

Pohutukawa Coast TIMES

FRIDAY May 5 2017 Issue 1203



'THE PAPER WITH THE MOST FOR THE COAST'

Locals shine at Masters Games

By Leanne Chamberlin

Following last week's World Masters Games, a number of Coasters can now claim to have won gold at a major international sporting event.

The World Masters Games inspired over 25,000 athletes aged over 25 to compete in a wide range of sporting disciplines.

One local athlete to feel the pain of international competition was Whitford's Rebecca Robinson, who took a hockey ball to the thigh during her second game in the women's 40's age group hockey division.

The incident left Rebecca with an impressive haematoma, but didn't impact her performance as her New Zealand SilverStix team progressed towards the final.

Also playing for the SilverStix was Whitford's Allannah Steele who was the division's top goal scorer throughout the competition.

The SilverStix dominated Australia's Coff's Harbour Masters 7-0 in the final to take the gold medal in the women's A-grade 40+ age group.

Rebecca says her team loved the whole Games experience.

"We had a blast - on and off the field. It was competitive, but also extremely social. We've already talked about going to the next Games in Japan in four years' time to defend our title."

• TO PAGES 8 & 9



Rebecca Robinson (left) and Allannah Steele celebrate a hockey gold.

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Beachlands Countdown opens to public

Countdown's much anticipated new Beachlands store was officially opened last Friday by Hunua MP Andrew Bayly and has created 70 new jobs.

As part of the celebrations, students from Beachlands School performed a kapa haka. Locals were also excited about the opening, with hundreds checking out the new store.

Andrew Bayly, MP for Hunua, congratulated Countdown Beachlands on its successful launch.

"Beachlands is a vibrant growing community, and the new supermarket will be a welcome addition to the surrounding area. The store opening also means more jobs and a new shopping experience for customers in the area, which is

great to see."

Countdown Beachlands Store Manager Kevin Morgan says he and his team are very excited to open their doors and share the store with the community.

"There's been a big build up to today's opening and the amount of effort that has gone into getting the store ready has been phenomenal. We hope the local community will love our new store, and we can't wait to meet our new customers.

Last year Countdown invested more than \$200 million into building new stores and upgrading their existing store network.

• TO PAGE 8

INSIDE: • Botany feature pages 4-5

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