





Photos by Mark James





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Garden Club annual prize-giving results

Whangamata Garden Club held their annual prize giving in June, following a year of monthly exhibits for the best home grown flower blooms, fruit, vegetables, shrubs, and floral arrangements.

The following members were the winners of the categories.

- Pat O'Reilly (Camellia show)
- Doreen Spain (Single, Multi blooms) Miniature Roses & blooms, Camellias, Climbers and Floral Arrangements.
- Irene Tyler (Above and below ground Vegetables)
- Jennifer Lawton (Fruit & Bulbs)
- Carol Archer (Roses)
- Maureen Halligan (Orchids)
- Dianne Trembath (Shrubs)
- Marilyn Fowlie (Rose and Dahlia Show)



Doreen was the Garden Club Overall 2025 'Superstar'.



HON SCOTT SIMPSON

MP for Coromandel



GDP growth confirms stronger than expected start to 2025

The growth of the New Zealand economy has once again beaten forecasts, with Stats NZ reporting that GDP grew 0.8 per cent in the first three months of the year. That's twice the rate forecast by the Treasury and the Reserve Bank, and it confirms that the economy was gaining momentum late last year and at the start of 2025.

This hard economic data is further evidence that New Zealand is getting back on track, and that the Coromandel is playing an important role in growing the economy. The first quarter of the year coincided with a bumper summer here on the Peninsula, which saw people flocking to our region to experience the classic Kiwi holiday. No doubt that tourism spending is reflected in the growth of the quarterly GDP numbers.

In recent months there has been a lot of uncertainty around the world, with new trade tariffs and continued global conflict. We also know that many New Zealanders are still doing it tough and are dealing with the cost of living. That's why we continue to emphasise getting the country's books back in order by cutting wasteful spending, supporting growth and reducing red tape.

We're already seeing some positive returns from the Government's approach, with inflation under control, interest rates falling, and food and fibre exports on track to hit \$60 billion by the end of this year. Policies like Investment Boost, a target of doubling the value of exports in 10 years and boosting regional tourism will help keep this momentum going in the face of global uncertainty.

This Government is committed to growing the economy, because it means more jobs, higher wages and more opportunities for Kiwis.

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











Treaty Conundrums

As we draw closer to the Bicentenary of the Treaty of Waitangi signing, we seem to be little further ahead in solving the intractable problems that beset our founding document.

Treaty settlement deals have been negotiated and implemented with many lwi or tribal groups. More are yet to be settled. There is no question that Maori suffered historical injustices since colonisation began and it is appropriate that the Government acknowledges that fact and offers some meaningful redress.

There have been successful settlements where Iwi have since prospered through astute investment of their capital. Tainui and Ngai Tahu have grown their wealth to impressive proportions and have given the Maori economy real impetus.

However, recent articles have highlighted a new development in settlement negotiations. Iwi are now insistent on including a clause that questions the soveriegnty of the Crown. It is difficult to understand how two parties can negotiate a settlement when one questions the existence of the other. It would seem lwi are pursuing the same questionable ambitions of Te Pati Maori in seeking separate Government for Maori. Intransigence on this development from either side could derail future settlements.

In 1981, New Zealanders rose up in protest over a separatist Government based on race. The irony is palpable. Sadly, it would appear quite possible that another two hundred years of rancour and disharmony lie ahead.

George Williams WHANGAMATĀ

Whangamata & Waihi News welcomes your letters

Letters should be sent to WhangamataNews@gmail.com

They should be no more than 250 words (but exceptions can be made). Please include your name and where you're from - no noms de plumes.

Winter Food Initiative: Community Nominations

We are honoured to have been chosen by Save the Rain, a non-profit charity, to assist with food delivery and support their objectives. As a long-standing partner of our Trust, they understand the growing need for food security.

Together, we will be commencing our second Winter Food Initiative mid-July, and this year we're aiming to extend our support even further. We invite the community to participate by nominating yourself or someone you know who would benefit from receiving a food package.

We are grateful to our partners who share our vision and commitment to ensuring that no family goes without nutritious food this winter.

How It Works:

- Nominate Someone in Need: Nominate yourself or someone in our community who could use a little extra help this winter. This could be a neighbour, friend, or family member who might be struggling to put food on the table.
- 2. Confidential and Respectful: All nominations are confidential. We respect the privacy and dignity

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Eastern Coromandel COMMUNITY SERVICES

of those receiving assistance.

- 3. Food Packages: Each food package will include fresh seasonal produce and protein.
- 4. Delivery: We will contact the nominees and our team will deliver the food packages directly to the nominated individuals' homes, or they can pick up from our office on 18th July 2025.

How to Nominate:

- · Visit our website to fill out the nomination form on our website homepage www. communityservices.org.nz or pop into our community center for a paper copy (505 Port Road, Whangamata)
- Submit your nomination by 11 July.

Together, we can make a difference and ensure that no one in our community goes hungry this winter.

P. 07 865 8705



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In Te Aroha, on 28 June, the Whangamata Year 7 junior rugby team took on Thames in the premier championship final and delivered a dominant performance to secure their third consecutive title, having also won in 2023 and 2024.

The match started with both teams evenly matched, showcasing skill and determination. But, in the second half, Whangamatā took control, pulling away to claim a convincing win and cement their status as the Thames Valley Year 7 Champions.

The core of this team has played together since their early rippa

rugby days, and their passion for the game shines through in their teamwork, commitment to training, and continuous development as players.

A huge thank you goes out to coaches Jesse Webb, Steve Trebilco, and Jeremy West for their leadership and dedication, as well as to team manager Kyal Ryburn. Appreciation also goes to Whangamata Junior Rugby, our season referees, loyal supporters, and the ever-supportive parents.

Red and white dynamite - champions once again!

An unforgettable season

The Whangamata Rugby Club's Year 3 White team capped off an unforgettable season in spectacular style, claiming the 2025 Championship tilt with a win over Tairua.

The final was played in Te Aroha last Saturday, under typically wintery Waikato conditions, but the driving rain and slippery field did nothing to dampen the determination or spirit of our young players. From the opening whistle, Whangamatā's teamwork and skill shone through.

The boys delivered an impressive display of attacking rugby, scoring try after try with some superb running and support play. Equally as outstanding was their defensive effort, with countless tackles and crucial turnovers that kept Tairua

on the back foot throughout the match.

It has been inspiring to watch this group grow in confidence and capability this season. A credit to the dedication and expertise of coach Paul Sweeney, heartfelt thanks goes to Whangamata Junior Rugby Club, the families, and all the supporters who cheered the team on through rain and shine. The encouragement has meant so much to these young athletes.

Congratulations to every player on an outstanding season - your effort, sportsmanship and unity were second to none. We can't wait to see what 2026 will bring.

- Joelle Legg, Manager Yr 3 White Photos by Mark James













Edibles Wellness Walk underway for Moana House residents

Whangamatā News was delighted to meet with Bruce Debenham, Moana House groundsman to discuss a fantastic new initiative for Moana House residents.

We will be following this incredible vision over the upcoming editions, taking our readers right up to planting time in early September.

Bruce told us "The idea is to make a themed area for residents, staff and visitors to enjoy. I'm hoping that when family or friends come to visit, it's somewhere they can spend time with their families and that it will make it easier for visitors with children or pets, to be able to have some open space, instead of the limited options available now. I'm also hoping it will be somewhere that grows people's awareness of Moana House, especially around the different nationalities themed gardens."

There are three communities that work at Moana House, Indian, Nepalese and Filipino, each group will make their own garden in the





Seated from left: Residents, Stan Davies, Alex Barr, Sophia (Activities Manager), Bruce Debenham (Moana House Groundsman), Paul Peterson, Morma Peterson, Eric Groet.

Standing from left: Kristina Smith, Graeme Manson (Menshed), John Wallace(Menshed), Rod Leversedge (Menshed).

shape of their own country, each site will be large and in full sun.

The Indian community, with a garden in the shape of India, that will have the herbs and spices used for Indian Cuisine.

The Philippine's, with a garden in the shape of small islands, and Filipino produce, which includes a hanging Horseradish tree, with giant pods hanging from it, for soups and stews

Nepalese, with a garden in the shape of Nepal, with Nepalese herbs. There will also be Maori representation through carvings and traditional Maori healing plants.

As we walked about the grounds, Bruce explained "because residents are elderly and it's quite a hike, Menshed has created and gifted the edible garden walk, 8 bench seats for having a rest and a break at frequent intervals. The views are incredulous at the top and well worth the walk. Bunnings Whangamata very generously donated the timber for the seats. They have also donated plants for the vegetable garden replant project. But most of the plants are very hard to purchase so each of the three groups will access all those specialty plants.

The walk from the current vegetable garden site will be themed around Whangamata icons, our harbour with a carving and a kite bag, the open sea with a traditional maori boat anchor, Beach Hop - hopefully with a classic car grille, and the pioneering spirit of early Whangamata with empty beer bottles, a bong, and assorted saws.

What a wonderful plan, imagine walk, rest and pick as you go with family and friends!

Keep following our updates as the project continues.

- Jennie Black, Editor



poutere School celebrates Matariki with community

Last week, Opoutere School came alive with the spirit of Matariki as our tamariki and kaiako marked the Māori New Year through a rich series of cultural, creative, and sustainable activities. Matariki, a time for remembrance, celebration, and planning for the year ahead, was honoured in true Opoutere style — with hands-on learning, community connection, and lots of aroha.

Throughout the week, our students took part in a wide range of activities, including poi making, baking, fire making and a special hikoi to our local awa. Each activity was thoughtfully tied into themes of connection to whenua (land), and kaitiakitanga (guardianship of the environment), reflecting our values as an Enviroschool.

A particularly memorable day was our Kaumatua day (grandparents day). When



the grandparents were welcomed our Kura for a performance, to share kai and join in on the activities. In one of these activities we shared the pūrākau (story) of the Atua Rūaumoko — the kaititaki of volcanoes, earthquakes and the rumblings of the earth beneath us. His connection to fire and the energy within Papatūānuku inspired our tamariki to build their own fire nests using natural materials such as tī kōuka leaves, hay, and toetoe. With patience and teamwork, the students used good old fashioned flint and steel to light their nests.

The goal? To light our family fire hot enough to cook our kai - one whole kahawai for each day of Matariki, kindly donated by the amazing Mike Stevens from Supervised Training (ngā mihi nui, Mike!). As a school, we embraced our sustainable principles fully: every part of the fish was eaten (yes, even the eyeballs!) and the remaining fish frames were respectfully returned to the whenua, buried in our māra kai to nourish the soil for future growth.

Of course, no fire gathering would be complete without a cheeky s'more or two - a sweet treat to end our special week with smiles and sticky fingers.

Matariki at Ōpoutere School was more than just a celebration — it was a living lesson in culture, sustainability, and community. We are so proud of our tamariki for their curiosity, perseverance, and commitment throughout the week.

Manawatia a Matariki to the Whangamatā community, and happy holidays to all our wonderful tamariki and whānau!

- Photos by Mark James







NOTICE OF CLOSURE OF CONSERVATION AREA UNDER **SECTION 13 CONSERVATION ACT**

PURSUANT to section 13(1) Conservation Act 1987, I hereby close conservation land in the Coromandel Forest Park in the Wharekirauponga catchment to public entry for reasons of public safety.

The closed area is across fourteen sites totalling approximately 0.56 hectares of public conservation land being Forest Park, as indicated on the below plan.

The period of closure is from 10 June 2025 until 21 May 2027.

The closure is necessitated by the need to ensure the safety of the public for the duration of exploration operations on the land.

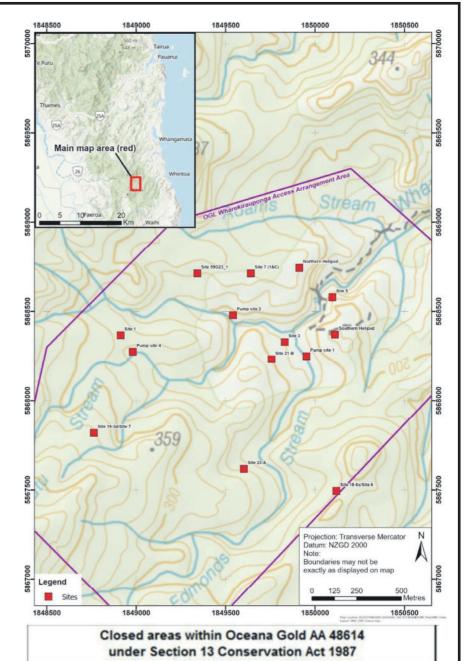
During the closure it is an offence for a person who is not authorised by the Director-General to remain on, or enter, the area indicated on the below plan.

Active closed sites will be clearly demarcated by fencing and signage.

For further information on the conservation land closure contact: Department of Conservation Hauraki Office PO Box 343

Thames 3540 Phone: 07 867 9180

Avi Holzapfel, Operations Manager, Hauraki District



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Predator Free 2050 disestablished – what does it mean for us?

It is very disheartening that the government has removed the focus from predator control by disbanding Predator Free 2050 Ltd.

This was billed as a 'moonshot' for New Zealand's environment - a bold, world-leading goal launched by Sir John Key in 2016, aimed at eradicating rats, possums and stoats from our islands by 2050.

The vision has been clear - bring back birdsong to every valley, protect the flightless kiwi, and restore what once thrived. But today, the future of the goal of Predator Free 2050 looks uncertain.

Predator Free 2050 Ltd, the Crownowned company established to drive and fund large-scale eradication and breakthrough science, will have its funding ceased by the end of the year, with responsibility for the goal of Predator Free 2050 shifted to the Department of Conservation (DOC).

Whangamata Harbour Care (WHC) knows full well the effect predators have on native wildlife and is seeing the benefits of its extensive predator control program in increased biodiversity with reports of increased native bird life around Whanga. WHCs 24 traplines have netted 2200 predators in the last year - 1500 rats, 150 possums and 100 stoats. Just imagine the effects that these predators could have had on our native wildlife and flora.



Fortunately WHC is not funded directly by Predator Free 2050 Ltd, so this change will not affect

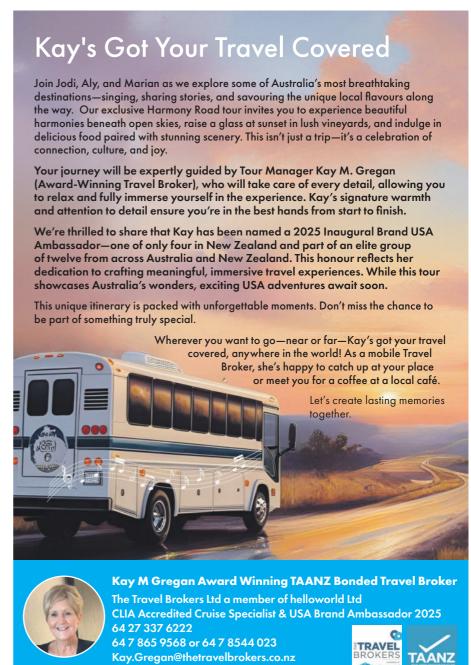
WHC's operations. Our funding comes from grant funders including The Lion Foundation and TCDC



Community Board plus sponsorship from local businesses. We also work closely with Predator Free Hauraki Coromandel which is not related to Predator Free 2050 Ltd. We will however be increasing our links with DOC - this is already happening with their new Community OutReach program. For DOC, this may be the best way for them to progress their new task of meeting the Predator Free 2050 goal.

WHC will continue the fight to restore our biodiversity. Want to help? Contact harbourcare1999@gmail.com.





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Whangamata deserves real reform



As a Whangamatā local, I know our town lives and breathes the ocean. Whether it's fishing off the wharf, or sharing kaimoana with whānau, our identity is tied to the sea. That's why we should all be concerned about Minister for Oceans and Fisheries Shane Jones' proposed fisheries reforms to the fisheries Act.

The Minister has suggested these so-called 'reforms' could become legislation by the end of 2026. Based on this tight timeline, we could expect a draft Bill before the end of 2025, giving us another opportunity to have our say.

As I've written before, these 'reforms' are a dangerous threat to coastal communities and the marine environment. While the Minister promises more jobs and regional growth, the reality is fewer fish in our waters for regional small-scale fishers and less kaimoana to feed our families. So who really wins? Not us. It's a few large commercial operators who earn a tidy profit by leasing out the catching rights to commercial fishers, without ever stepping foot on a boat.

Behind the scenes, these large companies control who catches the fish, where the fish goes and how much they pay the fisher. They also reel in the most profit. The fishers, those who are on the water doing the mahi, have little say. For decades these companies have prioritised exporting our fish. So, their aspirations for control have come true, with Shane Jones' proposals making it easier than ever to catch and export more fish.

However, bulk exporting of lowvalue fish doesn't support local businesses, it undercuts them. The more fish that's taken from our waters and sent offshore as frozen products, the harder it is for small,



Photo supplied by Legasea

family-run fishers and fish shops to survive.

The health of our marine environment is also at stake. The proposed changes would also weaken environmental protections, put in place to protect the biodiversity and the delicate food web in our oceans. Disruption of the food web can lead to imbalances in the ecosystem, threatening the health of our oceans we depend on for kai, recreation and income.

I agree with the Minister, we desperately need reforms but what is being proposed is not going to resolve the core issue.

Real reform starts by prioritising the need to rebuild our coastal fish populations. To do this we need to focus on rebuilding our coastal fish populations. International best practice suggests restoring fish populations to a minimum of 50% of their original biomass. For us, that would effectively double the number of fish in our water.

How do we do this? We must transition away from destructive, bulk harvesting fishing methods such as bottom trawling, dredging and Danish seining within our coastal marine environment. These fishing methods not only produce

significant waste, they also damage the seafloor and the creatures living on/in it, often leaving long-lasting impacts on the marine ecosystem.

Yet Jones is proposing to legalise the dumping and discarding of fish caught using these methods. That is not a reform, that is entrenching the status quo. Rather than prioritising short term profits we need to start the conversation about meaningful reform. One that will benefit all Kiwis, not just the interests of a few private companies.

- Phil Keogh



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Rehearsals have begun



Whangamata Theatre Society is putting on Spotlight on Broadway in September written and directed by Lisa Doreen.

Lisa and her family have a long history of performing musical theatre in Auckland. This is a chance for all the favourites to come to Whangamatā.

The show has songs and dances from a variety of shows from 1930 to 2010. A chance to perform all these great songs, dress up and look forward to all the razzamatazz of the big stage. Songs range from The Wizard of Oz through to Rocky Horror Show and Matilda.

We had a great turn out for the auditions... singers, dancers and narrators. We have a cast of 40 with an age range is 8 to 78 and we're all thoroughly enjoying our rehearsals so far. At this stage we are just learning lyrics and melodies and the dance moves and choreography come next.

Can't wait.

Art and photography showcased

The inaugural Whangamata Area School Art and Photography Exhibition was a huge success. Senior students had a wide range of art works at Edisons over the Matariki weekend.

A total of fifty pieces made up the exhibition which consisted of art and photography pieces from NCEA students in years 11, 12 and 13.

The opening night set the scene for a wonderful event. The Whangamata Area School Kapa Haka group wowed spectators

with an outstanding performance. Shy Dagger sang beautifully and Enzo Scott was the DJ, providing background music in the old cinema building as visitors marvelled at the outstanding work on display.

Many of the pieces sold to enthusiastic buyers, with a number of commissions coming from the event. Organiser Lena Mckillop is so grateful to everyone who played a part in making this happen. She would like to thank Edisons for all of their help and the parents and



Luka Foote with her painting "A Pirate's Tale".

community for their support. Lena and her colleague Rose Mahon are looking forward to this becoming a regular event on the Whangamatā calendar.

- Katrina Brickwood



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Quality rugby coming up

It's all happening at Thames Valley Rugby with the plenty of quality rugby coming up. Firstly it's playoffs for the club rugby season, then hopefully the Ranfurly Shield will make its way to the Valley with a challenge against Taranaki and the provincial Bunnings Warehouse Heartland Challenge competition. Here's all the action.

The final round of the Thames Valley club rugby season was played on Saturday, 28 June. Then it's play-off time with Waihi Athletic strong at the top of the premier grade.

Paeroa, Mercury Bay and Waihou all look to progress. Tairua and Coromandel are the top two in Senior B while Waihi Athletic and

Thames lead the Senior C

The Thames Valley Under 14 boys look forward to the Heartland Rugby carnival in Taupō from Monday, 7 July to Wednesday, 9 July.

The Valley will compete against King Country, Whanganui, Poverty Bay and East Coast. In the squad are Alon Buchanan, Jacob Matetaka, Jayden Beatson, Lockie Yule, Nelson Barfoot and Quade Johnson from Whangamata Area School and Mitchell Paynter and Ryder Holz-Taylor from Waihi College. The Valley supporters will be trucking off to Manaia, Taranaki on Saturday 19 July complete with a trailer to hopefully bring home the Ranfurly Shield "log of wood" for the first



Manaia Rugby ground venue for Thames Valley Ranfurly Shield Challenge.



The Ranfurly Shield 'log of wood'.

ever time to Thames Valley. It will be a big ask against the strong Taranaki but stranger things have happened.

Once the shield is safe in the Valley trophy cabinet, the Bunnings Warehouse Heartland Rugby Championship kicks off.

Defending Champions the Valley Foxes aim to repeat their magnificent 2024 competition.

Four home games are scheduled Saturday 16 August v Mid Canterbury at Waihi Rugby Stadium, Saturday 30 August v King Country at Boyd Park, Te Aroha, Saturday 20 September v Ngati Porou East Coast at Coromandel and Saturday 27 September v West Coast at Centennial Park, Paeroa.

- Don Mackay, Waihi Sports Reporter



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CANDIDATE People interested in standing in the **Thames-Coromandel District Council** and Waikato Regional Council elections are invited to attend candidate information briefings to hear about the electoral process (the dos and don'ts), responsibilities and expectations if elected.

SATURDAY, 12 JULY 2025

WHANGAMATĀ: 10am - 12pm

Whangamatā Service Centre, 620 Port Road, Whangamatā

TAIRUA: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

St Francis House, 248 Main Road, Tairua

WHITIANGA: 5pm - 7pm

Mercury Bay Service Centre (rear of building) 10 Monk Street, Whitianga

elections@tcdc.govt.nz tcdc.govt.nz/elections









Waihi NEWS

WBOP Annual Plan focuses on financial discipline

Western Bay of Plenty District Council has confirmed its work programme and budget for the year ahead, adopting the 2025/26 Annual Plan.

Last week councillors gave the final sign-off, with no changes made following deliberations earlier this month. The plan confirms an average rates increase of 8.92 per cent — slightly lower than the 10.13 per cent originally forecast in the Long Term Plan.

The Annual Plan sets out Council's budget, priorities and key projects for the year ahead. It outlines how the Council will fund and deliver essential services — from

infrastructure to community facilities - while responding to changing costs and demands

Mayor James Denyer says the plan reflects Council's commitment to staying focused, spending wisely, and delivering the essentials.

In finalising this year's plan, Council took a deliberate and considered approach to reducing spending, managing costs, and focusing on the essentials.

"Despite the tight fiscal environment, Council recognises the need to keep moving forward with a range of key projects across the District to strengthen local infrastructure, enhance community



spaces, and support growth where it's needed," explains Mayor James.

Building on the achievements of almost-completed projects like Te Ara Mātauranga - the new Waihī Beach library and service centre, Heron Crescent elder housing, and the playground in Conway Reserve, Council is also moving ahead with a number of major projects across the rohe. These include significant upgrades to the Ōmokoroa and Te Puke roading networks, improvements to the Minden Lookout and surrounding facilities, staged delivery of the Tahawai and Beach Road concept plans, and starting the Dave Hume Pool

upgrade in Katikati.

Alongside the adoption of the Annual Plan and setting the rates, Council also set its fees and charges including financial contributions from 1 July 2025.





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tcdc.govt.nz/elections

waikatoregion.govt.nz/elections









Waihi NEWS

Demolition Proposed for Historic Waihi Church

A resource consent application to demolish the historic St James **Presbyterian Church on Moresby** Avenue was publicly notified by Hauraki District Council in 10 June 2025, prompting concern and a mixed public reaction across the Waihi community.

Built in 1905 and opened the following year, the timber Gothic Revival church has stood as a lasting symbol of Waihi's gold rush era and early Presbyterian worship. The building is listed as a Category A heritage feature in the Hauraki District Plan and is also recognised as a Category 2 Historic Place by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.

However, the church has stood empty since 2012 after an engineering report found it met only 8% of modern earthquake standards. It was been deemed unsafe and unfit for purpose, with no foundations, limited structural support, widespread borer, and a deteriorating roof. Leaders of the Presbyterian Church are reported to have said that the restoration would cost over \$1.5 million—funds the congregation does not have.



In 2016, the building was auctioned on Trade Me for \$11,100, but the property ultimately remained in church ownership following restrictions and complications around relocating a heritage building. The church now hopes to receive permission to remove the structure and, eventually, build a modern, low-maintenance facility on the cleared site—though no plans or funding have been confirmed at this stage

The application has stirred considerable debate online. with recent discussions on local Facebook community pages reflecting widespread frustration. Many residents have voiced

disappointment about the proposed loss of a local landmark, with some even suggesting that the community band together to buy it back and restore it.

Responding to comments that Council could have intervened to save the building, Hauraki District Mayor Toby Adams said, "This decision is a decision by the current members of that church and we respect their decision as it was based on future needs and costings." The church is privately owned and not a Council asset.

While Heritage New Zealand and Waihī Heritage Vision have expressed opposition to demolition, neither group has been able present an alternative and viable solution.

The full resource consent application and supporting documents can be viewed on the Hauraki District Council website or at Council offices and libraries. Public submissions close Wednesday 9 July 2025.

Locals are encouraged to make a submission and have their say. What do you think? Should the building stay or go?

- Sam Roff - Waihi News Reporter





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- H 846 x W 598 x
- D 630 mm

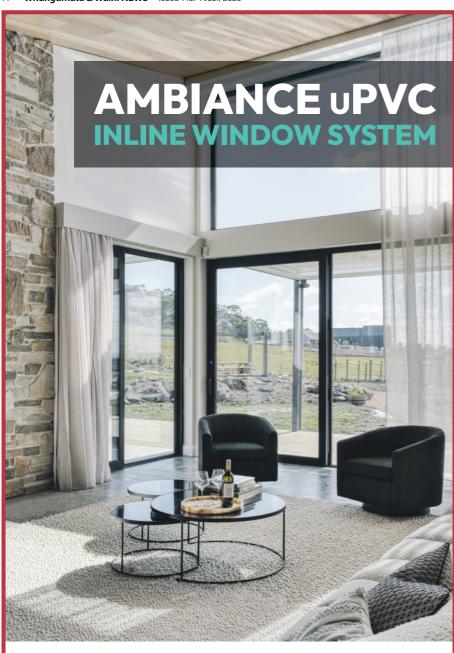
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SHOW ROOM OPEN SATURDAYS

Waihi NEWS

Waihi's school holiday highlights

Looking for ways to keep the kids busy these school holidays? Waihi and its surrounds are packed with family-friendly fun.

For those who love to get outside, the Karangahake Gorge and Windows Walkways are always winners but don't overlook the often forgotten Dickeys Flat trails and tunnels. Take a picnic and a torch and keep an eye out for Glow Worms! Closer to town, if you haven't already been, the Butterfly Garden is still a hidden gem that's perfect for a peaceful pit stop. Despite recent challenges of vandalism the garden has been lovingly refreshed by local volunteers and is looking lovely. The new pumptrack is also proving very popular for all ages, meet some friends, take a picnic and hang out for the day!

Need a wet-weather plan? Spike's Bricks & Models is a local LEGO wonderland with hundreds of creations to admire (and maybe inspire your next at-home build). The Gold Discovery Centre brings

Waihi's golden past to life through interactive exhibits and mine tours, while the Waihi Museum is great for a quick dive into local stories and is super affordable. And if you've got a train lover in the family, hop aboard the Goldfields Railway for a scenic ride between Waihi and Waikino, always a great day out. While you're out and about, swing by Waihi Toyworld for a copy of their school holiday colouring competition.

The Hauraki District Library has free activities running until July 11, including a craft table for kids aged 5-12 (parental supervision required) and a Virtual Reality Workshop in Week Two for ages 10+ (bookings essential). And for the sporty ones, the Waihi Events Centre is hosting a Basketball Holiday Program on Friday, July 11 for kids aged 5-13. It's \$45 per child for the day, and spots are limited — register via Tauranga City Basketball.

- Sam Roff, Waihi News Reporter



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P. McNeill, 2025 (repeat customer)



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"The guys were both really nice. They arrived on time and the move went perfectly. They were efficient and worked hard. It could not have been a better experience (and I have moved house almost 50 times over the years!)"

R. Preston, 2025



Small jobs no problem! "The boys were marvellous. Couldn't fault them!"
T. and L. True, 2025

SMS "Move" to 027 3205 070 for a no obligation quote

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Waihi NEWS

HDC adopts sub-regional CCO option for Water Done Well



Hauraki District Council (HDC) confirms a unanimous 'head and heart' decision to go with the Waikato Water Done Well (WWDW) sub-regional Council Controlled option for the future delivery of water and waste water services in the district.

Mayor Toby Adams thanked everyone involved for the huge workload that went into this decision and the considered feedback received from the community following public consultation in May 2025.

"We crunched the numbers and we're confident that this decision to form a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) with other Councils in the Waikato catchment area will give the economies of scale and service efficiencies we need for our communities going forward. Holistically, it's also the right approach for managing waterways as a whole in the Waikato", he said.

Seven Waikato Councils signed a Heads of Agreement in 2024 to explore a regional CCO as one option for the management of water



services to meet the requirements of central government's Local Water Done Well policy. Ōtorohanga District Council has confirmed WWDW as their way forward with decisions to come from Matamata-Piako; Waipa; Waitomo and South Waikato district councils. Taupo District Council has confirmed a staged approach for joining the

It is required that the CCO be established in July 2025 with Hauraki District Council and Ōtorohanga District Council

transferring in from 1 July 2027.

Chief Executive David Speirs says that this decision has been a long time coming, due to many things out of Hauraki's control and it feels good to be able to move forward with increased certainty.

"We will continue to deliver a seamless water services experience for our communities and team, as well as work with the new CCO, once it is confirmed with the other participating Councils, to ensure the HDC transfer is smooth and as nondisruptive as possible", he said.

Stormwater management will remain with Council.

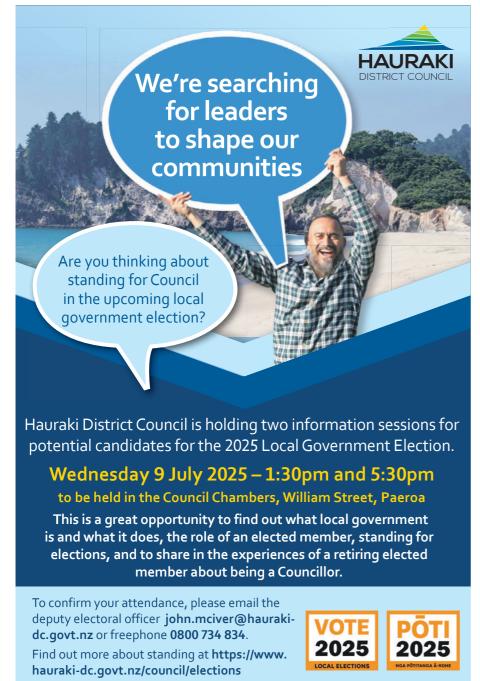
The CCO, once established will manage the water and wastewater service delivery (including assets and liabilities) of its shareholding council owners and will have independent, qualified directors who are appointed by the shareholding

Now that the future water services delivery model is agreed upon. Council can finalise the Water Services Delivery Plan that must be presented to Government by the 3 September 2025.

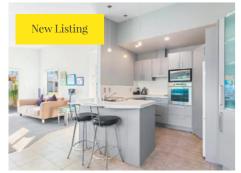
The plan will provide an assessment of Council's water infrastructure, how much investment is needed and how Council plans to finance and deliver it through the CCO.

"Once all the preferred option decisions have been made by the participating Councils, we'll have a clear path forward for transitioning to the new CCO. It represents challenging but exciting times ahead and we'll keep our communities well informed of the next stages", said Mayor Toby.

letstalk.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/localwater-done-well













SET DATE OF SALE

405 Tamaki Road, Whangamata

- Walk-in ready, great location Open plan kitchen and living
- Internal access garage, laundry, private patio area, outdoor shower
- Main bathroom plus separate toilet
- Very low maintenance section rwwhangamata.co.nz/WHA30465

New Listing

Set Date of Sale 3pm 18th of July 2025

(unless sold prior)

Sat 12:00 -12;30pm

Tanja Stevenson

3 ⇌ 1 ⇌ 2 ₹ 1 ♠ 228

Kiera Curd 027 251 8422

4 ⇌ 2 ⇌ 1 💷 2 🖨 933 🖼

Jos Kennings

021707533

027 284 0911

AUCTION

204 Beverley Terrace, Whangamata

- Coming to market for the first time in 75 years, mere steps from the beach
- Extra Density Residential Zoning
- Beverley Terrace right through to Saint (unless sold prior) Patricks Row
- · Re-roofed in 2024, tidy interior

Sat 11:00 -11:30am

Auction

503 Port Road

12 July 2025 at 1:00pm at

Roxy Pease 021 030 7589

3 ➡ 1 → 2 🖨 895 🗔

Reuben van Dorsten 021 104 6060

rwwhangamata.co.nz/WHA30539





BY NEGOTIATION

104 Waireka Place, Whangamata

- Direct access to the reserve & estuary **By Negotiation** for paddleboarding or exploring
- Open-plan living that flows to decking & a backyard with reserve views
- Master with ensuite, separate office
- Just a short walk to town & harbour

Sat & Sun 1:00-1:30pm

AUCTION

801 Port Road, Whangamata

- 1012sqm (approx.) freehold title
- Extra Density Residential zoning • Flat and well positioned for sunlight
- One block back from the beach
- Moments to cafes, shops & marina
- Services at boundary

24 State 150 Auction

rwwhangamata.co.nz/WHA30672

Sat 09:30 - 10:00am

View

Auction

503 Port Road

(unless sold prior)

12 July 2025 at 1:00pm at

1012 sqm

Jos Kennings 021 707 533

Reuben van Dorsten

RayWhite.

021 104 6060

rwwhangamata.co.nz/WHA30677





2 ➡ 1 → 2 ₹ 350 🗐

Tony Lucas

For Sale \$775,000

By Negotiation

by appointment

View

021 940 090 Paula Lucas 027 572 9342 Katrina Millar by appointment 022 102 2649

AUCTION

303B Achilles Avenue, Whangamata

- Area school across the road and a picturesque open outlook
- Upstairs-Open plan living, decking, 3 bdrms, 1 renovated bath + sep toilet
- Downstairs- lounge space +bathroom

- & laundry,internal access Dbl garage
- rwwhangamata.co.nz/WHA30574

Auction

12 July 2025 at 1:00pm at 503 Port Road (unless sold prior)

View

Sat 11:00 - 11:45am

3 ⇌ 2 ⇌ 2 倉 624 🗐

Tony Lucas 021 940 090 Katrina Millar 022 102 2649

Paula Lucas 027 572 9342

rwwhangamata.co.nz/WHA30675

113a Riverview Road, Whangamata

• A real gem of a property , its sunny

• Living area opens onto decks, one

• Close to town, marina & boat ramp

• Two bedrooms, one bathroom

and inviting site in a quiet cul de sac

each side, back deck with a louvetec

FOR SALE





Reuben van Dorsten 021 104 6060

Tony Lucas 021 940 090

114 Winifred Avenue, Whangamata

- Open plan living, decks on both sides
- Upstairs 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom +
- master with ensuite Downstairs 2bdrm, 1bath + laundry
- rwwhangamata.co.nz/WHA21860





SOLD

- Superior location, extra density zoned Sold • Close to the beach, some water views Under The Hammer

Tony Lucas 021 940 090

Paula Lucas 027 572 9342 Katrina Millar 022 102 2649

rwwhangamata.co.nz/WHA30515

BY NEGOTIATION

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apartment, sleeps 4 comfortably.

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storage, office, and exterior mural.

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Elegant Simplicity

113 Mary Road, Whangamata

 $4 \rightleftharpoons 2 \rightleftharpoons 2 \rightleftharpoons$

Auction 1pm 12 July 2025 at 328 Ocean Road (unless sold prior)

- Popular Mary Road location handy to town and beach
- Single level with excellent connection to outdoors
- Master bedroom with walk-in robe, ensuite and deck access
- Modern kitchen and open plan entertaining area
- Additional 'Out House' storage shed or art studio with great
- Freehold full site, with ample room, lawn, garaging and parkin
- Fully fenced and gated yard area, secure for kids and pets

Scan for open home times



Sharon Laurenson M 027 662 3164 View Listing whanga.co/8513



Harbour Attraction

1006 Port Road, Whangamata

4 = 2 = 3 = 3

Deadline Sale closes 3pm 24 July 2025 (unless sold prior)

- Prime redevelopment site
- Extra density zoning (1011m2 approx)
- Harbour and ocean views
- Highly desirable location
- Existing 4-bedroom dwelling (309m2)
- · Living on ground and first floors
- Secure now and develop later

View by appointment



Colin Thompson M 021 723 723 View Listing whanga.co/8512









Relax & Enjoy

119A Sylvia Road, Whangamata

3 🚐 1 😓

Deadline Sale closes 3pm 24 July 2025 (unless sold prior)

- Prime central beach location
- Open plan living with 3 bedrooms
- · Spacious covered deck area
- Fully fenced and gated corner site
- Easy access to surf club and golf course
- · Secure this great opportunity

View by appointment



Colin Thompson M 021 723 723 View Listing whanga.co/8498





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ALL ENQUIRIES WELCOME, VIEW OUR VILLA OPTIONS TODAY!

Whangamatā Community Library has seen a steady increase in the

Craft space for holidays

whangamata Community Library has seen a steady increase in the number of families and children that have been coming through their doors and have tasked themselves with the honor of inspiring and engaging our future generation of readers and storytellers.

Each week we invite children of all ages to join us for our Craft Space every Wednesday 3-4pm and our Brick Club, every Thursday 3-4pm. These sessions provide a space for our younger members to use their imagination as they create, build and collaborate with their peers.

We look forward to extending Craft Space to holiday makers over the term break. On Wednesday 2 July 10.30am-12pm we will be holding a pirate craft session and on Wednesday 9 July 10.30am-12pm we will be making pom pom critters. All ages welcome, entry by donation.

Alongside our craft sessions we will be holding a 'Books meets Bricks" lego competition where we want to see your best book inspired creation. Thanks to the Whangamata Lions Club, we are able to provide lego to build your design at the library or you can email us in a photo. We have two amazing lego prizes up for grabs for ages 0-7 and 8-13.

Next term we are lucky enough to have Denva the German Shepherd, part of Canine Friends Pet Therapy



coming to join us each Tuesday 3-4pm. This is a great opportunity for kids to come along and read to Denva which is sure to bring joy to all participants.

To cover costs of further programs and updating our kids area we are fundraising by selling tickets for our winter raffle where you can win a trailer load of firewood or a winter warmer book pack. Tickets available at Whangamata Community library for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

We are also asking for donations of books for our Labour Weekend 'Book Blast' book sale, any donation big or small is greatly appreciated.

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IN MEMORIAM

In Memory of Helen Mary Donovan

Michael, Julie, Vicki, Gillian, Christopher, and their families would like to thank everyone who attended Helen's funeral, as well as those who expressed sympathy but could not attend.

We deeply appreciate Fr Alfonso Dujali, Deacon Kerry Parker, and all Helen's caregivers for enabling her to stay in her home. Special thanks to Judy McClintock, Layne and Judy Sefton, Dr Tasha Robertson, Whangamata Medical Staff, St John Ambulance, Maria Guzzo and Whangamata Club for their support over the years. Many others have helped, and we are sincerely grateful for your assistance.

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Our Trust owns a popular holiday house, situated at Graham Street Whangamata, for the use of Tauranga Hospital employees.

After many years, we now need a new caretaking contractor. The main requirement is to have the house checked between tenants. The tenants bring along their own bed linen, towels etc and are responsible for cleaning, but sometimes extra cleaning is required to make sure the house is ready for the next guests.

If interested in the position, please contact the Trust Secretary, Christine Potze, by email, who will happily provide you with further

Email: tgahospstaffhouses@gmail.com



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Sports results

500 CARD CLUB

We meet every Wednesday 1-4pm at the RSA. Come along and join us. This week we played at the Whangamata Club. Lots of fun had by all.

18 June: We had 32 players. Winner and highest score went to Michael Paris, lowest score to Erin Delaney and raffle winner to Jane Gower. Congratulations.

25 June: We had 30 players. Winner and highest score to Lyn Doreen, lowest score to Graham Curd and raffle winner to Gavin Smith. Congratulations.

MAH JONG

27 June: We had 54 players today with 12 tables.

1st with 42 pts - Lois Madsen, 2nd

with 38 pts - Liz Brunton, 3rd with 35 pts - Carol Robson.

Well done everyone! It was a good day to be inside on this very rainy day! The lucky number was 13 and this was won by Donna Bailey.

We farewelled Bev West who is off to the Kapiti Coast. We wish you and Julian all the best Bev.

Condolences go out to Jacqui Gray on the passing of her husband Terry last week.

TABLE TENNIS

26 June: Played at the Whangamata Club. Denise Wallace and Wayne Broome were 1st equal with 9 wins followed by Roger Wolfe with 8 wins and Angie Dewhirst with 7 wins. Fun and good games were had by all.

Held a sporting or club event recently?



Any club, team, group or adjunct - all ages...

We want your results!

Send them to whangamatanews@gmail.com It's **FREE** - it's what readers want and we want you!

Whangamata Tides 2025

JUL	Y 20	25		•	New N	loon: 2	5 th	● Full Moon: 11 th				
Date High Hide		Height (m)	High tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Sun rise	Sun set		
		AM		PM		AM		PM				
4	Fri	1:26	1.8	14:00	1.7	7:41	0.5	19:58	0.6	07:31	17:0	
5	Sat	2:13	1.7	14:52	1.7	8:29	0.5	20:50	0.6	07:31	17:0	
6	Sun	3:01	1.7	15:45	1.7	9:19	0.5	21:43	0.7	07:31	17:0	
7	Mon	3:49	1.7	16:37	1.7	10:08	0.5	22:35	0.6	07:30	17:10	
8	Tue	4:39	1.7	17:26	1.7	10:57	0.5	23:24	0.6	07:30	17:1	
9	Wed	5:28	1.7	18:13	1.7	11:43	0.5			07:30	17:1	
10	Thu	6:17	1.7	18:58	1.8	0:11	0.6	12:28	0.4	07:30	17:12	
11	Fri	7:04	1.7	19:41	1.8	0:57	0.6	13:12	0.4	07:29	17:12	
12	Sat	7:50	1.7	20:24	1.9	1:42	0.5	13:55	0.4	07:29	17:13	
13	Sun	8:36	1.8	21:07	1.9	2:27	0.5	14:39	0.3	07:29	17:14	
14	Mon	9:21	1.8	21:51	1.9	3:12	0.4	15:23	0.3	07:28	17:14	
15	Tue	10:07	1.8	22:36	1.9	3:58	0.4	16:09	0.3	07:28	17:1	
16	Wed	10:55	1.8	23:22	1.9	4:44	0.3	16:56	0.3	07:27	17:16	
17	Thu	11:44	1.8			5:32	0.3	17:46	0.4	07:27	17:10	
18	Fri	0:10	1.9	12:37	1.8	6:22	0.3	18:40	0.4	07:26	17:1	
19	Sat	1:01	1.9	13:34	1.8	7:14	0.3	19:37	0.4	07:26	17:18	
20	Sun	1:55	1.9	14:35	1.8	8:10	0.3	20:38	0.5	07:25	17:1	
21	Mon	2:53	1.8	15:37	1.8	9:08	0.3	21:41	0.5	07:24	17:19	
22	Tue	3:54	1.8	16:40	1.8	10:09	0.3	22:44	0.4	07:24	17:2	
23	Wed	4:56	1.8	17:39	1.9	11:09	0.3	23:44	0.4	07:23	17:2	
24	Thu	5:57	1.8	18:36	1.9			12:06	0.2	07:22	17:2	
25	Fri	6:55	1.8	19:29	2.0	0:42	0.4	13:01	0.2	07:22	17:2	
26	Sat	7:49	1.8	20:19	2.0	1:37	0.3	13:52	0.2	07:21	17:2	
27	Sun	8:40	1.8	21:07	2.0	2:28	0.3	14:41	0.3	07:20	17:2	
28	Mon	9:28	1.8	21:52	1.9	3:16	0.3	15:27	0.3	07:19	17:2	
29	Tue	10:14	1.8	22:35	1.9	4:02	0.3	16:12	0.3	07:18	17:2	
30	Wed	10:58	1.8	23:17	1.8	4:46	0.4	16:56	0.4	07:18	17:2	
31	Thu	11:42	1.7			5:29	0.4	17:41	0.5	07:17	17:2	

	AU	GUST	202	5	•	New M	loon: 2	3 rd	• Full Moon: 9 th				
1	Date		High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Height (m)	Sun rise	Sun set	
3			AM		PM		AM		PM				
279	1	Fri		1.8	12:28	1.7	6:11	0.4	18:26	0.5	07:16	17:28	
*	2	Sat	0:41	1.7	13:16	1.6	6:55	0.5	19:15	0.6	07:15	17:29	
	3	Sun	1:26	1.7	14:07	1.6	7:41	0.5	20:06	0.6	07:14	17:30	
	4	Mon	2:14	1.6	15:01	1.6	8:30	0.5	21:00	0.7	07:13	17:30	

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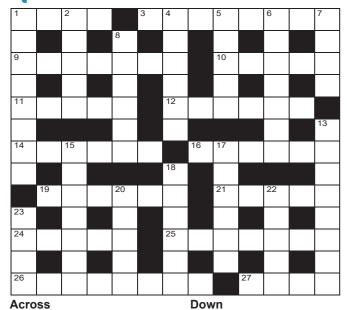
WINDOW & DOOR SERVICES



HOME SERVICES



QUICK CROSSWORD



1. Scarcity (8)

2. Proficient (5)

6. Determined (7) 7. Enthusiastic (4)

8. Quick look (6)

15. Instructor (7)

17. Smaller in size or value (6)

13. Activity (8)

18. Reveal (6)

20. Hurled (5)

22. Angry (5)

23. 50 percent (4)

4. Come into sight (6) 5. Condescend (5)

Across

- 1. Break suddenly (4)
- 3. Relaxed, unstressed (4-4)
- 9. Partially cover (7)
- **10.** Picture (5)
- 11. Giant (5)
- **12.** Yearly (6) 14. Collect (6)
- **16.** Drunk (colloq) (6)
- **19.** Box (6)
- 21. Gleam (5)
- 24. Strongly dislike (5)
- **25.** Raise (7)

SOLUTIONS

DECODER

CRYPTIC

26. Computer safety barrier (8)

All puzzles © The Puzzle Company

27. Warmth (4)

CROSSWORD

22. Irate, 23. Half. 18. Unveil, 20. Threw, 17. Lesser, 15. Teacher, 13. Movement, 7. Keen, 8. Glance, 6. Adamant, 5. Deign, 2. Adept, 4. Appear, Down: 1. Shortage, 26. Firewall, 27. Heat. 25. Elevate, 24. Abhor, 19. Carton, 21. Shine 14. Gather, 16. Blotto, 11. Titan, 12. Annual, 9. Overlap, 10. Image,

3. Laid-back,

Across: 1. Snap,

SUDOKU

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

3		9			5			
8		9 5					6	
	1				8	5		3
			7	2				
4		7		2 3 5		6		2
				5	4			
2		8	9				5	
	4					3		8
			3			2		1
W261					20 100	200 00		EASY
			8	2	1		5	7
			4				1	
		5				8		
3	9		2			6		

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.

,				,					J			
5	3	10	8	26	23	4		26	7	1	26	25
25		17				21		17		16		15
13	22	3	17		20	3	17	13	6	25	23	24
25		9		6		26		16		15		15
7	4	9	22	4	23	8	11	3	22			25
		22		9		12		1		25		16
25	23	4	8	26	23		20	4	25	18	4	1
16		1		7		9		7		19		
23			25	7	8 T	25 A	¹⁶ R	23	8	26	23	25
20		3		26		14		4		1		13
26	10	22	25	7	1	4	16		6	26	4	16
18		7		9		6				7		19
4	2	25	17	10		19	23	8	25	9	19	7

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 5 6 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Т 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

5

4

9

Across

7. Thank royalty for removing

7

6

5 8 9

3

7

8. Demonstrates breath in? Ha! Let it out again (6)

9. Crosseyed? (4)

10. What Scot may be comin' through (3-5)

11. Razz elf about horrible hair one of these (3,4) style (7)

13. Found the anchor by accident (5)

16. Could be a full frontal in the kitchen!... (5) 17. ... or a rope gal in the

garden... (7)

19. ...and look at Hal irk Bo in the vegetables! (8)

21. Summon the boy (4) 22. Announced, Don exited and 15. Article I turned into a made a slight difference (6)

23. The embodiment of a Hindu deity (6)

Down

8 2

1. Lyrical head banger (8) 2. Desire the West Indian to

keep quiet (4) 3. Gorge on £2 maybe with

4. Visual image digitally enhanced operative a first

5. Cricketer who wears a

built up boot?... (5,3) **6.** ...and positive (4)

12. Used to get a close-up of "Oz" lemons? On 4 (4,4)

14. Wait by the sound of it for "Mako Girl" (8)

presentation (7)

19 20

18. Hesitate about the disclaimer reportedly (5)

20. Unmoved, Ned left for a small beginning of his own (4)

21. Shaped wrong (4)

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23. Avatar.



15. Recital, 18. Waver, 20. Ovum, 21. Pear.

grass, 11. Frazzle, 13. Fluke, 16. Apron,

5. Short leg, 6. Plus, 12. Zoom lens, 14. Kilogram,

Down: 1. Raindrop, 2. Wish, 3. Egg roll, 4. Video,

17. Pergola, 19. Kohlrabi, 21. Page, 22. Nuance,

Across: 7. Taking, 8. Inhale, 9. Ankh, 10. Rye-

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