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Boat founders in cyclone

Hauraki Mayor says region got off 'very, very lightly' during Cyclone Vaianu on Sunday - 'it could have been a heck of a lot worse'



A large boat sinks on Sunday afternoon in the fast-flowing Kauaeranga River floodwaters at the historic Thames Wharf. Photo: STEVE COX

By KELLEY TANTAU and ALICE PARMINTER

As Cyclone Vaianu bore down on the region over the weekend, a 45ft 30-tonne commercial boat strained against its mooring in Thames, forcing council and police to cordon off the area amid concerns of structural damage to the historic Thames Wharf.

On Sunday afternoon, the boat could be seen listing heavily on its side at the wharf, its hull partially submerged as

it pressed against the structure. Police confirmed officers attended the scene on Sunday to assist Thames-Coromandel District Council with crowd control and "to ensure the safety of those in the area", however, The Wharf cafe was open on Monday.

Thames-Coromandel District Council said its staff were now working with the harbour owners, Maritime NZ, and Waikato Regional Council to manage the response. "The wharf area is inside

an exclusion zone now and has been cordoned off for safety. We've engaged specialists to assess the structure and any potential damage," they said.

The boat foundered due to a heavily flooded and swift-flowing Kauaeranga River, which burst its banks on the designated flood spillway over State Highway 25 at high tide on Sunday afternoon, flooding the Thames Rugby clubrooms, grandstand and surrounding sports grounds. The Pinnacles in the Coroman-

del Ranges recorded more than 320mm of rain in the 24 hours to 8pm Sunday, surpassing forecasts and contributing to downstream flooding and the closure of the Kauaeranga Valley Rd.

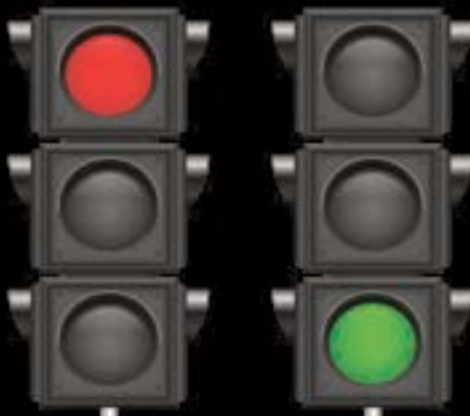
There was also flooding in the town's main street, with Pollen St under water at Grahamstown.

Warnings were issued across the Coromandel ahead of Cyclone Vaianu's arrival on Sunday, with MetService

CONTINUED ON P2

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Your point?

Maybe you weren't really that tired before...

Saying the wrong thing.

CONTINUED FROM P1

describing the storm as a "multi-hazard, potentially life-threatening event".

MetService issued Severe Weather Watches prior to the weekend, including a red 'strong wind' warning for the Coromandel Peninsula and Great Barrier Island, citing the combined risks of damaging winds, heavy rainfall, and coastal inundation.

Civil Defence Waikato also warned heavy rain and strong winds could lead to flash flooding and rapidly rising water, landslides, and falling trees, hazardous driving conditions, and possible road closures, as well as power outages.

Coastal areas were identified as particularly vulnerable, with a significant wave event expected to cause "moderate to significant" erosion along parts of the eastern Coromandel Peninsula and the Firth of Thames. Residents were also urged to avoid beaches.

On Sunday afternoon, Fire and Emergency NZ said crews had responded to more than 100 calls relating to wind damage and surface flooding, mostly from the east coast of the North Island, while more than 18 roads were closed throughout Thames-Coromandel due to flooding and slips.

In the lead-up to the storm, Thames-Coromandel District Council distributed sandbags at locations including Whangamatā, Whitianga, Coromandel Town, and Thames, as part of wider

CONTINUED ON P3



The Rhodes Park grandstand is under water, left; volunteers muck in at the flooded Thames Rugby and Sports Club, above; and the Thames flood spillway over SH 25, below. Photos: SUPPLIED



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Thames Tides

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
Apr 15	Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18	Apr 19	Apr 20	Apr 21
 Morning: 5:01am 3.1, 11:10am 0.8 Afternoon: 5:25pm 3.1, 11:38pm 0.7 Sun: 6:43am 5:52pm Best At: 10:09am 10:33pm Rise: 3:46am, Set: 4:24pm	 Morning: 5:49am 3.3, 6:17pm 3.3 Afternoon: 12:00pm 0.6, 6:17pm 3.3 Sun: 6:44am 5:51pm Best At: 10:56am 11:21pm Rise: 4:54am, Set: 4:50pm	 Morning: 6:37am 3.4, 7:06pm 3.5 Afternoon: 12:49pm 0.4, 7:06pm 3.5 Sun: 6:45am 5:50pm Best At: 11:46am New Moon Rise: 6:05am, Set: 5:18pm	 Morning: 7:25am 3.5, 7:54pm 3.6 Afternoon: 1:37pm 0.3, 7:54pm 3.6 Sun: 6:46am 5:48pm Best At: 12:12am 12:39pm Rise: 7:19am, Set: 5:51pm	 Morning: 8:15am 3.6, 8:42pm 3.7 Afternoon: 2:25pm 0.2, 8:42pm 3.7 Sun: 6:47am 5:47pm Best At: 1:07am 1:37pm Rise: 8:37am, Set: 6:30pm	 Morning: 9:06am 3.6, 9:30pm 3.7 Afternoon: 3:13pm 0.2, 9:30pm 3.7 Sun: 6:48am 5:46pm Best At: 2:07am 2:39pm Rise: 9:55am, Set: 7:18pm	 Morning: 9:58am 3.6, 10:21pm 3.7 Afternoon: 4:02pm 0.2, 10:21pm 3.7 Sun: 6:48am 5:44pm Best At: 3:11am 3:44pm Rise: 11:08am, Set: 8:17pm

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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	MIN	Hr	MIN
Coromandel	-0	04	-0	03
Whitianga	-0	01	-0	06
Tairua	+0	10	+0	20
Whangamata	-0	03	-0	06
Waihi Beach	-0	21	-0	16

District in 'pretty good shape' after Cyclone

CONTINUED FROM P2

preparation efforts across the district.

Hauraki District Council also had sandbags available at Whiritoa, Kaiaua, Turua, and Paeroa.

Western Bay of Plenty District Council opened Community Emergency Hubs across the rohe, including in Waihi Beach, from 8am Sunday.

Meanwhile, Hauraki District Council closed all of its Refuse Transfer Stations. A region-wide state of emergency for Hauraki, Thames-Coromandel, and the greater Waikato-Bay of Plenty was put in place on Saturday morning, providing emergency services and local authorities with additional powers to respond quickly during the severe weather event.

However, Hauraki District Mayor Toby Adams told *The Profile* his district had gotten off "very, very lightly", with the cyclone's dynamics changing as it approached. "It was going to be more wind than rain, and that quickly changed to more rain and next to little or no wind in some places," he said.

"There's some people that got some water on their property and in their garage, and we only had one reported incident of water inside a house... it could have been a heck of a lot worse."

Mayor Adams said the council was now moving into a monitoring phase as staff began assessing the damage.



Paeroa's Centennial Park under water. DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA



Damage to Iti Lane beach access, Cooks Beach. Photo: TCDC



Above: Flooding at Grahamstown in Thames. Photos: MONIKA LANGE

He asked the public to continue to be mindful of water use, citing the strain placed on water treatment plants and wastewater plants during and after significant rainfall events.

Thames-Coromandel District Mayor Peter Revell was similarly optimistic. Of the three storm events in his district so far this year, he said Cyclone

Vaianu was probably the most straight-forward event to handle. "Given the intensity of it, we think we have come away in pretty good shape," he said.

"I think pretty much all of our roads are open or passable. State Highway 25A had one very minor slip on it, which is testimony to the [resilience] work that was done in 2023.

The staff are now in the process of evaluating and working out where there are repairs that need to be done."

Both mayors said they were impressed by the resilience of their communities, and people's proactiveness in preparing for the storm.

"I just really want to take my hat off to the community. With-

out them doing their part, none of us get through," Mayor Adams said.

"People did a brilliant job," Mayor Revell added.

"By the end of today, we'll pretty much have everything cleared up, I would expect, and we're ready to welcome visitors and tourists back to the peninsula."

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Stories told through Trevor's lens

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

Trevor Lowe enjoys "telling a bit of a story" through the photos he captures.

It's something the photographer is able to share with the community for the month of April through his exhibition at the Paeroa Arts Centre.

"It's entitled *Evanescence*, which is basically talking about things that are here briefly and it's often talked about or used in relation to celebrities, but it sort of seems to me anyway quite pertinent for describing flowers, that they're here for a short time, they do their thing and then they're gone," the documentarian told *The Profile*.

"So I'm sort of trying to present flowers along that sort of line, that whilst they're here, it's not a bad idea to get to know them a wee bit, become familiar

with them and I'm hoping to have done that with the photos that I've created."

Trevor said the more photos he'd taken, the more he "actually enjoyed the challenge" of telling a bit of a story or providing some sort of view of a subject that maybe others hadn't quite seen before.

Trevor believed he always had a bit of a "creative bent", but "never considered myself an artist".

He said his serious venture into the world of photography led him to around 20-25 years in the practice. People can see Trevor's photography on display in the Crosby Gallery of the Paeroa Arts Centre daily until the end of the month.

DETAILS: Visit Trevor Lowe's exhibition of *Evanescence* at Paeroa Arts Centre, 109 Normanby Rd, Paeroa, from 10am to 3pm daily.



Ohinemuri Goldfield to be explored in talk

The Ohinemuri Goldfield will be the subject of the next public talk at Te Whare Pātaka The Treasury, taking place on April 18.

Guest speaker Kae Lewis will be taking the audience on a journey through the Ohinemuri Goldfield. The site opened for mining on March 3, 1875, when 600 newly-registered prospective miners stood together on a hilltop at Mackaytown, and, at the given signal, rushed helter-skelter down a steep hill and across the torrential Ohinemuri River.

Kae is the author of the book *Goldrush to the Thames 1867-1869*, and runs the Goldminer's Database on the webpage www.kaelewis.com. This is a

freely searchable database of over 88,000 names of New Zealand Goldminers in New Zealand Goldfields of Otago, West Coast, Thames and Ohinemuri and covering the years 1861 - 1886.

Kae has had a lifetime interest in goldmining, especially since discovering that her great grandparents, Edward and Elizabeth Hooper arrived in the Thames in 1868 to seek their fortune on the goldfield.

DETAILS: The Ohinemuri Goldfield with guest speaker Kae Lewis. April 18, 2pm at the Old Carnegie Library, 705 Queen St, Thames. \$5 entry, includes light refreshment. Mother's Day raffle \$2 per ticket or 3 for \$5.

Support for anxious pets



By Stephanie Fulton, BVSc

Anxiety in pets is more common than many owners realise, and a wide

range of situations can trigger it. Major changes such as moving house or welcoming new family members—furry or human—can be unsettling. Everyday events like being left home alone, loud noises from fireworks or thunderstorms, car rides, busy environments, or age-related cognitive decline may also contribute. Every animal is different, so this is far from a complete list; many other circumstances can cause stress in your pets.

Anxiety can appear in many forms. Some pets bark or become restless. Others may chew, dig, or scratch destructively. Inappropriate toileting is a frequent concern, especially in cats, who may urinate in unusual places or at unusual times and can even develop blood in their urine. Fear-related anxiety often shows up as panting, drooling, hiding, or constant pacing.

If your pet's behaviour changes suddenly—particularly around toileting—it's a good idea to have them checked by your vet to rule out underlying medical issues. Once health concerns are addressed, there are many effective ways to help manage anxiety at home.

Creating a calm environment is a strong starting point. Providing a safe, quiet space can make a big difference: a covered crate or a cosy, quiet corner for dogs, or a high perch where cats can retreat from household activity. Extra exercise can help dogs burn off nervous energy, and both cats and dogs often enjoy puzzle feeders, treat balls, or scent-based games that keep their minds occupied.

A range of products is also available to support anxious pets. Royal Canin Calm diet for cats and small to medium dogs contains L-tryptophan, a precursor to serotonin, the hormone linked to well-being.

Purina Calming Care sachets include a probiotic and vitamin E to support the gut-brain axis. Calmex offers formulations for dogs and cats containing a serotonin precursor and B vitamins. Pheromone products such as Adaptil for dogs and Feliway for cats mimic natural calming pheromones released by mothers to soothe their young.

Thundershirts provide gentle, constant pressure similar to the calming effect of swaddling. Calming diets, pheromone diffusers, and probiotics are ideal for long-term support. In contrast, Calmex, pheromone sprays, and Thundershirts can be especially helpful during short-term stressors like storms, fireworks, or travel.

- Stephanie Fulton is a veterinarian at Franklin Vets' Waihi



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Retirees ramp up over proposed law changes

By ALICE PARMINTER

“We’re not going away.” That was the message at a recent public meeting held at Bupa Tararua, to discuss the ongoing ministerial review of the Retirement Villages Act 2003.

Brian Peat, the president of the Retirement Villages Residents Association of New Zealand (RVR), spoke at the March 27 meeting about the government’s proposed changes, which includes a repayment timeframe that the association said is “too slow, too flexible for operators, and mainly aimed at future residents”.

Brian encouraged the crowd of 50 retirees to continue lobbying for changes to the Act.

The review of the Act, which contains legislation overseeing the relationships between retirement village operators and their residents, began in 2023. At the time, the government received over 11,000 public submissions on the subject.

A cabinet paper issued in December, 2025, outlined the proposed changes for the Act.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development said it expected a bill with the proposed changes will be introduced to Parliament in mid-2026, with an opportunity for public submissions once it reaches a select committee.

While the RVR had a number of concerns about the proposed changes, it is focused on what it considers to be the largest issue: the timeframe for repayment of a resident’s capital once they vacate the village.



Brian Peat urges retirees to get behind a lobbying campaign at a recent meeting.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

The proposed changes would see village operators required to repay capital within 12 months; currently the legislation does not mandate a timeframe for repayment.

Brian said the RVR wants to see this reduced to a maximum of three or four months.

He said the amended timeframe also needed to apply to existing residents.

“This is a major, major issue for us to address,” he said. “That 12-month timeframe for repay-

ment is completely unacceptable. And there’s more than 56,000 people that live in retirement villages at the moment. They will not see the benefit of this change if it goes through the current process.”

The RVR also wants to see the bill passed into law as soon as possible, Brian said, and he noted concerns that there could be delays in the legal process due to the upcoming elections later this year.

“The House rises on the seventh of August, and so the select com-

mittee has to have met and approved the processes by the end of July,” Brian said.

“So we sincerely hope it will happen, but we will just have to wait and see.”

A media release from the Retirement Villages Association (RVA), which represents the village operators, also called the government’s proposed changes “flawed”, but said the 12-month repayment period would burden operators.

“As it currently stands, the man-

datory repayment period will, for some operators, push up costs for residents, slow down new development and the delivery of new care beds, and may force the closure of smaller regional and charitable villages,” the release said.

“That’s because the way the retirement village model works means funds are committed to debt repayment, infrastructure and services, not sitting idle... Forcing operators to repay residents or their estates before new funds come in will make the model more expensive and less sustainable.”

However, the RVA said it welcomed other proposed changes, such as clarity around chattels and a simplified complaints scheme.

Meanwhile, the RVR is preparing to ramp up lobbying efforts.

Residents at the meeting were provided with a “harassment pack” containing a freepost letter form addressed to Parliament, and suggested wording on what to write.

Brian said he had already handed out similar forms at more than 400 retirement villages across the country.

“I make no apologies for the demands we’re asking for in the review of this Act... you need that fairness and you need that protection because it’s not there now,” he told the crowd.

“Really, we have to focus on the repayment timeframe... we have to focus on the aspect that it must apply to existing residents.

“And we must see the review happen within 12 months. That’s all we’re really asking for.”

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Pet Profile

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DETAILS: Find out more at www.spcan.z/adopt/animal/659622/kitten-chips-thames.



Chips is affectionate and cheerful. SUPPLIED

In Brief

CLEANUP POSTPONED

The Paeroa Main Street Cleanup, originally scheduled for April 12, was postponed due to the arrival of Cyclone Vaianu. It will now be held on Tuesday, April 14, from 5pm. Volunteers are asked to meet at Richardson’s Real Estate with sponges, brushes, and brooms.

ROADWORKS POSTPONED

Scheduled daytime closures in the Karangahake Gorge were also postponed due to Cyclone Vaianu. The works are to repair a retaining wall, and will require a crane to straddle the road. The closures will now take place on Monday 13 and Tuesday 14

April, from 9am-5pm.

CORRECTION

A story published in the February 24 edition of *The Valley Profile* incorrectly stated Hauraki District Council was vesting ownership of the Waitakaruru Community Hall to the Hauraki North Rugby Football Club (HNRFC). The correct building is the War Memorial Hall, located on the Waitakaruru Domain grounds. Parts of the building are already owned by the HNRFC, and the council has vested ownership of the original portion of the building, known as the Communal Pavilion in some historical documents, to the club. The story also incorrectly said the building had been administered by the Waitakaruru Domain Board Committee. *The Profile* apologises for the errors.



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On the Land

Wellbeing fund a 'game changer' for mental health

Federated Farmers says the recent announcement of a \$4 million rural wellbeing fund will be an absolute game changer for rural mental health and wellbeing.

"This funding will do so much good for rural New Zealand and help a lot of people who need it," Federated Farmers president Wayne Langford says.

"There are some amazing organisations out there doing great work in our communities, but there have been real issues with central coordination and longer-term certainty of funding.

"Full credit goes to the government. They've recognised there's a need and have really stepped up to partner with those existing grassroots organisations, providing financial support."

Langford said it was no secret that mental health was a major issue for farmers and rural communities, with many factors contributing to that.

"Living in more remote communities, limited digital connectivity, reduced access to mental health services and healthcare, and the day-to-day stresses and pressures of farming all play a role.

"We've been aware of these challenges for a long time now, and a lot of different initiatives have popped up to meet a real need in our rural communities.

"It's great to see the government recognise that they don't have to reinvent the wheel or develop their own programmes for rural New Zealand, run centrally out of Wellington. "Instead, they're partnering with well-established and highly credible grassroots organisations, like Surfing for Farmers and Farmstrong, which are already out there making a big difference."

The government is backing rural New Zealand by supporting 18 community-based initiatives through its Rural Wellbeing Fund, Agriculture Minister Todd McClay and Mental Health Minister Matt Doocey said.

"We established the fund mid-last year to boost wellbeing programmes that support the rural sector," Mr McClay said. "These initiatives will ensure farmers and growers have the support they need to thrive."

Mr Doocey said the government was committed to delivering faster access to mental health support, including for the one in five people who live in rural communities. "We've focused on supporting proposals that can have the greatest impact on the ground, as well as new initiatives targeting gaps," he said.

"Partnering with grassroots organisations enables the government funding to go further and make a real difference."

The Ministry for Primary Industries and Health New Zealand each allocated \$2 million over four years for the fund through Budget 2025.

Funding includes: Whatever With Wiggy Charitable Trust, \$740,000; The Whanau Ora Community Clinic, \$716,000; The NZ Federation of Young Farmers Clubs Incorporated, \$585,000; Seafood Sector Support Network Trust (FirstMate), \$550,000; Life-Supporting Communities NZ (Be A Mate), \$400,000; Farmstrong Charitable Trust, \$399,250; Surfing for Farmers Charitable Trust, \$160,000; Tuākana Teina Kaiārahi Ltd, \$90,000; Ara Taiohi, \$70,000; NZ Shearing Contractors Association (Live Well, Shear Well), \$50,000; plus eight other community organisations.

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On the Land

Purchased maize likely source of velvetleaf find

Tracing has indicated that the source of the first velvetleaf find of the 2025-26 crop season, in Auckland, was likely maize purchased in the Waikato region.

The velvetleaf was found on a dairy farm that both grows and purchases maize.

North Island velvetleaf co-ordinator Sally Linton, who is employed on behalf of the North Island regional councils, Auckland Council and the Foundation for Arable Research, said the plants were discovered in pasture where last year's maize had been fed out and along a fenceline beside a maize paddock.

"A big focus of the work we do in velvetleaf control is the tracing of machinery and crop movement, so we can establish and mitigate the source of spread."

"In this instance, no plants were found within the maize crop itself, which indicates that the incursion was not from machinery."

"Also, the plants were not clustered together, suggesting this was a recent incursion – if they were clustered together, that would indicate that plants had seeded. So, looking at where the plants were found and their distribution, it is likely that the source of the incursion was purchased maize, and tracing this farm's purchased maize has indicated that the likely source was a maize purchase from the Waikato region."

Sally says a positive outcome of the find was the farmer knew what velvetleaf was and reported it immediately.

"This quick action ensured biosecurity staff could work quickly to contain the incursion and reduce the risk of further



Velvetleaf. File Photo: SUPPLIED spread on or off the property."

The incursion provides a timely reminder for farmers who may be purchasing maize this season to check the crop in case it is contaminated with velvetleaf.

"Likewise, contractors should understand the biosecurity risks of the crops they've been asked to harvest and have a plan in place for managing weeds like velvetleaf."

"Even if you're only harvesting maize for your own use, make sure the contractors working on your property use clean machinery and equipment."

"The time and any cost spent on ensuring good biosecurity is an investment in protecting your land and business."

Velvetleaf is classified as an Unwanted Organism under the New Zealand Biosecurity Act 1993. This means it is illegal to knowingly move, sell, propagate or distribute velvetleaf plants or seeds.

DETAILS: Suspected sightings of velvetleaf should be reported to your regional council or Sally Linton sally.linton.nz@gmail.com.



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The hard thing is worth doing: why resist?

OPINION



By MICHAEL WILKES

A mate of mine has a toddler with asthma. Lovely little guy - full of energy on a good day. But when his asthma flares up, it's a battle. The solution? The inhaler. A mask over his face. Simple, effective, and it would bring relief. But try telling that to a two-year-old. He fights it every time—kick-

ing, screaming, refusing to breathe it in.

The mask comes near, and it's like World War III has broken out in the lounge.

So what happens? He spends the rest of the day coughing, wheezing, struggling to keep up, and feeling miserable.

The very thing that could help him is the thing he's fighting hardest against.

It's easy to shake our heads and say, "typical toddler". But if we're honest... aren't we the same? We don't have parents

pinning us down with a spacer and mask anymore.

But we all have those "inhaler moments" - those things we know would be good for us, and yet we avoid them like the plague.

We know the hard conversation we need to have to fix that relationship. But we keep putting it off. We know getting up half an hour earlier would set our day right. But the snooze button is too tempting.

We know saying no to that extra spending would get us

closer to our goals. But... click, add to cart.

And here's the thing - we know better. Unlike the toddler, we know why the hard thing is worth doing.

We know the freedom, relief, and growth waiting on the other side.

So why do we resist? Because doing what's good for us is often uncomfortable. It costs something - pride, effort, time.

But what if we stopped fighting? What if we chose the hard thing now so life could get eas-

ier later?

Because at some point we all have to decide - live coughing and wheezing through our circumstances, or take a deep breath, face the mask, and grow.

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.

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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.

You, Me & Tuscany (110 mins) PG. A delicious romantic comedy about one little lie, a handsome Italian who happens to have a villa sitting empty in Tuscany, and a young woman who jets off to be with him.

The North (132 mins) M. 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.

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.

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.

I Swear (120 mins) RP13. FINAL. Follows the true story of a Tourette Syndrome campaigner's journey with Tourettes through his 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.

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Style Your Space

Top tips for autumn styling

As autumn settles in and the air starts to turn crisp, our homes naturally become a place of comfort and rest. The season switch-up offers the perfect moment to slow down, spend a bit more time indoors and embrace a sense of warmth that summer leaves behind.

While it is a time for tucking away and staying cosy, it's also the ideal time to refresh and style your space with a few touches that reflect autumn.

It's all about layering, both in texture and tone. People can take this time to pack away the light summery fabrics and swap them for heavier blankets and throws, chunky cushions and soft rugs for instant warmth from cold floors. It's a good time to think about introducing colours that mirror the

outdoors such as deep ochres, burnt oranges, muted greens and a splash of warm neutrals.

Something that plays a key role as the days get shorter is the lightning.

Soft, ambient options such as table lamps or even candles can make the space feel different entirely and add to the atmosphere.

When it comes to adding a gentle pop of colour or texture to the room, a great tool is to add natural elements such as dried or fresh flowers, which also bring a touch of nature and help to purify the air. With these simple changes, your home will feel cosy, renewed and ready to embrace the cosiness of Autumn.

DETAILS: To join the Style your space feature, call Davidda on 022 174 3988 or email: Davidda@valleyprofile.co.nz



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Juniors give it a Tri

The Hauraki Plains Community Hub ran the second annual TriStars Junior Triathlon on March 15 at the Ngātea Swimming Pool and Hugh Hayward Domain.

TriStars was developed by the Hub as a fun, confidence-building event for tamariki aged 5–13 years, giving children the opportunity to take part in a supportive swim, bike and run event focused on participation rather than competition.

This year's event saw 150 participants, up from 100 in its first year, with organisers prepared for up to 200 entries. The event also created opportunities for local rangatahi and volunteers to help.

Community Hub chair Alex Quinn said one of the most rewarding parts of the day was seeing the young athletes grow in confidence and back themselves. "It was awesome to see the young athletes grow in confidence and challenge themselves. I have received so many reports from parents on the positive results it has made to their children," he said.

Feedback from the community was overwhelmingly positive.

Organisers also heard from chil-

dren who took part, who said the event was better than last year. The success of the day was made possible through the support of the Hauraki Plains Community Hub committee, volunteers, marshalls, lifeguards, parents, and local supporters, the organisation said.

"It made all the difference being a beautiful mild sunny day and all the participants wanted to be there, so they really were giving it their all.

"The Hub will continue to build on the event for next year, refining and improving it while keeping the same strong focus on confidence, participation and community connection.

"The initial idea was to get a community event up and running and help another club take ownership or leadership of it particularly if they are based on swimming, biking or athletics, but right now it's an event the Hub will endeavour to have return for 2027."

The Community Hub works to connect, support and empower the Hauraki Plains community by bringing local clubs, groups and organisations together, encouraging collaboration, and helping create positive community initiatives.



TriStars Junior Triathlon competitors aged 5-13 years give it their best shot in Ngātea.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Coro artist releases guitar-driven album

By ALICE PARMINTER

Raw, organic guitar-driven sound is the focus of new music album *The Light* by Dylan Wade Lajunen.

The Coromandel-based singer-songwriter and guitarist has produced a work of introspection and healing, probing deep into the heart of the human condition as he aims to uplift his listeners and grow towards the light.

"As a songwriter and as a person I'm always looking for ways to elevate and lift my own consciousness, and hopefully the consciousness of everyone I have contact with. That's what inspires me to write music," Dylan told *The Profile*.

"I noticed over the years from playing these songs in so many different places, there is a collective upliftment that happens and I think music is such a great medium for that."

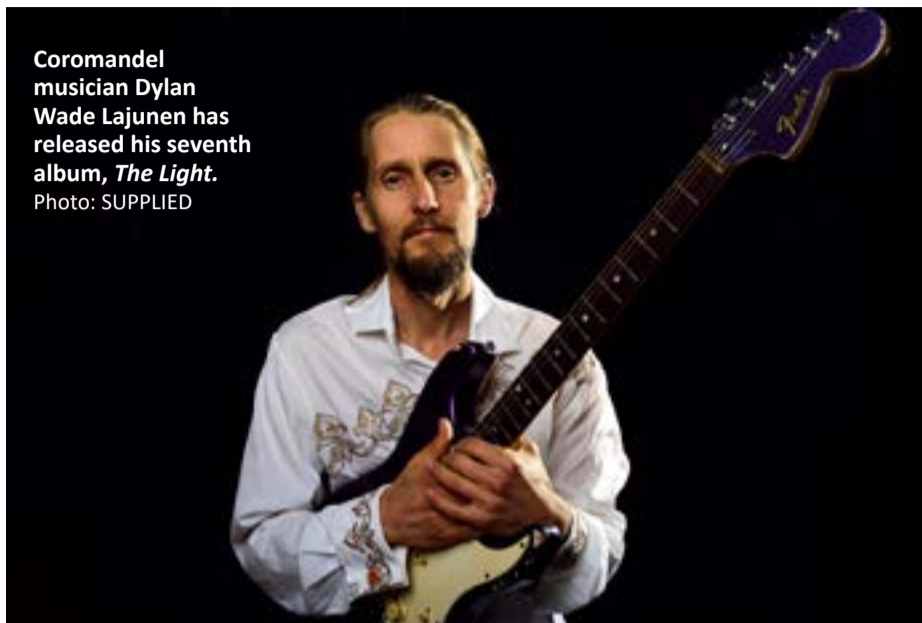
The album came together in pieces as Dylan worked towards a Masters degree in music in 2017-18, and was largely recorded at Auckland's Roundhead Studios.

It comprises 16 songs covering a varied and eclectic range of musical styles, something Dylan attributes to his musical upbringing.

"My dad was a guitar player so the guitar is the instrument I usually write with. And I've studied and taught guitar, in my own way, for so many years," Dylan said.

"I just love interesting guitar stuff. As a teenager I got really into blues and Jimi Hendrix, Stephen Ray Vaughan, Led Zeppelin - all that amazing historic rock music. But as I grew up I became more aware of my Celtic roots... I have done a lot of blues and rock and funk and I love reggae but I

Coromandel musician Dylan Wade Lajunen has released his seventh album, *The Light*.
Photo: SUPPLIED



also love the softer stuff.

"I just love so many different styles and I like to think that as I've matured I've become more open to styles that I didn't really think were cool when I was younger, like country and pop."

Other tracks were recorded with Dylan's portable studio as he collaborated with artists around the Coromandel Peninsula, chipping away at the works over the next few years.

"A lot of the artists on the album were all living here in the Coromandel at the time," Dylan said.

"There's 11 of us on the album, so even though it's under my name every song has some really great performances from all those people."

Among the guests featured on the album are award-winning pianist Liam

Ryan, Coromandel flautist Helen Lee, drums by Dylan's long-term bandmate Yair Katz, bass by Wouter Schild, and vocals from Caitlin Smith. Dylan's daughter, Nur Peach, a musician in her own right, also provides backing vocals.

The Light was released online on Bandcamp on March 22, and Dylan has plans for an eventual physical release on CDs and vinyl. For now, he's focusing on forming a band to tour with to promote the new songs.

"Just give it a good listen, and if you like the album get in touch," he said.

"I'd love to hear what people think, and I'm always keen to collaborate - I'm a live player and I'm looking to tour and play in interesting, beautiful places."

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HARD

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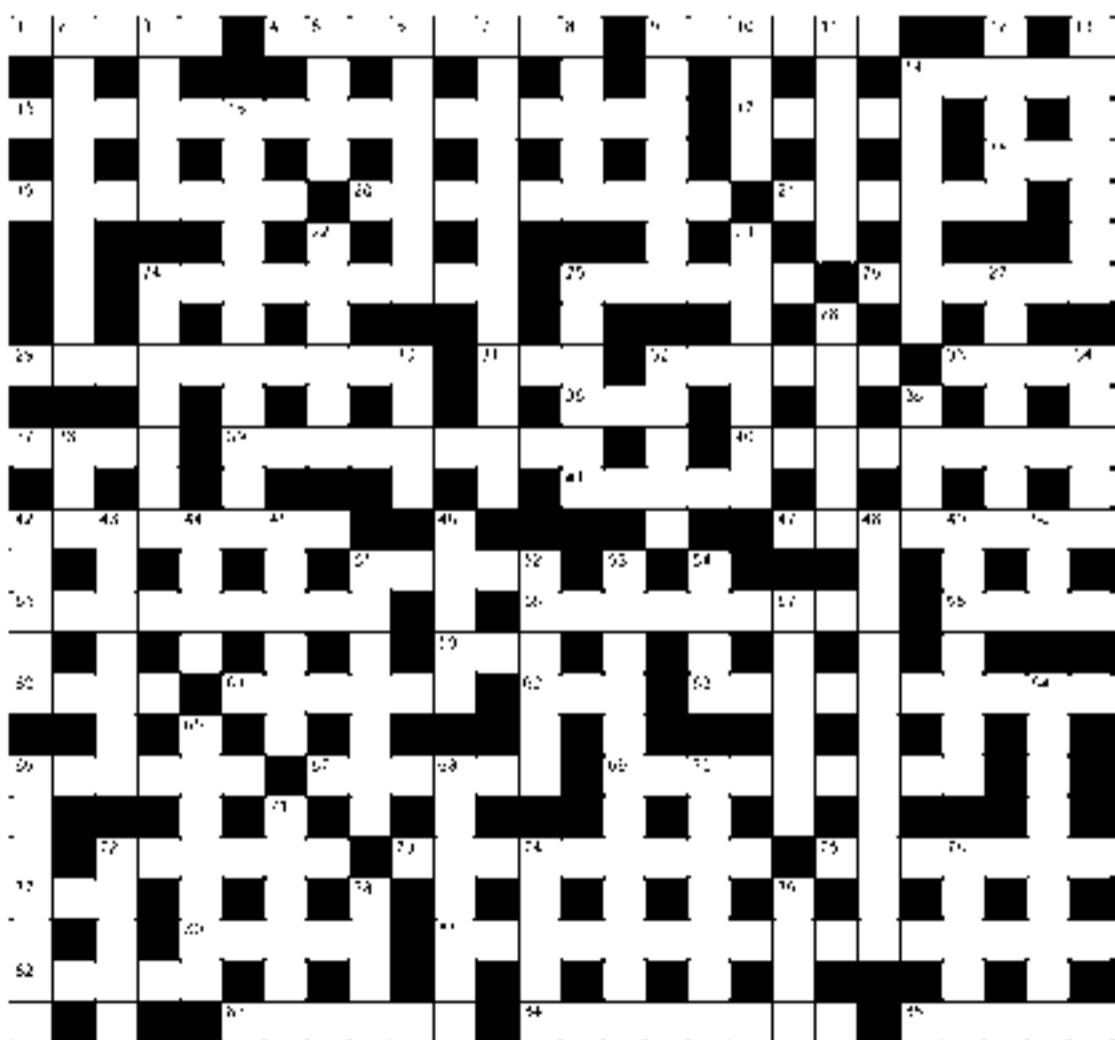
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 - 4 Orchestra section (8)
 - 9 Programme (6)
 - 14 Tremble (5)
 - 15 Be sold by auction (2,5,3,6)
 - 17 Upper leg (5)
 - 18 Age (3)
 - 19 Narrow connecting land (7)
 - 20 Dutch city (9)
 - 21 Pines for (6)
 - 24 Odd person (9)
 - 25 Obscene (6)
 - 26 Ran off to marry (6)
 - 29 War step-up (10)
 - 31 Fate (3)
 - 32 Airstrip (6)
 - 33 Lone performance (4)
 - 35 Watch (3)
 - 37 Has debts (4)
 - 39 Heir (9)
 - 40 Rogue rats (anag) (9)
 - 41 Stairway (5)
 - 42 Shorten (8)
 - 47 And so forth (8)
 - 51 Appraises (5)
 - 55 Ritual killing (9)
 - 56 Faculty member (9)
 - 58 Hostelries (4)
 - 59 Atmosphere (3)
 - 60 Cast off (4)
 - 61 Bone in forearm (6)
 - 62 Fitting (3)
 - 63 Camaraderie (10)
 - 66 Organised method (6)
 - 67 Ship (6)
 - 69 100th anniversary (9)
 - 72 Wince (6)
 - 73 London square (9)
 - 75 Study of living things (7)
 - 77 Black sealant (3)
 - 80 Laud (5)
 - 81 Imagine (7,2,7)
 - 82 Seeped out (5)
 - 83 Stained (6)
 - 84 Sugars (8)
 - 85 Consumers (5)
 - DOWN**
 - 2 Science of sound (9)
 - 3 Intuitive feeling (5)
 - 5 Swearword (4)
 - 6 Fantasiser (7)
 - 7 Unable to express oneself clearly (12)
 - 8 Object to (5)
 - 9 Flying post (7)
 - 10 Gobbles up (4)
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 - 14 Soon (7)
 - 16 Diction (11)
 - 22 Increase the wealth of (6)
 - 23 Melancholy (7)
 - 24 Pleased (anag)(7) (6)
 - 25 Election participants (6)
 - 27 Fuel gas (7)
 - 28 Repeat mindlessly (6)
 - 30 Standard (4)
 - 32 Insurgent (5)
 - 34 Sung drama (5)
 - 36 Sharpen (4)
 - 38 Court (3)
 - 42 Barrels (5)
 - 43 Core (7)
 - 44 Door out (4)
 - 45 Helix (6)
 - 46 Map book (5)
 - 48 Business organisation (11)
 - 49 Dry (7)
 - 50 Fled (3)
 - 51 Swotted for exams (7)
 - 52 Lie spread out (6)
 - 53 Science of gardening (12)
 - 54 Ox meat (4)
 - 57 Precious metal (6)
 - 64 Without uniformity (9)
 - 65 Reached a decision (7)
 - 66 Train stop (7)
 - 68 Marked with bands (7)
 - 70 Most handy (7)
 - 71 Concave moulding (6)
 - 72 Stood completely still (5)
 - 74 Confronts (5)
 - 76 Endures (5)
 - 78 Anti-aircraft fire (4)
 - 79 Fasten together (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Scabs, 4 Fish and chip shop, 14 Forge, 15 Grain, 16 Remittance, 17 Droll, 19 End, 20 Buffalo, 21 Screeched, 22 Proved, 25 Vigilante, 27 Sagged, 28 Gulped, 33 Magistrate, 35 Elm, 36 Strain, 37 Ford, 39 Use, 41 Finance, 42 Better, 43 Speediest, 44 Adept, 45 Coleslaw, 50 Pi, 51 Stingray, 55 Piper, 58 Viscosity, 59 Eyelid, 60 Scruffy, 61 Ill, 63 Raid, 64 Recall, 65 Urn, 66 Candelabra, 68 Haggles, 69 Circle, 71 Headlight, 76 Swears, 77 Subscribe, 79 Glasses, 81 Pal, 84 Alien, 85 Illiterate, 86 Mends, 87 Novel, 88 Faster than sound, 89 Blend.

DOWN: 2 Circus, 3 Brief, 5 Idea, 6 Haircut, 7 Nutmeg, 8 Cynic, 9 Iceberg, 10 Suds, 11 Odours, 12 Greed, 13 Meddled, 14 Flavour, 18 Elliptical, 23 Fatal, 24 Dearest, 26 Imitate, 27 Samurai, 29 Pioneer, 30 Casino, 31 Delta, 32 Bisect, 34 Even, 36 Sewer, 38 Ditty, 40 Eden, 45 Cover, 46 Lasting, 47 Slow, 48 Arises, 49 April, 50 Prelude, 52 Incredible, 53 Goulash, 54 Afford, 55 Pyramid, 56 Reins, 57 Zinc, 62 Snide, 67 Illegal, 68 Helping, 70 Courier, 72 Embargo, 73 Troika, 74 Triton, 75 Leaden, 76 Slave, 78 Sylph, 80 Shell, 82 Knot, 83 Stun.

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Death Notices	For Lease	Handyman	Handyman Services	Public Notice
<p>GRAHAM, Audrey Anne: Passed peacefully at Lexham Park, Katikati on April 12, aged 89 years. Cherished wife of the late William (Bill); mother to Peter (deceased), Bruce and Sally, and John and Lyn; grandma to Alice, James, Chris, Sarah, Jonathan, and Ariana; and great grandma to Lucas, Isabelle, Jordan, Rory, Violet, and Baby Girl (due July). We all loved her dearly and will miss her always. Forever in our hearts; now at peace. A service will be held for Audrey at St James Church, 650 Pollen Street, Thames on Friday, April 17 at 1pm. Condolences can be sent to 205 Hauraki Rd, Thames 3574.</p>	<p>Yards for lease, Thames and Kopu. Suitable for trucks, vehicles or trade business base. Ph 027 440 7101</p> <p>For Sale</p> <p>Firewood for sale. Pine. \$110 per cube. Ph 027 385 2806 or 027 655 8661</p> <p>Gardening</p> <p>STUMP GRINDING. All sizes, all areas. Thames based. Ph 021 060 7659</p>	<p>An experienced handyman covering all trades with over 20 years exp building trade. Please contact Laurie King 021 251 0246 ktpropertyservice.com</p> <p>Trades</p> <p>FENCING CONTRACTOR Residential & Rural Retaining walls & more High quality workmanship Competitive prices Call Matt 021 1727 148</p> <p>Builders</p> <p>Reno's, decking, fencing. For free quote ph Phil 021 088 63559</p> <p>Friendly licensed builder. 40 years exp. All aspects. No job too small. Ian 021 540 376</p> <p>Painters</p> <p>HAURAKI REGIONAL PAINTERS Over 12 years experience, interior/exterior. Refs available. Free quotes. Phone Graeme for all your painting needs. 020 485 1312</p> <p>Reliable painter, 40 yrs experience. Interior/exterior work. Quality finish, free quotes. Call Shane 027 480 5586</p>	<p>THAMES HANDYMAN & BUILDING SERVICES Building, home maintenance & general gardening services Phone: Fleur or Crighton • 0273 913 283</p> <p>Piano Tuner</p> <p>Sharyn Clark Piano Tuner & Technician 'Fully Qualified' and Covering all areas of Hauraki and Coromandel M: 0274 485 089 sharynclark22@gmail.com</p> <p>Storage</p> <p>STORAGE KOPU, PAEROA "New Units" Ph 027 440 7101 07 868 3033 Safe n Sound Storage www.safestorage.co.nz</p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>	<p>ANZAC DAY</p> <p>COMMEMORATION PARADES AND SERVICES - SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2026</p> <p>Citizens are invited to attend Public Commemoration Services to be held in the Hauraki District on Saturday 25 April 2026.</p> <p>CIVIC SERVICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PAEROA - Paeroa War Memorial Hall at 9:15am. WAIHI - Waihi Memorial Hall at 11:00am PLAINS- Ngātea War Memorial Hall at 11:30am <p>Dress Code - Returned service personnel are asked to wear medals and decorations. Descendants of returned service personnel are asked to wear medals on the right upper portion of their apparel.</p> <p>Wreaths - will be laid during the services.</p> <p>All organisations and persons wishing to present wreaths at each ward Civic service are asked to advise Council, telephone 07 862 8609 no later than 4:00pm on Friday 17 April 2026.</p> <p>OTHER NON-CIVIC SERVICES</p> <p>Paeroa Dawn Service 6:00am Cenotaph Primrose Hill, Paeroa</p> <p>Kerepēhi Dawn Service 6:00am War Memorial Hall, Kerepēhi 5:30am muster for parade</p> <p>Kaiaua Service 7:00am Ruaoneone Urupa, F Lowry Rd, Whakatīwai</p> <p>Kaihere/Pātetonga 9:30am Kaihere Hall, Kaihere</p> <p>Ngātea Dawn Service 6:00am Hauraki Plains College, Ngātea</p> <p>Waihi Dawn Service 6:00am RSA Club, Waihi 8:00am Wreath Laying, Waihi Cemetery</p> <p>Tunnelling Company 9:00am Gilmour Reserve, Waihi</p> <p>DA Adams, JP Mayor - Hauraki District</p>
<p>GRAY, David Alexander: Passed away peacefully on 11th April, 2026, aged 88 years, surrounded by the love of his family. Now at rest with his beloved Margaret and son Brian. Dearly loved father of Fiona and Philip. Proud and adored grandfather of Cameron and Briar. David has been privately cremated as per his wishes. Please join the family to share memories and celebrate David's life at the Paeroa Golf Club, Rotokohu Road on Wednesday 22nd April at 1pm.</p>	<p>Health Wellness</p> <p>Wellness Festival, Grahamstown Hall, Saturday and Sunday 21-22 from 10am to 4pm both days. Free entry. There will be holistic therapists, tarot/clairvoyant readers, crystals and jewellery.</p> <p>House Cleaning</p> <p>Castle on the Coast Cleaning Service. All housework, ovens, laundry, ironing. Ph 027 437 1195</p>			

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ANZAC DAY

COMMEMORATION PARADES AND SERVICES - SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2026

Citizens are invited to attend Public Commemoration Services to be held in the Hauraki District on Saturday 25 April 2026.

CIVIC SERVICES

- PAEROA - Paeroa War Memorial Hall at 9:15am.
- WAIHI - Waihi Memorial Hall at 11:00am
- PLAINS- Ngātea War Memorial Hall at 11:30am

Dress Code - Returned service personnel are asked to wear medals and decorations. Descendants of returned service personnel are asked to wear medals on the right upper portion of their apparel.

Wreaths - will be laid during the services.

All organisations and persons wishing to present wreaths at each ward Civic service are asked to advise Council, telephone 07 862 8609 no later than 4:00pm on Friday 17 April 2026.

OTHER NON-CIVIC SERVICES

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Kerepēhi Dawn Service 6:00am War Memorial Hall, Kerepēhi 5:30am muster for parade

Kaiaua Service 7:00am Ruaoneone Urupa, F Lowry Rd, Whakatīwai

Kaihere/Pātetonga 9:30am Kaihere Hall, Kaihere

Ngātea Dawn Service 6:00am Hauraki Plains College, Ngātea

Waihi Dawn Service 6:00am RSA Club, Waihi
8:00am Wreath Laying, Waihi Cemetery

Tunnelling Company 9:00am Gilmour Reserve, Waihi

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Dated 9 April 2026

Public Notice

Plains Ward Public Meeting



A public meeting of the Plains Ward will be held in the Turua Hall, 476 Hauraki Road, Turua on Thursday, 23 April 2026 commencing at 5.30pm.

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FOOTBALL

Thames FC fight back in opening day thriller.

The 2026 season kicked off on Saturday with Cyclone Vaianu lurking off New Zealand's coast. Thames Men's Firsts welcomed Waikato Unicol Gold to Rhodes Park, with the visitors eager to start their season following promotion from Waikato Division Three last year. Blustery conditions disrupted the early flow, with the unpredictable gusts making ball retention problematic. It was Unicol who struck first. A slick counter-attack released Nathan James, who composed himself well, opening the scoring with a low finish. Thames responded with sustained pressure, pinning Unicol deep in their own half. A Xavier Brown throw found Jonathan Coles, who cut in from the left and curled a shot into the top corner for 1-1.

Minutes later, the same combination nearly put Thames ahead. Brown's corner found the unmarked Coles, but his volley was saved by Ethan Cornforth's foot. Mike Kim then threatened with a long-range effort which rose just over, before Thames keeper Mathew Burchell pushed away a powerful drive at the other end, with half-time following shortly after.

The second half saw the wind intensify further, and Unicol once again starting brighter. Fateen Syed soon restored their lead, weaving into the box and squeezing a left-footed shot into the far corner.

Midway through the half, momentum swung. Yusuke Koizumi was brought down in the box, earning a penalty. He dispatched it confidently into the top-left corner, but the goal was controversially ruled out for encroachment despite no clear impact on play. A retake followed, but Koizumi struck the post with the ball rebounding back into play.

The incident spurred Thames on, and they entered an assertive spell. A move down the right saw German Rodriguez Estefan deliver a wicked cross that caused confusion in the Unicol defense, with Callum Gillies heading into his own net for 2-2.

The game remained on a knife-edge. Coles had a big chance after a searching cross-field pass from Kim, but his effort beat the keeper and rolled agonizingly wide. Kim then came close, driving a shot across goal that was brilliantly tipped away by Cornforth. Thames couldn't capitalize and were punished when a goal-mouth scramble was eventually turned in by Syed, putting Unicol ahead again with minutes remaining.

Thames went long in a final push. Substitute Eli Fale nearly equalized, as his poked effort was saved at the near post. Fale then drove forward again, and a clumsy tackle in the box saw Thames awarded a second penalty in the with just seconds left on the clock.



Matt Baines plays the ball forward.

Photo: MARK BROWN/ONE OF A KIND PHOTOGRAPHY

Kim stepped up and kept his composure, waiting for the keeper to commit before lifting the ball into the net for 3-3. A physical contest in difficult conditions finished even, with Thames battling back three times to claim a point.

"I'm proud of the team and happy with the point," said captain and man of the match Mickael Dernoncourt. "It was tough against young opposition, but we showed our character to come back three times and pushed right to the final whistle."

Thames Reserves defeated in inaugural fixture.

Over the summer, the club formed a second men's team, creating a reserve side to compete in the Waikato Fourth Division. On Saturday, they played their inaugural match against Northern United Kickers, but a short pre-season showed as they fell to a 3-0 defeat.

Despite the result, forming the side marked an important step forward for the club, with a promising group captained by Tana Landy and coached by Jack McDonald providing a pathway for youth players entering senior football. "It was a privilege to manage the inaugural Thames Men's reserves game," said McDonald. "The result didn't go our way, but onwards and upwards for a big derby against Hauraki next week as we chase that historic first win."

Thames Women will have to wait another week to begin their Division One campaign, as their match against Unicol Women's Reserves was postponed due to Cyclone Vaianu, which disrupted Sunday's schedule across the region.

- Jonathan Coles

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 BAYLEYS REAL ESTATE LTD, PUKEKOHE, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



Pipiroa 1338 State Highway 25

Established grazing or cropping, dual road frontage

Set across 48.4 hectares (more or less), this well-established property supports productive grazing alongside hay and silage production. The land is largely flat and includes a recently renovated three-bedroom home, dual road frontage, and a practical range of outbuildings supporting everyday farming activity. Around 45 paddocks are formed mainly by two-wire electric fencing, with five-wire post and batten boundary fencing. A reliable council water supply services the farm. Near the entrance sits a former cowshed with adjoining yards, plus an implement shed and haybarn. The home looks across surrounding farmland and is complemented by a double garage.

bayleys.co.nz/**2630233**

48.4914 ha

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 7 May 2026
 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 11-11.45am Tue 21 Apr & Wed 29 Apr
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



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 9-9.30am Sun 19 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



Kerepehi 24A-D Kaikahu Road

Four prime sections - Endless possibilities

Four newly developed sections in Kerepehi offer a great opportunity to build your ideal home. Ranging from 675 to 1,004sqm (more or less), these spacious sites suit families, retirees, or investors. Each section is ready to go, with power, water, and sewage at the boundary, saving time and cost. Enjoy a peaceful, growing community close to Ngatea's shops, schools, and amenities. With easy access to the Coromandel, Thames, Paeroa, Hamilton, and Auckland, this is a well-connected, lifestyle-friendly location to settle, relax, or invest.

bayleys.co.nz/**2630234**

675_{sqm}

Asking Price \$229,000

View by appointment

Karl Davis 027 496 4633

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



Mangatarata 205B Mahuta Road South

Design-led living, effortless lifestyle

Modern 255sqm home in Mangatarata countryside offering space, style, and energy efficiency. Built in 2022, it features two living areas with cathedral ceilings, polished concrete floors, a double-sided fireplace, and a well-appointed kitchen with walk-in pantry. Layout includes a private master retreat and separate guest/children's wing. Large windows and seamless indoor-outdoor flow maximise views toward the Coromandel Range. Set on 5,339sqm with landscaped grounds, solar power, water tanks, and eco systems. Peaceful rural setting close to Ngatea, with easy access to Auckland and Hamilton.

bayleys.co.nz/2630219

3 2 2 3

For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty (unless sold prior)
3pm, Wed 6 May 2026

96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

View 10-10.30am Sun 19 Apr & Sun 26 Apr

Karl Davis 027 496 4633

karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

Seth Roe 027 320 6937

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



Boundary lines are indicative only

Miranda 905 Miranda Road

Panoramic position with fabulous sea views

At the gateway to the Coromandel Peninsula, this setting captures views from the Coromandel coastline to the slopes of Te Aroha, within one of New Zealand's most recognised coastal regions. From sunrise across the ranges to moonlight over the Firth of Thames, the landscape here changes beautifully through the day. Fenced into 20 plus techno cell paddocks with power connection established. Within easy reach to Pūkoro Miranda Shorebird Centre, the Hauraki Rail trail for cycling and walking, coastal Kaiaua for its waterfront and fresh seafood, and Ngatea for everyday amenities and schooling. Pokeno is 31km away.

bayleys.co.nz/2630152

12.1687_{ha}

Asking Price \$1,050,000

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

Thames football talent takes national shot

FOOTBALL

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

There's always something to be learned in football.

It's why Jess Rendall is so passionate about the sport.

"I love playing football because it's a sport that you can't conquer," the 17-year-old footballer told *The Profile*.

"There's always something that you can improve on, whether it's attacking or defending or working on different set piece skills, there's always something that you can learn or perfect."

The young athlete, who has played for the Thames High School senior girls team as well as the Thames Football Club's women's team, said the skill she was currently focussed on was shooting the ball low into the bottom corners with power. "I am also working on perfecting my corner kicks to help create better set piece chances this season."

It's no wonder the promising footballer landed an opportunity to trial for the New Zealand U20 Women's Football Team last month in Mount Roskill, Auckland.

"This is what I have dreamt of since I was a little kid." Those were the words Jess calmed her nerves with on the way to the trial.

"I just had to go out on the field and do the best I could and just be me."

The star athlete said the most exciting part was that she got to



Jess Rendall has trialed for the New Zealand U20 Women's Football Team.

Photo: MARK BROWN

play against a really good top division women's team in Auckland and felt like she was able to "hold my own".

There were 26 girls who trialed and were split into two teams.

The first team played one half

and then Jess's team played in the second half which was better, she said, because she could sit on the side, watch the game and "mentally prepare myself" so she knew which players to be aware of.

Though she's yet to find out if she made the NZ U20 team, the opportunity to be selected would "mean everything to me and my family", and it would "sort of repay" her parents for driving her to football training and games.

She believed people who grew up in small towns didn't always get as many opportunities as some people in the big cities.

"It would also mean so much to be able to show younger kids that

it doesn't matter where you come from, it's about where you end up... [and] to show younger girls that if you stick with a sport you never know where the opportunities might take you," she said.

She looked up to people such as Football Ferns player Olivia Chance.

"She is left footed - just like me and she plays on the left wing and centre mid which are the positions I mainly play," she said.



Another person she said she looked up to was Keltie Mcmanus, who played for the Thames Football Club's women's team.

"She inspires me so much. I remember the first year I played for the women's team in 2024 she scored over 30 goals."

Jess was also an avid cricketer and played for the Morrinsville Piako Women's team, as well as regional cricket for Waikato Valley Under 19s.

"I have also been fortunate enough to play for Northern districts under 17s in 2024 and 2025."

Jess' hope for next year was to head to university and study a bachelor of physiotherapy and keep playing football.

In the meantime, Jess was in preparation mode for the 2026 football season with two to three training sessions a week, she said.

"I love the challenge that football brings. It inspires me to get better."

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