nights I am sharing my lovely spicy, and very moist loaf. As with all of my recipes you can switch up the ingredients such as omit the prunes, and add dates, apricots or even stewed apple instead.

Likewise with the walnuts — you could use sliced almonds or pumpkin seeds. If you love ginger as I do, you could also chop up ¼ cup of crystallized ginger and add that to the dry ingredients.

I must say though if you follow this very easy recipe you will be rewarded with a beautifully moist, tasty loaf for slicing up and enjoying with a nice cup of tea!

A quick word for the next recipe - if you have an abundance of feijoas right now, scoop out the flesh and save (freeze) two cups of the pulp, as it will come in very handy.

- Jaki, Savour & Spice

INGREDIENTS

2 oranges2 eggs (lightly mixed)

2 eggs (lightly mixed)
1 cup chopped pitted prunes
½ cup chopped walnuts

2 tablespoons honey 1/4 cup coconut sugar

34 cup olive oil (or any neutral oil)

2 teaspoons vanilla extract ½ cup plain flour

1 tablespoons baking powder

1 ½ teaspoons each ground cinnamon and ginger



Savour

Jaki's orange, prune and walnut loaf.

Photo: SUPPLIED

1 cup wholemeal flour 1 cup bran flakes

METHOD

Heat oven to 180 degrees celsius, place the rack in the middle of the oven, and grease a loaf tin.

Grate the rind from the oranges, cut away the pith beneath and chop up the flesh. Place it all in a big bowl with the eggs, prunes, walnuts, honey, coconut sugar, oil, and vanilla mixing it lightly with a wooden spoon until all combined.

Sift the plain flour and baking powder with the spices, and stir gently into the wet ingredients along with the wholemeal flour and bran flakes.

Transfer the mixture to the prepared loaf tin and bake for approximately 30 minutes first before checking with a skewer to see if it comes out clean. Mine

needed a further 10 minutes after that, as all ovens are slightly different in temperature.

Cool it in the tin for 15 minutes before turning it out onto a rack or board to cool completely, as it's a lovely delicate texture.

Notes: Adding the juice that comes from the cut oranges is great – adds to the lovely moist texture of this loaf. We enjoyed ours with a dollop of natural yoghurt.







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The Paeroa Netball Centre has a new committee, with fresh ideas and lots of enthusiasm to promote and develop netball in Paeroa. A special thank you to the departing committee members Josey McKain, Meirene Gillett, Olivia Robinson, Kereana Parata and Steve McKain, for their many years of service to the club. Their dedication and passion to support netball in Paeroa has been outstanding.

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less champs crowned

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

fter five failed attempts that Arange back to 2020, the first ever tournament to find Thames Valley's chess champions finally took place.

Held on April 9 at the Thames War Memorial Civic Centre, the tournament saw 49 chess players take part in what event organiser Ron Lanning said was 'a very close battle" in all three categories - senior, junior, and youth.

"A highlight for me was to see so many children, supported by their parents, loving playing chess over the board for a change, rather than on their devices over the internet.

'Despite it being such a long day, the children and adults were still playing chess between rounds of the event as well," he said.

Back in August, 2021, the had attracted tournament around 80 players, but it was cancelled just five days before it was set to go ahead after New Zealand went into lockdown after the Delta strain of Covid-19 was found in the community.

Mr Lanning said he was thankful for all the players who took part, as well as the parents for making the commitment on the day, and arbiter Bruce Pollard. There was "great representation" from various parts of the Thames Valley, he said, including Thames, Paeroa, Waihī, Te Aroha, Coromandel, Hauraki Plains, Whangamatā, and Ngatea.

'We all look forward to another successful event in 2023.

RESULTS: Senior Chess Champion: Wade Wright (Thames Chess Club) who, along with Xxavier Willoughby-Ansell (Counties Chess Club), scored five points out of six. Second equal on 4.5 points was Rangarajan Ganeshan and Ricki Wellington (Te Aroha Chess Club), and Ravinesh Singh (Counties Chess Club). Junior Chess Champion: Emma Thorburn (Thames Chess Club), who scored five points out of six. Second on 4.5 points was Brandon Taylor (Counties Chess Club). Youth Chess Champion: Travis Nagel (Waihī), who scored four points out of six. Prize money winners: Vince Yap Tan and Isaac Fraser (Counties Chess Club); Toby Xiong and Isaak Huwald (Thames Chess Club); and TeWhetu Murray (Thames South School).



Heather Cryer Cup presented

The April meeting of the Goldfields Women's Institute commenced with the Aspirations and Prayer. Thoughts were given to us all as we keep safe and away from having Covid. The Motto – "Everyone and everything around you is your teacher" was read by Jeannine Oliver and the Good Deed was a donation of \$50 to the Waikato Westpac Helicopter. The roll call was a short poem or rhyme which was a good social time with lots of laughter. We were also fortunate to have some funny articles that our associate member, Jill Bridgman, had sent into the Women's Weekly teacup column many years ago. Raffles were won by Maureen Claasen, Helen Udy and Sue Fah. Last month it was decided to present the Heather Cryer Cup to a member that the president chose as a worthy recipient. President Helen Udy presented the cup to
Jean Brady, who richly deserves this
award for this year. A discussion was
held regarding our 53rd birthday in June. The table again was full of baby knitting and rugs as well as sewn items such as our emergency toilet bags. The remits for the 101st national AGM/conference which is being held on the 30th/31st May in Lower Hutt were discussed. Delegate, Helen Udy, were given lots of feedback to take to the meeting. COMPETITIONS: BLOOM: 1 Carol Cresswell, 2 Val Bowen, 3= Sue Fah, Helen Udy. CLUSTER: 1 Helen Udy, 2 Val Bowen, 3 Sue Fah. SHRUB: 1 Val Bowen, 2 Helen Udy, 3= Sue Fah, Carol Cresswell. ORCHID: 1 Sue Fah.

KEREPEHI WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our 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. We had one birthday lady, Marion Van eyk, who



Shirley Wilson, of Thames, and recently of Waiomu celebrated her 90th Birthday in the friendship club rooms on April 12 with lots of her friends. They had lots of singing and also played a pass the parcel game. The guests also enjoyed a beautiful carrot birthday cake one of Shirley's favourite cakes.

is celebrating a special birthday next month. Marion will receive a pot plant and a present from the birthday bag as the lady was away on holiday who does them. Marion won the raffle, which made up for it. A report was given on council day which we did well in We got day, which we did well in. We got first in Floral, two-minute report and photography; 2nd in handcraft tree decoration; 2nd Christmas stocking, 3rd overall. We will be having a fundraising raffle for Mothers Day. Raffle books available at April meeting to sell. After lunch we all played triominoes, a number 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.

COMPETITIONS: Flower Bloom: 1 Marion van Eyk; 2 Jan Edmonds; 3 Carolyn Giles. Spike: 1 Marion van Evk: 2 Jan Edmonds: 3 Elaine Jolliffe Shrub: 1 Jan Edmonds; 2 equal: Carolyn Giles, Elaine Jolliffe. Herbs: 1 Jan Edmonds; 2 Marion van Eyk; 3 Carolyn Giles. Vegetables: 1 Marion van Eyk; Kris Barnes 2 Jan Edmonds



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JUMBO CROSSWORD	MBO CROS	SSWORD
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ACROSS

- 1 Designs on skin (7) Know-all (6,4)
- 9 Energy sugar (7)
- **13** Duo (4)
- **14** Hitting tool (6) **15** Of cattle (6)
- Bird of prey (7)
- Symposium (10)
- 20 Those watching (8)
- Daily record (5)
- Precious metal (6)
- Claim (6)
- 27 Crisis (9)
- 32 Flying (8) 33 Suspend (6)
- 34 Universal remedy (7)
- **38** Put in iail (8)
- **39** Limp (6)
- **40** Haul (4)
- 41 Pester relentlessly
- (5) **42** Glossy fabric (5) **45** Vacillate between enthusiasm and apathy
- (4,3,3,4) **52** Of the kidneys (5)
- **55** Freewheel (5)
- Obnoxious child (4)
- 57 Surpassed (6)58 Outline of a play's
- plot (8)
- **61** Hypersensitivity (7)
- **62** Useless (6) **63** Collarbone (8)
- **66** Napkin (9)
- Detective (6)
- 69 Unoccupied (6)
- Chairman's hammer

- 74 Unsolicited advertising matter in letterbox (4.4) **76** In advance (10)
- 81 Custodian of a
- collection (7) 82 Ladv naked
- horse rider (6) 83 Blackboard sticks (6)
- 84 Ditch around castle
- 85 Make happy (7)86 Watchful for danger,
- attack (2,3,5) 87 File of documents

DOWN

- Subject (5)
- Three-sided figure (8) Mutual (6)
- 4 Jester (5)
- 5 Gain by effort (4) Hug (7)
- Split (6)
- 8 Paddled boat (5)
- **10** Show the way (4)
- **11** Of the heart (7)
- **12** Alcoholic drink (6) **17** Iteration (10)
- 18 Frighten (5)
 22 Gigantic beast (8)
- **23** Hold-up (5)
- 24 Strong liquor (7) 26 Fat (4)
- Tuneful (7) 28 Soak up (6)
- 30 Not observed (6)
- 31 Strain injury (6) 33 First appearance (5)

- 35 Superior to (5) 36 Expectorate (4) Trip over (4)
- Son of Zeus (6)
- Point in question (5)
- **46** Fat (4) **47** Diver's costume (7)
- Get the better of (6)
- Sufficient (5)
- 50 Thoroughly wet (8)51 Duplicity (6)52 Riot or trouble
- instigator (10)
- 53 Standard (4)54 Sentry (7)59 Fleshy-leaved
- tropical plant (5) **60** Compass point (4) **64** A planet (5)
- 65 Tubular pasta (8)
- Gemstone (7)
- 68 Dried grape (7) Handbook (6) 70
- Social outcast (6)
- Bifurcated (6)
- **75** Familiar (5)
- Precise (5) 77
- 78 Discourage (5)
- Sleep lightly (4) **80** Throb painfully (4)

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Back to the wall, 8 Object, 14 Spare, 15 Grandeur, 16 Letters, 17 Inert, 18 Sot, 19 Advance, 21 Tightened, 22 Crèche, 25 Wet blanket, 27 Answered, 28 Behead, 31 Forces, 33 Lullaby, 34 Midday, 35 Deft, 37 Doe, 39 Cowl, 40 Anguish, 41 Neighbour, 42 Yielded, 43 Fragment, 48 Restless, 52 Bonanza, 56 Destitute, 57 Freesia, 58 Coat, 59 Pew, 60 Deny, 61 Halves, 62 Arraign, 63 Minute, 65 Pilfer, 66 Friendly, 68 Amendments, 71 Septic, 72 Slag heaps, 74 Acclaim, 76 Fun, 79 India, 80 Chianti, 81 Overtake, 83 Safer, 84 Sensed, 85 Sitting pretty. **DOWN:** 2 Abridge, 3 Kenya, 4 Owe, 5 Hurt, 6 Walkie-talkie, 7 Latch, 8 Obscene, 9 Join, 10 Cherry, 11 Passé, 12 Leotard, 13 Never say die, 14 Sticker, 20 Classmate, 23 Skylight, 24 Dead end, 26 Backlog, 27 Apathy, 29 Eyesore, 30 Famine, 32 Odour, 34 Mends, 36 Turns, 38 Shut, 43 Faded, 44 Arsenal, 45 Mail, 46 Nougat, 47 Snips, 48 Resented, 49 Spasmodic, 50 Licence, 51 Shaft, 52 Beavers, 53 Now and again, 54 Affray, 55 Decimal point, 64 Despair, 65 Profuse, 67 Enlaced, 69 Thicket, 70 Riddle, 71 Sniff, 73 Ennui, 75 Lithe, 77 Bats, 78 Torn, 82 ESP.

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Ryan, Gina: Passed away 9th April 2022

Acknowledgements

We wish to thank our friends and family, and the local community of Ngatea.

It is a sad time, but we are so grateful to have had so much support. From phone calls, messages, visits, cards, flowers, dinners and baking, all given with love.

And it has been so nice to hear so many stories of their memories of our beautiful Nona! We are blessed to know

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- Minutes of previous AGM Matters Arising
- President's Report
- Manager's Report
- Presentation of Statement of Accounts
- Subscriptions
- Confirmation of Returning Officers
- Election of Board of Appea
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Veteran coach whistles in young referees

BY GORDON PREFCE

Aveteran referee and referee coach wants to encourage more young people in Thames Valley to take on the role.

Thames Valley Rugby Union (TVRU) referee coach Mike Dilnott told The Profile the union currently had a referee shortage, which was having an impact on match rulings.

"At the moment we have enough referees but not enough for all Year 9 and 10 games," he said.

"If we had more referees, every A and B game would have touchline judges but we don't... so we have to rely on the home team to supply someone to run the flag.

"The difference is someone from the club can only indicate where the ball went out or a conversion or a penalty, but they can't rule on foul play, whereas active referees can do that. So you're almost saying you're only getting vision from one side of the field when you're down to one assistant referee."

Mike said from what he'd been told, Covid-19 was a possible cause of Thames Valley's referee shortage.

Mike said his referee career could inspire the next generation of young referees.

It began in Whanganui after one of his major customers who was also the city's top referee



Mike Dilnott wants more young men and women to be referees.

had been told Mike was rugby mad.

"He said I think you should take up refereeing [because] you're too old to be playing and I was 37 years of age at that stage," he said

"They made me welcome and made my wife welcome as well, which was good... and so I had two seasons [refereeing] there in 1980 and 1981."

Mike then moved to Wellington and held many referee and referee coaching roles, was a liaison officer for visiting international and national teams and had stints in Japan and United Arab Emirates coaching referees.

The 80-year-old's game plan

Photo: GORDON PREECE

now, after moving to Paeroa to be closer to family in 2019, was to recruit more young referees in Thames Valley.

"I asked TVRU what they were doing to recruit or promote recruitment of young referees and they said we haven't done a lot," he said

"At that stage they didn't have

anyone who'd gone through referee coaching courses; they were just relying on the older hands to pass on their experience.

"I've had a lot of enjoyment out of rugby so I believe I should give something back, and I want to encourage young people to recruit and join refereeing."

Mike said he was currently coaching four referees and uses a style called GROW, which stands for goals, reality, options and work.

"Start refereeing at a young enough age and if you're prepared to move on and put in the effort, there's options... like Bay of Plenty or Waikato or Auckland, to get the higher level of fixtures," he said.

"You have to have a very good knowledge of the law, you have to have a thick skin because you get a lot of verbal and sometimes it can get out of hand, but you could turn it around if you have a sense of humour."

Mike said he would also encourage young women to become referees.

"If we can also get more girls involved the better at the moment because there's college girls playing now and the union wants to develop girls rugby.

"So let's have girls working with girls if we can, we'll guide them but let them take the lead." DETAILS: Contact Mike Dilnott if you're interested in becoming a referee - Ph 027 440 5625.







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