

Whangamatā & Waihi NEWS

ISSUE 168 - 19 JUNE, 2026

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'Puppy Love' on adoption day

PAGE 17

Hana Gardiner shares the love. Photo by Mark James.

Pauanui dunes grant P18



Kings Service Medal awarded P5



Junior Rugby heads to semi-final P8



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To the EDITOR

We welcome your letters! Email to: whangamataneews@gmail.com

Fruit going to waste

I have been visiting Whangamatā at this time of year for a few years now. Am amazed at the number of citrus trees I see but dismayed at the amount of fruit left rotting on the ground. I have collected and dropped bags of mandarins and oranges from my friends trees to the community shed at the Kindergarten.

Around Moana Point/Reserve there are many trees on the Reserve or hanging over fences simply laden with fruit going to waste.

Is there not a community/service/ neighbour group (Lions, Scouts, Guides...) who could organise to pick/collect/distribute fruit to those who could use it?

Hopefully someone will get this started and all those lovely fruits can complement folks fruit intake.

BTW, everyone here is so friendly and welcoming, it's a pleasure to visit.

Chris C

Relief to have library back

Grateful thanks to all involved in the re-establishment of our Library Service in Whangamatā.

After such a difficult situation, it is so very good to see what our community has restored for the benefit of all of us.

As a customer of our Library, it is a relief to have a selection of books on hand again.

Thank you to Jacqui and her band of helpers. We so appreciate you all.

Gilli Killick

Budget 2026 delivers for NZ and the Coromandel

The Government has delivered the Budget, and it confirms our commitment to getting the books in order while continuing to invest in the essentials New Zealanders rely on.

The headline figures are that forecasts indicate steady economic growth over the next four years and a return to surplus by 2028/29. Over that same period, the growing economy is set to create 220,000 new jobs, with wages outstripping inflation. That means more opportunities for people to get ahead and an easing of the cost of living.

Managing the economy responsibly is essential at the best of times, but this is magnified when accounting for the global uncertainty we've experienced in recent years. By sticking to National's plan, we're fixing the basics and building a more secure future for all New Zealanders.

The Coromandel will also directly benefit from an investment of \$85 million for resilience upgrades on State Highway 25 and the replacement of the Kirikiri Stream

Bridge on State Highway 26. Our region has been impacted by more than its fair share of weather events, and we know the damaged that can be done to our roads and infrastructure. I welcome this new funding because we can't stop severe weather from happening, but we can be much better prepared for it.

Moreover, Tourism Minister Louise Upston has announced that the Hauraki Rail Trail will get 14 e-bike charging stations through the Electrifying the Great Rides Fund. This funding for our region total \$840,000 and is sourced from the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy.

E-bikes are opening up our cycle trails to more people, including families, older riders and visitors who want to explore further and stay longer. By making it easier to charge bikes along the way, this investment will help make the Hauraki Rail Trail more accessible and bring more benefits to our local economy.

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

What's On in our town

GROW ON WAIHI

including a crop swap. This Saturday 13th and 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.

WINTER SOLSTICE DIP

on Sunday, 21st June at 11.30am. Meet at the Surf Club. Gold coin donation for the Whangamatā Surf Lifesaving Club. Sausage sizzle afterwards.

Please enter your club, group, non-profit or fundraiser 'What's On' event by emailing whangamataneews@gmail.com

WHANGAMATA 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.

BODYWORK GYM WHANGAMATA

runs free community group fitness classes on the last two Thursdays of every month. 5.30am start - finish by 7am. NO BOOKINGS - just turn up!

Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime

0800 550 330 • scottsimpson.co.nz
mpcoromandel@parliament.govt.nz
 @scottsimpsonmp



National 
 Authorised by Scott Simpson, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

WHISKEY - Tasting -

Join us for a night where smoky pours meet bold flavours.

Skip the ordinary and settle in for an immersive evening of fine food and whiskey, hosted by Oscar from Hancocks. Expect rich drams, paired bites, good banter and a little fire in the glass.

WHISKEY'S Tamnavulin Sherry Cask • BenRiach 10 YO • Glengassaugh Sandend Dalmore 12 YO • Jura 12 YO • Bruichladdich PC 10

Thursday 2nd July, 6.30pm. \$65 Per Person - Limited Tickets.

KITCHEN OPENING HOURS
 Breakfast: Saturday & Sunday 8am-11:30am
 Lunch & Dinner: 12pm till late everyday

LIVE RUGBY FINALS
 Saturday 20th June



MID WINTER CHRISTMAS

3-course Dinner

SATURDAY, 25 JULY & SUNDAY 26 JULY (LIVE MUSIC)

Let's celebrate together!

WHANGAMATA OCEAN SPORTS CLUB

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Police Reports

WAIHI

As the temperatures start to drop, it's time to dust off the extra blankets, dig out the beanies, and pretend you meant to buy that hot water bottle last year.

We also want to remind everyone to check in on friends, family, and especially neighbours who might need a hand keeping warm. A quick visit, a cuppa, or even just making sure someone's heater is working can make a big difference.

Let's keep Waihi warm—not just in temperature, but in community spirit too.

Shoplifting

We've seen an increase in shoplifting, and while some may think it's a "victimless" crime (spoiler: it's not), it's a very fast way to turn a shopping trip into a court appearance.

Police are taking a zero-tolerance approach. That means if you're caught helping yourself to anything you didn't pay for, you may find yourself swapping the checkout line for the courtroom.

Bottom line: if it's not yours and you didn't pay—don't take it. It's just not worth the outcome.

Harassment

New legislation around stalking and harassment is putting a clear spotlight on behaviour that crosses the line.

Repeated unwanted contact, following someone, or behaviour that causes fear or distress is not "just a misunderstanding"—it can now carry serious consequences.

If someone says "no," blocks you, or clearly isn't interested—take the hint and move on. Respect goes a long way, and the law now backs that up in a big way.

UPDATE: Waihi Family Dental Clinic Fire

A male has been arrested and charged with arson in relation to the fire at the Waihi Family Dental Clinic.

He has appeared in court and has been remanded in custody.

Police continue to take this matter seriously, and we appreciate the support and information provided by the community.

– Rachel Gillingham
Community Constable
Waihi / Waikato East

WHANGAMATA

A few weeks ago AOS (Armed Offender Squad) and further Police staff executed a search warrant based on information of methamphetamine possession and production out Whiritoa. You may have seen a picture posted on the Waikato Police Facebook Page of an AOS operator and their 4 legged assistant on the beach. Search Warrants like this are possible as a direct result of information provided to Police by the community. If you have the information, we have the skills and resources. There are not many things we enjoy more than getting meth and its dealers locked up and off the street.

Speaking of that terrible drug, in the last few days we had a 'water pursuit' on the harbour where we arrested a local man for possession of Methamphetamine and a large amount of Cannabis after attempting to dispose of it all in to the water. He is on bail now and will be appearing in the Waihi District Court at a later date.

There appears to be a scam currently where a person is proposing to paint houses, preparing quotes and requesting a 50% deposit prior to starting any work only to vanish into thin air.

Please do your due diligence, that amount of deposit, if you ask me, is up there also. The quotes look legitimate and are worded as such also. Be aware as some people have lost large amounts of money recently.

A young local person on a motorcycle last week decided he did not want to stop for police and instead drove at high speed, putting not only himself but other persons at risk. I made a few calls around town to get more eyes and ears out for the bike and rider. A short time later one of those people called me advising they'd have just seen the bike and the direction. It was located hidden behind a shop in town. It was also then impounded for 6 months for not stopping. Yes 6 months is the new law! That rider will be visiting the Waihi District Court at a later date also.

Remember, we love to listen to your confidential information about dodgy goings on around the place. Go to Crimestoppers online crimestoppers-nz.org or phone 0800 555 111, or pop in and have a chat to us.

Sergeant Will Hamilton, Officer in Charge, Whangamata Police

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Closed 1st to 22nd July

We'll be away, unveiling a headstone for a recent bereavement in the family & partaking in a 50km ultra race in the UK. Sorry for any inconvenience. Emails will still be monitored: info@steineratelier.co.nz



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Mānawatia a Matariki - Celebrating Matariki

Preparations are in full swing for the fourth annual Matariki Whangamatā Festival, a highlight of the year and a much-anticipated time for our community to come together to connect, reflect, remember and celebrate Matariki.

Spanning four days from Thursday the 9th of July till Sunday the 12th of July, the festival brings together locals and visitors alike for a range of activities and events.

The heart of the celebrations is the hāngī in Williamson Park on the Friday public holiday. The hāngī fire is lit at 5:30am and the community is welcome to come and view the cooking process throughout the day. During the morning there will be stalls, games and activities in the park including a Ki-o-Rahi tournament and kite flying.

An afternoon concert will entertain the crowd while they enjoy their hāngī. Entertainment includes kapa haka from Ōpoutere School



and Whangamatā Area School, alongside performances from local artists. Bring a chair or blanket and settle in for an afternoon of kai and connection.

Hāngī tickets, along with a vegan curry option, are on sale now from Discover Whangamatā and the Eastern Coromandel Community Services Trust for \$15. Get in quick

because they always sell out. Additional kai options will also be available on the day, including the ever popular kai moana tent featuring raw fish, mussel fritters and seafood chowder.

There is also a full weekend of activities alongside the hāngī. On Saturday, a variety of workshops are on offer at the Memorial Hall featuring talented artist tutors from the Whangamatā Arts Collective and local community. These interactive sessions will include hands-on carving, creative arts, and cultural activities designed for families, children and adults alike, providing something for everyone to enjoy and take part in.

On Saturday afternoon the community is invited to join a Waka Ama paddle on the Whangamatā Harbour, followed by a BBQ. Open to all ages and abilities, this special experience offers a chance to connect with the water, the environment, and each other.

The weekend concludes on Sunday with an early morning Matariki viewing and sunrise at Onemana, organised by the Onemana Residents and Community Association. This peaceful gathering provides an opportunity to reflect on the significance of Matariki, remember those who have passed, and look forward to the year to come.

For a full program of events visit www.wcm.maori.nz/programmes or grab a hard copy from Discover Whangamatā or the Eastern Coromandel Community Services Trust.



Charity Auction of signed Chiefs jersey

Friends of Whangamata Area School Incorporated (FOTS) has launched a Trade Me charity auction for a signed 2026 Chiefs rugby jersey to raise funds for the redevelopment of the Whangamata Area School playground.

The brand-new jersey, signed by the 2026 Chiefs squad, was generously donated by the Chiefs organisation

and presented to FOTS by Chiefs Chair and former Māori All Blacks Captain Errol Brain.

FOTS became a registered charity earlier this year and supports projects that enhance the school environment, strengthen community connections, and provide opportunities for students.

With the Chiefs competing in the

Super Rugby Semi-Finals this weekend, FOTS hopes the auction will attract rugby supporters from across New Zealand while raising funds for a project that will benefit local children for years to come.

The auction is live now on Trade Me. Search: 2026 Chiefs Team-Signed Jersey FOTS.

Support the playground - act now!





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Commitment, leadership & willingness earns Ralph medal

The long list of achievements amassed over more than 60 years of living in Whangamata signals the testament to Ralph Pitcher, being named in the Kings Honours list. Ralph is now the holder of a Kings Service Medal.

Fire and Emergency New Zealand Board Chair, Rebecca Keoghan, described Ralph as a worthy recipient having provided years of contribution to help his community become stronger, safer and more resilient. During his time with the brigade Ralph has assisted with major equipment and building changes while mentoring generations of firefighters.

The citation speaks for itself. Having been a volunteer firefighter since 1965, Ralph had already been recognised by Fire and Emergency New Zealand for achieving 60 years of service.

Also recognised as a founding member, President and committee member for the Moana House five pensioner cottages, and a member of Whangamata Lions for 48 years, including time as President.

When I asked Ralph what would stand out as one of his most passionate journeys within the community?

"The Whangamata Sports & Squash Centre, comes to mind. Doreen came home one day and said 'we are going to start a Squash Club



and we need a building for it!" It was back in the 70's, so they found the perfect place next to the tennis courts, this fundraising exercise cost tens of thousands. Council gave a considerable amount and so we had plans made, working bees every weekend and took more than two years, and countless scones and pikelets from Doreen." And as we all know it's a substantial building that will last many years.

Ralph went on to say that creating the Stewart Wing at Moana House was also a project that took a fair

bit of time, people don't realise what an asset it is for our community. Ralph 83 years and his brother Ray, 81 years, told me how Ralph was always Batman and Ray, (visiting from Whangarei) always Robin, and wife Doreen known as the 'master prize purchaser' for all raffles and donations, married for more than 60 years, I believe your King's Service Medal is a reflection on you both.

When he started in the fire service they wore t-shirts and jandals, without any gear, until

he remembered getting new gumboots with steel safety toes - amazing. He went and said that the first fire Brigade truck was built in Whangamata, an old truck, completed with a water tank, pump and a red light on top and complete with a siren, then of course they built a shed to put it in, and that's where the Fire Station is today.

Ralph was also a relief driver for the first new ambulance, on night duty. He recalls, as President of St Johns, and together with Ian Francis they purchased the new Dodge, and replaced the old V8, and recalls it was 4,200 pounds and again fundraised for the project. He is still a trustee of our St Johns Whangamata.

That's not to mention Ralph gave 15 years to the Whangamata Club committee, and served as Trustee of the Lions Investment Golf Club, committee member of the Williamson Golf Club, and a founder of the Titoki Golf Club, initiated with other locals, the local pre school and the quietly, you still drive for Meals on Wheels.

Honours rarely come to those who haven't earned them. Looking forward to September when your medal arrives.

Your community thanks you for a lifetime of service given freely,

- Jennie Black



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Award Winners



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7:00PM

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LEMON HONEY CHICKEN
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COMBINATION FRIED RICE
FRIED RICE WITH SHRIMP, CHICKEN, CHAR SUI PORK, AND EGG FOO YUNG

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Community unites for Whangamata's coastal future

A new community-led initiative is bringing together local knowledge, passion, and expertise to safeguard one of the Coromandel's most valued environments.

The Whangamatā Beach, Harbour & Estuary Restoration Group (BHERG) has been established as a collaborative forum for community groups, organisations, and stakeholders committed to protecting and enhancing the area's coastal ecosystems.

BHERG held its inaugural meeting on 4th June hosted by Dide Harrison manager of the Whangamata Surf Club, with representatives from 11 organisations along with several interested individuals.

Formed following strong community support at a recent public meeting, BHERG provides a platform to share information, support environmental initiatives, and build stronger relationships with councils, iwi, and key agencies. The group aims to create a unified and informed voice on issues affecting the beach, harbour, and estuaries.

Key focus areas include water quality, biodiversity restoration, pest management, flooding risks, and water safety awareness. Importantly, BHERG operates as an informal, non-governance group, prioritising collaboration, open participation, and practical outcomes over bureaucracy.

Quarterly meetings will enable members to exchange ideas, hear from expert speakers, and coordinate efforts across the community. The group also seeks to leverage shared resources, including volunteer support, technology, and funding opportunities.

Facilitator Terry Walker says the initiative is about "bringing people together to better understand local challenges and work collectively toward sustainable, long-term solutions."

With growing environmental pressures on coastal areas, BHERG represents a proactive step toward strengthening community leadership and protecting Whangamatā's natural assets for future generations.

— Terry Walker

Whangamatā Tides 2026

JUNE 2026										
☾ New Moon: 15 th ● Full Moon: 30 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			
19 Fri	10:14	2.0	22:44	2.1	4:00	0.3	16:14	0.2	07:30	17:03
20 Sat	11:09	1.9	23:37	2.0	4:54	0.3	17:08	0.3	07:30	17:03
21 Sun		1.9	12:03	1.9	5:47	0.3	18:01	0.4	07:30	17:03
22 Mon	0:29	2.0	12:58	1.8	6:40	0.4	18:56	0.4	07:30	17:04
23 Tue	1:21	1.9	13:53	1.8	7:33	0.4	19:52	0.5	07:31	17:04
24 Wed	2:12	1.8	14:48	1.7	8:26	0.4	20:48	0.6	07:31	17:04
25 Thu	3:02	1.8	15:43	1.7	9:18	0.5	21:43	0.6	07:31	17:04
26 Fri	3:52	1.7	16:35	1.7	10:10	0.5	22:36	0.6	07:31	17:05
27 Sat	4:42	1.7	17:25	1.8	10:59	0.5	23:26	0.6	07:31	17:05
28 Sun	5:30	1.7	18:12	1.8	11:46	0.5		0.5	07:31	17:05
29 Mon	6:17	1.7	18:56	1.8	0:13	0.6	12:30	0.5	07:31	17:06
30 Tue	7:02	1.7	19:38	1.8	0:58	0.6	13:12	0.4	07:31	17:06

JULY 2026										
☾ New Moon: 14 th ● Full Moon: 30 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			
1 Wed	7:45	1.7	20:19	1.8	1:41	0.6	13:51	0.4	07:31	17:07
2 Thu	8:27	1.7	20:58	1.8	2:22	0.5	14:30	0.4	07:31	17:07
3 Fri	9:08	1.7	21:38	1.8	3:02	0.5	15:10	0.4	07:31	17:07
4 Sat	9:49	1.7	22:18	1.8	3:43	0.5	15:50	0.4	07:31	17:08
5 Sun	10:31	1.7	22:58	1.8	4:24	0.5	16:31	0.4	07:31	17:08
6 Mon	11:14	1.7	23:40	1.8	5:06	0.5	17:15	0.5	07:31	17:09
7 Tue		1.7	12:00	1.7	5:51	0.4	18:02	0.5	07:31	17:09
8 Wed	0:25	1.8	12:50	1.7	6:38	0.4	18:53	0.5	07:30	17:10
9 Thu	1:13	1.8	13:44	1.7	7:28	0.4	19:49	0.5	07:30	17:11
10 Fri	2:05	1.8	14:44	1.8	8:23	0.4	20:49	0.5	07:30	17:11
11 Sat	3:02	1.8	15:47	1.8	9:21	0.3	21:51	0.5	07:30	17:12
12 Sun	4:03	1.8	16:50	1.9	10:21	0.3	22:54	0.4	07:29	17:12
13 Mon	5:06	1.9	17:50	1.9	11:21	0.2		0.3	07:29	17:13
14 Tue	6:08	1.9	18:48	2.0	11:56	0.4	12:19	0.2	07:29	17:14
15 Wed	7:08	1.9	19:44	2.1	0:55	0.3	13:16	0.1	07:28	17:14
16 Thu	8:06	1.9	20:38	2.1	1:52	0.3	14:10	0.1	07:28	17:15
17 Fri	9:01	2.0	21:30	2.1	2:47	0.2	15:02	0.2	07:27	17:16
18 Sat	9:54	1.9	22:20	2.0	3:40	0.2	15:54	0.2	07:27	17:16
19 Sun	10:46	1.9	23:10	2.0	4:30	0.2	16:44	0.3	07:26	17:17
20 Mon	11:36	1.9		1.9	5:20	0.3	17:34	0.4	07:26	17:18
21 Tue	11:58	1.9	12:27	1.8	6:09	0.3	18:25	0.4	07:25	17:19
22 Wed	0:45	1.8	13:18	1.7	6:57	0.4	19:18	0.5	07:24	17:19

Businesses get behind winter tourism push

Enterprise Whangamatā's latest business evening heard how the region is responding to a quieter summer with a major winter tourism push.

Some 40 people turned out at Smoky Pallet this month for Enterprise Whangamatā's BA5 evening, hearing from the Thames-Coromandel District Council Economic Development team and Destination Hauraki Coromandel (DHC) on how the region is navigating a tougher season.

Council figures showed district visitor numbers down about 6% on the previous summer. In response, DHC general manager Kylie Hawker-Green outlined a major winter marketing campaign – "Coromandel Cure" – backed by close to \$100,000 and the slogan "good for your soul."

Research behind the campaign found measurable wellbeing gains after just 48 hours in the region. Hawker-Green encouraged businesses to create their own winter offers, which DHC will promote at no cost across social media, magazines, billboards and television. A New Zealand Herald Travel feature, "Whitianga to Whangamatā: Ultimate Hauraki Coromandel wellness weekend," showcased the town's Donut Island tours – earned for free and worth about \$40,000.



DHC also secured \$55,000 in central-government marketing support and tax relief for businesses hit by January's weather event, while a push across the Tasman lifted Australian visitor numbers 32% year-on-year.

Whangamatā continues to punch above its weight. In the year to April, the town drew 1.2 million day visitors and 930,000 overnight, with total visitor spending of around \$54 million – 17% of the region's visitor spend, from just 13% of its ratepayers.

The council's Economic Development team, Joanna Lambert and Mitch King, promoted the Hauraki Coromandel Business Awards, in Thames on 15 October, with entries open until 31 July and written feedback for every entrant. Enterprise Whangamatā is entering its Paradise Coast Golf Classic, and chair Patrick Kerr offered to help local businesses draft their applications.

Enterprise Whangamatā also shared a busy local calendar. Its SHOP Local promotion returns on 26 June for 12 weeks with major prizes; a



new "Business Break" series will cover financing, debt management, social media and AI; and a Trades Hub, backed by Jennian Homes, Carters and Bunnings, will give local tradespeople a place to connect.

There was good news for Waihi, too. The Paradise Coast Golf Classic returns from 22-24 April 2027, now expanded to include Waihi alongside Tairua, Pauanui and Whangamatā, widening the three-day tournament's reach into the Waihi community.

Kerr thanked the council and DHC, highlighting the value of local business, council and the regional tourism organisation working together through a winter many across the district are finding challenging.

Businesses wanting to get involved in the Coromandel Cure can contact DHC's Megan on 021 227 4351 or email megan@haurakicoromandel.com.

- Contributed by Patrick Kerr, Enterprise Whangamatā

Mid-Year Floor Clearance Sale

BARGAINS TO BE HAD!

30-70% OFF everything in store



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Whangamata writing group off to a strong start

The Whangamatā Writing Group (part of the Whangamata Arts Collective) launched in May and has already held two successful meetings.



The group brings together a diverse range of writers, each working on different projects and genres, with

experience levels ranging from curious beginners to published authors.

This variety creates a dynamic and engaging environment where members can learn from one another and share their unique perspectives.

A common thread among members

is the value of being part of a supportive writing community. The group provides opportunities to share work, develop writing skills, receive constructive feedback, and encourage one another in their creative journeys.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, with additional workshops and writing-

related opportunities planned for later in the year.

The Whangamatā Writing Group welcomes writers of all genres and experience levels who are interested in connecting with fellow writers and developing their craft.

New members are welcome - contact Angela on 027 2942745

Juniors march towards Finals

What a great Saturday of rugby! It was awesome to have 3 out of our 4 tackle teams playing at home, with the sun shining and the sidelines full of great energy and support.

As our season starts to wind down, we're now just one weekend away from the semi-finals. It's been fantastic watching our players grow in confidence, skill, and teamwork

throughout the season.

We're looking forward to seeing which of our teams can secure a spot on Finals Day, being held in Whitianga on 4 July. Best of luck to all our players, coaches, managers, and supporters as we head into the business end of the season.

- Photos by Mark James



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Stars that keep shining



Volunteers play a very important role in our community, they are the oil that keeps the big cogs turning and help make our town a better place to live. They are caring, kind and capable. In each edition we will catch up with a volunteer and ask them a few questions.

This edition we welcome Dave Collett from the Whangamata Lions Club.

Q: What role does the Whangamata Lions Club play in our town Dave?

A: We operate behind the scenes a lot of the time, but fundamentally help raise funds for community projects and we can support individuals who are in need.

Q: How many volunteers are there in the local Lions Club and do you all have specific tasks?

A: We have 25 Lions in our group and some have specific tasks. I look after the sausage sizzle fundraiser along with a great support team. We have a group that looks after the daffodil cropping and

sales with the proceeds being forwarded to the Cancer Lodge in Hamilton. We have people who assist with the blood bank drive, our book collections and sales, and our regular community working bees. The Christmas tree farm complements all other activities, as does the Christmas tree Grotto at the RSA.

Q: How long have you been contributing to the Whangamata Lions Club?

A: In 2000, I was prompted to join by Geoff March, the RSA President.

Q: What does a typical day of volunteering look like for you Dave?

A: Organising my helpers, ordering products in preparation for an event. I could be helping with book sales, cleaning up in the Waireka Reserve or assisting with other working bees. I also help with the delivery of the Whangamata Information Booklet. This is a significant resource for our town and the greater area.

Q: What's something that people

may be surprised to learn about the Whangamata Lions Club?

A: This Lions Club started more than 50 years ago and has been instrumental in many community projects that have benefited our town. We also have a focus on helping and supporting youth.

Q: Have you met anyone through Lions who has had a lasting impact on you?

A: More than one for sure. They are all a neat group of like-minded people who really care about our community and beyond.

Q: What would you say to someone who is considering giving some of their free time to Lions?

A: You will enjoy being involved with a group who are community spirited. It's a good feeling knowing you contributed to something worthwhile.

Please come and join us. Any help is appreciated. Contact Ralph 0274 923 974 or Geoff 021 0257 2270.

Thanks Dave, you are a star.

Human oversight important

Families need support, not less human oversight from Luxon's Government.

Green Party Coromandel candidate Pamela Grealey is concerned that Coromandel MP Scott Simpson has introduced legislation that would expand the Ministry of Social Development's ability to use automated systems in welfare decision-making.

Pamela Grealey says, "Scott Simpson is our local representative in Parliament. That means Coromandel people have a right to know when legislation is being advanced that could have significant consequences for families already struggling to make ends meet.

"Many people across the Coromandel rely on a combination of low-paid, seasonal or casual work and supplementary support to get by.

"Through my advocacy work with the Coromandel Workers Council, I've seen firsthand how many local families rely on MSD support to bridge the gaps created by insecure work. These are not simple situations that can always be reduced to a set of rules. People's lives are complicated, particularly in rural communities where transport options are limited and employment can be unpredictable" Grealey said she was particularly concerned that the bill is being progressed under urgency,



bypassing the normal select committee process. "When changes affect some of the most vulnerable members of our

community, people deserve the opportunity to be heard. Rushing legislation through Parliament reduces transparency and limits public participation. While the Government argues the changes will improve efficiency, efficiency should never come at the expense of fairness and human judgement. "Technology can support public services, but decisions that affect a person's income, housing security and ability to feed their family should always have meaningful human oversight.

"Our community deserves a welfare system that understands people, not just processes. "

- Authorised by Miriam Ross, Level 5, 108 The Terrace, Wellington

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Aces trump Snakes

Waihi Athletic versus Te Aroha College Old Boys Rugby and Sports
Kenny St Stadium, Waihi: Saturday 13th June 2026
From Tighthead Ted's dusty Olivetti

Well, the first match of the season, and perfect weather welcomed the Snakes and the Aces to the field this last Saturday in a match that promised much, and then proceeded to deliver. COBRAS have been building nicely through the season, putting together a large skilled forward pack, and a classy backline. Waihi Athletic have been business as usual, looking for a three-peat of McClinchy Cup titles. Although they have been pushed hard in previous matches this season, no teams have tested them as the COBRAS did on Saturday.

Like teenagers on a first date, the opening fifteen minutes was a feeling out period before the Snakes were first on the board after a sweeping backline movement saw a try to Sione Etoni. A few minutes later a long range penalty was landed by Ashton Payne, after a bit of handbags between the two forward packs, and the score stretched to ten-nil to the visitors, uncharted territory for Athletic.

However, it soon seemed normal transmission had been resumed as Waihi poured on the pressure, and evergreen midfielder Dylan Bower was held up over the line, before the Snakes ran out of defenders and the hard running Caleb Cobb scored out wide. With the Quinn Collard conversion and a scoreline of 7-10 after 30 minutes, it looked like Waihi was starting to hit their straps.

The Snakes weren't thinking that though, and from the restart, fullback Sergio Schuler ran a try in from 60 metres, beating half the Waihi team on the way to a classic try. Waihi missed more tackles in this 60 metre jaunt than they did in their entire 2025 campaign. It was not a pretty sight for the home town fans - John Steiner was seen looking for some hair to tear out - it was that ugly.

With the half winding down, and the scoreline at 17-7 it looked like a ten point deficit would be the mountain to climb for Waihi after the break for oranges. COBRAS halfback Leroy Neels thought otherwise and from a lineout he tore through some more ugly non-tackles for a forty metre run to dot down under the sticks. Payne added the conversion, and the half-time score of 17-7 jumped out to 24-7, the biggest lead Athletic have had to chase in the last three seasons.

The good old school half-time spray from the Waihi coaching staff worked wonders - within seconds of the opening kickoff Waihi scored with number 8 Fozz Gilbert nonchalantly dotting down to start the comeback. Five minutes later the human wrecking ball Bower scored from a Cakau Sue run and from 7-24 at the half the score came right back to 21-24, and the Snakes were looking rattled, and ready to be rolled.

It would take more work though for



Fox on the run: Quinn Collard tests the COBRAS defence.



Direct route: Cakau Sue taking the direct approach.



Try scoring machine: Cakau Sue heads in for his second try of the match.



Freight train running: Dylan Bower about to score the match clincher.



Moehau-monster: Flanker Caleb Cobb in full flight.



Tireless: Dylan Horne charges in the defence, again!

Waihi, as the Snakes were not going to die wondering, and they settled things down with another Payne penalty goal to extend their lead to 27-12, but still 34 minutes left on the clock. Waihi kept pouring on the pressure, with veteran lock Dylan Horne leading the way charge after charge, before again the Snakes dam broke, and Sue scored the first of his brace of tries. Waihi now trailing by 26-27 after a rare Collard conversion miss. Again the Snakes slithered back, and within minutes Neels had his second meat pie, and the lead stretched back out to eight points, 34-26, 25 minutes left on the clock.

Waihi then proceeded to camp in the Snakes half, with wave after wave of carries into the guts of the robust defence. There was some great defence too - numerous times the home team were repelled on the line, but with the mountain of possession, the line was finally breached again. This time Bower putting Sue in for the try wide out on the left. Collard added the

extras, and with fifteen to go the Snakes were clinging to a one point lead, but out on their feet.

The Snakes clung onto their lead like a stubborn dog, but with ten to go, they conceded the lead for the first time in the clash, a Collard penalty putting the carry through champions ahead 36-34. The Snakes threatened a few breakouts over the last ten minutes, but Waihi kept the pressure on with a now robust defence. Relentless carries from the forward pack against the tiring defence finally saw Bower add a second try to his busy day at the office - this time carrying half the Snakes backline over the chalk. Collard with the conversion saw a final score of 43-34, and Waihi still with just one loss over the last three seasons.

So a cracking match - Snakes running out of steam in the second half, and Athletic showing that they are too stubborn to lose. Big games from many players over both teams, with the Snakes Neels, Schuler and

Payne classy throughout, while number eight Wesy Akauola was hard to put down. Once Waihi stopped playing touch and rolled their sleeves up, Horne, Gilbert, the returning Josh Tye, Caleb Cobb, in fact the whole forward pack carried direct and got the brylcreem boys out wide the ball they wanted, and the game was won. The double digit lads for Waihi were led by Bower who had a massive match, and was ably supported by his midfield partner Hausia Vea and the rapid ranga Beau Neels on the right wing.

Next week the local derby at the beach at Whangamata against the improving Whangamata side, who thumped Waihou 60-12.

Waihi Athletic 43 (Bower 2, Sue 2, Cobb, Gilbert tries; Collard 5 conversions, penalty) beat Te Aroha College Old Boys Rugby and Sports 34 (Neels 2, Schuler, Etoni tries, Payne 3 conversions, 2 penalties). HT 7-24. Referee: R Rogers.

- Photos by Bartley Photographics

Waihi NEWS

Waste funding for Waihi Refuse Transfer Station upgrade

An upgrade of the Waihi Recycling Transfer Station that will significantly reduce waste going to landfill and boost recycling capacity has been announced by Environment Minister Nicola Grigg and Minister of Climate Change Simon Watts today.

The Hauraki District Council (HDC) is receiving almost \$660,000 from the Waste Minimisation Fund, combined with \$420,000 from the Council, to build a dedicated construction and demolition waste sorting area.

“The amount of organic, soils and construction and demolition waste going to landfills is a significant issue nationwide. The Government will continue to support targeted investment which have a range of benefits, including reducing landfill levies and landfill-related carbon emissions.”

“This project is a great example of how the Waste Minimisation Fund continues to co-fund projects that significantly improve waste management systems at local facilities, divert organics and other reusable material from landfills, and enhance services for communities nationwide,” Ms Grigg says.

When the upgrade is complete in 2028, about 3,400 tonnes of material will be diverted from landfill each year. This includes



3,000 tonnes of green waste, 350 tonnes of paper and cardboard, and around 30 tonnes of construction materials.

It will also increase the station’s capacity to receive recyclables and glass by an estimated 20 to 40 percent.

The upgrades will allow green waste to be mulched and reused in local parks and public spaces, with surplus material composted.

Minister of Climate Change Simon Watts said the Waihi RTS was an example of the work the Government is doing to reduce emissions and enhance efficiency across key sectors.

“Continuing to reduce emissions from the waste sector was one of the key areas we targeted in our second emissions reduction plan. Waste Minimisation Fund projects like this support our climate transition by reducing organic waste

and emissions,” Mr Watts says.

The Waihi RTS serves public and small private users from both the Hauraki and Western Bay of Plenty regions. It is the HDC’s busiest transfer station, especially over summer months when the region receives large numbers of visitors and when construction activities are at their highest.

- Ministry for the Environment
Photo supplied by HDC

Managing your rates just got easier

Hauraki residents now have an easier way to manage their rates. Hauraki District Council launched Payble, an online payment platform that gives people more flexibility in how and when they pay their rates.

Available from 18 May 2026, Payble lets you view your rates balances in real time, spread payments in a way that suits your budget, and manage both property and water rates in one place.

Hauraki District Council says the new platform is there to make

paying rates simple.

“We know everyone manages their household budget differently. Whether you’d rather pay smaller amounts more often or pay it off at once, Payble gives you that choice. You can also pay off your property rates without penalties, as long as you meet the payment terms, and get ahead on your water rates to reduce future invoices,” Council says.

To sign up, you’ll need your assessment number from your rates

notice and a secure sign-up code from Council. Codes are available by calling 07 862 8609, or 0800 734 834, via any Council service centre, or picking one up at a support session.

Council is running free support sessions across the district in June, between 10 am and 12 pm at Waihi Library and Service Centre, Paeroa Library and Ngātea Service Centre and Library.

JUNE DATES:
Thursday 4, Monday 8,

Wednesday 10, Friday 12, Tuesday 16, Tuesday 23, Tuesday 30.

Businesses and organisations, with multiple rate accounts can arrange a group session by emailing info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz.

People can sign up online at pay.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

More information is available on the Hauraki District Council website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/payble



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Waihi NEWS

Waihi Warriors play before Sharks take on the Warriors

The Waihi Warriors were around many years ago, with Ashby Takimoana one of the founding members, who followed along with his daughter Payton Takimoana, who is now in the New Zealand Women's Warriors team. The club stopped growing as she and other team members her age grew and moved on.

Last year, Waihi community locals' children were wanting to play rugby league and we didn't have anything in Waihi, so we were travelling to other local towns such as Whangamatā, Katikati and Paeroa, for our children to play. Talk was had that we need to bring something to our town. With that said, a group of eager parents formed together and we reignited the Waihi Warriors, from scratch.

With overwhelming support from the community to get behind and sponsor us, we have been able to purchase brand new playing kit, and all the gear needed for our season which begins in August. And can't forget to mention Waihi Athletic Rugby Club, who have been so kind to let us run out of their grounds, because at the end of the day its about our tamariki and helping them grow and give them



experiences to lead to amazing pathways.

We have also, been so lucky to have an opportunity to take two under 9 teams to play at Go Media Stadium before the Warriors vs Sharks on June 15.

Practices have commenced and we are so excited for what's to come.

- Toni Wood, Secretary, Waihi Warriors Rugby Sports Club
Photos by Mark James



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Waihi NEWS

Waikato Waters marks new chapter for water services

On 9 June, Waikato Waters celebrated its upcoming transition from establishment to operations on 1 July, when it will begin delivering water and wastewater services across several Waikato districts.

The milestone was celebrated at an event held at the new Cambridge Wastewater Treatment Plant, attended by Local Government Minister Hon Simon Watts, shareholder mayors, iwi, and council and Waikato Waters staff.

Waikato Waters is a council-controlled organisation jointly owned by Hauraki, Matamata Piako, Ōtorohanga, South Waikato, Waipā and Waitomo district councils. Once all councils have transitioned, it will serve around 170,000 people across communities stretching from coast to coast, from Marokopa to Whiritoa.

Minister of Local Government Simon Watts says Waikato Waters is one of the first council-controlled organisations established under the Government's Local Water Done Well programme.

"I acknowledge the leadership and commitment of all those involved in establishing Waikato Waters and delivering Local Water Done Well in

the Waikato.

"For the past two years, we have been focused on fixing the basics. We knew the status quo in delivering water services was not an option, but we also knew communities wanted to retain ownership of their water assets.

"Local Water Done Well is delivering the investment needed to address New Zealand's water infrastructure challenges, while giving councils the tools to make decisions that work for their communities.

"The establishment of Waikato Waters marks a significant milestone in water reform, bringing together six councils. It will help deliver more efficient investment in water infrastructure, improve long-term financial sustainability, and reduce pressure on ratepayers.

"It is great to see councils working together in partnership to deliver reliable and financially sustainable water services for their communities."

Hauraki District Mayor Toby Adams, speaking on behalf of the six shareholder councils, says the decision reflects a shared commitment to communities across the region.

"Our six councils have made a deliberate choice to work together on water services because we can achieve more collectively than we can individually," Mayor Adams says.

"We face the same challenges. Our infrastructure is ageing, costs are rising, and our communities are growing and expecting more. Working together gives us far greater opportunity to tackle those challenges in a way that is both practical and sustainable. It allows us to invest in more modern infrastructure, share expertise and resources, and deliver services more efficiently than any one council could on its own.

"At the heart of this decision are our communities. By working collectively, we can provide more cost effective, resilient and future focused water services that support growth, protect our waterways and deliver better outcomes for the people we serve.

Waikato Waters chair Elena Trout says the organisation is ready to move into its next phase.

"Today marks a significant moment for Waikato Waters.

"We are moving from establishment into operations - from building the

organisation to delivering services for our communities.

"A lot of work has gone into getting us here. We've brought together people, systems and plans from across six councils, and laid strong foundations for the future.

"Our focus now is on making that transition as smooth as possible - for our communities and for our staff.

"For most customers, the experience will remain largely the same in our first year. People will continue to pay for water services through their council, and contact them if there's an issue, such as a leak.

The transition to operations is progressive, beginning on 1 July 2026 with South Waikato, Waipā and Waitomo district councils. Matamata-Piako District Council will transition on 1 October, and the remaining two district councils - Hauraki and Ōtorohanga - on 1 July 2027.

Waikato Waters will ultimately manage more than \$1.4 billion in assets and deliver a long-term investment programme exceeding \$3B.

- Waikato Waters

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Waihi NEWS

Hauraki Rail Trail receives funding for lock stations

As part of the 'Electrifying the Great Rides' fund introduced by the National Government in 2024, delivering on one of their election promises.

Nearly 50% of the Hauraki Rail Trail riders are on e-bikes, and previously there was no public charging infrastructure available on the 197km long Trail. Demand for charging was limiting full-day and overnight trips for many of the trail users. The new Locky Dock charging stations are free to use and each cater for charging up to 5 bikes at a time. The units cater for both normal bikes and e-bikes, giving riders the freedom to stop and explore local attractions, restaurants, and shops without worrying about theft or flat batteries.

Budget 2026 brings welcome SH25 and SH26 investment for Hauraki Coromandel, with more opportunities ahead

Last week's Budget 2026 delivers much-needed investment in state highway resilience for Hauraki Coromandel, providing reassurance for residents, businesses and visitors who rely on safe and reliable



access to the region.

The Government has committed \$20m of funding to strengthen State Highway 25 around the Coromandel Peninsula, alongside upgrades to State Highway 26, as part of a national programme focused on keeping key routes open during and after severe weather events.

For Coromandel, SH25 is our lifeline.

When it's closed or unreliable, the impacts are felt immediately by local businesses, workers and visitors. Funding that focuses on resilience and prevention, rather than repeated emergency repairs, is critical for restoring confidence in the region. This investment recognises that access equals resilience for our communities and for our visitor economy.

The Budget also confirms a

significant increase in funding for tourism infrastructure and system capability in 2026/27, supported through the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL). This funding is designed to support visitor-related infrastructure, destination capability and the systems needed to manage tourism growth.

This is an important signal for regions like Hauraki Coromandel. We experience high visitor pressure on local infrastructure, particularly during peak seasons, and our councils and communities carry much of that cost. While the funding is not allocated to specific regions, we see this as an opportunity, and we intend to be actively involved in the process. Hauraki Coromandel aligns closely with the purpose of IVL investment — protecting the visitor experience, easing pressure on local infrastructure, and ensuring tourism benefits both visitors and residents.

Reliable roads get people here. Well-planned tourism infrastructure ensures their visit is positive, safe and sustainable.

– Hauraki Coromandel
Good for your Soul



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We look forward to hearing from you.



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Waihi NEWS

Rolling Fun

Last Sunday we went to the Waihi Events Centre to see something so very cool! Rolling fun with Skatescool NZ, a great mix of adults and children attended the Roller Disco, with structured skate lessons before hand. Tailored for all ages and skill levels. They will return - join in, an absolutely fun afternoon.

- Photos by Mark James, Waihi News



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 aljgledhill@gmail.com or 021 653 148




Designer for Whangamatā & Waihi News and the Repco Beach Hop programmes

Hauraki Pound Pups Fundraiser

Last Saturday, we were so lucky to visit the puppies at the Hauraki Pound Pups fundraising and adoption day at the Underground Market.

Chris and hubby Darren Hannah are contracted to Hauraki District Council as Animal Control and part of that role is running the pound. Chris told us "Over the last few years we have established a successful adoption programme for the pound dogs. We also work in conjunction with many rescues nationwide to ensure suitable homes are found for our dogs. Livvy's Pals joined us with their



young puppies, and we also had support from local Waihi lady Rhonda Walch who regularly takes her ex-pound dog Trevor up town with his cart raising funds.

All money raised goes towards vet checks, vaccinations, food, toys and other essentials required for keeping the dogs happy and

healthy while they wait patiently for their forever homes."

Readers who are doggie-addicted like us check out their Facebook pages: Hauraki Pound Pups; Livvy's Pals; and From Pound Puppy to Proud Puppy (Rhonda's page).

Photos by Mark James, Waihi News



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST for residential works and services

We're seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from suitably experienced local contractors to deliver a package of private residential works and services as part of our proposed new subdivision on our Knowles Crescent/Barry Road property.

The project is still in the planning and approvals phase, so any contract award will depend on approvals being granted and final tender details being confirmed. The subdivision will feature 10 homes on individual titles (three with additional granny flats) and is intended to provide housing for our increased workforce, following the approval of the Waihi North Project.

This EOI relates to works required on each residential section, including service connections, driveways, fencing and landscaping. Bulk earthworks, wider subdivision civil works, and relocatable house construction will be delivered separately.

We welcome interest from local contractors who can manage and deliver a mix of different types of work, coordinating subcontractors or trades to complete all of the works.

For each residential section, the appointed contractor will be responsible for delivering:

- Power and water supply connections from boundary to house
- Stormwater detention/soakage pit installations and connection to house
- Wastewater connections from boundaries to houses and subfloor drainage
- Construction of decking, stairs, balustrades, and baseboards
- Construction of residential concrete driveways and parking
- Internal fencing and landscaping works.

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

Email: gordon.garcia@oceanagold.com and include:

- Company details
- Relevant experience (1-2 examples)
- Confirmation of appropriate insurance
- Current capacity/availability
- Capability statement
- Quality Assurance.

**CLOSING
DATE:
25th June**

Great news for Pāuanui dunes as grant awarded

We're delighted to share that Pāuanui Dune Protection Society has been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Lottery Environment and Heritage Fund to support this year's dune restoration programme.

This takes us past our \$40,000 funding target for the year, which is a fantastic outcome for the programme!

Every extra dollar helps us get more work done and move faster towards



our goal of restoring a naturally functioning dune system along the full length of Pāuanui Beach.

The grant is a great acknowledgement of the strength of the programme and what has been achieved over the past five years through the efforts of our

volunteers, supporters, funding partners and the wider community.

A big thank you to the Lottery Environment and Heritage Fund for backing the programme, and to everyone who has contributed along the way.

- Pāuanui Dune Protection Society

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

Community Pool Closed Until Further Notice

The Whangamata Community Swimming Pool will be closed from 15 June and will remain closed until further notice. We are working hard to rectify the situation. We will inform you as soon as we are able to reopen.

Club results

MAH JONG

12 June: We had 55 players. Congratulations to the winners: 1st equal - Donna Bailey and Carol Robson with 40 points. 2nd - Lynne Plowright with 39 points. The lucky number was 8 and was won by Victoria Spence. Mahjong subs for 2026 are now due. \$10 can be paid either in cash on a Friday or Monday or paid directly

into the Bank Account No: Whangamata Club Inc 02-0472-0011752-16 As a reference please put your name and Club number.

TABLE TENNIS

11 June: Wayne Broome was our winner with 9 points, Roger Wolfe was 2nd with 7 points and in third place with 6 points were Keith Gribben, John Ramsbottom and Rob Knight. Well done everyone.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Whangamata Community Health Inc Notice of 2026 Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that an Annual General Meeting of the Whangamata Community Health Inc will be held on Tuesday, 14 July 2026 at 7 pm at the RSA, 324 Port Road, Whangamata. Members of the public are welcome.

Maryanne Mellsop, Chairperson

Solar power goes live at community swimming pool

The Whangamatā Real Estate Community Pool is pleased to announce the successful commissioning of its new solar power generation system, marking a significant milestone in the pool's ongoing upgrade programme.

The project has been made possible through the generous support of a number of key contributors, and the pool committee wishes to acknowledge each of them.

Meridian Energy provided major funding for the solar installation itself. Mirivi Limited supplied the solar panels, and Empire Electrical carried out the installation. Pub Charities funded the replacement of the roof prior to installation

— an essential prerequisite for the new system. MenzShed Whangamatā contributed labour and general assistance throughout the project, and that hands-on support made a real difference.

The new system is expected to deliver savings of up to \$9,000 per year on the pool's energy costs — a meaningful contribution to the long-term financial sustainability of a community facility that serves us all.

This is a proud moment for the pool and for the wider Whangamatā community. Projects like this don't happen without people and organisations willing to back them, and we are grateful to everyone who played a part.



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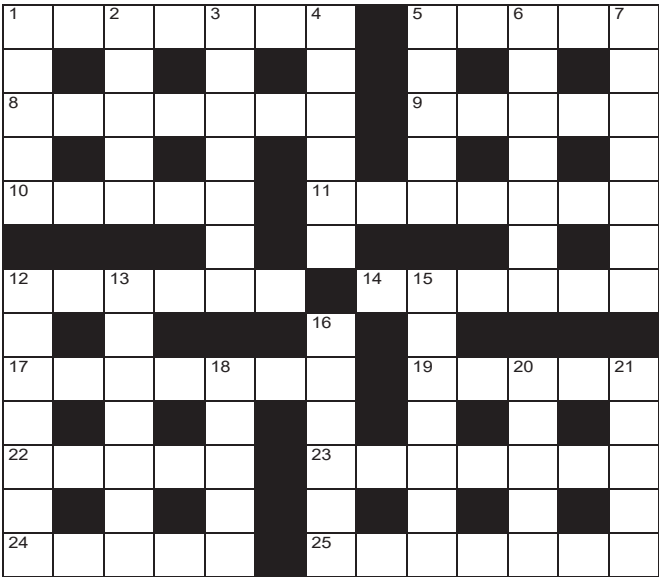
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Designer for Whangamatā & Waihi News



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QUICK CROSSWORD



Across

- 1. A delay or reversal (7)
- 5. Colour/fruit (5)
- 8. Colour/fruit (7)
- 9. Binding (5)
- 10. Undue speed (5)
- 11. Yearning (7)
- 12. Guarantee (6)
- 14. Named (6)
- 17. Fan (7)
- 19. Indicate (5)
- 22. Undecorated (5)
- 23. Landscape (7)
- 24. Mad (colloq) (5)
- 25. Financially sound (7)

Down

- 1. Break (5)
- 2. Conditions (5)
- 3. Very old (7)
- 4. Type of drum (6)
- 5. Repeatedly (5)
- 6. At the beginning (7)
- 7. Occupied (7)
- 12. Hone (7)
- 13. Leftover (7)
- 15. Put in danger (7)
- 16. Free of charge (6)
- 18. Gangling (5)
- 20. Picture (5)
- 21. Dogma (5)

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SUDOKU

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

DECODER

14	H	15	U	16	E	17	J	18	N	19	K	20	G	21	I	22	S	23	M	24	P	25	O	26	R
1	W	2	F	3	L	4	B	5	V	6	D	7	D	8	T	9	Z	10	A	11	C	12	Y	13	X

CRYPTIC

Across: 8. Saudi; 9. Officer; 10. As dead as a dodo; 11. Probe; 13. Sense; 18 & 1. Closed circuit television; 21. Adopted; 22. Satan; 23. Dead centre.

Down: 2. Ecuador; 3. Erica; 4. Isobar; 5. Inflate; 6. Nacho; 7. Harrow; 8. Slaw; 12. Beef tea; 14. Shutter; 15. Oceans; 16. Acidic; 17. Stun; 19. Ovoid; 20. Risen.

CROSSWORD

Across: 1. Setback; 2. Terms; 3. Ancient; 4. Kettle; 5. Often; 6. Initial; 7. Engaged; 8. Ben takes leave of unbiased Arab (5); 9. They scoff ice regulation so get the sheriff (7); 10. Ada & Ed have a couple of sodas and they are history! (2,4,2,1,4); 11. Examine the soft gown ... (5); 12. Sharpen; 13. Remnant; 14. Titled; 15. Imperial; 16. Grats; 18. Rangy; 20. Image; 21. Tense.

Down: 1. Smash; 2. Solvent; 3. Terra; 4. Nutty; 5. Point; 6. Plain; 7. Admirer; 8. Surety; 9. Tying; 10. Haste; 11. Longing; 12. Surety; 14. Titled; 17. Admirer; 19. Point; 22. Plain; 23. Terra; 24. Nutty; 25. Solvent.

SUDOKU

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

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

EASY

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

HARDER

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.

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

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

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

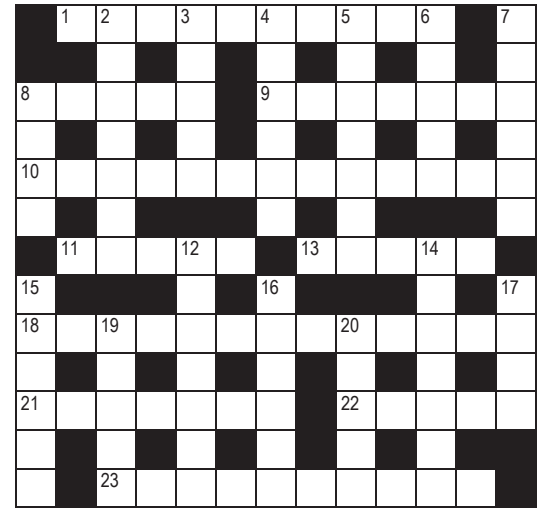
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. See 18
- 8. Ben takes leave of unbiased Arab (5)
- 9. They scoff ice regulation so get the sheriff (7)
- 10. Ada & Ed have a couple of sodas and they are history! (2,4,2,1,4)
- 11. Examine the soft gown ... (5)
- 13. ... feel the touch (5)
- 18 & 1. Curiosities convicted EII maybe, when caught on camera (6,7,10)
- 21. Poet dad took on (7)
- 22. Santa maybe the devil! (5)
- 23. The middle cemetery? (4,9)

Down

- 2. Digs out of discouraged country (7)
- 3. Heather was part American (5)
- 4. Is nothing except a pressure line ... (6)
- 5. ... ten fail to blow up (7)
- 6. A chip to dip in cognac, hollandaise & cheese (5)
- 7. Used to disturb the soil? (6)
- 8. The king's cabbage? (4)
- 12. Prescribe E.F.T. eatery to get a drink (4,3)
- 14. It closes with a snap (7)
- 15. What you row canoes around on (6)



- 16. Shared out disaccharide tart (6)
- 17. Astound by returning mad (4)
- 19. A shape that can be cracked (5)
- 20. Rinse reins' double up (5)



AUCTION

Space - Privacy - Potential

1 Governors Heights, Whangamata

3 🚗 2 🚗 2 🚗

Auction (unless sold prior) 1pm, 17 July 2026 in rooms, 328 Ocean Road, Whangamata

- Private north-facing 3369m² (more or less) freehold site
- Spacious 176m² (approx.) home designed to capture all day sun
- Roomy open-plan kitchen, dining and living
- Dedicated office nook - ideal for working from home
- Internal-access double garage and ample off-street parking
- Extensive gardens & established citrus trees
- Enjoy the luxury of space, privacy and a peaceful setting

Check QR Code for viewing options



Sharon Laurenson
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View Listing whanga.co/8645



Whangamata Real Estate
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