

April 2025

FREE monthly community magazine for Kumeu
& surrounding townships

Kumeu Courier

- Safer communities
- Home & garden
- Health & beauty
- Property market report

Kumeu Show 2025



Greetings

While at the Kumeu Show (March 8 and 9) I flicked through former apple orchardist Chris Smellie's book 'Where Have All the Apples Gone?' due to be launched at Kumeu Arts on Saturday April 5, 5.30pm, with an exhibition running for three more weeks also launched which includes a display of historical advertising, paintings, and photographs featured in the book.

A selection of limited-edition prints can be bought through the gallery, as well as signed copies of the book. The Huapai Kumeu Lions club is supporting Chris's efforts, and Lions member Guy Wishart profiled the book in the March Kumeu Courier and will be at the launch.

Guy was also at the Kumeu Show where Huapai Kumeu Lions took pre-release orders (about \$45 per book) and shared information on the book. As I perused the book while humming to Peter, Paul and Mary's 1960 song "Where Have All the Flowers Gone" I noticed many names I was familiar with.

I'd met and interviewed the late Joe and Kate (nee Covic) Grbavac of Sunnyview Orchards, often visiting their SH16 shop (about opposite Matua Road between Huapai and Waimauku) for fruit or a catch-up. Their story "The fruits of 65 years" features on the NorWest Heritage Society's website, along with many other local stories.

Other families in the book include the Coles (Eric Cole was at the show too) with their photo in the March Kumeu Courier story, the Neals (I'd met Brian, and son Monte is the Junior Vice President of the Kumeu Agricultural and Horticultural Society which runs the Kumeu Show), the Papa family, the Thackwrays, Vallings, Talyancichs, and many more.

Chris decided to record the apple growing history of the Huapai area as he watched orchard after orchard end production, the trees often removed for intensive housing development in the 1990s and 2000s.

The book covers the end of an era for apple growing in the Auckland's Northwest and the start of production south of the Bombay Hills.

Chris says his book began as a record of the Huapai fruit growing district and includes many aspects of fruit (and food) production in New Zealand.

It includes the old New Zealand Apple and Pear Board (I was at the opening of the board's Henderson cool stores by Sir Robert Muldoon in the 1980s).

"I reached back to the beginnings of the Fruitgrowers Federation and further back again and again until I found the wonderful painting by Hawaiian Herbert Kawainui Kane of an ocean-going waka, Kupe Discovers New Zealand, reproduced early in the text," Chris tells Kumeu Arts.

Geoff, Editor



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People & Places

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More than 36 people competed, with first prize about \$5000.

Kumeu Show farm zones were a favourite among families, many children (show entry was free for under 14s) able to pet various animals.

A poultry show was a hit with visitors too.

Kumeu Agricultural and Horticultural Society (Kumeu A and H Society) President Jane Sparnon is delighted with the show's success.

"I'm very happy with it," says Jane, adding it's a key fundraiser to help with the showgrounds' upkeep. She believes good weather contributed to the show's high turnout, including a record number of visitors on the Sunday.

Jane says Labour leader Chris Hipkins and National's Kaipara ki Mahurangi MP Chris Penk were among visiting dignitaries.

Kumeu Show packed

Good weather brought big crowds to the 102nd Kumeu Show.

More than 20,000 people visited the Kumeu Showgrounds on March 8 and 9, proving especially popular with families.

Thousands watched the tractor parade wend its way through internal roads, the parade led by a pipe band.

Food trucks and stalls did a roaring trade, woodchopping and shearing competitions were popular with spectators along with a tree climbing competition called 'Canopy Carnage' which organiser Shaun Hardman, owner and operator of Auckland tree care services Waimauku-based Hardfell Ltd, says is also a celebration of the arborist profession.

"It's not run for profit-any proceeds go directly into event costs, and all prizes are awarded to the dedicated volunteers and climbers who make it possible," he says.

The competition comprised the Freestyle Tree Climb where competitors raced from the treetop to the ground while stopping at and touching stations along the way and the Ascent Event race up a single rope with the fastest the winner.

Each competitor had two attempts at the Freestyle event and one at the Ascent, having their scores determined by their best freestyle time combined with their ascent time.

The winner of each group advanced to the final round, where they faced a tougher challenge with additional stations in the Freestyle event, says Shaun.





Museum searches for 'pot of gold'

Te Otene Kikokiko and his wife Maata, gifted land in Helensville in 1865 for justice and education. The Courthouse and the Primary School were built on this land which became known locally as the "ten acre block". Today, it runs from the bare piece of land beside the Caltex Station up to the Helensville Primary School on Garfield Road.

The Native Land Court (renamed the Māori Land Court in 1947) was established in 1865 with the purpose of translating customary Māori land ownership into legal land titles recognisable under English law. The first purpose-built Native Land Court in New Zealand was in Helensville, presided over by Judge John Rogan and is now on the Te Awaroa Museum site. Thus began the "Kaipara Minute Books", a Court record of land sales - 33 volumes of transactions outlining boundaries and whakapapa. As Māori people were brought before the court to determine native land entitlements and ownerships, the oral traditions of Māori citing their relationship to the land and the ancestors of it were recorded in these historic books. These recitals provide a profound insight into the heritage of the whenua and the people.

In recognition of their value as a unique archival resource and taonga Māori, in 2012 the Minute Books were listed in UNESCO's New Zealand Memory of the World documentary heritage register. They provide a link to tūpuna, to heritage and to identity.

The museum is in the unique position of being able to offer a distinctly local resource to both students and other

researchers. Maps are available showing original land blocks in the southern Kaipara area which can be tied into the actual land sales and further museum research has uncovered four pages of links to additional information, all to be available on site. Most of the hard work is done, but we need the funds for a bit of infrastructure such as electrical work, computers and display screens - a small pot of gold to invest in the region's legacy is all we need. If you can help, even in a small way, please contact us at the museum. Info@museum.teawaroa.nz. (09)4207881.

<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-us-get-a-pot-of-gold-and-bring-history-alive>

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- Choose the Right Food - High-quality kitten diet for growth and health.
- Litter Training - Show them the litter box after meals and naps.
- Introduce Slowly - Gradual introductions to other pets and family members.
- Provide Enrichment - Toys, scratching posts, and climbing areas.
- Bond & Socialize - Play, cuddle, and handle gently to build trust.
- Preventative Care - Regular flea/worm treatments and vaccinations.

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The Village Market - Helensville showgrounds



Sunday 20th April 8.30am to 1pm

Join us for a great morning out for the family, plenty of unique and interesting stalls to

browse, live music from duo Michelle & Darren, Easter egg hunt and much more. Local art, crafts and gifts, natural pet health products, preserves, fresh fruit and veg, flowers, pre-loved bargains & books, a great selection of food from our market café plus coffee, tea and the Lions' sausage sizzle.

No dogs please with the exception of assistance dogs. Gold coin donation for parking - proceeds to the Helensville/Kaukapakapa scouts and St John youth.

For more information

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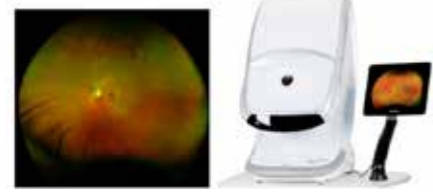
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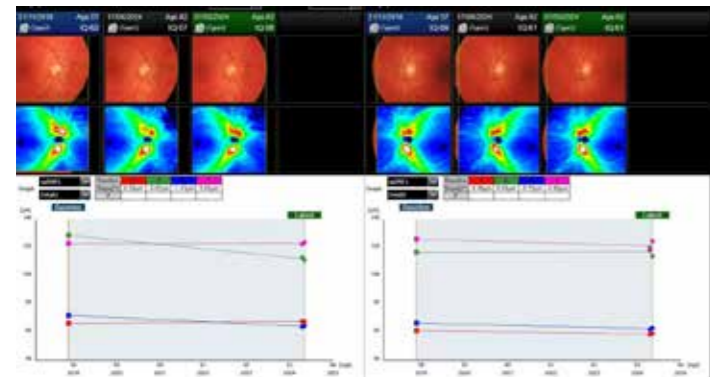
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-By Molly Whittington, optometrist at For Eyes in the Kumeu Shopping Village, phone 09 412 8172

Modern software analyses scans from For Eyes SS-OCT and creates a graph of change over time. This 62 year old patient was referred by Molly for early glaucoma, and has begun treatment to prevent vision loss.



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Returning to exercise after pregnancy



A gentle approach for new mums.

Bringing a new life into the world is a monumental achievement that deserves recognition and celebration. However, societal pressure on new mums to 'bounce back' to pre-baby bodies is unrealistic. Rather than focusing on aesthetic goals, it's healthier to prioritize physical and mental well-being when early postpartum.

Easing back into exercise gradually is the key to a healthy return to exercise. When you feel ready, start with pelvic floor exercises, which are crucial in rebuilding strength and functionality. Simple Kegel exercises, which involve a squeeze, lift and relaxing the pelvic floor muscles are ideal, along with a visit to a pelvic floor physiotherapist. Birthing injuries are covered by ACC.

In addition to Kegels, focus on deep core strengthening. Pregnancy stretches and weakens core muscles; all women have a diastasis recti by the 3rd trimester, so starting with the TVA activators belly breathing, on exhale gently activate the transverse abdominals (pulling hips together) with a pelvic floor lift, releasing on inhale, do 20 daily. Helps to improve core strength, stability and the diastasis recti.

Getting out for short walks, gradually increasing time is great physically and mentally. Once postpartum (6 weeks for vaginal delivery or 12 weeks for c-section) and you feel ready, start doing gentle bodyweight exercises. Working with a qualified postnatal REPS registered trainer can provide trusted guidance. Tailoring workouts to meet individual needs and ensure exercises are performed safely and effectively. I run courses nation wide to help upskill Mum Trainers.

Ultimately, the journey back to exercise after pregnancy should be approached with patience and self-compassion. By focusing on gradual gentle exercise, new mums can rebuild their strength and confidence, building solid foundations for long-term health and well-being to then train hard like the #badassmum they are.

Kirstyn Campbell kirstyn@kcfit.co.nz

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Welcome Sheldon Redman to Riverhead Physio!

Welcome Sheldon Redman to Riverhead Physio!



We're excited to introduce Sheldon Redman, an experienced physiotherapist with 30 years of private practice expertise. Originally trained in Australia, Sheldon has spent the last 20 years working in New Zealand, helping people move better and recover faster.

A graduate of the University of Sydney (1994), Sheldon built his career in Newcastle before making New Zealand home. He's a member of the New Zealand Physio Association, Physiotherapy Acupuncture Association, and the New Zealand Manipulative Physiotherapy Association, bringing a well-rounded approach to treatment.

Living in Muriwai Beach with his wife, two teenagers, and their dog, Sheldon is a keen surfer and mountain biker—so he knows firsthand the importance of staying strong, mobile, and injury-free.

Did you know? Your body regenerates about 10% of its bone structure every year! Physiotherapy helps keep your muscles and joints aligned, supporting natural healing and injury prevention. Sheldon is now available for physiotherapy and acupuncture appointments at our Riverhead clinic on Mondays and Thursdays from 1-8pm. Book a session today and let him help you stay active and pain-free!

Call us to book or visit our website to schedule an appointment.

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Mindbody app for pilates

Kumeu Library



April brings shorter days and more time indoors – and Kumeu Library can help you spend the extra time indoors well with a diverse collection on a huge range of subjects. It's

time to try out a new hobby, find new recipes, learn about the world around us, and travel to places we've never been from the comfort of an armchair! Check out our catalogue online at www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz where you will find books, audiobooks, DVDs, magazines, eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines on just about every subject you can imagine.

Upcoming events in April and May at Kumeu Library:

Do you want to save money and ensure the administration of your estate is smooth and efficient? Join retired lawyer Wendy Hampton at Kumeu Library at 10.30am on Thursday 3 April for an insightful presentation on estate planning. Wendy is the author of a practical Estate Planner book, and will talk about how an estate is administered and what you need to record to help your loved ones, leaving a legacy and not a mess! Wendy's Estate Planner book will be available for purchase on the day for \$25 (cash preferred).

Falls are the most common cause of injury in older people – but there are ways to improve balance and movement as you get older so you can be physically active and live well. A Strength and Balance Trainer from Harbour Sport is coming to Kumeu Library on Thursday 8 May at 10.30am to talk about Falls Prevention – find out why falls happen, simple ways to prevent them and how to safely get up after a fall. Note the date on your calendar and join us for this session.

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(www.facebook.com/kumeulibrary) to keep up with all our news and events.

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Why Protein Is Essential for Your Health



Not Just for Gym-Goers

Protein is often linked to gym-goers and bodybuilders, but the truth is, it's a crucial nutrient for everyone. Whether you're active or not, your body relies on protein for energy, muscle maintenance, hormone production, and immune function. If you're feeling

sluggish, struggling with cravings, or noticing slow recovery from illness or workouts, low protein intake could be a factor.

The Role of Protein in Everyday Health- Every cell in your body depends on protein. It helps build and repair tissues, supports metabolism, and keeps your brain functioning optimally. Unlike quick-burning carbohydrates, protein provides lasting energy and keeps you fuller for longer, making it a key player in maintaining a healthy weight and balanced blood sugar levels.

Why Everyone Needs Protein-Not Just Athletes

For women, protein is vital for bone health, hormone regulation, and maintaining strength-especially through pregnancy, postpartum, or menopause. A busy mum managing work, kids, and home may not be hitting the gym daily, but getting enough protein helps her stay energised and resilient.

For men, protein plays a key role in muscle preservation and metabolism. A middle-aged man who enjoys weekend hikes but doesn't lift weights still benefits from a protein-rich diet to prevent age-related muscle loss and support overall vitality.

How to Get Enough Protein- Incorporate lean meats, fish, eggs, dairy, legumes, and plant-based options like tofu or quinoa into your meals. Prioritising protein will help you feel and function at your best-its not just about the exercise you do , its also about the nutrition you consume.

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Kumeu SeniorNet

After a very successful new members meeting, we enrolled a lot of new members into our club. It is great to see new faces, keen and ready to learn. We shouldn't be too complacent though, we still need some volunteers to teach, if you know of any one who is tech savvy, why not bring them along. Last month one of our members gave us a course on Excel where we learnt all about spreadsheets and what they can do. Also, we have had courses on mobile phones and Artificial Intelligence and what it can to help us. We are always looking to spread our net larger since Henderson closed and we are finding new members coming from further afield. Why not come along and visit us and see what we can do to help you with technology. You can come to one of our meetings. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month in St Chad's church hall, Matua Road, Huapai at 10am.

Discover hidden gems at the Kumeū Hospice Op Shop



Looking for unique finds at unbeatable prices? The Kumeū Hospice Op Shop is your go-to destination for quality second-hand clothing, accessories, homewares, furniture, books, and one-of-a-kind treasures. Our ever-changing selection means there's always something new to discover - whether you're a bargain hunter, vintage enthusiast, or simply looking for something special.

More than just an Op Shop, every purchase supports Hospice West Auckland, helping to provide essential palliative care and support for those in need in our West Auckland community.

Conveniently located at 46 Main Road in the heart of Kumeū's business district, we offer plenty of off-street parking. Visit us today and shop with purpose - because every dollar spent makes a difference.

The Kumeū Hospice Op Shop, 46 Main Road, open 9am - 5pm, 7 days.

Safer Communities



Auckland changed to a prohibited fire season on 14th March.

Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) enforces a prohibited fire season to protect our communities, homes, and environment from the devastating impact of vegetation fires. During this time, certain outdoor fires are banned to reduce the risk of accidental blazes that could threaten lives and property. This includes the use of braziers, bonfires, incinerators, campfires, burn piles etc. A key reason for this restriction is extreme weather conditions. Long dry periods, high temperatures, and strong winds create the perfect conditions for fires to ignite and spread rapidly. Dry grass, shrubs, and other vegetation become highly flammable, making even a small spark dangerous.

Keeping our communities safe is the top priority. Vegetation fires can destroy homes, businesses, and farmland, putting families at risk. By following fire bans and taking precautions, we all play a role in preventing devastating fires and ensuring the safety of our neighbours. Protecting our natural environment is another crucial reason for fire restrictions. Fires can cause lasting damage to native forests, wildlife habitats, and local parks that our communities cherish. Preventing wildfires helps maintain our shared spaces for future generations to enjoy. Finally, reducing fire incidents ensures that emergency services can respond quickly to other urgent needs. When we all work together and respect fire restrictions, we help keep firefighters available for other potentially life threatening emergencies.

By understanding and supporting the prohibited fire season, we can protect our communities, landscapes, and way of life.



For further information, refer to www.checkitsalright.nz



Jamie Shaw
Deputy Chief Fire Officer
Waitakere Fire Brigade - 09 810 9251

Going fishing from the rocks?

Know how to float	Find the safest place	If in doubt, stay out	Take care of yourself and others	Know how to get help
Only go fishing from rocks if you know how to float well. Always wear a lifejacket and take a flotation device, like a life ring or a bucket, with you. Lifejackets will increase your chance of survival if you fall in.	Check conditions: tide, swell, weather, and local hazards. Always face the ocean and be alert for large waves which can knock you off the rocks.	If the weather or conditions look dangerous don't go fishing - wait for another day.	Always fish together. If something happens they can help. Wear light, warm clothing, a lifejacket and shoes with grip (not gumboots).	Always take a mobile phone; in an emergency c 111 and ask for Police.

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KMR's two millionth tree a solid foundation



Kaipara Moana Remediation Pou Tātaki Justine Daw says her team is preparing for even more significant achievements this year following a highly successful 2024.

KMR has planted or contracted this winter, to put in 2.04 million plants.

In addition, Justine says her team has helped facilitate several other impressive milestones in their efforts working with landowners to help reduce sedimentation and siltation flowing into the Kaipara Moana.

"By the end of January, 900km of fencing – the same distance as from Kerikeri to Wellington – has been completed or are contracted to be completed before the end of summer, and 921 hectares have been planted, contracted to plant, or are regenerating into native forest," says Justine.

"That's an amazing achievement by the 755 landowners and groups taking action with KMR support."

Across the 600,000 hectare catchment in both Northland and Auckland, KMR invests in projects to restore wetlands, fence off rivers and streams, plant trees and regenerate forest on erosion-prone land.

"KMR projects not only reduce sedimentation, by definition, our work to recloak the waterways, re-wild special places and protect areas of remnant forests also support thriving biodiversity, mahinga kai and carbon storage. We also invest in local jobs and businesses and support the local people working with us into training and nature-facing career pathways," says Justine.

KMR offers free advice to landowners and groups and provides funding by paying a contribution (up to 50%) towards eligible sediment reduction projects, with experienced Field Advisors working closely with landowners and groups to prepare a plan to access KMR funding.

Support is also available for engagement and project management costs for community groups, marae, iwi/hapū or other collectives.

More than 1150 landowners and groups have expressed interest in KMR since the initiative began.

"Our community – and farmer – led projects build connectivity to local waterways, community well-being and also resilience to extreme weather in areas hard hit by recent storms, cyclones and droughts," says Justine.

KMR has created 350,000 hours of new work (a year's work

for more than 225 people), invested at least \$21 million in restoration projects, accredited 47 local businesses and nurseries to supply KMR projects, and helped train and mentor 184 people.

Justine says they want to hear from people whose land is in the Kaipara Moana catchment "If landowners and groups are thinking of fencing this autumn, planting this winter or would simply like to know more about KMR support, they can contact the KMR team on hono@kmr.org.nz. You can also read more about the people working on the land with KMR support at <https://kmr.org.nz/news-publications/our-people-25/>."

Justine says on-the-ground advice and guidance from the KMR's Field Advisors over the past three years has been key to ensuring that KMR projects are delivered successfully – and cost-effectively – and that landowners and groups have the knowledge they need to target projects on the landscape where they will make the greatest difference.

"The work of our Field Advisors and the quality of their advice, enabled by our smart digital systems, has been instrumental in KMR being nominated for the globally prestigious 2025 Earthshot Prize," says Justine.

The Earthshot Prize is an initiative inspired by President John F. Kennedy's 'Moonshot' challenge in 1962, which aimed to land a man on the moon within a decade. Launched by Prince William in 2020, the Earthshot Prize aims to search for, and scale, the most innovative solutions to the world's greatest environmental challenges.

The ten-year global initiative aims to identify and support programmes and initiatives that can accelerate and scale the environmental innovations needed to repair and regenerate our planet across five categories.

Every year, the winners with the best chance of helping achieve the identified 'Earthshots' are awarded significant funding to scale their solutions, with all finalists receiving tailored support from a global alliance of partners.

Increase in battery-related fires highlights need for consumer education

A 17% rise in lithium-ion battery related fires was recorded last year according to data from AMI, with mishandling during charging, storage, and disposal being the primary causes.

AMI Executive General Manager Claims Wayne Tippet says that more than 50% of all battery-related fire claims pertain to when devices are not in-use or being actively

Community News

monitored, for example, when being charged, stored or disposed of.

"Consumer safety and battery handling education to ensure the safety of New Zealanders is vital. Lithium-ion batteries can be found in devices everywhere, including in our pockets, so it's important we all learn how to take care of these items to ensure they don't ignite."

Last year, over 20% of AMI's lithium-ion battery related fire claims occurred when the battery or device was charging.

"We've received claims for drones, e-bikes, cars and even campervans which have caught fire while being left on charge for long periods of time, unsupervised."

The recent claims data also reveals that battery-related fires are not limited to residential properties. Claims spanned various policy types, including motor (27%), contents (25%), home (23%), commercial (23%), followed by marine/boat (2%).

AMI's data follows recent reports from councils about a surge in lithium-ion battery-related fires, which have started inside the containers of waste collection trucks.

"Please don't throw batteries and battery-powered devices in your household waste," he cautions.

"There are a number of collection facilities around the country for used batteries, including at most Mitre 10 and Bunnings Warehouse stores, and e-waste services or recycling services for electronics."

Fire and Emergency New Zealand's Community Education Manager Tom Ronaldson says while there is nothing inherently dangerous about lithium-ion batteries, they can be a fire hazard if they are damaged, mishandled, or improperly disposed of.

"When lithium-ion battery fires do occur, they can happen very quickly," he says.

"Therefore, it is important that if your battery is emitting vapour or unusual sounds, you evacuate immediately and call 111.

"To protect your battery, always use the correct charger for the device. If your battery is damaged, or hot to touch while charging, replace it immediately with one from the manufacturer.

"Always avoid charging devices on soft surfaces or leaving them plugged in for extended periods." Quick safety tips for lithium-ion battery powered devices:

Only use the charger that is specifically designed for the battery in your device.

When charging household items such as laptops, gaming consoles or mobile devices, do not place them on soft surfaces. Charge them while you are awake, unplugging them before going to bed.

Do not overcharge the battery by leaving it unattended for a prolonged period of time.

Keep an eye on the battery while it is in use and remove it immediately if it starts to feel hot.

Avoid exposing lithium-ion batteries to extreme temperatures, and do not puncture, crush, or otherwise

damage the battery casing.

Do not dispose of batteries in household waste. You can contact your local council for a recycling location – most Mitre10 and Bunnings Warehouse stores, e-waste services or recycling services for electronics have battery recycling collections.

Quick safety tips for EV, e-bike and e-scooter charging:

Where possible these should be stored and charged outside of the house in a garage, shed or carport, away from living spaces. Keep them away from any exit doors, escape routes and combustible materials.

Only use electric vehicle charging adaptors supplied by the vehicle manufacturer or by an electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) manufacturer.

Don't use any household adaptor (such as a multi-box, double plug or a travel plug) between EVSE such as an In-Cord Control and Protection Device IC-CPD and a socket outlet. Never use damaged or modified charging equipment, such as overseas equipment that has been fitted with a New Zealand plug.

Don't use any faulty charging equipment, get it checked by the manufacturer.

For more information, please visit [Lithium-ion battery safety | Fire and Emergency New Zealand](#).



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Kumeu's only 24-hour veterinary clinic, 111 (Triple One) Veterinary Clinic, continues to lead the way in both emergency and integrative pet care. Since opening on December 1st, we've been dedicated to providing cutting-edge treatments alongside compassionate, around-the-clock care for your small animals.

We are proud to be Auckland's first veterinary clinic with infrared intensive care and post-operative recovery cages. Infrared therapy offers numerous benefits, including enhanced circulation, faster healing, pain relief, and improved oxygenation of tissues—all of which contribute to quicker recovery times for pets undergoing surgery, or recovering from illness.

Beyond exceptional medical care, we understand the deep emotional bonds between pets and their families. Our 'Four Seasons Garden of Remembrance' has a growing array of colourful rocks, hand painted with love, by grieving pet owners. These rock tributes help heal broken hearts and serve as a reminder, that although physically gone, each pet lives on forever connected energetically to the hearts they touched, through cherished memories. Our memorial garden is our way of honouring the special place pets hold in our community's hearts.

Dr. Fiona Mead (Dr. Fi), a seasoned local veterinarian, is the director and head veterinarian at 111 Vet Clinic. It's a team approach, that enables around the clock care for your pets. Our holistic blend of Western medicine with integrative treatments, (acupuncture, herbal osteopathic techniques +others), is gaining favour as increasingly, people understand the benefits of treating layers of dysfunction and disease, rather than band-aiding symptoms. Whether it's a routine check-up, surgery, or emergency care, Dr Fi & the team at 111 Veterinary Clinic are here for local pets and their families, any time of day or night.

Visit us at 48 Main Road, Kumeu – The only 24-hour veterinary clinic dedicated to providing both regular and emergency care for our community. It is our privilege to have your pet's health as our number 1 priority!

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When it comes to family, some conversations are easier than others. We talk about milestones, holidays, and shared memories, but the harder topics, like funeral planning, often get pushed aside. Yet, these are some of the most important conversations to have.

Pre-planning your funeral is a thoughtful step to ensure your wishes are understood and upheld. We've found that pre-planned and personalised farewells and funerals offer great comfort to families, knowing they are honouring their loved one's wishes. We further recommend discussing your plans with your family and those close to you as the funeral is a final act and it is important that their grief will be properly supported when the time comes



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"Funeral homes have traditionally been places people engage with only when absolutely necessary, but our aim here at Davis is to change all that. Davis' mission is bigger than that. In addition to providing quality funeral care we recognise that it is our role to be active in the communities that we serve, enriching and improving people's quality of life. We do this through our close relationship and valued partnerships with a number of organisations, including Hospice West Auckland, Totara, Mercy and Dove Hospices, and the Auckland Philharmonic. We also partner with The Grief Centre, to enable us to offer free counselling sessions to our families, helping them work through their grief." Says General Manager, Michael Powell.

At Davis Funeral Care, we believe in the power of community and compassionate care. We're here for more than just the hard moments; we're here to support you through all of life's chapters.

Let's start these important conversations now.

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Kumeu's 'watershed' moment



Kumeu-Huapai flood management options appear ruled out with Future Kumeu continuing to suggest the "new" town centre should be on higher ground to the west based around an old Trigg Road orchard out

of the flood risk area.

Future Kumeu's Pete Sinton says the meeting of about 200 people, including commercial property owners and Auckland Council representatives, in the Kumeu Community Centre on February 17 was a "watershed" moment for the area.

Auckland Council Healthy Waters representative Nick Vigar says three flood management options studied have been largely ruled out due to cost and risk.

These were a 2.8km 70 metre wide Kumeu floodway extension put at \$573 million – considered uneconomical and increasing flood levels downstream near Waimauku.

Another for a 1.9km 4.5 metre diameter tunnel to divert flows from upstream of the Kumeu Village to the Waitemata Harbour was also considered too expensive at \$295 million relative to the flood risk benefit provided and would generate opposition during the consent process.

The preferred option of a dam with an estimated 1,800,000 cubic metres storage on the main Kumeu River channel between Kumeu and Taupaki was the most cost effective of the three options at \$163 million but poses a risk of failing in a major storm event, the meeting heard.

Nick says the council is now accounting for climate change rainfall of about 240mm in 24 hours compared to its previous scenario of 150mm in 24 hours.

He says major rainfall events above the 240mm scenario risks dam failure and increases the possibility of sudden and severe flooding.

Nick fielded questions largely about waterway maintenance and says he'll take that away from the meeting, meaning more clean-up work is likely.

Indeed, waterway maintenance – or lack of it – seemed the main point of contention raised by people at the meeting.

Other Auckland council representatives at the meeting included John Duguid and Peter Vari, while Craig Walker, Peter Sinton, Guy Wishart and Ben Vallings represented Future Kumeu and the meeting was chaired by Rodney councillor Greg Sayers.

Complete Cartage



Complete Cartage is a registered Auckland based excavation company, kiwi owned and operated. We were incorporated in 2015, founded by a husband-and-wife team. We have grown and expanded over the years.

Owner & operator Logan, has been in the industry for over 16 years now, taking control of high-end scale jobs from start to finish, completed to a high standard and of course a 5* safety rating. Logan has a wealth of knowledge in the industry.

We undertake all areas of projects from excavations to drainage, swimming pool dig outs, under house dig outs, site cuts, demolition, larger scale works, drilling site works through to cartage of aggregation and materials supplied. We also specialise in tight site, limited access earthworks.

We take pride in our work and always complete to a high standard.

Should you wish to talk to us about your upcoming projects you may have or want us to take a look at your next project, please feel free to contact us.

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Blackout Electric



Blackout Electric is a local family owned and operated business, run by Sebastian Weaver, a registered Electrician with over 17 years' experience in the industry.

After completing his apprenticeship and spending a number of years working for electrical companies, learning the

ins and outs of the industry, Seb decided it was time to go out on his own and build his own business from the ground up - since then, he hasn't looked back.

Nearly 5 years on we have 5 staff including a new apprentice who we just had start at the beginning of 2025. Aligning with supporting local, three of our staff are out of Kaipara College, which Blackout supports via their Gateway Programme. Seb is incredibly passionate about passing on his knowledge to others who want to be in the trade, and really enjoys seeing them succeed and become successful electricians themselves.

Since starting Blackout Electric, the support and loyalty we have experienced from locals is second to none. Customers who not only continue to use our service, but refer and recommend us to their own family and friends. This is a testament to the service we provide, and the reason we continue to grow as a business. Seb is highly experienced in delivering cost-effective, high quality workmanship - offering solutions, not problems. At Blackout Electric, we pride ourselves on exceeding client's expectations. We build a relationship with our customers that begins on the first day of contact, and only ends once they're fully satisfied with our work.

We specialise in all forms of residential and commercial electrical work. Including new builds and renovations, alarm systems, CCTV and AV, and general maintenance - From something as simple as a new power point, to an entire house rewire, Blackout Electric is happy to help.

Contact Blackout Electric for all your electrical service needs. We can be found at www.blackoutelectric.co.nz or info@blackoutelectric.co.nz.



Sayers Says it

By Rodney Councillor Greg Sayers.

With it being an election year I am receiving queries asking what is the difference between the role of a Local Board member compared to that of a Councillor?

Local Boards are elected to provide governance at a local level. They enable democratic decision making by, and on behalf of communities within their local board area. The role of the Councillor differs, requiring a focus on Auckland-wide strategic decisions, and working to make the most of the council's ability to deliver across Auckland. The Rodney district has nine elected Local Board members (part-time roles) and one Councillor (full-time role). All are elected to work and serve the best interests of the ratepayers, who elected them, rather than for the best interests of Auckland Council - which frequently requires them to challenge the bureaucracy. Local Board's have always had decision-making responsibility over local reserves and parks. Along with that responsibility comes accountability.

Another example of what the Rodney Local Board does is supporting community groups, landowners, volunteers and schools to manage pest plants, animals and pathogens. The Local Board helps to carry out native planting and stream restoration work in our parks, reserves, and public land. Local Boards also support people to work together for a better way of life, provide local community facilities, forward plan township growth, ensure transport networks are accessible, as well as help local groups protect the environment. They spend local rates locally. I have been working closely with the Mayor to drive changes allowing Local Board's to spend

even more of the rates collected, locally.

As a result the Rodney Local Board did recently receive a significant increase in their budget to invest back in to building local community facilities. This was a great win for our area. With the imminent restructuring of Auckland Transport coming back under the direct control of Auckland Council the goal is to devolve specific transport functions to Local Boards. This includes giving Local Boards, and thus also local communities, greater say over transport issues such as local parking policies, setting of local speed limits and approval of interventions on the roads, such as speedbumps and pedestrian crossings.

If elected members get any of these decisions wrong they can be elected out of office and held accountable by the ratepayer. For example, at the moment the Auckland Transport Board of Directors cannot be held accountable by the ratepayer, and removed from their job if they get it wrong. With these greater future responsibilities will also come greater accountability - which democratically, will be a significant improvement upon how the Supercity has been running to date.

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Food & Beverage

An Evening with Chef Des Harris



Welcome in the shorter days with a beautiful evening feast, crafted by one of New Zealand's top chefs.

An Evening with Chef Des Harris

We are excited to let you know that on Saturday the 12th of April we will be hosting an evenings supper here at the school with renowned Chef, Des Harris.

As a longtime friend of Mike and Bee, we are thrilled that Des is joining us for a one off evening of beautiful garden

inspired food in Muriwai.

With a career spent at some of New Zealand's top restaurants, including 9 years spent as Executive Chef of Clooney, this will be a night you don't want to miss.

This is a four course set menu made up of a canapé and drink on arrival, followed by a starter, main and dessert.

(Check out the sneak peak menu on our What's On page online) <https://www.goodfromscratch.co.nz/whats-on/>

Feijoa & apple crostata

Prep time: 20 minutes Cook time: 25 minutes
Serves: 6

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup cold unsalted butter, cut into small pieces
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 1/4 cup water

- Filling
- 1 cup raisins
 - 3 tbsp sherry
 - 3 apples
 - 6 feijoa, halved and scooped
 - juice of 1 lemon
 - 4 tbsp brown sugar
 - 1 tsp cinnamon
 - 1 tbsp icing sugar

Place the flour, sugar and salt into a bowl and mix until well combined; slowly add in the butter and rub in with your hands until the butter becomes pea-like in size. Slowly add the vanilla and almond extracts and water until the dough becomes moistened and comes together into a ball. Knead lightly and set aside in the fridge for 20 minutes.

Preheat the oven 180 degrees. To make up the spiced apple and feijoa mix, soak the raisins in sherry and a touch of warm water for 10 minutes.

Peel apples, then cut into thick slices around the core. Place in a large bowl with lemon juice and feijoa pulp.

Mix in the brown sugar and cinnamon. Drain raisins well, add to the feijoa mixture and toss to coat. Roll the crostata dough out to the size of a small plate and approx 5mm thick. Lay onto a greaseproof paper lined tray. And then spoon in 3 tbsp of the well drained apple and feijoa mixture, leaving a 5cm border. Fold up the sides of the dough. Dust with icing sugar. Place into an oven and cook for 25 minutes. Remove and allow to cool before serving. <https://www.goodfromscratch.co.nz/feijoa-and-apple-crostata/>



G.J. Gardner. HOMES

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ENQUIRIES / FEEDBACK / ADVERTISING:
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Property News

Your Local Builder: GJ's Rodney West

GJ's Rodney West are excited to open the doors in their new location - 248 Main Road, Kumeu. GJ's has been operating in the Rodney area since 1997 and are proud to build great homes throughout the area.

Whether you're looking for a great family home, lifestyle property, or first home the local team is dedicated to helping you have a great building experience. Owned and operated by husband and wife team Rachael and Matt, the team is looking forward to serving the community they love from their new location.

Matt and Rachael are very proud to have lived in the Rodney West district for over 25 years, with a long term family association that stretches back over 100 years to Huapai's earliest settlers.

Prior to becoming the proud owners of Rodney West, Matt was the General Manager of the larger Rodney franchise and Rachael joined the business after working in several leadership roles within the Finance Industry.

Matt and Rachael believe the key factors in creating a home that is just right for you are: good communication, understanding and teamwork. They respect and understand your individual needs and unique requirements when building a home.

"We take immense pride in knowing that our dedicated team will build you a home that you will be extremely proud of." - Matt Lelean

By working together with you, the team can design and build a home that suits you, your lifestyle, and your needs. Their experience and passion are a real asset for those building a new home.

Whether you're a first home buyer looking for a quality and affordable home, a family wanting a great home with room for everyone, or a larger lifestyle home that meets your families unique needs, the Rodney West team looks forward to working with you to design a home you can both be proud of.

Feel free to drop by their new offices at 248 Main Road, Kumeu to chat about your new home journey and

discover for yourself why more New Zealanders trust G.J. Gardner to build their homes year after year than any other builder.



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Franchise Owner
Rodney West Franchise

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What is an encumbrance?

By Sacha Easton, Legal Executive at ClearStone Legal



Once you have found a property to purchase, a lawyer can help you review the property's title and guide you through what it means for you. Each property has a Record of Title and there can often be documents, or instruments, noted on the title. These instruments record a wide variety of interests in the property such as a mortgage, right of way easement, land covenants etc.

One type of instrument sometimes registered on a property's title is an encumbrance. This is an instrument that sits as a charge on the property in favour of the encumbrancee, the most common encumbrance is a mortgage.

An encumbrance sets out the rules and restrictions you are required to adhere to. These vary, but can provide power of sale if you default on your mortgage, for example. In recent years we are starting to see more encumbrances appearing on a Title and each one is different, sometimes registered by Council or a developer of the land. It helps to have your lawyer interpret and advise how it might apply to you.

Encumbrances are becoming more common in new developments where a Residents Society is created for the purposes of maintaining the common areas and rubbish - and it is usual that if you buy the property, that you must become a member of the Society and pay an annual levy. There can be a lot of fine print, such as what will happen if you breach any of the rules, and how you might be required to remedy any breach, which in some cases include the power of sale (but not always).

When purchasing a property with an encumbrance on the title you are required to disclose the encumbrance to your bank if you are applying for finance. The bank will need to give their consent before approving your finance.

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Why choose G.J. Gardner



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We can even help you find a section or unique lifestyle property, sort out finance and payment terms to make it as simple as possible.

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Have an idea on paper but not sure where to start? Our New Home Consultants and onsite Architects can turn your sketch into reality and have it priced all in the space of a very short timeframe. Our designers have consistently been at the forefront of developing living concepts that cater for modern lifestyles and New Zealand's unique environment.

We project manage everything every step of the way and give you written assurances, regarding costs, workmanship, material guarantees, completion dates and other key issues.

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So give the team at G.J's Rodney West a call today on 09 412 5371, they can't wait to start your exciting build journey.

Two types of Powers of Attorney



An Enduring Power of Attorney (EPA) allows you to appoint someone to act as your attorney in certain circumstances and endures beyond any loss of mental capacity. There are two sorts of EPAs under New Zealand law. One for Health (dealing with matters relating to your general care and welfare) and another for Property (dealing with your property affairs). In each case, it is essential that you give your EPA to a person you trust completely to uphold your financial or health interests.

Your EPA must be given before you have lost capacity to understand and appreciate your own property or health interests. It is possible for someone to apply to the court to be appointed as your property manager or welfare guardian if you lose capacity without granting an EPA. However, that process can take very long and involves significant costs. The court order will also need to be extended every 3 years.

We recommend that you make your EPAs while you enjoy good health rather than assume you will have early warning about losing capacity. For further advice and assistance in preparing your EPAs.

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How are auctions going in the North West?



Going to auction takes an act of faith, faith that the market is strong enough to sustain competition, faith that you have spent enough on advertising, faith that the banks are going to look favorably on

the house and the buyer. But then there are the facts. On any week we are seeing around 20-40 homes taken to auction in this North West region. The statistics indicate that 70% will be passed in without selling (due to no bid or an insignificant bid). Of the 30% that sell, properties that reach or surpass their RV value have been very few indeed. In Barfoot's Auction room on the 8-14th March no properties in the Waitakere Ward reached or exceeded their RV. So, we ask the question, if you have a plan to auction, and your potential for success today is under 1/3 and the result will be less than you want, do you think that's a good plan?

Statistics in Auckland are tracking in the right direction with sales volumes and prices increasing month on month but this is also based on a low starting figure given the sales numbers and values experienced over December 2024 and January 2025.

One thing is for certain, mortgage interest rates are coming down with floating rates under 7% and 2 years fixed at under 6%.

With the OCR continuing to reduce and inflationary pressure softening it is a matter of when not if house prices in the North West start to climb.

Graham McIntyre, Raine & Horne Kumeu - Hobsonville on 0276320421 or email graham.mcintyre@kumeu.rh.co.nz
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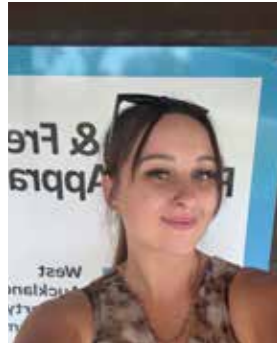
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Welcome Aria to West Auckland Property management



We are excited to announce that Aria has joined us as a Property Assistant and will be working alongside our Property Manager, Trina, at our Hobsonville branch located at 2 Clark Road, Hobsonville.

A little about Aria:

"I'm an adventurous spirit who truly feels at home in the great outdoors. Whether it's exploring

new trails, feeling the rush of motorsports, or simply soaking in the peace that nature brings, I constantly seek to make the most of my time outside. There's something about the open air that helps me reconnect with myself and feel grounded. With a bubbly, outgoing personality, I love surrounding myself with family and friends. The laughter, deep conversations, and unforgettable moments we share are what make life truly meaningful to me. I believe in fostering strong connections with those around me, as these relationships are a source of joy and inspiration. Music is another huge part of my life; it fuels my energy, sparks my creativity, and adds rhythm to my everyday adventures. I find myself constantly inspired by the power of music, whether I'm cruising along scenic roads or working on a new project. I'm always ready for a challenge and approach both personal and professional opportunities with an open mind and a positive attitude. In my work, I strive to take on new challenges, drive innovation, and collaborate with others to achieve success. I believe in continuous growth and maintaining balance while working toward my goals."

For any property-related enquiries, please feel free to reach out to Aria at info@wapm.co.nz.

We are thrilled to have Aria on board and look forward to seeing her thrive with our team!

How old is too old to get a mortgage?

Different banks have different rules when it comes to mortgages for older people.

There's no magic number that says you're too old, but banks will look at whether you'll be able to pay back the loan. In New Zealand, the standard loan term is 30 years.

Some banks are happy to support a mortgage of 30 years for an older person as long as you have a clear exit strategy.

They'll have a good look at your income, your assets, any debts you owe, and your overall financial health.

If you can show that you'll have a steady income after you retire, and that you can repay the mortgage within the agreed time frame, then you'll have a better shot at a good mortgage deal.

Working with a Mortgage Adviser becomes more vital at this stage so we can work out a clear exit strategy and present your specific situation to the lenders in the best light possible.

What impacts getting a mortgage when you're older?

Your job and how much money you're bringing in are big factors in whether you'll be able to get a mortgage, and this is even more true as you get older.

Lenders evaluate your current income to ensure you can afford the repayments, so for older applicants, demonstrating a stable and sufficient income becomes crucial.


If you're nearing retirement, lenders will take a look at your retirement income sources, such as pensions or investments, to assess financial stability.

Some may require a detailed retirement income plan. It's advisable to gather all relevant financial documents and be prepared to discuss your long-term financial plans in detail with your Mortgage Adviser to improve your chances of approval.

Equity and deposit

The amount of equity or security you can provide as well as the size of your deposit play important roles in a mortgage approval, particularly for older applicants.

A substantial deposit reduces the lender's risk, making



Loan Market

Stephen Massey
Mortgage Adviser
stephen.massey@loanmarket.co.nz
021 711 444

Let's chat.

them more likely to approve your mortgage application. Typically, a deposit of at least 20% of the property's value is favourable, but offering more can further strengthen your position.

So for older buyers, presenting a strong financial profile with a significant deposit and solid collateral can make lenders more comfortable.

In conclusion, obtaining a mortgage as an older applicant is feasible with the right approach and preparation.

Remember, each lender has unique policies, so that's where working with a Mortgage Adviser will enable you to make sense of what's on offer and find the best fit for your needs.

If you have any questions or need some tips for your specific circumstances, feel free to reach out to me. If you would like some advice around your particular situation, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me for an obligation free chat.

Stephen Massey - Loan Market, Call 021 711 444

Rental properties surge due to economic climate



Developers and Kiwi's migrating to Australia are the biggest influence in a glut of housing stock available to rent in the North West. Figures out from Trademe, show a significant lift in rentals available in the North

West and highlight a softening in the weekly asking price in rent.

New migration data shows in the year ended August there was a record net loss of 56,100 New Zealand citizens, with just over half headed to Australia.

Migration gains also fell to the lowest level since early 2023.

We're seeing owners move overseas wanting to rent their properties out, but we also have tenants moving overseas which increases the supply.

The supply of new townhouse properties into the rental market also adds complexity as Tenants seek to understand the value of a new home with no or limited parking versus an older home with good parking and storage on offer.

Whichever way you cut the cake it's great for tTenants, tricky for landlords, but a point of time that has to be worked through.

For a no-obligation chat call Graham McIntyre today on 0276320421, 09-8320832 or email graham@wapm.co.nz

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25

Every month Raine & Horne Kumeu assembles a comprehensive spreadsheet of all the recent sales in the area that reviews the full range of Residential and Lifestyle transactions that have occurred. To receive the full summary simply email the word "full statistics" to office@kumeu.rh.co.nz. This service is free from cost.

SUBURB	STREET	CV	BED	FLOOR AREA m2	LAND AREA m2	SALE PRICE
Helensville						
	Kanono Way	\$1440000	4		1776	\$1200000
	Urumaraki Avenue	\$1050000	4	182	500	\$1100000
	Rautawhiri Road	\$1050000	4		600	\$990000
	Urumaraki Avenue	\$1100000	3		600	\$1100000
	St Julia Court	\$1100000	4	189	711	\$1150000
	Urumaraki Avenue	\$1150000	4		706	\$1160000
	Rongomai Street	\$800000	3	94	373	\$792000
Hobsonville						
	Turret Lane	\$1575000	5	232	328	\$1500000
	Waipana Street	\$1285000	3	161	325	\$1305000
	Sidney Wallingford Way	\$905000	3	89	124	\$822000
	Rangihina Road	\$885000	2	77	133	\$787000
	Launch Road	\$885000	3		0	\$740000
	Malcolm Calder Road	\$980000	3	99	154	\$870000
	Waterlily Street	\$1250000	4		193	\$1250000
	Hobsonville Point Road	\$1015000	3	121	112	\$839000
	Harakeke Road	\$1130000	2	106	235	\$1020000
	Squadron Drive	\$895000	2		145	\$835000
	Rangihina Road	\$630000	1	66	0	\$620000
	Myland Drive	\$1550500	5		0	\$1470000
	Tahingamanu Road	\$1300000	3		254	\$1270000
	Hudson Bay Road	\$950000	3	129	157	\$1160000
	Waterlily Street	\$1295000	4		188	\$1190000
	Patrol Lane	\$1125000	3	162	107	\$1120000
	Catalina Bay Drive	\$1645000	3		0	\$1800000
Huapai						
	Tapu Road	\$1250000	5		1083	\$1530000
	Ara Kakara Avenue	\$1250000	3		536	\$1320000
	Paihere Street	\$1400000	5		588	\$1328000
	Kahika Grove	\$1550000	4		1017	\$1450000
	Trigg Road	\$1150000	6		1019	\$1380000
	Kahika Grove	\$1450000	5	212	607	\$1240000
Kumeu						
	Eric Farley Drive	\$1475000	3	223	620	\$1236250
	Podgora Avenue	\$1175000	4	198	206	\$910000
	Papa Orchard Drive	\$1350000	4		654	\$1285000
	Old North Road	\$1525000	4		10000	\$1165000
	Riverhead Road	\$920000	4	127	1024	\$1060000
	Nobilo Road	\$1250000	4	183	476	\$1250000
	Cutfield Lane	\$1575000	6		600	\$1350000
	Foster Road	\$2425000	6	375	10600	\$3125000
	Babina Avenue	\$1650000			1561	\$3100000
Massey						
	Glenfinn Place	\$930000	3	90	869	\$810000
	Kearney Place	\$1050000	3	90	587	\$750000
	Sari Place	\$1025000	4		355	\$746500
	Anich Road	\$950000	3		943	\$860000
	Redwood Drive	\$1375000	4		744	\$995000
	Tiriwa Drive	\$760000	2	74	100	\$599000
	Lowtherhurst Road	\$1125000	4	151	1194	\$842000
	Royal Road	\$690000	2		0	\$647000

SUBURB	STREET	CV	BED	FLOOR AREA m2	LAND AREA m2	SALE PRICE
	Petrel Place	\$1550000	5		629	\$1480000
Parakai						
	Parakai Avenue	\$845000	2		1356	\$650000
	Raabia Close	\$935000	4		664	\$1070000
Riverhead						
	Pohutukawa Parade	\$845000	4		801	\$1650000
	Albert Street	\$1780000	4	246	830	\$1865000
	George Street	\$1780000	0		0	\$1925000
	Arthur Street	\$1200000	4		755	\$932800
	Pohutukawa Parade	\$1650000	4	265	801	\$1615000
	School Road	\$1435000	4		1255	\$1410000
	Cobblers Lane	\$1425000	3		694	\$1310000
	Elliot Street	\$1140000	0		1143	\$850000
Swanson						
	Scenic Drive North	\$660,000	0		2335	\$89000
	Christian Road	na	6		23800	\$2950000
	Samuel Cassidy Avenue	\$1065000	3		348	\$1031000
	William Wallbank Crescent	\$970000	4	155	194	\$935000
	Crows Road	\$1900000	7	347	979	\$1648880
	Yozin Road	\$780000	3		0	\$735000
	Parklands Avenue	\$1500000	3		2138	\$1250000
	Crows Road	\$1790000	6		1120	\$1540000
	Range Road	\$1,150,000	3		3678	\$1250000
Waimauku						
	Muriwai Road	\$1,600,000	4		1603	\$1605000
	Pukemarinno Road	\$1325000	4		801	\$1360000
	Muriwai Road	\$1700000	5		25300	\$1780000
	Murray Way	\$1475000	5		2476	\$1400000
Waitakere Township						
	Bethells Road	\$1525000	2		42200	\$1600000
West Harbour						
	Luckens Road	\$1310000	3	190	0	\$960000
	Bluefin Way	\$1100000	4		305	\$1080000

DISCLAIMER: These sales figures have been provided by a third party and although all care is taken to ensure the information is accurate some figures could have been mis-interpreted on compilation. Furthermore these figures are recent sales over the past 30 days from all agents in the area.

Raine & Horne's commission rate:

2.95% up to \$590,000

(Not 4% that others may charge)

1.95% on the balance

Plus \$490 admin fee.

All fees and commissions + GST

Raine & Horne Kumeu also provide statistical data FREE from cost to purchasers and sellers wanting more information to make an informed decision. Phone me today for a FREE summary of a property and surrounding sales, at no cost and no questions asked. Graham McIntyre 027 632 0421 *Available for a limited time. Conditions apply.

Raine & Horne

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Phone 0800 900 700 Country Living Realty Ltd Licensed REAA (2008)

Graham McIntyre
Brand & Territory Owner
027 632 0421





Newly born - Scott Point Harmony

58 Turrett Lane, Hobsonville

The perfect blend of indoor-outdoor flow with all the comforts of a high spec new build.

Don't be fooled, it's bigger than it looks offering uncompromised open plan kitchen, dining, lounge alfresco with easy double stack slider opening to decking and storage shed.

Upstairs, two toilets, full bathroom and two generous bedrooms.

Exceptional build, earthy tones, carpet, tile and natural wood laminate, this home has been crafted and coloured to provide a seamless buy-move in experience.

Motivate Vendors graduating North.

Graham McIntyre, Raine & Horne Kumeu - Hobsonville on 0276320421 or email

graham.mcintyre@kumeu.rh.co.nz

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 4  2  3  279.3m²



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From modern, stylish homes at an affordable price to sprawling country estates, every plan has been thoughtfully designed to suit New Zealand's landscapes so your home will always look at home in its surroundings.

*Price is an indication of the build cost only and excludes land and site specific costs. Images are artist's impression only. Some conditions may apply.

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G.J. Gardner. **HOMES**



319 Don Buck Road, Massey

3 Bed 1 Bath 2 Car

Best in the West - Brick and Tile

Stop the Press:

- Brick and Tile, (well maintained and presented)
- 4 rooms (3 bedrooms and a hobby room or 4th bedroom)
- Generous Living flowing to outside patio
- Entertainer Kitchen with Views to the Skytower
- Decking, home opens to the East
- Amazing 1123 sqm section
- Double tandem garage and workshop
- Motivation and enthusiasm

It's going to sell, a one of a kind, first time on market in over 25 years, an absolute gem, in the middle of everything an yet quiet, removed and remote when your on the deck or patio with the sun on your shoulder and the view as far as the eye can see. Come and join us, view this amazing home and property and see if you have what it takes to take the reins of this idyllic stately home. CV has no relevance, our Vendor instructions are to sell.

By Negotiation



Graham McIntyre
027 632 0421



421 Kiwitahi Road, Helensville

3.9 acres, views, title issued, \$790,000

Come discover the canvas for your new home at 421 Kiwitahi Road, Helensville. This stunning 1.5-hectare section offers an incredible opportunity to create a tranquil retreat in a picturesque setting, with views North to Kaipara Harbour.

Guide
\$790,000

Title issued.

1.5 hectares at your disposal, you'll have ample space for a luxurious home, expansive gardens, or even a small hobby farm. The possibilities are endless.

Enjoy the serene surroundings of extensive native plantings, delivering lush landscapes and scenic views through to the Kaipara Harbour and Shelly Beach. This section is perfect for those who appreciate nature and desire a peaceful, tranquil lifestyle.

Situated just a short drive from Waimauku and Helensville, you'll have easy access to local amenities, schools, and recreational activities, all while enjoying rural living.



Graham McIntyre
027 632 0421





14 Peters Lane, Taupaki

6 Bed 3 Bath

Elevated Family Estate in Taupaki

Perched atop almost 1 hectare of prime North facing land, with views through to Kumeu in the picturesque countryside village of Taupaki, this property offers the perfect blend of large shedding, large home and studio/ accommodation. With a generous building area of 490 sqm, this stunning property is designed for home, extended family, business, hobby, guests, and pets.

Featuring:

- 6 spacious bedrooms • 3 bathrooms • Large basement/ hobby area • Seamless indoor-outdoor flow • Large studio/accommodation • 10-car garaging (yes 10 car garaging)
- Cattle loading ramp • Two paddocks • Almost 1 hectare of land (over 2 acres)

So much on offer here and yet so many choices as to how you use the land, the house, the studio/office/ accommodation, and where you park the cars and toys.

**Price
By Negotiation**



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96 Pomona Road, Kumeu

4 Bed 1 Bath 4 Car

Beautiful, North Facing, Kumeu Lifestyle living

We are viewing most properties on a daily basis and are excited to get you through this home. Text me a time/day that suits you to view on 027 632 0421.

**Guide
Negotiation**

A short drive to Kumeu and Westgate - one of the best lifestyle addresses in Kumeu.

Cultivate your future in this North-facing opportunity—a sprawling 4-hectare canvas of colour and established plantings that promises a life of endless possibilities. Immerse yourself in the natural kaleidoscope that surrounds a charming four-bedroom traditional bungalow, basking in the warm embrace of full sunshine and showcasing extensive rural views of the valley below. Level to gently sloping, sunny and sheltered, the land offers many opportunities to develop or leave it as is to enjoy your rural idyll. Some potential income streams that only require your effort to exploit. Add to this your very own nature reserve, garaging for 3-4 vehicles and your imagination will take flight.



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A Royal Vista - inner harbour sanctuary

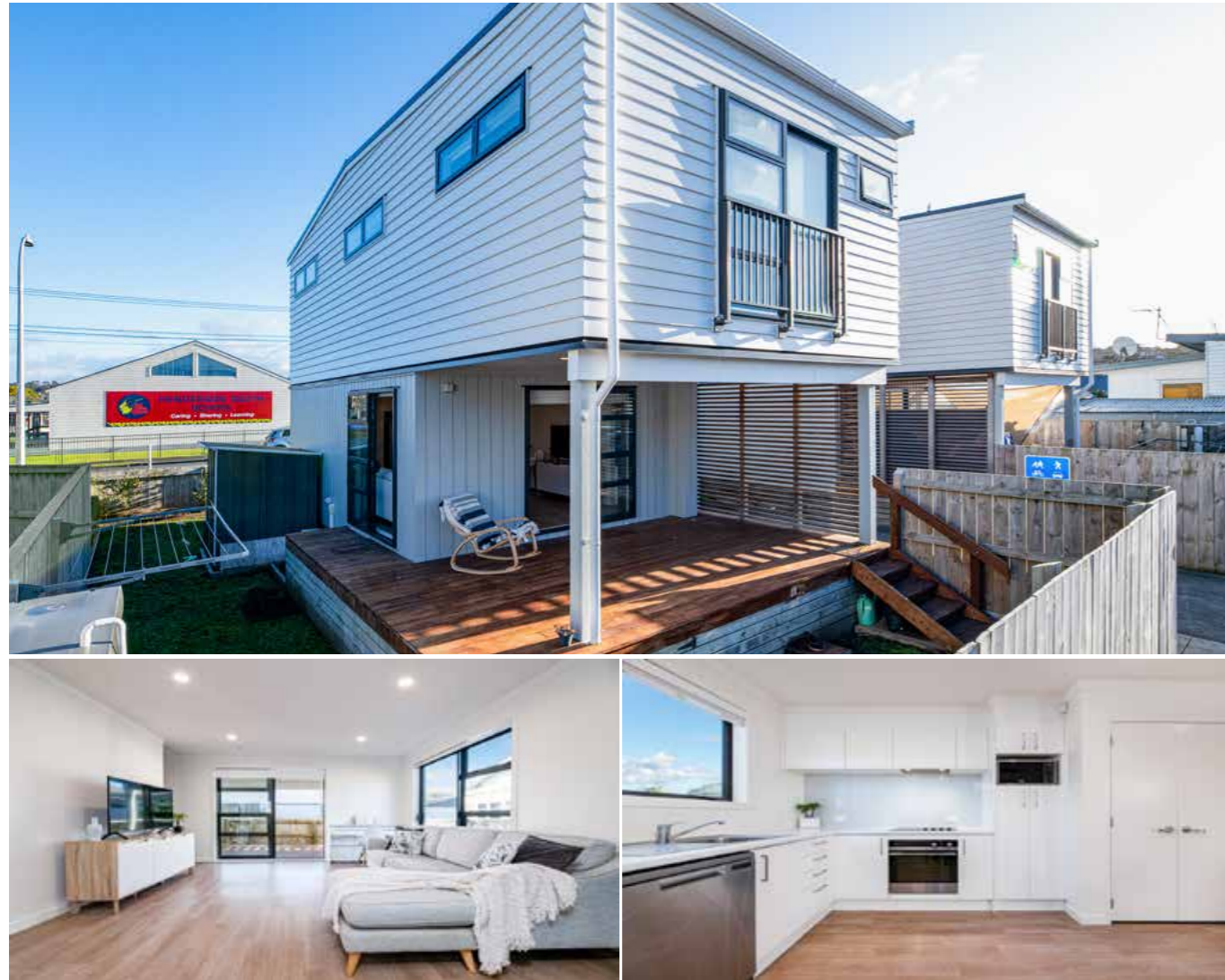
357 Royal Road, Massey

Set in an inner harbour cul-de-sac, elevated and yet meters from the tidal beauty and access to the inner harbour looking North to Hobsonville and Te Atatu Peninsula is this meticulously appointed home on 604 square meters of landscaped lawn, decking and sensible easy-care plantings. Offering incredible views and the best of privacy in a tranquil haven - this really is the

complete package. The home is modern, dynamic, and seamlessly flows between well designed spaces bringing the view of the inner harbour and the park into frame, giving you a direct link to the beauty of nature and the relationship between water and land sanctuaries. Access to launch your kayak or tinny is meters away and for the active, the beautiful Moire Park complete with sports clubs and bush walks is just a short stroll away. Architecturally designed with private sanctuaries as well as superb family spaces, this is a home that is clever in catering for adults and children of all ages, with multiple living areas and unbeatable indoor-outdoor flow.

With easy access from kitchen to pantry and walled vegetable garden along with the wide opening glass doors out onto the large and private hardwood deck, this home will delight all culinary enthusiasts and entertainers alike. This is a grand home offering incredible spaces in your own private sanctuary with views and amenities that you won't find elsewhere.

Graham McIntyre, Raine & Horne Kumeu - Hobsonville on 0276320421 or email graham.mcintyre@kumeu.rh.co.nz Country Living Realty Ltd t/a Raine & Horne Kumeu - Hobsonville Licensed REAA (2008)).



31B Garelja Road, Henderson

3 Bed 2 Bath

Standalone, newly born, with parking - Hello Henderson

It's a standalone, offering modern living, newly born and fresh to market.

A three bedroom, two bathroom home, offering all the benefits and comfort of modern living mixed with neutral tones, and easy care flooring choices.

Excellent indoor-outdoor flow to decking and lawn area, fenced for pets and little people.

Upstairs enjoy the separation of space with bedrooms and bathrooms (one an ensuite) providing easy night-time sleep management if you have young ones.

A great investor option or first home buyer gaining a quality build and enjoy the equity gains as the market recovers.
Motivated Vendor seeks engagement with all \$700,000 plus buyers.

Guide
Negotiation



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18 Peters Lane, Taupaki

Sun kissed, north facing house and land package

A large north facing canvas, with natural water course and established plantings with options to select the best house and land package for you, including home and income options. Elevated rolling land with views to Kumeu and beyond, the houses selected are designed to make the most of the aspect and the outlook. This land is historical and original clay base which has no historical slip effects nor movement lines. In addition much of the area is slowly moving to countryside living which allows for great intensification within this residential lifestyle community. Please survey the house and land package options outlined and book a walk-the-land meeting with leading Taupaki agent and local resident Graham McIntyre.

Renders and pricing for House and Land Packages provided by:
GJ Gardner indicative value \$3,479,000 approx. enquire for further information
Golden Homes indicative value \$3,798,000 approx. enquire for further information
Signature Homes indicative value \$3,326,500 approx. enquire for further information

Guide
Negotiation



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199 Nixon Road, Taupaki

5 Bed 2 Bath 4 Car

Home, shed, office, sleep out, paddock.

A home where memories are made and fill the void of mediocrity, a home for the whole family through the years of fun, discovery and leisure. Elevated countryside living, with sleepout, barns, sheds, offices, studios and more within this leafy paradise. A nod to the past with this well presented, modernised lockwood home with accents of white to set off the blonde timber. A large five bedroom, three bathroom home, with additional space for offices/ study/ sleepout/ games room. Central open plan living and dining opening to decking and pool area. All the rooms and bathrooms are off the central corridor with easy access to boardwalk decking. Centrally located on the land the house is in an elevated position, the barns and sheds share the driveway providing easy access and storage for a toys and tools, friends and family. Set in a park-like glade, full of established trees and easy care flat lawn with a paddock for play, a tree for a treehouse and room to explore, to craft and create. Life is too short for concrete and tarmac, discover a life with nature's best, so private and tranquil but so close to amenities, schools and convenience stores when you want them.

Guide
Negotiation



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Disclaimer: Information contained herein is gathered from sources we deem to be reliable however warrant no guarantees as to its accuracy. Interested parties are advised to rely upon their own enquiries and due diligence.

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26 Squadron Drive, Hobsonville

2 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car

Garage, Park, Grass, Views Ooo La La - Hobsonville

A contemporary, sun filled and private 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom home over 2 levels offering an impressive list of extras, situated off a quiet lane way minutes away from Hobsonville shopping precinct.

Guide
Negotiation

A two level end duplex built by Universal homes, this is a lock up and leave that has been invested in with smart air circulation, drapes and finishing's.

Downstairs enjoys an open plan alfresco living environment with patio and grassed area.

Upstairs are two bedrooms (generous size), bathroom and ensuite.

Come view Mary's Gallery a mix of beautiful artwork and collectables within an easy living environment with garage and parking outside off the private laneway access.



Graham McIntyre
027 632 0421

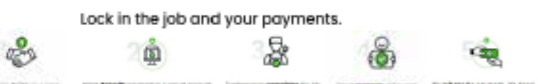


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Our fully customizable tiny homes are built specifically to suit your needs, wants & budget.

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We collaborate closely with each client, ensuring that every aspect of their tiny home aligns seamlessly with their vision and budgetary constraints. With options available for every budget.



Home & Garden

Anzac display at Westgate Mitre 10 Mega



A display to commemorate Anzac Day is planned at Mitre 10 Mega Westgate. A first display was created two years ago by Tracey Healy, Karmen Wilton and James Middleditch. In front of a photo wall, sandbags were added with a trench topped with a barbed wire feature to simulate the trenches of World War I. Hobsonville RSA gave their support and sold commemorative

poppies by the display. In 2024 the creators developed the concept and built a monument to go with the trench. Flag poles with the NZ and Australian flags were added. Konini School from West Auckland visited and examined the structure of the trench, then made one for their three senior classrooms. James Middleditch was invited to the School's ANZAC service, after which children gave a presentation of the story of a particular individual from the war. A display of the school's work was included in the display last year.

This year the display is more interactive with a box periscope as used in the trenches. This will demonstrate a World War scene. Other features include an ammo box with correct markings. There will also be an old NZ Army uniform for children to put on and have their photo taken within the trench. In 2024 Mitre 10 hosted an ANZAC service including an army trumpeter and a reading by the head of the Hobsonville RSA, who spoke highly of the display as did various serving and ex-service personnel. The display is planned to be available for about a fortnight before ANZAC day and for a week afterwards. Customers have been supportive, with one lady knitting poppies for the display and another making a wreath this year. We are grateful to Mitre 10 Mega Westgate management for supporting this ANZAC day project.

Kumeu Community Garden needs your help



The hot dry summer is a blessing but means the community garden is fairly parched. Thanks to those of you who have been keeping things alive, and for harvesters, we hope you've enjoyed the fruit of the community labour.

It's not just the good weather that's been a struggle for us though.

Some of our key garden volunteers have been going through some challenges, and other commitments have taken priority. That means we're desperately looking for more support. We need people to join our gardening crew and our committee.

So if you have a green thumb, or would like to develop one, or even if you don't have a green thumb at all but have a community spirit, we need you. We're looking for people that can come to a meeting once every few months, and to the garden once a week, once a fortnight, or even more or less.

Without more help, unfortunately the garden will have to be wound up. We love providing free fresh veges but need to share the load.

We're really blessed with the nice soil, sunny site, a good growing climate, and support from businesses like Quality Water, Wyatt Landscape Supplies - Waimauku, New World Kumeu, Craig Walker Building Removals, Bunnings, Kumeu Garden Hub, and from Auckland Council, Kumeu Garden Club and Huapai-Kumeu Lions. Now we just need some more community participation.

If you can help or are interested in being involved, please send us a message on fb or email kumeucommunitygarden@gmail.com We'd love to hear from you, and your support will keep the garden growing.

Exciting News: Small builds is expanding and moved to a New Location!



We are thrilled to announce that due to the growth of our business, we have moved to a new location.

This move is a direct result of our continued success and expansion, and we are excited to share this milestone with you.

Our new space will allow us to serve you better, offering more room to grow and improving our ability to meet your needs. We are confident this change will enhance our operations and provide a more comfortable and efficient experience for both our team and clients.

Our new location will feature a tiny home on display, allowing you to see firsthand the quality and design of our compact living solutions.

To give you even more insight into the range of products we offer, we will also have a sample display shed. Here, you can explore a variety of our products up close, helping you make informed decisions for your small build.

We invite you to visit our new premises to experience these exciting additions for yourself. As always, our team is on hand to provide expert advice and guidance.

Hours of trade are Monday to Friday 8am – 5pm.

We highly recommend booking your visit in advance to ensure a personalized experience and to make the most of your time at our new premises.

We look forward to welcoming you to our expanded space and continuing to serve you at our new address 3/11 Weza Lane Kumeu Auckland

Email info@smallbuilds.co.nz

Phone 021 378277

Website www.smallbuilds.co.nz

wallerprojects
MARK WALLER
 M: 021 802 845
 E: mark@wallerprojects.co.nz
 A: The Hangar, Catalina Bay, 2/2 Boundary Road, Hobsonville Point
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AWARD WINNING DESIGN & BUILD

DIY Your Own Backyard Bunny! - with Stihl shop Kumeu & westgate



Autumn is in the air and Easter is nearly here, and a wooden bunny is a perfect way to get everyone involved in a little outdoor DIY fun. Its also the perfect excuse to dust off your chainsaw!

You will need: a chainsaw, 3 different sized round logs, sandpaper, superglue, sawhorse and any decorations you may want to add to your bunny.

1: Secure your largest piece of wood on the sawhorse. Cut a single disc to create the bunny's body. Ensure that the disc is at least 2cm thick to provide a sturdy base for the bunny. If making more than one disc, repeat the process. Sand the edges of the disc(s) for neatness.

STEP 2: The next step is to create the head using your second largest log. Cut a disc that is either the same, or slightly thinner than the width of the body. Once you're happy with the cut, sand the edges down.

STEP 3: To create the bunny's feet and ears, use the smallest log. Cut two small discs for the feet that match the width of the body and head. Smooth them with sandpaper. For the ears, cut two thin discs on an angle from the same log, and sand the edges.

STEP 4: Once your pieces of wood are ready, it's time to start putting your bunny together! Choose a flat surface for fixing and allow sufficient time for the glue to set. If your logs are fresh and moist inside, let them dry for a day or two before attaching the pieces. Begin by fixing the feet, then attach the head and slide the ears underneath.

STEP 5: Once your creation is looking like a real bunny, get creative and add some personal touches. Use things like buttons for eyes, ribbons, paint, or anything else you can find around the house to give your bunny it's personality!

For expert advice on all your outdoor power equipment (and DIY bunny needs), head in and see our team at either of our STIHL SHOP Kumeu or Westgate stores!

54 Main Rd Kumeu
 PH: 412 8592
OPEN MON-SAT

NOW AT TWO HANDY LOCATIONS FOR EXPERT ADVICE & SERVICE

15 Kakano Rd Westgate
 PH: 930 9999
OPEN 7 DAYS

Whenuapai Garden Club news



New President, Dawn, welcomed all present at the latest meeting before relaying the news that unfortunately the arranged Speaker had to bow out due to a bad dose of Covid. Yes, it's still a thing, and members were urged to think about getting another booster if it has been more than six months since their last dose.

More members are needed to assist the committee and anybody with a mind to help would be warmly welcomed. Annual subs are now due. Margaret gave a rundown on upcoming trips and forthcoming special events were also discussed.

At the conclusion of the meeting members enjoyed refreshments which included a lovely carrot cake, an orange cake and some chocolate brownie squares as a grateful welcome to Dawn's leadership of the group. Any excuse for cake.

Flower of the month was hibiscus.

If you would like to know more about our Club, and wish to join us, please phone Judy Garrity on 8335592. Meetings are held at 1 p.m. at 41 Waimarie Road, Whenuapai Village, on the second Thursday of the month with trips usually on the fourth Thursday. Entry fee is \$4 with another dollar per raffle ticket.

Until next time, Happy gardening from Mary Anne Clark

Waimauku Garden Club

It was a lovely day when we met with our fellow gardeners at Waimauku to board our bus for the journey to Wellsford. There was lots of chatter on the way, catching up with friends. We arrived at Nikauri Garden welcomed by Carolyn for morning tea on the deck overlooking the lovely grounds with a pond complete with a fountain. The garden was filled with interesting sculptures. The house also was just as interesting. Some of us ventured into the Nikau forest where we came to a majestic Kauri tree watched by a kereru. The cicada chorus was deafening. From there we went to our next garden owned by Jeannie, a delightful lady. Her home was quaint and the garden was gorgeous with mosaic treasures tucked amongst the planting. Before we went for lunch at the Port Albert Store we stopped at the wharf to view the commemorative plaque for the pioneer family, the Albertlanders. We had a delicious lunch of fish and chips while enjoying listening to a musician. Our last stop was at Mataia Homestead, a stunning 125 year old historical homestead beautifully restored to its former glory with so much to see and do there. We had such an enjoyable day.

Feel free to contact any of us Ann (0210357406), Diana (0274788928), Gail (021344070), Maree (0274963006), Sandi (0273184514) and Monique (021646220)

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Why Drain Ninjas Uses the Full Lid Removal Method for Septic Tank Cleaning

At Drain Ninjas, we believe in providing the most thorough and effective septic tank cleaning. That's why we use the full lid removal method, as opposed to the "mushroom" method. This means emptying the tank through the vent pipe.

With the mushroom method, only a small access point is used to empty the septic tank. This can leave residual sludge behind, leading to blockages and reduced tank efficiency over time. It also means you may need to get your tank emptied more frequently as not all solids are taken away.

In contrast, the full lid removal method involves exposing the entire septic tank lid and completely emptying the tank. This ensures all waste is removed and allows for a comprehensive inspection of the tank's condition.

By using the full lid removal method, Drain Ninjas can provide a higher standard of septic tank cleaning that

promotes the longevity and performance of your septic system. It's just one more way we go above and beyond for our customers.

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editorial@kumeucourier.co.nz

Pumped Up Plumbing: Your Local Experts for Winter Prep



As the morning and nights are starting to crisp up, now is the perfect time to get your home ready for Winter – and our team at Pumped Up Plumbing are here to help! We're a small, family-run business, with experience in small repair jobs through to large commercial projects, so no job is too big or complicated. We have specialists in plumbing, drain laying and gas services, so are ready to help with those jobs you've been meaning to get sorted.

We know Winter can bring challenges like leaky down pipes, blocked drains, and chilly nights without reliable hot water heating. That's why we're encouraging locals to get ahead of the season.

Clear blocked drains

Need your drains cleared before the heavy rains hit? We can inspect cesspits and drainage lines to ensure water flows to where it should, and make any recommendations for improvements. We have equipment to camera and locate lines to give a clear picture.

Repair down pipes and stormwater lines

Have a leaky down pipe you've been meaning to get looked at? Now is a great time to get them sorted and sealed to ensure any issues don't get larger.

Cylinder or infinity replacements

Been thinking about upgrading to a mains pressure cylinder, gas infinity unit or even a hot water heat pump cylinder? Our team are experienced in these installations and can offer advice on which option would suit your needs best.

Don't wait for Winter to catch you off guard.

Get in touch with the team at Pumped Up Plumbing today or visit www.pumpedupplumbing.co.nz to book a check-up or chat about your needs. We provide free no obligation quotes and friendly advice.



Something fresh is coming to Waimauku

As Auckland continues to expand, finding a balance between space, lifestyle, and convenience is becoming increasingly difficult. While many suburbs are seeing higher-density housing developments, Waimauku has remained an exception—offering a more relaxed way of life, where space is not a luxury but a given. A rare opportunity is emerging for those who want to call this sought-after community home.

Freshfields, a boutique development, minutes from Kumeu and Huapai, is set to bring something new to Waimauku. It is a new offering with sections ranging from 1,259sqm to 4,330sqm; a development designed for those who do not want to compromise on space, privacy, or quality of life.

Unlike many new subdivisions where homes are tightly packed together, Freshfields offers room to breathe. It is a place where families can spread out, where there is space for a veggie garden, an outdoor entertaining area, or simply a backyard big enough to enjoy. And with Waimauku Primary School within walking distance, it is a location that makes sense for families looking to put down roots in a welcoming community.

The appeal of Waimauku is not just about what's within its borders. The black sands of Muriwai Beach, the trails of Woodhill Forest, and some of Auckland's finest wineries are just a short drive away, making it an ideal base for those who love the outdoors. Yet, despite its rural charm, the area remains well connected—Auckland's CBD is still within commuting distance, making it a viable option for those who work in the city but crave a quieter home life.

House and land opportunities in Waimauku are becoming increasingly rare, and Freshfields represents a unique chance to secure a piece of this high-demand location. The development is being marketed by Signature Homes West & North-West Auckland, giving buyers the ability to create a home that suits their vision and lifestyle.

For those looking for a fresh start in a community that values space, nature, and quality of life, Freshfields could be just what they've been waiting for. Contact Signature Homes West & North-West Auckland today to learn more

0800 020 600 | saleswest@signature.co.nz.

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Young Learners

Tamariki me Rangatahi, Children and Teen Events at Te Manawa in April

Calling all tamariki and rangatahi! Looking for something fun to do these April school holidays? Te Manawa's "Create, Clay and Play" programme runs from Saturday 12 April to Sunday 27 April 2025, and includes free activities for the whole whānau.

The programme celebrates the vibrant new décor in Te Whare Tapere | Children's Space, from the beloved Children's claymation series Kiri and Lou. Join us for a



dinosaur-themed Kiri and Lou Storytime, pop-up craft and decoration stations, digital play days with Cybernix, and much more.

Further details, including dates and times, will be available on Te Manawa's social media and in our What's On brochure for April.

Auckland Libraries at Te Manawa, 11 Kohuhu Lane, Westgate 0814. Facebook: TeManawaAC



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Are we racing to the Boat
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Kiddywinkles Early Learning Sets the Foundation for Primary School Success

Kiddywinkles also had the pleasure of welcoming the Minister for Small Business and local MP, Chris Penk. Penk enjoyed seeing how well the children interacted with each other, both inside the large, brightly decorated rooms and in the spacious outdoor areas.

For more insights, listen to the podcast featuring Kiddywinkles' owner Allen Court and Minister Erica Stanford on the Kiddywinkles' website and the Kiddywinkles' Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/KiddywinklesHuapai/>



"Centres like yours are doing an excellent job at getting kids school-ready"

Erica Stanford, Minister of Education



53 Station Road
(opposite Huapai District School)
huapai@kiddywinkles.co.nz
Ph 09 412 2209

A child's preparedness for primary school begins long before they step into a classroom. Each year, their knowledge, social skills, oral communication, literacy, and numeracy develop, ensuring they are well-equipped to accelerate their learning. Across New Zealand, some early learning centres excel at fostering school readiness, and Kiddywinkles Early Learning Centre in Huapai is a standout example.

Kiddywinkles recently hosted the Minister of Education, Erica Stanford, who was highly impressed by the centre's commitment to early education. "Centres like yours are doing an excellent job at getting kids school-ready," she remarked.

Kiddywinkles is far from a centre of mediocrity. Its vibrant learning environment reflects a well-balanced approach, integrating child-led, play-based learning with structured literacy and numeracy activities in the four-year-olds' room. This approach ensures a seamless transition to primary school, with most children continuing their education at Huapai District School, conveniently located just across the road.

When asked about the significance of early learning for a child before Primary School, Minister Stanford emphasized its impact: "Absolutely critical. We know from evidence that children who attend early learning centres achieve much better outcomes at school." Among the many aspects that impressed her at Kiddywinkles was seeing four-year-olds confidently holding a pen, writing in exercise books, and engaging in number games—clear indicators of a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

For Heart Foundation Lottery supporters, it's been win, win for years



"I want to continue supporting the life-saving work that the Heart Foundation does. I really encourage anyone to buy tickets – there's some awesome, massive prizes to be won!"

Sharyn, winner of Lottery No. 148



"I always just saw buying a ticket as a donation. I never thought I'd actually win anything, so when I got the call, I was over the moon. I just couldn't believe it was really happening."

Robert, winner of Lottery No. 142



"We would encourage anyone to buy a ticket. It's real people who win, from all different backgrounds and places. And it's an affordable way to support a good cause."

Henk & Marijke, winners of Lottery No. 140

For just \$15 each, tickets in the Heart Foundation Lottery give you a chance to win a life-changing first-prize home, as well as other incredible prizes. Plus, the proceeds from your order go towards funding vital heart research and heart-health education programmes that are helping to save Kiwi lives!



TICKETS ONLY \$15
SCAN HERE and be in to win
Order online at heartlottery.org.nz
or call **0800 750 150**



Thank you! Your Lottery tickets support life-saving work to stop heart disease.



Aged care

St Patrick's Day at Craigweil House

Craigweil House was transformed into a festive green haven as residents and staff embraced St. Patrick's Day with flair! Shamrocks, leprechauns, and vibrant decorations filled the space, setting the perfect scene for the celebration.

Dressed in fun "costumes" of green hats, scarves, and lucky charms, everyone got into the spirit of the day. The highlight was a delightful afternoon tea, where residents enjoyed puzzles, colouring activities, and lively conversations, making for a fun and engaging atmosphere.

The joyful energy, filled with laughter and creativity, made for a truly special celebration—one that showcased the

warm and welcoming spirit of Craigweil House. If you're looking for a caring and vibrant community for yourself or a loved one, come visit us and see the Craigweil spirit in action!

PH 09 420 8277



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Stay at Craigweil House during April 2025 for a chance to win Parakai Springs pool passes. Contact Craigweil House for more T & Cs.

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Aged Care

Kumeu Village Rest Home: A decade of dedicated care & community



At Kumeu Village Rest Home, we have spent the past 10 years creating a warm, community-driven environment where every resident is valued, supported, and engaged. More than just a place to live, our home is designed to foster companionship and purpose, ensuring a meaningful and fulfilling life for all.

This year, we're celebrating a decade of exceptional care. It has been an incredible journey, and we are excited to mark this milestone with our residents, families, and the wider community. Keep an eye out—exciting events are coming, including a special Open Day.

We provide premium rest home, hospital, respite, and

specialist dementia care. While our hospital-level care is of the highest standard, it's our specialised dementia support that truly makes us stand out. Our approach is built on dignity, engagement, and personal connection, creating an environment where residents feel at home.

Our Residents First philosophy focuses on combating loneliness, helplessness, and boredom, ensuring that every person receives the compassionate, tailored care they deserve. With beautiful outdoor spaces, cosy interiors, and engaging daily activities, we create a welcoming atmosphere where residents can thrive.

Families play a crucial role in our care approach, and we encourage their involvement at every stage. Whether you need dementia support or hospital-level care, we remain committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and vibrant home for your loved one.

Discover the Kumeu Village difference today

www.kumeuvillage.co.nz | 09 412 9112

info@kumeuvillage.co.nz



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Health & Beauty

Ask Dr Heather



Can men get cosmetic treatments too?

Anon, Riverhead.

Absolutely! Cosmetic treatments are for everyone, regardless of gender. Men generally don't talk about it as much, but there are plenty who like a wee tweak now and then to keep them looking and feeling their best (Brad Pitt anyone?).

Fortunately the stigma of cosmetic treatments is diminishing, however it can still feel stigmatised for some, especially men. Discretion is key and something every injector should adhere to as dictated by the Health and Disability Code of Rights.

You should also never feel judged by your injector. Our journeys are personal, so always choose someone who makes you feel safe, comfortable, seen and heard. If any of those niggly uneasy feelings surface, best to move on as our intuition is a great guide to picking out what is right for us.

Every gender requires a different approach, as masculine and feminine features manifest differently in our faces. Feminine features include wider cheekbones and fuller cheeks whereas masculine features include a wider jaw in line with cheekbones and flatter cheeks.

ALLOR
COSMETIC MEDICINE

Dr Heather Anderson
0222626762
enquiries@allor.co.nz

72 Waimarie Rd
Whenuapai
www.allor.co.nz

Understanding and appreciating these differences applies to men, women and gender diverse individuals. All facial features must be respected and discussed, so you feel confident your goals are addressed. Skin quality should also be taken into consideration.

We are all humans who deserve to feel great in our skin, regardless of gender, ethnicity or age. It all depends on your priorities and your injector must respect these and involve you at every step, in a kind, discrete way.

Dr. Heather Anderson is a Cosmetic Medicine and Emergency/Urgent Care Doctor who practises in her own clinic at ALLOR Cosmetic Medicine in Whenuapai. If you have a question for Dr. Heather you would like answered anonymously, please email askdrheather@allor.co.nz

The Incredible Benefits of using Kerafil Keratin Treatment

Kerafil Keratin Treatment is a revolutionary hair-smoothing solution that offers a myriad of benefits to those seeking luscious, manageable, and frizz-free locks. Unlike traditional keratin treatments, Kerafil employs a unique blend of ingredients and cutting-edge technology to achieve stunning results without compromising hair health.

The primary advantage of Kerafil Keratin Treatment lies in its ability to tame unruly hair and eliminate frizz, making it an excellent option for individuals with coarse, curly,

Zash Hair

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77 Waitakere Road, Waitakere, Auckland 0614
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Health & Beauty

or damaged hair. The treatment works to repair and rejuvenate each strand, leaving the hair with a glossy and silky finish.

Furthermore, Kerafil Keratin Treatment is formaldehyde-free, making it safe and non-toxic for both clients and hairstylists. This means there are no harmful fumes or side effects associated with the process, allowing for a more comfortable salon experience.

Another significant benefit is its long-lasting effects. The treatment can last up to four months, making it a cost-effective and low-maintenance solution for maintaining smooth and manageable hair.

In summary, Kerafil Keratin Treatment offers a host of advantages, from frizz control and hair repair to being formaldehyde-free and long-lasting. Embrace the transformation and enjoy the benefits of Kerafil Keratin Treatment for truly stunning and healthy hair.

Zash Hair- Hair By Carla 021 814 663

West Auckland's Premier Doctor Led Cosmetic and Skin Clinic- now in Huapai.



Hi, I'm Dr. Cherie.

A GP with a special interest in Skin and Cosmetic Medicine- and the owner of Restore Cosmed. I'm also a mum, a wife, a DIY and design enthusiast, and a local lifestyle block dweller. I have over a decade of experience as a GP, and hold the highest available qualification in Cosmetic Medicine, as a top graduate of the New Zealand Society of Cosmetic Medicine. I also have formal postgraduate training in skin cancer medicine.

All that to say, at Restore Cosmed, you are in great hands.

Last month we excitingly opened the doors to our new relocated clinic space at 20 Matua Road.

I am thrilled to be bringing my expertise and passion for skin health to our amazing community.

At Restore Cosmed, we combine expert knowledge with cutting-edge technology to provide a wide range of treatments that are tailored to your individual needs,

including:

- Cosmetic injectables
- Dermatological Skin Assessments (e.g. rosacea, acne, perioral dermatitis etc.)
- Skin Cancer checks and Treatments
- Laser treatments (Diode Laser hair removal, Tattoo Removal, IPL treatment of redness and Pigmentation and more).
- Advanced Skin therapies
- Medical Grade Skin Care
- Hair Restoration Treatments and Medication
- Weight management programmes.

As a specialist GP, many of our medical assessment and skin cancer services are eligible for health insurance coverage under your policy's GP entitlements.

I invite you to visit our website at www.restorecosmed.co.nz to explore some of the treatments we offer, and before and after images of our results. Here you will see our absolute commitment to results that are effective, restorative and most importantly- leave you looking like the best version of yourself and not at all "done".

Bookings can be made through our website, or feel free to email us at contact@restorecosmed.co.nz for further inquiries.

We look forward to meeting you soon, and helping you achieve your skin health and appearance goals.

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www.restorecosmed.co.nz
contact@restorecosmed.co.nz

20 Matua Road,
Huapai.



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20minute Bodyweight Workout- Choose your pace: The faster you go makes it more cardio. Or keep it slow for more of a strength workout. Keep breathing throughout.

Set up timer: 30sec on with 30sec rest- X4 Rounds

Push up - elevated or on the ground



Squat- sit into heels



Plank shoulder tap - keep pelvis tucked in



Step up - adjust height to suit



Tricep dip - extend legs for harder



HAVE FUN!

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Area Columnists

The challenges of retirement



In our previous articles, we discussed having enough money for retirement and transitioning to a flexible retirement lifestyle. Life doesn't stop at retirement but it does come with a whole other set of challenges to keep you on your toes.

-Don't relocate on a whim: Before making a sudden move, consider the long-term implications. While being close to family is important, remember that their circumstances can change with job relocations or separations. Think carefully about your decision.

-Don't fall for too-good-to-be-true offers: It's tempting to jump at offers that seem too good to pass up, but it's crucial to ensure your money lasts. Be cautious.

-Don't neglect estate planning: Money and family dynamics can be complex. Ensure you have a solid estate plan in place to avoid potential conflicts and ensure your wishes are carried out

-Don't put all your eggs in one basket: Diversify your investments to ensure long-term financial health. Capital growth is essential if you're planning for a 20-year retirement.

-Don't put others' needs first: It is your retirement and your hard-earned money. While it's natural to want to

help your children, be fair and realistic about what you can afford. Prioritise your own financial security.

RIVAL Wealth are experts in helping you navigate your retirement planning. For personalised advice and more information contact your local Financial Adviser - Daryl Buckingham.

Phone 021 422 001 email daryl@rivalwealth.co.nz

RIVAL Wealth is a Financial Advice Provider. Our disclosure document is located at rivalwealth.co.nz or a written copy is available on request

Laser Plumbing



Laser Plumbing Whenuapai have been a leader in the Auckland Plumbing, Drainage and Roofing industry for 40 years! We've built a strong reputation in Auckland's plumbing, drainage and roofing

market by consistently delivering high-quality service, prioritising exceptional customer care, and actively supporting our local community, including safety initiatives in schools.

Plumbing - dripping taps, a slow draining sink, blocked toilet, low water pressure, clogged waste disposal, backflow issues. These are just some of the common plumbing problems you can experience in your home or business. We have a great team of maintenance plumbers who can easily remedy these frustrating issues, on time and hassle free.

We also offer full plumbing solutions for new builds as well as renovations.



Expert advice in your neighbourhood



Daryl Buckingham
Financial Adviser
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Drainage - drains should be kept clean and clear for them to work effectively. Drain maintenance goes a long way in keeping your drains in good working condition and reducing the chance of a blockage. Laser Plumbing Whenuapai can provide regular maintenance checks to prevent blockages from occurring. And if a blockage does occur, we have specialist equipment to clear out stubborn blockages.

Our qualified drainlayers can perform a full range of drainage repairs and replacements, from new drainage through to storm water and waste water works. We offer CCTV services as well as a state-of-the-art 24/7 drain unblocking service for any unforeseen emergencies.

Roofing - We find and fix roof leaks! Here at Laser Whenuapai, we specialise in all your long run/iron roofing needs.... from roof repairs to complete roof replacements, gutter cleans, repairing and replacing gutters, spouting and downpipes. Whatever your needs, one of our experienced roofing team will get you sorted.

We are also excited to share that we offer a Supergold card discount! Just let us know you have a Supergold card when you book in your plumbing job, and we will give you 20% off your first hour of plumbing labour.

Contact Laser Plumbing & Roofing Whenuapai today for all your service needs on 09-417-0110 or whenuapai@laserplumbing.co.nz

We are open five days a week from 7:30am - 4:30pm and are conveniently located at Unit 4, 3 Northside Drive, Westgate. For more information, visit our website www.whenuapai.laserplumbing.co.nz

Unlocking the Secrets of Your Skin

The Power of SWAN Skin Wellbeing & Nutrition's Holistic Skin Mapping

In today's fast-paced world, achieving radiant and healthy skin often feels like an elusive goal. At SWAN Skin Wellbeing & Nutrition, I believe that beautiful skin is not just about what you put on your skin, but also about nurturing it from within. One of the most transformative tools in my approach to skincare is the Osmosis Beauty Skin Mapping, a holistic method that helps us understand and address the unique needs of your skin.

Osmosis Skincare, a leader in medical-grade beauty, provides us all with an innovative way to analyze skin health. Their skin mapping technique allows us to deeply assess your skin's condition, identify underlying concerns, and develop a customized skincare plan to achieve balanced, glowing skin.

What is Skin Mapping?

At SWAN, skin mapping is a thorough analysis that goes beyond the surface. I evaluate key aspects of your skin, such as texture, tone, hydration, and signs of aging, to determine what's really going on. Is acne the result of hormonal changes or digestive? Does dryness stem from

internal imbalances? The skin mapping process takes all these factors into account, offering a comprehensive view of your skin's health.

I don't just stop at external analysis—I also consider lifestyle factors, including stress, diet, and even emotional wellbeing, that can impact your skin's appearance. The result is a complete understanding of your skin's needs, providing the foundation for a personalised approach to care. You can check out one of the skin maps on my website www.swan.skinandnutrition.com

A Holistic Path to Radiant Skin

Skin health is a reflection of your overall wellbeing. The skin mapping process, coupled with a comprehensive consultation, skin treatment facials and scientifically-backed products, ensures that you're addressing your skin's needs in the most complete way possible. From internal nourishment to external care, SWAN Skin Wellbeing & Nutrition is dedicated to helping you achieve your healthiest, most vibrant skin.

If you're looking to transform your skin and achieve a more balanced, radiant complexion, join me at SWAN and experience the power of Osmosis Beauty Skin Mapping. With my personalised approach and expert guidance, I will help you unlock the true potential of your skin—inside and out.

Kindest regards, Sarah Tumulty, Holistic Skin & Nutrition Specialist



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- Holistic Skin Mapping
- Hair Analysis: Food Intolerance & Nutrition
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- Practitioner Grade Products
- Teen Skin Advice
- Massage
- Lash & Brows

Sarah Tumulty - Your Skin Nutritionist
FUNCTIONAL SKINCARE PRACTITIONER & NUTRITIONIST



Tanya Franklin



I was privileged to be invited on the World Journeys Mega Lekker Escape South Africa Tourism familiarisation trip in February.

30 travel agents from NZ and 70 from Australia were divided into 10 groups, each hosted by a wholesale operator specializing

in South Africa. We had independent itineraries for 9 days and then all gathered for 3 days at Sun City.

We toured the beautiful Winelands, just 45 minutes from Cape Town, visiting Paarl, Stellenbosch, and Franschhoek. The mountainous backdrop was stunning. We also went up Table Mountain on a gondola for incredible views of Cape Town and visited museums on apartheid and slavery, including the monument where Nelson Mandela began his long walk to freedom.

Next, we flew into Hoedspruit and drove to Ngala Lodge, a private 38 sq km game reserve bordering Kruger National Park. Our first game drive was at dusk, where I had a tearful moment seeing a rare white lioness play with her cubs. The following morning, we woke early for a sunrise safari and saw zebras, elephants, giraffes, and more.

In the afternoon, we spotted leopards, lions, hippos, and hyenas. On to Sun City for an event where we met suppliers from resorts, hotels, game lodges in "speed date" style sessions and each group of 10 agents presented what we had individually experienced.

The finale was a luxurious 3-hour journey aboard Rovos Rail, where we enjoyed an incredible wine-paired, 4-course lunch. Owner Rohan Voss humbly shook all of our hands on greeting, all 100 of us. Our journey concluded with a special goodbye from South African Airlines at Jo'Burg airport.

I'm deeply grateful for this trip of a lifetime, and thank everyone who made it happen.

Please see more on <https://www.facebook.com/tanyafranklin.12>



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Muriwai Vehicle access

In response to a total fire ban for Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, vehicle access to Muriwai Beach will close on Wednesday, 19 March, until further notice.

Fire and Emergency New Zealand declared a prohibited fire season across Auckland on Friday, 14 March - the highest fire season setting, which is likely to remain in place until significant rainfall arrives to reduce the severe risk of fires spreading.

Parks Committee chair Councillor Ken Turner states that rural and forest areas are extremely dry, despite high humidity and occasional light rain. This condition has created a significant risk of fire outbreaks, which won't improve until we receive substantial soaking rain.

"We have entered a period of heightened caution, and forecasts suggest it may be some time before this situation changes. We must do everything possible to prevent fires, especially in remote areas and exotic forest regions," says Cr Turner.

Even though some showers are forecast this week in Auckland, NIWA and MetService are predicting little rain for the rest of March. Regional Parks Manager Scott De Silva says the need to stay vigilant to prevent fire outbreaks now has never been more important in remote regional park areas like Muriwai.

"This environment is particularly vulnerable as the ground around dunes and the nearby forest is sand-based - and exceptionally dry. We are increasingly concerned about the risk of an outbreak in the current conditions," Scott says. "We will be monitoring the situation carefully and taking advice from Fire and Emergency New Zealand. We'll continue to keep Aucklanders informed of further updates," he adds. "The vehicle closure at Muriwai Beach is temporary."

Coast Road and Wilson Road will continue to provide beach access for pedestrians and horses. Signage will inform drivers there is currently no vehicle access and gates will be in place from 8am on Wednesday 19 March. Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland's recent fire ban brings an extreme fire watch right across the top of the North Island, including the regions of Northland and the Coromandel/Waikato. The ban follows several uncontrolled fires in the Auckland region this summer that wreaked devastation to an area of bush near Te Henga Bethells Beach, at Long Bay and Anawhata Beach. "We are urging people to take no risks anywhere in our regional parks network, until the current conditions change," says Scott.

Firewise tips: 1-Avoid any outdoor activity that could cause a spark, including mowing, welding or driving a car through long grass. 2- Only use established barbecues at parks and beach areas to cook food 3-If you see smoke that could be a threat, dial 111.

Visit checkitsalright.nz for updates to the fire season (currently prohibited, a total fire ban).

Chris Penk



MP for Kaipara ki Mahurangi

I hope readers are finding the change of season a welcome relief, for those that swelter in summer. Certainly, there's been some much-needed rain for the farms (and gardens!) in our area, so that's good news. It probably goes without saying that too much precipitation is problematic as we grapple with planning our future given our flood prone past.

I will have more to say on this subject in the coming months but for now have been deliberately circumspect: I'm conscious of the huge impact on people's life plans, livelihoods, property values etc whenever the subject is discussed. For this reason, I don't want to speculate on the physical location of current-Kumeu and surrounding areas in a way that might prove unhelpful until we know more from Auckland Council or its "Healthy Waters" team.

The other obvious point to make in terms of welcoming rain (reasonable levels of rain!) is that NZ's primary sector key players have been keeping us afloat lately in economic growth, as has traditionally been the case.

I would also like to shine a light on the importance of manufacturing for local and national prospects, however, as I think that is probably much less well understood.

Areas of northwest Auckland (along with more northern areas, such as Warkworth and Wellsford, which I also represent) are home to a vibrant and dynamic manufacturing sector that plays a crucial role in the

region's economy. The industrial zone in areas such as Kumeu hosts a diverse range of local firms, from small-scale businesses to large-scale manufacturers, all contributing to the local job market and regional growth. These companies are key players in both the national and global supply chains, producing everything from food and beverage products to machinery and construction materials.

As the population of this area grows and decisions are made about its future, in terms of stormwater management and transport routes particularly, it's critical that future planning takes into account the importance of the industrial zone. In the meantime, thank a manufacturer today as they play their crucial role in leading NZ into the promised land of economic growth.

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 MP for Kaipara ki Mahurangi
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Making colonoscopies more accessible: A step towards better health



Often the first challenge once the need for a colonoscopy has been identified, (other than how to pronounce it) is how long do I have to wait?

With bowel cancer being one of the leading causes of cancer deaths in NZ, a colonoscopy is an essential tool for early detection

and diagnosis. It helps identify potential issues before they become serious and provides invaluable peace of mind—whether due to family history or personal health concerns. However, for many, the idea of undergoing a colonoscopy can be a time of anxiety and stress, which is often made worse by long wait times and uncertainty about the process.

Thus at Waitemata Endoscopy, with two units conveniently located on the North Shore and in Henderson, we've been working really hard on our vision, which is to provide

"Exceptional endoscopy care at every opportunity".

Endoscopy is a way of looking inside the gut using a thin tube and light that is minimally invasive for the patient.

With state-of-the-art endoscopy rooms, modern patient recovery areas, a focus on quality systems and continuous improvement, as well as more Gastroenterologists and Surgeon Specialists joining the unit, Waitemata Endoscopy is able to offer increased capacity and significantly reduced waiting times.

For most standard colonoscopies, an appointment within 7 working days of your GP, Specialist or self-referral can be scheduled, when you let us match you with the availability of our experienced Specialists across the Waitemata Endoscopy Group*. At times, this can be quicker than one expects, to arrange to have the day off or organise for a ride to pick them up.

With a compassionate bookings team, kind and caring nurses, being able to offer timely care, when you need it, for you and your family's peace of mind is a priority for us. At a time of increased awareness of the benefits of earlier screening and detection for better outcomes, having a colonoscopy shouldn't be something to fear anymore, but rather an empowering step towards better health.

Noho ora mai (Stay well).

Sihaam Bagus, Charge Nurse, Waitemata Endoscopy

website www.waitemataendoscopy.co.nz/referrals

WE have reduced wait times for Colonoscopy & Gastroscopy

With increased capacity, Waitemata Endoscopy is able to offer greater and timelier access to a group of experienced Gastroenterologists and Surgeons, dedicated to providing excellent patient care.

Appointments are available within 7 working days for most standard Gastroscopy & Colonoscopy procedures by matching patients with the availability of our Specialists.*

If you need an appointment, talk to your GP about a referral to the Waitemata Endoscopy Group, or you can self-refer at www.waitemataendoscopy.co.nz/referrals

Or call us on (09) 925 4449

WE West – 53 Lincoln Rd, Henderson
 WE North – 212 Wairau Rd, Wairau Valley

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Cat lovers - we need your help



The NZ Cat Foundation has a sanctuary based in Huapai which houses over 150 cats. We offer safe sanctuary for older, disadvantaged and un-homeable rescue cats where they can live out their lives in safety and comfort. We need regular volunteers to help with routine chores so our cats can enjoy happy, healthy, safe lives. We are looking for volunteers who are mature, have a sense of responsibility, are good team players and dedicated animal lovers. Helping at the sanctuary is a popular way to fulfil community service hours for Duke of Edinburgh, St John's, Scouts, Guides, church, university, animal sciences studies, etc. We are happy to sign off on your hours and provide any needed verification of your service. We rely heavily on volunteers on a daily basis and desperately need more.

Financial and food donations are also urgently needed to cover vet and other costs associated with our sanctuary. The NZ Cat Foundation also supports community Trap-Neuter-Return programmes and helps feed and care for many cats living in the community. Please visit our website for more information on volunteering and how to donate at www.thenzcatfoundation.org.nz. You can also email - volunteers: volunteer@thenzcatfoundation.org.nz. nz donations: info@thenzcatfoundation.org.nz.

"Where Have All The Apples Gone?"



That's the question author Chris Smellie asks, and the title of his book. Chris says, "It began as a record of the fruit-growing district of Huapai, which remains still central to the book, but as I wrote and researched I was drawn ever further into many aspects of fruit (and food) production in New Zealand." The book launch and exhibition at Kumeū Arts this April will include fascinating

historical advertising, paintings, and photographs. Limited edition prints and signed copies will be available through the gallery. A second exhibition, also reflecting our relationship with the land, is "Myth & Shadow - The Power of Landscape" - a collection of drawings by artist Darlene Te Young, "blurring boundaries between known place and imagination."

For more information on this and the usual offering of great classes and activities, visit us behind the library or at www.kumeuarts.org.

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