

Whangamata & Waihi NEWS

ISSUE 173 - 4 SEPTEMBER, 2026

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PLEASE
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Dolly Parton, Queen
of Country and
humanitarian hero
passes, rest in peace.

Junior Rugby rewards excellence

P4-5

Photos by Mark James

Eli Heads to Spain P12

Heather explores Chiang Mai P10

Dance results celebrated P8



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**ONEMANA-OPOUTERE VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday 16th September 2026 at 6.30pm
at ONEMANA-OPOUTERE FIRE STATION
Whitipirorua Road, Onemana
ALL WELCOME

Coastguard Service Awards



Left - right: Simon Brickwood, Pam Johnson, George Williams.

A number of Long Service Awards were presented at the Whangamatā Coastguard Annual General Meeting which was held on 27 August.

3 year pin: Bernard Payne, Samuel Savage-Wairepo and Rafael Dias.
5 year certificate and chevron pin: Callum Goodwin, Steve Coatham, David Burbage, John Robinson, Debbie White and Andy Woolfield.
10 years certificate and chevron pin: Dave Kirby.
15 years certificate and chevron pin: Simon Brickwood

18 year certificate: Bob Ancell
20 years certificate and chevron pin: Pam Johnson and George Williams.

President Jan Willis said Whangamatā Coastguard operates entirely through the dedication of its volunteers, whose commitment and contribution are greatly valued. She said the awards were a reflection of the huge amount of time and effort volunteers give to the organisation and the community.

Ramarama Stream Bridge replacement to strengthen Coromandel connection

Construction will begin next month on a new two-lane bridge on State Highway 25 north of Whiritoa, helping strengthen a key connection for Coromandel communities, local businesses and visitors, Coromandel MP Scott Simpson says.

“People living in the Coromandel rely on these roads to get to work, access essential services, move freight and connect with family and friends,” Mr Simpson says.

“Investing in the resilience of the Coromandel’s transport network is important for the communities who rely on it every day. A safe and reliable state highway network is particularly important for communities like those around the Coromandel, where there are limited alternative routes.”

The new bridge will replace the existing single-lane Ramarama Stream Bridge, which is nearly a century old and carries more than 2,500 vehicles each day, including around 13 percent heavy vehicles.

“The replacement of the Ramarama Stream Bridge is another important action for the resilience of the wider

Coromandel network, helping ensure communities can stay connected and businesses can keep moving.

“The Government is also funding improvements across the wider Coromandel, including the replacement of the Pepe Stream Bridge in Tairua, completed work on the Boundary Creek Bridge north of Thames, and the replacement of the Onetai Stream Bridge north of Paeroa.”

Brian Perry Civil will deliver the approximately \$10 million Ramarama Stream Bridge project. The new bridge will be built immediately east of the existing bridge, allowing traffic to continue using the current crossing during construction and minimising disruption.

At least one lane of the new bridge is expected to open to traffic by August 2027, with the remaining construction expected to be completed by the end of 2027 and final landscaping in autumn 2028.

- Authorised by Scott Simpson
MP, 614 Pollen St, Thames



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Scott Simpson

MP for Coromandel

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Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.



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Library saved by Community Board

Thank you to Neil Evans for succinctly sharing his views on local government democracy (21 August 2026). While Neil may not believe the Whangamata Community Board has made a positive difference to our community, that has not been our experience.

Without the support of the Whangamata Community Board, CFM, namely John Freer and Coromandel Insurance Services, the community library would likely have been closed permanently—not just for three months. This situation did not arise because of any failure by our members or management team. Rather, it reflects the mismanagement of a TCDC asset: the building itself. TCDC did offer a space in the Memorial Hall which was considered as untenable.

As Neil noted, a 2023 report highlighted the consequences of failing to address the underlying problem of water

ingress. This raises important questions: who saw the report, and who was responsible for acting on it? Library staff were not made aware of it, and presumably neither were staff working in the service centre.

Funding constraints are real, but they do not justify ignoring health and safety risks. We are fortunate that no serious health issues—or worse—resulted from the situation, particularly given what has occurred elsewhere, such as in Mt Maunganui.

The key question remains: why were multiple reports requested on a building that houses both the library and the TCDC service centre, yet no meaningful action followed?

Meanwhile, thanks to all those who have assisted with the 'pop-up' library and we welcome existing and new members (remember a community library is partially funded, with assistance from TCDC via a Service Level Agreement, specific grants and plenty of community support).

Jacqui James, President
WHANGAMATA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Whangamata police report



The scooters tearing around the town and grass reserves seem to be a hot topic at the moment. We are fairly confident we know who they are including their parents. Talk to their parents some say. Harder than it sounds when the parents don't want to hear what we have to say. Head in the sand, enabling anti-social behaviour sort of thing. We are keen to hear from you as soon as they are spotted. That ensures the fastest response possible.

A bit of a plea to parents of teens who drive. We are hearing multiple stories of mainly lunchtime or free-period escapades in vehicles where the driver has a vehicle full of mates but only holds a restricted licence. The fine is \$100 but it's the demerits than can hurt, 35 at a time. A few of those and it is then the Hikoi Express for three months of licence suspension.

While on the subject, there are upcoming changes to the car licensing system from 27 January 2027. The key points are

If you're under 25, the time you have to hold your learner licence will change from 6 months to 12 months.

You can reduce the learner period back to 6 months by:

- doing an approved practical driving course, or
- logged supervised driving hours (up to 60 hours, exact requirement still to be finalised).

Under 25 Restricted licence period

reduced to 12 months

The time you have to hold your restricted licence will reduce from 18 months to 12 months.

You won't be able to reduce the restricted period by doing an advanced driving course.

There is a catch

- If you get demerit points on your restricted licence, your restricted period will extend by 6 months each time.

More fantastic results in the getting drugs off the street lately. Keep the information coming!

NZ Customs Service had a great sentencing result recently of a person local to the area. We assisted our Customs colleagues at the persons property. It is entirely satisfying to help get these people off the street and reduce the possibility of further people becoming victims. Their news release reads;

A 49-year-old Coromandel man was sentenced in the Waihi District Court (24 August 2026) to two years and two months' imprisonment for the importation of an indecent or obscene article (child-like sex doll), possession of child sexual abuse material and intentionally or recklessly making an intimate visual recording. He has also been registered as a child sex offender.

– Sergeant Will Hamilton, Officer in Charge, Whangamata Police

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Junior Rugby crucial to development of our children



Welcome to the Whangamatā Junior Rugby 2026 Prizegiving gallery! What a cracker afternoon we all had at prize giving on Sunday 23rd August. It was a packed crowd of supporters at the club and made for some incredible moments for all teams, including Year7/ 8 leaving their junior years and a special, very first title of Honorary Life Member for Dave Webb, recognising 40 years of service to our youth.

Sami Watts, MC for the event told us "It's awesome to have all of our players, coaches, managers, parents, whānau, supporters and special guests here with us today as we celebrate another season of junior rugby.

"Today is about recognising our kids - not only for their rugby skills and achievements, but for

their effort, improvement, attitude, sportsmanship, resilience and the way they have represented Whangamatā throughout the season.

"A junior rugby season takes a huge amount of work behind the scenes, so a massive thank you to everyone who has coached, managed, volunteered, washed jerseys, driven kids around, worked the sidelines, helped at home games, supported our fundraisers and simply turned up week after week.

"Most importantly, congratulations to every single one of our players. Whether this was your first season or your last season of junior rugby, we hope you've had fun, made some great memories and are proud to pull on the red and white jersey."

- Photos by Mark James

Whangamatā

JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB

2026

PRIZEGIVING AWARDS

TEAM AWARDS

LITTLE RIPPAS
Most Improved: Lenny Henderson
Best Attitude: Angus Miller
Most Outstanding: Harley Beaver

BIG RIPPA
Most Improved: Parker Haverland
Best Attitude: Rowland Harris
Most Outstanding: Memphis-Beau Bethel

YEAR 4 WHITE
Most Improved: Richie Wolfenden
Best Attitude: Van Wolfenden
Most Outstanding: Angus De Malmanche

YEAR 4 RED
Most Improved: Keeper Jacobs
Best Attitude: Taitua Te Aho
Most Outstanding: Jax Rose

YEAR 6
Most Improved: Rocco Legg
Best Attitude: Kade Hurley
Most Outstanding: Axle Parker

YEAR 8
Most Improved: Reef Woodhouse
Best Attitude: Ari Price
Most Outstanding: Alaric Watts

CLUB TROPHY AWARDS

MOST IMPROVED
Yr 4: Richie Wolfenden
Yr 4: Keeper Jacobs
Yr 6: Rocco Legg
Yr 8: Reef Woodhouse
WINNER: KEEPER JACOBS

MOST PROMISING
Yr 4: Brody Comer
Yr 4: Beau Byles
Yr 6: Hamish Miller
Yr 8: Mekhai Webb
WINNER: MEKHAI WEBB

BEST TACKLER
Yr 4: George Joyce
Yr 4: Sam Cropp
Yr 6: Jack Marr
Yr 8: Owen De Malmanche
WINNER: OWEN DE MALMANCHE

PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Yr 4: Angus De Malmanche
Yr 4: Jax Rose
Yr 6: Axle Parker
Yr 8: Alaric Watts
WINNER: ALARIC WATTS

CLUB LEGEND TROPHY
• Jake Comer
• Sami Watts
• Rei Toroa
WINNER: REI TOROA

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
DAVE WEBB
DAVE WEBB LEGACY TROPHY
AWARDED TO JESSE WEBB

SPORTSMANSHIP
Yr 4: OCCY Dow
Yr 4: Brax Legg
Yr 6: Kade Hurley
Yr 8: Freddie Wolfenden
WINNER: KADE HURLEY

BEST EFFORT
Yr 4: Te Whaiiao Castle
Yr 4: Otis Sweeney
Yr 6: James Messina-Selwyn
Yr 8: Brodie Lunt
WINNER: BRODIE LUNT

TEAM OF THE YEAR
• Year 4 Red: Consistency, Teamwork, Sportsmanship Development, Positive Culture, Community
• Year 4 White: Progress, Achievement, Growth, Teamwork, Learning, Success
• Year 5/6: Selflessness, Support, Inclusion, Enthusiasm, Adaptability, Team-First
• Year 7/8: Resilience, Grit, Respect, Commitment, Determination
WINNER: YEAR 7 AND 8

WAHINE TOA
PLAYER OF THE YEAR
• Clover Gee
• Maia Koneilo
• Lyla Hohaia
• Kyla Beaver
WINNER: MAIA KONEILO

PRESIDENT TROPHY
SAMI WATTS

ONE CLUB. ONE WHĀNAU.

ALL HEART.

PRIDE

RESPECT

DISCIPLINE

ENJOYMENT

WHĀNAU

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MON-FRI 8.30AM-5PM • SAT 8.30AM-3PM



40 years service recognised for Honorary Life Member

The Whangamatā Junior Rugby Club prizegiving two weeks ago gave a special award to Dave Webb, Sami Watts, MC said "today we want to take a moment to recognise not just what you have done for rugby in Whangamatā, but specifically what you have given to Whangamatā Junior Rugby."

"When we started looking back at your history with junior rugby, it really put into perspective just how much of this club's story begins with you."

Before organised Saturday junior rugby even existed here, back in 1979, you were already turning up at the rugby grounds on Saturday mornings, gathering together the kids who arrived and organising them into teams so they could simply get out there and play rugby.

Then, in 1983, when the Thames Youth Rugby Management Board was formed and Saturday rugby officially began for primary school children, you formed Whangamatā Junior Rugby. And you didn't just get it started — you went on to serve as President from 1983 right through until 1996, with Dale alongside the club as Secretary for a number of those years. And Dale, we absolutely need to acknowledge you too."

"In 1984, you also presented the Webb Cup in memory of Daniel Flack, who was tragically killed



while delivering milk bottles in Whangamatā, just one day after being named in that year's Roller Mills representative rugby team."

Dave told the crowd of personal memories "I coached my three sons for five years each here, followed the teams through, then in the 2000's my eldest grandson Max, and supported him through his great times at junior rugby, and more recently Mekhai. But what has blown me away, has been the calibre of the coaching here, I've learned so much, so thanks Steve, Jeremy and Jesse, it's the end of an era for us but we will always follow the club."

Dave, your fingerprints are all over Whangamatā Junior Rugby. Your contribution has left a lasting mark, and your name, your history and your legacy will continue to be part of this club for generations to come.

- Photos by Mark James



Join Us AT THE WHANGAMATA CLUB





CROWD CONTROL
Whangamata Club
7 pm
5th September



Quiz Night
at the Whangamata Club
Quiz, Laugh, Win - Repeat Every Fortnight at the Whanga Club!
6PM THURSDAY
Happy Hour from 5pm - 8pm
Prizes and Giveaways
'Spin the Wheel'
THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER



THE WHANGAMATA CLUB PRESENTS
MARK HUCKSTEP
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SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER
7.00 PM
See You at The Club!

OPEN DAILY FROM 11AM

BISTRO
Monday - Friday from 3pm
Saturday & Sunday from 12pm

DINNER MENU
From 5pm daily

RESTAURANT
Friday to Sunday from 5:30pm

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Empowering Whangamata into the future

The Whangamatā Future Fund provides locals and visitors with the opportunity to help build a locally driven funding vehicle for the town and its surrounds.

It is one of six Coromandel 'place based' endowments established last year by Momentum Waikato Community Foundation, in partnership with Thames-Coromandel District Council and a network of forward-thinking locals.

Local resident Stephen Town is the first Whangamatā Future Fund Champion. He was Cyclone Recovery Lead at TCDC, where he saw the need for the Peninsula to develop its own funding sources, so he got involved in creating these funds, and after leaving the Council became a Momentum trustee.

"These Coromandel Future Funds are where generous and forward-thinking locals and businesses can intersect with government, iwi and councils, with each playing a role in building more resilient and successful communities.

"Whangamatā has both challenges and opportunities in the years ahead, including the growing need for community services and old-age care facilities, and support for the swimming pool, Surf Club,



social accommodation, and local schools.

"The Whangamatā Future Fund offers a simple and secure way to contribute to the future of Whangamatā," says Stephen

Even a small gift in your Will, or donations now, will provide future generations here with the resources to improve and sustain Whangamatā. When the Fund reaches sufficient size, grants will be made from its income, with a portion re-invested to keep it growing.

September is Wills Month, a great time to find out more – contact Stephen via stephen.town60@gmail.com or visit momentumwaikato.nz/whangamatafuturefund

Whangamatā Future Fund Give to your community in your Will

Learn more - call 07 834 0404 or visit momentumwaikato.nz/whangamatafuturefund.



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WAIKATO**
Te puaawaitanga o Waikato



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Whanga gets tempestuous

The Whangamatā Theatre Society are excited to bring *The Tempestuous* to Whangamatā.

Award-winning comedian Penny Ashton is back, and this time is skewering the Bard Himself. The brains behind *Promise & Promiscuity*, *Olive Copperbottom* and *Austen Found*, Ashton is heading out on her sixth Arts on Tour odyssey in October, sparking 13 characters into life in this Elizabethan tale of magic, meddling and puffed bull's puzzles.

Sicily's beloved King Enzo is dead. Now Princess Rosa, a stropky spinster, must navigate the tempestuous waters of belching Step-Fathers, lusty suitors, popping cod pieces and menopausal witches, to face her destiny.

Penny Ashton has been touring the world for over 20 years, performing over 1000 solo shows. She has sold out from Edinburgh to Edmonton to Mosgiel and has represented New Zealand in Theatresports and performed Slam Poetry at The Glastonbury Festival. Her award-winning solo musicals *Promise and Promiscuity*, *Olive Copperbottom* and *The Tempestuous* have gathered sparkling reviews and happy fans wherever they've been performed.

***The Tempestuous: A Shrew'd New Comedy* By Will Shakespeare and Penny Ashton.**

7pm, 3 October at Whangamatā Memorial Hall.

Tickets: \$30. Book at Discover Whangamatā, Port Road or email teedfelton@gmail.com

ARTS ON TOUR NEW ZEALAND PRESENTS 

THE TEMPESTUOUS

A SHREW'D NEW COMEDY BY WILL SHAKESPEARE AND **PENNY ASHTON**

"LITERARY COMEDY GOLD" BROADWAY WORLD

"INCREDIBLY CLEVER" RADIO NZ





SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER 7PM
WHANGAMATA HALL
\$30 BOOK: DISCOVER WHANGAMATA
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Big fish, big wins and plenty of silverware at WOSC



It was a big night at Whangamatā Ocean Sports Club on Saturday 15 August as anglers, families and supporters gathered for the club's annual prizegiving.

Special guests Scott and Mig from Fishing & Adventures helped hand out the silverware as the club celebrated another successful season on the water.

Melissa Bishop took the top honours, finishing as the club's overall points winner with 674 points. She also claimed Top Female Angler, was the leading tag-and-release angler with three tags, and took home the \$3,000 billfish cash prize, sponsored by Te Hoe Homekills.

Barry Wood had the marlin of the season, weighing a massive 98.60kg striped marlin on 9 December. It was both the first marlin of the season and the heaviest.

2026 Prize Winners

Top Angler – Overall:

Melissa Bishop – 674 points

Top Female Angler:

Melissa Bishop – 674 points

Top Male Angler: Herb Gerrits –



609 points

Heaviest Striped Marlin:

Barry Wood – 98.60kg

First Marlin: Barry Wood – 98.60kg

Heaviest Billfish:

Barry Wood – 98.60kg

First Gamefish: Nick Laurenson –

72.50kg Southern Bluefin

Heaviest Bluefin Tuna:

Nick Laurenson – 72.50kg

Heaviest Tuna Overall:

Nick Laurenson – 72.50kg

Last Gamefish of the season: Chris

Jones – 36.90kg Southern Bluefin

Last Marlin of the season:

Melissa Bishop – Tagged & Released Striped Marlin

Heaviest Yellowfin Tuna:

Ryan Beatty – 54.60kg

Heaviest Bigeye Tuna:

Bradley Bennett – 40.30kg

Heaviest Skipjack Tuna:

Herb Gerrits – 11.36kg

Ladies Heaviest Yellowfin:

Kay Lankey – 18.36kg

Ladies Heaviest Overall Tuna:

Kay Lankey – 18.36kg

Ladies Heaviest Kingfish:

Rachel Bryant – 20.15kg

Ladies Heaviest Albacore:

Judy Povey – 12.74kg

Ladies Heaviest Bonito:

Kay Haimona – 5.81kg



Heaviest Men's Kingfish:

Tim Bryant – 21.98kg

Heaviest Men's Albacore:

Tyrone Makara – 21.88kg

Heaviest Kahawai:

Matt Pickett – 3.29kg

Heaviest Snapper:

Ben Shaw – 8.66kg

Heaviest Trevally:

Neville Thornton – 2.38kg

Heaviest Crayfish:

Justin Brien – 2.27kg

Heaviest Fish at Nationals:

Austen Crowe – 17.22kg Kingfish

Junior Top Angler:

Jaxon Tregoweth – 584.51 points

Junior Heaviest Snapper:

Jaxon Tregoweth – 6.02kg

Junior Heaviest Tuna:

Cole Maddison – 23.08kg Yellowfin

Junior Heaviest Gamefish:

Cole Maddison – 23.08kg Yellowfin

Junior Heaviest Albacore:

Charlie Corbett – 11.56kg

Most Meritorious Junior Catch:

Charlie Corbett – Tagged & Released Striped Marlin

Angler Most Tag & Release:

Melissa Bishop – 3 tags

Boat Most Tag & Release:

Next Contestant – 5 tags – Skipped by Jamie Douglas

Nationals – Most Boat Points:

Te Ra – 502.40 points – Skipped by Chris Jones

Most Boat Points outside Club Waters:

Next Contestant 1350 points – skipped by Jamie Douglas

Most Boat Points –

Non-Commercial Boat:

Next Contestant 865.62 points – skipped by Jamie Douglas

Top Trailer Boat (most points):

Next Contestant 865.62 points – Jamie Douglas

Top Launch (Most Points):

Guess What 596.51 points – Toby Oneill

A huge thank you goes to all our generous sponsors who provided the cash prizes throughout the season. Your support makes a real difference and helps us celebrate and reward the achievements of our anglers.

Club Manager Bec also thanked the anglers, crews, fishing committee, weighmasters, volunteers, kitchen, restaurant and bar teams, sponsors and everyone who helped make the season happen.

The night wrapped up with live music from Dan Sharp.

– Photos by Katrina Brickwood

LIVE RUGBY

SEA EAGLES VS WARRIORS



SUNDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER

5.00PM



Coming Monday 7 September!

Round the World theme

日本料理

Japanese Cuisine

調和と静けさ

DAILY Specials

MONDAY

BEEF CHEEK & DRINK VOUCHER



MONDAY

ROUND THE WORLD
NEW CUISINE COMING IN SEPTEMBER!



TUESDAY

ALL YOU CAN EAT RIBS.



TUESDAY

TACO TUESDAY

WITH A DRINK VOUCHER



THURSDAY

1 KG OF FRESH MUSSELS IN A COCONUT LAKSA SAUCE,
SERVED WITH FRIES & GARLIC BREAD -
WITH A DRINK VOUCHER



FRIDAY

BURGER OF YOUR CHOICE

WITH A DRINK VOUCHER



SATURDAY

RIBS & A DRINK VOUCHER



SUNDAY

HOUSE-MADE PIZZA AND A DRINK VOUCHER



LADIES

Night

WEDNESDAYS

MEMBERS HAPPY HOUR
4.30PM - 7PM

ESPRESSO MARTINI'S, APEROL SPRITZ, MARGARITA'S

COCKTAILS SHAKEN
BUBBLES POPPING
WINE FLOWING



WHANGAMATA OCEAN SPORTS CLUB

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Dance Studio celebrates stand-out exam results

Whangamatā Dance Studio students have wrapped up another successful exam season, completing assessments in Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, and Contemporary after months of dedicated preparation.

This year saw a total of 174 exam entries, with students achieving exceptional results across all genres. Highlights include 2 Distinctions (95%-100%), 16 Outstanding results (91%-100%), 12 Excellence Plus awards (the highest mark available for medal test performances), and 18 High Honours (90-94%), alongside many Excellent, Honours, Very Highly Commended, and Highly Commended awards.

Studio Director Amy Toroa says the results reflect the hard work behind the scenes. “Results like these reflect a great deal of hard work in the studio, and I couldn’t be prouder of what our dancers and teachers have achieved together.”

With exams behind them, attention now turns to the studio’s end-of-year production, The Emerald



City. The story picks up long after Dorothy’s original journey, with the Lion, Tin Man, and Scarecrow now firmly established as Oz’s most admired characters. Their standing is put to the test when a vengeful new Witch arrives with a score to settle, determined to destroy everything they’ve built.

As old friends rally together to help see off the threat, the show promises plenty of drama, heart, and spectacle along the way.

The show takes the stage on Friday, 30 October at 7pm and Saturday, 31 October at 1pm and 7pm, with tickets going on sale in October.

Before the main event, the studio’s youngest dancers take their turn in the spotlight with Twinkle Toes on Thursday, 29 October. Many of the 3 to 4-year-olds performing will be stepping on stage for the very first time

– Amy Toroa,
Whangamatā Dance Studio



TUESDAY
8TH SEPTEMBER

APPOINTMENTS
8.30AM - 1.30PM

MEMORIAL HALL
326 PORT ROAD

DONATE BLOOD IN WHANGAMATĀ
Join our lifesaving whānau!

GIVE BLOOD. GIVE HOPE.

NZBLOOD
Te Ratonga Tota O Aotearoa

Donate blood in Waihi

Monday 7th September

9.30am - 1.30pm

Waihi Event Centre

NZBLOOD
Te Ratonga Tota O Aotearoa

John Bertrand Collectables Buying in Whangamata on Saturday 12 September

Once again, the gold and collectables buyers from Wellington company John Bertrand Collectables are visiting Whangamata on Saturday 12 September. Mr Tony Grant from the company says, "If you are downsizing or wanting to dispose of things because they no longer serve any purpose to you or your family bring them in". "Next Saturday will be a great opportunity to have any items you want to sell assessed by our buyers" said Mr Grant. Particularly wanted are Gold and Silver (in any of its forms) and Collectables such as Coins, Banknotes, War Medals, Old Wind-up Watches and other interesting Small Collectables.

"We are keen buyers, especially of the items in the list below" said Mr Grant. "Nothing is too small for our consideration. We are just as happy buying 1 item as we are buying 1,000 items" he said. The buyers will be in Whangamata on Saturday 12 September. (see details below). As Tony Grant points out "If you are in doubt about any items you may wish to sell, bring them along for an instant appraisal."



**Mr Anthony (Tony)
W. Grant**

Fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society of New Zealand Incorporated
Director and Buyer
John Bertrand (Collectables) Ltd
Author of the John Bertrand
NZ Coin & Banknote Catalogue

Gold & Silver At Very High Prices

Over the last couple of years, we have seen a sharp increase in the price of precious metals. The gold price in New Zealand is still at historically high levels. So, gather up all your unwanted items and make an appointment to see the buyers. Tony Grant says "We can buy gold items in all forms, including Jewellery (Rings, Chains, Brooches etc.), Coins (Sovereigns and the like), Alluvial (River Gold), virtually anything, even Gold Teeth! We also need all Sterling Silver including Cups, Tea Services, Cutlery and Old Coins" he said.



Interesting Small Collectables Wanted

The buyers from John Bertrand (Collectables) Ltd, visiting Whangamata on Saturday 12 September, are happy to look at any interesting items, for example vintage pocket and wristwatches such as Rolex, Men's Omega, Breitling and gold watches etc. Also wanted, pre 1950's picture postcards, Maori and Pacific artefacts, old fountain pens and other small antique or historical items.

"If you have something unusual which you would like to sell, please bring it into one of our venues, we would like the chance to at least have a look at it" said Tony Grant, buyer for the Company. "We will consider anything which may be of interest to a collector" he said.

Some Big Dollars in Early Banknotes

Early New Zealand Banknotes dated before 1932 are currently fetching big money! This is according to Mr Tony Grant, author of the *John Bertrand New Zealand Coin & Banknote Catalogue*. Mr Grant is in Whangamata on Saturday 12 September on a buying trip for John Bertrand (Collectables) Ltd and would be very keen to see any of these issues. "We will pay at least \$300 for any undamaged Ten Shilling or

One Pound banknote from a New Zealand trading bank dated 1932 or before.

Denominations of five pounds and higher would be worth from \$700. "Any banknote dated prior to 1900 would be worth at least \$1000" said Mr Grant.

Also purchased are any Reserve Bank of New Zealand pre-decimal issues, especially 50 Pound notes. All overseas banknotes are also wanted, especially early Pacific Island issues.

Collectors Need War Medals

Currently, throughout NZ and the world there is a big demand by collectors for war medals. These cover all wars right through from the New Zealand Land Wars and the Boer War, to the First and Second World Wars and the later Korea and Vietnam conflicts. New Zealand Servicemen and Women first served overseas in the Boer War in South Africa around 1900 and the war medals awarded for this service are needed by the buyers, as are any other Medals from early New Zealand and the New Zealand Wars.

General service medals from both the First and Second World Wars will also be purchased, but as can be imagined these were awarded in fairly large numbers. "If a group of medals has any special award for bravery such as the Military Medal, Military or Flying Cross or other medals for Distinguished Conduct or Meritorious Service, these can add great value to a group" stated Mr Tony Grant, buyer for John Bertrand (Collectables) Ltd. "Many families have old medals, some dating back to early Imperial days, that they are not sure what to do with. These are better off in the hands of collectors who will look after them. We will be happy to look at any war medals whatsoever, just bring them in to venues" he said.

Old Coins Can Toss Up a Rarity

Do you have a bunch of old coins sitting around in your drawers and cupboards? You just never know what rarities may be lurking there. The advice from Tony Grant from John Bertrand (Collectables) Limited is to "bring them in and let us have a look". "No need to sort anything out just bring them in 'as is' and please don't clean them! We can go through coin accumulations and collections fairly quickly" he said. The buyers are particularly keen to purchase pre-1946 New Zealand Silver Coins and World Silver Coins. "In any event we will buy All Coins," said Mr Grant.

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- English Silver Coins to 1946
- NZ 1935 "Waitangi Crown"
- USA Coins up to 1964
- Old Collections & Accumulations of World Coins
- Modern Collector's Coins & Sets
- NZ Reserve Bank Sets



No Pennies or Halfpennies Please

BANKNOTES

- NZ & Australian "Trading Bank" Notes pre 1932 (e.g. Bank of New South Wales, Bank of NZ etc)
- Reserve Bank of NZ Pre-Decimal Notes
- Any £20, £50 or £100 Notes
- Hong Kong & Malayan Banknotes
- Australian Pre Decimal Notes
- Australian "Star" Notes
- Early Fijian and Samoan Banknotes
- NZ Traders Promissory Notes (1840s)
- NZ Government Debentures
- NZ Banknotes overprinted for use in Fiji, Cook Islands etc
- Postal Notes
- All other World Banknotes



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- Military Watches
- Divers Watches
- All other pre 1950s wind up watches (parts value only)

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- Railway Passes
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- Bread Tokens
- Theatre, Cafe, Discount Tokens etc
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- Fire Brigade Medals
- Lodge Medals
- Shooting Medals
- Military Badges and all other Military Medals
- Gold returning Fob Medals or "Tokens of Honour" from residents of small town New Zealand

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However, clean and dry lids can be recycled through most of your local resource recovery centres to become new hard plastic longer life products or be directed to a metal recyclers at your nearest transfer station.

Plastic lids are shredded and

heated and reformed into many everyday things including the shell shaped paddling pools!

So when you are sorting and washing your packaging containers for recycling, please remember to take off all the lids to put aside for another purpose and keep them out of landfill.

And look out for the silver Serena recycling van at the Port Rd council gardens from 10 to 11am every Sunday. We are happy to help anytime.

For more information, please email our volunteer organisation Whangamatā Resource Recovery Trust at 2020wsrrt@gmail.com

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Local artists: global journeys



For two local Whangamatā artists Jo Cullen and Heather Watt creativity recently took them in very different directions.

Jo travelled to Italy, immersing herself in the art, culture and beauty of an Italian residency, while Heather headed to Chiang Mai, Thailand, for an equally inspiring creative adventure.

Although the destinations and experiences were worlds apart, both residencies offered the opportunity to step away from everyday life, explore new ideas, meet fellow artists and return home with fresh inspiration

Tuscany, Italy

If I had to describe my recent trip to Italy in one word, it would be inspired.

In May, I was lucky enough to return to Tuscany for my second art retreat—a week filled with creativity, beautiful surroundings, wonderful company, and, of course, plenty of good food and wine!

The course encouraged us to experiment with sketching, charcoal, pencil, acrylics, oils and watercolours, both in the studio and en plein air. We explored new techniques, studied other artists and were encouraged to step outside our comfort zones.

We painted in and around the beautiful hilltop towns of Tuscany, with their cobbled streets, historic buildings and sweeping views of the countryside. Later in my travels, I visited Florence, where I discovered the joy of experimenting with watercolours and was inspired by the incredible Mark Rothko exhibition.

Italy has a way of slowing you down and encouraging you to really observe colour, light, texture and landscape. I returned home with



fresh ideas and renewed energy for my own work, where the colours and light of Italy continue to find their way into my paintings here in New Zealand.

Chiang Mai, Thailand

My recent three week art residency in Chiang Mai was a wonderful and memorable experience, filled with creativity, colour and exciting connections. Immersed in a new environment, I found fresh inspiration everywhere—from the streets, markets and temples to the everyday details of this vibrant city. Delicious food, fresh mango everyday...what a treat.

The residency provided opportunities to attend art openings and experience the exciting local arts scene. Lots of emerging art students exhibiting their work for the first time. The hospitality was exceptional, with generous hosts making us feel incredibly welcome throughout our stay.

One of the real highlights was meeting fellow artists from around the world. Sharing ideas, stories, creative processes and plenty of laughter which led to new friendships and connections that I hope will continue. I returned home creatively recharged, inspired by new experiences and grateful for the warmth and generosity of everyone I met along the way. An extra suitcase with lots of artwork, some finished and some to complete has been unpacked and ready to go on some walls!

Both Jo and Heathers work are featured in the Little Gallery Whangamatā and Tairua.



From picking to selling daffodils for a great cause

Every day, 81 New Zealanders hear the words “you have cancer.” That’s 81 lives changed forever.

It was a very early morning start to the day before Daffodil Day for 3 volunteers from Pauanui traveling to the other side of Morrinsville to pick the daffodils to bring to Pauanui to sell.

Once again Pauanui has shown their support and generosity to help others. From picking daffodils to manning stalls ,fundraising and

making a donation to the Cancer Society. A cake stall was added this year and our local bakers added their baking to a table in the name of fundraising. Our smallest members of our community the Pauanui Preschool also visited the stall and showed their support in buy daffodils. Thank you to all the volunteers on the 2 days and to Louise our new Daffodil Coordinator. We are delighted and proud to say \$3,200.00+ will be handed over to Cancer Society NZ.



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SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY PROMO GIVEAWAY

10 Goodie Bags for 10 Years

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Ten years ago, two great friends decided it was time to take on a new challenge.

The Pauanui clothing boutique has since grown into a well known and much-loved destination for locals, holidaymakers and visitors from across the Coromandel and beyond. Their range is constantly refreshed, and there's an emphasis on helping customers find something that suits their individual style.

For Mandy and Paula, who started the business together in 2016, reaching their 10th birthday is a milestone worth celebrating.

They are celebrating a business that has become

one of Pauanui's best-known retail stores, supported by an incredible team and an equally incredible community of customers, friends and supporters.

It's a business built on relationships. Customers have become friends and suppliers are valued partners. "The connections are something we value enormously" say Mandy and Paula.

The ladies are passionate supporters of Pauanui and their wider community having put their name, time, energy and financial support behind a huge variety of community initiatives, clubs, groups and causes.

'It's been a fantastic journey, and we're looking forward to the next chapter, but for now we'd like to say a HUGE THANKS to our very loyal supporters"

THANK YOU and cheers to TEN YEARS!

Waihi NEWS

Eli Fale’s football dream

Local Waikino teenager, Eli Fale, played his first proper season of football at age 12 for the Paeroa Rangers in 2023. He was awarded the Player of the Year Trophy at the end of year prizegiving.

In 2024 and 2025 he played for the Paeroa College Football team. He also showed up for every training session in 2025 with the Thames Men’s Football team. In June 2025 he was invited to play his debut game with the Thames Men’s team at age 14 and played in their last game of the 2025 season against Waihi.

In October 2025, Eli attended the Real Madrid Academy Football Camp in Auckland for five days. He thoroughly enjoyed attending the camp and learning everything he could. A few weeks after the camp, Eli was invited to go to Madrid to train at the Real Madrid Academy in October 2026.

In January 2026, Eli decided playing for Paeroa College was not challenging enough for him. He spoke to the Manager and Coach of the Thames Football Club and asked if he could play for them for the 2026 season. They said they would be happy for Eli to join the team.

As Eli was only 15, the manager



of the club applied for special dispensation for him to be allowed to play, which was granted. Eli has been training every Tuesday in Thames and playing games every Saturday with the team, anywhere from Thames, to Waihi, to Hamilton and Cambridge and as far as Tokoroa.

After his Saturday game, he then goes to Auckland where he has joined in with a couple of teams over the North Shore to play social football games on Sundays. Football is his passion.

Eli’s mum and his grandparents

are his amazing supporters. Mum, Pamela, transports him to all of his games and trainings. The cost for this has been immense, however, because of his undeniable commitment, Pamela makes it happen.

The cost for Eli to go to the Real Madrid Academy is \$14,500. This is for flights, Accommodation and the Academy training for 10 days. It is then costing a further \$12,500 for Mum to chaperone as because of his age, it is a requirement for Eli attending the camp that he has a guardian travel with him.



We are approaching businesses and asking for sponsorship or donations for raffles. This will also go straight to Eli’s expenses.

We have a Give-a-little page also. It is under my name Pamela Veldman and heading on his page is ‘ELI FALE’S FOOTBALL DREAM’.

The Waikino Tavern is hosting a Quiz Trivia night on the 5th of September and a Murder Mystery night on 26th September, with proceeds going towards helping with Eli’s expenses. We will also have raffles on the night.



September is Wills Month.

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

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

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

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

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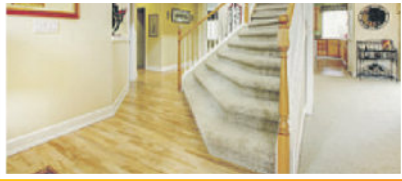


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Waihi NEWS

Daffodil Day student fundraiser

Waihi College Leo's and Year 8 students mustered a great crowd to raise money for Daffodil Day last Thursday 27 August, with tasty sausies on the BBQ and cakes for all. A sea of yellow and enthusiasm - well done Waihi College students!

- Photos by Mark James



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Waihi NEWS

Gilmour Park bird deaths

The team at HDC know it's upsetting to see any birds dead and lying in our park, they are continuing close monitoring. If you see one, please do not touch or try to move it. Keep tamariki and dogs away and let Council know where it is. If 3 or more are spotted together call Biosecurity NZ on 0800 80 99 66.

Brave Warriors

The Waihi Warriors played a warm up game against the Bulldogs from Tauranga recently at the Kenny Street fields. The game was a bit one sided with the Dogs having several players who were

size endowed, but the Warriors gave it all, scored a few tries and never gave up. It was a huge learning curve for the locals, we look forward to their next games.

- Photos by Mark James

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3 Silverton Road Waihi

OceanaGold Update

4th September 2026



Full steam ahead at the Waihi North Project

Since becoming the first major mining project approved under New Zealand's Fast-track process, the Waihi North Project has continued to advance at pace, bringing with it significant opportunities for the town and region. Securing the future of mining in the district through to at least 2043, the project represents the longest single extension of mine life since modern mining began here in the 1980s.

At the Willows Road site, crews are busy laying the groundwork for the mine's surface facilities. This work includes completing earthworks in readiness to construct facilities to support the underground mine and building permanent haul roads to provide access to the newly opened portal and help workers move safely around the site.

Underground, tunnelling crews have now advanced about 280 metres, constructing the first section of a 12 kilometre tunnel network that will eventually connect the new mine with the surface facilities area and Waihi's processing plant.

Ultimately, all roads will lead to the heart of the project, the orebody at Wharekirauponga, where drilling has so far defined a gold resource of approximately 1.2 million ounces.

At today's gold prices, that resource represents around NZ\$8 billion in potential export revenue, with further drilling helping to refine our understanding of its full potential and unlock new insights about what lies below.

OceanaGold adds another string to its bow

Who would have thought 36 years ago, when we first started mining in Otago at the Macraes operation, that OceanaGold would grow into an international gold producer with operations around the world. Or that we'd be the only New Zealand originated company with a current listing on the New York Stock Exchange.

Recently, we've added another milestone to that story by entering into an agreement to acquire Ausgold Limited, an Australian-listed gold company, which owns the Katanning Gold Project in Western Australia.

The Katanning Gold Project is located approximately 275 km southeast of Perth in Western Australia. It is a conventional open-pit development project with the potential to produce more than 100,000 ounces of gold per year over an initial 10-year mine life, with first gold expected in 2029.



Scan the barcode to watch the Katanning video



Willows Road site





OceanaGold Update

4th September 2026



Bay Pathways Director - Cat Sole

Spotlight on sponsorships

New programme helps young people thrive

Traditional education doesn't work for everyone. Bay Pathways Director Cat Sole knows that better than most. For the past 15 years she's been helping young people whose needs are not always met in mainstream school settings, find learning pathways where they can thrive.

She says every young person's circumstances are different and many face factors outside the classroom that can affect their learning including financial hardship, access to transport,

family circumstances, and diverse learning needs.

"We work closely with Waihi College to provide those students with additional support, including picking them up from home and bringing them to and from the programme, engaging mentors, and creating an environment where they feel safe and supported to focus on their studies," she says.

More recently, that support includes a wellbeing programme funded by OceanaGold.

The year-long programme complements the existing work of the organisation, by helping the students better understand themselves and how they can make small changes in their lives that will have a big impact on their future. It includes weekly group sessions and one-on-one support with a qualified practitioner to help develop practical strategies for managing challenges and improving wellbeing.

Just a few weeks into the programme the response has been overwhelmingly positive.

"I knew there needed to be a therapeutic component to help young people better understand themselves, their experiences, and the factors that can affect their learning. This programme is providing that," Cat says.

For her, the motivation remains simple.

"I just want them all to have some wins. Before coming here, a lot of the students had very low attendance rates, but they're now sitting closer to 100%. Our most vulnerable and our most under-resourced need someone in their corner. That's what keeps me going."

Community Meeting Thursday September 17th

Our next Community Meeting will be held on Thursday the 17th of September from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

This public meeting is designed to provide an update about works in the existing Correnso and Project Martha (including Rex) mining areas undertaken since the previous meeting. We'll also touch on progress with the Waihi North Project. The meeting will be held in the OceanaGold Education Centre on the corner of Moresby Avenue and Savage Road.

This meeting is open to the public and all are welcome. For queries on all other current or proposed projects, please visit or call the Project Information Office.

Investing in our host community

Sponsorships and donations approved in May, June and July

May

Whangamata Amateur Swimming Club	Medals, trophies and equipment	\$2,096
Salvation Army Waihi	Foodbank supplies	\$7,500
Te Whanau Tupu Ngatahi o Aotearoa	New fence for Waihi Beach Playcentre	\$4,000
Waihi ARFC & Sports Union	New minivan for seniors and juniors	\$10,000
Waihi Volunteer Fire Brigade	Assist with build of new water tanker shed	\$20,000

June

Hauraki Tigers Rugby League Club	Physiotherapy supplies	\$1,600
Waihi Boxing Club	New training equipment	\$4,940
Waihi Central School	Playground upgrade	\$29,500
Firewood	For residents in need (in-kind)	\$998

July

Waihi Golf Club	Tournament prizes	\$1,000
Katikati Girl Guides & Rangers	To attend jamboree in Hamilton	\$5,000
Waihi Beach Memorial RSA Bowling Club	Voucher prizes at tournament	\$1,000
Bay Pathways	Pay well-being practitioner for students	\$10,000
Waihi Badminton Club	New shuttles	\$1,500
Waihi Wonder Wheels	Safety clothing and helmets	\$847
Firewood	For residents in need (in-kind)	\$377

TOTAL \$100,358



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Please note: We are not currently blasting in the Martha Open Pit. Any changes to this will be notified.



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Whangamatā Tides 2026										
SEPTEMBER 2026										
☾ New Moon: 11 th ☀ Full Moon: 27 th										
Date	High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Sun rise	Sun set
	AM		PM		AM		PM			
4 Fri		1.8	12:09	1.8	5:48	0.3	18:15	0.4	06:35	17:56
5 Sat	0:28	1.8	13:07	1.8	6:41	0.3	19:13	0.4	06:33	17:56
6 Sun	1:26	1.7	14:10	1.8	7:39	0.3	20:17	0.5	06:32	17:57
7 Mon	2:30	1.7	15:15	1.8	8:41	0.3	21:22	0.4	06:30	17:58
8 Tue	3:37	1.7	16:18	1.8	9:46	0.3	22:26	0.4	06:29	17:59
9 Wed	4:42	1.7	17:18	1.9	10:48	0.3	23:27	0.3	06:27	18:00
10 Thu	5:44	1.8	18:13	1.9	11:47	0.3		0.3	06:26	18:00
11 Fri	6:40	1.9	19:04	2.0	0:23	0.3	12:41	0.2	06:24	18:01
12 Sat	7:32	1.9	19:52	2.0	1:14	0.2	13:32	0.2	06:23	18:02
13 Sun	8:20	1.9	20:38	1.9	2:03	0.2	14:19	0.2	06:21	18:03
14 Mon	9:06	1.9	21:22	1.9	2:48	0.2	15:05	0.3	06:20	18:04
15 Tue	9:50	1.9	22:04	1.8	3:32	0.2	15:50	0.3	06:18	18:05
16 Wed	10:33	1.8	22:45	1.8	4:14	0.3	16:34	0.4	06:17	18:05
17 Thu	11:16	1.8	23:27	1.7	4:55	0.3	17:18	0.5	06:15	18:06
18 Fri		1.8	12:01	1.7	5:37	0.4	18:05	0.5	06:14	18:07

Waihi Beach Tides 2026										
SEPTEMBER 2026										
☾ New Moon: 11 th ☀ Full Moon: 27 th										
Date	High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Sun rise	Sun set
	AM		PM		AM		PM			
4 Fri		1.8	12:04	1.8	5:43	0.3	18:10	0.4	06:35	17:56
5 Sat	0:23	1.8	13:02	1.8	6:36	0.3	19:08	0.4	06:33	17:56
6 Sun	1:21	1.7	14:05	1.8	7:34	0.3	20:12	0.5	06:32	17:57
7 Mon	2:25	1.7	15:10	1.8	8:36	0.3	21:17	0.4	06:30	17:58
8 Tue	3:32	1.7	16:13	1.8	9:41	0.3	22:21	0.4	06:29	17:59
9 Wed	4:37	1.7	17:13	1.9	10:43	0.3	23:22	0.3	06:27	18:00
10 Thu	5:39	1.8	18:08	1.9	11:42	0.3		0.3	06:26	18:00
11 Fri	6:35	1.9	18:59	2.0	0:18	0.3	12:36	0.2	06:24	18:01
12 Sat	7:27	1.9	19:47	2.0	1:09	0.2	13:27	0.2	06:23	18:02
13 Sun	8:15	1.9	20:33	1.9	1:58	0.2	14:14	0.2	06:21	18:03
14 Mon	9:01	1.9	21:17	1.9	2:43	0.2	15:00	0.3	06:20	18:04
15 Tue	9:45	1.9	21:59	1.8	3:27	0.2	15:45	0.3	06:18	18:05
16 Wed	10:28	1.8	22:40	1.8	4:09	0.3	16:29	0.4	06:17	18:05
17 Thu	11:11	1.8	23:22	1.7	4:50	0.3	17:13	0.5	06:15	18:06
18 Fri		1.8	11:56	1.7	5:32	0.4	18:00	0.5	06:14	18:07

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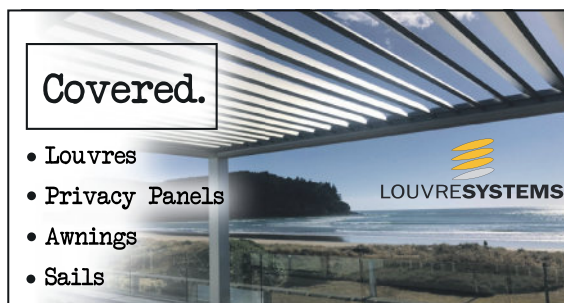
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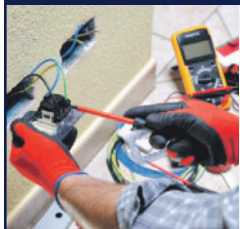
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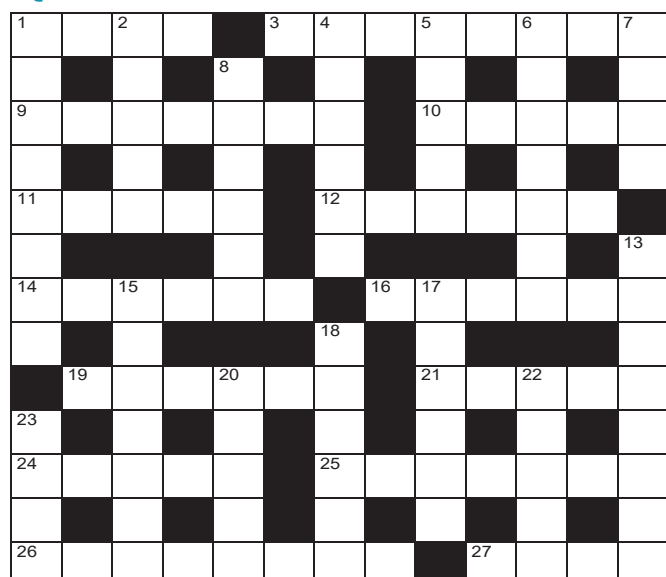
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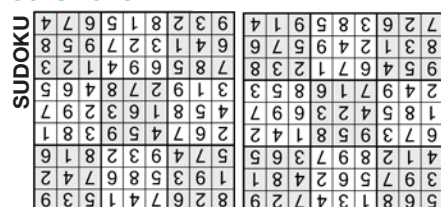
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 19. Drug (6)
 21. Gently mock (5)
 24. Loud (5)
 25. Sincere (7)
 26. Delight (8)
 27. Difficult (4)

Down

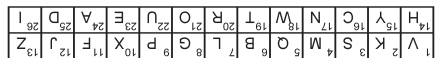
1. Fitting (8)
 2. Foe (5)
 4. Meeting plan (6)
 5. Discourage (5)
 6. Agree (7)
 7. Nobleman (4)
 8. Go back on a deal (6)
 13. Downcast (8)
 15. Cold-blooded creature (7)
 17. Obtain money through threats (6)
 18. Thin covering (6)
 20. Deep chasm (5)
 22. Stadium (5)
 23. Break suddenly (4)

All puzzles © The Puzzle Company

SOLUTIONS



DECODER



CRYPTIC

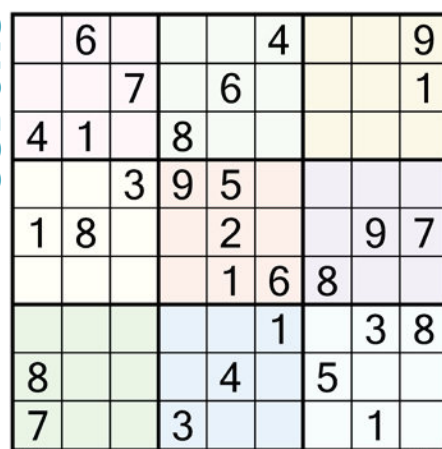
- Across: 1. Opinion poll, 9. Cream of tartar, 10. Due, 11. Self-help, 14. Ilexes, 15. Mid off, 18. Raindrop, 20. Eel, 23. Roller-coaster, 24. Stethoscope.
 Down: 2. Prelude, 3. Name, 4. Off-key, 5. Play fair, 6. Lathe, 7. Act, 8. Drop off, 12. Library, 13. Dead heat, 16. One step, 17. Poncho, 19. Inlet, 21. Talc, 22. Bra.

CROSSWORD

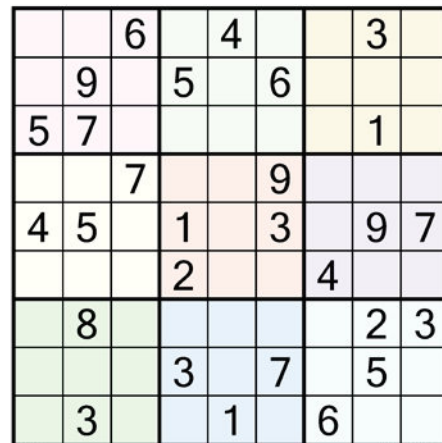
- Across: 1. Apex, 3. Snap, 20. Abyss, 22. Arena, 18. Veneer, 17. Extort, 15. Reptile, 13. Defected, 7. Peer, 8. Renegé, 5. Deter, 6. Consent, 2. Enemy, 4. Agenda, Down: 1. Apposite, 26. Pleasure, 27. Hard, 25. Earnest, 21. Tease, 24. Noisy, 19. Opiate, 14. Target, 16. Centre, 12. Dormer, 10. Tense, 11. Style, 9. Precede, 3. Handicap, 1. Apex.

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

SUDOKU



EASY



HARDER

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Across

1. Oil on poplin is a problem for voting result (7,4)
 9. Raising agent from the best of the Mongolian tribesmen (5,2,6)
 10. Deuces oddly have it coming (3)
 11. DIY psychiatry for kleptomaniacs? (4-4)
 14. Lent out extensible animals (6)
 15. Cricket position half-way to making a stink (3,3)
 18. Ron a drip? It came down to it (8)
 20. Christopher & Bruce return for the fish... (3)
 23. ... and Coral & Errol set off for the fairground ride (6-7)

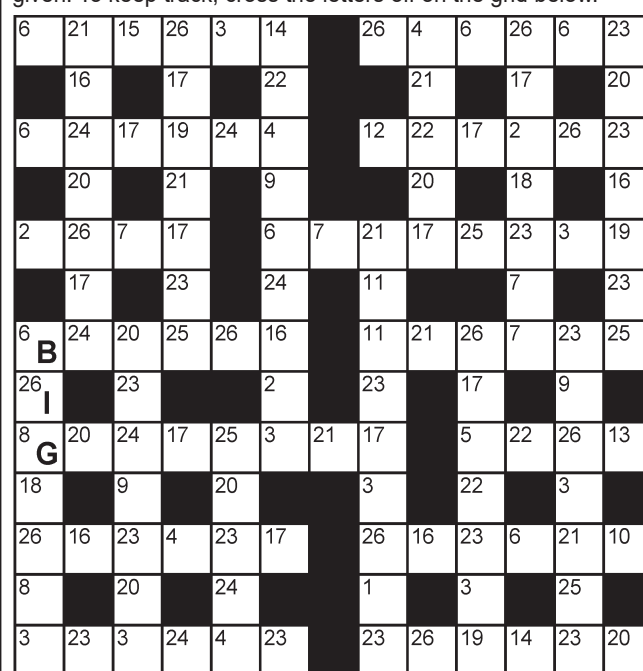
24. Chest to pose for instrument? (11)

Down

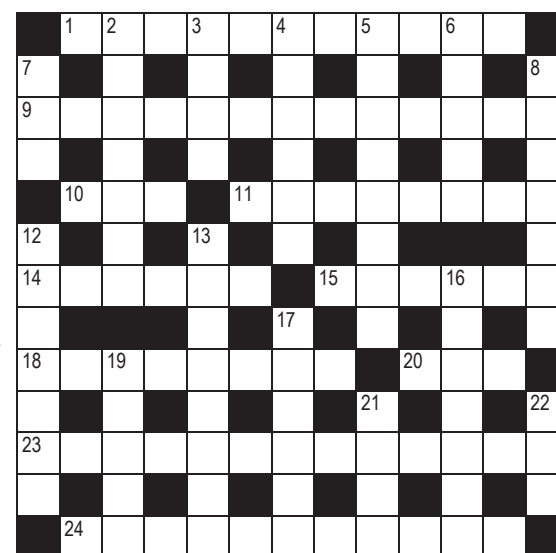
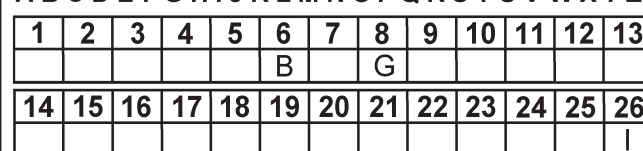
2. Bow out of powder blue introduction (7)
 3. Horsemanship title comes back (4)
 4. The stop device sounds awful! (3-3)
 5. A toy fête or the proper etiquette for sports (4,4)
 6. A couple of articles on tool (5)
 7. Take part in the characterisation (3)
 8. Take the kids to school and have a nap (4,3)
 12. Des leaves early birds for the building. That speaks volumes (7)
 13. ... and tied up the head date (4,4)

DECODER

Each number below represents a different letter. Find the correct letter for each number by working out the word from the letters given. To keep track, cross the letters off on the grid below.



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



16. Do the hop? (3,4)
 17. Mexican apparel held by clip-on choker (6)
 19. Leased in the bay? (5)
 21. Crystal clear product for the dance floor (4)
 22. Short underwear (3)

What's On in our town

Whangamata Amateur Swimming Club

Term 4 enrolments open. 4 different levels, email swimwhanga@gmail.com for details.

Whangamatā Cancer Group

Meets every fourth Monday of the month at 10.30am. Lovely group – come join us.

Contact Lareece McGregor, Hospice & Cancer support Nurse: 027 880 5644.

Waihi Croquet Club

A friendly club, Meet new people and have fun. It is a low impact sport and fun to play. Golf Croquet is easy to learn and suitable for all abilities! All equipment supplied. First 3 games free! Golf Croquet: Mon • Wed • Sat — 1pm, Association Croquet: Tues • Sat — 1pm Morgan Park, Kenny Street, Waihi come along – everyone is welcome!

Whangamatā Sunday Market

TCDC carpark, Port Rd, 9am-1pm, first and third Sundays plus school holidays. Stalls \$5, all stall fees donated to local community groups.

Phone Suzanne 022 651 2250.

Grow on Waihi

including a crop swap. The second Saturday each month, 10-11.30am. Free seedlings for members or for a koha. At the shed next to the Community Resort Centre, 4 Mueller Street, Waihi. See our Grow on Waihi Facebook page.

Paeroa Country Music Club

3rd Sunday of the month, 1pm. Baptist Church Wood St, Paeroa.

Arts Collective Photography Group

The idea is to meet once a month for a relaxed and enjoyable get-together where we can share photos, exchange ideas, learn from each other, and encourage our creativity. All levels of experience are welcome—from phone photographers to camera photographers. The emphasis will be on having fun and enjoying photography together.

If you think you might be interested, contact Gail: gail.stent@gmail.com

Country and Variety Club

presents Glenda Palmer at the RSA Whangamatā – 6 September, 1-4pm, along with our band 4 On The Floor

Tempestuous

3 October, 7pm. Whangamatā Memorial Hall.

One woman show by Penny Ashton the effervescent actress who thrilled a sell out audience with Austin Found 2 years ago. Shakespeare has never been so funny. One night only so get your tickets soon. Tickets available at Whangamatā Discovery Centre.

Glitz & Glamour – A Night In The West End

Send your club, group, non-profit or fundraiser event to whangamatanews@gmail.com

7 November at Whangamatā Memorial Hall.

To raise funds for the Malaghan Institute of Cancer Research. The Whangamatā Theatre in association with the Friends of the Malaghan are staging a night to remember. Dress in your most glamorous gowns and suits and come tread the red carpet with us. Enjoy a welcome glass of champagne and canapés at your table. Wonderful entertainment, surprise guests!

2027 Harcourts Art Challenge

This year's four themes for both visual artists and writers is: "Heads, Tails, Legs and Wings." This is your challenge—interpret it your way and start creating. We can't wait to see what emerges!

More info at artscollective.co.nz for entry forms and details.

Whangamatā Writing Group

The Whangamatā Writing Group offers a friendly and supportive environment where you can share your ideas, develop your writing, and connect with fellow writers. Writers of all genres and levels of experience are very welcome. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, with additional workshops and writing-related opportunities planned for later in the year.

Interested in joining? To find out more, contact Angela at acumings@xtra.co.nz