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# Silver streak for Dani

Danielle Aitchison sprints her way to a silver medal in the Women's 100m final at the Paralympics in Paris. Photo: GETTY IMAGES

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

The legacy Danielle Aitchison hopes to leave behind one day is that despite her disability, "I can work hard and do anything I put my mind to".

The New Zealand para-athlete from Patetonga lives with two uncommon types of cerebral palsy - Ataxia and Athetoid, and has cochlear implants due to deafness in both ears.

But her journey with cerebral palsy has

not been an obstacle but a stepping stone to her aspirations.

The 23-year-old athlete competed at the 2024 Paralympics in Paris last month, claiming silver medals in the Women's 200m T36 and the Women's 100m T36 disciplines.

The former Hauraki Plains College student told *The Profile* she had mixed feelings during those moments.

"I was a bit disappointed in myself as I

knew I had a real chance to get the gold medal," she said.

Danielle worked really hard and "to be so close" was difficult, she said.

"At the same time, two silver medals is a huge accomplishment."

Danielle, who now resides in Kirikiriroa, Hamilton, said she was really proud to have something that reflected all her hard work, dedication and sacrifice over the past three years.

In the 200m race, Danielle dashed across the finish line at 27.64 seconds, just behind gold medalist Shi Yiting, who crossed the line at 27.50 seconds.

"I gave it my all, but [I] was so tired."

It was the second time Danielle had run the distance in 27 seconds, she said.

"Knowing that it is not a fluke and I can do it just makes me so happy."

In her 100m race, Danielle flew over the

CONTINUED ON P2

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# Silver streak for sprinting star at Paralympics

CONTINUED FROM P1

finish line with a time of 13.43 seconds, behind Shi at 13.39 seconds.

"It was also a lot of fun to challenge myself and have a good race with Shi."

When Danielle gets ready to "power out" of the blocks, "nothing goes through my mind", she said.

"I am so focused on me and just running." After her race, Danielle's first thought was to find her family so she could hug them, she said. Her partner created "Team Dani" shirts "so it made it a lot easier to find them in the crowd".

It was a "cool experience" to let her family "see a bit of my world and what I do", Danielle said. "And also expose them to so many disabilities."

Danielle's second course of action was about "living in the moment" with her podium competitors, and being proud to represent their countries, Danielle said.

Her silver medals resembled a "bit of hope" to know she can work even harder and "get that gold medal" in the future.

But it was clear that the path to the podium was a shared one.

"My biggest support has been my mum. She continues to support me in all my decisions and all my successes and failures within my career."

Danielle said that despite what is happening in her mum's life - "she always flies around the world to be there at my international competitions".

Her mum contributed to Danielle's success with "unwavering support" and "the mindset she instilled in me", she said.



Silver medalist Danielle Aitchison, left, with gold medalist Shi Yiting and bronze medalist Mali Lovell. Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Athletics was a part of Danielle's upbringing in a sporty family.

But in high school, she found it difficult to play mainstream sports due to her disabilities "so I decided to stop", she said.

Danielle was reunited with athletics when she went to the 2017 Halberg Disability Games, she said.

"I have been doing it ever since and love it. I feel like I found a place where I feel normal."

Danielle's advice for young athletes with disabilities who aspired to compete at the Paralympics was to enjoy the journey.

It can be a hard and long road to get there, Danielle said. "Sometimes the Paralympics isn't everything you hoped it to be or you don't achieve your goals."

But Danielle said to enjoy the journey of training and pushing yourself and to relish travelling for sports and seeing the world.

"Being an athlete can be tiring but also very rewarding."

Her reason for being in the Paralympics was to "just be the best I can be, and have fun", she said. "It is also a chance to showcase to the world what people with disabilities can achieve. We are not a minority."

Danielle said life was all about having fun and enjoying the moments.

"I love to run fast and that brings me joy. The fact I can do it for a job is even cooler."

**DETAILS:** To keep up with Danielle's journey, follow her on Facebook: Dani Aitchison - Paralympian.

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## Thames Tides

Wed Oct 2		Thu Oct 3		Fri Oct 4		Sat Oct 5		Sun Oct 6		Mon Oct 7		Tue Oct 8	
6:52am	7:23pm	6:51am	7:24pm	6:49am	7:25pm	6:48am	7:25pm	6:46am	7:26pm	6:45am	7:27pm	6:43am	7:28pm
Best At 12:16am 12:36pm	Best At 12:55am 1:15pm	Best At 1:34am 1:54pm	Best At 2:15am 2:36pm	Best At 2:57am 3:20pm	Best At 3:43am 4:07pm	Best At 4:32am 4:58pm							
Rise 6:32am Set 6:49pm	Rise 6:53am Set 7:46pm	Rise 7:15am Set 8:46pm	Rise 7:38am Set 9:45pm	Rise 8:04am Set 10:46pm	Rise 8:36am Set 11:48pm	Rise 9:14am							

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Good Fishing    Fair Fishing    Not So Good

**TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES**

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

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

# New business association to revitalise Paeroa

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

Businesses in Paeroa have a new avenue for advocacy, support and networking with the formation of a town business association.

The new Paeroa Business Association (PBA) is a rebranding of the existing organisation, Positive Paeroa, a long-standing society focused on promoting the town and its events. The change was announced at the society's September 26 AGM, held at The Refinery.

Committee member Tim Watts said the new business association structure was about clarifying the society's aims.

"[Positive Paeroa's] been a little bit rudderless in recent years, and struggled around its purpose," he said.

"What we've wanted to do is reignite what we're doing from a business point of view. Get people back together, get people sharing ideas, learning from each other."

The PBA's new constitution outlined two aims: assisting in the promotion and development of business activity in Paeroa; and advocating for the development of the community.

"One of the key areas we're looking at here is around advocacy... how, as businesses, we can pick up what the common issues are, and then have those conversations with council," Tim said.

"I think having a voice for



Paeroa Business Association's committee, from left: Rhys Carmichael, Tim Watts, Rosie Scott, Barbara Berry, Linley Rose, and Grant Bowen. Not pictured: Kylie Hedges. Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

business in town is incredibly important. We're redeveloping our website, redeveloping what we're doing from a social media point of view, and becoming that key contact point."

In recent years, Positive

Paeroa has been responsible for the annual Santa Parade, local shop and win competitions, and Business After 5 and Women's Breakfast meetings.

The committee said becoming a business association would

allow it to do much more.

"We're still going to do community stuff, we're still going to have community members and we'll still advertise events that are happening," Rosie Scott said.

"[Positive Paeroa] sat idle for a while doing the basics of what it's done and now it's reinvigorated," Rhys Carmichael added.

The PBA will also introduce membership fees from April, 2025, granting members access to advertising, networking events and advocacy support.

The fees will supplement the funding it receives from Hauraki District Council, currently the only stream of revenue the society has. In 2023, its council grant was \$12,000.

"We spend all of that money that we get back out into the community in terms of supporting the events that we do, the big one obviously being the Christmas parade," Tim said.

"It's not a large membership fee but it's still going to be very helpful for us to be able to do more activities back to the community."

The AGM was attended by around 50 people, most of them business owners in Paeroa and the surrounding areas. The response to the rebranding was largely positive, with many people signing up as members on the spot.

The PBA also announced the first of its new projects at the AGM: enhancing the main street atmosphere with improved lighting, a reestablished main street radio system, and new business and Matariki flags.



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# HDC NEWS



2 October 2024



## PLACEMAKING

### Let's make great places together



We're excited to announce that we have adopted Placemaking plans for Paeroa, Kerepēhi, and Ngātea, funded by the government's Better Off Funding package.

Led by design company Isthmus, these plans reflect the aspirations of our Iwi partners and community to improve public spaces.

We're ready to begin the mahi (work), bringing these exciting ideas to life by showcasing local history, values, and community wairua (spirit) while fostering aroha (love) and connection to these towns. You'll see some projects take place over the next year, while others will take longer as we work with partners to secure additional funding.

View the plans on our Kōrero Mai page <https://letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/placemaking-plans>, or at our libraries and service centres.

To get involved, email us at [info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz](mailto:info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz) or phone 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (freecall within the district).



## Tell us your thoughts!

We're seeking your input on three of our policies from 27 September to 29 October 2024. You can provide your feedback by visiting our online Kōrero Mai page or by collecting feedback forms and supporting documents at any of our council service centres.



Kōrero mai Let's talk <https://letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/>

### Gambling policy

Council is required to have policies in place around where and how venues can host electronic gaming machines (pokies), and standalone TAB venues. We have combined these two policies into one policy document, the Gambling Policy (Class 4 and TAB venues), which is required to be reviewed every three years. To find out more about the proposed changes to the policy, please go online and fill out the survey at <https://letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/gambling-policy-review>

### Smokefree and Vapefree policy

We'd like your feedback on our policy and whether you support having public spaces in our district that are smoke and vape free. Please take our quick survey to ensure that the community views are reflected when we review the policy. To take our survey or find out more visit <https://letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/smokefree-and-vapefree-policy>

### Local Alcohol policy

Whether or not you drink alcohol, we want to know your views about when and where it's available to purchase and any impact it has in your neighbourhood. Please complete our survey to ensure that the community views are reflected when we review the Local Alcohol Policy. Find out more at <https://letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/lap>

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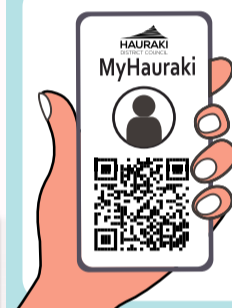


## Changes to the frequency of your rates bill

The 2024-2034 Long Term Plan has been adopted, and the average rates increase is 17.4 per cent. To save costs and increase efficiency, property rates bills will now change from quarterly to bi-annual instalments.

You'll receive your first bill in **October 2024**, followed by the second in **April 2025**.

We know that's a long time between bills, so if you're not already paying by direct debit, we highly encourage it! It's the best way to stay on top of your payments and avoid late fees. If you want to know more about direct debit, please contact our friendly customer service team.



### Receive your rates and water bills by email

Another great option to save money and receive timely rates invoices is to sign up to get your rates or water bill by email. If you have any questions, just reach out to our friendly team!

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# Thames filmmakers explore 'unschooling'

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

A desire to explore and learn from "unseen worlds and communities" was the motivation behind Miriam Smith and Chris Pryor's documentary work.

The Thames-based filmmakers were in the middle of researching for a project when they came across families taking an "unschooling" approach to education.

Unschooling is one approach to home education, where instead of following a set curriculum, learning is directed by following the child's interests or passions.

Miriam Smith told *The Profile* they found it to be both surprising and fascinating.

They were amazed that the homeschool community had been so little documented on screen, Miriam said.

"We got to thinking it would be great to explore the usually 'hidden' world of homeschooling in an intimate and personal documentary series."

On October 8, viewers will be able to see the launch and episode one of the six-part documentary series called *Home Education*, which will be available on YouTube via *The Spinoff* website and also on Facebook and Instagram.

The series, made with the support of NZ On Air, observes six families across Aotearoa who engage in different forms of home education.

"This series took us from Kaiakohe to Cromwell," Miriam said.

The filmmakers, who were also known for their award-winning films *How Far is Heaven* and *The*



Matamatagi Baker stars in episode six of the new web series *Home Education*.

Photo: CHRIS PRYOR AND MIRIAM SMITH

*Ground We Won*, made the series as "curious outsiders" - and to date, Miriam said they had always been outsiders in relation to all the communities they had filmed.

The "discovery-led" documentary process of learning from people was something they enjoyed, she said. "We often say we make our documentaries 'with' our subjects, as opposed to being 'about' them."

Even though they were not looking to advocate for home education, Miriam said they wanted to "share our findings and observations" so audiences could make their own conclusions from the stories.

But their "main joy" was getting to know the families they filmed.

During production, two of the families welcomed new babies into the world, which Miriam said "brought even more joy and cuteness" to the whole experience.

Chris also enjoyed it when the kids took an interest in the filming process. One of the young stars they filmed was really involved with the behind the scenes camera operations and earned himself a number one camera assistant credit.

However, the documentary process didn't come without its hurdles. The biggest challenge for

Miriam and Chris was "capturing the material as it happens in the moment", Miriam said.

"If you miss a moment, it's gone forever."

But there was another challenge that turned into something special. Miriam said she normally accompanied Chris when he filmed, but now the couple had a young child of their own - Chris directed, ran the cameras and sound on his own.

While technically it was "quite a stretch", Miriam said Chris being on his own created a much more "intimate shooting environment" for the families.



Chris Pryor and Miriam Smith.

Photo: ALISTAIR GUTHRIE

As parents who were not planning to homeschool, Miriam said they learnt a lot from the families that could be incorporated into their own child's learning journey.

Things like following the child's interest and "building learning around that", she said.

"There's a lot of stigma around home education", and Miriam said attitude "gets in the way" of what could be learned from the homeschool community's approach to education.

Miriam and Chris' hope for viewers was that they would watch the series with the "mindset of openness".

Although plans for a second series were not confirmed, Miriam said they were hoping this one would get lots of views and interest to "help show there's [an] appetite".

Miriam said it would be interesting to further explore the diverse range of approaches to home education.

"This is only the tip of the iceberg".

**DETAILS: Visit [www.thespinnoff.co.nz](http://www.thespinnoff.co.nz) on October 8 at 12pm to view the first episode of *Home Education*.**

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# Dog attacks on the rise in Hauraki

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

There have been 68 reports of dog attacks in the Hauraki District over the past year, according to a report presented at the council's September 25 meeting.

The report, outlining the council's dog control activities over the 2023-24 year, showed a decrease in barking dog complaints, down to 113 from last year's 141. However, the number of reported dog attacks - 68 - had risen significantly from last year's figure of 37. Dog attacks on people accounted for 18 of those reports, with the others involving dogs attacking other animals.

Reports of lost and roaming dogs also increased from 269 to 328.

There are currently 4434 registered dogs in the Hauraki District. Fourteen of those are classified as dangerous by the council, and 102 as menacing.

Meanwhile, the meeting also saw the council commit to beautifying its public spaces, with the adoption of its Placemaking Plans for Kerepēhi, Ngatea and Paeroa.

The plans, funded by a Better Off funding package from the government, used feedback from Hauraki iwi and public workshops held in February to devel-

op a series of proposed projects in the regional centres.

In Kerepēhi, the plans outlined a public playground upgrade, walking and cycling links to the nearby Piako River, and a wharf upgrade as priorities.

In Ngatea, projects focused on improving Tilsbury Reserve and the nearby bridge and stop-banks, and developing spaces to rest and socialise.

Paeroa's plans looked at developing Wharf St into a connection between the Ohinemuri River and the town centre, along with revitalising areas like TeTūkairangi Primrose Hill, the domain, and the shopping area along Belmont St.

All the townships would also receive enhanced signage, planting and street furniture.

Funding for some of the projects was already accounted for in the council's long term plan, but the report said additional funding would need to be sourced from external agencies and institutions.

Meanwhile, the council also agreed to review its local alcohol, smoke- and vape-free, and gambling policies. Public consultation for these will begin on September 27.



Waihi Lions Club needs new members to join to help with their fundraising efforts.

Photos: SUPPLIED

## Lions raise \$300k for community

The Waihi Lions Club is calling for volunteers to help them continue the work they do in the community.

The club, which aims to connect with and help locals by raising money, has donated more than \$300,000 to local groups in the past eight years.

Club spokesperson Jose Webb said donations included \$15,000 sent to New Zealand from Lions International when Cyclone Gabrielle struck last year.

"Times do seem tough at the moment but nothing makes us more human than connecting with others," she said.

"At Waihi Lions Club, we aim to connect with and help our local community by raising money to donate to a variety of local groups."

However, the service group needed more members to contin-

ue its community work, she said.

A lot of the club's members are in their 70s or 80s and "what we can do is becoming limited", Jose said.

"We'd like some younger people to volunteer, but I know everybody who wants volunteers is finding it difficult to get volunteers."

When people join the Lions Club, they become part of an international family, as well as a local group, she said.

Waihi Lions raise money through many events such as The Book Fair, Garden Ramble and the Trade and Community Directory.

"It's very rewarding helping with these events.

"By volunteering, you meet people, have a lot of fun and do some good in the process," she said.

Waihi Lions Club runs the market in the Waihi Memorial Hall, every third Sunday of the month.

"This provides a sales-outlet for local craftspeople."

The club also runs or participates in the Waihi Lions Art and Street Festival, the warm up party for the Beach Hop, and Christmas in the park.

"We also provide person power for a range of other local activities."

**DETAILS:** To find out more information about Waihi Lions and joining as a member, please contact Jose Jebb on [jebbjose2@gmail.com](mailto:jebbjose2@gmail.com) or Waihi Lions president Duncan Smeaton on [waihi.president@lionsclub.org.nz](mailto:waihi.president@lionsclub.org.nz), or call in and visit the Lions table at the next Saturday market on the third Saturday of the month at the Waihi Memorial Hall from 9am to 1pm.

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# Thames fundraising events kick off

A two-day fundraising event for Te Kura o Te Kauaeranga Thames South School recently was the first of a series of events supported by Te Whāriki Manawāhine o Hauraki Women's Refuge.

The inaugural event for the kura (school) officially began on September 20 at Goldfields Shopping Centre with cultural performances by whānau and people from the Hauraki community.

On September 21, Ngakau o Te Rakau exhibited art, including paintings, carvings and weaving, which was auctioned at a black tie dinner at the Thames Civic Centre. The total amount raised for the kura is yet to be finalised, however, bids for each work of art ranged from \$40 to \$1300 with 40 of 55 pieces sold on the night.

The event was supported by Te Whāriki Manawāhine o Hauraki

Women's Refuge, which will host two more events at the Thames Civic Centre in the coming months.

The first will kick off on October 19 with Ngā Mana o Motuhake - Fashion Parade and Wearable Expressions, featuring fashion activist Jeanine Clarkin. Tickets are \$90 or \$150 per couple, available from Te Whāriki Manawāhine o Hauraki [reception@hauraki.refuge.co.nz](mailto:reception@hauraki.refuge.co.nz) or 07 868 8475.

The second event on November 23 is Tāne Whakapiripiri - White Tie Dinner, recognising men against violence.

During the morning there will be an 'on the couch' panel discussion on trauma, followed by the dinner event, which will feature live entertainment from the Māori Side Steps.

All proceeds will go to Pātaka Kai Hauraki Social Supermarket.



Harley Nathan, Natlie O'Neil and Kourtney Luke at the black tie event for Te Kura o Te Kauaeranga. Photos: SUPPLIED



Paora Moyle & Dr Alexander Stevens II.



Kelly Te Moananui, Colleen Renata and Melba Pakinga.



Tineka Rhind and Gaelene Hetaraka.



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# Proposed business hub of Pipiroa fails to launch



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.

## 1910

The embryo town of Pipiroa, which was anticipated to be the business centre of the Hauraki Plains, was thrown open for selection.

The Farmers' Auctioneering Company of Hamilton had built stockyards in the vicinity, and a number of business people had visited the site of the proposed township. Sixty-eight town and suburban sections were offered for sale by the government but did not attract many bidders. The prices were considered ridiculously high and the sale was a failure.

Purchasers could not be found at the prices fixed, and only five suburban and two town sections sold.

Meanwhile, two train passengers complaining of extremely unedifying behaviour by school pupils during a journey from Paeroa to Thames led to some debate between the headmasters of Thames High School and the Paeroa District High School.

The reports appeared to reflect on the pupils attending Thames High. The headmaster, Mr Rud-

A hot artesian flow discovered at Pipiroa, the future capital of the Hauraki Plains. Photo: SUPPLIED



man, made a thorough inquiry into the matter.

The stationmaster at Thames obtained reports from various railway officials which showed that no complaints had been made to him either by the public or railway officials, and the guards' reports spoke favourably of the conduct of the pupils travelling.

Mr Murphy, Paeroa High headmaster, acknowledged that no particular school was mentioned by the passengers. Mr Rudman trusted that in future any passengers having complaints would address these to the railway officials or the headmaster most concerned.

He would refuse to issue train certificates to pupils who misconducted themselves on the train. The pupils were not guilty of any-

thing worse than the natural boisterousness of schoolboys, which was bound to come out whenever several of them gathered together.

At Karangahake, the band rotunda was in a state of darkness and the Karangahake Band requested the Ohinemuri County Council have gas installed there as soon as possible.

It was the intention of the band to play in the rotunda at frequent intervals, and in the past they had found it very annoying using antiquated torch lights with half a gale blowing. Councillor Lloyd said that they had a good boys' band in Karangahake, and a good rotunda. It was a pity to spoil it with the smoky torches. The work should be done at once.

A journey to Hikutaia by a Ka-

rangahake resident, and the subsequent purchase by him of five gallons of beer, landed him in the Paeroa Police Court. Sergeant McKinnon said the defendant went to Hikutaia and purchased five gallons of beer from Julia Corbett. He put the beer barrel in a sack. It was not labelled properly, and he did not notify the vendor that he was bringing it into a no-license district. He got his beer safely as far as Paeroa, but Constable Henry happened to be on the Paeroa railway station platform and the package not being properly labelled he seized it.

Similar breaches of the law had been very frequent in this district and the rules had been well notified, said the Magistrate before fining the man.

## Chris' Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parminter

1. The only four ringed planets in our solar system are Neptune, Uranus, Jupiter and what other planet?
2. Which direction does the sun rise from?
3. The United Kingdom is made up of four countries: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and what?
4. The New Zealand song *Poi e* was released by the Patea Māori Club in 1987. In which New Zealand region is Patea?
5. What is an angle called if it is greater than 90 degrees? a) obtuse, b) acute or c) straight?
6. According to an Old English rhyme, what four "somethings" should a bride wear for good luck?
7. Genovese, Italian Large Leaf, Thai, Lemon and Holy are all types of which herb?
8. Borborygmi is the medical term used to refer to: a) hiccups, b) tummy rumbles, or c) shivers?
9. Who was the first player to be red-carded in a men's Rugby World Cup final?
10. What is the national flower of Japan and also the name of their rugby team?



ANSWERS: 1. Saturn; 2. the east; 3. Wales; 4. Taranaki; 5. a) obtuse; 6. something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue; 7. Z. something borrowed, something blue; 8. b) tummy rumbles; 9. Sam Cane; 10. In 2023's final against South Africa; 10. the Cherry Blossom(s).

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# Volunteers needed for driver programme

Thames Community Centre is calling for volunteers to help people get their driver licences.

Centre manager Jeff Whitfield said mentors gave one hour of their time twice a week to help and guide students to become safer drivers and to get their restricted driver licence.

“Word of the success of our work is out there and we have got more applications for mentored practice than mentors so we need more mentors,” he said.

The programme was rewarding for those who volunteered, he said. “Some of the mentors have been drivers in their work and know they still have a lot to offer,” he said.

“Others like the idea of helping people out and getting to know others. Some are really keen on improving road safety.

“All of them want to give back to their community and really like that those receiving the driving practice give back as well.”

The Thames Community Centre will pay for driver’s licence test fees, lessons, courses and mentored driving practice for people who are willing to give some volunteer hours back to the community.

The mentor and learner practise their driving in the Valley Toyota Car usually over a 12-week period, with the stu-



Volunteers and students in the Thames Community Centre programme, clockwise from above: Colleen and Libee, Harpreet and Rob, and Jan. Photos: SUPPLIED

dent sitting their restricted at the end of that time.

“Realising 12 weeks is quite a chunk of time we do have mentors that can come off the bench to cover practices for other mentors as required,” Jeff said.

Drive and Volunteer co-ordinator Cath said: “A big part of our programme is our mentored practice which takes the learner from the theory to the practical driving they’ll need to

pass their restricted tests and to be safe drivers.

“We practise in the Valley Toyota car with each learner being matched to a volunteer driving mentor who supports the practice with twice-weekly drives.”

Colleen, who is a mentor in the programme said she was looking for something else to make life meaningful, to give back to the community and

meet some new people.

“It’s very rewarding and only a couple of hours a week. It’s a way of contributing to the community as having a driver’s licence removes barriers to work and gives independence.”

Another mentor, Jan, said it was good to see change and skills being implemented.

“Knowing you are helping to set up independence and jobs, it is so wonderful to be in-

olved.”

Pete said he became a mentor to “be able to give something back to the wonderful Thames community that has been so welcoming to my wife and me since we moved here”.

**DETAILS: Volunteers need to have a full licence and be happy to pass a Police check. To find out know more, please get in touch with the centre: Ph 027 868 9797 or email: tcrc@xtra.co.nz.**



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# Rural Life

## Group day fun

Children and their calves, kid goats and lambs had a fun day out at the Ohinemuri Group Day on September 28. Puriri School hosted students and their animals and supporters from schools throughout the district, who battled it out for ribbons and trophies in the show ring. **TERESA RAMSEY** captured the annual event.



Jesse Thompson and Nibbles are Most Obvious Pet champions.



Dairy Rearing Heavy winners receive their ribbons from judge Katrina Silvester.



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Beef Rearing champion Paige Hunt, right, and reserve champion Beau Brown receive their ribbons.



Leading champions in the kid goat ring, Junior Aranui and Chloe Scott.



Taking a well earned rest with their lambs, Khaleesi and Sienna Madoc.



Mahalia Thompson, 10, and her lamb Cookie get the red ribbon for first place in Calling.

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# Rural Life

## Record fine for dairy effluent a 'wake-up call'

A Waikato farming company, a company director and a farm manager have been convicted and fined a combined \$305,900 for unlawful discharges of dairy effluent into the environment and contravention of abatement notices on numerous occasions between August, 2022, and June, 2023.

Flint Farms Limited farm owner Barry Flint and farm manager Gavin Flint were sentenced by Hamilton District Court Judge Melinda Dickey last week on 14 charges under the Resource Management Act as a result of a prosecution taken by Waikato Regional Council.

This is the largest fine for discharging contaminants into the environment in the Waikato region since the Resource Management Act was introduced more than 30 years ago.

In addition to the fines, Judge Dickey issued an Enforcement Order against Flint Farms Limited, requiring them to upgrade the farm effluent system and implement an effluent management plan to avoid further adverse effects on the environment.

In August, 2022, council officers conducted an inspection at the dairy farm owned by the defendant at Ngatea.

They found numerous breaches of environmental regulation, related to the discharge of dairy effluent from two effluent ponds, a sump and a stock underpass.

Two abatement notices were issued to the defendants by the council to prevent further discharges into the environment.

However, during follow up inspections over the next 10 months, additional breaches were identified.

"It's 2024. There simply can be no tolerance for not having adequate infrastructure on farm to manage animal effluent," Waikato Regional compliance manager Patrick Lynch said.

"This fine should be a sharp wake-up call



A Waikato Regional Council officer samples contamination, above, and inspects a stock underpass, right.

Photos: SUPPLIED/WRC



for those farming operations who still have shoddy systems, or are not managing effluent systems properly.

"This region has had clear rules in place for the last 30 years prohibiting this kind of activity. It is very concerning that we still find contamination like this, even after putting a farm formally on notice.

"To need a court order to ensure appropriate infrastructure is installed, that should have been in place decades ago, is incredibly disappointing. But those are the lengths we are having to go to in situations such as this to get some farming operations to do the right thing."



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# Cook Island group visits Matatoki School

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

A special link connected one Tamaki Makaurau/Auckland kura (school) and one Hauraki kura recently.

A Cook Island drum and dance group from Fruitvale School in West Auckland called Tamariki Pasifika visited Matatoki School on September 20. It was the first time the group had performed outside of Auckland in 12 years.

But there was a unique tie between the two kura. Matatoki School principal Hine Viskovich told *The Profile* it was important for her learners to “build connections with our Pasifika whānau”.

Before taking the helm at Matatoki School in 2022, Mrs Viskovich was deputy principal at Fruitvale School for 14 years. She always sought ways to “continue my connection” and share learning experiences between the schools, she said.

The Cook Island group played a big part in her farewell from Fruitvale School, and wanted to “do me the honour” of visiting and performing at Matatoki School, she said.

“I was so honoured and warmed to have students and whanau from my previous school come and continue their connection with me and share their culture and talents which I enjoyed so much for so many years.”

Matatoki students learnt how to do a drum dance and were able to perform it for their parents, she said.

“Our Kapahaka group performed for them as well. It was beautiful seeing the two groups of students working together and learning from each other.”

The group also performed at Thames High School and at the Thames Markets on September 21, Mrs Viskovich said.

Tamariki Pasifika teacher Ricky Teariki had been a Cook Island drum and dance teacher for many years, Mrs Viskovich said.

He also worked in the mental health space



Matatoki School gets a visit from Cook Island group Tamariki Pasifika. BELOW: The Cook Island group ready to perform in Thames. Photos: SUPPLIED

with people who struggled with addiction, teaching them drumming and dancing to help improve their fitness and self esteem, she said.

“Ricky is keen to bring a larger group next time and offer dance workshops and perform for more schools in the area.”

One thing Mrs Viskovich said she was inspired to do was “grow student connections” with schools in her area. Every school has their own strengths, she said.

“Sharing these with each other builds stronger and richer communities of learning.”



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## Playing small does not serve

### OPINION

By MICHAEL WILKES



Every report card my parents opened would say something along the lines of "Mike has great potential, but needs to learn to apply himself".

I am sure lots of you were similar. I could have tried harder, and done more, it's true. But when I was surrounded by my peers who would rather party and smoke, it was easier go along with them. I didn't want to be like my intense friend who got ridiculed for trying too hard. Although she is now a neuroscientist making discoveries in the hunt for a cure to Huntington's disease. She did not settle for anything less than giving her best.

Our paths are all different in life, and our skills and abilities varied. But I think what truly sets us apart is not intelligence, not our skills, or our ability to learn. What sets us apart is consistency, tenacity, and a belief it can be achieved.

There is a scene in an old movie classic, *Coach Carter*. One of the students stands to quote a poem mistakenly attributed to Nelson Mandela. But actually written by Marri- anne Williamson. The original quote goes...

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, 'Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?' Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God.

"Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.

"It's not just in some of us; it's in every- one. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liber- ates others."

So as you step into a new day, what is that thing you have been putting off? Maybe it's time to start.

*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. Email [michael@livingwell.org.nz](mailto:michael@livingwell.org.nz) to sign up to their quarterly newsletter or to become a supporter.*

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# New playground for Ngatea tamariki

Years of planning, fundraising, and working bees have paid off for Ngatea Playcentre with the installation of their brand-new playground in March.

Playcentre treasurer Tara Carter said the original playground was almost 20 years old and was no longer safe for the tamariki (children) to use.

“Ngatea Playcentre is lucky to have a committed group of hard-working families who rose to the challenge of coming up with the \$40,000 required for a new playground,” she said.

“We were fortunate enough to receive grants from Thrifters, W.E Care Community Trust, Grassroots Trust and Waikato Farmers Trust, which got us started. We were also the chosen organisation for the Lion’s golf day fundraiser

earlier this year and with their support we hosted a very successful golf day. A huge thank you to Bayleys Real Estate, Williams Engineering, KTL Transport, Richardsons Real Estate, Nick Hoo-geveen’s and Associates, Charly the Sparky, WE Hale, Valley Fencing, H.G. Leach and Purnell Jenkinsons, who sponsored holes and to the countless other awesome businesses in our community who donated prizes to allow us to raise \$11,000 on the day.

“It is heartwarming to see the tamariki testing their abilities and learning new skills on the playground and we hope Ngatea Playcentre is able to continue to provide the space for whānau in our community to connect, learn and grow together for many more years to come.”



Tamariki test out the new play space at Ngatea Playcentre. Photos: SUPPLIED



## SPORTS REPORTS

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

### BOWLS

Kerepehi Bowling Club’s last two winter bowls tournaments were played with bad weather adding to the challenges.

Winners of the O’Hagan/Harvey Meats sponsored optional fours: 1st 4 Wins 30 points 21 ends (Kerepehi) Selwyn, Lee, Shaun, Adam; 2nd 4 Wins 21 points 24 ends (Thames) Ken Last-Harris, Bruce Graham, Brian, Heather; 3rd 3.5 Wins 36 points 22 ends (Kerepehi) Doug Topine, Earle White, Dave Brewer, Jenny L; 4th 3 Wins 37 points 21 ends (Tui Park) Ken Paul, Alyson Honeyfield, John Pullan, Merry Craddock. Winners of the twice postponed Lion Breweries 4s: 1st 4 wins 46 points 22 ends (Tui Park) Ken Paul, Alison Honeyfield, E Hayes, Merry Craddock; 2nd 3.5 wins 16 points 18 ends (Tui Park) St John team; 3rd 3.5 wins 24 points 27 ends (Thames) Bruce Graham, Ken

Last-Harris, Heather; 4th 3 wins 31 points, 20 ends, - Loz, Ricky, Ann, Sian. A good turn out of 19 teams on the Carpet Green played for the Sutherland Family/Colin Wilson sponsored Summer Opening Day.

Club colours were the order, usual cheese and onion morning tea and ham and veges lunch provided for all teams. Life member Ian Sara put up kitty (into ditch, ouch) and Patron/Life Member Robin Povey rolled up the first bowl.

Prize winners were: 1st 4 wins 44 points 26 ends (Thames) Del Graham, T Ryan, G Lendon, R Blackborough; 2nd 4 wins 62 points 25 ends (Thames) Warren Tritt, Butcher, Delwyn, Suzie; 3rd 3.5 wins 42 points 22 ends (Thames Coast) Ross Marshall, Sarge, Jason, Aaron.

Next tournament coming up is Sunday October 20, (Hudson Families) Opt 4s. Good bowling. - Terry King

### CROQUET

The Thames Croquet Club held its first tournament for the 2024-2025 season on September 11.

Teams from Mt Maunganui/Rotorua, Whangamata, Katikati, Hamilton East, Claudelands, Paeroa, Te Aroha, Mor-rinsville and Thames competed in three divisions.

The first-division winners were Vanessa Hanna from Hamilton East who teamed up with Neil Constance from Katikati. Runners-up were Alan and Cath Wilkie from Te Aroha.

In the second division, the winners were Pauline Nicholson and Steve Southall from Te Aroha, with runners-up Felix O’Carroll and Hilary Taylor from Thames Club.

The third-division winners were Rebecca Moey and Lorraine Kavanagh from Claudelands, with Lin Parsons and Wendy Wilson from Thames in



Division One winners, from left: Neil Constable and Vanessa Hanna, with Thames Club president Sheryl McConnell and captain Dennis Karl.

runner-up position. “It was a highly successful day for our club, 40 players enjoying competition and friendship on all our lawns,” club

president Sheryl McConnell said. “Our grateful thanks to our sponsor Richmond Villas.”

- Supplied by Thames Croquet Club

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**Movies for week starting Wed 2 Oct**

**Robot Dreams (102 mins, 2023) G Wed & Thurs 10.30am; Sun 1pm:** The adventures and misfortunes of friends Dog and Robot in New York City during the 1980s. 98% rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

**Autumn and the Black Jaguar (100mins, 2024) PG Violence, course language, some scenes may scare very young children Wed 1.30pm; Sun 10.30am:** After years in New York City, 14-year-old Autumn returns to the Amazon rainforest to save her childhood village and beloved jaguar friend.

**It Must Be Heaven (97 mins, 2019) PG Offensive language Wed 7pm:** Subtitled. Palestinian filmmaker Elia Suleiman travels to different cities and finds unexpected parallels to his homeland of Palestine.

**Runt (91mins, 2024) PG Course language Thurs 1.30pm; Sat 1pm:** 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.

**We Were Dangerous (82 mins, 2024) M Offensive Language NZ Sun 4.30pm**  
 A fiery trio of delinquent schoolgirls railing against the colonial system.

**Harold & the Purple Crayon (89 mins, 2024) G Fri 1pm; Sat 4pm:** Harold draws himself into the world

**The Mountain (89 mins, 2024) PG Fri 4pm:** Drama about three children on a mission to find healing under the watchful eye of Taranaki Maunga.

**Drive My Car (179 mins, 2021) M Nudity & sex scenes Fri 7pm:** Subtitled. An actor & director meets a young woman in Hiroshima assigned to chauffeur him in his beloved Saab. Academy Award Winner

**Wicked Little Letters (100mins, 2023) M Offensive language & nudity Thurs & Sat 7pm:** When people in Littlehampton begin receiving letters full of hilarious profanities, the rowdy Rose is charged with the crime. Suspecting something is amiss, the town’s women investigate.

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# SUDOKU

170

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

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

EASY

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MEDIUM

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	9							2
		5				3		
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HARD

170

HARD

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

MEDIUM

MEDIUM

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

EASY

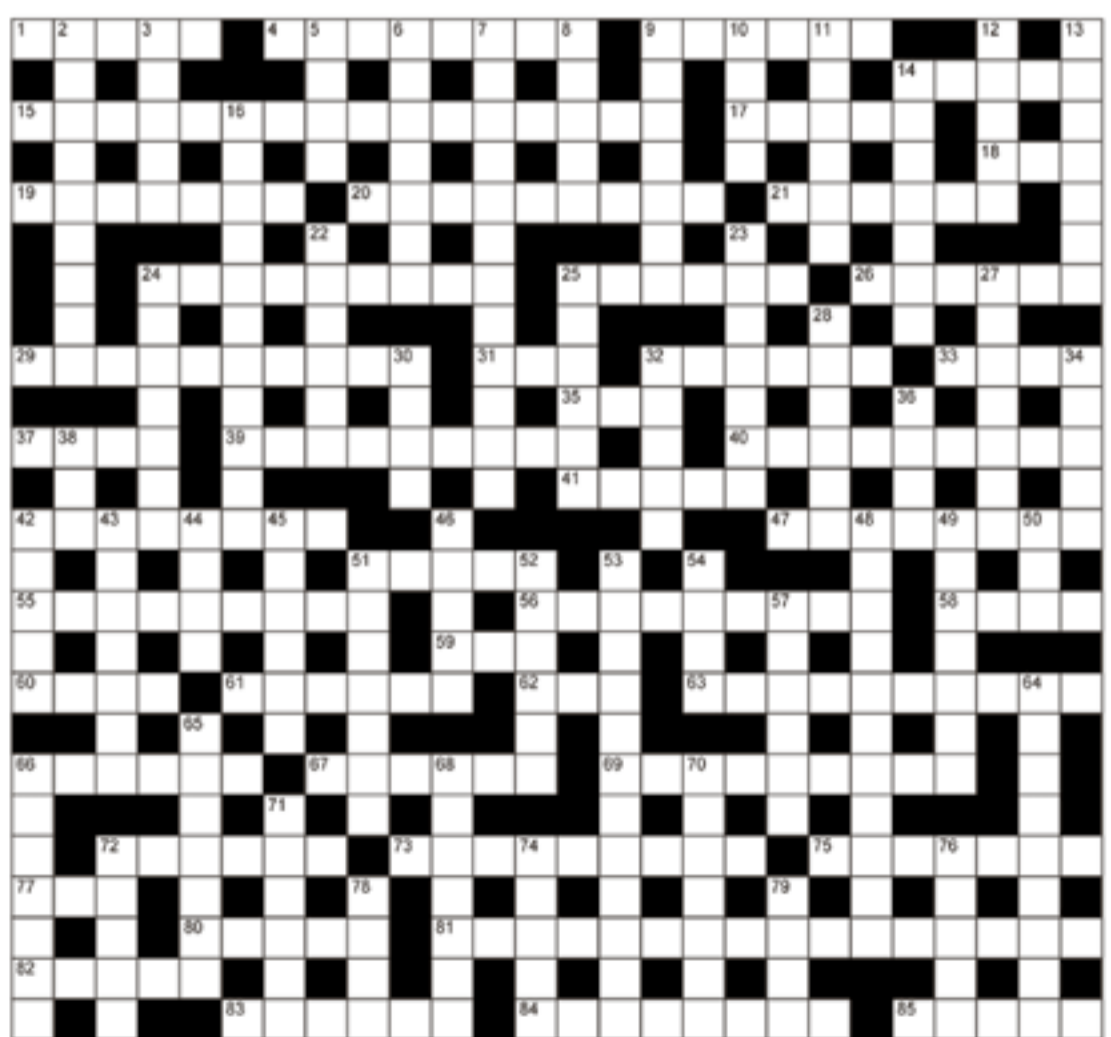
EASY

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

# JUMBO CROSSWORD

190

- ACROSS**
- 1 Damages (5)
  - 4 Fruit sugar (8)
  - 9 Import or export duty (6)
  - 14 Leg bone (5)
  - 15 Absolutely honest and fair (2,8,2,1,3)
  - 17 Light wood (5)
  - 18 Snooze (3)
  - 19 Miserly person (7)
  - 20 Speedway circuit (9)
  - 21 Funny play (6)
  - 24 Cobbler (9)
  - 25 Shelled insect (6)
  - 26 Dangerous (6)
  - 29 Note (10)
  - 31 Reduce (3)
  - 32 Provide (6)
  - 33 Caprice (4)
  - 35 Spun toy (3)
  - 37 Reserve (4)
  - 39 Paris attraction (5-4)
  - 40 Gear (9)
  - 41 Navigation aid (5)
  - 42 Honeymooner (8)
  - 47 Barefoot (8)
  - 51 Ecstasy (5)
  - 55 Russian instrument (9)
  - 56 Abducted (9)
  - 58 Matured (4)
  - 59 Amazement (3)
  - 60 Wicked (4)
  - 61 Tobacco user (6)
  - 62 Beverage (3)
  - 63 Remove kinks (10)
  - 66 Street bandit (6)
  - 67 Russian beetroot soup (6)
  - 69 London square (9)
  - 72 Speed the progress of (6)
  - 73 From Oslo (9)
  - 75 Rock (7)
  - 77 Perish (3)
  - 80 European river (5)
  - 81 Repent and make a fresh start (4,4,1,3,4)
  - 82 Courage (5)
  - 83 Diminish (6)
  - 84 Depict in words (8)
  - 85 Threaded fastener (5)
  - DOWN**
  - 2 Colleague (9)
  - 3 Slogan (5)
  - 5 Fury (4)
  - 6 Model's platform (7)
  - 7 Childbirth doctor (12)
  - 8 Duck for down (5)
  - 9 Dark syrup (7)
  - 10 Chest bones (4)
  - 11 Come after (6)
  - 12 Dark wood (5)
  - 13 Frog larva (7)
  - 14 Servant (anag)(7)
  - 16 Completely reconditioned (2,4,2,3)
  - 22 In the middle of (6)
  - 23 Fast sailing ship (7)
  - 24 Diver's tube (7)
  - 25 Improved (6)
  - 27 Accomplish (7)
  - 28 Detective (6)
  - 30 Timid (4)
  - 32 Garden tool (5)
  - 34 Legends (5)
  - 36 Fencing sword (4)
  - 38 Lyric poem (3)
  - 42 Titled peer (5)
  - 43 Compliant, agreeable (7)
  - 44 Egg centre (4)
  - 45 Mystery (6)
  - 46 Clergyman (5)
  - 48 Merry old soul in a poem (3,4,4)
  - 49 Treated hide (7)
  - 50 Realise (3)
  - 51 Work build-up (7)
  - 52 Draw (6)
  - 53 Of benefit, assistance (12)
  - 54 Girl (4)
  - 57 Social outcast (6)
  - 64 Absolve of blame (9)
  - 65 Formally reprove (7)
  - 66 Riles (7)
  - 68 Abbreviate (7)
  - 70 Nonprofessional (7)
  - 71 Cook's guide (6)
  - 72 Finds out about (5)
  - 74 Planet (5)
  - 76 Fragrant shrub (5)
  - 78 Tidings (4)
  - 79 Thorn (4)



**PREVIOUS SOLUTION**

ACROSS: 1 Chess, 4 Cool as a cucumber, 14 Tough, 15 Grave, 16 Strawberry, 17 Nasty, 19 Lap, 20 Mirrors, 21 Paramount, 22 Ignite, 25 Committee, 27 Prepay, 28 Banned, 33 Confidence, 35 Had, 36 Acting, 37 Bung, 39 Law, 41 Opening, 42 Grotto, 43 Chihuahua, 44 Clubs, 45 Baseball, 50 OK, 51 Cockeyed, 55 Usurp, 58 Camembert, 59 Images, 60 Torpedo, 61 Can, 63 Noon, 64 Launch, 65 Ice, 66 Oppressing, 68 Muscle, 69 Zircon, 71 Anarchism, 76 Memoir, 77 Raspberry, 79 Evening, 81 Hue, 84 Exact, 85 Eradicated, 86 Argon, 87 Taunt, 88 Get your skates on, 89 Thief.

DOWN: 2 Heroin, 3 Sever, 5 Oath, 6 Leakage, 7 Subway, 8 Cargo, 9 Cayenne, 10 Mend, 11 Ensign, 12 Guile, 13 Shipped, 14 Typical, 18 Prima donna, 23 Stunt, 24 Tactics, 26 Offence, 27 Padlock, 29 Naughty, 30 Hoopla, 31 Chats, 32 Indigo, 34 Ears, 36 Awful, 38 Grand, 40 Junk, 45 Bacon, 46 Summons, 47 Bump, 48 Leeway, 49 Hunch, 50 Opinion, 52 Close shave, 53 Exposes, 54 Ending, 55 Utensil, 56 Valet, 57 Zero, 62 Spurn, 67 Plummet, 68 Machete, 70 Chateau, 72 Narrate, 73 Mirage, 74 Retina, 75 Income, 76 Menus, 78 Plans, 80 North, 82 Stay, 83 Veto.

# SPORTS REPORTS

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

## HEARTLAND RUGBY

### Poverty Bay crushed as Ranga hits 50

*By Tighthead Ted*  
Blimmin' heck me old abacus has been getting a workout over the last three weeks. As the Valley has been racking up cricket scores - 60, 84 and now 71, the old beads are getting worn out. Anyway, I'm pretty sure the Kiwi cricketers getting slaughtered in Sri Lanka at the moment would be happy with some scores like that. I reckon the heat was about the same too. But I digress, a trip to Gisborne, a sunburn, and another cracking win - this time 71-17.

The match started with a hiss and a roar, but for Poverty Bay Weka, as they were the first to trouble the scoreboard attendants with an early try, thanks to a wayward pass from none other than the man of the moment, Brett Ranga!

This stung the Swampies and Ranga, and this potential banana skin match soon started to look a lot like the Buller match of a week ago. A try to winger Alex Thrupp at the seven-minute mark levelled up the scores at five apiece. Then the piano movers rolled their sleeves up and put hooker Josh Tye over from an attacking lineout to take the lead at 14 minutes.

The flood gates then opened, the piano players started to find gaps and holes, with Fletch Morgan conducting the show, and in quick succession, tries were added from Laulea Mau, Toddy Doolan, Brett Ranga, Jake O'Connor and Quinn Collard. In a 20-minute burst the match was put to bed. The halftime score of 47-5 almost mirrored the 49-0 of the week previous.

The second half started like the first, with Poverty Bay dotting down for their second try of the match then holding out the visitors for the first



Another cracking win for the Swamp Foxes against Poverty Bay.

Photo: TVRFU/KS SPORTS MEDIA

10 minutes. Normal transmission resumed soon after, with first Mau, then Thrupp adding to their try tallies for the match. Scoring dried up for a while as both sides started to roll on their 'bomb squads', before a flurry of tries in the final 10 minutes. Poverty Bay got their third and two final tries to the Swampies, a second to Ranga and a final full stop to the match seeing Sione Etoni dot down under the posts. In a fitting finale to his 50th, Ranga pulled out his best Bob Scott (look him up kids, a genuine legend of the game) impersonation and toepoked a conversion to take the final score to 71-17.

Without looking at the record books, as one, ole Tighthead is a lazy bugger, and two, he doesn't have one, this would have to be the first time that

the Valley has racked up three 50-plus wins on the trot - massive effort from a team that is making history with every match at the moment - where's me old mate Mitch, he'll let us know. Like last week, the fatties up front were in fine form doing the hard yards and then asking for more. The scrum again in control throughout, and the lineout ticking over like a freshly tuned V8 at the Whangamata Beach Hop parade. Leading the way was Brett Ranga, the veteran reveling in the tight exchanges, and hitting match fitness after an injury-plagued start to the Valley season. Two tries and a conversion, a just reward and a worthy welcome back to the field. Loose forward and Michelin star-rated chief Kenan Gillson once again utilised his cooking skills, chopping

down tacklers faster than he dices carrots. He put in a performance that puts pressure on the back room Boffins selecting the team with one match to go before the semi-finals - a home, or more likely, an away match against Whanganui (book that leave pass with the Mrs now, or even better, a romantic weekend in Whanganui looking at water towers and rugby might be just the thing you need to rekindle the romance, I know Mrs THT would be over the moon). Platypus farmer Cam Droomgol, was employed in the bomb squad this week, along with regular starting lock Connor McVerry. Another couple of puzzle pieces to put together for the Boffins - are they better starting as opposed to coming off the bench? A hell of a puzzle deciding who is

bomb squad and who starts, more of a WASGIJ than a regular puzzle, as you just don't know what the picture will be until all 1000 pieces are on the table.

Regular bomb squad member Jake O'Connor started the match this week and continued his rich vein of form. This is another huge part of the WASGIJ puzzle, as you have Charlie Marsh in devastating form, and Leroy Neels champing at the bit to get back on the field after injury.

A great problem for the Boffins, three halves that are all in great form. Who to start, who to lead the bomb squad, and who to leave out, or do you carry all three in a match day squad? The Boffins will certainly be earning their beer vouchers this week.

Fletcher Morgan took over the kicking this week, and with horrible cross winds did well, landing six. Also looking more and more comfortable in the midfield roll, his big frame and pace of the mark proving hard for defenders to handle over last fortnight. He's setting up his outsides like a mid-field veteran of ten seasons, not five games. Alex Thrupp had another top match, busy on both sides of the ball, always dangerous with the pill, and two tries to his name after the final whistle.

Next week sees, probably, unless King Country can tip up Whanganui, the final home fixture of the season. So, get on the bus to Whitianga as our mighty Swamp Foxes lock horns with Horowhenua Kapiti at Lyon Park, one of the best venues in the Valley. Those Mercury Bay buggers know how to put on a show.

Poverty Bay 17 (3 tries; conversion) lost to Thames Valley 71 (A Thrupp 2, L Mau 2, B Ranga 2, J Tye, T Doolan, Q Collard, J O'Connor, S Etoni tries; F Morgan 6, T Doolan, B Ranga conversions).

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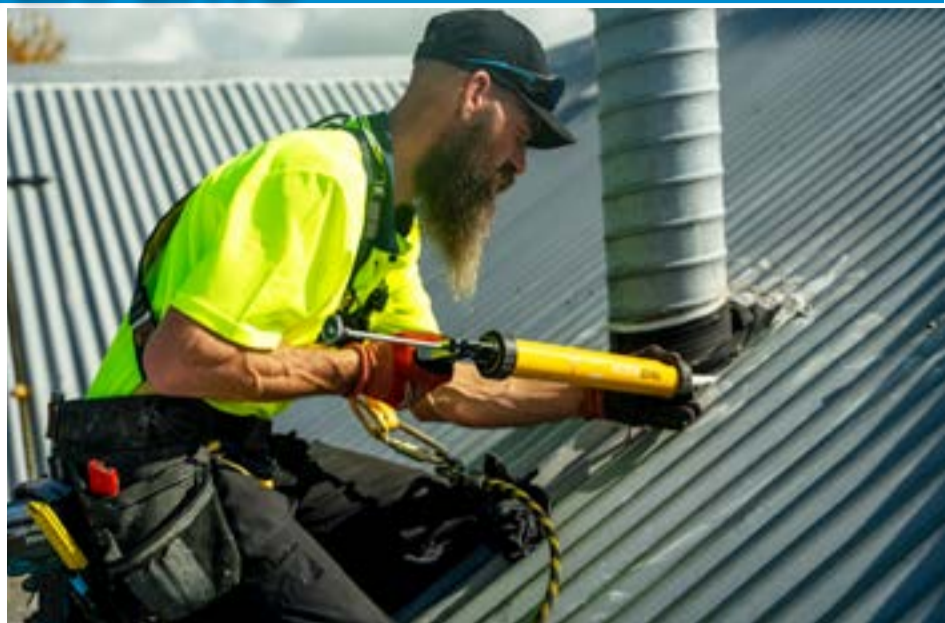
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# CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

## Death Notice Acknowledgement For Lease Situation Vacant

**Death Notice**

**VAN DE VEN, Cory Allan:**  
Sadly passed away after a short illness, on Friday 27th September 2024 aged 46 years. Adored partner of Clair and father of Josh, Taya and Daimon. Beloved son of Sue, Allan and Mama DiDi. Big brother to Mandy (deceased), Stace, Bubbles, Samantha, Aidan, Jamie, Sarah, Erin, Jason, and Matty. The fun loving uncle to all his nieces and nephews. *'Gone but will never be forgotten'*  
A celebration of Cory's life will be held at the Turua Hall, Hauraki Road, Turua on Saturday the 5th of October, at 11am, followed by a private cremation. In lieu of flowers, donations to Cancer Research Trust NZ would be appreciated.

**Acknowledgement**

**LOWE, Thomas Henry:**  
We wish to sincerely thank everyone for the messages, baking and flowers received after the recent loss of Dad. Special thank you to his amazing neighbours, Te Korowai O Hauraki caregivers, Dr Radford and staff, Hospice and St John for your compassionate support. Please accept our heartfelt thanks. Lynette, Annette, John, Nina and Family

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**Situation Vacant**

An opportunity exists for a part-time permanent bar person to work at the Ohinemuri Club in Paeroa. Approximately 20 hours per week and must be able to work Saturdays. No experience needed, training will be given. Please email CV to the Manager ohinemuriclub@xtra.co.nz or drop it into the club.

## Anniversary



**EDLIN - WILSON**  
Vera (nee Wilson) and George Edlin were married on 2nd October 1954 at Knox Presbyterian Church, Huntly. Congratulations on your 70th anniversary. Much love from Sharon, Lance, Bruce, Frances, Rosemary and partners and all their families. Formerly of Waitakaruru and now living in Tauranga.

## Gardening

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## Situation Vacant

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## Situations Vacant

### CLUB MANAGER

Hauraki Golf Club is looking for a club manager to welcome and look after patrons, and to promote the club. This is a sole charge position.

Key responsibilities

- Greet everyone in a friendly courteous welcoming manner.
- Have sufficient computer skills to be able to use the Dot Golf software, word, excel, publisher and the club screen and associated software.
- Obtain and maintain a current Bar Managers Licence.

We are looking for a positive person who is organised, able to multitask, and communicate effectively. The ideal candidate will have a good knowledge of golf, is able to work at least one day on a weekend and wants to be part of the community.

**To apply please contact Geoff on gmpriority@gmail.com**  
**Note : All applications are confidential**  
**Applications close Friday October 18.**

### YARDMAN WANTED | FULL TIME, PERMANENT POSITION

Whyteline are seeking a reliable individual to join our team as a Yardman. Must be physically fit as the role involves loading and delivering motorcycles and ATVs, and general housekeeping tasks.

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Email [marketing@whyteline.co.nz](mailto:marketing@whyteline.co.nz) to apply  
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## Executive Assistant / Kaiwhakahaere Taituarā

Are you a highly organised, solutions-focused professional looking to make a meaningful impact in local government?

As an Executive Assistant you will play a pivotal role in supporting senior leadership with administrative tasks, meeting coordination, and high-level operational duties.

Formal Minute taking and previous experience as an EA or senior Administrator is required for this role.

**For full details and to apply please go to: haurakidc.recruitmenthub.co.nz**



**"At Hauraki District Council ... it's more than just a job!"**

Last month's winner of the lotto ticket was Lex Parker, who found Pete in the September 25th edition in the Lynne's advert.



Go to page 2 for details on how to enter.

# CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12pm Monday

## Public Notices

### Thames-Coromandel District Council Meetings – October 2024

Due to time constraints, this notice is published later than usual. Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held during October 2024.

**Council meetings**

**Council Meeting**  
Tuesday 15 October 2024, 09:00 am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

**Council Meeting – Adoption of the Annual Report**  
Tuesday 31 October 2024, 9.00am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

**Committee Meetings**

**Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting**  
Thursday 24 October 2024 09:00 am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

**Community Board Meetings**

**Tairua-Pāuanui Community Board**  
Monday 21 October 2024, 10:00am, St Francis House, 248 Main Road, Tairua.

**Whangamatā Community Board**  
Tuesday 22 October 2024 10:00am, Whangamatā Service Centre, 620 Port Road, Whangamatā

**Thames Community Board**  
Wednesday 23 October 2024 10:00 am, Thames Council Chambers, 515 Mackay Street, Thames

**Coromandel-Colville Community Board**  
Tuesday 29 October 2024, 9:00 am, Coromandel Service Centre, 355 Kapanga Road, Coromandel

**Mercury Bay Community Board**  
Wednesday 30 October 2024, 9:00 am, Mercury Bay Service Centre, 10 Monk Street, Whitianga

Please visit <https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/Our-Council/Meetings/Agendas-Reports-and-Minutes> for copies of agendas and order papers.

A Lawrie  
Chief Executive  
Thames-Coromandel District Council



[www.tcdc.govt.nz](http://www.tcdc.govt.nz)

## Public Notices

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST District Licensing Committee Member



The Hauraki District Council is seeking expressions of interest from people interested in being members of the District Licensing Committee (DLC). As a member of the DLC you will be responsible for making decisions on contested alcohol licensing applications throughout the Hauraki District (applications that go to a Hearing).

Where meetings of the full DLC are required the committee members will be appointed from the list of members, as is deemed most appropriate by the Council. Therefore, no guarantee of regular hours can be given to list members of the Committee.

The Council is looking for people in the community who have a wide range of expertise and skills including:

- An understanding of the community and its expectations around alcohol licensing.
- Highly developed investigative skills and decision making ability.
- Understanding and the application of legislation.
- Knowledge and understanding of hearings procedure; e.g. Resource Management Act hearings.
- Strong communication skills.
- Relevant alcohol licensing experience in previous roles.
- Knowledge of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and alcohol related harm.

To be eligible you cannot:

- Have an involvement, or the appearance of involvement with the alcohol industry.
- Be a member of the Police, a Medical Officer of Health, an inspector or an employee of Council.

More information on the role and skills required is available in the Competency Guidance for District Licensing Committee Members available at <https://resources.alcohol.org.nz/alcohol-management-laws/administering-alcohol-law/district-licensing-committees-dlcs>.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the DLC please email at [info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz](mailto:info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz) – Attention: Regulatory Services Team Leader or phone (07) 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (freecall within the district) for a copy of the position description and application form. Alternatively go to our website [www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz). List members will be contracted to the Council under a contract for services and will not be employees of the Council.

Successful applicants will be provided technical guidance and training. Expressions of Interest open on 1 October 2024 and close on 31 October 2024.

L D Cavers  
Chief Executive  
Hauraki District Council



[www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz)

## Church Notice

**Thames Spiritualist Church**, Sunday October 6, 2pm  
Grahamstown Hall.  
Speaker: Heather McKelvie

## Church Notice

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

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## CLASSIFIEDS

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Ph 022 130 3885

## Public Notices

### STEPPING OUT HAURAKI INC

#### AGM



You are cordially invited to attend the Annual General Meeting

**New committee/members welcomed**

To be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 11am

@ Stepping Out Hauraki  
100 Sealey Street, Thames

The meeting will conclude with a light lunch

## PAEROA COLLEGE

Mahi Tahī Kia Kaha

Parents and Whānau are invited to attend the Paeroa College End of Year Prizegivings for 2024

**Sports Awards Assembly**  
Tuesday 22nd October 1.00pm – 3.00pm  
**Senior Prizegiving**  
Wednesday 30th October 6.00pm – 8.00pm  
**Junior Prizegiving**  
Wednesday 11th December 11.00am – 12.30pm

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## 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 the Steampunk the Thames 2024 event, to close the following streets 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.

- Pahau Street between MacKay Street and Pollen Street between 7am and 3pm
- Willoughby Street and Cochrane Street located between Pollen Street and MacKay Street will be closed between 9am and 1.30pm
- Pollen Street will be closed between 9am and 1.30pm.

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

During the period of the road closure, use the alternative routes of Mackay Street, Campbell Street, Bella Street and SH25.

Aileen Lawrie  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



[www.tcdc.govt.nz](http://www.tcdc.govt.nz)

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## PAPER DELIVERIES

Although we endeavour to deliver our paper to everyone, sometimes we just cannot achieve this.

If you are one of the few who does not receive your weekly paper, please note they are available here:

**NGATEA** - Ngatea 4 Square, HDC Council Offices, Ngatea Post Shop, Z Petrol Station, Ngatea Purple Dairy  
**PAEROA** - Moores Caltex, Countdown, HDC Council offices, Takenote, Paeroa 4 Square, Paeroa Information Hub  
**WAIHI** - Maybelle Superette, New World, Toyworld/Takenote, Information Centre, Daffodil Dairy, Waihi Supervalue  
**THAMES** - Totara Veggie Shop, Mobil Kopu, Gull Service Station, Martina 4 Square, Bin Inn, Tararu Dairy,  
Queen St Mobil, Goldfields Mall, Pak'N'Save, Paper Power, Thames 4 Square, Carson's Bookshop, Thames Council Offices, Kauaeranga Store  
**TURUA** - Turua Dairy  
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bayleys.co.nz/2316002

13.19<sub>ha</sub>

**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  
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**Paeroa 162 Rotokohu Road**

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132<sub>ha</sub>

**Tender (unless sold prior)**  
 Closing 3pm, Tue 29 Oct 2024  
 96 Ulster Street, Hamilton  
**View** 11am-12pm Tue 8 Oct & Tue 15 Oct  
**Karl Davis** 0508 83 83 83  
 karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz  
**Sam Aislabie** 027 429 5410  
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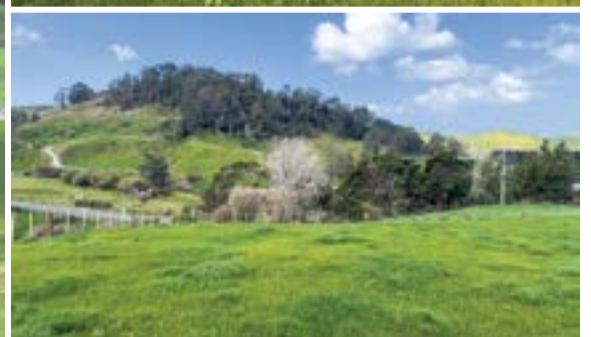
87 ha

**Tender (unless sold prior)**  
Closing 4pm, Thu 31 Oct 2024  
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton  
**View** 12.30-1.30pm Tue 8 Oct & Tue 15 Oct  
**Karl Davis** 0508 83 83 83  
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz  
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bayleys.co.nz/2316064

1 ha

**Auction (unless sold prior)** 11am, Thu 31 Oct 2024  
96 Ulster Street, Hamilton  
**View** 10.15-10.45am Sun 6 Oct  
**Karl Davis** 0508 83 83 83  
karl.davis@bayleys.co.nz  
**Connor Davis** 027 496 4622  
connor.davis@bayleysngatea.co.nz

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SPORTS

# HPC chess team bound for nationals

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

A group of Hauraki chess students is set to 'check' out the competition with their recent national final qualification.

Hauraki Plains College A chess team won the Checkmate Challenge in August, which has gained them entry for five players into the Chess Power Nationals event this month.

On top of this, the college took out the Checkmate Challenge on September 5, which secured them another spot for a sixth player to join the team for nationals.

HPC chess club organiser Amanda Fitzpatrick said the students wouldn't have to worry about travel and accommodation expenses as they would attend the competition online from Hauraki Plains College.

Mrs Fitzpatrick said she had noticed students who wanted to play chess, help each other out, and who were interested in getting to the nationals.

The school Hub has held a fundraiser led by Mrs Fitzpatrick, for the entry fee for students to attend the chess tournaments. In return, students bring in grocery donations for the local food bank.

The six Hauraki Plains students who will put their skills to the test are: Prajwal Parajuli, Selwin de Haast, Leon Spilsbury, Ujwal Parajuli, Adelle Johnson and Kim Endino.

HPC chess champion at the recent Checkmate Challenge Selwin de Haast told *The Profile* it was



Chess players from Hauraki Plains are ready to compete at the nationals.

Photo: SUPPLIED

a "pretty great feeling" when he found out the team had qualified.

Selwin, who has played chess since he was five, planned to prepare for nationals by learning more openings and "fixing the gaps" in the ones he already knew, he said. It was really beneficial to get a good start in a game, Selwin said. "I am also going to play a lot of practice games against high level computers."

Selwin, who's biggest inspiration in chess was his dad, said had

never been involved in a chess tournament before but looked forward to learning and facing some really good players.

He was trying to slow down during games and "not get cocky" as that often led him to blunder a lot of pieces, he said.

If he could create a new chess piece, Selwin said it would be called the priest and would replace the queen.

"[The priest] moves like a king, but can convert any enemy piece

into your own piece by being next to them."

Meanwhile, year 9 student Adelle Johnson said she would create an upgraded pawn.

"It's like a normal pawn, but it can move two squares forward and can move diagonally."

When Adelle heard the team qualified for nationals, she said it felt like heaven had opened up its gates to "let us through".

To handle the pressure of competitive play, Adelle said she would

just focus on what's happening in the game instead of worrying about the person she was playing.

The reason she got into chess was because she watched her dad play a game and asked if he could teach her how to play, she said.

Her biggest inspirations in chess were her dad and little brother, she said. "Some of my moves are kind of [dad's] and my brother's."

"I didn't steal their moves," she said. "I had improved [them] with my own."



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