

THIS WEEK
4 page issue!

Tairua Pauanui The Local Advertiser



WHAT'S YOUR SCORE?
Use the letters to make 4+ letter words

L	P	E
R	T	A
P	E	U

Beat Barry's 30.
Words must contain the middle letter. Plurals OK if 's' is in the grid.
Barry's answers online, under "issues".

7th May 2025 Website: www.tairuaadvertiser.nz Phone: +64 7 864 8170 Email: tairua.advertiser@xtra.co.nz Volume 25 Number 18

Pepe Bridge information session draws good local crowd

The public gathering called by Tairua Residents and Ratepayers Association and hosted by NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) on Wednesday last week to share information regarding the replacement of Pepe Bridge was well-attended. The session drew concerned, interested and curious locals, giving all attendees the opportunity to be heard.

Prior to the gathering, a relaxed roll-up affair hosted by NZTA staff, rumours had been starting to circulate that the replacement project would entail the removal of the old structure and then the

installation of the new, leaving a long period where the town would be cut in half with no through-access.

Categorically, this will not be the case. The project parameters include maintaining traffic flow throughout. In discussing this matter, it was made clear that there could be times when traffic is stopped to allow for certain installation procedures but it would be temporary and timed to be least inconvenient for road users. Advance warning of such events would be given. Phew!!

The information event

was an opportunity to hear about and make comment on the broad concept plan. Among the images produced for discussion, one showed a two lane bridge with a cycle and pedestrian lane adjoined. The critical issue around the final design and build is the Pepe Road intersection. The diagram showed a pedestrian crossing over the highway to provide a safe and controlled crossing point. Overheard discussion mainly focussed on what a nightmare it could be for vehicles to deal with the pedestrian crossing and the two-way traffic. Staffers had several suggestions on the subject, of which a turn-left-only scenario made the best sense in my view.

Feedback was solicited

from and provided by those attending on aspects of the bridge replacement and wider roading issues on the Peninsula, although my suggestion that the Kopu-Hikua Road be returned to 100kph status gained no traction, with the traffic safety statistics identifying this section of SH25 as one of the most dangerous for fatal accidents.

The upshot of the event was that information will be made available as soon as decisions are made regarding each step of the replacement process. If you wish to be kept up-to-date you can register to receive the informative emails by visiting www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/pepe-stream-bridge-replacement.

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HOURS (subject to change): Monday - Friday 9.30-5. Saturday 9.30-12.30. Sunday & Public holidays Closed.

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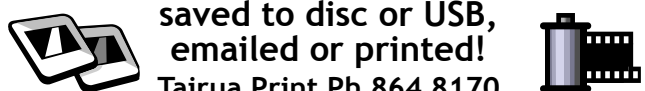
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The hunt is on!

This year, Hikuai School's Hunting Competition fundraiser will take place over the weekend of 13-15 June. It is a major fundraiser for the School and provides extra learning resources and opportunities for the students that would not normally be covered by Ministry funding.

Since its inception in 2019 the event has grown in popularity and produced substantial financial support for the School. Organisers will be hoping for another great turnout this year! Competition entry ticket sales generate the income, and you don't have to be a hunter to be in to win prizes. You just have to purchase a ticket. Tickets cost \$50 for adults and \$15 for children (12yrs and under) and includes entry to the after-hunt banquet! The organisers have already secured a great prize pool for the event, totalling around \$10,000! The generosity of the sponsors means that all proceeds go straight to Hikuai School.

This year the competition

is offering the following categories:

Adults sections: Heaviest Boar, Average Weight, Best Hooks, Most Possums, Mystery Weight Boar, Heaviest Snapper, Mystery Weight Snapper, and Ladies Boar.

Kids section: Possums, Rabbits, Magpies, Hares, Snapper, and Mystery Weight Snapper.

Entries close at midnight on Wednesday 11 June and hunting starts at 12.01am on Friday 13 June. The event culminates in a family fun day on Sunday 15 June, including raffles, competition merchandise, games, entertainment, prize-giving and a free feast for all! You can keep up to date with prizes, information and merchandise on the Facebook Page (Hikuai School Hunting Comp) and Instagram page (hikuai.school.hunting.comp). For further info you can contact event organisers, Kristy on 027 841 4004 or Stacey on 027 782 2394.



Photo: www.facebook.com

This possum was proudly presented in last year's competition!

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