

kumeu

# Courier

FREE monthly community magazine for Kumeu & districts

**EVENTS AND UPDATES**

**KUMEU RIVER REVAMPS CELLAR DOOR**

- Pet tips & advice
- Food & beverage
- Home & garden
- Property market report

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF KUMEU HOT RODS**

Circulation is 10,000 print copies and 3371 opened and read email copies.

Editorial contributions are free from cost. Advertising starts at \$85 plus gst for a business card size.

Contact Sarah Brightwell on 021 250 7324 or [sarahbrightwell022@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbrightwell022@gmail.com)

December 2018



# Intro

And just like that – its December! This year has been an amazing journey with all the changes going on in our community. I commend the resilience of people dealing with life's ups and downs and still they rise every morning to face the day. Throughout the course of this year there have been so many people that go above and beyond to make others happy, whether it be by supporting their families, making projects work or meeting deadlines - now is the time of year that we get to spend some quality down time with our loved ones. I encourage you all to take time to reflect on your accomplishments this year, acknowledge the losses as well as the achievements – for there is always something to learn. To round up the year there are some well-loved events happening across the district – be sure to check them out and take your family and friends too. Saint Chad's Anglican-Methodist Church in Huapai is expected to reopen just in time for Christmas following an extensive rebuild. Its first service there after all church services were shifted down the road to St Patrick's Catholic Church more than eight months ago will hopefully be on December 16. Celebrations to mark the reopening will be held around the church's patron saint's day in March. For many years St Chad's has been more than a church, hosting community groups and events. Many of these had to find temporary homes while the work was being done. That includes the Kumeu Blend Choir, SeniorNet Kumeu, Girl Guides, Kumeu Friendship Club, St Chad's Selwyn Centre, the 'craft group and various church-related organisations such as a women's fellowship group. The church also caters for many parishioners and events, including funerals, baptisms and other gatherings. Colin and his wife the Reverend Carolyn Newel, are grateful for the tremendous support received and thank everyone involved for their patience and contributions. The Kaukapakapa village market will be on Sunday 16 December 8.30am to 1pm. Enjoy the special Christmas performances from the ladies of "The Cougar Chorus" and the students from "DanceVille" while you pick up some last-minute Christmas gifts with plenty of unique gift ideas from the great range of craft and gift stall holders. Plus bring the kids along for a photo with Santa in his sparkly grotto located in the historic Kaukapakapa library next to the hall. The Helensville Christmas Festival is on the 8th December with celebrations kicking off at 9.30 am and the Parade at 12pm. This will run from West street to the Museum and promises to be a fun family day out with live acts, food, face painting and ice cream. For more info call Holly Southernwood on 021 488 427. Don't forget The Kumeu Rotary Christmas Parade is on December 7 with the event starting at the Huapai Reserve at about 7pm, travelling along State Highway 16 (Main Road) to the Kumeu Showgrounds in Access Road. The showgrounds will remain open into the evening for family entertainment, including Christmas carols from Kumeu Brass, carols by candlelight, food trucks and more. Email kumeuxmasparade@gmail.com, phone Dale on 027 224 4636 or Leslie on 021 334 401.

Merry Christmas everyone.

As always, Stay safe – Be Kind  
Sarah  
Editor.

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# kumeu Courier

## Feature Stories

- 3 People & places
- 7 Safer communities
- 8 Community notices
- 10 Waimauku vaulting club
- 12 In brief - updates
- 14 Property news & advice
- 16 Property statistics
- 25 Local businesses
- 26 Home & garden
- 28 Palmers
- 29 The great outdoors
- 30 Central's tips
- 32 Build new
- 34 Food & beverage
- 36 Health & beauty
- 38 Texting and chiropractic
- 40 Area columnists
- 42 helloworld
- 44 Councillors corner
- 46 Community recycling

### Questions and feedback:

**Sarah Brightwell**

P 021 250 7324

E sarahbrightwell022@gmail.com

W kumeucourier.co.nz

Cover photo: Ken and Desma Galvin, front. Neil Roper and partner Tammy Fraser with Neil's 1934 Ford coupe.

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# PEOPLE & PLACES

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF KUMEU HOT RODS

Stories by Geoff Dobson.

It's the big one – the Kumeu Classic Car and Hot Rod Festival celebrates 25 years on January 19 and 20, 2019.

Organisers Ken and Desma Galvin of Kumeu are going all out to make the anniversary event at the Kumeu Showgrounds one to remember. Many more spot giveaways are planned – including free anniversary mugs from Mothers polishes, waxes and cleaners. A 25th anniversary hot rod calendar will be available for \$10 too.

And if any of the more than 30,000-40,000 visitors want to go the whole hog on a show souvenir then about 30 American muscle cars are offered for sale at the event through Hobsonville-based Cars On-line NZ. They are also organising the Car Corral (cars for sale by private individuals).

International interest in the anniversary festival is already keen, with National Street Rod Association (UK) representative Alan Martin coming. The group organises two big car shows in the United Kingdom which attract thousands, and Alan has been organising the events for NSRA for about 28 years. He'll visit family in Riverhead while here for the show.

Hot rod enthusiast Neil Roper met Alan and others while at the NSRA (UK) show at Bedfordshire in August and says the word about the Kumeu festival has certainly got around.

Neil will be at the 25th event with his ZZ Top-style 1934 Ford three-window coupe with 429 cubic inch motor he's had since 1971. Its dashboard is even signed by ZZ Top guitarist Billy Gibbons.

Desma, front, Ken, Tammy Fraser and Neil are pictured with the car at

the Galvin's home.

"It's the holy grail of hot rods," says Neil who also has a Corvette Stingray.

At least 5000 classic cars and hot rods feature outdoors at the Kumeu festival.

Indoor exhibits include a shed for custom built bikes and another for custom built and painted cars where the People's Choice award winner is usually found, and a model car display.

A variety of other competitions are planned, including a strongman contest with a \$5000 prize pool.

The popular Jack Daniels barbecue competition is running again this year after proving a "roaring success" last time, Ken says. More than 25 entrants are cooking for points in the national championship.

A best dressed competition for women features various categories based on a 1950s theme, including a Miss Kumeu contest for girls 10 and under.

A similar theme continues in the "Retro-o-rama" market area.

The "Beauty School Dropouts" will be offering women visitors free hair roll-ups for that retro look.

Cartoonist and illustrator Darren Blomfield, who continues generations of Blomfield art heritage, will provide free sketches of show-goers.

Bands feature on the main stage too.

Hundreds of trade displays and various swap sites add more than 4000 show visitors alone.

Rotary members will again be raising funds at the gate for a worthwhile charity, aiding surf lifesaving last year.

Show entry and trade or swap site display fees will be kept to the same rate as they have been for about the past decade.

"Desma and I have always felt that if people make the effort to come to the festival then we try to offset the cost and make the entry prices as low as possible," Ken says. He believes many other events just become too expensive for most families otherwise.

"We want to keep it as low as possible so people can come and enjoy it."

Sponsors like Jack Daniels, Mega Mitre 10 Westgate and Lincoln Road, Cars on Line, Petrolhead, Lucas Oil, Mothers, The Sound, and more help keep the show going.

The festival is held during the last week of the summer school holidays, so Ken and Desma want families to come to the show. "A lot of families



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come and bring a picnic," Desma says.

Ken says the festival generates widespread interest and respect for what it sets out to achieve.

The couple enjoy bringing the event to Kumeu each year but say it's not the money maker many think, with costs ranging from traffic management and ground hire to insurance and security having to be taken into account.

They have day jobs too. Ken's interest, particularly through custom painting and pin-striping cars, led to him own a corporate branding company. Desma does administration work, so both devote much of their spare time to organising the festival and other hot rod work.

The two have a life-long passion for hot rods and classics and have about seven cars ranging from going order to those needing to be built or finished.

Ken is a life member of the New Zealand Hot Rod Association and Wheels Incorporated, as well as being a National Street Rod Association member.

One thing's for sure, Ken and Desma are determined to see the festival continue for at least another 25 years.

Show entry is \$15 adult and under-12 free on Saturday 7am-6pm and Sunday 8am-5pm. Parking's free but motorcycles (apart from a special display), dogs, and showground "cruising" are banned.

Visit [www.kumeuhotrodshow.co.nz](http://www.kumeuhotrodshow.co.nz) for more information.

## CHURCH REOPENS FOR CHRISTMAS

Saint Chad's Anglican-Methodist Church in Huapai is expected to reopen just in time for Christmas following an extensive rebuild.

Its first service there after all church services were shifted down the road to St Patrick's Catholic Church more than eight months ago will hopefully be on December 16, St Chad's Church Council chairman Colin Newel says.

The restoration's timeframe and budget both exceeded initial indications after the church was discovered to be a leaky building.

The reconstruction took about two months more than the expected six months, and the earlier budget around \$950,000 may reach up to \$1.2 million.

The Auckland Anglican Diocese has contributed much towards the rebuild cost, which means the church hopes to be able to reopen without any debt, Colin says.

However, visitors will be impressed with the new look church, Colin says, adding the refurbishment and reopening will be a nice Christmas present.

Celebrations to mark the reopening will be held around the church's patron saint's day in March.

A big opening service is planned on March 3, followed by an "open home" on March 9 with user groups able to set up promotional stands and visitors welcome to see the new look and facilities.

For many years St Chad's has been more than a church, hosting community groups and events. Many of these had to find temporary homes



while the work was being done.

That includes the Kumeu Blend Choir, SeniorNet Kumeu, Girl Guides, Kumeu Friendship Club, St Chad's Selwyn Centre, the 'craft group and various church-related organisations such as a women's fellowship group.

The church also caters for many parishioners and events, including funerals, baptisms and other gatherings.

Colin and his wife the Reverend Carolyn Newel, pictured outside the church before its rebuild, are grateful for the tremendous support received and thank everyone involved for their patience and contributions.

## KUMEU RIVER REVAMPS CELLAR DOOR

Kumeu River has finished a major refurbish of its cellar door in time for the pre-Christmas season.

The Brajkovich family has also redone the interior of the original 1950 winery building, provided an outdoor patio for summer tastings and tidied up the late Mate's former office for meetings and private tastings.

The spruce-up has taken several months and includes back-lit wine display cabinets and a distinctive old wooden French shop counter in which the original shop button bell works to summon assistance.

Photos featuring the vineyard's history, family members and aerial shots of the property line the walls.

Even the cellar doors have been stripped back to the original cedar, and new American oak flooring lines Mate's old office.

All the work has been completed in time to launch Kumeu River's 2017 vintage.

These are among 48 chardonnays from 2006 to 2017 to get rave reviews by renowned British wine critic and writer Jancis Robinson after a recent tasting.

"Kumeu River somehow manages to make some of not just New Zealand's but the world's finest chardonnay from vineyards in the Auckland suburbs," she says.

She pinpoints the 2010, 2014 and 2015 vintages as standouts – "and the 2017s are clearly going to be exceptional in the long-term".

Only the 2011 wine was "anything less than impeccable", Jancis writes, because the North Island vintage, like that in Australia, was plagued by much more rain than usual.

"The rest of the wines were stunning."

The critic also noted Kumeu River's early move to screw caps from its 2001 vintage instead of corks, saying she therefore knew the wines were likely to be fresh "rather than suffering the dreaded premo".

And she found plenty of variation in the vintages to make the wines interesting, each having their own style with some very marked vintage patterns emerging.

Jancis traces Kumeu River's history, referring to Mate and Melba's involvement from the late 1940s/early 1950s to Michael, Milan, Paul and Marijana continuing the family association.

The winery was known as San Marino until it was renamed Kumeu River in the 1980s.





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Now the winery will supplement its offerings with chardonnay, sauvignon blanc and pinot noir from its 25-hectare Hawke's Bay vineyard, the first 1000 cases of chardonnay from there due to be released in September 2019. More chardonnay has been planted too. The Brajkovich family welcomes visitors to Kumeu River's new look cellar door.

The revamp also maintains Kumeu River as a picturesque entry to Kumeu from the city end of State Highway 16. Visit [www.kumeuriver.co.nz](http://www.kumeuriver.co.nz) for more information.

## PETE SINTON'S MOVING ON

Pete Sinton has stepped down as Kumeu-Huapai Residents and Ratepayers Association chairman after 10 years in the role, following a move to Sandspit near Warkworth.

He says he feels it is inappropriate to remain as chairman while living outside the district. Pete will remain an association member though – at least until its May AGM – using his town planning experience to help with district planning issues.

"I've made a promise to the district to help with a framework plan (to set the area's development direction) and that promise still holds," he says. Moving into semi-retirement with partner Jenny Price, Pete will leave a long legacy and a family association with the north-west going back more than 150 years.

Prominent Kumeu businessman Craig Walker is being touted as a possible successor to Pete's role at the association, and Pete says Craig is a straight shooter well suited to the task of standing up for district residents.

Pete himself has done that job to the best of his ability. He's used his city hall and planning experiences to tackle the issues and problems that have beset the area, particularly with recent development outpacing infrastructure and leading to concerns such as traffic congestion. "As a ratepayers association we've kept the people honest," says Pete in praising the association's teamwork on the many matters it has dealt with.

He's staunchly maintained a distance between his planning business and ratepayer interests. "I've never acted in conflict with ratepayers – I've always put the community ahead of any clients," Pete says. Witnessing the area's huge growth in recent years, Pete says problems have arisen in trying to keep up with the changes.

"About 80% of it has been planning related," he says. "We've done a lot of work around the unitary plan and helped get the countryside living zoning in place."

As watchdog for the district community, Pete says the association has successfully fought a number of attempts to introduce proposals which have concerned residents. These include landfills like the Worrall Road project, although Pete says many have attempted to slip through as non-notified applications, "which is a worrying trend".

"We've also seen moves to resolve planning issues such as the attempted retirement village development next to Soljan's Wine Estate," he says. "The council has recently decided to correct its rules. "I've always believed planning should lead and not be a follower of



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development.”

Pete adds that a number of Special Housing Areas (SHAs) were attempted in the area with these limited to two – the Huapai Triangle and Oraha Road developments.

“The SHAs were pushed on to us from the Government with promises of associated infrastructure but none of these have been planned or delivered fully yet,” he says.

“Kumeu-Huapai deserves better than what we’ve had. There’s still an additional 10,000 more people coming here within the next five years without any forward planning being done.”

More traffic will be generated by such developments, adding to the existing congestion woes, Pete says.

The NZ Transport Agency should have a preferred bypass option to State Highway 16 available mid-2019, Pete believes. He’s hoping it will tick the option of starting the bypass from the end of the north-western motorway near Brighams Creek rather than from near Soljans Estate Winery, otherwise a bottle-neck could form on SH16 between the motorway and Soljans, he believes.

“Once the preferred route is known then that can be followed by the framework plan as we’ll have a better idea of where things are going,” Pete says. The council planners still want to delay a planning start for seven years, he adds.

“I think now is the right time for me to step down. The association needs a local to run it as well as fresh eyes.”

Pete says he’ll be available to advise when needed and will maintain his more than 40-year association with Lions.

He pays tribute to Jenny’s work for the association, saying she’s been like his personal assistant and helped him with much of the task. The committee has worked well as a team, he adds.

“I’ve also had a good relationship with (Helensville National MP) Chris Penk and Rodney councillor Greg Sayers who have both helped me with ratepayer matters.”

Pete says the Sinton family has a long association with the area, going back to the 1860s, and he’s lived in several Sinton buildings and had homes in the area such as the Old North Road property they’ve now sold.

Qualified as a surveyor and planner for 47 years, Pete had worked for the former Waitemata City Council (later Waitakere City Council) on projects such as the Swanson balefill (refuse) and the Hobsonville marina (Westpark), also running his own practice in Oratia, Lincoln Road, and later Kumeu for the past 10 years.

Born in Warkworth, Pete says he has an affinity with the Sandspit area, especially as the family used to launch a boat there.



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He leaves confident the area’s interests remain in good hands.

## TRIBUTE TO BRIAN NEAL

The Huapai-Kumeu community is mourning the loss of Brian Neal who contributed much to the area. Brian died on November 12 aged 88 – a good innings in cricket parlance, appropriate for his huge contribution to the Kumeu Cricket Club where he held nearly all positions from groundsman to president during a 50-year association.



He came to the area in the summer of 1968/69 to the orchard at Trigg Road with his family - wife Olive (who died in 1999) and children Stephen and Monte.

Brian already had a background in orcharding through family property in Marlborough where he also developed an interest in fruit politics. Naturally, he got involved in the fruit industry and its politics in Auckland for more than 30 years.

He was also heavily involved in community groups and various projects, namely the Kumeu Community Centre and the Kumeu Racquets Club where he served on committees that began their facilities.

Brian helped establish the Auckland Table Tennis Association centre too, as in his playing days he won many South Island table tennis titles. However, Brian will be best remembered for his long connection to the Kumeu Cricket Club and its home ground the Huapai Reserve.

A Brian Neal Trophy still goes to the best fielder.

He was a life member of the cricket club and, along with others, pushed for the then council to buy land to expand the cricket oval and soccer pitch to what it is today. He even suggested the council get more land for the domain.

Following the cricket clubrooms loss to fire, Brian and a group of like-minded members fought hard and fundraised to build the present two-storey clubrooms.

Brian was happiest when the park was full of people - it didn't matter what sport they were doing whether cricket, soccer, netball, touch or simply walking the perimeter track, Monte says.

“I hope he is remembered by the community as a person that was willing to give freely of his time to the many community groups in and around Huapai/Kumeu.” A tribute to Brian features on the Kumeu Cricket Club’s Facebook page. His funeral service was held on November 19 at Snapper Rock, Albany.

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A simple guide for this summer:

- As of 1 December 2018 the Auckland mainland goes into a restricted fire season and the Hauraki Islands go into a prohibited fire season
- You can have an outdoor cooking fire such as a BBQ, hangi or umu or a heating fire such as an approved brazier. However only dry, untreated wood should be used, and smoke must not be causing a safety concern
- If you wish to light a fire in the open air during a restricted fire season, you will need to apply for a fire permit. You can apply for a permit online at <http://www.checkitsalright.nz>.

Please use the more environmentally friendly ways of disposing of your rubbish and be aware that all fires should be extinguished by nightfall. If a prohibited fire season is imposed during the summer all fires will be banned.

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nesses who wish to conduct meetings or small bespoke events.

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## KAUKAPAKAPA VILLAGE MARKET AND HISTORIC LIBRARY



Sunday 16 December 8.30am to 1pm. Enjoy our special Christmas performances from the ladies of "The Cougar Chorus" and the students from "DanceVille" while you pick up some last minute Christmas gifts with plenty of unique gift ideas from our great range of craft and gift stall holders. Plus bring the kids along for a photo with Santa in his sparkly grotto located in the historic Kaukapakapa library next to the hall.

Our first market of 2019 is on Sunday 20 January with plenty of stalls, live music,

great food and coffee, fresh local produce and much more. Don't miss the fabulous collection of historic photos of the Kaukapakapa early settlers on display in the Kaukapakapa Library from 10am to 1pm. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy 2019!

For more information contact Sarah 027 483 1542 or email [sarah1@maxnet.co.nz](mailto:sarah1@maxnet.co.nz).

## KUMEU LIBRARY

It's December already, and the holiday season is fast approaching! Over the holiday period, Kumeu Library will be open every Monday to Saturday apart from the statutory holidays (Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 December 2018, Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 January 2019), so there is plenty of time to come in and stock up on essential summer reading materials. Don't forget that you can use your Auckland Libraries card at any of our 55 libraries in the Auckland Region, and our digital library for eBooks, eAudio-books and eMagazines is accessible 24/7 through our website ([www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz](http://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz)).

We extend our loan periods over the Christmas season – from Saturday 24 November you will be able to check out certain items for a longer period of time to accommodate statutory holiday closures during the Christmas holiday period.

Kai Maia te Whai – Dare to Explore – is Auckland Libraries' summer reading programme for children aged 5 to 12 years. Running from 10 December 2018 to 21 January 2019. It's an adventure with awesome challenges designed to help children build their reading skills over the school holidays! Children complete the fun-filled challenges to earn stickers and a party invite. Do activities at home, on holiday, at the library, on the internet and with friends. You can visit other libraries around Auckland. Not a member of Auckland Libraries? Don't worry - it's easy to join. Go online or talk to a friendly librarian to sign up. Kumeu Library's Dare to explore party will feature well-known children's author Stu Duval, and will take

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place on Thursday 24 January 2019 at 6.30pm. Online registration opens on 26 November, and the programme itself starts on 10 December – join in the fun! Adult readers don't miss out on reading programme fun either – the Great Summer Read runs throughout December and January, and there are fun challenges to complete and great prizes to be won! This is open to all readers aged 13 years and over, and there's something in there to interest everyone. Follow Kumeu Library on Facebook to keep up-to-date with all our events and news ([www.facebook.com/kumeulibrary](http://www.facebook.com/kumeulibrary)).

## KUMEU ARTS CENTRE



Our annual Affordable Art sale, with artworks for under \$400, is the perfect opportunity to buy quality artworks at reasonable prices. The exhibition starts on November the 27th and finishes on December the 20th. Avoid the mall this year and purchase unique Christmas gifts while supporting local people. You can also find lots of beautiful arts and crafts in our retail area including ceramics, cards, calendars, prints and jewellery that will make meaningful presents (pictured). Creative Matters are offering fun art workshops for kids in the run up to Christmas including advent calendar and Christmas present making. We've also got two Kumeu live concerts this December to get you in the festive spirit. Come and discover Kumeu Arts Cen-

tre – The Hidden Gem of Kumeu. [www.kumeuartscentre.co.nz](http://www.kumeuartscentre.co.nz).

## MURIWAI SURF SCHOOL



On behalf of all the staff at Muriwai Surf School I would like to wish all the readers of the Kumeu Courier a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year. If you're out at Muriwai Beach this summer call into our surf shed right by the beach and check out our amazing range of surf equipment for hire or chat with any of our awesome staff regarding anything surfing. We also have a great range of surfing lesson and blokart sailing gift vouchers that will make awesome Christmas presents. Check out our Facebook and Instagram or for more details call us on 021 478 734 or our website [www.muriwaisurfschool.co.nz](http://www.muriwaisurfschool.co.nz).

## RIVERHEAD PLAYGROUP

We are a community-led playgroup for babies, preschool aged children and their families. Our aim is to create an environment during our sessions that educates, entertains, and socialises our children, and also provides friendly contact and support for parents and caregivers. We provide creative activities, books, water and sand play, heaps of toys and equipment. Our service runs during school term and is funded by gold coin donations.

[www.riverheadplaygroup.co.nz](http://www.riverheadplaygroup.co.nz) [www.facebook.com/groups/Riverheadplaygroup](http://www.facebook.com/groups/Riverheadplaygroup) Riverhead Memorial Pavilion, Auckland. (Council building next to the playground and the Riverhead Bowling Club). Hours: Thursday - Friday: 9:30AM-

12:00PM.

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**NORMANDY -BRITTANY:** travel in small group to the picturesque coastline of Normandy and Brittany in the North-West of France. This encompasses Honfleur, St Malo, Mont St Michel, House and Garden of Monet and many more. With private transport, you visit regional craftsmen, food and antique markets to provide you with a true insight into French culture. **JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2019**

Boutique Tours France takes small groups of max 8 people to different parts of France, Catherine and Patsy are French and take you to those special places, the tours are fully organised, so you sit and relax, they know France and know what Kiwis like to experience. Your guides

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speaking the language and look after you, so you can happily join the trip with no planning at all. Book now for the 2019 tours in June and September

Book now for the 2019 tours in June and September

You are in good hand with the ladies from Boutique Tours France.

[www.boutiquetoursfrance.co.nz](http://www.boutiquetoursfrance.co.nz)

## WAIMAUKU VAULTING CLUB

The Equidays Top Talent competition took place in October, which we entered for the first time. Our horses, Hugo and Toby, were dressed to impress in the theme of Aladdin. We complemented them with our costumes of Aladdin (Jasmyn Rodriguez)



and Jafar (Belinda Rodriguez). It was a huge test of our performance skills, being in front of a large crowd, indoors, under lights and surround sound plus live video on the big screen, and competing with the best horse trainers in New Zealand. Our performance included stand up riding with ribbons and hula hoops, as well as dramatic effects of the genie painted onto a blue cloth, a genie lamp, and a crystal ball, and a vaulting display finale. We were thrilled to land second place in the professional category behind Russell Higgins and his liberty horsemanship act. Our focus will now be on raising funds for the Vaulting World Championships for Juniors in 2019. Jasmyn Rodriguez is part of the eight member New Zealand vaulting team currently training at the Kapiti Vaulting Club that will be competing in the Netherlands next year. Waimauku Vaulting Club will be running local events over the summer and selling supporter T-shirts to participate in fundraising for the Kapiti Vaulting Club. New Zea-

land was at the 2014 World Equestrian Games, and our vaulters placed a commendable 9th in the world having never competed as a team. Recently some of the Team NZ vaulters competed in Australia individually and in pairs routines with great results. You can follow their journey on the Kapiti Equestrian and Vaulting social media pages plus @nzvaulting on instagram.

## GET CHRISTMAS SORTED WHILE AVOIDING THE CROWDS

Have you left the Christmas shopping a little late? Struggling with time to get to the shops?

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## NATURE'S EXPLORERS KINDERGARTEN

Recently we had an Open Day at Kindy, we had such a great time meeting and greeting new children and families from the community. Although we are always open and welcoming for new enquirers we thought it would be a good chance to invite families in the area to come and see what we have to offer

Our visitors were able to see the children and teachers in action with our everyday activities, routines, meal



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P O Box 45 Waimauku 0842, Auckland, New Zealand



times, water play, art, play dough, baking and more. If you missed our Open Day feel free to pop in at any time and between our open hours of 8am-4pm to experience our nature rich home away from home environment. We are located at 1 Maude Street Riverhead, 09 412 8800, office. [kindergarten@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kindergarten@xtra.co.nz).

## WE NEED YOUR INVOLVEMENT!

The popular Kumeu Show is, celebrating its 97th year on March 9 and 10, 2019.

The Kumeu Show has often been about greeting old friends and making new ones and providing newcomers to the area an opportunity to do just that.

Here's a chance to be involved in a local event and keep the showgrounds for the show. Get involved so we make the 100th show in three years one to remember.

A key focus is to retain the area's country feel amid rapidly increasing development.

The society owns the 34 hectare grounds, held under its own act of Parliament, so won't be selling up.

It hosts many other activities such as the Hot Rod Show, Auckland Folk Festival, Kumeu Fire Brigade Hoedown, Taupaki School Fireworks display, and more.

But it needs more people to join the committee to ensure the show continues to be successful in a growing area. The work isn't difficult, it is about having the manpower on show days to look after each area.

More than 35,000 people from across Auckland and beyond now visit the show. Children enjoy getting up close to farm animals. Visitors watch the likes of eight times World Champion Axeman, Jason Wynyard in action during the timber sports, see

World Class Shearers on stage in the sheep shearing, check out the baking, flowers, photography and more at the indoor section, and view a wide variety of poultry.

There's also a giant pumpkin contest, trade displays, food stands, carnival rides, music, and equestrian events.

Helensville MP Chris Penk is the show patron and is very enthusiastic about offering his help on show days.

An invitation is going out to all you "new locals" who would like to get involved with the show and volunteer in 2019. Please contact the Show Manager, Lizelle Westman, on 027 412 9322 or email [info@kumeushow.co.nz](mailto:info@kumeushow.co.nz). No matter what your expertise are, we can find a job for you.

## PURE ALLIES

Christmas is upon us, whether we like it or not, we can't really avoid it. So the best thing to do is enjoy it I guess!

If you need a few last minute personalised, local and meaningful gifts, feel free to give us a message or email, teacher gifts are very popular for the end of the year, and the kids just love to give their teachers a little something.

We have reasonable secret Santa products, and lots of other nice gift ideas.

Here at Pure Allies we hope you have a great Christmas, and a really well deserved break.

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# IN BRIEF

## UPDATES:EVENTS

### CAT LOVERS URGENTLY NEEDED



Volunteers required to help with cleaning duties etc. at a cat rescue shelter in Huapai. Can you spare two or three hours once a week? Also loving homes needed for some of the friendly rescue cats. Donations appreciated at [thenzcatfoundation.org.nz](http://thenzcatfoundation.org.nz). Phone 09 412 2636 for further information.

### KAIPARA CRUISES



Often we don't realise what attractions are on our own back door, here in the Nor West we have access to New Zealand's largest inland water way the mighty Kaipara Harbour.

This summer Kaipara Cruises are offering a variety of cruises departing from Helensville to explore the Kaipara. We

have cruises available from our 3-hour River Cruises to the ever popular Two Day Cruises exploring the Northern reaches of the harbour with overnight stay in old time riverside hotels.

The Kaipara is a harbour of contrast's, from bush lined rivers to deserted white sandy beaches, it has a unique history where one can almost reach out and touch the past as we cruise past the bays where the early gum diggers camped and whole kauri forests were felled and loaded onto ships for export.

Join us this summer retracing the old steamer and sailing ship routes out across the historic Kaipara Harbour.

For more information visit our website [www.kaiparacruises.co.nz](http://www.kaiparacruises.co.nz).

### THE MOBILE CAR SPECIALISTS — CAR COSMETIC RESTORATION

Another year just about over... we want to say a huge THANK YOU to all the readers of the Kumeu Courier, the hard working people behind the Kumeu Courier... and of course all the people who responded to our promo spot there, and took us up on our services throughout 2018.

It's been an awesome year for us here, and we look forward to transforming more cars in 2019.

Enjoy the festive season, try to tolerate your extended family... and stay safe on the roads.

Our full service suite: Dent removal – large and small. High-end car detailing / cut and polish (using European quality equipment). Paint protection – ultimate

shine protection with world leading Feynlab Ceramic Coating technology – never wax again! Headlight restoration - foggy headlights gone plus UV sealant to prevent further erosion. Bumper scuff repairs. We are a fully mobile operation, meaning we come to you to make your life easier. Contact us on 0800 20 30 20 for a quote, or visit [www.TMCS.co.nz](http://www.TMCS.co.nz) to see our work and 5 star reviews.

### RIVERHEAD PHOTOGRAPHY



Photography is gearing up for a busy spring and summer period. With longer evenings, beautiful spring flowers and fresh green grass, many clients are opting to have their photos taken outdoors. Riverhead Photography specialises in family portraits, including newborn, children and maternity, in relaxed, natural surroundings. For those who prefer a more formal, classic look, there is also the option for photos in their studio. A photo session is a great gift for special friends or family members. Riverhead Photography offers a range of inexpensive, high quality digital images which clients can have printed themselves. Gift certificates are proving particularly popular for Christmas presents this year. Riverhead Photography is a small home business run by locals Diane and Mike Wilson. Check out their website [www.riverheadphotography.co.nz](http://www.riverheadphotography.co.nz) and phone 021 083 70700 or email [info@riverheadphotography.co.nz](mailto:info@riverheadphotography.co.nz).

### SENIORNET KUMEU INC

Seniornet Kumeu held its final meeting of 2018 on the 7th November.

The AGM was completed at the meet-

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ing and two new officers were approved and welcomed to the committee, Jennifer Morris (Secretary) and Dave Colston (Support Course Coordinator).

This was followed with a very informative presentation by Nigel Dempster on Google Maps and Google "Timeline"

The meeting concluded with a superb Christmas raffle (11 prizes!). Our thanks to Judy Cooper for organising.

The good humour was continued as the members took a break for drinks and refreshments organised by Bev Meredith.

In keeping with the friendly and informal style of the club many members brought plates of cakes and savouries, which were enjoyed by all.

The club restarts in February 2019, the exact date is to be confirmed as we are hoping to return to our usual venue, St Chad's Church hall, Huapai, once it re-opens. Full details will be given in our next "Courier" report

If you would like to have fun learning how to get the most from your smart-phone, tablet (including iPads) and computer, why not join our friendly and informal club with tutors who teach what you need at a pace that suits you. Contact: Brian Lacey on 022 183 1811 brian@lacey.nz or Nigel Dempster at nigeldem@outlook.com.

## DRIVING MISS DAISY



PPaul Sanson purchased the Driving Miss Daisy Hobsonville franchise in 2016. He has since grown the business to five vehicles including a wheelchair accessible vehicle and works with his team of nine drivers to support his clients' transport needs. The Driving Miss Daisy Hobsonville territory covers the wider Hobson-

ville area from West Harbour to South Head.

Driving Miss Daisy Hobsonville was awarded Supreme Driving Miss Daisy Franchise of the Year 2018. This is a highly sought after award which recognises a business owner with excellence in vision, service and business growth.

Driving Miss Daisy is a companion driving service catering for every age and stage of life. They can drive and accompany you to appointments, social and companionship outings, school drop off and pick-ups. Driving Miss Daisy are ACC registered vendors and are Total Mobility Scheme providers.

Call Paul today to discuss your requirements, bookings are preferred.

Phone: 09 412 5332 / 021 166 1175

Follow us on Facebook - Driving Miss Daisy Hobsonville

## THE AUCKLAND FOLK FESTIVAL



The Auckland Folk Festival will be back this summer with an interesting, both ethnically and gender diverse line-up of local and international artists. New Zealand's biggest annual grassroots folk music gathering will take place again at the Kumeu Showgrounds, over Auckland Anniversary Weekend, January 25-28, 2018. The family-friendly festival showcases folk musicians from around New Zealand and the world to entertain guests of all ages. Festival goers can enjoy a full weekend of concerts, dances and educational workshops, all within the boundaries of the Kumeu Showgrounds, situated just a short drive northwest of Auckland city. With a new breed of NZ folk artists enjoying international attention the festival has also been evolving in recent years,

drawing in a younger generation of fans who appreciate those authentic modern songwriters, as well as more traditional folk and dance. The Auckland Folk Festival provides opportunities for the artists and attendees alike to share their own music and celebrations with like-minded people from all cultures.

## GROW YOUR BUSINESS AND SHARE ADVICE

Book an hour out each week to grow your business and become a part of a community of professionals who support each other to succeed. At BNI Norwest, we help local business owners and self-employed professionals increase their business and share valuable advice through our weekly networking breakfast.

In a structured but fun meeting, our members expand their knowledge and their networks. Everyone has the floor for a 60 second pitch, and one member gives a ten-minute presentation which goes into more depth about their business or industry. Every member is encouraged to meet up for coffees between meetings and be on the lookout for referral opportunities.

BNI Norwest also offers its members monthly social events, access to deals and discounts, information about upcoming seminars, and opportunities to give back to the Kumeu community.

If you are interested in joining, we offer two free visits where we shout you breakfast and get to know each other first.

Want to know more?

The Meus Cafe and Eatery, 190 Main Road, Kumeu. Tuesdays 7am – 8am (open networking at 6.45am and after the meeting) Self-employed, business owners, sole-traders from a variety of professions. Please note we only allow one of any type of business/profession to be represented. For more information contact: Timothy 0275 734 064 or Michael 027 695 7788 Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BNIorwest](http://www.facebook.com/BNIorwest).

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# PROPERTY NEWS & ADVICE

## PROPERTY MARKET REPORT

It's interesting what can happen in a year:

- Interest rates are down
- Banks are tightening up
- More listings
- Less sales
- Lower prices
- Higher expectations
- Less confidence
- Greater costs

Whatever you're thinking, as long as you are buying and selling in this market you will be on a level playing field.

And whatever you are choosing to do in the future just be prepared to be on market a little longer, spend a little more on marketing and maybe lower your expectation slightly on what you hoped to get for your home. Here's the sales in the area this month:

Coatesville Lifestyle \$1,575,000 to \$2,000,000. Helensville Residential \$641,000 to \$768,000. Helensville Lifestyle \$748,000 to \$2,150,000. Huapai Residential \$1,050,000 to \$1,166,000. Kumeu Residential \$790,000 to \$1,150,000. Kumeu Lifestyle \$2,862,000 to \$8,200,000. Muriwai Residential \$745,000 to \$1,225,000. Parakai Residential \$522,500 to \$619,000. Riverhead Residential \$870,000 to \$1,420,000. Riverhead Lifestyle \$1,450,000 to \$5,255,000. Taupaki Lifestyle \$1,265,000 to \$2,000,000. Waimauku Residential \$990,000 to \$1,600,000. Waimauku Lifestyle \$1,250,000 to \$1,430,000. Waitakere Lifestyle \$1,300,000. Whenuapai Residential \$800,000 to \$1,580,000.

In this market more than ever please take time to understand the market, your time

frame, the value the market may be prepared to pay and then make a decision to act. We are happy to provide data on sales in the area, comparable recent sales information and a comprehensive market appraisal on your home at absolutely no charge. Further we can look at trends, market pressures and review the mortgage envelope that may exist with buyers considering purchasing your home. It starts with a call, text or email. Call 0800 900 700, Text 027 632 0421 or email [graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com) or for more information go to [www.graham-mcintyre.co.nz](http://www.graham-mcintyre.co.nz) - Mike Pero Real Estate Ltd Licensed REAA (2008).

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## WEST AUCKLAND PROPERTY AND TAX LAWYERS



Gina Jansen Lawyers are a West Harbour based law firm who practice many areas of law, but our specialty area of law is property and tax/Inland Revenue disputes and Court matters. We can help small to medium businesses (companies, sole traders, partnerships) when Inland Revenue serve legal proceedings (for example High Court bankruptcy/company



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liquidations, or District Court civil judgment or criminal proceedings). Our team are very experienced at appearing in the Courts and dealing with Inland Revenue under the Tax Administration Act provisions to find resolution. We can advise you on your best options, process any refinancing or lending instructions, appear in the Courts and negotiate the relief deal with Inland Revenue. You won't need to use different lawyers for different parts. We will also work closely with your accountant/mortgage broker, or we can refer you to professionals we know are experts in those fields. We do great rates for any general property transactions whether you are buying, selling or refinancing. Call Gina Jansen Lawyers on 09 869 5820 or email [gina@ginajansen.co.nz](mailto:gina@ginajansen.co.nz) or visit our website at [www.ginajansen.co.nz](http://www.ginajansen.co.nz).

## NEED TO NEGOTIATE WITH SANTA TO GET ONTO THE NICE LIST?



Do you need some help negotiating with Santa? If you find yourself not on Santa's Nice List this year then you have a variety

of options. You can decide to do nothing (which may include throwing your toys out the cot, having a moan to your mate/spouse, or just drink the beer the kids leave out for Santa on Christmas Eve), but if that doesn't sit well with you then you could write to Santa and ask him what his problem is. Maybe there is some way you could work it out, or something you could do to right the wrong – maybe Santa doesn't have a clear record of the facts and you could clear up a few misunderstandings. If that letter gets lost in the post or Santa is too busy to respond, then perhaps you could file with the Disputes Tribunal. It's a handy resource as Santa will have to attend in person and isn't allowed to take his lawyer. Assuming your wish list this year is under the magic number of \$15,000 (or if Santa agrees then \$20,000) then the Disputes Tribunal will hear your complaint, however they won't make Santa send you presents if they agree you were right but it's a good start to resolving a dispute. Another idea is to ask Santa to meet you for a chat and see if you can work it out – or maybe your lawyer could talk to Santa's lawyer and negotiate a resolution.

If your beef isn't with Santa then ClearStone Legal can also help resolve matrimonial disputes, neighbourly disputes, employment disputes, shareholder disputes – or we can help put an agreement in place before the dispute arises.

If you need some help negotiating with Santa or someone else then contact ClearStone Legal (incorporating Kumeu-Huapai Law Centre). Telephone 09 973 5102 to make an appointment.

## SELLING LAND TO NON NEW ZEALAND CITIZENS

The new Overseas Investment regime requires consent to be obtained for residential land sales from 22 October 2018. It will be necessary to work out whether the land is residential land or say farming or horticulture land. There are also issues about who needs consent before

they can buy land. Are purchasers New Zealand citizens, or do they have a Residence Visa? Are they from Australia and Singapore? Residential land would usually be ascertained by a check with the Auckland Council's simple report on the property. In the north-west, however, land which is used for horticulture would probably not be residential. In short, lawyers and real estate agents will need to explore whether purchasers need consent or not. The best thing a purchaser could do if in doubt is to get preapproval for the purchase from the overseas investment office. If you are selling assets off your land but not the land itself, such as timber and mineral rights then special rules also apply. These are areas for expert legal advice. Dail Jones and Luke Kemp – 09 412 6000.

## SOMETHING EXTRA FROM YOUR BANK

Have you checked with your bank? When buying a new home or refinancing your mortgage, banks may offer a cost contribution for your legal and other fees. If you are refinancing they may also cover your break fees.

On the banks' part this is a matter of marketing and competing for your business with practical and sometimes generous incentives.

However, the banks vary as to the contribution they will make. Some banks don't offer this at all and for the banks that do there is a wide variation in the amount they will offer.

So always ask your bank, or remind your broker to ask. Unless you do, you may miss out on a cost contribution that your bank is willing to make to secure your business.

Gareth, Linda and Jennifer - your local lawyers in Hobsonville.

Contact: 09 416 6562 or [jennifer@belvederelaw.co.nz](mailto:jennifer@belvederelaw.co.nz).



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# AREA PROPERTY STATS

Suburb	CV	Land Area	Floor Area	Sale Price
Coatesville	1,800,000	1HA	200M2	1,575,000
	2,225,000	2HA	432M2	2,000,000
	1,500,000	8118M2	255M2	1,915,000
Helensville	870,000	6109M2	135M2	670,000
	535,000	559M2	93M2	558,000
	860,000	678M2	181M2	768,000
	670,000	679M2	106M2	700,000
	910,000	3.6HA	250M2	1,495,000
	660,000	600M2	96M2	650,000
	690,000	1HA	100M2	665,000
	630,000	0M2	110M2	641,500
	1,050,000	2.7HA	173M2	910,000
	830,000	5087M2	125M2	985,000
	1,575,000	2.6HA	241M2	2,150,000
	1,025,000	2.21M2	182M2	748,000
	Huapai	1,200,000	772M2	265M2
1,150,000		651M2	220M2	1,050,000
570,000		702M2	238M2	1,128,000
1,150,000		700M2	245M2	1,149,000
1,125,000		700M2	230M2	1,070,000
Kumeu	375,000	712M2	228M2	1,050,000
	1,125,000	700M2	228M2	1,140,000
	790,000	867M2	100M2	790,000
	1,150,000	413M2	264M2	1,150,000
	790,000	819M2	87M2	815,000
	6,750,000	5.2HA	430M2	6,250,000
	6,050,000	33.2HA	130M2	8,200,000
3,000,000	1HA	321M2	2,862,000	
Muriwai	730,000	1612M2	80M2	745,000
	1,200,000	850M2	171m2	1,225,000
Parakai	560,000	2410M2	105M2	619,000
	475,000	0M2	94M2	522,500
	540,000	0M2	130M2	535,000
Riverhead	950,000	1012M2	106M2	995,000
	1,500,000	615M2	336M2	1,420,000
	920,000	809M2	90M2	870,000
	1,200,000	619M2	216M2	1,018,000
	1,275,000	810M2	211M2	1,250,000
	1,250,000	801M2	225M2	1,280,000
	3,100,000	1.4HA	248M2	1,450,000
	665,000	869M2	82M2	717,500
Swanson	880,000	1.7HA	78M2	600,000
	1,225,000	1.1HA	78M2	1,352,000
	1,250,000	4.1HA	299M2	1,350,000
	1,250,000	1706M2	120M2	1,265,000
Taupaki	2,400,000	1.2HA	300M2	2,000,000
	1,300,000	1500M2	238m2	1,381,797
Waimauku	1,125,000	1308M2	260M2	990,000
	1,025,000	2777M2	147M2	1,027,500
	1,425,000	1559M2	319M2	1,600,000
	1,300,000	1HA	190M2	1,250,000
	1,125,000	1.9HA	151M2	1,375,000
	1,375,000	5.7HA	80M2	1,100,000
	1,675,000	1.2HA	349M2	1,430,000
	1,150,000	5HA	132M2	1,300,000
	1,150,000	5HA	177M2	800,000

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Graham McIntyre  
Brand & Territory Owner



List today for a  
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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.

Every month Mike Pero Real Estate 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.

We charge 2.95% not 4% that others may charge” “We also provide statistical data, free from cost to purchasers and sellers wanting more information to make an informed decision. Phone me today for a free summary of a property and surrounding sales, at no cost, no questions asked” Phone 0800 900 700.





**EASY FAMILY LIVING, BRICK AND TILE, WESTGATE** 3 2 2

**Asking Price \$949,000**

**4 Rush Creek Drive, Westgate**  
Asking Price \$949,000

Welcome your family in to this easy care sunny and spacious brick and tile three bedroom home with wonderful street appeal. In a lovely elevated position and close to great schools, parks, Westgate Shopping Centre and NorthWest Shopping Centre, the Massey Leisure Centre, this fabulous home in a great location and is ideal for your family or a relaxed easy care retirement. Enjoy open plan living and dining with a modern kitchen overlooking the pretty front garden and urban views. Indoor outdoor living is enhanced by the large covered pergola leading to the back garden. Master bedroom with ensuite, double garage, heat pump, loads of storage and two garden sheds provide all the conveniences of modern living. For the keen gardener, beds are at the ready for your summer crop of veges.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1664987](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1664987)



**Cherry Kingsley-Smith**  
021 888 824  
09 412 9602  
cherry@mikepero.com



**HELENSVILLE LIFESTYLE PROPERTY ON 1.8 HECTARES** 3 4 2

**Set Date of Sale**

**11 Pineview Lane, Helensville**

Set Date of Sale - 4pm, Wednesday 12th December 2018 (unless sold prior).

Private, sun-soaked property in a quiet glade South East of Helensville Township. Offering the perfect retreat for a family to create the good-life, with ample space for gardens to complement the already impressive orchard. An impressive open plan entertainer's home that provides space and harmony with alfresco access to patio and a view over the land. Three bedrooms, plus an office or second lounge with bathroom and ensuite. An impressive styled home allowing lifestyle living at its best, uncluttered and unfettered the home is sheltered from the prevailing SW wind and enjoys all day sunshine. A double garage and barn storage completes the offer. Four paddocks, fenced, water to troughs, a character barn and an all season propagation house deliver a lifestyle option.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1732363](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1732363)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602

graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com



**INVESTORS, FIRST HOME BUYERS, BRICK & WEATHERBOARD**



**Enquiries Over \$635,000**

**12 Akeake Lane, Manurewa**  
**Enquiries Over \$635,000**

A wonderful opportunity for Investors and First Home Buyers here. This near new G.J Gardner, large two level, brick and weather board terraced home, provides all the conveniences and comfort of modern living. On the first level, you will enjoy a well-appointed kitchen with an open plan, spacious living and dining area, and the convenience of a guest toilet. Living areas lead out to the lovely patio area and garden, ideal for alfresco dining, summer entertaining and barbecues. Upstairs are three double bedrooms and two bathrooms including the master ensuite. With double glazing, aluminium joinery, internal access garaging and off street parking, living here is a breeze. Conveniently located near transport links and close to shopping mall and schools.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1621009](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1621009)



**Cherry Kingsley-Smith**  
 021 888 824  
 09 412 9602  
[cherry@mikepero.com](mailto:cherry@mikepero.com)



**TICKS ALL THE BOXES!!**



**By Negotiation**

**12 Amber Place, Waimauku**  
**By Negotiation**

If a home with options and space is what you crave you've struck the jack pot. This spacious property located in a quiet peaceful cul-de-sac has plenty of options with a 3 bedroom property and an attached 2 bedroom apartment on separate power. With 4 living areas, 3 bathrooms, 2 outdoor living spaces and triple garaging, room for 5 off street parks in total there is room for all the family. An ideal opportunity for extended or blended families. This home boasts a beautiful green outlook, lots of birdlife (tuis and wood pigeons), in a strong, safe family community and conveniently located to an abundance of vineyards, wineries and great restaurants. Ideal extended or blended families. Apartment ideal as great rental or B&B.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1675880](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1675880)



**Jacqui Kalka**  
 021 867 108  
[Jacqui.kalka@mikepero.com](mailto:Jacqui.kalka@mikepero.com)



**Graham McIntyre**  
 027 632 0421  
[graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com)





OFFERS OVER \$1,039,000 - MOTIVATED VENDOR IS ON THE MOVE



Offers Over \$1,039,000

**16 Denehurst Drive, Waimauku**  
Offers Over \$1,039,000

Big home, brick, block, tile, roofing eaves, on a large 1236 sqm site. Four bedrooms (master with ensuite and walk in wardrobe), two bathrooms feature in this expansive two level home delivering space to work, live and play, all under one roof. A generous 240sqm home that enjoys open-space entertaining kitchen-lounge-dining integrating into north facing alfresco living to a large, safe, back yard off covered decking. Triple car garaging with workshop and extra room for teenage retreat/ office or games area. Close to Waimauku Primary School, convenience shopping, cafés, reserves and a short drive to the iconic Muriwai Beach. The property is sure to impress in location, looked after and longevity.



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602  
graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com

**Cherry Kingsley-Smith**  
021 888 824  
09 412 9602  
cherry@mikepero.com

[www.mikepero.com/RX1575586](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1575586)

Mike Pero Real Estate Ltd. Licensed REAA (2008)

[www.mikepero.com](http://www.mikepero.com)



SPLASH INTO SUMMER! FABULOUS FAMILY HOME ON 1200 SQM



Enquiries Over \$1,039,000

**17 Matua Road, Huapai**  
Enquiries Over \$1,039,000

Hidden in the heart of Huapai you will find this fabulous four bedroom single level home, perfectly positioned on a prime flat 1200sqm site. Lounge, dining and kitchen flow out to a magnificent paved and landscaped back garden oasis with in ground swimming pool, spa area and alfresco covered dining, perfect for all year round entertaining. Beyond the fully fenced pool area is an abundance of lawn to play or bounce on the trampoline. Four bedrooms include a very spacious master with ensuite, space to relax, own separate entrance and overlooking the lush front garden. Big main bathroom, separate laundry and a wood burner provide all the comfort and convenience of modern living. With a double garage and plenty of parking, there is room for everyone!



**Cherry Kingsley-Smith**  
021 888 824  
09 412 9602  
cherry@mikepero.com

[www.mikepero.com/RX1705127](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1705127)

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[www.mikepero.com](http://www.mikepero.com)



**4 BEDROOM - NEW MADDREN HOME AT \$915,000**



**Asking Price \$915,000**

**31 Nellie Drive, Kumeu**  
**Asking Price \$915,000**

Seize this opportunity to purchase your four bedroom two bathroom brand new home in a quiet street in Huapai. Crafted under the watchful eye of Maddren Homes, one of the original craft builders in the Kumeu area and backed by a residential Master Build 10-year guarantee. Concept to Construction. Brand new Maddren Home. Stunning high spec property with quality fittings and workmanship. Additional stud for that feeling of space and quality in the living area. Impressive kitchen with massive bench space, gas cooktop and island bench. Open plan kitchen, dining, living area flowing to outdoor living. Master bedroom with stunning ensuite, walk in wardrobe. All Watercare services. Double glazing, heat pump, LED lighting, dishwasher, rangehood, waste disposal, heated towel rails, alarm.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1567258](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1567258)



**Graham McIntyre**  
 027 632 0421  
 09 412 9602

[graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com)



**RIVERHEAD MAGIC, WALK TO RIVER, ON 1214M2**



**Enquiries Over \$925,000**

**43 Maude Street, Riverhead**  
**Enquiries Over \$925,000**

This elevated family home sits atop a magical North facing site with park-like grounds featuring mature trees, loads of lush green lawn, chicken coop and abundant bird life. Living here is easy and just a short stroll takes you to the river, shops, school, bar and eateries including the historic Riverhead Tavern. Expansive covered decking provides indoor / outdoor living all year round, overlooking the big sunny back garden and enjoying glorious forest views and a peek of the river. There is plenty of room here to grow the children the old fashioned way, playing, exploring and tree climbing, amidst the free range chickens. Three bedrooms, selected double glazing, upgraded modern kitchen, bathroom and laundry, open plan lounge and dining, plenty of parking provide all the comfort and convenience of modern living.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1673369](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1673369)



**Cherry Kingsley-Smith**  
 021 888 824  
 09 412 9602

[cherry@mikepero.com](mailto:cherry@mikepero.com)





POTENTIAL, PERSONALITY, POSSIBILITY AND FUTURE URBAN - KUMEU 2 1 1

By Negotiation

**46 Orah Road, Huapai**  
By Negotiation

Often Sought, seldom found, this character filled stucco bungalow offering an honest and genuine two bedroom, one bathroom home with separate kitchen, dining room and lounge leading to westerly decking. Rustic storage building and ROW access top and bottom, the door is open to explore development options given the large section size. This treasure trove of opportunity, within a stone throw of convenience shopping and a short drive to school and transport links. The CV on this property is \$760,000. We are happy to provide a list of the last 12 months of sales in the area, please email [graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com).

[www.mikepero.com/RX1470382](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1470382)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602

[graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com)



VACANT, AFFORDABLE, FAMILY HOME - WEST HARBOUR 3 1 1

By Negotiation

**56 Fitzherbert Avenue, West Harbour**  
By Negotiation

Ready for you to move in, this character, weatherboard home delivers more than first meets the eye. An extensive, easy care, flat and fully fenced rear yard, perfect for the summer BBQ's, children's play area and pet safety. A covered decking area links seamlessly to an open plan kitchen, dining, lounge, attracting generous all day sunshine. The bedrooms are split over two levels, two upstairs one downstairs with a central bathroom and laundry. In addition the property has an attached single garage with ladder to a carpeted, powered loft suitable for storage/ office or retreat. Character styled, the home can be opened up to enjoy the breeze on those hot summer days and closed up tight on those winter nights with a closed woodburner and insulation.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1733165](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1733165)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602

[graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com)



**SUN, SURF AND STYLING - AFFORDABLE IN MURIWAI**

3 3 2

**Offers Over \$785,000**

**78 Motutara Road, Muriwai**  
Offers Over \$785,000

Vacant for Christmas - Make this your best summer ever. A home, within nature's playground in keeping with the rustic natural ambience of the area and a simple uncluttered lifestyle. Often sort but seldom found, this two bedroom home with two bathrooms and a cluster of garaging, parking, gardening and entertaining options set upon 932sqm. This home that enjoys plenty of sunshine, plenty of parking, and has an easy in-door-outdoor flow. A smorgasbord of options for a buyer wanting to enjoy life to its full. Minutes from the Top Shop and a short drive to Muriwai Surf Club and Maori Bay. The CV on this property is \$770,000. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email [graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com).

[www.mikepero.com/RX1715709](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1715709)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602

[graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com)



**LIFESTYLE, BIG BARN - WAIMAUKU, HELENSVILLE FRINGE**

3 2 2

**Offers Over \$1,195,000**

**125 Alf Access Road, Helensville**  
Offers Over \$1,195,000

Brick and tile, elevated home with extensive views to the North. Refurbished and ready for you to move in. The home offers a very comfortable, entertainers open plan environment, large kitchen dining area, leading to second living area, with wrap around decking joining to large living area. Extensive decking leads out to the view. Three double bedrooms, including large master room with ensuite and walk in wardrobe, opening on to deck. Main bathroom includes shower and bath separate to toilet. Office / study or fourth single bedroom. This lifestyle property is 1.8 hectares with easy access for boat or motorhome, double garaging and additional access way to the barn and vegetable garden. Easy access, off a no-exit road, close to Waimauku and Helensville.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1662304](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1662304)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602

[graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com)





## HOBSONVILLE - AFFORDABLE FAMILY HOME

3 1 2

Offers Over \$869,000

**136 Hobsonville Road, Hobsonville**  
Offers Over \$869,000

With a six Homestar rating, this home has been beautifully finished by Jennian Homes, built in 2016 with a 10 year master builders guarantee. The open plan kitchen, dining and lounge area link seamlessly out to the north facing alfresco patio. Perfectly positioned with excellent indoor outdoor flow through a double stacker slider allowing you a private, sheltered spot to relax with friends and family. A clever floor plan downstairs allows for additional extra features including a small study, guest toilet, laundry and under stairs storage which are conveniently accessed off the main living area. Upstairs are three generous sized bedrooms including a gorgeous master with walk-in wardrobe and spacious ensuite. A single garage with storage and workshop space is accessed via a private laneway.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1610906](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1610906)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602  
graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com

**Cherry Kingsley-Smith**  
021 888 824  
09 412 9602  
cherry@mikepero.com



## TAUPAKI LIFESTYLE HOME NEAR KUMEU

5 6 3

Set Date of Sale

**296 Taupaki Road, Taupaki**  
Set Date of Sale - 4pm, Wednesday 12th December 2018 (unless sold prior).

Elevated living with a generous serving of land, stables and sheds. The home offers a total of five rooms, two lounges, three bathrooms, laundry area and open plan entertainer's kitchen, dining and lounge. The living areas and bedrooms open out to an exquisite garden, pool and lawn area that delivers options for glamping, marquees, or lazing away long summer evenings. The House offers options to close off areas so that it can be used for guests or family delivering great flexibility. Three double garages, two box stables and a tack room certainly delivers storage and amenities for a family wanting to have a horse or a pony, and with 1.5 hectares of land it provides just enough space for a ride or a graze. Mains gas, good water storage, heat pumps galore and options for extended family or storage income.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1730148](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1730148)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602

graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com



## TRANQUILITY, PEACE & QUIET - ENTERTAINER'S PARADISE

4 2 2

Offers Over \$1,385,000

**433 Wairere Road, Waitakere**  
Offers Over \$1,385,000

Nestled between Muriwai and Bethells and a short distance from Goldies Bush is this near new, finely presented, single level home. Not only is it an entertainers paradise it is set in a glade that offers a tranquility and peace that is seldom found. Open plan alfresco through the East and West delivers an aspect that takes you into the environment which you might think that you are in a resort or an exclusive spa. Offering four bedrooms, two bathrooms, laundry and double garage. The kitchen, dining and lounge is integrated with expansive sliders to open up the indoors to the outdoors. An easy care section, planted for pockets of colour and richness of grass and bush tones. The construction is big-brick and Decramastic tile, enhanced by shist features, planters and fish pond.

[www.mikepero.com/RX1713683](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1713683)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602

[graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com)



## NORTH FACING PREMIUM SECTION - TAUPAKI

Set Date of Sale

**Lot 2 Taupaki Road, Taupaki**

Set Date of Sale - 4pm, Wednesday 12th December 2018 (unless sold prior).

Well presented, elevated lifestyle section with boundary to a riparian strip. The land has an established access way off Taupaki Road. Gentle sloping with House site options that can make the most of the valley views and the sunshine. A short distance from Kumeu (city side) and North West Mall/ Westgate, the property is a short drive from the North Western Motorway. Set Date of Sale - 4pm, Wednesday 12th December 2018 (unless sold prior).

[www.mikepero.com/RX1732517](http://www.mikepero.com/RX1732517)



**Graham McIntyre**  
027 632 0421  
09 412 9602

[graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com](mailto:graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com)





## RISK SOLUTIONS PROVIDES GOOD ADVICE



The well-named Kumeu business Risk Solutions deals especially with the risks people face, offering services around insurance and ACC.

It's run by Tim Peat and Ashley Griffiths, along with their wives Sarah and Sherna respectively.

Both Tim and Ashley have lived in the area about 18 years and come from construction backgrounds, which means they have practical experience in the work they do.

Sarah and Sherna help with administration, and all are heavily involved in the local community.

Ashley and Tim are qualified with National Certificates in New Zealand financial services, and as risk advisors provide a range of services to local businesses and people.

"We make sure people have the right risk protection, such as life insurance, mortgage protection and medical insurance," Tim says.

"It's about protecting people financially in case they get sick or injured – that's our specialty."

Risk Solutions also ensures people have the right ACC cover and that it is as efficient as possible for them.

"Quite a few options are available," says Tim, Risk Solutions often providing reviews and suggestions on alternative products offered through ACC.

They work closely with local businesses, helping with insurance services – including insurance for shareholders and key people in businesses.

"Some businesses, especially those with five or more people, often want to provide a staff benefit like medical insurance, which we can help with," Tim says.

Tim enjoys getting out and about to meet clients, while Ashley tends to handle the company's operations, meeting clients when he can.

Both love the area and the local community.

Tim enjoys the outdoors, especially the area's forests and beach-

es, and has one child at Waimauku School.

Football and fishing are Ashley's passions, and he has two children, including one at Huapai District School.

They're available weekdays from 9am-5pm behind the BNZ bank at 1/82 Main Road, Kumeu, or email [tim@rsl.net.nz](mailto:tim@rsl.net.nz), [ash@rsl.net.nz](mailto:ash@rsl.net.nz) or text 027 5734 064.

## DC HAIR CAN "LIGHTEN AND BRIGHTEN" YOUR HAIR FOR SUMMER

Natural and beautiful styling is what customers want and get at DC Hair salon in Waimauku.

The DC stands for Darren and Claire Brydone, with Claire the owner of the five-year-old business at 5-19 Factory Road in the Waimauku shopping centre.

Growing up in Riverhead

and now living on a Muriwai Beach lifestyle property, Claire took up hair styling at the age of 15 and has worked in the industry more than 25 years.

To assist customers, DC Hair has three senior stylists, all with a minimum seven years' experience – along with Claire. Another senior stylist will join next year, such is the salon's growing demand.

Claire first worked in the Waimauku salon before buying the business and changing its name as it moved from a barbershop to a full-service salon.

Customers soon become friends at DC Hair. "They're the best clientele I've ever had – everyone's really lovely," Claire says.

That attitude is typical of the area, and the trend toward a more natural look in hair styles is also in keeping with the district's character and qualities.

Many customers are now "lightening up and brightening up for summer", Claire says, adding that colours used now tend to be more natural.

When time allows, Claire enjoys family activities with her husband and two school-age children, such as boating, fishing and trail riding.

Claire's also had a long-standing interest in horses.

With the pre-Christmas rush in full swing it pays to book your hair style at DC Hair as soon as possible.

DC Hair is open Tuesday to Saturday, 9am-5pm, Thursday night until 8pm, and occasional Mondays by appointment.

Contact Claire and the DC Hair team on 09 411 7909.



# HOME & GARDEN

## CARING FOR YOUR JAPANESE MAPLE

Awa Nursery has some stunning specimen size Acer Palmatum (Japanese maples) in stock.

Beautiful stunning reds and greens are such an eye catcher in the garden and these are no exception. The Japanese maples are very versatile and adaptable trees. They thrive in most soils and climatic conditions. Care and attention at planting time is key to a healthy maple. Japanese maples have a shallow fibrous root system. Be sure to apply a mulch around the tree to help retain moisture. Your planting site must be reasonably well-drained to avoid waterlogging. Your maple will thrive if they are planted in a location where they get sunlight during the day, a small amount of shade in the afternoon, and are sheltered from the wind. Sunlight enables the deep rich colours in the foliage. Major pruning should be done in the dormant season after all the leaves have fallen off. Corrective pruning can be done at any time of the year except between late winter and early spring when the tree is devoting all of its energy into the development of new foliage. Many Japanese maples are well suited to growing in containers. It is important the tree is planted in a mix that drains well to prevent waterlogging of the roots. Looking after a maple is surprisingly easy. Some care and attention at planting time will result in a low maintenance tree for years to come –



Japanese maples can live for up to 150 years. Come and visit us at Awa Nursery and see for yourself these beautiful specimen Japanese maples.

Awa Nursery phone 09 411 8712 or visit [www.awanursery.co.nz](http://www.awanursery.co.nz).

## NEW LOCAL ELECTRICIANS – WEST AUCKLAND WIDE

Dr Sparky Electrical are new to West Auckland. We can sort out all your electrical needs. No job is too big or too small. What do we specialise in? We do commercial installs and repairs, commercial food equipment installs and repairs, preventative maintenance, industrial installs, repairs and fault finding. For residential electrical work, if it's new power points, lighting or repairs, hot water cylinders, oven repairs, testing and tagging electrical equipment, or power tool repairs, we can do it all. We provide a prompt, efficient and friendly service with great rates. We are also available for emergencies 24/7. We go the extra mile with a smile, get the job sorted fast and are cost effective all at the same time. Call Todd today on 021 508 571 for queries, quotes and bookings or check us out at [www.drsparky.co.nz](http://www.drsparky.co.nz).



## WAIMAUKU GARDEN CLUB

Fernelea, Pinelee, Alafois, Twin Lakes.

Once again a wonderful day out but walking around these beautiful gardens, in the fresh air with the odd shower thrown in ... a good recipe for a 'nana nap' later!

Thank you Rain at Fernielea for having muffins, coffee and tea ready for us before we set off up the hill to visit Warren and Judith at Pinelee, a much loved garden on the ridge. You were free to walk around in it like it was your own. It had been a bare canvas once but now bursting with a variety of colours and shapes. Imagine looking out to the garden from inside the house. Years of hard work, love and a careful eye. Here we could buy plants to take home.

Alafois, just down the hill, next door is Terry and Marguretha's creative and magic place. From the letterbox to the beautiful lake at the bottom, once another piece of bare land where two people with a vision planted to the landscape, enhancing and making wonderful visual explosions of colour everywhere you looked. Terry did mention that they had worn mountain crampons when planting.

What satisfaction to see their plan as they had visualised it would be.

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A garden with sculptures and a spic and span, colourfully tiled potting shed also. A magnificent deer made of driftwood farewelled us as we said our goodbyes.

Our last garden is Twin Lakes. Once off the bus, Selena took us over the bridge and around the lake to the conservatory to have our picnic lunch. Here we could look over the five acres of lake and see the roots of the water cypress above the water and duck nesting boxes. The original owners had worked hard to fulfil their dream, planting the rose gardens, building the aviary, planting trees and shrubs around the lake to complete this park. We saw emu, ostrich, ducks, one white swan and four black.

The new owners now have the job of maintaining this park and making it their own.

December 18 Soljans for Christmas Lunch

February 21 Chelsea Sugar Works and Fernglen Garden

Contacts: Judy 027 272 9994 Diana 027 478 8928 Althea 021 123 6448 Jan 021 10 87925 Bette 021 145 1854.

## KUMEU GARDEN HUB

Its swan plant time! We are well stocked with several size of plants. We can even find a caterpillar if required! Our plants are spray free.

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lection of Christmas gifts and decorations. Lots of ideas for family, friends, teachers and workmates.

We also have a good range of Christmas Lily, orchid, poinsettia.



From live potted Christmas tree through to fake ivy garlands, house plants, cacti and succulents all great for decorating the Christmas table.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our lovely customers for supporting us through the year may you all have a safe and Happy Christmas. From all the team at the Garden Hub.

## LASER WHENUAPAI

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years of experience in providing quality roofing/plumbing services to West Auckland and beyond.

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The key to Laser's success over the years has been their excellent staff, and the current team is no exception. All staff are trained to the highest standard, with Laser Whenuapai director Solomon Barnes saying that every member is either qualified or studying towards a certificate in their chosen field.

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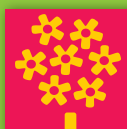
Every Saturday 10am - 2pm, until 15th December.

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Merry Christmas from the team at Palmers Westgate

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Open 7 days: 8.30am - 5.30pm. All offers valid till 10 December 2018 while stocks last.

Not only has the company been trading since 1985 - giving it a depth of experience to plumb from - but as part of its 'Totally Dependable Guarantee', the Laser teams stand by all their jobs by offering warranties and always using quality New Zealand made products. Choosing Laser means choosing a solid, reliable and experienced company that you can depend on.

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Open five days a week from 7am-4:30pm, Laser Plumbing & Roofing is located at Unit 4, 3 Northside Drive, Whenuapai. Visit their website [whenuapai.laserplumbing.co.nz](http://whenuapai.laserplumbing.co.nz) for more information.

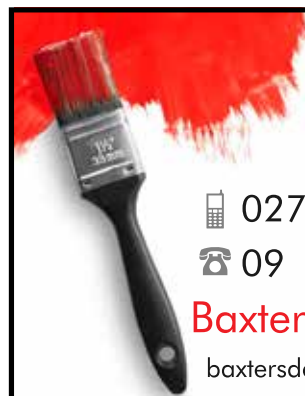
## ARE YOU PLANNING TO PUT NEW PLANTS INTO YOUR GARDEN?

Weedy plants are one of the greatest threats to New Zealand's parks, reserves, coasts, bush remnants, wetlands and alpine areas. Many of these weeds are ornamental plants that have 'jumped the fence' from gardens and gone wild. They compete with native species and suppress native seedlings. Their seeds are frequently spread by birds. They are often difficult to remove once established (have you ever tried digging out agapanthus?)



It costs councils, government departments and private landowners millions of dollars, and volunteers and community groups thousands of unpaid hours, to control these weeds every year - but they can't do it on their own.

Visit [weedbusters.org.nz](http://weedbusters.org.nz) for details of how you can play your part. You can download an excellent booklet "Plant me instead", which lists the environmental weeds of greatest concern in your region. Although the weed plants are often chosen because they are pretty, please try to avoid them. The booklet suggest alternative plants for you to consider. Please help to reduce the continued threat to our environment from these weed plants.



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# THE GREAT OUTDOORS



As November has progressed, the usual strong Spring winds have settled and we are now seeing longer periods of calm weather and warmer sea temperatures.

This has meant that west coast boat fishermen have been able to travel further offshore and target the snapper out there. Most of the good snapper action has been around the 50 metre mark, with most boats reporting catching their daily limits well before they are ready to come home. Pleasingly, the shark by-catch appears to have been minimal.

The harbour fishers have been getting their share too, with the channels filling up with good sized snapper. In the Kaipara, there have been good sized snapper in the main channel just down from Shelly Beach and the Manukau has snapper turning up off the Huia Bank.

There has been an increase in angler effort with regards to surf-casting and kontiki fishing in the last couple of weeks. Reports of anglers landing good numbers of snapper, especially from Muriwai, have been filtering through to the shop. Expect the quality of this fishing to keep improving as the snapper move closer to shore.

Inner harbour land-based and kayak anglers should start dusting off their gear as the school fish continue to push further up the harbour. The boss snuck out for an early morning fish late last week and reported good numbers of 35-40 cm snapper between the Harbour Bridge and Devonport. The wharves, particularly at Birkenhead and Hobsonville Point, are starting to turn up a few fish too. We hope we have a repeat of last year's fishing, when the upper harbour fished very well until late in the Summer. This is great for short post-work fishing missions during daylight saving.

Further afield on the east coast, the Omaha Bay, Takatu Point and Kawau North Channel areas have produced outstanding fishing, with the best action when the birds concentrate over

bait schools. The north end of the Tiri Channel gave up some larger specimens over the weekend too, with Ocean Angler Sliders and the new Hayabusa Kick Bottom slow jigs working well. Expect the worm beds area, west of a line from Tiri to The Noisies, to experience more concentrated activity in the coming weeks. All the standard techniques, such as soft baiting, sliders, stray lining and so forth will produce fish here.

Whilst encouraging all anglers to get 'out there doing it', and to take advantage of the fantastic fishing we have on our doorstep in Auckland, we'd also encourage everyone to consider taking only enough for a feed and leave fish for the future.

As always, feel free to give us a call at the shop for up-to-the-minute advice on what techniques are working and where the fish are biting.

Westgate Hunting & Fishing. For more information contact Westgate on 09 833 3019 or North Shore on 09 869 3331 or go to [www.huntingandfishing.co.nz](http://www.huntingandfishing.co.nz).

## MURIWAI TIDE CHART

Date	High	Low	High	Low	High
Sat 1 Dec	05:16	11:33	17:47	-	-
Sun 2 Dec	-	00:14	06:23	12:40	18:51
Mon 3 Dec	-	01:17	07:26	13:45	19:51
Tue 4 Dec	-	02:16	08:25	14:44	20:47
Wed 5 Dec	-	03:10	09:19	15:37	21:38
Thu 6 Dec	-	04:00	10:07	16:25	22:24
Fri 7 Dec	-	04:45	10:50	17:08	23:06
Sat 8 Dec	-	05:27	11:30	17:49	23:45
Sun 9 Dec	-	06:06	12:07	18:28	-
Mon 10 Dec	00:21	06:42	12:41	19:05	-
Tue 11 Dec	00:55	07:18	13:15	19:41	-
Wed 12 Dec	01:30	07:53	13:50	20:18	-
Thu 13 Dec	02:07	08:29	14:28	20:58	-
Fri 14 Dec	02:49	09:09	15:12	21:43	-
Sat 15 Dec	03:38	09:56	16:03	22:35	-
Sun 16 Dec	04:35	10:52	17:01	23:34	-
Mon 17 Dec	05:37	11:57	18:01	-	-
Tue 18 Dec	-	00:35	06:40	13:04	19:02
Wed 19 Dec	-	01:37	07:43	14:07	20:01
Thu 20 Dec	-	02:35	08:42	15:05	20:58
Fri 21 Dec	-	03:30	09:36	15:59	21:53
Sat 22 Dec	-	04:21	10:27	16:49	22:45
Sun 23 Dec	-	05:11	11:16	17:38	23:35
Mon 24 Dec	-	05:58	12:03	18:26	-
Tue 25 Dec	00:24	06:46	12:50	19:14	-
Wed 26 Dec	01:13	07:33	13:38	20:03	-
Thu 27 Dec	02:03	08:21	14:28	20:54	-
Fri 28 Dec	02:56	09:12	15:21	21:48	-
Sat 29 Dec	03:51	10:07	16:17	22:44	-
Sun 30 Dec	04:50	11:06	17:17	23:43	-
Mon 31 Dec	05:51	12:10	18:18	-	-

Source: LINZ. Daylight Saving: Please note that tide times have been corrected for daylight saving time.



# Central's Tips

## December 2018



The holidays are here and so is the summery festive feel! It's time to pretty up the outdoors and cover berries and grapes. Plant leeks and harvest early spuds - and have a fantastic, safe and relaxing holiday break!



### Christmas Spuds

Perfect for that Christmas dinner. If their foliage is starting to yellow they're ready to be harvested!

### In the Veggie Patch

- **Christmas spuds:** early potatoes will be ready when their foliage starts to yellow - perfect for Christmas dinner!
- **Plant out swan plants** ready for when monarch caterpillars are hatching and hungry! You may need to cover the plants once the eggs are in place to keep predatory wasps from eating newly hatched caterpillars.
- **Bird Netting** over the strawberries, raspberries and blueberries and grapes is the best way to preserve developing fruit.
- **Plant leeks** - the seedlings are best dropped into a hole the width of a pencil, or a long trench. Nature tends to fill in the soil as it drops around the leek after watering. At planting cut the green tip down by half.



### Plant out Swan plants for the Monarchs

Attract Monarch butterflies to your garden by planting their favourite food - Swan plants! Great for the kiddies to watch the transition from caterpillar to butterflies over the break.

### The rest of the Garden

- **Pretty up your pots for summer outdoors** - geraniums, impatiens and petunias make excellent displays and have fun teaming them up with some basil, parsley or thyme - nice aromas around outdoor eating areas.
- **Install a birdbath** and keep it topped up with water to help feathered visitors get through the summer heat
- **Going away?** Deep water, then mulch the top of your pots thickly moving them into shaded areas .

### Lawns

Best rule for summer mowing is to cut grass by one third of its length.



### Help your feathered friends

Install a bird bath to help the birds get through the heat of summer - another fun project to do with the kids - old pottery and bowls can make great DIY bird baths!





# we dig Christmas

We wish you a safe and happy holiday break. Come and see us for all your holiday landscape projects.



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# BUILD

## NEW

### G.J. GARDNER HOMES

The team at G.J. Gardner Homes are proud to announce a Christmas celebration and information evening to be held in their brand new premises at 1 Tapu Road Huapai. If you've thought of building but not sure where to start, come along to an exciting evening of design and inspiration. We believe that everyone should enjoy building their home. Armed with the right information and questions to ask you can build a home and enjoy it. Meet our fantastic team of industry experts from new home sales, architecture, mortgage advice to project managers all on hand to demystify the exciting process of building a brand new home. View our amazing designs showcasing affordable living to large Country and Estate Lifestyle series. Many of our designs can be incorporated to suit your personal wish list, maximise indoor / outdoor living and provide a real sense of home living. Don't have a piece of land? We have plenty of options from residential sections to lifestyle country blocks from across the area. We have a stunning range of Ready Living homes available for you to move in now giving you the best of both options. We have also set up a Christmas collection in our offices in support of Helensville Woman and Family Centre and invite our guests

to bring along a small gift to donate. Share in some Christmas goodies with the team and enjoy the evening with familiar or new faces. The team at G.J Gardner Homes Rodney West – your first for ideas and inspiration. We would love to see you there.

## SIGNATURE HOMES - YOUR HOME YOUR WAY

Signature Homes is a New Zealand owned company, building homes for kiwis for over 35 years. They have 12 franchises dotted around the



country from Whangarei to Queenstown. Their brand promise to customers is to build "Your Home Your Way", and pride themselves on working closely with clients through every step of the building process. From designing the home, assisting with finance, interior design, all consents, and every client is assigned a project manager to coordinate the build of their home. As no two builds or communities are the same each client is treated dependent upon their needs, wants and budgets. Signature aims to provide quality service, all their clients are presented with fixed completion times and pricing. Nothing should be a surprise building 'The Signature Way'. And this is especially true for Signature Homes West Auckland and Rodney. Owned and operated by Dean and Amanda Pritchard they have experience building in the region, and the various sites, conditions and challenges it presents. The Signature Homes design and build process provides Dean with the opportunity to use extensive trade knowledge gained from years of building to create quality homes for any budget, whether that investment be large or modest. Providing innovative new home solutions for such a wide market is something Dean both enjoys and believes

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in strongly. He feels that regardless of the budget, new home buyers should receive the same attention to detail and quality service, from the time they make contact with Signature right through to the maintenance performed on the home after it has been handed over to the client. Dean's wife and business partner is Sales & Marketing Manager Amanda Pritchard. Amanda has two Bachelor degrees, in the fields of Social Science and Health Science, and has held roles in occupational therapy at Auckland and the Starship Children's Hospital. Amanda is passionate about new homes, and in particular has a love for Interior Design – an interest she shares strongly with Dean. Dean & Amanda are also parents to six children, so they certainly understand how important the right home environment can be for families! Dean and Amanda, and their team understand building a home whether it be a first, second or investment opportunity can be a stressful time. They work closely with their clients to create a transparent relationship supporting them through the build process, enabling a smooth journey. Issues and challenges can arise, the security is in knowing that the Signature Homes team will sort it. Signature Homes West Auckland are located in Kumeu and they can assist with all your new build needs. Whether it be designing and building a new home from scratch, providing a house and land package in a building development or building from one of Signature's extensive plans. Also something that is becoming very popular in Auckland, particularly under the Auckland Unitary Plan, is knocking down an existing building and replacing it with one or more new homes on the same section. All this service and choice is backed by the best building guarantees in the country, which protect Signature clients during the build, every home is guaranteed to be completed once the building contract is signed, right through to structural and weather tightness guarantees after the keys have been handed over. So if you are looking to build out West

make sure you talk to Dean and Amanda and the team at Signature West Auckland, they have all your building needs covered.

## THE PUKEKO'S FOOT

There's a very special reason for the unique nickname this house has been christened with. When you gaze upwards in the living room corner of this stylish, split-level weatherboard home, you'll see exposed rafters at an unusual cross-section of angles that can't help but remind you of a pukeko's foot. And we believe it was this complex, never-been-done-before structural roof connection that helped earn it a gold award at the 2018 Master Builder awards in the Nulook New Home \$700,000 - \$1,000,000 category. The elevated views and split level floor plan created an interesting challenge that required a unique roof engineering solution and a lot of planning with engineers, architect Alistair Watt and ourselves to pull it off. In fact, the distinctive way in which this roof came together is so unusual, the technique has never been done before in the history of the building industry. And while it was certainly a challenge, we rose to the occasion as our ethos is crafting quality homes that are specifically designed to suit our clients land as well as their family's lifestyle. That's why you won't ever see a carbon copy of a Maddren home as your neighbour. It's immensely satisfying to overcome a challenge such as this and the proof really is in the pudding with the gold award and happy owners who were wrapped with getting the home of their dreams.



## We build homes as unique as you



Signature Homes can help you design and build a home that is perfectly suited to your family and lifestyle. You can bring your own plans to us, or engage our experienced architects and interior designers to take your dream home off the back of an envelope or Pinterest page, and make it a reality.

If you are thinking about building, whatever stage you are at in your journey, we can help.

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# FOOD & BEVERAGE

## MORE VEGAN OPTIONS UNVEILED AT THE COFFEE CLUB TO KEEP UP WITH DEMAND

An increased demand for vegan dishes has led one of New Zealand's largest and fastest growing café brands to expand its menu – only months after introducing its first vegan dishes.

The Coffee Club New Zealand is introducing five new items as it releases its first

vegan menu. The new menu is available now and includes: Vegan Rosti Stack: Homemade potato rosti, baby spinach, smashed avocado & peas, balsamic mushrooms.

Loaded Veggie Ciabatta: Toasted ciabatta with balsamic mushrooms, caramelised onion, roasted red capsicum, baby spinach, aioli & cheese. Served with chips.

Mediterranean Pizza: Tortilla base, Napoli sauce, roasted red capsicum, bruschetta mix, mushrooms, cheese, baby spinach.

"We had a lot of positive feedback when we introduced vegan options to the menu earlier this year," says Andy Lucas, Co-Director & Marketing Manager. "A number of people are looking to improve their diet and eat more plant based foods, and as a result we have introduced this new vegan menu."

"There was a lot of input from our vegan customers on the dishes, we now have more items on our menu that appeal to a wider



range of tastes," adds Andy. "Vegan and vegetarian options are continually growing in popularity, people are more conscious of what they eat – regardless of whether they identify as a vegan or vegetarian."

The new dishes will accompany the existing Chia Seed Pot with coconut & almond, Hummus & Smashed Pea Open Sourdough and Crispy Tofu salad.

The Coffee Club stores can be found throughout both the North and South Islands. For more information visit [thecoffeeclub.co.nz](http://thecoffeeclub.co.nz).

## FAVOURITE BOILED FRUIT CAKE

1kg Fruit Mix  
250g Butter  
1 cup brown sugar  
½ cup brandy  
½ cup water  
5 eggs, lightly beaten  
1 tbsp Treacle  
1 tsp mixed spice  
1 ¾ cup plain flour  
1/3 cup self-raising flour  
½ tsp baking soda



Combine fruit, butter, sugar, brandy and water in a saucepan and heat until sugar dissolved. Simmer for approx. 10 mins. Transfer to a large bowl and cool to room temperature.

Spray with baking spray and line with two layers of baking paper a 23 cm round or 19cm square tin – bring the paper above the edge of the tin.

Add beaten eggs and treacle to fruit mixture and stir. Stir in sifted dry ingredients and then spread into prepared cake tin.

Bake in slow oven (approx. 160 degrees) for approx. 2 hours. Each oven temperature is different so check if baked with skewer after 1 hr 45 mins. Keeps for 3 months and also freezes well.

Recipes supplied by Wedding and Birthday cake specialists Paula Jane Cakes. Contact Paula on 021 208 8604 or Jane on 021 273 6139, email [info@paulajaneakes.co.nz](mailto:info@paulajaneakes.co.nz) or visit [www.paulajaneakes.co.nz](http://www.paulajaneakes.co.nz).

## THE HUNTING LODGE

Grape vs. Grain - The Hunting Lodge opens Lawn Bar in collaboration with Liberty Brewing.

It all started from a friendly West-Auckland rivalry between The Hunting Lodge chief winemaker Pete Turner and Liberty Brew Co. found-





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er Joe Wood. This rivalry turned into adoration, and together they've joined forces to showcase the best craft beer and wine to be found. "The secret to a great Hunting Lodge wine is a Liberty pilsner after a hard day's work in the winery" quips Pete. From November 12th, this unspoilt gem boasts a new casual dining experience with 10 Liberty craft beers on tap and a relaxed menu by the phenomenal Des Harris. The lawn area is an expansive oasis complete with children's play area. Come evening it's alit with festoon lighting, where Vitrine tables creak under wooden tasting boards piled high from Grape vs Grain tastings. A perfect meeting place for all. [www.thehuntinglodge.com](http://www.thehuntinglodge.com). 09 964 0565.

## ISOCREAM FOR BREAKFAST?

Ice cream may not be what you would normally think of eating for breakfast, but IsoCream is no ordinary ice cream. With under 85 calories and an impressive 8g of protein per 120ml serving, this 99% sugar free, reduced fat ice cream has set-me-up-for-the-day written all over it. And with 7 gluten-free flavours to choose from, including salted caramel, peanut butter cookies and cream, and chocolate, there's one to suit everyone. Proudly made in New Zealand from 100% quality whey protein, you'll find IsoCream at over 150 stockists around the country - if you're travelling over summer and need to know where to find it, type in your location in the store locator at [www.isocream.co.nz](http://www.isocream.co.nz) and the information will be at your fingertips. And if ice cream for breakfast isn't your thing, you might just like IsoCream for dessert, for a nutritious snack, at the beach, before or after exercising...



## STRAWBERRY SPINACH SALAD

A simple, super tasty Strawberry Spinach Salad made with iron rich spinach, juicy strawberries, creamy avocado & crunchy nuts, then finished off with a fresh, oil-free, strawberry vinaigrette. 4 servings. First make the vinaigrette: 1 heaped cup / 140g strawberries, 60 ml balsamic vinegar, 1 clove garlic, 60 ml unsweetened apple sauce, 120 ml water, 1 tablespoon of maple syrup or sugar, 1/4 teaspoon salt, 1/8 teaspoon black pepper. Wash and hull the strawberries then add to a blender with all of the other ingredi-



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[swimschool@parakaisprings.co.nz](mailto:swimschool@parakaisprings.co.nz)

ents. Blend until smooth. Add more water if you prefer a thinner dressing and adjust the seasoning to taste. Pour into a sealed container and keep refrigerated. Will keep for up to 7 days in the fridge. For the salad you need 60g / 1/2 cup walnut or pecan pieces (or pumpkin seeds for nut-free), 230 g baby spinach leaves, 450 g fresh strawberries and 1 ripe avocado. Toast the nuts in a small pan for about 3 minutes and allow to cool. Add spinach leaves to a large bowl. Wash and hull the strawberries and halve or quarter them, and add to the spinach. Remove the skin and pit of the avocado and cut into chunky pieces, then add to the bowl. Scatter over the nuts, drizzle with the vinaigrette and serve immediately. Melanie McDonald. Follow my blog at [avirtualvegan.com](http://avirtualvegan.com).

## ARTISAN PRODUCER TRIUMPHS AT 2018 NZ FOOD AWARDS

NoShortcuts is celebrating more than Christmas, having recently taken out a 2018 NZ Food Award, in the face of some very stiff competition.



These annual awards, which have been running since 1987, showcase the best New Zealand has to offer in the food and beverage industry and celebrate creative innovations from artisan producers through to large-scale manufacturers. More than 220 products were entered this year, with 67 products from 54 companies being named finalists in 11 award categories.

One of these, The Countdown Supermarkets Grocery Food Award, was presented to NoShortcuts Ltd., for their innovative new product Feijoa Kasundi; an Indian style chutney that is spicy, tangy and healthy.

Like all NoShortcuts gourmet chutney, the Kasundi contains no added artificial flavours, colours or preservatives and is hand-made – just like mum made.

During December, purchase one or more product online at [www.noshortcuts.co.nz](http://www.noshortcuts.co.nz) and pay just \$3.00 for delivery Auckland wide.

**Tiling Wright**

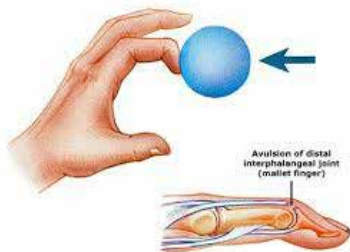
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# HEALTH AND BEAUTY

## HELP I CAN'T STRAIGHTEN MY FINGERTIP!

Mallet finger injuries occur when the tendon that normally straightens your finger is disrupted by sudden forced bending of your fingertip e.g. catching your fingertip on a ball, or other object. Sometimes a bone fragment may be pulled away with the tendon.



The fingertip sits in a bent position and cannot be actively straightened.

- Mallet injuries can be effectively treated conservatively with few needing surgical management
- Treatment involves splinting the fingertip in a straightened position for 6-8 weeks to allow the tendon to heal
- Rehabilitation exercises and activities after the period of immobilisation helps to enable normal use

Hand Institute Kumeu 09 412 8558.

## CHRISTMAS SPECIAL AT FOR EYES OPTOMETRISTS

Have an eye examination in December or January, mention Kumeu Courier, and we'll give you a gift voucher for the equivalent eye examination for a loved one!\*



We have specialised brand new, modern equipment to thoroughly examine your eyes from cornea to choroid, and we know everything your eyes need to keep them comfy and healthy.

Plan ahead and book your appointments for December or the New Year - just call us on 412 8172. And why not think about prescription sunglasses this summer? Stylish protection from UV is always in vogue. We have Nike, Adidas, and the ever-popular Maui Jim.

### Take Your Eyes to For Eyes!

- Advanced scanning equipment for early detection of cataract, glaucoma and macular degeneration
- Specialty assessment of child and adult reading difficulties
- Specific-tint lenses for Irlen Syndrome
- Lenses to correct red-green colour-blindness



Phone: 09 412 8172  
email: foreyes@foreyes.nz  
website: www.foreyes.net.nz

Matthew and Molly Whittington, optometrists in the Kumeu Village since 1993  
Open 9-5 weekdays, Kumeu Village, 90 SH16 Kumeu

We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
Our Holiday Hours: We'll be closed for Christmas holidays from 22 December to 6th January inclusive.

\*There is no expiry on your gift voucher. The recipient can book to suit him/her-self.

## WANT TO PERFORM BETTER OVER CHRISTMAS?

We have talked about how you are in charge of your chiropractic care, and how long you choose to benefit from care is about how much you want to get out of it. For some people, moving outside the pain-zone is all they want. For others, it is about getting the absolute most out of life.

We experience our lives through our nervous system. Your spine protects this delicate and powerful system. This is why it is so important to make sure your spine is functioning at its best. It allows the brain and nervous system to properly communicate with your body, which enhances your overall health and wellbeing.

So, if you are curious as to how well you could be functioning, or if you already know that you have got more to give, phone us now for an appointment.

It is also time for our annual Food Drive. We are collecting any non-perishable goods for families in need over the Christmas period. This will be distributed by a local organisation to the families of the Nor-West that need it most. As always, Kumeu Chiropractic will match all donations in the hope that it will make a difference in our community over the holidays.

Please feel free to drop any donations to our office during our working hours. Thank you in advance ... and Merry Christmas. See you next year.

Kumeu Chiropractic. 8 Shamrock Drive, Kumeu. Phone 09 412 5536.



## SHOE TALK'S TIPS ON HOW TO FIT SHOES

- Try both shoes on, you really want to have the footwear on both feet as it will feel different and sit differently on each foot. Also have you ever tried on a high heel when you had a sneaker on the other foot and then done the "bob-hop" around the shop?



- Buy the shoes that fit your

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8 Shamrock Drive, Kumeu



larger foot. You can always make a shoe fit better with heel grips and insoles.

- I love high heels but ladies if you are going to be walking a long distance, wear a pair of flats or sneakers and change over at your destination.
- There needs to be room for your toes, they should not feel cramped and in sports shoes you should be able to wiggle them up and down and side to side.
- Try to select footwear that is shaped like your foot, if you have bunions, select footwear that has a nice supple or soft leather upper, so that it will stretch over this area.
- Your heel should fit comfortably in the shoe with a minimum amount of slipping - the shoes should not ride up and down excessively on your heel when you walk.
- Buy shoes with padded insoles and good out soles. These take the impact away from your joints.
- Your foot bed should not be wider than the shoe, there should be no spill out, spill over, or ballet flats that do not cover the tops of your feet at all.

If you are selecting footwear and the ones you "love" don't fit correctly and the ones you "like" do, buy the ones you "like" your feet will "love" you forever!

## HOW TO STOP OUR BODIES BREAKING DOWN AS WE AGE

In NZ (and most countries) we tend to invest in our 'health' at the wrong end of our lives. We spend a third of our health spending in the last 3 months of our lives and on average spend 13 years with some sort of disability as we get old. So what is the answer for this?



I think it comes down to doing four main things: Being fit, eating better, sleeping better and thinking better. Making small changes now can make massive differences as you age. I would start with upping your activity and trying to move more things more often.

To get some more tips on how to protect your body as you age check out our latest blog post on this topic. Your body will thank you for it.

www.elevatechiropractic.co.nz Shop 1, 10 Greenhithe Road. Phone 09 413 5312.

## WESTGATE MEDICAL CENTRE

Christmas and summer holidays are coming and we are prepar-

www.studiosixteenpilates.com 027 216 1653 steph@studio16pilates.co.nz

ing ourselves for the usual burns, bugs and breaks. Sunburn is a biggie here in NZ, and sunscreen, shirts, hats and sunglasses go a long way towards preventing the preventable, as well as staying in the shade during the hottest parts of the day. Remaining hydrated is also important – water is the best for day to day activities. Dehydration can strike very quickly and can be associated heat stroke which is serious and needs medical attention. Mossie repellent will protect from bites, and with the warmer weather there is also an increase in flea bites so treat your pets to protect your whole family. For those who are lucky enough to be receiving a new bike, board or boat for Christmas please remember the safety gear that goes with them. Don't forget that we are open 8am – 8pm 7 days. We will be closed only on Christmas Day and White Cross on Lincoln Road will be covering for us.

Westgate Medical Centre, phone 09 833 3134 or visit www.wgmc.co.nz.

## A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM WESTGATE OPTOMETRISTS

For the team at Westgate Optometrists Christmas means a kiwi summer - spending time with loved ones, jandal tan lines, baches in the boondocks and eating ourselves silly. There are three key things you can do to protect your eyes and that of your family's this summer:



Westgate Optometrists

- 1) Wear a hat - a broad-brimmed hat can reduce the amount of UV radiation reaching the eyes by around 50%.
- 2) Wear UV protective sunglasses - The level of protection against UV radiation will depend on the type of lens. Be sure to ask for polarised lenses.
- 3) Apply sunscreen regularly when outdoors to protect the sensitive skin surrounding your eyes. Every year we embrace

- Fully Equipped Gym
- Designated Cardio Area
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- Smart Training
- Personal Training
- Indoor Netball Leagues 4 Nights a Week
- Pita Pit Onsite



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Christmas by thanking our loyal clientele, for the entire month of December all those who purchase a complete pair of glasses will receive a gift from beneath our Christmas tree. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and may your coming year be filled with high spirits and haleness.

Phone: 09 831 0202, website: [www.westopt.nz](http://www.westopt.nz) or Facebook: [www.facebook.com/westgateoptometrists](http://www.facebook.com/westgateoptometrists).

## FEELING TIRED? NOT SLEEPING WELL? LOOKING FOR SOME EXTRA ENERGY OR MOTIVATION?

At Snap Fitness Westgate, we understand how hard life can get sometimes and how the stress of our busy days can get the better of us. Here at Snap Fitness, we genuinely care about your goals and want to help you be the best version of yourself. We have



supervised training, free group classes, experienced personal trainers and a friendly community within the gym all on offer. Turn our motivating, safe place into your new little get away! With the benefit of 24 hour access included, there's no stopping you. Take back some time for yourself and find that energy and happiness you have been looking for. Mention this article and we will have a surprise waiting for you. 19 Fernhill Drive, Westgate. 027 576 2710. [westgate@snapfitness.com](mailto:westgate@snapfitness.com) [www.snapfitness247.co.nz](http://www.snapfitness247.co.nz).

## HOBSONVILLE OPTOMETRISTS GLASSES AND GIFTS

Thank you so very much for embracing our gorgeous gift shop inside Hobsonville Optometrists. Thank you for supporting your local NZ-owned family optometrist. We wish you all a safe and extremely merry Christmas. We will continue to offer unique and amazing gifts in 2019! We look forward to providing you with continued excellent care throughout 2019. We will re-open on Monday 7 January. Hobsonville Optometrists, Unit A, 413 Hobsonville Road, phone 09 416 3937. Melissa, Frank and Renate.



## SPICE IT UP.... SWAP SIDES OF THE BED!

How crazy does this sound? The funny thing is every week I ask my clients if they always sleep on the same side of the bed

and most of the time the answer is YES! We are such creatures of habits, yet if we were not, and occasionally swapped sides of the bed, it would give our bodies a break from the potential likelihood that you may have Geopathic Stress (GS) where you sleep. If you do swap sides and feel it does feel better (or worse) than where you were sleeping then this will be a good sign that maybe you do have GS in your home. Get it tested to know exactly where, as it is in EVERY house, home, office, building somewhere. Don't make your health pot-luck or you could SPICE IT UP! Call Nicky on 021 545 299 or check out the [www.clearenergymhomes.com](http://www.clearenergymhomes.com) or get my book 'What if it was that EASY?'

## NORTHWEST PHYSIO+

At NorthWest Physio+ we are excited to be getting ready a new round of NEXT STEPS classes commencing beginning of February 2019. This is a group exercise programme for men and women who have finished their main cancer treatment and want to take the next steps on their road to recovery.



The programme combines the best Pilates, yoga and cardiovascular exercises for a workout that is specifically designed to help rebuild strength, flexibility and stamina.

The classes run for one hour per week for ten weeks and is fully funded. It is suitable at any stage after any type of cancer surgery or treatment and accommodates all ages, fitness levels and mobility.

The programme is delivered by Laura, our certified PINC & STEEL Cancer Rehab Physiotherapist at 4B Shamrock Drive, Kumeu. Weekly take-home resources and exercise handouts are included.

For more information and to register for the NEXT STEPS programme follow [www.pincandsteel.com/programs/next-steps/](http://www.pincandsteel.com/programs/next-steps/) or to talk with Laura our physiotherapist email: [laura@nwphysioplus.co.nz](mailto:laura@nwphysioplus.co.nz).

## \$10 OFF YOUR FIRST MASSAGE WITH TOP NOTCH

At Top Notch Massage Therapy, we understand the stress that is placed on the modern life; whether that is from a hard training session, the



pressure of work and a busy lifestyle, or the impact that pregnancy has on the body. Our professionally trained therapists are ready to work with you towards better health, ensuring you get more out of life. So if you want to get better results in the sporting arena, re-balance yourself or make that pregnan-

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Frank G Snell B.Sc., B. Optom  
Optometrist

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## FREE INFORMATION EVENING AT KUMEU DENTAL

We are very passionate about what we do and love supporting our local community with information on the latest techniques and procedures available in modern dentistry today.

Dental discolouration has been an aesthetic concern stretching far back in time. The ancient Romans had a "secret recipe" for dental whitening involving rubbing their teeth with "natural compounds made up of urea" and brushing their teeth using "baking soda".


Nowadays, professional whitening has come a long way to achieve an instant white, bright smile. There is no surprise it has become the most popular cosmetic dental procedure.

There are two ways to whiten your teeth: Take-Home Whitening and In-Practice Whitening. Why not come and see us for our next free Information Evening which is on Monday 10th of December@ 6pm where you will find out everything you need to know about teeth whitening. Questions like: Is the procedure safe? Is it painless? How long do the results last? Do we guarantee the results? How much does it normally cost? What is our December "White Christmas" special? And all your other questions will be answered on the day. To register - please ring us on 09 41 29507 or visit our website [www.kumeudental.co.nz](http://www.kumeudental.co.nz).



## INGROWN TOENAILS

Ingrown toenails are one of the most common complaints we see at Hobsonville Podiatry. There are many reasons why an ingrown toenail may develop - wide nail plate, narrow shoes, involuted (curving nail), trauma, weak nails, very sweaty skin, and very dry skin. We are experienced in managing all sorts of ingrown toenails and a lot of the time we can manage the issues conservatively, meaning no need for surgery. Conservative measures involve correct cutting of the nail, removal of dead dry skin around the nail (non painful), teaching you how to prevent the nails from ingrowing and addressing any underlying issues that may be causing the nail to ingrow. Surgery is required if conservative measures are no longer working, or if there is a lot of swollen tissue around the nail. Over the years we



**Gillian Wiltshire D.O.**  
 Registered Osteopath  
 ACC Accredited  
 36 Sunny Crescent  
 Kumeu  
 Auckland 0810  
 Ph/Fax (09) 412 5977  
 0212330413  
[gill.wiltshire@gmail.com](mailto:gill.wiltshire@gmail.com)

have done many ingrown toenail surgeries and a lot of the time the feedback we get is "oh gosh, that wasn't nearly as bad as I thought it was going to be". If you have been putting off having your ingrown nails seen to for fear of the surgery, perhaps it is worthwhile coming to see us and see what your options are! Hobsonville Podiatry, Level 1 124 Hobsonville Road, Hobsonville 09 390 4184.

## TEXTING AND CHIROPRACTIC

The need for chiropractic care at Hobsonville Chiropractic has significantly increased with advances in technology, and the reality that the public is constantly "connected". Over the years we have noticed more young people coming to our office complaints of neck pain, headaches, shoulder pain, or numbness and tingling in the arms. This being due to constant looking down during school and while texting. Most reported texting was the primary mode of communication. Young people from ages 8-18 years of age can spend in excess of 7 hours a day using some form of mobile media. As a result, the curvature of the neck begins to reverse, creating degenerative changes to occur much too early. This can cause improper posture while flattening or reversal of the normal neck curve, resulting in disc compression, damage and early degeneration. So what can you do? Spend less time on your mobile devices and when possible don't look down to use them, hold them at eye level. Make sure you are stretching the neck and the chest to offset the tightness that is occurring from poor posture. Exercise at least 30 minutes a day, this will increase flexibility and strength. Getting regular Chiropractic adjustments also helps by reducing the strain on the spine. Contact us today at Hobsonville Chiropractic if you would like to get you neck & spine sorted. [www.hobbycc.co.nz](http://www.hobbycc.co.nz), email: [info@hobbycc.co.nz](mailto:info@hobbycc.co.nz). Phone 09 416 7589.



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# AREA COLUMNISTS

## THE TRAVEL BROKERS EXCLUSIVE DEAL

Avalon Magnificent Europe: Amsterdam to Budapest River Cruise departing on 2 August 2019 – in a Panorama A Suite 15-day Avalon "Magnificent Europe" river cruise, Westbound from Amsterdam to Budapest NZD\$11,995.00 per person x 2 based on double/twin-share includes all gratuities and port charges. (Normally NZD\$12,740 per person)

Your Exclusive Savings:

- A saving of NZD \$ 745 per person from regular brochure/on-line prices
- PLUS you will receive a NZD \$2500 per person air credit to use on ANY Airline in ANY class upon full payment (which effectively brings the cruise cost down to \$ 9495 per person)
- PLUS a gift from me of a Worldwide Travel Adaptor power plug with USB ports
- PLUS 2 complimentary drink vouchers per person to have outside of meal times on Avalon
- Includes 15 days cruising, with all port taxes & gratuities prepaid
- In a Panoramic A Suite with a wall to wall and ceiling to floor panoramic window measuring 11 feet (3.4m) which is 50% larger than industry standard, these expansive suites open allowing the outside to come in providing superb views from your open air spacious sitting area with enhanced soundproofing and Avalon's exclusive Comfort Collection Beds for a great night's sleep
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## IMPROVE YOUR BUSINESS' PROFITABILITY

With the cost of raw materials, petrol and minimum wage rates constantly rising and eroding profit, it is more important than ever before for business owners to monitor and review expenses. We suggest reviewing your expenses every 6-12 months. Go line-by-line and ask yourself: is it necessary? Does it enhance profits? Common areas where savings can be made include telecommunications plans, subscriptions, software licenses, insurance policies and supplier contracts. Reduce your use of paper as much as possible by emailing invoices and statements, using digital signatures and storing soft copies of necessary documents instead of hard copies. Not only will this save you on stationery and postage costs, it is also great for the environment. Also, talk to your staff and brainstorm ways to identify wastage and reduce costs in your business.

To find out more about how to improve the profitability of your business, contact your local specialist Mark Foster and the



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friendly UHY Haines Norton team at 329A Main Road, Kumeu, on 09 412 9853 or email [kumeu@uhyhn.co.nz](mailto:kumeu@uhyhn.co.nz).

## THE ROLE OF A TEACHER

Country Bears' philosophy emphasises play as crucial to all aspects of learning for children. It is the teacher's role to see through the eyes of a child. For example, when a child approaches a teacher with a worm or spider in their little hands, it might be the very first one that they have found all by themselves. You can just imagine how proud and excited this child could be, so it's important for us teachers to respond in such a way that honours their experience. Teachers can be great actors for the sake of the child, even though teachers may be squeamish inside when a child walks up to us with a cockroach or spider, we can pretend that it's the most amazing thing we have seen! Do you remember what it was like to play as a child when you were younger? It's like what it was for some of us, growing up in the 80's, when we could go out and play all day, and we had to come home when the street lights came on. There were no adults to supervise us or to help us negotiate conflict, we somehow managed to just resolve and get through it. We need to place trust with the children, as when the children 'feel' that they are not being watched or listened to, the children just seem to explode with wonderful and amazing play and conversations that just melt the hearts of us teachers. We understand that in an Early Childhood setting, supervision is very important for safety, but we can still give the children the perception that no adults are around, giving them the sense of



freedom. Even by placing our back to children, or just sitting behind the fort or fence, they think we are unable to hear or see them, so their play can change. It is in these experiences that teachers can really appreciate the uniqueness of each child. A beautiful quote from a four-year-old boy when asked what play is, he replied: "Play is when adults stop telling me what to do". Again, it is up to the experience of a teacher to know when to watch with wonder as to how the play might unfold or to know when to intervene. It has been said that when a child is interrupted with their play, it takes about 20 minutes for them to regain that level of focus and concentration. If you would like to visit our wonderful Centre, designed to provide the children space and time to develop at their own individual time, give us a call on 09 412 8055 to arrange a suitable time. In the meantime, check out our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/cbearsecc](http://www.facebook.com/cbearsecc)  
Country Bears Early Childhood Centre, 79 Oraha Road, Kumeu.

## EMPATHY - IT'S A GAME CHANGER

Here's an approach that will support you in your work communication, relationships, parenting and your personal well-being. Feeling inner calm amidst arguments with colleagues to kids, will bring you peace and happiness, and improve your quality of life. Seriously. But it's not that easy is it? This process requires us to have a high level of self-awareness. Start with the small things that you are not triggered by, so you can practise.



Connection, expression and to be heard are our basic relation-



Remember adventuring everyday in a diverse natural environment, immersed in nature; playing confidently amongst the trees, paddocks, vege gardens & treehuts?  
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[www.countrybears.co.nz](http://www.countrybears.co.nz)  
[www.facebook.com/cbearsecc](http://www.facebook.com/cbearsecc)






Perfectly located on the best detour route during SH16 peak hours! Nestled amongst the trees at 79 Oraha Road, Kumeu

# Emergency Meeting

*Kumeu Huapai Residents Ratepayers Association*

**10 December 2018  
6pm at Soljans Estate Winery  
336 SH16 Kumeu**

The Kumeu Huapai Residents Ratepayers Association is the only impartial, independent community watch group to ensure Community interests and concerns are heard. The association has in past been a strong voice that lobbied both Central and Local Government for logical planned growth in the overall Kumeu District.

Pete Sinton the current Association Chair is moving from the area in early 2019, Pete has offered to remain involved with the association in a planning role on the proviso that the association has a new chairperson and a mandate to continue from the community.

Of grave concern is the Associations number of financial members, without a significant increase in membership the immediate future of the association is in serious jeopardy. In short, the reality is the Associations future is not looking good.

The annual cost of membership currently is \$100.00 for a business membership and \$40.00 for a family membership. There is a provision for individual membership at \$25.00. This is the only guaranteed funding the Association receives.

Loose the Kumeu Huapai Residents Ratepayers Association at the peril of your community, we are at a time now more than ever needing a strong community voice, that is evident at any time you drive your motor vehicle.

## **What Can You Do?**

Email [admin@cwbr.co.nz](mailto:admin@cwbr.co.nz) your intention to attend the survival meeting

**OR**

Email your apology but with an intention of becoming a financial member in 2019

Craig Walker

Concerned Community Member

(With the authority of the Kumeu Huapai Residents Ratepayers Association Chairperson)

Please pass this message on  
Kumeu Needs You!

**Craig Walker  
Building Removals  
Limited**



al needs. Societal and cultural messages may have us trying to suppress another's emotional expression, rather than listening to them and accepting their experience. It's not a power struggle but we are often surviving in deficit and feeling defensive. When emotionally triggered our alarm system may send us into fight, fright or freeze mode. Try these steps - it takes practice:

1. Pay attention. Stop what you are doing (even the story going on in your head). Establish connection when someone comes to you, or expresses need through words, actions or behaviour. This one is a challenge when you are busy. Let's be honest - when are you NOT busy. Connection is the remedy for healing so many problems in life. Let's start now.

2. Empathise with the other's experience, feelings and perspective. Repeat back their feeling words, or offer some words appropriate to their development. Use a soft, caring tone.

3. Listen. Say less. Words are much less important than caring connection. Information and teaching cannot be processed while emotions are elevated. It's not about the facts as we see it - it's an emotional process, not a cognitive one.

4. Validate their experience. Avoid judgement of behaviour or perspective. It is usually 'The last straw that broke the camel's back'. We don't need to talk about the straw! We need an opportunity to release a backlog of frustrations. Be present and patient without solving the problem or rescuing them from their dilemma. E.g. "Oh, it's frustrating for you when that happens, mmm?" Authentically showing care helps us to pay attention, rather than offering to fix it, judgement or critical feedback.

5. Boundaries are important and can be delivered calmly, using an empathic tone of voice, e.g. "You seem really mad about that. I have to do this job right now and then I'll have 10 minutes free to give my full attention. I can come and see you then." We often deliver boundaries with aggression. It takes practice to change this and state boundaries with care. This models assertive com-

munication - such a great skill for life.

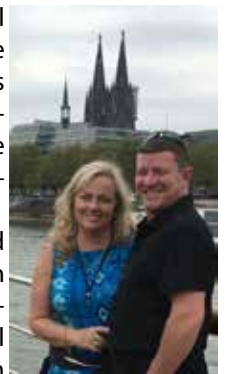
6. And before you do anything new, pay attention to your capacity. Take your self-care seriously. Schedule your well-being activities and monitor their effectiveness. By the way, this process supports children and adults too. Imagine your partner doing steps 1-6!

Andrea Graham has three decades of professional experience in health, education and the disability sectors and is in the final stage of psychotherapy training. She has a private practice in Albany. If you need support to change things in your family dynamic, to find happiness and calm for yourself or your children, contact Andrea for an appointment today 027 5412 518 [andrea@andregraham.co.nz](mailto:andrea@andregraham.co.nz) or visit [www.andregraham.co.nz](http://www.andregraham.co.nz).

## HELLOWORLD

This year I was lucky enough to take a small group away on an 8 day Avalon River Cruise from Amsterdam to Basel. September was a perfect month to be doing this as the European school holidays were over and the weather was more stable. A constant 27 - 30 degrees was just perfect for us.

Some of my favourite highlights included the Cologne Cathedral which is well worth the visit. This is a twin steepled gothic cathedral right in the square so there are still lots to see around it as well. In Rudesheim some must sees are the Mechanical Museum, the Christmas Shop and a cable car ride over the beautiful countryside and wine region. These three are all within a 2 minute walk of each



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other and if you have the time, try and fit them all in. Another place of interest was an excursion to the Black Forest from Breisach, which was a paid optional trip.

Apart from the fantastic destinations, are the amazing locks you go through to get there as well as there being only approximately 120 people onboard so there is no queuing to get on and off. This is a very relaxing way of seeing parts of Europe you won't see on a big ship cruise. The main River Cruise people start with is the Amsterdam to Budapest (14 night) or vice versa, however we had already done this the previous year so this 8 day option was just perfect this time.

Wine and beer is included with lunches and dinners (we managed to stretch these out for a little longer) and all day tea, coffee and water. Avalon also include one tour each day, usually in the morning, that involves a walking tour of the city and then you are free to explore yourselves in the afternoon or take up one of the optional excursions that you pay additional for. The rooms are the only cabins on the river that have the beds facing the water, which is great if you want a relaxing afternoon watching the world go by. The bathrooms are spacious with the lovely L'Occitane products available in the shower and bathroom. So if you want to know more about River Cruising I have also travelled on Scenic and Carolyn has been away with APT. We can help you with any of the many other River Cruising options available to you. There are quite a few different itineraries available and it is important that you speak to someone who can give you the information you need to make an informed decision on which option is right for you. We would be pleased to help you so call us on 09 416 1799.

## TIME TO UPDATE YOUR FAMILY PHOTOS

The holiday season is upon us, and with it comes the perfect time of year to update your family photos. I honestly couldn't think of a more perfect gift than the special memories which are created and treasured through time with the art of portrait photography.



I specialise in the challenge of photographing animals, on their own, and with their families. Have you ever considered including your pet in family photos, but you're worried that they won't behave? Don't worry! That is my job. Equipped with plenty of treats, squeakers, toys and patience, I am willing to take on the challenge of any dog, cat, horse, rabbit – you name it! If your pets aren't included, it's not a real family photo! Working with animals is a whole new ball game compared to traditional portrait photography. My experience in the dog care industry has aided me in refining the skills needed to not only position a pet within a portrait, but also work with them to keep them hap-

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py, at-ease, and actually looking at the camera (an art form in itself!). Hence why I advertise the fact that I am a specialist pet photographer.

We are so lucky out West in that we have some of the most gorgeous locations right on our doorstep. Whether you want to take photos at Muriwai Beach or Riverhead Forest, it is entirely up to you. If you have a regular spot that you love to take your dog, or somewhere meaningful to you and your family - that's even better!

I have based my whole business around being easy, fun and affordable. Each session option I offer includes digital images, as well as prints. Unlike many others, with me there is absolutely no obligation to fork out thousands on unwanted products after the session. My mission is solely to create a memorable experience which results in treasured photographs. Keep in mind that I also offer gift vouchers for portrait sessions on my website - the most perfect gift for someone special this Christmas. So if you are wanting to get some beautiful new family photos up on your wall, or gift a session to someone else, don't hesitate to get in touch and have a chat! I'd love to hear from you. Kirsty. [www.dogandco.nz](http://www.dogandco.nz) [kirsty@dogandco.nz](mailto:kirsty@dogandco.nz).

## COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

By Rodney councillor Greg Sayers.

Putting people first - As we accelerate towards the festive season no doubt many of us will be thinking of the friends and family we long to catch up with, or seldom see.

As your councillor with the largest, most diverse electorate in all of Auckland these very same thoughts are often on my mind.

Some of you may have seen a NZ Herald article recently suggesting I was on holiday claiming it was council business. It is important to me to tell you, my constituents, that this is not true. I took a four-day long weekend which was fully paid for by myself (not the council). I did, however, make the mistake of updating my council diary too late one day to show I would be absent from council business. That was an oversight on my behalf. I own that mistake.

But there was nothing untoward. My annual leave was not affected and the administrative error was immediately corrected. Yet someone just took a jab in the media. Why? Because I am the councillor who stands by my promises to you to vote against the likes of the fuel tax, and unpopular targeted rates, and anything else that my constituents tell me will adversely affect them. A strong leader will only ever be defined by their ability to listen to their people, and that is exactly what I do.

I pride myself on being above political pressure and schoolyard politics - but others, it seems, do not.

The article also skewed the issue of my attendance records at certain meetings. Again, I want you to know I make my decisions around what meetings I attend based on what you, my constituents asked me to do when I knocked on thousands of



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doors at election time - less time in the "ivory tower" more time in the community.

I have purposely chosen not to attend many non-compulsory, non-decision making council "workshop" meetings.

I am always informed as to the topic of these council "workshops", so am able to prioritise if attendance is going to be detrimental or beneficial to my community - Rodney.

I refuse to spend hours in an air-conditioned office debating with the majority what is often a city centralised forgone conclusion when I could be out talking and strategising with the people in this area in order to ascertain their future opinions and wishes.

I am very proud of how much time I spend out in the field helping the residents and ratepayers of Rodney who need me - regularly travelling from one end of the biggest geographical ward to the other in one day, which takes time. I will continue to run on my record of being a strong community advocate. In a heartbeat I would choose to have a cup of tea with a retiree, or lunch with a playgroup to hear their concerns, ahead of attending bureaucratic, unproductive meetings.

By contrast, I have one of the highest attendance records at the vital decision making meetings - attending more than the mayor himself. It is at these important Auckland Council voting meetings that I am often having to make the tough call to take a stand against others in order to make sure Rodney has a voice. I will continue to do that, and take the hits if I have to, to deliver what I have promised you.

So, like many of us this festive season, I intend to act upon my thoughts and resolve to spend more time with the people I care about - my family at home and my Rodney family - because at the end of the day that is the only way you can truly make a positive difference in people's lives.

## THE HELENSVILLE COMMUNITY RECYCLING

The Helensville Community Recycling Centre has hit its target of 76% diversion a year and a half earlier than expected. With an estimated 600 tons of material expected at site this year that equates to a staggering 456 ton of material diverted away from landfill through reuse and recycling. It's a huge success story for the Recycling Centre, which is a 'not for profit' community organisation and charitable trust and demonstrates the capacity for community organisations to thrive and survive in a commercial space with great outcomes.

Site manager Treena Gowthorpe has been impressed by the way their customers, from Muriwai through to Kaukapakapa and South Head, have embraced the spirit of resource recovery.



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"Our reuse shop has around 900 customers a month all loving the opportunity to buy second hand at a great price. People are now sorting their incoming waste on their trailers so that the recoverables can easily be removed. We are seeing a really positive shift in behavior towards waste in our communities."

Treena is quick to point out that the Recycling Centre is so much more than just a place to bring your recycling. The Recycling Centre accepts all types of waste from general household, greenwaste, ewaste and scrap metal as well as recyclable material, with an Ecostore refill station, community garden and great little reuse shop. It provides a place for Corrections workers to complete their community hours and a place for people with special needs to get work experience or connect with the community through volunteering. "We aim to be responsive to the needs of our community and the type of work we do gives us enormous scope to provide some great help to the communities that are in our catchment area.

Treena credits the success of the site to the support they receive from Auckland Council in the form of a subsidy that reduces every year as the Recycling Centre moves towards being a sustainable organisation. She is also extremely grateful to the incredibly hard working team of workers and volunteers that make up the Recycling Centre 'family' and the fantastic community support the site receives

There are exciting plans ahead for the Helensville Community Recycling Centre with plans progressing for an upgrade of the site, which will include a new, much larger shop to deal with the massive volume of material recovered each week. A hire shed is being set up at the site so that customers can hire everything from crockery to, bikes to beds to whiteware to tools, all recovered/repared from the waste stream or donated to the site.

The Helensville Community Recycling Centre is open Wednesday to Sunday 8am to 4pm from December to April and Thurs-

day to Sunday 8am to 4pm the rest of the year.

## KANIKA PARK CAT RETREAT

Kanika Park Cat Retreat is proud to announce that stage 2 is well underway and it will be opened by mid December. We have added 7 new suites. 2 of our suites will be extra large, to accommodate those families that have more than 2 cats. We would like to thank our contractors for their awesome-ness. We have a fabulous team working with us to make this happen. Thank you guys, for doing such a great job and keeping within our timeline We are staying boutique, so we can continue to give our guests the attention and care that they deserve. Please phone 09 411 5326 or 027 550 1406, email [info@kanikapark.nz](mailto:info@kanikapark.nz).



## HELENSVILLE CHRISTMAS PARADE

Midday Saturday 8th December. Helensville's Parade will again be led by Hibiscus Coast Pipe Band. The popular bike decorating competition has been expanded to include prams, pushchairs and buggies, plus mobility scooters. The colouring competition this year has sections for teens and adults. So an opportunity for many. Entry forms and volunteer registration available via [helchrisfest@gmail.com](mailto:helchrisfest@gmail.com), phone 021 488 427, Library, or CAB. Santa at RSA for photos from 9.30am. Bouncy castle, face painting, icecream and entertainment in Creek Lane from 9.30am.

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