

Eureka Express

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MAY 2026

www.eurekaexpress.co.nz

editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz



Gypsy Day – 1st June

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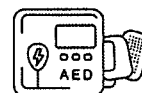
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Information**

Editorial

After nearly 27 years of reading the Eureka Express and occasionally considering that I really should get around to writing an editorial one of these days, I finally received the shoulder tap and could put it off no longer. I arrived in Eureka in July 1999. I had visited previously over the Christmas of 1994 but was now arriving to what would be my new home. Originally from South Wales, I had been living in London for 15 years but my wife Jane hails from Eureka and was ready to return home, not just to New Zealand but to the road she grew up on. We renovated an old farm cottage which was on the family farm on Hunter Road (the old red cottage for those who remember it) and lived in that until we finally built our new house in 2018 and the old red cottage went off on a truck in the middle of the night to start a new life in Rotorua. Coming from the UK where houses stay put once they've been built it was a pretty surreal moment watching it leave.

In the early years we had 10 acres around the house where we kept a few beefies, another steep learning curve for a 'townie', but over time as we both got busy with work and other activities the joy of feeding out bales of hay on cold winter nights wore thin, we downsized the land we were using and settled for a small veggie garden and enough grass that we could control with a mower. We have been trying to increase planting of trees and other native bushes to help attract birds (although the magpies seem to be a deterrent). There is a ruru that sometimes hangs around in the big London Plane tree and once I got used to it's unusual call I always enjoy hearing it. My big win for the year is that after 5 years my avocado trees have finally got fruit this year. Once I work out how long I have to wait before I harvest them I will at least have something to show for all the years of rushing out with frost cloths on the first hint of a wintery night.

Jane works for CRV as the group financial controller and I'm a professor in Computer Science at the University of Waikato, so we don't have to travel far to get to work when we're not working from home. Many of you will have seen us out walking our West Highland terriers over the years, currently down to just one but we're still out and about with her most days so say 'hello' if you see us. Jane is a serious hockey player, currently training for the Masters world cup in Belgium later this year where she will represent one of the New Zealand teams (I'll be polite and not mention which age group). I play a bit of social tennis occasionally and get in as much swimming in our pool as I can, weather permitting. We value and enjoy the small community aspect of our home life, although like many people our working and social lives pull us away being involved in meaningful ways in the community. I have a long list of things I keep meaning to do (I can at least tick off the editorial for Eureka Express!) or get involved with, but I suspect these will all have to wait a few more years until work gets less busy.

Judy Bowen

Some of you are aware that at the Eureka Jubilee in 2004, a time capsule was to be buried, however due to the weather, it was decided that it would be buried at a later date.



At this stage they decide to include a copy of the Eureka Jubilee booklet when it was printed, photos etc along with significant items from the School and Districts past. Not many of the newer residents have knowledge of this time capsule and what it means. What the express committee would like to do is preserve this bit of history in a framed certificate, to hang in the hall and as part of our records.

If anyone in the district has any photos, of this time capsule being put together and its interment we would appreciate a copy of them, to accompany this certificate.

Any anecdotes would be appreciated too. Photos and anecdotes can be sent to the editor@eurekaexpress.com or drop us a note if you have anything you feel is important to include to preserve this time capsule.

Phone List

We will be redoing the phone list again soon. 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.

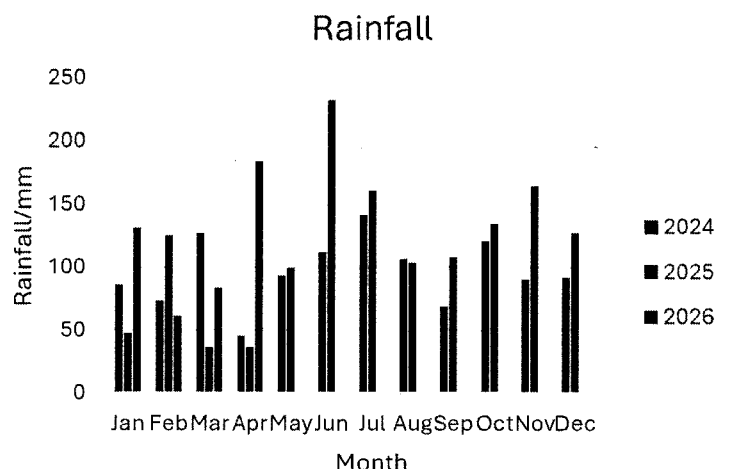
A lot of people are doing away with their land lines and only having a cell phone. It is good to have a number listed in case your neighbours want to contact you urgently. If you no longer have a land line could you please supply a cell phone number for emergencies – stock on road, tree down, suspicious people/vehicles about and for civil defence needs.

Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Ryan and Shella-mae and their two children to the area. We hope you enjoy living in Eureka.

Weather

Weather for April	2026	2025
Rainfall total	184 mm	45mm
Rain Total for year	459 mm	331mm
Rainy days	12	9
Most daily rainfall	53 mm	12mm
Temp high	23.9°C	22.8°C
Temp low	2.1°C	1.9°C



Gypsy Day

Each year, on June 1, rural New Zealand quietly undergoes one of the biggest coordinated movements in the farming calendar - and most people outside the country have never heard of it.

The date marks the start of the new dairy season, and for many share milking agreements, it's the official handover date. Cows are usually dry (not producing milk) in late autumn and early winter, which makes it the most practical time to move stock without disrupting milking.

Known as Moving Day (or Gypsy Day in older rural slang), this is the day when share milkers, contract milkers, farm staff, and their families move to new farms, new schools, new homes to set up, ahead of the new dairy season. It's a long-standing tradition tied closely to how the dairy industry is structured in New Zealand - and it's a big logistical undertaking involving people, animals, equipment, and entire households. (Westpro June 2025)

We wish all those in our farming communities leaving us, a safe transition to your new home and welcome those replacing you.

Hall Update

The hall saw a gathering of upwards of 70 people for ANZAC day commemorations. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the people of Eureka, the Waikato District Council and Tauwhare School. We thanked Gayle and Lionel Orr for officiating their last Anzac ceremony after starting it 7 years ago. Eureka's have appreciated the opportunity to remember the sacrifice of those who served and died and the hall committee will endeavour to keep this going.

The WDC tested the water of all rural halls. The water in our hall tested positive for e.coli. The interim solution saw the installation of a bottled water dispenser. Signs have been put up in the hall about water from the tap not being safe for drinking.

The hall committee members went away from our last meeting with several tasks. These included investigating fencing around the side and back of the hall for a safe play area for children using the hall, a gate at the car park entrance and other security measures and requesting the Council arborist to check the large Tulip tree which sustained some damage during summer storms. Once the committee understands the costs of addressing the water issue, we would like to revisit a landscaping plan drawn up for the hall awhile back.

There have been no large maintenance expenses in the last year and insurance covered most of the losses of the two burglaries which occurred last year. If you do see anything out of place or suspicious at the hall, please don't hesitate to contact me (Susan Rudolf) on 0221238220.

If you would like to hire the hall for your next party, meeting, hobby activity or group event please contact Kathryn Schicker on email eurekahallwaikato@gmail.com

Susan Rudolf

BOOTLEG BREWERY IN JUNE



WOMEN INVENTED BEER

(Well, almost..) But there is truth in that statement. Some 15000 years ago, some nourishment was from eating the seeds of wild grasses and women were soaking them in water to make them more palatable. Then they learnt to breed better grasses (barley and wheat).

Some 3000 years ago, they discovered that the mixture tended to ferment and they learned to manage yeast - and malt and crush the grain to release the sugars. So, eventually a wet meal became an alcoholic brew.

Maybe that explains why some of the best brewers (and winemakers) are women. Thanks, ladies! Men are forever grateful!

Now that we're able to open on Public Holidays, we'll be open on Monday 1st June (King's Birthday). The food caravan will be Smokin' Oak Barbecue who are special guests at Bootleg.

Welcome to the visitors to the Waikato for the **Ag Fieldays on June 10th - 13th**. We'll be open normal hours.

You may have seen that **Bootleg is advertising for a new brewer**. Elton is taking his career in a slightly different direction. Watch this space - we're looking forward to the opportunities a change might bring to Matangi.

We've got more comfortable seating inside the bar now, and are hoping to have a fireplace installed very soon. We're trying to keep you warm!

CATERERS COMING UP IN JUNE

Mon 1 st	Smokin' Oak Barbecue
Thu 4 th	Suzuya Japanese
Fri 5 th	All Around The World
Sat 6 th	Kai On Wheels Big Burgers
Sun 7 th	Kaliméra Pizzas
Thu 11 th	Suzuya Japanese
Fri 12 th	Sweet and Sassy Smokehouse
Sat 13 th	Sweet and Sassy Smokehouse
Sun 14 th	Kaliméra Pizzas
Thu 18 th	Suzuya Japanese
Fri 19 th	All Around The World
Sat 20 th	All Around The World
Sun 21 st	Kaliméra Pizzas
Thu 25 th	Suzuya Japanese
Fri 26 th	Kai On Wheels Big Burgers
Sat 27 th	Sweet and Sassy Smokehouse
Sun 28 th	Kaliméra Pizzas
JULY	
Thu 2 nd	Suzuya Japanese
Fri 3 rd	All Around The World
Sat 4 th	Sweet C Sassy Smokehouse
Sun 5 th	Kaliméra Pizzas



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

Craft Pages

Trauma Teddy Bear Knitting Pattern



A good use of small pieces of wool left over from major projects carried out during the year. Can be knitted in one colour if preferred.

It is knitted in one piece and folded over on the head.

Bears can be donated to charities, the police, fire brigade, ambulance for trauma patients, rest homes or as a gift to a baby or young child

You will need: No 9 or 10 (3.5 or 3.75 mm) needles

Double knitting wool in four colours: Colour 1 for the head and paws Colour 2 for the trousers Colour 3 for the jumper Colour 4 for the scarf. Finishing: Please stuff the teddy with either polyester or other healthy padding. Do not use buttons or beads or anything hazardous which may become detached and be a hazard to young children.

Instructions:

LEGS: Cast on 10 garter stitches main colour.

1st Row: (Kfb, K1) 5 times 15 stitches (Kfb knit into front and back of stitch)

2nd Row knit

3rd Row (Kfb, K2) 5 times 20 stitches

4th Row Knit , knit four more rows and change colour for trousers (8 rows total)

Continue in garter stitch until work measures 7.5cm for trousers . Leave on spare needle and make another leg in the same way.

Knit across all 40 stitches of both legs and work 16 rows.

Change to jumper colour and knit 24 rows.

Change to main colour for head and 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches (14cm)

Change to jumper colour and knit 24 rows. Continue remainder of Teddy in reverse order and cast off. Stitch down the sides of the head.

Arms: With jumper colour, pick up 8 stitches either sides of the body (16 in all) and knit 20 rows. Change to main colour and knit 6 rows for paws . Next 2 rows knit 2 together at each end to shape paws, and cast off.

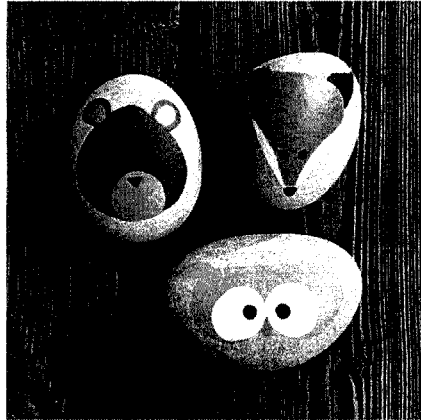
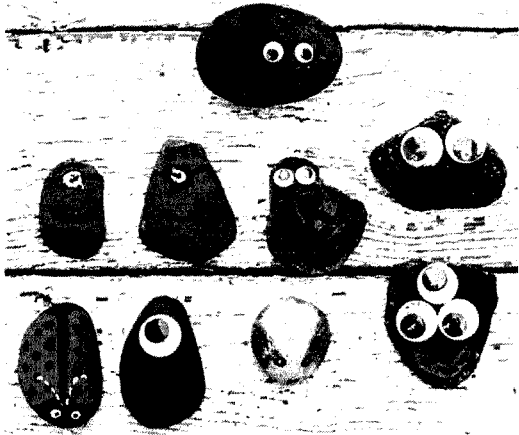
Making up: Turn right side out and sew diagonal top corners for ears before stuffing. Sew up Teddy leaving opening in crotch or side seam depending on preference. Stuff well as it moves around if too soft.

After stuffing, run a thread through the knitting around the neck and draw in slightly.

Sew a happy face and for mouth use either stem stitch or back stitch.

Scarf : Cast on 75 stitches in colour 4. Knit 4 rows and cast off. Tie scarf on Teddy at the back of the neck, close to the jumper edge

Kids Craft Painting Rocks or Making a Rock Pet



Materials:

Choose your stone

Acrylic markers, there are some good sets available with tips and brush type ends

Acrylic paints

Variety of brush sizes

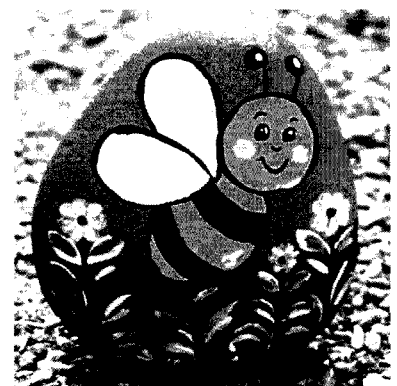
Googly eyes, feathers, jewels, glass beads to decorate

Acrylic clean varnish spray or PVA glue can be used to seal

Instructions:

1. Clean your rocks well in soap and water and allow to dry (can put in dishwasher)
2. Set up your area as you will need to allow time for layers to dry well
3. Paint a base colour all over, allow to dry
4. Design your idea on piece paper flowers, animals, scene, bees, sun, moons, monsters, owls, mandela designs, dot painting (Aboriginal designs) whatever you like. (There are some good ideas on Pinterest and videos on utube)
5. Start from middle of rock and work outwards
6. When finished you put on a coat of seal if wish. Seal helps to keep solors bright
7. If rock is smaller a magnet csn be attached to the back to place on fridge
8. Enjoy creating your rock picture

Rock Painting sets can be purchased at warehouse, spotlight temu and other online places



Waikato District Council Media Release - Fur-ever tags are here

Waikato District Council is introducing changes to dog registration to reduce costs, cut plastic waste and make the process easier for dog owners.

This year, Council will roll-out a new, durable metal tag that is designed to last for the lifetime of the dog, says Rochelle Deane, Regulatory Services Manager – Customer Services. The new tags will replace the plastic tags that were previously issued every year.

“This means dog owners will only need to renew their dog registration annually, without receiving a new tag each year” says Deane.

Council will also begin transitioning the registration process to a paperless registration system, encouraging dog owners to receive renewal notices via email. Under the Dog Control Act 1996, all dogs must be registered by three months of age and renewed annually.

“These changes will reduce plastic waste and make the registration process simpler for customers and staff, so it’s a win-win,” says Deane.

Once the initial set-up costs are recovered, Council expects to save around \$51,000 every year.

“By making these changes, we will see a significant cost saving over time. As well as the cost to get the plastic tags made each year, Council staff spend around 400 hours allocating and posting the tags out. We have more than 13,000 known dogs in the Waikato District so it was time-consuming doing this every year. Sending the renewal notices by email, where possible, will also result in significant savings in postage costs for Council.”

The new tags come in two different sizes to suit your dog, 25mm and 30mm. The tags can be viewed at your nearest Waikato District Council office.

To make things easier for dog owners, council is also introducing Afterpay as a payment option for dog registration. This option means those who need to, can pay it off over time.

Although this option is not currently available online, all Council offices and Libraries can accept Afterpay payments for dog registrations.

Dog registration is due by 31 July and more information about these changes will be provided over the coming months.

Dog owners: Do we have your email address?

If you are a dog owner, you can update your details here:
<https://my.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/do-it-online/animals>

Image: Kevin is wearing the 30mm lifetime tag.



Carli Last

Community Relations Specialist

Recipes

Pumpkins are low in calories but rich in nutrients:

- High in **vitamin A** (supports vision and immune health)
- Contains **vitamin C** (helps fight infections)
- Provides **fibre** (good for digestion)
- Includes **potassium** (supports heart function)



Roasted Pumpkin Soup

1 kg pumpkin, peeled and chopped 3 cloves garlic
1 medium brown onion, peeled and chopped 1 Tablespoon olive oil
3 cups Chicken/vegetable stock
1 teaspoon fresh thyme finely chopped
Salt and fresh ground black pepper

Preheat your oven to 200c or 180 fan bake. Combined pumpkin, garlic and onion in a large baking dish; drizzle with oil. Roast for about 40 minutes, then remove garlic and put aside. Continue roasting the pumpkin and onion till soft. Squeeze out garlic out of skin and blend with roasted vegetables with stock till smooth (stick blender or food processor works well) Place the pumpkin puree in a large saucepan, stir over heat until hot; stir in cream and thyme. Season with salt and pepper.

This recipe with the onion and garlic produces a delicious flavour. I change it a bit by adding any one of following flavours:

- Curry powder
- 1 teaspoon Ground cumin
- 1tablespoon Finely chopped sautéed ginger
- 2 tablespoon red curry paste or Thai green curry paste(my favourite) replacing the cream with coconut cream

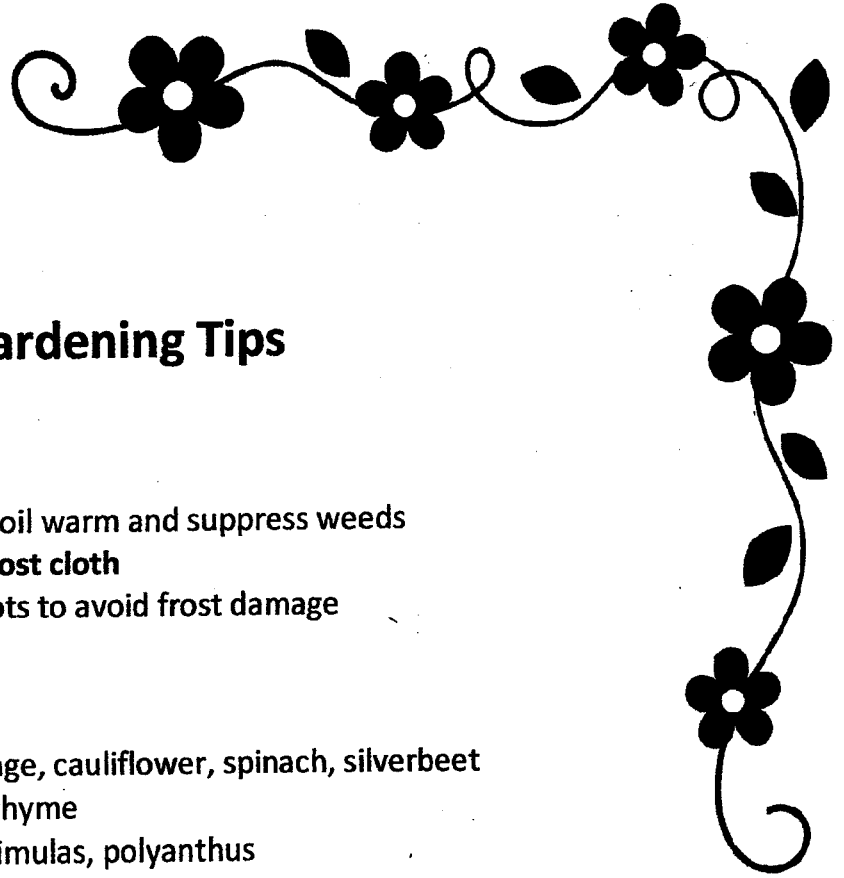
While pumpkin soup is a favourite, pumpkin is a welcome addition to muffins, scones, chutneys, frittatas and these delicious chunky fritters.

Pumpkin and Feta Fritters

400 grams peeled cut in 1 cm pieces roasted until tender
200g firm feta, coarsely crumbled 2 tsp basil pesto
60 g plain flour, sifted 3 egg yolks
2 egg whites oil for frying

Place cooled cooked pumpkin, feta, basil pesto, flour and egg yolks in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper and stir gently to combine. Use an electric beater to whisk until soft peaks form, and then gently fold into pumpkin mixture until just combined.

Pour oil into non-stick pan, medium heat. Spoon large tablespoonfuls of pumpkin mixture into oil in batches. 1-2 minutes on each side or until golden. Serve with bacon for Breakfast or Brunch. Enjoy.



Gardening Tips

Winter Protection

- Add **mulch layers** to keep soil warm and suppress weeds
- Cover tender plants with **frost cloth**
- Move pots to sheltered spots to avoid frost damage

Planting Now

- Winter veg: broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, spinach, silverbeet
- Herbs: parsley, coriander, thyme
- Flowers: pansies, violas, primulas, polyanthus

Pruning Tasks

- Prune roses once fully dormant
- Trim fruit trees to shape and remove dead wood
- Cut back perennials that have finished flowering
- Pruning is all about letting the light in. The very best cut to achieve that a thinning cut—where you remove an entire shoot or branch at its point of origin.

Garden Maintenance

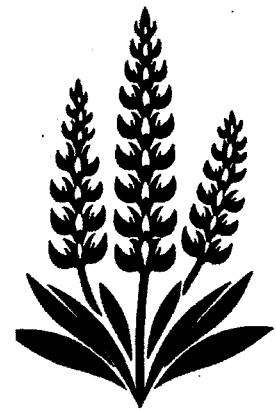
- Clear fallen leaves to prevent rot and pests
- Clean and sharpen tools for winter storage
- Check drainage — winter rain can waterlog soil

Soil Care

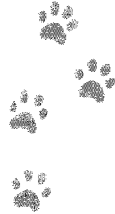
- Add compost to enrich beds for spring
- Sow **green manure crops** (rye, lupin, mustard) to boost soil health

Nature's friends

- Provide fresh water for birds
- Add winter feeders to attract beneficial species



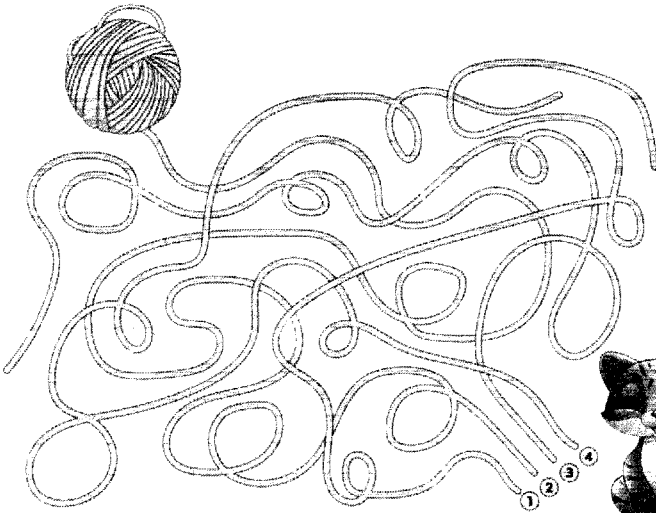
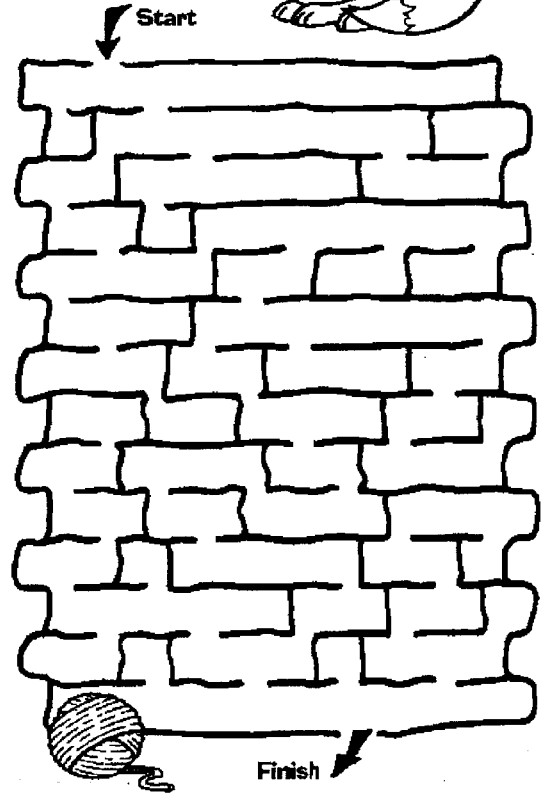
WORD SEARCH



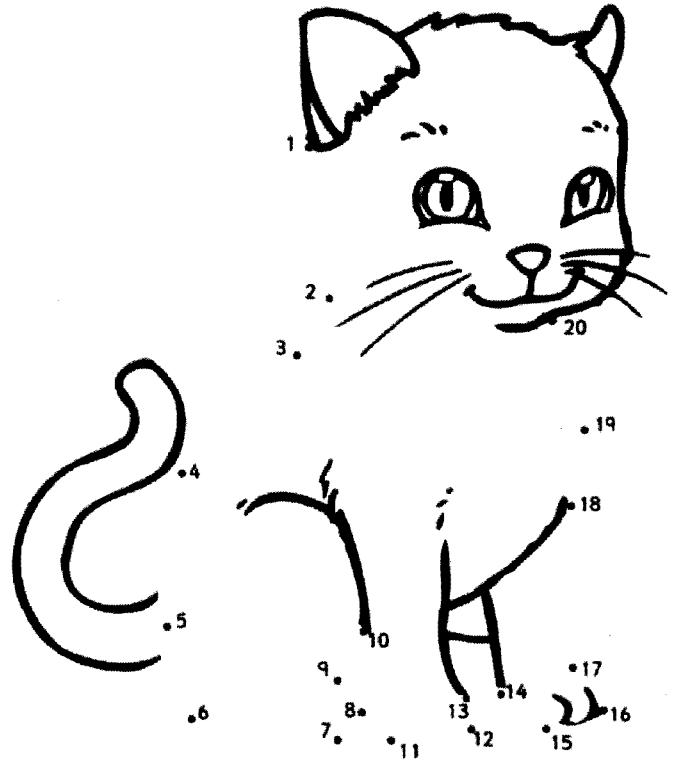
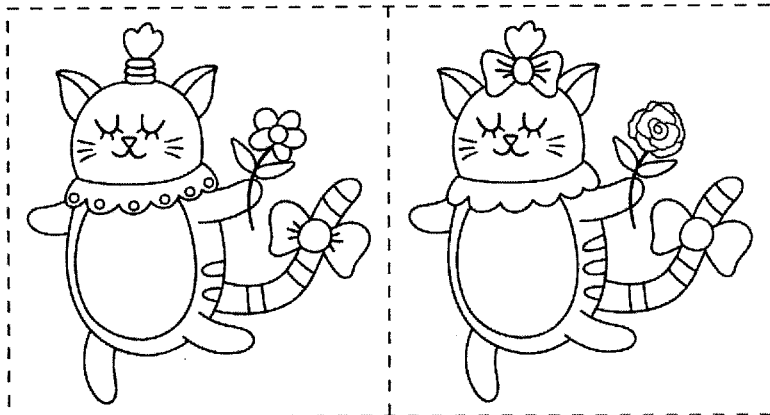
- TABBY
- MAU
- RAGDOLL
- CHAUSIE
- TUXEDO
- CALICO
- SIAMESE
- BOBTAIL
- SPHYNX
- MAINECOON
- PERSIAN
- KORAT
- MANX
- LAPERM
- BENGAL



Help Kitty find her ball of yarn.



Spot 5 differences & color



Bow on head, flower changed,
 spots on collar missing, bow on
 tail missing stripes, added stripe
 on cats body





Pukeko Preschool Newsletter

May 2026

Kia ora everyone,

Pukeko Preschool is excited to share that we are beginning a playground development project for our tamariki.

We have recently purchased some new playground equipment and are now working through the next stage of preparing the space so it can be safely installed and enjoyed by the children. We are also hoping to add swings as part of this project, and we are looking at creating a bike track and expanding our outdoor play area.

As a small not-for-profit preschool, we are hoping to do as much as we can ourselves to keep costs down, while also applying for grants to support the project. We would love to hear from anyone in the community who may be able to help.

The project may involve:

- Digging out areas for the new playground and bike track
- Preparing and pouring concrete
- Expanding the play area
- Laying new playground bark
- Ideally creating a concrete bike track
- Sourcing and installing a swing structure

We would be incredibly grateful for support from anyone who:

- Has skills or time to help with digging, prep, building, or construction
- Can support with materials such as concrete, playground bark, or equipment hire
- Works in trades or knows someone who may be able to help
- Has contacts, networks, or ideas that could support the project

Even small contributions of time, expertise, materials, or connections would make a huge difference.

If you are able to help in any way, please contact our Centre Lead or our Board of Trustees:

Alea: centre.lead@pukekopreschool.org.nz

Board: chairperson@pukekopreschool.org.nz

We are really excited about what this space will become for our tamariki and would love to involve the wider community in helping bring it to life.

Ngā mihi nui,
The Pukeko Preschool Team



TAUWHARE SCHOOL

Term 2 – May 2026

WWW.TAUWHARE.SCHOOL.NZ



TOP NEWS

Enviro Day Term 2

Our Termly Enviro Day was a huge success in Term 2. We have made so much progress in our projects across the school over the past two years and we are starting to reap the rewards of that hard work. Garden to Table is all go, with delicious and healthy kai being made by students right from our very own garden. Our native forest areas are looking incredible, and Ruru are now being spotted in the trees. Our flower gardens look gorgeous and are being protected and nurtured by our junior students. The front garden by Te Manawa has become a beautiful sensory garden, a place for rest and peace for everyone. These days, and our ongoing projects across the school, are so special and it is amazing to see the ownership taken by all the children as they learn about and protect our natural environment.



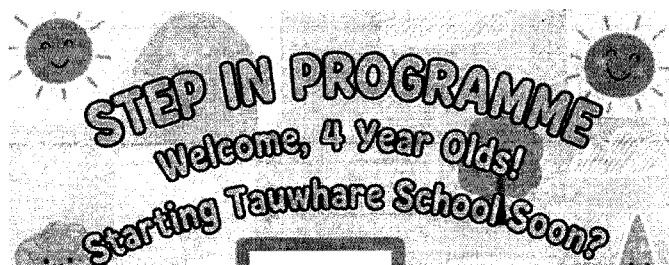
Pink Shirt Day

We came together as a school to be Up-Standers over being By-Standers for Pink Shirt Day. Our Year 6 Ambassadors wrote their own play that they performed at assembly, sharing powerful messages about respect and integrity. We gathered in a love heart shape on our school courts in a sign of our commitment to our school value of Respect.



STEP-IN – We Welcome you to Tauwhare

Make contact with admin@tauwhare.school.nz for all your pre-enrolment information and our invitation to start your schooling



journey with our termly Step-In Programme.

(Right) Eli has harvested a monster

sized Kumara ready to be made into delicious kai for the whole class.



Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors' update May 2026

Head Start Pathway for Council amalgamation

Under the 'Simplifying Local Government' initiative, the Government has announced a voluntary pathway allowing Councils until August 9 to submit proposals to amalgamate into larger unitary authorities before the next local government elections in 2028, or the Government will design a structure for them after that time. Unitary authorities combine the responsibilities of both a regional and territorial (city/district) council into a single entity. Proposals must be agreed with other councils involved. Waikato District Council intends to meet the Head Start deadline rather than wait for the Government to make a 'back stop' decision for us. There are a range of amalgamation options we are considering including a Waikato region-wide unitary council, and we will be working hard to keep you informed.

Fast Track public meeting

With two local projects expected to apply for fast track approval, your Ward councillors recently attended a public meeting in Tauwhare (25 May) to outline the fast track process and the limited role for Council and the general public.

The Fast-track Approvals Act is designed to speed up infrastructure, housing and development projects of regional or national significance. For developments not already listed under the Act the first stage is an application for Ministerial 'referral' (approval) to use the fast-track process. The second stage is a 'substantive' (full) application to an independent expert panel for the approvals, resource consents and conditions needed for the project.

The panel will typically invite comments from local bodies (regional and district councils), relevant government ministries, iwi authorities, hapu, and directly affected landowners (on adjacent land only). Under the Act, the Council's role is limited to providing technical information only when requested by the independent expert panel convened to consider the substantive application. There is no formal public notification or public submission process.

Fast Track projects in Waikato District

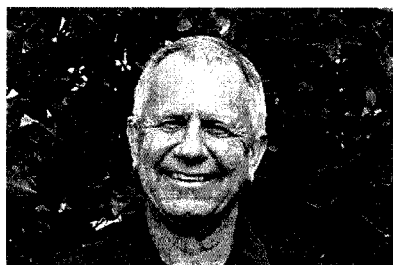
A report on fast track projects in Waikato District presented to the Council's Policy & Regulatory Committee this month identified 12 projects that have been listed or referred for fast tracking consideration, and one that has now been granted fast-track approval - the 'Green Steel' structural steel manufacturing plant, now under development in Hampton Downs.

Three of these 12 proposed fast track projects are in the Tamahere-Woodlands Ward. 'Hamilton Southern Links' is designed to complete the city's state highway ring route linking western Hamilton (SH1C) to SH1 in Tamahere; 'Gordonton Country Estate' is a 659-unit retirement village on a 67 ha site on Piako Rd, Gordonton; and 'Ruakura (R2) Growth Cell' is a major housing, retail and industrial development on a 211 ha site in Puketaha between Gordonton Rd and the Waikato Expressway. This development is expected to trigger a boundary change to 'move' it into Hamilton.

Four more projects seeking referral to the fast-track process are also located in Tamahere-Woodlands. Two that have already applied are 'Greenhill Industrial', a proposed 180 ha industrial park between Puketaha and Greenhill Rds east of the Waikato Expressway; and Waikato Thoroughbred Racing's 'Greenfield' project to build a 164 ha racing and training super-hub in Tamahere just south of Pencarrow Rd. Two projects still working towards an application are 'Awanui Links', a proposed golf resort and mixed-use precinct including on land bounded by Telephone and Holland Rds, and 'The Rest Tauwhare', a proposed mixed use development on Tauwhare Rd, Tauwhare, including an agri-education institute.

Local news: Matangi Recreation Reserve –an overall design for the reserve is being prepared for community feedback; **Hukanui playground, Gordonton** – was a finalist at the 2026 Recreation Aotearoa Parks Awards in recognition of the strong community partnerships and collaboration behind the project.

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



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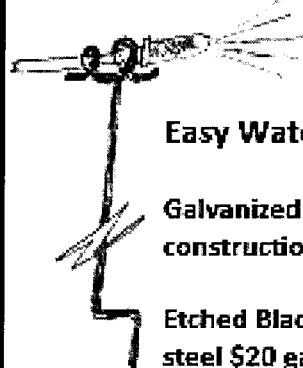
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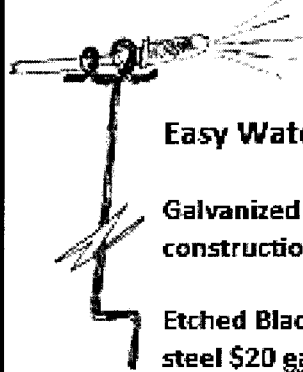
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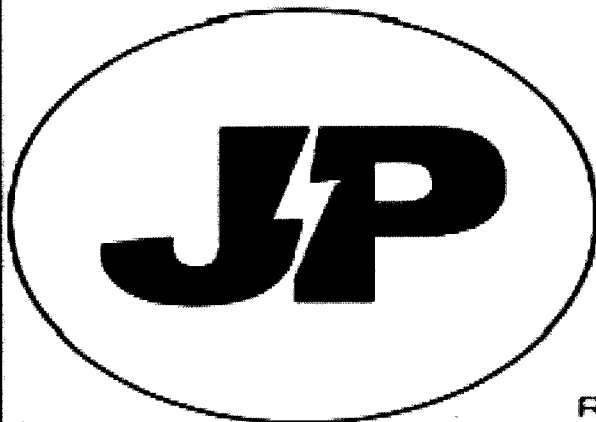
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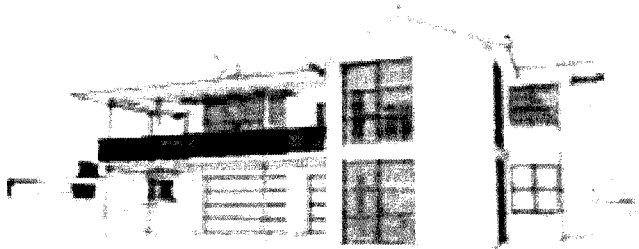
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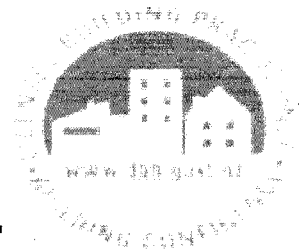
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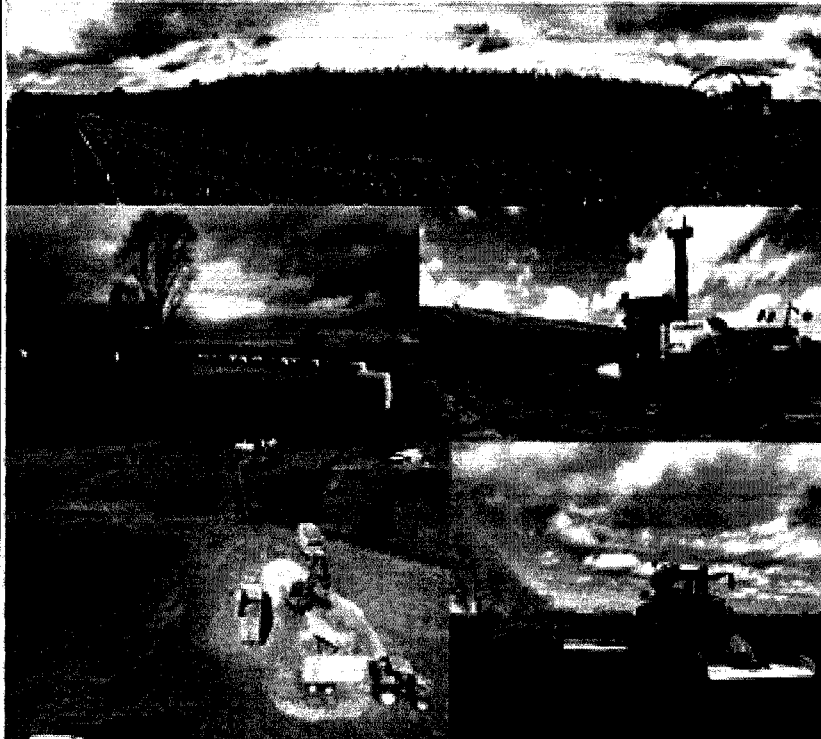
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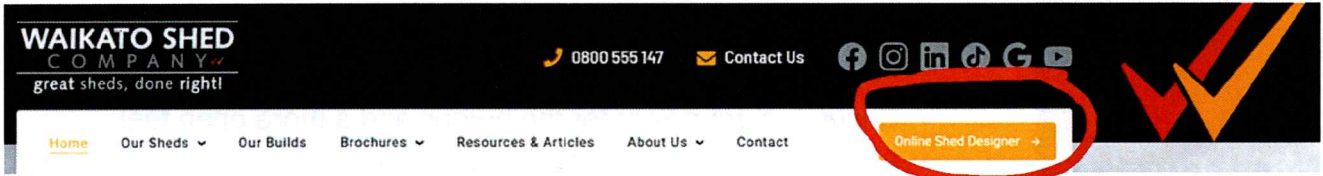
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