

# The Valley Profile

**EVES**  
New Zealand's Most Trusted  
Real Estate Agency



**EVES Waihi**  
07 863 1118 waihi@eves.co.nz  
EVES Realty Ltd. Licensed under the REAA 2008

**DM** DIPROSE MILLER  
chartered accountants

By ALICE PARMINTER

A Paeroa pensioner who was living in a single room in his storm-damaged home now has a watertight roof again, thanks to the kindness of strangers.

The man, who did not wish to be identified, has been living in a home with a damaged roof and multiple leaks since Cyclone Gabrielle swept through the region in 2023, he told *The Profile*.

"The main bedroom was the area that copped it most in the first place - I basically had that shut off," he said.

"I've got one room in there which is pretty much watertight and that's where I've been settling in."

Although he used to be a carpenter by trade, a bad leg meant the man was unable to get up on the roof to make repairs.

"Unfortunately, I'm getting older and have less funds in the bank and what have you, so I wasn't really able to do anything. So I did what I could inside the house," he said.

"I've had rainwater control up in the roof space and in the odd spaces in the house. I have an awful lot of plastic bins... I know where the leaks come through so I position the bins where I have the problem."

The man originally built the home himself when he moved to Paeroa. He said it had been a nice home for

## Builder pitches in



The original state of the roof. SUPPLIED  
LEFT: Paeroa builder David Stock saw the state of the man's roof and knew he needed to help.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

many years, but wished he had chosen a different roofing material.

"It's had some moss grow on it, which eats through the product, and it's just got worse," he said.

"If I had put a corrugated iron roof on it in the first place, it'd probably be as good as the day it was put on."

Lack of funds and a fierce independent streak have only added to the man's woes, as the unusually wet

weather of the past few years have caused the roof to deteriorate even further.

The poor condition of the roof was noticed by local builder David Stock, when he dropped by to repair a neighbour's gate.

"I'd seen the house sit-

ting like this, and seen the old fella working down the side," David said.

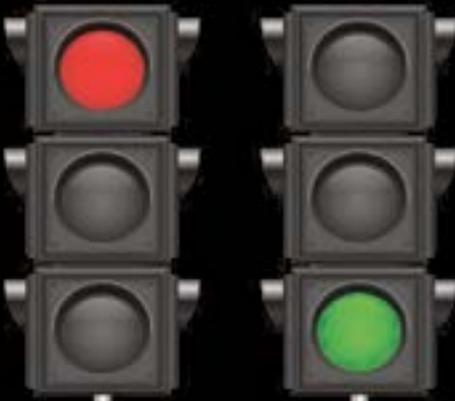
"[The neighbour] filled me in and I went over to him and said, 'we'll try and sort something out for you'."

What happened next was

CONTINUED ON P2

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



smart environmental

**Book this space:  
only  
\$50 + GST**

**Contact Nikki today!**

022 130 3885 | nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz



# Pensioner overwhelmed by generosity

CONTINUED FROM P1

an outpouring of community support. David posted a photo of the roof on social media, and immediately received offers of spare materials, money, and volunteers.

"We've got some new iron, someone supplied all the new purlins... Someone put \$1000 in my account at Buildlink, which will go towards either bats or flashings and other bits and bobs."

David, along with other tradies who do-

nated their time, pulled the old roof down and began from scratch. He said it was just something that he needed to do. "Well, I couldn't leave. And the thought of, if I'm that old and I can't do my roof, I'd hope that someone else might," he said. "I've got the know-how, so why not do it properly?"

For his part, the homeowner said he was relieved, if a bit embarrassed, to be the recipient of the community's generosity.

"[It's been] rough, and it doesn't make

me a worse person or a better person. I'm just who I am. I've helped everyone else out wherever I could, and I'm not one to ask for help myself. But these guys have come along and they've offered, and I've had no choice but to accept their help," he said.

"Yeah, it's embarrassing - I'd rather stay independent if I can.

"But if it hadn't been for these guys coming and offering to help me, I don't know what I would have done."

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 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 Forsyth Barr ad.

**PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT/ADVERTORIAL:** Advertising Manager Nikki Sanders, Ph 022 130 3885, nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz; Feature Writer Davidda Hikatangata, Ph 022 174 3988, davidda@valleyprofile.co.nz. **NEWS/EDITORIAL:** Managing Editor/Owner Teresa Maxwell, Ph 0204 0944 853, editor@valleyprofile.co.nz; Senior Reporter Kelley Tantau, Ph 022 619 4889, kelley@valleyprofile.co.nz; Senior Reporter Alice Parminter, Ph 022 527 0988, alice@valleyprofile.co.nz. **LETTERS:** Send letters to the editor: 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 or download the Coromandel App on your smart phone

© READ BROS. COOK • BAKE • CREATE

A unique collection of kitchen and homeware carefully selected each season for those who love to gift, cook and create.

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

www.readbros.co.nz  
308 Pollen St, Thames  
07 868 6608

# Scott Simpson

## MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime  
0800 550 330 • scottsimpson.co.nz  
mpcoromandel@parliament.govt.nz  
f scottsimpsonmp

Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

## 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

**95 Kapanga Rd, Coromandel**  
Ph/Fax: 07 866-8660  
E: coro@haurakitaxation.co.nz

## Thames Tides

| Wed<br>Feb 25                |                             | Thu<br>Feb 26                |                               | Fri<br>Feb 27                 |                           | Sat<br>Feb 28                |        | Sun<br>Mar 1 |        | Mon<br>Mar 2 |        | Tue<br>Mar 3 |        |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|
| 6:58am                       | 8:03pm                      | 6:59am                       | 8:02pm                        | 7:00am                        | 8:00pm                    | 7:01am                       | 7:59pm | 7:02am       | 7:57pm | 7:03am       | 7:56pm | 7:04am       | 7:55pm |
| Best At<br>7:26am<br>7:57pm  | Best At<br>8:29am<br>9:00pm | Best At<br>9:31am<br>10:02pm | Best At<br>10:32am<br>11:00pm | Best At<br>11:28am<br>11:54pm | Best At<br>12:20pm        | Best At<br>12:44am<br>1:08pm |        |              |        |              |        |              |        |
| First Quarter<br>Rise 3:21pm | Set 12:31am<br>Rise 4:27pm  | Set 1:34am<br>Rise 5:23pm    | Set 2:46am<br>Rise 6:09pm     | Set 3:59am<br>Rise 6:47pm     | Set 5:11am<br>Rise 7:17pm | Set 6:21am<br>Rise 7:44pm    |        |              |        |              |        |              |        |

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

**MOON AND FISH KEYS**

● New Moon    ● First Quarter    ● Full Moon    ● Last Quarter

🐟 Good Fishing    🐟 Fair Fishing    🐟 Not So Good

**TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES**

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

| PLACE       | Hr | Mn | HR | LOW |
|-------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Coromandel  | -0 | 05 | -0 | 03  |
| Whitianga   | -0 | 01 | -0 | 06  |
| Tairua      | +0 | 10 | +0 | 20  |
| Whangamata  | -0 | 03 | -0 | 06  |
| Waihi Beach | -0 | 21 | -0 | 16  |

# Historic bridge restoration nears completion

By ALICE PARMINTER

Plans to reopen the historic Kōpū Bridge to the public are well underway, with the Kōpū Bridge and Community Trust aiming to have the gates open within the next six months.

The single-lane, swing-span bridge was opened in 1928, and for years remained the main route to the Coromandel Peninsula from the north.

It was decommissioned in December, 2011, after the new, two-lane bridge was built alongside it over the Waihōu River.

Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) initially planned to tear the old bridge down, at a cost of approximately \$3.9 million.

Instead, the community fought to keep it intact, arguing for its significance as the only operational swing-span bridge remaining in New Zealand. In 2012, ownership of the 463-metre long bridge was transferred to the Trust.

Trust secretary Leigh Robcke said a band of volunteers have been working hard for the last five or six years to make repairs to the bridge and reopen it to the public.

"It's taken us longer than we thought. You've got to do things in sequence," Leigh said.

"[But] we're pretty pleased with how it's looking - we can see we can get this open now."

Since taking over the site, the Trust has spent around \$75,000 restoring the bridge - it has installed gates, bollards, and safety signage; undertaken significant electrical work including the in-



Kōpū Bridge and Community Trust's Leigh Robcke is keen to see the bridge reopened.

Photos: ALICE PARMINTER

stallation of a generator; restored the wheelhouse at the centre of the bridge; and ensured the swing span is maintained and fully operational.

All that's left to do is complete repairs to sections of the railing - and with contracted builder Jon Liddell already having begun the repairs, Leigh said the bridge could be completed sooner rather than later.

"[He's] done quite a bit of work

out in the middle, putting a chamfer on it," Leigh said.

"We're going to replace some of the posts too, but they're not crucial. The main thing is that you've got a railing and you've got a barrier."

Only around 150m of the railing needs to be completely replaced, Leigh said. And the wood which is removed will be recycled into wooden benches to be placed in the old passing bays.



Sections of the railings are still needing repair, however, repairs are almost complete.



take. "We had to get a conservation plan in place - there's things we can't do," he said.

However, the Trust plans to scrape down the posts and railings, and repaint them in white and light blue to match the historic colour scheme.

Wati and Leigh said the bridge would complement the nearby Hauraki Rail Trail nicely when opened, and bring back nostalgia for those who remember the long queues of summer traffic.

"I have many memories of using it and utilising the passing bay," Wati said.

"Now cyclists will have the choice to go over the top or across the old bridge."

**cooperaitken** accountants  
THAMES | MORRINSVILLE | MATAMATA | HAMILTON

**WAIKATO CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & BUSINESS ADVISORS**

Creating freedom in your business.

p] 07 868 9945  
e] mail@cooperaitken.co.nz

104 Sealey Street, Thames

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

**Snowden's - MENSWEAR -**

*A smart in between seasons jacket by Uberstone, Australia. Pure comfort in easy care man made fibre, great for travel.*

**\$325**

Proudly locally owned and operated for more than 50 years

520 Pollen St Thames, Ph: 07 868 7056

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

**Comfort Sale**

**25% off Sofas & Modulars**

LA Z BOY

**BAXTERS**

**FURNITURE & BEDS R US**

**205 SEALEY ST, THAMES | PH 07 868 6128**

**TradeZone** Thames

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

Contact us today: 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

# Education

ADVERTISING FEATURE

## THS head students lead with humility

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

A diverse set of personalities and interests is something that will help a group of 2026 Thames High School head students “reach the students in our school”.

“It makes for great discussion that we can bring a lot of ideas to the table,” the group of young leaders told *The Profile*.

Their intent as leaders was to make sure everyone was “comfortable and safe” at school.

“We want to project that everyone matters and belongs,” they said.

It was 17-year-old head student Abbygail Patterson’s vision to “make a positive impact” and be an advocate for Thames High.

But leadership takes humility, she said.

“It looks like humbling yourself with a willingness to sacrifice to lead and teach others. A true leader sets a positive example, supports the people around them and [is] willing to make difficult decisions for the greater good.”

Fellow head student Brooklyn Jiang said a leader was someone who rolemodeled by example and tried their best “even when no one’s looking”.

His “absolute dream” was to get a masters degree in Aerospace engineering, he said, and to work at Rocket Lab.

Since he was a child, Brooklyn said he “idolised space”.



The Thames High School head students for 2026 hope to project “that everyone matters and belongs”.

“My real dream is to hopefully go there one day, but I guess that’s a little far-fetched. So my down-to-earth one is to build and design rockets that go there.”

Meanwhile, Manukura (leader) Māori Kyah Lyon said her dream was to attend university and to build a career that “gives me purpose”.

“I want my journey to reflect

that hard work can shape a future worth celebrating.”

The goal of the 17-year-old Manukura was to nurture her culture within the school.

“I’m looking forward to leading initiatives that grow Te Reo Māori and tikanga [customs] so that our kura becomes a more supportive and inclusive environment for everyone.”

Fellow head student Holly Bradley said she was excited to support the team of student leaders, specifically the welfare and arts and cultural leaders.

“I want to encourage students to try new things, step out of their comfort zones, and have the self-belief that anything is possible.”

A personal dream of hers was to “somehow make a difference in

the world” in the areas of human rights or environmental issues.

Meanwhile, fellow head student Annie Perrett said her dream was to attend university and study a bachelor of law, and hopefully specialise in sports law, which was “a huge passion of mine”.

The 17-year-old head student said being a leader was “much more than being in charge” - it also meant creating an environment and culture where everyone felt heard and valued.

Fellow Manukura Māori Zay-dee-Kade Prasad said it was her family who inspired her to be a great leader and “I want to make them proud”.

Her dream was to become a paediatric nurse or something along the lines of a neonatologist.

One thing the 16-year-old leader hoped to develop this year was to be more approachable to students and to take on their suggestions, she said.

The young head student also looked forward to getting to know students around school, being a support person and someone “they look up to”.

One piece of advice the group hoped to share with fellow students was to “take the opportunities that come your way, even when you feel you are not capable”, they said. “These opportunities will teach and strengthen you, which will open many further opportunities.”

### Te Kura Tuarua o Te Kauaeranga

Kia kōtahi ai te piki ake, kia ikeike rawa ki te taumata



### Thames High School

We grow together to achieve ones true potential

### PŌWHIRI & STUDENT LEADERS 2026



|  |  |  |   |   |  |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| <br><b>HOLLY BRADLEY</b><br>MANUARATAKI-A-KURA / HEAD STUDENT      | <br><b>KYAH LYON</b><br>MANUKURA MĀORI                             | <br><b>ABBYGAIL PATTERSON</b><br>MANUARATAKI-A-KURA / HEAD STUDENT | <br><b>ANNIE PERRETT</b><br>MANUARATAKI-A-KURA / HEAD STUDENT | <br><b>ZAYDEE PRASAD</b><br>MANUKURA MĀORI                | <br><b>BROOKLYN JIANG</b><br>MANUARATAKI-A-KURA / HEAD STUDENT             |
| <br><b>ZARA CHAMBERLAIN</b><br>KAIARATAKI AKORANGA / ACADEMIC      | <br><b>IMMANUEL HUWALD</b><br>KAIARATAKI AKORANGA / ACADEMIC       | <br><b>CARSON FLETCHER</b><br>KAIARATAKI HĀKINAKINA / SPORTS       | <br><b>GRACIE MILLER</b><br>KAIARATAKI HĀKINAKINA / SPORTS    | <br><b>LAWRON WAITE</b><br>KAIARATAKI HĀKINAKINA / SPORTS | <br><b>KIM JU TAING</b><br>KAIARATAKI TAIAO-A-KURA / SERVICE & ENVIRONMENT |
| <br><b>ANNA DOBIE</b><br>KAIARATAKI TIKANGA-Ā-IWI / ARTS & CULTURE | <br><b>ELI LESTER</b><br>KAIARATAKI TIKANGA-Ā-IWI / ARTS & CULTURE | <br><b>DIMPLE MARTIN</b><br>KAIARATAKI HAUWHARE / HOUSE            | <br><b>LORENZO YAMAMOTO</b><br>KAIARATAKI HAUWHARE / HOUSE    | <br><b>LEXI DINNEEN</b><br>KAIARATAKI HAUORANGA / WELFARE | <br><b>BEN FITZGERALD</b><br>KAIARATAKI HAUORANGA / WELFARE                |

# TCDC relief fund still open

People affected by the January storm event are still able to apply for financial assistance through the Thames-Coromandel Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund, with applications closing on March 6.

The fund was established following severe weather on January 21 and 22, and has already received more than 130 applications. To date, more than \$250,000 has been raised through donations from organisations, community groups, and individuals.

Thames-Coromandel Mayor Peter Revell said the fund continued to play an important role in helping people recover.

“Every donation to this relief fund goes towards helping our communities recover from the weather event,” he said.

“Some individuals and families have been especially hard hit and every little bit of support the fund can offer helps those people.”

The fund provides one-off assistance in extraordinary circumstances and can be used to support affected individuals, families, community organisations, small businesses and marae. Assistance may cover costs such as debris removal for uninsured or underinsured properties, hardship support, basic household goods and personal items, insurance ex-



TCDC Mayor Peter Revell

cess payments, and support for small businesses impacted by the emergency.

Council thanked a number of major contributors to the fund, including National Emergency Management Agency, IAG Insurance, Suncorp, Momentum Waikato, Te Rourou One Aotearoa Foundation, along with local community groups and residents.

“We know that the fund will help alleviate to some small extent the stress and difficulties experienced by people and their families affected by the storm event,” Mayor Revell said.

**DETAILS: Apply for the fund by using the web form on the council website: [www.tcdc.govt.nz/](http://www.tcdc.govt.nz/) relief or by downloading the pdf application and sending it back to [funding@tcdc.govt.nz](mailto:funding@tcdc.govt.nz). Applications close on March 6, and each will be assessed by an independent panel.**

# Community hall to close for bridge works

By KELLEY TANTAU

One of Tairua’s busiest community spaces will close from mid-May, with the community hall set to be used as a base for construction of the new Pepe Stream Bridge.

The decision follows safety concerns identified during planning for the bridge replacement project, with Thames-Coromandel District Council stating that keeping the hall and its car park open during construction posed a “major safety risk”.

Council said grouping construction activity around the hall site would minimise disruption and congestion on the town-side of the bridge and along Pepe Rd.

Even if the hall remained open to the many people and groups who used it, council said, parking would need to be on Pepe Rd or beyond and people would be walking in and out of a construction site.

Hall chairman Gary Healy said the closure of the complex during the project would be “quite disruptive” for the users and the community at large. He told *The Profile* around 20 groups used the hall on a weekly or twice-weekly basis. “The size of the groups would number anywhere from around half a dozen people up to 30 or more. In addition to the frequent regulars, the hall is used by the NZ Blood Service, Breast-Screen Aotearoa, Elections NZ, Tairua School, Ear Clinic and various private and public events and functions.”

Gary initially opposed the decision after being informed in January that the hall would need to



The green shaded area is the construction zone for the bridge project.

close, but efforts to reverse it were unsuccessful.

Hall users were subsequently brought together at a meeting to explain the situation and to begin identifying alternative venues in Tairua that could be used during the construction period.

“The talk of a new bridge has gone on for years, and it always seemed to be getting pushed out by a couple of years due to budget constraints etc, and speaking for myself, I hadn’t really given much thought to the potential impact of the work on the community,” Gary said. “Suddenly it’s happening, and as details of what the contractor required to complete the job as efficiently and cost effectively as possible [became clear], the dismay factor rose rapidly.”

“Having been in discussions with NZTA and Fulton Hogan, together with other affected parties in Tairua, however, I think we all have a better understanding of the situation and the need to close the hall.”

According to council, a plan had been developed to accommodate hall users at other venues around

town, and in recognition of the inconvenience, contractor Fulton Hogan would assist hall users with hire fees.

The Pepe Bridge project will replace the current single-lane road bridge and pedestrian bridge with a new two-lane bridge featuring a shared path on the seaward side and a footpath on the Pepe Road side. The existing bridge, which opened in 1943, crosses a tidal stream on State Highway 25 just south of the Tairua town centre.

New Zealand Transport Agency regional manager for infrastructure delivery Adrian Jones said that subject to consents being granted by the end of April, construction could begin as early as July, earlier than the previously planned spring start.

Gary encouraged residents to attend an information event at the hall on February 26 between 2pm and 6pm to ask questions and share feedback. Beyond the hall closure, he said ongoing traffic management around the Pepe Rd and State Highway 25 intersection was likely to be the most challenging issue for the community.



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

## 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!**

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

82 Richmond St, Thames

0800 868 5484

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

# Our Coromandel

News from Thames-Coromandel District Council



25 February 2026

## New Variable Speed Limit signs around schools

Work begins next month to install Variable Speed Limit (VSL) signs outside schools to make our communities safer.

VSL signs trigger a lower speed limit during busy times outside schools (at the start and end of the school day). They then revert to the road's standard speed limit at nights, weekends and holidays, or when there's minimal student activity. Schools can also control speed limits during special



school events, in coordination with our Council and its roading team.

Most urban schools will have a 30km/h limit during school travel times. Some rural schools may have a 60km/h limit, depending on the road context.

Temporary traffic management is expected as the signs are installed. Please be patient while this work to make our communities safer is carried out.



HAURAKI COROMANDEL BUSINESS AWARDS



## Save the date and join us in showcasing business brilliance

The Claymark Hauraki Coromandel Business Awards are set for 15 October 2026 at the Thames War Memorial Civic Centre.

This biennial event is a chance to recognise and celebrate the incredible businesses that make our region thrive, bringing over 150 local business people together for an unforgettable evening.

Celebrating excellence requires backing from equally brilliant businesses.

Sponsorship is an excellent way to:

- Gain exposure for your business
- Enjoy a night out with industry leaders
- Support and celebrate fellow businesses in our community.

If you are interested in being a sponsor, see [tcdc.govt.nz/HBCA](http://tcdc.govt.nz/HBCA)

Help us celebrate the businesses that make our Hauraki-Coromandel thrive.



## THAMES COMMUNITY BOARD FUNDING

Thames Community Board approved discretionary grants totalling \$18,905.50 for initiatives to benefit the community at its meeting on 11 February.

- \$8,747 for three driver licence programmes to support 36 young people to get their licences.
- \$7,395 for CAPS Hauraki to run a free Children's Day event in Victoria Park on Sunday 1 March. The grant will go towards a mobile rock climbing wall, mechanical surfboard, dunking tank, basketball challenge, sausage sizzle and facepainting. The event is expected to attract around 2,000 people.
- \$2,268.50 for Thames SPCA to give out vouchers for free desexing operations and microchipping to 10 cat or dog owners who cannot afford the cost.
- \$495 for Thames Tumbletots to hire Thames Civic Centre for a movement skills programme for crawling babies and toddlers.

## KŌPŪ BOAT RAMP MURAL

If you've been down to the Kōpū Boat Ramp lately, you may have already spotted this stunning mural welcoming boaties over summer. Created by local Ngāti Maru artist Rick Fisher, the artwork brings colour, story and a real sense of place to the area.

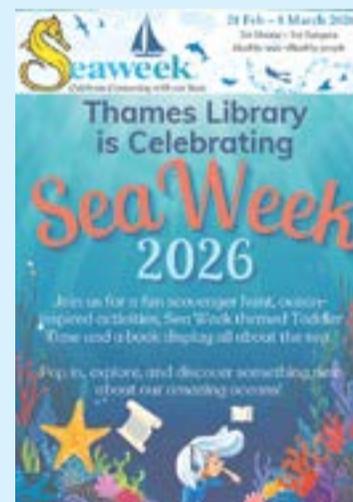
The mural features on the exterior of the new public toilet, built with funding from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund. Next time you're heading out on the water, arrive a little early, take it in, and make it part of the launch experience.



## Thames Library celebrates Seaweed

Thames Library is diving into Seaweed 2026, from 28 February to 8 March, with a range of fun and educational activities for the whole community.

Visitors can explore a special display of sea-themed books highlighting the wonders of our oceans and marine life. An activity table will be set up with ocean-themed colouring sheets and hands-on activities. Families can take part in a Seaweed Scavenger Hunt running all week. There's also a Seaweed-inspired Toddler Time at 9.30am on Thursday 5 March.



## Need funding for your arts project?

APPLICATIONS FOR THE CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME CLOSE ON FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2026



OUR NEXT THAMES COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING WILL BE 10AM WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THAMES



[tcdc.govt.nz/ccs](http://tcdc.govt.nz/ccs)

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

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

# Disposed council buildings to benefit community

By ALICE PARMINTER

Two council-owned buildings are being vested to the community in Hauraki - the Waitakaruru Community Hall and the Ngatea Council Depot.

Full ownership of the Waitakaruru Community Hall is passing to the Hauraki North Rugby Football Club, after Hauraki District Council agreed at its February 11 meeting to dispose of the asset.

The hall has been administered by the Waitakaruru Domain Board Committee since it opened in 1956. However, ownership of the building has been complicated, with the council only owning the original war memorial hall, and the club owning two extensions on either side of the building which it added in the 70s, to house the district's football quarters.

"[The club's] spent a bit of money on it. Things like the women's toilets and the changing rooms - that's all been done off our back," club president Gavin Flint told *The Profile*. "Although the council have been really good about it - [they] wanted us to have it."

With the Waitakaruru Domain Board Committee officially winding down in early February, councillors agreed it was a good opportunity to formally pass on full control of its portion of the building to the sports club.

The transfer of the asset will take place through a sale and purchase agreement for the nominal sum of \$1, and will mean the council will no longer be responsible for any repairs, maintenance, or other liabilities around the property.

The sale will be conditional on



The Waitakaruru Community Hall and Hauraki North Rugby Football Club clubrooms.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

the property being vested to a like-minded incorporated society in the event that club is dissolved, or otherwise vested back to the council.

This condition will ensure the building does not become a burden on the community, council documents said.

Gavin said the transfer of the building's ownership will make the club's administration of the site much more straightforward.

"At the moment, we have to have two insurance policies... We're the ones looking after it. I think it just makes sense, really," he said.

"We're a community club and a family club - nothing's changed.

It's still there to be used, it just gives us a bit more autonomy."

Meanwhile, the disused Council Depot building in Ngatea is also set to be disposed of, with ownership being vested to Hauraki Plains College.

The building, which currently sits on River Rd, is surplus to the council's needs and has been unused for some time. Plans were made four or five years ago to remove the building, but the contract fell through, council was told.

The College recently indicated it was in need of an additional workshop space, council documents said, and councillors subsequently

agreed to the transfer of ownership. The college will be responsible for all costs associated with the building relocation.

"That will then free up the site for us to be able to fully remediate... [we'll] open it up as an extension of public car parking in that area, which is something we've been discussing with the ward for probably five or six years," council's general manager of service delivery Adrian de Laborde said at the meeting.

College principal Sharon Moller said the school was grateful for the support from council, and was looking at the viability of moving

the building to its teaching farm, Hayward Farm, which is run by the Haurakian Charitable Trust.

"Our vision is... to transform the building into a classroom and community facility through a two-three year restoration project for students," Sharon said.

"However, we are still evaluating the logistical and financial requirements to ensure the project is sustainable for the school and the Haurakian Charitable Trust.

"We are excited about the potential for real-world learning, but we are awaiting the results of this study before confirming any final plans."

## Thames Autos

A Division of Takahiri Motors Ltd. R.M.V.T.

★ ★

★ ★

HOME DEMONSTRATIONS AND DELIVERIES AVAILABLE WE CAN COME TO YOU

- [www.thamesautos.co.nz](http://www.thamesautos.co.nz) -

|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p><b>2002 Mazda 6 Sport</b><br/>2.3 Ltr Auto, NZ New, Top Spec</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$6,990</p>   | <p><b>2011 Toyota RAV-4</b><br/>Auto, 2.4 Ltr, NZ New, Top Condition</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$12,990</p> | <p><b>2014 Toyota Fielder</b><br/>Hybrid, Auto, Economy Plus</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$9,990</p>       | <p><b>2015 Ford Mondeo</b><br/>Auto, Diesel</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">SPECIAL \$10,990</p>                 |
| <p><b>2013 Honda Jazz</b><br/>1.5 Ltr Auto, NZ New, Leather Trim</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$10,990</p> | <p><b>2004 Toyota Porte</b><br/>1.5 Ltr Auto, Good Kms, Top Condition</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$6,990</p> | <p><b>2011 Mazda Bongo</b><br/>1.8 Ltr Auto, Flat Bed with Tow Bar</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$9,990</p> | <p><b>2015 Holden Cruze</b><br/>Great Condition, NZ New, Only 25 Km</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">\$12,990</p> |

LEYLAND STOWE

Mob: 027 355 5152 Ph: 07 868 8981  
or 0800 868 898

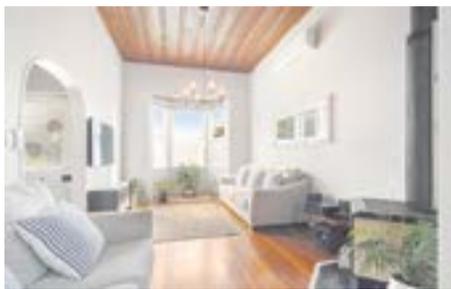
609 Pollen St, Thames RMVT  
thamesautos@xtra.co.nz

No Deposit Finance available on all vehicles. Full workshop servicing & repairs available including Auto Electrical service



Exceptional. Every day.

eaves.co.nz



**New Listing**  
**Waihi**  
 49 Kensington Road

3 1 1 2

**Refined Character on a Grand Section**

Step into timeless elegance in this beautiful character home, where matai floors and soaring ceilings create warmth and space. A charming bay window and large covered deck add to the appeal, all set on a generous 1,012sqm (approx.) fenced section.

[eaves.co.nz/ewa21280](https://eaves.co.nz/ewa21280)

**Asking Price** \$700,000  
**Phone for viewing times**  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
 brooke.edwards@eaves.co.nz



**New Listing**  
**Waihi**  
 6 Parry Palm Avenue

3 1 1 1

**Character and Convenience**

Tastefully refreshed while retaining classic character, this inviting three-bedroom home delivers easy living just moments from town. Semi-open plan living and dining. Single garage and fully fenced.

[eaves.co.nz/ewa21284](https://eaves.co.nz/ewa21284)

**Asking Price** \$589,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Lester Mullan** 021 121 4940  
 lester.mullan@eaves.co.nz



**Waihi**  
 4 Mackay Street

3 1 2 2

**Bigger is Better, Huge Potential**

This stand-out property delivers space, comfort, and potential in one package. Offering three good-sized bedrooms all with built-in storage, the home is designed for practical, easy living. 2023 sqm approx. section with room to create the dream garden.

[eaves.co.nz/ewa20958](https://eaves.co.nz/ewa20958)

**Price by Negotiation**  
**View** by appointment  
**Dynasty Holtz** 022 124 1186  
 dynasty.holtz@eaves.co.nz



**Waihi**  
 60 Victoria Street, Waikino

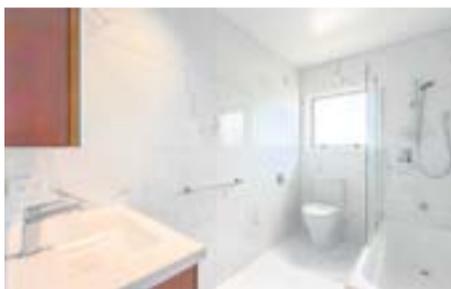
2 1 1 1

**Nature and Comfort Awaits**

Tucked among established grounds, this two-bedroom home offers a sanctuary where nature and comfort meet. The open-plan living flows seamlessly to opposing decks. Come and explore. Call Lester today.

[eaves.co.nz/ewa21266](https://eaves.co.nz/ewa21266)

**Asking Price** \$667,000  
**View** by appointment  
**Lester Mullan** 021 121 4940  
 lester.mullan@eaves.co.nz



**Waihi**  
 19 Albert Street

5 3 2 1

**Big on Comfort. Bigger on Space.**

Created with connection in mind, this spacious family home offers room for everyone to spread out while still coming together, ideal for growing or multi-generational families. Three bathrooms, two living, and a covered entertaining area. Easy care grounds.

[eaves.co.nz/ewa21263](https://eaves.co.nz/ewa21263)

**For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty**  
 Closes 1pm, Wed 4 Mar (unless sold prior)  
**View** by appointment  
**Dynasty Holtz** 022 124 1186  
 dynasty.holtz@eaves.co.nz



**Waihi**  
 94A Bradford Street

**Ready For Your Plans**

A great opportunity to secure a section and bring your future plans to life. This site offers a practical setting with room to design and build a home that suits your lifestyle. Enjoy a peaceful outlook, and the freedom to create something tailored to your needs.

[eaves.co.nz/ewa21273](https://eaves.co.nz/ewa21273)

**Asking Price** \$279,000  
**Phone for viewing times**  
**Brooke Edwards** 027 435 5905  
 brooke.edwards@eaves.co.nz

**EVES Waihi / January**

**TOP**

*Achiever*

**Dynasty Holtz**

**EVES Waihi Top Achiever for January**

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@eaves.co.nz](mailto:dynasty.holtz@eaves.co.nz)

EVES Realty Ltd, Licensed under the REAA 2008



# Kaihere Sch opens new sports turf

After three years of determined fundraising, a dedicated group of parents has helped to transform a once-tired court area into a vibrant new sports hub at Kaihere School.

A small team of PTA members raised \$100,000 over three years for what became known as Project ActiveTurf.

An official opening for the new turf kicked off on February 12 with parents, families and the wider community.

PTA chair Kirsty Harris said the project showed the strength of "our community".

"The fundraising took a lot of hard work, but the result is something our children and families will benefit from for years to come."

Board presiding member Sarah Koch thanked everyone who contributed through volunteering time, donations or supporting fundraising events.

The new turf area has quickly become a highlight.

Kaihere sports leader Rosa-Lee Cross said "in our school, everyone does everything".

"It [is] so fun that it happens on our new sports space as well. It makes our school tidier, bright and vibrant."

The new turf was also open for community groups to use for a range of sports including tennis, paddle ball, football, hockey, basketball and netball.

The PTA is now in the planning stages of 'Project Play' to support upgrades to the Kaihere School playground area.



Parents and children enjoy the new sports space. BELOW: Sarah Koch at the community opening, left, and year 8 student Kharla Quilla cuts the rope to open the new sports facility. Photos: SUPPLIED



## In Brief

### SERIOUS CRASH

State Highway 25, near Orongo, Hauraki, was closed in both directions following a serious crash on February 21. Police were notified of the two-vehicle, west of Orongo Corner, around 2.30pm. Initial indicators were that there had been serious injuries. Diversions were put in place and the road remained closed for some time while emergency services worked at the scene. Motorists were advised to avoid the area and expect delays.

### BUSINESS AWARDS

The Claymark Hauraki Coromandel Business Awards are set for October 15 at the Thames Civic Centre. Thames-Coromandel District Council said the event was expected to bring together 150 local businesspeople from across the Hauraki, Coromandel and the wider Waikato region for an evening of celebration, networking and recognition. "This biennial event is a chance to recognise and celebrate the incredible businesses that make our region thrive."

### ROAD REPAIR

Repairs are scheduled for a damaged culvert on Port Jackson Rd, north of Colville and south of Waiaro (just north of Otauto Bay) from Monday, February 23, between 7:30am and 5:30pm, for approximately six working days. There will be stop/stop traffic management in place that may mean delays of up to 50 minutes. There will be access for emergency services, residents and pedestrians during this time.

**EVES** Exceptional. Every day.

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

New Listing



**Waihi**

12 Russell Street

3 1 1 2

**Bright, Breezy & Just as Easy**

Set in a sought-after college location, this beautifully renovated home blends modern updates with timeless character. Rich native timber floors enhance the light-filled open-plan living and dining areas, with a heat pump. Detached garage/workshop and studio.

[eves.co.nz/ewa21315](http://eves.co.nz/ewa21315)

Asking Price \$670,000  
View by appointment  
Dynasty Holtz 022 124 1186  
dynasty.holtz@eves.co.nz



**Waihi**

86B Bradford Street

4 2 1

**Tidy and Move in Ready**

This charming 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home (including a handy ensuite) has been lovingly renovated and is ready for its next chapter. Featuring warm wooden floors, aluminum joinery, and a heat pump, the home feels inviting and practical.

[eves.co.nz/ewa21274](http://eves.co.nz/ewa21274)

Asking Price \$635,000  
Phone for viewing times  
Brooke Edwards 027 435 5905  
brooke.edwards@eves.co.nz

# SUMMER SPOTLIGHT



List exclusively with EVES Katikati or Waihi and we'll supercharge our already premium marketing package with an additional \$3,750 in value, for an investment of \$500.

**Don't miss out. List by 28 February.**

Terms and Conditions Available to properties exclusively listed with EVES until 28 February 2026. During the campaign period, vendors are liable for the \$500 vendor contribution within the EVES Summer Spotlight Campaign. Sole agency agreement required (minimum 90 days). If withdrawn early, the vendor must reimburse EVES for campaign costs (less any vendor contribution). Campaign components are non-transferable and non-refundable. One Summer Spotlight campaign per property. Not available for properties already listed with EVES. Available through EVES Katikati and EVES Waihi. Prices include GST and are valid until 28 February 2026. Marketing will not commence until payment is received.

**EVES** | Real Estate

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

EVES Realty Ltd. Licensed under the REAA 2008

# On the Land

## Rates cap 'needs scrutiny'

**OPINION**  
By SANDRA FAULKNER, Federated Farmers local government spokesperson

At Federated Farmers, we're all in favour of greater local government spending restraint. We're not in favour of so severely straight-jacketing council budget decisions that vital infrastructure upgrades and maintenance are delayed or cancelled.

That might sound like Federated Farmers wants a bob each way on the Government's proposed 2-4% cap on council rates. In reality, it reflects the tricky balance between calls for fiscal discipline and the unavoidable cost pressures councils face.

I think all of us, even councils, agree on one thing - that the trajectory of rates hikes is unaffordable for increasing numbers of families and businesses. But the 2-4 per cent rates cap the Government wants in place by 2029 is a blunt tool that could have unintended consequences. Exempt from the proposed cap are charges for waste, drinking and stormwater services.

With an estimated network renewal backlog of as much as \$47.9 billion because of previous under-investment, the Government knows we have to catch up on this vital work.

Work on other infrastructure particularly vital to rural areas - roading, bridges, drainage, flood protection - is also plagued by significant council (and central government) under-investment in many districts.

When councillors factor in paying interest on rising council debt, never mind soaring costs for contractors and raw materials, a rates cap will create temptation - even necessity - to delay or delete important capital works.

Federated Farmers believes there

should be a rates cap exemption for targeted road and infrastructure rates, just as is proposed for three waters charges. The Government's thinking is that a rates cap will force councils to prioritise 'must haves' and pare back on 'nice to haves'.

As a generalisation, smaller rural councils probably spend less on nice to haves. A rates cap, including on district councils already grappling with costs of providing for high numbers of visitors and tourists, could end up cutting into budgets for 'must haves'.

Faced with a rates cap, councils might also look to offset revenue shortfalls by hiking other charges or selling assets. Rates are the largest source of income for local authorities, making up on average 57 per cent of total operating revenue.

Other revenue comes from council-owned trading entities like ports and airports, but these tend to be owned by metropolitan councils rather than smaller district councils.

Councils also charge fees for everything from swimming pool entry to parking, building consents and liquor licences. These services are often subsidised by general rates. To offset a rates cap, these fees could be raised.

Lots of people like the notion of 'user pays' - unless they're a user.

Perhaps farmers would welcome higher council fees for rubbish collection, swimming pools, sports playing surfaces, food outlet inspections and other services they don't get to use as much as town residents.

But they're less likely to be happy with fee hikes for compliance inspections, resource consents and dog registration. There's a common misconception the rates cap will mean no property owner's rates bill can increase by more than 4 per cent in any

year. But the restriction is on a council's total revenue from rates.

Just as is the case now, a property owner's share of total rates is determined by capital (or land) value.

In three-yearly revaluations, if your property value has risen more than the average for the district, you'll pay more in rates - and vice-versa.

Two other ideas Feds will raise in our submission on the rates cap proposal relate to referenda and benchmarking.

We think councils should need residents' consent for large spends on commercial facilities and ventures, like stadiums and conference centres. A referendum would be required, for example, where the spend is greater than \$500 per resident.

This would allow councils to provide community well-being services and activities, while restrain them from destroying their balance sheets through risky investments beyond their core purpose.

If we're serious about driving council costs down, there's also a case for much improved nationwide benchmarking of council costs.

Armed with detailed information on average costs for road maintenance, playground installation, reserves mowing and so on, councillors could drill down into spending - and challenge officers' reports.

With council rates bills now one of the biggest household costs - and one of the most prominent lines in a farm's budget - the rates cap and related issues deserve solid debate in the run-up to the general election.

Federated Farmers will be vocal in the debate, just as we have been in talk of council restructuring and amalgamation, to make sure the rural voice and priorities are prominent.

# Pet Profile

## Earl waits for his forever friend

This week we've chosen Earl for a special *Pet Profile* feature because he is so desperate to find a home of his own.

Since the last of his siblings were adopted, Earl has been struggling to find his feet on his own. He calls out throughout the day, hoping someone will stop to sit with him, talk to him, or share a quiet moment. But the instant he spots a human, those cries melt into loud, rumbling purrs.

Earl greets visitors in the sweetest way - climbing gently up their top to wrap his paws around their neck for a cuddle. It's his way of holding on to the affection he craves. Earl is approximately three months old, he comes de-sexed, microchipped, vaccinated, flea and worm treated, and fully toilet trained.

All Earl needs now is a best friend to call his own.

To meet Earl online visit:

[www.spcanewzealand.org.nz/adopt/animal/651387/kitten-earl-thames](http://www.spcanewzealand.org.nz/adopt/animal/651387/kitten-earl-thames).

Meanwhile, we're thrilled to let you know that we have raised more than enough to cover Mochi's operation!

Mochi, a puppy who featured in last week's *Pet Profile*, needed \$1000 for an eye condition that required surgery.

After featuring in *The Valley Profile*, the donations have been piling in for Mochi's surgery and he has also found a home - we are blown away by the support from our community.

The extra donations we've received will go directly towards helping other animals in need of surgeries that are beyond our usual budget.

We are so happy to continue accepting contributions, knowing they are going straight back to animals who need them most.

- Supplied by Thames SPCA



Earl is struggling to find his feet after his siblings have all been adopted. Photo: SUPPLIED

## FOR EARTHWORKS

- ▶ Digger, Bulldozer, Truck Hire
- ▶ Mulching, Gorse, Ti Tree etc
- ▶ Metal
- ▶ Suppliers of Hay Silage & Maize Silage



## T & A MCWATTERS LTD

PHONE TIM 027 278 5384

## FOR CARTING OF

- ▶ Suppliers of Mangatangi River Rock
- ▶ Decorative Stones & Drainage
- ▶ Sand Shell
- ▶ Palm Kernel
- ▶ Fertiliser
- ▶ All Grades of Metal

## SMYTHES HAULAGE LTD

PHONE TIM 027 278 5384



SERVICING THE AREA FOR OVER 20 YEARS

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



Call our local Whitianga based Pilot Dan Mulligan 027 482 4564

SPECIALISING IN: SCENIC • CHARTER • ADVENTURE • AGRICULTURE & COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS - EST 1980, NI, NZ

# 'Infuriated' cow charges young boy in Thames



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.

**1882**

An infuriated cow at Irish-town, Thames, set its sights on a six-year-old boy who was proceeding leisurely down the Karaka Creek.

On turning a sharp curve on the road he was suddenly confronted by the cow, which rushed at him. The child was so scared he couldn't move and was knocked down by a vigorous butt of her head, her horns fortunately passing on each side of his body.

She was about to charge again when Mr Sheard pluckily sped to the scene and got the boy away. The cow belonged to a dairyman at Punga Flat, and was said to have rushed several people.

Another little boy, a bright-eyed fellow, the solitary occupant in a lonely ward at Thames Hospital, caught the eye of the Prime Minister during a visit there.

The boy had been injured at



A cow with horns set its sights on a six-year-old boy.

Photo: SUPPLIED

the Queen of Beauty mine and the PM had spoken very kindly to him.

In another part of the hospital he saw a number of illustrated papers lying about and asked the Dispenser if he would kindly supply the little boy with a few of the papers to while away the weary hours of his confinement.

The first through-trip to from Tauranga to Thames and back by a coach and four horses was made by James Kelly, and his driver, Mr Menzies. After over-

nighting at Katikati they took the road to Owharoa finding it very good and the substantial Ohinemuri Bridge in satisfactory order. Owharoa was reached at 11.30am, and a stop made for the refreshment of men and horses.

Leaving about 1pm, they ploughed through a perfect sea of mud and slush up to the axle for a distance of six miles to Mackaytown. When Paeroa was reached at 3pm, the residents were utterly amazed to see them and could scarcely credit

their senses or believe a coach had actually come through from Tauranga. Mr Kelly was told he might as well return as he would never get through to Thames; however, he and his driver were undaunted.

They left at 10 the next morning, and about four miles further on arrived at a swamp, nearly a mile long. After struggling about half way through, a detour was made through the fern, and the main road struck again.

At 11.30am Hikutaia was reached, and from there to Thames the road was good, although a little soft. They reached Thames at 3pm, the challenges along the way not having been nearly as great as they were led to expect.

The return journey was commenced at 9am, the steamer having left an hour before for Paeroa. Both coach and steamer arrived at Paeroa at 2pm, despite the coach making stops of over an hour and a half.

After a short stay at Paeroa, the party pushed on to Owharoa, where they stayed the night. Leaving there next morning they went right through to Tauranga, arriving at 7pm.

Mr Kelly and Mr Menzies both agreed that there was nothing preventing having an immediate bi-weekly coach service established between Thames and Tauranga.

## Chris' Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter

1. Where was New Zealand's first land-based international airport? a) Auckland, b) Blenheim, or c) Christchurch?
2. Before the franchise, the original McDonald's restaurant was opened in 1940 by whom? a) Ray Kroc, b) Richard and Maurice McDonald, or c) Ronald McDonald?
3. True or False: David Bowie was born with heterochromia (different coloured eyes)?
4. Prince, Madonna and Beyoncé, are all examples of what? a) antonyms, b) mononyms, or c) pseudonyms?
5. Which form of currency, beginning with P, is used in countries including Argentina, Chile, Mexico and the Philippines?
6. Most of the tree species referred to as 'gum trees' in New Zealand, belong to which genus beginning with E?
7. Elijah Wood made his acting debut in 1989, appearing as 'Video Game Boy' in which movie? a) Airplane!, b) Back to the Future Part II, or c.) Caddyshack?
8. The dish known as Osso Buco contains which type of meat? a) Venison, b) beef, or c) chicken?
9. Hyde Park is located in which UK city?
10. Released in 1996 and marketed as the original handheld digital pet, what is the name of the toy pictured below?



ANSWERS: 1. c) Christchurch, 1950. 2. b) Richard and Maurice McDonald; 3. False: His pupils appear different because of damage from a fight over a girl when Bowie was 15; 4. b) Mononyms; 5. Peso; 6. Eucalyptus; 7. b) Back to the Future Part II; 8. b) beef; 9. London; 10. Tamagotchi.



**ZTX42**  
Side  
discharge

**\$8,549 INC GST**

**ZTS1 Ultima**

**Cub Cadet**

**42", zero turn  
steering wheel**



**\$11,949 INC GST**

**Come  
and  
check  
out the  
range**



**Hauraki Plains Motors**

**1 Pipiroa Road, Ngatea • Ph 07 867-7021**

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



JOIN THE  
**COMMUNITY QUEST**

**FREE Family Fun Day**

→ SAT 28 FEB ←

**Waihi Beach Community Centre Reserve**  
10am – 1pm

Check our Facebook event page  
for wet weather updates.

Help shape the future  
of your town by trading  
your ideas for free food  
and activities.

YOURPLACE.WESTERNBAY.GOV.T.NZ



# Retreat-style yoga to bring fresh take to new Coro festival

By KELLEY TANTAU

A new three-day wellness gathering is set to arrive in Whangamatā this April, with organisers of the Coromandel Yoga Festival promising an experience that feels less like a bustling festival and more like a retreat.

Founded by Jody Brown and Soreya James, the event began as a “step into the unknown”, shaped by years of experience attending festivals both in New Zealand and overseas.

“Many festivals are incredible in their own right, yet they can feel fragmented,” Soreya told *The Profile*.

“Teachers arriving, offering their work, then moving on, with little opportunity for connection or flow between sessions.

“I longed for something more cohesive. A retreat-style experience where the teachers are in relationship with one another, where there is intentional flow between workshops, and where participants are guided through a journey rather than choosing from an overwhelming menu of offerings.

“I also noticed that I often left festivals with a fried nervous system,” she said. “Too many late nights, too much stimulation, not enough integration. Especially for women over 40, what we truly need is depth, harmony, and balance.”

Both organisers have decades of experience practising and teaching yoga.

For Jody, yoga was first seeded as a child after being taken to a yoga class by her godmother when she was about 10.

“As a young adult, it became this doorway inwards, through my body, and now it goes deeper beyond the body,” she said. “I have been practicing yoga now for nearly 30 years and teaching for 14. My yoga practice has changed and shifted as I have. I currently teach in Thames and Waihi weekly, and for me yoga is a tool of self-inquiry.”

Soreya has also been practising yoga for more than three decades, and teaching for close to two. She said her early years were rooted in asana-based forms of yoga, exploring many different styles.

“In 2007, I was introduced to Naam Yoga and Kundalini Yoga, which pro-



Soreya James, left, and Jody Brown are organising a first-of-its-kind yoga festival for the Coromandel. Photo: SUPPLIED

foundly deepened my practice. Kundalini Yoga, with its integration of breath, sound, and movement, works not only with the body but with the subconscious mind and energetic system.

“I have held retreats and presented at festivals for many years and was honoured to facilitate the first Kundalini Yoga teacher training of its kind in New Zealand, weaving in the essence of the divine feminine throughout.”

The pair believe the three-day event, held at the Whangamatā Memorial Hall and guided through an arc of five elements - Earth, Water, Fire, Air and Ether - will be the first yoga festival of its kind in the area.

Jody said being part of the inaugural event brought a sense of pride and possibility. “For me, it feels like pride - is that a sin? - both as an individual to take an idea and let it shape and grow me, and as something for the community; the possibility that it could keep shaping us all over the years to come, that maybe strangers get to be friends in this space.”

**DETAILS: Coromandel Yoga Festival, Friday, April, 17 through to Sunday, April 19. Held at the Whangamatā War Memorial Hall. Ticketing and event details can be found at [events.humanitix.com/cyf](https://events.humanitix.com/cyf).**

## BE QUICK!!!!

Come and beat the price rise



### Central Motors

Hauraki Ltd

60 Orchard Rd, Ngatea • 867 7524

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

Andrew - 027 285 0349 • John - 027 279 6799

### COMPREHENSIVE VETERINARY SERVICES FOR FARM & COMPANION ANIMALS



### Your 100% Local Vets

**NGATEA 07 867-7056**

**PAEROA 07 862-7056**

**THAMES 07 868-3013**

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Jewel Lynham's works will be on show during March at Thames Art Gallery. Photos: SUPPLIED

## Art to evoke curiosity

"I want my work to evoke a curiosity that extends beyond the eye alone."

That's what acrylic self-taught artist Jewel Lynham seeks.

People will have the opportunity to view Jewel's paintings on display during the month of March at Thames Art Gallery.

The creator describes her work as "numerous symbolic" - a characteristic of the mystical effects expressed in her paintings, she said.

"As an artist I find many of my paintings take me into the realm of the psyche even though I am not consciously aware of doing this as I am creating a painting," the artist said.

"I often paint to music as it enhances the mood in the moment so I can feel the colour palette play with the light and shadows with every brush stroke, an alchemy process of extracting the imagery out of the unseen."

Jewel said some brushwork was refined while at other times it was more dramatic in boldness and texture.

Her career as an artist kicked off in

France in 1987, where she had solo exhibits in Paris, Aix-in Provence and the "Salon D' Automne" at the prestigious Grand Palais in Paris, she said.

The kiwi-born creative also lived in Arizona for 24 years as an artist before her return to New Zealand in 2010.

Something Jewel believed was that "art communicates".

"The energy pushes through me to manifest form, stimulating and healing using colour and line incorporated into the visuals, which is then passed on to the viewer for their interpretation. The power of the images is incontestable. They represent a doorway to the soul and subconscious," she said.

Jewel said being a self-taught artist offered her the "freedom of imagination" to express a rhythm and "mysterious atmosphere" to her compositions.

"Most of the paintings are generally painted without any pre-conceived idea in mind."

**DETAILS:** Thames Art Gallery, 604 Tararu Rd, Thames, open daily from 10am to 4pm.

LEFT BANK THEATRE

Ph: 07 868 3142 [www.leftbanktheatre.co.nz](http://www.leftbanktheatre.co.nz) 659 Pollen St, Thames

Movies from Thursday 26 February to Wednesday 4 March

*For times, see our website, pick up a brochure by the cinema doors, or email or phone us.*

**EPiC: Elvis Presley in Concert (96 mins)** PG. Elvis sings and tells his story like never before in a new cinematic experience from visionary filmmaker Baz Luhrmann. Features long-lost footage from Presley's legendary Las Vegas residency in the 1970s, rare 16mm footage from Elvis on tour, precious 8mm from the Graceland archive, and recordings of Elvis telling "his side of the story" rediscovered during Luhrmann's research for his Best Picture Oscar-nominated 2022 film Elvis.

**Holy Days (101 mins)** PG. From the team behind the Kiwi hit Uproar, Holy Days is a hilarious, heartwarming 1970s dramedy with a star-studded cast. When young Brian discovers plans to close a convent of delightfully eccentric nuns, he sets off on a wild road trip across New Zealand to save them. Packed with laughs, quirky characters, and heart, this is a joyful adventure the young at heart will adore.

**Fackham Hall (97 mins)** M. A spoof that crosses Downton Abbey with Flying High and Monty Python, it follows a lovable pick-pocket Eric as he lands a job at a unique English manor house. He quickly rises through the ranks, and a forbidden romance with lady-of-the-house Rose blossoms. But when an unexpected murder occurs, Eric gets framed - leaving Rose and her family's future perilously uncertain.

**Wuthering Heights (136 mins)** M. 2026 film. A passionate and tumultuous love story set on the Yorkshire moors, exploring the intense and destructive relationship between Heathcliff and Catherine Earnshaw.

**Song Sung Blue (132 mins)** M. Based on a true story, two down-on-their-luck musicians (Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson) form a joyous Neil Diamond tribute band, proving it's never too late to follow your dreams.

**Next week: Midwinter Break** A compelling story about lost faith, commitment, and the enduring power of love, as a longtime couple takes a life-changing trip to Amsterdam.

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

March Featured Artist

**JEWEL LYNAM**

Jewel Lynam is an internationally exhibited, self-taught acrylic painter whose vibrant figurative works are guided by intuition, music, and colour. Jewel creates richly layered paintings that evoke mystery, energy, and a deep dialogue beyond the visible

OPEN DAILY 10am - 4pm

# Connecting communities

## Changes to your electricity distribution charges

From 1 April 2026, our electricity delivery charges in your region will increase by an average of 9.3%.

As your local lines company, we're here to provide safe and reliable electricity to your door. To do that, we continually invest in our network of lines, cables, substations and other assets.

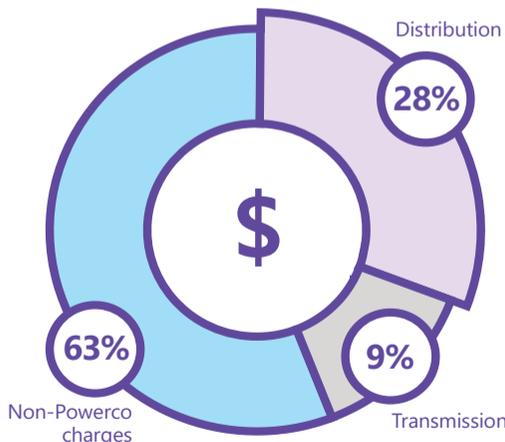
This ensures we meet your electricity supply needs now and in the future.

We update our prices on 1 April each year to reflect the cost of operating and investing in the network. We also pass on Transpower's transmission costs to use the national grid. Together, these charges make up around 37% of your power bill.

This year's change is a combination of:

|              | Change |   | Weighting |   | Result      |
|--------------|--------|---|-----------|---|-------------|
| Distribution | 5.3%   | x | 75%       | = | 4.0%        |
| Transmission | 21.2%  | x | 25%       | = | 5.3%        |
| <b>Total</b> |        |   |           |   | <b>9.3%</b> |

### Average electricity bill



The impact on your electricity bill will depend on how and when you use electricity, and how your retailer chooses to structure how they pass on our charges on to you.

We're regulated by the Commerce Commission to ensure we provide quality supply at a fair price. Recently the Commission set how much revenue we can earn through our customer charges for the period 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2030.

Revenue allowances have increased because inflation, costs and interest rates have changed since the last review in 2019. Customer demand for electricity is also growing as Aotearoa reduces its carbon footprint and we need to invest more to meet this demand.

The full breakdown of your new prices is available on our website [powerco.co.nz](http://powerco.co.nz).



Visit: [powerco.co.nz/electricitypricing](http://powerco.co.nz/electricitypricing) or scan the QR code.



# A TRUE KIWI LEGEND



**The new-generation Hilux  
is sharper, sleeker -  
and still legendary**

**Demos available for a test drive today**

**Valley Toyota Thames**

www.valley.toyota.co.nz • 07 868 8950

Contact - Karl Richards 0274 084 564

Christo Carstens 021 025 30264

Finance - Terry Boswell 0210 445 929



**TOYOTA**

**Tony Richards Toyota Paeroa**

www.richards.toyota.co.nz • 07 862 7674

Contact - Kent Ravenhill • 027 878 0642

Finance - Kent Ravenhill 027 878 0642

# When fashion beats function - and common sense

**OPINION**



By **MICHAEL WILKES**

I was stuck behind a car the other day. Flash as. Low to the ground. Bright paint job. It looked like it had just driven out of a *Fast and Furious* movie set. But here's the thing—this car was crawling. We were com-

ing up to a small speed bump, and they literally stopped, flicked on their hazard lights, and crept over it like it was Mt Everest. The thing was so low, it couldn't handle a normal street.

And it got me thinking. When did we decide fashion was more important than function?

It reminded me of my cousin back in the day - baggy t-shirt, shorts halfway down his backside. Couldn't even fill his

Christmas plate without juggling his pants and his food at the same time. Hilarious? Yep. Practical? Not even close.

This trend isn't just about clothes or cars. It's a mindset. We've gone from survival, to stability, to this strange obsession with image. And the wildest part? The people we're trying to impress - half the time, we don't even know them. Meanwhile, the opinions of the people who actually love us get drowned out.

If that hits home, maybe it's time to flip the script.

Because this path? It's crazy. We buy things we don't need, just to look the part. We fork out extra cash for labels that don't change the quality of what we're wearing. And sometimes, we're spending more than we're even earning - trading peace of mind for likes, nods, and compliments from strangers.

So here's a challenge: pause. Take stock. Ask yourself who

you're really making these decisions for.

Because if fashion keeps beating function - and your bank account's paying the price - the only label you'll be wearing is regret.

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

# Gardening

## Time to prepare for the cooler months

ADVERTISING FEATURE

As summer fades, we may start to experience the unpredictability of autumn. March is a productive and rewarding time in the garden. Warm days and cooler nights create the perfect conditions for harvesting the last of your summer crops. Then we can begin to plant for the cooler months. Keep on top of watering if it is still dry.

Once crops have finished producing, remove spent plants and replenish the soil with a mixture of compost, blood and bone, sheep pellets and a good general garden fertiliser. Dig well into the soil and water in then you are ready to start planting out your new seedlings.

Just a note: Remember to rotate your crops from where they were the previous year. It's a good idea to keep a diary or notebook of your garden layout.

Add old plants to the compost bin. Chop them up a bit to aid the composting process. Empty garden beds can be topped up with new soil and a layer of compost, blood and bone and sheep pellets.

Plant leafy greens like leeks, carrots, silver beet, spinach, celery, winter lettuce. Salad crops such as lettuce, rocket, mesclun blends. Plant also broccoli, cauliflower, kale (cavalo nero and curly kale). Refresh the herb garden with mizuna, parsley, coriander, chives and chervil.

Protect all new seedlings from snail and slugs with a slug bait. If possible, cover your brassicas with mesh to protect from the white butterfly.

Freshen the soil in your flower gardens with compost, blood and bone and sheep pellets. Top up the mulch too, great for

not only keeping weeds at bay but also to help plants with warmth over the cooler months.

Plant out your favourite winter flowering seedlings, pansy, viola, primula, polyanthus, calendula, cineraria, lobelia, poppies, alyssum, stock and snapdragon.

It is also time to plant spring flowering bulbs. Daffodils can be planted out from late February to the end of May.

Early planting gets them off to a good start for better root development. Plant in full sun and well-drained soil. Anemones and Ranunculus are easy to grow, stagger planting for extended flowering season. Hyacinths are a beautiful addition to any garden. They are best planted out March/April in a cool spot. Protect all new plantings with slug and snail bait.

Citrus trees are heavy feeders so feed with a specific citrus feed. This ensures healthy green leaves and better growth, flowers and fruits. Mulch around the roots to conserve moisture.

Continue to harvest apples, pears, grapes, peaches and plums if your lucky enough to still have fruit on the trees. Once stone fruit have finished prune to shape and remove dead or diseased branches.

Autumn is the ideal time to sow or repair your lawn. Now is a good time to fertilise your lawn to promote nice healthy growth.

The compost will benefit from all the addition of the trimmings and pruning's of spent crops. Aerate the compost bin if possible.

*Happy gardening.*

*Supplied by Ngatea Garden Circle*



Prepare for the cooler months as we head into the unpredictability of autumn.

Photo: PIXABAY

## AUTUMN AT AEROVIEW

### GREEN MANURE CROPS

#### PLANT NOW

- \* LUPINS
- \* MUSTARD
- \* MIXED GREEN MANURE

### START PLANTING YOUR WINTER GARDEN NOW

**Broccoli, Cabbage, Brussel Sprouts, Cauliflower can all go in now.**

**Why not try a late crop of beans, dwarf & climbing, carrots, parsnips & beetroot**

**We have a full range of seeds, fertilizers, soil conditioners to help you get started**

### LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

#### Bulk Bins of

- Mulches
  - Soils
  - Aggregates
  - Pebbles
  - Ponga logs
  - Concrete Tree Rings
- plus LOTS more

### SPRING BULBS IN STORE

#### WE HAVE COMING:

- FREESIA • HYCINTH •
  - GLADIOLI • RANUNCULUS •
  - ANEMONE • DUTCH IRIS •
  - DAFFODILS • TULIPS •
- PLUS MORE



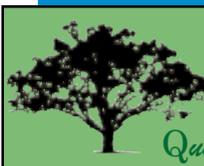
**382 Ngati Maru Highway**  
**Totara, Thames**

**Ph 868 7960**  
**Open 7 days a week**  
**8.30am to 5.00pm**

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

# 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



### H A U R A K I TREE SERVICES

**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)

## 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

## AUTOMOTIVE

### BKD Farm Quad + Care and Repair

**REPAIR AND SERVICE**  
To all makes of farm Quads & Bikes

Free collection & deliveries in 25km Radius of Ngatea

Contact Ben 027 488 7019  
benknoetze@gmail.com



Baker Joinery can 'build your dream kitchen to suit your needs'. Photo: SUPPLIED

## Top-notch service, skill and artistry

If it's "craftsmanship with care" that people want, then the key is to look no further than Baker Joinery.

"Our team can build your dream kitchen to suit your needs."

Operating out of their workshop at 46 Johnston St, Waihi, the team at Baker Joinery is committed to providing top-notch service, skill and artistry.

It's no surprise the Waihi business has been in action since 1958 - it has remained a trusted name in the community and neighbouring towns.

With 100 per cent dedication to sourcing long-lasting quality materials, the team is proud to deliver excellence throughout the entire journey.

Every element of their customer joinery demonstrates unmatched quality and grace, from rich solid hardwoods to sleek marble countertops. The team manufactures everything to exact measurements in order to maximise space and meet aesthetic needs.

"We also offer face-lifts, altering the exterior cabinetry without touching the interior, as a cheaper alternative to revamping your kitchen." From kitchens, joinery, wardrobe solutions to laundry, bathrooms and prehung doors - Baker Joinery has the solution for you.

**DETAILS: Contact the team on 07 863 8962 or email info@bakerjoinery.co.nz**

## BUILDING SERVICES



### PROFESSIONAL TRADE SERVICES

BUILDING | ELECTRICAL | PLUMBING

**RESIDENTIAL** - House Renovations - Kitchens Bathrooms - Pergolas - Fencing - Decks Ghibling - 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

## 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

## 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

## 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: mearesearthworks@gmail.com  
www.mearesearthworks.co.nz

## CLEANING



### A 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

## 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



### Electrical Laser

"Totally Dependable"

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

Ph: 07 863 7746 Email: waihi@laserelectrical.co.nz

## 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

**Summer Sale**

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

## GLASS & GLAZING



### Baker Glass & Glazing Ltd

"Craftsmanship with care"

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

Contact 021 514 497 | glass@bakerjoinery.co.nz

## FUNERALS



### Valley FUNERAL SERVICES

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

*Locally owned & operated*

- Direct Cremation **\$3175** gst incl for Ngatea, Paeroa, Te Aroha, Thames & Waihi
- Direct Cremation **\$3500** gst incl for Coromandel, Tairua, Whangamata & Whitianga.
- Traditional, Bespoke & Eco Funerals from **\$5800**

**Phone: 0800 862 6362**

Des & Christine Necklen  
Funeral Directors

## 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

## HOUSE MOVERS



### PHM 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

"Craftsmanship with care"

**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 46 Johnston Street Waihi

**SHOWROOM OPEN SATURDAYS 9am to 1pm**

# CALL THE EXPERTS

## 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

## 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

## SCRAP METAL

### Scrappy Verns

Buyers of all scrap metal & cars  
 Farm clean up specialists  
 Top prices paid

Phone Vern • 021 621 437

## PAINTER



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

## RUBBISH REMOVAL

### Smart Bins

Skip bins, Wheelie Bins,  
 Farm Bins

Phone us or book online  
 0800 4 MY BIN or  
 www.smartbins.co.nz

## 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**  
 PAEROA

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

**HURAKI 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 Grinder**  
 027 535 0580  
**Pete the Paperhanger**  
 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

**Katikat Glass WINDSCREENS**

- Windscreen Replacements
- Stone Chip Repairs

Ph: 07 549 3399  
 110 Main Road, Katikati  
 (Behind the Caltex Service Station)  
 www.katikatiglassandwindscreens.co.nz

## WINDSCREENS

**PRECISION WINDSCREENS**  
*We come to you!*

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

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Matt Howse, centre, of Karangahake meets his "musical heroes", Six60. Photo: SUPPLIED

## Matt serenades Six60

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

When Matt Howse found out his "musical heroes" were at a nearby shop ready to sign copies of their brand new album, he didn't think twice about heading down.

The 13-year-old from Karangahake was helping his sister Ashleigh shift houses in Hamilton on February 15, he said, when she told him Six60 were at the mall down the road.

"We left then and there, and got into the queue an hour before they arrived. I took my guitar in hopes they'd sign it for me."

But when they saw his guitar - "they asked me to play for them", the young muso told *The Profile*.

"It was scary at first and I could feel my fingers trembling as I started to play. But the Six60 guys were really encouraging and supportive and once I got going it started being fun.

"The song was from their new album

and is called *We Made It*."

The young musician, who is also a year-9 student at Paeroa College, said he talked with the band about guitars.

"Their lead singer, Matiu, has the same guitar as I play. They encouraged me to keep going with my music."

His father Tony was a professional musician and music teacher so "I've always been around people making music", he said.

"But I got seriously interested at the age of nine, and knew enough songs to start busking when I was 10."

It was evident the opportunity to not only meet but perform for Six60 was monumental for Matt.

"Six60 are my musical heroes. I've always loved listening to their music and I play their music a lot when I busk because they're so popular," he said.

"Homegrown music is my favourite, and Six60 are an inspiration because they are a Kiwi band that have been successful internationally."



Matt Howse sings for Kiwi Six60 during an impromptu meeting in Hamilton. Photo: SUPPLIED

## One last show before doors close

With the Tairua Troubadours set to lose access to the Tairua Community Hall during the year-long construction of the new Pepe Bridge, the group has been forced to bring its next production forward to April.

Director Jennie Turner said the revised dates were not "entirely ideal", but the cast had adopted the attitude that "the show must go on".

"It means rehearsals clash with Easter and school holidays, and the time-frame is super short - not to mention it's also hotter and some cast had prior commitments... but [we've] gained three newbies, two keen and one not so much."

Jennie said the production will be the last event held in the hall for some time, with the likelihood of a show next year considered low.

This would mean community groups missing out on funds traditionally raised through the performances, she said.

To date, the Troubadours have raised more than \$240,000 for local voluntary organisations.

"This year's show is another Toscars [Tairua Oscars], where the cast celebrate and perform the best bits from the past eight shows. Due to the bridge construction disruption there will be some appropriate references, including a long-serving Stop & Go traffic controller appearing for a cameo role," Jennie said.

**DETAILS: The Tairua Troubadours performing at the community hall, April 23 - May 2. Tickets on sale from March 1. Bookings and info, email tairuatroubadours@gmail.com.**

# CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12 noon Monday

**Church Notice**  
Thames Spiritualist Church, Sunday March 1st, 2pm Grahamstown Hall. Speakers: Eric and Margaret.

**Farm Worker Wanted**  
Person to shift stock, week on, week off, and some farm duties ie fencing, drenching, farm maintenance etc. 60 acres, 75 cows. Pay rent on week off. Matatoki area. Ph 07 884 8221 or ph/txt 021 156 8321.

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

**For Sale**  
Firewood for sale. Pine. \$100 per cube. Ph 027 385 2806



**CJ's FIREWOOD COMPANY**  
Dry and seasoned Teatree \$160m3 Pine \$90m3 (2m3 min) Free delivery to Paeroa and surrounds Ph 027 938 0349

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

**Grazing**  
Heifer grazing available. 26 / 27 season. Komata. Phone Keith Trembath MNZM 07 862 6833

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

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

**Sheep Shearing Services**  
Mobile shearing, crutching, hoof trimming & drenching. For lifestyle block owners, competitive rates. Call Richard 022 128 0852 or email richard.collier@xtra.co.nz for details

**Wanted To Buy**  
Small Aluminium dinghy up to 10 FT, must be in good condition. NO trailer wanted. TEXT OR PH 0211387860

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

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

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

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

**Professional roof painter.** Mario Kerkhof 027 961 4055

**Storage**  
**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

**TOTAL STORAGE LTD KEREPEHI / PAEROA**  
10FT CON. \$125 per mnth 20FT CON. \$240 per mnth T&C's apply 021 67 67 99 info@totalstorage.co.nz

**Handyman Services**  
**THAMES HANDYMAN & BUILDING SERVICES**  
Building, home maintenance & general gardening services Phone: Fleur or Crighton • 0273 913 283

**Public Notice**  
**PRIVATE NOTICE**  
Let it be known that a SECURITY [15 USC et seq] commercial lien has been reached, under necessity per agreement, between the secured party Warwick James Burgess, and the debtor Jan Caroline Middlemiss and her natural born successors; the full statement may be seen at; https://fortress.wa.gov/dol/ucc/filingDetail.aspx?id=/Ss1GL+iYL1x3Bap8ep8Ag== and permanent and irrevocable estoppels by acquiescence barring the charges of damages under any Statute or Act against the injured party Warwick James Burgess; Ref UCC 1-308-309 Remedy and Recourse

**Situation Vacant**  
We are looking for tractor, car & bike mechanics to join our team. Some experience would be an advantage but training will be given to the right applicant, and WoF ticket is preferable. If you're reliable and a team player send your CV to miles@hpmotors.co.nz or ph 027 227 1121 for a chat.

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

**NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK WANTED**  
**High and Medium BW Empty Cows Boner & Prime Cows**  
Purchasing in the paddock  
Contact: Liam McBride 021 222 2662 NZ Farmers Livestock

**Council Meetings - March 2026**  
HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL  
In accordance with section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, I advise the following meetings to be held during the month of March 2026 in the Council Chamber, 1 William Street, Paeroa.  
**Regulatory Hearings Committee** Tuesday, 3 March 2026, 9.00am (confirmed)  
**Council** Wednesday, 11 March 2026, 9.00am  
**Whirotoa Community Public Meeting** Saturday, 14 March 2026, 10.00am, to be held in the Whirotoa Community Hall and Emergency Management Centre.  
**Regulatory Hearings Committee** Tuesday, 17 March 2026, 9.30am (confirmed)  
**Council Management Committee** Tuesday, 31 March 2026, 9.00am  
DA Speirs Chief Executive Hauraki District Council  
www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

**Public Notices**  
Come and join the St Joseph's school family!  
We are accepting enrolments for children in Years 1-8.  
Why choose St Joseph's, Paeroa?  
• Strong values of compassion, integrity and kindness  
• A happy, vibrant start to school for new entrants  
• Fostering the love of learning, every day  
• Celebrating and enjoying high academic achievement  
• Outstanding preparation for college  
• Rich sporting and cultural opportunities  
• Encouraging learning and play  
• Helping children flourish as confident, joyful learners  
Enrol now!  
www.paeroa-stjosephs.school.nz 07-8628994

**Thames-Coromandel District Council Meetings – March 2026**  
Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during March 2026.  
**Council Meetings**  
**Ordinary Council** Tuesday 24 March 2026 - 09.00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames  
**Committee Meetings**  
**Planning and Regulatory Meeting** Thursday 12 March 2026 - 09.00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames  
Please visit [www.tcdc.govt.nz/meetings](http://www.tcdc.govt.nz/meetings) for copies of Agendas and Minutes.  
A Lawrie CHIEF EXECUTIVE Thames-Coromandel District Council  
www.tcdc.govt.nz

**PAPER DELIVERIES**  
Although we endeavour to deliver our paper to everyone, sometimes we just cannot achieve this. If you are one of the few who did not receive your weekly paper, please note they are available here:  
**NGATEA** - Ngatea 4 Square, HDC Council Offices, Ngatea Post Shop, Z Petrol Station, Ngatea Purple Dairy  
**PAEROA** - Moores Caltex, Countdown, HDC Council offices, Takenote, Paeroa 4 Square, Paeroa Information Hub  
**WAIHI** - Maybelle Superette, New World, Toyworld/Takenote, Info Centre, Daffodil Dairy, Waihi Supervalue  
**THAMES** - Totara Veggie Shop, Mobil Kopu, Gull Service Station, Martina 4 Square, Bin Inn, Tararu Dairy, Queen St Mobil, Goldfields Mall, Pak'N'Save, Paper Power, Thames 4 Square, Carson's Bookshop, Thames Council Offices, Kauaeranga Store  
**TURUA**: Turua Dairy **KEREPEHI**: Kerepehi Dairy

**PHOTO SALES**  
Photographs taken by the Valley Profile are available for purchase, contact us today! editor@valleyprofile.co.nz 0204 0944 853  
The Valley Profile CoromandelApp

Looking for something? Wanting to sell something?  
Place your classified with the paper that is being read...  
FOR SALE!  
Ph 022 130 3885 | nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz  
The Valley Profile

*From the first call to the final farewell we're here for you and your loved one every step of the way*



07 868 6003

funerals@twentymans.co.nz

www.twentymans.co.nz

## SUDOKU

239

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

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

239

HARD

MEDIUM

EASY

Puzzles © The Puzzle Company  
www.thepuzzlecompany.co.nz

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

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

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

## JUMBO CROSSWORD

259

### ACROSS

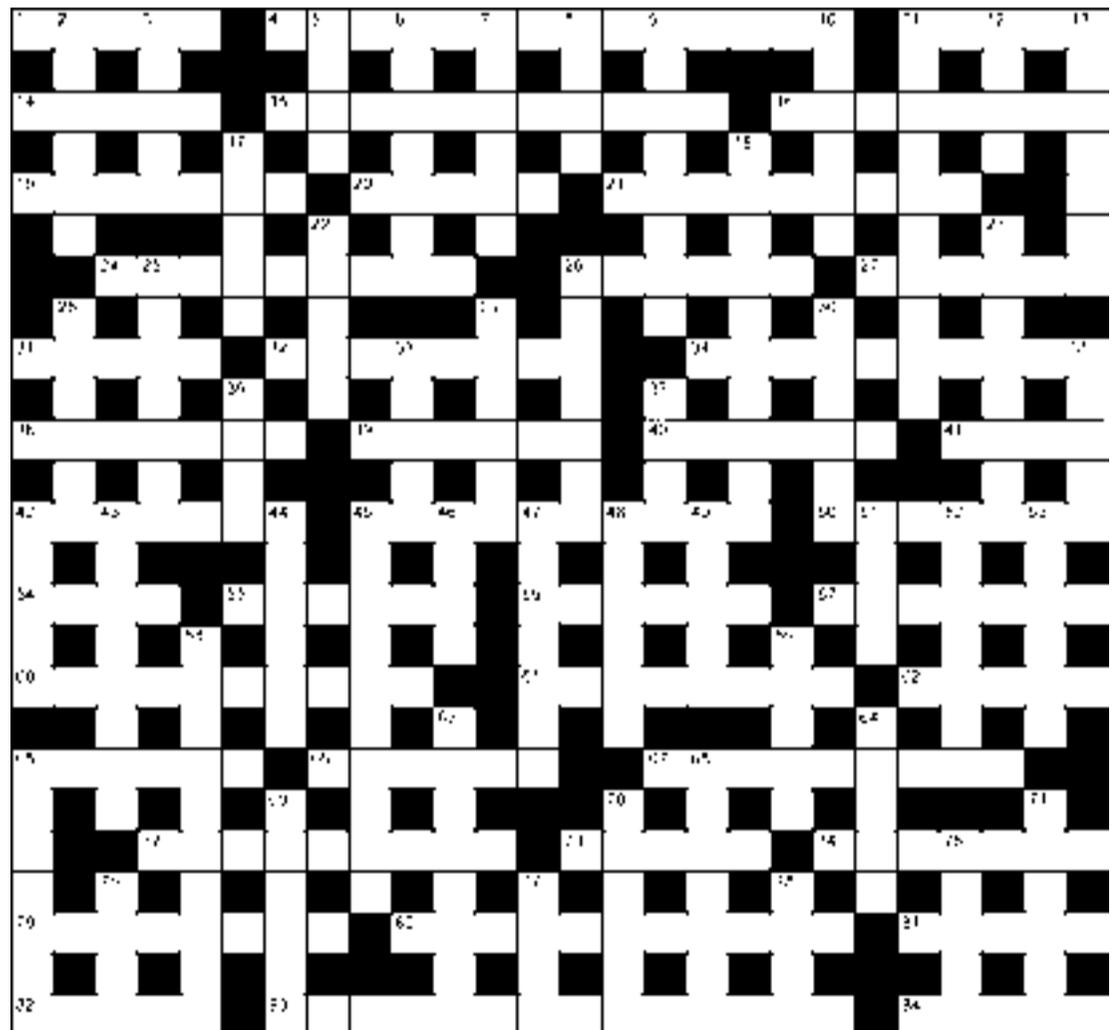
- 1 Spear (5)
- 4 Deserved respite (4-6,4)
- 11 Foot problem (5)
- 14 Investigation (5)
- 15 March in protest (11)
- 16 Renegade (8)
- 19 Clothing (7)
- 20 Conditions (5)
- 21 Not sure (9)
- 24 Pen name (9)
- 26 Streetside channel (6)
- 27 Ship's, aircraft's kitchen (6)
- 31 Surgical sponges (5)
- 32 Pariahs (8)
- 34 Sealed against leakage (10)
- 38 Egg white (7)
- 39 Eat up greedily (6)
- 40 Source (6)
- 41 Touch lips (4)
- 42 Awaiting decision or settlement (7)
- 45 Safekeeping (10)
- 50 Tiredness (7)
- 54 Yours and mine (4)
- 55 Hire (6)
- 56 Easy-going, warm in manner (6)
- 57 Radiates (4,3)
- 60 Intended to deceive (10)
- 61 French law-keeper (8)
- 62 Foreign (5)

### DOWN

- 2 Sudden (6)
- 3 Snake (5)
- 5 Potato dents (4)
- 6 Imprecisely (7)
- 7 Take for granted (6)
- 8 Standard (4)
- 9 Cause to explode (8)
- 10 Gibes (6)
- 11 Secret-sharing female friend (10)
- 12 Space (4)
- 13 Fulfil the expectations of (7)
- 17 First appearance (5)
- 18 Meat abstainer (10)
- 22 Not genuine (5)
- 23 Growing weary (8)
- 25 Put down by force or intimidation (7)
- 26 Of the stomach (7)
- 28 One dozen (6)
- 29 Accompany (6)
- 30 Conviction (6)
- 33 Applaud with shouts (5)

### ACROSS

- 35 Slight experience of (5)
- 36 Stitched (4)
- 37 Asian desert (4)
- 42 Evidence (5)
- 43 Storyteller (8)
- 44 Play games of chance (6)
- 45 Reversible word (10)
- 46 Type of marble (4)
- 47 Betrothed (7)
- 48 Paying occupier (6)
- 49 Japanese port (5)
- 51 Absent (4)
- 52 Pancreas product (7)
- 53 Brand new (6)
- 58 Promoted for sale (10)
- 59 Sting (5)
- 63 Seasoned smoked beef (8)
- 64 Singing group (5)
- 65 Squash underfoot (5,2)
- 68 Level highland (7)
- 69 Copied genetically (6)
- 70 Free from worry or anxiety (2,4)
- 71 Sent out (6)
- 75 Cheek-colouring makeup (5)
- 76 Writing table (4)
- 77 Abstain from food (4)
- 78 Slack (4)



### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Rival, 4 Endorses, 9 Return, 14 Smash, 15 The luck of the draw, 17 Cocoa, 18 Ear, 19 Brewery, 20 Companion, 21 Pitons, 24 Guinevere, 25 Astray, 26 Trusty, 29 Artificial, 31 Hut, 32 Raised, 33 Jamb, 35 Axe, 37 Help, 39 Analgesic, 40 Launching, 41 Khaki, 42 Careless, 47 Decorate, 51 Pores, 55 Ambiguity, 56 Minnesota, 58 Sway, 59 Awe, 60 Slip, 61 Steamy, 62 Lie, 63 Literature, 66 Bottom, 67 Dismay, 69 Casserole, 72 Export, 73 Lethargic, 75 Hazards, 77 Tax, 80 Trail, 81 The next best thing, 82 Nerve, 83 Bamboo, 84 Antidote, 85 Added.

DOWN: 2 Inheritor, 3 Allow, 5 Neon, 6 Outcome, 7 Steeplechase, 8 Siren, 9 Rowboat, 10 Tack, 11 Recoil, 12 Wages, 13 Shortly, 14 Savoury, 16 Certificate, 22 Retina, 23 Ravioli, 24 Glimpse, 25 Attack, 27 Stamina, 28 Refute, 30 Logo, 32 Repay, 34 Bugle, 36 Echo, 38 Era, 42 Chaos, 43 Rebuilt, 44 Logs, 45 Shifts, 46 Array, 48 Clairvoyant, 49 Rosette, 50 Tea, 51 Pyramid, 52 Smelly, 53 Undercurrent, 54 Sell, 57 Outset, 64 Residence, 65 Compete, 66 Blatant, 68 Maestro, 70 Skirted, 71 Armada, 72 Extra, 74 Hyena, 76 Aphid, 78 Club, 79 Left.



Boundary lines are indicative only



**Kaiaua 1177c East Coast Road**

**Private and elevated with sea views**

Looking for a block with scope, character, and sea views? This expansive 56-hectare (more or less) landholding rises across the foothills north of Kaiaua, offering an elevated canvas with far-reaching views across the Firth of Thames and towards the Coromandel Ranges. Several elevated sites provide outstanding positions for a new build, each with commanding outlooks and excellent access. The land is well-balanced for those wanting a workable grazing block. Practical farm improvements and a dependable stream-fed water supply support smooth day-to-day management. Positioned near the Hauraki Rail Trail, with cycling, range walks, and fishing all close at hand.

bayleys.co.nz/2630176

56.9692<sub>ha</sub>

**Asking Price** \$1,799,000 + GST (if any)

**View** by appointment

**Karl Davis** 0508 83 83 83

karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

**Sam Aislabie** 027 429 5410

sam.aislabie@bayleys.co.nz

SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Boundary lines are indicative only

**Ngatea 168a Bush Road**

**A standout location with four bedrooms plus shedding**

Discover space, comfort, and versatility in this substantial four-bedroom home, well suited to busy family life or those needing room for work, hobbies, or storage. Set on 6,551sqm (more or less), the 282sqm (more or less) home offers generous proportions designed for everyday ease. Heating throughout and double glazing provide year-round warmth. Four well-sized bedrooms are supported by a family bathroom, with the master enjoying its own ensuite. Open-plan dining flows to a covered deck, creating a sheltered setting for relaxed entertaining in all seasons. Internal access garaging for two vehicles is complemented by a three-bay shed, ideal for tools, equipment, or a dedicated workspace.

bayleys.co.nz/2630205

6,551<sub>sqm</sub> 4 2

**Auction (unless sold prior)** 11am, Thu 12 Mar 2026

96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

**View** 10-10.45am Sun 1 Mar & 10-10.30am Sun 8 Mar

**Karl Davis** 0508 83 83 83

karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

**Connor Davis** 027 496 4622

SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Boundary lines are indicative only



**Pipiroa 133 Hopai East Road**

**A farm with scale, function and a location that works**

Set across three titles, this well-presented dairy holding combines scale, functional infrastructure and a location that supports both farming and everyday living. Ancillary improvements and good access to townships and coastal destinations position the property for its next chapter. The all-flat 123 hectares (more or less) create a highly workable dairy platform, supported by a 30-aside herringbone shed with ML2100 midi-line and automatic cup removers, plus a 300-cow feed pad. Two older cowsheds add useful support, while a metered council water supply brings confidence through drier months. A three-bedroom and a four-bedroom home provide practical on-farm accommodation.

bayleys.co.nz/2630203

123.37 ha

**Tender (unless sold prior)**  
 Closing 3pm, Wed 18 Mar 2026  
 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton  
**View** 11am-12pm Wed 25 Feb & Wed 4 Mar  
**Karl Davis** 0508 83 83 83  
 karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz  
**Sam Aislabie** 027 429 5410  
SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



**Paeroa 780 Wani Road**

**178-hectare dairy**

This 178-hectares (subject to survey) of flat, dairy land presents an excellent opportunity for a purchaser to make their mark and elevate the property to the next level. Currently run as two separate dairies, the 36-aside dairy shed on 106-hectares is well located and has a new 450 cow yard with very good support buildings adjacent. This farm has two homes with the main home having 4-bedrooms and ample garaging. The second home is an older 3-bedroom weatherboard. The second dairy unit of 72-hectares has a 28-aside dairy shed, lined effluent pond, town water, an older home with an outside room and a number of support buildings. A great opportunity here, well worth inspection.

bayleys.co.nz/2314625

178<sub>ha</sub>

**Asking Price** \$7,120,000  
**View** 12-1pm Tue 3 Mar & Tue 10 Mar  
**Mike Fraser-Jones** 027 475 9680  
 mike.fraserjones@bayleys.co.nz  
**Neville Jacques** 021 774 190  
 neville.jacques@bayleys.co.nz

SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



**Paeroa Wani Road**

**Support block**

This support block of 26.5-hectares (subject to survey) is located just 8kms from Paeroa. Currently run as part of a large dairy unit however, crossing the road for cows is becoming more challenging. Town water supply, 15 well fenced paddocks - mostly two wire electric, central race to many paddocks with troughs in most. A 4-bay half round barn and adjacent stock yards plus a large, enclosed gable shed complete the package. This block is currently being subdivided from a larger block with six chicken sheds under construction on the adjoining property. This package with all its advantages is priced attractively with the owners wanting a sale as soon as possible.

bayleys.co.nz/2314630

26.5<sub>ha</sub>

**Asking Price** \$1,090,000  
**View** 12-1pm Tue 3 Mar & Tue 10 Mar  
**Mike Fraser-Jones** 027 475 9680  
 mike.fraserjones@bayleys.co.nz  
**Neville Jacques** 021 774 190  
 neville.jacques@bayleys.co.nz

SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



**Ngatea 2 Benner Drive**

**A well-connected street, a quality home**

This quality four-bedroom family home is set on a beautifully gardened street, offering easy access to town and effortless everyday living. A formal entry leads to a spacious open-plan lounge and dining area with ranch sliders opening to a private patio, ideal for entertaining. The well-equipped kitchen offers ample storage, while the master bedroom features an ensuite and walk-in robe, complemented by three light-filled bedrooms. Excellent storage, an internal double garage with laundry, and a fully fenced section add appeal. A large rear garage suits a boat and extra storage. Enjoy the outdoor lifestyle of the wider Hauraki region. View today!

bayleys.co.nz/2630204

1,175 sqm 4 1 2

**Tender (unless sold prior)**  
Closing 11am, Tue 17 Mar 2026  
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton  
**View** 2-2.30pm Sun 1 Mar & 11-11.30am Sun 8 Mar  
**Connor Davis** 027 496 4622  
connor.davis@bayleys.co.nz  
**Seth Roe** 027 320 6937  
SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



**Ruamahunga - Thames Coast 37 Otuturu Crescent**

**Vendors relocating overseas, it's got to go**

Disregard all previous pricing. Set in an elevated 4,460sqm (more or less), private position just moments from the Ruamahunga Boat Ramp, this substantial executive residence captures expansive views across the Firth and delivers unforgettable sunsets. The 215sqm (more or less) brick and cedar-clad home features light-filled open-plan kitchen, dining and lounge areas, warm timber detailing, multiple decks and balconies for effortless indoor-outdoor living, and generous accommodation including four bedrooms. Excellent heating provides year-round comfort, while extensive shedding — including a dedicated boat shed caters perfectly to coastal and boating lifestyles.

bayleys.co.nz/2180923

4 2 2 4

**Auction (unless sold prior)** 11am, Thu 19 Mar 2026  
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton  
**View** by appointment  
**Robyn Cruickshank** 027 308 7110  
robyn.cruickshank@bayleys.co.nz  
**Glenn Tanner** 027 486 2399  
glenn.tanner@bayleys.co.nz  
MH REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

# From Hauraki to International Rugby academy

RUGBY

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

When it comes to Kodie Watts' drive and passion for rugby - "it's always been there".

The 15-year-old athlete, who is a year-11 student at Hauraki Plains College, came from a family who loved the sport and was inspired by them to be the best player he could be.

He said he was also impacted by the rugby achievements of older brother Ethan Watts, who "makes me want to follow in his footsteps and do the best I can".

Kodie was recently selected to join the International Rugby Academy of New Zealand in Wellington for an advanced training programme across the April school holidays.

The moment he received the news of his selection he was stoked and happy with "a few nerves flying around", he told *The Profile*.

He looked forward to "just learning new things that I don't know about the game", as well as "improving my game and seeing where it will take me", he said.

During the programme, he was also set to train alongside former All Blacks coaches.

"It feels amazing knowing that I will be learning from guys with huge experience. I am looking forward to meeting them. I don't know who they are yet."

He hoped to gain more skills in areas such as kicking and passing,



Kodie Watts, 15, is off to the International Rugby Academy of New Zealand in the April. RIGHT: Kodie in action. Photos: SUPPLIED

to get to a higher fitness level and make new friends from overseas.

The emerging talent was five years old when he played for the Maramarua Rugby Club, which is when it all started.

His hope was to play super rugby or represent his country in the next 10 years, he said.

When it comes to his position, Kodie said he usually played in the 12 jersey, which is second-five, but last year he played half-back and enjoyed it.

He stayed focussed when faced with challenges by "just putting my head down and getting on with it", he said.

"I love the game that much I'm keen to give any position a go."

The biggest challenge in sport so far was when he broke his kneecap and dislocated his knee in touch rugby.

"I was gutted because I couldn't play the first year of college rugby. So it was pretty hard to come back, join the team and find my rhythm again."

The young athlete said it taught him to "suck it up" and get on with it.

He was focussed on fitness, kicking and passing daily at home, on the field or "anywhere there is a rugby ball", he said.

He also concentrated on running more and getting his fitness up by road running and running broncos, which is a high intensity



shuttle-running fitness test.

It was clear Kodie was not one to sit idle with hobbies such as hunting, fishing, golf and touch.

"[I'm] always keen to give any games a try. I'm not one for sitting inside," he said.

There was one significant rugby experience that stuck with Kodie and helped shape who he was:

when he made the rugby final for the HPC Under 15 Black rugby team with all his friends.

"Although we didn't win we had an awesome season with a fantastic group of boys making lifetime memories," he said.

"It taught me that if you work together as a team that's where it can take you."



- Houses
- Garages
- Farm Sheds
- Commercial
- Garage Doors
- Auto Openers

We take care of everything from start to finish, including consents



Trade Qualified | Licenced Builders | Licenced Designer On Site

90C Kopu Road, Kopu, (next to bridge), Thames • Ph: 07 868 8663 or 0800 374 000  
 info@carswellconstruction.co.nz • www.carswellconstruction.co.nz

