#### Voyager Media Awards Finalist - COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

District council does bollard back-flip, P3

# The Valley

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

072 June 01, 2022

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

The theft of a Playstation unwittingly set the The theft of a Piaystation university.

Levien brothers towards a path of skateboarding and street art.

As children, the Paeroa boys' game console got stolen, and they instead became distracted by skateboarding at the local bowl and the art on the bottom of the board decks.

'We got inspired by art through skateboarding, and us trying to mimic and copy the cartoons on the decks," Janik Levien, 24, told *The Profile*. "We haven't gone to art school; we're self-

taught, and don't really follow the rules.

In 2018, Janik's older brother Reuben, 27, was commissioned by Hauraki District Council to paint Paeroa's new skatepark at Railway Reserve. The work featured characters from The Simpsons to Reuben's own designs, as well as the eye-catching quote: Let the Good Times Roll.

The skatepark has recently been graffitied, but it was the piece that put Reuben "on the map"

Now, the brothers will showcase their unique art style at a gallery in Ponsonby, Auckland.

Dubbed 'Psychedelic Sways and Street Punk

Ways', the exhibition also features the talents of Titirangi artist Ellie Skeet.

It will run for four weeks at Te Ahu Art Collective, and will showcase hints of street art, punk, and psychedelic 60s style.

Born and raised in Paeroa, the brothers both attended Miller Ave Primary School and Paeroa College, where art was predominately their favoured subject.

"We left all our PE classes and did art and graphics classes," Janik said.

When they were old enough to go to music and arts festivals, they were inspired to combine their music tastes with creativity, community, art, and design.

In 2018, they started hosting their own events

**CONTINUED ON P2** 







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#### CONTACT US

The Valley Profile is a community newspaper that delivers 100% local news in the Thames Valley region. We deliver 16,000 copies each Wednesday to every letterbox, reaching approximately 35,000 readers in Hauraki Plains, Paeroa, Waihī, Thames, Thames Coast and surrounding rural areas plus bulk distribution around the Coromandel Peninsula.

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Find me in one of the display advertisements in *The Valley* display

Profile, then email admin@ valleyprofile.co.nz or text 027 396 2459 with your full name and postal address, and the business name and page number of the ad by the following Monday to go in the draw to win a Lotto ticket. Last week it was in the Richmond

## Paeroa brothers in big-city exhibition

across rural Waikato, and in 2021, their brand 'The Busy Movement' was formed.

The Busy Movement specialises in space curation and ʻvibe architecture", with Janik acting as its creative director, and Reuben as the artist. The boys' dad, Steve Levien, who inspired Janik and Reuben with his wood carvings, copper sculptures, and steampunk artwork, is also on-hand to

The Ponsonby exhibition, opening on June 7, will be the brothers' first.

"We're nervous because we haven't put [the pieces] against a white wall before, Janik said. "Some of the pieces are from stage productions... and in the gallery, we'll be presenting a new art style that we've been working on, combining graffiti, street art, and cyberbunk.'

Reuben's artistic flair can be found around Paeroa, with a mural outside Amberjack Candle Company on Willoughby St, and inside Old Mates Pizza on Belmont Rd.

The brothers are emphatic that more street art could add a vibrancy to their Hauraki hometown. They hope to hold a mural festival which will see some of Paeroa's blank walls transformed into creative spaces



Reuben, left, and Janik Levien also designed the mural inside Old Mates Pizza, along Paeroa's main drag. The brothers will be showcasing their street art at a gallery in Ponsonby this month.

"Murals don't cost much, but are a way to bring life to a space, and a vibe," Janik said.

The brothers, who still skate at the Paeroa skatepark, hoped to see locals at the exhibition opening next week.

They encouraged the town's

other creative youth to not be afraid to share their talents with others, and to take every opportunity.

"If you've got a vision or an idea, anything is possible.' DETAILS: 'Psychedelic Sways and Street Punk Ways' opening on

June 7 at Te Ahu Art Collective, Mackelvie Street. The exhibition will run for four weeks. For information on The Busy Movement, find the brand on Facebook.





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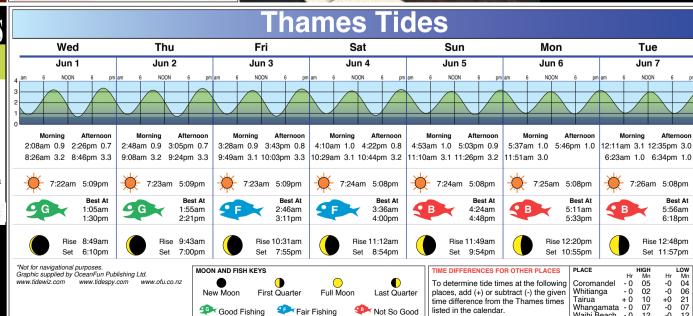




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## District council's bollard back-flip

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

Adistrict council has clarified its stance on bollards outside vulnerable stores: resource consent is not needed, but installation will be dealt with on a "case-by-case basis".

The about-face follows Thames-Coromandel District Council previously telling *The Profile* consent was needed for shops at risk of ram-raids to install bollards outside their premises. However, during a meeting with police representatives, Mayor Sandra Goudie said that was not the case.

"We don't require resource consent for bollards... that was something someone told us they thought was the case, but it's not," she said.

Following regular raids at Thames retail stores, service stations and superettes in recent months, Noel Leeming has elected to install their own orange bollards on the sidewalk, which council said was a temporary measure until something more permanent was put in place.

Mayor Goudie said secu-

Mayor Goudie said security measures such as bollards could detract from Thames' heritage aesthetic, but they could have their own "heritage look".

"I think it's a bit of a balancing act really, and quite frankly, I'm not adverse to having the bollards put in place for the shop owner's protection, [but]



A temporary bollard has been placed outside Noel Leeming in Thames.

that would have to be done in conjunction with council."

According to council, in the first instance, business owners were expected to speak with the police, their landlords or the property owner and their individual insurance companies to determine the level of risk to their business and what protective measures could be taken within the property. These measures could include removable reinforced barriers at the entrance or internal grills to prevent access.

"If there are no practical measures that can be taken within the property, our council would be happy to discuss options for the provision of bollards or other measures in front of the property to restrict vehicle access," it said.

However, bollards would not be considered if they reduced the footpath width below 1.20m or obstruct access to any adjacent premises.

The topic of bollards was brought up in a May 16 meeting between Mayor Goudie, Police Superintendent Bruce Bird, and Detective Senior Sergeant Andrew Saunders regarding the recent ram-raids across the district. Superintendent Bird said since February, Waikato Police had dealt with 150-plus offenders, and had laid "750-

odd" charges

"In the Waikato, there are no communities exempt from the offending; the offenders are principally youth," he said.

"We take these offences very, very seriously and we'll bend over backwards to try to apprehend the offenders and hold them to account."

Superintendent Bird said there were three police cars within the eastern Waikato patrolling throughout the night. Eight years ago, there was zero.

"There was a lot of feedback from the community, and in Thames in particular, about getting the Thames station back to 24/7. "We do have that capability

"We do have that capability to support that, but there is also a realisation that the resource has to move across the area depending on what the priorities are that are coming up at any one particular time," he said.

DETAILS: Bollards or other measures can be requested by emailing TCDC's roading team. Council reserves the right to specify the type of bollard to be installed to match existing streetscape designs. If the request is successful, unless agreed separately, council will undertake the work and recharge all costs to the applicant. For info visit: tcdc.govt.nz/bollards



## Valley Profile named finalist

The Valley Profile has been named finalist in two categories of the New Zealand Voyager Media Awards.

The Profile is one of seven finalists for Community Newspaper of the Year, including the Ashburton Guardian, Gulf News (Waiheke), Kāpiti News, Oamaru Mail, The Beacon and The Star (Dunedin).

Profile owner/editor Teresa Ramsey was also named finalist for Editorial Leader of the Year, along with Lucy Blakiston of Sh\*t You Should Care About; Hamish Fletcher, NZ Herald; Stephanie Holmes, NZ Herald; Veronica Schmidt, RNZ and Jane Skinner Sunday/TVNZ.

There were 1380 entries for this year's awards, with 277 finalists selected by 90 national and international judges for 60 awards

Teresa said being named finalist in New Zealand's premier journalism awards was a huge achievement for the Valley Profile's small team.

"Over the past two years, we've worked very hard to make sure our Hauraki-Thames Valley communities are represented with the very best in journalism," she said

she said.
"Our talented team has kept our readers informed during the Covid-19 pandemic and shared important stories to inform and connect our communities."

connect our communities."
The Voyager Media Awards have celebrated excellence in New Zealand journalism since 1973. This year's winners will be announced on August 20.

PH 07 868 6128







205 SEALEY ST, THAMES



### Final Annual Plan decisions made

Our Council has endorsed raising the capital expenditure from \$42.5 million to \$54 million in the Annual Plan for the 2022/23 financial year.

Nearly \$9 million of this is for infrastructure work, mostly water, stormwater and wastewater projects, that couldn't be carried out in the current year because of COVID-19 and supply chain disruptions. Inflation has also raised the cost of our capital works.

A proposal to charge launching and boat trailer parking fees at nine of our 26 boat ramps will go ahead but a change to charges for commercial use of our wharves has been put on hold pending further consultation with wharf users.

Our Finance team will now work through the impact on rates of the decisions made at last week's Council meeting. The final Annual Plan will be ready for adoption at the 28 June Council meeting.

A recording of the meeting is available at **tcdc.govt.nz/meetings** where you'll also find the full Annual Plan deliberations report.

The Annual Plan sets the project priorities, budgets, rates and fees and charges for the year, and updates what was forecast in the Long Term Plan for the period.

More information on the Annual Plan is available at tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan2022

#### Commercial licences

At last week's meeting, our Council also decided to stick with the status quo for licensing commercial operators on public reserves, while our proposal for a weighted tender model gets further investigation. All applications submitted under the proposed weighted tender model process will be assessed using the current system and applicants will not be required to submit a new application. This decision recognises that many small businesses have been affected during the last two years due to COVID-19 and the downturn in visitor numbers.

tcdc.govt.nz/commercialconcessions



#### **June 2022 Public Meetings**

We will shortly be holding public meetings as we prepare for the impacts of sea level rise.

This is the final stage of our three-year project. After we get feedback from these meetings, the Shoreline Management Plan will be updated and presented to Council for adoption.

This is your chance to hear about the proposals for your area, and to give us your feedback.

tcdc.govt.nz/smp

LOCATION	DATE	TIME
MOANATAIARI - Auditorium at the Thames Civic Centre	Friday 17 June	3.30pm
THAMES – Auditorium at the Thames Civic Centre	Friday 17 June	5.30pm
TE PURU – Te Puru Hall	Saturday 25 June	9.30am

#### **SHOUT OUT TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**

The Thames Community Board would like to acknowledge the collective energy and mana of the volunteers in our community as part of National Volunteer Week – Te Wiki

Tūao ā-Motu (19-25 June).



Thank you volunteers for your amazing generosity and dedication. Our Thames community wouldn't be the same without you.



#### **GET READY FOR OUR LOCAL ELECTIONS**

Local elections take place across New Zealand this year with voting closing on Saturday 8 October.

*Live here?* Make sure you are on the Electoral Roll to vote. Go to **vote.nz** to enrol or update your details.

**Own a property here but don't normally live here?** You can still vote here as a Ratepayer Elector but you have to enrol separately from the Electoral Roll.

Go to **tcdc.govt.nz/election**, download the Ratepayer Electoral Enrolment Form and follow the instructions on it.

#### **CANDIDATES WANTED**

We encourage people who want to represent all the communities in their area to run for Mayor, Councillor or Community Board Member. Nominations open 15 July.

tcdc.govt.nz/election

#### Kerbside collections

Our Kerbside recycling and rubbish collections will be one day later following the Queen's Birthday public holiday on Monday 6 June. tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside

Our Refuse Transfer Stations will be open to their Sunday hours for that holiday and on Friday 24 June for the new Matariki public holiday.

tcdc.govt.nz/rts



## How should we manage different uses of our harbour facilities?



HAVE YOUR SAY ON OUR DRAFT MARITIME FACILITIES BYLAW – 6 MAY–10 JUNE

tcdc.govt.nz/maritimefacilitiesbylaw



Thames
Community Board
UPDATE

#### A word from the Board Chair, Strat Peters

"Sea-level rise from climate change has been in the news recently. Our Council has been working on plans to cope with these challenges to our coastal communities through our Shoreline Management Plan

project. We're holding in-person meetings this month so that you can better understand the specific adaptation plans for your community. This is also your chance to give us your feedback. Please attend if you can." strat.peters@council.tcdc.govt.nz

The Totara Valley Road services extension project is pausing until October, when Chorus and Powerco will be able to move their infrastructure so that SH25 can be widened to incorporate a right-turn bay into Totara Valley Rd. Our Council stormwater culvert work under SH25 has been completed. Future stages will extend water services

**The Board's next meeting** is on 22 June at 9am at the Council Chambers, 515 Mackay St, Thames. If you wish to speak to the public forum, contact

and improve the road to enable housing development.

governance.services@tcdc.govt.nz

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



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## Funding refusal puts bus service on ho

By GORDON PREECE

Proposed new bus services for Hauraki and Coromandel are at a standstill after Waikato Regional Council was unable to secure government funding.

At a meeting last week, councillors heard Waka Ko-tahi New Zealand Transport Agency wasn't in a position to fund additional bus services for Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki districts because had already allocated its fund-

ing for public transport. Council subsequently made the decision to hold the project until funding was secured, because community feedback showed support for the project only if Waka Kotahi funding was received.

In April, council encouraged the community to have their say on its proposed new bus services for Thames-Coroman-

del and Hauraki districts. Council received 155 submissions, with 64 per cent in favour of the bus service if council secured Waka Kotahi funding for 51 per cent of the cost of the service.

Only 24 per cent of submit-ters were in favour of new bus services without funding from Waka Kotahi or other sources.

If funding had been secured, council would need to collect an additional \$163,400 of rates revenue through targeted rates to Thames-Coroman-del and Hauraki residents in 2022-2023 for the bus service.



The buses are expected to be the same size as the existing Thames Connector bus, and fares may cost as little as \$5, and seniors with a SuperGold Card may travel for free.

Photo: GORDON PREE

Without Waka Kotahi funding, council would need to collect \$333,500 through targeted

Thames-Coromandel cillor Denis Tegg said it was disappointing Waka Kotahi couldn't provide funding for

the bus service.
"While it's disappointing to see that funding has not been immediately forthcoming from Waka Kotaĥi to deliver sērvices that clearly have such widespread community support, it's really encouraging that council has heard and followed community sentiment on each of

the proposals," he said.

Council said it planned to continue public consultation and more detailed planning of

bus routes and timetables.
"It's... great to see the door remains open to those new ser-

remains open to those new services, should the funding picture change," Cr Tegg said.
"We will be strongly advocating for Waka Kotahi to take account of the strong expression of public support for new services that this consultation process has demonstrated. process has demonstrated

"By carrying out detailed for-

ward planning now, the council is strategically placing itself in the best position to obtain new funding when this becomes available."

An earlier council report showed possible routes for the proposed bus service included a return service every two-hours from Waihī to Paeroa and morning and afternoon services between Thames and Te Aroha, with connections to Hamilton. It could also include connections for commuters from Ngātea and Paeroa into Thames, and connections

66It's disappointing to see that funding has not been immediately forthcoming from Waka Kotahi to deliver services that clearly have such widespread community support"

- Denis Tegg

from Thames to Coromandel, Whitianga, Tairua and Whangamatā.

The buses are expected to be the same size as the existing Thames Connector bus, and fares may cost as little as \$5, and seniors with a SuperGold Card may travel for free.

Along with council's proposal for new bus services, they also encouraged the community to have their say on whether council took over rating responsibility from district councils for public transport services in Thames-Coromandel, Hauraki and Matamata-Piako

Of those who responded, 79 per cent of submitters agreed council should take over rating responsibility and council voted eight against five at the May 23 meeting to do so.

Mr Tegg said the rating decision would allow much better integration of new public

ter integration of new public transport services across district council boundaries.

"It is much more efficient to have the regional council both rate for and provide the services," he said.



## New 5G towers proposed

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

hames could see two new 5G Thames could see two new 5G cell phone towers erected around the town before the end of

Vodafone's community relations and site acquisition managers told Thames Community Board it had identified eight locations in the Thames Community tions in the Thames-Coromandel district which required more cell phone coverage and capacity.

This was because mobile usage increased more than 100 per cent over the last holiday period across Thames-Coromandel, they said.

We have coverage issues, without a doubt, given your geography and topography, but the biggest issue is actually the capacity of our existing site," Vodafone's spokesperson said.

The identified locations were at: Kōpū, Thames, Hikuai, Coromandel Town, Whitianga, Tairua, Pauanui, and Whangamata.

In Thames, a proposed site was located by the jockey club, in the southern part of town, where Spark recently built a cell site, though Vodafone said it was unable to "co-locate" with Spark as

its tower would "be at capacity".

In Kōpū, Vodafone said it had identified "a couple of private landowners" both in the industrial area and across the Waihōu River, who may be interested in leasing their land to the network.

Currently, there is only one Vodafone site servicing the

Thames township, located by Thames Hospital.

The new towers would fall under Vodafone's network investment programme, in which it was aiming to build or upgrade 800 cell sites across New Zealand over the next 2-3 years.

Thames-Coromandel's grades were scheduled for a late-2022 start, and a 2023 finish.

Community board member Sheryll Fitzpatrick asked Vodafone's representatives if they had considered constructing new cell towers near Puriri or Matatoki, given council's spatial plan pin-pointed Thames' south as prime

for development.

Vodafone's site acquisition manager said it was not in its current build programme, and that the company was always "playing catch-up" when it came to growth in demand.

"Pre-empting future demand is the challenge at the moment," he

Vodafone said it generally took 6-12 months to plan, design, and build a cell site.

The community board is now invited to provide feedback before Vodafone undertakes further site investigation work and draws up plans. The company will then write to neighbouring properties to outline the process, before filing a Resource Management Act application with council.





THS year nine students have created artwork as part of their Teen Esteem Workshops.

## Programme empowers students

By GORDON PREECE

Aprogramme to inspire and teempower adolescents and teens has allowed Thames High School's year nine students to adjust to high school life.

Teen Esteem workshops have been held in Coromandel for more than 25 years and work with youth to generate self-esteem, positive attitude and offer tools

to help teens accept personal responsibility for their well-being.
Thames High School deputy principal Natalie O'Neil told *The Profile* Teen Esteem approached Thames High at the beginning of the year and asked if they wanted to become involved with it. "The main idea behind Teen Esteem is around building resil-

ience and giving students tools and strategies to be able to transition through into high school," she said.

"Because year nine students hadn't had the chance to at primary school level due to Covid-19... we decided that we would run Teen Esteem here at Thames High School so they could still have that knowledge around being resilient and building tools to be great young people."

Mrs O'Neil said the one-day

workshops held over five weeks were offered to the school's 104 year nine students, and from what she'd heard the students had "really enjoyed" them.

"They have created some amazing artwork... I think it's a reflection of... well-being and hauora,"

she said.

"They get to ask questions and talk about topics that they choose, it might be that they talk about how can you study better at school... or they might talk about how can I get more sleep, so it's very much led by the students.

"From there, the facilita-tor would then go talk to the kaiawhina or dean and identify any students needing a bit more

support."
Mrs O'Neil said this then allowed the school to look into how they could introduce more of these programmes.
"There is definitely a need for

our students to be able to speak more freely around how they're feeling and how they can be more resilient," she said.

HAURAKI

## We need to talk Me kõrero ngatahi tātou

#### Let's talk about bylaws

Bylaws are rules developed by our council to make sure our district is a safe and healthy place. Our bylaws are specific to our district and can be enforced by the Council or by others like the NZ Police.

#### **Waste Management Bylaw**

We've updated our bylaw to align with our recently approved Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (No Time to Waste | Tiakina a Papa! Mimiti te Para!). The major changes we're proposing to our bylaw are:

- Introducing a licensing system for businesses who collect and transport more than 30 tonnes of waste per year.
- Requiring waste plans for construction projects with an estimated value over \$500,000, and for large events being organised, showing how waste on site will be managed and disposed of.

#### **Stock Crossing Bylaw**

We're proposing to revoke the ex-Franklin Livestock on Roads Bylaw, which will mean all areas in the district will come under the proposed Stock Crossing Bylaw 2022. We're proposing permits for stock crossings in the Hauraki District on certain roads to help protect the road and keep road users safe. Some stock crossings won't require a permit if they're operated in line with safety requirements. This will depend on the type of road, and the average number of crossings expected per week.

#### Traffic and Parking Bylaw

This bylaw sets the rules for parking and control of traffic on any road in the district, other than State Highways. Some of the changes we're proposing include:

- adding some time limits to parking in Waihi and Paeroa main streets,
- restricting heavy vehicle parking on our roads in residential areas overnight in Waihi and Paeroa,
- other restrictions for traffic on our roads.

#### Tell us what you think

Head to our 'We need to talk' website for the full bylaws and plan and find out how you can give your feedback.



Consultation closes 20 June 2022 at 4pm.

https://weneedtotalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

You can also provide verbal feedback by giving us a call or speaking to a councillor.

You can also book to speak to the Council at a hearing of feedback on Wednesday 13 July 2022 in the Hauraki District Council Chambers, Paeroa.



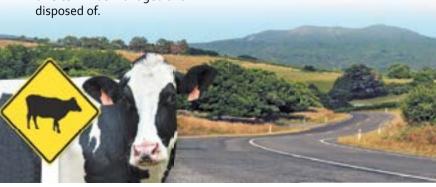
(07) 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District)

www.facebook.com/haurakidistrictcouncil

Hauraki District Council, PO Box 17, Paeroa 3640

#### Let's talk about speed on our roads

We've created a new Speed Management Plan which proposes reductions to speed limits around schools, and on some rural roads. A separate Speed Management Plan will be developed by Waka Kotahi for all state highways, such as State Highway 2 through Karangahake Gorge. State highways are not under our control, so we can't make changes to their speed limits.



## pportunities ahead for Sally Christie

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

oo scared to stand in front of bulldozers, Sally Christie helped oppose mining at Waiomu along the Thames Coast the best way she knew how: by standing for the local community board.

That was back in 1989. Sally was 37-years-old with a sixmonth-old daughter.

Due to public and political opposition, the mine was never developed. and no extractive industries in the Thames Coast remains one of Sally's proudest achievements

in her 33 years in politics.

She has chosen not to stand again as a Thames-Coromandel district councillor at this year's local body elections.

Sally, who moved to Thames in 1984, completed a total of 11 election cycles with the district council and the Waikato

'Even though they're totally different institutions, the focus was still about people and connection," she told *The Profile*. "I never felt as if it was a huge difference, even though the health system rightfully

focuses a lot on when we're not well, and local government focuses on keeping us

Sally originally trained as a nurse and spent some time working in England. She used to do her first ward round in her jeans at 6 o'clock in the morning, and said she'd find out "a whole lot more" about people than when she had her uniform on.

**66**It feels like a re-

ally neat opportunity for

me... to have only one

kaupapa and to have a

energising and healthy

for me."

- Sally Christie

She spent around 12 years on the Waikato DHB before its members were clear focus, I think will be replaced by a commissioner in 2019.

For the 2016-2019 term, Sally was the

sole female councillor on Thames-Coromandel District Council. She was joined by Robyn Sinclair in 2019.

"If I was going to say anything moving on, it would be that both us at council, and the community at large, need to get a lot better at having hard conversations about hard things without diving for the four corners really quickly," she said. "We have to find common ground.'

She said not everything was black and white.

"It's uncomfortable, but we



After 33 years in politics, Sally Christie will not stand again for council this year.

all have to live in the grey a bit

Sally will now turn her attention to her role as coordinator with the Hauraki Family Violence Intervention Network. It's a role that combines her passions for people, health, and the community.

"It feels like a really neat opportunity for me," she said. "I'll go from one thing to another, but to have only one kaupapa and to have a clear

focus, I think will be energising and healthy for me.

She said local government was "not for the faint-hearted", but those with political aspirations needed to "be brave; ask the questions; don't assume things".

"You never know who lives in these hills - I think amazing people do, and [local government] has to be made accessible so that people feel it's a possibility for them.

Sally said there was a lot of change incoming, including local government reforms, and Three Waters, and likened the ride to being in white water.

"But you're not in an individual canoe," she said, you're in a waka, but you do have to know how to paddle on your own.'



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### Rural Life

### Feds pleased emissions tech talk backed with investment

Federated Farmers is pleased the government has recog-nised solutions to agricultural emissions lie in new technologies and tools, and is stepping up investment on that front

The government is allocating nearly \$340 million of \$2.9b in climate funding announced this month to setting up a Centre for Climate Action on Agricultural Emissions. The centre will research ways technology can be used to, for example, cut methane on the farm.

Feds president and climate change spokesperson Andrew Hoggard said nitrate and methane inhibitors, gene editing and animals bred for their lower methane 'burping' were the kind of advances that would enable New Zealand's farming sector to continue to perform for the nation's economy while maintaining a world-leading meat and dairy carbon foot-

It would be important to understand how the proposed new Centre for Climate Action on Agricultural Emissions fit with existing bodies, such as the NZ Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre, the Pastoral GHG Research Consortium (PGGRC) and the international bodies New Zealand partners with, such as the Global Re-

search Alliance, he said. "New Zealand farmers have been funding millions of dol-



**Andrew Hoggard** 

lars into greenhouse gas mitigation tools since 2003 via the PGGRC," Andrew said.

It would also be crucial for

the regulatory framework to be worked on at the same time as acceleration of research and commercialisation of these tools "so that when they're ready, we can get on with using them", he said.

"At present there is no category to register feed inhibitors for use on our farms, for exam-

ple.

"And Feds again make the point we've made many times previously - serious investigation and society-wide discussion is needed on the role genetic technologies - particular gene editing - can play in the thorny environmental issues confronting us. Feds supports giving food producers and consumers the choice with gene editing technology

editing technology.

"If we are not open to all solutions, we risk losing our world-leading emissions footprint as other countries embrace the innovation we are ignoring.

## Prevent pest plant spread

Farmers are being urged to do their bit to protect farms from damaging pest plants by ensuring machinery, vehiby ensuring machinery, vehi-cles and equipment have been cleaned ahead of moving day. Planning is also necessary

when it comes to preventing effluent entering waterways and keeping roads clear and safe for road users in the region, says

Waikato Regional Council.

Moving day occurs in the week leading up to and immediately following 1 June each year. It involves the mass transporting of cows and machinery around the country's roads as farm contractors relocate them-selves and their stock in time for the new season.

"Through good on farm biosecurity practices, farmers and contractors can make a massive difference to preventing the spread of pest plants and weeds," council biosecurity pest

weeds," council biosecurity pest plants team leader Darion Em-bling said.
"Unclean machinery is a con-firmed pathway for the spread of infestations, such as vel-vetleaf and alligator weed, be-tween some farms in our region. That makes machinery hygiene especially important with mov-ing day coming up and the mass movement of stock, machines

and vehicles between farms."

Mr Embling said machinery hygiene must be practiced any time a machine is moved between practices. tween properties.



Unclean machinery is a confirmed pathway for the spread of infestations, such as velvetleaf and alligator weed, regional council says

"Any form of plant or soil contamination has a real potential for harbouring pests or weeds. Machinery should be cleaned so no visible soil or plant mat-ter remains." Ideally, machinery wash-down should occur on the property prior to movement, containing any problems at the source, council said.

Alternatively, machinery may be cleaned in a built-for-pur-pose wash-down facility, but care should be taken to ensure there is not a risk of pest spread during transport to that facility. "Pest plants such as alligator

weed and velvetleaf can have a massive impact on the productivity and profitability of farm businesses, so farmers and contractors need to be extra vigilant when moving between proper-ties," Mr Embling said. More information at: waika-

to region.govt.nz/biosecurity.

Farmers are also reminded to stand stock off green feed before they're walked or transported to prevent effluent entering waterways and help keep the region's roads clear of discharge and safe for users.

A cow's daily combined effluent is approximately 52 litres, and a truck effluent tank's capacity is just 200 litres.

It means the spillage of effluent onto roads is a real risk unless farmers in particular take some simple steps ahead of time.

The regional council recommends that farmers: confirm stock pick-up times in advance of transport to eliminate con-fusion; move stock close to the loading ramp the day before, when possible; stand stock off green feed for a minimum of four hours (with water); use dry feed before transport because it results in less effluent.



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## Unique dining experience at Gastronomics

Adesire to experience a new location and continue his culinary journey led to Kishan Raikwar establishing Gastronomics Restaurant & Bar in Thames 11 years ago.

The lavish restaurant on Pollen St with 11 staff offers many dishes with local and imported seafood, New Zealand meats and wine matching.

Kishan, who co-owns the restaurant with his wife Radha, said he ended up in Thames after becoming a chef in New Delhi, India, where he was originally from.

"A chef has a dream... I was [teaching] high school kids and trying to get some more money so I got a job as a kitchen hand... then my future goal was to become a chef," he said.

"I started as a kitchen hand, then kitchen hand leader and then demi chef... and once I became a chef, I applied for an overseas job... my one came up in less than a week so I moved to New Zealand.

"It's pretty common to see people born and marry and die in the same town and sometimes it's worth looking around at different places."

Kishan said he then completed some management courses and decided he'd like to have his own restaurant.

"The opportunity came with Black Chili restaurant, which







TOP: Gastronomics Restaurant & Bar claimed last year's Hauraki-Coromandel Business Award in the hospitality category. BELOW: Examples of some of the fare on offer at Gastronomics.

used to be called Old Thames in Grahamstown. It was badly run down and I got a really good price and BNZ, they helped, so we ran that for two years," he said.

"Then another opportunity

came up with Whangamata Club.

"Because I was restaurant manager for Whangamata Ocean Sports Club for four years, they knew me so I got that role to run as my own business." Kishan said after his lease finished with Whangamata Club four years later, he thought he should have his own restaurant with his designs but also his own building for it, so he opened Gastronomics Restaurant & Bar in

Pollen St in 2019

"The building came up so I bought that one and spent some dollars and turned it into a restaurant and put everything where I wanted it to be," he said.

"So far we're doing pretty good, we're quite busy, and last year we claimed the Hauraki-Coromandel Business Award in hospitality."

Kishan, who has been a judge for the New Zealand Culinary Fare in Auckland for 13 years, said he commissioned a 'Stick Man' with a wine bottle artwork outside the restaurant to represent the business.

It was an idea he hoped other Thames businesses would take on board to draw visitors to the town, he said.

Customers who dined in Gastronomics often ordered what the table next to them ordered, he said.

"A pretty famous entree is the prawn cocktail and the lamb shank and people want that and nothing else and they keep coming back for those," he said.

"We try to introduce different dishes based on different meat you can't see in normal life, like crocodile, kangaroo and ostrich.

"We also match our food with wine, so we're not just selling food and alcohol, we're trying to marry them together and give [the customers] a good experience."

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## New plaques celebrate Waihī history TCDC has

**By GORDON PREECE** 

Three historic Waihī build-Three historic warm sumsings will soon be adorned with plaques as part of a Waihī Heritage Vision initiative.

Member Robyn Ramsey told The Profile the informative plaques will be placed on his-toric buildings in Seddon St in the coming weeks, so people could discover the town's his-

A plaque was installed at the old BNZ building on May 26, and plaques will go up at St John's Anglican Church and the Rob Roy Hotel in the coming weeks.

There's only room for a little bit of information on the plaque... but we're hoping when we've got a few done we can make a heritage trail," Robyn said.

'A brochure that will have extra information and perhaps a few photos of how they looked in the old days.

Robyn said the initiative came from Waihī Heritage Viinitiative sion chairman Warwick Buckman and his wife, Krishna, after they visited Australia and enjoyed viewing plaques on the buildings of a small town.

"We actually started with the old BNZ building in town... we had a plaque made for that one [in October, 2020]," Robyn

That was a start and it was



friend of one of the members but he was sort of in and out of Waihī and took a while to get a plaque made.

"But now that they've started it up again we've changed the design, so we've got a replacement one for that one so they'll all be the same.

Robyn said the plaques, which were made in Tauranga, cost \$236 each and were partly paid for by a \$1000 donation

"There's a portrait on a wall of a woman [in Martha Court], Ada Donaldson and she was awarded an MBE at the end of World War I... we've had a plaque made for," she said.

"The great granddaughter paid for that plaque and then she gave us a generous donation [\$1000] as well to Waihī Heritage Vision, so we're using that extra money to pay for some of the plaques."

Robyn said they have a list

of around 40 more potential buildings they could put new plaques on, including Gold-fields Railway, and will be seeking funding for them.

Some of the owners of the buildings so far that we've spoken to have said they'll pay for the plaques, so that's good," she said.

"There's a couple of trusts, I think our chairman's going to make applications to get fund-

## new chief

Anew chief executive and interim chief executive have been appointed at Thames-Coromandel District Council. Aileen Lawrie will take over

the top job from August 1. She has been the chief executive of Ōpōtiki District Council for the past 12 years.

Meanwhile, council's op erations group manager Bruce Hinson has stepped into the interim chief executive role after Rex Capil tendered his resignation. Mr Capil, previously council's governance and strategy group manager, was appointed interim chief executive in Feb-

ruary.
Ms Lawrie said she was "very excited" to join the team at TCDC in August. "I can see that the council has an ambitious work programme for the coming years and there is already a lot of work underway."

Her appointment to Thames-Coromandel is for a five-year term; three years with an additional two-year right of renewal. She replaces Rob Williams, who resigned as chief executive earlier this year after five years in the role.

Mayor Sandra Goudie said Aileen's expertise in aquaculture, housing, and cycleway develop-ments "aligned perfectly" with the work council was already doing. The appointment panel was made up of Mayor Goudie, Deputy Mayor Murray McLean, and councillors Robyn Sinclair and John Morrissey.



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## Meet the LOCALS

### 'Start as you mean to continue'

June 1 is ticking over, and either you're the proud owner of a new herd, kicking off a fresh contract milking job, or embarking on a new

If for some reason you managed to run into my 98-year-old Grandma, her advice to you at this pivotal time would be to "start as you mean to continue!". This mantra has worked rather successfully for her, so what can you take from her prophetic words of wisdom? Well she would be assuming you're in the dairy industry to be successful, to make a quality food product (and lots of it), to farm happy, healthy, and high performing cows, to manage a motivated and engaged team, and to make money.

If that is the case and you're serious about making the season a success, then you should be putting all your focus right now on the most critical period of the season: transition.

It is easy to overlook the transition period – it's not that exciting, somewhat of an inconvenience in an otherwise relaxing dry period, and on the surface doesn't appear to be of any great value (effort for no apparent reward). But you'd be wrong – what you do with the transition period will make or break your season. A well-transitioned herd will make more milk throughout the season, be healthier, and be less burdensome on the farm team requiring fewer health interventions. It is maximising the ability of your cows to transition from non-lactating animals eating 8-10kgDM to full lactation cows consuming 18-25kgDM in a matter of days. Doing this while losing minimal body condition and avoiding disease and metabolic issues, all while recovering from calving, which physiologically is the most demanding activity in a cow's year. Transition is a complex and important beast and unfortunately seldom gets the attention it deserves

How are we tracking for transition this year? The first five months of the year haven't been overly kind to farms in the district with pastures only just rediscovering their potential and the persistent threat of facial eczema only now dis-



**Dr Greg Lindsay BVSc** 

sipating. In many cases, it has left us with farms that are down on feed compared to their budgets and with cows that are lighter than ideal heading into calving, many with livers not functioning at full capacity.

This makes for a challenging transition, so think about the following strategies. Adequate condition score reserves are essential at calving. Get a BCS assessment done and if there are issues consider the use of Eprinex pour-on to assist with condition score gain.

Also, perform liver biopsies to ensure stores of essential minerals are adequate. Create a comprehensive transition plan considering diet effectiveness, calcium and mag supplements, and use of high energy supplements (MPG, molasses, starter plus) to fresh calvers to compensate for liver issues

We're here to help, please make time to sit down with one of our vets and make your transition a successful one - start as you mean to

- Dr Greg Lindsay BVSc Franklin Vets









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## New farming folk encouraged to connect

By GORDON PREECE

Charemilkers and dairy Ofarmers flocking to Hauraki-Coromandel for the start of the dairy season are encouraged to connect with local rural communities.

Hauraki-Coromandel Federated Farmers dairy chair Michael Webster told *The* Profile not only does Hauraki Plains have good fertile soils and farming land but a major drawcard was its community.

[We have] really like minded people... great schools in the area, great sports clubs close to the ocean for fishing, [we're] near the major centres in Auckland and Hamilton,' he said.

"I would highly encourage people to get to know their neighbours and introduce themselves to rural professionals around the district.

"Everyone wants to meet new people, everyone wants farmers to succeed around here. Following best practice will always get you through and if you're not sure, if you're going through a hard time, always just shoulder tap someone and grab some advice.

Hauraki-Coromandel Federated Farmers sharemilkers chair Kylie Evans said new sharemilkers to the district needed to be aware of current low pasture cover levels.

'The main thing that's affected the Hauraki-Coromandel in the last couple of months is we've been quite unfortunate with the rainfall," she said.

"Most of the farms around here will likely be below average pasture cover targets... and the key to improving this over the winter is not damaging the pasture that we have and holding long round lengths to build the pasture for calving.

'We can do this by feeding supplements, so that's probably a good point for most people to look at.'

Kylie said new sharemilkers to the district shouldn't be disheartened by these challenges

'We've experienced these dry autumns in the past couple of years so most farmers around here have got a

idea of how to deal with it." she said. 'The area does

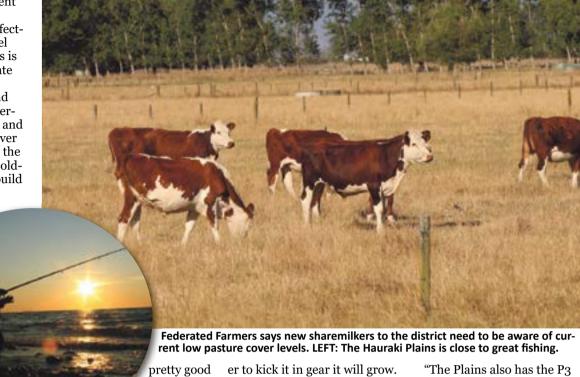
bounce back fairly quickly, now that we have had rain. in the last couple of years with good management and fertilis-

"Our cheapest form of feed is our pasture so we want to try and promote its growth as best we can.'

Kylie said the district's farming community would be 'more than keen" to give newbies a hand.

The Plains also has the P3 Trust which provides welcome advice and they have a weekly email with updates of the monitor farms in our area so that's a useful tool to keep an eye on as well," she said.

Moving day for dairy farmers



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There's no kerbside collection in our rural areas, but you can take your rubbish and recycling (including plastics 1, 2 and 5; paper; cardboard; aluminium and tin cans; glass, garden waste and scrap metal) to our refuse transfer stations in Paeroa (weigh station available) and Waihi. We accept Eftpos, debit and credit cards. No cash

For locations, opening hours, disposal fees and more information about recycling go to www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/refuse



#### A shoulder to lean on

Please remember if you're ever finding it hard to pull your gumboots on in the morning, the Waikato-Hauraki-Coromandel Rural Support Trust offers an

or for someone else, contact them on 0800Ruralhelp anytime,



Please take care on our roads

A large portion of Hauraki District's roading network (44%, about 230km) lies on soft, moisture sensitive organic (peat) and marine (gley) soils. The double whammy of the extreme drought of 2019/2020 and the delays to our usual maintenance work due to Covid-19, means that some of our roads on the Plains are still showing signs of cracking, slumping, rutting and settling, from when the underlying soils dried out and contracted.

So do be aware of road crews out and about, slow down for the temporary speed limits in place and drive to the conditions.

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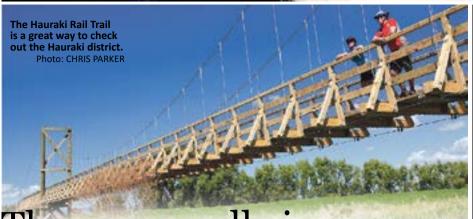
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Hauraki roads lead to the heart of some of our biggest cities and ports. We're just an hour or so from three airports, and only a gumboots throw from stunning beaches, rivers, bush walks and cycle trails.

Calving is just around the corner, so I know things are about to get pretty busy in your part of the paddock, but if you do get some free time I guarantee you won't have any trouble finding ways to spend it.

Whether you're into hunting, fishing, adventure, exercising, shopping or the cafe and restaurant scene, we've got it all, right here in our own back yard.

Make sure you take some time to check out these 'kiwi must do's' - Karangahake Gorge, Seabird Coast, Waharau Regional Park, Whiritoa Beach and of course the Hauraki Rail Trail. As a grade one trail, it's pretty easy going, which makes it suitable for the whole family and a great way to check out the district and the surrounding area too.

Once you have settled the cows in, organised the shed, and unpacked all of those boxes we'd love to hear from you! We're sure you'll settle in quickly and love living in the Hauraki just as much as we do! If you do have any questions remember our friendly councillors and staff are here to help. Don't be shy, get in touch and introduce yourself.

For more information on HDC services, visit www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz or message us on Facebook or phone 07 862-8069 or 0800 734-834.

- Toby Adams Hauraki District Mayor





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We are a place of joiners. So please do go out and support your new community by getting involved, we've got everything from surfing to hunting, from arts groups to sports clubs, from coastal planting to

track building.

A big part of our role here at our Council is helping enable this to happen - providing the

infrastructure and services so we can all live in vibrant, connected communities. We do everything from making sure our parks and reserves are mowed, through to keeping our towns and villages supported in civil defence emergencies. Go to www.tcdc.govt.nz to find it all

There are huge challenges out in the world right now and we feel it here in the Coromandel on a micro level.

The good news is we're a resilient place with a resilient bunch of people and we're always up for any challenges that come our way. Thanks for being part

> - Sandra Goudie Thames-Coromandel District Mayor



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with fishing gear and bait.
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We have other programmes that can suit most ākonga, our next Open Day is June 3, between 10am and 2pm, at 50 Kōpū Rd, Kōpū, Thames, - feel free to drop in and check us out.

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## Friday 3rd June

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We continually look for











PCST engages with around 120 volunteers who help run various programmes that make a positive impact in the Paeroa community.

Photos: SUPPLIED

opportunities where we can discuss needs within the community that we may be able to help with through existing programmes or investigating new programmes, and by creating

new, beneficial relationships. The PCST is continually evolving to ensure we are making a positive impact in our community.

- Supplied by PCST



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#### SPORTS

## Waka ama teams en route to worlds

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

Two waka ama teams from around the Valley have been given a cash injection from the district council in order to get them to London.

Hauraki Waka Ama Club's Whaitere Gold team, and Te Āputa Tira Hoe Waka Ama Club's Te Au Hīirere team have been selected for the world champs in London this August.

Whaitere Gold's club coach Gillian Tata Henry, of Paeroa, has also qualified in the single canoe races. Two of the seven crew members travelling with the Whaitere Gold squad are from the Hauraki district and the rest are from Waihī Beach, while Te Āputa Tira Hoe operate out of Te Puru and Turua

and train on the Waihōu River.
"I think this is an opportunity to showcase the Hauraki district," Plains ward chair Ross Harris said. We've got money sitting there we haven't used; it's our rangitahi... I'm in support.'

The sentiments were shared by a full house of councillors at the May 25 meeting, and it was decided to provide a grant of \$1500 to each waka ama team, split evenly between the Paeroa, Waihī, and Plains Ward Community Assistance Funds. It was noted that Mayor Adams would also provide financial contribution directly from the Mayoral fund.

"I've seen them train, I know them personally, I've watched develop waka ama since over a decade ago, so to see this and hear that they're going to represent our region at the world champs in London, I think it's a give-in that we support them," Paeroa councillor Rino Wilkinson

"When they come back, what-ever the outcome, it's going to be

Te Aputa Tira Hoe's under 19 team, Te Au Hīrere, will be sending a crew of 11 to London - made of seven paddlers, two coaches, and two managers - and is needing to raise \$42,000. Hauraki Waka Ama Club's Whaitere Gold team needed to raise \$35,000. The unanimous decision to sup-

port the clubs - made within 10 minutes, was a "proud" moment for Mayor Toby Adams.

'It's days like this that never used to happen... where we forget about who it is [making the funding application] or where they rest their head at night, and think about the district as a whole and how it can benefit the community," he said.
"It makes me immensely proud

to be the mayor, it truly does."

DETAILS: The IVF Va'a World Sprint Club Championships, London, England, from August 7-August 16.





Ryan Denize, 16, spent \$500 making a motorised trike for his school's engineering class.

### Engineering student makes own trike

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

Hauraki Plains College stu-Adent has put pedal to the metal by creating a motorised trike as part of his school's engineering class.

Ryan Denize, 16, started the Year 12 class at the beginning of the year, and was tasked with making "a wheeled device powered by either an electric or petrol motor".

"There were many ideas such as go-karts, motorised chilly bins, and even little motorbikes and scooters," he said. "Once we chose what we wanted to make,

we had to plan the project."

Ryan spent around one month researching and finding inspira-tion for his build. He then had to draw his plans and blueprints.

The plans included the type of material, the dimensions, and sizes. Once we had the plans checked off, we went into the workshop and began our work." Using half of a pedal trike and

half of an off-road go-kart, Ryan welded, bent, shaped, cut, and heated metal to make the middle of his trike. The whole process took about seven to eight weeks.

"Once finished, I put the motor on and tested it out in the school car park," he said.

"The most challenging part [was] planning out what to do because I'm not a great drawer and it was hard to design my project without holding [it] in

my hand and mocking up pieces.
"I did the Year 11 engineering class last year, which was where had my first experience welding. I have also been around cars and automotive projects all my

Rvan said it cost him around \$500 to make the trike.

He was now sanding it down to make it ready for painting.



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Helping grow the country

## Len Salt to stand for Mayor

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

en Salt says he has spent the two-and-a-half years since the last local body election attending or observing every Thames-Coromandel District Council and commu-

nity board meeting.
Back in 2019, the Whitianga local ran for Mayor, receiving 4301 votes against incumbent Sandra Goudie's 7649.

He is throwing his hat in the ring again

this election in October.

"The fact that I got 4300 votes was a pretty strong indication that plenty of people were concerned and wanted change," he said.

T've always been someone who's happier rolling my sleeves up and getting things done rather than sitting around talking about it."

Len, the eldest of five children, grew up in Auckland. His parents' Māori heritage meant his whakapapa was both Ngapuhi and Tainui.

'My father was a drunken stevedore, and my mother was the kindest, hardest-working woman you could ever hope to meet," he said. "I learned to cook for the family at the age of 10. Taking responsibility for solving problems when times are tough is something I did from a very young age. It's a life lesson I've never forgotten.'

Len's retail business in West Auckland was hit "pretty hard" in the Global Financial Crisis of 2008. It was the incentive he and his family needed to make "a major lifestyle change", moving to Whitianga in 2010.

His wife, Svargo, is a maths teacher at

Mercury Bay Area School, while Len started the Whitianga Music Club; plays banjo in the Whitianga Dixieland Band; and formed the Whitianga Residents and Ratepayers Association after the town faced severe water restrictions.

He said the first three years of the next mayoralty were going to be tough, and people needed to be prepared for that.
"Unfortunately, there's bad news on the



Len Salt

need to be ready to face it," he said. "We're in a perfect storm of Covid-related supply issues. labour shortages, inflation, increased costs of borrowing, building and construction delays, and a whole

lot more. When that happens, councils have three choices: either cut services and projects, borrow to keep the wheels turning, or increase rates."
Thames-Coromandel District Council

Thames-Coromandel District Council has signalled a rates increase of 8.3 per cent in the 2022/23 period, an increase on the 7.7 per cent they locked in to the Long Term Plan in June last year.

"The following year, however, will be a different story, and there's no way to sugar coat it." I are said.

coat it," Len said.

"I have no doubt that we will end up with delays and revisions to some of the projects on the council's work programmes. It's already happening, due to factors in part outside of council's control."

Len said his ability to focus on "the big

picture" would allow council to get on "the right path". The role of mayor was a critical one, he said.
"We have capable and talented staff at

TCDC; however, without strong and clear direction, they will continue to do things the way they have always been done. "We need a mayor who is prepared to

break the cycle, and by that I mean: council has to take back control of our own work, decision-making, policies and financial future," he said.



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## Accidental drowning investigated at Kerepēhi Fitzsimons'



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

With his wife and children coming from Scotland to join him at Kerepēhi, Robert Mc-Collum was taking a cautious approach to life.

The 33 year old felt uneasy having been left in charge of towing a dredge to Waitakaruru with the steam launch *Albany* without anything to use as an anchor.

The launch Hauraki left with the chief engineer of drainage work and the dredge engineer on board but Robert fastened the dredge to a bank and returned in the Albany to Kerepēhi for some heavy iron.

It was 1909 and Kerepēhi was the headquarters of Lands and Survey's big swamp reclamation project. As well as swamp draining, launches, punts and dinghies were built at the slipway, where major repairs were also carried out. A large labour force was needed for the work, which was described as "a courageous and prolonged struggle with the elements"

After finding some iron to use as an anchor, the *Albany* returned



A busy river scene at Kerepēhi showing launches and a Priestman dredge engaged in the drainage of the

down river. When within sight of the dredge, Robert went to blow the whistle to let the dredge man know they were coming. Inexplicably Robert fell overboard. The Albany's engineer Frank Biddle immediately reversed the engine and stopped the launch as quickly as he could.

He called out to Captain Leslie that a man was overboard but the captain became very agitated and abandoned the wheel. Biddle had to take charge and attempted to work the boat to where he could see Robert in the water. The launch was too far off to throw a line and there was nothing but heavy rope on board. Robert disappeared under the water. He could not swim and the river being very rough, there was little hope of finding him. Further po-lice searches with grappling hooks were unsuccessful.

Nearly two weeks later Robert's body was found in the river by Mr Kirby near Opani Point. He secured it until another launch was available to take it to the Thames

At the inquest Captain Leslie was very reluctant to give evidence and even indicated he could not speak English. Frank Biddle said Robert had been quite sober.
There was one buoy on the *Al*-

bany but he had not been aware of it. He believed Robert had overbalanced himself while trying to pull the whistle

The handle of the whistle was

stiff and Robert may have slipped. The jury returned a verdict that Robert was accidentally drowned

but there was no evidence as to how he got into the river. Frank Biddle was commended

for the straightforward manner in which he had given his evidence but there was a stinging rebuke for both him and Captain Leslie - they were considered unfit to occupy the positions they held.

Robert was buried at Shortland cemetery. It is unknown when his wife and children arrived or if they had even left Scotland; one newspaper report says they were "expected to arrive shortly", another that Robert had "just sent money home to bring his wife and two children from Scotland."

## biography to be launched

A biography of the late Jean-ette Fitzsimons will soon be launched in Thames.

The former Coromandel MP and environmentalist was the co-leader of the Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand from 1995 to 2009, and a member of parliament from 1996 to 2010.

She was the first and, until recently, the only Green MP to win an electorate seat.

Fitzsimons, who once polled as the most trustworthy party leader in New Zealand, died suddenly from a stroke in 2020, aged 75 years.

During her 14 years in parlia-ment, the Kauaeranga Valley local was an early voice for action on issues now considered mainstream, such as climate change, water quality and clean energy. She served as the government spokesperson for energy efficiency and was the architect of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act.

The biography, called A Gen-tle Radical, The life of Jeanette Fitzsimons, is written by Otago-based Gareth Hughes, who was a Greenpeace campaigner before becoming a Green Party MP for 10 years.
Released to coincide with the

50th anniversary of the Green novement in New Zealand, the book will be out on May 31 and launched at a free event on Sunday, June 5, at 1pm at Carson's Bookshop.





Maree Simpson



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**Kerry Trainor** 

#### HEALTH & WELLBEING

## Community immunity' ahead of winter

Maikato DHB wants to boost immu-**VV** nisation rates ahead of what is predicted to be a "tough winter".

As the country's borders open with new flu variants, and with other serious illnesses such as measles and whooping cough circulating, the DHB wants vaccination rates of 95 per cent to reach "community immunity

In the Hauraki area, fully-immunised childhood rates have dropped from 84.3 per cent to 80 per cent for 8-month-olds; from 81.2 per cent to below 73.6 per cent for 24-month-olds; and from 87.5 per cent to 72.5 per cent for 5-year-olds.

In the Thames-Coromandel, fully-immunised childhood rates have dropped from 90.3 per cent to 78.6 per cent for 8-month-olds; from 84.7 per cent to 65.5 per cent for 24-month-olds; and from 74.1 per cent to 58.9 per cent for 5-year-olds. 'Disease outbreaks can have serious consequences for families and communities. Those who are not immunised, whether that's by choice or other circumstances, are worst affected by these outbreaks, Waikato DHB's medical officer of health Dr Felicity Dumble said.

The 2019 measles outbreak infected more than 2,000 people, and 700 had to go to hospital, with Māori and Pacific communities the most affected.

Dr Dumble said Māori have also been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19.

Moving forward, we are endeavouring to learn from what components worked

well for Māori during the Covid-19 vaccination campaign and incorporate these in our programmes," she said.

The DHB will expand what is offered at its Covid-19 community vaccination sites to include free

influenza immunisations to those eligible, free MMR immunisations to those three-years and above, and Covid-19 vaccines to those five-years and above.

GPs and pharmacies are also providing vaccination services for MMR, influenza and whooping cough.

Dr Dumble said the coronavirus was expected to be an ongoing concern, with overseas experience indicating a second peak was common.

Those who contracted Covid-19 during the latest outbreak will begin to become eligible for their boosters, following a three month stand-down to recover from the virus.

'Getting immunised is about being a kaitiaki for your whānau," Dr Dumble said. "When you get vaccinated, you look after your own health and help prevent the spread of disease. These diseases can be really serious for our young pēpi and tamariki, so it's vitally important we get vaccinated to keep them and future generations safe.

**DETAILS:** For information on booster vaccinations visit: covid19.govt.nz. For information on influenza vaccinations visit: www. fightflu.co.nz or call Healthline on: 0800 466



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#### **SPORTS**

## You Rippa!

The Thames Valley's secondary school girls rippa rugby tournament was held in Ngatea on May 25 with Hauraki Plains College the victors. The Women's World Cup Trophy was also on display as part of its nationwide tour, however, Black Ferns did not attend as previously announced. Reporter **GORDON PREECE** was there to capture the action.



Waihī College girls defend against Te Aroha.



HPC's Isabella Vukojevich Year 11 reaches for the ball in the line out.



Thames High School's junior squad with the Women's Rugby World Cup trophy.



Paeroa College year 13 Grace Wright carves through HPC defence.



IPC's Libby Hughes heads for the try line



Lawron Waite makes a line break

The life of Jeanette Fitzsimons



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Gareth Hugh





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52

52

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#### UDOKU

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#### ROSSWORD

#### ACROSS

- 1 Musical performance by a soloist (7)
- 4 Ailments (10) 9 Good-natured and
- sociable (7)
- 13 Domèsticated (4)
- 14 15 Celtic language (6) Yacht harbour (6)
- Keep safe (7)
- **19** Book (7)
- **20** Boast of your own achievements (4,4,3,7)
- Savour (6)
- 22 Set (6)
- 24 Bring to an end (9)
- Plumage (8)
- Hypnotic state (6)
- Progress (7)
  Stringed instrument
- Shunting track (6)
- **37** Annoy (4) **38** Roof overhang (5)
- Perish (3)
- Fully satisfied (5)
- Simmered (6)
  Social blunder (5) 43
- Small child (3)
- Greenfly (5) 55
- Probability (4)
  Window shade (6) 56
- Genuine (4,4)
- 60 Varied (7)
- 61 Displaced sods on a golf course (6)
- Brief summary (8)
- 65 Large breed of dog
- **67** Equip (3,3)

- 68 Dilapidated old motor vehicle (6)
- 72 Special attention given to important guests (3-6,9) **75** Gift (7)
- Bother (7)
- Quarter (6)
- Digging animal (6) Formal dance (4)
- Directed (7)
- 82 Unfinished (10) **83** Core (7)
- **DOWN**

- 1 Spinning blade (5)2 Woman's
- underbodice (8)
- 3 Foliage (6)
- Famous (10) Showily manly (5)
- Ridicule with satire
- (7) **7** Country with Haifa
- 8 Latin American dance (5)
- 10 Predecessor (10)
- **11** Endeavour (7)
- Jewellery item (6) Well-heeled (10) 17
- 18 Garden figure (5)
- 21 Continued after
- interruption (7) **23** Lay off (7)
- 25 Accompany (6)
- 26 Authoritarian (6) Knot (6) Summerhouse (6)
- 30 Hackneyed (5)

- 32 Business transaction (4)
- **33** Long ago (4) **34** Jumping insect (4) **40** Mar (6)
- Whirlpool (4)
- **44** Magnate (6)
- 45 Pilot's badge (5) 46 Down payment (7)
- Limp (6)
- Stamped out (10)
- 50 Work hard (4)51 Curative treatment
- 52 Tanned skin (4)
- **53** Appoint to a position (6)
- 58 Light canvas shoe with a plaited fibre sole
- **59** Inappropriate (10)
- Farewell (5)
- **64** Put up with (8) 66 Hermit (7)
- Spicy sauce (7)
- 69 Rue (6) 70 Oddball (6) 71 Alternative (6)
- Prickle (5)
- Eagle's nest (5) **76** Relates (5)

#### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Flavour of the month, 10 Glistens, 15 Mutton, 16 Arithmetic, 17 Lethargy, 19 Scolded, 21 Skill, 22 Pole vault, 25 Freighter, 27 Spheres, 29 Estate, 33 Appal, 34 Marriage, 36 Altruistic, 39 Vow, 41 Lexicon, 42 Gandhi, 43 Evolve, 44 Feud, 45 Appease, 48 Empty words, 53 Tractor, 57 Lies, 58 Bazaar, 59 Astute, 60 Amplify, 62 Err, 64 Seismology, 65 Newcomer, 66 Green, 69 Bauble, 70 Grenade, 71 Associate, 76 Operation, 77 Braid, 78 Devotee, 83 Impaired, 84 Underneath, 85 Pigsty, 86 Hesitate, 87 Take to the cleaners.

**DOWN:** 2 Launch, 3 Vital, 4 Urn, 5 Opal, 6 Trickle, 7 Exhale, 8 Open, 9 Tailored, 11 Leeway, 12 Scholastic, 13 Ears, 14 Skyline, 18 Rebellious, 20 Emit, 23 Cheat, 24 Maltreat, 26 Realise, 28 Preview, 30 Upkeep, 31 Bandit, 32 Privet, 35 Realm, 37 Cider, 38 Boss, 40 Wear, 45 Atlas, 46 Precious, 47 Enable, 48 Exaggerate, 49 Pore, 50 Yearned, 51 Ottawa, 52 Ditto, 54 Ramp, 55 Culprit, 56 Offset, 61 Small print, 63 Heron, 67 Insomnia, 68 Wise, 69 Burnish, 72 Spinach, 73 Urgent, 74 Pronto, 75 Fetter, 79 Organ, 80 Opus, 81 Cede, 82 Chic, 85 Pie.

#### CALL THE EXPERTS



Janella Munns and Splintas Firewood mascot Ted on site, Hikutaia.

### Can do kiwi attitude at Splintas

Splintas Firewood ensures wood burners are never empty in winter.

The firewood supply business based in rural Hikutaia delivers firewood to homes throughout the region, and also supplies kindling, boxed wood and hardwood to Hauraki-Coromandel supermarkets and liquor stores.

Janella Munns has co-owned the business with her husband Colin for seven years and said the idea sparked from their own regular firewood use.

'We'd moved from Dargaville down here and it was cold and the husband thought he was smart and bought me a wood splitter," she said.

"The idea kind of grew and then we

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Alaine Hedges 027 242 7268

John Hedges

027 457 2018

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• Lawn mowing

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Odd jobs considered

• One off jobs welcome

Section clearing

Weedeating

Gardening

decided to get bigger, and here we are now with this massive operation.

"The idea is to have this throughout the North Island, the kindling and boxed wood.

Janella said a "can do Kiwi attitude" was the fuel for Splintas Firewood's suc-

"We're now cutting everything for next year... which we sell in August, September, October, November for next year," she said.

"Get in early, get your firewood in your shed, knowing that it's dry for winter." Splintas Firewood: Free delivery to Thames, Paeroa, Ngatea and Te Aroha, Ph 0800 7754 6827.

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**Public Notices** 

WAIHI BOWLING

CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 18th June at 2pm

Members please attend at the Clubrooms, cnr Clarke & Kenny Sts

All registration fees include GST

Registration type

dog (entire)

dog (de-sexed\*)

General dog (entire)

General dog (de-sexed\*)

Dangerous dog (entire)

Responsible Owner Licence (ROL)

Responsible Owner Licence (ROL)

In excess of three dog(s) - 4<sup>th</sup> and subsequent dog(s)

2022/23 Dog Registration Fees

Pursuant to Section 37 of the Dog Control Act 1996 the Hauraki District

Council by resolution of Council on 16 March 2022 fixed the dog control fees for the registration year from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

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#### **Church Service**

HAURAKI

Fee if paid

\$172.50

\$127.50

\$127.50

\$60.00

\$258.75

\$202.50

Loss of ROL \$172.50

Loss of ROL

after 31 /07/22

Thames Spiritualist Church. Sunday June 5th, 2pm. Grahamstown Hall. Speaker Kay Moore.

The ad that was in last weeks paper should not have run. The Valley Profile apologises for any inconvenience.

Fee

\$115.00

\$85.00

\$70.00

\$55.00

\$40.00

\$172.50

#### **Public Notices**

#### Rating Information Database

The Rating Information Database for Hauraki District Council is available for public inspection during office hours 8am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday at the Council offices at William Street, Paeroa; Orchard Road, Ngatea and Rosemont Road, Waihi.

The Rating Information Database is also available on Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Ratepayers may object to information in the Rating Information Database where information is incorrect or has been omitted.

Objections must be in writing and posted to: Rating Information Database

Hauraki District Council PO Box 17 Paeroa 3640

Or emailed to info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz LD Cavers

Chief Executive Hauraki District Council



#### Dangerous dog (de-sexed\*) \$135.00 \* proof of veterinary de-sexing certificate required

Pound fees	Fee
First time impoundment	\$70.00
Second time impoundment	\$100.00
Third time impoundment	\$160.00
Sustenance fee per day	\$12.00
Microchipping fee (for unregistered dogs being released from the pound)	\$30.00
Other fees	Fee
Consent to keep more than two dogs in an urban area	\$52.00
Responsible Owner Licence (ROL) application fee	\$32.00
Responsible Owner Licence (ROL) property inspection fee (ROL transfer from another Council)	\$25.00
Replacement tag	\$5.00

#### Would you like a reduction in dog registration fees?

Have you thought about applying for Responsible Owner Licence (ROL)?

Council's Responsible Owner Licensing Scheme rewards those dog owners who keep their dogs under control at all times, and have a good Registration history, with a reduced fee (from \$115.00 to \$70.00, or \$55.00 if the dog is de-sexed).

The criteria to obtain a Responsible Owner Licence are:

• Complete the prescribed ROL application form and pay the non-

- refundable application fee of \$32.00.
- Have a good record of registration payment history and no complaints, impounding, infringement notices, etc in the preceding 12 months.
- Council's dog control staff will inspect your property to ensure the fencing meets our criteria.
- Pass a simple written examination on dog care and owner legal obligations.

The information pack and application form are available on our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz, or at our Council offices at William Street, Paeroa: Rosemont Road, Waihi or Orchard West Road, Ngatea, or call us on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (free call within

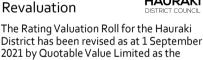
ROL applications are accepted from 1 June to 15 July 2022. Failure to re-register your dog(s) by 31 July annually will mean a loss of licence.

LD Cavers Chief Executive Hauraki District Council

www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz



#### 2021 General



Council's Valuation Service provider. It will be open for public inspection during office hours at the Hauraki District Council offices at William Street Paeroa, Orchard Road Ngatea and Rosemont Road Waihi for

the period of 8 June 2022 to 14 July 2022. The Valuations will also be available on Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Objections must be received online through our website or at one of the Council office by 4.30pm on 14 July 2022.

LD Cavers Chief Executive Hauraki District Council



#### **Situations Vacant**



#### **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.tyrrell-baxter@agprice.co.nz or call in to our reception and fill out an application of employment form

#### Garage Sale

Sat 4th June, 8.30am -10.30am. General household items, toys, books, etc 313 Marshall Cres. Thames

#### Garage Sale

Sat 4th June, 8am. 704c Tararu Rd. Thames

#### **Public Notices**



#### **CLUB INC. NOTICE OF AGM**

The AGM of the Hauraki Aero Club Inc. Will be held at the **HAC Clubrooms** At 4.00pm on Sunday 12 June 2022

> Members and prospective Members welcome

#### Agenda:

**HAURAKI** 

- Welcome
- Minutes of previous AGM
- President's Report
- Financial Report
- Appointment of Auditor Election of Officers
- Annual Subscription
- Other matters tabled or sent to Secretary prior

Jocelvn Read Acting Secretary

#### Last month's winner of the lotto ticket was Mac Miller, who

found Pete in the May 4 edition in the Ngatea Milking advert.

Go to page 2

for details

how to enter.

#### For Sale

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

Stump Grinding, All sizes, all areas. Free quote. Ph 021 060 7659

Gardening

#### Situations Vacant

Home help required for elderly gentleman. Non-smoker, mature. reliable person. Possible live in position. Excellent remuneration for the right individual. Thames Coast area. Ph 868 2225, speak slowly and clearly.

#### Looking for Taxi / Minibus drivers

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#### **Situations Vacant**



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#### **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 elder looking to build on their weldi skills. The role is casting repair using SMAW (Stick) & GTAW (Tig) welding methods.

If this sounds like you, please email your cv to our Production Manager at: jacob.tyrrell-baxter@agprice.co.nz Alternatively, call in to our reception and fill out an

application of employment form



Part time driving positions available for school runs in the Hauraki Plains, Thames and Waihi areas.

Full training will be given however you will need to have held a full class one drivers licence for at least 2 years.

Drug and Alcohol testing and police checks apply.

If you are interested in joining our growing team, please contact Joanne at Go Bus on 021 747 191 or

Joanne.burman@gobus.co.nz for more information.

#### ASSIFIEDS

#### **Situations Vacant**



#### About the organisation:

Here at The Supported Life Style Hauraki Trust, we provide residential and vocational services enabling an independent lifestyle for people with a range of mixed abilities. Our people-centric 'Wayfinder' approach brings unique challenges and achievements to all our lives. The Trusts purpose is to enable Life Stylers to live the lives of their choice. We do this through actively discovering and creating pathways to the individualised choices available and encouraging life plan achievements.

Our staff have a pivotal role in assisting each Life Styler fulfil their potential and live as a valued member of the community.

#### About the role:

We are looking for a range of people to join our Team with the focus on supporting, rehab, coaching and teaching new skills, including meaningful social and recreational skills

Providing a person-centred, recovery-oriented approach to help Life Stylers work towards their goals, there will also be some cleaning and personal cares in this role and ensure that all records are kept up to date on a daily basis. You would provide support in terms of developing independent living skills, social activities

prompting with medication and other support as required.

We encourage an inclusive approach where you would develop and maintain positive relationships with Life Stylers, staff and families, where as a team and with support from your Team Leader, you would enable the

We currently have permanent, part time and casual positions available.

Skills and experience: Our ideal candidates will have:

- Experience, preferred but not essential, working in the health and disability or teaching sector
- The ability to be a great motivator and team player and have a demonstrated ability to get along side and 'walk in someone else's shoes'
- Excellent personal boundaries with the ability to provide professional care and support
  - A current Full Drivers License (and be able to drive a manual car)
  - A committed to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
- Applicants for this position should have NZ residency or a NZ Work Visas. Work Visas are to be valid for a minimum of 12 months from application
  - Fully Vaccinated against COVID

**Employer questions** 

Your application will include the following questions:

- Which of the following statements best describes your right to work in New Zealand?
  - How many years' experience do you have as a Support Staff?
- Do you have a current New Zealand driver's licence

Application may be made in writing or emailed (cv and cover letter) and sent to Alesha Johnson, The Supported Life Style Hauraki Trust, PO Box 524 Thames 3500. Email: ajohnson@suplife.org.nz

Applications Close Friday 10th June 2022

#### **Public Notice**

#### **CHANGE TO KERBSIDE RUBBISH AND** RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES



Due to Monday 6 June 2022 being a holiday, collections scheduled for the week of 6 to 10 June 2022 will be carried out a day later than normal - collection dates are shown below. Please have your items on the kerbside by 7.30am.

Location	Collection day	Items for collection
Whiritoa	Tuesday 7 June	Rubbish bags only
Ngatea, Kaiaua, Waitakaruru	Thursday 9 June	Rubbish bags and all recycling
Kerepehi, Turua	Thursday 9 June	Rubbish bags only
Waihi, Waikino	Friday 10 June	Rubbish bags only
Paeroa, Karangahake, Mackaytown	Friday 10 June	Rubbish bags and all recycling

Collection days will be back to normal from 13 June 2022.







Ngatea Playcentre kids enjoy the newly upgraded carpentry shed.

## arpentry shed upgraded

he Ngatea community has come together to give Ngatea Playcentre's carpentry shed a fresh upgrade

President Katie Williams said playcentre tamariki had enjoyed using the shed but it was in dire need of an upgrade.

'At the time we had some very keen builders among our children and that was our inspiration to get the project moving," she said.

One of the playcentre's parents approached

Hauraki Plains College to see if any students

could help with upgrades, she said.
"They were on board straight away and came to see us and get things underway.

"We were so impressed with the fantastic job that the students did and also how efficient they were.

The college provided their labour for free and materials at cost price, she said.

Katie said the playcentre was then approached by Ngatea's Thomas Townshend Charitable Community Trust, and after discussing the project with them, they "very generously" donated toward the cost of the

project.
"This meant that we could get our required tools as well as do the upgrade," she said.
"On their donation."

"Our centre is so grateful for their donation and for the time that the HPC students gave to us.

'Our tamariki have spent hours and hours building and creating many projects... It is one of our most popular places to play at Ngatea Playcentre.

#### SPORTS RESU

#### THAMES VALLEY RUGBY

Thames Valley Rugby Results: Tom Jordan Cup: Hauraki North 40-13 Waihi Athletic: Thames 39

12 Waihou; Whangamata 44-17 Coromandel; Paeroa 27-43 Mercury Bay. Leach Cup: Ngatea vs Mercury Bay, postponed; Thames 20-15 COBRAs: Waihou 0-68 Waihi Athletic.



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#### ENTERTAINMENT

## Paeroa musician 'open minded' when recording songs

By GORDON PREECE

Adebut performance in New Zealand where he met his current partner amped Paeroa musician Wayne Morrison to move across the Tasman ten years ago.

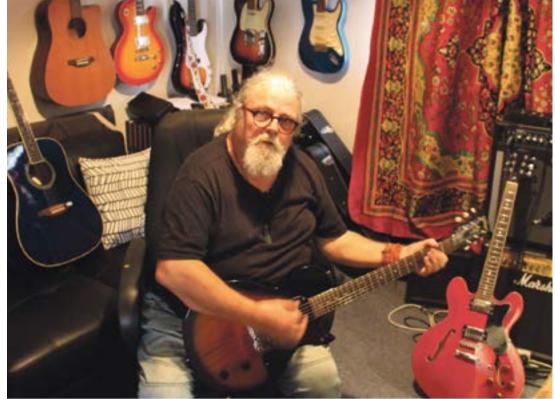
years ago.

The former Melbournian, who's been involved with country and blues music for over 40 years, told *The Profile* he had moved to New Zealand after he was invited to play at the 2012 Bay of Islands Country & Rock Festival by his friend and Thames country music singer, Craig Robertson. The festival was also where he met his partner Jill Dobson.

"[Craig Robertson's] manager rang me up and he said Craig wants you to come to New Zealand and go to this festival and I said nah, I've got no interest in it, and I'd never been to New Zealand," he said.

"But his manager said I'll pay for you to get a passport and pay for your airfares so I flew over and stayed with Craig. We went up to Paihia and I played there and that's when I met Jill standing in a little bar in a corner on her own and bopping away.

"We got together... I went back to Tamworth... Jill then actually came to Melbourne to meet my family and they all loved her and she loved them.



Wayne Morrison jams in his Paeroa home recording studio.

"So then I got my gear together and moved over here with her... we lived in Glenbrook, Pukekohe, Hunua and then we thought let's buy a house so we came to Paeroa."

Wayne, who has written more than 100 songs, said Jill provided the inspiration for one of his hit singles called *My Time With You*, which has been heard over radio airwaves in Australia and Europe.

"It's a sweet old country western tune... I was just sitting on the couch with my acoustic, which I do a lot, and I just have this tune and I thought oh that's Photo: GORDON PREECE

a nice melody," he said. then I'll think of something and I'll go my time with you... got the gist of it and then I wrote it for Jill," she said.

"Other times I dream a lot of stuff, which is funny because apparently that's how Paul Mc-Cartney wrote *Yesterday*, he dreamt about it.

"I can hear lyrics or see myself on stage or a tune or something will come along."

Wayne said he'd been open to recording music demos for locals with many who played country music.

"With my studio because I'm a one man band, if anyone wants to record they can come in and play," he said.

"If I'm recording I've gotta be open minded... like I'm working on a track for a friend of ours from Waihī who's a singer and she does country stuff so she's written a song which I've produced and I play all the instruments on.

"I'm just faithful to that song, so I make it sound how she wants it."

Wayne said he had played live music at the Thames Workingmens Club and The Junction Bar before Covid-19, and would be keen to return but was currently focused on recording new music.

"I've got a lot of ideas, no gigs at the moment... if I play once or twice a month I'm happy. But I'd rather record, I love recording and sitting and playing with my guitar," he said.

DETAILS: Wayne's single My Time With You is avaliable online at: blueshamrockmusic.com/product/wayne-morrison.







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