

NOVEMBER 2010

# Kumeu Courier

VOLUME 1 : ISSUE 11

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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## The Tales of Waimauku

When the first European settlers arrived in Waimauku during the mid-late 1800s, local Maori explained the name to mean Wai (stream) and Mauku (a type of small fern). So named because when the stream flooded its banks and only the very tops of cabbage trees were visible above the flow they resembled diminutive ferns. Preoccupied with less picturesque notions, the settlers immediately set to work clearing forest, felling kauri, gum digging, flax milling, and finally, when the land was sufficiently cleared, farming the slowly emerging pasture. Kauri gum (or Kapia as the Maori called it) was not initially of the same value as the logged timber. However when Europeans took over harvesting from Maori, both the volume of export and the profit margins increased progressively creating a lucrative industry. The resin, possessing similar characteristics to amber, was dug out of the ground in solidified deposits, cleaned and then exported for use primarily as a varnish. By 1900 Waimauku was home to a vast and transient population of labourers and bushmen as well as a handful of landowners, notably, Samuel Frost, Allen Kerr Taylor, and John Foster. Foster's land was later to devolve

to the Haupai Land Syndicate, becoming what we now know as Kumeu/Huapai Town Centre. Prior to the construction of the railway and roads, Waimauku formed the main foot route to the north. People passing from Riverhead, perhaps after an overnight stay in the Tavern, to Kaukapakapa/Port Albert or Hellensville traversed the district transporting information, goods, and industry.



The commencement of construction on the railway supplied locals with a stable income and culminated in an official opening in October 1975. The railways development was coupled with road construction, allowing horses and vehicles to be used in conjunction with train services. Upon the establishment of the station at Waimauku, a cluster of enterprises emerged includ-

ing a General Store and Butchery (which remained in operation until the 1960s) as well as a local school – uniting the once disparate community based education initiatives. These conveniences, integrated with a local bank, post office and telephone exchange, provided the community basic but sufficient and necessary facilities. After the end of the First World War, the Nor-West Auckland population steadily increased. Servicemen further developed the land throughout the region, resulting in the district being progressively cut into smaller more manageable farms. The cleared pasture and tranquil atmosphere has become increasingly lucrative and the further subdivision of land into generous lifestyle blocks has resulted in an increase in primarily residential dwellings, though the area remains underpinned by a rural farming undertone. Waimauku continues to have limited but unique, specialized, and well considered facilities in the township itself; managing without the encroachment of urban over-commercialisation, and retains strong bonds with the business district of Huapai/Kumeu.

## “How I See It” Ratepayers Voice...

The Local Body Elections are over leaving many scratching their heads; some wondering how they managed to get in at all, and others wondering how they missed out, and the public stunned by it all! We have a Councillor with one terms experience as mayor to represent us but he carries the knowledge

of the Rodney of old. I hope that the legacy of Rodney debt doesn't prevent progress on other issues such as sewerage reticulation and water supply to Kumeu, Riverhead, Huapai & Waimauku areas. The Community Board members give a good balance between experience and new

enthusiasm and I wish them all well in what will be a steep learning curve. Their tasks still haven't been resolved yet but, the “education school” is in progress, hopefully they “say no and think about it afterwards” is not part of their learning process.

....continued on page 10



Phone me today:  
Kellie Fielding  
Ph 027 207 4378

Contact the PTA at  
[gala@waimauku.school.nz](mailto:gala@waimauku.school.nz)



Stephen Sparnon,  
DCFO, Kumeu  
Fire Rescue.  
For an  
emergency call  
dial 111

## It's More Than Just A Rental

At this time when money is tight, and people are still reserved in confidence, there is little doubt that some decisions about your rental property investment may need a re-think. Some of the key questions that need to be asked are:

- Is your rental property a long term or a short term investment.
- Is your objective to make capital gain or a regular monthly income.
- Do you have the time, ability and resources to

effectively manage your rental property with rental payment tracking and inspections.

- What is your long term rental property goal.

You can choose to go it alone and do a DIY property management arrangement with a Tenant, normally being a friend or family. Unfortunately these relationships provide a lower return on your investment and tend to have some compromise for you the owner and the relationship. Let us share a little secret that may

make you feel somewhat better about things. "It is free of cost to have a chat with us about your rental property and your thoughts about its future."

So if you chose to use an accountant for your financials and you choose a lawyer for your legal matters we would suggest it is time that you come in and have a no obligation chat about our complete and comprehensive property management solution that can deliver better returns from your rental property and future proof your asset.

Call me directly Kellie Fielding on 027207 4378

## Waimauku School Celebrates 90 Years

Next year marks Waimauku School's 90<sup>th</sup> Jubilee year, and as part of the celebrations the school plans to hold a Jubilee Gala on March 26<sup>th</sup> 2011. Planned activities include the Vertical Bungy, water zorbs, and a Haunted House, as well as lots of traditional fairground

attractions such as Tombo-las, the Coconut Shy, Gumboot Throwing, and the ever popular Cow Pat Grid. The Craft Pavilion will have a range of hand crafted items for sale, along with produce, preserves, great food and all day entertainment from local bands and Kapa Haka

groups.

Waimauku School's PTA hopes local businesses will show their support with donations of goods, services or event sponsorship. For more information please contact the PTA at [gala@waimauku.school.nz](mailto:gala@waimauku.school.nz) or phone the school on 4118222.

## So, You Want To Have A Fire

It is open season at present but restricted fire season will start 01 December. Permits will be required. Landowners burning vegetation need to be vigilant and make sure that fires are well planned and carefully managed. Fire permits are issued by Rural Fire Authorities for particular types of burning at a certain locations within restricted times

and dates and under prescribed conditions.

When any of these requirements are breached the fire permit is no longer valid and any fire is illegal. Landowners must acknowledge and accept fire management as just one of the broader land management considerations required to successfully manage any farm or lifestyle property.

Whatever occurs as a result of the fire remains the responsibility of the person lighting the fire. This extends to fire fighting costs and damage caused. There have been cases where costs incurred were in excess of \$540,000!

Take care with your fires and think of the consequences. For more information please contact Local Council Support on 09 412 7995

## Rotary Kumeu - Kumeu Library

Rotary club of Kumeu once again support summer reading programs during 2010/2011 summer school holidays. There are two reading programs for children to sign up to.

- "e c reading's big bush read" for children 5-8 years.
- "library monopoly" for children 9 - 13 years old

There are limited places on each program and expect places to fill quickly.

Rodney libraries intend to offer the programs to around 400 children over the summer holidays. The cost is funded largely by Rodney libraries, however they do seek financial support to fund the final celebrations.

This year rotary club of Kumeu again donated \$350 towards the program.

If you are interested in joining the Rotary Club of Kumeu please contact Geoff Hope by phone on 09 411-8757

# Property Market Report - Sales in October 2010

## We have buyers...?

Over the last two weeks I have received one letter and two flyers from other real estate agents saying they have a list of buyers for my property. What they are actually saying is that buyers are finding it difficult to find a property to suit their needs at a price they can afford (give the property away price). They would like to list and sell your home without due consideration to the full market of buyers that may pay you more. So, who are they working for, you or the buyer?. If you are considering marketing your property for sale don't fall for a scam and give your home away. For free independent advice please call us today at LJ Hooker on 412 9602.

### Last months sales:

<b>KUMEU</b>	
Annette Road 4.2 hectares	\$ 1,187,500
Board Cres 2.74 hectares	\$ 1,175,000
Foster Road 8.6 hectares	\$ 1,095,000
Lanthrope Road 2.35 hectares	\$ 1,200,000
Oraha Road .8 hectare land	\$ 355,000
Rheingold Place 635sqm	\$ 385,000
Trigg Road 1000sqm	\$ 400,000
<b>RIVERHEAD</b>	
Albert Street 900sqm	\$ 420,000
Edward street	

800sqm Queen Street	\$ 380,000
911sqm	\$ 405,000
<b>WAIMAUKU</b>	
Ararimu Valley Road 4.1 hectares	\$ 740,000
Freshfields Road 1676sqm	\$ 702,500
Old North Road 2.5 hectares	\$ 750,000
Taylor Road 1 hectare	\$ 1,120,000

For independent, free advice, that will save you time, money and get you the very best price please call us today on 09 412 9602.



**“For a report on the latest sales in your area free of cost, contact: Graham McIntyre L.J Hooker Kumeu Licensed (REAA2008) Ph 09 412 9602”**

## Fizz, Pop, Splutter, Kind Of Market

What a great time to be house-buying. Interest rates remain low, credit is becoming much easier to obtain and prices are attractive.

Even though the economy seems a tad flat at the moment we do expect some signs of improvement early next year. Mortgage rates and net migration trends have turned more favourable in recent months; in

time, this will show up first as stronger sales, and eventually in prices.

Got some short-term debt that needs attention? Pop into Westpac Huapai and talk to the team about the 5.95% balance transfer offer – it could save you plenty by re-financing your personal loans or credit cards into one low cost package.

Finally, don't forget to get your tickets to this year's Kumeu Art in the Garden of which Westpac are proud sponsors.

**David Lloyd**  
Mobile Mortgage Manager  
Huapai Branch  
Ph. 027 244 3599  
david\_lloyd@westpac.co.nz

**“Some great buying to be had”**

## Poaching & Firearms

There is no hunting allowed in Woodhill forest unless you have a permit. As the law stands and in simple terms, if you are located in an area where there is wild game and you have the means or capability to shoot or hunt that game then the onus is on you to prove to a Court that you were not there with the intention of illegally shooting it. Simply put and to avoid a prosecution, do not take any firearms with you as you pass through Woodhill forest.

If you want to apply for a permit to hunt in Woodhill forest you can find useful information at [www.fallowdeer.co.nz](http://www.fallowdeer.co.nz) or at the following address [www.newzealandnz.co.nz/hunting/auckland](http://www.newzealandnz.co.nz/hunting/auckland)

Also, firearms licenses cost \$126.50 for the first time or renewals before expiry and if you let it lapse then you will have to pay \$241.25 to get it renewed. That cost difference should be an incentive to keep it up to date. Any firearm licensing queries can be directed to Mr Bruce Fenton at the Kumeu Police Station, 6 Matua Road or by phone on 412 7756

Information on the firearms licensing process can be obtained from the web at

[www.police.govt.nz/service/firearms/](http://www.police.govt.nz/service/firearms/)



## Vision Waimauku

In August Vision Waimauku (VW) held a well attended meeting at Settlers Lodge to:

- Thank the community for its participation in the Waimauku Structure Plan (adopted May 2009)
  - Celebrate the rejection of the Cornerstone/Malory Corporation Private Plan Change by the RDC, Environment Court and High Court
  - Meet candidates for the new Auckland city elections
- The well attended celebration was the culmination of a very testing six years where the Waimauku community's participation was exceptional and its voice was heard loud and clear. 2010 has seen submissions made to Waimauku Structure Plan Variation 134 and to the Draft Rural Strategy and promotion of the Western Corridor Forum (WCF) (refer [www.visionwaimauku.org](http://www.visionwaimauku.org))

VW's role and purpose was affirmed to:

- Maintain a watching brief
- Keep the community informed
- Reflect and promote a strong community voice
- Facilitate community participation
- Participate in WCF

## 40 Years of serving the community



Phone Simon  
Ph 027 688 0818

There's more than a few grey hairs that have resulted from the 40 years of attending incidents and accidents around the Kumeu area and in support of the greater Fire Region. It's not only the hours away from work, the sleep interrupted nights, nor the brigade camaraderie that gets the hair to go salt and pepper. The real steel of this completely volunteer brigade is the decision that has to be made 24 hours a day and 7 days a week to committing to helping often complete strangers in their

greatest moment of need. The current 23 members and for over 40 years it has seen Kumeu Fire Members serving the community in a way that sacrifices family, friends and business. As it lives and breathes it is the soul of the Kumeu Community attending over 10,000 call-outs over this time. A group of well trained and professional individuals that will attend over 350 incidents this year alone, ranging in task from animal rescues, house fires, chemical incidents to motor vehicle accidents. Its not all beer

and skittles, but a responsible job that is very well respected within the Kumeu Region. If you have an interest in joining Kumeu Fire Brigade please phone Simon on 0274819006



Contact Sue Pennington  
on 021 0227 4708 or  
email  
waimauku@naka.co.nz

## Ladies Pamper Evening At Waimauku

Waimauku Kindergarten is a semi-rural kindergarten serving the Kumeu, Muriwai, Huapai and Waimauku areas. Like most kindergartens, we rely heavily on fundraising activities to purchase special items for the children. We are raising funds to purchase some much needed learning resources. Our major fundraiser for this year will be a repeat of last year's successful Ladies' Pamper Evening and will be held on 19 November. We are putting together 'goody bags' of sample products for the event. If you have suitable samples of your product in the bag, or receipt a donated item for the

raffle. Contact Sue Pennington on 021 0227 4708 or email waimauku@naka.co.nz

The Kumeu Coast & Country Promotions Group in conjunction with the Kumeu Visitor Information Centre are gearing up for the summer season, helping to promote local activities and events to tourists and greater Auckland. This sees the Visitor Centre going to summer hours of 9am-5pm from Labour weekend. Coming up on Friday the 29th October is the annual Taupaki Public Fireworks Display held at the

## What's On...

Kumeu showgrounds, it promises to be a great family night out, further details on [www.monsterfireworks.co.nz](http://www.monsterfireworks.co.nz) The Visitor Centre is selling tickets to Kumeu Art in the Garden, with sales being strong as we near the event on the 6th&7th November. Saturday the 6th November is the Kumeu Lions Book Fair at the community Hall in Access Rd, any donations of books can be left at the Visitor Centre. Following on from this is The Muriwai Arts Trail on the 20-21 November further details on [www.muriwaiarts.co.nz](http://www.muriwaiarts.co.nz) Bernadette Limbrick  
Manager  
**Phone: (09 ) 412 9886**

## Tennis in Waimauku

Waimauku Tennis Club will be celebrating 100 years of tennis in March next year. We are having a weekend of Tennis Talk and fun over the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011. The Club would love to gather any old photos, history and stories from the last 99 years! We are also looking for names or contact details of past members who would be interested in hearing about our centenary. Our club is very active, with Wednesday mornings 9-12 for adult members, organised games on Mondays

and Fridays. Junior's coaching Wednesday after school and Saturdays. The juniors have 13 interclub teams, Woman 3 teams and Men 1 team. Altogether a strong little club. Any information please phone:  
Jill Warren 09 411 8037

You must be wondering what we all are doing here at The Riverhead! The ceiling is painted in the Portage Bar, the original Kauri floors have been patched in the Landing Restaurant and the old kitchen has been stripped back to the interesting original lin-

## The Riverhead

ings. Interesting is the operative word; the linings aren't in the greatest shape and show signs of numerous alterations and age so will have to be rebuilt. The kitchen area will become a small private function room named in honour of the original owners, called simply 'Deacon's Kitchen'. The new railings around the decks are being painted and designs are underway for the pergola which will make the 1st deck totally weather proof – a versatile addition for New Zealand's weather, enabling diners to enjoy our spectacular views all year round. Opening date has been pushed back, but we are still hoping that we'll get the doors open before Christmas.

If you want to follow our progress visit [www.facebook.com/theriverhead](http://www.facebook.com/theriverhead).

For information  
please phone:  
Jill Warren  
Waimauku  
Tennis Club on  
09 411 8037

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### Kumeu Visitor Information Centre

30 minutes Norwest of Auckland on SH16, open 364 days a year offering friendly, helpful advice on things to see and do in the area. Accommodation and transport bookings available plus WIFI and a great range of local arts and crafts in the gallery.

49 Main Road, Kumeu

P: 09 412 9886 F: 09 412 9165

[info@kumeuinfo.co.nz](mailto:info@kumeuinfo.co.nz) [www.kumeuwinecountry.co.nz](http://www.kumeuwinecountry.co.nz)



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Phone for information:  
Irene Van Den Berg  
Kumeu Vets  
Ph 412 9016

## Is Your Pet A Bit Porky ?

Just like it's easier for us to shed a few kilos when the weather is gorgeous and the days are longer – now is a great time to instigate a plan of attack to get your pet down to their ideal body weight – whether that be the family dog, cat or horse. A good test is whether or not you can feel the pet's ribs relatively easily without having to apply too much pressure with your fingers: in the case of the curvy

canine – there should be a visible waistline. Every overweight animal is predisposed to developing diabetes, liver problems, breathing problems, and almost certainly arthritis, and in the case of horses – laminitis, a disease of the hoof. Get them outside and active, get their endorphins pumping with games and stimulation and stop feeding them the kid's leftovers! You may want to consider put-

ting them on a calorie restricted dry food diet too. Get the whole family on board and make it fun! The science behind animal nutrition has come a long way, so it may be worth coming in to see us for a chat – or a weigh in. Alternatively you can log on to [www.petfit.co.nz](http://www.petfit.co.nz)

Kumeu Veterinary Service, 68 Access Rd, Kumeu. 412 9016  
Written by Dr Irene van den Berg BVSc

## Kumeu Country Market Opens 12 - Dec

Diary it: Kumeu Country Market—12 December 2010

The very first Kumeu country Market is happening!! An exciting pre Christmas event is being held from 10am to 3pm on Sunday 12 December. This is the perfect opportunity to buy some fresh produce and do a little Christmas shopping. Hand-picked high

quality indoor and outdoor stalls will be offering beautiful farm fresh produce, baking, preserves, cheeses, organic fruit and vegetables... Come and browse the stores and listen to live entertainment while the children enjoy pony rides, face painting, fairy floss and arts and crafts. Kumeu Country Market will be a truly community affair, providing a forum for both shopping and

socializing. Located at the famous Kumeu Show Grounds, you can enjoy a great family day out and purchase some of the finest local produce around while enjoying the wide open spaces and fresh air of the country. The markets will be held monthly - and look out for the twilight markets as well!

Interested parties should contact Courtney on 027688 0818 or Hollie on 0274626697



Kumeu Rugby  
Phone Paul Smith  
021 412 960

Norwest United  
Soccer  
Phone Craig King  
021 658 928

Local Clubs doing a  
great job  
"Get Involved in  
your local sport"

## Kumeu Rugby

Kumeu rugby is entering an exciting new phase. Kumeu and Helensville are to form combined premier and senior 1<sup>st</sup> teams for the 2011 season. Both clubs have struggled to enter these teams in past seasons and feel that by combining their resources they can best serve the local area and put up a competitive team in the coming season. A sub committee made up from both clubs has been formed and is busy looking for coaches, managers, sponsors, and players so if you feel you can help please ring Paul Smith on 021412960. Touch is starting up on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October we need one more team to make even numbers; ring Louise on 021303077. A big thanks to all those who helped this year. Kumeu is looking stronger than ever and looking forward to a bigger and better season in 2011. The AGM will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October at the clubrooms and it would be nice to see a good turn

## Norwest United Soccer

out. Come and have your say and see if you can be involved in 2011.

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> saw the Norwest United Soccer and Sports Club host the inaugural 10th Grade Soccer Nationals. Teams from as far away as Whakatane and Cambridge travelled to this prestigious event. The Norwest Chargers, representing Norwest United girls, were ranked number 1 with Three Kings at the end of pool play, Three Kings dropped to 2<sup>nd</sup> on goal difference. The Norwest Avatars, representing Norwest United boys had an extremely tough draw and were ranked 8<sup>th</sup> at the end of pool play. Sunday was finals day, the Avatars fought hard but were knocked out in the quarter finals while the Chargers won their quarter final 2 - 0 against Greenhithe. The Chargers moved onto the semi final where they faced a very strong Hibiscus Coast. The game went into extra time when the Charg-

ers slotted two quick goals in the 1<sup>st</sup> five minutes which sealed their finals spot.

In the final the Chargers faced Western Springs. With 40mins of time up the score was locked at 0 - 0. Another tense ten minutes was played and the score was still 0 - 0. Both teams lined up for a nail biting finish. Norwest won the shootout 2 - 0 with Xavier Taitimu and Cara Lonergan scoring and goal keeper Grace King making some fantastic saves. The Chargers only conceded 1 goal throughout the 3 day tournament and scored 23.

The Charges also took home – Best Attacking Team, Golden Boot – Cara Lonergan, Player Of The Final – Aleesha Walker. This was a fantastic 3 days of football and feedback from visiting clubs has all been very positive. Norwest United would like to thank LJ Hooker and all the other Sponsors for their support of this tournament. Without these fantastic people this tournament would have never been possible.

We now look forward to 2011.

# " nobody does it better "



AUCTION



## EXCITING KUMEU DO UP

Situated on 11 acres, ideal for cattle, horses and other life stock. Well established trees offer privacy and shelter to all! This large 2 storey, 5 bedroom, 3 bathroom including en-suite, separate dining and multiple living area home gives plenty of space and lovely expansive country views.

**CONTACT:** Courtney Wood 0276880818 Licensed REAA 2008  
cwood.kumeu@ljh.co.nz

**VIEWING:** By appointment  
**FOR SALE:** Open Auction 25/11/10 (CV \$ 1,275,000)  
**ADDRESS:** 138 Pomona Road, Kumeu  
**WEB:** www.ljhooker.com ref # P8H14  
www.youtube.com (keyword) mrljhooker



NEGOTIABLE



## "NEW BRICK ON 1/3 ACRE IN RIVERHEAD"

This newly built brick & tile family home is a rare find in sought after Riverhead. Spacious, sunny, warm and inviting, 4 large bedrooms - the master offering an en-suite and bi-folds to the deck for all-day-sun. The new kitchen is a cooks delight and ideally centrally situated to keep an eye on the children's activities in the two large living areas.

**CONTACT:** Denise Glozier 0272549999 Licensed REAA 2008  
dglozier.kumeu@ljh.co.nz

**VIEWING:** By appointment  
**FOR SALE:** Negotiable (CV \$ 555,000)  
**ADDRESS:** 7 King Street, Riverhead  
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NEGOTIABLE



## ALFRESCO ON 2 HECTARES - WAIMAUKU

A well presented family home that offers 3 +bedrooms, 1 bathroom and a large spacious kitchen with a separate dining and lounge area looking out over a wonderful country lifestyle property. This unique home comes with the bonus of an extensive double story barn, sleep out, double garage and includes a permitted water bore and plastic house.

**CONTACT:** Angie deSilva 0272003883 Licensed REAA 2008  
adesilva.kumeu@ljh.co.nz

**VIEWING:** by appointment  
**FOR SALE:** By Negotiation (CV \$ 970,000)  
**ADDRESS:** 167 Taha Road, Waimauku  
**WEB:** www.ljhooker.com ref # 6ZH14  
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AUCTION



## FAMILY KAURI VILLA — RURAL SETTING

This beautifully renovated historical villa of 242 sqr mtrs sits on a third of an acre of land, peppered with trees, fully fenced and with a big shed. The home has open plan living, alfresco to north facing decking and a central family room with three generous bedrooms plus study.

**CONTACT:** Courtney Wood 0276880818 Licensed REAA 2008  
cwood.kumeu@ljh.co.nz

**VIEWING:** by appointment  
**FOR SALE:** By Open Auction 28/10/10 (CV \$ 650,000)  
**ADDRESS:** 21 Farrand Road, Kumeu  
**WEB:** www.ljhooker.com ref # JAH14  
www.youtube.com (keyword) mrljhooker

## Kumeu Wine Country Fusion



October has been the focus for the KCC committee, but we're looking forward, not back! Believe it or not, we're busy planning for Rugby World Cup 2011 that will see tens of thousands of visitors arriving in Auckland, and will be our chance to showcase the best our region has to offer. We're taking part in the 'Best of the West' festival that will run from the 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

The fun starts with a family day at the Kumeu Showgrounds that culminates in a screening of the semi-final

that night on a big screen for everyone to enjoy.

The local wineries will be holding the annual Bud Burst festival during this time, with local bars, restaurants, businesses, clubs and schools encouraged to feature their services too.

Even if you're not a rugby fan, there will be something to be a part of throughout this week! If you would like more information contact Lee Mckeown at [arcadiadesignstore@clear.net.nz](mailto:arcadiadesignstore@clear.net.nz)

All welcome!

Just tried Soljans Estate Fusion Sparkling Muscat. I've heard it talked about and now have tasted it for myself. It's amazing! A sweet treat – but don't just take my word for it! Others love it too....

"New Zealand's finest equivalent of Asti Spumante, this Muscat-based bubbly is grown in Gisborne and made in a very low alcohol (8%), sweet (80g/litre residual sugar) style..... it is delightfully fresh and lively." *4 Stars Winestate Magazine, July/August 2009*  
 "The 2009 Royal Easter Wine Awards gave this deliciously grapey, honey of a wine its new gold medal." *Joelle Thomson, April 2009*. Available from Soljans cellar door in Kumeu Wine Country or on line at [www.soljans.co.nz](http://www.soljans.co.nz)

## Kumeu's Best Gardens & Artworks

*\*Get Kumeu Courier every month hot off the editors desk, by emailing the word subscribe to [glms@xtra.co.nz](mailto:glms@xtra.co.nz)*

Only a week to go till November's Kumeu Art in the Garden event.

Entry is only \$25 for the festival which runs over the weekend of 6-7 November. Children (5 – 15 yrs) \$10.

Kumeu Art in the Garden founder Graham McIntyre says those wanting to take advantage of the fine weather are advised to make a decision with haste and visit [www.kumeuartinthegarden.co.nz](http://www.kumeuartinthegarden.co.nz) or the Kumeu's visitor centre to purchase tickets to this popular event.

"Last year we had more than 800 visitors over the weekend and we are expecting the event to be even more popular this year.

Tickets sales are limited due to parking and road control, so we urge people to purchase their tickets as soon as possible."

A two-day event, Kumeu Art in the Garden provides four spectacular garden galleries for more than 1000 pieces of original artwork from 80 New Zealand artists.

Supported by the New Zealand Art Guild, artwork will be on display and available for purchase by event visitors.

A new initiative this year is the introduction of musicians performing at the gardens on both days – so people are encouraged to bring a picnic or purchase a delicious Kumeu Art in the Garden lunch-box for two, comprising of great local produce and beverages.

All proceeds from the festival go to Rotary Kumeu and are distributed to local charities, including the Kumeu Community Patrol, West Auckland Hospice and Kumeu Volunteer Fire Brigade.

For more information please visit [www.kumeuartinthegarden.co.nz](http://www.kumeuartinthegarden.co.nz) or drop into the Kumeu Visitor Information centre, Main Road, Kumeu or phone 412 9886





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## Power To The Lemon!



Share a recipe:

Anna Sareczky  
Editor  
Ph 021 607 971  
Email  
annasareczky@hotmail.com

**F**inding it unbearable watching your lemon tree drop stunning fruit suddenly to the ground? Italian-Australian Stefano de Pieri culinary mogul (whom I had the pleasure of meeting at chef trainee college) is head chef at a romantic country estate in Mildura, Victoria. The picturesque district is not unlike our own, situated on the edge of a river and prolific in its produce and local pride. This recipe, his mother-in-law, is simply called lemon cake.

### Lemon Cake

125 g unsalted butter  
220g caster sugar  
1 tblsp finely grated lemon zest  
2 eggs  
150g self raising flour, sifted  
75g plain flour, sifted  
125ml milk  
125ml lemon juice  
60g caster sugar

Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease a 22cm tin and line with baking paper.

Beat butter, sugar, and zest until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating until combined. Add flours, alternating with the milk. Pour into tin, bake 45 minutes until golden and skewer inserted in the middle comes out clean.

Mix lemon juice and sugar and pour over cake while still in tin. Cool before serving with cream/yogurt/vanilla ice-cream.

### Easiest Lemon Curd

Perfect for scones, layered between sponge cakes, or as miniature tart fillings – or smooth on toast for midnight decadence.

4 egg yolks  
2/3 cup caster sugar  
60g unsalted or regular butter

2 tsp grated lemon zest  
100ml lemon juice

In a medium-small heavy based saucepan whisk egg yolks and sugar until well combined but not frothy. Add butter, and juice and zest. Stirring constantly, with either the whisk or a wooden spoon being sure to scrape right into the corners, bring the mixture to simmering point over a medium high heat (about 5 minutes).

As soon as bubbles start to appear, lower heat and stir rapidly until slightly thickened and coating the back of the wooden spoon. Allow to cool. Transfer to sterilized jars before sealing.

Invest in a microplane. Google it. The power sander of the culinary world.

Enjoy!

## Get In The Garden & Start Planting



**L**abour weekend is the traditional time to plant tomatoes. Tomatoes like to be planted in a sunny position, sheltered from strong wind. In preparation turn over the soil and fertilize. If planting in rows, separate each plant by about 70 cm to allow plenty of room for air circulation and growth and place stakes in position before you plant to avoid damaging the root ball. Water the seedling prior to planting, and water again once in the ground. Young seedlings need protection, such as plastic tunnels or shade cloth until established. Fertilise with a tomato food high in potassium which enhances the quality of the produce and

water well after each application as well as 2 to 3 times a week in the mornings. As the plant gets taller tie the main stem to the stake. We have several very tasty heirloom varieties in store, as well as grafted seedlings, which are generally more robust and prolific in production. Basil is the perfect companion for tomatoes both in the garden and kitchen so pick some up on your next visit to the store. A combination of the bright green sweet basil and the stunning purple basil makes for attractive planting and intriguing salads or vividly coloured pesto. Companion planting is an important consideration in any organic garden, and is

a practical and attractive means of controlling pests and providing shade for delicate crops. Some plants secrete an aroma or oil that deters pests or attracts good insects required to pollinate other plants in the garden. Popular combinations include nasturtiums, which will attract caterpillars away from lettuce and other leafy seedlings, and the inclusion of marigolds which will benefit the whole vegetable patch - their scent repels aphids and attracts their predators.

Spring planting should also extend to planning your herb garden to add freshness to summer barbecue marinades and salads, and filling pots and tubs with pretty flowering seedlings for display. Contact Kumeu Garden Centre on 09 412 9002



Anna Sareczky  
Editor

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annasareczky@hotmail.com

## ...to the Public of Kumeu

*Continued from page 1*

Our district now has to face Central Auckland for funding and decisions not Orewa, as well as the prospect of competing for funds and infrastructure work against the wider Auckland needs and priorities. This will demand of the Kumeu District a cohesive and well argued approach to issues.

Len Brown missed our Meet the Candidates' meeting but had an able deputy Connor

step in. Len has now confirmed a meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> November with us, so we can hopefully highlight issues of concern to him. It is probably our best opportunity to convey the problems we have with Rodney District Council and other issues facing the district.

The Rodney Rural Strategy has been sent to the new Auckland Council by the Rodney Council, and while

they have made changes as a result of our submission, the principle of not investigating the effects of the Westgate Development as part of the process leaves questions about the robustness of the study undertaken in our area.

More next time

Ph. 412-2016  
Pete Sinton - Chairman  
Kumeu-Huapai Resident &  
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