

15 September 2023

Maraetai sailors win world championship



Callum Hyde and Callum Noyer keep their cool on the water at the RS Feva World Champs in Follonica, Italy.

13-year-old Maraetai sailors Callum Hyde and Callum Noyer sailed their way to a World junior title at the 2023 RS Feva World Championships held in Follonica, Italy last month.

A perfect mix of blustery wind to light and shifty conditions tested the skill and tactics of the 209-boat fleet over the five day regatta.

Sailing in a heat wave where temperatures climbed up to 40 degrees Celsius on some days had its challenges, but Callum and Callum managed to stay well hydrated. Two first places in their qualifying races on days one and two put them into the lead, qualifying them to race against 69 other boats in the Gold fleet. Over the final 3 days of the regatta the boys fought hard for another first place, which they say was one of the highlights of the regatta.

During the final days of the regatta the boys kept their cool under a range of conditions to finish 347 points ahead of their nearest competitors, earning them the junior world title.

Their outstanding performance saw them place 4th overall in all categories including the Open (over-18) division.

Callum Noyer says it was an amazing experience to sail against so many other competitors from around the world.

Callum Hyde says: "We worked hard to get good clean starts to help us get off the line with speed, which at times was hard given the amount of boats on the line."

The boys say they would like to thank everyone for their support which allowed them to have an "amazing" experience sailing against the top RS Feva sailors from around the world. They boys now have friends from the UK, Germany, and Switzerland who they hope to see again at next year's world champs if they are able to go.

It is the second year in a row that Maraetai sailors have claimed victory at the event. Last year then-13-year-old Maraetai locals Kate Rasmussen and Madi Russell won the 2022RS Feva World Champs women's title and finished 8th overall.

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INSIDE: Hūnua community mourns store owner's passing p3

Schools gear up for Ag Days p4

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The PC Times 20 years ago:
 12 September 2003: NIWA study shows link between growth and loss of Whitford estuary life.



Weekly Tide Chart

15 Fri	1:17am ▼ 0.9m	7:38am ▲ 2.9m	☞☞☞
16 Sat	1:54am ▼ 0.8m	8:16am ▲ 3.0m	☞☞☞
17 Sun	2:30am ▼ 0.7m	8:52am ▲ 3.0m	☞☞☞
18 Mon	3:06am ▼ 0.7m	9:28am ▲ 3.1m	☞☞☞
19 Tue	3:42am ▼ 0.7m	10:04am ▲ 3.1m	☞☞☞
20 Wed	4:20am ▼ 0.7m	10:43am ▲ 3.0m	☞☞☞
21 Thu	5:00am ▼ 0.7m	11:25am ▲ 3.0m	☞☞☞

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Guest editorial by Friends of Te Wairoa chair Glenn Richards

Friends of Te Wairoa continue to work as a community group to improve the health and life force of the Wairoa River, the second largest river in Auckland which runs from Paparimu and Ararimu, through the Hūnua Falls and out to sea via Clevedon. Some of its tributaries contribute to the dams in the Hūnua Ranges and supply Auckland City with two thirds of their drinking water. The Wairoa River is of special significance to Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki. It's a very important river and it needs the community that live in its catchment to respect and care for it.

Part of what we do is educating, enabling and activating landowners in the catchment to do their bit. So far this year, we've held a riparian planting workshop, a seed collection and sowing workshop, and numerous predator control days. In September we have an almost fully booked workshop on Understanding Soils, and our AGM will feature guest speaker James Talbot (20 September, 6pm in the Hūnua Hall). James is from Watercare and will speak about the work being done in the Hūnua Ranges to fell pine plantations and replant with natives, and the benefits of doing this.

Our community native plant nursery is pumping, with massive amounts of donated seed being sown for next season during the volunteer days which are held once a month. Seedlings are growing nicely and are available for purchase to anyone within the Wairoa River Catchment.

Our pest management programme continues to grow strongly. We are going to add pest plant management to it over the next year. Our initial experiences seem to indicate that people who are interested in predator control on their properties are usually also interested in dealing with their pest plants. We will be trialling different ways of bringing education and products to the community.

We're progressing work on a willow eradication project too. In the coming weeks we'll have flyers printed and we are making a short video on how to remove willows from your section of the stream or river. Willows are invasive as every broken piece can root again to form a new plant, and they obstruct the flow of the river causing dams and blockages which contribute to flooding damage. We'd love for this project to be a success, but realistically we can only achieve our goals with the full support

and contributions from the community. So, on that note, we give massive thanks to the surrounding communities, within and outside of the Wairoa River catchment, who support the work we do and volunteer or donate to help us work towards achieving our goals.

The views expressed in the Pohutukawa Coast Times Guest Editorial column are not necessarily the views of the editor or publisher.



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Hūnua community mourns passing of local character

Messages of love and support flowed from the Hūnua community last weekend, as news of the death of Hūnua General Store owner Raj Charan was shared on social media.

The news was met with sadness by locals, and many shared their memories of the store owner best known for his cheeky sense of humour.

Raj's daughter, Priyanka, summed up what Raj meant to the local community in a Facebook tribute to her father last Sunday: "You were a man of the community and touched many lives."

Raj and Ronita Charan's successful business has been a regular contender at the Indian Newslink Business Awards, where it won the BNZ Excellence in Retail Trade award twice.

The competition judges heaped praise upon the store, saying Raj and Ronita "have brought third generation grocery skills to the small South Auckland settlement of Hūnua and have developed a charming community focused general store.

"They provide everything from flowers and espresso to fuel, and feature local produce. They have become an important gathering point in a community that prides itself on country values. The successful retail offering has resulted in doubling of revenue in three years and further expansion is on the cards."

Raj was an early adopter of the phasing



Hunua General Store owner Raj Charan (right), pictured with wife Ronita, passed away last Saturday 9 September.

out of plastic shopping bags, partnering with Hūnua School in a fundraising initiative which saw him selling reusable shopping bags and donating proceeds back to the school PTA.

In a Facebook post shared on Monday,

the Hūnua General Store said of Raj: "He loved Hūnua and its people dearly, and it was evidenced in the way he served and cared for his customers. Your support throughout the years meant the world to him, and he often spoke about how

lucky he was to be part of such a great community."

Raj was farewelled by friends and family at a service held at Anne's Funeral Home on Wednesday.



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Theft a 'mare for local business

Last week's theft of a large amount of horse riding gear has devastated an Ardmore business owner.

Tara Sullivan established her successful riding school four years ago, when she was aged just 20. Since then, the Sullivan Stables has provided riding and horse care lessons to many young people in the area.

The theft, which occurred during the early hours of last Thursday 7 September, saw offenders break into the locked premises and take more than \$20,000 worth of horse tack including saddles, bridles, back protectors, helmets, boots and more. Most of the gear is essential to the running of the business.

A newish model dark coloured ute with canopy was spotted at the Papakura Clevedon Road property at around 4.45am.

"Whoever it was knew what they were doing, as they were very specific with what they took," says Tara.

One of the items stolen was a saddle engraved with Tara's name. "It's pretty distinctive, so they'll have trouble selling it," she says.

The offenders also broke into the stable clubhouse and opened all the drawers and cupboards, although nothing was taken.

Tara says the past week has been a stressful time, but that the local equestrian community has stepped up to help.

"At first we didn't know how we were going to be able to operate the business,



The Sullivan Stables is missing much of its riding school gear following a theft last week.

but so many people have offered us spare gear to use. It's been a rollercoaster of emotions and it's made us realise that despite the break-in there are so many good people out there willing to help."

While the gear was insured, it will take some time to sort out the claim, says Tara.

Tara is appealing for anyone who might have further information about the burglary to contact Police on 105.

Schools gear up for Ag Days

With spring in the air, rural schools are gearing up for their respective Ag Days.

Brookby School is first off the rank, celebrating its 149th Ag Day on 17 September from 10am-2pm. Principal Wayne Gillard says this year's event, which is also the school's key fundraiser, will be bigger and better than ever.

"I like to call it 'New Zealand famous' as so many people know about it and we always get such a great turn out," says Wayne.

In addition to the traditional focus on rural animals, there will be many new attractions on offer including virtual reality games, tea cup and saucer, and electric go-karts. Old favourites like the obstacle course bouncy castle are back, along with helicopter rides, a white elephant stall, delicious food, coffee, plants and produce stalls, and a kids' corner with games and prizes. Some great items are up for grabs via auctions and raffles.

"Bring the whole family, we are selling all-day passes to our attractions, and it's such great value," says Wayne. "Please support us as this is our final fundraiser for our new playground which we plan to get completed over the Christmas holidays."

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/brookbyschoolagday2023> for info.

Oreore School will run its Ag/Pet Day on Thursday 21 September, with animal judging from 10.45am-12.30pm.

Classrooms will also be open for visitors to view other Ag Day categories such as vegetable animals. From 1pm there will be a sausage sizzle.

Ardmore School's Ag Day is also on Thursday 21 September from 9.15am to approx 1pm. It is open to the public and the school's Parent Support Group will run a sausage sizzle on the day.

Clevedon School's Ag Day usually boasts the greatest number of lambs, kids, calves and chickens and their Ag Day on Friday 22 September will be no exception. As well as the traditional Ag Day animals, there will be a pet corner for children to bring in their rabbit, fish, guinea pig, bird, frog or lizard. Students without animals have created living wreaths and decorated them in novel ways, documenting the process. Students will also prepare Jolly Jars to be sold on Ag Day as a fundraiser, filled with trinkets, stickers, lollies and anything else that the students come up with.

Hunua School's Ag Day is on Saturday 23 September. A highlight of the school calendar, the Hunua School Ag Day remains traditional, with a strong focus on students, their animals, prepared assignments and community. Reminiscent of yesteryear, there will be food, fun and games, and anyone is welcome to attend.



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WHY WAIT?

Concerns raised over Plan Change 88

An application to rezone 307 hectares of Beachlands land has Franklin Local Board concerned.

Board chair Angela Fulljames says Beachlands South Ltd Partnership's application – Plan change 88, covers land at Jack Lachlan Drive and Whitford-Maraetai Road, and decision-makers must take the board's views into account.

"We've made submissions and will speak at a hearing. It's a change that would see almost 160 hectares become residential, business, light industry and open space, with another 147 as future urban."

The application was notified in January, with 383 submissions received, the key themes being change of character, visual amenity, transport, water, education, healthcare, infrastructure funding and environmental impacts.

"Beachlands is a township in the same way Pukekohe and Waiuku are in the Local Board Plan," Fulljames says.

"However, it has no council-managed facilities, kerb and channel and footpath gaps, no secondary school or emergency medical facilities, relies on tank water and has grown in an ad-hoc way.

"We've raised issues around transport, particularly roading, and have noted the proposal does not address the effects on the traffic, intersections and flow through Whitford."

That concern has been echoed by fellow Wairoa subdivision members Malcolm Bell and Amanda Hopkins, Bell calling a bypass essential and



Map of Beachlands showing existing development and the area affected by proposed Plan change 88 (outlined in red).

advocating for roundabouts to slow traffic, more footpaths and provision for cyclists.

"It's also a chance for a service hub as part of a multi-user library similar to Takanini, with the old Formosa sport centre perhaps a suitable venue," he says.

Water is highlighted in the board's concerns, with a request that any development connect to Watercare's

Okaroro Drive wastewater plant, and not develop its own.

"We do note the plan change might provide the scale for Watercare to complete a water and wastewater scheme to benefit the wider area," Fulljames says. "But the application relies on water from bores and increased take from Pine Harbour, already subject to complaints."

With much of the area along the

Waikopua estuary, the board says ecological protection has not been fully addressed. Hopkins says the view of independent ecologists and iwi is needed.

"No one wants increased sedimentation that development might cause, and we'd suggest a greater setback to allow for further protection and coastal erosion," she says.

There are also concerns about visual impacts. Fulljames says the ridgeline would be visible from the Hauraki Gulf, and housing should be set back to reduce that impact, while lighting should be designed to not impact the dark sky or disturb wildlife.

Other infrastructure concerns surround power outages in the area, and walkways and play spaces, but note provision has been made for the Ministry of Education to buy land for a high school.

"A new school isn't a given," Bell says. "The development would make it more likely, but a change of government might alter everything."

Fulljames welcomed the move to set aside land for a light industrial zone but questioned whether it would provide enough jobs for the increased population.

The reporting planner will report on the concerns in the hearing report, and a panel of independent experts will listen to submissions at a hearing in November.

More funds for kerb and channel

Another \$600,000 has been allocated to the pedestrian bridge over the Whangapouri Stream near Jutland Road in Pukekohe's Belmont to keep schoolchildren safe.

Franklin Local Board chair Angela Fulljames says the last board prioritised the bridge because the area was too dangerous for pedestrians moving across a stream that swells during rain events.

"That did mean our Transport Capital Fund was spent, impacting kerb and channel work at Beachlands.

"While we have again allocated funds to the bridge, we have also earmarked significant funds for kerb and channel work at First View and Second View Avenues and Karaka Road. It may be that the amount allocated across the three sites is used differently, depending on the efficiencies involved in undertaking the work."

The board has also called for any Whangapouri culvert upgrade to include a walkway, a move that would take pressure off the board's transport budget.

Local Board Transport Capital Funds allow boards to deliver transport infrastructure projects that are a local priority, but which might not be considered a priority within Auckland Transport's work programme.

Camp Adair's future in doubt

Auckland's wild weather could yet claim YMCA Camp Adair.

Thousands of people have made millions of memories at the outdoor activities campsite over the years, but three 100-year adverse weather events inside just 12 years have flooded the property causing widespread damage to buildings and infrastructure such as in-ground wastewater systems.

YMCA group manager outdoors and fundraising Dave Lockwood told Franklin Local Board's August business meeting relocating or building stopbanks to protect the camp, with the costs of such work unknown, appeared to be the only alternatives.

"With three floods in 12 years and almost \$5million in insurance payouts, our premiums have gone way up, and we can pretty much add a couple of zeroes to our excess too.

"Building stopbanks is the obvious solution but we have no idea what



Flood damage has raised questions over Camp Adair's future.

that might cost, or even if it would be possible, given we would have to work with our neighbours, meet all sorts of environmental conditions, and move underground services like wastewater.

"Relocating might have to be looked at, but where to, and at what cost? It's not as simple as picking everything up and moving it to a new site, especially when you don't have one."

The sun was shining on the day of the meeting, but heavy rain had hammered the camp on the first day of its season

the day before, leaving guests and the children soggy but still enthusiastic.

Board Wairoa subdivision member Malcolm Bell was at Camp Adair for the opening.

"The kids will have no shortage of mud to wallow in, but the effects of the damage are still there. The bridge over the Wairoa River is out of bounds, with the kids set to have to wade through the river to cross to the other side, subject to safety of course."

He said it was amazing how many of the adults at the opening had been to the camp in their own childhoods.

"It's an incredible facility that makes an experience available at an affordable price. Losing it would be devastating. Camp Adair is not just for Franklin, many users come from areas where money is tight, and access to programmes like this relies on groups like the YMCA."

The board has agreed to work with YMCA to resolve the issues the camp faces.

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HOW TO ENTER

1. Email: info@pctimes.co.nz a photo of yourself with your Ag Day animal. Make sure the photo is high quality (it needs to be at least 300kb file size).
 2. Include your name, year group at school, your pet's name, school you go to, mum/dad/caregiver's name and contact phone number.
- Entries must be received by 5pm Friday 13 October 2023. The winners will be published in our Friday 20 October 2023 issue.



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Letters



Don't park on the helipad!

Recently we received an impromptu visit from the NZ Police Eagle Helicopter. It came in during one of our more recent stormy days.

We are seeing more use made of the landing pad by Westpac as well, probably due to the bad weather affecting the alternative grass landing sites around the local area.

With the promise of good weather ahead, forecasting a dry summer we will see a high volume of beach and boat users using the local facilities.

The helicopter pad needs to be kept clear of parked vehicles. Boaties should be readying their boats in the main car park.

There they can take their time and make sure boats are prepared without rushing, and it's a good time to check the bungs are in place.

The local Police volunteers have advised that photos of license plates of offending parked vehicles will be forwarded to Police for action, and community patrols will be checking the pad periodically too.

As a former Chairman and aircrew of the Coastguard Auckland Air Patrol I can advise that airborne missions are stressful enough without finding our intended landing zone is blocked.

Steve Couch-Hill
Maraetai

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Pōhutukawa Coast Times Ag Day photo competition entries



Jemma Brooke, year 5 Beachlands School with Lula



Carter Hill, age 7, Brookby School, with Sparkles



Jaycob Taylor, year 3 Hunua School with Storm



Aaron O'Brien, age 5, Brookby School, with Chuckles and Mythic



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Auckland Libraries extends local trial service

Over the past six months, Auckland Libraries in collaboration with the volunteers at Beachlands and Maraetai have made it possible for locals to request items from the Auckland Libraries Catalogue and pick them up from their local community library. You can order a book from the Auckland Library Catalogue and pick it up from Maraetai or Beachlands Rural Libraries or from the Mobile Library which visits on Saturdays from October.

The trial service has been extended for a further six months.

The trial has slowly gained traction with more locals using their rural library for

this service - which allows people to order a greater selection of items online from Auckland Libraries.

Every four months, each library also receives a bulk loan exchange from Auckland Libraries, which keeps the local selection refreshed and current.

How to order books from Auckland Libraries, for pick-up at Beachlands or Maraetai Rural Libraries

- you will need an Auckland Library card (see aucklandlibraries.govt.nz for info on how to join)
- request your items using the online catalogue www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/

- select Beachlands or Maraetai as your pickup location and submit

Deliveries are made once a week to local libraries. You will receive an email or phone notification when your item is ready for pick-up.

You can keep items for 5 weeks, before returning them to Beachlands, Maraetai, Mobile South & East Library or any Auckland Libraries branch.

For more information visit www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/ or call 09 377 0209.

Music Trust gets into the swing of spring


The Clevedon Valley Music Foundation Trust will host its latest concert this Sunday 17 September from 1.30pm.

“Side By Side” fuses jazz, swing and classical music, and features the gold award-winning Sancta Maria College Big Band, plus classical voice students from Waikato University, Elim Christian College and CAMA Youth Ensemble.

Where: St Andrew’s Presbyterian Clevedon, 3 Papakura-Clevedon Rd, Clevedon.

Entry: Suggested entrance/exit donation/ Koha: \$10/\$5, complimentary afternoon tea.

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Authorised by Anahila Kanongata'a, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

Coast dominates at school football tournament

The Pōhutukawa Coast cleaned up at last week’s boys interzone school football tournament, with Maraetai Beach School placing first and Beachlands School placing second out of 21 schools.

Read online

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BARFOOT THOMPSON & Student Voice

LOCAL STUDENTS' NEWS, VIEWS & LITERARY TALENT

This column features news, views and literary talents of students from Beachlands, Maraetai, Clevedon, Brookby, Hunua, Paparimu, Orere and Ardmore Schools.

One student featured each week will be presented with a certificate and a \$20 book voucher, thanks to Barfoot & Thompson’s Beachlands and Whitford branches.



This week’s voucher sponsored by Matthew Brown

I heard the flowers swishing and swashing

I saw stringy webs dangling in the air


I felt shivers down my spine

I wondered how long it would take to build the web?

- by Mia Chisnall, Year 3, Clevedon School

SPORTS

Beachlands Maraetai Football Club




RESULTS FROM WEEK ENDING 10 SEPTEMBER

White U9 played Bay Olympic NRF U9 Tuataras no POD submitted; **Black U9** played Metro FC Onemana U9 POD Joshua Curtis; **Red U9** played Central United FC Meteors U9 POD Charlie Wood; **Blue U9** played Ellerslie AFC U9 Black PODs Mitchell Terry, Max Kenny, Noah Krishna; **Blue U10** played Bay Olympic Comets U10 no POD submitted; **Black U10** played Auckland United FC Dundee U10; **Blue U11G Orcas** played Western Springs AFC U11G Wood no POD; **Black U11** played Fencibles United Blue U11/4 POD Elijah Becker; **Blue Goats U11** played Ellerslie AFC U11 Gold Pod Oliver Reid; **White U11** played Ellerslie AFC U11 Orange POD Jake Lawless; **Black U12** played Lynn-Avon Utd Wizards U12 POD Jake Howard; **Blue U12G Diamond Cats** were to play Auckland United FC NRF Black U12G who defaulted; **Blue 12** played Auckland United FC Spain U12 POD Willem Skinner; **U13C** drew with North Shore United Conference U13 1-1 POD: Thomas Costar; **BMAFC U14G** drew with Fencibles United Red U14G/2 2-2 POD Hannah Munro; **Blue 14/3** beat Ellerslie AFC U14 Gold 1-0 POD Lucas Greenwood; **Blue U16G/2** Ellerslie AFC U16 Girls Gold no result submitted

Rebels M40/4 drew with Bay Olympic Terriers M40 2-2 POD Brendon Kerwick; **Coasters M40/4** lost to South Auckland Rangers AFC Kiwi FC M40 1-4 POD Richard “Com’on pass the ball” Rakovic; **Lions M45** were to play Onehunga Mangere United AFC - Bulavinaka Boys M45/3 who defaulted; **Legionnaires M40/3** beat Eastern Suburbs AFC EastSide Massive M40/2 2-0 POD Jamie MacDonald; **WCL** were to play Onehunga Mangere United Scarlets WCL who defaulted

Clevedon Football Club



RESULTS FROM WEEK ENDING 10 SEPTEMBER

COMETS U5 Players of the Day: EZRA HARRIS and MADIX WILLIAMS; **CARDINALS U6** Player of the Day: AHAD HASSAN and Merit Award: SOPHIE DUMPER; **CADETS U7** Player of the Day: ARLO SEARLE and Merit Award: RYAN FEARNESIDE; **CHIEFS U8H** Players of the Day: LEO PILKINGTON and COOPER WILLIAMS; **CYCLONES U9** v Papakura City FC White Player of the Day: COOPER MILLAR and Merit Award: GEORGE CASHMORE; **COLTS U10** v Pukekohe AFC Yellow Player of the Day: MAC ALLEN and Merit Award: CHARLIE WELLS; **CHEETAHS U11** v Onehunga Mangere United AFC Pokemons Player of the Day: PATRICK FLEMING and Merit Award: JACOB NELSON

COBRAS U12 v Papatoetoe AFC Red Dragons Player of the Day: TOM CAPENER and Merit Award: KEIRON DAVIES

Lifestyle

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and budget for their maintenance requirements eliminating unexpected breakdowns or expenses,” he says.

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Lifestyle

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- by Kelly Club

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What do you need to bring:

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Food:

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Programme activities:

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may be grouped by age depending on numbers. Programme activities may vary without notice dependant on weather conditions and programme numbers

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Lifestyle

SPONSORED CONTENT

Swimgym congratulates Maraetai Beach School for taking action

- by Howick Swimgym

As summer approaches, it's important to remember the value of swimming and aquatic activities for children and young adults. Unfortunately, many school pools have been forced to close in recent years due to a lack of funding and support. This not only limits access to swimming for students but also affects the community as a whole.

We commend Maraetai Beach School for taking action to keep its pool open and accessible to students. Swimgym is thrilled to be a part of this action. By removing barriers such as high costs and transportation issues, we can ensure that more students have the opportunity to learn and enjoy aquatic activities.

Swimgym will be offering swimming lessons at Maraetai Beach School's pool. Swimgym has been providing swim instruction in Auckland since 1987, featuring a programme that caters to everyone, from waterbabies to Olympic athletes. It's a tried and tested programme that produces

excellent outcomes.

Swimgym has been a well-known part of the Maraetai community for quite some time. You may already be familiar with their community swimming programme, which has been running intermittently at Maraetai Beach during summer terms for the past decade. In collaboration with the Find Your Field of Dreams, Swimgym has provided valuable water safety lessons to the community.

In light of the recent tragic news of 94 lives lost in New Zealand waterways in 2022, which is 15% higher than our 10-year average, it's more important than ever for our community to come together and prioritise water safety. It's not just about being cautious while swimming, but also about ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to learn how to swim. Swimming is not only a fun activity or a crucial life skill but is also a fantastic sport that can provide you with many opportunities. It's never too late to learn to swim.

In addition to the physical benefits, swimming also promotes teamwork,



self-confidence, and social skills. By investing in school pools and aquatic centres, we can provide a safe and supportive environment for students to develop these important life skills.



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FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Mushroom Ratatouille - by The Kai Box

INGREDIENTS:

- ¾ cup bulghur wheat
- 1 TBs olive oil
- ½ onion, finely chopped
- 3-4 garlic cloves, minced
- 250g button mushrooms, sliced
- 1 yellow capsicum, diced
- 1 red capsicum, diced
- 1 courgette, cubed
- 1 eggplant, cut into small cubes
- 1/2 TBs Italian Herbs
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes
- 1 bay leaf
- salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 1 TBs red-wine vinegar or balsamic vinegar





INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Heat the oil in large deep-sided frying pan, add onions and sauté until translucent. Add garlic and cook for a minute.
2. Then add the mushrooms and cook for a few minutes. Add the capsicums, eggplant, courgettes and tomatoes. Add the Italian Herbs, salt and pepper and stir.
3. Pop the bay leaf in and partially cover, simmer on low until the vegetables are tender but not mushy, 20-25mins.
4. While the ratatouille cooks soak the bulghur wheat in a bowl of 1½ cups of boiled water, no need to cook, just add salt.
5. Once the ratatouille is cooked add the red wine vinegar or balsamic vinegar and taste for seasoning.
6. Drain any water from bulghur wheat, fluff with a fork and serve topped with the ratatouille.



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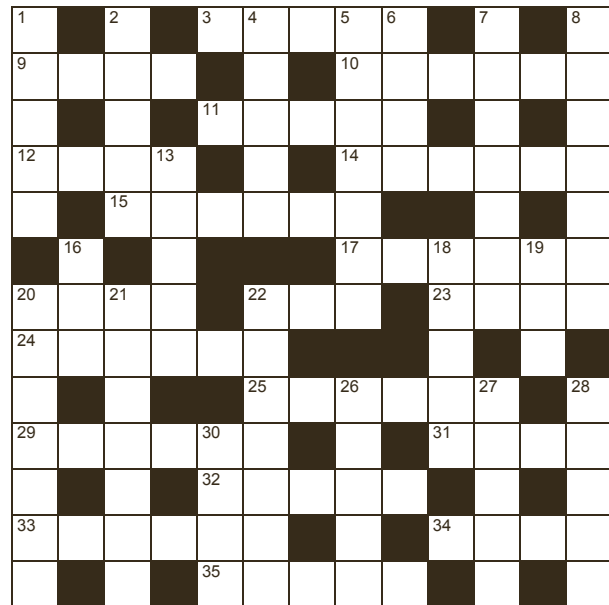



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Across

3. Disposes of (5)
9. Area of ground (4)
10. Fame (6)
11. Splurge (5)
12. Ghetto (4)
14. Caper (6)
15. Range of mountains (Spanish) (6)
17. Unsullied (6)
20. An unspecified amount (4)
22. Stain (3)
23. Food (inf) (4)
24. Croaky (6)
25. Talkative (6)
29. Call off (6)
31. Northern currency (4)
32. Uninteresting (5)
33. Last-mentioned (6)
34. Sweep along swiftly (4)
35. Whinny (5)

Down











1. Convulsive movement (5)
2. False (5)
4. Superior (5)
5. Introduction to a book (7)
6. Prophet (4)
7. Senseless (7)
8. Twist to open (7)
13. Collier (5)
16. Soft murmuring sound (3)
18. Intense (5)
19. Haul (3)
20. Chain (7)
21. Captain of industry (7)
22. State (7)
26. Becoming more mature (5)
27. Palm-like plant (5)
28. Temperamental (5)
30. Flat and smooth (4)

Answers on page 14



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SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2023 For ages 5-13yrs

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<p style="background-color: #00aaff; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Team Up!</p> <p>Put your teamwork skills to the test as we spend the day working together! Get amongst all of our fun team building, games, activities and earn prizes for your team throughout the day!</p> 	<p style="background-color: #00aaff; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Cheerleading & Ballsports</p> <p>Ever wanted to learn how to cheer, flip or tumble? Spend the day learning heaps of new cheerleading tricks and showing off your cool cheer moves! Also, bring your skills for different ball sports in the hall and out on the fields. "Go Te Puru Go!"</p> 	<p style="background-color: #00aaff; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Auckland Museum</p> <p>Today we're heading off to the Auckland Museum! Explore all the weird and wonderful exhibits and galleries, including the new dinosaur skeleton! We'll also be heading to the Auckland Domain to have lunch and play games!</p> <p>Trip day cost applies \$70</p> 	<p style="background-color: #00aaff; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Health & Wellbeing</p> <p>Today is all about our health and wellbeing! Making delicious treats, learning all about mindfulness and enjoy some added fun activities outside and in the centre.</p> 	<p style="background-color: #00aaff; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Halloween</p> <p>Happy Halloween! Come dressed in your best Halloween costume and join us for an early Halloween party. Filled with games and treats (and maybe a few tricks). We will be having lots of spooky fun! Have a fang-tastic Halloween!</p> 

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RMS Niagara – the Gulf’s ticking time bomb

- by Laura Kvigstad, Auckland Council reporter
funded by New Zealand on Air

The clock is running down on an ecological disaster in the Hauraki Gulf as an unknown amount of oil sits in the sunken RMS Niagara.

The Royal Mail Ship (RMS) Niagara was sunk in 1940 by a mine and now sits in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park, about 30 kilometres offshore.

At the Hauraki Gulf Forum meeting earlier this year, executive officer Alex Rogers said the wreck, like many sunken World War II ships, was hitting its “peak leak period”.

“Ruptures will occur as a natural result of the impact of corrosion and pressure on the wreck,” Rogers said.

“In the worst case scenario, the wreck may hold up to a further 1600 tonnes of heavy fuel oil – though not all

of that would go at once.”

Rogers compared the amount of oil in the RMS Niagara to the 2011 Rena wreck that discharged around 300 tonnes of oil off the coast of Tauranga.

The Environment Minister at the time of the Rena wreck, Nick Smith, called it the worst maritime environmental disaster.

Rogers said ministers had sought funding for further investigation into the RMS Niagara’s fuel holdings.

“In 2018, Maritime New Zealand advised government they needed funding to investigate the wreck – ministers sought funding but were turned down at cabinet.”

He said it was “unconscionable that we would let it keep ticking.”

Rogers has sought advice on how the Hauraki Gulf Forum can influence a proactive response to the pending disaster.

Auckland Transport raises its road death target

- by Laura Kvigstad, Auckland Council reporter.
Funded by New Zealand on Air.

Councillors found it difficult to swallow Auckland Transport’s decision to increase its death and serious injuries target.

At the Transport and Infrastructure Committee last month, committee members approved Auckland Transport’s (AT) statement of intent which included an increase in the target of deaths and serious injuries to no more than 640 deaths and serious injuries (DSI).

Last year’s target was set at no more than 537 DSI however AT failed to meet this target with 669 DSI on Auckland’s roads in the last year.

AT’s executive general manager Stacey van der Putten said the previous target was unrealistic.

“We did not meet our target last year, we are so far off from it. Knowing that we have funding constraints, it is irresponsible for us to keep on putting up these targets when we knowingly can’t meet them,” van der Putten said.

“Regional land transport plan road safety funding has been reduced substantially – \$30 million from \$74 million so there are these big changes there.”

She said legislative changes around road safety had not materialised which also added to the issue.

Some councillors said they could not support an increase in the target.

Franklin Ward councillor Andy Baker said the issue

was complex.

“DSIs go up and down every year without rhyme or reason – it is an impossible science to try and figure out why people are dying on our roads or getting seriously injured,” Baker said. “The huge statistic of people not putting on their seat belt. How that can be addressed in a statement of intent, how AT can address that, I don’t know.”

Councillor Shane Henderson said it sent the wrong message to Aucklanders.

“We have had too many deaths, particularly of cyclists, particularly of walkers. We have all had them in our wards, we have all had to speak to families that have been affected,” Henderson said.

He said there was “horrible political rhetoric” opposing things like speed tables and separated cycle paths that make it safe for Aucklanders.

“We have got to put a stake in the ground and say we are going to do what we can.”

Councillor Angela Dalton said she also could not support the target and that it was not a reflection on AT but on the committee members for not funding AT.

“We must have a look at ourselves and what we choose to invest into our people of Auckland and our priorities,” Dalton said.

Auckland Transport’s statement of intent was approved by the committee with 14 votes in favour and seven against.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Across: 3. Dumps, 9. Plot, 10. Renown, 11. Spree, 12. Slum, 14. Frolic, 15. Sierra, 17. Chaste, 20. Some, 22. Dye, 23. Chow, 24. Hoarse, 25. Chatty, 29. Cancel, 31. Euro, 32. Vapid, 33. Latter, 34. Scud, 35. Neigh.

Down: 1. Spasm, 2. Bogus, 4. Upper, 5. Preface, 6. Seer, 7. Foolish, 8. Unscrew, 13. Miner, 16. Coo, 18. Acute, 19. Tow, 20. Shackle, 21. Magnate, 22. Declare, 26. Aging, 27. Yucca, 28. Moody, 30. Even.

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BEACHLANDS CHARTERED CLUB
AGM NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Beachlands Chartered Club Inc will be held at the Club premises at the following date, time, and location:

Sunday 24th September 2023, 10am
Corner Wakelin Road and Third View Avenue,
Beachlands, Auckland 2018

This meeting is open to current BCC financial and life members for the election of Officers in the Executive Committee, consisting of up to 9 Officers including the President and the Vice President. Nominations for the Committee shall be made in writing on a form provided for the purpose and shall be deposited to the Club Manager prior to the AGM. The nominee and his or her proposer and seconder shall, at the date of nomination, be full financial of life members of the Club. If any is not, the nomination shall be void.

This meeting starts strictly at 10am after which the Club room doors will be locked as this meeting is not open to the public.

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Hills & Associates Ltd CA, Randall Hills	530 9207
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AGGREGATES

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Serenity Day Spa, serenitydayspalt@yahoo.com	02102216026

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info@onsiteblinds.co.nz	0508 253 262

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We Lay Concrete Ltd.	021 038 1086

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- Hygienist - Shelley Chadwick & Zahraa Talib	530 8461
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