

The Valley Profile

Carson's
BOOKSHOP 1906



Read Play Give

600 Pollen St. Thames

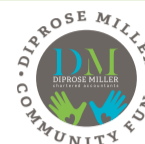
www.carsonsbookshop.co.nz

Talk to us about our Community Fund

The Diprose Miller Community Fund assists with funding for projects and events carried out by not-for-profit organisations and individuals in our local area.

Apply today.

diprosemiller.co.nz/community-fund/



ENABLING BETTER BUSINESS

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

George Haffenden has become a familiar face among Thames Hospital's A&E.

As a Friend of the Emergency Department [FED], George was one of the first seven volunteers who took on the role back when the service began in October, 2003.

"When we first started 20 years ago, this building was already 100 years old," George told *The Profile*, sitting in a comfortable break room within the hospital.

"On that first shift, there wasn't much to do because nobody knew what we were supposed to be doing - even though we were thoroughly trained.

"On my second shift, it started to get busy, and one of the staff members shoved me into a closet-like room and told me to keep out of the way.

"Now," he said, "it's the complete opposite."

A friend of the ED provides comfort, information, and support of a non-clinical nature to patients - and their relatives - while they are awaiting or undergoing treatment in the emergency department.

It forms part of the Hato Hone St John Community Care structure, and George, who is 86-years-old, said the volunteer job was highly valued among patients and hospital staff.

"It feels good when you've been good to other people, and at the end of the shift, the nurses and the doctors say how much they appreciate it."

George said volunteers do "all sorts of little odds and ends", such as cleaning up the staff kitchenette, making beds and preparing rooms, helping to serve meals and hot drinks, and, rather importantly, sitting with and listening to patients. He said the FEDs don't go into rooms while patients are



Two decades as a friend

Friend of the Emergency Department, George Haffenden has become a familiar face among Thames Hospital's A&E.

Photos: KELLEY TANTAU

being seen by doctors, nor do they offer any medical advice.

He also said he doesn't bring up discussion topics that could be controversial.

"I'm not there to raise their blood pressure," he explained with a laugh.

After a long career as an inspector of factories, George was seeking out a volunteer job and lent a

helping hand at other organisations across Thames before he discovered FEDs.

"I attend St George's Church and one morning, the vicar in his notices said St John had started a new programme and was looking for volunteers, so I put my hand up.

"I'm 86 now and I'm not stopping - I enjoy it so much," he said. Thames' Friend of the Emer-

gency Department service was the third in New Zealand to come into fruition, following two successful Auckland ventures.

George said there were about 15 volunteer FEDs in Thames and more were needed to cover the four-hour shifts.

"My job is all care and no responsibility," he said. "I'm really a comfort for patients and their visi-

tors, and over my 20 years, there have been so many people who have been so grateful."

George has received a long-service medal for his work and said the 20th year milestone was one worth celebrating.

DETAILS: More info at: join.stjohn.org.nz.



Zero to Hero – Recycle, Recycle

Rubbish without recycling is like throwing your trash directly into landfill ... that makes me see red!
Well, it's a no brainer ... make the Smartest move, call the experts today, we know how to put things in their place.

Get your clean green bin for your business today.



Phone us today

0800 4 MY BIN (0800 469 246)

www.smartenvironmental.co.nz



smart environmental

CONTACT US

The *Valley Profile* is delivered weekly to letterboxes in the Hauraki Plains, Paeroa, Waihi, Thames, Thames Coast, plus bulk distribution peninsula-wide.

Our focus is 100% local community news.

'THE PAPER PEOPLE READ'

NEWS/EDITORIAL

Publisher/Editor Teresa Ramsey

Ph 0204 0944 853

editor@valleyprofile.co.nz

Senior Reporter Kelley Tantau

Ph 022 619 4889

kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz

Reporter Alice Parminter

Ph 022 527 0988

alice@valleyprofile.co.nz

ADVERTISING

Ad Manager Nikki Sanders

Ph 022 130 3885

Email: nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz

2 QUEEN ST, PAEROA

Ph 07 862 7077

Office open Monday to Wednesday



FIND US ONLINE:
www.valleyprofile.co.nz or download the Coromandel App on your smart phone



Hi, my name is Pete the Pukeko and I'm here to help you.

Find me in one of the display advertisements in *The Valley Profile*, then email admin@valleyprofile.co.nz with your full name and postal address, and the business name and page number of the ad by the following Monday to go in the draw to win a Lotto ticket. Last issue it was in the Burtons Catering ad.

Geriatric outpatient clinics paused until 2024

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

A staffing shortage has led to Thames Hospital being unable to hold its weekly geriatric outpatient clinics until April, 2024.

Local MP Scott Simpson said he was "concerned" for Coromandel's ageing demographic, and more needed to be done within the health sector to retain staff.

Te Whatu Ora Health NZ's interim group director operations for Waikato, Michelle Sutherland, said the organisation funded six full-time equivalent geriatricians in the Waikato, but due to a recent retirement and staff turnover, just four remained.

"An additional doctor has been hired but does not start until February next year, and we are recruiting for the one vacant role," she said.

"One of the doctors who recently finished was responsible for operating the geriatric outpatient clinic sessions in Thames, which were held one afternoon each week, so this has been paused as we work to resume full staffing levels. We may be able to re-



Coromandel MP Scott Simpson.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

who did use the service continue to have access to quality care". A review was underway for all affected patients to ensure they had care plans in place, she said.

"If they do need to be seen by a doctor, there are options to access a general medicine doctor at Thames where clinically appropriate, or to travel to Waikato to see a geriatrician. There are a number of free shuttle options available to support travel to and from Waikato Hospital."

However, Coromandel MP

Scott Simpson told *The Profile* that even if the number of people impacted was minor, it was still "unsatisfactory".

"We've got a challenging geography and an ageing demographic, so to have any kind of health service delayed or not available for a period of time creates problems and issues for the people concerned," he said.

"And for Health NZ to simply say they don't have staff, I would hope they'd have, frankly, a more imaginative and better solution than that."

Mr Simpson said the health system had to get better at retaining its workers.

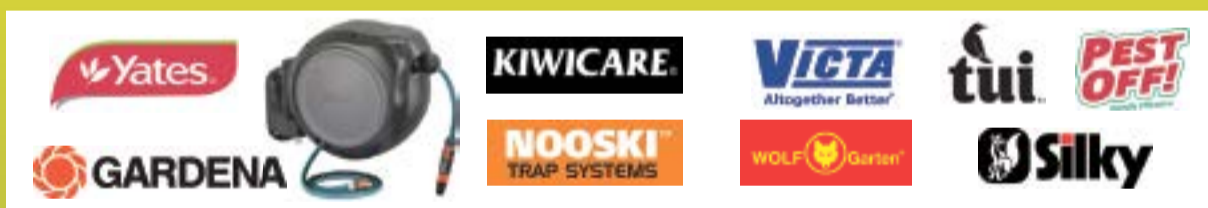
"To do that, it means that working conditions have to be improved. Many of our front-line health staff are at breaking point... there needs to be a much greater focus on keeping the people we've got already, and then obviously recruiting more as if necessary."

Mr Simpson encouraged all those impacted by the clinic's temporary closure to "keep pushing their GP to provide that access".

"We know that [the pause will] have an impact, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't keep pushing, shouldn't keep asking, and shouldn't keep expecting to have referrals available locally."



Looking for quality in garden tools, watering options and pest management?



We have the advice and products you need to get the best from your garden all year round.

READ BROS. Hardware

COME AND SEE US for the latest products to care for gardens and outdoor areas

SEE MORE AT
www.readbros.co.nz
308 Pollen St, Thames
07 868 6608

Accountants

The Hauraki Taxation Service Limited

- Established 1982
- For out of town independent accounting advice
- Approved agents for Inland Revenue Department
- Offices in Thames & Coromandel Town



328 Pollen Street, Thames
Ph/Fax: 07 868-9710

E: thames@haurakitaxation.co.nz

95 Kapanga Rd, Coromandel
Ph/Fax: 07 866-8660

E: coro@haurakitaxation.co.nz

Thames Tides

Wed Nov 8	Thu Nov 9	Fri Nov 10	Sat Nov 11	Sun Nov 12	Mon Nov 13	Tue Nov 14
 Morning: 3:50am 2.8, 9:58am 1.1 Afternoon: 4:19pm 2.9, 10:37pm 1.1 Sunrise: 6:06am, Sunset: 7:58pm Best At: 9:10am 9:30pm (B) Moon: Rise 3:37am, Set 2:51pm	 Morning: 4:51am 2.8, 10:59am 1.1 Afternoon: 5:11pm 3.0, 11:28pm 1.0 Sunrise: 6:05am, Sunset: 7:59pm Best At: 9:50am 10:10pm (B) Moon: Rise 4:00am, Set 3:49pm	 Morning: 5:48am 2.9, 11:50am 1.0 Afternoon: 5:57pm 3.0 Sunrise: 6:04am, Sunset: 8:00pm Best At: 10:30am 10:50pm (B) Moon: Rise 4:21am, Set 4:48pm	 Morning: 12:15am 0.9, 6:39am 3.0 Afternoon: 12:36pm 0.9, 6:41pm 3.1 Sunrise: 6:03am, Sunset: 8:01pm Best At: 11:10am 11:32pm (B) Moon: Rise 4:44am, Set 5:48pm	 Morning: 12:59am 0.8, 7:23am 3.1 Afternoon: 1:17pm 0.8, 7:23pm 3.2 Sunrise: 6:02am, Sunset: 8:02pm Best At: 11:53am (F) Moon: Rise 5:07am, Set 6:51pm	 Morning: 1:40am 0.7, 8:04am 3.2 Afternoon: 1:57pm 0.7, 8:04pm 3.2 Sunrise: 6:02am, Sunset: 8:03pm Best At: 12:16am 12:40pm (G) Moon: New Moon, Rise 5:34am, Set 7:57pm	 Morning: 2:21am 0.6, 8:43am 3.3 Afternoon: 2:37pm 0.7, 8:46pm 3.3 Sunrise: 6:01am, Sunset: 8:04pm Best At: 1:04am 1:30pm (G) Moon: Rise 6:06am, Set 9:04pm

*Not for navigational purposes. Graphic supplied by OceanFun Publishing Ltd. www.tidewiz.com www.tidespy.com www.ofu.co.nz

MOON AND FISH KEYS			
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	MIN	HIGH	LOW
Coromandel	-0	04	-0	04
Whitianga	-0	01	-0	05
Tairua	+0	10	+0	21
Whangamata	-0	03	-0	05
Waihi Beach	-0	12	-0	12

Rejoice as Māori wards approved at TCDC

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

Councillors have commended the “phenomenal passion and clarity” from iwi members who attended the Thames-Coromandel District Council meeting in which Māori wards were voted in for the first time in its history.

Even Thames ward councillor Martin Rodley was rendered emotional; his voice quavered as he spoke of the “joyful” milestone.

In all, each elected member agreed to allow voters on the Māori role to vote for a representative to council in the upcoming triennial elections.

Mayor Len Salt said he was proud.

In council’s report on the matter, elected members’ visited a marae at Manaia, informing the local attendees from various Hauraki iwi that council was undertaking an engagement with iwi about Māori wards.

In general, the report said feedback ranged from support to concern about the details of how it would work, to a view that it should be delayed.

However, at council’s October 31 meeting, iwi members spoke during public forum, and passionately called on elected members to honour the Māori “cultural currency and



Thames-Coromandel District Council has voted to introduce Māori wards into its council makeup. Photo: SUPPLIED

intellect”, and to set an example for other big councils, such as Auckland, which last month voted to not introduce Māori wards to its table.

John Linstead, of Ngāti Hako, encouraged TCDC councillors to “take the step” and “boldly go” where some councils - such

as Hauraki District - have recently gone to establish Māori wards.

“Embrace us - we are not going away,” he said. “You can either work with us, or we’re always going to be banging at the door.”

Before the vote, chief execu-

tive Aileen Lawrie said it was a “privilege” to have mana whenua in the council chambers and that it was the most full chamber she had seen in her 12 months in the job.

Because of their strong turnout and support, she requested an amendment to the council

report, to revise the statement that said iwi views were that Māori wards should be delayed.

“In the last three weeks and today we’ve heard a loud, clear message, and my advice to councillors is we’ve heard a strong view today and that’s come from our entire district in terms of the Māori part of our community,” she said.


The establishment of one Māori ward means those electors on the Māori electoral roll will only be able to vote for one councillor - plus the mayor and community board members - while those electors on the general electoral roll would only be able to vote for the councillor(s) from the respective general ward - plus the mayor and community board members.

It’s likely Thames-Coromandel District Council will have one Māori ward councillor, and eight district ward councillors, but this could change after an upcoming representation review.

“I have no doubt Māori will represent us well,” Cr Gary Gotlieb said.

“This is an opportunity to acknowledge them as a very important part of our community.”





**Friday
17 November
2023**

**TGIF night out
with the
Thames
Harness Racing
Club**

**Bus Trip to
Harness
Races at
CAMBRIDGE
RACEWAY**

**Fun day out for all
ages**

**Pick your horses,
get dressed up
and come enjoy
the fun**

The Thames Harness Racing Club will be running a bus to this meeting:

**Departing from
Thames High School
at 4.00pm.**

Members travel **FREE**, Non-members only \$15

Phone 868-6436 or email office@hdas.co.nz
to reserve your seats on the bus

UP TO

50% off.

New Sleepyhead Chiropractic.



**30 months
interest free***

*On in-store purchases \$999 & over 'til 14.11.23.



Where dreams begin.

The experts in sleep.



BAXTERS

FURNITURE & BEDS R US

205 SEALEY ST, THAMES | PH 07 868 6128

Education

A community-centric approach to education

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

The end of this year marks the beginning of a new era for Briar Carden-Scott.

The educator will be leaving her current role as principal at Waihi East Primary School to become Waihi College's first female principal.

And there will be some familiar faces there to greet her, as her inaugural class of new entrant students, whom she taught in 2011, become next year's college graduating class.

"It's full circle for me, and for them," she said.

"I'm really excited to see my babies as year 13s and finishing that journey with them. Who gets to do that?"

For Briar, the move is also a chance to further develop her holistic, whole-community approach to education and provide a space where youths can find their place in the world.

"Education's not just academics, it is 100 per cent a partnership [with whānau]. They are the experts on their children, and we expect them to champion them and walk alongside us when we do that," she said.

"You can see those [kids] who are grounded in that and they have a confidence to walk tall in who they are."

Briar hopes to develop the campus into a community hub



Big changes ahead for Waihi principal Briar Carden-Scott.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

of sorts.

"We have a lot of skilled people in our community. I'm really open to using the experts who are already there because that just makes sense," she said.

"There's lots of work to be done. For me that looks like cohesiveness and a culture shift, creating a community liaison

pathway so that everyone feels that they are informed.

"I think it's going to be a challenge, wrapping my head around how systems work because it's a much bigger machine than where I'm currently at. [But] planning is kind of my jam, I do love a good rubric in a girly geek moment."

First though, she'll be saying

goodbye to her current family, the children and staff at Waihi East Primary School.

Briar has been at the primary school since 2007, first as a parent and then on the staff. While working her way from new entrant teacher to principal, she's developed the school into an environment she's proud to call her baby.

"I've been really fortunate to be a part of the direction and the changes and the growth here," Briar said.

"I'm super thankful to have been a part of the journey [but] I'm really keen to leave Waihi East while it's in a great space for whoever takes it on next. I know that I'm leaving it in exceptional hands."

Farewelling her primary school kids is going to be tough for Briar.

"They're just so gorgeous and they're so thrilled to see you," she said.

"I often have children sitting under my desk [and] my floor is usually messy with lego and drawing. That instant responsiveness, I'm really going to miss."

But she's also looking forward to developing relationships with the older kids at the college.

"That buzzy energetic youth vibe that's in the air, it makes the air electric," she said.

"Part of the reason I was employed was through the kids' voice... they wanted someone who would be relatable, approachable.

"It's about the kids at the end of the day, and it's about whatever works for them in a way that makes sense to them."



Waihi College is rounding up the year with their end of year prizegivings for their seniors, who are now off on study leave.

We have celebrated with the Cultural Prizegiving, Sports Prizegiving, Effort & Service

Prizegiving, and most



Tyla Millar (Dux of Waihi College for 2023) and Meg Thomas, Proxime Accessit (runner up to the Dux) for 2023.

recently, the Senior Academic Prizegiving where we announced our academic award recipients and our Student Leaders for 2024. Well done to all our students this year – whether your successes are large or small, public or private – you should be proud of each one. To check out all the results, head to the Waihi College Arts & Services Facebook page or to the Waihi College website. In our School Photos section we have a Dropbox account where you download all our photos, so friends and whanau can have these special memories to keep.



WAIHI COLLEGE

www.waihicol.school.nz

Next up will be the Junior Prizegivings, which are coming up on the 11th and 12 of December. First up on the 11th is the Effort & Service Prizegiving, followed by the Academic Prizegiving on the 12th. As always, the community is welcome to join us.

As the year draws to a close, there is always a lot to remember; so we're here to help. You can find our Term Dates, Prizegiving information, Uniform info, Bus Routes, Stationery Lists and all sorts of useful admin in the 'Our School' tab of our website. From there you can click links taking you directly to what you need. If you can't find what you need, or would like to chat, please call the office on 07 863 8349 and we're always happy to help.

To keep informed with everything going on at Waihi College, keep an eye on the Keeping Informed section of our website. From here you can check Latest News, Daily Notices, the School Calendar as well as photos taken throughout the year www.waihicol.school.nz

Clothed in fantasy for a weekend of escapism

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

This weekend, steampunk attendees may be forgiven for doing a double-take when they spot Paula Munro.

The steampunk aficionado will be pulling a chameleon act - and with no less than eight outfits prepared for the upcoming four-day Gold Rush Steampunk Festival, she's embracing every possible interpretation of the theme.

"I've got a costume for every event," Paula laughed.

"We've got the meet and greet, high tea, quiz night, parade, rave, ball,

and then I've got a couple of spares just in case anything goes wrong or it's too hot...

"It can be pretty cumbersome wearing so many dresses and skirts."

Paula has been captivated by the steampunk scene for half a decade.

"I saw some ladies in Pirongia dressed in steampunk," she said.

"Then I did a lot of costume making, hat making and sold them to [Steamy Sisters]. It just sort of snowballed from there."

Her fascination with steam-

punk persisted - to the point where she joined the Steampunk the Thames committee, despite ongoing health issues.

"I broke my back and I've had seven spinal injuries," she said.

"I'm in pain every day... it's how much it fills my cup whether or not I do something.

"I know with steampunk I'm going to be suffering but that's okay because I'll get a lot out of it."

Paula will be attending the festival as her alter-ego, Polly Gone.

"Heaps of people know me as Polly," she said.

"[And] I've been so busy during steam-

punk. You turn around and I'm gone, fixing something else up, directing traffic or whatever."

Polly will be splendidly attired, no matter which part of the event she's at. Paula has been putting her costumes together for the better part of a year, haunting op shops, trading pieces with friends and utilising her costumier skills.

"Most of my costumes are made of recycled or upcycled things, [and] I'm recycling a few costumes this year, just because I haven't had as much time," she said.

"I'm still me, I'm just dressed up and not really caring about anything else that's going on in the world."

- Paula Munro



"Some of them I've made a bit more old-fashioned... some are punk but kept in the realms

of 'I'm a gold-miner's widow' or something like that. And some of them are just completely off

One of Paula's previous steampunk costumes was made mostly from window mesh, apart from the corset. She has an entire wardrobe planned for this year's festival.

Photo: SUPPLIED

topic."

The variety in acceptable attire is one of Paula's favourite things about the fantasy genre.

"I like the punk aspect of it. [But] it's not straight and narrow - you've got steam, punk, you've got your Victorian era ... you can go right back to medieval if you want," she said.

"It's past, present and future, so you can really make it what you want to, there's no real restraint."

And come this weekend, Paula is looking forward to a bit of escapism.

"I'm still me, I'm just dressed up and not really caring about anything else that's going on in the world," she said.

"You've got the opportunity to be a kid again if you want, be someone completely different for the day. It's all about imagination and fun. And who doesn't love putting on something that makes them feel really pretty or handsome?"

DETAILS: Gold Rush Steampunk Festival, November 9-12 in Thames. See steampunkthames.co.nz for more.



Paeroa Auto Electrical

• Auto Air Conditioning

• Latest Diagnostic Tools for your European Car

• Range of Batteries for Cars, Trucks, Tractors, RVs and more

• On Farm Auto Electrical Service

Ph: 07 862 8565 Email: unipoint@xtra.co.nz
3 Belmont Road Paeroa

BATTERY TOWN
NATIONWIDE BATTERY SPECIALISTS



New Christmas stock arriving weekly



• Cushions • Jewellery • MM Linen 100% cotton bedspreads • Wall Art
• Handbags & Accessories • Loyalty Cards • Gold Card Discounts • Gifts

Lynne's

500 Pollen St, Thames - 868 8725

DRIVING ACADEMY

Call us to see if you are eligible for our **FREE 3 day Learners Course.**



Driving lessons and help to move you from

learners restricted

to a full licence are available.

Don't let a lack of a driver's licence make you miss out on that job.

To book now call or text 027 314 1577

Level 3 Agriculture spaces available now.

Level 3 Horticulture spaces available now



Valley Education

free courses • free transport

Call or **07 868 7892**
text us **027 314 1577**

www.valleyeducation.co.nz

Engineer builds business in Thames Valley

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

It was a holiday through Europe that opened James Petch's eyes to the world of structural engineering.

Growing up in Paeroa, James began his career as a farm hand before shifting his focus to a trade qualification as a fitter and welder at the Waihi Gold Mine.

After completing his trade, James spent three years working in the mines of Western Australia, but it was a boat trip in Paris that sparked his career aspirations as a structural engineer.

"We were going up the River Seine and under all the bridges when a friend suggested: 'Why don't you design bridges, James?' I didn't even know what that meant, but for the rest of my holiday around Europe, I was inspired by all the bridges I saw.

"That was the catalyst for it all."

Now 38, James has spent the past 13 years working towards his passion.

He obtained a Diploma of Civil Engineering from Unitec, and as he was studying, he took a liking to the technical design aspect of the programme with a focus on buildings.

So, in order to design buildings, James went one step further and gained entrance to The



James Petch has launched his own business, Petch Consulting Engineers, after a decade of rising up the ranks.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

University of Auckland, graduating with an honours degree in Civil Engineering.

"Coming out of university, I got a job with one of the top engineering firms in Auckland, and while they were a smaller outfit, they competed with all the big mobs, which gave me great exposure to large and complicated engineering projects," he said.

"So, I started my career doing

mid-rise apartment buildings in and around Auckland's CBD."

James has also worked on hotels, buildings for Kainga Ora, projects for Woolworths, and other residential and commercial developments.

He said structural engineering somewhat flew under the radar - but it was a big responsibility.

"Your job is to basically make a building stand up," he said.

"You need to come up with a structural system to support gravity loads, and a lateral load resisting system to support the wind and earthquake loads.

"It is a big responsibility, and I think structural engineers are undervalued within society, because everyone sleeps inside a house or goes inside a building every day, and you rely on a structural engineer to do their

job properly to ensure the safety of the public."

Now a Chartered Engineer, and recently returned from Sydney, James has established his own business.

Petch Consulting Engineers - which services the Auckland, Waikato, and wider Coromandel areas - was launched last month.

From concept through to detailed design and construction monitoring, what James enjoys most is collaboration with clients, architects, and design consultants to deliver economical structural designs.

"My goal is to deliver high-quality structural engineering services," he said. "Using my practical background and technical knowledge, my design ethos is to simplify structural systems. This creates more reliable and efficient structures, using less materials and saving on overall build cost."

James' expertise includes mid-rise apartments and commercial buildings; industrial warehouses and cold-storage facilities; architectural homes; and seismic assessments of existing buildings, among other things.

DETAILS: To find out more about Petch Consulting Engineers or to enquire, visit: petch.nz.



PETCH

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

STRUCTURAL | ENGINEERING | EXCELLENCE

- Design of reinforced concrete, steel & timber structures
- Earthquake engineering
- Commercial buildings
- Industrial warehouses
- Architectural homes
- Residential projects
- Seismic assessments of existing buildings
- Retaining walls and shoring systems

visit www.petch.nz

info@pce.nz 022 023 9502

Art show impresses

The Waikino Hall was packed with artists and art-lovers on October 20, for the ARTWaikino exhibition opening and prizegiving ceremony. "The artwork we've got here today is of an exceptionally high standard," committee chair Rod Hawkins said. Grand winner of the art category was Helen Parsons, with her work *Gathering*. Judge Elette Wheeler said the piece was "conceptually magical and enigmatic".



Artist Darelle Palmer matches her entry, *Wearable Art on Mannequin*.



Terry King with his composite panorama, *Pauanui*, bottom, which received a highly commended.



Joe Hale received highly commended for *The good year - bad year club*.



Valley Profile reporter Alice Parminter won the photography section with *Contemplative Meerkat*.



Richard Henderson's *Synapses* won the sculpture category.

Thames Autos

A Division of Takanini Motors Ltd R.M.V.T.

HOME DEMONSTRATIONS AND DELIVERIES AVAILABLE
WE CAN COME TO YOU

- www.thamesautos.co.nz -

<p>2010 Toyota Corolla 1.8Ltr Auto, NZ New, Low Kms, Alloys</p>  <p>ONLY \$9,990</p>	<p>2011 Kia Sorento CRDi Diesel, Auto, 2WD, 7 Seater</p>  <p>\$14,990</p>	<p>2017 Ford Focus Sport Low Kms</p>  <p>\$16,990</p>	<p>2015 Ssangyong Korando 2.0Ltr Auto, 2WD, Immaculate Condition</p>  <p>NOW \$14,990</p>
<p>2014 Peugeot 308 Auto, NZ New, 54 Kms, Like New, BEST VALUE</p>  <p>\$9,990</p>	<p>2017 Nissan Qashqai Ti Auto, NZ New, 1 Owner, 42km, As New Cond.</p>  <p>\$26,990</p>	<p>2011 Holden Epica 2.2Ltr Auto, NZ New, BEST BUY</p>  <p>ONLY \$6,990</p>	<p>2009 Holden Captiva V6 Auto AWD, 7 Seater, Top Range Model</p>  <p>\$9,990</p>

LEYLAND STOWE

Mob: 027 355 5152 Ph: 07 868 8981
or 0800 868 898
609 Pollen St, Thames RMVT
thamesautos@xtra.co.nz



No Deposit Finance available on all vehicles. Full workshop servicing & repairs available including Auto Electrical service

Rural Life

Safe Digging Month a vital safety reminder

Safe Digging Month launched on November 1, and with extreme weather this year literally shifting the ground around us, it's more important than ever to check where underground utilities are before digging or excavating, organisers say.

Safe Digging Month was launched in 2022 by beforeUdig, a company that specialises in helping contractors and homeowners to dig safely by putting them in touch with the owners of underground assets, and providing a safety process to follow.

The month-long education and safety initiative is there to remind people to always do the correct preparation before digging, to protect crucial utility assets. This will avoid disruptions to electricity, gas, water, sewer and communications services, costly repairs and injury to the operator. It will also protect the wider environment, with gas pipe leaks leading to substantial carbon emissions.

"Safe Digging Month is timed for November, when more people are likely to be undertaking work as the weather improves and we really urge people to do the necessary prep work," beforeUdig operations manager and utilities damage prevention expert Phil Cornforth said.

This is especially important in a year where New Zealand has experienced weather that has brought down houses and closed major highways, causing ground, and potentially pipes and cables, to



Phil Cornforth with essential equipment for safe digging prep.

Photo: SUPPLIED

move. Phil said the correct process to follow was straightforward, and it was important to take the time to do every stage of it properly.

"It's vital you don't rely on plans alone, as things can change due to a shift in ground levels, such as through landslides and roadworks. Previous excavation works may also have moved assets or things have changed on properties due to landscaping or boundary changes," Phil said.

As well as cutting off essential services such as fibre internet,

damage to cables and pipes is a major safety risk. Damaged gas pipes or electricity cables can lead to fires or explosions, burst water or waste pipes are a health and safety hazard, and electricity is relied upon by some for life-saving equipment in the home, such as ventilators or dialysis machines.

One of the most infamous digging mishaps in New Zealand led to the 2017 failure of the fuel pipeline linking the Marsden Point refinery to the fuel distribution centre in Auckland. This disrupted the

fuel supply to Auckland's airports for ten days, resulting in hundreds of flight delays and supplies being rationed, with a farm digger the cause of the damage. It cost an estimated \$25m to fix and caused a loss of \$23 million of GDP.

"There was no record of the digger operator requesting plans or informing the pipeline owner of their intention to work at the location," Phil said.

"This highlights the potential impact of poor preparation." More info: www.beforeudig.co.nz

Rural grant launched

Rural Women New Zealand has established a new \$5000 grant to assist projects and initiatives that support rural communities.

Cynthia Collier lived on Wakarua Station near Taihape until her passing and was a passionate supporter of her community and the work of RWNZ. This month marks her birthday and this year marks the 10th anniversary since her passing.

"Mum would love to know that she was being remembered through the continued work of people like her to build community connection and support," daughter Jo Romanes said.

The grant will be awarded annually for the next three years from mid-2024. Applications for the 2024 grant will open by the end of November and close on April 30.

The grant will support projects and activities that focus on children, the elderly, community or conservation projects or counselling and education initiatives.

This grant adds to the existing philanthropic funds administered by RWNZ, including relief after adverse events, a range of educational grants and bursaries and community project grants.

"Women like Cynthia are the backbone of our rural communities," national president Gill Naylor said.

DETAILS: More information online at: ruralwomennz.nz/our-funds-and-grants.

2006 VZ Holden

Commodore SS V8

Auto, 165,000kms, leather seats, tow bar.

Very tidy car.



\$20,000

2016 Nissan Micra 1.2

ST-L

Auto, only 47,000kms.

Nice clean tidy NZ new car.



\$9,750



Hauraki Plains Motors

1 Pipiroa Road, Ngatea • Ph 07 867-7021

A/Hrs Mike 027 440 4681, Miles 027-227-1121 Email: admin@hpmotors.co.nz



Dennis Raines' red-stickered home up the Thames Coast. Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

\$375k the price of closure for Dennis

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

A red-stickered home in Thornton Bay sold for \$375,000 at auction on October 28, a drastic mark-up from the reserve price of just \$1 and well above the agent's initial appraisal of \$150,000 - \$350,000.

The home, formerly owned by 95-year-old Dennis Raines, was put up for auction after a slip during storms rendered it uninhabitable in January. According to Quotable Value's website, the estimated market valuation of the property was previously \$790,000.

Family members earlier told *The Profile* they were keen to wash their hands of the home and help Dennis move on from the experience, and Dennis' son Neil said they just wanted

closure.

Dennis has since moved to Thames township, and while he missed the sea views, Neil said they were happy he was now living in a more manageable situation.

"He's got a great little unit [now]," Neil said.

"It's a little two bedroom unit that's right in the heart of town and it's really nicely refurbished."

The auction was hotly contested, with 43 registered bidders casting a total of 40 bids.

The successful bidder, a Hikuai resident, told Harcourts agent Steven Bridson they planned to clear the site and park a motorhome or caravan on it, and would eventually build a home on the site.



Death on farm puzzles community



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

William Rodgers had not been seen since the morning of Thursday July 18, 1912, when the 48-year-old Wharepoa farmer left his house to attend to his chores.

Around 2pm an employee named Baird went in search of him, eventually finding him face down in a shallow pool of water, quite dead. It was evident William had been in the act of feeding his cattle at the cow byre when he suddenly died. Dr Lapraik, accompanied by Constable Butler, went to Wharepoa to investigate the circumstances.

William was born in Binnion, County Donegal, Ireland, and came out to New Zealand in 1880 when he was 16. He lived the greater part of the time in the Thames Valley, 28 years being spent in Wharepoa. He married Sarah Ellen Swindall in 1889 and they went on to have a family of one son and three daughters. When he arrived in the Omahu, area roads were basic and he was always very ready to help with matters affecting the progress of the district. He was a member of the Wharepoa Hall committee and the local school committee. Two years earlier William, Sarah



William and Alexander are buried at Omahu cemetery.

Photos: SUPPLIED

and their daughters suffered a terrible blow when their son and brother, 20-year-old Alexander, accidentally drowned one winter's morning after missing his footing stepping into a boat at Cryer's Landing.

A popular settler in the area, William was not known to have been ill and his sudden death was puzzling to his friends and neighbours until word got out that for some years he had been stalked by epileptic fits, which came on at uncertain intervals, and without warning. He was attended to by Dr Lapraik and it was assumed, considering the circumstances surrounding William's demise, that the doctor would certify the death as being due to natural causes. In such a case an inquest would not be necessary.

Epilepsy was a very misunderstood condition, described as a 'brain storm', and still regarded with a mixture of superstition and fear. It was believed there was a link between

epilepsy and crime, which caused many to keep their condition quiet. The year before William's death, a medical column had warned against the practice of trying home remedies to 'cure' epilepsy.

In the end an inquest was held into William's death and a verdict of suffocation while under the effects of an epileptic fit was returned.

At his funeral, a large number of friends in vehicles, on horseback, and on foot followed his remains. He was a highly respected resident and his death a distinct loss to the district. At the graveside, after the singing of the first and last verses of *Sweet Hour of Prayer*, William's favourite hymn, the minister delivered a short, but impressive, address on 'Death and Immortality'. Among the many beautiful floral emblems placed on his grave was one from the teachers and children of Wharepoa School.

William and Alexander are buried at Omahu cemetery.

AVAILABLE NOW

- One Bedroom Apartment, Level 3
- One Bedroom Apartment, Level 2
- Two Bedroom Villa, 121sqm, 1 bathroom, guest WC, single garage

ENQUIRE TODAY!

STAGE 1 IS NOW COMPLETE

ENQUIRIES FOR STAGE 2 ARE WELCOME!

All apartments are within walking distance to Thames' shops, cafes and walkways.
The perfect location to enjoy your fun-filled retirement

Our open plan, single level apartments feature covered balconies with fantastic views of the sea, Kauaeranga River and mountains.

Each unit's elegantly finished kitchen, lounge, bedroom and bathroom offer stylish warmth and light.

All residents enjoy scenic views from each level's shared lounges, use of the Village Community Lodge and participation in all activities and amenities at your leisure.



Living the lifestyle, loving the choice...

A lifestyle village in Thames on the Coromandel

82 Richmond St, Thames

0800 868 5484

www.richmondvillas.co.nz



SPORTS

Junior sports fun

The sun was shining as students from multiple schools gathered at the Paeroa Sports Club for the Paeroa touch module. The module, plates on Thursdays over term four, gives junior kids a chance to have a go at a team sport and meet kids from across the region. **ALICE PARMINTER** caught the action.



Hikutaia Hedgehogs: Tiaki Parata-Bidois, Cole Williams and Reeve Darlin.



Netherton's Alfie Black chases Te Whetu Oka from Paeroa Central School.



Meihana Briggs from Paeroa Central School dodges a touch from Netherton School's Leah Drent.



Five-year-old Reeve Kennedy from the Netherton Dragons makes a run.



Hikutaia's Tea Stevens prepares to run.



Zaak Te Moananui outruns Kade.

Twilight bowls kicks off

BOWLS

Paeroa Bowling Club kicked off its twilight bowls competition recently. The format is over six Friday nights and they start at 5.30pm. We have 16 local community teams who on each night play two games against opposing teams. The scores are collated and on the last night an eventual overall winner is crowned. The last Friday night is November 10. The scene at these nights is one of a very happy group of Paeroa people enjoying themselves and embracing the game of bowls. It really is light and enjoyable. The competition is hotting up and the bowling is now getting real. This will really ensure we have a ripper of a final night. The club now also has a Facebook page: Paeroa Bowling Club. - Martin Douglas



Earth Angel Magic

crystals, fairies, dragons and more...
A little bit of something for everyone.

11 Belmont Rd, Paeroa
027 486 5680

Insight Legal
PRACTICAL | AFFORDABLE | LOCAL

GRAHAM O'BRIEN
Council Building, Ngatea
P: (07) 867 7014
E: gobrien@insightlegal.co.nz

www.insightlegal.co.nz

The Scholars and NZbarok orchestra, both experts in period music, cordially invite you to this Christmas Tradition:

scholars baroque aotearoa chamber choir

NZBAROK
NEW ZEALAND'S BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

Handel's
Messiah

Sat 25 NOV 7:30 pm MT MAUNGANUI St. Thomas More
Sunday 26 NOV 2:30 pm WAIHI Memorial Hall, Seddon St

www.scholarsbaroque.com

ITICKET

CALL THE EXPERTS

ARBORIST



TREE SHAPES

Qualified Arborists

- Tree work Large & Small
- Stump Grinding
- Hedge Trimming
- Fruit Tree Pruning
- Chipping

For a free quote call
07 868 3985 or 0274 726627

CLEANING



0800 464 898
 Alaine Hedges
 027 242 7268
 John Hedges
 027 457 2018
 Email: info@ajcleanupcrew.co.nz

- Lawn mowing
- Weedeating
- Hedge & tree trim
- Section clearing
- Gardening
- Rubbish removal
- Interior house clean
- New build clean/clear
- Odd jobs considered
- One off jobs welcome

BUILDING SERVICES



PROFESSIONAL TRADE SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL - House Renovations - Kitchens Bathrooms - Pergolas - Fencing - Decks Gibbing - Tiling - Landscaping - Painting General Home Maintenance and Much More

COMMERCIAL - Body Corporate Maintenance Programmed Maintenance - 24/7 Emergency Callouts

CONSENTS - Required Building Consent work lodged with Councils

DESIGN - CAD Design for Extensions - 3D Room Design (see how your job will look like when completed)

INSURANCE - Preferred Insurance Provider Flood / Earthquake / Cyclone / Electrical Plumbing Work

Ph 0800 088 001 (Call for a FREE Estimate) www.ptsnz.com
 Office & Showroom 3 Coronation Street, Paeroa



Ben Specta certifies campers and solar power systems.

Photo: SUPPLIED

Electrical inspector connects in region

Now calling Waihi home for the past 12 months, Ben Specta has found his market certifying campers and solar power systems.

Camper customers are enjoying the convenience of Ben coming to them at home or at the campground to undertake their electrical WoF, in turn Ben is greatly enjoying meeting so many lovely locals and travellers and enjoying the wonderful landscape as he makes his way about the area. Ben is also supporting the local economy in any way possible by purchas-

ing and employing locally as well as volunteering at The Goldfields Railway.

Seeing so many properties move to solar (mostly through Harrison's Solar) shows we are doing our bit to keep the country clean, green and paying as little as possible to "The Man".

With camper e-wofs now just \$100 attended at yours, (Waihi + 30kms), give Ben Specta a call on 021944309 and enjoy his brand of professional reliable friendly service. Wishing everyone a safe and wonderful summer!

CABINS FOR SALE



- Office • Sleep Outs
- Extra Accommodation
- Storage • Study
- Farm Accommodation

Available in 2 colours
 10 sqm - Fully welded galvanised steel frame
 Marine Ply floor, insulated walls & roof
 3 double power points, COC, interior/exterior light

VIC'S CABINS WAIKATO
 021 0271 6857

DRIVING ACADEMY

DRIVING COURSES

Driving lessons
 Learner Licence courses*
 Defensive Driving courses*
Book now 027 314 1577 (text or phone)
 *register your interest
 *see if you are eligible for free courses
 admin@valleyeducation.co.nz



EARTHWORKS & CARTAGE



Digger, Bulldozer & Truck Hire

- Mulching
- Cartage of Metal, sand, fertiliser, palm kernel, hay & maize silage

PHONE TIM 027 278 5384
T & A MCWATERS LTD

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

Camper E-WoF

\$100
 021 944 309
I come to you*
 *Waihi + 30km

ELECTRICIAN



INNIS ELECTRICAL

027 539 5572
 theinnis@xtra.co.nz

- Domestic
- Industrial
- Commercial
- New Installations
- Re-Inspections
- Electrical WoF's

Registered Electrician & Electrical Inspector
 Covering Paeroa and surrounding area

FUNERALS



Valley FUNERAL SERVICES

FUNERAL DIRECTORS


Our family serving yours — in the Hauraki & Thames Corromandel Districts

- Direct Cremation for Ngatea/Paeroa/Thames/Waihi \$2850 GST incl
- Traditional, Eco & Bespoke Funerals from \$4800
- Pre-Planning

Ph: 0800 862 6362
Des & Christine Necklen
 Funeral Directors



ELECTRICIAN



Cool Electric

- Electricians
- Heat Pumps
- Air Conditioning
- Security Systems

07 868 7151
 E: cooelectric@xtra.co.nz
 W: www.cooelectric.co.nz

22C Ngati Maru Hwy, Kopu, Thames

FIREWOOD



SPLINTA'S FIREWOOD SERVICES

Free delivery to Thames, Paeroa, Ngatea, Waihi, Whangamata & Te Aroha

SPRING SPECIAL
 Pine \$80/cube - Gum \$130/cube
 Minimum order 3 cubes
 Ph: 0800 7754 6827
 splintasfirewood

FLOORING

Supply & Installation for Domestic & Commercial

- Carpet • Vinyl
- Laminate • Polyurethane

Contact us for your free Measure and Quote
 Phone: 021 020 47027
 Email: dan@thefloorman.co.nz



GARDEN CARE SERVICES



Call the Gardener

YOUR GARDEN - YOUR WAY

Garden Care Service
 Hedge & Shrub Trimming
 Softscapes & Small hardscape features

Call Paul (028) 4640 600
 thegardenercall@gmail.com

HIRE CENTRE



THAMES HIRE CENTRE

Jellicoe Crescent, Thames

Perrin Newland
 Telephone: 07 868 9350
 Email: hire@thameshire.co.nz
 www.thameshire.co.nz

HOME HANDYMAN AND COMMERCIAL HIRE

HOMECILL

Hunts Home Kills

For all your meat and game processing needs.

- We are dedicated to you, the customer.
- Hygienic, vacuum packed products.
- Professional facilities.
- Smoked meats are our specialty.
- 12 - 14 days hung on the bone, minimum
- Game orders over 10kg
- Premium custom orders to meet your needs

Ph: 0800 250 939 • Mob: Mike - 021 411 210
 E: huntshomekill@gmail.com
 W: huntshomekills.nz • Follow us on FB



MOBILE MECHANIC



mobile mechanics

We come to you...

- Servicing & repairs on all cars, trucks, campervans, machinery & small engines
- Batteries available

Phone Brian: 021 259 4779 or 876 5401
 Email: robosvette@gmail.com

PAINTER



That Painter Ltd.

Residential & Light Commercial Painting
 We paint like Picasso only cheaper!

- Interior & Exterior • Residential & Light Commercial
- Fully Insured • Workmanship Guarantee

Contact Stan on 0223137911 to discuss your project.

PLASTERER

TWINWOLF PLASTERING SERVICES

- Exterior Plastering specialist.
- 30 years experience
- All aspects of plastering including. Gib stopping, fireplaces, steps, foundations, patios, block walls and renovations.
- Specialising in exterior repairs & modern finishes.

Shannon: 022 428 2239
 Twinwolfservices@gmail.com

PLUMBER



PLUMBNETX PLUMBING SERVICES

CALL US NOW AT 0272694398
 WE GIVE SAME DAY SERVICE!

RUBBISH REMOVAL

Smart Bins

Skip bins, Wheelie Bins, Farm Bins

Phone us or book online
 0800 4 MY BIN or
 www.smartbins.co.nz

CALL THE EXPERTS

Book this space!

022 130 3885
nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz

SEPTIC TANK CLEANING

ALLENS UNITED

Paeroa (2015) Ltd

LIQUID WASTE SPECIALISTS

0800 862 720 | 027 442 0067

SCRAP METAL

Scrappy Verns

Buyers of all scrap metal & cars
Farm clean up specialists
Top prices paid

Phone Vern • 021 621 437

SCRAP VEHICLES

CARS WANTED CASH PAID

Any unwanted car, ute, van or 4WD No warrant, No WOF, Deregistered, not going?? NO PROBLEM

WAIKATO VEHICLE REMOVALS PH/TXT KEVIN 027 299 6165

TYRES & BATTERIES

► Stockists of all major tyre brands
► Exide Batteries with extended warranties
► Wheel Alignments.

314 Pollen St, Thames
Ph 868 8182

WINDSCREENS

Chip Repairs - Windscreen replacements
- Insurance claims

PH: 0272127750
www.precisionwindscreens.co.nz

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

Death Notice

JOHNSTONE, Robert Leslie (Bob):
Passed peacefully after a courageous hard fought battle with cancer, at his home in Coromandel on Sunday 29th October, 2023. Dearly loved partner of Gaylene and much loved by her family, Kellie and Milton, Vanessa, Shaun and Baby Myles, Hamish, Sarah and family, Beric, Michelle, Ethan, Ashleigh, Addilyn, Connor, Beldon, and Deason. Sincere thanks to the staff of the Thames Chemotherapy Unit. 'A true hunter, fisherman and tomato grower extraordinaire, now at rest.' In accordance with Bob's wishes a private cremation has been held. A memorial service will take place at a later date.

TWENTYMANS

JOHNSTONE, Robert Leslie (Bob):
Husband of the late Ellen. Brother of Mock (Frank) and Bev. Uncle of Belinda and Dean (both deceased), Taylor and George

TWENTYMANS

Boats For Sale

Three mtr inflatable on new gal trailer with 8HP Hidea outboard. Good condition \$3,300, ono with all extras. Ph 0212061434.

Cars For Sale

Toyota Passo 2008. Good cond. New Wof. Under 30,000ks. \$7,500 or swap for electric motorbike of same value. Ph 021 167 6777

Business For Sale

Handyman business with a lot of tools and some other stuff, call Tom on 0212061434, \$9,000 ono

Church Notices

Assembly of God 10am Sundays. Scout Hall. Baker St, Waihi

For Lease

Yards for lease, Thames and Kopu. Suitable for trucks, vehicles or trade business base. Ph 027 440 7101

Gardening

STUMP GRINDING. All sizes, all areas. Thames based. Ph 021 060 7659

Handyman

Handyman Services
• Waihi and surrounding areas
• Building maintenance and repairs
• Mobile - Grant 027 333 8331
• E - Waihi105@gmail.com

Health

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**

Gardening

Need stump grinding? Any size, any number, anywhere. Different machines for different applications. Over 20 years experience. **Short Back n Sides Ltd** We solve your stump problems. **027 439 0367**

Storage

STORAGE KOPU, PAEROA TE AWAMUTU
"New Units" Ph 027 440 7101 07 868 3033 Safe n Sound Storage www.safestorage.co.nz

Storage

STORE 4 U Waihi. Clean, dry, alarmed. Call Lyn 0275 759 173.

Storage Unlimited
25 Ngati Maru Highway Kopu, Thames Clean, secure, dry Units available 7 x 3.6m and 7 x 5.5m Phone **07 868 9944**

Thames Valley Storage
- secure, dry units available, two sizes. Call Trev 027 4076966

Trades & Services

Eazy-Blast water blasting. Small jobs. Steps, drives, paths, patios etc. Text Chris 021 0852 1825

FENCING CONTRACTOR
Residential & Rural Retaining walls & more High quality workmanship Competitive prices **Call Matt 021 1727 148**

Man with a Trailer
Need something picked up or taken away?
Freehold Storage, Tilt or Cill **021 049 4110**

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

Public Notice

Thames Valley Touch AGM
Sunday 12th Nov 2023 3PM
@ Nick Hoogeveen & Associates Boardroom

Public Notice

AGM
Wednesday 15 November 2023 at 5.30 pm
Hauraki Plains College Centennial Centre Hayward Road, Ngatea Supper will be provided **ALL WELCOME**

Public Notice

THANK YOU TO EMPLOYERS OF VOLUNTEERS

By supporting your employee's decision to volunteer, you're directly responsible for making your community a safer place to live.

- Coast Civil
- Go Bus Transport
- Lance & Wayne Cryer
- Fire and Emergency NZ
- Daymos Tyres
- KD Designs
- H.G. Leach & Co.
- Jouan Company
- S J & R L Farms
- Powerco
- Puriri School
- Te Kura Mata-Ao University of Waikato
- Totara Vineyards

Through the invaluable support of employers, Puriri Volunteer Fire Brigade and other Volunteer Fire Brigades throughout New Zealand can continue to respond to emergencies in our communities.

WHAKARATONGA IWI FIREANDEMERCENCY.NZ

Handyman

THAMES HANDYMAN & BUILDING SERVICES
Building, home maintenance & general gardening services
Phone: Fleur or Crighton • 0273 913 283

Storage

TOTAL STORAGE LTD KEREPEHI / PAEROA
10FT CON. \$125 per mnth
20FT CON. \$240 per mnth
T&C's apply
021 67 67 99
info@totalstorage.co.nz

Situations Vacant

Innovative and talented teacher wanted!

We're looking for a registered teacher with a passion for children's health and wellbeing.

- Permanent full time role
- Visiting schools in Waikato East/ Coromandal area
- Applications close Friday 17 November

For details visit: www.lifeeducation.org.nz/vacancies

Public Notice

Proposed Temporary Road Closure

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 **Christmas Parade** organised by Positive Paeroa it is intended to close the following roads 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: Friday 1 December 2023, 5.30pm – 7.00pm.

Roads to be closed in Paeroa:

- Wharf St, Queen St and Princes St.
- Normanby Rd/Belmont Rd (SH2), (from Arney St intersection to Marshall St)
- Corbett St from (Belmont Rd intersection to King St intersection)
- King St (from Corbett Rd intersection to Arney St intersection).

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 24 November 2023.

L D Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Communications Officer
Āpiha Whakapā

We are looking for a new Communications Officer, to assist us to effectively communicate our initiatives, policies and services to our stakeholders.

To be successful in this role you will have:

- A Tertiary qualification and proven experience in Communications/public relations or a related field
- Exceptional writing and editing skills with a keen attention to detail
- Proven experience working with Iwi & working knowledge of Te Tiriti o Waitangi

For full details and position description please see our website.

"At Hauraki District Council ... it's more than just a job!"

Situations Vacant

Pizza Hut Waihi

now hiring.

Please email CV through to pizzahutwaihi@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

Situation Vacant	Situation Vacant
 <p>School Office Administrator/ Learning Support and Pastoral Care</p> <p><i>Kopuarahi School, Thames</i></p> <p>This is a part time, fixed term job, school terms only, Term 1 and Term 2 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fun and supportive work environment • Varied work • Must enjoy working with students and a school community • Must be resilient and prepared to be flexible and responsive to the nature of school life <p>We seek a highly organised and efficient School Office Administrator to join our happy rural school. This is a parental leave position for at least 6 months, starting 30 January 2024. Hours of work are Monday to Thursday, 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (14 hours per week)</p> <p>We would prefer to have the successful applicant available for some on-the-job training (paid) in late November or early December 2023.</p> <p>Please email any queries, your CV, and a cover letter to Chris Patel (Principal) principal@kopuarahi.school.nz</p>	<p>Qualified Mechanic Wanted Immediate start.</p> <p>Email: miles@hpmotors.co.nz</p> <p>or phone 027 227 1121</p> <p> </p>
	<p>Public Notice</p> <p></p> <p>Kopuarahi School Board Casual vacancy for a parent representative</p> <p>A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative.</p> <p>The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.</p> <p>If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.</p> <p><i>Request for a by-election should be sent to: Presiding member (chair) Jaleesa Paul Kopuarahi School Board of Trustees office@kopuarahi.school.nz or by mail to Kopuarahi School Cnr Bush Rd and SH 25 Pipiroa Thames 3754 by: 30 November 2023</i></p>

Average asking price for Coro homes soars 15%

The latest data shows property prices in the Coromandel region have seen the highest increase of any region nationwide.

Realestate.co.nz figures show the average asking price for Coromandel soared 15 per cent during October to \$1,235,294 from an average price of \$1,074,424 in October last year.

This compares to \$1,049,492 in September and \$1,061,029 in August this year.

Realestate.co.nz spokesperson Vanessa Williams said the regions had driven the increase to the national average asking price this month.

Seven other regions saw year-on-year growth in average asking prices - Nelson and Bays (up 9.5 per cent), Southland (up 5.6 per cent), Taranaki (up 5 per cent), Manawatū-Whanganui (up 2.7 per cent), Wairarapa (up 2.2 per cent), and West Coast (up 1.8 per cent). Canterbury remained flat with an increase of 1 per cent. In comparison, average house prices in the Waikato dropped 1.8 per cent during October compared to the same period last year, and Auckland saw a 6.8 per cent drop.

During October, new listings were up, auctions regained popularity with sellers, and the national average asking price lifted back to January 2023 levels, she said.

The number of people searching on realestate.co.nz also increased by 7 per cent compared to September, and was up by 3.1 per cent compared to the same time last year - signalling growing interest from buyers during October.

These indicators suggested the market is starting to move, Vanessa said. "It is difficult to say for sure what is

causing the shift. It could be the coming change of government, the OCR [Official Cash Rate] holding for the third consecutive month or the cyclical nature of the property market," she said.

"However, this will be welcome news for anyone wanting to sell."

Real estate agents were reporting increased numbers through open homes, another sign of market stimulation, she said.

Auctions overtook display price as the most popular method of sale last month, with 28.3 per cent of all listings on realestate.co.nz during October listed for sale by auction, while those with display prices comprised 26.5 per cent of all listings.

Vanessa said this change indicates the market was becoming more competitive:

"Auctions are generally more popular in a hot market. Seeing the number of auctions increase tells us that buyers and sellers are both more confident to transact under the hammer."

The number of listings for sale by auction at realestate.co.nz has steadily increased since May this year.

After nine months of softening prices, the national average asking price increased to \$884,377, about where it was at the beginning of the year.

"This is the first time the national average asking price has been above \$880,000 since January. In 2023, we've had a shallow dip followed by what looks like a recovery."

"We will have to wait a couple more months to see whether this uptick becomes a trend. It's not unusual to see the market pause during an election," Vanessa said.



the coromandel artbeat spring festival

create connect. come together celebrate

music
theatre
exhibitions
workshops
open Studios
classes
competitions
dance
and more...

01.09.-12.12. coromandelartbeat.nz



The exterior and interior of the newly-relocated creamery building. Photos: SUPPLIED

Heritage creamery restored

A heritage creamery building that's been relocated to the Coromandel Museum was recently officially opened by Thames-Coromandel District Mayor Len Salt.

Coromandel School of Mines & Historical Society secretary Raewyn McKinney said the creamery building was originally part of Fir Lawn house, which was built for Frederick Woollams in 1871. There were a number of ancillary structures on the property, including a ladies' tea house, toilet, stables, and the creamery building, which is listed with Heritage New Zealand.

The owners of the Fir Lawn property, the Turner family, gave the creamery to the Olliff family in 1976-77 on condition that it was restored.

The restored creamery became a spa room at the Colonial Cottage Motel.

"When the creamery/spa was no longer needed it was offered to the museum by the current owners of the motel, Wayne and Kathryn Besley," she said.

"After many consultations, the museum committee was given approval to relocate the building."



Society president Jennie James and Mayor Len Salt at the official opening.

The old Coromandel 'lock up' was repositioned on the museum site, and the creamery building was relocated beside it.

The creamery building now forms part of the museum complex, along with the two museum buildings and the jail building.

On Sunday, October 22, the building was officially opened by Mayor Salt.

The museum complex is open from 10am to 4pm from Thursdays to Sundays until Christmas, when it will be open every day until Easter.



Hydraulink Thames

24/7 MOBILE SERVICE

See us for all your hose repairs

- Hydraulic hose & fittings
- Breakdown services 24/7
- Industrial hoses
- Lubricants & Oils
- Ram repairs & servicing
- General Engineering

Ph 07 868 5435 0274 990 924

100% NZ OWNER

14C Kopu Road Kopu, Thames

Best under pressure

Five generations, one store



- Fastenings and Extrusions
- Key cutting and Locksmithing
- Interior and Exterior Paint
- Marine Supplies
- PPE and Footwear
- Tools
- Hose and Rubber
- Engineering and Welding Products

308 Pollen Street, Thames
Telephone 07 868 6608

www.readbros.co.nz

THAMES VALLEY TANGATA ORA TRUST

The People's Wellbeing Trust
Total Mobility Scheme assessors



Village Press Oils fundraiser \$25 per pack,



we get \$5 from each sale email or phone to order by 24 Nov Great Christmas gifts

SPRING SALE

New scooters from \$4,250 + much more



607 Mackay St, Thames (Opposite the hospital) • Ph: 07 868 7723 or 027 383 1117 • E: Centre.Manager@tangataora.org.nz
Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday 10am - 3pm, Friday 10am - 1pm - After hours by arrangement

SUDOKU

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

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

125

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

HARD

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

MEDIUM

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

EASY

Puzzles © The Puzzle Company
www.thepuzzlecompany.co.nz

JUMBO CROSSWORD

145

ACROSS

- 1 Sword (7)
- 4 Make up for (10)
- 9 Illness (7)
- 13 Friendly nation (4)
- 14 Eyesight (6)
- 15 Pet bird (6)
- 16 First in importance, degree, rank (7)
- 19 Stay alive (7)
- 20 Appear to be resolute and stoical (4,1,5,5,3)
- 21 Small and dainty (6)
- 22 Anger (6)
- 24 Theatre (9)
- 29 Predicted (8)
- 30 Farm implement (6)
- 31 Triumph (7)
- 35 Fall down (8)
- 36 Self-propelled missile (6)
- 37 Talon (4)
- 38 Feel like (5)
- 39 Fitting (3)
- 41 Bread-riser (5)
- 43 Emphasis (6)
- 47 Postage sticker (5)
- 50 Donkey (3)
- 54 Wide (5)
- 55 Equitable (4)
- 56 Esprit de corps (6)
- 57 Make-believe (8)
- 60 Mate (7)
- 61 Wretchedness (6)
- 62 Yobbo (8)
- 65 Worker in wood (9)
- 67 Shelled animal (6)
- 68 Strong (6)
- 72 Serious trouble will

result (7,2,4,2,3)

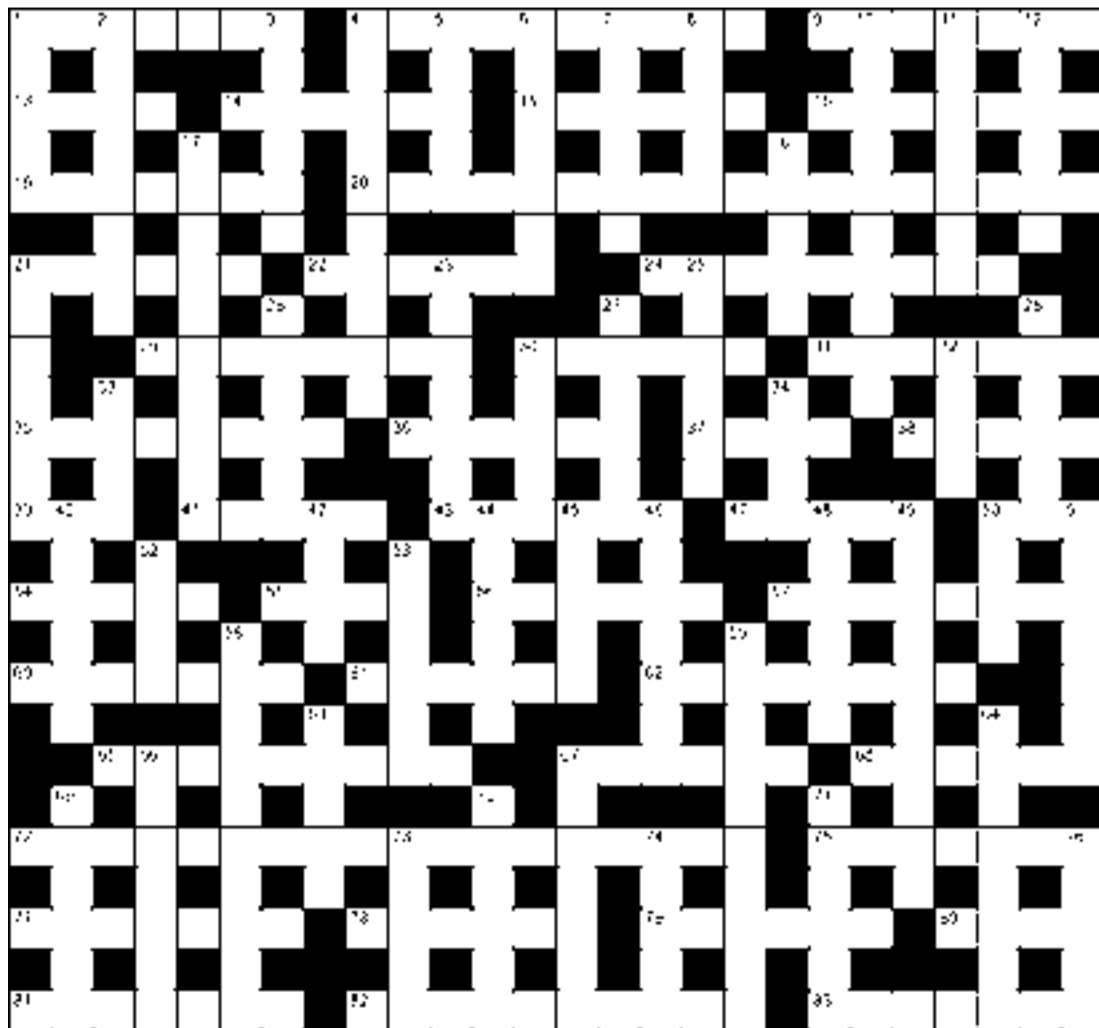
- 75 Forsake (7)
- 77 Lift (7)
- 78 South American river (6)
- 79 Authoritative person who divines the future (6)
- 80 One-sidedness (4)
- 81 Going by bike (7)
- 82 Clumsy, awkward (10)
- 83 Disaster (7)

DOWN

- 1 Bedlam (5)
- 2 Put up with (8)
- 3 Black eye (6)
- 4 Viral disease (10)
- 5 Dog disorder (5)
- 6 Hug (7)
- 7 Calm and unhurried (6)
- 8 Shoplifter (5)
- 10 Abnormal dread of heights (10)
- 11 Looks up to (7)
- 12 Wrench injury (6)
- 17 Lexicon (10)
- 18 Navigation floats (5)
- 21 Universal remedy (7)
- 23 Laborious (7)
- 25 Gift left in a will (6)
- 26 Iran, formerly (6)
- 27 Unborn offspring (6)
- 28 Noisy brawl (6)
- 30 Fire prod (5)
- 32 Snare (4)
- 33 Coagulate (4)

34 Diplomacy (4)

- 40 Social outcast (6)
- 42 Celebrity (4)
- 44 Meddle with (6)
- 45 Too soon (5)
- 46 Brimstone (7)
- 48 Skilful (6)
- 49 Greek philosopher and mathematician (10)
- 50 Skin problem (4)
- 51 Fizzy confectionery (7)
- 52 Cobbler's model (4)
- 53 Holiday at sea (6)
- 58 Citizen of Naples (10)
- 59 Team game with net (10)
- 63 Cold-shoulders (5)
- 64 Time limit (8)
- 66 Advent (7)
- 67 Colossal (7)
- 69 Cool (6)
- 70 Jacket (6)
- 71 Wooden hammer (6)
- 73 Mortal (5)
- 74 Evidence (5)
- 76 Highly unpleasant (5)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Flavour of the month, 10 Fanfares, 15 Crèche, 16 Suggesting, 17 Archives, 19 Deplete, 21 Gorge, 22 Petrified, 25 Vacillate, 27 Educate, 29 Thread, 33 Laird, 34 Pastille, 36 Scepticism, 39 Ash, 41 Whisper, 42 Vacuum, 43 Acidic, 44 Gain, 45 Swallow, 48 Master plan, 53 Epistle, 57 Late, 58 Protea, 59 Couple, 60 Recruit, 62 Pal, 64 Off the hook, 65 Unfasten, 66 Deter, 69 Secure, 70 Pointer, 71 Obstinate, 76 Capacious, 77 Whims, 78 Swollen, 83 Initiate, 84 Unfamiliar, 85 Tennis, 86 Go-getter, 87 Go back to square one.

DOWN: 2 Larger, 3 Vocal, 4 Use, 5 Oast, 6 Tugboat, 7 Emerge, 8 Oath, 9 Tendency, 11 Adrift, 12 Fahrenheit, 13 Rave, 14 Suspend, 18 Protection, 20 Thin, 23 Glean, 24 Hesitant, 26 Aerosol, 28 Dreamer, 30 Cashew, 31 Flaunt, 32 Sprite, 35 Tiara, 37 Mince, 38 Veto, 40 Haul, 45 Salvo, 46 Artifice, 47 Worthy, 48 Metropolis, 49 Slap, 50 Exclude, 51 Pouffe, 52 Atlas, 54 Prey, 55 Serpent, 56 Loiter, 61 Pharmacist, 63 Deity, 67 Innuendo, 68 Knew, 69 Seeking, 72 Bambino, 73 Castle, 74 Shrink, 75 Resign, 79 Lunge, 80 Ring, 81 Data, 82 Iraq, 85 Tea.

SPORTS

Hauraki FC fields seniors for first time

FOOTBALL

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

For the first time in its almost 40-year history, the Hauraki Plains Football Club will have senior players take to the field.

With a new name and a goal to encompass all age groups, the Ngātea-based club is gearing up for an even bigger season in 2024.

Hauraki FC president Matt Vendt, and vice president Phil Jennens, told *The Profile* seven junior teams made up of more than 70 children took to the field this year.

But with great junior numbers came a great responsibility to cater to the mum and dads on the sidelines also wanting to play the low-contact sport.

"Next year is 40 years since the club's been going, so we decided to move with the times and upgrade the name to Hauraki Plains Football Club, and from there, before a muster, we ended up with 17 mens players, and at the moment, the ladies are sitting around five-to-six before a muster," Matt said.

"For a little town to have some good numbers already, we're pretty stoked. We've got players from around here,



Hauraki FC's Matt Vendt and Phil Jennens, with sons and junior players Ashton and Patrick.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

Paeroa, Maramarua, Thames, and Te Kauwhata."

Matt said they generally aim for about 23-24 players to make up a team, and with

a muster planned for the end of January, and a first game around the Easter holiday period, he's sure they will be able to entice more seniors to get back

into the sport. He's hoping to enlist the new team in the Waikato Division 4 competition, which will see the mix of experienced and new players travel-

ling around the district. "For the men's team, we've had to get everything brand new, and we've been lucky that Richardsons are sponsoring our home kit and Gas and Plumbing Solutions are doing our away kit, so we're super excited for that."

Formerly called the Hauraki Plains Junior Soccer Club, Matt said the name change and senior introduction was a little daunting to begin with, but so long as they had a field to play on, he could "go from there".

With him and Phil both formerly playing for Waihi, the pair recognised the importance of having an accessible club on home turf.

"I've been on the committee for about five years, and I came in and looked at it and thought: 'wow, this is growing', thinking we were just on a steady curve-up, but it's gone even bigger since Matt's come in," Phil said.

"This is a dream that Matt's had and seeing how he's got this ball rolling is just unreal."

DETAILS: To get involved with the club's junior or senior teams, find Hauraki Plains Football Club on Facebook or email: hpsoccer@gmail.com.



WHYTELINE

Freedom finder

SUZUKI

Aaaahhhh... Easy, breezy and ready for the open road. Relax in the S-Cross Hybrid, your ticket to freedom. And with Suzuki's self-charging and Smart Hybrid fuel saving technology, you'll always be ready to go – wherever your journey takes you.

So, join the Suzuki Hybrid family today.



S-CROSS
HYBRID

FREEDOM AWAITS FROM \$42,990+ORC

WHYTELINE.CO.NZ | 39 PUKE ROAD, PAEROA | 07 862 8783

HAURAKI'S HOME OF SUZUKI