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ENABLING BETTER BUSINESS

Chocolates, cash, condolences



There's been an outpouring of support for Goldfields' longest-standing store after thieves took up to \$25,000 worth of jewellery in the mall's second ram raid in as many months. **KELLEY TANTAU reports**

The doors of the Boots 'N' All shop in Goldfields Mall are boarded up after the store was broken into last week.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

The longest-standing tenant in Thames' shopping centre whose store was broken into last week has been given "free hugs", a box of chocolates, and cash donations from customers saddened to hear about the mall's second ram raid in as many months.

James Jesse O'Grady has been a loyal tenant of Goldfields Mall

for 28 years - and while the early-hour ram raid on September 5 had him questioning his efforts, he told *The Profile* the outpouring of support from the community proved why Thames was the best town to do business in.

"The day it happened was the worst day we've had for a very long time. But the day after it hap-

pened filled up the big hole in my heart."

O'Grady's store, Boots 'N' All, was the only business in the mall targeted after offenders used hammers to smash through the front entrance of Goldfields, doing what their stolen car couldn't thanks to recently installed bollards.

Between \$15,000 and \$25,000 worth of jewellery and watches were taken. A few days after the incident, O'Grady said the community had been "amazing".

"I had an older guy come in with an envelope. I opened it and there was \$50 in it. He told me he and his wife were pensioners, but they'd been coming to the shop

for 20 years and liked what we did for the community," O'Grady said.

"I told him: 'No, I can't take that, but I'll shake your hand', and he started to cry. He took off out of the shop and left me the money."

The interaction was one of at least 30 that took place

CONTINUED ON P2

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Our focus is 100% local community news.

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Round three of regional event fund allocated

The Hauraki Coromandel Regional Event Fund (REF) investment panel has approved a total of \$125,000 for six successful events this round for 2023-2024.

Festivals and events had the power to attract new visitors, with the boost to the local economy being one of the most visible contributions to communities, the REF said in a statement.

The social benefits were many and fostering broad community and iwi participation was one of the requirements for successful applicants.

The REF was established by a total allocation of \$400,000 under the government's Tourism Recovery Package in 2020, and this is the third of four annual rounds of funding available to event organisers.

"Our aim is to build a suite of annual regional events that will attract out of town visitors with all the flow-on economic benefits, but also to boost our community spirit," Destination Hauraki Coromandel marketing manager Megan Nunn said.

"We know events are good for that, and it's been a tough year for many in our small towns.

"Some of the events funded

"Our aim is to build a suite of annual regional events that will attract out of town visitors with all the flow-on economic benefits, but also to boost our community spirit."

- Megan Nunn

in earlier rounds were disrupted by the pandemic travel restrictions, but we are delighted to see some new events with excellent potential come to the fore this year."

The investment panel approved funding allocations to the organisers of six events: Chaos On The Coromandel, Thames, \$15,000; Black Rock Mountainbike Event, Whangamatā, \$10,000; Coromandel artbeat Festival (two years), Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel, \$40,000; Whangamatā Half Marathon, Thames, \$20,000; Hauraki Rail Trail E-Bike Festival, Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel - \$30,000.



Thieves used hammers to smash through the front entrance of Goldfields.

Chocolates, cash, condolences for burgled store owner

CONTINUED FROM P1

in the days after the burglary, and O'Grady said they made him feel "a lot better" about the situation.

"I had contemplated throwing everything in, wondering why I had spent two years building up a really good watch and jewellery range for it all to be taken away?"

"But I enjoy Goldfields and I enjoy my customers," he said. "I've watched everybody grow up in this town and I really like Thames and I'm loyal to the people. I could close up and go back to Auckland, but I don't want to do that, and it's not always about the money you make, it's about enjoying your job and enjoying the people who come to your shop."

O'Grady thanked the community, the Police, and mall manager John Freer, who O'Grady said had been "very upset" over the second

of the shopping centre's ram raids. "He's been over to see us a few times and has been trying really hard... he's an amazing guy and we're very lucky to have him."

Police said it was investigating the ram raid which was reported around 3am on September 5, after a car was found abandoned in the Mary Street shopping centre entrance.

Police confirmed that the car had earlier been stolen.

Enquiries were under way to identify and locate the offenders.

DETAILS: Anyone with information which could assist our enquiries is asked to contact Police via 105, quoting file number 230905/2875. Information can also be provided anonymously via Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.



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Thames Tides

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Sep 13	Sep 14	Sep 15	Sep 16	Sep 17	Sep 18	Sep 19
 Morning 6:01am 2.9 12:03pm 0.9 Afternoon 6:19pm 3.1 Best At 10:53am 11:14pm	 Morning 6:21am 6:07pm Afternoon 6:47am 3.0 6:59pm 3.2 Best At 11:35am 11:55pm	 Morning 6:19am 6:08pm Afternoon 7:29am 3.1 7:36pm 3.2 Best At 12:15pm	 Morning 6:18am 6:09pm Afternoon 8:06am 3.2 8:13pm 3.3 Best At 12:35am 12:55pm	 Morning 6:16am 6:10pm Afternoon 8:41am 3.3 8:48pm 3.3 Best At 1:15am 1:35pm	 Morning 6:15am 6:11pm Afternoon 9:16am 3.3 9:24pm 3.3 Best At 1:55am 2:16pm	 Morning 6:13am 6:11pm Afternoon 9:51am 3.3 10:02pm 3.3 Best At 2:38am 3:00pm
 Rise 5:41am Set 4:13pm	 Rise 6:06am Set 5:12pm	 Rise 6:29am Set 6:10pm	 Rise 6:51am Set 7:10pm	 Rise 7:13am Set 8:09pm	 Rise 7:36am Set 9:09pm	 Rise 8:01am Set 10:12pm

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MOON AND FISH KEYS

New Moon
 First Quarter
 Full Moon
 Last Quarter

Good Fishing
 Fair Fishing
 Not So Good

TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES

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

PLACE	Hr	HIGH Mm	LOW Mm
Coromandel	-0	05	-0 04
Whitianga	-0	01	-0 05
Tairua	+0	10	+0 21
Whangamata	-0	03	-0 05
Waihi Beach	-0	12	-0 12

'A moment's madness' led to crash

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

It was "a moment's madness" that led to a crash that left a Paeroa woman with lifelong injuries.

The driver of the car that hit her, a 24-year-old man, had drugs and alcohol in his system.

Janine Parrish told the Thames District Court at Dylan Boerdyk's sentencing that the December 20, 2022, crash along Paeroa Kōpū Rd had left her with "devastating injuries" that would forever change her life. She was in the car with her 15-year-old daughter, who had to release her broken and battered mother from her seatbelt.

"The hardest part is knowing the trauma my daughter faced during the crash," Janine told Judge Glen Marshall.

"I can see the effects on her now, and I have no idea how it will affect her in the future."

The pre-Christmas collision occurred near Puriri, when Mr Boerdyk approached a bend in the road and crossed the centre-line.

He was arrested for aggravated careless driving; the possession of methamphetamine; the possession of utensils for cannabis; driving with an excess blood alcohol content; and driving under the influence of a drug [cannabis].



Janine and Barry Parrish outside Thames District Court after the sentencing of a driver who caused Janine "lifelong" injuries.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

At his sentencing on September 4, Mr Boerdyk listened as Janine - walking on crutches - read aloud her victim impact statement.

She described lacking confidence and feeling "demoralised" during the recovery stage, and said she now had to worry about

which disabled toilets would be suitable for her to use, as the crash left her with an infected foot that may have to be amputated.

"I know there will be many struggles ahead of us. Everyone's role in the family has changed and everyone has become my

caregiver," she said.

"I don't want to think about how life will be if my foot doesn't heal."

Janine said the thought of Mr Boerdyk being able to live his life as normal was "almost too much to bear"; however after participating in restorative justice, she

hoped the man had realised what "he has done" to her family.

Mr Boerdyk's counsel Amanda Bean said he had.

"This man accepts he's done wrong and is trying to make permanent life changes," she told Judge Marshall. "This has been a huge wake-up call for him. He accepts his sentence today, sir."

Mr Boerdyk was given an allowance for his guilty pleas, but in addition to his six months of home detention, he would have to attend and complete a drug and alcohol programme and be disqualified from holding or obtaining a driver's licence for 20 months.

He also has to pay reparation of \$8366 dollars, and \$5000 to the victim for emotional harm.

"Effectively, in the blink of an eye, you changed someone's life - in fact, a number of people's lives due to the ripple effect - permanently," Judge Marshall said. He added that while Mr Boerdyk had a previous drink driving offence, he had otherwise been a "worker and contributor to the community".

"It is unfortunate for a young man to be before the courts like you... It was a moment's madness that has led to some very tragic consequences."



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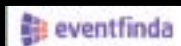
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John Bertrand Collectables Are Buying in Hauraki & Coromandel Regions Next Week

Once again, the gold and collectables buyers from Wellington company John Bertrand Limited are visiting the Hauraki and Coromandel Regions next week. Mr Tony Grant from the company says, "If you are downsizing or wanting to dispose of things because they no longer serve any purpose to you or your family bring them in". "Next week will be a great opportunity to have any items you want to sell assessed by our buyers" said Mr Grant. Particularly wanted are Gold and Silver (in any of its forms) and Collectables such as Coins, Banknotes, War Medals, Old Wind-up Watches and other interesting Small Collectables.

"We are keen buyers, especially of the items in the list below" said Mr Grant. "Nothing is too small for our consideration. We are just as happy buying 1 item as we are buying 1,000 items" he said. The buyers will be in convenient locations in the Hauraki and Coromandel Regions next week (see details below). As Tony Grant points out "If you are in doubt about any items you may wish to sell, bring them along for an instant appraisal."



Mr Anthony (Tony) W. Grant

Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand Incorporated
 Director and Buyer
 John Bertrand (Collectables) Ltd
 Author of the John Bertrand NZ Coin & Banknote Catalogue

Gold & Silver At Near Record Prices

During these uncertain times we have seen a sharp increase in the price of precious metals. The gold price in New Zealand is at near record levels so gather up all your unwanted items and take them along to the buyers. Tony Grant says "We can buy old gold items in all forms, including Jewellery (Rings, Chains, Brooches etc), Coins (Sovereigns and the like), Alluvial (River Gold), virtually anything, even Gold Teeth! We also need all Sterling Silver including Cups, Tea Services, Cutlery and Old Coins" he said.



Interesting Small Collectables Wanted

The buyers from John Bertrand (Collectables) Ltd, visiting the Hauraki and Coromandel Regions next week, are happy to look at any interesting items, for example vintage pocket and wristwatches such as Rolex, Men's Omega, Breitling and gold watches etc. Also wanted, pre 1950's picture postcards, Maori and Pacific artefacts, old fountain pens and other small antique or historical items. "If you have something unusual which you would like to sell, please bring it into one of our venues, we would like the chance to at least have a look at it" said Tony Grant, buyer for the Company. "We will consider anything which may be of interest to a collector" he said.

Some Big Dollars in Early Banknotes

Early New Zealand Banknotes dated before 1932 are currently fetching big money! This is according to Mr Tony Grant, author of the *John Bertrand New Zealand Coin & Banknote Catalogue*. Mr Grant is in the Hauraki and Coromandel Regions next week on a buying trip for John Bertrand (Collectables) Ltd and would be very keen to see any of these issues. "We will pay at least \$300 for any undamaged Ten

Shilling or One Pound banknote from a New Zealand trading bank dated 1932 or before.

Denominations of five pounds and higher would be worth from \$700. "Any banknote dated prior to 1900 would be worth at least \$1000" said Mr Grant.

Also purchased are any Reserve Bank of New Zealand pre-decimal issues, especially 50 Pound notes. All overseas banknotes are also wanted, especially early Pacific Island issues.

Collectors Need War Medals

Currently, throughout NZ and the world there is a big demand by collectors for war medals. These cover all wars right through from the New Zealand Land Wars and the Boer War, to the First and Second World Wars and the later Korea and Vietnam conflicts. New Zealand Servicemen and Women first served overseas in the Boer War in South Africa around 1900 and the war medals awarded for this service are needed by the buyers, as are any other Medals from early New Zealand and the New Zealand Wars.

General service medals from both the First and Second World Wars will also be purchased, but as can be imagined these were awarded in fairly large numbers. "If a group of medals has any special award for bravery such as the Military Medal, Military or Flying Cross or other medals for Distinguished Conduct or Meritorious Service, these can add great value to a group" stated Mr Tony Grant, buyer for John Bertrand (Collectables) Ltd. "Many families have old medals, some dating back to early Imperial days, that they are not sure what to do with. These are better off in the hands of collectors who will look after them. We will be happy to look at any war medals whatsoever, just bring them in to venues" he said.

Old Coins Can Toss Up a Rarity

Do you have a bunch of old coins sitting around in your drawers and cupboards? You just never know what rarities may be lurking there. The advice from Tony Grant from John Bertrand (Collectables) Limited is to "bring them in and let us have a look". "No need to sort anything out just bring them in 'as is' and please don't clean them! We can go through coin accumulations and collections fairly quickly" he said. The buyers are particularly keen to buy pre 1946 New Zealand Silver Coins for at least 10 times their face value (more for quantity). "In any event we will buy All Coins," said Mr Grant.

JOHN BERTRAND (COLLECTABLES) ARE BUYING NOW!!

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- Gold Coins
- Gold Racing & Trophy Cups



COINS

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- Gold Sovereigns
- Gold Half Sovereigns
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- Also wanted NZ & World Coins after 1946
- Australian Silver Coins to 1963
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- USA Coins up to 1964
- Old Collections & Accumulations of World Coins
- Modern Collector's Coins & Sets
- NZ Reserve Bank Sets



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- Reserve Bank of NZ Pre-Decimal Notes
- Any £20, £50 or £100 Notes
- Hong Kong & Malayan Banknotes
- Australian Pre Decimal Notes
- Australian "Star" Notes
- Early Fijian and Samoan Banknotes
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- NZ Government Debentures
- NZ Banknotes overprinted for use in Fiji, Cook Islands etc
- Postal Notes
- All other World Banknotes



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- Moon Phase Watches
- Chiming or Alarm Watches (Pocket or Wrist)
- Military Watches
- Divers Watches
- All other pre 1950s wind up watches (parts value only)

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- Shooting Medals
- Military Badges and all other Military Medals
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\$900k of equipment ordered for playground

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

Things are “ticking along nicely” for Thames’ Destination Playground, with \$900k of park and recreation equipment on its way from Europe.

Aboard the ship is the centrepiece of the project - a replica of the *Wakatere* paddle steamer - as well as other playground pieces for “all ages and stages”.

Thames Business Association chief executive Sue Lewis O’Halloran said although the Porritt Park project had been delayed due to “major weather events as well as supply chain issues”, optimism remained for the revamped playground to be open come Christmas.

“[Most of the equipment] is heading out in another week or two onboard a ship, and we anticipate it will be here and the ground will be ready for it at the end of October, early November,” she said. “Our goal has always been to open it this year before Christmas, and we hope to continue with that.”

In October, 2016, the original *Wakatere* boat at Porritt Park was dismantled to make way for a skate park.

It was built by the Thames Lions Club more than 40 years earlier, and was a replica of the *Wakatere* paddle steamer, which linked the Thames goldfields and Auckland from 1896 until 1926.

The new playground, an



The new playground, an innovative Destination Playground like those often seen in bigger centres, will feature a new boat and lighthouse design.

innovative Destination Playground like those often seen in bigger centres, will feature a new boat and lighthouse design, with all ages and all abilities able to use it.

The park will also feature an all-accessible carousel and seesaw, as well as water and sensory play.

It has been designed by Auckland-based Philippa and Renee Muir, who earlier told *The*

Profile they had been inspired to construct a space which reflected Thames’ history and the needs of its community.

However, fundraising efforts were still ongoing, Sue said, and there were concerns that the “Rolls-Royce of bathrooms” - the Changing Places facility - would not proceed at the same time as the playground.

Changing Places is a bathroom that meets the needs of

people who cannot use standard accessible toilets.

The Thames facility will be the fifth of its kind in the country. “We’re the first small town in New Zealand to get both a Destination Playground and a Changing Places facility, and [the park] will provide hours of fun for whanau,” Sue said.

“We’ve already organised disabled parking in the Danby Field parking lot and we have

more coming in Goldfields. “Things are ticking along nicely.”

Sue said she hoped the Thames community would recognise the value of the space and its benefit to many, and anyone interested in donating to the project can contact porrittparkproject@gmail.com.





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Your local sleep experts

Education

Bringing science classes into the workplace

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

In Waihi College's science department, lessons are receiving a makeover.

The junior science programme is aiming to connect the subject with real-world careers, by partnering with organisations and employers to bring the learning out of the classroom and into the workforce.

"One of my goals has been trying to raise the profile of science in the community," head of department Nicole Clare said.

"In a nutshell, connecting science in the classroom to science and science careers in the local community."

Nicole Clare is an alumni of the Royal Society Te Āparangi science teaching leadership programme. In 2021 she spent time working alongside scientists at Paeroa's AgriSea seaweed company, seeing how science was being applied in a work environment.

Back at school, she has led the department in turning the curriculum towards a more 'real world' approach, by connecting with organisations across a number of industries to give the students some hands-on experience. This has been facilitated by the Smart Waikato charitable trust, whose secondary school employer partnership programme has helped Nicole foster relationships between the local employers and the school.

Some of the student-employer les-



Clockwise from left: Students collect water samples as part of their water and ecology unit, to determine the quality of the school stream.

Environmental sciences students get stuck into horticulture lessons, learning about composting, seed sowing, transplanting, food insecurity and food waste, and other garden activities.

A visit from the science roadshow was an opportunity for some hands-on learning across a number of scientific concepts, including physics.

As part of a unit on light and sound, students dissected an animal eyeball and discussed eyeball anatomy.

Photos: SUPPLIED

sons have included activities such as planting riparian areas with Waihi Native Plants nursery to explore horticulture, visiting Oceana Gold to learn about geology and environmental science, and using guides from the Waikato Regional Council to establish the quality of the school stream.

The college is always interested in speaking with other local employers who utilise science skills in their work-

place, Nicole said, and she was keen to find more opportunities for her students to discover how their learning could be relevant to later careers.

"If there are any employers in science-based careers that would like to be part of the employer partner program, they can get in touch with me," she said.



WAIHI COLLEGE

www.waihicol.school.nz

Lots going on at Waihi College for the end of Term Three!

We have just completed AIMS – wow what a week! The kids had an amazing time and we congratulate everyone who participated, including all the parent support – our kids wouldn't have these opportunities without you. We had teams for Netball, Rugby 7's, Basketball and Gymnastics as well as individual participants for Mountain Biking and Tennis.

We've also had results with Senior Boys Bowls, u13 NZ Badminton Champs, Waikato Equestrian, Waikato Graded Junior Singles Tennis, Thames Valley Touch Rugby, Tauranga City Basketball League, NZ Secondary Schools Surfing Champs, AON u15 National Basketball Champs, u16 Thames Valley Rugby Reps, Junior Girls Basketball, College A Basketball, Rugby League Nationals and Schoolastics Surf.

Now we are looking forward to the Spring Concert, the Head Shave (Shave for a Cure), Spirit Days and a ton of sport all before the Term comes to an end.

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

Formal event funds fuel future learning

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

The annual Thames Coast Pohutukawa Ball was a resounding success, with this year's event raising more than \$10,000 for the Thames Coast Community Kindergarten and Te Puru School.

Over the seven years the event has run, it has raised almost \$80,000 for the kindy and the school.

Event organiser and former kindy committee member Taryn Baines said she was thrilled with the community's support of the event, saying they sold out of this year's 160 tickets in about two minutes.

"I was pretty impressed that we still managed to do ... \$10,000," Taryn said.

"At the moment people are struggling with the cost of living and everything."

The event, which was held on August 5, was themed 'A night in Morocco'. Attendees were encouraged to wear something from their wardrobe or snag an op shop outfit for the fancy 'do.

"We encouraged reusing or repurposing outfits," Taryn said.

"I have a habit of buying lots of ball dresses at the op shops [so] people just borrowed those off me. I've got one dress that three of us have worn over the years."

The ball idea originated seven years ago with Taryn and the committee at the kindy,



Thames Coast Community Kindergarten teacher Emma Corner, left, with Taryn Baines, who is stepping down after seven years in charge of the Pohutukawa Ball.

Photo: SUPPLIED

who were lamenting the lack of fun, formal events in the area.

"We wanted to make it accessible to everyone because a lot

of the time things can be quite costly to go for a big night out," she said.

"[We had] reasonable ticket

prices, and instead of doing a full dinner we [had] nibbles ... just trying to keep it a little bit more accessible, and then that

way they've got a little bit more money to spend on auctions and raffles."

Previous years' funds have paid for extensions to the kindy building, including a new kitchen, adult bathroom and roof.

"I wanted to help in a way that meant there would be a bit more longevity for the building itself."

When her son moved on to school, Taryn continued organising the event, with the funds now split between the kindy and the school.

"This year the school's using it for technology stuff, and kindy needs to do the roof over the patio outside," she said.

This was Taryn's final year organising the ball, as she's decided it's time to take a step back from the role to focus on other things.

But she is hopeful that the kindy will continue to receive the same generosity of spirit from the community in years to come.

"Kindy relies so much on community involvement, and I want it to be there as an option for my grandkids," she said.

"What kindy gives a family group in terms of that sense of community and belonging ... is just the best thing."

"I just want to make sure that that cool little gem gets to stay around for as long as possible."



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Rural Life

Dairy boosts regions

A new report by Sense Partners highlights the dairy sector's contribution to the New Zealand economy, and its role as 'shock absorber' for regional communities in times of volatility.

The report, commissioned by DairyNZ and the Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ), also shows the importance of ongoing investment in trade liberalisation and resilient infrastructure.

DCANZ executive director Kimberly Crewther said the report showed the long-term picture for the dairy sector was solid and it would continue to contribute significantly to the New Zealand economy.

"Dairy generated nearly \$26 billion in export revenue for the year to April 2023, which accounts for around one in every four export dollars earned by New Zealand," Ms Crewther said. "The value of dairy exports grew by 45 per cent over the past five years, which helped support the national economy through the pandemic."

DairyNZ head of economics Mark Storey said the spread of farms across the country allowed dairy to support regional economies, maintaining some local spending even when milk prices dropped.

"Dairy's export earnings translate into well-paying jobs in the sector and enable the purchase of goods and services from other sectors," Mr Storey said.

"There will inevitably be an impact from the recent fall in milk price, with farmers limiting non-essential expenditure and limiting their purchases short-term where possible. However, this analysis shows that the sector itself absorbs some of the impacts in dairy farmers' profits.

"Despite lower milk prices, dairy farmers will continue to hire staff and purchase essential supplies to run their farms."

In the year to March, 2023, dairy pro-

cessors spent around \$19.6b of goods and services from both farms (purchasing milk) and other industries. Dairy farmers in turn spent \$7.9b on goods and services in the same period.

"Around 55,000 people are employed in dairy, both on and off farms, generating around \$3.6 billion annually in wages," Mr Storey said. "At a community level, dairy is a significant employer."

"Dairy also employs more than 20 per cent of workers in both South Taranaki and Westland districts, and pays over 40 per cent of both districts' total wages."

Dairy accounts for more than one in 10 jobs in a further eight districts, while paying more than comparable sectors, which amplifies the value of dairy employment to communities.

Dairy processing and farming remain New Zealand's most internationally connected industries. Individual dairy products including whole milk powder, skim milk powder, butter and dairy spreads, protein products and cheese are all multi-billion-dollar exports.

"The analysis highlights that New Zealand dairy exporters continue to change their market offerings in response to demand, with the proportion of whole milk powder reducing from 36.9 per cent in 2019 to 31.6 per cent in the year to April 2023, while dairy protein products having increased to 13.2 per cent of the product mix, up from 8.6 per cent in 2019."

The industry continued to face significant trade barriers and costs, she said. Reducing them will support exporters to continue growing the export value of New Zealand dairy products. The report also found that dairy's ability to provide a resilient contribution to New Zealand economy would be enhanced by infrastructure resilience.

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Rural Life

Nurture nutrients to reduce losses to environment



By **BALA TIKKISSETTY**

Good nutrient management will keep nutrients cycling within the farm system and reduce losses to the environment to the bare minimum.

We're now almost at the end of winter, with early spring not that far away. Both are times when nutrients are most at risk of leaving farms due to high rainfall, low pasture growth, lots of stock urine being deposited, soil compaction and pugging. That risks farm production and damaging the health of waterways and groundwater.

Some nutrients are more prone to loss than others, depending on the nature of the nutrient, soil type and climatic conditions. Helping to handle those risks smartly, thereby boosting production while protecting fresh water, is what good nutrient management is all about.

Leaching through soil is one of the biggest nutrient loss risks. Nutrients like nitrogen, potassium, calcium, magnesium and sulphur can leach with drained water.

It occurs when soluble nutrients are leached through the

root zone into deeper layers of the soil and they become inaccessible to plant roots. The leaching risk depends on various factors such as soil type, total rainfall, extreme weather events and the actual quantity of soluble nutrients present in the soil.

Don't oversupply the soil with such types of soluble nutrients, especially not during winter, as there is a very high risk of these getting washed out through the soil and lost from farm systems.

A good understanding of the processes and terminology involved with nutrient cycles is important for budgeting and management.

For nitrogen, one of the key nutrients that both grows grass and can harm waterways, there are two important processes – immobilisation and its opposite, mineralisation.

Immobilization is the conversion of plant available nitrogen into organic forms, while mineralisation is the conversion of soil organic nitrogen into plant available forms such as nitrate and ammonium.

These processes are controlled by microbes, and the degree of their activity, in the soil. This activity is influenced by soil temperature – lower the temperature, lower the activity and greater the loss of nutrients.

Another point about nitrogen



End of winter and early spring are times when nutrients are most at risk of leaving farms due to high rainfall and low pasture growth. File Photo: PIXABAY

is that, generally, there will be an increase in nitrate leaching with increasing rate of nitrogenous fertiliser.

Phosphorus loss, on the other hand, mainly occurs from erosion and runoff. Research has revealed that phosphorus losses will be high in soils with high Olsen-P levels and also on steep to rolling country. Managing these optimum levels and controlling soil erosion are keys to helping prevent this.

Intensive winter grazing by sheep, cattle and deer can have impacts on the environment, including loss of soil and associated sedimentation of waterways, nutrient loss and damage

to soil structure due to pugging. Some of the mitigations to avoid these impacts are use of catch crops, vegetative buffers between winter grazing and waterways, reduction of grazing duration per day, strategic grazing, and the use of mixed species in forage paddocks.

Overall, the ongoing challenge is to ensure our farming systems efficiently cycle nutrients. Smart nutrient management practices for all land uses and activities has the potential to bring about substantial improvements in the quality of our water resources and profits.

On all farms 20 hectares and larger with any grazed land,

no more than 190 kilograms per hectare per year (kg/ha/yr) of synthetic nitrogen may be spread, including on pasture and any grazed crops.

Farmers need to plan the annual use of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser to stay within the cap. Regional council permission is required to exceed the cap.

Waikato Regional Council is working with stakeholders to help farmers adopt good practices and supports the use of industry-developed codes of practices, particularly Fertmark and Spreadmark.

- Bala TikkiSETTY is principal sustainable agricultural advisor at Waikato Regional Council

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Work of the 'Boomerang Bag Ladies' in Paeroa

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

On a Wednesday morning in Paeroa, pairs of hands were busy making reusable "boomerang bags".

The group's efforts on the sewing machine see around 40 of them created each month.

'Boomerang Bags' was an initiative that started in Australia in 2013, with the aim of diverting waste from landfill.

The Paeroa "Boomerang Bag Ladies" started getting together in 2018 and member Annette Buchanan said it was "fantastic"

to create something that could be recycled and reused.

The bags are made by material such as curtain fabric, with a lot of the patterns donated to the group by the community.

"People have piles of fabric in their wardrobes, and if it's special material, we make a bag and give one back to them," she said. "Material can mean a lot to some people."

DETAILS: To get in touch or involved with the group, contact Annette, Ph: 021 773 894.



The Paeroa "Boomerang Bag Ladies" catch up at their monthly crafting session. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

Kōrero mai Let's talk

Tell us what you think about our proposed **Public Arts Policy**

Following on from our Arts Forum kōrero with community creatives earlier in the year, our proposed Public Arts Policy is now ready for feedback.

Feedback is open until 4pm Friday 29 September 2023.

Find out more at <https://letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/public-art> or pick up a hard copy of the proposal from one of our council service centres.

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Valley Profile journalist Kelley Tantau, left, with Waihi Paper Plus owners and former newspaper publishers, Stephan and Petra Bosman.

New novel 'momentous' for reporter

The owners of Waihi Paper Plus know all about putting pen to paper.

For close to 10 years they produced *The Mercury Bay Informer*, a newspaper dedicated to providing the eastern Coromandel with stories and articles, so upon their shift to Waihi from Whitianga eight months ago, their support for local writers has continued.

After hosting a book signing for *The Lighthouse* author Christopher Parker earlier this year, Stephan and Petra Bosman are now helping to promote the launch of *Valley Profile* journalist Kelley Tantau's debut novel.

Titled *The Runaway Man*, Kelley's debut is being published worldwide by a UK agency, but the Hauraki community will be the first to get their hands on it.

Releasing on September 26, Waihi Paper Plus will host a book signing with Kelley at the store on September 30, and

Stephan said their support was straightforward; it was about being connected to the community "lock, stock, and barrel".

"We really would like Kelley to be as successful as she can be, because we know the wherewithal it must take to write a book in between being a journalist," Stephan said.

"We know what it is like to produce content for a newspaper every week - it is more than just a full-time job - so this is a momentous achievement and if she can carve out a path as a successful Kiwi author, then we will support her in any way we can."

DETAILS: *The Runaway Man* book signing, Saturday, September 30, between 10am-12pm at Waihi Paper Plus, Seddon St. Registrations are preferred, with books now available to pre-order. Visit the store or phone 07 863 8894 to secure your copy.

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Let's Chat (Elder Abuse)



Elder abuse is a single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person. (Age Concern)

Watch this space for weekly updates



Sally Christie

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Age Concern: Ph 0800 652 105

Sudden death after anaesthetic gas

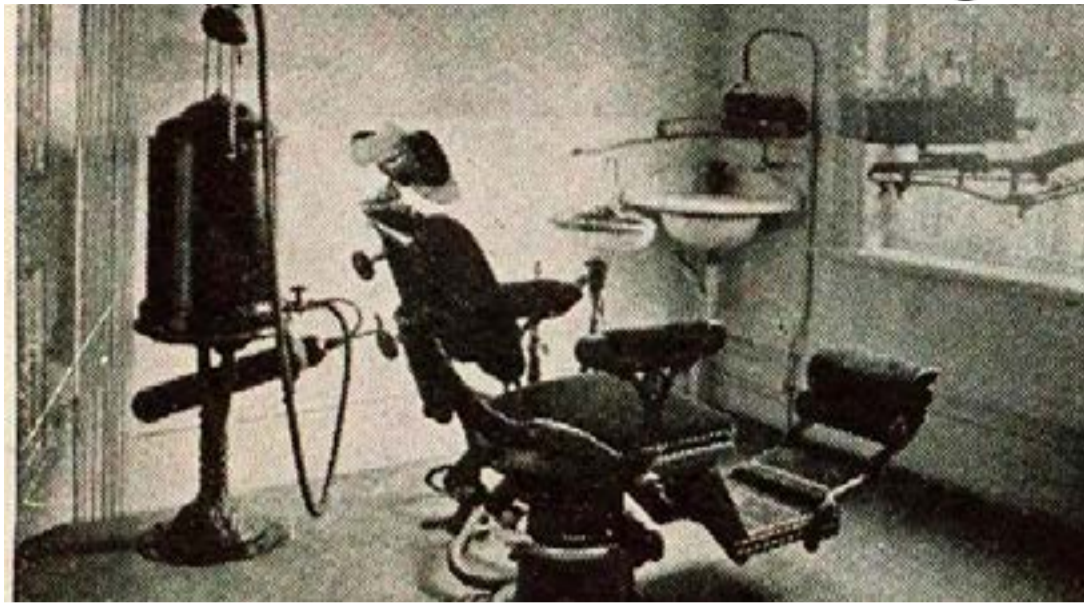


As part of a Valley Profile series, **MEGHAN HAWKES** explores our local history by seeking out stories of life and death in the Thames Valley

Four-year-old William Dickson was climbing a stable door at his family's Waikino property on a May afternoon in 1910 when he fell. He landed on some steps leading to the door and then fell further, about four feet, before striking his head on a timber beam which was lying on the ground. He sustained a nasty gash above his right temple. William got up and went to his mother, who decided to take him into Waihi to have the wound seen to. On the journey William appeared little the worse for the fall.

Dr Craig advised William's mother that the wound needed stitches and a little anaesthetic gas beforehand was recommended. William was then taken to the dental rooms of Mr Moses, where an anaesthetic was administered.

William took just a few sniffs then suddenly collapsed. Frantic attempts were made to revive him but after an hour and a half it was clear all means of respiration had failed. An inquest was ordered; doctors considering the case an extraordinary one.



Dentist's operating chair with gas cylinder, 1908.

Photo: SUPPLIED

Dr Robertson attributed death to syncope, caused by stomach fluid lodging on the larynx while William was unconscious. It was unlikely William's head injury contributed to his death. Both Dr Robertson and Dr Craig considered gas to be the safest anaesthetic to administer. A verdict was returned in accordance with the medical evidence, no blame being attachable to anyone. A rider was added that in the Coroner's opinion the proper treatment had been used in regard to the accident, that the gas was administered in the routine manner, and that both Dr Craig and Mr Moses did everything in their power to restore life.

William's father, Thomas, said he was perfectly satisfied with the

treatment, but Phillip Moses, the dentist, who began practising in the Thames Valley area the year before had had trouble with anaesthetic gas before.

In 1907 he was taken to court in Dunedin for alleged neglect and unskilful extraction of teeth, allowing a tooth, or part of a tooth, or other foreign substance, to go down the plaintiff's throat, and unskilfully administering anaesthetic. Moses was attempting to extract thirty teeth at one sitting under gas applied by a Paterson's nasal inhaler - an apparatus that should be used only by persons who understood it thoroughly.

Chillingly it was noted that he was liable, in the hands of an unskilled person, to immerse a patient so deep in the anaesthetic so as to

make the recovery of consciousness very difficult. One thousand pounds in damages were awarded to the plaintiff and Mr Moses vanished for a year before re-appearing as a Thames Valley dentist in 1909. In an era of difficulty in making background checks and misdeeds of the respectable being swept under the carpet, Mr Moses was able to continue as a dentist.

After the death of William, he returned to his native Australia, where in 1921 he was again successfully sued for unskilful treatment. It was a tragically unnecessary end for a small boy busy with playing and climbing.

William was buried with his little sister Lorna, who had died at six weeks old in 1903, at Paeroa's Pukerimu cemetery.

Exhibition kicks off

Paeroa Society of Arts secretary Robyn Wilson has opened an exhibition of her works at the society's Normanby Rd gallery for the month of September.

Robyn's mixed media art includes a mix of pottery, painting, scarfs, ceramics, cushions and jewelry, all handmade and in great colors.

Robyn moved to Paeroa three years ago and shortly after joined the art society.

"We have lots of very talented artists and a fantastic friendly community in Paeroa," she said.

The Paeroa art society is run by volunteer members whose artwork is displayed in the Crosby Gallery and the Judy Parker Gallery. "We have a painting group and a pottery group that meet on Tuesday morning in our art rooms. Very friendly and great for the community," Robyn said.

Each month, the society holds different art exhibitions in the Crosby Gallery. The gallery is open when the Flags are out, from 11am to 3pm, entry is free.



Robyn Wilson with her art.

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SPORTS

Finals clash for Valley hockey

HOCKEY

The Thames Valley Hockey seniors' finals saw a clash of incumbent title holders aiming to retain their trophies.

In the final games before the artificial turf gets a major upgrade, the men's competition challengers, Hauraki North Stickmen, took the lead over Ngatea Swampies early in the first half and kept the Swampies' defensive line working hard.

A couple of good individual breaks from the Swampies couldn't quite connect with the back of the net. Stickmen were able to dominate, swinging the ball wide, connecting well with the midfield to lead at half time. In the last quarter, Swampies rallied and held the ball well but time had run out. Final score: Stickmen 4, Swampies 1.

A solid win for Stickmen and a good send off for Stephen Loft and Brent Aitchison, who hang up their sticks after decades of playing Valley Hockey. Umpires were Jeremy Cryer and Thomas Hayward.

In the women's final, Waitakaruru looked to keep the Nicholson Shield against the newly-formed Thames team.

Thames gained their spot in the finals by winning a shootout over rivals Morrinsville in the semi-final match up. Thames soaked up the pressure for the first 20 minutes and both teams were unable to find the back of the net.

The first goal by Waitakaruru



Waitakaruru, above, won the Nicholson Shield, and Hauraki North Stickmen, below, won the Stan Wilson Cup. Photos: SUPPLIED



boosted confidence and the game swung with Waitakaruru controlling much of the final stages of play. Final score Waitakaruru 4, Thames 1, umpires were Julena Phillips and Rachael Aitchison.

Close finish sees Foxes take another win

HEARTLAND RUGBY

A last-minute try gave Thames Valley a nail biting 34-31 victory in their Heartland Championship match played at Ashburton last Saturday. Both teams scored five tries and converted three of them – the difference being a penalty goal kicked by Valley's Fletcher Morgan.

At the 78 minute mark, the Mid Canterbury Hammers scored a converted try to snatch the lead from the Swamp Foxes by making the score 31 – 29. Following the kick off, Thames Valley were awarded a penalty and Morgan executed a long-range punt to give his team a lineout throw five metres from Mid Canterbury's line.

Tayne Tupaea took the ball at the front of the lineout and dived over beneath a cluster of defenders. After consultation with his assistant referee, the referee awarded a try much to the delight of the Swamp Foxes and their supporters. Morgan's attempted conversion was wide but time was up and Thames Valley had grasped a 34-31 victory from the jaws of defeat.

Co-captain Sam McCahon, who had scored the first try of the match, was thereby suitably rewarded in his 50th match for Thames Valley. His team remains undefeated and holds on to their second place on the points table.

Mid Canterbury held a comfortable 17-7 lead at halftime -Thames

Valley's points having come from McCahon's try which Morgan converted. Soon after the break, Leroy Neels scored a try. Morgan added the extra two points and then kicked a penalty goal to even the score. Mid Canterbury responded with a converted try of their own to go ahead 24-17.

Harry Lafituanai inspired the Foxes with a devastating 50m run, which resulted in Mosese Mafi scoring between the posts.

Morgan's conversion levelled the score at 24 all. A fine effort by Guto Davies saw him score in the corner to put Valley in front 29-24.

The Hammers fired their last bullet with a converted try but there was still time for Tupaea to score his match-winning try to make the final score: Thames Valley 34, Mid Canterbury 31.

Top of the table South Canterbury had their fifth bonus point victory in a row by defeating West Coast 39-26. Thames Valley's bonus point from the Mid Canterbury game has ensured that they remain two points behind the leaders. These two undefeated teams meet in the match of the round at Whangamata next Saturday.

Top Four Points: South Canterbury 25, Thames Valley 23, East Coast 20, Whanganui 17.

In a closely contested, entertaining game at Waitakaruru, the Thames Valley Vixens lost 22-26 to Whanganui.

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Authorised by Scott Simpson MP, 614 Pollen St, Thames.

Last load for Splintas

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

Janella Munns will miss the smell of macrocarpa and freshly cut pine at Christmas.

She'll miss proving to people that a female can back a trailer down a driveway.

And though she'll miss the customers who know her as the woman who brings warmth over winter, the physical work of the job has meant it's time for Janella to close up shop.

After eight years, Splinta's Firewood is coming to an end.

"It's been really physical," she told *The Profile* during her final delivery. "Along the way we've made things easier, but I guess it comes back to the Kenny Rogers song... you've got to know when to call it."

The business all began after she made a passing comment to her husband about feeling the cold, which in turn saw him buy her a wood splitter.

Over time, they ended up supplying kindling and boxed wood to stores throughout the Hauraki-Coromandel, as well as wood chips and smoking blocks.

She amassed around 600 tonnes of logs per year, which was "about 55 to 60 truck and trailer units a year," she said.

"We supplied into DOC, so my wood actually flew into the Pinnacles Hut and the Wait-



Janella Munns has done her final delivery for Splinta's Firewood after eight years in business. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

awheta Hut in the Kaimas. I've literally driven through basements and out the other side, I've taken clotheslines down so I can park where [customers] want it. I can honestly say, hand on heart, there is not a driveway I have not been able to get up."

Janella did have Splinta's on the market for roughly six months and, while there were a few interested parties, she said some backed away after seeing the size of the business.

Now the whole Splinta's range and its wood deliveries

have come to an end where it started - at Annette and Alistair Buchanan's house in Paeroa, Janella's first customers.

"It brings tears to my eyes," she said.

"I want to say a massive thank you for all the support, all the honest customers... the ones I've never met, and the ones I've had cups of tea with.

"It's been an honour and a privilege to know that people are going to be warm in winter."



The May 27 concert raked in a profit of \$1220, which was then given to the Paeroa Fire Brigade. Photo SUPPLIED

Concert proceeds donated to Paeroa Fire Brigade

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

A performance of the New Zealand String Quartet in Paeroa has contributed funds to the local fire brigade.

On May 27 at the old Masonic Lodge, a concert was held featuring the New Zealand String Quartet, who were touring as part of the Arts on Tour programme.

Organiser Linley Rose said it was a "wonderful event and a pleasure to bring such a group to our small town", and that, if they were fortunate enough to make a profit, it would be donated to the Paeroa Volunteer

Fire Brigade.

The concert raked in a profit of \$1220, which was then given to the brigade to enable funding of some items of equipment not provided by its national body.

"Living centrally and hearing sirens so frequently has enlightened us to how busy and committed the volunteers to the Paeroa Volunteer Fire Brigade are," Linley said.

She thanked the local businesses, people, and sponsors for supporting the "successful" event.



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Our Coromandel

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council



Road to Recovery

Youth employment boost

Mayor Len Salt is visiting Valley Educational Training & Enterprises Ltd (VETEL) in September to develop the second stage of a youth employment scheme as part of The Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs.

Our Council is partnering with VETEL and Ngāti Maru ki Hauraki to extend a youth employment scheme which supported 16 people into employment in a pilot phase.

Additional funding has been approved to upgrade the programme, and our Council is aiming for over 40



placements in the coming year. The programme enables local businesses and industries to gain from accessing trained and work-ready young people. tcdc.govt.nz/youthjobs

Tourism infrastructure upgrade

A new public toilet at Kōpūboat ramp and a replacement public toilet for Waikawau have been granted

funding in an overall district package of more than \$2.6 million from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's Tourism Infrastructure Fund. It'll reduce the capital cost of tourism-related infrastructure needed in some of our most heavily visited areas.

KERBSIDE COLLECTION CALENDARS

Pick up a printed copy at your nearest Council offices or information centre. Or look online at www.tcdc.govt.nz/bindays



For more info visit www.tcdc.govt.nz/kerbside or phone 07 868 0200

PUT WASTE IN ITS PLACE



KAUAERANGA VALLEY TRAIL FEEDBACK

A needs assessment into community views on the need for a trail in the Kauaeranga Valley has identified a large base of support for a trail, with the majority wanting a trail shared by walkers and cyclists, separate to the road.

The mid-year needs assessment involved an online survey with 542 responses, three drop-in community sessions which 102 people took part in, and interviews and meetings with stakeholders such as Ngāti Maru, recreational clubs, businesses and schools. Safety concerns about the narrow, winding Kauaeranga Valley Road with minimal verges were cited, as well as a desire for recreational cycling and walking and tourism benefits.

The needs assessment report recommended the feasibility of a trail in the lower section, Pārāwai to the Swingbridge swimming hole, be investigated first. The report noted that while there are many demands on Council's limited finances, "prudent planning is required to confirm viability or otherwise for a costly project".

YOUTH PERSPECTIVE HIGHLIGHTED

A group of Thames girls from the Ngāti Maru Runanga year 8 roopu Whakatupu Tetekura visited a Thames Community Board community networking meeting in August to find out about how the Board could support young people at risk of missing out on opportunities. The visit by organisations working with young people – Ngāti Maru, Te Korowai, the Ministry of Social Development and the Police – allowed the young people to meet their representatives and discuss how young people's voices could contribute to decision-making. Thames' community plan focuses on ensuring youth have a sense of belonging. tcdc.govt.nz/communityplans



Thames Community Board UPDATE

A word from our Thames Community Board Chair Adrian Catran JP:



"I enjoyed hosting young people from Ngāti Maru Runanga at our last community networking meeting. It's vital that we have young people involved in community issues. The Board is currently exploring ways youth can contribute their ideas through an organised forum. Our current Board priority is for the Long Term Plan which will set how the future of Thames will look. The LTP will be open for informal public feedback in October and then more formally early in 2024 so people in the Thames ward will be able to comment further." adrian.catran@council.tcdc.govt.nz

The Board's next meeting is on Wednesday 18 October, 10am in the Council Offices. tcdc.govt.nz/meetings

Monster fun at Thames Library

School holiday activities (10.30–11.30am on days listed) have a monster theme.

Tuesday 26 September Games – Roll a monster dice game – make one or draw one.

Wednesday 27 September Crafts – Make a monster mask and headband.

Thursday 28 September Scavenger Hunt – Collect items around the library to create a monster sensory/stress ball

For week two activities and more info visit tcdc.govt.nz/Libraries-Whats-On



Our Council has started on our next Long Term Plan (LTP) journey for 2024-34, creating a 'road map' for the coming 10 years to guide our long-term decision-making.

This vital planning document is reviewed every three years and sets out all the services and projects we're planning, what they're going to cost and how we'll fund them (including likely rates increases for the next 10 years).

We know that this coming LTP will be focused on recovery from the extreme weather earlier this year and building resilience into the infrastructure and facilities our Council provides, as well as enabling that same recovery and resilience in our communities. Our Council and our Community Boards have already begun to discuss the projects and facilities that we see our communities needing.

We'll be seeking more of your informal involvement in the coming months. Also, we'll be asking for formal feedback on our Significance & Engagement Policy review in September/October, and on our main proposals in March-April next year.

tcdc.govt.nz/LTP-2024-2034

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CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

Public Notices

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Waihi Memorial Hall
Thursday 28 September
5.30pm
Secretary David Parish

Situations Vacant

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or phone 027 227 1121

Notice of Annual General Meeting
Thames Youth Centre Incorporated Society
19th of September 2023 at 4pm.
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For further details please phone Hauraki District Council on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834.

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Funding Manager & Community Liaison

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Sun - 24/9 Whangamata

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117

HARD

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9	2	1	5	4	3	7	6	8

EASY

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

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JUMBO CROSSWORD

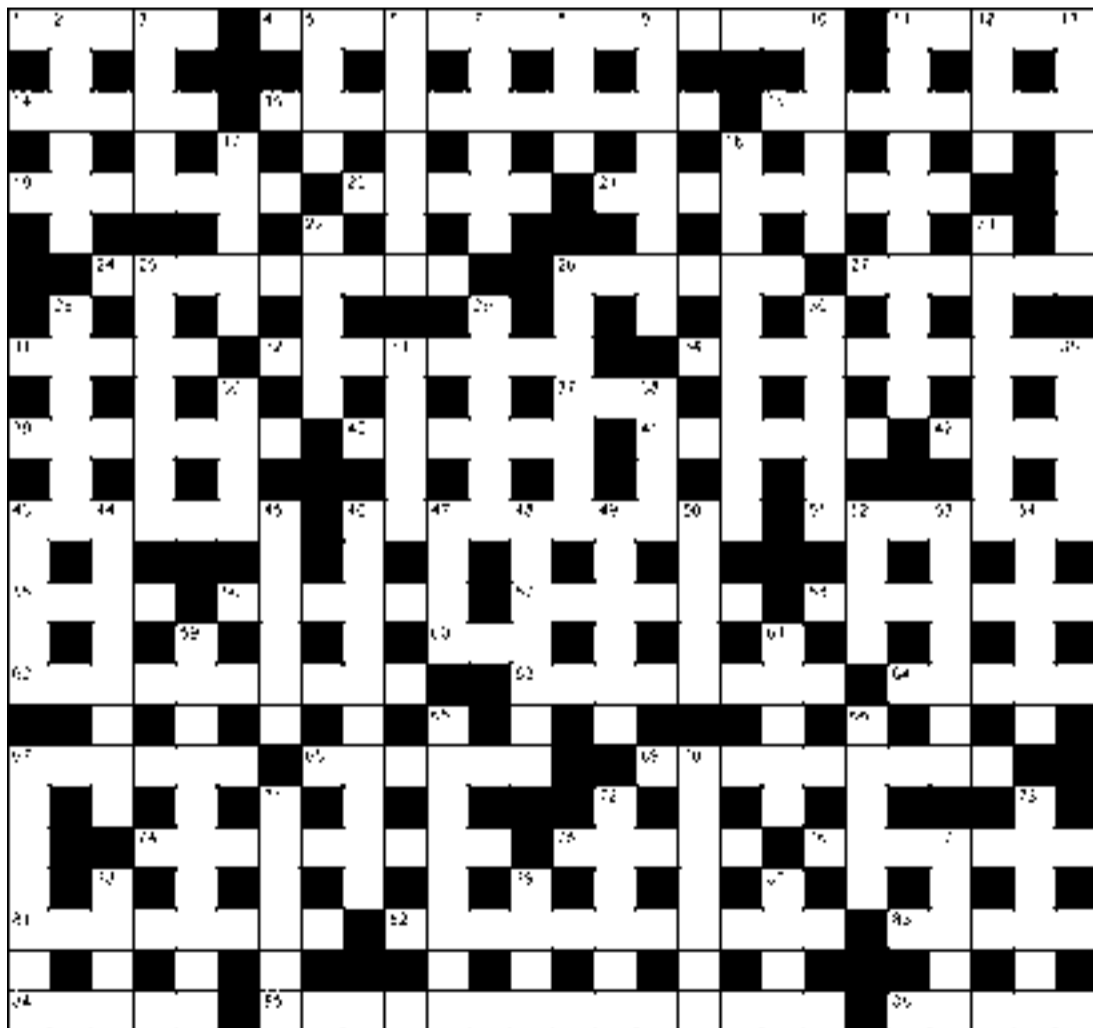
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ACROSS

- 1 Undress (5)
- 4 Depressed (4,2,3,5)
- 11 Cast metal bar (5)
- 14 Absolutely necessary (5)
- 15 Agree to a compromise (4,7)
- 16 Aubergine (8)
- 19 Optimistic (7)
- 20 Arms, legs (5)
- 21 Arena fighter (9)
- 24 Line of descent (9)
- 26 Highwayman (6)
- 27 Lemon acid (6)
- 31 Risqué (5)
- 32 Salve (8)
- 34 Without caution (10)
- 37 Court (3)
- 39 Took a stand against (7)
- 40 Short, light sleep (6)
- 41 Tooth coating (6)
- 42 Phonograph record (4)
- 43 Actor's assistant (7)
- 46 Food poisoning (10)
- 51 Deluge (7)
- 55 Rub with a cloth (4)
- 56 Get (6)
- 57 Clothes maker (6)
- 58 Expressionless (7)
- 60 Long fish (3)
- 62 Captainty (10)
- 63 Eating disorder (8)
- 64 Berate (5)
- 67 Motorist (6)
- 68 Horrified (6)
- 69 Alert (2,3,4)
- 74 Guidelines,

- principles (9)
- 75 Ludicrous situation (5)
- 76 Naval boss (7)
- 81 Detailed evaluation and assessment (8)
- 82 Numbing agent (11)
- 83 Left over (5)
- 84 Claw (5)
- 85 Do what everybody else does (6,3,5)
- 86 Intensive bombing (5)
- DOWN**
- 2 Camera stand (6)
- 3 Fatuous (5)
- 5 Sign of something to come (4)
- 6 Gauze (7)
- 7 Handy (6)
- 8 Handle of knife, axe (4)
- 9 Time limit (8)
- 10 Cue (6)
- 11 Made do in a makeshift way (10)
- 12 Pleased (4)
- 13 Gigantic (7)
- 17 Toned down (5)
- 18 Ethiopian capital (5,5)
- 22 Earthenware beer mug (5)
- 23 Spotless (8)
- 25 Laborious (7)
- 26 In the space separating (7)
- 28 Mollycoddle (6)
- 29 Twist out of shape (6)

- 30 Subtract from (6)
- 33 Pacific country (5)
- 35 Sailboat (5)
- 36 Festival (4)
- 38 Colourful gemstone (4)
- 43 Wooden joining peg (5)
- 44 Stress (8)
- 45 Strong and sturdy (6)
- 46 Melted letter sticker (7,3)
- 47 Row (4)
- 48 Endure beyond (7)
- 49 Newspaper chief (6)
- 50 Baggy (5)
- 52 Exposed (4)
- 53 Revolutionary, markedly new (7)
- 54 All but (6)
- 59 One on foot (10)
- 61 Correct (5)
- 65 Spanish dance (8)
- 66 Home (5)
- 67 Shortfall (7)
- 70 Atomic (7)
- 71 Swamp (6)
- 72 Fortified building (6)
- 73 Attic room (6)
- 77 Drive forward (5)
- 78 Grinding machine (4)
- 79 Air hole (4)
- 80 Opinion (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Guess, 4 Fly off the handle, 14 Plush, 15 Mural, 16 Mysterious, 17 Sever, 19 Dew, 20 Respond, 21 Polar bear, 22 Plunge, 25 Postmarks, 27 Shekel, 28 Censor, 33 Contraband, 35 Err, 36 Pelmet, 37 Less, 39 Use, 41 Prairie, 42 Afraid, 43 Dismantle, 44 Eerie, 45 Cemetery, 50 Al, 51 Backache, 55 Attic, 58 Try in vain, 59 Ransom, 60 Ammonia, 61 Duo, 63 Room, 64 Modify, 65 Nod, 66 Overlooked, 68 Poetry, 69 Museum, 71 Squeamish, 76 Midway, 77 Disappear, 79 Engorge, 81 Too, 84 Stile, 85 Initiation, 86 Alloy, 87 Smash, 88 Anonymous letter, 89 Adder.

DOWN: 2 Unused, 3 Swamp, 5 Lays, 6 Outlook, 7 Formal, 8 H-bomb, 9 Hostage, 10 Nash, 11 Lively, 12 Guide, 13 Chowder, 14 Printer, 18 Initiative, 23 Fatal, 24 Seclude, 26 Outlive, 27 Strudel, 29 Sceptic, 30 Hoarse, 31 Decay, 32 Geisha, 34 Deft, 36 Pearl, 38 Siege, 40 Hack, 45 Cater, 46 Maypole, 47 Tank, 48 Reason, 49 Study, 50 Acronym, 52 Compliment, 53 Amorous, 54 Heifer, 55 Anxious, 56 Snide, 57 Logo, 62 Beret, 67 Prudish, 68 Protest, 70 Elitism, 72 Quartet, 73 Malign, 74 Uphill, 75 Ignore, 76 Moral, 78 Adieu, 80 Ogled, 82 Keen, 83 Core.

Airmen remembered

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

More than 100 people packed the Hauraki Aero Club Hangar at the Sir Keith Park Memorial Airfield in Thames on September 10, to commemorate the Battle of Britain.

One hundred and thirty-five New Zealand airmen were involved in the 1940 conflict, as the nearly four-month battle played out in Britain's skies.

The event was a solemn affair. Officials including Lieutenant Colonel Stewart Dines from the British High Commission in Wellington, Royal New Zealand Air Force Group Captain Mike Cannon, Thames-Coromandel Mayor Len Salt, Coromandel MP Scott Simpson, and Geoff Furkert, president of the Sir Keith Park Memorial Airfield society, were invited to pay their respects to those who fought in the battle.

It was also an opportunity to reflect on the achievements of Sir Keith Park himself, as the airfield society works towards completion of the Look Skywards project, a tribute to the Thames man who was one of New Zealand's greatest aviators.

Stage one of the project, a replica of the Hurricane fighter Sir Keith flew during the battle, was erected at the entrance to the airfield during the Battle of Britain commemorations in September, 2020.

Stage two will be a 2.3 metre bronze statue of the man by sculptor Joanne Sullivan, to be installed under the Hurricane.

The airfield society is currently raising funds to complete the statue, with the aim of installing it at next year's Battle of Britain commemorations.



The Thames Air Cadets stand to attention during the commemoration ceremony. Photos: ALICE PARMINTER



RNZAF Group Captain Mike Cannon addresses the crowd.



The replica of Sir Keith Park's Hurricane fighter sits proudly above the airfield in Thames.



Lieutenant Colonel Stewart Dines.



Airfield society president Geoff Furkert.

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