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By TERESA RAMSEY

Thames Salvation Army is calling for donations during its Winter Appeal to help fund initiatives such as its Recovery Church, which has helped those battling addiction and trauma since it began two years ago.

The church relies on local financial contributions and donations of household items to its Family Store in Pollen St to provide food and social services, such as counselling through its Recovery Church.

Pastors Ben and Jesse Willis said Recovery Church was held weekly for those struggling with addictions and life issues.

"You don't have to have experience in addiction to be in recovery, we say any trauma, any feelings of hopelessness, mental health issues - we're all in recovery from something, trying to heal, trying to find that hope," Jesse said.

Recovery Church is held every Wednesday at 5:30pm, and is led by Katarina Edmonds and a team of five volunteers who use the 12 Steps of Life programme.

Ben said Recovery Church really worked - "we've got some people celebrating great milestones, amazing goals in life".

"Some people who live in hopelessness, not only have they totally given up on themselves but everyone in their family has given up on them as well.

"So it's a place where we're seeing people going from that state to finding hope and finding a community of people that love them without any judgement, and that can be amazing to see."

Often, family didn't have the tools to help loved ones, particularly those with addictions, he said.

"Addiction is a disease that you end up hurting yourself and other people around you, even those that love you the most, so sometimes people, for their own safety,

Recovery success



Thames Salvation Army Pastors Ben and Jesse Willis with their daughter Madison.
Photo: TERESA RAMSEY

will turn away."

Since Christmas, the church has helped more than 150 individuals and families in need.

Ben said the Winter Appeal was a way for people to give to the church financially.

"It helps go towards stocking our food banks, our addiction services like our Recovery Church, our rehab facilities, our social and transitional housing - so helping people get from no housing security at all

to transitional housing for three to six months learning life skills and then into long-term housing after that.

"Some people prefer to give food, some people prefer to give money, we're happy to accept anything. Anytime people drop off stuff to the family store, we are able to turn your old bed into cash, which might buy groceries for a family for a week."

The church was also still helping

people furnish their homes after damage caused by Cyclone Gabrielle early last year, Ben said.

"It's still going on. People might need several beds, blankets, table and chairs. All that stuff we're able to provide for free from the family store. We think it's reasonably priced second hand stuff for people who can afford it but if people still can't afford it, then we'll just give it to them."

The Salvation Army said the

Winter Appeal was more important than ever after government cuts to social services were leading to continued hardship for tens of thousands of New Zealanders.

"Across the Waikato we're seeing an 80 per cent increase in people having been declined government help, so that's put enormous pressure on not just Salvation Army foodbanks but all foodbanks," Ben said. "Thames Foodbank is really

CONTINUED ON P2

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Aging bridges to be replaced

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

Tairua's ageing Pepe Stream Bridge is set to receive a makeover, as the government looks to replace nine bridges around the country over the next three years.

The 81-year-old single-lane bridge, located on State Highway 25 in the heart of the coastal town, is a source of congestion during summer and peak periods. Its replacement will have two lanes. Construction is planned to begin in mid-2025 and is expected to be completed by mid-2027.

Also in line to be replaced are the Ramarama Stream Bridge on SH25, and the Ohinekaia Stream Bridge on SH27 in Tahuna.

Final funding decisions from the National Land Transport Fund for these projects will be confirmed when the Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Board adopts the National Land Transport Programme later this year.

Transport Minister Simeon Brown announced the replacements during a visit to the Coromandel on July 20. "Increasing productivity and economic growth is a key priority for the government, and with many small bridges across the country suffering speed and weight restrictions due to their age and condition, it is essential these bridges are replaced with more modern and resilient structures," Mr Brown said.

"I understand the impact the current Pepe Stream Bridge is having on the local community and motorists that are visiting Tairua. At 81 years old, the single lane bridge is a bottleneck, with severe congestion experienced during holiday periods. I'm pleased we're

getting on with work to deliver a modern two-lane replacement."

Coromandel MP Scott Simpson said the bridge replacements would improve the resilience of the local roading network.

"The development of these replacement bridges will be a significant boost to our region, particularly the two-way bridge at Pepe Stream," he said.

"The sight of long lines of vehicles navigating stop-go signs in the [sweltering] summer heat has become an unfortunate byproduct of our region's popularity, not to mention the inconvenience that locals encounter on a day-to-day basis."

"Once [the Pepe Bridge] replacement is operational, it will mean locals can get to where they need to go quickly and safely, and visitors will have more time to experience everything the Coromandel has to offer."

Thames-Coromandel district Mayor Len Salt said the announcement was great news.

"This particular bridge, right in the middle of Tairua, has been a problem for years, so we're really looking forward to its replacement."

Tairua-Pāuanui community board chair Warwick Brooks also welcomed the announcement.

"The old bridge is no longer fit-for-purpose. Tairua is growing, and to have a one-lane bridge operating at one end of our commercial precinct is neither suitable for our town, and not particularly safe either. I'm really happy to hear about the government's announcement."

Recovery Church celebrates success

CONTINUED FROM P1

feeling the pinch as well, essentially it means you have to rely a lot more on generosity of the public, which is not great especially when everyone's doing it tough at the moment.

"Everyone's feeling the pinch in their family budget so to have to rely so heavily on the public for donations is where we're at."

Jesse said the church had its own stock of donated food for emergencies, as well as having a working relationship with the Thames Foodbank.

"We work in with them, they've given us a key to their foodbank so we can get food parcels from there or if we've got food, like fresh produce, we take it over to them."

Ben said the church also helped those in need "holistically".

"If they don't have much food at home, we'll help them out with that, and try and check out how their emotional health, spiritual health and social health is going as well."

"That's where our Recovery Church comes in, that's a really key spot for us of how we're helping to address some of the social issues that are out there."

"Particularly in Thames, there's been a lot of talk about addictions and mental health issues, about loneliness. What we're seeing in Recovery Church is people finding hope, solutions to these life issues."

DETAILS: Recovery Church second anniversary, August 7 at 5:30pm. All welcome. For more info or to donate, contact Ben Ph 027 522 7437.

PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT: Advertising Manager Nikki Sanders, Ph 022 130 3885, nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz; Feature Writer Davidda Hikatangata, Ph 022 174 3988, davidda@valleyprofile.co.nz.

NEWS/EDITORIAL: Managing Editor/Owner Teresa Ramsey, Ph 0204 0944 853, editor@valleyprofile.co.nz; Reporter Alice Parminter, Ph 022 527 0988, alice@valleyprofile.co.nz.

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Thames Tides

Wed Jul 24	Thu Jul 25	Fri Jul 26	Sat Jul 27	Sun Jul 28	Mon Jul 29	Tue Jul 30
 Morning: 2:53am 0.4, 3:10pm 0.3 Afternoon: 9:08am 3.5, 9:34pm 3.7 Sunrise: 7:23am, Sunset: 5:26pm Best At: 2:25am 2:51pm (B) Set: 9:18am, Rise: 8:36pm (M)	 Morning: 3:43am 0.3, 3:58pm 0.3 Afternoon: 9:57am 3.5, 10:23pm 3.7 Sunrise: 7:22am, Sunset: 5:27pm Best At: 3:17am 3:41pm (B) Set: 9:46am, Rise: 9:48pm (M)	 Morning: 4:32am 0.3, 4:47pm 0.4 Afternoon: 10:45am 3.5, 11:14pm 3.6 Sunrise: 7:22am, Sunset: 5:28pm Best At: 3:17am 4:30pm (B) Set: 10:13am, Rise: 10:59pm (M)	 Morning: 5:22am 0.3, 5:39pm 0.5 Afternoon: 11:35am 3.5 Sunrise: 7:21am, Sunset: 5:28pm Best At: 4:54am 5:19pm (B) Set: 10:40am (M)	 Morning: 12:05am 3.6, 12:27pm 3.4 Afternoon: 6:13am 0.4, 6:35pm 0.7 Sunrise: 7:20am, Sunset: 5:29pm Best At: 4:44am 6:09pm (G) Last Quarter: Rise 12:10am, Set 11:09am (M)	 Morning: 12:58am 3.4, 1:23pm 3.3 Afternoon: 7:06am 0.5, 7:36pm 0.8 Sunrise: 7:19am, Sunset: 5:30pm Best At: 6:35am 7:01pm (G) Rise 1:22am, Set 11:41am (M)	 Morning: 1:53am 3.3, 2:25pm 3.2 Afternoon: 8:03am 0.6, 8:41pm 0.9 Sunrise: 7:18am, Sunset: 5:31pm Best At: 7:29am 7:56pm (G) Rise 2:34am, Set 12:18pm (M)

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

MOON AND FISH KEYS			
New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter
Good Fishing	Fair Fishing	Not So Good	

TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES			
Coromandel	-0	04	-0
Whitianga	-0	01	-0
Tairua	+0	11	+0
Whangamata	-0	02	-0
Waihi Beach	-0	11	-0

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

Band set to toot the horn for brass festival

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

There's plenty happening for the Kerepēhi Brass Band this year, as the organisation prepares to host the 2024 Waikato Bay of Plenty Brass Band Festival for the first time since 1996.

The regional festival, taking place on September 28 and 29, has never been held in Thames before. Band chairperson Luke van Vliet said it will be an opportunity for the community to hear some first-rate brass band music.

"Brass bands have a rich history of contesting all around the world," he said.

"The brass bands take it quite seriously... it's essentially going to be the best of what the Waikato [and] Bay of Plenty has to offer in a concert."

Around 250 musicians are expected to arrive in Thames for the event, including the A-grade band Hamilton City Brass.

The festival will include the solo and party competition at Thames High School on September 28 during the day, with the full band events held the following day at the Thames Civic Centre. A new showcase event has also been added on the 28th, with winners from the day's contest displaying their skills at an evening concert at the Civic Centre.

Luke said the band was still looking for sponsors for the event, while an earlier call for volunteers had been met with an enthusiastic response from local organisations such as Thames Rotary.

"There's a good 24-odd solo and



Luke van Vliet says there is plenty to be excited about for the band this year.

party events," Luke said. "We're trying to have it all Thames-funded. But really, anybody who'd like to sponsor would be great."

The band members, meanwhile, have begun their rehearsals for the festival. "We've got a new musical director this year, Andrew Christie, who's got a rich conducting background. He's fairly new to brass bands, but he's been doing an awesome job conducting us," Luke said.

They will play a 45-minute programme, consisting of a hymn tune, a soloist's item, an approximately 10-minute long test piece, and an entertainment piece.

Luke said he was proud of how far the band had come in the past few years. "When I started here in 2015, there were six of us sitting in this room.... The band's come a long way the last few years, and it's really trying to keep that momentum going," he said.

Today, the group comprises some 45 members across three bands: the main brass band, a senior social band and a junior band.

"Last year was the first year we contested since 2006. This year we're hosting... The goal is to get the band to nationals in a couple of years, which would be awesome."

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

Most important though, Luke said, was the need to keep the band a fun, community-minded group.

"It might take 10 years before we start moving up the grades. But I've always been firm that we don't want to become a solely competing band - we're a community band at heart," he said. "I think that's the only way a band like this can exist in a small community like we are."

And in order to continue serving the community, the band, which was founded in 1946, is also investing in its future as it looks to replace its ageing instruments.

"The last time the band prob-

ably had major investment in its instruments was in the 1960s or 50s," Luke said. "We were hoping to replace about two-thirds of a band's worth, so about 20. I mean, if we can get more, that's awesome."

The band's funding application to the council said it would cost around \$169,000 to replace the instruments. So far, the band has received \$5000 from Hauraki District Council and \$5000 from Trust Waikato. Internal fundraising has also been underway, with Luke saying generous community donations around Christmas last year saw them raise nearly \$10,000. The band has already replaced a euphonium and cornet, and will soon be looking at buying a couple more instruments.

Funding the replacements will be a long-term project, Luke said, but worth it for the better sound quality and longevity of the band.

"Historically in New Zealand, instruments have been something very difficult to fund for," Luke said. "We went for pretty decent quality instruments too. We could have gone for a lot cheaper stuff - but, like I always say to people, when the band invested in their instruments 80 years, 60 years ago, they went for good quality then, and they've lasted 60 years. So I wouldn't want to have to do this all again in 10 years' time."

DETAILS: Waikato Bay of Plenty Brass Band Festival, September 28-29 in Thames. Contact kerepehi-brass@gmail.com to get involved.



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THS students visit capital city

A group of Thames High School students travelled to Wellington last month as part of their history and art studies.

Seventeen-year-old student leader of academics Maia Harrison told *The Profile* the purpose of the trip was to look at and learn more about things the students studied in their history class.

The group of students also went on a walking tour of Parliament, where Maia said she walked past a few politicians.

"A couple of them I didn't even realise were politicians until we went into the chamber and then watched them."

Meanwhile, Year 13 student Jacob Rush was “shocked” during the public gallery session at Parliament that the group got



to watch. Jacob had never seen Parliament TV before so it was “quite a shocking experience to see what it’s like in there”, he said.

The group got to sit in on question time and hear a few speeches before moving on, Jacob said. However, it was their trip to Wētā Workshop that impressed the two students.

Although there wasn't one specific piece of artwork that

stood out to Maia, it was more the craftsmanship behind all of the work that people had done over the years, she said.

The amount of work produced by a New Zealand company for such big films was impressive, Maia said.

Jacob said one of the craziest things he saw there was the creation process for all the silicon molds and things people made - they were “really creepy...

But one thing both students spoke highly of was their time at Te Papa.

Maia said she enjoyed one display called Blood, Earth, Fire. It showed New Zealand's evolution: "what the land was like and the animals were like before, during, and after the country got discovered", Maia said.

While Jacob said: “I feel like

Te Papa offered oral and visual experiences, such as the Battle of Gallipoli - with mod-

of people from the war, Jacob said. "It gives us a much more grounded perspective on things...obviously it's not real, but it's a much more real feeling and so, you connect with them more - with all of the exhibits."



Kia kōtahi ai te piki ake, kia ikeike rawa ki te taumata
We grow together to achieve ones true potential

MĀNAWATIA A MATARIKI



Course set to empower through creativity

By TERESA RAMSEY

A six-week course at Thames Community Centre aims to spark creativity, boost self-esteem and reduce stress through art and creativity.

Creative therapist Dianne McLean said she developed the course, which begins on July 30, to help people who wanted to be more creative but didn't know how to start.

"A lot of people don't draw or do art, probably since primary school... but they sense they may need to be more expressive," she said.

"For most people they come along and they don't know what to expect. I've had people come along and they've enjoyed doing creative things in the past and they've let it drop, so this can be a way for them to get back into doing stuff for themselves."

The creative therapy course was for people who were "a bit stuck or are struggling with a few issues", she said.

"It can be quite empowering to come and do something creative."

"A creative therapist is somebody who uses all kinds of creative modalities to facilitate self healing. I'm not a counsellor, I'm not here to tell people what they should be doing or how to fix their lives, but through creativity, I hope to provide



Creative therapist Dianne McLean's course aims to empower.

Photo: TERESA RAMSEY

an atmosphere that helps people find the answers for themselves."

The first part of the course was "low key", focussing on how to create art for mindfulness and to regulate the nervous system, she said.

In week two, participants will learn how to use neuro-graphical lines to explore self-healing; and week three includes letting go of perfection or the need to do it right, using watercolour and doodling techniques.

Subsequent weeks include

collage, working with metaphor and how to use meditation and intuitive techniques to facilitate self-healing and empowerment, tapping into the power of music and guided drawing.

The effects of creative therapy could be "quite revelatory"

for some people, Dianne said.

"They come in and they don't know what to expect and they get into it and all of a sudden something opens up."

"I can't describe the process, it's just something happens within them, something opens up in their mind, in their emotions, and that's very empowering."

Dianne doesn't describe herself as an artist, but has always done art, meditation and coaching.

Before completing a course in creative therapy, she worked with elderly in rest homes with great results.

"That's why I went and got qualified because when I was doing the work in the rest homes... I knew creative stuff was really important and I knew it was powerful. I had some very profound moments with people with dementia in particular where there were real breakthroughs."

The course is part of a series of courses and services on offer at Thames Community Centre, which also offers a driver licence programme, weekly appointments for technology assistance and an upcoming six-week mindfulness course, which begins on August 5.

DETAILS: For more information or to book a place, contact the centre at 609 Mackay St, Thames, Ph 07 868 9797.

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Seven schools choir shines

A combined mass choir performed to two sold out audiences of 400 people each on June 26 for their concert: Seven Schools Sing.

Led by choir director Roshan Tuivavalagi with the support of Waihi College music teacher Edwin Randall, kids from the following schools performed at the event: Waihi Central School, Waihi East School, Waihi Beach School, Waihi College, St Joseph's Waihi, Waimata School and Te Wharekura o Te Waitangi o Ohinemuri.

Roshan said: "it was wonderful.. so cool to see children singing together and sounding beautiful".

Project leader Dorette Hartley said both shows were hugely successful.

"The matinee performance was to the Year 5, 6, 7 and 8 students from all Waihi schools and the evening concert was to the community and whānau."

According to the event programme, the concert kicked off with a karakia and welcoming, followed by music from the mass choir and Waihi College band.

There was also some poetry reading and crowd participation for a performance called *Mango*.

The evening ended with the collective singing *Te Aroha*.

"Feedback from the community was overwhelmingly positive with many acknowledging that this was a great opportunity for a diverse range of students to try something new, follow a passion and shine doing something they love," Dorette said.

The organisers thanked Waihi College for providing the venue and space for rehearsals, principals and staff of all seven schools for supporting the initiative and making it possible for tamariki to participate.

They also thanked the guest performers and three key people - Roshan, Edwin and Dorette.



Seven Schools sing for their peers, families and community. Photos: SUPPLIED



Musical director Roshan Tuivavalagi.



Waihi College students perform.



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Drinking swamp water blamed for illness



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

When William Scott Carroll fell ill in July, 1881, he put it down to drinking heated swamp water.

The 40-year-old had been working on the Komata Rd for surveyor, Nepean Kenny. Over two miles of the road had been formed with three miles remaining to be completed.

Twenty-five men were employed with another gang of 10 working at the Hikutaia end. The labourers, who lived in survey camps, were a fine lot of able-bodied men.

When Mr Kenny arrived at the worksite around 7:45am it was reported to him that William had been very ill during the night. He found him sitting in the camp's cook shed.

He looked unwell and Mr Kenny offered to do whatever he could to help him. William thanked Mr Kenny, and said he was much better, a dose of castor oil and an application of kerosene during the night having given him great relief.

William said he had suffered



A New Zealand survey party.

Photo: SUPPLIED

greatly from chest pain, but was now alright although very thirsty, and could drink any quantity of water.

He had felt very cold during the night, particularly about the feet. Mr Kenny examined his pulse. In reply to Mr Kenny's query he said he had plenty of clothing. William asked to be allowed to go home to his wife, and Mr Kenny told him if he would wait until the sun rose he would send a man into Paeroa with him. William said he could go without any assistance.

A man was organised to go with him, however. He asked Mr Kenny before he left whether he would keep his job open for him, and was promised that it would be kept open for a fortnight.

On the way to Paeroa, William became so weak he had to be placed on a passing bullock dray. He had intended to take the steamer from Paeroa to Grahamstown but as the boat did not leave until the next day he stayed the night at Mr Power's All Nations Hotel.

William told Mr Powers he had chest pains which he

thought had been brought on by drinking swamp water. He had dinner but did not eat much. At dusk he drank some beef tea. He sat by the fire reading the papers and was talkative for the rest of the evening.

Mrs Power gave him a mustard poultice which he applied before going to bed in good spirits around 11pm.

The next morning about 7.30 Mary O'Leary, servant, saw William come out of his bedroom. He said "good morning" then went down to the garden for a walk before returning to his room.

Shortly after Mary heard him moan and on going into his room saw him lying on his bed. She asked him what the matter was and he said he had caught a cold. William then asked for a doctor, but Mary told him there was not one in the district.

Mary left the room but hearing William moan again, went to Mr Power for assistance.

When Mr Power arrived William caught hold of his hand and shook it, retaining his grasp until he died. At the inquest, Dr Huxtable said William's heart was so extensively diseased it was a wonder he hadn't died before.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony.

William and his wife Eliza had five children under 10 whose welfare was uppermost in his mind as he tried to keep his job open despite the odds stacked against him.

He was buried at Shortland cemetery, Thames.

Chris' Quiz

- Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter
- Which of these New Zealand locations has the highest population? Kawakawa, Tawa or Rata?
 - Which of these is the name of a neighbourhood in New York City? Bambi, Dumbo or Hercules?
 - Artie Ziff is the ex-boyfriend of Marge in which TV show?
 - What is the highest gallantry award available to military or civilian personnel in New Zealand?
 - Hauraki District Council has public offices in which three towns?
 - Which vitamin contains the element cobalt?
 - The flag of the African nation Chad is almost identical to the flag of which Eastern European country?
 - Which of these is not a paid profession? Stevedore, Matador or Davidor?
 - Who sang the most lead vocals in songs released by the band Fleetwood Mac?
 - What is the name for the enzyme mixture, either animal or plant based, used to coagulate milk in cheese making?



ANSWERS: 1 Tawa (9,500 in June 2023); 2 Dumbo, an acronym for Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass, in Brooklyn, New York; 3. The Simpsons; 4. Victoria Cross; 5. Ngatea, Paeroa and Waihi; 6. Vitamin B12; 7. Romania; 8. Davidor; 9. Christine McVie (56 songs); 10. Rennet.

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Rural Life

Leptospirosis project launched



Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) has once again joined forces with Massey University to help raise awareness and funds to combat leptospirosis.

“Leptospirosis is a nasty flu-like illness which is unfortunately on the rise again in flood-affected regions as it can be spread through contaminated water,” RWNZ national president Gill Naylor said.

“We have a proud history over the past 50 years in raising awareness and much needed funds to better control the disease. By making leptospirosis our national project until June, 2025, we can again mobilise our members across the country.

“This is especially important as New Zealand has one of the highest rates of leptospirosis in countries with temperate climates in the world.”

Massey University Professor of Veterinary Public Health Jackie Benschop said last year there were 170 cases notified, nearly all in people living rurally.

“This is the tip of the iceberg as there are many cases missed because leptospirosis can look like Covid or the flu and there are issues with getting a diagnosis. Our data shows that 70 per cent of people suspected of having leptospirosis are not tested for it.

“Protecting yourself against leptospirosis need not be too difficult and mimics good farm management like vaccinating stock, adopting good hygiene practices, wearing PPE, controlling effluent, waterways and rodents and training your staff and visitors.

“Above all, if you are feeling unwell, seek help early. Tell your doctor leptospirosis may be the cause and ask to be tested.”

Professor Benschop said any funds raised as part of the national project will help further their research with the aim of better understanding leptospirosis in humans, animals and the environment to reduce the burden of the disease.

Meanwhile, entries for the NZI Rural Women NZ Business Awards close on July 26.

“Our business awards recognise entrepreneurial excellence in rural communities and provide a fantastic opportunity for women who own and operate rural enterprises to showcase their achievements and hard work,” Gill Naylor said.

“We want to ensure as many creative and innovative rural women take the opportunity to enter as possible. Creating and running your own business or enterprise is always hard and can be even harder in a rural setting so these awards are a great chance for them to celebrate and engage with other like-minded entrepreneurs.

“With such a wide variety of initiatives owned and operated by rural women across Aotearoa New Zealand, we have reviewed and updated this year’s award categories to better reflect this increased diversity,” she said.

All award winners receive \$1000 in prize money and a trophy presented in front of their peers at the NZI Rural Women NZ Business Awards Ceremony in Wellington in November. They also receive a free one-year membership to Rural Women New Zealand. The NZI Rural Women NZ Business Awards Supreme Winner receives a further \$1000 in prize money.

DETAILS: For more information, visit www.ruralwomennz.nz.

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A collection of four cartoon illustrations. At the top left is a red motorcycle with a rooster perched on its seat. Below it is a blue lawnmower. To the right of the lawnmower is a blue engine. On the far right is a female mechanic with blonde hair, wearing a blue cap, white shirt, and blue pants, holding a wrench.

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

THAMES FOOTBALL CLUB

The Thames FC men's team continued their momentum and moved to third following a 2-0 win at home to Cambridge.

A soggy Rhodes Park was the battleground for this weekend's showdown-days of heavy rain put the game at risk but following an early morning pitch inspection the green light was given and Cambridge, unbeaten in three, embarked on their journey across Waikato. The game began with a squelch, with the standing water refusing to budge. Thames, in good form and exerting pressure on the top teams, started energetically, dominating midfield. The opening opportunity came from a long ball: James Harvey leaped well flicking the ball to Ben Taylor but his stretched shot trickled wide. A few moments later, Ryan Le Roux intercepted the ball in midfield, skillfully bypassing two players before setting up Xavier Brown whose speculative effort sailed over the bar.

A good spell of pressure climaxed with a slick passing move that saw Thames work the ball effortlessly from left to right before Keegan Apperley's cross found Taylor. Taylor's clever touch set up Le Roux, whose strike was well saved by Patrick Espin in the Cambridge goal. The resulting corner found its way to Micheal Kim whose beautifully clipped cross back into the box found the leaping Taylor who headed home for a 1-0 lead. Thames continued on the front foot as a mazy Le Roux run terrorized the visitor's defense with the ball finding Kim whose powerful shot was tipped over.

Cambridge began to grow into the game creating some chances of their own - with key weapon Peter Buesnel beginning to find space on the left - a break forward saw the tricky winger

cut inside and fire a right-footed shot that was batted away by Slade Costello. Le Roux, once again pivotal in every Thames move, retrieved the ball deep and surged forward delivering a precise through ball to Harry Williscroft, who controlled well before testing Espin with a sharp shot. Williscroft seized the rebound and passed it back to Taylor, the trusty warhorse confidently found the top corner with his second goal of the game. As the wind intensified and the pitch deteriorated, the quality of play declined in the second half. Thames maintained the majority of possession, with Cambridge continuing to rely on counterattacks. The technically proficient Harvey came close with a free kick before his well-struck long-range effort troubled the keeper. As the match drew to a close, a skillful combination between Le Roux and Kalani Weir allowed Williscroft to finish well, but celebrations were cut short by the linesman's flag. Cambridge began committing more players forward in search of a late comeback, but Thames' defense held firm, securing a 2-0 victory and a valuable 3 points - leapfrogging Waihi into Third.

"Cambridge came fired up for revenge today but we managed to outclass them and came away with a pretty comfortable win. We're happy with the three points but I'm most proud of us staying disciplined and keeping the clean sheet" player/manager Michael Kim said.

- Jonathan Coles

HAURAKI FOOTBALL CLUB

The Hauraki Plains Football Clubs Division 4 Senior Men's team took on Huntly Thistle AFC at home in the weekend. Despite the mud the men took out a hard-fought win with two goals scored by Camm North and Steve Seth.



A group of basketball enthusiasts from Paeroa attended the Harlem Globetrotters Basketball World Tour event in Hamilton on July 10. The Paeroa Basketball Association took 30 students, from year three to year 13, to see the show. Most of the group are current or former participants in the association's mini-league programme, with older students now continuing to play basketball at Paeroa College. The opportunity was made possible with help from the community, with Paeroa Rotary sponsoring the tickets for the event and Paeroa College BOT loaning two school vans. Paeroa Basketball Association secretary Josey McKain said it was a massive and exciting opportunity for the students to watch a prestigious basketball event.



Hauraki Football Club's Jacob Tauwhara. Photo: CHILLED EDGE PHOTOGRAPHY



Thames' Ben Taylor. Photo: MARK BROWN



Thames FC's Le Roux leaves defenders in his wake. Photo: MARK BROWN

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Perrin Newland of Thames Hire Centre is ready to help find project solutions. Photo: NIKKI SANDERS

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Thames-Coromandel District Council Meetings – August 2024

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during August 2024.

Council meetings
Tuesday 6 August 2024, 09:00 am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

Committee Meetings

Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting
Thursday 1 August 2024 09:00 am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

Sustainability and Community Resilience Committee Meeting
Thursday 8 August 2024 09:00 am, Coromandel Service Centre, 355 Kapanga Road, Coromandel

Please visit <https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/Our-Council/Meetings/Agendas-Reports-and-Minutes> for copies of agendas and order papers.

A Lawrie
Chief Executive
Thames-Coromandel District Council

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Creating the right culture is king

OPINION

By MICHAEL WILKES



I just finished a string of celebrations. A 40th celebration for Thames Elim, a 40th for Adventure Specialties Trust, and a retirement party for Pete; the best boss I have ever worked under.

And a theme that permeated all of events was a deep sense of family. At the retirement party there was close to 60 guys present whose lives were changed because of Pete.

He created a culture of family, always made time to journey with staff through tragedy, brought enthusiasm and fun to the job and had high expectations.

And we rose to the expectation. An awesome summary came from one of the boys giving a speech.

For most boys there that night, they could define their lives in the form of before and after.

Working in that space they experienced change and transformation.

Boys became men, and a deeper sense of worth and value for life was born.

All the guys who, like me, were returning 10 years or more after leaving could see that working under this man was a defining moment in our lives.

And driving home that night I considered the absolute power of intentionality and culture.

It does not matter what your vision is, or your strategy to achieve it, if you do

not have the right culture for it to grow in.

Think back to science class and the little petri dish. For the bacteria to grow you needed the right culture in the dish, lighting and temperature.

Like a plant in soil, without the right environment, the vision of growth is dead, or significantly inhibited.

Peter Drukker is famously quoted saying: "Culture eats strategy for breakfast".

I recently heard of a study that explored the effects on our kids when they spend so much of their time in day care and school.

What they observed is that the culture and values of most young people end up being peer-led.

Without a consistent adult who lives clear culture and values, they instead find culture and values being discovered through their peers, and social media such as TikTok and Instagram. That feels like rolling the dice to me.

So today as I remember my boss who is finishing his professional career, I consider a man who breathed culture first and everything he put his hand to thrived.

May we also consider our spaces of influence and consider, what is the culture we are creating? The culture in our family, in our teams, and in our workspace?

Michael Wilkes is a Living Well Trust Youth Worker. He and his team provide mentoring and resilience programmes across Thames and Paeroa to more than 300 students a year. They are passionate about supporting our young people to thrive. Much of this work is funded outside of schools and it becoming increasingly challenging in the current climate. Email michael@livingwell.org.nz to sign up to their quarterly newsletter or to become a supporter.

Increase in Coromandel Rescue Helicopter visits

Missions by the Westpac Rescue Helicopter to the Coromandel Peninsula and Hauraki districts during June were eight more than for the same month last year.

Last month the rescue helicopter was called to the district 24 times, compared to 16 missions for the same month last year. During June, the service was required from Kennedy Bay in the north to Paeroa in the south.

Coromandel Rescue Helicopter Trust chairman John Stephenson said the increase reinforced the importance of the service and the need for on-going community funding support.

"Due to the remoteness of the region, it is not uncommon for calls to places such as Little Bay and the likes of Port Charles to assist people experiencing medical events or requiring treatment for injuries," John said.

"The increase from 16 to 24 missions is very significant when you consider during the summer peak in January, there were one less mission at 23."

Over the summer peak, one of the

Auckland-based Westpac Rescue Helicopters and its crew were based at the Coromandel hanger and accommodation at Whitianga Airfield.

John said the increase in the number of missions provided a timely reminder of the financial support required to keep the service operational and available when residents of the Coromandel and Hauraki needed help.

He said the service was experiencing increased operational costs now to operate the helicopter alone, which cost around \$8500 an hour.

"We are very fortunate in that people appreciate the service and understand its value and therefore donate towards ensuring machines and personnel arrive when required."

"We ask that individuals, businesses and community groups consider providing financial support to the trusts activities," said John.

DETAILS: All donations are charitable, details can be found at the Coromandel Trust's website at coromandelrescue.org.nz.

ENTERTAINMENT



St Francis Catholic School Thames students in concert.

Photo: SUPPLIED

Waiata, solo performances at free concert

Students from St Francis Catholic School in Thames will perform at Thames Music Group's free concert at St George's Church on Friday.

TMG spokesperson said the school had a strong emphasis on music and performance. "We welcome them to entertain us in this lunchtime concert. Come along at lunchtime to support our young rising talent."

Principal Oliver Fahey said: "we have a number of songs/waiata from our juniors and seniors as well as three or four solos from our children on guitar and piano".

"Maria Yates, who performed with her guitar a couple of months ago at the TMG concert, leads the children in waiata and they do practise each week."

"We also have children who are learning piano so I thought some of the older ones could play."

DETAILS: St George's Church Thames, July 26 at 12.15pm. Koha accepted.

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Outside all of these areas: **\$3445.00** plus mileage

For additional information please refer to Twentymans website: twentymans.co.nz **CONTACT: 07 868 6003**

* Additional mileage may apply, according to roading conditions. ** Plus Doctors Fee. The Doctors Fee for medical paperwork required for Direct Cremations is an additional charge. This fee ranges from \$45.00 to \$200.00, determined by the patient's Doctor.





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SUDOKU

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

3	5	1						
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						8	9	3

HARD

8				3				
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				1	6	4		2
				7				5

160

160

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

EASY

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

JUMBO CROSSWORD

180

ACROSS

1 Bid (5)

4 Earning just enough money to live on (6,4,4)

11 Open sore (5)

14 With the subtraction of (5)

15 Intruders (11)

16 Casual (8)

19 Answer (7)

20 Soft hat (5)

21 Old firearm (9)

24 Prepare for crops (9)

26 Refrigerator compartment (6)

27 Leapt (6)

31 Sample by mouth (5)

32 Old coin (8)

34 Brutality, ferocity (10)

38 Shortfall (7)

39 Just about (6)

40 Restaurant worker (6)

41 Flightless bird (4)

42 Swotted (7)

45 Board game (10)

50 Got thin (anag)(7)

54 Early South American (4)

55 Followed secretly (6)

56 Napping (6)

57 Willy (7)

60 Restriction (10)

61 Removing dirt (8)

62 Small round hill (5)

65 Size increase (6)

66 Barefoot (6)

67 One resigned to failure (9)

72 Leather slippers (9)

73 Uncertainty (5)

74 Spouse (7)

79 Mimic (8)

80 One-wheeled vehicle (11)

81 Musical note (5)

82 Drain (5)

83 Old-aged (4,2,3,5)

84 African country (5)

DOWN

2 Thwarted (6)

3 Kit out (5)

5 Land measure unit (4)

6 Examine closely (7)

7 Road-levelling machine (6)

8 Offensively inquisitive (4)

9 Ambled (8)

10 Knotted mass (6)

11 Vacant (10)

12 Search thoroughly (4)

13 Tumbling over and over (7)

17 Amalgamate (5)

18 Something newly introduced (10)

22 Shun (5)

23 Becoming thinner towards one end (8)

25 Not attempted (7)

26 Disinclination to move (7)

28 Song of mourning (6)

29 Open with key (6)

30 Invention protection (6)

33 Lively dance (5)

35 Relocate (5)

36 Sack (4)

37 Bathe (4)

42 Motionless (5)

43 Rare (8)

44 Acute insufficiency (6)

45 Hot-air aviator (10)

46 Surrender up (4)

47 Looked briefly (7)

48 Flour maker (6)

49 Sea (5)

51 Musical work (4)

52 Batting period (7)

53 Doorknob (6)

58 Not moving (10)

59 Finished (5)

63 Abduct for service at sea (8)

64 Swagger (5)

65 Hard rock (7)

68 Trade ban (7)

69 Rolled document (6)

70 Twofold (6)

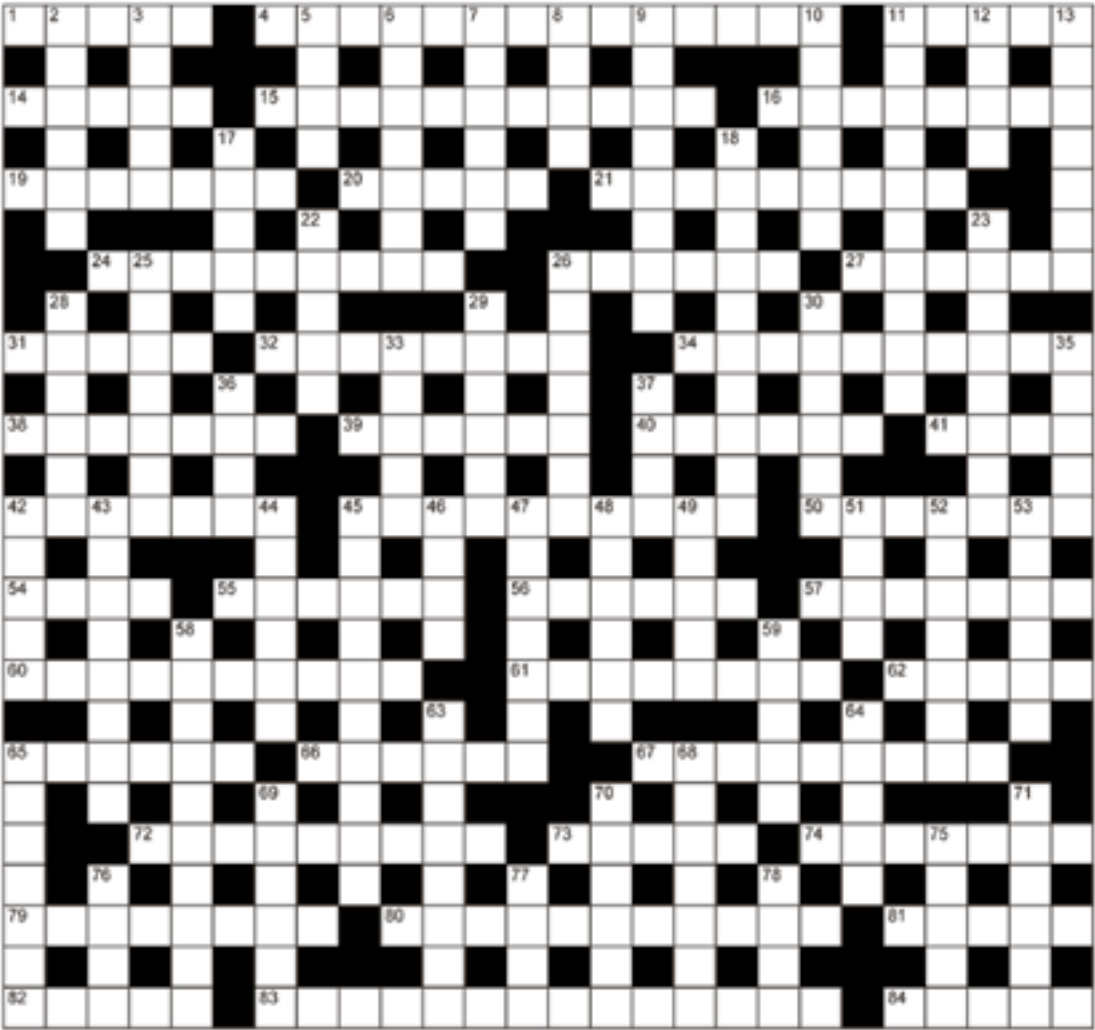
71 Dishevelled (6)

75 Salty solution (5)

76 Hobble (4)

77 Finest (4)

78 Defensive ditch (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Turn the other cheek, 10 Enhanced, 15 Regret, 16 Terracotta, 17 Protocol, 19 Veteran, 21 Fixed, 22 Imbalance, 25 Espionage, 27 Panther, 29 Vienna, 33 Topaz, 34 Fearless, 36 Forefather, 39 Tip, 41 Limited, 42 Clause, 43 Adroit, 44 Idol, 45 Serious, 48 Exasperate, 53 Scatter, 57 Acne, 58 Bureau, 59 Ambled, 60 Variety, 62 Tic, 64 Flea market, 65 Aperture, 66 Henna, 69 Pruned, 70 Strides, 71 Ingenuity, 76 Airworthy, 77 Tempo, 78 Display, 83 Sergeant, 84 Substitute, 85 Pencil, 86 Squatter, 87 Upset the apple-cart.

DOWN: 2 Uneven, 3 Nerve, 4 Hut, 5 Oath, 6 Herring, 7 Reader, 8 Hoop, 9 Estimate, 11 Normal, 12 Anticlimax, 13 Cock, 14 Dilemma, 18 Racecourse, 20 Aria, 23 Under, 24 On the dot, 26 Swahili, 28 Austere, 30 Novice, 31 Recurs, 32 Remiss, 35 Relax, 37 Ruler, 38 Menu, 40 Papa, 45 Scarf, 46 Runner-up, 47 Squirm, 48 Elementary, 49 Abut, 50 Placate, 51 Robber, 52 Treat, 54 Clan, 55 Trident, 56 Extend, 61 Impediment, 63 Gruel, 67 High jump, 68 Fuji, 69 Pegasus, 72 Neptune, 73 Twinge, 74 Depict, 75 Rapier, 79 Panic, 80 Frau, 81 Isle, 82 Jeep, 85 Pal.

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SPORTS



The Thames Valley under-16B rep team.
Photo: SUPPLIED

Successful season for Thames Valley netballers

NETBALL

The Thames Valley under-16B girls representative netball team has had a great season, coming away from nationals with a fifth place ranking.

The team, made up of 12 players from Paeroa, Morrinsville,

Hauraki Plains, Waihi and Matamata, headed to New Plymouth on July 6 to compete in the under-16B grade at the North Island Junior Netball Championships.

Their grade was taken out by Hamilton City, with Netball Taranaki as runner-up.

Team member Shiah Taylor, of Paeroa, was also selected for the North Island Junior Netball under-16 combined B and C grade championship team.

Team manager Jessie O'Brien said the Thames Valley team had trained hard in the lead-up to the tournament. They came runner-

up in the Auckland representative tournament in June in the under-16 division, behind the Hamilton City under-16 B team. They also took out first place at the Helen Dodge representative tournament in Tauranga.

Jessie said she, coach Tracy Taite-Grace, and primary care

person Stace Taylor were proud of what the players had achieved.

"[We] have guided and nurtured these ladies to be the best they can be," she said.

The Thames Valley under-14B grade team also competed at the Taranaki nationals, coming away in 12th place.



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