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A remarkable life

Paeroa veteran Bob Pinker had an extraordinary Naval career that included helping build Scott Base and rubbing shoulders with Henry Kissinger, Stephen Hawking and Donald Trump. ALICE PARMINTER sat down with Bob for a chat prior to Anzac Day.

Bob Pinker says he fell into the New Zealand Navy by accident. A school dropout at 14, the now-Paeroa resident had just completed a stint at Tapper Engineering in Whangārei and was at a loose end. Strolling down a street in Dannevirke, he recalls noticing a Navy recruitment office.

"I said, 'oh, I'll get somewhere to eat and sleep'. So I went in, and they said, 'you're just the man we need'. Because I'd already done a year of apprenticeship, they thought I was a tradesman. I was a nobody," Bob says.

Bob spent nine years in the Navy, as an Electrical Mechanic First Class. He was one of the Navy's only diesel-electric engineers, at a time when most of the country still ran on steam.

"I was the only oddball. And it was only by accident. Not for education, just the right place at the right time."

In fact, much of Bob's remarkable life story seems to boil down to "right place at the right time". In chatting about his experiences, he reels off a list of acquaintances and friends which wouldn't be out of place in a who's-who of modern history. Bob recalls partying with Henry Kissinger, chatting to Stephen Hawking, and travelling at different times with Australian adventurer Hans Tholstrup and British mountaineer Dr Griffith Pugh.

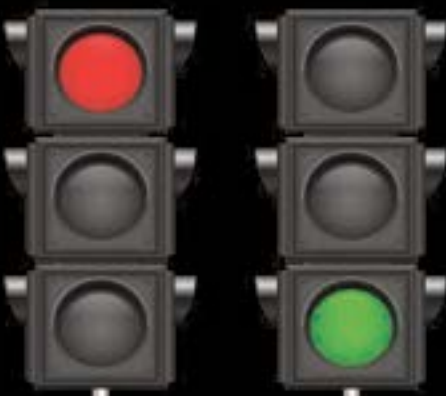
There are photos of Bob with Prince Andrew aboard the presidential yacht

CONTINUED ON P2

Bob Pinker sits surrounded by memorabilia from his extraordinary life.
Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

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Bob's remarkable life

CONTINUED FROM P1

USS Potomac, which Bob was captaining at the time, and he even remembers bumping into Donald Trump once at a fundraiser event.

"But I got involved in politics not because I'm red or blue... It's because that's where the best cocktail parties were," Bob laughs. "Everything in my life has been strange. It just happens."

Life hasn't all been parties for Bob though. During his time in the Navy, he saw active combat during a three-month stint in Malaya in 1962 at the end of the Malayan Emergency. However, most of his military tenure was spent on nine missions to Antarctica, where he helped build Scott Base in the 1950s.

"I did four of those trips on the old wooden ship [the *HMNZS Endeavour* I]," Bob says. He points out a wall filled with memorabilia he's collected, including photographs of the base - some he took himself, some taken before he arrived in Antarctica.

"Some of the pictures... no one's ever seen before. Hillary with the dogs, the old Ferguson tractors pulling across," Bob says.

"I've got a picture of Shackleton and Scott together. And Shackleton's granddaughter didn't know there was a picture of them together. I said, 'I have the picture', and she came here to get a picture of that."

And during one of Bob's trips to Antarctica, he was witness to the effects of Operation Argus, which saw US ship the *USS Norton Sound* fire three low-yield nuclear warheads into the atmosphere over the South Atlantic Ocean.

"I built the camera at Scott Base to film it for



Bob Pinker's wall of memorabilia. ALICE PARMINTER

history... The whole sky went orange for two days."

As Anzac Day approaches, Bob, now 87 years old, reckons he's one of the lucky ones.

"[Anzac Day] reminds me of all my friends I had that I lost. You know, a strange thing - when I joined the Navy, I went to the Antarctic. Because I was an oddball.

"But all my classmates went to the Pacific Islands, to Christmas Island, for the atomic bomb test," Bob says.

"And they said to me, you're going to go to the Antarctic and you're going to die. We're going to live in the tropics.

"They were zapped with the atomic bomb, and I survived."

ANZAC FEATURE, P12-15

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Ex-cyclone Tam causes havoc

Ex-Tropical Cyclone Tam caused flooding, slips, power outages and road closures and rescues in Hauraki-Coromandel last week.

The storm hit in the early hours of Thursday, April 17, causing significant flooding and closing roads in Manaia and Hikuai, with Fire brigades conducting multiple rescues, including people stranded in floodwaters and a van off the road in Coromandel. Fortunately, no significant injuries were reported.

The Rhodes Park freedom camping area was evacuated as a precaution due to rising river levels as heavy rainfall pelted the district on Thursday night, with 242mm recorded at the Pinnacles over 24 hours to 6:45am Friday. The Kauaeranga River peaked at 8.6m but dropped on Friday morning to 7.8m, reducing spillover concerns.

On Friday, State Highway 25 was also closed between Hikuai and Tairua due to severe flooding, and there was a mudslide at One Ton Straight on SH25A, making it unsuitable for vehicles other than 4WD. There was also a slip on SH25A and a large fallen tree blocked SH26 at Matatoki. Residents were asked to conserve water, and a water tanker was stationed in Puriri, where 35 homes were also without power.

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Thames Tides

Wed Apr 23	Thu Apr 24	Fri Apr 25	Sat Apr 26	Sun Apr 27	Mon Apr 28	Tue Apr 29
 Morning: 2:25am 3.0, 2:39pm 3.0 Afternoon: 8:36am 0.9, 9:00pm 0.9 Sun: 6:50am 5:42pm Best At: 8:05am 8:30pm Rise: 12:57am, Set: 3:03pm	 Morning: 3:24am 3.1, 3:42pm 3.1 Afternoon: 9:35am 0.8, 10:05pm 0.8 Sun: 6:51am 5:40pm Best At: 8:54am 9:19pm Rise: 2:07am, Set: 3:31pm	 Morning: 4:21am 3.3, 4:46pm 3.2 Afternoon: 10:33am 0.7, 11:04pm 0.6 Sun: 6:52am 5:39pm Best At: 9:43am 10:08pm Rise: 3:18am, Set: 3:58pm	 Morning: 5:16am 3.4, 5:47pm 3.4 Afternoon: 11:29am 0.5, 11:58pm 0.5 Sun: 6:53am 5:38pm Best At: 10:33am 10:59pm Rise: 4:31am, Set: 4:25pm	 Morning: 6:10am 3.6, 12:23pm 0.3 Afternoon: 6:43pm 3.6 Sun: 6:54am 5:37pm Best At: 11:26am 11:53pm Rise: 5:47am, Set: 4:55pm	 Morning: 12:50am 0.3, 1:16pm 0.2 Afternoon: 7:03am 3.6, 7:35pm 3.7 Sun: 6:55am 5:36pm Best At: 12:21pm Rise: 7:05am, Set: 5:29pm	 Morning: 1:40am 0.3, 2:07pm 0.1 Afternoon: 7:57am 3.7, 8:26pm 3.8 Sun: 6:56am 5:34pm Best At: 12:51am 1:21pm Rise: 8:25am, Set: 6:10pm

***Not for navigational purposes.**
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MOON AND FISH KEYS

New Moon First Quarter Full Moon Last Quarter

Good Fishing Fair Fishing Not So Good

TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES

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

PLACE	Hr	High	Mn	Low	Mn
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	

‘Old soul’ brings heart, humour to cancer battle

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

It’s been little less than two months since 16-year-old Jake Nagel was diagnosed with leukaemia.

As the youngest person on his ward, he has found a small silver lining in his situation: a space equipped with a PlayStation and big TV, but nothing would ever beat the comfort of home.

The Paeroa College student has completed his first round of chemotherapy, and has recently been allowed to return home to Waihi for a short break, but with another three rounds of treatment planned, he’s facing more time in Wai-kato Hospital.

Still, the “old soul” remains in high spirits, and his family is proud of his attitude, uncle Josh Martyn told *The Profile*.

“Jake is such a unique guy, and he really leaves an impact on people. It’s not an easy situation to be in, especially for someone so young, but he is resilient and is getting really good at rolling with the punches,” he said. “He hasn’t lost any of his classic sense of humour, and I couldn’t be more proud of the way he is tackling this.”

Jake was diagnosed with leukemia - a cancer of the body’s blood-forming tissues, including the bone marrow and the lymphatic system - on March 1.



Jake Nagel spends time with Black Cap Daryl Mitchell.
Photo: SUPPLIED

His parents, Nita and Hayden, have been by his side every step of the way, but Josh said a tough aspect that has come with the diagnosis was

Jake being treated as an adult, despite his young age.

“He’s right in the grey area between children’s services and adult services,” he explained.

“This hasn’t been a problem for him, but he does need the support of his family every day.

“This means that his mum and dad have had to seriously

reconsider what work looks like for them this year, which is why the donations are so very helpful.”

Josh created a Givealittle on-line fundraising page to mitigate the financial impact of the diagnosis, as well as keep life as normal as possible for Jake’s younger brother Travis.

So far, more than \$28,000 has been donated.

“Jake’s family are so grateful for all the support from the community,” Josh said. “It is going to make a world of difference for them, and allow them to focus on Jake in the coming months. There have been so many generous individuals and groups, and it really has shown us all what an amazing community we live in.”

And while Jake has had to get “a bit creative” with how he passes the time, a recent highlight was the budding cricketer getting to meet some of his heroes - the Black Caps.

“He was invited to attend their training in Hamilton,” Josh explained.

“He was given special permission to leave the hospital for this, and it was such a cool experience - it came about from an idea of one of his friends, so he is really grateful to them.”

DETAILS: To donate to Jake, visit givealittle.co.nz/cause/jaken.





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Education

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Thames High seniors inspire new junior leaders

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

Leadership is an important part of Thames High School.

It is something the school encourages students to do in many ways, including a new junior leadership programme, a head Manukura Māori student leader, and a new peer support initiative.

Student senior leaders noticed there was a missed opportunity for junior students who came from leadership roles in primary school, but had to wait until years 12 and 13 before they could carry out responsibilities as leaders.

Deputy head students and senior student leadership team members Troy Costello, 17, and Kayla Speed, 17, told *The Profile* the group of senior leaders created the junior leadership team known as Manukura Teina, made up of 16 year 9 and 10 students.

“They are here to help the senior leaders with whatever needs to be done, giving them responsibilities and a leadership role to step up to through their time as Manukura Teina.”

All the Manukura Teina were paired up with the senior leaders, and throughout the year would communicate and offer help to the senior leaders with whatever needed to be done, they said.

“We want to help them build confidence in themselves and in talking in front of people, get them out of their comfort zones, and try new things.

“These could be our future senior leaders of the school, and by



Deputy head student Kayla Speed, centre, with some of the junior leadership team members. SUPPLIED

being able to mentor them, they get to learn so much from us and our mistakes.

“Our senior leaders get to inspire the younger students,” they said.

Another leader at the school was head Manukura Māori (Māori leader) for 2025 Ora Wiki.

Ora wanted her peers to know her as someone who was approachable and there to support all students in her position as Manukura Māori - “that is my job and why I am passionate about being a leader”.

Her goals for the year were to

“create a safe place for our Māori students to confide in when they have any issues, but to also empower Te Ao Māori and our Māori students in the kura”.

One way Ora was able to develop her leadership was by attending a leadership camp at Wharekawa Lodge last month, organised by Whangamatā School and Thames High.

There she learned how other student leader teams operated to create events for their students, how to speak confidently in public, and also to prioritise looking after

oneself, she said.

But the things Ora said she looked for in a great leader were kindness, empathy and strength.

Her advice for others who wanted to become leaders was to never be afraid to step up and out of their comfort zone, she said.

Another way students were invited to step up was through a new initiative being set up called He Taringa Whakarongo, A Listening Ear - which was a network of students interested in supporting each other.

Staff member in charge counsel-

lor Kylie Finch said more than 20 year 10-13 students wrote applications to be considered for the role of tuakana.

“Tuakana-teina is a Māori concept of support. Historically the tuakana was an older, more knowledgeable family member that would impart knowledge to the teina (younger person),” she said.

“These days the tuakana (more knowledgeable person) does not need to be older, can be a peer, but has more knowledge in some area.”

The role for tuakana was to be a listening ear for students wanting to talk to someone around their own age, Kylie said.

“Anyone at school or in the school community can refer a student they think might benefit from a listening ear. Students can refer themselves also.”

One student said they wanted to be considered for the role because “it makes me feel good” to help others.

“To be a tuakana for He Taringa Whakarongo would be a great opportunity for me to make connections with others, and to make others feel heard, respected, and to have someone that they can trust,” they said.

But the main outcome Kylie hoped would come from the initiative was for students to feel cared about, to feel supported at school and in the community and to “know their wellbeing is important to us”.

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Thames High School



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Ora Wik (Year 13)



Izzy Fitzsimons (Year 13)



Leadership workshop

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(Year 9)



Aidan Tinto
(Year 9)



Ava McQuarters
(Year 9)



Jai Bradley
(Year 9)



Pearl McWatt
(Year 9)



Thamenen Kong
(Year 9)



Joseph Dobie
(Year 9)



Nico Rolton
(Year 9)



Isla Wenhold
(Year 10)



Chloe Bergersen
(Year 10)



Gwen Kingi
(Year 10)



Rocky Tuhakaraina
(Year 10)



Maia Whitney
(Year 10)



Luca Yamamoto
(Year 10)



Lexi Thomas
(Year 10)



Jesscia Darwell
(Year 10)

Winter appeal launched to keep kids warm

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

As temperatures begin to drop, Children in Care is calling for donations of “snug and warm” essentials to ensure the district’s tamariki can keep cozy this winter.

The appeal, running until the end of May, has so far delivered 60 care packages to vulnerable young people, and Children in Care patron Peter Revell told *The Profile* he expected the need would increase once the cold weather hit.

“You don’t have to look far or do much research to find out that when kids are not kept in a healthy environment, it just has huge impacts on everything.

“It has an impact on their health; it means they’re not in a good condition for learning,” he said.

“It’s the stuff sitting at the bottom of Maslow’s Pyramid, you know, basic safety and security, and being able to go to bed at night with warm pyjamas and a hot water bottle is just all a basic human requirement.”

The snug and warm appeal was inspired by Dame Valerie Adams’ Jammie Army campaign for the Middlemore Foundation, and followed on from a successful Christmas toy drive in 2024, Peter said.

Children in Care has been set up under the Thames Rotary Charitable Trust, and on top of any tangible donations to



The appeal, running until the end of May, has so far delivered 60 care packages to vulnerable young people.

Photos: SUPPLIED

the winter appeal, a Givealittle page has also been established and so far has raised close to \$1000 to collect essential winter supplies.

These could include pyjamas, sleeping bags, blankets, hot water bottles, and socks.

“I’ve got 16 grandchildren now, the oldest of which is 11... and I think what [Children in Care] is doing is fantastic. It’s about as altruistic as you can get,” Peter said.

“They’re not in it for any reason other than they want to do something for kids who need help, and they just want to keep it simple.”

Donations to the cause of new winter essentials can be

dropped off at Thames-Coromandel District Council offices; the public libraries in Thames, Coromandel, Whangamata, and Tairua; Coromandel CFM offices; and at Goldfields Shopping Centre during opening hours.

“Already 60 parcels have gone out, and we’re expecting once the cold weather hits that the need, or the demand, will increase.”

DETAILS: For further info, find Children in Care Snug & Warm Appeal on Facebook, or donate via givealittle.co.nz by searching ‘Children in Care’.





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New youth MP eager to amplify young voices

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

Isabella White is eager to embrace all that is on offer when she represents the electorate as Coromandel's newest Youth MP.

The Year 12 Mercury Bay Area School student was selected by Coromandel Member of Parliament Scott Simpson, who commended her "passion, work ethic, and desire to make a difference".

But Isabella admits that when the last selection for Youth MP rolled around three years ago, her 13-year-old self wouldn't have had it on her radar.

That all changed a few months ago.

"One of my mum's work friends saw it being advertised online and sent mum the link, saying that she could see me in this role. Mum then sent the link to me.

"At first, I thought: 'What's mum sending me now?!', but after looking more into the Youth MP initiative, I realised that it is such a unique opportunity that I could not pass up," she said.

"An opportunity that could help me make positive changes to our district and express my ideas."

Isabella will attend a two-day event at Parliament in Wellington on July 1 and 2, but her full tenure will run from April 28 to August 29.

She told *The Profile* she was



The district's newest Youth MP Isabella White, with Coromandel MP Scott Simpson. Photo: SUPPLIED

looking forward to getting around the district, meeting other teens, and learning about what they believed current and future issues or concerns were.

"I am also very excited to take the gathered information down to Parliament to share with the other elected Youth MPs, and see how our districts align," she said.

"During my time in Wellington I plan to embrace all that is on offer. I hope to learn some new skills and make connections with like-minded people, which in turn will hopefully help make a better future for our generation."

On top of being Youth MP, Isabella's schedule is packed.

She has a role in the Mercury Bay Performing Arts' production of *Aladdin*; she is on the school's Senior A Netball Team, the environment team and leadership team, and is also a Student Volunteer Army ambassador.

Not only that, but Isabella has two part-time jobs.

But despite a full calendar, Isabella says she tries her best in each role, and does her bit to give back to her district.

"There is so much to love about growing up in the Coromandel," she said.

"I love going to the beach

with my friends, taking my dog on runs in a safe community, and going on bush walks with my family. Due to this, I have been raised with a deep connection to our district's natural beauty and am aware of the unique challenges that we face.

"This means that I can acknowledge that there are several critical issues that are shaping the future of our community.

"Like many other young Kiwis I am majorly concerned by how vulnerable our home is to climate change, with rising sea levels and extreme weather events already critically affecting coastal areas. I am currently writing a proposal for my school that can help Whitianga contribute to a more sustainable future, but what about the rest of the Coromandel? What about the rest of Aotearoa? Our economy relies on tourists and our unique environment. I want future generations to have the same opportunities that past generations did."

Coromandel MP Scott Simpson said he was really impressed by Isabella's "passion, work ethic, and desire to make a difference in our community".

"Being a Youth MP is a terrific opportunity to get the pulse of the electorate and to raise awareness of the issues important to youth."



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Rural Life

Wilding conifer control planned for Opera Point

Work to remove hundreds of wilding conifers at Coromandel's Opera Point Reserve, a small and picturesque headland near the settlement of Whangapoua, was set to begin last week.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) says wilding conifers are a pest tree species impacting on native bush and coastal environments, taking water, light and air from native plants that are home to endemic birds, lizards and bugs.

The wilding conifers at Opera Point were self-seeded, and if left uncontrolled, they would eventually take over – as they have at many locations around New Zealand, DOC said.

DOC and Waikato Regional Council staff have arranged for an experienced and qualified local arborist to undertake the work.

The project has been made possible through funding from Waikato Regional Council and is supported by the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme (NWCCP).

DOC Coromandel senior ranger Josh Angell said Opera Point was significant to local iwi, and was also a popular recreation location for the local community and visitors.

"We have been in an ongoing conversation with iwi and the community about enhancing the biodiversity at Opera Point and working to restore the small forest area there – and the wild-



A conifer control programme is planned for Opera Point, near Whangapoua.

Photo: SUPPLIED/DOC

ing conifer project contributes to that," Josh said.

"Wilding pines along the foreshore above and below public access tracks at the point have caused significant damage to the reserve during and after extreme

weather events."

As high winds and rainfall topple the conifers, the root balls expose large holes in the ground, damaging cultural significant landmarks and infrastructure. This results in track closures and

high levels of financial investment to reinstate safe visitor access and ongoing archaeological assessments.

The Opera Point conifer removal project will see two methods used – what is colloquially

known as "drill and fill", with small holes to be drilled into trees into which herbicide is then injected. The trees will be left to decay and break down over time. This method is used as it causes the minimum impact on surrounding native plants. The remaining wilding conifers - close to historic features and tracks and access areas - will be completely felled using chainsaws later this year. The two methods are among the accepted good practice for wilding conifer removal.

The reserve will stay open during the arborists' work, and people visiting are urged to stick to the marked tracks. Public access will be restricted in some areas during and following the operations, to ensure safety.

The arborists' work at Opera Point was scheduled to start on April 16, and is expected to take between two and three weeks, weather permitting. Once the initial work is completed, the trees' deterioration and decay will be monitored.

"Waikato Regional Council is responsible for biosecurity and protecting special places within the region," regional council senior biosecurity officer Clark McMichael said.

"The local residents who enjoy the walking tracks and native bush at Opera Point want to see the native environment protected and restored – and this project will progress that."



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Tairua's single-lane Pepe Stream Bridge.
Photo: NZTA

Info session for Tairua bridge

A Community information session will be held in Tairua later this month to update the community on the new Pepe Stream bridge, set to be complete in 2027.

The new two-lane bridge will cull queues of holiday traffic at the single-lane Pepe Stream Bridge, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) says, with the replacement bridge project now in the procurement phase ahead of construction starting late next year.

“The business case developed by NZTA in 2022 along with engagement with iwi and stakeholders has determined that the preferred option is a two-lane bridge with an attached shared walking and cycling path to replace the single-lane bridge and a separate pedestrian bridge,” NZTA regional manager infrastructure delivery Darryl Coalter said.

With funding confirmed, the community information session was to update the community and SH25 users on what was ahead, he said. “There is a lot of work ahead to get the bridge designed and consented, but the countdown is on for construction to start by late 2026. All going well NZTA’s target is to have traffic on the new bridge by Christmas,

2027. While NZTA engaged with the community as part of the business case development, we are keen to hear what’s important to people who live, work or holiday in the area,” Mr Coalter said.

The project team will be at the Tairua Community Hall on April 30, and people can call in any time between 3pm and 6pm.


NZTA will be seeking a design and build contract and expects to have a contractor in place later this year. Construction methodology was critical because SH25 needed to remain open during the build, NZTA said.

The current bridge crosses a tidal stream on SH25 south of the Tairua town centre.

The project is part of a wider bridge programme to improve safety, efficiency and resilience on the state highway around the peninsula.


Meanwhile, work will begin later this year at the Boundary Creek Bridge on the Thames Coast north of Te Mata. Design of a new two-lane bridge to replace the single lane bridge Ramarama Stream Bridge on SH25, just north of Whiritoa, is also underway.

DETAILS: Tairua Community Hall, April 30, call in any time between 3pm and 6pm.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Conversations connect creatives

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

The final Creative Conversations evening saw artists, musicians, thespians, and event co-ordinators come together for a kōrero in Thames this month.

Held on April 9 at Bite Cafe, the Thames event was the final of five, in the first series hosted by Creative Coromandel throughout the rohe.

Chair Fiona Cameron said the events had been “very successful” as they moved around the Thames-Coromandel.

Speaking to attendees, including Thames Music and Drama, the Ngākau Carving Symposium, Vessel Arts Co-operative, and St George’s Community Choir, Fiona commended the community groups for their uniqueness and their ability to bring people together.

“Creative Conversations is about connection, collaboration, and community.

“We want to hear about that mahi, and let you know how we can support it.

“Thames is a powerhouse in the arts for our region, and that’s important to recognise and something to celebrate,” she said.

The night included informa-



Creative Coromandel chair Fiona Cameron addresses the attendees. BELOW: Creative Conversations brings together like-minded groups. Photos: SUPPLIED



tive speeches from the creative community groups and wrapped up with live music by duo SaltWood - made up of Anna Dunwoodie and Thames-Coromandel district Mayor Len Salt.

DETAILS: For more information about the events or Creative Coromandel, email info.creativecoromandel@gmail.com.



Organist to play at St George’s

The Thames Music Group’s next Friday lunchtime series will see Alison Shannon, an organist and keyboard player from Whangamata, taking the stage to perform on the St George’s organ.

Alison’s journey with music began in her teens when she was drawn to the organ at a church in Te Aroha, after years of piano lessons.

Her love for the instrument deepened after attending a recital by Dutch organist Bernard Bartelink, which inspired her to explore the more virtuosic side of organ music.

Alison went on to study organ with William Whittle, the Director of Music at St Peter’s Cathedral in Hamilton, and he encouraged Alison to apply to study at Auckland University under the guidance of baroque specialist Anthony Jennings.

After four years of study and performance opportunities, she graduated with honours, majoring in Organ and Harpsichord Performance.

Alison said living in Whangamata on the Eastern Coromandel could make access to a classical organ a bit challenging, so she practiced her keyboard on manual parts on the piano at home and made use of her time on the organ in Waihi or Thames to focus on the foot pedals - an essential part of the organ that provided a rich bass accompaniment and intricate pedal solos.

These pedal solos, often showcasing complex fugue themes, add a unique dimension to organ mu-



Organist Alison Shannon. SUPPLIED

sic and test a musician’s skill.

Alison’s main role in recent years has been as an accompanist for church services and choirs at

Whangamata Anglican Church and St James Union Parish in Thames, while also performing as a soloist.

For this Friday’s concert, she will perform works from composers spanning the mid-1600s to the 1920s, including JS Bach, Domenico Zipoli, Max Reger, and Erik Satie.

DETAILS: Thames Music Group’s Free Friday Concert series presents Alison Shannon, Friday, April 25, at 12.15 pm, St George’s Church, Thames. Free entry, koha/donation gratefully accepted.

Charlotte Yates and Show Pony ready to rock at Kauaeranga Hall

Many will remember Charlotte Yates from the iconic 1990s New Zealand kitsch folk band When the Cat’s Been Spayed.

Since then, besides recording many albums of her own, she’s studied contemporary music technology and composition in Australia, produced two Melbourne Fringe Arts Festivals, been artist in residence in Christchurch and directed and produced the critically acclaimed CDs, Baxter, Tu-whare, Mansfield, and Ihimaera.

Charlotte is joined at Kauaeranga Music’s next gig by the multi-instrumentalist Show Pony.

Together they will be performing a two-set show featuring all songs from *Winter’s Eye*, the latest EP Charlotte has recorded.

“Yates’ fine voice and astute pop songwriting are more than ably backed up by

her intuitive guitar work.” - *North and South Magazine*

“Had she been born a few decades later, the Kiwi music machine would be all over her talent and hooky semi-acoustic songs like the proverbial rash?” - Nick Ward, *Stuff*

Winter’s Eye has been co-produced with fellow Wellington-based artist, Brooke Singer of French for Rabbits.

Brooke has also contributed synthesiser, piano and backing vocal performances on the seven-track physical and digital release.

Several other well-known Wellington musicians feature on the EP.

DETAILS: Charlotte Yates + Show Pony, May 3, 7:30pm at Kauaeranga Hall, Thames. Door sales \$28; pre-paid \$25 txt: 021 912 993 or kauaerangahallmusic@gmail.com, or Garden Music, 712 Pollen St, Thames.



Charlotte Yates, right, and Show Pony are set to entertain in Thames. SUPPLIED

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Pink Floyd at Pompeii - MCMLXXII (87 mins) PG. Re-mastered 1972 film with enhanced audio. Set in the ancient Roman Amphitheater in Pompeii, Italy. Captures a concert without an audience. Two screenings only.

Small Things Like These (98 mins) M. In 1985 devoted father Bill Furlong discovers disturbing secrets kept by the local convent and uncovers shocking truths of his own.

A Minecraft Movie (101 mins) PG. Garrett, Henry, Natalie and Dawn are struggling with ordinary problems when they're suddenly pulled through a mysterious portal into the Overworld: a bizarre, cubic wonderland.

The Penguin Lessons (111 mins) M. Starring Oscar nominee Steve Coogan, this poignant dramedy follows a man's personal & political awakening after he adopts a penguin during a cataclysmic period in Argentina.

The Correspondent (119 mins) M. A gripping thriller and a compelling true story. While covering the news desk in Cairo, an Australian journalist is arrested and accused of terrorism.

Dam Busters (105 mins) G. ANZAC Day special. The story of how the British attacked German dams in WWII by using an ingenious technique to drop bombs where they would be most effective.

Dog Man (95 mins) G. When a faithful police dog and his police officer owner are injured together on the job, a harebrained but life-saving surgery fuses the two of them together and Dog Man is born.

Disney's Snow White (109 mins) PG. A live-action reimagining of the classic 1937 adventure film. Journeys back to the story with beloved characters Bashful, Doc, Dopey, Grumpy, Happy, Sleepy, and Sneezy.

Tinā (125 mins) M. Story of a Samoan teacher, who struggling after the death of her daughter in the Christchurch earthquakes, reluctantly takes on the role of substitute teacher at a wealthy private school.

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April 26 Sat 9.30am - 3pm

April 27 Sun 11am - 2.30pm

Details of where each group meets and how to join will be available at the expo

ENTERTAINMENT



The Four Seasons promises “plenty of drama and lots of gossip”. Photo: SUPPLIED

Tairua to stage ‘soap opera’

Tickets went on sale on April 17 for the Tairua Troubadours’ latest show *The Four Seasons*, which runs for eight performances between June 19 and 28 at Tairua Community Hall.

Moving through the four seasons, the show covers a year in the life of four friends reunited in Tairua for the 30th anniversary of Tairua High School.

A spokesperson said the show promises, plenty of drama and lots of gossip – the true to life stories of small towns everywhere. “Only the facts have been changed!”

“It is *Coronation Street*, *Days of our Lives*, *Neighbours* and *Friends* all rolled into one, with some catchy musical numbers thrown in.”

The show couldn’t be more community based if it tried.

Written, directed and performed by locals who volunteer their time whilst having fun raising money, proceeds from ticket and raffle sales will benefit local emergency services, with previous shows raising around \$12,000-\$15,000 for local causes.

“This production was originally performed in 2006 and weirdly the script still applies because the gossip hasn’t changed, only the delivery of it,” writer/director, Jennie Turner said.

“The introduction of social media means the grapevine is now instant with photos uploaded so everyone can see what’s going on.”

The original 2006 script has been tweaked to suit the 2025 cast, allowing them to bring their own flavour to the characters and script.

For those who like dressing up for the occasion there’s a variety of options to choose from. During the show, the audience will attend a school reunion, a country hoedown, a Winter ball, a wedding, and a Beach Hop. So take your pick and dress for an occasion.

DETAILS: Tickets are \$30, available by emailing tairuatroubadours@gmail.com. Check out the Tairua Troubadours Facebook page for more info on dates and times. Evening performances: 19-21 and 25-28. Matinee: June 22.

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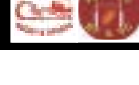
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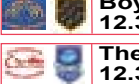
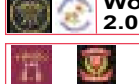
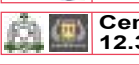


Thames Valley Club Rugby



Premier Men - R4 - April 26th

	Boyd Park, Te Aroha - 2pm Kick Off
	Kenny St, Waihi - 2pm Kick Off
	Centennial Park, Paeroa - 2pm Kick Off
	The Boom Pit, Whangamata - 2pm Kick Off

SENIOR B

	Boyd Park, Te Aroha 12.35pm Kick Off		Woolams Ave, Coromandel 2.00pm Kick Off
	The Boom Pit, Whangamata 12.35pm Kick Off		BYE
	Centennial Park, Paeroa 12.35pm Kick Off	Thames Valley Women's competition begins Sunday May 4th	

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Valley boys brave Gallipoli ‘daisy patch’



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

Shrapnel Gully, Death Gul- Sly and Suicide Gully were names of spots near Anzac Beach on the Gallipoli Peninsula that during World War I that would never be forgotten by those New Zealanders who went through battle there.

But away down at Cape Hel- les on the end of the Penin- sula, there was a spot called ‘The Daisy Patch’, a name that one would not associate with war. There amongst the green grass grew a profusion of daisies and wildflowers.

On the morning of May 8, 1915, orders were issued for the New Zealand Brigade to advance towards the village of Krithia. The charge was part of the Second Battle of Krithia, which had begun two days ear- lier when the Allies launched a series of unsuccessful day- light assaults on the Ottoman trenches.

They suffered heavy loss- es and were unable to break through.

The brigade included the 6th Hauraki Regiment, which con- sisted of Thames Valley boys as well as others from all parts of New Zealand.

There was bungled staff work somewhere which resulted in the New Zealanders taking up their battle stations during the night and being a long way in the rear by dawn. This added several hundred yards to the open ground which had to be crossed under fire.

The brigade, who were in the centre, moved up along a wind- ing creek bed just deep enough to give shelter. This brought them within a couple of hun- dred yards of the main front line which had to be reached across country.

Immediately in front the ground sloped away for a little distance, then came the field of beautiful wild flowers, and then a gentle scrub-covered slope rising to a crest-line in the mid- dle distance. Beyond this again was Achi Baba, a prominent hill, the main position of the Turkish defences. The Colonel announced: “Well, boys, the orders are to go ahead, and we have got to carry them out”.

The responses were not en- couraging. “What! Are you go- ing to cross the Daisy Patch? - God help you!”

On the signal, every man of



From left: John Berry, 1915; Robert Thorburn, 1915; and Samuel Lowry, 1916. Photos: SUPPLIED

the first line was over the para- pet and down the slope, straight into a hail of Turkish fire. Riflemen and machine gunners hid- den in the stunted pines on the right poured out a hell of fire.

Not a man of the first wave fal- tered, most of them went down but a few crossed the field and in the scrub beyond formed some sort of a firing line.

The second wave came on and was shot down to the last man.

A third wave tried to cross, but it seemed as though all the Turk- ish fire was converging on them, and the field of daisies was full of suffering. Yet men got across somehow, dashing a few yards from shallow cover to shallow cover, crawling inches at a time. Some three hundred yards had been won, and breathless, dis- organised, and exhausted, the attack rested for the time being.

Another attack was ordered and at five o'clock the whole line from sea to sea swept forward. The ships at sea and every gun were firing rapidly. It seemed as though the Turks must surely have been blasted from the se- cure positions. But scarcely had the line of bayonets moved out when the hellish machine-gun fire burst out in greater fury.

Death fell everywhere.

The line went on for a hun- dred yards, then another hun- dred as little knots of desperate men crawled further. The sur- vivors scraped out little hollows and lay still till nightfall.

The New Zealand infantry suf- fered hundreds of casualties and achieved nothing. Whole lines of men had been mown down by volleys of machine gun fire. By the evening, the Allies had 6500 men killed or wounded and had

advanced just 500m. The Auck- land Battalion was no longer an effective fighting unit and was withdrawn during the night.

Samuel Lowry of Hikutaia was at the Daisy Patch. He was the first to enlist in the Hikutaia district when he was 34. He had been a member of the old Vic- toria Rifles, Auckland, a volun- tary, part-time military organi- sation that provided the bulk of New Zealand's defence during the late 19th century.

In 1901, the Irishman had im- migrated to New Zealand with his family who farmed at Hi- kutaia. Samuel, who was single, worked as a bushman.

He joined the Auckland Infan- try Battalion as a Private, leav- ing Auckland after his initial training, bound for Suez where he arrived in December, 1914.

CONTINUED ON P13



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CONTINUED FROM P12
Just five months later, Samuel was killed in action at Gallipoli on May 8, 1915. His memorial is at the Twelve Tree Copse (NZ) Memorial Cemetery at Helles in Turkey.

John Berry, 23, the third son of 11 children, of Komata North, Paeroa, was wounded at the Daisy Patch and invalided home. He had come to New Zealand with his family from Lancashire in 1907 when he was 15. Five months after being wounded, he returned to Gallipoli but by early 1916 was dangerously ill with an intestinal infection at Cairo.

His father was a monumental mason who worked on most of Auckland's notable buildings, including the War Memorial Museum which was built by subscriptions raised in remembrance of the war dead.

John survived the war, marrying twice, raising a family and dying in Brisbane at the age of 79.

Nineteen-year-old Robert Thorburn, a bushman of Waihi, survived the Daisy Patch and when he returned to New Zealand in September, 1915, was interviewed from his hospital ship's bed. He described how, when he was within 300 to 400 yards of the enemy's trenches, he was struck by shrapnel.

The flying metal broke one of his legs in four places, and inflicted a number of wounds.

"I knew that if I stayed there I would soon stop a few more," he said, "so I crawled and rolled back to where there was a trench and got into that.



A soldier pays his respects at the grave of a colleague near Cape Helles.

"Later the stretcher-bearers found me". His leg was set two or three times, and was now two inches shorter than the other. He was doubtful it could be saved and he would be permanently disabled, but he appeared to regard the prospect quite cheerfully. Robert married and had a family, dying in Auckland at the age of 70.

After the Krithia fiasco, the devastated New Zealand Infantry Brigade was taken out of the front line and went into reserve at Helles. In the aftermath, many New Zealand soldiers felt that the British officers were too single-minded and did not allow for the difficult conditions they faced on Gallipoli.

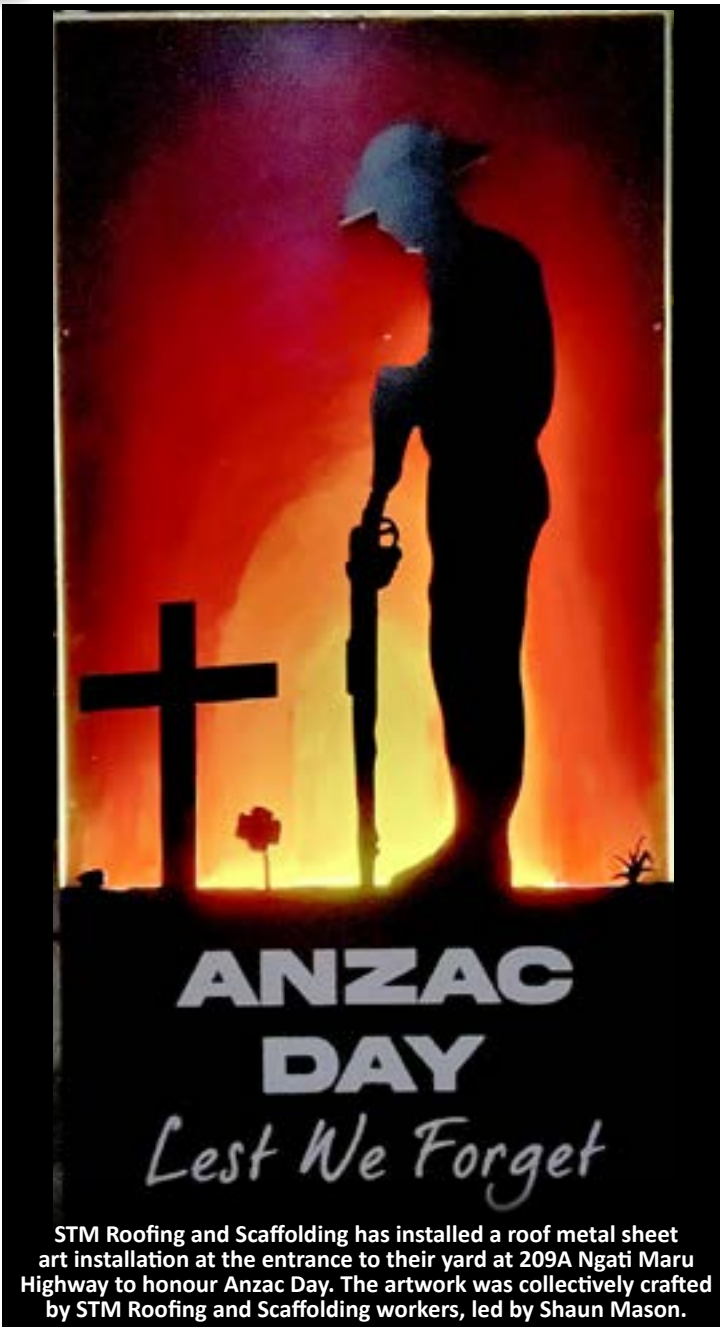
It seemed that as far as most British officers were concerned, 'orders were orders', despite the cost.

A few days after the slaughter on the Daisy Patch, the *Ohinemuri Gazette* said: "It is very

gratifying to note the spirit with which the manhood of this district are responding to 'The Call' and there is no doubt they are determined to avenge the cowardly murder of innocents and other atrocities, and also to uphold the prestige of the 6th Hauraki Regiment now fighting with magnificent valour at the Front".

The district had by then sent close to 700 men to war and now 93 more men had enlisted. They were to take a special train from Auckland to Wellington and when the first men on the list paraded on the Paeroa railway platform local residents gave them a hearty send-off.

At Cape Helles a few short weeks after May 8, amongst the green grass, the daises were growing still but amid them now were patches of brown earth and small wooden crosses.



STM Roofing and Scaffolding has installed a roof metal sheet art installation at the entrance to their yard at 209A Ngati Maru Highway to honour Anzac Day. The artwork was collectively crafted by STM Roofing and Scaffolding workers, led by Shaun Mason.



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Outside Kaihere Community Hall sit the town’s memorials, remembering locals both military and civilian.

Photo: SUPPLIED

Kaihere service to also honour locals

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

Three new names are set to be unveiled on Kaihere’s community memorial wall as part of the rural Hauraki Plains town’s Anzac Day commemorations.

The memorial wall, which was dedicated in April, 2006, sits outside the Kaihere Community Hall. Its purpose is to acknowledge and remember departed residents of Kaihere.

Alongside it are the town’s original war memorial - a stone

cairn from the 1920s bearing the names of two locals who lost their lives in World War I - and a second cairn honouring the fallen men of World War II.

Kaihere Hall and Community Society committee member Lorraine Williams said the locals were proud of their community camaraderie, and the annual Anzac Day commemorations and additions to the memorial wall were a key part of that. “We’ve had Anzac services here at Kaihere for many, many years, originally shared

year by year with the Pātetonga community,” she said.

“We have our local school students from the Kaihere school usually say or do something... We in Kaihere are very proud of our hall, pavilion, memorial wall and school.”

One of the three people to be commemorated on the memorial wall this year is a long-time local who spent his childhood and early years in Kaihere, and requested shortly before his death last year to be added to the wall, Lorraine said.

The other two names belong to a former headmaster and his wife, who spent a decade dedicated to the community’s school, church and other groups.

The committee did not wish the names to be published.

DETAILS: Kaihere Anzac Day service and memorial wall unveiling, April 25, 9.30am at Kaihere Community Hall, followed by tea, coffee and Anzac biscuits.

Anzac services

Anzac Day Commemorations will take place on April 25 in the following towns:

KAIAUA: 7am Service at Ru-aoneone, Urupā, F Lowry Rd, Whakatiwai.

KAIHERE/ PĀTETONGA: 9.30am service at Kaihere Hall.

KEREPĒHI: 6am Dawn Service and Parade (5.30am muster for parade) at Kerepēhi War Memorial Hall.

NGATEA: 6am Dawn Service at Hauraki Plains College; 11am Parade from Hauraki RSA through Hugh Hayward Domain; 11.30am Civic Service at Ngatea War Memorial Hall.

PAEROA: 6am Dawn Service at the Primrose Hill cenotaph; 9.15am Civic Service at Paeroa War Memorial Hall.

WAIHĪ: 6am Dawn Service at Waihi RSA; 8am Wreath Laying at Waihi Cemetery; 9am Tunnelling Company Service at Gilmour Reserve; 11am Civic Service at Waihi War Memorial Hall.

THAMES: 5.45am Dawn Parade from Sealey St (outside BNZ), along Pollen St, turn left into Mary St to Thames War Memorial Civic Centre for 6am Dawn Service, followed by breakfast at the Thames Bowling Club, Mackay St, at 9.45am. Civic Parade from Sealey St (outside BNZ), along Pollen St, turn left into Mary St to Thames War Memorial Civic Centre for a 10am Civic Service followed by refreshments at the Thames Bowling Club, Mackay St.

TAPU: Tapu Hall and Tapu Volunteer Fire Brigade Anzac commemorations - meet at 6am at the fire station for a march to the War Memorial at the hall, where there will be a dawn service and wreath laying. Everyone is then invited to come into the hall for a “soldiers’ breakfast”.

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Reflections and memories of Anzac Day

Anzac Day commemorations will be hosted across Hauraki-Coromandel on April 25 for people to gather and remember together. Valley Profile reporter **DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA** spoke to people in Waihi and gathered reflections, memories and stories of what Anzac Day means to them.

Sisters Christine Bougher and Margaret Tummon
Christine and Margaret reflected on what Anzac meant to their family as their father served in Egypt. The sisters both said Anzac Day was special to them.

“We grew up with it being special.”

Christine said: “It means a lot because we’ve always gone to [the] dawn service. I always go to the dawn one down here at the [Waihi] RSA, and I always go to the lovely one at 11 o’clock in the park with the animals and the horses. My sister [Margaret] is here this year to enjoy it.”

“We go up to my father’s and mother’s grave to put the poppies on. We’re going up tomorrow to do that.”

Christine said: “He [dad] served in Egypt. We were born after he came back. Two of the sisters were born before he went, one of my sisters...

was four [years old] the day he came home. She was born two days after he left for war. So that was Irene, and that means peace.

“So yes it means a lot to us because, you know, mum always said dad didn’t come back the same man.”

Margaret said: “500 people came to his funeral... The suburb we lived in was the biggest in the country, Mount Roskill. And mum’s cousin wanted to do the funeral in a little

church so there [were] hundreds of people outside the door.

“It was a fine day, and men must have stopped all the traffic because we had [a] police escort all the way to the graveyard, it was like being royalty. He was so loved”.

Guy and John Trowbridge, of Auckland
Guy said Anzac was a time of remembrance.



Clockwise from top left: Sisters Christine Bougher and Margaret Tummon; Guy and John Trowbridge; Avlon Paul, Faizon and Te Atarangi, Eddie Morrow.
Photo: SUPPLIED

“My Grandad was in a prisoner of war camp so I guess a time of reflection, and thinking about him. We often get up for the dawn service and pay tribute,” he said. Meanwhile John, 9, said it was “a time for mourning people who died in war”.
Eddie Morrow of Waihi Beach, who works in Waihi
“I think Anzac certainly is...

a point in time and we know every year it’s the opportunity to actually stop and remember a really significant event for particularly the people that served in that war, and went and fought for us,” Eddie said. “And I know also from an Anzac perspective, I think it strengthens the relationship we have with our Australian colleagues.”

He said it was a “really important day just to stop and actually take time to reflect on that”.
Avlon Paul, 19, of Waihi with nephew Faizon, 8, and niece Te Atarangi, 10, from Auckland
For Avlon, Anzac is “getting together and celebrating those who passed from the war and just celebrating with everybody”.



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

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Advocating for community funding pays off in Hauraki

A February report to the Hauraki District Council Community Partnership Committee shows more than \$400,000 in funding has been successfully secured by community groups in conjunction with support from the council's community advocacy officer, and the figure keeps growing.

"It's incredible to see the results that are coming through when community groups work closely with council's advocacy officer," Mayor Toby Adams said.

"We know it's disappointing when council sometimes has to say no to funding applications that come to us directly. Balancing rates affordability with community needs means we can't do it all.

"We really want to stress that there are many funding streams out there and the council advocacy officer can help identify them and guide the process," he said.

"So we want to hear from you." One such group that didn't hesitate to get in touch was the Paeroa Bowling Club, which is now the proud recipient of a boundary fence and additional sets of bowls specifically for community use, thanks to working closely with council.

The partnership between the advocacy officer and the bowling club involved a clear, strategic approach to funding applications, including prioritising the goals of different funders, reviewing application timelines, and co-ordinating



Paeroa Bowling Club's new fence. SUPPLIED

a plan. And not giving up when there were setbacks. "Persistence and planning is key - every community group should have council's advocacy officer's contact details on speed dial," Mayor Toby said. "You never know where it might lead."

This year the community advocacy officer will be holding free funding workshops on a variety of topics around the fundamentals of grant applications, fundraising and much more.

These will be held at the Hauraki District Council Office in Paeroa.

DETAILS: To register your interest for the workshops or to discuss funding a particular project, please get in touch via email to the council advocacy officer at info@hauraki-dc.govt.com, or by calling council on 0800 734 834 (in district) or 07 862 8609.

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Chris' Quiz

- Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter
1. What does ANZAC stand for?
 2. Which singer last week made headlines by becoming a member of the first female-only crew to enter space in 60 years?
 3. True or False: the parents of *The Simpsons* creator Matt Groening are named Homer and Marge?
 4. Which film released in 2025 was filmed predominantly in New Zealand? a) *A Minicraft Movie*, b) Disney's *Snow White*, or c) *Dog Man*?
 5. The airline with the abbreviation JAL is the national airline of which country?
 6. What is the alternative name for State Highway 43, which passes through the township of Whangamomona?
 7. The South Island township of Renwick, population 2650 in 2024, is close to which other centre? a) Blenheim, b) Christchurch, or c) Dunedin?
 8. Waldi the dachshund was the first Olympic mascot. For which Olympic Games did he appear? a) 1932 Los Angeles, b) 1952 Oslo or c) 1972 Munich?
 9. The medical drug epinephrine is identical to which hormone in the human body, involved in the flight, fight or freeze response?
 10. The battle of Chunuk Bair occurred in which modern day country?

ANSWERS: 1. Australian and New Zealand Army Corps; 2. Katy Perry; 3. True; 4. a) *A Minicraft Movie*; 5. Japan; 6. The Forgotten World Highway; 7. a) Blenheim; 8. c) 1972 Munich; 9. Adrenaline; 10. Turkey.

Community spirit in full swing

GOLF

In early December, 2024, the Karl Davis Team of Bayleys Ngatea hosted its annual charity golf day at the Mangatarata Golf Course, a “calendar highlight” that combined community, competition, and a cause close to home.

On April 16, a donation of \$12,690 was made to Thames Cancer Support, a local organisation doing vital work to support individuals and families facing cancer.

Karl said he was “honoured and proud” to visit the organisation to personally hand over the donation, which would go toward food and petrol vouchers, counselling, and massage therapy.

“With the remarkable support of Peter Kelly - auctioneer extraordinaire - the day was not only a fantastic experience for everyone involved but also a meaningful one,” Karl said.



The annual charity golf day at the Mangatarata Golf Course raised \$12,690 for Thames Cancer Support.



“Over the years, this event has raised more than \$215,000, with funds distributed between the local community, and the Bayleys Foundation’s elite partners: Cure Kids NZ, Live Ocean,

and The Prince’s Trust.

“A heartfelt thank you goes out to every person and business who supports this event - whether by entering a team, donating a prize, or bidding on auction items.

“Special mention must be made of the popular ‘burger bar’ on the course, which kept

players energised from the first tee to the final putt, and the wonderful meal at the end of the day.

“Every swing, every bid, every moment on the course contributes to something bigger,” he said.

“And it’s making a lasting difference in our community.”

CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

Death Notice	Public Notice	Storage	Handyman Services	Public Notice
JOHNSON, Jennifer Wendy Anne (Jenny) (nee Larking): Unexpectedly at Tauranga Hospital, with family at her side, on 13th April, 2025. Dearly loved wife and best friend of Wayne for 52 years. Adored Mum of Nigel, Amanda and Grant Daly, and precious Nan of Olivia and Rocco. Honouring Jenny's wishes a private family service has been held. TWENTYMANS	Paeroa Croquet Club A G M To be held at the Clubrooms on Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 10 am. Enquiries to 027 863 6331	Thames Valley Storage – secure, dry units available, two sizes. Call Trev 027 4076966	THAMES HANDYMAN & BUILDING SERVICES Building, home maintenance & general gardening services Phone: Fleur or Crighton • 0273 913 283	Thames-Coromandel District Council Meetings - May 2025 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 May 2025. Council meetings Council Online Meeting Tuesday 29 April 2024 – 9:00am, this meeting is specifically on Roading Professional Services and is publicly excluded for the following legislative reasons Section 7(2)(i) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. Council Annual Plan Verbal Feedback Monday 5 May 2025 09:00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames Council Meeting Tuesday 13 May 2025 09:00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames Council Annual Plan deliberations Tuesday 20 May 2025 09:00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames Community Board Meetings Coromandel-Colville Community Board Tuesday 6 May 2025 10:00am, Coromandel Town Service Centre, 355 Kapanga Road, Coromandel Town Mercury Bay Community Board Wednesday 7 May 2025 10:00am, Mercury Bay Service Centre, 10 Monk Street, Mercury Bay Committee Meetings Risk and Assurance Committee Thursday 29 May 2025, 09:00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames 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
Church Notices Waihi Bible Chapel Ph. Num 021 522 668 Come read the Word. Learn Scripture (King James) You want the truth, it's all here. Come help us read and learn. Bible Study Wednesday nights 6pm	Handyman An experienced handyman covering all trades with over 20 years exp building trade. Please contact Laurie King 0212510246. ktpropertyservice.com	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	Storage TOTAL STORAGE LTD KEREPEHI / PAEROA We will beat any legit quote for storage in 10ft or 20ft containers T&C's apply 021 67 67 99 info@totalstorage.co.nz	
Waihi Assembly of God Church “Worship & Healing” 10am Sundays Scout Hall, Baker St, Waihi	Hay HAY FOR SALE: conventional bales, this season, shed stored: \$12 per bale. Good quality meadow hay, suitable for horses. Pick up Puriri, Ph 0211454735.	STORAGE KOPU, PAEROA TE AWAMUTU “New Units” Ph 027 440 7101 07 868 3033 Safe n Sound Storage www.safestorage.co.nz	Situations Vacant MOTORBIKE MECHANIC REQUIRED Full time. Some experience with farm bike servicing will be an advantage. Full training will be given to the right person. Phone, text, email or drop in. Miles - 027 227 1121 - miles@hpmotors.co.nz 1 Pipiroa Rd, Ngatea	
For Lease Yards for lease, Thames and Kopu. Suitable for trucks, vehicles or trade business base. Ph 027 440 7101	Home Maintenance ‘SHE SORTS IT’ From Mess to Impress: Gardening, home cleaning, painting, declutter, odd jobs, deceased estates. <i>Creating Beautiful, Organised, Serene Spaces.</i> Qualified and experienced horticulturist. Ready to Present to market or event! Contact Pippa or Gin Ph 027 747 7000	Trades FENCING CONTRACTOR Residential & Rural Retaining walls & more High quality workmanship Competitive prices Call Matt 021 1727 148	Due to a new project within the local Waikato region Fire Protection Contractors are currently seeking expressions of interest for new roles open now in the projects team, offering competitive remuneration based on skills and experience. 30 weeks of work, Monday – Friday for the following roles: • Pipe/Sprinkler Fitters • Trade Assistant/Labourers If one of these roles is of interest to you and you are a self-motivated person, have outstanding communication and trade industry experience/ skills, please drop your CV into the office or email to admin@fpcglobal.co.nz	
For Sale Big double load of ti tree mix. Dry shed stored and free delivery. \$340 Ph: 022 386 0395	Pets KENNELS WAITAKARURU Boarding Kennels and Cattery. “A great place for your pet to stay.” Shane & Sherrin Hansen. Ph: 07-867-3344, SH25 Waitakaruru, RD6 Thames	BURROWS ROOF CLEANING For moss, mould etc Get your gutters cleaned before winter from \$100 Ph Murray: 027 449 5985	Builder Reno's, decking, fencing. For free quote ph Phil 021 088 63559	
Volunteers Required Paeroa SPCA Op Shop needs volunteers. Time and days to suit you. Call Lisa on 021 075 8143 or 07 444 0019 or come in to the shop		Painters Professional roof painter. Mario Kerkhof 027 961 4055 Painter available now, experienced in interior and exterior work. Ph 0272142442	FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACTORS THE TRUSTED WORKFORCE NEW ZEALAND	

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SUDOKU

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

EASY

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HARD

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EASY

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

JUMBO CROSSWORD

217

ACROSS

1 Talk over (7)

4 Judge (10)

9 Make ready (7)

13 Civil disorder (4)

14 Edible fish (6)

15 Make certain of (6)

16 Distinguished musician (7)

19 Facts and figures (10)

20 Sick (8)

21 Slightly drunk (5)

24 Unlike anything else (6)

25 Complete void (6)

27 Passed (9)

32 Entrust a task to another person (8)

33 Paltry (6)

34 Stir up (7)

38 Fearless (8)

39 Enter (2,4)

40 Superstar (4)

41 Spiral curve (5)

42 Drugged (5)

45 Same-size replica (4-5,5)

52 Different, separate (5)

55 Dark porter (5)

56 Sensed (4)

57 Sharp-tasting (6)

58 Coffee drug (8)

61 Seaside (anag)(7)

62 Linked up (6)

63 Surreptitious (8)

66 Gut (9)

68 Complained (6)

69 Pretending (6)

DOWN

1 Tapered tucks (5)

2 Fitful (8)

3 Featherbrained (6)

4 Ape (5)

5 Vanished (4)

6 Breastbone (7)

7 Save from danger (6)

8 Short (5)

10 Harvest (4)

11 Hobby (7)

12 Least common (6)

17 Carved bust on a boat (10)

18 Grim, desolate (5)

22 Many (8)

23 Tropical fruit (5)

24 Not tested (7)

26 Absent (4)

28 Reeling sensation (7)

29 Alleviation (6)

30 Sweet-talk (6)

31 Long narrow band (6)

33 Craze (5)

35 Robbery (5)

36 Discontinue (4)

ACROSS

37 Small sheltered bay (4)

43 Equip (6)

44 Give the slip (5)

46 Utilises (4)

47 Disappointment (7)

48 Cash in (anag)(6)

49 Scottish estate owner (5)

50 Principal support (8)

51 Legally accountable (6)

52 Ad lib (3,3,4)

53 Inheritor (4)

54 Staggering along (7)

59 Possession (5)

60 Surrender up (4)

64 Play for time (5)

65 Ornamental wire work (8)

67 Jotter (7)

68 Computer screen (7)

70 Make a hole in (6)

71 Tried out (6)

72 Strong bad smell (6)

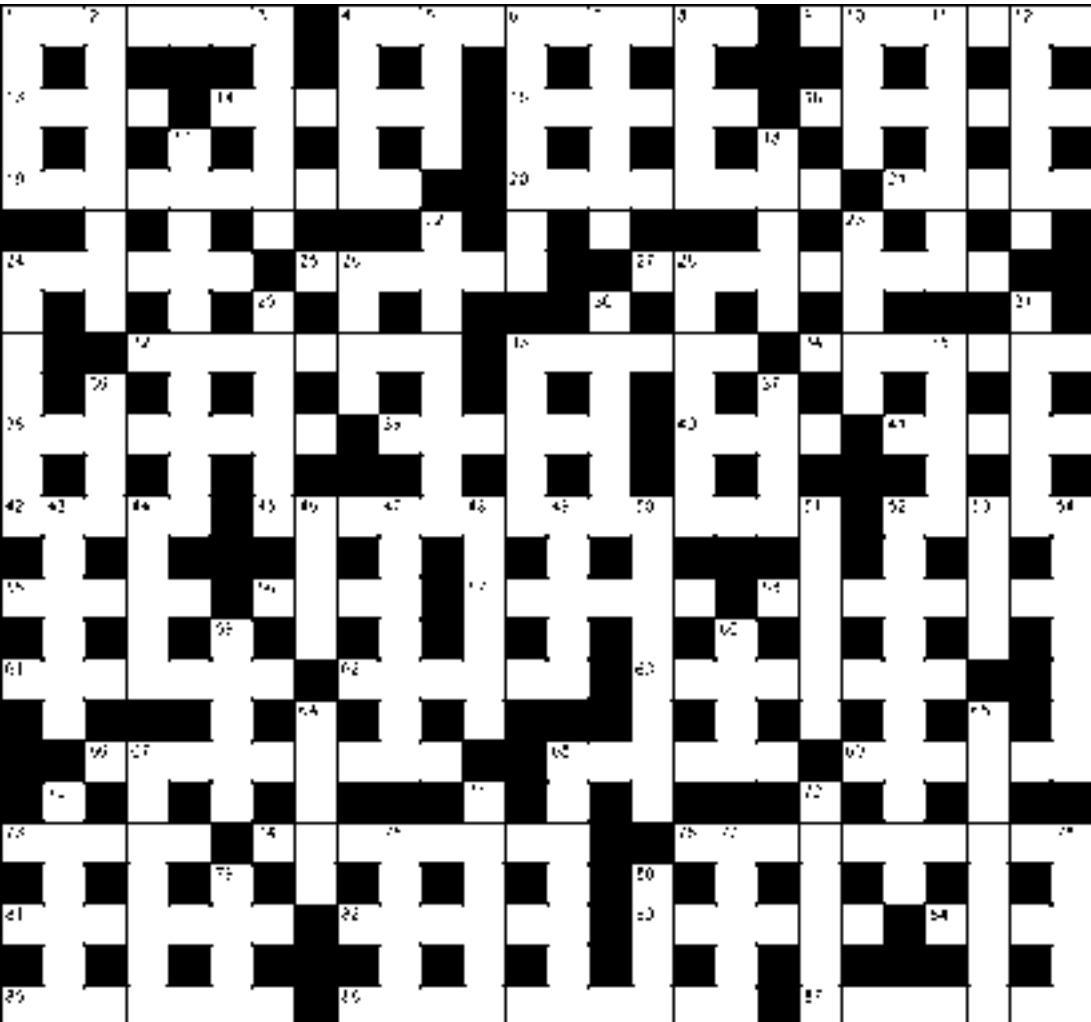
75 Because of (3,2)

77 Scope (5)

78 Estimate (5)

79 Blood vessel (4)

80 Indian garment (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Space, 4 Tennyson, 9 Earwig, 14 Solve, 15 Wet behind the ears, 17 Catch, 18 Asp, 19 Vinegar, 20 Limousine, 21 Action, 24 Flyweight, 25 Uneasy, 26 Weevil, 29 Standstill, 31 Elk, 32 Warmth, 33 Drop, 35 Eye, 37 Suds, 39 Eventuate, 40 Dandelion, 41 Purse, 42 Underdog, 47 Pathetic, 51 Loose, 55 Coastline, 56 Tarantula, 58 Bolt, 59 Ash, 60 Rapt, 61 Minion, 62 Nag, 63 Translated, 66 Sandal, 67 Mosaic, 69 Entourage, 72 Sacked, 73 Falsehood, 75 Veteran, 77 Pew, 80 Noted, 81 Champing at the bit, 82 Early, 83 Remedy, 84 Payments, 85 Stunt.

DOWN: 2 President, 3 Cable, 5 Etna, 6 Nothing, 7 Step on the gas, 8 Nears, 9 Essence, 10 Race, 11 Intact, 12 Clean, 13 Helpful, 14 Shrivel, 16 Heavy as lead, 22 Beside, 23 Astride, 24 Finesse, 25 Upkeep, 27 Verdict, 28 Stanza, 30 Late, 32 Weird, 34 Panic, 36 Mesh, 38 Urn, 42 Ulcer, 43 Deadpan, 44 Rate, 45 Origin, 46 Woman, 48 Transparent, 49 Embrace, 50 Ill, 51 Lexicon, 52 Ethnic, 53 Trigger-happy, 54 Knot, 57 Uranus, 64 Education, 65 Balcony, 66 Snippet, 68 Anarchy, 70 Trounce, 71 Mettle, 72 Swore, 74 Swamp, 76 Erect, 78 Adze, 79 Pact.

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BAYLEYS

OPEN HOME



Boundary lines are indicative only



Pauanui 896A Hikuai Settlement Road

No more horsing around – 10.96ha of opportunity!

Calling developers, retiring farmers, and upscaling lifestylers—this expansive property offers space, privacy, and potential, just minutes from the beach. Enjoy sea and bush views from the substantial Mediterranean-style home. It's livable as is but offers exciting renovation potential to create your dream oasis. The elevated site features grazing, spring-fed troughs, native bush, beehives, and thriving exotic fruit trees, perfect for sustainable living. The property is equipped with access tracks, nine bay shedding, an equestrian arena, and stockyards. Plus, recreational activities and key amenities are just moments away.

The owners are committed to selling—don't miss the opportunity!

bayleys.co.nz/2180773

10.9_{ha}  3  2  3 

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 1 May 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 11am-12pm Sun 27 Apr
Pippa Jackson 027 747 7000
pippa.jackson@bayleys.co.nz
Karl Davis 027 496 4633
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
MH REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Boundary lines are indicative only






Kaiaua 10 Rua One Place

Beachfront brilliance

Anchored at the water's edge on a no-exit road, this elevated 1,557sqm (more or less) beachfront home commands breathtaking views over the Firth of Thames to the Coromandel and Hunua Ranges. Designed for strength and longevity, the three-bedroom, three-ensuite + toilet home features an upstairs kitchen, downstairs kitchenette, and enduring materials. Expansive windows capture uninterrupted ocean vistas. A rimu benchtop anchors the kitchen, blending function and warmth. Solid concrete block walls and substantial retaining ensure durability, while native rimu and cedar add character. A dumbwaiter connects spaces seamlessly. A Dolomite filtration system and 75,000L water storage enhance practic

bayleys.co.nz/2630046

1,557_{sqm}  3  3 

Tender (unless sold prior)
Closing 3pm, Thu 1 May 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 12-12.30pm Mon 21 Apr
Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Connor Davis 027 496 4622
SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Paeroa 20 approx Ryall Road

Receivership sale - Bare land, freedom to create

Wake up to countryside charm with panoramic Kaimai views on this 6.3ha (more or less) north-facing block. Just a short drive to town, it's free from covenants and full of potential—ideal for a tiny home, new shedding, or weekend retreat. With flat land, rich soil, and quality fencing, it's ready for livestock, horses, or small-scale farming. Outdoor lovers will enjoy nearby Karangahake Gorge, Hauraki Rail Trail, and Coromandel fishing. Under 105km to Manukau, with schools like Paeroa College nearby. A perfect mix of peace, space, and possibility—call today to view!

bayleys.co.nz/2630070

6.3899_{ha}

Tender (unless sold prior)
Closing 3pm, Thu 1 May 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 2-2.30pm Sun 27 Apr
Karl Davis 027 496 4633
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

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RECEIVERSHIP SALE



Boundary lines are indicative only



Paeroa 162 Rotokuhu Road

Receivership sale – 103ha dairy in the heart of Hauraki

Opportunity to secure a 103.27ha (STS) dairy farm in the Hauraki District, offered under receivership. Spread over three titles, it features flat, fertile land, efficient layout, and strong infrastructure. Includes a 40-aside herringbone dairy shed, 4-bay calf shed, haybarn, and Kliptank effluent system with irrigators. Two homes offer comfortable living for owners or staff. Water via bores, with council connection option. Just 3km from Paeroa and close to key centres, this easy-to manage farm combines productivity, simplicity, and lifestyle—ideal for farmers or investors.

bayleys.co.nz/2630069

103.27 ha



Tender (unless sold prior)
Closing 3pm, Thu 1 May 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 11am-12pm Wed 23 Apr & Wed 30 Apr
Karl Davis 027 496 4633
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Sam Aislabie 027 429 5410
SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Paeroa 202 Rotokuhu Road

Receivership opportunity - 84ha flat and fertile

Receivership sale, 84ha (STS) productive dairy farm in Hauraki District, ideal for first-time buyers or portfolio expansion. Features flat, fertile land, proven production, and efficient layout with central race. Includes 20-aside herringbone shed, 2-bay calf shed, haybarns, and a 900,000L KLIPTANK with irrigator covering 39ha. Water via two bores, with council supply option. Comfortable 177sqm 1970s home with modern amenities. Just 5km from Paeroa, with easy access to Auckland, Hamilton, and local recreation. A smart, reliable farming investment.

bayleys.co.nz/2630068

84.19 ha

Tender (unless sold prior)
Closing 3pm, Thu 1 May 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 12-1pm Wed 23 Apr & Wed 30 Apr
Karl Davis 027 496 4633
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Sam Aislabie 027 429 5410
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BAYLEYS

NEW LISTING



Coromandel 110 Kapanga Road

Tidy, tenanted and timeless

- Above minimum IEP rating
- Tenanted to a popular retailer
- Excellent street presence with dual access

The single-level building includes an open-plan interior with polished concrete floors and full-width glazing, providing natural light and strong street appeal. Dual access from Kapanga Road and a sealed rear lane supports easy deliveries and staff entry. A small rear yard adds utility. Offered as a standalone freehold title with no body corporate, this is a low maintenance, manageable option for first-time or mum-and-dad investors.

bayleys.co.nz/2201790

285_{sqm} 210_{sqm}

Auction (unless sold prior) 12pm, Thu 22 May 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View by appointment
Josh Smith 027 229 8865
josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz
MH REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

NEW LISTING



Whitianga 17 The Esplanade

Front row, future-ready

- Blank canvas offers options.
- Waterfront zoning allows for mixed-use development.
- Hold or build the choice is yours.

A prime slice of Whitianga's tightly held waterfront is now available to visionary landbankers, developers, or owner-occupiers. Positioned directly across from the beach with uninterrupted views over Mercury Bay, this 1,088sqm (more or less) flat freehold section offers one of the town's rarest mixed-use zoned opportunities.

Build now or hold for the future, this is a once-in-a-generation chance to invest in a standout coastal position.

bayleys.co.nz/2201832

1,088_{sqm}

Auction (unless sold prior) 12pm, Thu 22 May 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View by appointment
Josh Smith 027 229 8865
josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz
Belinda Sammons 027 272 7728
belinda.sammons@bayleys.co.nz
MH REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



NEW LISTING



Whitianga 58 Kupe Drive

Educated investment choice

- Reliable tenant returning \$91.950pa+GST and outgoings
- Purpose built in 2008 to a high standard
- One tenant ensures ease of investment

The two-storey building sits on a 986sqm (more or less) freehold site with excellent visibility, dual access, and proximity to the town centre. With a reliable tenant in place, a strong lease structure, and a future-facing location, this property offers investors a solid income stream in an asset class seldom brought to market. Opportunities of this nature are rare in Whitianga—secure your position in this high-growth coastal setting.

bayleys.co.nz/2201770

986sqm 322sqm

Auction (unless sold prior) 12pm, Thu 22 May 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View by appointment
Josh Smith 027 229 8865
josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz
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NEW LISTING



Thames 62 Kopu Road

Deceased estate – Industrial

Your opportunity to acquire an affordable, tidy industrial property comprising warehouse, office and self-contained caretaker accommodation positioned in the heart of Kopu industrial precinct. Includes a 162sqm (approximately) warehouse linked to 146sqm (approximately) office/caretaker accommodation situated on a 759sqm (approximately) industrial zoned site with secure electric gated entry and fully sealed carparking area. Opportunity to secure a vacant strategically located property close to the new Kopu Marine Precinct and within a tightly held industrial area close to Thames township.

Call now for an appointment to view.

bayleys.co.nz/2180769

759sqm 308sqm 10

Tender (unless sold prior)
Closing 4pm, Thu 15 May 2025
459 Pollen Street, Thames
View by appointment
Geoff Graham 021 733 430
geoff.graham@bayleys.co.nz
MH REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Mangatarata 3815 State Highway 2

Café + highway = opportunity

- Business only
- Popular café with rural outlook located on State Highway 2
- Opportunity to increase revenue

This well-established café combines a relaxed rural setting with strong customer demand from locals and passing traffic. With a solid reputation and regular trade, it's ready for a new owner to take it to the next level. This business-only opportunity has untapped potential for growth. The rural lifestyle adds to the appeal—owning a café in the countryside means more than just work; it's about community, creativity, and quality of life.

bayleys.co.nz/2630045

Price by Negotiation
View by appointment
Josh Smith 027 229 8865
josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz
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Te Aroha 9 Alexandra Road

Designed to inspire, priced to move

Positioned on a prominent route into Te Aroha and offering exceptional versatility, this beautifully reimagined property presents an exciting opportunity for a wide range of buyers. Whether you're dreaming of a private gallery, creative studio, or even a one-of-a-kind home – this is a place where vision can truly take shape.

Meticulously upgraded to a high standard the building combines architectural character with refined contemporary finishes. Polished timber details, expansive open-plan interiors, and thoughtful landscaping create a welcoming and adaptable environment, all set on a generous 3,541sqm (more or less) freehold title. Vendors are motivated - make this unique opportunity yours.

bayleys.co.nz/2315256

3,541sqm 674sqm

Asking Price \$1,200,000
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Josh Smith 027 229 8865
josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz
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SPORTS

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Record-breaking jumper sets the bar high

ATHLETICS

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

The biggest high jump challenge for Toby Kemble is the run up. The Hauraki Plains College year 9 student told The Profile: “if you get the run up right, then it falls into place”.

It was something the young athlete made look easy with a series of first place positions in four recent championships.

But leaping to the top spots wasn't where it ended.

Toby also broke three consecutive records.

The high jumper, who stands at five feet and 11 inches tall, landed first place in the junior boys high jump event at the Hauraki Plains College Athletics Champs on February 25, and smashed the previous 1.53m record with his whopper record of 1.73m.

Toby said he felt really proud because he wanted his name to be known at the college, but “I also felt I could have jumped higher - I had the wrong spikes on which didn't help”.

The high jumper then competed at the Thames Valley Secondary Schools Athletics Champs on March 18, where he leaped to first place and wiped out the old record of 1.67m with his fresh record of 1.75m.

The rising star said even though he felt pretty good, he wanted to hit his goal mark of 1.8m.

Toby also snapped up first place for the junior boys high



High jumper Toby Kemble.

jump event at the Waikato Bay of Plenty Secondary School Athletics Champs on March 25, and once again knocked out the old record of 1.75m with his new 1.78m record.

But it doesn't stop there.

Toby competed at the North Island Secondary Schools Athletics Champs on April 5 as part of the Waikato Bay of Plenty Secondary School Athletics Team and snapped up the first place spot again for the junior boys high jump.

The key to his success was simple - “[I] clear my head of stuff and just concentrate on jumping.

“I don't think as much before I jump, I just look at the bar and have a vision of getting over it.”

But high jump wasn't always on Toby's radar.

The thirteen-year-old athlete said it was something he realised he was good at last November at



A record-breaking jump for Toby Kemble.

Photos: SUPPLIED

his former school, Mangatangi Primary School.

The high-flying athlete said he competed in the high jump at the school's athletics event and then progressed to the Auckland Champs where he outdid the pre-

vious 1.68 record with his 1.74 leap.

That's when Toby started “taking it more seriously as a sport”.

The event was one of the most memorable moments for Toby and he said it “changed my whole

vision of high jump”.

The rest is history.

Toby believed the thing that set him apart from other high jumpers was “probably my mindset”, he said.

“When I step up to jump, I get my mindset into the zone of jumping.”

An important lesson he learned was “don't worry or overthink if you knock over the bar in your first two attempts - change your mindset to think you can do it”.

Two key people who helped Toby to stay motivated and focussed were his parents.

Toby said his mum, who bought him all his gear and transported him to all his events, was so supportive, and his dad always pushed him to give one hundred per cent no matter what the results were.

But when it came to a practice regime, Toby didn't have a coach or a training schedule - “I just show up and jump”, he said.

Finding a coach to help him improve in the sport was a top priority for him and his parents, who are currently on the lookout.

It was among the high jumpers list of goals: hit the 1.8m or higher, practice run ups and techniques to get higher over the bar, and find a coach.

But his top high jump advice for other students was to do whatever feels comfortable for the run up and jump off and “get a strong mindset”, he said.

“Always believe you will get over the bar.”



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