

MAY 2025

the life styler

Elevating Experiences, Enriching Lives

**GETTING
TO KNOW
MOE, JUDENA
& LANA**

**SERVICE
DELIVERY**

*Celebrations
and goodbyes*

**VOCATIONAL
SPACES**

What's the buzz?



THE SUPPORTED
LIFE STYLE
HAURAKI TRUST



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Below is the list of planned communication with whanau for 2025. We will be holding online Zoom meetings along with the Life Styler newsletter.

Whanau Contact Zoom Meetings
 17 June, 12th August, 21 October,
 2 December
The Life Styler
 February, May, November



Thames Community Learners Licence Course



Recently, a group of enthusiastic Life Stylers participated in the Thames Community Learners Licence Course, an empowering initiative focused on road safety and independent travel.

Through interactive lessons, participants learned essential road rules, safe driving practices, and how to interpret traffic signs.

Completing the course not only provides valuable knowledge but also boosts confidence and independence, aligning with TSLHT's mission to empower individuals in navigating the world safely.

Overall, the Thames Community Learners Licence Course was a meaningful experience that highlighted the importance of community support in personal growth. We proudly celebrate Kodi Kauhou for achieving his Learners Licence.



Mark H and Ian enjoyed a bike ride in the autumn sun. They had ridden out to the Thames airfield and stopped by the office on the way back to say hello.



SAMANTHA LEE CE

It's been wonderful to catch up with many family and staff over the past few months. The whanau Zoom meetings and full staff meetings have provided a great opportunity to hear about what's important to everyone.

The new pay equity legislation might affect support workers' pay, and we're closely monitoring developments.

Budget '25 has given a significant boost to disability funding, and we'll learn more about its impact in the coming months.

We're updating our Quality Management System to be more user-friendly and will soon invite staff to join our quality group.

Our Strategic Plan will be shared soon with Life Stylers, whanau, and staff for feedback. As part of this process, we'll hold a workshop to review our values and ensure they align with the expectations of Life Stylers, whanau, staff, and the community. This will be an open process, and we'll soon call for expressions of interest from anyone who wants to be involved.

CAFE GARDEN *CATCH UP*

Over the last few weeks I have been working with a few Life Stylers getting the Café herb/vegetable garden back to what it once was.

Special thanks to Robert S, Mario R and David E for their interest with Andrew D and Harold B for helping me to start to get things looking good again. James C had a cold but I'm sure he will be back to helping again soon.

To all the Life Stylers and support workers, please feel free to come and see what we are doing.

In the coming weeks we will be planting herbs and vegetables with valuable direction from Judena our chef in the cafe.

We can then all follow their growing progress and when they are ready Judena can use them in the kitchen.

Until next time.
Craig S the Gardener

INVITATION TO PLANTING TIME
TUESDAY 3rd JUNE 10:30am at 104 Cafe
come along for morning tea and plant some veggie seedlings



These three men enjoyed a chat in the sun on Mothers Day. They were sharing memories, experiences and a few tears as they remembered their Mums.

GETTING TO KNOW MOE

Staff Member Interview: *Moe Williams*

What do you like most about the Trust?

I find satisfaction in my work here—building bonds and trust with the Life Stylers, and seeing some of the most challenging ones succeed.

What do you wish other people knew about the Trust?

I wish people would come in and visit to truly see the Life Stylers for who they are. Often, family members and the public only see the challenges when things aren't going well in the community.

What would you tell someone considering a job at the Trust?

Come in and see if it's for you. Stand back and observe first—you always learn something. Listen to the Life Stylers and truly understand them. Don't come in thinking you're here to fix them.

What's one word a friend would use to describe you?

Friendly-natured.

What was the last book you read or movie you saw?

I read a lot of sports books. I don't have time for TV. The last book I read was about Jonah Lomu.

Where would you like to go on holiday?

Bali—my son recently traveled there and recommended I visit soon.

What interests or hobbies do you have outside of work?

Sports, especially with the kids. I serve as the Vice President of the Thames Valley Rugby Union and have coached, managed, and been a board delegate for many years.

What was your first car?

A big Ford Station Wagon—one of those classic ones!

Who has had the most impact on you, and why?

Graeme Pearson. He influenced me a lot during my coaching days, always had my back when I needed advice, and kept me focused on my role instead of trying to take on too much. When he passed away, I really missed having him to bounce ideas off.

Where do you come from?

I was raised by my grandmother, along with my two sisters, for 12 years in the Mangamuka/Mangonui area.

If you could have dinner with three famous people from history, who would they be?

Jonah Lomu, Rob Muldoon, and Bruce Springsteen.

If you could change one thing in the world, what would it be?

I would stop all wars—they split the world apart.

What are you most proud of?

My family—my kids. As a parent, you want them to be successful. You try your hardest when they're young to help them learn what they need to. I'm fortunate that they've all chosen great pathways for themselves and their families.



“ I FIND
SATISFACTION IN
MY WORK HERE “



GETTING TO KNOW JUDENA

Staff Member Interview: *Judena Ormsby*

What is your role here?

I am the Cafe Manager where I oversee the Cafe Team and serve good nutritious food for the Trust.

My Career background

I've had 29 years in the food industry, early 2000's as Head Chef, Executive Chef, like to base my food around Seafood and Wild Food. Majority of the work has been based in Auckland, Thames, Far North and South Island as far as Wanaka.

Who was your childhood hero?

My dad had a way of comforting us and making us feel happy. We didn't have a lot, growing up, but we had a big family, so it felt like we did lots.

If you could have dinner with 3 famous people, who would they be?

My Mum (who has passed), my Dad and my dog (who has passed just recently). They are famous to me.

What are you most proud of in your life?

I'm proud of all my achievements, my children and my mokos.

What do you remember about your first day at school?

Being scared not wanting to go, my very first day at primary school I loved it. My first school was at Matatoki we only had 2 classes and one of the teachers used to smoke in the class. We moved into town and I went to Moanatairi.

What has surprised you most about working with our Life Stylers?

The more they adapt to different people within their surroundings.

What do you like the most about your job here at the Trust?

There are quite a few things I enjoy my team. I love interacting with the Life Stylers and doing fun activities.

What might someone be surprised to know about you?

That I do have a sister that has a disability, she is deaf and has a speech impediment. I've learnt how to communicate with people, when she's not in a good head space, we know how to deal with it.

Where do you like to go on holiday?

Somewhere without the kids hahahaha I do like camping and although it's a lot of work for me I enjoy it. Takaka - South Island is my favourite place for camping.

What interests or hobbies do you have outside of work?

I used to play netball and touch rugby. I love fishing and hunting; I've gone deer hunting, where we would catch a helicopter in Geraldine. I enjoy foraging and diving for seafood. We used to go to Kaikoura and stay in Invercargill, where we would gather titi (mutton bird).

Which three records would you take on a deserted island?

Fleetwood Mac, Kalohe Kai and Sam Cook

“ I'M PROUD OF ALL MY ACHIEVEMENTS “



SERVICE DELIVERY



The Wayfinder Lead team has now been in place for 3 months being onsite on the same shift swing as Support Workers. We have welcomed Jenna Graham as Wayfinder Lead afternoon to the Wayfinder Lead Team. Initial reports back on the change with the Wayfinder Lead team working more closely with support workers indicates this change is working positively for both Life Stylers and staff. The Active Outcomes Coordinator, Matt Vent is increasing opportunities for activities and events while also working closely with the Wayfinder Planners to be supporting individual goals for Life Stylers. In April and May, much fun has been had with an organised ten pin bowling trips and the Easter scavenger hunt and disco. Special Olympics activities have been going really well for Life Stylers, organized by Matt. Life Stylers are involved in basketball, athletics, bocce and indoor bowls. Life Stylers are attending day events in Auckland and Tauranga leading up to the National Summer Special Olympics Games to be held this year in Christchurch.

Thank you to support worker Margaret Lafaiki for supporting Special Olympics events. Margaret is an active volunteer for Special Olympics and will be supporting Life Stylers to the Summer games.

We have welcomed new Life Stylers to the Trust for respite who are enjoying meeting others and attending the vocational spaces. We have also welcomed new Life Styler Greg Price, who has come to live at the Farm and is exploring the option of some pet chickens.

Sadly Life Styler Sheryl Mason passed away in April, staff and Life Stylers attended her funeral and the family have thanked the Trust for the support over this time and the time that Sheryl lived at the Trust.

Staff and Life Stylers also attended an unexpected sad farewell at another funeral to an awesome Trust support worker, Sonia Paton. Sonia had got to know Life Stylers at the Trust through her work at VETEL, she then joined the Trust as a support worker.

April was a challenging month for Service Delivery, but Trust

staff and Life Stylers in true form supported each other and celebrated many happy memories and times with Sheryl and Sonia.

Thank you to Brendon Wilkinson who always supports the Trust around these difficult times.

A very happy 21st birthday in May to Life Styler Benjamin Grant who has been living at the Trust for the past 18 months, Ben really enjoys music, playing cards, and is part of the bocce and indoor bowls Special Olympics.

The Service Delivery team are all busy preparing for our 3 yearly DAA (Designated Auditing Agency), audit in July of this year and we will keep you updated with this following the audit.



VOCATIONAL SPACES



THE JAM JAR

We are very grateful to have received funding to purchase new equipment for our Music Space. We are still awaiting its arrival and are looking forward to it with anticipation. The Life Stylers enjoyed a disco held at Grahamstown Hall. We have been making connections with the local community and look forward to providing music at the Tararu Elderly Home. Stay tuned for photos and stories!



ARTSIDER

We bid farewell to our tutor, Sue Clark, and welcomed a talented art tutor from Coromandel, Iona Matheson. Iona is creating birds using clay and korowai made from Kauri tree. We look forward to her work in this area. Two students from Thames High are looking to join our Artsider Space as part of community participation. We look forward to their creations in this space alongside the Life Stylers.



EQUILIBRIUM

We celebrated a farewell for the horses as they head off for their much-needed winter holiday. A huge thank you to our staff members Michele Taylor, Michelle Boshoff, and Samuel Blackmer for their amazing work alongside the Life Stylers and Horses! Recently, Paeroa College hosted a day event at EquiLibrium focused on enhancing their riders' skills. Under the instruction of Steve Allen, they had a wonderful day, there were many happy riders and ponies. We are currently in the process of renaming this space and have reached out to Life Stylers and Staff. A decision and announcement will be made at our next Roll Call event.



3 WIRES ROAD FARM

The Farm team has worked tirelessly to complete the Health and Safety Assessment outcomes, resulting in some impressive achievements. We welcome Craig Stevenson, who will be supporting the Life Stylers in our Vocational Space. Additionally, there has been great work done alongside the Life Stylers to clean up the Café Garden Bed area in collaboration with Artsider and OriginalWorx. A significant project is the Memorial Garden, which will involve planning, networking, and collaborative thinking.

GETTING TO KNOW LANA

Life Styler Interview: *Lana Bagshaw*

How did you first hear about the Trust?

Through friends - Luke, Jean and Mum.

What was your first impression of the Trust?

It is a nice place, definitely wanted to move here and make friends.

What is one word friends would use to describe you?

Nice...caring.

Where do you like to go one holiday?

Australia, Cairns and Queensland. Theme parks for my birthday.

What interests or hobbies do you have?

Special Olympics, basketball and swimming.

Where were you born?

Tauranga.

Tell us about your flatmates

Jeanie and Avril.

How do you spend your days?

I go to vocational spaces and I work at the Hospice shop on Tuesday and the SPCA shop on Sunday.

How are you enjoying the Trust?

Yes, meeting new people and doing different things.

What are your goals?

Get a licence.



“ I ENJOY MEETING NEW PEOPLE AND DOING DIFFERENT THINGS (AT THE TRUST) “

Power in the Park

The Power in the Park event at Mt. Eden Stadium was a great success. The Life Stylers participated in a tour of the stadium, enjoyed sensory rooms, and relaxed in quiet comfort areas. They also had the opportunity to try various accessible activities, including a hand cycling simulator and big screen gaming with accessible controls. The NZ Wheelchair Rugby Team joined in, allowing participants to experience wheelchair rugby firsthand.

Additionally, there was a technical course that the Life Stylers found incredibly enjoyable and thrilling to race through.

The Life Stylers embraced the day with enthusiasm, participating in a wide range of activities aimed at promoting engagement and connection. From fun games to creative



workshops, the park was filled with laughter and smiles as Life Stylers relished the opportunity to express themselves and connect with others.



Overall, the Power in the Park event showcased the spirit of empowerment and inclusion, making it a truly memorable experience for everyone involved.



EASTER 2025

Easter is a time of year that we always look forward to at the Trust. And this year was no different. We had a full agenda of awesome activities and events for all to share in.

First up on the calendar was the Easter Disco. Life Stylers had a week to fill out the Song Request forms so that they got to party to the music they wanted. A huge thank you to the staff that continue to volunteer their time to ensure these events are a huge success.

Back by very popular demand was the 'Count the Easter Eggs in the Jar' competition. This year was won by Mark Hollister, looking very pleased with his efforts.

Then we had the Scavenger Hunt which was scheduled to at Wires Road Farm but due to the stormy wet weather we moved to Victoria Park. Everyone had a tick sheet of all the items they needed to find. A great day out in the sun and fresh air and lots of treats enjoyed.

And to round off the celebrations, goodie bags with treats, pens and activity sheets to keep busy with while the wet weather kept us inside.

TOP Mark H with his winnings
BOTTOM Jamie K & Alice H at the disco



EVENTS

JUNE

- 4th Kings Birthday**
 - Morning tea at the cafe
- 9th Artsider**
 - Stained glass painting on perspex
- 11th-14th Fieldays**
- 12th Disco - 60's theme**
- 16th-19th Matariki**
 - 16th Storytelling
 - 17th Cafe lunchtime hangi
 - 18th Lunchtime music with Uncle Waka at cafe
 - 19th Artsider Poi making/ flax decorations
- 21st Warriors Game - Auckland**
- 23rd Artsider**
 - Fabric placemats
- 30th Roll Call**

