

WESTERN Community News

YOUR PEOPLE ~ YOUR PAPER

Issue 138 (Mahuru / September 2025)

Delivered to over 19,000 homes throughout Hamilton West



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HAMILTON CITY COUNCIL MAYORAL CANDIDATES

RACHEL KARALUS



I'm standing for mayor to strengthen Hamilton's foundations—financial, public and community. That means protecting ratepayer investment, supporting infrastructure that keeps pace with growth, and making decisions that serve our city well beyond election cycles. I bring leadership that's clear, experienced, and focused on long-term value.

In the West, where growth is accelerating and infrastructure must keep up, I make decisions that serve generations. I'm here to shape Hamilton's future with you—through trust, clarity, and shared purpose.

Head for Detail. Heart for Hamilton.

MARIA HUATA



All of my seven siblings and I were born and bred in the Waikato and are all graduates of the University of Waikato. Following in the footsteps of our parents our background is steeped in education and Te Ao Maori.

As a Mama of eight and grandmother I believe that for a community to be well, we must focus on the basics in life, clean water, food security and a safe place to live. Only then can a city truly thrive.

The Māori proverb says, "Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari taku toa he toa takitini".

My strength is not of one, it is of many.

Let us work, solve, grow, evolve and move forward together.

JACK GIEN



My vision & role is to listen, to lead with integrity so our city can thrive. I will focus on partnership and teamwork with collaboration.

1. Accountability and transparency, decisions are to be honest and open.
2. Listening and Consultation, I will listen first making space for your ideas.
3. Stewardship and resources every dollar must serve the people wisely and fairly.
4. Equity and Inclusion. We must ensure all people have equal access to opportunity and dignity. At the heart of all this is partnership.

Mayors office with councilors and Staff are one team serving the same community. Creative energies and partnerships uniting Hamilton with Jack Gielen.

JOHN MCDONALD



My vision for Hamilton is a simple city rather than a "Smart City". It would be a future where people can freely move around Hamilton on smooth, widely-adaptable, and functional roads and paths. It would be a City without intrusive, involuntary surveillance trying to monitor and manage people.

Hamilton City Council would assess every decision according to the Bill of Rights. Council would respect the privacy and self-determination rights of people. The City Council would engage in genuine consultation. Council staff would provide objective and balanced information. Council would deliver robust and functional infrastructure that meets the community's actual needs.

TIM MACINDOE



Hamilton ratepayers face rates doubling over a 5-year period. Many are feeling the pain. Renters are also being squeezed as landlords pass on the increases to tenants. Many west Hamilton suburbs have been neglected in recent years as most funding and development has gone into the north-east. Greater balance is needed, including in maintenance of parks, roads and footpaths. Cracks, potholes and disintegrating speed bumps all cause damage to vehicles and are a danger to cyclists, mobility scooter users and pedestrians.

I seek your support to lead a council that will deliver core services cheaper and efficiently, cut wasteful spending, stop ruining our roads, and tackle Hamilton's huge debt – currently well over \$1 billion. We can't carry on like this.

ROMA TUPAEA-WARREN



Family man, fifth generation farmer and retired constitution treaty lawyer, and Founder of the emerging PANPAC (Pan Asia and Pacific Area Commonwealth) Bank and Waikato stock exchange.

As Mayor, he'll supergrow our City's economy and our personal wealth by -

1. Reconstituting "Hamilton City" as a Unitary Authority.
2. Reimagining Hamilton as "THE" Finance Investment Gold Bullion Asset Management Corporate Retail Banking Epi-Centre of Aotearoa and PANPAC.
3. Relocating New Zealand's Currency Minting Services to Hamilton from Canada.
4. Establishing Hamilton's PANPAC Bank as NZ's Premier Finance KiwiSaver KiwiCreditCard Retail Bank and supplier-distributor of currency nationwide.
5. Endowing Hamiltonians as PANPAC BANK shareowners.

SARAH THOMSON



I'm standing for mayor for a thriving city — focused on long-term cost savings, not short-sighted cuts.

I've served as a West Ward councillor for six years, chair the city's growth committee, and previously worked as a community lawyer.

A top priority will be to collaborate with other councils to deliver services together to reduce duplication and save money. I'll protect the essential community services that make our city a great place to live, including our libraries, pools, playgrounds and parks.

ROGER STRATFORD



I grew up in Fairfield. I decided to settle in Hamilton because it has unfulfilled potential. We have world-class assets. The mayor is not just a nationwide leader, he is a world leader. We do not want a National leader.

I form part of an incoming wave of centre-Left politicians around the world. Wedged in between the modern and post-modern, I do my own groceries, connecting directly with the everyday community.

Decisions only appear difficult if you fall for the myth of uncertainty. There is no uncertainty that we need to address climate change, that we need universal in-lane bus stops and that growth needs to be reined in. Council says we can't do these things: I say we must.

LILY CARRINGTON



Vote Lily Carrington, Animal Justice Party – People. Animals. Environment.

We're fighting for: funded desexing of dogs and cats, honoring Te Tiriti, better public transport (plus animals allowed onboard), community gardens and native planting, endorsing the Plant Based Treaty and implementing a plant-based food strategy (for healthy accessible food and a healthy planet for future generations), and low rates with efficient governance.

Let's build a city grounded in compassion, where all of us can thrive - humans, animals and Te Taiao.

RUDI DU PLOOY



I am Rudi du Plooy, inspired by my wife Barbara and guided by faith. I am running for Mayor of Hamilton to deliver effective, efficient, and responsible leadership.

With eight years as a Johannesburg Councillor, managing a metropolis 30 times Hamilton's size, I bring expertise to curb wasteful spending, halt sizable rate increases, and stop the proposed water CCO, preventing water meters. My innovative water conservation plan and 10-year Hamilton Lake project will make our city shine.

Prioritizing strategic cycle lane redesign and safe walkways for seniors, mobility scooters, and families, Let's end the road cone madness and speed humps.

DAVE TAYLOR



It's my ambition to see a thriving Kirikiriroa Hamilton - a creative and culturally exciting hub that draws in students, businesses, families, and tourists. My priorities include: future-proofing our aging infrastructure to ensure long-term performance and climate resilience; supporting multi-modal transport to reduce traffic congestion and give choice as to how we get around; and investing in local community projects and events to support our local identity and drive tourism to our centre.

I will use my skills as a strategic advisor and consultant, and from working with leadership teams like the One Victoria Trust (The Meteor Theatre), to drive meaningful change to our city.

GUY TEMONI-SYME



My name is Guy Temoni-Syme.

I am married with children and work as a Finance Manager in Hamilton. Rates are a major issue. I propose a 10% rebate for on-time payments to reduce pressure on responsible ratepayers.

I support Māori Wards and stronger partnerships with iwi and all cultures. Hamilton must celebrate diversity while promoting community wellbeing.

My priorities are fair rates, safer streets, addressing crime and begging, and building stronger community

HAMILTON WEST WARD GENERAL CANDIDATES

SARAH THOMSON



I'm proud to have served as a West Ward councillor for the last six years, and chair our city's growth committee. I was previously a community lawyer. A top priority will be leading progress on shared services with other councils, to reduce duplication and reduce costs. I'm committed to protecting essential community services that make our city a great place to live, including our libraries, pools and parks.

MARK FLYGER



With over 24 years as CFO of Modern Transport Group and decades of financial experience across New Zealand, Australia, and the UK, I bring strong fiscal expertise to Council. I co-own Biddy Mulligans, giving me real insight into the challenges central city businesses face. My background includes roles at IRD, Deloitte, and Arthur Young. Having worked with Council for over 20 years, I'm committed to tough, realistic budgeting, accountability, and building a well-managed city we can be proud of.

EMMA PIKE



I was born in Waikato and studied Business at Wintec. I've worked at Waikato Regional Council and Parliamentary Services, which gave me a strong understanding of how decisions affect our communities. Since being elected a Hamilton City Councillor in 2022, I've served as Deputy Chair of Waikato Civil Defence Joint Committee, Deputy Chair of Community Grants, and Chair of Traffic, and Dog Control Hearings. I'm passionate about smarter spending and being a strong local voice for Kirikiriroa.

DAVE TAYLOR



It's my ambition to see a thriving Kirikiriroa Hamilton - a creative and culturally exciting hub that draws in students, businesses, families, and tourists. My priorities include: future-proofing our aging infrastructure to ensure long-term performance and climate resilience; supporting multi-modal transport to reduce traffic congestion and give choice as to how we get around; and investing in local community projects and events to support our local identity and drive tourism to our Centre.

PAUL ALFORQUE



One of our unique Hamiltonian Kiwi, a former professor, a Doctor of Jurisprudence, had a Master of Laws from Victoria University of Wellington, a dedicated professional, a corporate lawyer who knows well how to draft, analyse, and implement policies for the welfare of everyone. Vote for him, he is more than competent in structuring best decision-making in the Council for the West Ward.

GRAEME MEAD



I'm Graeme Mead, a long-time Hamilton resident with a passion for community and common-sense decision making. With strong business experience and years of involvement in local community work, I want to ensure Hamilton grows in a way that benefits everyone. I believe in financial transparency, supporting sport, arts, and recreation, and focusing on real needs rather than unnecessary spending. I'm standing as an independent voice to represent people honestly and deliver practical results for our city.

MATTHEW BEVERIDGE



I am focused on long-term solutions, not short-term cuts. I'm proud to call Hamilton home, and want the city to be affordable, accessible, and genuinely liveable for everyone. That means protecting essential services, investing in infrastructure, and planning for growth responsibly. It also means working with communities every step of the way, and attending all meetings and briefings. I'm not here to make a name for myself, I'm here to help make Hamilton a liveable city for all.

NIDHITA GOSAI



I'm Nidhita Gosai, standing for Hamilton West Ward with ACT Local. As a career Chemical Engineer, I bring strong technical expertise and problem-solving skills. I'm committed to cutting wasteful council spending, protecting ratepayers and ensuring Hamilton's rapid growth is managed responsibly. My focus is on accountability, infrastructure, and common-sense leadership to make Hamilton a city that works for its people.

GEOFF TAYLOR



I stand for sensible spending but have been consistently outvoted this council term. I believe in treating ratepayers' money as carefully as if it was my own. I stand for cutting the size of council to focus on core spending and was one of the councillors who last year tried to cut \$100 million off operational spending, but was outvoted. I wholeheartedly support a rates cap on council spending. I want an independent audit on council spending for projects

MESH MACDONALD



Hi, I'm Mesh. Families and businesses are struggling. Rates keep rising, while essentials – roads, water, waste – are overlooked. This isn't a revenue problem, it's a spending problem. I'm a lawyer business owner with 16 years' management experience and a mum. With First-Class Honours in Management and Law, and leadership and governance experience through the Waikato MBA, I'm running to restore financial discipline, keep rates down, and ensure our city is affordable and thriving. Let's build together a Better Hamilton.

RODERICK J. YOUNG



Roderick John Young is standing for Hamilton West with a clear message: better quality for less price. With a background in law, science, and public policy, he has lived and worked locally for many years. He promises sound financial management, smarter infrastructure, and environmental protection — while ensuring ratepayers get real value for money. Young says he'll be an approachable councillor, connecting with residents, and making sure every council decision delivers quality outcomes at lower cost.

LOUISE HUTT



For too long we've not been investing in the well-being of our city. We need to ensure everyone has the opportunity for a high quality of life - whether you're 8 years old or 80. I show up, do the mahi, keep the community informed, and challenge the status quo. We need thoughtful, compassionate leadership and I'd love to continue to serve our city. Find out more at vote.louisehutt.com

MICHAEL WEST



You're right to be worried. Over \$1 Billion in debt and rising is terrifying. Current plans see rates double in five years, with the new water entity adding to that. I'm offering skills learned from 40yrs of Engineering and Business experience, and 8yrs on Wel Energy Trust, to make a difference. If you share my concerns, vote to make change. Elect a mayor with like-minded Councillors in support, who care about your wellbeing and understand the hardship that overspending creates.

ANGELA O'LEARY



I'm seeking re-election because I care deeply about our communities and the services that support them. With water services shifting out of council hands, we've got a real chance to reset and focus on the basics: strong neighbourhoods, well-kept parks, libraries, and local spaces that bring people together. I bring experience, independence, and a genuine commitment to you. I've always shown up, spoken up, and done the work — and I'd love your vote. email: angelaolearyhamilton@gmail.com

ALLAN MCKIE



My name is Allan McKie and I'm standing against wasteful council spending like endless traffic bumps and in lane bus stops. I believe in getting the best bang for buck - your buck. You earn your money the hard way, yet council seems to spend it the easy way. Well, that needs to stop. Rates and debt keep going up and up, and yet, what do you get for it? Damaged suspension and gritted teeth? Not good enough.

Learning, Creating, and Connecting: Fraser ACE Term 4 Courses Open Now



Hamilton's Fraser High School is not only a place for daytime learning, it's also home to Fraser Adult Community Education (Fraser ACE). This October, Fraser ACE is welcoming learners back with a wide range of Term 4 courses designed to inspire, build skills, and bring people together. From creative hands-on workshops to practical business and technology classes, there's something for everyone wanting to end the

year with new knowledge and experiences.

Creative Opportunities

For those looking to explore their artistic side, Fraser ACE is offering Dive into Paint starting Wednesday 8 October. Students can also try their hand at cake decorating, jewellery making, weaving, woodturning, and woodworking, all courses that combine skill-building with creative expression.

Skills for Work and Life

Those wanting to boost professional or personal skills have plenty of options. Highlights include Public Speaking with Confidence, Introduction to Small Business, and technology-focused courses like AI Introduction, MS Excel (including VBA), and Intro to Computers.

Coffee enthusiasts can also pick up practical barista skills with two short

Saturday courses in November, perfect for those considering café work or simply wanting to brew better coffee at home.

Languages and Culture

Fraser ACE continues to offer a wide range of language courses. Simply Spanish (Beginners) begins on 14 October, alongside classes in Te Reo Māori, Chinese for Beginners, and English/ESOL options. These courses are ideal for both new learners and those wanting to strengthen their everyday communication.

Why Fraser ACE?

Each term, Fraser ACE provides affordable, accessible opportunities for adults in Hamilton to learn in a supportive and welcoming environment. Term 4 courses run from early October through to the beginning of December, with class

lengths ranging from one-day workshops to eight-week programmes.

With enrolments already open and some courses filling quickly, now is the time to secure a spot.

For full details and enrolments, visit fraserace.ac.nz comed@fraser.school.nz (07) 846 8624



KIRIKIROA MAAORI WARD CANDIDATES

MARIA HUATA



All of my seven siblings and I were born and bred in the Waikato and are all graduates of the University of Waikato. Following in the footsteps of our parents our background is steeped in education and Te Ao Maori. As a Mama of eight and grandmother I believe that for a community to be well, we must focus on the basics in life, clean water, food security and a safe place to live. Only then can a city truly thrive.

LAWRENCE JENSEN



I am an advocate for 'Kotahitanga-solidarity 'safe streets together,if you create winners and losers, you lose the spirit of kotahitanga".Safe streets are central to a secure and prosperous city. This depends on communities working together on 'long term solutions for the complex social issues we are facing in our city. Building strong whaanau and communities is the basic building block for a well and safe community. I would support creative projects to strengthen bonds between whaanau and communities.

JARRAD GALLAGHER



Our city holds deep significance for my whānau. I am standing to uphold Mana Motuhake for ourselves, our whaanau, our communities, and our environment. Values guiding me are whakawhanaungatanga, integrity, respect, persistence, and importance of whānau. Genuine engagement and partnership is required, built on mutual respect and shared aspirations for our people. My key priorities. 1. Financial sustainability. 2. Connected communities. 3. Education, training & pathways. 4. Advocating for housing. 5. Our environmental systems and our awa

JAHVAYA WHEKI



I stand as a proud Maaori waahine dedicated to creating systems that uplift people and honour our whenua. My vision is for communities where rangatahi thrive, whaanau can feel supported, and voices often left unheard are placed at the centre of decision making. I bring experience in leadership, social innovation and community with a deep commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. With my gifts, drive and heart work I will show others the strength and beauty of being Maaori and help shape our city.

ROBBIE NEHA



I am a self-employed Television Producer and Director with 36 years experience. I hold a Business degree, and I produce local and historical books and documentaries. Through my experience with my Marae and Community organisations, I will ensure that the voices of Māori, alongside our fellow Hamiltonians are heard. Kirikiriroa is growing fast and we will need to deal head-on with rising living costs, housing needs, reforms and delivery of services.

ANDREW POPE



To remove race based seats.

Dinsdale Toastmasters

Dinsdale Toastmasters marked three anniversaries celebrating a total of 90 years in Toastmasters at the Western Community Centre on 15th July 2025.

Geoff Mercer joined Dinsdale Toastmasters in March 2000 and has been a member for 25 years - he's also been a member of Ruakura Toastmasters.

Karen Stewart joined her sister Sonia's club in Rotorua in August 1995, before moving to Dinsdale Toastmasters in June

1998 to complete 30 years membership this year. She received her DTM - Distinguished Toastmasters Award in February 2006. Karen's daughter Amanda, joined in the festivities to mark her 30th anniversary.

Ralph Connor will shortly complete 35 years in Toastmasters. Ralph joined Aspiring Club, Hamilton in October 1990. He transferred to Dinsdale Toastmasters in October 2000 before receiving his DTM - Distinguished Toastmasters Award in August 2009. Ralph was joined by daughters Rose and Ria at the celebration.

Past and present members celebrated the event with a fantastic potluck dinner. Ross Trafford led Geoff, Karen and Ralph in a panel discussion of reaping the benefits of Toastmasters that included many memorable anecdotes.

Dinsdale is celebrating, yes what a feat! Geoff, Karen and Ralph cannot be beat. With speeches so fine, Leadership that does shine, Their journey has been a Toastmasters treat!

To learn more about Dinsdale Toastmasters

contact Ralph on 0204 016 4192 or follow us in our Facebook group: Dinsdale Toastmasters, Hamilton, New Zealand.



PRACTICAL SKILLS:

Sewing:

- Sewing Beginners—Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October
- Learn to Sew — Starts 7pm, Tuesday 7 October
- Beginners with Kay—Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October
- Continuing with Kay—Starts 6pm, Monday 6 October

Metalsmithing & Jewellery:

- Introduction—Starts 6pm, Tuesday 7 October
- Intermediate—Starts 6pm, Monday 6 October

Introduction to Drones (Single Day)

- 9am-1pm, Saturday, 1 December

Welding

- Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October,

Woodturning

- All Levels—Starts 6pm, Monday 6 October
- Day Class—Starts 9am, Thursday 9 October

Woodworking

- Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October

HOME & GARDEN:

Beekeeping (Hybrid)

- Starts 7pm, Wednesday 8 October

Landscape Design (Two Days)

- 9am-3pm, Saturday 1 & 8 November

Home Gardening Made Easy

- Starts 6:30pm, Wednesday 8 October

CREATIVE ARTS:

Painting

- Dive into Paint—Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October
- Landscape Painting—Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October

Guitar

- Beginners—Starts 6:30pm, Wednesday 8 October
- Intermediate—Starts 7:45pm, Wednesday 8 October

Hooked on Crochet (At WILSS)

- Starts 9:30am, Thursday 9 October
- Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October

How to get Published (Single Day)

- 9am-4pm, Saturday 8 November

Photography

- DSLR/M Level 1—Starts 7pm, Wednesday 8 October
- DSLR/M Level 2—Starts 7pm, Tuesday 7 October

CUISINE:

Barista (Single Day Classes)

- Barista Skills—9am-1pm, Saturday 1 November
- Learn About Coffee—9am-1pm, Saturday 8 November

Easy Korean Cooking

- Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October

Vietnamese Cuisine

- Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October

Taste of Indian Cooking

- Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October

Cake Decorating

- Beginners—Starts 6pm, Monday 6 October
- Next Tier—Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October

SOCIAL, HEALTH & WELLBEING:

ADHD & Me

- Starts 6:30pm, Tuesday 7 October

Death Literacy—Preparing for End of Life

- Starts 6:30pm, Thursday 9 October

Public Speaking with Confidence

- Starts 7pm, Thursday 9 October

Confident Job Hunting

- Starts 6pm, Tuesday 7 October

Practical Self-Defense with Eskrima

- Starts 6pm, Monday 6 October

Reinvent Yourself with Confidence and Style (Single Day)

- 9am-4pm, Saturday 1 November

LANGUAGE:

Chinese Language for Beginners

- Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October

Conversational English for Beginners

- Starts 6pm, Tuesday 7 October

ESOL—English Language

- Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October

Spanish

- Simply Spanish—Starts 6:30pm, Tuesday 7 October
- Intermediate Spanish—Starts 6:30pm, Monday 6 October

NZ Sign Language

- NZSL 1A—Starts 6pm, Tuesday 7 October
- NZSL 1B—Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October
- NZSL 1C—Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October

BUSINESS AND COMPUTING:

Accounting for Non-Accountants

- Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October

Introduction to Small Business & Entrepreneurship

- Starts 6pm, Monday 6 October

MS EXCEL—Introduction to VBA Excel

- Starts 7pm, Wednesday 8 October

MS EXCEL—For Work & Business

- Starts 7pm, Monday 6 October

XERO Accounting

- Starts 6:30pm, Tuesday 7 October

Artificial Intelligence

- Intro to AI—Starts 7pm, Thursday 9 October
- Advanced AI—(TBC) Interested? Let us know!

MĀTAURANGA MĀORI :

Te Reo Maori:

- Te Reo Lvl1: Fundamentals—Starts 9am, Saturday 1 November
- Te Reo Lvl 1: Conversational— Starts 6pm, Tuesday 7 October
- Te Reo Lvl 2: Descriptive—Starts 6pm, Thursday 9 October
- Te Reo Lvl 4: Kia Puawai— Starts 6pm, Monday 6th October

Weaving—Contemporary Korowai & Taaniko

- Starts 6pm, Wednesday 8 October

www.fraserace.ac.nz
comed@fraser.school.nz
(07) 846 8624

FRASER ACE
Adult Community Education



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!
Fraser Adult Community Education



SIGN-UP TODAY



VOTE FOR

Louise Hutt

#1 HAMILTON WEST

Chair of Regulatory & Hearings Committee
Chair of the Climate Advisory Panel
Portfolios for disability and older people

Authorised by Louise Hutt, vote.louisehutt.com



VOTE #1

KARALUS FOR MAYOR

HEAD FOR DETAIL,
HEART FOR HAMILTON

WWW.RACHELKARALUS.CO.NZ

AUTHORISED BY RACHEL KARALUS: [RACHEL@RACHELKARALUS.CO.NZ](mailto:rachel@rachelkaralus.co.nz)



Library & Postal vote between 9 September & 10 October 2025

Hamilton is at the heart of who I am - I was born in the Waikato and spent all of my schooling years in Hamilton West - attending Glenview Primary, Melville Intermediate and Hamilton Girls High School. After this, I studied business at WINTEC. Over the years I have worked at a metal recyclers, at Sport Waikato, at a hydraulic engineering firm, at the Waikato Regional Council and for Parliamentary Services. I live in Hamilton West, and as such I have a grounded grassroots interest in policies which affect our people and communities.

As a first time Councillor elected in 2022, I have served as the Deputy Chair of Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group, the Deputy Chair of Community Grants, the Chair of Traffic Control Hearings and the Chair of Dog Control Hearings.

Hamilton is NZ's fastest growing city which brings opportunity but also real pressure, especially with Council now carrying \$1.02 billion in debt. We need to focus on looking after our existing infrastructure and essential services, while using technology and stronger partnerships with neighbouring Councils to deliver smarter, more efficient outcomes. As your current Councillor, I proposed over \$104 million in savings, and supported a 50 percent reduction in lower priority projects, which would have saved \$75 million over three years, freeing up funding to prioritise essential projects like crossings near schools.

When residents raised concerns, I supported a new process requiring elected members to sign off on all speed bump projects to ensure stronger community input. I also supported keeping community grants after widespread public feedback. I supported retaining the ATC building for the community instead of the original plans to demolish it. Although I was outvoted, I backed retaining Founders Theatre to help address the 5,000 m2 shortfall in community space across the city.

I have a strong record of attending meetings, briefings and community events, and have worked hard to represent you in my first term, pushing for smarter spending, greater restraint, and stronger community engagement. As a local girl who has spent all her life in Hamilton I will continue to be a strong voice for Kirikiriroa.



EMMA PIKE

STV 1 VOTE

**FOR HAMILTON CITY COUNCIL
WEST WARD ELECTION**

Authorised by E. Pike

facebook.com/VoteEmmaPike

INDEPENDENT

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. VOTE FOR CHANGE.



VOTE #1

MICHAEL WEST

FOR HAMILTON WEST

BRINGING ENGINEERING AND BUSINESS SKILLS

Authorised by Michael West - mwest@xtra.co.nz

Four candidates.
Four different skill sets:
engineering, law, financial
accounting, automotive,
business management - and
plenty of common sense.

What unites us is the same
concern every household and
business feels: steep rate rises
that are causing real hardship.
Council has lost focus.
Spending is running away on
things the community doesn't
need and the city can't afford.

Hamilton deserves stronger
leadership and better governance.



VOTE
MEAD
Graeme Mead **1**

A Community Advocate
A Focus On Results Not Reports
Promoting Financial Transparency

*** Honest * Committed * Skilled**
Graeme Mead - HamiltonWest Authorised by graeme.mead38@outlook.co.nz



Mark Flyger

VOTE 1 for

Hamilton City Council
West Ward

For Financial Accountability

Authorised by Mark Flyger - mark.flyger@hotmail.com

OUR PRIORITIES ARE CLEAR:
Transparency - so you know
exactly where your money goes

Cutting waste - stop paying for
what doesn't deliver

Affordability - keep Council
within its means

Different strengths.
Shared purpose.
Real change for
Hamilton.

Back to Basics.
Cut Waste.
Keep Rates Down.

Mesh
MACDONALD

Authorised by: Meshweyla Macdonald, meshweyla@gmail.com





Information Evening 2025

The recent Fraser High School Open Day was a fantastic experience that showcased the amazing opportunities we offer! We had a great time connecting with everyone who joined us, and the energy was infectious. Our friendly staff and current students were there to share what makes Fraser such a special place to learn and grow. From engaging conversations discussing opportunities to fun activities, there's something for everyone. We can't wait for you to become a part of the Fraser whānau, where you'll make lasting friendships, dive deep into your passions and create unforgettable memories. Come check us out and see all the exciting things waiting for you!

Check us out at <https://fraser.school.nz/> or call us on 07 847 9044.



Tourisim Class Rotorua Trip

In 2025, the Fraser Senior Tourism Class embarked on an exhilarating journey, immersing themselves in Rotorua's adventurous spirit. This experience allowed students to explore the thrilling activities of luge and jet boating on the stunning lake, each offering a unique perspective of the region's natural beauty. Engaging with local operators, they participated in these adrenaline-pumping experiences, witnessing firsthand the vibrant connection between adventure tourism and the breathtaking landscape. By the end of their journey, they had gained invaluable insights and lasting memories.

The excitement among the Senior Tourism class was noticeable as they set off for their unforgettable trip to Rotorua. This adventure provided them with the opportunity to experience New Zealand's outdoor treasures firsthand, bridging classroom theories with real-world experiences. Every experience helped them learn more and feel a stronger connection to the tourism industry and Rotorua's awesome local activities.



Tira Hoe 2025



In Term 3, some of our Fraser students had the privilege of experiencing a local Tira Hoe. Every year, groups of students and teachers paddle along the Waikato River from Hamilton to Ngaaruawaahia, then biking back into the city, all under the kaitiakitanga of Matua Paora. This experience is significant for our kura as it is an opportunity to learn about the history of these lands, making it a sacred journey of connection and wānanga.

Some students wished the journey was longer because they enjoyed it so much, “We finished our haerenga, and ...and I wanted to paddle for about an hour more. The experience was good because we got to see everything, such as the river and the pā site. My highlight was biking down the hills.”

Others valued the wananga and storytelling along the journey,

“My highlight of the day was paddling down the awa and listening to all the different stories at all the different paa sites. It was great listening to Matua Paora share wisdom and stories at each site.”



Young Entrepreneurs Impress at Deloitte Visit

A group of innovative senior students from Fraser High recently stepped into the world of corporate consulting, presenting their youth-led businesses to professional consultants at Deloitte Hamilton office.

The student teams behind Aquafault (Bradlee Chea and Luka Mayer), a water conservation tech idea, and Rubber Arm Company (Levi Budd & Nathan Brunton), a unique take on toys, showcased their business plans and branding strategies to a panel of Deloitte consultants. The visit formed part of the Deloitte Grow programme, designed to inspire and upskill young people in entrepreneurship and financial literacy.

“Presenting to Deloitte felt like the real world. It pushed us to be professional, prepared, and proud of our mahi,” said one student from the Aquafault team. Another from Rubber’s Arm Company noted, “The feedback from Deloitte consultants helped us see our business through fresh eyes. We left inspired to grow even more.”

The trip gave students the chance to pitch in a high-stakes environment, gain valuable critique from industry experts, and understand the expectations of professional workplaces.

Teacher and coordinator Mr Bathan was proud of the students’ efforts: “This was more than a presentation — it was a powerful moment of connection between student innovation and real-world expertise. Deloitte’s generosity with their time and feedback will stay with our students well beyond this year.”

Deloitte’s team were equally impressed with the creativity and clarity of the student-led ventures. The visit strengthened ties between industry and education and reminded everyone present of the potential within our future business leaders.



Ethnic Youth Academic Awards

In partnership with The Refugee Orientation Centre Trust, the Ministry of Education's Community Partnerships Team invites secondary schools in Hamilton to participate in an Academic Awards Night celebrating students from diverse ethnic backgrounds.

This event was hosted at Hillcrest High School and provided an opportunity to honour Hamilton's increasing ethnic diversity and acknowledge the academic achievements of our ethnic students and their families, based on their NCEA results for 2024.

This year, our award winners from Fraser High School were Latifa Alikhel, Sajeel Ahmad, and Catherine Aung. Fraser High School is very proud of these learners and their accomplishments.



Ngaa Waka O Te Kura

In mid-July, we had two representatives stand and deliver their speeches at Ngaa Manu Koorero o Tainui Waka 2025. Ngā Manu Kōrero is a prestigious annual Māori speech competition in New Zealand that encourages and celebrates the oratory skills of secondary school students in both te reo Māori and English. It's a significant event in the Māori education calendar, fostering confidence and cultural pride among young Māori. This year's event was hosted by Te Wharekura o Te Kaokao o Patere.

A group of our Hei Taniwha staff and students accompanied the competitors, Lykyn Mackie Whanga and Temaikohaa Waitere, representing Te Kura Tuarua o Taniwharau as a collective. After each speech, the students stood with a waiatatautoko showing their support for our awesome speakers. Congratulations to everyone who represented their kur, and thank you to our amazing hosts.

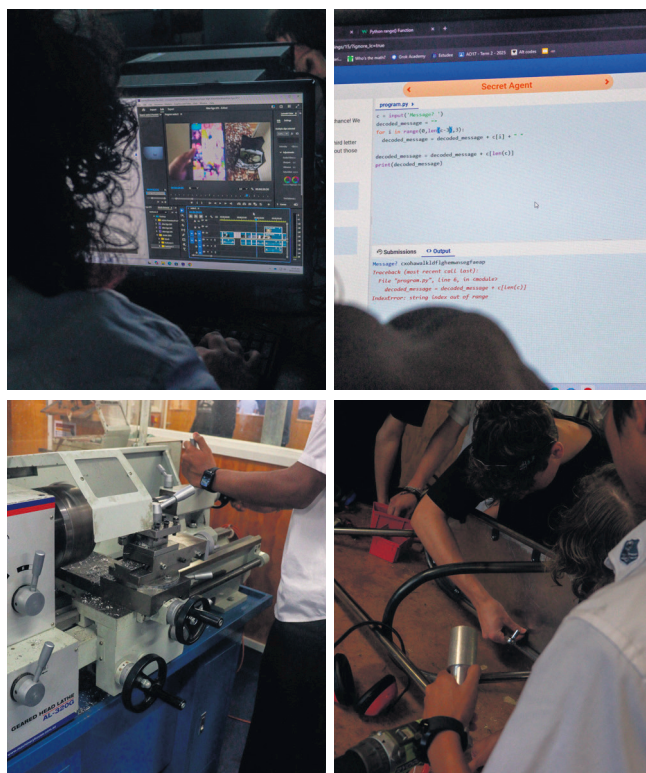


Hei Taniwha partnership with Te Rau Oranga



On Wenerei, 30th July, Hei Taniwha in partnership with Te Rau Oranga Awardees, hosted Caleb and Mikayla, 5th Year medical students from Auckland University. It was an absolute pleasure listening to and learning from their experiences and their aspirations for te iwi Māori in the health sector. We wish them all the very best as they continue to chase after their dreams and look forward to seeing them again soon.

Tech at work



The Girl Who Was Asked to Turn Blue Year 11 Drama



Year 11 Drama students recently showcased their production of "The Girl Who Was Asked to Turn Blue." This performance marked their debut in front of an audience, highlighting the dedication and effort of the students in bringing an engaging and captivating piece to life.

Year 10 Careers Day



Aakonga spent a morning delving into the world of careers, inspired by the diverse pathways available to them. The session featured engaging presenters from various fields, including the creative realm of photography, the disciplined structure of the Defence Force, the innovative aspects of engineering, the essential duties of the Police, and the work of the Hamilton City Council building unit. This provided the aakonga with exciting sneak peeks into what these professions entail.

One insightful Fraser student reflected, “Careers day was an informative session where I learned about what careers I could go for. It was very interesting and has started making me think about my future career.”

A massive thank you to all our presenters for inspiring our aakonga!



Tui Allied Health Work experience

Work Experience encourages you to think about your future career goals. Shristi and Muzainah at the end of their 5 week physio work experience at Tui Allied Health



Apollo Projects Sports Grant

Supporting our sports community

APPLY NOW



Thank you Apollo Projects Ltd

for supporting our sports community with the Apollo Projects Sports Grant!

We strongly encourage our students to apply for the Apollo Projects Sports Grant up to \$500 per applicant per annum. The sponsorship is a great way to enable all students to participate in sports; to make sport a healthy lifestyle choice, at school, and throughout their life.

For more information or to apply please check the Newssheet or find the application link on our Fraser High School social media.





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A Focus On Results Not Reports
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*** Honest * Committed * Skilled**

Graeme Mead - HamiltonWest Authorised by graeme.mead38@outlook.co.nz



Mark Flyger

VOTE **1** for

Hamilton City Council
West Ward

For Financial Accountability

Authorised by Mark Flyger mark.flyger@hamilton.co.nz



VOTE #1

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FOR HAMILTON WEST

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Authorised by Michael West michael.west@hamilton.co.nz

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Keep Rates Down.**



Mesh MACDONALD

Authorised by: Meshweyla Macdonald, meshweyla@gmail.com

Clean Feeders Welcome Nature

Bird feeders are a common feature in back yards and public places: it's important to take care of them. To support healthy manu and reduce disease risk, keep feeders clean, especially in predator-free zones where birds linger longer and feed more confidently.

Open dishes and containers quickly collect debris and droppings, so scrub them daily with hot water. For enclosed or specialised feeders, clean at least twice a week to prevent bacterial build-up and keep nectar or seed fresh for native birds.

Avoid bleach or harsh detergents, as residue can harm birds and disrupt feeding. Dishwashing liquid is fine if rinsed thoroughly to ensure no trace remains.

For help locally - Central Waikato Predator Free Hub
And Online - Predator Free New Zealand Trust



Photo credit: Alex H Weller - Korimako feeding from a sugar water feeder.

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Available now for just \$25, you can pick one up from the Go Eco office at 25a Devon Road.

Need more than one? Join our Buyers Collective to access wholesale prices. For details, email biodiversity@goeco.org.nz



FOOD RESCUE BY NUMBERS:



370,631 KGS

kai rescued & redistributed in
1 year (2024-25)



1.1 million
kgs of CO2e
prevented



235 million
litres of water
saved



815,638
meals
created



\$2.5 million
retail value of
food saved

Too Much Fruit on Your Tree?

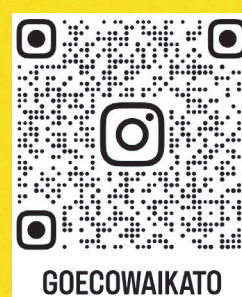
Do you have more fruit than you can eat? Share your bumper crops with Go Eco's Food Rescue.

Instead of food rotting on the ground, your fresh, local kai will be redistributed to community centres across Waikato, nourishing families and neighbours who need it.

You can drop fruit directly to our office at 25a Devon Road, Hamilton, or if you're having trouble picking it, our Food Rescue team can even come and help harvest. Anyone with excess fruit can get in touch by emailing hello@goeco.org.nz



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For more money saving tips follow us on Instagram.

Dinsdale Playcentre celebrates 50 years of friendship, fun and learning



This month Dinsdale Playcentre will celebrate 50 years of providing early childhood education and parenting support to hundreds of families in our community.

The centre was established in 1975, running sessions for 18 years in the converted basement of St David's Church, Rifle Range Rd. With as many as 40 families on the roll, and a limit of 18 children at a session, the popular centre often had long waiting lists. In 1990 the church indicated they needed the space for their own purposes and centre parents embarked on a 3 year journey to find a new and more spacious home.

After investigating more than 13 possible sites, including Frankton, Aberdeen, St Columba's and Fraser High schools, by late 1993 it seemed the centre would have to close. However, Hamilton City Council came to the rescue with the offer of an unused section at the end of Frederick Drive, bounded by the Waitawhiriwhiri stream. A purchase agreement was signed 2 days before Christmas and the centre opened a new purpose-built space in May 1994.

Today Dinsdale Playcentre runs 5 morning sessions a week for children from birth to school age, including a weekly swim session. Families also have the option of joining gymnastics and outdoor adventure

sessions with neighbouring Playcentres. The centre is run by the families with the support of a recently employed Kaimahi who deals with admin matters, freeing up parents to focus on their children's play and learning.

Learning opportunities for parents is also an important part of what we do. Every term we host workshops that can be attended just for fun, or as part of the NZQA accredited Certificate in Early Childhood Education.

Fun, friendship and parent support is an important part of our centre culture, and we run regular whanau evenings for the whole family, games nights, and graduate sessions for our children who have moved on to school.

What our parents have to say:

"Our Playcentre is such a fun place for our children. I don't think there is another ECE service where they could have the huge range of experiences and opportunities to grown and learn."

"Great relationships! Awesome activities that include our wider whānau. Lots of support when whānau need some extra awahi or support."

We welcome families with young children in our local community who are looking for great early childhood education where they can learn alongside their tamariki.

We would love to hear from the many past members out in the community who have contributed to make our centre such a special place. We welcome you all to join us on Saturday 27th September from 1 p.m. to celebrate 50 years of friendship, fun and learning.

Keep up to date with our plans on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Dinsdaleplaycentre/events>

Grandview Kindergarten

At Grandview Kindergarten, our resources are thoughtfully selected to enrich the learning experiences of all our tamariki, encouraging collaborative play and fostering curiosity. Recently, we have introduced a range of new resources that have sparked fresh interest and engagement. Through these, our tamariki are developing important social skills such as turn-taking/huritao, sharing and working with and alongside others. These interactions help build confidence/whakapono, strengthen relationships/whanaungatanga, and support our learners as they navigate social

situations in supportive and meaningful ways.

Call to enrol your child and meet the team.



Tune into Free FM

Tune in to hear Bengal Beats, our latest hour long, weekly podcast covering music, entertainment and local news in Bangladesh and Aotearoa. Episodes can be found on Free FM across the Waikato on 89.0FM, livestream via freefm.org.nz or on the TuneIn app, Google Home or Alexa, just ask your device to "Play Free FM eighty-nine point zero" or access all our podcasts at freefm.org.nz Apple Podcasts, Spotify and more!

If you're interested in creating your own radio show or podcast, learning about how we work with the community, get started now – read more at <https://www.freefm.org.nz/Involved/Content-Creator.aspx> or email us at info@freefm.org.nz

We love seeing fresh content from across the community – whether it's in English, te reo Māori, or any other language spoken in Aotearoa. If your story isn't being told elsewhere, this is your chance to change that.

Free FM – By the People, For the People
Proudly supported by NZ On Air and part of CAMA Community Access Media



Alliance. Free FM champions direct, diverse, and meaningful participation in media across Aotearoa.



MaoriWards.nz

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Thrive Together**
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Māori Wards**

20TH ANNIVERSARY

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

**treats
in the
park**

**\$5
PER CHILD**

Friday 31st October 2025, 4pm – 7.30pm
Western Community Centre



6 Treat stations, entertainment, food stalls, community info, skate comp, inflatable rides, prizes and heaps more!

Taking place
Elliott Park, Hyde Ave,
Hamilton

To help us cover some of the costs of the night. Treat Tickets are \$5. This gets you some cool treats and free rides on the inflatables.

For More Information check out the Western Community Centre Facebook Page or email admin@wccham.org.nz