

THIS WEEK
4 page issue!

Tairua Pauanui The Local Advertiser



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

N	I	O
A	F	T
M	E	S

Beat Barry's 12.
Words must contain the middle letter. Plurals OK if 's' is in the grid.
Barry's answers online, under "issues".

5th March 2025

Website: www.tairuaadvertiser.nz
Phone: +64 7 864 8170 Email: tairua.advertiser@xtra.co.nz

Volume 25 Number 9

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Visitor numbers up

As we head into Autumn with the expectation that our tourist numbers, and likely income, will decrease, the release of Statistics NZ data on visitor numbers from 2024 is encouraging.

The recent report on Visitor Arrivals from the official data agency of the country showed that visitor numbers were up by 12 percent in the year from December 2023 to December 2024. Australia led this increase, followed by China, then the USA. Interestingly, the arrivals from the US reached a record high with over 1 in 10 of all visitors coming from the States, according to Sarah Drake, statistics spokesperson.

One of the questions on the arrival paperwork completed

by all people entering the country pertains to the reason for their travel here. The data showed an increase of 21 percent for people listing "holiday" as the main purpose of their travel. The second most popular purpose was "visiting friends and relatives".

Tourism NZ, whose job it is to promote the country to the globe, says of the Season, "Even after summer officially ends in February, autumn here serves up some of the best weather of the year, boasting plenty of peaceful, sunny days."

Let's also take this as encouragement that our visitor numbers might remain steady for a little longer, despite Summer's end.

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Advertising Deadlines **SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE SPACE**: All Boxed & Unboxed ads Friday 5pm.
HOURS (subject to change): Monday - Friday 9.30-5. Saturday 9.30-12.30. Sunday & Public holidays Closed.

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PUBLIC NOTICES



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Tairua Hall Annexe
DURING SCHOOL TERM

PHONE 864 8762
PS. NICO & MARLENE PRINSLOO

Short & Sweet

Mercury Bay Art Es-cape is on this week-end, both Saturday the 8th and Sunday the 9th. This annual event sees local artists open their studios to the public giving us a wonderful opportunity to speak with the creatives and purchase from them directly. Visit www.mercurybay-artescape.com for the list of participants and the map showing their locations.

Pauanui's local grocery store has undergone a change in layout, design and name! At the end of February, the store changed from SuperValue to Pauanui Fresh Choice. Owners, Ravi and Bhavika, welcomed the fresh makeover and look forward to continuing their support of local community groups, as well as providing more fresh and local products in-store.

Recently, 33 Japanese students were hosted in Pauanui and Tairua. You may have spotted them out and about learning about our area, and practising their English. Organiser, Rowan Anderson, reports that the group had a very memorable experience, enjoying the many summer activities that make our place special. This programme is an annual one made successful through the commitment of host families in our communities. If you are interested in hosting, contact Rowan on 027 472 4336. The next class arrives in February 2026.

Repco Beach Hop is three weeks away. This year, the Hop celebrates 25 years having been established in 2000. Wednesday 26 March to Sunday 30 March will bring a programme of all things hot rod (and more), and all things rock and roll, to our area. Included in the programme this year is a visit to Pauanui.

**'Ello, 'ello, 'ello
A word from our local constabulary**

Kia Ora Koutou,

You may have noticed us out and about in our new patrol vehicle. Our new Mitsubishi Triton, equipped with a snorkel, will give us more capabilities when it comes to off-roading and getting through some flood waters. This has been on the cards for a while, so we have welcomed our long-awaited rural vehicle!

Two vehicles were impounded after two separate incidents where drivers made decisions to drive erratically. One Pauanui driver decided to operate a vehicle causing sustained loss of traction in the township. Another driver, a Tairua resident, decided to go for an early morning Hoon which ended with a damaged wheel after he crashed into the curb. Later that day, thanks to eagle-eyed witnesses, we were able to ascertain a search warrant to seize the vehicle. Both vehicles were impounded for 28 days, and one driver received a \$600 fine for operating a motor vehicle

in a manner likely to cause annoyance.

A Pauanui resident was caught drink driving after crashing his vehicle. After blowing almost 3 times the legal limit his license was also suspended for 28 days leading up to his court appearance.

Travelling on Motuhoa road up Paku, a driver failed to drive within the lane and drove off the edge of the road, subsequently crashing onto the property below. Fortunately, no one was injured and the dwelling below was narrowly missed.

Summarising February, it would be fair to say it has been vehicle related one way or another, so please be vigilant when behind the wheel, drive sober, keep off your phone, wear your seatbelt and report any unsafe driving behaviour.

**Stay Safe
Nga mihi
Tim & Dylan, Tairua Police**

PUBLIC NOTICES

Walk **TAIRUA**

We want everyone to enjoy our great local walks. If you see any damage to tracks please report it to TCDC for action. Call Customer Services on 07 868 0200 to lodge a Request for Service or visit the website www.tcdc.govt.nz/Contact-Us/Request-for-Service. Record the number you are given so you can follow up on your request. *Walk Tairua appreciates your support!*

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Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow?

Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow? In particular, Mary, how are your fruit trees doing? Well, if your fruit trees are anything like ours, they promise much but deliver little! The reason seems to be the dreaded Guava Moth (*Coscinoptycha improbana*).

The Guava Moth is a small speckled black and white moth with a wingspan of approximately 15mm (finger nail size). This pest damages a wide range of fruit including feijoas, guavas, macadamia nuts, stone fruit and citrus. Female moths lay their eggs on the fruit, after hatching the larvae burrow into the flesh, causing significant damage and loss. And Guava Moth can breed all year round!

So, after waiting patiently for the feijoas to form and fatten, taking great care not to knock them off when mowing, you can grasp the magnitude of my disappointment when they finally reach the size and colour for eating only to find a tell-

tale black needle hole in the skin, signalling the presence of the larvae inside. Bruised and otherwise brutalised they are only suitable for the food rubbish bin, not even the compost heap!

If you think you are suffering at the hands (wings?) of the Guava Moth you might like to try preventing the Moth from laying its eggs on your fruit by draping suitable netting over your trees, pinning it to the ground. Alternatively, you can cut the net into sections and wrap it around the fruit. Wait of course until after flowering before covering the trees, to allow pollination. Another effective method of control is to use a Guava Moth trap. In addition, spray with a product like GroSafe BioNeem as the fruit starts to form.

I'd like to think that we can beat this little pest and have our gardens, and trees, back growing "with silver bells and cockle shells and pretty maids all in a row"!



Feijoas showing damage from guava moth infestation.

Photo: www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

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