

# Eureka Express

Vol XLVI No. 4 Circ 295

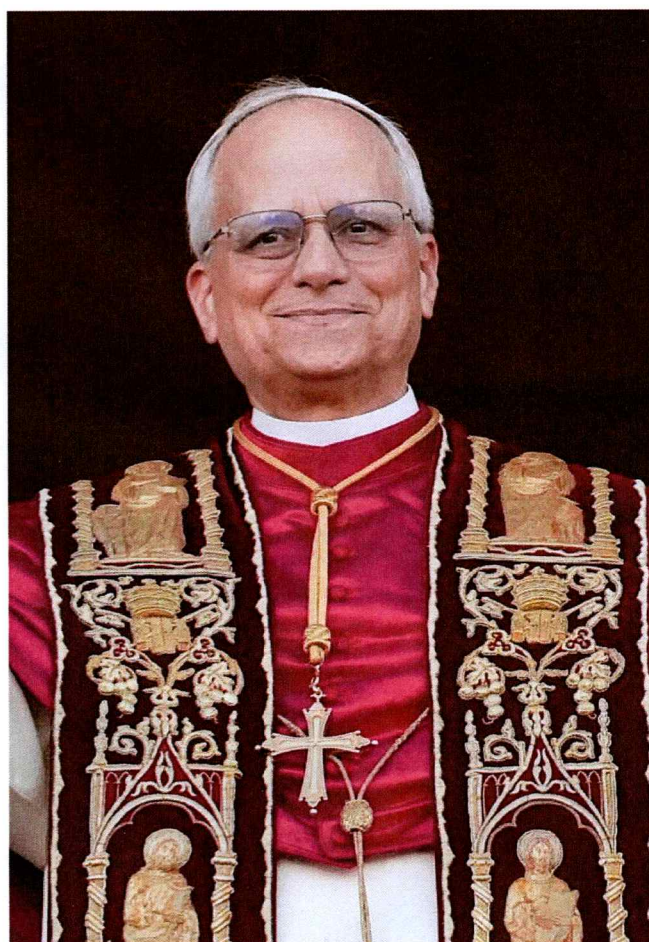
[www.eurekaexpress.co.nz](http://www.eurekaexpress.co.nz)

MAY 2025

[editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz](mailto:editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz)



Pope Francis  
13<sup>th</sup> March 2013 - 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025



Pope Leo XIV  
9<sup>th</sup> May 2025 -

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## **Pope Francis - Papacy 2013-2025**

Pope Francis was head of the Catholic Church and sovereign of the Vatican City State from 13 March 2013 until his death on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025, after a battle with pneumonia.

Pope Francis was born on 17<sup>th</sup> December 1936 in Flores Buenos Aires, Argentina. He was the first Jesuit pope, the first Latin American.

He chose the name in honour of Saint Francis of Assisi and had done so because he was especially concerned for the well-being of the poor, which he continued until the day of his death, visiting the prison the day before and giving away his savings.

Pope Francis lived his life favouring a simpler life, devoid of ornamentation, living in the Domus Sanctae Marthae guesthouse rather than the papal apartments.

Throughout his papacy, Francis was known for his humility, and concern for the poor, migrants and refugees. He addressed the issue of sexual abuse in the Catholic church, apologising and defrocking priests. He believed we should demonstrate more inclusivity to LGBTQ people and in 2013 denounced the criminalization of homosexuality, which he called unjust. He was a very worldly man and spoke his mind.

Pope Francis repeatedly called for the end of wars, and called upon the leaders of Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, to lay down their arms and find solutions

Much has been written over the years about Pope Francis, and his humanitarian works. He was well informed and spoke affluently about world problems, saying we should be building bridges not walls.

## **Pope Leo XIV- Papacy 2025**

Pope Leo XIV, was born Robert Francis Provost, on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1955 in Chicago and elected pope on May 8<sup>th</sup> 2025, the first American born.

Provost became a friar of the Order of Saint Augustine in 1977 and ordained as a priest in 1982. His service has include extensive missionary work in Peru (1985-1998) Elected prior general of the Order of Saint Augustine from 2001 to 2013, returning to Peru as Bishop of Chiclayo from 2015 to 2023. In 2023, Pope Francis appointed him prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops and president of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, and Pope Francis made him a cardinal the same year.

Pope Leo's choice of papal name was chosen in honour of Pope Leo XIII (1878-1903), who established modern Catholic social teaching and promoted labour rights based on his own concern about the worlds cultural shifts involving Artificial intelligence and robotics

Pope Leo, explained that "the church offers to everyone the treasury of her social teaching in response to another industrial revolution and to developments in the field of artificial intelligence that pose new challenges for the defence of human dignity, justice and labour.

On being ordained, Pope Leo XIV vowed to continue the good humanitarian works of Pope Francis, and immediately called upon world leaders, to find solutions and end of wars in Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Russia, calling for release of Journalists and political prisoners.

Politics and religion aside, in this troubled world, we all need to strive to, look out for each other, show respect and empathy.

Having grown up on Waverley Road, we had the opportunity to move back on our return from living in Timaru and travelling since 2020. Mum and Dad (Brian and Sheryll Gordon) had moved off farm, their house was vacant and we were available to move in and look after it for a while. It's lovely to be back. We are particularly enjoying the sunrises, sunsets and country views.

The last five years saw us move from Morrinsville to Timaru for Paul's work, during this time we also spent 15 months travelling. We love travelling in our campervan, tramping and biking so Timaru was a perfect base from which to explore the South Island.

In 2022 we planned to take a year out from work, travelling New Zealand in our camper. While, it didn't go quite to plan, we still had the most amazing time. Six weeks before our departure date, Paul was offered a three month secondment to Dickinson, North Dakota (the least visited state in America). This provided us with the opportunity to explore somewhere we would not otherwise visit, we enjoy the more remote regions so suited us perfectly – when we weren't working, we explored the National Parks around us – Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Yellowstone Park, Mt Rushmore, Deadwood, The Devils Tower, Little Bighorn Battlefield. Christmas was spent snowed in at Dickinson, just like the movies.

Our time in America ended with a road trip from Denver, Colorado to Las Vegas, taking in Rocky Mountains, Arches, Canyonlands, and Zion National Parks, Bryce Canyon, Grand Canyon, stood on a corner in Winslow Arizona and ending with a few days in Las Vegas.

Visiting over the winter meant cold weather, navigating snowstorms and only parts of the parks open, however we also had less people/no queues (perfect for us). It was definitely an experience we will be forever grateful for.

Our return to New Zealand meant a return to Plan A – Hiking and Biking our way around the South Island, after catching up with family. This started out great with lots of biking in Central Otago, Rail Trail, Dunstan Trail, Roxburgh and Clutha Gold – such a beautiful part of the country with St Bathans being a highlight, then it was time to put packs on our back and do some hiking in Stewart Island where we were lucky enough to have a daytime Kiwi encounter at Masons Bay.

Next came another call from Paul's work to offer a winter placement including 6 weeks in Darwin and 3 ½ months in Brisbane, this was too good to pass up – but first we had to tick some more items on the original list – visiting Moke Lake, walking the Old Ghost Road, and getting our camper fixed – an expensive turbo issue!!!

We left New Zealand for Darwin in May and loved this relaxed city. We were fortunate to stay in the city centre with views over the sea, the weather and sunsets were stunning. Paul did have to work but we were still able to explore Litchfield National Park, Katherine, Nitmiluk, Crocodile encounters, Kakadu National Park as well as the sights of Darwin, which has a lot of history from war and First Nations People.

Brisbane was next and after three months there, we definitely decided we are not city people even though we had beach front accommodation in Redcliffe (home of the Bee Gees) which is a lovely quiet suburb with amazing Sunday markets and the whale watching boat on our doorstep.

Having missed NZ winter, it was time to head home, reconnect with our families and resume our camper journeys. There was a busy next few months cramming in a few more things on my list before returning to work in February 2024 – this included a trip to the Bay of Islands, exploring the top of the South – Abel Tasman National Park, walking Nydia Track, Pelorus Sound, walking the Greenstone/Caples Tracks, a trip up the West Coast where we made knives at Barrytown and walking the St James Walkway in Lewis Pass.

Not quite the slow moving career break we planned, but still the most amazing time!

Roll forward another 12 months working in Timaru, it was time to return to the Waikato to be closer to family – with the bonus of moving back to Eureka – It is great to be back in the district – albeit very different from 30 years ago.

Leanne Gordon and Paul Griffin

## **Emergency Management Plan**

In response to last months editorial on access for those amongst us that may be Deaf, hard of hearing, have speech communication difficulties or are deafblind. We would like to know who you are so that in the unexpected event of a significant natural disaster we can check on you. We would like to have a process in place for a high priority check on you and provide any necessary assistance you may need.

Therefore, for privacy reasons we believe the best approach is to hold a confidential silent file of who you are and where you live. In the event of a natural disaster the silent file would be available to Emergency Management officers who would direct assistance to you.

Please note that this list is open to anyone with a disability or elderly living alone who would like to be on the list and may require assistance during a natural disaster.

Therefore, if there are some of you who would like to be identified on a silent file then let us know. Please contact Kathryn Schicker 027 473 2014 or Gayle Orr 027 291 7150.

## **New Zealand Relay Services**

I have done a bit of research and discovered a free service called "NZ Relay Services" which offers a **range of services** for people with communications disabilities. NZ Relay is a service for people who are Deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind or speech communication difficulties to communicate with other people over the phone and internet within New Zealand. The service involves a Relay Assistant serving as the "ears and/or voice" on phone calls. Relay Assistants convey the phone conversation from one party to another. They voice the words typed or signed by a user on a TTY, via Internet Text Relay, Mobile Text Relay, or via NZSL on Teams and then relay the other party's spoken response by typing back to the NZ Relay user.

MBIE funds NZ Relay services to provide equal work and lifestyle opportunities for those with speech, hearing and vision disabilities. You can use a free app to make and receive text relay and captioned relay calls, using your mobile phone or tablet. This service is free to use.

If you would like more information on this service NZ Relay Services website is"

**<https://www.nzrelay.co.nz/index>**

The website has a number of Frequently Asked Questions an important one is this:

### **Can I use the NZ relay to make emergency calls?**

NZ Relay do not recommend making emergency service calls through NZ Relay. because due to the nature of the service provided **emergency calls cannot be prioritised.**

Therefore, in case of an emergency, NZ Relay recommend contacting **the Deaf Emergency Call Centre directly:**

- **DEAF EMERGENCY FAX:**                      **0800 16 16 10**
- **DEAF EMERGENCY TTY:**                      **0800 16 16 16**
- **VOICE:**    **111**

Or, if you are registered with 111TXT, you can text your emergency to **111**. For more information, visit: **<https://www.police.govt.nz/111-txt>**

If you are interested in finding out more about the service then check out the Links above.

## **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Kevin & Andrea Deane for being inducted into the Harcourts Hall of Fame. This is the highest honour in the organization. Together they have attained nearly 55 years in the real estate industry and have thriving businesses in Morrinsville, Cambridge, Matamata and Putaruru.



## **Welcome**

A warm welcome to Maria Sanson and Harley Cushing who have been fortunate enough to purchase their new lifestyle block from Lynne & Graeme Brewer. Harley works in the racing industry and Maria is employed as a jockey with a local stable. They both have a love of animals and enjoy spending time with their four dogs. They look forward to the extra room the new property will provide. They realise they have much to learn and look forward to caring for the sheep Lynne & Graeme have passed on. They will move their own horses onto the property shortly and are looking forward to meeting their new neighbours and community."

## **Phone List**

We will be redoing the phone list in July/August. If anyone has any changes they want made with regards to their name and number please let us know via the editor email address. If you know of anyone who is to be added or deleted then please let us know as well.

## **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.

## **JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR EUREKA**

Kevin Deane is our local JP. He is located in Eureka.

Please call or text to arrange an appointment - ph: 021 970902



## Library Box Reminder:

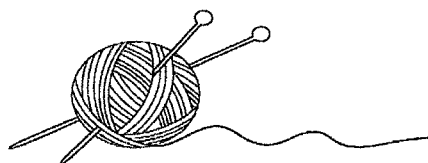
With the winter months ahead, a good time to catch up on reading, remember to visit our little post box library in front of hall door. We try to replenish these on a weekly basis. Please feel free to pop in change your books , or simply borrow one, or leave a few books. We will shortly have our second post box up and running and hope to add a few children's books.

If you have any spare books, feel free to drop in my letter box 101 Hooper Rd.



## Yarn and Yak Club - Hillcrest Library every Tuesday 1:30 to 3

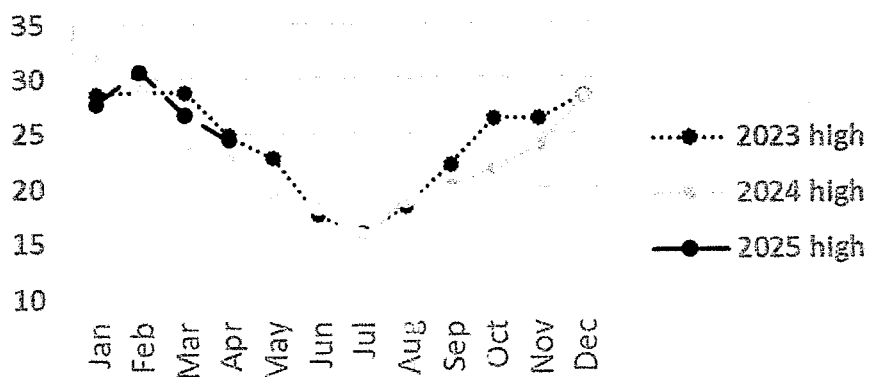
Feel free to come along and join a group of very friendly ladies and Library staff, enjoying each others company, over a cuppa and biscuit. Lots of chat and laughter as we share our projects and advice on our various knitting, crochet, cross stitch, tapestry projects



## WEATHER

| Weather for April   | 2025       | 2024    |
|---------------------|------------|---------|
| Rainfall total      | 36 mm      | 45mm    |
| Rain Total for year | 244.5 mm   | 331mm   |
| Rainy days          | 4          | 9       |
| Most daily rainfall | 12 mm      | 12mm    |
|                     |            |         |
| Highest wind speed  | 48.2 km/hr | 45km/hr |
| Temp high           | 24.4°C     | 22.8°C  |
| Temp low            | 3.6°C      | 1.9°C   |

Maximum monthly temperature/°C



## HALL UPDATE

The big event on the Eureka calendar each year is the Anzac Day commemoration. Each year young and old gather at the Eureka cenotaph to remember those young men of Eureka who gave the ultimate sacrifice to their country. There are a lot of names on the cenotaph which attests to the fact that approximately 10% of New Zealand's total population was mobilised in WW1.

Over 60 people and canines attended the service followed by a cuppa and chat. Thanks to those who make this event happen each year. Thanks to Linda and Phil Journeaux for putting up the poppy tree.

Bookings for the hall are coming in steadily. We have a lovely hall with a sprung floor which makes it an especially nice dance floor. For all bookings please email [eurekahallwaikato@gmail.com](mailto:eurekahallwaikato@gmail.com)

We don't have a date for the next AGM yet, but when we do please consider coming down. Our new committee will be officially voted in. We would love to hear your suggestions for the hall and community events, to add to the ideas we have brainstormed.

I've put my hand up to be the next chairperson in response to a call which went out from Gayle for new hall committee members. Gayle and others were moving on, having provided wonderful service to their community.

Susan Rudolf

|                 | Residents                    | Non-Residents                          |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--|
| Hall per day    | \$50                         | \$100                                  |
| Social Function | \$100- \$300                 | \$250 - \$500                          |
| Childrens party | \$30                         | \$75                                   |
|                 | \$400 Secretary's Discretion | \$500 to \$1000 Secretary's Discretion |

## EUREKA EXPRESS ADVERTISING RATES 2025

For all articles, advertisements, photos, ideas and suggestions, please use the express email address. The Express is printed February – November each year. All articles should be sent to the editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. [editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz](mailto:editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz). Please note all applications for advertising are approved by the committee and can be declined or accepted due to available space. Please do not be offended if we ask you to wait awhile so we can make the adjustments. We do endeavour to accommodate as many advertisements as possible, however, we prefer articles for people to read, and not fill each issue with advertisements.

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

Coming up in June 2025

June 27 is a significant day for many deafblind individuals, **marking** Helen Keller Day. This annual celebration is a tribute to the pioneering work of Helen Keller, who was born in 1880 and overcame the challenges of being Deafblind. It's crucial to recognise that Helen was not the first Deafblind person to be acknowledged. Laura Bridgman, another extraordinary Deafblind individual (1829-1889), often remained in the shadows. With their distinct life paths, these two women crossed paths at the Perkins Institute in 1888. Their meeting heralded a new chapter in the education of the deafblind, a field on which they both left an indelible mark.

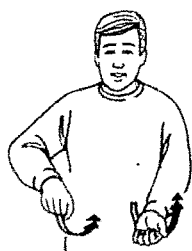
Laura Dewey Bridgman was the first student with deafblindness to be formally educated. She and Perkins's founding Director, Samuel Gridley Howe, became world famous for this achievement at the Perkins School for the Blind, Watertown, MA, USA.

Did you know Helen Keller visited New Zealand and Australia in the past? If not, here are the details.

During her post-war tour of Australia and New Zealand in August 1948, Helen Keller visited Christchurch. Her tour was not just a personal journey, but a mission to reach out to the blind and deaf communities, offering them messages of hope. In her later years, she took her advocacy to a global level, travelling to 39 different countries to persuade foreign governments to establish schools for blind and deaf students.

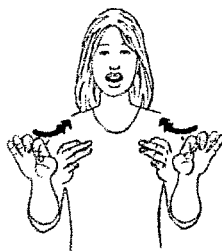
On June 27, a day of significance for the deafblind community, Jean will be actively involved in **three locations** - Hamilton Central, Matamata, and Cambridge. As a Deaf advocate, tutor, and researcher, Jean's work is a testament to the ongoing impact of Helen Keller and Laura Bridgman. As part of a project for the Waikato Deaf Society Inc., Jean will be meeting a deafblind senior in Matamata, who had the privilege of meeting Helen Keller and her assistant, Polly Thomson, at the Van Asch School for the Deaf, Sumner, Christchurch, in 1948.

Jean



garden,  
gardening

*māra, mahi māra*



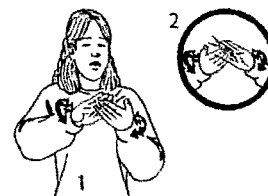
garden

*māra, mahinga*



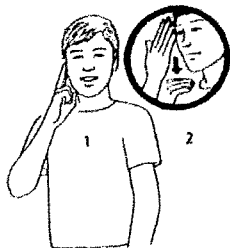
farm

*pāmu*



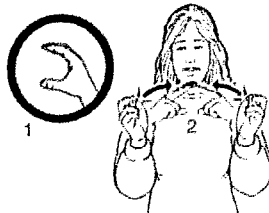
community

*hapori*



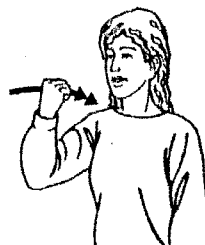
Deafblind

*he tangata turi me  
kāpō*



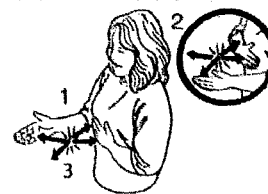
Cambridge

*Kemureti*



Hamilton

*Kirikiri-roa*



Matamata

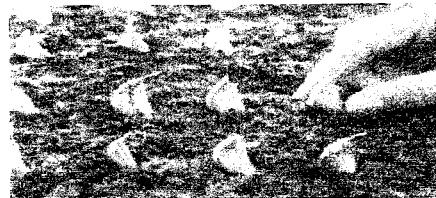
*Matamata*



# Gardening Tips

## Vege and Herbs:

- Squeeze celery, kale, parsley, rocket, spinach and spring onions into any spare gaps you may have. For pots and buckets near the kitchen, pack them full of winter lettuce, coriander and parsley.
- Start looking to your windowsills for microgreens and sprouted seeds-quick turnaround crops that grow well at home.
- Cure and store pumpkins; by now all the pumpkins will be putting their energy into hardening up the skins. I leave my pumpkins until they have had a few frosts on them-by doing this the vine shrinks away from the pumpkin, leaving the stalk like handle in place. Store pumpkins in a dry open space.
- June is the time to plant your garlic is one of the easiest crops to grow....it will thrive, and give you plenty of delicious meals if given the basics- food, water and plenty of sun. So getting it in the ground; with the optimal sowing time on the shortest day- garlic are hungry things. So preparing your soil is important – dig in some sheep pellets, well rotted compost, and other goodies such as general purpose fertilizer and lime, well before planting. You want your soil smelling nice and earthy. They also require free draining soil- without free draining soils, your garlic will rot away and you will end up with nothing.



## Flowers

- Plant spring-flowering bulbs; two to three times the height of the bulb is the right depth to plant them. Bulb need well-drained soil and rot in heavy, clay soils. You can improve drainage by adding sand or grit to each hole or plant bulbs in pots in a cool, shady spot and water occasionally to keep the soil just moist. Once the shoots emerge, move the pots into the light and water more frequently.
- There are plenty of annuals that can be planted in the ground or pots now- pansies, alyssum, primula and calendula to brighten pots and garden edges. Many winter-flowering plants provide food for bees and other pollinators.

## Fruit

- Tuck young citrus up this month to protect them frost and cold weather. Frost cloth works well and because it's porous, it will let the rain through. Avoid fertilising plants now – hold off doing that until mid-spring. A layer of mulch around the roots will help protect the plants over the cold months
- Walnut trees are shedding their bounty now, making it easy for us to harvest. Ideally, pick nuts on a dry day, then allow the nuts to dry out on a rack or shelf for a week or two. While the shells are drying, the nut is curing.

## Maintenance

- Piles of leaves are like free mulch. Raking up leaves to mulch your garden is a fantastic way to utilise fallen leaf matter. Leaves allow water to gently trickle down to the root zone over a longer period, rather than soak in all at once after a deluge of rain.

# ***Feijoa Recipes***

## **Feijoa Chutney**

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.5 kgs feijoas           | 1kg onions               |
| ½ cup crystallised ginger | 2 cups sultanas          |
| 2 cups brown sugar        | 1 teaspoon Ground Cloves |
| 3 teaspoons curry powder  | 2 tablespoons Salt       |
| 1 Litre vinegar           |                          |

Peel and chop the feijoas and onions and slice the ginger finely. Combine all ingredients in a large pan and bring to the boil, stirring. Simmer until thick, and then pour into jars. Seal when cold.

## **Feijoa Crumble Crisp**

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 20 large Feijoas or as many to fill a shallow dish | 1 cup flour                     |
| 1 cup sugar  | 1 tablespoon Baking Powder      |
| 1 egg  | 1 ½ tablespoons ground Cinnamon |
| ¼ cup white sugar                                  | 1 tablespoon melted butter      |

Dust feijoas with cinnamon. Place feijoas in a shallow dish. Mix together flour, 1 cup sugar, Baking powder and an egg. The mixture will look like cornmeal. Spread flour mixture over the feijoas. Mix together 1 tablespoon of cinnamon and ¼ cup of sugar and sprinkle over the top of crisp. Drizzle with butter or margarine. Bake at 180 c for approx 40 minutes. Serve warm with whipped cream, ice cream and custard.

## **Feijoa Ice-cream**

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 250 grams peeled feijoas, | ¾ cup sugar |
|---------------------------|-------------|

Blend in Kitchen whizz until all frothy, add the egg white and beat about 5 minutes until quite thick.

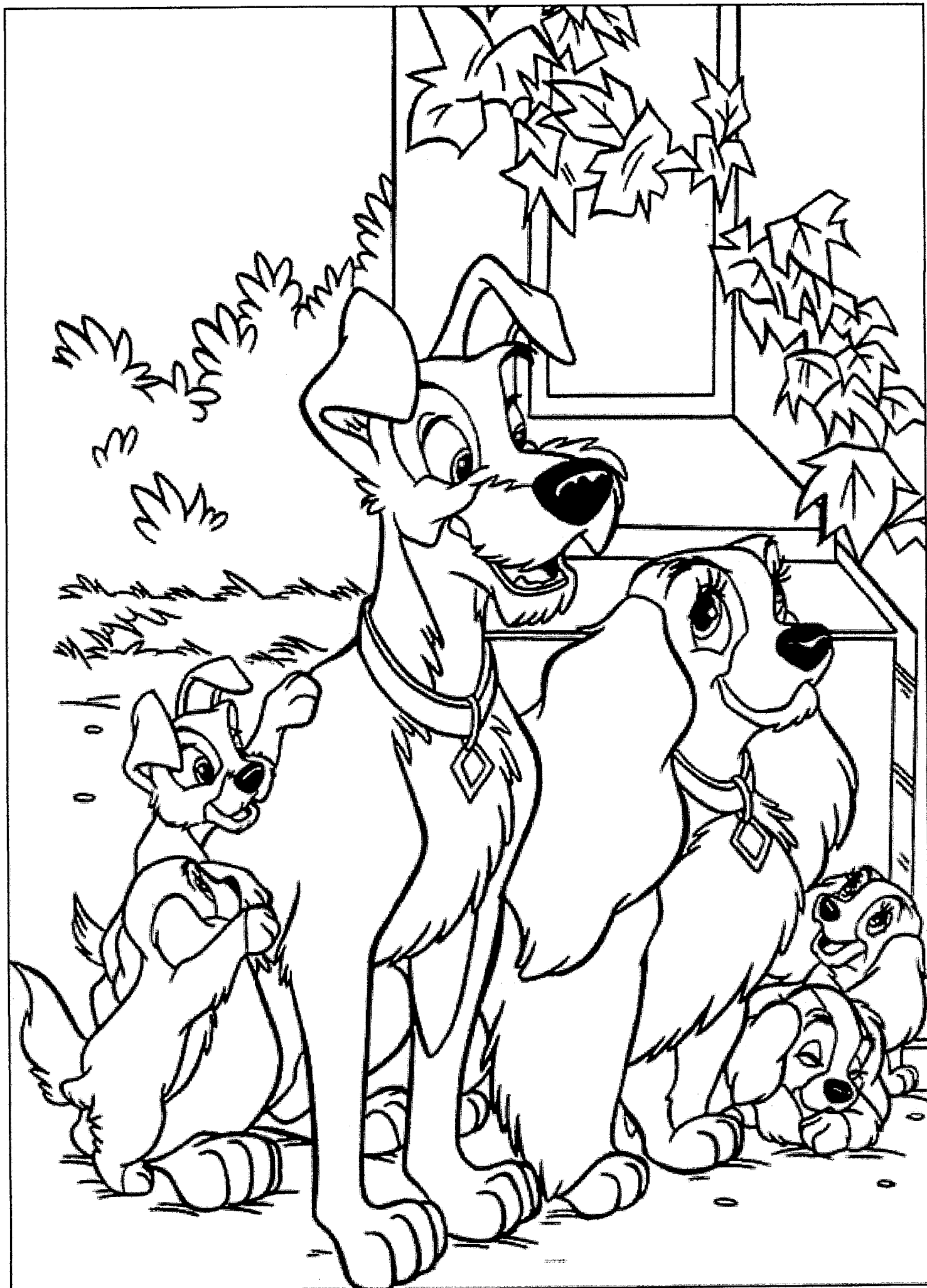
300 grams of cream well whipped

Fold the feijoa mix into the cream, tip into a 2 litre ice cream container and freeze

Very rich and yummy









## Pukeko Preschool Newsletter

### May 2025

It has been a wonderful May at Pūkeko Preschool. We have enjoyed harvesting the last of our summer produce and are busy preparing for and planting our winter seedlings. The tamariki love harvesting the feijoa from our feijoa trees, and sharing them with their friends, whanau and centre community.

We love learning in and about nature and are often captivated by the living things we find in our natural world.



We have continued to learn about ANZAC. A huge thank you to Hamilton Museum for sharing with us some artefacts from ANZAC times - what a rich learning experience this was for all of us.



Email us on [admin@pukekopreschool.org.nz](mailto:admin@pukekopreschool.org.nz) if you would like to secure a spot on our waitlist.

Ngā mihi,  
Shell Proebstel  
*Curriculum Provider and  
Educational Lead*  
Pūkeko Country Preschool  
07 824 086



RESPECT - RESILIENCE - RESPONSIBILITY

# TAUWHARE SCHOOL

Term 2 – May 2025

[WWW.TAUWHARE.SCHOOL.NZ](http://WWW.TAUWHARE.SCHOOL.NZ)



## **"Our Goal? Stopping Yours"**

Winter Sports is underway as our school teams in Netball, Football and Rippa Rugby hit the courts and fields this term. The incredible coaches and managers are organising practices at school, and every Monday at Morena Tauwhare assembly children share their news and Player of the Day awards from the weekend.



## TOP NEWS

### **Science Roadshow**

A thrilling experience for our children in Years 4 – 6. With help from our amazing parents, we travelled to St Peters in Cambridge to attend the Science Road Show. Some of the areas we learnt about were friction, propulsion, chemical reactions, movement and animals as we broadened our understanding of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. There was even a bed of nails to lay on. Below, Rory, Ryan and Josh are examining the workings of the heart.





Tauwhare School



**VISITS WELCOME**

Visit Our Website [www.tauwhare.school.nz](http://www.tauwhare.school.nz)  
Contact us on - [admin@tauwhare.school.nz](mailto:admin@tauwhare.school.nz) or 07 824 0864



## Who has the best clouds?

There's about 5 major players in the consumer cloud storage space; iCloud, Google, Dropbox, Onedrive, and Mega. By that I mean services which synchronise the documents/pictures/etc on your computer or phone with an online server somewhere, and optionally with other computers or phones. The advantage of those types of services are that they provide multiple redundancies - that is, it's very unlikely you'll lose your data on an online server, even if you lose it on your computer/phone. The disadvantage is that beyond a certain amount of data, they all come at a price, and at a cost to performance. Android and iPhone both have their own cloud backups built-in - Google Photos and iCloud, respectively - which synchronise the photos in your phone with an online server. Most android users don't realise their device is automatically backing up their photos by default, and get surprised when they get a message from Google saying that the storage space in their account is running low. They want you to pay for more, rather than bypassing that and synchronising photos directly with your computer.

Having said that, the 15gb of free online storage in your google account, which encompasses Gmail, Google Drive, Google Photos and anything else google-related, is fairly generous. Onedrive only gives 5gb in their free account (and pulls the same scam as above, being enabled in Windows by default), while Dropbox gives a paltry 2gb. Personally I like Mega.nz who give 20gb in their free account. But once you start paying for storage, Mega is the most expensive per GB; followed by Dropbox, then Onedrive/Google Drive/iCloud all cost pretty much the same. If you have a Microsoft 365 license, you get 1tb of Onedrive storage with that also. And how do they compare in terms of performance? Each of these apps scan for changes to your data as your computer is running, which reduces speed a little. Mega has the smallest performance impact, with Onedrive next, iCloud following, then Dropbox, and Google Drive has the worst performance impact of any cloud service provider. Having more than one cloud storage system on your computer, like having more than one antivirus product, increases the performance hit, and can cause problems in some cases.

Lastly, there're usability issues: Onedrive and Google drive both store files/folders in their own proprietary format, rather than just as regular files on the hard drive. In a situation where you have to reinstall the operating system, you're often stuck with having to re-download all your data from the cloud service, rather than just copying data off the drive. This is fine unless you have large amounts of data. Finally, all of these services aside from Mega force you to store any data you want to be backed up in their own custom folder - rather than allowing you to simply define folders on your computer which you want to back up. Overall I recommend Mega for a free account, and for a paid one if you can afford it. For cheaper paid options, Onedrive on Windows and iCloud on Mac seem to have the fewest issues. Or you can do what I do for most of my data; just buy a large external drive and back up to it automatically. Aside from the initial outlay for the drive, there's no ongoing cost, and you don't have to deal with the internet or large multinational corporations to get access to your own documents.

Not feeling like big tech has got your back? Contact Matt at 0211348576 or [info@homepcsupport.co.nz](mailto:info@homepcsupport.co.nz) \$80 per hour, or \$70 for drop-off-to-workshop services.



**Bentley Home PC Support**

## Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors' update May 2025

### SH1B Telephone Rd rail crossing – delay to re-opening

NZTA says work to upgrade the SH1B Telephone Rd crossing and adjacent Holland Rd intersection will allow Holland Rd to re-open by the time you receive this issue of Eureka Express. However, SH1B and the rail crossing is not expected to reopen until after railway signals are in place – work that KiwiRail has scheduled for the second half of July. Shipping containers will be used to bar the rail crossing until KiwiRail have completed their work. Pedestrian access across the rail crossing will no longer be possible and both Puketaha School and the Ministry of Education, who manage the school bus routes, have been informed. NZTA will update the community when there is a confirmed date for the rail crossing to reopen. Until then, the SH1B detour around Holland Rd, Waverley Rd and Seddon Rd will remain in place. Watch NZTA's website for updates: [www.nzta.govt.nz/projects](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects).

### Have your say on neighbourhood parks and sports parks

The Council is reviewing its reserve management plans for Neighbourhood Parks and Sports Parks across the district. Some of you sent in ideas to the Council when it started this process in August last year. Please check out the updated draft plans and let Council know if they need any final changes.

In Tamahere-Woodlands Ward the Neighbourhood Parks covered by these plans are: Good Street Reserve and Jack Foster Reserve in Matangi, Hukanui Park in Gordonton, and Te Awa Reserve in Tamahere. The Sports Parks in the Ward are: Gordonton Reserve on College Dr, Matangi Recreation Reserve at the Sports Club on Tauwhare Rd, and Tamahere Park which runs between Devine Rd and Wiremu Tamihana Dr. Any other open spaces not covered by these two plans are categorised differently and managed under different plans, such as the Natural Reserves or the General Policies reserve management plans.

Consultation is open until **Monday 14 July**. For more information, please go to [www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/say-it).

### Deliberations on Long Term Plan (LTP), Waters CCO

The Council has received 555 submissions on its Long Term Plan 2025-2034 and proposal to establish a Waters CCO with Hamilton City, and 103 submitters have asked to be heard. Hearings and deliberations to determine the final shape of the LTP are expected to conclude by the end of May, in time for the Council to adopt the LTP on 30 June.

The draft plan is based on a general rate increase of 4.25% for 2025/26 falling to an increase of 3.05% in 2026/27 and then mostly smaller rises of between 1.5% - 4.5% in subsequent years. Your proposed overall rates may be higher depending on the range of services you get that attract targeted rates (such as reticulated water and rubbish/recycling). You can check the effect of the proposal on your own property by going to our rating information database on [www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/rid](http://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/rid).

### Sport Waikato survey

The Council is encouraging Waikato district residents to complete a Sport Waikato online survey which is open until Friday 30 May. The survey targets school leavers and adults over 18 and aims to identify and overcome barriers to people taking part in physical activity, and to enhance opportunities to stay active in the district. There are prizes up for grabs for those who take part. The survey can be found at: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/WaikatoDCMWCS](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WaikatoDCMWCS)

### Contact your Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors:



Crystal Beavis, mob 0275 957 927, email [crystal.beavis@waidc.govt.nz](mailto:crystal.beavis@waidc.govt.nz)

Mike Keir, mob 027 449 3012, email [mike.keir@waidc.govt.nz](mailto:mike.keir@waidc.govt.nz)

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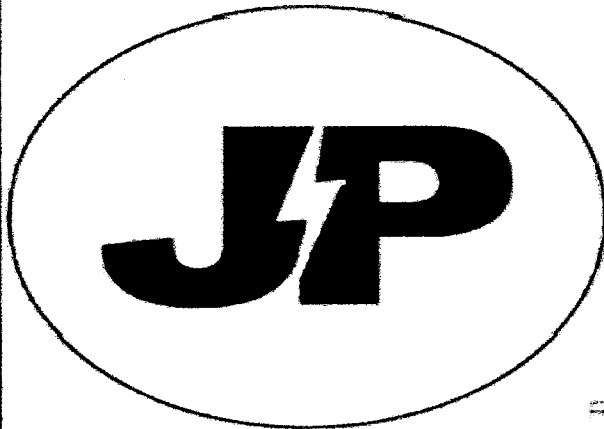
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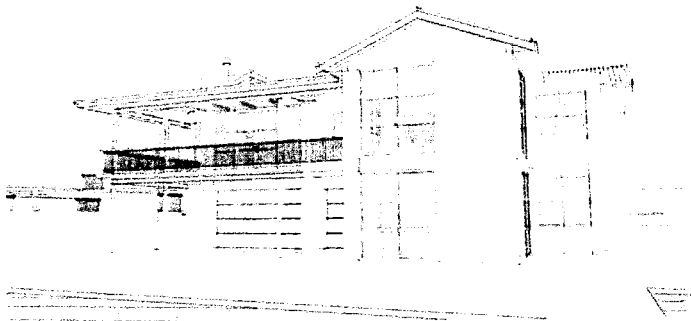
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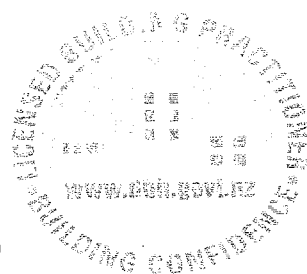
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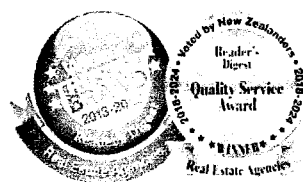
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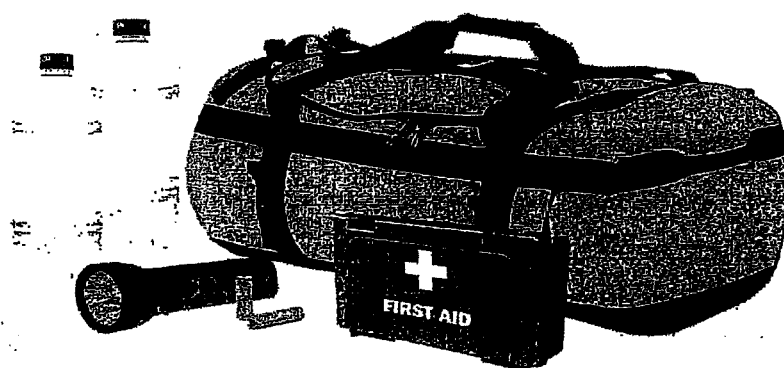
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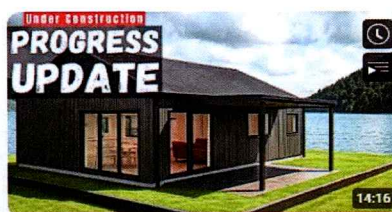
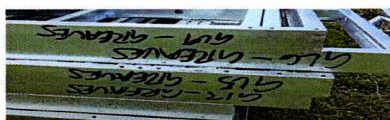
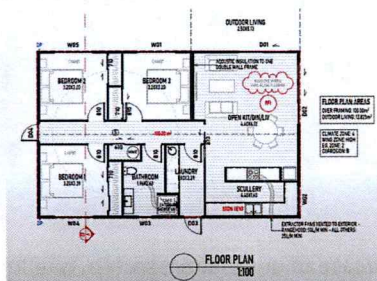
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