

Eureka Express

Vol XLVII No. 1 Circ 295

www.eurekaexpress.co.nz

FEBRUARY 2026

editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz



Balloons Over Waikato

21-28 March 2026

FRONT COVER SPONSORED BY

WAIKATO SHED
COMPANY ✓
great sheds, done right!



Business Directory - Kindly Sponsored by Waikato Sheds

Eureka Express Committee, thank all who sponsor pages and who advertise with us. We appreciate your continued support, without which, we couldn't continue to produce the express for our locals.

Agricultural Contractors

Computerised Bulk Spreader

Dig it Earth Work

G & M Fencing

JCL Jackson Contracting

Wallings Contracting

Builders:

Billings Builders Ltd

Electrician:

J P Electrics - James Palmer

Hair Design:

Hairfields - Sharon Laurent 

Garage & Workshop:

Gull Eureka - Colin

Jewellery:

Local Boutique Jeweller

Justice of the Peace:

Kevin Deane JP

Land Agents:Harcourts - Kevin Deane

Lawns & Gardens:

Lawn Mowing & Gardens - Alex & Sharyn MacDonald

Easy Stake - Plant Support - Simon

Pre School & Schools

Motumaoho School

Pukeko Pre -School Tauwhare

Tauwhare School

Newstead Country School

Pumps

Ross Pumps - Daren Ross

Text & Email

CTAS reminders by Text & Email

Veterinary Services

Newstead Veterinary Services

Waikato Shed Company

Sheds, Stables, Garages, Lifestyles, Rural, Industrial, Sleepouts, & much more

AED Defibrillator



Please refer to the individual advertisements for further Information

AED A defibrillator is available at Eureka Hall. To access this you ring 111 for ambulance and they will give you the access code

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE



On behalf of the Express Committee and helpers I would like to wish you all a very happy new year. Hopefully you have all had a nice break, got some R & R and are now ready to face 2026. The committee have enjoyed the break but are now all ready to go for the year, seeking articles, keeping each issue interesting and keeping you up to date with current issues and events.

This is a local community paper and without the support from the community it would not continue. So once again we need your help. You don't necessarily need to join the committee; you could be a friend of the Express. Be our ears and eyes, let us know what is happening in the community, marriages, deaths, achievements, milestones, fun things, or even an article about your business. We welcome it all, as long as it isn't political or religious.

The committee meets each month on the 3rd Monday of the month, and we print the last Thursday of the month. If you could or would like to join us at any of these meetings, please let us know. Our committee is getting smaller due to people moving out of the district or just getting older, so we need replacements. It is not a full-time commitment, just a few hours per month depending on what you do. Please give this some serious thought. The Express committee have signed a lease agreement for the printer for 3 years, so we need to keep it going for at least that long. That would mean the paper would have been printed for almost 50 years. An amazing achievement.

If you would like to contribute in some way please contact us by email editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz

EUREKA EXPRESS AGM

Monday 30th March at the hall at 7.30 pm.
Please show your support for the paper and really give some thought about how you can help us out. We meet once a month, we print once a month. We need more members to ensure the Express keeps going in the future.

Not many local towns can boast they still have a local paper still going after 46 years. Hope to see you there.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



GET INVOLVED!

THE BATTLE OF THE BIRDS

That's coming along nicely it'll be ready to pick tomorrow. Next day all that's left of that lovely big Beef Steak tomato is a hollowed-out shell.

Well, I'm not sure if the neighbours heard me but I gave quite a loud description of our feathered friends lineage. I'm certain many can identify with this, whether it's plums, strawberries, figs, tomatoes or some other morsel in the garden that catches the eye of our back yard friends.

Hi there this is the Morris family from Hunter Road

Every year we enjoy putting in our summer vege garden usually starting the ground prep and seedling planting after labour weekend. It's a bit latter I know but we got caught out once with a late frost that wiped everything out.

Rebecca led the charge this year clearing all the winter weeds with me joining in a bit later to help dig over the ground and put the trellis up for the cucumbers and beans. As usual we stuck with the basics tomatoes, beans, cucumbers, beetroot and chillies. Also put in Bitter Melon and Egg plants this year which has turned out good.

Staying on top of the weeds is always a challenge but not too bad if you do a little bit each night after work or Saturday morning before it gets too hot.

Everything seemed to be growing nicely and then around mid-December reality hits home that some of the crops are going to be ready to pick when we're away on Christmas break. Hmm I seem to remember something like this last year actually, every year now I think about it.

Looking for a fix, some friends volunteered to come over and water the plants and we told them to pick what came ready and take back with them.

Fast forward mid-January now and arriving home from holiday late one evening the first thing we did was go see the vege garden as you do. Walking through the hay paddock (it was the back lawn when we left) we were shocked to see nothing had been picked just watered and were greeted by swags of beans and courgettes morphing into marrows. Our friends thought it would be nice to leave the produce for us.

So with me unloading the car, Rebecca got to it picking the beans and four big shopping bags later it was finished and just getting dark. We were pleased to get that done as the weather changed the next day with howling winds and rain that shredded the bean vines and to a lesser extent the bitter melon. With a bit of TLC the beans are now back with new foliage and producing again albeit at a slower rate. Fast forward again to mid Feb. The battle for air superiority in the garden is in full swing and on-going as we write. The birds have this knack of knowing just when to start eating things which is usually 12 hrs before me wanting to pick them. With bags over the grapes and nets over the tomatoes we did seem to slow them down a bit until they realised that the bags over the grapes get softer after rain so it was all back on again as they tore holes in the bags leaving us only with storks inside. The tomatoes nets seem to have them baffled at the moment so fingers crossed on that front.

It's interesting watching from the kitchen as the birds hop around under the grape vine looking for the weak points in our defences.

The next big battle will be with the figs in late March but we'll let them have a few as there's usually plenty for all of us.

Any way besides the "Battle of the Birds" we do laugh at the antics of the black birds as they skilfully look for ways to beat our defences. The summer harvest has been good and we have beans and tomatoes frozen ready for winter meals plus chutney and pickle made with left over courgettes, cucumbers, capsicum, green tomatoes and chillies.

With change in season coming along we're not sure if we'll do a winter garden this year (The Battle of Slugs and Snail). We might just have a break and contemplate next seasons "Battle of the Birds".

Deane and Rebecca

Easter Colouring Competition



EUREKA EXPRESS EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION

For children in the Eureka Express Delivery Area only

Groups: Pre-schoolers
Juniors 5 - 7 years
Intermediate 8 – 10 years
Seniors 11 – 13 years

Only one entry per person

Further copies available from Gull Eureka

**Please have entries in to Gull Eureka
By Monday 30th March**

Judging will take place and prize-winners will be advised
prior to Easter

Winners will be named in the April Eureka Express

(Crayons, pencils or felts may be used)

Please complete your details clearly in pen (**not felt or crayon**) so that we can easily contact you

FIRST NAME:

LAST NAME:

AGE:

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS (including road number)

.....

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER:

MATANGI INDOOR BOWLING CLUB; 2026 SEASON OPENING NIGHT.

TUESDAY 3rd March, Matangi Hall. 7.15pm to get your name in the draw.

Come & try this wonderful game that is easy to learn but difficult to master. It is a game for all ages & a great way to forge new friendships. NEVER PLAYED? COACHING IS PROVIDED.

Club nights are every Tuesday from Early March – September.

We are a friendly, sociable club but competitive as well. Our membership ranges from NZ reps to roll up members with all in between. We all started at some stage, but with support & encouragement from fellow members & advice from coaches, we continue to turn up week after week, year after year.

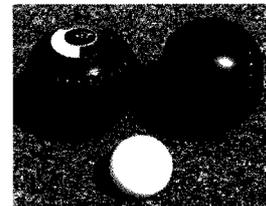
\$2/night gets your name in the draw for the raffle, supper plus prizes for winning team members! Sub to be confirmed, but you will be surprised how low it will be.

Matangi Club began in 1947 & the Honours Board in Matangi Hall is a proud record to the district of who, what & when. So come & add to the great story. We have a wonderful facility where we can play this great game.

The camaraderie that exists amongst bowlers was well demonstrated last year when members of the Tauwhare Club made the difficult decision to close down. Those continuing to play chose to join Matangi, which refreshed club nights for everyone. We all enjoy the new mix of players & plenty of their names now feature on the 2025 Honours Board.

So come along for some social fun, as well as learning a new skill. Do not hesitate to contact me for more details.

Regards, Ange Jones(Secretary/Treasurer) 0273233796.



Aluminium cans

Ace has offered to take all of our aluminium cans. He will save them up and crush them in his machine and take them to the recycling centre. All monies made from this process will be kindly donated to the Eureka Express. When you have collected a few you can drop them off at Ace's address which is 28A Eureka Road (take the driveway that is straight ahead). Look for a bin he might have by the shed or leave them there for him in a bag.



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.**

Family Service

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month
10.30am Morning Tea
11am Service begins

These relaxed gatherings include people of all ages coming together for fun & catch up. There is a mix of faith, games, food & socialising so there is something for everyone. The service on the 3rd Sunday is a new offering for the community.

Come along, bring a friend if you like.

We'd love to see you.



St Andrews, Tauwhare Facebook for more detailed info

A FAREWELL TO EUREKA:

THE KNAUF FAMILY CLOSES A 53-YEAR CHAPTER

After 53 years in the Eureka district, the Knauf family has farewelled the community they have called home for more than half a century — marking the close of a deeply rooted and much-valued chapter.

The family moved to Eureka in the early 1970s, when Mervyn and Margaret Knauf started another sharemilking job on Seddon Road after working around other locations in the Waikato. It was the beginning of what would become a lifetime of farming, family and community involvement in the district. Through determination and hard work, they later purchased a property on Holland Road, where they built a new four-bedroom home. That home became the heart of family life for decades to come.

All four children attended Eureka Primary School, walking through its gates from Primer One to Standard Four. The school, like the wider district, became part of the fabric of their upbringing — shaping lifelong friendships and strong rural values.



As the farm developed, Mervyn and Margaret continued to invest in both their land and their family. Two additional homes were built on the property — one for a sharemilker as the business grew, and another beside the family home for Mervyn's mother, ensuring she could live close and remain part of daily life. Family was always central to their decisions.

At the heart of it all was a marriage that spanned 60 years. Mervyn and Margaret celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary just six months before Margaret's passing — a milestone reflecting a lifetime of shared work, resilience, commitment and love. Their partnership was the foundation on which everything else was built.

Faith was also central to their lives. Mervyn and Margaret were lifelong Christians and attended the Assembly of God Church for the majority of their lives. During the middle years of their life in Eureka, Mervyn served as a full-time visitation pastor, faithfully leading and supporting the church community. Margaret stood alongside him as a devoted pastor's wife, hosting and leading ladies' home groups, supporting church activities, and quietly attending to the many needs that come with ministry life. Their faith shaped their home, their work, and their service to others.

Margaret loved the farm deeply. It was her piece of paradise, and she never wanted to leave it. The land, the home, and the rhythm of rural life were where she felt most at peace and most fulfilled. She passed away in early December, and just one day later the family farm was sold, bringing to a close the chapter she had cherished for so long. While the timing was poignant, it marked the natural conclusion of a life's work and more than five decades in the district.

Margaret was a remarkably talented and capable woman. Alongside supporting Mervyn on the farm and raising four children, she built a reputation throughout the district for her exceptional cake decorating. Her professionally iced wedding cakes, 21st cakes and celebration cakes became part of countless milestones in Eureka and surrounding areas.

She was equally well known for her generous home baking. Farm workers, haymakers, church gatherings and family occasions — no one left the Knauf home hungry. Her kitchen was a place of

warmth and abundance, where slices, sponges and biscuits were shared freely. So treasured were her recipes that a few years ago she compiled her own recipe book, printing copies for close friends and family so her much-loved baking could live on in other kitchens.

Creativity was another of her gifts. Margaret was also an accomplished oil painter, producing beautiful works that she successfully sold. Whether through icing, baking, painting or nurturing her family, she expressed her gifts with dedication and pride.

The four Knauf children have each carried the values of their upbringing into their own lives. Philip spent several years working on the family farm before moving to Sydney in 2000, where he now works as an IT payroll project manager. He has a blended family with two children and one grandchild. Trish lives locally in Hamilton and owns and operates an engineering firm with her husband; she is also a qualified accountant with a number of accountancy clients and has a blended family of five children and one grandchild. Lyn is just completing her nursing degree and lives with her husband locally in Te Kowhai. They have five children, with a third grandchild on the way. Richard co-founded a Hamilton-based tent manufacturing business that now sells inflatable tents around the world, and he and his wife are living locally in Hamilton with their two children.

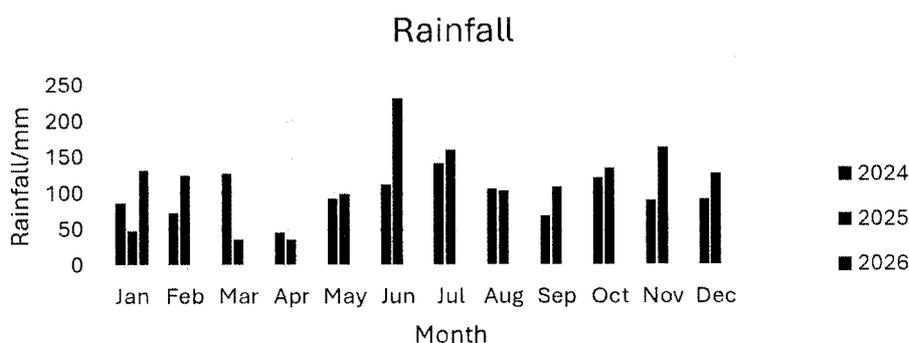
From initially sharemilking on Seddon Road to more than five decades on Holland Road, the Knauf family’s time in Eureka represents hard work, creativity, hospitality, faith, and deep family commitment.

While they may now be moving on from the district, the legacy built over 53 years — through farming, friendship, enterprise, faith, and Margaret’s many contributions — will remain part of Eureka’s story.

The Knauf family extends their sincere gratitude to the Eureka community for more than five decades of support, friendship and shared memories.



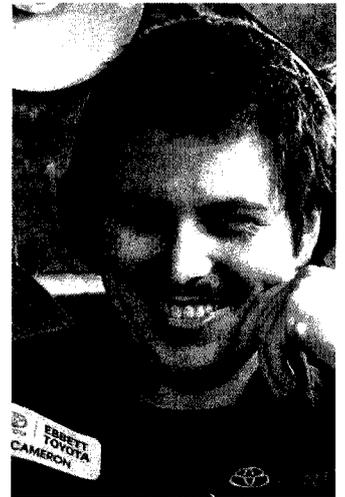
| Weather for January | 2026 | 2025 |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Rainfall total | 131mm | 47.5mm |
| Rain Total for year | 131mm | 47.5mm |
| Rainy days | 9 | 5 |
| Most daily rainfall | 37mm | 22mm |
| Temp high | 27.2°C | 27.8 °C |
| Temp low | 9.9°C | 6.7 °C |



In Memory of Cameron Hunter MEREDITH

Cameron Hunter Meredith passed away unexpectedly at home in Eureka on 29 December 2025, aged 23. His life, though far too short, was lived with purpose, passion, and a quiet strength.

Cameron grew up in the Waikato, attending Waikato Waldorf School and Hillcrest High. His love of cars began early and never left him. After time spent in the workshop, he began his automotive apprenticeship with Morrinsville Toyota in 2021. He made short work of it, flying through his training with ease and enthusiasm, qualifying in June 2024 with a New Zealand Certificate in Light Automotive Engineering, and later achieving his TAT qualification with Toyota in October 2024.



At Morrinsville Toyota, Cameron became an integral part of the team. He built genuine friendships, supported his teammates, and earned a level of respect that is rare in someone so early in their career. His caring nature, steady presence, and quiet capability left a lasting impression.

Cameron is the dearly loved son of Scott and Alison, and the much-loved brother of Alex. He is a beloved grandson of Bob and the late Lyn (Morrinsville), and Bill and the late Colleen (Katikati). He is held in the hearts of his aunties and uncles—Grant and Wendy, Angela and Anthony, Teresa and Pri—and by his cousins Hamish, Daniel, and Joshua.

He is deeply loved, deeply missed, and carried forward in the thoughts and hearts of all who knew him.

The family wish to express their heartfelt gratitude to the many friends and neighbours who have surrounded them with care, support, and kindness. Your warmth has been a steadying presence in these difficult days.

IN LOVING MEMORY

- Our deepest sympathy goes to Merv Knauf and family on the death of their dear wife, mother, grandma and great-grandma, Margaret, in Hamilton on December 6. See write up within.
- Heartfelt sympathy is also extended to Alison, Scott and Alex Meredith on the sudden, tragic death of their dear son and brother, Cameron, on December 29. See Obituary within.
- Sincere sympathy also goes to Doreen and all the Appleton family on their sad loss of Bob, their loved husband, father, father-in-law, Poppa and Great-Poppa. Bob died in Matamata on December 26 and is sadly missed by all his friends and family.
- Our thoughts are also with Lorraine Sullivan and family on their sad loss of Bill on 3 January. A sad time for all.

BOOTLEG IN MARCH



We're looking forward to a good year in 2026 and it's started off well - even with the pissy weather.

As usual, The Brewery is trying new things, and this year we have set up a new plant to make cider, and alcoholic Ginger beer and Lemonade.

The first brew of cider is in the tanks at time of writing and shortly, will be available for tasting. Watch for progress on the Socials.

Many of our regulars are four-footed - not because they're drunk and crawling, but because they're man's best friends and they're very welcome at Bootleg. If you're coming in with your best mate, make sure they're photogenic - they'll probably go on the **Dogs Of Bootleg Register** on Insta!

EASTER HOURS @ BOOTLEG

Bootleg is open Thursday, and Saturday . Sorry - we're not allowed to open on Good Friday or Easter Sunday.

GETTING TO BOOTLEG

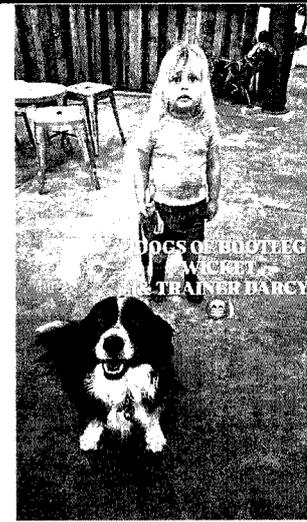
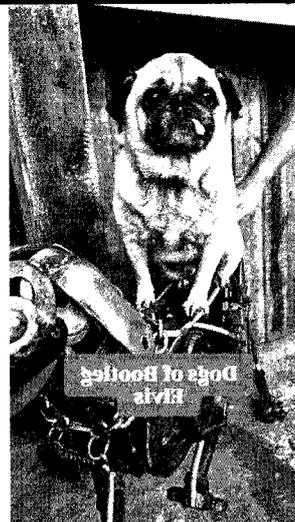
We've always been off the beaten track and never more so than at present! While Matangi Road is closed off, it's probably easier to use **GOOGLE MAPS** or the equivalent as traffic buildups can get in the way. But we're still at the rear of the Old Factory right in the centre of Matangi Village.

SUNDAY MUSIC is every Sunday from 3pm to 6pm with Chris Baillie - and the regular pop-ups from ELVIS of Tokoroa!

Oh dear.... Only in Matangi...

CATERERS COMING UP IN MARCH

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Sun 1st | Kaliméra Pizzas |
| Thu 5 th | Suzuya Japanese |
| Fri 6 th | All Around The World |
| Sat 7 th | Sweet C Sassy Smokehouse |
| Sun 8 th | Kaliméra Pizzas |
| Thu 12 th | Suzuya Japanese |
| Fri 13 th | Kai On Wheels |
| Sat 14 th | Kaliméra Pizzas |
| Sun 15 th | Kaliméra Pizzas |
| Thu 19 th | Suzuya Japanese |
| Fri 20 th | ROAM |
| Sat 21 st | Sweet C Sassy Smokehouse |
| Sun 22 nd | Kaliméra Pizzas |
| Thu 26 th | Suzuya Japanese |
| Fri 27 th | All Around The World |
| Sat 28 th | SMOKIN' OAK BARBECUE |
| Sun 29 th | Kaliméra Pizzas |
| APRIL | |
| Thu 1 st | Suzuya Japanese |
| Fri 2 nd | CLOSED - GOOD FRIDAY |
| Sat 3 rd | Sweet C Sassy Smokehouse |
| Sun 4 th | CLOSED - EASTER |



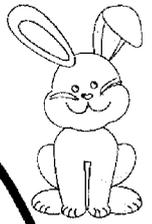
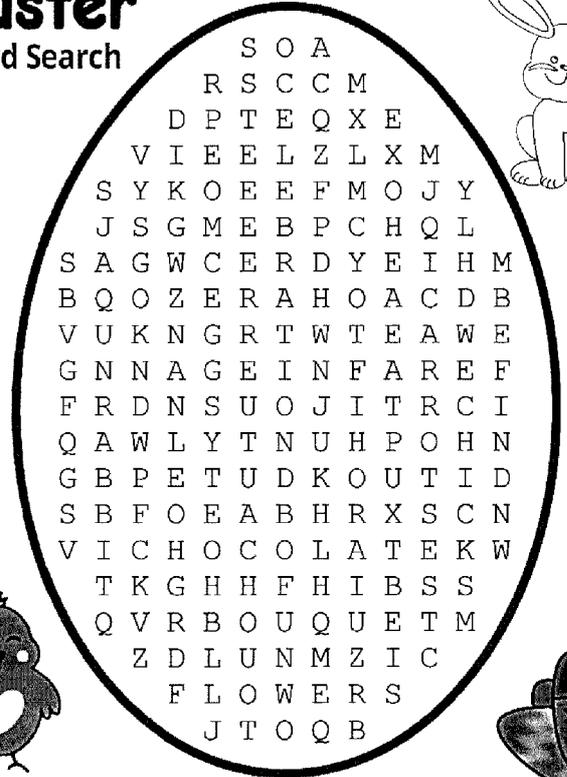
The food caterers are happy to cater to anyone while the brewery is open, and the food can be packed for takeaways

WORD SCRAMBLE

- UYNBN _____
- ETAHOCLC _____
- IRGSPN _____
- GSGE _____
- STBKAE _____
- RETASE _____
- CAEOLBTIENR _____
- UHTN _____
- KICHC _____
- NYDASU _____
- AYNDC _____
- ORCART _____
- EFRLWSO _____

Easter

Word Search

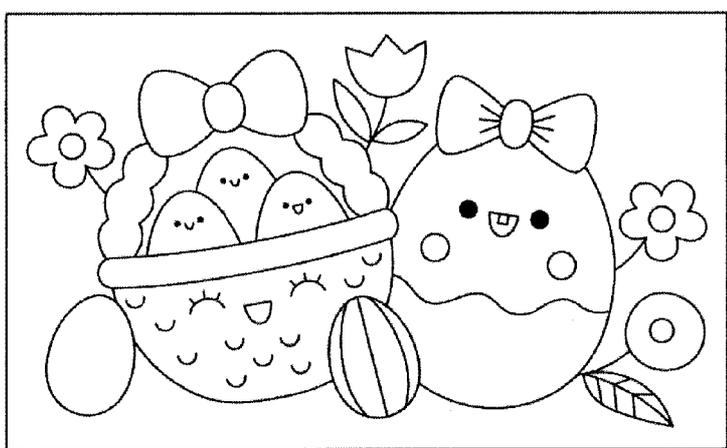
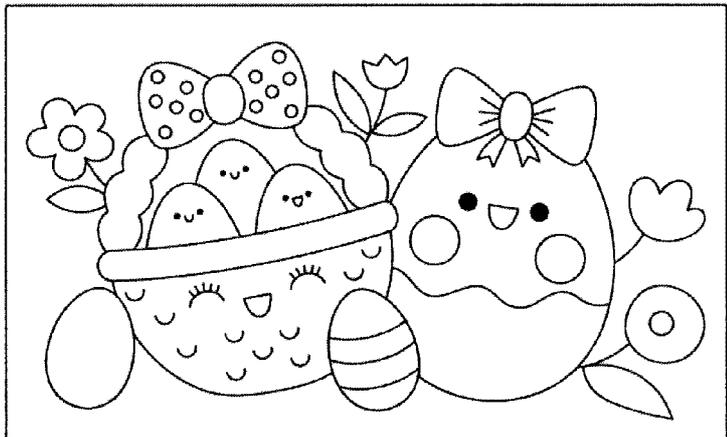


Word list:

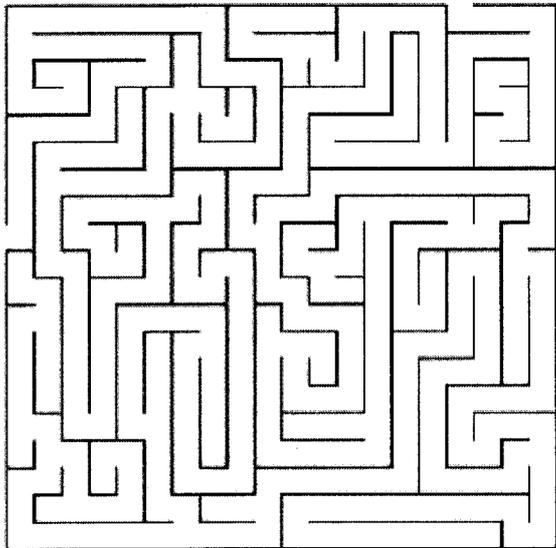
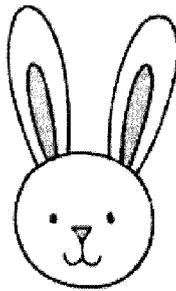
- | | | | |
|---------|-------------|---------|--------|
| BASKET | CELEBRATION | DYE | HIDE |
| BOUQUET | CHICKS | EGGS | HOP |
| BUNNY | CHOCOLATE | FIND | PEEP |
| CARROTS | COTTONTAIL | FLOWERS | RABBIT |

Flowers
Bunny,Chocolate, Spring, Eggs, Basket, Easter,
Celebration, Hunt, Chick, Sunday, Candy, Carrot,

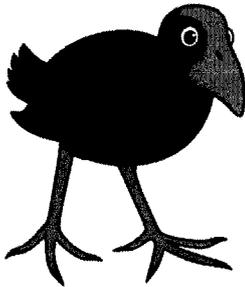
FIND 10 DIFFERENCES



Can you help the Easter Bunny find the eggs?



PUKEKO PRESCHOOL TAUWHARE



Limited Spaces Available in our Under 2's room
Small groups. Big hearts. Quality care.

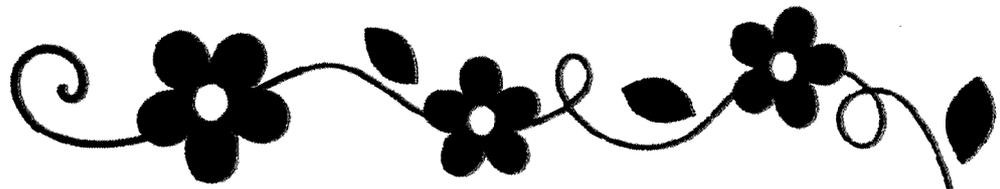
With a 1:4 ratio and a maximum of 7 babies, your child receives calm, responsive care in a nurturing home away from home environment. Families enjoy regular Storypark updates and strong primary caregiving relationships.

ENQUIRE NOW

Phone: 07 824 0860
20 Scotsman Valley Road,
Tauwhare



Alea Mosen
curriculum.lead@pukekopreschool.org.nz



Gardening Tips

Make the most of your garden and keep the harvest coming with a little TLC. Water plants deeply in cooler parts of the day—early in the morning or in the evening. Mulch to retain moisture and feed regularly to keep plants healthy and productive. Check for pests and diseases often and harvest frequently to encourage continued growth. A good deep soak every few days is better than daily shallow watering. This will encourage deep roots and help plants survive short term drought.

Continue to pick your flowering roses, dead head old flowers and spray to compact pests and diseases

Vegetables: sow seeds of winter vegetables like cabbage, cauliflower, beetroot, broccoli, carrots, winter lettuce, leeks, brussel sprouts and silver beet.

Flowers to plant: alyssum, calendula, cosmos, impatiens, marigolds, nemesia, snapdragons, stock, sweet william, violas and wallflowers.

Early summer bulbs such as anemone, ranunculus, tulips, and daffodils arrive in stores this month and are best to place in the fridge for 4 to 6 weeks until the weather starts to cool down, and then they can be planted in flower beds and pots. Bulbs can be planted through to late autumn.



Summer Salads

Banana and Onion Salad

2 red onions

½ cup white vinegar

Marshmallows

4 bananas

½ tin sweetened condensed milk

Method

Slice onions, cut bananas. Mix condensed milk and vinegar, pour over and cover. Cut marshmallows in half and mix in. These can be used whole. White onions can be used but red are best.

Summer Harvest Salad

Salad

2 large handfuls of fresh tomatoes

50g feta cheese

Fresh herbs- mint or parsley, dill and garlic chives

Dressing

3 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil

1 tsp Dijon mustard

1 Tbsp fresh lemon juice or apple cider vinegar

1 garlic clove crushed

salt and pepper to season

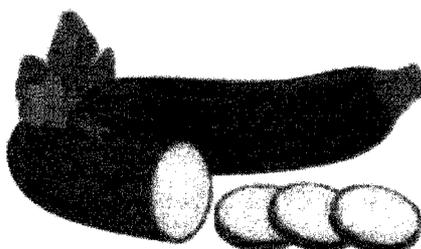
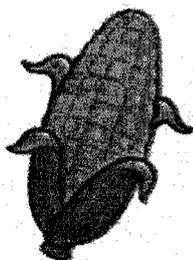
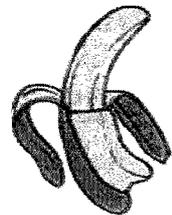
Slice zucchini and de-husk corn cobs

Lightly oil and grill on a BBQ until just tender

Slice corn kernels off the cobs and place in a bowl

Slice fresh tomatoes, herbs and toss gently with the dressing

Spread into preferred serving dish and crumble over the feta





RESPECT - RESILIENCE - RESPONSIBILITY

TAUWHARE SCHOOL

Term 1 – February 2026

WWW.TAUWHARE.SCHOOL.NZ



TOP NEWS

Welcome Back, 2026 in on!!

As we welcome a new school year at Tauwhare School, we do so with optimism, energy, and anticipation. New beginnings bring opportunities to learn, grow, and strengthen connections within our community. We look forward to the journey ahead with our children, teachers, and whānau.

A heartfelt welcome to the new students and whānau who have joined our kura over the break and at the beginning of the year. Our start-of-year Whakataū was a wonderful celebration, bringing our community together to warmly welcome our new children, teachers, and families as they begin their learning journey at Tauwhare.

Step In Preschool Visits

Wednesday 11 March

Do you have a child who is starting school in Term 2 this year? Email us to set up your 'Step-In' visit. We are looking forward to seeing you.



Each Friday, certificate recipients come together at the Anne Currie Memorial Wall to be recognised for their award. Congratulations to our first recipients of the 2026 school year.

Can you spot the avocado and the dinosaur?



Have you got a minute? Or maybe 5, or maybe 100? Join us on TUESDAY 10th of March for our first Enviro Day of the year. We appreciate the many hands it takes to make our projects become a reality

We wish you a Happy New Year.

As we are now over 61 and 70, I will resume my work as a social service and Deaf advocate on January 19, supporting people with disabilities, seniors, and the D/deaf community. In December 2025, I also joined a New Zealand advisory group.
Theme: "A Legacy In Our Hands."



Deaf community

hapori turi

This April marks 20 years since New Zealand Sign Language received official recognition. In 2006, while overseas, I observed how governments, Deaf communities, and families collaborated to identify areas for improvement in several countries.

New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) is an official language, recognised by the NZSL Act 2006. It is legally protected alongside English and Te Reo Māori, and is used by the Deaf community for communication and identity. Government guidelines promote its use in public services, ensure accessibility for Deaf citizens, and support its use in legal settings.

Key Aspects of NZSL:

- **Official Status:** Declared an official language in 2006, granting rights and promoting its use.
- **Linguistic and Cultural Identity:** NZSL is a natural, distinct visual-gestural language central to the Deaf community's identity, not merely a marker of disability.
- **Legal Recognition:** The Act allows for its use in legal proceedings, ensuring access to justice for Deaf people.
- **Government Responsibility:** Guides public service departments to provide information and services in NZSL.
- **Components:** NZSL uses hands, body, and facial expressions. It has no written form but can be recorded on video.



Deaf culture

ahurea turi

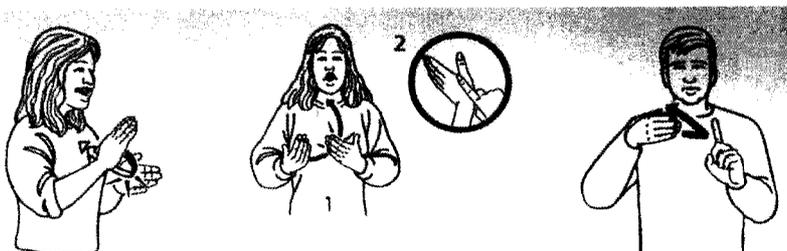
Communities across New Zealand continue to make progress, and some groups have acknowledged our needs and are working with us. Funding and support from the Minister of Finance and other MPs significantly affect people with disabilities, seniors, and parents of disabled and D/deaf children. The D/deaf community seeks greater access to interpreters nationwide and more employment opportunities in business and farming to reduce reliance on benefits. We also need more IT staff to improve technology, including video chat, video email, and communication tools for emergencies and disasters such as Antenno. Further improvements are needed in education and health, especially given recent funding reductions. The rising cost of living has created significant challenges for disabled and D/deaf people, many of whom struggle daily without adequate support or equipment due to funding limitations or eligibility criteria. It is important for everyone to learn about our community and understand our requests for assistance.



Deaf identity

tuakiri turi

If you are interested in learning more about our community or would like to attend an introductory NZSL class during the week of Monday, May 4 to Sunday, May 10, please contact me. We can arrange a suitable location, such as the Eureka Community Hall or a local school, and schedule a 1.5-hour session outside my work and advisory commitments. A small donation would help cover materials, my time, the fence project, and my Deaf history and research projects.



happy

hari, koa

New Year

Tau Hou

identify, recognise

tautuhi, whakaae



Deaf world

ao turi

Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors' update February 2026

Join the new Community Voice Panel

Waikato District Council invites you to join its new Community Voice Panel to help guide Council decisions. Panel members will receive short online surveys throughout the year on topics that matter to them such as parks, roading, new facilities, environmental initiatives, and future planning, with some opportunities to take part in-person. Your feedback will help guide Council decisions and ensure the community has a direct voice in planning and services. For more info, and to join the Panel, go to: www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/community-voice-panel.

Council's 2026 work programme underway

An early focus is to establish the Waikato District and Hamilton City council-controlled operation (CCO), IAWAI – Flowing Waters, by 1 July. Our first meeting of the year was a joint workshop with Hamilton City Council to begin considering the agreement under which waters assets and resources will be legally transferred to the new entity.

Early preparation for the Council's next Long Term Plan 2027-37 and reviewing 'community outcomes' have been the subject of workshops in February. The next steps will be to review our financial and infrastructure strategies, levels of service, asset management and work plans, and budgets for the next 10 years. There will be opportunities for informal community involvement and feedback before the LTP is prepared for formal consultation – sometime early next year. Meanwhile the Council will also be reviewing its Annual Plan budget for 2026-27. Bylaws under review this year include the Reserves and Beaches Bylaw, Water Supply and Trade Waste & Wastewater Bylaw, Dog Control Bylaw and Livestock Movement Bylaw.

Government consultation on local government reform

In February the Government has been running targeted consultation on its proposals for rates capping (2-4%), and simplifying local government (replacing elected regional councillors with Combined Territories Boards made up of Mayors and charged with the responsibility to develop regional reorganisations plans).

It has also sought public submissions on the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Amendment Bill which will replace development contributions with a national Development Levies system to fund growth infrastructure.

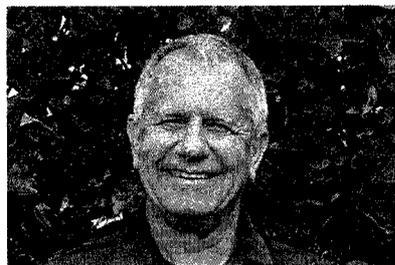
The Government also consulted on the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill which will replace the Resource Management Act 1991. These Bills establish new frameworks for regulating land use, and for protecting the natural environment. They aim to reduce the number of council district plans by providing for a single combined plan per region that implement national direction and include spatial, natural environment, and land-use plans in one place.

Calls for submission on other legislation and inquiries affecting local government have included the: Emergency Management Bill (No2); Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Bill; and the Inquiry into the 2025 Local Elections (submissions close 27 February). For proposed legislation still open for submission go to <https://www3.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission>

Local News

- Congratulations to *The Sculpture Park at Waitakaruru Arboretum* for gaining a 5-star Garden of National Significance rating and Grade II ArbNet Arboretum accreditation. See their website for more information.
- The SH26 Morrinsville Rd intersection with Silverdale and Matangi Rds is closed until 19 May for the construction of a "peanut-shaped" roundabout. This is a Hamilton City Council project – so to keep up-to-date with developments go to Hamilton City Council's website www.hamilton.govt.nz .

Contact your Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors:



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

Mike Keir, mob 027 449



161 Morrinsville Road, Hamilton, 3286

Phone: 07 856 4522 Email enquiries@newsteadvets.co.nz

Website: www.newsteadvets.co.nz

Newstead Vets offer a full range of veterinary services for small animals including:

- * Consultations (by appointment only)
- * Soft Tissue and Orthopaedic Surgery
- * Digital Radiography and Ultrasonography
- * NZVA Microchipping Accredited Practice
- * Nutrition and product Advice
- * Rural location with ample parking
- * Referral to Specialists
- * PennHIP Certified
- * Full Laboratory Service
- * Hospitalisation
- * Cremation Service
- * Convenient Online Shop

G&M FENCING

WAIKATO WIDE

For all your rural, lifestyle and residential fencing needs



Contact Mitch

0278418055

gandmfencingnz@gmail.com



Local Boutique Jeweller

DESIGN · MANUFACTURE · SHOWROOM

- Showroom by appointment only
- Private personal shopping experience
- Repairs and maintenance
- Custom design & manufacturing
- Remodelling old or unworn jewellery
- Unique, one-of-a-kind designs & small collection jewellery
- Independent insurance valuation services
- Wine and cheese shopping experience for small groups



GET IN TOUCH

@erikawatsonjewellery

@ErikaWatsonJewellery

erikawatsonjewellery@gmail.com

LAWNMOWING & GARDENING SERVICES

Professional lawn and garden —care services



Alex & Sharyn Macdonald

For free no-obligation quote:

Phone 027 479 7282

or 027 308 6781

E:macdonaldmowing@gmail.com

Www.lawnandgradenservices.co.nz

Residential—Rural—Commercial

Spraying—Fertilizing—Weeding

HAIRFIELDS

HAIR DESIGN

95 HOOPER ROAD

Sharon Laurent

Full salon facility in Eureka

Total hair care professional

and many years experience

Agent for Nutrimetics

Open Tuesday to Thursday

Late nights Tues/Thurs

Tel. 027 280 5978



Servicing and installation

on all types of pumps

Full water treatment

service available

DAREN ROSS

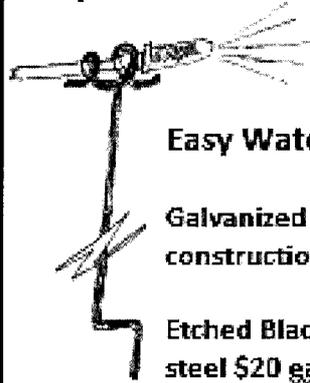
Ph: 824172G

Or 0274 346 571

Email:

admin@rosspumps.co.nz

Easystake.co.nz



Easy Water Stake

Galvanized steel
construction \$20 ea

Etched Black
steel \$20 ea

Etched & Painted —
Bright Colours \$25 ea

Simon 02108063432

**THIS COULD BE
WHERE YOU
ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS.
CONTACT THE
COMMITTEE TO
FIND OUT MORE**

TRACTOR WIZARDS
Mobile Machinery Wash
Phone Roan

M 0273999004
02108329046

tractorwizardsltd@gmail.com

Tractors
Trucks
Excavators
Farm Equipment
Vehicles

F | C
FURNITURE CREATIONS
HOME STAGING



Your Home Deserves to Stand Out — Let's Make Buyers Fall in Love

Selling your home?

In today's competitive market, standing out isn't easy. You want your property to capture attention, attract serious buyers, and sell for top dollar — but you're not sure how to make it shine.

That's where Furniture Creations Home Staging comes in. We're professional property stylists based in Eureka, and we help homeowners transform their spaces into irresistible showpieces that buyers can't ignore.

Don't let your Waikato property blend in - schedule a consultation with us today!

0274792302



info@furniturecreations.co.nz



www.furniturecreations.co.nz





CTAS

100% NZ Owned and Operated

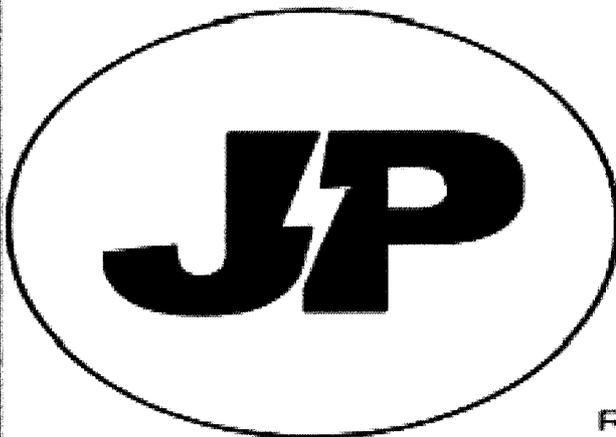
- TXT and Email Alerts and Reminders
- TXT Shortcodes for your business or club
- Flight Status by ~~TXTing~~ your Flight to 8808
- Live Video and Audio Streaming on the Internet



Reminders by TXT and Email

YOUTXT™

www.ctas.nz | sales@ctas.nz | www.youtxt.nz



JP ELECTRICS
— 191 2022 —

JAMES PALMER

REGISTERED ELECTRICIAN

⚡ 027 756 6804

⚡ james@jpelectrics.nz

⚡ www.jpelectrics.nz

Residential | Commercial | Heat Pumps



QUALITY ASSURED
MASTER
ELECTRICIAN

COMPUTERISED BULK SPREADERS LTD

Cartage and Spreading

FERTILISER, LINE, UREA SPECIALIST

Competitive Rates

PETER JONES

027 496 3370



*37 years service in the Morrinsville district *

Dig It Earthworks

EARTHMOVING & EXCAVATION

- House Pad & Driveway Prep
- Driveways
- Section clearing
- Footings & Post Hole Boring
- Landscaping & Lawns
- Farm Maintenance & Races
- Truck & Labour Hire
- Calf/Goat/Pig/Chicken Shed Clearing

CONCRETE LAYING

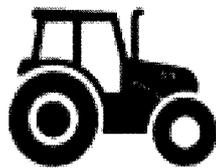
- House & Garage Pads
- Driveways
- Sheds/Workshops
- Patios
- Footpaths



Give Liam a call today for a free quote on 021 02839174



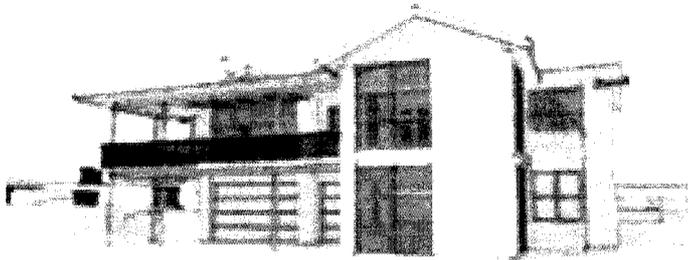
Jackson Contracting



Ag Contracting - Maize & Grass Silage - Hiab & Bulk Haulage

07 887 6688

www.JCLAG.co.nz



Billings Builders Ltd

Licensed Building Practitioner

New housing

Additions & alterations

Dairy sheds

Farm buildings

Contact: Elliot 0275 766 599

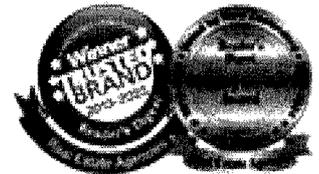
Ivan 0274 941 961

167 Hunter Road, Eureka

ivanb.eureka@outlook.co.nz



LOCAL RURAL AGENT SERVICING YOUR LOCAL AREA



Kevin **DEANE**
M 021 970 902

Harcourts

Licensed Agent: NZMB 2008



GULL EUREKA

PETROL – DIESEL – LPG – OILS & LUBRICANTS

FARM SUPPLIES – GROCERY ITEMS

SHOP HOURS: MONDAY TO FRIDAY 730:AM – 600:PM

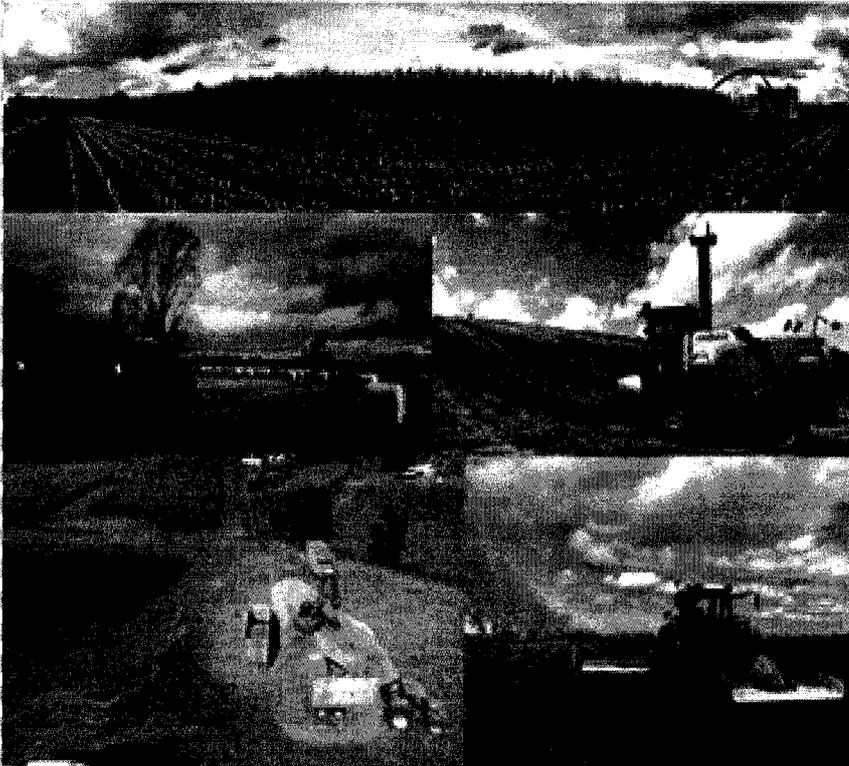
FUEL 24 X 7 PETROL & DIESEL FROM OPT (OUTDOOR PAYMENT TERMINAL)

**EFTPOS – RD1 FARM SOURCE – FARMLANDS – CARDLINK- AMEX -
MASTERCARD- VISA**

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR DISCOUNT DAYS AND PROMOTIONAL INFORMATION

**Gull Eureka
1291 Morrinsville Road
R.D.6
HAMILTON
Tel: 07 824 1773**

Walling **CONTRACTING LTD**



For all your:

- Ground Cultivation**
- Planting**
- Re-Grassing**
- Under Sowing**
- Grass Silage**
- Maize Silage**
- Digger & Spray**
- Requirements**

Phone Zach: 027 450 0125

EMAIL: walling.contracting.ltd@gmail.com



Local Company

based at Eureka

Our sheds are all certified NZ made so by purchasing from us you are supporting more than one New Zealand Business

Lifestyle

Rural

Industrial

Habitable

Pole Shed

School Shed



Waikato Shed Company

218 Hunter Road

Eureka 07 824 1045

Enquiries@waikatosheds.co.nz

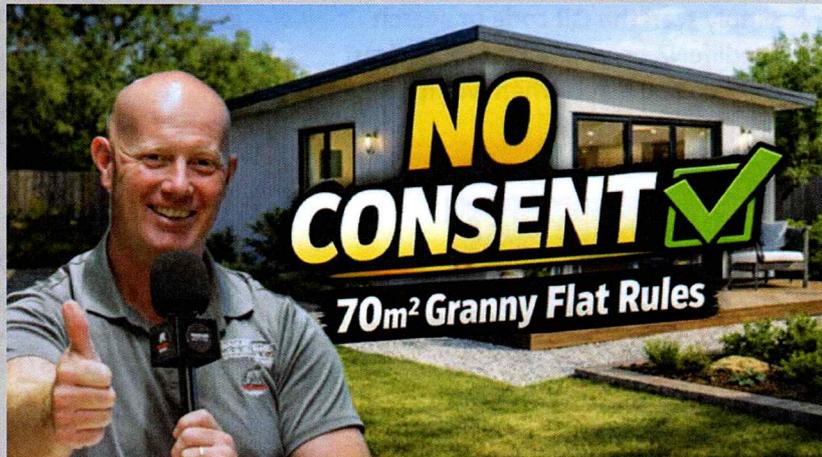
www.waikatosheds.co.nz

WAIKATO SHED

COMPANY ✓✓

great sheds, done right!

THINKING GRANNY FLAT? NOW'S THE TIME
Waikato Sheds Makes It Happen



January 15th, New Rules were announced allowing **Consent-Free Granny Flats / Minor Dwellings up to 70sqm** That means faster builds, fewer headaches, and more freedom to create space for family or income.

Why Build with Waikato Sheds?

✓ Proven Experience

We've been designing and building quality structures across the Waikato for years.

✓ Council Made Easy

We handle the council process, so you don't have to

✓ We Listen First

Your needs, your space, your budget we design around you.

✓ Professional Design Included

Your Granny Flat is professionally designed, drawn and ready to build

Check out all the details on



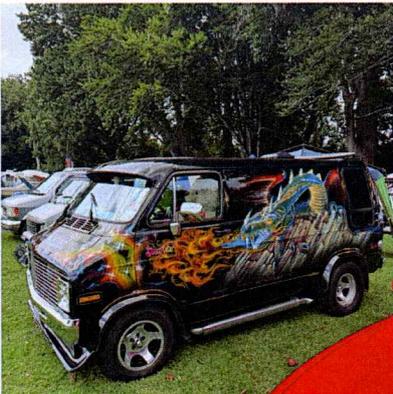
SHEDLIFENZ

We're proud to introduce, a new locally made podcast here in Eureka. The best conversations happen in a shed, after years of meeting good people with good stories, those casual yarns have grown into our own podcast.

Simply scan the QR code or search ShedlifeNZ on your favourite podcast platform and listen whenever it suits you.



WAIKATO SHED
COMPANY ✓✓
great sheds, done right!



FULL THROTTLE AT THE MORRINSVILLE MOTORAMA

