

# The Valley Profile

**100%  
THAMES**

**100% LOCALLY  
OWNED & OPERATED**

626 Pollen Street 07 868 6124

## TRUST YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS

Totalspan Coromandel 1/46 Kopu Road, Kopu, Thames  
P 07 869 0400 E coromandel@totalspan.co.nz

0800 TOTALSPAN  
TOTALSPAN.CO.NZ



# Merry Christmas

*The Pup Patrol showed off  
their canine tricks at Waihi  
East Primary School recently,  
and also dressed up in their  
Christmas best to share festive  
joy and lollipops with children  
down Waihi's main street.*

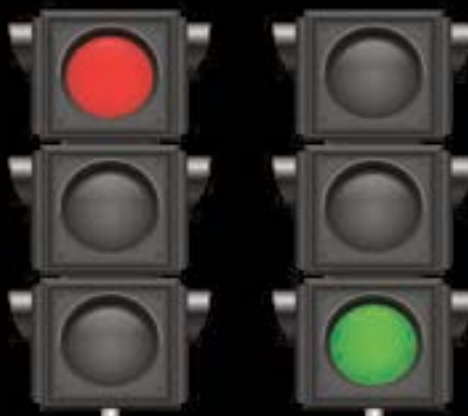
MORE PHOTOS: P22

Pup Patrol star Huntaway Cross Trevor is  
ready to pull the sleigh, while retrodoodle  
Chelsey is ready for a Christmas ride.  
Photo: RHONDA WALCH



**We all  
know  
the  
drill...**

**RED  
is a  
NO**



**GREEN  
is a  
GO**



Phone us  
today

**0800 4 MY BIN** (0800 469 246)  
[www.smartenvironmental.co.nz](http://www.smartenvironmental.co.nz)





Book this space:  
only  
\$50 + GST

Contact Nikki today!  
022 130 3885 | nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz

The Little Things

www.littlethings.co.nz © Lauren & Lole



Trying to read  
the paper.

Hi, my name is Pete the Pukeko and I'm here to help you. Find me in one of the display advertisements in *The Valley Profile*, then email [admin@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:admin@valleyprofile.co.nz) with your full name & postal address, and the business name and page number of the ad by the following Monday to go in the draw to win a Lotto ticket. Last issue it was in the Bullswool Farm ad.

# Five arrested in drug bust operation

Waikato East Police arrested and charged five people when executing search warrants in relation to suspected local drug suppliers.

Approximately 16 staff from the Waikato East Criminal Investigation Branch, Prevention and Public Safety Team undertook warrants for drug offending in Whangamatā, Matamata and Te Aroha this month.

Two warrants in Whangamatā turned up 20 bags of meth. A 34-year-old local man has been charged with possessing methamphetamine for supply and obstructing police. He is due in Waihi District Court on March 23, and further charges are likely.

During a search warrant in Kennedy Bay, a man was charged with possession of cannabis for supply, cultivating cannabis and unlawful possession of a firearm. He is due to appear in the Thames District Court on January 13.

Staff also located a suspected clandestine lab in Paeroa and the specialist clandestine lab team attended to process the scene.

A 44-year-old man was arrested and remanded in custody on charges of possession of equipment and material intended for manufacturing methamphetamine. He is remanded in custody to appear in the Hamilton District

Court on January 9.

It is expected that further analysis of the items seized during the search of the property will provide evidence of methamphetamine manufacturing at the address.

In Matamata, two women from separate addresses were arrested and charged with supplying methamphetamine. They are due to appear in Hamilton District Court on January 5 and 15.

A series of search warrants were also executed at storage units and a residential property in Te Aroha, which will form part of on-going investigations into the supply of methamphetamine in the town and surrounding area.

Waikato Eastern Area Commander Inspector Hywel Jones said the aim of the operation was to disrupt local drug networks, hold dealers and suppliers accountable, and to reassure the community that police are listening and will act. "People see the harm that these drugs are causing in their whānau and communities. "We hope this news of our operation will let people know what's happening, and prompt them to tell us about any suspicious activity," Inspector Jones said.

**DETAILS: If you see suspicious behaviour, report it to Police on 111. Information can also be reported via105, either online or over the phone.**

In Brief

FATAL INCIDENT

A person has died after an incident involving a commercial mower in Te Kouma, Coromandel, police said. Emergency services were called to the scene on Te Kouma Rd about midday on December 18. Despite the best efforts of staff and members of the public, the person sadly died at the scene. The death has been referred to WorkSafe and the Coroner.

SPEED LIMIT CHANGES

New speed limits have been introduced in Karangahake and Waihi after a recent speed review was undertaken by NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA). A 2.8km stretch of State Highway 2 (SH2) in the Karangahake Gorge between Albert St and Waitawheta Rd has been reduced to 60km per hour. In Waihi, a stretch of Perry Palm Ave on SH2 has also been reduced to 60km per hour, between Dean Cres and the Martin St/Bader St intersection. NZTA director of regional relationships for the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Andrew Corkill said the consultation process ran for six weeks and showed mixed views, but highlighted strong community support for safer speeds, especially near busy intersections and local facilities.

**PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT/ADVERTORIAL:** Advertising Manager Nikki Sanders, Ph 022 130 3885, [nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz); Feature Writer Davidda Hikatangata, Ph 022 174 3988, [davidda@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:davidda@valleyprofile.co.nz). **NEWS/EDITORIAL:** Managing Editor/Owner Teresa Maxwell, Ph 0204 0944 853, [editor@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:editor@valleyprofile.co.nz); Senior Reporter Kelley Tantau, Ph 022 619 4889, [kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz); Senior Reporter Alice Parminter, Ph 022 527 0988, [alice@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:alice@valleyprofile.co.nz). **LETTERS:** Send letters to the editor: [editor@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:editor@valleyprofile.co.nz). Letters must include your full name and address, be 250 words or less and may be edited, abridged or rejected at editor's discretion. **THE VALLEY PROFILE** is independently owned and operated. It is delivered weekly to every letterbox in the Hauraki Plains, Paeroa, Waihi, Thames, Thames Coast, plus bulk distribution peninsula-wide, with an estimated reach of 35,000 readers. **OFFICE OPEN MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS: 2 QUEEN ST, PAEROA, 3600 | ISSN: 2703-5700**

FIND US ONLINE:

[www.valleyprofile.co.nz](http://www.valleyprofile.co.nz) or download the Coromandel App on your smart phone



FORAGE

READ BROS. COOK • BAKE • CREATE











READ BROS.

EST. 1867

Hardware

A traditional hardware store where you will find quality goods and quality service, every time.

[www.readbros.co.nz](http://www.readbros.co.nz)  
308 Pollen St, Thames  
07 868 6608

Accountants

The Hauraki Taxation Service Limited

Established 1982

For out of town independent accounting advice

Approved agents for Inland Revenue Department

Offices in Thames & Coromandel Town



328 Pollen Street, Thames  
Ph/Fax: 07 868-9710  
E: [thames@haurakitaxation.co.nz](mailto:thames@haurakitaxation.co.nz)

95 Kapanga Rd, Coromandel  
Ph/Fax: 07 866-8660  
E: [coro@haurakitaxation.co.nz](mailto:coro@haurakitaxation.co.nz)

Thames Tides

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Dec 24	Dec 25	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30
Morning: 4:36am 0.6, 11:02am 3.3 Afternoon: 5:06pm 0.8, 11:15pm 3.2	Morning: 5:14am 0.6, 11:42am 3.3 Afternoon: 5:48pm 0.8, 11:55pm 3.2	Morning: 5:55am 0.7, 12:24pm 3.3 Afternoon: 6:32pm 0.7	Morning: 12:38am 3.2, 6:40am 0.7 Afternoon: 1:09pm 3.3, 7:18pm 0.7	Morning: 1:24am 3.1, 7:30am 0.8 Afternoon: 1:57pm 3.3, 8:08pm 0.7	Morning: 2:16am 3.1, 8:26am 0.8 Afternoon: 2:49pm 3.3, 9:02pm 0.7	Morning: 3:13am 3.1, 9:28am 0.9 Afternoon: 3:44pm 3.3, 10:01pm 0.6
5:56am Best At 4:09am 4:32pm Rise 9:21am Set 11:35pm	5:57am Best At 4:55am 5:18pm Rise 10:25am	5:57am Best At 5:40am 6:02pm Set 12:01am Rise 11:29am	5:58am Best At 6:24am 6:46pm Set 12:25am Rise 12:34pm	5:59am Best At 7:09am 7:32pm First Quarter Set 12:50am Rise 1:41pm	5:59am Best At 7:56am 8:21pm Set 1:16am Rise 2:50pm	6:00am Best At 8:47am 9:15pm Set 1:44am Rise 4:03pm

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	Mn
Coromandel	-	05	-	03
Whitianga	-	01	-	05
Tairua	+	10	+	20
Whangamata	-	03	-	06
Waihi Beach	-	21	-	16



# Waihi mining project crosses final hurdle

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

OceanaGold's Waihi North Mining project has been approved by an expert panel under the government's Fast-Track Approvals Act, it was announced on December 18.

The Waihi North Project will involve exploration drill sites within Department of Conservation land, including four ventilation shafts and four new geotechnical drilling sites; a new underground mine at Wharekirauponga approximately 10km north of OceanaGold's current Waihi operation site; a new open pit at Gladstone Hill; and a third tailings storage facility.

The Waihi North Project will extend mining at Waihi until around the year 2040, and will provide significant economic benefits for Waihi, the Hauraki District and New Zealand, OceanaGold says.

OceanaGold also outlined its intent to establish an \$8.4 million predator control and ecological enhancement project called the Waihi North Biodiversity Project, in addition to any mandated environmental protection requirements in the application.

The approval of the mining project is subject to a number of conditions to be imposed on OceanaGold, which are outlined in the expert panel's 346-page decision report.

The decision report also noted the panel had taken into consideration 22 submissions it received on the draft conditions, which were released on November 25.

OceanaGold president and chief



A new underground mine has been approved north of Waihi. RIGHT: OceanaGold CEO Gerard Bond. Photos: SUPPLIED

executive Gerard Bond said the Fast-Track Approvals Act process was tough but welcome. "This new legislation provides the efficiency and certainty of a very clear timeline, while maintaining stakeholder involvement and the necessary rigour, oversight and expert scrutiny of the company's proposals."

OceanaGold had a proven 35-year track-record of working with

in a tight regulatory framework, he said. "This includes obligations relating to vibration, noise, dust, ground surface stability, biodiversity, and water management."

However, mining opposition group Coromandel Watchdog said the approval was "a crime against the environment", and said it planned to keep fighting the project. The group held a "Rally for

Resistance" on December 20 at the site of the future entrance to the Wharekirauponga underground mine. "It legitimises more toxic waste, more damage to biodiversity and more profits will head offshore," chair Catherine Delahunty said.

"[It] includes blasting and vibration under sensitive land and species, and threatens the forest



through dewatering and subsidence impacts."

Gerard said both he and OceanaGold recognised the ecological value of the Wharekirauponga area. "This is a key driver for the mine being underground and accessed by a tunnel from outside the Forest Park area, minimising any impacts at the surface."

Waihi North is one of three mining projects to be approved under the Fast-Track Approvals Act so far. On December 11, approval was also granted for the development of a 60-metre deep quarry in Drury, Auckland, alongside the existing Drury Quarry; and on December 18 an expansion to the Kings Quarry operation in Wainui, Auckland, was also approved.

As of December 22, nine projects had been approved under the Act.

**READ MORE: Thames residents' concern over mining application, P26.**



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Thank you for custom & continued support.

I look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

I will be closed on the stat days only.

CHRISTINE & CO.

500 Pollen St, Thames - 868 8725

07 868 8725 | 029 0228 8586

christinesgiftshop@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/@christine.and.co.2025

Change to Paeroa Kerbside collection days

HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Collections will now be **\*one day later than usual** for the Christmas and New Year period (*instead of the previously advertised two days later*).

Paeroa

Rubbish + Food scraps  
\*Friday 26 December

Recycling + Food scraps  
\*Friday 2 January

Remember to place bins at the kerbside by 7:30am

Scan the QR code to view the 2026 Kerbside Collection Calendar for your area at [www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/collection-days](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/collection-days) or download the **Antenno** app to receive notifications direct to your mobile phone for when your collection is due.

07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (freecall within District) • [www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz)

Catch fish, not cables this summer.

Cables lie on the seabed at the Pauanui Waterways entrance and between Pleasant Point and Tairua. Another cable is located on the seabed just past the entrance to Whitianga Marina.

Keep boats well clear to stay safe.

The cables are marked with warning signs onshore and by buoys on the water.

If you suspect you've snagged a cable, don't try to free it. Record your position, abandon your gear, and contact Powerco's emergency line 0800 27 27 27.

Tairua and Pauanui underwater cable locations

Whitianga underwater cable locations

Scan the QR code to find out more.

[powerco.co.nz](http://powerco.co.nz)

POWERCO






# MY COMMITMENT WILL MATCH YOUR MOTIVATION.

No frills, just experience, strategic marketing and communication is my recipe for success.

## I LIST & I SELL – THE RESULTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES.

A huge thank you to the 40+ clients who have sold or purchased a property with me in 2025.



 <p><b>Sold</b> 1831 HATFIELD ROAD PAEROA</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 24 STAFFS ROAD TURUA</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 17 WINDLEY STREET WAIHI</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 10 DECEMBER ST 101 KALAFRANKA VALLEY HICLAS THAMES</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 11 AREHA VIEW AVENUE TE AROMA</p>
 <p><b>Sold</b> 18 WASH GUNGE ROAD TE PURU</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 44 MAHARANGI ROAD THAMES</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 21 HEALTH STREET WAIHI</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 21 HEALTH STREET WAIHI</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 107 HENDERSON LANE THAMES</p>
 <p><b>Sold</b> SECTION 28 COUNTY ROAD PAEROA</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 11 DECEMBER ST 101 KALAFRANKA VALLEY HICLAS THAMES</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 11 DECEMBER ST 101 KALAFRANKA VALLEY HICLAS THAMES</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 112 HATFIELD ROAD THAMES</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 151 SOUTH STREET PAEROA</p>
 <p><b>Sold</b> SECTION 100 1/2 HATFIELD ROAD Paeroa</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> SECTION 100 1/2 HATFIELD ROAD Paeroa</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 100 1/2 HATFIELD ROAD TE MATA</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> AGAIN 100 1/2 HATFIELD ROAD PAEROA</p>	 <p><b>Sold</b> 100 1/2 HATFIELD ROAD THAMES</p>
 <p><b>Sold</b> 100 1/2 HATFIELD ROAD TURUA</p>	 <p><b>UNDER OFFER</b> 100A Ngati Maru Highway Thames</p>	 <p><b>Rented</b> 100A Tony Avenue Thames</p>	 <p><b>@realty</b> <b>SHARON CAMPBELL</b> LICENSED REAL ESTATE AGENT</p>	



WISHING ALL MY AWESOME CLIENTS A VERY MERRY XMAS & AN EVEN BETTER NEW YEAR...MAY YOU SPEND THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH JOY, LAUGHTER & LOVE! **SEE YOU ALL IN 2026!**

Sharon Campbell | 0272 335 492 | [sharoncampbell@realty.co.nz](mailto:sharoncampbell@realty.co.nz)  
[www.atrealty.co.nz/sharoncampbell](http://www.atrealty.co.nz/sharoncampbell)  
Licensed Under the REAA 2008





# Paeroa school celebrates 125th birthday

St Joseph's Catholic School in Paeroa celebrated its 125th birthday in November, with celebratory activities spanning several days in Term 4.

The school was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (the Josephite Sisters) in the year 1900.

The festivities kicked off with a trip to the "Olden Days" on November 26, where the children marched around the courts, completed cursive handwriting lessons, and enjoyed some old-fashioned games.

"The children came dressed for the year 1900 and the teachers donned the brown habits that the Sisters wore 'back in the day'," principal Emaline Cull said.

"Meanwhile our school library was transformed to a museum, showcasing children's learning about our foundation story, the Sisters and the Josephite charism, or way of expressing their faith, which is still alive at our school today."

A Jubilee Mass was held on November 29th, which was attended by the school, members of the community, and past students and teachers.

Following the Mass, the school's new Jubilee Garden and pouwhenua were blessed by Fr Tovio, Matua Eru, Sister Paula, and Sister Roseleen.

"The garden and pouwhenua have been two years in the planning, with the final designs being a culmination of designs created by senior students of our school," Emalene said.

The plaque in the Jubilee Garden is mounted on a piece of rimu from the original convent, which was opened in 1902 to house the Sisters who taught at the school.



The school gathers for the blessing of the Jubilee Garden.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Students with the newly-blessed pouwhenua.



The 125th jubilee cake is cut, left; and students perform in the jubilee concert.



The convent now stands in Ngaruawahia.

The Jubilee celebrations were rounded off with a concert on November 30, filled with singing, dancing, kapa haka

and a sprinkling of Christmas cheer.

"All in all, we celebrated our school's birthday in style. It was a very special few days in a very special place," she said.



Staff take a trip back in time for the "Olden Days" event.

## Huge Christmas Deal is Here !!!



**Rome Swivel Recliner Chair**  
Buy 1 \$799  
Buy 2 \$699 each



**Malmo Chair with footstool**  
Buy 1 \$999  
Buy 2 \$899 each



**Torcello Full Leather Relax Chair**  
Buy 1 \$1899  
Buy 2 \$1749 each

**M5 Adjustable Bed with S2 Mattress – Queen**  
was \$5899 now \$2359



**Napnest Comfy Queen Bed Set**  
was \$1699 now \$899



CHECK OUT OUR PAYMENT OPTIONS:



100% LOCALLY OWNED

**SUPERPRICE FURNITURE**

where the price is always right

SPF Furniture Thames 513 Pollen Street, Thames 3500 07 2116954  
SPF Bed Shop 543 Pollen Street, Thames 3500 07 2119307  
SPF Furniture Whitianga 33 Albert Street, Whitianga 3510 07 2800367

www.superpricefurniture.co.nz



# Local champions, community changes shape 2025

From closed bridges and community protests, to sporting triumphs, crime busts, and local election shake-ups, 2025 proved a defining year across Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel. **KELLEY TANTAU** looks back over the year that was.

**JANUARY**  
The Onetai Bridge between Pūriri and Hikutaia was closed for a month, impacting nearby businesses with one anticipating a \$40k loss; Jack Keeyes and Amy Strang were the first Kiwis to compete in the Sahara Marathon; while locals were celebrated in the annual New Year's Honours.

**FEBRUARY**  
Protest action saw a government announcement delayed in Waihi when members of Coromandel Watchdog, and Forest & Bird formed a human roadblock outside Oceana Gold. Work began on refurbishing the Ngātea netball courts.

**MARCH**  
A survey revealed only 23 per cent of people felt safe on the main street of Paeroa at night, while Waihi's Nugget Multisport Festival was cancelled for the second time due to ongoing Treaty settlement processes.

**APRIL**  
Anzac Day commemorations took place across the Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel districts, Martin van de Wetering raised funds for the St John ambulance crew who saved



Clockwise from top left: Mining protest in Waihi; Aquablack Rylee Sayer; thief catcher Kamal Singh; a refurbished Thomas the Tank Engine; the Onetai Bridge rebuild and Waihi Athletic Rugby Club Premier Champions. File Photos

his life, and Isabella White was named the rohe's new Youth MP.

**MAY**  
*The Valley Profile's* advertising manager, Nikki Sanders, was once again recognised for her work at the New Zealand Community Newspaper Association awards, while reporter Alice Parminter was named a finalist in the Voyager Media Awards.

Moanataiari School's Thomas the Tank Engine chugged its way back to the playground after being restored.

**JUNE**  
Rylee Sayer was selected to compete as an Aquablack at her first-ever World Para Swimming Championships, Hauraki Skate got to work on amping up the Norwood Rd skatepark in Paeroa, and

Waikato Police uncovered methamphetamine, cannabis, a firearm, ammunition, and a homemade taser during search warrants in Waihi.

**JULY**  
SuperPrice Furniture owner Kamal Singh stopped a handbag-snatcher in his tracks in Thames, while history repeated itself for Waihi Athletic Rugby Club, who took out the Pre-

mier Championship final over Paeroa for the second year in a row.

**AUGUST**  
The 156-year-old brass bell nicked from outside the Thames Fire Station had a welcome return. *The Profile's* local body election coverage started to ramp up.

**SEPTEMBER**  
The first Māori Ward councillors for Thames Valley were all elected unopposed; Waihi's new St John ambulance station opened; and the Thames Market celebrated its 30th anniversary.

**OCTOBER**  
The local body elections were held in October, with Hauraki voters sticking with Mayor Toby Adams, while Thames-Coromandel elevated councillor Peter Revell to the top job. Both districts opted to remove Māori Wards in 2028.

**NOVEMBER**  
*The Profile* launched its investigation into methamphetamine use in Thames; a local nurse created a petition to fix the Orongo Corner intersection; work on a \$2.3m roundabout at the Paeroa Racecourse development began to take shape.

**DECEMBER**  
Secondary schools throughout the district announced their dux students, while Thames' town clock finally started ticking again after years of being frozen in time. Christmas celebrations kicked off around the rohe.

Love

was born at Christmas

Life Is Sacred Merry Christmas !

from Waihi Voice for Life

CFM

COROMANDEL

BIG BREAKFAST WITH FABIAN

MON - FRI 6 AM - 11 AM

COROMANDEL

life:style

EAST COAST 95.1 FM

WEST COAST 94.0 FM

DOWNLOAD THE APP CFM.CO.NZ/APP



# Evah’s dream come true: Waihi College dux

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

It was a sense of accomplishment that motivated Evah Carey to work hard throughout her schooling.

The 18-year-old Waihi College student said all her hard work - this year in particular, definitely paid off.

That’s because the year 13 student, who studied history, geography, English, chemistry and statistics, recently achieved the school’s top distinction - the dux for 2025.

The award winner was very happy and “a bit surprised”, she told *The Profile*. “I didn’t expect it as my year group was quite competitive, so it was definitely a shock. I just remember feeling so happy and proud.”

The achievement of dux was something she “always dreamed of” but never thought she would get, the winner said.

“It means so much to me, I am extremely proud of myself.

“It will definitely help me to keep striving for academic success in my further studies.”

Her plans for 2026 are to head to Victoria University of Wellington to study a conjoint degree in business and politics.

“The full name for it is a Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Arts majoring in International business and political science,” she said.

Evah received a “generous” scholarship of \$1200 from the Waihi Lions Club as part of her award, she said, but also snapped up the Ruakaraka Lead-



Waihi College’s Evah Carey is the dux for 2025. RIGHT: with principal Briar Carden-Scott.

Photos: SUPPLIED

ership Scholarship from Victoria University of Wellington valued at \$5000, and the Kathleen Adams Memorial Scholarship from Waihi College, which she said would go towards her accommodation fees.

One key motivator that helped her to work hard was the desire to make her family proud.

“They are definitely my biggest supporters.”

Her journey to success didn’t come without its challenges and commitments.

Evah said she had to manage her studies on top of working as a waitress and also her commitment to sports, such as the Waihi College A netball team.

“We would travel to Tauranga every Friday for games and ended the season at UNISS, which is the Upper North Island Secondary Schools Netball champs.”

She also coached the Year 10A netball team with a friend, was a house group leader for Amaranth and part of the Waikato Secondary Tertiary Student Advisory



Group (WYSTAG) - a leadership group comprising approximately 20 students from around Wai-kato, she said.

“We would meet once a term to develop initiatives aimed at improving our education system.

“It was a pretty cool opportunity and allowed me to connect with other students from the area,” she said.

“It got very busy this year but it was all worth it.”

She was grateful for all the opportunities and endless support and wanted to thank all the teachers, friends and family who supported her and her goals over the years.

Evah hoped people at Waihi College remembered her as a kind and hardworking person who was always happy to help people out.

“I hope that the legacy I leave behind inspires others to put in the hard work for your goals because you are capable of so much as long as you put in the work for it.”

Meanwhile, Charlie Joyce received the Proxime Accessit to dux award.

COMPREHENSIVE VETERINARY SERVICES  
FOR FARM & COMPANION ANIMALS

 **VETS**

**Hauraki**

**Your 100% Local Vets**

**NGATEA 07 867-7056**

**PAEROA 07 862-7056**

**THAMES 07 868-3013**

Scott Simpson

MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime

0800 550 330 • scottsimpson.co.nz

mpecoromandel@parliament.govt.nz

scottsimpsonmp



National

Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

Merry Christmas  
and  
happy holidays  
from the team.  
We look forward  
to helping you  
furthering your  
education in 2026



Valley Education

free courses • free transport

Call or 07 868 7892

text us 027 314 1577

[www.valleyeducation.co.nz](http://www.valleyeducation.co.nz)





# Graduates celebrated

The Mayor’s Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) Industry Training Organisation Graduation Ceremony took place on November 25, celebrating graduates from across the Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki Districts.

Thirty-five graduates were recognised for completing Level 2, 3 and 4 National Certificates through Industry Training Organisations: MITO, Service IQ, Primary ITO, Careerforce and Valley Education & Training.

The certificates were presented by Thames Coromandel District Council Mayor Peter Revell and Hauraki District Mayor Toby Adams, with guest speaker Bradley West from Pinnacles Civil sharing insights into building a career in the trades.

Mayor Revell congratulated the graduates.

“Today is a milestone - one that reflects your dedication, your skill, and your willingness to keep learning and growing. You are stepping into industries that keep our communities strong, and our districts are stronger because of people like you,” he said.

The ceremony also acknowledged the friends, whānau, tutors and employers who supported each graduate throughout their training.



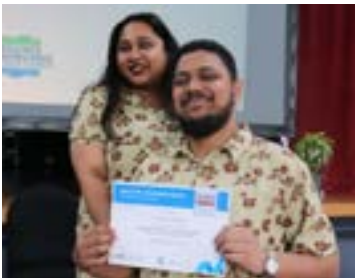
Rose Jenn, left, Mieda Siega, Kirsty Satherley, Jessica Salas, and Thi Tuyet La from Heatherington House.



Blake Courtney from Six Two Six Company Ltd with his family.



Wade Baxter with his family.



Sandeep Kumar and Shahista Prasad.



Manpreet Kaur, Rajwinder Kaur, and Ramanjeet Kaur Prasad.



Josephine Ato, Michelle Villacarlos.



Johvana-Rose Vaipo-Hogan & family.

U27-4 EXCAVATOR

PERFORMANCE YOU CAN RELY ON

1.9% FINANCE\*

FOR 36 MONTHS ACROSS THE U SERIES RANGE

\* This finance offer from Kubota New Zealand Limited is only available to eligible business applicants on loans with a term of up to 36 months. The 1.9% p.a. interest rate is fixed for the term of the loan and is only available with a minimum 10% deposit and applies to new Kubota U & KX Series products. Credit criteria, fees, terms and conditions apply. The finance offer is valid to 31/10/2025.

Kubota

A1Motorcycles

Service and Repairs

Workshop or On Farm

Road, Farm, MotoX

Ph : 027 2166867

Graham Cornes

A Grade Motorcycle Mechanic

graham@a1motorcycles.co.nz

Parts and Accessories

Road, Farm, MotoX

Ph : 027 2166860

Alison Cornes

parts@a1motorcycles.co.nz

www.a1motorcycles.co.nz

PAEROA FARM SERVICES LTD

115 Normanby Rd. PAEROA, 3600

Ph: 07 862 8263

We specialise in Milking Machines & Equipment, Effluent & Irrigation Systems, Filtration & Purification, and Water Pump Supplies & Installations.

To cover all your dairy needs.

Email: shop@paeroafarms.co.nz

web: www.paeroafarmservices.co.nz

PaeroaFarmServices

WAIKATO

Paeroa Auto Electrical

• Auto Air Conditioning

• Latest Diagnostic Tools for your European Car

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

• On Farm Auto Electrical Service

Ph: 07 862 8565 Email: unipoint@xtra.co.nz

3 Belmont Road Paeroa

BATTERY TOWN

NATIONWIDE BATTERY SPECIALISTS

Great Deals On Now

The U27-4 is designed to handle the challenging jobs that are way out of reach for bigger excavators. The zero-tail swing lets you travel through and turn smoothly in tight spaces with ease. Features like a powerful digging force and easy simultaneous operation of four functions and more, offer performance you can truly rely on.

Contact Us Today

Central Motors

Hauraki Ltd

60 Orchard West Rd, Ngatea Waikato 3503

07 867 7524

centralmotors.co.nz



On the Land

# Women scarred for life by skipper's actions

Pukekohe man Travis Vernon Whiteman, 25, was fined \$7200 on December 11 for seriously injuring two passengers in a boating incident near the Alderman Islands on Christmas Eve, 2022.

Whiteman, who was convicted in the Thames District Court on two charges of careless operation of a vessel under the Maritime Transport Act 1994, was also ordered to pay \$8000 in reparation to the two women.

Waikato Regional Council, through its Harbourmaster functions, brought the charges after an investigation found the skipper failed to ensure the vessel's propeller was stopped while recovering swimmers from the water.

The two women, visiting from Sydney, sustained serious leg injuries requiring surgery and have permanent scarring.

Both women have name suppression.

The court heard the skipper had been drinking alcohol during the day and believed the engine was in neutral when reversing toward the swimmers.

He initially pleaded not guilty but changed his plea to guilty



The victims receiving treatment. Photo: SUPPLIED/WRC

before the trial.

"This incident was entirely avoidable," Regional Compliance Manager Patrick Lynch said. "What should have been a fantastic day out has turned to near tragedy. This incident shows how dangerous it is to leave an engine running when there are people in the water.

"Skippers must realise they bear full responsibility for passenger safety, and alcohol can severely impair judgement."

Waikato Regional Council urges all skippers to follow safe boating practices, avoid alcohol while operating vessels, and ensure engines are off when swimmers are in the water.

# Fines, community service in effluent cases

Two farmers and two farming companies have been convicted and fined a total of \$108,000 for environmental offending after three separate prosecutions were taken by Waikato Regional Council under the Resource Management Act.

Stella Farming Ltd, LTB Farms Ltd, Scott Blundell and Michael Davison all faced charges relating to unlawful discharges of dairy effluent through improper use of irrigators and were fined \$44,000, \$26,000, \$2000 and \$36,000 respectively by Judge Jeff Smith in the Huntly District Court on December 1.

Mr Blundell, an employee of LTB Farms, was also sentenced to 100 hours community service.

Stella Farming Ltd faced an additional charge for failing to exclude stock from a waterway.

All the breaches occurred between March and August 2024 in the wider Te Awamutu area.

Waikato Regional Compliance Manager Patrick Lynch said: "Effluent irrigation is a critical part of dairy farm management, but when it's done incorrectly, it can cause negative impacts on waterways".

"All farmers have a responsibility to ensure their systems are fit for purpose and operated correctly."

Waikato Regional Council remains committed to ensuring compliance with environmental regulations and protecting the



A council officer sampling contamination in the Ongaruhe Stream.

region's waterways and land from harmful discharges.

Meanwhile, Dairy farming company Tihiroa Farms Limited has been convicted and fined \$37,750 for unlawful discharge of effluent into the environment.

The sentence was imposed in Hamilton by District Court Judge Melinda Dickey on November 21 as a result of a prosecution taken under the Resource Management Act by Waikato Regional Council.

Council officers conducted an inspection at a farm near Otorohanga in September last year where Tihiroa Farms Limited is employed as a share milker.

The officers found dairy effluent discharged from an irrigator was causing an overland flow directly into the Ongaruhe



A council officer finds a stream is deeper than he thought, when sampling for effluent. Photos: SUPPLIED

Stream, a tributary of the Waipā River.

"Despite having adequate effluent infrastructure in place on the farm, the defendant had failed to put in place robust management practices to prevent against discharges into nearby waterways. The impacts on this stream were significant," Mr Lynch said.

Fishing Rods & Tackle

BBQs & Accessories

Tools

Bikes

Mowers

HAURAKI PLAINS MOTORS LTD

# Christmas is nearly here, come and grab that gift.

## Hauraki Plains Motors

1 Pipiroa Road, Ngatea • Ph 07 867-7021

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



MREINZ

EVES

Exceptional. Every day.



New Listing

Boundary lines are indicative only

Boundary lines are indicative only

Waihi

8C Baker Street

No Covenants, Priced to Sell

An exceptional opportunity with this 486sqm (approx.) flat section tucked away down a private right of way. This peaceful, well-positioned site offers superb versatility and comes with no covenants, giving you the freedom to design and build or relocate.

eves.co.nz/ewa21022

Asking Price \$289,000

View by appointment

Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz

Boundary lines are indicative only

Boundary lines are indicative only

Waihi

10 Richmal Street

Increased Value and Opportunity

This 1,722 sqm (approx.) fenced section offers privacy, a gated entrance, and an established orchard with a variety of fruit and a chicken run. With no covenants in place, the options are yours. A truly appealing opportunity. Call Dynasty to view.

eves.co.nz/ewa18421

Asking Price \$421,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz

Boundary lines are indicative only

Boundary lines are indicative only

Waihi

6 Buller Street

Great Land, Great Value

With motivated vendors ready to meet the market, this is your chance to secure a 3,084 sqm (approx.) lifestyle section just beyond Waihi township. Enjoy the freedom of space, peace, and endless possibilities away from the city bustle.

eves.co.nz/ewa20742

Asking Price \$380,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz

Boundary lines are indicative only

Boundary lines are indicative only

Waihi

2 Buller Street

Land of Opportunity

A rare opportunity to secure a generous 3,435 sqm (approx.) lifestyle section on the edge of Waihi township. Enjoy multiple possibilities, peaceful surroundings, and rural views that create a truly special setting.

eves.co.nz/ewa20741

Price by Negotiation

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz

Boundary lines are indicative only

Boundary lines are indicative only

Waihi

96B Waitete Road North

Escape the Grid, Embrace the Land

Motivated vendor wants offers. Seize the opportunity. This 2-hectare (approx.) off-grid land has stunning views over Waihi township. Such a unique spot to create the dream lifestyle, and it has a cabin to start you off. Call Dynasty to book a viewing.

eves.co.nz/ewa19516

Asking Price \$439,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz

Boundary lines are indicative only

Boundary lines are indicative only

Waihi

57D Kent Crescent

Lifestyle Opportunity Near Town

The perfect balance of rural charm and town convenience with this 1.56 ha (approx) lifestyle section. With power to the boundary and a designated building site, the groundwork is already laid for your dream home.

eves.co.nz/ewa20828

Asking Price \$440,000

Phone for viewing times

Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz

Boundary lines are indicative only

Boundary lines are indicative only

Waihi

147 Reservoir Road

Your Blank Canvas

1.03 ha (approx.) lifestyle block on Reservoir Road, just minutes from town. A great spot to build your dream home and enjoy space, privacy, and rural views with all the convenience of Waihi nearby.

eves.co.nz/ewa20831

Asking Price \$420,000

Phone for viewing times

Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz

Boundary lines are indicative only

Boundary lines are indicative only

Waihi

730 Waitawheta Road

Sunshine Space and Views

A rare opportunity to secure a desirable 2.3 ha (approx.) lifestyle block just a short drive from town. Enjoy the tranquility of country living, expansive rural views, and the convenience of amenities all close by. Build your dream here. No covenants, offering freedom to decide.

eves.co.nz/ewa15064

Asking Price \$625,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz





Waihi

7 Penny Lane, Waikino

What a View and a Tiny Home Too!

Positioned high and filled with sunshine, this 2,023 sqm (approx.) section delivers panoramic views, privacy, and exciting future potential. A two-bedroom Swift tiny home sits on the property, offering immediate comfort. A utility shed offers additional space and storage.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa20871](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20871)

Asking Price \$525,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186

dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz



Waihi

7 George Street

3  1  1  2 

Ready To Renovate

Space and potential with this three-bedroom home on a fully fenced 686sqm (approx.) section. With open-plan living, a garage, carport, and sleepout, there's room to grow. Enjoy a spacious back deck and a great location close to town and Gilmour Reserve.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa19176](https://eves.co.nz/ewa19176)

Asking Price \$470,000

View by appointment

Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905

brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz



Waihi

40 Evans Street

3  1  1  1 

Project as First Home or Investment

Positioned on a manageable 459 sqm (approx.) section, this project needs work, but get stuck in and reap the rewards. Spacious living room with a cosy fireplace. Functional kitchen, with storage. Detached single garage.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa19851](https://eves.co.nz/ewa19851)

Asking Price \$479,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186

dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz



Price Reduction

Paeroa

8B Shoalhaven Street

2  1  1  1 

Investment Opportunity Not to Miss

The vendors have reduced the price, creating an excellent opportunity to secure this spacious and comfortable home. Featuring a renovated kitchen, new carpet throughout, and a single garage with internal access, this property is ready to move into.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa20996](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20996)

Asking Price \$449,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186

dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz



Paeroa

56 Station Road

3  1  1  1 

Easy Living in the Heart of Paeroa

A delightful three-bedroom character home with timber floors and freshly painted interior. Features include a detached garage, large laundry with second toilet, and a low-maintenance 582sqm (approx.) section. Spacious, warm and just a short walk to town.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa20677](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20677)

Asking Price \$490,000

View by appointment

Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905

brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz



Waihi

29 Kensington Road

2  1  1  1 

Comfortable Living Made Easy

Located in a desirable college zone, this tidy, well-presented home offers sunny comfort and immediate street appeal. Spacious open-plan living and dining are complemented by a heat pump, while a sunny conservatory provides a welcoming extra living space.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa20963](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20963)

Asking Price \$545,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186

dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz



Waihi

90 Kenny Street

2  2  1  1 

A Cosy Cottage that Keeps Giving

This tidy property offers a sunny, secure home within easy walking distance to Waihi's town center and amenities. Warm and welcoming. Spacious living, with a heat pump. Renovated kitchen. Detached garage/workshop.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa18598](https://eves.co.nz/ewa18598)

Asking Price \$575,000

View by appointment

Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186

dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz



Waihi

20 Connell Street

4  1  2 

Character, Space and Potential

This four bedroom character home could be just the opportunity you've been waiting for. Set on a fully fenced section of 2023m2 (more or less), this home offers loads of space. For sale as is where is. Zoned industrial, offers options.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa19870](https://eves.co.nz/ewa19870)

Asking Price \$585,000

View by appointment

Lester Mullan 021 121 4940

lester.mullan@eves.co.nz





**Waihi**  
12 Kensington Road

3 1 1 1

**Modern Design Meets Low-Maintenance**

This well-presented three-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom home offers low-maintenance living on a 449sqm (approx.) section. With open-plan living, walk-in scullery, covered carport access, generous laundry, garden sheds and aluminium joinery.

[eves.co.nz/ewa21014](https://eves.co.nz/ewa21014)

**Asking Price** \$675,000  
**Phone for viewing times**  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
[brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz](mailto:brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz)



**Waihi**  
10 Regent Street

3 1 1 2

**Charming Character Cottage**

This delightful character cottage sits on a spacious 900sqm (approx.) section, blending timeless charm with modern comforts. A double detached garage offers ample space for parking, storage, or a workshop.

[eves.co.nz/ewa19074](https://eves.co.nz/ewa19074)

**Asking Price** \$680,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
[brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz](mailto:brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz)



**Waihi**  
6 George Street

2 1 1

**Low Maintenance, High Appeal**

This 2017 J2 home offering spacious open plan living, all set against the peaceful backdrop of Gilmour Reserve. The lounge is filled with natural light and warmed by a fireplace. The kitchen has a large breakfast bar and Bosch appliances.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20477](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20477)

**Asking Price** \$600,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Dynasty Holtz** 022 124 1186  
[dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz](mailto:dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz)



**Waihi**  
18 Moresby Avenue

3 1 1 1

**Beautifully Updated Bathed in Light**

This refreshed villa offers light-filled open-plan living and dining with high ceilings that enhance the sense of space. Two fully fenced courtyards create ideal zones for children's play, outdoor living, and relaxing in the spa pool. Renovated bathroom with bath and shower.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20991](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20991)

**Asking Price** \$639,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Dynasty Holtz** 022 124 1186  
[dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz](mailto:dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz)



**Waihi**  
79 Kenny Street

3 2 1

**New Price, New Opportunity**

Relocated to the site and renovated throughout, all set on a generous 933 sqm (approx.) section. Open plan living to an entertaining deck with a fireplace. Two bathrooms. Room to add a garage or shed with council approval. Act Now.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20773](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20773)

**Asking Price** \$625,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Dynasty Holtz** 022 124 1186  
[dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz](mailto:dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz)



**Waihi**  
36A Evans Street

3 1 1 1

**Already Modernised, Just Move In**

Comfort, style, and low-maintenance living. Recently renovated throughout, this property is ideal for investors, as well as families or first-home buyers seeking an easy-care lifestyle.

[eves.co.nz/ewa21057](https://eves.co.nz/ewa21057)

**Asking Price** \$599,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
[brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz](mailto:brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz)



**Waihi**  
18 Silvertown Road

4 1 1 1

**New Roof, New Feel, New Beginnings.**

A fresh, renovated character home with a separate family lounge. Light-filled open-plan kitchen with a breakfast bar. Heat pump, and complete with a detached single garage/workshop on a fully fenced section. All in an ideal location.

[eves.co.nz/ewa19911](https://eves.co.nz/ewa19911)

**Asking Price** \$729,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Dynasty Holtz** 022 124 1186  
[dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz](mailto:dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz)



**Waihi**  
130 Kensington Road

4 2 2 1

**Room to Grow, Space to Gather**

Enjoy space and privacy on this generous 1,765 sqm (approx.) property, perfectly positioned to capture a rural outlook while remaining in a prime location. The open-plan living area is warmed by a fireplace and heat pump and opens to an inviting entertaining deck.

[eves.co.nz/ewa19945](https://eves.co.nz/ewa19945)

**Asking Price** \$845,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Dynasty Holtz** 022 124 1186  
[dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz](mailto:dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz)





Exceptional. Every day.

eves.co.nz



**Waihi**  
31C Walker Street

2 1 1 1

**Easy Living, Smart Location**

Lovely two-bedroom home on 472m2 (more or less) offering comfort and privacy. Featuring open-plan living, dining and kitchen that extends to the covered deck. Family bathroom with convenient access from the main bathroom plus internal access garage.

[eves.co.nz/ewa21078](https://eves.co.nz/ewa21078)

**Asking Price** \$649,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Lester Mullan** 021 121 4940  
lester.mullan@eves.co.nz



**Waihi**  
102 Consols Street

3 2 1 1

**Style, Space, and Family Ready**

This modern, north-facing home offers three double bedrooms including a private master suite and open-plan living with the large covered deck extending your living outdoors. Beautifully maintained grounds plus versatile shed provides options.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20988](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20988)

**Asking Price** \$750,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Lester Mullan** 021 121 4940  
lester.mullan@eves.co.nz



**Waihi**  
42E Matura Road

3 2 1 2

**Private & Low-Maintenance**

Tucked away down a private right of way, this well-maintained home sits on a 765sqm (approx.) section. A covered outdoor area offers an ideal spot for year-round entertaining, while detached garden sheds provide valuable storage for tools and equipment.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20778](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20778)

**Asking Price** \$760,000  
**Phone for viewing times**  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz



**Waihi**  
79 Bulltown Road

3 1 2 3

**Tidy Home with Park Like Grounds**

Located only minutes from town, this tidy and well-maintained home delivers comfort, functionality, and privacy on a spacious 2,784sqm (approx) section.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20833](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20833)

**Asking Price** \$799,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz



# Happy Holidays

**Wishing you a joyful break and relaxing time to unwind.**

As another year draws to a close, we want to thank you for your continued trust and support. From all of us at EVES, enjoy a well-deserved rest, time with those who matter most, and a joyful start to the year ahead.

**Here's to good times, great company and all that's to come.**





Waihi  
17 Wilson Street

3 2 1 2

More for your Money

Set on an impressive 1,156sqm (approx.) fully fenced section, this renovated home delivers modern living with plenty of space to relax and entertain, complete with a swimming pool and a huge shed for storage, hobbies, or extra vehicles.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20802](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20802)

Enquiries Over \$799,000  
View by appointment  
Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz



Waihi  
117 Bulltown Road

4 2 1 2

Your Own Garden Sanctuary + Creative Studio

Enjoy privacy and tranquility on this well-established property, surrounded by mature gardens and grounds. The open-plan living area is warm and welcoming with a fireplace and heat pump.

[eves.co.nz/ewa19638](https://eves.co.nz/ewa19638)

Asking Price \$845,000  
View by appointment  
Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz



Waihi  
2 Islington Terrace

3 2 1

Quite the Opportunity

This spacious, sun-filled property has a relaxed rural vibe. There is a conservatory capturing afternoon sun and scenic views. Enjoy a pool and deck, plus a 2144sqm (approx) section with fruit trees, sheds, and plenty of outdoor space.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20676](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20676)

Asking Price \$850,000  
View by appointment  
Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz



New Listing

Waihi  
135 Consols Street

3 2 2 3

Space, Charm and Opportunity

Set on 1,242sqm (approx.), this recently modernised, sun-filled home offers superb versatility. Three bedrooms plus study, excellent heating, wine cellar and a self-contained sleepout. Extensive garaging, gardens and subdivision potential (subject to council approval).

[eves.co.nz/ewa21070](https://eves.co.nz/ewa21070)

Asking Price \$885,000  
View by appointment  
Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz



Waihi  
451 Woodlands Road

3 2 1 1

The Horizon Is Yours

Fantastic lifestyle option. Open plan living, dining and kitchen, spanning two levels with three bedrooms plus spacious office or media room and internal access garaging. Well fenced for livestock.

[eves.co.nz/ewa20629](https://eves.co.nz/ewa20629)

Asking Price \$1,420,000  
View by appointment  
Lester Mullan 021 121 4940  
lester.mullan@eves.co.nz



Waihi  
290 Woodlands Road

3 2 1 6

Country Living, Done Beautifully

Perched gracefully on an elevated site within 7.4 hectares (approx.) of rolling countryside, this 228sqm residence embodies luxury living in its most serene form. Designed with a flawless balance of comfort, functionality, and elegance.

[eves.co.nz/ewa14580](https://eves.co.nz/ewa14580)

Asking Price \$1,525,000 Plus GST (if any)  
View by appointment  
Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz

EVES Waihi / November  
TOP  
Achiever

Dynasty Holtz

EVES Waihi Top Achiever  
for November

Are you thinking of selling, or know someone who is? Do you want to know what your property is worth in the current market? Give me a call to discuss a free no obligation appraisal.



022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz

EVES Realty Ltd, Licensed under the REAA 2008







Exceptional. Every day.

eves.co.nz

New Listing



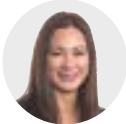
Waihi 60 Barry Road

3 2 1 2

Brick, Low Maintenance, High Comfort

Tucked privately away down a driveway, find this solid, easy-care brick home with three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and designed for everyday practicality and enjoyment. The lounge is the heart of the home, offering spacious living to share with family and friends, and a heat pump to keep everyone comfortable. With everyday functionality in mind, this layout is perfect and connects the dining and kitchen spaces effortlessly. The main bedroom is oversized with a walk-in wardrobe and an ensuite featuring a shower, toilet, and vanity. The two other bedrooms have built-in storage to keep life organised. The double garage has internal access into the home and a dedicated laundry space, adding to the smart, functional layout. Perfect for families, first-home buyers, or investors. Call Dynasty for more information and to arrange a private viewing.

Asking Price \$725,000  
View by appointment  
Dynasty Holtz  
022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz



eves.co.nz/ewa21080



**Wishing our community, clients, family and friends a safe and happy summer holiday.**

We look forward to assisting you in 2026 with all your property goals. Buying or selling? Get in touch we are ready to assist.



Dynasty Holtz

📞 07 549 3767 / 022 124 1186 📧 dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz  
🌐 dynastyholtz.eves.co.nz EVES Realty Ltd, Licensed under the REAA 2008





# Colourful chaos

It was a day of smiles, sunshine and bright colours swirling through the air at Waihi College on December 5. Waihi students launched into the spirit of the Colour Run with energy and joy to make it an unforgettable day. But it wasn't just students who took part, the local fire brigade turned up in style to help shower the students in water as they made their way through the course.



Friends stick together in the colour chaos.



Sonny Fitzgibbon and friends have a laugh on the slide.



A vibrant group of students gets colourful.

Photos: SUPPLIED/ JADE STREAT



Janisha Ranchhod and Zianthe Negus before the rainbow storm.



Pals slip and slide away.



Students survive the colour splat.

Exceptional. Every day.

 [eves.co.nz](https://www.eves.co.nz)



**Waihi**  
239A Waitawheta Road, Waikino

4  3  1  3  

### Riverside Lifestyle Retreat

Set on a private hectare of flat, fertile land, this exceptional property blends relaxed country living with refined comfort. Featuring a spacious main house and separate cottage, the property is perfectly positioned by the river's edge, offering versatility for extended family.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa20899](https://www.eves.co.nz/ewa20899)

**Price by Negotiation**  
**View** by appointment  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
[brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz](mailto:brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz)



**Katikati**  
2 Baigent Place, Tanners Point

4  2  2  2 

### A Quiet Haven

This spacious two-story home, set on a generous 947sqm (approx.) north-facing section, offers the perfect blend of family-friendly comfort and coastal living. With breathtaking views of the Kaimai Ranges and Bowentown Harbour.

 [eves.co.nz/ewa19092](https://www.eves.co.nz/ewa19092)

**Asking Price** \$1,049,000  
**Phone for viewing times**  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
[brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz](mailto:brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz)  
**Kassandra Clark** 027 328 3305  
[kassandra.clark@eves.co.nz](mailto:kassandra.clark@eves.co.nz)

Protecting your property like it's our own



We treat your rental with genuine care, staying ahead of regulations and market changes to keep it protected and performing at its best. Put your investment in safe hands with EVES Property Management.

**Talk to your local team today.**

 **Property Management**

**EVES Waihi**  
07 863 1118 | [waihi@eves.co.nz](mailto:waihi@eves.co.nz)





# Our Coromandel

## Meri Kirihimete

~ AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS ~



News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

24 December 2025

### Meri Kirihimete

~ NGĀ MIHI O TE TAU HOU ~

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your elected members and staff at Thames-Coromandel District Council.

We're reaching the end of what's been a busy and challenging year for our district. Our local elections have brought many new faces to the Council table and our Community Boards. We're looking forward to the year ahead as we continue the collective mahi of building deeper ties with our communities, groups and iwi partners. For those in the community who work to take care of those fortunate enough to have a break over the holidays, thank you for everything you do. Have a safe and happy holiday.



From L-R: Michael Barlow, John Freer, Robert Ashman, Robyn Sinclair, Tony Brijeovich, Peter Revell, Flemming Rasmussen, John Grant, Martin Rodley, Alison Smith and Greg Hampton.

From Mayor Peter Revell and everyone at TCDC



### What's happening over Christmas and New Year?



#### KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS AND TRANSFER STATIONS

For year-round kerbside collection calendars, including summer peak collection dates from Christmas week to Waitangi week, check your local schedule at [tcdc.govt.nz/bindays](https://tcdc.govt.nz/bindays)

Our seven refuse and recycling transfer stations are open daily over summer from 8.30am–5.30pm and closed only on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. [tcdc.govt.nz/rts](https://tcdc.govt.nz/rts)



#### THAMES POOL

Thames Centennial Pool is closing at 12 noon on Wednesday 24 December, resuming normal hours on Monday 5 January 2026. [tcdc.govt.nz/pools](https://tcdc.govt.nz/pools)



#### OFFICES | DISTRICT LIBRARIES

Our offices (including AA services) and district libraries are closing from 12 noon on Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24 December, and will reopen on Monday 5 January 2026. You can still reach us 24/7 at 07 868 0200 or [customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz)



#### DOG RESTRICTIONS

Many of our beaches have summer restrictions on dogs. Look out for Council's traffic light signage and check the rules in your area at [tcdc.govt.nz/dogownerguide](https://tcdc.govt.nz/dogownerguide)



#### ALCOHOL BANS

Alcohol bans are in place from 4pm on Tuesday 23 December until 4pm on Tuesday 6 January 2026. [tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol](https://tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol)

### WATER CONSERVATION

With dry weather and more visitors, the pressure on our water supply systems increases. We may need to put water restrictions in place to make sure there's enough for everybody, with a reserve left for firefighting. Check out water conservation tips at [tcdc.govt.nz/savewater](https://tcdc.govt.nz/savewater)

Any water restrictions will be announced on radio, our website and Facebook.



### NEW COROMANDEL TRACKS AND TRAILS GUIDE

Rediscover the beauty of the Coromandel Peninsula on foot, by bike or with a four-legged friend. Our brand new digital guide makes outdoor adventures easy. Explore the Coromandel through interactive maps grouped by area, or by your choice of sole or journey type. It's packed with hikes with spectacular views; short, easy town walks exploring art and culture; paths to gorgeous swimming spots; mountain biking trails; and dog walking or horse riding routes.

[tcdc.govt.nz/coromandeltrails](https://tcdc.govt.nz/coromandeltrails)



### VISITOR SIGNAGE

Thames' latest visitor signage – a 'poppet head' showcasing a map, signalling the town's mining heritage – has been installed on Pollen Street, Grahamstown, near the Salvation Army's Thames Family Store. It completes a trio of new creative signs – a kauri dam shaped sign outside the Civic Centre and a Pinnacles sign at Porritt Park. Funding for the design came from a Ministry of Social Development grant. Thames Community Board provided funds to install the sign.



### Thames ticking over



Thames' iconic town clock will be seeing in the New Year for the first time in four years, thanks to Pub Charity and Trillian Trust who covered the \$21,000 needed for repairs and parts.



@ThamesCoromandelDistrictCouncil  
coromandel\_tcdc  
Get our free eNewsletters!  
[www.tcdc.govt.nz/subscribe](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/subscribe)

[tcdc.govt.nz](https://tcdc.govt.nz)  
customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz  
Private Bag, 515 Mackay St, Thames  
Phone: 07 868 0200



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Are we ready for Christmas?

OPINION



By MICHAEL WILKES

Decorations are going up. Malls are chaos. Family chats are buzzing with food plans, travel logistics, and who's bringing the pavlova. And somewhere in the mix is a to-do list longer than your arm — stuff that has to get done before Christmas hits.

But maybe that's not a new problem. Two thousand years ago, a census was called. A young Mary and Joseph packed their bags and hit the road. It's not hard to imagine them rushing — trying to get loose ends tied up, animals fed, and house sorted before heading off. By the time they reached Bethlehem, the inns were full. The best that could be offered was a stable. And into that chaos, Jesus was born. So I wonder - were Mary and Joseph ready? Probably not. But here's the real question: are we? I don't mean whether we've bought all the gifts or cleaned the house. I mean: are we ready to slow down, to see what matters, to open our hearts to the deeper beauty of this season?



Take a walk through the bush. Sit quietly under a pōhutukawa. File Photo

Because Christmas was never meant to be a pressure cooker. It's an invitation. A moment to breathe. A chance to reflect on the year that's been - and notice the goodness that still surrounds us. Maybe we could let this be the slow-down season. Take a walk through the bush. Sit quietly under a pōhutukawa. Soak in the joy on a kid's face. Say thank you for the people who've walked with you this year - even if it's been tough. And maybe, like those shepherds in the paddock, we pause long enough to notice something sacred in the midst of the ordinary.

So yes, plan the feast, hang the tinsel, and wrap the presents. But also take a moment to prepare something deeper - a heart that's open, grateful, and ready. Because the real gift of Christmas might not be something we give. It might be what we receive - if we're willing to slow down long enough to notice it. Michael Wilkes is a youth worker with Thrive Trust, supporting mentoring and resilience programmes across Thames and Paeroa. To support his local youth work or follow stories and insights, find him on social media @michaelwilkes.kiwi. Enjoy these articles? Grab his book *The Unschooled Life* at michael-wilkes.kiwi.

Moo-ry Christmas



It's that time of year when everyone gets into the spirit of Christmas - even the friendly cows at Buttercup Dairies owned by Glenda and Neil Gray. Glenda told *The Profile* they had a small herd of 20 cows. "We sell raw milk from self service vending machines on Hau-raki Rd near Turua," she said. It was daughter and regular milker Libby Gray, who helped 8-year-old cow '200' to get Christmas moo-ing with a cheeky elf on the shelf - or elf on the cow.

Merry Christmas  
Meri Kirihimete



TradeZone  
Thames

Wishing everyone safe and happy holidays from the Read Bros team

We will be closed:  
Dec 25, 26,  
27 & 28th  
Jan 1, 2, 3 & 4th



STEEL BUILDINGS  
WHO CAN'T TOTALSPAN!

1/46 Kopu Rd, Kopu,  
Thames Ph 07 869 0400  
coromandel@totalspan.co.nz

Seasons Greetings from  
the team at Totalspan  
Coromandel

We will be closed  
Dec 22nd -  
reopening Jan 12th

THIS  
CHRISTMAS

we want to thank you for allowing us to serve you in your time of need. We hope that this Christmas you are able to remember with love and thanks those who are special to you, but no longer with us. May you find moments of peace and joy amidst the holiday season.



FUNERAL SERVICES  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

ALLENS UNITED  
Paeroa (2015) Ltd

Thanks for all your support in 2025.

We wish everyone a safe & Merry Xmas.

Happy New Year !!

May 2026 be kind to you all.


0800 862 720 | 027 442 0067



H-M-S  
PLUMBING

The HMS Plumbing team wishes you a Merry Christmas and safe holidays. Thank you for support over the past year, we appreciate all of you.

We will be on call for the holiday period for urgent work.



hmsplumbing.thames@gmail.com  
022 160 1291

Thank you to all our customers and suppliers over the year . We wish you a very merry xmas and a happy new year.

We are having a short break – midday 23rd Dec and back into it Monday 5th Jan.

PH: 868 7004



THAMES DRAINAGE  
& DIGGING Co. Ltd.

Thames Medical Centre Festive Season Hours

Day	Date	Hours
Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup> December	Closed
Friday	26 <sup>th</sup> December	Closed
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup> December	Closed
Sunday	28 <sup>th</sup> December	Closed
Monday	29 <sup>th</sup> December	Normal Surgery Hours (8.30am – 5.00pm) 2 Doctors on duty
Tuesday	30 <sup>th</sup> December	Normal Surgery Hours (8.30am – 5.00pm) 2 Doctors on duty
Wednesday	31 <sup>st</sup> December	Normal Surgery Hours (8.30am – 5.00pm) 2 Doctors on duty
Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup> January	Closed
Friday	2 <sup>nd</sup> January	Closed
Saturday	3 <sup>rd</sup> January	Closed
Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> January	Closed
Monday	5 <sup>th</sup> January	Normal Surgery Hours (8.30am – 5.00pm)

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS

# Dreaming of a knitted Christmas in Waihi

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

The residents of Hetherington House have been knitting up a storm in preparation for Christmas.

The Waihi rest home has been dressed up with hundreds of Christmas decorations, all hand-crafted by its residents and all made from yarn.

The decorations vary from trees laden with pompoms, to knitted wreaths, candles, stockings, and even a full Nativity scene.

There is a knitted gingerbread village in the main dining room, a stable of woolly reindeer, and miscellaneous Santas, teddies, and elves.

The pièce de résistance is a full-sized, fully-knitted Christmas tree, topped with an angel and adorned with Christmas lights both knitted and real.

Hetherington House's diversion therapy team members, Carol and Raewyn, said the project has been a fun and heavily-attended activity for the residents.

"We came up with the idea in August... We just set up the [knitting] machines in the mornings and those that were out here just participated," the women said.

The decorations evolved



From left: Marion, Teresa, and Edith with the knitted Christmas tree. RIGHT: Some of the knitted decorations.



Photos: ALICE PARMINTER

throughout the months, depending on what the residents produced.

"It actually started off with the Christmas tree, and then it just escalated," they said.

"It went from the tree to the Nativity scene. And then it went from the Nativity scene to the gingerbread house. Then the staff got on board and everybody was knitting bits of

chain."

Most of the pieces were machine-made, but there were plenty of residents knitting or crocheting by hand as well - even some of the men got involved, Carol and Raewyn said.

"It was fun because it was creative and it was also just relaxing for some people. They liked to just sit and knit... I guess you could say it was kind

of a therapy thing as well," they said. "We try to make [activities] as fun and exciting as we can for people - getting their involvement, not us just having an idea and running with it. It's getting them to create, and challenging them as well."

And the residents are thrilled with the outcome.

"It's really cool because they had a part in it," they said.

"They couldn't always visualise what they were doing, but when you brought them what they'd made, you know, the smile on their faces because they've contributed to it."

"We might have to do something like this for other holidays as well."



**TYRE and BATTERY**

**Wishing you a very Merry Christmas & safe travelling**

**We are open:**  
**Wednesday 24 Dec, 7 - 3pm**  
**Workshop closed 25 Dec until Monday 5 Jan, normal hours 7-5**

**Thank you for supporting our small local business, we appreciate you**

**314 Pollen Street, Thames**  
**Ph 868 8182**



**Shane, Chelsea and Kate would like to wish all our Customers a very Merry Xmas and Prosperous New Year.**

A big thank you for your continued support.

Our Xmas/New Year hours will be:  
December 22nd - 24th 9.00 - 2.00  
December 25th - 26th Closed  
December 27th 9.00 - 12.00  
December 28th Closed  
December 29th-31st 9.00 - 2.00  
January 1st-2nd Closed

**606 Queen Street, Thames**  
**Phone 07-8686644**



*the paint the professionals use*



**Wishing Our Burton's followers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

We will be closing for a well deserved break.

The shop will be closed from December 22nd till January 6th.

Look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

**Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year from us all at Thames Autos.**

**We will be closed from Thursday Dec 18th and back on Monday Jan 12th**

**Thames Autos**

**We wish you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Thank you to all our valued Customers and Tradesmen.**

We will be closing for business this year from 12.00pm Wednesday 24th December & reopening on Monday 5th January 7.00am.

**THAMES HIRE CENTRE**

**The Major Oak Safety Training team would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Christmas and New Year. Thank you for all your support.**

**Our office closes Friday 19th December Reopening Monday 12th January 2026**

**Major Oak Safety Training Ltd**

**Thank you to all our loyal customers for your support. Merry Christmas & a safe and happy New Year. We will be closed from 3pm 24th December and will be back on the 5th January**

**Central Motors**  
Hauraki Ltd

60 Orchard Rd, Ngatea  
867 7524  
www.centralmotors.co.nz

**Earth Angel Magic**

**Blessings to you all. Have a magical Christmas filled with love, joy and peace**

**The shop will be closed Christmas Day only.**



# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS

## Students spread cheer

Students from St Joseph’s School in Paeroa were visited by The Hits radio station’s Toy Run Bus on December 1. The children made donations of pre-loved toys, puzzles, games, and books to the bus. The gifts will be distributed by the Society of St Vincent de Paul to families across the Waikato who are in need this Christmas, principal Emalene Cull said. “[It’s] a super way to spread the love and joy of Christmas in our community and beyond,” she said.



Students donate pre-loved toys, puzzles, games and books to the bus for those in need. Photos: SUPPLIED





Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the team at Burton's Butchery. We are closing on the 24th December at 3pm and re opening on the 12th of Jan 2026



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from us all at Diprose Miller Our offices will be closed from December 23rd until January 9th. Thames, Te Aroha, Morrinsville



Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you to all our valued clients for your custom. Our main office in Thames will be open December 23rd, 24th, 30th and 31st Normal hours from Jan 5th

Thank you for your support. Have a fabulous holiday season. We look forward to seeing you in the new year From Providence Pantry





Thanks to my regular customers for your support. Merry Christmas. Embrace a new you with a restyle in new year at Magic scissors or welcome back for your regular trims.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the teams at Thames Valley Kia, Valley Toyota Thames & Tony Richards Toyota Paeroa. Closed December 25th - 28th, open December 29 to 31, closed January 1st - 4th, normal hours from January 5th.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM TIM AND THE TEAM AT T&A MCWATTERS





**TE-RA FISHING**  
~ Since 1989 ~  
**SUMMER TIMETABLE**  
26 DECEMBER - 31 JANUARY  
Departing Whangamatā wharf twice daily

8am-2pm & 3pm-8.30pm

\$70 Adult • \$50 Child • \$10 Rod Hire

Bait Available Have your catch filleted!

**BOOKINGS:**  
Phone Chris or Karyn 022 643 2515  
Email [te\\_ra@outlook.com](mailto:te_ra@outlook.com)





# ‘Christmas ain’t what it used to be’



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.

“Christmas ain’t what is used to be in my young days”, reminisced an old timer from Thames in 1925.

“The trouble is that we are getting too respectable. They would want to turn out the military now if we had one of the old-time Christmas Eve celebrations about the time that Thames goldfields was at its best.”

A steady stream of men would head for Auckland - the loggers down from the timber camps, gum diggers from the gum fields, and miners from Thames and Coromandel, all with good cheques to spend.

The last steamer to leave Thames on Christmas Eve was always packed. On one occasion there was fear that the steamer would turn turtle, there was such a crowd on board. Men sat at the stern with their boots off, ready to swim for it. When they reached Auckland wharf there was a mob of Thames boys waiting to show the new arrivals to their lodgings.

“Some cranks used to go round singing carols on Christmas morning early. Now, when a fellow was recovering from a night out with a bad head, and a tongue that felt three sizes too big for his mouth, it did not



**Santa Claus, 1902.** Photo: SUPPLIED  
appeal to him much to hear ‘Christians, Awake,’ or the ‘Herald Angels Sing.’ What he did want on the morning after was a real good sleep.

It was part of the pleasure at Christmas to know that the mill whistle did not blow at 7.30am.”

The diggers and loggers had a good time and returned to Thames leaving practically all their savings during the past year behind them in Auckland.

It was the ‘week after the week before’ rather than the ‘morning after the night before’

which affected Paeroa in 1935.

The tumult and shouting of the Christmas shopping nights had died away and Belmont and Normanby Roads were very quiet. The proverbial cannon ball could have been fired down the streets with little chance of injuring anyone. There had been a few ‘rush hours’ though, notably the rush of housewives to restock the larders. Shop assistants were noticed occupying their time redressing windows and restocking shelves, or flicking real and imaginary dust off stock.

Only the farmers who dashed in and out of town between milkings seem to be their normal selves, sporting suntans from their outdoor chores. When the Christmas campers returned they would have a faraway look, still dreaming of warm sands, shady bush, swift flowing rivers, long roads, sandflies, mosquitoes, tin openers, and blown-down tents.

Christmas at Waihi in 1927 saw Seddon Street crammed with people and continuous streams pouring into and out of shops keeping the assistants at their wits ends trying to meet the demands made on them.

The footpath was so densely crowded that progress was extremely difficult and many took to the road. Farmers were present in their hundreds and the measure of their prosperity was illustrated by the remarkable array of motor cars, there being at one stage between 120 and 130 cars in the shopping section of Seddon Street. Members of the police were in evidence and tactfully handled the traffic, their cheery “Move on, please,” always meeting with instant responses.

Even Father Christmas had to be admonished for causing people to congregate, but the old fellow took it kindly, and with a wag of his long white beard and a smile, went on his way.

## Chris’ Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter

1. Which NZ native tree with red flowers in summer is sometimes known as “the New Zealand Christmas tree”?
2. Which dessert made of meringue, cream, and topped with fruit is a Christmas favourite in New Zealand that was definitely invented here, not Australia?
3. In the movie *Home Alone*, where does the McCallister family go for Christmas when they forget Kevin? a) London, b) New York, or c) Paris?
4. In October, what did the government announce would be allowed on TV on Christmas Day for the first time? a) Advertising, b) gambling, or c) swear words?
5. In the Christmas carol *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, what is gifted on the fifth day?
6. Which Auckland street attracts thousands of people each year to look at the Christmas lights? a) Franklin Rd, b) Jefferson St, or c) Lincoln Rd?
7. Associated with Christmas, a poinsettia plant is mostly which two colours?
8. Which Christmas carol features the line “Round yon virgin, mother and child”? a) Away in a Manger, b) The First Noel, or c) Silent Night?
9. In the movie *How The Grinch Stole Christmas* (2000), who plays the Grinch? a) Jim Carrey, b) Mike Myers, or c) Will Ferrell?
10. In te reo Māori, which translation is used for the English phrase ‘Merry Christmas’? a) Manuia le Kerisimasi, b) Meri Kirihimete, or c) Meri Kurisumasu?



ANSWERS: 1. Pohutukawa; 2. Pavlova; 3. (c) Silent Night; 4. a) Advertising; 5. Five gold rings; 6. Franklin Road; 7. Red and green; 8. (c) Silent Night; 9. a) Jim Carrey; 10. b) Meri Kirihimete.

### Season's Greetings

### From our team to yours

Christmas Eve	OPEN
Christmas Day	CLOSED
Boxing Day	CLOSED
Saturday 27th Dec	CLOSED
Sunday 28th Dec	CLOSED
Monday 29th Dec	OPEN
Tuesday 30th Dec	OPEN
New Year's Eve	OPEN
New Year's Day	CLOSED
Friday 2nd Jan	CLOSED
Saturday 3rd Jan	CLOSED

### LOCAL EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS FOR PETS & FARM ANIMALS

Please call the phone numbers below:

KOPU 07 868 5007  
PAEROA 07 862 7295  
WAIHI 07 863 8684  
WAITAKARURU 07 868 9030  
[www.franklinvets.co.nz](http://www.franklinvets.co.nz)

## Merry Christmas and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2026

### Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Thank you to all our customers for 2025.

We will be closing at 12pm December 24th and will see you again January 6th.

## Merry Christmas from the team.

### Thank you for your continued fantastic support throughout the year.

Closed December: 25th - 26th, open December 29 - 31  
Closed January 1st - 2nd, normal hours from January 5th..

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT 2024

from the team at:  
**helloworld TRAVEL**  
THE TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS  
Jo, Jen, Ash, Kylee  
Dee and Shelley

With agents now available in Whangamata and Waihi Beach

### Thank you to our wonderful customers. Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and New Year and a prosperous 2026.

We will be closed stat days only

## Snowden's - MENSWEAR -

### Merry Christmas to all our awesome customers and safe travels for the holidays.

We close 2pm 24th December and re-open on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

1 Willoughby St, Paeroa  
07 280 2760



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Pups on patrol

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

The children and staff of Waihi East Primary School were treated to a slight ‘paws’ in the school timetable on December 15. That’s when Pup Patrol rolled into the school in their karts and skateboards to put on a show.

Organiser of the school visit and dog trainer Rhonda Walch said she was so pleased with all the dogs.

They performed tricks for the students and welcomed attention and pats. Her team was made up of humans Yvonne and Bob Dinnage and Heather Price, and puppy pals Trevor, Chelsey, Dee, Bonnie and Bailey.

“It’s all voluntary and it’s good fun,” she told *The Profile*.

The group also got dressed up in a Christmas theme last week and walked around Waihi’s main street and handed out lollipops to children, she said.

It was clear the reason behind it all was to share the joy. “[It’s] just the smiles. That’s all you want.”

Rhonda said Heather was keen to take the show to more schools and kindergartens so the group jumped on board to help make it happen.

**DETAILS: For schools or kindergartens interested in booking a visit from the Pup Patrol in 2026, Heather Price, Ph 027 232 4782.**



The Pup Patrol entertains in Waihi’s main street and Waihi East Primary School.

JEMMA HAYNE/ALLY TWISS



Merry Christmas

Thank you to all our clients for your support in 2025. We will be closed from Dec 19th and back Jan 12. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Flooring Design

33 Belmont Rd Paeroa  
07 214 7208

PAEROA FARM SERVICES

Thank you!

THE TEAM AT PAEROA FARM SERVICES WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL CUSTOMERS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND SAFE NEW YEAR. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT DURING 2025 WE WILL BE CLOSED ON STAT DAYS ONLY BUT WILL BE ON CALL

07 862 6263  
paeroafarmservices.co.nz

Leanne & Sophia would like to thank all our loyal supporters for the past year. Have a Merry Christmas and a safe & Happy New Year.

We will be closing for a break on Tuesday Dec 23rd and reopening Tuesday Jan 13th

WALTER & CO

“City styling in the heart of Coromandel”

TE KOROWAI  
HAUORA O HAURAKI

Whānau Health Centres

Ngā mihi o te wā

Summer Holiday Hours

PAEROA | THAMES | COROMANDEL | WHITIANGA

Wednesday 24th December - closing at 3pm  
Thursday 25th December - closed  
Friday 26th December - closed

Wednesday 31st December - closing at 3pm  
Thursday 1st January - closed  
Friday 2nd January - closed

For **AFTER HOURS** medical advice and treatment, call **0508 835 676** or book an online virtual appointment at **kaora.co.nz**

0508 835 676    kiaora@korowai.co.nz    korowai.co.nz

Merry Christmas

Health Ngatea wishes everyone a Merry Xmas and a happy healthy New Year.

Merry Christmas

Merry Christmas

We’re so grateful for your trust and support throughout the year. Thank you for shopping with Hammer Hardware Ngatea—we couldn’t do it without you. Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and a happy New Year to yours!

HAMMER HARDWARE

07 867 7393  
16 Orchard West Rd, Ngatea

Season’s greetings from

The Valley Profile

coromandelApp

Teresa, Nikki, Kelley, Alice, Davidda and the team would like to thank all our advertisers, contributors and readers for your support this year. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!

This is our last paper for 2025 - The next issue will be out January 13, 2026



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Thank you for your support during the year.  
Your business is appreciated.  
We will be closing midday on the 24th December  
2025 Re-opening 8am, 6th January 2026

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year!  
Jill, Nic, Toni, Mike and James

317 Pollen St, Thames  
Stihlshop.co.nz 07 868 8730





MERRY CHRISTMAS  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO ALL OUR LOYAL CUSTOMERS.  
WE WILL BE CLOSED  
CHRISTMAS DAY ONLY.

382 Ngati Maru Highway  
Totara, Thames  
Ph 868 7960  
Open 7 days a week  
8.30am to 5.00pm

# Gardening

## Liquid feed to help plant health during summer



My pre-Christmas check on the long-term weather forecast for January indicated we may experience a mixture of rain and sunshine with temperatures marginally lower than what we experienced through December.

Moisture is a critical component of gardening at any time, so close monitoring is essential. Liquid feed is worth the effort to help plant health. It's about having the right balance which is often hard to judge.

Close observation of your plant and soil health is the key to a continual and abundant supply of fresh summer vegetables.

Considering the continual increase of the cost of fresh fruit and vegetables, it makes good sense to produce as much from your garden if possible. Vegetables grow best in full sun and a sheltered position. Our local garden centres will give good advice for the most cost-effective methods and your requirements.

Crops ready for harvest are beetroot, beans, carrots, corn, cucumbers, lettuce, zucchini, peas, potatoes, spinach and tomatoes. It is a time of extreme growth so if your harvest is more than you can cope with remember your neighbours, family, friends and the community garden table. It is a lovely thing to share your excess produce.

It's harvest time for nectarines, passion-fruit, blueberry, strawberries, raspberries, apricot, peaches and plums, Plant new strawberry plants or trim long runners back to the centre of the plant to encourage another batch of fruit.

Revitalise plants after their growth spurt and keep them looking great through summer by giving them a homemade organic tea break. If you have a worm farm, use the liquid that collects at the bottom as your fertiliser. Dilute it first. Alternatively, you could buy liquid fertiliser from your garden centre.

Keep an eye out for Black Spot – large irregular black spots on leaves. Rust - brown pustules on the underside of leaves. Powdery Mildew – a white or light grey coating on foliage and stems. Make sure that plants aren't crowded to ensure they have maximum air circulation. Try to water around the base of the plants to avoid wet foliage and water early morning when possible. If despite your efforts powdery mildew does strike remove diseased foliage or whole plants immediately to help stop the spread.

In the flower garden keep summer flowering annuals looking beautiful, dead head regularly and provide regular deep watering especially those in pots. Cut back any that have become straggly.






Summer is hard for roses if the humidity increases. If black spot becomes a problem, spray immediately and continue fortnightly. Dead head and give a light summer prune to encourage more flowering. Keep well-watered and mulched. A regular sprinkle of sheep pellets around your roses will keep them well fed.

Don't forget your houseplants they need a bit more attention in the hotter months.

Lawns – Water lawns weekly and avoid cutting them too short.

Compost Heap – Turn frequently and keep moist.

Enjoy your garden.  
- Ngatea Garden Circle

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 2026 Moon Planting Calendar			1 Non planting Day	2 Non planting Day	3  Full Moon	4  Plant root crops. Liquid Feed
5 Non planting Day	6 Non planting Day	7 Non planting Day	8 Non planting Day	9 Non planting Day	10  Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	11  Plant root crops, trees and shrubs
12  Plant root crops. Liquid Feed	13  Plant root crops. Liquid Feed	14 Non planting Day	15 Non planting Day	16 Non planting Day	17  Plant root crops, trees and shrubs	18  Plant root crops, trees and shrubs
19  New Moon	20 Non planting Day	21 Non planting Day	22  Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	23  Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	24 Non planting Day	25 Non planting Day
26  Plant above ground crops	27  Plant above ground crops	28 Non planting Day	29 Non planting Day	30 Non planting Day	31  Plant above ground Crops. Liquid Feed	Calendar Supplied by Gilmer Farms



CALL THE EXPERTS

**ARBORIST**

**TREE SHAPES**

*Qualified Arborists*

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

For a free quote call  
**07 868 3985 or 0274 726627**

**ARBORIST**

**We solve your tree problems**

Tree Removal • Stump Grinding • Pruning

- Land clearing and hedge trimming
- Storm Clean Up

Qualified, experienced,  
fully insured

Trusted treework for over 25 years

**Call today**

**SHORT BACK'N'SIDES LTD**

**027 439 0367**  
shortbacknsides.co.nz

**ARBORIST**

**Qualified and insured arborists.  
20+ years experience**

- Large tree removal specialists
- Pruning and hedge trimming
- Height / weight reductions
- Land clearing and reclamation
- Stump grinding - Scrub mulching
- Advice and consultancy

Get in touch with us today for a free quote.  
info@haurakitrees.co.nz  
0800 HTS tree (0800 487 8733)

**HAURAKI TREE SERVICES**

**AUTOMOTIVE**

**wenzlick**  
**AUTOMOTIVE**

- Repair
- WOF
- Service
- Diagnostic

**Professional Friendly Service**

Call us on **07 868 6799**  
or visit  
**www.wenzlickautomotive.co.nz**  
306 Mary Street Thames

**BUILDER**

**FRAMED UP BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION**

Nothing too big or small.  
Honest & Professional Workmanship

Call us today  
**021 393 467**  
framedup.co.nz

- New Builds
- Renovations
- Kitchens
- Landscaping

**BUILDER**

**CAIRD CONSTRUCTION LTD**

- New home builds
- Renovations and extensions
- Decks, fences, and outdoor areas
- Any building work, big or small

Shaun 021 389 198 | admin@cairdconstruction.com

**BUILDING SERVICES**

**PROFESSIONAL BUILDING | ELECTRICAL | PLUMBING TRADE SERVICES**

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

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

**CONSENTS** - Required Building Consent work lodged with Councils

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

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

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

**CLEANING**

**A J CLEAN UP CREW**

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

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

**CARPET**

**Carpet Court**

**Summer Do Up Sale**

Refresh your home for less!

Up to **40% off** Rhino carpet

Up to **40% off** selected readymades

Up to **40% off** studio. custom fabrics

**Curtain Studio**

\*Terms & conditions apply

**DRIVING ACADEMY**

**DRIVING COURSES**

Driving lessons  
Learner Licence courses  
Defensive Driving courses

**Book now 027 314 1577 (text or phone)**

admin@valleyeducation.co.nz

**Valley Education**  
**07 868 7892**

**EARTHWORKS**

**MEARES EARTHWORKS**

**TAKING CARE OF ALL YOUR EARTHWORK NIGHTMEARES**

- General Earthworks & Digging
- Housepads • Farmlane Raceway
- Tree Removal • Demolitions
- Driveways & Retaining Walls

**plus much more...**

**Ph: 027 269 7144 or 07 863 8208**  
**E: mearesearchworks@gmail.com**  
**www.mearesearchworks.co.nz**

**EARTHWORKS & CARTAGE**

**Digger, Bulldozer & Truck Hire**

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

**PHONE TIM 027 278 5384**  
**T & A MCWATTERS LTD**

**ELECTRICIAN**

For All Your Electrical Needs

**Electrical Laser**

"Totally Dependable"

- New Builds
- Alterations
- Quotes
- Lighting Plans
- Heat Pumps
- Service and Maintenance
- Commercial
- Fire Systems

**Ph: 07 863 7746** Email: waihi@laser-electrical.co.nz

**ELECTRICAL SERVICES**

**ELECTRICAL SERVICES**

- INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL
- 24/7 FAULTS & BREAKDOWNS
- PUMP SYSTEMS INDUSTRIAL TO RESIDENTIAL
- FARM SERVICES EFFLUENT FILTRATION IRRIGATION
- SWITCHBOARD UPGRADES
- LIGHTING DESIGN & INSTALLATION
- HEAT PUMPS
- SPECIALISED CABLE JOINTING (ECCO, HUB)
- GENERATOR SERVICE & MAINTENANCE
- UNDERGROUND SERVICES

**027 260 4860**  
info@coastalenergy.co.nz  
https://coastalenergy.co.nz/

**Coastal Energy**

**FERTILISER**

**Avoca**

nutrients for soil health

**Supplier of fast acting Lime and Fertiliser**

**P: Rev 021 503 029**  
**P: Gill 021 532 903**

**FLOORING**

**OWENS FLOORING**

Flooring Sales and Installation

**FREE MEASURE & QUOTATION**

Carpet, Vinyl, Wood & Laminate Flooring

**SHOWROOM: 5/57 Wilson Road, Waihi Beach**

Open 8.30am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday  
Saturdays By Appointment

Phone: **027 233 7277 / 07 863 5723**  
Email: **sales@owensflooring.co.nz**  
**www.owensflooring.co.nz**

**FLOORING**

**Supply & Installation for Domestic & Commercial**

- Carpet • Vinyl
- Laminate • Polyurethane

Contact us for your free Measure and Quote

Phone : **021 020 47027**  
Email : **dan@thefloorman.co.nz**

**THE FLOOR MAN**

**GLASS & GLAZING**

**Baker Glass & Glazing Ltd**

"Craftsmanship with care"

- Glass Repairs
- Shower Glass
- Splashbacks
- Balustrades
- Retro-fit Double Glazing
- Insurance Quotes

**021 514 487** | **glass@bakerjoinery.co.nz**

**HOMEKILL**

**Hunts Home Kills**

For all your meat and game processing needs.

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

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



Merry Christmas from Hauraki Tyre and Battery owners Tania and Craig.

Merry Christmas and safe travels

**H**o-ho-ho! Merry Christmas and safe travels to all over the new year period from Hauraki Tyre and Battery.

Owners Craig and Tania wanted to share a massive thanks to all their customers for the amazing support throughout a difficult year of setbacks such as road closures and bridge repairs, they said.

They were "humbled" by the amount of positive feedback from their local customers from across the Thames Valley and Hauraki Plains, the wider Coromandel Peninsula from Tairua, Whitianga, Pauanui, Port Jackson and Port Charles, and even from Maramarua in the other direction.

With 2026 on the brink, it's an appropriate time for current and new customers to organise their new year to-do checklists with tyre tasks such as: tyre choice - people can choose

the right tyres to suit their budget, comfort and mileage performance; tyre rotation - this will extend the life of the tyre; and wheel alignment to improve the vehicles handling and performance.

"We can check your tyre treads and tyre pressure for you when you call into the workshop. Come and see the huge range in the workshop from brands such as Bridgestone, Maxxis, Firestone, Goodyear, Michelin, Dunlop and Supercat."

The workshop will be closed from 3pm on December 24 and open again on January 5, 2026.

Visit 'The big Yellow Tyre & Battery shop' at 314 Pollen St, Thames. Open 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, and Saturdays from 9am to 12pm. Give us a call today 07 868 8182 or email us at haurakityres@xtra.co.nz.



CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12 noon Monday

Church Notice

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

Waihi Assembly of God Church

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

For Lease

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

Gardening

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

Handyman

An experienced handyman covering all trades with over 20 years exp building trade. Please contact Laurie King 021 251 0246 ktpropertyservice.com

Handyman Services. Waihi and surrounding areas. Building maintenance and repairs. Mobile - Grant 027 333 8331. E-waihi105@gmail.com

Land Wanted

Wanted to Lease/Rent land while I look for another farm to buy anything considered Please call or text Richard 0279332015

Builders

Reno's, decking, fencing. For free quote ph Phil 021 088 63559

Friendly licensed builder. 40 years exp. All aspects .No job too small. Ian 021 540 376

Painters

Professional roof painter. Mario Kerkhof 027 961 4055

Painters

HAURAKI REGIONAL PAINTERS  
Over 12 years experience, interior/ exterior. Refs available. Free quotes. Phone Graeme for all your painting needs. 020 485 1312

Trades

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

Storage

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

Storage Unlimited

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

Farmland For Sale

56Ha (more or less) farmland and 3 bedroom home For Sale, offers being invited now for 129 Corbett Rd, Waihi!  
Great pasture, approx 7 Ha flattish land, suitable for silage, the rest mostly rolling contour with some steep sidings. Multiple sheds. Trademe JBL655. PBN. Ph Sue 0274374376

Piano Tuner

Sharyn Clark  
Piano Tuner & Technician  
'Fully Qualified' and Covering all areas of Hauraki and Coromandel M: 0274 485 089 sharynclark22@gmail.com

Storage

TOTAL STORAGE LTD  
KEREPEHI / PAEROA  
We will beat any legit quote for storage in 10ft or 20ft containers T&C's apply 021 67 67 99 info@totalstorage.co.nz

Auto Detailing

TRON DETAILING

Your Car, Like New Again. We Come to You!  
Is your car looking a bit less than showroom fresh? Salt, sand, summer adventures... The Coromandel is beautiful, but it can take a toll on your vehicle. At Tron Detailing, we bring the shine directly to you, at your home, work, or holiday spot. We're a mobile service dedicated to protecting your investment and making your car a joy to drive again.  
Why Choose Tron?  
• Mobile Convenience: We save you time. You relax.  
• Premium Products: We use professional grade, eco friendly products.  
• Precision & Care: Attention to detail you can see and smell.  
Book your detail in the next 7 days and receive 15% OFF your first service!  
Mention this ad when you book.  
Call or Text: 02041844788  
Visit & Book Online: www.trondetailingnz.com

Handyman Services

THAMES HANDYMAN & BUILDING SERVICES

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

Situation Vacant

We are looking for 2 mechanics to join our team.  
A qualified car mechanic must have a WoF ticket & a motorbike mechanic. Some experience would be an advantage but training will be given to the right applicant. If you are reliable and a team player send your CV to miles@hpmotors.co.nz or ph 027 227 1121 for a chat.

Advertise with the paper that is being read Valley Profile P: 022 130 3885

CALL THE EXPERTS

HOUSE MOVERS

HOUSE MOVERS LTD

Your local housemover and foundation SPECIALIST  
Relocatable house packages for sale at 5 & 40 Kohunui St, Ngatea  
For all your needs on the Hauraki Plains and beyond  
• LBP qualified • Houses bought & sold • House moving  
• On-site moves • Jacking & rolling • Structural moving  
• Re-piling • Re-levelling • Pile driving • Push piles  
phm.co.nz • sales@phm.co.nz  
Andy 021 125 1668 • Ian 027 442 6001

JOINERY

Baker Joinery Ltd

Kitchens - Wardrobe Solutions - Laundry  
Bathrooms - Custom made furniture  
For top-notch craftsmanship & expertise in kitchen & cabinetry  
Contact 07 863 8962/ info@bakerjoinery.co.nz  
or pop into our Show Room 48 Johnston Street Waihi  
SHOWROOM OPEN SATURDAYS 9am to 1pm

KITCHENS

KITCHENS  
Scullery, Wardrobe, Laundry units etc  
Quality Product - Competitively priced  
No obligation FREE measure & quote  
PENINSULA JOINERY LTD  
THAMES P: 07 868 6323  
E:office@peninsulajoinery.co.nz  
We cover Thames, the Coromandel Peninsula & Waikato wide

PAINTER

That Painter Ltd.

Interior & Exterior • Residential & Light Commercial  
Fully Insured • Workmanship Guarantee  
Contact Stan on 0223137911  
to discuss your project.

PLASTERER

TWINWOLF PLASTERING SERVICES

Exterior Plastering specialist.  
30 years experience  
All aspects of plastering including.  
Gib stopping, fireplaces, steps, foundations, patios, block walls and renovations.  
Specialising in exterior repairs & modern finishes.  
Shannon: 022 428 2239  
Twinwolfservices@gmail.com

RUBBISH REMOVAL

Smart Bins

Skip bins, Wheelie Bins, Farm Bins  
Phone us or book online  
0800 4 MY BIN or  
www.smartbins.co.nz

SEPTIC TANK CLEANING

ALLENS UNITED

Paeroa (2015) Ltd  
LIQUID WASTE SPECIALISTS  
0800 862 720 | 027 442 0067

SCRAP METAL

Scrappy Vorns

Buyers of all scrap metal & cars  
Farm clean up specialists  
Top prices paid  
Phone Vern • 021 621 437

SCRAP VEHICLES

CARS WANTED CASH PAID

Any unwanted car, ute, van or 4WD No warrant, No WOF, Deregistered, not going?? NO PROBLEM  
WAIKATO VEHICLE REMOVALS  
PH/TXT KEVIN 027 299 6165

SIGNS

VALLEY SIGNS

13 Francis Street, Paeroa 07 862 8290 0210 6777 02  
valleysigns@xtra.co.nz

TOWING

THAMES TOWING & WORKSHOP

24HR Breakdown • AA Towing • WOF  
Full mechanical workshop  
MTA & AA Approved  
Ph: 07 868 7685 - 24/7  
thamestowing@gmail.com  
29 Queen Street, Kopu

TYRES & BATTERIES

HAURAKI TYRE and BATTERY

Stockists of all major tyre brands  
Exide Batteries with extended warranties  
Wheel Alignments.  
314 Pollen St, Thames  
Ph 868 8182

WALLPAPERER

Pete the Paperhanger

Pete the Paperhanger  
027 535 0580  
www.facebook.com/petethepaperhanger

WASTE REMOVAL

SKIP BIN HIRE

For Household, Business, Building and Farm  
Rubbish Disposal  
Ph: 0800 754 724  
Paeroa Skip Bins (2017) Ltd

WINDSCREENS

PRECISION WINDSCREENS

Chip Repairs - Windscreen replacements  
Insurance claims  
PH: 0272127750  
www.precisionwindcreens.co.nz

WINDSCREENS

Katikati Glass WINDSCREENS

Windscreen Replacements  
Stone Chip Repairs  
Ph: 07 549 3399  
110 Main Road, Katikati  
(Behind the Caltex Service Station)  
www.katikatiglassandwindcreens.co.nz



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Expressive floral art on display

Something Elisabeth Carter does in her art creation is to paint intuitively and allow all the colours and layers to form their own story.

It's something people will get to witness through her expressive floral art as Elisabeth kicks off 2026 as the January featured artist at the Thames Art Gallery.

The artist, musician and "creator of beautiful things" said that in a world where it felt like everything was mass-produced - she felt blessed and grateful to be able to share her creative gifts and offer authentic pieces through her art.

"It takes considerable effort and some bravery to trust the process and abandon preconceived ideas. I relish every minute I get to have fun and play in my art studio, and I look forward to sharing my art," she said. "I love flowers and art, the two complement each other beautifully and my work is joyful and rewarding."

Elisabeth started her boutique business, Coromandel Flowers, on the main road in Coromandel in 2020.

"You will see a cute little stall next to St Andrews Church where you can buy fresh flowers, greeting cards and gifts. With the constant flow of fresh flowers, I am never stuck for inspiration," she said.

"I'm not sure who said 'if you find what you love doing, you never work a day in your



Artist Elisabeth Carter. Photo: SUPPLIED

life' - this is true for me as I love flowers and art, the two compliment each other beautifully and my work is joyful and rewarding."

Elisabeth said she enjoys learning and connecting with other artists by participating in various workshops and art retreats throughout the year.

"Learning new techniques is fun. I also teach art locally at Te Mana Tangata Creative Learning Space," she said.

**DETAILS: Visit the work of Elisabeth Carter at Thames Art Gallery, 604 Tararu Road, Thames daily from 10am to 4pm.**

## Big tunes, flavours at Avo Fest

Katikati Avo Fest returns to Uretara Domain, Katikati on Saturday 10 January 2026, promising big tunes, fresh flavours and pure summer fun from 12pm to 6pm.

The much-loved family-friendly festival celebrates New Zealand's Avocado Capital with live music, great food and beverages, cooking demonstrations, kid's entertainment and sun-soaked good times.

Since 2004, it has drawn crowds from across the Bay of Plenty and beyond for its relaxed atmosphere and dance-ready bands.

This year's DMS Main Stage is headlined by crowd favourite Tami Neilson, the Canadian-born, Aotearoa-based powerhouse whose roof-raising blend of country, soul and rock 'n' roll has taken her from busking with her family to the Grand Ole Opry, a number one album and international tours with Willie Nelson.

Fresh from releasing her acclaimed 2025 album *Neon Cowgirl*, Tami is set to close out the day in style.

"Holy Guacamole! I can't wait to hit the stage at Katikati Avo Fest and bring the party in the summer sunshine with my incredible band - make sure to bring your dancing shoes," she said. Sharing the bill are Wellington favourites The Relatives, high-voltage supergroup Sonar Flare, and vocal trio The Lady Killers, keeping the dance floor buzzing all afternoon.

In the Seeka Kitchen Marquee, beloved Kiwi cookbook author and presenter Chel-



Headline act Tami Neilson. Photo: SUPPLIED

sea Winter will lead hourly avocado-inspired demos before a 5pm book signing.

Her new release *Nourish* will be available on the day from Katikati Paper Plus, with fans welcome to bring any of her books along to be signed.

"Katikati Avo Fest is the result of thousands of volunteer hours, tireless community spirit and a passion for giving back," Katikati Fun Fest Charitable Trust chair Trevor Burgess said.

Premium and early bird tickets have sold out. General tickets and transport are available now via iTicket or KatikatiAvoFest.co.nz.

## Mining application concerns

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

More than 80 people gathered at a public meeting in Thames on December 11 to discuss opposition to an application for a gold mining permit over the Thames foreshore.

The local group, Thames Hauraki Anti Mining, supported by Coromandel Watchdog of Hauraki, presented information on the Hawkeswood Mining Limited application, which covers a 200.5 hectare section of off-shore coast between Thames town and Moanataiari.

The New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals website shows the company applied for the exploration permit on November 13, to search for gold and silver. The application is currently under evaluation.

"The public meeting included many very concerned people who know this end of Tīkapa Moana (Hauraki Gulf) is already badly degraded by pollution," Coromandel Watchdog chair Catherine Delahunty said.

"The last thing this foreshore needs is to be dug up. Right now exploration of this area is legal but mining is banned under Schedule 4 of the Crown Minerals Act. However, these are uncertain times and we need to protect

the future of this sensitive coast from all mining activity."

The meeting participants were keen to act to prevent impacts on fisheries, waters and the RAMSAR site next door to the permit, Catherine said. About 70 people signed a letter addressed to Hawkeswood Mining, stating that the community will peacefully oppose their activities.

Catherine said the meeting resolved to ask Thames-Coromandel District Council to oppose any consent applications from Hawkeswood Mining to explore the Firth. Four councillors attended the meeting.

"People told us loud and clear that this mining company has no social or cultural licence to operate next to their town, and a number of actions to raise awareness and prepare for action are proposed," Catherine said.

Hawkeswood Mining Limited was charged with illegal mining at its Millers Flat site in Dunedin in 2024, after it was found to have extracted "considerable amounts" of gold while operating under an exploration permit. The company accepted diversion and the charges were dropped.



### BEACH DENTAL PRACTICE

welcomes

**Winnie Choi**  
Dentist

Winnie was Dux at Waihi College in 2020 and graduated from Otago Uni this year.

He says:

*"I am passionate about helping patients feel confident in their smiles and being comfortable in the dental chair. Feel free to say hello, I don't bite!*

*I have an interest in all aspects of dentistry and want to learn more as the years go by."*

### Beach Dental Practice

823 Pollen St, Thames | 07 868 8643

[info@beachdental.co.nz](mailto:info@beachdental.co.nz)

## TradeZone

Thames

**Industrial supply specialists that work for your business.**

**Contact us today:**  
[admin@readbros.co.nz](mailto:admin@readbros.co.nz)

**SERVICES AVAILABLE:**

- Key Cutting • Sharpening
- Wire Rope Swaging • Rope Splicing
- Cut-to-length Extrusions
- Dive Cylinder filling & testing on site

**SEE US AT: READ BROS. HARDWARE**  
308 Pollen St, Thames  
[www.readbros.co.nz](http://www.readbros.co.nz) • 07 868 6608

Wordsearch and Mighty Maze solutions

**Thames Art Gallery**  
604 Tararu Road, Thames Coast  
[www.thamesartgallery.co.nz](http://www.thamesartgallery.co.nz)

**January Featured Artist**

**ELISABETH CARTER**  
Elisabeth brings vibrant, expressive florals to Thames Art Gallery this month. Visit us to enjoy her colourful, uplifting works in person

**OPEN DAILY 10am - 4pm**



# Blue skies, vibes

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA  
Students, teachers and whānau gathered at Goldfields School in Paeroa last month for a morning of fun and celebration at the Blue Skies '25 event. Goldfields School teacher Matua Caleb told *The Profile* it was a day to dress in blue and to celebrate the school value of the term - manaakitanga, to celebrate the countdown to summer and also raise money for Starship hos-

pital. The school raised \$46.50 for Starship. There were beach balls, bubbles, free ice cream and sausage sizzle for all to enjoy. Paeroa musician and director of Rapid Rockstar Music Academy Kristian Bennett played music, which got all the tamariki, kaiako and whānau up on their feet to dance, Matua Caleb said. "The idea for today was to have the school feel like a backyard beach barbie."



Matthew and Matua Caleb.



Keira and Blues.



Shaneyce and Culliana.



Quinn dances to Kristian's music.



Te Haunui and Moses with kaiāwhina Liana.

Photos: SUPPLIED



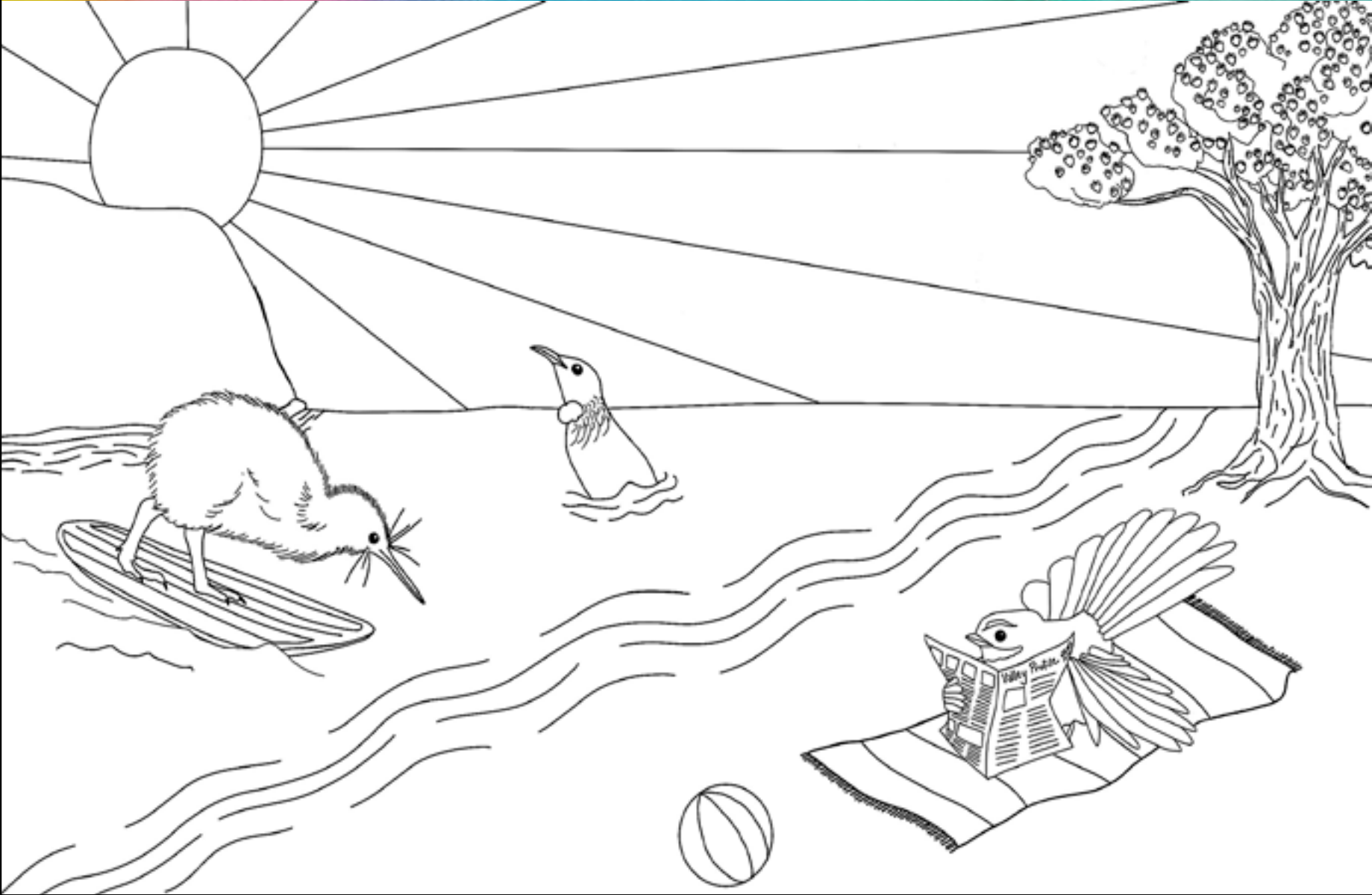
Jendah, Kai and Whaea Hayley enjoy the Blue Skies vibe.



Waihanian enjoys the music.

## Summertime activity

Have fun completing *The Valley Profile* kids' colouring in page, by Alice Parminter





<p><b>Carson's</b> BOOKSHOP 1906</p> <p></p> <p><b>Read • Play • Give</b></p> <p><b>600 Pollen St. Thames</b> <b>www.carsonsbookshop.co.nz</b></p>	<p></p> <p><b>Richmond Villas</b> LIFESTYLE VILLAGE</p> <p><b>82 Richmond St, Thames</b></p>	<p><i>Living the lifestyle, loving the choice...</i></p> <p><b>RAPID  ROCKSTAR</b></p> <p><b>MUSIC ACADEMY</b></p> <p>Contact Kristian - <a href="mailto:info@rrma.co.nz">info@rrma.co.nz</a></p>
---	---	--

## WORDSEARCH

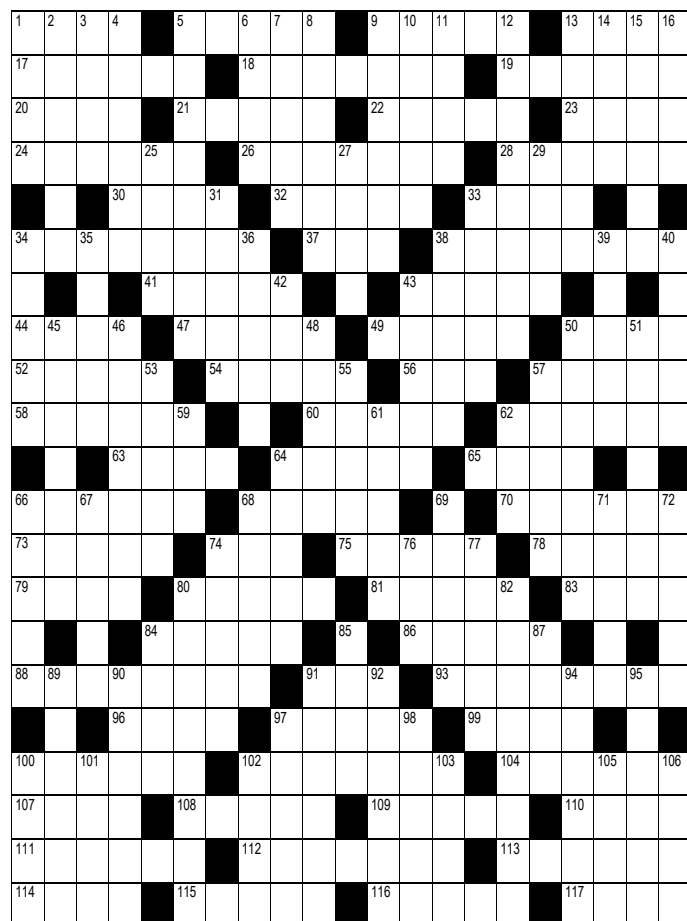
APRON	T O H L Z W W H C I W D N A S C C B		
BARBECUE	R O A D T R I P U P Q Q X S Y S N J		
BEACH	U K E N K C H I C K E N E H Y L Y R		
BEEF	E H X D A R Q F P P F L B X Z A B P		
BURGER	G C L W V C O C S I B C T Z A D E G		
BUTTER	P A R T Y Q H P N A C O O L N N S U		
CHEF	N E Y L C E Z I T J W N U E O A I E		
CHICKEN	Z B T E F A P E L E J T I O R J A S		
CHILDREN	P H K L Z C G D L D A E O C P R N T		
DRINKS	S O P Q E E H C A P R T T N A K N S		
FRUIT	U E O P V T W M S L I E R T G K O E		
GUESTS	N W Q L J A T J I U A E N O Y S Y G		
HOT	S I Y K V B F U R O T S S G O T A A		
JANDALS	C E K E C G E F C T R E G R U B M S		
JETTY	R U S H T Z F E U E A L L E R B M U		
LAKE	E U C E B R A B F D R I N K S I V A		
LETTUCE	E G G S U N G L A S S E S T E A K S		
MAYONNAISE	N S U M M E R T O M A T O S A U C E		
PARTY			
PICNIC			
POOL			
PORK			
ROADTRIP			
RUG			
SALAD			
SANDWICH			
SAUSAGE			
SPATULA			
STEAK	SUNSCREEN	TONGS	VEGETABLES
SUMMER	TOGS	TOWEL	WAVES
SUNGLASSES	TOMATO SAUCE	UMBRELLA	

## SUMMER PICNIC

## CROSSWORD

**Across**

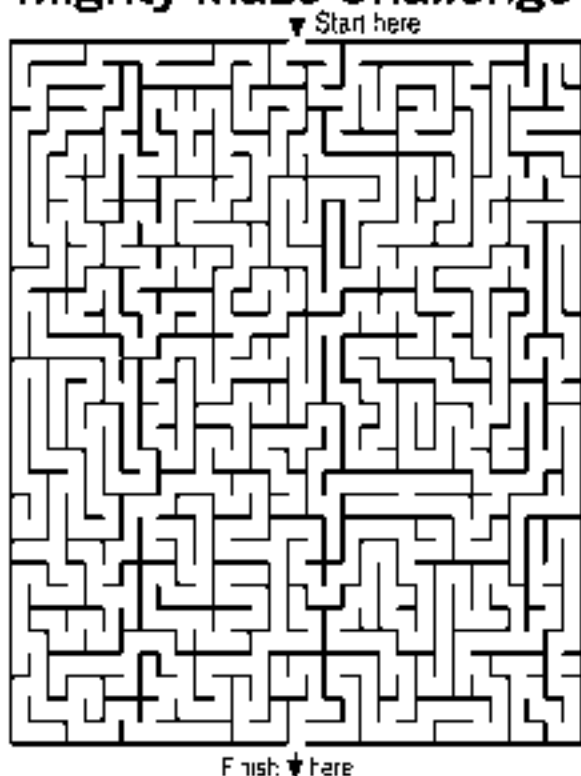
1. Corrosive liquid (4)
5. Small woods (5)
9. Corn (5)
13. Amorphous mass (4)
17. Salad plant (6)
18. Irritated (7)
19. Microscopic organism (6)
20. Brews (4)
21. Young owl (5)
22. Underside of feet (5)
23. Pink Floyd album: The \_\_\_\_\_ (4)
24. Chess piece (6)
26. Theft (7)
28. Three-legged stand (6)
30. Compass direction (4)
32. Staggers (5)
33. Campus bigwig (4)
34. Dampness (8)
37. Legolas, e.g. (3)
38. Housing loan (8)
41. Fishing net (5)
43. Game played on a mat (5)
44. Touched (4)
47. A long time (5)
49. Wit to convey scorn (5)
50. Fizzy drink (4)
52. Looser (5)
54. Little rascal (5)
56. Cold (3)
57. Bed linen (5)
58. Reddish brown (6)
60. From the Emerald Isle (5)
62. Puddinglike dessert (6)
63. Brawl (4)
64. Seaweed (5)



**Down**

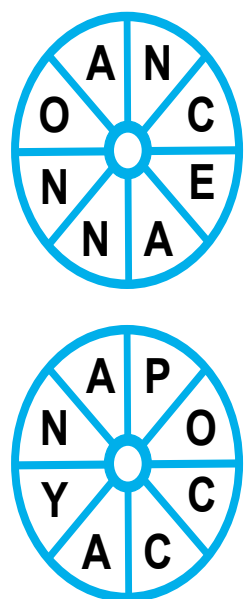
1. Resident of Iran, Iraq or Kuwait (4)
2. Coarse, bright cotton fabric (6)
3. Caesar's unlucky day (4)
4. Saucers (6)
5. Chinese dish (4,4)
6. Lose beauty (4)
7. Creep (5)
8. First dish of a meal (6)
9. Me, \_\_\_\_ and I (6)
10. Immeasurably long time (5)
11. Lazily (4)
12. Lying to the opposite of west (8)
13. Lowering the head (6)
14. Jump (4)
15. Rectangular (6)
16. Hairless (4)
25. Horse food (4)
27. Prison room (4)
29. Rodents (4)
31. Attempts (5)
33. Soft (5)
34. Botches (5)
35. Person who does no work (5)
36. Perform as if in a play (5)
38. Scrounge (5)
39. Plants of the lily family (5)
40. Uplift (5)
42. Period in history (3)
43. Lively (5)
45. Wearing away (7)
46. Scare (7)
48. Smug look (5)
50. Badminton missile (7)
51. Drop (7)
53. Rules (5)
55. Hopes for (5)
57. Cartoon hedgehog (5)
59. Piece of firewood (3)
61. Computer symbols (5)
62. Disorderly crowd of people (3)
64. Forest (5)
66. A mutual promise to marry (5)
67. Grinding tooth (5)
68. Babies born at the same time (5)
69. Three-handed card game (5)
71. Lone Ranger's helper (5)
72. Takes a break (5)
74. Dragged behind (5)
76. Wonder (3)
77. Principles (5)
80. Legitimacy (8)
82. Summary of the main points (8)
84. Bait (4)
85. Whinge (4)
87. Knowledge via tradition (4)
89. Breathe out (6)
90. Orange vegetable (6)
91. Wall painting (6)
92. Artificial language (6)
94. Cover again (6)
95. Odd (6)
97. Promotional statement (5)
98. Dig (5)
100. Bed board (4)
101. Goals (4)
102. Surface of a healing wound (4)
103. Regrets (4)
105. Ancient Greek clothing (4)
106. Relax (4)

## Mighty Maze Challenge



## WORDwheel

Add one letter to complete a nine-letter word, reading clockwise or anticlockwise.




Crossword solution: Across: 1. Acid, 5. Copse, 9. Maize, 13. Blob, 17. Radish, 18. Annoyed, 19. Amoeba, 20. Alias, 21. Owl, 22. Soles, 23. Wall, 24. Bishop, 26. Larceny, 28. Tripod, 30. Fast, 32. Keels, 33. Dean, 34. Moisture, 37. Elf, 38. Mortgage, 41. Seine, 43. Bowls, 44. Felt, 47. Years, 48. Irony, 50. Soda, 52. Fence, 54. Swamp, 56. Icy, 57. Sheet, 58. Sorrel, 60. Irish, 62. Mousse, 63. Riot, 64. Wrack, 65. Font, 66. Timing, 68. Tokyo, 70. Bitter, 73. Roots, 74. Two, 75. Snails, 78. Clone, 79. Only, 80. Voids, 81. Swats, 83. Ends, 84. Laws, 86. Ethyl, 88. Hercules, 91. Fop, 93. Sonorous, 96. Arid, 97. Braid, 99. Sore, 100. Shared, 102. Slender, 104. Pewter, 107. Lair, 108. Incus, 109. Glues, 110. Rove, 111. Almost, 112. Archive, 113. Images, 114. Test, 115. Yobbo, 116. Nests, 117. Pant.  
 Down: 1. Arab, 2. Calico, 3. Ides, 4. Dishes, 5. Chop suey, 6. Pall, 7. Sneak, 8. Entree, 9. Myself, 10. Aeon, 11. Idly, 12. Easterly, 13. Bowling, 14. Leap, 15. Oblong, 16. Bald, 25. Oats, 27. Cell, 29. Rats, 31. Tries, 33. Downy, 34. Woods, 35. Idler, 36. Enact, 38. Mooch, 39. Aloes, 40. Elate, 42. Era, 43. Brisk, 45. Erosion, 46. Terrify, 48. Smirk, 49. Shuttle, 51. Descend, 53. Reins, 55. Prays, 57. Sonic, 59. Log, 61. Icons, 62. Mob, 64. Woods, 66. Troth, 67. Molai, 68. Twins, 69. Skats, 71. Tonto, 72. Rests, 74. Towed, 76. Awe, 77. Ethos, 80. Rues, 82. Synopsis, 84. Lure, 85. Moan, 87. Lore, 89. Exhale, 90. Carrot, 91. Fresco, 92. Pidgeon, 94. Rewrap, 95. Uneven, 97. Blurb, 98. Delve, 100. Slat, 101. Aims, 102. Scab, 103. Rues, 105. Toga, 106. Rest.

WordWheel solutions: 1. ANNOYANCE 2. ACCOMPANY Moghtymaze and Wordsearch answers on page 26

 <p><b>Camille Betham</b> Chartered Accountant</p> <p><b>027 906 0022</b> <a href="mailto:camille@cbassociates.co.nz">camille@cbassociates.co.nz</a></p>	 <p>Your local florist 52 Seddon St, Waihi, Ph: 021 910 810 or 07 863 7774</p>	<p><b>Thames Driver Training</b></p> <p><b>Ph 027 268 6381 or 027 268 6380</b> <a href="mailto:gavinb@outlook.co.nz">gavinb@outlook.co.nz</a></p>	<p><i>Tandori Chambers</i> RESTAURANT &amp; BAR</p> <p><b>07 863 3444</b> <b>22 Haszard Street, Waihi</b></p>
--	---	---	---





DIRECT CREMATION within 15kms of Thames: \$3225.00\*

DIRECT CREMATION requiring transfer from Whangamata, Tairua, Whitianga, Waihi, Paeroa, Ngatea and Coromandel: \$3470.00\*

DIRECT CREMATION requiring transfer from North of Coromandel or Waikato Hospital: \$3580.00\*

Outside all of these areas: \$3225.00 plus mileage

For additional information please refer to Twentymans website: [twentymans.co.nz](http://twentymans.co.nz) CONTACT: 07 868 6003

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

SUPPORT LOCAL



Please advise your Vet of your wish to use Forever Pets Crematorium



Forever Pets  
PET CREMATORIUM

Visit the website: [foreverpets.co.nz](http://foreverpets.co.nz) for further information.

CONTACT: Forever Pets 07 868 6003.

We guarantee the ashes you get back belong to your pet and only your pet.

SUPPORT LOCAL



SUDOKU

232

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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

Puzzles © The Puzzle Company  
[www.thepuzzlecompany.co.nz](http://www.thepuzzlecompany.co.nz)

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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

JUMBO CROSSWORD

252

ACROSS

1 Take place (5)

4 Making minimal noise (2,5,2,1,5)

14 Snares (5)

15 Cleave (5)

16 Replacement (10)

17 Leg bone (5)

19 Long fish (3)

20 Greenhouse (7)

21 Eating place (9)

22 Tracked down (6)

25 Hot and bothered (9)

27 Praises highly (6)

28 Twofold (6)

33 Husky, of voice (10)

35 Steal from (3)

36 Written dissertation (6)

37 Porcelain square (4)

39 Mimic (3)

41 Lap (7)

42 Spectator (6)

43 Woodworker (9)

44 Circumference (5)

45 Hired hand (8)

50 Negative (2)

51 Shivered (8)

55 Populous country (5)

58 Getting (9)

59 Strand (6)

60 Heavy (7)

61 Wildebeest (3)

63 Practical joke (4)

64 Overthrow (6)

65 Argument (3)

66 Slight adjustments (4,6)

68 In a sedate manner (6)

69 Small mustelid (6)

71 Twin-hulled vessel (9)

76 Revolutions (6)

77 Ceremonial robes of clergy, choristers (9)

79 Level (7)

81 Ocean (3)

84 Uncanny (5)

85 Immunised (10)

86 Blocks (5)

87 Shockingly vivid (5)

88 Predisposed to a tittle (4,2,3,6)

89 Actor's whisper (5)

2 Mediterranean island (6)

3 Single-digit numbers (5)

5 Liquid food (4)

6 Steal attention from (7)

7 Banished (6)

8 Maltreat (5)

9 Air came (anag)(7)

10 Dolts (4)

11 Gloomy, melancholy (6)

12 Stunned (5)

13 Quarantine (7)

14 Farm vehicle (7)

18 Affluence (10)

23 Prise (5)

24 Pull longer (7)

26 Poetic (7)

27 Trade ban (7)

29 City in England (7)

30 Element with symbol Na (6)

31 Progress very slowly (5)

32 Reflect (6)

34 Narrow aperture (4)

36 Rips (5)

38 Went astray (5)

40 Microbe (4)

45 Era (5)

46 Unforeseen danger (7)

47 Leave out (4)

48 Checked and corrected (6)

49 Saying (5)

50 Not artificial (7)

52 Sooner or later (10)

53 Waxy-flowered plant (7)

54 Degree (6)

55 Disregarded (7)

56 Sovereign (5)

57 Fifty percent (4)

62 Go furtively (5)

67 Plugged (7)

68 Comfort in grief (7)

70 Star-wearing law officer (7)

72 Lure (7)

73 Oddball (6)

74 Deaden (6)

75 Stick up for (6)

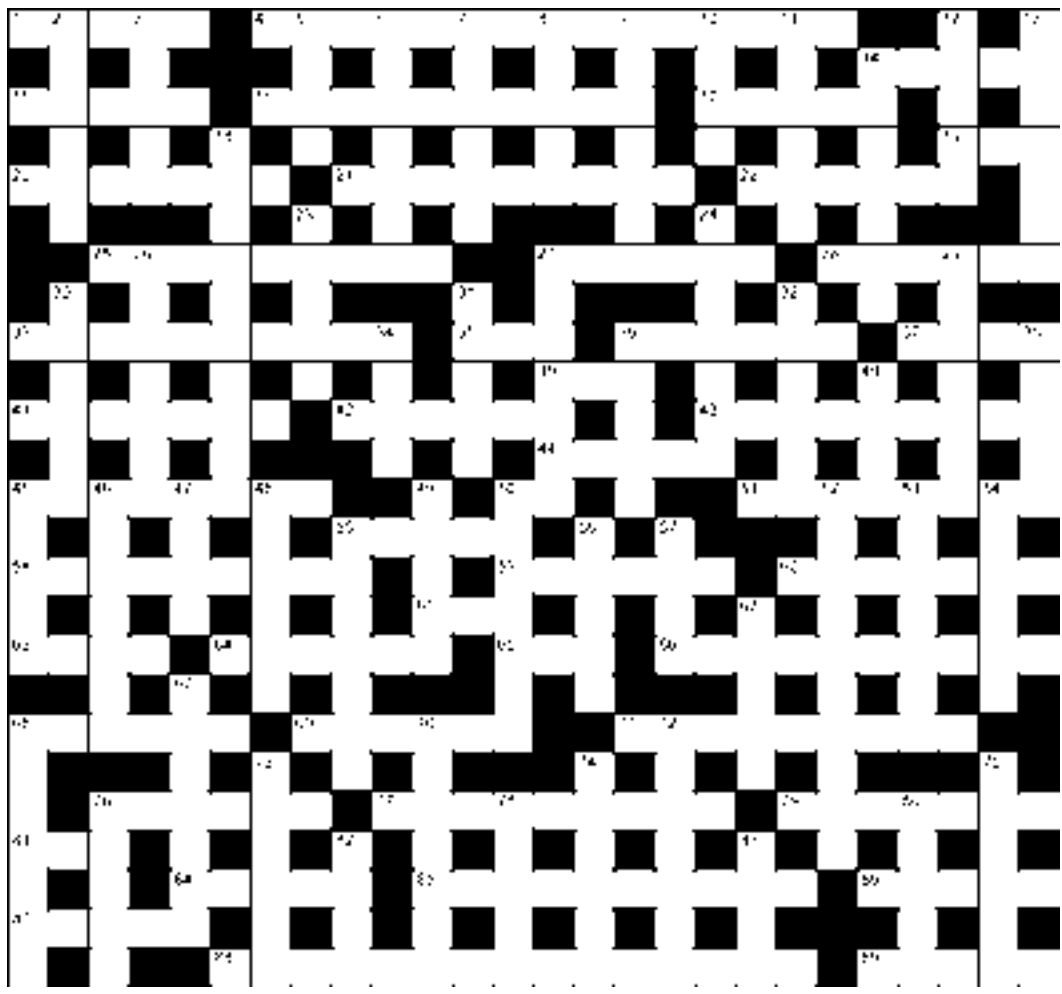
76 Memorial stone mound (5)

78 Pledge of fidelity (5)

80 Bind (5)

82 Bitter prolonged quarrel (4)

83 Rind (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Tissues, 4 Exhalation, 9 Offence, 13 Plum, 14 Beaten, 15 Guilty, 16 Central, 19 Cogitating, 20 Abhorred, 21 Tacks, 24 Groups, 25 Pursue, 27 Parachute, 32 High wire, 33 Appeal, 34 Caution, 38 Offshore, 39 Adagio, 40 Yell, 41 Minus, 42 Terms, 45 Bread and butter, 52 Clods, 55 Ticks, 56 Roll, 57 Inside, 58 Incubate, 61 Glaring, 62 Remits, 63 Let loose, 66 Animosity, 68 Suture, 69 Injury, 73 Spout, 74 Airforce, 76 Oppression, 81 Regrets, 82 Truant, 83 Reside, 84 Filo, 85 Opulent, 86 Impeccable, 87 Strange.

DOWN: 1 Topic, 2 Surgeon, 3 Siesta, 4 Eaten, 5 Hone, 6 Luggage, 7 Thighs, 8 Otter, 10 Feel, 11 Entrant, 12 Chalks, 17 Stoplights, 18 Renal, 22 Ascended, 23 Shoal, 24 Give out, 26 Unit, 28 Analyst, 29 Cherub, 30 Aplomb, 31 Rotund, 33 Argon, 35 Twirl, 36 Afar, 37 Flee, 43 Edible, 44 Maker, 46 Riot, 47 Ailment, 48 Acidic, 49 Desks, 50 Undulate, 51 Random, 52 Clumsiness, 53 Oval, 54 Scenery, 59 Gnome, 60 Stir, 64 Aspic, 65 Audition, 67 Neutral, 68 Sceptic, 70 Upkeep, 71 Crease, 72 Erodes, 75 Forum, 77 Piste, 78 Moose, 79 Stan, 80 Crab.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Stone sculpture brings symposium to shopfronts

By KELLEY TANTAU

A small stone sculpture is quietly making its way through Thames' main street, helping to raise awareness of local artists and their work.

*Te Kapua* [The Cloud], a sculpture by Davey McGhie of Titahi Bay, Porirua, was gifted to the Thames Public Art Trust [TPAT] following this year's Ngākau Carving Symposium at Thames South School. The work is carved from Taranaki andesite and mounted on a steel frame painted blue to represent the sky.

TPAT trustee Jenny McLeod, who has been closely involved with the project, said the sculpture was gifted to the trust following this year's Ngākau Carving Symposium.

"We had been watching the Ngākau Carving Symposium at Thames South School for the last couple of years and wondering how we could support each other."

"After this year's event they approached us with a gift - *Te Kapua*... We were thrilled to receive this gift and immediately decided it would be a great tool for promotion."

Because *Te Kapua* is too small for permanent outdoor installation, the trust decided to use it as a travelling exhibition, placing it in shopfront windows along Thames' main street.

"So far it has been in my shopfront, Jenny McLeod Glass, Carson's Bookshop and now the



Thames GDC Group at 541 Pollen St.

"We have no fixed timeframes for its display and it has been a casual arrangement with each business owner. We have been very grateful for the spaces provided so far," Jenny said.

The trust plans to continue finding new locations for the sculpture around town next year, using it as a promotional tool for both the Ngākau Symposium and TPAT's wider work. "Our main aim is to create support and awareness of the Ngākau Symposium and our Thames Public Art Trust, and all the artists and volunteers involved in both, of which there are so many," Jenny said.

"It really does take a village to get events and public art to happen and it makes our community so much more vibrant and interesting."

**DETAILS:** To follow the trust's public arts initiatives, find Thames Public Art Trust on Facebook.



*The Octopus*, a striking new sculpture by artist Adrian Worsley, has been installed outside the Thames Civic Centre to mark 10 years of Steampunk the Thames, in collaboration with the Thames Public Art Trust. Crafted entirely from scrap metal, the artwork aims to reflect the unique character of Thames, where steampunk, history, and the Hauraki Rail Trail intersect. Standing at the civic centre since November, *The Octopus* joins Worsley's growing collection of sculptures found along the trail. Worsley designs and constructs his sculptures entirely from recycled materials from his studio in Te Aroha. His series of Bike Rack sculptures can be found displayed in Te Aroha's main street. The Trust acknowledged the support of Chris Fraser from The Memorial Company, who donated his time and use of a HiAb truck to transport the sculpture from Te Aroha to Thames. Thanks were also extended to Kopu Engineering for providing oversize signage and hazard boards.

**Richmond Villas**  
LIFESTYLE VILLAGE  
*Living the lifestyle, loving the choice...*

**RVA**  
NEW ZEALAND  
Residential Villages Association

### A Lifestyle Village In Thames on the Coromandel

## 2 BEDROOM VILLAS NOW AVAILABLE

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

Our spacious villas provide you with plenty of warmth and light and garden patios to enjoy. There are a variety of layouts including 2 bedroom villas, and 2 bedrooms with a double garage. All residents enjoy the use of the Village Community Lodge and participation in all activities and amenities at your leisure.

**ALL ENQUIRIES WELCOME, VIEW OUR VILLA OPTIONS TODAY!**

82 Richmond St, Thames      0800 868 5484      [www.richmondvillas.co.nz](http://www.richmondvillas.co.nz)

**PHONE US to view by Appointment!**  
Come and experience the difference!





Boundary lines are indicative only



Maramarua 288 Dimmock Road

Quiet and serene

Enjoy 9,680sqm (more or less) of open space in a quiet no-exit setting, ready for your dream build. This bare land is a true blank canvas, with power at the boundary and only limited covenants, giving you freedom to create a home, shed, or layout that works for your lifestyle. Light, space, and accessibility make it ideal for modern, traditional, or everyday living. Close to Blueberry Country, Ngatea Water Gardens, Maramarua Golf Club and Miranda Holiday Park, plus good schooling nearby. Easy reach to SH2 with Pukekohe, Manukau and Hamilton all accessible. Bring your ideas and make it your own.

bayleys.co.nz/2630146

9,680 sqm

**Asking Price** \$399,000  
**Phone for viewing times**  
**Karl Davis** 0508 83 83 83  
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz  
**Seth Roe** 027 320 6937  
seth.roe@bayleys.co.nz  
SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Ngarimu Bay 31 Patui Avenue, Thames Coast

Vendor says - let's get it sold!

Seriously for sale and with dual legal access, ample parking and garaging for cars and boat at either the road or private lane entrances, this delightful coastal property is ideally set up as a holiday home or permanent family residence. Expansive open plan living with adjoining sunny conservatory, large sliding doors opening to balcony offering wonderful views over the water. Sandy swimming beach is only a few minutes' walk away. Offering three large bedrooms plus bonus space for substantial office or guest accommodation, two bathrooms, stylish kitchen and plenty of storage, this is an ideal coastal retreat within 10 minutes from Thames.

bayleys.co.nz/2180775

3 2 1 4

**Asking Price** \$1,155,000  
**View** 1-1.30pm Sun 28 Dec & Sun 4 Jan  
or by appointment  
**Geoff Graham** 021 733 430  
geoff.graham@bayleys.co.nz  
M H REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



# Records, rescues for The Fox fundraiser

Even as top Kiwi golfer Ryan Fox was helping raise funds for two Waihi Beach charities over December 13-15, the charities themselves were out saving lives.

The sixth running of The Fox, presented by Shimano Fishing New Zealand, raised a record \$60,800 for the Waihi Beach Surf Lifesaving Club and the Waihi Beach Coastguard, with 25 teams spending a day fishing on the Sunday and a day playing golf on the Monday.

What really made things meaningful for the world No 38 golfer and two-time PGA Tour winner in 2025 was seeing the emergency services in action, putting those charity dollars to the best use imaginable.

As the tournament was kicking off on December 13 at the surf club, veteran Waihi Beach lifeguard Christiaan Maarhuis was saving a young girl's life while out training in the waves. And during the fishing the following day, the new Gallagher Rescue patrol boat - partially funded by the tournament - made two emergency calls to help boaties in trouble.

"I spend a lot of time in Waihi Beach and Mum and Dad still have a place down here and they're both charities you hope you never have to use, but you've only got to look at what happened over the weekend," Fox said.

"It's great to know someone has your back when you're out there on the water and we're proud to have been able to make a difference over the past six years.

"The tournament itself is a lot of fun but I'm really proud that we're



Jared Radovancich, right, caught his first marlin during tournament.

Photos: Jamie Troughton/Dscribe Media

also looking after two great causes that legitimately save lives."

Maarhuis was heading out for a ski paddle around 6:45pm when he noticed two young swimmers struggling and being pulled out to sea in half-metre swells, with the leash of a boogie board wrapped around the young girl's neck, while her older brother tried to help.

Maarhuis immediately swam over to the siblings, held the panicked young girl afloat, and removed the leash from her neck.

While Maarhuis assisted the girl

back through the waves on her board and back into the beach, an ex-Karioitahi lifeguard swam out with fins to help her brother in.

"It was a very close call for both of those kids," Maarhuis said, after reuniting both children with their anxious mum.

"They got dragged out very quickly and were in pretty serious trouble by the time I got to them."

The Waihi Beach Surf Lifesaving Club has used the funds to help support an after-hours call-out squad - which Maarhuis is

involved in - while a new satellite base at Bowentown is also being built and fitted out with support from The Fox. The Coastguard, meanwhile, launched Gallagher Rescue, a specialist 10m Phantom RV1000 boat, with proceeds from The Fox helping get the boat on the water almost 12 months earlier than planned.

This year's tournament again featured a number of sporting celebrities, including All Black wing Caleb Clarke, former All Blacks Mils Muliana and Grant Fox,



Ryan Fox prepares a lure, with Waihi Beach Coastguard's new vessel (rear).

Black Caps bowler Neil Wagner, Waihi Olympic gymnast Dylan Schmidt, rowing legend Eric Murray, fishing personality Matt Watson and Bay of Plenty rugby stars Naitoa Ah Kuoi and Kurt Eklund.

Muliaina showed his fishing prowess by taking a prize for hauling in one of the largest trevally of the day, while the first-ever game fish was caught during The Fox, a 93.2kg striped marlin caught by Jared Radovancich. "I reckon I'll be smiling like this for the next year - what a day, what a day," a jubilant Radovancich said.

Event director, Sports Inc's Kelsen Butler, said support from the community continued to grow.

"It's amazing that [Fox] continues to make time for this tournament but when he sees first-hand what a difference it makes in a community he loves, it's one of those feel-good stories.

"It's also really heart-warming to see so many businesses and supporters... come together to raise much-needed funds."

The Fox has now raised \$275,000 for the two charities over the six years it has been running. This year's winning team was the Sandicappers.



## FOR SALE

In 2026 after family holidays

317 Te Kouma Rd Coromandel

Family farm house on 5296 sq m Parts of house over 100 years old.  
Mature grounds with native bush at the rear. If required, the land is sub divisible  
in to 2 additional sections or if house removed 3 additional sections.  
Sleeps 10 with granny flat underneath Garage workshop, storage room, boat shed.  
Magnificent views over Coromandel Harbour. We have enjoyed it for 85 years.  
To register your interest email Leonard Heard heardleo@hotmail.com