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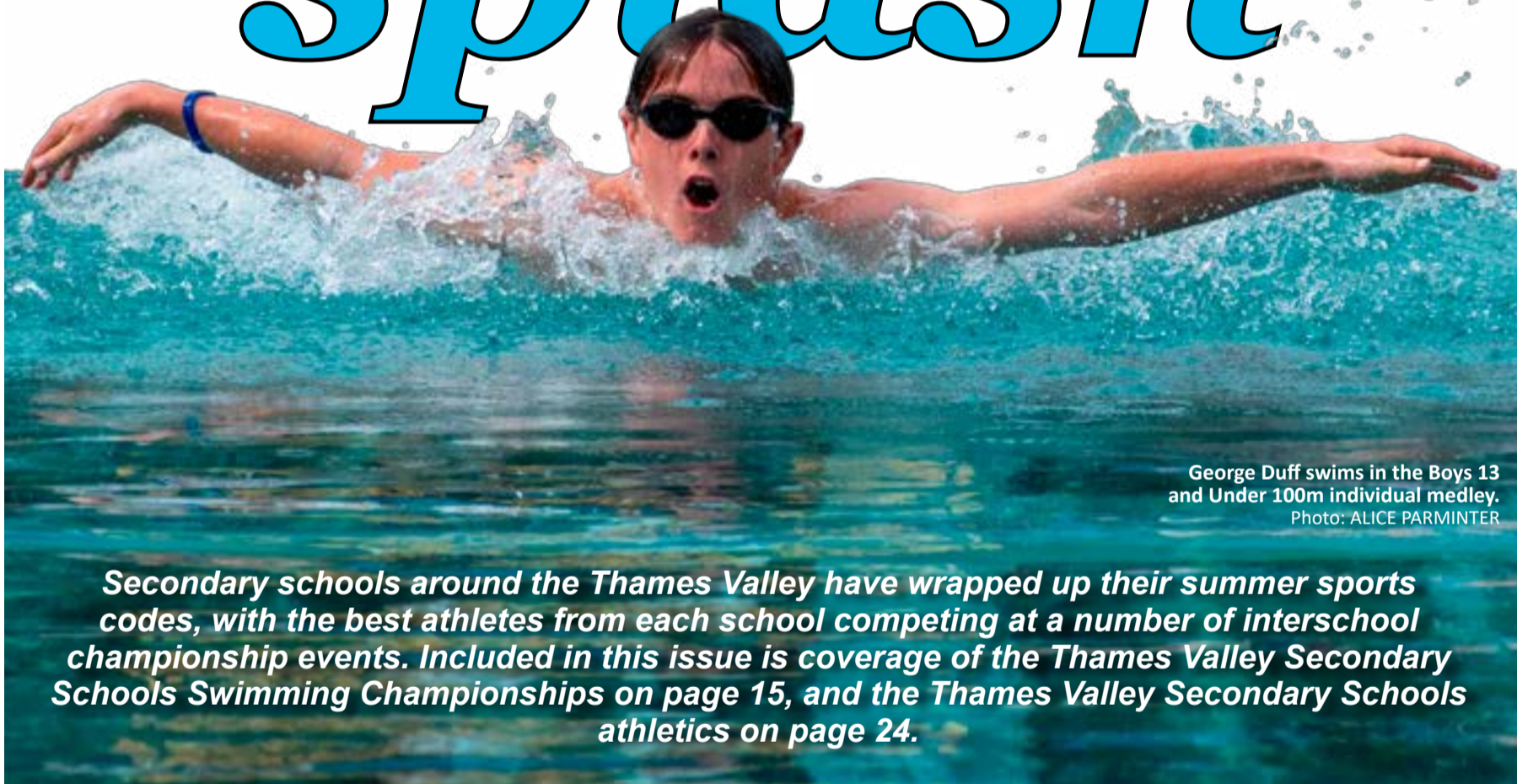
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Summer sports splash



George Duff swims in the Boys 13 and Under 100m individual medley.
Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

Secondary schools around the Thames Valley have wrapped up their summer sports codes, with the best athletes from each school competing at a number of interschool championship events. Included in this issue is coverage of the Thames Valley Secondary Schools Swimming Championships on page 15, and the Thames Valley Secondary Schools athletics on page 24.

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The Little Things

www.littlethings.co.nz © Leoney & Cole



Huge haul for handbag drive

By KELLEY TANTAU

A strong show of support from the Thames community has seen 83 handbags donated to this year's Love Grace Handbag Appeal, along with vouchers that helped top up the gifts with extra essentials.

Co-ordinator Norelle Broughton said the response had been "fantastic", with additional contributions from local businesses helping to enhance the donated bags.

"A very generous community donated a total of 83 handbags, and vouchers from Pak'nSave and the Warehouse let me top up some of the bags," she said.

"It was a fantastic campaign and great to have PamperMe MediSpa on board as the drop off point."

Norelle took on the role of Thames-based

co-ordinator for this year's appeal, which was created in memory of Grace Millane, a British traveller murdered while backpacking in New Zealand in 2018.

Grace's family in the United Kingdom launched the initiative to honour her memory by providing handbags filled with essential items to women escaping domestic violence.

Items donated with the bags included shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, toothbrushes, and toothpaste.

Norelle said she was "definitely keen" to help the Thames appeal again next year.

Now in its fifth year in New Zealand, the appeal has seen more than 15,000 handbags gifted to women through Women's Refuge services.

Beach Hop arrests

Police say they're disappointed with the behaviour of some casual spectators at Beach Hop in Whangamatā last weekend.

Police arrested 30 people in relation to fighting in a public place and disorderly behaviour, and issued approximately 40 liquor ban infringement notices.

Additionally, more than 3000 drivers were breath tested on roads in the area during the weekend, with 11 drivers presenting with excess beath alcohol.

Eastern Waikato Area Commander Inspector Mike Henwood said: "While the amount of people blatantly ignoring the longstanding liquor ban in the area is similar to recent years – the number of arrests is considerably higher".

"It is extremely disappointing that the behaviour of some people required us to make arrests, issue tickets, and deal with drink drivers – however it was anticipated, which is why there was an increased Police presence carrying out foot patrols and checkpoints in the area," he said.

"We encourage those attending these types of events to have fun, but in a safe and lawful manner."

Tens of thousands of people flocked to Whangamatā this weekend for the annual Beach Hop event, he said.

"This is an enjoyable event which is so important for the local economy, and it was run really well with participants and attendees having a great time and mostly behaving themselves. Unfortunately, some of the people attracted to the event caused some issues for Police later in the night."

BEACH HOP PHOTOS: P12

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 Snowdens ad.

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Thames Tides

Wed Apr 1		Thu Apr 2		Fri Apr 3		Sat Apr 4		Sun Apr 5		Mon Apr 6		Tue Apr 7	
4 am	6 NOON 6 pm	4 am	6 NOON 6 pm	4 am	6 NOON 6 pm	4 am	6 NOON 6 pm	4 am	6 NOON 6 pm	4 am	6 NOON 6 pm	4 am	6 NOON 6 pm
Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon	Morning	Afternoon
1:15am 0.6	1:41pm 0.6	2:00am 0.6	2:25pm 0.6	2:41am 0.6	3:06pm 0.6	3:20am 0.6	3:45pm 0.6	2:59am 0.6	3:23pm 0.6	3:39am 0.7	4:00pm 0.7	4:19am 0.8	4:38pm 0.7
7:29am 3.3	8:03pm 3.3	8:14am 3.4	8:47pm 3.4	8:57am 3.4	9:27pm 3.4	9:38am 3.3	10:05pm 3.4	9:18am 3.3	9:43pm 3.4	9:57am 3.2	10:21pm 3.3	10:37am 3.1	11:00pm 3.2
☀️ 7:31am	7:12pm	☀️ 7:32am	7:11pm	☀️ 7:33am	7:09pm	☀️ 7:34am	7:08pm	☀️ 6:35am	6:06pm	☀️ 6:35am	6:05pm	☀️ 6:36am	6:03pm
🐟 Best At	12:31pm	🐟 Best At	1:13pm	🐟 Best At	1:56pm	🐟 Best At	2:40pm	🐟 Best At	2:26pm	🐟 Best At	3:14pm	🐟 Best At	4:04pm
🌙 Set	6:18am	🌙 Full Moon	7:20am	🌙 Set	8:22am	🌙 Set	9:24am	🌙 Set	9:26am	🌙 Set	10:27am	🌙 Set	11:27am
🌅 Rise	6:35pm	🌅 Rise	6:58pm	🌅 Rise	7:23pm	🌅 Rise	7:50pm	🌅 Rise	7:21pm	🌅 Rise	7:58pm	🌅 Rise	8:40pm

*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	HIGH Hr	LOW Mn	HIGH Hr	LOW Mn
Coromandel	-0	04	-0	03
Whitianga	-0	01	-0	05
Tairua	+0	10	+0	20
Whangamata	-0	03	-0	06
Waihi Beach	-0	21	-0	16

Local joke kickstarts small business

By ALICE PARMINTER

A long-running local joke has led to unexpected success for one Waikino family.

Magdalena and Luke Morris are the couple behind Wicked Crafts - a small startup t-shirt design business. Their first design, featuring the slogan, "Is the gorge open?" has seen a burst of popularity in the wake of heavy weather events, fallen trees, extensive roadworks, and other issues causing ongoing uncertainty about travelling along the Karangahake Gorge section of State Highway 2.

"Stop-go signs, road works, 'is it open today?' messages flying around - it's been a bit of a ride," Magdalena said.

"The tee started as a long-running local joke... about that shared experience of living here and never quite knowing what the Gorge is up to next."

Magdalena, who works at the Waikino Tavern, said the pub often received calls from Waihi locals during bad weather, to see if the road was open.

"At least once a month somebody asked this question and my friend was like, 'put it on a t-shirt'."

Magdalena and Luke had already been toying with the idea of making custom t-shirts, so when some extra cash came their way they decided to give it a go. They purchased some equipment and a handful of blank shirts, and Wicked Crafts



Luke, Magdalena, and son Zion show off their "Is the gorge open?" custom t-shirts.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

was born.

"I made the first t-shirt for myself and I wore it to work - my friend [said], 'oh my god, I love it. Can you make me one?'" Magdalena told *The Profile*.

"He was wearing that t-shirt

when the tree came down [blocking the road] and yeah, everything went crazy after that."

The close-knit community was very supportive, Magdalena said - she estimated more

than half of Waikino locals had already purchased a shirt.

Magdalena and Luke took their shirts to the recent swap meet event in Paeroa, and said the reception was positive.

"We got a good response, a

lot of photos, a lot of people laughing, it was really cool."

The operation is still very small - more of a hobby than a full-time endeavor. The pair do all the work themselves, spending their evenings hand-printing orders and testing new design ideas.

All their business is currently word-of-mouth, but a website is in the works, and Luke said they planned to expand into custom orders as well.

"We're doing it for the family, a hobby slash get ahead in life a little bit," he said.

"But one of the biggest things that we're going for, is that we're buying everything a little bit more expensive, because we want quality, rather than selling something that might give out in a few weeks."

New designs are also in the works, and the pair have been commissioned to make hoodies for a daycare and shirts for a car club.

"We want to make t-shirts that make people smile, laugh, like I get so many people just laughing out loud when they see that t-shirt. That's exactly why we are doing this because life is just too boring to wear just black t-shirts all the time," Magdalena said.

"We are experimenting slowly, but it is a process, all the good things take time, so it's very, very exciting."

DETAILS: Find Wicked Crafts on Facebook or Instagram for more information.

LEFT BANK THEATRE

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Movies from Thursday 2 April to Wednesday 8 April
 For times, see our website, pick up a brochure by the cinema doors, or email or phone us.
 (We're closed on Thur. 2 April, but open Easter Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and Tues. and Wed. 7th/8th)

The Super Mario Galaxy Movie (98 mins) PG. A follow up to the 2023 box office smash The Super Mario Bros Movie with this intergalactic sequel, taking elements from the beloved Wii games. Huge with the kids!

The Magic Faraway Tree (110 mins) G. Follows a modern family who find themselves forced to relocate to the remote English countryside and discover a magical tree and its extraordinary and eccentric residents. Adapted from the Enid Blyton book series of the same name.

Hunt for the Wilderpeople (10th anniversary screenings) (101 mins) PG. A Taika Waititi film. A hilarious and heartfelt adventure based on Barry Crump's novel, 'Wild Pork & Watercress'. Ricky (Julian Dennison) is a defiant young city kid who finds himself on the run with his grumpy foster uncle (Sam Neill). A national manhunt ensues and the two are forced to work together to survive. **Easter Fri and Sat only at this stage.**

I Swear (120 mins) RP13. Follows the true story of a Tourette Syndrome campaigner's journey with Tourette's through his troubled teens and early adulthood in 1980s Britain. Alienated from his peers and family, he perseveres in his attempt to live a 'normal' life against the odds, finding some unlikely supporters.

Tenor: My Name Is Pati (104 mins) PG. Music-packed documentary. Tells the story of Pene and brother Amitai Pati, and their journey from Samoa to platinum-selling success in the trio Sol3 Mio and the world's greatest opera stages. Bursting with humour, heart and soaring performances.

Next week: You, Me & Tuscanry: A spontaneous Italian chef and uptight British lawyer fall in love at a destination wedding on Italy's coast. **The North:** Two old friends are walking 600 kilometers through the Scottish highlands, to reconnect with each other, with nature and with parts of themselves they have lost.

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Wright snr's last call on legacy

By KELLEY TANTAU

Paeroa racecourse developer Wayne Wright's final conversation with a former Hauraki Mayor ended in laughter.

The discussion with Basil Morrison centred on the iwi-supported name Taumarua - meaning "Black Rock" - for a major road running northeast from the chapel site.

Wright had initially wondered whether the name might be too long or unfamiliar, but after a light-hearted exchange with Morrison, he agreed to adopt it.

Wright snr died on March 20.

Earlier that same day, he had been at the racecourse he purchased with late wife Chloe in 2020 - still working, still planning.

"He had all these ideas - shift this dirt over there, get this moved over there, hurry up and get the chapel built, when's the carpet going to be finished," Morrison said.

Wright later returned home, where it's understood he died suddenly.

Wright snr was modest and unassuming, Morrison said.

"He was very humble and very generous."

Through informal koha collected from use of the racecourse grounds, Wright snr directed thousands of dollars to local causes, including the



Wayne Wright snr was at the former Paeroa Racecourse on the day he died - 'full of ideas' for the huge development.

File photo: ALICE PARMINTER

Paeroa RSA and the Paeroa Museum Society.

He and his late wife Chloe, who died in September, 2023, built a business legacy through Best Start Educare, founded in Tauranga in 1996, which grew into New Zealand's largest early childhood education provider.

In 2020, the couple purchased the Paeroa racecourse - a long-stalled site that Hauraki

leaders had struggled for decades to see developed.

"For us, it's more about leaving a legacy than it is about making money," Wright told *The Profile* at the time.

That vision is now a roughly \$60 million development, expected to transform the Hauraki town.

Plans include housing, apartments, a chapel, small busi-

nesses, a cafe, and a restaurant.

Wright had earlier said he hoped to see the project completed by the end of the decade.

Now, the future of the project will rest with Wright's family, who will carry forward the vision he and Chloe had.

Wayne Wright snr was farewelled at a funeral service at the Holy Trinity Church in Tauranga, on Saturday, March 28.

Strong wind, rain slams rohe

By KELLEY TANTAU

Severe weather driven by a deep subtropical low brought heavy rain, strong winds, and large swells to the Coromandel and Hauraki districts from Thursday to Friday last week.

MetService New Zealand said the system moved west of the country, dragging warm, moist air down from the tropics. The storm caused widespread disruption, with Police confirming State Highway 25 between Waihi and Whangamatā was closed at Whiritoa due to flooding. Motorists were advised to detour via State Highway 25/Kōpū-Hikuai Rd and to expect significant delays, particularly for those travelling to the annual Beach Hop event.

Hauraki District Council said an Orange Wind Warning had been issued for the district, alongside an earlier Orange Rain Warning for eastern areas, and urged residents to secure loose items, and stay informed as conditions changed.

Thames-Coromandel District Council meanwhile thanked road workers and contractors for working long hours to restore access following the storm, and also acknowledged the community response, saying residents came together to support clean-up efforts in affected areas.

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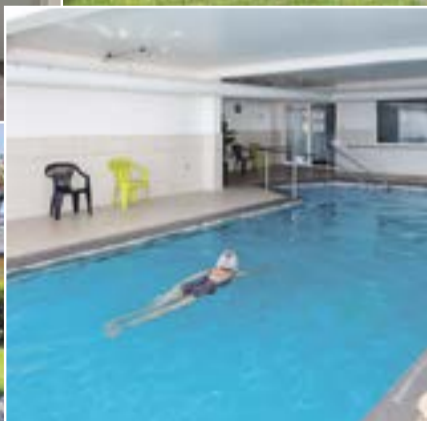
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Community railway hit by costly break-in

By KELLEY TANTAU

A valued community attraction in the Thames-Coromandel area has been hit by a significant burglary, just weeks after a separate incident raised concerns about safety on the tracks.

The recent break-in at Thames Small Gauge Railway is believed to have occurred overnight on March 21, when offenders forced entry into a storage container used to house locomotives, ride-on cars, and essential maintenance tools.

The incident was discovered early Sunday morning as volunteers arrived to prepare for a scheduled run day.

TSGR president Garth Familton said Tony, a regular volunteer and typically the first to arrive on site, noticed something was wrong when he found the container door ajar.

Upon inspection, it became clear that three locomotive batteries had been stolen.

"These locos are electric only and the batteries are high performance so we can run trains all day without needing to recharge," Garth explained.

Also taken was an angle grinder, an arc welder, a welding helmet, a leaf blower, a hedge trimmer, a jump starter, and a wheel barrow.

"While some of these items are not high value, we need them to maintain the tracks and buildings," Garth told *The Profile*. "The batteries, however, are worth many thousands of dol-



The stolen batteries are worth 'many thousands of dollars', TSGR president Garth Familton says.

lars and without them there are three locos that cannot run."

Garth believed the burglary was likely carried out by individuals familiar with the site and its contents.

The offenders appear to have used a grinder to cut the container's latch before spending time inside removing the batteries, which required undoing bolts and fittings.

It was unclear how the stolen goods were transported, though the missing wheelbarrow may have been used.

"While all crime is upsetting, this is really a crime against the community," Garth said.

"The railway brings a lot of fun and pleasure to children and adults from all over the



Three locomotives had their batteries stolen from the Thames Small Gauge Railway on March 21. Photos: SUPPLIED

Thames-Coromandel area, and after operating for over 30 years, we have people bringing their children and telling us how they used to ride the trains when they were children themselves."

The burglary follows a separate and unusual incident earlier in the month that had already raised safety concerns among volunteers.

On March 6, members arriving for routine maintenance discov-

ered piles of rocks deliberately placed across sections of the track.

Witnesses reported seeing a woman moving rocks on to the line days earlier.

Garth said the discovery was unusual, and could have caused significant damage.

"It would have resulted in derailments for any trains hitting these rocks," he said. "Of course, we do a very thorough track

check before running any trains, so the big rocks would have been moved. However, smaller stones may not always be seen and these can cause issues."

Some of the rocks were so large they could not be moved by a single person.

Police have been notified of both incidents, and TSGR is urging members of the public to report any suspicious activity in the area.

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Our Coromandel



News from Thames-Coromandel District Council

1 April 2026

26/27 Draft Annual Plan: Have a say

Lower rates come with real trade-offs. We want to hear what you think.

Our 2026/27 Draft Annual Plan centres on holding the average rates increase to no more than 3.8%, significantly lower than earlier projections in our 2024-34 Long Term Plan. And reaching that target means making some tough choices about the services we deliver and how we fund them.

We're asking for your feedback from late March through to late April, so now's your chance to review the proposed changes and tell us what matters most to you.

Mayor Peter Revell said lowering the rates increase in 2026/27 doesn't make services cost less, but changes



how some of those costs are shared, including greater use of user fees and changes to rates remissions.

"We've clearly set out what those changes involve, and we encourage everyone to make time to have their say," he said. "We will listen carefully to all your feedback."

There are plenty of ways to share your thoughts – from in-person events and pop-up market stalls to the quick and simple feedback form on our website and any Council office.

Find out about proposed changes and give your feedback at [tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan26-27](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/annualplan26-27)

What's happening over Easter and Anzac weekends?



OFFICES | DISTRICT LIBRARIES

Our offices (including AA services) and district libraries will be closed from Good Friday through to Easter Monday, and from Saturday 25 April (Anzac Day) to Monday 27 April (observed public holiday). You can still reach us 24/7 at 07 868 0200 or customer.services@tcdc.govt.nz



THAMES POOL

Thames Centennial Pool will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday, and on Anzac public holiday, observed Monday 27 April. [tcdc.govt.nz/pools](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/pools)



DOG RESTRICTIONS

Please keep your dog on a lead in urban areas such as town centres and roads. Look out for Council's traffic light signage and check the rules in your area at [tcdc.govt.nz/dogownerguide](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/dogownerguide)



ALCOHOL BANS

Alcohol bans are in place over Easter weekend from 4pm Thursday 2 April to 4pm Tuesday 7 April, and over the Anzac long weekend from 4pm on Friday 24 April to 4pm on Monday 27 April. Check out [tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/alcoholcontrol)

RUBBISH AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS OVER EASTER

SATURDAY 4 APRIL
Pāuanui



TUESDAY 7 APRIL
Whangamatā South
Mercury Bay South
(Cooks Beach, Hāhei)



WEDNESDAY 8 APRIL
Whangamatā North
Onemana & Ōpoutere
Whitianga



THURSDAY 9 APRIL
Coromandel Town
Coromandel Rural North
Te Kōuma
Mercury Bay North
(Matarangi, Kūaotunu, Whangapoua)
Thames Coast
Manaia



FRIDAY 10 APRIL
Tairua
Thames
Thames South Rural



SATURDAY 11 APRIL
Pāuanui



ALL REFUSE AND RECYCLING TRANSFER STATIONS ARE CLOSED ON FRIDAY 3 APRIL, GOOD FRIDAY. Open all other days over Easter period.

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Thames South Water Improvements Project

We're pleased to announce that work on a \$19.4 million water upgrade over two years to make drinking water safer for rural households in Thames South starts this autumn.



It'll make water safer and more reliable for around 1,000 residents in Omahu, Matatoki, Pūriri, Hikutaia and Wharepoua.

The improvements will consist of:

- a new water intake at Pūriri River
- two new reservoirs on the hills behind Pūriri village (an access track will also need to be built to provide vehicle access to the reservoir sites)
- a new, modern water treatment plant
- new piping for reticulation of the treated water to households, including pipe upgrades and reconfigurations to connect different pressure zones and networks.

[tcdc.govt.nz.thamessouthwater](https://www.tcdc.govt.nz.thamessouthwater)

SPORTS FIRST AID COURSE

Eight sport and recreation club members from Thames completed a first aid course on Sunday 8 March at the Thames Civic Centre. They were coaches of children and young people in sport and recreation clubs. Participants included representatives from Thames ATC, Kiaido Ryu and Thames High School. All sport and recreational clubs were invited to participate in the course which was funded by Thames Community Board.

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

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Explore creativity at *Arts in Town*

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

A showcase of local artisans with demonstrations, sales and workshops was set to bring people together in Waihi on April 11 for the *Arts in Town* event.

Formerly known as the Art and Street Festival, the Lions Club of Waihi Community event was previously more like a market with entertainment, committee member Rona Keith said.

"But this year... we wanted to actually showcase people who are teaching or groups that are doing arts and crafts," she told *The Profile*.

"So it is kind of like a market, but the focus is on demonstrating, letting people get their hands dirty doing stuff and running workshops."

Stallholders will pay a fee of \$20, and workshops will be run by the stallholders with a charge, depending on materials. However, the rest of the event was free, she said.

"But at the stallholders, some of them are going to have a 'make and take', which was an arts and crafts piece people could make and take away with them, she said.

"If there's any cost for the make and take, that's the stallholders dealing with that.

"And the workshops, there's a ticketing system for the workshops."

People can check out what workshops are available online



Block printing with Bernadette Shea.

Photo: SUPPLIED

through the Humanitix website.

There would also be live music and entertainment for children, she said, as well as several Waihi businesses offering discounts and demonstrations as well.

Stalls would be set up outside too, but would be more of a market stall, so "it's spilling out past

the hall", she said.

Rona wanted to encourage people to pre-book their tickets now for workshops so the artisans knew how many kits to prepare.

It would be an occasion for people to see what Waihi has to offer, she said.

"I think I'm looking forward to

people realizing all the different opportunities in Waihi, that may be people who have never done anything creative before go, 'oh, you know, that might be something I'd like to do,'" she said.

DETAILS: Workshop and ticket info: collections.humanitix.com/arts-in-town.

School holiday programmes set to educate and entertain

SCHOOL OF MINES

The Thames School of Mines April school holiday programme is running on April 8, 10, 15, and 16 at the Carnegie Library, 705 Queen St, Thames. Activities include crystal geode creation, a scavenger hunt and poster making at the mineral museum, fossil making, and learning about the history of Thames. Activities run from 10am-2pm, koha entry, no booking required. See Facebook for more details.

LIBRARY PROGRAMMES

Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki District Libraries are also running school holiday programmes. In Hauraki, the Paeroa and Waihi libraries will have sessions every weekday from 10.30-12pm, with activities including Lego, Playstation, movies, crafting sessions, and 3D printing. Bookings are required for the Playstation and 3D printing, call 07 862 8609. In Thames-Coromandel, there will be sessions at the Thames, Tairua, and Mercury Bay libraries from 10.30-11.30am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Activities include crafting, scavenger hunts, and escape rooms. Bookings are required for the escape rooms, contact the library for more details. All sessions are free.

Thames Art Gallery
604 Tararu Road, Thames Coast
www.thamesartgallery.co.nz

April Featured Artists

 <p style="text-align: center;">LISA STENT</p> <p>Lisa is a mixed media artist creating intuitive, layered works rich in texture and subtle detail. Her art invites you to pause, feel, and discover your own meaning within the layers</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">DANY PIKE</p> <p>Inspired by ancient goddesses, movement, and the living intelligence of nature, Dany offers soulful works that invite deep connection, expression, and self-discovery</p>
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Stay the course - or head for the horizon?

Chris' Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Par-minter

- In 2019, Macaulay Culkin changed his middle name to what? a) Maccauley Culkin, b) Publicity Stunt, or c) Shark Week?
- What does SS stand for in the name of a ship, eg. the *SS Titanic*? a) Sailing Ship, b) Sea Service, or c) Steam Ship?
- 'Carless Days' was a fuel rationing scheme active in New Zealand during which years? a) 1969-1970, b) 1979-1980, or c) 1989-1990?
- A healthcare worker responsible for taking blood samples from patients is known by what name beginning with P?
- True or false: the actress Carrie Fisher had a cameo in the movie *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*?
- How many medals were won by New Zealand in the recent 2026 Winter Olympics? a) Zero, b) one, or c) three?
- In the 1983 horror novel *Christine* by Stephen King, who or what is Christine?
- Who was announced last week as the new All Blacks defence coach?
- As recorded in the Old Testament of the Bible, who spent three days and three nights in the belly of a whale?
- Pete Townshend was a co-founding member of which band? a) The Eagles, b) The Monkeys, or c) The Who?

ANSWERS: 1. a) Macaulay Culkin, his full legal name is now Macaulay Macaulay Culkin; 2. c) Steam Ship; 3. b) 1979-1980; 4. Phlebotomist; 5. True, she played a therapist; 6. c) Three - two silver and one bronze; 7. A car (specifically a 1958 Plymouth Fury); 8. Tana Umaga; 9. Jonah; 10. c) The Who.

OPINION



By MICHAEL WILKES

Sometimes, when we're miserable, the answer is simple: make a change.

Other times, it's not that straightforward. The struggle might be part of something worth holding on for.

Wisdom is knowing which season you're in.

We've all seen it - someone stuck in a job, relationship, or situation that's sucking the life out of them. Everything in them is screaming, "Time to call it quits". But we've also seen the

opposite - someone grinding through something hard because deep down, they know it's worth it. They just need to hold their nerve.

I was reminded of this tension one particular day out on the water. Now let me say - I'm not exactly a keen fisherman. But this trip? It was one for the books.

Choppy as anything. Our little boat was getting tossed around like a toddler's new kitten. But then - we hit it. A fish boil-up of biblical proportions. You know, the "throw your net over the other side" kind of miracle moment.

The rods never even got a

break. It was bait on, hook down, fish on. It was taking longer to load the bait than to catch the fish.

But with every wave, the horizon disappeared - and my stomach flipped. Seasickness hit me like a freight train. I was green, then pale, then offering my breakfast as burley.

Still, I kept going. Fish after fish. Sicker and sicker. Until eventually I couldn't even stand.

But no one was quitting. The others kept going. We hit our quota and headed home - cold, wet, wrecked... and buzzing.

That week, we ate like kings. The suffering? Worth it.

So here's my thought today: in

the middle of your struggle - is this a storm you need to endure because the reward is coming? Or are you throwing bait into an empty ocean, and it's time to go home?

Wisdom is knowing when to hold on and when to let go.

Only you know which one it is. But either way - don't just sit in the misery. Make the call.

Michael Wilkes is a youth worker with Thrive Trust, supporting mentoring and resilience programmes across Thames and Paeroa. To support his local youth work or follow stories and insights, find him on social media @michaelwilkes.kiwi. Enjoy these articles? Grab his book The Unschooled Life at michael-wilkes.kiwi.

Pet Profile

Meet Vixen at Thames SPCA - your daily dose of fun

Meet Vixen, a nearly six-month-old sable beauty bursting with personality! This lively, cheeky pup is full of energy and loves to keep life exciting with her playful antics and joyful spirit.

Vixen is a smart cookie who's already learning the ropes - she responds well to commands like sit and is eager to keep learning. She gets along great with other dogs and would thrive in an active home, whether that's with a playful canine companion or a family ready to include her in their adventures.

Affectionate and people-loving,

Vixen thrives on attention and interaction. She's the kind of pup who will fill your days with laughter, fun, and plenty of cuddles.

Vixen is desexed, microchipped, and up to date with her vaccinations, flea, and worm treatments - ready to head straight into her forever home.

If you're looking for a clever, energetic companion to share life's adventures with, Vixen might just be your perfect match!

DETAILS: www.sPCA.nz/adopt/animal/652025/dog-vixen-thames

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Vixen is affectionate and people-loving.

Photo: SUPPLIED

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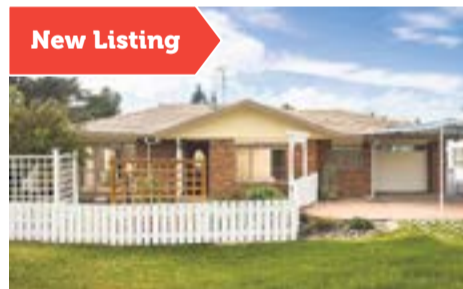
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On the Land

Planting programme turns drains into ecosystems

A drain is generally considered a negative word associated with depletion, exhaustion and loss of resources.

It's a word that Johan van Ras no longer uses on his Te Puninga dairy farm, which lies in the Waihou-Piako flood management area.

"It is not a drain," says Johan, who is constantly looking for ways to make environmental improvements on his land, including to water quality and native habitat.

"It's a managed waterway that has been straightened for the function to remove water, but it's an actual stream with wildlife in it."

Johan is one of 14 landowners involved in Waikato Regional Council's Thames Valley channel diversion planting programme that was started in 2024 to address the significant bank erosion and slumping that occurred in the Waihou-Piako land drainage network during heavy flooding in 2022/23.

The council received \$1.08 million from the Regional Infrastructure Fund, administered by Kānoa Regional Economic Development & Investment, towards the \$1.8m programme to help improve the overall performance of the Waihou-Piako flood protection scheme.

Work includes reshaping about 15 kilometres of drains and planting them out in bank-binding native sedges (Carex) so they can effectively clear surface water from farmland without introducing high sediment loads to the Piako and Waihou river systems.

Previous trials by the council and other organisations show benefits of reduced maintenance requirements such as weed spraying and mechanical excavation, and improved water quality greater clarity, with cooler temperatures and higher dissolved oxygen levels. "It's the right thing to do," says Johan, who himself heeded the research and planted sedges along one of the drains on his property (the Te Puninga Stream) before taking part in the council's programme to plant out the rest.

"I used to call them drains, and they were filled with weeds, their banks eroding. I had posts that fell in, I had cows fall in – they'd graze hard up to the stream."

"We were part of the drainage network process of spray, dig, spray, dig, to control the weeds and to dig out the layer of sludge that would build up. This would then expose the banks and if a large flood came through, they'd collapse."

"Now, I can just forget about it."

Johan says the New Zealand sedges grow fast and "are insane at holding the banks together", but they also create shade which suppresses weeds and cools the water for native fish species.

eDNA monitoring on his property has



Johan van Ras says native sedges "are insane at holding the banks together". BELOW: A drain post-fencing and planting. Photo: SUPPLIED

revealed banded kōkopu and shortfin eels, and Johan is waiting for the return of longfin eels and kōura from his restoration efforts.

"There is life here now in an area that was once unproductive and had no native habitat values."

"Now we have kōkopu, eels, inanga, birds; you can hear the insects. It's awesome."

Council integrated catchment management director Greg Ryan says the Thames Valley channel diversion planting programme is an example of how the council considers nature-based solutions, where feasible, as part of its flood protection maintenance and renewals programme.

"We take a whole catchment approach to support our core business of managing water, so that includes planting to reduce erosion and sedimentation and improve water quality and habitat and replacing or upgrading pump stations with fish-friendly ones," he says.

"For some of our big flood management projects, we've also created wetlands and water refuges for native fish species."

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On the Land

A once-in-a-generation opportunity: Making the most of the Fonterra Capital Payment

Over the coming weeks, many dairy farmers will be making decisions that could have a significant impact on how much of the upcoming Fonterra capital payment they ultimately get to keep. While the payment itself is good news, the real value lies in how it is planned for and used.

The capital payment from Fonterra is a return of capital, not income therefore not taxable upon receipt. In simple terms, the money comes in tax-free. However, this is where many people stop thinking—and where costly mistakes can be made. When you later try to extract that money for personal use, tax can be triggered depending on your structure and the method of extraction.

Handled poorly, a large portion of the payment can be lost to unnecessary tax. Handled well, the same dollars can be used to strengthen your business and personal position with very different tax outcomes.

The key message is simple: don't

rush to pull the money out without a plan. Get in touch with your Cooper-Aitken to understand your structure and implications of your plans.

First Question: What is your current structure? Before making any decisions, it's critical to understand how your farming business is structured. The same payment can have very different outcomes depending on whether you operate as a partnership, company, or trust. Understanding your structure is step one. Step two is running the numbers.

Same money, very different outcomes. As an illustration: A partnership receiving \$200,000 can generally access the full \$200,000 personally with no additional tax. Also, a company receiving the same \$200,000 may face tax when that money is paid out, potentially reducing the net cash available to shareholders.

This is why structure and timing matter so much. The decisions you make now will directly affect what

ends up in your pocket. Many farmers feel pressure to "do something" with the money straight away. In many cases, the most tax-efficient and financially sound option is to leave the funds in the business—at least initially.

Common business uses include: Paying down debt and reducing interest costs; Strengthening working capital and the balance sheet Upgrading machinery or investing in new technology; Reinvesting in the farm to improve long-term productivity; Keeping funds in the business preserves flexibility and buys time to make informed decisions.

Personal uses farmers commonly consider: Where personal use is part of the plan, common goals include: Property purchases (holiday homes or investments); Paying down personal mortgages; Succession planning and gifting; Diversifying investments outside the farm.

Extracting funds: Proceed with care

If funds are needed personally, there are several options, each with different tax implications: *Dividends* – tax is triggered, and while imputation credits help, there is often still a cash tax cost. *Shareholder loans* – require careful management. Interest may need to be charged, creating taxable income for the company. *Share buy-backs* – potentially tax-free if strict requirements are met, but complex and subject to IRD scrutiny.

The key is to align personal goals with business goals in the most tax-efficient way possible, rather than acting first and hoping for the best. There is no one-size-fits-all solution. What works well for one farm may be completely wrong for your neighbour. **Banking and compliance still matter** Before any distribution is made, it's essential to check: Banking covenants – ensure distributions won't cause a breach; Solvency tests and required board resolutions for dividends. Ignoring these steps can create un-

necessary risk with lenders.

The real opportunity is planning This Fonterra payment is widely seen as a once-in-a-generation event - something most of us are unlikely to see again in our lifetime. The opportunity isn't just the cash itself, but what thoughtful planning can achieve. Every farm is different - different goals, debt levels, structures, and family plans. What's right for your neighbour may be completely wrong for you.

We strongly encourage our clients to get in touch where we can go through the following with you: Model out scenarios for your plans for the Fonterra dividend and tax implications; Review how these plans align with your five-year goals; Reviewing bank covenants.

It's not about simply receiving cash. It's about positioning your farm business strategically for the future.

- Amy Watson

Partner, CooperAitken.



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Brum! Brum!

A plentitude of petrolheads perched along the path for the Waihi Warm Up Party for Beach Hop 2026 on March 25. The rain didn't stop the community from showing out in full force to support the convoy of classic cars, stallholders, music maestros and more. Severe weather did however result in the plans for the Pauanui Power Cruise on March 26 to be shifted to Whangamatā. Reporter **DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA** cranked up the camera to capture some of the Warm Up Party adventures.



Laysharn Jones, 9, and Tina Rose make the most of the day in vibrant colours.

Photos: DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA



Sherryl Ellis, Heather Gilligan, Tony and Lorraine Fuller enjoy the party.



Cars on parade. Right, Ian and Tracey Lamb with Ange and Allan Hoffman.



Brian and Colleen Pascoe, Roberta Greaney, left, and Thea Haggitt of Christchurch shows off her car named Attitude.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Art works to ‘reflect life in all its layers’

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

There will be two featured artists at the Thames Art Gallery for the month of April - Dany-Kintara Pike and Lisa Stent, who will showcase pieces from their collections for the community.

At the northern end of the gallery, “intuitive artist” Dany will share her creation called *HeartBloodArt* for young and old souls.

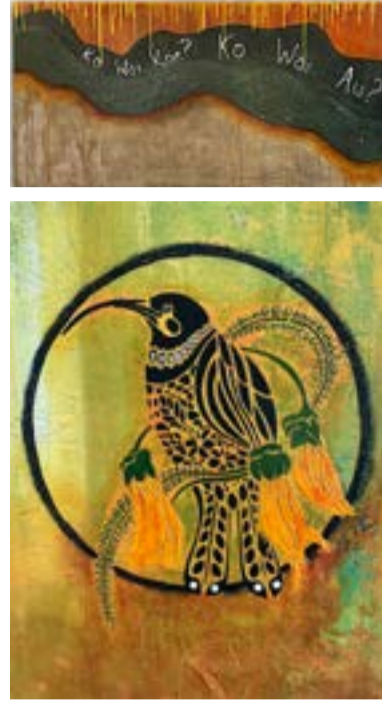
The creative, who is originally from Germany and now deeply rooted in the natural rhythms of New Zealand, said her work was born from devotion, presence and the “sacred pulse of life itself”.

The art maker believed she was guided by a profound spiritual and earth-based connection, with creations inspired by ancient goddesses, dancers, and the living intelligence of nature, she said.

Through sculpture, paintings and handcrafted pendants, she was able to give form to emotion, energy and the unseen, which offered meaningful pieces for those who honoured the sacred and the divine, she said.

Beyond her personal art practice, Dany facilitated creative workshops that weaved together intuitive art and spiritual exploration.

People were guided and in-



Dany-Kintara Pike, left, creates *HeartBloodArt* for young and old souls. Lisa Stent’s art, centre, ‘reflects life in all its layers’. Photos: SUPPLIED

vited to express what came up through embodied creativity, she said.

At the southern end of the gallery, Lisa will present a collection of works that reflected her “deep connection” to place, memory and the natural world, she told *The Profile*.

“My work is intuitive and mixed media; full of texture, collage, marks, words, symbols

and little surprises that peek through the layers.”

“Most pieces go through many transformations before I know they’re done. I don’t always start with a clear plan, but I always know when to stop,” she said.

Lisa, who has lived most of her life on the Coromandel Peninsula, said she found “ongoing inspiration” in the

coastal environment - from the shifting tides and weathered roads to the small-town character of places on the wider peninsula.

Her exhibition is set to showcase recent works alongside evolving themes that continue to shape her creative journey, she said, such as a celebration of nature, her whakapapa (Ngāti Pūkenga), and the “deli-

cate threads that connect us to the landscapes we call home”.

“I want my art to reflect life in all its layers,” she said.

“I want you to see what you see, not necessarily what I see. I want you to enjoy the visual and textural experience, whatever that means to you.”

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

A large advertisement for Bayleys Thames Residential. It features a photograph of four people (two men standing in the back, two women sitting on a blue sofa in the front) in a modern, brightly lit living room. The room has large windows and a blue accent wall. Overlaid on the bottom of the image is the text: "WE BRING GREATER ENERGY TO THAMES RESIDENTIAL". At the bottom left is the Bayleys logo and the slogan "ALTOGETHER BETTER". At the bottom right is the contact information: "07 869 0632 | thames@bayleys.co.nz" and "M H REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008".

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Prepare frost-tender plants

With increased soil moisture after the recent period of heavy rains there will be rapid new growth.

Overnight dews bring a freshness to lawns and young seedlings. But soon enough cooler temperature will arrive.

Be aware of your frost tender plants and either move pots under cover or prepare to cover plants in the garden. Keep the gardens weed free, add some fertiliser and a layer of mulch.

Vegetables - Harvest the last of your late summer vegetables - pumpkins, potatoes, tomatoes, eggplants peppers and onions. Store onions, pumpkins and potatoes in a cool dry place. If you choose to give your veg patch a rest over the winter, add nutrients back into the soil by sowing a crop of blue lupins or mustard seed which will add nitrogen and improve the soil structure.

Raised veg beds can be a bonus in winter increasing the drainage, soil warmth and saving your backs. Replenish soil and add blood and bone, sheep pellets and mulch if you wish.

Once you have cleared your tomato patch, dig in some compost, blood and bone and sheep pellets and plant leafy greens like spinach, silverbeet, broccoli, cabbage or cauliflower. A liquid seaweed fertiliser is an excellent plant starter. It helps to stimulate root growth.

Flowers - Autumn is the ideal time for planting new trees and shrubs to allow them to get established over the cooler wetter winter months. It is soon time to plant sweet peas seeds in a warm sunny spot for spring and summer flowering.

Sow seeds of alyssum, aquilegia, calendula, cineraria, hollyhock, lobelia, to name a few. Once seeds are sown water gently and keep the soil moist while they establish. Remove spent flowering annuals and plant your favourite winter flowers. Don't forget to replenish the soil before replanting.

Fruits - Continue to harvest late season apples, feijoas, persimmon, figs. The deciduous trees are all showing signs of leaf drop. Once all fruit trees are harvested, spray pip and stone fruit trees with copper spray to protect against curly leaf, leaf blight, leaf spots, downy mildew, black spot and verucosis. Feed citrus trees with Citrus Food to promote strong healthy autumn growth. Maintain a regular watering schedule to fatten fruit.

Lawns - After the dry summer months, some lawns are looking a bit worse for wear. Especially if they haven't been watered regularly. This is the best month for sowing a new lawn or repairing your lawn. Mix in Saturaid with your grass seed and spread over prepared soil. This will help improve the water penetration through the soil and reduce any dry patches. Mow regularly, remove clippings and water in the morning. Aerate or core to improve drainage and feed.

Herbs - Replenish your herb garden with compost, blood and bone and sheep pellets and dig well in. Sow sage, rosemary, thyme, parsley, winter mint, coriander, oregano and chives.

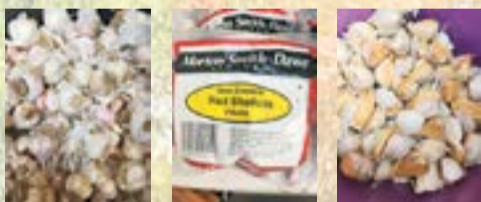
Compost Heap - Add fallen leaves, and prunings.

*Enjoy the time in your garden.
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Be aware of your frost tender plants - prepare to cover plants in the garden. File Photo: PEXELS

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

SPORTS

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

Valley kids dive in

The Thames Valley Secondary School Swimming Championships took place at the Thames Centennial Pools on March 19, with a large contingent of students attending from across the area. The atmosphere was positive, and students cheered on their classmates as they competed. ALICE PARMINTER headed along to catch the action.



Katie Davies from Paeroa in the Girls 13 and Under 100m individual medley.



Boe Leach from HPC launches into the Boys 14-15 50m backstroke.



Competitors dive off for the Boys 16 and Over 100m freestyle relay.

Photos: ALICE PARMINTER



Jack Kayes from Waihi College gives his best in the Boys 13 and Under 100m individual medley.



Candace Barriball from Hauraki Plains College competes in the Girls 16 and Over 50m backstroke.



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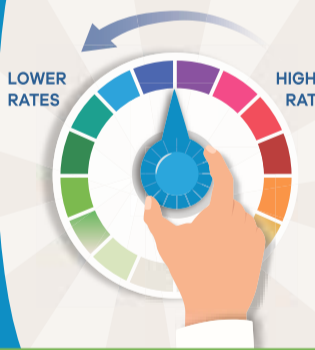
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Even when customers of Wenzlick Automotive are out of town, the team does its best to assist them if they should face any vehicle trouble while away.

That's because auto experts have been a member of a nationwide repair workshop group called Automotive Solutions for around 25 years, owner Shane Wenzlick said.

"[If] one of our customers is travelling around the country and has any [vehicle] problems, we can find a member of the group in that area [to look after our client]."

"[We're] all really passionate about what we do, and aim to be top of the line with service."

The group gets together a few times a year to chat and network so "you feel comfortable sending your customers to those people", he said.

Two additions to the business that "worked quite well" for a lot of people, he said, was the online booking system through the website and also the introduction of Afterpay.

Prepared with the latest diagnostic equipment to work on modern cars, Shane said the team aimed to give great customer service.

"Being in a small town, that counts for a lot, and that's what we really try [to] do."

DETAILS: Visit Wenzlick Automotive at 306



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By Davidda Hikatangata

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CLASSIFIEDS

- Deadline 5pm Thursday 2nd April due to Easter

Death Notices

GILMOR, David Walter (Dave):
At Thames Hospital on 24th March, 2026; his 74th birthday. Dearly loved husband of Cheryl for 53 years. Much loved father of Barry and Donna, Steven and Michelle, Kev and Kat. Loved Grandad of Adam and Jayda, Hayden and Laura, Kelita and Josh, Nevahn and Brooke, Shiloh, and Eleanor. Great-Grandad of Eliyus and Raine, and will be sadly missed by 'Scruffy'. A celebration of Dave's life will be held at The Workingmen's Club, 407 Cochrane Street, Thames on Thursday 2nd April at 11am.

CLARK, Rex Brunton:
Passed away peacefully at home (after a short illness), on 28th March, 2026. Loved husband of Verna for 60 years. Loved Dad of Linda and Michael, Glennis and Colin. Proud Grandad of Erin, Daniel, Lexie, and Jasmin. Thank you to the hospice and nursing team for their care and support. A private service for Rex will be held.

Church Notice

Thames Spiritualist Church, Unfortunately sadly we have had to cancel Sunday's meeting.

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Upper Piako Wetlands Management Association
7pm, 8th April
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Public Notice

Thames-Coromandel District Council Meetings – April 2026

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings, at the time of publishing, will be held during April 2026.

Council Meetings

Ordinary Council
Thursday 23 April 2026 - 09.00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

Committee Meetings

Infrastructure and Finance Committee
Thursday 30 April 2026 - 09.00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

Community Board Meetings

Mercury Bay Community Board
Wednesday 15 April 2025 - 09.00am, Mercury Bay Service Centre, 10 Monk Street, Whitianga

Tairua-Pāuanui community Board

Monday 20 April 2026 – 10:00am, Pāuanui Community Hub, 23 Centreway, Pāuanui

Whangamata Community Board

Tuesday 21 April 2026 – 10:00am, Whangamatā Service Centre, 620 Port Road, Whangamatā

Thames Community Board

Wednesday 22 April 2026 - 10:00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

Coromandel-Colville Community Board

Thursday 28 April 2026 - 09:00 am, Coromandel Service Centre, 355 Kapanga Road, Coromandel

Please visit www.tcdc.govt.nz/meetings for copies of Agendas and Minutes.

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Profile

CLASSIFIEDS Continued

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Former HPC record holder Rex Kelland meets new record holder Kingston Welsh. Photo: SUPPLIED

Freestyle legends meet

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

Rex Kelland, formerly of Kerepēhi, was around 17 years old when he broke the Hauraki Plains College senior boys one length freestyle race with a time of 15.10 seconds.

That was in 1979. Earlier this month, after 47 years of years of holding the record, Rex dropped into his old stomping ground to meet 16-year-old Kingston Welsh, the young swimmer who recently broke the former record with a new time of 14.56s.

“He [Kingston] didn’t break it by just a little bit - he broke it by quite a lot for what the record was just for one length freestyle,” Rex told *The Profile*.

“He didn’t break it by like a tenth,

he broke it by half a second which is pretty amazing. He really smashed the thing. More power to him, he seems like he’s really going places,” he said.

“I still like swimming but after I left school, I got an apprenticeship with a post office workshop in my role as a mechanic.”

The 64-year-old mechanic said he got into hot rods and classic cars and “I never put a foot in the water for like seven years, and yet up until then I was training 13 times a week”.

The car fanatic now lives in Modesto, California, in the United States and operates a classic car restoration business called Kiwi Classics.

He said he came back to New Zealand for a lot of big car events.

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Full Time position in the Hauraki Area. Must be punctual, honest & reliable. Hold a current Class 5 License. Logging experience preferred but not essential. Please phone Chris on 0210 229 3626.

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.

Painters

Professional roof painter. Mario Kerkhof 027 961 4055

Due to our membership growth we are looking for a bar manager and bar person who lives in the district to work at the Ohinemuri Club in Paeroa. Approximately 25 plus hours per week and must be able to work Saturdays. Please email CV to the Manager ohinemuriclub@xtra.co.nz or drop it into the club.



PCST Manager

The Paeroa Community Support Trust (PCST) (website pc.org.nz) is a 'not for profit' based on Christian ethos and values, based in Paeroa.

We are looking for a qualified and highly motivated leader who shares our values to oversee our staff and volunteers across the programs and services of the PCST (30 - 35 hours per week).

Our ideal candidate will have:

- Staff management experience
- Energy, enthusiasm and imagination to design and develop child / youth programs
- Funding experience
- A desire to make a difference to our community

A position description is available on request from the Hauraki Resource Centre phone 07 8626110. Applications including a CV and cover letter should be emailed to admin@pc.org.nz

Closing date: Friday 10th April 2026

**NEED STAFF?
GOT SOMETHING TO SELL?**
Advertise in *The Valley Profile* and get results!
Phone Nikki: 022 130 3885
Phone Davidda: 022 174 3988



JOIN OUR TEAM!

New Zealand Aged Care Services is seeking an experienced and motivated Care Home Manager to lead our Ohinemuri Lifecare facility in Paeroa.

This is a hands-on leadership role where you will oversee daily operations, lead a dedicated team, ensure high standards of care, and manage budgets and compliance.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

- Experience in aged care or healthcare management (or ready to step up)
- Strong leadership and people management skills
- Sound understanding of compliance and care standards
- Ability to work in a fast-paced, varied environment

WHAT WE OFFER:

- Competitive salary
- Supportive, close-knit team
- A role where you truly make a difference

ABOUT US:

We operate 13 care homes and 8 villages nationwide, combining growth with a strong people-first culture.

Location: Paeroa

Monday-Friday role + on-call component

Website: www.nzagedcare.co.nz

Apply now by emailing: people@nzagedcare.co.nz or phoning 09 218 4563



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← Scan here for details about the workshops

WAIHĪ MEMORIAL HALL
11TH APRIL 2026
LIVE MUSIC

STEEL'N BEATS STEELBAND

FREE ADMISSION

10 AM TO 4 PM



DIRECT CREMATION within 15kms of Thames: **\$3225.00***
DIRECT CREMATION requiring transfer from Whangamata, Tairua, Whitianga, Waihi, Paeroa, Ngatea and Coromandel: **\$3470.00***
DIRECT CREMATION requiring transfer from North of Coromandel or Waikato Hospital: **\$3580.00***
 Outside all of these areas: **\$3225.00 plus mileage**



For additional information please refer to Twentymans website: twentymans.co.nz CONTACT: 07 868 6003

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



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



Visit the website: foreverpets.co.nz for further information.
 CONTACT: Forever Pets 07 868 6003.
 We guarantee the ashes you get back belong to your pet and only your pet.



SUDOKU

244

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

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

EASY

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7		9	3					

MEDIUM

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

HARD

244

HARD

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

MEDIUM

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

EASY

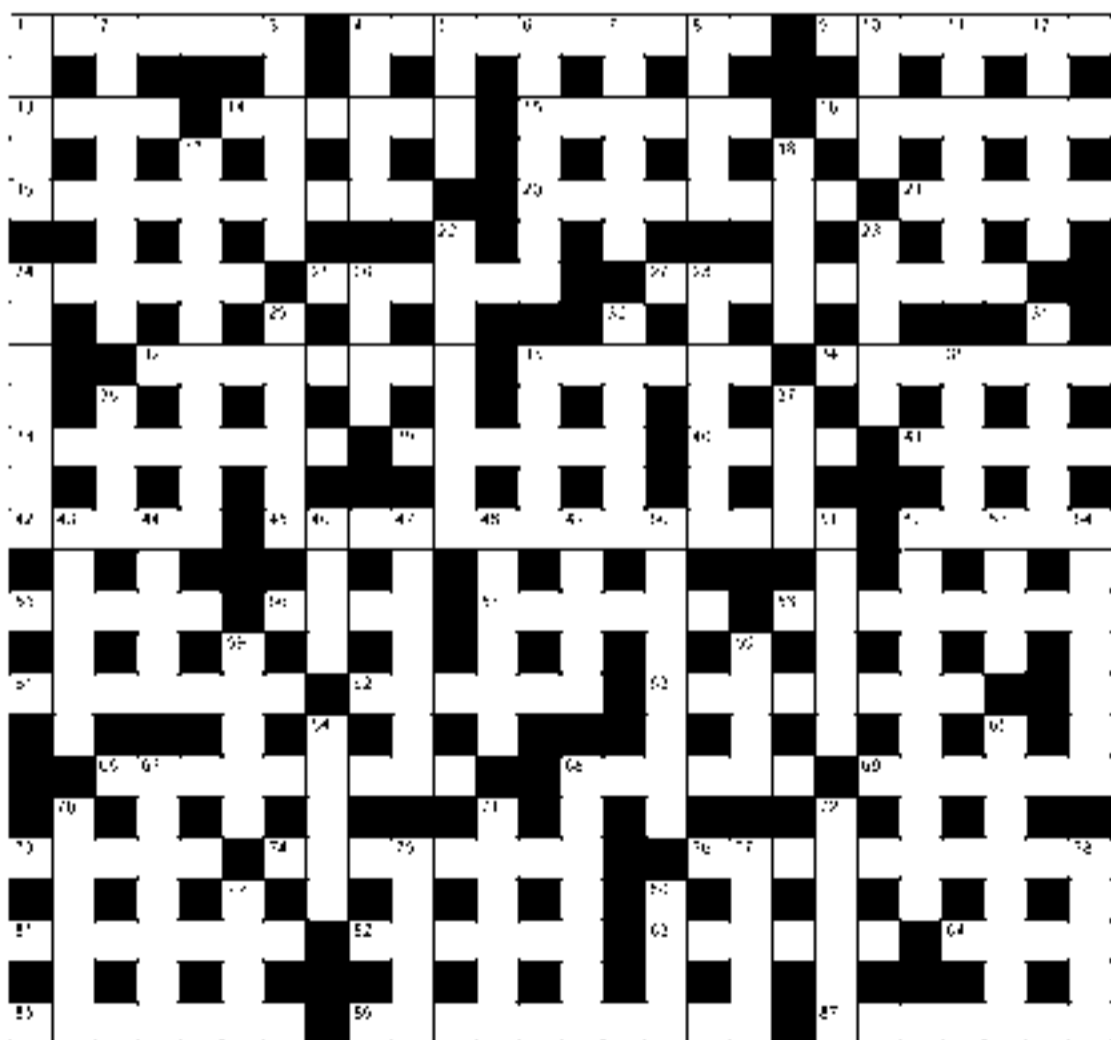
3	1	8	2	7	5	4	9	6
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1	7	4	5	6	8	9	3	2
5	6	3	4	2	9	8	1	7
9	8	2	3	1	7	5	6	4
8	9	5	7	4	3	6	2	1
4	3	1	6	8	2	7	5	9
7	2	6	9	5	1	3	4	8

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

JUMBO CROSSWORD

264

- ACROSS**
- 1 Working out (7)
 - 4 Defamatory (10)
 - 9 Mounted troops (7)
 - 13 Hankering (4)
 - 14 Leave (6)
 - 15 Mountain-top (6)
 - 16 Satisfied (7)
 - 19 Of language (10)
 - 20 Voraciously hungry (8)
 - 21 Peer (5)
 - 24 Ledger entry (6)
 - 25 Tracked down (6)
 - 27 Sabre-rattler (9)
 - 32 Wrong (8)
 - 33 Airless (6)
 - 34 Stress (7)
 - 38 Armoured glove (8)
 - 39 Milled (6)
 - 40 Girder (4)
 - 41 Feather pen (5)
 - 42 Horse (5)
 - 45 Meet with no response (4,2,4,4)
 - 52 Psalm (anag)(5)
 - 55 Body organ (5)
 - 56 Dirty fog (4)
 - 57 Took a break (6)
 - 58 Paltry (8)
 - 61 Distorted (7)
 - 62 Rolled document (6)
 - 63 Fall down (8)
 - 66 Bearable (9)
 - 68 Authoritative decision (6)
 - 69 Turns aside (6)
 - 73 Rogue (5)
 - 74 Kept back (8)
 - 76 Robot-like (10)
 - 81 Certificate (7)
 - 82 Film theatre (6)
 - 83 Seafarer (6)
 - 84 Desire (4)
 - 85 Not going (7)
 - 86 Sexually unrestrained (10)
 - 87 Varied (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Stationary (5)
 - 2 One with permit to sell alcoholic drinks (8)
 - 3 Lubricate (6)
 - 4 Hindu teacher (5)
 - 5 Italian wine (4)
 - 6 Wished for (7)
 - 7 Take away (6)
 - 8 Alliance (5)
 - 10 Sailor's shout (4)
 - 11 Old object (7)
 - 12 Airstrip (6)
 - 17 Caused to feel shame (10)
 - 18 Feigned pass (5)
 - 22 Plot outline (8)
 - 23 Beginning (5)
 - 24 Alters (7)
 - 26 Garden tool (4)
 - 28 Good-natured (7)
 - 29 Stifle (anag)(6)
 - 30 Arctic plain (6)
 - 31 Shapeless lump (6)
 - 33 Sea inlet (5)
 - 35 Steam bath (5)
 - 36 Air (4)
 - 37 Impartial (4)
 - 43 Tossed (6)
 - 44 Lives (anag)(5)
 - 46 Ground forces (4)
 - 47 Correctly reasoned (7)
 - 48 Restricted (6)
 - 49 Painter's stand (5)
 - 50 Savagely (8)
 - 51 Small river (6)
 - 52 Death-preventing (10)
 - 53 Principal (4)
 - 54 Gives a sign to (7)
 - 59 First appearance (5)
 - 60 Open pastry (4)
 - 64 Fundamental (5)
 - 65 Comfortable seat (8)
 - 67 Newness (7)
 - 68 Glowing brightly (7)
 - 70 Sign up (6)
 - 71 Cross out (6)
 - 72 Body-wrap (6)
 - 75 Caribbean country (5)
 - 77 Goes out (5)
 - 78 Loose-limbed (5)
 - 79 Portent (4)
 - 80 Capital of Norway (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Acute, 4 Make a beeline for, 14 Flare, 15 Spare, 16 Thermostat, 17 Cocoa, 19 Dew, 20 Pendant, 21 Newsprint, 22 Apathy, 25 Certainty, 27 Bedlam, 28 Harden, 33 Scrupulous, 35 Cue, 36 Anchor, 37 Core, 39 Aim, 41 Penalty, 42 Bedeck, 43 Estranged, 44 Upset, 45 Carefree, 50 Up, 51 Animator, 55 Stein, 58 Affidavit, 59 Hikers, 60 Escaped, 61 Sue, 63 Hurl, 64 Regret, 65 All, 66 Simulating, 68 Theory, 69 Florida, 71 Fortitude, 76 Cannon, 77 Obstinate, 79 Condemn, 81 Sir, 84 Taste, 85 Immaterial, 86 Appal, 87 Movie, 88 Pipped at the post, 89 Shaky.

DOWN: 2 Copied, 3 Tired, 5 Ache, 6 Earnest, 7 Browse, 8 Enter, 9 Intoned, 10 Etch, 11 Occupy, 12 Bandy, 13 Between, 14 Factual, 18 Instructor, 23 Pivot, 24 Hatchet, 26 Emulate, 27 Break-up, 29 Drought, 30 Eczema, 31 Scree, 32 Cotton, 34 Shed, 36 Amass, 38 Elder, 40 Calm, 45 Clash, 46 Referee, 47 Fade, 48 Envied, 49 Feast, 50 Unheard, 52 Insulation, 53 Adapted, 54 Oceans, 55 Startle, 56 Skill, 57 Arms, 62 Smuts, 67 Granite, 68 Twosome, 70 Rebuild, 72 Outcrop, 73 Bonsai, 74 Snatch, 75 Embark, 76 Crave, 78 Tempt, 80 Depth, 82 Kelp, 83 Mars.



Boundary lines are indicative only

Kaiaua 551 Kaiaua Road

Land, income & potential with iconic views

Offered to the market for the first time in over 100 years; a lifestyle and landholding opportunity where rural beauty meets coastal charm. Set on 40ha (more or less), the property offers expansive views across the Firth of Thames to the Coromandel Ranges. Around 20ha of well-fenced rolling pasture is complemented by approximately 20ha of established native bush. Elevated areas provide multiple premium building sites with stunning panoramic outlooks. Currently leased, the land offers immediate income or the option to manage stock yourself. Just five minutes from Kaiaua village, enjoy rural privacy close to fishing, local amenities and the coast. Great location with strong potential.

bayleys.co.nz/2630187

40.989 ha

Asking Price \$1,499,000 + GST (if any)
Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83
 karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Seth Roe 027 320 6937
 seth.roe@bayleys.co.nz

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



Boundary lines are indicative only

Mangatangi 410c Mangatangi Road

Bring the family and the horses

Set well back from the road on 4.32 hectare (more or less), this property centres on space, outlook, and enduring materials. The 215sqm (more or less) Hinuera stone brick home carries a reassuring sense of strength within its Mangatangi setting. Wide bi-fold doors draw morning sun into the living areas while framing expansive country views. The open-plan layout connects living and kitchen spaces with ease. The master bedroom includes an ensuite, while three further bedrooms and an office share the family bathroom. Outside, a double garage adds convenience. Post and rail fencing shapes the land, established fruit trees offer seasonal harvest, and concrete-floored stables cater for horses.

bayleys.co.nz/2630190

4.32 ha 5 2

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 16 Apr 2026
 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 3-3.45pm Sun 5 Apr & 10-10.45am Mon 13 Apr
Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83
 karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Connor Davis 027 496 4622
 connor.davis@bayleys.co.nz

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

BAYLEYS



Boundary lines are indicative only




Maramarua 528 Monument Road

Proven production, prime position

Bridging town and country, this 284 hectare (more or less) property spans four titles and has produced up to 135,000 kgMS. A further 80 hectares (more or less) could be milked, offering scope to lift production and scale the operation. Infrastructure centres on a well-spec'd 30 aside herringbone dairy shed, supported by a five bay implement shed, calf shed and additional shedding. Water is sourced via bore, with a mix of flat, rolling and hill contour on Maramarua clay loam soils. Pukekohe provides nearby day-to-day services, supermarkets and farm supplies. The property has convenient links toward Auckland and the wider Waikato.

bayleys.co.nz/2630213

284.9825_{ha} 

Tender (unless sold prior)
Closing 3pm, Tue 12 May 2026
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 11am-12pm Wed 1 Apr
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



Boundary lines are indicative only



Mangatarata 3629 State Highway 2 and Coxhead Road

Scale, structure and serious potential

Set on 99.48ha (more or less), this well-balanced farm offers productive grazing, established pasture, mature shelter trees and a stream that naturally shapes paddocks. Central races allow easy stock movement, while elevated areas capture wide views across the Thames Valley to the Hauraki Gulf. Structured as a farm park with 22 unit titles (four already sold), the property offers the option to continue farming while releasing sections over time or complete the development. Infrastructure includes a woolshed, utility shed, two haybarns, stockyards and loading ramp, plus a four-bedroom Huntly brick home with sleepout and reliable bore water supply.

bayleys.co.nz/2630217

98_{ha} 

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 23 Apr 2026
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 1-2pm Wed 1 Apr & Wed 8 Apr
Karl Davis 027 496 4633
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Sam Aislabie 027 429 5410

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Ngatea 15 Benner Drive

Quality, space and lifestyle combined

This well-designed 2005 brick home (approx. 203sqm) offers spacious, practical family living with plenty of garden shedding in an established neighbourhood. Its open-plan kitchen, dining and living area flow to outdoor spaces ideal for entertaining. The layout includes a master suite with ensuite and walk-in wardrobe, additional bedrooms with storage, and a flexible fifth room for office or guests. Comfort is ensured with heat pumps, HRV and insulation. Set on a generous 1,214sqm (more or less) section with playhouse and fencing, it's perfect for families and furry friends. Located in Ngātea, it provides easy access to amenities, schooling and Coromandel beaches.

bayleys.co.nz/2630222

5 2 2 2

For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty (unless sold prior)
 11am, Fri 24 Apr 2026
 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 11-11.30am Sun 5 Apr & 2-2.30pm Sun 12 Apr
Seth Roe 027 320 6937
 seth.roe@bayleys.co.nz
Connor Davis 027 496 4622

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



Boundary lines are indicative only



Maramarua 650 Falls Road

Entry-level support or grazing block

Two titles combine to form 62.18 hectares (more or less) of rolling hill country suited to run-off or grazing. Currently supporting around 70 steers and heifers, the land has capacity to carry more. It is well fenced into eight paddocks and supported by a woolshed, yards, and loading race. There is scope to further develop the property and lift productivity over time. The land suits dairy or drystock grazing, with room to establish a home set among gardens and native plantings. Nearby townships are gaining momentum, just 15km from Te Kauwhata and 23km from Pokeno, both offering everyday amenities. Positioned within the Golden Triangle, central to Auckland, Hamilton, and the Coromandel coast.

bayleys.co.nz/2630214

62.18 ha

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 23 Apr 2026
 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 11-11.45am Wed 1 Apr & 4.30-5pm Sun 5 Apr
Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83
 karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Seth Roe 027 320 6937

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



Thames 111 Victoria Street

Central escape with sea and bush views – Auction

Act quickly - a motivated vendor is committed to downsizing, presenting a rare opportunity to secure this elevated 1,323sqm (more or less) property. This immaculately maintained home enjoys a peaceful, private setting surrounded by mature trees, birdsong, and sweeping bush and ocean views. Spanning over 196sqm (more or less) across three levels, the home offers flexible family living with open plan kitchen, dining, and two generous lounges flowing to wrap-around decking. Three bedrooms are supported by a brand-new family bathroom, separate toilet, and dedicated laundry with additional toilet, while the master retreat features its own deck and stylish new ensuite.

bayleys.co.nz/2180854

4 2 2 2

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 23 Apr 2026
 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 2-2.30pm Mon 6 Apr or by appointment
Pippa Jackson 027 747 7000
 pippa.jackson@bayleys.co.nz
M H REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Whitianga 1A Lee Street

Destination-driven multi tenanted-asset

- Cinema, liquor and fitness tenants
- Diversified large-format rental income
- \$152,280.50 pa plus GST & outgoings

Located in the heart of Whitianga, this established multi-tenanted commercial property at 1a Lee Street returns \$152,280.50 + GST and outgoings per annum. Anchored by a cinema, liquor retailer and full-service gym, the asset offers diversified income from proven operators benefiting from strong destination-driven patronage. A low-maintenance investment with stable cash flow and broad tenant appeal.

bayleys.co.nz/2202181

1,286 sqm 952 sqm

Auction (unless sold prior) 1pm, Fri 17 Apr 2026
 1 Monk Street, Whitianga
View by appointment
Josh Smith 027 229 8865
 josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz
M H REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

SPORTS

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

Leaps and bounds

Athletes from high schools across the Thames Valley touched down at the Paeroa Domain on March 11 for a day of athletic competition. The Thames Valley Secondary Schools Athletics event saw students sprint, leap, throw and give it their best shot-put.



Toby Kemble of Hauraki Plains College breaks the Intermediate Boys High Jump record with 1.87m.



Thames High's Fynn Paki, year 10, zooms in the 100m race.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Mercury Bay Area School's Daniel Vaughan, 14, in the javelin throw.



Thames High's Annie Perret of Year 13 takes a leap.



Mercury Bay Area School's Ella Adlam, 13.



Waihi College's Trent Ewing in the triple jump.

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