

Shorebird conservationist acknowledged, P3

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074 June 15, 2022

## PIN-UP EYES PAGEANT

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

Like most people, Katie McLaren went through “an Lemo phase and a grunge phase”, but once she found vintage fashion, she finally found where she belonged.

Now Paeroa’s resident pin-up has been chosen as one of the country’s top ten to vie for the first-ever Miss Vintage Australasia crown this September.

“I do stand out like a sore thumb walking around the streets of Paeroa, but it is quite empowering, being noticed and being pulled up on the street and getting compliments. It’s because it’s something different,” she tells *The Profile*.

“I’ve always been a little bit, in my earlier years, on the down-low because kids can be a bit rough at school... but you get past the age of 30 and don’t care what people think.”

Katie, wearing a vintage yellow cardigan with her hair pulled into a retro up-do, has often been dubbed ‘the best dressed woman in Paeroa’ for her daily rockabilly outfits, but her foray into the world of pin-ups only began after returning to New Zealand three years ago from Australia, where she worked in an antique store.

“I did dress quite vintage-y when I was working there, and I listened to the jazz music while surrounded by all the beautiful antiques and jewellery,” she says.

When she arrived on home soil, she connected with the wider pin-up community, and finally found where she “belonged”.

“And I don’t think that will change going forward,” she says.

The Miss Vintage Australasia pageant is part of a new event called VintageFestNZ, held in Christchurch in September.

Katie was chosen as one of the top 10 finalists and will compete against nine other women from across Aotearoa. Despite being dubbed an Australasian event, Australian competitors will not be part of the line-up due to Covid-19 restrictions and concerns.

“I plan on entering Miss Pinup New Zealand next year, so I wanted to do this as a confidence booster, to get myself ready for that, and also to push my comfort

CONTINUED P2



Paeroa’s resident pin-up Katie McLaren is preparing to compete in her biggest pageant yet.

Photo: ARTZENTAO PHOTOGRAPHY

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# Paeroa pin-up eyes national pageant

CONTINUED FROM P1

zone out a bit,” she says.

Katie has entered smaller pageants at Beach Hop events and car shows across the country, but says Miss Vintage Australasia will be her most “intimidating” pageant yet.

She’ll have to showcase three outfits: summer wear, day wear and evening wear, with the latter being her “biggest hurdle”.

“I’ve started to dabble in making clothes, and I plan on attempting to make my evening wear for the pageant,” she says. “It’s a bit of a massive mountain to climb because evening wear involves a lot more material; you have to sit down and design the dress and come up with the fabrics, but I’ve got lots of friends in the community who are sewers and they’ve given me advice.”

Pageant competitors usually coin a moniker to use while on stage, but she simply goes by ‘Katie Emma’ - a mash-up of her first and middle names.

“I was dabbling with what I could be called, but I didn’t really want a label. Katie Emma was always what my grandmother used to call me... so it resonated with me a little bit because she passed away a couple of years ago.”

Katie, who is a member of Paeroa Rotary and a dancer with local rock ‘n’ roll group The L&P Rockers, will be turn-



**Katie McLaren, Paeroa’s ‘best dressed woman’, became involved in the pin-up community roughly three years ago. She’ll compete in a national pageant this September.**

Photo: ARTZENTAO PHOTOGRAPHY

**DETAILS:** For info on the pageant, find Miss Vintage Australasia on Facebook, or connect with Katie on Instagram: [\\_katieemma\\_](#)



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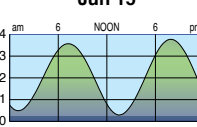
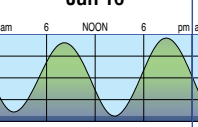
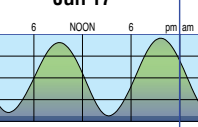
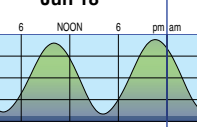
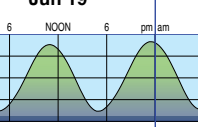
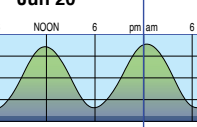
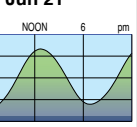
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Wed Jun 15	Thu Jun 16	Fri Jun 17	Sat Jun 18	Sun Jun 19	Mon Jun 20	Tue Jun 21
 Morning: 1:04am 0.5, 7:15am 3.6 Afternoon: 1:31pm 0.3, 7:55pm 3.8 Sun: 7:29am 5:07pm Best At: 12:18am 12:52pm (B) Set: 8:07am, Rise: 5:36pm	 Morning: 1:57am 0.4, 8:12am 3.6 Afternoon: 2:23pm 0.2, 8:47pm 3.8 Sun: 7:30am 5:07pm Best At: 1:25am 1:59pm (B) Set: 9:15am, Rise: 6:45pm	 Morning: 2:51am 0.4, 9:08am 3.6 Afternoon: 3:14pm 0.3, 9:40pm 3.8 Sun: 7:30am 5:07pm Best At: 2:32am 3:03pm (B) Set: 10:13am, Rise: 8:00pm	 Morning: 3:46am 0.4, 10:03am 3.6 Afternoon: 4:05pm 0.3, 10:33pm 3.8 Sun: 7:30am 5:07pm Best At: 3:34am 4:03pm (B) Set: 10:59am, Rise: 9:15pm	 Morning: 4:41am 0.5, 10:57am 3.5 Afternoon: 4:57pm 0.5, 11:28pm 3.7 Sun: 7:31am 5:08pm Best At: 4:31am 4:57pm (B) Set: 11:36am, Rise: 10:27pm	 Morning: 5:37am 0.6, 11:50am 3.4 Afternoon: 5:52pm 0.6 Sun: 7:31am 5:08pm Best At: 5:22am 5:46pm (G) Set: 12:07pm, Rise: 11:35pm	 Morning: 12:24am 3.6, 6:32am 0.6 Afternoon: 12:44pm 3.3, 6:50pm 0.8 Sun: 7:31am 5:08pm Best At: 6:09am 6:32pm (G) Set: 12:35pm, Rise: 12:35pm

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



# Miranda Shorebird manager recognised

**By GORDON PREECE**

The resident manager of Pūkoro Mirānda Shorebird Centre for close to 30 years was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) in the Queen's Birthday and Platinum Jubilee Honours.

Keith told *The Profile* he was surprised by the honour but it was recognition of the Pūkoro-koro Miranda Naturalist Trust.

"I thought well I've been effectively the front person for this trust... the work I do and the trust, we're the same really, and the comments I received since sort of support that view that it's for me but for the trust as well," he said.

"Which is great because this organisation has done some fabulous work... there's some great people associated with it. "There's been a lot of messages coming in from family, colleagues and so forth including people I've been in touch with for quite some time so it's been interesting how these things draw all sorts of surprises."

Keith said his interest in shorebirds came by accident when he started experiencing close bird encounters to study birds in more depth for art subjects.

"That led me to join Ornithological Society of New Zealand (Now Birds New Zealand) and joining that organisation was the pivotal step because after joining Birds New Zealand my life changed 90 degrees," he said.

"I got involved in conservation,



Keith Woodley calculated in 2018 he'd passed his bird knowledge on to 25,000 school students.

Photo: GORDON PREECE

volunteering on the likes of Haururu and Kapiti Island and doing some really good stuff with some good people in the field which cemented my whole birding interest, which led me directly to being asked if I was available to come and take up the role here.

"I had no real idea how long I'd be here, it might've been a few months - I had no idea it would be a few decades."

Keith said his highlights with

the centre included writing a book about godwits, which led him to camp for two and a half months on an Alaskan tundra, satellite tracking godwits migration with regular updates on Facebook and engaging with visitors.

"When I went to university I had intentions of becoming a teacher. I never ended up becoming a teacher but then I came here and the first day I arrived I found myself talking to a group of brownies

[Girl Guides] and then school visits came subsequently," he said.

"I calculated that by the end of 2018, I'd spoken to something like 25,000 school students."

Keith said the most significant change he had seen was the area's decreasing bird numbers.

"When I first came here in 1993, we would expect to find nine to 10,000 godwits on the Firth of Thames, now in recent years the average has been five or six [thou-

sand] although we did get up to eight [thousand] last year," he said.

"The main driver of those declines are they've lost a lot of habitat during their migration. Godwits depend on habitats here and in East Asia, where they stop during migration, and on the breeding grounds you need to be looking after all those places because if the birds lose one of those places their whole system falls over.

"So that's drawn the trust into engagement in East Asian flyways. In recent years, a lot of the trust profile has been built around the work we've been doing in places like China and North and South Korea, and that's been getting great traction."

Keith said the public needed to be aware of problems facing the Firth of Thames and ways to improve its bird habitats.

"The State of the Gulf reports that have come out every two or three years have been a steady catalogue of declining health of the Firth," he said.

"Excess nutrients, excess sediments are impacting all the ecosystems out there so we need to be very conscious of maintaining that health.

"We've got to see our estuarine areas as really valuable ecosystems, where the shorebirds are tidal, they're dependent on the food they find in the mudflats, and when the tide comes in they've gotta find places to roost.

"They're very vulnerable to disturbances at those times so we need to be mindful of their space secure from disturbance."



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# Waihi student receives grant for gold award

By GORDON PREECE

A passion for the outdoors has led to a Waihi College student receiving a grant for her Duke of Edinburgh Award journey.

The international award, divided into bronze, silver and gold, challenges young people to leave their comfort zones and create opportunities to learn new skills, get physically active, give service to their communities, and take part in an adventure.

Waihi College year 13 student Naomi Laslett recently received a \$200 grant from Katikati Tramping Club to go towards the 'Adventurous Journey' section of her gold award, which involved hiking Mount Pirongia and the Tongariro Northern Circuit.

Naomi told *The Profile* she was "very pleased" and "relieved" to receive the grant.

"It helped me save up for pretty much all my trips and stuff," she said.

"It mainly went towards my [tramping] boots. I had to get brand new boots because on my previous trip [Tongariro Northern Circuit in September last year] they got completely and utterly destroyed, so I was able to buy a brand new pair of high quality boots."

The award requires participants to complete voluntary



Naomi Laslett, left, with Katikati Tramping Club president, Derek Manley.

Photo: SUPPLIED

service, physical recreation, skills and adventurous journey sections for each level.

Naomi said she had taken part in Duke of Edinburgh since 2019 and was 25 weeks

away from achieving gold.

"[For voluntary service] I'm an assistant scout leader, I teach outdoors for quite a few students. Because I'm [going for] gold, I'm able to assist,

instruct the river courses [in Waihi]," she said.

"I do dog agility as my skill, and for my physical I'm able to do running around the [Karan-gahake Gorge]."

*"The club is keen to support young people to develop interest and skills and experience in tramping."*

- Christine Lowe

The gold award also requires participants to also complete a residential project, and Naomi said she took part in a 10-day Spirit of Adventure voyage to achieve this.

Katikati Tramping Club spokesperson Christine Lowe said the purpose for the grants was to foster and support local young people's interest and participation in tramping, bush and outdoor activities, and to help them develop an awareness of the natural environment.

"Having been a key group with tramping members from Waihi to Katikati and further afield, and tramping in the greater Waihi-Katikati environments for nearly 50 years, the club is keen to bring together folks who enjoy group tramping," she said.

"The club... is keen to support young people to develop interest and skills and experience in tramping."

Maddy Watts, from Katikati College, also received a grant from the club.



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## Waihi College kids keeping busy!

Waihi College will be celebrating New Zealand's pride week in style. Starting on 13th June and continuing till 17th June, Pride Week is being recognised nationwide and they are proud to show support of the LGBTQ community. Waihi College students can look forward to a week of music on the quad, special guest speakers from The Water Boy and then a mufti day and bake sale on the Friday. All proceeds raised will be going to Rainbow Youth. They were lucky enough to have speakers from The Water Boy visit several years ago and are looking forward to having them back. The Water Boy's aim is to break down barriers to give Kiwis an opportunity to participate in personal development activities. They, like Waihi College, want to make sport and personal development activities an achievable option for every kid in NZ.

Waihi College students have lots to look forward to after Pride Week too, including supporting the 40 Hour Famine later this month, and have been having a busy term so far with lots of activities and awesome learning out and about in their environment. The Year 7 and 8 students are getting a visit from the Science Roadshow later this week and have been busy making rockets for the Wonder Project Rock.it Challenge and rotating cranes for STEAM. Some of our older students hiked up Mt Tarawera recently and did white water rafting on the Kaituna River, while our Year 9's have been on fishing charters. It's been a great term so far and they're only half way through!

Stay in touch with what's happening at Waihi College by visiting the Keeping Informed section of their website.





# New science block opens at Paeroa College

By GORDON PREECE

A new science block with multi-purpose classrooms and a “university style” lab has opened for Paeroa College students and teachers.

Deputy principal Tina Youngman told *The Profile* the new block was a long time in the making, with discussions for a new one in 2008 and plans drawn up seven years ago.

“We did D block and the B block’s been done since then,” she said.

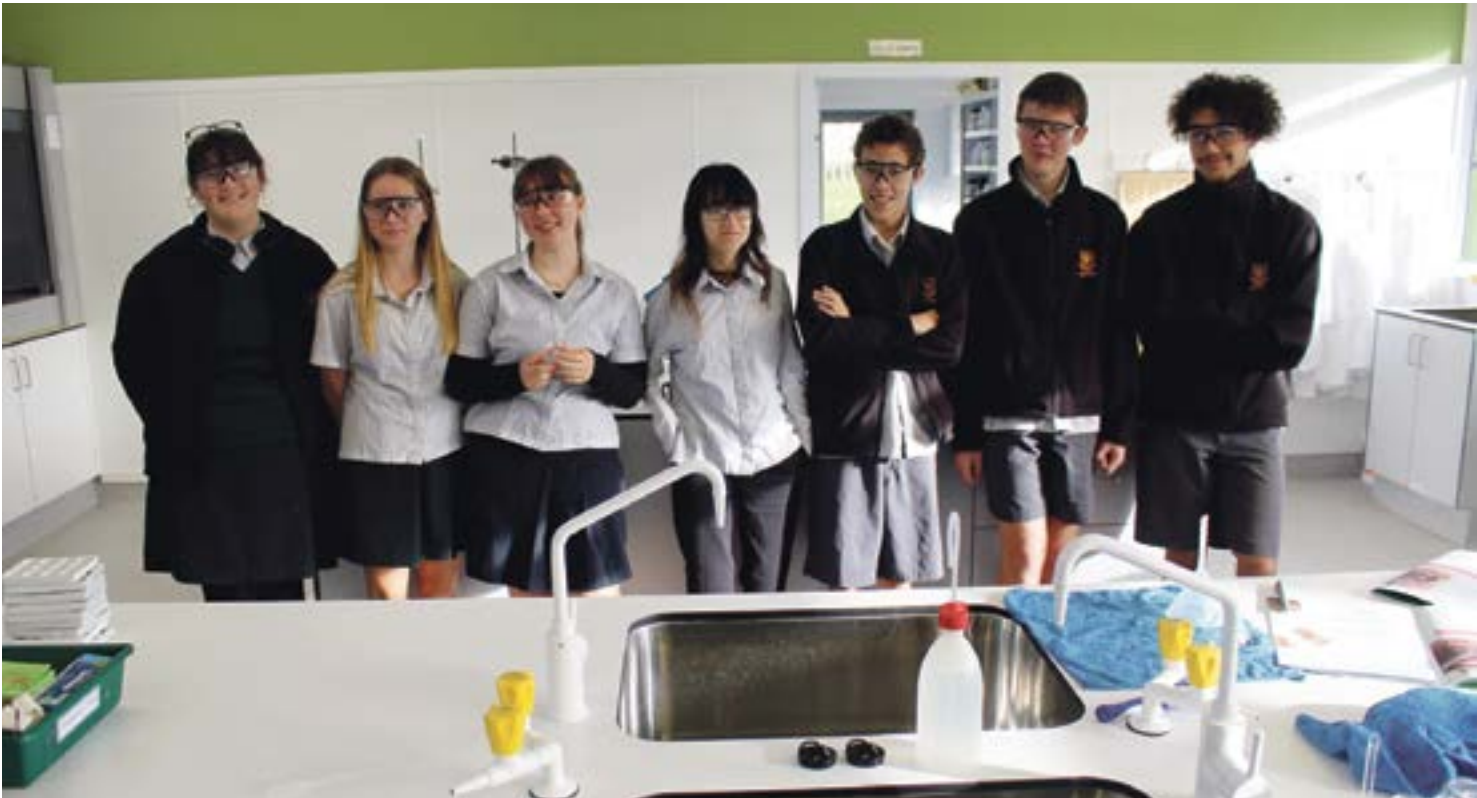
“Those were fixed much cheaper, everything needs doing. You get funding every ten years to do big projects, so we got the money and did the plans seven years ago and then it wasn’t enough and we had to do other things.

“So it just kind of paused and we ended up having enough to do half of it and the other half will get done some time.”

Paeroa College’s head of science Urshula Johnson said the new block allowed students to complete more practical science experiments.

“We can expose them to more and hopefully encourage them to get into careers in some kind of science,” she said.

“It makes such a difference to the students having a layout that is functional, easy to use... and they have their own stations. They absolutely love being in



Paeroa College science students inside the new lab.

Photo: GORDON PREECE

there so it was well worth it.”

Tina said the new block was also multi-purpose.

“We could’ve gone like it was where it was - a lab and a classroom in one, but this one makes it more multi-use,” she said.

“Because it’s classrooms, we can use it for anything - not just science rooms, and worrying about health and safety and stuff because they’re quite separate.”

Tina said construction on the new science block began last year in term four and was completed in time for students and staff to use it by the start of term two in May.

The majority of costs for the new block were paid for by the Ministry of Education, however, the total cost of the project had not yet been finalised, she said.

“We could get it to the spec we

wanted because without the extra money, we probably wouldn’t have got it to what we got,” she said.

Tina said the project manager for the new block was local and tried to use as many local sub-contractors as they could.

“What they’ve done is just fantastic to turn this pretty dreary looking block into something bright and cheery and very nice

to learn and to work in.

“The turnaround from last year when we emptied it out until now is pretty amazing. For everyone who’s worked on it, it’s just a huge thank you because what we’ve got now is amazing.”

A whakawātea (blessing) was held for the new block on June 3 led by kaumātua Larn Wilkinson and Paeroa College te reo teacher Winara Levi.

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# Friday night openings back at RSA

By GORDON PREECE

Ngatea RSA have reopened their doors on Friday nights for the first time in years.

Committee member Trevor Birchall told *The Profile* Ngatea RSA's new committee of eight people wanted to make Friday nights work.

"There's a couple of old hands and the president hasn't changed but the treasurer has changed [to Gayle Coe] and the secretary has changed [to Richard Coe] and you've got me as their publicity officer," he said.

"With those new people, we want to do something with it because the building wasn't being utilised as much as it should be.

"We're not reinventing the wheel, we're just turning the clock back to what it used to do forty years ago."

Trevor said he advertised on Facebook and through word of mouth to keep its first Friday night, which was held on May 27, "very low key", and had 16 or 17 people attend.

"They all mixed extremely well... they came from Kaiaua, Paeroa, Kerepēhi, all over the district. A lot of them came to play snooker because they saw the picture of the snooker table.

"The snooker table was busy



Members enjoy their evening at Ngatea RSA on opening night.

Photo: SUPPLIED

all night, others put the bowling mat down and played bowls and others stood around and drank and mixed.

"Just about everybody who went away came and thanked me and said they'd be back next week and bring friends with them."

Trevor said Ngatea RSA, located on Orchard West Rd,

also had a dart board available and cooked meals, such as fish and chips and sausages. Opening hours were from 4:30pm until the call for last drinks at 7:30pm.

Trevor said he hoped Friday nights would also allow Ngatea RSA to build its membership, with a couple of new members signing up on opening night.

"Every time we've opened the doors or talked to other people we've got a couple of members," he said.

"They don't have to be a returned serviceman to be in the RSA... it's \$40 a year and once you're a member you can get into any RSA or affiliated club right throughout New Zealand."

## Principal Ngaire Harris resigns

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

Ngaire Harris has announced her resignation from Hauraki Plains College, after 21 years as principal.

In the college's June 10 newsletter, Ngaire said now was "the right time" for her to step down.

"I am not intending to retire and still want to be involved in education in some form as I continue to believe that educators hold the capacity and privilege to make a difference, one student at a time," she said.

"You may well think it is a relief to finally come to this but in fact that isn't so. I have loved the school and know that regardless of whether decisions and directions were agreed with or not I have endeavoured to become my best self and do my best work at HPC.

"So, rather than relief, I write this with a deep sense of sadness."

Ngaire said she had no fear of the future of the school, and that the board would continue to keep in touch with the community as a consultation and appointment process for a new principal gets underway.

Ngaire has served the school community for nearly 35 years, 27 of those in a senior leadership role and 21 as principal. Her resignation is to take effect from the end of the school year.



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# Cranking up

Hauraki Vintage Machinery Club held a Crank Up event on June 5 at Kerepehi Flaxmill on Kaihere Rd with steam engines, flax strip-ping and stationary engines on display. Club spokesperson Lorraine Williams said the event was a great day with plenty of visitors, happy memories and good weather.



Vice president Brendon Adams feeds flax into the stripper.



Stationary engines were popping along amongst the crowd.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Kevin Hamilton operates his steam engine.



Colleen Renata, left, and her whānau collect muka (sripped flax) to make rope.



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# Rural Life

## Proposed bylaw change to regulate stock movement

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

In order to protect the surface of roads across the Hauraki and mitigate complaints, the district council has had a look at updating its stock crossing bylaw.

The new bylaw is proposing to remove the requirement for all stock crossings to have a permit, and will instead be replaced with a tiered system.

No permit will be required where certain conditions are met regarding sight lines, safety, and protection of the road surface; while conditional permits will be required when certain conditions cannot be met, the traffic volume is above a certain limit, the speed limit is above 70kmph, or the road is in an urban area.

According to Hauraki District Council, the busier the road and the more often stock is crossed, the more likely a permit will be needed.

A report presented to council stated that more than 300 level stock crossings in the district were identified, and although the 2007 bylaw required permits, there were no permits in place.

The council had received 21 service requests categorised under 'stock crossing' over the past three years, from May, 2019, to May, 2022.

The majority of these requests were regarding effluent left on roads, as well as unmanned crossings.

"At common law, an owner of land

adjoining a highway is entitled to access that road at any point at which his land actually touches it, even though the soils of the road are the council's," the report said. "It is a nuisance to either obstruct a highway/road or to render it dangerous."

"New Zealand case law has established that those who take animals on to a highway must exercise reasonable care to ensure that the animals do not cause damage."

Because the majority of complaints received by council regarding stock crossings was regarding effluent left on the road, allowing for most stock crossings to be permitted, with certain standard conditions that should be met, would set "a clear and reasonable standard for stock crossings in the district", council said.

"This is to protect the safety of road users, to ensure they are given adequate warning of a stock crossing, as well as protect the council's road surface from damage due to stock traffic and effluent." It is estimated that this would result in around 220 permitted stock crossings, and 70 requiring stock crossing permits.

**DETAILS:** Consultation on the proposed bylaw closes June 20. Full bylaw and how to give feedback at Hauraki District Council's 'We need to talk' website: [weneedto-talk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz](http://weneedto-talk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz).



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# Death at Waihi storage dam



*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*

Thomas Kennedy thought nothing of it when his son William didn't return from work on a Sunday in January 1914.

The 27-year-old, who lived with his parents in Corbett St, Paeroa, was employed at the Waihi Paeroa Gold Extraction Company as a coal trimmer, and had left the previous morning about 6.30 in good spirits.

He should have come home about 4.30 that afternoon but as he often worked overnight, his father was not unduly worried. When he did not come home on the Sunday, his parents assumed that as he got his meals at the extraction works he was staying on there.

About 20 minutes to 8am on Monday, James Coupar, the Extraction Company's metallurgist, saw something floating in the storage dam at the plant. On investigating he found it was William Kennedy.

William had been seen swimming in the dam about five o'clock on Saturday afternoon. It was usual for employees to swim in the dam. It held up to eight feet of water which was warm as it came from the engine room of the works. As well on Saturday, about a dozen children were swimming in the shallower dam next to the one William was in.

Constable Miles was called and brought the body to Paeroa for an inquest at Paeroa's Council Chamber.

William's father said his son was a steady worker who didn't drink or smoke, was never despondent and was not subject to fits. He was a good swimmer.

William had knocked off work a little before four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, and shortly afterwards was seen swimming in the dam. He didn't appear to be distressed.

There was a cyanide sump alongside the dam and although there was a warning posted up against men swallowing the water, it was not considered dangerous. The water came from the river a mile away but there had been no flow of fresh water into the dam during the recent holidays.

Employees were discouraged from swimming in that particular dam only because it stirred up the sediment and spoiled the water for using in the boilers.

There was no provision made by the company to see that employees left the works when they were finished working. Nobody knew William had not left on the Saturday.

Dr Hyde was of opinion that death was due to heart failure, accelerated by adhesions caused by old liver disease and old appendicitis. He did not think death was due to drowning.

William was buried at Paeroa's Pukerimu cemetery. His family's ordeal though was not quite over. Dr Hyde had complained bitterly over the conditions in which he had had to conduct William's post mortem. The facilities, which were the old band room at the council chambers, were inadequate. He had to work with bad ventilation, by candlelight, on a rickety table with no washing equipment. He found it disgraceful that Paeroa did not have an up-to-date morgue and he refused to conduct any more post mortems there.

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# ‘Fearless’ Rodney Garrett farewelled

**OBITUARY**  
**Rodney Garrett**  
**1961 - 2022**

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

Friends farewelled a man with a great sense of humour, children gave thanks to a “supportive, strong, and stubborn” dad, and a wife said goodbye to the love of her life. Everyone in the room hoped Rodney Garrett, who passed away on June 6, would be enjoying a well-deserved bottle or two of his favourite brew after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

A celebration of his life attracted a capacity crowd at the Ngātea War Memorial Hall where splashes of red - the colour for the Kerepēhi Bowling Club he was so avidly involved in, and the colour of his favourite brand of beer that sat atop his casket - could be seen among the crowd.

“You fought hard and gave your absolute all,” his daughter Jenna said. “We are so, so proud of you. I hope the fridge is stocked up for you up there.”

Rodney was born on August 17, 1961 to Rowan and Vivienne Garrett. He attended Kerepēhi School until 1974, and went on to Hauraki Plains College, representing the high school in a number of sporting codes, including as goalkeeper for the



Rodney Garrett was farewelled last week after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Photo: SUPPLIED/HDC

first XI soccer team.

Throughout his life, he dabbled in an array of jobs, starting as a farm hand before moving on to work at Toyota Thames, Linn Motors Paeroa, and the Hauraki Catchment Board.

He earned his bar managers licence and worked at the Hauraki Tavern, before establishing

his own business: Advanced Cleaning Services.

He was a qualified Thames Valley rugby referee, and in 1982, he joined the Kerepēhi Bowls Club, eventually holding secretary and president positions. In 2018, he was bestowed a life membership, and was instrumental in the club’s expansion project.

He was a Thames Valley outdoor bowls junior and senior representative, and in 2005 he became a Thames Bowling Club member. He was soon nominated for president, and retained that position for a historical 10 years.

In 2018, Rodney was a part of a group that reinstated the An-

zac Dawn Service in Kerepēhi. In 2019, he was elected as a Plains ward councillor for Hauraki District Council. Two years later, he was diagnosed terminally ill with cancer and given six months to live.

It was news his family said turned their lives “upside down” but together they prepared for a “courageous” fight.

Fellow Plains councillor Ross Harris and Hauraki District Mayor Toby Adams said they were amazed at Rodney’s ability to continue his work as a councillor with “gusto”.

“Our last conversation was not even a week ago, and we were talking about our speed management plan, and for the last three years he’s been in everyone’s ear about the speed by the school and marae in Kerepēhi,” Ross said.

“As I went to walk away, he looked up and said in a soft, gentle voice: ‘I want you to fight for what I’ve been fighting for’ and I will.”

Rodney was the dearly loved husband of Philippa, the much loved dad of Jenna and Ricky, Larissa and Fish, and Owen, and the granddad of Zayden, Braxton, Flynn and Ayla. He died aged 60 at his home surrounded by family and was laid to rest at the Kerepēhi urupā.



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The Valley  
**Profile**





Greg Hampton, left, author Gareth Hughes, Theresa Thompson, and Harry Parke at the book launch. Photo: SUPPLIED

# Jeanette Fitzsimons remembered

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

More than 70 people attended the launch of the biography of Jeanette Fitzsimons, a former Coromandel MP, environmentalist, and “trailblazer”.

Held inside Carson’s Bookshop in Thames on June 5, the launch of the biography - *A Gentle Radical* - brought together those connected to Jeanette, including her husband Harry Parke.

Harry shared fond memories of their love, life, and adventures together, and said it was interesting to read other people’s memories and experiences of Jeanette in *A Gentle Radical*.

“I hope you really enjoy reading it. It’s great to see... so many people I haven’t seen for quite a long time,” he said.

Jeanette 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.

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

Carson’s Bookshop owner operator Greg Hampton called her “trail-blazing”.

“Jeanette was, of course, very special to this community and the first green politician to be elected by an electorate in the world - what a substantial world contribution that is,” he said.

Author Gareth Hughes provided his insight into the purpose of the biography, stemming from a sit around chestnut trees more than a decade ago. “One of the initiatives I started was a summer camp at Harry and Jeanette’s farm back

in 2007, and sitting around the chestnut orchard with generations of young Greens from all across Aotearoa... Every year Jeanette and Harry would tell the story of the Green Party, and the story of the campaigns.

“They’d tell stories about negotiating with Helen Clark, entering the alliance, stories of leaving the alliance, stories of the great campaigns... and that’s what I wanted to [do], with her tragic and sudden loss, to record those stories.”

Gareth said the book was dedicated to Harry, who, in his own right, was “a legend”.

“He pushed Jeanette forward and nominated her to be the first female leader of the Green Party, and Harry is a wonderful individual; I want to acknowledge him.”



# Memories shared in new book

By GORDON PREECE

A book outlining Waikino and Waitetaki residents’ memories is the latest in The Treasury’s *True Tales* series.

About 70 people attended the launch of *More True Tales of Waikino and Waitetaki* on June 12 at Waikino Station Cafe. Editor Geraldine Dunwoodie said the book followed on from *True Tales of Waikino and Waitetaki*, which was launched in 2016. “One of the local residents in Waikino, Bev Stubbs, had collected over many many years with her husband [Homer] stories about the early days from the early settlers,” she said.

“They’d come and visit them at home on a return to Waikino and Bev asked them to go away and write it down and send it back to her, so she had a great collection which made the first book. She still had enough for a second book, which was a bonus, so that’s how the second book was started, mainly with stories from Bev.”

Geraldine, who lives in Thames, has edited books for The Treasury for the past six or seven years. She said for the second version, two things had been added which were outside of the *True Tales* books parameters.

“One is a long account by the former manager of the [Victoria Battery], who went through each of the processes at the Battery and described them in ways that weren’t too technical. So for anybody who wants to know what those old ruins are, it’s a great story,” she said.

The book also included a local song from the early days called *Waitetaki Everytime*, which had two different versions sung to two popular tunes, she said. “Most people seem to know those two shorter versions but amongst their collection of papers [Bev] found the proper song which had 19 verses so we’ve added that in as most people would never have seen that before either.”

Waikino School students also contributed stories to the book with the theme: what makes a Waikino kid.

“Fourteen children actually wrote on this topic and we chose the best two from those to include in the book. Because they’d all had a good go at writing something, I’ve also put one or two sentences out of each of the stories afterwards just as a filler page so they’re all in print.

“We were very pleased to see that happen, they’ll be the writers of the future.”



Bev Stubbs, left, Beth Mackay, Max McLean, Geraldine Dunwoodie, Jan Wright.

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**Lydia Mahon says funds raised from the Clothing Swap will go towards kindy projects.** Photo: GORDON PREECE

# Kindy to hold Clothing Swap fundraiser

**By GORDON PREECE**

**H**undreds of donated clothes in “very mint condition” will be up for grabs at a Clothing Swap event hosted by Thames Coast Community Kindergarten.

Committee member Lydia Mahon told *The Profile* the event would be held on June 17 from 6pm to 8:30pm at Thames Squash Club to promote the kindergarten and raise funds for a new storage shed.

"We've got lots of new resources that we need to store plus a lawnmower. At the moment, given where our kindy is, we need a new one that's sort of rodent proof as well," she said.

“Given the winter months, we need the money to put a concrete slab down and put the storage shed on that.

“A few friends on the committee have [also] been talking about how there’s not a lot to do in Thames on a Friday night so it would be cool to actually have a night out where you can meet people around the community... and get awareness out about our kindergarten... we’re always looking for new enrolments.”

Lydia said entry to the event was \$15, which would be redeemed by purchasing clothes.

"We've got a lot of labelled stuff in very mint condition... the items will be priced to go. They will be

cheap, we have to get rid of them that night, and from there on you can buy additional items if you like too," she said.

Lydia said extra money raised from the event would go towards a new mural for the kindergarten and any leftover clothes would be donated to The Aunties charity, which supports people who are living or have lived in domestic violence.

**Details:** Thames Coast Community Kindergarten Clothing Swap - Pre loved adult clothing for sale. Thames Squash Club on 401 Brown St, Thames, from 6pm until 8:30pm. \$15 entry at the door (redeemable in clothing) with Eftpos available. Cash bar available.

# Flavourful muffins

## RECIPE

**A**s promised last month, I have a recipe featuring beautiful feijoas this time. If you are lucky enough to still have the last of the season, or better still you have a couple of cups frozen, then you'll love this one! It makes delicious, light, flavourful muffins. I use Spelt flour in this recipe – for its higher protein content and its good digestive properties, but the recipe works just as well with standard flour. As usual with my recipes, if you don't like, or don't have feijoas, you can substitute them for canned chopped pears, stewed apple or rhubarb, or softened dates – anything that pairs well with ginger. I hope you enjoy.....

- Jaki, Savour & Spice

## INGREDIENTS

- 250g Spelt Flour  
2 teaspoon baking powder  
1 tablespoon chopped crystallized ginger  
60mls unflavoured runny yoghurt  
(I use The Collective)

- 60mls honey  
2 eggs  
125ml olive oil  
1 teaspoon good vanilla extract  
(not essence)  
2 cups feijoa pulp

## Topping

- 4 teaspoons coconut sugar  
2 teaspoons blanched sliced almonds  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  teaspoons ground ginger

## METHOD

Heat oven to 180 degrees Celsius, and either grease a 12-hole muffin tray or use 12 paper cases to line. Sift the flour and baking powder into a large bowl, and add the chopped crystallized ginger. In a smaller bowl add the runny yoghurt, honey, eggs, olive oil and vanilla and whisk to combine. Once whisked, gently add the pulped/stewed fruit.


Add this to the flour mixture, taking care to mix gently – otherwise you will end up with tough muffins. It doesn't matter if you can still see bits of flour throughout the mix, it will all come together in the cooking. Mix the topping ingredients into a small bowl.

Spoon the muffin mixture evenly into your muffin holes/cases, and sprinkle the topping over them. Bake for approx. 20 mins until a skewer comes out clean and they are bouncy to the touch.




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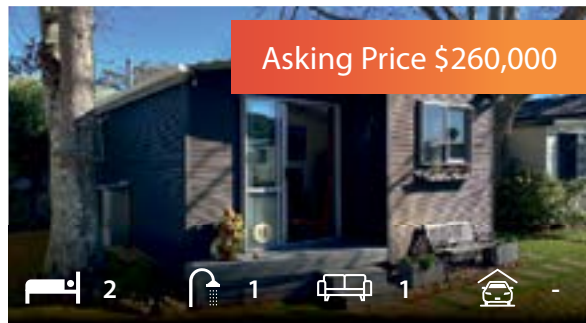
AMY BUSTARD  
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



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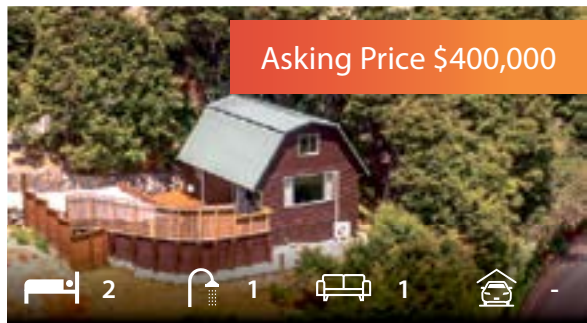


Asking Price \$260,000





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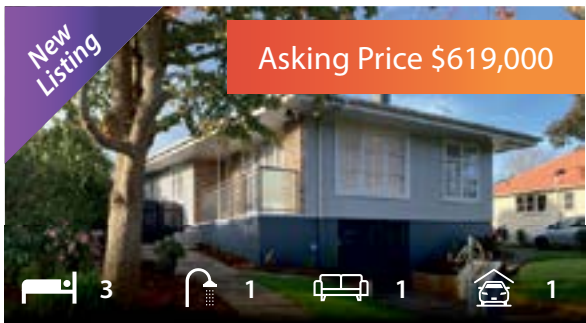


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



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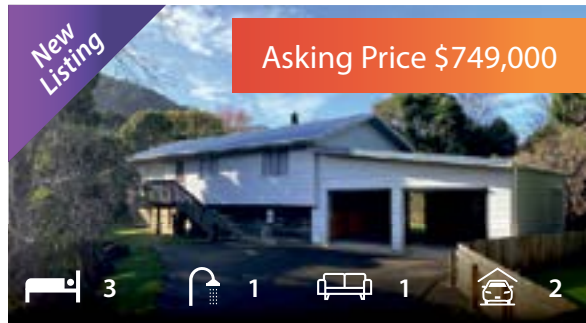
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

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 5
 3
 2
 2

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ENTERTAINMENT

Bike night to raise track funds

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

The Thames Mountain Bike Club is using an upcoming film night to boost its fundraising efforts for its Karaka Track upgrade. *The Big Bike Film Night* will pedal into Thames next Wednesday, June 22, presenting an array of international and New Zealand movies specifically selected by Taupō-based curator Brett Cotter. “Not many people would be proud to have their event defined as ‘weird, wacky and wonderful’, however that is one of the best ways of describing this celebration of the humble bicycle,” Mr Cotter said.

“Our 2022 collection contains 12 mesmerising films that are as varied and diverse as you could hope for.”

He would also be making a donation from the ticket sales towards the Thames Mountain Bike Club for the upgrade project, he told *The Profile*.

In the past five years, the club has raised \$65,000 for two large and two small bridges, as well as slip repair along the lower 4kms of the Karaka Track.

It was now aiming to upgrade the track all the way to the Waio-tahi junction.

“Unfortunately, the cost of the project has gone up and we are now short of our \$75,000 target,” club spokesperson Ric Balfour said.

“To tackle that shortfall, we have started a Give-a-little page, begun a membership drive, and



The treasure chest of films includes one rider’s colourful adventure through dramatic landscapes to the illumination of hot air balloons.

Photo: Jb Liautard/ Commencal Bikes

worked with Brett to bring *The Big Bike Film Night* to Thames.”

The fundraiser component will start at 5.30pm and include food and beverages for sale; a raffle for a mountain bike, and bike product; door prizes and a swapmeet.

“During the swapmeet we will showcase the work of the Coromandel Trails Collective supporting local mountain bike tracks, parks and adventure riding. There will be a map on the wall to orient people to all the great projects underway around the Coromandel.”

This year’s treasure chest of films includes one rider’s colourful adventure through dramatic landscapes to the illumination of hot air balloons; a small Hawkes Bay School’s ambitious plan to create a sustainable way to increase students’ hauora (a Māori philosophy

of health and well-being); three friends’ mission to the centre of South America on a treacherous 2500km bike packing and raft trip; and one fixed-gear cyclist’s obsession with speed.

**DETAILS: The Big Bike Film Night screens in Thames on Wednesday, June 22, 7pm at the Thames Civic Centre. For more information, and to buy tickets visit [www.bigbikefilmnight.nz](http://www.bigbikefilmnight.nz) (door sales on the night subject to availability). Thames Mountain Bike Club will be at the film night from 5:30pm raising funds for the Karaka Track upgrade project, doing raffles, a swap meet of bike and outdoor gear, and they will have food and non-alcoholic refreshments for \$2, entry gets a spot prize ticket.**



Freelance horn player Anita Austin will perform in Thames. Photo: SUPPLIED

Anita Austin to perform

Thames Music Group’s next free Friday lunchtime concert will feature French Horn performer and brass teacher Anita Austin.

Working as a freelance horn player in both New Zealand and Australia, Anita has performed with orchestras including Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra, Dunedin Symphony Orchestra, Hawkes Bay Orchestra, Festival Opera Or-

chestra and Auckland Chamber Orchestra. She has previously been principal horn of the Auckland Youth Orchestra, NZSO National Youth Orchestra and The University of Auckland Symphony Orchestra.

**DETAILS: Anita will perform on June 17 at St George’s Church, Mackay St, from 12:15pm until 1pm. Entry: free or koha (donation), face masks and social distancing will be required.**

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Friday concerts are free, with Hot Soup and Buns for \$5 at the end.

The Winter Series is as follows

Friday 17th June 12.15pm: Anita Austin (French Horn

Sunday 3rd July 2pm: Auckland City Brass \$20 at the door

Friday 22nd July 12.15 pm: Te Aroha Singers.

Sunday 7th August 2pm: Sounds of the Shore Chorus \$20 at door

Friday 26th August 12.15pm: Auckland Barbershop Quartet

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Waihi LandSAR chairman Darren Butler, left, Farm Source Waihi store manager Esther Hoseason, OceanaGold operations general manager Matt Hine and OceanaGold Waihi employee Leroy Crawford-Flett with the donated ute.

# New vehicle revs up Waihi LandSAR

By GORDON PREECE

Waihi LandSAR can now tackle tough terrain for search and rescue in a new ute donated by OceanaGold. Waihi LandSAR is a group of 24 volunteers available 24/7 to undertake search and rescue missions in Waihi and other urban and remote areas in Waikato and Bay of Plenty. Chairman Darren Butler told *The Profile* the new four wheel drive dual cab ute would be a “huge asset” for the group. “We do quite a bit of travel out of the area to assist with neighbouring search operations and regional training... but up until now we’ve all just relied on our own personal vehicles for transport to get anywhere. So to have a group vehicle available is a huge asset,” he said.

“[It] reduces the burden on the individuals... and being four wheel drive we get to do the areas that are out in the middle of nowhere so the four wheel drive side of things will be absolutely great for us.” Darren said OceanaGold’s generosity to donate the ute to Waihi LandSAR, which had undertaken around five search and rescue missions this year, was “greatly appreciated.” “Any income we get we need to fundraise ourselves... if [the new ute] wasn’t going to be from a donation, we probably couldn’t afford to go purchasing it and certainly nothing to the calibre of the vehicle they’ve just given us, so greatly appreciated,” he said. Darren said the next step was to get a canopy, deck liner and towbar for the new ute to carry

specialised equipment, which included stretchers and ropes. OceanaGold said it won the ute in a Farm Source promotion and after recognising other organisations would benefit from the vehicle, decided to donate it to Waihi LandSAR due to its strong local presence and dedicated team of volunteers. OceanaGold general manager operations Matt Hine said LandSAR devoted hundreds of hours each year, with responses ranging from searching for lost hikers to helping locate family members suffering Dementia or Alzheimers. “It’s a fantastic organisation which at its core represents reuniting loved ones [and] OceanaGold in conjunction with Waihi Farm Source are proud to support their ongoing work through the donation of the vehicle,” he said.


## BOOK REVIEWS

**Voices from the New Zealand Wars | He Reo nō ngā Pakanga o Aotearoa, by Vincent O’Malley**  
Winner of the 2022 Book Awards for NZ General Non-Fiction. Covering the New Zealand Wars of the mid-nineteenth century, Vincent O’Malley vividly evokes the extreme emotions experienced during the most turbulent time in our country’s history. Each account is expertly introduced and contextualised, so the historical record speaks to us through many voices and first-hand accounts from Māori and Pakeha, who either fought in or witnessed the wars that ravaged New Zealand between 1845 and 1872. “Welcome to our story, this history. Wherever in the world the bones of your ancestors lie, wherever their ashes may have been dispersed, here you will find traces of them, and of yourself... It is, of course, a story of colonisation and resistance - and a history that has never stopped repeating.” - Arama Rata. A fascinating and balanced account of perspectives from this pivotal period of our history.

**A Gentle Radical: The Life of Jeanette Fitzsimons, by Gareth Hughes**  
Officially launched at Carson’s Bookshop on June 6, author Gareth Hughes has compiled here not only a biography of Jeanette Fitzsimons’ life and legacy, but also a history of the green movement in New Zealand from the initiation of the Values Party to the present day 50-year anniversary of the New Zealand Green Party. As a former Jeanette staffer and Green MP, Gareth is well placed to compile Jeanette’s biography. Well researched and with interviews from a wide range of perspectives, *A Gentle Radical* provides a comprehensive account of Jeanette’s life story and achievements but does not shy away from depicting the challenges, battles and frustrations of a political life. An inspiring account of the remarkable life of a remarkable woman, whose integrity and trailblazing legacy will be long remembered.

**The Astromancer: The Rising of Matariki, By Witi Ihimaera**  
There are many children’s books already available celebrating Matariki, but this new large format chapter book for readers eight years and above is a welcome and very special edition to the collection. Written by one our most esteemed authors, Witi Ihimaera, *The Astromancer* blends adventure, mythology and education into the story of the rising of Matariki. The story has a strong cast of young characters including the Astromancer’s new apprentices, three boys, an orphan girl and her smelly dog, Kuri, who are recruited to learn about Matariki and the Maramataka calendar. Adventures pursue as the apprentices are challenged to save the tribe from Ruatapu the Ravenous. Produced in a quality hardback format with beautiful illustrations by Isobel Joy Te Aho-White, *The Astromancer* is destined to become a classic kiwi storybook. A full Te Reo version is also available.

- Book reviews by Carson’s Bookshop



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Without your contributions we would be unable to provide our programmes and services to our own community. Those that support our Opportunity shop are also contributing to the running of these programmes and services which include:

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- Caring Caller
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- Royal honours through the Order of St John honours system
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- Free Mental Health First Aid courses
- Child Car Seat ID
- Youth programme
- AED locality identification
- Support towards medical cover at some local charity events
- Support to our Ambulance Service


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To find out more information please call Nikki on:  
**(07) 868 0555 or email [nikki.tyrrell-baxter@stjohn.org.nz](mailto:nikki.tyrrell-baxter@stjohn.org.nz)**

# Thank you Community!



...for supporting the book launch of *A Gentle Radical* on June 5 at our store.



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SUDOKU

54

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

4	6			5				
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EASY

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HARD

54

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EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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

JUMBO CROSSWORD

74

ACROSS

1 Digging tool (5)

4 Repulsive (8)

9 Turn down (6)

14 Paris river (5)

15 In a state of confusion (2,5,3,6)

17 Form (5)

18 Donkey (3)

19 Loses temporarily (7)

20 Trite, obvious remark (9)

21 Unborn mammal (6)

24 Stage beam (9)

25 Colour remover (6)

26 Call names (6)

29 White wine (10)

31 Young goat (3)

32 Decelerated (6)

33 Grind up (4)

35 Fetch (3)

37 Astound (4)

39 Indemnity (9)

40 Collection of poems or other pieces of writing (9)

41 Fish (5)

42 Due (8)

47 Inmate (8)

51 Short, flat-headed nail (5)

55 The other way round (4,5)

56 Restored to good condition (9)

58 Cast off (4)

59 Large bird (3)

60 Egg centre (4)

61 Pact (6)

62 Snow runner (3)

63 Prying person (4,6)

66 Mixture of tunes (6)

67 One of the Seven Dwarfs (6)

69 Childish sulkiness (9)

72 Culmination (6)

73 Amuse (9)

75 Captivate by charm (7)

77 Ventilate (3)

80 Oneness (5)

81 One's finest clothes (4,3,3,6)

82 Luggage (5)

83 Slight breeze (6)

84 Component parts (8)

85 Soup (5)

DOWN

2 Male head of family (9)

3 Rotary tool (5)

5 Egg-shaped (4)

6 Symbol of socialist revolution (3,4)

7 Awe-inspiring (12)

8 Build (5)

9 Sediment (7)

10 Go without food (4)

11 Follow secretly (6)

12 King with golden touch (5)

13 Continue obstinately (7)

14 Navigation instrument (7)

16 Studier of the sources and development of words (11)

22 Genetic copies (6)

23 Circus tumbler (7)

24 Peculiar (7)

25 Financial plan (6)

27 One-horned animal (7)

28 Medieval court clown (6)

30 Tale (4)

32 Backless seat (5)

34 Tier (5)

36 Gearwheels (4)

38 Make heavy demands on (3)

42 Messenger (5)

43 Preserved (7)

44 Bay (4)

45 Mistakes (6)

46 Hive product (5)

48 Self-governing (11)

49 Watch (7)

50 Female sheep (3)

51 Mounted troops (7)

52 Reliable (6)

53 Beyond doubt, not open to question (12)

54 Kiln (4)

57 Struggle (6)

64 Extremely good (9)

65 Grave (7)

66 Sovereign (7)

68 Selection of drinks in hotel room (7)

70 Sewer's protection (7)

71 Endemic (6)

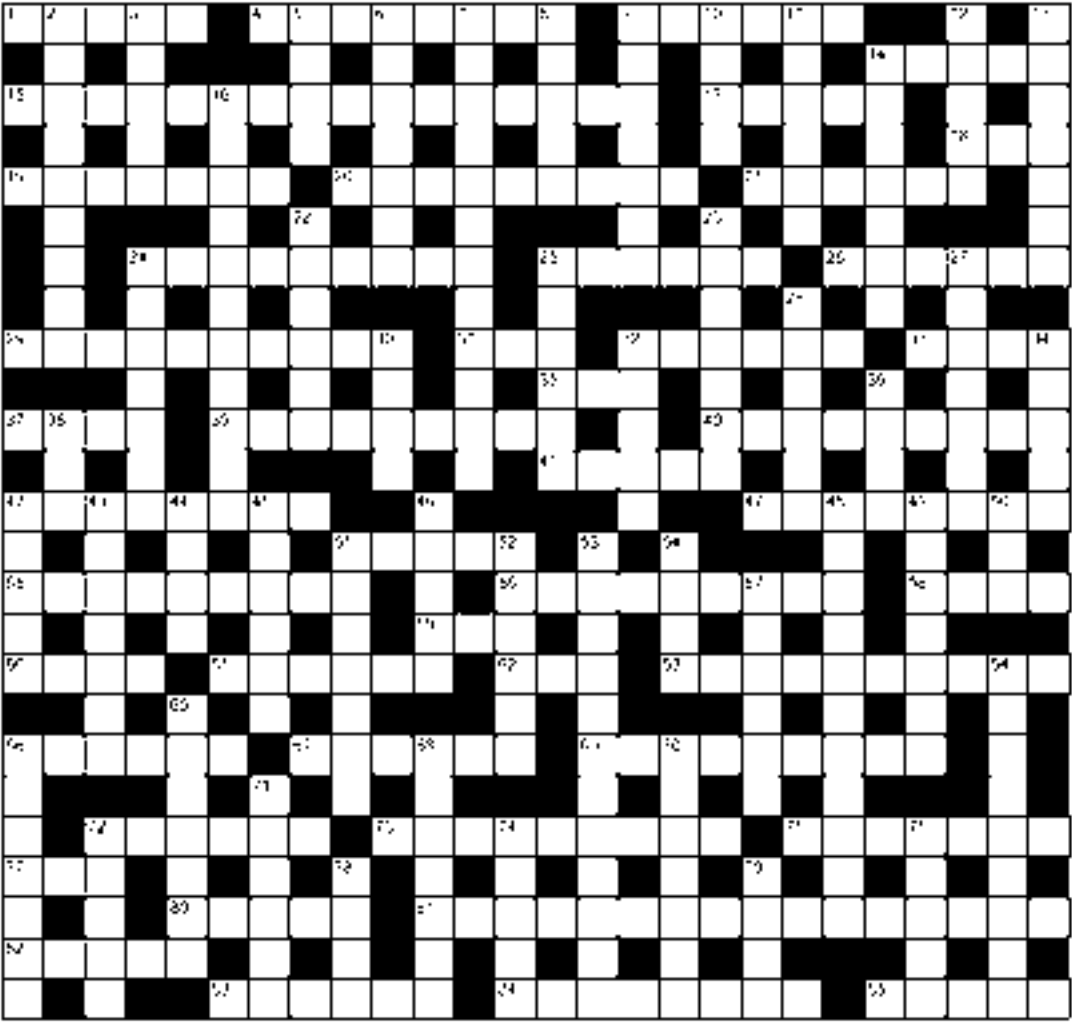
72 Loaf outer (5)

74 Happen afterwards (5)

76 Mouth sore (5)

78 Legend (4)

79 Rope joint (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Spill the beans, 8 Unsure, 14 State, 15 Straight, 16 Flushed, 17 Sharp, 18 Off, 19 Maestro, 21 Frustrate, 22 Roster, 25 Clydesdale, 27 Schedule, 28 Reject, 31 Carbon, 33 Decibel, 34 Mouse, 35 Stow, 37 Duo, 39 Limo, 40 Flannel, 41 Inherited, 42 Earshot, 43 Dissolve, 48 Harmless, 52 Adheres, 56 Verdigris, 57 Tropics, 58 Tear, 59 Lid, 60 Tile, 61 Serial, 62 Illegal, 63 Roused, 65 Basket, 66 Listless, 68 Apologetic, 71 Travel, 72 Grotesque, 74 Triceps, 76 Mar, 79 Sever, 80 Formula, 81 Activist, 83 Stale, 84 Sleepy, 85 Take the mickey.

DOWN: 2 Pitfall, 3 Leads, 4 Tug, 5 Eats, 6 Effervescent, 7 Nouns, 8 Updated, 9 Sash, 10 Reason, 11 Major, 12 Perfect, 13 Shareholder, 14 Spotted, 20 Resentful, 23 Hardware, 24 Plaudit, 26 Dubious, 27 Subtle, 29 Entitle, 30 Asthma, 32 Alibi, 34 Moths, 36 Wades, 38 Cram, 43 Duvet, 44 Surplus, 45 Omit, 46 Varied, 47 Chill, 48 Heirloom, 49 Reservoir, 50 Lettuce, 51 Space, 52 Aspirin, 53 Rudimentary, 54 Stylus, 55 Congratulate, 64 Relapse, 65 Blemish, 67 Thrifty, 69 Impasse, 70 Weevil, 71 Trial, 73 Scuba, 75 Civic, 77 Urge, 78 Cash, 82 Tom.



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<b>Public Notice</b> The Thames RSA advise that we now have located to the Thames Bowling Club, 512 Mackay St, Thames. RSA night will continue to be Thursday evenings from 4pm.	<b>We rely on advertising to fund our local news - enquire today!</b> Ph 022 130 3885		

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Paeroa College students form a peace sign on the school field. Photos: SUPPLIED

All together for peace

Paeroa College held a mufti day for world peace on May 26, with the whole school forming a peace sign that could be seen from above. The day was organised by the student council, who felt strongly about making a stand against war. Proceeds went to the Red Cross to support refugees across the world with essential humanitarian support. The mufti day was the first major act undertaken by the student council this year, and pupil Hamish Buchanan said everyone was able to contribute in different ways.

"Travis [Cox] and I found painting the peace sign on the field was a particularly fun way to put the algebra and geometry we've been learning into practice. How big would a peace sign need to be to fit 300 people? Twenty-six metres in diameter was our answer."

The event saw many of the college students donning classic 60s hippie attire - with piles of tie-dye, rose tinted glasses, headbands, and peace signs. One student, Shaun Hearn went the extra mile displaying his impressive dove costume complete with a sprig of rosemary in place of an olive branch.



Franco Espinoza as a hippie, left, and Shaun Hearn dresses up as a dove.

SPORTS RESULTS



LEFT: Thames Croquet Day Cup winner Mark Thornton is presented with his trophy by club captain Jill Maw. RIGHT: Cockburn-Mercer Memorial trophy winners Dennis and Sue Karl.

**CROQUET**  
In March, the Thames Croquet Club held its in-house doubles golf croquet competition at its grounds at 101 Beach Rd. Hilary Taylor and Felix O'Carroll, the winners in 2021, were there to defend the title and prize of the Paddy Cockburn-Mercer Memorial Trophy. It was a very close competition, with the defenders and another pair, winning four games each, but in the end on differentials, the team of Dennis and Sue Karl had three more overall points and won the event. The cup for this was presented after the club's recent annual general meeting, as was the trophy for the handicap singles competition: the Day Trophy won by Mark Thornton.

**THAMES VALLEY RUGBY**  
Thames Valley Rugby Results: Tom Jordan Cup: Hauraki North 9-15 COBRAs; Thames 43-12 Mercury Bay; Whangamata 35-10 Waihi Athletic; Coromandel 7-13 Waihou. Leach Cup: Mercury Bay 26-13 Thames; Waihi Athletic 27-10 COBRAs; Ngatea 34-6 Waihou.



# Encouragement key for class exhibition

By GORDON PREECE

A love of animals provides inspiration for Jan Clark’s artwork currently on display at its class exhibition.

The Paeroa Society of Arts exhibition, which displays class members’ artwork, is held each year to honour the late Dawn Elliott, who hosted the Normanby Rd art gallery’s classes for 25 years.

Jan Clark, who is the society’s arts facilitator, told *The Profile* planning for her art-work involved researching animals.

“I usually do New Zealand birds, that’s my most go to art-work... [I do] a lot of study and research into how they move, how they look,” she said.

“Especially with the birds [their] feathers, how their wings move, all that kind of background work so that you’re creating something that has the essence of the animal.”

Jan, who lives in Kaihere, said every artist put something of themselves in their artwork and shouldn’t create it for someone else.

“They should be using their essence, or their emotions, or their love of something to put into their artworks,” she said.

“If you’re producing it for someone else you’ve kind of covered your end result.”

Jan said the expectations for



Paeroa Society of Arts facilitator Jan Clark says artists should use their essence, emotions or their love of something in their artwork. Photo: GORDON PREECE

this year’s class exhibition was to encourage the group’s 15 artists to display their artwork to keep it “alive and vibrant.”

“It can be very daunting for someone to put their work on a wall, especially if they don’t feel it’s up to the standard they

expect, so it’s to encourage that next step,” she said.

Jan said the society’s class members enjoyed creating art-work using pastels this year, and one of their challenges was taking a picture and painting it with their interpretations.

“The class is quite varied in the different media they use and different skill levels...the whole idea is to keep persevering,” she said.

**DETAILS:** *The Paeroa Society of Arts class exhibition is open until the end of June.*

## In Brief

### VACCINATION CLINIC TO CLOSE

The Waikato DHB’s Thames community vaccination clinic in Goldfields Shopping Centre will close on Wednesday, June 15. Since it opened in July last year, the clinic has administered 20,408 Covid-19 and 413 flu vaccinations. The DHB worked alongside iwi-based provider Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki to deliver health services throughout Hauraki, including mobile clinics in some of the smaller and more remote locations. The DHB is replacing the Thames community vaccination clinic with mobile vaccination clinics throughout the Waikato, offering Covid-19 to everyone aged 5+, and free flu and MMR immunisations for those eligible. With the reduced prevalence of flu and measles and a focus on Covid-19 over the past two years, immunisation rates have dropped from the levels reported in 2020, and national and local campaigns are underway to encourage people to get protected.

### Manufacturer moves to Kerepēhi

Auckland-based labelling manufacturer Saito has started work on a \$4 million factory at an industrial park in Hauraki. Established in 1985 as a small home business, Saito operates out of Australia, the Pacific Islands, and New Zealand, where it has been located in central Auckland for more than three decades. It has now purchased land in Kerepēhi’s industrial hub, off State Highway 2, to construct its new 4000m2 purpose-built factory.

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# Final luncheon for King’s Empire Veterans

By GORDON PREECE

The Thames Coast branch of King’s Empire Veterans (KEV) have closed after 36 years.

The organisation was for New Zealand servicemen and women who had served in Commonwealth forces and their associates to perpetuate the comradeship born of service to the Sovereign with like-minded individuals.

Grant Box, who has been the Thames Coast organisation’s president for the past 13 years, told *The Profile* the decision to close was made at their annual general meeting in May because membership was dwindling. “My wife [Barbara, who was also secretary] and I decided we would throw the towel in and someone else could take over, but no one put their hand up,” he said.

“Our membership is dwindling all the time and people are getting older and they don’t run away and fight wars anymore.”

Grant said the Thames Coast branch, which had around 40 members at the time of closure, was keen to recruit younger members to revitalise the organisation but couldn’t do so.

“Very sad but it was inevitable, you don’t see anyone in



Treasurer Jeanette Ewers, left, secretary Barbara Box, and president Grant Box.



Dat Patten, left, Sue Williams and Kitty Boman.



Members enjoy their final King’s Empire Veterans lunch.



Morgan Lewis, left, Barney Bowen, and Graeme Brighthouse.

here [young],” he said.

Grant believed there were only two KEV branches now

left in New Zealand.

Grant said the Thames Coast branch had met monthly at

Richmond Villas in Thames for a social afternoon and often went on bus trips for lunches

at RSA clubs.

They had their final lunch at Gastronomics on June 9.

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