The Valley

**CoromandelApp** 

ISSUE 138 September 20, 2023

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

More than two years after the Embassy Cinema played its final film in Thames, a new cosy, homely picture theatre looks primed to take its place.

David Mulholland has put time, heart, soul, and roughly \$600,000 into bringing a cinema experience back to Thames, and he's now awaiting building works to commence on what will be called the 'Left Bank Theatre' - named for its position next to Karaka Stream on Pollen St.

"I'd like this to be something for all of the community," he told *The Profile.* "I'd like everybody to get something out of it - except gratuitously violent stuff."

Work on the project at 659 Pollen St started around February of this year, and during that time, David has had to obtain building consent, file a fire engineer's report, and obtain an assortment of paperwork that included emergency lighting, acoustics, and ventilation.

He amassed a myriad of items from disestablished cinemas from across the country, such as a projector from Picton, three speakers from Tokoroa, a surround sound system from Cambridge, seats from Hastings, and another speaker that was once in the Embassy.

There's still a lot of work to be done ahead of the cinema's targeted opening in April, 2024, like getting a liquor licence and food registration, not to mention the electrical and plumbing work and construction.

But once completed, David hopes Left Bank Theatre can be a place for connection.

"I'm hoping this can be a place where people can meet each other, interact a bit, and it feels kind of like a community lounge," he said. "A friendly, warm space that is the right size for the town."

For two decades, David, who now lives up the Thames Coast, was a policy advisor in Wellington for government departments. He was living and commuting from Whanganui, where he was

a member and past president of the local film society.

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CONTINUED ON P2

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David Mulholland has put time, heart, and soul into bringing a cinema experience back to Thames. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

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### New 'cosy' cinema for Thames

#### **CONTINUED FROM P1**

"I left my job in Wellington just over a year ago... and I just loved the film society and miss it dearly, so I thought: I need to bring that here. I love hosting people, and I think a cinema that feels really homely and interesting will be fun," he said. Construction work will be un-

dertaken by local builder Rudolf Turk, and the cinema will feature a foyer area, an accessible bath-room, an outdoor courtyard, and

roughly 30 seats. Its digital cinema projector means the Left Bank Theatre will be able to show the "latest movies" as well as a mix of other films, with David planning on having up to 18 screenings per week – 21 during school holidavs.

He's also keen to form a film club for seeing "more quirky and foreign films".

When I actually see a wall up and when he space gets divided, that will be very exciting," he said. "So if people can just bear with me while we go through the process of setting it all up, I'll then be really keen to talk to people about what they'd like to see screened or what they'd like to happen here.<sup>3</sup>

Journalism,

100 U



### Signs wanted before summer

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

attract visitors to Thames.

FILE PHOTO

The local community board is dedicated to rebranding Thames, but there are concerns over whether they'll "miss the boat" as summer looms. Using the \$50,000 it was grant-ed from the Ministry of Social Development, the Thames Comhe local community board

Development, the Thames Com-munity Board has come up with initiatives that would help to attract visitors to the town. These include new branding,

a website, and signage, and it is hoped these tools will help regain some of the 27.9 per cent decrease in visitor spending.

While supportive of the re-randing, community board branding, community board members Kishan Raikwar, Martin Rodley, and Adrian Catran were steadfast that the signage needed to be erected before summer.

"It's the middle of September now, and we need to have things in place and websites up et cetera, so that people are thinking about where to go for summer," Cr Rod-

ley said. "We don't want to be putting these up in February or March we'd have missed the boat.

Council staff said branding would come first, followed by signage, but Cr Rodley argued that it should be the other way around. "In my brain, I would argue that

in fact some of the initial designs for the signs could actually start happening now... and then the brand could be incorporated into it," he said. "I'm just really concerned that

we're going to be in November all of a sudden and people won't be able to print the signs." Board chair Adrian Catran also

shared "real reservations" about the "way it's all going to pan out". He said the money was solely for Thames, and so elected mem-bers and staff needed to get "value

for our dollar". Council's report to the Septem-ber 13 meeting said a signage audit would be completed to identify potential placements for wayfinding, information signage, and picture frames. Once the size and location of signs had been determined, any consent or approval requirements would be known, while sponsor-ship would be sought for the cost of the signs.

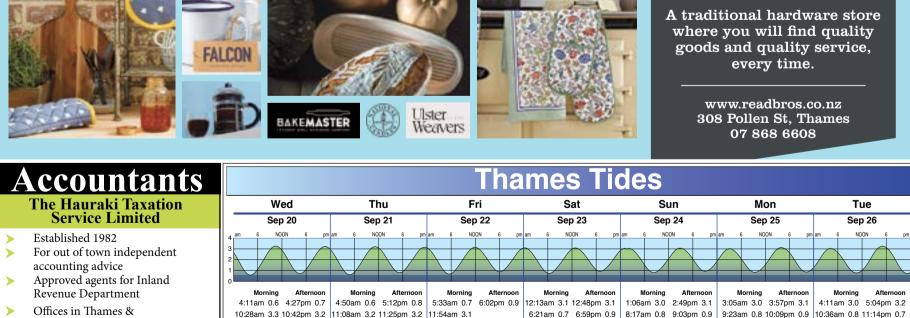
It said that once the branding had been completed, there would be "more control of the image portrayed and it won't be left to the media".



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Sep 20	Sep 21	Sep 22	Sep 23	Sep 24	Sep 25	Sep 26	
am 6 NOON 6 pm	am 6 NOON 6 pm	am 6 NOON 6 pm	am 6 NOON 6 pm	am 6 NOON 6 pm	am 6 NOON 6 pm	am 6 NOON 6 pm	
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4:11am 0.6 4:27pm 0.7	4:50am 0.6 5:12pm 0.8	5:33am 0.7 6:02pm 0.9	12:13am 3.1 12:48pm 3.1	1:06am 3.0 2:49pm 3.1	3:05am 3.0 3:57pm 3.1	4:11am 3.0 5:04pm 3.2	
10:28am 3.3 10:42pm 3.2	11:08am 3.2 11:25pm 3.2	11:54am 3.1	6:21am 0.7 6:59pm 0.9	8:17am 0.8 9:03pm 0.9	9:23am 0.8 10:09pm 0.9	10:36am 0.8 11:14pm 0.7	
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3:48pm	4:40pm	5:37pm	6:37pm	8:38pm	9:39pm	10:37pm	
Rise 8:30am Set 11:17pm	Rise 9:06am	Set 12:22am Rise 9:49am	First Quarter Set 1:30am Rise 10:43am	Set 3:31am Rise 12:47pm	Set 4:25am Rise 1:59pm	Set 5:10am Rise 3:15pm	
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# 'Chaos' first bout for female boxer

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

**R**comes to the sport of boxing, women are "not just the ring girls anymore".

"Watching fights previously, the female fights were always the ones where everyone would go to the bathroom, you know? They were a pit stop for people," she tells *The Profile.* "But there's definitely some

"But there's definitely some good fighters coming through who are female and that's been nice to see over the last few years."

The 39-year-old mum-of-three is fighting in the ring for the first time during Chaos on the Coromandel this weekend, a onenight-only boxing event being held at the Thames Civic Centre, hosted by Never Surrender Boxing club.

It'll be her first professional bout and she says she's looking forward to it.

"I've met the fighter who I've been matched with. She's from Hamilton and I've had a little spar with her... She's nearly a good foot on me but that's something good to train around, and we're both southpaw," she says.

As part of the event, there will be celebrity bouts including one featuring Thames' own Black Fern World Cup winner Vita Dryden. The night will also act as the

The night will also act as the much-anticipated Hauraki homecoming for Francis Waitai, who holds the WBC Australasia Silver Belt.

"I've gone through the emotions of being scared, excited, nervous,



Rose Corbett is fighting in the ring for the first time during Chaos on the Coromandel this weekend.

and backing myself," Rose explains. "Everyone in the club is really supportive - I've had moments of doubt, but I break it down to it being only six minutes of work: three, two minute rounds."

She has been training for four days a week at Never Surrender in Thames, adding to that some personal training sessions at TCA Fitness Club. She also has an added advantage at home - her husband Brock Corbett is a boxer himself. He approached Never Surrender's founder Shaun George to coach him for a charity bout 14 years ago.

"My husband was one of the first fighters Shaun had in his garage back in the day, so I've seen the club evolve from a basement garage right through to where it is now," Rose says. "I'm so proud of the place."

Rose, who by day works at Goldfields Special School in Paeroa, says boxing is a sport any female, of all ages and abilities, can take part in.

Never Surrender, she says, is a supportive and inclusive community to be a part of. "Stapping into the ring, po mat-

nity to be a part of. "Stepping into the ring, no matter what, I'll be proud," she says. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

"My kids are going to come along and watch, so hopefully they'll be proud of me too."

proud of me, too." DETAILS: Chaos on the Coromandel takes place this Saturday, September 23, doors open 5pm, fights start 6pm. Visit eventfinda.co.nz for tickets and info.



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## Haka, waiata resound

During Māori Language Week, the atmosphere was intense inside Paeroa College when the school held its waiata and haka wars. On September 12, the school groups were judged on their rousing performances, and the overall winner was house Tara. *Valley Profile* reporter **KELLEY TANTAU** witnessed the excitement.



A great final haka included Brodie Robinson, Kiri King, and Cooper Robinson.



Crue Anderton, Edward Paynter, Matai Alexander and C-Jay Wickliffe.



Proud ex-pupils Teremoana Herekiuha and Hazel Bidois send-off the crowd.

Photos: KELLEY TANTA



Jo Tuivavalagi performs a pukana at the end of his haka.



Mikayla Fatamaka, Eliza Stepanicic, and Desire Parata-Wilson lead the way.



Tamatea Paetai, Bradley Vong, and Tu Moehurori capture the audiences' attention



### Who does elder abuse affect?

Can happen to men and women of every religious, cultural, ethnic and income group.

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Occur in private homes or within a residential care or health care setting.

Affect people who are frail and vulnerable, who depend on others to meet their needs.

Much abuse goes unreported or is only reported after it has escalated to have caused significant harm to an older person

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# Tons of toys for tots in library's new digs

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

The Paeroa Toy Library may have moved, but its philosophy remains the same - provid-ing quality resources for community kids to grow and learn through play.

In mid-August, the library relocated from its long-term home on Normanby Rd, to the ground floor of the former L&P bottling factory on the corners of Station Rd and Albert St.

Although the move was made primarily because the library's former landlords required the space, committee member Ann Te Whau said it had been a positive change.

"It's actually been quite a successful move and I'm amazed at the amount of traffic going past," she said.

Foot traffic to the library had also increased, Ann said.

Chairperson Winsome Ansty said the new location offered much better parking for visitors - a regular complaint on Normanby Rd when people would struggle to manage both small children and large toys, and were often unable to park directly outside the shop.

Winsome was thrilled the new landlords, John and Mel Budge, had stepped up to offer the space to the library

"They were sympathetic to our needs and have been very helpful," she said.



The shelves are full of toys at Paeroa Toy Library's new home.

"I think they didn't want to see the toy library disappear.

In fact, the new location has been refitted especially for them, with John and his helpers installing new floors, painting, and setting up a storage space.

The new shopfront is much smaller than the previous location, but Ann said they still had plenty of toys to entertain the children of Paeroa.

We have been selling off

some of the pre-loved toys that were just past their use by dates for us," she said, "and we will buy new things to replace them. We try to do that [often].

As well as volunteering at the toy library, Ann is also a regular user, as a grandparent to an 18-month old.

"This is perfect for me, I don't see him very often," she said. "A lot of grandparents use us

for that reason - so they don't

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

have to have toys at home, they can come and hire some and give them back and [when] the grandkids come back six months later ... there's some-thing different."

DETAILS: Paeroa Toy Library, cnr Station Rd and Albert St. Open 10am-12pm Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, and 3.30-5pm on Tues-



### Kayaker missing, serious crash in Thames Valley

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

Police and search teams continue to look for the "much-loved" Waihī man missing in the waters off the Thames Coast.

Samuel McAlister, 25, from Waihī went missing on September 11 when he and a friend went fishing in kayaks off Thames Coast Rd, north of the Waikawau boat ramp.

In a post online, family mem-bers said that "due to the events and circumstances", it was pre-sumed that Samuel had drowned.

'Our hearts are broken but our hope is to find him and bring him home.

Police Search and Rescue staff, Coastguard, LandSAR, and sev-eral volunteer teams have been involved in the search.

Anyone who comes across anything of interest in the area is urged to contact Police. Information can be provided via 105 referencing file number 230912/1041.

Meanwhile, enquiries into the circumstances of the serious crash in the Karangahake Gorge on September 13 remain ongoing. The single-vehicle crash closed

the section of State Highway 2, just north of Rahu Rd in Mackaytown, for more than five hours.

Police said the crash was not fatal but one person suffered serious injuries and remained in hospital.

lat kirand Journalism



# Mining advancements for Tararu, Puriri



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.

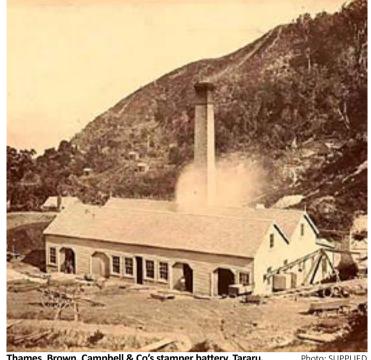
#### 1869

A magnificent mining battery which had been imported by Messrs Brown, Campbell, and Co from a Melbourne foundry was fast approaching completion at Tararu.

The pillars were erected, and the stamper boxes ready to be placed. When finished, it would consist of 40 head of stampers, 20 at each side of the engine. There were five stampers in each battery, and each stamper weighed 7.5 cwt. The machinery was of the most perfect description. The engine, a 40 horse-power horizontal, had also been made at the same foundry.

Puriri was also seeing mining advancements with the Star of Fortune Claim beginning crushing at the Pioneer battery. Soon after starting, amalgam in a large quantity was seen finding its way out of the box in every crevice.

The rumour soon got afloat that the boxes were getting choked and a steady traffic of the curious



Thames, Brown, Campbell & Co's stamper battery, Tararu. was kept up between the claims and the machine. Stories swirled as to its extraordinary richness, caused, no doubt, through having to take off the gratings for repair, and while doing so several large pieces of amalgam being found sticking to them. This was believed to be the first gold obtained at Puriri by crushing machinery. KURANUI WATER RACE

At Thames the fickle weather eventually settled into steady rain which was welcomed by those living on the Flat, where rainwater was quite a luxury in comparison to the water from the wells in Grahamstown and Shortland, which was far from palatable.

There would be relief when the long expected water race from the Kuranui was completed, and residents would be able to depend upon getting a regular supply of pure water. There was relief also in hearing the announcement of the establishment of a line of coaches from Shortland and Grahamstown to Tararu. This. in conjunction with the line between Grahamstown and Shortland every half hour at the reduced fare of sixpence each way, would be a great convenience to the public.

#### PAEROA STORE PROTESTED

An ill-advised speculator was induced to bring up the Waihou River a cutter containing a quantity of building material and a cargo of sugar, grog, etc. Local Māori inquired what it was all for, and were told that he was going to build a store and hotel at the Paeroa township, having received the permission of Commissioner Mackay to do so.

Some document was exhibited which did not bear the signature of Mr Mackay.

Mere Kuru and a large party mustered at Paeroa and asked the current storekeeper there whether he had given permission for another store, to which he replied he certainly had not, the business at present not paying him and besides, he had no right to build stores or public houses until the township was sold. On the boat and cargo arriving, they were told Te Hira would not allow the cargo to be discharged. The speculator replied he would unload and proceeded to do so.

Wāhine, with shouts and much gesticulation, threw everything he landed back again, and at last he desisted. Mere Kuru told him to go back to Shortland and never come back, or he would be in worse trouble. In the meantime the tide had ebbed and the vessel canted and filled with water ruining the goods.

#### New True Tales book to be launched

The Treasury Research Centre and Archive will launch *True Tales of Waihi* on October 7.

This collection of captivating stories, contributed by the people who call Waihī their home, promised to be a treasure trove of local history and personal anecdotes, the Treasury said. "The book is a culmination of efforts to preserve the rich and

efforts to preserve the rich cultural heritage and unique experiences that make Waihi a special place for its residents. "The book is the result of the

hard work and dedication of a volunteer publishing team who have tirelessly collected, curated and edited."

Volunteer editor Geraldine Dunwoodie said the Waihī group of authors had been an enthusiastic and helpful group to work with.

"And for the first time, there are already three stories ready to go into a second book and three more promised. That hasn't happened with any of the previous books," she said.

A grant from the James Searle ay Trust enabled the printing Say Trust enabled the printing of *True Tales of Waihi*, ensuring that these stories, often passed down through generations, were now immortalized in print for all to enjoy. All proceeds from book sales go towards keeping The Treasury's archive running. DETAILS: True Tales of Waihi book

launch, October 7, 2:15pm at Waihi Library, refreshments provided. More info: www.thetreasury.org.nz.



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# Environment grants to be put to good use

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

Seagull Centre Trustees were beta to see a number of youth-focused applications among this year's requests for their annual community grants round.

A total of \$16,000 of grant money was distributed between 19 different environmental-focused projects, with each project receiving between \$500 and \$1000.

Among the project applicants was 12-year-old Mara Gumbley from Hikutaia School. "Around the back of the school

"Around the back of the school there's a small bit of bush and it's quite overgrown," Mara said.

"We were wanting to make it an outdoor classroom by weeding it, taking all the trash that's been dumped there out, and putting information panels and birdhouses and bug hotels - so that it's a spot where hopefully it will attract native species, and just so you can be out there chilling in nature."

ing in nature." Hikutaia school teacher Sam Fenton said she was impressed with Mara's initiative.

"Mara's application was incredible. She'd done a really good job on it, and it was all from her," Sam said.

"And this term our [learning] focus has been on that turangawaewae and kaitiakitanga [connection and protection of the natural environment] ... and that was part of the grant so it's great."

Another grant recipient was the Predator Free Hauraki Co-



Some of this year's Seagull Centre grant recipients for a wide range of environmental projects, many initiated by youth.

romandel Community Trust. Thames High School student Levi Wilson was accepting the grant on behalf of his father Phil. He said he and his brothers would be helping with the Pauanui-based project. "We're going to be planting a lot more tussock grasses around the lakes so the [native brown teal ducks] can be more protected from predators, and they can lay their eggs," Levi said.

they can lay their eggs," Levi said. The brown teal duck or pāteke is one of New Zealand's rarest waterfowl, with fewer than 2,500 remaining in the wild.

Levi said his dad's trapping and

conservation efforts had seen the number of brown teals in Pauanui increase, and they wanted to help them survive.

"At first we had one brown teal ... then a pair of brown teals came along and now they're breeding. It's good because they're very rare ducks," he said.

Seagull Centre Trust chairperson Ian Coatsworth said many of this year's projects were for the benefit of younger people. "We've got a scout group, we've

"We've got a scout group, we've got a lot of schools and early childhood centres involved this year," he said. "It's just neat that the money will be [helping] the kids doing the work, you know, planting and growing and eating. That's always a really nice thing."

RECIPIENTS: Te Puru School for sand dune restoration; Thames Coast Community Kindergarten for gardens and water; Thames High School for community hangi baskets; Thames South School for compost bins and a garden; Thames Early Childhood Centre to grow fruit trees; Central Kids to develop a garden; Pauanui Predator Free to plant native grasses for wildlife; Thames Scout group for a garden and fruit File Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

trees; Deb MacDonald Brown to plant native trees; Laurie Mango for beach cleanup and art pieces; Te Mata Jasmine Death Squad to remove wild flowering jasmine vines; Hikutaia School for an outdoor classroom; Moanataiari School for a pātaka kai and outdoor planting area; the Ngakau committee for carving; Wetlands Restoration to save the bittern and plant in the wetlands; Thames Coast Kiwi Care for signage; and Rosalie Howard for the creation of worm farms.



### NEW ZEALAND FIRST LEADER'S TOUR RT HON WINSTON PETERS

Paeroa

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## Wheely good show

The Rotary vintage and classic car show and swap meet roared into Paeroa on September 16. Dozens of gussied-up chassis lined up in the glorious spring sunshine, as spectators meandered between the neatly parked rows. At the other end of Lee Ave, vendors arrived early to display their wares for the crowds of enthusiastic motorists. ALICE PARMINTER drove into town for a look.



The classic and vintage car show drew quite a crowd.



Val Jamieson from Athenree has owned her classic car for 23 years.



Waihī resident Trevor Righton with his classic red Chevy he has owned for 35 years.



dad's Chevy Impala.



merican Classic Car Club's Maureen Kan, Rhonda Goodall.



Carl Stuck's GMC truck.

### Candidates announced

Candidate and party lists have been released ahead of the general election next month.

This year, voters can enrol and vote at the same time at any voting place from October 2 until voting closes at 7pm on election day, Oc-tober 14. A list of voting locations are available at vote.nz.

Deputy chief executive opera-tions Anusha Guler said the Elec-toral Commission had worked with communities to put voting places in spaces that were easy to access

'This election, people will see voting places in and around the spaces where we all live and work, including malls and retail areas, transport hubs, marae, mosques, universities, schools, and community halls.

'If you enrolled before writ day on 10 September, you'll be sent an EasyVote pack in the mail, which will contain your nearest voting locations, key information about the election and an EasyVote card.

"For those that aren't already enrolled, it's not too late. You can still enrol online, or at any voting place when you vote."

Coromandel general election can-didates: Caleb Ansell, New Zealand First Party; Ray Cobb, New Zealand Loyal; Pamela Grealey, Green Party; Beryl Riley, Labour Party; Scott Simpson, National Party; Sarai Tepou, NZ Outdoors & Freedom Party, Joanna Verburg, ACT New Zealand.

Māori candidates for Hauraki-Waikato: Nanaia Mahuta, Labour Party; Hana-Rawhiti Maipi-Clarke, Te Pāti Māori; and Donna Pokere-Phillips, NZ Outdoors & Freedom Party.





# ew owners refresh citrus brand

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

When Mike and Nikki Green first saw their farm on Omahu Valley Rd, they were in-stantly smitten. The couple spent two hours wandering around the 12 hectare property in the rain, stopping to view the farmhouse for only a couple of minutes.

It was everything they were looking for - a rural, small com-munity, with an established 540tree citrus orchard and a stream, wetlands and regenerated bush as well as grazing land. It also came with an unexpected bonus

- a small business. The property is home to Oma-hu Valley Citrus, formerly owned by Caroline and Simon Marriott.

"Caroline and Simon were re-ally keen to see that whoever bought it would be keen to con-tinue the brand that Caroline had worked so hard to estab-lish," Nikki said.

The Greens were quick to purchase the property, and what fol-lowed was a crash course in pro-ducing the artisan food product.

We spent six months between when we bought the property and when we took it over, learn-ing the business," Mike said. "We'd come out for weekends and we would go through differ-ent aspects of the property." "Caroline had a checklist and

ent aspects of the property." "Caroline had a checklist and she was teaching me and Mike how to make it," Nikki added. "We really valued that." Currently, the couple are di-viding their time between the farm and their home in Tauran-

ga, where Nikki works and their teenage daughter attends school.

They are slowly settling into the farm, making a number of renovations, and preparing to move across fully in just over a year.

While Omahu Valley Citrus is still operating, Nikki and Mike have scaled back the number of products available as they find their feet. They've also been working with another producer, Pepler's of Te Kauwhata, to en-sure they are able to meet demand for the marmalades, chutneys and vinaigrette they are currently stocking.



Mike and Nikki Green are continuing on with the Omahu Valley Citrus range, [inset] as they settle into the new home and business.

"We take a lot of pride that it's still handmade, it's still small batches, it's still Caroline's reci-pe," Nikki said. "I haven't written the other products off, they're just not wailable at the moment."

available at the moment." There will be other changes

as well - Nikki is experimenting with tweaking the marmalade recipe to make production more cost-effective, and the couple are working on updating their digital platform for easier purchasing. Feedback was most welcome, Nikki said, and the business was always available by email and phone.

Meanwhile, there are also changes afoot on the rest of the farm. The Greens both have science and environmental backgrounds, and part of the appeal of the homestead was the freedom they'd have to put their ho-listic and sustainable ideals into practice.

'We've got a fairly environmental management background and [are] looking at the practicalities of how that's implemented in the real world," Mike said. "This farm for us is a bit of a

canvas, a bit of an experiment -how do we take a lot of the theory and put it into practice? That flows into the marmalade busi-ness and how we can continue that tradition.

"The intention is to produce the lemons and the limes as spray free as possible and to minimise the use of things like glyphosate and things like that. We've got a bit of a regenerative philosophy around the land."

They were also interested in introducing livestock in a regenera-tive way, Mike said, using sheep and ducks rather than mowing, and not overburdening the land with cattle.

"That whole holistic thing was part of why we wanted to live ru-rally," Nikki said.

In fact, the couple have already acquired a trio of ducks, having adopted Caroline and Simon's

ducks Daisy, Dolly and Dilly. The couple said they were excited to see where the next year would take them, and they planned to take their time with

"We're kind of enjoying it and learning as we go," Nikki said.

FOR CARTIN

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER "We weren't looking for a busi-ess," Mike added, "but if you

ness," take a bit more of a holistic approach, well that's part of this." And the couple were keeping in

touch with Caroline and Simon, saying they were keeping them up to date with the business' proess despite now being settled in Blenheim.

We really appreciate the work that Simon and Caroline have done. Our intention is to continue with that ... we're really excited about being part of the community and gradually getting to meet people," Mike said.

"We're expecting to be here for quite some time."



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# **Rural Life** Greenhouse gas emissions drop 3%

The Waikato region has decreased its gross greenhouse gas emissions by 3 per cent since the baseline Waikato Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory of 2015-16.

The results of the 2021-22 inventory were presented to the Waikato Regional Council Climate Action Committee recently.

The committee heard that the 3 per cent decrease in gross emissions (12.0 MtCO2e, down from 12.4 MtCO2e in 2015-16) was largely due to reductions in agricultural emissions, specifically a reduction in dairy stock numbers.

The inventory, which is held every three years, includes a breakdown of the region according to districts related to territorial authorities, with gross emissions for 2021-22 ranging from 407,086 tCO2e for Thames-Coromandel district to 2.318 Mt-CO2e for the Waikato district. Agriculture still dominates the sectors, making up 67 per cent of the gross emissions.

Transport was the next highest sector, making up 16 per cent of emissions in 2021-22, followed by stationary energy at 13 per cent. Net emissions for the Waikato were 52

Net emissions for the Waikato were 52 per cent higher (10.3 MtCO2e, up from 6.8 MtCO2e in 2015-16) than the baseline year due to a recent significant increase in harvest volumes.

Given the role of forests in sequestration to offset emissions, and the increase in harvest volumes highlighted in this inventory, it has been recommended that a regional study of Waikato forestry be conducted.

A recommendation was also made to

include gross greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from organic soils in the next inventory. A supplementary report of emissions from organic soils, which relates to the subsidence and decomposition of drained peatlands, was undertaken alongside the 2021-22 inventory.

It showed that the GHG emissions from organic soils amounted to about 11 per cent of the total gross emissions regionwide, or 1.5 Mt CO2e. Committee chair Cr Jennifer Nickel

committee chair Cr Jennifer Nickel said while it was pleasing to see a reduction in gross emissions, "it is still nowhere near the pace or scale of change science tells us is required". She said the 52 per cent increase net

She said the 52 per cent increase net emissions demonstrated the vulnerability of relying on tree planting to reduce emissions. "Reducing total emissions across all sectors at their source is key to making a meaningful difference."

a meaningful difference." Council has also updated its Climate Action Roadmap to reflect legislative changes, national climate plans, updated climate science projections, the new regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory and the council's new strategic direction for the 2022-2025 triennium.

The purpose of the Roadmap is to integrate climate change responses across all council activities and guide discussions with iwi partners and stakeholders. Staff use the Roadmap to guide work programme planning and delivery, while stakeholders can use the information to consider how they might wish to collaborate to mitigate impacts on the climate and increase resilience.







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# First loss of the season

#### HEARTLAND RUGBY

SPORTS

A disastrous third quarter cost Thames Valley a win over South Canterbury in their Heartland Championship match played at Whangamatā last Saturday.

Several lapses in defence resulted in South Canterbury running up 22 points in the first 17 minutes of the second half. The Swamp Foxes rallied but could not bridge the gap and South Canterbury ran out the winners by 36-31.

the winners by 36-31. By scoring five tries, both sides gained a bonus point and Thames Valley added another one by finishing within seven points of the victors.

South Canterbury now lead the competition with 30 points, followed by: Thames Valley 25, Whanganui 22, and East Coast 20.

Apart from the poor patch after half time, the Swamp Foxes proved they were a good match for the competition leaders.

Loose forward Tayne Tupaea and lock, Tim Erceg worked tirelessly throughout the game, while Leroy Neels directed play extremely well from the half back position. Fletcher Morgan scored 16

Fletcher Morgan scored 16 points in this game to take his total from the six games played so far this year to 82.

South Canterbury opened the scoring with a converted try. Calum Wood replied with a try for the Foxes, which Mor-



Tayne Tupaea, left, and Tim Erceg work tirelessly for Thames Valley against South Canterbury. Photo: TVRI

gan converted. A clever lineout move saw Mosese Mafi dive over for a try.

There was no conversion but Morgan added a try in the corner after a very smooth back line move by Thames Valley. This made the half time score Thames Valley 17, South Canterbury 7. Then came the South Canter-

Then came the South Canterbury onslaught with: try, conversion, penalty goal, try, try and conversion as they went ahead 29-17.

ahead 29-17. Fletcher Morgan closed the gap with his second try, which he converted. Just as things Photo: TVRFU were looking more promising for the Valley, it was the Southerners who scored another converted try and were now in

Team spirit was alive and well in the Swamp Foxes and their final movement resulted in Harry Lafituanai scoring a very good try. Morgan converted to make the final score: South Canterbury 36, Thames

Valley 31. Next Saturday, Thames Valley travel to the South Island to play fifth-placed North Otago. At Te Kuiti the Vixens lost 27-37 to King Country. SPORTS REPOR

KEREPEHI BOWLS

On September 3, 16 teams played at Kerepehi Bowling Club's summer opening of Bowls, the Sutherland Families/Colin Wilson Opt 4s, which was unfortunately marred by the passing of our Lady Patron and Life member, Bev Fisher in Australia, five days after her 87th birthday. First kitty of the season was sent up by Life Member Ian Sara, followed by first bowl in the hands of Men's Patron and Life member Robin Povey. Winners: 1st 4 wins 29 points 21 ends (Waihi Beach) Gary Hewitt, Judith Wilson, Bev Rogers, Barry Wilson; 2nd 4 wins 12 points 20 ends (Kerepehi) Del Graham, Dan McDowell, Todd Ryan, John Hogarty; 3rd 3 wins 30 points 22 ends (Hauraki) Pat Ridings, John Ridings, Laurie Mirko, Ros Mason.

There was a full green for Norm Allen's three-bowl triples on September 13. After four games, successful prize winners were: 1st 4 wins 33 points 21 ends (Hauraki/Kerepehi) Grant Sharp, Ruth Hitchcock. Andrew McCowatt; 2nd 3.5 wins 39 points 23 ends (Kerepehi) Danielle Harrison, Todd Ryan, Jason Tutuki; 3rd 3.5 wins 37 points 20 ends (Lorraine Putt, Maisie Jones, Glenda Brackenridge. Coming up on Saturday, September 23, t 1pm is the official energing of at 1pm is the official opening of the club's clubroom extensions. On September 24, there will be a celebration of Life Member and Ladies Patron Bev Fisher at 1pm. **Business House bowls commences** at 6pm on September 28. Next tournaments: Kopu Engineering Opt 4s on October 1, Hudson Families Opt 4s on October 13,

and the Club's 75th Anniversary Opt 4s on October 20. Contact Lorraine, Ph 021 255 4527. - Terry King

#### PAEROA BOWLS

Paeroa Bowling Club held its opening day on September 16, and a lot of work has been done to prepare the club and grounds for the upcoming season. Kieran Casey from Exterior Surface Cleaners Ltd has very kindly donated his time to clean and wash the club rooms. He did a fabulous job and the result clearly shows, we appreciate his effort and time.

In order to improve our membership, we are having a "Have-a-go" day on September 23 at 10am. Everyone is welcome to come along to experience this sport, bowls are not required as we have a wide selection on hand.

Also coming up will be twilight bowls. The first night of six is October 6, running every Friday until November 10, starting at 5.30pm each time. We have had excellent turn outs for this last year and we are looking forward to continued success with it again. - Martin Douglas

#### GOLF

#### PAEROA GOLF

The 2023 Paeroa Golf Club Championship was held on September 10. Results: Men's: Senior Div, C Courtney over S Morrison; Intermediate Div D VandeWettering over M Cotter; Junior Div W Meyer over I Baxter; Junior B Div, C Anderson over G Barker. Ladies: Bronze 1: Kathy Sun over M Wood; Bronze 2: Pam Millington over J Davies; Bronze 3: J Grice over M Gray.

- Colin Anderson, club captain



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PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 29th

SATURDAY 30th

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ARTIST AT WORK - SCREEN PRINTING. Peter Sephton will demonstrate 10am-4pm. Happy for people to have a go. Thames Cultural Centre, 604 Tararu Rd. Contact Helen Stuart 07 868 9192 shstuart@slingshot.co.nz I ALWAYS WANTED TO PLAY THE HARP. Anna Dunwoodie & Kathryn Mowbray will have celtic harps available for anyone to have a go. All ages & sizes. The Treasury, 705 Queen St. Koha entry. Contact Anna Dunwoodie 027 224 2711 harpmad@gmail.com

#### SATURDAY 30th - SUNDAY 1st

WOODTURNING DISPLAY. View an array of wood turned products at The Bella St Pumphouse, 212 Bella St 10am -3pm. Koha entry. Contact Cara Penny 07 868 7820 carapenney01@gmail.com

NATIVE BIRD ARTISTRY. You are invited to view this exhibition at The Pumphouse. Koha entry to The Pumphouse. Contact Margaret Cropp 07 868 1024/021 157 9343

SHIZZLE ART BY SHARRON. Pieces of nature captured in resin on display to admire & purchase. Bella St Pumphouse 10am-3pm. Contact Sharron McCaskill 027 366 6058

BEAUTY FOUND IN THAMES COAST. A collection of paintings from Andy McCaskill on display and available for purchase. Bella St Pumphouse, 212 Bella St. Contact Andrew McCaskill 027 456 2311 andymac.studio@gmail.com BIRDS OF A FEATHER EXHIBITION, Utilising sustainable materials Jen has created a series of dioramas to showcase her range of hats & paintings. Bella St Pumphouse, Koha entry, Contact Jenny Hawkeswood 021 252 7737 jenny.hawkeswood67@outlook.com

STEAM INTO LIFE. Come and see the Hauraki Prospectors Assn. restored 1890's steam engine. You can take a self guided or guided tour through the Goldmine Experience - tour fees apply. The Goldmine Experience, SH25. North Thames, Free to watch the steam engine. Contact Alan Young 07 868 8514 www.goldmine-experience.co.nz DECOUPAGE. Pieces of art on display. Bella St Pumphouse, 212 Bella St. Koha entry.

SUNDAY 1st

HISTORIC KOPU BRIDGE. Open to the public 9am -2pm. Activities & bbq. Wingspan will open at 1pm. Contact Gary Blake 021 962 458 colundafarm@gmail.com

FIND SOME FUN ON THE TRAIN. The only operating train in Thames runs on the small gauge railway line. Thames Small Gauge Railway, 401 Brown St. \$2pp. Contact Russell Skeet 027 491 7860 r.skeet@xtra.co.nz ARTIST AT WORK - COPPERWORK. Helen Stuart will demonstrate how colour is incorporated into copper. Happy to let you have a go and make a pendant. Free to attend. Thames Cultural Centre, 604 Tararu Rd. Con-

tact Helen Stuart 07 868 9192 shstuart@slingshot.co.nz entry. Contact School of Mines 07 868 6227 tsm@heritage.org.nz

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home to an award-winning craft dis-

tillery. A few years ago, Kaimai Brewing and Distilling set up their operation at the hotel and released their first gin, Elizas Claim Gold Gin. Crafted using pure artisan spring water and botanicals complimented with organic rosemary and manuka honey, this gin glitters with real gold flakes (just like the land it's made on).

This went on to win a gold medal in the New Zealand Spirits Awards. Since then, the company has

added to its range and now boasts a range of four distinctive gins, a spiced rum, and the newest release, a beautifully crafted Apple Pie Moonshine.

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Waikino Hotel offers gin tastings to groups of all sizes to help

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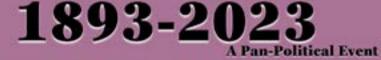
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Istari Sta (left) and Lucy Wong at their exhibition opening.

## Young artists stage exhibition

By DEBORAH MACDONALD BROWN

The Magic of Being Young is the theme of an exhibition by local artists, Istari Sta and Lucy Wong, at the Vessel Gallery in Thames.

The two young artists decided on their theme, went their separate ways, did their own thing and then both came together again with spirit, colour, and whimsy.

For them both, creating the exhibition was a challenge, requiring discipline and focus and its success is a measure of their hard work and creativity.

At the opening recently, families, friends and the local arts community celebrated the work of these two artists, who were both encouraged by their families to make art from an early age. Marti Wong and Katherine Engebretsen, Lucy's parents, are founding artists of Vessel Arts.

"For the gallery, we wanted young people to have a chance to showcase their work," Katherine said.

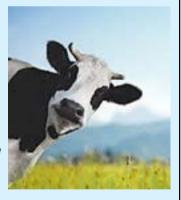
"We now have 11 members and 9-10 commission artists [at Vessel] so there's a huge variety of affordable art, local talent," Marti told gallery guests. "We wanted to create a good vibe - a

place to come together for a sense of belonging and community." When asked about the exhibition.

When asked about the exhibition, Lucy agreed: "It went good, everyone came. I was happy for the support." *DETAILS: The Magic of Being Young exhibition runs until early October at Vessel Arts, 752 Pollen St, Thames.* 

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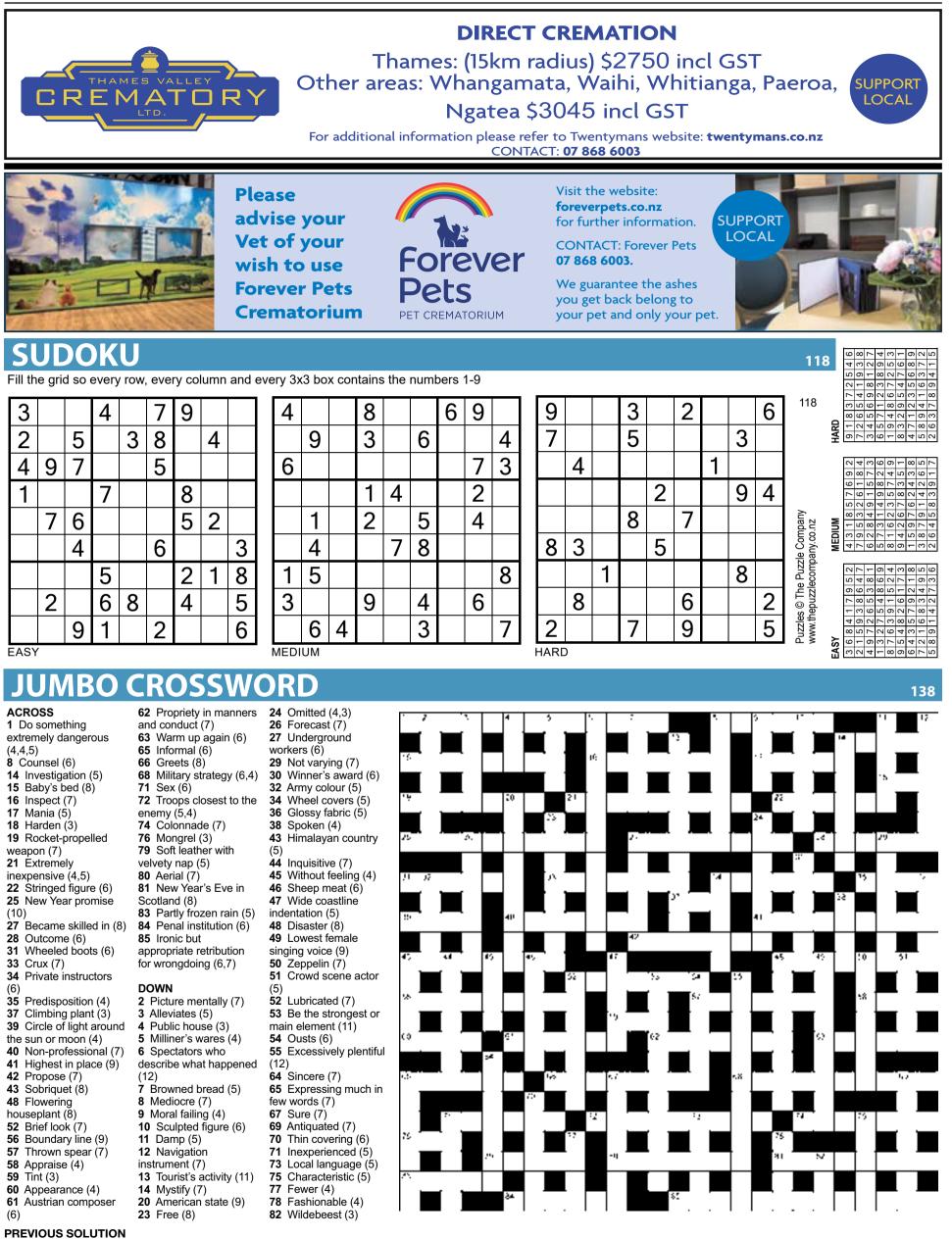
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ACROSS: 1 Strip, 4 Down in the dumps, 11 Ingot, 14 Vital, 15 Meet halfway, 16 Eggplant, 19 Hopeful, 20 Limbs, 21 Gladiator, 24 Parentage, 26 Bandit, 27 Citric, 31 Bawdy, 32 Ointment, 34 Carelessly, 37 Woo, 39 Opposed, 40 Snooze, 41 Plaque, 42 Disc, 43 Dresser, 46 Salmonella, 51 Torrent, 55 Wipe, 56 Obtain, 57 Tailor, 58 Deadpan, 60 Eel, 62 Leadership, 63 Anorexia, 64 Scold, 67 Driver, 68 Aghast, 69 On the ball, 74 Standards, 75 Farce, 76 Admiral, 81 Critique, 82 Anaesthetic, 83 Spare, 84 Talon, 85 Follow the crowd, 86 Blitz.

DOWN: 2 Tripod, 3 Inane, 5 Omen, 6 Netting, 7 Nearby, 8 Haft, 9 Deadline, 10 Signal, 11 Improvised, 12 Glad, 13 Titanic, 17 Muted, 18 Addis Ababa, 22 Stein, 23 Pristine, 25 Arduous, 26 Between, 28 Pamper, 29 Deform, 30 Deduct, 33 Tonga, 35 Yacht, 36 Fete, 38 Opal, 43 Dowel, 44 Emphasis, 45 Robust, 46 Sealing wax, 47 Line, 48 Outlast, 49 Editor, 50 Loose, 52 Open, 53 Radical, 54 Nearly, 59 Pedestrian, 61 Right, 65 Fandango, 66 Abode, 67 Deficit, 70 Nuclear, 71 Engulf, 72 Castle, 73 Garret, 77 Impel, 78 Mill, 79 Vent, 80 View





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