

3 July 2026

## Menzshed finds a home at Beachlands School



Pōhutukawa Coast Menzshed founder Paul McGuire pictured outside the group's new base, 'The Depot', at Beachlands School.

After a year of searching, the Pōhutukawa Coast Menzshed group has found a home - in a shed at Beachlands School (behind the Mitre 10 Building and Landscaping Supplies yard).

The group has begun clearing the shed, known as 'The Depot', and once they have it tidied up Menzshed spokesperson Paul McGuire says the space will be ideal for the group's needs with a kitchen, toilet, 3-phase power, concrete floor, parking and plenty of space.

The group currently has 66 people on its email list who are keen to join. "That'll be up to 100 before we know it," says Paul.

More than half of the people who have expressed interest in joining a local Menzshed are retired engineers or tradies, some with very impressive career histories. But the shed is not just for those handy on the tools, says Paul.

"If someone wants to come along and have a cup of tea and

a biscuit, that's fine."

All genders are welcome at the shed, with the purpose being to provide a place where people can get together.

"It's a place for camaraderie and social connection," says Paul.

Traditionally, Men's Sheds (there are now more than 1,000 operating in Australasia) have centred on activities like woodwork and metalwork, but more recently there has been a lot of interest in 3D printing.

The shed has already received many donations of tools and equipment. Paul says he is currently storing the equivalent of about three double garages worth, plus a stack of timber on his lawn.

Beachlands School Principal Lisa Bethune says the school is excited to welcome Menzshed to their site.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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|       |  |                   |                   |  |
|-------|--|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| 3 Fri |  | 3:16am<br>▼ 0.49m | 9:33am<br>▲ 2.9m  |  |
| 4 Sat |  | 3:57am<br>▼ 0.9m  | 10:13am<br>▲ 3.0m |  |
| 5 Sun |  | 4:39am<br>▼ 0.9m  | 10:53am<br>▲ 3.0m |  |
| 6 Mon |  | 5:22am<br>▼ 0.9m  | 11:34am<br>▲ 3.0m |  |
| 7 Tue |  | 12:02am<br>▲ 3.1m | 6:06am<br>▼ 0.8m  |  |
| 8 Wed |  | 12:48am<br>▲ 3.1m | 6:53am<br>▼ 0.8m  |  |
| 9 Thu |  | 1:37am<br>▲ 3.1m  | 7:45am<br>▼ 0.8m  |  |

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**Guest editorial** by the Howick Village Association

Winter is shaping up to be a busy and exciting time in Howick Village, with community events, environmental initiatives, and village enhancements all contributing to the vibrant atmosphere that makes the village such a special place.

One of the highlights on the calendar is the bi-annual Eco Day, taking place this Saturday 4 July 2026 in Howick Village. This free community event provides an opportunity for families and residents to connect with local environmental organisations and discover practical ways to live more sustainably.

This year's event will feature a fantastic range of groups including Hands on Creatures, who will bring a variety of live animals for visitors to meet while learning about their habitats and conservation. Pest Free Howick will share information on trapping initiatives, protecting native wildlife, and tackling invasive species. Visitors will also be able to meet representatives from Friends of Mangemangeroa, Forest & Bird, The Composting Collective, the Cockle Bay Residents and Ratepayers Restoration Project, and the Pigeon Mountain Garden Club. Together, these groups showcase the incredible work being undertaken throughout the area to protect and enhance the local environment.

Eco Day reflects the strong community spirit that exists across East Auckland and provides a valuable opportunity to

learn from the dedicated volunteers and organisations working to preserve the natural spaces that residents and visitors enjoy every day.

Community spirit was also celebrated recently at the Howick Village Mid-Winter Celebration, where a number of local businesses were recognised for the positive contribution they make to village life.

Pastarita Restaurant received the Social Impact & Inclusivity Honour for using social media to bring people together and promote the inclusive values that make Howick Village special. The Earl was recognised with the Community Connection Award, reflecting the strong support generated by new owners Cole and Richard (previous owners of The Franklin in Beachlands) and the positive relationship they have quickly built with the community.

Bayleys Howick received the Community Partnership Award for their ongoing support of village events and initiatives, while Avenrose Florists took home the Howick Village Spirit Award for bringing colour, creativity and positivity to the village throughout the year. Auckland Guitar School was recognised with the Engagement & Mentorship Award for inspiring young musicians and contributing to community events, and Belle Boutique received the Quiet Achievement Award for its consistent support, creativity and community involvement.

These businesses, along with many

others throughout the village, help create the welcoming and vibrant atmosphere that residents and visitors enjoy year-round.

Adding to the village's winter charm, Freemasons Howick has generously sponsored the lighting of the large Pūriri tree outside All Saints Church on the corner of Cook Street and Selwyn Road. Powered by All Saints Church, the illuminated tree is a beautiful feature alongside the many other fairy-lit trees already brightening the village. This collaborative project is another example of local organisations working together to enhance the village atmosphere and create a welcoming environment for residents and visitors.

The Howick Village Association continues to support local businesses, deliver community events, advocate for the village, and create opportunities for people to connect. The strong support received from neighbouring communities, including Beachlands and Maraetai, is greatly appreciated. Visitors from across East Auckland regularly attend village events, festivals and promotions, helping strengthen connections between communities and contributing to the success of local initiatives.

As winter progresses, there will be plenty happening in the village. Residents and visitors alike are encouraged to support local businesses, attend community events, and take the opportunity to experience everything Howick Village has to offer. Together, these activities help ensure the village remains a vibrant, welcoming and thriving destination for the wider East Auckland community.

**Menzshed finds a home at Beachlands School**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"A school is the heart of a community, and we believe that education extends beyond the classroom walls, it thrives when generations connect. By hosting Menzshed on our site, we are opening up incredible opportunities for our students and staff to learn invaluable practical skills, problem-solving, and craftsmanship directly from local experts. More importantly, this partnership fosters connections within our community,

which is something that is important to Beachlands School."

The shed is open daily from 9am-2pm to anyone who wishes to come along. Annual membership is \$75 incl GST per person, or \$125 incl GST for two people from the same address. There is no joining fee.

For more information contact pmcgnz2@gmail.com or phone 027 473 0430.

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# Franklin Local Board's draft three year plan - what's in it for us?

Should sports clubs who have sole use of council-owned sports fields have to pay a fee?

Should we remove rubbish bins from busy public spaces?

Do we need a bypass road to try and ease traffic congestion in Whitford?

These are all items up for discussion within the Franklin Local Board's three-year plan, a draft version of which is now out for consultation.

Franklin Local Board has about \$23M per year to spend on operating costs (things like swimming pools, hall maintenance, libraries and other community facilities), plus a further \$10-14M per year to spend on capital projects.

The draft three-year plan outlines the board's objectives and priorities for the Franklin area, which includes the Wairoa subdivision (the eastern part of Franklin between Bombay and Beachlands).

Local board Wairoa representatives Amanda Hopkins, Alix Bonnington and Clare Alder are in touch with local groups and organisations, and also want to hear from the wider community about the plan.

"We want people to think about things that are important," says Alix. "What's included in the plan that people like? What's missing?"

The board has outlined its plans under a number of key headings. Here's a summary of the parts that apply to our local communities:

## Built environment/community and facilities

- progress the re-purposing of Clevedon Hall from a venue for hire location, to a multi-service asset that supports a range of services and activities that align with the aspirations of the Clevedon Village Heart concept plan and Clevedon Design Framework, in response to local growth

- investigate the removal of rubbish bins in local parks and reserves where visitation from outside the area is high, or where the reserve is adjacent to other 'bin free' areas such as regional parks e.g. Maraetai Beach, Karioitahi Beach and Kawakawa Bay

- investigate the opportunity to offset the significant cost of maintaining sport

fields and equipment by applying fees and charges associated with exclusive/organised use.

The board also supports investment into open spaces with existing concept plans, or where board investment will facilitate other investment including Clevedon Showgrounds, Te Nikau Pa (Clevedon) and Sunkist Bay Reserve.

## Environmental

- support projects that restore the health of land, rivers and native species, led by local communities and guided by mana whenua as kaitiakitanga

- use a whole-catchment approach to environmental restoration, with local groups leading the work alongside mana whenua and Auckland Council support

- keep funding the Ecological Volunteers Programme so residents and visitors can take part in restoration events across parks, beaches and reserves

- work with Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki at Te Nikau Pa

- join up pest control, biodiversity, restoration and park maintenance so delivery is better coordinated and more cost-effective

- fund Te Ara Hikoi to help local community groups access funding, expertise and support for pest management and restoration work.

## Economic development:

- support Franklin businesses to benefit from investment in regional economic development, tourism and major events - this will include promoting Maraetai Beach, Clevedon, Hūnua and Kawakawa Bay as accessible tourism destinations

## Transport

The board proposes several smaller projects including footpaths, kerbs and channelling:

- extension of Clevedon's Monument Road footpath, to connect the housing area on the western side of the road to the showgrounds and existing footpath network.

- kerb and channelling in Third View Ave, Bell Road, Beachland Road and

Karaka Road in Beachlands

There are also pathways that will be delivered in the next 3 years funded by the recently implemented targeted rate:

- Clevedon's McNicol Road path

- Kawakawa Bay path

- Maraetai School Road to Te Puru Park path

The board says it will support the Clevedon Association's advocacy for the South-East bus link - a public transport connection between Beachlands, Maraetai, Clevedon and Papakura.

It will also support the Clevedon Association to plan and deliver an integrated main street improvement programme that enables locals and visitors to move around the village on foot, by mobility device and by bike.

## Advocacy

Some issues lie outside the scope of the Franklin Local Board, but still directly affect residents living in the area. For these issues, the board says it will advocate to the relevant authorities, in an effort to influence other decision-makers to prioritise the things the community cares about.

Some of the items the board proposes to advocate on are:

- sport and recreational facilities and services in Beachlands

- Sunkist Bay, Beachlands concept plan delivery

- Clevedon Village Heart concept plan delivery

- inclusion of a new Whitford Bypass in the Regional Land Transport Plan

- effective and integrated solid waste management (landfill) planning e.g. Whitford Landfill is appropriately managed to minimise air quality and leachate issues.

- improved public and safe active transport options to reduce carbon emissions.

- regional investment and developer investment in the development of Clevedon Showgrounds, new community spaces in Beachlands, and Te Puru Sports Complex to accommodate significant unscheduled growth

- development of Pine Harbour Ferry

services so that new communities in the southeast, including at Beachlands South, can use the Hauraki Gulf's 'blue highway' to access services, facilities, amenity and jobs

- delivery of the Clevedon Village Heart concept plan and investment in the Clevedon Showgrounds to accommodate growth

- develop a set of roading guidelines that better consider the transport constraints facing communities in greenfield development and rural areas so that new roads, paths and parking environments are fit for purpose and cost-effective.

## How the plan will be used

The plan provides direction for the next three years and influences council's wider decision making. To deliver on it the board will:

- prioritise budgets and resources to focus on the initiatives in this plan

- work with partners to deliver on the plan's objectives.

## How to give feedback

**What do you like? What don't you like? What else could the board include in their plan?**

**From 23 June 2026–23 July 2026 you can give feedback at [akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/local-board-plans-2026](https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/local-board-plans-2026)**

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# Matariki community celebration

The Pōhutukawa Coast Community Arts Hub, alongside Te Puru Community Centre, will host a Matariki Community Celebration complete with a family hangi meal this month.

“We will have artwork from our young people on display, along with art from local artists for sale, community art activities including flax star weaving, poi making, and Matariki star painting for a community art installation,” says Arts

Hub Chair Samantha Sutherland.

In conjunction with the event, the Arts Hub is running a Matariki art competition for young people aged 5-19 living in East Franklin, with cash prizes including a public choice award. Artwork can be any medium, up to A3 size, themed ‘What Matariki means to me’.

People will be able to vote for their favourite artwork at the Matariki event from 10am-2pm. Entries can be registered online at [pcartshub.com](http://pcartshub.com), and artwork can be dropped to Te Puru in the week before Matariki during opening hours.

The Matariki Community Celebration will feature live entertainment from the Pōhutukawa Coast Choir, Maraetai and Beachlands school kapa haka groups, plus other performances. The Arts Hub is also keen to hear from other local musicians and entertainers who may be interested in performing.

The event will wrap up with prizegiving for art awards, family games and a community kai including hangi.

“We are really looking forward to this event and hope it will be well supported by our community so we can continue it as a feature in our local events!” says Samantha.

For further information contact [pcartshub@gmail.com](mailto:pcartshub@gmail.com).



# Volunteers celebrated at Clevedon event



L-R: Josephine Elworthy, Victoria Richards and Mary Whitehouse have contributed over 45 years of volunteer service to the Clevedon Association.

The Clevedon Association farewelled more than forty five years of volunteer contribution last month, when committee members Josephine Elworthy, Victoria Richards and Mary Whitehouse retired from their committee roles, with each having served the maximum amount of time allowed on the committee.

From trail design and CCTV camera installation, to ensuring Clevedon Village's development progressed appropriately, the

trio have contributed countless hours of their time to making Clevedon a better place.

Josephine, Victoria and Mary were recognised at a volunteers event hosted by the Clevedon Association at Hallertau last month. About sixty people who volunteer in various roles for Clevedon's community organisations came together to celebrate the vital role volunteers play in the village.

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# Auckland Transport consults on Clevedon's most confusing intersection

Local residents have been vocal about Auckland Transport's proposed safety improvements to the notorious Papakura Clevedon Road/Creightons Road/Tourist Road intersection.

The main road between Papakura and Clevedon is used by about 4,000 vehicles per day. About 1,240 per day use Tourist Road and about 810 per day use Creightons Road. The complicated "K" shaped layout, with both side roads on one side of Papakura Clevedon Road, has led to a number of crashes, escalating the intersection's status to 'high-risk'. In the past five years there have been 4 reported crashes.

Auckland Transport proposes implementing a reduced speed limit through the intersection. This means variable speed limit signs would be installed on Papakura Clevedon Road. When there is a vehicle waiting to turn from Tourist Road or Creightons Road on to Papakura Clevedon Road, the signs at the intersection will display a temporary lower speed limit. The lower speed only applies when the signs are activated by a vehicle waiting to turn.

Auckland Transport says a lower speed through the intersection will make it safer for everyone. Locals disagree, with almost 80 people commenting on the Clevedon Association's Facebook Grapevine post about the proposal. The majority of commenters said a roundabout would be

a better solution.

"I don't believe this is the solution - in my opinion this will just be a distraction - people need their wits about them at that intersection without further complications being added. A roundabout would naturally lower speeds and remove confusion - except for those who don't know how to use a roundabout!" said Tamsin Clement Watson, responding to the Facebook post.

Auckland Transport says intersection speed zones have been identified as an effective solution for similar locations, saying they can be installed faster and at a much lower cost than major changes like traffic lights or roundabouts, while still delivering strong safety benefits with minimal construction disruption.

Auckland Transport will consider all community feedback and present a recommendation to Franklin Local Board. The Local Board will provide feedback



Intersection of Papakura Clevedon Road, Tourist Road and Creightons Road, showing proposed speed restrictions. Image / Auckland Transport.

prior to a final decision being made.

Community engagement is open until 24 July. You can share your thoughts by completing the online survey at

<https://haveyoursay.at.govt.nz/rural-intersections-franklin>, or by emailing [ATEngagement@at.govt.nz](mailto:ATEngagement@at.govt.nz).

## Beachlands Rotary event to raise funds for Leo

Pōhutukawa Coast Rotary has organised a special fundraising event for Leo Mclean, the 10-year-old Coast resident recently diagnosed with BCor Sarcoma, a rare and aggressive type of cancer.

The event will be held at Beachlands Baptist Church, 59 Third View Avenue on Wednesday 15 July at 6.30 pm, and will feature professional speaker and author

Amy McAuley, who will share her story.

Amy will talk about some of the challenges in her life, among them mental health and cancer.

Amy will also share some of the ways she turned her life around and became a successful businesswoman and author. This will include strategies and tips for personal improvement, and innovative

exercise opportunities.

"This is more than a talk - it's a conversation about healing, mindset, community and choosing positivity even through life's toughest moments," says Amy.

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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.

Recently, our school and house leaders attended the National Young Leaders Day (NYLD). It was an incredibly inspiring event packed with powerful stories from remarkable speakers who taught us what it truly means to 'lean into fear' and 'lead with courage'. Here are the key takeaways to inspire us all:

**William Pike** (New Zealand adventurer & innovator) reminded us that being brave doesn't mean you have to be fearless; it means facing that fear and taking action anyway.

**Graci Kim** (Diplomat turned award-winning, New York Times bestselling author) encouraged everyone to be the hero of their own story and to reframe how we look at mistakes.

**Lola Fisher** (Youth advocate & change maker) delivered a powerful reminder that youth is no barrier to making a massive impact, stating, 'Just because you're younger doesn't mean you can't go big!'

**Eteroa Tusipepa Lafaele** (Software engineer, Director of Fibre Fale, Founder of Digitautua, Developer evangelist) brought high energy, reminding us to 'run it straight!' at hard challenges.

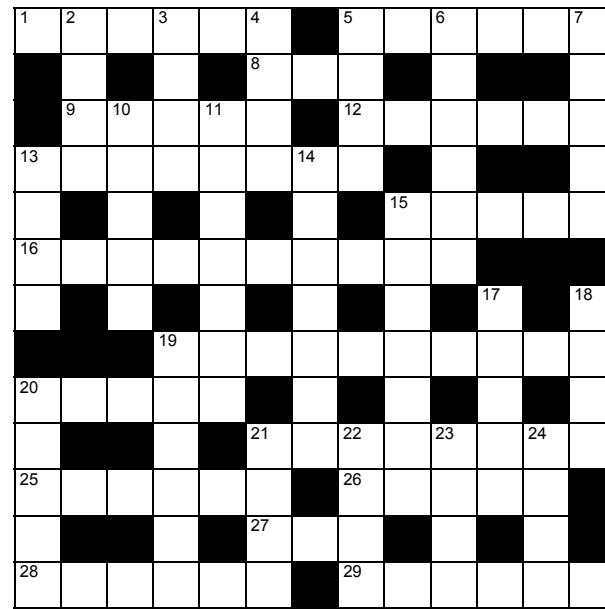
**Riley Elliott** (The Shark Man- marine scientist, explorer and conservation advocate) challenged us to move from 'fear to fascination' by asking questions and taking the time to understand the things that scare us.

We learnt leadership isn't about being perfect or having all the answers. It's about making connection-building choices, starting with small steps, and deciding what story you want to tell the world.

The speakers motivated our young leaders to step up, be resilient, and realise that "impossible" really just means 'I'm possible!'

- by **Sophie McCann & Sharani Shankaran, Year 8, Ardmore School**

## TEAM BRIE RAY WHITE CROSSWORD



**Brianne Bignell**  
021 400 979  
brianne.bignell@raywhite.com

**RayWhite**

### Across

- 1. Casual pants (6)
- 5. Add on (6)
- 8. Cage (3)
- 9. Detection system (5)
- 12. Oppressive ruler (6)
- 13. Transfix (8)
- 15. Overly confident (5)
- 16. Remarkable person or thing (10)
- 19. Hard to please (10)
- 20. Stone worker (5)
- 21. Quit (8)
- 25. Irrational anxiety (6)
- 26. Alternative of two (5)
- 27. None (3)
- 28. Short, high-pitched sound (6)
- 29. Devil (6)

### Down

- 2. Old monetary unit (4)
- 3. Closing part of composition (4)
- 4. Nimble (4)
- 5. Fixed stake (4)
- 6. Forgive (6)
- 7. Feeble-minded (5)
- 10. Carrying a weapon (5)
- 11. Race loser (4-3)
- 13. Tube (4)
- 14. Ceremonial staff (7)
- 15. Water channel (7)
- 17. Carried (5)
- 18. Second-hand (4)
- 19. Idiosyncrasy (6)
- 20. Moves dejectedly (5)
- 21. Position or standing (4)
- 22. Traded (4)
- 23. Clarified butter (4)

Answers on page 8

# May - June Sales

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