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Ruby's Toi **Wearable Arts** garment is made from upcycled ballet materials such as pointe shoes, ballet

flats, tights, and

Photo: SUPPLIED

costume ribbons.

 $\mathbf{F}^{ ext{rom}}$ designing fits for her Barbie dolls, to being touted as a star at the Toi Wearable Arts Competition, Ruby Green has been taking on New York in style - a dream that once seemed worlds away from her fam-

In June, the Hauraki Plains College student attended the Vogue College of Fashion Summer School Programme, where she visited the iconic magazine's headquarters, took classes in fashion styling, and mocked-up an editorial shoot at the Condé Nast stu-

It was an "absolutely incredible" experience for the 17-year-old, who spent her days living and studying in the city that never sleeps.

"Vogue always felt like such a far away dream from my family farm in Ngatea, but after going, it opened my eyes to how much is out there," Ruby said. "You just have to find and make opportunities for yourself.

Fashion has been front of mind for Ruby for as long as she can remember. She first learned how to sew from her grandma, and then took lessons with Turua seamstress Doreen Doug-

As a child, she designed and created clothes for Barbie dolls as well as herself, and dove into the branch of styling while at Vogue Summer School.

Our final project [at the school] was a mock-up editorial shoot for Vogue where we had shoot days at Condé Nast studios and shot with professional photographers and mod-

els.
"It was so incredible," she told *The*

Profile.

"To be taught by some of the greats are it all into acin the industry and put it all into action on the second-to-last day of classes felt like an absolute dream.

But Ruby hasn't just showcased her talents in one of the world's biggest fashion capitals, she's also been recognised as a star back home.

On her return from New York, she competed in the Toi Wearable Arts Competition held at Claudelands Arena in Hamilton, unveiling a garment she made from upcycled ballet materials such as pointe shoes, ballet flats, tights, and costume ribbons.

The materials were collected from Ruby's own items amassed throughout her dance career, as well as from op shops, the Paeroa Refuse Centre, and other performers from Thames

CONTINUED ON P2

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Fashion capital, meet Ruby Green

CONTINUED FROM P1

Hauraki Dance Theatre - where she's been training since the age of four.

"It took me many hours to create the look, particularly sourcing the materials," she said.
"I love the garment because it tells

"I love the garment because it tells so many different stories. I know how many memories my own items hold, so I love that others' are in the garment too."

Ruby's hard work paid off, and after competing in the competition three times before, this year she received the 'Star of the Night' regional winner award, plus an additional three awards for 'Excellent Garment Construction', 'Creative Concept' and 'Innovative Use of Materials'.

"To win 'Star of the Night' was an incredible way to finish off my Toi Journey during college," she said. "It was such a high after just returning from New York and with just two days in between.

"Toi is something I discovered on my own and had to do outside of school, so to see those hours I put into creating the garment pay off was really special and encouraging."

And Ruby's passion for fashion is not stopping there.

Next year, she is heading to university to study towards a Bachelor's Degree of Design, majoring in Fashion and Com-



munications (Marketing).

She hopes to secure as many internships as possible during her tertiary study, with dreams of spending a summer abroad at Australian Vogue before jetting off to Milan - for which she is already learning Italian.

"I am actually very proud to see how



Ruby Green, 17, visited Vogue magazine's headquarters, took classes in fashion styling, and mocked-up an editorial shoot at the Condé Nast studios. She spent her days living and studying fashion in the city that never sleeps. Photos: SUPPLIED

far I have come, but most of all astonished at how many opportunities have opened up for me this year," Ruby said.

"I just feel incredibly inspired by the experience and it's shown me that a

dream is always possible if you work hard to get there."



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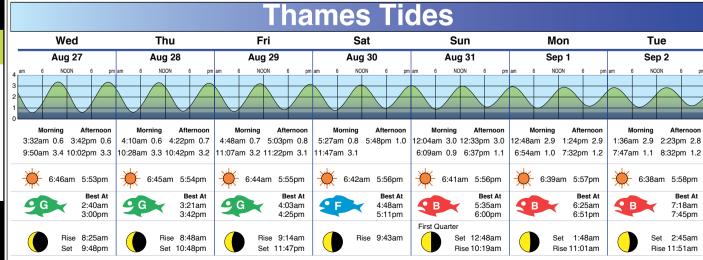




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Not So Good

Repeated robberies, damage at Tararu Store

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

break-in at the AStore and Bait Station on August 17 was the second incident in six months, store owner Dilpreet Singh said.

Store cameras caught three men in hoodies and face masks breaking into the store in the early hours of the morning.

The footage showed two men

climbing over and attempting to open a locked gate beside the store at 1.15am, and then using a crowbar to attempt to lever up a rolling door at the store's front entrance.

Three men returned to the store at 2.45am, this time levering up the rolling door and smashing through the glass door beyond.

Internal camera footage then caught two of the men climbing over the shop counter and grabbing boxes, moments before the fog cannon was acti-

Dilpreet said the burglars only got away with a few boxes of wipes, as the fog cannon was set off when they attempted to open a safe in a corner. However, the damage to the entrance

"The damage they left is a lot," he said.

t," he said. '[And] it's affecting us a lot. At night time, we can't even sleep properly, we keep checking the cameras."

Dilpreet said the store also

suffered another incident on February 28, during opening



Dilpreet Singh is frustrated with repeated attacks on his shop. Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

hours.

"Our staff was here that morning, and as soon as he opened the shop, five minutes later, a group of five young boys came and started attacking him," he said.

The attackers had machetes that time, Dilpreet said, and they threw cans at the staff member.

"He had a little injury around

his eye, but he's doing all right."
Dilpreet said he was frustrated that the culprits seemed to be getting away with their crimes.

"These are local people -nothing is happening to them," he said.

Two of the men climb over the counter and grab boxes

Cameras show three men breaking into the store.

"From this lot, they caught one so far. And police say they know who the other two are. but they don't have enough evi-

"From last time, they only caught three. And two are still hiding somewhere in Auckland, that's what they told us.

'[The] police is doing their

job, but at the end of the day, the law is not doing anything. And they know ... that nothing

will happen to them."

Police would not comment on the incidents to The Profile, citing privacy concerns.



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Education

Thames High muso leads in the arts

One thing Sophia Haakma is passionate about is playing the violin.

It's a skill the 14-year-old musician has honed since she was six years old.

"I'd say my favourite aspect of

"I'd say my favourite aspect of it would be playing in a group, where I can provide support for others and be part of a team," she told *The Profile*.

It's something the year-9 Thames High School student has been able to pursue this year as she has donated her time to teach violin lessons once a week to felviolin lessons once a week to fellow students.

The young muso said it was her way to contribute to her school and also a "good opportunity" to share her knowledge with other people who were keen on learn-

These sessions have helped me to meet some of my fellow students who I may not have crossed paths with otherwise.

The best moments for Sophia was when a student first played a clean note, or put their fingers in the right places on the strings - "all the little things", she said.

Sophia's creativity was also evident in her connection to the Thames Music and Drama (MAD) community.

She performed in Thames MAD productions and shows as an actor, singer, and musician with violin parts in the orchestra, and



Thames High student Sophia Haakma, 14, teaches fellow students to play the violin. RIGHT: Sophia plays along with a fellow violinist.

Photos: SUPPLIE

more recently as a guitarist in the School of Rock production.
Sophia has also recently been

elected as the youth representative on the Thames MAD committee.

She said her goal in the role was to make sure the Thames MAD theatre remained a place where

people of all ages could go, and know they belong.
"Over recent years, there has

been a growth in shows where kids and teens are able to take charge on stage," she said.

"I want to make sure the spot-light remains to be shared around

evenly between everybody, adults and youth alike.

A passion for the arts and the drive to grow in her violin playing was clear. That's why Sophia jumped at the opportunity to attend advanced lessons with Wai-kato University violin tutor Lara



Hall. Thames High music teacher Dr Nichola Voice arranged for Sophia to work with Lara to help her grow in her violin journey, Sophia

"I almost couldn't believe it. I still can't wait to see what valuable skills and information I will be able to get out of these sessions.

The main thing Sophia said she wanted to focus on in the lessons was to refine her overall technique to the point where "I can be more confident and comfortable" to play in front of large audiences.

One of the most important aspects of playing the violin was "al-ways going to be technique", the

musical prodigy said.

Her advice for other young vio-lin players was to work hard on getting good structure, posture, intonation and positioning "so you don't give yourself bad habits".

But most of all: "make sure you always work hard with what you

do", she said.
"Never give up, no matter how much you think you want to."

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Generous Gift to Music Department

The Thames High School Music Department has received an incredible donation of nearly \$8,000 from the **Thames Music Club**.

As the Club transitions to operating in a different capacity and winds up its incorporated society status, they chose to gift their remaining funds to support music education at Thames High School.

This donation will go directly towards purchasing keyboards for the Year 9 students entering the Music Department in 2026, helping launch an exciting new curriculum where all students will have the chance to learn and create on an instrument.

We are deeply grateful to the Thames Music Club for their generosity and their long-standing commitment to music in our community.



48 Hour Film Fun

A team of Thames High School students took on the challenge of the 48-Hour Film Competition. sponsorship from aenerous Coromind Magazine, the group was able to enter and put their creativity to the test.

On Friday evening, they received their brief—"Man vs. Nature"—and had just two hours to plan, write scripts, cast their actors, and prepare for filmina. Saturday was dedicated to shooting the film, while Sunday was spent editing, complete with original animations the students created themselves.

A special thank you goes to student teacher, Carla Grosman, who guided, mentored, and supported the team throughout the project. We wish the students the very best of luck with their entry.



Sport Exchange w Te Aroha College

Thames High School recently welcomed Te Aroha College for the annual Sports Exchange, with a day full of competitive spirit and strong performances.

Wins came for Thames in senior girls' and boys' rugby sevens, senior boys' doubles in badminton, and senior girls' football, alongside a hardfought draw in senior boys' football. Most Valuable Players included Jake Hudson, Gracie Miller (Year 11), Kim Ju Tiang (Year 11, Lawron Waite (Year 12), Obe Fraser (Year 11), Simrat Kaur (Year 10), Taylor Menzies (Year 13), Ffin Owen (Year 12), and Austin Court (Year 13).

A huge thank you goes to the coaches, managers, umpires, and staff whose support ensured the exchange resounding was a success.



Art Competition Win

Two Thames High School students showcased their talents at a recent competition and expo organised by the Whitianga Lions Club.

event. which featured photography and visual art categories without a set theme, encouraged participants to create works inspired by their own vision. Year 13 student Naiomi Hinton impressed with two strikina paintings, earning third place for one and a highly commended for the other.

Fellow Year 13 student Emma Marr also stood out, claiming second place with her artwork. Both students have done their school proud with their creativity and success.

Final piece of Sir Keith memorial installed

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

Asculpture soon-to-be unveiled during this year's Battle of Britain commemorations has been quietly mounted into its permanent position at the Thames Airfield.

On August 12 - and with the sculpture of Sir Keith Park in place - the team behind the project raised a toast, celebrating a step towards the completion of the Royal Air Force veteran's memorial.

Sir Keith Park Memorial Airfield president Geoff Furkert told *The Profile* that the bronze statue, designed by Helensville artist Joanne Sullivan, was the culmination of six years of effort.

The project had been disrupted "in good part by the Covid-19 pandemic, when the donation environment completely died," he said.

It is a life-sized, 2.3m statue, and portrays the Air Chief Marshal in his flying uniform, looking into the distance and awaiting the return of his pilots from a mission.

At his feet are impressions of his many medals and awards.

It has been mounted on a plinth under the Hurricane fighter aircraft on-site, and Geoff said this year's Battle of Britain Commemorations in September would be "spectac-





Stuart Read, left, Geoff Furkert, and Warren Sly raise a toast to the memorial milestone. RIGHT: The statue is now in place and ready for unveiling.

ular".

With many VIPs set to attend, the statue will be unveiled on the day, along with the inauguration of the completed memorial at the airfield.

Geoff earlier told *The Pro*file he first learned of Sir Keith Park after a night at the Thames Workingmen's Club when Sir Keith was in attendance.

He and others agreed that the man - who played a huge role in winning the Battle of Britain - should be acknowledged in New Zealand and especially in his hometown of Thames.

Geoff then became instru-

mental in getting the replica Hurricane fighter plane installed at the airfield, and erecting the bronze statue of Sir Keith beneath it had long been a personal mission - one now nearing fulfilment.

DETAILS: The annual Thames Battle of Britain Commemorations at Thames Airfield, , September 14, 11am. The event will include the unveiling of the 2.3m bronze statue of Sir Keith and the inauguration of the completed memorial, and is open to the public.







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'Frank, blunt, honest' Hart restands for mayor

As this year's local elections approach, reporter KELLEY **TANTAU** continues to put the spotlight on the mayoral contenders, and asks why they think they're fit to wear the chains.

 $\mathbf{R}^{ ext{emedying "the atrocious shambles"}}$ of the Thames-Coromandel District Council is a driving factor in Steve Hart's decision to run for Mayor again. The Puriri man has released a 29-page

manifesto detailing his background and vision for the district if successful in his campaign.

In it, he talks of a broken system, calls climate change "a diversion tactic for dummies" and references his exchange with current Mayor Len Salt in which the latter told Hart to 'go F**k yourself'. He also called the district's current

line-up of mayor, councillors and com-munity board members "toothless, spineless, deficient and incompetent

Hart ran for the top job at the last lo-cal body elections, raking in 1111 votes

against winning contender Salt's 5285.

He told *The Profile* that while he remained the same man - "frank, blunt, and honest" - he wasn't looking to the

past to predict where he'll land this time.
"I haven't got any expectations at all,"
he said. "My mindset doesn't go there.
You know, I'm just putting out what I'm about, what I'm capable of, what inspires me, and I'm saying there has to be dramatic change, and I'm a person that dramatic change, and I'm a person that

can create that change."
His manifesto includes a motivation to see a building industry fully supported by council that eliminated "bureaucratic nonsense".



Steve Hart stood for TCDC Mayor in 2022. He says his second run isn't a 'vendetta' against the council staff who tore down a building on his property earlier this year. Photo: SUPP

This would include getting rid of severe over-cost and over-sights of building and developing; fast tracking consents; and having full support to de-velop the utilities and services needed in any housing area and development es-

tates", he said.

In 2024, it was reported that Thames-Coromandel District Council issued 11 'notices to fix' over a seven-year period regarding unconsented building work on Hart's Puriri property.

Then, in March of this year, he said council staff visited his home and car-ried out "an abusive act of intentional, malicious and vindictive vandalism" when they destroyed what Hart called a ʻkids' playhouse'

He said the building was, at the time, in the middle of being signed off by an independent Licensed Building Practitioner and was awaiting a certificate of structural integrity from a registered

structural engineer.

He said full compensation would be sought to pay for the "abuse and destruction, reconstruction, grief, stress, harm, defamation, damages and trauma".

However, he told *The Profile* last week

he was not using his run for the mayor-

alty as a vendetta.

"I'm not that sort of person," he said,
"but the reality is - and I hear it from a
lot of people besides my own personal experience - that the whole consent process is just an absolute shambles.

"I'm an architect, and I've been involved in the planning industry and I've worked for councils, so I know the whole industry inside-out and back to front. I know the functions and processes, and I know what's efficient.

It's just alarming, really, to look at what's going on, and obviously quite loudly there's just a sheer degree of incompetence, and it's just creating the mess we're in. So, we've got to change it."

DETAILS: Voting for this year's local government elections opens on September 9 until noon on October 11. Progress results are published October 11; preliminary results on October 13 and official results on October 17.





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Soldier seeks Mayoral seat in two districts

As this year's local elections approach, reporter KELLEY TANTAU continues to put the spotlight on the mayoral contenders, and asks why they think they're fit to wear the chains.

A military man with visions to one day amalgamate the Matamata-Piako and Hauraki districts may not be actively campaigning for the mayoral chains, but says his "tested and trialled" experience under pressure has prepared him well for local politics.

Roman Jackson is living in Te Aroha and is running for both Mayor of Hauraki and Matamata-Piako, as well as councillor for the Waihī ward and Te Aroha ward.

If successful in his run for mayoralty, his goal is to work toward amalgamation of both Hauraki and Matamata-Piako, turning it into one larger district.

'Upoko Matangi' is his envisioned name for the rohe.

"My aim with amalgamation - I believe [it] would be the quick-fix option to reduce rates rises; however, it is more than just about the financial sustainability," he told *The Profile*.

"I believe we need to remove this invisible line between the districts because it just fuels more separatist thinking.

"I am aware the current Mayor does not support amalgamation, or at least so I read, so I am standing for people who do support it and this in itself will be the catalyst to determine what people really want to do."

The 34-year-old said he had connec-



Military man Roman Jackson is living in Te Aroha and is running for both Mayor of Hauraki and Matamata-Piako districts.

Photo: SUPPLIED

tions to both districts.

The former Waihī East and Waihī Beach schoolboy is also a fifth generation Te Aroha local.

He told *The Profile* his grandparents were among the original townspeople

who paved the roads of Te Aroha in the 1800s after arriving from Ireland and Norway.

Jackson said his military career began as a 17-year-old, and he had since served in four different militaries over-

all, most recently as a squad commander in Ukraine and earlier with the Chosen Company and 3rd Separate Assault Brigade.

"I have had a gunfight in the forest at night with no night vision. I have swarmed trenches and buildings. I have crawled across a minefield pulling my dead friend with a rope to remain undetected," he said.

"I have been in a Humvee explosion; chased by FPV [First Person View] drones in the forest; experienced Covid-19 in a trench during winter; been stabbed in street fights. I have been shot, wrestled with Russians, you name it."

Jackson said if he was unsuccessful in the local body elections, he would return to Ukraine for the fifth time if the war was still ongoing.

"It was never my intention to ever stand for Mayor until I had enough of seeing poor investment choices and lack of innovative solutions," he said.

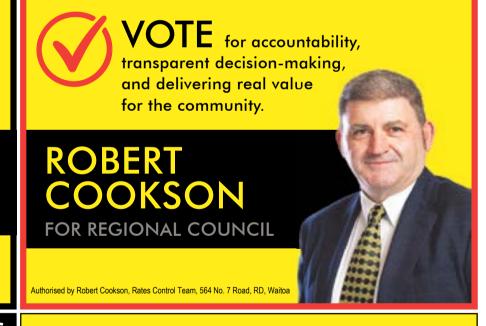
of innovative solutions," he said.
"I am a firm believer that democracy belongs to those who have sworn an oath to defend it.

"Being a soldier is about protecting a way of thinking and that way of thinking is coming under threat now more than ever before.

"Our world is entering wartime once again so we must have strong leadership at all levels."

DETAILS: Voting for this year's local government elections opens on September 9 until noon on October 11. Progress results are published October 11; preliminary results on October 13 and official results on October 17.









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Typhoid scare' concerns in Paeroa after death



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

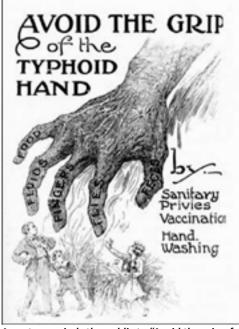
smonde 'Curly' Shaw was pretty well Esmonde Curly Shaw was piece, black and blue from the knocking about he got in football games.

The 24 year old Paeroa local had by 1912 made quite an impression on the field, the Ohinemuri Gazette reporting "No player has improved so much or played so consistently well as he has done?

In showing up for his club in the last two matches Curly, had displayed great unselfishness as he had not really been fit to play. It was the reporter's firm belief that without Curly in recent matches the team would have been defeated. It was not so much the amount of good play as his actual presence in the team that counted so much.

Curly was the son of Thomas Shaw, foreman of works on the Thames-Paeroa railway, and his second wife Lavinia. He had several siblings and half-siblings from both his father's marriages. Tragedy had struck in 1898 when Curly was nine, when his mother died after a very long illness.

The family lived in Puke Rd where it was now the drains which caught the Gazette reporter's eye. They were badly in need of cleaning; in fact the drains of Paeroa were in an absolutely disgraceful condition. In



A poster reminds the public to "Avoid the grip of the typhoid hand". Photo: SUPPLIE

Station Rd the drain was practically choked from end to end with vegetation soaking in dirty, stagnant water.

The Bradley St drain absolutely reeked. In Corbett St, it was even worse. This part of the town was fairly thickly populated, but right at residence entrances was a filthy drain holding a few inches of slimy water full of weeds and household rubbish. On Junction Rd the ditches were blocked with weeds while along Opotito Rd and George St, matters were as bad as it was possible for them to be. It was the same story all over the township. A good portion of Paeroa was situated in what was formerly a swamp. The drains were a fever bed - a breeding place for the germs of typhoid, diphtheria, typhus and many other awful and preventable diseases.

By February 1913 Paeroa was alarmed by wild rumours of a 'typhoid scare' but in truth there had only been four cases in the town. There had been several others who imagined that they had contracted typhoid, but on investigation it proved to be some minor ailment. However, residents were advised to take every precaution to prevent an outbreak of fever of any description. The greatest cleanliness needed to be observed with regard to drains and refuse, and particular care should be taken with drinking water.

Despite these measures, in April 1913, Curly Shaw came down with typhoid. Three weeks later he felt well enough to return to work. Finally he was admitted to Thames hospital but the fever by this time had such a grip that doctors had very little hope of saving him. All possible steps were taken, but it was in vain. 'Curly', as he was affectionately known, was very popular and great sorrow was felt at the death of Paeroa's rising football star. His funeral was attended by a large number of friends, including firemen from the Paeroa Brigade of which Curly was a member.

The next month an outraged 'Observer' wrote to the Gazette that the streets and drainage of Paeroa were still disgraceful.

Despite channels being cleared out heaps of filth remained on the streets. A crop of cabbages might have been grown in the piles since the stuff was left there. These things should be attended to, he warned, before they assumed larger proportions, which might not so easily be contained.

It was a wonder that some pestilence had not been about. Typhoid, he said, had had its quota.

Curly was buried at Paeroa's Pukerimu cemetery.

Chris' Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter

- 1. What is Barbie's surname? a) Anderson, b) Roberts, or c) Smith?
- 2. Which former US President made headlines in 2000 for the following quotes: "Working hard to put food on your family", and "Rarely is the question asked: is our children learning"?
- 3. Which former All Black was arrested in 2007 after an incident where he jumped on cars parked at Heathrow Airport?
- 4. The French words for cupboard (placard) and table, have grammatical gender, which masculine and which is feminine? which
- "Groundnuts" are a term used in Africa, India, and parts of Asia, to refer to which food item?
- 6. The artwork by the artist Banksy which was shredded at auction in 2018, came to be known as Love is in the Bin. What was it named before it was shredded?
- 7. Did New Zealand deploy combat troops to either of the Iraq wars?
- 8. What is the first prime number greater than 100?
- Is it possible for a chemical compound to have a negative pH? 10. Graham's Beach is in which region of New Zealand? a) Auckland, b) Bay of Plenty, or c) Canterbury?



ANSWERS: 1. .b) Roberts; 2. George W. Bush; 3. Doug Howlett; 4. "Table" is feminine, while "blascad" is masculine; 5. Peanuts; 6. Girl with Balloon; 7. No, sithough NZ did deploy non-combat military personnel to both; 8. 10.1; 9. Yes. Concentrated hydrochloric acid has a pH of 1; 10. 3) Auckland.





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Thames Valley Swampfoxes

King Country

11.00am - Field 1

Thames Valley Jackals vs King Country Big Horns 11.00am - Field 2

Thames Valley U16 Boys vs King Country U16 12.30pm - Field 3

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Beginners are welcome. These organised evenings are a lot of fun. Three times a year we have a great competition with our organised outside tournaments for graded players on Friday nights and Saturdays. The club organises a lot of activities, but there is plenty of time for members to use the 11 tennis courts and two squash courts for their own games and practice. And club membership is for both squash and tennis facilities. Great value, great for fitness, great fun and all weather.

For more information about squash, contact Bruce Nicol 021 781 560. And for tennis, contact Mandy Souchon 0274 311640.

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Join our club and play in this beautiful setting, it's not all tense tournaments, we do have many hours of friendly play. Summer games are played in the morning, Monday and Thursday, plus Saturday afternoon. Winter games in the afternoon Monday, Thursday and Saturday. We also have Twilight games during Daylight Saving hours at 5pm on a Wednesday. Look out for our Day of Fun with Steampunk Thames, Sunday 9 November. You could have a try with the mallet and enjoy a cup of tea and light lunch served in our Clubrooms after visiting the market on Vic-

Wear soft soled shoes, we'll supply the



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mallets. The first visit is free then 5 more

visits at \$3 each, you'll be hooked by then

and ready to join our club. Email for days

and times of play, we'd love to see you:

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HAURAKI BOWLS CLUB

club is easy to find.

Photos: SUPPLIED Join Thames Croquet Club in their beautiful setting. There you will see a very well looked after

grass green in one of the most picturesque spots in the Valley. We cater for all ages and abilities and are one of the few clubs which has two club days for members. along with the usual Open Triples Tourna-

ments and Champ events. Our signature event is our 2 day tournament which is very popular and has been running for over 40 years. Something else in our favour is that we have floodlightsvery useful when we host our quote, 'seriously good' Business House Competition in

spring and summer.

Luckily for us, we have plenty of bowls for people to use for this competition and for anyone wanting to try our sport. Of course, we have to mention the fact we are renowned for our hospitality and our food. Our afternoon teas are the best around, (just think cinnamon oysters!) So come and see us; you will be 'bowled' over by what we have to offer. Contact: Rae 027 212 4624 or Ruth 021 262 4643.



toria Park.

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To maintain a friendly, social and competitive club environment from which to continue to promote tennis and squash to juniors and adults alike. We aim to retain existing members and also encourage new members to join. We will also provide high quality tennis and squash facilities available to all members of the local community since 1923.

For all enquiries, Contact Bruce Nicol 021 781 560

OPENING DAY

Saturday 6th September 11am - 3pm Morgan Park, Waihi



Come and enjoy a tennis day out... Seniors and juniors (all skill levels) are welcome. BBQ, ball machine, pickleball court

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clubspark.kiwi/WaihiTennisClubInc

HAURAKI BOWLS

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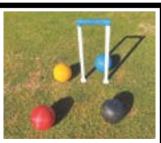
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September is Wills Month.

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Making a Will is one of the most important things you can do to ensure your wishes are clearly set out on the event of your death. At Barden & Co, Legal we work alongside you to write your will and ensure you receive expert legal advice before completing your Will.

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This applies to any Will drafted by us (even if we drafted your Will prior to Wills month), provided it is fully and properly signed in September. (Of course, we are lawyers and terms and conditions apply).

NEED TO MAKE A NEW WILL? HERE'S HOW: Call into our office and collect a Will questionnaire; or send us an email at documents@bardenandco.nz; or call 07 863 7250 to be directed to one of our lawyers.

We pride ourselves on making the Will process simple.

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The final FAREWELL





It's 'an honour' to create floral tributes

t's one thing to be part of the community and another to serve it, and since 1867 Twentymans Funeral Directors has done both.

The best part about it all for managing director Adrian Catran was being able to support families across Thames and the wider Coromandel Peninsula through their grieving processes and help create a fitting farewell for their loved ones, he said.

Even though many things have developed over the decades, one thing remains unchanged for the team at Twentymans: their commitment to take care of people's loved ones, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

One important part of their service is attention to detail, and one key element is floristry.

That's where The Grahamstown Flower Merchant comes in - Twentymans' preferred supplier of floral arrangements.

While florist and creative director at The Grahamstown Flower Merchant Vicki McWatts provides people with flowers for all occasions, she said it was an honour to create arrangements for the funerals of people's loved ones.

of people's loved ones.
In some instances, Vicki has been invited to forage for flowers and foliage from the gardens of people she is creating the tributes for, and other times she has included things such as fruit, vegetables, clay bird targets and even knitting, she said.

"They definitely can be quite personalised but also at the same time some families, they'll just kind of leave it up to me.

"It's certainly something that you put love into and the arrangements can be quite bespoke and I love that. It's showing a bit of that person in the floral tributes."

To find out more, visit The Grahamstown Flower Merchant at 103 Pahau St, Thames; Ph 021 110 9898; or email flowers@tgfm.co.nz.

- By Davidda Hikatangata





The final FAREWELL

ADVERTISING FEATURE



Why funerals matter

When someone dies, our life change es. The enormity of the change can be huge, in many ways beyond the physical loss of the person. Funerals can serve as an acknowledgement of that enormous change and can help us to adjust to our new reality.

A funeral serves as an acknowledgement that the physical presence of our loved one is now gone. A funeral is a way of making the death real.

It's not about perfection, it's about doing something personal that honours the person who has died while also allowing the living to start the grief journey.

A good funeral can be a profound and transformational experience that can

help the grieving accept and acknowledge that their loved one has died.

For some people even the word 'funeral' sounds solemn or gloomy.

You don't have to call it a funeral call it a gathering, a tribute, a farewell, a memorial service, a send-off, a Celebration of Life - whatever suits you best.

It is involvement in the ritual that is important, and this ritual can be religious or non-religious, formal or informal. A service allows for the expression of love, gratitude, and remembrance, helping individuals to cope with the absence of their loved one and find meaning in their shared lives.

Supplied by Valley Funeral Services



Barden & Co is ready to help you make a new will or update an old one. Photo: SUPPLIED

Time for wills at Barden & Co

Barden & Co Legal, who has been Waihi's leading law firm for many decades, has recently opened an office at 64 Belmont Rd, Paeroa.

Our team is your go-to for everything law and we pride ourselves on being approachable and down-to-earth legal professionals. The business has been providing services since the early 1900's and we have a deep history in the local Waihi and the surrounding areas. We provide a range of legal services, including coneyancing, commercial law,

employment law, family law, relationship property, trusts, wills and estates

Once per month we host a walk-in clinic where anyone can come in and see a law-yer free of charge for 10 minutes. Our team is made up of dedicated and talented individuals from diverse backgrounds, who combine the ability to deliver local knowledge with an experience of international business.

For the month of September, we want to highlight the importance of making a new will, or updating an old one.

A will specifies a person's

wishes for how their affairs should be handled after their death. Barden & Co Legal aims to provide expert legal advice and assistance clients who are wanting to write their will.

By working closely with people and families, Barden & Co focuses on meeting the client's requirements in a manner that is suitable for them.

To make an enquiry or to get in touch with the team: Call 07 863 7250; or email admin@bardenandco.nz.

> - Supplied by Barden & Co Legal



The importance of

Saying goodbye is one of life's most profound and emotionally charged moments. It's a bittersweet act with immense importance, especially concerning our loved ones

Taking the time to say goodbye holds deep significance beyond spoken words.

Celebrations of Life provide us with the opportunity to remember, reflect and to say goodbye. We need to grieve, we need to be with people to give and receive support. Funerals are for the living, and play an important role in the grieving process.

Saying goodbye offers an opportunity to express our emotions and feelings. It allows us to convey our gratitude, love,

and appreciation to those who have been a significant part of our lives.

Goodbyes provide closure, enabling us to move forward with a sense of resolution. When we take the time to say goodbye, we acknowledge the past and embrace the

This sense of closure can help us find peace in moments of transition and change



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St John Youth Programme



Mud, mud, mud

Days of rain made the ground at the Ohinemuri cluster cross country extra boggy and slippery, but students weren't fazed by the challenge. The cross country event, for 8-12 year olds, began at 12.30 on August 20. Primary school students from Paeroa and nearby rural schools tackled the course, which ranged up and down the hills of a farm in Hikutaia. No one came away untouched by the mud, and many kids embraced the muck as they stampeded, slipped, or simply dived through a particularly wet corner of the track. **ALICE PARMINTER** mucked in to catch the action.



Braxton William-Te Moananui from Paeroa Central School slips and slides.



ayden Drent, Netherton School.



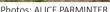
Marko Pope, Paeroa Central School.



Zant Bjerring, left, and Dallas Fata tackle a muddy patch.



Hikutaia School's Mia Larsen.





Luc King from Miller Ave School makes a splash.



Ethan Radford slips through.

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Young Conservationist Awards open Rural Support

ment has announced a series of Young Conservationist Awards recognising youth in the community who actively participate in pest control projects that support and protect local native wildlife.

The Mangatangi Maramarua Catchment Young Conservationist Award will be offered monthly until December, and include a \$100 Hunting and Fishing voucher for the best pest control activity that month within the vicinity of the

The awards are designed to encourage the next generations' stewardship of the land and build awareness of the vital role pest management plays in saving New Zealand's critically endangered native

The Mangatangi Maramarua Catchment is a voluntary community group with a vision to protect and enhance the environment by involving the whole com-

It was formed in response to increasing legislation from both local and national governments and its potential to impact farming operations.

The catchment works as a local facilitator for improving water quality, biodiversity and kaitiakitanga (guardianship), supporting sustainable farming and food

Group members meet regularly to plan, exchange ideas, share knowledge and host community events led by industry experts across a wide variety of subjects.

The most recent event featured an evening with Davey Hughes, an adventurer, global conservationist and Swazi clothing founder.

The group's recent pest predator survey recorded a high abundance of predator pests within the catchment.





Will Murphy, left, speaks to the community at the catchment's most recent event, An Evening with Davey Hughes, held last month at Mangatangi Hall. RIGHT: Davey Hughes inspires the next generation of conservationists at Mangatangi Hall. Photos: SUPPLIED

The resulting catchment-wide, integrated pest management strategy involves farmers, residents and all community

Core elements are pulse baiting in environmentally significant and vulnerable areas to knock down possum and rat populations, followed by residents and landowners installing "a bait station in every shed," shooting and trapping to continue the mop up operation. Catchment chair Will Murphy said the

oal was to reduce pest species and allow biodiversity to thrive.

"Working collectively, everyone participates and shares in the rewards of pre-

serving our rare and uncommon species," he said.
"We will know when we are successful

when sightings of Kereru, Morepork and Tui are common, not just occasional. **DETAILS:** Emailed submissions for the awards should include: photographic evidence, date, GPS co-ordinates, and the estimated number of pests caught, along with the name and age of the entrants. The pest control activity must have taken place within approximately 20km of Mangatangi, Maramarua or Western Firth Catchments and can include any pest species. For all enquiries and submissions for the awards, email mmcatchment@gmail.com.

events on offer

Rural Support is inviting farmers, growers, and rural communities to take a well-earned break with Brunch on Us - a series of all-sector, relaxed drop-in events across the region.

Running from August 21 to September 19, these events are a chance for rural people to come together, enjoy a free brunch, and connect with others who understand the unique challenges of life on the land.

You don't have to register, and there are no speeches or presentations - just a warm welcome and some delicious food," trust spokesperson Wanda Leadbeater

"This is about checking in with each other, sharing updates, and reminding our communities that they're not alone."

Rural Support Waikato will be hosting the brunches at local locations from Pollok to Tirohanga, with support from local networks and organisations.

"Whether you've got five minutes or an hour, drop in any time between 10:30am-12:30pm. It's low-key, no fuss -

12:30pm. It's low-key, no fuss – just good people and a bit of time off the farm."

The Rural Support Trust supports New Zealand's rural people through difficult times - whether it's drought, floods, mental health challenges, or financial strain.

Their confidential, on-the-ground assistance aims to build resilience and keeps communities strong.

DETAILS: Brunch on Us events: Nactor

DETAILS: Brunch on Us events: Ngatea -August 27, 10.30am at the Ngatea Rugby Clubrooms, Hugh Howard Domain. Waihī Beach - September 4, 10.30am at the Waihī Beach Surf Club. Mangatangi - September 12, 10.30am at Mangatangi Hall. See www. rural-support.org.nz/events for more.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Jnity through shared heritage for new expo

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

Preparation is well underway for the inaugural KiwiSA Expo, taking place in Thames on September 6.

The event, a collaboration between multiple community groups and organisations, is being billed as a celebration of the historical links between South Africa and Thames.

It is the brainchild of Mike Dwight, the international director at Hauraki Plains Col-

lege.
"It's all about shared heritage. There's an opportunity, really, for Thames to position itself as the must-go place to find out all about that," Mike, an ex-pat himself, said of the

expo.
"It's the first event of its kind, it's totally unique.

Expo organisers have sought to integrate the celebration with existing events and locations within the community, to encourage participation from all corners of Thames.

The day will begin with the Saturday Thames Market, where South African-themed stalls have been encouraged to participate.

Thames heritage sites will then have themed displays and activities throughout the day,



and there will also be a treasure hunt.

Participating sites include the Bella St Pumphouse, Carnegie Library and Treasury, the School of Mines, the Thames Small Gauge Railway, Thames Museum, and the Goldmine Experience.

Displays will cover a variety of topics, including stories of New Zealand's involvement in the South Africa war of 1899; exploring the history of a set of 15 Boer rifles which now reside in Thames' Carnegie Library; discussing how gold mining technology from Thames helped save the South African mining industry in 1890; and exploring Sir George Grey's links to both Thames and Cape

Local schools have also been

getting involved with poster and steam turbine enginemaking competitions. The students' creations will be on display at the expo.

The day will culminate with the screening of the All Blacks v Springboks Freedom Cup test at participating pubs in Grahamstown.

The Thames High School Student Volunteer Army will be helping to run the expo, with the assistance of the Thames Business Association.

"It's an opportunity for a whole lot of learning with the kids... with that slice of history

DETAILS: See www.kiwisaexpo. com for more.





Movies from Thursday 28 August to Wednesday 3 September For times, see our website, pick up a brochure by the cinema doors, or email or phone us. For times, see our website, pick up a brochure by the cinema doors, or email or phone us.

The Roses (105 mins) R16. Comedy. Life seems easy for couple Ivy (Olivia Colman) and Theo (Benedict Cumberbatch): careers, marriage, kids. But beneath the façade, a storm is brewing.

When Fall is Coming (103 mins) M. Smash hit from the French Film Festival. An evocative drama -thriller. Follows a loving grandmother who enjoys her peaceful retirement in a small village in Burgundy. When her terse daughter drops off her grandson for the school holidays, nothing goes to plan.

Jaws 50th anniversary (124 mins) M. When a seaside community finds itself under attack by a dangerous great white shark, a desperate quest begins to destroy the beast before it strikes again. NZ Mountain Film Festival National Tour (125 mins) 23rd year of the national tour. Seven award-winning homegrown kiwi short films across adventure sports from a solo hike in Rakiura to a paraplegic kayaker taking on class 3 rapids in the Upper Buller Gorge. Fundraiser for Te Puru School. Monday 1 Sept, 4pm & 7pm only.

Andre Rieu: 2025 Maastricht Concert (166 mins) Waltz the Night Away! Live from the stunning Vrijthof Square. Two screenings only: Sat 30 August and Wed 3 September, 12.30pm both days. The Outrun (118 mins) M. After living in London, Rona returns to the wild beauty of Scotland's Orkney Islands (where she grew up) hoping to heal. Adapted from Amy Liptrot's bestselling memoir. Jane Austen Wrecked My Life (98 mins) M. Comedy. A bookseller finds herself forced to fulfil her dreams of becoming a writer in order to stop messing up her love life. In English and French with English subtitles Mr Burton (124 mins) M. Set in Wales, the true story of a working-class boy destined for greatness and the teacher who saw it first. When a principled school teacher meets a volatile yet gifted teen, he recognises





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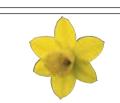






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DAFFODIL DAY

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Yellow luncheon a blooming delight

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

The annual Daffodil Day Luncheon at the Paeroa RSA was resplendent in yellow on August

One hundred and sixteen guests piled into the RSA for the social event, which was also attended by Hauraki Mayor Toby Adams and the Waikato Cancer Society head of partnership and engagement Tracey Wood.

We're so grateful for these kinds of events, because this is where the community really rallies around," Tracey said.

As well as the lunch, guests were able to partake in raffles, "guess the lollies in the jar" competitions, and lucky door prizes.

Event organiser Margaret Ramshaw said they had already raised over \$500 in daffodil sales ahead of the event, along with a further \$200 in donations and raffle entries. The final donation tally Pute desc Journalism

has yet to be counted.

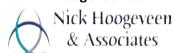


Luncheon guest Gail Stephen.





www.hoogeveen.co.nz





Elaine Lally, Tracey Wood, and Margaret Ramshaw.



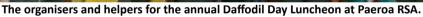
Luncheon guests Gaileen Greary and Linly Crofskey.

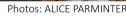


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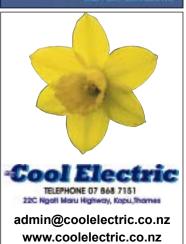












That in-between space where dreams go to die

OPINIO



By MICHAEL WILKES

I read an ancient proverb that triggered a chain of

thoughts.

The proverb says, "All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty".

And mate, that verse hit

I'm someone who loves ideas. I'm a pioneer by nature —

always dreaming, scheming, thinking big. Recently, it was online courses and writing a book, *The Unschooled Life*.

And at the start? Man, I was buzzing.

The idea alone was enough to

fire me up.

Because here's the thing - our emotional brain can't tell the difference between imagining success and actually living it.

That emotional part? It lights up either way.

So when we dream big, we feel all the feels - the momentum, the glory, the "this is gonna change everything" kind of

vibes.

But then comes the middle bit. The grind.

For me, that looked like hours of writing. Recording. Editing. Re-writing. Deleting.

Second-guessing.

It's not glamorous. It's slow. And honestly - it's in that inbetween space where most dreams go to die.

I started to lose touch with why I started in the first place.

Not because the dream was wrong.

Not because the idea wasn't

good.

But because the excitement

faded, and the hard work kicked in.

That's where Proverbs 14:23 gets real.

Talk is easy.

Ideas are exciting. But profit - progress - purpose... they live on the other side of hard work.

So if you're in that middle space, feeling flat, frustrated, or like you've lost your spark - you're not broken.

You're just in the zone where dreams are forged.

Maybe revisit your why. That's what I did.

Remembering the excitement of lives changed and youth

work funded!

It lit the fire again. And I am back at it.

Keep going.

Keep showing up.

Because all hard work brings a profit.

Even the hidden kind.

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

SPRING AT AEROVIEW

Gardening for September

Spring has sprung with rapid plant growth

Spring has sprung. Daffodils are in full bloom and in some cases finished blooming. New blossoms and leaves on deciduous shrubs and trees are beginning to

Week by week the rate of spring growth becomes increasingly rapid. Many shrubs, trees and perennials are in full bloom and spring flower gardens are a blaze of colour. Any new plantings should be protected from late frosts.

It's time to start planting spring crops and get your property ready for the warmer months. Harvest the last of the winter crops in the vegetable garden to make room for

the new season plants

If you are like us, we are still harvesting broccoli and cauliflower and we are just about to start new planting in the next week. This has been a real bonus considering the prices of vegetables.

I would encourage would be gardeners to have a go at growing a few vegetables to help with the weekly shop, and they taste so good.

Now is the time to get your potatoes ready to go in the garden for the Christmas lunch. Put seed potatoes on a tray in a sunny position to sprout before planting.

They like a sheltered warm spot in your

garden or in pots or bags. Mound your potatoes as the shoots grow, to help warm the soil which promotes better tuber development.

Complete your vegetable garden preparation by digging in some good compost, blood and bone and sheep pellets. If the soil is too wet just wait until it dries out a bit more. Better, warmer weather is sure to arrive with spring. Fingers crossed. Any new plantings require the protection of

slug and snail bait and keep your eye on the weather for late frosts. It is a good idea to consider mulching around new seedlings for added warmth. Try some pea straw.

Continue to plant Strawberries, Blueberries, and raspberries. Add pea straw or pine needles around your berry plants for soil warmth. Prune passionfruit removing some of last season's excessive growth but remember they fruit on last year's growth so don't be too harsh. Feed berry vines, citrus and fruit trees with a citrus fertiliser or

liquid fertiliser.

Refresh you herb garden with new plants either in the garden or pots.

Trim back any old growth on woody herbs to refresh.

It's time to also give the flower garden some attention with new Alyssum, Azaleas, Calendula, Cosmos, delphinium, Fuchsia, Petunia and Geraniums. Make sure to protect new seedlings with slug bait and frost protection if needed. Feed roses, shrubs and flower beds and mulch.

Plant Dahlia tubers and Gladioli corms for a summer display.

This month is the perfect time to sow a new lawn and over sow any bare patches in the existing lawn. Spray now for Onehunga weed (prickle weed) and broadleaf weed with a specific Onehunga Weed spray. It makes summer on the lawn so much more enjoyable.

Enjoy your spring garden.

Submitted by Ngatea Garden Circle

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Daffodils are in full bloom and in some cases finished blooming as spring kicks in. File Photo: PIXABAY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Non planting Day	2 Non planting Day	3 Plant above ground crops	4 Plant above ground crops	5 Non planting Day	6 Non planting Day	Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed
8 Full Moon	9 Non planting Day	10 Non planting Day	Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	13 Non planting Day	14 Non planting Day
15 Non planting Day	Plant root crops. Liquid Feed	17 Plant root crops. Liquid Feed	18 Non planting Day	19 Non planting Day	20 Non planting Day	21 Non planting Day
22 New Moon	23 Plant above ground crops	24 Plant above ground crops	Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	27 Non planting Day	28 Non planting Day
29 Non planting Day	30 Plant above ground crops	No.	mber 20 Plantin)25 g Calen	dar	Calendar Supplied by Gilmer Farms

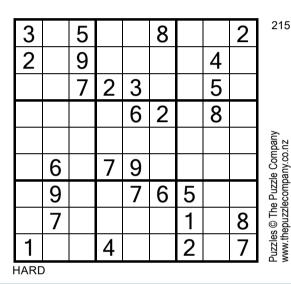


SUDOKU

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

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Ore test (5) Hunting illegally (8)
- 9 Dexterous (6)
- **14** Requirements (5) 15 A situation or
- course of action having both good and bad
- effects (6-5,5) **17** Adhesive (5)
- **18** Day before (3)
- 19 Veered sharply (7)
- **20** Baffling (9)

- 21 Loan shark (6) 24 Wormlike pasta (9) 25 Settle in advance Wormlike pasta (9)
- (6) **26** Property (6) **29** One-person
- transport (10)
 31 Scamp (3)
- Moves (6)
- 33 Petty quarrel (4) 35 Light blow (3)
- Bludgeon (4)

- 39 Indemnity (9)40 Early scientist (9)41 Old gold coin (5)
- 42 47 51 Small houses (8) Infirmary (8)
- Coral banks (5)
- 55 Specify as part of an agreement (9)

 56 Lowest female
- voice (9) **58** Father (4)
- 59 In favour of (3) 60 Goes hard (4)
- Loveliness (6)
- **62** Anger (3)

- 63 Ball-stopping player 66 New York river (6)
- **67** Floor covering (6) Liked better (9)
- Underneath side (6)
- Startled (9) 73 Horizon (7)
- 77 Go astray (3) 80 Intone (5)
- 81 Satire by Jonathan Swift (9,7) 82 Distressed (5)
- 83 Airfield shed (6) 84 Side by side (8)
- 85 Wears at the edge

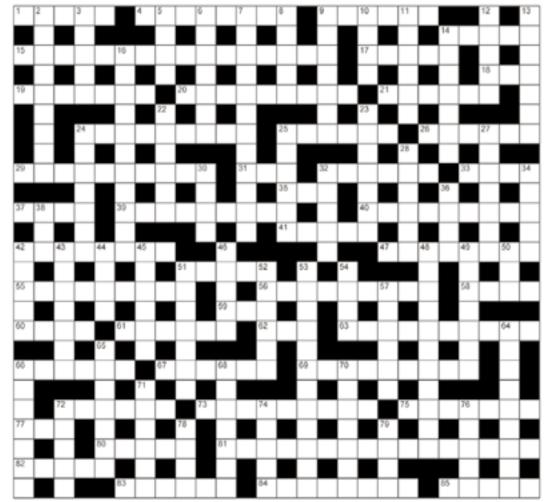
DOWN

- Timing device (9)
 Cautionary colour (5)
- Probability (4)
- Type of cigar (7) Not enough (12) 6 7 Lustre (5)
- 9 Moderately slow (mus)(7) **10** Thick cord (4)
- 11 Be emphatic (6) 12 Waste drain (5)
- **13** Crux (7) 14 Eastern (anag)(7) **16** Striking (3-8)
- **22** Clippers (6) 23 Natural environment (7)
- 24 Fizzy confectionery **25** Burst (6)

27 Assign to a post (7)

- 28 Plaster wall coating
- 30 Seldom seen (4) 32 Jammed (5)
- Full amount (5)
- **36** Aid (4)
- **38** Lavatory (3)
- Luggage (5) Screwed (7)
- Malarial fever (4)
- Thrilled (6) Muscular (5)
- 46
- 48 Dealer in shares
- (11) **49** Alternatively (7)
- Tune (3)
- 51 52
- Uniform (7) Text of play, film (6) Resourceful (12)
- 54 57 Boast (4) Chief (6)
- Forever (9)
- Touch (7) Optimistic (7)
- Drain unblocker (7)
- 70 Heating part in a kettle (7)
- 71 Mùsical
- composition (6) 72 Copper-zinc alloy
- **74** Flier (5)
- **76** Paramour (5)
- 78 Male deer (4) 79 Small island (4)





PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Stood, 4 Have a sweet tooth, 14 Weigh, 15 Elect, 16 Literature, 17 Ennui, 19 Hem, 20 Anarchy, 21 Satellite, 22 Red-hot, 25 Suspended, 27 Ending, 28 Trophy, 33 Parameters, 35 Eat, 36 Floors, 37 Face, 39 Rue, 41 Unhappy, 42 Africa, 43 Newcomers, 44 Noted, 45 Appeared, 50 At, 51 Reassure, 55 Throw, 58 Passenger, 59 Entire, 60 Holiday, 61 Was, 63 Chat, 64 Stuffs, 65 Owl, 66 Attraction, 68 Opened, 69 Ripple, 71 Purifying, 76 Urgent, 77 Enigmatic, 79 Asphalt, 81 Ran, 84 Niece, 85 Apostrophe, 86 Heart, 87 Thing, 88 Paint the town red, 89 Harsh.

DOWN: 2 Talent, 3 Occur, 5 Arid, 6 Elevate, 7 Scared, 8 Equal, 9 Treated, 10 Obey, 11 Tandem, 12 Right, 13 Chimney, 14 Withers, 18 Shopkeeper, 23 Anger, 24 Unsound, 26 Unaware, 27 Entrant, 29 Plateau, 30 Catnap, 31 Peril, 32 Browse, 34 Safe, 36 Feats, 38 Ensue, 40 Loss, 45 Aspic, 46 Passage, 47 Aces, 48 Eights, 49 Draws, 50 Awesome, 52 Apocalypse, 53 Stilton, 54 Reason, 55 Traffic, 56 Stile, 57 Aria, 62 Staid, 67 Begging, 68 Operate, 70 Pennant, 72 Unicorn, 73 Angela, 74 Tattoo, 75 Alarms, 76 Unlit, 78 Grope, 80 Hyena, 82 Sewn, 83 Shoe.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Thames gallery to host two special exhibitions

In lieu of the usual monthly featured artists at the Thames Art Gallery, there will be two special exhibitions being held throughout the month of Septem-

The first will be titled "Fit for an Envelop", a challenge by the committee to its members.

The idea was inspired by an annual British fundraiser where participants submitted the items in a standard size format and priced, with the artists being anonymous, until purchased, with the purchaser keeping in mind the possibility of scoring a work from a celebrity.

This challenge hopes to encourage members who have never had the courage to display anything in the gallery to get involved, or from the members who live away from Thames, or for other artists to create something in a medium they don't usually work in.

All works exhibited will be A6 sized to fit into a DLE envelope, ideal for postage. Any medium is permitted so expect to see some mastering of the challenge parameters, which could include painting, ceramics, wood, fibre, jewellery or some other envelope-sized masterpieces. The works will remain anonymous until they are purchased and all items will be priced at \$20.

The second exhibition will be the gallery's Spring Sale, so expect to see quality art work at bargain prices.

The exhibition opens on August 31, with refreshments and nibbles from 2-4pm and runs through to September 26. There will be two Viewer's Choice competitions, one at the opening and the other running until September 26.

DETAILS: Thames Art Gallery, 604 Tararu Rd, Thames, open Monday to Friday 10am to 2pm and weekends 10am to 4pm.





Thames Art Gallery is hosting an exhibition called Fit for an Envelope during September.

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Thames Coast Rd to close for a week

hames Coast Road will be closed at Thames Coast Road win be closed in the Boundary Creek Bridge for up to a week as the New Zealand Transport Agency works on repairing the "pinchpoint" along State Highway 25.

Boundary Creek Bridge between Tapu and Waikawau has been reduced to a single lane since 2023 due to its age and condition

It will be back to two lanes before summer, with the transport agency saying repairs were needed "as soon as possible" to avoid more restrictions in the case of further deterioration.

Work begins in early October to install a new deck and repair the bridge supports. It means that people wanting to get to locations north of the bridge, including the Waikawau boat ramp, will need to use SH25A and the eastern section of SH25 via Tairua and Whitianga.

For those heading south from northern Coromandel, it will be the reverse.

"With the bridge wedged tight between the cliffs and the sea, there simply isn't enough space to keep the road open while some of the work is done," the agency said.

'SH25 will be closed at the bridge for up to seven days as our contractors demolish the old deck and install the new one. The road closure is scheduled to begin in the week immediately after Labour weekend. Our team is still working through details for the work to make this run smoothly and will confirm details for the closure as soon as we are able. Should we need to change this timing for any reason we will ensure this is communicated widely.'

The agency said closing a road was "not something we do lightly".
"We know this will be disruptive and

without suitable local detours, we appreciate it means a lengthy detour around the peninsula.



"Our contractors will use a prefabricated bridge deck and work extended hours to keep the closure to the shortest possible time.

A range of construction options were considered and the preferences of stakeholders, businesses and the community representatives incorporated into the planning, NZTA said.

Meanwhile, speed limits on some parts of State Highway 25, and State Highway 2 in Waihī and Karangahake are being reviewed.

The sections of state highway now open for consultation in the Coromandel and Hauraki districts are: the townships of Kūaotunu and Wharekaho on SH25; between Thames and Tararu on SH25; the township of Waihī on SH2; and Karangahake towards Waikino on SH2.

DETAILS: Consultation will run until October 3, 2025. Visit nzta.govt.nz/waikatospeed-limit-reviews.



The Tuesdays to rev-up

Woven from diverse threads, The Tuesdays is a band that by the sum of its parts produces a wonderfully unique sound. The Tuesdays formed out of The Dirty

Firth, who had a strong following for what they felt was their mutant zombie sound-scape and a wildly theatrical bent. When the tide went out on that outfit, Nick Tidmarsh, Greg Hampton (guitar) and Jeff Whitfield (drums) found themselves looking for a new direction. "We knew the talented Robyn Forster was in town, plying her many creative talents but we also knew that her absolutely stunning voice and charismatic mastery of the stage lay dormant," Jeff Whitfield, the band's drum master, said.

"Robyn had wowed audiences when leading Robyn and The Hoods and it was felt that she would be the right fit to address their chaos and disrepair. We could see she was in no way sure but desperate musicians

can be very persuasive."

The next pieces of the puzzle have added

a new sound and feel to The Tuesdays' intelligent renderings of the more familiar material they cover and has helped the band to expand their song writing with a growing number of originals.

Anna Dunwoodie is an internationally acclaimed harpist, notoriously known locally, who loves the idea of the heavenly instrument being applied to the dark and murky art of rock n'roll. Anna rounds out what she brings to the band with sweet vocals and a formerly undiscovered percussive talent. Kevin Place came to the band earlier this

year. With such a strong musical pedigree and all-round coolness, it immediately raised the bar. A talented musician from the Auckland Americana school, his deft offerings on both guitar and slide have taken the band to places they never thought possible. DETAILS: The Tuesdays, September 19, 7.30pm at the Kauaeranga Hall. Door sales \$28 or pre-booked \$25. Contact Peter Revell on 021 912 993 or kauaerangahallmusic@gmail.com.

ASSIFIF Deadline 12 noon Monday

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In Memoriam

THANK YOU: The family of Peter Charles Petersen would like to express their sincere gratitude to everyone who sent messages and offered thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Your support has been a great comfort to us.
We would especially like to thank the staff of Ohinemuri Rest Home for the compassionate care and kindness given to Peter and the loving support given to

You are an amazing group of people.

Church Notices

Waihi Assembly of God Church

'Worship & Healing" 10am Sundays Scout Hall, Baker St, Waihi

Waihi Living Waters

Christ Centered Meetings Sunday 4pm 15 Smith St, Waihi

Church Notices

Waihi Bible Chapel Ph. Num 021 522 668 Come read the Word. Learn Scripture (King James)

You want the truth, it's all here. Come help us read and learn. Bible Study Wednesday nights 6pm

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Public Notices

Paeroa Art Society **AGM**

Mon 1st Sept 6.30pm 109 Normanby Rd. All members Welcome

Hikutaia Hall AGM Hikutaia Hall 6.30pm

Tuesday 7th October

Garage Sale & Swap meet Sat 1st Nov

Conservation and Heritage Fund



You may qualify for maintenance or enhancement funding if you own a building or natural environment with conservation or heritage status.

Funding applications open 2 September 2025 and close 30 September 2025.

Learn more and apply at https://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/ community/grants-funding





SPORTS

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

Slam dunk for Paeroa in Basketball finals

RASKETRALL

Thames Valley Basketball held their finals in Thames last week, with all four teams from Paeroa College taking part.

The college also had three players named MVPs of the season: Kiana Biodis-Parata from Junior Girls; Trey Koia-Hambling from Junior Boys; and Kaleb Gurnick from Senior Boys.

Spokesperson Josey McKain said they were very fortunate to have Junior coaches Tori Hingston-Gray, Roxanne Te Moananui, and Damian Anderson - who were ex-students of Paeroa College and also played basketball back in the day.

"With our results, both Junior teams came runners-up. We haven't had a girls' grade for over two years so it was good to have both juniors and seniors back playing," Josey said.

"The Senior Girls won against Coromandel; Hauraki Plains College Senior Boys knocked over the previous winners of the last three years, Mercury Bay, in the semifinals.

"Paeroa College won over Te Wharekura O Manaia - so it was the heavyweights of basketball, Hauraki Plains College vs Paeroa College.

"Finally, Paeroa College



Thames Valley Basketball held their finals last week, with all four Paeroa College teams taking part.

came out on top winning 76-56, a massive achievement for the team and management, especially our coach Steve Mc-Kain.

"He can now say he has successfully coached a winning team in all grades for basketball from Paeroa College."

Josey said the last time the school's Senior Boys took home the trophy was almost 10 years ago.







SQUASH

The Thames Valley Graded Squash Champs were held at the Paeroa Tennis and Squash Club on July 29 to August 1. Players from Thames, Mercury Bay, Te Aroha and Paeroa clubs competed over four nights to find the graded champions for 2025.

The Thames Valley Shield went to the Mercury Bay Club with seven wins, Thames came second with three wins and Paeroa third with two wins. Lots of great squash was played, especially on finals night and well done to every-

RESULTS: Men: F grade - Winton Bebbington, Mercury Bay; E grade - Daniel Tate, Mercury Bay; D grade - Eden Gribbin, Thames; C grade - Lance Erceg, Thames; B grade - Bradley Jackson, Paeroa; A grade - Alan Westrupp, Mercury Bay. Women: F Grade - Sandi Lowe, Mercury Bay; E grade - Debbie Clarke, Paeroa; D grade - Megan Russek, Thames; C grade - Kiriana Moore, Mercury Bay; B grade - Charlize Davy, Mercury Bay; A Grade - Alyssa Davy, Mercury Bay.

- Paeroa Tennis and Squash Club president Bruce Nicol

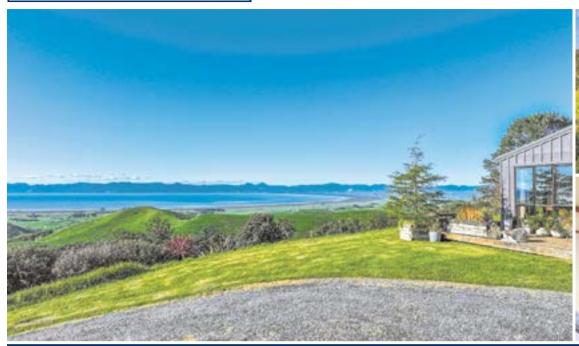
Photos: SUPPLIED

ABOVE: The winning Mercury Bay team hold the shield. BELOW: Sandi Lowe, Debbie Clarke, Megan Russek, Kiriana Moore, Charlize Davy, Alyssa Davy, Bruce Nicol (President), Lance Erceg, Eden Gribbin, Daniel Tate and Winton Bebbington.





BAYLEYS







Pukorokoro/Miranda 149C Rataroa Road

A lifestyle worth slowing down for

Looking to escape the noise and reconnect with nature? This unique 13.13 hectare (more or less) Miranda hillside property blends privacy, space, and stunning views. Featuring a Custom Kit-built home with two bedrooms and openplan living that flows to wrap-around decking, it's perfect for relaxing or entertaining. A converted garage adds extra sleeping quarters, while two containers and a lean-to offer storage. With a mix of bush and usable pasture, there's $potential for hobby farming \ or \ future \ development. \ Close \ to \ thermal \ springs, schools, and \ outdoor \ adventures, this$ serene retreat offers lifestyle, flexibility, and opportunity.

bayleys.co.nz/2630101

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Asking Price \$798,000 View 9.45-10.15am Sun 31 Aug **Karl Davis** 0508 83 83 83 karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

Connor Davis 027 496 4622





Paeroa 19 Miller Avenue

Invest or nest!

Located in the heart of Paeroa township, this unique property offers a fantastic opportunity for investors, extended a content of the paero and the paerofamilies, or those looking to generate additional income, with two separate dwellings on one title. The front home is well-renovated with two bedrooms, one bathroom, a spacious kitchen and lounge, plus a large deck. Privately set at the rear is a one-bedroom flat, newly built in 2022 with a modern finish. Each dwelling has its own driveway and carport on a tidy 809sqm (more or less) section, within walking distance to shops, cafes, and local amenities. Whether you're looking to invest, nest, or accommodate more than one household, this versatile property delivers.

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Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 18 Sep 2025

96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

View by appointment

Maddy Aislabie 027 780 4389 maddy.aislabie@bayleys.co.nz

Connor Davis 027 496 4622

connor.davis@bayleysngatea.co.nz

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Paeroa 59A Willoughby Street

Solid start - great location

Located in Paeroa township, this solid home sits on 455sqm (more or less) and offers a great balance of comfort, space, and convenience. The home features three good-sized bedrooms, a family bathroom, kitchen with a separate dining, and a large living room. An enclosed sunroom at the entrance adds extra living space to enjoy year-round. A single garage provides secure parking, with a basement area for storage or a workshop. In a great position close to shops, cafes, schools, and parks, with the Hauraki Rail Trail, Karangahake Gorge, Waihi Beach and Hamilton all within easy reach. Ideal for first home buyers, growing families, or anyone wanting a solid home in a great location.

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For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty (unless sold prior)

4pm, Tue 16 Sep 2025 459 Pollen Street, Thames

Maddy Aislabie 027 780 4389

maddy.aislabie@bayleys.co.nz

Connor Davis 027 496 4622

connor.davis@bavlevsngatea.co.nz MH REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008 SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008







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855_{sqm} □ 263_{sqm} □

12.30pm, Thu 25 Sep 2025 1030 Victoria Street, Hamilton

 $\textbf{View} \, \text{by appointment} \,$ **Josh Smith** 027 229 8865

Auction (unless sold prior)

josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz



hames FC women crowned champions

On Sunday, a healthy crowd packed the grandstand at Rhodes Park for the season's final chapter as Thames Football Club women secured the Division 2 league title with a 2-0 win against a strong Northern United side.

The opening exchanges of this pivotal game were tight, with Northern United sitting deep and forcg Thames to find a way through defence that had conceded only 20 goals all season. Spurred on by a boisterous crowd and a brisk wind, the hosts gradually created open-ings, defended as a unit, and played the passing football that has come to

epitomise their season.

A long ball from captain Emma
Hinds-Senior found Ariel McNab in
space, who controlled well but sent her shot wide of the post. A tenacious run down the left from Beth Powell forced a corner, which was nearly bundled over the line following a goalmouth scramble. Jess Rendall was next to test the Northern United defence as the agile attacker weaved through, but the rushing Madison Whitfield well saved her shot.

The breakthrough came just after the half-hour mark. Emily Ratcliffe collected a long ball out to the right; the winger created space with some slick footwork and curved a cross into the box. McNab controlled, turned sharply, and struck the ball firmly into the far corner for 1-0. The lead was deserved but fragile,

with Northern United remaining dangerous on the break. Thames failed to clear a cross, and the ball fell to Hannah Leese on the edge of the box with the resulting shot deflected just wide. The subsequent corner drifted to the back post, where Emma Oli-ver's volley was blocked by Adelle Brown - a crucial intervention, pro-



Ariel McNab puts Thames 1-0 up

tecting Thames' slender lead.

On the cusp of halftime, the lead was doubled. Rendall's forward pass, flicked on by McNab, fell to Ratcliffe. The winger made no mistake, firing home a low shot to edge Thames closer to league glory.

The second half started with

Thames controlling possession to protect their lead. Northern United were once again pegged back, with Emma Hinds-Senior trying her luck from distance, but the shot went just wide. Lydia Mahon came close next, picking up a corner delivery, but her shot ros

Photos: MARK BROWN/ONE OF A KIND PHOTOGRAPHY

over the bar. Thames came close to adding a third as Taimania Hinds' precise pass found Keltie McManus, who turned the defender and shot, forcing Whitfield into a smart save to her left.

Sensing the opportunity, Thames pressed for a third. Another creative run and cross from Rendall came agonisingly close to sneaking in before McNab intercepted a goal-kick, her shot hitting the side netting.

Northern United's main threat remained the counterattack. Leese broke free, but Bryony Wayne rushed out to smother the ball, keeping Thames' clean sheet intact.

With time ticking down, Rendall picked up the ball for one last trademark run - the eventual left-footed shot curled wide, but it no longer mattered. The referee's whistle was the signal the crowd had been waiting for. Thames Women FC were champions. A display true to their season - disciplined in defence, composed in attack, and a performance built on hard work

Champagne sprayed as Thames Women marked a historic afternoon. Northern United showed their class





Keltie McManus tries her luck.

with a guard of honour as the newly crowned champions were cheered from the field all the way to the pub. "A massive congratulations to my

Thames women's team for winning the league with a game to spare. They've played some of the best foot-ball I've seen all season, and this title is a testament to their dedication and determination," head coach Xavier Brown said. "Against second-placed Northern United, the players rose to the occasion, spurred on by a fantastic crowd of Thames locals and supporters. It meant so much to the team to get that backing in such a vital match. But our season isn't done yet - we're in the cup quarterfinals against West Ham at home next week, and our focus now is to finish strong and go as - Jonathan Coles



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