

The Valley Profile

100% THAMES

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626 Pollen Street 07 868 6124

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA and ALICE PARMINTER

I was sitting in the middle of the church and the sound was just coming over my head.”

Kerry Doherty recalls a young girl who sang at a funeral a month or so ago at the St James Church in Thames, on the corner of Pahau and Pollen Sts.

“There was no music accompaniments, just her singing. [It would] just about bring you to tears the beauty of the voice travelling through the church.”

The acoustics is one reason the preservation of the historic building is important to him.

The late-Victorian Gothic building is in urgent need of repair on its deteriorating exterior, for rotting timber, crumbling concrete, and eroding paint.

Kerry, who is chair of the Thames Union Parish Council which administers the building, said the damage was extensive.

Just the first stage of repairs, which would cover the Pollen St-facing side of the church and the 60-foot tower, will cost nearly \$250,000.

“I know it’s a lot of money but it is history that we don’t want to lose. I just feel that the town, even if it is only a little amount they give, will be an enormous [help] for us to get it all done. I hate asking people for money, but without their support, I am just depending on out of town groups to help us.”

Kerry said the repairs would extend the life of the church for another 100 years. “I put [it] to our parish council meeting in September last year that if we don’t do something we’re going to lose it.”

The parish planned to break down the repair work over three years to make it “less



Kerry Doherty needs help to restore the iconic St James Church.
Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

stressful”, especially on the fundraising side of things. “If we can do it in bites, I feel confident that it would go ahead,” he said.

The second and third stages of repair will include the exterior of the building’s north and south walls, followed by the west wall.

The native timber interior and the building’s roof are still in excellent condition and will not be part of the repair work. The group has already raised

\$109,000 for the first stage of repairs, but Kerry said they needed to find another \$136,000 before September 10

CONTINUED ON P2

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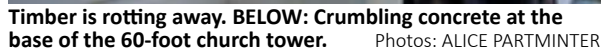
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The remaining funds were earmarked for programmes in Northland, Ruapehu and Northern Whanganui, Lower Hutt, and the Nelson/Tasman region.

DETAILS: To support the Thames Union Parish fundraiser, please contact Kerry Doherty on 027 938 2383.



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

Thames pool moves closer to Long Term Plan

By KELLEY TANTAU

Thames-Coromandel District Council's Finance and Infrastructure Committee has recommended that the construction of a new pool at Thames High School be included in the first three years of its 2027-2037 Long Term Plan, while also proposing partial district funding for aquatic facilities.

The recommendation follows council's commitment to removing the ageing Centennial Pool from Taipari Park and return the land to Ngāti Maru by June next year.

At the committee meeting on August 13, councillor Flemming Rasmussen put forward a motion proposing partial district funding for the ongoing operating costs of aquatic facilities, with an annual figure calculated according to the number of SUIPs - separately used or inhabited parts of a property - in the relevant ward.

The proposal would also allow the district to contribute up to 50 percent of the capital cost of an aquatic facility - such as building a new pool or significantly upgrading an existing one - on a case-by-case basis. The remaining cost would need to be met by the community or

other funding sources.

Cr Rasmussen said the proposal was intended to provide greater clarity and consistency around how aquatic facilities are funded.

"I believe it's based upon fairness, transparency, and it would - at the same time - get us out of this quagmire, actually give certainty to be able to deal with the challenge that we've been walking towards as a district for a prolonged period of time, and getting closer and closer to, in Thames."

The proposed 50 per cent contribution would be based on the national benchmark for outdoor pool access of 27 FTE (full-time equivalent) per 1000 people, a measure that takes into account both the size of a pool and its opening hours. Rasmussen used the difference between outdoor and indoor pools to explain how he saw the benchmark working.

"So, the baseline is the outdoor [pool], that is your Toyota, your Corolla. But if you do want a Lexus - that's the indoor facility - you only get 50 per cent of the Corolla, and you have to pay the other 50 per cent to upgrade to the Lexus."

These recommendations will be considered by the full council on August 25.

Solar Power for emergency hubs

Key buildings throughout Thames-Coromandel are being fitted with solar panels and battery storage as part of an initiative to strengthen community resilience during emergencies.

Thames-Coromandel District Council received \$567,820 through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority's (EECA) Community Resilience Programme to co-fund solar and battery installations at nine community sites.

The upgrades will help ensure essential buildings can continue operating during extended power outages caused by severe weather events and other emergencies.

Installations have already been completed at Harataunga Marae in Kennedy Bay, Whitianga Community Services Trust, Tairua Hall, and the Jack McLean Community Recreation Centre in Thames.

Work is now underway at Coromandel Area School, and Whangamata Hall. Installation will also be carried out at Te Paea Marae near Kennedy Bay, Te Wharekura o Manaia, and Matai Whetu Marae at Kōpū.

Council's community partnerships coordinator Helen Flynn said the nine buildings were selected to ensure a spread of resilient facilities across the district, supporting both main population centres and communities that could become easily isolated during an emergency.

"These facilities play a vital role in supporting communities



Solar panels are installed at Harataunga Marae, Kennedy Bay. Photo: SUPPLIED

during emergency events. Already this year, we have experienced two severe weather events where some of these buildings were utilised. It is very rewarding for council to be involved in a project that will strengthen community resilience and provide lasting benefits for those who use these buildings," she said.

Harataunga Marae also received a \$30,000 contribution from Powerco towards the project.

Harataunga Marae Trust chairman Hamuera Maika said the solar panels helped provide their hapu with resilience and autonomy to care for their community.

"Particularly in emergency

situations whilst aligning with our tikanga and our world view of our internal connection to the environment."

Council and marae sites were prioritised for nomination before being reviewed by a selection panel for suitability. Assessment criteria included the site's ability to function as a community-led resilience hub, its level of isolation risk, the population served, and its importance to the local community.

The selection panel included representatives from the Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, Te Puni Kōkiri, and Kānoa - Regional Economic Development and Investment Unit.

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Korean students experience the Hauraki way

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

A group of exchange students from Inje, Korea, arrived in New Zealand on July 18 with the goal of experiencing life and schooling at Hauraki Plains College.

HPC international director Mike Dwight told *The Profile* a Korean agent reached out to the college and facilitated a Korean MOE-sponsored group visit to the college from Inje last year.

“This year the visit has been repeated for 30 secondary students and four adults,” he said.

The students spent time in the classroom and also experienced combined classes with subjects such as cooking, music, physical education and agriculture during their three-week visit.

A number of trips outside the school were organised too, such as visits to the Pukorokoro Miranda Shorebird Centre as well as Thames and Hauraki Golf Clubs, Mike said.

“Living with our local families is also an essential and important part of the programme.”

It was clear the connection between the two cultures was an important one. “As our HPC-Inje relationship develops with these short term vis-



Korean exchange students experience life at HPC, including cooking classes, right.

Photos: SUPPLIED

its, hopefully longer terms are attracted to come and study here too,” he said.

“It is important for our domestics and visitors to develop their global competency skills, so that they can thrive in our interconnected world.”

Yerin Kim, 15, who is a middle school grade 3 student back in Inje, was a year 10 student during her visit at HPC.

It was Yerin’s first time in the country and so far she said she was “deeply impressed” by the “extraordinary landscapes” and enjoyed everything about Māori culture.

She stayed with a family in Waikino and said one interesting thing she discovered about New Zealand was that “we can drink tap water here”.

One interesting thing she

learned at HPC was that they could choose the subjects they wanted to study, and she “especially” loved physical education.

Something that was different from her school system back home was that students stayed in one classroom for all their lessons, but at Hauraki Plains they moved to different classes for each subject. “[The] school



programme here is perfect and almost all the students here are so friendly. I feel just happy when I am at school,” she said.

Fellow student Yunu Lee, 15, who is also in year 10, said his confidence had grown by speaking in English to Kiwi people. One of the most interesting things he’d learned so far was slang that kiwi teenagers used. He enjoyed the cooking subject at Hauraki Plains College and said there was no such class in Korea.

When it comes to something he had learned about himself so far that surprised him, he said he realised he was quite adaptable. The best part about his college experience so far at Hauraki Plains College was social studies.

“I feel lucky that I became a part of Hauraki Plains College even though it was a short time.”

More Than A School

Hauraki Plains College

Korean Exchange Students

CREATING LIFELONG MEMORIES

UPCOMING EVENTS

19 August

OOZ Ballot closes @ midday

25 August

Senior Subject Selection & Pathways Evening 4pm-7.30pm

26 August

OOZ Ballot Drawn

27 August

Gateway Graduation & Breakfast

31 Aug-4 Sept

Winter Tournament Week

8-10 September

CAA Exams

Jones, protesters clash over conservation land

By ALICE PARMINTER

NZ First minister Shane Jones was in Thames on August 15 for a public meeting in support of his party's electoral candidate for Coromandel, Vincent Andersen. Around 200 people gathered at the Thames Civic Centre to hear them speak.

The meeting also coincided with Greenpeace Aotearoa's National Day of Action, and a further 200 protesters were on hand to greet the Minister at the door.

The protest was to oppose the development of conservation land and the proposed amendments to the Conservation Bill. Protesters were also specifically concerned about mining company Rua Gold.

"We are rallying today alongside people all over the country who want to protect conservation land for future generations rather than open it up for developments that threaten the habitat," Coromandel Watchdog chair Catherine Delahunty said.

"We must protect the forests, not the greed of multinational miners."

Minister Jones was not fazed by the protest action.

"I accept that because I've



Shane Jones encounters protesters in Thames. Photo: SUPPLIED

been very pro-mining and pro-investment, pro-jobs and pro-industry, it does attract opposition," he said.

"I happen to believe that it's facile for the protesters to pretend that Coromandel can prevail without more industry."

"And it's also self-defeating to pretend that the broader environment is going to be destroyed if we concede to more mining. Mining now has far more robust guardrails."

Coromandel Watchdog also held a rally in Whangamatā's Wentworth Valley and a public meeting on mining threats at Opoutere Hall.



Minister Shane Jones, left, and Cyclenomics CEO Matt Carter cut the ribbon. Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

Rubber recycling facility opens

By ALICE PARMINTER

Minister for regional development and resources Shane Jones was in Kōpū on August 15 to officially open the Cyclenomics facility at Southbridge Industrial Park.

The event was attended by dozens of invited businesspeople, friends, family, and dignitaries, including Thames-Coromandel Mayor Peter Revell.

Minister Jones said he was happy to celebrate the opening of the tyre-recycling facility, which would take detritus from the environment and enhance roads.

It will also create around 35 jobs. "If we can avoid sending our waste overseas, or just tossing it in the landfill, then it's actually going to make a lot of sense," he said.



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Thames LandSAR honours long service

Volunteers, Police, and search and rescue partners gathered at Thames Police Station recently for the Thames Land Search and Rescue Annual General Meeting, celebrating the commitment and achievements of local volunteers who have dedicated decades of service to keeping their communities safe.

The meeting brought together volunteers from the Thames, Tairua-Pauanui-Whangamatā and Waihi Land Search and Rescue (LandSAR) groups, alongside local Police, representatives from the Waikato District Search and Rescue Advisory Committee and the Waikato Search and Rescue Co-ordinator.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of long service plaque awards to two volunteers.

Ron Dawson, of Thames, was recognised for more than 40 years of service to search and rescue. Widely respected for his extensive communications and radio expertise, Ron continues to support Land Search and Rescue groups and Search and Rescue Operations throughout the Waikato, generously sharing his knowledge and experience.

Mike Morrison, a member of both the Thames and Tairua-Pauanui-Whangamatā groups, was honoured for more than 25



Volunteers from the Thames, Tairua-Pauanui-Whangamatā and Waihi Land Search and Rescue groups, alongside local Police and search and rescue partners.
Photo: SUPPLIED

years of service to LandSAR.

Mike has played a significant role as Group Training Officer across both groups, inducting, training and mentoring countless volunteers.

He was also instrumental in establishing the Tairua-Pauanui-Whangamatā Land Search and Rescue group, helping strengthen search and rescue capability across the eastern

Coromandel.

The evening also celebrated the New Zealand Search and Rescue Certificate of Achievement awarded to the Thames and Waihi Land Search and Rescue groups at Parliament in June this year for Operation Crosbies Hut.

The operation was a 24-hour rescue of an 80-year-old man who injured himself near Cros-

bies Hut in the Coromandel Forest Park in December, 2025.

With helicopter access ruled out due to weather, rescuers carried him by stretcher through steep, slippery terrain for more than 12 hours before a weather window allowed him to be airlifted to hospital.

For the volunteers involved, the national recognition was particularly meaningful.

New Zealand Search and Rescue awards often acknowledge highly technical rescues involving specialist capabilities, helicopters or complex environments, they said. Receiving a national award for a traditional bush search highlighted the teamwork, dedication, skill and perseverance demonstrated by everyone involved in Operation Crosbies Hut.

A new chapter for chiropractic in Thames

ADVERTORIAL

Evergreen Chiropractic has recently entered a new chapter, becoming Thames Chiropractic under the ownership of Chris and Tamara Ramsay.

Chris and Tamara also own Chiropractic Edge in Pukekohe, a busy family chiropractic practice known for its strong community involvement and an approach to chiropractic that looks beyond simply responding to pain and symptoms.

For many people, the first time they visit a chiropractor is because something isn't feeling right. It might be a sore back or neck, headaches, stiffness, an injury, or a niggle that has started getting in the way of everyday life.

While that may be what initially brings someone through the door, many people choose to continue chiropractic care as part of looking after their health and wellbeing. So, what does looking after your health actually involve? There isn't one thing that creates good health. It is influenced by the many choices and actions we take each day.

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Sleep and recovery: Quality sleep and adequate recovery give our bodies time to rest, restore and prepare for what we ask of them next.

Connection: Strong relationships, time with the people we care about and feeling connected to our community all contribute to our overall well being.

Your spine and nervous system: Your nervous system is involved in controlling and coordinating every system of your body, constantly receiving information, processing it



Owners Chris and Tamara Ramsay.

and co-ordinating your body's response. Chiropractic focuses on the relationship between your spine, movement and nervous system, with the aim of supporting how your body moves, functions and adapts to the demands placed upon it.

Looking after your health doesn't need to begin when something goes wrong. You'll see people of all ages and stages at Thames Chiropractic.

Some come because something is bothering them. Others want to stay active, keep up with their children or grandchildren, continue working, improve their performance or simply be proactive about looking after themselves.

Health isn't just about how many years we live. It's also about how well we're able to live them and continuing to do the things that matter to us.

Whether there's an ache, pain or niggle you've been putting up with, or you're simply interested in finding out more about how your body is moving and functioning, we'd love to welcome you to Thames Chiropractic.

DETAILS: Call 07 868 6665 or learn more online at thameschiropractic.co.nz

- Supplied by Thames Chiropractic



Dr Kate works with a patient. Below, Chris assists a toddler.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Music makers unite

The Waihi Memorial RSA auditorium “hummed” away on the afternoon of July 19.

That’s when the rhythm of 23 music makers and an audience of around 85 “enthusiastic” senior citizens filled the room.

Lions member David Parish said it was the annual Lions Club of Waihi, Waihi RSA and A Friends Place Concert, which had become a feature of the town’s social scene for the last 10 years.

“The format is for the Friends Place singers, so ably led by Trudi van Stee, to sing a wide variety of well known ‘oldies’ while the RSA catering staff provide a wholesome afternoon tea.

“The Waihi Lions Club co-sponsors the event and members assist with the

handing out of afternoon tea,” he said.

“The music is greatly appreciated by all and it is worth pointing out that most members of [the] choir itself would also qualify as senior citizens.”



Musicians and music fill the Waihi RSA.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Thames MAD prepares for *The Addams Family Musical - young@part*.

Photo: SUPPLIED

All youth cast to perform

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

It’s almost time for a “kooky, creepy” and “altogether wonderful” production to kick off in the heart of Thames.

Thames MAD’s next production is set to take place at the Thames War Memorial Civic Centre from September 26 to October 3.

The Addams Family Musical - young@part is a “not-to-be-missed” night of comedy, music and heart for the entire family. But there’s a twist. Not only is the title an ode to youth, the show itself will feature a cast made up of only youth.

“I think it’s really cool because it’s the first time in about 10 years that MAD has been able to offer a full youth production. It’s 8-years-old to 18-years-old,” production marketing co-ordinator Samantha Connors told *The Profile*.

“It’s really special the fact that it’s just a youth production like there’s literally no adults in the whole cast. We do lots of youth productions with adults involved but this is purely just young people.

They’ve got 56 kids involved from eight different schools,” she said. The production, which is run in conjunction with North Waikato Performing Arts (NoWA), is co-directed by NoWA director Mary Daugherty and Jo Haakma, who is also musical director.

Samantha said while there were 56 cast members on stage, there were other youth helping backstage, in the wardrobe and tech departments - “so there’s young people everywhere”.

For youth interested in getting involved in theatre, it was a good opportunity for them to start off in Mary’s drama club or the drama school to learn the skills and confidence to be able to do a show, Samantha said. “[The kids] already have those relationships from going to her drama club and the skills for where to stand on a stage or theatre etiquette, characterization, taking direction, all of these skills that are really important.”

DETAILS: To purchase tickets for *The Addams Family Musical - young at part at the Thames War Memorial Civic Centre from September 26 - October 3*, visit www.thamesmad.co.



The Addams Family Musical
young@part®

26th Sept - 3rd Oct
Thames Civic Centre
www.thamesmad.co



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& Sons (120 mins) M. Writer Andrew Dyer (Bill Nighy) hasn't written a word - or left the house - in 20 years. In that time he fathered a child outside of his marriage, lost his wife (Imelda Staunton) and became estranged from his other sons. His sense of his mortality sets in, so he brings all of his children together.

It is for Hawk (119 mins) M. After losing her beloved father, Helen finds herself saved by an unlikely friendship with a stubborn hawk named Mabel. Through the bond, Helen rediscovers the beauty of being alive. Based on the Sunday Times best-selling memoir. BAFTA nominee, starring Claire Foy.

Savage House (114 mins) M. Comedy. Set against the backdrop of 18th century England, a massive pox outbreak, and Jacobite uprising - this is a timely and darkly satirical story of Sir Chauncey Savage and Lady Savage and their blind pursuit of a better life. A madcap play on class and power.

Colours of Time (126 mins) M. Follows the lives of four cousins who inherit an old house in rural Normandy and retrace their steps of their ancestors in 19th century Paris. (In French with English subtitles).

Toy Story 5 ENCORE (102 mins) G. Buzz Lightyear, Woody, Jessie and the rest of the gang's jobs are challenged when they meet Lilypad, a brand-new tablet device that arrives with her own disruptive ideas.

Moana (Live Action) ENCORE (115 mins) PG. Moana (Catherine Laga'aia) answers the Ocean's call and, for the first time, voyages beyond the reef of her island of Motunui with the infamous demigod Maui (Dwayne Johnson) on an unforgettable journey to restore prosperity to her people.

Coming: Tony A 19-year-old Anthony Bourdain travels to Provincetown and stumbles into the chaotic world of a restaurant kitchen, setting off a summer that will shape the course of his life. **Andre Rieu's 2026 Summer Concert: Viva Maastricht!** Saturday and Sunday 29 and 30 August at 12.30pm. **Lomu** from 3/9.



Members of the Hawaiian Adults group brave the chilly surf. Photo: Alex Wilkins/Lxander Photography

Record splash for Polar Plunge

Blue skies and wild costumes collided at Waihi Beach last month, as a record-breaking crowd threw themselves into the sea for this year's Polar Plunge.

Around 200 brave souls stormed into the water in front of a huge, roaring crowd, turning Waihi Beach into a mid-winter carnival. Hosted by Waihi Beach Lifeguard Services, who resurrected the event a few years ago, the Plunge pulled in families, mates, community groups, and businesses.

The event raised more than \$800 for the club's volunteer life-guard services. "Being involved in Surf Club events is always a highlight for me," judge Hollie Jones said. "I love to see locals and visitors alike coming together in our beautiful corner of the world to do something different, brave and fun."



A large crowd took part, many in wild costumes.



Paeroa kids gather for a movie night to round off their school holidays last month. Around 40 kids and their parents gathered at Paeroa's War Memorial Hall with beanbags and popcorn in hand, to enjoy a movie night. The free event, hosted by Paeroa Bluelight, featured the movie Super Mario Galaxy, along with hot chocolates, biscuits, and other treats. Paeroa Bluelight is a community organisation backed by NZ Police and operated by volunteers to create events and activities for youth and families. The group also hosted a free kids' disco on July 3, and said they have plans to hold more school holiday events in the future.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER



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On the Land

El Niño could bring ‘highly unusual’ warm, dry spring

By RNZ Digital reporters

El Niño could bring a “highly unusual” warm spring with Waikato and Coromandel likely to be drier than normal, an Earth Sciences New Zealand scientist says.

El Niño was officially declared at the start of July and could strongly influence the upcoming seasons.

Earth Sciences New Zealand chief scientist Chris Brandolino said they expect more profound and more noticeable weather conditions beyond September 1.

“We’re expecting to see more westerly type winds, so that could be maybe northwest or southwest or somewhere in between,” he told RNZ.

“We’re expecting it to become more persistent, more regular, and more intense with time.”

Brandolino said the upper North Island and many other parts of the country were at risk of dryness, with Northland, the Coromandel, Bay of Plenty, Waikato, Auckland most likely receiving below normal rainfall.

“In terms of temperatures over the next three months, we think in spite of a pretty cold start to the August month... that won’t be a theme.

“We think temperatures are probably going to end up being somewhere between the average or even above average category

“We think temperatures are probably going to end up being somewhere between the average or even above average category for the next three months.”

- Chris Brandolino

for the next three months.”

Brandolino said the hottest temperature recorded in New Zealand was 42.4 degrees in 1973.

He said that was during a “super El Niño”, which is what we are experiencing now.

“El Niño is expected to become very strong, or so-called ‘super El Niño’ in intensity. So, I’m not predicting a new national record, don’t get me wrong, that’s not my prediction,” Brandolino said.

“But I’m just sort of making the linkage that when we have these westerly winds and we have El Niño, because of these westerly winds, that does cause Australia to go through these warm spells, or at least increased risk of these hot spells of weather or heat waves.

“When our air or our wind does come from Australia, that will bring it into New Zealand, that will happen.”

Brandolino said there was ex-

pected to be an increase in spiky temperatures, which could see periods of one to three days of “highly unusually warm” temperatures for September, October and beyond.

“That’s followed up by perhaps a big sharp downturn in temperature,” he said.

“So, big variability, roller coaster type weather.

“But when our winds align, so that it’s kind of tugging air from Australia, and if their air is warm, we’re going to get that warm air.”

The odds particularly favoured spells of unusually warm temperatures for eastern areas of both islands, he said. Whether that translated into a record or not, was uncertain, but it “certainly loads the dice” for those outcomes, he said.

He believed climate change was making it harder to use historical weather events to predict the future. “Ordinarily we’d like to say we know the average outcome of El Niño, but no El Niño is average,” Brandolino said. “So, we know the average outcome and when you throw in climate change, that does tend to underscore that statement.

“I guess what I’m saying in a very concise way is that I think it’s important to remember that every El Niño is different.”

- This story was first published on rnz.co.nz

Shellfish harvesting ban extended until 2028

A ban on harvesting some types of shellfish in parts of Hauraki Gulf has been extended for another two years, Oceans and Fisheries Minister Shane Jones says.

The extension to two-year closures at Te Mātā and Waipatukahu (Tapu) on the Thames coast, Umupuia Beach on Auckland’s Pōhutukawa Coast, and Waiheke Island were requested by Ngāi Tai Ki Tamaki, Ngāti Tamatera Treaty Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust.

“Extending these temporary closures is a practical step to help replenish local shellfish for the benefit of current and future generations,” Mr Jones said.

The applicants are all members of the Pou Rāhui Research Project, which incorporates mātauranga Māori alongside modern scientific tools to restore identified marine taonga species within the areas.

“The group’s work involves training whānau in traditional skills and data collection to strengthen mātauranga, to support evidence-based decision-making, and to ensure the long-term sustainability of customary fisheries.

“I commend Ngāi Tai Ki Tamaki, Ngāti Tamatera Treaty Settlement Trust, and Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust and the Pou Rāhui Project for their strong kaitiakitanga in caring for these important local fisheries and the broader Hau-



Te Mātā and Waipatukahu (Tapu) is closed to the take of shellfish. SUPPLIED raki Gulf.”

Te Mātā and Waipatukahu is closed to the take of cockles, mussels, oysters, and pipi. The closure covers waters from Ōtaki Creek to Diehard Stream (also known as Onepoto Stream), and offshore one nautical mile.

Umupuia Beach is closed to the take of cockles from Te Puea at the western end of the beach to Whakakaiwhara Point at the eastern end of the beach.

Waiheke Island is closed to the take of mussels, pāua, and packhorse rock lobster. The closure includes waters within one nautical mile of Waiheke Island but excludes Te Matuku Marine Reserve.

The closures came into effect on August 7. More information can be found on MPI’s website: www.mpi.govt.nz.

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On the Land

Tech company Halter continues to milk it

By MONIQUE STEELE, of RNZ

A wave of farmers taking up cow collars for managing pasture is driving further growth for technology firm Halter, which now has 1.5 million cows collared up globally. The United States-owned company operates solar-powered smart collars for livestock controlled by virtual fences connected to its app and powered by artificial intelligence. New figures filed to the Companies Office show Halter earned \$98 million from New Zealand farmers and other intercompany services for pasture management systems, over just nine months last year. For these latest figures, between April last year and 31 December, Halter New Zealand's after-tax profit was \$2.57m. In the previous period, the year to March, 2025, Halter's profits were at \$53.8m, although that included a loan of \$51m from its owner. This year, it changed how it reported its financial results, to reflect the American style of calendar year, like its owner. A spokesperson said most of its revenue went back into growth and research and development. Farmers signed up to a 2-3



Each cow on Pete Morgan's Waikato dairy farm wears a solar-powered, GPS-enabled smart collar. Photo: SALLY ROUND/RNZ

year subscription billed monthly or annually, and paid a one-off fee for installation of the hardware, such as the tall towers that connected the GPS collars to the app. However, a direct-to-satellite

service it launched in April will not require a radio tower. Chief executive and founder Craig Piggott said in a statement the company was hiring more staff and building more products to bring Halter to

more farmers and ranchers globally. "We are in a time of incredible change and expansion for Halter as we continue to build out our business, both in New Zealand and globally," he said.

"There's so much more to do - we're really just getting started on our mission to help make agriculture more efficient and sustainable." Piggott said it was just getting started in its mission to make agriculture more efficient and sustainable. Halter employs 391 staff in Aotearoa among 535 globally. Its global workforce increased 109 percent over the past year, and it was preparing to enter South America. The wider Halter Group now served more than 3500 farms and ranches. Uptake of the agritech was rapidly expanding, however, opinion around its animal welfare was divided among farmers, vets and animal welfare groups. When releasing an ethical code for the GPS collars recently, Group Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa warned that New Zealand was falling behind Australia in regulating virtual fencing technology. However, Prime Minister Christopher Luxon ruled out any added regulations for the virtual fencing technology as it was managed by the Animal Welfare Act. - This story was first published on rnz.co.nz

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Woolly escapades for prize Dorset sheep



As part of a Valley Profile series, **MEGHAN HAWKES** searches through old newspapers to bring you the stories Thames Valley locals once read about themselves.

1880

In the Kauaeranga Valley, Thames, were once four prize Dorset white-faced ewes and rams brought by Mr Gough from England which, after some time there, suddenly disappeared. Years passed and no trace of the little flock was discovered until John Liddle, prospecting in the ranges near Waitekauri, saw a group of wild sheep. He spent some days attempting to capture a ram, which was of enormous proportions and covered with a tremendous coat of wool. Mr Gough offered the prospector £20 to be shown the sheep – which was now a flock of between 60 to 100 – as well as £1 per head for the sheep they could catch. The two started out, and after two days' search 15 enormous sheep were found in the bush about three miles from the Waitekauri battery. The unshorn sheep, having had an abundance of feed, were the size of two or three ordinary sheep. Over at Hikutaia, a man work-



The Kauaeranga Valley, 1880s. Photo: SUPPLIED

ing on the roads was invited by another man to have a drink. He agreed and went with his newly made friend to the store, where a number of bushmen and gum diggers were congregated. Immediately after his drink, he was seized by several of the men and thrust into a small room, where a mock trial took place. He was accused of robbing a sick mate in the bush at Hikutaia and leaving him to die. The man proved that at the time he was working at Tairua, and he was then allowed to leave. On each of the two following days he was 'arrested', and tried for robbery and adultery but was acquitted on each charge. On coming to Thames the man informed the local paper,

saying he intended, if possible, to single out the chief perpetrators of the outrage and summon them to appear before a real court. Meanwhile, at Miranda, a man on a shooting excursion was much astonished at seeing an 11-year-old European boy living there among the Māori. The lad said he had been turned out of his home by his mother and brothers who lived in Auckland, and who thrashed him every time he went near the house. His mother was a charwoman and his father was dead. His mother and elder brothers refused him food and sent him away, saying he was old enough to earn his own living. While wandering the streets he had attracted the notice of a Māori woman of Ōrākei

who asked him whether he would like to live with her. He had been with her the past six months and they were on a visit to some relatives at Miranda, which was how the boy came to be there. A hard-headed Scotchman residing at Thames had an ailing wife. A sceptical neighbour asked the husband which medical man was attending her. Was it Dr Payne, Kilgour, or Huxtable? "No," he replied, "we hae got our family doctor, Dr (naming an eminent physician who died at least a century ago) an' my word," he continued, "she's comin' roon fine." This story was related by a person of unquestionable veracity, and was believed to be true.

Chris' Quiz

- Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter
1. "Triple cooked chips" is a cooking technique popularised by which TV chef? a) Heston Blumenthal, b) Jamie Oliver, or c) Gordon Ramsay?
 2. In late July, it was revealed that Auckland Hospital has been struggling to control an infestation of what? a) Fleas and other insects, b) guinea pigs, or c.) tarantulas?
 3. Which flower has variations known commonly as 'English', 'French' and 'Spanish'? a) Lavender, b) lilac, or c) lupin?
 4. Ajax is famous both as a warrior of Greek mythology and as a cleaning product. A pun beginning with G, what are both forms of Ajax tough on?
 5. In an office setting or email, what does OOO stand for?
 6. If you catch a foul ball in the stands, what of these sports games are you most likely attending? a) Baseball, b) cricket, or c) tennis?
 7. Which Pacific island changed its name to Republic of Naoero earlier this year? a) Nauru, b) Niue, or c) Northern Mariana Islands?
 8. What was the first name of the protagonist character in the 1986 film *The Labyrinth*? a) Emma, b) Maria, or c) Sarah?
 9. Heinz/Watties have announced they are ceasing production of which coffee brands: a) Coffee Supreme and Mocchona, b) Gregg's and Special Blend, or c) Nescafé and Robert Harris?
 10. True or false: humans have successfully reached the summit of Mount Everest without supplied oxygen?
- ANSWERS: 1. a) Heston Blumenthal; 2. a) Fleas and other insects; 3. a) Lavender; 4. a) Carpet; 5. Out of Office; 6. a) Baseballs; 7. a) Nauru; 8. c) Sarah; 9. b) Gregg's and Special Blend; 10. True. Fewer than 200 people have done this, and it is considered extremely dangerous.

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Just roll with it

Skateboarders from across the motu rolled into Paeroa last month for the Hauraki Skate Jam. The Norwood Rd skatepark buzzed with tamariki, whānau and skaters of all ages for a day of community, tricks, barbecue and sunshine. Reporter **DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA** dropped in to snap some photos of the wheels and riders in action.



Rhett Boyle, 9, of Hamilton.

Photos: DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA



River Marsters-McCarthy, 10, of Tauranga, zooms around.



Skaters dish out their best moves at the Hauraki Skate Jam.



Henrique Grandi grinds the bench, left, while organiser Janik Levien helps a skate student.



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As a locally owned brokerage based in Cambridge, we're proud to continue growing our team and strengthening the service we provide across Waikato and beyond. We're delighted to welcome Rosie to Unite Insurance Brokers, who will be servicing clients throughout the Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel region. Rosie has more than 14 years' experience in the insurance industry, working with commercial, rural and domestic clients. If you've worked with Rosie before you know you are in great hands. If you haven't, now's your chance.

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FAREWELL

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Empowering Thames into the future

The new Thames Future Fund provides locals and visitors with the opportunity to donate or bequest to a locally driven funding vehicle for the town and its surrounds.

It is one of six Coromandel 'place based' endowment funds established last year by Momentum Waikato Community Foundation, in partnership with Thames-Coromandel District Council and forward-thinking local Fund Champions.

April Chang, who works at Carsons Bookshop, is the first Thames Future Fund Champion.

"In these days of so many challenges, the Thames Future Fund just makes good sense to me," April says.

"That's why I'm pleased to help spread the word so people understand how it works, and that their contribution, no matter the size, can really make an impact."

"Thames has a proud history and a strong community, but we all have to think about the future."

"Our own endowment fund that brings returns back into the community is such a seamless way to build a lasting legacy and support the causes we value."

When the Thames Future Fund reaches sufficient size, grants will be made from its income, with a portion re-invested to keep it growing.

"Being under the Momentum Waikato umbrella gives the assurance of professionalism while ensuring the Thames Future Fund will always be exactly that – all about Thames," April says.

Wills Month is coming up in September, a great time to find out more about why you should leave a gift in your Will to the Thames Future Fund - please contact April at aprilgreenlawchang@gmail.com or visit momentumwaikato.nz/thamesfuturefund.

- Supplied by Momentum Waikato

April Chang, right, says the new Future Funds 'make good sense'.

Photo: SUPPLIED





WHAT WILL YOU LEAVE BEHIND?

Imagine a future where the kiwi call echoes through our forests, native wildlife thrives, and generations to come can experience Aotearoa's precious taonga.

HOW WOULD THAT FEEL?

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Find us on Facebook - TCKCWeLoveKiwi

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Te Mata Waikawau Bush. INSET: A Kiwi named Warrick. Photos: RACHEL HOLMES

Leave a legacy that lives on

What will you leave behind?

Imagine, years from now, standing in a forest on the Thames Coast and hearing the unmistakable call of a kiwi.

Imagine knowing that your children, grandchildren and generations yet to come can experience that same moment - because people before them cared enough to protect it.

How would that feel?

For Thames Coast Kiwi Care, this is more than a vision. It is the reason behind the work we do every day - protecting kiwi, controlling predators and restoring native habitat so our precious wildlife has a safer place to thrive.

Our kiwi population has come a long way, but protecting that progress takes commitment, resources and people who care about what we leave behind.

One way to help secure that future is by leaving a gift to Thames Coast Kiwi Care in your Will.

Your bequest can help ensure the work continues long after you are gone — protect-

ing kiwi, restoring habitat and safeguarding the natural heritage of the Thames Coast for generations to come. Leave more than a memory. Leave a living legacy.

BOGAN BINGO

Don't want to wait?

On 12 September, we're bringing the community together for our Bogan Bingo Fund-raiser and charity auction - tickets are on sale now, for the best night out in town!

Come along, have a laugh, enjoy a great night and help support kiwi conservation at the same time.

And if you or your business would like to do a little more, we'd love an auction item or voucher to help us raise vital funds on the night. Whether it's a gift in your Will, an auction donation, or simply joining us for Bogan Bingo - every contribution helps keep the kiwi call alive.

What will you leave behind?

Help make sure the answer is something worth hearing.

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The final

FAREWELL

Time for wills at Barden & Co

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

Our team is your go-to for everything law and we pride ourselves on being approachable and down-to-earth legal professionals.

The business has been providing services since the early 1900s, and we have a deep history in the local Waihi and surrounding areas. We provide a range of legal services, including conveyancing, commercial law, employment law, family law, relationship property, trusts, wills and estates.

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

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

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

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

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

— Supplied by Barden & Co Legal



September is Wills Month.

NEED TO MAKE A NEW, OR UPDATE YOUR OLD WILL?

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

GET \$100 OFF THE COST OF YOUR WILL IN SEPTEMBER

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

NEED TO MAKE A NEW WILL? HERE'S HOW:

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Valley Funeral Services provides meaningful and personalised funerals. Photo: PIXABAY

Celebrating life your way

We believe that each funeral service should be as unique as the person you are honouring.

The most meaningful services are the ones that truly reflect the person.

At Valley Funeral Services, we welcome the new age of funeral services – a celebration of life, personalised services that are meaningful tribute to the life of your loved one.

There are many elements of a funeral service that can be personalised: choice of music, use of images, video, or other media, choice of venue, choice of casket or urn.

We are dedicated to providing meaningful and personalised funerals and are happy to discuss with you options to make a celebration of life personal.

Our friendly and welcoming team of professionals are here to assist people and families navigating their way through what can be one of the most difficult times in life.

To find out more information or to talk to one of our team members, visit us at 3 Hall St, Paeroa; phone us on 0800 862 6362; or visit our website: valleyfuneralservices.com.

- Supplied by Valley Funeral Services

The importance of Goodbye

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

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

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

Saying goodbye offers an opportunity to express our emotions and feelings. It allows us to convey our gratitude, love, and appreciation to those who have been a significant part of our lives.

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

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

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Real experience of a meaningful farewell

The final

FAREWELL

ADVERTISING FEATURE

A practical and caring process

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

It can be hard to talk about death. It's not the most comfortable conversation to have with others. On the other hand, it is a normal part of life that affects everyone.

The final farewell is something each and every person will experience in life, whether it's saying goodbye to a loved one or being the person who leaves.

Preparing for that time is a practical and caring process that can help to make things a little bit lighter for the person who is getting their affairs in order and for the loved ones they will leave behind.

The Final Farewell feature in *The Valley Profile* is a prime spot to learn about businesses and service-providers in the Hauraki-Coromandel who offer support to people and families who are getting ready to prepare their final farewell.

From Barden & Co and Valley Funeral Services, to Momentum Waikato, Thames Coast Kiwi Care and Hato Hone St John, there are people waiting to help you on your journey to planning for your final farewell.

Take the time to read through each of their services and make a plan to start your preparing journey.



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Give back for future generations

September is Wills Month, a chance to protect the people you care about and leave a legacy that reflects what matters most to you. For Allan, updating his will was about more than planning for the future.

It was an opportunity to support a service that has made a lasting difference in his life.

Every day, thousands of people across Aotearoa New Zealand rely on Hato Hone St John. Whether it's an ambulance responding in an emergency, a Medical Alarm providing reassurance, a Waka Ora Health Shuttle helping someone get to a vital appointment, or a young person building confidence through the St John Youth programme, these services touch lives in communities large and small across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Having experienced several serious health emergencies over the years, Allan knows just how important that support can be.

"They gave me my life back."

"I want to give others the same chance," he says.

As a former Hato Hone St John volunteer, Allan has also seen firsthand the trust, integrity, professionalism, and compassion of the people behind the uniform.

"My legacy is for the service that saved me. I want to make sure the ambulance is there for the next person who needs it."

A gift in your will, no matter the size, can help ensure Hato Hone St John continues to be there for future generations when they need it most.

To help more New Zealanders create or update their will, St John is offering a free online will-writing service during Wills Month.

Scan the QR code to get started. For more information, please contact Alison Duncan, Gifts in Wills Specialist, on 027 297 3643 or email giftinwill@stjohn.org.nz.

-Supplied by Hato Hone St John



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Your past doesn't have to define you

OPINION
By MICHAEL WILKES



Do you feel like the pain of your past is holding you back? It doesn't

have to.
This might get a little heavy, but I've met so many people carrying weight from old wounds and traumas.
Something happened — maybe years ago — and yet it's still shaping the way they live today. Sometimes the event itself grows bigger and bigger

in our minds, especially when we avoid it or keep replaying it without dealing with it.
I get it. I've been there.
Within my own lifetime, I've faced a few things that cut deep — including having to say goodbye to my dad after a long, hard mental health battle.
That season rocked me. For years, I carried guilt, anger, and confusion I couldn't put into words. It felt unfair. It felt endless.
But here's what I've learned: we have a choice.
We can either let our past define us... or we can decide to learn from it, grow through

it, and use it to shape who we become.
That doesn't mean ignoring the pain or pretending it never happened.
In fact, it's the opposite. Sometimes, we need to revisit those moments — not to dwell there, but to face them head-on and ask:
What needs to change so this thing doesn't keep controlling me?
How can I let this make me better — not bitter?
Your story is still being written.
And yes, what's behind you is part of it.

But it's not the whole thing. There's more ahead if you choose to lean in, do the work, and allow the hard stuff to grow something new in you.
Because the truth is this: your past is a chapter, not the whole book.
You can't change what's happened, but you can choose what comes next.

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.

Daffodil Brunch, free skin checks in Waihi

The Lions Club of Waihi will host its Daffodil Brunch fundraiser on August 23 at the Waihi RSA.
The event will include a buffet, games, quiz, raffle and live music. Tickets are \$35 per person and available to be purchased from the Waihi RSA or the Waihi Council office.
"All week there will be fresh bunches of daffodils for a donation to the Daffodil Day fundraiser to support the Cancer Society's work. Look out for the Lions daffodil sellers in town," the Lions Club of Waihi said.
The NZ Lions Clubs Free Skin Cancer Screening bus will also be in Waihi and Waihi Beach on August 29.
"The bus will be in the Fresh Choice car park in Waihi from 10am to noon and outside the United Church in Waihi Beach between 1pm and 3pm.
"We have volunteer healthcare professionals ready to do full body checks for skin cancers. Early detection saves lives. If they find anything suspicious, you will be referred to your GP for further investigation.
"It's free and it could save your life. So, make sure you are there."
DETAILS: For more info about the Daffodil Brunch fundraiser contact Jennifer on 027 204 0488 or Jose on 027 457 0242.

Pet Profile

Bonny is curious, ready for fun

Bonny is a gorgeous Husky x German Shepherd with a bright mind, adventurous spirit and a whole lot of love to give.
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When it's time for fun, Bonny is in her element — she loves toys, chasing sticks, long walks and playing with other dogs.
Bonny would love an active family who enjoys getting outdoors and including their four-legged friend in their adventures. But after a busy day, she's

just as happy relaxing inside, where she's calm, affectionate and loves curling up beside her people.
Bonny's adoption fee is \$149.
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Could Bonny be your new adventure buddy?
DETAILS: Visit www.spca.nz/adopt/animal/652494/dog-bonny-thames to find out more.

Bonny would love an active family who enjoys getting outdoors.
Photo: SUPPLIED



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BOWLS

It was a cold but sunny start at Kerepehi Bowling Club on August 2 for the Rodney Garrett Family sponsored optional fours with one non bowler per team. There were 24 entries, but three were missing, so there was a redraw and late start. The rest of day went well and the successful prize winners were: 1st 4 Wins 38 points 24 ends (Thames) Butcher, Tritty, Hinu. Delwan; 2nd 3 Wins 33 points 21 ends (Hauraki) Mike Cavanagh, Grant Sharpe, Andrew Smith, Jill Smith; 3rd 3 Wins 33 points 21 ends (Kerepehi) Kaye Bunn, Rossy, Denis Putt, Amanda Woods; 4th 3 Wins 25 points 21 ends (Kerepehi) Trace Harrison, Lorraine Putt, Tania Pettifor, Ame Cleveland.

One more winter tournament, the Spec Savers optional fours, was scheduled for Sunday 16th August with a 9.30am start and mufti. Summer Opening with Club Colours is Sunday, September 13, with a 9am start, sponsored By Sutherland Family and Colin Wilson.

- Good bowling, Terry King

Winners from top: Thames, Hauraki, Kerepehi and Kerepehi.
Photos: SUPPLIED



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The Valley Profile

FOOTBALL

Thames Men Football Club make their mark

With the season entering its final stages, Thames Men First are locked in a three-way battle for second place with Tokoroa and Cambridge. A 2-1 away win over Cambridge FC on Saturday could prove crucial in that race.

The week leading into the game had been a difficult one for Thames. With injuries and illness stacking up, the squad that travelled west on Saturday was limited in personnel but not spirit.

It was the perfect start for Thames as the visitors struck early. Xavier Brown won the ball and broke forward, offloading to Michael Kim, who slipped a through ball to Darius King. The winger composed himself and finished clinically at the near post for his eighth of the season.

Cambridge responded and began to control possession. Peter Buesnel missed a golden opportunity for the hosts, failing to turn the ball in from close range after a slick move down the right.

Soon after, the impressive Hayden Thorne struck the bar and then the post with two long-range efforts.

As half-time drew closer, Cambridge equalised. A long ball found Buesnel at the back post; the winger touched inside



before finishing into the far corner for 1-1.

The second half developed into a flowing game. Jake Hudson combined well with Riyan Rattan, but his left-footed shot curled just wide.

On the hour mark, exciting youngster Eli Fale, who worked tirelessly all game, skipped through and forced Patrick Espin into a low one-handed save.

Thames then withstood another prolonged spell of pressure, with the defensive trio of Sam Cox, Michael Terpstra and Mickaël Dernoncourt defending the box expertly, making several key interceptions and clearances to keep Cambridge at bay.

With 10 minutes remaining, Thames dealt the fatal blow. Ben Taylor produced an inch-perfect tackle to set up Sharneel Chand, who looked up and sent a cross-



Xavier Brown on the ball. LEFT: Ben Taylor with the tackle. Photos: MARK BROWN (One of a Kind Photography)

shot towards goal. The keeper could only watch as it found the far corner for 2-1, winning the game for Thames and dramatically securing three vital points.

“Very proud of the team! What an effort and team spirit. We had to dig deep, and everyone gave everything until the end,” captain Mickaël Dernoncourt said.

“Big shout-out to the boys. We had multiple illnesses and injuries coming into this game, but everyone gave everything they had.”

- Jonathan Coles

CLASSIFIEDS

Deadline Monday Noon

Death Notices	Cleaning	Garage Sale	Wanted	Handyman	Storage
COOK, Raewyn Mary: Passed away peacefully on 10th August 2026, surrounded by family; aged 86 years. Dearly loved mother of Steve and Julie, Mike and Kylie, Paul and Rochelle and much loved Nana of nine and Great Nana of four. Reunited with her beloved husband, Clive, whom she remained devoted to throughout her life. She treasured her family and special friendships. A celebration of Raewyn's life was held on Friday 14th August. Forever loved and always remembered TWENTYMANS	Faithfull Hands Cleaning Service. Exterior, interior and property maintenance. Ph Rob 027 4694 334	Moving house auction/ garage sale. Furniture, tools, household goods. Saturday August 22nd. 7 Corbett St, Paeroa. 10.30 start - strict. Cash sales only.	I'm a pensioner looking for a long term home in the country. I would like to find a cheap house or paddock to lease. I would prefer some privacy. I still work 3 days a week. I can milk cows for rent if required (ex sharemilker). Please text or call Richard if you can help me, 027 933 2015. Anything considered.	An experienced handyman covering all trades with over 20 years exp building trade. Please contact Laurie King 021 251 0246 ktpropertyservice.com	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
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RHIND, Lois Josephine (Goldie): Died peacefully at Hetherington House on August 9th in her 86th year. Loved wife of David. Peace at last. Special thanks to the management and staff of Hetherington House. They were so caring and thank you. There will be a private cremation and a memorial service on 16-9-26, 11am at the Salvation Army, Waihi.			Public Notice PUBLIC NOTICE OF COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON ELECTORAL SYSTEM AND OF RIGHT TO DEMAND A POLL  Notice is given under section 28 of the Local Electoral Act 2001, that the Hauraki District Council resolved on Wednesday, 12 August 2026 to retain the First Past the Post electoral system for the next triennial election in 2028. Electors have the right to demand a poll, in accordance with section 29 of the Act, to countermand this resolution. The choice is between the FPP and the 'Single Transferable Vote' (STV) electoral systems. Unless a poll or further resolution determines otherwise, the FPP electoral system will continue to be used by Hauraki District Council. A valid demand for a poll must be: • made in writing. • signed by at least five percent of the number of electors enrolled as eligible to vote at the previous triennial election of the Hauraki District Council (the five percent threshold from the 2025 electoral roll is 761 elector signatures). • delivered to the Electoral Officer of the Hauraki District Council, William Street, Paeroa 3600 by 4.30pm, Friday 11 December 2026. Every elector who signs a demand must also provide their full name and the address for which they are qualified as an elector of the Hauraki District Council. Dated at Paeroa 17 August 2026 David Speirs, Chief Executive Hauraki District Council  www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz	Public Notice Conservation and Heritage Fund  Do you own a heritage building, natural area, or significant tree that's identified in the Hauraki District Plan? Got a conservation or heritage project in mind? You may qualify for funding to help with active maintenance or enhancement, such as painting, repairs, restoration, fencing, pest control, or conservation planting. This fund supports our community outcomes by protecting, respecting, and restoring ecosystems, reducing our carbon footprint, and celebrating our unique heritage and culture. Apply now! Applications for the Conservation and Heritage Fund open 1 September 2026 and close on 30 September 2026. Scan the QR code or go to our website to see the fund guidelines - https://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/community/grants-funding 	
RICHARDS, Sally Ann: Passed away peacefully on 13th August 2026 at Waihi Lifecare, age 67. Dearly loved daughter of Anne and the late Noel, much loved sister of Steve and Jackie, Paula and Glenn, and the late Mardi. Loved aunty of Stevie, Logan, Talia and Dayna. Forever loved and in our hearts. xxxx	Trades FENCING CONTRACTOR Residential & Rural Retaining walls & more High quality workmanship Competitive prices Call Matt 021 1727 148	Builder Friendly licensed builder. 40 years exp. All aspects. No job too small. Ian 021 540 376 Builder available. Maintenance/alterations/fences etc. Great rates. Ph Mark 022 344 0629	Painter HAURAKI REGIONAL PAINTERS Over 12 years experience, interior/ exterior. Refs available. Free quotes. Phone Graeme for all your painting needs. 020 485 1312		

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DIRECT CREMATION within 15kms of Thames: \$3395.00* + Doctors Fee

DIRECT CREMATION requiring transfer from Whangamata, Tairua, Whitianga, Waihi, Paeroa, Ngatea and Coromandel: \$3595.00*

DIRECT CREMATION requiring transfer from North of Coromandel or Waikato Hospital: \$3710.00*

Outside all of these areas: \$3395.00 plus mileage

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

SUPPORT LOCAL

* 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.



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

SUPPORT LOCAL



SUDOKU

264

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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

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EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

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

JUMBO CROSSWORD

284

ACROSS

1

Heats up (5)

4

Winner's awards (8)

9

Advances very slowly (6)

14

Perch (5)

15

Extravagant untrue account of events (4,3,4,5)

17

Pivot (5)

18

Top (3)

19

Waterproof coat (7)

20

Travelling from place to place to work (9)

21

Light meals (6)

24

Same (9)

25

Fortified wine (6)

26

In arrears (6)

29

Debase with inferior additive (10)

31

In favour of (3)

32

Thrifty (6)

33

Incentive (4)

35

Female sheep (3)

37

Long tooth (4)

39

Timetables (9)

40

Progeny (9)

41

Rear of boat (5)

42

Hired hand (8)

47

Stood up for (8)

51

Burnt remains (5)

55

Officer above colonel (9)

56

Favoured (9)

58

Submissive (4)

59

Knight's title (3)

60

Spouse (4)

61

Go to bed (6)

62

Paddle (3)

63

High-spiritedness (10)

66

Roar (6)

67

Digging animal (6)

69

Sudden inspiration (9)

72

Put into words (6)

73

Capital of Sweden (9)

75

Reaches (7)

77

Sheltered side (3)

80

Show the way (5)

81

Be of a kind and generous nature (4,1,5,2,4)

82

Digging tool (5)

83

Pearl maker (6)

84

Scope for freedom of action or thought (8)

85

Commerce (5)

DOWN

2

Did away with (9)

3

Manufactures (5)

5

Red gemstone (4)

6

Wise or prudent, especially in statesmanship (7)

7

One behind the other (2,6,4)

8

Scrub clean (5)

9

Red condiment (7)

10

Throb painfully (4)

11

Interior coating (6)

12

Prominent cheeks (5)

13

Examined (7)

14

Saved from danger (7)

16

Without a sound (11)

22

Fasten to (6)

23

Toasted bread bit on soup (7)

24

Banned (7)

25

Tension (6)

27

Expressed indirectly (7)

28

Confound (6)

30

Small whirlpool (4)

32

High temperature (5)

34

Stiff (5)

36

Church recess (4)

38

Intention (3)

42

Nudge (5)

43

Sore (7)

44

Elliptical (4)

45

Departed (6)

46

Picked (5)

48

Cuban leader (5,6)

49

Candidate (7)

50

Day before (3)

51

Skilled worker (7)

52

Produce shoots (6)

53

Memorise (5,2,5)

54

Make airtight (4)

57

Gorge (6)

64

Throttled (9)

65

Leaves, greenery (7)

66

Stabilising weight (7)

68

Meat merchant (7)

70

Malady (7)

71

Corroborate (6)

72

One abstaining from all animal products (5)

74

Polite (5)

76

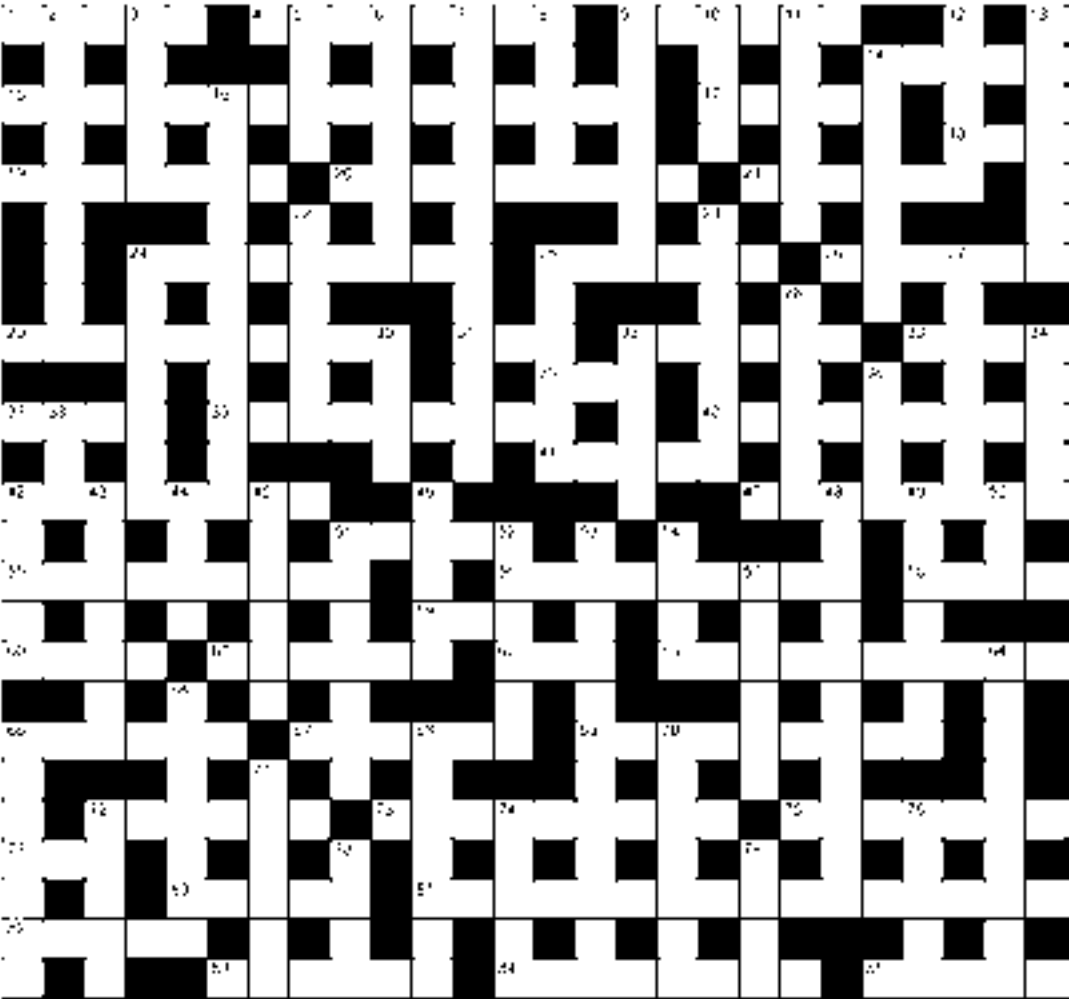
Rage (5)

78

Fabric shelter (4)

79

Dry (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Globe, 4 A drop in the ocean, 14 Heave, 15 Strew, 16 Nit-picking, 17 Litre, 19 Ice, 20 Dead end, 21 Territory, 22 Citric, 25 Gibberish, 27 Asylum, 28 Salmon, 33 Daydreamer, 35 Tea, 36 Gannet, 37 Blur, 39 Lay, 41 Enslave, 42 Coming, 43 Currently, 44 Aisle, 45 Shredded, 50 Em, 51 Bookcase, 55 Reign, 58 Macadamia, 59 Leader, 60 Invoice, 61 Via, 63 Acid, 64 At once, 65 Red, 66 Parameters, 68 Cannon, 69 Couple, 71 Impounded, 76 Botany, 77 Barrister, 79 Haughty, 81 Too, 84 Amigo, 85 Evaluation, 86 Humid, 87 Entry, 88 On top of the world, 89 Cease.

DOWN: 2 Litter, 3 Bleed, 5 Dais, 6 Oppress, 7 Incurs, 8 Twist, 9 Eagerly, 10 Calm, 11 Attain, 12 Panic, 13 Veteran, 14 Hearsay, 18 Unobserved, 23 Cramp, 24 Furnace, 26 Indulge, 27 Amalgam, 29 Militia, 30 Paunch, 31 Strip, 32 Weirdo, 34 Riot, 36 Gypsy, 38 Rhyme, 40 Leak, 45 Samba, 46 Ruction, 47 Dodo, 48 Enmity, 49 Sieve, 50 Enlarge, 52 Ornamental, 53 Chortle, 54 Secure, 55 Rainbow, 56 Handy, 57 Weep, 62 Crook, 67 Portray, 68 Canteen, 70 Placebo, 72 Maestro, 73 Ensign, 74 Astute, 75 Ethics, 76 Boots, 78 React, 80 Gauge, 82 Polo, 83 Foil.



Mangatarata 334d Mahuta Road

Elevated lifestyle living - HPC zoning

Located just eight minutes from Ngatea, this elevated 1.03ha (more or less) lifestyle section captures sweeping views across the Coromandel Ranges. With gentle contours, a sunny north-easterly aspect and a warmer microclimate above much of the Waikato fog and frost, it's an exceptional place to build your dream home. There's plenty of room for sheds, horse arenas, gardens, a pool, livestock or pets. Hauraki Golf Club is just 5km away, while Kaiaua's boat ramp provides easy Firth of Thames access. Schools, Hamilton and Auckland are all within easy reach. Following the quick sale of the previous foothills release, secure your slice of this stunning rural setting today.

bayleys.co.nz/2630280

1.0379_{ha}

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 17 Sep 2026
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 9.45-10.15am Sun 23 Aug
& 3.30-4pm Sun 30 Aug
Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Sam Aislabie 027 429 5410

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Waiterimu 96 Mangapiko Valley Road

Elevated modern living with expansive rural views

From the moment you arrive, the elevated outlook and clean architectural lines set the tone for this thoughtfully designed lifestyle property. The contemporary 327sqm (more or less) home has been designed to capture expansive rural views, with generous open-plan living flowing seamlessly to the outdoors. At its heart, the designer kitchen features a large island bench and scullery, while the spacious living area opens to an expansive deck for entertaining. The master suite includes two walk-in wardrobes, an ensuite, and deck access to the spa pool. Established grounds and shelter planting provide privacy, while the location offers easy access to Te Kauwhata, Morrinsville, and Hamilton.

bayleys.co.nz/2630249

5,815_{sqm} 5 2 4

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 10 Sep 2026
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton
View 2.15-2.45pm Sun 23 Aug
& 11-11.30am Sun 30 Aug
Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz
Seth Roe 027 320 6937

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Boundary lines are indicative only



Boundary lines are indicative only

Whitianga 12-14 Bryce Street

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- Existing backpacker accommodation layout with owner's residence
- Commercial and mixed-use zoning offering future flexibility
- Prime Whitianga CBD location near shops, cafés, marina and waterfront

Returning to the market, this substantial accommodation property offers existing infrastructure and endless potential. Re-establish accommodation, provide staff or contractor housing, or explore alternative residential or commercial uses (subject to any required consents). Secure the foundations and decide where they go next.

bayleys.co.nz/2202350

1,622_{sqm}  430_{sqm} 

Auction (unless sold prior) 2pm, Thu 3 Sep 2026
1030 Victoria Street,
Hamilton

View by appointment
Josh Smith 027 229 8865
josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz

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Whangamata 105A Lindsay Road

Brand new units in Whangamata

- Secure a brand-new unit before completion
- High-spec industrial and commercial design
- Located in a tightly held industrial precinct

Construction is set to begin on Whangamata's newest industrial and commercial hub, offering the opportunity to secure a brand-new warehouse or commercial premises before completion. Designed for owner-occupiers and investors alike, these high-spec units will provide modern, functional space in a tightly held industrial location with limited future supply.

bayleys.co.nz/2202325

3,032_{sqm} 

For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty (unless sold prior)
4pm, Wed 9 Sep 2026
7 The Esplanade,
Whitianga

View by appointment
Josh Smith 027 229 8865
josh.smith@bayleys.co.nz

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Surf life saver selected for Black Fins

SURF LIFESAVING

By KELLEY TANTAU

Whangamatā Surf Life Saving Club athlete Madison Kidd is heading back to the world stage, having been selected in the 2026 Black Fins team for the Lifesaving World Championships in South Africa this December.

The 29-year-old has been selected for her fourth senior world championships, having represented New Zealand in 2018, 2022, and 2024. She also competed at the junior world championships in 2014.

Held every two years, the champs bring together hundreds of surf life saving athletes from around the world for five days of competition across pool, beach, and ocean events, and this year will take place in Port Elizabeth.

Madison has been part of the Whangamatā Surf Life Saving Club since she was seven, progressing from nippers to lifeguarding, and occasionally helping with coaching when she's back over summer.

"My parents wanted to make sure [me and my younger brothers] were all safe at the beach and around the water, so that's how it all started," she told *The Profile*.

"It's always very exciting getting selected to represent your country. Worlds in South Africa has been something I've had my eye on since 2024, so we've been working towards this for a while."

Madison said the world championships were a little different to what athletes would usually compete in at home, with three days of pool events followed by two days on the beach.

She is mainly a pool athlete, competing in events using manikins and rescue tubes and fins, as well as in individual races and relays.

Her main event is the 100m manikin tow



Whangamatā surf life saver Madison Kidd.
Photo: SUPPLIED

with fins, where she swims 50m with a rescue tube and fins, clips the tube on to a manikin, and then tows it 50m back.

On the beach, she competes in sprints, flags, and relays.

"Worlds is different to other events," she said. "We do an entire programme across the pool and the beach, whereas what you would usually see in New Zealand is winter focuses on pool events and summer focuses on beach events."

Madison currently holds two world records - one in the 100m manikin tow with fins, a record she has broken three times, and a mixed lifesaver relay record.

Last year, she became the first female

Black Fins captain for the European Pool Rescue Tour, and the New Zealand team also won the German Cup for the first time.

She has plenty coming up before December, including racing at the Australian Nationals in Adelaide, more competitions in New Zealand and a team camp, while keeping up her usual training in the pool, gym, and on the beach.

She said the chance to compete for New Zealand was something she would never take for granted.

"I've been doing surf for a long time and Worlds is always the pinnacle for us, so getting to race under the fern, representing your family, coaches, and friends, while getting to do it with all your mates is something I'll never take for granted."

Black Fins campaign lead Steve Kent said the team had earned its place at Worlds and was excited for the opportunity ahead.

"Representing New Zealand as a Black Fin is a huge honour, and recognition of years of hard work. We've got an incredibly talented team with a great mix of experience and emerging talent, and we're looking forward to seeing them take on the world's best later this year."

Unlike many domestic events that reward specialists, the World Championships required athletes who could perform across beach, ocean and pool events over an intense competition schedule, and Steve said the core challenge of Worlds was building a team that could perform across multiple events under pressure.

"With racing not until December, it's a long build-up. Even after the team is named, everyone knows things can shift, so we need to stay adaptable and prepared," he said.

"We're genuinely excited about this group and can't wait to see what they bring when we hit the start line."

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