

Eureka Express

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www.eurekaexpress.co.nz

Nov/Dec 2024

editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz



FRONT COVER SPONSORED BY

WAIKATO SHED

COMPANY ✓

great sheds, done right!



Hi beautiful Eureka community,

It is such a pleasure to introduce our family to you!

We are a family of 3 (plus some animals) living in Eureka for 3 and a half years now.

Wojtek, my husband, Paul, our 8 y.o boy and me, Elena, plus our 2 cows, 5 chickens and an uncounted number of bees. Wojtek was becoming a professional football player in Germany when an accident during a soccer match resulted in the amputation of his leg. As a para-athlete, he started track and field with enourmous success, competing in 3 Paralympic Games (Athens 2004 – Beijing 2008 – London 2012), winning 4 Golds, 2 Silvers and a Bronze for Germany. (www.wojtek2024.com)

I was a professional High Jumper for Italy for 17 years and met Wojtek in Germany, where I moved for my sport. I became national champion and participated in two European Championships. Since we met, Wojtek and I became an inseparable couple, and he eventually became my coach and my husband.

At the end of our sport careers, we decided to help amputees in need all over the world, who were less fortunate than Wojtek and did not have access to health support. We came up with a crazy idea, which became reality after 3 years of preparation: Sailing4Handicaps, a non-profit organisation (www.sailing4handicaps.de). We bought a Catamaran, Imagine, rebuilt the galley to transform it into a workshop where we could build up prosthetic legs, sailed from Germany down to NZ for 5 years and stopped in 3rd world countries where we built and donated prosthetic legs for free to a total of 90 people. Our trip was one to remember forever, and on the way our son Paul was born. We became scuba diving instructors and Wojtek also a free diving instructor. In 2019 Wojtek, who is an athlete at heart, decided that there was not enough done for para athletes around diving. Working together with several world leading diving associations, he set 5 world records in free diving in Tahiti.

At the end of 2019, just before COVID, we arrived in New Zealand and decided to make this beautiful country our home. Wojtek saw that Para Badminton, a sport that he played a bit in Germany, was at the Paralympics. He had a go with Badminton New Zealand and was directly the best athlete in the country - so good that New Zealand granted him citizenship to have him starting in Paris 2024, which he eventually did as the only able or disable athlete for Badminton from New Zealand, ending the campaign at 7th place making us all very proud. Wojtek 's Badminton career brought us to Eureka, a halfway point between Hamilton, where he trained, and Cambridge, where Paul goes to school, and I teach art.

Yes, I forgot to mention, I am a professional artist and illustrator, owner of The Sewing Sailor (www.thesewingsailor.com), a fine art and luxury stationery brand. I work for known overseas brands, am gallery represented in NZ and exhibiting abroad. I have an established art teaching programme running in Cambridge and Waikato, and I am also teaching from my home studio.

Paul is an amazing boy in love with nature, football and animals. He is very social and always trying something new out.

The house in Eureka was just perfect for us to have animals, and so we launched in the adventure of owning cows, chickens and our own bees. We love the adventure and learning about it every single day. I love gardening and you can often see me around the fruit trees or in the veggie beds working or picking up flowers to paint and decorate the house.

We own a Manuka Honey company called Manuka Royale (www.manukaroyale.com) which is a sustainable and ethical 100% NZ made brand, mainly focused on export, but we also sell in several New Zealand shops around the country. Both Wojtek, Paul and I are very community centred. I do a lot of volunteer work between Cambridge and Hamilton and Wojtek is Para Fed Waikato vice president, Child Cancer Foundation NZ and UN ambassador.

We love our small community and could not do it without our amazing neighbours, who are always ready to help us when we need to travel or have a question about our cows.

Thank you, Eureka, for being such a small piece of heaven for us and to allow us to grow up our child with joy and happiness in a safe and lovely environment!



Sailor



JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR EUREKA

JP. Kevin Deane Please call or text to arrange an appointment.

Kevin Deane JP m 021 970902 , Kevin is located in Eureka.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

We are all aware that the cost of everything is going up all the time. The printing of the Express is also costing more. If you would like to make a small donation, we would be very grateful. We will send you a receipt (which is not tax deductible as we are not registered as a Charitable Trust), for your donation so please put your name as a reference. Our bank account number is 03-1559-0042660-00. The name of the account is Eureka Express. We would also like to thank everyone who puts their loose change in the box at the Gull Station, all donations are gratefully received and help towards the rising costs. A huge thank you for the donations we have received.

WELCOME

A very warm welcome to Russell and Emma Jane and their sons Ashton and Owen and daughter Marissa, who have moved into a property on State Highway 26 from Maraetai.

Another warm welcome to Phil McPherson and Angela Bunting and their children who will be moving into Oak View Place.

FAREWELL

Dear EE,

After 23 years living in the lovely Oak View Place cul-du- sac, the Wright family are moving out of the area. Our three kids Camden, Madison and Jaxon were 1, 3 and 5 yes old when we moved into the home we built. They attended Newstead school which was brilliant in that it was small with great teachers. We loved the country school aspects of agricultural day and the supportive community. We did add some Chilean spice to the neighbourhood when we rented it to Juan Manual, Marisol and their 4 kids when we lived in the USA for a couple years.

Hillcrest High was excellent for our kids where they got involved in many sports and activities including leadership roles. However now they have completed degrees and have careers in Wellington and soon Auckland. Blair has been working at the Port of Tauranga for the last 3 years, so it is time that I join him. I can continue to work as a Licensed Immigration Adviser for Greenstone Immigration from the Bay.

We truly loved the community, and we are sad to leave so many wonderful friends.

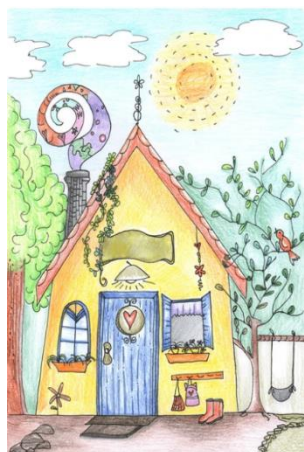
Thanks Eureka, Newstead, Tauwhare and Matangi friends for everlasting memories.

Happy holidays,

Carol and Blair Wright

We wish you well on your new endeavours Carol and Blair.

Do You Need a House Sitter this Summer?



Dates: 12-18 January, 2025 (1 week)

Who: 2-3 responsible, mature women associated with Eurythmy Aotearoa training.

Where: Hamilton – Eureka/Puketaha/Gordonton

What We Offer:

- Watering your plants
- Feeding your cat (sorry, no dogs)
- Keeping your home tidy and secure
- Collecting mail

Why: We are looking for accommodation during a training workshop in Rotorua and while you are away are happy to take care of your home in exchange.

If interested, please contact Alison O27—241 --3423.



HALL UPDATE

A meeting was held at the hall on 6th November, and I am pleased to inform you all that the Hall Committee now has 7 new members. Lots of discussion took place and the new committee members have some amazing ideas to move the hall forward into the modern age. When we all get going next year, first meeting in February I know I will be reporting to you all that the Hall has a new life. I am already getting bookings for next year, so let's hope the hall will be used to its full potential and many people enjoy using it.

This issue of the Express is the last for the year, so I would like to wish you all a very Merry and Safe Christmas and New Year on behalf of the hall committee. I would also like to thank the supporters of the hall, they are not on the committee, but they do add to the huge job of maintaining the hall. First off, our Cleaner Cherry. Cherry and her husband do a wonderful job of cleaning the hall, and nothing is problem for her, she works different hours to clean the hall to ensure it is presentable and clean for the next booking. Sometimes twice in a weekend. Colin Duncan at the Garage, the key is available from Colin, should you need it and if you have arranged to collect it from there. Plus, Rose and Colin do answer questions re the hall and refer the people on to me. Thank you also to Jan Van der Meulen for mowing the lawns. Also, a huge thank you to the committee, we have been small in numbers but this year we have accomplished a lot. There are always projects to complete and in time they will get done. Stay safe, and enjoy all family time you spend together.

Contact Gayle Orr for any bookings or any other enquiries. 0272917150

Usage	Residents	Non - Residents
Hall per day	\$ 50	\$100
Social function	\$150 - \$300	\$250 - \$500
Children's party	\$50	\$100
Bond	\$400 Secretary's Discretion	\$500 Secretary's discretion

SH1B Telephone Road to reopen next year

Transport Minister Simeon Brown has confirmed that State Highway 1B (SH1B) Telephone Road in Waikato will reopen in 2025, following agreement by KiwiRail and the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) on a package of improvements to enable the road and rail crossing to function safely and effectively together.

“Economic growth, productivity, and safety are a priority for the Government, and I'm pleased a pragmatic and cost-effective solution has now been found to enable SH1B Telephone Road to reopen to vehicles and freight,” Mr Brown says. “SH1B Telephone Road has been closed since April 2022 after repeated instances of low vehicles damaging the railway tracks at the level crossing.

“The proposed improvements will see the road level raised, new escape lanes built and improved signage and road marking. The road surface will be raised by up to 410mm over a distance of 90 metres on Telephone Road north of the rail crossing and on Telephone Road/Holland Road/Marshmeadow Road south of the rail crossing.

“Escape lanes built on the north side of Holland Road, either side of Telephone Road, will ensure longer vehicles heading south do not stack across the rail line as they wait to turn into Holland Road. For vehicles travelling east on Holland Road and wanting to turn left into Telephone Road, the escape lane provides a safe place to wait if access to Telephone Road is blocked by a train.

“NZTA expects to have a confirmed contractor for the works on board before the end January 2025, with construction expected to be completed before mid-2025.

“I want to thank locals who travel through this area for their patience and perseverance while this crossing has been closed. I am pleased that NZTA and KiwiRail have found a sensible solution as part of our plan to get people to where they want to go quickly and safely. I look forward to work being completed and the road open in the first half of 2025.”



FROM THE EXPRESS COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Express Committee, I would like to thank everyone who is involved in every issue we produce during the year. A huge supporter of the Express is Waikato Sheds. Each month they print our colour cover page, and I must admit our covers now look amazing. Cathy does an amazing job each month getting the printing done for both the front and back pages. Our delivery people, not an easy job at times, especially in the rain, but each issue is delivered to your letter box monthly. The printing team, not a big team, but it really is enjoyable having a good old chat and sometimes a coffee during the 3 or so hours it takes to print and prepare each monthly issue. Our advertisers, without you there wouldn't be an Express, we do need your adverts to keep us going, and of course the dedicated committee. Thank you, ladies, you do an amazing job all year, getting articles, ensuring there is someone to write the editorial, keeping the finances in order, visiting people to get them to write an article or introduce their business. So many of you to thank personally, but you know who you are, and I look forward to working with you all next year.

Have a wonderful and safe Christmas and New Year everyone. It is a very busy time but remember to take some time out for yourself.

EUREKA EXPRESS - ADVERTISING RATES 2023

Classified adverts Free		
Small business advert x 10 insertions	\$10 per month	\$100 per year
Third of a page x 10 insertions	\$15 per month	\$150 per year
Half of a page x 10 insertions	\$20 per month	\$200 per year

For all articles, advertisements, photos, ideas and suggestions, please use the express email address. The Express is printed Feb - Nov each year
 All articles should be sent to the Editor by the 20th of each month.
editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz

A Christmas Well enjoyed

The candy canes are strung,
 The baubles are on the tree,
 The stockings are dangling ready to fill,
 With all things sweet and yummy.
 The cookies are on the table
 The milk is freshly poured,
 We have to write a thank you note,
 For all Santa can afford,
 When all the food's been eaten,
 And the wrapping's been destroyed
 We'll still have all the memories,
 Of a Christmas well enjoyed.

THE EUREKA EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN UPDATE

The Eureka Community Response Plan is still in progress but getting closer to completion. We are still on the search for people with specific skills to be able to contact should the need arise.

These include:

Doctor	Gillian Brown
Nurses	Nicola Orr
Builder	
Drainlayer	
Plumber	Josh Turner
Electrician	James Palmer
Arborist	

Companies able to provide big machinery Dig It and Walling Contracting.

We also need people with generators who could help. The generators could be set up at the hall to enable people to keep warm, have a hot drink and some food. Also, toilet facilities, and just somewhere that is warm and safe. It was also suggested that each road has a civil defence contact person. That person would have the names and contact details of the people in their road, so they can check up on everyone to see if they are safe, have suffered any damage, need anything e.g. water, power, access, OR a Biggy, do they need children picked up from school? We all have concerns about our privacy however the contact people are likely to be known by you and the numbers will be kept only by one person, and your privacy would be respected. We are only concerned about your safety.

We are looking for a Civil Defence Contact for the following roads

Main Road from Platt Road to Hinton Road

Main Road from Hinton to Hunter Road

Gayle Orr

Hooper Road

Sharon Laurent

Hinton Road

Eureka Road

Michael Brown

Appleton Lane

Kathryn Schicker

Schollum and Friedlander Roads

Masters Road

As you can see this is a big job and for the safety of us all as a community we need to be prepared. We have had a couple of cyclones, flooding, power outages and roads blocked off. So YES it could happen to us at any time. Please contact us if you are prepared to help. We all believe that nothing bad will happen, and yes hope and pray it doesn't, however, being prepared costs nothing but a bit of time, a little effort and most of all knowledge of where to go and who to call in an emergency.

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REQUEST FROM THE EXPRESS COMMITTEE

The lady who has been delivering the express for many years up Hunter Road is now retiring from the job and moving away, we are now looking for someone to take her place. You will be delivering up Hunter Road and a few houses on Tauwhere Road, down to state highway 26. Please contact us editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz if you would like to help. It is not a big job and is only 10 months of the year for about 1 hour.

GOOD NEWS FOR EUREKA

Hi, I'm Pallas from Ruckus Media. We specialise in factual documentaries www.ruckus.media

*I'm researching on a new prime time series for TVNZ called *The Details in the Data*. The series investigates the country's collective attitude to life issues such as love, money, health and community and uses robust data to tell interesting stories about how New Zealander's live today. In early 2025 we will be filming a series of stories in Eureka and would like to find a young influential entrepreneur who works in a modern environment, such as tech, online or a start-up. An example is anyone who is making a living from Twitch streaming? and has chosen to work from the district of Eureka.*

Please [email pallas@ruckus.media](mailto:pallas@ruckus.media) if you would be happy to share your story. I would love to have a chat.

IMPORTANT NOTICE OF A SPECIAL EVENT

As you are now aware Eureka is going to be included in a TV programme as stated above. The committees have decided to hold a square dance on Saturday 25th January, at 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm, with supper (entry with a plate) and BYO alcohol.

The square dance caller is Russell Pratt, of Hamilton.

Dress code is come dressed up in check shirts, jeans or skirt, (cowboy boots and hats optional)

Hay bales for decoration and they also make good seats so if anyone can help with these we would appreciate it. Also, if you are able to help with set up and ideas please contact Susan Rudolf silknvintageetc@icloud.com.

This is going to be a fun night so come along and join us. It's a family night so bring your older children. They may enjoy a swing around the floor.

There is no worry if you don't want to be filmed, you can request that from the producer on the night, just mingle in the crowd.

We're excited to share that Ruckus Media from Auckland, along with a TVNZ presenter, will be attending the event to film a segment for an upcoming documentary series. The documentary series explores how New Zealanders live today.

They'll be capturing and celebrating the connectedness of our community, with the broadcast set for 2025.

If you would like to join us and have any questions or concerns about being on camera, please contact Lisa Fothergill at lisa@ruckus.media



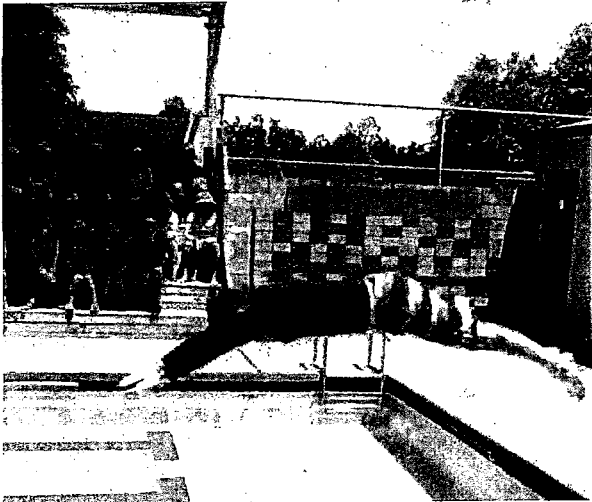


RESPECT - RESILIENCE - RESPONSIBILITY

TAUWHARE SCHOOL

Term 4 – DECEMBER 2024

WWW.TAUWHARE.SCHOOL.NZ



TOP NEWS

Swimming Is Open

Mr. May kicked off the swimming for Term 4 with an 'arctic plunge'. With one huge countdown from the children, this dive began our Term 4 swimming season. Children have been swimming in their classes each day, and it hasn't taken long for the learning from Term 1 to come back. This is mostly from the constant swimming from all children throughout the year. Practice makes permanent as they say. (The pool wasn't really that cold says Mr. May)

Hayden Jones TV One Visit

We initiated a Year 6 senior Boy's and a Girl's programme this year. Mr. Hayden Jones from Good Sorts came to check it out and take some footage for the Christmas special – 15 Years of Good Sorts. Our Year 6's learning and personalities were on display in front of the camera, and they all loved the opportunity to show off the learnings from our senior programmes. Air date January 2025.



House of Science

This year we brought the science kits from House of Science into the classrooms to bring science alive for our Tamariki. Science has been rich across the school this year, and a lot of learning has been done around Planet Earth and Beyond. We were lucky to have Lauren from House of Science visit our classes during Term 4 to support our science journey into next year, and we take a large focus on Living World and our environment. *BELOW RIGHT: Milla jamming some epic beats during music lessons.*




Tauwhare School

Please confirm
in zone enrolments
Out of Zone applications
now open

Tauwhare School is a state integrated rural primary school for Year 0-6. We have spaces for Out of Zone Enrolments at some year levels. Applications reviewed by the Board of Trustees monthly.

VISITS WELCOME

Visit Our Website www.tauwhare.school.nz
Contact us on - admin@tauwhare.school.nz or 07 824 0864






Motumaoho School

2101 State Highway 26, RD2 Morrinsville 3372 | office@motumaoho.school.nz | p. 07 8897597

Term 4 – 2024

Ruma Pīwakawaka

Ruben the Road Safety Bear visited us recently providing much excitement and entertainment. He reminded us of the importance of being careful when walking on the footpath as we have tricky driveways to contend with. Another clear message was to cross the road linking arms and looking left and right all the way.

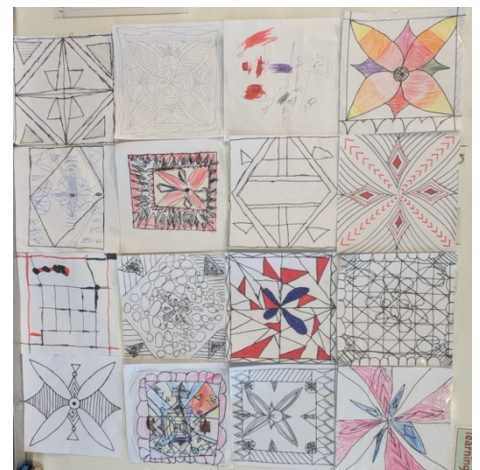


Ruma Tūi

In Room Tui this past week we had a visit from Kirsten at the Heart Foundation. We were treated to a special lesson all about how our bodies work and the students learnt all about bones, veins, muscles and how they help us move. We looked at how the things we eat and drink can affect us in different ways. We also got to see the different amounts of sugar that are in certain drinks like milk, juice and coke, and we talked about foods that are good to eat every day and foods that we should only have sometimes.

This linked in with our inquiry into celebrations and the food we eat during different occasions. We began to learn about different countries like Bulgaria, Finland and Mexico and the foods they eat for Christmas. Students have been working in groups to create their own presentation about a country of their choice and the way they celebrate Christmas.

For reading this week we read a story about a Samoan celebration called White Sunday and on Friday we each practiced making our own Siapo or Tapa cloth pattern artwork.



New Enrolments

If your child is turning five in the **next six (6) months**, please ensure you pre-enrol them as soon as possible. If you know of any families looking to enrol their child/ren, please provide them with our contact details. You can email office@motumaoho.school.nz. We also have our enrolment details on our school website with the option to enrol online.



[facebook.com/motumaoho.school](https://www.facebook.com/motumaoho.school)

Website: www.motumaoho.school.nz



Pukeko Preschool Newsletter November 2024

This month at Pūkeko Country Preschool, we are exploring "playing, imagining, inventing and experimenting", centre wide. This learning focus encompasses every child. At 'Pūkeko's' (as we have been named by the Tamariki), we believe that play is the work of the child, and each day we set up intentionally planned experiences to extend all of our ākonga (learners) in their learning journeys.

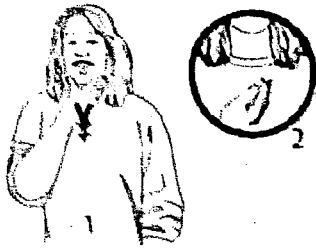
From exploring used coffee grinds, to making villages in the sandpit, to deconstructing old laptops and building with loose parts, and everything in between - our Tamariki are being inspired and empowered to learn through hands-on, real-life experiences with and alongside others - to problem solve, wonder, investigate, experiment, try new things, and learn at their own pace.

If this is the kind of childhood experience you are looking for, for your child, please contact us at admin@pukekopreschool.org.nz - we have limited spaces available in the new year - get in quick!



Ngā mihi,
Shell Proebstel
*Curriculum Provider and
Educational Lead*
Pūkeko Country Preschool
07 824 0860





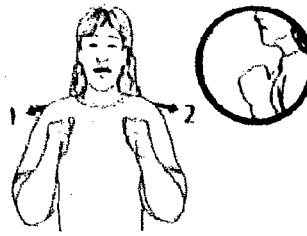
Christmas

Kirihimete



holiday

hararei



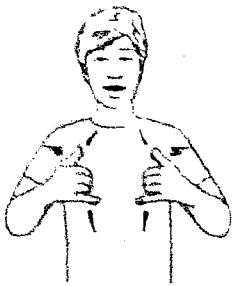
tramping

hīkoi, takahi



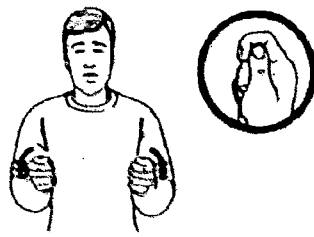
camp, tent

hopuni, tēneti



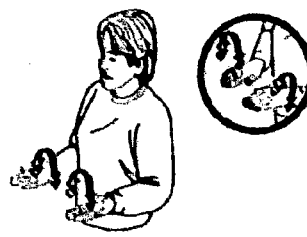
camp

hopuni



barbecue

rorerore



barbecue

rorerore



safe

haumarū, māorioti



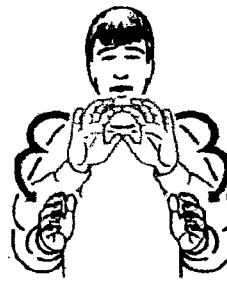
car, drive

motokā, taraiwa



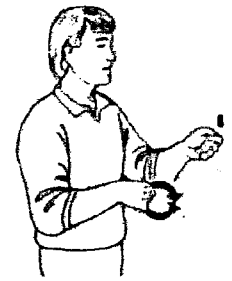
gift, prize,
wrap

koha, perehana



bush, tree

ngahere, wao, rākau



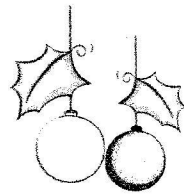
fishing

māngoingoi

The theme for 2024, "Transformative Solutions for Inclusive Development: the role of Innovation in Fuelling an Accessible and Equitable World", is not just a concept but a call to action that directly involves you. Innovation, as you know, plays a crucial role in creating a more inclusive society, from developing assistive technologies to designing accessible spaces. Your role in this transformation is significant and invaluable.

Join us in celebrating inclusion on December 3rd. Your participation is not just a gesture but a crucial part of the celebration. By ensuring that persons with disabilities are part of your workplace and social outing event, you not only inspire others but also become an integral part of our collective journey towards a more inclusive society. Your involvement is invaluable and greatly appreciated.

Happy Christmas & New Year from the Masters



Christmas



Ladies a Plate



Pavlova-crispy on outside and meringue on the inside

6 egg Whites, at room temperature

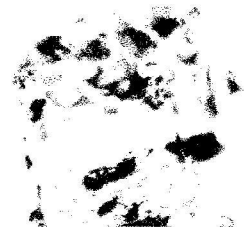
2 Cups Caster sugar

1 tsp vanilla essence

1 tsp vinegar

2 tsps cornflour

Preheat the oven to 110c. In a large metal, porcelain or glass (not plastic) bowl beat the egg whites until soft peak form. Gradually, a teaspoon at a time, add the caster sugar. The mixture should be getting glossy, thick and shiny with each addition and the whole sugar adding process should take at least 10 mins. Beat in the vanilla, vinegar and cornflour. Spoon the mixture out into a plate- sized mound on a baking -paper-covered tray. Bake for about 1 ½ hours until it is dry and crisp and lifts easily off the baking paper. Cool on a wire rack. To serve, place it flat side up on a serving plate, a pile with whipped cream, cover with your favourite fruit (berries', Kiwifruit, lemon curd is also very nice).



Cranberry and pistachio white Christmas squares

375g white chocolate melts

¼ cup cream

1 cup dried cranberries

100g shelled pistachio nuts

Melt white melts with the cream.

Fold through the cranberries and pistachio nuts

Spoon into a lined 20cm-square tin and smooth with the back of a spoon, cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for an hour or until set.

Remove from tin and use a sharp knife to slice into small squares.

Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors' update December 2024

SH1B Telephone Rd re-opening mid-2025

After more than two years of lobbying and behind-the-scenes discussions about potential solutions between Waikato District Council, local community representatives, KiwiRail and NZ Transport Agency, Transport Minister Hon Simeon Brown has made the very welcome announcement that the Telephone Rd rail crossing will re-open by mid-2025 after NZTA does the work needed to make it safe.

It's great to see that community connectivity still means something in New Zealand and that a local community and their Council can work with Government and government agencies to get good outcomes. Local communities in the Tamahere-Woodlands Ward from Gordonton to Tauwhare and further south - including Eureka, Puketaha, Newstead, Matangi and Tamahere - can look forward to restored travelling links to school, work and home.

Deserved thanks go to the local Re-open Telephone Rd lobby group, and local representatives who gave up their time to meet with Council and government agencies several times. Thanks to Federated Farmers Waikato president Keith Holmes who weighed in on the issue and to Waikato MP Tim van de Molen for listening to his electorate. Thanks to local Councillor Mike Keir who proposed some alternative options, and to Council staff for helping coordinate local discussions. And of course thanks to Hon Simeon Brown for making it a funding priority and to NZTA for finding an affordable and safe solution. See the 28 November announcement on www.beehive.govt.nz/releases and follow project updates on www.nzta.govt.nz/projects.

Drinking water safe despite elevated arsenic levels

Local councils and public health authorities have confirmed that drinking water supplies in the region remain safe despite slightly elevated levels of arsenic detected in drinking water sourced from the Waikato River within the last couple of weeks. Arsenic in the Waikato River is primarily due to geothermal activity. The 'maximum acceptable value' for arsenic in New Zealand drinking water is 0.0100 milligrams per litre, but Watercare and Hamilton City Council have reported slightly higher levels on three occasions in late November (the highest being 0.0115 mg per litre). National Public Health Service regional clinical director Dr William Rainger says arsenic limits in the NZ drinking water standards are based on the level of risk from a lifetime of drinking water so slightly elevated levels for a short period of time are not cause for alarm. Tamahere-Woodlands Ward residents with connections to reticulated water supplies are supplied by Hamilton City through an agreement with Waikato District Council. The Ward includes the villages of Tamahere, Matangi, Tauwhare, Newstead, Eureka, Puketaha and Gordonton.

Work continues on 3 Waters CCO and new roading contracts

Waikato District Council is still investigating two options to establish a Waters CCO (council controlled organisation) either with Hamilton City or with up to seven other Waikato district councils. The scale of both proposals is expected to deliver substantial savings in the long term, but both need careful analysis and any final decision incorporated into our 2025-34 Long Term Plan which will go out for consultation early next year.

Road maintenance work in Waikato district is currently delivered by the Waikato District Alliance through a contract between Waikato District Council and Downer established in 2015. The contract was extended in 2020 and is due to expire on 30 June 2025. The Council has sought tenders to establish two new contracts for the next 10 years (initially five years with rights of renewal) covering the northern and southern halves of the district. The new contracts are expected to be awarded in February 2025 for a 1 July 2025 start date.

NZTA roadworks

SH21 Airport Rd - Resurfacing work on SH21 Airport Rd near the Narrows Bridge is planned by Fulton Hogan for NZTA for the week commencing Sunday 15 December. The work will be done between 8pm and 6am over two nights between Sunday 15 December and Thursday 19 December. During these times SH21 Airport Rd will be closed to through traffic between Clearway Rise and Narrows Lane. There will be a detour of about 20 minutes through Hamilton along SH3 and SH1/SH1C. However, emergency vehicles will be allowed through the worksite, as will local residents needing access to their properties. Residents on Narrows Lane will be escorted through the worksite.

Waikato Expressway - The Waikato Expressway section between Taupiri (Gordonton Rd interchange) and the Lake Rd interchange is expected to re-open from midday Friday 6 December after two weeks of full closure for maintenance work. The northbound detour is via Ngaruawahia and the southbound detour is via SH1B, Bankier and Horsham Downs Rds. After that any remaining work will be done with traffic sharing lanes and the occasional night closure if needed.

Two related detours remain in place until 15 December: (1) The south-bound on-ramp at the Taupiri-Gordonton Rd interchange is closed until mid-December so south-bound travellers will need to use the SH1B detour to access the

Expressway at the Lake Rd interchange. 2) Northbound traffic on SH1C will need to exit at Lake Rd then head south on the Expressway to turn at the Resolution Dr interchange to head north again.

Tip on a 'Red Tape Tipline'

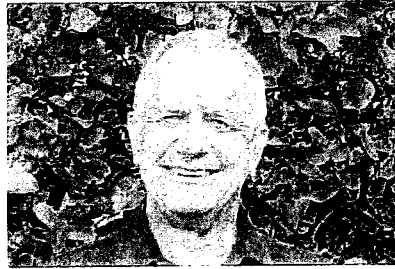
The Ministry for Regulation has established a 'Red Tape Tipline' for members of the public to make submissions on regulations that affect them. Minister of Regulation, David Seymour, says the Ministry wants to hear about 'red tape horror stories' and compliance issues that cost unnecessary time and money. Go to www.regulation.govt.nz.

Happy Christmas

Warm wishes for the Christmas holiday season and a happy New Year. Keep safe on the road this summer by giving yourself plenty of time to get to your destination. Enjoy your time with friends and family, and give thought to including someone you know who might be on their own.

Waikato District Council offices will close from the end of business hours on Friday 20 December 2024 and re-open Monday 6 January 2025, but on-call staff will be available to attend to urgent matters if you phone 0800 492 452.

Contact your Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors:



Crystal Beavis, mob 0275 957 927, email crystal.beavis@waidc.govt.nz

Mike Keir, mob 027 449 3012, email mike.keir@waidc.govt.nz



Weather details for October 2024 and November 2024.

Weather	October 2024	October 2023
Rainfall total	120.5 mm	80.5 mm
Rain Total for year	972.5 mm	1626 mm
Rainy days	11	12
Most daily rainfall	40 mm	16 mm
Highest wind speed	41.8 km/hr	56.2km/hr
Temp high	21.8°C	26.4°C
Temp low	3.8 °C	-0.2°C

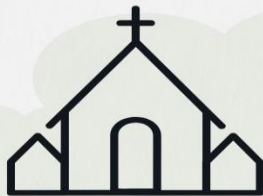
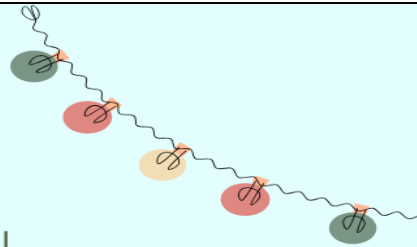
Weather	November 2024	November 2023
Rainfall total	90mm	112.5mm
Rain Total for year	1062.5mm	1738.5 mm
Rainy days	6	10
Most daily rainfall	63 mm 14 th /15 th	34 mm
Highest wind speed	43.6 km/hr	38.5 km/hr
Temp high	23.9°C	26.3°C
Temp low	5.7°C	6.3 °C

TAUWHARE CHRISTMAS PROJECT 2024

Our community Christmas festival returns. Come along for festive fun with live nativity, decorated church, carols & food trucks.

Short Live Nativity Sessions rolling from 5pm or just wander, eat & relax any time from 5 till 8pm. Food trucks close at 7pm followed by carols & supper.

Sun 15th December
St Andrew's Church in
Tauwhare Village



TAUWHARE
COMMUNITY
CHURCH
ST ANDREWS



We are a friendly community church in the heart of Tauwhare Village with a welcoming space for the community to enjoy. These are our current activities. Everyone is welcome.

Night Service Every Sunday 7pm

This weekly night service at 7pm brings people together for connection, encouragement & supper. There is also a shared meal together once a month - date to be confirmed.

Family Service 4th Sunday 10.30am

This service on the 4th Sunday of the month includes people of all ages coming together for encouragement & connection over morning tea at 10.30am followed by a family service at 11am.

Activities for Kids & Youth

For many years we have run a once a month Kids for Christ programme on the 1st Sunday of the month. Moving forward this is going to look different so watch this space.



St Andrews, Tauwhare Facebook for more detailed information



Gardening Tips

What to do this month

Pinch off side laterals from tomatoes to encourage better fruit production and allow for better airflow. Side laterals are the small shoots that sprout in the angle between a tomato plant's main stem and its branches. These can be planted up for free plants.

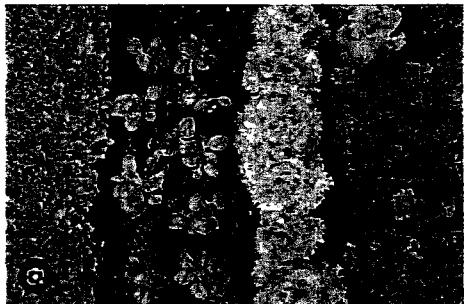
Plant more beans – there's still time to plant a second crop of beans. Beans sown now will feed you until the first frosts. Water regularly – water stressed plants are a sitting target for green shield bug.

You can never have too many salad greens during summer. Sow lettuces, rocket, radishes, spring onions and carrots every fortnight for a continuous supply.

Lettuces are magnets for slugs and snails. Foil the critters by growing African marigolds nearby. Slugs and snails apparently like them better. And keep water up, as a drought – or heat-stressed plant will be more vulnerable to attack by pests too.

Fact: A snail can lay up to 120 eggs at time every six weeks or so. Every snail disposed by now won't be around to contribute 500 or more babies to the potential explosion over the rest of the season.

If you're growing crops in pots move them out of direct sun. Shift them so that they either get morning or afternoon sun, but shade for at least half the day. This cuts down issues with evaporation and keeps roots cool, reducing the likelihood of plants going to seed



Merry Christmas



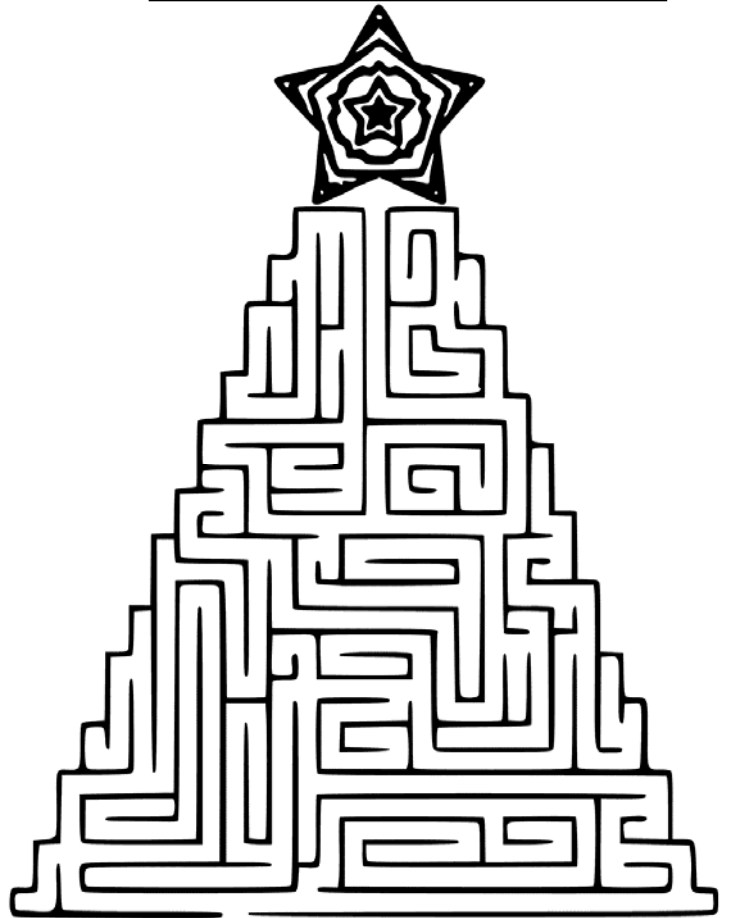
WORD SEARCH

X U R S C T X B O J I W W I Y
 S O W X H O Q T O C N F F I Q
 L W K T I Y M T Q O A S F D Q
 R F F B M S E Q A I U C Y Z B
 V E K Y N S R S R H S O H L K
 K Y I V E X L I U L G Q Q C C
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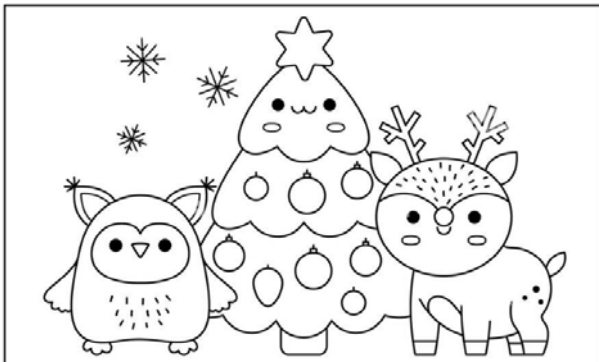
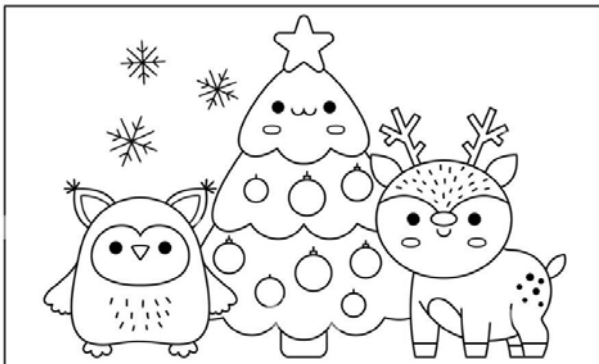
- Chimney
- Elves
- Fairies
- Jolly
- North Pole
- Reindeer
- Rudolph
- Sled
- Sleigh
- Sleigh Bells
- St. Nick
- Toys



Find the way from the bottom of the tree to the Star



FIND 5 DIFFERENCES



Snowflake, star, reindeer nose & spots, bauble

11 Christmas-themed items for a word search:

- Reindeer head
- Orange slice
- Gift box
- Ornament
- Santa Claus face
- Clock
- Calendar (25)
- Candy cane
- Bell
- Christmas tree
- Holly leaves

1 Deer 2 Orange 3 Gift 4 Bauble 5 Santa
 6 Clock 7 Calendar 8 Candy
 9 Bell 10 Tree 11 Holly

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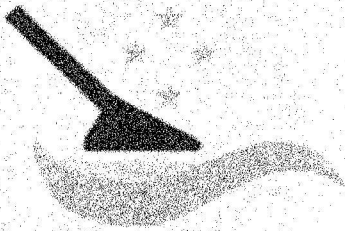
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Heading away on holiday or a work trip?

It pays to take some extra precautions to keep your house and belongings as safe as you can while you're not home. Use the following checklist to make your property less susceptible to burglary and theft:

Hold your mail or have a neighbour collect it A pile of mail on the front doorstep, or envelopes pouring out of your mail slot, is an instant tip-off that no one is home. Ensure parcels are delivered elsewhere.

Create the illusion that someone is home Suggestions include leaving a radio on, using timer lights, leaving a car in the driveway, having someone mow your lawn, keeping curtains open, and not tidying up too much.

Don't tell the world you'll be away as tempting as it is to share on social media about your upcoming trip, perhaps consider only posting about it once you're back. The last thing you want to do is tip off the wrong person that you're away!

Notify a trusted neighbour, friend, or family member Make sure at least one person you trust has your holiday contact details and a spare key so that they can check-in on your place while you're away or respond to an on-site emergency. Something as simple as a fire alarm beeping non-stop might need tending to while you're away.

Keep your keepsakes safe Use a fireproof safe to lock up any jewellery, sensitive documents, and valuable items; and if possible, hide the safe somewhere that a burglar is unlikely to look.

Alert your alarm company If relevant, call your home security company to let them know you'll be away. Make sure all the door and window alarms are set and working when you leave. Don't have home security? Consider installing fake (but realistic) looking surveillance cameras or buying a security sticker purely as a deterrent method. A Neighbourhood Support sticker on windows or on your letterbox is also a great idea!

Hide the hide-a-key If you don't need to leave a spare key out for someone, consider hiding it away in a secure spot inside your home or taking it with you.

While travelling

Always carry water

Allow extra time to get there

Take regular breaks, driving tired is more dangerous than you think

Most importantly of all Have a wonderful holiday.



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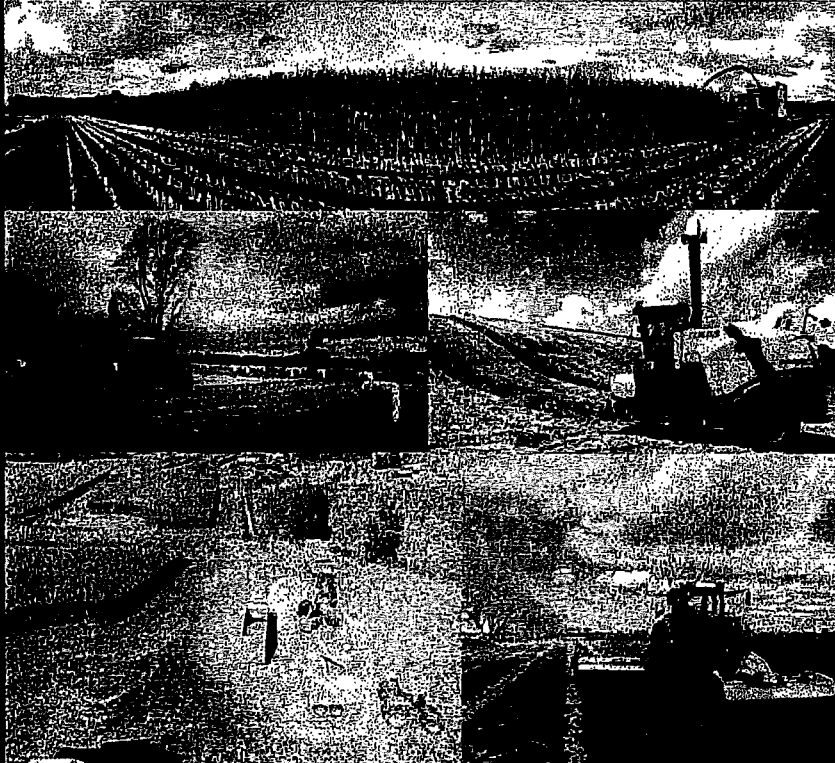
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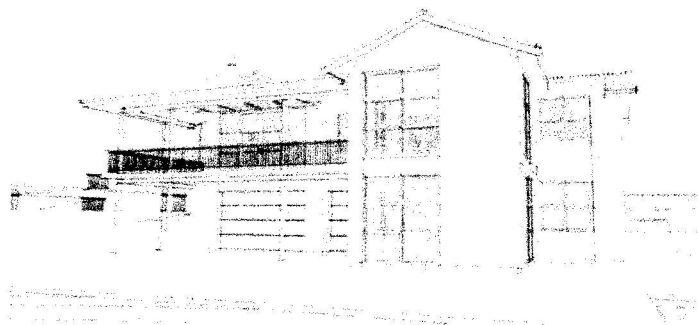


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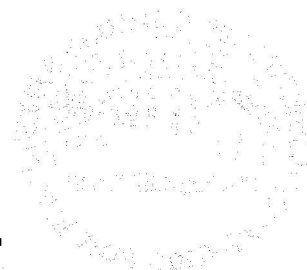
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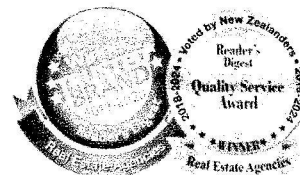
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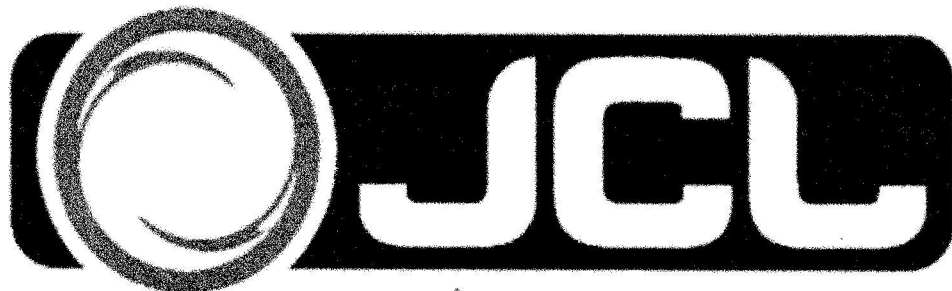
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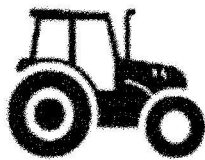
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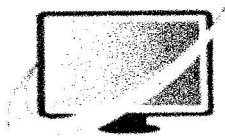
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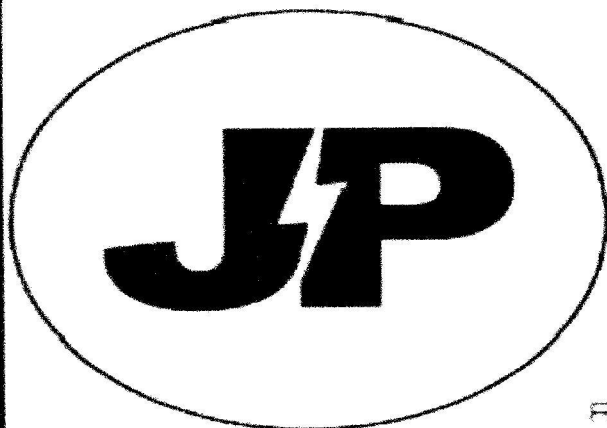
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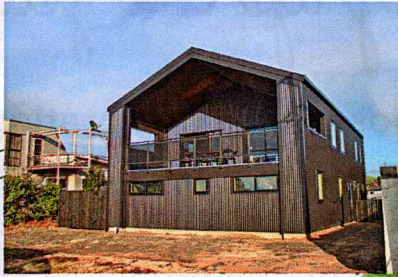
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Stepping into 2025

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