

FREE publication to meet the needs of Kumeu & Districts

WWW.KUMEUCOURIER.co.nz

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2012

VOLUME 3
ISSUE 5

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 6000 + Circulation
- Community Information
- Upcoming Events
- Sponsorship
- Free Editorial Contributions
- House Price Sales
- Relevant To Area Ratepayers
- Share a recipe
- Advertising from \$75 + GST

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SHOW ME THE MONEY - HOUSE HISTERIA



The housing market in Kumeu continues to heat up as demand peeks in the residential market and buyers continue to feel the squeeze. Properties sometimes last as few as two days or two weeks but demand ensures that the money drops onto the table and buyers are almost relieved that they have secured a home. Fuelled by a lack of rental properties in the area the demand has seen property prices in Kumeu continue to push up, with the median price for a three bedroom home at \$ 535,000. ▶ ...cont pg 6

VICTORY FOR KUMEU-HUAPAI RATEPAYERS

Finally I can report that the Association and Maddren's have an agreement to settle the appeal made to the Maddren/Foodstuffs scheme change. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) sets in place how the details of the new Town Centre and Supermarket are to progress. Before this Maddren's couldn't or wouldn't produce any layout plans of what was to occur in the development. They put too much reliance on the rules to hopefully control the form of the development but there was no control over the standard or appearance. That was of concern to the Association. The pragmatic approach has been taken! - A Liaison Group has been agreed between Maddren's and the Association, this group consisting of two from each group will meet to go over any designs or building permits produced by Maddren's or the incoming owners. The requirement is ongoing in that if Maddren's have a joint venture or sell completely, there is a legal obligation to consult with the community before the applications are made to the Auckland Council. The Liaison Group will come back to the community when there is some design to report on. ▶ ...cont pg 4

ADVERTISING MAKING TELEPHONES RING

<p>When only the best will do! "That's why you need to call me @ you are buying or selling a home" PH 09 412 9602 021 1643031 Aaron Lawley LIVESTOCK 2008</p>	<p>TAUPAKI GOJU RYU KARATE Tuesdays & Thursdays - Taupaki Hall Junior: (7-13yrs) 6.00pm - 7.00pm Senior: (13yrs +) 7.00pm - 8.30pm For confidence, fitness and self defense. Taught in the traditional Goju Ryu style as taught by Master Senter from the Aikidoan in Okinawa - the birth place of karate. Contact Senter Bryan Williams (3rd dan black belt) on 412 9768</p>	<p>77 Waitakere Road, Waitakere Township Phone: 021 814 663</p>
<p>Authentic Thai Cuisine</p>	<p>Specialists in Windscreens & Glazing</p>	

In a market that is highly competitive and where every dollar counts, it is great news to get positive comments about how well the advertising is working in Kumeu Courier. In a recent survey of our advertisers they make the following comments " I am really surprised that I get a consistent flow of prospects that refer to the publication. Its sometimes three enquiries a day and when I do editorial I get more". Another said "I was a skeptic but I get people talking about my advert". ▶ ...cont pg 12

See us at: www.kumeucourier.co.nz Sponsorship starts at \$75 per month plus GST. All enquiries to Anna Sareczky phone 021607971 or email annasareczky@hotmail.com

JOIN THE FUN - JENNIAN 5K WALK OR RUN

Spend quality time with mum or encourage her to take some time out for herself this Mother's Day by joining in your local Jennian Homes Mother's Day 5k fun run/walk. For many busy mums, nothing is more of a treat on Mother's Day than spending quality time with their daughters, or taking a little time out for themselves. The Jennian Homes Mother's Day 5k walk or run, which began in Nelson in 2009, will be held in more locations this year than ever before - offering women around the country the chance to have fun, get active, and support a worthy cause. It's a fun event and women of all ages and fitness levels are invited to participate. While the day is focused on enjoyment, there is a serious message too.

Heart disease is the biggest killer of women in New Zealand. Jennian Homes says the event, which supports the Heart Foundation's Go Red for Women campaign, is about reminding women to take time out to look after their health so they can keep on caring for their families in the future.

Visit www.jennian.co.nz/supporting-the-heart-foundation/ for more information and to sign up or contact Jennian Homes on 0800 536 6426.



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

BE CONSIDERATE WHEN LIGHTING UP

From the 1st April the Fire season is open which will allow you to have an open fire on your Rural property. Remember open fires are not allowed in urban areas at any time in Muriwai, Waimauku, Huapai, Kumeu or Riverhead. A permit is still required if your property is within 1km of Woodhill or Riverhead forests, call the Rural Fire Officer at Auckland Council for more details. To rid your property of unwanted vegetation other options to consider other than a fire are:

- cutting it up for your home heating needs.
- having it chipped and using it for mulch around your garden
- or having it removed off your property

Waiting till the vegetation is dry and not green greatly reduces the effect of smoking out your neighbours (and creating a fire callout for us to investigate) and creating hours of visual and air pollution in our beautiful surrounding countryside for the community and tourists to see.

Whatever you decide, be considerate of your neighbours and thoughtful of your environment.



Come and join us at Nature's Explorers Kindergarten - the best kindy ever!

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www.naturesexplorers.co.nz

Ph: 09 412 8800

REAL ESTATE MYTHS & LEGENDS

<http://www.localist.co.nz/l/55050/reviews>



"I first met Graham McIntyre when I went to inspect a property. Graham arrived in a fire engine! What a way to make a first impression! My dealings with Graham to achieve the purchase of a property in Huapai have been excellent. Graham's integrity is without doubt and his customer service is the best of any of my dealings with the real estate industry. I have no hesitation in recommending Graham McIntyre & L J Hooker Kumeu when buying and selling property. They are simply the BEST"



Recent sales in the area over the last two months:

KUMEU

Access Rd	7.6 ha + house	\$1,000,000
Main Rd	1000 sqm + shed	\$ 415,000
Moontide Rd	3.9 hectares + house	\$1,200,000
Oraha Rd	1 ha bare land	\$ 498,000
Puke Road	4 ha + house	\$1,290,000
Pinotage Pl	809 sqm + house	\$ 485,000
Rheingold Plce	633 sqm + house	\$ 459,000
Riverland Rd	1.3 ha + house	\$1,158,000

MURIWAI

Domain Cres	809 sqm + house	\$ 445,000
Domain Cres	900 sqm + house	\$ 530,000
Domain Cres	1459 sqm + house	\$ 525,000
Edwin Mitchelson	7271 sqm + house	\$1,725,000
Motutara Rd	2162 sqm + house	\$ 630,000
Tiapa Rd	4 ha + house	\$ 885,000

RIVERHEAD

Albert St	810 sqm + house	\$ 415,000
Alice St	809 sqm + house	\$ 547,500
Kaipara Portage	1011 sqm + house	\$ 550,000
Princes St	1831 sqm + house	\$ 665,000
Princes St	810 sqm + house	\$ 482,000
Sussex St	900 sqm + house	\$ 630,000

WAIMAUKU

Amber Plce	1815 sqm + house	\$ 745,000
Cane Rd	941 sqm + house	\$ 440,000
Matatea Rd	1 ha + house	\$ 780,000
Matatea Rd	1 ha + house	\$ 670,000
Muriwai Rd	6195 sqm + house	\$ 542,000
Wintour Rd	1.5 ha + house	\$ 980,000

"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 YOU GET SOME

Not too much to report on at the moment from the financial markets. The inflation rate, which is a key driver for interest rates, is still comfortably within the Reserve Bank's guidelines which should keep current rates as they are for a while yet. We are certainly seeing a very buoyant housing market at the moment. Across the spectrum of buyers (1st home, investors and up-graders) are all in the market.

May is the 8th annual Westpac Rescue Helicopter appeal month. Last year the rescue helicopters undertook close to 5,000 missions – a phenomenal amount of help for Kiwis who needed it. Please give generously when you see the Westpac collectors out and about – this service is vital in our wonderful community.

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



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SENIOR NET AT ST CHADS IN MAY

Nicola Topping is the May 7th speaker for Nor-West SeniorNet at St Chad's church hall. An award winning professional photographer, Nicola operates through her business Real Image Ltd. Her current work includes wedding photography, food photography, magazine assignments, and some commercial photography. Her background is in Newspaper photography where she spent 13 years working for the New Zealand Herald, mostly as a news photographer covering events in the central North Island. The last three years of her newspaper career were spent working on the paper's fashion, food and style magazine, Viva. Having lived and worked in Rotorua, Tauranga and Central Auckland, she has now moved back to the district with her partner and two small children, and is currently living and working in Taupaki. Come along and listen to this fascinating local lady as she tells us all about the wonderful world of photography. Bring a friend. Admission is only \$3 and includes tea, coffee, and biscuits. Support your local SeniorNet. Please email admin@senionetnorwest.net or phone Jenny on 412-7645.



Contact
Pete Sinton on
09 412 2016

▶continued from page 1

This solution gives Maddren's and the Association the opportunity to consider any solutions in the future in a combined way. Maddren's have the confidence that the Liaison Group will work with them and from the Association point of view, it ensures the community is a part of the process without Council's initial involvement. If there is goodwill on all sides then any problems can be sorted before they get through the process at Council. Turning to the AGM - it will be on May 8, 2012 at Soljans Restaurant. I would like to see the committee expanded up to 15 to cope with the constantly expanding role needed to be a voice for the community. Please keep May 8 free for the meeting. We may celebrate the Maddren's signing at the meeting as well.

Pete Sinton Chairman - Kumeu-Huapai Resident & Ratepayers Association
Ph. 412-2016 Email petesinton@townplanner.co.nz

A SPECIAL WAY TO SAY THANK YOU

14 members of the Kumeu Volunteer Fire Brigade will be competing in this years Skytower Stair Challenge on the 19th of May. 51 Floors 1103 stairs in full firefighting gear with breathing apparatus. They are all fundraising for Leukaemia and Blood Foundation and have set a target of \$7000 to raise for the cause. The easiest way for you to help us reach our goal is to go to www.firefighterclimb.org.nz search for fundraiser, search Kumeu and donate. Recently a beautiful gift basket filled with goodies was left at the station with a thank you card. Who ever you are we really appreciated the gift and it was shared amongst the members with much thanks We continue to be blown away with the local support and thanks - we appreciate every bit of it. Kumeu Fire Brigade



Family Fun Open Day



Saturday May 12
10:00am-12:30pm

- ◆ Bouncy castle
- ◆ BBQ
- ◆ Fun child friendly activities



Free Kindy *conditions apply

Free Childcare *conditions apply

Come and meet our fabulous staff, explore our bright and fun filled learning environment and see first hand why Angels really is a take off in life.



Cnr State Highway 16 and Orahua Road, Kumeu
PH 412 5325
Phone Jo for more information

DON'T TARNISH OUR VILLAGE BY BEING VULGAR

As the push for booze dollars intensifies the public have given a strong message to a local liquor store owner to tone it down and get rid of oversized billboards on the side and front of their shed with the bi-line from Woodstock Bourbon. Complaints were being made to both Auckland Council and the Advertising Standards Authority because the billboard is in the face of public coming into Kumeu and the slogan is clearly offensive. Some business owners in the area plan to take the matter further as it reflects a culture aligned to "Outrageous Fortune" not one of Kumeu Wine Country, a value statement that has had hundreds of thousands of dollars spent on it to encourage tourists to this area. We ask Norwest Liquor to reconsider their position and get rid of this eye-sore before the public vote with their voice and their wallets. - Local Business Owner



EXCITING NEW CAKE DECORATING BUSINESS OPENS

Oh Sugar! is an exciting new boutique cake decorating business based in Waimauku. All of the edible creations are made fresh, entirely from scratch with the finest ingredients available. They only bake with free-range eggs. All decorations are handmade with great care. Cakes are often an important part of any special celebration, from birthdays or weddings to christenings or graduations. Oh Sugar! will ensure your cake is exquisite. They will listen to your ideas and will follow through to ensure you are 100% satisfied with your edible art. They will work cake 'magic' to make a masterpiece. Imagination is limitless! A selection of flavours are available; Decadent Chocolate Mud Cake, Mmm White Chocolate Mud Cake, Spicy Carrot Cake, Zesty Lemon Cake and Moist Fruit Cake. Gluten Free cakes are also available for those with an intolerance and for those who prefer, there are organic options also. Contact Karlene today for your free consult. Place an order within the month of May to receive free decorated cookies with your order. Phone: 09 411 9649 or email karlene@oh-sugar.co.nz

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0800 549 477

ASK>METRO MURIWAI OPEN MAY 3 - 6, 2012



The Muriwai Golf Club hosts the ask>metro Muriwai Open (NZ Golf Charles Tour event) May 3 - 6, 2012. This event over 72-holes is for elite amateurs and professionals. A feature of the entries will be the participation of the women's world number one amateur player, Lydia Ko along with up and coming new professional Ryan Fox who has performed outstandingly in the first two PGA events in 2012. In conjunction with the ask>metro Muriwai Open the club will be hosting a SNAG golf demonstration and participation day, Saturday May 5, 2012. SNAG golf is the latest craze in golf for all family participation. Children from 5 years and up, parents, grandparents can join in for an excellent introduction to the game. This latest craze has been endorsed by New Zealand golfing great Sir Bob Charles. Family fun, Saturday May 5 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. For details contact Muriwai@golf.co.nz

▶continued from page 1

For more elaborate homes on larger sections the median price is hovering around \$775,000. Graham McIntyre, principal of LJ Hooker Kumeu say "This demand is unprecedented over the last five years and we have to encourage buyers to be quick to negotiate and then do the builders report, LIM, due-diligence and finance conditions, otherwise it is all over and they look at me asking what else can you show us. The answer is not a lot. We are getting great prices I feel because we take excellent photography and you tube video and we email the property file out to all serious customers. This provide peace-of-mind to buyers and they feel confident in what they are buying". The LJ Hooker Kumeu office has one of the highest records in volume of sales in Kumeu and Riverhead but also one of the highest prices achieved within the area. Graham says "It is a testimony to our staff our systems and our belief to do the very best job for our clients without compromise", and it seems that this focus is winning favor in the industry with three new sales people joining the company in the last two months. For more details please contact Graham McIntyre, Principal, LJ Hooker Kumeu on 09 412 9602 or 0276 320421

Anna Sareczky
Editor

021 607 971

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CONSTELLATION FORGING A NEW LOOK WINE



Modern, different and stylish; that's what wine consumers are saying about the new wine brand, VNO, which hit shop shelves just in time for Easter 2012. VNO is set to pave the way for a new generation of wine consumers by pushing boundaries of traditional wine labels, forging a new look. Forget stuffy and stale, say the makers of VNO – "This is all about approachable quality. These are wines made to please today's palate." The winemaking team has learnt from the best both here and overseas, returning inspired to share their passion and knowledge. Each bottle is equipped with a QR (quick response) code that takes you straight to VNO's winemaker, Jess, who brings each wine to life in a short and snappy clip. Available in grocery and specialist liquor channels and from our Cellar Door at 45 Station Road. Please contact maree.saunders@constellationnz.com for more information. The lovely people at Constellation New Zealand would like to donate 2 bottles of their new VNO to one lucky reader. The reader can choose between a Hawkes Bay Pinot Gris, Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc, Marlborough Pinot Noir and a Barossa Valley Shiraz. If you are over 18 please email the words VNO IS BEST to gims@xtra.co.nz before 15th May 2012 to go into the draw to win these two bottles.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SOLJANS

Wine and Sparkling Wine have been the toast of celebrations. Whether a wedding, or spinning the winning wheel, the choice of many experienced celebrators is bubbles and the best bubbles for many in the know is Soljans Legacy. The Legacy label clearly highlights the traditions and the history of this hand crafted Methode Traditionnelle over three generations of winemakers. Legacy is handcrafted from Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes and is bottle

fermented displaying complex yeast characters and has an elegant lingering finish. One individual that endorses the product to all of his clients is Graham McIntyre from LJ Hooker who believes that locals must support local product. Graham says "I truly believe in Soljans Legacy as one of the best sparklings that is produced in New Zealand and made by one of the finest wineries in the district. I am proud to give every seller and buyer a bottle to allow them to celebrate in their own time the success that we have created. I like to think that Tony Soljan and his team have put as much effort into the craft of producing this product as I have crafting every successful sale. One thing is for sure, they both taste sweet" If you would like to embark on a rewards programming using one of Soljans handcrafted wines please drop into the cellar at 366 State Highway 16, Kumeu or for more details go to the Soljans website at www.soljans.co.nz or phone 09 412 5858



SOLJANS ESTATE WINERY & CAFÉ IN KUMEU WINE COUNTRY

wine tasting • gift shop • café
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www.soljans.co.nz
366 State Highway 16, Kumeu
T: 412 2824 cellar@soljans.co.nz



This outstanding lifestyle property within 10 minutes from Waimauku Village is a family dream. With four bedrooms, two lounges, two bathrooms and garaging for eight cars we would suggest this is one family retreat that must be seen! Included in the 6.8 hectares of land lies the opportunity to create a wet-land area and apply to council for an additional title.

101 Cable Road, Waimauku

NEGOTIATION **4 BEDROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421

2 BATHROOM



This brick and palisade weatherboard two level home is an investors gold-mine. Set down a quiet and elevated right of way the home has expansive decking on two levels to the east and a very pleasing outlook through mature plantings. Rooms downstairs and upstairs with two bathrooms and single garage with auto door. 253C Royal Road, Royal Heights

OPEN AUCTION **4 BEDROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421

2 BATHROOM



A beautiful sun filled home with abundant alfresco living through the dining and the second lounge, this is a home that has to be seen to be appreciated. Constructed in 1998 this 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 lounge home is brick with an outstanding internal layout for families. Set in Sunny Crescent, a quiet cul-de-sac literally minutes to Huapai School, Sports fields and convenience shopping. 50 Sunny Crescent, Kumeu

NEGOTIATION **4 BEDROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421

2 BATHROOM



This property with its elegance and romance could be out of a Walt Disney Movie or at least feature prominently in Grand Design. It is both spell binding and breathtaking with robust earth brick construction and solid wood beams running throughout. Extensive wooden roof paneling and slate and stone make the living areas a real feature while the rooms are plush carpeted. 191 Trigg Road, Kumeu

NEGOTIATION **5 BEDROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421

3 BATHROOM



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. It provides extensive northfacing alfresco to wrap around decking, and also a double solar hot water tube.

429 Kiwitahi Road, Waimauku

NEGOTIATION **3 BEDROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421

4 BATHROOM

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

www.Kumeuopenhomes.co.nz



This is a nature lovers hide away. A glade which is sheltered, northfacing with alfresco out to extensive decking. A sophisticated self sufficiency system operating solar and wind with back-up generator, woodburner and gas. Grow your own fruit, vegetables, graze your own livestock.

917 Peak Road, Waimauku

NEGOTIATION **4 BEDROOM** **2 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421



Close to the very popular Riverhead School this tidy three bedroom home sits proudly on beautiful grounds in a quiet cul-de-sac location in Riverhead. Extensive decking and entertainment flow throughout. You'll fall in love with the character and the ambiance that this property delivers. Move right in and enjoy a special slice of semi-rural real estate. 31 Cambridge Road, Riverhead

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



A 720 square meter blank canvas with great views to create your dream home. Situated in a very appealing part of Riverhead this section is flat, accessible, and is provided with services to the gate and a full geotech report. Don't miss this significant opportunity to secure your land at a very realistic rate. Princes Street, Riverhead. Lot 1.

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



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 rum-pus area. All within easy walking distance to the local park, school, 4 Square and cafe. Princes Street, Riverhead Lot 4.

\$395,000 **LAND ONLY** **SERVICES AT GATE**
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

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

www.kumeuopenhomes.co.nz



Offering a generous 847m section, with a fully fenced rear yard, perfect for the kids or the pets to play. The home features a new kitchen, new carpets and new timber veneer floors. This home has a large entertainers lounge which steps onto easterly decking. Don't miss out on this wonderful family home situated in the heart of Kumeu! 26 Weza Lane, Kumeu

\$509,000 NEG **4 BEDROOM** **1 BATHROOM**
PH GLYN TAYLOR 021646941



Completed in 2010 it features open plan lounge, dining and family room with a huge entertainers kitchen and scullery/utility room. Plenty of room for family and guests with four double bedrooms, master with ensuite, plus study and double garage with internal entry. Situated on an elevated 1500sqm site at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac with beautiful semi rural valley views and bordering farmland. 19 Gavinike Place, Waimauku

\$749,500 NEG **4 BEDROOM** **2 BATHROOM**
PH GLYN TAYLOR 021646941



This outstanding property, built in 1997 and winner in the prestigious master builders home of the year is a beautifully landscaped private getaway. This home includes a designer kitchen, entertainer's dining room and family lounge, 4 double bedrooms + office + formal lounge/media room, with 3 car garaging + work space + storage room. 1 Nobilo Road, Kumeu

NEGOTIATION **4 BEDROOM** **3 BATHROOM**
PH GLYN TAYLOR 021646941



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-metalled drive. Excellent boundary fencing with good pasture, good contour including a pond.

NEGOTIATION **LAND ONLY** **SERVICES AT GATE**
PH GLYN TAYLOR 021646941



This magnificent home sits in the most tranquil, lush surroundings on 4.98 hectares with stunning rural views. It is fit for a king with 5 exquisite double bedrooms, 4 luxurious bathrooms, and a huge 4 car garage. The property is an equestrians dream as it boasts 3 stables, 2 outdoor yards and generous workers accommodation.

NEGOTIATION **5 BEDROOM** **4 BATHROOM**
PH GRAHAM MCINTYRE 0276320421

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

www.Kumeuopenhomes.co.nz

CHOC—COCONUT RUM BALLS

Make these chocolate, coconut-coated rum balls at least a day before serving to allow them to firm up and allow the flavours to blend. Word of warning: not to be made if you're watching your diet, these are VERY addictive! Makes about 30 rum balls.



Ingredients

250g Nice biscuits (I used Arnott's brand)
 3 tablespoons cocoa powder
 1/2 cup desiccated coconut
 395g can sweetened condensed milk
 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract (1 teaspoon natural vanilla essence)
 1 1/2 tablespoons rum (for flavour, I prefer 2 tablespoons)
 2/3 cup, lightly packed sultanas
 about 3/4 cup desiccated coconut, for coating

Directions

Place biscuits and cocoa in a food processor or blender and crush until very fine. If you used a blender, pour the crushed biscuit and cocoa mixture into a large bowl and stir in the remaining ingredient (except the coconut for coating). If you used a food processor, you can add the 1/2 cup coconut, condensed milk, vanilla and rum to the biscuit crumbs and process until the mixture is well combined. Then add the sultanas and process on very low speed until just combined. Place mixture in refrigerator or freezer until it is firm enough to roll into balls (about 30 minutes in the refrigerator). If the mixture is too soft, it will be sticky and difficult to roll properly and the rum balls will not hold their shape. Sprinkle coconut for coating onto a plate or into a flat-bottomed dish. Roll generously heaped teaspoons of mixture into balls, and then roll in coconut. Store, preferably in a single layer, in an airtight container in the refrigerator (also freeze well) and for those who prefer, there are organic options also. Contact Karlene today for your free consult. Place an order within the month of May to receive free decorated cookies with your order. Phone: 09 411 9649 or email karlene@oh-sugar.co.nz

Share a recipe:
 Anna Sareczky
 Editor
 021 607 971
 annasareczky@hotmail.com

EXPLORING MOTAT - NATURES EXPLORERS

At Nature's Explorers Kindergarten we have a warm and caring nature based learning environment which offers plentiful opportunities for collaboration, problem solving, investigation and hands on exploration. We have low teacher/child ratios to ensure your child has the best possible kindergarten experience. Our children thrive and develop a love of discovery, inquiry and problem solving. They run through grass, capture bugs, pick fruit from our trees, and go on nature walks and excursions. The excursions are a highlight for the children and it also gives the children the opportunity to experience their wider world. A recent field trip as a part of our big machines project was an exploration of Motat. It is part of the journey that makes Nature's Explorers a great learning environment. For details phone 09 412 8800

BRING YOUR GUMBOOTS FOR CUE HAVEN

Bring your gumboots and your family and join us in a celebration of those we have loved and lost. This Mothers Day Hospice West Auckland remembers the mothers who are no longer with us by planting memorial Kahikatea trees at CUE Haven (near South Kaipara Harbour). The Kahikatea is New Zealand's tallest native tree. It grows up to 80m high and lives for several hundreds of years. CUE Haven is a remarkable project. Thomas & Mahrukh Stazyk bought the disused Kaukapakapa dairy farm some years ago and decided to save it from property development by turning it back to native bush for the community to enjoy. When the project is finished, Thomas and Mahrukh plan to covenant the property with the QEII Trust for the community to enjoy forever. Hospice West Auckland will plant ten trees in honour of those we miss. We invite you to join us. Bring your gummies and be prepared to muck in. There will also be activities for the kids, and there'll be tea and coffee afterwards. If you would like to plant your own memorial tree, please call Mahrukh on (09) 849 5200 for details. For more information about the Mothers Day Tree Planting, including address details, please contact the Hospice West Auckland Social Care Manager Trish Fleming on phone 09 834 9754.

READING DIFFICULTIES MAY BE EYE RELATED

Children with reading difficulties may benefit from coloured lenses, studies in the UK have shown. Matthew Whittington from For Eyes in the Kumeu Village attended a seminar in Australia recently where the use of precision tinted lenses to remedy reading problems was discussed. The secret appears to be in finding the exact tint to suit the individual child – hence the term 'precision tinted lenses'. The science behind the success of the lenses is that visual processing, which occurs in the brain, can cause hyper-stimulation of some visual cortex areas, resulting in processing errors. Selectively calming these 'hot spots' in the visual cortex by filtering out the select bands of colour that cause the over-stimulation makes print easier to see and process, increasing reading speed and accuracy dramatically. Matthew Whittington has purchased a diagnostic machine to assess precision tints required for children with reading difficulties. For an assessment phone 09 412 8172

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CHECK YOUR RAGS BEFORE YOU BIN THEM

A number of fires in the area have been sourced to the use of chemicals, oils, stains and lubricants on rags. It is sometimes overlooked that chemicals, oils, greases, waxes, stains and thinning compounds are highly dangerous because they generate heat when condensed, mixed with other substances and left in tight confined areas. Over a period of time this will lead to the chemicals reacting and generating significant heat build up leading to smouldering and in turn small pockets of charring leading to combustion. At times the heat build up can be developed over hours in others over days, however the result is almost inevitably the same, a fully involved fire. If you would like to discuss ways to minimise the problem give me a call today Graham McIntyre, Senior Fire Fighter, Kumeu Fire Brigade, Phone 0276 320 421



THE TASTING SHED WAVES THE FLAG FOR KUMEU

The annual Metro/Audi Restaurant of the Year top 50 list has been released and Metro editor and award judge, Simon Wilson said the emerging hot-spots have "upped the ante for the restaurant scene in Auckland." Kumeu's own 'The Tasting Shed' has been included in the top 50 finalists list, and owners Jo & Ganesh Raj are delighted. "To have only been open for 8 months and be selected among Auckland's most established restaurants is absolutely thrilling," says Jo. "We've worked hard to create a unique destination dining experience in rural West Auckland, and the credit must go to our amazing team and the support of our local customers. "Head Chef Sara Simpson has created a menu that is dynamic and exciting, and our intention is to up the ante at every opportunity to deliver a service and experience that is second to none." "They've created a geographic and atmospheric shift in dining," Metro editor and award judge, Simon Wilson said. Alongside The Tasting Shed, a dozen of the top 50 make their debut on the list, about half are new restaurants to Auckland, and a bunch of high-profile Auckland venues failed to make the cut like SPQR, Sails, Grand Harbour, One Tree Grill and Satya. For more details contact the tasting shed on phone 09 412 6454 or email jo@thetastingshed.com



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Written by Kumeu
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ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MUDFEVER

We're halfway through autumn now and we're starting to see some seasonal problems in horses associated with the wetter ground. Mudfever is a bacterial infection of the legs normally starting at the back of the pastern which then spreads upwards causing swelling and discomfort. The key to treatment is removal of the scabs and keeping the horse out of the mud allowing aeration of the legs. We have skin creams available; however some particularly bad cases don't respond and need a vet check and antibiotics. Hoof abscesses are another common problem when the ground is wet. Hoof abscesses often cause a hopping 'three-legged' lameness and the sore hoof will feel hot with a bounding pulse in the leg. We can confirm it by hoof testing and can often alleviate the horses' pain with medication and release of the pus which has built up in the foot. Early treatment often means a quicker recovery!. As always if you have any concerns regarding your animals, call us for free advice on phone 09 412 9016



▶.....continued from page 1

"Since opening Zash Hair in January, this has proven to be an effective form of advertising bringing in many new clients each week! It is great to see a professional magazine being distributed throughout North-West Auckland with opportunities for the smaller businesses to advertise at an affordable cost" Carla—Zash Hair. The compliments continue however there is a common theme, about value for money and a focus on this community. Kumeu Courier is about this community, it is run by this community and the editorial reflects this community, if you want to make a difference submit an editorial to us, if you want to get more business supply an article and a business card, or if you simply wish to be updated please send an email to glms@xtra.co.nz and we will simply keep you informed. It's your community newsletter and it is up to you how you foster your future and the community around you. For more information call Anna on 021 607 971 today.

Anna Sareczky
Editor

021 607 971

annasareczky@hotmail.com

AUCKLAND COUNCILS DOG REGISTRATION A FARSE

Dog owners across Auckland have been up in arms since the new registration fees were made public in the Auckland Council Long Term Plan, Blogs, petitions and Facebook pages have been abuzz with irate dog owners bemoaning a huge increase in registration fees. The removal of discount for responsible dog owners has added even more fuel to the fire. With the public backlash I have no doubt the council will soften their stance on this as there are a lot of dog owners who pay rates and cast votes in council elections. But how many people have dredged through the four volumes and nearly 1000 pages of long Term plans to see what other charges are about to be imposed on unsuspecting rate payers in rural areas? Bee keepers are about to be stung with a \$190 'consent' fee and if you keep more than 12 poultry you will need to pay \$190 for an annual license. My personal favourite is the license fee to keep pigs. If you want to keep 1 or up to 2 pigs, yes \$190 again! But how on earth can you have 'up to 2' pigs? Unless you really fancied that Sunday leg of pork but just couldn't bring yourself to say goodbye to Ms Piggy. What is next for the rural community as we get pushed into the pigeon holes designed for city rules?. A building permit for your goat shelter, registration plate to your horse or effluent monitors on your worm farm?. Where will it end?. For more information please contact Glyn Taylor on 09 412 5214 or email kumeu@vodafone.co.nz



"I'm just plain
over it"

CONGRATULATIONS TO RELAY FOR LIFE & ROTARY



Pictured above Dennis
Papa at Relay for Life

The very first Cancer Society Kumeu Relay For Life was held on the weekend of March 24-25 at the Kumeu Showgrounds and the Cancer Society are so happy with the response that we can confirm that 2013 Relay planning is already underway! Over 500 keen relayers braved a bit of rain and lots of mud to set up their colourful tent sites and get into the wonderful and positive vibe that is relay! Walkers (and some keen runners) started at 4pm Saturday with the VIP survivors and their supporters leading the first lap to great applause. Entertainment followed as tug of war, bands, zumba and lots of exciting local acts got into the groove. An emotional and very special lap of remembrance was led by a lone piper playing Amazing Grace and then the morning witnessed a delicious hot breakfast and the home run with close off at 10am Sunday.

A special mention was made to local 70 year old Dennis Papa who walked 100 km's over the 18 hours of Relay – walking with and for the Rotary Club of Kumeu, amazing effort raising \$2500! Also a big thank you to all the local volunteer service groups who helped out at Relay, your support is appreciated. Relay is all about community and we are really pleased to report that fundraising efforts so far have raised \$60 000 – thank you Kumeu! These funds will be used within our community to assist with patient support, the volunteer driving service, and specialist nurse visits. If the services of the cancer Society are required, please contact them on 0800 cancer. For more information and to participate in Relay for Life 2013 please email lrudolphe@akcansoc.org.nz



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"The environment is peaceful and the coffee's and chats are great" - Graham, Taupaki

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At Zash Hair we strive to keep ahead of the trends with styling and unique original looks for all those coming through our door. We would love for you to experience this for yourself and look forward to meeting you all.

Appointments are necessary and do fill up fast so call today for details:

Carla, phone 021814663. Located at 77 Waitakere Road with easy parking right outside.



KIDS CLUB IN FULL SWING AT MURIWAI



Kids Club kicked off on 1 April with an enjoyable bushwalk. We journeyed the length of the Edwin Mitchelson track, ending just below Maori Bay. We discussed sandstone rock forms and erosion. We looked at the difference between Nikau Palms and Pongas and kept an eye out for birds. All the kids enjoyed looking at things through the MEACT binoculars (not just useful for faraway identification). There was a hollow tree to hide in and pine cones to throw. Fun was had by all and I think we all learned something new (Connor pointed out there's an NZ bird that can lay 20 eggs at once, he just needs to remember the name). Kids Club for me is primarily about getting kids out into the Muriwai natural environment. We aim to hold an event each month. These may be 'natural' in flavour, eg getting down to the beach or into the bush. There may be an environmental theme, such as recycling or rubbish collection. We may piggyback on other MEACT happenings, or go off at a complete tangent. We already have a local artist willing to do some painting with the kids, and someone else keen to teach 'bush first aid'. The main aim is to have fun, and through this to teach youngsters about their environment. Nothing is set in stone - please contact me

directly if you have skills to offer or suggestions for events. Key feedback so far seems to

be to get the word out, so if you are reading this and know of people who have kids who may be interested, please forward them the link. Forthcoming events (all to be confirmed, all subject to weather etc)

Seed collection walk

Beach art for winter solstice

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Midwinter movie at the Fire Station

For further details please contact ruth.e.atkinson@gmail.com

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