

# The Valley Profile

Tertiary level education right here locally. All programmes NZQA approved.



Valley Education  
free courses • free transport

Call or text us **07 868 7892**  
**027 314 1577**

Talk to us about our Community Fund

The Diprose Miller Community Fund assists with funding for projects and events carried out by not-for-profit organisations and individuals in our local area.

Apply today.  
[diprosemiller.co.nz/community-fund/](http://diprosemiller.co.nz/community-fund/)



ENABLING BETTER BUSINESS

## World splash for Cayden



Cayden de Graaf, right, leaps into action to defend the ball.  
Photo: SUPPLIED

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

Cayden de Graaf never expected to represent New Zealand on the world stage, but that is exactly what he'll do next month when he heads to Malta for the 2024 Men's U16 World Water Polo Championships. "[I'm] still in shock this really happened," he said.

The 16-year-old Hauraki Plains College student has been selected for the New Zealand Under 16 Boys Team.

"I reckon it's gonna be an eye opener to me," Cayden said.

"It's going to show what I want to do and what pathway I want to go down."

The first couple of games

would be against the Netherlands, United States and Israel.

Cayden said he was preparing for the trip by fundraising and selling jackets online, and his family would provide catering for an upcoming sports event to help raise money too.

"Training of course" is another way he has been getting

ready. Cayden trains at his club for at least two hours every day after school, but there's a catch: it's in South Auckland at the Mountfort Park Water Polo Club.

When asked how he juggles school, training and sleep, Cayden said he tried his best to fit it all in.

"It's definitely a bit crazy at times. You end up doing a lot more school work at school, like you'll stay in at lunch and stuff to get it done. You've gotta do what it takes."

One motivator for Cayden was his love for the sport, and not letting his team down.

CONTINUED ON P2

## Zero to Hero – Recycle, Recycle



Rubbish without recycling is like throwing your trash directly into landfill ... that makes me see red! Well, it's a no brainer ... make the Smartest move, call the experts today, we know how to put things in their place.

Get your clean green bin for your business today.



Phone us today

**0800 4 MY BIN** (0800 469 246)

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



smart environmental

**Book this space:  
only  
\$50 + GST**  
Contact Nikki today!  
022 130 3885 | nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz



# Hauraki student prepares for international splash

CONTINUED FROM P1

“You have to keep going, you’ve got people relying on you - and I love doing it. Why stop?”

His team was “people you won’t forget” and friends for life, Cayden said.

But the “best part of it” for Cayden is the support from his community.

“It’s crazy. You’ve got your team there with you, you’ve got your family there with you,” he said.

“The club’s so friendly and there’s always people there willing to help, and they’re always there putting your name forward and doing the best they can for you and themselves.”

One way Cayden said he had grown was the fact he was more willing to take on any opportunity.

“It’s stuff like that that gets your name around and helps



Cayden de Graaf

you become a better player.”

“I never expected this. I was just playing the sport because I enjoyed it. It’s good fun.

“It’s taken me down a different path, that’s for sure.”

**DETAILS: To support Cayden’s fundraising efforts and purchase a jacket, head to: [facebook.com/lisamareedeg](http://facebook.com/lisamareedeg)**

## In Brief

### WILD WEATHER

Hundreds of homes in Thames were left without power on May 15 as wild weather and an unconfirmed tornado tore through the town around 9am. The Thames Volunteer Fire Brigade was called out several times before 10am, responding to a roof torn off, fallen trees and trees fallen on power lines. PowerCo’s online outage map showed 572 properties were affected by an unplanned outage about 8am, with power restored during the day. NIWA reported 600 lightning strikes along and just offshore the Coromandel Peninsula and Bay of Plenty between 8:30am and 9:30am.

### FOURTH FRIDAYS

Waihi Beach Village will hold its inaugural Fourth Fridays community event on May 24, from 3-7pm on Wilson Rd. The free event aims to infuse the village with a lively atmosphere on the fourth Friday of each month with live music, street food, a kids’ night market and late-night shopping.

### ALERT TESTING

The nationwide emergency mobile alert system is being tested on Sunday, May 26, between 6pm and 7pm. People across New Zealand with compatible mobile devices will receive an alert, as emergency agencies



Burst water main on Pollen St.

check the system is in working order. Ordinarily, these messages will be targeted to areas affected by serious hazards and are only sent when there is a serious threat to life, health or property.

### BURST WATER MAIN

A burst water main briefly drenched the frontage of the Fresho store on Pollen St, Thames, on Friday night. Sometime around 6:45pm, a leak sprouted from a hole in the footpath in front of the store, quickly growing until it was several-metres high. A passing police patrol quickly set up traffic diversions, and the main was repaired within a few hours.

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

**PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT:** Advertising Manager Nikki Sanders, Ph 022 130 3885, [nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz); Feature Writer Davidda Hikatangata, Ph 022 174 3988, [davidda@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:davidda@valleyprofile.co.nz).

**NEWS/EDITORIAL:** Managing Editor Teresa Ramsey, Ph 0204 0944 853, [editor@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:editor@valleyprofile.co.nz); Senior Reporter Kelley Tantau, Ph 022 619 4889, [kelly@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:kelly@valleyprofile.co.nz); Reporter Alice Parminter, Ph 022 527 0988, [alice@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:alice@valleyprofile.co.nz).

**LETTERS:** Send your letters to the editor: [editor@valleyprofile.co.nz](mailto:editor@valleyprofile.co.nz) or 2 Queen St, Paeroa, 3600. Letters must include full name and address, be 250 words or less and may be edited, abridged or rejected at editor’s discretion. **THE VALLEY PROFILE** is delivered weekly to every letterbox in the Hauraki Plains, Paeroa, Waihi, Thames, Thames Coast, plus bulk distribution peninsula-wide, with an estimated reach of 35,000 readers.

**OFFICE: 2 QUEEN ST, PAEROA Ph 07 862 7077 | ISSN 2703-5700**



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



# Marine

We are your local store for a wide range of marine products. For trailer boats, yachts and launches - we stock chandlery for new builds, maintenance and repairs.

## Scuba & Spearfishing

Get your gear “dive ready” - we service all dive gear and fill and test cylinders. We stock SCUBA and Spearfishing gear, wetsuits available to order.

# TradeZone

Thames

SEE US AT:

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

## Accountants

The Hauraki Taxation Service Limited

- Established 1982
- For out of town independent accounting advice
- Approved agents for Inland Revenue Department
- Offices in Thames & Coromandel Town



328 Pollen Street, Thames  
Ph/Fax: 07 868-9710

E: [thames@haurakitaxation.co.nz](mailto:thames@haurakitaxation.co.nz)

95 Kapanga Rd, Coromandel  
Ph/Fax: 07 866-8660

E: [coro@haurakitaxation.co.nz](mailto:coro@haurakitaxation.co.nz)

## Thames Tides

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
May 22	May 23	May 24	May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28
 Morning 6:03am 3.1 12:20pm 0.8 Afternoon 6:45pm 3.1 Sun 7:15am 5:14pm Best At 10:54am 11:17pm Set 5:37am Rise 4:05pm	 Morning 6:46am 3.1 1:02pm 0.7 Afternoon 7:26pm 3.2 Sun 7:16am 5:13pm Best At 11:42am Set 6:41am Rise 4:37pm	 Morning 7:29am 3.1 1:42pm 0.6 Afternoon 8:05pm 3.3 Sun 7:17am 5:13pm Best At 12:07am 12:34pm Full Moon Set 7:47am Rise 5:17pm	 Morning 8:12am 3.2 2:01am 0.7 Afternoon 8:45pm 3.4 Sun 7:17am 5:12pm Best At 1:01am 1:30pm Set 8:52am Rise 6:06pm	 Morning 8:57am 3.2 2:44am 0.7 Afternoon 9:27pm 3.4 Sun 7:18am 5:11pm Best At 1:59am 2:28pm Set 9:54am Rise 7:04pm	 Morning 9:43am 3.2 3:29am 0.7 Afternoon 10:11pm 3.4 Sun 7:19am 5:11pm Best At 2:58am 3:27pm Set 10:48am Rise 8:11pm	 Morning 10:30am 3.2 4:17am 0.7 Afternoon 10:59pm 3.4 Sun 7:20am 5:11pm Best At 3:56am 4:24pm Set 11:34am Rise 9:22pm

\*Not for navigational purposes. Graphic supplied by OceanFun Publishing Ltd. [www.tidewiz.com](http://www.tidewiz.com) [www.tidespy.com](http://www.tidespy.com) [www.ofu.co.nz](http://www.ofu.co.nz)

**MOON AND FISH KEYS**

New Moon First Quarter Full Moon Last Quarter

Good Fishing Fair Fishing Not So Good

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

PLACE	Hr	Mn	Hr	LOW
Coromandel	-0	04	-0	04
Whitianga	-0	01	-0	05
Tairua	+0	11	+0	21
Whangamata	-0	02	-0	05
Waihi Beach	-0	11	-0	12

# District needs 'fair share' of pokies fund

By KELLEY TANTAU, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

Gaming machines cashed in close to \$6 million in the Hauraki district last year, but only \$700,000 of that came back into the community in the form of funding grants.

And while relying on pokie machine profits was never ideal, it was important that the local community was benefitting fair and square, the district's Mayor said.

According to Hauraki District Council's community advocacy officer Lyn Randall, in the year leading up to December, 2023, gaming machine profits in the area were \$5.99m.

With gaming organisations pledging to reinvest around 40 per cent of these profits back into the community, there was "a golden opportunity" for local community groups, clubs, and educational facilities to tap into the funding stream, she said.

However, despite the potential windfall, it appeared that the district was not fully capitalising on the available funds, with only around \$700,000 successfully granted to groups in the Hauraki.

Upon reaching out to the gaming organisations, Lyn said it was evident the issue was not with the ineligibility of projects, but rather in the lack of applications from the district.

In council's gambling policy, last adopted in 2020, it stated that the maximum number of gaming machines allowed within the Hauraki district was not allowed to exceed

69. Council also pledged to restrict the growth of gambling by capping the number of class 4 venues in the district, and further reduce harm associated with problem gambling by eventually restricting the number of machines in the Hauraki to meet the national average of people per machine.

District Mayor Toby Adams said the policy would be updated later this year, with council going out for feedback.

He said while it was "not ideal" to utilise profits from a form of gaming that could cause harm to its participants, there was no "win-win or wrong-wrong".

"There are people who can gamble and do it for the pure enjoyment of it and who can afford to do it, and there are people who can't, and that's the same with anything... so there's no win-win or wrong-wrong," he said.

"It's not ideal, but it is how a lot of clubs bankroll their organisations these days - through funding applications - and a lot of those funding applications are due to gaming trusts."

He said this was why it was important the Hauraki received its fair share back, stating that funding would go further if given to local groups, rather than those Waikato-wide.

**DETAILS: Contact Lyn Randall about applying to gaming trusts or other funding opportunities in the Hauraki area: lyn.randall@hauraki-dc.govt.nz.**



Hauraki muso Davidda's new song *Giving in Slowly* is out now. Photo: DAVE MIDDLETON

# Paeroa songwriter releases new song

*Giving in Slowly* is the latest song release from Hauraki-based songwriter and music maker, Davidda Hikatangata.

"It kind of feels like a lullaby, which sits perfectly as it was prompted by my new niece's awaited arrival," she said.

"It embraces the tenderness and vulnerability of new beginnings," she said.

The 32-year-old Paeroa muso and *Valley Profile* feature writer wrote the track in 2022 with singer-songwriter, producer, and "all round musical wizard" Anna Coddington after the pair received

funding from a NZ On Air Music development programme to record some demos, Davidda said.

"*Giving in Slowly* was the third track to come out of those sessions, and was definitely the gentlest of the lot.

"We experimented with pop for one track, funk for the next, indie rock for one waiting in the vault to be released, and then this softer, folksy feel for *Giving in Slowly*," she said.




It only took them a few hours to write and record the bones of the song in Anna's home studio, The Attic, and then one more day in Jol

Mulholland's studio, The Oven, to record a few more instruments.







"We talked about that vulnerable feeling when you finally let people in - then tipped those feelings out into the song."

*Giving in Slowly* included contributions from a "handful of wonderful musical geniuses", Davidda said: Jol Mulholland, Mike Hall, Steph Brown, Fen Ikner, Kristian Bennett, and Chris Chetland.

**DETAILS: The song is available to stream in all the regular spots like Spotify, Apple Music, YouTube, and is available for purchase at Davidda.bandcamp.com.**

**Trade Qualified | Licenced Builders | Licenced Designer On Site**

- Houses
- Garages
- Farm Sheds

- Commercial
- Garage Doors
- Auto Openers

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

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

## Shorter days, BIGGER DEALS.

50% off selected Sleepyhead.

2 years interest free\*

\*On in-store purchases \$999 & over till 28.05.24.





BAXTERS

FURNITURE & BEDS R US

205 SEALEY ST, THAMES | PH 07 868 6128

Offer valid to 28.05.24 on white stock. Discount offers apply to selected beds and bedding only. Prices are marked. Offer excludes temporary price rises. See website for details. Offer subject to change without notice. All products are advertised in good faith and will be available, except in circumstances beyond our control. Product ranges vary between stores and some products are available in selected stores only. \*24 months interest free is available on Long Term Finance (LTF) for store purchases \$999 & over until 28.05.24. Offer excludes Everyday Finance, Finance, Leases, Finance, Finance and not to be used in conjunction with any other offer, including Finance. \$20 annual account fee. New \$400 applies. \$200 credit limit. For details on your credit limit, see website. \$200 credit limit applies to all products. Max repayment of 20% of the monthly closing balance to \$100 (maximum \$5000) per month. Repayment of the monthly closing balance will not repay the loan before the end of the interest free period. Standard Interest Rate of 25.20% p.a. applies to outstanding balance at the end of LTF Interest Free Period. Rates and fees subject to change. Customer Financial Services Limited and Consumer Finance Limited retain the right to amend, suspend or terminate the offer and these T&Cs at any time without notice.

# Education

ADVERTISING FEATURE

## Thames High volunteer leads by example

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

Ari-Ella Reed is no stranger when it comes to volunteer work.

The Thames High School year-13 student has been immersed in volunteering for several years. Therefore, it's no surprise the 17-year-old was awarded the \$1000 Zonta Young Women in Public Affairs Award for the Thames Valley on April 12.

But that's not all, it is the first time someone has won the award in the Thames Valley. Zonta is an international organisation that is dedicated to building a better world for women and girls, and the scholarship recognises young women who demonstrate leadership skills and commitment to public service.

Thames High careers advisor Leanne Ardern said she nominated Ari for the Zonta award as she was already a seasoned volunteer who was keen to get other students involved. "Volunteering is a passion for Ari and she has managed to pass this passion on to other students," she said.

Ari, alongside fellow student Caitlin Jones, will be facilitating a new group that Mrs Ardern has created at the



Thames High School student Ari-Ella Reed is an advocate for volunteering.

Photo: DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

school called the Student Volunteer Army, or SVA, as a way of encouraging other students to volunteer in the community, Mrs Ardern said.

Ari told *The Profile* the award made her feel like all the hard work she had done was worth something.

"It's for all the volunteer work

that I was doing, as well as other achievements."

With a goal to get into the University of Waikato next year, Ari said her scholarship would go towards nursing school.

Volunteering efforts for Ari included international work in Peru, event work through the

Thames Business Association, and also supporting a Thames resident who is blind with tasks like grocery shopping, going for walks and household cleaning.

Harvesting maca - a plant that "looks like a radish" and has health benefits, is what took Ari, her mum and brother to Peru when she was just

12-years-old, Ari said.

Ari's Mum manages an organic store that sells maca, and was invited to Peru by the suppliers who head over and help harvest it every year. "We went into the fields and they showed us how to do it," Ari said.

Ari was also involved with events in her community such as the Santa parade and Wings and Wheels.

"There's so much work that goes into planning them."

Ari said she helped to promote Wings and Wheels by handing out fliers to shops.

On the day she directed cars, helped with the lost children and assisted people with payments as they went through the gate.

But the most important thing Ari said she learnt about community work was just how much time and energy everything needed.

"I get to see how much work people put into running those sort[s] of events."

Ari's advice for other students interested in volunteering in the community is to just get out there.

"Just get involved. It's not hard to find volunteer work, especially in Thames.

"Everyone needs volunteers."

Te Kura Tuarua o Te Kauaeranga  
Thames High School



Kia kōtahi ai te piki ake, kia ikeike rawa ki te taumata  
We grow together to achieve ones true potential

### CELEBRATING SUCCESS



#### 20 year first: Zonta Scholarship

Ari Reed (Year 13), is the proud recipient of the Thames Valley/Coromandel Zonta Young Women in Public Affairs Scholarship, acknowledging her exceptional leadership skills and dedication to public service and civic causes. Ari's extensive volunteering with the Thames Business Association caught the attention of Careers Advisor Leanne Ardern, who believed she was an ideal candidate for this prestigious opportunity.

A celebratory dinner at Gastronomics Restaurant marked the presentation of the award to Ari, making her the first recipient in 20 years. She plans to use the scholarship funds to support her university journey.

**Congratulations to Ari on this well-deserved achievement!**



#### Cross Country

Congratulations to all the students who took part in our school's cross-country event on Wednesday 1 May. This year 100 competitive runners entered, in addition to the whole school participating in the non-competitive event.

Top achievements:

**Senior Girls Champion**

Nane Becker (Year 13)

**Senior Boy Champion**

Austin Court (Year 12)

**Intermediate Girls Champion**

Jess Rendall (Year 11)

**Intermediate Boys Champion**

Lorenzo Yamamoto (Year 11)

**Junior Girls Champion**

Chloe Booth (Year 9)

**Junior Boys Champion**

Luca Yamamoto (Year 9)

Good luck to our representatives competing at the upcoming Thames Valley Cross Country Championships on Wednesday 28 May in Mangatarata.



#### Caving Credits Earned

On Tuesday 30 April, students in Year 12 undertook black water caving as part of their Level 2 credits in Outdoor Education with the Legendary Black Water Rafting Company at Waitomo Caves.

Despite initial apprehension, all participants completed the hour-long journey, pushing their comfort zones and building resilience.

Navigating the dark, confined space for the first time, students learned about their capabilities and supported each other throughout demonstrating Manaakitanga tikanga / everyone matters.

Instructors praised their positive attitudes and conduct during this challenging yet rewarding experience.



#### Rockquest

Thames High School's band "Hazy & the Jays" rocked the stage at the Smokefree Rockquest Competition on Sunday 12 May, competing against Hamilton schools.

Lead vocalist and Year 12 Arts & Culture Student Leader, Izzy Fitzsimmons, along with Manukura Student Leader Harris Elliot-Hogg (Year 12) on guitar, Jacob Rush (Year 13) on bass, and Jacob Wenhold (Year 13) on drums, showcased their original song titled "History."

Their standout performance earned them a spot among the 12 finalists out of 28 bands selected to advance to the Waikato Regionals on Saturday 22 June. Congratulations on this achievement!

# Thames cinema build enters 'final chapter'

By KELLEY TANTAU, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

The building that will house Thames' only cinema following the closure of The Embassy in 2021 is looking more and more like a hub for film buffs.

David Mulholland has spent the past eight months sound-proofing, constructing seating, and installing ventilation and air conditioning inside what will be called the 'Left Bank Theatre' - named for its position next to Karaka Stream on Pollen St.

While there is still work to be done before the doors can open to movie enthusiasts of all ages, David said the cinema was now entering the "final chapter of the build process".

"I'm very motivated," he told *The Profile*. "No one wants it open more than me."

As well as what you can see - the colourful foyer, the makings of a kitchen and bar area, and an eye-catching mural designed by local artist Kylie Gunn - a lot of heart has been put into things out of sight, such as a state-of-the-art sound system, a projector set-up, and accessible bathrooms out the back.

Putting effort into these things had led David to develop a "much higher quality cinema" than what he originally



David Mulholland has put time, heart, and soul into bringing a cinema experience back to Thames.

Photo: KELLEY TANTAU

set out to create, he said.

"The building work began on September 27 last year and around 23 different businesses have worked on the building or business... It has cost a lot more

than anticipated, and was much more technical than I anticipated, [but there's] been a huge amount of interest, including for organised group events and outings - the demand for the

cinema is clear."

Once completed - hopefully before the end of the year, David said - the theatre will be a 30-seat cinema able to show the very latest films as well as

older classics.

There are plans to have a liquor licence in place and a film club established for those interested in foreign flicks.

David would also like to host live events at Left Bank from time to time.

"I would like it to be very comfortable, but informal," he said.

He has secured armchairs or sofas for the cinema's seating tiers. David also wanted to thank the tradespeople and everymen who have assisted throughout the build.

"Thank you to the people who have offered to volunteer to help get things done," he said.

"Those offers have been very much appreciated, but I've found with two or three people working and moving around a lot in the building at any one time, it's just too difficult to add more."

And while there will be a phase after the build is completed for council sign-off, David ensured the community the theatre was on the right track.

"Rome was not built in a day," he said, "and a quality building takes time."

**DETAILS: David can be contacted by email [david@leftbanktheatre.co.nz](mailto:david@leftbanktheatre.co.nz).**



**SUPERPRICE FURNITURE**  
*Where the price is always right*

## Lifestyle Bed Sale

From **\$1,899\***



### Adjustable Bed's Health Benefits

- Healthy Posture •
- Improves Blood Circulation •
- Eases Breathability •
- Reduces Snoring, Swelling •
- and Muscle Pain
- Say Goodbye to Back Pain •

\*\$1899 price advertised for Long Single M5 base with S2 Long Single Mattress

\*Available in other sizes and configurations (inquire in-store)

\*T's & C's Apply

Free Delivery Thames & Coromandel Peninsula

mazon

**SUPERPRICE BED SHOP 543 POLLEN STREET**  
**PH 07 211 9307 • [www.superpricefurniture.co.nz](http://www.superpricefurniture.co.nz)**  
**Mon to Fri 9.30am till 5.00pm : Sat 9.30am till 3.00pm**

Interest free deals available with Finance Now & Q Card (T&C's apply) \*Selected models (T&C's apply)

# Teen drowns in flooded Ohinemuri River



As part of a Valley Profile series, **MEGHAN HAWKES** explores our local history by seeking out stories of life and death in the Thames Valley

## PART ONE

"The water is lovely", 13-year-old Christina Pool remarked to her two friends, Edith and Rowena, as they walked home from school at Karangahake on an early April afternoon in 1924.

Christina had already approached the Ohinemuri River twice - once near the stables and again near the Catholic Church, where May O'Neil joined the group. Her friends called Christina back. The river was in flood, and before they left school the master had warned them to keep away from the water. But Christina returned to the river and stood on a stone on the dry land close to the edge. Suddenly the bank gave way and Christina, wearing a grey overcoat and carrying a heavy school bag full of books over her shoulder, fell into the river. She caught hold of a willow branch with one hand, but her glasses fell off and she let go the willow to save them and was quickly carried away by the current. As soon as the alarm was given everyone available did all that was possible to rescue her but



The scene where Christina (inset) was drowned.  
Photo: SUPPLIED

owing to the flooded state of the river all effort was fruitless. A gallant attempt was even made by young May O'Neil, but without success.

Christina was the daughter of Hiramena Patton and stepdaughter of John Patton. She was affectionately known as Dolly or Dottie within the family. Her father, Hugh Pool, a miner from Australia, had died in 1918 at Waihi Hospital after several years of ill health brought on by working in mines.

The family moved between the King Country and Karangahake as his health fluctuated. Hiramena and Hugh had four children but tragically, the year before his death, one daughter had died aged three. Another daughter was born the year he died. In 1922 Hiramena remarried but now tragedy struck

again. Four days after Christina was swept away, a meeting was held to organise a thorough search of the river. The next day Christina was found in a river bend at the foot of Turner's Hill on the Mackaytown side. Included in the plans of the search had been the building of a raft from which to drag the numerous deep holes in the river. This had been constructed at the railway bridge, and had been used for about two hours when work was received that the body had been recovered. Dragging operations ceased immediately, and it was decided to return the raft to the southern side of the river for dismantling.

Harry Morris and James Whitting endeavoured to pole the raft upstream to make use of the current in crossing, but this didn't

work. Harry got off the raft, tied a rope round himself and made an attempt to swim across, Thomas Turnbull and Richard Hungerford letting out the rope. Harry's aim was to get a heavier rope once he got across to the other side to tow the raft back over with. Harry had not gone far when he felt the rope dragging and called to those on the raft to pay out more line. This they did but the more line they let out the heavier the drag. Finally Harry shouted to them to let the rope go altogether.

Thomas and James poled the raft down the river in an attempt to help Harry but it capsized, and they too were left struggling in the deadly rush of water.

*To be continued in next week's Valley Profile*

## Chris' Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter

1. Michael Jordan has won how many NBA championships?
2. From its opening in 1964 until the construction of the Waterview Tunnels in 2017, what was New Zealand's longest road tunnel?
3. In the movie E.T the Extra Terrestrial, who played Gertie, the little sister of Michael?
4. When do adult teeth start to form in humans?
5. There are five species of mammals that lay eggs. Four are echidnas; what is the fifth commonly known as?
6. What do the letters in NASA stand for?
7. Raw silk fabric as used by humans is produced by a.) insect larvae, b.) plants, c.) spiders?
8. The word 'plate' was coined by the Greek philosopher Plato - True or False?
9. Genghis Khan, founder of the Mongol Empire, was born in which present day country?
10. From the 1970s until the late 2000s, in which Hauraki Plains town was Wilderness Gems located?



Answers: 1. Six; 2. Lyttelton Road tunnel; 3. Drew Barrymore; 4. Before birth; 5. Platypus; 6. National Aeronautics and Space Administration; 7. a.) insect larvae - known as silkworms; 8. False, but they do both come from the same Greek root word - platos; 9. Mongolia; 10. Ngatea.

### Hydraulink Thames

### 24/7 MOBILE SERVICE

See us for all your hose repairs

- Hydraulic hose & fittings
- Breakdown services 24/7
- Industrial hoses
- Lubricants & Oils
- Ram repairs & servicing
- General Engineering

Ph 07 868 5435      100% NZ OWNED      14C Kopu Road  
0274 990 924      Kopu, Thames

## Best under pressure

## Cowsheds, Feedpads, Bunker Roofs

Call us to arrange a visit to discuss your needs  
*Now is the Time to Plan*

HOME PASSENGER ELEVATORS • GENERAL ENGINEERING • TRACTOR FORKLIFTS

45 Reta Crescent, Kerepehi

Phone (07) 867-6712      Mobile (0274) 944-948  
www.quinn.co.nz      Email: info@quinn.co.nz

### Throws for cold

### Merino (1.85 m x 1.4 m)

### 100% Wool (2m x 1.4m)

- Handbags & Accessories
- Possum Merino Gloves
- Alpaca and mohair throws
- Cushions
- Wall Art
- MM Linen 100% cotton bedspreads
- Jewellery
- Loyalty Cards
- Gold Card Discounts

## Lynn's

500 Pollen St, Thames - 868 8725

## Thames Valley Club Rugby

### SENIOR B      Saturday May 25th

<b>Te Aroha COBRAS</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Waihou</b>
<b>Hauraki North</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Whangamata</b>
<b>Ngatea</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Thames</b>
<b>Mercury Bay</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Coromandel</b>

**Waihi - Bye**

All games start at 12.25pm (unless stated)  
Teams named first indicate home team

# Survivor: 'It's a way we can help save women'

A breast cancer survivor from Tairua is encouraging others in Hauraki-Coromandel to get behind Pink Ribbon Breakfast this May.

Ann Paget was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2020 at the age of 67. The only indication something was wrong was an inverted nipple, which she got checked out by a GP.

She didn't have any other symptoms like a lump or pain. A mammogram and ultrasound confirmed Ann had breast cancer and she had a lumpectomy then radiation treatment.

"I knew about lumps being a sign of breast cancer but never knew an inverted nipple could be one too," Ann said.

"It was very fortunate I acted quickly when I noticed it because it reduced the impact – the cancer had not spread and I could avoid chemotherapy."

Ann is doing really well now and having lived in Tairua for a year and met new friends, she'll be hosting a Pink Ribbon Breakfast at her home to bring the community together and raise funds and awareness for Breast Cancer Foundation NZ.

"It's a nice social way for women of different ages to get together and raise money for a needy cause. Breast cancer affects so many women and their families, and it saddens me to see more and more younger women are being diagnosed,



Ann Paget with her daughters and grandsons.

Photos: SUPPLIED

affecting their ability to carry on working or seeing their children grow up. Hosting a Pink Ribbon Breakfast is a way we can help to save these women.

"My story shows that if you get diagnosed early, you can survive. Go for your mammograms and keep an eye out for changes in your body because they could save your life. A friend who had a double mas-

tectomy said it could've been fatal for me if I'd left it for a few months," she said.

Pink Ribbon Breakfast is Breast Cancer Foundation NZ's largest annual fundraiser, where tens of thousands of Kiwis host special events throughout May in their homes, workplaces and communities. The money raised goes towards the charity's life-saving work in

education, research, advocacy and patient support.

This year, Ann is holding an evening event at her home on May 24 from 4-6pm which will involve pink beverages, nibbles, quizzes and games. Please contact Ann on [annrolphsmith@gmail.com](mailto:annrolphsmith@gmail.com) if you are interested in attending.

The Foundation's chief executive, Ah-Leen Rayner, said



Ann Paget with her husband, Michael.

every Pink Ribbon Breakfast made a huge difference: "Our vision is to see zero deaths from breast cancer and it's only thanks to wonderful fundraisers like Ann that we can work towards this ambitious goal.

"Breast cancer takes the lives of too many of our women – around 650 across New Zealand every year.

"Hosting a Pink Ribbon Breakfast is a way people in the Waikato can help to change this, and we'd love for more kind-hearted Kiwis to sign up."

**DETAILS: For more information and to register to host a Pink Ribbon Breakfast, visit [pinkribbon-breakfast.co.nz](http://pinkribbon-breakfast.co.nz).**

## Thames Autos



A Division of Takarini Motors Ltd

R.M.V.T.



**HOME DEMONSTRATIONS AND DELIVERIES AVAILABLE**



**WE CAN COME TO YOU**

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

**2017 Nissan Qashqai Ti**  
Top Line Model, Low 42km  
**SPECIAL**



**NOW \$24,990**

**2008 Mercedes Benz E300**  
Auto, Top Spec, Low Kms  
**ARRIVING**



**\$Enquire**

**2010 Toyota Aurion**  
V6 Auto, NZ New, Top Range Model



**NOW \$10,990**

**2012 Mazda Atenza**  
2.5Ltr Auto



**\$11,990**

**2008 Toyota Vitz**  
Auto, 73kms, Economy Plus



**\$7,990**

**2014 Mitsubishi Lancer GSR**  
2.0Ltr Auto, Alloys, Spoiler, Body Kit



**ONLY \$8,990**

**2012 Nissan Lafesta**  
2Lt Auto, 7 Seat



**\$10,990**

**2011 Holden Captiva**  
V6 Auto, AWD, 7 Seat, Top Spec & Condition



**\$9,990**

### LEYLAND STOWE

Mob: 027 355 5152 Ph: 07 868 8981

or 0800 868 898

609 Pollen St, Thames RMVT  
[thamesautos@xtra.co.nz](mailto:thamesautos@xtra.co.nz)



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

# Skipping sensations

Pārāwai School students donned pink and house colours on May 17 for a fundraising skipathon. The 230 students spent the day on the court, jumping, leaping and bouncing with all sorts of fancy steps. Teachers took up a rope too, and even the local police force stopped by for a jump. More than \$5000 was raised towards a new bike and scooter track for the school. Principal Jordan Palfrey said he was pleased to see everyone enjoying being active, and hoped the eventual bike track would continue to encourage active movement among the kids. "It's to keep students active at school all year round," he said. "They're playing the whole time, they're actually getting fit as - [the kids] are loving it. They just lose themselves in it." Reporter ALICE PARMINTER skipped along to join in the fun.



High knees and trick jumps are the aim for this group of students.



Katelyn Ouck skips as Elsha Machado holds the rope.

Photos: ALICE PARMINTER



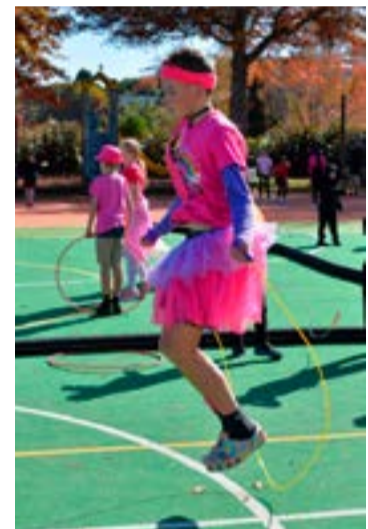
Students skip in a variety of combinations, with many competing to see how many jumpers they could get at one time.



Braxton Griffin is mid-flight with a single jump.



Shaylee Davy feels the adrenaline.



Zander Curnow speed-skips without dropping concentration.



Colourful costumes and bright sunshine make the school vibrant.



Sisters Lydia and Alannah Leach jump together.



Devon Smith finds a shady spot for his skipping.



## EYE STRAIN

Do you have any of the following symptoms when using a computer?

- Tired eyes • Headaches
- Fatigue • Light sensitivity
- Blurred vision

Time for a visual examination

Visique O'Hagan Vision Care

Willoughby Street, Paeroa

07 862 8978



## Paeroa Auto Electrical

- Auto Air Conditioning
- Latest Diagnostic Tools for your European Car
- Range of Batteries for Cars, Trucks, Tractors, RVs and more
- On Farm Auto Electrical Service

Ph: 07 862 8565 Email: unipoint@xtra.co.nz  
3 Belmont Road Paeroa





# Community groups ask for funding help

By KELLEY TANTAU, Public Interest Journalism funded by NZ On Air

The morning of Hauraki District Council's Long Term Plan hearings consisted of community groups and organisations from around the rohe pitching their case for funding.

The first wave of seven submitters inside the council chambers on May 14 altogether requested financial support of \$199,500 for the first three years of the LTP, set to be adopted at the end of June.

The Waihi Community Resource Centre, an incorporated society which has provided services to the community since 1986, asked to be considered for a regular funding contribution over the next three years to the amount of \$15,000 per year [\$45,000 total].

The Waihi Arts Centre and Museum - the building of which requires seismic strengthening - asked for funding of \$10,000 per year [\$30,000 in total].

The Paeroa and District Historical Society asked for \$6500 per year [\$19,500 in total], while The Life Education Trust Waikato East requested council fund its service for a further three years to the amount of \$20,000 per year [\$60,000 total].

Citizens Advice Bureau Hamilton asked council to consider funding the Hauraki branch for a further three years to the amount of \$10,000 per annum [\$30,000 total], and the Hauraki Plains Community Hub requested \$5000 per year over three years for \$15,000 in total.

Meanwhile, the Coromandel Heritage Trust - which operates the Treasury Research Centre and Archive in Thames - sought a "significantly increased" annual financial contribution from both Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel district councils.

Its submission stated the trust would need to source additional funding of \$493,286 per year to maintain the services it delivered prior to its temporary closure late last year. If it instead provided a cut in services, the trust would require \$234,888 per year.

Submitters for the archive asked that Hauraki District Council consider either completely transferring the research centre over to Thames' council, or consider a significantly increased financial contribution in collaboration with TCDC.

Alex Quinn and Luke van Vliet, speaking on behalf of the Hauraki Plains Community Hub - which has 18 member clubs - said the hub was starting to gain traction and asked for further funding to grow the organisation "for the benefit of our wider community".

"We will continue to pursue funding avenues on behalf of our members," Alex said. "[Because] we believe if we don't fund these great areas in our communities, we're going to be handing the problem down to future generations."

Council's Long Term Plan will be adopted by the end of June, following deliberations.



## SPORTS



The Maramarua senior mens' hockey team is all set for their first season in the Valley Competition. Photo: SUPPLIED

# Sticks ready for newest hockey team

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

Meet the newest team on the turf in Thames Valley's winter hockey competition.

The newly-formed Maramarua senior mens' team has joined the fray, as a "bunch of mates" from the area who decided to have a go.

The team's informal managers, brothers Harry and Tommy Ratcliffe, created the club after enjoying the summer hockey league. Eighteen

players were brought on board from Maramarua, Mangatangi, and surrounds, and Harry said they were a good mix of former representative hockey players and newcomers to the sport.

"Everyone's loving it. It's good fun, it's also a good time to catch up with your mates as well," Harry said.

"We just really enjoyed [the summer league], so we thought why not make a team in the Thames Valley comp on a Monday night?"

The team has had plenty of support from the local community so far, Harry said, with businesses sponsoring the team and the Maramarua Rugby Club assisting with the necessary paperwork and club space. Now the team is looking forward to tackling the rest of the season; and with two wins under their belts from the first two games it's already looking good.



### ADVERTISEMENT

**ADOPTION IS LOVE** is initiating a monthly discussion forum, **LIFE MATTERS WITH BENNY**, fostering the exchange of ideas and perspectives — a reflection of a free society. Our focus encompasses various topics such as open adoption, adoption reforms, abortion, mental health, infertility, family life, and free speech.

Join the conversation by sharing your thoughts. Feel free to email Benny, a lawyer with a background in Family Law and founder of **ADOPTION IS LOVE** at [info@adoptionislove.org.nz](mailto:info@adoptionislove.org.nz)

## LIFE MATTERS WITH BENNY

From our **ADOPTION IS LOVE** Facebook page, Benny received this comment:

*"Do men suffer from abortion of their unborn child?" E*

Hi E, Abortion has long been considered a woman's issue, but the effect of abortion on men is now coming to light, and there is a growing body of research. While some men are relieved at forgoing the responsibility of fatherhood at an inopportune time, research shows that 90% of men consider the day of their baby's abortion one of the worst days of their lives, and some have long lasting emotional affects, often damaging their relationship with their partner. Why do some dads suffer so much? It's partly because they're hard-wired to protect and care for their children. And on a gut level, these men know they have violated the moral law. A law that says it's wrong to kill. They recognize that they behaved in a less than manly way by doing nothing while their child's mother aborted their baby—or worse, by coercing the child's mother and paying the abortionist.<sup>1</sup>

One local counselor noticed a normally mild mannered young man throwing chairs at his college and found out he was reacting to learning his girlfriend had gotten an abortion without her parents' or his knowledge.

Love always,

*Benny*

What are your thoughts or experiences on the issue of men and abortion? Please email them to Benny at [info@adoptionislove.org.nz](mailto:info@adoptionislove.org.nz)

1: Fatherhood Lost: How Abortion Affects Men, Eric Metaxas. The Alliance for Post Abortion Research and Training (APART) fact sheet. [www.standapart.org/fact-sheets](http://www.standapart.org/fact-sheets). [www.silentnomoreawareness.org/shockwaves/june](http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org/shockwaves/june).



**ADOPTION IS LOVE**  
[www.adoptionislove.org.nz](http://www.adoptionislove.org.nz)  
[info@adoptionislove.org.nz](mailto:info@adoptionislove.org.nz)  
 027 490 7689



THROW A LEG OVER A LEGEND  
**YAMAHA**  
**KODIAK 450**



SAVE \$491\*\*  
**NOW \$14,595**  
 RIDE AWAY

MAKE SMART CHOICES

- ZERO DEPOSIT
- ZERO REPAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS
- 5.95% P.A. FIXED RATE\*
- 3 YEAR FULL FACTORY WARRANTY<sup>^</sup>

FINANCE AND SAVINGS OFFER AVAILABLE FROM 12 FEBRUARY 2024 TO 31 JULY 2024.

FIND OUT MORE



Terms and conditions apply. \*\*Advertised savings on RRP ex GST: \$612,833 on AG125, \$817,117 on YM450FB, \$491,109 on YM450FBP. Available through participating authorised Yamaha Motorcycle dealers while stocks last and warranty registered on or before the 31/07/24. \*Finance Disclaimer: Zero deposit and annual repayments only available to commercial applicants with a NZBN registered for a minimum of 1 year. First repayment due after 12 months and 5.95% p.a. fixed interest rate on a 24 or 36 month loan term. Available on AG125, AG200, TR120, YM450FB, YM450FBP, YM700FB, YM700FBP, YM700AP, YM700AP, YM700APSE, YM700APSE, YK1200, YK1200SE, YK1200SP, YK1200SPSE, YK1200SPSE, YK1200SPSE, YK1200SPSE. Offer available from 12 February 2024 to 31 July 2024. Credit criteria, fees, charges and conditions apply including an establishment fee of \$325, \$8.05 PPSR fee and a dealer administration fee. Not in conjunction with any other offer. Finance to approved applicants by Yamaha Motor Finance New Zealand Ltd. NZBN 9429036270798 FSP 9622. \*Warranty cover is subject to a range of requirements including following the service schedule. ^ applicable vehicle build/weight limits. Service intervals are dependent on usage and environmental factors. Government fees and charges may apply.

## Central Motors

Hauraki Ltd

60 Orchard Rd, Ngatea • 867 7524

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

Andrew - 027 285 0349 • John - 027 279 6799

SPORTS

# Golden girls to take on the world in Hawaii

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

For Waihi Beach woman Suegnet Toweel, being on the water is a meditative experience; a place where she leaves everything behind and focuses on the now.

“It feeds the soul,” she said. “When you’ve had a hectic day at work, you can take a breath, hop on the waka and you go.”

Come August 13 though, the water will also be a place of intense concentration, precision, and determination, as she and five fellow paddlers head to Hilo, Hawaii, for the 2024 IVF Va’a World Elite and Club Sprint Championships.

The six women - Suegnet, Jayne Magowan, Merrin Sutherland, Sharon Rose Stone, Vicki Farr and Gillian Tata-Henry, along with former teammate Verity Thom - form the core of Whaitere Gold, a 60s+ waka ama team based at the Hauraki Waka Ama club.

“One of our girls is unable to go to Worlds. But Verity was a big part of getting us to nationals, because she stuck with us,” she said.

“This crew in particular, we’ve trained together for a number of years. You know, it’s quite a challenging thing to pull six women together of totally different personalities and back-



Whaitere Gold will take on the World Sprint Championships in Hawaii.

Photo: SUPPLIED

grounds, and then learn to work together as a team and trust each other and rely on each other.

“We always say that timing is everything. And when you do stay in time and you all work as one, it’s an incredible feeling because the waka picks up and it glides, and you can just feel everyone synced.”

Whaitere Gold will be competing in two events at Worlds: the V6 1000 and V6 500.

“The 1000-metre turn race... you do four 250-metre sprints, and then you turn around the buoy at the end of each one.

“It’s very hard and fast, and it’s very precise. You’ve got three or four different ways that you

could get disqualified - there’s a lot of skill involved,” Seugnet said.

“And then there’s a 500-metre sprint, which is just a straight race.”

Now, the race is on to prepare the team, with training, training and more training. Two times a week they travel from as

far afield as Turua and Mount Maunganui to practice together on the water at the Waihi Beach clubrooms; the rest of the week is spent in various forms of land-based training.

“We all do circuit training, in-gym training, I do boxing,” she said.

“[And] we have been fundraising fiercely, raffles and market stalls. Because it does add up to a big cost - we have an international coach who comes and trains us for a weekend or two, there’s uniforms, there’s all sorts of things.”

And while they would love to at least make it to the finals, Seugnet said the main draw of the event was the sport itself.

“When I first started, it definitely was so out of my comfort zone. I grew up a thousand miles from water,” Seugnet said.

“That’s the beauty with waka, is that it actually opens up doors. And you don’t have to be this fit, strong, confident person - it is a sport that is quite open to any age group, any physical ability, any gender. I think that makes it a very attractive sport.”

**DETAILS: Visit ‘Whaitere Gold’ Waka Ama Crew - Journey to IVF World Sprint Championship on Facebook to find out more.**



**AVAILABLE NOW**

- 2 bedroom Apartment on Level 2
  - Two Bedroom Villas
- ENQUIRE TODAY!**

**STAGE 1 IS NOW COMPLETE**

**ENQUIRIES FOR STAGE 2 ARE WELCOME!**

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

Our open plan, single level apartments feature covered balconies with fantastic views of the sea, Kauaeranga River and mountains.

Each unit’s elegantly finished kitchen, lounge, bedroom and bathroom offer stylish warmth and light.

All residents enjoy scenic views from each level’s shared lounges, use of the Village Community Lodge and participation in all activities and amenities at your leisure.

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



*Living the lifestyle, loving the choice...*

**A lifestyle village in Thames on the Coromandel**

82 Richmond St, Thames

0800 868 5484

www.richmondvillas.co.nz



# Rural Life

## ‘Sharing the knowledge’ at water analysis meeting

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

A catchment management group is hoping a public meeting, to be held at Mangatangi Hall on May 29, will mark the beginning of a shared repository of knowledge for its farmers.

The Mangatangi and Maramarua Catchment group, formed in 2021, is based in a 200-square kilometre sub-catchment to the south of the Hunua Ranges. The catchment feeds into the Whangamarino Wetlands and Waikato River.

“We originally set up [the group] to try and not be overwhelmed by all the regulations that were coming farmers’ way,” chairman Will Murphy said.

“By understanding all of the issues, it just means we’re more able to tackle it, not be overwhelmed by it.”

The group has spent the past year collecting data from 12 locations in the catchment, with the help of a three-year funding grant from the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Data collected at the sites looked at five indicators of freshwater health: habitat; flow; wildlife; energy and nutrient dynamics; and water quality. Measurements were taken quarterly, and included water clarity; levels of phosphorus, nitrogen and e-coli; and water temperature. Eight of the sites were also screened for eDNA, picking up tiny fragments of DNA in the water to provide

information on flora and fauna at the sample site.

The data will be shared and analysed at the meeting, with the aid of ecologist Merrin Whately.

Landowners, farmers and residents are welcome to attend the free event, which will also include a discussion workshop.

Will said the group’s 18 members were excited to share their findings with the public. “It takes time to build up data to form a pattern - at this stage, it’s just a benchmark which we can then compare against,” he said.

“It’s basically sharing the knowledge. No one talked about water quality five years ago: now they understand it.”

Will said the data had revealed some interesting things, including the discovery of giant kokopu, a native fish, in the area. “And we’ve done a big pest survey recently. We’ve obviously got a big possum, rat, and cat problem, which we’ll be addressing. But again, you don’t know unless you go out and survey it.

“If we can improve the number of native species across the catchment, then we’re winning.”

**DETAILS: Our water - analysis and discussion, May 29, 10:30am at Mangatangi Hall. Contact [mmcatchment@gmail.com](mailto:mmcatchment@gmail.com) for more information.**



## Teagan Gray named runner up

Hauraki Plains dairy farmer Teagan Gray has been named Dairy Manager of the Year runner up in the New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards, behind Kieran McCahon from Northland.

Teagan, who won nearly \$7000 in prizes, was recently named 2024’s Auckland/Hauraki Dairy Manager of the Year. Teagan is a farm manager on her parents’ Neil and Glenda Gray’s 160ha Turua farm, milking 478 cows and is in her second season as farm manager, beginning work on the farm in 2016 as a farm assistant.

The judges describe Teagan as someone who had great pride in her farm and possessed very high-standards.

They observed Teagan’s pride in being the fifth generation of the Gray family to manage the farm, and that she is proud to be a woman sole farming.

“She’s embracing technology and is absolutely nailing the use of it to inform her decisions,” judge Janine Swansson, from DairyNZ, said.

“She constantly analyses and continually focuses on the health of her cows – their health and welfare is at the core of all her decision-making.”

Teagan has furthered her education through various courses and has completed a coaching course, enabling her to share her passion and knowledge for the industry through coaching other farmers.

The 33-year-old holds a Bachelor of Agriscience from Massey University and believes the dairy industry could do better with accepting females into high management roles.

“Teagan had a great understanding



Turua dairy farmer Teagan Gray.

Photo: SUPPLIED

of how decisions she makes contribute to the overall farm financial performance,” head judge Jack Meehan said.

“She has a clear plan for her future and how she is going to get there.”

The judges were impressed with the overall high calibre and diversity of all Dairy Manager national finalists.

“The finalists may have had different backgrounds, ages, experiences, systems and attitudes however they are all passionate about the dairy industry and the future that they want to be part of.”

Visit [www.dairyindustryawards.co.nz](http://www.dairyindustryawards.co.nz) for more information on the awards and winners.

# NEW HONDA PIONEER 700 SIDE BY SIDE



Auto, P/S,

2/4 WD,

Diff Lock,

Tipping Tray

**\$27,594**

INC GST



## Hauraki Plains Motors Ltd

1 Pipiroa Road, Ngatea • Ph 07 867-7021

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

# Keeping Cosy

ADVERTISING FEATURE

## Keep warm with Flooring Xtra

Flooring Xtra Kopu works closely with our partner Victoria Carpets to supply and install a very high quality range of wool carpets made with NZ wool to warm and beautify your home, that are aligned to our values of sustainability for the future.

Victoria Carpets is committed to minimizing the company's impact on the environment. In the past two decades, Victoria Carpets has already significantly reduced energy consumption and greenhouse emission per linear meter of carpet produced, across its manufacturing facilities. We continue to focus and invest heavily in ways to reduce waste, decrease our carbon footprint and produce more sustain-

able products. Our signature and well-known wool carpet ranges are made using high quality NZ wool, which is a natural, biodegradable, renewable and organic fibre. The wool yarn is spun locally, at our state-of-the-art wool spinning mill in Bendigo - country Victoria, allowing for an effective quality control, reduction in waste and emissions.

Post-Industrial recycling practices are in place for raw materials, packaging and Marketing material, to name a few. Victoria Carpets has various ongoing projects to achieve further milestones in our journey to decrease our carbon footprint, working internally across different areas of the business, primarily on reducing further waste to

landfill. We are continuously working with our suppliers to ensure that collectively we improve our green credentials, reduce energy consumption and increase the use of recycled content.

Sustainability statistics: Recovering, repurposing and recycling practices in place; Internal waste reduction by 53%\*; Waste to landfill reduction by 23%\*; Gas and electricity usage down 22%\*; Green gas emissions reduced by 5%\*; and Upgrades across manufacturing processes. To help you warm your home this winter with beautiful new wool carpet, we are also offering free underlay with any purchases over 55 sqm until June 30, 2024.

-Supplied by Flooring Xtra Kopu



ON ALL FLOORS KOPU  
**FLOORING XTRA**

**FREE**  
 SLEEPHEAD  
 SUPREME  
 UNDERLAY

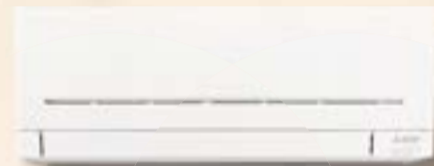
\*Ts & Cs apply

BOOK YOUR FREE IN HOME CONSULTATION TODAY

90 KOPU ROAD,  
 THAMES  
 07 868 7608  
 quotes.thames@flooringxtra.co.nz



## Feeling the winter chill?



Enjoy a warm and cosy sleep with NZ's quietest heat pump ever!\*



from  
**18dBA\***



\*MSZ-AP25 indoor sound level on lowest fan setting in Heating Mode.

Contact us today for a FREE quote!



**07 868 8825**  
 comfortgroup.co.nz



SEDDON STREET, WAIHI | PH: 07 863 8084  
 DILLIMORES ON THE ROUNDABOUT



**Bespoke  
 NZ made  
 sofas  
 made to  
 order or  
 choose  
 from our  
 range of  
 floor stock**



# Keeping Cosy

ADVERTISING FEATURE

## The wrong heater could cost dearly

For many, making the leap to installing a heat pump is an expensive gamble. However, "understanding the pros and cons of heat pumps versus portable heaters can save users money in the long run," says Mark Milmine, owner of 100% Thames and Whitianga. Portable heaters have their place. Understanding the basic costs and benefits of each type of portable heater could avoid a disappointing result.

Heat pumps are now well-established as the primary heat source for kiwi homes. Further, a heat pump can cool a room as well as heat it, allowing you to use it as an air conditioner. Before choosing a size, style or model of heat pump, you need to consider their pros, cons

and cost-effectiveness. Pros include: warm, dry and comfortable; lower heating costs (usually); dehumidifying; air filtering; cooling. Cons include: noise; not so good in low temperatures; draughts/breeze; initial dollar outlay. 100% Thames and Whitianga only stock reputable brands of heat pumps, including Panasonic, Mitsubishi Electric and Fujitsu. A free, no-obligation quote is the only way to ensure the right model is selected to heat the target space efficiently.

Electric heaters can be expensive to run and aren't usually powerful enough to keep living areas warm. However, their low purchase price means they're often the best value for money in small spaces like the bedroom or

study, or to provide a short-term boost for spaces heated by heat pump or wood fire. Oil column heaters provide efficient and cost-effective heating for longer term use. Ideal for medium to large rooms needing constant temperature. Not useful for quick, targeted heating, however.

Oscillating tower fan heaters offer fast, even heating thanks to fan, large element and oscillation. Good for quickly heating an office or rumpus room. Panel heaters are fast and quiet, they are ideal to warm up all objects and people in line with the radiant waves, providing a pleasant warmth.

Convection heaters provide fast heating for medium to large-sized rooms and are per-

fect for rooms where occasional heating is required. Personal fan heaters deliver instant directional heat. Ideal to quickly heat a space and/or provide directional warmth. Cheap to buy, often expensive to run long term.

The staff at 100% Thames and Whitianga are trained to assist customers in identifying their underlying needs and choosing a heating solution that is right for them. Leading brands include Dimplex and DeLonghi – both recommended by Consumer NZ. "Understanding the goals of the purchase - heating what? How quickly? For how long? - is critical in avoiding an expensive mistake," Mark says.

- Supplied by 100% Thames and Whitianga

## 100% HOME THAMES & WHITIANGA

### Your local electric heating specialists



**Panasonic**  
AIR CONDITIONING

Actively fights viruses, mould & odours

THE ONLY HEAT PUMP WITH nanoE<sup>+</sup>



100% Thames  
626 Pollen Street  
(07) 868 6124

100% Whitianga  
4/9 Joan Gaskel Drive  
(07) 866 5726

Let **FAIRVIEW THAMES** help you fight the **winter chill** and **summer heat** with new

## Double-Glazed Aluminium Joinery

**fairview**  
EXCEPTIONAL WINDOWS & DOORS

- **FAIRVIEW THAMES** has been operating throughout the Coromandel and Hauraki region for over 20 years
- We are 100% locally owned and operated and are proud to employ local and support many local clubs and community groups.

Contact us today to arrange a **FREE, no-obligation, measure and quote** and ask us about our installation service.

**FAIRVIEW THAMES**  
10 Millar Place, Kopu | 07 868 9105  
office@fairviewthames.co.nz  
www.fairviewthames.co.nz

Love your view

## SPORTS REPORTS

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

## RUGBY

## CLUB RUGBY

Round 7, Silcock Shield, compiled by  
Tighthead Ted

Another weekend of sunshine greeted the teams in the last matches of the first round for 2024. Waihi took out the Silcock Shield for first round supremacy, while Paeroa cemented their second spot on the ladder. Waihou are a clear third, with Whangamata taking out spot number four, but having Thames still snapping at their heels.

**HAURAKI NORTH v WHANGAMATA**

Waitakaruru International Stadium,  
Waitakaruru. Referee: D Tui-Taylor

Near perfect conditions greeted the two teams as they took the field for the inaugural match for the Surf n Turf Cup. The Cup - donated by the recently deceased Myles MacDuff, wife Helen and children Greer and William. For the first 30 minutes it was game on, with the underdog North side putting an error prone Whangamata side under pressure.

The red 'n whites though managed to hold on through the early stages, and while a man down dotted down out wide with number-eight Tupoa Tonga being on the end of the line for the five pointer. The match was still an even battle, and a halftime scoreline of 5-0 would have been a fair indication of the opening stanza, but the larger Whangamata forward pack was just starting to gain dominance. Two quick tries, to the previously sin binned hooker Jack O'Halloran and a hard charging Tim Bond saw a 19-0 scoreline, flattering to the visitors.

The second spell kicked off with a deluge of tries. After five minutes hooker O'Halloran got his second, followed by captain Jake Barfoot, who was the pick of the forwards, fullback Daniel Bent, flyhalf Ben Clarke and winger TJ Wise. Five tries in fifteen minutes blew North out of the water.

North dug deep though, and had the upper hand for the final fifteen minutes, but the damage had been done in a red hot spell of scoring. A consolation try to Eveni Faaleaoga, converted by Philemon Pritchard bought the game to a close, handing Whangamata the Surf 'n Turf Cup for the first time. Whangamata were well served, once the mistakes were shelved, by their large forward pack. Standouts from the well performing eight were tighthead prop Jordan Cordice, locks Bond and McCall, and hard charging captain and openside flanker Barfoot. Tiaontin Raoren continues to impress at halfback and hard running second five Sonny Rau had his best game of the season. Hauraki North 7 (E Faaleaoga try; P Pritchard conversion) lost to Whangamata 48 (J O'Halloran 2, T Bond, J Barfoot, TJ Wise, D Bent, B Clarke, T Tonga tries; Wise 4 conversions). HT 0-19

**WAIHI v MERCURY BAY**

Waihi Athletic Rugby Club, Kenny St,  
Waihi. Referee: W Berry

The young Mercury Bay team were put to the sword by the undefeated Waihi Athletic team on Saturday, with the home side playing a brutal direct game in the opening passages to set the tone for the match. With two tries on the board in the opening five minutes the match was an all uphill slog for the visitors. Waihi were playing with power and control, controlling the collisions and the points flowed.

Credit though to the young Mercury Bay side, the 3-29 halftime scoreline could have blown out to a cricket score, but the plucky coasters limited the machine that Waihi has become to three tries. The result was never in doubt though, with Mercury Bay rarely threatening the Waihi tryline as Athletic claimed their first piece of silverware since the McClinchy in 2018. The Waihi forward pack excelled, none more so than flanker Kenan Gilson who was thrust into the hooker jersey at late notice. A near flawless display of throwing, and his usual polished display around the field saw him named player of the day. Locks Ben Mellow and Dylan Horne (celebrating his 100th match) were also powerful throughout, as was veteran Brett Ranga. Highlight of a polished backline division was the "NRL" try in the opening minute of the match to



Waihi took out the Silcock Shield for first round supremacy.

Dylan Bellamy, scoring in the corner to open the floodgates.

Mercury Bay tried hard to a man, but among those to catch the eye were midfielder Dane Mathew, led by example captain Jamie Finnerty, and fullback Connor McCauley. Special mention for Mikare Waterhouse at prop also, putting in a huge shift of a full match in the curtain raiser before 40 minutes at the coalface in the main event - who says props can't go the full 80, try 120! Waihi 46 (D Bellamy, J Mahi, E Seymour, D Rangi, B Nightingale, I Seiuli, J Hill tries; K Craig-Ranga 1, Q Collard 3 conversions; Collard penalty) beat Mercury Bay (C Curran penalty). HT 29-3

**WAIHOU v PAEROA**

Boyd Park, Te Aroha. Referee: R Rogers

In the much anticipated clash of two versus three on the log, Paeroa demolished the home team, hitting the lead with a try in the first minute to returning from injury Ionatana Telea Faaleaoga and never relinquishing it. A further try to winger John Penu and a penalty to Nathan Emeery saw a 17-3 lead after 30 minutes. A try late in the first spell to Waihou's second five Eliko Sicinilawa bought the score closer, but Paeroa were still well in control. Waihou's strong set piece saw them start to claw back some equality, but intercept tries, and ill discipline meant the home side were never going to win the match as Paeroa kept the scoreboard ticking over. Two late tries saw some respectability added to the score sheet in what was a match to forget for the home supporters. Standouts in the match were Waihou's Daniel Pearce, who fought an avalanche of white and green jerseys for 80 minutes, Paeroa's Nathan Emery who controlled the match well, and winger John Penu, with two five pointers, one a classic wingers try, the other a well read intercept. Ryan Rogers controlled the at times testy match well, but was forced to deliver a red card to last week's four try super sub Sam van der Valk, after dishing the hooker a second yellow late in the match. Waihou 18 (E Sicinilawa, C Wood, M McClimont tries; A Ratcliffe penalty) lost to Paeroa 44 (J Penu 2, I Telea Faaleaoga, T Malielegaoi, K Matafeo, H Beazley tries; N Emery 4 conversions, 2 penalties). HT 8-17

**THAMES v COBRAS**

Rhodes Park, Thames. Referee: S Watts

In the tight tussle for the fourth spot, Thames have thrown a spanner in the works for COBRAS, winning 20-10 in a dour battle at Rhodes Park. Thames were the fitter of the two sides, and controlled territory and possession better than the visitors, who were missing influential halfback Leroy Neels. In a game that saw no kicks landed, but the posts threatened closely, four tries to two was a fair result. Thames lead ten nil at halftime, and managed to hold that margin at the end, 20-10. COBRAS will be rueing two yellow cards in the first spell that removed any chance of taking control of a match that could have been there for the taking. Thames 20 (Laulea Mau 2, S Roe, J Tavura tries) beat COBRAS 10 (S Etoni, S



Thames FC's Harry Willis breaks forward. Photo: SUPPLIED/MARK BROWN

Schuler tries). HT 10-0  
**SENIOR B RESULTS:** Round 7 Waihi Athletic 44 beat Mercury Bay 14; Thames 20 lost to COBRAS 36; Waihou 26 beat Hauraki North 17; Coromandel 29 beat Ngatea 13; Whangamata the bye.

**WOMEN'S:** Hauraki North 0 lost to Eastern Suburbs 15

**UNDER 21:** Matamata 7 lost to Thames Valley United 29

**HAURAKI NORTH DIAMONDS**

The vibrant atmosphere at Waitakaruru International Stadium was palpable yet again as the Hauraki North Diamonds welcomed the formidable ladies from Hamilton Suburbs on a sunny Saturday afternoon. This matchup held significant importance for the Diamonds, serving as a pivotal moment in their playoff aspirations, as both teams sat neck-and-neck on the third spot of the table standings. From the outset, Suburbs showcased their strength, boasting a formidable forward pack and dynamic running from their backs. Despite the Diamonds' valiant defensive efforts, Suburbs managed to break through 12 minutes into the game, securing a try and taking an early lead of 0-5. Although moments of promising play emerged from the Diamonds, a flurry of penalties kept them on the defensive, allowing Suburbs to extend their lead with another try and conversion, ending the first half at 0-12. The start of the second half saw the Diamonds injecting fresh energy from their strong bench, with the Diamonds creating opportunities, however they struggled to capitalise due to numerous errors. A Diamonds error in front of their own uprights saw Suburbs adding a penalty kick to their tally, bringing the score to 0-15 with 25 minutes left to play. A second high tackle on Diamonds' Cory Middleton led to Suburbs losing a player to the sin bin with just 10 minutes remaining. This spurred a resurgence from the Diamonds, but unfortunately, handling errors proved costly. The final whistle blew with the scoreboard reading 0-15 in favour of Suburbs. Reflecting on the match, Manager Vita Dryden expressed frustration but commended the team's overall performance, and despite the result, the Diamonds should take pride in their

showing against a formidable opponent like Suburbs. With a two-week break before their final pool play game against table topping Pūtāruru, the team will have ample time to regroup and prepare for the challenges ahead.

## FOOTBALL

**THAMES FOOTBALL CLUB**

Thames fought back to extend the winning run; Thames climbed to third in the division two table following a 3-2 victory over Unicol Red Boys, however it was far from plain sailing during a strenuous afternoon at Rhodes Park. The visitors had recorded just one win from their opening five fixtures and the game started as expected with the hosts on the front foot, creating chances at will. An early break forward from captain Mickael Derroncourt yielded the game's first clear-cut opportunity, his speculative effort fizzed across goal, dropping to Ryan Le Roux, who diverted the shot just wide. Neat interplay between Michael Kim and Xavier Brown worked the ball to left-back Keegan Apperly whose ambitious strike rose over the bar. Another chance came and went, succeeding some good work by Le Roux deep on the right-hand side, some tantalising footwork followed by a dangerous flashed cross came very close to finding Ben Taylor who couldn't adjust in time with the ball skimming through. Not perturbed, Taylor was next to come close with a smart turn and shot, forcing the Uni-

col keeper, Laichyn Parkinson, into a fine save. More chances were squandered and Thames were subsequently punished for not making their early pressure pay. Unicol capitalised on some slack passing with Ben Hodges'; long-range volley sneaking just wide. In the following attack, a long ball into the box wasn't dealt with and a collision resulted in a Unicol penalty, which was neatly converted by Cody Mitchell. Despite the setback, Thames continued to create chances with a close-range header from Taylor not finding the target. A flurry of dangerous crosses from Riyan Rattan troubled the Unicol defence, the last of which clipped the back post before Apperly steered wide. Thames FC faced some stern words from player/manager Kim with the score 0-1 at the half-time interval.

The second half continued in a familiar pattern with Thames peppering the Unicol goal but to no avail. A weaving run from Kim down the left forced Parkinson into a superb reaction save. With fear growing that this wasn't going to be Thames' day, Rhodes Park breathed a collective sigh of relief as Harry Willis' corner was poked on by Apperly into the path of a flailing defender who bundled the ball into his net. Not the prettiest Thames goal you'll see this season but they all count - the breakthrough they desperately needed.

A buoyant Thames continued to push as Willis' cross came close following a good run down the right before an Andy Buchan cross came agonisingly close to finding the lunging leg of Le Roux at the back post. Thames rang the changes with Matt Bains, Tana Landy, and Sanket Gurung coming into the fray and it was the latter that put Thames ahead. Another pinpoint Willis' corner found an unmarked Gurung who directed a fine header into the corner to edge Thames ahead in dramatic style. Daylight would come a few minutes later as a Le Roux cross found Willis' who guided a header back across goal to Taylor who applied the finishing touch giving Thames a two-goal lead. That buffer would prove vital as Unicol rallied the troops and responded immediately. A long throw found its way to the back post where the opposing attacker slotted home to set up a nervy finish to the game.

Final Score Thames FC 3-2 Unicol Red Boys. o.g ('55) Gurung ('75) Taylor ('83).



Josey Hansen kicks for the Diamonds.

Photo: SUPPLIED

# CALL THE EXPERTS

## ARBORIST



### TREE SHAPES

Qualified Arborists

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

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

## AUTO DETAILING



Buzzing with passion in every Detail!

On-site

- Interior • Cut and polishes
- Exterior • Wheels & mags
- Ceramic coating • Metal polish
- Sticker and signage removal

+Much More  
**Beau Lally 0204 191 4851**  
 Beesautodetailingservices@gmail.com

## BUILDER / CARPENTER

**QUALIFIED & LICENSED LBP.**

**Many years experience.**

**Ph Peter**  
**027 496 5241**

## BUILDERS

**THINKING OF RENOVATING? WE MAKE IT EASY**



**Smith & Sons** 0800 764 846  
 www.smithandsons.co.nz

## BUILDING SERVICES



### PROFESSIONAL TRADE SERVICES

BUILDING | ELECTRICAL | PLUMBING

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

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

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

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

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

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

## CLEANING



• Lawn mowing

• Weedeating

• Hedge & tree trim

• Section clearing

• Gardening

• Rubbish removal

• Interior house clean

• New build clean/clear

• Odd jobs considered

• One off jobs welcome

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

## DRIVING ACADEMY

### DRIVING COURSES

Driving lessons  
 Learner Licence courses  
 Defensive Driving courses  
**Book now 027 314 1577 (text or phone)**  
 admin@valleyeducation.co.nz

**Valley Education**  
 07 868 7892

## EARTHWORKS & CARTAGE



**Digger, Bulldozer & Truck Hire**

► Mulching

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

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

## FUNERALS



Our family serving yours — in the Hauraki & Thames Corromandel Districts

- Direct Cremation for Ngatea, Paeroa, Te Aroha, Thames & Waihi \$2850 GST incl
- Traditional, Eco & Bespoke Funerals from \$4800
- Pre-Planning

**Phone: 0800 862 6362**  
 Des & Christine Necklen  
 Funeral Directors

## ELECTRICIAN



Electricians

Heat Pumps

Air Conditioning

Security Systems

**07 868 7151**  
 E: cooelectric@xtra.co.nz  
 W: www.cooelectric.co.nz

22C Ngati Maru Hwy, Kopu, Thames

## FLOORING

### Supply & Installation for Domestic & Commercial

- Carpet • Vinyl
- Laminate • Polyurethane

Contact us for your free Measure and Quote  
**Phone : 021 020 47027**  
**Email : dan@thefloorman.co.nz**

THE FLOOR MAN

## HAIRDRESSER



Walk in haircuts for men, women and children

**Open Mon to Fri 9.30 til 12 & 1 til 4**

Open Mon to Fri  
 453 Pollen St  
 Thames

## HIRE CENTRE

### THAMES HIRE CENTRE

Jellicoe Crescent, Thames

**Perrin Newland**  
**Telephone: 07 868 9350**  
 Email: hire@thameshire.co.nz  
 www.thameshire.co.nz

HOME HANDYMAN AND COMMERCIAL HIRE

## HOMEKILL

### Hunts Home Kills

For all your meat and game processing needs.

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

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

## HOME MAINTENANCE

### HOUSEWASH

SOFT-WASH the exterior of your house, roof or patios, fences & driveways.

**Cleaning, moss treatment & waterblasting for 25 years.**

Also clean exterior windows.

**Call 0800 737 777 or Anton direct on 027 313 4386**  
 atlasgroup@xtra.co.nz

## MOBILE MECHANIC



We come to you...

- Servicing & repairs on all cars, trucks, campervans, machinery & small engines
- Batteries available

Phone Brian: 021 259 4779 or 876 5401  
 Email: robosvette@gmail.com

## PAINTER



Interior & Exterior • Residential & Light Commercial

Fully Insured • Workmanship Guarantee

Contact Stan on 0223137911 to discuss your project.

## PHYSIOTHERAPY

coromandel physiotherapy + orthopaedic rehabilitation

BACK & NECK PAIN  
 SPORTS & WORK INJURIES  
 POST SURGERY & FRACTURE REHAB  
 ACUPUNCTURE

Robert Lindsay • Rodney Grant • Carol Hayes  
 Physiotherapy clinics located throughout the Hauraki and Coromandel Regions  
 Ph: 07 868 9579  
 www.thamesphysio.co.nz

## PLASTERER

### TWINWOLF PLASTERING SERVICES

- Exterior Plastering specialist.
- 30 years experience
- All aspects of plastering including. Gib stopping, fireplaces, steps, foundations, patios, block walls and renovations.
- Specialising in exterior repairs & modern finishes.

**Shannon: 022 428 2239**  
 Twinwolfservices@gmail.com

## PLUMBER

### Huntly Plumbers 2022 Ltd

FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING, DRAINLAYING & GAS REQUIREMENTS

**Ph 07 828 9175**  
 Email: admin@huntlyplumbers.co.nz  
 www.huntlyplumbers.co.nz



## Take the time to talk

In our journey across the course of life we experience many different stages and events our life may be long and fulfilling or it may be tragically cut short but we all live a life that should be remembered and celebrated by our family and friends who are left behind.

A meaningful farewell provides not only value, but it is an essential part of healthy grieving. The importance of preplanning your final farewell allows your loved ones to gather together and support one another and celebrate your life without the responsibility of making difficult choices in very emotional circumstances.



Our family serving yours — in the Hauraki & Thames Corromandel Districts

**TALK TO US ABOUT**

- Pre-Planning
- Direct Cremation
- Traditional & Bespoke Funerals

**Ph: 0800 862 6362**  
 valleyfuneralservices.com

Des & Christine Necklen  
 Funeral Directors

Funeral Directors ASSOCIATION OF NZ MEMBER

# CALL THE EXPERTS

## RUBBISH REMOVAL

### Smart Bins

Skip bins, Wheelie Bins, Farm Bins

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

## SEPTIC TANK CLEANING

### ALLENS UNITED

Paeroa (2015) Ltd

LIQUID WASTE  
SPECIALISTS

0800 862 720 | 027 442 0067

## SCRAP METAL

### Scrappy Verns

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

Phone Vern • 021 621 437

## SCRAP VEHICLES



Any unwanted car, ute, van or 4WD No warrant, No WOF, Deregistered, not going?? NO PROBLEM

WAIKATO  
VEHICLE  
REMOVALS

PH/TXT KEVIN  
027 299 6165

## TYRES & BATTERIES



- Stockists of all major tyre brands
- Exide Batteries with extended warranties
- Wheel Alignments.

314 Pollen St, Thames  
Ph 868 8182

## WASTE REMOVAL

### SKIP BIN HIRE

For Household, Business,  
Building and Farm  
Rubbish Disposal

Ph: 0800 754 724  
Paeroa Skip Bins (2017) Ltd

## WINDSCREENS



We come to you!

Chip Repairs - Windscreen replacements  
-Insurance claims

PH: 0272127750  
www.precisionwindscreens.co.nz

# Book this space!

022 130 3885  
nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz

The Valley  
Profile

# Today I consider hope

## OPINION



By MICHAEL WILKES

Consider what does hope look like. Because hope is something many feel is missing today.

You see, hope moves us through the fear, above the anxiety, beyond the worry.

Hope makes it worth pushing through, it makes it worth fighting for another day.

George Washington Carver is quoted as saying: "Where there is no vision, there is no hope".

Today I consider those moments where life feels at its fullest. Moments where I'm enraptured by my children, or moments when I'm doing something and I'm absolutely thriving, shooting a bike down a mountain, seeing students thriving in what we are teaching, holding my wife as we watch a movie. I wrote of such a moment a few weeks back as I reflected on riding with my son in Rotorua.

Those moments where I pause and notice an absolute sense of fullness and completeness. A sense where in those moments I

smile and feel as if I was born for this.

Hope is found in those moments. Hope is knowing that those moments will come again. Hope is knowing that new moments of beauty will be experienced in your current stage of life. Hope is found in having a vision for the future, often shaped by the past.

An ancient proverb is similar to George Washington Carver's, but a little more harsh: "Where there is no vision, the people perish". Without vision for what could be, and hope that knows it will happen, we instead experience despair. And despair left to spiral leads nowhere good.

So, I consider the moments of beauty in my life. And I sit and know they will come again. A vision of the past, bringing hope for the future. And this kind of hope in turn brings vision.

Today I write this thinking of someone I know who is in a dark place. I have journeyed with them in their present darkness, and they are clinging to hope that the beauty will return. Their very life has quite literally been saved by the light of hope.

This type of hope is what makes them continue to face each day.

And maybe you can relate. When hope feels distant, life feels hard, please remember those times of beauty you've had in your life. Please remember that they can and will come again. May the best parts of your past bring hope for the future. May the best parts of the world around us remind you that this world we live in is a beautiful place where vision is born, and hope grows. Don't give up, even if you can't see it.

Because sometimes hope may be found simply in the beauty you see through looking out a different window.

- Michael Wilkes is a Living Well Trust Youth Worker

## CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

<b>Public Notice</b> Life Education Trust Waikato East A.G.M. Our AGM will be held at 5.00 pm on Thursday 13 June 2024 in the Coombe & Associates offices Fairview Terrace Paeroa <b>All Welcome</b>	<b>Situations Vacant</b> <b>Thames Taxis</b> Driver with Passenger Licence required, please apply to thamestaxis@xtra.co.nz or call 02102952879 to find out more. Morning School run or evenings and weekends work involved	<b>Situation Vacant</b> <b>YOUTH MENTOR</b> We are looking for a Youth Mentor to join our Learning Support team. If you feel you have the ability to relate to and successfully engage with young people, their whānau and school staff then this may be the position for you. Previous applicants do not need to reapply. <b>Please send a brief CV to exec@haurakiplains.school.nz Applications close: Monday 27 May 2024 at 12 noon</b>
--	---	--

<b>Firewood</b> Dry firewood. \$120 1+ cu <sup>2</sup> , mix of gum, black wattle and totara. Call or text 022 691 8195. Mangatarata	<b>CLEANER REQUIRED</b> for professional woman working from home. Mainly vacuuming and cleaning the bathroom. Thames area. 1 hour per week. \$40. Phone Pam 0274 955 583	<b>Pets</b> <b>KENNELS</b> WAITAKARURU Boarding Kennels and Cattery. "A great place for your pet to stay." Carol and Bill Bell, Ph: 07-867-3344, SH25 Waitakaruru, RD6 Thames	<b>Storage</b> <b>Storage Unlimited</b> 25 Ngati Maru Highway Kopu, Thames Clean, secure, dry Units available 7 x 3.6m and 7 x 5.5m <b>Phone 07 868 9944</b>	<b>Storage</b> <b>STORAGE KOPU, PAEROA TE AWAMUTU</b> "New Units" Ph 027 440 7101 07 868 3033 Safe n Sound Storage www.safestorage.co.nz
---	---	---	--	--

<b>Trades &amp; Services</b> <b>FENCING CONTRACTOR</b> Residential & Rural Retaining walls & more High quality workmanship Competitive prices <b>Call Matt 021 1727 148</b>	<b>Painter</b> <b>Experienced Painter</b> available, houses, farm buildings, fences, etc. Quality work, reasonable price. Ph 027 2142442	<b>Storage</b> <b>Thames Valley Storage</b> - secure, dry units available, two sizes. Call Trev 027 4076966	<b>STORE 4 U Waihi.</b> Clean, dry, alarmed. Call Lyn 0275 759 173.
---	---	--	--

<b>Handyman Services</b> <b>THAMES HANDYMAN &amp; BUILDING SERVICES</b> Building, home maintenance & general gardening services <b>Phone: Fleur or Crighton • 0273 913 283</b>	<b>Storage</b> <b>TOTAL STORAGE LTD KEREPEHI / PAEROA</b> 10FT CON. \$125 per mnth 20FT CON. \$240 per mnth T&C's apply <b>021 67 67 99 info@totalstorage.co.nz</b>
--	---

## Death Notice

**BROWN, Alan Laurence:**  
11th March 1942 - 16th May 2024  
Dearly loved husband and soul mate of Sandra, loving father to Rory and Brenda, Jeff and Jen, and the late Janine. Grandfather of Karlos, Rachel, Zephyr, and Fawn. Great Grandfather of Bliss, Reggie, and Magnus. Brother and Brother in law of Ron and Judi, Colin, Maree and Doug, Fiona and Steve, Douglas and Pat, and Rodney. Uncle to his nieces and nephews. Rest in peace, my mate till we meet again. Owing to Alan's wishes a private cremation has taken place. Communications to 30 Bradford Street, Waihi.

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

## Death Notices

**BERRY Shane Philip:**  
Passed peacefully away at home in Torbay, North Shore. Dearly loved Husband of Andrea and father of Jackson, and Isabel. Loved and respected son-in-law of Shirely and Brian Carter of Ngatea. Brother-in-law of Shelley and Grant, Natalie and Craig, Ross and Karina. Loved uncle of Mickayla, Harrison, Logan, Emily, Lily, Alex, and Ruby. Rest in peace.

**BERRY Shane Philip:**  
Passed away on 16 May, 2024 at home. Shane was the treasured son of Philip Berry and Anne Cleveland. Adored brother of Rachel and Alison and much loved Uncle Shane to Jessica, Courtney, Kyron, Eden and Amber. Shane brought joy and happiness to our family along with a pearler of a wife; Andrea, and two lovely children, Jackson and Isabel.

## Death Notice

**BERRY Shane Philip:**  
Passed away peacefully at home on 16th May 2024 aged 44 years Much loved son of Philip Berry and Step son of Barbara Berry. Loved Stepbrother of Jeremy and Mathew King and their families A celebration of Shane's life will be held at the chapel of North Shore Memorial Park, 235 Schnapper Rock Road, Albany On Thursday 23rd at 2pm

**Church Notice**  
**Assembly of God**  
 10am Sundays. Scout Hall. Baker St, Waihi

**For Sale**  
 Scooter for sale. Colour red. Has rain cover. Value \$2,800 will sell for \$2,500. Ph 021 167 6777

## In Memoriam

**DISHER, SALLY-ANN:**  
On May 26 2012, twelve years without our treasured daughter. Forever loved, never forgotten. Signed, Mum, Dad, Kara, Paulette and families.

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

**Gardening**  
 Need stump grinding? Any size, any number, anywhere. Different machines for different applications. Over 20 years experience. **Short Back n Sides Ltd We solve your stump problems. 027 439 0367**

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



## ENTERTAINMENT

# Refurbished pedal harp sees renaissance

Thames harpist Anna Dunwoodie was somewhat surprised when she was contacted in November, 2022, by someone who had a pedal harp still in its travel case, as part of a deceased estate lot.

It had been in storage in Kaitiaki for a number of years, and its owners now wanted to move it onto someone who could use it.

After a quick trip to see the harp, Anna was convinced it was worth investing time and money into, in order to bring it back up to performance level.

"We have a shortage of pedal harps in New Zealand which was exacerbated by the logistics of getting instruments from Europe and USA following the pandemic," Anna explained.

"We were also hosting [the country's] first Harp Fest NZ 2023 over Waitangi weekend in Auckland, and the opportunity to have another pedal harp for the use of any of our 12 international harp guests was too good to pass on."

Whangarei harpmaker Kim Webby spent more than 90 hours of work over his Christmas break to have the harp ready to be picked up in the first week of January, 2023.

"It was really important, even though the repair work had been completed, to make sure that the harp had plenty of playing for the following month as we prepared for Harp Fest, just to make sure there were no buzzes or rattles which could make it unusable for a world class performance," Anna said.



Chris Reed, left, Anna Dunwoodie, and Josh Layne with the harp 'Marie'.

Photo: SUPPLIED

While the harp - nicknamed the 'Marie' after its former owner Marie Yukich - was perfect for performance, there was cause for concern when the major Auckland weather event on Auckland Anniversary weekend 2023 found 15 harps, including the Marie, sitting in two inches of water when many houses in Auckland flooded.

"It was my worst nightmare," Anna said. "I arrived home to find

all the harps surrounded by water. Any movement in the water caused ripples and waves, and potentially more damage to the instruments, and the layer of silt on the floor meant that shifting pedal harps - which weigh 40kg and more - could not be done by one person alone on a slippery floor.

After some heavy lifting help from her family, the Marie has had a new life of touring with interna-

tional harpists, and has been available for student harpists to hire.

It was on tour with Canadian harpist Josh Layne this April, and while Josh was in Thames, the opportunity arose to invite Chris Reed, the son of the harp's namesake Marie Yukich, from his home in Waihi Beach to see and hear his mother's harp.

"It was an emotional afternoon with a fabulous mini concert from

Josh and a lot of harp-related chat," Anna said.

And where is the Marie off to next?

"She's off to Masterton to have a few months with a visiting exchange student, who obviously could not bring her harp to New Zealand while she studies. For a 52-year-old instrument, she's leading quite the life travelling around the country."

## Eddie Low withdraws from NZ Highwaymen, Frankie Stevens steps in

Legendary singer Eddie Low has made the very difficult decision to withdraw from the highly anticipated NZ Highwaymen 2024 Tour due to ongoing health concerns.

The show is scheduled to stop at the War Memorial Civic Centre Thames at 7pm on June 19.

Eddie has been battling diffuse gastric cancer since late 2023. This included a six-hour surgery to remove his entire stomach, followed by a significant amount of weight loss.

While Eddie was determined to hit the road again in June with the NZ Highwaymen, he has made the call that the rigours of touring - rehearsals, sound checks, travel, and the performances themselves - will be too demanding for him at this time.

Eddie's dedication to his fans is legendary. In a career spanning more than six decades, he's built a reputation for never letting them down. This is why the decision to withdraw is especially difficult. "I truly hoped to be strong enough for the tour, but it's just not possible right now," Eddie said.

However, there's a silver lining. Eddie is thankful to his long-time friend, Frankie Stevens, who is stepping in to complete the band for the tour.

"Frankie is an entertainment

veteran and I have full faith in his ability to deliver an incredible show. So much work has gone into planning this tour, and although I won't be there physically, I'll be cheering them on every step of the way. Frankie is a great showman, and I want the fans to support him and the rest of the band."

Promoter for the NZ Highwaymen Aly Cook said: "We had to let this be Eddie's decision as to whether he could be well enough to perform and support him in every way regardless of his decision. 'The Show Must Go On' - his partners in the NZ Highwaymen, Brendan Dugan, Gray Bartlett and Dennis Marsh are saddened by what has happened to our good friend and we are behind him 150%!"

Frankie said: "I have known Eddie for a lot of years and regard him as one of Aotearoa, New Zealand's great music Taonga's, I am deeply saddened that Eddie has had to withdraw because of health concerns as I know how much he loves performing with his fellow Highwaymen and to his adoring audiences.

"While I look forward to working with Brendan, Dennis and Gray I am mindful of how much you will be missed bro and will endeavour to do you proud."

INFO: [www.nzhighwaymen.com](http://www.nzhighwaymen.com).



Advanced voice students from the Conservatorium of Music at the University of Waikato. BELOW: Jonathan Dunlop.

## Free concert celebrates seasons of May

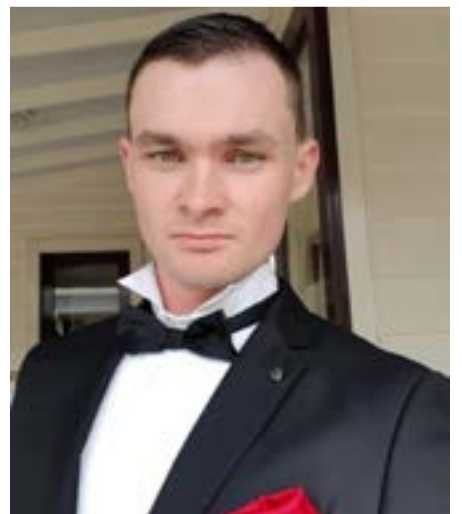
Thames Music Group's free Friday concert on May 24 will feature a programme of enchanting and seasonally-appropriate music to celebrate the two seasons of May in both hemispheres - Autumn and Spring.

The concert will be presented by the advanced voice students from the Conservatorium of Music at the University of Waikato, with Jonathan Dunlop at the piano.

Jonathan Dunlop has just completed Doctoral studies at the University of Waikato with Katherine Austin. His research focuses on the pianist's journey through a wide range of repertoire to find creative pedalling solutions in keyboard music from CPE Bach through to the late Romantic composers such as Chopin, Rachmaninoff and Debussy.

To compliment his studies in this field, he plays a wide variety of historic keyboards, which include the harpsichord, clavichord, organ and fortepiano.

DETAILS: Free Friday Lunchtime Concert; Friday, May 24, at 12.15pm at St George's Church, Mackay St, Thames.



# Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime

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



**National**  
Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

## TradeZone Thames

Industrial supply specialists that work for your business.

Contact us today:  
admin@readbros.co.nz

- SERVICES AVAILABLE:
- Key Cutting • Sharpening
  - Wire Rope Swaging • Rope Slicing
  - Cut-to-length Extrusions
  - Dive Cylinder filling & testing on site

SEE US AT: READ BROS. HARDWARE  
308 Pollen St, Thames  
www.readbros.co.nz • 07 868 6608

## NEWSPRINT

Roll ends for sale  
800mm wide, varying lengths,  
\$10 ea  
Available at the  
Valley Profile office:  
2 Queen St, Paeroa  
Call first to check availability:  
Ph 0204 0944 853



Perfect for school holidays  
- art and craft,  
moving, table coverings  
and more .....

The Valley  
Profile

## SUDOKU

151

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

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

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

HARD

151

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

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

HARD

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

MEDIUM

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

EASY

## JUMBO CROSSWORD

171

### ACROSS

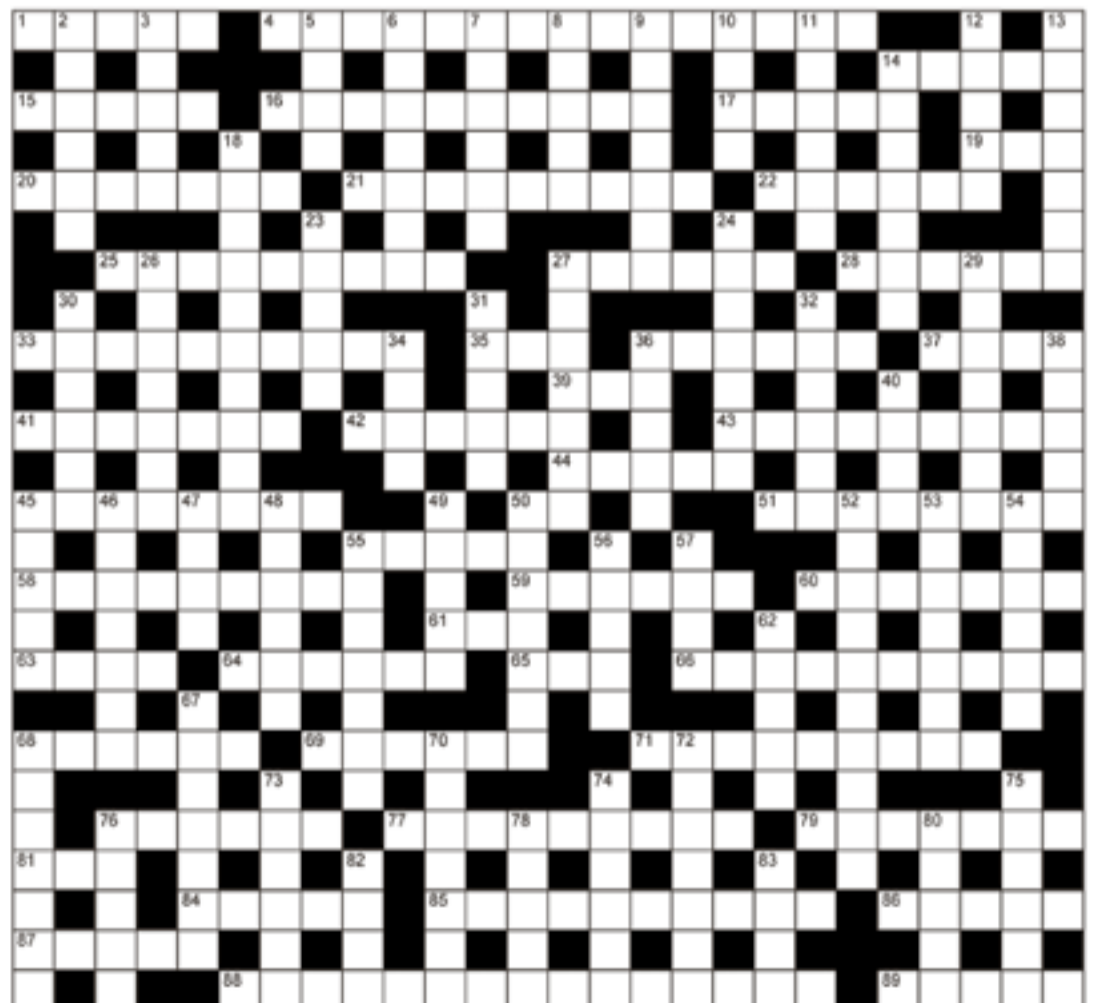
- 1 Malice (5)
- 4 Obtain monopoly of supply (6,3,6)
- 14 Card game (5)
- 15 Intended (5)
- 16 Well-matched (10)
- 17 Sidekick (5)
- 19 Lip (3)
- 20 Deeply thoughtful (7)
- 21 Restore to a former position (9)
- 22 Horrified (6)
- 25 Comes into (anag) (9)
- 27 Mass departure (6)
- 28 Black-and-white bird (6)
- 33 Rippled (10)
- 35 Tear (3)
- 36 Intense irrational fear (6)
- 37 Contest (4)
- 39 Long fish (3)
- 41 Arms depot (7)
- 42 Pink-fleshed fish (6)
- 43 Brine (9)
- 44 Insecure (5)
- 45 Graveyard (8)
- 50 Myself (2)
- 51 Unfaithful person (3-5)
- 55 Passenger boat (5)
- 58 Compere (9)
- 59 Rarely (6)
- 60 Try (7)
- 61 Solidify (3)
- 63 Raised platform (4)
- 64 Predicament (6)

### DOWN

- 2 Favour (6)
- 3 Melodies (5)
- 5 Musical instrument (4)
- 6 Pincers (7)
- 7 Eye part (6)
- 8 Custom (5)
- 9 Distinguished musician (7)
- 10 Food grain (4)
- 11 Sufficient (6)
- 12 Circumnavigate (5)
- 13 Crush underfoot (7)
- 14 Evening wear (7)
- 18 Radically new (5-5)
- 23 Drained (5)
- 24 Post-mortem examination (7)
- 26 Rust (7)
- 27 Cost (7)
- 29 Spectre (7)
- 30 Origin (6)

### ACROSS

- 31 Muscle seizure (5)
- 32 Head support (6)
- 34 Cherished (4)
- 36 Beg (5)
- 38 Blunder (5)
- 40 Fly killer (4)
- 45 Roman god of love (5)
- 46 Rendezvous (7)
- 47 In bonds (4)
- 48 Baby's toy (6)
- 49 Outer loaf (5)
- 50 Enigma (7)
- 52 Nevil Shute novel (2,3,5)
- 53 List in detail (7)
- 54 Utilise (6)
- 55 Easily broken (7)
- 56 Icy rain (5)
- 57 Throw (4)
- 62 Boorish (5)
- 67 Speak of (7)
- 68 Underground cell (7)
- 70 Fortress (7)
- 72 Roof tile (7)
- 73 Rub shiny (6)
- 74 Conviction (6)
- 75 Transpire (6)
- 76 Water mammal (5)
- 78 Lessen (5)
- 80 Weight unit (5)
- 82 Cosy (4)
- 83 Spine part (4)



### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Fixed, 4 Crucible, 9 Govern, 14 Maize, 15 Knee-jerk reaction, 17 Ensur, 18 Gel, 19 Ecstasy, 20 Signature, 21 Yachts, 24 Moth-eaten, 25 Belfry, 26 Entice, 29 Beforehand, 31 Ego, 32 Reside, 33 Whoa, 35 Wee, 37 Yeti, 39 Asparagus, 40 Lion-tamer, 41 Exile, 42 Burgundy, 47 Unopened, 51 Scold, 55 Architect, 56 On the mend, 58 Heed, 59 Loo, 60 Exit, 61 Creepy, 62 Den, 63 Bureaucrat, 66 Asylum, 67 Octave, 69 Homicidal, 72 Origin, 73 Affidavit, 75 Anxiety, 77 Ebb, 80 Equal, 81 Blow the whistle on, 82 Issue, 83 Statue, 84 Sideshow, 85 Toast.

DOWN: 2 Innocence, 3 Erect, 5 Rake, 6 Coexist, 7 Bacon and eggs, 8 Edict, 9 General, 10 View, 11 Rascal, 12 Wings, 13 Deplete, 14 Methane, 16 Ease the pain, 22 Revamp, 23 Wrestle, 24 Mooring, 25 Browse, 27 Inhuman, 28 Adjoin, 30 Dirk, 32 Resin, 34 Acrid, 36 Stop, 38 Emu, 42 Blaze, 43 Rectify, 44 Unit, 45 Dreary, 46 Folly, 48 Odds and ends, 49 Ethical, 50 Eve, 51 Stretch, 52 Doodle, 53 Stony-hearted, 54 Kerb, 57 Enrich, 64 Ambitions, 65 Jubilee, 66 Arsenic, 68 Affable, 70 Maidens, 71 Minuet, 72 Obese, 74 Idols, 76 Igloo, 78 Glut, 79 Shoo.



**Ngatea 43 Hayward Road**

**Ultimate family home on large section**

Here's a golden opportunity to secure your ideal first or family home, proudly nestled on 1,050sqm (more or less), just a stone's throw away from excellent schooling at Hauraki Plains College. This two-storey family home sprawls across 150sqm (more or less) and offers three bedrooms, all with ample wardrobing, and a spacious office, perfect for accommodating the whole family. The heart of the home is the expansive open-plan kitchen and dining area that seamlessly connects to a sun-drenched living space. This central location is also conveniently less than 100 kilometers from both Auckland and Hamilton.

bayleys.co.nz/2315652

1,050<sub>sqm</sub> 3 2

**Auction (unless sold prior)** 11am, Thu 13 Jun 2024  
 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton  
**View** 3.30-4pm Sun 19 May & 2-2.30pm Sun 26 May  
**Seth Roe** 027 320 6937  
 seth.roe@bayleys.co.nz  
**Connor Davis** 027 496 4622  
 connor.davis@bayleysngatea.co.nz  
SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008



# Considering buying or selling?

**For a dynamic and enthusiastic residential real estate experience Seth Roe and Connor Davis are your go-to Ngatea residential specialists.**

Don't be fooled by their youth! With their proactive "get it done" attitudes, Seth and Connor are dedicated to ensuring client satisfaction - their testimonials speak for themselves. What's more, they are backed by a brand and team proven to achieve the best results for your property.

**Get in touch with Seth or Connor today.**

*"Karl, Seth, and the entire team consistently kept us informed throughout the entire sale process. Their ability to accurately summarize the value was impressive and expertise in getting more value for vendors was evident from the beginning to the end. Despite the complexities involved with tenants, KDT had a dedicated team that went above and beyond, providing us with exceptional service beyond our expectations. We truly appreciate the tremendous effort they all put in."* **C & D Armer | Paeroa**

**Connor Davis**  
 Residential & Lifestyle Sales  
 027 496 4622 / connor.davis@bayleys.co.nz  
SUCCESS REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008

**Seth Roe**  
 Residential & Lifestyle Sales  
 027 320 6937 / seth.roe@bayleys.co.nz



ENTERTAINMENT

# Sultry seductresses charm in *Chicago*

REVIEW

CHICAGO

Thames Music & Drama

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

Walking into the Thames Civic Centre on *Chicago's* opening night, one could be forgiven for thinking they had been transported to a 1920s speakeasy.

The Thames Music and Drama production, directed by Asha Peppiat, was an immersive experience which began right at the auditorium doors.

A shadowy corridor lined with wanted posters and newspaper headlines led the way to the seating area, where a spectacular two-level set stretched out in front of the audience. The orchestra was nestled between twin staircases facing the audience, sequestered behind a row of jail bars - an innovative use of the space and visually appealing, while also giving the audience a chance to appreciate the musicians directly.

As the soft jazz music gave way to the wah-wah tones of a solo trumpet, we caught our first glimpse of Velma Kelly, the ruthless murderess. The role was beautifully played by Emily Bisset, and was easily the standout performance of the night. Her Velma stalked around the stage like a tiger on the prowl, and true to her character's former career as a showgirl, she always ensured all eyes were drawn to her.

Countering Velma's sultry moves was Roxie Hart, the cheating wife with aspirations of showbiz. Mel Connors' Roxie was wide-eyed and naive, but she allowed her rougher working-class edges to show through, adding plenty of depth to the role. Her acting and dance moves were spot-on.

Also spot-on was Stuart Floan's portrayal of the hotshot lawyer, Billy Flynn. Stuart stepped away from the flamboyant movie version of Billy, leaning instead into a gritty, jaded grifter. His understated acting in the musical numbers served to highlight perfectly the farcical nature of the courtroom trials.

Not to be forgotten, ironically, was the perfectly pathetic Amos Hart, Roxie's downtrodden husband. Ewan Grant-Mackie had the 'sad clown' act down pat, and his pleas for attention brought an audible 'aww' from the audience as he exited the stage at the end of the show. Ewan's rendition of Mr Cellophane was excellent, with his strong singing voice a perfect counterpoint to the meekness of the character.

The show was rounded out by a large and enthusiastic chorus, who filled the stage with ambitious dance moves inspired by the iconic choreographer Bob Fosse.

Their presence as reporters brought the showstopping "We both reached for the gun" musical number to life, drinking in Roxie's fabricated sob story as Billy Flynn carefully controlled



June, a murderess, is brought to court. BELOW: Billy Flynn with Roxie, left, and Velma. Photos: SUPPLIED

the narrative. The singing could have been stronger at times, but the dancing and visual spectacle of the show was superb.

Special mention must also be made of the six merry murderesses, whose confessional number was excellent; and Mama Morton (played by Erin Wigley) and Velma's jaded duet "Class".

Overall, *Chicago* was a great night out - scandalous, camp, over-the-top, and just plain fun. **DETAILS: Chicago runs from May 17-25 at the Thames Civic Centre.**



## UP TO 70% OFF

# MASSIVE BED & MATTRESS CLEARANCE

SHOP NOW



**Posture Elite Firm**  
Starts From  
**\$1525**



**Evoke Lux**  
Starts From  
**\$2051**



**Europaedic**  
Starts From  
**\$2250**

Earn Flybuys with us!



## 34 MONTHS INTEREST FREE

34 months interest free is available for purchases on \$999 and over using Purple Visa Card. Purple Visa Card Terms and Conditions, credit criteria and Rates and Fees (including a \$55 establishment fee and a \$55 annual fee) apply. Prevailing interest rate (currently 26.65% p.a., as at 1 April 2024) will apply to any outstanding balance at the expiry of the interest free period. Visit purplevisa.co.nz for more information.

Shop 22, Goldfields Shopping Centre, Thames  
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm / Sat 9am-4pm / Sun 10am-3pm Ph: 07 868 3332

Beds4U reserve the right to amend any misprints or error within this advertisement. Price subject to single size mattress and base only.



Your local sleep experts

24 Beds4U Stores Across North Island