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Sun sets on rural halls



Pātetonga Hall is one of two community halls facing the chopping block in Hauraki, as rural communities lose interest in the deteriorating buildings.

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

The doors are closing for good at Kopuarahi Community Hall, and Pātetonga Community Hall is likely to follow suit.

A public meeting was held in Pātetonga on November 27, to form an incorporated society which would have the legal power to make decisions about the hall. Around 15 locals turned up, along with Hauraki District Council Mayor Toby Adams, Plains Ward councillors and council community services manager Eva Mayor.

The meeting saw 12 attendees sign up for the Pātetonga Hall Incorporated Society. They now need to decide what to do with Pātetonga Hall, and the 1012 square metre parcel of land it sits on.

Among their options are repairing the run-down building and taking on its ongoing operation and maintenance, which would come at a significant cost; or disposing of the building and selling the land.

Minutes from the last meeting in November, 2023, said the cost to repair the building was prohibitive, no funding was available, and interest in the building had

waned significantly in the wake of Covid-19 and the closure of the local school.

Although a consensus to dispose of the hall was reached at that meeting, the council had advised attendees that they needed to form the incorporated society to ensure they could make those decisions.

Pātetonga resident Clare Ward, who was on the hall committee, said there were extensive issues with the building. "We have had interest from people wanting to use the hall, but because of electrical issues and water issues, it has just not

been possible," she said, also pointing out that the out-of-the-way location of the hall meant it wasn't attractive as a venue.

"There's three of us that have been looking after the hall for a while and we're just looking for the best interest that we can for the community with what's best for the hall. [The meeting] was actually quite nice because it gave the community an opportunity to voice their concerns of forming an incorporated society... Give everyone a bit of peace of mind before going forward."

Meanwhile, Kopuarahi Community

CONTINUED ON P2

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End of an era for hall

CONTINUED FROM P1

Hall has already been consigned to disposal by its own newly-formed incorporated society. The hall, which was recently listed for sale, was facing similar problems to Pātetonga. A decision was made on May 14 last year to sell the hall and its 4046 square metre parcel of land, and in October, the Kopuarahi Community Centre Incorporated Society was formed for this purpose.

At its December 18 meeting, the council resolved to rezone the land under the Pātetonga and Kopuarahi halls from Active Reserve to Rural, to facilitate their sales.

Eva said the council has been working to deal with its community halls over the last couple of years. The halls are run by committees made up of locals, unlike the war memorial halls in the town centres which are managed directly by the council.

Eva said the fates of the halls needed to be decided one way or another.

"There's a lot of passion in the community, but... Where it's not utilised as much, it's falling into disrepair. There's nobody to run it and there's just not the interest," she said.

"The council doesn't want it to become a derelict building. It's going to get people starting to break in and they'd have to make a decision eventually."

There was also the issue of council funds set aside for each hall's upkeep, which had been collected in previous years from targeted rates. When a hall is disposed of, Eva said it was up to each incorporated society to decide how it would distribute the funds back into its community.

All is not lost for the humble rural hall, though. Some rural Hauraki communities, such as Turua and Waitakaruru, have embraced and revitalised their community meeting places.

The Turua Hall committee has planned an extensive remodel, and its adjacent playground was replaced in September. "The Turua community is doing a lot to better its facilities for the people that live there," Eva said.

"I've worked with Waitakaruru to get them re-incorporated. They actually have a lot of rates that have been collected over time waiting for that community to be a legal entity - we could release those funds now they're choosing to do something with their hall."

Fatal crashes, delays on roads

A fatal crash on State Highway 25 on December 27 caused the closure of the road between Thames and Coromandel town for around six hours.

Two cars collided just before 9am south of Waiomu. One person died and four others sustained minor injuries. There were lengthy delays on both SH25 and SH25A as holiday traffic built up due to the road closure.

Another accident on December 19 left one person dead and two seriously injured. The two-vehicle crash occurred on the corner of Hauraki Rd and SH 25 in Ōrongo, just after 10am. Meanwhile, a single vehicle crash at 5pm on December 28 left the driver with serious injuries and closed State Highway 2 near the Victoria Battery Reserve in Waikino for most of the evening. Enquiries into the crashes are ongoing.

The road toll for Waikato over the official Christmas holiday period - December 24 to January 2, stands at two, with the other fatality occurring in Matamata on January 2.

Coromandel police also conducted more than 900 breath tests at 28 checkpoints on December 28, resulting in five drivers processed for excess blood alcohol.



The Kopuarahi Community Hall on State Highway 25 was recently listed for sale and will be auctioned with Bayleys on February 16.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER



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Thames Tides

Wed Jan 8		Thu Jan 9		Fri Jan 10		Sat Jan 11		Sun Jan 12		Mon Jan 13		Tue Jan 14	
am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm	am	pm
Morning 2:05am 3.3		Morning 3:04am 3.2		Morning 4:09am 3.2		Morning 5:18am 3.2		Morning 6:24am 3.3		Morning 7:22am 3.4		Morning 8:15am 3.5	
Afternoon 2:39pm 3.4		Afternoon 3:35pm 3.3		Afternoon 4:35pm 3.3		Afternoon 5:37pm 3.2		Afternoon 6:41pm 3.2		Afternoon 7:42pm 3.3		Afternoon 8:38pm 3.3	
8:15am 0.7		9:18am 0.8		10:25am 0.9		11:30am 0.8		6:41pm 3.2		7:22am 3.4		8:15am 3.5	
6:08am 8:41pm		6:09am 8:41pm		6:09am 8:41pm		6:10am 8:41pm		6:11am 8:40pm		6:12am 8:40pm		6:13am 8:40pm	
Best At 7:48am 8:13pm		Best At 8:39am 9:07pm		Best At 9:35am 10:04pm		Best At 10:34am 11:05pm		Best At 11:35am		Best At 12:06am 12:36pm		Best At 1:06am 1:35pm	
Set 12:59am Rise 2:49pm		Set 1:29pm Rise 4:02pm		Set 2:05am Rise 5:16pm		Set 2:48am Rise 6:28pm		Set 3:40am Rise 7:33pm		Set 4:41am Rise 8:29pm		Full Moon Set 5:48am Rise 9:14pm	

*Not for navigational purposes. Graphic supplied by OceanFun Publishing Ltd. www.tidewiz.com www.tidespy.com www.ofu.co.nz

MOON AND FISH KEYS

● New Moon ● First Quarter ● Full Moon ● Last Quarter

🐟 Good Fishing 🐟 Fair Fishing 🐟 Not So Good

TIME DIFFERENCES FOR OTHER PLACES

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

PLACE	Hr	Min	Hr	Min
Coromandel	-0	04	-0	04
Whitianga	-0	01	-0	05
Tairua	+0	10	+0	21
Whangamata	-0	03	-0	05
Waihi Beach	-0	12	-0	12

Decades of service to communities recognised

Five Hauraki-Coromandel people have been recognised for decades of service to their communities in the 2025 New Year's Honours - Paora Moyle, Graeme Pearce, Keith Trembath, and Peter and Sue Priest.

PAORA MOYLE

Thames social worker Paora Moyle (Ngāti Porou ki Wharekāhika) has been awarded a Companion of the King's Service Order for services to survivors of abuse in care, using their personal experience to serve as a social worker for more than 30 years and advocating for children who have been removed from their families and placed in state and faith-based care.

Mx Moyle was a member of Te Ara Takatū Reference Group, a group of Māori-led survivors, Kaupapa Māori advocates and academics who met regularly with the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse in State Care and in the Care of Faith-based Institutions. They researched *Haha uri, Haha tea, Māori involvement in State Care 1950-1999* (2022), commissioned by the Crown and used as a source for the inquiry's report. They also researched *Voices of Takatāpui, Rainbow and MVPFAFF+ Survivors*, an independent research report provided to the Abuse in Care Royal Commission. They were the lead claimant in the Waitangi Tribunal's Oranga Tamariki Inquiry and have provided their experience of abuse to the inquiry and the Crown Response Unit. They were awarded the Wāhine Ora Award in 2020 by Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga and Hine Kahukura, and in 2011, the prestigious Apa Marēikura Award by the Ministry of Health. Mx Moyle has advocated to ensure the response to the inquiry accounts for concerns and interests of all survivors, including survivors of abuse in care who are members of the LGBTQ+ community.

GRAEME PEARCE

For services to heritage preservation and the community, Thames' Graeme Pearce has been awarded a King's Service Medal for his work maintaining historic cemeteries in Thames as volunteer caretaker and at his own expense since 2000. Mr Pearce, who received a Thames



Paora Moyle, left, has been awarded Companion of the King's Service Order and Keith Trembath has been awarded the King's Service Medal.

Coromandel Community Service Award in 2009, regularly visits the Shortland Cemetery, Tararu Cemetery and the urupā at Pārāwai, where he mows lawns, clears weeds and cleans tombstones for the cemeteries, which receive only limited council maintenance. His efforts have helped uncover lost graves and plots, with his research helping correct and enhance cemetery records. He has helped family researchers find graves and has volunteered his time to Find A Grave since 2014, photographing and documenting 1100 grave sites for online searching.

He has also volunteered with The Treasury Research and Archive Centre since 2010. Within the wider community, he was a player and coach with Hui Mai Rugby Club in the 1960s and volunteered with Thames Search and Rescue from 1978 to 2000. He was involved with running Thames Athletic Club and Thames Harriers Club events in the 1970s and 1980s, including as a committee member and co-ordinator of the Paeroa to Thames road event for many years. Mr Pearce has undertaken maintenance and



File Photos

general tasks for the Thames Pensioner Housing Trust since 2010, such as installation of under-floor insulation.

KEITH TREMBATH

Hikutaia's Keith Trembath has been awarded the King's Service Medal for services to the community, agriculture and education. Mr Keith Trembath was involved with farm training from 1978 to 1998 as a Board member and Chair of Auckland Federated Farmers' Cadet Scheme and later as Chair of the Waikato Agricultural Industry Training Organisation (ITO).

Mr Trembath was an Agriculture ITO director from 1994 to 2000, overseeing growth in the numbers of young people completing the programmes, and was a member of the Fencing, Wools of New Zealand and Field Days sub-committees. He was on the National Council of Federated Farmers from 1987 to 1992 and Deputy Chair of Federated Farmers for Hauraki Coromandel from 2004 to 2014. He was a Hauraki District Councillor from 2002 to 2007 for the Paeroa Ward, serving time as Deputy Chair and involved

with committees including civil defence, Hauraki Rail Trail Scoping Group, Waste, Water and Roading. He has been a Trustee since 2004 of Waikato East Life Education Trust and Chair since 2010, during which time he was involved with the amalgamation of the East Waikato and Hauraki/Coromandel branches. As Chair, he has overseen the Trust raise close to \$1 million and employ a full-time teacher working with 60 local schools. Mr Trembath was Deputy Chair of St John Paeroa Area Committee from 2004 to 2019, with responsibilities for welfare, establishing the Op-Shop and funding a new ambulance.

PETER AND SUE PRIEST

Husband and wife Peter and Sue Priest, of Whangamatā, have each been awarded the King's Service Medal for services to Māori and conservation. The couple have served their communities of Whangamatā and Waitara for 25 years, often in the roles of chair and treasurer respectively for various organisations.

Mr Priest has chaired the Ngāti Rāhiri Hapu o Ātiawa (Taranaki) management committee since 2018, and Mrs Priest is treasurer, helping the hapū to grow from a position of financial and administrative difficulty to secure assets, financial stability and a strategic plan for its future. They have both made significant contributions to estuary care in Whangamatā since 2003, in hands-on and governance roles and co-ordinating volunteers.

Mr Priest is also co-chair of the Whangamatā Community Marae and Well-being Hub (Governance Group). He has also been a trustee of the Whangamatā Community Marae Trust from 2019, together with Mrs Priest, who is also treasurer. They also helped prepare the business case to secure land for the establishment of a community marae in Whangamatā, with land allocated in February last year.

The couple have also helped with the development of Māori language, culture and tikanga in Whangamatā, including community te reo lessons and helping organise the community's first Matariki celebrations.



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Water, Waihi zones on agenda

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

Hauraki District Council signed the Waikato Water Done Well Heads of Agreement at its December 18 meeting, which will enable the council to investigate a regional approach to managing water with other Waikato councils.

The non-binding agreement is part of the council's move to meet the requirements of the new Local Water Done Well legislation, which will regulate the delivery of drinking water, stormwater and wastewater across the country.

"We have the option of going it alone and continuing as we are, with an enhanced business unit to comply with expected regulations, or work in collaboration with our Waikato and neighbouring councils to get the benefits of scale; quality standards and resilience," Hauraki Mayor Toby Adams said.

The council is also conducting feasibility studies into other water management possibilities, including keeping the status quo, or forming a sub-regional council controlled organisation with the Thames-Coromandel and/or Matamata-Piako district councils.

All options will be presented to the council in February, and put out for public consultation by the end of March. The council is required to finalise its water services delivery model by September, 2025.

Meanwhile, council also approved a proposed plan to rezone several areas in Waihi to provide

for future growth in the town.

Under the changes, around 11 hectares of land along Ford Rd would be rezoned from rural to industrial, around 6000 square metres on Thorn Rd would be rezoned from rural to residential, and approximately 10.3 hectares of land on Bradford St would be rezoned from low density residential to residential.

The plan also proposed amendments to the Bradford St extension to allow for increased density of development, although its zoning would not change.

The changes allow for a potential roundabout on the corner of State Highway 2 and Waihi Beach Rd, to accommodate increased traffic through the new industrial zone.

The estimated cost to the council for the roundabout would be \$6 million, although the report tabled at the meeting noted there would only be a need for it if traffic increased significantly.

The council has been working on the proposed changes for five years, councillor Ray Broad said.

The report said there had been significant opposition to the Ford Rd rezoning proposal from neighbouring landowners, who have stated they will oppose council "all the way".

The proposed plan will go out to the public for consultation in early 2025.



Drummers entertain the crowd Waihi's Christmas at the Lake.

Photos: KENNY MCARTHUR



Friends and family join the fun. RIGHT: Dogs dress up in their Christmas finest. BELOW: Santa arrives.



Christmas at the Lake a success

Waihi's Christmas at the Lake held last month was another success despite raining for days prior to the event, organisers say.

"Without a Christmas parade... we felt the show must go on regardless of the weather," Sarah Spicer said.

"So much work went into the day and so many businesses and sponsors were involved."

There were bouncy castles, entertainment and food on offer.

"Santa was a hit and the support from the community was outstanding - it's just so great to come together to celebrate each other at what can only be described as a very tough year for many," she said.

"Without the generosity of local businesses, artists, volunteers and stall holders, the event would not have been possible."

"The organisers would like to thank everyone involved."



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Relationships key for retiring Turua principal

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

The end of the 2024 school year was also the end of an era for Turua School, as principal Tracey Fisher retired from her 29-year tenure.

Tracey sat in the top chair at the rural primary school for 19 years, but her journey with the school began well before that.

"I've taught most areas of school," the seasoned educator said, as she reminisced on her time there. A good sense of humour and rapport with the students was what made her time in the classroom so enjoyable, she said.

"I had such fun times. It started with the little ones - we were studying gold mining in the local area, and we blacked out the whole room, and the children had headlights," she said.

"During duck shooting season, we had a lot of boys who were interested in duck shooting, and so we set up a maimai, and cooked up duck, and they all ate it. And then all their reading, their writing, and everything had to do with that, and they loved it."

Other highlights had been taking senior students to Wellington on camp and meeting celebrities such as the actors from *The Lord of the Rings* and the Dalai Lama.



Tracey Fisher has retired after 29 years at Turua School; 19 as principal.

Photo: ALICE PARMINTER

Education has gone through huge changes during Tracey's time at the school, and she said she's proud of the programmes and curriculum changes that have been implemented under her watch.

"We've done lots of cool things. We've done CREST - Creativity in Science and Technology, we've done the PREP programme - Primary Enterprise Programme at school, and then the Garden to Tables

is our newest one," she said.

"And Learning Through Play, of course. It's a great transition for students from being at home to then starting at school, especially for little ones."

Tracey said the key to her

successful tenure was the relationships she formed - with the staff, the parents, the wider Turua community, and most importantly, with the students.

"You can't teach children unless you've got a good relationship with [them]," Tracey said.

"A lot of your day is actually spent talking to people, whether it's teachers, whānau, or students. I'm always at the gate after school and people can come and talk to me... we really are open-door."

Now, Tracey is relaxing into her retirement. She hasn't made any decisions about how she will spend her time, but she said she will continue to be a familiar face around Turua.

"It's a little bit scary, because it's the first time in my life I've never had any plans. But I've given myself a few months just to get everything done that I've never been able to get done while I've been working."

"Our 12th grandchild is due in April so I'll be spending more time with family, which is also very exciting."

Karen Houghton, formerly the associate principal at Pokono School, has been appointed as the new principal for Turua School and will be stepping into the role at the beginning of term one.



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It's the hard things that make life easier

OPINION

By MICHAEL WILKES



I came across a quote recently from Les Brown that really stuck with me: "If you do what is easy, things will become hard. If you do what is hard, things will become easy."

It's a simple truth, and like many proverbs, it's true most of the time - though not always.

For example, someone forced into a life as a refugee is facing unimaginable hardships through no fault of their own.

But for most of us, this quote rings true.

Take my family friend, for instance. He's in his early 70s and recently invited me to ride my mountain bike to the top of Mount Te Aroha.

Oof - it was a task.

I could barely keep up with him, and by the time I reached the top, I was ready to give up on life.

Yet for him, it was just another ride - a challenge, sure, but one he could handle with ease.

Why? Because he regularly chooses to do hard things, so over time, the riding has gotten easier.

The same principle applies to finances. I've watched the spending habits of some people, and it's clear.

I know folks who earn double what I do, yet they're still stuck in struggle street.

My wife and I, on the other hand, said no to luxuries and experiences we couldn't afford, often feeling like we were missing out.

We saved and invested instead.

Now, years down the track, we own our home, while others with bigger incomes are still renting and battling debt.

If you're finding yourself struggling in areas like finances, health, or family, maybe it's time to start choosing the hard things now.

The small sacrifices today could pave the way for the future you dream about tomorrow.

Sometimes, the hard path really is the one that makes life easier in the long run.

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 to sign up to their quarterly newsletter or to become a supporter.

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Sculpture encourages people to ‘follow your dreams’

By DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

People who drive past Paeroa College might notice a new addition at the school grounds. A sculpture of a man on a penny-farthing bicycle has made its home in pride of place near the front of Paeroa College.

The sculpture was donated to the school by a community member who appreciated the college’s work and wanted to provide something that offered students something to think about beyond their day to day studies and life.

The mastermind behind the creation is Te Aroha-based sculptor Adrian Worsley.

Adrian told *The Profile* the person who donated the sculpture, who wanted to remain anonymous, was passionate about giving something back to the community - which Adrian said he was “big on” too.

The man on the penny-farthing bicycle wears a restraint on one wrist, and a sundial on the other which is connected to a chain.

The sculpture, which took Adrian around three weeks to create, stands behind a small plaque that reads: *Don't be chained to time, follow your dreams.*

As a kid, Adrian said he was so “worried about time”, he didn’t really “follow my dreams as such”.

But the sculptor wanted people to know it was important to follow their dreams and pas-



Adrian Worsley and his creation, with students Jack Papps and Masen Bidois.

Photo: DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

sions. His biggest hope was for the sculpture to be appreciated.

Adrian also believed being creative was really important, and a bit of “creativity” was good for the mind and soul.

But his inspiration for creating came from another place: music.

“I like really loud, heavy mu-

sic. That’s where my mind actually focuses more, so it doesn’t get distracted.

“These ideas just seem to play through from songs and music,” he said.

While the sculptor wasn’t a musician himself, he enjoyed heavy metal music from bands such as Ministry, Five Finger

Death Punch, and even New Zealand group Head Like a Hole.

He said it was the only time his mind was settled so he could “just focus a lot easier”.

Adrian said he’d met a few other people who were similar to him in that respect.

“But I’ve always been like



that, ever since I was a kid.” The motivation behind his work was definitely passion, he said.

“You have to be passionate about this, because it’s hard to make a living from it.”

Adrian, who had many sculptures placed in towns across the Waikato, including Morrinsville, Matamata and right through the main street of Te Aroha, said he loved street art because people could appreciate it - “and then you get to enjoy people appreciating it”.

“I think it’s really cool to see, so it motivates me to do something that’s bigger and better.”

Most of the pieces Adrian worked on took more than two years to create, he said.

“So you’re connecting to that every single day, so when it goes, it takes a while to get over that.”

For people interested in seeing more of Adrian’s work, the main street of Te Aroha is dotted with his sculptures.

DETAILS: Stay up to date with Adrian’s work on Facebook: search for Adrian Worsley Gallery.

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Rural Life

DairyNZ forecast positive

DairyNZ's latest farm financial forecast shows a national breakeven price of \$8.32 per kgMS.

With the average national forecast payout now sitting at \$10.08 per kgMS, that was potentially \$1.76 of cream on top for farmers, well above the profit margin of recent seasons, DairyNZ says.

"I suspect that Christmas came a bit early in some dairy farming households following multiple positive announcements in recent months," DairyNZ head of economics Mark Storey said.

"The Global Dairy Trade auctions have seen a steady demand for all dairy products, which has positively influenced dairy prices, while reductions in the Official Cash Rate (OCR) have decreased interest expenses, providing financial relief and improved profitability for our farmers."

Since initial forecasts in June, the average national forecast payout received has increased by 21 per cent to \$10.08 per kgMS, while farm working expenses have remained relatively stable, with a small 4 per cent increase since June. This is reflected in a 3 per cent increase to the forecast breakeven milk price, now sitting at \$8.32 per kgMS.

"Farm working expenses are forecast to increase marginally to better reflect what is happening on farm, including slight increases in key operational areas such as electricity, wages and insurance. A portion of this increase is attributed to deferred costs from the tight times in previous seasons, as farmers look to catch up on deferred repairs and maintenance.

"Despite the slight rise in expenses, the combination of higher income and reduced interest costs will be resulting in a substantial increase in cash surplus. This indicates a stronger financial footing for farmers, providing them with greater liquidity and the ability to reduce debt or undertake essential capital projects depending on their individual situation," Mark said.

DairyNZ senior business specialist, Paul Bird said after a few years of high costs and inflation having big impacts on the bottom line, it was a relief to see a change in narrative.

"It's the perfect time to take a moment to celebrate a positive end to 2024, while reflecting on... how to utilise the higher payout to best support long-term success," he said.

"Now is the time to use this payout to prepare for whatever comes next – because farming is a marathon, not a sprint. There are a range of tools and resources to support you, including the Econ Tracker, where you can consider the balance of increased payout, inflation and subsiding interest rates.

"Business strategies might include sticking to your original farm budget despite more income, paying down debt, or investing in the future of your farm through technology, infrastructure or more staff training."

The new forecasts are published on the DairyNZ Econ Tracker and expressed as national or regional averages.

DETAILS: dairynz.co.nz/econtracker.



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Rural Life

Wool dryer balls, fragrance, a 'Swift' innovation

A group of young entrepreneurs from a Hauraki Plains College business class set a goal to create a product that stood out while also meeting customer needs.

That product is Swift. The group of year 13 business students: Xanthea Greaves, Jack Davis, Ant Plianukool, Emily True, Antonio Alvarado and Cruz Collins, developed Swift - an eco-friendly innovation aimed at "making life a little fresher".

Swift consists of a pack of two wool dryer balls plus charcoal deodorising powder and fragrance. It was perfect for giving laundry a "fresh scent" straight out of the dryer, tackling tough odors in sports shoes, boxing gloves, shin pads and more, they said.

It was also a natural air freshener for cars, freshening closets, bedrooms or guest rooms before company arrives.

But that's not all - the students and their successful product also took out the top spot at the Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) Waikato Regional Awards in October.

"All six judges declared they'd love to buy our product," the Swift team said.

Not only did the team de-



The Swift business team took the top spot in the Young Enterprise Scheme Waikato Regional Awards for their Swift product, pictured right.

Photo: SUPPLIED

velop Swift, they also created a business plan which included production, marketing and financial strategies.

"We've presented Swift at pitches and local markets, engaging with customers to promote our product and gather feedback to refine it further.

"This hands-on experience taught us valuable lessons

about running a business and made us even more determined to succeed," they said.

But the group said what made Swift special was its combination of sustainability, innovation and practicality.

"All of our products are all natural.

"For the powder we have products such as baking soda,

baking powder, cornflour and coconut activated charcoal."

The fragrance oil is sourced from New Zealand with all natural ingredients, and the wool balls are made from 100 per cent wool.

The Swift team went to the YES national finals on December 5, and even though they did not go home with any prizes -



they said the entire experience was a highlight.

"We learnt about certain depths of the business world and how we could have improved and expanded our business effectively," they said.

People can support the Swift business team by purchasing one or more of their packs, they said. "By supporting us, you're not just helping us achieve our dreams - you're also investing in young entrepreneurs and showcasing the incredible potential of the Hauraki Plains and Waikato communities."

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SUDOKU

182

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

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

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8				3	5	4		

HARD

182

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

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

MEDIUM

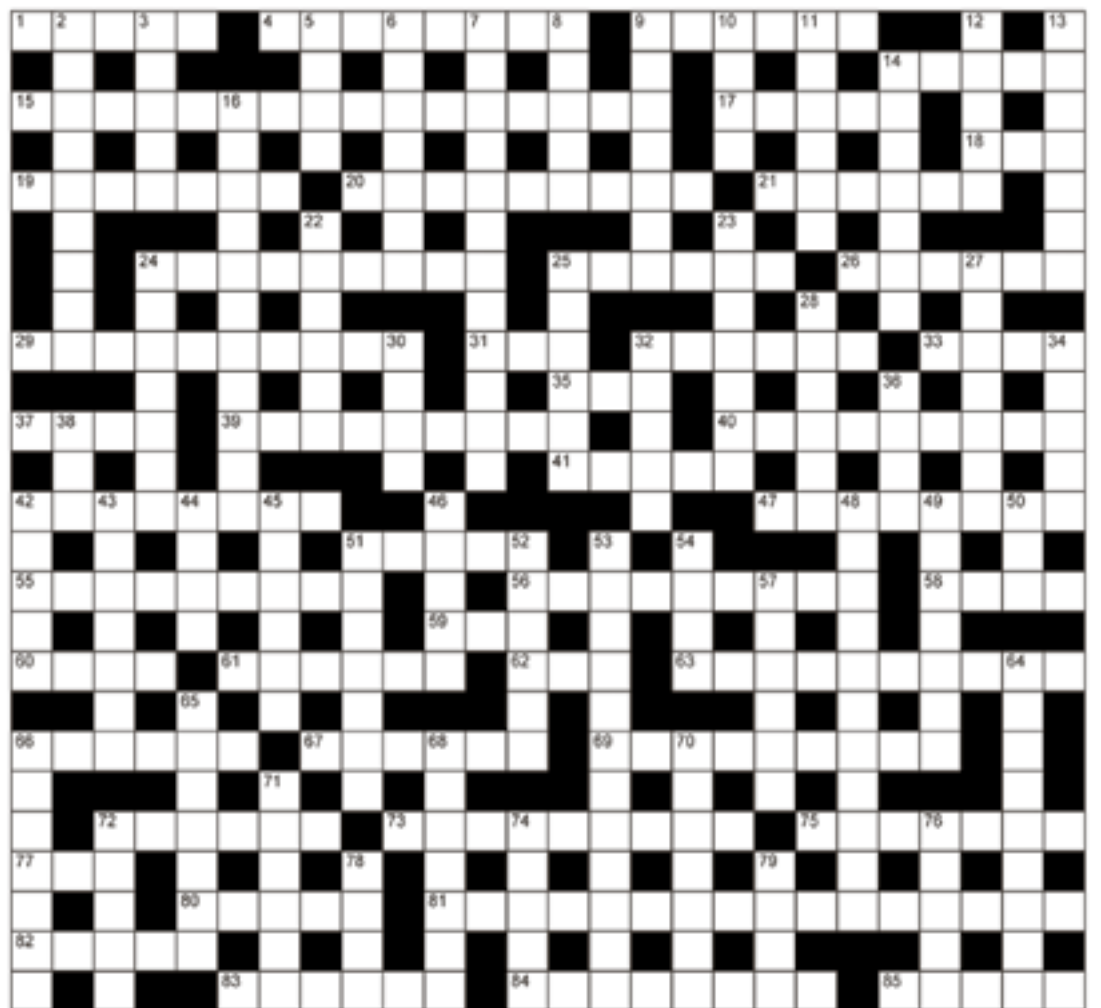
7	9	2	5	1	6	3	4	8
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9	2	5	6	7	4	1	8	3
1	6	4	3	8	2	7	5	9

EASY

JUMBO CROSSWORD

202

- ACROSS**
- 1 Desiccated (5)
 - 4 Backs (8)
 - 9 Frightened (6)
 - 14 Strainer (5)
 - 15 In a forceful, thoughtless, hasty manner (4,1,4,2,1,4)
 - 17 Restrict (5)
 - 18 Chart (3)
 - 19 Enthusiasm-instilling speech (3,4)
 - 20 Playing field boundaries (9)
 - 21 Solidly built (6)
 - 24 Complex maze (9)
 - 25 Soak up (6)
 - 26 Worldwide (6)
 - 29 Airliner cockpit (6,4)
 - 31 Golf ball rest (3)
 - 32 Planet (6)
 - 33 Young cow (4)
 - 35 Short sleep (3)
 - 37 Nucleus (4)
 - 39 Rude lover (anag) (9)
 - 40 Released from captivity (9)
 - 41 Solo (5)
 - 42 Continues obstinately (8)
 - 47 Decapitated (8)
 - 51 Scum (5)
 - 55 Established course of action (9)
 - 56 Film machine (9)
 - 58 Scoff (4)
 - 59 Sandbank (3)
 - 60 Tempo (4)
 - 61 Lookout (6)
 - 62 Tree (3)
 - 63 Having accomplished an aim (10)
 - 66 Robbery at sea (6)
 - 67 Armed fighting (6)
 - 69 Vehicle's illumination (9)
 - 72 Dilapidated old car (6)
 - 73 Book for cuttings, etc (9)
 - 75 Window cover (7)
 - 77 Wrath (3)
 - 80 Mistake (5)
 - 81 Usually (4,5,4,3)
 - 82 Jotted down (5)
 - 83 Foreigners (6)
 - 84 Cowboy films, books (8)
 - 85 Banquet (5)
- DOWN**
- 2 Create a fuss (5,4)
 - 3 Vote in (5)
 - 5 Slippery fishes (4)
 - 6 Euphoria (7)
 - 7 High-flying aircraft (5,7)
 - 8 Hindu religious teacher (5)
 - 9 Not appearing to grow older (7)
 - 10 Make angry (4)
 - 11 Prisoner (6)
 - 12 Burglar's tool (5)
 - 13 Of assistance (7)
 - 14 Bacteria-free (7)
 - 16 Flared trousers (11)
 - 22 Decorative wall band (6)
 - 23 Fragile (7)
 - 24 Very drunk (7)
 - 25 Programme (6)
 - 27 Bragged (7)
 - 28 Increase threefold (6)
 - 30 Scottish church (4)
 - 32 Lampoon (5)
 - 34 Lost colour (5)
 - 36 Impulse (4)
 - 38 Lyric poem (3)
 - 42 Player of bagpipes (5)
 - 43 Cock (7)
 - 44 Horned mountain goat (4)
 - 45 Hairpiece (6)
 - 46 Spare-time activity (5)
 - 48 Authoritative, reliable source of information (6,5)
 - 49 Fine-tunes (7)
 - 50 Day before (3)
 - 51 Wreck (7)
 - 52 New shoot (6)
 - 53 Falsify the accounts (4,3,5)
 - 54 Optical glass (4)
 - 57 Amuse (6)
 - 64 Fully in agreement (9)
 - 65 Told off (7)
 - 66 One in hospital (7)
 - 68 Turns into (7)
 - 70 Top ales (anag)(7)
 - 71 Helix (6)
 - 72 Wharf (5)
 - 74 Direction indicator (5)
 - 76 Slight colouring (5)
 - 78 Gratis (4)
 - 79 Shortly (4)



PREVIOUS SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Poppy, 4 On top of the world, 14 Swift 15 Major, 16 Auctioneer, 17 Excel, 19 Gut, 20 Dungeon, 21 Construct, 22 Staple, 25 Outspoken, 27 Bleach, 28 Infamy, 33 Unfamiliar, 35 Elf, 36 Warned, 37 Spiv, 39 Foe, 41 Die away, 42 Armada, 43 Economics, 44 Light, 45 Jane Eyre, 50 Do, 51 Amethyst, 55 Chafe, 58 Desperado, 59 Silent, 60 Feelers, 61 Rut, 63 Dyed, 64 Resign, 65 Ilk, 66 Salutation, 68 Gaggle, 69 Mighty, 71 Cleopatra, 76 Stamps, 77 Lunchtime, 79 Plateau, 81 Fun, 84 Stein, 85 Inebriated, 86 Singe, 87 Image, 88 Throw in the towel, 89 Stark.

DOWN: 2 Opaque, 3 Prong, 5 Nous, 6 Outcome, 7 Oboist, 8 Their, 9 Earache, 10 Omen, 11 Locate, 12 Hinge, 13 Stately, 14 Sloping, 18 Conspiracy, 23 Tonic, 24 Scarlet, 26 Unaware, 27 Buffalo, 29 Amplify, 30 Angina, 31 Relay, 32 Deform, 34 Rare, 36 Weigh, 38 Visit, 40 Lost, 45 Jaded, 46 Nest egg, 47 Ewer, 48 Reaped, 49 Cairn, 50 Destiny, 52 Eventually, 53 Holster, 54 Sermon, 55 Codicil, 56 Fluke, 57 Onus, 62 Flood, 67 Cleanse, 68 Griffin, 70 Houdini, 72 Lumbago, 73 Speech, 74 Starve, 75 Danger, 76 Sneak, 78 Cheat, 80 Twist, 82 Undo, 83 Cede.

Vice-regal party stops in Ngatea for surprise visit



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.

1932

Ngatea received a surprise visit from His Excellency, Lord Bledisloe, Governor General of New Zealand, and the Lady Bledisloe. The vice-regal party was touring the Thames Valley, and Ngatea had not been included in the itinerary, but at the request of the headmaster of Ngatea School, His Excellency consented to stop there for a few minutes.

The pergola at the school was elaborately decorated with greenery, while above the entrance the colours of the Ngatea Girl Guide Troop were flown. Inside the entrance, the guides formed a guard of honour. "We did not intend stopping at Ngatea" said His Excellency, "and until a week ago did not know that there was such a place... but when I heard that some of my old friends, one of whom was the chairman of the first school committee, resided at Ngatea, I decided to stop and see him and meet the people of the district."

He praised the area's fertile, top-dressed and well-drained land, adding that if children were to



The vice-regal tour of the Hauraki Plains and Thames Valley. SUPPLIED

grow into cultured men and women they too must be top-dressed, and it was that top-dressing which they received at school. The Vice-Regal party, after a very crowded 15 minutes at Ngatea, left by car to continue the tour.

They stopped for a few minutes at Turua School, where the pupils were assembled in the playground.

Little Miss Grace Tetley presented Her Excellency with a bouquet of violets. His Excellency commented on the children's sturdy, healthy appearance, their bright happy faces, and their lusty cheers. At Kōpū Bridge, their Excel-

lencies were met by a party of officials and local Māori, who gave a haka of welcome. The main street of Thames was cheerfully decorated, and after luncheon the Vice-Regal party was received at King's Theatre by a guard of honour provided by High School Cadets, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and the Thames Volunteer Fire Brigade. The hall was crowded and before entering the Governor addressed the large number of citizens who had been unable to gain admission. After speeches and stirring addresses, a visit was paid to Thames Hospital.

At Paeroa Memorial Park their Excellencies each planted a tree to mark the occasion of their visit.

At Paeroa School, where a guard of honour had been arranged, the children gave a wonderfully enthusiastic welcome, cheering and waving flags. In a short address to the children Lord Bledisloe impressed upon them the fact that they need not be ashamed of manual labour.

From Paeroa their Excellencies motored to Waikino. Here school children and residents lined the road, and the vice-regal car broke through a paper streamer held across the route by two girls. After a formal welcome his Excellency chatted for a time with local farmers. On their arrival at Waihi, a guard of honour, provided by the High School cadets, was formed in front of the Borough Council chambers, the Royal salute being given.

Their Excellencies passed between two lines of Girl Guides to enter the Drill Hall, which was packed with children and citizens, many of whom had travelled long distances to be present. After the welcome, Lord Bledisloe in an eloquent address stressed the need of producing more gold. A veteran prospector, Mr Nicholl, of Waitēkauri, the first prospector to intersect payable ore in the Martha lode in 1878, was then presented to him. In overalls and gumboots their Excellencies were escorted down the Waihi Company's No 2 shaft to a depth of 1400ft.

Later they watched boiling liquid gold being poured from crucibles into moulds at the company's refinery before leaving the district for Tauranga.

Chris' Quiz

Weekly quiz compiled by Chris Parmenter

- In the movie *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, which other famous wizard from a movie is pictured on the wall in Dumbledore's office?
- The TV show *The Later Daters*, was executive produced by which former first lady of the United States? a) Hillary Clinton, b) Laura Bush or c) Michelle Obama?
- Toka, Pepa, Kuti is the te reo Māori translation of what popular game played between two people, using only the right hand and no other accessories?
- What word beginning with P is the name of the winged horse from Greek mythology?
- Which male singer has been nicknamed 'The Boss'?
- In Australia, the brand name Texta is used as a generic term for what? a) jandals, b) marker pens or c) white-out fluid?
- Carlo Acutis will be made a saint by the Catholic Church in 2025, he is often referred to as the a) gamer saint, b) influencer saint or c) TikTok saint?
- The North American ski slope difficulty rating system was designed by a) Donald Trump, b) Ruth Bader Ginsburg or c) Walt Disney?
- In October, 2022, the British newspaper *The Daily Star* began a livestream of a head of lettuce, suggesting (correctly) that it would outlast the tenure of which UK Prime Minister?
- The ice cream brand Häagen-Dazs was established in which country? a) Denmark, b) Poland or c) USA?



ANSWERS: 1. Gandalf from *The Lord of the Rings*; 2. c) Michelle Obama; 3. Rock, Paper, Scissors; 4. Pegasus; 5. Bruce Springsteen; 6. b) Marker pen; 7. a) gamer saint; 8. c) Walt Disney; 9. Lix Truss; 10. c) USA

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The Shed & Co at 58 Coronation St, or 82 Normanby Rd, Paeroa. Photo: DAVIDDA HIKATANGATA

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Not only are they the local experts for buying and selling second-hand goods, they also offer help with house clearances and removals.

Squeak continues to have several chosen spots to zizz out during the day, you could come in and find her.

DETAILS: Visit The Shed & Co at 58 Coronation St, Paeroa. Open hours: 7 days 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Sunday - Follow on Facebook: The Shed & Co.

Sam runs the business with the help of colleagues Connie, Stu and Rita.

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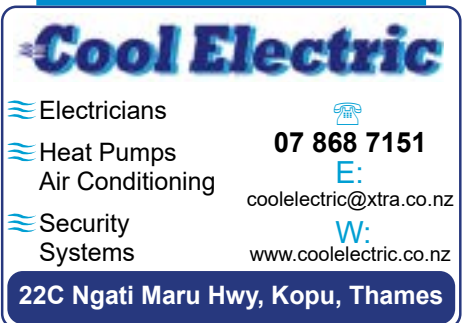
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CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12noon Monday

<p>Death Notice</p> <p>CALLAGHAN, Sheila: Passed away peacefully on 26th December, 2024. Aged 90 years at Hetherington House, Waihi. Deeply loved wife, soul mate and best friend of David, married for 65 years. Beloved Mum of Ian (deceased) and Jacqui. Much loved Grandma of Courtney, Carl & Aidan and Great Grandma of Maddison. A very special person has passed on having touched and enriched the lives of a huge number of family, friends and acquaintances. <i>Your wonderful sense of humour will live on with your 3 grandchildren.</i> A celebration of her life will be held at the Waihi RSA, 10.30am Thursday 23rd January. Messages to Jacqui Callaghan, 5 Silverstream Place, Waihi. 022 3023163.</p>	<p>Death Notice</p>  <p>SVESTRUP, Robin Lewis (Rob): Born November 14, 1951. Passed away on December 18, 2024. Sudden husband of Linda (deceased), brother and brother in law to Wendy, Gillian, and Lee. Private service has been held.</p> <p>Church Notice</p> <p>Assembly of God 10am Sundays. Scout Hall. Baker St, Waihi</p> <p>For Lease</p> <p>Yards for lease, Thames and Kopu. Suitable for trucks, vehicles or trade business base. Ph 027 440 7101</p> <p>Advertise with the paper that is being read Valley Profile P: 022 130 3885</p>	<p>Gardening</p> <p>STUMP GRINDING. All sizes, all areas. Thames based. Ph 021 060 7659</p> <p>Handyman</p> <p>Mowing, hedges, fencing, gardening, carpentry, painting, retaining walls, welding, waterblasting. Work is good quality and I will not attempt to work outside of my skills. Insured. Dennis Schuler 022 129 0169</p> <p>An experienced handyman covering all trades with over 20 years exp building trade. Please contact Laurie King 0212510246. ktpropertyservice.com</p> <p>Pets</p> <p>KENNELS</p> <p>WAITAKARURU Boarding Kennels and Cattery. "A great place for your pet to stay." Shane & Sherrin Hansen. Ph: 07-867-3344, SH25 Waitakaruru, RD6 Thames</p>	<p>Public Notice</p> <p>Rodney Spence please call Lyn - Store 4 U, 027 575 9173. If no contact by January 10, 2025 contents will be disposed of.</p> <p>Storage</p> <p>STORAGE KOPU, PAEROA TE AWAMUTU</p> <p>"New Units" Ph 027 440 7101 07 868 3033 Safe n Sound Storage www.safestorage.co.nz</p> <p>Storage Unlimited 25 Ngati Maru Highway Kopu, Thames Clean, secure, dry Units available 7 x 3.6m and 7 x 5.5m Phone 07 868 9944</p> <p>Thames Valley Storage - secure, dry units available, two sizes. Call Trev 027 4076966</p>	<p>Handyman Services</p> <p>THAMES HANDYMAN & BUILDING SERVICES Building, home maintenance & general gardening services Phone: Fleur or Crighton • 0273 913 283</p> <p>Storage</p> <p>TOTAL STORAGE LTD KEREPEHI / PAEROA We will beat any legit quote for storage in 10ft or 20ft containers T&C's apply 021 67 67 99 info@totalstorage.co.nz</p> <p>Last month's winner of the lotto ticket was Lyn Harris, who found Pete in the December 11th edition in the Hauraki Plains Motors advert. Go to page 2 for details on how to enter.</p> 	<p>Public Notice</p> <p>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 did 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 Supervalu 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 KEREPEHI: Kerepehi Dairy</p>
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ADVERTORIAL

Fresh start for Fresho with new store

Fruit and vege store Fresho has a message for the people of Thames: thank you for your support.

The family-run business reopened at 646 Pollen St, Thames, at the end of 2024.

Pawan Singh said he and his staff were excited to welcome back the regulars who waited so patiently while the shop relocated from its former premises at the southern end of Pollen St.

"We are back in a new location for you guys with a new layout, new shop, and plenty of parking," he said.

"We tried our best to come back as quickly as possible."

During the move, Fresho was outfitted with a fresh new look - shelving, fridges and eye-catching signage.

There is ample parking behind the store, accessible from Service Lane 7.

And most importantly, Fresho still has the same fresh produce the Thames community has come to love.

"We source local produce from Pukekohe, it's fresh straight from the gardens," Pawan said.

"We buy direct from growers. We also own a glasshouse - it's leased out but we buy from that grower who's in it now."

The staff are now keen to reconnect with the community, especially Pawan's father Dalveer Singh.

"He's been the front face for the last six, seven or eight years, a lot of the community knows him."

He was also pleased to see his close-knit team back on the shop floor, Pawan said.

"We're not just there for them to just come into work, we know the family and



Fresho has opened its new store at 646 Pollen St, Thames, with a fresh new look.

Photos: NIKKI SANDERS

their background and all of that as well," he said.

"I used to have one lady that passed away just recently, Helen Simpson," he said. "She was one of our staff that stayed with us for so long - when she passed away, she did say to her daughter when they put her in the vehicle to do a loop around the shop. She basically called us her second family."

"But we've always had good support - we've been nice to the community and we try to do the best we can and then the community supports us."

"So mostly we just want to say, thanks for the wait guys."

DETAILS: Fresho, 646 Pollen St, Thames, open Monday-Friday 8am-6pm; and Saturday-Sunday 8am-5pm.



CLASSIFIEDS - Deadline 12noon Monday

SPORTS REPORTS

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

Situations Vacant

MOTORCYCLE SERVICE MANAGER

Whyteline are seeking a qualified mechanic with management experience to run our busy motorcycle workshop. Full-time, permanent, Monday to Friday role.

Send a copy of your CV to marketing@whyteline.co.nz or call 07 862 8783 to learn more.

WHYTELINE

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KBS 2018 Ltd, are seeking a Fertiliser Spreader Driver to be based at our Maramarua depot. Experience preferred.

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Whyteline are seeking a qualified mechanic to join our busy motorcycle workshop. Full-time, permanent, Monday to Friday role.

Send a copy of your CV to marketing@whyteline.co.nz or call 07 862 8783 to learn more.

WHYTELINE



The Paeroa Bowling Club 2024 triples champions were Peter Rowling, left, Kevin Lockley and John Pullan. The pairs champions for 2024 were Kevin Lockley and Peter Rowling. Both of these teams will go forward to represent the club in the Valley Champions of Champions.

Photo: SUPPLIED

LEFT BANK THEATRE

Ph: 07 868 3142 www.leftbanktheatre.co.nz 659 Pollen St, Thames

Movies from Thursday 9 January to Wednesday 15 January

Special school holiday screening week.

For times, see our website, pick up a brochure by the cinema doors, or email or phone us

Moana 2 (100 mins) PG. After receiving an unexpected call from her wayfinding ancestors, Moana must journey to the far seas of Oceania and into dangerous, long-lost waters for an adventure.

Paddington in Peru (106 mins) PG. Follow Paddington and the Brown family as they visit Aunt Lucy in Peru, but a mystery sends them to the Amazon rainforest and up Peruvian mountains.

Wicked (160 mins) PG. The story of how a green-skinned woman framed by the Wizard of Oz becomes the Wicked Witch of the West; feature film based on the Broadway musical.

Conclave (120 mins) M. Follows Cardinal Lomeli as he oversees the group of Cardinals responsible for selecting a new Church leader while trying to uncover a secret from the late Pontiff.

Lee (encore screenings) (117 mins) M. The story of photographer Elizabeth 'Lee' Miller, a fashion model who became an acclaimed war correspondent for Vogue magazine during World War II.

Family Notices

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Publish your Family Notices, Obituaries, In Memoriam tributes in The Valley Profile

Ph 022 130 3885 | nikki@valleyprofile.co.nz | DEADLINE: noon Mondays



Profile

Student Life

ADVERTISING FEATURE

ALUMNI VISITS TO THAMES HIGH SCHOOL IN 2024

Te Kura Tuarua o Te Kauaeranga Thames High School

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

THS alumni inspire students

In 2024, Thames High School proudly welcomed several alumni who returned to share their knowledge, skills, and experiences with students, inspiring the next generation.

In May, former Deputy Head Student and accomplished skipper Sacha Skips visited Thames High alongside her coach and 72-time World Champion, Luke Boon, from Australia. The duo held a special session for Year 9 students, teaching skipping techniques and encouraging students and staff to give it a try. Sacha, who began skipping only three years ago, has already built an international reputation and hopes to inspire Thames youth to get involved in the sport.

Another notable alumni was Brie Crofts, who shared her journey to becoming a registered nurse at the University of Waikato. Brie spoke to students in the Careers Department, offering valuable insight into her career path and nursing

education. In June of last year, Dr Lalit Raikwar visited the Science Department to conduct a hands-on session on suturing and wound stitching for Year 11 to Year 13 students. Lalit, now a Trauma Surgeon at Waikato Hospital, demonstrated his expertise and provided a unique learning experience for aspiring medical professionals.

Thames High School remains committed to fostering connections with its alumni community. The school has announced plans to host an Alumni Reunion in late March or early April, offering an opportunity for former students to reconnect and share their knowledge and experiences with current learners. Alumni interested in attending or contributing are encouraged to reach out and get involved.

DETAILS: For more information or to participate in the upcoming Alumni Reunion, please contact Thames High School directly.

Thames High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Te Kauaeranga

KEY DATES FOR THE BEGINNING OF 2025

- Wednesday 22 to Thursday 23 January**
8.00 am - 5.00 pm Uniform pop-up shop in School Hall.
- Tuesday 28 January Office Open**
8:30 am - 3:30 pm Enrolments & General Inquiries
- Friday 31 January Course Confirmation Day**
10:45 am Years 12 & 13. 1:15pm Year 11
- Monday 3 February Pōwhiri & Orientation**
8:45 am Year 13 Students & Senior Leaders start
9:30am Year 9 and other new students start
- Tuesday 4 February**
8:45 am – 3:15 pm Years 10 - 13 Start School & Year 9 Continue
- Wednesday 5 February**
School Timetable Continue
- Thursday 6 February**
Waitangi Day. School Closed
- Friday 7 February**
Staff Only Day. School Closed
- Monday 10 February**
School Resumes 8:45 am - 3:15 pm

If you have any questions please contact the school office 07 868 8688 or email office@thameshigh.school.nz

Thames High School Events and Celebrations

HAURAKI PLAINS COLLEGE

2025 Back to School Information

Senior Course Confirmations: Senior students will be able to login and view their draft timetables on 17 Jan. Students who need to make subject changes or selections must call into school before we are back next year to confirm their timetable - in the Hub.

20, 21 & 22 Jan: 12pm-5pm
24 Jan: 9am-12pm
28 Jan: 2pm-5pm

21 Jan: Year 13 leadership planning day
22 Jan: Office open
28 Jan: Year 9 & 13 only (Pōwhiri 9am)
29 Jan: Year 10, 11, 12 only
30 & 31 Jan: All year levels attend
07 Feb: School closed

Stationery: www.myschool.nz
Uniform: www.argyleonline.co.nz
P.E Uniform & Footwear: www.nzuniforms.com

More Than A School
Hauraki Plains College

New dates for Course Confirmation

WAIHĪ COLLEGE

BACK TO SCHOOL DATES

30th-31st January: Year 11 Kickstart
3rd-5th February: Senior Leadership Camp
7th February: Years 8-13 start
10th February: Year 7s and any new students start (powhiri)

Check our website for Stationery Lists

www.waihicol.school.nz

U SHOP
WAIHI COLLEGE UNIFORM SHOP

OPEN HOURS | 2025
20 Jan - 13 Feb

Monday 20 Jan - Wednesday 22 Jan	2.00pm - 5.00pm
Thursday 23 Jan - Friday 24 Jan	9.00am - 12.00pm
Tuesday 28 Jan - Thursday 30 Jan	2.00pm - 5.00pm
Monday 3 Feb - Wednesday 5 Feb	8.00am - 11.00am
Monday 10 Feb - Wednesday 12 Feb	8.00am - 10.00am
Thursday 13 February	1.40pm - 3.40pm

Closed on Public Holidays and Teacher Only days.
Open Hours may be subject to change.

Visit for more info: www.wcol.uniformgroup.co.nz

U SHOP
WAIHI COLLEGE UNIFORM SHOP

OPEN HOURS | Term 1, 2025
18 Feb - 9 Apr

Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	8.00am - 9.00am
Wednesday	1.40pm - 3.40pm
Thursday, Friday	CLOSED

Closed on Public Holidays and Teacher Only days.
Hours may be subject to change.

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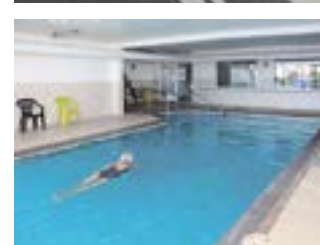
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