The Valley





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Blacks' bench for all

All Blacks halfback Aaron Smith was in Paeroa on Sunday to gift a hand-crafted bench to the community, in an effort to encourage moments of contemplation, celebration, and conversation. KELLEY TANTAU reports

 ${f F}^{
m or}$ All Black Aaron Smith, it's his wife, children, and close family who are on his supporters bench.

Growing up in Fielding, the famous halfback told *The Profile* during a visit to Paeroa on Sunday that his parents had always supported his professional rugby aspirations.

"I wasn't too good in the classroom, so they harnessed a lot of my en-

ergy into sport, and I played any sport I could play at the time.

"They were definitely big marks for me on my life in the sense of setting goals and dreaming big." ting goals and dreaming big.

Aaron was in the Hauraki town to help gift an All Black

bench to the community on July 23. Featuring the rugby side's exclusive tohu, the bench is one of 26 being installed throughout the country in the

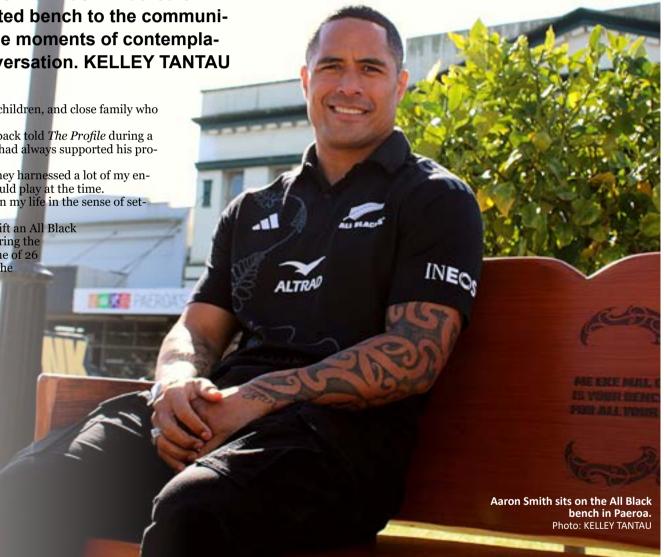
hopes of bringing people together.
The locations selected were either geographically iconic, or were at the heart of the community.

Aaron, who has moved from Dun-edin to Whitianga on the Coromandel Peninsula, said the macrocarpa bench - located outside the Paeroa Information Centre - was a "taon-

He hoped it could be used in helping people needing to have those "good or bad convos'

"It's very special what the New Zealand Rugby Union has done with it... it enhances the idea that rugby can be bit bigger than just a sport.

Journalism



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Our focus is 100% local community news.

'THE PAPER PEOPLE READ'

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\$30m funding, plus \$200k for tourism

By ALICE PARMINTER, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

Mental health, resilience and tourism were the main focuses of an announcement revealing extra government funding for communities affected by cyclone

Minister for social development and employment Carmel Sepuloni held press conferences in Thames on July 18 announcing two fund-

ing packages.
The first was a \$200,000 cyclone recovery grant for Thames Coromandel District Council, which will be used by Destination Hauraki Coromandel for tourism promotion. The second was a \$30 million social sector recovery plan, for weather-affected communities across New Zealand.

Minister Sepuloni said the funding would go towards mental health services, education catch-up programmes, volunteer wellbeing and support, and the improvement of infrastructure resilience in cyclone-affected areas, including the Coromandel.

The \$200,000 grant is aimed at bringing visitors to the Coromandel following several rough seasons for tourism operators.

In June this year, electronic card transactions in Thames Coromandel were down 22.6 per cent compared to June 2022, the council said, with a similar drop in May. The drop in spending was the highest for any tourism region in New Zealand.

"Consumer perception and road access issues are contributing fac-

tors," the minister said.
"We are ... trying to promote



Thames Coromandel mayor Len Salt, left, minister Carmel Sepuloni, and Destination Hauraki Coromandel's Hadley Dryden.

this area and trying to encourage people to come back in over the summer.

The perception is that it's completely shut down when it's not, there are ways of getting around. And for the economy and general wellbeing of this area you need people to start returning.

The social sector recovery plan was announced at Ngāti Maru Ruranga, an acknowledgement of the organisation's work in the social sector to provide support to those affected by the storms. The group was part of the Civil Defence response to the cyclones, liaising with local marae to provide shel-

ters.
"We did try to get in there quickly with support for iwi organisations and social service organisations and mental health organisations right at the beginning, but that was the immediate response,"

minister Sepuloni said.
"We had to have a longer term response ... people are still experiencing the psycho-social impacts of what the weather events brought."

The package will cover the next two years, with \$20.65 million being spent in the first round. The minister said she was keen to get the money out the door as soon as

"I think it's fair to say that some lessons have been learnt off the back of things like Canterbury and the earthquakes, and it's all good to be responsive at the time but you also need a plan moving forward," she said.

Often it is only the infrastructure side of things that is taken into consideration, but the wellbeing of people is really important in

SOCIAL RECOVERY PLAN:

WHAT'S INCLUDED \$3M to build optimism and increase resilience, such as

through local events \$1.5M support for those affected by land zoning changes

\$5M programmes for Māori and Pacific students to catch up on lost education

\$8.5M for iwi and community groups to increase infrastructure and preparedness for future events

\$1.5M wellbeing support for

volunteers \$0.5M for providers supporting migrants from affected areas \$0.15M for mental health training for providers

\$0.5M accessibility servicestranslation and interpreters

the process too.

Ngāti Maru Ruranga chair-person Wāti Ngamane said the organisation was seeing many families giving up on education and struggling with other issues in the wake of events such as Covid and the storms, and was pleased to see some support from the government for the groups providing outreach programmes.

"We're not doing it for accolades, we're doing it to fulfil the need that's there. And it's huge," he said.

"It's about having some certainty around what we're doing. It's not going to stop us doing it, [but] while we can access the resources to carry it out we will do that.'



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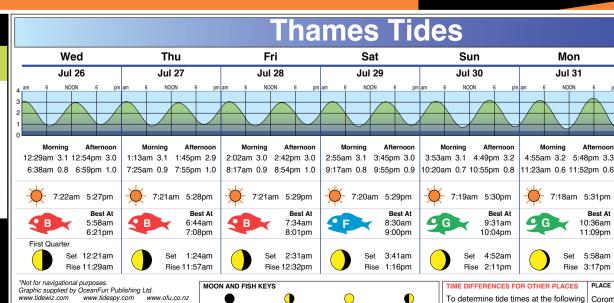




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Fair Fishing

Not So Good

MenzShed without tools after theft

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

The thieves who broke into The thieves who broke into Paeroa's community Menzshed likely didn't know they carted away tools that needed repairing and a metal cutting saw that required a three-phase power outlet to be plugged into.

Despite this, the thieves spent more than half-an-hour giving the shed a "good clear out" -and now it's the members who are left picking up the pieces. Overnight on Saturday, July

8, at least three offenders broke into the MenzShed, situated at the back of the former Paeroa Racecourse.

Vice president Allan Hughes said a member arrived on site to find the padlock had been taken off the door. When he entered, he noticed the "empty spaces' atop the work tables.

Not only did the thieves steal several drop saws and cans of CRC, they also stole a onetonne chain block, a three-phase metal cutting saw, and a myriad of tools, and they carted it all away in a trailer that had been donated by MenzShed life member Les Cullerne.

"It's been a bit of a blow to," Les said. "We're ready to start doing things for the com-munity now, and this has set us back a little bit, but we're going to keep on going just the same. We won't let this stop us from doing what we want to do.

The community MenzShed moved into its racecourse premises little more than a year ago, after searching for a space



Paeroa MenzShed members Les Cullerne and Allan Hughes are welcoming donations of tools and equipment to get them back on their feet after a burglary.

Photo: KELLE

for six years.

Les, an engineer by trade, was a founding member of the Paeroa shed and donated equipment and tools left over from his working days.

Allan said even though the machinery was donated to the group, it was still a "major set back" having it stolen.

"They might as well have sto-len it from the donors," he said. "And even the people who do-nated stuff will be disappointed to know that it's not being used for the purpose it was donated for," Les added. "That's how I feel."

The MenzShed did have cameras installed and Police attended to obtain the tape. A Police spokesperson told *The* Profile that Police had assigned the case to be investigated and inquiries into the burglary were

ongoing.
Still, Les said the group had since "beefed up the security" at the site, and the men will mark all of their tools and equipment going forward. They are welcoming donations of items to

get them back on their feet and to a point where they can start community projects and initia-

"I was hopeful we only lost a few things, but it has been a

good clear-out," Allan said.
They also welcome other members - male and female - to join the growing group that now has a 25-strong membership. Email paeroamenzshed@gmail. com for details.



In Brief

Thames Museum Te Whare Taonga o te Kauaeranga is hosting a Matariki Family Fun Day on Saturday, July 29, from 9:30am to 1pm. This includes a flax weaving workshop with Colleen Renata and Aunty Chrissy Te Teira. Workshop places are limited, contact Carolyn, Ph 027 868 6072, to book. The day will also feature activities for all ages, kai, and more. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

EARLY BIRD TANGO

Sergio Corvalan can't wait for spring to dance the tango and practise his boleadores. Sergio, from Argentina, wants dancers to join him for tango lessons and dance off the winter blues. For those waiting for warmer weather or who want to find out what tango is all about, he and his wife, Jana, are planning a tapas and tango evening later in the year to celebrate Argentinian culture and their passion for the dance. Sergio is starting lessons at The Thames Community Hall. 768 Pollen St, each Wednesday, from August 2. Contact: Jana, Ph 027 258 4391.

MORNING TEA FUNDRAISER

The Ngatea Lions are once again hosting their Lions Cancer Morning Tea on August 23. Last year, this event raised \$5000, with the money divided between the Lions Cancer Lodge in Hamilton and the Thames Cancer Support Group. It will be held at the Ngatea War Memorial Hall from 10am on August 23. Entry

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Education

Principal's pride in students' success

By ALICE PARMINTER, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

Alistair Cochrane is hanging up his red pen at the end of this year, satisfied in the knowledge of a job well done.

job well done.

The Waihī College principal has been in the top seat for 22 years, and spent five years as the deputy principal before that. He's seen many changes over the course of his tenure.

Alistair began his career in Taupō, teaching economics and geography, before shifting to Waihī. It's the students who had kept him in education for so long, he said.

"I've always got a huge amount of intrinsic pleasure from watching other people develop and grow," he said

"I bump into [former students] at different times and we've got kids who have gone off and achieved extremely highly at university level ... and we've also got kids who have gone and got themselves a full time job and are working and have a young family, and are just as successful in their own way.

cessful in their own way.

"I guess that's the bit that I'm most proud of, that the majority of kids that come out of this place actually have a pathway forward in their lives."

The move into leadership was another chance to be influential in his students' lives - although he missed teaching directly, Alistair said he relished the opportunity to shape

the educational space of the school.
"The range of programmes that

is available to kids now is much broader than it ever was," he said.

"I've pushed over the years for what I call a collaborative approach to education, where children don't necessarily learn a subject in isolation to all the others; we try to integrate the learning. The whole idea is that on any given project, there are aspects of maths and literacy and science and arts, and it's all woven in together."

Alistair said the project-based model helped kids apply their learning in a more natural way.

"Employers don't necessarily want kids with a specific set of academic knowledge, what they want are kids who are open-minded and prepared to learn and apply their learning. We weren't offering that learning disposition just by teaching in silos," he said.

"That's been a bit of a focus of mine over the years. Some of my teachers love it, some of my teachers hate it flaughs!"

The collaborative learning approach is just one of many strategies Alistair has employed within the school. Recognising that many students weren't heading for university, he ensured there were other pathways to success.

"I took a building class a couple of years ago ... we built all the staff outdoor area and picnic tables and a deck. Every single one of those kids got their credits, but they also got a



Waihī principal Alistair Cochrane is retiring at the end of the 2023 school year.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

iob." he saic

Now, Alistair has time to think about what he would like to do next.

"I guess I'm looking for something that has less balls in the air at any given point and on any given day, because as a school principal you've got numerous things happening all the time. But I don't think I'll be able to stop." he said.

"I'm a bit of a home handyman, and already some of my neighbours

have asked me what I'm doing next year and can I build their fence? And I might!"

Alistair still plans to keep a close eye on the school, and he's excited to see the direction his successor takes

"I think there's some real value in actually a new person coming with a completely different approach to leadership. I'm really excited for the school." he said.

"[But] It will be really hard to leave. I'll miss this place - for 25 years I've driven up Moresby Ave. I'll miss the people. And the kids, I'll miss the kids most, just because they're young people growing up and that's the reason I got into it in the first place, and my passion for that has never changed."





www.waihicol.school.nz

Waihi College received exceptional results at this year's Waikato Culinary Fare, which was held on the last day of Term 2 at Wintec. The culinary fare is the largest regional competition of its type in New Zealand and allows our emerging hospitality stars to gain valuable skills and experience. We would like to congratulate everyone involved, including the forever brilliant Mrs Fitzgerald! Results are as follows:



Ceylin Bek
Divyash Sv

Arnya Dixon: Silver cafe cake, Silver creative burger, Silver barista

Auskar Kong: Bronze live dessert, Silver cafe cake, Gold creative burger,

Gold chicken dish (class winner)

Ceylin Bektas: Silver live dessert, Silver chicken dish

Divyash Swamy: Silver cafe cake, Silver healthy lunch, Gold live dessert **Hayaat Dass:** Bronze cafe cake, Silver Barista, Silver creative burger

Jack Dinnage: Bronze cold dessert (tertiary), Silver chicken dish, Silver barista,

Silver creative burger

Leni Walter: Silver cafe cake, Silver healthy lunch, Gold creative pizza

Liam Middleton: Gold creative burger

Liam Wagner: Silver cafe cake, Gold chicken dish Nicholas Mannix: Silver cafe cake, Silver creative burger

Romain Wiki: Bronze cold dessert junior (tertiary), Silver cafe cake,

Silver live dessert

Roman Harries: Gold cafe cake, Gold creative pizza (class winner)

Tātana King: Bronze cafe cake, Gold creative burger

William Krause: Gold chicken dish

Check out the Keeping Informed section of the Waihi College website to stay informed with all things Waihi College www.waihicol.school.nz





Power for mining operations **ENTERTAINMENT**



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.

1910

Mr Barry, superintendent of the Waihī mine, vis-ited all the hydraulic power stations on the continent, including those in Switzerland and Sweden, in preparation for building the Horahora Hydroelectric power station.

The station was to be built by the Waihī gold mining com-pany to provide power for mining operations. Tenders for the supply of six turbines and generators for the installation at Horahora were under consideration in London when he left. The six transmitting wires would use up 150 tons of copper. The site at Horahora was quite up to the average of any power site he had seen. He was satisfied that everything was working smoothly in connection with the Waihī works. Mr Barry said he was glad to be back, and would rather live in Waihī than London or any other place.

PIPIROA TOWN PLANNED

Pipiroa, on the Hauraki Plains, was a town in the making.



Some of the men carrying out the electrical scheme at Horahora.

Three years previously a visit to the site would have involved the risk of drowning or mud suffocation, as the whole place was waterlogged. Now however it was a future dairying centre. It had a small wharf and an artesian bore providing 14,000 gallons of pure water daily. The town-ship was laid out in rectangular blocks, those in the heart of Pipiroa being subdivided into half acres. This area of small subdivisions, intended for business and residential purposes, enclosed a big block reserved for recreation. The best corner site was appropriated for the future courthouse and Government offices. The school site consisted of eight acres, well situated. The creamery site was of four acres. As the outskirts of the township were reached, the sections increased in size until becoming farming country. The streets were to be 66ft wide, the usual plan of two-chain streets being abandoned because they were too expensive. The district justified all this preparation for a large population as there was a big rush for farms and the

Northern Steamship Company had already arranged to carry on a fortnightly steamer service from Auckland, to be improved as trade warranted. MILK NOT FRESH

Fresh milk being supplied to Thames was neither fresh nor pure with some residents finding a thick deposit of mud in the bottom of their milk jugs. How could the milk be fresh when some of the vendors delivered milk in the morning supplied from cows which had been milked on the afternoon of the previous day, wondered a disgruntled resident.

MAGICIAN VISITS

Lifting and carrying by his eyelids a block of stone weighing 621b, Hassan the Great Indian Magician had Paeroa audiences spellbound at the Criterion Theatre. Hassan was a direct descendant of a family of Hindu magicians, the secrets of whose mysterious and marvellous magic had been handed down from father to son for more than 500 years. Quite a number of versatile artists also appeared in conjunction with this marvellous man, and in addition there was shown a fine series of moving pictures.



Kumeu Vintage Brass is a "treasure to be seen, heard, and enjoyed".

Army, air force, navy vets to perform for free in Thames

Tumeu Vintage Brass are the next to perform as part of Thames Music Group's Free lunchtime concerts. Held this Friday, the performance will see ex-Royal Regiment members of the New Zealand artillery take to the stage alongside army, air force, and navy vets. According to the band, while not all players come with coveted titles - some are returning to playing after years of absence - all members did have backgrounds in New Zealand community bands, with others in British, Canadian and Australian bands as well. "Like a vintage wine, we improve with age," they said. "Like our local classic cars, Kumeu Vintage Brass is a treasure to be seen, heard, enjoyed and applauded". DETAILS: Thames Music Group presents its Free Lunchtime Concert, Kumeu Vintage Brass, this Friday, July 26 at 12.15pm, St George's Church, Thames. Enjoy hot soup and a bun for \$5 after the concert.

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Matariki rising

Te Puru School hosted its ātaahua celebration of the rising of the Matariki star cluster in late June. After facing a week of road closures, with staff and students boating to school and having to find accommodation Thames side of the slip closing the road, there was nothing that could stop them from having fun. Led by Matua Jason, principal Karla Hull, and office administrator Tania Lyon, the school whānau and community worked on a hangi pit, prepared steam pudding and fry bread, and enjoyed a variety of Matariki activities. A spokesperson said it was "such a valuable experience".



Lucy Gage-Maddox and Amaia Herewini take part.





..and spectacular kapa haka



Janna, left, Lulu, Ruby and Aaron Wood.



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Te Whatu Ora

Local volunteers acknowledged

By ALICE PARMINTER, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

Volunteers across the Waikato were celebrated in style at the 2023 Volunteer Waikato Excellence Awards in June.

Several volunteers from Thames, Waihī and Paeroa were among those nominated.

There were five award categories; event, individual, long service, team and youth.

Robert Bailey, of Hato Hone St John Waihī, took home the top award in the individual category. The long-time altruist has spent 18 years volunteering with the organisation, and is currently the deputy chair of the Waihī area committee.

"He is very humble and puts his hand up to volunteer willingly and without complaint to support his community and the youth of Waihī," St John said in its nomination.

"Robert brings knowledge into the community by delivering the three steps for life programme, which is very powerful in saving lives. Robert is caring and community minded and is a decent bloke who just keeps on giving."

Also celebrated was George Capper, who was the runner-up in the long service category for his time with the Victoria Battery Tramway Society. George joined the society in 1998, and has been a staple at the society's museum ever since, spending an average of 20 hours a week volunteer-

"George has, at times, almost run the society single handed, having held the

president, secretary, treasurer and committee positions," his nomination read.

[His] vast knowledge of the workings and history of the Victoria Battery Site and gold mining in general is relayed with stories both funny and real, to visitors voung and old.

A commendation was awarded to Thames Meals on Wheels in the team category, with Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand saying in its nomination that the group was a "superstar team" making a positive impact.

"For the last nine years, Thames Meals on Wheels has been a completely volunteer-managed, self-sustained and organised group of people from the Thames community, with two co-ordinators and 70 drivers keeping the service going," Te Wahtu Ora said.

"A 'once a day' knock on the door and a chat with a familiar friendly face can make all the difference to someone's day.

Annually, Volunteering Waikato, Te Ohu Tuuao O Waikato, host the Volunteer Excellence Awards to celebrate volunteers who have made an outstanding contribution in the community.

Any community organisation in the region can nominate an individual volunteer or a team of volunteers.

DETAILS: To find out more, or to check out the complete list of winners, visit: volunteering-



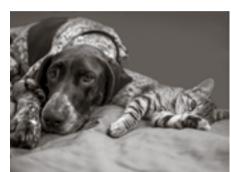


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Life

From geography degree to rural living

Dairy farmer Jemima Bebbington is keen to see more people get into the in-

She went to university thinking she'd get a job in a big city, but fell in love with farmer Tom, now her husband, and joined him running their Waikato farm business

"I went from a geography university degree, studying people and places, to milking cows every day and I love it,"

She continued her studies and has qualifications in communications agribusibut she ness. believes farming has a lot to offer people from all walks of J e m

and ima farm Tahuna on their own farm, while also managing the family farm for Tom's mum,

Tom's sister Kathleen and husband Cameron recently made the shift from city life to join them on the family farm, and they're loving it.

"Farming is a great lifestyle



for families," Jemima "It's awesome seeing our children outside enjoying country adventures.

DairyNZ lead advisor for people Jane Muir said DairyNZ was helping connect Kiwis with farm vacancies available nationwide through GoDairy.

"There are plenty of farm assistant roles available nationwide – a great way to start a

dairy career," Jane said.
"Dairy is a unique career, where no two days are the same. No prior experience is

needed and any ages are welcome to join. You learn on the job and pick up a wide range of skills including milking, calf rearing and operating heavy machinery.

Promotion and growth opportunities are available, she said, with farm managers able to earn more than \$100,000.

Many farms also offer reasonably-priced on-farm accommodation, which means no commute to work or daily travel costs, helping people save more for their future

Auckland travel agent Belinda Price also "highly recom-

mended" farming.

"It's a great lifestyle working outdoors with animals, people

and technology.
"You choose your own path and can even build your own successful business," she said. Belinda and her husband

Ben started milking other people's cows and now own a farm in Taranaki.

She said it was hard work She said it was hard work building up to owning a farm but hugely rewarding. The Prices now have a team of three, and ensure their farm is a great place to work.

"The key to everything is work-life balance and good communication. We want people to flourish and achieve

people to flourish and achieve

their goals."

Belinda said a strong farm team meant having each other's backs and learning from each other. "When you've got that, it's awesome.'

DETAILS: Find out more about a career in dairy and apply for available jobs at godairy.co.nz/



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Rural Life

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sive devastation

caused to native

habitats and wild-

life through severe

weather events, es-

pecially in the east

and north of the

- Penny Nelson, DOC

North Island.

for nature" this Conservation Week,

which will run from Au-

gust 14 to 20. The annual celebration acknowledges the incredible conservation work going on across Aotearoa New Zealand, and calls for people to get involved.

Department of Conservation director-general Penny Nelson said Conservation Week. now in its 54th year, was the perfect time for people to roll up their sleeves and take part in events currently being

planned across the country. 'We are encouraging community groups and individuals to put together a plan for how they will mark Conservation Week and get others involved.
"Whether it's by cleaning up our wa-

terways, protecting marine habitats, or getting rid of weeds and replanting with natives, there's always something you can do to help our environment and the native species that make Aotearoa

We have thousands of species found nowhere else which are part of our identity. But many are threatened or

People are encouraged to start thinking about how they can "take action" at risk of extinction because of invasive predators, habitat loss, or climate sive predators, habitat loss, or climate change," Penny said.

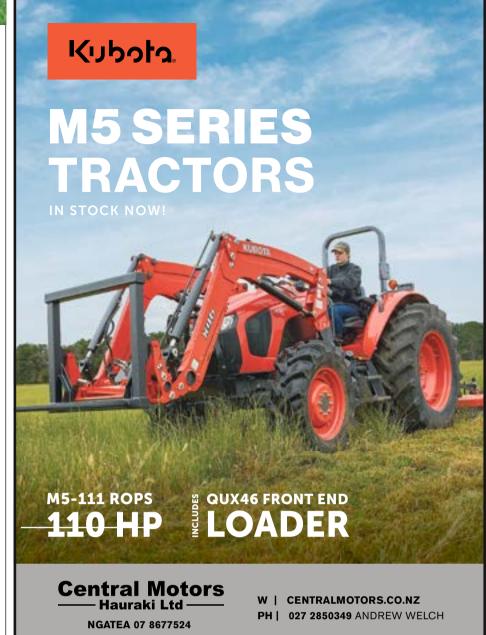
"This year in particular we've seen massive devastation caused to native habitats and wildlife through severe weather events, especially in the east and north of the North Island.

"We need to work together to protect and restore our environment, to help our taonga species and ourselves.

"When nature thrives, we all thrive. Ka ora te whenua, ka ora te tangata - when the land is well, the people are well.

"It's also an opportunity to acknowledge the vital conservation work being done every day by community groups, iwi, and other organisations across the motu. Working with others means we can get more essential conservation work done.'

DETAILS: The Department of Conservation will list events and activities - including in the Coromandel and Hauraki - on its Conservation Week website, along with some ideas for how people can take action for nature – check back regularly as more info is added: www.doc.govt.nz/news/events/ conservation-week.







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ACT talk rural issues in Paeroa

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

hree candidates on ACT's List for this year's general elections were in Paeroa last week to talk about the issues they say are facing rural New Zealand.

List MPs Nicole McKee and Mark Cameron, and Rangitīkei candidate Andrew Hoggard, were in town as part of the party's Heartland Tour, which has taken them to provinces throughout the

country over the past three weeks. Speaking to *The Pro*file before their public forum, the trio said rebuilding farm-er confidence was one of their key goals if elected to govern-

ment in October.
"The core thing is... [farmer confidence] has gone down consistently for six years, and it's at its lowest ever," former Federated Farmers president Andrew said. "Confidence is so important. If I don't have confidence in the future of my

industry and my ability to be able to farm, I'm not making investments, I'm going into 'bunker mentality'

bunker mentality'."
Nicole holds ACT's firearms portfolio and said firearms were a massive tool for farmers. Current legislation had hindered the rural community being able to "humanely

dispatch animals or take care of pests", she said.

ACT will write a "whole new arms act from scratch" and put the emphasis back on "fit

and proper ownership rather than the firearm itself".

The trio said it was still early days in regards to the latest 1News Verian Poll, which saw the party up to 12 per cent enough to form a majority with National. But Mark, a Northland dairy farmer, said he was eager to repair the dis-connect between Wellington, and the "farm gate reality".

















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'Lovable rogue' needs a home

PET OF THE WEEK

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

t's about time for the loveable Murphy, a "big, boisterous goofball" who has been waiting patiently since Easter,

to find his forever home.

He was found roaming by Hauraki
District Council and no owner has come forward.

A council spokesperson said Murphy is approximately two-years-old, and a Bullmastiff/Boxer cross.

He loves people and gets on well with other pound dogs - but he was a "bit of a sook" and cried when another dog ac-

cidently stepped on his foot, they said.

"He will need an owner that is confident with bigger dogs and has the time and patience to set down a few ground

Murphy is extremely enthusiastic, has very little respect for personal space, and believes that everyone should love

Council said that Murphy loves attention, pats and cuddles, and "just being with people'

He was probably not suited to young children due to his size and clumsiness, however this would improve with good

"Murphy is an absolutely loveable rogue who needs a home to call his

Murphy will come registered and with an adoption pack which includes



Murphy has been waiting for his forever home since Easter. Can you help him find it?

some good quality dog food, treats etc. In lieu of an adoption fee, the new owner will need to get him desexed and vac-

DETAILS: To enquire about adopting Murphy, phone the council on 0800 734 834 (in the district) or 07 862 8609.



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Today, Twentymans stands proudly along-side it's sisters Thames Valley Crematory, Forever Pets and The Thames on Kirkwood offering the community a convenient range of affordable services all on one site.

Situated at 709 Pollen St, Thames, Twentymans have created a comforting space where families can discuss their funeral needs with a funeral director. Twentymans have viewing rooms situated in Paeroa, Whangamata and Whitianga, each of these are open by appointment only.

A service can be held at Grahamstown

Chapel, which comfortably seats 200 people and has an exceptional audio and video system, which allows the service to be live streamed at the family's request.

A reception can be held next door at The Thames on Kirkwood, giving mourners the opportunity to share memories, and contin-



Twentymans Funeral Services.

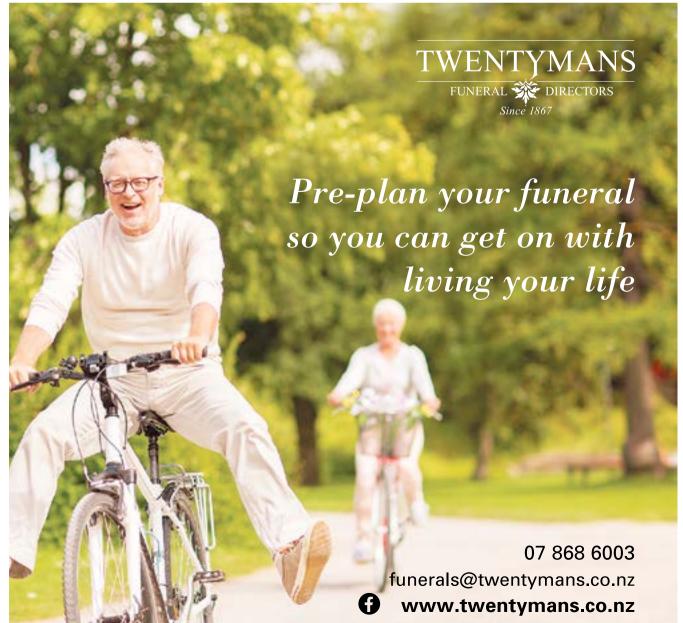
ue to celebrate the life of someone they cared about. Complimentary car parking is available for patrons in Kirkwood Street.

Thames Valley Crematory is on Kirkwood St alongside Forever Pets in the former Judd's Foundry building.

Adrian is delighted to be able to offer local cremations at a significantly reduced price with a new, innovative human cremator. To help with the healing process, families are given the opportunity to say a final goodbye at the crematorium, if they so wish. For those little companions who have a bit more fur and a few more legs, there is Forever Pets to help your beloved pet cross over the rainbow

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The final FAREWELL

Navigating grief after a loss

Gexperience, yet it remains one of the most challenging emotions to face. When we lose a loved one or experience any significant loss, grief washes over us like a tidal wave, leaving us feeling adrift and overwhelmed. In these moments of pain and sorrow, understanding the grieving process and learning healthy coping mechanisms can be vital to finding a path towards healing. Acknowledging the Pain

Grief is a natural response to loss, and it's essential to acknowledge the pain rather than suppress it. Allow yourself to feel the emotions, be it sadness, anger, or confusion. Bottling up feelings can prolong the grieving process and lead to emotional complications in the future.

Embrace Support

During times of grief, it's crucial to lean on friends, family, or support groups. Surround yourself with compassionate individuals who can offer a listening ear or a comforting presence. Talking about your feelings and memories can be therapeutic, allowing you to cherish the moments shared with the person you lost. Accepting the Process

Grieving $\widecheck{\mathsf{is}}$ not linear; it's a roller coaster of emotions. Accept that healing takes time and that it's okay to have good days and bad days. Don't be too hard on yourself if you find that some days are more difficult than others.

Self-Care is Vital

Grief can be physically and emotionally draining, so it's crucial to take care of yourself during this time. Engage in activities that bring you joy, such as exercise, art, or spending time in nature. Rest and nourish

your body with a balanced diet, as grief can often impact our overall well-being Seek Professional Help if Needed

If grief becomes overwhelming and starts affecting your daily life for an extended period, don't hesitate to seek help from a mental health professional. They can provide guidance and support to navigate through your grief in a healthy manner. Honouring the Memories

Celebrate the life of your loved one by creating a memorial or participating in activities that were meaningful to them. It could be planting a tree, organising a charity event, or simply looking through old photographs.

Finding Meaning

In the midst of grief, people often find solace in finding meaning or purpose in the loss. This could involve embracing a cause close to the heart of the departed or making positive changes in one's life inspired by their memory. Be Patient with Others

Remember that people grieve differently. Some might want to talk openly about the loss, while others may prefer privacy. Be patient and understanding with others as they cope in their own ways.

Grieving is a unique journey for each person, and there's no right or wrong way to navigate it. It's a process of learning to live with the pain of loss and finding ways to integrate that loss into your life. Ultimately, the goal of grieving is not to forget but to honour the memory of those we have lost and to find a way to move forward while carrying them in our hearts. As you grieve, may you find the strength and resilience within yourself to heal and find hope once



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A meaningful farewell provides not only value, but it is an essential part of healthy grieving. The importance of preplanning your final farewell allows your loved ones to

gather together and support one another and celebrate your life without the responsibility of making difficult choices in very emotional circumstances.



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Gardening

Preparing for Spring

Spring is only a month away, the days are starting to lengthen and there's a bit more warmth in the sun and hopefully a bit less rain. It's the time to think about preparing and planning for spring planting, including sprouting your seed potatoes.

August is also a good time for a winter tidy up, clip hedges, edges and last minute pruning. Start a garden and plant your groceries. Prepare the vegetable garden for spring planting by digging in compost, blood and bone and sheep pellets. This helps to condition the soil and attract earthworms. Dig in cover crops (mustard seed and lupins) if you planted earlier, they will rot down in a matter of weeks adding more nutrients to the soil. Seed potatoes are available for planting during late winter. They like slightly acidic soil with good moisture levels. Plant about 15cm deep and apply a 5cm layer of mulch. Once sprouts start to show, add 15cm mulch to protect from sunlight.

Continue harvesting existing crops of carrots, parsnips, celery, leeks, lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, spinach and start planting out more cut-and-come-again varieties of lettuce. Plant tomato seeds in trays and place on a warm windowsill in a garden shed or under cover so the seedlings are ready to plant out once the last frosts have passed.

Divide old rhubarb clumps which have wintered over then plant out pieces containing new green shoots. In the flower garden, start planting gerberas, marigolds,

hellebores, azaleas and daphne while conditions are right. If it is warm enough, gladioli corms can be planted out. Keep beds well weeded and mulch where possible.

It is not too late to plant a new rose but don't leave it any longer than August. They like sun, good air flow and when planting, a seaweed tonic. This promotes good root growth. As existing plants awaken from their winter hibernation, it's time to feed them to prepare for the flurry of new growth. Give shrub roses a good prune to around knee height and remove dead stems and mulch. Spray with a copper oxychloride to prevent infestation.

Attend to fruit trees with a copper spray now. This will help prevent fungal and bacterial diseases on your pip fruit trees, stone fruit and berry plants later in the season. Repeat weekly until the little green tips of the leaves appear, especially if you had a problem last season. Always remember to clean up leaf drop around plants to avoid spreading diseases. Mulch around the base of your fruit trees after cleaning up leaf drop. Prune your feijoas to encourage a healthy fruit crop for next season.

Spreading a lawn fertiliser over the lawn in late winter will provide a rich source of nutrients which will nurture and improve the soil structure and the integrity of the lawn. Aerate compost heaps to encourage rapid breakdown. Add your prunings to keep the worms well fed.

Enjoy your garden.

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7 Non planting Day	Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	10 Non planting Day	11 Non planting Day	Plant root crops. Liquid Feed	Plant root crops.
Plant root crops. Liquid Feed	15 Non planting Day	16 New Moon	17 Non planting Day	18 Non planting Day	19 Non planting Day	20 Plant above ground crops
21 Plant above ground crops	Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	24 Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	25 Non planting Day	26 Non planting Day	27 Plant above ground crops
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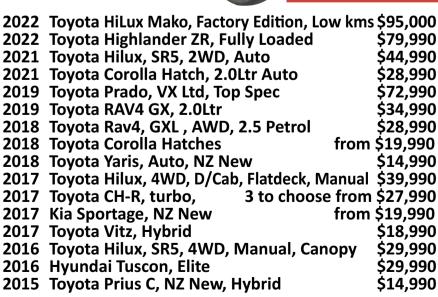
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Death Notice

MCCARRON: Michael Richard.

Died peacefully at Ohinemuri Home on 22 July, 2023, aged 81 years. Dearly loved husband of Jan. loved father of Vicki and Greig, Poppa to 7 grandchildren and GG Pop to 2 greatgrandchildren. A service will be held at Waihi Catholic Church, Thursday 27th at 1pm

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SPORTS



Lorraine Putt competes in the Kerepehi Bowling Club Gordon O'Brien Memorial Opt 4s on July 2, which was postponed from June 25. Winners: 1st 4 wins 14 points 17 ends (Thames) Bob Graham, Ken Last-Harris, Wayne Martin, Graham Osborne; 2nd 3wins 13 points 16 ends (Tui Park) Ken Paul, Alison Honeyfield, Louise, John; 3rd 3wins 13 points 17 ends (Kerepehi) Arthur Thorburn, Lois Curd, Maise, Fatu Tausi; 4th 3 wins 10 points 17 ends Kerepehi) Leon Taipari, Steve Death, Garry Parker, Don Cooper. Club Prize: Danny Te Iri, Michael Crosland, Lorraine, Wally. Sunday, July 9, Ngatea Richardsons Real Estate Opt 4s. Winners: 1st 4 wins 30 points 22 ends (Kerepehi) Shaun Harrison and family; 2nd 3.5 wins 24 points 20 ends (Waihi Beach) Earle White team; 3rd 3.5 wins 14 points 19 ends (Waihi Beach) Garry Hewitt team; 4th 3 wins 17 points 21 ends (Kerepehi) Graham Pyke, Glenda Brackenridge, Margaret Henderson, George Morehu. Spot prizes:- Pat Ridings and team; Richard Crosland, Barry Felton, Wally, Sally Felton. Coming up: Sunday August 6, O'Hagan Vision Care Opt 4s, August 20, Harvs Butcher Shop-Paeroa Build Link. Contacts – Lorraine 021 255 4527, Graham 027 291 3500, Miti 021 101 8150, Margaret 07 862 6015. Good bowling. Cheers, - Terry King.

TERS

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

RAM RAID CONCERNS

I am writing to you with great concerns about the ram raid that happened last night 5-7-23 at the Thames Shopping Mall (Five vehicles used to smash stores in mall, Valley Profile, July 12). This now has happened to many businesses in Thames township specially in the last three years and has had a great impact on our businesses with stress, feeling unsafe and costs. I strongly feel and hope that this should be of great concern to the Thames Coromandel District Council. As a ratepayer for 40 years, these ram raids have made myself feel very unsafe and not happy to walk in the evenings with my small dog.

I recommend that the TCDC have a very serious discussion about this issue and come to a conclusion to find the funds for a paid employee for security patrol for Thames businesses and surrounding areas. If the TCDC has the funds to have a paid employee to look after dogs and parking, isn't it just as important to have all our businesses and the town of Thames look after, especially at night. Yes, there is volunteer security going around Thames Businesses, but only to 1am. The TCDC and Thames ward has a responsibility to the community of Thames to have an employed security person to check our businesses and surrounding areas through the night. Also, in this current state of the roads on the Coromandel Peninsula the businesses of Thames are suffering and then on top of this not knowing if their business is going to be ram raided. It's the TCDC and Thames Ward's responsibility to show that you care and employ a security patrol person for Thames because Thames is the service town for all the other towns on the peninsula. I look forward to hearing that the TCDC will take up the responsibility to care.

TCDC RESPONSE

Ram raids are a nationwide issue in New Zealand and are not restricted to Thames. Dog control and parking are delegated to local government authority under national legislation. Crime and policing are under the authority of our central government. Our Council's Thames Ward Area Manager spoke to Yolanda and suggested that she come along to a public forum at the

beginning of a Thames Community Board meeting and share her ideas for improving security in Thames. It was also suggested she contact the Thames Community Patrol, which operates after hours, and work with them on a proposal that identifies what is needed for Thames and the likely costs. Such a proposal, once ready, could be submitted through our Council's Long Term Plan process early next year for considera-

-TCDC

KOPU-HIKUAI SLIP

"Catastrophic" is the only word that can describe the devastation done by cyclone Gabrielle on the weekend of February 11. Nowhere was this more evident than the massive slip that made SH25A totally impassable and has had consequences that have affected the whole of the Coromandel Peninsula, both socially and economically. Waka Kotahi would have been acutely aware of the disaster that had been created and a variety of solutions were being explored immediately. This was not a situation where a Bailey Bridge could have been flung across the gaping chasm as a quick fix. Engineers soon discovered that there were multiple issues to be resolved and it is very satisfying that they have arrived at a firm strategy as quickly as they have and although many will be distressed that the "repair" job will take some months that merely reflects the magnitude and complexity of the task. While it is to be expected in this election year it is disappointing to read the comments made by local MP, Hon. Scott Simpson, attempting to make political capital out of this incredibly difficult situation. He is quoted as saying that there have been months of inaction, excuses and dithering by the current government and NZTA. I would suggest that this is political claptrap, or, if not, Mr Simpson could elaborate on his claims. It could well be, of course, that he has some expertise in roadwork engineering. It would then have been more helpful perhaps if he had offered some advice to Waka Kotahi. That could have led to the task being completed in even quicker time.

David Parish, Waihi Coromandel MP Scott Simpson did not wish to respond.

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12 noon Monday

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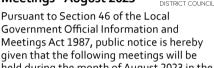
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HAURAKI

Public Notices

Hauraki District Council Meetings - August 2023



Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during the month of August 2023 in the Council Chamber, Hauraki House, William Street, Paeroa unless otherwise stated.

Council

Wednesday, 2 August 2023, 9.00am

Regulatory Hearings Committee Monday, 7 August 2023, 9.00am (if required)

Planning Committee

Monday, 14 August 2023, 9.00am (if required)

Adaptive Planning and Emergency **Management Committee** Monday, 14 August 2023, 1.00pm

Audit and Risk Committee Tuesday, 15 August 2023, 9.00am

Community Partnerships Committee Wednesday, 16 August 2023, 9.00am

Regulatory Hearings Committee Monday, 21 August 2023, 9.00am (if required)

Finance Committee

Monday, 28 August 2023, 10.00am

Council

Wednesday, 30 August 2023, 9.00am

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Chief Executive

Hauraki District Council



www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

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Committee Secretary and a Committee Treasurer.

These are volunteer positions to support the work of the Area Committee and are appointed for a three-year term. A lesser term would be considered.

The committee's role is the local delivery of Hato Hone St John's vision for enhanced health and wellbeing for all, by working within the committee and wider Hato Hone St John structures, to meet the priorities within the Hato Hone St John Community Health Strategy for Thames & the Hauraki Plains. The expected time commitment is 60 to 90 hours a year although the Treasurer may need to commit to slightly more. Some paid admin staff support is available to assist.

The appointees will need to attend the regular Area Committee meetings and work collaboratively with the other members of the committee and wider organisational relationships.

We are seeking new volunteers for these positions that would either suit experienced people or those with some skill wishing to kickstart the development of their skill base and experience for their personal future ambitions.

Please email your expressions of interest to hauraki.community@stjohn. org.nz in the first instance, or post to: post to: Area Committee vacancies, Hato Hone St John, PO Box 701, Thames 3540





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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Grey-faced (5) 4 Insincere show of
- grief (9,5) **11** Apparel (5) **14** Bee product (5)
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- 16 Abuse (8) 19 Cowboy film, book
- Way in (5)
- 21 Fastest team sport
- (3,6) **24** Orbiting device (9)
- **26** Baby's toy (6) 27
- Courageous (6) Hackneyed (5) 31
- Paired (8)
- Moon starer (anag)
- (10) **37** Towards the stern
- 39 Gun barrel diameter
- (7) **40** Jolly (6)
- 41 Alleviation (6)
- **42** Male deer (4)
- 43 Artist's board (7) 46 Independently (10)
- 51 Declare one's
- approval of (7) Telephone (4)
- 56 Picnic basket (6) 57 Man's headdress
- **58** Progress (7)
- **60** Age (3)
- **62** Beau (10)
- **63** Cross (8)

- 64 Conductor's stick
- Mark of disgrace (6)
- 68 Bifurcated (6)
- 69
- Enrage (9) Disown (9)
- Cautionary light (5)
- 76 Grand house (7)
- Witness (8)
- 82 Shiny metal coating
- **83** Trainee (5) **84** Perfume (5)
- 85 Notice of dismissal
- **86** Denim trousers (5) DOWN
- 2 Digging tool (6)
- Vote in (5)
- Tangible (4)
- 6 Large seed of tropical
- _arge palm (7) **7** Sc Set off (6)
- 8 Heavy metal (4) 9 Cut short (8)
- **10** Quest (6)
- **11** Place to sign (6,4)
- 12 Potato dents (4) 13 Make content (7)
- Fleeting (5) 18 Easy task (6,4)
- 22
- Transparent (5)
 Oriental sword (8) 23
- Greed (7)
- 26 Insignia of royalty
- Sun hat (6) 29 Main ingredient of
- glass (6)

- **30** Turn to ice (6)
- Throttle (5)
 - Scoundrel (5)
 - 36 Nasty child (4)38 Accurate (4)

 - Skin holes (5)
 - 44 Women's
 - underwear (8)
 - **45** Tooth coating (6)
 - 46 Faster than sound
 - 47 Unpolluted (4)
 - 48 Turned like a wheel
 - 49 Legendary jungle man (6)
 - 50 Permission (5)
 - Require (4)
 - Experienced sailor (3,4) **54** Follow secretly (6)

 - 59 Eradicated (7,3)
 - 61 Children (5) 65 Nervous; inclined to
 - shy (8) 66 Opponent (5)

 - 67 Grave (7)
 70 Provoked (7)
 71 Relic repository (6)
 - Unborn offspring (6)
 - Up-to-date (6)
 - **77** Frighten (5) **78** Chimney (4)
 - Balanced (4)
 - **80** Mix up (4)

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Samples, 4 Misconduct, 9 Offence, 13 Eddy, 14 Settle, 15 Expert, 16 Orchard, 19 Lookout, 20 Blessing in disguise, 21 Script, 22 Pledge, 24 Stag party, 29 Bluebell, 30 Gratis, 31 Costume, 35 Rhetoric, 36 Addict, 37 Gnaw, 38 Gavel, 39 Sap, 41 Yield, 43 Salmon, 47 Realm, 50 Tag, 54 Steam, 55 Rash, 56 Armour, 57 Question, 60 Panther, 61 Dishes, 62 Runner-up, 65 Embezzled, 67 Cellar, 68 Crease, 72 Charge an arm and a leg, 75 Tedious, 77 Include, 78 Burial, 79 Burrow, 80 Ball, 81 Irksome, 82 Second-hand, 83 Gallery.

DOWN: 1 Swell, 2 Mediocre, 3 Sleuth, 4 Mothballed, 5 Scene, 6 Oversee, 7 Daphne, 8 Corgi, 10 Foreshadow, 11 Exhaust, 12 Caress, 17 Compulsory, 18 Adage, 21 Suburbs, 23 Deludes, 25 Twinge, 26 Revise, 27 Tattoo, 28 Amoeba, 30 Grill, 32 Tram, 33 Kelp, 34 Fade, 40 Astray, 42 Lead, 44 Apathy, 45 Mumps, 46 Neutral, 48 Acumen, 49 Masquerade, 50 Trim, 51 Genuine, 52 Pact, 53 Choice, 58 Referendum, 59 Endangered, 63 Ozone, 64 Sabotage, 66 Marbles, 67 Cuddled, 69 Shiner, 70 Casino, 71 Strong, 73 Route, 74 Libya, 76 Silly.



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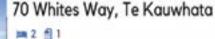
FEATURED PROPERTIES



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