

Free publication to meet the needs of Kumeu & Districts

WWW.KUMEU COURIER.co.nz

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2011

VOLUME 2
ISSUE 7

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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WE NEED YOUR FABULOUS GARDEN TODAY



Organizers of the 2011 Kumeu Art in the Garden are one garden short and are appealing to the community to put your garden forward for consideration for the annual event that raises thousands for local charity groups. "We've come up short" says Graham McIntyre, founder of the event. "We have had a number of properties that were ear-marked for 2011 change ownership which has created a small void in which we are seeking to fill. The successful garden will get significant publicity through magazines, web sites, newspapers and attended by over 1000 people on October 29 and 30. ▶ ...cont pg 6

FOUR YEARS SERVING FAMILIES OUT WEST

July 16th & 17th 2011 sees the Craft Out West Show in its fourth year and at a fabulous new venue – Waitakere Indoor Netball Facility (Cnr Te Pai Place & Lincoln Road, Henderson)! This show was established to showcase our wonderful locally made crafts accompanied by our off shore artistic talent who come home to be part of this event which is West Auckland's largest Craft Show. This is a fabulous family event with something for every age group from shopping for that special gift, live entertainment, delicious food, hands on demonstrations, a new dress or scarf and buying craft supplies for your favourite activity. Alongside the above there are interactive activities for children including face painting, ceramic make & take home, beading make & take home, book readings, flax weaving and musical fun. ▶ ...cont pg 4

THIS LEAVES A GRIN ON YOUR FACE



Looking for something fun to do to get you out of the house over these winter months. The winter weather patterns (windy) are perfect for blokart sailing on Muriwai Beach. Even with no sailing experience most people have it all worked out after the first couple of minutes of instruction. Muriwai Surf School has 4 blokarts for hire and will give you full instructions and make sure you have the hang of it before setting you free. Blokarts are suitable for everyone from the age of 9 to 90 and leave you with a fixed grin on your face. Blokart sailing on Muriwai Beach can only be done two hours either side of low tide and we need some wind.

You will find contact details, tides and prices on the website www.muriwaisurfschool.co.nz
Happy Karting, Martin

See us at: www.kumeucourier.co.nz Sponsorship starts at \$75 per month plus GST.
Editorial and Advertising to Anna Sareczky Ph: 021607971 Email: annasareczky@hotmail.com

Mike Collins
Kumeu Police
Ph 412 7756



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

HAVING PROBLEMS WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Noisy parties, barking dogs, loud vehicles, boundary disputes, fencing issues, overgrown trees and driveway/ access disputes are all too common. How to best deal with these problems depends on many factors and the most common stalling block for resolutions is the stubbornness of one or both parties to make a change, even if proven wrong. On average, most neighbour disputes have gone on for several years before Police become aware of it and this is normally only because matters get out of control. The best way to deal with an issue from the start is to talk to the other person or people involved and attempt to rectify it in a civil manner, this sounds too easy but it is often never done. The District Council also have many departments designed to assist, such as Noise and Animal Control and provide an array of easy options for you to make contact with them. If you find yourself requiring further advice you can contact me at the Kumeu Police Station on 09 412 5194, preferably before several years pass by, and we can work together before things get out of control. Const Mike Collins.

ORDINARY PEOPLE - EXTRAORDINARY JOB

Around Kumeu and it's districts the New Zealand Fire Service and the Rural Fire Authority plays a major role in providing an effective and largely volunteer emergency response to New Zealand communities. Most of these communities depend on volunteers for their every day fire and first response management and protection. Men and women from many walks of life are volunteer firefighters. Volunteers include the self-employed, mothers at home, shift workers, people looking for work, trades people and professionals. Although from all walks of life these individuals are required to carry the mantle and respond to a range of incidents and emergencies at the drop of a hat. Whether you are trapped in a burning house, trapped in a car, or involved in some form of incident that requires quick response from a trained team it is this core group that will come to your aid 24 hours a day and seven days a week. So when you are next talking to someone that you know to be a volunteer firefighter it may be time to say "THANKS". Thanks for being there and thanks for being on call just in case I am the one that needs you to save me or my property. It is a small token for the work that is done in preparation for your darkest hour of need. Although Kumeu now has a waiting list for volunteers, Waitakere Volunteer Rural Fire Force is looking for members located within 4 minutes of the station based at Township Road, Waitakere Township. Contact Denis Cooper on 09 810 9251 or 0275626942. Stay safe, drive carefully.



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www.natureexplorers.co.nz

TIDE OF CHANGE AS ACERAGE IS AFFORDABLE

There has been a fair mix of sales over the last two months which indicate both a lift in demand for lifestyle property but a transactional range that is still in the 2004 and 2005 quadrant. It highlights the importance of reality when considering the expectations of where your value sits within this market and working with an agent that can share the statistics with you on like for like properties that have sold while highlighting some of the issues facing properties that have languished on the market without success. We are happy to provide without obligation an analysis on your present situation, current sales history in the area and what can be done to get you from anticipating a sale to achieving a sale. In this market knowledge and energy are vital. This comes free with every encounter with us at LJ Hooker Kumeu. Stay dry, drain well, Graham McIntyre, LJ Hooker Kumeu, Phone 0276 320 421. Recent sales over the last two months includes:

Kumeu			Waimauku		
Pomona Road	1.9 hectares	\$1,045,000	Waimauku Station Road	1.1 hectares	\$690,000
Riverhead Road	4.87 hectares	\$937,500	Old North Road	1.1 hectares	\$720,000
Burns Lane	1 hectare	\$1,221,000	Old North Road	3.55 hectares	\$845,000
Taupaki			State Highway 16	4.5 hectares	\$842,000
Nelson Road	4.8 hectares	\$827,000	Woodhill Park Road	1.85 hectares	\$880,000

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

START THINKING ABOUT A FIXED-TERM RATE

Main point of interest currently is the worsening economic situation in Europe (ie. Greece), which may have a direct effect on NZ housing interest rates. The latest Christchurch after-shocks not so much. There is a 60% consensus from various financial institutions that the Official Cash Rate will start to move upwards towards the end of the year. The strong exchange rate and delays before the Christchurch reconstruction are expected to keep the OCR, and hence floating mortgage rates, unmoved until late 2011. But the RBNZ is still foreshadowing a significant amount of tightening once the rebuild begins, and the shorter fixed-term rates are likely to incorporate this well in advance. The window of opportunity for sitting on floating rates, before jumping into a fixed term, is quickly narrowing.

May saw the annual Westpac rescue helicopter appeal and our target of \$1m was reached again – thanks to all who contributed.

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



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Indoor Netball Centre
Cnr Lincoln Road & Te Pai Place
Henderson
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10am to 4pm

New Venue

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Contact:

Sam Waite

Ph 412 9602

or 0274517299

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TIPS FOR LANDLORDS

It may interest you to know that almost 70 percent of residential investment property owners are managing their own properties. However, many landlords are not aware of the skill and time it takes to successfully manage a property. If you are one of the large number of property owners who is managing your rental, how are you finding it? Are you happy with the way things are going? Did you carefully screen prospective tenants? Are you sure you're getting the best possible rent in the current market? Do you know as soon as a tenant goes into arrears? Are you comfortable with the inspection process? If you seem comfortable with afore mentioned questions, do you feel the same about legislation?

Could you answer the following?

How long can you be out of the country without having to appoint someone to act on your behalf?

What's the penalty for failing to keep the property maintained to a level that meets building or health and safety standards?

If you think managing your property and keeping up with legislation, and the needs of your investment property are stressful, give Sam Waite a call at LJ Hooker Kumeu and talk to her about options that will keep you, the owner, safe and stress-free. A good property manager is hard to find, don't look any further – Sam will point you in the right direction. By the way – the answers to the above questions:

-If you have been out of the country for more than 21 days, you need to appoint someone to look after the management of the property. (See s.16A of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986)

-The penalty is exemplary damages to the tenant of \$3000.
(See Schedule 1A of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986)

▶continued from page 1

2011 welcomes 3 overseas traders - Kympatti Bears (Australia) and The Painted Cookie are returning for the second time. They will show off amazing creative beads, The Painted Cookie brings to our shores wonderful Christmas ornaments and stunning miniature teapots all from Canada. Our third visitor is Karen Alderson who travels the world selling her sought after collectible bears, patterns and accessories.

Entry to the event is FREE for 12 & under, Adults \$5 and Senior Citizens \$3. This successful event is run by volunteers with all proceeds donated to Hospice West Auckland. In turn the amount raised helps Hospice provide wonderful care to West Auckland families.

This year we are also running a colouring in competition for children aged between 5 & 10. The entry form can be found at our website www.craftoutwest.co.nz. For further information including a list of stall holders (150+) visit our website or connect with us on Facebook our profile = Craft Out West

NO - YOU CAN'T HAVE ONE !

The annual pilgrimage to the Mystery Creek Fielddays near Hamilton is a fixture on most farmers calendars, whether a large scale commercial farmer or a small scale 'hobby' farmer. It is billed as the largest agribusiness exhibition in the Southern Hemisphere and with more than 1000 exhibitors it is a real challenge to get around everything in one day. Unless you carefully plan your time there it is very easy to miss out entire sections. It is possible to compare products and prices for anything from sheds to a pair of socks and secure some pretty sharp deals, or, having done your homework come back and buy locally. In addition to our own projects we are always on the lookout for new or innovative equipment that could be purchased for the Kumeu Small Landowners and be of use to all its members. A batten stapler was one such item bought several years that is available for members to borrow. One thing I do find when looking for things that I would just love to have in the shed is that five little words keep ringing in my ears ...

"No – you can't have one"

WINTER WINE FAIR GETS A GLOW ON

Winter just got better! The annual Winter Wine Fair is on at Soljans Estate Winery 15-31 July offering great prices on wine, with fine cuisine to add a warm winter glow to mind, body and soul. There are fantastic specials on all Soljans wines plus 15% off case purchases. For some fortification against the winter chill, the award winning Tawny Port is also reduced and there's 30% off selected gift items, plus free mulled wine will keep you warm whilst you browse. In the Café, after ordering their favourite from the extensive menu, kids can enjoy the enchanting play area and take part in the annual colouring competition. Being family oriented, the staff at Soljans enjoy making a fuss over their young diners to allow mums and dads time to unwind and relax. Every purchase in the Cellar door and Café give you a chance win \$50 worth of Soljans gift vouchers. Kick start your winter at the annual Soljans Winter Wine Fair! www.soljans.co.nz Phone 09 412 5858



KUMEU RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS UPDATE

The Kumeu Residents and Ratepayers have confirmed that the mayor, Len Brown, will attend the meeting of the same on Tuesday October 11. He intends to outline the plan for Auckland and to obtain feedback from the district directly. As yet a venue has not been selected however this will be advertised to the community in due course to allow as many as possible to attend. Last week at our June meeting we were provided with an aerial view of the motorway extension and the Westgate development. Noel Rugg gave an impressive overview of the developments. This represents a massive urbanization project within 6 minutes from Kumeu. The NZTA representative, engineer Kenny See, had no solution to table over the upgrading required for Kumeu Township but would put us in contact with the engineers responsible. The motorway will open in September 2011. On June 15, Chris Welsh, Nick Nobilo and others had a brief meeting with the Mayor to outline frustration over the Winstone Recycling Plant issues and the lack of progress on the Huapai south zoning. The close proximity to Auckland with greater accessibility will put pressure on the district. Len Brown gave a good hearing and advised that he was looking forward to the meeting on October 11. Pete Sinton, Chairman—Kumeu Huapai Residents and ratepayers Association Ph 412 2016

THE GRASS ON KUMEU RUGBY

Kumeu rugby continues to have a strong year, all our senior teams have performed strongly and are placed in the top four of their respective grades, a big thanks to all those who have provided sponsorship, it makes a big difference to those teams, also a big thanks to the supporters that come down to the club each week we are getting great numbers on the side lines that the players enjoy and in the club rooms after. Our junior club is also going great guns with all teams performing well, another big thanks to all coaches and volunteers that help out each week. After the success of our night game earlier in the month we are having another one this Friday the 24th so bring the family, and watch some of our local junior boys at 6 pm then come watch the blues cane the waratahs on the big screen and sample our burgers and chips there pretty good. We are lucky to have been asked to host the north harbour ITM cup team on Friday the 8th July playing counties Manukau in a pre season game it is a great opportunity to see this level at our club. Look forward to seeing you at the club. Paul Smith, Club Chairman Phone 021412960

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2011
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 Tickets \$95pp or \$900 per table of 10
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 On sale 1 July 2011
 Contact Andrea North on 0211864225

I live in Kumeu, I love Kumeu and the people.
"That's why I sell more of Kumeu"
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0276880818
Courtney Wood
 Licensed REAA 2008

Contact:
Ryan
09 412 5280



Anna Sarczky
Editor

Ph 021 607 971
Email:
annasarczky@hotmail.com

DONATIONS OF TIMBER AND LABOUR

The West Coast Riders Club (WCRC) is a volunteer run mountain bike club and registered charity creating a free-to-ride bike park in Riverhead Forest. In three months since the last edition of the Kumeu Courier the WCRC has completed three new trails. Combined, these trails present nearly two and half km of downhill riding bliss. You will be amazed at the quality of trail and even more amazed that they have all been made on an entirely volunteer basis. That's right, in perseverance, sweat, determination and cheap tools from Mitre10 the WCRC trust. The WCRC called for any donations of timber, volunteer labour and charitable donations to help us deliver on our vision for a world-class free-to-ride bike park. We still want to connect with people who share our passion and are grateful for any support. Please contact club president Ryan

▶continued from page 1

The dates coincide with an expected early spring, the end of the Rugby World Cup and a weekend that is uncluttered of art and garden events within the region. "After two years of trialing a range of add-ons and marketing initiatives we are confident that we have not only the right mix of entertainment and food, but the marketing platform that has been developed is top notch. The event this year aims to return \$15,000 into local charity groups in the area including Kumeu Fire Brigade, Community Patrol and Muriwai Surf Club". Says McIntyre. Enquiries can be made to Graham on 09 412 9602 or Willie on 412 6174.

HIGH ROLLER BALL SEEKS SUPPORTERS

The Riverhead Community Ball Committee would like to invite you to contribute to this years fundraising ball. This event is a fabulous way to help our community and to showcase your business or product to a large group of people. The funds raised from this year's ball will be going to two deserving recipients:

1. Riverhead School, for soccer goals, rugby goals and the continuation of the fitness trail.
2. The Riverhead Scouts Club, to allow them to increase the resources they have available.

The success of this evening depends entirely on contributions received from our community and its surrounds.

Therefore we are seeking items for our different types of auctions run throughout the evening:

1. Goody Bags - 20 Items required for our Goody bags that are silent auctioned, one per table.
2. Auctions - split into live and silent auctions these are a great way for us to raise money

We thank you for taking the time to consider how you may be able to contribute to the High Rollers Ball 2011.

If you are able to help or would like more information, please contact Greer McNally on 021909099 or email Greer28@me.com.

WAIMAUKU 90th JUBILEE REUNION 2 JULY 2011



People are coming from far and wide to celebrate Waimauku School's 90th Jubilee.

In the afternoon, there will be the opportunity to renew old friendships and refresh memories of time at Waimauku School. In the evening, the celebrations kick off at 6pm in the School hall with drinks and nibbles while decade photos are being taken. A 'Denim to Diamonds' themed Dine and Dance will follow at 7:30pm with entertainment provided by local band 'Four on the Floor' who have a reputation for ensuring everyone has a great night out. To see who has registered so far and to make certain you don't miss out, please see the school's website www.waimauku.school.nz (our celebrations and 90th jubilee pages) for more information or call the school on 411 8222.

KUMEU VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE



We will become the 13th Visitor Centre (hope it is not unlucky for us) to become part of Auckland Tourism. Auckland Tourism now sits in ATEED (Auckland Tourism Events & Economic Development) which is a council controlled organization of the Auckland Council. This is really great news for us, as we will no longer have to beg borrow and steal to get funding to run the Visitor Centre in Kumeu. The takeover is of the 1st of July, when our current funding from RDC runs out. The next step will be to become a full i-SITE NZ member, which ourselves and Auckland Tourism are keen to see happen as soon as possible. As a full i-SITE we will benefit from the increased promotional advertising nationwide and within Tourism NZ's International campaigns as well as being able to take bookings for accommodation, tourist activities and transport throughout NZ. With the RWC now less than 100 days away it is more important than ever to promote all that we have to offer out West to both the National and International visitors. You may think that your business is not involved in tourism, but we all are from the corner dairy to the adventure activities that we know and love in our area. This is going to be such a big opportunity to show off our kiwi hospitality that we are so famous for. I encourage you all to apply some spit & polish to your business in preparation for RWC 2011 kicking off on the 9th of September in Auckland. If we can be of help to you call me. Bernadette Limbrick. Manager. Phone: (09) 412 9886 Fax:(09) 412 9165 Email: info@kumeuinfo.co.nz Website: www.kumeuinfo.co.nz

" nobody does it better "



TWO INCOMES - DOUBLE HAPPY !

Returning over \$600 per week this little gold mine presents an excellent opportunity to an investor or first home buyer . Recently refurbished there are two homes on 873 sqr mtr site. Close to the RNZAF Whenuapai base, inner harbour and new motorway connections. This home and income or double income will bring you so much joy!

CONTACT: Courtney Wood 0276880818 Licensed REAA 2008
cwood.kumeu@ljh.co.nz
VIEWING: go to www.kumeuopenhomes.co.nz
FOR SALE: Present all offers
ADDRESS: 38 Ferry Parade, Herald Island
WEB: www.ljhooker.co.nz/VAH14



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: go to www.kumeuopenhomes.co.nz
FOR SALE: Set sale date 15 July at 5pm (unless sold prior)
ADDRESS: 252 Boord Crescent, Kumeu
WEB: www.ljhooker.co.nz/TAH14
www.youtube.com (keyword) mrljhooker



A \$539,000 GOLDMINE IN KUMEU

This adorable three bedroom, one bathroom is perfect for a family. Set on 2.9 hectares, with magnificent views and generous decking - you do not want to miss this gorgeous home! Sunny in the summer and toasty in the winter thanks to the woodburner in the living room. Amazing rural views and a huge backyard... you can make all your dreams come true .

CONTACT: Graham McIntyre 0276320421 Licensed REAA 2008
gmcintyre.kumeu@ljh.co.nz
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FOR SALE: \$539,000
ADDRESS: 43 Pinetone Road, Kumeu
WEB: www.ljhooker.co.nz/UYH14



\$\$\$ WAIMAUKU MONEY MAKER \$\$\$

There is nothing small about this opportunity set upon 3/4 of an acre of flat land in Waimauku. The lovely, warm brick home boasts four bedrooms, double lounge, double garage, and games room and workshop - with lots of sunshine streaming through the windows. Set down a private lane within the privacy of an established orchard and garden

CONTACT: Graham McIntyre 0276320421 Licensed REAA 2008
gmcintyre.kumeu@ljh.co.nz
VIEWING: go to www.kumeuopenhomes.co.nz
FOR SALE: Set sale date 29 July at 5pm (unless sold prior)
ADDRESS: 61 Muriwai Road, Waimauku
WEB: www.ljhooker.co.nz/VCH14

CALF SELECTION AND CALF SCOURS

When buying in calves it's really true that you get what you pay for. A healthy calf should weigh no less than 35kgs (average Friesian X bull calf), not have any painful joints or be lame, should have a clean dry navel, bright clear eyes, a dry tail, strong suckle reflex and must have received good quality colostrum (not always the case!). It's also worth buying calves from as few sources as possible.

The next hurdle will be preventing (and possibly managing) sick scouring calves. These calves need to be kept out of the draught and need lots of supportive care in the form of fluids and electrolytes (4-6 L per day given in 2-3 feeds) – dehydration is what kills them and 95% of scours responds to fluid therapy alone. When mixing up the milk powder ensure you are sticking to exact label specifications – too much or too little water alters milk clot formation resulting in nutritional scours. Feed at regular intervals and don't overfeed. Have a sick calf pen to isolate and treat "poor do-ers" promptly and disinfect between animals. Finally calves should always have ad lib access to fresh clean water and fresh calf meal (pellets) to promote rumen development early on. The team at Kumeu Vets are always happy to have a chat, so give us a ring on 412 9016

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



THE PHEONIX - GROWING KUMEU ROTARY

Graham Cato has been elected as the President of the Kumeu Rotary Club for the next 12 months. This will be Grahams second time as President and he says that as always finding ways to assist local community projects will be the main focus for the club this year. Already Kumeu Rotary has committed to paying the annual leasing costs on rooms in Pomona Rd so that the West Auckland Hospice can provide a local service to people in the Kumeu Helensville area with out the need for them to travel to Te Atatu. Assisting the areas youth is also high on the clubs agenda. Kaipara College has been funded in areas of career options, music programs and science equipment and scholarships. Local primary schools are assisted with books and other material. The club has close ties with the Muriwai Surf Lifesaving Club and the Kumeu Volunteer fire Brigade who have both benefited from substantial donations over the past fifteen years. individuals who require funding for special projects can also apply to the club and all applications will be looked at and where possible the club will provide assistance. The club is a major presence in the North West and will continue to be so. If you think you would like to be a part of the club you are welcome to come and join us. Enquiries to Les Barber on 412 9334 or les.barber@xtra.co.nz

DISCOVERY FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD

We are delighted to hear from many parents that the new kindergarten in Riverhead is going so well. Head teachers Angela and Melissa believe that children deserve the best quality early learning experiences and together with their team, ensure the children attending receive this. The kindergarten's philosophy ensures children learn in an environment that incorporates as many natural NZ made resources as possible. When the staff are asked what makes their preschool different they say *"Our centre is warm, welcoming, and has a staff that is energetic, passionate and highly trained. Our ratios are small and our hearts are large. Many of our children are local however a significant number travel from Waimauku, Muriwai, Kumeu, Coatesville, Whenuapai and Greenhithe making our service a preschool of choice"* says Angela. Explore for yourself by phoning for a free day of discovery, exploration and fun. A limited number of seasonal, school day and full day enrolment options are left so early registration is encouraged. Learn more about them online www.natureexplorers.co.nz or phone (09) 4128800.



Anna Sareczky
Editor

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annasareczky@hotmail.com



Call Angela on
0272248937 or email
angella@gioia.net.nz

RUBY TURNS OUT A GREAT DINER FOR \$20

The Kumeu Club Inc is a relaxing place to be at any time. Located in the modern well appointed clubrooms of the Huapai Golf Club you can sit inside or out and enjoy the peaceful green view of the golf course. The Kumeu Club has been at Huapai for the past 2 years since shifting from its old premises in Kumeu. It has been an arrangement which has provided benefits for both clubs. Kumeu Club members not only enjoy well priced drinks but they can also have a round of golf on the Huapai course at a very attractive cost. Carts at great prices are also available. In addition to providing a huge range of drinks at the best price you will find anywhere there is also a bistro restaurant and light lunch service available from Rubys Kitchen seven days a week. On Friday nights Ruby turns on a \$20 a head dinner which is amazing value. Three course with a selection for your main. Yummy homemade deserts feature on all Friday night menus. A full TAB service is provided at the club along with a gambling room for those who like a punt. The club also runs a wide variety of activities for its members such as fishing completions, car rallies and evenings for those who like to get out and socialize. If you are looking to make new friends in a safe friendly environment please visit the club at any time at 1261 Riverhead Coatesville Highway or phone 412 7632.

CLEAR YOUR COMPUTER DESKTOP

Rather than facing a clutter of documents and icons all over your computer Desktop screen, you can create Folders to contain everything. Simply right click anywhere on your Desktop and choose **New – Folder** and then rename the folder. **Shortcut** your 'My Documents' folder, and any other often used Folders in My Documents, onto the Desktop for immediate access. Once your Desktop is clear with your regularly used icons and Folders lined up around the edges of your screen you can then choose your favourite photograph as your Desktop Background, something that will make you smile as soon as you open your computer.

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ORANGE AND CARDAMOM TORTE



Share a recipe:

Anna Sareczky

Editor

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This is my absolute favourite go-to elegant tea cake. Loosely based on Claudia Roden's famous flourless torte, but without all the fuss of boiling an orange for 3 hours, it is simply divine. Dense but still light and fresh in flavour, moist, and slightly exotic, it lasts several days. While it is nicest cold with a glass of mint tea, or at the end of a meal with a glass of fine desert wine, it can also be served warm with lightly whipped cream or gently melting vanilla ice-cream. The cake is Spanish in influence and origin; Andalusia experiences the same vibrant burst of citrus in winter as us. I had the pleasure of learning this recipe from my friend Cristina who grew up in a rich cultural and culinary melting pot where the bitter orange's white flowers infused the whole city with the scent of blossom in spring. Cardamom is an old spice, the whole dried pods are almost eucalyptus-like in aroma, while the ground powder has a warmer, sweeter taste. Many cultures chew the pods after meals to freshen breath. You may need to buy the whole pods from one of our local specialty fruit shops rather than the supermarket. I got my last batch from SH 1's Vegeco and picked up some of their brilliant vacuum sealed sun-dried tomatoes too.

Cake

6 eggs, separated

175g caster

grated rind and juice of 1 orange

175g ground almonds

75g day old breadcrumbs

flour for dusting the pan

Syrup

juice of 3 oranges

3 cardamom pods, bruised

50g caster sugar

1. Grease and line a 23 inch spring-form tin, dust with flour. Preheat oven to 180C.

2. Beat egg yolks, sugar, orange rind and juice until pale and thickened and stir in almonds and breadcrumbs.

3. Whisk egg whites until just stiff. Fold one spoon into the almond mixture to loosen, and then gently fold through the remainder.

4. Bake for 35-40 minutes until a skewer inserted into the center comes out clean.

5. Place all ingredients for syrup in a small pan. Boil vigorously 3 minutes, until syrupy. Spike the cake all over with the skewer. Pour syrup through a strainer over the cake, distributing evenly. Cool. remove gently from tin, slice into thick wedges and serve with fresh raspberries and a little cream.

JOIN THE CROWD AT KUMEU SQUASH CLUB



Squash is a game for young people, right? Wrong! Kumeu Squash Club has more aging squash players than juniors and they love the game. To cater for this aging group of enthusiasts, they are running their first Masters tournament from 22 – 25 July at their club in Access Road. Eighty players from clubs around Auckland will play three games over four nights, with all the finals on Saturday afternoon. As the photo suggests, spectators and players enjoy watching others sweat, puff, wheeze and whine while competing fiercely for the bragging rights at the prize-giving. This tournament is for those over 35 years old, but many are around 60 and still hate losing to the "young bucks". They might wipe their hands on the wall a few times during the game and kick the ball to the front of the court while they get their breath back, but not one of them like losing. Join the finals afternoon at the club, have drink and watch the best sport in the world for general fitness and agility. If you enjoy the spectacle, you may wish to take advantage of the 3 month trial membership or join the "red dot night" on Mondays where you can join other prospective members as they find muscles they had forgotten about. Contact Paul Ferner on 412 9759 or 412 8660

ALWAYS A MARKET - RAIN OR SHINE



It seems that, no matter what the weather, there is always a market for fine food, good quality products and superb arts and crafts. Evidence of this was obvious at our most recent Kumeu Country Market – even though it rained heavily for the entire day, the market was still very well attended by young and old alike. This was certainly due to the fact that the market's four large sheds could comfortably accommodate our 100 plus stall holders whilst keeping our patrons warm and dry. So, rain or shine, our market continues to grow in popularity and will definitely be on again next month – come along on Sunday, 24th July from 10am to 2pm, and be prepared to have your senses delighted! We look forward to seeing you there.

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Hospice West Auckland provides specialist palliative care to a large geographical area from New Lynn to the Southern Kaipara. We are pleased to introduce our North Team who care for people in the region from Bethells Road in the south, across to Riverhead in the east and up to South Head. The team is headed up by a Clinical Nurse Specialist and comprises two Specialist Palliative Care Nurses, a Social Worker, a Complementary Therapist and a Chaplain. The community based team clocks up over 200,000 kilometers a year on country roads, providing service in the patient's home. Care extends to bereavement support for family and support to care givers. Some services such as clinics, counseling and bereavement support are offered at the Pomona Hall. Hospice West Auckland is committed to providing a unique blend of holistic specialist care, and ensuring comfort and dignity at the end of life. If you would like to know more about Hospice please contact us on 09 834 9750, or visit our website www.hwa.org.nz

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WARMING WINTER CONCERTS FROM LOCAL CHOIR PRO VOCE

Local choir Pro Voce will be singing at Puhoi Community Hall, at 7.30 pm on Saturday 9 July and on Sunday 10th they will be at St Chad's in Huapai, at 6.00 pm. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$10 unwaged, \$5 children. A light supper follows each concert. As audiences have come to expect of Pro Voce, the programme is varied, ranging from richly layered Elizabethan works from a leading English composer of the time, William Byrd, to deceptively simple tunes from the modern Cornish composer Richard G Grylls. Also included are madrigals celebrating the thrills and agonies of love, and two popular Maori love songs. Pro Voce are pleased to welcome back Samantha Jones, as a special guest. The choir practices on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 – 9.30, at the Waimauku Baptist Church; new members (especially basses and tenors!) will always receive a warm welcome.

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