

The Valley Profile

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The Valley Profile

VAPE STORE OUTCRY

Paeroa's second vape store is set to open less than 30 metres from an early childcare centre. As part of an ongoing series, The Profile talks to a former nurse and former teacher, who have rallied the troops to try to prevent youth from picking up the pens. KELLEY TANTAU reports



Karen Workman, left, and Frances Nicol lead the charge against youth vaping at a peaceful protest in Paeroa. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

There was no missing the cohort of protestors calling for support in the form of car horn honks and petition signatures on Friday afternoon in Paeroa. Their message, plastered loud and clear on placards: No more vape shops in the Hauraki. The peaceful protest came to

pass after its organisers were made aware of a new vape store, Vape & Vape, opening along the main street - the second to be opened in Paeroa, a town of around 4600 people. Leading the charge was a former teacher and a former registered nurse, and their ambition derived

from a passion to keep e-cigarettes out of the hands of the youth. "You can't tell me that candy-floss and watermelon [flavours] are not aimed at the younger age group," Frances Nicol told *The Profile*. "And it's all these ones who have never smoked cigarettes before who are taking up vaping..."

They don't need this added addiction shoved in their faces." The new vape shop takes the place of Ebony Boutique, a clothing store at 61 Belmont Rd. Former workers at Ebony were at Friday's protest, and called the store's new aesthetic - bars over the door and picturesque windows blocked

out - "disgusting". "It was such a beautiful old building and it's not a pretty building now - it's scary and uninviting," they said. *The Profile* visited the store on September 1, but it was closed. Vape & Vape could also not be

CONTINUED ON P2

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Our focus is 100% local community news.

'THE PAPER PEOPLE READ'

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No consent needed for vape shop - HDC

CONTINUED FROM P1

found on the New Zealand Companies Register.

However, Hauraki District Council explained that the building's owner did not need to go through a resource consent process because retail was permitted in the town centre zone.

"From a building perspective, depending on where the shop is and what it was previously used for, there could be a possibility of a 'change of use', which would trigger a building consent application," a spokesperson told *The Profile* back in March, when rumours of a new vape store first started swirling. "This is fairly unlikely though, as most of the shops on main street are retail."

In June, the government announced new vaping policies to tackle youth vaping, including a ban on specialist vape retailers establishing businesses within 300m of schools. The changes come into effect on October 1.

The new Vape & Vape store is just 27 metres from the Paeroa Early Learning Collective, and remained closed on the day of the protest.

Brian Dobbs owns the Paeroa Early Learning Collective and is the largest provider of early childhood education in the Hauraki.

His suspicions about the nature of the new store were only confirmed when *The Profile* contacted him last week.

He said the centre had a "sound" health and safety policy, and as part of its curriculum, it provided age-appropriate learning on personal safety and well-being, as well as concepts for the four and



Sybil Woolmore, centre, retired as manager in February but had worked at Ebony Boutique for more than two years. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

five-year-olds on getting ready for school and "stranger danger".

"We will now be reviewing all our policy, protocols, and procedures," he said. "I will also be seeking advice from the Ministry of Education on how we can help keep the children we have the responsibility of caring and educating as safe as possible."

On Friday, Deputy Mayor Paul Milner stopped in to support the people's right to protest.

He confirmed that council staff and elected members did not have any say over what premises could go into business in Paeroa.

"The only ones council could have a say on would be the psychoactive substances, for which we have a local plan for, or alcohol shops," he said.

But when asked if central government should have had the foresight to regulate the number of vape stores in any one town, Mr

Has vaping affected you or your family?

Let us know what you think about vapes, contact: kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz

Milner said "it would have been good" had they done more "in the first place".

"I feel like they've dropped the ball and missed a great opportunity, and now they're talking about doing a bit more, but they had their chance in the last two years to do more and chose not to."

According to the Ministry of Health, a specialist vape retailer must "take all practicable steps to prevent people aged under 18 from entering their approved vaping premises".

Karen Workman, who was a registered nurse for 46 years, said she had watched people die from respiratory deaths and she did not want New Zealand's youth to suffer similar fates.

"Our generation was told that cigarettes were cool, and they're not cool. You put those things into your body and it alters what your body does, and it's not for the better," she said.

"For young people under 25, it can alter their brain waves, their lungs... they have their whole lives in front of them, and they're already ruining it up-front."

The Paeroa protestors have also established an online petition. To sign, visit www.change.org and search for "stop Hauraki vape".



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Thames Tides

Wed Sep 6	Thu Sep 7	Fri Sep 8	Sat Sep 9	Sun Sep 10	Mon Sep 11	Tue Sep 12
 Morning: 5:28am 0.4, 11:46am 3.4 Afternoon: 5:54pm 0.7 Sunrise: 6:33am, Sunset: 6:01pm Best At: 5:01am, 5:27pm Last Quarter: Rise 12:01am, Set 9:55am	 Morning: 12:16am 3.3, 6:17am 0.6 Afternoon: 12:38pm 3.2, 6:50pm 0.9 Sunrise: 6:31am, Sunset: 6:02pm Best At: 5:54am, 6:20pm Last Quarter: Rise 1:09am, Set 10:35am	 Morning: 1:07am 3.1, 7:09am 0.8 Afternoon: 1:36pm 3.1, 7:53pm 1.0 Sunrise: 6:30am, Sunset: 6:02pm Best At: 6:47am, 7:14pm Last Quarter: Rise 2:12am, Set 11:22am	 Morning: 2:03am 3.0, 8:08am 0.9 Afternoon: 2:40pm 3.0, 8:59pm 1.1 Sunrise: 6:28am, Sunset: 6:03pm Best At: 7:41am, 8:07pm Last Quarter: Rise 3:08am, Set 12:15pm	 Morning: 3:02am 2.9, 9:14am 1.0 Afternoon: 3:45pm 2.9, 10:01pm 1.1 Sunrise: 6:27am, Sunset: 6:04pm Best At: 8:33am, 8:58pm Last Quarter: Rise 3:57am, Set 1:13pm	 Morning: 4:06am 2.8, 10:19am 1.0 Afternoon: 4:44pm 3.0, 10:57pm 1.1 Sunrise: 6:25am, Sunset: 6:05pm Best At: 9:22am, 9:46pm Last Quarter: Rise 4:38am, Set 2:13pm	 Morning: 5:07am 2.8, 11:16am 0.9 Afternoon: 5:35pm 3.0, 11:45pm 1.0 Sunrise: 6:24am, Sunset: 6:06pm Best At: 10:09am, 10:31pm Last Quarter: Rise 5:12am, Set 3:13pm

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

Policing changes result in drop in arrests

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

More than 1500 complaints over three years have related to disorder within Thames, but this number has been slowly decreasing as local police work to “manage risks” with public intoxication.

In May, *The Profile* lodged an Official Information Act request in regards to arrests and complaints for antisocial behaviour in Thames.

Police responded last month with figures that have been trending downward since 2020.

Ninety-one people were arrested in 2020 in relation to drug or alcohol use, and/or disorder, threatening or intimidating behaviour.

This number was 81 in 2021; 85 in 2022; and 37 in 2023 up to July 27.

According to police, when police communication centres receive a request for service, an event is entered in its Communication and Resource Deployment [CARD] system. Events can be lodged via many sources, and may include officer-discovered events.

The number of CARD events

in relation to incidents relating to disorder, threatening/intimidating behaviour and use of alcohol or drugs within Thames has also been decreasing.

In 2020, there were 507 events; 423 in 2021; 447 in 2022; and 201 in 2023 (up to July 25).

“These events do not necessarily mean they are all complaints,” Police said. “They could include calls from members of the public calling about issues that they have witnessed or are involved in. Events may also have been initiated by police staff who have come across an incident in the course of their duties.”

The largest number of the 1578 events stemmed from behaviour offences (628), followed by threatening to kill or do grievous bodily harm (497).

There were 375 incidents of breaching the peace and 78 “drunk custody” events.

Police said it was not possible to determine if all the charges involved alcohol or drugs, as people may have been arrested for aggressive behaviour while being under the influence without police confirming this.

However, Senior Constable Gareth Carter said work was being done to lessen the impact of intoxication throughout Thames.

He told *The Profile* that local police have been working with the Thames-Coromandel District Council liquor licensing team to conduct “several prevention-based activities” focused around retailers and outlets selling and supplying alcohol.

Over the past few years, Thames Police has also made operational changes around managing risks in relation to intoxicated persons in custody.

“In the past, intoxicated persons were likely held in custody for lower level offences, such as disorderly behaviour, until they sobered up enough to be released.



Senior Constable Gareth Carter, inset, is pleased to see the rates of disorder decreasing in Thames. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

“Nowadays, these such people

are more likely to be taken directly to private residences to be cared for by family or friends, or to the hospital to minimise the risk to their personal safety.”

Doing this freed up police resources, Senior Constable Carter said.

“While heavily intoxicated persons are in custody, they require constant or frequent monitoring, which certainly draws a large amount of police resourcing - with the aim being to keep them safe,” he said.

“This can be extremely hard, especially within rural areas such as Thames where at times there are only small numbers of police staff covering the area, and the closest fulltime staffed custody suite being in Hamilton or Auckland.”

Senior Constable Carter said Thames Police looked to address all disorder issues in a timely manner and actively employed “various prevention strategies” to reduce the harm these incidents cause within the community.

“It is certainly pleasing to me personally to see that the rates of incidence are decreasing,” he said.

“Long may it continue.”

DETAILS: Police encourage the public to report events such as assault by calling 111 and non-emergency events such as public intoxication via 105. The CBD of Thames is subject to 24/7 Alcohol Ban Council Bylaw and Police can choose to enforce this with instant fines when necessary.



TE KAUAERANGA THAMES | HERITAGE FESTIVAL 2023

Embrace the past and create the future: “Arts & Crafts ‘Lost and Found’” is the theme of this year’s Festival which runs from 29th September to 1st October.

Discover the rich tapestry of our ancestral handcrafts. Some of these crafts have been lost over time, but others have been rekindled and are now very much revered. You will be able to marvel at our forbears’ artistry, each piece a taonga carrying not only cultural significance but also many personal stories. This Festival is a chance for young and old to immerse themselves in the craftsmanship of our ancestors, and we hope it will inspire those attending to bring some creativity into their lives, as well as gain a new and deeper respect for cultural and ancestral art.

Being creative is more than just a skill, it can connect us to our roots, and take us into the future with more meaning and understanding. As we explore creative pursuits we often uncover hidden talents, and forge connections that might have otherwise remained dormant. Particularly in challenging times, the act of creating something meaningful becomes a sanctuary for our well-being.

Thames’ heritage sites will be alive with activity during the Festival and some of the events happening are a colouring-in competition for children, jewellery-making workshop, and heritage glass bottles at The School of Mines; needlework and knitting demonstrations, and traditional Māori Carving demonstration at Thames Museum Te Whare Taonga o te Kauaeranga; the art of ‘mapping’, and a harpist musical performance at The Treasury; blacksmithing demonstration and steam machine at The Goldmine Experience; portraits, woodturning, NZ native bird artwork, and Thames coast paintings at Bella Street Pumphouse; print-making workshop at Vessel Gallery; artists at work at Thames Art Centre, historical cemetery tour, and train rides.

Thames Heritage Network members are a reservoir of wisdom and knowledge and are devoted to passing on their skills to future generations. By doing this they are highlighting how our ancestors lived and breathed, and are preserving a legacy for others to embrace. We hope you will join in, learn a new craft, and celebrate the endless joy of creativity. **Visit our website for further information www.thamesheritage.co.nz**



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Human Frog 'eighth wonder of the world'



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.

1901

Ferry, the Human Frog, leapt into prominence in the Thames Valley with a series of performances. This 'mystifying marvel' was attired in a suit which in the greenish limelight exactly, and in a most life like manner, represented a huge frog.

Ferry went through a series of wonderfully clever contortions which seemed to show that he possessed no bones whatever. His legs and arms were arranged in all sorts of positions, and the attitudes assumed by him were most remarkable.

This marvellous man, supported by a company of other artists, had had crowded houses throughout New Zealand and was considered by those who witnessed his performances to be the eighth wonder of the world.

The physical marvel, whose entertainments caused a 'Profound Sensation Everywhere', appeared at Thames, Paeroa, Karangahake and Waihi.

Ferry the Frog's act lasted 15 minutes, and he earned 10 shillings per minute. He was considered the most expensive artist that had ever visited New Zealand.

STEAMERS COLLIDE

The steamers *Taniwha* and *Pātiki* collided



The triple wedding of the McCracken sisters at Paeroa in 1938. Photo: SUPPLIED

on the Waihōu River about ten miles from Paeroa, between Kōpū and Hikutaia.

The *Taniwha* was heading to Auckland and steaming at seven knots when she struck the *Pātiki* with 500 cases of gelignite on board.

The *Pātiki* began to fill rapidly, and being in shallow water was run ashore. Captain Sullivan said that the lights were burning brightly on both steamers, and he could not account for the accident.

LAUNCH PROPOSED

The residents of Turua had for years been clamouring for a regular means of communication with Thames. The population was

considerable on the far side of the river, and since the *Pātiki* ceased running means of communication were very irregular.

Two proposals were submitted, a small oil engine launch to run between Turua and Kōpū or a ferry.

The launch could be timed to work with the railway time table, and appeared to be the simplest and least costly option.

COLOURFUL THAMES COAST

A visitor to the Thames Coast observed that land at Tararu, although hilly, showed signs of careful cultivation. Flower gardens popped up in most unexpected places fringed with rich pasture to the tops of the highest hills.

The variety, colour, quantity and richness of flowers seemed inexhaustible. Every homestead had a lovely floral plot and well arranged kitchen garden.

The magnificent pōhutukawa lined the coast road lending enchantment with its deep scarlet plumage and beautiful light green foliage.

Tapu was built on a green flat about half a mile long and had a depth of about a quarter that distance to the beach.

It had a neat little wharf, two stores and a village blacksmith who was making a ship's anchor.

The school had an attendance of 50 children, who were encouraged in tree planting, which would prove beneficial, not only in beautifying the town, but also in sheltering it from the seaward winds.

There were extensive gold mining plants at work and gum digging was another industry largely carried on at which a good man could make as much as 3 pounds a week.

The township was most orderly; you could sleep the sleep of the just there and rise in the morning with a clear head.

TMG concerts lined up

Thames Music Group's next Sunday concert is Vocālis - formerly the Auckland Welsh choir, which will perform at St George's Church on September 10 at 2pm.

The choir's origins date back to 1988, originally the Auckland Welsh Club united in song to support the Welsh Rugby team playing the All Blacks.

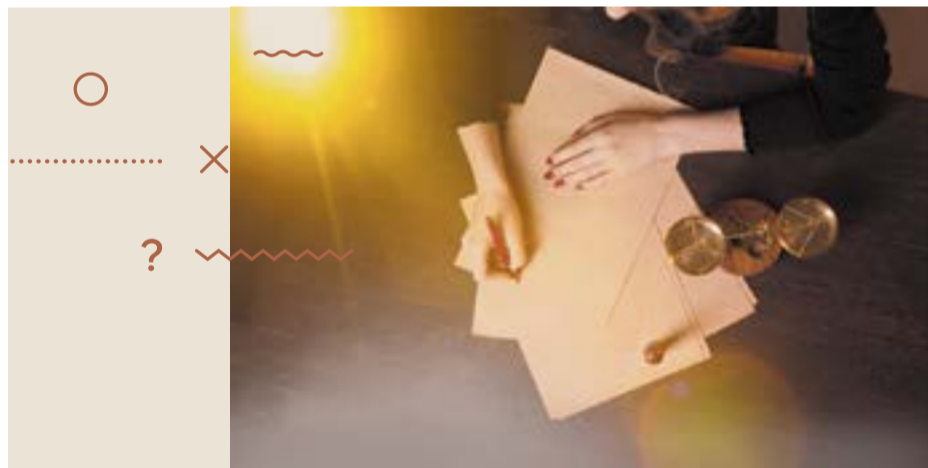
From this group, the Auckland Welsh Choir was established in 1999 and registered as a charitable organisation in 2006 and eventually began to incorporate other languages and styles of music into their repertoire.

Vocālis isn't your standard community choir. Their two professional musical directors, Steven Rapana and Diana Williams Rhodes, continually hone the choir's musicality and provide expert vocal tuition during their weekly rehearsals.

Meanwhile, the group's next free concert will be performed at St George's Church by the Thames Citizens' Band on Friday, September 22 at 12:15am.

Band conductor Linden Moyle said: "if you want a lunchtime of enjoyment, variety and surprises, Thames Citizens' Band's latest performance has all that".

"You may laugh, you may cry, you will remember, you'll hear things like you've never heard them before and there'll be surprises too."



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Get creative



HAURAKI

Applications close next week 4pm Monday 11 September 2023



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Projects must take place between 1 October 2023 and 30 September 2024.

This fabulous piece of pottery was on display at the 'Clear as Mud' art exhibition in Waihi - beautifully crafted by Dorothy Armstrong titled *Summer Garden*



Geared up for greater accessibility to drive

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

Revs Motorcycle Centre is offering free car driving lessons and tests to people in Paeroa and Waihi who face barriers in getting their licence.

The centre has partnered with the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) to offer the programme, through a scheme aiming to improve access to education and employment, and increase road safety.

Revs operations director Joanne Burns said being able to teach more people about road safety was a huge motivator for her and driving instructor partner Mark Revill-Johnson in applying to be part of the scheme.

“[Mark’s] ex-police - 27 years of policing - and the point behind doing this is he does not ever want his former emergency services colleagues to have to clean up another body or go and deliver [bad] news,” she said.

“If he can get some road skills for life for people - that’s our biggest target.”

Joanne said the centre was already helping some MSD clients through the licensing process.

“We are already running learner theory workshops with some good results,” she said.

“There are so many numbers to remember it can be daunting for a new driver who doesn’t have any experience to relate the numbers to... so we try to give students tools and tricks to learn that information and retain it.”

In the 2022 budget, the government allocated \$86.5 million



The back wall at Revs Motorcycle Centre is covered in signed L plates from former students who have passed their restricted tests. Pictured: Mark Revill-Johnson and Joanne Burns.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

to fund programmes like Revs, potentially allowing up to 64,000 people nationally to gain their driver’s licence. The funding will pay for the lessons and tests, as well as other related costs.

“The scheme funds cover the cost of the test, they cover the lessons, childcare if they’ve got to get childcare to attend the lessons, if they need ID we’ve got funding to

get the right ID to support their applications,” Joanne said.

Revs was already involved with a number of other initiatives to help keep the driving community safe, Joanne said, and the MSD partnership was just another way to help.

“We’re running courses for the colleges such as learner licences and defensive driving skills,” she

said. “[And] we offer Revs as a drop-in centre for motorcyclists.

“We know that most crashes happen on that ride home. That’s why we say to people, just come in and take a break, get some water, use the toilet.

“From Mark’s police experience we know that fatigue after a long day riding can cause a momentary lapse of concentration

that’s dangerous.

“So, if that saves one crash then it’s worth it.”

DETAILS: MSD clients can contact the ministry directly to enquire about the programme. For all other enquiries email Joanne at bookings@revs.co.nz.



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Nominations open until 4pm Friday 8 September 2023

For more information or to nominate someone, visit our website <https://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/community/awards> or call into any of our offices or libraries.

Together today, tomorrow and in the future, we say

GOOD ON YA

HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Messy play fun

During Playcentre's annual messy play week, Paeroa Playcentre got stuck into some slimy, goopy, sticky fun. The preschoolers smashed ice, mixed slime, painted, did some arts and crafts, and finished off the session with a slippery slide down the hill. The centre likes to put on some form of messy play every session. **ALICE PARMINTER** toddled down to see what the toddlers were up to.



Amiyah-Jade Zydenbos breaks out the glue gun and glitter.



Lydia Belle Morrison experiences the magic of a hose.

Photos: ALICE PARMINTER



Catherine McDonald and Elliana Cossey slip down the waterslide.



Ben Rawnsley is all concentration as he mixes some slime.



Chloé French, 2, splashes about.



Franek Green in constructive play.

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*Love
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Firie Colin Ritchie on frontline, rain or shine

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

Colin Ritchie has attended almost every call-out during his 50-year career as a volunteer firefighter.

Even when he's about to enjoy a good roast dinner and the siren beckons, he prepares to head to the frontline, an action that he says has become a "habit".

He was recognised for his five decades of service at an event last month, where he received his Double Gold Star and thanked for his reliability - a fact that has him hold a 93 per cent attendance record.

Colin, who lives in Te Mata, joined the Taihape Volunteer Fire Brigade in 1972 after witnessing a major fire at his local fruit and veggie shop. As a qualified mechanic, he brought his practical skills to the fire service, especially since motor vehicle accidents were a major cause for call-outs.

"With Taihape being a small community, we had a lot of road accidents, and a lot of them were people that you knew," he told *The Profile*.

"I lost a really good friend... but I know he would've been pleased that I had been there for him."

Colin's move to the Thames Coast was thanks to a little serendipity.

He had established his own workshop and towing business in Taihape, and he met a couple whose car had lost its radiator.

He lent them a vehicle for a week and, when they came to return it, they invited Colin and his



Colin Ritchie with the contingent who came up from Taihape to celebrate. BELOW: Colin Ritchie, left, with Robert Webb, of Taihape.

Photo: SUPPLIED/AMELIA NURSE

late wife Kate to visit them in the Coromandel.

His friend had recently bought the Tapu Motor Camp and, after stopping in, Colin discovered "what a wonderful little place" the Thames Coast was.

It took about six to seven years for he and Kate to finally move to Te Mata and for Colin to join the Tapu Volunteer Fire Brigade.

"Down in Taihape there were fires and lots of accidents, but up here, there were things I had never struck, like flooding and drownings," he said. "You can put a fire out, or cut someone out of a car, but you cannot stop water, and that blew me away."

When Colin joined the Tapu brigade in 1998, he had already

earned his Gold Star for 25 years of service. He said he was now "elated" to receive his Double Gold Star.

"I didn't even think I would make it to Gold Star," he said, "so I just couldn't wait to get [the double]. When I was a kid, I wanted to be either a fireman or a train driver, and when we came to Tapu, I thought: 'What a wonderful little community' - it had a pub and it had a fire station."

"It really is such a good community."

And to top it all off, the number on Colin's Double Gold Star medal is '309' - much like the 22km road iconic to the Coromandel.



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Students embrace rural roots

Junior students at Kaihere Primary School returned to their rural roots recently when they went on a field trip to see the source of wool production. Year 1-4 students visited the shearing shed of local farmers and parents of Kaihere School, Clare and Simon Ward, to see sheep being shorn and discover what was involved in this process. The field trip to the Patetonga Farm was a practical extension of their classroom studies about wool's origins, properties, and uses, and highlighted wool's importance to New Zealand's heritage and economy, tumuaki [principal] Richard Reid said. "On a sunny afternoon at the farm, students saw their lessons come alive and played a small role in supporting the wool industry."



The field trip to the Patetonga Farm was a practical extension of the students' classroom studies.



Lilly Day presses down the wool into bales.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Students watch Simon Ward shear the sheep.



Clare Ward, Frank Ward and Charlotte Harris.

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Rural Life

Farmer confidence hits a new record low

A recent survey of more than 1000 dairy, sheep, beef, and arable farmers has found that confidence is at historic lows, says Federated Farmers president Wayne Langford.

"Farmers are dealing with a lot at the moment with high interest rates, huge inflation, and a steep decline in both meat and milk prices they receive for their products," Mr Langford said.

"We're also facing an unprecedented level of regulatory change that is heaping on costs, undermining profitability, and creating huge uncertainty for farmers.

"Unfortunately, all these challenges have arrived at the same time, which just compounds the pressure farmers are feeling - it's just not sustainable."

Mr Langford said Federated Farmers had real concerns about farmer wellbeing and what this might mean for farming families, rural communities, and the wider New Zealand economy.

"When farmers aren't profitable or feeling confident, they stop spending money and try to cut any costs they can from their business, and the implications of that flow right through the economy," he said.

The Farmer Confidence survey was conducted in July, 2023. Concerningly, this was prior to Fonterra's announcement that they were slashing \$1 from their 2023/24 forecast milk price.

The four biggest concerns for farmers were debt, interest and banks, regulation and compliance costs, and climate change and ETS policy.

"This is the second successive farmer confidence survey to set a new record low with a steep decline over the last six months - so we're sounding the alarm," Mr Langford said.

"The deterioration in farmer profit has occurred at frightening speed. This time last year, just 3.5 per cent of farmers reported making a loss. That figure jumped to 27 per cent in this survey, which was conducted prior to Fonterra announcing its payout downgrade.

"This should serve as a wake-up call for all political parties, banks, and processors that something needs to urgently change. There needs to be a real focus on reducing the costs and uncertainty farmers are facing.

"Federated Farmers have recently released a roadmap for restoring farmer confidence with 12 policy priorities for the next government - I'd suggest politicians may want to re-read it."

The survey found 81 per cent of respondents considered current economic conditions to be bad, 1 per cent considered them to be good, 15 points worse than in the January survey.

Only 29 per cent of respondents reported making a profit, 27 per cent reported making a loss, a sharp decline from July, 2022, when 72 per cent were making a profit and only 3.5 per cent were making a loss.

Just 3 per cent of respondents thought economic conditions would improve in the next 12 months, and 73 per cent thought economic conditions would worsen.

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Student's art wins at Thames exhibition

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

A fledgling artist was “gob-smacked” to learn she had clinched the top prize in a local exhibition.

Lauren Harrison was one of the students from Thames High School who took part in an exhibition at Thames Art Gallery in August, hosted by the Thames Society of Arts.

Her four submissions, including one that explored the sea and marine life, were recognised by the judges and Lauren won first prize and \$500.

“When I heard the news it was overwhelming,” she said. “To hear that my work was really appreciated and acknowledged made my heart melt.”

Lauren said she wasn't able to attend the prize giving, but after finding out the news at school, she initially didn't believe it.

She said her parents were “over the moon” for her as she had been painting for as long as she could remember.

“Ever since I was a little girl, I would always be making messes around the house with all the new creations I would be playing with,” she said.

“I entered the exhibition last year with three canvas pieces but unfortunately didn't place; however, this was a good learning experience for me as I was



Lauren's work consisted of a beach landscape and a sunset, a portrait of a cow, and a marine scene depicting a fish and an octopus.



Photos: SUPPLIED

able to see what the judges were after and what I could experiment with in the future.”

Lauren's creations this year included a beach landscape and a sunset, a portrait of a cow, and a marine scene depicting a fish and an octopus using complementary colours.

“I have always loved the beach and the country,” she told *The Profile*, “and the cow,

beach and sunset pieces were all inspired by the beautiful nature of New Zealand.

“I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of this experience, from being able to experiment and play with colour, to trying out new mark making techniques. I had a bunch of untouched canvases lying around so I thought I would put them to good use by entering new

and unique pieces to the competition.”

Thames High School's art department head Sam Rogers said it was the third year the exhibition had offered awards and the first time it was open to entries from all Year 11-13s from schools in the area.

“It is wonderful that the arts society promotes the art of young people in the communi-

ty, and we are very grateful for the opportunity to get our work out there and displayed in such a professional setting.”

Thames High student leaders Ruby Malloy and Baromey Rous gained third and second place in the competition, respectively.



Nana shares theatre love with lead

A Thames High student will finally get the chance to share the stage with her thespian nana.

After “waiting for years”, Rosie Juby will perform alongside her nana Jenny Dorrington-Colley in Thames Music and Drama's 60th anniversary show, *Judy White and the Seven Dwarfs*.

Rosie said she credited Jenny for her interest in performing. “We used to do stuff at church and she'd direct little Christmas shows there; that's how I started,” she said. “She's always been the theatre one.”

Judy White and the Seven Dwarfs is “a family friendly jukebox musical” written by Diane Connors for the 60th anniversary of the local musical theatre group.

Rosie, a year 13 student, will be playing the lead role of Judy. It was her nana who introduced her to Thames Music and Drama [MAD], with Rosie having her debut with *Christmas Toy Story* in 2016.

She continued the following year with *Beauty and the Beast*, and has performed in at least one production a year since.

“As soon as I got to high school that was what I

wanted to do: as many drama classes as I could,” she said. “In year 9, even [years] 10 or 11, I did not want to sing in front of an audience by myself or even with other people. That was terrifying to me. Now, I'll just do it.”

And on every opening night – a small bouquet of flowers arrives from Rosie's biggest fan: her nana.

“I'd always hoped that before she left home we'd have an opportunity just to be in the same space,” Jenny said. “We have a lot of fun. She's a beautiful person. It's just lovely to be here with her.”

Jenny has had a long association with Thames Music and Drama and the Thames Operatic Society, as it was known at formation in 1963. Some of her favourite memories included being in the performances *Show Boat*, in 1986) and *The Sound of Music*, 1992.

She said she “certainly hoped” that performing will remain a part of Rosie's life.

“Of course, I know it's not always easy, but I know she's charming and talented.”

DETAILS: *Judy White and the Seven Dwarfs* from September 9-16, Thames Civic Centre. Tickets: www.thamesmad.co.



Rosie Juby stars as Judy White while her nana Jenny Dorrington-Colley joins the adult ensemble in *Judy White and the Seven Dwarfs*. Photo SUPPLIED

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Waihi RSA 100 YEARS

Watching on through half of RSA's 100 years

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

The Waihi Memorial RSA is where John Davies used to attend dances on Saturday nights.

The floors were wooden, the stage was where the bar is, and the space was half the size it is now.

With the club on Seddon St celebrating its 100 years this month, John - known as JD - has been involved for half of its existence.

He joined in the early 70s and has since become a life member and club patron.

"In those times we had 17 on the committee, two vice presidents and a president," he told *The Profile*.

"I was playing snooker and the president at the time came down to me and said: 'John, would you like to stand for one of the vice presidents?' and I said: 'I'll have to think about it'.

"But before we got to the stairs, I said: 'Yeah, I'll do it'."

JD was a Corporal in the Hauraki Regiment.

He started training in 1961 when he was 20-years-old and remembers getting off the train platform in freezing conditions at Waiouru, and having to run



Waihi RSA club patron John 'JD' Davies has been involved with the association for 50 years. INSET: World War I Military Medals on display at the Waihi Memorial RSA.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU

to the military camp.

He became a weapons instructor and said he "really enjoyed" his experience with the

regiment.

After working at the freezing works at Horotiu, he moved to Waihi in 1959.

Now with 50 years of membership at the local Returned Services Association, and acting as flag bearer at many of the

"It's friendly. It's run very well... and people can come by, have excellent meals, good conversation, and be made to feel welcome."

- John Davies

town's Anzac Day dawn services, JD said the club has been a big part of his life.

CONTINUED ON P12

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Waihi RSA 100 YEARS

CONTINUED FROM P12

“First things first: it’s friendly. It’s run very well... and people can come by, have excellent meals, good conversation, and be made to feel welcome.”

There’s plenty of history within the club that a lot of people wouldn’t know about, he said, like how big names behind the first-ever Warriors

Rugby League side to enter the Australian competition had a celebration night at the Waihi RSA in 1995.

Among them, JD said, was the first Warriors captain, Dean Bell, and Sir Peter Charles Leitch, who is also known as The Mad Butcher.

The club also got a new breath of life after getting its liquor licence in the 1970s.

“You used to come here in the afternoon and put your beer in a locker, and then come back at night and drink it and it’d be warm,” he recalled.

Nowadays, there is a fully equipped restaurant and bar, and a new private function room called The Garrison Room, complete with its own bar and bathroom.

Donna Taylor has been managing the club for around five years, but first got involved 23 years ago as a chef in the kitchen.

She shares the thoughts of JD and said while there have



been some challenges, it was important to “keep up with the times” in order for RSA’s - such as Waihi - to continue into the future.



ABOVE: Waihi Memorial RSA president Ellen Henderson. TOP RIGHT: The Waihi RSA restaurant offers a choice of dine-in or take-away.

BELOW: The Garrison Room is the RSA’s recently decorated private function room, which seats up to 70 people and is available for hire.



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Waihi RSA 100 YEARS



A man with a bicycle stands in front of the Waihi Memorial in Seddon St, Waihi, in the 1920s. Photo: SUPPLIED



The 2023 Anzac Day parade through Waihi.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU



Waihi Memorial RSA members take part in the Anzac parade.



Samuel Carswell at this year's Waihi Anzac Day.



Waihi College flag bearers.



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Thames Coast Community Kindergarten students and staff with the new mural. Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

Mural inspired by native birds

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

Thames Coast Community Kindergarten has a new mural, thanks to local artist Kylie Gunn.

Inspired by the native birds that flock to the surrounding pohutukawa, the mural runs along the length of the kindy building. It's visible from the adjoining tennis courts, bowling club and park.

"It's for this whole community," head teacher Karen Bowie said.

The project was a community effort from start to finish. The kindy's families came together for a working bee to clear and prepare the area for painting, install

raised gardens and even assist with the painting of the mural's background. Artist Kylie Gunn, whose children attended the kindy, donated her time to add the main details to the painting.

The project was assisted by donations of goods and time from several businesses including Kiwi Kids charity, Coastal Bins, Resene, the Te Puru tennis club, and Devan Plastics, who offered a water tank to the kindy to keep the gardens maintained.

"That will teach the kids about water conservation as well," Karen said.



Signs of dental disease

By Dr LEAH WAKEFORD, BVSc (dist.)

As devoted pet owners, safeguarding the well-being of our companions is a top priority. Just as with humans, our beloved pets are susceptible to dental issues that can profoundly impact their overall health and quality of life. Learning to recognize the early signs of dental disease is pivotal in upholding their oral hygiene and overall vitality.

Dental problems can surface subtly, but by staying attentive to your pet's behaviours and physical cues, you can identify potential issues before they escalate. Here are some key signs to look out for:

Bad Breath: The onset of foul breath is often among the earliest indicators of dental issues. If your pet's breath has taken an unpleasant turn, it may suggest the presence of plaque, tartar buildup, or an infection in their mouth.

Excessive Drooling: While some drooling is natural, excessive saliva production could be a sign of oral discomfort or pain stemming from dental problems.

Bleeding Gums: Similar to humans, bleeding or inflamed gums indicate gum disease or potential periodontal complications in pets. Observe their gums for any signs of redness, swelling, or bleeding.

Visible Tartar and Discolouration: The appearance of yellow or brown deposits on your pet's teeth, particularly near the gumline, is indicative of tartar accumulation. Addressing this issue promptly is crucial to preventing further complications.

Pawing at the Face: Frequent rubbing of the face against surfaces or persistent pawing at the mouth could be your pet's attempt to alleviate dental discomfort.

Difficulty Eating: If you notice your pet struggling with eating, such as dropping food or displaying a preference for one side of



At first glance, these cat teeth don't look particularly diseased, however x-rays reveal severe resorptive damage to the roots of both lower teeth as well as root remnants from a tooth that has previously fallen out. All of these need to be removed as they are a source of significant pain.

their mouth, dental pain might be the underlying cause.

Dogs and cats are hardwired to avoid showing signs of pain, so this is usually the last sign to appear – once eating habits alter there is a significant level of dental disease present. It is impossible to assess the full severity of dental disease from the outside and we may find some nasty surprises below the gumline when we x-ray the tooth roots under anaesthesia.

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AUTHORISED BY H.HOWARD, 3/33 PAHIATUA ST, PALMERSTON NORTH

SPORTS

Sunshine and mud

The Thames Valley Cross Country group day took place at Mangatarata on August 29. Kids from across the region maneuvered through the ridges and valleys on their quest to reach the finish line. While the terrain was challenging, the students, ranging in age from eight to twelve years, had a blast both running and cheering on their teammates. *Valley Profile* reporter **ALICE PARMINTER** stopped by to watch.



Ngatea Primary School kids watch from the hillside.



Aryan Dsouza from Ngatea leads the pack during the 11 year olds' race.

Photos: ALICE PARMINTER



Parawai School's Georgia Court, 10, heads for the finish line.



Connor Perry, left, and Rai Kaye from Hikutaia School represent the Ohinemuri Cluster.



Ten-year-old Dezyhl Duncan, Rowan Nielsen and Damon Clegg from Waitakaruru School take a moment to recover after they finish their race.



Kids from Te Puru School enjoy the sunshine as they finish their races.

Rugby club gets much needed upgrade

By **GABRIEL BOWEN**, Wintec Journalism Student

Whangamatā Rugby Club has been awarded a grant of \$30,000 to assist with renovations, one of just 10 clubs nationwide to receive the award.

The club is using the funds to upgrade their clubroom facilities to be warmer and more accessible for the family members, old boys, and women's teams.

Club vice president Kaitlin Russell, who submitted the club's application to the Bunnings Rugby Assist fund, is thrilled with the news.

"It means so much to our club to be selected. Our club has been an integral part of the Whangamatā community since 1963," she said.

The upgrade is especially timely as the club fielded its first women's team this year, so a facelift for the changing rooms, including separate toilets for the players, was high on the list.

Russell said the club had seen an increase in numbers. "As our town has grown, so have registrations.

"Over 400 people make up the rugby family at our clubrooms each Saturday. Being able to renovate our

clubrooms means we can address all the new challenges you face when your club grows, from changing our bathrooms to be unisex, fixing ceiling leaks, installing more heating, and building accessible ramps so our mums can safely move their prams."

A working bee was held to get things ready for the club's 60th celebration recently, and ahead of hosting Round 6 of the Heartland Rugby Competition on September 16. The highly anticipated 'top of the table' match will pitch the 2022 Heartland champions South Canterbury against current second place holders, Thames Valley.

According to New Zealand Rugby, 164 clubs applied for the Bunnings Rugby Assist award this year, with the winners each getting an equal share of \$300,000 of Bunnings products, materials, and trade support. The clubs, which range from Moerewa in Northland, to Bluff, will be supported by their local Bunnings team to complete their upgrades. Bunnings Rugby Assist ambassador and rugby legend, Ian Jones, said: "I'm excited to see 10 more clubs get a refresh to better serve their community and the grassroots game".



Work is underway at Whangamatā Rugby Club.

Photo SUPPLIED

Health & Wellbeing



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Photo: SUPPLIED

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For your tool requirements, we have styling brushes, Tangle Teezer detangling brushes. If you're looking for accessories, we have Claw clips and scrunchies in all colours. We have a delightful range of handmade soaps from Jeanie's Soaps - a local artisan. We are also an exclusive stockist of

the luxury brand MOR products the Glamorous packaging hints at the decadence within. The Marshmallow range smells as fabulous as it looks, and includes candles, room diffusers, hand creams, body lotions and body cream and lip balms. MOR range is a wonderful gift for the discerning woman.

We are now offering some new additional salon services: eyebrow and eyelash tinting. Where possible, we can schedule this during a visit for your hair appointment or you can book separately.

To celebrate our new service, for the month of September all clients who add on a brow or lash tint to their cut and blow dry will go in the draw for a fabulous Hot Pink Silver Bullet Blow Dryer.

Protect against shingles

Anyone who has had chickenpox is at risk of developing shingles, a painful blistering rash. The best protection against shingles is vaccination.

The risk of shingles increases as you get older or if you have a weakened immune system. You can't catch shingles directly from someone else.

However, if you've never had chickenpox or received the chickenpox vaccine, you can catch chickenpox if you are in close contact with someone who has shingles. This is because the shingles blisters contain the chickenpox virus.

Before the rash develops, people often have pain, itching or tingling in the area where the rash will develop.

Although shingles can occur anywhere on your body, it most commonly occurs around the back, upper abdomen or on the face.

Other symptoms of shingles can include: fever, headache, chills and an upset stomach. The pain or irritation will usually go away in three to five weeks.

However, if the virus damages a nerve, you may have pain, numbness or tingling for months or even years after the rash is healed.

Shingles is less contagious than chickenpox, and the risk of a per-



son with shingles spreading the virus is low if the rash is covered.

Once the rash has developed crusts, the person is no longer infectious.

The best way to prevent shingles is to get vaccinated. The shingles vaccine used in New Zealand is called Shingrix. You will need two doses, with the second dose, given two to six months after the first.

Who can get a free shingles vaccine?

Shingles vaccine is free for 12 months once you turn 65. As long as you receive your first dose when you are 65, your second dose will still be free, even if you get it after you turn 66.

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SPORTS

More success for Foxes

HEARTLAND RUGBY

Thames Valley defeated King Country 27-21 in their Heartland Championship match played at Thames last Saturday. In doing so they retained the Centurions' Cup and retain their second place on the points ladder- two behind South Canterbury. For the second time this season, the Swamp Foxes scored a four try bonus point.

Good weather attracted a large crowd to Rhodes Park and the fans witnessed a hard battle. Either side had the potential to win - as is to be expected in a local derby.

The play of both teams was somewhat untidy in the first twenty minutes and then it was King Country who opened the try scoring. Their winger kicked ahead and regained the ball to dot down in the corner.

Tipping converted from the sideline and the Rams were ahead 7-0. From the kick off the Swamp Foxes went on to the attack. After several promising surges, Fletcher Morgan scored the Swamp Foxes' opening try. It was not converted and King Country went in to the half time break with a 7-5 lead.

Five minutes in to the half the Rams extended their lead with another converted try and with 14 points on the board the visitors had their tails in the air.

However, thereafter Thames Valley had a huge territorial



Harry Lafituana scoring after cutting through King Country's defence.

Photo: SUPPLIED/TVRFU

advantage and were assisted by a strong following wind. They scrummaged powerfully and gained good line out ball. As a result, Morgan was able to narrow the gap with a penalty goal and then Lafituana cut through and scored by the posts.

With Morgan's conversion, the Swamp Foxes led for the first time in the match at 15-14.

Calum Wood and Cameron Dromgool also scored tries as

a result of a series of attacks on the King Country line. Morgan converted the latter try and with time almost up Thames Valley were safely ahead at 27-14. However, the "never say die" attitude of the Rams paid off and King Country scored a converted try to end the game and take home a bonus point. Final Score: Thames Valley 27 King Country 21.

Next week Thames Valley

meet Mid-Canterbury in Ashburton before returning home to play South Canterbury at Whangamatā on Saturday, September 16.

Top five teams after four rounds: South Canterbury 20, Thames Valley 18, East Coast 15 North Otago 12, Whanganui 12.

In a high scoring match at Masterton the Thames Valley Vixens defeated Wairarapa Bush 37-34.

Donations made

The August meeting of the Goldfields Women's Institute commenced with the Aspirations and Prayer. Thoughts were for any one that hadn't been well over the past month.

The motto for the month – "Hold fast to dreams for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly", was read by Jeannine Oliver.

The birthday girl this month is Jill Bridgman in Auckland. The roll call – Your favourite time of the day, resulted in a tie between morning and night.

Thirty-five items were collected for the Thames Food Bank, and three boxes of blankets and several other items were delivered to Women's Refuge in Thames. We again be provided food and drinks for the volunteers at Daffodil Day on August 25, something we have done for many years.

A discussion was held regarding the Federation Bi Annual Meeting in Ngatea on September 5. Again, the table was full of knitting which will be boxed up in the near future.

Raffles were won by Bev Schenkel and Jeannine Oliver. Lunch was a jovial affair with everyone enjoying pizzas, which were bought from Pizza Hut, something different on a cold August day.

COMPETITION RESULTS: Bloom: Helen Udy 1, Val Bowen 2. Cluster: Val Bowen 1, Helen Udy 2. Shrub: Helen Udy 1, Val Bowen 2. Orchid: Val Bowen 1.

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Love Tennis Day - Sunday September 10th

Families and individuals are invited to come down to the courts and have a go.

There will be spot prizes and the Tennis Club Tennis Coach will be there if you have children that are interested in having coaching.

10am - 2pm Thames Tennis Club, 403 Brown Street, Thames
Phone Sarah 022 619 4413 for more information
Come down and give it a go



Summer Sports

Open play day for Love Tennis

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

On September 10, the Thames Tennis Club will be opening its doors for a day of fun, as it invites members of the public to pop along and give the sport a try. It's all part of the Love Tennis initiative. Clubs across the country will be offering people a chance to pick up a racquet at the national event aimed at fostering a love of tennis.

Thames club president Jon Ballantyne said the club was keen to help people in the community to keep active. "Tennis is a relatively cheap sport," he said. "And [it's] pretty gentle on the body compared to a lot of other sports, so it's a really good one for staying active."

The club will be open from 10am to 2pm, and members of the public will be able to come along and play for free. Club coach Shannon Paki will be running demonstrations and activities, and there will be a sausage sizzle and some competitions and giveaways. "It's really an opportunity for people to find out about tennis and maybe rediscover their love of tennis," Jon said. "We'll have plenty of club members here to play or just answer questions as well."

The 128-year-old club has a strong membership base in Thames, Jon said, especially with the youth and senior demographics.

"We've got a really really strong youth programme here - Shannon's a fantastic coach and he draws in a lot of kids," he said.

"[And] we've got quite a strong retiree [group]. They have a really nice social time through the week, they play three times during the week and they're always interested to bring more people in."

Shannon agreed, saying the club prided itself on being welcoming and inclusive while helping maintain people's fitness.

"We're very big on supporting the community and whānau that want to be involved in our little club," he said.

"Science has proven that tennis makes you live a bit longer, because it helps your cognitive function of your brain ... and the fitness benefit because you're actually utilising 80-90 per cent of all your muscle groups."

DETAILS: Love Tennis Open Day, 10am-2pm on September 10, thamestennisclub.com.



Thames Tennis Club president Jon Ballantyne, left, and club coach Shannon Paki. Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

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Public Notices

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395 Ngati Maru Highway, Thames
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Queries to: Geoff Furkert on 021 833 044
Stuart Read on 0274 770 104

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Pursuant to the Section 11(e) of the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that for the purpose of a Motorsport Rally Tarmac Sprint event organised by Thames Valley Car Club, it is intended to close the following road to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder. During the proposed period of closure provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic, which would otherwise use the road, to use alternative routes.

Period of closure: Sunday 22 October 2023, 9.00am to 6.00pm.
Road to be closed: Golden Cross Road, Waikino.

Alternative provision for ordinary vehicular traffic will be made with signs, cones and barriers to redirect traffic on detour.

It will be an offence under the above regulations for any person otherwise than under authority of an authorised permit to use the road for ordinary vehicular traffic during the proposed period of closure.

Any objections should be directed to Transport Manager on 07 862 8609 or info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz by 21 September 2023.

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Hardwired for connection

OPINION



By MICHAEL WILKES

Recently my wife and I decided to invite a friend to join us for weekly dinners.

He is in the young adult place in life of figuring out a new job and flatting.

However, as these things go, it's not all it's cracked up to be. Adult life aye. Go figure.

Freedom within your grasp and then responsibility drags you back down to reality.

One particular evening, I was running late trying to get dinner under way, as these things go.

He sat down and was accosted by a couple of my kids asking him to listen to them read their homework. He sat there and loved on my kids.

Showing genuine interest and care. And they thrived on the attention.

It made me smile thinking

about how we had invited this young man to join our family and to help him out, and here we were receiving just as much back. That is the beauty of community done well.

I quietly observed the event unfold, as I stirred the Chicken Parikash (seriously an easy dish that you should try), I reflected on the value of the community, or the village that surrounds my kids.

My kids are so privileged to be surrounded by so many amazing people who I can trust will do the right thing by them. And as I stirred the dinner, I considered how we got to this place.

You see community, I mean real intentional community, is not something that happens by accident.

Community is something we need to be intentional about. And it is something you have to be willing to put an effort into.

Choosing to live with others, regularly inviting people into your home, joining a community group that builds connection, and pushing through the awkward beginning until you find belonging.

For me, my wife and our four kids we find community with family and within our wider church whanau.

It's something we have always done from when we were first married. And in part it was

also the culture we were raised in.

One of the pillars in the youth work we do is E Tū Tāngata. It's simply about tackling our tall poppy syndrome. And yet its more than that.

The pillars are: You Have Value – We Succeed Together – Others Matter.

See its not simply about standing against a culture that tears people down to the same level, its about building a culture where we realise, we are better together, stronger together, safer together.

So, as you read this may you consider your position. May you consider your village.

And may you ponder with me the value of real community.

May you consider how you can build your community. Maybe reconnect with friends and family, join a social club, visit a church, connect back in with the local marae, find a young mum's group, or join a sports team.

Do whatever you need to do to build your community. Research has shown we are hard wired for connection.

If you are feeling disconnected it may be time to dig deep, reach out, push through the awkwardness, and find the village to raise yourself or your family in.

- Michael Wilkes is a Living Well Trust Youth Worker

Workplace deaths avoidable

OPINION



By WAYNE SCOTT

Every week this year on average, one or more New Zealand worker will likely be killed in a workplace accident.

America's continuing mass shooting tragedies confirm for many Kiwis the insane nature of that nation's tolerance for firearms. Yet our acceptance of workplace injuries and harm has its comparisons with the preparedness of American society to live with gun violence.

I worked in Australia for 30 years including in health and safety roles; if someone dies in a workplace there, it's a big deal; in New Zealand we tend to think – "sh*t happens" – and move on. Our worst examples of this are the continuing rates of death amongst agriculture, forestry (particularly big and contentious in your region) and construction workers in preventable accidents.

While losing at least one worker on average a week in a workplace fatality is bad, sadly it reflects only a fraction of the tragedy of our misplaced tolerance. This year 750 or more Kiwis will likely die from illnesses related to their work; that's 15 times more than will die

at work from an injury. It's also about twice our annual road toll which we devote huge budgets to reducing. Our hospital system can expect to receive 100 people each week suffering from a variety of illnesses caused in their workplaces including musculoskeletal damage, cancers, respiratory harm and mental health issues.

As much as America needs gun control, we need to end the toll of workplace injuries and health harm. The starting point is understanding that virtually all deaths and harm caused in workplaces is avoidable.

Every year I run workshops in 16 regions around the country to help managers and workers understand how they can achieve that.

While these workshops are aimed at the extractive sector, the learnings are applicable to any business that uses heavy earthmoving machinery – and you have got more than your fair share in use at the moment.

All are welcome and it could be the first step towards stopping another fatality or serious harm event. We look at how employers can avoid or minimise the health impacts of dust and noise, of slips, trips and falls; we also focus on how to ensure procedures designed to protect workers are followed.

Many workplace accidents result from workers failing to use safety devices like seatbelts, exceeding set speed limits or removing protective guards. There is also a session on diversity and respect in the workplace.

DETAILS: The annual MinEx health and safety workshop, September 11, 8am, 5 Towers St, Paeroa. Register: www.minex.org.nz.



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SUDOKU

116

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

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

116

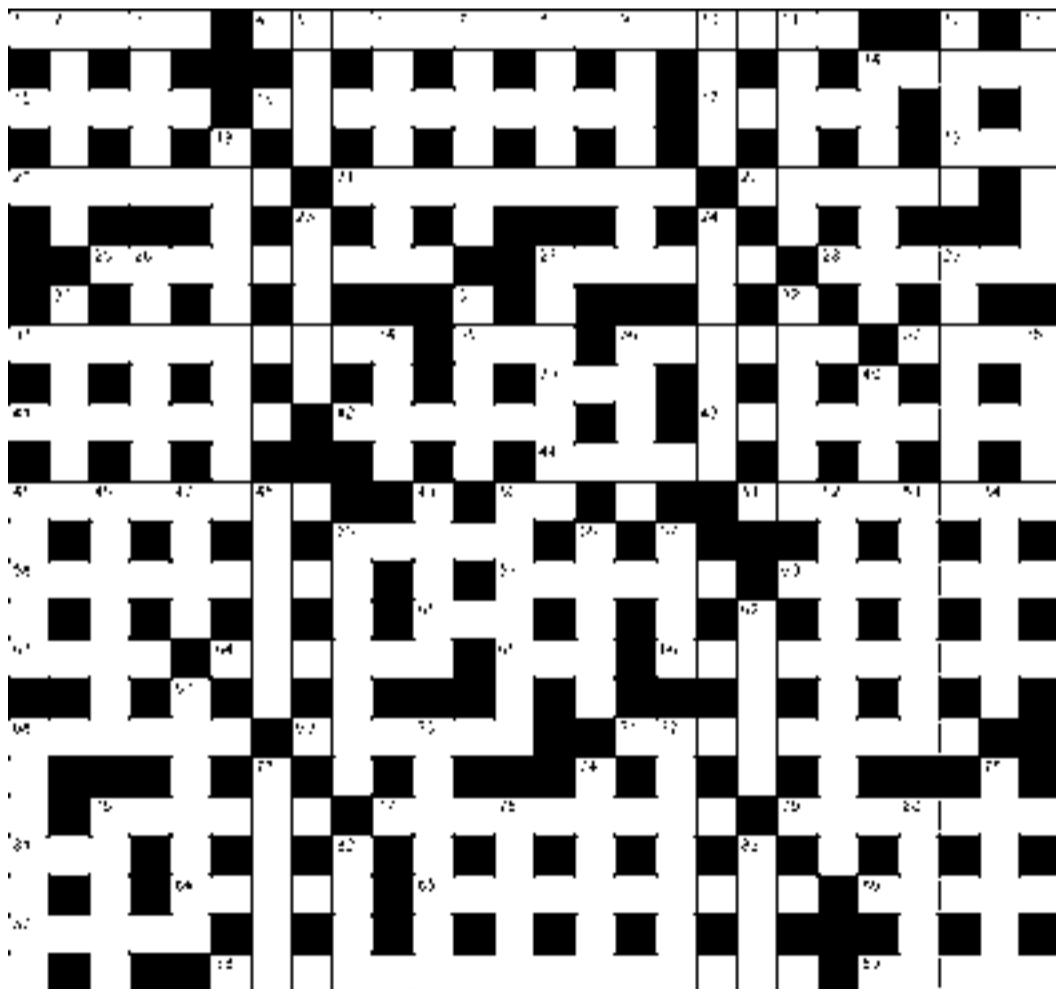
Puzzles © The Puzzle Company
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8	1	6	2	4	5	7	9	3
2	3	7	8	9	1	5	6	4
4	5	9	6	3	7	8	2	1
3	2	8	9	1	6	4	7	5
6	4	5	7	2	8	1	3	9
9	7	1	3	5	4	2	8	6
5	9	3	1	7	2	6	4	8
1	6	2	4	8	9	3	5	7
7	8	4	5	6	3	9	1	2

JUMBO CROSSWORD

136

- ACROSS**
- 1 Estimate (5)
 - 4 Lose one's temper (3,3,3,6)
 - 14 Richly luxurious (5)
 - 15 Wall painting (5)
 - 16 Enigmatic (10)
 - 17 Chop off (5)
 - 19 Morning moisture (3)
 - 20 Answer (7)
 - 21 Northern animal (5,4)
 - 22 Drop steeply (6)
 - 25 Stamp cancellations (9)
 - 27 Israel's monetary unit (6)
 - 28 Film cutter (6)
 - 33 Smuggled goods (10)
 - 35 Go wrong (3)
 - 36 Curtain rail cover (6)
 - 37 Fewer (4)
 - 39 Utilise (3)
 - 41 North American grassland (7)
 - 42 Scared (6)
 - 43 Take apart (9)
 - 44 Spooky (5)
 - 45 Graveyard (8)
 - 50 Symbol for aluminium (2)
 - 51 Lumbago (8)
 - 55 High-up room (5)
 - 58 Attempt fruitlessly (3,2,4)
 - 59 Kidnapper's demand (6)
 - 60 Pungent gas (7)
 - 61 Twosome (3)
 - 63 Space (4)
 - 64 Adapt (6)
 - 65 Signal assent (3)
 - 66 Failed to notice (10)
 - 68 Rhyming writing (6)
 - 69 Relic repository (6)
 - 71 Easily nauseated (9)
 - 76 Equally distant from the extremes (6)
 - 77 Vanish (9)
 - 79 Overeat (7)
 - 81 Also (3)
 - 84 Steps over a wall, fence (5)
 - 85 Formal induction into organisation or office (10)
 - 86 Metal mixture (5)
 - 87 Shatter (5)
 - 88 Unsigned communication (9,6)
 - 89 Snake (5)
 - 26 Survive (7)
 - 27 Apple pastry (7)
 - 29 Doubter (7)
 - 30 Croaky (6)
 - 31 Rot (5)
 - 32 Japanese hostess (6)
 - 34 Quick and neatly skilful (4)
 - 36 Oyster gemstone (5)
 - 38 Military blockade (5)
 - 40 Dull, uninspired writer (4)
 - 45 Provide food (5)
 - 46 Ribbed post (7)
 - 47 War vehicle (4)
 - 48 Think logically (6)
 - 49 Inspect (5)
 - 50 Word formed from initial letters of other words (7)
 - 52 Congratulate (10)
 - 53 Loving (7)
 - 54 Young cow (6)
 - 55 Worried, tense (7)
 - 56 Supercilious (5)
 - 57 Company's emblem (4)
 - 62 Soft hat (5)
 - 67 Over-modest (7)
 - 68 Object to (7)
 - 70 Slim tie (anag)(7)
 - 72 Foursome (7)
 - 73 Slander (6)
 - 74 Sloping upwards (6)
 - 75 Disregard (6)
 - 76 Ethical (5)
 - 78 Farewell (5)
 - 80 Eyed amorously (5)
 - 82 Eager (4)
 - 83 Nucleus (4)
- DOWN**
- 2 New (6)
 - 3 Inundate (5)
 - 5 Produces eggs (4)
 - 6 View (7)
 - 7 Ceremonious (6)
 - 8 Big explosive (1-4)
 - 9 Terrorists' captive (7)
 - 10 American car make (4)
 - 11 Vigorous (6)
 - 12 Steer (5)
 - 13 Thick fish soup (7)
 - 14 Computer accessory (7)
 - 18 Enterprise, resourcefulness (10)
 - 23 Deadly (5)
 - 24 Screen from view (7)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Fight tooth and nail, 10 Anaconda, 15 Stymie, 16 Sunday best, 17 Operates, 19 Academy, 21 Deter, 22 Figure out, 25 Lookalike, 27 Educate, 29 Static, 33 Gamut, 34 Weakened, 36 Fraudulent, 39 Gut, 41 Firebug, 42 Saline, 43 Roused, 44 Aged, 45 Protest, 48 Pigeonhole, 53 Naughty, 57 Push, 58 Walrus, 59 Alaska, 60 Bouncer, 62 Tar, 64 Laryngitis, 65 Intended, 66 Shuts, 69 Racket, 70 Runaway, 71 Pugilists, 76 Billiards, 77 Crack, 78 Beeswax, 83 Tailings, 84 Contravene, 85 Atomic, 86 Libretto, 87 Keep a straight face.

DOWN: 2 Intact, 3 Humid, 4 Tie, 5 Oust, 6 Henpeck, 7 Neared, 8 Nibs, 9 Instinct, 11 Nephew, 12 Circuitous, 13 Note, 14 Arsenic, 18 Subterfuge, 20 Make, 23 Fleet, 24 Strength, 26 Opulent, 28 Dudgeon, 30 Rapier, 31 Unwise, 32 Tureen, 35 Khaki, 37 Toddy, 38 Ours, 40 Trio, 45 Pupil, 46 Obstruct, 47 Tragic, 48 Particular, 49 Gist, 50 Ocarina, 51 Hearts, 52 Liken, 54 Avow, 55 Gunshot, 56 Treaty, 61 Indecisive, 63 Tepid, 67 Wardrobe, 68 Wife, 69 Recital, 72 Unclear, 73 Slight, 74 Breaks, 75 Maniac, 79 Spooft, 80 Limb, 81 Step, 82 Yeti, 85 Ash.

<p>FOR SALE</p> 	<p>783 Waerenga Road, Te Kauwhata</p> <p>3 2 7 X P=</p> <p>Welcome to 783 Waerenga Road, where your rural dreams come to life! This property isn't just a home; it's an entire world waiting to be explored. This extraordinary property offers not only a spacious 120 m2 (more or less) home and 1,7695-hectare land (more or less), but also a wealth of additional</p> <p>Price: \$980,000 Inspect: By appointment Property ID: 20479965 Land Size: 4.30acre Building Size: 120sqm</p> <p>Charlene Price M 0274117516 RE/MAX Apex</p> 	<p>FOR SALE</p> 	<p>91 Travers Road, Te Kauwhata</p> <p>4 2 4 P=</p> <p>This beautiful elevated property at 91 Travers Road, in amongst a serene secluded fully landscaped driveway in Te Kauwhata is an exceptional opportunity for those seeking a spacious family home in a desirable sort after location. The land size of 6708m2 and the well-built 233m2 Lockwood home, along</p> <p>Price: \$1,350,000 Inspect: By appointment Property ID: 20479958 Land Size: 6,708sqm Building Size: 233sqm</p> <p>Tracy Corneal M 0272969016 RE/MAX Apex</p> 
<p>FOR SALE</p> 	<p>31 Wingfield Road, Pokeno</p> <p>4 2 2 P=</p> <p>Welcome to 31 Wingfield Road, a stunning and modern 4-bedroom Compass home nestled in the picturesque town of Pokeno. This architectural beauty is eagerly awaiting its new owners to embrace the relaxed and vibrant lifestyle that Pokeno has to offer.</p> <p>Price: Price on Application Inspect: By appointment Property ID: 20479964 Land Size: 586sqm Building Size: 191sqm</p> <p>Charlene Price M 0274117516 RE/MAX Apex</p> 	<p>FOR SALE</p> 	<p>35 Blunt Road, Te Kauwhata</p> <p>4 2 2 P=</p> <p>On a low maintenance, easy care section, offering 4 bedrooms + office, this brick and tile family home is in lovely condition. The master bedroom is complete with walk in wardrobe & en-suite. The large open plan kitchen/dining/living area steps out onto a sun-drenched patio and is</p> <p>Price: \$830,000 Inspect: By appointment Property ID: 20479954 Land Size: 454sqm Building Size: 165sqm</p> <p>Brendon Pulman M 0225300902 RE/MAX Apex</p> 
<p>FOR SALE</p> 	<p>36 Murray Ward Drive, Te Kauwhata</p> <p>4 2 - P=</p> <p>If you have been dreaming of building a new home but have been put off by increasing build costs and delays, you need to check out this completed and ready to move into GJ Gardner Home in the Swan Road subdivision. Built to exacting GJ Gardner standards, utilising a brick exterior,</p> <p>Price: \$950,000 Inspect: By appointment Property ID: 20479950 Land Size: 681sqm Building Size: 185sqm</p> <p>Helen Bevan M 021369674 RE/MAX Apex</p> 	<p>FOR SALE</p> 	<p>Lot 1 Waerenga Road, Te Kauwhata</p> <p>- - - P=</p> <p>*** NO COVENANTS *** All within our Golden Triangle!!!</p> <p>Title yet to be issued: Land Bank & Capitalize on today's buy price</p> <p>Nestled on this elevated undulating beautiful section with amazing views over yonder, lies this perfect</p> <p>Price: \$640,000 Inspect: By appointment Property ID: 20479946 Land Size: 1,47ha Building Size:</p> <p>Tracy Corneal M 0272969016 RE/MAX Apex</p> 
<p>FOR SALE</p> 	<p>31C Blunt Road, Te Kauwhata</p> <p>4 2 2 P=</p> <p>The East Cape is a very stylish single storied four-bedroom two-bathroom home. The entry foyer opens on to the open plan living area with the lounge, dining and kitchen all sharing great outlooks from their windows. The bedrooms have been grouped around a hallway with the</p> <p>Price: \$800,000 Inspect: By appointment Property ID: 20479945 Land Size: 581sqm Building Size:</p> <p>Brendon Pulman M 0225300902 RE/MAX Apex</p> 	<p>FOR SALE</p> 	<p>900 Waikare Road, Waerenga</p> <p>4 2 6 P=</p> <p>Elevated Kiwi Lifestyle Dream property overlooking Lake Waikare, renovated to a high standard with large open plan living areas, double doors opening out to all of the front views with decking that also has protected views allowing a peaceful and tranquil spot for the ultimate enjoyment year-round.</p> <p>Price: \$1,050,000 Inspect: By appointment Property ID: 20479963 Land Size: 1ha Building Size: 221sqm</p> <p>Charlene Price M 0274117516 RE/MAX Apex</p> 

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