

### Intro

Its official, another year done and dusted! I can't believe how fast it has gone and Christmas is here again. To all our wonderful readers, advertisers and local businesses who support the Kumeu Courier I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support. Graham McIntyre does a fantastic job getting this magazine out into our community and many of you will know this is not the only hat he wears, so a personal thank you from me for all your hard work Graham. For all those planning a family getaway over the festive season I hope you have a memorable break filled with plenty of friends, family and of course the ever elusive sunshine! Remember, Christmas isn't all about gifts (although we do love them) so spare a thought and give some of your time to those people in your life who would appreciate your presence rather than presents. Thank you all again for your continued loyalty to our publication, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

As always- Stay safe, Be Kind.

Sarah, Editor.



### kumeu Courier

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### **Ouestions and feedback:**

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## AUCKLAND COUNCIL MEDIATION DISASTER

About 100 groups, including the Association, lawyers and planners assembled by demand of the Commission for the first mediation session of the 'Unitary Plan Hearings'. It was a disaster! Only two pages were considered and the Commissioners hadn't resolved the grouping before the meeting, leading to more debate over the grouping than on the real issues of development growth and policies. The Association, like others, received a 'assessment of mediation' which was written in a form of an apology, stating that they will have 'more focussed mediation' in the future - not a good start to the 'Unitary Plan' meetings.

The most up-to-date knowledge we have is that the Rural Urban Boundary (RUB) mediation date will be advised shortly, and the substantive hearings on zoning and specific areas requests will be held about the middle of 2015.

In my view, the RUB argument raises other hidden economic issues. Once set, the area contained by the RUB will be able to be used to set levies for proposed infrastructure which will be needed for the projected growth over the next 30 years. In this way development and infrastructure can be incrementally paid for over time. The real question will be if there will

be any difference in costs dependent on unsighted and unknown development densities. I don't believe that the current mechanism of development levies on developments payable when development occurs will be the only avenue for funds for infrastructure for the Council.

At present the 'Rural & Countryside Living' zones are outside the RUB but 'Large Lot' zones (of which there are none in Kumeu) are included. The 4000m Large Lot is about 10 times the size of the 'Mixed Housing' suburban site, so there is a potential problem of fairness in infrastructure levies. The 'Large Lot' category, with limited services and self contained water and sewerage, is closer aligned to the 'Countryside Living' zoning at 1 hectare. That debate is set for the next mediation session.

As Auckland Transport and the New Zealand Transport Agency are yet to show how transport needs are going to be handled to service the known 20-30,000 population increase, it has been decided to write to the Prime Minister to see if he can help with the problem.

What is clearly apparent to locals is that the traffic in Kumeu is creating congestion, and we don't have any of the new housing areas operating yet. It is the shop owners and businesses on the Main Road who are noticing the greatest change. The Association will be expanding its membership in the new year to accommodate the interest expressed from the

business community.

I know this is the December issue, so on behalf of the hard working committee, I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Christmas.

Pete Sinton Chairman, Kumeu Huapai Resident and Ratepayers Association. Ph 09 412 2016

Email petesinton@townplanner.co.nz

### **SOLJANS OPEN OVER XMAS**

Soljans Estate Winery & Café will be open over the holiday period except for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day. Bring in your family, friends & visitors for a meal, soak up the atmosphere (hopefully the sunshine when it arrives!), and taste and buy our award winning wines in the cellar door. If you're still stuck for Christmas ideas, come in and talk to the staff. We have many options we can put together for you. Don't forget our gift store, the stock is constantly changing, some great gifts in here for that hard-tobuy-for person. If you'd like corporate gift ideas, packages & prices please email alex@soljans.co.nz for the flyer.

The team at Soljans wish you a Happy Christmas, a safe holiday season and we hope to see you in here; a warm welcome awaits! Soljans Estate Winery & Café, open 7 days. Ph. 09 412 5858 Email cellar@soljans.co.nz Web www.soljans.co.nz



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## COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

## PRE-CHRISTMAS TREAT DAYS AT SPA DI VINE ON 3 DECEMBER AND 9 DECEMBER

Spa Di Vine is arranging two days for you to have a little pamper and come and try our wonderfully relaxing facials. World renowned skincare brand Theravine's NZ Trainer will be at Spa Di Vine and you can take advantage of her extensive experience and knowledge on two very special days: Wednesday 3 Dec - Book a 45 minute luxury facial for only \$59 p.p. and yes, you can come with a friend! Tuesday 9 Dec - Book a 90 minute 24K GOLD Facial for \$195 p.p. and take home the Gold Range skincare pack (Value \$128) with a Gold Range Day Crème, Night Crème and Ultravine RNS Concentrate. (can also be booked for two). You will look absolutely radiant for this festive season. Every quest, as always, will be able to enjoy our beautiful indoor/outdoor relaxation areas afterwards with a complimentary cup of tea and some fresh fruits. Limited places available, so first booked, first served. Phone Paula at Spa Di Vine 09 411 5290.

### **VICTORIAN PICNIC LUNCH**

South Kaipara U3A meet on Friday 5 December, 1pm. All welcome, gold coin entry - Victorian Picnic Lunch. St. John Ambulance Rooms, 7 Rata Street, Helensville. Call Jenny on 09 827 8861 for further information. Pauline Mee, a performance poet, is our invited guest. Maybe you have a short humorous story or poem about Christmas to share. First meeting for 2015 will be 13 February at 1pm.

### **DEANO'S HOUSE WASH**

Pre-Summer Special 20% off: Soft house – washing and also commercial, gutter cleaning, roof treatments, spider treatments, waterblasting decks, fences, concrete, gutterguards, rubbish removal, section clearing and much more! Phone Dean on 021 149 7049 or Danni on 021 205 4013; or email: deanoshousewash08@gmail.com. Please feel free to phone, text or email for a no obligation quote.

### **KUMEU NEW WORLD**



Kumeu New World would like to thank all their customers for the support over the past year. We love being a part of such a fantastic, family orientated community and it is because of your custom that we have been able to support many of our local events, schools, charities, kindergartens and sports teams this year. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

## ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP DAY AT MATUA FOR FAMILY FUN

If you're looking for a fun family day out in the neighbourhood, Matua is creating just that on Saturday December 6. As the Official Wine Sponsor of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2015 in NZ, Matua is bringing the Cricket World Cup Trophy to their Auckland cellar door for the day. The last time New Zealand and Australia co-hosted the ICC Cricket World Cup was 23 years ago, so having it back in 2015 is the opportunity of a generation. At the Matua Cricket World Cup Day, you can get up close and personal with the trophy for a photograph as well as testing out your skills on the three inflatable skill games. Relax and enjoy wood-fired pizza and great wine for the adults. Entry is free, so pack the whole family and head on over: December 6, 2pm-5pm

311 Waikoukou Valley Road, Waimauku. For more information, contact Matua's Cellar Door 09 411 5559

## TINY TURTLES AND THE LITTLE INTERIORS CO POP UP SHOP



A welcoming and fun shopping experience for kids and families for a limited





time in November and December 2014 only. Quirky, fun and bright bedroom, home wares and Bonds Baby clothing. We are very proud to showcase our wares in our custom painted and freshly decorated new Pop Up Shop! It's always a juggle with young children and business, and we have achieved what we thought was impossible. We welcome you to visit the store at 338 Main Road, Kumeu and check it out for yourself. We have plenty of bright, colourful and eye catching displays that could fill your pages with ideas for bedroom and house decor as well as a generous amount of products to pick from for Christmas gift ideas! We would like to thank everyone in the community who has helped us get started. We feel very special to be a part of such a true community and are proud to have the opportunity to showcase our businesses.

### **LOCAL BOARD UPDATE 2014**

This week Councillors voted to propose an 'average' 3.5% rates increase as part of the LTP. This will see anything from a decrease in rates (in Rodney many peoples rates have fallen slightly) to a whopping 40% increase. Various suggestions to mitigate the effect of the increases were voted down.



I expect that the Local Boards will wear some flak

for the increase as we objected to the proposed huge cuts to our budgets. We were faced with suggestions that ranged from cutting library hours to leaving parks un-mowed to give them a "meadow-like" effect. In Rodney we have an inadequate parks budget across an area 46% the size of Auckland, the cuts would have been significant. As advocates for our community it would be irresponsible not to fight the proposed cuts in areas like parks budgets.

This does not mean that Council couldn't have cut spending to mitigate the size of the increases. Council Controlled organisations like ATEED had untouched budgets even though in my opinion they are involved in what is essentially corporate welfare and events such as the V8's in Pukekohe. When times are tough are these things that should continue to attract millions of dollars of ratepayers money? Are there savings to be made in Corporate overheads? These include the millions spent on moving to new buildings when we have buildings in Orewa and Takapuna sitting semi vacant, then deciding that the buildings that staff moved from should be retained as possibly renovated at huge expense.

One of the issues with rates is the continued reduction in the business differential, many people are unaware that businesses essentially cross subsidise domestic rates by paying proportionally more than domestic ratepayers. Businesses have been an easy target electorally. I am happy to go out on a limb and say I support the continued reduction of the business differential. If we want local jobs and economic growth we need to be careful about milking businesses ratepayers because it's politically expedient to do so.

It will be interesting to see your feedback on the LTP (Long Term Plan) in the New Year, yes, there is more feedback required on yet another plan!

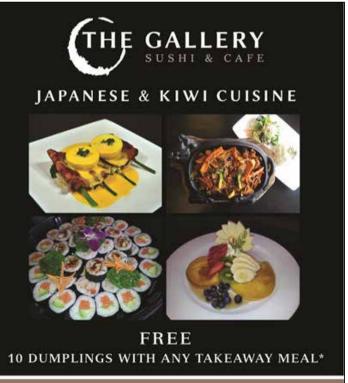
Phelan Pirrie, Rodney Local Board. Phone 021 837 167. Email: phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

### **KUMEU COURIER MAGAZINE - NOT FOR PROFIT**

If you have enjoyed reading the last four and a half years of Kumeu Courier you may like to know that the publication invests its profits back into the community through a range of initiatives and programs. It's our way of saying thanks to you the reader and the advertisers respectively.







## DINE IN OR TAKEAWAY SUSHI | DONBURI | SASHIMI BREAKFAST | COFFEE

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## **SAFER COMMUNITIES**

It's that time of year again! Xmas is just around the corner so here are a few tips on how to keep safe during the silly season. If you are going away over Christmas, let your neighbours know so they can keep an eye on your property.

Ensure your animals have water and are well looked after if you are leaving them at home. Check your vehicles before you go, including tyre pressures, brake fluid level and operating lights. Make sure you keep your speed down, drive to the conditions and have patience, so your family and other road users can arrive safely at their holiday destination.

If you are attending work functions and other parties, arrange a sober driver, and be aware that as of 1 December the alcohol limits have been reduced when considering driving. Look after your friends and family, and please be responsible so we can all have a Merry Christmas and enjoy the festive season.

In an emergency dial 111. For more information contact Melissa Haven, Ph 09 412 7756. Urban sprawl has reached the Waitakere fire station and with it comes the end of a 30 year era! 6 locals started the fire station with a van and sheer determination to provide a service to the Waitakere/Taupaki area. On 1 November 2014 the Waitakere Volunteer Rural Fire Force became the Waitakere Volunteer Fire Brigade. We are one of three new stations in the country that will be run by New Zealand Fire Service but will retain a rural fire truck to attend rural incidents. The signage and uniforms will change but our commitment to the community remains. Waitakere fire is now on Facebook. This is another way for us to communicate and relay information about the brigade, so visit either www.facebook.com/WaitakereFireStation or search Waitakere Volunteer Fire Brigade.

As summer approaches it is important that you know the rules regarding what you can and cannot do with the lighting of outdoor fires. Below is a link that explains all you need to know. www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/licencesregulations/ruralfire

Waitakere Volunteer Fire Brigade wishes you a safe and Merry Christmas. We may see you Christmas morning around the Waitakere Township area with Santa's helpers.

Denis Cooper Chief Fire Officer Waitakere Volunteer Fire Brigade





## 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 COATESVILLE	Max	Median	Minimum Mo	ost Recent Sale
Lifestyle	\$2,800,000	\$ 1,725,000	\$ 785,000	\$ 2,400,000
HERALD ISLAND Residential	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 705,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 705,000
HOBSONVILLE Residential	\$ 850,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 708,000	\$750,000
HUAPAI - KUMEU Residential Lifestyle	\$ 910,000 \$3,400,000	\$ 850,000 \$ 1,500,000	\$ 627,000 \$940,000	\$ 670,000 \$ 1,125,000
MURIWAI Residential	\$ 1,110,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 560,000	\$525,000
RIVERHEAD Residential	\$ 960,000	\$ 928,000	\$ 840,000	\$ 855,000
TAUPAKI Lifestyle	\$ 1,145,000	\$ 1,008,000	\$ 740,000	\$ 1,145,000
WAIMAUKU Residential Lifestyle	\$ 1,020,000 \$1,045,000	\$ 820,000 \$ 850,000	\$ 660,000 \$ 601,000	\$ 660,000 \$ 995,000
WAITAKERE TOWN Residential	ISHIP \$ 1,200,000	\$ 782,000	\$ 575,000	\$ 575,000
WESTHARBOUR Residential	\$ 1,675,000	\$ 870,000	\$ 480,000	\$661,000
WHENUAPAI Residential	\$ 4,400,000	\$ 645,000	\$ 480,000	\$ 645,000

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**

There had been speculation that the Reserve Bank was about to either remove or ease the loan to value ratio restrictions recently but no, still no respite for the first home buyer. These restrictions were designed to be temporary so the big question is, when will the economy and in particular, the housing market allow a change? Mid to late 2015 is the general consensus. The good news for those borrowers with at least 20% equity/deposit is that banks are offering some very attractive special interest rates in order to win this sought after slice of the pie. The advantage of using a Mortgage Advisor is that we know which lenders are offering the best deals, so call us for a no obligation conversation about your home loan requirements.



David Lloyd Phone 027 411 9255

## INBRIEF UPDATES:EVENTS

## LION DISTRICT CONVENTION A GREAT SUCCES

Waimauku Lions organised this year's Lion District 202K Convention, with assistance from Helensville Lions and Huapai-Kumeu Lions. The theme of the weekend was "Happy Days Revival" which meant everything had a fun musical aspect, including the flag ceremony on Friday. Over 200 lions from across the District attended, as well as dignitaries, some who'd flown in from the South Island. Grahame Edmonds, who headed the Convention Committee, wants to thank local businesses. "This weekend was a great success thanks to the generous donations, both produce and monetary, from many local businesses." All 36 members of the Waimauku Lions, and many family members, worked hard to make sure this event ran without a glitch. Saturday night's dinner and dance was very enjoyable with Roger Skinner and his band providing music from the 50s, 60s and 70s. If you are interested in joining Waimauku Lions, phone John on 09 411 8606 or email lionswaimauku@ amail.com.

### TNM WATERBLASTING

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## HAVE YOU TRIED A PITA PIT SMOOTHIE?

These are great on a hot day. Our Smoothies taste fresh and delicious. They are made to order in-store from chilled and frozen ingredients. Smoothies can also be prepared with a dairy free option. We have a full listing of nutritional information for each of our five flavours Mango Banana Probiotic, Superfruit Antioxia, Feijoa, Pear & Ginger, Immuni Tropical and Kiwiberry Omega-3. Each Smoothie has a nutritional additive for a different health focus. For example, the Mango Banana Probiotic Smoothie has a probiotic supplement. And you can have protein powder added - just ask. Kids love the Smoothie flavours so if you prefer a healthy option for the younger ones buy a Smoothie. If you are eating in-store with more than one child let us know

and we will help with extra cups so the Smoothie can be shared.



### DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR AUCK-LAND COUNCIL REVALUATION?

Auckland Council has undertaken a revaluation of all properties located within the Auckland region in November this year. Council was scheduled to post your notice of valuation between the 10th and 12th of November so if you do not receive it by the end of November, we recommend that you contact Council and ask them to urgently resend your notice. As you may be aware, the annual land rates that are charged to you by Council are calculated using a formula that takes into account the current Council valuation for your property. This is why this revaluation is so important to you as a property owner. As a landowner you do have the ability to object to any of the information contained in the notice but you only have until 5:00p.m. Fri. Dec. 19, 2014 to submit your objection. If you have any questions about the objection process or the revaluation in general, please contact Smith & Partners at 09 837 6884.

### **NEED A TOP NOTCH FRAME?**

At Benjamin Bowring, we use high tech machinery to ensure that we get the highest quality finish and best results when it comes to our picture framing and creat-





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### **NAYLZ & BEAUTI**

"Beauti From The Heart" is our philosophy - here at "Naylz & Beauti". Our clients' happiness is crucial.

As a boutique salon we pride ourselves on the time we spend with our clients to tailor match exactly what you need. Your needs and making sure you get the end result you want, and outcome from your time with us really is what makes our hearts sing. Truly personalised pampering, in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere with a holistic approach to not only leave you feeling amazing on the outside, but also re-charged and smiling on the inside. Offering a large range of services -Gel Polish, Acrylic Nails, Manicures, Waxing, Pedicures, Tinting, Makeup Artistry - (weddings, formals/school balls, etc) Pamper Parties, Facials, Makeup Consults, Retail Products, Gift Vouchers and more. In line with our holistic approach we support the use of products that are as natural as we can, cruelty free, and made in N.Z. Our products include, Surmanti nails & skincare, Wendy Hill Makeup, Cosmetic Lab Mineral Makeup, U-skin, etc. Always here if you need any confidential advice, or to chat more about your needs. Only 5 mins. drive from Kumeu Village. We look forward to pampering all the beautiful ladies. www.facebook.com/Naylz.Beauti, Awa Road, Kumeu. Ph. 0299 890 999. Bookings essential please. Roxy - "Naylz & Beauti"

## IS YOUR STREET THE BEST IN THE NORTH-WEST?

How does your street rate in the 2014 best street awards? Over the next month we will be finalising entries and comparing information to make a decision on the best three streets in the district. The criteria includes but is not limited to:

- visual appeal
- neighbourhood activity
- programs for improvement
- companies or consortiums that support the street
- waste management or minimisation
- future proofing
- safety and signage.

International street awards provide residents in that street with a range of benefits including a marketing advantage when it come time to sell, but also galavanising owners in the street into action. For more information phone 0800 900 700 or email glms@xtra.co.nz

the last 12 months, which saw us being named in Cuisine's Top 60 New Zealand Restaurants List, as well as being named in Metro's Top 50 List for the third year running. We look forward to bringing you more award-winning food & wine when we reopen from January 7 after giving the team a well earned break over Christmas. Keep an eye out for our Heineken Sundowners starting again on Sunday afternoons from the beginning of February until the end of April, and we will also be bringing you more Trust the Chef nights and special events.

Have a happy and safe festive season!
The Tasting Shed team

Phone 09 4126454 or email jo@thetastingshed.com www.thetastingshed.com



## TASTING SHED SAYS THANKS

Jo, Ganesh, Chef Stephen and The Tasting Shed team would like to wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year to come in 2015. Thank you for your continued support throughout











best available beans, ground seconds, before going into your cup.

We aim to keep our coffee at a consistently high standard.

#### Special thanks We have a number of pick-up-boxes in the area and we would like to thank the following companies for their support: Carriages Cafe Kumeu Countdown Westgate Freshchoice Waimauku **Jacks Dairy** Waitakere Township Kumeu Post Shop Kumeu **New World** Kumeu Top Shop Muriwai

### **DELIVERING YOUR SOFTWARE**

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### HELP NEEDED FOR SOUTH KAIPARA ARTISAN TRAIL

South Kaipara Artisans Trail has one of the most active and varied arts and artisan populations in New Zealand. Based on successful overseas models, establishing an artisans trail for the South Kaipara will be a significant catalyst for supporting local artists and artisans, as well as developing the wider economy by linking with local cafes, markets and other tourism initiatives. As part of the proposed trail's design and feasibility, a project team of local people from the arts community are asking local artists and artisans to complete the following brief survey https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/artisanstrail For any further information about the proposed South Kaipara Artisans Trail, please email ian.leader@localworks.co.nz or call 0275 10 20 91.

### **CROOK NECK, BUNG BACK?**

If so, come and see us at Kumeu Chiropractic. Dr's Chris and Nolene McMaster are well known in the West Auckland area where they have lived and practiced Chiropractic care for over twenty five years. They are now well



into their third year of practice at Kumeu Chiropractic and have loved the positive effects that Chiropractic has had in the lives of the many local people they have already taken care of. Back and neck pain can deteriorate into other body malfunctions such as headaches, limb pain and more debilitating conditions such as sciatica and early –onset arthritis. Kumeu Chiropractic's approach is one of correction and then prevention, as it is important to maintain good health habits even after the affected



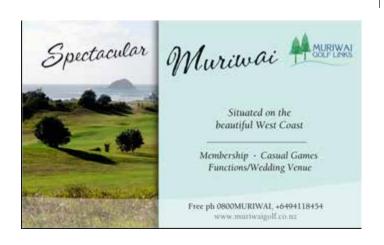
area has healed. Improving spinal function through Chiropractic care assists your body to work better; it's as simple as that. Don't wait for your neck and back pain to develop further. Call us now for a full spinal evaluation. Phone Glenis on 09 412 5536.

### SUNGLASSES TO CORRECT COLOURBLINDNESS.

New world leading Enchroma (USA) sunglasses are now available to correct colour blindness. The perfect xmas present for your colourblind husband, partner or son. Warwick Walmsley the first NZ wearer says "Enchroma sunglasses enhance all the colours. I can now see new shades of colour, colours that I couldn't see before and can tell the difference between colours. I really enjoy wearing them and wear them all the time outside". First and only distributors in NZ, Matthew and Molly Whittington, Optometrists at For Eyes in Kumeu Village phone 09 412 8172 or email foreyes@clear.net.nz or www.colourblind.co.nz Available with no risk 14 day 100% money back warranty, warranty extended for surprise xmas presents!

### A MESSAGE FROM CRAIGWEIL HOUSE

Craigweil House would like to wish all readers of this amazing little/big news bulletin a Merry Christmas and a very Special New year for 2015. Our residents are always keen to have a celebration or another party and we seem to go from one to another with birthdays, anniversaries, the Melbourne Cup, Easter, Mum and Dads day and I could go on. We are all looking forward to summer which only arrives in short bursts, then we are back to hail, winds and rain again. But hey we soldier on. Christmas can be a lonely space for many people, some of our residents don't receive many visitors so we all become a family, and friends doing things together, supporting one another, and very often just having a good old chat, a cuppa and a laugh. What to choose for presents can be a bit of a problem at times, I have nine grandchildren between the ages of three years and nineteen years old, I mainly get vouchers and lots of favourite treats and they can have the pleasure of choosing and buying something that they need or want. Mind you it can get very confusing with all the choices that we have these days the toys, gadgets and electronic gizmos can be to the everyday person very challenging. I know I depend on the young ones when I am learning anything new or I am stuck on my computer, it's "help what do I do now". Finally a big thanks from Craigweil to all our families, community visitors, suppliers, church groups, Age Concern and most of all our amazing family of residents. Cheers, Sharyn Gray







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## PROPERTY NEWS & ADVICE

## WHY YOU SHOULD LIST WITH MIKE PERO REAL ESTATE

Reason #16 - We have pre-arranged viewings scheduled in the week to allow you to retain a home life while being on market. What does this mean? Some Real Estate Companies have a key-lockbox system which is accessed through a universal key or code. This means any agent can unlock the box at any time and access your home for a viewing. In effect, this means that agents have access to your home 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. This old system was common place a decade ago and made life difficult for Vendors, especially mum's with children and busy families. "Our system is different, we have pre-arranged viewing windows that we can turn on with 24 hours notice,. This provides structured, pre-set viewings and also delivers a more relaxed viewing schedule than the quick fire panick" says Graham McIntyre, Brand and Territory Owner, Mike Pero Real Estate Kumeu. If a structured viewing arrangement with one point of contact, that can deliver all buyers through all real estate agents, sounds like the best option for your sale, contact Graham McIntyre ARE-INZ, Licensed REAA2008 today on 0800 900 700 or email graham.mcintyre@ mikepero.com

### A MOMENT IN THE RED CHAIR

There are plenty of things that we can control as real estate professionals. We



can control the communications plan, we can change the marketing and advertising plan, we can change the strategy and the time pressure. We can refresh the exposure and we can re-introduce the property through databases of existing buyers. There is much to discuss and much we can do to influence buvers. What we have little control over is the exact purchase price achieved, nor the exact speed that this will occur. Recently some of our competitors have been overcooking prices and under speculating on the time on market. In these areas the agent has very little or no direct control and are subject to much discussion from our regulatory body, The Real Estate Agents Authority. If you would like an honest, solid approach to selling your home, contact Mike Pero Real Estate on 0800 900 700.

## AUCKLAND COUNCIL'S HOUSE VALUE SITE CRASHES

Aucklanders celebrating massive rises in their homes' capital valuation should not get too excited about borrowing up large for renovations or an investment property, experts say. Auckland Council's website crashed as property owners stampeded online to check their new valuations. The CVs for the country's biggest city have jumped by about a third since 2011, with some areas such as Hobsonville, Forrest Hill and Mangere Bridge up more than 50 per cent. Auckland mortgage broker Campbell Hastie, of Go2Guys, said the increase was a "double-edged sword" for those who had seen the biggest swing. "It does make you feel a bit richer, even if it is just on paper, but it also means you're going to pay more rates," he said. Hastie said homeowners were unlikely to rush out and borrow up a storm by leveraging their increased equity. "I don't think people are going to open up the envelope and go, 'wow, that looks cool, let's go and buy an investment property," he said. Instead Hastie said it would be "another tick in the box" to give people confidence to go ahead with extensions, renovations or investments they were already planning. He also said banks did not put much stock in CVs when considering loans, except as a rough measure of a property's value.

"The banks do look at them, but they certainly are more prepared to hang their hat on a registered valuation, and/or a desktop valuation," Hastie said. A "desktop" valuation is a less rigorous assessment that costs about half to a third as much as a full valuation, which includes a property inspection. Hastie said borrowers with less than 20 per cent equity or buying an investment property would almost certainly need to a more solid valuation than the CV. CVs, also known as rateable values or government valuation, are calculated based on other properties in the same area. They usually do not take into account the condition of the house and land, chattels, and landscaping. Property Institute chief executive David Clark said a lot of people thought CVs were the same as market value, but it was important not to confuse the two. "All [CVs] are is a determination for applying land tax, really," he said. "The valuations are for





separate purposes, and they don't really cross over." Clark said it was unlikely there would be a surge in people seeking valuations to try and challenge the council's CV. In most cases, the expense of doing so would probably not compensate for any reduction in rates, he said. Bankers' Association chief executive Kirk Hope said the higher revaluations did not necessarily mean banks would start lending more money. "As well as looking at the equity you hold in your property you need to demonstrate your ability to repay any increase in lending," he said. "Banks will also ask valid questions about what you would like to borrow the money for."

Hope said banks would look at individual circumstances when deciding whether to accept the latest CV, or request a proper valuation. "Once again that's usually about your equity in the property and your ability to repay the loan," he said.

### BRAKES ON HOUSE PRICE GROWTH: OV

Signs of a spring pick-up failed to prevent house prices from hitting their slowest growth rate in two years last month. Latest figures from QV show that nationally, house values edged up just 1.1 per cent over the past three months, and grew 5.9 per cent annually. Sales were around 12 per cent lower than the same time last year. Once again all eyes were on the dominant Auckland and Christchurch markets, with the Auckland region up 2.5 per cent in the last three months and 9.2 per cent over the same period last year. QV spokesperson Andrea Rush said that although home values had slowed nationally, they had revived in many centres over the past three months. "Home values have accelerated again in Auckland since July at a rate not seen since last year.

## TIPS ON CHRISTMAS DECORATING WHILE YOUR HOME IS ON THE MARKET - AT HOME STAGING LTD

With Christmas fast approaching, most of us are itching to pull out the Christmas decorations eager to start the seasonal celebrations. Having your home on the market shouldn't stop you from doing this, however, there are a few key staging rules that you can follow to help with the sale of your home at this time of year. A well staged home is clutter free so a dedicated place in one or two rooms is enough. Think about size, it's better to have one large piece rather than lots of small ones. Use your decorations to emphasise your homes best features, e.g. if you have a high ceiling a large Christmas tree will help to show this off. A fireplace can be made to look quite spectacular with a simple wreath hanging over the mantel mirror with a selection of white candles. A beautiful display of glass baubles in a bowl on an entry table will help to give a warm welcome first impression. Keep it on trend, using only your newer decorations and think about the accent colours you are using throughout your home. Try to stick to only one or two colour combinations in

your Christmas decorations. Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and success in the sale of your home. For Home Staging enquiries, please contact Anna or Tracey on 021 136 3750 or 029 200 9011. Email athomestaging@xtra.co.nz





From the management and members of Waitakere Fire Brigade we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas







### SUNSHINE & ALFRESCO IN HERALD ISLAND

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**Enquiries Over** 

23 The Terrace, Herald Island Enquiries Over \$859,000 - Viewing by appointment

This wonderfully crafted, quirky and quaint home offers a very unique and individual period piece home that will say plenty about you and the lifestyle that you value. North facing and with elevated, expansive alfresco decking this open home offers magnificent entertaining and relaxing options, while the bedrooms deliver individuality, personality and character. From the cobbled entrance, to the grassed glades, expansive garage and storage or the period doors, this home oozes charisma. In addition to the main house a studio on the lower level delivers income options if you should choose, or a teenager retreat or a guest wing. What-ever your taste, this home is guaranteed to make you smile, and if you're quick you may get to own her.



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### BRICK AND TILE - INVESTMENT DELIGHT - HELENSVILLE

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**Enquiries Over** 

58 Cabeleigh Drive, Helensville Enquiries Over \$519,000 - Viewing by appointment

Seldom found, this near new Platinum Brick and Tile home offers all the benefits of low maintenance living within a quiet cul-desac environment, displaying similar quality homes, minutes from Helensville Shopping, School, Sports and Transport. The home offers open plan entertainers living with excellent alfresco patio, private and fully fenced back yard with landscaped gardens. A substantial home of four bedrooms, including office, bathroom and master ensuite and the convenience of double garage, laundry and workshop with internal access. The current tenant is happy to stay on should this be an investment option.



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### ELEGANT COUNTRY ESTATE - MINUTES TO KUMEU

Set Date Of Sale

368 Matua Road, Kumeu

Set Date of Sale 5pm Tuesday 9th December (unless sold prior) - Viewing by appointment

Life in this beautiful home and rural environment comes with privacy created by extensive established gardens and surrounding rural grazing. Set within a tranquil glade the home has been crafted using native and exotic timber throughout the inside of the home. Entertainers kitchen and dining with alfresco to north facing patio and separate lounge, the home is designed for separation between the bedroom areas allowing for an extended family, guests and noisy siblings. Extensive parking, gardens and storage, delivers exceptional value for money in this fast developing rural township. This exquisite country home will deliver peace, tranquility and relaxation options.



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### CRAZY AFFORDABLE IN CASTOR BAY - NEAR MILFORD

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**Enquiries Over** 

3 / 18 Parr Terrace, Castor Bay Enquiries Over \$419,000 - Viewing by appointment

Elevated and sunny two bedroom unit, recently refurbished and offering an excellent living and open plan entertaining environment. This private home is compact, offering, lock-up and leave living. Well constructed and presented in a quaint, retro feel, the home overlooks lawn and pool area. An outlook towards Rangitoto and minutes drive to convenience shopping, schools and transport links.



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### THE BEST BLEND OF BUSH AND COUNTRY LIVING

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**Enquiries Over** 

171 Stoney Creek Drive, Waitakere Enquiries Over \$899,000 - Viewing by appointment

This five bedroom family homestead provides the best of kiwi living. An elevated north facing position means great sunshine, easy alfresco living, and extensive 270 degree views of farm paddocks, bush, and valleys. Just 15 minutes´ drive to the brand new Westgate development, Swanson station café, or Auckland´s hidden gem Bethells beach. Develop your own private bush track across 5 HA of native bush and let the kids enjoy the best that NZ nature can offer.



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RURAL BEAUTY. 23 ACRES - CLOSE TO WAIMAUKU

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By Neg

77 Alf Access Road, Helensville By Negotiation - Viewing by appointment

This easy and comfortable living home has 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 lounges with 23 acres delivering privacy and suitability for horses or drystock. It will create a lasting impression with rural outlooks and open plan entertainers style kitchen, dining area. I particularly like the layout of the home that has separate living and sleeping areas that would suit a mixed age family or extended family. A recent refurbishment has refreshed the home. A mature and maintained lifestyle block fenced into 13 grazing paddocks with access through a central race, it provides easy options to move stock and manage your land.

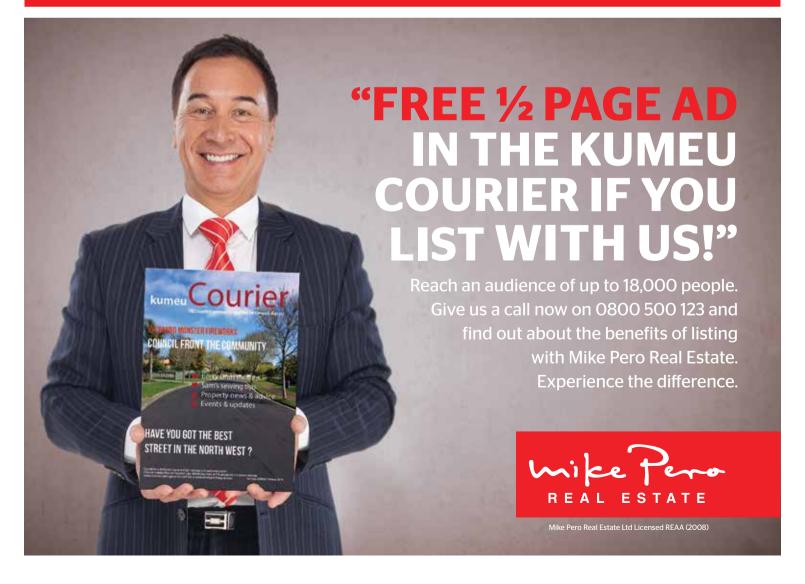


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### OR HOUSE AND LAND PACKAGE

By Neg

16A Aitkenhead Court, Parakai By Negotiation - Viewing by appointment

On offer is a flat section with road frontage in the new development of Parakai "Chic Gardens", an up-market, desirable area of new and near new homes and amenities. This 481m2 section is ready to build on with 224C in place and the title only a short time away, you won't want to miss this opportunity to secure a premium cul-de-sac section at an attractive rate. Build your dream home here based on your builder or work with Build 7. Consider our plans or use your own on this flat site, with services at the roadside. Within this neighbourhood the children still play together on the street. We welcome your expression of interest and based on your individual needs (Land or House and Land) we are happy to provide you price indications and start discussions with the Owner and or Build 7 through a traditional negotiation process. Secure your family's future, call me today - Ashleigh Taylor 022 175 6256



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### DIY, MONEY MAKING, INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT OPTION







1027 Coatesville-Riverhead Highway, Riverhead Enquiries Over \$855,000 - Viewing by appointment

We are offering an opportunity with all the potential for DIY, build or sell to realise a healthy return. The section is over 2000 sqm and is currently approved for subdivision. A 223 consent is underway and will be sold with the property. This offer includes a 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom house, separate studio with bathroom and garage and the progress of a section being subdivided, with options to build or sell to one of our interested parties at over \$300,000

We seek offers for the complete development, Owner motivated to act today.



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### THE MOST MAJESTIC VIEWS OVER MURIWAI BEACH AND VALLEY

445 Oaia Road, Muriwai Enquiries Over \$1,900,000 - Viewing by appointment

Views are plentiful and alfresco is not compromised with the proposed brand new build 7 land and house package overlooking reserve and north west over Oaia Rock and down Muriwai Beach. The build site has commanding, elevated views, while the home has been crafted to deliver outstanding alfresco living which delivers lifestyle at its absolute best. This is more than a land and build package option, we believe it is the last significant (1 hectare) elevated block available to purchase with a gentle contoured building platform and an established Pohutukawa ridge line with options to build with our plans or your own plans. We invite enquiry over \$1,000,000 for the land or over \$1,900,000 for house and land package.

**Enquiries Over** 

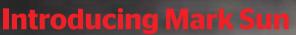


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Are you seeking to market your home to European and Asian buying groups?

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Mark has a broad network of national and international contacts. He is able to use his multilingual negotiation skills to achieve the best outcome for clients wanting to communicate with a multinational audience.

A professional, dedicated and proven negotiator with positive energy that will achieve the very best results. Mark Sun's qualifications in law and experience in property investment delivers a winning combination to achieve the best price and service outcome for his clients.

If you are seeking a real estate professional, Mark would love to share his vast experience to assist.









### CITY VIEWS FROM WEST HARBOUR - NEAR HOBSONVILLE

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**Enquiries Over** 

22A Van Dyke Place, West Harbour Enquiries Over \$695,000 - Viewing by appointment

Situated close to Marina View Primary School, this significant family home with elevated views of the inner harbour, (and sky tower through to the Waitakere ranges from the entertainment decking), is an absolute entertainers delight. A well-built, contemporary, three level home, offering an open plan, spacious yet cozy living environment with excellent flow to outside courtyard and decking. Entertainers kitchen, dining and lounge, a true dinner party hub which you will enjoy sharing. Four double bedrooms, 3 toilets, separate bathroom and master with en-suite and walk in wardrobe. Internal access double garage completes the offer. A high level of internal specifications, and finishing will give you confidence and peace-of-mind. Set in the heart of West Harbour and minutes from convenience shopping, boat ramp, Marina View Primary School and close to transport links.



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DIY - EXTENSIVE VIEWS - BUSH SETTING - 1/2 ACRE

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**Enquiries** Over

338 Wairere Road, Waitakere Enquiries Over \$599,000 - Viewing by appointment

Is it time for you to roll up your sleeves and participate in some DIY magic. This board and baton two level home delivers plenty of options for those looking to add value and capture the genesis of the Waitakere foothills. Built and extended to satisfy the family, the home has four bedrooms, large lounge spaces, single kitchen and bathroom. From upstairs the views are spectacular and the open plan environment does allow for options for further renationalisation and finishing. Set on almost 1/2 an acre of land it delivers a canvas for you to express your personality and add value in the process.



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### PANORAMIC VIEWS OVER TRANQUIL COUNTRYSIDE - KUMEU





50 Ross Lane, Kumeu Sale By Deadline 5pm 17 December 2014 - Viewing by appointment

This is a blissfully peaceful location. Elevated and well off the main road and without encumbering traffic nor pylons, this property offers definitive easy living. The home has an impressive flow from the courtyard and greeting area, to a step down lounge. The dining and entertainers kitchen lead to a central hallway with three bedrooms and two bathrooms. This is a home that has views from all the bedrooms, the kitchen, the dining room and the lounge. You'll treasure your time at home, share it with others and be calmed by the beauty and wonder of countryside living. A separate office and or sleep-out delivers additional options for the home study, guests or office. The large rumpus, sheds, garaging and two boxed stables for the horses provide for many options.



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### THE RISE OF THE SINGLE PAGE WEBSITE

Just starting out in business or need a way to get your organisation online? Utopia's single page website is for you. This gives you a single rolling page with sections for information on your business. The different sections can include information about what you do, how to contact you and product or service pricing. By including a Google map and contact form people can always find you. The website will be made to match your existing logo and colours. It will be made to work across multiple devices including mobiles, tablets and desktop computers. The process of designing and creating your site takes 7-10 days and the cost is \$700+gst. If you would like a single page website for your business or organisation contact Michael Baxter at Utopia on 09 412 2473 or michael@utopia.co.nz. We are based in Kumeu providing website design, consultancy and development of purpose built business applications.

### SUBMIT YOUR EDITORIAL FREE FROM COST

Every month we seek editorial contributions from the community at no cost. We ask for 150 words plus a colour photo for inclusion in Kumeu Courier. If you would like to submit editorial please email us at glms@xtra.co.nz with the word editorial and we will send you reminders and editorial updates.

## CANCER SOCIETY SEEKS TEAM CAPTAINS FOR WEST AUCKLAND FAMILY EVENT

Cancer Society Auckland is hosting Relay For Life 2015 at the Kumeu Showgrounds in West Auckland next February. "We are excited to be hosting the largest West Auckland Relay For Life at the Kumeu Showgrounds" says Cancer Society Auckland CEO, John Loof. "Every day 60 families face the huge challenge of a



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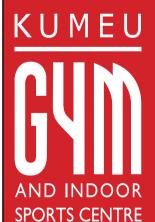
cancer diagnosis, and Relay For Life is a time when we come together as a community, acknowledge the impact cancer has and fundraise to make the work of the Cancer Society possible." "Teams sign up for many reasons, some to remember their loved ones, others to celebrate and acknowledge a friends cancer journey and some to fight back against cancer, a disease that takes so much". Relay For Life is a unique fundraising team event for the Cancer Society. "Funds raised provide Supportive Care and information for people going through cancer and vital research into more effective cancer treatments as well prevention campaigns in our community". Everyone is welcome to take part - families, friends and colleagues, to run, walk and join the fun and make a difference at Relay For Life on 14th and 15th February 2015. Registration is open now! We are looking for Team Captains to rally their friends and family and join us at Relay For Life Kumeu 2015. Visit www.relay.org.nz for more information and to register your team. Or call Lorien on: 09 308 0494. About Relay For Life:

- "Cancer touches 1 in 3 New Zealanders so unfortunately most of us know someone who has been affected. Whether it is a close friend, whānau or a colleague, Relay is a time to acknowledge those who have been through cancer".
- Relay For Life is made up of teams of work colleagues, school groups, family and friends who take strides to raise funds in support of those with cancer. The event includes music, camping-out, a candlelit ceremony, food, family fun and the on-going relay.
- Funds raised go towards Cancer Society support such as community nurses, counsellors and the 0800 information help line as well as cancer research.

Relay For Life 2015 will be held in Auckland on:

- 14 & 15 February 2015, Kumeu Showgrounds
- 21 & 22 March 2015, A & P Showgrounds, Pukekohe
- 28 & 29 March 2015, at Millennium Stadium, North Shore For more information contact:

Penny White: Marketing and Communications Manager, Cancer Society Auckland. Email: pwhite@akcansoc.org.nz; Mob: 0211 589 606; DDI: 09 308 01077.



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## REGULAR AREA COLUMNISTS

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF PLAYCENTRE

It was a quiet start today with the first arrival grabbing some paper circles, cutting up straws and gluing them on. Soon four others were gathered around collecting glue, pens, cotton balls and scissors creating in harmony. An island was created and pegged out to dry along with other artworks. Outside a small group were experimenting with the clay, checking out the tools and adding ice. The older girls had collected a few books by this time, an adult and their lunch boxes. Soon we had guite the gathering at the kai table. And then, amid great excitement, the face paint and a long mirror came out. Soon we had cats and tigers as well as the self-painters. They went mad with blue and gold faces, one blue leg each and a gold leg. These were posed for cameras and placed in portfolios. Some washed it off but others, including the tiger, roamed the centre. Suddenly it was clean-up time. A story for many out on the crash mats while the adults set up for another day and a chorus of cheerful goodbyes signalled the end... until tomorrow... If you would like to visit and see for yourself please call Waimauku Playcentre on 09 411 8256.

### **POWER DURING A POWER CUT**

Rural living has so many benefits, the space, the community and ability to be a little more self-sufficient but what about the power cuts we have had the last few winters? Do you have a home office or

small children? Do you need the power to run your water? Is it essential to your business? At SPARKN Electrical we have come up with a solution to help you gain a little independence from the grid. We can do this with standby batteries to power essential services. We can add in Solar power or a larger battery bank to run a great deal more. We can easily install into a new build/garage or shed, or retrofit the system so you have peace of mind next time your neighbours go dark. For more information call Tony on 021 772 756 or check out https://www.facebook.com/sparknelectrical

## CAREER/LIFE PLANNING - WHAT I CAN OFFER

Richard Vernall has worked in vocational services (an industry he is passionate about) for almost 30 years. After being employed by IHC (West Auckland) in the late 80's, he designed and managed the first independent supported employment service in New Zealand (Poly-Emp Employment Service) from 1993 to 1996. In 2001, Richard joined Career Services (Manukau) as a career consultant. At the end of 2010 he left Career Services to establish Lifeworks 4 Me Ltd, a home based



afterhours service. Richard's philosophy, embedded in his service delivery is "People have unlimited potential and generally make the best life decisions in the comfort of their own environment." His role is to unlock the unique skills and qualities that people have. "I do that by offering a number of career tools and strategies to bring a person to a point of certainty about who they are and the steps necessary to achieve their aspirations," he says. Lifeworks 4 Me offers career guidance/life planning to people from 15 -65 years of age, across the employment spectrum; and assistance with pre-employment – CV design, successful interview and job search techniques. Richard has a Graduate Diploma in Career Development (AUT -2004), Diploma in Working with People with Disabilities and a Certificate in Adult and Tertiary Education. He has served on the Auckland CDANZ (Career Development Assn NZ) committee since 2006 and is presenting a paper at the National Career Symposium in Auckland in November, Richard was a Foundation Member of ASENZ (1993) and has retained an associate membership since 1997. He has served on the JAG committee (Justice Action Group for People with Disabilities) since 2005. Richard also coached midget soccer at Birkenhead United from 2000 to 2007.

Text Richard on 027 463 8523, email richard@lifeworks4me.co.nz or visit www.lifeworks4me.co.nz

### THE DIVINE SEED — A HALLERTAU SAISON

As we approach the season of over indulgence and with an imminent revision in the blood alcohol limit for NZ drivers over 20, we thought it was a good time to release a lower alcohol beer. The Divine Seed is Hallertau's latest seasonal release. This historic Saison / Farmhouse Ale is a yeast driven style that does not compromise on flavour. Weighing in at 3.5% alcohol it is fruity and soft with a delicate palate and a moreish tart finish. A great accompaniment to Oysters, soft cheese and peppered steak or to slake your thirst on a summer's day. On tap at Hallertau Brewery and selected outlets around Auckland. Remember-always drink in moderation.

## THE RIVERHEAD'S LOOKING FORWARD TO A BRILLIANT SUMMER!

The Boat House at The Riverhead is now open on Sundays with music in the brand new building. If you thought our Sundays were pretty cool before, just look at it now! We are looking forward to a fantastic summer and what better way to relax through your Sunday afternoon than spending the day with friends and family and jolly good music. There are new decks over hanging the water, covered decks, the gazebos, the lawn, the oaks, the view and the space...come and enjoy! We also have a new summer menu in The Landing Restaurant at The Riverhead. All your favourite gastro fare with some simply delicious, (can't get enough of) salads with tasty lamb, mouth-watering fish and delectable desserts! Our team is looking forward to seeing you... whether is on Sundays for the FREE music, Monday Nights for the Pizza or Pasta, Pint or Pinot Special offer, The Riverhead's famous all you can eat Rib's Night, Quiz Night on Wednesday, or any other day where you can escape and enjoy the brilliant view. To book phone 09 412 8902



KUMEU GYM AND INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE

250C MAIN ROAD, KUMEU (BEHIND THE BAKEHOUSE CAFE)

P. 09 412 8756 OPEN 7 DAYS UNTIL 9PM EVERY NIGHT! www.pitapit.co.nz









### PUKEKO GROVE — KUMEU'S LOCAL FRUIT WINES



Season's greetings from Pukeko Grove and Kiwi Estate Winery! Originally established in Riverhead, fruit wines were developed and labelled by Riverhead Estate Winery in the 1980s. Since then fruit wines have been a part of the Kumeu community. In 2008, Pukeko Grove brand was developed and from then on the wines have been winning medals in the New Zealand Fruit Wine Awards, including the best overall white wine award

for Feijoa Sparkling.

In 2012, Kiwi Estate Winery took over the Pukeko Grove Brand and continues producing award winning wines, winning the best overall white wine award for Kiwi Fruit Still for 2013. Our talented wine maker Alan Lawes has been with the Winery since 1987, maintaining the quality and consistency of all the wines. For more information, please visit www.kiwiestatewines.com Address: 45 Dysart Lane, Kumeu, Auckland Phone: 09 412 8875

## MURIWAI ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMUNITY TRUST



Don't forget to vote in seabird of the year – Forest and Bird's annual poll 2014 is only open to seabirds, to highlight the fragility of so many populations use www.seabirdoftheyear.org.nz. Locally we have the gannet/takapū colony at Maukatia, where white fronted terns/tara also nest. Fairy terns/tara-iti nest in the sand further north. Take care with dogs and vehicles on the beach - there are perhaps 10 breeding pairs of these tiny critically-endangered birds.

Rubbish – Plastic, paper, foil and that's just the food shopping! Consider the nation's bulging bin bags on 26 December. Auckland Council's mission to be waste free by 2040 continues with Make the Most of Waste. 15% items in the average rubbish bag could be recycled visit, www.makethemostofwaste.co.nz for more. Thanks everyone who has given time to the community this year. Work in Muriwai has covered plantings and protest visit www.muriwai-environment.org if you want to be involved.

### kumeuCourier

### **SAM'S SEWING TIPS**



Do you need help with last minute Xmas gift ideas? Here are a few ideas which you can easily make for your family or friends. Christmas tablecloths, we have two lovely prints for only \$10 a metre. All you need is approx 2 metres then hem each end and for only \$20 you have your own tablecloth, or make a pretty xmas table, throw out of organza or mesh to put over the table to brighten it up and stop those pesky flies attacking your yummy Xmas food. Don't sew? Then we have some tablecloths and throws already made up. Gifts for girls: a pretty tutu, leotard, Frozen Elsa dress or a cotton print skirt gifts for boys: a pair of shorts polar jacket or long pants in camouflage.

Our Xmas hours are: closing 23rd December and reopening on the 5th January. From the team at Fabric & Things, we would like to wish you all a very safe & happy xmas, remember if you have any sewing questions, come in and talk to Sam, your "Expert Fabric Advisor" at Fabric & Things 10B Shamrock Drive, Kumeu or phone 412 9123. We are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm or check out our online shop at www.fabricandthings. co.nz

### SENIORNET NORTHWEST

SeniorNet Norwest would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

With the 2014 Season coming to an end, NORWEST SENIORNET will be holding their final learning class on 25th Nov. at 9.30 – 11.30 am. This class will show how to put all those 35mm slides that our families have hidden away in boxes, your own wonderfull photo's and memories onto your computer. Anyone interested please email admin@seniornetnorwest. net otherwise contact: Joan 416-7172 or Bey 411-5201 for details.

Our outlook for 2015 will be to restart classes in February, with the intent on

helping all to catch up with modern computer technology. Interest has been along the lines of the i-pads, flash-drives, smart phones, transfering photo's to computers, into books, cards, recipes-books and so forth. (Have you seen a book while waiting to a Dr. or dentist and it has a recipe in it you want –Take a photo with your cell phone, not the page from the book and we'll show you how to print it out for your recipe book).

Suggestions for classes people may like to attend will be warmly welcomed so please contact us at admin@seniornet-norwest.net - Bev 09 411-5201 or Joan 09 416-7172



SeniorNet Northwest holds monthly seminar's on a variety of subjects once a month, which are held in the St. Chad's Church Hall, in Oroha Rd. All are welcome to attend, you don't have to be a Member. Keep an eye on the COURIER for dates and speakers.

### Current fees from April 2014

### Babies 3 months - 3 years old

	Day rate	2 Days min	3 Days	4 Days	5 Days FULL TIME	Includes Milk and meals
6 hrs Between 8-4	36	72	108	144	180	Morning tea Lunch Afternoon tea
6-8 hours	42	84	126	168	210	Morning tea Lunch Afternoon tea
FULL DAY 8 + hrs 7am – 6pm	50	100	150	200	250	Morning tea Lunch Afternoon tea

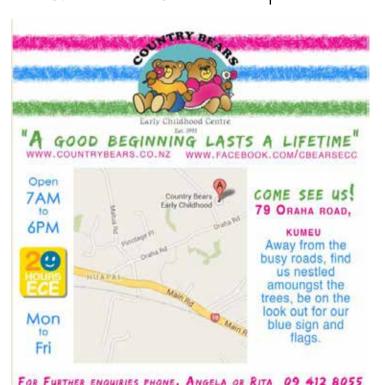
### 3 & 4 year olds

HOURS	Day rate	2 Days min	3 Days	4 Days	5 Days FULL TIME	INCLUDES 20 ECE HOURS *Special conditions apply
*4 for FREE 8.00 -12.00am or 12.30 - 4.30 Incl 20 ECE Hours	free	4 FREE	4 FREE	4 FREE	4 FREE	No Lunch provided
School Day up to 7 hrs Between 8-4	20	40	60	80	100	Morning tea Lunch Afternoon tea
FULL DAY 7am – 6pm	25	50	75	110	140	Morning tea Lunch Afternoon tea

\*Sibling Special: Why not have time out for 4 HOURS? Available when attending with an older brother/sister, and only when spaces are available.

*Session times 8.00- 12.00am or 12.30-4.30pm	Day Rate	2 Days min 4HOURS	3 Days 4HOURS	4 Days 4HOURS	5 Days 4HOURS	When and become
*0-2 yrs	20	\$40	\$60	\$80	\$100	No Lunch provided
*2-3 yrs	24	\$48	\$72	\$96	\$120	No Lunch provided

\*special conditions apply to the above fees. If your requirements are outside of what we are currently offering, please don't hesitate to talk to us as we are always happy to try and accommodate your family and child's needs. This is for NEW enrolments only.





### Waimauku Kindergarten

Northern Auckland Kindergarten Association

18 Freshfields Road, Waimauku, Auckland 0842 Ph: 09 411 8890 Fax: 09 411 5200 waimauku@naka.co.nz

We run a planned interactive educational programme based on Te Whaariki Early Childhood Curriculum; with 4 qualified teachers and a ratio of 1-10.

Waimauku Kindergarten operates a Kindergarten day model. Our session times are either 4 hour mornings or 6 hour days or a mixture of both. We are part of the government's 20 ECE hours funding scheme.

Our Hours: 8.30-2.30pm Monday to Thursday

8.30-12.45pm Friday

You are welcome to come and visit us and see our programme in action—also check us out on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/pages/Waimauku-Kindergarten/306950549331812

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### SWIM SCHOOL -SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Parakai Springs Swim School - supporting our community to swim. It is important to us that as many children as possible in our community learn to swim. Our aim is to offer quality lessons at affordable prices. Over the last year we have had 500+children learning to swim in our outdoor pool with afterschool lessons for children aged 5yrs and up and our Indoor pool with morning lessons for babies from 6 mths old to 5 yrs. Due to increased demand we have welcomed three new teachers this year. This brings our team to 7 fully qualified teachers with over 25 years experience between them. One of our new teachers has many years of coaching experience as well as representing New Zealand in competition.

As the school continues to grow, we hope to keep working with our older squad swimmers with the goal to taking them to local and national competitions. Swimming is an important life skill that all children growing up in New Zealand should have. For the third year running we will been working with some of our local schools with the Greater Auckland Action Plan and Water Safety New Zealand to provide free lessons to up to 700 local children from Years 1 to 8. This summer there will be an emphasis on water safety and the use of lifejackets in our School Holiday Fast 5 lessons. This program runs for a week from 19th to the 23rd January, book now to secure your child's spot. These classes are a great way to build swim fitness and stamina as well as building swim skills guickly. Lessons are 30 minutes every day for the week between 8.30am and 10.30am depending on your child's swimming ability. Cost is \$40 per child. We offer discounts for siblings so the more the merrier. Term 1 2015 starts 2nd February - 2nd April. Contact us for further enrolment information. All children who pay for their term lessons in advance receive a Splash and Dash card which allows them to come and practice their swimming during the week at a discounted rate.



Check out our Facebook page to keep up to date with term dates and all the fun going on at the pools or email us at swimschool@ parakaisprings.co.nz

### LIVESTOCK SALES REPORT

A near capacity yarding of cattle sold really well on Saturday, with buyers travelling from afar to attend, and they would have been pleased with the line up on offer, there were cattle to suit



**Luke Kemp** LLB, BCOM, DIP. HORT



Kumeu, Auckland P O Box 600 Kumeu Auckland 0841

Telephone 412 6000 Facsimile 412 6016 Email luke@kempsolicitors.co.nz every preference. Killable cattle continue recent strong trends, and store cattle too met a very keen bench of buyers, bidding with justifiable confidence, as rain falls and schedule prices are at all time highs. Better still, the outlook for beef has probably never been better, so returns should be reliably good for months, possibly years to come! Seasonal weather conditions always seem to interfere with farmers optimism, but it seems most are stocked correctly for whatever happens. Making everyone's life much simpler!

CATTLE

Best prime steers \$1,100 to \$1,580 Medium 2 year steers \$1,000 to \$1,060 Good 15 month steers \$960 to \$1,050 Other medium steers \$790 to \$920 \$600 to \$745 Small vearling steers Medium weaner steers \$540 to \$620 Small x bred steers \$330 to \$490 Best prime heifers \$1,155to \$1,790 Medium prime heifers \$770 to \$965 \$580 to \$720 Good yearling heifers Small/medium weaner heifers \$385 to \$460 Boner cows \$500 to \$1,580 **Bulls** \$680 t0 \$1,570

 Fat lambs
 \$115 to \$140

 Store lambs
 \$62 to \$93

 Spring lambs
 \$110 to \$140

 Ewes
 \$80 to \$119

 Ewes with lambs
 \$69

FEEDER CALVES

Hereford \$175

Jersey \$45 to \$280

PIGS

SHEEP

Weaner pigs \$90 to \$95
Porkers \$130
Store pigs \$60

### GIVE A SPECIAL GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS

Give the gift of Harney & Sons. Visit their showroom outlet at 1 Loft Place Kumeu for exquisitely packaged luxury tea gifts. Harney & Sons named in World's Best Tea Shops by Food & Wine 2014. Harney Teas supplies London's top afternoon tea spot 2011; Claridge's earn The Tea Guild's 2011 award, the highest accolade in the tea world. For the discerning tea drinker choose only Harney & Sons Fine Teas. Unique and uncommon, blended from only the finest quality full-leaf teas and herbs to meet the demands of the most discriminating tea drinker. Discover over 100 stunning loose leaf teas at www.harneyteas.co.nz Phone 09 412 2515. Open Monday-Friday 9-4pm.





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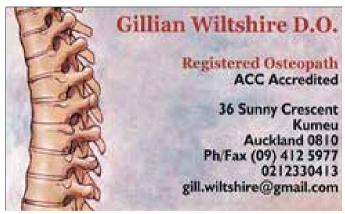














### DT DENTURE CLINIC OPEN FOR BUSINESS

DT Denture Clinic opened its doors to the public on November 3, 2014. DT Denture Clinic is a sister company to DT Denture Design which has been operating in Whenuapai since 2005. DT Denture Design have decided to expand and open a clinic that will see patients directly. The clinical technician Mark Casey is able to see patients requiring full upper and lower dentures, partial dentures, relines of existing dentures, repair work to dentures and mouth guards. Dennis Pusich and Taka Hosaka are the Directors of both DT Denture Clinic and DT Denture Design. Dennis and Taka have over 34 years' experience between them in chrome framework and denture services. They have a team of three experienced consultants one of whom has over 30 years' experience in making chrome framework. Mark Casey is the clinical technical that will be seeing patients. Mark previously was acting as the team leader for the removable prosthetics department at the University of Otago's School of Dentistry. Mark Casey joined the team at DT Denture Designs bringing with him the most up-to-date techniques, understanding and expertise ensuring that you receive the best treatment and care. Phone us on 09 416 5072

### \$75 = EXPOSURE FOR A MONTH - KUMEU COURIER

Budgets are tight, and advertising is often expensive, but it's nice to know that someone is making it easy and cost effective. For \$75 plus GST you can be exposed to over 18,000 locals for a whole month. That is only \$2.50 a day. For more information email our editor at sarahcartwright022@gmail.com

### **SECURITY AND SELF DEFENCE WORKSHOPS**

NZ Tactical Security Limited and the Koga Ninjutsu Federation Limited have just moved into Kumeu. As Local residents of Kumeu, we offer professional services to Kumeu and surrounding areas. We provide specialised self-defence classes that combine knowledge with practical self-defence skills, set in a relaxed and enjoyable environment, suitable for 10 years and older. We provide specialised crime prevention workshops to corporate, retailers and anybody else who is interested in improving their safety levels. To all Kumeu courier readers who would like to participate in a free crime education and self defence workshop please contact us to book times and dates. We are a licensed security company that provides all aspects of security including free security assessments, vehicle and foot patrols. Email: Info@nztacticalsecurity.co.nz Phone: 027 516 1008 Web: www.nztacticalsecurity.co.nz

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### THE GREAT OUT WEST BREWFEST - \$30

We have our second "The Great Out West Brewfest" coming February 14th. Tickets will be on sale December 1.

After the sell-out of the inaugural "The Great Out West Brew Fest" last summer, blanc are making it even better this year with 15 craft breweries, and increasing ticket sales to cater for demand. Featuring two live bands throughout the day for entertainment, get in to meet the faces behind the beers, unusual brews (marshmallow & peanut butter anyone?) and of course some great food served up by local food truck vendors. Luke at Epic had this to say about last year's festival "It was kind of like having a bunch of mates over to try a few beers. I'm going to say that maybe this is the beer festival of the future for New Zealand". Valentines day 2015 - what better way to start the day with your best mate (or other mates, as the case may be). For details phone 09 8386944 or go to www.blanc.kiwi.nz







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### **SOLAN HEIGHTS WELL UNDERWAY**



Earthworks are well underway at Solan Heights; a stunning, boutique 33 lot sub-division in the heart of Waimauku. Twelve of these sites are already sold with a further five under contract. People are loving the semi-rural location that only 25mins from the CBD. Easy walking distance to Waimauku schools, the village shops and only 10mins

from Muriwai Beach – this really ticks all the boxes! Site sizes range from 1500m2 to 2255m2 and are well-priced, starting at \$369k! All sites have a northerly aspect and great views. On selected sites, you will receive a free Photo-voltaic Solar system worth \$16,595 - a deal that will keep on giving year after year. Key2 offer customised house & land packages to suit your individual requirements from \$799,000. Titles are due mid-2015. Secure your site with just 10% deposit. To be in, act now. Call Maree van de Water 021 813 919

### **ABERCOTHI EQUESTRIAN**

It's that time of the year to be thinking about getting your summer covers out and repaired, or winter ones washed and waterproofed. We offer a full service. With Xmas fast approaching, we have gift vouchers available and other perfect gifts – over 50 saddles in store. Also, we now stock first equine TICKED OFF – brilliant to keep ticks away, equine first aid kits and right on the nose for horses that get sunburnt. Order your Goodwood summer canvas set now. We are located upstairs in Western ITM. Contact Shelley 027 258 1805.

### **KUMEU CLUB IN GOOD CHRISTMAS SPIRITS**

The Kumeu Club meet every Wednesday and Friday from 5.00 pm at The Fireplace Restaurant 64 Main Road Kumeu. Members enjoy special pricing on meals and drinks plus the club runs weekly meat raffles and up until Christmas the prizes are quality Hams. You can if you're a member participate in our lucky members draw which jackpots each week by \$50 if not won. The Jackpot currently stands at \$200 and member must be in attendance to win.

The Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday the 14th of December at the Fireplace starting at 12.00 pm and members are in for a treat. Coming up in the New Year, February kicks off with the Kumeu Club Fishing Tournament followed by a night at the races in March. It all happens at the Kumeu Club. There are still a few membership vacancies and you can join by phoning the Secretary Treasurer Lenore Read on 09 412 6070 or Donald Suckling on 09 412-7479 and Sharon Walker on 09 412-8801

### PLENTY ON OFFER AT STEMS

This Christmas season at Stems Roses, we have some exciting specials on bouquets and floral arrangements to give as a gift or something to make your house get into the Christmas spirit! Vicki has made six different and beautiful bouquets and arrangements for you to choose from and all at great deals! Stems Roses, 108 Station Rd, Kumeu. Ph: 09127606

### **EDIBLE CREAM PUFF WREATH FOR CHRISTMAS**

1 cups water
4 oz butter
1 cups high grade flour
1/4 tsp salt
4 eggs
350 ml cream – whipped
Melted chocolate, fresh



strawberries, mint leaves and a large red bow for decoration Pre heat fanbake oven to 220°C

Place water and butter into saucepan and melt together – as soon as it comes to the boil stir in flour and salt, stirring the whole time.

Mixture will form a ball – lower heat and continue to stir roux mixture for 1-2 mins.

Remove from heat and allow to cool slightly. Next stir in eggs one at a time and combine completely after each egg. Mixture should end up quite glossy and stable.

Place spoonfuls onto a baking paper lined tray in a circular shape to form a wreath look

( or you can bake them individually and just plate them up in a wreath shape afterward)

Bake for approx. 15 -20 mins till puffy and golden – do not open door of oven!

Then reduce heat to 180°C and leave to dry out in oven for approx 10 mins.

When cold place on a large circular platter and fill with whipped cream and drizzle with melted chocolate. Decorate with fresh strawberries and mint leaves and finish off wreath with a large red bow.





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## TIPS & ADVICE

### **CURTAIN CALL**

How to choose window dressings that are right for you! As any designer will tell you, curtains make a room - but only if they are chosen correctly. It is a matter of colour, fabric, length, lining and the quality of the workmanship. With so many decisions it is easy to become overwhelmed, so it is best to ask the pros for advice on narrowing down your options and selecting the right curtains or blinds for your home.

Fabric & Colour: Fabric is an essential part of choosing curtains as the material will determine how well your curtains will function and last over time. If they are too heavy, they may not fold correctly when drawn; too light and they may not fall well. Linda the expert consultant at the interior tailor suggests holding fabrics up to a window and looking at them in daylight and also at night, as they will reflect different shades depending on the light source. Sunlight can fade fabrics over time. If the room is very sunny then it is smart to avoid bright colours as they will fade faster. If you choose neutral colours they are less likely to fade and will blend into the rooms décor more easily.

Some of the thicker fabrics will help to keep out the cold and to block out the light and keep heat in. A thinner fabric can be interlined with bumph, a thick insulating felt type material - it can help to prolong the life of your curtains as it gives an extra layer of protection and will give body & fullness to your curtains.

Length: You will need to decide how high above the window frame you would like the curtains to begin. Having the cur

Phone: 022 0 76937 0

022 0 POWER 0

tains higher than the window will give a sense of height to the room. The height will depend on the look you want to achieve. The higher the curtain length the more dramatic the look will be. For a more traditional look, the curtains can be puddled on the floor. For a modern, crisp look, the curtains would sit just touching the floor. If your floor or carpet is uneven then it may be a good idea to have the curtains slightly longer so that this flaw is not noticeable. For the width of your curtains you will need to make an allowance for fullness and ensure that the curtains will not block the window glass when the curtains are open. The extra width on the sides of the window will also help block out any extra light that may creep in.

For expert advice and a no obligation consultation phone your local Kumeu based manufacturer The Interior Tailor NZ Ltd. Call Linda now on 0800MADE4ME (08006233463) linda@interiortailor.co.nz www.interiortailor.co.nz

### **UNFAIR CONTRACTS**

Unfair contracts - new legislation to cover unfair contracts is on its way. Accordingly, it is a good time to consider a review of your general terms of trade. Some of those terms could be unfair and not enforceable under the new legislation. Some of your terms of trade may also be out of date because they refer to old statutes. Or, there is too much fine print which is not useful to your business.

Having the confidence to remove some

of the fine print will require legal expertise. However, the upside is a better customer relationship if you have terms of trade that are easy to understand. That is, even if those terms include necessary things such as hardline debt enforcement clauses. Your legal advisor can also get rid of clauses which may be unfair under the new regime. Kemp Solicitors wish all readers and clients a safe and happy Christmas and New Year, Phone 09 412 6000

### **GOOGLE -WEBMASTER TOOLS**

The importance of inbound links one of the main factors that affects your website position in the Google search engine is the quantity and quality of the number of websites that are linking to yours. An inbound link is a link from another website to yours and is perceived in the eyes of Google as a vote of trust for your website content. It is not however just about the quantity of the links, it is more about the quality of the link and whether the link is relevant to the content of your website and what value that link has in Google's eyes. An example of relevance might be a Wedding Directory linking to a hairdressing website or a Property Management company linking to a building services company. A link that is not perceived as relevant might be a Wedding Directory linking to a plumbing website for example. Google measures the quality of the links that are pointing to your website and apportions value to relevant high quality links and often penalises your search engine results positioning with poor or unrelated links. To find out how many links you have coming in to your website you can set up Google Webmaster Tools to monitor your website health and there is an option in there showing the number of inbound links and where these are coming from. David Partis (Designhand Limited) www.designhand.co.nz



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### **KUMEU EQUIPMENT**

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### HELENSVILLE

41 Mill Road Ph 09 420 9905 Fax 09 420 9015 Hrs Mon-Fri 7am -5pm Sat 7.30am to 12pm Sun Closed

### LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

Play is the most valuable learning experience we believe your child will ever have play is at the centre of our philosophy at Jojo's Childcare. Every child will engage with resources, experiences and envi-



ronments in different ways and by allowing children the space and the opportunities to play they can begin to piece together their ideas of how the world works. Solitary play, parallel play and group play are all important for children to be part of everyday. Our teachers all agree that time and space to discover and learn through play is so valuable for pre-school children in early childhood settings. By taking the time to feed into play, step back and observe play and setup provocations for play we are allowing the children to take control of their learning and engage in ways that appeal to them, individualising the learning for every child by allowing them to access what interests them each day. If you want to talk more about the importance of play for under 5's come in and see us anytime (09) 412 5325, www,jojojschildcare.co.nz or find us on facebook.

### **POWER DURING A POWER CUT**

Rural living has so many benefits, the space, the community and ability to be a little more self-sufficient but what about the power cuts we have had the last few winters? Do you have a home office or small children? Do you need the power to run your water? Is it essential to your business? At SPARKN Electrical we have come up with a solution to help you gain a little independence from the grid. We can do this with standby batteries to power essential services. We can add in Solar power or a larger battery bank to run a great deal more. We can easily install into a new build/garage or shed, or retrofit the system so you have peace of mind next time your neighbours go dark. For more information call Tony on 021 772 756 or check out https://www.facebook.com/sparknelectrical

### HAE SEOK YANG EXHIBITION

Hae Seok Yang (from the Gallery – Sushi Restaurant in Huapai) will be holding an exhibition of his photographic work at Kumeu Arts Centre from Monday January 12, to Saturday the February 7, 2015. Come along to view his outstanding work. Also on offer in 2015: Classes include – Painting, Abstract, Flax Weaving, Mosaic, Clay, Special Needs Art, Children's Art, Homeschooled Children's Art, Groups include – Life Drawing, Knitting/Crochet, Kumeu Photo group. Phone 412-9480 for more info or email thetinshed@clear.net.nz.



### **EVENTS AND PARTY HIRE**

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### 36 Got a pain in the neck?

Freya Scollay and Naomi Andrews are conducting their Masters Of Osteopathy theses researching 'The effects of equipment Pilates and yoga compared to home-based prescribed exercises for chronic neck pain'.

Eligible participants will receive 8 weeks of free equipment Pilates, yoga, or home-based prescribed exercises. The study will be conducted from the 'Symmetryinmotion' studio in Kumeu. Participants can start the exercise program from now or anytime until February, 2015. An 8-10 week commitment is required. If you are interested in being pain free please email Naomi and Freya at unitecneckpainstudy@gmail.com or check us out on Facebook at Master of Osteopathy Pilates & Yoga Neck Pain Study.

### THREE STRESS FREE HAIR STYLES FOR XMAS

There are plenty of things to worry about—your hair doesn't have to be one of them. Are you starting to feel stressed about our upcoming big event called Christmas? Here's one thing you can relax about: your hair!

People—especially women—get stressed because there is this idea of "perfection." They build up an idea in their heads that they can't possibly live up to. Every time I've stressed about anything it's never been worth it, and I've looked back and thought, "I can't believe I did it again!"

You've got to let yourself off the hook a little bit. One way to do that is with your hair. Sure, you want your hair to look beautiful, but people will mostly respond to how you feel. If you feel calm

you will radiate beauty. People want to see a happy person, not the perfect-hair person who is obviously stressed.

Schedule your cut and colour now, so it's out of the way and you're not trying to squeeze appointments into your busy schedule. Then add a few easy styles to your hair routine so you can look pulled together, but with ease and effortlessness.

Hair Accessories: Simple pins, clips and headbands from the chemist—in metallic silver or gold, black, tortoiseshell or a bit of crystal—are great because they present the idea that you've made an effort, even if all you've done is add a clip to your regular hairstyle. It's a simple psychological trick. Something as easy as side part and a plain bobby pin can work wonders.

**Braids:** The best part about braids is that you don't even have to be that good at them because they look soft and pretty when they're a bit rough and imperfect. You don't have to do anything intricate—just a nod to a braid is enough to impress people. If you don't want to braid all of your hair or dive into the braided circlet look, try a little braid or two starting at your part.

**Twist:** If you're running around, especially if you're hosting a party, the last thing you want to worry about is your hair. With a simple knot or twist you don't even have to wash your hair—a spritz of dry shampoo revives the hair, and then you can pull it back, twist and add some pins. It doesn't need to be perfect—just the act of lifting your hair back will make you look pulled together. Keep in mind that people are going to remember being relaxed and sitting around the table together, not that your hair was perfectly straight! And go ahead and enjoy Christmas this year. May you all have fun, rest and fantastic family time. Merry Christmas everyone, see you all back in 2014 for another

Merry Christmas everyone, see you all back in 2014 for another great year.

Carla at Zash Hair, Phone 021814663

## Hearing aids? Your questions answered.



Lisa Greene
Charge Audiologist
Kumeu and Helensville clinics.



### When should a diagnostic hearing test be performed?

It is vital to have a diagnostic hearing test when a hearing loss is suspected. This is to determine the extent of damage and for any contributing factors to be identified.

A diagnostic test is a comprehensive hearing assessment which includes:

- 1. Discussion on your hearing and your medical history
- 2. Otoscopy visual look in ears to determine if wax or any other issues may be causing a hearing problem.
- 3. Measuring hearing ability by presenting different pitches of sound volumes. This also determines what part of the ear may be causing hearing loss.
- 4. Testing speech understanding
- 5. Testing the middle ear system for any signs of dysfunction. Eq. Wax, glue ear.

Once the diagnostic test is complete, we will explain the results thoroughly and recommend any further investigation or treatment either by a GP or Ear, Nose and Throat specialist. We will also be able to advise as to whether your hearing loss can be treated with hearing aids.

We want to ensure everyone is hearing the best they can, and offer FREE hearing checks for anyone aged 18 years and over. We will advise you at the time of your hearing check if it's recommended that you go on to have a diagnostic test. A diagnostic test costs \$79.00 but mention this article and we'll offer you a special price of \$39.00 at either our Kumeu or Helensville clinics.

Please call 09 447 0280 to book an appointment

### FESTIVE SEASON AT THE FIREPLACE - KUMEU

Well 2014 has passed like a flash and it's the crazy time of the year again with everyone busy trying to sort out shopping and other chores at home, as well, businesses are pretty frantic at this time of year too. At The Fireplace, we have put together some super specials for the festive season to spread some cheer around.

Lunch Special: Any lunch meal plus glass of beer or house wine is just \$ 14.99. Dinner Special: PORKIE THURSDAY (Every Thursday Pork Ribs or Pork Belly plus pint of beer or glass of house wine \$ 22.90. It's the Festive Season: Drinks specials 12.00pm – 5pm daily (Beer pint \$6.00, reg beer \$5.00. All house wine \$5.00)

Like us, share us on facebook and go into a draw to win (6 Monteith's branded beer glasses) 6 X Weekly draws.

https://www.facebook.com/The-Fireplace-Bar-and-Brasserie We thank all our customers for their continued support throughout the year and wish you all a very Merry Christmas. Keep safe this Christmas season and drink responsibly.

The Fireplace – Bar & Brasserie, 64 Main Road, Kumeu. www.thefireplace.net.nz

### OLYMPIANS ON TOP AT WOODHILL SANDS



Olympic and double world champion Blyth Tait showed his class

at the Fiber Fresh International CIC Horse Trial held on November 15-16 at Woodhill Sands Equestrian Centre, taking out the premier class. Twelve combinations lined up for the Fiber Fresh Feeds CIC2\* and Blyth and Leo Distinction were second after dressage on 42.7 in blustery spring conditions. They picked up four show jumping penalties but stormed to victory with a clear cross-country round and 8.8 time faults. Leo Distinction, a Hanoverian-cross by Dream Boy, was bred by dressage judge Julia Fraser and is now part-owned by Blyth, along with Julia and her daughter Fiona, Blyth's former groom. Charlotte Grayling and the vastly experienced NRM Lowenberg led the CIC2\* dressage on 39.5, but unfortunately retired early on cross-country. This paved the way for former local Jock Paget to move up into second place on Coleraine Coaltown. Third after dressage, Jock added just four show jump penalties and jumped clear on cross-country. Shelley Ross, the horse's regular rider, had her hands full as show jumping course designer for the weekend. Full results can be found at www.woodhillsands.co.nz

### The Travel Brokers

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### Tanya Franklin

Travel Broker

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MURIWAI TIDE CHART									
Date	High	Low	High	Low	High				
Mon 1 Dec	05:46	12:07	18:13	-	-				
Tue 2 Dec	-	00:43	06:52	13:13	19:18				
Wed 3 Dec	-	01:45	07:57	14:16	20:19				
Thu 4 Dec	-	02:44	08:56	15:13	21:16				
Fri 5 Dec	-	03:38	09:50	16:06	22:08				
Sat 6 Dec	-	04:27	10:37	16:53	22:54				
Sun 7 Dec	-	05:13	11:20	17:38	23:36				
Mon 8 Dec	-	05:55	12:00	18:19	-				
Tue 9 Dec	00:15	06:34	12:37	18:59	-				
Wed 10 Dec	00:52	07:12	13:12	19:37	-				
Thu 11 Dec	01:27	07:48	13:46	20:15	-				
Fri 12 Dec	02:03	08:24	14:22	20:54	-				
Sat 13 Dec	02:43	09:02	15:03	21:37	-				
Sun 14 Dec	03:28	09:47	15:51	22:26	-				
Mon 15 Dec	04:21	10:39	16:46	23:21	-				
Tue 16 Dec	05:21	11:41	17:46	-	-				
Wed 17 Dec	-	00:21	06:25	12:48	18:48				
Thu 18 Dec	-	01:22	07:29	13:52	19:49				
Fri 19 Dec	-	02:21	08:29	14:50	20:47				
Sat 20 Dec	-	03:15	09:23	15:44	21:41				
Sun 21 Dec	-	04:06	10:13	16:33	22:31				
Mon 22 Dec	-	04:54	10:59	17:20	23:19				
Tue 23 Dec	-	05:41	11:45	18:07	-				
Wed 24 Dec	00:06	06:27	12:30	18:54	-				
Thu 25 Dec	00:53	07:13	13:16	19:41	-				
Fri 26 Dec	01:40	08:00	14:02	20:29	-				
Sat 27 Dec	02:29	08:49	14:52	21:20	-				
Sun 28 Dec	03:21	09:41	15:45	22:14	-				
Mon 29 Dec	04:18	10:38	16:43	23:12	-				
Tue 30 Dec	05:19	11:40	-	-	-				
Provided by M	Provided by MetService								

### PROVIDING A TRAVEL SERVICE SECOND TO NONE

The Travel Brokers national annual conference in Fiji was just a quick getaway, over on Friday afternoon, a special welcome from the Fiji Tourism representative, a traditional Fijian lovo feast & fire dancing. All day conferencing on Saturday. Sunday morning I was privileged to be part of the most fantastic team building event. We had to build a child's bike, from scratch. Eight bikes were tried , tested and approved by the bike mechanic on site. A van arrived from treasure house, an orphanage in Nadi. Eight children aged from 6 to 10 hopped out, and were presented with the bikes we had built. Such a wonderful feel good factor, and seeing the looks of surprise on their faces when they were told the bikes were for them to keep was just priceless!

I have been an independent, self employed travel broker just over two years, and I was very excited to be awarded a high flyer, top achiever award at the Travel Brokers national business awards.

On another note, The Travel Brokers support Kids Can as our charity of choice. So in lieu of sending christmas cards to my clients this year I have made a donation to Kids Can. http://www.kidscan.org.nz/

There are still earlybirds out for travel to Europe next year. Look out for new year specials to be released in January.

Remember that I can match 99% of what you see advertised out there. I wish you all a safe & happy christmas,

Tanya Franklin, your local travel broker, Ph 09 411 9105, or 021 254 9169, or email: tanya@ttb.co.nz. Make an appointment to see me in my home office in Waimauku to chat about your next business trip or holiday!







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