The Valley



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om bees to



 ${f I}$ f Bryce Hooton's got "too much" to do on the farm - the electric fence gets turned off.

The Coroglen hereford cattle farmer told *The Profile* he hated electric shocks. Bryce relies on his fences to navigate the farm, and for good reason too: he's 100 per cent blind.

Bryce, 57, said while only a small percentage of people were totally blind - "I'm one of those [people]".

"A lot of people think because of what I do and what I get up to, they all think I can see something," he said. But when he was out walking on the farm - he used a stick to find his way - "I've got to sort of bang it along the fence line".

The direction of wind also helped him get around the farm he said.

get around the farm, he said.
"If you know you're going to walk across the paddock and the wind's in your face, you keep it in your face.

But it was clear he also had a good support system.

Bryce, who runs the farm with his wife Sue, said they "always work as a team".

Sometimes he'd get a ride on the sideby-side farm vehicle, but quite often he
was on his feet to shift stock, he said.

The race had "a nice camber" on it too and Bryce said it was "a bit of an art" to keep yourself on top of it.
The Hootons had their "own little

methods at work", he said. For example, when he was putting up an electric fence - he said Sue would go ahead with the reel and he would be behind with the standards.

Bryce was 18-years-old, working as a dairy farmer, when he got hit by a stray bullet and lost sight in one eye.

"It was just a real freakish, severe accident," he said Ton menths, the head of the strain of the said Ton menths, the head of the said Ton menths are the said Ton menths.

dent," he said. Ten months later, he was

CONTINUED ON P12

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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 That Painter Experts ad.

Wind farm, mine among fast-track projects

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

n October 6 announcement from the government has named 149 national and regional development projects to be included in its Fast Track Approvals Bill.

Included in the list are three projects in the Hauraki or Coromandel districts: the Waihī North Project; the Kaimai Wind Farm Project; and the State Highway 25 Pepe Stream Bridge Replacement Pro-

The bill, due to be passed into law before the end of the year, aims to establish a streamlined consenting process overseen by several Ministers and a panel of experts, for these and other "projects of significance". Nearly 27,000 submissions on the bill were received by Parliament, with many citing concerns about the effect many of the projects might have on the environment. The selected projects would be able to apply directly to the Environmental Protection Authority for consent, regional development minister Shane Jones said.

[They] have significant regional or national benefits. They will make a big dif-ference in the regions by delivering jobs and growth and develop a pipeline of major projects to help boost the economy, he said in a press release.

The projects were selected from 342 applications, and cover a variety of industries including mining, housing and land development, renewable energy, aquaculture and farming, quarrying and infrastructure.

The Waihī North Project is a proposed mining project by Oceana Gold, operator of the Martha Underground mine in the centre of Waihī. It would include a new underground mine at Wharekirauponga, just north of Waihī; an open pit directly to the west of the company's current processing plant; an increase in tailings storage to the north and east of existing storage facilities; and an upgrade to the

processing plant.
Oceana Gold applied for resource consent from the Hauraki District and Waikato Regional councils in June, 2022, but the application was put on hold as the councils required further information about the project's potential effects on the local ecology and environment.

"As of now we are still awaiting this information," a Hauraki District Council

(HDC) spokesperson said. Oceana Gold's April, 2024 newsletter said it had decided to "pause" its response to the councils while it looked into alternative approval through the Fast Track bill. Further press releases from the company said it welcomed the new bill.

"Development of Wharekirauponga has the potential to contribute significantly to the New Zealand economy, while maintaining a strong focus on environmental and social stewardship," chief executive Gerard Bond said.

Meanwhile, Kaimai Wind Farm Ltd is also looking into the fast tracking process, although a statement from company owner Glenn Starr noted that its inclusion in the bill was not a guarantee

Listed applicants] still have to apply to the Environmental Protection Authority and the Kaimai Wind Farm Project will be assessed under the bill, once enacted," he said.

The energy company lodged a resource consent application with HDC in late 2018 for a 1304 hectare, 24-turbine wind farm on the Kaimai ranges south of Paeroa. Nearly 400 public submissions were lodged with the councils over the project, with 253 of them against the pro-

HDC said the company had asked for the hearing date to be postponed while it consulted directly with submitters.

The third local project with potential to be fast-tracked, the Pepe Stream Bridge replacement, was announced in July as one of nine significant bridges nation-wide to be replaced. Waka Kotahi has been exploring options to replace the ageing bridge with a modern two-lane replacement for several years.

A statement from HDC said the Fast

Track bill was a legitimate alternative to its own resourcing consent process, and Oceana Gold and Kaimai Wind Farm Ltd were free to choose either option.

The bill is currently before the Environment Select Committee, with the committee due to report back to Parliament on October 18. It will have its second reading in November.



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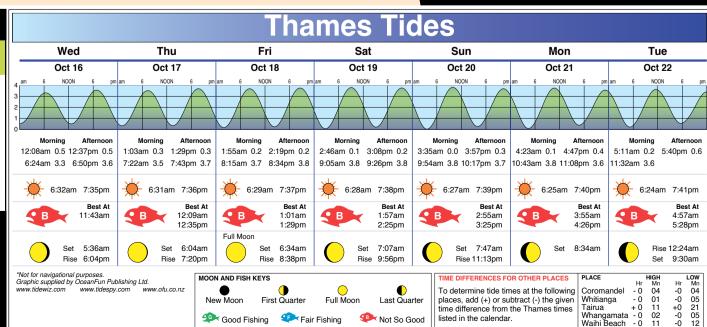




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Not So Good

Fair Fishing

Good Fishing

Strong recovery for Hauraki-Coro tourism

I gion had its highest ever total visitor spend over the summer quarter after experiencing one of the toughest years the regional tourism organisation has encoun-

Destination Hauraki Coromandel (DHC) says improved regional visitor activity and spending was "gratifying to see" in the wake of a slow recovery from the effects

a slow recovery from the effects of the global pandemic and the January, 2023, weather events that devastated the region.

DHC, which recently released its 2024 Annual Report, said the organisation was able to promote the region nationally to rally support for regional tourism recovery.

General manager Hadley Dryden said the necessity to ap-

peal for greater support was a "luxury we typically can't afford".

"However, building stronger networks with national tourism agencies and media channels paid dividends.'

This included working with stakeholders to acquire exter-nal funding for The Coromandel Cure, the biggest marketing campaign DHC has ever delivered; and working with regional partners to position Mautohe Cathedral Cove for national support to ensure re-opening of the walking track this summer.

"The \$200,000 Coromandel Cure domestic campaign was picked up offshore and domestically, delivering well in excess of \$650,000 in unpaid media value.

"The success of the campaign continues to be realised as lo-



Improved regional visitor activity and spending was "gratifying to see" in the wake of a slow recovery from the effects of the global pandemic and the January, 2023, weather events which devastated the region, DHC says.

cal businesses have leveraged the promotion long after the last DHC dollar was invested, a gift that

keeps on giving."

The organisation also appealed for greater support of Mautohe Cathedral Cove, to rebuild the tourist attraction's access but also work towards improved outcomes for the locale and visitors. "The \$5 million allocation from the Department of Conservation towards a vital national and Hauraki Coromandel tourism asset and local taonga, is well overdue for a tourism centric region such as ours.'

The return to a strong and successful summer was just the medi-cine required for a region that relies on visitor spend to survive and prosper, with visitor numbers up 5.9 per cent compared to the 2023 year, the organisation said.

"The \$370m in visitor spend

for this reporting period was the economic account for the sunny weather, open roads, calm seas and returning international travellers that Hauraki Coromandel enjoyed.'

The DHC website www.thecoromandel.com was the key platform for regional marketing.
"In addition to active use of so-

cial media and print channels, the recently launched Hauraki Coromandel Travel app (available for Apple and Android), is proving to be another valuable tool in the region's marketing assets."
DHC chair John Sandford said

it was very pleasing that the per-formance of the organisation had been validated. "It was also gratifying to see that

ance change DHC had submitted to its [trust] settlors, Thames-Coromandel District Council Coromandel Council (TCDC) and Hauraki District Council (HDC), were adopted and are now taking place."

DHC is a charitable trust fund-

ed by Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki District Councils to promote the Hauraki Coromandel region as a leading visitor desti-nation through destination marketing and fostering sustainable

visitor experiences.
Since it began in November, 2011, enormous changes have taken place in tourism and travel, not least of which has been a continuing evolution in traveller's ex-

"In constant pursuit of excel-lence, our operational team has kept pace with the changing trends. DHC has continued to deliver results that match and of-ten exceed those of many larger ten exceed those of many larger and better-funded New Zealand regional tourism organisations (RTOs)," Sandford said.
"This constant search for ex-

cellence led the Board of DHC to submit the recommendations to TCDC and HDC about its Board

composition.

"The governance changes now adopted will enable DHC to better meet the needs of both the communities we serve and the needs and expectations of our manuhiri, our guests, the people from New Zealand and across the globe who come to experience this wonder-ful slice of beauty, wonder and peace that is so good for your soul."



Do you have livestock or animals?

In October we'll be using a low-flying helicopter in the Coromandel, Hauraki, and Matamata-Piako areas to inspect our power poles. This allows us to find and fix any problems and help keep your lights on.

If you're worried the helicopter might disturb your livestock, animals or an upcoming event, please visit powerco.co.nz/helicopter or scan the QR code to see when we'll be in your area.





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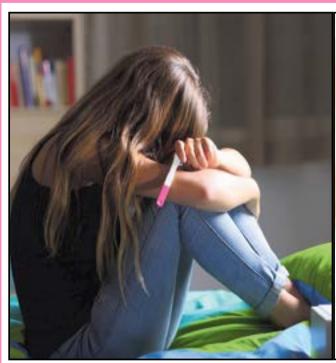
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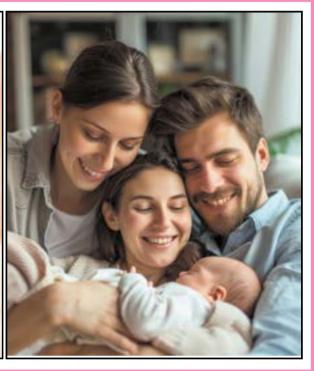
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If pregnant & not ready, Would I consider Open Adoption?

Adoption is not for the faint of heart; while the world may tell you that to give your child into adoption is failure, I cannot help but see a woman who is no failure, but instead deserves my utmost admiration.

For most, pregnancy is a time of wonder and expectation. But for the woman who finds herself pregnant and afraid yet chooses life for the child, is one to be commended. For a woman to put herself second to the child she carries is a courageous woman indeed. She will be met with judgement and heartache, because she puts herself second. She will grieve for what could have been as she hands her child over because she puts herself second. She will go home with empty arms while others are full to overflowing, because she puts herself second.

Heartache she will experience... But this woman will be cherished. This woman will find belonging in the family that raises her child. This woman's heartache will give way to joy as she watches her child grow. This woman's empty arms will become full as she snuggles her precious child on their visits.

And this child, this sweet child, will have a life of extra love. What a blessed child it is who has so many who love them. I write this as I sit in my home, which is abounding in love. I get to raise two children who are not my own because a woman puts herself second. This reality is never lost on me. What a privilege I have all because a woman puts herself second.

N. J 9/24

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Healing and growing community through art

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

Since the age of six, art has been the defining element of Helen Casey-MacDuff's life.

It's formed her career as an art teacher and professional artist; it's been a healing tool through tough times; and now it's a way for her to support and engage with her local community.

The Ngatea-based artist is one of this year's entrants in the annual ART Waikino exhibition, taking place over Labour Weekend at Waikino Hall. She said events like ART Waikino were important in helping to encourage, empower and grow small community creatives.

"Being creative is not just about sitting in your studio painting, it's about engaging with community," she said.
"There is always space for creatives. Especially in education I would see a lot of young

tion, I would see a lot of young people that that's their passion, and yet there wasn't always an opportunity for them to exhibit or to put it out there and cel-

ebrate who they are.
"And I think little things like this are a good opportunity for

people."
Helen described her own works as "semi-abstract", although she was quick to admit they could be difficult to define.
"I like to portrow movement."

"I like to portray movement and energy. So as much as I love fine details and creating realistic elements that draw in your eve, there will also be areas of

within a 10km radius.



Ngatea artist Helen Casey-MacDuff champions events like ART Waikino.

abstraction and more ambiguous space that doesn't detract from those little points of em-

phasis," she said.

"A lot of people will look at my work and say it looks kind of ethereal and a little bit spiritual, but I find it really difficult to articulate it. I'm still one bit of ticulate it. I'm still on a bit of a process of finding my voice.

Helen's entry into the exhibition is an oil painting titled Sail Away. The muted painting, swathed in greens and blues, was one of a series of images created while she nursed her late husband, Myles, through his battle with motor neurone disease. "It's got a little sailboat in it, and it's sailing out of the Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

storm into a different, like a safer harbour," she said.

'[It] has a lot of personal kind of symbolism... losing my husband and trying to find my way out of all that pain. At the time I didn't know what I was doing, I was just painting, and now I know what it means. And yet, it's not really a sad painting, it's

The style is a change from her previous focus on more realistic, forest-based and political

scenes, she said.
"When I was going through that stuff with Myles, I couldn't do dark or use black anymore. I had to do things that were bringing light into the home and happiness, so I went to all those blues and healing sorts of colours. That was just a natural response," she said.
"And now I'm just trying to,

yeah, see what I can do, experiment with some other palettes and see if they're still authentic

This intuitive, explorative way of painting is just one way to approach creativity, Helen said, and that's what she loves about open exhibitions such as ART Waikino.

"Art is a visual language.

"There's always something original and new ways to say things. [And] a community-run event like this is a good start, it will help build confidence for

people.
"And I've seen there's all sorts of works there. Whether you like abstracts or photographic realism, at a community event like that, there'll be something for everybody."

DETAILS: ART Waikino art exhibition, October 25-27, 10am-4pm at Waikino Victoria Hall, 8559 State Highway 2. Entry by koha and all artworks will be for sale.

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Your local sleep experts



Miners' strike causes 'terrifying incidents'



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

1912

Strikers' wives took an active part in affairs at Waikino during a major miners' strike both there and at Waihī.

About 20 of them paraded the main thoroughfare of the town-ship with placards attached to their clothes, on which was in-scribed in bold lettering, "Don't be traitors to your cause." The strike caused much unrest and several terrifying incidents such as that of three young men who were travelling from Te Aroha to Paeroa by

All were calmly sitting in a carriage, when a man, wearing long streamers of red ribbon, entered produced a revolver, asking if they were going to Waihī to work, and warning them to keep away from there. The intruder paid special attention to one of the men and, pointing the revolver into his face, pinned a piece of red ribbon on to his coat. The man, almost scared to death, said he was not bound for Waihī and as soon as the train reached Paeroa he jumped from the carriage, tore the ribbon from his coat, and ran



Strikers' wives parade outside the Waikino works with placards.

for his life.

At Thames, housewives were driven to their wits end to provide a decent family meal. Bread, meat, butter, vegetables and fruit were expensive with most fruit being

expensive with most fruit being out of the question.

Rents also were high, but it was the supply of fish that really rankled. Fish one couldn't buy at Thames under the present system where there were about 30 'lords' of the Hauraki Gulf.

These man built large freezing

These men built large freezing works and controlled the supply of fish to suit themselves. A trawling company was the only means of solving the trouble, but these lords of the gulf said: "No, it will do us out of a living".
"Why should thousands of peo-

ble be starving for fish just because doesn't suit a few men to go in for an up-to-date method of catching them?" asked a housewife. If they couldn't compete with trawlers let them do something else. The Hauraki Gulf should belong to the people. It was teeming with fish, and the government should

open it for trawling.
Over at Paeroa, a distinct earthquake was felt which lasted for two or three seconds, and had come and gone before most people real-ised what had happened. It was so many years since there had been an earth tremor in Paeroa that the unpleasant experience was quite a novelty to many. Most people were indoors at the time of the shake, and several rushed outside.

Photo: SUPPLIED

but they soon recovered from their

Meanwhile the Postmaster General authorised the establishment of a post office at the Orchard, Hauraki Plains. The name of the office was to be Ngātea and the postmaster Mr J Bratlie. A branch of the Farmers' Union was also inaugurated at the fledging township. The first meeting of the newly formed branch would consider making application for a fulltime school. The new district held great possibilities for dairying. The drainage appeared to be working very satisfactorily, and where grass had been laid down it had taken splendidly. About 1000 cows would be milked there and prospects were extremely bright.

Chris' Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris **Parminter**

- 1. In what decade was the Pac-Man video game first released?
- 2. Jump, Panama and Runnin' With the Devil are all songs by which rock band, active from 1973 until the lead singer's death in 2020?
- 3. Bosc, Red D'anjou and Bartlett are all types of which
- 4. Which of the characters of the TV show Friends had a twin sibling?
- 5. What is the largest sea mammal in the world?
- 6. What term refers to the distance around a circle?
- 7. What colour are the public transport buses in London?
- 8. What number is 15 squared?
- 9. In opera, what is the libretto?
- 10. The term 'Corona' is a latin term which translates best as what? a) crown, b) beer or c)



ANSWERS: 1. 1980s; 2. Van Halen; 3. Pears; 4. Phoebe Buffay; 5. The blue whale; 6. Circumference; 7. Red; 8. 225; 9. The lyrics/words; 10. a) Crown.

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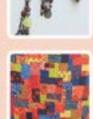






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Coromandel landscape painting by artist Delano.

Thames artists to exhibit and sell their unique creations

hames Arts, Treasures and Textiles ("TATAT") is a group of local artists who have come together to exhibit and sell their unique creations.

The exhibition will be open for sales every Saturday morning, from 9am to 1pm, in the Grahamstown Hall, in conjunction with the Saturday Thames Market.

On display will be collections of pottery, jewelry, textiles and fine arts, as well as beautiful and rare forgotten treasures from ages past.

It was the idea of Jenni and Angelique to utilize an indoor space where artists would be able to support and expand each other's creative processes, while at the same time having the opportunity to market their work to the general public.

They felt that this would enable a kind of cross-fertilisation among individual artists which would benefit each member, as well as achieving a high degree of market exposure for each artist in the group.

They wanted a sales environment where the buyer would be confident that each piece of work purchased would be unique, hand-made and not part of a mass-produced run or the re-working of cheap foreign art products.

Furthermore, the artist would be available at the time of sale to discuss aspects of the work with the purchaser, answer questions and provide further information about other aspects of their work or style

All our artists are happy to discuss commissions or special requests, and to work within the client's budget where possible.

To date we have over 14 artists in the roup, representing almost as many forms of artistic activities and we wel-come expressions of interest from other artists who might like to join us.

For those artists not wanting to make a full ongoing commitment, casual ad-hoc memberships are also available, subject to acceptance by the group.

Whānau Day Out

The Thames Civic Centre was buzzing on October 3 during a fun, interactive gathering of health providers, social services and community groups. Held by Te Korowai Hauora o Hauraki, there were spot prizes, a sausage sizzle and stall holders offered free activities and health checks throughout the day at the annual event.



CAPs Hauraki's Maria Buteler gives Maia Ngamane, 11, a fresh new look.



Kuratapirirangi Manuel, 5, has fun painting a pot



Oakley Bithell, 2, checks out the Hauraki Maori Trust Board's potting activity.



The Grey Power Thames committee is on hand to answer questions.



Taurima Midwives' Leesa Riley-Harrow, left, Kim Grant and Manea Grant



Gr8 Job Hauraki's Ryley Ballantine

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Blast from the past

The Thames Museum open day was a bustle of activity on October 12. Members of the public mingled with reenactors from the Historical Reenactors Society, wartime nurses and 1940s-era working class women. There was plenty to see and do, and visitors were treated to a wealth of knowledge about life in wartime New Zealand. "It's wonderful that people are coming along and supporting the museum," museum society chair Carolyn McKenzie said. ALICE PARMINTER captured the activities.



Thames Museum volunteers pose behind a vintage shop counter in the museum.



Mike Jenner displays some artefacts.



Thames Rotary's sausage sizzle.



The Historical Reenactment Society was set up along the front lawn, armed with memorabilia and stories to tell.



Museum society chair Carolyn McKenzie explains a display to a museum visitor.



Thames Hospital nurse Andy Phillips blends into the display in an accurate



SEEKING

DESTINATION HAURAKI COROMANDEL TRUSTEES

Do you have a passion for the Hauraki Coromandel region and growing the visitor economy in a sustainable and regenerative way? Would you like to support the region to thrive as a tourism destination, whilst ensuring this returns positive benefits to local communities?

Destination Hauraki Coromandel Trust is seeking dynamic and visionary individuals to help shape the future of tourism in the region. We are seeking board members who have the vision to promote the area as a top-tier destination while fostering a sustainable and thriving tourism sector.

Destination Hauraki Coromandel is the Regional Tourism Organisation for Thames-Coromandel district and Hauraki district. DHC's purpose is to:

- **Promote and market the Hauraki-Coromandel** as a premier tourist and visitor destination.
- **Support the tourism sector** to deliver high-value, sustainable tourism experiences.

We are seeking to fill the role of Chairperson, and a number of trustee positions.

To find out more and to apply, visit **tcdc.govt.nz/makeadifference** or scan the QR code.

tcdc.govt.nz/makeadifference







Patron passionate about promoting history

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

Take a second look at the person putting away the chairs at Thames Museum; it could very well be the society's new patron.

Thames resident Sereena Burton said it was an honour to be asked to be the museum's patron, and said she saw the position as an advocate rather than a mere figurehead.

"Any museum is important to a town. Because, stating the obvious, it's the town's history. If we forget things, then we're doomed to repeat them," she said.

"It's getting out there, it's promoting the town. I mean, looking at a number of empty shops at the moment, Thames is looking a bit sad. We're trying to encourage people to come in and celebrate the town."

Sereena has been involved with the museum since 1999 - the turn of the century, she said; an appropriate turn of phrase for a museum.

Along with spending periods on the committee, she's also helped to photograph some of Thames' history. Most recently, the museum invited her to make a photographic record of the former Butts Hotel, above the old Fresho shop, ahead of its upcoming demolition.



Sereena Burton is the new patron for Thames Museum.

History has always been a large part of Sereena's life.

With an uncle who was a historian in Taranaki and her late mother involved in a number of Thames societies, Sereena soon found she also had a place there

"We were foundation mem-

bers of the Small Gauge Railway, my mother and myself," she said.

"We had similar interests, so we tended to replicate the same things.

"And one of the wives there said to my mother, who I call DC, 'how would you like to be

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

a volunteer at the museum? You only have to be down there once a month just on the door, you know.'

"And then, of course, what she did, I did. I mean, people who know us will know that we were interchangeable, pretty From there, Sereena was involved in plenty. She joined Forest and Bird, the John William Hall Arboretum, and took occasional photos for the School of Mines.

She's also the official photographer for the Historic Kōpū Bridge group.

Sereena said volunteers were invaluable, not just for the museum but for the whole town.

"If it wasn't for them, so many establishments in Thames wouldn't be operational - sporting groups and community groups and heritage groups. If we all just did a little bit, then it would be so much easier."

And for Sereena, "doing her bit" now includes promoting the museum.

"I've been known as eccentric... I'm quite happy to get dressed up in Victoriana or anything to promote the museum," she said.

"The thing is, I'm not great at talking to people, so it's something to work on."

Meanwhile, she's found other ways to help out, like packing up after the museum's monthly history talks.

"I've decided 'patron' means 'putting away temporary resting-on necessities'," she laughed.





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scientific studies

By ALICE PARMINTER, Public Interest Journalism funded by 12 0

hinemuri's budding scientists came together for a science fair display on September 13.

The fair, held at Netherton School, featured 16 projects from five primary schools across the region, including Hikutaia, Miller Ave, Netherton, Paeroa Central and St Joseph's Paeroa. The inaugural event saw around 35 kids participating.

Ohinemuri Kahui Ako chair Brook Hill said the fair was a chance to celebrate learning within the school cluster.

"We do a great job highlighting sports... it's really important that we're [also] highlighting the other strengths and passions of our tamariki," she

The children's projects were chosen from topics aligned with the science curriculum.

Each school held their own science fairs, and the winners of each age category were selected to represent their school at the group fair.

The fair was well supported by local and education businesses, who donated over \$800 worth of educational prizes including microscopes, robotics, experiment kits and rock collections. The judging was conducted by House of Science's Lauren Bartram, along with Paeroa College's head of science Sheree Dunlop, head student of learning Milah McGahan and year 13 science enthusiast Justin Smith.



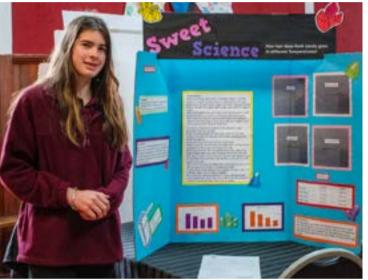


Max and Jackson from Hikutaia School investigate sugar levels in sauces.



Six-year-old Temata from Paeroa Central School with his project about melting ice.



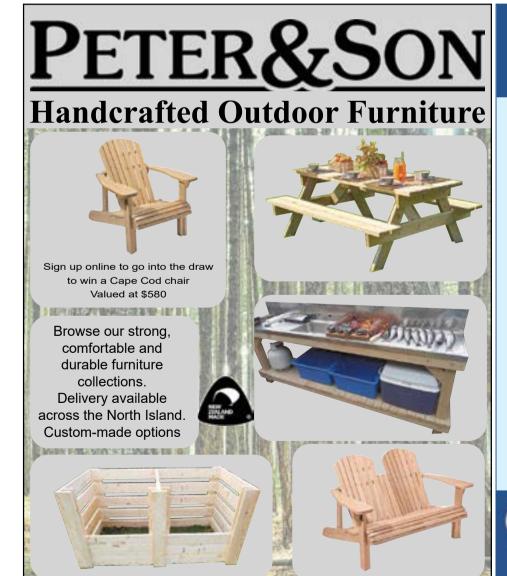


Netherton's Emily Oakden, 11, explores the effect of temperature on rock candy.



effect of smoking and vaping on lungs





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HEARTLAND RUGBY

Don't try and tell Tighthead Ted he's not happy! The romantic weekend away to Whanganui with Mrs THT resulted in a thumping win to the Swamp

Payback for the horrible loss to the Butcher Boys a few weeks back. Looking back now, probably a good loss to wear as conditions were the same, a strong wind, again in the first spell, but this time

the boys used it well, and the result came. It was a very focused Valley side that hit the field at Cooks Gardens, a forward pack primed and ready for action, and Whanganui feeling the pressure of being firm favourites for this match. However, they shelled the first kickoff of the match, backpedalled in their first two scrums, and were on the receiving end of some ferocious offensive defence. They defended an early Valley attacking lineout, before those early scrums, and end result, four minutes in, Sione Etoni dotting down in the right hand corner after some good work from Laulea Mau. It was quick hands, then great strength that saw Etoni carry half the Whanganui backline over to score. Quinn Collard missed the bonus points. Whanganui failed to put the restart 10 metres, and more pressure mounted for the home side. Another strong Valley scrum saw the ball go to the right touchline, before swinging back to the left. Alex Thrupp hit the line hard in midfield, then threw a nice long pass to Oneone Faufou, who was lurking on the left wing, Faafou galloped along almost to the goalline before throwing a nice inside pass to Charlie Marsh, and the little maestro dotted down. Eight minutes in, and after the Collard conversion, Valley was ahead 12-0. Whanganui started to get their act together, holding the ball together and string phases together into the wind. But another error saw Valley enter their 22 again, and another penalty saw Collard extend the lead to 15-0. Finally though, on the back of a few penalties as the Valley defence tired, a five metre lineout saw Whanganui drive over for their first five pointer. Unconverted into the stiff breeze, but the home team was starting to look the goods. A break up the middle of the ruck from their big arse flanker saw Toddy Doolan sin binned for loitering on the ball too long, and Whanganui took the gift three points.

The score now at 15-8 with 10 to go in the half,

a repeat of the Thames match was looking in the offing. The Valley veterans up front thought otherwise, and after a big break from Connor McVerry saw Brett Ranga bundled out in the corner. From the ensuing defensive lineout, Mau charged the clearing kick down, and a five metre scrum saw Valley pile on the pressure.

Whanganui held strong though, but after conceding a penalty, they then upgraded to a penalty and a yellow card following a Charlie Marsh quick tap. The first five was given the card, but it looked to ole Tighthead more like their 13 had put in a cheap no-arms shot to the back of Marsh's head.

Skipper Matty Axtens seemed a bit more upset than just a 'not back five' call. Regardless, a penalty slotted by Collard, and the Whanganui come-back was slowed. Then the highlight of the match, first McVerry stole a lineout that Axtens cleaned up nicely. Etoni came in off his blindside wing for a solid run before finding Faufou, who battled on. Quick ruck ball saw a text book short side quick hands putting Cam Dromgool into the clear. Dromgool timed an inside pass to the ever present Marsh for the heartbreaking five pointer, which became seven after the Collard conversion.

The best part of the try though was the quick hands – Marsh to tighthead prop Te Huia Kutia to Axtens to Dromgool. It was training ground stuff, repeated a thousand times this season, and executed to perfection on the field. Brought a tear to the eye I can tell ya. The fact that it also blew the score out to 25-8, instead of 18-8 at the half must have screwed a few minds in the Whanganui camp too! The second half opened with Valley shelling the kickoff, but taking early control, Mau and Fauthe kickoff, but taking early control, Mau and Fau-fou keeping the Valley pack rumbling forward with some powerful carries. Valley started to steal a bit of lineout pill through this early period too, but couldn't capitalise. Axten's was held up over the line after some more good work from Etoni, a sec-ond yellow card to Whanganui after another high shot on Marsh, a try saving steal from Rodney Ton-gotea saw the next 10 minutes filled with neither side having real ascendancy. side having real ascendancy.

The deadlock was broken with 20 to go when the Valley, who were giving the ball plenty of air throughout the match, went wide after some phase play, and hooker Josh Tye put Etoni into space. The big unit stepped inside the final defender to regis ter his second try of the match. The regulation Col lard two points after saw the match put away 32-8. Whanganui came back into the match, winning some field position, and after a concerted period of pressure, one of their reserve fatties rolled over for a try, making it 32-15 with 12 minutes to go. But there was not going to be a fairy tale ending for the Butcher Boys. Valley poured back on to the attack Tayne Tupaea leading the way with multiple carries, and the match was closed out with two more penalties to the Swampies – Collard and then Fletch Morgan getting onto the score sheet with the final three pointer in the match. Final score 38-15, and a spot booked in the final. Hard really to 15, and a spot booked in the final. Hard really to pick any standouts in the match, as pretty much every man played well. The pack really laid it on — tackled like trojans, if it wasn't McVerry, it was Axtens, if not Axtens, Ranga, or Kutia, or Martin, or Faufou and Mau or any combination. The low number stepped up and made their tackles count. Defence was super throughout, and not only the light borg, put wide the protty hour ways doing the big boys, out wide the pretty boys were doing the damage too, led by the midfield pairing of Morgan (still needs that haircut) and Tongotea. Doolan kicked well into the wind after a couple of dusty early efforts, and as per usual, whoever was kick-ing for goal, the points kept coming off the boot. But wait, there was more, ole THT had barely blown the froth of his fifth lemonade when Mid

Canterbury came back from the dead against their neighbours South Canterbury. A penalty with time up on the clock saw the vellow and greens lead for the first time in the match, 17-16. I must say a handy time to lead too, when the ref blows the whistle for full time! So a HOME FINAL for the lads this coming weekend. What a difference a week makes. Last week we were lamenting losing a home semi final, and getting ready to head south for a final – if we won this week's away semi. But colour me pink, the unbeaten, since Adam ate that apple, South Canterbury go down, and 'wallah', home ground advantage. And geez, the lemonade

Meads Cup Semi Final Results: Whanganui 15 (2 tries; conversion; penalty) lost to Thames Valley 38 (C Marsh 2, S Etoni 2 tries; Q Collard 3 conversions, 3 penalties; F Morgan penalty). South Canterbury 16 lost to Mid Canterbury 17.

Meads Cup final to be hosted by Thames Valley at

Boyd Park, Te Aroha, October 19, at 2:05pm.



Thames Valley's Tayne Tupaea breaks through.



Sweet transition from honey to the herd

making silage when a bit of wire flew out of the harvester and "got me in the other eye", he said.
But his loss of sight didn't stop

He said the biggest thing was to take on little challenges, get good at them, and then move on to the next, rather than take on big challenges.
"Big ones will blow you away."

One thing the Hootons poured 30 years into before working with herefords was beekeeping.

The couple, who owned Golden

Flow Honey in Matamata, bought a block of land in Coroglen in 2015 with the intention of planting it all in Manuka for honey.

Manuka honey was "going ballistic" at the time, Bryce said.

"We ran 2000 hives and packed 100 tonnes of honey for overseas markets.

But by the time Bryce turned 50, he'd "sort of had enough", he

"The big boys were starting to buy little businesses up... so I found the opportunity to go."
That's when the Hootons came

up with a new plan for the Coro-glen land, "because you've got to do something", Bryce said. The couple turned their atten-

tion and efforts to a different sort of buzz: a cattle farm.

But Bryce said he didn't want to

run "just any old stock".
"I wanted a bit of a challenge, a bit of meaning in it.

The couple sold their honey



Bryce and Sue Hooton with their pet cow Lucy

business and shifted from Matamata to Cooks beach, near Coro-glen, to kick start their new journey as hereford farmers.

Bryce heard herefords were a "really quiet breed" and easy to handle, he said.

'It's not a big herd, you know. Farming 35 cows wasn't the same as taking in 300 cows twice a day to milk, Bryce said.

"You sort of shift them and you walk around them and give them the odd pat, check their water and wander off."

Bryce and Sue bought another block of land last year in Mataran-- which is where the herd and

heifers lived, he said. When the bulls were weaned in March, they were then shifted to Coroglen for the winter, he said,

Photo: SUPPLIED

while the heifers stayed at Mata-

rangi.
Even though Bryce was "a little bit hesitant" to begin with - it was evident the Hootons were passionate about their hereford iournev

'Botȟ our hearts are right in it." The most important thing Bryce had learnt so far was "breeding something that you can sell".

"We've been pretty lucky," he said. "We've sort of gone along with the AI [Artificial Insemination], so we import a lot of Australian semen.

He called it "top-notch sort of stuff", which came from an Australian hereford stud bull called Robert Redford.

'So the breeding's worth something, that's what I've sort of learnt.

He said, just like dairy farmers and other breeders - the thing to look for was low birth weight high growth rates and easy calv-

Those are the things Bryce said they were "focussed on" with their

breeding programme.

"And it's starting to show in our bull sales this year," Bryce said.

"You know, you get \$8000 for your top bull."

Bryce said they had 10 bulls

Bryce said they had 10 bulls up for auction on August 31 and managed to sell them all.

"We average \$4600, where a lot of other studs are sort of averaging, you know, \$2700 [to]

\$3000." But out of the 10 bulls, five were sold to stud farms. "We're really wrapped with that.

Bryce said they had to be "pretty blooming good" to go to a stud farm. It was a real challenge for the Hootons, so they had a "really good bottle of wine" that night, he

Being able to sell yearling bulls is "a lot easier on us", he said.

CONTINUED ON P13



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Australian hereford stud bull Robert Redford.

Photo: SUPPLIED

CONTINUED FROM P12

A lot of breeders kept their bulls for an extra year to sell as rising two-year-olds, he

"The yearlings really suit us... we don't have to deal with these real big fellas."

Bryce said yearling bulls could get quite

big.
"They're like 500kg when they leave our place. But they're cruisy.
"We haven't been threatened by them at all."

One of the biggest things Bryce said he'd been challenged with was fat marbling throughout the meat.

"It seems to have been missed out on with a lot of their breeding."

Restaurants and markets all around

the world wanted marbling in their steak,

Bryce said. "You've got to have what the market wants. And that really starts with people

Bryce said they were targeting bulls with

a lot of fat in their muscles.

"It's quite an important thing," but, "I can't do it on my own".

Bryce said as time went on - more and more people were starting to realise and bring it into their breeding programmes.

"If you get the premium product with all the right muscles and rump muscles, and all the eye [fillet steak] muscles and stuff like that right- then you've got something to sell.

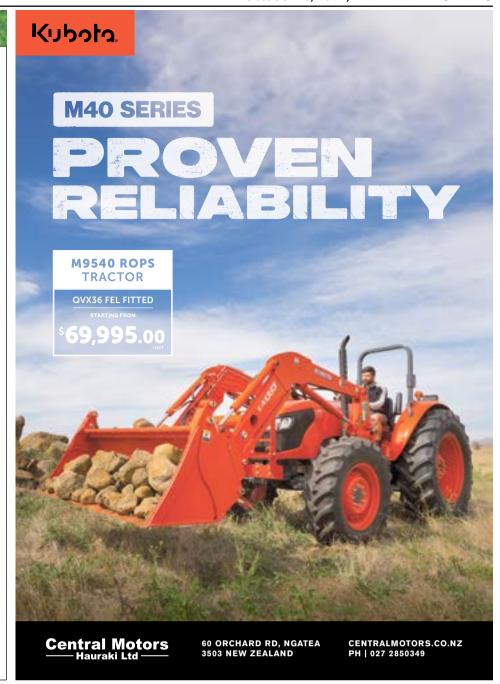
And it was the same when the Hootons were doing honey, he said.

"The whole world was screaming out for manuka honey - so we packed up our bees and went to manuka places and produced manuka honey

Even though bees and herefords are dif-

ferent - the principle is still the same.
"You've got to produce something what the market wants.

DETAILS: To find out more about the Hootons and their hereford journey, visit hoobeesherefords.com.







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Pushing past limits: The power of the Stretch Zone

OPINION

By MICHAEL WILKES

Recently, we had to change our adventure day challenge for the Res-Kids pro-

gramme. New adventure regulations required a safety audit, and the cost of that audit was more than the entire programme budget.

Needless to say, we had to pivot.

After some searching, I found an alternative adventure opportunity that was permissible in today's risk-averse climate.

I booked a day to check it out, but when the day arrived, it was wet and cold, and I had a short window to get up and back.

I would need to run if I wanted to finish on time.

Truth be told, I was tired and not feeling particularly moti-

But then I reflected on a topic we had just discussed with some students: the "stretch zone."

We all have things we're comfortable with and things we declare we'll never be able to do.

The stretch zone is where we begin to push toward those "no-go" things.

As I looked at the weather and considered my energy, I realized I needed to step into the stretch zone.

So, I loaded up, jumped in the car. I ran, huffed, puffed, and crawled up the hill.

When I finally reached the top, the breathtaking view made it all worthwhile—a powerful reminder to "practice what I preach."

So, whether for yourself or your child, I encourage you to consider your own stretch zone.

What are the challenges that seem a little daunting?

Embrace them, because each time we step outside our comfort zones, our world grows a little bigger. Michael Wilkes is a Living Well Trust Youth Worker. He and his team provide mentoring and resilience programmes across Thames and Paeroa to more than 300 students a year.

They are passionate about supporting our young people to thrive.

Much of this work is funded outside of schools and it becoming increasingly challenging in the current climate.

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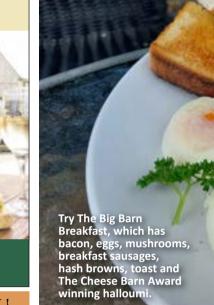


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They use Coffee LaLa beans and organic milk processed in the factory, which makes for a good coffee.

It's a popular stop to buy their award winning cheese and yoghurt sold in the shop.

They make their own Gelato and Sorbet Ice Creams using organic milk and cream that are only sold on site. They come in tubs or cones and also on Belgium Waffles, which are a real treat.

There is a breakfast menu served on weekends from 9am to midday.

Try The Big Barn Breakfast, which has bacon, eggs, mushrooms, breakfast sausages, hash browns, toast and The Cheese Barn Award winning halloumi. Eggs Benedict is also a popular choice, and there is a kids breakfast too.

After many, many years of being open 7 days a week, The Cheese Barn is now shut on Mondays then open from 9am to 4pm every day from Tuesday to Sunday, (the kitch-

en closes at 3.30pm).

Visit Matatoki Cheese Barn on Facebook page to see if they are open on public holidays, which is only in the summer months.

They have a BYO licence so you can bring your favourite wine to enjoy with your cheese board or pizza and sit outside under a shady tree.

The kids love the big outdoor area and can feed the animals like alpacas, goats, guinea pigs, rabbits, birds, and chickens.

DETAILS: The Cheese Barn, 4 Wainui Road, Matatoki, Ph 07 868 1284, www.thecheesebarn.co.nz.



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Garden Ramble brings hidden surprises

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

he Waihī Lions Club Garden Ramble Committee has been busy preparing 13 interesting gardens for its upcoming Garden Ramble fundraiser on November 9 and 10.

There will be a wide variety of gardens to view, from compact, well-filled gardens to more extensive properties.

The Ramble will begin in central Waihī and travel through the countryside, where people can explore Waitawheta, Waikino and beyond, ending back in Waihī.

People will be able to visit The Waterlily Gardens in Waihī, but only on November

Waihī Lions Club Garden Ramble spokesperson Hawker said the purpose of the Ramble was to raise money for the community

'Our wonderful garden owners are very kindly helping us fundraise money which will go back into the community.

In addition to the Ramble. "this year we have a massive plant sale", Liz said.

There will be a large variety of colour producing perennials and other delights such as dahlia tubers, box hedge, camellias and much more.

Nothing over \$15 and many plants under \$5.

"So it's a great opportunity







The Waihī Lions Club Garden Ramble kicks off on November 9, including gardens around Waihī, Waitawheta, Waikino and beyond.

and they also get to contribute.'

Come rain or shine, the Ramble will go ahead regardless of the weather.

"Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a jack-

Tickets are available to purchase from Garden centres in the area, or on November 8 and 9 from New World Waihī, and cover both days from 9am to 4pm.

"We want [people] to explore our area," Liz said.

"I remember when I first came to Waihī, it wasn't until I went on a ramble that I went, 'oh, my goodness, this is a different place than what I thought it was'.

"These people have got such pride in their gardens, and they're so beautiful.

"I didn't know that there were gardens like this in this area."

she said. "It gives you a different feeling

DETAILS: Tickets cost \$30 and are available at Mitre 10 Waihī, Beach Road Garden Centre, WB Home Hardware, Waihī HDC, Country Dog Paeroa and Aeroview Garden Centre Thames. New World Waihī will also have a ticket stand on November 8 and 9. For more information, contact Jennifer on 027 2040 488 or Liz on 021 023 17833.

ppeal volunteers Plea for Pink Ribbon Street

local nurse is encouraging Alocal nuise is con-people in Waikato to sign up as a volunteer for Breast Cancer Foundation NZ's Pink Ribbon Street Appeal this October.

Casey Nancarrow will be one of thousands of collectors hitting the streets all over New Zealand on 18 and 19 October to raise funds for breast cancer research, education and patient support programmes. The Foundation is still seeking more volunteers for the appeal.

Casey is volunteering with her mum, Robyn, who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2017. The journey with breast cancer impacted the whole family and Casey

specialised in breast care nursing following her Mum's

to fill any garden spaces with

these bargains and enjoy ex-

Art, refreshments and plants

Proceeds will go toward new

mattresses for Waitawheta

Camp and recovery chairs for

Hetherington House Commu-

people get to see the gardens

"So it's really cool because

for purchase will be available at

several gardens along the way.

ploring the Ramble too.

nity Rest Home.

It is amazing being able to help women when they are first diagnosed, and I can empathise as I know exactly how they are feeling.

"Breast Cancer Foundation does such good work. Hopefully by volunteering in the street appeal, we can help to reach a few people and spread awareness

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ's chief executive. Ah-Leen Rayner, says the funds raised through the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal are vital to continue the charity's work: "We don't receive any government

funding, so we rely entirely on the generosity of our incredible volunteers and donors to keep our life-saving programmes

"Breast cancer affects one in nine New Zealand women, but the good news is it can be successfully treated if detected early. The money raised through the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal will help to support patients going through treatment and make sure more women can get an earlier diagnosis.

Around 300 women are diagnosed with breast cancer across Waikato every year. The urvival rate for breast cancer if diagnosed early is 92 per

Movies for week starting Wed 16 October

Breast Cancer Foundation NZ is urging all women to be 'breast aware' to give themselves the best chance of surviving breast cancer.

This means getting to know the normal look and feel of their breasts, regularly touching and looking for any changes, and getting changes checked by a GP as soon as possible.

For women aged 45-69, free mammograms are available through BreastScreen Aotearoa

DETAILS: To sign up for a two-hour collection shift for the Pink Ribbon Street Appeal, visit pinkribbonvolunteer.org.nz.

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Wicked Little Letters (100mins, 2023) M Offensive language & nudity. Wed 4.30pm; Thu 1.30pm: When people receive letters full of profanities, rowdy Rose is charged with the crime. The town's women investigate. <u>Bad Luck Banging or Loony Porn</u> (106 mins, 2021) R18 Explicit sex scenes & offensive language. *Wed*

7pm; Thu 4.30pm: Winner at Berlin Festival, an outrageous Romanian comedy satirising modern culture. Thelma (98 mins, 2024) M Offensive language. Thu 11am; Fri 11am; Sat 1pm: 93-year-old Thelma gets duped by a phone scammer and sets out on a quest across the city to reclaim what was taken from her.



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Megalopolis (138mins, 2024) R13 Violence, offensive language, drug use & sex scenes. *Thu 7pm; Fri 7pm:* 2024 American epic science fiction drama film. Set in an alternate, 21st-century New York City. Rosalie (115 mins, 2024) M Sex scenes & self-harm references. Subtitled. *Fri 1.30pm:* 1870s France, Rosalie (115 mins, 2014) M Sex steries & self-faith felerences. Subtitled: Phr. 30pm. To France, Rosalie concealed her hirsutism until a bar owner marries her for her dowry. Inspired by historical figures.

Beats (101 mins, 2019) R16 Violence, offensive language & drug use. Fri 4.30pm: Friends in Scotland go out for a night together. Going to an illegal rave, the boys journey into an underworld of anarchy. Show Me Shorts: Whanau-friendly (48 mins, 2024) PG. Sat 3pm: Space travellers delighted by our world, charming robots and radio-active chickens... For children & families. Most popular.

Show Me Shorts: The Sampler (105 mins, 2024) M Offensive language, nudity & suicide references. Sat 7pm; Sun 4pm: Highlights of the festival, including Joanna Lumley and local talent.
Runt (91mins, 2024) PG Course language Sun 11am: Follows 10y.o. Annie and her stray dog as they attempt to win at agility at the Krumpets Dog Show in London in order to save their family's farm. **Harold & the Purple Crayon** (89 mins, 2024) G **Sun 1pm:** Harold can make anything come to life just by drawing it. After he grows up, he draws himself off his book's pages into the physical world.

DIRECT CREMATION within 15kms of Thames: \$3100.00

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or Waikato Hospital: \$3445.00

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- 4 Is blatantly obvious
- (6,3,1,4) **11** Snarl (5)
- 14 Heating device (5) 15 Component parts
- (11) **16** Arithmetic operation
- **19** Aseptic (7)
- Shed feathers (5) 20
- 21 Moral principles (9)
- Pay back (9)
- 26 Religion founder (6) 27 Rises (6)
- Hidden store (5)
- Team game (8)
- 34 Daughter of a miner
- '49er, in a song (10) **38** Sudden strong
- increase (7) 39 Wrench injury (6)
- 40 Competitors (6) Gambler's stake (4)
- 42 Enterprise (7)
- 45 Happening unexpectedly; by chance (10)
- 50 Tree-shaping art (7)
- 54 Headlice eggs (4)55 Handwriting (6)
- Elect (4,2) 56
- 57 Doubter (7)
- **60** Rich crumbly biscuit (10)
- **61** Women's
- underwear (8)
- **65** Cunning (6)
- **62** Wasp's weapon (5)

- Recently (2,4) 66 Lacking truthfulness Tidal river-mouths
- (9) **73** Card game (5)
- Fine glassware (7) 79 Go against, as of rules and laws (8)
- 80 Slows (11) 81 Last (5)
- Throwing sport (5)
 Delicate issue (8,6) 83
- Rot (5)

DOWN

- 2 Attractively small and dainty (6) 3 Watercourse (5)
- 5 Melody (4) Inquisitive (7)
- Jockey's seat (6)
- Second-hand (4) 9 Inherent ability (8) 10 Make lovable (6)
- Sharpening wheel
- (10) 12 US state (4) 13 Leaves slowly and
- reluctantly (7) 17 Economic
- depression (5) 18 Honest, genuine
- 22 Praise and honour
- (5) 23 Badges of office (8)
- Deplete totally (7) Equilibrium (7)
- 28 Black and white bird (6)

- 29 Seasoned preserved sausage (6)
- 30 Lucky charm (6)
- Subject (5)
- Foe (5)
- Laboratory gel (4)

- 37 Obnoxious child (4)
 42 Planet (5)
 43 Country-wide (8)
 44 Sector (anag)(6)
- 45 George Orwell
- satire (6.4)
- 46 Give as example (4)
- 47 Make a secret
- known (7)
- **48** Jotting down (6) **49** Similar (5)
- Long ago (4) 52 Momentum (7) **53** Rules over (6)
- 58 Facts and figures
- **59** Correct (5) 63 Adieu (8)
- Trap (5)
- Transported (7) 68 Immediate (7 69 Fiscal plan (6)
- 70 Expectorated
- 71 Wide-brimmed hat (6) **75**
- Bread piece (5) At a distance (4)
- Church seats (4) 77 Church seats 78 Surrender (4)

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Spite, 4 Give the game away, 14 Image, 15 Sneer, 16 Complexion, 17 Doyen, 19 Set, 20 Brittle, 21 Cowardice, 22 Future, 25 Animosity, 27 Seethe, 28 Betray, 33 Stationary, 35 Lob, 36 Muslin, 37 Fuss, 39 Zoo, 41 Optical, 42 Breeze, 43 Intricate, 44 Reins, 45 Brighten, 50 Do, 51 Alphabet, 55 Glare, 58 Beekeeper, 59 Filter, 60 Stealth, 61 Ear, 63 Evil, 64 Golden, 65 Oak, 66 Unabridged, 68 Likely, 69 Target, 71 Impatient, 76 Gossip, 77 Crossword, 79 Tequila, 81 Nil, 84 Erase, 85 Laryngitis, 86 Scene, 87 Never, 88 As old as the hills, 89 Defer.

DOWN: 2 Pantry, 3 Theft, 5 Icon, 6 Exploit, 7 Hyenas, 8 Grind, 9 Manacle, 10 Aide, 11 Asylum, 12 Cause, 13 Certify, 14 Injured, 18 Flamboyant, 23 Essay, 24 Chassis, 26 Netting, 27 Subzero, 29 Rhubarb, 30 Stupor, 31 Alien, 32 Pistol, 34 Yarn, 36 Motif, 38 Spent, 40 Dish, 45 Bible, 46 Ice-rink, 47 Heed, 48 Employ, 49 Laden, 50 Defrost, 52 Peter Piper, 53 Aladdin, 54 Entrée, 55 Gradual, 56 Fluke, 57 Beau, 62 Canal, 67 Cluster, 68 Leaning, 70 Gorilla, 72 Martini, 73 Finals, 74 Twinge, 75 Glance, 76 Glove, 78 Strut, 80 Uncle, 82 Feel, 83 Bill.

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Megan Claire: 21st February 1975 to 10th October 2024. The Williams Family are devastated to announce the unexpected passing of their much loved wife and mother, Megan.

Death Notice

The service for Megan will be held at 10:30am on Wednesday 16th October at the Paeroa War Memorial Hall. Forever loved by Jason, Brady, Nick and the late



Public Notice

Historical Maritime Park Inc. **AGM**

Sunday 20th October 3.30pm at Maritime Park

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if you have lost a loved family member or friend - this past year or earlier.

St James Church, cnr Pollen & Pahau St, Thames, 2pm on Sunday 20 October (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

Please phone 07 859 1260 to register (for catering)

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Assembly of God

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Baker St, Waihi

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Public Notices



Thames and Districts RSA (2014) INC **AGM**

Notice of Annual General Meeting. The AGM of the Thames and Districts RSA will be held at The Thames Bowling Club on Sunday 10th November at 1200, Midday, following the Armistice Day Service at the WW1 memorial.

Financial Report, and election of officers, and any general business.

Following the AGM there will be a luncheon to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of The Thames & Districts RSA. The cost for this has yet to be finalised.

Reservations are necessary and this may be done by signing on the Register at The RSA or writing to: Sec.thames.rsa@gmail.com **David Sinton-secretary**

HOSPICE REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

if you have lost a loved family member or friend - this past year or earlier.

St James Church, cnr Pollen & Pahau St, Thames, 2pm on Sunday 20 October (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

Please phone 07 859 1260 to register (for catering).

Public Notice

CLOSURE OF STREETS TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

Pursuant to the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is hereby given that the Thames Coromandel District Council, for the purpose of an onsite event, to close the following streets in Thames to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder.

Road closures will be carried out on Pollen Street, Willoughby Street and Pahau Street on 9 November 2024.

- Beach Road, between Williamson and Burke Streets 19:00 21/11/24 to 00:00 23/11/24
- Owen Street between Haven and Burke Streets 18:00 21/11/24 to 00:00 23/11/24
- Cochrane Steet between Queen Street SH25 and Brown Street 18:00 21/11/24 to 20:00 22/11/24

An approved copy of the Traffic Management Plan including road closure maps may be viewed at Council's Thames District Office.

Aileen Lawrie CHIEF EXECUTIVE







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KEREPEHI: Kerepehi Dairy



Kim Couper demonstrates the art of weaving to seven-year-old Lucas at the Waihī Weavers and Spinners club recently. The exhibition was held at the Waihī Arts Centre and Museum between September 16 and October 6. Fibre arts of all kinds were on display, including knitted baby clothes, blankets, wall art, pincushions, and toys. There were also several have-a-go activities - kids and adults alike could try out spinning, weaving, felting, crocheting and knitting. The exhibition was a success, club members Kim Couper and Donna Ritchie said, with many people stopping in to view and try their hand at the various crafts. The club meets on Thursday mornings, 9am-12pm in the building behind the museum. Photo: ALICE PARMINTER



Waitakaruru kids perform *Ureia*

Waitakaruru School kicked off their production called *Ureia* last month, with four shows in total across three days. Waitakaruru School Office Manager Elizabeth Remnant told *The Profile* the school's performance of *Ureia* was based on the Pūrakau (story telling) of Ureia the Great Kaitiaki. "We had four shows and over 400 people came to see it, including tamariki from Moanataiari School, Kopuarahi School and Ngatea School." Each class did a fantastic job of learning their dances, Elizabeth said, "but the loudest applause went to our teachers' performance of *Ten Guitars*". "The legend of Ureia is relevant for the whole of the Hauraki area, so we hope our audiences can continue to pass down the story.





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Puriri 107 Neavesville Road

Serene rural haven: family home with panoramic views

Escape to rural tranquility with this three-bedroom lifestyle property on 3.2 hectares (more or less) of rolling hills and lush greenery. The home features a master bedroom with ensuite, two additional bedrooms, and an open-plan kitchen, living, and dining area with modern appliances and an island bench. Large sliding doors lead to a spacious deck with stunning rural views. With 6.8kW solar panels, a double garage, fully fenced paddocks, extra shedding, and a private river beach, it's perfect for hobby farming or equestrian pursuits. Just a short drive to Thames, this property blends serenity and convenience. Call today!

bayleys.co.nz/2316097

3.2_{ha} ☐ 3 🛏 2 🖷 2 😭

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 7 Nov 2024 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

View 2.15-3pm Sun 20 Oct & 12.15-1pm Mon 28 Oct

Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83 karl.davis@bavlevs.co.nz

Glenn Tanner 027 486 2399

glenn.tanner@bayleys.co.nz
success realty limited, Bayleys, Licensed under the Rea act 2008
MH REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008







Mangatangi 420 Mangatangi Road

The ultimate family escape to the countryside

Welcome to your dream rural escape – a beautifully presented 1950s brick home on 5,000sqm (more or less), offering modern comfort and countryside tranquillity. An epic family home, generously proportioned with a large open living area featuring stunning polished native wooden floors leading to the kitchen & dining. The master bedroom includes a walk-in wardrobe and ensuite, with three additional large bedrooms and an office. Outdoors, enjoy the expansive deck, double garage, high-stud shed, and stunning park-like grounds. Formerly a Montana Vineyard, the fertile soil, fruit trees, and veggie garden offer a self-sufficient lifestyle.

bayleys.co.nz/2315826

5,000_{sqm} ☐ 4 **归** 2 **릐**

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 31 Oct 2024

96 Ulster Street, Hamilton **View** 10.15-11am Sun 20 Oct

Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83 karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

seth.roe@bayleys.co.nz

SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 200











Mangatangi 1781 Miranda Road

Proven dairy unit with top notch infrastructure

Spanning 108 hectares of fertile dairy land, this farm offers a fantastic opportunity for buyers. There's also an option to lease an additional 62 hectares across the road via an underpass. The property features a 50-bale rotary dairy shed with automatic cup removers, teat spray, and office space. Accommodation includes a five-bedroom house, a three-bedroom home, and a two-bedroom cottage. Other buildings include sheds, a hay barn, and a 300-cow feed pad. Water comes from a bore, and effluent covers 30 hectares. Close to Auckland and Hamilton, this farm blends productive farming with lifestyle benefits. Auction day sale—contact us today!

bayleys.co.nz/**2315951**

108_{ha} 🎞

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 7 Nov 2024 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

View 11am-12pm Wed 16 Oct & Wed 23 Oct

Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83

karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz **Sam Aislabie** 027 429 5410

sam.aislabie@bayleys.co.nz

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





Hikutaia 306 Ferry Road

Highly Profitable Dairy

Rare opportunity to secure such a strategic farming investment in a sought-after location. This tidy 177 hectares (more or less) property contains 119-paddocks that are spilt across four titles and both sides of Ferry Road, with a 21.8 hectares (more or less) Environment Waikato lease available. The current vendors have adopted an effective milking operation with the last seasons production being 193,465kgMS supplying Fonterra. The tidy 44 ASHB is complete with a standoff pad and rubber matting. The race system has been well maintained ensuring all weather access to the paddocks. The soil type is a mix of peat, clay and silt loam. Call today!

bayleys.co.nz/2315185

177.6 ha □

For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty

3pm, Fri 29 Nov 2024

Phone for viewing times Karl Davis 027 496 4633

karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

Sam Aislabie 027 429 5410

sam.a is labie@bayleys.co.nz

SUCCESS REALTY LIMITED, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 200



BAYLEYS







Mangatarata 249B State Highway 27

Your perfect rural retreat with town convenience

Craving countryside tranquility with town nearby? This 13-hectare (more or less) block on State Highway 27 offers the perfect blend of rural charm and accessibility to Hamilton, Auckland, and Tauranga. With five paddocks and multiple building sites, it's ideal for creating your dream home, while also leaving space for horses, crops, or cattle. Enjoy all-day sun, expansive mountain views, and room for a pool, gardens, or lawns. Located just 71km from Manukau, it's close to quality schools and outdoor activities like hiking Karangahake Gorge. Don't miss this rare opportunity!

bayleys.co.nz/2316002

13.19_{ha}

For Sale by Deadline Private Treaty (unless sold prior)
3pm, Wed 30 Oct 2024

Phone for viewing times

Karl Davis 0508 83 83 83

karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz **Connor Davis** 027 496 4622

connor.davis@bayleysngatea.co.nz







Waerenga 473 Falls Road

Boundary lines are indicative only

Unique, Diverse Farming Opportunity

This 240-hectare (more or less) dairy farm is an excellent opportunity for ownership, portfolio expansion, or a support block. Sustainable farming includes 40km of waterway fencing, 60 hectares of native planting, and regenerative grazing. Supplying Synlait (103,452 KgMS, three-year average) and local markets, it's designed for long-term pasture and soil health. Infrastructure includes a 40 ASHB shed with in-shed feeding, 100 paddocks, and deep bore water supply. The 2012-built, four-bedroom home is family-ready, with a second three-bedroom cottage for workers. Located near Te Kauwhata, it offers easy access to Auckland and Hamilton.

bayleys.co.nz/**2315428**

240.9556 ha □

Auction (unless sold prior) 11am, Thu 7 Nov 2024

96 Ulster Street, Hamilton

View 1-2pm Wed 16 Oct & Wed 23 Oct

Karl Davis 027 496 4633

karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz

Peter Kelly 027 432 4278 peter.kelly@bayleys.co.nz

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SPORTS

New blue hue for Thames Valley Hockey

An \$820,000 upgrade to the Thames Valley hockey turf was made possible by financial support, teamwork and dedicated advocates.

The newly upgraded blue turf at the Thames Valley Hockey As-sociation in Ngatea is set to celebrate its official opening on Oc-

tober 19.
The Thames Valley Hockey
Turf Society and Thames Valley Hockey Association upgraded its facility in December last year due to safety issues.

Society chair Julie told *The Profile* underneath the old turf, it ruffled and just "wasn't in a good state" - so they switched to a spe-cialised water-based synthetic turf. "This has been a massive up-grade," she said.

Six water cannons are dotted

around the turf on four corners and two sides, and after every one or two games "they literally spray the whole thing with water", she said.

Even though the official opening was set for this weekend, the turf has been used this season, and the most common piece of feedback was about how soft it was, Julie said.

If someone fell on the previous sand turf "it was very unforgiving", she said.

It also had a few "lumps and

bumps" but the new layout was

flat. "If you hit a ball straight, it runs straight.



Thames Valley Hockey Turf Society chair Julie Stephenson on the new hockey turf.

But the "key" thing for the entire project was the funding.
"Some people think that the

funding space is hard, but if you have all the information that you need - we've actually found that it's just been a pleasure dealing with some of the funding organi-

Julie said \$400,000 came from the Lottery Community Facilities Grant, \$164,220 from Grassroots Trust, \$156,700 from Hauraki District Council and \$100,000 from the Thames Valley Hockey Association. They also received

an additional \$35,000 from the Hockey Turf Society for associ-

The project also required a dose

of "typical grassroots" ingenuity. It was going to cost somewhere between \$30,000 and \$40,000 for a contractor to uplift and dispose of the old sand turf, she said.

But in true grassroots fashion, Julie said some of the Thames Valley hockey dads arrived with their tractors and "uplifted the turf"

There was a great team led by a local farmer."
She said the Thames Valley

Photo: DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

hockey community was more like

a "unique hockey whānau". For a smaller association that's probably "punched above its weight a little bit", Julie said people liked being hosted by them.

They used to have a lot of people who would come from Auckland, Tauranga, Hamilton, "just everywhere" to play the sport.

However, because the condition of the previous sand hockey turf "wasn't good" - they "missed" being able to bring those people to the area, she said.

But the newly upgraded facility

involvement to its grounds.

Julie said a new nationwide competition called Premier Hockey League was about to kick off in

November.
One of the franchises, Midland Mavericks, intended to send their teams to the Ngatea turf to practice, she said.

But there was a special connection. One of the team members, who also plays for the Black Sticks, was "one of our homegrown players", Julie said. Black Sticks midfielder Aidan

Sarikaya grew up in the Thames Valley and would be heading to the Ngatea turf not only for his Mavericks training, but as a special guest for the opening ceremony this Saturday.

People could expect to see a few primary and secondary school games, an invitational game featuring past and present Black Sticks and local players, as well as the special ceremony and tributes to Thames Valley sports stars.

Julie said she wanted people to know anyone could go and use the turf if there were no games on.

She said it wasn't usual for turfs

to be open like this one - normally they'd be locked or fenced off.
"And if they [people] wanted to play hockey - there is a summer league, which is a good way

DETAILS: To find out more or to get involved, visit valleyhockey.org.nz or find them on Facebook. The official opening is on October 19 from 11am at Hugh Hayward Domain, Ngatea.



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