Eureka Express

Vol XLVI No. 10 Circ 295

NOV/DEC 2025

www.eurekaexpress.co.nz

editor@eurekaexpress.co.nz



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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

Computorised Bulk Spreader

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Billings Builders Ltd

Electrician:

J P Electrics - James Palmer

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Gull Eureka - Colin

Jewellery:

Local Boutique Jeweller

Justice of the Peace:

Kevin Deane JP

Land Agents: Harcourts - Kevin Deane

Please refer to the individual advertisements for further Information

Lawns & Gardens:

Lawn Mowing & Gardens - Alex & Sharyn MacDonald

Easy Stake - Plant Support - Simon

Pre School & Schools

Motumacho School

Pukeko Pre -School Tauwhare

Tauwhare School

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Pumps

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Veterinary Services

Newstead Veterinary Services

Waikato Shed Company

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

AED Defibrillator

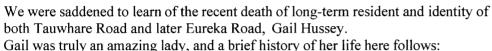


AED A defibrillator is available at Eureka Hall. To access this you ring 111 for ambulance and they will give you the access code



In memory of Gail Hussey

25 February 1938 – 10 October 2025



In 1973 Bill and Gail purchased a 10 acre block of land on Tauwhare Road with their two young sons Carl and Shane, and built a new home for the family. It was always Gail's dream to live in the country.

Once Carl and Shane had left home in the 1980's, Gail and Bill travelled extensively around the world for many years.



Gail was a very involved with ITC (International Toastmistresses Club). She became an accomplished speaker along with her good friend and long term Eureka resident Val Pollock, judging speech contests around the Waikato.

At age 14 Gail had been hospitalised with Polio. Up until then she had a love of horses, riding six miles to school every day from the age of 6 years. (Not something you would see today!)

The doctors told Gail that with Polio and little use of her legs, she would never ride again. Gail proved them wrong and continued as a keen horsewoman until into her 50's with her quiet horse named Cassidy.

In the late 1950's Gail and her friend Gay embarked on a 500km horse trek around central North Island, which was documented by the local press.

Around 2015 Gail published a book of her life story covering the challenges she overcame, leading a full life with Polio.

In 1995 Gail and Bill separated. Carl sold his home in Auckland to move back to Tauwhare Road to support Gail running the 10 acre block.

January 2000 saw a new chapter in Gail's life. She sold the 10 acres and built a purpose built home on 2 acres in Eureka Road with Carl.

Gail and Carl resided there until Gail had a fall in 2022. Due to complications and her injuries, Gail would not return to Eureka Road.

She lived out her final 3 years at Awatere Care Suites in Hamilton.

Gail was an inspiration to many people, leading a full and interesting life, and will be sadly missed by her family, friends, and former neighbours of her almost 50 years in Eureka.



From Trash to Treasure: Waikato's Op Shop Trail

The first charity shops open in New Zealand in the late 1920's. Their origin was deeply rooted in the efforts of the Salvation Army and the desire to turn waste into profit for <u>it's</u> charitable services. Today, op shops are a cornerstone of the charity sector, offering a place where donated items find new life while supporting meaningful causes such as hospice and animal protection. *Have fun exploring these wonderful shops*.

Hamilton City

- Hospice Shop 72 Lake Road, Frankton and 776
 Grey Street Hamilton East
 Hours: Mon–Sat 10:00 am–2:00 pm; Sun Closed
- Va Va <u>Voom</u> 546 River Road, Hamilton
- Habitat for Humanity ReStore 60 Lincoln Street, Frankton
 Hours: Mon-Sat 8:00 am-4:00 pm; Sun 9:00 am-4:00 pm
- Vinnies Glenview Shop 13/14 Glenview Mall Hours: Mon–Fri 9:00 am–4:00 pm; Sat 9:00 am– 1:00 pm
- Recycle Boutique Grey Street, Hamilton East Hours: <u>Typically</u> open weekdays and weekends (check store for details)
- SPCA Hamilton East Grey Street, Hamilton East Hours: Mon–Sat 9:00 am–4:00 pm; Sun Closed
- SPCA Dinsdale 47 Whatawhata Road, Dinsdale Hours: Tues 9:00 am–7:00 pm; Wed – Thurs 9:00 am -5:00pm, Fri – Sat 9:30 am -5:00 pm
- SPCA Frankton 42 Lake Road, Frankton
 Hours: Open seven days typically 9:00 4:00pm
- Salvation Army Family <u>Store</u> Grey St 421
 Grey Street, Hamilton East
 Hours: Mon Fri: 9:00 4:00pm, Sat 10:00am –
 2:00 pm
- The Op Shop on the Park by Community Link Trust 15 <u>Ruakura_Road</u>
 Hours Tuesday to Saturday 9-3.30 Saturday 9 -1pm
- Red Cross Shops 83A Cnr Tristram Street, 300
 Grey Street, 189 Commerce St Frankton,

Hours: Variable, see their websites

Te Awamutu

- Habitat for Humanity Restore 240 Slone Street
 Hours: Mon-Friday 10:00 am-4:00 pm; Sat
 10:00 am 2:00 pm, Sun 10:00 am-4:00 pm
- St John Opportunity Shop 16 Alexandra Street Hours: Mon–Fri 9:30 am–4:00 pm; Sat 10:00 am–2:00 pm
- SPCA Op Shop 116 Alexandra Street
 Hours: Mon–Fri 9:00 am–5:00 pm; Sat 9:00 am–
 5:00 pm; Sun 10:00 am–4:00 pm
- Salvation Army Family Store 168 George
 Street Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am-4:00 pm; Sat
 10:00 am-3:00 pm; Sun -closed
- Red Cross Shop 119 Alexandra <u>Street -</u> Hours not listed
- Hospice Shop = 104 George Street Hours: not listed

<u>Cambridge</u>

- Pound Hounds Rescue 15 Wordworth Street,
 Leamington Hours: Wed Sat 9:30 am–4:00 pm
- Hospice Shop 2 Anzac Street
 Hours: Mon–Fri 10:00 am–3:00 pm; Sat–Sun
 10:00 am–1:00 pm
- New Lives Animal Rescue Op Shop 76 Duke
 Street Hours: Mon–Fri 10:00 am–3:30 pm; Sat
 10:00 am–1:00 pm
- Salvation Army Family Store 74 Duke Street
 Hours: Mon–Fri 9:00 am–4:30 pm; Sat 9:00 am–
 12:30 pm
- SPCA Op Shop Unit 5, Block C/36 Lake Street
 Hours: Tues–Sat 9:00 am–5:00 pm

Morrinsville

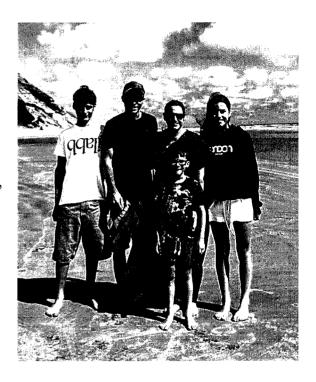
- SPCA Op Shop 228 Thames Street
 Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am-4:30 pm; Sat 9:00 am-4:00 pm; Sun 10:00 am-2:00 pm
- Everybody's Op Shop 39 Moorhouse Street
 Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 am-3:30 pm

The Jane Family - New to Eureka!

Hi! We recently made the move to beautiful Eureka, originally from Maraetai on the Pohutukawa Coast, East Auckland. It's been just over a year now, and we've truly loved settling into the Waikato lifestyle!

We're a busy family of five — Owen (16), Marissa (15), and Ashton (8) keep us constantly on the go with their school and Waikato team sports. Between cricket, touch rugby, volleyball, hockey, splash polo, water polo, mountain biking, swimming lessons, and equestrian, there's never a quiet weekend in our household!

We made the move down to be with our older two children after they had been boarding students at St Peter's Cambridge for 3 years. Now day students and back living at home with country space around them!



Having lived on the waterfront in Auckland, we found family time and enjoyment in watersports. We still try to squeeze wake boarding, skiing and camping adventures in whenever we can. At home, you'll often see us in our recently built 60x40 arena, or out and about at local show jumping events.

Alongside family life, Russell and Emma run an electrical business and we work as sales consultants and installers for DVS Home Ventilation.

We've really enjoyed our first year here — Eureka is so central to everything we need: Te Rapa, Hamilton, Cambridge, Morrinsville, and even the Mount and Auckland are all within easy reach.

A big thank you to the Newstead Primary School community and our wonderful neighbours for the warm welcome — we have been pleasantly surprised swapping regions. From Maraetai "Our meeting place by the sea" to our new home called "Eureka Sands"!

If you'd like to hire our show jumping arena on SH26, feel free to contact Emma on 027 512 8792.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and safe New Year!



The silly season is almost among us and the shops will be putting out their christmas wares. We hope this list will assist you with your shopping. Some areas have not listed their days as yet, so hope to follow up with this next month. Where dates available I have added christmas parades.

St Andrews Church Christmas, Antique & Craft Fair	Tamahere Christmas Twilight Market	
Church Grounds Hamilton Road Saturday 29 th November 9am to 2pm	Saturday 6 th December 4pm to 8pm	
Extravaganza in the Park Christmas Market	Hamilton Christmas Parade Angelsea Street Sunday 7th December 2pm	
Elliot Park, Saturday 6 th December 9am to 2pm	Pre Parade Fun 1:15 to 2pm Clowns, colourful Characters handing out lollies	
Tamahere Lions Best Artisan Market	Morrinsville Xmas Market	
Tamahere Community Hall	Canada Streeet	
Saturday 13 December 9am to 1pm	Saturday, 6 th December	
Cambridge Christmas Parade	Morrinsville Christmas Parade	
Victoria Street Sunday 7 th December 2pm	Saturday 13 th December 1:30 to 3pm	
Paeroa Christmas Parade	Matamata Xmas Parade	
& Carols in the Park	Saturday 6th December 11am	
Friday 9 th December 6pm		
	Te Aroha Market & Christmas Parade	
Te Awamutu Rotary Christmas Parade	At Boyd Park	
Saturday 6 th December at 11am	Sunday 1st December	
l dee	Markets 10am	
	Parade 11am	

Christmas Carols

Christmas at Firth Tower Matamata Saturday 6 December 6.30 - 8pm

Carols by Candlelight Hamilton Gardens - Rhododendrom Lawn 6.30 - 9.30pm

Sing-a-long Carols in the City Hamilton, Christmas Movie Friday 19th December 5pm start

Morrinsville Communtiy Choir Sunday 30th November St Matthews Chruch 3pm (Donation for food Bank)

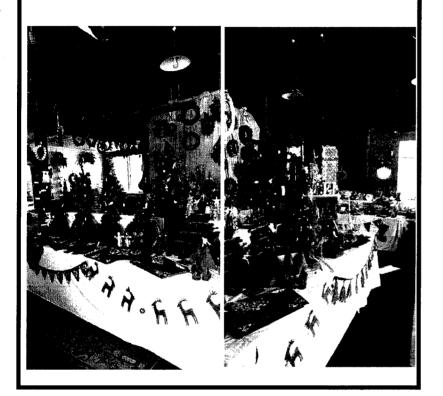
Christnas Carols with Salvation Army Leamington 17th December 7-8pm

Christmas at Hamilton Lake 16th December 5-10;30pm (Loads of fun)

Merry Xmas from the Eureka Express Committee

St Stephens Tamahere

It's beginning to look a lot like our Christmas Festival The shop and tea rooms are ready to welcome visitors from tomorrow, 1 December, 10 am - 4 pm daily except Sundays. We will have choirs in the church at 10.30 am and 1.30 pm this week, 1 - 5 December and at 10.30 am only next week, 8 - 12 December. The shop and tea rooms will remain open daily until 20 December.



Eureka Flower Cart

120 Friedlander Road Open 7 days 8-6. Fresh posies, origami flowers, dried arrangements and more! Follow us on instagram @eurekaflowercart for daily stock and specials.



TAUWHARE COMMUNITY **CHURCH** ST ANDREWS



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

Night Service Every Sunday 6.30pm

This weekly night gathering at 6.30pm brings people together for connection & encouragement within a warm & friendly space.

Family Service 1st Sunday 10am

This relaxed gathering on the 1st Sunday of the month includes people of all ages coming together for faith, fun & catch up. There is a mix of faith, games, food & socialising so there is something for everyone. Come along, bring a friend if you like. We'd love to see you.



St Andrews, Tauwhare Facebook for more detailed info

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR



The Eureka Express committee would like to thank you all for your contributions this year. To all of our delivery people, you are valuable members to our team, we couldn't distrubute the monthly issues without you. Colin and Rose at the garage another vital part of our team. Our advertisers, and article contributors, without your support there will be no Express. Waikato Sheds, you are amazing. You print our front page in colour and our paper looks so much alive. Thank you Cathy for

printing them every month. You are a star. Also Natalie for keeping the phone list up to date and ready

to print each year, and to Michelle for looking after our website. It is a community paper, and the community keep it going.

Thank you also from me to my amazing committee and for Gail and Lorraine for helping out on printing day.

I look forward to working with you all next year.

Please have a wonderful family time and make lots of memories over the holiday break.





A Little Christmas Humour

Christmas Cake

Even if you think you're left your Christmas cake baking too late, take heart, all is not lost. Here's a neat little recipe that should really get you in the festive mood. We can't guarantee the results but we have it was

mood. We can't guarantee the results but we have it on the best authority that those who have tried the method have had a jolly good time.

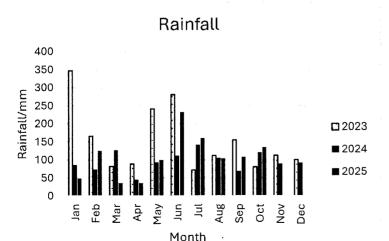
1 cup Butter
1 teaspoon Baking powder
1 cup brown sugar
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon baking soda
Nuts

4 eggs
1 teaspoon salt
1 or 2 litres Whisky!
1 cup dried fruit
Lemon Juice

Before you start, sample the whiskey to check for quality. Good isn't it. Now go ahead. Select a large mixing bowl, measuring cup etc. Check the whisky again as it must be just right. To be sure whisky is of the highest quality, pour one level cup as fast as you can. Repeat.

With an electric mixer, beat the butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 teaspoon of thugar and beat again. Meanwhile make sur the whisky is of the finest quality. Cry another tup. Open second litre if necessary. Add 2 arge legs., 2 cups fried druit and beat till high. If druit gets stock in beaters, just pry it loose with a screwdriver. Sample the whisky again, checking for tonscisticity. Next sift 3 cups of salt or anything, it really doesn't matter. Sample the whisky again. Sift half a litre of lemon juice. Fold in chopped butter and strained nuts. Add 1 bablespoon of brown sugar, whtever colour you can find and wix mel. Grease oven and turn cake pan to 350 gredees. Now pour the whole mess into the coven and ake. Check the whisky again and bo to ged. Best of luck and hope you sober up in time for Christmas.





October	2025	2024
Weather		
Rainfall	134.5mm	120.5
total		mm
Rain Total	1082.5	972.5
for year	mm	mm
Rainy days	14	11
Most daily	24mm	40 mm
rainfall		
Highest	51.5	41.8
wind speed	km/hr	km/hr
Temp high	21.2°C	21.8°C
Temp low	4.9°C	3.8 °C



Facts about Christmas

As the year draws to an end, millions of people around the world look forward to sparkling decorations, colourful lights, delicious food, jolly music, silly jokes and exciting gifts. Yup... because Christmas is coming! But how much do you know about this super-fun holiday? It's time to find out ten facts about Christmas...

1) Christmas is a **Christian festival** that celebrates the birth of **Jesus Christ**, who Christians believe was the son of God. For most people, it takes place every year on **25 December** – the day that the **Roman Catholic Church** chose to mark Jesus' birthday. But, in fact, no one actually knows the exact date Jesus was born! Christians believe that Jesus was born in a stable in a town called Bethlehem, today found in an area of the Middle East called the West Bank.



- 2) Not all Christians celebrate Christmas on the same day? In countries with large populations of **Orthodox Christians**, such as **Russia**, the **Ukraine** and **Romania**, Christmas Day falls on **7 January**. Some **Greek Orthodox Christians** celebrate Christmas on 7 January, too.
- 3) The name 'Christmas' comes from the old English phrase *Cristes maesse*, which means 'Christ's mass'. But what about 'Xmas'? Lots of people think this is just a modern-day abbreviation but it actually dates back to the 16th century! The 'X' is said to represent the **Greek letter 'Chi'** the first letter in the Greek word for Christ, Χριστός (pronounced '*Christos*').
- 4) Come Christmas, people around the world enjoy all kinds of jolly-good fun! Many of the festive traditions we have today came about in the Victorian era such as Christmas cards, gift-giving and crackers, as well as traditional foods like mince pies and roast turkey! Queen Victoria and her husband Prince Albert were huge fans of Christmas, in fact!
- **5)** Christmas trees also became popular in Victorian Britain. But these were first seen in **16th Century Germany** where, at Christmas time, people decorated fir trees with **fruit and nuts** and later sweets, paper shapes and candles. Amazingly, historians think the origins of this festive tradition may date back to the **Romans** and **Ancient Egyptians**, who used evergreen plants and garlands as **symbols of everlasting life**. Wow!
- **6)** Every year, **Norway** sends a beautiful home-grown Christmas tree to **London**, where it is decorated with lights in **Trafalgar Square**. Standing a towering **20m tall**, the terrific tree is a gift to say thank you for the help the UK gave Norway during **World War II**. What a *tree*-mendous gift!



7) We can't talk about Christmas without a mention to the big bearded, rosy-cheeked jolly man... Father Christmas! But have you wondered how he got the name Santa Claus? It's from Sinterklaas, which means Saint Nicholas in Dutch, the language of the Netherlands. St. Nicholas was a Christian bishop who lived in the 4th century – known for being kind and generous, he later became the patron saint of children.

8) But Santa isn't the only Christmas character – there are many more around the world! In Italy, for example, a kind witch called La Befana is said to fly around on a broomstick delivering toys to children! And in Iceland, children leave shoes under the window for 13 mischievous trolls called the Yule Lads. If the child has been good, they'll find sweets in their shoe – but if they've been bad, the Yule lads will leave them a rotten potato!



- 9) We all love to sing along to *Jingle Bells*, but have you ever noticed that the song doesn't have the word Christmas in it? Or Jesus or Santa Claus? That's because it wasn't originally a Christmas song! In fact, the jolly anthem was written in 1850, entitled *One Horse Open Sleigh*, for the **American** holiday, **Thanksgiving**!
- 10) Now, imagine if there was no Christmas. Does it feel quite strange? Sad, perhaps? Well, believe it or not, in 1644 Christmas celebrations were made illegal in England, and soon after, in the English Colonies in America, too! At that time, members of the government felt that the religious meaning of Christmas had been forgotten, and so banned the holiday festivities. Some people still celebrated in secret, however, until Christmas was once again legal... almost 20 years later!



The Littlest Christmas Tree

The littlest Christmas tree lived in a meadow of green among a family of tall evergreens. He learned how to whisper the evergreen song with the slightest of wind that came gently along.

He watched as the birds made a home out of twigs and couldn't wait till he, too, was big.
For all of the trees offered a home, the maple, the pine, and the oak, who's so strong.

"I hate being little,"
the little tree said,
"I can't even turn colors
like the maple turns red.
I can't help the animals
like the mighty old oak.
He shelters them all
in his wide mighty cloak."

The older tree said,
"Why, little tree, you don't
know?
The story of a mighty king
from the land with no snow?"
Little tree questioned,
"A land with no snow?"
"Yes!" said old tree,
"A very old story,
from so long ago."

"A star appeared, giving great light over a manger on long winter's night. A baby was born, a king of all kings, and with him comes love over all things."

"He lived in a country all covered in sand, and laid down his life to save all of man."

Little tree thought of the gift given by him, then the big tree said with the happiest grin, "We're not just trees, but a reminder of that day. There's a much bigger part of a role that we play!"

"For on Christmas Eve, my life I'll lay down, in exchange for a happier, loving ground. And as I stand dying, they'll adorn me in trim. This all will be done in memory of him."

"Among a warm fire, with family and friends, in the sweet songs of Christmas, I'll find my great end. Then ever so gently, He'll come down to see and take me to heaven, Jesus and me."

"So you see, little tree, we are not like the oak who shelters all things beneath his great cloak. Nor are we like the maple in fall, whose colors leave many standing in awe."

"The gift that we give is ourselves, limb for limb, the greatest of honor, in memory of him."

The little tree bowed his head down and cried and thought of the king

who willingly died.
For what kind of gift
can anyone give
than to lay down your life
when you wanted to live?

A swelling of pride came over the tree.
Can all of this happen Because of just me?
Can I really bring honor?
By adorning a home?
By reminding mankind that he's never alone?

With this thought, little tree began singing with glee. Happy and proud to be a true Christmas tree.

You can still hear them singing even the smallest in height, singing of Christmas and that one holy night.

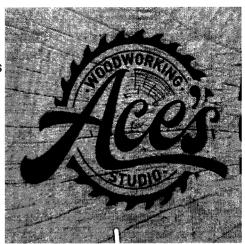


Discover the Art of Wood and Resin

Open Day at Ace's Woodworking Studio - December 7

Eureka, Taupiri — Local craftsman and lifelong resident Ace invites the community to experience the beauty and creativity of handcrafted woodwork at his Open Day on December 7, from 11:00am to 3:00pm, at 28a Eureka Road.

"They call me Ace," he says. "I've lived in the Taupiri–Eureka area for 70 years. After a lifetime working as an engineer in the heavy transport industry, I've now retired to my studio — rediscovering my passion for creating all things wood and resin."



Visitors can explore the studio, see the creative process up close, and view an impressive range of handcrafted pieces, including dining tables, coffee tables, BBQ tables, clocks, mirrors, Lazy Susans, chopping boards, and ornaments.

"I love taking a log of wood and transforming it, step by step, into something special," Ace explains. "I have many items ready to buy and can create custom-made pieces to suit your ideas. Bring your vision, and let's see what transpires."

Whether you're a woodworking enthusiast, an art lover, or simply curious about local craftsmanship, this open day is a wonderful opportunity to support local talent and perhaps find a unique piece to take home.

Event Details:

- Aces Woodworking Studio 28a Eureka Road
- ■ Sunday, December 7
- 11:00am 3:00pm

Come along, meet Ace, and experience the warmth, skill, and creativity that go into every handcrafted piece at **Ace's Woodworking Studio**.

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.

The Express would also like to thank Ace for the kind donation of all monies made from sales of pumpkins that he had for sale at the Eureka Garage

BOOTLEG IN DECEMBER

Bootleg Brewery has had a good year in 2025 which was needed, to help consolidate after starting during COVID. When many other businesses are closing, Bootleg has been carefully expanding, while keeping a low profile. The staff really appreciate the support from the Matangi, Tauwhare, and Tamahere supporters.

The one gap in Bootleg's production has been a plant to make ciders. Making (alcoholic) ginger beer is also a possibility. They've found a very second-hand kit (which will fit right in with all the other second-hand gear at the brewery!) It is hoped that will be up and running in the next few weeks.

Bootleg will be open the usual hours up to Christmas, but are considering adding on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th December. **Keep up to date with the weekly posts on Facebook and Instagram**. The staff will take a break over Christmas and New Year and your 'local' will be back on January 8th 2026.

As the brewery gets more recognised for being uniquely family friendly in NZ, it has attracted the attention of Waikato Tourism who will be filming on Friday Dec 12th.

Meanwhile, feel free to ask the staff about the brewery operation, and if they have time, they'll show you around the brewing side of the business. It's a great example of Kiwi ingenuity!

And keep some time free on Saturday December 6th. The award winning TV stars of barbecue will be back at Bootleg. Smokin' Oak Barbecue are returning!

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CATERERS COMING UP IN DECEMBER		
Thu 4 th	Suzuya Japanese	
Fri 5 th	Kai On Wheels	
Sat 6 th	Smokin' Oak BBQ	
Sun 7 th	Kaliméra Pizzas	
Thu 11 th	Suzuya Japanese	
Fri 12 th	Sweet C Sassy Smokehouse	
Sat 13 th	TBC	
Sun 15 th	Kaliméra Pizzas	
Thu 18 th	Suzuya Japanese	
Fri 19 th	Sweet C Sassy Smokehouse	
Sat 20 th	All Around The World	
Sun 21st	Kaliméra Pizzas	
Mon 22 nd	TBC	
Tue 23 rd	TBC	
Wed 24 th	TBC	





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



Gardening Tips

Fruitilicous!

Growing your own fruit is one of the most rewarding things you can do. Beating the bird to your crop is a big challenge once the fruit is ripe. Here some tips to keep on track.

Be vigilant

Get into the habit of looking at the developing crops often, as early detection of pests and diseases gives you the opportunity to remedy any problems.

Water well

Most fruit need regular watering over summer to aid fruit growth and ripening. Deep watering is best — a bucket of water once a week is enough for most large fruit trees. Avoiding a little splash here and there it's often a waste of water because the plants roots are buried deeply in the ground.

Remove excess fruit

Many fruit trees are generous and tend to have a large fruit set, which is often too much for the tree to sustain to maturity. Trees do naturally abort fruit they cannot sustain. It is a good idea to help the plant out by removing excess fruit by thinning. By taking off extra fruit, you can save the plants branches from breaking under the weight of the fruit and also allow what's left on the tree to mature to a reasonable size. Remove any small, wilted or damaged fruit to focus the plants energy on healthy fruit

Lightly Prune

Let the light in. Your fruit tree has a lot of fresh growth, it may require a light prune to allow more sunlight into the centre of it to reach the fruit, it will aid the ripening the developed fruit.

Mulch and feed

For best fruit tree health, avoid letting weeds grow in and around the base of trunks. Adding layers of mulch helps prevent weeds from taking hold. Weeds often attract pests and diseases and they do compete for valuable moisture and nutrients. Apply thick layers of mulch around the tree not touching the trunk If trees look lacklustre they may need a feed so add fruit tree fertiliser to the ground around the drip line.

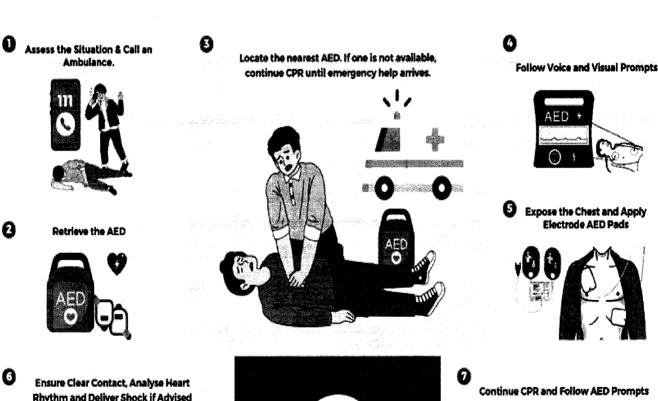
How to Use An AED

- 1. Ring 111, they will give you the access code to your nearest AED defibrillator
- 2. Assess the situation, is it safe?
- 3. Retrieve the AED: Locate the nearest AED at Eureka Hall
- 4. Follow Voice and Visual Prompts
- 5. Expose the Chest,
- 6. Apply Electrode AED Pads as directed
- 7. Ensure Clear Contact: no one touching the patient
- 8. Analyse Heart Rhythm
- 9. Deliver Shock if Advised

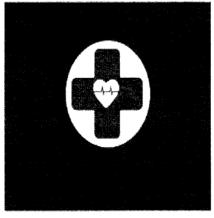




STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE











Treats Gift Box - Fun to make with Kids

Festive Shortbread Stars

You'll need:

250g Butter, softened

½ cup icing sugar

2 cups plain Flour

½ cup corn flour

Optional- melted chocolate +sprinkles

Preheat oven to 160C fan bake. Beat butter and icing sugar until creamy. Mix in flours to form soft dough. Roll out 1 cm thick, cut into stars or trees Bake 12-15 min until just golden. Cool. Optional: dip half in chocolate and decorate.



Pink and White Coconut Ice

You'll need:

3 ½ cups icing sugar

3 cups desiccated coconut

1 tin (395g) sweetened condensed milk

A few drops of pink food colouring

Line a square tin with baking paper. Mix icing sugar and coconut together.

Stir in condensed milk until well combined. Press half the mixture into the tin (white layer).

Colour the rest pink, then press on top. Chill a few hours, and then slice into squares.

Packaging ideas: Arrange shortbread and coconut ice in a small cardboard box or tin lined with baking paper; - Add ribbon and a homemade tag
Store in a cool, dry place for up to 2 weeks



Summer Recipes

Party Cheese Ball

250 gm Cream Cheese

250 gm grated cheese

1 tbsp green pepper

1 tbsp onion

2 teaspoon Worcester sauce

salt and pepper

finely chopped Walnuts

Combine softened cream cheese. Add peppers, onions, sauce and seasoning. Mix well. Shape into a ball and roll in walnuts. Chill and serve with crackers or chips.



Carrot Salad

500-800 gm carrots sliced

1 diced onion

1-2 cups celery

¾ cup sugar

½ cup salad oil

1 green pepper

440 gram tin tomato soup

¾ cup white vinegar

1 teaspoon mustard



Cook carrots, drain, mix all other ingredients together and add to cooked carrots. Refrigerate.

Toblerone Cheesecake

1 cup chocolate biscuit crumbs

1/3 cup melted butter

2x250 gm Philadelphia cream cheese

¾ cup castor sugar

3 teaspoons gelatine dissolved in ½ cup boiling water

100 grams Toberlone Swiss milk or dark chocolate

½ cup cream

To melt chocolate, break into pieces and melt in microwave on medium/low until melted (3 mins)

Mix biscuit crumbs and butter, press into spring form pan. Chill. Beat cream cheese until soft, add gelatine, castor sugar, melted chocolate and cream and blend until smooth. Pour onto base and chill. Decorate. Dust with icing sugar.



Christmas Word Search

В R D G R Ε C R 0 S R Н D Ν D E 0 Ε

CANDY CANE CAROLS CHRISTMAS DECEMBER ELVES GINGERBREAD JINGLE

HOLLY LIGHTS MERRY NORTH POLE ORNAMENTS PRESENTS

REINDEER

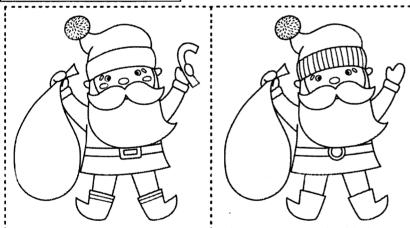
SANTA SLEIGH STOCKING TREE WINTER WREATH

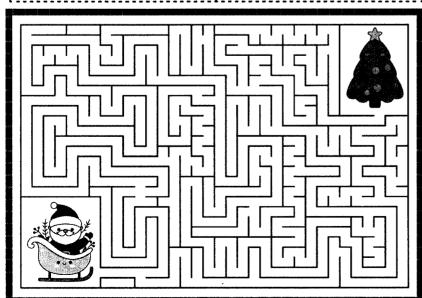




1. Snowglobe 2. Deer 3. Present 4. Snowman 5. Stocking 6. Santa

Spot 5 Differences





1. dnorewadnl

> 2. escrogo

3.

4.

5. uhrdplo

б. ejssu

7. mashcrist eert

8.

9. enol

10. wnmosan 11. rwehta

ndyca ance 12.

yollh 13.

14. ftgis

nirgch

16. emryr

ngtsoikc 18. gnwraipp

19. tooeicadrsn

20. eblls



Word Unscramble

asnat lacsu

teesrnsp

bwos

decorations

stocking meny grinch

wrapping

pejja

effig holly candy cane wreath

suomman noej

smoq christmas tı snsəl udjopni presents

santa claus scrooge wonderland

There are awareness days on December the 3rd and 10th

International Day of Persons with Disabilities - This significant day, with the urgent theme of 'Fostering disability inclusive societies for advancing social progress', is a call to action that we all need to heed. It's a day of great importance and relevance to our community. Please participate in the activities planned for this day and help us foster a more inclusive society.

United Nations' International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The International Day of Persons with Disabilities (December 3rd) is an international observance with a rich history, promoted by the United Nations since 1992. It has been observed with varying degrees of success worldwide. As a member of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for many years, I can attest to the importance of this day in promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities.

There is an activity at the Waikato Museum on December 3rd - Join us for a full-day programme celebrating International Day of People with Disabilities. Explore Te Whare Taonga o Waikato in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Range from Drop-in Touch and Braille, Relaxed Session at Air Playground, NZSL Tour and Audio Described Tour + Tea. And the best part? It's a free entry, making it accessible to all and ensuring everyone feels welcomed and included.December 10th is Human Rights Day. The theme, 'Human Rights, Our Everyday Essentials', serves as a powerful reminder of the fundamental rights we all possess, inspiring us to uphold and protect them. In this period of turbulence and unpredictability, where many feel a growing sense of insecurity, disaffection and alienation, we need to reaffirm the values of human rights and show that they remain a winning proposition for humanity. To celebrate this day, we have planned a series of events and activities that highlight the importance of human rights in our daily lives. We encourage you to join us and be part of this important day.

Through this campaign, we aim to rè-engage people with human rights by showing how they shape our daily lives, often in ways we may not always notice. Too frequently taken for granted or seen as abstract ideas, human rights are the essentials we rely on every day.

By bridging the gap between human rights principles and everyday experiences, we aim to spark awareness, inspire confidence and encourage collective action.

The NZSL Class at the Hamilton Central Library (Garden Place) is a valuable resource that will be closed on December 19th and reopen on February 13th. It's open to everyone who wishes to learn NZSL every Friday. The NZSL Strategy 2026-2036 has been officially released to the public, including Government Agencies, the Health Sector. Education Sectors and workplaces; it's a testament to our unwavering commitment to inclusivity and accessibility, ensuring everyone feels reassured and supported.

Jean M. BA



birthday

huritau



birthday

huritau



bonfire

ahi tāngutu



Boxing Day

Rā Pouaka



Christmas

Kirihimete



decorate

whakarākei



gift, prize, wrap

koha, perehana



holiday

hararei



New Year

Tau Hou



party

pātī, whakangahau



November 2025

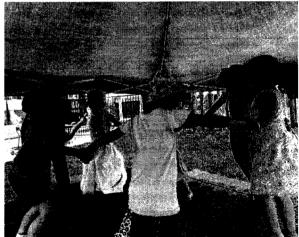
At Pukeko Preschool, we've been having a fantastic time exploring and learning through play as the weather warms up. Our tamariki have loved getting hands-on with water play, splashing, pouring, and discovering new ways to have fun while learning important skills.

Gardening has also been a highlight of our term. Children have been planting, watering, and watching their plants grow, developing care, patience, and a connection to nature along the way.

With summer just around the corner, we are excited for more sunny days, outdoor adventures, and continued exploration. We can't wait to make the most of all the opportunities the season brings! We wish everyone in the community a very Merry Christmas.











Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors' update Nov-Dec 2025

Summer road works

Summer is on the way and that means the road construction season has started. Road works can be frustrating, but fixing our roads is vital for keeping our communities connected and supporting our economy. So please be patient, knowing that our staff and contractors are working in the heat of summer to keep our roads safe for us. For details of major roadworks in Waikato district see the 'Current and upcoming roadworks' page on the Council website and check out our 'road resealing' programme too. For information about roadworks on State Highways please go to the NZ Transport Agency's website or search for NZTA Jouney Planner.

Full Council work programme

Post-election, the Council work programme has continued apace. A key focus is on establishing the Waikato District and Hamilton City council-controlled operation (CCO), IAWAI – Flowing Waters, by 1 July next year. Key milestones include developing a 10-year Waters Services Strategy, transferring and/or hiring staff for the new entity, defining the stormwater services that IAWAI will deliver to each Council, and approving the agreement under which waters assets and resources will be legally transferred.

Early preparation for the Council's next Long Term Plan 2027-37 is already underway with an expectation that renewed top-level 'community outcomes' will be debated early in the New Year, paving the way for updating 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. Expected changes to resource management frameworks, and local government reform (including the replacement of regional councillors with Combined Territories Boards), is another key focus. Meanwhile, analysis of early feedback to help shape our new Reserves and Beaches Bylaw is underway now and the Council expects to undertake formal consultation on the new bylaw early in the New Year.

IAWAI CEO named

Peter Winder has been appointed to lead Hamilton City and Waikato District's new water services company, IAWAI-Flowing Waters. Mr Winder is a former Chief Executive of Auckland Regional Council, Local Government New Zealand and Te Pūkenga. In 2022, he was appointed to the Three Waters National Transition Unit Board and has most recently served as Programme Director for Hamilton City Council's Waters CCO development. IAWAI will formally take over responsibility for drinking water and wastewater services from Hamilton City and Waikato District Councils on 1 July 2026. It will also manage stormwater services on their behalf.

Southern Wastewater Treatment Plant

The first community information sessions for the proposed Southern Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) were held by Hamilton City Council at the Hamilton Airport JetPark Hotel in November, outlining work undertaken since 2022 on identifying a preferred site and discharge options. This project will be transferred to the Hamilton City and Waikato District Council-Controlled Organisation (CCO) IAWAI-Flowing Waters when it becomes operational from July 2026. The Detailed Business Case says the Southern WWTP will be staged to meet demand to service "the Airport Industrial precinct, Matangi/ Tamahere commercial area and southern Hamilton". It anticipates wastewater currently treated at the Matangi WWTP and the Tamahere commercial hub on-site system would be conveyed to the Southern WWTP in "around 2040". Tauwhare Pa WWTP would be retained and upgraded to service local growth "with the potential to be reticulated to the new Southern WWTP... in the future."

LIM Reports

All Land Information Memorandums (LIMs) issued by Waikato District Council will now include more detailed information about natural hazards and climate-related risks. The change follows national updates to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), and the new rules are designed to help property owners and buyers make more informed decisions. Properties in low-lying or coastal areas such as Huntly, Ngaaruawaahia, Te Kauwhata, Raglan and Port Waikato are more likely to have updated hazard information included in their LIMs. This could cover flooding, coastal erosion, landslides, or climate-related impacts such as sea-level rise and increased rainfall.

Temporary closure Tamahere office

The Council's Tamahere office was temporarily closed for a week in November as a precautionary measure following the nationwide public recall of some brands of coloured sand play products found to contain naturally occurring asbestos. The office re-opened after testing confirmed no asbestos was present in the sand used there.

Ngaruawahia Library outreach

As part of their regular consignment of books from Ngaruawahia Library, residents of Atawhai Assisi Home in Matangi were recently delighted to receive some mini canvas paintings created by children during a school holiday programme at the library. Each canvas had an individual message on the back for residents to read. The Ngaruawahia library team deliver books on a regular rotation to rest homes and pre-schools, with each delivery tailored to suit the needs and interests of the recipients. Kohanga, ECE or rest homes interested in the Waikato District Library outreach programme are invited to contact their nearest district library.

Hillcrest Library at the Gardens

Hillcrest Library now has a temporary home in the former Wintec building at Hamilton Gardens while work continues to restore the Masters Ave site following a recent fire. An agreement between Hamilton City and Waikato District means Tamahere-Woodlands residents are among those who can also use Hamilton City libraries.

Christmas holiday season

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

Waikato District Council offices will close from 3pm Wednesday 24 December and will reopen on Thursday 8 January, but on-call staff will be available to attend to urgent matters if you phone 0800 492 452. If your rubbish is normally collected on a Thursday or Friday, your collection will be one day later over the two weeks of Christmas and New Year. Check out 'Holiday hours' details on the Council's website.

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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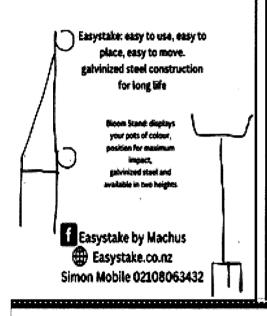


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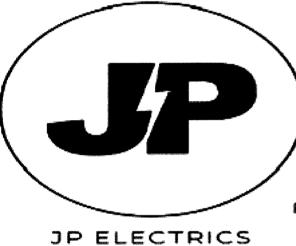
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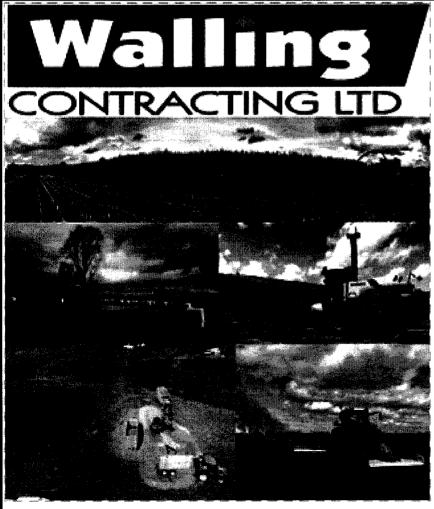
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2025



Waikato Sheds 20-years in business. Brian and Yolande celebrated the milestone along with family, staff, clients and our local community.



Merry Christmas From all of us at Waikato Sheds

We wish you all a safe, wonderful and relaxing holiday break.

See you in the new year!

