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Brewed with a purpose

One man's cultured tribute to whānau, **KELLEY TANTAU** reports



A kombucha business that began in a humble Papamoa shed found new life in Paeroa, guided by whakapapa, community connection, and a shared passion for wellbeing.

For Roa Kombucha founder Chaad Lawrence, the move wasn't just about a change in location, it was a homecoming of sorts, one that helped him reconnect with the kaupapa behind the drink he describes as "a tool for healing".

But to understand the heart of Roa is to understand the heart of the man behind it.

For Chaad, kombucha was never just about creating a healthier alternative - after discovering the drink in 2016, it quickly became a vessel for legacy, healing, and whakapapa.

The name itself, roa, speaks to longevity - mauri roa.

"To be vulnerable for a moment... I was adopted at birth," he tells *The Profile*, "along with my brother Ra, as our mum wasn't able to have children. We were brought into an LDS Church whānau, and that upbringing, surrounded by love, values, and community, is something I will be forever grateful for and eternally blessed by."

Chaad's mum died in 2015, but she

remains a guiding force behind much of what he does.

"She was a huge part of my life and played a big role in shaping me into the person I am today," he says.

His dad - whose whakapapa is Ngāti Maru, also "deserves a lot of credit".

"He instilled in me a strong work ethic and taught me to keep my mind sharp and focused. I still remember him saying: 'trick the mind' whenever things got hard, and that mentality has stuck with me and continues to push me forward."

That imprint now lives on in what Chaad calls his legacy brew - an electrolyte drink made with mānuka honey, kawakawa, and native botanicals.

"So even though this drink is a tribute to my mum, my dad is a big part of that legacy too," he says.

"This next phase of Roa is about honouring where I come from, staying true to our values, and sharing that with Aotearoa and eventually, the world."

The desire to honour his roots became even more tangible when Roa moved into its first true home: a leased space at AgriSea in Paeroa.

CONTINUED ON P2

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The name of the kombucha itself, roa, speaks to longevity - mauri roa.
Photo: SUPPLIED

Whakapapa found in brewing journey

CONTINUED FROM P1
He says it felt like the perfect opportunity to shift Roa out of the shed and into something more aligned with his kaupapa. "I'm incredibly grateful to Tane [Bradley] and his wife Clare for believing in the long-term vision of Roa Kombucha and always having my back, even through the tough times." Being around AgriSea's kaupapa also inspired Chaad to start experimenting with seaweed, which led to the development of his legacy electrolyte

drink. And while the brewery was based in Paeroa, he picked up some youth work in Hamilton, mentoring rangatahi who had come from tough backgrounds - many dealing with family violence, abuse, and abandonment. He brought the rangatahi through the brewery, calling it "one of the most rewarding things" he's done. "It gave them a hands-on experience where they could express themselves creatively,

feel safe to wānanga, share ideas, and be inspired. "I wanted them to see that if a Māori boy from Hastings could build something from scratch, then so could they." Chaad has recently moved the brewery back to Papamoa, but says his time in Paeroa helped him reconnect with his purpose for Roa. "It reminded me why I started in the first place," he says. "The brewery became more than just a production space, it was a place of healing, vision,

and legacy. A spark of hope that we can all break cycles and create a new path for our whānau. "I know in my heart that this journey is bigger than me. I believe I'm fulfilling a deeper purpose, walking a path that's been laid down by my tipuna, guided by spirit, and driven by love for whānau. "For me," he says, "whānau is everything, and I hold true to that in all that I do."



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Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31	Jun 1	Jun 2	Jun 3
<div>Morning 1:20am 0.4 7:36am 3.6</div> <div>Afternoon 1:46pm 0.2 8:07pm 3.7</div>	<div>Morning 2:13am 0.4 8:32am 3.5</div> <div>Afternoon 2:37pm 0.2 8:58pm 3.7</div>	<div>Morning 3:06am 0.4 9:26am 3.5</div> <div>Afternoon 3:27pm 0.3 9:49pm 3.7</div>	<div>Morning 4:00am 0.5 10:20am 3.4</div> <div>Afternoon 4:16pm 0.4 10:41pm 3.5</div>	<div>Morning 4:54am 0.6 11:11am 3.3</div> <div>Afternoon 5:06pm 0.6 11:33pm 3.4</div>	<div>Morning 5:48am 0.7 5:58pm 0.7</div> <div>Afternoon 12:03pm 3.2 6:42am 0.8</div>	<div>Morning 12:27am 3.3 6:42am 0.8</div> <div>Afternoon 12:54pm 3.1 6:52pm 0.9</div>
<div> 7:19am 5:11pm</div> <div> Best At 12:36am 1:08pm</div>	<div> 7:20am 5:10pm</div> <div> Best At 1:41am 2:14pm</div>	<div> 7:21am 5:10pm</div> <div> Best At 2:46am 3:16pm</div>	<div> 7:22am 5:09pm</div> <div> Best At 3:49am 4:13pm</div>	<div> 7:22am 5:09pm</div> <div> Best At 4:39am 5:04pm</div>	<div> 7:23am 5:09pm</div> <div> Best At 5:28am 5:50pm</div>	<div> 7:23am 5:08pm</div> <div> Best At 6:12am 6:33pm</div>
<div> Rise 8:32am Set 5:42pm</div>	<div> Rise 9:40am Set 6:48pm</div>	<div> Rise 10:37am Set 7:59pm</div>	<div> Rise 11:21am Set 9:12pm</div>	<div> Rise 11:56am Set 10:21pm</div>	<div> Rise 12:25pm Set 11:26pm</div>	<div> Rise 12:50pm</div>

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

Future aviator chases altitude at Walsh

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

An experience at a prestigious flying school was a leap towards a future in the skies for 17-year-old William Barry.

The Year 13 Hauraki Plains College student spent two weeks at the 58th Walsh Memorial Scout Flying School, from January 7-21.

There, he “lived in a tent while living the dream”: flying every day and winning a top award.

“The Walsh Memorial Scout Flying School is a very well-known camp in the aviation industry and is very hard to get into,” he said, “with hundreds of New Zealanders from across [the country], and in some cases even Australia, applying to join.”

William said despite not being a scout, he was fortunate to be invited back to attend the school for a second time, after taking part in the 57th Walsh in 2024.

“Over the course of the two weeks, I flew a number of Cessna 152s and would fly anywhere from one to three times a day,” he said. “This, mixed with the January heat and intense studying, lead to a challenging but rewarding experience.”

By the end of his time at Walsh, William had flown more than 10 hours in a C-152 - a two-seater plane - navigated low flying, circuits, and even aerobatics, and won one of the top awards for the students, the RNZAF Immersion Award.

“As part of the award, I got to spend a week experiencing New Zealand Defence Force life. I got



William Barry, 17, has worked towards becoming a pilot since age seven. He attended the 58th Walsh Memorial Scout Flying School in January. Photos: SUPPLIED

to stay at both Base Ohakea and Base Whenuapai.”

William lives in Ararimu, a small town south of Hunua, and said he was supposed to spend the first part of the week at Ohakea Air Force base, in the Manawatu.

So, he had “the awesome opportunity” to catch a flight in a new C-130J Hercules plane down to Ohakea - a highlight of his experience.

“We flew all around New Zealand, from Whenuapai, to Ohakea, to Wellington, to Christchurch, then back to Ohakea. The pilots and crew were amazing, giving me the opportunity to explore the plane, to constantly offering me food and drink, to allowing me to sit in the cockpit for most of the flight, to shouting Burger Fuel for lunch in Christchurch,” he said.

“The flight in the Herc was the coolest thing I have ever done that I will never forget.”

William’s introduction to aviation began at a young age.

His dad was a pilot, so William grew up around aircrafts and people in the industry.

“One of my earliest memories around aircraft was as a child visiting my dad at work and playing in the cockpit of a helicopter while he worked.”

He joined the Air Training Corps, and first got behind the controls of a plane when he was 13, on a night flight around Auckland city.

He flew solo for the first time at Walsh Memorial Scout Flying School last year.

“For as long as I can remember, all I have wanted to do was be a pilot in the Air Force. Whether it was from my father making me watch Top Gun at a young age, or whether I was born wanting it, all I have wanted to do was fly,” William said.

He told *The Profile* he had done everything he could to turn his dream into reality, and with his sights still set firmly on the skies, he wasn’t slowing down.



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Waikato regional rates set to 5.7 per cent; surplus retained

Waikato regional councillors have set the budget for the 2025/26 financial year, the council said, and have opted to retain a \$2.5 million surplus rather than lower rates further.

Following almost five hours of deliberations on May 20, councillors agreed on an increase in rates revenue from current ratepayers of \$152.584 million or 5.7 per cent - less than the 5.9 per cent proposed for consultation, and significantly lower than the 8.6 per cent signalled 12 months ago through its 2024-2034 long term plan.

“Staff and councillors have worked hard together to deliver a fiscally responsible budget,” Waikato Regional Council chair Pamela Storey said.

Councillors were evenly split on whether to use a prior year surplus of \$2.545 million to reduce rates for 2025/26, or to hold it to be available for one-off costs that arise due to rapid changes in the council’s operating environment.

Operating surpluses arise from differences between budgeted and actual revenue and expenditure, the council said, and could be due to operational savings or through changes in the operating environment, such as changes to the official cash rate.

Two public submissions on this matter said they wanted the council to hold onto the surplus.

Council staff told councillors rates for 2025/26 would drop to 4 per cent if the surplus was used to reduce rates. At a property level, returning the surplus would see a reduction in the general rate of \$1.09 per \$100,000 capital value. For a \$1 million property, that would equate to \$10.90 off the annual rates bill.

There would also be consequences in the following year, staff said, with the rates increase projected in the long term plan going from 4.2 per cent to 5.9 per cent.

“Giving back the surplus now would create a gap in our finances for future years and force bigger rates increases later on.

“It would also leave us less prepared for unexpected events, like a major cyclone or a biosecurity threat like we’ve seen with Caulerpa and freshwater clams,” chair Storey said.

On the casting vote of Chair Storey, the motion to return the surplus to ratepayers was lost.

Consultation was open from April 1-30, with feedback being sought on two key proposals: public transport rating and a river and catchment funding model for Wharekawa Coast. The council also sought views on changes to fees and charges and a new rate remission policy.

Hearings were held in Paeroa and Hamilton on May 19, with 10 of the 143 individuals and groups who made a submission on the draft annual plan providing in-person feedback.

“We appreciate the time taken by submitters to share their views and have balanced what we heard against the needs of our communities,” chair Storey said.

On the topic of regional rating for public transport, councillors agreed to stick with capital value for Hamilton ratepayers and introduce a flat per property rate in four categories across the rest of the Waikato. For the Wharekawa Coast, on the Firth of Thames, funding was confirmed through a mix of targeted and general rates, with a differential between rates charged to direct and indirect beneficiaries.



Attendees fill the now-vacant space where the library was housed. Photos: ALICE PARMINTER

Ngatea council building farewelled

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

Council members and locals came together to farewell Ngatea’s Hauraki District Service Centre and Library building on May 21.

The farewell afternoon tea was a chance to chat and reminisce about the building, ahead of its upcoming demolition. It will be replaced by a new purpose-built facility called the Plains Community Hub, a \$4.8 million project encompassing a bigger library, and a separate space for council services.

Council property manager Kim Donnelly said the building would be wrapped in the next few weeks for asbestos removal, which will take around six to eight weeks.

Ngatea’s council and library services are still available, and have been relocated to the super room in the nearby War Memorial Hall for the duration of the project.

Around 50 people attended the farewell event, including Hauraki District Council chief executive David Speirs and several councillors. Also in attendance was Ngatea local Lorraine Hayward.

Lorraine said she recalled attending the opening of the building in 1973 with her father Hugh Hayward, the then-chairman of the Hauraki Plains County Council.



Plans for the new building on display at the afternoon tea. INSET: The current Ngatea HDC Service Centre.

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Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

Teen firefighter recognised for road safety

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

A Cooks Beach volunteer firefighter and high school student has been recognised for her dedication to promoting road safety, an honour she hopes highlights “the everyday actions” that help make a difference.

Mila Smith de Zeeuw, 17, was named the Yellow Ribbon Road Safety Hero by the road safety advocacy group Yellow Ribbon Safety Alliance on May 12. According to Fire and Emergency New Zealand, the award recognises individuals who have “demonstrated exceptional dedication to promoting road safety in their communities”.

Mila officially joined the Cooks Beach Volunteer Fire Brigade on her 16th birthday in 2023.

Before then though, she’d helped out with fundraising and training exercises, and was even the brigade’s ‘test dummy’ for many years - which included being cut out of cars.

“I was given this opportunity because growing up, my dad was in the brigade for many years and my brother also joined in 2022. I was always very interested and motivated to join as I got to experience how they work together and always wanted to be part of it.”

Not only does Mila help pa-



Mila Smith de Zeeuw, 17, has been named the new Yellow Ribbon Road Safety Hero.

Photo: SUPPLIED

tients during motor vehicle crashes through her role as a firefighter, she also aims to reduce harm on the local roads through leading Mercury Bay Area School’s Students Against

Dangerous Driving [SADD] committee.

She organised a week where police visited the high school to run activities, and, together with the Whitianga Volunteer

Fire Brigade, they ran a car-cutting demonstration, which Mila said she did to “spread the message about what happens if you do crash your car, how the emergency services respond,

and the effects it can have”.

“I feel this message is important because most car accidents are by young drivers, especially due to drunk driving or other distractions,” she said.

“In Cooks Beach, it is a very small community, so there aren’t many major call outs, but when you live in a small community like ours, the chances are much higher that you know the victims, and what could be another car crash can become quite personal.”

Mila said the brigade’s call-outs could involve a range of incidents, such as fires, medical first response, helicopter landings, and crashes.

One of her very first call-outs was to a major beach-side house fire in December, 2023.

“Having a great support group always makes callouts much easier, knowing I have that support from my family and friends,” she said.

Mila - who is in Year 13 at Mercury Bay Area School - said it was “a real honour” to be awarded the Yellow Ribbon Award by the Yellow Ribbon Road Safety Alliance.

“I appreciate the award, and I hope it helps highlight the everyday actions that can make a difference.”





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28 May 2025

Board backs youth activities



Thames Rangatahi Advisory Panel's (T-RAP) youth-led training and activities have been highly praised by Thames Community Board.

Thames Community Board has supported a youth summit and the Thames air cadets in its final Discretionary Fund allocations of the financial year.

Thames Rangatahi Advisory Panel (T-RAP) is planning a Rangatahi Summit in Thames that is likely to bring in youth from around the district and Hauraki Plains. The Board approved a grant of \$9,650 for the August event.

The Board granted \$2,775.27 to Thames Air Training Corp for an outdoor marquee for outdoor training, community service events and fundraising.



At its April meeting the Board also approved grants of:

- \$6,130 for construction and installation of a visitor information sign in the shape of a Kauri dam at Thames Civic Centre
- \$1,792 for Thames Pickleball Club hire of the Jack MacLean Centre
- \$1,667 for two Grey Power members to attend a national meeting
- a \$450 contribution towards Volunteer Week on Wednesday 21 June at 2pm Thames Civic Centre (see left).

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Thames Community Board UPDATE

Board Chair, Adrian Catran JP reports:

“The Board’s delighted to be able to have provided grants to a number of community groups doing vital work around Thames. We’re particularly pleased to see future youth leaders gaining skills and experience through T-RAP and its planned Rangatahi Summit this August. We’re also looking forward to celebrating the work of volunteers in our Volunteer Week event on Wednesday 21 June. Their selfless work makes our town tick. Without volunteers, Thames would struggle. Ka mau te wehi | Great work! This will be my last newspaper column for a while, as local election rules mean a break from candidates using official Council channels. I’d like to take this chance on behalf of all the Board members to say thank you to Thames Ward for the opportunity to represent you over the past three years and to look forward to further progress in making Thames a better place to live.”

adrian.catran@council.tcdc.govt.nz

The Board’s next meeting is Wednesday 11 June 10am in Thames Council Chamber. Meeting agendas and the 2025 Council meeting schedule are at **tcdc.govt.nz/agendas-reports-and-minutes**

Celebrating our local volunteers

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Thames Volunteers Celebration
Wednesday 18 June – 2pm
Thames Civic Centre, 200 Mary Street

For more information and to RSVP visit **tcdc.govt.nz/volunteerweek25**

MOANATAIARI LINK TRACK

Thames’ newly reopened Moanataiari Link Track, offering sweeping views over Thames, Tikapa Moana (the Firth of Thames), and down past the Waihou River to Te Aroha, has been launched, boosting the town’s growing reputation as a destination for nature walks.

The track follows an historic gold mining tramway, passing old mining sheds and relics. Starting at the end of Moanataiari Creek Road, the track is a 40-minute return walk, or 50 minutes if walkers go over the ridge to connect with the Waiotahi Track.

Officially now part of the Department of Conservation’s network, the track’s restoration was the result of an initiative by local residents, initiated by Daniel Miller, and community collaboration, supported by Thames Community Board, Pare Hauraki and The Rewildery.

King’s BIRTHDAY WEEKEND

Kerbside collections

There are no kerbside collections on the King’s Birthday public holiday on Monday 2 June. Collections for that Yellow week (food, glass, recycling) will be a day later than usual. Check your local calendar at **tcdc.govt.nz/bindays**

Refuse and Recycling Transfer Stations

Our Transfer Stations will be open as usual on the holiday Monday, from 8.30am-4.30pm. Find out your nearest station **tcdc.govt.nz/rts**

Council offices

Our offices (and AA services) are closed on King’s Birthday Monday. You can still contact us 24/7 at **07 868 0200** or **customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz**

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TODMAY2025

New play spaces

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

Two new school playgrounds have opened in the heart of the Hauraki Plains.

Waitakaruru School and Turua School both celebrated the openings of their new school play areas, with each school community gathering for the occasions. Work began on Waitakaruru School's playground in the April holidays, with contractors and school board members pitching in to remove the old structure. The project was completed by week two of the following term, and the blessing and opening ceremony was held on May 9. The ribbon was cut by the school's oldest and youngest students, Noah Hull and Ofa Pukeroa.

The school had been fundraising for the playground

since 2022, and was helped along by a \$100,000 grant from the Lotteries Commission. Other funds came from Tony Coombe and Murray McLean from Ian McClean Trust, Thomas Townsend from Townsend Trust, a golf fundraiser run by Rachel and Wayne at Ngatea Milking, donated bull calves, and events put on by the school fundraising team.

Meanwhile, Turua School's new play area was blessed on May 12, with the ribbon cut by Turua School's oldest student Aiden Ehrhorn and youngest student Max McLean.

Turua School's playground includes a basketball hoop, swings and climbing frames.



Ofa Pukeroa, left, and Noah Hull.



Max McLean, Aiden Ehrhorn at Turua.



Waitakaruru School's new playground features a colourful tower with two slides.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Turua School students try out the new basketball hoop and climbing frames.

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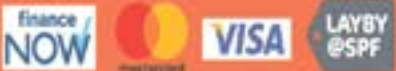
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REFRESHMENTS.

Prime Minister Massey tours Hauraki Plains



As part of a Valley Profile series, **MEGHAN HAWKES** searches through old newspapers to bring you the stories Thames Valley locals once read about themselves.

1913

A tour of the Hauraki Plains in a variety of vehicles over a variety of surfaces was made by Prime Minister Massey.

The former Piako Swamp had been a vast and desolate stretch of water-ridden mud and peat clad thickly with raupo and rushes.

The land was now fast being drained dry and attracting settlers.

Little centres had appeared, so new that their names had not reached the official maps, but they were growing crops and carrying stock.

The Prime Minister and his companions left Thames after an early breakfast, by motorcars, knowing that the next rubber-tired vehicles were many miles and many hours away.

From Kōpū, a launch trip was made up the Waihou River to Turua. From Turua a five mile drive to Pipiroa was made in gigs in a temporarily-fitted milk wagon, over a true ‘summer road’.



The Prime Minister, Mr Massey, travelling by flax wagon during his visit to the Hauraki Plains.

Photo: SUPPLIED

This term meant that in the summer the road was not very good, and in the winter it was atrocious.

The river was crossed by launches, and at Pipiroa, a place of a few humble canvas and corrugated iron shacks - a welcome lunch waited. After this the party took a boat again to Orchard (Ngātea) further up the river, where a second luncheon waited.

The river was a veritable main road, busy enough with watercraft to disturb flocks of teal and other game. The river was followed again from Orchard

to Kerepēhi where there was stop to change boats. Waikaka (Patetonga), a hamlet thriving due to flax milling, was then reached. At the wharf there was another change of vehicle - this time a trolley, horse-drawn on light rails.

It had padded seats for the visitors, where bales of flax usually sat, and for three miles they were taken at a trot across an interesting stretch of land. At Waikaka itself there were coaches, and from Waikaka, a road that left the dead level of the plains, climbing hills and giving fine views of

the huge expanse of reclamation. The coach drive round the head of the plain ended at Tahuna at dusk.

After meeting several deputations and taking some refreshments, the party proceeded from Tahuna by motorcar, through Morrinsville to Frankton Junction, which was reached at 10.30pm, to the welcome sight of the waiting Ministerial railway carriage.

Meanwhile, a Waihi resident and his wife had a startling experience when returning from a drive in their horse and trap from Waihi Beach.

They were entering the town about dusk, when a woman suddenly rushed at the trap.

She held a revolver and ordered the man to stop, threatening to shoot if he did not.

The man immediately pulled up the horses and the woman called out: “Is that you, Norman?” The reply was in the negative, and the woman immediately rushed off.

Over at Paeroa, Mr McCaulfield’s home in Mill Rd was entered by some person and £12 in notes stolen from under the mattress of his bed.

When Mr McCaulfield left the house at 8.30pm all the doors were locked and lights out.

On returning about an hour later, he found all the doors open, and a light burning in the kitchen.

The bedroom was disarranged and papers scattered about. Oddly, blankets were found under a water tap outside the house.

Chris’ Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter

1. The Maadi Cup is a prize given to a team competing in which sport?
2. Which nation’s flag has the highest number of stars? a) Brazil, b) Cook Islands, or c) United States?
3. Which former president was a defendant in a court case where his legal team famously stated “it depends what the meaning of the word ‘is’ is”?
4. K2, Kangchenjunga, and Lhotse are the second, third, and fourth ranked what?
5. The band Men Without Hats released which song in 1982, which became a worldwide Top 10 hit?
6. The first Opium War, between 1839 and 1842, was a conflict between Great Britain and which other country?
7. How many times can you legally change your name in New Zealand? a) Once per year, b) once per month, or c) no limit?
8. The most western point of the main two islands of New Zealand is in which region? Fiordland or Taranaki?
9. In Australian slang, a dibber dobber is a term for a) a gardening tool, b) a tattletale or whistle-blower, or c) someone generous with money?
10. Does the natural world contain more eyes or legs?

ANSWERS: 1. Rowing; 2. c) United States; 3. Bill Clinton (versus Monica Lewinsky); 4. Highest mountains in the world (after Mount Everest); 5. The Safety Dance; 6. China; 7. c) no limit, providing it's not for fraudulent purposes; 8. Fiordland; 9. b) tattletale or whistle-blower; 10. Legs (probably due to the vast number of insects, which generally have six legs each, far outnumbering their two eyes).

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HPC students ‘live and breathe’ values

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

Hauraki Plains College has a commitment to living out its school values.

They're not just words - they're principles the school encourages its students to "live and breathe".

Students are called to champion three school values: rangatiratanga/ looking after yourself, manaakitanga/ looking after our people and kaitiakitanga/ looking after our place.

Rangatiratanga can be displayed by students working independently, working hard, being a leader and a positive role model.

Manaakitanga can be displayed by showing respect for others, being inclusive and offering help, while kaitiakitanga can be shown by taking care of the environment, classrooms and school grounds.

Students are encouraged to outwork the school values everyday in their actions toward their peers, teachers and the wider school, and are rewarded through a merit points system.

One point is earned if students demonstrate a school value inside the class, and two points if they demonstrate it outside the class.

Teacher and head of department of science John Aloï told *The Profile* a significant portion of the points awarded to his students were based on the manaakitanga value, where students demonstrated respect and care for others in the classroom.

"Upholding this value is essential for fostering a harmonious environment where students feel safe, valued, and supported."

John said the atmosphere en-



Hauraki Plains College recognises its students who uphold school values.

Photos: SUPPLIED

hanced student engagement and contributed positively to the overall learning experience.

"This is especially critical during laboratory experiments, where maintaining a safe environment is of the utmost importance," he said.

One thing's for sure, Hauraki Plains College makes a point of recognising its students by awarding badges during assembly as they reach different points levels.

It's what happened when a

group of students were front and centre at assembly on April 7, where they received their 20 point pins.

Among the group were year-11 student James Boyd-Beazley and year-12 student Vienna Symes, who said the points system motivated them to do better because they were rewarded for doing their best, and it reflected their work ethic and values.

"It's a challenge that we get rewarded for without knowing."

The most important school value for James, 15, was rangatiratanga, he said, "because if you look after yourself you can then look after others".

While Vienna, 16, said manaakitanga was most important to her because it was important to look after others and make sure they felt safe at school.

But James and Vienna's hope was that other students would see their example and be encouraged to show respect for others

and take responsibility for their actions.

It was significant for the two students to be positive role models so others could "follow in our footsteps" and respect people and property, they said.

One way Vienna and James carried out manaakitanga and made sure people always felt included was by making sure no one is left out. "When people feel like they belong they are more comfortable and ready to learn."

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Precious memories for mini-miners

The community and education space at the Thames School of Mines was buzzing with creativity and curious minds over the Easter school holidays. Fun activity days themed around nature offered something for the whole whānau. The activities included drawing nature patterns; decorating rocks for the garden with natural materials; learning how to create pigments and paint, then using this

to create individual artwork; hunting through sand to find hidden treasure; and exploring the historic School of Mines, the furnace and assay room, and completing a scavenger hunt in the mineralogical museum. The holiday programmes were available to all for a koha. **DETAILS:** See www.visitheritage.org.nz or visit **Carnegie Library, 705 Queen St, Thames**, for more on upcoming events.



Trying out the assaying process.



Decorating rocks and scallop shells.



Marshall hunts for hidden minerals.



Making natural paints.

Photos: SUPPLIED



The holiday programme participants search for gold in a tray of sand.



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T-RAP launched

Thames' Porritt Park was filled with people on May 25, for the 2025 launch of T-RAP. The Thames Rangitahi Advisory Panel, made up of local youths between 12 and 24 years of age, organised the free event to celebrate another year of advocacy, community involvement, and youth-oriented activities. On offer was face painting, snow cones, a sausage sizzle, cotton candy, lawn games, arts and crafts, and a basketball shooting competition, alongside the playground and skatepark. There were giveaways, and attendees were encouraged to sign up and become a part of the group, which advocates for the youth of Thames and surrounding areas. Reporter **ALICE PARMINTER** dropped in to see the action.



Matteo, five, tries his hand at bowling under the trees.



Hundreds of people enjoy the festive atmosphere in Porritt Park.



Rangatahi (youths) line up for the freeball competition.



Shooting hoops at the playground.

Photos: ALICE PARMINTER



Abbey Mobberley, left, and Kera Rhind, both 18, joined T-RAP this year.



Seven-year-old Eliza-Trey brandishes an enormous cotton candy stick.

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Cyclists take to the trails

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

Around 50 cyclists of all ages geared up for the annual Russell Player Memorial Lions Fun Ride on May 25. The ride was in aid of the Cancer Society's Lions Lodge in Hamilton. This year was the seventh year the event has run, having paused for a few years during the Covid-19 pandemic. It was started by Lions member Russell Player, who died in 2016. The cycle event began in four different places along the Hauraki Rail Trail: Goldfields Railway in Waihi; Placemakers in Kōpū; the Old Te Aroha Railway Station; and Karangahake Hall. Participants converged at the Railway Reserve in Paeroa for prizegiving and a sausage sizzle. Although the turnout was much smaller than in previous years, Nancy Player said it was wonderful to see people still turn-



Participants line up. Photos: ALICE PARMINTER

ing out to support Russell's vision. "Thank you to all the riders who have ridden and come out on this... it is a wonderful fundraising thing for the Cancer Lodge," she said. "Russell would be really pleased that it was still going and that some of his family members are still riding in it, because he did love organising things. He was a very community-minded Lions member."



Glen Burke, left, from Lions and Nancy Player draw the spot prizes.

SPORTS REPORTS

Send your sports news, reports and photos to editor@valleyprofile.co.nz

FOOTBALL

Thames FC Women secure late draw against Melville Epics

A week after clinching a quarter-final spot with a dominant 4-1 cup victory at Gower Park, Thames Women FC hosted Melville Epics at Rhodes Park this time in a crucial league fixture. The match proved to be a much closer contest, ending in a 2-2 draw that keeps Thames in touch with the leading teams in the division. Melville seemed to have learned from the previous week's match as they controlled possession during the first half with a more conservative and solid formation, which limited Thames to only a few half-chances through counterattacks.

The game came alive in the second, with Thames adopting a more expansive style and taking advantage of the space behind the Melville full-backs. A whipped cross from the right was misjudged and ultimately handled in the box by the defender. Referee Juan Meza Budani awarded Thames a penalty, which the ever-reliable Ariel McNab confidently converted just before the hour mark. Melville responded by earning a penalty of their own after the referee spotted another handball. Humaira Feroz stepped up and calmly slotted home to level the score. Ten minutes later, a third penalty went the visitors' way and they edged ahead. Feroz went the other way this time, but the result was the same, with Melville taking a 2-1 lead.

Thames pushed forward and created several good chances. Jess Rendall made a trademark run down the left, and her cross was well met by McNab, but the header was straight at Halina Free in the Melville goal. Emma Hinds-Senior followed with a curling shot that bent just wide after a fine move orchestrated by Ceyda Nemburt and Rendall. A direct ball played forward by Taimania Hinds then caused confusion in the Melville box. Free mistakenly handled a backpass, resulting in a rare indirect free kick inside the penalty area. Thames capitalized on the opportunity as McNab set up Hinds-Senior, who curled a superb shot into the left corner, leveling the match again. Both teams had chances to secure all three points. Stella Perano's long cross nearly found the far corner, and Nemburt and Rendall combined again, but their resulting shot slipped just wide of the post. Thames finished the match strongly with a flurry of corners, applying late pressure on the Melville goal. However, the visitors held firm, and the game concluded with a score of 2-2. "It was a hard-fought match against a familiar opponent," manager Xavier Brown said. "Of course, it's not the result we were hoping for, but we did well to fight back and achieve a result that reflects our performance." Meanwhile, Thames FC Men's challenging start to the season continued as they were comfortably beaten 3-0 by a well-drilled and spirited Ngaruawahia United side. This defeat leaves them second-bottom in the standings, with only one win from their opening six league matches. - Jonathan Coles



Emma Hinds-Senior clears the danger.

Photos: MARK BROWN



Ariel McNab, left, is on the move for Thames FC Women.



Ceyda Nemburt, right, flies down the left.



Thames FC Women player Jess Rendall lines one up.

TV CLUB RUGBY

Waihou ninja into second spot

Club Wrap Round 8 : May 24, 2025
Tighthead Ted Reports

Another top weekend of rugby, unfortunately Hauraki North continue on with their struggles for numbers as they did last year, and had to default their match against Waihi, but on the upside that means a few of ole Tighthead Ted's spies can have the week off. There were though three cracking matches still to cover, Mercury Bay looking to bounce back after a defeat to Whangamata a week ago, Thames and Paeroa butting heads to see who the contenders or pretenders are, and Waihou continue their slow burn, sneaking up the ladder like ninjas while the rest of the world watches on but doesn't notice - the mighty Mongoose have slipped into second place with little fuss.

First game on the block then, Waihou against a resurgent Whangamata Irish. With a shamrock added to their crest, the visitors took it to Waihou, but the home team was equal to the task and eventually ran out comfortable winners 24-7. Not before making about two million tackles a half though as the red 'n' whites threw everything bar the surfboard wax at the home side. It was superb defence, Whangamata camped inside the Waihou 22 for the last 15 minutes of the first spell for no reward, if they had scored in that period, perhaps the game would have been different. but they didn't, so it wasn't. The second spell saw Whangamata finally get on the board, and at 7-12 they again monopolised possession, but could not crack the great wall of Waihou. Waihou managed to get their big farmers paws on the ball a few times through the second spell, and were rewarded with a couple of tries to blow out the score in what was a competitive game everywhere but on the scoreboard. Waihou's Tim Erceg and Chad Bracey were immense up front, and both rewarded with tries, while Jake O'Connor at halfback was in control, barking out orders in the best tradition of annoying little nines that the opposition wants to catch at the bottom of a ruck. Whangamata, with Zach Clarke back in full form were dangerous, but too many little errors curtailed any promising attacks, certainly looked like a team that has not been able to field the same side two weeks in a row. The team battled, had a huge amount of possession, but could not convert to points. Along with Clarke veteran Jacob Chaplin and hooker Jack O'Halloran were tireless. Young lock Coen Oliver also continues to impress, and his exchange of views with Waihou hooker Scotty Day looked promising for a moment, but handbags were holstered. There were some backs on the field too for Whangamata, and I was told that Tyler Cotterill and the returned from sabbatical Connor Emerson went well, but I was too busy watching the forwards hoping for a bit of biff to notice.

Mercury Bay scored as many points as they left on the field as they hosted, and thumped COBRAS after their jour-



Waihou continue their slow burn.

Photo: TVRFU/RG PHOTOS

ney up from Te Aroha. A second half effort that saw a bit more patience, and a few less attempted highlight reel passes would have given the coaches reason to smile. More so with Waihi the next cab off the rank after King's Birthday weekend, away in Waihi. Holting the mini losing streak before the clash with last year's champions a much needed confidence booster. The COBRAS backline had an off day and offered little on attack, but the forward pack provided a stiffer task for the hometown eight, but it was not enough to upset the mighty Marlins. The usual suspects for COBRAS were to the fore, Cam Dromgool at number eight leading the way, ably assisted by hooker Shontayne Dare. Ashton Payne was the pick of the double-digit wearers. The Mercury Bay pack were led by the low numbers, rake Chris Graves helping himself to a couple of five pointers, and his tighthead prop Adam Coyle also had a top match. Jayden Tegg was always dangerous on attack and Tom Larke at fullback also played well for the glory hounds out back.

At Rhodes Park for ladies day, Thames kept the crowd on the edge of their seats, only taking the lead with five minutes left on the clock after a try to Bobby Motuliki. Followed shortly after by a penalty on the 82nd minute to round out a four point victory. Paeroa hit the ground running after last week's loss to Waihi, and with their backs putting away their kicking boots counter attacked all day long in an attempt to tire out the behemoth Thames pack. There was much to enjoy in the free flowing match, but at the end of the day the Thames pack had the last laugh as over the last ten minutes their scrum dominance earned the penalties that saw them take the late lead and the win. Thames saw some mighty games from their big men, but none more so than their number eight Siosua Kaho who got their pack moving forward all day. His defence was immense also in a player of the day effort. Also a wrecking machine on attack was flanker Sione To'a, a hard man to stop. Sione Etoni continues to be near impossible to contain for defences, and Dwayne Hughes at fullback was a rock under the high ball, and dangerous on the counter. Paeroa did well to get up after their disappointing loss last week to Waihi, and did all but win the match, which was "a great game to watch" - despite the result. Standouts for Paeroa were hooker Salati Tiatia, youngster Korbin Chwesik who is making a fine fist of his first year in senior rugby, and backline menace Tyrone Kieth, as hard to catch as a hobbit on his way to Mount Doom.



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Rural Life

Community vets ruminate on retirement

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

As Ivan Petch and Bruce Nicol hung up their stethoscopes after nearly 100 combined years of veterinary practice, the Paeroa business partners sat down to reflect on their careers.

Ivan and Bruce sold their Puke Rd practice, formerly known as Paeroa Veterinary Services, to Franklin Vets in 2016. They stayed on until only recently - initially to facilitate the handover, and later extending their tenure due to Covid-19.

Veterinary work has changed significantly over the years, the pair told *The Profile*.

"When Bruce and I started in practice it was more or less emergency work, virtually identical to the James Herriot work you see on TV," Ivan said. "And now it's more preventative medicine with vaccination programmes, mastitis control programmes, foot rot control programmes."

It wasn't uncommon, the pair said, to work through the entire spring season with hardly any breaks. "We worked bloody hard, especially in the earlier days, when there were just two of us here," Bruce said.

"In the spring we were on back-up or on duty... for six weeks, virtually every night and every weekend all you did was veterinary stuff."

And the emergencies always seemed to happen after-hours.

"I don't know why it is, but most



Bruce Nicol, left, and Ivan Petch have retired from veterinary service after 47 and 46 years respectively in the industry.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

dramas happen at night. The bitch whelpings and the calvings; horse colics always seem to be at night," Ivan said. "That's just part of being a rural vet, and you just get on with it," added Bruce.

Farm structures have changed over the years though, they said, with fewer family-run farms and more conglomerates. Technological advances, increasing herd sizes, and a shift to more business-

like hours have also affected the nature of the job.

"Farming's gone from a way of life to more of a commercial business in a sense, [and] there's more prevention so there's less problems [on the farm]," Bruce said.

The vet's role has also changed over the years. As specialist vet services increased, the pair found they were less called-upon to be "jack-of-all-trades", and able to re-

fer cases like broken bones to dedicated orthopedic vets.

"A lot of vets now specialise in large animal work or dairy work around here, because the Hauraki Plains is mainly a dairy area," Ivan said.

"For us the mainstay of our practice has been dairy farming, and cats and dogs. And the small animal side of it has grown significantly over the years. We used

to be able to do our small animal work in the afternoon, a couple of days a week. But now the practice has got one person employed full time doing cats and dogs."

Ivan and Bruce have also seen many farming trends come and go through the years.

"We've had rabbit farming, fitch [ferret] farming, emus and ostriches. Angora goat farming, that was the big one for a while. At one stage we had 12 deer farms, but they've all gone," they said.

"If you got in early, in the very early stages, some people made a lot of money out of [fads]."

Now, as the pair step back from the business, they've started to think of other ways to fill their time. But unsurprisingly, they're just as busy as ever.

"I still play a bit of squash and tennis and things like that... Ivan's been well involved with Rotary and I've been involved with Lions," Bruce said.

"I reckon I'm busier now than I was. I don't know how I worked full time and did all this stuff."

And with family, friends, and a few remaining business ties in the area, neither man has any plans to move on from Paeroa in a hurry.

"I was in [the clinic] the other day just calling in for morning tea, just to keep an eye on what's happening," Ivan said.

"It's hard after 40-something years just to suddenly stop."



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Rural Life

Fine, community work for drain pollution

A Waikato farm manager has been convicted, fined \$5000 and sentenced to 140 hours' community work for the unlawful discharge of dairy effluent into a drain network in May, 2024.

Hamilton District Court Judge Melinda Dickey released her judgement on May 13, 2025, convicting Vernon Paul Madeley on a charge filed under the Resource Management Act by Waikato Regional Council.

In May, 2024, council officers responded to a complaint about dairy effluent in the rural drainage system near Turua, on the Hauraki Plains.

Officers inspected a farm where they found an effluent irrigator had stalled causing effluent to flow into a nearby drain.

This drain was part of a network designed to discharge into the Waihou River, north of the Turua township.

Inquiries established that the travelling irrigator had come to the end of its run and had been left to irrigate in the same location for up to a week. The de-

fendant stated he was aware the irrigator had come to the end of its run but had simply not got around to shifting it in that week.

In sentencing, Judge Dickey said: "I find the defendant was highly careless because he knew there was an issue and did nothing to address it."

"The fix was simple – the irrigator needed to be moved in a timely manner and was not."

Patrick Lynch, Waikato Regional Council's Regional Compliance Manager, said it was a well set up dairy farm where money had been invested in upgrading effluent infrastructure over recent years.

"This case highlights the fact that good infrastructure must also be well managed throughout the season to avoid causing environmental harm."

"We encourage all farmers to have documented Effluent Management Plans for their farm effluent systems and to ensure all employees and contractors working on their farms are aware of their responsibilities."



A large pile of ginger was pulled and dug from the riverbanks. Photo: SUPPLIED

Environmental restoration at domain

The Western Firth Catchment Group recently completed a "transformative" environmental project at Kaiaua Domain, demonstrating how stream reshaping can simultaneously benefit local ecosystems and enhance community recreational areas.

This initiative is part of the group's broader goal to restore and enhance the riparian corridor from the bridge up to Toft Rd.

The project featured the construction of a "leaky weir" to trap sediment and create a safer swimming hole, thanks to power pole donations from Counties Energy, and funding from the Aotearoa Gaming Trust for the new fence around the domain.

On May 18, 18 volunteers gathered for a working bee, tackling tasks such as weeding, planting native trees, and refurbishing picnic tables.

"The group got stuck into it. Amazingly, it all got completed in two hours, with a shower of rain to motivate everyone to get cracking, and just as we were packing up, in came the heavy rain," Waikato Catchments Coordinator for NZ Landcare Trust Ric Balfour said.

"This project not only improved the health of the Haurahi Stream but also brought together 18 dedicated volunteers, generating nearly \$2000 worth of support."

DETAILS: To learn more about the catchment group's initiatives or to volunteer, visit www.westernfirth.org.nz or their Facebook page.

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Local Legends

ADVERTISING FEATURE

‘We’re doing something right’: Ngatea Milking

The best part about running Ngatea Milking Machines & Pump Services Ltd was “meeting people and supporting people”, according to owner and operator Wayne Barker.

“We get a huge variety of people from our reps right through to our customers.

“You get to know a lot of people,” he told *The Profile*.

Local legends Wayne and Rachel Barker have been at the helm of the business since 2002, and currently lead a team of 10, focussed on supporting farmers 24/7 with back-up service and support, milking solutions, and a variety of products and brands from farming supplies right through to rural and domestic pumping and plumbing supplies.

Ngatea Milking covers from Waiuku, South Auckland and up the Peninsula to Whitianga, across the entire Hauraki Plains and out to Tahuna, Wayne said.

Not only has Ngatea Milking operated for more than 40 years - it is also a significant part of Wayne’s family history.

Ngatea Milking Machines & Pump Services Ltd was started in 1984 by Wayne’s parents, Peter and Ethne Barker.

Wayne said there was no one serving the Plains, it was a “gap in the market”.



Ngatea Milking Machines & Pump Services Ltd owners Rachel and Wayne Barker.

Photos: SUPPLIED

One of the big milestones for the family-business was “before my time”, Wayne said, when they shifted from the small building to a purpose built space at 31 Orchard West Rd, Ngatea.

“We also have a yard down the road... so we’ve sort of grown over the years.”

The family-owned business liked to support the community and helped raise money for other groups by running golf days for schools or clubs, he said.

It was hard for Wayne to “pin just one” major milestone for Ngatea Milking.

“We’ve done a 360 and gone

from small milking machines to robotics to robotic milking.”

Wayne said it used to be just two people working alongside his father, Peter - “now we’ve got six vehicles on the road”.

Some technology changes that have made the biggest difference in operations for Ngatea



Milking were cow identification and milk monitoring in the large dairy units, Wayne said.

However, one goal that’s remained the same for Ngatea Milking as an independent supplier was supplying products at a reasonable price for customers and continuing to be supportive within the farming community, he said.

With no signs of pulling back the reins and the growing demand for Ngatea Milking within the community, the business owner said “we’re doing something right out here”.

“At the moment we’re still expanding,” Wayne said.

“We’ve just gone from strength to strength, so obviously we must be doing something right.”

- By Davidda Hikatangata

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Local Legends

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Proud undertaker of the community

Not everyone is suited for the role of funeral director.

It requires someone with a blend of emotional resilience, compassion and a commitment to help others through their most difficult moments.

It's exactly why Adrian Catran of Twentymans Funeral Directors has been in the business since 1990.

The best part about it all for Adrian was being able to support families through their grieving processes and help create a fitting farewell for their loved ones, the local legend told *The Profile*.

Not only was Twentymans the longest serving funeral home in New Zealand, Adrian also believed he was the oldest funeral director still directing funerals in the country, he said.

It should come as no surprise the director and his team of eight were on call for people and families to get in touch 24/7. Even though Adrian's journey at Twentymans started in 1990 when he joined part-time as a funeral director, the business itself was started in November, 1867, by William Twentymans under the name W Twentymans - Builder & Undertaker, located in Owen St, Thames. "They moved into what you would term the centre of Grahamstown, or where the shops are in Grahamstown, in 1880," Adrian said. They then moved to 709 Pollen St circa 1896 to their newly built home and office. "And that family home now is the main office for Twentymans Funeral Services."

The business was sold on March 31, 1990, to two funeral directors in Tauranga, Adrian said. In 1993, Adrian bought a half-share in Twentymans, then a few years later in 1996 he bought his partner out and became the sole owner of the business, he said.

When Adrian purchased the business, he realised he needed a few things. "One was a chapel, one was a catering lounge, and one was a crematorium. So I set about over the next three decades to achieve those things, and I've done that now."

A chapel was built on site, and alongside that he modernised a building for a function centre called



Owner of Twentymans Funeral Directors Adrian Catran likes to be known as the undertaker for the community.

Photos: SUPPLIED

Thames on Kirkwood and had it developed into a catering lounge.

It meant people could have their service for their loved one in the chapel, head outside and accompany the casket to the hearse. From there, the hearse would head to the cemetery for a burial or across to the crematorium for a cremation.

Having the crematorium on-site means people could just walk down to the catering lounge which adjoins the chapel side-by-side, he said - people only had around 30 metres to walk and then "they're having a cup of tea".

The undertaker said the cup of tea after the funeral was the first part of the healing process.

"That's when they laugh and cry with people and reminisce about their loved one who's passed."

"It's part of the grieving process."

One of the biggest changes to Twentymans was the on-site crematorium, he said. It lifted the number of funerals held at Twentymans from an average of around 285 a year to just more than 400 a year. "We're just a funeral short of 2000 cremations since the year 2000." While some people might find Adrian's line of work tricky, it's second nature to him. "Death was something that doesn't worry me, it



doesn't cause me sleepless nights.

"Since I've been involved with Twentymans, we have processed over 10,000 deaths," he said.

If that is multiplied by the average of four people for a funeral arrangement, that's 40,000 people Twentymans has dealt with in that period of time, he said.

Even though Adrian said he couldn't say 40,000 names off by heart, he remembered different people he officiated for by their occupations. And when it came to occupation titles, Adrian preferred to be known as something else other than a funeral director.

"I quite like the term undertaker, because that means I undertake

to do the things for the families that they need done. I prefer to be known as an undertaker rather than a funeral director."

His care and facilities included more than just people too.

"I take my beagles into the chapel for the funerals because people love dogs."

He said the beagles would be a comfort or distraction that helped take the edge off.

Twentymans also caters for a family's beloved pets, with a pet crematorium in one half of the building, and a human crematorium in the other half, he said.

Adrian said he didn't know of any other place in the southern hemi-

sphere that offered both services under one roof.

But the best thing on the website according to Adrian was the drone footage of Twentymans.

"No other funeral home has got drone footage like we've got."

"So anybody who doesn't understand funeral homes or whatever, can look at that drone footage and you'll get an understanding."

The main thing for Adrian though was that he felt quite proud to be the undertaker for the community.

DETAILS: To view the drone footage of Twentymans Funeral Directors visit: www.twentymans.co.nz/about/ and scroll to the bottom.

- By Davidda Hikatangata

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Local Legends

ADVERTISING FEATURE

A smart choice with Smart Environmental

Something Smart Environmental has stayed true to its core values of sustainability, community engagement, and the ways it has maintained local roots and innovation in waste management practices.

The company was founded in the early 1990s by Grahame Christian, who could see an opportunity for a more service-oriented waste company that focussed on recycling as much of the waste streams as possible.

Smart Environmental spokesperson Todd Mcleay told *The Profile* Smart had evolved into a significant player in New Zealand's waste and resource recovery industry.

While Smart secured a range of early contracts, one of the more significant contracts was in the Thames-Coromandel district, they said.

Paired with a series of other council contracts across New Zealand, the Thames-Coromandel District contract played a key role in driving the company's growth, they said, and enabled Smart to expand its services and build a strong national presence.

But the business has evolved in many ways since its inception.

Smart has expanded its operations and has established a wide network of facilities and services across the country, they said.



"The company provides commercial services, kerbside collections for multiple councils and operates several refuse transfer stations and material recovery facilities."

One key element to the improved efficiency and quality-of-service delivery within Smart has been due to the way the company has embraced technological advancements, they said.

Something Smart is proud of is its "deliberate choice" not to own landfills.

It is part of their commitment to reducing their environmental impact, they said.

"We have joined and commenced the Toitū Carbon Programme to actively measure, manage, and reduce our carbon footprint."

One pivotal moment in the business's history was in 2024 when Smart was acquired by Blue



Smart Environmental's complex materials recovery facility. LEFT: Smart's skip services. Photos: SUPPLIED

Planet, a global leader in reducing waste to landfill.

"For years Smart had been pursuing this as a mission in New Zealand and now have access to leading technologies and solutions to help us make an even bigger difference." But the main thing Smart wants to make clear is its intention

to look after the environment.

"We genuinely care about our environment, and this is reflected in the way we support communities throughout New Zealand.

"We strive to be an employer of choice - committed to providing a safe, supportive workplace where everyone returns home safely each

day. Above all, we aim to make a positive and lasting difference."

DETAILS: For more information, visit Smart Environmental's official website at www.smartenvironmental.co.nz or contact them at 0800 424 990. or email: sales.support@smartenvironmental.co.nz

- By Davidda Hikatangata

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Local Legends

ADVERTISING FEATURE

CooperAitken: 11 years devoted to Thames

With a legacy spanning more than 100 years, CooperAitken has firmly established itself as a cornerstone of accounting and business advisory services in the Waikato region.

From humble beginnings in Morrinsville, the firm has grown through strategic mergers and expansions - extending its reach to Matamata in 2009, Thames in 2014, and most recently, Hamilton in 2022.

The acquisition of the Thames office in 2014 - formerly Barrie Price & Associates - marked a significant milestone in CooperAitken's journey.

Located in a region rich in history and community spirit, the Thames branch has become a vital hub for delivering the firm's renowned services to the Coromandel and Hauraki Plains.

The presence in Thames reflected CooperAitken's commitment to bringing its client-first approach and strong agri-sector expertise closer to local businesses.

The Thames team is led by partners Rachel Robb and Gavin Haddon, alongside Client Manager Eddie Mabey, receptionist Aimee Turley, and accounting team Babs Bright,



Our Team (left to right):
Aimee Turley, Kirsten Winter White, Helen Stevens, Babs Bright, Eddie Mabey, Marie Billings, Gavin Haddon & Rachel Robb
Absent: Louise Cameron

CooperAitken celebrates its team, 11 years in Thames and the opportunity to be part of a vibrant community. Photo: SUPPLIED

Helen Stevens, Marie Billings, Kirsten Winter White, and Louise Cameron.

Together, they embody CooperAitken's core values - progressive, driven, empathetic, approachable, and community-focused - while offering deep knowledge and expertise that truly set them apart.

CooperAitken's philosophy is

simple: they're more than just accountants.

They are partners in business - working alongside clients to navigate complex challenges, set meaningful goals, and plan confidently for the future. With a hands-on approach and a deep understanding of the business landscape, they support clients across all sectors - from

rural enterprises to commercial ventures - as well as contributing their expertise to a number of local clubs and organisations through honorary work.

As Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors, the CooperAitken team offers personalised guidance across every stage of the business journey.

From governance and compli-

ance to succession and estate planning, specialist tax advice, budgeting, forecasting, and business planning, their expertise ensures clients receive tailored support to meet their unique goals.

Complementing these core services, CooperAitken also provides a suite of wrap-around solutions - including business software support, ACC risk management, payroll, trust administration, and trusteeships - creating a support system designed to alleviate some of the burden and allow clients to focus on what matters most. Driven by a mission to help clients find their time, mind, and financial freedoms - whether that means building a thriving business, gaining peace of mind, or achieving better work-life balance - they are with you every step of the way.

CooperAitken is proud of its dedicated team, its 11-year journey in Thames, and the opportunity to be part of such a vibrant and supportive community.

- Supplied by CooperAitken

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ATHLETICS

The Paeroa Amateur Athletics Club (PAAC) held its end of year prizegiving last month, celebrating the hard work of all its athletes over the 2024-25 season.

More than 100 athletes were registered for the season, a big increase from previous years. Club members held athletic meets and ribbon days at Paeroa Domain over the season, and also assisted several school and cluster meets with their events.

For the first time in 15 years, PAAC entered the Waikato Relay Champs, held in Hamilton in December. The team of 18 athletes brought home 12 medals at the event.

Nine PAAC athletes also competed at the North Island Colgate Games in Hastings in January, bringing home three medals and several personal bests.

The club also farewelled long-time volunteers Kevin and Bev Sharp after over 45 years of service.

The prizegiving saw the inaugural presentation of the Rawnsley Family Award for Official of the Year. It was awarded to Claire and Jeremy Elliott and their family for their continued support of the club.

RESULTS

Club Champ Grade 3 Girls: Kalani Vakalahi 1st in 25m, 30m, Mia Doak 2nd in 25m, MacKenzie Taylor 3rd in 25m. Club Champ Grade 5 Girls: Amelia Milner 1st in 50m, 60m, Hazel Doak 2nd in 60m, Layla Drent 2nd in 50m, 3rd in 60m, Ayrabella-Rose Williams 3rd in 50m. Jaycee Cup for Most Track Points Girl Grade 5-7: Amelia Milner. Bryant Cup for Most Track Points Boy Grade 5-7: Kylan Scott. Bill Dickson

Memorial Trophy for Highest Points Grade 7-8: Travis Purcell, Naomi Lowry. Norton trophy for Most Points in Track Events Grade 7-12: Tia-Acacia Harvey. Tirohia Cup for Most Track Points Girl Grade 8-12: Tia-Acacia Harvey. Tirohia Cup for Most Track Points Boy Grade 8-12: Lane Crawford. McKenzie Cup Best for High Jump: Liam Rawnsley. Mary Neil Memorial Cup 100m Sprint Champion Girl Grade 12-13: Mila Howard. Wyn Edwards Memorial Cup Most Points Track and Field Grade 6-14: James Rawnsley. Laurie Bramble Trophy Most Field Points Grade 12-13: James Rawnsley. Brian Gray Cup 100m Sprint Champion Boy Grade 12-13: James Rawnsley. Tamariki Station Under Grade 5 Award for Sportsmanship: Ollie Hopson. Blair Newton and Family Trophy for Most Committed Athlete With A Disability: Brody Purcell. Paeroa Amateur Athletic Club Sportsmanship Cup: Jesse Thompson, Nixon McGregor. Wilf Parker Most Improved Athlete: Conner Huitema. Wilf Parker Most Outstanding Boy: Liam Rawnsley. Wilf Parker Most Outstanding Girl: Mila Howard.

CLUB RECORDS

Grade 9 Boys Discus: Jesse Thompson 22.57m. Previous record - 21.38m, 2021. Grade 10 Boys Long Jump: Liam Rawnsley 4.24m. Previous record - 4.17m, 1997. Grade 10 Boys 100m: Liam Rawnsley 13.9 sec. Previous record - 14.1 sec, 1995.

OVERALL CLUB POINTS

Tiny Tot Girls: 1st Chloe Milner -82 pts, 2nd Avayah Vakalagi-Scott -76 pts, 3rd Poppy Cossey -66 pts. Grade 3 Girls: 1st Kalani Vakalahi -67 pts, 2nd Mia Doak -51 pts, 3rd MacKenzie Taylor -40 pts. Grade 4 Girls: 1st Kora

Beazley -57 pts, 2nd Maddie Moohan -54 pts, 2nd Elliana Cossey -54 pts, 3rd Reign King -43 pts. Grade 5 Girls: 1st Amelia Milner -79 pts, 2nd Hazel Doak -59 pts, 3rd Violet Armstrong -49 pts, 3rd Koraha Witika -49 pts. Grade 6 Girls: 1st Arianna McPherson -61 pts, 2nd Victoria Hodgson -58 pts, 3rd Sadee Wayne -54 pts. Grade 7 Girls: 1st Remi Howard -124 pts, 2nd Faith Steele -112 pts, 3rd Dannie Armstrong -102 pts. Grade 8 Girls: 1st Naomi Lowrie -143 pts, 2nd Zoe Huitema -87 pts, 3rd Charlee Moohan -83 pts. Grade 10 Girls: 1st Tia-Acacia Harvey -197 pts, 2nd Harper Tilsley -128 pts, 3rd Ella-May Calvey -77 pts. Grade 11 Girls: 1st Mahalia Thompson -170 pts, 2nd Lucy Huitema -107 pts, 3rd Leah Drent -101 pts. Grade 13 Girls: 1st Mila Howard -60 pts, 2nd Skyla Hanson -23 pts. Grade 3 Boys: 1st Spencer Gillingham -54 pts. Grade 4 Boys: 1st Ollie Hopson -73 pts. Grade 5 Boys: 1st Kees Taylor -68 pts, 2nd Dayton Rangi-Jones -60 pts, 3rd Millar Gillingham -36 pts. Grade 6 Boys: 1st Kylan Scott -83 pts, 2nd Ben Rawnsley -75 pts, 3rd Toby Hopson -46 pts. Grade 8 Boys: 1st Travis Purcell -143 pts, 2nd Luc King -99 pts, 3rd Reeve Darling -73 pts. Grade 9 Boys: 1st Jesse Thompson -170 pts, 2nd Jax McLaren -127 pts, 3rd Nixon McGregor -57 pts. Grade 10 Boys: 1st Liam Rawnsley -182 pts, 2nd Kayden Drent -123 pts, 3rd Brody Purcell -108 pts. Grade 11 Boys: 1st Lane Crawford -182 pts, 2nd Zant Bjerring -45 pts. Grade 12 Boys: 1st Realm Witika -122 pts, 2nd Jett Elliott -108 pts, 3rd Conner Huitema -77 pts. Grade 13 Boys: 1st James Rawnsley -205 pts, 2nd Keanu McGregor -75 pts.



Tirohia students in their new school uniform. Photo: SUPPLIED

New school uniforms bring students together

Tirohia School students are standing proud in their new school uniforms, thanks to a generous donation from the school's Board of Trustees.

The board supplied each student with a polo shirt and hoodie in the school colours of orange and black this term, and said the move would ensure everyone could feel a part of the school community without adding financial pressure to whānau.

"[It's] an exciting new chapter for the school community. Students are already looking fantastic in their fresh polos and hoodies, which have been thoughtfully designed to promote unity, school pride, and a strong sense of belonging," the school said.

"[The uniforms] symbolize a forward step in building a more connected and cohesive school community."

The uniforms are completed by plain black bottoms in any style, giving students the freedom to wear the clothes they prefer - whether shorts, skirts, or long pants - while allowing

parents to shop within their budgets.

"The purpose of introducing the uniform was to bring us all together as one, creating a shared sense of identity and pride, both in ourselves and in our school," board member Alison Imrie said.

The response from students had been "overwhelmingly positive", the school said.

"I think the uniforms are cool because the hoodies are soft and warm," year two student Harlen said.

"They're nice because of the nice colour. I think we look flash," year four student Kiera added.

The school also received positive feedback beyond the school grounds, with principal Angela Blank saying she was thrilled to receive a phone call from a member of the public who complimented the uniforms, after spotting Tirohia seniors getting off the bus at Paeroa College.

"It just fills you with pride, knowing that we are being noticed out in the community already," she said.



The Paeroa Amateur Athletics Club. Photo: SUPPLIED

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The Phoenixian Scheme (101 mins) M. Comedy. In a bid to secure his family's legacy, an international tycoon brings his nun-daughter into his most daring scheme yet in the latest film from legendary filmmaker Wes Anderson. Benedict Cumberbatch, Tom Hanks, Scarlett Johansson and others.

OCEAN with David Attenborough (97 mins) PG. Through spectacular sequences of coral reefs, kelp forests and open ocean, David shares why a healthy ocean keeps the entire planet stable and flourishing. Stunning, immersive cinematography showcases the wonder of life under the seas and exposes the realities and challenges facing our ocean, yet the story is one of optimism: the ocean can recover gloriously.

Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning (120 mins) M. A thrilling last chapter of the "M:I" series. Tom Cruise flies beyond all the stunts he's done before, leaving us in an exhilarated state of awe.

Bob Trevino Likes It (101 mins) M. After searching for her estranged father online, a people-pleasing young woman unexpectedly forms a close bond with a grieving, childless man with the same name as her father on Facebook. Inspired by a true story.

The Salt Path (115 mins) M. Based on the best-selling book. A couple embark on a year-long trek along the coast of Cornwall after losing their home and later discovering the husband has been diagnosed with a terminal illness. An honest and life-affirming true story of the healing power of the natural world.

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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You don't have to fix it to make a difference

OPINION
By MICHAEL WILKES

The other weekend, a good friend of mine — one of our youth workers finishing up with us — was running a marathon down in Rotorua.

Now, this wasn't one of those "been-training-for-months" kind of efforts. She'd had a massive end to the school term, running full-on kids' camps over the holidays. Life had been chaos. So when race

day came, she was exhausted and hadn't had the training time she'd hoped for.

But she showed up. And she committed.

She took off with a crew of young adults who'd travelled down to support her, everyone pumped and ready. But as the kilometres ticked by, the tiredness caught up. The crowd would race ahead, park up, wave signs, cheer loud, scream support — and she'd look at them, barely able to muster, "I can't do this".

But here's the thing. She didn't stop - 5K. 10K. 20K. 30K.

Each step slower, each breath heavier, the pain building. Not long after that 30K mark, my two eldest kids and I parked up and jumped in to run alongside her. And mate, I found it really emotional. Not because I was doing it tough — she was carrying the real weight. But because it hit me hard: I couldn't fix this. I couldn't take away the pain. Couldn't carry her.

All I could do was run beside her.

We didn't talk much. She didn't have the energy. But we were there. My kids and I, just quietly matching her pace.

And it made me think — how often in life do we find ourselves walking with people who are hurting? Struggling? And we feel useless because we can't make it better.

But maybe the most powerful thing we can do in those moments isn't fixing anything — it's just being there.

Because for my mate, that silent company gave her strength. She ran a little harder.

She stretched a little longer before each pause. And she made it.

It reminded me: presence is powerful.

You don't always need the right words. You don't need solutions.

Sometimes, just turning up, staying beside someone in their struggle — that's enough to help them find the strength to keep going.

Michael Wilkes is a youth worker with Living Well Trust, running mentoring and resilience programmes across Thames and Paeroa. To support local youth work or follow more stories and insights, find him on Facebook, Instagram, or TikTok @michaelwilkes.kiwi. If you'd like to connect about a speaking engagement, community initiative, or supporting youth work, email michael@livingwell.org.nz.

Gardening

Autumn leaf drop transforms gardens

Winter officially begins on June 1 and with it brings colder and sometimes wetter weather. It is a great time to plant deciduous fruit trees and winter vegetables for a continuous supply. The garden takes on a whole different look with the leaf drop. It's great to see the structure of the trees which makes for more successful pruning.

Vegetable planting: beetroot - winter seedlings need occasional cultivation to aerate soil and control weeds. Liquid feed to stimulate growth.

Cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli and brussels sprouts, carrots and parsnips - harvest those sown December and January as ready and continue to plant carrot seeds this month.

Lettuce - continue planting winter lettuce. Cos is a good choice at this time of year.

Rhubarb - old crowns which have been lifted and stored can now be divided and planted in permanent growing position.

Silverbeet, spinach and kale - harvest outer larger leaves to help plants to continue producing through winter. Make further sowings of spinach.

June 22 is the shortest day and garlic planting day. It requires a well-drained sunny site and will require frost protection.

Divide and replant globe artichokes. Plant new asparagus beds in a sunny spot in soil with a high lime content.

Nature doesn't like bare soil so you might consider planting a green ma-

nure crop. This is a way of putting valuable nutrients back into the soil in your vegetable garden.

Keep a watch out for aphids, whitefly and scale and treat accordingly.

Flowers- early season winter annuals beginning to bloom are alyssum, calendula, pansy, poppy, snapdragon, stock, cineraria and primulas.

Bulbs already planted out, such as daffodils and freesias, are well on the way due to the continued warm weather. The lachenalia bulbs are getting ready to put on a glorious show over the next few weeks.

Stone Fruits: Leaf fall is almost complete - Mid June apply a winter copper spray to protect from disease.

Other fruits: apples, pears - begin mid-winter pruning to regulate fruiting characteristics and improve fruit bearing. citrus - severe winter cold damages shoot growth and fruit. Where possible lightly cover trees in case of frosty nights. Feijoas - continue harvesting if any still available.

Strawberries - now is the time to sort your strawberry bed if you want strawberries for Christmas. Full sun with free draining soil. Dig in strawberry fertiliser and liquid feed every fortnight.

Raspberries, boysenberries and loganberries - prune out last season's cane growth - tie new seasons growth on to supports, select strongest - prune out spindly shoots.

Roses: The flowering season is almost finished. Stop dead heading and allow-

ing the rose to produce rosehips puts nourishment back into the plants. Prune in July. Apply a lime sulphur spray to clean up powdery mildew or moss on old bushes.

Compost Heap: Turn all heaps this month add garden lime, sulphate of ammonia and nitrogen fertiliser to stimulate decay. Old compost ready for the garden can be applied as mulch or incorporated into the soil when preparing gardens for spring.

Enjoy your garden and stay warm.

Supplied by Ngatea Garden Circle



The garden takes on a whole different look with the leaf drop.
File Photo: PIXABAY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30 Non planting Day	June 2025 Moon Planting Calendar				Calendar Supplied by Gilmer Farms	1 Non planting Day
2 Non planting Day	3 Non planting Day	4 Non planting Day	5 Plant above ground crops	6 Plant above ground crops	7 Plant above ground crops	8 Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed
9 Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	10 Non planting Day	11 Full Moon	12 Non planting Day	13 Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	14 Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	15 Non planting Day
16 Non planting Day	17 Plant root crops. Liquid Feed	18 Plant root crops. Liquid Feed	19 Non planting Day	20 Non planting Day	21 Non planting Day Winter Solstice	22 Plant root crops, trees and shrubs
23 Non planting Day	24 Non planting Day	25 New Moon	26 Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	27 Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	28 Non planting Day	29 Non planting Day

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CLASSIFIEDS Deadline 5.00pm Friday

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Pepe Bridge plans draw crowd

Around 170 people attended an information session at Tairua recently to hear plans for the replacement of the single-lane Pepe Stream Bridge.

How the new two-lane bridge with an attached shared walking and cycling path will impact on Pepe Rd intersection traffic was an issue raised by many who attended the drop-in session. This has been collated for inclusion in the design work ahead.

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) expects to have a Design and Construct contract in place by the end of the year and the new bridge designed and consented ahead of construction starting late 2026, with traffic on the new bridge by December 2027.

Geotechnical work was ramping up for the

new Pepe Stream Bridge, NZTA said.

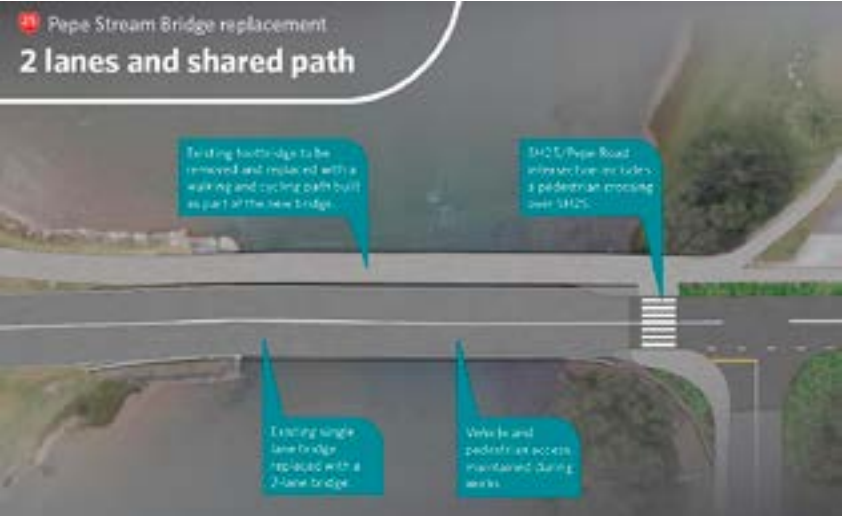
Tairua locals will see a barge and drilling rig near the existing bridge for a few days from May 26.

Core samples will be taken to help understand the geology beneath the bridge. The five-metre barge and rig will be trucked in separately and put together at the Wharf St boat ramp.

The same crew will be taking samples on the bridge approaches and verges next week.

There would be some traffic management required but no delays were expected, NZTA said.


RIGHT: Concept of the new Pepe Bridge, which NZTA expects will be complete by December, 2027.
Photo: SUPPLIED/NZTA



CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 5pm Friday

Death Notices

KING, Jocelyn Maree (nee Ashley):
Passed away at home in the arms of her husband Jeremy on 15th May, 2025 at Hokitika. Formerly of Paeroa, Katikati.
Loved wife/soul mate of Jeremy. Mother and mother in law of Kahman and Reece, Jade and Monique. Loved Granny of Rylin. Daughter in law of Barbara and Phil Berry and Peter King. Sister in law of Mat and Rochelle. Aunty of Shyla and Luc.
A celebration of Jocelyn's life will be advised at a later date. Communication to B Berry, 36 Orchid Drive, Paeroa.



Church Notices

Thames Spiritualist Church, Sunday June 1st, 2pm Grahamstown Hall. Speaker: Bonnie McHardy & friend

Waihi Assembly of God Church
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Baker St, Waihi

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Public Notices

BELLA STREET PUMPHOUSE SOCIETY INC. NOTICE OF AGM
The AGM of the Bella Street Pumphouse Society Inc. will be held at the Bella Street Pumphouse, Thames, at 5.30pm on Wednesday 11 June 2025.
Members and prospective members welcome.
Agenda:
Election of officers, committee, and delegates.
Financial report for the year.
Appointment of auditor and Hon. solicitor.
Annual subscription.
Remuneration of officers.
Amendments to rules and/or constitution.
Other matters tabled or sent to the Secretary prior to AGM.


The Paeroa & District Historical Society Inc Special General Meeting
To be held at the Museum on Monday 9th June 2025 at 10.00am
Agenda:
Apologies
To ratify new constitution
Margaret Tyrrell Secretary

Thames Community Cancer Support Inc AGM
Wed 18th June, 2025 : 4pm
Croquet Rooms
Beach Road, Thames
All welcome

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
CPNZ Paeroa Community Patrol (formerly Night Owls Community Patrol)
7.30pm, Wed 11th June 2025
At CPNZ Offices 6 Rotokohu Road, Paeroa
All welcome – Member voting only

Paeroa Amateur Athletic Club Annual General Meeting
Sunday 8 June 2025 4pm
Paeroa Domain Clubrooms
All welcome
Contact D Rawnsley 027 274 1853

Public Notice



2025/26 Dog Registration Fees

Pursuant to Section 37 of the Dog Control Act 1996 the Hauraki District Council by Resolution of Council on 27 March 2025 fixed the dog control fees for this Registration Year 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. All registration fees include GST.

Registration type	Fee	Fee if paid after 31 /07/25
General dog (entire)	\$135.00	\$202.50
General dog (de-sexed*)	\$100.00	\$150.00
Responsible Owner Licence (ROL) dog (entire)	\$75.00	Loss of ROL \$202.50
Responsible Owner Licence (ROL) dog (de-sexed*)	\$60.00	Loss of ROL \$150.00
In excess of three dogs - fourth and subsequent dog(s)	\$45.00	\$67.50
Dangerous dog (entire)	\$202.50	\$303.75
Dangerous dog (de-sexed*)	\$150.00	\$225.00

* Proof of veterinary de-sexing certificate required

Pound fees	Registered Dog fee	Unregistered Dog Fee
First time impoundment	\$75.00	\$130.00
Second time impoundment	\$120.00	\$170.00
Third time impoundment	\$180.00	\$225.00
Sustenance fee per day	\$15.00	\$15.00
Microchipping fee	\$35.00	\$35.00

Other fees	Fee
Adoption fee	\$50.00
Consent to keep more than two dogs in an urban area	\$60.00
Responsible Owner Licence (ROL) application fee	\$40.00
Responsible Owner Licence (ROL) property inspection fee (ROL transfer from another council)	\$30.00
Replacement tag	\$5.00

Would you like a reduction in dog registration fees?

Have you thought about applying for Responsible Owner Licence (ROL)?

Council's Responsible Owner Licensing Scheme rewards those dog owners who keep their dogs under control at all times, and have a good Registration history, with a reduced fee (from \$135.00 to \$75.00, or \$60.00 if the dog is de-sexed).


The criteria to obtain a Responsible Owner Licence are:

- Complete the prescribed ROL application form and pay the non-refundable application fee of \$40.00.
- Have a good record of registration payment history and no complaints, impounding, infringement notices, etc in the preceding 12 months.
- Council's dog control staff will inspect your property to ensure the fencing meets our criteria.
- Pass a simple written examination on dog care and owner legal obligations.

The information pack and application form are available on our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz, or at our Council offices at William Street, Paeroa; Rosemont Road, Waihi or Orchard West Road, Ngātea, or call us on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (free call within the District).

ROL applications are accepted from 1 June to 15 July 2025. Failure to re-register your dog(s) by 31 July annually will mean a loss of licence.

DA Speirs
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council



www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/rules-regulations-licences/dogs-other-animals

PAPER DELIVERIES

Although we endeavour to deliver our paper to everyone, sometimes we just cannot achieve this.

If you are one of the few who did not receive your weekly paper, please note they are available here:


NGATEA - Ngatea 4 Square, HDC Council Offices , Ngatea Post Shop, Z Petrol Station, Ngatea Purple Dairy

PAEROA - Moores Caltex, Countdown, HDC Council offices, Takenote, Paeroa 4 Square, Paeroa Information Hub

WAIHI - Maybelle Superette, New World, Toyworld/Takenote, Information Centre, Daffodil Dairy, Waihi Supervalve

THAMES - Totara Veggie Shop, Mobil Kopu, Gull Service Station, Martina 4 Square, Bin Inn, Tararu Dairy, Queen St Mobil, Goldfields Mall, Pak’N’Save, Paper Power, Thames 4 Square, Carson’s Bookshop, Thames Council Offices, Kauaeranga Store

TURUA: Turua Dairy **KEREPEHI**: Kerepehi Dairy



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Outside all of these areas: \$3445.00 plus mileage


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SUDOKU

202

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

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HARD

202

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3 7 4 2 8 5 1 9 6

2 8 6 1 3 9 5 7 4

5 9 1 4 7 6 8 3 2

7 3 5 1 2 6 4 8 9

2 4 1 5 8 9 6 7 3

6 8 9 3 7 4 5 2 1

8 6 3 7 1 5 2 9 4

1 9 4 2 6 8 3 5 7

5 2 7 4 9 3 8 1 6

3 5 2 9 4 7 1 6 8

4 7 8 6 5 1 9 3 2

9 1 6 8 3 2 7 4 5

6 1 9 2 3 8 5 7 4

7 8 3 4 5 1 6 2 9

2 4 5 7 9 6 1 8 3

3 2 6 8 7 4 9 1 5

1 5 4 9 2 3 8 6 7

8 9 7 1 6 5 4 3 2

5 7 2 6 1 9 3 4 8

4 3 1 5 8 7 2 9 6

9 6 8 3 4 2 7 5 1

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JUMBO CROSSWORD

222

ACROSS

1 Walk angrily (5)

4 Feel nervously expectant (2,2,11)

14 Japanese city (5)

15 Foe (5)

16 Repugnant (10)

17 Relating to sound or hearing (5)

19 Public house (3)

20 Stress (7)

21 Variety (9)

22 Heavy gun (6)

25 Share seller's commission (9)

27 Extol (6)

28 Checked and corrected (6)

33 Amorous (10)

35 Facial twitch (3)

36 Tasting of salt (6)

37 Skin mark (4)

39 Small bed (3)

41 Official command (7)

42 Root vegetable (6)

43 Woebegone (9)

44 Shoe ties (5)

45 Highly regarded (8)

50 Perform (2)

51 Emblematic (8)

55 Bondservant (5)

58 Very quickly (4,1,4)

59 Fan out (6)

60 Ill-defined (7)

61 Procure (3)

63 Midday (4)

64 Extent (6)

65 Come unravelled (3)

66 In the end (10)

68 Purify (6)

69 Shiny (6)

71 Triggered off (9)

76 University grounds (6)

77 Flying insect (9)

79 Bird (7)

81 Garland (3)

84 Lance (5)

85 Moving overseas (10)

86 Combine (5)

87 Defraud (5)

88 Insist firmly (3,4,4,4)

89 Grate (5)

DOWN

2 Sore to touch (6)

3 Infectious disease (5)

5 Heinous (4)

6 Hen-pecking (7)

7 Less difficult (6)

8 Journeys (5)

9 Sailing event (7)

10 Gemstone (4)

11 Abduct (6)

12 Coil of yarn (5)

13 Injured (7)

14 Cyclone (7)

18 Lowest point possible (4-6)

23 Court hearing (5)

24 Futile (7)

26 Leavings (7)

27 Musical instrument (7)

29 Diplomatic (7)

30 French port (6)

31 Bind (5)

32 Vigour (6)

34 Love god (4)

36 Jammed (5)

38 Ancient object (5)

40 Burial place (4)

45 Girl's name (5)

46 Deduct (4,3)

47 Student's test (4)

48 Repeated (6)

49 Measuring instrument (5)

50 Wreck (7)

52 Leave (4,6)

53 Atrocity (7)

54 Breathe in (6)

55 Rattles (anag)(7)

56 Fern branch (5)

57 Donated (4)

62 Uncanny (5)

67 Last (7)

68 Copy (7)

70 Compress (7)

72 Made (7)

73 Administrative unit of government (6)

74 Oddball (6)

75 Squirm (6)

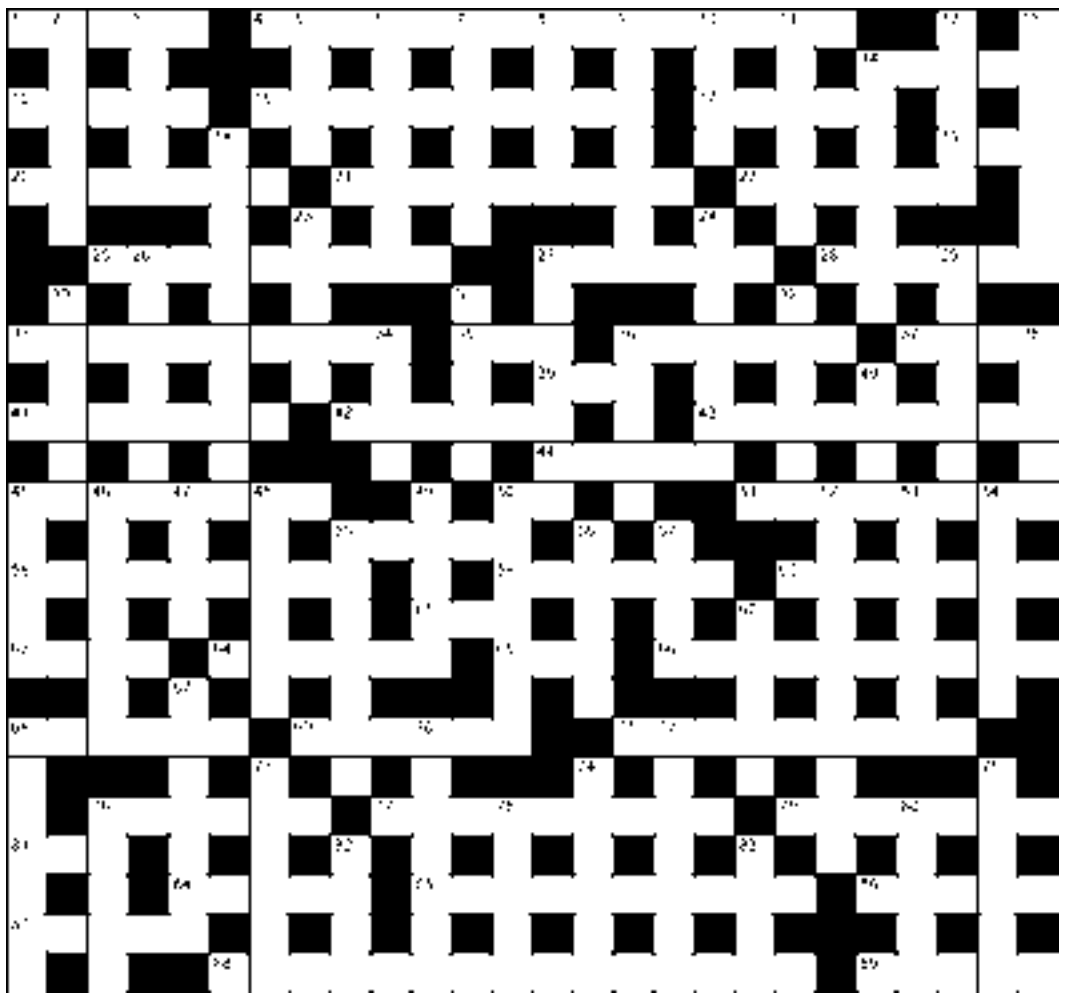
76 Alcoholic drink (5)

78 Short (5)

80 Meal (5)

82 Threesome (4)

83 Recognised (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Comma, 4 Tolerant, 9 Ladder, 14 Acrid, 15 Search high and low, 17 Miser, 18 Wee, 19 At a loss, 20 Unchanged, 21 Allied, 24 Statement, 25 Lustre, 26 Halved, 29 Ingredient, 31 Arc, 32 Greens, 33 Smug, 35 Kin, 37 Fall, 39 Obstinate, 40 Exquisite, 41 Deter, 42 Brussels, 47 Feathers, 51 Aloha, 55 Excursion, 56 Flintlock, 58 Idea, 59 Elf, 60 Deed, 61 Medley, 62 Run, 63 Microphone, 66 Cursed, 67 Crafty, 69 Acropolis, 72 Spirit, 73 Negligent, 75 Adjusts, 77 Fan, 80 Natty, 81 Have a swollen head, 82 Right, 83 Edison, 84 Dreading, 85 Drill.

DOWN: 2 Overtaken, 3 Moral, 5 Omit, 6 Enhance, 7 Anne Hathaway, 8 Talon, 9 Lawyers, 10 Damp, 11 Easily, 12 Crowd, 13 Adhered, 14 Artisan, 16 Husband-to-be, 22 Jewels, 23 Creeper, 24 Surplus, 25 Lacked, 27 Vampire, 28 Unique, 30 Tail, 32 Gnats, 34 Guess, 36 Mint, 38 Air, 42 Bleed, 43 Unclear, 44 Sure, 45 Loiter, 46 Money, 48 Acknowledge, 49 Heights, 50 Rue, 51 Antlers, 52 Affray, 53 Sign language, 54 Stem, 57 Occupy, 64 Nightfall, 65 Defiant, 66 Confirm, 68 Freshen, 70 Renewed, 71 Gifted, 72 Snags, 74 Loved, 76 Usher, 78 Eyes, 79 Flan.



Boundary lines are indicative only



Kaiaua 976 Kaiaua Road

Versatile landholding in a rising rural community

A considered blend of productive land, natural beauty and family-friendly features in a region on the rise. The flat front portion is ideal for grazing and potential building, with a clear stony-bottom stream running through the centre. Subdivided into 18 paddocks, it includes a large barn and well-placed stock yards. Fertile soils support strong grazing—ideal for expanding operations or starting out with intent. A reliable spring-fed water source serves both stock and summer cool-downs. Zoned for Hauraki Plains College, Mangatangi School and Kaiaua School, with everyday essentials available in Ngatea.

bayleys.co.nz/2630082

52.48_{ha}

Tender (unless sold prior)
Closing 3pm, Wed 25 Jun 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
Phone for viewing times
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



Boundary lines are indicative only



Maramarua 2292b State Highway 2

Versatile living with income, shedding and SH2 access

Set on 3.1 hectares (more or less) of gently rolling land just off SH2, this versatile property suits blended living, rental income, or both. The renovated three-bedroom character home blends heritage detail with modern ease, while a self-contained one-bedroom (more or less) cottage offers privacy for extended family or tenants. A high-stud 218sqm (more or less) shed features a lined sleepout, workshop, and truck-friendly access. Outdoors, enjoy paddocks, fruit trees, vege gardens, and a motocross track. With schools, town, and major routes nearby, this is adaptable country living at its best.

bayleys.co.nz/2630080

3.16_{ha} 5 3 3

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 19 Jun 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 12.45-1.45pm Mon 2 Jun & 10-11am Sun 8 Jun
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



Boundary lines are indicative only



Mangatarata 120 Mahuta Road South

Elevated setting, everyday ease

Set on (more or less) 4.3ha of gently rolling pasture, this Ngatea property offers classic comfort and room to breathe. The three-bedroom brick home features a modern kitchen, woodburner, sunlit conservatory, and sweeping views. A tidy bathroom, separate laundry and good storage complete a practical layout. Sheltered by established trees, the property includes several graze-ready paddocks, a standalone garage, and water tanks. Tucked down a quiet country road, just minutes from town, it's a chance to live simply—connected to the land and what matters most.

bayleys.co.nz/2630081

4.37 ha 3 1 2

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 12 Jun 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 9.30-10.15am Mon 2 Jun
Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Seth Roe 027 320 6937
seth.roe@bayleys.co.nz
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Boundary lines are indicative only



Boundary lines are indicative only

Mangatarata 430 North Road

Grazing land, expansive views

Commanding sweeping sea views and offering a substantial 59.02 hectares (more or less) of grazing land, this unique property delivers the rare chance to secure a working slice picturesque countryside with practical infrastructure already in place. Whether you are seeking to farm, build further, or simply live self-sufficiently in one of the region's most naturally rich locations, this land invites a future shaped by potential.

Essential infrastructure includes a two-bay shed, a traditional wool shed, and a larger four-bay half-round barn. In-zone for popular Hauraki Plains College is a big advantage. This property offers a rare blend of practicality, potential, and natural beauty.

bayleys.co.nz/2630076

59.0231 ha

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 19 Jun 2025
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 2.30-3.15pm Mon 2 Jun
& 11-11.45am Wed 4 Jun
Karl Davis 027 496 4633
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Sam Aislabie 027 429 5410
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SPORTS

Send your sports news, reports and photos to editor@valleyprofile.co.nz

Battle of the baskets

Thames Valley basketball teams represented the region at the Mel Young Easter Classic from April 18-21. The teams - Under 14 boys, Under 16 boys B and C grade, Under 18 boys and Under 16 girls - brought back strong results after facing off against players from around the country. Coach Phil Taylor said "all our teams showed massive improvements over the four days, and represented Thames Valley well".



The Under 16 boys grade B team in action against Rotorua.



Thames Valley Under 14 boys play in the bronze medal match against New Plymouth.

Photos: PICKNROLLNZ



The Thames Valley Under 14 boys talk game play with their coach.



Daytona Phillips prepares to shoot.

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- 2 Bedroom with a Double Garage

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

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