

Free publication to meet the needs of Kumeu & Districts

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COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2012

VOLUME 3
ISSUE 2

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 6000 + Circulation
- Community information
- Upcoming events
- Sponsorship
- Free editorial contributions
- House price sales
- Relevant to area rate-payers
- Share a recipe
- Advertising from \$30
- Service directory

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HOUSING SHORTAGE HITS HUAPAI



With a real shortage of residential properties in and around Kumeu, buyers are being squeezed out to Riverhead, Whenuapai, Taupaki and Waitakere areas. "This situation had to arrive eventually" says Graham McIntyre, Principal of LJ Hooker, "the council and the Local Council Boards have been completely ineffective in working with area landowners to free up residential land holdings. The demand has been brewing for over five years and the spill over is having a big impact on suburbs like Riverhead". ▶ ...cont pg 6

KUMEU 2012—WHAT IS IN STORE

The New Year has brought in further changes from the Auckland Council. In early December the Council advised that they are amending the Schedule for notifiable trees and including a further 310 with the District. This Association will look at the change to see if there are any anomalies & submissions close on 17th February. Please contact us if you have any concerns. This year is when the Auckland Council notify their new 'District Plan' or 'Unitary Plan' as it is called. This is where the greatest change is likely to occur as new zonings or change to the existing structures of Kumeu-Huapai will occur. With the sewerage & water finally come to the District - the opportunity exist for intensification of the Town Centre and other areas can occur. We need to have the community ideas and input if we are to provide a clear idea of what the District wants for Council. Westgate expansion is at earthwork stage, with the centre being 5 times the size of the existing complex, Hobsonville Supermarket and the Maddren/Foodstuff's proposal are at the Environment Court. With the rezoning of Huapai North for residential housing means, that Kumeu-Huapai will develop more into a housing/lifestyle ownership rather than rural agricultural uses. ▶ ...cont pg 4

KEN GALVIN TAKE A BOW - YOU'RE A LEGEND



Mrs Galvin says Ken is the type of person who will stop on the roadside to help if he sees someone broken down. It is this spirit that has rubbed off on the renowned Kumeu Hot Rod Show. Ken has been involved with the Auckland Hot Rod Club, the New Zealand Hot Rod Association, a member of the National Street Rod Association and has helped organise a number of events throughout the country including his own being the Kumeu Hot Rod Show. "He enjoys watching other people having fun," Mrs Galvin says. ▶ ...cont pg 12

See us at: www.kumeucourier.co.nz Sponsorship starts at \$30 per month plus GST.
Editorial and Advertising to Anna Sareczky Ph: 021607971 Email: annasareczky@hotmail.com



Kumeu Police
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BE VIGILANT AND NOTE VEHICLE PLATES

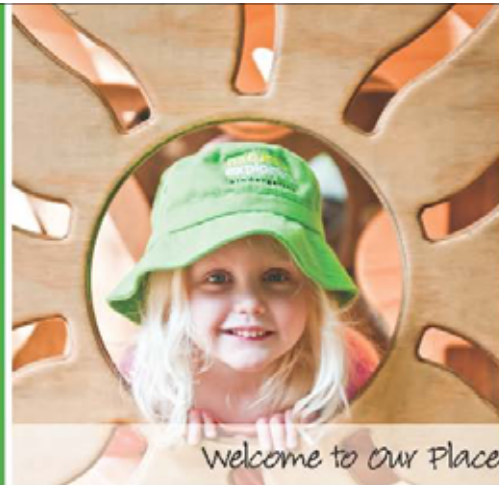
Kumeu Police have fielded an increasing number of calls from concerned residents who have been approached by suspicious looking characters wanting to cut down trees, tidy up the sections, and or buy scrap metal from their property. This can be of benefit for anyone trying to get rid of some junk as they will take it away for free however there are some scrap metal dealers who are operating on the fringes of the law and even some who are blatantly breaking the law by unlawfully entering property and stealing items for scrap. Such items include car or tractor batteries, hot water cylinders, power cords from electrical items, copper cables or drain pipes and the list goes on. Essentially, if you are approached by them and you feel comfortable then work with them but if you have any hesitation or suspicion, note their registration number and description and phone Police immediately on 111. From Mike Collins of Kumeu Police on 412 7756

THANKS TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Community Business support for Kumeu Volunteer Fire Brigade is an important part of getting ahead . We have just received a letter from Rob and Cassie- owners of the Kumeu Gym, with an offer to all current members of our brigade. The Kumeu Gym has been operating in Kumeu for 27 years and over that time has helped many people to improve their fitness and achieve their goals.

Over the years we have used the Gym to achieve our goals at the Sky Tower Challenge Stair Climb. As volunteers you usually expect nothing in return for your hours you put into your duty for your community. It is what you do and why you do it, otherwise it would be your job, right?. So it was with great pleasure to pass on to the brigade members the offer of Complimentary Membership to the Kumeu Gym.

So with some goals in mind and this great offer from Rob and Cassie, the guys and girls of Kumeu Brigade will be fitter and faster than ever. If we keep up with our training maybe a Calendar?



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REAL ESTATE MYTHS

If I list with an agent out of area, or with all agents, will I get a better price? No. Let me ask you a question. If you wanted someone to clean your house every week are you going to get a better result from a different cleaner coming each week or a cleaner from Blockhouse Bay to clean your house because she's near the water? No. Selling your home is a business decision made in a businesslike way about critical actions; Who can create the biggest exposure for the least cost?. Who best understands the home and who can endorse it the best?. Who do I trust with one of my biggest assets?. Who understands me? If you are searching for answers please call me, Graham McIntyre at LJ Hooker today 0276 320 421. I have a wealth of knowledge and testimonials that will deliver confidence to each and every question. Recent sales over the last two months follow:

KUMEU

Access Rd	1000sqm + House	\$ 450,000
Burns Ln	1ha + House	\$ 861,000
Oraha Rd	1ha + House	\$ 895,000
Oraha Rd	2.2ha + House	\$ 1,210,000
Pinetone Rd	1.4ha + House	\$ 965,000
Rheingold Pl	632sqm + House	\$ 522,000
Trigg Rd	1005sqm + House	\$ 510,000

RIVERHEAD

Elliot St	800sqm + House	\$ 610,000
Maude St	1214sqm + House	\$ 481,500

WAIMAUKU

Amber Pl	1200sqm + House	\$ 639,000
Buttercup Pl	1500sqm	\$ 295,000
Muriwai Rd	4.3ha + House	\$ 735,000
Old North Rd	5.4ha + House	\$ 2,000,000
School Rd	1ha + house	\$ 780,000
School Rd	16ha	\$ 770,000

MURIWAI

Domain Cres	812 + House	\$ 420,000
Domain Cres	860sqm + House	\$ 825,000
Motutara Rd	809sqm	\$ 312,000
Motutara Rd	2162sqm + House	\$ 630,000
Oaia Rd	1000sqm + House	\$ 700,000

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



LETS TALK MONEY - MY JOB IS TO HELP GET YOU SOME

The expected delays to the re-building process in Christchurch coupled with the on-going European financial woes have allowed the Reserve Bank to keep interest rates at the low levels of 2011. We expect these levels to remain until December this year at least. We do believe that fixed rate options have bottomed out however. Speaking of the Reserve Bank, with the Governor's decision to call it at day in September this may allow the Government to alter the RBNZ role in NZ – watch this space! If you are looking to buy property please feel free to contact me. I can offer 6 months pre-approval, 5 free QV valuations and on a 5% deposit coupled with expert advice and very competitive pricing. Re-financing of existing home loans are also a specialty – special pricing if you have at least 20% equity/ deposit!



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BUILDING UNDERWAY AT WAITAKERE FIRE

Contact
 Waitakere Volunteer Fire Force
 Ph Dennis Cooper
 0275626942



The new Waitakere Fire Station build project is well under way thanks to generous donations from The Waitakere Licensing Trust, The Lion Foundation NZ Fire Service and Auckland Council. Work on the flooring is progressing well and the water and septic tank installations have been completed. The 2 underground water storage tanks hold 45,000 litres of water between them with the septic tank holding 22,000 litres. The tanks are crucial as they are required for the Civil Defence capability of the station. A reminder that there is a restricted fire season in force in Auckland's rural areas until further notice. During this period, a fire permit from Auckland Council is required if you want to have a fire outdoors in a rural area. Please remember that it's an offence for your fire to cause a nuisance to your neighbours even with a permit. For further information on the station look us up at www.waitakerevolunteerfire.co.nz

Waitakere Volunteer Rural Fire Station Completion is set for March 2012

Anna Sareczky
 Editor

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The vineyard, cafes boutique restaurant will be the business of the future, after all we are now only 20 minutes from downtown Auckland, an easy drive. Protection zoning measures for viticulture needs looking at the future of Kumeu-Huapai in 2012 in our hands.

Do nothing and the new Kumeu will be forced on us.

Remember June brings out the new rating valuations - they are supposed to give us financial relief according to the Mayor Len Brown and Penny Webster - We will see!

Hope you all have a prosperous New Year.

Regards

Pete Sinton

Chairman - Kumeu-Huapai Residents & Ratepayers Association

Ph. 412-2016

email petesinton@townplanner.co.nz



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SENIOR NET COURSE-SCHEDULE RELEASED

Your committee last year decided that due to lack of support they would discontinue the interest group meetings and have monthly meetings at St Chad's hall. Some of these meetings will include a genealogy or photography speaker and others will be about computers in general. The St Chad's hall has been booked for the following dates:

Wednesday 1 February Monday 5 March Wednesday 4 April Monday 7 May Wednesday 6 June
 Monday 2 July Wednesday 1 August Monday 3 September Wednesday 3 October Monday 5 November

If you are interested in coming along to any of these courses please email admin@seniornetnorwest.net or ring me, Jenny Barrowman, on 412-7645.

BRINGING ON GALA'S GALORE!

Waitakere Primary School Gala March 3, 2012

Waitakere Primary School and the WVRFF Community are having a combined Gala on March 3, 2012.. We are searching for some good prizes for the quick fire raffles as a draw card, as it was incredibly popular last time. Contact Stephen Bishop via email if you have any goods to donate sb@amenitytreeconsultants.co.nz.

Waimauku Village Gala April 14

The Waimauku Lions will be holding a gala in Waimauku Village on Saturday 14th April. They are currently looking for people wanting to hold a stall, or entertainers of all kinds. Please contact Gael Nichol on 412 9919

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Editor

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Pumpkins! Well I hope you are having alot more luck than me this year. I have delayed planting the seeds this year by two weeks , now I am starting to worry they may not be ready for the Kumeu Show on March 10th-11th. Having a 50% strike rate with overseas seeds also caused concern. The great thing this year is no disease- so far. Plenty of rain and water in the tank. By now your pumpkins should be pollinated and a good size, so select one a couple of metres from the main stork and position the vines so when it starts to get huge it will have room to grow. Over a week cut off all the unwanted fruit , this will then concentrate all the growing to your show winning pumpkin. Keep up the watering, they can easily use up to 20 litres a day. Keep up the great work Fred The Fumpkin Parmer.

▶continued from page 1

“ In the last twelve months we have seen significant demand in Huapai and a lift in real estate prices by 9% in the area due to low supply. We have likewise seen the prices in Riverhead move by around 15% over the same period and demand stay constant while supply fluctuates greatly”. One of the agents that consistently sells more of Riverhead, Denise Glozier says “ I’m not complaining that buyers are finding Riverhead a viable alternative to Kumeu and I am delivering some outstanding prices to my Vendors that are cashing up. I have always felt that Riverhead would find a place in peoples hearts. It’s the Kauri Gum Café and the Historic Riverhead Pub, and the history around the school and the milling town that I feel will drive people to love this place as much as I do”.

JOIN LEZA CORBAN -"JAZZ IN THE VINES"

Come and join us for a relaxing afternoon of Jazz and sunshine at our picturesque Henderson venue which reflects the viticulture of the area and therefore looks and feels like a Tuscan winery experience. And with that in mind, bring yourself, your partner or the whole family. Bring a picnic rug, a few snacks and maybe a bottle of wine or alternatively food and wine can be purchased on the day. Provided is a great venue, the Jazz, and free tea and coffee. All money raised will go to Hospice West Auckland.

Leza launched her singing career at age 3 with an impromptu rendition of DoReMi in the Waitomo Caves. The crowd cheered – she was hooked! She became a studio session singer, adding her vocals to countless tracks by NZ artists including Moana, Dave Parker, 3 the Hard Way, Kantuta, Greg Johnson and Jan Hellreigel. Leza became a collaborator in Strawpeople. Her lead vocals on the haunting APRA Silver Scroll winning “Sweet Disorder” won her the ear of the industry and a place in the CD collections of thousands of kiwis. After numerous TV spots, three Christmas’s in the Park and two Starlight Symphonies. Leza continues to wow crowds with the inimitable music and energy that is UNION, and has been adding more strings to her musical bow as a DJ and by singing a little sultry jazz around town.

Date: 12th February 2012 between 2-5pm

Venue: Davis Funerals, 150 Central Park Drive, Henderson.

Tickets essential and only \$20.

To book, phone: (09) 835 3557 or email henderson@davisfunerals.co.nz



About Hospice West Auckland

Hospice West Auckland is a registered charitable trust dedicated to improving the quality of life for West Aucklanders with life-threatening conditions. We provide comfort and dignity at end of life. We offer a unique blend of medical and holistic (inclusive) care. Our assistance is practical, physical, emotional and spiritual, and we extend our services to families/whanau and carers. We offer support both at Hospice House and in the home, and we can provide inpatient care where needed. We are also here to help those who are grieving for their loved ones.

2012 is Hospice West Auckland's silver jubilee (25th) year.

Find more information at <http://www.wah.org.nz/node/158>



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Do you need to get a message out ?

Anna Sareczky

Editor

Ph 021 607 971

Email:

annasareczky@hotmail.com



Seldom found, this beautiful painters paradise is bathed in sunshine while the flowers and bird-life deliver a surreal environment that is safe, secure and very private. The home is a solid 1970's block and cedar construction with some refurbishment that sets it apart especially within the main bathroom and kitchen areas. 72 Matatea Road, Waimauku

\$ 829,000 NEG **3 BEDROOM** **2 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



This is a nature lovers hide away. A glade which is sheltered, northfacing with alfresco out to extensive decking. The home is predominantly brick with a tile roof and has a layout that will suit a family or semi retired couple looking for a self sufficient lifestyle, away from it all and not connected to the national grid. A sophisticated self sufficiency system operating solar and wind. 917 Peak Road, Waimauku

BY OPEN AUCTION **4 BEDROOM** **2 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



This outstanding rural dwelling within 10 minutes from Waimauku village is a family dream. With five bedrooms, two lounges, two bathrooms and garaging for 8 cars we would suggest this is one family retreat that must be seen to be appreciated. Included in the 6.8 hectares of land lies the opportunity to create a wetland area and apply to council for an additional title. Opportunities here. 101 Cable Road, Waimauku

\$1,229,000 NEG **5 BEDROOM** **2 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



9.9 HEACTARES OF ROLLING KUMEU HILL COUNTRY
 This is an absolutely outstanding land lot just off Foster road, within minutes of Kumeu CBD and Huapai and Waimauku Schools. The land is gentle sloping with ample house sites off a formed but un-metaleed drive. Excellent boundary fencing with good pasture, good contour. Kauri Crescent, Kumeu

\$ 829,000 NEG **LAND ONLY** **SERVICES AT GATE**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



8.1 HECTARES OF ROLLING HILL COUNTRY IN WAIMAUKU
 This corner site with multiple entry options, multiple building sites and north facing offers an excellent start for someone wanting the good life at an affordable price with options for equestrian or viticulture. A deep water bore and good boundary fencing completes the picture

\$ 790,000 NEG **LAND ONLY** **SERVICES AT GATE**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421

If you are thinking about buying or selling a property, check-out

www.Kumeuopenhomes.co.nz



Nestled in a tranquil corner of Riverhead with an outlook that must be seen to be believed. North facing, looking out to the forest and inner harbour. Three generous bedrooms, loads of living, conservatory and massive rumpus area. All within easy walking distance to the local park, school, 4 square and cafe. 99 Kaipara Portage Road, Riverhead

\$ 595,000 **3 BEDROOM** **1 BATHROOM**
PH DENISE GLOZIER 0272549999



Large lounge, and also has a sleep out and garaging with high stud. Great decking on a flat section in the heart of Riverhead. Minutes from Riverhead School, Historic Riverhead Pub and Inner Harbour Boat Ramp. The home is a great rental or first home option. 5 Albert Street, Riverhead

\$ 475,000 NEG **3 BEDROOM** **1 BATHROOM**
PH DENISE GLOZIER 0272549999



Sea Views and outstanding lifestyle on this double site in Riverhead. Flat section with mature plantings, large deck area, fully fenced. The road is a culdesac location which is very private and secure. A weatherboard bungalow sits proudly on site with beautiful matai polished floors and decking that opens up onto decking to the north and the west. 9 Sussex Street, Riverhead

NEGOTIABLE **3 BEDROOM** **1 BATHROOM**
PH DENISE GLOZIER 0272549999



This well positioned family home with expansive views, offers two levels on a larger than usual site. New reinforced driveway for heavy vehicles, double garage with workroom and fitted storage units. There is an abundance of room in all areas of this wonderful family home set in a semi-rural spot. 38 George Street, Riverhead

NEGOTIABLE **4 BEDROOM** **2 BATHROOM**
PH DENISE GLOZIER 0272549999



Section with an incredible outlook to the inner harbour. All services provided to the gate. Site area is 720 square meters. Flat site with GeoTech report available. Natural hedging boundaries. Princes Street, Riverhead. Lot 2.

"THIS IS THE BEST SPOT TO BUILD IN RIVERHEAD TODAY"

\$395,000 **LAND ONLY** **SERVICES AT GATE**
PH DENISE GLOZIER 0272549999

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This outstanding Architectural inspired Maddren cedar home sits within a botanical setting over 1.4 hectares of low maintenance grounds and enjoys commanding views over the hills and valleys to the Tasman Ocean. North west facing the home has three bedrooms, four bathrooms and garaging for seven vehicles. Owners considering offers around \$900,000
429 Kiwitahi Road, Waimauku

NEGOTIABLE **3 BEDROOM** **4 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



Elevated with 180 degree views over Cascade Falls Golf Club and reserve, this home blends seamlessly into its tranquil environment. Solid construction underlies a six bedroom homestead, sheds and stables on 4 hectares plus the added benefit of a minor dwelling with its own entrance.
12 Long Road, Taupaki

\$ 959,000 NEG **6 + 2 BEDROOM** **2 + 1 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



This early settlers bungalow has been re-clad and insulated and has been refurbished to suit an investor, extended family or a family wanting around \$800 per month to help service a mortgage. The main dwelling is three huge double bedrooms, combined lounge and dining and separate lounge. The lounge and dining open out onto an all weather conservatory and lawn area.
8 Stewart Street, Helensville

\$359,000 NEG **3 + 1 BEDROOM** **1+ 1 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



Two level home north facing consisting of four bedrooms and two toilets downstairs and one bedroom upstairs with toilet and kitchenette. Double garage with internal access with a huge double carport. Large entertaining decks and well kept garden on this flat fully fenced section. Perfect for the extended family or family with an income option.
6 Vintners Close, Huapai

\$629,000 NEG **5 BEDROOM** **3 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



One of the larger family homes in Riverhead is now on the market. This large 4 bedroom modern home is settled on a fully fenced double site with the potential of future sub dividing (subject to council approval). The interior is light and spacious with open planned dining and kitchen, including separate pantry and laundry.
35 Cambridge Road, Riverhead

NEGOTIABLE **4 BEDROOM** **2 BATHROOM**
PH ECHO MCRAE 0272330001

If you are thinking about buying or selling a property, check-out

www.Kumeuopenhomes.co.nz

WHITE CHOCOLATE BROWNIES



My mother insists white chocolate is not "real chocolate" and consequently she will not touch the stuff. This snobbery precluded me from trying it for years. She also told me it was too sweet which is often true of the generic brands. A frantically sweet tooth and limited options eventually won out, and I discovered it makes a fantastic addition to baking, most frequently in white chocolate macadamia cookies. White chocolate is actually made from the same ingredients as milk chocolate with the exception of cocoa powder. It contains cocoa butter but due to the lack of cocoa powder it will not be the rich dark colour associated with chocolate. Good quality white chocolate will list the cacao percentage on the packaging as with all high end chocolate. This usually specifies the amount of cocoa solids (cocoa powder and coco butter) included. For white chocolate it relates only to the cocoa butter percentage. Cheaper products may contain vegetable oil as an alternative and will not have the same luxurious texture. They will have a waxy mouth feel as their melting point is higher. When melting chocolate it is imperative to do it gently to prevent it from seizing. Chocolate brownies are always a great success and this white chocolate version comes from a popular restaurant in Albany. They are a little more decadent than your average brownie, mixing things up with raspberries and orange zest and an intriguing meringue top, which should be soft and golden like a pavlova. To dress them up for a dinner party serve with raspberry coulis swirled around the plate. Raspberry and White Chocolate Brownies

Batter:

2/3 c flour	1/2 c ground almonds	1/2 tsp salt	115g butter (preferably unsalted)
115g best quality white chocolate, chopped		1 c sugar	2 tsp orange zest (optional)
4 eggs	1 tsp pure vanilla extract	1 cup fresh or frozen raspberries	

Meringue:

3 egg whites	pinch of salt	1/2 c sugar
--------------	---------------	-------------

Preheat oven to 165°C. Line a 33cm by 22cm pan with baking paper. Lightly butter the lined paper and dust with flour, tapping out the excess. Whisk together the flour, ground almonds, and salt.

Set a glass bowl above a pan of barely simmering water, place the chocolate and butter in the bowl and stir until melted without allowing the mixture to get too hot. Set aside.

Place sugar, eggs, orange zest in the bowl of a stand mixer, beat on medium high speed until pale and foamy (about 3 min). Add vanilla. Reduce speed to low and add melted chocolate mixture. Add dry ingredients and mix until just combined (if you over-mix the batter the brownies will become tough and dense). Pour batter into prepared pan and sprinkle the raspberries across. In a perfectly clean mixer bowl (any trace of fat or grease will prevent the eggs stiffening), beat the egg whites with the salt on a medium speed until they are foamy. Increase the speed and slowly add sugar in an even stream, beating until they form firm and shiny peaks. Spread the meringue over the batter.

Bake 30-35 min until meringue is light golden brown and pulls away from the sides slightly. Cool to room temperature in the pan. Cut into 32 bars.



Share a recipe:

Anna Sareczky
Editor

Ph 021 607 971

Email

annasareczky@hotmail.com

SHOWCASING THIS REGION'S ASSETS AT THEIR BEST

2012 is going to be an interesting and busy year for Kumeu Coast & Country Business Association.

Last year we successfully handed over operation of the Kumeu Information Centre to Auckland Council. This was a long term goal for the association and ensures the long term viability of this valuable asset for local businesses at the gateway to our district. With the Visitors Centre project now complete we will be turning our attention to assisting members in the district with developing a vision for the coming years around business development and a collective marketing strategy to ensure visitor numbers continue to grow. One of the first projects for 2012 is a comprehensive business survey for the whole district from Riverhead to Kaukapakapa. Our goal is to get a detailed picture of how all business are doing, what businesses from all sectors see as the key issues facing them over the next few years, and identifying practical steps the business association can take to ensure growth for business over the next five years. We are doing this in partnership with Helensville District Business Association and Auckland Council. This will be the first time a survey of this scale has been undertaken in our area.

We are embarking on a membership drive and have reduced the cost of membership to encourage increased support and participation in our activities. Annual Membership of your local Business Association is now \$55.00 (plus GST). Some of the key benefits membership will get you are;

- Website Presence – our website now gets over 1,100 hits as week and growing and is the top Google placement for 'Kumeu' search.
- Regular communication on events, news and updates on activities in our district.
- Participation and exposure in our annual events such as Best of the West and sponsored events such as the Kumeu Art in the Garden.
- Access to results from our district business survey.
- Local Board Representation
- Networking Events, Competitive Advertising rates
- Window Decal

To join up or get more information about what we do visit www.kumeuinfo.co.nz email us on infor@kumeuinfo.co.nz or phone 09 412 9886

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The Gourmet Gannet is a boutique cooking school running relaxed 'hands on' workshops for small groups with a maximum of 8-10 people.

The smaller size of the group allows individual guidance and time to ask plenty of questions.

The idea is to have lots of fun while learning new skills and there are always your own homemade goodies to take away with you or enjoy with the group!

Check out our website for upcoming workshop: Homemade Sausages, Cake Decorating, Tapas, Salad Inspiration, Easter Baking and lots more. For more information and bookings, visit www.gourmetgannet.co.nz

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The only way to travel

Written by Kumeu
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KEEP DOGS AND PEST BAIT SEPERATE

Caution with rat and slug baits – dogs are losing the battle. Contrary to popular belief, these baits are made to taste great. Rat bait is particularly nasty because symptoms (bleeding tendencies) are delayed by days, so that only when the animal is really in trouble do we know about it. Do store them carefully.

For all the horses out there being plagued by ticks, permoxin spray or deer tags plaited into the mane are two easy ways of getting rid of the blighters.

Also, if you are still finding fleas on your treated animals come in and have a chat to one of our nurses at the clinic, they're full of helpful tips for getting 100% effectiveness

▶continued from page 1

The Kumeu-based festival celebrated its 17th year and is was bigger than ever with well over 50,000 people through the festival over the weekend. More than 4000 vehicles are on show, with trade sites and swap-meet and music that bring the show together. Good security and clear expectations has resulted in the delivery of another great festival.

Thanks Ken for choosing Kumeu to host this event, make sure you spend some of the loot in planting some more trees and flower beds in Kumeu.

THE SMALL TEAM THAT DELIVERS BIG EXPOSURE

Designhand is a small web development company based in Waimauku offering a broad range of services to customers who are either already investing in a website and looking for a refresh or new customers to the web looking to establish a web presence. Designhand can take care of your website design, helping from the selection of your domain name with search engine rich keywords through to the design and build of the website.

Recent projects in the North West area include:

Re-design for Kumeu Plumbing (www.kumeuplumbing.co.nz) - refresh of the design and introduction of a blog for Darryl called 'What's in the pipeline'.

New website for Clearfell Tree Services – (www.tree-services.net.nz) – a local business providing arboriculture services and improving their online marketing with a new website.

New website for Accent Trees 'n' Bags – (www.accenttreesnbags.co.nz) - also a local business based in Coatesville providing trees and root restriction bags and marketing through a website. Contact David at Designhand to discuss your website needs or a free quotation. Contact David on 0274491410

ROTARY SPONSORS CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING

More than 110 children aged between 5 and 13 years were enrolled for Kumeu Libraries Summer Reading Programme which finishes with a finale party on 27 January featuring Cornflake the clown. The programme is run through Auckland libraries. To join the programme the child or one person in the family needed to have an Auckland Libraries' membership card. On registration (which is free) the children received a passport, calendar of activities and an adventure guidebook.

This year, Auckland Libraries challenged children to take an adventurous approach to reading with its "Dare to Explore" programme. Each adventure had 10 to 12 challenges that could be done at home, on holiday, in the library, at the beach and online. The challenges included visiting the library in beach gear, reading a book outdoors, making recipes from cookbooks or making outfits for a book character.

Kumeu Rotary Club's sponsorship was used for entertainment at the library for the children involved in the programme. This included Madam Salami from "The Aunties" who performed a magic show that tied in with the phrase "Dare to Explore.."; Stu Duval, a well-known comic storyteller and Cornflake the clown at the finale.

The attached photo is of Jessica Woodhams, who is holding her folder with photos from the "Dare to Explore your Past" set of challenges, plus a time capsule that she made. The "Little Dude" beside Jessica is part of the logo for the programme. This year's programme has been a fantastic success. Over 6000 children joined the adventure Auckland wide which surpassed the combined total of the former seven summer reading programmes. Contact Graham Cato on 094118352

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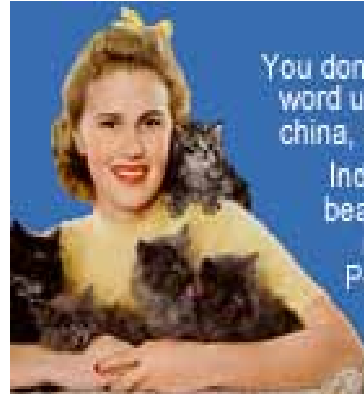
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THE DEMAND FOR HOMES



Presently, property is turning over. The main driver seems to be first home buyers at relatively low interest rates. Amongst this group, there are also buyers downsizing to a lower mortgage. Bare lifestyle blocks are not yet selling in any number. However, for the Sellers, there is no guarantee of rising prices. Rather, a wide acceptance that prices are back to where they were in 2007 and 2008.

Problem areas include weather tightness issues in mono clad 1990s constructions or recladding of weather-board houses. The problem being the lack of any cavity behind the mono cladding and untreated timber. We recommend a contract clause which allows you to get a weather tightness expert or a builder's approval before you commit yourself to a purchase. Sellers would be well advised to provide a clean LIM report and expert's report on the weather tightness. Call me directly if you need an advice in this or any other property matter. Luke Kemp, Phone 412 6000 or email luke@kempsolicitors.co.nz

ZASH IS HERE TO PAMPER HAIR

Zash Hair is a new hairdressing salon at 77 Waitakere Road, Waitakere that is owned and operated by Carla Bennett. Carla has been in the hairdressing industry for the last 22years, providing hair care through out the wider west Auckland area. Zash Hair proudly use's and recommends Wella. It is the brand for professional hair colour – indispensable in over 180,000 hairdressing salons throughout the world and unbeatable when it comes to quality. Wella offers a colour portfolio of 54 semi-permanent colours and 99 permanent shades. For all your hairdressing needs please phone Carla 021814663 (By appointment only)



YOU'RE NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN

Have you ever wished you knew how to work a computer and know what the Grand children were talking about when they tell you about their computer studies? They are brought up with it, and it is a part of their vocabulary. They have naturally kept up with the technology of our age, but us older people have often ignored new technology, and moved further into ignorance as time has moved on. If you wish to remedy this and keep abreast of the modern communication world it offers computer and technology training for people over 50 in a friendly, non-competitive yet structured fashion enabling people to participate in the technology age. We have an up to date learning centre situated locally in Kumeu, and meet regularly at the church Hall on the corner of Oraha and Matua Roads. We have an excellent website which can be accessed at www.seniornetnorwest.net This will give access to all our past newsletters, Committee members names and phone numbers, and a link to our Association, or give me a ring Ron Topping (membership coordinator) 412-9257 or Jenny Barrowman (course coordinator) 412-7645 or Jill Kouremetis (Chair) 810-7423 to talk about it.



Share a story idea:

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

CHOOSE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Relay For Life is not a race – it's a celebration and awareness raising event for cancer survivors, their carers, whānau and friends. The concept of Relay For Life began in 1985, when Dr Gordon Klatt, a surgeon and American Cancer Society volunteer, ran and walked 81 miles on a local track for 24 hours. He raised \$27,000 for the American Cancer Society. Here is what you can do to get involved:

Register early

- Be sure to register very early and pay for your team. More team members can be added after you register if required.

Be creative

- Start recruiting your team members today, get a name and develop a theme that works for you. Let your imagination go wild.

Start Fundraising

- Set a fundraising goal. The sooner you start the better. Attend team captains meetings and draw on the support of others to help motivate your team.

Relay For Life unites the community in the fight against cancer. Relay for life in Kumeu March 24, 2012. For information and reservations please contact Maureen Miller on 09 308 0240 or email auckland@relayforlife.org.nz



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PATROLS

Nor-West Community Patrol is a team of 55 dedicated local residence that volunteer their time to help with crime prevention in our area. Working alongside the Police we are extra eyes and ears, it works as a very successful way to make our streets safer. We have 2 sign written cars that patrollers go out in, being seen is a great way to deter would be thieves. Working on a monthly roster of 1 shift a month, it is rewarding to know you are doing your bit for the community. We are always looking for, and welcoming new members that have the time for our day or night patrols. We need new members. If you wish to become a Nor-West Community Patrol member, or want to know more, please visit Constable Mike Collins at the Kumeu Police Station or phone 412 7756



CHOOSE TO GET INVOLVED TODAY

Kumeu Art in the Garden is a philanthropic event that raises money annually to a range of charity groups throughout the area via Kumeu Rotary. Over the last three years the event has raised almost \$18,000 for distribution within the local community for the betterment of all members of the community. The groups include Hospice West Auckland, Kumeu Fire Brigade, Kumeu Community Patrol.

Due to the recent closure of the NZ Art Guild and the restructure of the event we are seeking a small number of retired or semi-retired individuals to work with us to support this event moving forward. This includes the following tasks:

- identifying and working with up to 100 artists
- identifying and working with up to 5 beautiful gardens in the area
- working with over 100 garden clubs by mail, telephone and email
- working with a range of media
- liaising with existing and new sponsors

This event has a track record of success and if you can spare a little time and one of these areas appeals to you, I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and discuss your involvement. It is not only a fabulous community event, it involves a wide range of community groups in the area, is fun and emotionally rewarding. Call me directly Graham McIntyre at 09 412 9602 or by email glms@xtra.co.nz



LAST WORD

I'm not enjoying the civil disturbance with all this waste water and water and phone lines going in all over the place. It feels like I'm living the chaos that our Cantabrian brothers are going through with so much digging and thrusting you'd think you were at a moles jousting tournament. I'm also a bit nervous about the poor buggar that is paying for all this, and when China is going to want there money back. I really enjoyed the Santa Parade this year but felt that Len Brown got piped by Queen Elizabeth, she not only looked younger than Len and she really looked like she was enjoying herself unlike Len that was always on the look-out for water bombs and water pistol fire. Needless to say Brutis had an awesome time before getting hit by a boiled sweet and I sat back and had a cold one. Chill out, relax and enjoy life boys, this is Madagascar-Kumeu style.

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