

Man dies in shed fire in Hikutaia, P3

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084 August 24, 2022

'Here we go again'



Caltex Paeroa manager Paul Milner says the latest break-in is "frustrating".
 Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

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

High-quality security cameras recorded a smash-and-grab crime at Caltex Paeroa, and within 20 minutes of watching the tape, Police had nabbed the suspects.

Four youths were arrested after a burglary at the service station around 5.10am on August 14. It is suspected the same youths were allegedly involved in another break-in at One3One Restaurant an hour earlier.

Caltex Paeroa manager Paul Milner told *The Profile* his initial reaction was: "Here we go again".

Three-and-a-half years ago, offenders broke into the service station seeking cigarettes but were unsuccessful, he said. Around six years ago, his staff were also targeted in an armed hold-up. "So, it is good that it happened when no one was here, because if you're here and you come across them, that's another problem," he said.

In last week's break-in, one of the front windows of the service station was smashed and the contents of till drawers were stolen, as well as snacks, including chocolate bars and beef jerky. Local security drove past the scene around 5.30am, noticed the damage, and called Police. Paul said within 20 minutes of officers watching the footage, the alleged offenders were in the back of a cop car.

"It's frustrating more than anything," he said. "The cost just to replace the piece of glass is \$3500... and it's those nice-to-haves that miss out; we've had to cut our sponsorship back to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter," he said.

"It is limited to a small group of people but they are people who, over one night, can wreck a lot of stuff."

Ideally, the outcome would be for the offenders to "pay for what they broke", he said.

The security system helped a lot in catching the alleged thieves, who didn't get far, he said. One was even caught with his pants dropping to his ankles as he fled the scene.

However, Paul was considering strengthening his security even further. "It doesn't matter what shop gets broken into, it affects everybody," he said.

Police confirmed there were two burglaries in Paeroa in the early hours of August 14, and four youths were arrested near the scene shortly afterward with property stolen in the burglaries in their possession. Two of them have been charged and were expected to appear in the Waihi Youth Court on August 18.

SHOP OWNERS CLEAN UP AFTER RAM RAIDS, P2



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Ram raids: 'It's now my turn'

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

A Thames shop owner has said "everything went wrong" for an alleged ram-raider who attempted to break into his jewellery store and an adjacent cafe this month.

Police said the alleged offender, a 20-year-old male, was caught red-handed by patrolling officers from Paeroa around 2.20am on August 10, as he crashed into one store, reversed, then crashed into another.

He'll be appearing in Thames District Court later this month.

Perry, who asked for his surname to be omitted, is the owner of Thames Jewellers on Pollen St.

He said he believed the alleged offender fled on foot empty-handed after being caught in the act by patrolling police officers.

"Everything went wrong for the guy. First, he went into the wrong shop, then the minute he hit us, the police car was there, the siren began, and he started running," he said.

"One of the policemen was an athlete, so [catching him] was easy."

Perry, whose store was also targeted by thieves around seven years ago, said he was "delighted" the cops were present at the time of the ram raid.

"I spoke to the Paeroa policeman and he said quite often they come and drive through the town... so it was perfect timing."



Lim Yuen's Sunburst Coffee Lounge was "destroyed" after a ram raid on August 10. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

However, after being made aware of the crime, Perry said his first thoughts were: "It's now my turn."

"Everybody was saying: 'One day it's going to be you', so it was sort of like it was expected... not that it was wanted," he said.

Lim Yuen, from Sunburst Coffee Lounge next-door, shared the same sentiments.

She and her family received a phone call from Perry the morning of the ram-raid, and were told: "the shop has been destroyed".

"The police said [the alleged

offender] might have thought my shop was Perry's, but we thought he may have wanted the money from our till as well," she said.

"You just don't know what they might have been thinking."

Lim said the ram-raid destroyed the cafe's entire front facade, as well as a side wall.

She was told it could take six months to get it repaired.

"We're quite disappointed because we've been through a lot with Covid-19.

"Put it this way, I like that he got caught."

Waikato East Area Commander Inspector Dean Anderson earlier told *The Profile* that ram raid-like crimes caused "concern and harm" to the community, and would "not be tolerated".

"Staff have focused hard on preventative patrols within commercial premises in our towns, given the frequency of recent ram raid type offences across the country and the impact this has on business owners and the community," he said.



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Thames Tides

Wed Aug 24		Thu Aug 25		Fri Aug 26		Sat Aug 27		Sun Aug 28		Mon Aug 29		Tue Aug 30	
Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon
4:44am 2.9	5:21pm 3.1	5:40am 2.9	6:08pm 3.1	12:14am 1.0	12:32pm 0.9	12:56am 1.0	1:12pm 0.8	1:36am 0.9	1:50pm 0.7	2:15am 0.8	2:27pm 0.6	2:53am 0.7	3:05pm 0.6
10:57am 1.0	11:28pm 1.1	11:48am 1.0		6:30am 3.0	6:50pm 3.2	7:15am 3.1	7:28pm 3.3	7:56am 3.2	8:06pm 3.4	8:33am 3.3	8:43pm 3.4	9:10am 3.4	9:21pm 3.5
☀️ 6:51am	5:51pm	☀️ 6:49am	5:51pm	☀️ 6:48am	5:52pm	☀️ 6:47am	5:53pm	☀️ 6:45am	5:54pm	☀️ 6:44am	5:55pm	☀️ 6:43am	5:55pm
🐟 B	Best At 9:49am 10:14pm	🐟 B	Best At 10:38am 11:02pm	🐟 B	Best At 11:26am 11:49pm	🐟 F	Best At 12:12pm	🐟 G	Best At 12:34am 12:56pm	🐟 G	Best At 1:17am 1:39pm	🐟 G	Best At 2:00am 2:22pm
🌑 Rise 5:08am Set 2:32pm		🌑 Rise 5:50am Set 3:32pm		🌑 Rise 6:26am Set 4:33pm	🌑 Rise 6:57am Set 5:34pm	🌑 Rise 7:24am Set 6:37pm		🌑 Rise 7:50am Set 7:39pm		🌑 Rise 8:15am Set 8:41pm			

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MOON AND FISH KEYS

🌑 New Moon	🌒 First Quarter	🌓 Full Moon	🌔 Last Quarter
🐟 Good Fishing	🐟 Fair Fishing	🐟 Not So Good	

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

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

Huge increase in dog attacks

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

District council staff were alerted to more than 950 incidents involving dogs over the past year, including 88 dog attacks on people and animals.

This included dog attacks on 36 people and 52 animals, according to Thames-Coromandel District Council's annual dog control report for the 2021-2022 financial year. There were also 65 incidents of aggression or "rushing", 231 concerns about barking, 35 welfare checks carried out and 217 reports of dogs loose or uncontrolled.

These numbers are higher compared to the incidents reported during the previous year. During 2020-21, there were 22 attacks on people, 48 attacks on animals, 53 incidents of rushing, and 209 concerns about barking.

However, the number of incidents overall had reduced compared to the year prior, with 952 in 2021-22 and 1145 in 2020-21.

Council's licensing and compliance manager Alice Crowther said incidents relating to dogs not being kept under control were around the same as previous years - 217 in 2021-22 and 250 in 2020-21. "From our observations, the majority of dog owners are responsible and keep their dogs under control, but we do see irresponsible behaviour in a small percentage of owners,"

she said.

"In most cases, we provide education or warnings and that's usually successful in achieving a change in behaviour; however, we take a firmer compliance approach for repeat offenders or serious incidents."

Alice told *The Profile* 17 dogs were euthanised last year, which included dogs that were surrendered or dogs that were abandoned and not suitable for rehoming after being temperament tested. Council uses qualified vets to ensure all dogs that are to be euthanised are done so in a humane manner.

"Our bylaws and compliance team has a wide range of responsibilities including parking patrols, freedom camping patrols, animal control, and investigating general nuisance complaints."

"We have a 24-hour, seven days a week service, so you will see our staff out interacting with the public on weekends or responding to urgent calls for service outside of normal business hours," she said.

"We always hope to achieve compliance through education and advice; however, our role does involve issuing warning notices, infringements or prosecution for more serious or repeated offending." There were three prosecutions over 2021-22, two of which are currently going through the district court.



The remains of the shed in Hikutaia where a man lost his life last week.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

Firefighters battle fatal fire

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

A shed fire that claimed the life of a Hikutaia man last week remains under investigation, Fire and Emergency NZ told *The Profile*.

The blaze broke out around 12.30am on Tuesday, August 16, at a property next-door to O'Meara Refrigeration along State Highway 26 in Hikutaia, north of Paeroa.

The man, a long-time resident of Hikutaia, was asleep in accommodation within the shed at the time of the fire.

Eleven fire trucks attended the incident and the fire took around six hours to be extinguished.

A resident, who didn't want to be named, said neighbours tried to save the man by pulling him out of the shed, but it was too late.

The man, believed to be in his late 60s, was a well-known part of the Hikutaia community and would be missed, they said.

He helped maintain and raise funds for the Hikutaia community hall across the road by collecting car batteries, and also organised swap meet events.

The death has been referred to the Coroner.



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Travellers welcomed back to Valley

By GORDON PREECE

International travellers have returned to Thames Valley's hospitality and tourism venues after Covid-19 forced New Zealand's border closure in 2020.

New Zealand reopened its borders to visitors from anywhere in the world, including reopening its maritime border to cruise ships, on July 31.

The reopening took place three months earlier than the government initially planned in order to accelerate the country's economic recovery after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Waihi Gold Discovery Centre general manager Eddie Morrow told *The Profile* the reopening was a positive move as the absence of international travellers caused the centre to reduce its staff numbers and experience revenue losses.

"We were traditionally around a 30 per cent international market, and even though over the last couple years the domestic market has gone out there and done its thing, it's still been a pretty tough time," he said.

"Less visitors through the door has meant less revenue so we've had to adapt our business model in order to be able to still function and offer our services, which are our Waihi Gold Experience, Waihi Gold



International visitors to Waihi Gold Discovery Centre have increased since borders reopened. INSET: The centre's general manager, Eddie Morrow.

Photos: SUPPLIED

Mine Tours, Waihi Bicycle Hire and Waihi i-SITE."

Mr Morrow said international visitors to the attraction had slightly increased since the reopening and hoped numbers would build as summer ap-

proached.

"It's fantastic, we're a people business, that's what we do in tourism, so the more of them we see, the better it is for us because we love to be able to greet people and share our

story," he said.

"We had started to build quite a strong cruise market package out of Tauranga and that of course died with the borders closing so we're looking forward to some of that

action coming back for this summer."

The Port of Tauranga's first cruiseliner after a two-and-a-half year hiatus is scheduled to dock on October 26.

Thames Goldmine Experience secretary Janet Eriksen said her attraction also experienced the economic impacts of the border closure because international travellers contributed to nearly half its income.

"We've been very careful with spending, all the income goes on projects to restore the machinery and upgrade the historical displays," she said.

"We've limited our opening hours, we closed during winter and we're just open now on the weekends because it takes a lot of water and electricity to run the machines."

Janet hoped income would soon return to normal with international travellers already visiting the attraction, which is run by volunteers. "We've had Australian visitors lately and we've also had lots of German visitors, so we hope we have a busy summer," she said.

"We get a lot of people from the UK, they're very interested in all our vintage machinery because the English lost all of their old iron machinery in the war effort."

Glory Cafe owner Andrea Logan said the past two years

CONTINUED ON P5

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CONTINUED FROM P4

of no international travellers through Ngātea had been “really tough”.

“In our area we thought tourists were about 15 per cent impact on our business but actually it’s probably more like 30 per cent,” she said.

“Because we had roadworks as well, we reduced staff significantly, and it’s been very hard to predict what staffing levels were going to be required.”

“Everytime the government suggested something new was going to happen, it had a significant impact in how to carry that through so it’s been incredibly stressful, exhausting and tumultuous.”

Andrea said she hoped more holidaymakers stopped by her cafe this summer but was uncertain that numbers would be similar to 2019.

“Internationals have loved coming in, the Australian ones have said we don’t have cafes like this in Australia,” she said.

“But we used to get tour buses from Tauranga and from the Coromandel that would stop off from time to time, which really helped us - and they just aren’t turning up.”

Miranda Holiday Park owner Kerry Wicks said she was “really excited” by the reopened borders because even though just 20 per cent of visitors were international, it still had a “significant impact”.

“It wasn’t exactly a happy time, I don’t know whether I’d



Thames Goldmine Experience volunteers Janet Eriksen, Philip Gover and Russell Skeet. The popular tourist attraction, which relies on international tourists for around half its income, had to close this winter.

Photo: GORDON PREECE

cried so much in my life,” she said. “We refused to let any staff go no matter what so we got them out painting and doing maintenance just to keep them employed.”

“But we’re now getting Aussies coming through, and I think a lot of them are quite surprised because Miranda’s

in the middle of nowhere and then they turn up and they love it. They give us good feedback and the most important thing as well is they’re going out into the community and spending money.”

Kerry said the park had also received bookings from Singapore, Malaysia and Europe,

who are expected to jet in next year.

She hoped the park would have a “good and busy summer” but said it would take some time for its international clientele to rebuild.

“I think [reopening the borders] should’ve been done much sooner and the reason

for that is most people from overseas have already planned their holidays elsewhere,” she said.

“This year we won’t see an influx, just because we opened our borders doesn’t mean they’re all racing in straight away, that’s not going to come until next year.”

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Pitch perfect reunion

Former and current members of the Kerepehi Brass Band banded together in Ngatea War Memorial Hall for a reunion luncheon on Saturday as part of the band's 75th anniversary celebrations. A performance in Dudding Reserve took place shortly before lunch and an evening anniversary concert was performed at the hall. Reporter **GORDON PREECE** marched into Ngatea to orchestrate a few photos.



The Kerepehi Brass Band performs at Dudding Reserve in Ngatea before the reunion luncheon.

Photos: GORDON PREECE



Rowan Garrett receives a special service award. Photo: TREVOR LOWE



Max Vivian, 87, performed for 25 years with the band and his father George was its founder.



Current members for a combined 20 years: Elizabeth Pope, left, Sue Williams, and Leonie Robertson.



Ross Kelly, left, Russell Rooney, and Grant Kelly performed together in the band from 1962-1969.



Current president Luke Van Vliet, left, with conductor Alistair McMillan.



Brothers Don, left, and Barry Robinson have performed in the band for a combined 120 years.

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Pinkham stands for Mayor

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

Peter Pinkham wants to see a more transparent council and the relocation of 'The Vibe' if he is to become Thames-Coromandel's next mayor.

The Waikato born-and-raised candidate is one of seven to run for the district's top job in these local body elections.

"I would like to see the main shopping areas in the Coromandel be called 'pedestrian and parking friendly zones' - where people in cars are restricted to a 30kmh speed limit, and people crossing the street and people parking are given priority," he told *The Profile*.

"I also think that the Vibe has to be moved in Thames - the idea of separating the two main shopping areas, as well as blocking a part of the roundabout is both ridiculous and inconvenient for visitors and locals."

After studying business at Victoria University of Wellington, Peter travelled and hitchhiked around New Zealand and the world for five years, in effect "circling the globe".

"I was lucky enough to meet lots of amazing people, see wonderful places and be exposed to different lifestyles," he said. He then trained as a psychiatric nurse at Kingseat and Sunnyside Hospitals while studying psychology. After working as a nurse therapist in Palmerston North, he purchased a half-share in a furniture manufacturing business in Wellington, where he married and had two sons.

"After my first son was born, I took six months off to be a house-husband and during that time I bought a computer and taught myself to program," he said.

He eventually moved to Whangaroa, in the Far North, to be the manager of the local hospital and GP practice.

For around seven years, he was



Peter Pinkham

a paddler in the waka (Ngā Toki Matawhaorua) at Waitangi. Other jobs around the country included working in real estate, and as a consultant business analyst for a recycling company. For four years, Peter also volunteered at Lifeline as a telephone counsellor.

"Then, six years ago I moved to Thames while still working two days a week in Auckland. I purchased the used bookshop in Thames which was a spur-of-the-moment sort of thing," he said. "After I expanded that, I opened an art gallery for 18 months as well."

Peter said that while he grew the book and jigsaw business, he became more involved with life in Thames and the wider Coromandel.

So why run for mayor? "The role interests me," he said. "I feel that the skills, experience (on a whole lot of different levels) and knowledge that I have accumulated are appropriate. I am not community minded, it is more that I care for the community in which I live and I would like to contribute in a positive way."



Campground operator to stand

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

A holiday park owner says he's not a "career politician" and won't be running for Mayor of Thames-Coromandel District Council just to serve an ego.

Ron Julian is one of the seven candidates vying for the district's top job come the local body elections on October 8.

Others standing for the top job include: Eric Carter, John Freer, Len Salt, Peter Pinkham, Cherie Staples, and Steve Hart.

Over in Hauraki, incumbent Mayor Toby Adams has been re-elected unopposed.

Ron Julian told *The Profile* he had a professional background in strategic asset and project management, primarily in the construction industry.

However, for the past 20 years, his career path has taken him towards running camping grounds on either side of the Coromandel Peninsula.

"[As] a successful business owner on both sides of the peninsula, and a trained project manager, I have the experience needed to know what needs to be done and how to deliver it to ensure our region can grow and thrive in an environmentally sustainable way," he said.

"I'm not a career politician or running to serve an ego. I'm here to support the voter and ratepayer with respect and equity to live a better life in this beautiful region."

Ron has two daughters, two sons, and eight grandchildren, and his interests outside of politics include classic American cars, boating, fishing, travelling, architecture, sports such as rugby and motor racing, and enjoying time with family and friends.

A self-described "right-wing greenie", he said he has a balanced pro-environ-



Ron Julian

ment psyche which supported a culture of "responsibility, recycling and sustainability".

"TCDC deserves smart, strategic leadership. A mayor with strong business experience, practical know-how, and common-sense decision-making competence.

"I am less about changing and more about focusing on what's important, good solutions, and best value going forward," he said.

"As well as promoting innovation and supporting our business community, I'll focus on the core essentials of improving our roading network, water and sewerage infrastructure, and continue climate change management strategies."

DETAILS: Voting day for this year's local body elections is on October 8, but voting can be carried out from September 16, if enrolled.

Find more information about local government elections and how to enrol online at www.vote.nz.



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Rural Life

UPGRADE COMPLETE



The Mill Rd pump stations, left and right, and floodgate, centre, move floodwaters through the stopbank into the Waihou River.

A structural and telemetric upgrade of two pump stations at Mill Rd, Paeroa, is the first of Waikato Regional Council's Shovel Ready infrastructure projects to be completed.

The council received approximately \$29 million from the government as part of its economic response to Covid-19, when it called for shovel-ready infrastructure and environmental restoration projects to stimulate industries and the economy, be of public or regional benefit and create jobs.

Flood protection and land drainage manager Adam Munro said farmers would be appreciating the completion of the Mill Rd pump stations upgrades given the recent bout of wet weather.

"They should be seeing their paddocks draining quicker.

"The community has had a really great project completed. We now have better water management in the catchment."

The two pump stations are a critical part of the Waihou Piako scheme that protects Paeroa, Te Aroha, Turua, Kōpū, Ngātea and Thames, and 250,000 hectares of farmland and state highways.

Mr Munro says the funding of \$1.92 million from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's climate resilience programme allowed the council to bring the pump stations into the 21st century, "sooner rather than later".

The pump stations have been given 'brains', a smartification programme, meaning they can be controlled from a mobile phone.

"Being able to troubleshoot



Works supervisor Hayden McGregor can now control the pumps from his phone.

Photos: SUPPLIED

remotely means there is less delay getting back to pumping water. Staff do not have to go on site," Mr Munro said.

"Everything they can do in the palm of their hands ... well, except for the weeds. They still need to go onsite to clear

them."

Even so, the management of debris had also been improved.

Part of the upgrades included new inlet bays, complete with weed screens and a standing platform so a digger can now clear away any debris caught in the floodwaters – instead of staff doing it by hand usually in pouring rain.

"Our field staff really like the new innovations," Mr Munro said.

"Now they can mostly control the pumps from the comfort and safety of the office or home.

"They also have more time to spend on other jobs as there is less manual intervention."

In total, Waikato regional council secured \$16 million from the government's Covid-19 recovery fund for flood protection infrastructure pro-

jects totalling over \$25 million.

Other projects, which are still being worked on, include a similar upgrade to the Roger Harris pump station near Paeroa and upgrading up to five pumps to enable safe passage of native fish.

It also includes replacing three floodgates reaching their end of life with one, near the mouth of the Piako River, which includes setting back stopbanks and creating wetland habitat for wading birds; completing the final section of stopbank at Ngātea to design height; upgrading the Firth of Thames foreshore stopbanks to design height; and the design and build of a replacement vessel for the Tamahere 94 barge, which was used as a work platform in the Waikato and Waipā rivers over the last 50 years.

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Rural Life

Don't overlook the dental health of your pets

By Dr Leah Wakeford BVSc

Dental health in our small animal companions is often overlooked until we notice things like smelly breath or a swollen face.

The maintenance of dental hygiene is just as important in our canine and feline friends as it is for us to prevent painful tooth issues in the future.

Dental disease is also linked to disease in other distant parts of the body such as endocarditis of the heart and inflammation of the liver.

With recent studies suggesting a potential link in humans between dental health and the development of Alzheimer's disease, keeping on top of our pet's oral hygiene is more important than ever. A decline in oral health is usually slowly progressive and difficult to notice. Pets usually don't stop eating until dental disease is very severe or on occasion not at all so the ability to eat is a poor measure of severity.

Many people notice a dramatic improvement in their pet's attitude following the extraction of diseased teeth, which is a hint of how debilitating chronic oral pain can be.

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It's always surprising how much lurks beneath the gum line that cannot be seen with either the naked eye or picked up with our probing tools.

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A visual examination of a dog's mouth, left, and after treatment, right. Photos: SUPPLIED

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Beauty enhanced at Paeroa salon

The growing trend of cosmetic tattooing is attracting a range of customers to an upscale beauty salon off Paeroa's main street.

Qualified beauty technician Hayley Te Koha, who owns Enhance Me, is seeing more and more people call in to ask for cosmetic tattooing, a semi-permanent cosmetic procedure.

It involves tattooing specialised pigment into the upper layers of the skin to enhance the eyebrows, lips, and eyes.

"Some people still believe cosmetic tattooing is done one way and it's ugly and slug-like, but I customise for the

client, the result they want, and what we can achieve realistically," she said. "That's a big part of every appointment."

Cosmetic tattooing can take around 12 weeks for clients to see true results, so it is a "patience game", Hayley said, but it frees up a person's schedule because they won't have to continuously get their brows tinted. It also helps with shaping and

ongoing maintenance.

"It's about waking up, or getting out of the pool, the surf, the shower, and catching yourself in the mirror and thinking: 'Wow, I don't look washed out'. It's a wonderful thing that all my clients are stoked with."

The visitors to Hayley's salon at 2 Queen St (Cnr Queen and Princes St) encompass all ages and personalities. Because pigmentation is lost across the face as people age, including in the lips, cosmetic tattooing provides a way to redefine what was once there, she said.

"At the moment, I have a lot of clients over 45, people who have lost the thickness of their brows, or have lost the ability to look in the mirror and put their eyeliner on neatly.

"It's about redefining and re-enhancing what we had. Not changing anything, just putting the stuff back that we had."

That ethos is what led Hayley to rebrand her beauty business to Enhance Me around two-and-



Enhance Me beauty technician Hayley Te Koha, centre, pictured with Jessica L, left, and Jessica G, offers cosmetic tattooing at her sleek Paeroa salon. LEFT: Hayley at work. Photos: SUPPLIED

a-half years ago when she and her family moved to Paeroa.

She has been in the beauty industry for the past 25 years, but before moving north five years ago, she lived and worked in Christchurch and Kaikoura - narrowly avoiding the latter's 7.8 magnitude earthquake in 2016.

"It took us a week to get home and we stayed for three more months. We were always go-

ing to come up north, but we brought [the move] forward."

However, Hayley continued commuting down south to work with her clients. It wasn't until she and her husband finally decided to make Hauraki their permanent home that she established Enhance Me, which also offers other beauty services with the help of Jessica L and Jessica G - specialising in brow and lash

services as well as makeup artistry.

"People do not have to go to Hamilton or Auckland to get city-quality services," she said. "People don't need to leave Paeroa to get the same high standard of work."

DETAILS: Bookings can be made by finding Enhance Me Paeroa on Facebook, or contacting Hayley on 0210 850 7317.

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100 years of Valley Rugby



'The Game' to mark 100 years

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

The 826th first-class rugby match for Thames Valley this weekend will also introduce a new trophy aptly dubbed 'The Game'.

The match, held this Saturday, August 27, will be played against West Coast and will be the main feature of Thames Valley Rugby Union's centenary celebrations.

The brand-new trophy has been presented to the union by the O'Brien family who have close connections with both provinces.

"West Coast are one of the 12 Heartland teams, and we don't necessarily play every team every year," Thames Valley Rugby Union president Kelly Plummer said, "but every time we play them, The Game will be at stake from now on."

The O'Brien family grew up on the West Coast.

Graham O'Brien, who represented Thames Valley in 1975 (kicking a penalty goal in one of the Valley's rare wins over Bay of Plenty), and his brother, Barry, had previously been West Coast primary school reps.

Their father AV (Bert) O'Brien was a long-serving



Thames Valley Rugby Union president Kelly Plummer holds the new The Game trophy. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

teacher at Hokitika District High School who is remembered as a sports enthusiast, coach, and mentor of many

school boy rugby players.

He was also a rugby referee and between 1949 and 1956, he refereed six of West Coast's

first-class games.

In 1967, Bert took up the position as principal of Hauraki Plains College in Ngatea, where

he remained until 1980.

He coached the Hauraki Plains College First XV for several seasons and in 1970 he brought his team from Ngatea (including son, Graham) on a South Island tour and played against his old school, now named Westland High School.

After a relatively short retirement, Bert passed away in 1988.

Graham went on to become a prominent 400-metre runner and represented Auckland in athletics. Later, he became a New Zealand Athletics selector.

Mr Plummer told *The Profile* he was looking forward to The Game's first showing during the centenary celebrations this weekend.

"Because even though your competition points are important, this puts the edge on the game."

"It's not a local derby, but it's a derby of Heartland teams that are going to fight it out for the first time."

DETAILS: The Game trophy will be played for on Saturday, August 27, at Boyd Park, Te Aroha, kick off is at 1pm.



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Celebrating 100 years

It is a pleasure to join with the *Valley Profile* to celebrate the centenary of the Thames Valley Rugby Union.

Our heartfelt thanks go to all the advertisers who have made this supplement possible along with Teresa and her team at *The Profile*.

Although it is one of the smaller provinces in New Zealand, Thames Valley has had an interesting history as can be seen by the featurettes highlighted in these pages. I am sure that you will enjoy reading about some of the notable games, players and personalities from days gone by.

As a focal point for the centenary celebrations, Thames Valley will be playing their first home game of the 2022 Heartland Championship against West Coast at Te Aroha on Saturday. Kick off is at 1pm so get along to Boyd Park and support your team, the Thames Valley Swamp Foxes.

Yours in Rugby,

- Kelly Plummer, President



Programme of events

The Thames Valley Rugby Football Union's centenary celebrations will be held at Te Aroha on August 26-27. The feature game will be a Heartland Championship match against West Coast.

This Friday at the Waihou Rugby Football Clubrooms, Matamata-Piako Mayor Ash Tanner will welcome guests at 7.30pm.

A book titled *Swamp Foxes Alive!* has been written for the centenary by Kelly Plummer with Graham Watton, and will be launched at 8pm.

There will also be an auction of commemorative centenary Thames Valley jerseys, and supper is available.

The following day, Saturday, August 27, will see the Thames Valley Heartland Championship match played against West Coast. For the first time, The Game trophy will be up for grabs.

The match kicks off at 1pm at Boyd Park in Te Aroha.

There will be an after-match function at the Te Aroha Cobras Clubrooms, and a Saturday evening dinner at the Te Aroha Events Centre at Boyd

Park. Rugby union president Kelly Plummer earlier told *The Profile* they had a "good spread" of past players registered for the two-day event, with the earliest so far dating back to 1956.



Graham Watton, with the first Valley rugby history.

The union's 2018 New Zealand Heartland Player of the Year, Brett Ranga, along with current coach David Harrison, will also be in attendance, as well as former international referee Keith Lawrence, who started his first class refereeing career in the Thames Valley.

New Zealand Rugby will be represented by vice president Matthew Cooper, from Hamilton.

"All 1231 players who have represented Thames Valley in first class rugby since 1922 have now been numbered and these numbers will be made public on the Friday night," Mr Plummer said.

"The editor of *Swamp Foxes Alive!* is putting the finishing touches to the centenary book, which will be launched on the Friday night along with an auction of special Thames Valley centenary players' rugby jerseys."



Thames Valley's finest hour

It is almost exactly 60 years since Thames Valley defeated Australia. On September 18th 1962, Thames Valley won by 16 points to 14. What made the game special was that Thames Valley played most of the game with 14 men. Their wing, Jim Mita was injured in the first five minutes and had to leave the field. In those days no replacements were allowed in international games. For Thames Valley, Jim Maxwell and Trevor Kilpin scored tries and Terry Shaw kicked two dropped goals and two conversions. Pictured at the fiftieth anniversary in 2012 are the two try scorers with the match ball - Jim Maxwell and Trevor Kilpin.

CENTENARY BOOK

A book titled *Swamp Foxes Alive!* has been written for the centenary by Kelly Plummer with Graham Watton, and will be launched at 8pm on August 26 at the Waihou Rugby Football Clubrooms. It will also be available for \$40 from the Thames Valley Rugby Office in Paeroa from August 29.



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100 years of Valley Rugby



Paeroa grandstand history

The first grandstand at the Paeroa Domain was built in 1933 at a cost of £850 (\$1700).

It was officially opened on the 28th April, 1934, by the Paeroa Mayor, Mr W Marshall. The grandstand had a seating capacity of 300 people.

By the 1980s, the grandstand had become unsafe and was demolished on October 1st and 2nd, 1988, to make way for a new stand at an estimated cost of \$228,450.

Members of the Paeroa West and Old Boys rugby clubs along with the Paeroa Athletic club provided manpower for the demolition.

The use of a lot of machinery and equipment was donated by the local community. The new stand, called the McMillan Stand, named in honour of Norm, was in use for Thames Valley's Ranfurly Shield Challenge against Auckland on the 16th of August, 1989.

The NZ Rugby Union contributed \$90,000 towards the cost of the project with other major contributions coming from the Paeroa Borough, Ohinemuri County, NZ Lotteries and \$5000 from the Thames Valley Rugby Football Union.



Volunteers demolish the original grandstand in the Paeroa Domain after it was found to be unsafe. Photo: SUPPLIED



Paeroa's new grandstand in use in the 1980s. Photo: SUPPLIED

Five influential Valley players



Clockwise from top left: **Bob O'Dea:** Thames Valley All Black 1953-54 from the Patetonga Club; **Kevin Barry:** Thames Valley All Black 1962-63-64 from the Paeroa West Club; **Brian Duggan:** Most games for Thames Valley - 144, from the Paeroa West Club; **Irvine Campbell:** most tries for Thames Valley - 42, from the Ngatea Club; **David Harrison:** most points for Thames Valley - 665 from the Hauraki North Club.



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100 years of Valley Rugby



Valley offloads NZ Marist jersey

By GORDON PREECE

A Thames student who encourages peers to develop their sporting skills has been awarded a New Zealand Marist rugby jersey from Thames Valley Rugby Football Union.

St Francis Catholic School year 8 student Reese Williams was presented with the jersey on August 8 after winning a competition held by the rugby union, which is set to celebrate its centenary this weekend.

The competition sought a promising sportsperson from one of Thames Valley's Catholic schools who demonstrated leadership skills.

Rugby union president Kelly Plummer told *The Profile* he decided the Marist jersey would be the winning prize after keeping it since 2019.

"The New Zealand Heartland XV played New Zealand Marist at Te Aroha hosted by Thames Valley at the end of 2019, and at the end of the game I was presented with a New Zealand Marist rugby jersey," he said.

"I decided that it would be good to go to a promising young school person from one of the Catholic schools within Thames Valley to maintain that connection with New Zealand



TVRFU president Kelly Plummer, left, and game development officer Scott Day present Reese Williams with the New Zealand Marist jersey. Photo: GORDON PREECE

Marist, and Covid-19 delayed that until this [rugby] season."

The New Zealand Marist Rugby Federation was formed in 1963 and a New Zealand Marist XV is selected from its

28 affiliated clubs each year to play the New Zealand Heartland XV at a selected New Zealand venue.

Kelly said he and the rugby union's game development of-

ficer, Scott Day, kicked off the competition towards the end of Term 2 last month, and received nominations for students from St Francis and St Joseph's Catholic Schools in

"I decided that it would be good to go to a promising young school person from one of the Catholic schools... to maintain that connection with New Zealand Marist." - Kelly Plummer

Paeroa, Waihi and Te Aroha. "St Francis nominated Reese Williams to Scott and we thought she was the most suitable person to receive the jersey from the comments that were made."

St Francis said it nominated Reese because she had set a "great example" for fellow students since starting at the school three years ago.

"Reese is a whānau leader in our school and will support others in her team and encourage them in developing their skills," the school said.

"She is our best female athlete, outstanding at rippa rugby, touch rugby and ki o rahi, and also very good at hockey and basketball."

"In our swimming sports at the beginning of the year she was half a length ahead of others in her heat."

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Season opens for Valley

HEARTLAND RUGBY

In a closely contested match, Thames Valley narrowly lost 17-23 in their opening Heartland Championship match against South Canterbury at Temuka on Saturday.

Both teams scored two converted tries and the difference between them was South Canterbury's three penalty goals to Thames Valley's one.

The Swamp Foxes are to be commended for a fine effort against the Meads Cup holders as they displayed a high degree of commitment and determination. They were down 20-7 at half time but were able to out-score the green and blacks by 10 points to 3 in the second half.

This enabled the Valley to gain a bonus point by finishing within seven points of their opponents.

Strong defence by both sides limited scoring opportunities but a much improved line-out ensured that Thames Valley had their fair share of possession.

Flanker, Lalea Mau Fangufangu played with the ferocity of a tiger and proved to be a real handful for South Canterbury.

When Thames Valley were down by seventeen points, he brought his team back into the game by using his strength to burst through and score between the posts. The rest of the forwards can be proud of their efforts and it was the lock, Cameron Dromgool, who was named player of the day with Tayne Tupaea and Lalea Mau receiving a special mention from the coaches.

In the backs, Todd Doolan directed play well from the first five-eighth position with astute kicking and passing. In the mid-



A fine debut for Tayne Tupaea.

Photo: GORDON HENDERSON

field, Chiefs and Waikato veteran Dwayne Sweeney proved he still has a lot to offer on the rugby paddock and he scored a well-deserved try.

Unfortunately, the match was held up for seventeen minutes in the second half when halfback Ben Bonnar suffered a dislocated hip. The injury could have been a lot worse but Ben was recovering well on Sunday.

Thames Valley will be in for another hard game next week in their centenary match against West Coast at Te Aroha. The Coasters put in a spirited performance against Whanganui and it was only in the closing stages that the score blew out to 43-19. This game will kick off at 1pm.

Against South Canterbury on Saturday, Lalea Mau Fangifangu and Dwayne Sweeney scored tries. Todd Doolan converted the two tries and kicked a penalty goal.

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100 years of Valley Rugby



Thames Valley rugby, a brief history

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

Founded on April 29, 1922, the Thames Valley Rugby Union (TVRFU) was established after being granted affiliation to the New Zealand Rugby Union.

The Thames Valley name was immediately adopted by the sub-unions which made up the new provincial union - Hauraki Plains, Waihi, Piako and Paeroa.

The following year, the Valley gained its first victory in representative rugby by defeating Whanganui 10-6 at Te Aroha.

The first Thames Valley president was Mr James Silcock and he remained closely associated with TVRFU until his death in 1970. The first patron was Mr Hugh Poland, a former Auckland representative and Member of Parliament for Ohinemuri.

In 1929, former Auckland player Charlie Dillimore played his last game for Thames Valley at the age of 46 years, 353 days, in a 11-12 loss to Waikato in Paeroa. There was no first class rugby played by the Valley between 1941-1944, due to World War II. There was also no first class rugby played in 2020, the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In 1946, the Valley's first win after World War II was a 17-nil thumping of Waikato at Rugby Park, Hamilton. A big season for the team was in 1951. A 16-6 win



1954 LEGENDS

The 1954 Thames Valley team played 11 games, won seven, drew two and lost two - one of Thames Valley's most successful teams. They were the first team to defeat the Auckland A team in Thames Valley territory: August 18, 1954, 25 - 17 at Te Aroha. Thames Valley's Bob Hayward and Brian Clark scored tries. Murray Jacomb kicked four penalty goals and two conversions. Pictured is the side that drew 12-all with New South Wales Country at Paeroa, from Left: Ivan Stanish, Murray Jacomb, Ronald Laurence, Ian MacDonald, Frank Martinovich, Max Morrison, Neil Twentymen, Rodney Fisher, Jack O'Shea, Brian Clark, Pud Coxhead, Doug Robertson, Kevin Barry, Frank Millington, and Captain Ron Kerby.

over Fiji in Te Aroha was the Valley's first ever game against an overseas team.

The squad also played its first ever Ranfurly Shield Challenge match against North Auckland at Whangarei and lost 16-19.

In 1952, Thames Valley changed its colours from a blue jersey with a gold band to a gold jersey with a scarlet band, collar, and cuffs. Come 1962 and Thames Valley celebrated its finest hour after beating Australia

16-14 in Te Aroha, with 14 players on the field for most of the game due to injury.

In 1969 and 1970, the squad defeated Tonga and New South Wales to maintain its undefeated record against overseas teams.

The Swamp Fox supporters club was formed in 1975 and its mascot, Swampy, was created.

The year 1980 presented the Valley's best performance in a Ranfurly Shield challenge, losing 7-16 to Waikato but still pushing

hard at the end.

Eight years later, the squad had a fantastic early season 25-7 win over Counties at Ngatea, with the Valley going on to win the Division Three championship. They were Division Three champs again in 1990 and 1995.

In 2006, the Heartland Championship introduced 12 amateur teams, and in 2018, Thames Valley won the competition to bring home the Meads Cup. The year 2021 featured a capping ceremony to honour Thames Valley

centurions: John Hodge; Brian Duggan; Tuk Sheehan; Kevin Handley; Butch Campbell; Richard Taylor; Roger Wilton; Aaron McDonald; and David Harrison.

This year, marks the union's 100 years. Prior to this season, in total, 1231 players have represented the province in a total of 824 first class games.



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100 years of Valley Rugby



2018 Meads Cup champions

The Thames Valley representative team, the Swampfoxes, were the 2018 Meads Cup champions. They played 12 games, won nine and lost three, with points for totalling 410, and points against: 285. Preseason games included: Taranaki development 43-19 and East Coast 59-14. In the Heartland championship, they played: West Coast 25-27; Wairarapa Bush 44-32; Buller 43-22; King Country 29-37; North Otago 43-21; Poverty Bay 37-34; Horowhenua-Kapiti 29-27; South Canterbury 24-33. Meads Cup playoffs: Whanganui 17-7; South Canterbury 17-12.

AROUND THE GROUNDS

Memorable Moments From Thames Valley Match Venues:
Ngatea: 1980: Thames Valley 23 Horowhenua 13; 1981: Thames Valley 21 East Coast 9; 1988: Thames Valley 25 Counties 7.
Paeroa: 1973: Thames Valley 9 Waikato 6; 1985: Thames Valley 10 Bay of Plenty 9; 1995: Thames Valley 47 Poverty Bay 8.
Te Aroha: 1951: Thames Valley 16 Fiji 6; 1962: Thames Valley 16 Australia 14; 1969: Thames Valley 12 Tonga 10.
Waihi: 1958: Thames Valley 19 NZ Combines Services 11; 1966: Thames Valley 28 Mid Canterbury 11; 1975: Thames Valley 10 Bay of Plenty 8.
Whangamata: 2000: Thames Valley 45 East Coast 18; 2002: Thames Valley 22 Poverty Bay 17.
Thames: 1955: Thames Valley 17 New Zealand Maori Team 14; 1970: Thames Valley 13 New South Wales 12; 1978: Thames Valley 22 North Auckland 13.



VALLEY CLUBS

Waihi Athletic: Founded in 1959.
Ngatea: Founded in 1919.
Paeroa: The old Paeroa Sub Union was founded 120 years ago. In 2018 Paeroa Old Boys and Paeroa West amalgamated to form Paeroa Rugby and Sports.
Whangamata: founded in 1963.
Waihou: Founded in 1880.
Mercury Bay: Founded in 1888.
Te Aroha College Old Boys: Founded in 1959.
Coromandel: Founded in 1888.
Hauraki North: Founded in 1907 as Waitakaruru.
Tairua: Founded in 1888.
Thames: founded in 1983, as a combination of Thames United, Huimai and Thames High School Old Boys.



Congratulations TVRFU on 100 years supporting rugby in our region.

Proud to be associated with Thames Valley Rugby Congratulations on 100 years.

Congrats on reaching 100 years. Good luck for the coming season.



2022 BUNNINGS WAREHOUSE HEARTLAND CHAMPIONSHIP



Saturday 27th August at Boyd Park, Te Aroha
 Gates open at 10.15am
11am
 Women - Thames Valley Vixens vs East Coast
 Field 1
 Thames Valley U20's vs Waikato Divisional Colts
 Field 2
 Thames Valley Emerging XV vs King Country Emerging XV
 Field 3
1pm

Thames Valley Swampfoxes vs West Coast

Ticket price - \$5.00 • Under 18 years = free • No EFTPOS



Congratulations on 100 years Proud to be part of TVRFU

Well done Thames Valley Rugby on reaching 100 years.

NRSC congratulates Thames Valley Rugby Union on their 100 years



A great achievement Thames Valley Rugby. 100 Years.... Well done



Missing man triggers search



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

When Charles Dod disappeared, all eyes turned to Shortland wharf.

The amiable licensee of the Duke of Edinburgh Hotel had for a long time taken quiet evening strolls along the wharf. He attended to an eel weir there and was in the practice of standing at the wharf's edge smoking his pipe.

Shortly after 8pm on that June night in 1886, one of his sons realised he was missing and it was immediately suspected he had fallen off the wharf in the darkness. A number of men began searching and discovered Charles' hat floating in the water. William Jones, boatman, and two other men went out in a dingy with grappling irons. They searched alongside the wharf for more than an hour without success.

Captain Bettis and William then walked down alongside the creek, wading through mud. About 12.30pm they found Charles around 150 yards from the wharf. They took the body to the Thames Hotel prior to an inquest. Intense



Shortland Wharf, Thames.

Photo: SUPPLIED

regret was felt as Charles was highly regarded by all knew him.

He was a good swimmer, and speculation was that he had been stunned by a fall. There had been a rain shower and the wharf was slippery. Charles had been cautioned about his habit of standing near the edge of the wharf.

At the inquest, Mrs Avery, Charles' sister-in-law, said she saw him last about 7.30pm when he was arranging for her to temporarily take charge of the hotel while he visited Auckland, which he intended to do the next day. He was in his usual good health and perfectly sober.

Constable Stapleton said that there was a cut over Charles' left eye but in his opinion it was not caused by foul play. Captain Bettis said the wharf was very crowded with vessels that night. There were no lines moored across the wharf so as to trip up anyone. They could do with another lamp on the wharf. William Jones also said he didn't think the wharf was sufficiently lighted: one more lamp near the crane would be enough.

The jury's verdict was that Charles Dod was found dead on the beach at Shortland, but how he came to his death they had "not sufficient evidence to prove". They "desired to draw the attention of the authorities to the deficient lighting of the Shortland wharf, and the necessity of additional lamps being provided there."

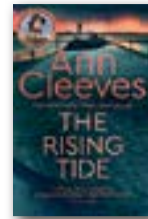
Charles was well known both at Thames and in Auckland, and was much respected. He had been the licensee of the Duke of Edinburgh for about 19 years and had a most genial and obliging nature.

Charles, 63, was a widower, his wife Margaret having died in childbirth in 1872. He had three sons.

At St George's Church, the funeral service was read by Reverend Evans. He said the voice of God had been speaking to them by the sudden demise of Charles, reminding them life was brief.

A large number of friends then followed the hearse to Shortland cemetery. A few weeks after Charles' death it was decided an additional lamp on Shortland wharf was not required.

BOOK REVIEWS



THE RISING TIDE: A VERA STANHOPE NOVEL #10 by Ann Cleeves

Ann Cleeves, bestselling author of the *Shetland* and *Two Rivers* series, returns with the tenth in the acclaimed *Vera Stanhope* series. Fifty years ago, a group of teenagers spent a weekend on Holy Island, forging a bond that has lasted a lifetime. Every five years, they return to celebrate their friendship and remember the friend they lost to the rising waters of the causeway at the first reunion. When one of them is found hanged, Vera is called in. Vera knows she must discover what the friends are hiding, and whether the events of many years before could have led to murder then, and now.

SONS OF A GOOD KEEN MAN; LIFE IN THE SHADOW by the Crump Brothers

Barry Crump was a titan of New Zealand writing, his semi-autobiographical novels about life as a rugged outdoorsman selling more than a million copies. In his time, he was held up as the quintessential Kiwi bloke. In our time, the situation is less sure, with Barry now well known for being an unscrupulous brute, womaniser, alcoholic and absentee husband. Barry was also the father of six children - all of them boys. For them, Barry has always been an enigma that cast a large and strange shadow over their lives. This is their story - the first time they've all gone on record together about their father.



TOOLS FOR THE TOP PADDOCK by Kane Brisco

When Kane Brisco was at his lowest ebb, he could barely even look at his stock. Consumed by a myriad of problems, the weather tipped him over the edge. In *Tools for the Top Paddock*, Kane shares the experiences that almost made him quit farming, along with the simple methods he developed for dealing with the mental and physical strains of life on the land. He offers advice for people doing it tough, as well as how to build the fitness required to thrive in good times and bad.

BIG FEELINGS: AND WHAT THEY TELL US by Rebekah Ballagh

Bestselling author of *Note to Self* and *Words of Comfort*, Rebekah Ballagh turns her attention to helping children learn to understand their emotions, how they make them feel and how to manage them. Includes strategies and resources for parents, caregivers and teachers. Ballagh's strong counselling background combines perfectly with her empathetic storytelling and adorable illustrations. A valuable resource for parents in today's complex world.



- Book reviews by Carson's Bookshop

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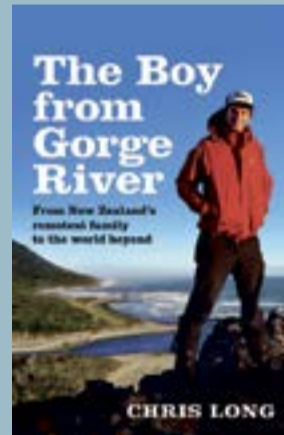
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DAFFODIL DAY

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Daffodil Day fundraisers planned

By GORDON PREECE

A long-standing Ngātea event which has raised up to \$7000 for cancer support will return after a two-year hiatus.

The Ngātea Lions cancer support morning tea will take place at Ngātea War Memorial Hall on August 24 from 10am with all funds raised from the event going towards Thames Cancer Support Group and Cancer Society's Lions Lodge in Hamilton.

Organiser Jill McIntosh told *The Profile* it will be the first time Ngātea Lions are hosting the event after Hauraki Plains Lioness Club, which hosted since the 1990s, joined Ngātea Lions in 2020.

"In the last couple of years we haven't been able to have it due to Covid-19 but over the years it's always been well attended and our community give such wonderful support," she said. "We've always followed the same sort of programme and that's a guest speaker, we have table raffles and we have the baton raffles which is the main fundraiser."

Jill said the guest speaker was Penny Parsons, a supportive care nurse at Cancer Society's Lions Lodge, and Ngātea Lions received a \$400 grant from Thrifters Op Shop to pay for raffle items from local businesses. "Because of our grant, it's great because we're not having to ask local businesses for donations who've been through a pretty rough time as you can appreciate through Covid-19 and the roadworks." Jill said more than 100 people had attended previous years' fundraisers but a maximum of 300 could attend.

DETAILS: Morning tea, August 24, from 10am at Ngātea War Memorial Hall \$5 at the door.



Gearing up for the return of Ngātea's Daffodil Day fundraiser are, from left: Jill McIntosh, Marilyn McMillan and Bruce Foster.

Green and yellow will return to Paeroa streets this Friday after last year's Daffodil Day drooped due to Covid-19.

Barbara Berry and a group of volunteers will be in full bloom for the national fundraising day selling daffodils, pens and collecting donations around Paeroa.

Barbara said while last year's event was cancelled, the public response had been "fantastic" in previous years.

"The first time I did it, the money raised was around \$4000 and the money raised in Paeroa and surrounding districts on the streets is all given back to the area," she said.

"I'd like to thank the community in advance for supporting Daffodil Day because it's very important, I'm sure everyone has been touched by cancer whether that's personal

or through a friend. "I've had family with cancer and I've had close friends who've died of cancer."

Barbara said Countdown Paeroa would be the main Daffodil Day station with a duo of volunteers rotating every two hours from 8am until 6pm or 7pm.


The daffodils, which are picked by Cancer Society volunteers in Gordonton, would be \$1 per stem, pens for \$2 and lappel daffodils for any donated amount.

All items could be purchased through cash or online donations. "I will also be going down to cafes and businesses around Paeroa asking if they want the daffodils and some pens and if they can put a donation into the box as well," Barbara said.

DETAILS: If you're interested in volunteering for Paeroa Daffodil Day, Ph Barbara 027 815 2602.



Barbara Berry



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BURTON'S BUTCHERY



Ray Broad, left, joins the mulch bucket brigade.

Photo: SUPPLIED

Community effort in stream planting

In “record” time of just two hours, 850 plants were planted in Kaiaua.

The Western Firth Catchment Group (WFCG), helped by volunteers from the NZ Motor Caravan Association, held its second community planting day near the Haurahi Stream on August 6.

The planted seedlings included a range of locally-sourced species from Te Whangai Nursery, such as sedge, harakeke, hebe, karo, pohutukawa, kanuka and ngaio.

“It was an excellent day,” Hauraki District Council parks and reserves manager Paul Matthews said.

“[It was] great to see so much enthusiasm from all who at-

tended,” he said.

“The after-match catering deserved a gold medal as well.”

The 47 volunteers came from Kaiaua, the Hauraki Plains, and Thames.

Three staff members from the head office of the motor caravan association also came from Auckland to assist.

Catchment group member Justin Johnstone said: “it was great to be part of another community planting day, with great weather, and the community support increasing at every event”.

“It will be so good to work our way up the Haurahi Stream,” he said.

The plan for next year was to continue restoring native plants

upstream along the eastern side of the stream toward the domain.

This riparian zone was important for inanga spawning and other species that needed healthy conditions in the tidal zone, NZ Landcare Trust Wai-kato catchment co-ordinator Ric Balfour said.

“Shade, overhanging grasses, and cover are missing from many of our lowland streams, but catchment groups all around the country are doing a tremendous amount of work to restore better conditions for our native wildlife.”

DETAILS: For more information about the Western Firth Catchment Group Trust go to www.westernfirth.org.nz/home.

ENTERTAINMENT

Barbershop to entertain

Thames Music Group will host a free Friday lunchtime concert on August 28 with the *Block of Flats* quartet.

The barbershop quartet formed in 2018, made up of four experienced singers and musical leaders from the City of Sails Barbershop Chorus in Auckland: tenor Ross McMillan, lead Bruce Warren, baritone John Denton and bass Richard Harker.

The quartet has achieved success at national barbershop conventions, and performs widely around Auckland at private functions, concerts, and workshops. The group loves to share the joy of four-part har-

mony singing with the community, and has an extensive repertoire of songs by such artists as John Denver, Billy Joel, Bob Dylan, Elton John, and Adam Sandler, along with good old barbershop classics.

Block of Flats promises a highly entertaining lunchtime concert, including Broadway show-stoppers, Disney classics, comedic gems, and plenty of ringing chords to fill the beautiful acoustics of St George’s Church.

DETAILS: Live up your lunch break with modern barbershop at its best, 12.15pm at St George’s Church, Thames, followed by hot soup and a bun afterwards for \$5.



The Block of Flats barbershop quartet will perform a free concert in Thames on August 28.

Photo: SUPPLIED

/Richardsons

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Bright Futures

Hundreds of local students flocked to Thames Civic Centre for the CanDo East Waikato Careers and Employers Expo on August 18, which went ahead after two years of Covid-19 disruptions. Around 40 exhibitors from universities, polytechnics, emergency services, the defence force, and local businesses were stationed at the centre poised to present study and career opportunities. Reporter GORDON PREECE headed along to capture the event.



Valley Education's Ruth Bliss is ready to help.



Smart Environmental staff Adam Matete, left, and Karen Johnston wasted no time entertaining the crowds.



St John staff Deirdre Donnelly, Jacob Otto and Bruno Mackinnon.



Thames Hospital nurse educator Paula von Holzen, left, and peri-operative nurse Cassandra Raj shared information about hospital careers.



THS' Ella Smith, with Toastmasters.



Leaf and Nathan, of McDonalds.

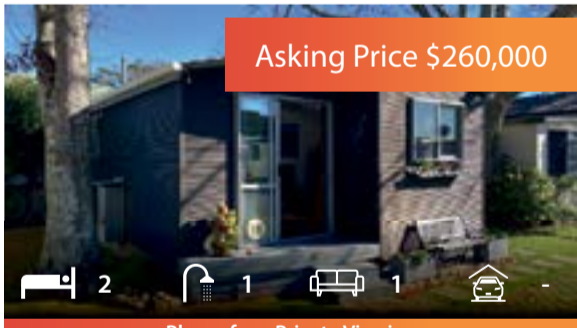


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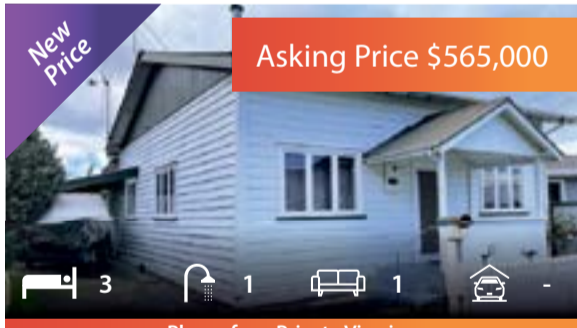


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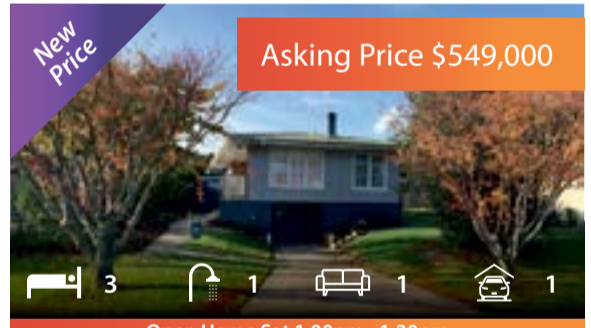


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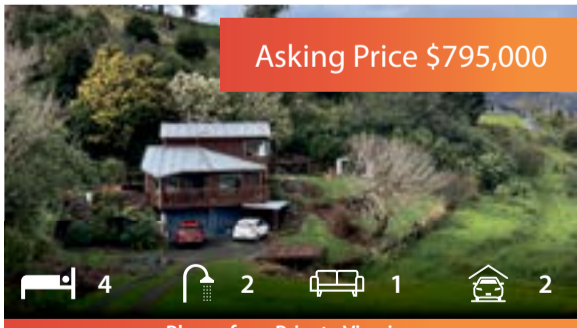


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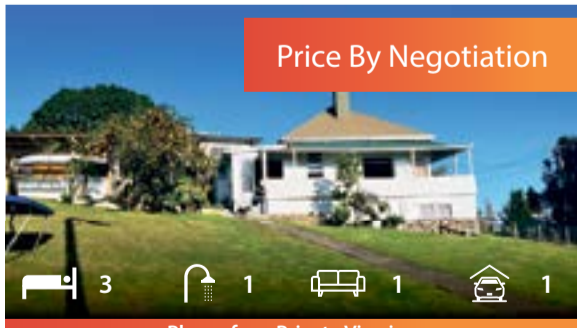


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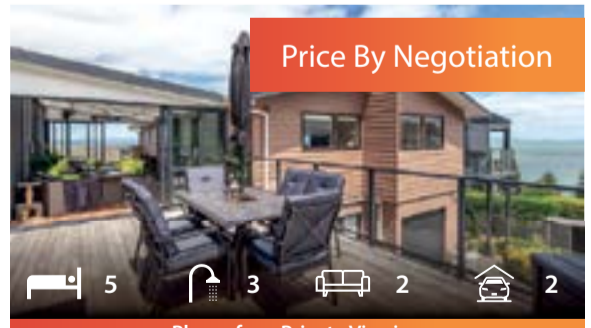


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Laser Electrical's Carl McDuff, left, Lorraine McDuff, Letia Boe and Carlin Hana.

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Customer support sparks award

Laser Electrical Ngatea has praised its customer support and "dedicated" staff after winning a national award. The electrical company, which provides services for residential, commercial and rural properties in Ngatea and surrounding areas, won this year's Customer Service Excellence award at July's Laser Conference in Queenstown for the second time in three years. Co-owner Lorraine McDuff said she and Laser Electrical's 12 staff were "pretty excited" to have won the award, which was based on customer feedback ratings. "We were up against all the Laser Electrical franchises throughout New Zealand and little old Ngatea has taken it out," she said. "It's purely on the customers feedback of our service that we won the award, we send [customers] an email with their invoice and they also get a link which takes them to a survey of how we did. "They rate one to 10 and then give reasons why they gave that certain rating. "Thanks to our staff and their hard work and their dedication to our customers and thanks to our customers as well for supporting us."

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CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 1pm Monday

Death Notice	Church Notice	Situations Vacant	Situations Vacant
<p> BURTON; Dawn Frances Mae (Frances, D.C.) of Auckland and latterly Thames. 18 April 1937 to 15 August 2022. Best friend and loved mother of Sereena. "Your heart was broken. Now mine is too." I owe you For so many things You gave me my life You let me take wing You gave me friendship Your love you shared. Our lives together, Forever paired. An active life involved with Rangitoto Island, League of Mothers, Girl Guiding, Forest and Bird, Thames Museum, Thames' heritage, Thames Small Gauge Railway, Community Care & Support Group, Red Cross, Meals on Wheels, Hydrotherapy Pool, and the Historic Kōpū Bridge. A private natural burial is to be held. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Historic Kōpū Bridge Society: 03 0458 0660713 00 Messages to sereena. burton@xtra.co.nz Thank you to all the angels who supported us.</p> <p>TWENTYMANS</p> <p> Caravans, horse floats, boats, trailers, motorbikes, outboards, quads. Any condition, anywhere. Ph Steve 027 622 0011</p>	<p>Hauraki Plains Co-operating Parish Presbyterian - Methodist Anglican Sundays 09:30 a.m Holy Communion 1st and 3rd Sunday An inclusive, encouraging community of faith 'Come and See' Church Office : 07 867 8466 www.haurakiplainscooparish.com</p> <p>Gardening Stump Grinding. All sizes, all areas. Free quote. Ph 021 060 7659</p> <p>Garage Sale Waihi Scout Group. Something for everyone. Bargain prices. 9am - 12pm Say 27th. Waihi Scout Hall, Baker ST, Waihi.</p> <p>Personal 66 year old widower looking for a lady of similar age for companionship, friendship, outings & travelling. I enjoy gardening. Have own car. Please email replies to Grady. calderwood@gmail.co.nz</p> <p>Wanted to Buy</p>	<p>Kitchen Assistant - Thames Hospital</p> <p>Where you'll be working: Thames Hospital The details: Part time 48 hours per fortnight, Rostered Hourly range: \$21.20-\$25.58</p> <p>About the role: We are looking for an applicant to join our 7 day a week dietary service who has excellent customer service skills and can work all rostered duties including weekends and public holidays. Duties will include food preparation, meal service and general kitchen duties. Food safety and hygiene and relationships and service.</p> <p>You must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent fitness to work in an environment with heavy physical demands including frequent standing, lifting and humid and busy environment. • Willingness to follow direction and carry out tasks in a timely efficient manner • Ability to build and maintain positive respectful relationships with customers and team members • Reliability with an excellent attendance record • A full driver's licence for automatic and manual vehicle <p>An understanding of hospital kitchen functions, and previous experience in similar roles would be an advantage. Full training is provided.</p> <p>COVID-19: Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, Waikato Health & Safety has a policy that includes ensuring that you comply with the Health Order announced 11 October 2021 and with the Vaccine Preventable Diseases for Employees policy. The policy prescribes the required vaccinations including COVID19 for all employees of Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, Waikato. COVID-19 vaccinations are mandatory before you commence employment.</p> <p>Your application: Please apply directly online by visiting www.waikatodhb.health.nz/jobs. Applications are not able to be accepted via email. Application closing date: 1 September 2022.</p> <p>www.waikatodhb.health.nz/jobs</p> <p>Waikato District Health Board</p>	<p>HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL</p> <p>Career Opportunities</p> <p>Want to work for a flexible, service focused organisation where your efforts benefit the whole community and where respect, commitment, communication and positive attitude are fundamental values?</p> <p>We have the following opportunities to join our team:</p> <p>Library Services Team Leader We are looking for a team leader to manage and lead the Hauraki District Libraries so the team delivers to a high standard in a professional and coordinated way. Hauraki has 3 main libraries - 2 of which are modern and new. We need someone with a real enthusiasm and passion for the job. Someone who will motivate and inspire a dedicated team to assist in meeting current and future demands of our community libraries. Ideally you will have thorough knowledge in Library systems and of Library Principles and Practices and preferably a Library qualification at degree level along with and LIANZA Professional registration.</p> <p>Executive Assistant This will be an interesting and varied role where your passion and proven ability in an Executive Assistant role will be key to success. The main focus of this role is to provide high quality secretarial and administration services to the Executive Leadership Team, Chief Executive and Group Manager Community Development. Managing busy schedules along with administering meetings, minutes and agendas will all be part of this role and ideally you will have a minimum of 5 years' practical experience in a similar role.</p> <p>To view the position descriptions and to apply, go to: haurakidc.recruitment.co.nz Applications close 29 August 2022</p> <p><i>"At Hauraki District Council... it's more than just a job!"</i></p>

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 1pm Monday

Public Notice	Public Notice	Public Notice
Paeroa Society of Arts AGM 2022 On 29 August @ 10.30am At our rooms 109 Normanby Rd Paeroa <i>All are Welcome</i>	Victoria Battery Tramway Society Inc. AGM Sunday 4th September 2.00pm Victoria Battery Museum	Battle of Britain Commemorations 11.00am Sunday 11th September 2022 at the Thames Airfield

Public Notice

The Paeroa Little Theatre invites you to **audition** for their local production of **\$38,000 For A Friendly Face** by **Kristen Shepherd** which will be staged in November.

Sunday 28th August, 2pm
Paeroa Little Theatre
Contact Sara: 027 740 1622

\$38,000 For A Friendly Face takes place in our time, in a small town where Bronwyn Bain lived out the last years of her life. When her two estranged daughters arrive less than enthusiastically for their mother's Celebration of Life, catered by the ladies of the Last Supper Committee, the comedy in everyday relationships starts to appear.

CAST:
Matt (new owner of funeral home) 30 - 65
Jane Bain (daughter of deceased) 30 - 65
Esther (head of The Last Supper Committee) 30 - 65
Marge (member of Last Supper Committee) 40 - 65
Phyl (Phyllis McLeary) Member of Last Supper Committee) 40 - 65
Alison (Flower Delivery) over 21
Anne Bain (daughter of deceased) 30 - 65
Various delivery people

This play is a light-hearted look at the goings on in a funeral home: how personalities are different, yet work together, each one with their own story.

Hauraki District Council Meetings - September 2022

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during the month of September 2022 in the Council Chamber, William Street, Paeroa unless otherwise stated.

Taramaire Drainage District Committee
Thursday, 1 September 2022, 9.00am
Ngatea Area Office

Paeroa Rural Drainage District Committee
Thursday, 1 September 2022, 1.00pm
Paeroa Office

District Licensing Committee
Thursday, 1 September 2022, 9.30am

Hearings and Judicial Committee
Monday, 5 September 2022, 9.00am
(if required)

District Licensing Committee
Thursday, 8 September 2022, 9.30am

Council
Wednesday, 14 September 2022, 9.00am

Hearings and Judicial Committee
Monday, 19 September 2022, 9.00am
(if required)

Manaaki Toiora Committee
Tuesday, 27 September 2022, 9.00am

Council
Wednesday, 28 September 2022, 9.00am

Western Plains Drainage District Committee
Thursday, 29 September 2022, 10.30am
Ngatea Area Office

Eastern Plains Drainage District Committee
Thursday, 29 September 2022, 1.00pm
Ngatea Area Office

L D Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz



Geoff Furkert at Sir Keith Park Memorial Airfield. Photo: GORDON PREECE

Battle of Britain to be commemorated

By GORDON PREECE

Thames's Battle of Britain commemorations are cleared for takeoff after Covid-19 grounded the event last year. Sir Keith Park Memorial Airfield president Geoff Furkert told *The Profile* most of the arrangements planned for last year's commemorations would apply to this year and anticipated it would be "quite special".

"This is going to be the third commemoration, we're having the official designations including the Governor-General's consort, Dr Richard Davies, he's going to be quite a figure of note at our commemorations this year," he said.

"We've got RNZAF Base Auckland commander group captain Mike Cannon, and RAF Wing Commander Andy Bryant, but if he's unable to attend he'll arrange an alternate senior Air Force officer."

Mr Furkert said Mayor Sandra Goudie and Coromandel MP Scott Simpson were also expected to attend the commemorations, which are scheduled to begin at 11am on September 11.

"We'll have people talking about their connections to Thames, Battle of Britain, Sir Keith Park and then the dignitaries will be laying the wreaths and they'll be an invitation to members of the public who would like to lay a wreath," he said.

"We have the Kerepēhi Brass Band who will play some background music and support the singing of the national anthem, and we've got students from Thames High School coming to help us sing the national anthem."

Mr Furkert hoped more than 100 members of the public would attend the commemorations.

"Where all this started was to get better recognition for Sir Keith Park and his achievement," he said.

"He was born in Thames and the hurricane fighter plane was the first part of his recognition and the commemorations were a good thing to add."

The commemorations are scheduled to finish at 12:30pm with refreshments for VIPs provided afterwards at Hauraki Aero Club.

LETTERS

We welcome your views. Send your letters to the editor to editor@valleyprofile.co.nz or our office at: 2 Queen St, Paeroa, 3600. Letters must include your full name and address, be 250 words or less and may be edited, abridged or rejected at the editor's discretion.

STRONG RESPONSE TO THREE WATERS

The three waters asset theft is still very much in the public mind. Submissions on this matter closed on the 22nd July. The result has been very satisfying. It is reported that the New Zealand Taxpayers Union delivered around 65,000 submissions to the government. Of those, 8634 people indicated they would like to make an oral submission. 15,000 submissions were also delivered through the National Party and more through the New Zealand Centre for Political Research. It is possible there will be upwards of 100,000 New Zealanders who have said "no" to three waters. It is a very strong response telling the government that New Zealanders oppose this undemocratic and expensive "reform". We now ask the government to listen to the people.

- Ernie Bygrave, Te Aroha

SPORTS REPORTS

BOWLS

Paeroa lawn Bowls is looking to a successful season after a full reconstruction of its green by Peter Rowling. Peter has been instrumental in getting the Paeroa green up to a top standard and the club is looking to hold 10 open bowls tournaments this season. The club opens its 2022-23 season on September 3, when Mayor Toby Adams will roll up the first bowl of the season. This will be followed by a game of eight ends before a break, finishing with two more games in the afternoon. The club is also inviting people who may be interested to come along and register their interest at a "have a go" day to be held on September 17. The club's first open tournament is to be held on September 30, and the club is hoping for a full complement of 18 triples teams. The highlight this year will be a twilight tournament for non bowlers and business houses starting on the first Friday of October and running for six weeks, with prizes, barbecue and socializing. This could be a great opportunity for companies and organizations to do some team building and even come home with a prize.

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6		4		3			1	8
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EASY

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MEDIUM

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HARD

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EASY

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

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

HARD

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

JUMBO CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Accomplish (7)

4 Position with no prospects of promotion (4-3,3)

9 Annual calendar-handbook (7)

13 Cereal heads (4)

14 Gets going (6)

15 Tower on castle wall (6)

16 Nightclub floor show (7)

18 Be incorrect (3)

20 Person or thing almost identical (4,6)

21 Forbear (8)

22 Adipose (5)

25 Momentary pain (6)

26 Produce shoots (6)

28 Stubborn (9)

33 Verdict (8)

34 Grain crop (6)

35 Give up all hope (7)

39 Broadcast (8)

40 Ravine (6)

41 Potter's oven (4)

42 Drinking tube (5)

43 Stiff (5)

46 Wait a minute! (4,4,6)

53 Storage trunk (5)

56 Convulsion (5)

57 Supplication (4)

58 Printed, glazed cotton fabric (6)

59 Frightening (8)

62 Spreading plant (7)

63 Winner's prize (6)

64 Stringed instrument (8)

(8)

67 Scientific star study (9)

69 Breed of hound (6)

70 Insult (6)

74 Small bird (5)

75 Blood-sucking insect (8)

77 Domestic appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines (5,5)

81 Harden (3)

83 Scorn (7)

84 Wealth (6)

85 Associated (6)

86 Astound (4)

87 Predict (7)

88 Fellow pupils (10)

89 Subtracts from (7)

DOWN

1 In the lead (5)

2 Working busily (4,2,2)

3 Lengthen (6)

4 Mournful song (5)

5 Church recess (4)

6 Draw or pull out (7)

7 Steer the course of (6)

8 Unlocks (5)

10 Tilt (4)

11 Resolute, unyielding (7)

12 Warns (6)

17 Made headway (10)

19 Footwear (5)

23 Outer limit (8)

24 Beginning (5)

25 Farm vehicle (7)

27 Duo (4)

29 Wave (7)

30 Complete (6)

31 Saturate (6)

32 Competitors (6)

34 Marshy river offshoot in southern US (5)

36 Temporary repair (5)

37 Suspend (4)

38 Adhesive (4)

44 Tainted (6)

45 Offspring (5)

47 Lubricates (4)

48 Sketch (7)

49 Dwell in (6)

50 Pluvial (5)

51 One disposed to take a favourable view (8)

52 Migratory fish (6)

53 Study of heart diseases (10)

54 Depart (4)

55 Harbour vessel (7)

60 Towelling fabric (5)

61 Long ago (4)

65 Pry (5)

66 Coasting (anag)(8)

68 Cheat (7)

69 Fruit tree flower (7)

71 Spotted tile (6)

72 Legal entitlements (6)

73 Be present (6)

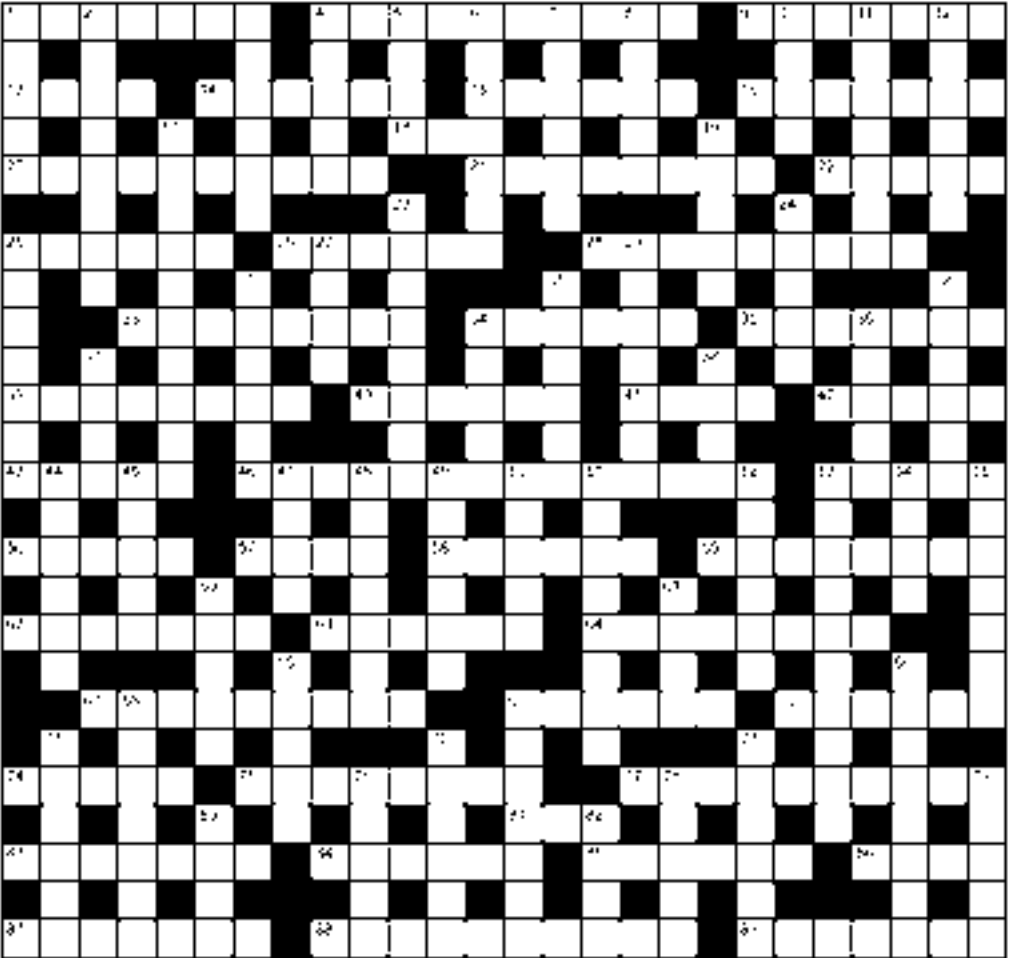
76 Feather pen (5)

78 Perforations (5)

79 Subsides (5)

80 Workbench clamp (4)

82 Sour-tasting (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Speed, 4 Shepherd, 9 Perish, 14 Stare, 15 Like a bull at a gate, 17 China, 18 Sot, 19 Contact, 20 Gargoyles, 21 Scribe, 24 Publisher, 25 Shears, 26 Ignite, 29 Assignment, 31 Tar, 32 Convex, 33 Smog, 35 Owl, 37 Pest, 39 Honeymoon, 40 Dismantle, 41 Grade, 42 Murderer, 47 Emphasis, 51 Brass, 55 Telescope, 56 Crescendo, 58 Take, 59 Loo, 60 Expo, 61 Ignore, 62 Fez, 63 Mediocrity, 66 Clever, 67 Biceps, 69 Satisfied, 72 Saucer, 73 Whirlpool, 75 Kitchen, 77 Aim, 80 Rotor, 81 Beat about the bush, 82 Eyrie, 83 Defect, 84 Showdown, 85 Eager.

DOWN: 2 Poisonous, 3 Elect, 5 Half, 6 Pharaoh, 7 Exaggeration, 8 Diary, 9 Precede, 10 Race, 11 Stitch, 12 False, 13 Lettuce, 14 Savings, 16 Backbencher, 22 Pigeon, 23 Grenade, 24 Pointed, 25 Strong, 27 Inmates, 28 Jetsam, 30 Toys, 32 Clean, 34 Guess, 36 Rash, 38 Emu, 42 Mitre, 43 Relapse, 44 East, 45 Enough, 46 Ladle, 48 Photo finish, 49 Altered, 50 Ink, 51 Bedouin, 52 Scoffs, 53 Mezzo-soprano, 54 Scum, 57 Nudism, 64 Tennessee, 65 Require, 66 Cleaver, 68 Exhibit, 70 Twofold, 71 Nettle, 72 Smirk, 74 Reaps, 76 Cobra, 78 Brie, 79 Stow.

\$750k investment into Paeroa company

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

A meeting with a government minister was a cause for celebration for AgriSea last week, with the Paeroa business popping a bottle of champagne to toast receiving three quarters of a million dollars in investment.

Minister for Economic and Regional Development Stuart Nash was at AgriSea on August 17 to share the news: the second-generation company would be receiving a Regional Strategic Partnership Fund investment of \$750,000, creating nine jobs.

The government fund is worth \$200 million and was created to support regions to make steps towards achieving their economic potential.

"You can't have a country like New Zealand where Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch thrive, and the rest of the country doesn't. That's why we said we've got to invest in provincial regional New Zealand in a way that really makes a difference," Minister Nash said at the event.

"We know these guys [AgriSea] have the experience, the skills, and the drive to really make this happen, and I know we've got a winning partnership."

Earlier this month, AgriSea won the NZ Hi-Tech Award for Māori company of the year.

It has a partnership with Crown research institute Scion



AgriSea chief executive Clare Bradley celebrates with Minister for Economic and Regional Development Stuart Nash.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

to develop high value hydrogels using nanocellulose from seaweed and kelps.

Minister Nash praised AgriSea chief executive Clare Bradley and chief innovation officer Tane Bradley (Ngāti Maniapoto, Waikato-Tainui) for their "absolutely fantastic vision,

drive, and determination".

"I know that the ethos and values of AgriSea certainly match what ours are as a community, and that's the most important thing. I look forward to seeing what happens going forward, but this is the future, and you guys are at the cutting

edge of global innovation in this space."

Hauraki Mayor Toby Adams declared "regions are the new cities" at the meeting, which also hosted AgriSea's research partners from Scion, and thanked the government for its support for small towns.

"I'm thankful you've seen the passion and skill level [AgriSea has] got and are able to part with some of your cash. Don't be afraid of parting with it, because there are multiple talents within this region," he said.

"To Clare and Tane, as a council, we are behind you 150 per cent. Creating jobs, creating wealth, and creating better outcomes for our environment."

AgriSea chief executive Clare Bradley said Paeroa was the perfect place for the company, which is celebrating 25 years of business, as it had "the most incredible community".

She said the \$750,000 investment was "only just the beginning".

"This funding buys into our vision to create a high-value seaweed sector that creates thriving communities," she said. "Thank you for believing in our vision, and thank you for the opportunity for us to take seaweed to the world."

Minister Nash also visited the Paeroa Historical Maritime Park on August 17 as part of his regional economic development portfolio.

In 2020, the Maritime Park received \$730,000 from the government's provincial growth fund for a new riverboat to ferry people and bikes between the park and the new community jetty in Paeroa, plus pontoons, a boardwalk and riparian planting.



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