

Regional News

Com

on

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News

Double pirate trouble!

by Tanya Piejus



Photo by Hayden Rogers.

Fans of Margaret Mahy’s beloved children’s classic *The Man Whose Mother Was a Pirate* will have not one but two chances to enjoy stage versions of their favourite story this summer. It tells the tale of Sam, an ordinary man who wears an ordinary suit who works in an ordinary office. But extraordinarily, his mother is a pirate who yearns to see the sea again.

Nino Raphael’s new musical version will have a season at two/fiftyseven on Willis Street from the 23rd to the 25th of January directed by Sara Brodie. Then, on the 15th, 16th, 22nd, and 23rd of February, KAT Theatre’s production of Tim Bray’s adaptation takes to the grass of Khandallah Park for their 25th annual summer Play in the Park.

Raphael’s musical was inspired by traditional sea shanties and Stephen Sondheim’s music. It includes over 12 songs or original pieces that have recognisable tunes accompanied by a small orchestra to help engage audiences with the story of sensible Sam and his exuberant pirate mother who wants to sweep him away for adventures on the high seas.

“The nautical themes of the show cry out for a new musical genre that brings the audience together to sing along with the many songs in the show and nothing works better than sea shanties,” Raphael says.

KAT Theatre’s director Megan Davies was similarly attracted to the joy of this classic story. It has all the ingredients audiences have come to expect from KAT’s Play in the Park. “Margaret Mahy’s rollicking and funny pirate adventure makes for a brilliant family outing. It’ll be a colourful, tuneful, interactive, and fun experience for young children and their families who can bring a picnic and enjoy an afternoon in the sun, as well as this wonderful piece of theatre.”

The lyrics and music in Tim Bray’s version, which was written in 2006, were composed by Christine White, a Kapiti Coast-based composer, performer, and sound artist.

While Raphael’s production is aimed at families with children aged eight and up, KAT Theatre’s production is ideal for younger children, as well as the young at heart.

Mischief and mayhem

by Alessia Belsito-Riera



It’s fun to have fun, but you have to know how. Take a lesson from an expert at *Dr Seuss’s The Cat in the Hat – Live on Stage*, careening into Carterton Events Centre, Lower Hutt Little Theatre, and Southward Theatre on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of January... with Thing One and Thing Two in tow! Sit!

Sit!

Sit!

Sit down in a seat at the theatre and brace yourself for oodles and bucketloads of mischief and mayhem. *Dr Seuss’s The Cat in the Hat – Live on Stage* was adapted in 2009 by the National Theatre of Great Britain and has been touring around New Zealand and Australia since 2018, bringing smiles, belly laughs, and zany characters to theatres near and far. The 50-minute show for those aged three to 103 stays faithful to the classic children’s book by Dr. Seuss, taking audiences on an unmissable adventure that starts off on a rainy day.

Sally and her brother are stuck inside with nothing to do, their pet fish snoozing contentedly by their side. As they ponder what to do, suddenly they hear a...

Bump!

Bump!

Bump!

... and in waltzes the mischief-making Cat in his iconic striped hat. An afternoon of wonder and whimsy, chaos and creativity ensues – it’s amazing what you can do with nothing but a little imagination – but we’ll leave the particulars up to you.

Dr Seuss’s The Cat in the Hat – Live on Stage is a rollicking ride for Kiwis both little and big. Get ready for the world to go all topsy turvy and whirligig!

Cover: Papier Mache Tiara. Gold Label Autumn Winter 2000-2001. Photo by Jo Metson Scott, 2008.

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The great disruptor



**Therese earrings. Spring Summer 2019.
Photo by Mitchell Sams, 2019.**

“You have a more interesting life if you wear impressive clothes,” Dame Vivienne Westwood once said. “Fashion is very important. It is life-enhancing and, like everything that gives you pleasure, it is worth doing well.”

The iconic and internationally celebrated British fashion designer and activist first appeared on the world stage in the 1970s. With trailblazing designs and innovative styles, Westwood’s name and brand quickly gained traction as she became the face of Britain’s street culture and punk movement. By the end of the decade, Westwood was already considered a symbol of the British avant-garde, creating bold and rebellious designs characterised by historical references, subversive styles, and socio-political themes. Over her 50-plus-year career, she cemented herself as a leading light in the fashion industry, becoming an activist for environmental and human rights around the world. Today, she is considered one of the most influential figures of the 20th and 21st centuries.

This summer, Wellington audiences will have the opportunity to explore Westwood’s life and legacy at Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa in *Vivienne Westwood & Jewellery*. Opening on the 17th of January and running until the 27th of April, this retrospective exhibition celebrates and showcases a collection of over 550 pieces of jewellery and more than 15 complete ensembles and garments spanning four decades.

“This is the first time these special archive and runway pieces have been curated and displayed as a collection”, Te Papa tumu whakarae chief executive Courtney Johnston says. “It’s especially exciting that New Zealanders will be the first in the world to see this unique experience.”

Designed and curated by the house of Vivienne Westwood and produced by Nomad Exhibitions, the exhibition features a series of rooms showcasing distinct decades of design ranging from punk origins to fantasies of wonderland, ecological philosophies to cultural explorations, taking audiences on a journey through Westwood jewellery designs from the 1980s to the present day. Each creation, presented as objets d’art, is accompanied by wall prints and sounds, catwalk looks, imagery, and videos, evoking the fashion house’s iconic style.

A rich programme of events supports the exhibition, including jewellery workshops, a pre-loved fashion store, rebellious high teas, a Galentine’s dinner, and lots more! Head to www.tepapa.nz/westwood for extra info.

A decade of Regional News

by Madelaine Empson



This January is our birthday – the big 1-0. It doesn’t feel like we’ve been here a decade, but from this photo, it sure looks like it. Baby Maddi down there on the right, who jumped on board with *Regional News* to ‘help out’ as Girl Friday back in January 2015, could never have imagined what was to come. I’m not sure any of us could.

Looking around the office today, I see staff here that have been with us since the very beginning and others who came on board the following year. For such a small team, this feels like a testament to the fact that we value each other and what we make together. We don’t want to be presumptuous, but the fact that the paper has been going for 10 years suggests that maybe you value it too! We wouldn’t be here without our readers and the people who have supported us over the years, so we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all.

It’s always eye-opening looking back on how far you’ve come. *Regional News* started out at 20 pages (check out our very first cover in the pic) and quickly found out that we’d filled a gap in the market for a free arts and entertainment, lifestyle and leisure newspaper in Wellington. The warm welcome we received enabled us to double in size – both in page and staff numbers – and to move offices in our seventh year to accommodate our growing team. We now sit at a comfy 40 pages each fortnight and put out a biannual travel magazine, too. In fact, we just celebrated our 20th edition of *Destinationz*.

Big milestones all round, then! But it’s not all smiles here, for a fierce debate rages around the office. Perhaps you can help settle it. Should our 10th birthday party be dinosaur or Spider-Man themed?



News

For auld lang syne



The Thistle Inn will be set ablaze with fiery verse, hearty suppers, and burning whiskey on Saturday the 25th of January for Burns Night, a Scottish tradition that sets the evening aglow.

The annual cultural celebration marks the anniversary of renowned Scottish poet Robert Burns' birth on the 25th of January 1759.

Traditionally, the evening entails poetry readings accompanied by a Burns supper, the first of which was held in July 1801 when nine of Burns' friends came together to mark the fifth anniversary of his death. It took place at Burns Cottage in Alloway and featured a tasty meal of haggis and other treats... and whiskey, of course!

The evening was such a resounding success that the group decided to hold it again but on Burns' birthday – a much more joyous occasion. The tradition has held fast to this day, with celebrations taking place across Scotland and the world, including in faraway New Zealand.

Whether you can trace your roots back to Scotland or you're simply a lover of literature, Robbie Burns Night at The Thistle Inn is a lively evening suitable for all. The specially crafted Scottish-themed menu will delight your palate, while the Dunwofflin Ceilidh Band will make your ears rejoice. The traditional melodies will, of course, be accompanied by captivating readings of Burns' poetry, including the iconic *Address to a Haggis*.

Raise a glass of fine Scottish whiskey to Robert Burns and bask in the evening's fiery glow.

A laugh a day...



Patch Lambert.

The holidays are over and settling back into real life can be hard, but Wellington Comedy's Laugh series is guaranteed to ease that transition – after all, laughter is the best medicine! *Saturday Laughs* sets up shop at The Fringe Bar on the 18th of January, with ointments, salves, and cure-alls aplenty... not to mention two very excellent physicians with a whole lotta laughing gas in tow.

Lovable rogue from Upper Hutt Patch Lambert will serve as MC for the evening. His wits have been sharpened over the silly season and he's ready to go under the knife on stage with his cutting comedy. With his own style of stand-up mixing honest and reflective storytelling with sharp gags and trademark cheekiness, Lambert is a regular on stages and screens across the motu. Since being nominated for a Billy T Award in 2017, he's found himself writing for *7 Days* and making regular appearances on *The Project*. With an almost child-like infatuation with the world, Lambert's touching and hilarious stories never fail to charm his audience.

Joining Lambert will be 2023 Billy T Award-winner Abby Howells who will lead the charge of stellar stand-up comedians from Pōneke and beyond. She's quickly become a Kiwi favourite, appearing on shows like *Taskmaster* and *7 Days*. With a slew of thoughtful and unique award-winning comedy shows in her toolbelt, Howells is endearing and entertaining in equal measure.

Fill your prescription at *Saturday Laughs* – it's just what the doctor ordered!

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by Alessia Belsito-Riera

High on Life



With a beaming smile and a twinkle in his eye, comedian Josh Wolf answers my Zoom call. He's so excited to be coming back to New Zealand with his brand-new hour of stand-up *High on Life*, he tells me. "What I love about New Zealand crowds is they love a story... So I'm telling them," he beams.

Known for his unique and relatable style of stand-up, his new show features his comedian son Jacob Wolf as well. "This show is completely different than the one I came with in 2023, with better stories and more fun," he continues. "At the end of all my shows, I do like 10 or 15 minutes of funny songs. So, I'm super excited for people to see the new hour."

Are you hyped yet? What if I tell you he'll be performing at Wellington's Hannah Playhouse on the 14th of February. This is an award-winning, sell-out comedian, bestselling author, television show writer, and actor with millions of followers and clicks and views we're talking about.

Currently a regular round-table guest and writer on *Chelsea Lately*, over the years Wolf has lived many lives. He has written for sitcoms *All of Us* and *Cuts*, sold a script to Adam Sandler's Happy Madison Productions, appeared on mainstream late-night shows and comedy competitions like *Last Comic Standing*, hosted his own hit podcasts like *Off the Rails with Josh Wolf and Sarah Colonna* and *Hey Maaan* with Jacob, debuted his own show *The Josh Wolf Show*, and performed sets in top venues around the world.

In the lead-up to his biggest Aotearoa tour yet, I caught up with him to ask all my burning questions.

What do you love about comedy?

I love the energy. There are so many things! Okay – I'm a bit of a comedy nerd, so you're gonna get an answer. There's nothing that beats the energy that you get from a crowd, getting on stage, and making all those people happy at the same time. I consider comedy to be a puzzle. I have all these pieces. Let me try this piece. Oh, it doesn't work. I'm not gonna throw this piece away; I know it works somewhere in the puzzle, but I gotta try another piece. So figuring out the puzzle of a joke or a story, to me, is so satisfying. It's one of the reasons that I still do it, and one of the reasons I still love it and it's not gotten old. It's a live show too, so you don't know what's gonna happen. A couple weeks ago, I had somebody throw up in the front row.

Did you incorporate that in?

How do you not! I can't go on now and do what I was gonna do. I have to do something different. It's not like everybody else didn't see that. It's not like other people in the row didn't run away. So I can't just ignore it, right? What I love about stand-up is I kind of know what's gonna happen, but not really. It's what keeps it exciting.

How do you go about incorporating something unexpected like that into what you'd planned for the show?

I change the entire show right away. I've been on stage enough to have many weird things happen. The people that are there know that's not how the show was gonna go and that this is a show nobody else will ever see. What I love about my job is that. Like, that's fun to me. I know what I'm going to open the show with, and I have a bunch of material to work through, but I never know what order I'm going to do until I get on stage. It keeps it new and fresh. It's never gonna come across as memorised. I want you to feel like your friend Josh is standing in front of you, and he's just telling you some stories.

What inspires your comedy in general, and this show in particular?

Life. My show is relatable stories made funny. One of my favourite stories happened in Auckland. There's that needle that people jump off of, and I tell a story about my fear of heights. One of my favourite compliments was from somebody who's not scared of heights, but everybody has fears.

He was like, 'I didn't relate to that story at all, but your fear is what I related to'. So in my stories, you either know that dude, that's happened to you, or you've felt that way before.

What have been some career highlights?

Well, one is happening as we speak. I tour with my youngest son, and it's the best time I've ever had in my life. It's so cool. When you get older, when your kids get older, you don't really hang out with them a lot. They have their own lives. So to me, this is bonus time, and then to have him involved in something I love so much, which is stand-up. I didn't know it was the dream until it happened. This is what I always wanted... who knew!

The other thing is when my parents got to see me perform at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. That was a big deal for them... and for me, no doubt! But for them, that was like a symbol. Their faces sitting backstage and seeing me after when there were people wanting autographs and pictures, it was like something clicked for them. So those two things have been pretty amazing.

I love that both highlights are tied to family.

Guess what? You know who's not wiping my butt when I'm 90? The dude who bought a ticket to the Radio City Music Hall.

[Laughs.] Were you surprised when your son wanted to do comedy? What advice did you give him?

I was surprised because he had always said he didn't want to do it. Then one night, we were at a show in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Everybody knew who he was because I told stories about him. I go, 'Hey dude, at the end of the show, let's do a question and answer.' He crushed. For a little while, he just did the Q&A, but one weekend I surprised him. I go, 'Hey, by the way, tonight, you're opening the show, get out there.' If I had given him an option, he'd have been like, 'Oh no, give me a month.' But the best way to do it is just to do it. I tell that to people when they ask for suggestions for getting into stand-up. Go, get on stage. You'll find out real quick if you like it or not.

What's a favourite saying that keeps you going?

Get your sh*t together. I say it to myself all the time.

Yeah, that's a daily for sure!

[Laughs.] I think it's probably pretty universal!

Maybe I'll put that as the title.

I might actually make a t-shirt [laughs].

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Create and explore



Artworks by Christine Anderson.

Creativity shines bright in Ōtaki over Wellington Anniversary weekend when the Ōtaki Pottery Club's Festival of Pots and Garden Art takes up residence in the beautiful Anam Cara Gardens from the 16th to the 20th of January.

Renowned for its vibrant and eclectic atmosphere, the festival serves as a platform for creatives to come together, exchange ideas, and connect with a community of likeminded individuals. Visitors on the other hand enjoy the unique opportunity to engage with artists and learn about the artform. Artist exhibitions will be vast and varied, showcasing the diverse range of styles and techniques New Zealand's talented potters, ceramicists, and multidisciplinary artists have mastered or engineered. Visitors can purchase a special piece of artwork for their home or garden. For those who prefer a hands-on approach, interactive workshops and live demonstrations provide the perfect platform for exploration. Artists will proffer their skills and techniques to visitors in the live pottery-making sessions while the Kelly & Co Have a Go space allows festivalgoers to try their hand at the wheel for free under expert guidance. For professional and recreational potters alike, as well as for the simply curious, guest artist talks offer insightful conversations with featured creatives.

Immerse yourself in a world of artistic expression and unbridled creativity at the Festival of Pots and Garden Art.

Hot and hyped



Photo by Brian Cox.

Everclear may have started their tour in San Francisco, California, but they will come to Wellington's San Fran on the 21st of January to headbang the night away alongside Pōneke audiences.

Comprising Art Alexakis (vocals, guitar), Davey French (guitar), Freddy Herrera (bass), and Brian Nolan (drums), Everclear is one of the leading alternative rock bands to emerge from the 90s. With their lengthy career beginning in 1992, the band now boasts six million record sales, 12 Top 40 hit singles, one GRAMMY® nomination, and 11 studio releases – including four that have been certified gold or platinum.

Perhaps you'll remember their anthems strumming across airwaves, providing a soundtrack to your summer. Or maybe you associate them with weekends at home with your folks. Either way, chart-toppers like *Santa Monica*, *Father of Mine*, *Wonderful*, *I Will Buy You A New Life*, and *Everything To Everyone* will fill San Fran this summer alongside deep cuts and new material.

"A lot of these songs we haven't played in a while, and in some cases, we've never played live before, so we're also excited to add some of them into the setlist on this tour," frontman Alexakis says. "We'll of course be playing all of the hits and fan favourites too. Looking forward to seeing you all out there!"

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Lunar New Year

With a bang



As the 29th of January approaches, the Year of the Snake slithers towards us – a period of wisdom, mystery, and transformation, emphasising introspection, strategic planning, and personal growth.

The Lunar New Year is the most important festival of the year for many cultures across the Asian continent. It begins on the first day of the first lunar month in the calendar – the 29th of January 2025 on the Gregorian calendar – and ends with a lantern festival on the 15th day.

The lunar calendar works on a 12-year cycle, with each year linked to an animal sign. Though there are slight variations in what the animals are for different cultures, the 12 symbols of the lunar zodiac are: the rat, the ox or buffalo, the tiger, the rabbit or cat, the dragon, the snake, the horse, the sheep or goat, the monkey, the rooster, the dog, and the pig or boar.

The legend goes that many years ago, the Jade Emperor decided there should be a way to measure time, so he enlisted the animals in the kingdom to compete in a race. The first 12 to make it across the river would be rewarded with a year named in their honour. So the animals lined up. The rat and the cat were not very strong swimmers, so they made a pact with the ox to ride across on his back. As the ox approached the bank, the rat pushed the cat into the water and leapt onto the riverbank first. The Jade Emperor congratulated the rat, explaining that although the ox did all the work, the rat's cunning was commendable. The tiger was next, followed by the rabbit who hopped across on stones and logs. Despite being so powerful and more than capable of finishing first, the dragon came fifth because he stopped to help the others. The horse and snake arrived in tandem, but as they reached the shore, the snake slithered around the horse's hooves and took the lead. Next came a raft carrying the goat, monkey, and rooster who had worked together, followed by the dog, who would have been faster had he not stopped along the way to bathe. Last to arrive was the pig, who found himself there late because he stopped to eat and then fell asleep!

Each year also corresponds to one of the five basic elements: metal, wood, water, fire, and earth. When applied in conjunction to the zodiac, the elements make the lunar calendar operate on a 60-year cycle.

With the Lunar New Year on the horizon, make some noise, dress up in bright colours, and send your aspirations up to the heavens to ensure the Year of the Wood Snake will be one to remember.

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Lunar New Year

Rat

...1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996, 2008, 2020...



Quick-witted, resourceful, versatile, kind.

Lucky numbers: 2, 3

Lucky colours: blue, gold, green

Ox

...1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997, 2009, 2021...



Diligent, dependable, strong, determined.

Lucky numbers: 1, 4

Lucky colours: white, yellow, green

Tiger

...1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, 2010, 2022...



Quick-witted, resourceful, versatile, kind.

Lucky numbers: 1, 3, 4

Lucky colours: blue, gray, orange

Rabbit

...1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011, 2023...



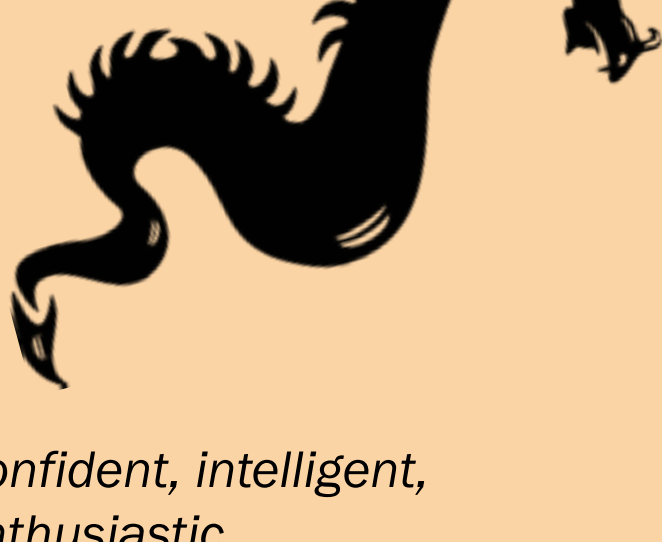
Quiet, elegant, kind, responsible.

Lucky numbers: 3, 4, 6

Lucky colours: red, pink, purple, blue

Dragon

...1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012, 2024...



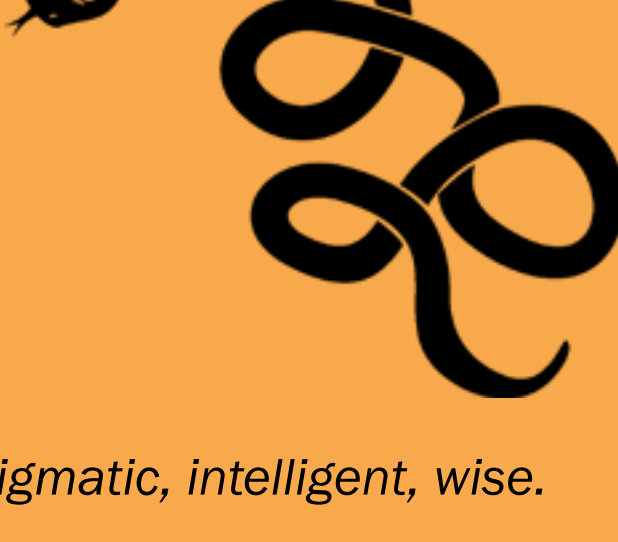
Confident, intelligent, enthusiastic.

Lucky numbers: 1, 6, 7

Lucky colours: gold, silver, grayish white

Snake

...1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, 2013, 2025...



Enigmatic, intelligent, wise.

Lucky numbers: 2, 8, 9

Lucky colours: black, red, yellow

Horse

...1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014, 2026...



Animated, active, energetic.

Lucky numbers: 2, 3, 7

Lucky colours: yellow, green

Goat

...1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003, 2015, 2027...



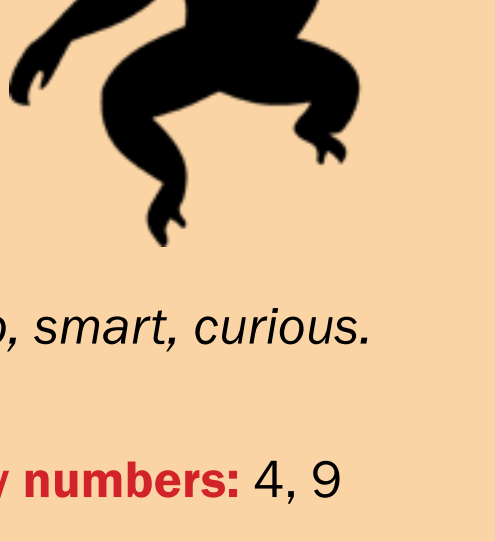
Calm, gentle, sympathetic.

Lucky numbers: 2, 7

Lucky colours: brown, red, purple

Monkey

...1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004, 2016, 2028...



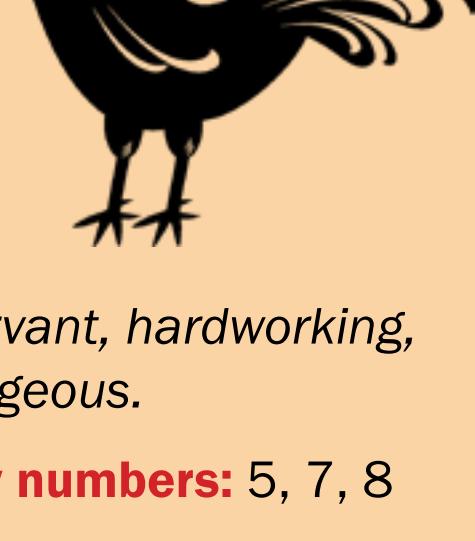
Sharp, smart, curious.

Lucky numbers: 4, 9

Lucky colours: white, blue, gold

Rooster

...1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005, 2017, 2029...



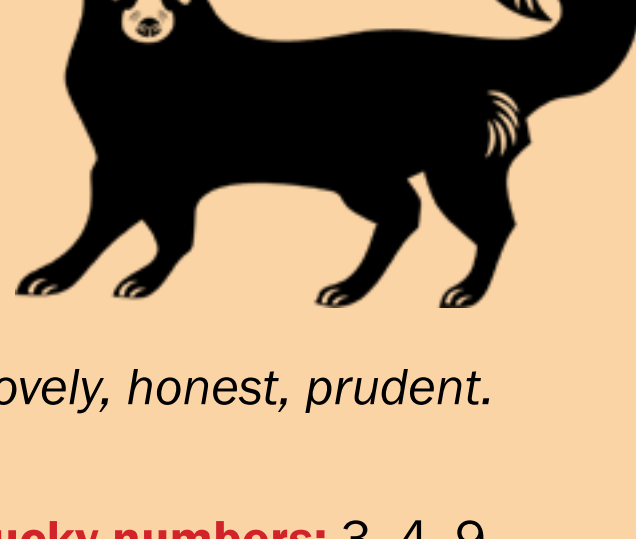
Observant, hardworking, courageous.

Lucky numbers: 5, 7, 8

Lucky colours: gold, brown, yellow

Dog

...1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018, 2030...



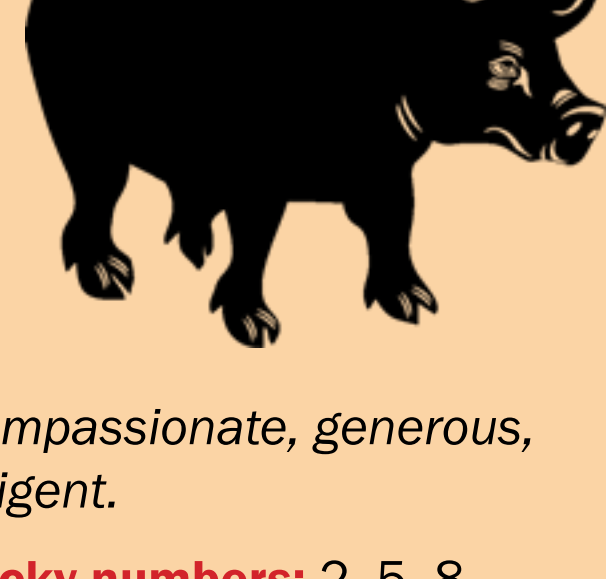
Lovely, honest, prudent.

Lucky numbers: 3, 4, 9

Lucky colours: red, green, purple

Pig

...1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019, 2031...



Compassionate, generous, diligent.

Lucky numbers: 2, 5, 8

Lucky colours: yellow, gray, brown, gold

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ETC is registered with the New Zealand Government and is fully accredited by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA). Higher-level programmes include unit standards which meet university entrance requirements and include successful study skills. Many of our programmes include computer skills, maths knowledge, or work and employment skills.

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Not sharing a common language can be a huge barrier in communication. When using a professional interpreter, you have the opportunity to express yourself and enable full communication. The interpreter plays a crucial role in facilitating direct communication between individuals who speak different languages, empowering you to convey your thoughts effectively.

Engage an interpreter with specialised training in clear cross-language communication. These skills involve a deep understanding of technical vocabulary, cultural practices and conventions, as well as knowledge of both local and foreign institutions. AI can be a useful tool to assist an interpreter; however, there are questions still to be answered around accuracy and confidentiality.

Where is the data stored?

Ensure that your message remains intact and unaltered by opting for a trained interpreter. The risks associated with untrained bilingual speakers include the omission or addition of information. There is also concern that well-intentioned bilingual individuals might inadvertently modify your message to align with their own beliefs or objectives.

While it's encouraged to bring a family member or friend for support during appointments, it is equally important to involve a trained interpreter. Professionals take a proactive approach to ensure the precise delivery of your entire message.

A trained interpreter upholds a strict code of ethics covering accuracy, impartiality, and confidentiality.

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Memorial Theatre - SULT228

Partners:      Hosted by: Diversity Network




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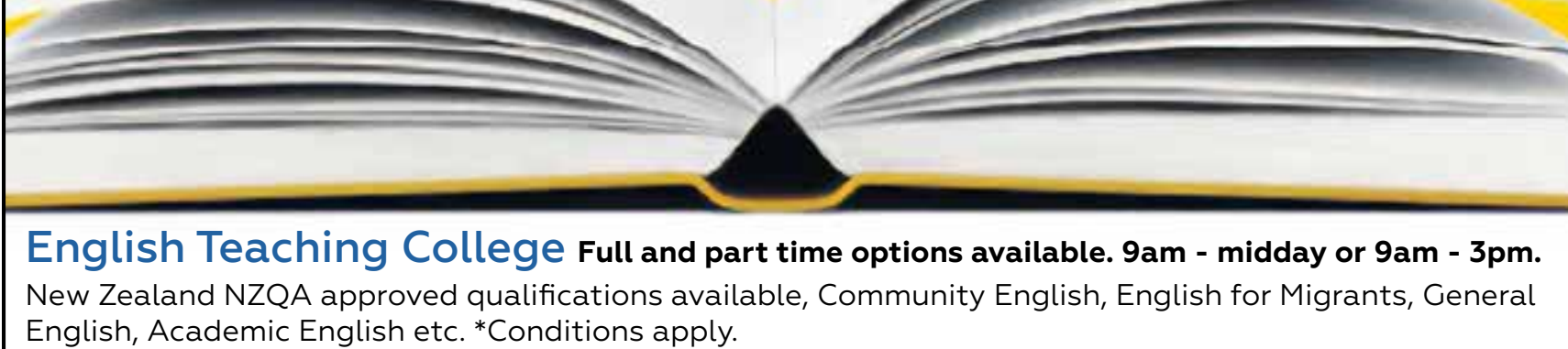
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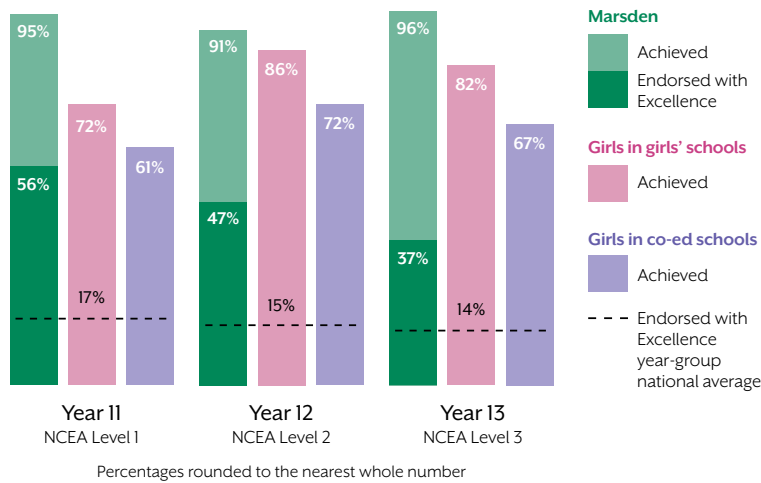


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--	---	--	--	---	--

Total value of Scholarships offered more than **\$390,000**



The cornerstone of a Marsden education is our exceptional academic offering. Our innovative programmes are grounded in solid foundational learning, and our smaller personalised learning environment places the needs of our learners firmly at the centre of all that we do.” *Paula Wells Principal*



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A new start for 2025

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Retirement is something to look forward to as a time to enjoy life to the fullest. Hobbies and interests should fill your days rather than chores and bills, which is why making the move to Speldhurst Country Estate is an easy decision. At Speldhurst, your life's loves get time to thrive. It's fast becoming one of the most sought-after villages in the lower North Island for those over 60 due to the open spaces, choice of living options, vibrant and active community, busy social calendar, and opportunity to engage in all kinds of activities.

Accommodation includes thoughtfully designed standalone homes, comfortable duplexes, and modern, curated apartments, each one fitted with spacious rooms, plenty of storage, and little maintenance. Plus, with Speldhurst management looking after the exterior, you can focus on making the interior feel like home.

What's truly special about Speldhurst is its facilities. Many residents spend most of their time at The George, a community hub where anyone can enjoy swimming, reading, playing, crafting, lounging, working out, dancing, or celebrating. There's an onsite café too. The Creative Resource Centre is perfect for hobbies and tinkering. Meanwhile, The Cottage is where mobile practitioners regularly offer services such as hairdressing, beauty, and counselling. The Village Hall hosts some light sporting activities.

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Encompassing a hospital, rest home facility, and independent villa living and serviced apartments, as well as palliative, rehabilitative, and convalescent services, Rosebank Lifecare in Ashburton offers a place of tranquillity, security, and care.

The goal at Rosebank Lifecare is for all its residents to retain their independence while living life to the fullest, irrespective of their health or condition. Bestowed the 2019 Aged Advisor People's Choice Awards for Best Small Retirement or Lifestyle Village, at Rosebank, everyone is treated with respect and like part of the family.

Rosebank residents enjoy a sense of community, with the freedom to choose the level of involvement in village life. A centrally located hub provides a space for family members to hold parties and gatherings, and for residents to meet and enjoy each other's company. With 27 two and three-bedroom villas and 14 serviced apartments, there are options available to suit all kinds of circumstances.


To compliment these, 22 serviced apartments are now available. These studio and one-bedroom suites are ideal for extra support without compromising freedom, giving you or your loved one the opportunity to live privately while receiving the benefits of daily meals, laundry, house-keeping assistance, and care options. The villas are large and spacious, offering the best of both worlds – independence, with companionship and help just seconds away.


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A Disclosure Statement is available upon request by contacting the Sales Manager - Debra Bishop








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A new start for 2025

Stop and smell the roses



With the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, life begins again in the summertime. Make the most of this verdant and abundant season at the annual Waikanae Lions Garden Trail on the 25th and 26th of January.

Dotted along the sparkling Kapiti Coast, the 12 gardens partaking in this year's event are exploding with colour, overflowing with native and exotic plants, and dripping in beauty. The 2025 lineup features a selection of gardens that demonstrate considered landscape design within smaller spaces alongside several large gardens which will take time to fully explore.

Visit the largest kauri tree south of Taupō in garden 12. Garden 9 surprises at every turn with a meandering path that reveals thoughtful plantings and hidden gems. Back by popular demand is last year's showstopper, the watery wonderland of garden 5.

A new addition to the trail and included in each ticket is entry to Ngā Manu Nature Reserve. The natural 14-acre property preserves one of the largest remnants of coastal lowland swamp forest on the Kapiti Coast. Learn firsthand about their restoration journey to preserve native flora. Plus, countless birds call the reserve home, making it excellent for birdwatching.

Refreshments will be available at Ngā Manu and garden 11. As a Waikanae Lions fundraiser, all ticket proceeds will support Life Flight Trust, Loss & Grief Centre Kapiti, and Predator Free Waikanae. Explore all 12 gardens, stopping for a cuppa and to smell the roses along the way.

Savour summer



Summer is synonymous with beach barbecues, picnics in the park, snacks in the sun, and supper under the stars. While eating outdoors and enjoying a summer BBQ is loads of fun, bacteria can multiply much faster in warmer weather, making it more important to implement good food safety habits. Handwashing is always top priority. Germs spread through contact so it's paramount you wash your hands with warm water and soap and dry them well before you start cooking and between handling ingredients. Handwashing can prevent about 30 percent of gastrointestinal-related sicknesses and about 20 percent of respiratory infections, plus reduce illness by up to 58 percent for those who are immunocompromised.

Raw meat can hold all kinds of bacteria. Ensure you use separate utensils and chopping boards for different ingredients to minimise contact. Defrosting food thoroughly so it can cook through and cooking it at high temperatures is the best way to kill germs. Being aware of how to store food safely is important too. When home, put food into the fridge once it's cooled and within two hours of cooking it. If you're outdoors, use your chilly bin and plenty of ice packs to store foods like salads, meats, and cheese. Cover and chill your food until you cook it.

Every year, around 200,000 New Zealanders get food poisoning. About half of these cases occur at home. Be food safe this summer to keep the good times rolling.

Lifestyle and leisure in Kapiti

Planting the future



As a family-owned business located on the Kapiti Coast, Elite Arboriculture is always thinking about future generations. They offer a wide range of arborist services to help you care for your outdoor space because they know the importance of having a place to call home for you and your whānau.

Elite Arboriculture has a team of experienced staff that can perform arboriculture work professionally and to the highest standards. The team can help with planting and mulching, assisting you with finding the right species for the right spaces and with the right aesthetics. If you have specific needs to complete your vision, Elite Arboriculture can work with you to find the perfect solutions.

It's important to maintain the flora that surrounds your property. If you take care of the trees and plants that call your garden home, they can be around for generations to come. The same tree you planted as a seedling could become the location of your great-grandchild's treehouse or a witness to a family wedding with the proper care. If you keep your trees pruned and trimmed, or if you need one removed, you can build lasting memories in your home and garden. Entrust Elite Arboriculture to help your garden withstand the test of time.

“Fully qualified and totally insured”, contact Elite Arboriculture to realise your outdoor space for today and tomorrow. With a green thumb and a green heart, they will help you plant the seeds to grow your legacy.

Going the extra mile



Jill Lampitt puts the real in real estate. A proud member of Tommy's Kapiti, she has been helping people make their property dreams come true in this beautiful corner of New Zealand since 2009. She is dedicated and passionate about her calling and has all kinds of awards to show for it, including 2009's rookie of the year award, 15 consecutive wins as the Top Agent for Tommy's Kapiti from 2009 to 2024, and Tommy's National Supreme Award-Winning Agent accolades from 2019 to 2023.

Jill and her family arrived in Aotearoa from the UK in 2005. She had been an estate agent in Stratford-upon-Avon, where she worked as the senior negotiator of a successful team selling everything from country mansions to thatched cottages. She has over 20 years of experience in the industry, which she draws on to help Kiwi and overseas buyers navigate the buying and selling process.

“I have real tenacity and never give up on my clients – buyers or vendors,” Jill says. “It's the biggest buzz taking a buyer to a property and without them saying anything, I can just tell it's the right place.”

Alongside her tenacity, Jill says her listening and communication skills, as well as her attentiveness, are key to helping people achieve their property goals. She always goes the extra mile to provide a tailored experience that will guarantee a successful outcome. Get in touch today to make your dreams reality.

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Lifestyle and leisure in Kapiti

Epicurean excursion



You can travel the world with your tastebuds from the Kapiti Coast. Chocka with eateries of all kinds, this district is a foodie’s heaven and picky-eater’s paradise.

Skip the long flight to Europe and get a taste of Italy at one of the many Italian restaurants. With Italian chefs in the kitchen, you’ll feel transported to a different world. Sip an Aperol and imagine you’re along the Riviera. Tuck into a woodfired pizza to transport yourself to Naples. Indulge in some freshly made pasta with your choice of traditional regional sauce.

The flavours of Central America come alive in Kapiti with Mexican-inspired eateries. If it’s spices, aromas, and strong flavours you’re after, opt for Middle Eastern or Mediterranean cuisine such as kebabs or pitas. Rather than making the trip to Asia, drive down the road for an epicurean adventure through Japan, China, Malaysia, Thailand, or India.

There is plenty of Kiwi cuisine available as well if you’re in search of some comfort food. From gourmet pies to gastropubs, fish and chips to classic breakfast spots, you’ll be spoiled for choice. Of course, almost every eatery will have vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free options, plus some kid-friendly choices so the whole whānau can enjoy a meal together. Many of the ingredients are sourced locally, as fresh produce and products abound in this district and the chefs are proud locals who prefer to support their community. Give the Kapiti Coast a taste this summer!

Ready your magnifying glass



Photo by Bob Zuur.

The seaside towns along the Kapiti Coast are the picture of peacefulness. But not all is as it seems! There is a mystery afoot, and it’s up to you to solve all the clues and crack the case wide open. Put on your detective hat, grab your magnifying glass, and get sleuthing at the Kāpiti Coast Heritage Clue Hunt. Held over Wellington Anniversary Weekend from the 18th to the 20th of January, you can follow the trail through 10 different museums to get to the bottom of this investigation.

After a smash-hit 2024 Clue Hunt, Discover Kāpiti Heritage Group is once again calling for help in these puzzling circumstances. “We need people to hunt for a clue in each museum, to be in to win one of four epic prize packs,” chairman Allan Carley says.

Participants receive one entry into the prize pack draw for each clue they answer correctly. Those who find them all receive 10 entries!

The hunt begins at any of the participating museums, there is no fee, and entry forms are available at all locations. Sneak and slink, pad and prowl though Ōtaki Heritage Museum, Friends of the Ōtaki Rotunda, The Kilns at Te Horo, Toi MAHARA Art Gallery, Kapiti Coast Museum in Waikanae, Southward Car Museum, Paraparaumu’s Museum of Aviation, Paekākāriki Station Museum, Wellington Tramway Museum, and Kāpiti US Marines Trust.

A delightful day – or two or three – where the whole family can have fun while learning local history? It’s elementary, my dear Watson!

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Lifestyle and leisure in Kapiti

History comes to life



A city council directly impacts your tūrangawaewae – where you live, learn, work, play, and socialise. That's why Kāpiti Coast District Council is dedicated to supporting sustainable development and enriching community initiatives.

This vibrant and eclectic district has a rich heritage, and Kāpiti Coast District Council is committed to celebrating the history that makes it unique by placing local stories front and centre through the Heritage Trail, interpretive signage on cycle and walkways, public art, and support for people and places.

Each of the towns along the coast is home to heritage hotspots where visitors and locals alike can explore pre-colonial and post-settlement historic sites. At each one, you can take a step back in time to learn about the important events that happened there. From museums to trails, there are seemingly endless stories in this neck of the woods!

Council funding supports a number of local museums and heritage organisations to develop how they present stories through exhibitions, standing displays, and access to important sites and collections. This development fund helps with organisation and planning, building restoration, and visitor experience improvement to enhance local heritage storytelling.

Organisations that have received funding include Kāpiti Coast Museum, Steam Inc., Kāpiti Aviation Museum, Paekākāriki Station Museum, Friends of the Ōtaki Rotunda, and The Kilns at Te Horo. Plan your visit today at www.kapiticoast.govt.nz

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Kapiti's real estate is more affordable than in the city. What was out of your budget before can be financially viable here, and there are whole teams of real estate agents, brokers, and finance officers eager to help you take the leap. Whether you want to wake up in a beachfront bungalow or on your very own lifestyle block, your dream home can become a reality.

If you've stumbled on the perfect parcel of land where you know you'll want to stay forever, consider building a home. There are so many Kapiti-based building professionals who are passionate and highly qualified to manage your build from the ground up, so you can live where you love.

Many of us have dreamed of a heritage cottage overlooking the sea. There are heaps along the Kapiti Coast, but character buildings often need a bit of a revamp and refresh. Get in touch with local tradespeople who can fix up the bathroom and kitchen, install insulation, apply a fresh coat of paint, and revitalise the garden.

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Slate

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Home ideas – buy, build, renovate

Refresh your home



The new year has arrived, and with it new aspirations and intentions. Dream big in 2025 and give your home a makeover with Texturite. Whether you're thinking of refreshing your family home, or you're in the market for a new build, the professional team can help you achieve the finish you've always dreamed of.

Based in Kapiti and servicing Greater Wellington, Texturite is family owned and operated and specialises in solid plastering and cladding systems for new home builds and home remodelling. Plus, they also perform repairs on existing monolithic cladding. Helmed by managing director Steve Mackfall, the team are dedicated to providing superior service and making the process as straightforward as possible. They have a wealth of knowledge under their toolbelts, maintain an open line of communication throughout the project, and always keep their finger on the pulse of new technology and information.

The Texturite team are always happy to offer advice or provide a breakdown of their services. From plastering and cladding to repairs and repaints, they can make your home look great while ensuring it's protected from weather and the elements.

In fact, summer is the best time of year to get your home sorted before the cooler temperatures and wetter days arrive. Give your home the facelift it deserves and keep your largest asset protected this year. Get in touch to organise a free quote from your local experts at www.texturite.co.nz

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You don't have to do something extreme, time consuming, and expensive to enact big change in your home this new year. Something as simple as changing your curtains can make a huge difference to the look and feel of your rooms and it's simple to do with a trusted, local company like Creative Curtains.

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Proud owner Lisa Russ bought the business in 2014 and has been steadily and successfully building up Creative Curtains to incorporate the most successful and knowledgeable staff in the industry. Friendly, passionate, and creative to boot, they take the time to understand your needs, style, and budget in order to provide you with a solution that elevates and celebrates your home's design and décor while still retaining functionality.

With a huge range of fabrics, patterns, and designs to choose from, the Creative Curtains interior design consultants are happy to help you find the right fit, while the onsite workroom team will create your vision to exact measurements. Get in touch and organise a free measure and quote at www.creativecurtains.net.nz

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Home ideas – buy, build, renovate

From start to finish




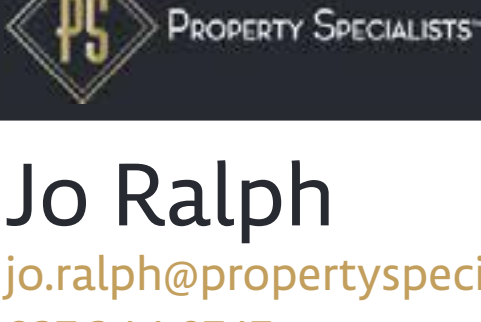
Dreaming big this new year is exhilarating, especially when it comes to your home. But when making a renovation or build a reality, it can be difficult to envision all the work that is required. A quantity surveyor or QS maps out all the nitty-gritty details, plus accounts for any unpredictable events, to give you an estimate of how much a construction project will cost. They are also responsible for making sure a project stays within that budget and your schedule, while checking in to make sure things are running as efficiently as possible.

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Ciaran Clinton has over 30 years of experience as a quantity surveyor. He and the team at My QS have broad experience with different types of contracts, from residential, seismic upgrades, and earthquake repairs to leaky buildings and insurance rebuild costings. Ciaran is well known in the industry for thinking outside the box and finding creative solutions to ensure a project runs smoothly and efficiently. Feedback from clients is overwhelmingly positive; he keeps within budget, and his projected costs are reliable and accurate.

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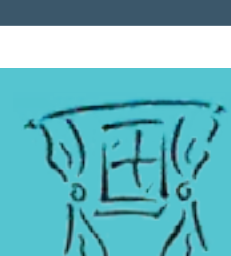





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Home ideas – buy, build, renovate

Palmers Garden News

Eat fresh from your own garden

by Rhian Beauchamp-Hughes



With summer here, nothing is more satisfying than preparing a meal for family and friends to enjoy with produce you have grown yourself. We at Palmers are sharing a few of the things that we are up to in our own gardens to extend and care

for the crops that you also may have in your pots or garden beds.

Summer heralds salads! Herbs, tomatoes, and salad leaves will be loving the warmer weather, so be sure to keep up the feeding. To protect them from slugs and snails, try out copper tape or Tui Quash.

Water only in the early morning or late evening, and build up your plant's resilience to hot temperatures by watering every other day at most. Keep in mind that the mix in pots dries out quicker than the soil in the ground. To reduce the chance of blight and fungal disease, avoid watering plant foliage of your tomatoes.

Plants get hungry too, especially in their growing season, so using a good all-round fertiliser like Tui Organic Seaweed Plant Tonic each fortnight keeps them strong and healthy.

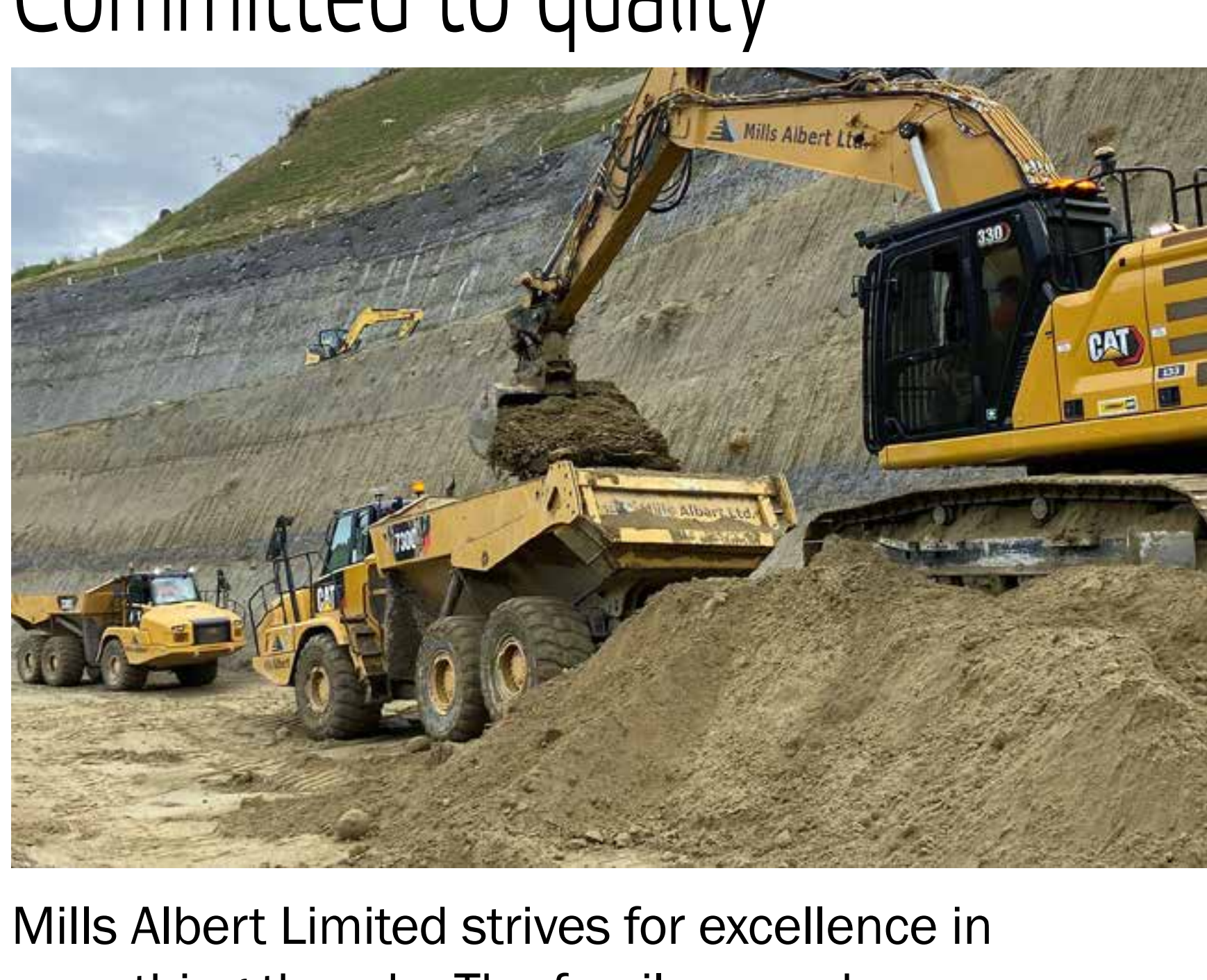
Mulch is a key to helping retain moisture in the garden and when it breaks down, it adds organic matter to your soil. Put a few handfuls around the base of your plants, and layer over the top of your soil.

If you are enjoying fruiting crops such as blueberries, tomatoes, figs, and strawberries, be prepared to share your harvest with the birds. Keep pesky birds from stealing your berries with protective netting.

We would love to see you at either our Miramar or Pimmeton stores over summer. Happy harvesting!

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As experienced and qualified civil engineers, the Mills Albert team can help you navigate any residential, industrial, commercial, or public project. From large-scale drainage operations for councils to sub-divisional developments, supply and placement of earthworks to general contracting, and everything in between, the scale and variety of services offered is vast. Whatever you may need Mills Albert for, you can rest assured the job will be completed on time, within budget, and to the highest standards.

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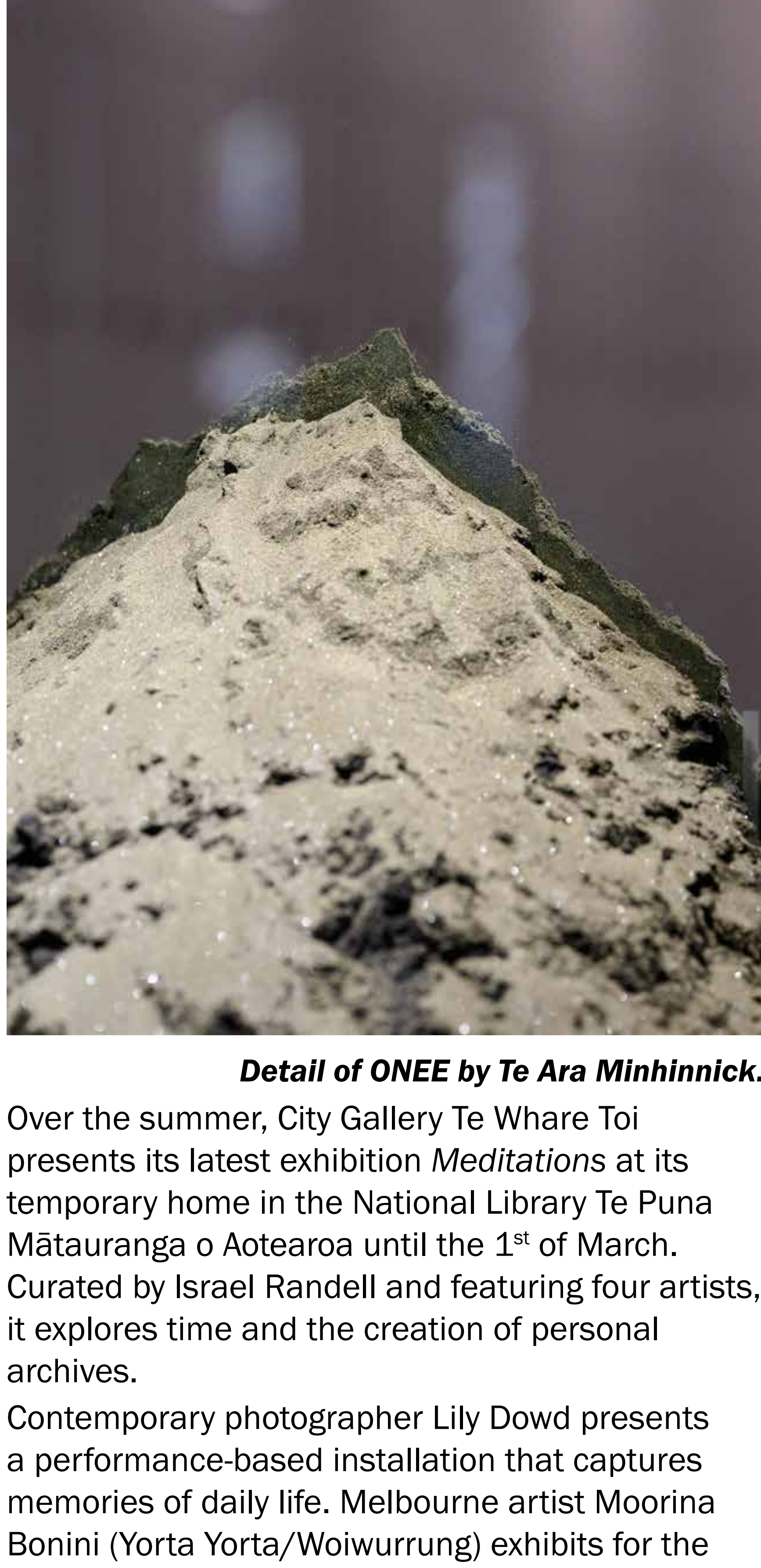
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Time, memory, whakapapa

**Detail of ONEE by Te Ara Minhinnick.**

Over the summer, City Gallery Te Whare Toi presents its latest exhibition *Meditations* at its temporary home in the National Library Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa until the 1st of March.

Curated by Israel Randell and featuring four artists, it explores time and the creation of personal archives.

Contemporary photographer Lily Dowd presents a performance-based installation that captures memories of daily life. Melbourne artist Moorina Bonini (Yorta Yorta/Woiwurrung) exhibits for the first time in Aotearoa with a work that aims to create a counterpoint to traditional, white gallery walls. In Areta Wilkinson's (Kai Tahu) work, past, present, and future occupy the same space. Te Ara Minhinnick (Ngāti Te Ata) works with whenua; an act of re-representation where whakapapa begins in the land and extends to the artist and her whānau in a statement of tino rangatiratanga.

I caught up with Randell, whose collaborative te ao Māori approach brought the artists together early. "This created a spiralled way of thinking that reflects the themes of the exhibition: an active archive, and a collapsing, resisting, and slowing of time through embodied practices".

What is the intention of the exhibition?

Meditations is an exhibition about time, memory, and whakapapa. The intention is to look deeply at materiality and how it might challenge the notion of an archive. For example, *I lay in the shade* by Lily Dowd is an installation of lumen and contact prints that fade through repeated exposure to the light. So by the end of this exhibition these images will potentially disappear completely. I think that is a bold proposition to have a work that is active and is determining its own agency in this space.

How do the different artworks and mediums work together in the space?

From outside the gallery, you will instantly be drawn in by Te Ara Minhinnick's work titled *ONEE*. It is made up of onepuu (iron rich sand) sourced from the shores of Kariotahi in Waiuku, where Minhinnick is from. Moorina Bonini's work *Banarru (ashes)* presents cultural marks that use charcoal to mark the gallery walls – alongside this are contemporary marks that use text to interrogate western institutions. Her work shows alongside Areta Wilkinson's work *Ka Taka te Wā – Time Passed*, which uses age-old stone implements to imprint the stone's surface into fine metals.

Together with Lily Dowd's work mentioned above, the space feels open and allows the viewer to contemplate deeply the many layers imbued within each of the works.

What do you hope viewers take away from the exhibition?

I hope viewers will fall in love with the simplicity that these materials offer; I hope they become curious about these artists and their practices. I also think this show provides a respite for contemplation, reflection, and recalibration. But this show is to be experienced in real life – over the course of the exhibition some of the works will change, fade, become richer, and that can only be experienced in person.

In the heat of summer

**Golden Joy by Esther Bunning.**

Toi i te Waru means art in the eighth. It references the eighth month of the Māori year, which is one of the hottest, but the phrase has colloquially come to mean 'in the heat of summer'.

The New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts (NZAFA) and Parliamentary Service joint exhibition *Toi i te Waru* presents a collection that captures the essence of this magical time of year at Te Papakura until the 30th of April.

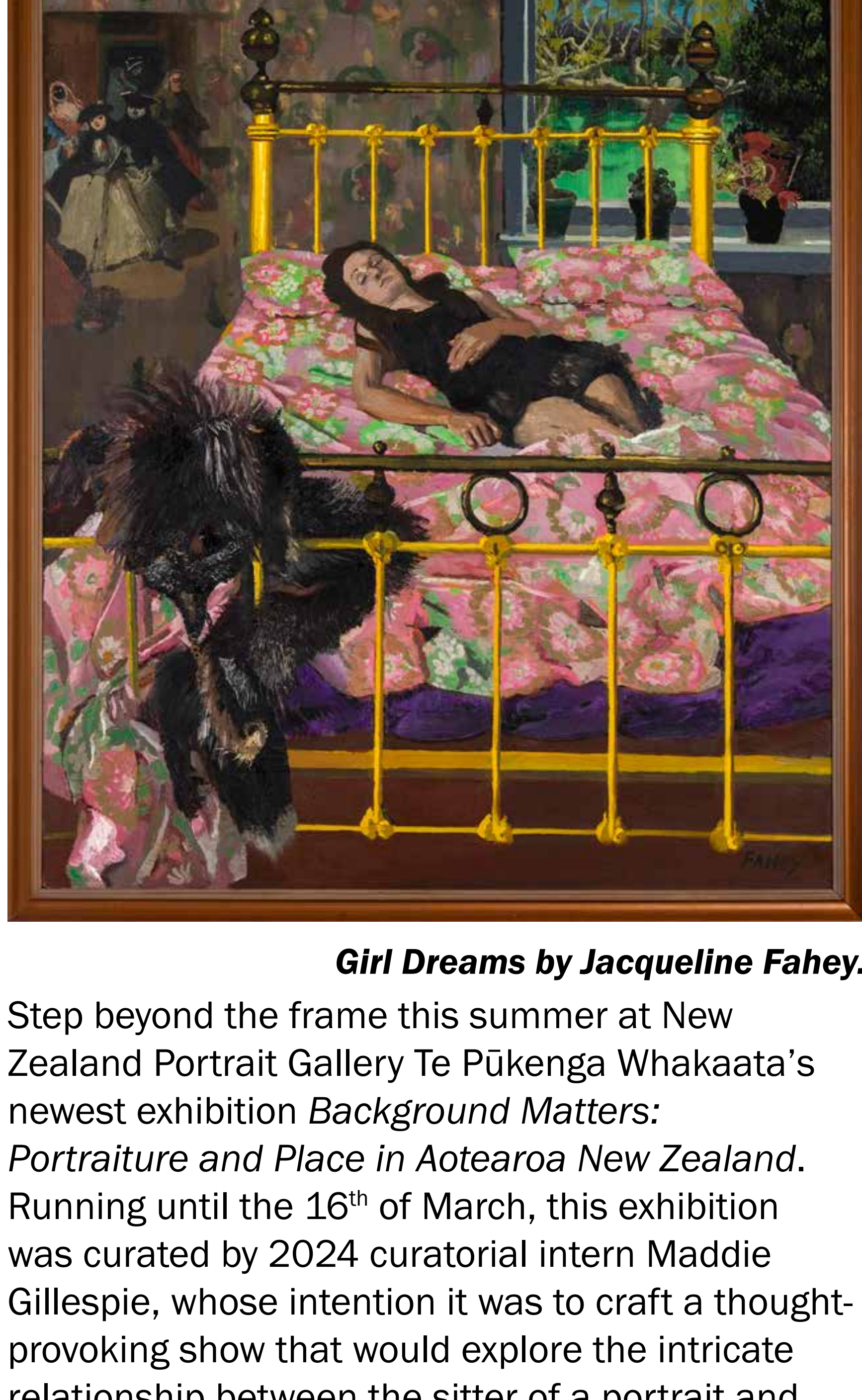
Almost 50 artists from across the motu have responded to the theme with "some really joyous and colourful works", Parliamentary Service chief executive Rafael Gonzalez-Montero says. "I'm really pleased and excited to see the art gallery filled with some great artwork".

The range of styles and mediums are vast and varied. All kinds of works will be on display, including pen and ink, watercolour, photography, gouache, traditional oils, and modern acrylics.

"This exhibition is very much a tiny snapshot of a tiny fraction of the creative output of the contemporary art scene in New Zealand, very much limited by the brief for smaller works and primarily only two-dimensional as well," NZAFA director Wayne Newman says. "Nevertheless, it is a snapshot that reveals an intensely active contemporary art scene."

The NZAFA, which no longer has a dedicated gallery space, is delighted to be renewing relations with the Parliamentary art gallery. Newman says he is committed to helping the arts thrive and hopes visitors "come away with a greater interest in, and enjoyment of, the work of contemporary New Zealand artists and actively seek to see more."

Art in conversation

**Girl Dreams by Jacqueline Fahey.**

Step beyond the frame this summer at New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pūkenga Whakaata's newest exhibition *Background Matters: Portraiture and Place in Aotearoa New Zealand*. Running until the 16th of March, this exhibition was curated by 2024 curatorial intern Maddie Gillespie, whose intention it was to craft a thought-provoking show that would explore the intricate relationship between the sitter of a portrait and their surroundings and present viewers with the opportunity to uncover the narratives held within the background of each work along the way.

"The exhibition reimagines the hierarchy of subject and environment, bringing forward themes of belonging, creativity, and care," Gillespie says. "The works, drawn from the New Zealand Portrait Gallery's collection alongside significant contributions from other galleries, expand the narrative potential of portraiture, emphasising the interplay between figure and place."

Delving into themes of public and private spaces, *Background Matters* features a diverse range of works that delve into concepts of home, belongings, and the narratives embedded in the environments we occupy. Star Gossage, Jacqueline Fahey, Christopher Ulutupu, Jessica Gurnsey, Nigel Brown, Ehsan Hazaveh, and Robyn Kahukiwa are just some of the creatives who will display their work.

"The exhibition sits in relation to the history of portraiture in this country, and it offers the chance to consider how we view the stories of people and place in conversation within this artform", Gillespie continues. "Alongside gaining a heightened awareness of the interplay between figures and their settings and a curiosity to delve into the narrative worlds of portraiture, I hope viewing the exhibition will offer visitors a chance to think about their own relationships to the places in which they spend their time and what those interplays mean to them".

Family holidays



Par2 Minigolf

Minigolf has been a staple of Napier's Marine Parade since the 1940s. What began simply as a large putting green has developed into Par2 Minigolf, guaranteed fun for you and the kids. Located adjacent to the local isite, you'll enjoy panoramic views of the coast of Hawke's

Bay while you compete on one of two courses: Pacific Pro-Am or Deco Drive. The former is a quintessential minigolf course, full of wacky angles, tricky water hazards, and tree obstacles. Deco Drive is a complex course with organic curves and harsh slopes.



MTG Hawke's Bay

There is always something new and exciting to discover at the MTG Hawke's Bay. This award-winning museum is made up of three distinct buildings – an art deco masterpiece, a modernist gem, and a light-filled gallery that looks out across the Pacific Ocean. The museum's

collections tell historic stories of the region and beyond, including the 1931 earthquake that devastated the region and the legacy of art deco architecture that is still celebrated today. Their fabulous shop also sells a range of beautiful cards, gifts, books, and mementos.



Faraday Museum of Technology

Ignite your imagination at the Faraday Museum of Technology, where hands-on adventures await visitors of all ages! Discover interactive exhibits where you can touch, play, and explore the wonders of science, technology, and history in exciting ways. From historic appliances and

engines to energy sources and games, there's so much to see and uncover. A magical place where history comes to life anew, the Faraday Museum of Technology offers an experience you won't forget that's perfect for families and anyone with a curious mind!



The National Aquarium of NZ

The National Aquarium of New Zealand is home to saltwater, freshwater, and land animal exhibits from New Zealand and around the world. The 1.5-million-litre Oceanarium, which you can experience with a walk through an underwater viewing tunnel, showcases the variety of aquatic species

that exist in Hawke's Bay, including stingrays, kingfish, hāpuku, snapper, and more. Watch the famous little penguins feed and play in the Penguin Cove, and connect with native wildlife like tuatara and kiwi. **Photo by Molly Rose Nilsson.**

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 Napier Viewing Platform



Family holidays



Kennedy Park

Located near the heart of Napier, Kennedy Park is an accommodation option that's fun for the whole whānau. There is so much to do onsite that you'll be tempted to spend entire days on the premises. Kids and adults will love the heated swimming complex, basketball half court, and giant outdoor

chess board. Stroll the gardens or relax at the café while the tamariki let loose at the adventure playground and on the colourful jumping pillow. Spend time in the games room playing pool, table-top games, or air hockey together as a family.



Hawke's Bay Farmyard Zoo

Known for its unique atmosphere, Hawke's Bay Farmyard Zoo provides a safe, clean environment with informative signage, limestone walkways, and a picnic area to accommodate large groups such as birthday parties and work functions. The animals at the zoo include pigs,

sheep and calves, ostriches, alpacas, turtles, peacocks, and many more, and kids will have the opportunity to get up close and feed some of them. With a playground, train rides, and pony rides available, the hardest part will be getting the family back into the car.



Napier Aquatic Centre

You don't have to wait for hot summer days to enjoy a day in the water. Napier Aquatic Centre is open year-round for water-based exercise and fun. Three pools means everyone can jump in – choose from the five-lane 25-metre lap pool for walking and lane swimming, the disability-friendly six-lane

Ivan Wilson Pool, or the learners' pool complete with toddler pool and mini waterfall. The complex also features waterslides, a spray park open from October to March, a beautiful outdoor area, and relaxing spas. Jump in and have fun!



Ocean Spa

Ocean Spa is Napier's premier heated pool and fitness complex located on Marine Parade.

Boasting open-air, heated, and chlorinated pools and spas with panoramic ocean views, visitors can enjoy a range of options from the toddler pool to therapeutic pools with water fountains and pool

jets. Visitors can unwind in spacious outdoor spa pools and refuel with a coffee or bite to eat at Bach Café. Centrally located, Ocean Spa is the perfect spot to relax and re-energise, rain or shine.

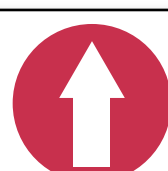
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Family activities

Love is in the stars



Science museum Space Place plays Cupid this February with their major Valentine's Day event and other romantic offerings.

Heavenly Bodies: Valentine's Under the Stars takes place on Friday the 14th of February. Couples (and throuples) can expect a planetarium star talk about the many love stories written in the stars. Colin Smillie, public programmes manager of science, will reveal the myths behind constellations and long-term relationship tips from planets and their moons. Tickets also include dreamy Wellington Chocolate Factory treats, photobooth fun, a cash bar, and a sketching activity supported by Gordon Harris The Art and Graphic Store. Run, don't walk: early-bird tickets for the R18 event end on the 31st of January.

Is your partner's idea of 'date night' a little more twisted? Consider tickets to XYZZY, the avant-garde art experience created by Jess Johnson and Simon Ward. The award-winning show is a psychedelic journey through wormholes, trippy architecture, and into the mouths of alien deities, all set to 90s-inspired synth tracks. Exclusive to Space Place, XYZZY screenings end soon on Sunday the 2nd of March.

If gift-giving is your love language, nothing says "I love you" quite like dedicating a star to your special someone with Space Place's Adopt a Star pack. The museum's gift shop is also full of space oddities like planet puzzles, 3D model kits of famous space crafts, and star-studded jewellery by Little Taonga.

Make your Valentine starry-eyed and learn something new. Visit spaceplace.nz

Porirua has summer sorted



There's plenty of fun to be found in Porirua during the long summer days.

Young and old can have fun outside at free tākarō (play) events around Porirua during January. Head outside between 10am and 2pm on the 14th of January at Waitangirua Community Park and Playground, the 15th of January at Mungavin Park, and the 17th of January at Aotea Lagoon.

Wellington Anniversary weekend is celebrated in style in Porirua with free live music at Adventure Park in Whitby, each night from 6pm to 8pm between the 17th and 20th of January. Pack a picnic, bring friends and whānau, and put on your dancing shoes for four fabulous nights of live music.

Waitangi Day is a highlight of the summer events calendar in Porirua, with this free festival attracting visitors from around the region. The afternoon event is filled with live music, performances, stalls, and free activities at Te Rauparaha Park, Te Rauparaha Arena, Pātaka Art + Museum, and Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour from 12pm to 5pm on the 6th of February.

Celebrate our tamariki and rangatahi with a fantastic free event full of fun to mark Te rā o ngā Tamariki/Children's Day on the 2nd of March between 11am and 3pm at Ngāti Toa Domain.

If you're in the city centre on a Thursday at lunchtime, kick back to Thursday Grooves – live music in Cobham Court with performances from talented local artists.

Visit poriruacity.govt.nz for more information about all the events happening around Porirua this summer.

Discover summer fun in Porirua!

14-17 JAN
Come and play in our parks – check our website for details!

Head out for a run, walk or bike on our tracks and trails

Check out Porirua's latest food destination, Kai Tahi

17-20 JAN
Enjoy the Summer Concert Series – four evenings of music at Adventure Park, Whitby

Take in some art at Pātaka Art + Museum

6 FEB
Don't miss Waitangi Day at Te Rauparaha Park and Arena

Swim, snorkel or surf at any of our seven beaches

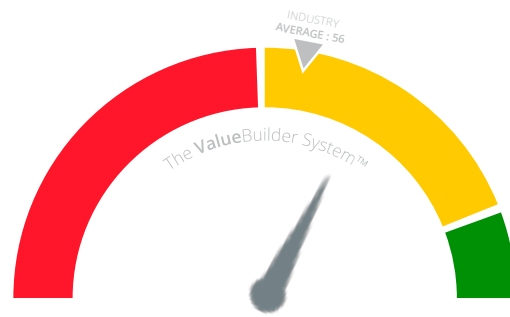
THE 8 KEY DRIVERS OF COMPANY VALUE

✓ Your business is not just a source of income; it's an investment.

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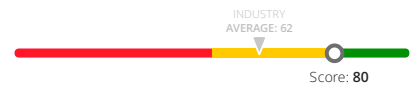
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8 KEY DRIVERS OF COMPANY VALUE



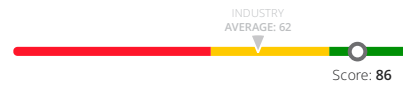
Financial Performance

Your history of producing revenue and profit combined with the professionalism of your record keeping



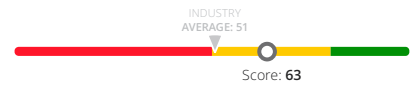
Growth Potential

Your likelihood to grow your business in the future and at what rate



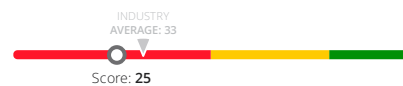
The Switzerland Structure

How dependent your business is on any one employee, customer, or supplier



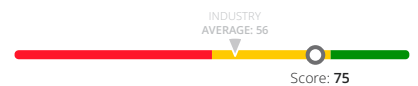
The Valuation Teeter-Totter

Whether your business is a cash suck or a cash spigot



The Hierarchy of Recurring Revenue

The proportion and quality of automatic, annuity-based revenue you collect each month



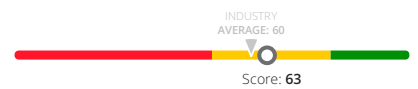
The Monopoly Control

How differentiated your business is from competitors in your industry



Customer Satisfaction

The likelihood that your customers will repurchase and also refer you



Hub and Spoke

How your business would perform if you were unexpectedly unable to work for a period of three months

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Wealth Planning

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- SRI Investment Options • Superannuation • Australian Transfer • Long Term Income
- Rewarding Years Options



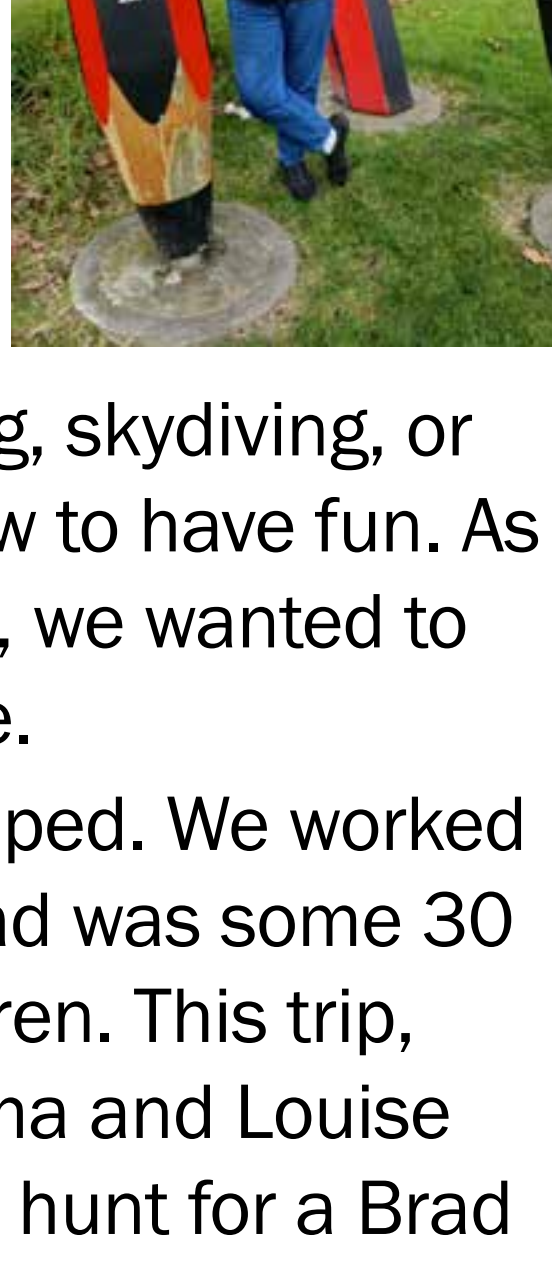
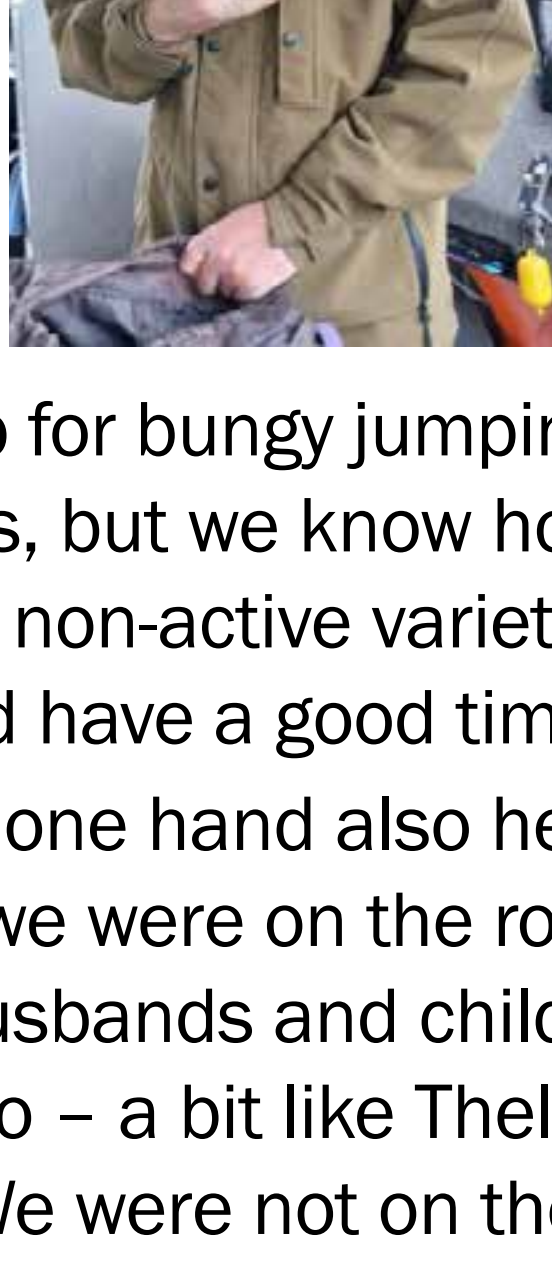
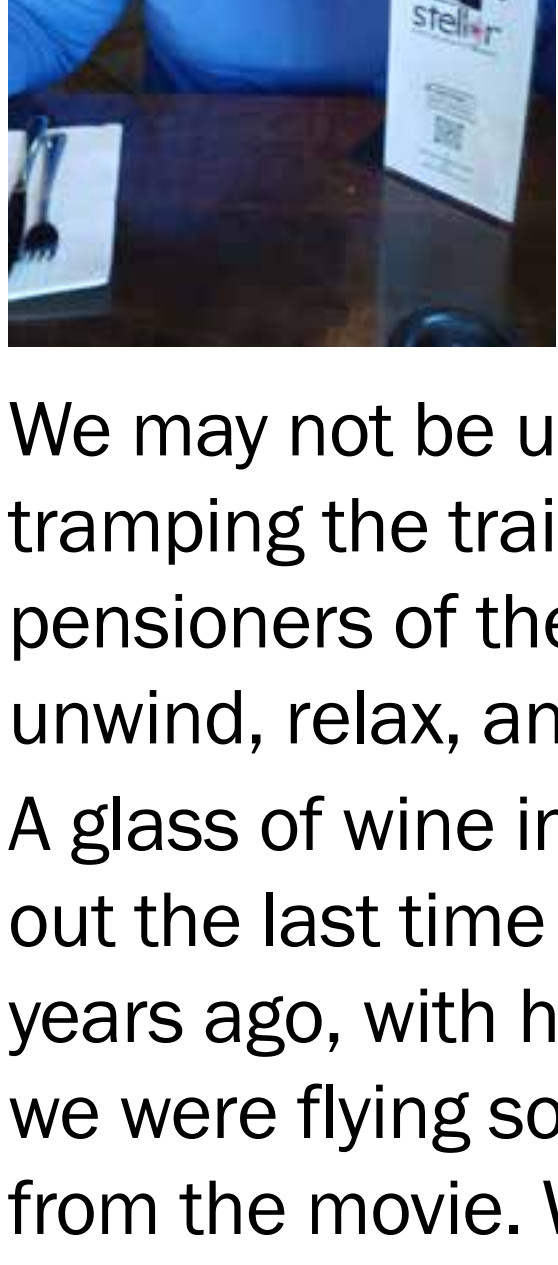
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Our ladies' trip



We may not be up for bungy jumping, skydiving, or tramping the trails, but we know how to have fun. As pensioners of the non-active variety, we wanted to unwind, relax, and have a good time.

A glass of wine in one hand also helped. We worked out the last time we were on the road was some 30 years ago, with husbands and children. This trip, we were flying solo – a bit like Thelma and Louise from the movie. We were not on the hunt for a Brad Pitt, but if one appeared, we probably would not remember what to do with him.

Day one

Betty and I headed off from Levin full of excitement and laughter. First stop was Bulls. I saw an open-home sign, so in we went and browsed like would-be buyers. Signed the book as Thelma Traveller. Chatted about what a good rental it would be – the agent was lovely and I hope he sold it. Then we were off to Whanganui, stopping at a couple of antique shops on the way. We arrived at our motel, filled the glasses, and were relaxing when next minute, we heard the roar of motorbikes. They sounded so close. Turns out they were...

They pulled into the parking lot, all nine of them. Hells Angels and Nomads. Eek, where were we! Talk about excitement. Betty suggested she ask for their photo to put in our travel book. So, out she went, approaching a young guy. "Can I have your photo?" "Sure," he said and posed, ready. Next minute a more senior member came up and said, "We don't do photos." "Oh," Betty said, "are you afraid of being recognised?" They laughed and said, "No, we just don't do photos." I madly tried to wave her back in the room to her wine.

We rang the husbands, who thought we should go stay somewhere else. I rang the motel and the woman at the front desk said, "Don't worry, they're fine." Well, we did ask for an adventure, so we stayed! They were fine and they left at about 6:30pm in a roar. We heard nothing more from them. We went to dinner at an Indian restaurant, came home, and slept soundly.

Day two

When we got up the next morning to visit the Whanganui River Markets, only three bikes had returned. Off we went down to the markets nice and early, frost still in the air. A lot of the stallholders were still setting up but happy to chat. We started spending straight away on dog jackets, warm tights, and coffee. We met a lovely young Brad Pitt stocking a woodfire pizza oven and chatted about how it worked, laughed, and took our photos with him. We met lots of lovely people and had a relaxing walk around the markets: a must-do Whanganui activity on a Saturday morning.

Then, we jumped in the car and headed off to Taupō. Stopping at Raukawa Falls for a photo, we met a very handsome man (possibly Brad Pitt's brother), who did a death-defying climb up on a railing to get us in the shot. He was travelling with a pregnant wife and a couple of kids. We just wanted him to get down and be safe. Remember, we wanted a non-active experience and would've found it a challenge to leap down the bank to his rescue!

We stopped and had lunch at The Landing in Taupō, where there were lots of families having a great time playing mini golf. What a lovely meal. I had the seafood platter and my friend the loaded chips with bacon and cheese. On the way from there to our accommodation, we got lost twice – or 'took the scenic route'. We did a complete circle through the thermal area before we arrived at Wairakei Resort. We blame the Navman! Our room wasn't ready when we arrived, so they upgraded us to a family unit, which was a bit tired but clean and spacious. Again, wine in hand, it didn't matter. A relaxing wander showed us that we had a choice of thermal pools, a spa treatment, and basketball courts, where we saw families shooting hoops and having fun.

We chose to eat at the onsite Pavilion Restaurant that night and enjoyed lamb shanks that were tender and moist, a glass (or two) of wine, and a delicious dessert of apple and blueberry crumble. Again, we slept soundly and well.

Day three

We awoke to a heavy, misty fog on a cold and wintery morning. We didn't let that deter us and got up and headed to our cruise on the Waikato River to the bottom of the Huka Falls. Again, we got lost along the way... Just always allow plenty of extra time when you are travelling with two not-so-young ladies and you'll be fine.

We got to the riverboat and were greeted by Phil, an English guy who knew loads about our birdlife and flora. Warm blankies were handed to us (just us, I noticed, although the boat had about 12 people on it). Ahhh, the benefits of age. What a truly relaxing and cosy experience winding our way up the river as a jet boat flew past. We got to the bottom of the falls just as a few kayaks came over it – amazing, thrilling, and glad it wasn't us! Phil did three circles back to the bottom to enable everyone to take photos. He explained about the hydroelectric power station and what it produces for the North Island. The river is full of fish as they are trapped between the Huka Falls and the Aratiatia Dam.

We made our way back to the wharf in time to see the release of water from the Aratiatia Dam, which happens several times a day and is a tourist attraction in and of itself. You can watch from several vantage points as thousands of litres of water tumble into the turquoise rapids. Mind blowing!

From here we headed to Lava Glass, an amazing café, gallery, and sculpture garden. Who knew you could create such magic with glass? A kaleidoscope of colour with over 600 sculptures created by Lynden Over and his team, I didn't want to leave the garden and dreamt of filling my own with waterfalls and spheres. With a gallery shop to boot, this was a magical experience not to be missed.

Heading off, we went to the Huka Honey Hive, with honey tastings, mead tastings, live beehives, and more, all *free* to get in. One inside, the wallet was out in a second: I bought bee mugs, bee earrings, bee bags, bee wraps, whee hee, everything bee! Oh, and some honey too.

Day four

Saw us heading to New Plymouth. One of the husbands decided to give us directions on the phone in the morning. Well, that worked well – took us seven hours, and yes we did get lost. On the positive side, we both went to places we had never been before, enjoyed the countryside, and realised why tourists love our green open spaces. Back to the Navman, though.

Arriving in New Plymouth, we had booked to stay at Belt Road Seaside Holiday Park. A husband said, "Why not stay at a motel in town?" Glad we ignored him. We had an amazing two-bedroom unit facing the sea that would've comfortably slept five. Affordable, clean, cosy, and everything we needed, I would highly recommend Belt Road for a stay. My friend made friends with a duck and fed it bread. I warned her they would have mates in the morning. Sure enough, the next morning, knocking on the window were a flock of seagulls and about eight ducks.

Day five

We headed into town for some retail therapy and to meet up with my friend's daughter and grandson for an escape room experience. Usually vibrant and bustling, the main street was sadly very quiet and tired – a sign of the times. We wandered around the mall and had our nails done and a haircut. I decided to get a face wax, which I'd never had before. Why not, I thought. What could go wrong?

Lying on the bed, I found the young lady who did the procedure to be quite rough. She grabbed me by the ear to turn my head. I said "oooh!" but thought, don't say much more – she is in charge. I was happy with the result but not my ear. When she finished, I grabbed her ear and pulled it as she said "oooh". "Hurts, doesn't it?" She said she was sorry and wouldn't pull her clients' ears again.

I left feeling the training was complete.

Off to the Escapinator Escape Room – this was great fun and I was the only one who had done it before, so the others were a little unsure. I assured them it was great fun although I wasn't that good at it. The grandson chose the Train Escape and we were on our way. We had to find clues and execute them to get to the next section. As promised, I was not very good. Betty's daughter was amazing and led the way. Just as well, or we may have been on that train for a very long time. The organisers were happy to give extra help if needed. We managed to escape with two minutes to spare before we timed out. I'd happily do Escapinator again. It really gets the brain moving and you sure get a lot of laughs – another must-do.

We headed home tired and cold, but warmed up in the unit and had buns for dinner so we didn't have to go out. Slept well and warmly.

Day six

Time to jump in the car and head back home. It had been a wet and cold trip but that didn't dampen our spirits. We had such fun, nothing broken, and still great friends... Thank you Betty/Louise for your company.

Yours,

Thelma Traveller

Song of the summer



If you were to combine Queen's grandeur, Coldplay's anthemic vibes, and the playfulness of Harry Styles, you'd get Skram: Pōneke's flamboyant electro-pop rock outfit. They've recently released the epic new tune *Heroes*, a vibrant, upbeat bop set to warm your ears and heart and destined to become the song of your summer.

Fronted by Henry Ashby, a genderfluid singer with a flair for the dramatic and a voice that swings from soft ballads to soaring high notes, Skram blends the theatrical with the raw. Felix Nesbitt brings the heat on drums with a wild energy that electrifies every beat. The powerhouse pop group utilises a revolving lineup of talented artists to craft a unique sound that fuses upbeat pop, rock and electronica full of emphatic vocals, catchy hooks, and driving beats. Dylan Jennings is a key Skram bandmate, appearing both onstage and in the writing room, while other members include, but are not limited to, Gayle Hammersley, Anna Smith, Adele Child, and Terry Liu.

The band is thrilled to release their new single *Heroes*, a sonic pop-rock gem blends dreamy guitars, epic vocals, and punchy rhythms to deliver a buoyant tune that reinforces the band's ethos and enthusiasm for life, love, and caring for one another. The summer bop also serves as the outfit's first single of their yet unnamed new album due out this year.

Scurry to San Fran on the 18th of January to see Skram in vivid, harlequin technicolour.

Sip and savour



Sip drinks, savour food, and soak in the sun at Hops in the Vines, a special little craft beer and wine festival returning to the idyllic vineyards of Wairarapa's Matahiwi Estate on the 18th of January.

After a hugely successful inaugural festival in 2024, Matahiwi Estate and Brewtown have teamed up once again to bring Hops in the Vines 2025 to returning fans and new faces. This hot ticket festival combines the best of both worlds, offering award-winning wines and exceptional craft beers alongside an array of local food trucks serving up gastronomic sensations made from fresh, local ingredients.

"We wanted to combine the best wine and the best craft beer together in an event that would appeal to a broader audience," Matahiwi Estate sales manager Fleur Nichol says. "2024 showed that this disruption was a hit! We had loads of the local beer-drinking Wairarapa boys, who aren't always catered for at events, turn up at the vineyard with their wives for a fun day in the sun!" Alongside lawn games and activities, music will be cranking on the stage, enticing festivalgoers to dance amongst the vines. Catch beloved bands and local legends like Vincent Vega and Ras Judah and Culture Embassy sharing the stage with performers like the ever-popular singing drag queen Nova Starr.

Hop to the grapes and keep the good vibes going all day at Hops in the Vines.

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This is forever by Madelaine Empson



After their *Grassroots Tour* became the fastest sell-out tour in SIX60's history, New Zealand's biggest band is answering the call from fans who missed out. Playing picturesque outdoor venues throughout Aotearoa and Australia, SIX60 will hit Brewtown in Upper Hutt on the 1st of February, starting early to unleash their greatest hits against a breathtaking golden-hour backdrop. I caught up with bassist Chris Mac about the *Grassroots Tour City Edition* and more.

Did you have any inkling of what was to come when you formed back in Dunedin in 2008?

No! At the start it was just playing for friends, parties, that kind of thing. It really took on a life of its own. We started getting relatively ambitious pretty quickly. We'd set our sights on things that most people thought were a little bit stupid and beyond our reach, and we basically continue to do that to this day. Those things can look different: they can look grand – like being the first to play at Eden Park – but they can also look very personal – like, what if we do the smallest possible thing and go to places no one's ever gone before to do shows?

Happy sweet 16! What have been some of the highlights so far?

Is that right! Is that the one on MTV over in the States where they get the disgustingly big party and the car with the bow on top? We'll probably do that [laughs]. Highlights: the first Western Springs, just touring the world and getting to see it, making friends and meeting fans everywhere. We've had a career of highlights, so it's hard to pick just one. 16 years is a long time – I think it's how we've managed to grow and evolve as people and a group. It hasn't been without its hard times internally and externally. We've fought demons from critics and the public and members [chuckles] and we've managed to forge together and continue on the path. If we hung up our hat tomorrow, that would be the highlight: how well we've managed to navigate the journey.

Are you working on any new music that fans might get a sneaky peek into?

Yeah, we've been working on new music for what seems like an eternity. There's a couple in the works that we're hoping to get out relatively soon. We'd like to try them out on the road and give fans the first opportunity to hear them. That's how we started – we didn't have anything that people could listen to necessarily, but we'd try new songs. The public were always part of our growth and our music development system. We want to bring that back to the forefront. That's why it's cool doing these more intimate, specialised shows. It's gonna be a show! But we've got the opportunity to try some things and experiment and bring people on that journey with us. We can't wait.

What does New Zealand summer scream to you?

It screams having people over for drinks. It screams putting on some stubbies and hitting the beach. It screams going to a bowls club and getting a couple of yeasty beverages in [laughs].

Soul-soaked summer scorers



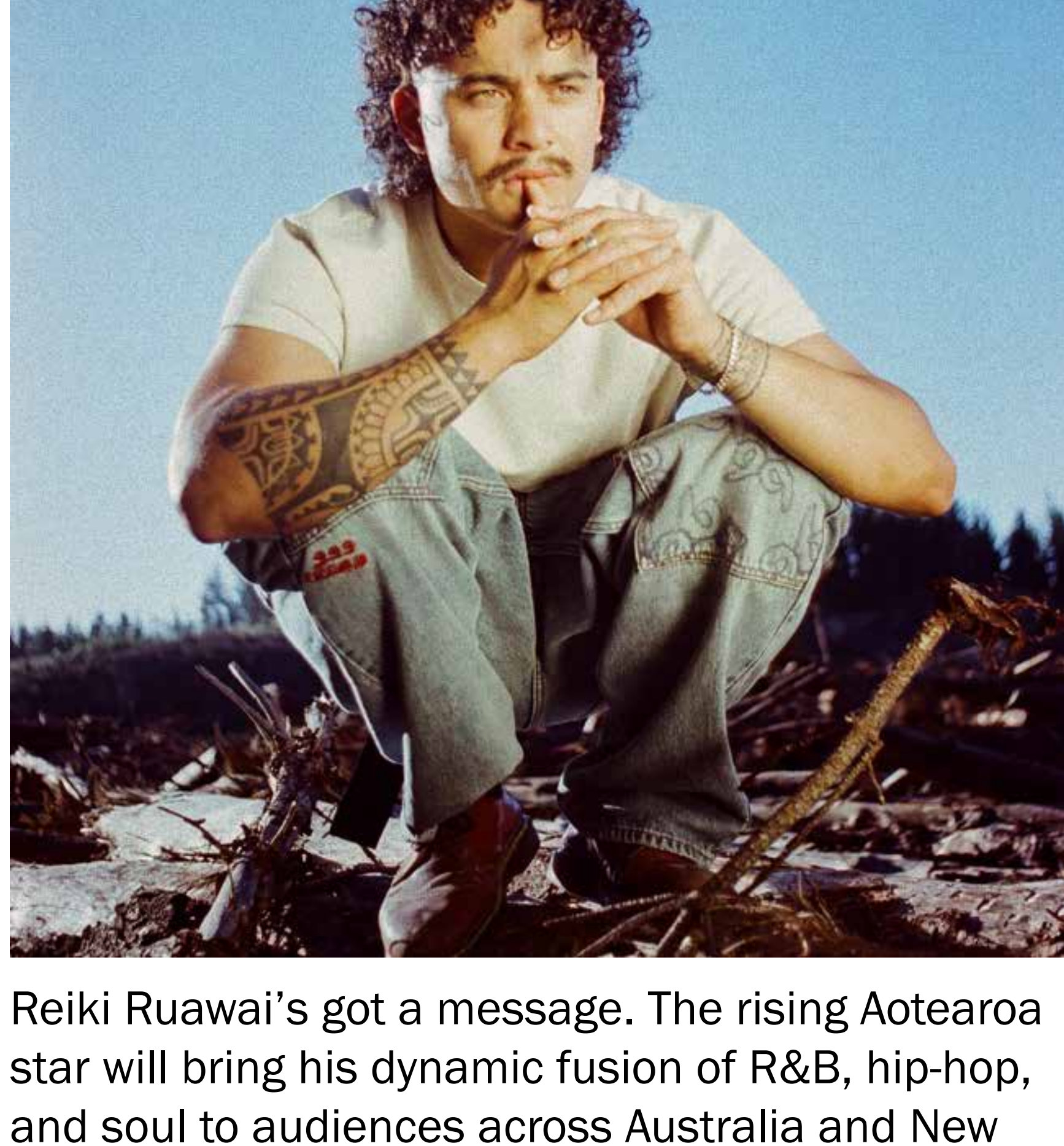
Get low and slow with Fat Freddy's Drop this summer! On the 25th of January, Welly audiences will be treated to new music from this iconic seven-piece, match fit and ready to light up the party at Brewtown on the New Zealand leg of their *SLO MO Album Tour*.

"SLO MO is the strongest studio representation yet of a Freddy's live show", saxophonist Chopper Reeds says. "It captures the undefinable Freddy's sound. Usually we take the stage to the studio and this time, we're excited about taking our studio creation onto the stage."

SLO MO features funky title track with Louis Baker, *Next Stop* with toastmaster MC Slave on the mic, *Stand Straight* with its stonking reggae rhythms and heavy horns, and more soulful summer scorers. The nine-track full-length album is a bass-heavy blast of resolution that slayed on the world stage late last year. The band's euphoric European and UK tour hit the likes of Berlin, Luxembourg, Zürich, Vienna, London, Edinburgh, and more. After vibing out with Kiwi audiences for two months in the new year, Fat Freddy's Drop will jump the ditch to play Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth in March.

Described as "a smooth, soulful ride packed with laid-back jamming energy" and "blissed-out, dub-infused arrangements" by *Rolling Stone Australia*, who wrote that "Six albums in, and Fat Freddy's Drop still know how to keep the grooves flowing", you don't want to miss your chance to sink into the sunshine-soaked sound of these Kiwi legends.

A visionary message



Reiki Ruawai's got a message. The rising Aotearoa star will bring his dynamic fusion of R&B, hip-hop, and soul to audiences across Australia and New Zealand this summer in the shape of his debut EP *The Message*.

Described by the artist as "a voice memo of a year of experiences compiled into different styles that tell different stories", Reiki says *The Message* features the soothing melodies he's used to making while venturing into new genres altogether – like pop and even a sing-rap style he's wanted to test out for ages. The result is a lush, visionary EP containing multitudes that *Space Cadet* described as "impeccable".

"*The Message* puts on full display Reiki's undeniable songwriting talent, showcasing him as one of Aotearoa's most exciting new talents." Released in September 2024, the EP was produced by the award-winning Joel Jones (Balu Brigada, Alayna) and features the likes of GRAMMY®-nominated artist Jordan Rakei and hit-songwriter Muroki, who co-wrote the lead track *Love No Other*.

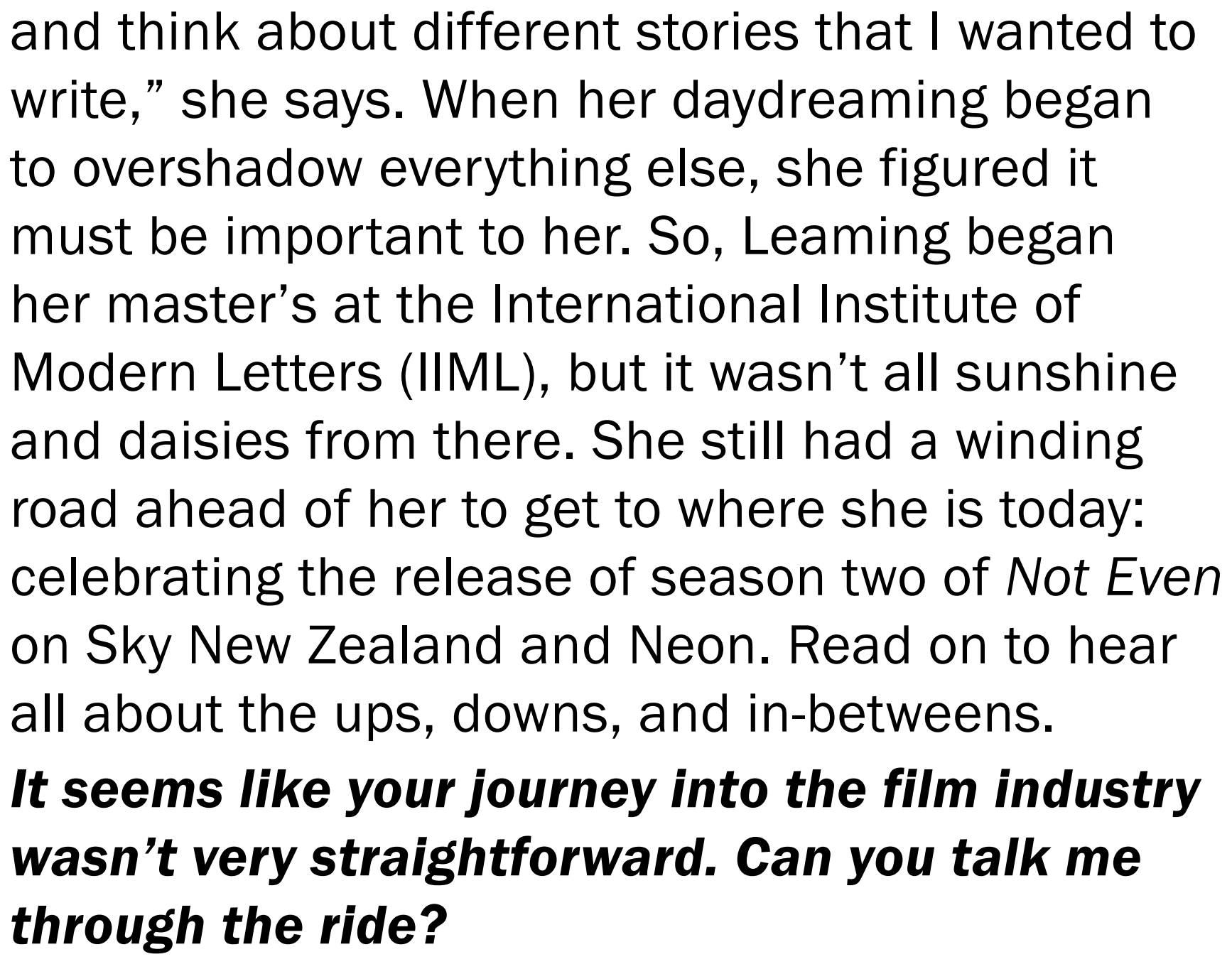
Reiki hails from Raglan and got his start with Masaya, an indie-rock band that he formed in 2019 for a university assignment. The groove merchants soon found themselves touring with legends like Katchafire and L.A.B. Reiki's solo career has taken off globally to encompass chart-topping singles, acclaimed collaborations, and a growing fanbase that features close to 57,000 monthly listeners on Spotify alone. His sophomore single *Express* has more than six million hits on the streaming platform – and counting!

Marking a new chapter for an artist on the rise, watch Reiki deliver *The Message* at Meow on the 1st of February.

Wellington Silver Screeners:

Dana Leaming

In our Wellington Silver Screeners series, Alessia Belsito-Riera shines a spotlight on the movers and shakers working in the film capital of New Zealand.



“It wasn’t until *Not Even* got picked up that I even thought of myself as being in the TV industry,”

writer and director Dana Leaming tells me.

Though she always wanted to tell stories, the path to where she is today wasn’t ever straightforward.

“I was teaching English in Japan and having a great time, but I would daydream at my desk

and think about different stories that I wanted to write,” she says. When her daydreaming began

to overshadow everything else, she figured it must be important to her. So, Leaming began

her master’s at the International Institute of Modern Letters (IIML), but it wasn’t all sunshine

and daisies from there. She still had a winding road ahead of her to get to where she is today:

celebrating the release of season two of *Not Even* on Sky New Zealand and Neon. Read on to hear

all about the ups, downs, and in-betweens.

It seems like your journey into the film industry wasn’t very straightforward. Can you talk me

through the ride?

It’s a bit of a strange one. I didn’t go the traditional route at all, I skipped five million steps.

After I did my master’s at the IIML, which is where *Not Even* originated, it got picked up slightly by

a production company, but they looked at it and said no. So I had a bit of a minor breakdown. I

was out for my friend’s 30th, and got a little bit too trolleyed and was drunk crying about how my

writing career was over, to which my friend said, ‘Oh, I didn’t know you had a writing career’.

All of that went down and then I was working in NGOs quite happily. I mean, I didn’t love it love

it, but it was a very fulfilling job. Then I got an email one day from someone saying they’d like

to put my script forward for someone looking for new stuff. A week later I was on a Zoom

with [producer] Ainsley Gardiner [MNZM], and it just snowballed from there. I don’t know what

happened in the hour and half that me and Ainsley were on a Zoom call that made her think,

‘Yep, I’m gonna take a chance with this girl and I’m going to co-direct with her’. We spent the next

two months putting together a pitch deck, got funding from New Zealand On Air in October, in

December we had got the money, and in March we were in prep. I went from a random person in

an NGO office to shooting a TV show in like six months.

What was that first experience on set like?

I was sh*tting myself.

But it went well, clearly, because you’ve now released the second season of the show! Can

you tell me about *Not Even*?

Not Even is about four young Māori and one Pasifika who are running around Wellington in

their early to late 20s trying to find themselves, but also doing a really bad job at it. They make

bad decisions in hilarious ways. In season one it was: who am I and where am I? This time around,

they’re getting older – and I always say every year in your 20s is like a whole different lifetime –

so life is kicking them in the arse a little bit and they’re having to really think about who they are

and what they want to do with their lives, and it doesn’t go well.

When you wrote the show, what was your intention with the story?

I think New Zealand tends to think of Māori in quite a homogenous way. That we all have a true,

beautiful, deep connection with our whenua, with our whanaungatanga, and we all are enriched by

our culture, which is definitely true, and I am for sure. But what I don’t think is necessarily shown

is the disenfranchised and urbanised version of it, which is, at times, a lot more harrowing. *Not Even*

is this version. As shown by the characters, we are still enriched by our culture, but the aftereffects

of colonisation and how we experience the modern world have heavily influenced our

connection to our culture. I hadn’t seen that on screen as authentically as it could have been in

New Zealand. When I was younger, I would watch films and go for the person who looked the most

like me, which was someone who was ethnically ambiguous. I would relate to that brown person

in some way, but what I really wanted for myself was to relate through a Māori kid with the same

emotions and feelings that I was going through. So that’s why I wrote it.

Would you say that’s why representation in media is so vital?

I think accurate, authentic representation is important, because I do think that there are

situations where people just plonk a diverse person into a show and think that’s as much

as they need to do. Every character should be given their due diligence, their complexities, their

nuances, regardless of genre. What I think is important is portraying an interesting character

that is intelligent, complicated, irrational, fun, joyous, all these different things, and also Māori,

or Pasifika, or anything else. I would like to see characters that have those layers to them. And

I think for Māori, there’s such a spectrum of us that exists, yet we only really have two or

three versions [on screen], while our Pākehā counterparts have 10.

I also think we need more Māori villains. My favourite characters are villains. [Scar from

The Lion King] had this whole swag, he was charismatic, and he was complicated. Why

can’t Māori be villains? I know why, it’s more complicated than chucking them in the villain

role, because we have been stigmatised.

Anything that represents Māori as being violent, aggressive, or evil is not something that we want

for our people, because we have been considered that for so long in any mainstream media way.

For Māori, I really have to consider how I will stigmatise them even more, and I don’t want to

do that, so I have to keep that in the back of my head when I write. But then I think about how my

Pākehā counterparts don’t have to do that with their characters.

Hopefully, with shows like *Not Even* that have more authentic representation, this will begin to

change.

Yeah, I think it’s funny because the way the world is currently feels like we’re getting even more

fickle. I worry about where we’re going to land with that. I do want to give credit to the viewer. I

think audiences are getting smarter. There are some cooked shows coming out where you’re

watching characters do some really bad sh*t yet you’re still relating to them. There’s hope, it’ll just

take time.

Shifting gears, as a Wellingtonian, was making the show about and in the capital crucial?

It had to be in Wellington. I wrote it to be in Wellington and about my time [here]. It’s actually

really hard to represent a city in a show, in the sense of making [it] its own little character. I’ve

been here for 15 years now. I moved down when I was 19 and I love it. As much as Tauranga raised

me as a kid, Wellington raised me as an adult. It is very much a love letter to this unhinged little

city.

Will there be a season three, or alternatively, what’s next for you?

I really don’t know at this point. I think for the characters there’s definitely room for more story,

but who knows with the current way media is going. Even if there wasn’t a season three, I’m

really proud of the second season. I think people will be really satisfied with it, and I think it’s a

little bit more mature than season one – as much as I can be mature, like, I still laugh at the idea of

butts and stuff.

I’m working on a number of things. I am trying to write another show and possibly get that into

development. I’m working as a full-time writer, but from home, which is going for walks midway

through the day, trying to make friends with the neighbourhood cats, and trying to figure out how

to write things. So right now, my days feel really strange.

What advice would you give somebody who is trying to get into the film industry?

It’s a little cynical, but sometimes it is who you know and luck that will get you a foot in the door.

But once your foot is in the door, you should work really, really, really hard. Whatever you want to do,

someone believing in you and giving you a shot is important. Know what your strength and your

weakness is, play on those things, and shoot your shot when you can. Put yourself forwards – you

have to show what you’ve got. I think you have to be a little bit obsessed with your craft. That

obsession pushes you through, to stand out, and to be really good at what you do. It’s in your bones

at that point.

Soaked and stoked



Make a splash this summer at the Z Manu World Championships! With the Wellington super qualifier round slipping and sliding into Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre in Kilbirnie on the 25th and 26th of January, this nationwide dive-bombing championship is for the young and young at heart.

Over 2000 participants took part in last year's inaugural championship event. Legends were made, champions crowned, and fun abounded. Famous faces joined the fun, including former All Blacks captain Sean Fitzpatrick and rugby legend Piri Weepu [pictured] who will return in 2025.

"Last year, we were literally testing the waters," organiser Scott Rice says. "We saw the widespread love for manu across the country, and we proved that even those who've never popped a manu can enjoy the atmosphere while witnessing the incredible skill of 'manu athletes' from around the nation".

Manu techniques are perfected at wharves, pools, and secret spots across Aotearoa, only coming into the limelight once a year. The judges panel will use ManuTech at the Wellington super qualifiers and grand finals in Auckland on the 1st of March. This software records each jump on film, so that each splash height can be carefully calculated before receiving a score.

This year's categories include pakeke/adult for those 18 and over, rangatahi/youth for those between 13 and 17, tamariki/kids open to 10 to 12-year-olds, and an eight-plus freestyle section.

Get soaked and stoked for the 2025 Z Manu World Championships.

Raise your glass: Gindulgence is back!



Calling all gin enthusiasts! Whether you're a seasoned connoisseur or simply love a crisp G&T, get ready for an afternoon of *Gindulgence* as the popular festival returns to the beautiful Wellington Waterfront on Saturday the 25th of January.

Explore the vibrant world of gin with a lineup of 20 talented New Zealand distillers. Amongst them you'll find the likes of Southward Distilling, a small batch distillery located right here in Wellington; Curiosity Gin, crafted in Christchurch; Mother's Ruined Gin, who present their bold drops in recyclable paperboard bottles; Sea Lovers Gin, who subtly marry marine ingredients with more traditional botanicals; and many more makers. Sip and sample your way through their creations while learning the stories behind them as you discover their secrets and let your taste buds be your guide.

Feeling inspired? Treat yourself to a refreshing G&T or a creative signature drink while enjoying lively background tunes and delicious local eats. And if you fall in love with a particular gin (or three!), grab a bottle to take home and savour later.

Your ticket includes an afternoon brimming with gin delights: samples from all distillers, a festival glass, a reusable sample cup, access to the Gin Theatre for a deeper dive into the art of distilling, and the relaxed vibe of an outdoor waterfront setting.

So, round up your gin-loving crew and soak in the good vibes at this boutique gin experience. All the details can be found at www.gindulgence.co.nz

Our need for hope



Photo by Mark Tantrum.

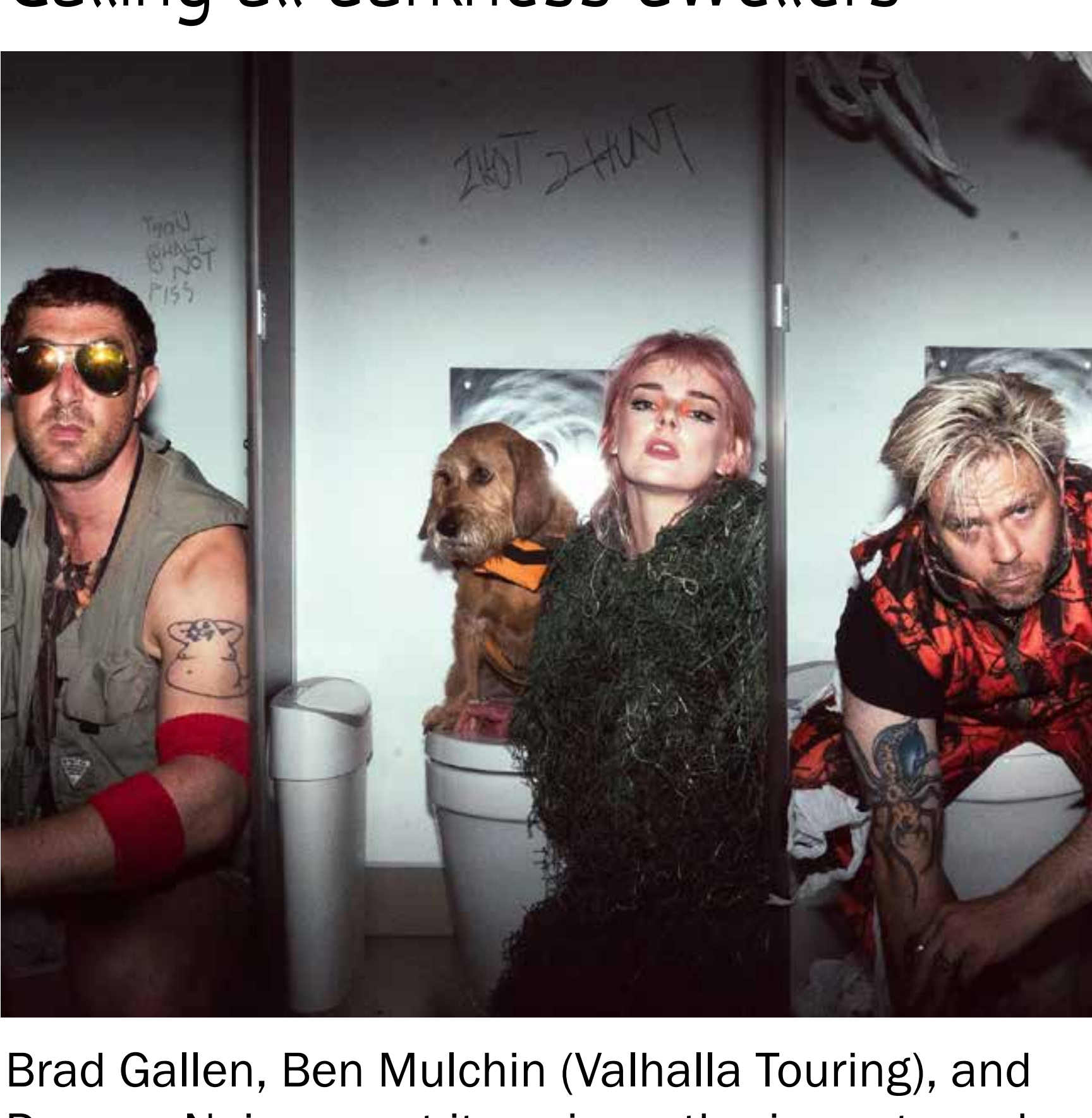
Acclaimed New Zealand novelist Jenny Patrick is about to premiere a powerful, provocative new play – her first work for the stage – at Circa Theatre. Running from the 25th of January to the 23rd of February, *Hope* delves into profound questions about life, death, and the morality of fighting for the ones we love.

In a near future where money is tight, a controversial government bill has dictated that people with terminal illnesses cannot receive anything but pain management in their final year of life. Irina, a Ukrainian refugee and piano teacher, attempts to navigate her illness at home with the help and hope of her son Daniel and a dubious mix of natural and illegal remedies. Further complicating their lives is the arrival of a famous former pupil and Irina's feisty daughter, back home from the war.

"I wrote the first draft of *Hope* before the Ukrainian War, before the pandemic; before New Zealand's health budget blowout", Patrick says. "Now all have come to pass though I certainly didn't wish these visitations upon us! I have been intrigued for some time by differing attitudes to crises in our lives. My brother fought his cancer every inch of the way. My husband accepted a terminal illness without question. Our need for hope takes many forms. A single solution for all won't work. That is the dilemma I am exploring in this play."

The upcoming production of *Hope* will be presented by the powerhouse group of creatives behind the 2023 sell-out season of *Prima Facie*: director Lyndee-Jane Rutherford, set and costume designer Ian Harman, lighting designer Marcus McShane, composer Briar Prastiti, and actor Mel Dodge, with Jack Buchanan, Tāmata Porter, and Perry Piercy joining the cast to bring this poignant work to life onstage.

Calling all darkness dwellers



Brad Gallen, Ben Mulchin (Valhalla Touring), and Duncan Nairn are at it again, gathering acts and shadows to present their fifth annual festival celebrating Aotearoa's darkwave, goth, and industrial scene. Held over Wellington Anniversary Weekend from the 17th to the 19th of January "so that the locals are treated to a sleep-in after the last night", Nairn quips, Gathering Shadows will fill the hallowed halls of Valhalla – a venue "widely accepted as the focal point for dark and alternative music in Pōneke".

11 alt acts from across the city and motu will shred the stage all weekend. Let's get the party started by announcing Friday night's DJs. Shadowplay co-founder and stalwart of the Wellington scene, DJ Bradula plays a wide swathe of bangers – including, of course, the OG goth classics. For DJ Virago, warrior woman of the dancefloor, music was and still is a place of escape. DJ John Doe from London has spun many a dark anthem at the likes of Slimelight, The Dev, The Underworld, and more and will get the crowd stomping their black-boot-clad feet.

Saturday sees Grecco Romank [pictured] boast the shortest average height of any Auckland act, Sounds Like Winter of Sydney walk the thin grey line between post punk and trad goth, Robots In Love combine rock and electronics with equal force and a disregard for genres, and Pōneke's post-industrial metal outfit Crash-Scan make a welcome return to the stage.

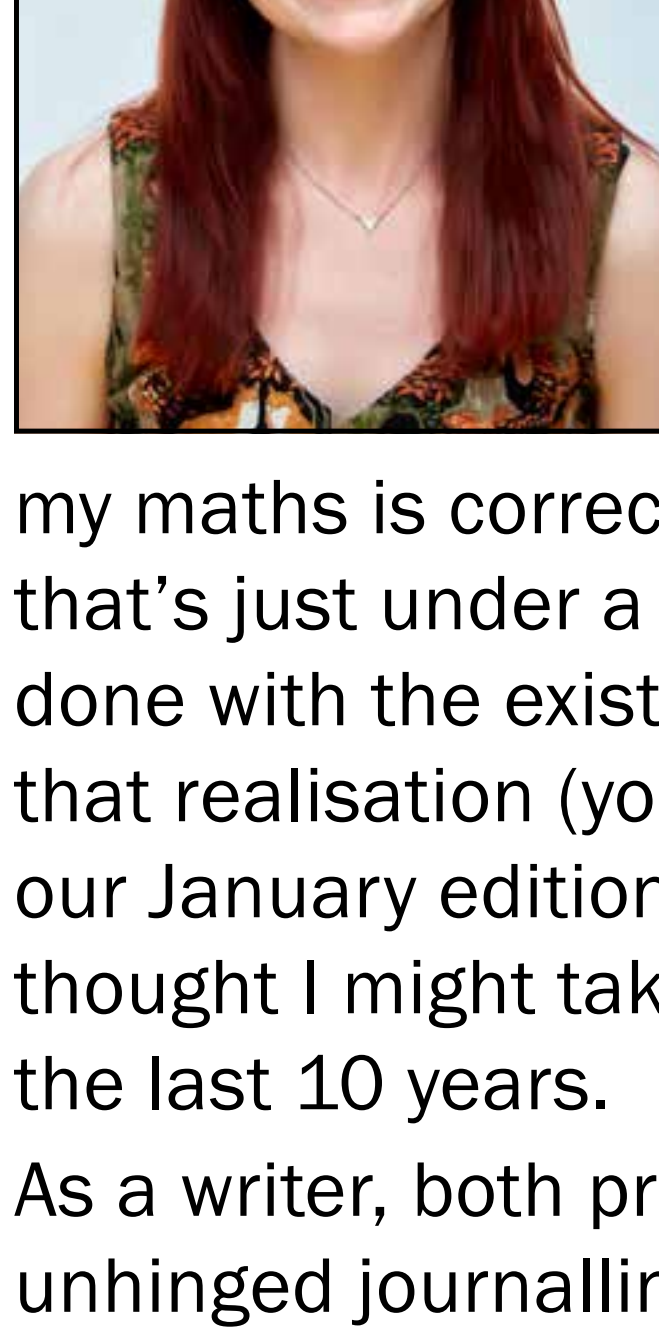
Sunday features Death and the Maiden, a live electronic band from Ōtepoti; The Blue Summer, who forge elements from the past and the future to make something 'not quite as good as either'; dynamic alt, industrial, electro rock band nutellamonk; and Worm Burden, the theremin, bass, and synth solo dark ambient project of Helena Erickson.

Viewpoint

A word from Maddi...

This life business

by **Madelaine Empson**



Last year, we were all chatting around the staff meeting room table when it suddenly occurred to us that our first issue of 2025 – the one you’re reading now – would mark a decade of *Regional News*. I’ve been here since we started, so if my maths is correct (which it rarely is), I believe that’s just under a third of my life. Now that I’m done with the existential crisis that unfurled from that realisation (you’re lucky I’m writing this for our January edition and not the December one), I thought I might take the opportunity to reflect on the last 10 years.

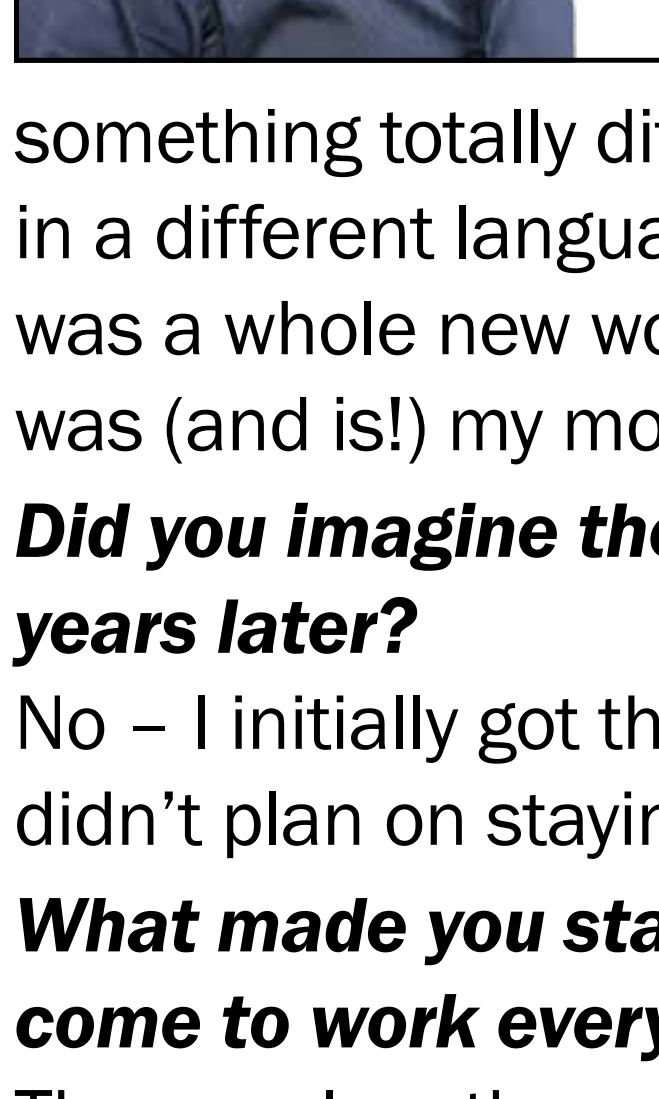
As a writer, both professionally and of the unhinged journalling variety, it never ceases to amaze me that we can distil down huge chunks of our lives into sentences. For instance, I can simply say I was “married and divorced”, which you’ll note is a partial sentence at best. Obviously, that chapter of my life encompassed so much more than those three words could capture: the sale of a home and purchase of the next, thousands spent with lawyers on asset (and cat) division (the cat remains intact), the unrelenting period where I thought I would never be okay again, and the little birds calling in the sunrise of a new beginning. If I could go back and tell past Maddi one thing? You can turn this into something beautiful. And you will. And I did. I’ve taken comfort in that every time something hard or sad has happened to me since. What a positive and profound aspect of ageing: we get better at weathering storms of grief, figuring out how to take care of ourselves through them and emerging from our chrysalises on the other side so much more capable of savouring the love we have in our lives.

In short, we get way better at this life business. That being said, I’m hoping when it comes time to reflect at the turn of *Regional News*’ next decade, I won’t be writing “more earth-shattering metamorphosis!”

A chat with Tung...

Heart and soul

by **Madelaine Empson**



As we celebrate a decade of *Regional News*, I wanted to ask, what made you first decide to apply here?

Working for print media was something I’d never thought or dreamed of doing. I used to be a teacher in Vietnam, and to be in a different country doing something totally different than what I had learned, in a different language than my mother tongue... It was a whole new world. So, I thought, why not? That was (and is!) my motto.

Did you imagine then that you’d still be here eight years later?

No – I initially got the job to secure my visa and didn’t plan on staying longer than that.

What made you stay and what inspires you to come to work every morning?

The people – they are like family to me. I came to New Zealand on my own, but they’ve made me feel like I’m never alone. I’ve had so much support and learned so many lessons that I wouldn’t have picked up at any university in the world.

What kind of lessons?

To never give up, and to never say die.

Let’s talk about the lowlights and highlights of your time at *Regional News*.

The first week I worked here, I experienced racism on some phone calls, which is still engraved in my mind. It was so surprising to me that New Zealand would have racism as such a multicultural country. But the highlights! If this chat could have 10 pages, that still wouldn’t be enough to list them all. I have built such great relationships with my clients – some I’ve been working with since my very first edition. I love picking up new slang and idioms too. Like how Frances always says ‘doolah’, or how ‘a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush’. I have also learned not to call girls chubby! In Vietnam, it means super cute! But it doesn’t mean that here...

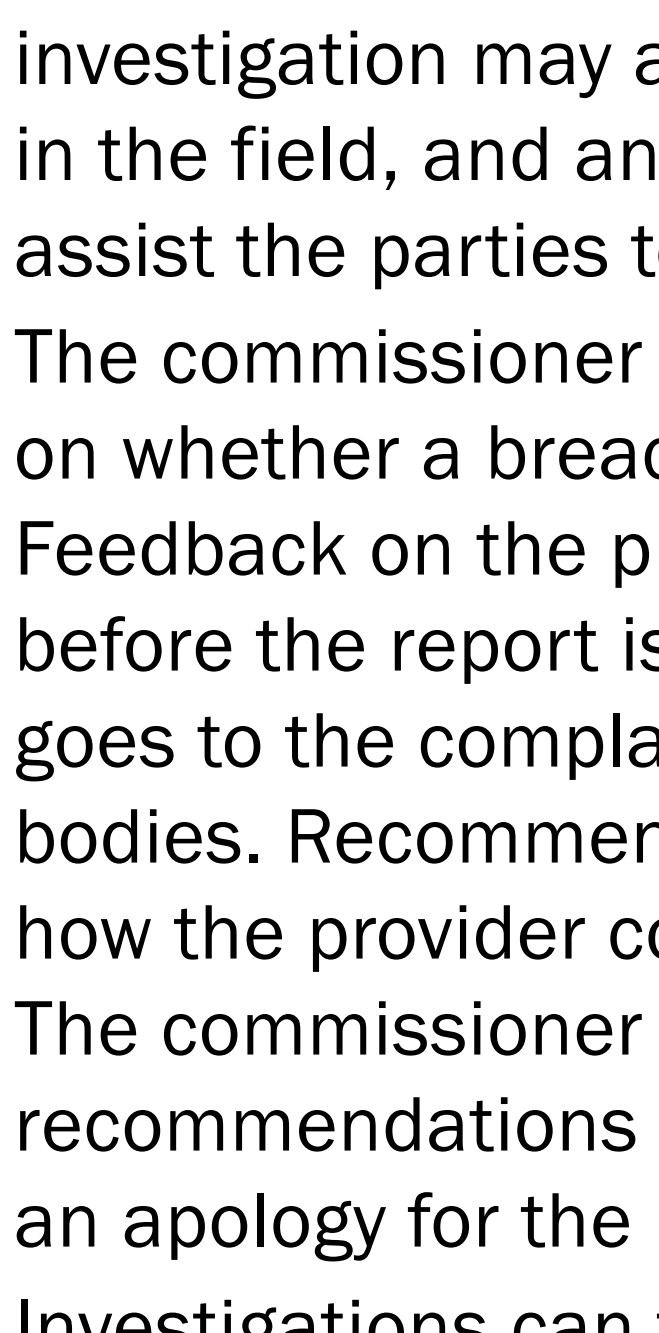
Whoops! Anything else you would like to say to your readers or clients?

Thank you so much for supporting our company and for supporting me personally over the years. We pour our heart and soul into this paper and are so grateful for you!

Advice from Alan

Health and Disability Commissioner

by **Alan Knowsley, consultant, Rainey Collins Lawyers**



As *Regional News* starts its second decade and I start my third year of columns, this edition also marks the start of a series on various bodies that the public can complain to about issues such as insurance, broadcasts, health treatment, and more. This first column is on the Health and Disability Commissioner.

The Health and Disability Commissioner looks into complaints about breaches of patient rights. A neutral investigation may be launched. The commissioner looks at all the evidence before reaching a conclusion and the complainant and provider can provide information to assist the investigation. Both may also be represented during the process.

An investigator will be assigned to look into the matter and gather information relating to the scope of the investigation. That may be narrower or wider than the complaint made. The investigation may also seek advice from experts in the field, and an advocate may be appointed to assist the parties to reach agreement.

The commissioner will issue a provisional opinion on whether a breach of the code has taken place. Feedback on the provisional opinion is sought before the report is finalised. The finalised report goes to the complainant and relevant registration bodies. Recommendations might be made on how the provider could improve their processes. The commissioner will follow up to make sure any recommendations made have been actioned, e.g. an apology for the breach.

Investigations can take a long time to be concluded due to complexity and the increasing number of complaints being made, which is putting pressure on the office. Delays can be very upsetting both for complainants and for the providers who receive a complaint.

The most serious breaches may be referred to the Director of Proceedings to see whether disciplinary action should be taken, or the matter lodged with the Human Rights Review Tribunal (HRRT). Unfortunately, the HRRT also has long timeframes, so it can be years before matters are resolved. If the Director of Proceedings does not take a claim to the HRRT, the complainant may take a claim there themselves.

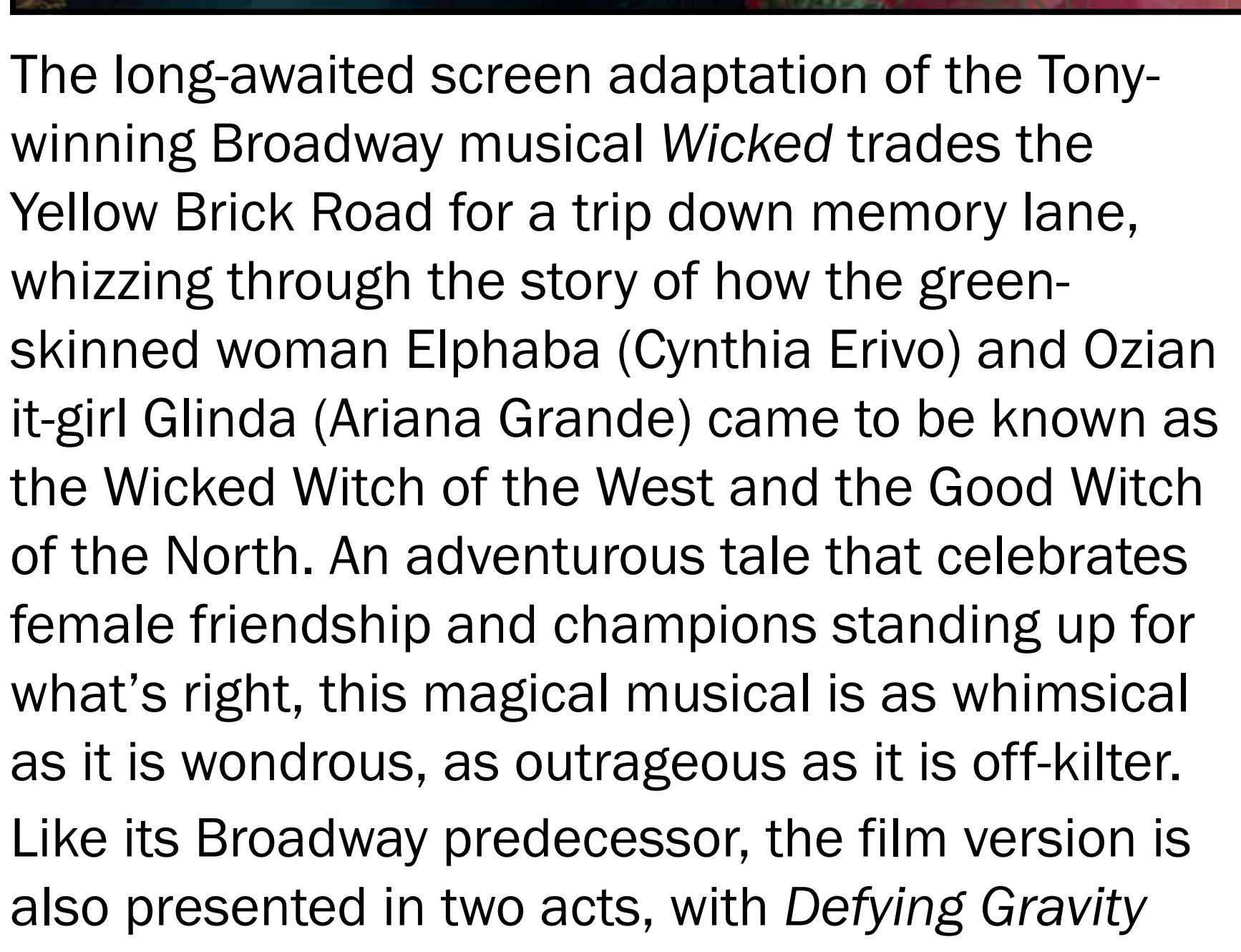
Wicked

160 minutes

PG

★ ★ ★ ☆

Reviewed by Alessia Belsito-Riera



The long-awaited screen adaptation of the Tony-winning Broadway musical *Wicked* trades the Yellow Brick Road for a trip down memory lane, whizzing through the story of how the green-skinned woman Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo) and Ozian it-girl Glinda (Ariana Grande) came to be known as the Wicked Witch of the West and the Good Witch of the North. An adventurous tale that celebrates female friendship and champions standing up for what’s right, this magical musical is as whimsical as it is wondrous, as outrageous as it is off-kilter. Like its Broadway predecessor, the film version is also presented in two acts, with *Defying Gravity* serving as a show-stopping ending to part one. In many ways, the screen adaptation remains faithful to the stage play, which in turn was based on Gregory Maguire’s 1995 novel that reimagines the characters from *The Wizard of Oz* books. Like the stage musical, Stephen Schwartz wrote the music and lyrics, while Winnie Holzman wrote the book, but the director’s seat is occupied by Jon M. Chu, who crafts a multicoloured, maximalist dreamscape alongside production designer Nathan Crowley and costume designer Paul Tazewell. Arm in arm with these wonderful world-building wizards, cinematographer Alice Brooks adds the icing on the emerald cake with her bold colour choices and sweeping shots. I just wish Myron Kerstein’s editing had featured slower cuts so we could take it all in better.

The story is an archetypal myth where good is pitted against evil, the comfort of the status quo juxtaposing the freedom of changing the world. *Wicked* does not reinvent the wheel in its saga of misunderstanding and alienation – even with its subplot of animal persecution. But the wheel isn’t broken, and with Erivo and Grande behind the reins it trots along nicely. Their excellent chemistry is made all the more enjoyable by their opposite vibes, while appearances from Michelle Yeoh as Madame Morrible and Jeff Goldblum as Oz add an extra layer of grandiosity. What begins as loathing between Elphaba and Glinda blossoms into love and mutual respect, and there is always room for more interactions that pass the Bechdel Test in Hollywood.

Fun and fantastical with more than a few Easter eggs for fans, *Wicked* is wickedociously, whimsifyingly wonderful.

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Whats on



24th Jan. Sisters in Country with Jodi Vaughan, Aly Cook, and Marian Burns: *Upper Hutt Cosmopolitan Club, Logan Street, Upper Hutt* – 7:30pm. Aussie chart-topping dynamic duo Jodi and Aly are legends in their own right with awards aplenty under their belts. When joined by Kiwi fiddle extraordinaire Marian, expect an exceptional evening of dancing and singing.



30th Jan. PAPER CITY, Grip-Tape, and The Rainfall: *Valhalla, Vivian Street, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. Covering a wide range of genres from sad pop to pop punk and rock, these Kiwi bands will turn up the heat this summer. Nelson-raised, Tāmaki Makaurau-based alt-pop trio PAPER CITY will be sharing the love with their new high-energy, reflective single *Bored*.



16th Jan. Vegan Milkshake & Film Fest: *Bhakti Lounge Wellington, Vivian Street, Te Aro* – 6:15pm. Settle in with your choice of an amazing plant-based milkshake for a cinematic journey into inspiring short documentaries and clips that explore sound's impact – from its scientific influence to its role in film and its healing potential.



22nd Jan. C.W. Stoneking: *San Fran, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. The critically acclaimed Aussie American singer and musician brings his signature sound to Wellington. Inspired by New Orleans brass and drums, traditional African beats, Caribbean percussion, early 20th century blues, jazz, and American folk, gospel, and more, this concert will have you foot stomping and toe tapping.

Whats on

Wairarapa

18th Jan. Hops in the Vines: *Matahiwi Estate, Paierau Road, Masterton* – 12pm. Sip beers and wines amongst the vines of a picturesque vineyard decked out with comfy furniture and lawn games, and accompanied by a chill, sun-soaked music lineup.

19th Jan. Toast Martinborough 2025: *Various locations in Martinborough* – 11am. Sample locally crafted wines and homegrown produce while enjoying the beautiful landscape and making unforgettable memories.

Events

22nd Jan. Great Big Waterfront Clean-Up: *Te Waka Huia o Ngā Taonga Tuku Iho Wellington Museum, Jervois Quay, Wellington Waterfront* – 12pm. Show the city some love by taking part in a waterfront clean-up to help keep waste out of the harbour.

25th Jan. Robbie Burns Night: *The Thistle Inn, Mulgrave Street, Thorndon* – 6:00pm. Immerse yourself in a Scottish experience with a specially crafted set menu, poetry readings, and traditional melodies from the Dunwoffin Ceilidh Band.

25th-26th Jan. Waikanae Lions Garden Trail 2025: *Various locations and times in Waikanae.* Spend a relaxing summer weekend touring 12 beautiful gardens on the Kapiti Coast.

26th Jan. Ōtaki Kids Market: *Ōtaki Markets, Main Highway, Ōtaki* – 10am. Tamariki and rangatahi aged five to 19 run and manage their own stalls chocka with fun creations.

1st Feb. Newtown Record Fair: *Newtown Community Centre, Colombo Street, Newtown* – 11am. Find musical delights in many formats, brought to Newtown by vendors from across the motu.

1st Feb. Multicultural Festival in Celebration of Chinese New Year Gala Performance: *Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Cable Street, Wellington Waterfront* – 11am. Enjoy an enchanting lineup of diverse cultural performances filled with colour and vitality.

Music

16th Jan. Oscar LaDell: *The Rogue and Vagabond, Garrett Street, Te Aro* – 9pm. Oscar LaDell returns to Aotearoa to celebrate the release of his latest EP *No Blue*.

17th-20th Jan. Summer Concert Series: *Adventure Park, Whitby, Porirua* – 6pm. Make the most of the late summer evenings by enjoying local bands performing all kinds of genres out in nature.

18th Jan. Skram: The Neverending Cabaret: *San Fran, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. In this epic fusion of live music, theatrical flair, and whimsical performance, Skram delivers their mesmerising new album.

19th Jan. George FM Summer Tour: *Southern Cross Garden Bar Restaurant, Abel Smith Street, Te Aro* – 2pm. Over 35 of your favourite George FM DJs and some internationals descend on Wellington along their summer tour.

19th Jan. Wellington Skanniversary: *San Fran, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 4pm. The Offbeats, Battle-Ska Galactica, Dimestore Skanks, Ska Pai, Moisty Atsushi, DJ SistaMatik, and Skaman Selecta come together to celebrate the genre.

21st Jan. Everclear: *San Fran, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 7:30pm. Catch one of the leading alternative rock bands to emerge from the 90s for their Pōneke show.

25th Jan. Fat Freddy's Drop: *Brewtown, Blenheim Street, Upper Hutt* – 4pm. Listen to Fat Freddy's new album alongside iconic tunes from The Teskey Brothers, Coterie, Rubi Du, and TOI.

31st Jan. Heresiarch, Decimation Hammer, and Insidious Retch: *Valhalla, Vivian Street, Te Aro* – 8:30pm. Three death metal groups collide on one of Wellington's hardest rocking stages.

1st Feb. SIX60: *Brewtown, Blenheim Street, Upper Hutt* – 4pm. New Zealand's biggest band comes to Wellington along their *Grassroots City Edition Tour*. Catch them in this raw and intimate setting.

Performance

15th, 16th, 17th Jan. Dr Seuss's The Cat in the Hat – Live on Stage! *Carterton events Centre, Carterton; Lower Hutt Events Centre, Lower Hutt; Southward Theatre, Paraparaumu* – 10:30am & 1pm; 11am & 2pm; 10:30am & 1pm. This lively adaptation of the classic children's book will delight young and old alike.

18th Jan. Saturday Laughs with Abby Howells and Patch Lambert: *The Fringe Bar, Allen Street, Te Aro* – 8pm. MC Patch Lambert whips up one heck of a live show featuring special guest Abby Howells.

25th Jan. The Disco Ball – Drag to Make Your Head Spin: *Ivy Bar and Cabaret, Cuba Street, Te Aro* – 10pm. Boogie down and shake your groove thang at a drag show overflowing with glitz, glam, and glitter.

25th Jan-23rd Feb. Hope: *Circa Theatre, Taranaki Street, Wellington Waterfront* – various times. In a near future, a controversial government bill bars people with terminal illnesses from receiving anything but pain management in their final year of life.

Sport

17th Jan. Inaugural Wellington Cup Golf Tournament: *Royal Wellington Golf Club, Golf Road, Upper Hutt* – 10am. This highly competitive event features 18 holes of golf at one of the finest courses in New Zealand.

19th Jan. Ninja A-League – Wellington Phoenix v Newcastle Jets: *Trust Porirua Park, Mungavin Avenue, Porirua* – 3pm. The Phoenix women's football team is set to soar against the Newcastle Jets in a clash of pride, skill, and determination.

25th-26th Jan. The Z Manu World Champs: *Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre, Kilbirnie Crescent, Kilbirnie* – 10am. Show Pōneke your best creative dive bomb for a chance to qualify for the national competition.

26th Jan. Whānau Ride Adventure: *Tunnel Gully Recreation Area, Pakuratahi Forest, Upper Hutt* – 10am. Ride through pine forests, native bush, and fresh mountain streams in this recreational wonderland that's fun for the whole family.

29th Jan. ACESports Presents: Team Ledger Harcourts Capital Classic: *Newtown Park, Roy Street, Newtown* – 5:30pm. Take part in Wellington's track and field event or come watch international and local athletes at the top of their game.

Galleries

Until 20th Jan. The Art of Banksy: *Tākina Wellington Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wakefield Street, Te Aro.* Art, culture, and politics collide when a blockbuster exhibition of Banksy's works descends on the capital.

Until 26th Jan. Points of No Return – Liana Leiataua: *Pātaka Art + Museum, Parumoana Street, Porirua.* Exploring the concept of gafa/whakapapa, this exhibition reflects on pivotal points of change related to life experiences and the interconnectedness of all things.

Until 1st Mar. Meditations: *National Library of New Zealand, Molesworth Street, Te Aro.* The final City Gallery Te Whare Toi exhibition in its temporary location at the National Library presents creative practice as a dynamic archive, an active space of knowledge transmission, and collective imaginations.

Until 16th Mar. Background Matters: Portraiture and Place in Aotearoa New Zealand: *New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pūkenga Whakaata, Lady Elizabeth Lane, Wellington Waterfront.* *Background Matters* asks what can be revealed when we view the sitter of a portrait in the expanded field of their surroundings.

17th Jan-27th Apr. Vivienne Westwood & Jewellery: *Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Cable Street, Wellington Waterfront.* Explore over 550 pieces of jewellery and 15 complete archival ensembles by acclaimed British fashion designer, punk icon, and activist Vivienne Westwood.

Festivals

Until 27th Jan. Garden's Magic: *Botanic Garden Ki Paekākā, Glenmore Street, Thorndon* – various times. Kids' activities, the beloved concert series, a light display, and all kinds of fun return to Wellington for this summer festival.

16th-20th Jan. Festival of Pots and Garden Art 2025: *Anam Cara Gardens, Rangiorua Road, Ōtaki Beach* – 10am. This vibrant event celebrates pottery and garden art, providing a platform for both emerging and established artists to showcase their work and engage with the community.

17th-19th Jan. Gathering Shadows: *Valhalla, Vivian Street, Te Aro* – various times. Join the shenanigans at Aotearoa's fifth annual darkwave, goth, and industrial music festival.

25th Jan. Gindulgence Wellington: *Frank Kitts Park, Jervois Quay, Wellington Waterfront* – 12pm. A fabulous lineup of 20 New Zealand distillers showcase their gins in a weekend of pure indulgence.

For your inclusion in the what's on listings email: whatson@regionalnews.kiwi. Close off for the next issue's listings is noon Tuesday 21 January.

To the best of our knowledge, the information provided to us regarding the above events was correct at the time of press. Our company accepts no liability for events postponed, cancelled, sold out, or otherwise adapted.

Regional News
Connecting Wellington

Christmas Countdown	Kurs Gallery \$100: Carleen Needham - Thorndon Tickadeebo \$100: Geoff Young & Tracey Reedy - Hatatai	Thai Chef \$100: Ray Enhill - Morningson Fruit Guys \$100: Maree Crighton - Lower Hutt	The Capricorn Spirit \$100: Diane Davern - Johnsonville Caffeinated Dragon \$100: S Lynch - Lower Hutt
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Regional News

Eyes on Wellington

We are expanding our readership!

Pick us up from over 100 locations!

From January 2025 we will no longer home deliver and be a pick-up only publication.

We are environmentally conscious here at *Regional News* and while we do already print with vegetable ink on newspaper paper – both recyclable and sustainable – we are finding that more and more people are choosing to read us online and fewer want printed material in their letterboxes. We have decided to meet the needs of our readers and advertisers by creating a subscription model and increasing our pick-up points across Greater Wellington and beyond.

You can now pick *Regional News* up from more than 100 locations, which is a 25 percent increase on what we were previously able to offer. In the past, we couldn't keep up with the demand, with thousands of papers flying out of the

stands each fortnight. We used to run out of copies to refill these stands with and would hear from readers who were disappointed to have missed out. Now, we're diverting our stock where it's most wanted to ensure that every copy picked up is read and enjoyed.

Additionally, we have reworked our website to make *Regional News* much easier to read on your smartphone. Head to www.regionalnews.kiwi to give it a go! Here, you can now subscribe to get the paper direct to your inbox free, or sign up to have each issue mailed to you for just the cost of postage.

We are so excited about these changes and hope to be gracing your emails soon – pick us up at a hotspot today or subscribe and we'll see you there!

Available from pick-up points at:



Four Square: Kelburn, Seatoun, Raumati, Paraparaumu, Waikanae, Bulls



New World: **Wellington** – Newtown, Thorndon, Chaffers, Karori, Newlands, Churton Park, Tawa, Whitby, **Hutt** – Lower Hutt, Silverstream, **Kapiti** – Paraparaumu, Waikanae, **Wairarapa** – Carterton, Masterton, **Manawatū** – Feilding

Libraries: **Wellington** – Brooklyn Library, Miramar Library, Ruth Gotlieb (Kilbirnie) Library, Newtown Library, Johnsonville Library, Mervyn Kemp (Tawa) Library, Porirua City Centre Library, **Hutt** – Petone Library, Lower Hutt Library, Upper Hutt Library, **Wairarapa** – Carterton Library, Masterton District Library, **Manawatū** – Palmerston North City Library, Manawatū Community Hub Libraries

Wellington Central: FreshChoice Cuba Street, Cuba St Superette, Unichem Cuba Mall Pharmacy, J & M Fastfood, Wellington Museum of City and Sea, Holey Moley Golf Club (Willis Lane), Wellington Railway Station

Karori: Karori Park Store, Marsden Village

Kelburn: Paradise Seafoods, Cable Car Museum

Northland: Zhou's Kitchen

Brooklyn: Nanking Takeaways, Penthouse Cinema and Café

Island Bay: Bay's Takeaway, Empire Cinema and Eatery, Island Bay Video

Kilbirnie: Hey George Café, Baycourt, Buba Café, Forever Young Hairdressing

Lyall Bay: Chipmunks Playland and Café

Miramar: Strathmore Bakery & Café

Petone: Bob Scott Retirement Village, Bin Inn, Peaches and Cream

Johnsonville: Twiglands Garden Centre, Johnsonville Shopping Centre

Porirua: Te Rauparaha Arena and Aquatic Centre

Aotea: Sushil's Musclechef Kitchen and Café

Paremata: The Bottle-O Mana

Plimmerton: Plimmerton Village Grocery

Kapiti: Coastlands Aquatic Centre, Kapiti Jewellery Design and Manufacturers, The Bookshelf

Featherston: FreshChoice Featherston, Loco Coffee and Books, C'est Cheese, Pioneer Bakery and Coffee 2 go

Greytown: FreshChoice Greytown, Corner Café, The French Baker, The Lolly Jar, Greyfriars Motel, ASURE Oak Estate Motor Lodge, FreshChoice Greytown

Martinborough: Martinborough isite Visitor Information Centre, Scotty's Meats

Carterton: Wild Oats Bakery Deli and Café, Almo's Café, Kāinga Eatery, Carterton Holiday Park

Masterton: Café Strada, Hospital Food Market, Noodle Canteen, Entice Café, Iberia Café, Masterton Railway Station, Wairarapa Masonic Village, BK's Chardonnay Motor Lodge, Kandahar Retirement Village, Ultimate Care Lansdowne Court, Lyndale Care, Masterton isite Visitor Information Centre

Manawatū: Ohakea Café Manawatū, Bulls BP