

Paeroa gallery rebuilds after fire, burglary, P3

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081 August 3, 2022

THE GREAT DIVIDE

\$220k land purchase precedes street closure

While the public was being consulted on Thames' Create the Vibe, the district council had already decided to spend more than \$220,000 to "land bank" space adjacent to it. Now they refuse to disclose what the land is for. KELLEY TANTAU reports.

Thames-Coromandel District Council voted to buy a section of land adjacent to the Create the Vibe pedestrian space before public consultation began on the controversial project.

However, it will not say whether the land was bought as part of The Vibe despite a council report stating it would "land bank" the space for a plan to "transform the CBD".

In the publicly excluded minutes of a May, 2019, council report seen by *The Profile*, council asked Thames Community Board members whether they were interested in purchasing 207 Mary St, a 269 square metre section of bare land next to the former Computer Geeks shop.

The report said purchasing the land was an opportunity to "land bank" for the revitalisation of the "heart of Thames" with "a strong emphasis on transforming east to west linkages to enable strong pedestrian and cycle connectivity between the mountain and the waterfront".

Mary St was specifically identified as a key connector, and the purchasing of 207 Mary St was seen as an "investment" which would "help create a catalyst to transform the CBD".

Council voted to buy the land in October, 2020, for \$221,069, just prior to public consultation for The Vibe, with construction beginning in February, 2021. The cost of the purchase would be offset by council property sales with-

in the Thames ward.

The Profile asked council if the purchase was made with the intention to expand the Create the Vibe space on Mary St, and if not, what was the intended use of the space.

However, council project delivery manager Andrew Boden did not answer the questions.

Instead, he stated the Create the Vibe project had been carried out within the Waka Kotahi Innovating Streets budget of \$320,125, and did not include or utilise the lot at 207 Mary St.

The Vibe opened in March, 2021, with the intention to establish a shared pedestrian and cyclist space by "temporarily" closing Mary St to vehicles.

There are seats and tables, festoon lighting, bike racks, garden planters, and eye-catching murals - but the space also comes with opposition.

Business owners have criticised council's lack of consultation, and scrutinised the public voting period that spanned just two weeks and didn't include an option to keep Mary St as it was.

A petition signed by more than 600 calling for the street to reopen followed.

But in June this year, the Thames Community Board said the space was "heading towards permanence" - a process that Greg Hampton, owner of Carson's Bookshop opposite The Vibe, has called "a sham".

CONTINUED ON P2



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NEWS/EDITORIAL

Publisher/Editor Teresa Ramsey
Ph 0204 0944 853
editor@valleyprofile.co.nz
Senior Reporter Kelley Tantau
Ph 022 619 4889
kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz
Reporter Gordon Preece
Ph 022 174 3988
gordon@valleyprofile.co.nz

ADVERTISING

Ad manager Nikki Sanders
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Council spends \$220k on 'land bank'

CONTINUED FROM P1

"Still trying to deny that they purchased the land for The Vibe is dishonest, because it's clear in the report. It may not say 'Vibe' but it's the same thing. They're trying to do a Donald Trump - just completely deny," he said.

Mr Hampton filed an Official Information Act (OIA) request back in February, 2021, over council's decision to spend \$221,069 to buy the land. The information was withheld until a second OIA request was lodged by Mr Hampton in June, which included the 2019 report.

"What infuriates me the most about the whole thing is [council's] consultation has not been genuine; they did not give the public an opportunity to vote for the status quo of leaving Mary St open, and they had already purchased the land and invested over \$200,000," Mr Hampton said.

"Upon presentation of a petition, the elected members wanted to discredit it, so they clearly do not want to listen to people who object with the closure of Mary St."

At the Thames Community Board meeting on June 28, members Peter Revell and Sally Christie said they believed The Vibe was moving towards becoming a permanent space.

"We could consult until I'm older than I am now and we could still not have a clear way forward," Cr Christie said. "In terms of myself, I believe that this space is crucial for Thames. I can hear and feel the frustration



Council has bought a 269 square metre section of bare land in Mary St, next to the former Computer Geeks shop.
Photos: KELLEY TANTAU

CREATE THE VIBE TIMELINE:

- MAY, 2019:** Thames Community Board is asked whether it is interested in purchasing 207 Mary St.
- MAY, 2020:** Council makes a successful application to Waka Kotahi's Innovating Streets pilot.
- OCTOBER, 2020:** TCDC was asked to consider the purchase of 207 Mary St. Members voted to buy

the land, offsetting the costs through property sales in the Thames ward.

- SEPTEMBER/NOVEMBER 2020:** TCDC staff seek feedback at the Create the Vibe container.
- FEBRUARY, 2021:** Construction of stage one of the partial closure of Mary St begins.
- JUNE, 2022:** Community board members vote to continue the Vibe's trial for another year.

from people who want a bulldozer tomorrow... but I'm in the camp of we're heading towards permanence, so, how do we do that best?"

Mr Revell said he felt the Vibe's history was tainted by "missteps".

"We all know the history that has got us to where we are, and that history is characterised by a

lot of what I would call missteps; things that didn't quite happen the way we thought they should happen, or weren't planned in the right way..."

Then acting chief executive Bruce Hinson said council could "always do things better".

"And I'm happy to take that on board."

But Mr Hampton said the

council had been "dishonest and deceitful" throughout the process.

"I would not have kept going on about this if they had just owned up and said: 'We shouldn't have done it that way' and changed course."



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Paeroa gallery rebuilds after fire

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

As a fire ripped through the building next door, Wendy Mikkelsen and her son Jon desperately pulled down paintings displayed on the wall.

Above their heads, paint started popping off from the roof, and smoke pooled through a crack between the buildings.

"It all happened really fast," Wendy tells *The Profile*.

She and Jon stand in their reconstructed Belmont Rd art gallery in Paeroa, where five months earlier, a fire completely gutted the neighbouring Forget Me Not op shop and damaged the nearby Bakehouse Cafe, Midway Burger Bar, Old Mate's Pizza, and the Paeroa News Agents.

The gallery also doubles as the office for Jon's business, Advance Insurance Services, and on the day of the February fire, both he and Wendy were on site.

"We tried to put it out with fire extinguishers," Jon recalls, "but the smoke was covering half of [Forget Me Not's] roof, it was thick and black, so we actually had to duck down underneath it to try and get into the kitchen next door."

The fire broke out around 12.30pm on February 23, and emergency crews from Paeroa, Puriri, Ngātea, Te Aroha, Waihi, and Hamilton attended the scene. The fire, believed to have been caused by an electrical fault, was extinguished two hours later. Nobody was injured



Wendy Mikkelsen and her son Jon await the completion of their refurbished art gallery and insurance offices in Paeroa.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

in the blaze.

Fifteen artists had work displayed in the Mikkelsen Gallery at the time, and although the building remained intact, smoke damage had forced the two businesses inside it to close.

Wendy and Jon shifted the artworks into the outside studio for

safe keeping - but were soon hit with another blow.

In May, three months after the blaze, thieves broke their way into the studio and stole three hand-made ship replicas, and two mixed media sculptures.

"The ships were gifted to us from a family friend

who was in his 80s and who made these beautiful, unique model ships," Wendy says.

Her husband, Stephen, passed away from cancer in June, 2021, and the ships were pieces of particular importance to him. The theft left Wendy "devastated".

But after going through her

own health struggles following the fire, Wendy got a taste of good news - a "courageous" member of the public recovered the ships and returned them to the gallery.

The mixed media sculptures, one a cat and the other a fish made from wood, brass, and

CONTINUED P4

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Students 'coped well' during bomb threat

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

The principal of a school targeted by a bomb threat last week has praised his staff and students for "coping well" during the "distressing" situation.

Thames High School received a "low risk" bomb threat made via phone on July 26, resulting in a lockdown and an inspection from armed police.

Schools in Matamata, Cambridge and Gisborne also received the same threat. Two days later, Police made further enquiries after more threats were made towards schools in Masterton, Kaikoura, Greymouth, Queenstown, Levin, Whanganui, Rolleston, Takaka, Geraldine, Dunstan, Ashburton and Palmerston North.

Thames High principal Michael Hart told *The Profile* the threat was "not very specific" and because they were not the only ones affected, they believed it was likely a "poorly judged hoax".

"Like all threats though, we treat them seriously as safety is our priority."

The alarming phone call was received late-morning on Tuesday, July 26. Staff called Police, who advised the school to go into lockdown. Police were on site within 10 minutes, and after inspecting the external areas of the school, students and staff were evacuated in order for the



Armed police inspected Thames High after a bomb threat via phone last week.

Photo: SUPPLIED

internal buildings to be checked. They received "full clearance" from Police by 2pm.

The following day, Mr Hart said students and staff had "returned to business as usual".

"We are confident and pleased that the worries of yesterday have been well understood and put into perspective. The tone of the school is settled and it was great to check in with students and staff and have lots of positive responses.

"It has helped knowing that there was no reason that we were amongst the affected schools, so

there was [an] understanding that it appeared to be a random situation," he said.

Mr Hart said it was "great" to see his older students helping the "younger ones", and parents being patient and understanding.

All things considered, he said, the college's processes were well followed.

"Our processes worked really well, but like all occasions where a real situation evolved, we will take any lessons learned and make improvements.

"One of the challenges in this

situation... was we moved from a regular lockdown to one where we were on the field, and that created communication and co-ordination issues that [we] might not otherwise have faced," he said.

"Not to mention the mud!" Police have made inquiries into the threats and, in a statement, said it believed there was no specific safety risk.

Investigations into the source of the threats are ongoing.



Gallery rebuilds

CONTINUED FROM P3

precious stones, remain missing.

As Wendy and Jon stand in their near-completed building, which has new floors, a new ceiling, a new front entrance, and a striking feature wall, they set their eyes on the future.

Jon, who has been working out of Wendy's garage, will return to the office once the build is complete.

Before the end of the year, Wendy is also hoping to have a "grand reopening" of the gallery, as well as an exhibition.

"[The fire] hit me so hard... everybody else's beautiful work that they had put their heart and soul into was under my watch. It was really daunting," she says.

"So, we're not going to rush it but... we want to do a grand opening with an exhibition and celebrate and thank the community. People were upset and giving us their condolences and that meant a lot.

"Everything has been out of our control," she says, "and to have faith in the dark times, it does take a lot of grit... but it is life."



Two stolen mixed media sculptures remain missing.

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Rescue team set for fierce Sky Tower climb

By GORDON PREECE

Members of the Waihi Gold Mines Rescue Team will ascend the southern hemisphere's tallest building in a few weeks for a flaming good cause.

The annual Firefighter Sky Tower Challenge on August 20 will see New Zealand firefighters race to the top of the 328m Auckland Sky Tower carrying 25kg of gear, while also raising funds and awareness for Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand (LBC).

LBC said eight children and adults in New Zealand are diagnosed each day with blood cancer, and the charity is dedicated to supporting patients and their families for months or even years.

It will be the sixth year the Waihi rescue team has taken part in the challenge, with up to nine members taking part.

Jamie Bird, who is about to compete in his fourth Sky Tower challenge, told *The Profile* raising money for a good cause ignited his involvement.

"[Leukaemia and blood cancer] affects a lot of people and the money goes towards supporting the families, but it's also a very physical thing to do for the team and a bit of competition within the team of who can get the fastest time," he said.



Troy Hargreaves, left, Josh Foster, Jamie Bird, and Shay Perkinson are part of the Waihi Gold Mines Rescue Team taking part in the August 20 challenge. Photo: SUPPLIED

Jamie said rescue team members, who were trained and certified in incident responses, including fires, usually took between 10 and 20

minutes to conquer the Sky Tower's 51 flights of stairs. "We start in the basement and then we do four flights up until you're on ground level

and then you do a lap outside and then you carry on up to the top of the Sky Tower," he said. "The challenge is to keep moving really - when you get

halfway up it's difficult to keep pushing and pushing and just go as long as you can."

Jamie said the rescue team wore firefighting suits for the challenge and a 25kg closed circuit breathing apparatus, which the team uses in underground rescue missions.

"The closed circuit is different to the open circuit because we breathe in our own air and it gets circulated around and filtered," he said.

"Then we can rebreathe our own air rather than have a fresh supply like the other firefighters do with the BA gear.

"I get quite a bit of [training] with work but there's quite a few people who'll also go on hikes, runs or walks with weighted vests."

As of last week, Jamie said the rescue team was New Zealand's second highest fundraising team with more than \$23,000 raised through online donations, sponsors and raffles for LBC.

This includes around \$5000 raised by a raffle held at Waihi Rugby Club.

The rescue team, which raised more than \$41,000 in 2021, will continue fundraising up until challenge day.

DETAILS: To help Waihi Gold Mines Rescue Team in their fundraising efforts, visit firefighter-schallenge.org.nz/t/waihigoldminesrescue.

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Beach and liquid artworks for August exhibition

By GORDON PREECE

Liquid paintings and beach artworks, including one of North Otago's Moeraki Boulders, will embellish the walls of the Paeroa Society of Arts during August.

Angela told *The Profile* that while she had been a member of the Normanby Rd gallery since 2008, she only started creating art during Christmas, 2019.

"My philosophy to life is never stop learning and I felt like I wanted something to occupy myself apart from my garden and family," she said.

"So I went online and saw liquid art on there, which I thought was rather exciting.

"After many disasters, because they turn out terrible sometimes, I started to become happy with my results, and after showing a few people I was invited to the Cambridge Arts Festival in March, 2020."

Angela said after Covid-19 cancelled the festival, she continued to experiment with her liquid artworks using other types of paint.

"I found it quite exciting because you never knew what you're going to get in the end - as the paint dries it moves and it depends on which colours mix together," she said.

"You can pour it in rings, different colours one on top of the other and then let it spread



Angela Brutnall's exhibition will include these liquid and beach artworks.

Photo: GORDON PREECE

and manipulate your board or you can have it in a cup, put it on your canvas and drag it down over wet paint.

"It's very therapeutic and very contagious once you start and you want to keep going."

Angela said after she'd displayed her liquid art at Paeroa

Society of Arts, she drifted to beach artworks last year when she wanted to display something different at one of the gallery's exhibitions.

"I love the clouds, I love the sea and I like rocks and my first ever painting that I had done of a beach was the one I

put into the exhibition and it got a commended certificate."

"I was very delighted and when the exhibition opened in the first week my piece of art had sold."

Angela hoped her exhibition would encourage others to try art and attract new members.

"I'm very excited to be a member of Paeroa Society of Arts," she said.

"I just enjoy people's comments and when someone can tell you they really love that one it makes you feel good because it's something that you've done."

Specsavers now open at Goldfields



Daffodil day fundraiser set to return

By GORDON PREECE

Daffodils will adorn Paeroa RSA tables for a Daffodil Day fundraising luncheon on August 29.

Around 12 volunteers from Paeroa are organising the event with Elaine Lally and Margaret Ramshaw leading the charge.

The event aims to raise funds for the Waikato/Bay of Plenty division of Cancer Society New Zealand so it can continue supporting people living with different types of cancers. According to the Cancer Society, 71 New Zealanders are diagnosed with cancer every day.

Elaine told *The Profile* while last year's event had to be cancelled due to New Zealand's Level 4 Covid-19 lockdown in August, their event in 2020 raised nearly \$4000.

"\$700 was raised for the Cancer Society in Paeroa last year through community donations and daffodil sales," she said.

"The funds raised are for helping all cancer needs within our area," she said.

Tickets will be available from Addictions Gift Store on Paeroa's main street from August 5 for \$20 which covers the cost of entry, the luncheon and door prizes.

Elaine said they'll be limiting ticket numbers to 100 this



Paeroa Daffodil Day organisers Elaine Lally, Margaret Ramshaw and Joan Waterson. Photo: GORDON PREECE

year.

"Around 170 people wanted to attend last year's event and it was just about getting out of hand," she said.

"We're not having the sales table this year either because there's too many people moving around with Covid-19 so

we decided we might do away with that because we still have to be careful."

Hauraki District Mayor Toby Adams and a Cancer Society spokesperson were invited to attend, she said.

Daffodil Day will be held nationally on Friday, August 26.

Every dollar raised for Daffodil Day will go towards cancer care for patients and their whānau, education and awareness programmes, and life-saving cancer research.

For more information about Daffodil Day, visit: daffodilday.org.nz.

Kōpū build set to start

Construction on the \$15m Kōpū Business and Marine Precinct will start in October, and it is hoped the build will be completed as soon as mid-2024.

Thames-Coromandel District Council has signed off for its contractors to proceed with the multi-million dollar build, which includes a commercial slipway, commercial wharf and pontoon, and haulage access area, as well as a new public recreational boat ramp and parking area.

The major contracts are being awarded to Fulton Hogan, who will start roading (civil works) in October, and Heron Construction for the maritime infrastructure.

Council said local sub-contractors would also be used "as much as possible" throughout the build.

In 2020, \$8.2m was approved by the government's Provincial Growth Fund for the marine precinct's development, but the final cost of the project doubled to \$15.3m.

Mayor Sandra Goudie said this was due to factors such as supply chain issues, inflation, and a tighter labour market.

"We want to thank all our stakeholders, from iwi through to the Thames Business Association, who have either supported, lobbied, and worked behind the scenes as well to see some tangible results," she said.

A shovel ready ceremony is being planned for September.

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Local COF inspection rolls into Waihi

Supporting the locals is the driving force behind a new independent Waihi business offering certificate of fitness (COF) inspections for heavy vehicles.

Grant Sefton launched Waihi Vehicle Inspection along with his wife Fay and son Rhys in April at the former VTNZ premises on Consols St, to be closer to home after operating a truck workshop and then independent COF inspection business in Te Puke for 19 years.

"We used to farm in Waihi and our three boys grew up and went to school here, so we know Waihi reasonably well. It's good to put something back for the locals," he said.

Grant said he aimed to apply the same philosophy for their new business, which included building a steady clientele, servicing the locals and providing a good service by offering a quality vehicle inspection.

"Waihi Vehicle Inspection's something valuable for the area that had been lost," he said. "We have completely upgraded the facility including the best quality equipment, similar to what we used in Te Puke.

"The main thing that we're specialising in is trucks, trailers, motorhomes and as per the inspection model in Te Puke, all inspections are done through a booking basis to manage both



Grant Sefton says the driving force of Waihi Vehicle Inspections is building a steady clientele, servicing the locals, and providing a good service. Photo: GORDON PREECE

inspectors' and customers' time better.

"It also stops people from travelling distances, then long

wait times to get their COFs done, and treating customers with respect and offering a top quality inspection is the goal."

Grant said he and his son Rhys, who is also a qualified Vehicle Inspection COF inspector, can also let customers know of

any issues detected during the inspection to help with their vehicle maintenance and road safety.

This included helping motorhomes to get their self-containment certificates by allowing the area to be used for inspection by the motorhome association.

"Our point of difference is we are independent of any repair facilities so offer customers security of a truly independent inspection.

"Situated nearby are two long established experienced businesses which could be helpful if repairs are needed."

Grant said COF inspections for passenger service vehicles would also hopefully soon be available.

"We have put an [NZTA] application in for that. We can still do warrants, but the area's already quite well covered for that, so we're not trying to pinch somebody else's business.

"No one else in Waihi or the local area, for example, Paeroa, Whangamatā, can actually do COFs, so that's our niche we're trying to supply."

DETAILS: Waihi Vehicle Inspection, 53 Consols St, Bay 8, open Tuesday, and Wednesday, for appointments email: office@wvi.nz or call 07 242 4455 (Tuesday and Wednesday only).

- GORDON PREECE

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WAIHI

Truffle oils, sherry vinegars and French Cheeses in Paeroa?

You'll find them, along with an enticing array of other local and imported gourmet food products in Providence Pantry.

Sandwiched between two iconic antiques shops, this new-kid-on-the-block is the brain-child of chef Rensha Bouwer, who opted out of the fast-paced life of a head chef in several Auckland and Waiheke restaurants to enjoy the more relaxed lifestyle of a provincial town.

But when you see the amazing variety of delicious fresh foods Rensha conjures up on the premises every day, relaxed is not a word that comes to mind!

Providence Pantry offers a selection of tasty fresh food including pies, scones, muffins and bread baked every morning, along with sandwiches, croissants, salads and sweet

treats. There is also an exclusive range of ready made meals to take home, so you can enjoy gourmet meals without the need to be a Masterchef.

Oh!... they make great coffee as well.

The shop layout and décor reflects Rensha's original career choice in the fine-arts world.

The premises, originally the old Coachman Cafe, could now quite comfortably nestle among other high-street shops in a French Provincial town.

The French connection forms the basis of Rensha's cooking style, as French cuisine was the kernel of Rensha's training to become a chef.

Her extensive overseas travels to Europe and the Middle East have, however, added unique and delicious layers to the flavours and variety of her



Providence Pantry staff, from left to right: Justin Boland, Reden Hedley, Bonnie Hogben, Rachael Widmer, Rensha Bouwer, Eikura Emery and Zay Marlow. Photos: SUPPLIED



The Providence Pantry shop at 22 Belmont Road, Paeroa.

food.

Cheese is one of Rensha's passions, so it comes as no surprise that Providence Pantry stocks a wide variety of local and French cheeses.

"On every menu that I've created...cheese is an integral part of a good finish to your meal, and I was really privileged

to have worked with several French chefs who taught me a great deal about cheese," Rensha tells us.

"There are beautiful quality cheeses out there and amazing cheese makers.

"In France, a meal is often just a good bottle of wine, a gorgeous loaf of bread and a beau-

tiful cheese."

If you are looking to find something gastronomically different in Paeroa, call in to Providence Pantry. Rensha and her friendly staff will welcome your visit.

You can find Providence Pantry at 22 Belmont Road, Paeroa. See you there!



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Foot-and-mouth disease only affects cloven-hooved animals, such as sheep, alpaca, cattle, goats, pigs and deer.
File Photo: PIXABAY

Vigilance urged amid foot-and-mouth concerns

By GORDON PREECE

Concerns over foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) entering New Zealand for the first time has prompted warnings for Hauraki-Coromandel's farming community.

The highly-contagious disease, which only affects cloven-hooved (two-toed) animals like cows, sheep, pigs, goats, deer and alpaca, has been present in China, Malaysia and most recently, Indonesia.

According to Federated Farmers, Bali has about 16 million cattle, and over 20,000 animals have been infected in 16 provinces on four Indonesian Islands, including Sumatra, Java, Kalimantan and Lombok.

Viral fragments of FMD were also recently discovered in Australia on imported pork products.

According to the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), a New Zealand outbreak could severely impact agricultural productivity, export sales and jobs.

Hauraki-Coromandel Federated Farmers president Robert Crow told *The Profile* the recent FMD outbreak in Indonesia was "scary" and urged the district's farming community to be "fully mindful".

"What farmers should be doing between now and a potential outbreak is if they are travelling overseas then make sure they don't bring back anything from [FMD infected] areas in regards to dirt on their footwear," he said.

"The main concern is if it breaks out here, the control measures that would need to be taken wouldn't be something we would like to see with

"If we're all diligent and very careful, hopefully we can avoid [FMD] making it to our shores."

- Robert Crow

depopulation of herds, mass slaughters, mass graves and burnings - decimating farming businesses, not to mention the country's economy."

Mr Crow said farmers must also ensure their National Animal Identification and Tracing (NAIT) requirements were updated, limit people who've arrived from FMD infected countries accessing their farms and obey MPI protocols for migrant farm workers.

"Because there are no direct

flights from Indonesia to New Zealand, there's only transit flights, so hopefully MPI will pick those up on their arrival card and process them accordingly," he said.

"There will be a stand down period for those people to go on farms so as much as farmers are under strain and stress at the moment due to labour shortages they need to make sure they follow those protocols just to protect themselves and the industry.

"If we're all diligent and very careful, hopefully we can avoid [FMD] making it to our shores."

Mr Crow said Federated Farmers was currently working closely with MPI to establish a strategic response if an outbreak occurred.

"We obviously don't know what that's going to look like

yet until they roll it out but the framework that's been used through M Bovis [mycoplasma bovis] eradication programme has taught them a lot and will aid in a speedy response," he said.

FMD symptoms include blisters, sores, drooling, young animal deaths and cow milk yield reductions.

Mr Crow said farmers must immediately contact their local vet or MPI if their animals have these symptoms.

"It's better to be safe than sorry, there's no advantage in trying to keep anything on the down low," he said.

"If you suspect there's an issue, it needs to be brought out as quickly as possible so that it can be eradicated with minimal impact."

DETAILS: For more information: www.mpi.govt.nz.

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Rural Life

Learning to live alongside fur seals

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

Coming across a dead or dying New Zealand fur seal (kekeno) can be “distressing”, but the Department of Conservation is calling for such sightings in order to help the “cheeky” species thrive.

Over the next three months, residents around the Hauraki Gulf and Thames-Coromandel are being urged to report sightings of the seals, as part of a new research project that continues on the mahi of citizen scientist Shaun Lee.

In 2021, Shaun documented 57 kekeno deaths throughout the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, most of which were juveniles. This was despite there being no known kekeno colonies in the park.

Since the project began last month, there have been three reports of dead seals and 28 reports of live single or groups of seals. “Of those 28, we have had two reported for Thames,” DOC’s marine science advisor Laura Boren told *The Profile*. “One was reported half-way between Whakatete Bay and Ngarimu Bay on the Thames Coast – a juvenile who is suspected to have been hanging out in the area for a few weeks.

“The other one was reported at the end of Wilson Street, Tararua, Thames, and was on the sea wall.”

While it was “refreshing” to get reports of live seals, Laura said it was also important for people to report deceased seals, so DOC could send suitable specimens for an autopsy to determine its cause of death.

“If we can try and get to [the seals] in a more timely manner, we can get a better idea of the timing of when they’re dying - if there are peaks and troughs - and it improves our chances of getting fresh ones that we can determine a cause of death for,” she said.

“If we do get fresh ones reported, we will follow up on those, and we’ve made arrangements with Massey University and Auckland Zoo to undertake some post mortems.”

The marine mammals are an increasingly common sight around New Zealand beaches in winter and early spring, as they “haul out” (come ashore) during their seasonal departure from breeding colonies.

Laura, who did her Masters on New Zealand’s fur seals, said while there had been work done to understand the mortality of kekeno in the past, there was less emphasis on the topic because of the species’ “success”.

“There is less known about these guys, but as the population increases and they overlap more with humans, there’s a stronger need to be able to manage the interactions between seals and



Last month there were three reports of dead seals and 28 reports of live single or groups of seals around the Hauraki Gulf.

File Photo: SABINE BERNERT/DOC

humans,” she said.

“Because of human and coastal development [in the North Island], you get a lot more seals crossing the road and going into school yards and stuff like that... There are so many different ways that we can interact with them - dogs, rubbish, tourism - and as well as that, there are the indirect things, like fishing and impacting their food supply.

“I think the key thing, from my perspective, is being able to know where the animals are, where the hot spots are,” she said. “And if there are mortalities that could be food related or foul play, we can act on that.”

“We can share the space, we just need to learn how to.”

The research project will continue until the end of September. **DETAILS: People who encounter**

seals can provide information and photographs by email to kekeno@doc.govt.nz. People should take photos of the whole animal from several angles, including one straight down the animal and with something for scale, and note the date, location, and if the animal is tagged.



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Merry day out

Close to 40 members from Paeroa Probus Club gathered in the Paeroa Bible Chapel on Wharf St on July 27 for their annual mid-year celebration with a mid-winter Christmas theme. Spokesperson Lorraine Wilson told *The Profile* the event was part of the club's motto, which is fun, friendship and fellowship. Reporter **GORDON PREECE** headed along to spread cheer and goodwill.



Debbie Cotter, left, and Kaye Roskam perform *Jingle Bells*.

Photos: GORDON PREECE



Former club president Noel Coventry and his wife Mila.



Carol Spence, left, and Alexis Smith chuckle with a cup of tea.



Diane Smith, left, and Roberta Montgomery enjoyed the festivities.



Joan Waterson, left, and Pidge Innes-Brown.



Jan and Keith Austen enjoy the event.

Scott Simpson

MP for Coromandel

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LEFT: Artist Kelcy Taratoa observes year nine boys painting their Matariki stars. RIGHT: Year nine girls design their artworks.

Photos: SUPPLIED

Matariki focus for Paeroa College art week

By GORDON PREECE

Paeroa College's year nine students had the opportunity to learn art, music, drama and dance for its annual Arts Project Week last month.

Teacher Emma Black told *The Profile*, the college had the privilege of hosting contempo-

rary Māori artist Kelcy Taratoa for the first two days.

"He spoke to the students of Paeroa College about his formative years, growing up in difficult circumstances and how he overcame adversity," she said.

"He then spoke of individuals who changed the world, all due to their ability to think

differently, problem solve and believe in themselves and the power of creative will."

Emma said Kelcy also shared his stories of Matariki from his whānau's experience before students painted Matariki-themed sculptures under the guidance of Kelcy and art teacher Helen MacDuff.

"The sculptures will be connected to form an abstract constellation, with each star containing the students' intentions and wishes for the coming year," she said.

Paeroa College student Miley Maber said students learnt about connections and what made them who they were for

the drama and music sections and learnt two choreographed dances in the dance section.

"I'm sure all the year nines enjoyed something about the short two days and wish it could have been extended," she said.

"Thank you to our hard working staff."

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We Care Community Trust is a recently licensed gaming machines' society operating from **Punters Sports Bar** in Thames. We Care has funding available for qualifying organisations in the local community.

Applications are now being received and considered by the Directors of We Care Community Trust in accordance with their authorised purpose statement and the funds that are available. Applications close at the end of each month for consideration the following month.

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National scholarship for Ngātea car painter

By GORDON PREECE

Automotive refinishing apprentice Samuel Broadbent was “pretty stoked” when he became the Central North Island recipient for an apprenticeship scholarship.

The Collision Repairs Association (CRA) gave away one apprenticeship scholarship programme in paint award in early July to one automotive refinishing apprentice from each of its five districts.

The scholarship would traditionally cover the costs of apprenticeships but under the government’s fees free policy, the scholarship offers expert tutors for the recipients instead.

Samuel, who is training under the Motor Industry Training Organisation (MITO), told *The Profile* he believed his achievements in the theory sections of his apprenticeship, which included health and safety tests, made him noticed by the CRA.

“They must’ve seen my apprenticeship diligence where I did all the written stuff very quickly and they must’ve thought this guy deserves an award,” he said.

The former Hauraki Plains College student said he chose to train for his apprenticeship at Ngātea Panelbeaters because of his love of cars and the



Samuel Broadbent says he’s “pretty stoked” to receive a scholarship which would help him during his apprenticeship. Photo: GORDON PREECE

close location. “I thought this would be a great place to work on cars professionally and it’s a good place to learn and further my knowledge,” he said.

“MITO have been very helpful and painting cars is very satisfying.”

Samuel’s father Phil Broad-

bent, who has owned Ngātea Panelbeaters for close to 20 years, entered Samuel for the scholarship and said he was “proud” he received it.

“I think any guy who has employees who are studying and succeeding as well, you can only be so happy about it, and it’s good for the other six ap-

prentices as well because they can see Sam succeeding.

“Sam has had to do a lot of theory when it comes to the painting and the practical side of it and he’s had to show the work he’s done and different details.”

Phil said Samuel’s course, the New Zealand Certificate in Col-

lision Repair and Automotive Refinishing, usually takes three years to complete but he’s close to finishing it after just over one year.

“When we asked him what his future was he’ll look at the panelbeating side of it next,” he said. “He’d also like to have his own shop.”



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SPORTS

Go for Gold

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

The Thames Valley Swampfoxes caught up with their pals at Goldfields School in Paeroa last week.

The rugby union has had a relationship with the school for around six years and each year, it's been "getting stronger", teacher Anna Walters said.

"They love it - the students love it and the athletes love it, and today has been brilliant."

The rugby squad spent time playing indoor and outdoor games with the students, with the students - from Thames, Waihi, Ngātea, and Paeroa - showing off their competitive

sides. "We've got 13 guys who are new to the squad, so this shows them what we're about, and they get to come and see the kids," head coach Joe Murray said.

"It's really humbling [because] we're lucky to do what we do, day in and day out, but some kids aren't as fortunate."

This year, The Swampfoxes will be selling red-and-yellow pairs of socks to raise funds for the special school.

Joe said the goal was to rake in \$30,000 for the school by selling 1500 pairs.

The rugby union's centenary celebrations will take place on August 26 and 27.



Harper Sandford gets in some kicking practise with Will Newbold and Etiuefa Fiavaai. Photos: KELLEY TANTAU



Swampfox Blake Hill teams up with a student.



Brothers Sione and Daniel spend time together.



Jack Burgess shows off the Swampfoxes' socks.



Harper Sandford takes part in tic-tac-toe.



Liam Rule with Swampfox Cody Muir.

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'Inaction' during plague scare



As part of a Valley Profile series, MEGHAN HAWKES searches through old newspapers to bring you the stories Thames Valley locals once read about themselves.

1900

As a bubonic plague scare gripped New Zealand, rats at Thames roamed unharmed due to official inaction. There was scepticism that the plague would ever reach Thames in spite of the crew of the Auckland to Thames steamer Wakatere seeing several rats run across the ropes from the ship to the wharf. If the rats brought the plague to Thames, the Harbour Board was deemed responsible. A joint meeting of the Harbour Board and the Borough Council decided to offer 2d per head for rats caught in the borough.

At Paeroa Police court there were a number of cases against residents for failing to employ the services of the night soil contractor. One resident was charged with depositing offensive matter into a creek. Paeroa drainage was also something fearsome. A walk around town revealed reeking drains down Station, Puke and Junction roads and similar death traps all along the main street.

A large number of people gathered at Hikutaia to witness the



Waihi's Main Street, 1899.

Photo: SUPPLIED

hoisting of the school flag. A patriotic address dealing with the origin and meaning of the Union Jack was given, after which the flag was hoisted. As it unfurled in the breeze the National Anthem was sung. After more speeches and singing the flag was saluted in true soldierly style by the children. The crowd then adjourned to the school to enjoy an abundance of refreshments. The Puriri band played a number of selections and a dance in the evening brought a successful ceremony to a close.

Tapu residents were very pleased at the promptitude of the County Council in responding to their requests that steps be taken to prevent the constant eating away at the eastern bank of the Tapu Creek by high tides and North West gales. It had been painful to watch the incessant erosion of a once pretty little flat. Within the previous 30 years, nearly an acre of ground had gone and if no preventative steps were taken, in 30 more years

there would be no flat at all. The previous Arbour Day the community had planted some 200 macrocarpa trees on the creek bank and had them neatly fenced, hoping that in time their strong roots they would consolidate the ground and resist the wash of the high tides. But so strong was the next North West gale it cut into the bank about six feet and many of the little trees were undermined. It was considered sad indeed to see the most charming little summer outing place on the Thames peninsula gone to sea.

Waihi was assuming a much more important appearance. Four new blocks of buildings had gone up and were locally known as Campbell's, Tuthill's, Tanner's, and Slevin's. The road was now much more level but there was a blot on the town in the form of a long ugly lump, which had been left by the grading of Main Street. There was also a hill at the end of the main street, opposite Filling's Hotel, which spoiled the town and reduced the value of property.

Waihi pottery show calls for entries

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

Following the "roaring success" of the inaugural Clear As Mud pottery show in 2019, organisers are gearing up for another event this October.

More than 500 pottery lovers attended the show in Waihi back in 2019, and this year, Dianne Caton is expecting even more to participate across the four days.

"We anticipate over 600 visitors this year as the past two years have been hit and miss with Covid and lockdowns," she said.

"The show is gaining momentum as there seems to be a growing interest in all types of pottery."

Artists are now able to submit their entries to the show, which aims to promote local potters, attract visitors to Waihi, and further showcase the visual arts in the area.

All proceeds from the sale of the artwork will go back to the artist, and all levels of potters will be included.

"Due to the uniqueness of the show, the styles of pottery are extremely varied as potters range from novice to professional," Dianne said. "It's hard for potters to get their work into galleries and exhibitions,



The Clear as Mud show accepts pottery ranging from the weird to the whimsical.

Photo: SUPPLIED

so Clear As Mud is not judged and all work is accepted - from the weird, to whimsical and functional."

DETAILS: Clear As Mud is scheduled to run between October 21-24 at the Waihi Art Centre and Museum. Entry forms: email clearasmudwaihi@gmail.com. Deadline for submission is Friday, September 30, 2022.



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104A Brunton Crescent, Thames **\$650,000**

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RT5695 🏠 2 🚗 1 🚗 1 🚗 1

120 Wilson Street, Thames **\$895,000**

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RT5691 🏠 4 🚗 1 🚗 1 🚗 2

113 Kingsford Place, Thames **\$635,000**

PRICE REDUCED

This solid 1970's property is situated minutes from town with beautiful views out over Thames. Nice and warm with a heatpump & fireplace.

RT5711 🏠 3 🚗 1 🚗 1

103 Logan Place, Thames **\$775,000**

This is a good solid home that's ideally set up for family living. Upstairs there is 3 bedrooms, a stylish modern kitchen, a good sized lounge.

RT5710 🏠 3 🚗 2 🚗 2 🚗 2

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Waste research grants received

Waikato Regional Council has secured \$134,000 from the Ministry for the Environment's Waste Minimisation Fund to explore economically viable options for putting organics, including food and garden waste, to best use.

The two-year research project will also receive \$50,000 from the Waikato Wellbeing Project, a community-led partnership aiming to achieve a better and more sustainable future for the Waikato region.

Council's waste prevention advisor Valerie Bianchi said it was an "exciting area of research" that could help council seize new opportunities as it transitioned to a more climate and waste-resilient economy.

"The end goal will be to move from a linear system where we take resources, make products, use them once, and throw them away, to one where we design waste out of our processes, keeping materials and products in use," she said.

"For organics, it's about seeing what is traditionally considered waste destined for landfill and recognising its value for products like compost. This research will help us to rethink organic waste and then go a step further to recognise not only the environmental, but also the economic and social opportunities – from creating new jobs to providing low-cost, low-carbon products."

The research will align to the Waikato regional Waste Preven-

tion Action Plan 2020-2025, which sets out how the council will work with local authorities, iwi, businesses and other key stakeholders to support and co-ordinate waste reduction initiatives and to accelerate the transition towards more circular economic principals.

It will be split into three areas: reducing contaminants like plastics and herbicides; understanding the end market for compost and exploring standardised processing options that make the best use of local resources and knowledge.

"Regional councils have a legislative mandate to reduce the amount of contaminants that enter our environment. Food scraps and garden waste currently make up around 45 per cent of residential waste being sent to landfill and there's growing interest in how it can be safely cycled back to the earth as part of an economic system that creates meaningful employment," Ms Bianchi said.

Thames-Coromandel councillor Denis Tegg said the work would provide essential additional support to other councils, iwi, hapū, marae, and local community organisations, such as Thames' Seagull Centre.

"For food and garden waste, it's a mindset change to recognise the value of products like compost. But it also means going a step further to recognise not only the environmental but also the economic and social opportunities," he said.

SPORTS



Paeroa BMX riders enjoy the Taylor Ave track.

Photo: SUPPLIED

New quad bike for Paeroa BMX

Paeroa BMX Club has received a \$5000 grant for a 4WD quad motorbike to increase the quality of their facility.

Spokesperson Bradyn Wistrand said receiving the New Zealand Community Trust grant would reduce the time needed for volunteers to maintain the track.

"This grant will increase participation and enable us to maintain our BMX track more easily and regularly using the latest equipment," he said.

"It will mean we can continue delivering our sport programmes, while also meeting our health and safety obligations by providing a safe, rideable track that is avail-

able to everyone in the local community."

The Paeroa L&P BMX Club has been running since the early 1980s. However, the past few years had been difficult.

"Covid has hit our membership numbers hard, but we have a great committee with strong team spirit and a passion for the sport that remains determined to see it succeed."

The club was dedicated to sharing the sport with its community and welcomed all new members to come along and enjoy the challenging, yet rewarding atmosphere on the track, he said.

"We want to reach out to the

community and increase our club numbers. Now we will be able to offer a bike and a helmet to new riders or any kids that would like to have a go.

"Paeroa L&P BMX Club is a small but mighty BMX team, located just a couple of minutes from the main road in Paeroa, commonly known as the best little town in the middle of everywhere."

The club holds club nights every Tuesday from late September through to the end of March during daylight saving time. "Anyone is welcome to come down to race and we strongly encourage boys and girls of all ages to check it out."

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HEALTH & WELLBEING

Bowtech is a gentle body therapy

The Bowen technique is a dynamic system of muscle and connective tissue therapy.

Bowtech practitioners use thumbs and fingers on precise locations on muscles, tendons, ligaments and nerves, using rolling type moves.

The gentle technique is appropriate for individuals of all ages and in all degrees of health.

The technique encourages the body to realign itself - there is no manipulation of hard tissue and no force is used.

During sessions clients often quickly drop into deep relaxation.

The sessions seem to reactivate the recovery process in situations where healing from trauma, sickness or surgery has stalled or reached a plateau.

The technique is appropriate for individuals of all ages and in all degrees of health.

The Bowen technique treatment will take approximately 45 minutes and most of the work can be completed through light clothing.

It is not a form of massage. Some of the conditions that respond favourably to the treatment are noted on the Bowtech advertisement on this page.

Pam Smith is qualified in the original technique and is also a registered Bowtech practitioner,



The Bowen technique encourages the body to realign itself - there is no manipulation of hard tissue and no force is used. Photo: SUPPLIED

on the back of many years experience as a Registered Nurse.

TESTIMONIALS

"Following a knee replacement, I approached Pam Smith (Bowen practitioner) to assist me to recover from residual anaesthesia and reduce knee swelling following surgery. I am pleased to advise both issues were handled with dedicated care and fully resolved. My first recheck with my surgeon gave me encouragement that Pam's

treatment technique was 100 per cent. I continue to have treatments as required."
- Graeme, Thames

"I experienced a painful attack of shingles across my shoulders, arm, neck and head. Following Bowen treatment the pain went away. A short time later I had a follow up treatment for my shoulders and neck and both have resolved."
- Jill I, Thames

- Supplied by Pam Smith

Safe drivers a priority

SERVICES

There is a clear process for doctors to follow to identify issues that may affect driving ability. If something needs further investigation, unfortunately, it becomes the doctor's obligation to stop people from driving immediately, until the patient is proven to be well enough to drive. These are not decisions taken lightly. Medical reviews by specialists for the purposes of driving are not funded by the government, so there is usually a cost associated with this. Our job is to ensure everyone's safety and is not ever an attempt to remove a person's independence.

IMMUNISATION

Did you know you can immunise against HPV (Human Papillomavirus)? It is a common viral infection that 80 per cent of sexually active people will contract at some time in their lives. It is spread by skin to skin contact and may not present with any symptoms, so it is unknowingly passed along. You can protect yourself and your sons/daughters by having the Gardisil9 Vaccine. It is funded for males and females between 9-26 years and is effective in helping to prevent HPV related diseases and offers long lasting protection. Gardisil9 is part of the Health Programme in primary schools and is also available through your GP.

MEDICATION

What is the value and purpose of a Medication Review? Firstly, doctors are assessing "is the medica-

tion still required"? The dosage is checked - does it need increasing or decreasing? To request bloods for monitoring and detecting any signs of your condition worsening. To have your blood pressure checked.

If you have complex medication conditions with a lot of medications, it is best to be seen every three months. For those who are on only one or two tablets and very stable, we can see you every six months with a phone or email script between. We really appreciate you managing the renewal of your prescriptions in advance of it being required. One or two weeks' notice is optimum but not essential. It requires time to review patient notes, evaluate and check that you have the appropriate monitoring and we pick up any instability as soon as possible. Futuristically, our nurses will be taking a more active role in medication reviews and as such, are able to prescribe certain items.

INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES

There is a myriad of bugs around at the moment so the importance of practising good hand hygiene and wearing a mask remain as important as ever. Take care of yourselves and each other.

- Supplied by the Health Ngatea Team



What is Bowen?
Bowen is muscle and connective tissue therapy, appropriate for all ages.

How does it work?
Bowen encourages the body to realign/balance itself.

Some of the conditions that often respond favourably are:

- Back Pain/Sciatica
- Groin Pain, Pelvic Tilt & Uneven Leg Length
- Digestive & Bowel Problems
- Stress & Anxiety
- Fibromyalgia

- Respiratory Problems & Hay Fever
- Earache & TMJ Problems
- RSI, Carpal Tunnel & Tennis Elbow
- Migraines & Other Headaches

- Tinnitus
- Hip, Knee, Ankle & Foot Problems
- Colic (infants respond well)
- Neck & Shoulder Problems

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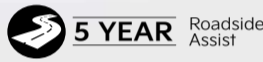
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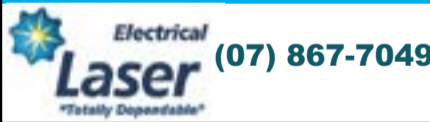
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Mike Wright says barbeque cuts are "booming". Photo: GORDON PREECE

Top service at Hunts Home Kills

Hunts Home Kills, based on the flanks of Paeroa, aims to provide top quality meats and pride in their products.

The home kill business butchers and packages animals slaughtered on farms using Nick's Onsite Killing Services to customers' requirements.

Mike Wright, who has owned Hunts Home Kills for nine years, said they worked with many types of animal carcasses.

"There's a full list on the website - you can go through from pigs, sheep and beef... and we process a lot of wild game especially during hunting seasons," he said.

"We also do a full range of small goods, bacon, ham, flavoured sausages, kransky, chorizo, salami, biersticks and meat patties.

"As long as everything goes well, everyone's wrapped, that's probably why we're so busy."

Mike said Hunts Home Kills had always aimed to be a "step ahead" with vacuum packing, which makes meat last longer in the freezer.

"We're also getting right into our barbecue cuts... and they're booming at the moment," he said.

CONTACT: web: huntshomekills.nz, or Ph: 0800 250 939

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| <p>Furze, Gwenda Jean: Passed away peacefully at Te Aroha Community Hospital July 29th 2022. Beloved wife of the late Ronald Wilfred Furze. Much loved mother to Wayne, Murray and Errol. Mother-in-law to Kay, Pam and Diane. Cherished nana to six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.</p> <p><i>A golden heart stopped beating this day. In our rose garden of memories, you will always stay.</i></p> <p>A service for Gwenda will be held on Friday 5th August at 11am at the Paeroa Co-operative Parish, followed by a private cremation.</p>  | <p>Furze, Gwenda Jean: We will always cherish our fond memories of you mum, Errol & Diane. Nana we will miss you, thank you for the memories. Natalie & Rob, Jake & Anna, Demi & Craige, Claudia and Seth. We lost a precious jewel today. We love you always.</p> <p>Memorial Service</p> <p>Rawlinson, Peter James (Squeak): Passed away on the 25th July at Waikato Hospital after a short illness. Past President and respected Life Member of the Kerepehi Bowling & Sports Club. A memorial service for Squeak will be held at the Kerepehi Bowling Club on Thursday 4th August at 1pm. You will be sadly missed and our thoughts are with Tatum.</p> <p>Church Notice</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>Thames Spiritualist Church. Sunday August 7th, 2pm. Grahamstown Hall. Speaker: Clinton Arnold</p> <p>Garage Sale Saturday Aug 6. 8.30 start. Bric-a-brac, bunk set with nearly new mattresses. All reasonable offers considered. 24 Kennedy St, Paeroa.</p> <p>Public Notice</p> <p>CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU THAMES Inc AGM Wednesday August 31st 2022 3pm at St James Hall Pahau St., Thames ALL WELCOME</p> <p>Public Notice</p> <p>THAMES WORKINGMEN'S CLUB (Inc.) Notice of Special General Meeting 20 August 2022 10:30am AGENDA To discuss the future of the Club Jean Galbraith Club President CARD CHECK AT DOOR FINANCIAL MEMBERS ONLY</p> <p>Gardening Stump Grinding. All sizes, all areas. Free quote. Ph 021 060 7659</p> | <p>Mowing, hedges, fencing, gardening, carpentry, painting, retaining walls, welding, waterblasting. Work is good quality and I will not attempt to work outside of my skills. Insured. Dennis Schuler 022 129 0169</p> <p>Situations Vacant</p> <p>FRONT COUNTER RETAIL ASSISTANT We require a fit and reliable person for our front counter. Experience is preferred but not necessary. Work days are Monday - Friday with rostered weekends. Hours are 8.30am - 5.00pm. Please send a cover letter with your CV to Derrick.wharerau@placemakers.co.nz</p>  | <p>Motorcycles, 4 wheelers & side x sides. Going or not. Phone 027 216 6867. A1 Motorcycles</p> <p>Work Wanted</p> <p>Fit & active 52yo male. New to area, looking for work in Thames/Thames Coast area. Open to all offers. Ph 027 667 6616</p> | <p>Cook - Thames Hospital</p> <p>Where you'll be working: Thames Hospital The details: Permanent full-time, rostered Hourly range: \$24.50 - \$29.18</p> <p>About the role: We are looking for an applicant to join our 7 day dietary service who has excellent customer service skills and can work all rostered duties including weekends and public holidays. Duties will include Food preparation, cooking and service. Recipe and menu development, 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. An understanding of hospital kitchen functions, and previous experience in similar roles would be an advantage. Full training is provided. <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: 9 August 2022</p> <p>www.waikatodhb.health.nz/jobs</p>  |
| <p>Furze, Gwenda Jean: Loved and treasured mother and mother-in-law to Wayne and Kay. Nana to Aaron & Vanessa and Nigel. Great nana to Jordon, Dylan, Cameron and Hollie. We will miss you always, forever in our hearts.</p> | | | | | |
| <p>Furze, Gwenda Jean: Loved mother to Murray, mother-in-law to Pam and nana to Matthew. You will always be remembered for your beautiful smile. We love you, will miss you always.</p> | | | | | |

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The Valley Profile

CLASSIFIEDS

Situations Vacant

Product Development Facilitator

Are you an outside-the-box thinker ready to pull your sleeves up and make things happen? Would you relish the chance to help transform one of Hauraki Coromandel's iconic historic places to bring together the stories of our cultures in a meaningful and engaging experience? If so, this might be the next project for you.

The Historical Maritime Park is a place of historical significance, but it is much more than a naval museum. The park on the Waihou River has witnessed life evolve from the times of waka traveling the waterways to the arrival of European settlers and mining commerce.

The charitable trust and volunteers who run the park aim to preserve and share the historical, environmental, and cultural narrative, and they need the support of a creative and resourceful staff member to help bring the dream to life.

THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED BY:

1. Building infrastructure and business capability within the park for future development and offerings.
2. Implementing unique product offerings, services and visitor engagement capability.
3. Developing events and the wedding and conference markets to build a stable revenue stream.
4. Creating employment opportunities through the development of the park.

TENURE:

- The position is a full time fixed term contract for 12 months, commencing 1st October 2022.

LOCATION:

- Based in Paeroa at the Historical Maritime Park, with one day a week at Destination Hauraki Coromandel office in Thames.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ROLE:

The right candidate will be suitably qualified and experienced in product development and will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Administration: develop policies, procedures and consents. Manage bookings systems.
- Marketing: Develop a strategy, plan, and brand guidelines.
- Product Development: build elements of the park experience to grow visitation and revenue and create employment opportunities.
- Create visitor engagement assets: supporting product development including future river boat cruises.
- Conferences, incentives and weddings: develop capability to host events and increase bookings.
- Accommodation: develop existing facilities
- Events: develop and host events in the park including a permanent light installation.

FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES REQUIRED:

- Project management, planning and organisation
- Sustainability minded with a strong understanding of environmental, cultural and social impacts
- Confidence in prioritizing projects to deliver the best results
- A strong player with the ability to work autonomously, while delivering collaborative results
- Excellent communication and stakeholder engagement skills including iwi
- Potential to lead and demonstrate strategic thinking
- Aptitude in community planning and sustainable practice welcomed
- Tertiary qualification in Project Management, Tourism, Business Management or similar is desirable

FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Applicants must be legally entitled to work in New Zealand.
- All queries to Megan Nunn, Destination Hauraki Coromandel: megan@thecoromandel.com
- **Please submit your application online**
<https://www.thecoromandel.com/historical-maritime-park-product-development-facilitator>
no later than the 15th of August 2022



ENTERTAINMENT



The women's a cappella chorus, Sounds of the Shore Chorus will perform in Thames on August 7.

Photo: SUPPLIED

Women's barbershop comes to Thames

The women's a cappella chorus, *Sounds of the Shore*, will perform in Thames this weekend ahead of competing for the first time in the National Barbershop Convention in September.

The chorus is made up of some very experienced Sweet Adeline singers, who have competed internationally, as well as newcomers to the craft.

Sounds of the Shore is a vibrant, exciting women's barbershop chorus on Auckland's North Shore.

The barbershop chorus sings an eclectic range of songs in barbershop style; from golden oldies to modern pop favourites.

Members of the group are beautifully unique, of different backgrounds,

ages and occupations - all connected through friendship, and a love of singing and performing.

"We are a prospective chapter of Sweet Adelines International, one of the largest singing organisations in the world," a spokesperson said.

"Our award-winning director, Richard Harker, is very entertaining and professional - you will love watching us perform. Come and watch us perform - fun, friendship and laughter guaranteed."

DETAILS: The chorus will perform on August 7 at 2pm, St George's Church Thames. Tickets: Adults \$20; TMG Members \$15; Students free. Face masks must be worn.

Successful group day held

Kerepehi Women's Institute was the host for the Thames-Piako Group Day on July 5th which was held in the Kerepehi Bowling Club, and was a most enjoyable day. Four Institutes took part - Goldfields, Ngatea, Maramarua/Kopuku, and Kerepehi.

The theme for the day was The Queen of Hearts, and everyone was sporting tiaras and jewels, and the competitions were based around this theme. Guest speaker was Hariata Adams, a community social worker for Te Korowai. After a tasty share lunch the entertainment began. Bev Adamson organised a Quiz, challenging for some, while Toni Brumby won by successfully answering them all. The Entertainment Cup involved 3 members from each Institute performing charades, which was much enjoyed by the rest of us, and won by Maramarua/Kopuku.

A fantasy story begun by a sentence by President Elaine Jolliffe, and carried on by a selected member from each WI in turn, was hilarious, until it finally "fell apart." The Multi-Draw Raffle resulted in 16 happy ladies going home with a prize. The competition for knitted TV slippers, along with extra pairs, resulted in 60 pairs being donated to Te Korowai, Women's Refuge, and Middlemore Hospital's Wool Programme. Next year's host will be Maramarua/Kopuku.

The July meeting of Kerepehi Women's Institute was held in the home of Jan Edmonds in Thames, on a stormy day, and was chaired by vice president Carolyn Giles.

Bev Adamson read the thought for the day, and also provided the raffle, which was

won by Sophia Van Eyk. A thank you letter had been received from the Middlemore Foundation for all the baby knitting and cot blankets we had sent up to them last month.

The programme for August was reviewed, and competitions selected which need to be made in time for the bi-annual council meeting in September, these being a jar of homemade pickle, and a child's sundress. Jan Edmonds was having a birthday this month, and she selected a gift from the Birthday Box. We discussed the Group Day which we had been host for the previous week, and were pleased with how it came together. Each member had brought along a family photo taken when they were young, which we took some time to study, and we also shared a saying by our parents, which we all could relate to, proving parents of the day tended to think alike.

As the day was so wet and miserable we decided to forego a visit planned to a local attraction, and instead lingered over a long lunch, with hot soup, and enjoyed a chat.

Competition Results: Bloom: 1st Carolyn Giles, 2nd Marion Van Eyk, 3rd Bev Adamson. Spike: 1st Jan Edmonds, 2nd Carolyn Giles, 3rd Bev Adamson. Shrub: 1st Jan Edmonds, 2nd Bev Adamson, 3rd Carolyn Giles. Vegetable: 1st Jan Edmonds, 2nd Marion Van Eyk, 3rd Carolyn Giles. Herb: 1st Marion Van Eyk, 2nd Carolyn Giles, 3rd Jan Edmonds. Potato Cut Stamp: 1st Jan Edmonds, 2nd Bev Adamson. Loaf: 1st Marion Van Eyk, 2nd Bev Adamson, 3rd Carolyn Giles.

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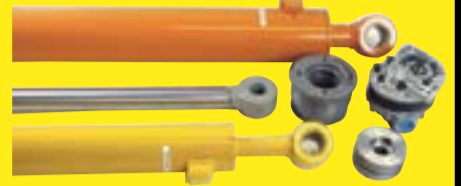
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Fill the grid so every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9

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JUMBO CROSSWORD

81

ACROSS

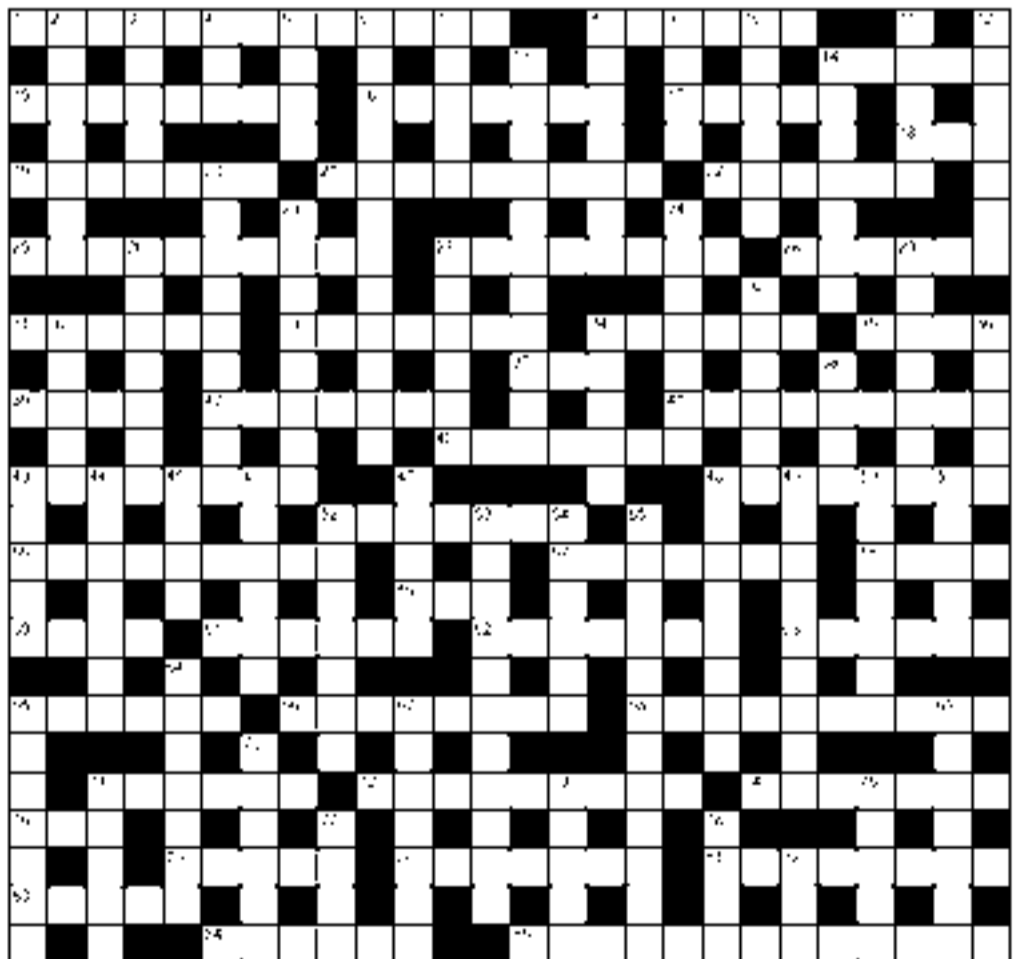
- 1 Shock when discovering the truth (4,9)
- 8 Detour (6)
- 14 Distress light (5)
- 15 Teaches (8)
- 16 Of marriage, weddings (7)
- 17 Steps over fence (5)
- 18 Friend (3)
- 19 Warbled (7)
- 21 Befoulment (9)
- 22 Gap in continuity (6)
- 25 Quilled creatures (10)
- 27 Expecting a baby (8)
- 28 Air traveller's complaint (3,3)
- 31 Purloined (6)
- 33 Kindles (7)
- 34 Fermented fodder (6)
- 35 Shallow place in a river for crossing by foot, vehicle (4)
- 37 Rascal (3)
- 39 Applaud (4)
- 40 Take into account (7)
- 41 Infamous (9)
- 42 Bracing ropes etc supporting a yacht's masts, sails (7)
- 43 Proclaim (8)
- 48 Woven textile wall hanging (8)
- 52 Gain in wealth (7)
- 56 Mouth organ (9)
- 57 Having the requisite strength, abilities, etc for (5,2)

DOWN

- 2 Experience or be subjected to (7)
- 3 Surpass (5)
- 4 Dampen (3)
- 5 Intimate contact (4)
- 6 Not toxic (3-9)
- 7 Himalayan country (5)
- 8 Inflatable rubber bag (7)
- 9 Shove (4)
- 10 Liveliness (6)
- 11 Buckles (5)
- 12 Emotion (7)
- 13 Very upsetting (11)
- 14 Plume (7)
- 20 Size increase (9)

ACROSS

- 23 Surround (8)
- 24 Slight suspicion (7)
- 26 West Indian music style (7)
- 27 Clay user (6)
- 29 Sentry (7)
- 30 ___ Christie, detective story writer (6)
- 32 Claw (5)
- 34 Divide (5)
- 36 Study (anag)(5)
- 38 Accurate (4)
- 43 Greenfly (5)
- 44 On edge, jumpy (7)
- 45 On (4)
- 46 Customer (6)
- 47 Swag (5)
- 48 Put up with (8)
- 49 Schedule (9)
- 50 Baffled (7)
- 51 Correct (5)
- 52 Sunshade (7)
- 53 Branch of medicine (11)
- 54 Expose (6)
- 55 Punctuation symbol (8,4)
- 64 Zigzag (7)
- 65 Obstacle (7)
- 67 Sympathise (4,3)
- 69 Brass instrument (7)
- 70 Black-and-white bird (6)
- 71 Conscious of (5)
- 73 Dance club (5)
- 75 Venomous snake (5)
- 77 Wheel cover (4)
- 78 Go away! (4)
- 82 Uncooked (3)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Ocean, 4 Put one's back into, 14 Solve, 15 Wager, 16 Deliberate, 17 Canal, 19 Duo, 20 Certain, 21 Cafeteria, 22 Trance, 25 Epidermis, 27 Uneven, 28 Behead, 33 Paragraphs, 35 Arc, 36 Shiner, 37 Puma, 39 Low, 41 Elderly, 42 Voyage, 43 Itinerary, 44 Admit, 45 Panorama, 50 Or, 51 Restless, 55 Guild, 58 Personnel, 59 Opaque, 60 Formula, 61 Cur, 63 Lied, 64 Dazzle, 65 Odd, 66 Sustenance, 68 Scythe, 69 Census, 71 Affection, 76 Farmer, 77 Dartboard, 79 Scalpel, 81 Eve, 84 Pluto, 85 Playwright, 86 Snail, 87 Early, 88 Bee in one's bonnet, 89 Usher.

DOWN: 2 Chalet, 3 Alert, 5 Used, 6 Origami, 7 Eleven, 8 Brave, 9 Crevice, 10 Itch, 11 Tundra, 12 Glade, 13 Devoted, 14 Slender, 18 Cinderella, 23 Crypt, 24 Deficit, 26 Placebo, 27 Unclear, 29 Emulate, 30 Dahlia, 31 Fatal, 32 Decide, 34 Spot, 36 Swamp, 38 Abyss, 40 Belt, 45 Pupil, 46 Nursery, 47 Roof, 48 Manual, 49 Wince, 50 Odorous, 52 Smokestack, 53 Lumbago, 54 Select, 55 Glazier, 56 Handy, 57 Fuss, 62 Ashen, 67 Therapy, 68 Sweeten, 70 Shampoo, 72 Foreign, 73 Refuge, 74 Cobweb, 75 Petite, 76 Ferry, 78 Trade, 80 Lands, 82 Gobi, 83 Shoe.

SPORTS

From Ngātea to Birmingham hockey turf

Thames Valley Hockey is filled with pride that two former players are representing New Zealand for this year's Commonwealth Games. GORDON PREECE reports

Tarryn Davey and Aidan Sarikaya competed for Thames Valley from primary to senior level. Now, the hockey greats are part of the men's and women's Black Sticks for this year's Commonwealth Games games in Birmingham from July 28 to August 8.

Tarryn also recently competed for New Zealand in the FIH Women's World Cup held in Spain and Holland where the team finished in fifth place.

Thames Valley Hockey president Vicki Coles told *The Profile* the club's reaction was "one of pride".

"It's awesome to have two of our players who have a connection to Thames Valley Hockey and have played as young players with the association representing the country on the world stage," she said.

"It's also quite inspirational for our whole hockey community and in particular our young players who might be envisaging a future like that."

Vicki believed providing op-

portunities within Thames Valley Hockey to develop hockey skills enabled players to become Black Sticks material.

"We're a really small association but we do our best to provide opportunities for growth and for pathways for our young players to achieve the goals that they set for themselves," she said.

Thames Valley Hockey, based in Ngātea, currently has around 1000 players across its primary, secondary and senior grades.

Vicki said Hockey New Zealand's high performance director Darren Smith had also been involved with Thames Valley Hockey, and women's Vantage Black Stick Alex Lukin had worked alongside its regional development officer, and Tarryn's mother, Kim Davey.

"We are looking forward to celebrating the 20-year anniversary for our very popular primary hockey big day out this year, which was started in 2002 by Darren," she said.

"Lots of our primary players have also got to know Alex and look up to her as a player."

Kim Davey, left, Tarryn Davey and Aidan Sarikaya at Ngātea's hockey courts during an evening where they shared knowledge and skills with young players.

File Photo: SUPPLIED



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