

Junior brass band blasts to success, P3

The Valley Profile

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Aidan's world-bound



Aidan Tully is the only New Zealander selected for one of the most prestigious ballet competitions in the world. Photo: RUTH GERMON

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

Aidan Tully could practically name every person living in his hometown of Kaihere, but it's his name that will be hard to forget.

The 18-year-old is residing in Wellington, rehearsing day-in

and day-out as a ballet dancer at the New Zealand School of Dance.

He spends eight hours a day in front of a full-length mirror; he strives for perfection in what is an influential and challenging art form; and he has now been named New Zealand's only participant in one

of the world's most prestigious dance competitions.

Speaking to *The Profile* after it "finally started to sink in", Aidan said he'd never been selected for anything quite like the Prix de Lausanne.

"I can really only name maybe two other [competitions] that are above it in the world

of ballet," he said.

"I've been in New Zealand all my life. I've been overseas a couple of times, but I'll be able to head over and meet the world of dance at the top level and make connections, and hopefully find a job."

The Prix de Lausanne is an international competition for

young dancers, starting on January 29 and finishing on February 5.

There were 429 applicants from 39 countries who submitted video auditions, and only 87 dancers were selected. Aidan is the sole New Zealander to be included out of the seven

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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Aiden selected for Prix de Lausanne

CONTINUED FROM P1 who auditioned.

He will now go on to spend a week in Switzerland, undertaking contemporary ballet classes, getting coached on two variations he'd have prepared in advance, and performing them in front of "a huge audience in a giant theatre".

"I've put a lot of work into it," he said. "My time at the school has been full of challenges and ups and downs and obstacles, but I've pulled it all together and gave it my all. Even if I didn't get in [to Prix de Lausanne] I was proud of myself for the work I had put in... but what a fantastic way to finish off my third year."

Aidan will graduate from the school in a month's time, and the former Ngātea Primary School and Hauraki Plains College student said he wanted to pursue ballet professionally.

He started practising the art form at age seven, and was a former student of Pauline Germon's Thames Hauraki Ballet Theatre, based in Turua.

"I didn't know what ballet was; I knew very little about it as a seven-year-old, and I just turned up to this absolutely alien world, but within five minutes, I was hooked and knew I wanted to do it for the rest of my life," he said.

"That goes for anything - you never know when you're going to stumble across your purpose."

As a young, male ballet dancer growing up in a rural town, Aidan said he wasn't free from receiving mean comments, but his older brothers, and his mum



Former Hauraki student Aidan Tully, 18, will be among the best of the best at a ballet competition in the new year. Photo: STEPHEN A'COURT

Sarah and dad Ciarán, always had his back.

"Even just: 'Yes, my brother does ballet, do you have a problem with that?'"

"They stood up for me because I was the youngest, and my parents moved heaven and earth to get me where I needed to be and help me grow," he said.

"They never doubted this was what I wanted to do. Even from the age of seven, they've always trusted me to make mature decisions that impacted my life."

Aidan finished high school when he was 15 and moved, on his own, to Wellington. The New Zealand School of Dance is internationally recognised as one of the southern hemisphere's leading dance training institutions.

He said classical ballet was more challenging than one could imagine.

"Being stuck in front of a mirror for 7-8 hours a day in a skin-tight uniform, focusing on exactly what you're doing wrong to make yourself feel better, it really takes its toll."

But dancers like Aidan love the athleticism and story-telling abilities of ballet, and he said you have to "really, really want it".

Once the school year comes to an end, he'll get a couple of days off before he heads straight back into rehearsals anticipating the start of the Prix de Lausanne.

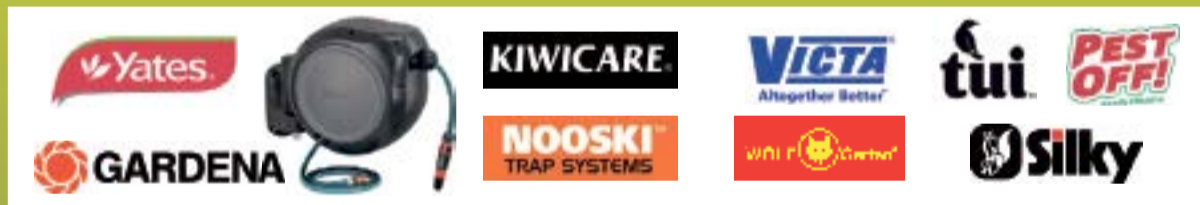
He will be coming back home to the Hauraki for Christmas.

"I am very much enjoying my life at the moment. The fact that all of these wonderful things are happening is just surreal," he said.

"And just the fact that I came from a tiny town where I could practically name everyone to this... just don't ever think it can never be me', because that's what I thought and here I am."



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Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Nov 9	Nov 10	Nov 11	Nov 12	Nov 13	Nov 14	Nov 15
Morning 2:12am 0.5 8:34am 3.5	Morning 2:55am 0.5 9:16am 3.5	Morning 3:35am 0.5 9:55am 3.5	Morning 4:15am 0.6 10:35am 3.4	Morning 4:54am 0.6 11:14am 3.4	Morning 5:33am 0.7 11:56am 3.3	Morning 12:21am 3.1 6:15am 0.9
Afternoon 2:33pm 0.7 8:49pm 3.5	Afternoon 3:15pm 0.7 9:32pm 3.4	Afternoon 3:56pm 0.8 10:15pm 3.3	Afternoon 4:37pm 0.8 10:57pm 3.2	Afternoon 5:20pm 0.9 11:39pm 3.2	Afternoon 6:04pm 1.0	Afternoon 12:40pm 3.2 6:51pm 1.1
6:05am 7:59pm	6:04am 8:00pm	6:03am 8:01pm	6:02am 8:02pm	6:01am 8:03pm	6:01am 8:04pm	6:00am 8:06pm
Best At 1:03am 1:27pm	Best At 1:51am 2:16pm	Best At 2:41am 3:07pm	Best At 3:32am 3:58pm	Best At 4:24am 4:50pm	Best At 5:15am 5:40pm	Best At 6:05am 6:29pm
Full Moon Set 6:15am Rise 8:49pm	Full Moon Set 6:48am Rise 9:52pm	Full Moon Set 7:27am Rise 10:53pm	Full Moon Set 8:11am Rise 11:49pm	Full Moon Set 9:01am	Full Moon Rise 12:38am Set 9:56am	Full Moon Rise 1:20am Set 10:55am

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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	HIGH Min	LOW Min
Coromandel	-0	05	-0 04
Whitianga	-0	01	-0 06
Tairua	+0	10	+0 21
Whangamata	-0	03	-0 05
Waihi Beach	-0	12	-0 12

Junior brass band blasts to success

By GORDON PREECE

Seven junior members of the Kerepēhi Brass Band were “over the moon” after winning first place at a regional contest.

The junior band won the primary school ensemble division at the Waikato Bay of Plenty Brass Band Regional Contest held at Tauranga Boys College on October 15.

Kerepēhi Brass Band presi-

“It’s been encouraging to see the growth and a lot of them have been doing very well.”

- Luke Van Vliet

dent Luke Van Vliet told *The Profile* the young members, who attended school in Nether-ton, Ngātea, Turua, and Waerenga, were “very chuffed” and “over the moon” with their result.

“They were beaming and it couldn’t have gone better with their reaction,” he said.

“The adjudicator had very positive comments about them, saying it was one of the best primary school groups he’d seen in quite a number of years, and all-round it was great and most of their families also came along to support.”



Junior band members Rudolf Tuhaka, left, Sena Hayashi, Brody Matete, Emma Powell, tutor Clive Burnell, Jessie Logan, Kiara Curtis-Apeu, and Kui Curtis-Apeu. Photo: SUPPLIED

Luke said there were around eight different bands across the contest divisions but the Kerepēhi Brass Band juniors was the sole band that competed in the primary school ensemble.

“Our band was the only group capable of pulling together a primary school ensemble due to the large amounts of learn-

ers we currently have,” he said. “They had to be of a good enough standard for the adjudicators to give the [first place] cup.”

Luke said the junior band, who were tutored by Hamilton-based Clive Burnell, formed nearly two years ago and since then, its membership had increased.

“It was nearly two years ago now when we started putting this junior group together and we had about five of them at the end of last year, and this year we increased up to about ten.

“It’s been encouraging to see the growth. A lot of them have been doing very well in their learning, and we thought what better way to have something

to work towards than getting down to a competition in Tauranga.”

Luke said the junior band was set to perform at the Ngātea Christmas in the Park on December 10 and the Kerepēhi Brass Band was planning to hold a primary school tour for the junior band at the end of the year.

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New mayor to build 'culture of kindness'

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

Thames-Coromandel's new mayor has adorned the authoritative chains and chaired a meeting for the first time - now he wants the rest of the country to know his council is best.

Mayor Len Salt was sworn in for service alongside his elected councillors and community board members at an inaugural meeting held at Thames Civic Centre on November 2.

Wearing a kākahu [Māori cloak] made by Mercury Bay Community Board member Bess Kingi, Mayor Salt said now was the time to put any differences behind them.

"I've committed to supporting and fostering a work culture within council based on unlocking the talents and abilities of every single one of our team.

"A culture based on kindness, professionalism, and a passion for what we do," he said.

"I want the rest of the country to know that Thames-Coromandel is the best council in New Zealand to work in, and the best place in New Zealand to live."

In attendance was Coromandel MP Scott Simpson, who

congratulated the elected members but gave them advice - only after encouraging council's senior staff to block their ears.

"Elected members will be, I'm sure, inducted and given advice about the roles and obligations under the Local Government Act and conflicts of interest... but please never, ever let that be an inhibitor or a roadblock to you engaging constructively and positively and welcomingly with the people who have elected you."

Mr Simpson said being a councillor or community board member was a "privilege and an honour" and was something many people didn't acknowledge as well as they could.

"Make every day count and remember - you're not there forever."

Following the formalities, South East ward councillor Terry Walker was appointed deputy mayor. He said he was very honoured, and looked forward to the challenges ahead, while also having "some fun".

The full council was scheduled to meet again on November 8.

"I want the rest of the country to know that Thames-Coromandel is the best council in New Zealand to work in."

- Mayor Len Salt



Len Salt dons the mayoral chains for the first time, while below, John Morrissey, left, Adrian Catran, and new deputy mayor Terry Walker are all smiles after being sworn in. Photos: KELLEY TANTAU



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Best under pressure

Stop, shop, and support St John store

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

Chris Richardson knows the thrill of a good op shop find. As a 20-something at Otago University, she was told to take an empty bag to the Waimate op shop - which was known as a treasure trove of secondhand items.

"I went down and filled my pack for \$8," she said. "They had such good clothes - I even had winklepicker shoes."

Now, Chris is surrounded by flattering fashions, vintage footwear, collectibles and curios, and other items befitting of the charity store she's been managing since April.

"If people volunteered at an op shop - seeing the waste and the option to recycle - I think they would start to look at op shops as an actual means of purchasing goods."

Chris became the manager of the Ngātea Hato Hone St John retail store around six months ago.

She said while a lot of charity shops across the country have had to put a hold on accepting donations, the Ngātea store remained open to receiving donations of good quality, saleable items.

"The volume of donations is overwhelming at the moment, and you do worry that the bal-

ance is not there," she said.

"There are a lot of people in need within the community, but I don't think the percentage of people choosing to purchase from op shops is high enough yet.

"We have our ongoing committed opshoppers, but I would really like to see a larger target audience."

Chris also has a goal to double the amount of volunteers helping out at the River Rd site.

There are 11 and all are female.

"I would like a driver and an off-sider - it doesn't have to be a man, but someone that can help us bring furniture in because at the moment, I don't have a truck, we rely on people dropping things off, and then it's up to me and one of the younger girls to shift it all around," she said.

"The only benefit is that I don't have to pay for gym fees."

Ninety per cent of the funds from everything sold at the store goes back into helping the local community, including contributing to the upgrade of the Kaiāua First Response Station; paying for a number of defibrillators around the area; funding mental health first aid courses; and operating a free health shuttle service.

Chris said the store also paid it forward by supplying excess



Chris Richardson wants to double her 11-strong crew of volunteers at the Ngātea Hato Hone St John retail store.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

goods to Tonga.

Looking ahead, she would love to see more people become involved with St John and the retail store.

"When you have a full team,

you have camaraderie and socialisation, and you miss that with just a skeleton crew because you're all so busy working," she said, "but many hands make light work."

DETAILS: If you want to get involved, contact Chris at chris.richardson@stjohn.org.nz.



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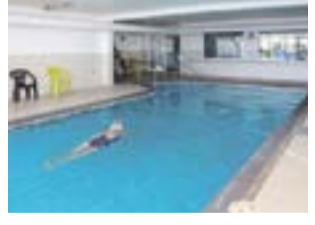
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Walk this way

Hundreds of people descended on Rhodes Park in Thames on November 4 and 5 for the 24 Hour Walkathon to raise funds for I AM HOPE's Gumboot Friday, which offers free counselling for rangatahi (youth). The event, hosted by Rangatahi Ora Hauraki, included live entertainment, kids activities, raffles and food stalls, and was also about reminding rangatahi there was always someone walking beside them. Organisers say while the final tally won't be made until next week, more than \$20,000 had already been raised. Reporter **GORDON PREECE** walked around the grounds at the three-hour mark to capture the event.



The Tongan community painted the track red.



Pārāwai students Liam Tyrrell-Baxter, Blake McLaren, and Quinn Paynter.



Maya Mark-Edwards, left, Nat Brownlie, Khan Mark-Edwards, and Memphis Mark-Edwards from Taku Wairua.



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Santa Claus set to make Ngātea event 'memorable'

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

A newly-formed and motivated team of volunteers is putting together a Christmas in the Park event that promises to be "memorable".

With no hands raised to organise a festive event in Ngātea this year, a group of five - dubbed the Hauraki Just Do It team - decided to get together and get something done.

They've set a date for December 10, and said Santa would be making an entrance worthy of the red suit.

"It always ends up being a lot bigger than what you expected," spokesperson and organiser Adam Matete said.

"This community only knows one way, and that's big."

The afternoon event will consist of live performances such as the Kerepēhi Brass Band and kapa haka; food and drink; photo opportunities; and karakia.

Adam said he was excited to see the event come to fruition; however, it wouldn't be possible without the volunteers, the sponsors - Skywork Helicopters;

Hammer Hardware Ngātea; The Haurakian Charitable Trust; Thrifters Op Shop, and Courteney's Christmas Tree Farm - and large community effort.

"If we didn't have the support of our local businesses, events like this probably wouldn't exist," he said. "The amount of resources that we've got in our small communities, the untapped skills that you probably get in Auckland - I think people don't realise we've got the same here."

"I've always been about smiles, and the amount of smiles you get throughout the day tells you how good the event is going."

Meanwhile, the Ngātea community's christmas tree - made up of 2000 pieces of crocheted squares - will be put up in early December opposite the Z Service Station.

DETAILS: Christmas in the Park, run by the Hauraki Just Do It team, will be held on the Hauraki Plains College fields on Saturday, December 10, 2pm-5pm. Free entry.

"The amount of smiles you get throughout the day tells you how good the event is going."

- Adam Matete



National List MP for Hutt South, Chris Bishop, was in Thames last week.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

Bishop promises 'no potholes'

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

Visiting National Member of Parliament has pledged to remedy the number of potholes in the country's roads, if his party is successful come next year's elections.

Chris Bishop, who is a list MP based in Hutt South and is National's spokesperson for housing and infrastructure, visited two Thames businesses during his trip to the town on November 2.

After checking out the new Kōpū Marine Development and

Cirtex's new site off State Highway 25, he held a public meeting alongside Coromandel MP Scott Simpson, where he told attendees New Zealand had to go "back to basics".

He alleged that Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency had seen a doubling of staff in its communications department.

"We can't fix any potholes all around the country, but don't worry, we can take photos of them and do lots of great PR and spin," he said.

"I want to assure you that

the next government, when it comes to infrastructure, we'll be focusing on getting the basics right, and there is no more important thing for our roading network than making sure it is safe and efficient and reliable - and that means no potholes, or as few as possible."

He also criticised the amount of one-lane bridges in what was a "21st century economy" and the continuing lowering of speed limits nation-wide.



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Local songwriter releases new track

By GORDON PREECE

Thames songwriter Nur Peach Lajunen Tal hopes her new single *Offbeat* will inspire others to “embrace life”, “be true to themselves” and “show their true colours”.

The former Thames High School student told *The Profile* that *Offbeat* would be her second single after releasing *Feel The Sun*, which made her the Waikato regional winner of the Play It Strange Get Connected songwriting competition, in 2016.

“*Feel The Sun* was my first proper release but I kind of view *Offbeat* as my first release because it’s my first release in so long,” she said.

“My music has improved and evolved so much since I wrote *Feel the Sun* when I was 15, so I’m really excited to show the world what I’ve done since then.

Nur, 21, said *Offbeat*, which was written during her first year of her popular music degree at the University of Auckland in 2019, was released on October 28.

The single was inspired by her personal experiences.

“I have grown up feeling like I’m very different from everyone else and it’s really affected my life,” she said.

“*Offbeat* is saying to accept and embrace it, show your true



Nur Peach Lajunen Tal hopes to continue inspiring others with her new single.

Photo: LEVI DYER

colours and if you really want to make any change in this world, you have to do things differently and be true to yourself.”

Nur said she had written

more than 200 songs by the time she graduated high school in 2018, and had enjoyed music all her life growing up in Waiomu. “I’ve been singing

all my life - according to my parents since I could talk, and I wrote my first proper song when I was five and started playing guitar or piano when I

“*Offbeat* is saying to accept and embrace [being different], show your true colours.”

- Nur Peach Lajunen Tal

was about nine,” she said.

“Me and my family also went for a trip around the world when I was eight and it was amazing, really eye opening and we performed on the streets in Israel and Paris.”

Nur said the new single, which was produced by Scott Seabright, would also be the lead single for her debut album.

“*Offbeat* was the song I chose as the first taste of the project,” she said.

“I plan to release a few more tracks on the album as singles in the coming months, before the full album comes out sometime next year.”

Nur said her single could be downloaded on Google Play, Spotify and Apple Music, and she planned to make it available on YouTube, Bandcamp and SoundCloud.

Nur also performed a single release concert on October 28 at The Backroom behind Lotus Realm in Thames and will release another single, *Cover To Cover*, on November 25.



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Rural Life

Let it Bleat

Around 50 students and their calves, kids and lambs attended the Hauraki Plains Group Agriculture Day on November 2 at Waitakaruru Domain. Co-ordinator Ashleigh Hill said Ngātea Primary, Waitakaruru, Kaihere and Turua schools participated, and she thanked sponsors for their support to allow Waitakaruru School to host the event. Reporter **GORDON PREECE** went on the moo-ve to capture the students with their fleecy companions.



Seven-year-old Kaihere student Jaydon Morley with his woolly friend, Yeti.



Eleven-year-old Waitakaruru School student Ethan Peacock with Cookie the calf.

Photos: GORDON PREECE



Nine-year-old Waitakaruru School student Rowan Neilsen leads Stitch.



Tayla Kennedy with Fern, left, and Jessie Logan with Fifi.



Stella Loft cuddles Midnight the lamb.



Sophia John with Autumn.

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Creative yarns on display

Around 200 people attended the annual Creative Fibre Thames open day at Thames Elim Church recently. The event featured an exhibition held by the club's 32 members, traders from as far away as Waipukurau and a 1950s club challenge that was won by Cherry Parsons. Reporter **GORDON PREECE** headed along for a yarn.



Kath Mason, left, Barbara Nudds, secretary Lyn Barbour, and Linda Garland with knitted jumpers.



Creative Fibre Thames Gail Grieve with a bundle of hand dyed yarns.



Mieke Schmaidt-Meiburg, Cathy Curran, and Pauline Belworthy.



Jenni Baines, left and Robin Moore display their jewellery.



Members Margaret Morrirt, left, and Chansay Socheat-Fallas.



Judy Wright, left, and Val Snedden spin a yarn.

Five things to organise before the festive season begins

- 1. No Vaccination – No Vacancy!**
If you are putting your dog or cat into a boarding kennel, then their vaccinations need to be up to date. If your pet's vaccinations are not current, they will not be allowed into the kennels or cattery, and this could seriously mess up your holiday plans. Now is the time to check your pet's vaccination records and book an appointment if your pet's vaccinations are due before January.
 - 2. Medication supplies**
If your pet is on medication, it is a good idea to ensure that you have sufficient supplies for the holiday period. It is sometimes difficult to get a repeat script from the local clinic at your holiday destination, so it is preferable that this be done by your regular vet, who will be more familiar with your pet's condition.
 - 3. Pet food**
A quality food can have great benefits for you and your pet, pop into your local vet to stock up and your favourite vet-recommended food and treats. Remember not all human food is healthy for pets!
 - 4. Flea and worm treatments**
Come summer, the flea population explodes and these little parasites can become a real issue. Talk to our staff to choose a product that best suits your pets needs and treat your pet as per instructions to break the flea cycle.
 - 5. Microchip check**
Ensure your pet's microchip details are registered with NZCAR www.animalregister.co.nz. If you are already registered, we recommend logging on and checking your current contact details.
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The Thames School of Mines will host artist Adrian Cook, who specialises in creating modern portraits using the 19th century wet plate collodion process. Photo: SUPPLIED

Heritage Week's hidden treasures

One-hundred-and fifty-five years since the Thames Goldfields were declared open, the Thames School of Mines is the place to be this heritage week for tours, portraits, and talks.

This Saturday, the Heritage New Zealand site will open for 60-minute guided tours to explain how the school set the bar in terms of science, training, and innovation. Property lead Elton Fraser said was central to the gold story of Thames.

"The museum is a geologist's paradise that houses more than 3500 specimens of rocks, min-

erals, and fossils," he said.

Also on Saturday, the Thames School of Mines will host award-winning artist Adrian Cook, who specialises in creating modern portraits using the 19th century wet plate collodion process, while on Sunday, it will be 'two for one' day, where visitors pay one admission price for a guided tour and a friend enters for free.

"Also on Sunday, there will be a free lunch time talk in the historic school room by renowned geologist Dr Hugh Grenfell," Elton said.

"Hugh will talk about the two

James' - James R. Gregory and James Tennant, both 19th century mineral and fossil dealers. He'll discuss their work, and the Thames Mineralogical Museum collections."

Visitors will view treasures such as meteorites, rocks with gold and silver traces, an example of New Zealand's only precious stone, the famed Ruby Rock, and superb specimens from the Pink and White terraces - once regarded as the eighth wonder of the world.

DETAILS: Visit www.thamesheritage.co.nz for details on how to book and info about other events.

ENTERTAINMENT

Final concert for 2022

Thames Music Group will present its final Sunday concert for 2022 with a quartet of chamber soloists.

The New Zealand Chamber Soloists core group Katherine Austin (piano), Lara Hall (violin), and James Tennant (cello) return to Thames for their latest passionate and inspired renditions of classics.

They will be joined by Dimitri Atanassov.

The New Zealand Chamber Soloists have been performing regularly throughout New Zealand and overseas since 2006. They have welcomed many other renowned New Zealand musicians and composers under the New Zealand Chamber Soloists' banner.

The group is dedicated to presenting classical music as a spontaneous and vivid experience, in which the audience

and performers are connected through the universal language of music.

Since its inception, the New Zealand Chamber Soloists have celebrated the unique voice of New Zealand's new generation of composers, alongside the works of the classical and 20th century traditions.

DETAILS: Sunday Afternoon Concert, November 13 at 2pm, St Georges Church, Thames. Entry cash only: \$20, members: \$15.



NZ Chamber Soloists will perform in Thames.

Photos: SUPPLIED

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Historic Kopu Bridge, Shortland Cemetery Tour, Train Rides through Victoria Park, Design a Family Crest Workshop, Show by Thames Music & Drama, Talk on 19th Century mineral and fossil dealers, Historic Churches St. James and St. Georges open for viewing



www.thamesheritage.co.nz



Scott Simpson

MP for Coromandel

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Rotary trail ride ready to rev up again

By GORDON PREECE

A Rotary Paeroa fundraising trail ride will rev up on November 13 after two years of blown fuses due to Covid-19.

Vice president Ivan Petch told *The Profile* the trail ride had been full noise for around 16 years prior to Covid-19 and was one of the main fundraisers for Rotary Paeroa.

“We’ve raised around \$8000 in the past and it usually goes back into the community,” he said. “A lot of it goes back into the schools. Netherton School helps on the day and provides staff to help run the sign in table so they usually get a donation.

“Hikutaia School have also been beneficiaries of the trail ride as well and we also support the likes of St John and various other recipients in Paeroa.”

Ivan said the event, which takes place between 10am and 2pm, was a “fun trail ride” for families and motorbike riders, with the start and finish lines at Plains View Farms at the top of Strange Rd, Hikutaia.

The main loop track is about 30km long, covering five farms and two forestry blocks, he said.

“We also have a junior track for riders who don’t want to go the full distance and a peewee track for beginner riders with adult supervision.

“I’m on the organising committee and the trail ride was



Rotary Paeroa hopes for record numbers at its returning trail ride event.

File Photo: SUPPLIED

originally instigated by Mark Whyte, Rod Coe, Walter Tye and Barry Williams, and they have a team of helpers to organise the event each year.”

Ivan said the Rotary Paeroa was hoping for “record numbers” this year. “I think the big-

gest number we had was something like 570 odd riders and most years we would get in the vicinity of 300 to 350 riders.”

Ivan said the event cost \$40 for senior riders, \$30 for junior riders, \$10 for beginners and \$100 for a family of two adults

and three children who live at the same address.

Entry fees could be paid at the start line on the day of the event.

Those planning to attend should keep an eye on the Rotary Paeroa Facebook page for weather updates, he said.

In Brief

MAN ARRESTED FOR BURGLARY
Police have arrested and charged a 27-year-old man in relation to a number of burglaries in the Thames community over the past three weeks. The man appeared in the Hamilton District Court on Friday, and has been remanded in custody until his next appearance in January 2023. Police thanked the community for their assistance in helping to identify this man.

BLACKSMITHS SHOP OPENING
The Hauraki Prospectors Association is opening the doors of its newly constructed Blacksmiths Shop and geology display at the Thames Goldmine Experience. Held this Saturday from 2pm, the opening event marks the completion of phase one of both projects and signifies a continuation of the on-going development of the Goldmine Experience facility. The blacksmiths shop is intended to be a fully functioning ‘smithies’ operation complete with a power hammer, several small forges and a complete range of tools and associated equipment.

TIME FOR A DIP
The swimming season at pools around the Hauraki district is about to open. The Paeroa pool opened on Saturday and closes again on Sunday, April 2, 2023, while the Waihi and Ngatea pools will open this weekend from November 12 and will close again on March 12, 2023. All of the pools are heated to a temperature of 27 degrees.

WHYTELINE

STRANGE ROAD TRAIL RIDE

Where: Strange Road, Paeroa
When: Sunday 13th November
Sign in from 8:00 AM, ride starts at 10:00 AM. Gate closes at 3:00 PM. Main loop up to 30KM of farmland and tracks. Family loop available.

Helmet, boots, long sleeve shirt and pants are required. Contact Ivan on 0274 856 789 or Mark on 021 729 012 for more information.




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Hawaiian men die in Thames Valley



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

Panaki had been feeling unwell for four days. His chest and side hurt but he refused to see a doctor.

He had been working and living at Waitakaruru with Jack Taranaki, a farmer, and as Panaki's condition deteriorated Jack and his wife finally convinced him to go to Thames for medical treatment.

It was May, 1913, and Panaki was taken by river on an oil launch to Shortland wharf where a car was called for.

This arrived promptly and Panaki was taken to Thames Hospital, but just as they arrived, 50-year-old Panaki died at the hospital gate. Dr Walshe found that there was long-standing disease of the lungs and that Panaki had died of pneumonia.

Four years later, in October, 1917, Lui Ramaki, a cook at Hunter's flax mill, Waitakaruru, failed to turn up for work. When Stanley Kendall, engine driver for the flax mill, looked through the window of Lui's hut he saw him lying across his bed. The locked door



South Sea Islander labourers on a pineapple plantation, 1890s.

Photo: SUPPLIED

had to be forced, but it was too late. Lui, 47, was dead.

He had not complained of illness although he had had a wheezing cough which was put down to cigarette smoking. Dr Lapraik found evidence of chronic bronchitis with emphysema. Death was due to syncope (loss of consciousness). It was quite possible for Lui to have been going about his ordinary duties and not complain of feeling unwell.

Panaki and Lui were from Hawaii and were colloquially known as South Sea Islanders. But there was a more ominous name for Hawaiians which may explain how they ended up in Waitakaruru. The word Kanaka, Hawaiian for 'person' or 'man', was used deservingly in the late 19th and early

20th centuries when there was large scale taking of people indigenous to the Pacific Islands. Most were young men and boys aged from nine to 30.

Beginning in the 1840s, islanders were brought to Australia to work on cotton and sugar plantations or cattle stations. The captains and crews of the ships involved in the taking of the Islanders were called blackbirders and the practice itself as blackbirding. By 1900 over 60,000 Islanders had been 'recruited' this way. Kidnapped Kanaka labourers were abused and treated as slaves.

Despite an outcry from humanitarians, it was the accusation that using Kanakas lowered standards working at jobs which European labourers could do that saw the

Queensland government stop further recruiting in 1890. This prohibition was suspended in 1892 but it was the advent of the plough on plantations which saw Kanaka labour fall out of favour and recruitment finally abolished in 1904.

After 1906, most South Pacific Islanders had been deported from Australia and it is likely Panaki and Lui were among them, ultimately making their way to New Zealand and Waitakaruru.

Both Panaki and Lui's deaths were registered at Thames but there was no first name for Panaki who was recorded simply as Male Panaki. Luis Ramaki was noted as having no relatives in New Zealand. They are likely buried at Shortland cemetery.

Armistice Day to be observed in Waihi

By GORDON PREECE

An Armistice Day ceremony to commemorate the end of WWI is set to take place at the Tunnellers Memorial at Gilmour Park in Waihi at 10:45am on November 11.

Waihi Heritage Vision secretary and treasurer Krishna Buckman told *The Profile* the event would feature a wreath laying ceremony, a flag raising ceremony, a reading of The Ode of Remembrance and The Last Post.

"It's an informal ceremony and we invite people to tell stories about their family members who may have served during any war time," she said.

"We also ask the schools and any participants instead of laying a traditional wreath with red poppies, we ask them to bring a white posy of flowers or some tribute of white flowers to lay because it symbolises peace."

Krishna said the event would conclude at 11:30am and if it was raining on the day, the ceremony would be moved to the Waihi RSA.

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Out on the job

Around 20 exhibitors from the Hauraki district and surrounding areas gathered in Paeroa War Memorial Hall on October 19 for the Gr8 Job Hauraki Job and Career Market. The event was an opportunity for employers and job seekers to connect face to face and acted as a beneficial job hunting tool. Reporter **GORDON PREECE** went along to check it out.



Fonterra Waitoa staff. Photos: GORDON PREECE



OceanaGold's Jessica Rawnsley and Josh Smith.



Waikato Engineering Careers Association staff Jasmine Amai, left, and Maddie Walker.

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"People can study locally with us and gain qualifications so they're work ready," she said. "Quite often people who haven't finished their school education come in here and can get NCEA, plus specific qualifications, so that's pretty life-changing for them." Andrea said Valley Education was open to anyone and they were all encouraged to do the best for themselves. "We're happy to be a part of their learning process and see them on their way to wherever they want to go next," she said. Valley Education also has a driving academy and offers driver training, including defensive driving courses - to book, Ph: 027 314 1577 (text or phone).

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Public Notice



2022 A.G.M
Monday 14th November 6pm Rhodes Park Clubrooms
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Election of Officers & Committee
General Business
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Enquiries to Secretary.thamesrugby@gmail.com

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Public Notice

Hauraki Plains Netball Centre
Annual General Meeting
Monday 21st November 7pm
Ngatea Rugby & Sports Club
All welcome, email haurakinnetball@gmail.com for full agenda

Caravans, horse floats, boats, trailers, motorbikes, outboards, quads. Any condition, anywhere. Ph Steve 027 622 0011

Motorcycles, 4 wheelers & side x sides. Going or not. Phone 027 216 6867. A1 Motorcycles

Public Notices

Proposed Temporary Road Closure



Pursuant to the Section 11(e) of the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that for the purpose of a **Music Festival "Gold Rush 2023"** event organised by Endeavour Live it is intended to close the following roads to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder.

During the proposed period of closure provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic, which would otherwise use the road, to use alternative routes.

Period of closure: 11:00am Tuesday 3 January 2023, to 12:30am Wednesday 4 January 2023.

- Road to be closed:**
- Consols Street: Cornwall St to Wrigley St (closure point at Wrigley St)
 - Victoria Street: Consols St to Kenny St (closure point at Consols St)
 - Lawrence Road: Entire road
 - Maddocks Street: Maddock St to Consols St (closure point 50m from Consols St)
 - Gilbraith Street: Kenny Rd to road end (closure point at Kenny Rd)
 - Margaret Street: Entire road (closure point at Consols St)
 - Wrigley Street: Consols St to Waitete Rd (closure point at Parry Palm Ave (SH2) and Consols St)
 - Canon Street: Entire road (closure point at Parry Palm Ave (SH2) and Consols St)
 - Cornwall St: Entire road
 - Dean Cres: Entire road (closure point at Parry Palmer Ave (SH2))
 - Orchard Road: Closure points Parry Palm Ave Slip (Village end) to SH2 – Parry Palm Ave.
 - Village Way: Entire road (closure point SH 2 – Parry Palm Ave.

Alternative provision for ordinary vehicular traffic will be made with signs, cones and barriers to redirect traffic on detour. It will be an offence under the above regulations for any person otherwise than under authority of an authorised permit to use the road for ordinary vehicular traffic during the proposed period of closure. Any objections should be directed to the Transportation Manager on 07 862 8609 or info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz by 23 November 2022. L D Cavers Chief Executive Hauraki District Council

SPORTS RESULTS

We welcome your sports results, email: editor@valleyprofile.co.nz

CRICKET

After having drawn a bye in the first round of the season's competition, the Hauraki Plains College senior boys cricketers made a successful start to their regular Waikato Valley/Hamilton Secondary schools campaign with a convincing win over a Hamilton Boys High School XI last Saturday.

The match was played in superb weather and ground conditions added to the enjoyment of players and the ever present parents and supporters associated with Hauraki's cricket teams - as well as the visitors from one of the country's top sporting schools.

The home team's innings was given a solid start via the batting of the steadily improving Cooper Green and Daniel Sproul opening combination. Sproul provided his team with a steady flow of runs as he progressed towards - and eventually achieved - his maiden century. Captain Anthony Barker, another who has also shown pleasing improvement as an all rounder in his final year at secondary school, provided a middle order partnership with Sproul which allowed later batsmen to hit out freely and achieved a very satisfactory team total after 50 overs.

All Hauraki bowlers, backed up by generally crisp catching and ground fielding, performed well on the day. The Hamilton team's run chase began with a flourish but once wickets started to fall, thoughtful field placings ensured that Hauraki's task of protecting their own batting effort was never seriously challenged.

The Hauraki senior team's season continues with another home fixture next Saturday. Hopefully weather, playing conditions and maybe a repeat result will be the order of the day.

Brief details of last Saturday's game : Hauraki Plains College 246 all out (49.2 overs) Daniel Sproul 100, Cooper Green 34, Anthony Barker 34. defeated Hamilton Boys High School XI 144. (38 overs) Jason Collins 2/14, Jaxon Haskell 2/15, Anthony Barker 2/17. Man of the Match Dan Sproul.

BOWLS

After their first tournament of the year got washed out, the Paeroa Bowling club successfully hosted 16 teams from around the Hauraki area to play in the Richardson's Real Estate Optional Triples.

Hauraki Bowling Club's Colin Demler, Barry O'Neil, and Anne Cleaveland were clear winners with four wins and a massive total of 43 points.

The Twilight Tournament has begun, with Easy Money, Shooters, Deck Chairs and The Pretenders in running for the prize money with only four points separating the teams.

The club has been lucky with weather for this event with rain holding off to allow the third game in the series to be completed.

The twilight series finishes on November 11. The next open tournament for the Paeroa club will be the Tunnicliffe hams fours on November 25.

HEARTLAND RUGBY

New Zealand Heartland 84 New Zealand Police 14; played at Taupo on November 6.

The New Zealand Heartland team scored 12 tries, all of which were converted by Thames Valley's Todd Doolan playing at fullback. Beside the 12 conversions, Doolan also scored a try to give him an impressive 29 points for the match.

Harry Lafituanai also scored a try and Thames Valley's third member of the team, Connor McVerry featured prominently in the forwards.

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 1pm Monday

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Situations Vacant

PAPER RUNNERS
We have a vacancy for 2 paper runners in Paeroa to deliver the newspaper that is being read. These runs are located around the Longridge Estate and the Domain. **Please contact Geoff on 021 100 8709 or email admin@valleyprofile.co.nz for more information.**



Public Notice


Council Land Drain Maintenance Programme 

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Hauraki District Council Drainage Bylaw Clause 10.1, that Council's annual drain maintenance programme will operate from November 2022 to June 2023.

During this time council staff and contractors will be entering onto private property to spray aquatic weeds by vehicle or helicopter using an approved weed control chemical or to clear drains using an excavator. Work will take place in these areas:

Drainage District	Town
Western Plains	Ngatea
Eastern Plains	Kerepehi
Komata North	Turua
Opukeo	Paeroa
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Last month's winner of the lotto ticket was Ms Matapo, who found Pete in the October 19th edition in the Franklin Vets advert. Go to page 2 for details on how to enter.



Together again

Moanataiari School in Thames celebrated 50 years with a reunion over the weekend of September 23-25. The school was officially opened by then-Minister of Education Hon HL Pickering on May 27, 1972 and was formed by the closure of Thames North, Thames Central, and Kōpū schools. The reunion celebrations included a meet and greet at The GBD, a tree planting, the unveiling of a mural, as well as a high tea. The Thames Camera Club was there to snap the fun.



A mural was unveiled at the school.



Visitors boogied the night away at a gala event.



Class photos were taken of the reunion attendees.

Photos: THAMES CAMERA CLUB



Principal David Brock, left, gets stuck into planting a tree.



Old friends have a catch up at a meet and greet at The GBD.



Guests are dressed to the nines.



FUNDRAISING EVENT

12 November

CAR BOOT SALE

Open 9am - gold coin donation



Raffles * Sausage sizzle * \$10 car wash * Treats for the kids

Pitches \$20 car, \$40 van – text 0272 399073 to book
 Sellers arrive from 7:30 to 8:45
 Any money made by stalls is kept by stall holders

www.suplife.org.nz



Lifestylers to host car boot sale

The Supported Life Style Hauraki Trust will host a car boot sale on November 12 to raise funds for a defibrillator and materials for its vocational spaces.

The trust, which has operated in Thames since 1994, offers residential support and rehabilitation to people living with disabilities. Life stylers have access to achieving creative goals through art, music, woodwork, metalwork and horticulture.

People and culture executive Tamara Marsden said the organisation, which currently has 87 life stylers and 124 staff, hoped to raise at least \$3000 from the event. The funds will cover the cost of a defibrillator at its Wharepoa farm, plus materials for its other community spaces.

"From the defib perspective, they normally cost around \$2500," she said.

"All trust staff are first aid trained; however we have people who live and work at the farm which is a fair way from the local ambulance stations.

"We want to ensure they can get instant medical support if the need arises."

Tamara said the trust also planned to put

the defib on the AED register so the local community could also use it.

"With the materials that's an ongoing cost, our community vocational spaces are where life stylers and members of the community can attend and experience different kinds of creative mediums, from painting to weaving," she said.


Tamara said the money raised from the gold coin donations and vehicle charges will go towards the new defibrillator and materials.

"If anybody has any clutter, we're charging people to come with their vehicles to bring and sell from their boot and then any money they raise they can take that home," she said.

"We are asking for \$20 to bring a car full and \$40 for a van. "We will also have raffles, sausage sizzle and face painting".

For more information about the trust email info@suplife.org.nz or visit its website www.suplife.org.nz.

DETAILS: The car boot sale will be held at 608 Queen St on November 12 at from 9am to 1pm. Entry: gold coin donation. \$20 for cars; \$40 for vans, text 027 239 9073 to book.



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SUDOKU

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

EASY

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	7		3			8	6	
6	8						4	2
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MEDIUM

2	8					7			4
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HARD

75

HARD

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

MEDIUM

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

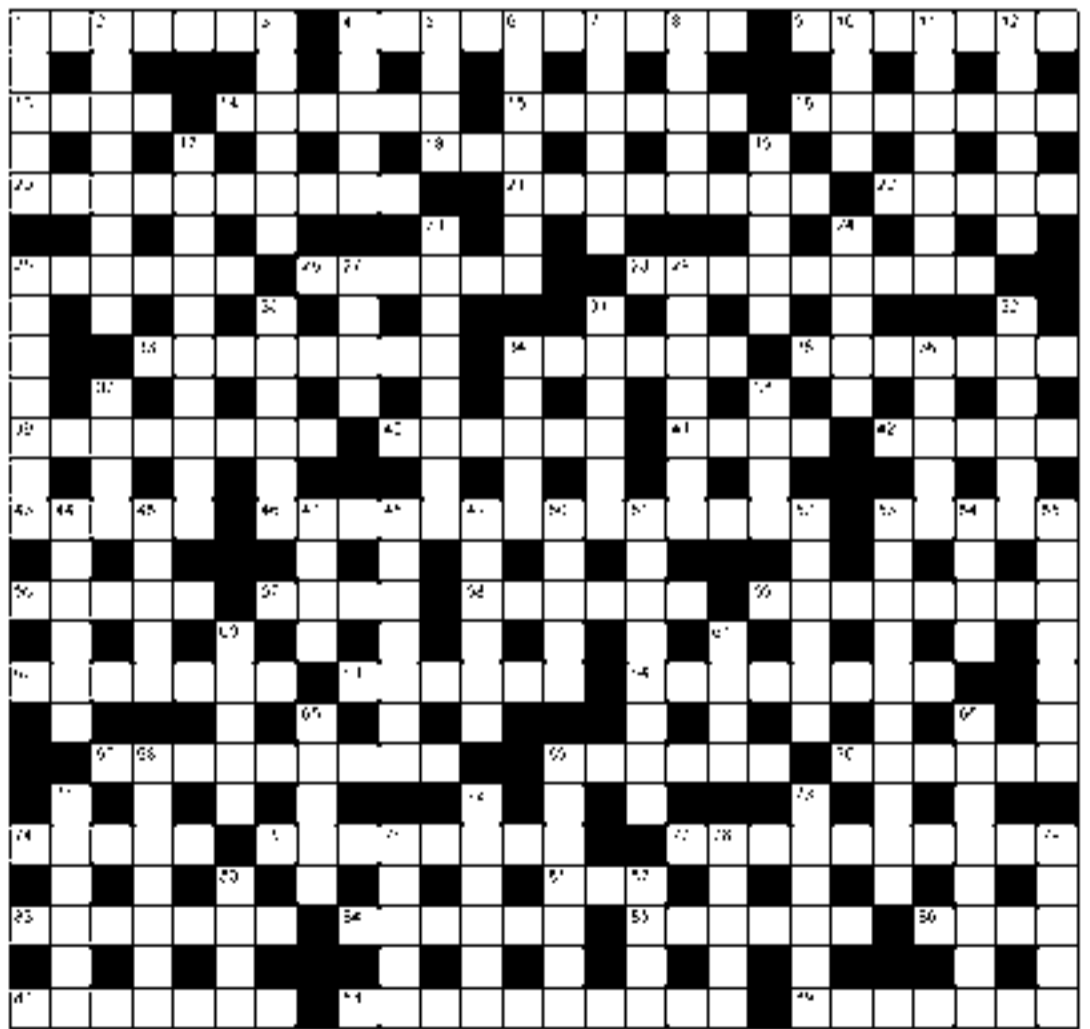
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3	7	5	9	1	2	6	8	4
7	6	4	5	2	8	9	1	3
8	5	3	4	9	1	7	6	2

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JUMBO CROSSWORD

95

- ACROSS**
- 1 Imitating (7)
 - 4 Menu (4,2,4)
 - 9 Make wider (7)
 - 13 Stink (4)
 - 14 Stretch tight (6)
 - 15 Tropical bird with huge beak (6)
 - 16 Arsenal (7)
 - 18 Organ for equilibrium (3)
 - 20 Bound to happen (10)
 - 21 Disreputable (8)
 - 22 Vision (5)
 - 25 Earnestly religious (6)
 - 26 Deliver a sermon (6)
 - 28 Theatre beam (9)
 - 33 Blood feud (8)
 - 34 Putrefying (6)
 - 35 Checked cotton cloth (7)
 - 39 Wholesale slaughter (8)
 - 40 Musical composition (6)
 - 41 Thin metal sheet (4)
 - 42 Confidence (5)
 - 43 Possession (5)
 - 46 Obstacle or impediment to progress (9,5)
 - 53 Decorate (5)
 - 56 Thin soup (5)
 - 57 Fronded plant (4)
 - 58 My sets (anag)(6)
 - 59 Treachery (8)
 - 62 Six-sided figure (7)
 - 63 Satirical mimicry (6)
 - 64 Disdain, scorn (8)
 - 67 On the fence (9)
 - 69 Lots of (6)
 - 70 Expensive (6)
 - 74 Value (5)
 - 75 Wide-brimmed hat (8)
 - 77 Analgesic (10)
 - 81 Fuel (3)
 - 83 Wool fat (7)
 - 84 Knob (6)
 - 85 Calm (6)
 - 86 Telephone (4)
 - 87 Slightly hungry (7)
 - 88 Unrealistically or naively optimistic (6-4)
 - 89 Smiled broadly (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Dog breed (5)
 - 2 Prevent from rotting, of foods (8)
 - 3 Rich elaborate cake (6)
 - 4 Punch-up (5)
 - 5 Alley (4)
 - 6 Large bird (7)
 - 7 Downy (6)
 - 8 Domain (5)
 - 10 Very uncommon (4)
 - 11 Do away with (7)
 - 12 Ribald (6)
 - 17 Army officer (10)
 - 19 Allocation (5)
 - 23 Underground cemetery (8)
 - 24 Faint-hearted (5)
 - 25 Quandary (7)
 - 27 Charge per unit (4)
 - 29 Sore (7)
 - 30 Worships (6)
 - 31 Leapt (6)
 - 32 Pancake mixture (6)
 - 34 Hindu religious teacher (5)
 - 36 Protect (5)
 - 37 Enquires (4)
 - 38 Gramophone record (4)
 - 44 Building inspection (6)
 - 45 Supplementary (5)
 - 47 Layer (4)
 - 48 Dull, routine (7)
 - 49 Injury, wound (6)
 - 50 Mean-tempered (5)
 - 51 Removed colour from (8)
 - 52 Zoo worker (6)
 - 53 Abnormal fear of heights (10)
 - 54 Type of agate (4)
 - 55 Declare invalid (7)
 - 60 Insure (5)
 - 61 Small fly (4)
 - 65 Fulcrum (5)
 - 66 Male horse (8)
 - 68 Interconnected system (7)
 - 69 Offspring (7)
 - 71 Find (6)
 - 72 Sex (6)
 - 73 Finale (6)
 - 76 Brag (5)
 - 78 Prize (5)
 - 79 Stiff (5)
 - 80 Pretensions (4)
 - 82 Nimble (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Users, 4 Hedgehog, 9 Praise, 14 Chase, 15 Quick on the uptake, 17 Lobby, 18 Ego, 19 Daisies, 20 Eagle-eyed, 21 Turned, 24 Embarrass, 25 Untrue, 26 Advent, 29 Chocolates, 31 Now, 32 Social, 33 Mast, 35 Ilk, 37 Over, 39 Narcissus, 40 Economise, 41 Elfin, 42 Restless, 47 Crescent, 51 Scarf, 55 Small talk, 56 Round trip, 58 Alps, 59 Too, 60 Neat, 61 Campus, 62 Zoo, 63 Latecomers, 66 Spleen, 67 Sermon, 69 Tableland, 72 Detour, 73 Energetic, 75 Piranha, 77 Spa, 80 Liner, 81 Getting on in years, 82 Drive, 83 Friend, 84 Holidays, 85 Added.

DOWN: 2 Squeamish, 3 Rocks, 5 Eats, 6 Grenada, 7 Hopelessness, 8 Glaze, 9 Prevent, 10 Ally, 11 Subdue, 12 Fated, 13 Deposit, 14 Cyanide, 16 Overbalance, 22 Writer, 23 Quicken, 24 Excerpt, 25 Unwise, 27 Evasive, 28 Favour, 30 Suit, 32 Skiff, 34 Theft, 36 Boss, 38 Vie, 42 Resin, 43 Seawall, 44 Lull, 45 Scarab, 46 Darts, 48 Expectation, 49 Claimed, 50 Nap, 51 Skipper, 52 Frozen, 53 Run-of-the-mill, 54 Idol, 57 Rotten, 64 Racehorse, 65 Textile, 66 Seaside, 68 Managed, 70 Bridged, 71 Runner, 72 Davit, 74 Retch, 76 Ahead, 78 Brie, 79 Envy.

SPORTS

Hunter hits cricket success with Indian tour

By GORDON PREECE

Hunter Crowe hopes an upcoming cricket tour to India will deliver him the cricketing experience to hit for six back in New Zealand.

The outgoing Hauraki Plains College year 13 student told *The Profile* he was selected to tour the subcontinent with the University of Auckland Cricket Club under 21 team in May this year.

“At first when I got asked to play it was a little bit of a shock to be fair, it was mixed emotions, I wasn’t sure what to think of it at first,” he said.

“But then grasping at the fact that once I got to see quite a few of the details, excitement came and it’s building until I hit India next year.

“I made the link to Auckland University Cricket Club through Will Lintott, who was already playing there, who gave me a call and asked if I wanted to play and I said I would be keen.”

Hunter, who has no relation to New Zealand cricket brothers Jeff and the late Martin Crowe, said the tour will bowl over 14 days between March and April and consist of six matches held at venues between New Delhi and the Pink City of Rajasthan, Jaipur.

“I’m quite keen to see what the quality of cricket is like in India - there’s a lot more cricketers in India than there are in New Zealand so I’m keen to see how we match up against their teams,



Hunter said his excitement was building for his India cricket tour next year. Photo: LEON WIREMU SMITH

and bring that experience back home to my own game,” he said. “We’ll also do quite a bit of sight-seeing around the place and get amongst the culture.” Hunter, who lives in Tairua,

said he would also use some of the money from the Bj Watling Scholarship he received in June towards the India tour.

The scholarship, which is worth up to \$5000, is designed to support recipients with the cost of initiatives that have the capacity to develop their skills, knowledge and potential, to help them excel in their future crick-eting endeavours.

Hunter, 17, said he had always enjoyed watching the Blackcaps and first picked up a cricket bat as a “young fella”, but started taking the sport seriously as a 13-year-old in his inaugural year at Hauraki Plains College.

“I like being in the contest, and I like the fact that it is never going to be the same every time when you play so there’s always going to be an excitement factor.”

“The memories that you make in times of winning being around your mates is also what I like about cricket.”

Hunter said he had also played cricket for Waikato Valley, was part of the Northern Districts training academy and received the A V O’Brien Trophy for all round sporting excellence at the college Sports Awards on October 27. “HPC has been really good over the past five years and I’m exciting to be heading over to the next chapter,” he said.

“I’m going to Waikato University next year to study a Bachelor of Business but I can still continue to play cricket for Auckland University.”

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