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The SH25A bridge at the end of last week.
Photo: SUPPLIED/NZTA

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

The reopening of one of Coromandel's main routes before the holiday rush is set to be an "early Christmas present" for the region, the local MP has said.

It comes after Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency announced that the two sides of the Coromandel Peninsula will be re-connected once again, with traffic able to cross the SH25A bridge by December 20 - three months ear-

lier than expected. "We've built the bridge in record time by accelerating our work programme, with teams working 24 hour shifts both onsite and offsite," NZTA regional manager of infrastructure delivery for Waikato-Bay of Plenty Jo Wilton said. "In addition, we used a bridge design we already had and repurposed steel plates which had been purchased for [Tauranga's] Minden bridge... meaning we didn't have a lengthy wait for steel to come in from overseas."

The new 124 metre Taparahi Bridge on State Highway 25A between Kōpū and Hikuai has been constructed in less than seven months, after the road was washed away by severe weather earlier this year.

Ms Wilton said while there was still a lot of work to do to finish the bridge by Christmas, getting traffic across as soon as possible had always been the aim for Waka Kotahi. "We'd like to thank everyone who is working so hard to get this

bridge open by Christmas and our special thanks to the Coromandel community for their patience and support. We know it's been a tough year and we hope this new bridge is the gift that helps get the Peninsula back on its feet."

Coromandel MP Scott Simpson rejoiced at the news.

"I was very critical that it took six months for work to get underway, but I couldn't be happier with the efforts of the contractors and the workers on the ground," he said.

With finishing works still ongoing, the bridge will open under traffic management at a reduced speed.

The cost of the bridge, once everything is finished, is expected to be around \$43 million. An additional \$25m is being spent to clear slips, replace the original undersized culvert, and undertake crucial road maintenance work along the rest of the length of SH25A.



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'Good onya' recipients honoured

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

Twelve awards were bestowed upon worthy recipients from around the Hauraki last week, thanking them for their contributions to the community.

Hauraki District Council's annual OnYa awards night was held in Paeroa on November 8.

Previously named the Citizen and Young Achiever Awards, the evening consists of acknowledging and celebrating the achievements and positive differences people have made within their communities.

The award categories consisted of: caring about your community - an individual award for service to the community; working together to make a difference - a community group award for service to the community; knocking it out of the park - an award for service or achievement in sport or recreation; and enhancing and enriching our lives - an award for service or achievement in arts or culture.

Council's awards working party also decides on the recipient of the OnYa Tu Meke award, for going above and beyond, chosen from the successful nominees in the four categories.

Deputy Mayor Paul Milner presented the awards and said they were an opportunity to



Twelve awards were given to individuals and groups to thank them for their contributions.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU



From left: Naelene Donaldson was recognised for her contribution to arts and culture; Paeroa College Dux Grier Buchanan acknowledges the audience; Paeroa library volunteer Sam Morrison was thanked for his hard work.



say "good on you, and job well done".

"It's a wonderful occasion to be able to say thank you to these people who have done a really great job, not just over the last 12 months, but over the last few decades in some cases."

Recipients were: Michael Read, Julie-Ada Tana, Naelene Donaldson, Sheryl Krissansen, Luke van Vliet, Sam Morrison, Grier Buchanan, Jamie-Lee Owen, Meg Thomas, Ian Bradshaw, and Josephine Jebb, as well as Thomas Kereoma, Tay-

lor-James Adamson, Everitt Remnant, Sam Remnant, Luke Johnstone, Max Wicks, Bailey Soppet-Main, and Hemi Smith (group).



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Thames Tides

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Nov 15	Nov 16	Nov 17	Nov 18	Nov 19	Nov 20	Nov 21
<p>4 3 2 1 0</p> <p>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</p> <p>Morning Afternoon 3:01am 0.5 3:19pm 0.6 9:22am 3.4 9:30pm 3.3</p> <p>☀️ 6:00am 8:05pm</p> <p>🐟 Best At 1:57am 2:25pm</p> <p>☾ Rise 6:45am Set 10:12pm</p>	<p>4 3 2 1 0</p> <p>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</p> <p>Morning Afternoon 3:42am 0.4 4:03pm 0.6 10:03am 3.5 10:15pm 3.3</p> <p>☀️ 5:59am 8:06pm</p> <p>🐟 Best At 2:54am 3:24pm</p> <p>☾ Rise 7:33am Set 11:17pm</p>	<p>4 3 2 1 0</p> <p>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</p> <p>Morning Afternoon 4:24am 0.4 4:50pm 0.6 10:47am 3.5 11:02pm 3.3</p> <p>☀️ 5:59am 8:07pm</p> <p>🐟 Best At 3:54am 4:25pm</p> <p>☾ Rise 8:31am</p>	<p>4 3 2 1 0</p> <p>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</p> <p>Morning Afternoon 5:08am 0.4 5:40pm 0.7 11:33am 3.5 11:51pm 3.3</p> <p>☀️ 5:58am 8:08pm</p> <p>🐟 Best At 4:55am 5:25pm</p> <p>☾ Set 12:15am Rise 9:38am</p>	<p>4 3 2 1 0</p> <p>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</p> <p>Morning Afternoon 5:55am 0.5 12:24pm 3.4 6:33pm 0.7</p> <p>☀️ 5:57am 8:10pm</p> <p>🐟 Best At 5:55am 6:23pm</p> <p>☾ Set 1:04am Rise 10:50am</p>	<p>4 3 2 1 0</p> <p>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</p> <p>Morning Afternoon 12:43am 3.2 1:19pm 3.4 6:47am 0.6 7:30pm 0.7</p> <p>☀️ 5:57am 8:11pm</p> <p>🐟 Best At 6:51am 7:17pm</p> <p>☾ Set 1:47am Rise 12:03pm</p>	<p>4 3 2 1 0</p> <p>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</p> <p>Morning Afternoon 1:37am 3.2 2:18pm 3.3 7:44am 0.7 8:30pm 0.7</p> <p>☀️ 5:56am 8:12pm</p> <p>🐟 Best At 7:43am 8:08pm</p> <p>☾ Set 2:21am Rise 1:15pm</p>

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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	Mn	Hr	LOW	Mn
Coromandel	-0	04	-0	03		
Whitanga	-0	01	-0	05		
Tairua	+0	10	+0	21		
Whangamata	-0	03	-0	01		
Waihi Beach	-0	12	-0	12		

'Home for the homeless' project pitched

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

A project that hopes to put a roof over the heads of the homeless has been pitched to Thames-Coromandel district councillors.

It will need to have community backing, organisers said, but with it, it would have the potential to get people "back on their own feet".

In May, *The Profile* reported on homeless people living in poor conditions in tents and under tarps in Thames' Danby Field near Thames' main shopping centre, and 100 metres from a children's playground set for a \$1.5m redevelopment.

Project initiator Sonja Merz and Thames Baptist Church pastor Chris Lee presented during the public forum of council's October 31 meeting, telling elected members how their Coming Home initiative would provide support for those who have "fallen through the gaps in the system" and who have "hit rock-bottom".

"The main idea is to provide a home and have house parents living there," Sonja said.

"The project is for those who are ready for change and would like to start a new life. There will be expectations of commitment from the participants... and there will only be a few people living in the house at the time, and living there for a year or two, until their lives are transformed and their hearts healed."



People have been living in tents in Danby Field near Thames' main shopping centre.

File Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

Sonja said house residents would be connected with counsellors, therapists, prayer ministers, and other support systems to learn about life skills, values, identity, emotions, finances, parenting and relationships.

"The goal is recovery, restoration, healing and wholeness," Sonja said.

"People will get back on to

their own feet, they will be reintegrated into society, reconnect with family, and get work and housing."

The project would rely on funds and volunteers, while it's envisioned the house would be a private house, rented or owned, that could host up to six people.

It could be run as its own enterprise or retreat centre, Sonja

said, or under an umbrella like the Baptist Church's Living Well Trust.

"A single person can't do this. A single church or institution would find it difficult to do this. But as a town, we can do this. I believe, if we all pull together, we can achieve this goal," she said.

"We have many people in our town who really struggle; the

need is big.

"The number of people with substance addictions and other mental health issues like anxiety and depression is constantly increasing. Some have lost everything. We want to see them and care for them."

Sonja said the Coming Home project team had its first meeting in the middle of October, with close to 50 people attending, including representatives from the Ministry of Social Development, the Thames Community Board, council, and Te Whatu Ora.

One of the main requests born from the meeting was a night shelter, she said, so that people could have a roof over their heads, and toilet and shower facilities.

"There are different needs out there, and people are at different stages.

"Some are not ready for change, but they still need to have basic needs met - and for them, a shelter would be important," Sonja said.

"Others are at a point where they are ready to start a new life - and for those, a loving home would be the best place."

The organisers were now at the point of forming a planning team, and said they would come up with "a thorough plan, a detailed concept", which they could then present to the community and use for applications for funding and grants.



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Education

‘Work hard, kids’: Top pupil’s sense of pride

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

Making a bet with his closest Dux rival was just one of the ways Charlie O’Neill made a year of hard work more enjoyable.

And now, after being named Hauraki Plains College’s Dux for 2023 and receiving the Leonard Cup and Lynn Penrhys-Evan Memorial prize, Charlie is making sure to be proud of his monumental efforts.

The 17-year-old Year 13 student was also named the school’s all-round excellence recipient, and received the Stuart Hamilton Memorial Prize for demonstrating outstanding achievements in academics, sports, culture, and service.

He told *The Profile* he felt “a great sense of pride” after being acknowledged at the school’s Senior Academic prizegiving this month.

“I knew that my many, many hours of hard work, resilience, and sacrifice had paid off,” he said. “This year’s achievements were something I had to work extremely hard for, which makes them all the more satisfying. Work hard kids.”

Charlie, who obtained 100 Excellence credits and many subject awards, including nine distinctions and one commendation, was also the college’s Head Boy and captain of the boys’ First XI football team.



Hauraki Plains College Head Boy Charlie O’Neill has been named Dux for 2023 and amassed a horde of awards.

Photo: SUPPLIED

When asked how he managed to juggle his sporting and academic commitments, Charlie said simple things - like using a diary - were helpful. “Sport has always been my happy place, especially football -

my escape from schoolwork you could say - so it was always easy to find time to dedicate to it. “For everything else, I was very lucky to have an amazing team of students and teachers who helped carry the load,”

he said. “On a personal level, though, I found using a diary very helpful. It taught me that there are actually so many free hours in a day, which I could then take advantage of through careful planning.”

Charlie has been offered significant financial scholarships from two universities following his graduation from Hauraki Plains College.

Things he’ll remember from his time studying there include the support of the staff and his fellow students, the school’s positive culture, and “having a good laugh with my mates”.

His advice for students who will be coming into NCEA in the following years is to make school work fun.

“I did this by making a bet with my closest rival for Dux, which made a year of hard work more enjoyable,” he said.

“And it sounds counterintuitive, but sometimes you need to not work as hard to do your best work. Don’t overwork and stress yourself out, sometimes you simply need to chill out.

“So, work hard, but not too hard. What you do when you’re not working is equally as important as what you do when you are.”

Meanwhile, Lovesee Gunn received the runner-up academic award to the Dux - the Proxime Accessit. She won the Hauraki Plains Jaycee Cup and Ngātea District High School Award for gaining all possible internal excellence credits offered across her subjects.



Celebrating Excellence at HPC

Lovesee Gunn

Proxime Accessit

Hauraki Plains Jaycee Cup and Ngātea District High School Award



Holly Wilgermein and Katelyn Flocks

Supreme Effort
Delia Cullen Memorial Cup



Tahlia Warburton

All Round Excellence
Māori student
Vee Port Trophy



Eleanor Clarkin

Contribution to Multiculturalism
Norman Pratt Award



Matthew Strickland

Prime Ministers Vocational Excellence



Anna Hart

and Joshua Tugomoa
Good Citizenship Award



Miles Sargent

Contribution to Corporate Life of the College
Tenant Prize

More Than A School
Hauraki Plains College



Mental health 'hub' connects kids with help

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

Steve Williams is a busy man. When *The Profile* sits down with him inside his Paeroa clinic, it is between appointments, and he is wearing a brightly-patterned waistcoat, the fabric of which was given to him by a former patient, a young girl who knew of his penchant for formal-wear.

He says he sees between five and eight young people a day, who are either overcoming trauma, overwhelming anxiety, or low moods.

"I think our kids are, basically, just awesome human beings. The teenagers I've worked with are some of the most empathic, caring young people, and the reason they struggle with the world is because the world is not a very empathic, caring place at times," he says.

Steve is a Thames-based clinical psychologist who has spent decades working with adolescents. He has met young people with anger issues, drug or alcohol dependency, depression, grief and trauma, and abusive backgrounds.

While he admits his Paeroa clinic is rather "grey", there are soft toys in the corner and on more than one occasion, he has brought out his replica Lord of the Rings sword to teach young boys about self-control and regulating emotions.

He says that since Covid-19, in which young people were constantly warned of the dangers



Clinical psychologist Steve Williams has initiated a new mental health 'hub'.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

of the pandemic, and the rise of "doom scrolling" on social media, young people are facing more challenges than ever.

"They are under more pressure in terms of their well-being because they are exposed to so much in the media that is essentially doom and gloom," he says, "and people are impacted when they're surrounded by doom and gloom."

But Steve says mental health challenges for young people have always been present, the only dif-

ference is that back in the day, kids were told to "harden up".

"And as a result, you have people in their 60s and 70s who are not that happy but have never had any help, and what I have found is that often, the stuff that upsets them has been upsetting them for a really long time," he says.

"If we can work with people when they're young and resolve their distress when they're young, we save the adult mental health services 40 or 50 years of trying to support people not cop-

ing with the world. So, the money should all be in child and adolescent mental health, but it's not."

Steve is speaking from experience.

He explains that there were times when he was growing up where he wasn't a very happy kid.

"There were no services. I basically had to suck it up and deal with it," he says.

"When I got older, I thought: 'This is really crappy. There has got to be people who actually give a shit.'"

So that's why Steve has initi-

ated a new mental health 'hub' specifically for the Thames Valley.

He has established an online website that connects families with clinicians who specialise in working with children and adolescents.

The aim of the hub is to help those in need find the right assistance, with rural services often being limited or riddled with long waitlists.

"I am not willing to see another young person do themselves in because they can't find the right help," Steve says.

His plan is to have a one-stop-shop website, with details of all the counsellors, services, and non-governmental organisations on offer in the Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki districts.

There are already six clinicians whose details are listed on the site, and Steve is encouraging all reputable workers with a focus on tamariki and rangitahi to get in touch.

"At some point I'm going to want to retire and I don't want to get to that point having done nothing that enables good services to continue for young people," he says.

"I want to create something that is so good that we can attract other clinicians to our area, knowing what a great group of people we've got here."

DETAILS: For more information on the hub or to get in touch, visit: candahub.vit.kiwi.



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15 November 2023

Māori wards in 2025

Our Council voted unanimously at its October meeting to establish a Māori ward (or wards) in time for the 2025 and 2028 local elections.

Similar to a General Election, a Māori ward at local level allows voters who've chosen to be on the Māori roll to elect a representative to council to ensure that a specifically Māori perspective is part of decision-making. People who opt to enrol on the Māori roll vote only on that roll, not on the general roll as well.



The Council Chamber was packed with community members and Māori leaders supporting the Māori ward vote.

The move aims to redress under-representation of Māori in local government and recognises Māori knowledge and perspectives are hugely important when Council considers land use, the environment, business, tourism etc.

Our Council now needs to undertake a 'representation review' by July next year to look at the details of the

ward(s), according to provisions in the Local Electoral Act. The public will be fully consulted.

tcdc.govt.nz/maoriwardsvote



LONG TERM PLAN

Our Council recently held a series of drop-in sessions, including one at Thames market, to hear from communities about their thoughts on Council priorities for activities, facilities and services over the next ten years. We also held an online session which you can view on YouTube.

Recovery from the extreme weather earlier this year and building resilience into communities, infrastructure and facilities will be a key focus, as is economic recovery and better protection of our coast through the Shoreline Management Pathways project.

We're still working on budgets and priorities and will be formally consulting our community in March/April next year about what we're proposing.

tcdc.govt.nz/LTP-2024-2034

Abingdon-on-Thames visit



Thames Community Board recently hosted visitors from the UK's Abingdon-on-Thames, a "sister town" of our Thames. Stella Carter (pictured centre, in yellow), the Chair of Abingdon Twin Town Association, visited our Community Board, meeting with our elected members, staff and local community leaders and bringing an official letter to our Mayor from Abingdon-on-Thames District Council.

As part of the sister town arrangement, the people of Thames have been given the 'freedom' of Abingdon-on-Thames, with a proclamation in Thames' Council foyer. This freedom involves the historic right to drive sheep into the town!

To contact the Twin Town Association, please email: bakehouse@supanet.com



Recreational Biking Strategy

Creating a world-class off-road cycle trail network and experiences for residents and visitors, in collaboration with a range of organisations, were the aims behind our Council's adoption of the Hauraki-Coromandel Recreational Biking Strategy in October.

The strategy was initially developed by our regional tourism organisation, Destination Hauraki-Coromandel. Our Council then undertook community engagement which showed high levels of support and enthusiasm for cycling and the strategy.

Another key aim is to enhance and showcase our beautiful environment to become a nationally significant mountain bike destination. Recent Council-commissioned research showed that mountain biking holidaymakers could increase nearly 10 per cent over the next four years – to bring in \$9.2 million.

tcdc.govt.nz/recreationalbikingstrategy

Moanataiari sea wall improvement

Around 60 people attended a public meeting in Thames on 30 October, jointly organised by our Council and the Moanataiari Residents' Committee, to consider options for enhancing Moanataiari's sea wall.



A recently completed five-yearly inspection and review of the sea wall, conducted by engineering firm Tonkin and Taylor, found the wall is currently performing well but will require upgrades to extend its lifespan beyond 2036. Improving the sea wall is of high importance and is being considered as part of Council's Long Term Plan setting out projects for the next 10 years.

Two options were outlined: (1) extending the wooden parapet by 200mm or (2) replacing the parapet with a solid concrete structure. Potential funding sources for any selected option have not yet been identified, with both central government and ratepayer contributions likely areas for investigation.

Find out more at tcdc.govt.nz/moanataiari

Thames Community Board UPDATE

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

"We're currently focused on our Long Term Plan – working out the priorities for Council spending over the next ten years. Storm recovery is a priority – not just reconstructing roads and infrastructure, but also making sure our communities are more resilient both socially and economically. For Thames, this includes protecting areas of our coast vulnerable to storms, like Moanataiari, and developing new aquatic facilities and sports fields. We'll be formally consulting the public in March and April next year."



adrian.catran@council.tcdc.govt.nz

The Board's next meeting is on Wednesday 29 November, 10am in Thames Council Offices.
tcdc.govt.nz/meetings

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Golden glow

The Steampunk festival drew thousands of people to Thames for four days of festivities over the weekend. Pollen St appeared to be lined with gold as festival goers embraced the Gold Rush theme, and the golden-hued sunshine only added to the carefree atmosphere. *Valley Profile* reporter ALICE PARMINTER went on a treasure hunt.



The Steampunk parade was a highlight of the event.



Steampunk enthusiasts came from across the motu (country) to take part in the parade and festival.



Modified and decorated vehicles of all kinds participated in the parade.



The Awesome Foursome: Lorraine Olsen, Lyndsay James, Paula McWha and Barbara Preece.



People of all ages dressed in their Victorian best for the festival.



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PLACEMAKING

Let's make great places together



Hauraki District Council has received money from central government to develop placemaking plans for Paeroa, Kerepēhi and Ngātea as part of the **Better Off Funding** package.

Placemaking actions can include anything from widening footpaths and developing cycleways, to installing art, or holding a market. We'll be able to do some actions fairly quickly, and others will take more time and budget. It's all about reimagining and reinventing our communal spaces.

If you value local knowledge and history, want to show your aroha (love) and connection to your place, and you're keen to do the mahi (work) together to turn aspirations into reality, placemaking is for you!

Get started!

We're working with the talented, award winning design company **Isthmus** to shape Placemaking Plans with the community – for the community. First up, Isthmus have designed three events to get you thinking about your town and how to see it with a new perspective.

Check out Isthmus and their kaupapa – regenerating Aotearoa by connecting land, people and culture: isthmus.co.nz

Get involved!

- 📍 **Attend an event** and share your ideas with Isthmus
- 📍 **Sign up to our online engagement platform Kōrero Mai Let's Talk Hauraki** for up to date info and opportunities to share your ideas: letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz
- 📍 **Sign up to our e-newsletter 'Stay in the Loop'** www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/council/newsletter-signup
- 📍 **Follow us on Facebook** facebook.com/haurakidistrictcouncil

EVENTS!

Mark your calendar!

Ngātea - Thursday 23 November, 7:30am – 10am

Link the Loop with a Ngātea Ramble

Start at the skate park and join our crew for a walk and talk. Follow the markers to be connected and prompted through observations that elevate the everyday, and open up new perspectives of your town.

Kerepēhi - Thursday 23 November, 4:30pm – 6:30pm

Community Pātaka – Kerepēhi Treasures

Start at the dairy and join our crew for a local treasures walk. The kids of Kerepēhi will be leading the way via bikes and by foot, collecting and foraging a trove of objects that reflect Kerepēhi through their eyes. What will you see?

Paeroa - Friday 24 November, 8:30am – 6:30pm

Flip your Perspective Paeroa – Maunga to Awa

Any time during the day, you'll find our crew at the corner of Princes Street and Wharf Street. Follow their map leading from the Ōhinemuri up and over the stop bank through the side streets and main street, past the Domain and up to the highest point, Primrose Hill Tui Kai Rangi. Along the way, the crew will be framing particular moments in the landscape which capture the experience across awa to maunga, highlighting an opportunity to reconnect and weave people with place.

Kōrero mai Let's talk

Find out more

Find out more about **Placemaking Let's make great places together** on our Kōrero mai|Let's talk Hauraki website: <https://letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/>

Placemaking timeline

- ✓ 20 Oct, 2023
Hui with Mana Whenua
- 19 Nov, 2023 - 10 Dec, 2023
Speaking together #1 Story of Place
- 21 Jan, 2024 - 18 Feb, 2024
Imagining Together #2 Our Vision and Goals
- April 2024
Planning Together #3 Developing our Placemaking Actions
- 2 June, 2024 - 2 Sep, 2024
Adoption of Placemaking Plans



What a Knight

It was an evening of enjoyable entertainment at Netherton School's recent production. The entire student body worked together to put on four rousing musical performances of *What a Knight*, set in King Arthur's court of Camelot and featuring everything from a talking dragon, a magician and an evil knight, to princesses, villagers and lords. **ALICE PARMINTER** was invited to the castle.



From left: the knights Sir Render, Sir Loinsteak and Sir Curity (Harry Powell, Max van Eyk and Charlie Shaw).



King Arthur, played by Laurie Black, strikes a formidable presence as Room One knights and princesses dance.



The brave adventurers of Ruma Wha head off to save the knights.



Room Three students set the scene as villagers.



Watt Cobblers, the hero of the story, was portrayed by Reef Bradley.



Aimee Hill as Narrator Lester Lugabout.

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Rural Life

From soil to plate: making the most of seasonal produce

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

It's one thing to grow vegetables in your own garden, but often making use of the produce can require some additional inspiration.

Enter Kauaeranga Valley permaculture experts Yotam and Niva Kay. The pair's latest book, *The Abundant Kitchen*, is filled with recipes and techniques to preserve and transform the backyard harvest, from fermenting, pickling and preserving, to curing meat and making sourdough, vinegar, yoghurt, kombucha and more.

Although the recipes lean heavily on their Middle Eastern roots, they have taken inspiration from cuisines across the globe. Each recipe has been adapted to the variety of fruit and vegetables available in Kiwi gardens.

"We've been doing these kinds of fermentation practices for nearly 20 years now and it's just an integral part of our kitchen," Yotam said.

"Our main aim was to make it accessible, to make it easy, to make it comprehensible - and hopefully inspiring people to make more of these types of foods."

The preservation techniques outlined in the book are cheap, easy and make use of seasonal produce - all practices the couple utilise in their own home.

It's part of the sustain-



Left: Yotam Kay makes mead from honey. Yotam and Niva Kay's book uses a variety of fermenting and preserving techniques.



Photos: SUPPLIED/AARON MCLEAN

able, eco-friendly lifestyle they promote at their business, Pākaraka Permaculture.

It's also a collaborative lifestyle. Yotam and Niva work closely with billions of tiny coworkers in their life-friendly garden, so it was a natural next step to showcase recipes that utilise live cultures and natural

bacterial processes as well.

"You're looking at one million different types of species in one cubic centimetre of living soil. The complexity is just huge," Yotam said.

"Most of [our] recipes it's just using things that are naturally in the air and creating conditions for them to colonise and

transform the food, and doing that in a healthy way and a safe way."

Niva added: "We want a living garden and we want a living ecosystem. We're also gardening in the kitchen by creating these habitats that are life-friendly."

"[The cultures are] not com-

ing from nowhere, they're there all the time and are all around us."

The Abundant Kitchen by Yotam and Niva Kay is available now from pakarakafarm.co.nz or local bookshops.



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Rural Life

Feature gardens flourish for fundraiser

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

With spring well and truly blooming, Paeroa Rotary is ready for its annual Garden Ramble.

Twenty homes and businesses in Paeroa and the surrounding rural area will open up their premises on November 18, to welcome visitors into their green spaces. And this year, there are extra activities on offer, from workshops and refreshments, to live music by twilight.

“We’re calling it a garden with a ramble,” organiser Janet Tye said.

“It’s not completely different, but an annual event can get a bit tired unless you add something back in.”

Among the new offerings are demonstrations on kokedama (Japanese moss balls) and cut flower harvesting, talks about permaculture and healthy soil, and an art exhibition. The Kerepehi Brass Band will be performing during the day, and refreshments will be available at the Ramble hub at AgriSea.

Joye and John van Hellemond’s Netherton garden will be open until 7pm, and Janet said the owner was encouraging attendees to bring a picnic and enjoy some music to round off their day. “That gardener suggested the garden was best viewed in the evening because it’s the time when the flowers and the perfume is up the most,” she said.

Also back, by popular demand, is the former Masonic Lodge on Arney St. It was a last-minute edition, Janet said,



Joye and John van Hellemond’s Netherton garden will be open until 7pm. Photo: SUPPLIED

after so many people enquired about its return to the event.

Janet, whose home was part of the Ramble last year, said there was a buzz of excitement in the air leading up to the event.

“People love it so much, it’s just a lovely fundraiser,” she said.

“It raises the awareness of Rotary [and] the proceeds all go back into the community. Last year [we had] nearly 200 people - we’re hoping for that again this year.”

DETAILS: Garden Ramble, November 18 from 10am-5pm. Tickets \$25, see trybooking.co.nz or call Janet 027 273 7853 for more information.



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LETTERS

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CHOOSING LIFE

In regard to Kelley Tantau's well written article on *Safe Area a 'win' for woman's rights*, (*Valley Profile*, November 1, 2023), I acknowledge Laura and Sylvia's one year almost every fortnight standing at a corner as a counter to the pro life folks. In contrast, the mostly elderly pro life faithful witnesses, some with walkers and canes, others over the years with oxygen tanks, have stood in all weather, in all seasons, not for the supportive honks or the cups of coffees brought to them by supporters. What has motivated these prayerful witnesses for over 10 years is that at least 12 people

have come up, some with their children, saying how grateful they were that the pro life signs and offers of help made them think again, and choose life for their little ones. That's what keeps us going!

- Ellen Brumder, Waihi

ABORTION QUESTION

Does anybody else find the joy, smiles and positivity displayed in the photo and article about the abortion safe areas incongruous with the fact that we are talking about doing away with unborn children when they don't fit into our plans for life?

- Gary Baigent, Waitakaruru

Mitzie's qu-ear trouble

Meet Mitzie, an eight-month-old kitten. Mitzie is a frequent flier at Anexa Te Kauwhata and has been from a young age, all due to her ongoing ear troubles.

Mitzie is only a young cat but due to some unusual features of her ears (likely present since birth) she has been very prone to ear infections for several months now. Her owner notices that she shakes her head and that she smells bad when an infection is present. Luckily for Mitzie she is always brought in for treatment when she needs it.

Most recently, Mitzie had to go and stay at the vets for a whole day and be sedated to have an inflammatory polyp removed from her ear. These polyps can develop because of infection with cat flu, and can be responsible for ear infections also.

Mitzie will likely have ongoing ear issues throughout her life. Most cats are not so unlucky, but this does not mean that they never suffer from ear infections. Most ear infections in cats are due to ear mites. Ear mites are nasty little creatures that are very contagious in cats and dogs. To prevent ear mite infection, keep your furry friend up to date on a high-quality flea treatment (ask in clinic).

Other things that can cause ear infections in cats include allergies to food or environment, things



Mitzie the kitten.

getting stuck in the ear, such as grass seeds, and illnesses affecting the cat's immunity.

The most important signs to watch out for in your cat are itchininess around the head or frequent headshaking, a bad smell coming from the ears, and brown, black or yellow discharge inside the ear.

If you see any of these symptoms, try to get your cat into a vet clinic, as ear infections are uncomfortable and unpleasant for cats to put up with.

In clinic your cat may need its ears cleaned out and then may require a treatment to be applied to its ears for a week or so, depending on the type of infection present. In most cases this will stop the symptoms and infection won't come back any time soon.

- Supplied by Poppy Brydon, Veterinarian, Anexa Vets

Sports finalists

A Whiritoa lifeguard is among the finalists for the 2023 Waikato Sport and Active Recreation awards.

Vicki Skill was nominated for the Community Unsung Hero award, for her work with the Whiritoa Lifeguard Service. After the Covid-19 pandemic, she was the last committee member. Club membership has since increased by 19 per cent and six adult lifeguards have been trained, ensuring the beach has an active patrol.

Her nomination credited her behind-the-scenes work with being the sole reason the club still exists. "Vicki plays a pivotal role in managing finances, ensuring compliance, and contributing to the Whiritoa Lifeguard Service's overall success," the nomination read. "Vicki has a solid gold heart and has voluntarily dedicated her time and expertise. Vicki's contribution will have a lasting impact on the organisation, influencing its financial stability and ability to achieve its mission for years to come."

The Whitianga Skate School was nominated for the Commitment to Youth Engagement award for its First Push Skateboarding programme; Junior club captain Gabriella Hughes of Tairua was also nominated in the Outstanding By Youth, For Youth Initiative award for her work with youths at the Tairua Surf Lifesaving Club.

Protect your dog - vaccinate

Vaccinating your puppy or dog is essential to prevent potentially fatal viral diseases. Prevention is always better than trying to cure.

Canine Parvovirus is a very contagious, life-threatening disease, particularly affecting young puppies.

What can you do?

- 🐾 Vaccinate your puppy and ensure you get their booster vaccinations
- 🐾 Don't take your puppy or unvaccinated dog out in public or where there have been known parvovirus infections until it has been fully vaccinated - they could get parvo
- 🐾 If you think your puppy or dog may have parvo, phone the clinic first before bringing it in



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Our Thames Health Shuttle service is available to anyone in the Thames, Paeroa, Ngatea wider communities (including Kaiaua) for transport to attend any kind of health related appointment either locally or inter-regionally including Hamilton, Auckland and Tauranga localities. Patients can have their own support person accompany them if required.

A core part for this service are our volunteer drivers who drive the shuttles. When we have vacancies, it makes it a little harder for us to deliver and meet everyone's needs or expectations. We currently have some vacancies in Thames and Paeroa so if you want to find out more information on being a volunteer driver give us a call on **0800 934 287** or email hauraki.community@stjohn.org.nz

For Health Shuttle bookings: phone us on **(07) 868 0567** or **0800 934 287** and discuss your needs with us.

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Life Education Trust Waikato East held its annual awards evening last month with a number of community members recognised for their support. Photo: SUPPLIED

'A big thank you' to Life Ed supporters

Life Education Trust Waikato East held its annual awards evening last month with a number of community members recognised for their support. Held at the Thames Bowling Club on October 26, trustee Frances Nicol said community service awards were presented to Ngatea Panelbeaters, Richardsons Real Estate, and Fonterra for their "continuing valued support".

"It's businesses like these that enable our health programme to be out in the school communities, helping our young ones to develop into adults who are positive members of their communities," she said.

"As one of our supporters said: 'We're here for the kids'."

Chief executive of Life Education Trust New Zealand, John O'Connell, acknowledged the Waikato East chair,

"It's businesses like these that enable our health programme to be out in the school communities."
- Frances Nicol

Keith Trembath, and trustees for their hard work to make the branch so successful.

Mr Trembath also said "a big thank you" to the three local councils that support the trust, as well as its patron, and all individuals and businesses which had helped "in so many ways".

"Sadly, our educator Mike Budd is moving on after eight years with us," Francis said. "He has been amazing - always giving 110 per cent to his job. The tamariki love him - and Harold the giraffe, of course."

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Owner Liam Gillbanks established the business with his wife in January, 2022. Photo: SUPPLIED

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CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

Death Notice	Gardening	Public Notice	Trades & Services
<p>STROGEN, Peter: Passed away peacefully at Waikato Hospital, on Sunday 12th November, 2023; aged 86 years. Dearly loved husband of Rita. Much loved father of Ruth (deceased), Rita (deceased) Rachel (deceased), Damien, and Dominic. A life well lived. A celebration of Peter's life will be held at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Willoughby Street, Thames on Friday 17th November at 10am, followed by private cremation</p>	<p>STUMP GRINDING. All sizes, all areas. Thames based. Ph 021 060 7659</p> <p>Handyman</p> <p>Handyman Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waihi and surrounding areas • Building maintenance and repairs • Mobile - Grant 027 333 8331 • E - Waihi105@gmail.com <p>Mowing, hedges, fencing, gardening, carpentry, painting, retaining walls, welding, waterblasting. Work is good quality and I will not attempt to work outside of my skills. Insured. Dennis Schuler 022 129 0169</p>	<p>Jolly Bikes is advertising intent to sell 2010 Giant Glory Mountain Bike due to no contact and abandonment of property since July 1 2023 with a debt of \$1,700. The bike will be put up for sale from November 29, 2023. Jolly Bikes, 92 Richmond St, Thames. 07 867 9026</p>	<p>Man with a Trailer</p> <p>Need something picked up or taken away?</p> <p>Fastest service. Text or Call 021 049 4110</p> <p>FENCING CONTRACTOR</p> <p>Residential & Rural Retaining walls & more High quality workmanship Competitive prices Call Matt 021 1727 148</p>

Church Notices	Health	Handyman
<p>Assembly of God 10am Sundays. Scout Hall. Baker St, Waihi</p>	<p>Plains Healing Centre Since 1989 now in Paeroa as Romoco Wellness. Makers of the famous Golden Skin Cream Burns, Bites, Grazes 2 or 4 legs... 07 862 9167</p>	<p>THAMES HANDYMAN & BUILDING SERVICES</p> <p>Building, home maintenance & general gardening services Phone: Fleur or Crighton • 0273 913 283</p>

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Garage Sale	Gardening	NEED STAFF?
<p>29 Keepa Ave, Paeroa. 8am Sat & Sun 18 & 19 Nov, only if fine weather. All sorts for sale, tools etc inflatable boat 3mtr.</p>	<p>STORAGE KOPU, PAEROA TE AWAMUTU</p> <p>"New Units" Ph 027 440 7101 07 868 3033 Safe n Sound Storage www.safestorage.co.nz</p>	<p>NEED STAFF? GOT SOMETHING TO SELL? Advertise in the <i>Valley Profile</i> and get results! Phone Nikki: 022 130 3885</p>

Fishing village proposed



Vintage Valley News

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.

1902

A fishing village at the mouth of the Piako River was proposed by Mr H Hazard, District Surveyor.

Once the Piako swamp was properly drained, an area could be reserved and surveyed into sections of a few acres each. There was a considerable fishing population at Thames, which was living cooped up in small town allotments, but whose sphere of work lay off the banks of the Piako.

If they could settle close to their work, they would not only save a great deal of time in sailing backwards and forwards, but in fishing there was so much broken time that could profitably be spent in improving their holdings.

A remarkable scene occurred when a school of black fish (a species of whale) appeared in the Hauraki Gulf. There were thousands of fish which, for over an hour in a continuous stream, passed Shortland and made for the Waihou River. When they reached this point, many of them headed up the river while others turned to the west in the direction of the Piako River.

The schoolmaster of Hikutaia School appeared in Thames court on a charge of thrashing a boy for swimming with his sister and other girls. The headmaster had warned the boys and girls that he would punish them if he found them bathing together, when separate bathing places in the river were provided.



A catch of fish in the Hauraki gulf, near Thames. Photo: SUPPLIED

The Magistrate decided that the schoolmaster had no jurisdiction to administer punishment for an offence committed out of school and school hours, and gave judgment for the complainant for 5 pounds damages and 5 pounds 15 shillings costs.

Mr Morpeth, when proceeding to Paeroa on a bicycle, met with a disagreeable mishap. He had pedalled for nearly two hours along a muddy road, and, weary of the continued strain, he branched off on a smooth pathway.

About a mile and a half from Paeroa he attempted to cycle across a narrow footbridge spanning Buchanan's Creek. He had reached about the middle of the bridge when the handle of his machine struck the hand railing, and in a moment both bicycle and rider were plunged into the marsh below. Mr Morpeth completed the journey to Paeroa in a bedraggled condition.

Mr F Tanner, of Waihi, had on view at his residence a model of a balloon which he claimed was more useful and safer than any balloon yet attempted. The balloon was shaped like an orange, enclosed in a massive network, and would contain 30,000 feet of gas when inflated for an ascent. At the lower part of the balloon was a circular car, projecting from which was a long boom with two large sails attached, which could be set to suit the prevailing winds. Underneath the car was fitted a cylinder made of aluminium, and cigar like in shape. This was charged with gas and acted as a keel. The balloon was meant to become an oversea mail carrier, its average speed being calculated at 55 miles per hour. The cost of the balloon would not exceed 300 pounds. If the money could be raised Mr Tanner proposed to make a voyage from Thames to Auckland. He intended to raise the money by way of a Magic Lantern entertainment, detailing ballooning from its discovery to the present day and its future possibilities.

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

Public Notice	Situations Vacant
<p>Thames High School Te Kura Tuarua o Te Kaueranganga</p> <p>SENCO (Special Needs Education Coordinator) (Part time, Permanent)</p> <p>We seek an engaging educator, who works collaboratively with the learning support team. Proven experience or enthusiasm to support taiohi (young people) with diverse learning or behavioural needs to reach their potential. Committed to building strong relationships with ākonga, whānau, staff and the wider community. A passionate, innovative, and forward-thinking educator committed to improving student outcomes. We have an inclusive philosophy for learner support and commitment to universal design for learning.</p> <p>For more detailed information and role descriptions refer to our website www.thameshigh.school.nz/vacancies</p> <p>Applications close Friday 24 November (4.00 pm)</p> <p>Please send your cover letter, CV and application form and/or direct enquiries to: Tracey Reed, Principal's PA Email: traceyreed@thameshigh.school.nz</p>	<p>Qualified Mechanic Wanted Immediate start.</p> <p>Email: miles@hpmotors.co.nz or phone 027 227 1121</p>

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SPORTS

Tumbling good time at GymClub comp

GYMSPORTS

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

For the members of Thames Gymsports, Labour Weekend was a winner. The club came away with three banner awards at the 2023 National GymClub Challenge, including top club in double mini-tramp, tumbling, and overall top club.

The GymClub Challenge is a celebration of recreational gymnastics offering gymnasts a place to show their skills across a variety of disciplines. The event was hosted by Manawatu Gymsports in Palmerston North, with close to 300 athletes attending from 15 clubs across the country.

The seven gymnasts from the Thames club spent four days competing in the apparatus, double mini tramp, trampoline, team gym, short track tumbling, and national tumbling events.

Each of the gymnasts came away with several top six placements in their level across the events, and the team gym group, made up of gymnasts Ellie Johnston, Teigan Lange, Isabella Maclaurin, Madison Fowlie, Maia Whitney came in fifth place overall.

Thames Gymsports committee member Paige Aitchison said the club was very proud of the girls who competed, and they were thrilled to see how the girls, many of whom coach the junior gymnasts, exemplified sportsmanship and club values while at the tournament.

“The girls went above and beyond with showing Thames Gymsports values,” she

said. “These aspects include initiative, giving things a go and being engaged, positive and safe, along with helping others feel safe.

“Being supportive, cooperating, and showing self control whilst being a positive role model. Being inspiring, taking opportunities, [and] giving something new a go.”

RESULTS: Sienna Moore, Apparatus: 1st place vault, 1st= floor, 1st overall; Double mini-tramp: 3rd= overall; Short track tumbling: 2nd overall; National tumbling: 1st overall. Teigan Lange, Apparatus: 1st place floor, 2nd beam, 1st overall; Double mini-tramp: 1st overall; Trampoline: 3rd= overall; Short track tumbling: 6th overall; National tumbling: 2nd overall. Ellie Johnston, Apparatus: 1st place bar; Short track tumbling: 1st overall; Nationals tumbling: 1st overall; Double mini-tramp: 2nd overall; Trampoline: 5th overall. Isabella Maclaurin Double mini-tramp: 1st place overall; Trampoline: 1st overall. Madison Fowlie Apparatus: 3rd place bar, 6th overall; Double Mini-tramp: 2nd overall. Maia Whitney Apparatus: 2nd place vault; Double Mini-tramp: 3rd= overall; Short track tumbling: 6th overall; National tumbling: 5th= overall. Caeleigh Monrad, Apparatus: 2nd place floor. Thames Team Gym group, 5th place overall.

From top left: Sienna Moore, Isabella Maclaurin, Caeleigh Monrad, Madison Fowlie, Maia Whitney, Ellie Johnston, coach Natasha Noble, Teigan Lange, coach Rosie Thompson.

Photo: SUPPLIED



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SUDOKU

126

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

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

126

HARD

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MEDIUM

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EASY

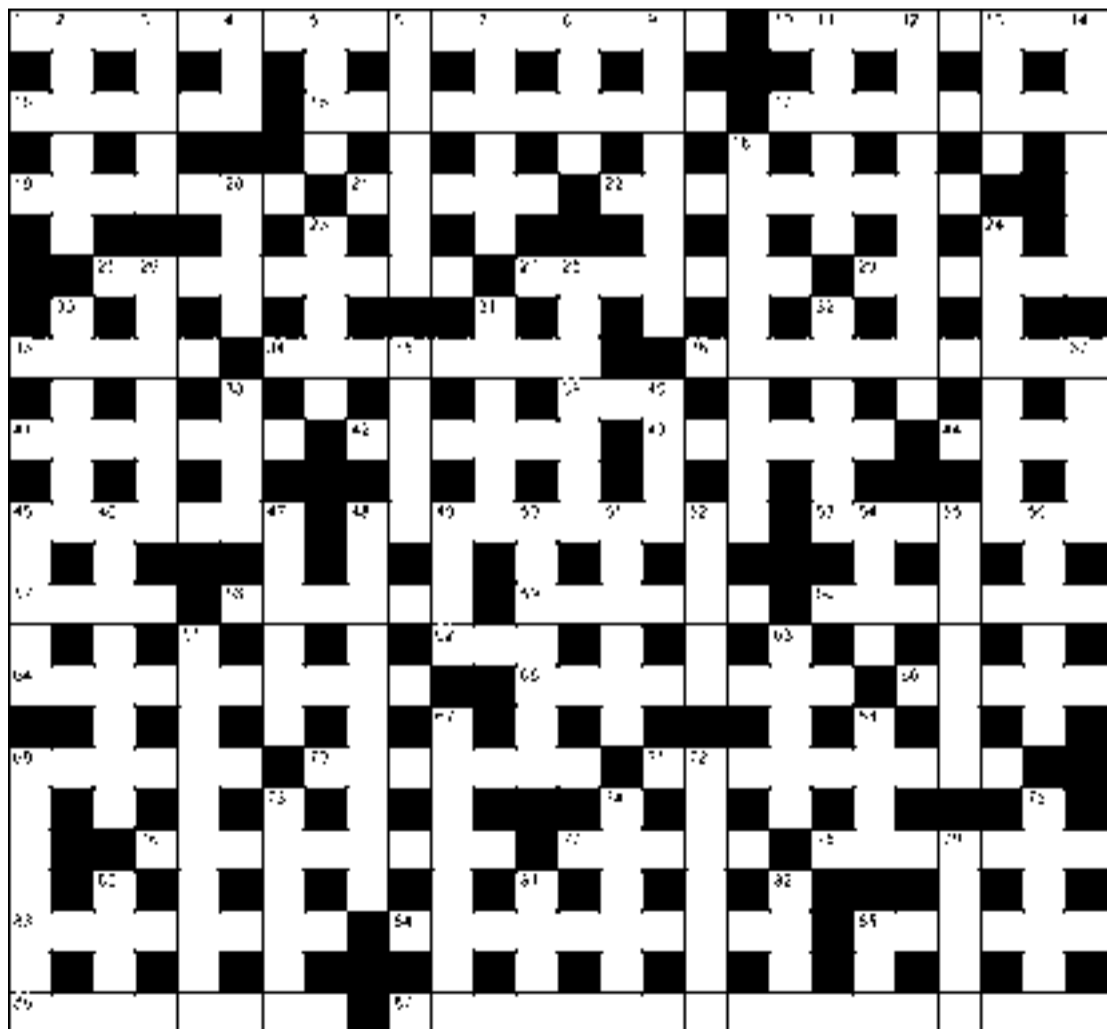
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1	3	5	2	7	6	4	9	8
9	4	2	8	5	3	6	7	1
8	7	6	4	1	9	2	3	5

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JUMBO CROSSWORD

146

- ACROSS**
- 1 Disappear altogether (6,4,4,3)
 - 10 Pristine (8)
 - 15 Dead to the world (6)
 - 16 Light up (10)
 - 17 Bendy (8)
 - 19 Hermit (7)
 - 21 Shooting sport (5)
 - 22 Haughtiness (9)
 - 25 Censure (9)
 - 27 Shorten (7)
 - 29 Pasture plant (6)
 - 33 Neighbourhood pub (5)
 - 34 Border between countries (8)
 - 36 Brainwashing material (10)
 - 39 Horse carriage (3)
 - 41 True (7)
 - 42 Type of hat (6)
 - 43 Baby's toy (6)
 - 44 Seethe (4)
 - 45 Tongs (7)
 - 48 Moon-starer (anag) (10)
 - 53 Smothered (7)
 - 57 Leather strap (4)
 - 58 Vegetable patch (6)
 - 59 XII (6)
 - 60 Soldier (7)
 - 62 Hair cream (3)
 - 64 Make even worse (10)
 - 65 Not typical or usual (8)
 - 66 Jeans fabric (5)
 - 69 Conviction (6)
 - 70 Direction finder (7)
 - 71 City's fringes (9)
 - 76 Egyptian queen (9)
 - 77 Wanderer (5)
 - 78 Train stop (7)
 - 83 Entrancing (8)
 - 84 Across the whole country (10)
 - 85 Fishing weight (6)
 - 86 Equestrian event (8)
 - 87 The very best of all; the choicest part (3,5,2,3,4)
 - DOWN**
 - 2 Reply (6)
 - 3 Perfect (5)
 - 4 One-legged jump (3)
 - 5 Steel pin (4)
 - 6 Waterproof coat (7)
 - 7 Small village (6)
 - 8 Religious sisters (4)
 - 9 Blend together (8)
 - 11 Column (6)
 - 12 Scientific study of poisons (10)
 - 13 Recedes (4)
 - 14 Ore-processing furnace (7)
 - 18 Lyricist (10)
 - 20 Father (4)
 - 23 Sly grin (5)
 - 24 Net value (anag)(8)
 - 26 Stretchy (7)
 - 28 Good buy (7)
 - 30 Edible tuber (6)
 - 31 Energy (6)
 - 32 Cider ingredient (6)
 - 35 Requires (5)
 - 37 In the lead (5)
 - 38 Stringed instrument (4)
 - 40 Very serious or gloomy (4)
 - 45 Moral tale (5)
 - 46 Trustworthy (8)
 - 47 Faded and worn (6)
 - 48 Extra (10)
 - 49 Piquancy (4)
 - 50 Bandits (7)
 - 51 Canoes (anag)(6)
 - 52 Young eel (5)
 - 54 Squad (4)
 - 55 Intensely passionate (7)
 - 56 Non-native (6)
 - 61 Mutinous (10)
 - 63 Light wood (5)
 - 67 Come nearer to (8)
 - 68 Highlander's garment (4)
 - 69 Went red (7)
 - 72 Radioactive element (7)
 - 73 Pugilism (6)
 - 74 Rebound (6)
 - 75 Spanish dance (6)
 - 79 Pick-me-up (5)
 - 80 Church recess (4)
 - 81 Gramophone record (4)
 - 82 Coral bank (4)
 - 85 Fifth sung note (3)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Cutlass, 4 Compensate, 9 Malaise, 13 Ally, 14 Vision, 15 Budgie, 16 Primary, 19 Survive, 20 Keep a stiff upper lip, 21 Petite, 22 Enrage, 24 Playhouse, 29 Foretold, 30 Plough, 31 Victory, 35 Collapse, 36 Rocket, 37 Claw, 38 Fancy, 39 Apt, 41 Yeast, 43 Stress, 47 Stamp, 50 Ass, 54 Broad, 55 Fair, 56 Morale, 57 Pretence, 60 Partner, 61 Misery, 62 Hooligan, 65 Carpenter, 67 Turtle, 68 Potent, 72 There'll be hell to pay, 75 Abandon, 77 Elevate, 78 Amazon, 79 Oracle, 80 Bias, 81 Cycling, 82 Ungraceful, 83 Tragedy.

DOWN: 1 Chaos, 2 Tolerate, 3 Shiner, 4 Chickenpox, 5 Mange, 6 Embrace, 7 Sedate, 8 Thief, 10 Acrophobia, 11 Admires, 12 Sprain, 17 Dictionary, 18 Buoys, 21 Panacea, 23 Arduous, 25 Legacy, 26 Persia, 27 Foetus, 28 Fracas, 30 Poker, 32 Trap, 33 Clot, 34 Tact, 40 Pariah, 42 Star, 44 Tamper, 45 Early, 46 Sulphur, 48 Adroit, 49 Pythagoras, 50 Acne, 51 Sherbet, 52 Last, 53 Cruise, 58 Neapolitan, 59 Volleyball, 63 Snubs, 64 Deadline, 66 Arrival, 67 Titanic, 69 Chilly, 70 Blazer, 71 Mallet, 73 Human, 74 Proof, 76 Nasty.

SPORTS

High-octane athletics

Students from primary schools around the Hauraki took part in the Ohinemuri Athletics day on November 8. Held at the Paeroa Domain under sunny skies, the event featured sprints, shot put, high jump, discus, long jump, and more, with all the pupils participating and having fun. Reporter **KELLEY TANTAU** watched the action unfold.



And they're off! Junior boys sprint down the 60m track.



Declan Marshall from Miller Ave School impresses during the high jump.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU



Hamish Baxter from St Joseph's School takes a leap.



Hikutaia and Netherton School students lead the charge.



Caylee Williams prepares for a punt.



A shot putter lines up a throw.

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