

Free publication to meet the needs of Kumeu & Districts

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COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2011

VOLUME 2  
ISSUE 6

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 5000 + Circulation
- Community information
- Upcoming events
- Sponsorship
- Free editorial contributions
- House price sales
- Relevant to area rate-payers
- Share a recipe
- Cheap as chips advertising

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## DONATIONS HELP US TO HELP YOU SURVIVE



Deputy Chief Fire Officer Steve Sparnon was a guest at the meeting of the Kumeu Rotary Club on Tuesday, May 24. Kumeu Rotary Club president Cam Crawford presented Steve with a cheque for \$3,250 which was made up of \$2,500 raised through Kumeu Art in the Garden and topped up by a donation from the Rotary Club. Steve told the gathering that the money would go toward either the purchase of a large van which would be used to transport fire personnel and equipment to fires and road accidents, or toward rescue equipment for the many motor accidents they attend....

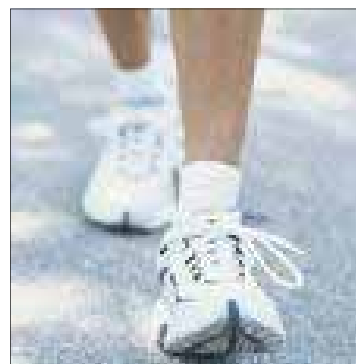
► ...cont pg 6

## A FRUIT WITH MANY HATS & MANY TALES

You may have noticed the odd bauble looking fruit dangling graciously on the ebony branches like Christmas decorations throughout autumn. The leaves on the trees are the colours of autumn and the fruits vary from a light yellow to a deep red-orange. Persimmons are a very sweet fruit, and come in many different varieties. They are growing in popularity due to the ease with which they grow. Persimmon trees grow swiftly in a range of soils including clay, and colonize off their root systems – ideal for helping recover habitat. They are one of the last trees to leaf out in the spring, and don't flower until well after the leaves have formed, bypassing the threat of blossom loss due to frosts. With countless uses, the Persimmon tree truly is an all-rounder! From the hard wood, an ebony; used as paneling in many Korean and Japanese temples. The wood was also used in making the highest quality golf clubs known as 'Woods' until the golf industry moved primarily to metal woods in the last years on the twentieth century. Interestingly, the first metal wood, manufactured by 'Taylor Made', were branded Pittsburgh Persimmons exported, compared to 2,460 tones in 2005 alone. The uses stretch right through to medicinal uses of the fruit. A little known fact about the Persimmon fruit is when eaten raw can induce diarrhea, but when cooked the fruit provides a cure for diarrhea.

► ...cont pg 8

## WOODHILL RESIDENT GOING THE DISTANCE



At 70 years of age Denis Papa from Woodhill has always been a keen sportsman but his last challenge will see him walking the length of New Zealand in the upcoming months to raise money for Cancer Support. Denis, who last year had a hip replacement, plans to start the walk from Bluff in August and estimates it will take around six weeks to complete. He will be supported throughout the walk by members of the Kumeu Rotary Club who are taking turns manning the support vehicle and ensuring Denis gets to the Cape in good shape.....

► ...cont pg 4

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Editorial and Advertising to Anna Sareczky Ph: 021607971 Email: [annasareczky@hotmail.com](mailto:annasareczky@hotmail.com)

Dr Krushen Viranna,  
Huapai Dental  
250 SH16, Kumeu.  
Phone 4127851



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DCFO, Kumeu  
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emergency call  
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## BRUSHING FOR A HEALTHY HEART

Gum disease (periodontitis) has long had a correlation with physical health problems. Recent studies show that non-fatal strokes caused by gum disease is more frequent than non-fatal strokes caused by Diabetes Mellitus. Correlation with heart attacks is even higher in patients who are at a hereditary disposition. Smoking, a major contributing factor, impairs blood flow and healing. Patients with otherwise healthy teeth loose their teeth due to periodontitis which then impacts on their remaining teeth and gums. Early loss of back teeth cause TMJ (Jaw Joint) problems and loosening of the front teeth as the bite can no longer carry the load. Loss of teeth at an early age can impact on your health with the decrease in nutrients that you are able to get with limitations that dentures bring. Clenching and grinding habits can also contribute to gum disease by overloading the masticatory (chewing) system. Recession, mobility of teeth, and pocket depth of more than 3mm can indicate that you have periodontitis which in turn can lead to strokes, heart disease, and impaired peripheral circulation.

## TRAINING — LOVE IT OR HATE IT

A few weeks back some of our brigade members made the commitment to compete in the Sky Tower Challenge. 51 floors, 1103 steps wearing Breathing Apparatus and full Firefighting gear. Why? For the challenge, for the experience, or for the spirit of the event? Raising funds for Leukaemia and Blood Foundation. The answer is not what we do but why we do it. Why do we train every Monday night for two hours? So we keep our skill levels up to NZ Fire Service standards. To get results. To build confidence in our Brigade member, in the use of the varied equipment we carry on the appliances and to improve techniques for the fire ground. To put ourselves to the test, so when the real incident happens we are confident of our ability to handle the situations. Our Brigade has just had two rookies complete their Volunteer Recruit course training in Rotorua. In total nine days full on training, Why? So they can be members of the Kumeu Volunteer Fire Brigade. Making them become another great asset to this community we all live in. We train for these and many other reasons. Enjoy your training, you will more - if you know why you train.

Thinking about joining Kumeu Fire? Call Simon, Senior Station Officer on 0274819006



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# THIS IS A RATHER UNUSUAL MARKET

Certainly those in the real estate industry comment to us regularly that these are uncharted waters and there is much to be said for taking the time to talk about the true value of land and bricks and mortar. Certainly the wheels of change are likely to loom with subdivisions in the local area and also wet land and native covenants set to undergo a change. The word from the street is "if you want to do something, do it now" and if you are thinking about selling "do it now" procrastination will not deliver a windfall no matter how hard you observe the changes. The best thing is that it costs nothing to get us in for a chat about your property and your plans. It may well deliver you that piece of information that you have been waiting for. Call me today, Graham McIntyre on 412 9602 or 0276 320421. Market sales over the last 60 days:

<u>Kumeu</u>			<u>Waimauku</u>		
Deacon Road	1 ha	\$800,000	McPike Road	2ha	\$690,000
Moontide	1 ha	\$1,030,000	Old North Road	4 ha	\$715,000
Trigg Road	5 ha	\$2,160,000	Taiapa Valley	1ha	\$211,000 (land only)
			Taiapa Valley	1.3ha	\$225,000 (land only)
			Taylor Road	2ha	\$900,000
			Wintour	2ha	\$925,000
			Zanders Road	1.9ha	\$740,000
<u>Taupaki</u>					
Waitakere Road	2.5 ha	\$857,000			

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

## GETTING BACK ON OUR FEET

The big news over the past month was last week's budget. It certainly highlighted the need for some drastic action by the Government to get our economy back on its feet and moving forward. The news from Wellington has reinforced our thinking that interest rates will remain at current levels for the foreseeable future which is good news for borrowers (not great for investors!).

On the housing market front I have seen a gradual and encouraging surge in sales recently, which started in the CBD suburbs and has made its way out west.

Finally, don't forget May is the Westpac Rescue Helicopter appeal month. We are well on the way to meet our \$1m target for 2011.

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



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Contact:

Sam Waite

Ph 412 9602

or 0274517299

*For any more questions surrounding wellbeing and Nutrition call Tamara (RGN,ND,NT) at the Kumeu Village Medical Centre 412 8446*

## WINTER TIPS FOR LANDLORDS

As the winter months are upon us, it is time for landlords to give some thought to their rental properties. As we all know here in Auckland the rain comes and goes and the wind blows – so how are your rentals coping? Is there leaves clogging the gutters? Have the chimneys been swept? How are the pathways, patios and decks – is there slippery moss degrading those surfaces? Are those wooden window frames showing signs of damage due to dampness and/or mould? If you said yes to one or more of the above questions, or you answered "I'm not sure", it is time for you to give your tenants a courtesy call and ensure the home is a healthy haven for the upcoming months. Clearing the gutters will prevent water overflow, doing this will prevent the water from getting into the home and damaging the ceiling and walls. The chimneys need to be swept annually at the beginning of the winter season to prevent fires and dangerous smoke inhalation due to clogged up chimneys, this will protect the health and safety of your tenant and your insurance cover. Removing mould from and treating of foot paths and decking will make the area safer from slips and spills and will also slow down re-growth. For more handy tips call your local Property Manager and LJ Hooker Kumeu, Samantha Waite 09 412 9602 or 027 451 7299, email [swaite.kumeu@ljh.co.nz](mailto:swaite.kumeu@ljh.co.nz)

▶ .....continued from page 1

The Cancer Support Society is in charge of organizing public support and ensuring that local and national media give as much exposure to the event as possible. Denis walks 40 kilometers a day to prepare for his long journey and up to 100 kilometers on weekends. An offer to supply a campervan for Dennis and his crew to use has fallen through, so if anyone can help by donating a replacement vehicle it would be greatly appreciated. Any offers of assistance, whether it be a vehicle or other forms of support can be made to his walk organizers by emailing [tobrettconnolly@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tobrettconnolly@xtra.co.nz) or call Denis on 09 420501.

## ZINC PREVENTS & TREATS THE COMMON COLD

If you take zinc regularly you can reduce your risk of catching a cold, and if you start taking zinc when the cold catches you, you will beat it quicker. A large review of 15 clinical studies totaling over 1300 people found that zinc supplements significantly reduce both symptoms and severity of illness. Zinc has been shown to support your immune system and may even be directly antiviral. Taking zinc within 24 hours of the start of symptoms was found to cut the risk of still having symptoms at day 7 of a cold by about half. And for prevention taking zinc for at least 5 months cut cold risk by a third. People who took zinc also had significantly lower rates of school absence, and prescription of antibiotics. A safe amount of Zinc to take as a maintenance dose through winter is 15mg daily. However it is very safe to take 15mg three times a day whilst you are fighting a cold/viral illness.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE FARM THIS MONTH



For more information call

Jaison at

Kerr Farm

48 Dysart lane

Kumeu

Ph 412 7575

With Harvest completed by the end of April and most of our wines finishing primary fermentation and those in the barrel going into secondary malolactic fermentation its time to say pheeeyoo. In May we can catch our breath a bit, do some maintenance, or could you imagine it have a few days off. We start pruning in June so there is a few things we can do in preparation for this. My early morning job for most days this month is to drop to the ground the moveable tuck wires on two or three rows each day. The vine tendrils that have wrapped around these wires sometimes don't want to let go and need a good yank to become free. This is my gym workout. These wires were lifted up during spring and summer to contain the growing grape shoots and point them upwards so we can control how they grow. This makes it easier

to trim, leaf pluck and latter on harvest. By dropping these wires it gives an open face to the vine and when the shoots are pruned it is easier to pull them out. This make it easier to see what you are doing when selecting the fruiting canes to keep. The photo below shows this. Check out <http://www.kerrfarmwine.co.nz/videos> and you will find my training video on how to prune your vines. Next job is to check over your pruning gear, make sure secateurs are sharp and well oiled, makes big job a little easier. That's all for this month, next month I will let you know what we are up to.

I would like to invite you to come for a wine tasting to try our eight different wines all from grapes that only come from Kumeu We are open for tasting at Kerr Farm Vineyard every weekend 11am-5pm.



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## YIKES, I HAVE NO STORAGE!!

When items are 'contained' in a box or bin, you immediately have a system; you know immediately where to find items and where to return them.

Here's what to store in which type of container:

Storage bin units are great for kids toys and can be labeled by type

Decorative storage boxes: for CDs, DVDs, makeup and hair products, personal stationery, memorabilia items

Magazine boxes: magazines, periodicals and even your home office files

Clear plastic containers: great for clothing, handbags, shoes etc

Large plastic bins: ideal for out of season clothes, linen, sports gear, and even tools

Take away type plastic containers and ice cream containers are good for the pantry to contain small items like herbs & spices, packet soups etc; and inside a vanity unit in the bathroom to keep together like minded products

▶ .....continued from page 1

Steve talked about the recent Hoe Down which is the major fundraiser for the brigade each year, another great success and enjoyable evening. He invited Rotary members to an evening at the fire station where they will be given an opportunity to use some of the equipment. There will be a competition between fire fighters and Rotary members, this promises to be a good night. Kumeu Rotary Club meets every week and provides a social and business network environment in which members consider the growth and development of the community and its youth in the area. If you are interested in joining Rotary please contact David Jennings on phone 09 4127055.

## AN ENTICING PROPOSAL FOR GROWTH

Pete Sinton, Chairman of the KHRRA has an enticing proposal to facilitate wider community focused initiatives. The proposed Community Charitable Trust would be a not-for-profit association to benefit the local community. The impartiality of the Trust and the breadth of its focus will allow autonomy in decision making and increased clout when seeking funding from larger institutions. The draft principles are being circulated to community groups. The aim is to have an entity which operates as a "community bank" run by seven trustees who will seek funding to assist community groups and projects. It will focus on a specified list of objectives, and its administration will remain independent of established community groups who may apply for specific grants. The area of the Trust's interest will include Kumeu, Huapai, Woodhill, Muriwai, Taupaki, Riverhead, and Brighams Creek. Key to success will be the calibre of trustees who are to be drawn from existing groups in the area, notably, Lions, Rotary, and the Ratepayers Association, as well as local business groups to recognise a broad community interest. All donations will be on a voluntary basis. To date, the cost of preparation has been privately funded by Pete Sinton and Warren Flaunty, and the work undertaken by Davenport's in Henderson to ensure independence from other pre-existing enterprises. For enquiries please contact Pete Sinton, 09 412 2016 or email [petesinton@townplanner.co.nz](mailto:petesinton@townplanner.co.nz)

## MIND OVER MATTER 1103 TIMES



Few things look as overbearing as the towering sphere of the Auckland Skytower. This Auckland Icon not only generates millions of tourism dollars, it also is one of the enduring landmarks of Auckland City. 328 meters tall Auckland Skytower is one of New Zealand's tallest structures. It is of course perfectly natural therefore that volunteer and paid firefighters would want to concur such a monument with full breathing and structural firefighting kit the 1103 stairs is a speed, endurance and heat test that puts each firefighter against the clock. The importance of this event is not the individual times but the confidence and the celebration of completing the task and hopefully getting a personal best time. It strikes me that real estate is sometimes a similar process that we have an objective and have to go for an extended term to get to our objective. The feeling of complete exhaustion is sometimes similar for both the agent and the vendor with the time reflecting the monetary result. A good friend of mine Terry Flude completed the grand masters (over 50's) with a great time of 20 minutes. It is testimony to determination and training to take on 1103 stairs under the clock with full kit. Graham McIntyre, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Waitakere Volunteer Rural Fire Force. Phone 0276 320421

# " nobody does it better "



## HOME-LAND-INCOME

The house is a split level dating back to 1955, weatherboard and in good condition the home has two bedrooms and bathroom upstairs and two bedrooms and an office/third bedroom downstairs with a bathroom. Large Kitchen integrates with dining and central lounge area. The home opens to north west decking and enjoys plenty of sunshine. (CV \$600,000)

**CONTACT:** Graham McIntyre Licensed REAA 2008  
gmcintyre.kumeu@ljh.co.nz

**VIEWING:** By appointment

**FOR SALE:** Set sale date 23 June 2011. 5pm (unless sold prior)

**ADDRESS:** Waimauku Station Road, Waimauku

**WEB:** www.ljhooker.co.nz/ R8H14



## "AL FRESCO LIVING ON OVER 6 HECTARES"

This beautifully presented lifestyle property set, part in old and part in new, delivers incredible value. Established majestic oak trees greet you through a gated entry with rustic barns offering shelter and workshop options. A modern, north-facing, insulated tilt slab home with entertaining areas that capture views over the land has the best of open plan living. Four generous bedrooms and two bathrooms. (CV \$1,550,000)

**CONTACT:** Graham McIntyre 0276320421 Licensed REAA 2008  
gmcintyre.kumeu@ljh.co.nz

**VIEWING:** By appointment

**FOR SALE:** Set sale date 30 June. 5pm (unless sold prior)

**ADDRESS:** State Highway 16, Kumeu

**WEB:** www.ljhooker.co.nz/V4H14



## UNWIND IN RIVERHEAD

This beautifully warm, two level home boasts 6 double bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, spacious living areas with open plan living, a separate lounge and study. This home is very sunny and light and has exceptional outdoor living with a barbecue area and sheltered spa. The established gardens reinforce the amazing rural views of the Coatesville countryside. Set on 1.9 hectares, this 303 square meter home is large enough for a big family.

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

**VIEWING:** By Appointment

**FOR SALE:** \$858,000

**ADDRESS:** Ridge Road, Riverhead

**WEB:** www.ljhooker.co.nz/T2H14



## BEAUTIFUL HOME, GARDEN + B & B

Looking for a home with multiple income streams...a quality home with homestay, stables, summer house, boat house and one of Kumeu's best gardens...you've found it! This four bedroom, three bathroom home with wide open space cathedral ceilings is an absolute delight providing homely charm and views over gardens and water features.

**CONTACT:** Graham McIntyre 0276320421 Licensed REAA 2008  
gmcintyre.kumeu@ljh.co.nz

**VIEWING:** By appointment

**FOR SALE:** Set sale date 16 June. 5pm (unless sold prior)

**ADDRESS:** State Highway 16, Kumeu

**WEB:** www.ljhooker.co.nz/TAH14

www.youtube.com (keyword) mrljhooker

## WHEN YOUR PET IS ILL, WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

When your pet is in trouble, some emergencies are easier to recognise than others. We all panic at the sight of gushing blood or an open gaping wound, but when things go wrong inside of the pet, it's often harder to know when to call the vet, and in these cases it is always better the sooner we hear from you. Some of the more common life threatening scenarios are listed below – have a read...

*Just a couple of hours ago you fed your big dog Rex his dinner, he wolfed it down, but now he's looking bloated and isn't himself and he's doing a weird retching thing... He was completely fine a few hours ago.* Occasionally, a dog's stomach can suddenly dilate and twist on itself. These dogs are usually large or giant breeds and it can happen at any age. Because the bloated stomach compresses all the major blood vessels these dogs are in serious trouble! *You keep noticing Marvin the fat family cat in his litter tray but he can't seem to pass anything and is vocalising. He is also licking at his bits, can't settle and doesn't want to eat.* Urinary crystals may have completely blocked the outflow tract of his bladder. Crystals are reasonably common and often cause discomfort but if the bladder can't empty at all for too long the build up of toxins becomes life threatening. *Lulu is an unspayed dog. She has been drinking a lot the past couple of days and now there's a funny smell around her back end and she's quieter than normal.* Lulu probably has a pyometra (literally a uterus full of pus). One in three unspayed female dogs will develop this at some point. The pus forms as a result of the nasty E. coli bug and the toxins leak into the dog's bloodstream making her very sick. Obviously our four legged friends are masters at getting into all sorts of trouble – and the list of emergency scenarios is long. Remember that Kumeu Vets always has a vet on call and we'd always rather hear from you than not if you are worried.

Written by Dr Irene van den Berg, Kumeu Vet Service, 68 Access Road, Kumeu, Ph 09 412 9016

\*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)

▶ .....continued from page 1

The fruit has rich yet subtle flavours and contain high levels of dietary fibre, phenolic compounds, potassium, magnesium, calcium, iron and manganese. They are rich in vitamin C and beta carotene, regular consumption of the fruit is believed to reduce the risk of atherosclerosis heart attacks. The fruit keeps longer in room temperature than when chilled in the fridge, which differentiates them from other fruit. The export of Persimmons from New Zealand have dramatically increased since the 1980's.

## SPIN IS IN AT KUMEU GYM!



Become a healthier, leaner, stronger & more confident "YOU" with the Spinning Programme at Kumeu Health & Fitness. The Spinning Programme is the global leader in Indoor Cycle training which is based on road cycling techniques. It is tailored to suit a wide range of abilities & fitness goals with varying energy zones, intensity & terrains. Each class is different, engaging the mind as well as the body. Our Spinning coaches have the added bonus of also being certified Personal Trainers who carefully monitor each person's fitness levels. In the Spinning Programme it is totally up to you whether you want to ride hard, push yourself or, you can ride with a steady cadence & listen to the invigorating music and enjoy the ride within a fun & friendly motivating group environment. Let Debbie, Sally & Gary coach you through a training session with a purpose, making you fitter, stronger & healthier. Become part of a team & join us for a fun, satisfying experience, where together we will achieve your goals. Our classes cater from beginner to the advanced. Join Debbie on Monday & Thursday mornings 6am – 7am, Sally on Tuesday evenings 5.30pm – 6.30pm & Gary on Monday, Tuesday & Thursday mornings 9am-9.30am.

## COUNTRY MARKET JUNE 19 DON'T MISS OUT!!



After yet another successful Kumeu Country Market with over 100 stalls and a huge variety of products, services and catering, we are all set for the next one scheduled for Sunday June 19. There is plenty of demand for new stalls and a lot of get stallholder coming on board. As the winter months have approached us, the markets are indoors and there are a good number of visitors! Don't sit at home on a soggy Sunday, come along to the Kumeu Country Market and indulge in our cheeses, pastries, cupcakes and chocolates; be entertained by local talent; browse the extravagant arts and crafts from local artists, and find treasures amongst the ornaments, antiques, garden statues and more. Browse until your heart is content!! If you are interested in booking a stall please call Courtney Wood on 027 688 0818.





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## HOT HONEY APPLE PIE



### Share a recipe:

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3 Golden Delicious apples, peeled and cored (about 750g)  
4 Granny Smith apples, peeled and cored (about 750g)  
½ cup honey, try varying the variety, like thyme for example and enjoy the subtle differences  
¼ cup unsalted butter, cut into small pieces  
2 tablespoons instant tapioca  
1/3 cup light brown sugar  
½ teaspoon ground ginger or cinnamon  
¼ teaspoon salt  
Flour, for dusting  
Enough sweet short crust dough for 2 9-inch pie crusts

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Slice Golden Delicious apples and 3 Granny Smith apples into sixths.
  2. In a large skillet over medium-high heat, bring ¼ cup honey to a boil. Let simmer about 2 minutes, until honey is caramelized. Arrange half the apples in a single layer in skillet. Sprinkle 2 tablespoons butter over apples. Cook apples, turning, until well caramelized on all sides (but not cooked through), about 10 minutes. Scrape apples and honey mixture into a bowl. Add tapioca and toss to combine. Repeat cooking process with remaining honey, butter and sliced apples. Add second batch of apples to bowl; combine.
  3. Thinly slice remaining Granny Smith apple and add it to bowl. Stir in sugar, ginger and salt.
  4. On a lightly floured surface, roll out both crusts to 12-inch circles. Place one crust in 9-inch pie plate. Scrape apple filling into crust and top with remaining crust. Pinch edges to seal. With a knife, slice 4 vents in top of crust. Place pie on a foil-lined, rimmed baking sheet.
  5. Bake for 15 minutes; reduce heat to 350 degrees and continue baking until crust is dark golden and apples are tender when pricked with a fork, about 45 minutes more. Let cool for 30 minutes before slicing.
- Yield: One 9-inch pie, 8 servings.

## HOT AMERICAN FAVOURITE THIS WINTER

Browsing the New Yorker I periodically find Americans expressing faith in the singular American character of apple pie. Due to a rather awkward moment in a now notorious film, this perception has retained some sway. However the humble apple pie can be traced with relative ease back to Medieval Europe. In an England not yet reliant on cane sugar the natural sweetness of the apples, honey, or the deeper flavour of dried fruit were relied on to naturally sweeten the filling. Later the fabulous French Tatin sisters developed the skillet based Tarte Tatin, and the beautiful perfumed smell of cinnamon wafting through history's traditional Dutch apple pies immediately make me want to bake. Yes, making pastry by hand is a little messy, but not once you are used to it. Or cheat a little, and Google a food processor version – just don't over-mix it. More importantly, a pie is an extremely forgiving dish. You can alter the filling, substituting pears, peaches, or adding berries when they are in season - our local orchards always have a stunning selection of seasonal fruit available to inspire you. Pies cool complaisantly in their pans, steaming quietly on the bench as you get on with dinner. They require no icing, and can be reheated without upsetting the texture. None of the ingredients are difficult to find - most are probably already in your pantry and they are equally divine with ice-cream, cream (whipped or pouring), or a dollop of thick plain yoghurt.

## SWAPPING GUCCI'S FOR GUMBOOTS?



Have you recently bought a lifestyle block, or are considering swapping the Gucci's for Gumboots? The \$30 annual membership to the Kumeu Small Land-owners could be your next best investment! The association (or KSLOA as it is widely known), formed more than 30 years ago offers help, encouragement and assistance to people new to the rural sector. Monthly guest speakers cover a wide range of topics from bee keeping and organics to livestock and dung beetles! By drawing on the experience of other members, advice is never far away and many long term friendships have developed. A monthly newsletter provides members with some light hearted reading and plenty of useful information. The association has an extensive library and large inventory of equipment available to members at little or no cost. Special buying privileges at some local merchants are an added benefit that helps in these tight times. Visits to member's properties give an opportunity to pick up ideas or just inspiration. Interested? ... Take a look at their website [www.ksloa.org.nz](http://www.ksloa.org.nz)





Thanks Graham, Hey by the way just incase we haven't told you we are just delighted with what you have been able to do for us over the past month.

After meeting you at the open home we wanted to buy, then to have you actually help us sell our house within 3 weeks of meeting you has just been amazing.

We love the innovative ideas you have presented to us to help us sell the house and it certainly paid off. You (and please don't blush) have been very straight and down to earth with us, which is how we like to work to. Your charming manner and friendly outgoing persona are the attributes we liked and are what helped us decide to sell with you. I also have to say that your knowledge of the market was great. You know, in particular with me, that I wasn't too sure about the selling price. But it shows you know so much more about property than we do (thankfully).

Neither Simon or I would hesitate to recommend you as a Real Estate Agent. Thank you for making the selling and buying of our properties easy. We certainly couldn't have done this as quickly and as efficiently without you.

Kind Regards,  
Nicki and Simon

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Hank and Jill.



**Graham McIntyre AREINZ**  
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