

kumeu Courier

FREE monthly community magazine for Kumeu & districts

NEW HOUSING AND NEW SHOPS

- Local property statistics
- Mini savoury quiche
- Trade tips & advice
- Upcoming events

MURIWAI OPENS UP TO LIFESTYLE OPTIONS

Circulation is 8000 print copies and 3371 opened and read email copies.

Editorial contributions are free from cost. Advertising starts at \$75 plus gst for a business card size.

Contact Sarah Cartwright on 0212507324 or sarahcartwright022@gmail.com

kumeuCOURIER/April 2014

Intro

Welcome to Autumn folks! I suggest everyone start getting ready for those cooler months by enjoying the last of what summer has to offer. George FM presents Sundowners every Sunday in April from 4-7pm at the Tasting Shed so grab a group of friends and family and head down to taste the delicious offerings and chilled out sounds while you still have those last precious rays of sunshine! The Riverhead is still running Blues in the Boathouse which proves to be a popular weekend outing for both young and old alike, contact them to see the next upcoming act. Why not join in the bi-annual Kumeu Scarecrow Festival coming up on Monday 5th to Sat 31st May, an exhibition will be at the Kumeu Art gallery. They are welcoming 'pop-up' scarecrows around the community and look forward to seeing your efforts so get the kids involved and send in your pictures to thetinshed@cleaar.net.nz. With cyclone Lusi giving us all a timely reminder that Mother Nature has always got the upper hand it may be timely to prepare yourselves for unexpected events and the not so unexpected changes in weather; stock up those wood piles and check your sensor lights to keep yourselves safe and warm

As always, keep you and yours safe,

Sarah,
Editor.



kumeu Courier

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NEW HOUSING & NEW SHOPS

The biggest change in commercial development since the 1970's in Kumeu, has occurred with the opening of a new Supermarket on the 1st April. That change will bring the pressures on the existing retail area, in that they are now forced to compete with a big supplier. The older style shops despite good service in the past, will be having to compete on price and volume of goods. The second set of lights for the Supermarket hopefully will not add to the traffic congestion, time will tell! In Huapai, local owners, Ben Vallings & Adrian Spraggs are proposing new shops on the south side of the Main Road between the Huapai Tavern and Ambiance. These shops will have all their parking in the front making it easy to see carparking spaces available. These shops will have a modern design and will add to the existing shops in Huapai. The District will need them with the projected growth in Huapai North and around the triangle land on Station Road. Solving the alternative access road to service the growth areas is still an unknown. Auckland Transport are being difficult and haven't disclosed yet their roading options for the District. Given that Auckland Transport have

over the last 6 months upgraded Nobilo, Station, Koraha, Riverhead & Dysart Roads without letting anyone know what is happening, means there is a plan, it's just that they don't want the community to know about it. The widening of the Main Road from Taupaki to Kumeu is proposed. Likewise the widening of the Main Road in Kumeu-Huapai is proposed to cope with the extra traffic. We all know traffic in Kumeu is at a high level where it is difficult to access local shops. I am continually told that commuters and locals are already finding their own alternative access to avoid the Main Road in Kumeu. The Association has taken a strong stand in the Unitary Plan on, alternative access, schools, reserves and all the other infrastructure issues that should be out for public inspection and debate. No planning has been completed by the Auckland Council, its predecessor Rodney District Council or the previous and current Rodney Local Board. The Community is entitled to 'planning certainty' before development takes place. We don't have that at present. What we do have, is speculative raw land purchases with no timing of development density or planned infrastructures.

Pete Sinton, Chairman, Kumeu-Huapai Residents & Ratepayers Association. Phone 09 412-2016

Email petesinton@townplanner.co.nz

MURIWAI OPENS UP TO LIFESTYLE OPTIONS

As the bulldozers roll in and the earth is scared, there are few areas that are not under the development microscope. A recent review of the plans and concepts put forward under the SHA "special housing areas" and under the unitary plan submissions indicates a willingness by the communities to embrace change however a caution to protect village identity. The numbers are quite simply overwhelming with a great desire by land owners to change mixed rural in village areas to reflect the village status. Likewise an extension in countryside living boundaries will allow the growth in larger-lot lifestyle areas like Constable, Oaia and Muriwai Roads to accommodate one hectare "good-life" living. Whether you seek some land for your Hamster or a section with a view of the inner harbour, the one thing that is guaranteed, in the next few years you will have significant choice, land prices should reduce, and mortgage rates and building prices will be more. We suggest a patient and prudent approach to securing your future.



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COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

ECODAY APRIL 13, 2014

Ecoday Sunday 13 April 11am to 4pm. Come and celebrate eco activity at the Ecomatters Environment Centre & Olympic Park. Includes Wash Against Waste Food Court, Repair and Share, Sustainable Business Marketplace, Green Community Hub – all this and body/soul wellness space, plus live music and performance. Check out ecowest.org.nz South Island yellow-eyed penguins, already some of the most endangered in the world, are having a disastrous breeding season spare them a thought and check out www.yellow-eyed-penguin.org.nz



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IT'S SECRET SCARECROW TIME

Kumeu Arts Centre has a wide range of art classes for the wider community, including: Painting (watercolours, oils &

acrylics), Access to Art (abstract art and printing), Individuals with special needs art classes, Children's term art classes, Salsa Dance Classes, Wisdom Evenings (Personal Empowerment), Pottery and Mindfulness classes. Many school Holiday classes will also be on offer at the next term break. We also have many untutored groups including: Kumeu Knitty Group (knitting and crochet), Kumeu Photography Group and our Life Drawing Group. Please phone on 09 412-9480 for more info or visit our website www.kumeuartscentre.co.nz. Or email us at thetinshead@clear.net.nz Watch this space also for our bi-annual Kumeu Scarecrow Festival coming up, Monday 5th to Sat 31st May, an exhibition will be in place in our gallery. We welcome 'pop-up' scarecrows around the community and look forward to seeing your efforts.



NOR-WEST SENIOR NET

On Wednesday, 2 April Nor-West SeniorNet will host Tanya Franklin, your personal travel professional based in

Waimauku. Tanya is the expert to consult for family holidays, cruises, coach tours, Eurolease, motorhome and car hire, rail passes, extended world journeys and hosted fully inclusive holidays. Whether you are circling the globe or just hopping down to Hamilton, Tanya is the person you need to talk to. So come along to St Chad's Church Hall, Huapai at 10am on the 2nd; bring a friend as all are welcome and you don't have to be a SeniorNet member. \$3 towards hire of the hall, morning tea and great raffle. Support your local SeniorNet

CHILDREN'S ART CLUB

The Kumeu Children's Art Club provides children who love art, from 6 years and onward, with three hour after school art tutoring and experience. Term 2 topic will concentrate on drawing and painting animals with an Australian Aboriginal theme. We will produce a large group mural on canvas and we'll look at different types of Aboriginal Art. Our theme this term is Abstract Sculpture made from found materials. Children are half way through the Term making amazing constructions from wood, wire, card, corflute, fabric, aluminium and you name it We have been running as an Inc. Soc. for 15 years

We have two separate venues. The Wednesday session, 3.30pm to 6.30pm is held at the Waimauku Hall where we have our own den round the back of the hall and beneath the stage. The Thursday session (same hours) is held at the Kumeu Art Centre. Children socialise with other art lovers from a variety of schools. We have two qualified tutors for each session. It is fun and it is also structured for the children's needs and

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abilities and ages. Bi-annually we exhibit their artworks at The Kumeu Art Centre. Some of our oldest child members continue with us from 6years to 12 years. Last Thursday the children were humming as they worked which always seems to me to be a particularly delightful happening. Contact Libby Patterson 09 411 8323 libpatterson@hotmail.com for further information

U3A SOUTH KAIPARA

South Kaipara U3A warmly invites you to their next meeting Friday 4th April Helensville War memorial Hall Speaker: Colin McColl, Artistic Director, Auckland Theatre Co. Preceded by the Swiss Bliss Chocolate makers. Gold coin entry – afternoon tea More Info: Jenny 09 827 8861. Jenny-intouch@vodafone.co.nz

ALPACA OPEN DAY - APRIL 13 & 27

Waitakere Alpacas would like to thank all of you who stopped off to say Hello to us and our Alpacas at the Kumeu Show. Once again the Kumeu Small Land Owner's Association had a wonderful display of all kinds of livestock. For those of you who wanted to see more of our products and alpacas, or those of you who missed the show, we will be having an Open Day's, Sunday the 13th and 27 of April from 12 to 4pm at our farm at 107 Monk Rd, South head. See www.waitakerealpacas.co.nz



TWO DAY BOOK FAIR - APRIL 12 & 13

Due to popular demand the Huapai-Kumeu Lions club is holding their Book Fair over two days, enabling people with busy Saturday mornings to come on Sunday. The next fair will be on Saturday and Sunday April 12 and 13, 9 am – 2.00 pm, at the Kumeu Community Centre on Access Road. All proceeds go to community projects, and for this event Lions are pleased to partner with the Massey High School Premier Netball Team. In return for their assistance, a share of the proceeds will be donated towards funding their week long Upper North Island Secondary Schools tournament. It's a good opportunity to take your unwanted quality books to drop-off sites at KiwiSpan NZ, 329 Main Road, Huapai; Sunnyview Orchards, 667, Main Road, Huapai or Huapai Hardware in Waimauku. There will be thousands of books to choose from at just \$1 or \$2 each!

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SAFER COMMUNITIES

With the spotlight on social media and cyber bullying recently I thought it would be an appropriate time to discuss the issue. What is cyber bullying? Cyber bullying is being bullied either over the internet or phone, and in this day and age it is not uncommon to be bullied this way. There are however some simple methods to avoid being a victim of cyber bullying, by being careful who you give your phone number to, not responding to text messages from people you don't know, keeping your online ID safe by creating strong passwords and not sharing your passwords, keeping your facebook profile "private" so only approved friends can see your photos and comments, and not posting revealing pictures of yourself or anyone else online. If you are a parent, be aware of what your child or children are doing online, and keep an eye on who they are talking to both online or through text messaging. If you are the Victim of cyber bullying you may feel embarrassed, angry, sad, threatened or depressed, it is normal to feel that way, and you should make sure you talk to someone who can help you. If you know of someone who is being bullied, offer support and encourage them to seek help. If you would like more information on cyber bullying and how to get help, some useful websites include www.cyberbullying.org.nz and www.thelowdown.co.nz. Alternatively you can contact me at the Kumeu Police Station. Phone 09 4125194.



The tail end of cyclone Lusi last week reminded us all about being prepared. The Fire Service predominantly is called to Fires and Rescues but we are also trained to help in other types of emergencies. With the recent display of stormy weather many scenarios can develop. Flooding; keep your gutters clean, trim the trees near your home so falling leaves and other debris don't block your gutters. Driveway grates need to be kept clear of debris also. If you have to leave your home due to flooding, make a list now of important documents and belongings which you can throw into a grab bag. Be prepared for whatever weather 2014 is a good year to assist a local community group. If you or your family are not presently volunteering in your community then make a call to donate some time to help yourself through your community. The benefits include:

- meeting new people with similar interests
- developing new skills and experiences
- getting a greater sense of personal achievement
- a feeling of involvement and participation in the community
- engaging on a business, social and personal level

If you have a few spare hours a week and want to volunteer some time on a part time or regular basis it starts with a phone call to the group. In an emergency dial 111. For more information contact Denis Cooper, CFO, WVFF Ph 09 810 9252.





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AREA PROPERTY STATS

Every month Mike Pero 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. If you would like to receive this full summary please email the word "full statistics" to kumeu@mikepero.com. This service is free from cost.

Address	Max	Median	Minimum	Most Recent Sale
COATESVILLE				
Lifestyle	\$ 3,450,000	\$ 1,800,00	\$ 680,000	\$ 910,000
HERALD ISLAND				
Residential	\$ 1,960,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 635,000	\$ 850,000
HOBSONVILLE				
Residential	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 816,000	\$ 390,000	\$ 760,000
HUAPAI - KUMEU				
Residential	\$ 591,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 531,000	\$ 550,000
Lifestyle	\$ 2,810,000	\$ 1,300,000	\$ 1,855,000	\$ 2,475,000
MURIWAI				
Residential	\$ 890,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 635,000	\$ 650,000
RIVERHEAD				
Residential	\$ 975,000	\$ 706,000	\$ 560,000	\$ 739,000
TAUPAKI				
Lifestyle	\$ 1,155,000	\$ 1,080,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 1,155,000
WAIMAUKU				
Residential	\$ 695,500	\$ 609,000	\$ 575,000	\$ 609,000
Lifestyle	\$ 1,310,000	\$ 102,000	\$ 530,000	\$ 1,287,000
WAITAKERE TOWNSHIP				
Residential	\$ 750,000	\$ 530,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 530,000
WESTHARBOUR				
Residential	\$ 1,080,000	\$ 660,000	\$ 457,000	\$ 775,000
WHENUAPAI				
Residential	\$ 762,000	\$ 728,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 728,000

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.

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MONEY MATTERS

The threat of interest rate increases has eventuated so now is the time to review your lending portfolio to ensure you are in the best possible position going forward and protected from further rises. The Reserve Bank has indicated that interest rate increases of up to 2% over the next two years should be expected by borrowers in a bid to control inflation. How much will these increases effect you? As an example, a loan of \$400,000 over 30 years based on a current interest rate of 6%. Should rates increase to 8% you can expect to pay an extra \$124 per week. Now is the time to act - contact us for a free, no obligation home loan review and remember to "like" us on Facebook where you will find up-to-date news and information for all things lending related.

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David Lloyd
Phone 027 411 9255

IN BRIEF

UPDATES:EVENTS

COUNTDOWN TO HOE DOWN

Kumeu Fire Station's Hoe Down is at the Kumeu Show grounds on April 5. Tickets are available at Kumeu Cellars, \$35 includes great food, and the magical sounds of Marian Burns R18.

The Hoe Down is a tried and tested great time, to meet old friends and new, combining a great ambience, and raffle prizes to die for! This event is the only annual Kumeu Fire volunteers fund raiser, our other fundraisers are for other charitable organisations.

So get in quick, tickets often sell out and thereafter are pure gold. Rally your friends and family and let loose while having a fabulous night of fun and entertainment, whilst supporting a great local community cause.

IT'S GUIDE BISCUIT TIME

It's Guide biscuit season again, and your local Rangers, Girl Guides and Brownies will be knocking on your door over the next few weeks with biscuits to sell. In order not to miss out on your yummy Guide biscuits. We will have the Original, Chocolate Coated and Mini Choc biscuits all at \$3.50 per pack. For your local guide see www.guidebiscuits.co.nz



TE HENGA TRAP LINES

With the release of Pateke in the Bethell's Beach area, Forest and Bird are looking for support from Muriwai / Constable Road residents to maintain stoat traps along the Te Henga track. We know there are many landowners in the area running their own trapping programmes. We are interested to hear what you are currently doing and if you are interested or available to further assist along the track contact gerry@muriwai-environment.org.

A SPOT OF SQUASH

Hands up those who can honestly say that they've never had a good workout from a game of squash? Squash is great fitness for the mind and body and it can be played at any time and in any weather. The Kumeu Squash Club situated at 50 Access Road, Kumeu offers a fun family friendly environment. Banish the thought of cold squash clubs – Kumeu has a log burner which pumps out the heat so the kids can play in the lounge area. The club website kumeuraquets.org has detailed information regarding our services, contact details and membership options. Being the beginning of the squash year now is a good time to take advantage of our introductory offer to try squash for 3 months for only \$70. Club racquets are available free of charge but non-marking shoes on court are a must. Contact Kumeu Racquets Club on 09 412 9759

OCR RISE 0.25% - NOT ALL BAD

Mike Pero founder and director of both Mike Pero Mortgages and Mike Pero Real Estate. The Reserve Bank made the anticipated announcement of a rise in the OCR. The rate has gone from 2.5% to 2.75% and further rate increases are predicted through 2014 that could see the OCR up to 4.50% in 2015. So what might this do for home buyers and home owners with mortgages. If banks choose to pass on this increase, in time, then this announcement could mean an increase in repayments as follows: The interest component will increase payments, for a \$100,000 home loan by \$4.81 a week \$200,000 - \$9.62 a week; \$300,000 - \$14.43 a week and \$500,000 - \$24.04 a week. In my opinion the increase is neither here nor there. It was inevitable it would raise but I do not think it will slow the market. To offset any perceived negativity here the banks are starting to ease their restrictions on high value lending. The LVR restrictions that came in late last year have cooled some sectors and achieved their objectives. For aspiring home owners the outlook has changed slightly but its my belief that the rise will not deter the serious home buyers. The reality is that the two major centres, Auckland and Christchurch still have consistent momentum – the demand continues for their own reasons. Ph 03 423 9506 Mobile 027 645 37 37 Email mike.pero@mikepero.com www.mikepero.com

RIVERHEAD INVITATION 4'S

Riverhead Invitation 3 day mens fours tournament March 8 to 10. This annual bowls event is all about giving back to the teams that have supported the club during the year, we had players from as far South as Mount Maunganui and as far north as Mangawai. 16 teams

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entered, all trying to win the \$1200.00 first prize, the cup and the bragging rights that goes with the win. 3 games of 2 hours per day with morning tea and lunch provided for the players and on the Sunday evening (9th) a lamb spit was cooked by local members Steve Grice and Dean Blucher – free for all players plus their wives/partners/girl friends. With a fast green and fantastic weather – a great 3 days was had by all. Results:

1st: John Tobin (S) Tony Jelichich (3) Bruce McClintock (2) Rick Howe (L)

2nd: Grant Goodwin (S) Duane McDonald (3) George Curran (2) Norm Scott-Morrison (L) with Allan Melrose as substitute.

3rd: Nick Grgicevich (S) Merv Hellier (3) Ivan Zonich (2) Doug George (L)

A huge thank you to all sponsors – without their support the tournament would not have been the resounding success it was. Nice one lads, from the Mike Pero fan base.



ANIMAL AVENUE OPENS

Animal Avenue Pet Store located in the Kumeu Village is now open! Offering pets and pet supplies for all pets including toys, clothing, food, bedding, grooming supplies and more. We cater for all pets large and small, dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, birds, fish and reptiles. Come in and visit the friendly team about your requirements, we look forward to meeting you and your beloved pets. Phone 412 2581 or Email pets@animalavenue.co.nz.



CRAIGWEIL HOUSE UPDATE

Hi There, Sharyn from Craigweil House, we have had a very busy week with some of our residents coming down with a gastroenteritis bug. We have very strict protocols for our infection control which kick into place as soon as the first sign of a nasty virus hits the facility. I believe this has been all over the district causing illness to all ages in the commu-

nity. Changes of the weather can cause nasty bugs to thrive often attacking the younger and older people. It is hard to be prepared when poorly with the virus, and we often have to let it take its course. Drinking plenty of water is the most important thing that you can do. Eating dry food such as rice crackers, plain white toast or natural yoghurt, keeping away from grains, seeds, fresh fruit and fatty foods. If in doubt ask your doctor or ring the medical centre for advice. Well besides all that we as individuals need to keep smiling and continue to have a good laugh every day to keep the spirits up and stay positive which is very important for the soul. Enjoying an interest like bowls, square dancing, music or having a soak at the thermal pools is great for the social life and can rejuvenate and motivate us to keep going. I always enjoy whenever possible, spare moments making a pot of tea, having a read and don't forget the chocolate biscuits. Just a little tip washing our hands thoroughly and drying preferably with paper towels is an excellent habit to get into, I go to the extreme and wash up to my elbows. If you sing happy birthday twice while you are washing your hands then you have mastered the hand washing. Sounds silly but it is true. Enjoy the month of April especially the chocolate Easter eggs, stay well, be wise and have a laugh. Cheers, Sharyn Gray, Craigweil House, Ph 09 420 8277

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REGISTER TODAY - WIN \$1000 CASH

Our 8 week Transformation Challenge starts on Saturday 29 March 2014. Lacking motivation or self-confidence then come in now to register. Not happy with your body or can't seem to break old habits then this is the challenge for you. You will be given 2 four week personal exercise programmes designed to get you results plus full access to all group fitness classes including pump, yoga, boxing and cross fit. Nutrition seminars will also be part of your package – a must when trying to give your body that little extra care. Get the body you desire and be into win \$1000 cash. Contact the team at Kumeu Gym on 09 412 8932 further information.

THE RIVERHEAD - BLUES BROTHERS & MORE

The Blues Brothers Tribute Show is back again for another sell-out afternoon in The Boat House on Easter Sunday 20th April. There's plenty of seating options with two bars and a variety of tasty food options to choose from. No bookings are required; it's first in, first served. \$10 door sales. Gates open at 12 noon and the show starts at 2pm. Of course The Riverhead's Boat House have LIVE FREE music most Sunday's with a variety of bands and music. What a fantastic way to spend your Sunday afternoon.

Our very own Food and Beverage Director, Paul Jobin has just been announced the new Nestlé Toque d'Or, Chief Judge. Nestlé Toque d'Or is the country's leading student culinary competition. Paul has won numerous culinary competitions and food awards, appears frequently on TV, has showcased his amazing cooking talents around the world – and the list goes on....Here's a link to his bio details <http://www.theriverhead.co.nz/paul-jobin-has-joined-our-team/>

We'll look forward to seeing you at The Riverhead soon when you need a special place to meet. Phone 09 412 8902

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280 Main Road, Kumeu, SH 16



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L I M I T E D

EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY

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Fax 09 412 9965

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Sat 7.30am to 5pm

Sun 8am -4pm

HELENSVILLE

41 Mill Road

Ph 09 420 9905

Fax 09 420 9015

Hrs Mon-Fri 7am -5pm

Sat 7.30am to 12pm

Sun Closed

LOCAL BOARD ON FACEBOOK

There is little understanding of what we do for the community and you feel that we don't listen. We will be working to improve our online presence especially around social media and better communication plus the ability to get your views on our activities, there's even work being done of having meetings streamed live onto the 'net. 'Like' our facebook page to keep up with what's happening or sign up to our email updates. Our Local Board plan consultation is underway. Yawn? We're funding your recreational facilities, townscapes and much more so it's important you tell us what you want. ! Visit: <http://engage.ubiquity.co.nz/surveys/QmmhnK-FwjEmYxQjQ5atVGg>. Contact me on: phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or 021 837 167.

OWN YOUR GOOGLE DATA ?

Do you own your Google data? Many business owners don't know what access they have, and in many cases, won't have any at all. While this is unfortunate, it is generally not intentional, but it does leave companies exposed to poor practice. At Web Wonks we can assist you to regain control of your lead generation potential, and ensure you have full permissions going forward for your website data. Google offers website owners / digital marketers great tools; including Analytics, Webmaster Tools and AdWords, all of which collect valuable data. If you lose access to the business intelligence you had available, or worse, don't use it at all, you will not be building long term value. On



top of this you need to be asking, what real benefit do I receive from the digital suppliers I pay? You wouldn't pay the mower man if he stopped mowing your lawn, so why pay a maintenance fee if you don't get some tangible! See www.webwonks.co.nz for more information.

CHANGE BRAIN / CHANGE LIFE

Change your brain, change your life! Are you searching for a better way of creating and sustaining change in your life? Would you like your mind and brain to start working with you instead of sabotaging you with its old and unhelpful patterns? So why is it sometimes so hard to make the change? Well, when you try to break a habit using the conscious mind it can be very challenging because, as soon as you are not consciously focused on it, your mind will run the old unconscious script stored in your mind. In fact 90% of what we do in a day is done using the unconscious mind! Hypnotherapy is a brain-based therapy that targets the subconscious mind directly, changing the unconscious script and the related behaviour. Hypnosis is a safe and effective way to target unconscious behaviours, reduce stress, and eliminates unwanted habits, and increase confidence and much more. see <http://www.subconsciousolutions.co.nz>.

TAILOR MADE PRE-SCHOOL

With just 22 children at any one time, each child receives a tailor made education based on their individual strengths, needs and interests, so they can learn in a style and at a level that is just right for them. Kumeu Montessori Preschool provides a boutique preschool programme for children aged 2-6 years old. Because one size doesn't fit all. We believe children have staggering potential

and we love to help them bloom. Our priority is to create an environment where your child feels safe, loved, happy and nurtured, and where they have opportunity to learn about the world around them in ways that are relevant, creative and fun – a place where laughter and learning collide! In her time, Maria Montessori was at the leading edge of education. She pioneered many of today's methods of teaching and contributed much to our understanding of how children learn. For an innovative teaching approach that integrates her amazing insights with the best of modern teaching practices for 21st century kiwi kids, come and see us today. Ph 09 412 9885.

Karen and Rody O'Reilly Centre Owners
Kumeu Montessori Preschool
www.kumeumontessori.co.nz
managers@kumeumontessori.co.nz
Phone 412 9885 (centre)

SUPPORT DR SID OGRA

Dr Sid Ogra, Glaucoma NZ's Education Fellow, is participating in the "Tough Mudder" adventure race on 26th of April. "Tough Mudder" is a half marathon through mud, water and a whole lot of interesting obstacles. "It's a timely reminder that for others, life can throw many challenges. As I am passionate about preventing unnecessary vision loss, I want your support in helping Glaucoma New Zealand. They do excellent work in education, raising awareness and supporting those with this silent thief of vision." says Sid. Glaucoma is the number one cause of preventable blindness in NZ, and we need to do whatever we can to stop its devastating effects. Early diagnosis is the only way to help prevent vision loss. See Sid's fundraising page at: <http://www.givealittle.co.nz/cause/Glaucoma>

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TRANQUIL TITIRANGI HIDEAWAY - BUSH, BIRDS AND VIEWS

3 2

Enquiries Over

157 Wairere Road, Waitakere
Enquiries Over \$569,000 - Viewing by appointment

Beautiful, tranquil and comfortable Lockwood family home with expansive views over a virgin bush valley. This natural and modern home offers relaxed, low maintenance living, complete peace and privacy yet is located only minutes from Train links, convenience shopping and top rural primary school. Open plan entertainers living area opening onto deck, stylish new kitchen, 3 bedrooms with separate family bathroom, toilet, laundry and en-suite. The opportunity to engage with Tui's and wood pigeons overlooking their playground will inspire and delight you. Take a look, you will not want to leave.



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AS CLOSE TO AKL CBD AS KUMEU OR COATESVILLE

5 2 3

Enquiries Over

171 Stoney Creek Drive, Taupaki
Enquiries Over \$949,000 - Viewing by appointment

Views are plentiful plus the attraction of privacy and tranquility and yet as close to the Auckland City hustle and bustle as you need to be. This large five bedroom homestead delivers easy living while the ducks, hens and sheep also have the best of creature comforts. The home has extensive 270 degree views while its north facing position attracts great sunshine and delivers easy alfresco living to surround decking.



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FAMILY SAFE, QUIET & TRANQUIL WITH BRICK IN KUMEU

5 4 2

Enquiries Over

1401 Coatesville-Riverhead Highway, Kumeu
Enquiries Over \$1,050,000 - Viewing by appointment

A rare find in Kumeu offering just over 1 acre of land in a quiet glade, offering privacy and tranquility yet minutes from the north western motorway and service/ hospitality venues. Beautifully crafted with elegant cathedral ceilings this north facing home with extensive alfresco onto patios and decking, offers entertaining and freedom for the family in a way that will deliver comfort and harmony. A well designed mix of bedrooms, study, multiple living rooms, skylights and extensive garaging. Plenty of options here for you and the family.



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www.mikepero.com



BRICK AND TILE - MASSEY, NEAR WESTGATE

3 2 1

Enquiries Over

14 Zita Maria Drive, Massey
Enquiries Over \$459,000 - Viewing by appointment

North facing brick and tile home set on 680 square meter section, fully fenced with views of the Waitakere ranges.

Spilt level home offering three generous double bedrooms and renovated bathroom with separate toilet. Open plan lounge with alfresco onto patio to catch all the days sunshine. A separate laundry and double garage downstairs with space for a workshop and easy under house storage.

Options to DIY your own touches and capitalise on your vision. Minutes to Massey High School, Massey and Westgate.



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OH... WHAT A DIFFERENCE A RENOVATION MAKES!

3 2 1

Enquiries Over

382 Main Road, Huapai
Enquiries Over \$599,000 - Viewing by appointment

Set in an ultra-convenient location this impressive and desirably positioned family home offers you the best of both worlds. With its wonderfully private indoor and kid friendly outdoor spaces. This home is enviably placed within walking distance to buses, schools, parks and shops in the highly regarded and upcoming Kumeu & Huapai township.

Positioned on an impressive fully fenced 1101sqm section in a sought-after address, this free standing 150m2 3 bedroom + double garage home is perfectly livable as is, with nothing to do... just move in and enjoy.



Karen Stent
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EXCEPTIONAL VALUE.. WITH GRAZING FOR A STUD OR 2

4 2 2

Enquiries Over

1535 State High Way 16, Waimauku
Enquiries Over \$945,000 - Viewing by appointment

ON OFFER.. here is a unique elevated lifestyle property.

- Stunning country kitchen that views out over the valley
- 3 large double bedrooms
- 1 single bedroom currently used as an office
- Big well set up laundry that will keep any busy family sorted
- Two bathrooms both in as new condition and fitted out with the very best quality fittings, tiles spa bath etc.



Darren Ryder
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FINDERS KEEPERS... FIRST IN BEST DRESSED!

3 1

Enquiries Over

5 Puriri Street, Helensville
Enquiries Over \$449,000 - Viewing by appointment

The home is well-positioned with a northern aspect to capture morning sun out front and the evening sun for entertaining in the back yard. Step into the Hallway and you are immediately aware this property is worthy of your attention with beautiful high timber ceilings and polished Kauri floors. 5 Puriri Street is nestled amongst other home owners with Villas of a similar heritage you will find this home a delightful place to live and enjoy all that Helensville has to offer.



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BEAT THE SHARE MARKET...GOOD OLD BRICKS AND MORTAR

Enquiries Over

11E Factory Road, Waimauku
Enquiries Over \$525,000 - Viewing by appointment

Ground level unit with 190m2 floor space and 1/3 share of 280m2 of land & is ideal for a range of commercial purposes. Currently leased with a secure tenant in place representing a strong return leased with a 2 x 3 year rights of renewal. The building is currently used as a the local gym for the people of Waimauku and surrounding areas. Set within the iconic 'Waimauku Village Shopping Centre' this is a fantastic opportunity to purchase within this sought after complex which is located in the Waimauku township with easy access to the highway. The modern complex provides drive through accessibility for delivery trucks, with ample visitor and occupant parking space.



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WARNING!! THIS HOME CAUSES LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT!

3 2 2

Enquiries Over

53 Hamilton Road, Waimauku
Enquiries Over \$975,000 - Viewing by appointment

- 162m2 3 x Bedroom main dwelling with 2 Lounges, 2 bathrooms and an open plan kitchen/dining that opens out onto a lovely deck for good year round indoor outdoor living/entertaining.
- 22m2 large separate Bedroom above garage with its own toilet.
- 48m2 separate studio away from the house with bathroom etc, this studio could be used for a small professional business premise, consultation room's, creative space, music rooms or what have you.
- 25m2 Double Garage with 24m2 workshop & Double carport.
- 1 x grazing paddock with Bore and Windmill.



Darren Ryder
021307014

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HORSE LOVERS 23 GRAZING ACRES + 320M2 HOME

5 2 3

SET DATE OF SALE

77 Alf Access Road, Helensville
Set Date Of Sale 24th April 2014 - Viewing by appointment

SET DATE OF SALE 5pm 24th April 2014....
Present all offers, registered valuation available.

Located about 37 minutes from Auckland CBD and just 16 minutes from Kumeu, this affordable 23 acre country retreat features a lovely large 5 Double bedroom home with plenty of options. The home makes a statement as a beautiful residence. A beautiful kitchen living and dining, family room and a study with great options for an extended family.



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BEAUTIFULLY CRAFTED KAURI BUNGALOW IN RIVERHEAD

3 2 2

Enquiries Over

17 Great North Road, Riverhead
Enquiries Over \$649,000 - Viewing by appointment

Often desired, seldom found. This absolutely stunning North facing 1920's Bungalow has been lovingly renovated from top to bottom. Offering modern comforts, open plan living and entertaining with uncompromised alfresco to wrap around decking and fenced lawn. Three generous bedrooms, full bathroom and en-suite and standalone laundry, double garage with workshop. Situated close to Kumeu sports fields and minutes from convenience shopping and The Riverhead. All the character, yet all the convenience in this move straight in home. In-keeping with Historic Riverhead, the Bungalow comes with its own biography and photo book giving you the comfort of true pedigree.



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KUMEU MIXED RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL USE

4 1

Enquiries Over

339 Main Road, Kumeu
Enquiries Over \$539,000 - Viewing by appointment

Either as an investment, business or family purchase this north facing weatherboard bungalow offers extensive in-door space, with low-allergen t & g wooden flooring and easy flow that would suit a daycare or specialist healthcare studio. The home is ideally positioned on almost 900 square meters with a large back section partially fenced and very well suited to a family playground or outdoor facility. Additional buildings at the rear of the section include a single garage and sleep-out.

This outstanding mixed zone home will never offer you a more affordable entry level for business or an investment that will be rewarded with Kumeu's growth.



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INVESTORS DELIGHT - FAMILY AFFORDABLE

3 2 1

Auction

10 Ginders Drive, Massey
Auction 6th April at 4pm - Viewing by appointment

Auction 6th April at 4pm

Highly desirable, cost effective living, so close to the hustle and bustle yet tucked away. This three bedroom, two toilet, north facing home has extensive open plan living with sliders out to north facing patio.

Bedrooms off a central hallway to a double garage with internal access.
Good sized section with fully fenced backyard with a garden shed and options for vege patch or garden blooms.

www.mikepero.com/MPRE25416



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ashleigh.taylor@mikepero.com
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DIY DREAM - MASSEY CLOSE TO WESTGATE

3 1

Enquiries Over

4 Frosses Place, Massey
Enquiries over \$359,000 - Viewing by appointment

Highly desirable north facing home offering 3 generous bedrooms, open plan entertainers kitchen and lounge opening onto decking. Situated on 454 square meters you'll enjoy the large back yard for the kids to play. In a quiet cul-de-sac minutes from convenience shopping and transport links. As a first home or investment property this is a must see. Buyer Enquiry Over \$359,000

www.mikepero.com/MPRE26058



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NEAR NEW FAMILY RETREAT IN MURIWAI

4 2 2

Enquiries Over

403 Oaia Road, Muriwai
Enquiries over \$779,000 - Viewing by appointment

West coast family retreat offering a near new big brick GJ Gardner home, north facing entertainers dream with east and west entertaining areas of uncompromised alfresco living sprawling onto almost 1/2 an acre of fenced lawn. Three generous bedrooms plus study with twin lounges and double garage internal access. All the modern conveniences, rural views and minutes to surf, walks and the great outdoors. Come relax and enjoy.



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FLAT ELEVATED 930SQM SITE IN RIVERHEAD

4 2 2

Enquiries over

1027 Coatesville-Riverhead Highway, Riverhead
Enquiries over \$750,000 - Viewing by appointment

Wanting a bigger residential site in Riverhead? This property is an elevated rear site of almost 930 square meters, offering a fully usable section with mature plantings, partial fencing and services at the roadside. This is a fantastic opportunity to build your dream home or consider the plans that have been put forward by Build 7 for a 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, double garage home. This established site is available with a freehold title which should be available within the next 120 days. Minutes to Riverhead School, Kumeu and Westgate shopping areas. We encourage buyers considering an investment over \$750,000 to take an interest in this house and land package. This riverhead land is available for buyers over \$400,000.



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REGULAR AREA COLUMNISTS

HIS EXCELLENCY ZORAN MILANOVIĆ AT SOLJANS ESTATE

The official dinner honoring His Excellency Zoran Milanović Prime Minister of Croatia joined by his wife Mrs Sanja Musić Milanović, hosted by The Right Honorable John Key Prime Minister of New Zealand was held at Soljans Estate Winery in Kumeu on Friday 14th March 2014. This dinner was to celebrate the visit of Prime Minister Milanović; the first by a Croatian leader to New Zealand in over twenty years. A guest list including senior ministers from both governments were joined by a large number of people from the Croatian community. The wine industry was very well represented with ambassadors from the majority of New Zealand wineries that have a Croatian heritage. Prime Minister John Key spoke of how Croatians have been influential immigrants and their contribution to the economy has been huge and very positive. Their role in building the New Zealand Wine industry has been



enormous. Without their drive, hard work and long term vision, we would not have the vibrant industry we have today. Prime Minister Zoran Milanović mentioned how very impressed he was with the achievements of the Croatian community in New Zealand and the wide range of industries that they are involved in. He acknowledged the close association many have with their homeland and encouraged those present to continue this, as we can keep learning from each other. Soljans Estate Winery is owned and operated by the Soljan family. Managing Director, Tony Soljan's grandparents brought their family and winemaking skills to New Zealand from their homeland of Croatia in 1927. The

first Soljan vineyard was planted in Henderson, Auckland in 1932. Soljans Estate Winery is currently in its 77th year of operation.

BUSINESS NETWORKING

Hi, I'm David Lloyd with some exciting news for businesses - BNI (Business Network International) New Zealand is coming to our community. BNI is established



throughout Auckland and the rest of the country, so with the recent growth in the Kumeu/Huapai region, it's time the world leader in business networking and word of mouth marketing set up here. BNI New Zealand has been around since 1999 and has over 2,600 members. There are 130 groups around the country, some of them generating close to \$2 million in referral business annually. Why BNI works. As a member, you meet on a weekly basis, and establish a strong network of trustworthy businesses that can recommend you to others and vice versa. It's a cost effective, organised way to build networks and tap into the knowledge and expertise of your fellow members. There's only one business represented in each category

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in every group so you never compete for business. Secure your industry spot - invitation to an information event. We're holding a seminar presented by Graham Southwell, National Director of BNI New Zealand. Graham will explain how BNI works and will speak on the value of structured networking to business success. It'll be an opportunity for you to meet some of the organisers and see first-hand how BNI could fit well with your business and help it to grow. For further information, check out the animated video explaining how BNI works at www.bni.co.nz If you are a business professional in any industry who is interested in learning more and wants to express their interest in our new group, please contact me, David Lloyd on 027 4119255 or david@davidlloydmortgages.co.nz before 4 April 2014.

COUNTRY BEARS BUSY BEARS

Country Bears Busy Bears

It has been a very busy start to the year at Country Bears Preschool with lots of fun events, Chinese New year, a visit from BARK an organisation to help children become more aware of how to interact with dogs safely, Fire truck visit, fun bike day, visit from the librarian and our big bus trip with all the parents and families visiting the Alpaca farm. What an amazing trip, thanks to everyone. Our programme continues to offer positive fun activities/tasks that simulate a love to learn alongside an amazing and qualified team of teachers. Learning is and should be fun. 10 good reasons your child should attend preschool By Rita Eastell, Country Bears ECC "But my child is so small!" Yes, they're still wee tykes, but a high-quality preschool is designed to set young scholars up for future academic, emotional, and social success. Preschool provides a foundation for learning both socially and academically that will help your child succeed in life.

1. Preschool is an opportunity for growth. For many children, preschool is their first experience in a structured setting with teachers and groups of children. It's an opportunity to learn to share, follow instructions and begin the foundation for learning valuable skills needed throughout their lives.


2. Preschool prepares children for school. As primary school system becomes more academic, many parents look to preschool to launch their child on the path to success in school. At the

same time, parents may worry that the current trend to focus on pre-math and pre-literacy skills in preschool cuts into important play time and pushes a child to grow up too fast. It's a confusing issue, especially with friends and family offering different opinions and advice. Fortunately, in selecting a preschool, parents aren't forced to choose between protecting a child's play time and making sure they are ready for school. A high-quality early childhood education program will offer children both.

3. Preschool promotes social and emotional development. In order to learn, a young child needs to feel cared for and secure with a teacher or caregiver.

Young children are able to spend time away from parents and build trusting relationships with adults outside the family. High-quality preschool programs nurture warm relationships among children, teachers and parents. Teachers build a close personal connection with each child in their care.


4. The preschool environment is structured, although it may not appear that way. A well designed structured environment helps young children learn to make friends and play well with others. This doesn't mean there are lots of rules or that adults constantly direct children's activities. On the contrary, the structure of a high-quality



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preschool classroom is largely invisible to children. Classroom space is organized to encourage social interaction, and minimize congestion and conflicts.

5. Children get to make choices. Children have several choices of activities; a child who is wandering aimlessly is encouraged to choose one that interests them. Teachers are alert to a child who can't figure out how to enter other children's play and may offer suggestions on ways to join the group.

6. Children learn to take care of themselves and others. Children's sense of competence and self-worth grow as they learn to take care of themselves and help others.

7. Preschool promotes language and cognitive skills. Preschool-age children's language skills are nurtured in a "language-rich" environment. Between the ages of 3 and 5, a child's vocabulary grows from 900 to 2,500 words, and their sentences become longer and more complex. In a conversational manner, and without dominating the discussion, teachers help children stretch their language skills by asking thought-provoking questions and introducing new vocabulary during science, art, meal time, and other activities. Children have many opportunities to sing, talk about favorite read-aloud books, and act out stories.

8. Preschool teachers nurture a child's curiosity Teachers observe, ask questions and listen to children's ideas during these activities — "correct" answers are not the goal. To nurture their curiosity and motivation to learn, teachers use children's interests and ideas to create activities. Even a simple, chance event - such as a child's discovery of a snail in an outdoor play area.

9. Preschool activities boost pre-math and literacy skills. To sustain children's excitement and motivation for learning, high-quality preschool and child care programs introduce early literacy and math skills not as isolated exercises, but in the context of activities that are interesting and meaningful to children.

10. Preschool helps develop motor skills. Physical coordination improves, allowing the child to explore their environment — and to challenge themselves-in new ways. Young children are in motion for a good part of the day. High-quality preschool programs provide several opportunities daily for children to run, climb, and play active games. Activities are offered to help children develop fine motor skills, such as threading beads or cutting with scissors. Children are challenged through a variety of activities to build their hand-eye coordination and balance.

Whilst our Baby Bears Centre was designed to create a home away from home feeling, with primary care as the focus to provide the very best for our care and nurturing of babies and infants by qualified and experienced teachers, this is where the preschool journey begins. Country Bears Early Childhood Centre -79 Oraha Road Kumeu 7am-6pm Phone 09 4128055 Email www.countrybears.co.nz

JC

JACOB CURRAN
Director

JC PLUMBING LIMITED
P.O. Box 101, Kumeu, Auckland 0810
P: 027 470 8769
E: jake.curran@hotmail.com

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COMING UP AT WOODHILL SANDS


Local Hero and Olympic rider Jock Paget returns for eventing clinics April 1st – 6th. Jock has risen to very top of his sport in the past decade. We are lucky to have him back on our shores. His clinics are open to all levels of riders, at his old home ground Woodhill Sands for further information refer to the Woodhill Sands website www.woodhillsands.co.nz

The Auckland Show Jumping Championships take place over Easter weekend, This will include a Easter Egg Hunt for Children. Free entry for spectators. Food and Coffee on site, No Dogs please. Cross Country Action - May is the final Horse Trial for local group Auckland Equestrian Sports Autumn calendar taking place May 3rd & 4th (cross country day Sunday 4th) Spectators welcome. \$30,000 Winter Prize Give-away, Every participant at Woodhill Sands this winter goes into the massive winter Prize Draw. Each horse that enters gives its rider a chance to win some amazing prizes. “This is massive, our three lucky winners so far this March have been thrilled with their amazing show prizes that range in value from \$250 - \$500.” says Event Manager Angela Nobilo

“As well as these great show prizes we have a major prize every month valued at up to \$3500 and the overall winter prizes are worth up to \$9500.00, this gives the riders of Auckland incentive to keep going in the tough months when its cold, dark and wet”.



photo: Olympian Jock Paget and Clifton Promise at his first Advanced start at the Woodhill Sands Horse Trial (photo credit Libby Law Photography)



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Rest homes almost always ask if you have an enduring power-of-attorney ("POA"). By this, they mean a POA for your health and also for property. Importantly, both POAs allow someone you trust (your attorney) to act for you if you lose your mental capacity. In summary: Property POA - your attorney may pay money and sell property on your behalf. Health POA - your attorney may consult with your doctors. Making a POA - a POA is not valid unless a lawyer witnesses your signature and signs a certificate to say they have explained it to you. Alternatively, your caregivers may apply to the court for an order appointing an attorney if you have lost your mental capacity (or never had it). Luke Kemp LLB, BCOM, DIP. HORT 25 Oraha Road Kumeu, Auckland. P O Box 600 Kumeu, Auckland 0841. Telephone 09 412 6000.

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OPTIONAL EXTRA'S AT JOJO'S

Although there are many things that Jojo's provides as optional extras for our children it is important for people to know what happens every day in house and what we provide for our children and families. Everyday our cook Janet provides fresh cooked meals and delicious baking, she makes veggies fresh for all our under 2yr olds with many ingredients coming from our own veggie garden. Our learning programme is emergent, with all our experiences and ideas coming from the children's interests and questions, regardless of their age. Even our infants let us know where they are at and what they need given the time and space to do so. Our Toddlers and 'Inbetweens' enjoy physical and hands on learning with uninterrupted inside/outside play for the majority of the day, during these times experiences are set-up by our teachers as the children lead them. Our 4 1/2 year olds are taking time out each day to work together on skills and strategies for moving towards "Big School". Come and see

us anytime for a centre tour and find out how your child and your family can enjoy our in-centre and extra-curricular experiences at Jojo's Childcare. (09) 412 5325
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A good old fashioned drive to Muriwai Beach is still worth it, whilst it is autumn our summer weather is still here and the surf has improved at long last. We have just been acknowledged as the "Best place to buy Fish and Chips". We are very proud of this, and always strive to offer the freshest fish possible whilst cooked within a light batter to compliment. To save time phone ahead on 09 411 8624. All our cabinet food is made on premises with good old fashioned ingredients for good old fashioned flavour. Our slices are especially like Grandma used to make, and our pies are full of real substance. With a freshly made Millers coffee this is another good reason for a good old fashioned Kiwi Tiki Tour out to Muriwai. We endeavor to cater for most dietary requirements, by offering an option for everyone. All this is located at 189 Motutara Road, Muriwai Beach, 7 days a week.



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RESOLVING COMMERCIAL DISPUTES

It is an inevitable part of the commercial business environment that disputes arise between individuals, companies and the like. I often find that by the time I am instructed to act on a commercial dispute, there has already been a substantial exchange of correspondence between the parties themselves, some of which can be reasonably "heated". As such, more often than not, both parties become so entrenched in their respective positions that they are adamant that they want to go to Court to prove their position correct. While of course some disputes are well placed for Court, there are a number of factors to consider in assessing whether a dispute should go to Court or whether it is better placed for an alternative dispute resolution path. Three factors that I think are particularly important are Time; Economics; and Enforcement. Time: Taking a matter through Court is seldom quick and there are often many legal procedures that need to be attended to before the matter can be heard before the Judge. Therefore, if a quick resolution of the matter is needed, Court may not be the best option. Economics: It is important to consider the amount in dispute. Small amounts can become uneconomic to pursue through Court (even if you are successful in your claim). Enforcement: Thought needs to be given as to whether you will be able to practically enforce the judgment against the other party if you are successful. For example, if you obtain a judgment that orders a party to pay you money, but that party does not have the financial means to pay, you may end up simply having a judgment without a practical result. There are of course many other factors to consider in assessing the best path for resolving a dispute, and it is therefore worthwhile talking with your lawyer early on so that options can be considered. For more information on this article, contact Danswan Law Limited on (09) 412 7348 or visit us at www.danswan.co.nz.

THE ANNUAL BERBA HARVEST CELEBRATION

We handpicked our Kumeu Pinot Gris on 11th March and our first crop of Kumeu Chardonnay on 12th March. Handpicking allows us to carefully select only the best bunches to make premium wine. Of course, the harvest can only mean that our annual Berba Harvest Celebration is coming up.



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Grape stomping will be available again for those who love to squish grapes between their toes. We will also have Croatian folk dancers performing (Sunday and Monday only), winery tours with Tony Soljan and Novo Vino (new fermenting wine) will also be available to try (Note: not the result of the grape stomping!) So keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for more details on what's happening when. Soljans Estate Winery will be closed Good Friday, 18th April. Join us for Berba: Saturday 19th, Sunday 20th and Monday 21st April 2014 from 9am – 5pm. www.soljans.co.nz www.facebook.com/SoljansEstate



MINI SAVOURY CHEESE AND BACON QUICHE

Puff pastry sheets
2 eggs
¾ cup cream
½ Chopped Onion
2 rashers Bacon
1/2 cup grated cheese
Salt and Pepper

Pre Heat Oven to 180 C
Lightly grease mini muffin tins and cut circles of ready made puff pastry to fit.
In a pan lightly sauté bacon and onion.
In a bowl beat the eggs, cream, salt and pepper.
Add small amount of bacon and onion to the base of each case and pour egg mixture into case. Sprinkle with grated cheese and bake for approx. 10 minutes until golden.
This recipe can be varied by using a variety of fillings eg, feta, ham, salmon, sundried tomatoes, herbs, etc



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TRADE TIPS & ADVICE

ON TOP OF INTEREST RATES

On the 13 March the Reserve Bank increased the Official Cash Rate by 0.25% to 2.75% resulting in some banks increasing their Floating and Short Term fixed interest rates. The rise equates to around \$41 per week for every \$100,000 of borrowing. Further rises are tipped with a possible rise of up to 1% in total for the year. By reducing your higher interest short term debt like some Credit and Charge Cards, or reducing your monthly Bank Charges you could cover some of these increases. There are many options to reduce this high interest debt, and cover yourself for further possible rate increases going forward. To discuss your options and look at ways of saving \$1,000's of dollars of interest costs and bank charges call 09 215 6990 to book a free in home consultation at a time that suits you. Mark Greene, Mike Pero Mortgage Broker mark.greene@mikepero.co.nz

STAY SAFE, SENSOR LIGHTS

Stay safe, check your sensor lights! With the clocks changing once again it is time to get ready for more hours of darkness. Now is a good time to check security lighting is working and make sure that sensor lights are effective. Better lighting is safer, avoids accidents and tends to deter burglars – they don't like to be seen. It is also time to check heating systems are working or look into installing heat pumps before the winter rush. We can provide quotes for a number of systems. Please feel free to contact Tony on 021 772 756 or Karen 09 411 8526 if you have any electrical queries or would like a no-obligation quote. We are available for all domestic, commercial and marine work.



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thing is for sure; you'll want to have a simple common sense approach, an honest understanding and a quick get to work relationship. My name is Ashleigh Taylor and this is what I deliver every day to my clients that seek clarity over the market, values, buyer demand and house supply. After 12 months in a real estate administrative role I hold a thorough understanding of what creates buyer demand and how to achieve quick get to market, without compromising quality, nor discounting the media that will deliver strong interest. If you are considering selling up, I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to provide a common sense approach, a sound marketing solution and a comprehensive market analysis. It is free from cost and obligation but you'll feel more informed

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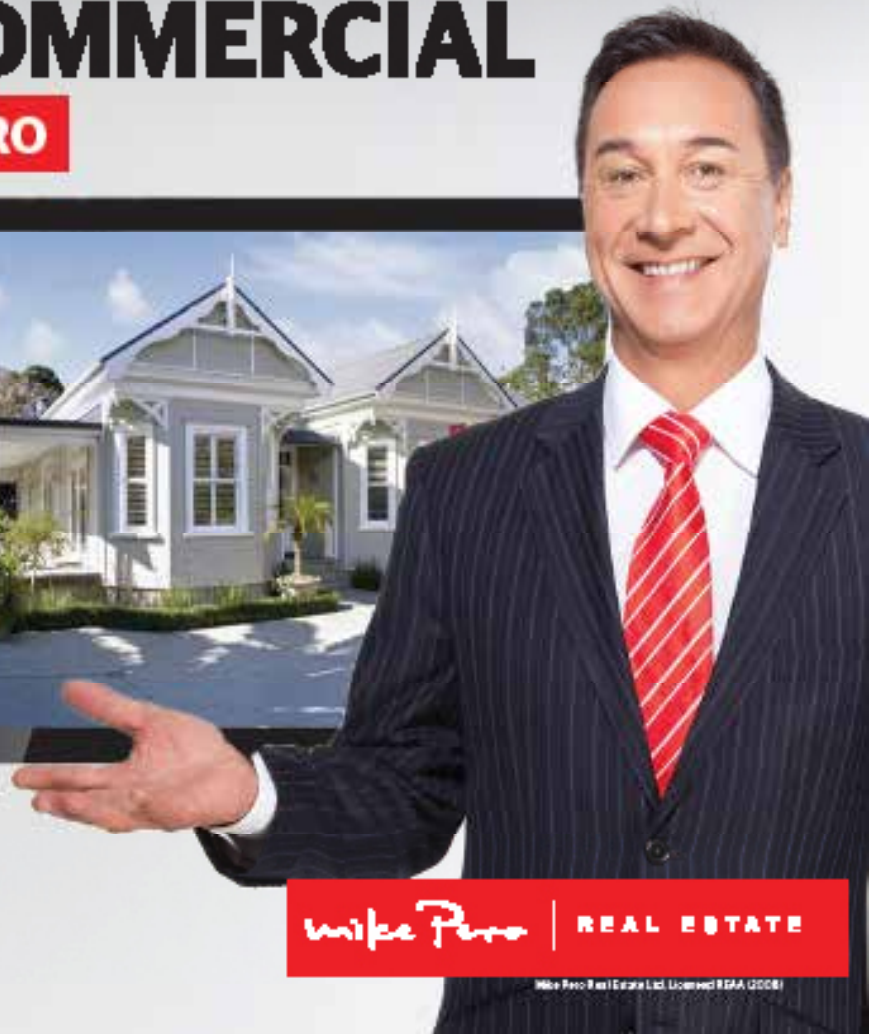


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FENCING - THE GOOD, BAD AND THE UGLY?

With some areas showing barren grazing conditions, and an increase in the number of New Zealand Fire Service call outs to stock in waterways, it is timely to highlight the need for effective fencing. If you get this wrong you may have stock in the drain or on the road, this often proves fatal for the animal and uncomfortable for all others involved. As the stock holder you are liable for all stock on your land. We suggest you grade your present fencing. Nothing beats a well-built conventional fence - 8 wires, 4 battens, posts 4 m apart. That design was effective with two barbs to hold the battens in place were commonly used, but that method isn't used much anymore. Cattle and horses are destroyers, and they will destroy a fence too, whether it is 8 or 9 wire, unless the fence is protected by barb or electricity. Many of the fences I see have no barbs, and the battens have been pushed along to the posts. They are still keeping cattle and horses out at this point, but the wires become separated and loose and allow sheep through. Batten displacement on an un-barbed fence. Most sheep and goats tend to burrow rather than jump, and it is the loose wires they find while stretching underneath that will generally let them through. Keeping wires tight and running a barbed wire along the bottom of the fence are the best ways to discourage this behaviour. My preference for a fence now is 9 wires with 3 m post spacings without battens. As long as the wires are tight, the sheep won't get through, and cattle don't like sticking their heads through either. I have also seen 5 wire fences at thigh height (700 mm) that sheep have never breached, with a higher electric wire for cattle. The absence of battens makes repair jobs easier after branch or tree-fall and the wires are also easier to keep tight. It's a good idea to think about where you put your tensioners when you build the fence, as handy access makes the job of tightening wires quick and easy. Kumeu Fencer.

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NEW TRADE TIPS & ADVICE SECTION

We regularly ask Kumeu Courier readers what information they find helpful and useful. Furthermore, we think it is important to allow our local trade and supply companies the opportunity to highlight some tricks of the trade, some tips, and showcase some of the new products and services available. This community is made up of some of the best trades people in the Auckland region and it is only through this Trade tips and advice section that we get to see their craft and understand some of the fundamentals. This section allows free from cost editorial (150 words and a photo) to be supplied on or before 15th of the month for inclusion in next month's issue. Send us your email address to glms@extra.co.nz or text your email address to 027 632 0421 (with the word trades) for deadline updates and additional opportunities. Alternatively call Sarah Cartwright on 021 250 7324



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Our strong relationship with our supply partners means we can give you all the pricing benefits that the big group housing companies claim to offer, but with the benefit of our bespoke personal service that is fast, efficient and takes the hassle out of the building process. Our Real Estate, Finance, Engineering and Architectural partners work with you every step of the way while we craft your new home to the quality and finish you deserve . . . and one that is unique to you!

Call Steve today to find out how we can make your dream home a reality!



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