

The Helensville Community News

Issue 123 - February 2020

Children's Fishing Competition 2020 *by Helen Martin*

Growing up in Helensville, Kaipara Cruising & Sportfishing Club co-secretary (with Noradene Paniora) Sheena Johnson has been a member of the club since she was a tot and her father Noel and late grandfather Reginald are life members. She remembers years of taking part in the annual children's fishing competition, traditionally organised by the women in the club, and enjoys helping carry on the tradition.

Her seven-year-old daughter Kaylee, whose father Chris also grew up in Helensville, was one of 69 children who took part in this year's event, held on 18 January, a day when "the men give up their own fishing for the day and take the kids out." Sheena's brother Shane, for example, took his three children out in the morning, then dropped them off at Shelly Beach at lunchtime to give another four children a go. "Everyone plays a crucial role," says Sheena, "for example the Coastguard people get out there for the day and keep an eye on the kids."

While there are prizes in five categories – the heaviest legally sized snapper, gurnard, kahawai, trevally and kingfish – the purpose



Riley Norton from South Head with his 1kg gurnard

of the event is to get children spending time out on the water, having fun and learning about water safety. They fish from the mouth of the river down to the green marker halfway between Shelly Beach and South Head. Parents take responsibility for the safety of the children and, as Sheena explains, "It's all inside the harbour and safe." You don't have to fish from a boat - this year some fished off Shelly Beach Wharf, and next year organisers are opening it up to include the shoreline out to South Head Peninsula.

The day began around 6.30am and after

their fishing adventures participants and their families gathered at the clubrooms by the river for a family picnic and prize-giving. "The children were all fed sausages and hot chips, there was a bouncy castle, a lolly scramble and pole tennis and enough ice-blocks and fizzy drink to go around," says Sheena. "This year the children mostly caught snapper, so we drew names to give out a lot of the prizes. Everyone gets something, including Harper Callender, who won a kayak for their catch of a snapper that was the average weight of all the snapper caught."

"It's a free event and we're very grateful to all the sponsors who give kids the chance," says Sheena.

The sponsors were: Water FX (major sponsor), Auntie Nan Davis, Burnscot, Helensville g.a.s., Christina Norton Photography, FMG Insurance, Helensville Diggers, Kaipara Cruises, Panapa Charters, Paper Plus Helensville, Parakai Springs, Simmonds family, Snowplanet, Sunny Days, Top Catch Westhaven, Tree Adventures, WOW Sushi.

CHILL in the VILLE success

For a small town Helensville certainly has a large pool of talented musicians. 150 enthusiastic music lovers attended the CHILL in the VILLE music festival at the Kaipara Tavern on Saturday 11 January. Live music blasted the sunny garden bar from 2pm until the wee hours of Sunday morning. Awa Brown, a CHILL in the VILLE veteran who has played at all previous festivals, kicked off proceedings with his acoustic guitar performance of popular covers.

Off the Cuff, a four-piece band played 50s, 60s, 70s and rock 'n' roll tunes. Kiwi music legend, Jimmy Christmas and his band stormed onto the stage belting out foot stomping sounds including some of Jimmy's D4 songs and a memorable cover of Billy Idol's Dancing with Myself. The Hired Hand followed with their easy listening set with musical instruments including ukuleles and

slide guitars. DJ Prior and band had the crowd on their feet with their high energy performance and unique cover of Kings of Leon's Sex on Fire.

The locals barely had time to catch their breath when Old Mate and the M8s, a full six piece covers band of ex-Kaipara College students played two sets of some of the



CHILL in the VILLE organisers, Andy and Wendy Cummings

greatest classics. Avalon Hewitt, also a product of the outstanding Kaipara College music department, belted out uplifting songs. 2 Tall and the Breathers, a hip-hop band formed by local music producer Shaun Darlison had everybody up dancing with their high octane set. DJ Kris Percival spun vinyl to bring the curtain down on a hugely successful day enjoyed by locals which raised over \$500 to help our cousins over the ditch and the animals affected by the Australian bush fires.

CHILL in the VILLE organisers, Andy and Wendy Cummings, would like to thank all of the talented musicians who performed, Jeanette Cummings for helping make the event run smoothly, Matt from Red Room for equipment and all of the locals who came and supported the event.

Photo Credit Stellanova Photography

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Phone: 420 9307

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All correspondence should be legible and include writer's name and address.

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The Helensville Community News is published as an independent community newsletter in conjunction with the Helensville Community Website, www.helensvillecommunitynews.co.nz, to inform the residents, ratepayers and visitors of events and proposals that affect the local area.

Circulation 4,200 — pass it on to your friends.

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the publishers. While we try to ensure accuracy of information, the publishers accept no responsibility for errors or omissions made by individual contributors.

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An Important Message Shared by Helensville Primary School Students



Students from Room 21 at Helensville Primary School recently participated in a programme called Whitebait Connection, where they undertook studies of the Awaroa Stream. Water samples were collected for testing and results showed that 1000's of species of flora and fauna live in our community's waterways.

The students were however, upset to notice large amounts of litter scattered all over the place, so Room 21 took charge.

On arrival back to the classroom, the students and teacher spent time talking about the effects human pollution has on other living things and consequently, they decided to make a stand and try to help.

With much planning and preparation, they received permission to build and install signs at the Awaroa Stream's edge, reminding people not to litter.

In addition to this, they spent the morning picking up rubbish from around our community.

Room 21's efforts were supported by the parents and caregivers of Helensville School by way of supplying materials and their time and Mitre 10 Helensville happily donated a sheet of ply wood, enabling us to make the glow in the dark signs.

Each sign was designed and made by students and share an important message.



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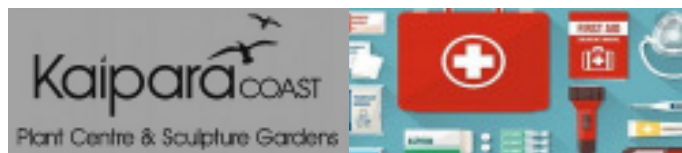
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What's happening this month



First Aid Course

Wednesday 19th February – 09.00am start (8hrs)

If you happened across a medical emergency would you know what to do?

If asked that question most of us would probably, at the very least, be unsure of our competency in such an event.

Whether in the home, garden, driving the car or at work there is a continual possibility of accidents happening or someone becoming unwell. The speed of response can significantly improve outcomes for the patient particularly if the first responder has some sound basic knowledge of what to do.

If you would like to be able to answer a confident yes to this question Kaipara Coast will be running an all-day First Aid Course in February (note it's a Wednesday) where you will learn:



- Actions to take at the scene of a medical emergency
- First aid priorities
- First aid techniques
- Performance of CPR
- Operation of an Auto Defibrillator

At the successful completion of the course you will receive a course certificate which is valid for 2 years.

Tea, coffee and a light lunch will be supplied by Kaipara Coast.

If you would like to either achieve this training for the first time or maybe refresh the knowledge you already possess please book your place as soon as possible as numbers are extremely limited. Please see below for cost and booking contact info.



Venue location: 1481 Kaipara Coast Highway (SH16),
Tickets: \$150.00 per person
To Book: info@kaiparacoast.co.nz
OR 09 420 5655.



“Save the date for March”

Helensville Playcentre is turning 60!

Come celebrate with us, catch up with old friends, show your kids around or just come and see what we are all about.

Details to follow shortly

In the meantime check us out on Facebook or come for 3 visits free with your 0-6 year olds. Mon, Tues & Thurs 9-12.

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www.facebook.com/helensvilleplaycentre/

Term 1 Starts, between Monday 27 January and Friday 7 February Thursday, 6 February, Waitangi Day

Saturday, 8 February, Waitoki Village Market Day, 8.30 till noon, Waitoki Hall, Kahikatea Flat Rd. Want to know more about how to Felt come and talk to Lisa at the next Waitoki Market. She'll have wool for sale and felted accessories on display, and can tell you about the wool qualities of different sheep breeds and the difference they make to your felt project. Come and meet her and other locals at the next Waitoki Market, chat, catch up with neighbours, find out what is going on in your community, get involved in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere, have a massage, pick up baked goods, plants, essential oils, locally crafted gifts, homemade and preloved bargains, Bric a Brac, preserves, and more.

Support your community; proceeds from the Market go back to our local community. New stall holders welcome, contact Gill 420 3301 or email waitokihall@gmail.com Next market 11 April, 13 June.

Sunday, 16 February, Kaukapakapa Village Market, Kaukapakapa Hall, 8.30am-1pm. Held on the 3rd Sunday of every month all year round. With its friendly people, great atmosphere and a wide selection of quality stalls there's something for everyone with everything from locally hand-made crafts, fresh fruit & veg to pre-loved treasures and collectibles. Enjoy a freshly made coffee while you check out the stalls or sit and relax with something tasty from the market cafe while you take in the entertaining atmosphere and live music. There is always something fresh to experience with different musicians, entertainment and new stall holders joining the market each month—a great morning out for the family. Live music from duo Barry & Maryanne, Free Face painting. For more information, stall-holder, busker and music enquiries contact Sarah: Phone - 0274 831542 or Email - sarah1@maxnet.co.nz. Eftpos cash out available.

Sunday, 16 February, Kaukapakapa Library, 9.30am – 1pm, RAY SCOTT - TURNING HEADS Meet award-winning woodturner, Ray Scott, at the historic Kaukapakapa library. Winner of the Supreme Award at the 2019 Royal Easter Show, Ray has become serious about his wood turning passion since his retirement five years ago. Born and bred in Helensville, Ray started a ship building apprenticeship at fifteen and has spent many years honing his skills. Now a member of the North Shore Woodturners Guild, his career may be seasoned but it's far from finished, with many more projects waiting their turn! Come along to see the beautiful pieces Ray creates and find out more about his winning techniques and drive for precision. For more info contact Megan 021 959017, threehorses@xtra.co.nz, Facebook - Kaukapakapa Library. Open in conjunction with the Kaukapakapa Village Market.

Saturday, 29 February, Helensville A&P Show, It's LEAP YEAR, so leap into the 118th Helensville A&P Show for a showcase of Kiwi rural traditions such as woodchopping along with agricultural, horticultural, arts and crafts exhibits and competitions together with a comprehensive equestrian schedule. A diverse range of trade and market stalls offer something for everyone along with food and beverage onsite that includes Helensville's own award-winning Liberty Brewery. The Helensville Show is a family event with kids entertainment, face painting, animals and entertainment from our main stage.

Sunday, 1 March, Children's Day, 10am – 1pm, Helensville War Memorial Hall. Come and join us for a free fun filled day of Activities, Entertainment & lots of Prizes.

Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 March, Kumeu Show 2020, 98th Annual Kumeu Show: International Timber Sports (the world Champion Axemen); Highland Dancing Competition; Working Vintage Tractors; Shearing Competition (Saturday); Giant Pumpkin Competition. The Kumeu Band; World Archery demo; our Local Fire Brigade with live demonstrations; Plus Amusement rides, side shows and a huge array of Trade Sites and Food Galore. Animal Competitions: Cattle, horses, sheep, alpacas, goats, and pigs. Indoor Displays - Cake icing, flowers, vegetables, baking, photography and handcraft. Our entertainment stage is a must see! Make sure you do not miss this local event!



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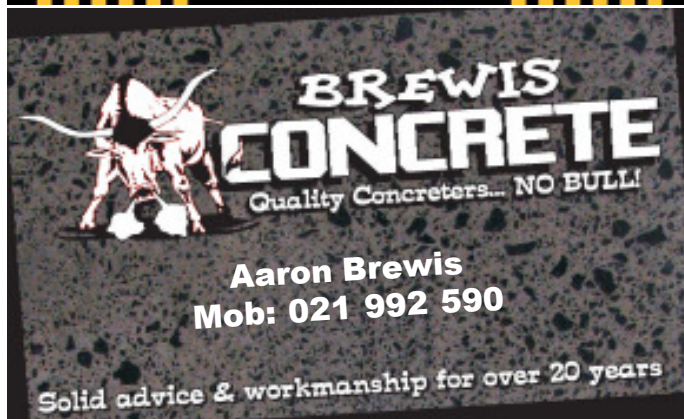
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Ride for Justice

The eagle has landed for the 2020 Ride for Justice event to help raise awareness of animal abuse happening in this country. The last Ride for Justice event drew an incredible number of riders, with over two thousand motorcyclists making a stand against animal abuse on the day. The "Ride for Justice" is now the largest charity ride in New Zealand.

This year, the "Ride for Justice" will start at Smales Farm Business Park in Takapuna at 9am and leaving 10.30am for Parakai Springs. Where there is a Ride for Justice Festival, hosted by the NZ Chopper Club, which involves a day of live entertainment, interactive games, food, prizes, trade stalls and the drawing of the Paw Justice major raffle prizes. You could be the new owner of a Harley Davidson Lowrider or a \$10,000 Hawaiian Airlines holiday package. There is something for everyone, so save the date Sunday 1st March.

- Riders Raffle - Thousands of dollars of prizes to give away
- NZ Chopper Club Custom bike display
- The Infamous Carters Tyre toss
- Slow drag competition
- Music by City of Souls, The Wreckage DJ Mayhem, Anna Quay, Luke Cabrol
- NZ Arm Wrestling Competition (The Arm of Justice)
- Delicious Food and Ice cold beverages
- Fun for the whole family and much much more!

This year, the main sponsor, Harley-Davidson, has generously donated the major raffle prize – a brand new Harley-Davidson Lowrider with a \$2500.00 accessory voucher! One lucky winner will be walking away with this stunning new prize valued at \$28,250.00. Other amazing prizes up for grabs are.. 2nd Prize: Hawaiian Air Holiday package \$10,000.00, 3rd Prize: Carters Tyres \$2500.00, 4th Prize: Haier Stainless Steel Dishwasher \$1099.00, 5th Prize: Eukanuba Pet Food voucher \$1000.00, 6th Prize: Peter Alexander voucher \$1000.00 or 7th Prize Pet Stock Voucher \$1000.00. Over 40,000.00 of Prizes get drawn after the Ride at the Ride for justice Festival at Parakai Springs.

If you don't have a motorcycle, you can still help support animals in need by going to the festivities at Parakai Springs and have a great day out with friends and family.

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Georgina Collinge-Coker

by Helen Martin

When 10-year-old Georgina Collinge-Coker broke Helensville Athletic Club records and won three medals at the 2020 Colgate Games in Taranaki – bronze in the high jump, silver in the 200m race and gold in the 400m (to win the gold medal she competed against 47 other athletes in the heats and 7 in the final) – it was evident to everyone following her prowess just how talented an athlete she is.



Georgina wearing her Colgate Games medals.

Georgina comes from a very active family, with a brother, Ben (8), parents and grandparents all keen on their chosen sports, which include soccer, running, athletics, cycling, tennis, netball and touch. "Mum and I train together," Georgina says. "We run around the streets and Rautawhiri Park and at my Nana's house we went for a run around Mangawhai when it was really hot."

As well as being a keen athlete, Georgina is a surf lifesaving nipper at Muriwai Surf Lifesaving Club. She plays touch for her school, Helensville Primary, swims in the Senior Squad at Parakai and steers for an intermediate crew in the Tu Tangi Ora Waka Ama Club. "I like them all," she says, "but I like athletics, waka and surf life saving the best." When she talks about school, where she's now in Year 7, it's clear that while Georgina is enjoying her time as a student, she's most interested in the sporting opportunities, describing PE, athletics and cross country as her favourite activities. Georgina's next big challenge will be the Auckland Champs at Mount Smart in February.

Despite her outstanding abilities Georgina is modest about her achievements. "I kind of want to be in the Olympics but I'm not really sure. I just like everything about athletics apart from shotput." This year in school athletics she came first in the 75m and was proud of coming first in the 100ms "because I normally come second." She also won discus and long jump, came second in high jump and third in shotput. "I'm not that good at shotput, but I still like to do it," she says. "My goals are just to try and make lots of the finals and at least get a place. Or get a club record and a personal best. They time us in the heats and put up the times on a board so you can see what you did, but I don't really remember my times."

Her mother Nicola, who is Helensville Athletics Club Secretary, concurs. "Georgina has a natural sporting ability and it's good for her not to specialise yet. When we walked to daycare when she was little she would always run up the hill. She really enjoys participating whether she wins or not. She likes to challenge herself and she's always been really happy not to get a place because she knows she's done her best." Being parents of a talented child does involve careful management – when to nudge, when to step back. "She has days off, but we do encourage her to train because she wants to do well, and it doesn't come from waving a magic wand."

Having moved to Helensville in 2012, the family feel fortunate there are so many sports clubs for all children to participate in – rugby tennis athletics netball swimming dance. "We all support each other," says Nicola.



February 2020 at Helensville Library

As we farewell our summer reading programmes we plan for the return of school and our regular programmes.

Thank you to all of our Helensville Library family who took part in Auckland Libraries' reading programmes over December and January - Kia Maia te Whai Dare to Explore for children and the Great Summer Reads for all ages.

From the first week of February, Helensville Library staff will be visiting early child centres and schools throughout the area. We also resume weekly visits to Craigweil House.

From Thursday 13 February, Kids Time for under 6s and their grown-ups resumes in the library. The sessions start at 10am and are about 30 minutes of stories, songs and rhymes. Each session is tailored to suit the audience.

Until 8 February Gong Xi Fa Cai! Auckland libraries are celebrating Lunar New Year. Come and join us and grab a "Craft Hong Bao" for the children.

Helensville Library supports Auckland Pride Festival 2020 with a fabulous display (still in the works).

Keep an eye out for Helensville Library – and the wider Auckland Libraries team – at the Helensville A&P Show on Saturday 29 February!

You can keep updated with events and news by following and liking our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/HelensvilleLibrary

Anne Coppel

Senior Library Children and Youth



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Focus on ...

River Valley Meats: home of the tasty sausage

by Helen Martin

In great news for South Kaipara locals, Kumeu Meat Processors owners Andy and Wendy Cummings have a new, tandem business River Valley Meats, selling high quality, locally produced meat directly to the public. The owners bring a lot of expertise and experience to the enterprise, with Andy having worked for over 15 years in the food service industry, including with Goodman Fielder and Kiwi Bacon and Hams. Wendy works in the finance and property industry and manages the books for River Valley Meats. Their Head Butcher is Brad Walters, formerly of Clark's Organic Butchery, Glen Eden and Andy's twin brother Snowy has returned from overseas and is helping out with some of the day-to-day operations of the business.

The son of well-known former Helensville cop Dennis Cummings and community stalwart Leigh Cummings, Andy has lived his whole life in Helensville and is very passionate about the place. He enjoyed his time at school, first attending Helensville Primary School, where he's proud to have been times table champ in 1986, then graduating to Kaipara College. He's very happy that daughter Ashleigh and son Daniel are now at Helensville Primary and will go on to the College in time. Andy's Tauranga-born wife Wendy agrees that Helensville is a wonderful place.

"We have the best people, great musicians, the best beer and wine right on our doorstep and great food, which includes amazing beef and lamb produced by the finest farmers right in our own backyard, Andy says. "Everyone talks about Hawke's Bay lamb and Canterbury beef, when we have a superior product right here in Helensville, including Richard and Dianne Kidd's award-winning farm Whenuanui, where they raise some of the best NZ beef and lamb. We're stoked to be selling it."

River Valley Meats also buys free-range pork and free-range venison from Red Tussock Venison in Central Otago. The venison is turned into gourmet sausages and manuka-smoked salami. "Manuka smoking is a great way to cook beef or venison and we have a regular supply of manuka wood from a mate up South Head," Andy says. "It takes four to five hours to smoke a salami, but it's worth it." River Valley Meats also has manuka smoked beef salami and their range of gourmet sausages comes in a variety of flavours.

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Andy and Wendy with their children Daniel and Ashleigh

Both Andy and Wendy are deeply connected to the local community. Wendy is Treasurer of the Helensville School PTA and Andy is involved in local cricket and rugby and the River Valley Home Brew Club. He is also on the committee of North West Country, the local business association.

The couple are proud sponsors of several local organisations; the Kaipara RSA; the 2019 Christmas Parade (though they wouldn't let Andy play Santa); the Turning the Tide walk (a fundraiser by Kia Timata Ano Trust, the local women's refuge serving the area); the Helensville Rugby Club; and the Helensville School PTA. They recently organised the CHILL in the VILLE music festival, which raised over \$500 for the Australian Bushfire Animals.

River Valley Meats is currently running a special offer of fresh lamb sourced locally from Whenuanui Farm: half a lamb \$150; whole lamb \$290. You can order online. Delivered free in Helensville. Contact Andy on 412 2007 or 021 685 199

Email: info@meat.net.nz | Website: meat.net.nz | Facebook:

[River Valley Meats](https://www.facebook.com/RiverValleyMeats)



FIGG – Flowers, Information, Gallery & Gifts

Opened on 2nd December. Florist Mel Dickins – “Love Flowers” – was run off her feet til Christmas and has been kept busy continually. Mel is amazed how much difference location makes.

Being open 7 days is providing well for visitors, with many overseas people seeking information, particularly noticeable on Sundays.

A number of local artists and goods providers have their fare for sale, along with a wide range of gift items and New Zealand souvenirs.



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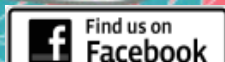
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National
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The Helensville Community News
420-9307**



Free Learner Licence Course



The Outwest Youth, Full @ 18 programme currently offers learner licence courses in Helensville every school holiday. Our age range is 15½ - 24 (although we generally don't turn anyone away). Our courses run for 3 intensive days. Two trainers deliver the teaching over the first two days and we then



Naomi Bartley
preparing participants for their test.

transport participants to Westgate on the last day in order to sit their test. We provide booklets, road codes, lunch and prizes. Our content focuses on developing an understanding of the road code, addressing the difficult questions and preparing for the test. We also emphasise the importance of being a safe and responsible driver and road user. Our approach is fun and interactive. We provide lunch, and once participants have completed the learning, we encourage them to do several official practice tests to ensure they are ready to sit their test. If the participant is not yet 16, does not feel ready

to sit the test, or fails first time around, we are committed to work with that individual to ensure that they do eventually get their learner licence. In 2019, we had a total of 58 attendees, of those that sat their test, 98% passed. The course we offer is free, however participants need to pay their own licence fee. In situations where this is a difficulty, we have a fund we can access. Ngati Whatua members may be eligible for funding support from their iwi, and we can help them access this. We will not let cost be the barrier to gaining a learner licence.

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From Penk's Pen “Paw and Order”

Happy New Year everyone! I hope that you managed to have had a great break and caught up on some well-earned rest following a busy one last year. As well as 2020 starting a new decade, it just happens to be another election year!

As in the last couple of years, I'll be out and about in this electorate I'm so privileged to represent, constantly during the course of the year. Again, as in the last couple of years, if you see me and you've got a minute please do stop and say hi.

As well as being your local MP, I'm the National Party's spokesperson for Courts, a role that reflects my background pre-Parliament was in the law (after having been a naval officer, prior to that).

One initiative I've been working on is a programme to get “pet therapy” dogs into courts across New Zealand to provide comfort to those caught up in the system. Evidence shows that this type of programme can make a huge difference in providing comfort to children and other vulnerable people (for example, victims and witnesses) who are in our criminal courts through no fault of their own.

In NZ there is precedent for such a move: in the Tauranga District Court dog they've enjoyed the company of a much loved and hardworking court therapy dog named Louie. Unfortunately he passed away last year but his human (Gail) has recently introduced a gentle black lab named Wade, a retired guide dog.

Last year National released its Law and Order discussion document, with lots of innovative ideas to improve the justice system for all Kiwis. If you're keen to check that out, it's easily found on the internet or you could call my electorate office (09 412 2496) and we'll happily point you in the right direction.

Have a great 2020 and I look forward to seeing you around!

Helensville District Community Christmas Dinner 2019

Around 80 people enjoyed the best ever Christmas Day Lunch at Helensville Primary School. Volunteers were less than usual but gave quality time and effort to see us well ahead with preparation on Christmas Day morning.

Children had the option of sitting together at kids tables discovered by one volunteer. Gifts and a lolly scramble brought many smiles.

Once lunch was over many turned to clearing up and within an hour the hall was cleared and swept!

A huge thank you to Helensville Primary for the free use of their facilities, and to all who contributed.

The left over food went to a women's refuge in Papatoetoe. For this year clean plastic containers will be welcome, particularly 2 litre ice cream boxes with lids that fit. They may be left at FIGG.



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Helensville Birthing Centre is your local community facility. It provides a free service for women who choose to give birth in a low-tech environment. Alternatively, women who give birth in hospital can then transfer to us for the opportunity to rest and establish breastfeeding.

You are welcome to call in and have a look around, or browse our facilities online.

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Win-Win Budgeting

It's been a positive start to the year for our budget adviser at Citizens Advice Bureau Helensville. Clients have visited our experienced adviser for various financial concerns.

He has provided clarification, contacted relevant financial parties and helped people understand their loans and debts.

Most importantly, he has provided a listening ear to help relieve burdens.

One client needed to return goods under the Consumer Guarantees Act and our budget adviser contacted the retailer, ensuring they were aware of the client's rights under the act.

The retailer agreed to take the goods back and gave him a full credit to go towards another purchase. This saved the client from having to take the retailer to The Disputes Tribunal.

The Consumer Guarantees Act allows you to seek repairs, replacements or refunds when goods are faulty and sets minimum guarantees for all products and services.

All New Zealand businesses and people in trade have to meet their responsibilities under the act. This means if you have a problem with a product or service, you can do something about it. For information about the Consumer Guarantees Act go to <https://www.consumerprotection.govt.nz/general-help/consumer-laws/consumer-guarantees-act/> or visit our CAB national website to type in any specific issue: <https://www.cab.org.nz>

To book our budgeting service, call 09 420 7162, email: helensville@cab.org.nz, go to <https://www.cab.org.nz/> or pop into our office at 27 Commercial Rd, Monday to Friday, 10am to 3pm.



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A wonderful summer surprise *by Helen Martin*



Alice and Ron's Ponytail Palm has sprouted eight sturdy branches.



Alice and Ron are delighted with their unexpectedly flowering plant.

As every gardener knows, one of the pleasures of gardening is the surprises your garden can throw at you. If you're a gardener you may have a Ponytail Palm (*Beaucarnea recurvata*), a species of plant native to eastern Mexico, and you'll probably know that the plant is not a palm but a succulent in the Agave family and that it seldom flowers. While it can grow to 30 feet, if left in a pot the plant reaches about four feet.

When keen gardeners Alice and Ron Iles moved to Helensville 14 years ago, they were pleased there were two established Ponytail Palms in the well-established garden surrounding their new home and even more pleased when, unusually, it flowered a few years later and began to sprout branches.

This summer, nine years on, the now 15-foot plant has eight branches, has flowered for a second time and is covered in bees. It's a spectacular sight, one of those gifts of nature that make every back-breaking moment spent in the garden worthwhile.

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SUNDAY 2.30PM TO 7.30PM

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 **TE RĀ O NGĀ TAMARIKI**
CHILDREN'S DAY

 **Helensville Women & Family Centre**
Strengthening Women and Families

Children's Day
Sunday 1st March 2020
10am to 1pm
Helensville War Memorial Hall

Come and join us for a free fun filled day of activities, entertainment & lots of prizes.



Regular Events

60 Plus, Held the last Thursday of each month, 10am morning tea provided, a great opportunity to meet others in a relaxed friendly atmosphere. Held at Magnify, 118 Commercial Rd, around the back, downstairs. (There is a ramp) Jocelyn Read 0211-726-547.

Al-Anon Family Groups can help. Free lunchtime meeting every Wednesday, 12 midday in small office at rear of carpark Magnify, 118 Main Road, www.al-anon.org.nz.

Circle of Friends: Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm River Valley Church, Fordyce Road, Parakai. \$4 includes a raffle, membership \$10 (covers the cost of trips) Play Bingo, Trips in warmer weather, shared lunch, Contact Joan 021 029 51753.

Combustion Youth: Friday, 7.30-9pm, Magnify, 118 Commercial Rd, Helensville. For young people, 13-18yrs. Contact Armand Claassens 021-077-5312.

Community Dinner – Whether you are new to the area or have been here for along time you are invited to the fortnightly community dinner at Magnify, 118 Commercial Rd, Helensville. Starts 6:30pm Contact Niki Greendale 0272-059-573.

Diabetics & Arthritis Group - First Monday in the month unless it's a public holiday. Held at the Council meeting room in the Council and library building on the corner of Porter Ave and Commercial Road, from 10am to 12pm. We have also amalgamated with the Arthritis Group. Morning tea provided. Speaker and fun times. Contact Shirley on 420-6501 or Glennis on 420-2801.

Helensville Aglow, First Friday of the Month at the Helensville Community Church, 40 Mill Road Helensville (behind Hospice Shop) All welcome, Contact yvonne@hello.net.nz for more information.

Helensville Floral Art Club, Third Thursday of the Month at Helensville Masonic Lodge, 9 Kowhai Street. All welcome, Contact Cushla 420-8905 cushandez80@gmail.com for more information.

Helensville Healing Rooms, Helensville Community Church, 40 Mill Road, Next to the Hospice Shop, Opposite Mitre 10, Every first and third Saturday, 11am-12 noon, Need healing in your body or a breakthrough in your life? Visit and experience God's love. ALL WELCOME Phone 0211-230-434 NO APPOINTMENT & NO CHARGE.

Helensville Lions Club, meet 2nd and 4th Mondays of the each month, in the Tennis Club building, 124/164 Ruatawhiti Road, 6.30pm for 7pm start. Just come along to any meeting to see what we are about - you will be made very welcome or contact Pauline 420-6208.

Helensville River Valley Country Music Club Held 3rd Sunday of the month at Helensville War Memorial Hall. 1pm start. All Welcome Contact Marion 420-8867.

Iconz 4 Girls 8-13yrs Awesome programme filled with games, activities and skills - every Tuesday of the school term 6.15pm-7.45pm. Held at Magnify, 118 Commercial Road. Contact Sonja Binks 021-202-4792.

Kumeu Friendship Club

Friendship New Zealand Inc. is a welcoming social organisation for people living in New Zealand who are retired or semi-retired. Come along and join us on the fourth Thursday of the month at 10am at St. Chad's Church, 7 Matua Rd, Huapai.

Noah's Ark Playgroup - Playgroup for caregivers and for toddlers under 5. Meets every Wednesday during school term from 9:30-12pm at Magnify, 118 Commercial Rd, Helensville. Contact Kim Duncan 420-8911

Peggy squares knitting group, Wednesdays 10am - 11:30am Join us for a coffee and a chat while knitting your Peggy Squares and assist us in creating community blankets for children in your community. Glenys 09-411-8546

SeniorNet Kumeu Inc., Have you ever thought about joining SeniorNet? The Kumeu branch meets in St Chads Church, Huapai, with a Helensville outpost in a private home in Garfield Rd. The cost of entry is \$3. Why not come along and find out what we have to offer. Contact details: Brian Lacey brian@lacey.nz, 0221-831-811, Beverley Meredith, meredithpb@xtra.co.nz, 09-411-5201, Alwynne Wedgwood, alwynneoh35@gmail.com, 420-9984

South Kaipara Rotary: 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month, 7 - 8pm at Parakai School. All Welcome, young or old.

Te Awaroa Residents & Ratepayers Assoc (TARRA), Helensville War Memorial Hall. Visitors welcome. Enquiries 021-488-427 or email tarrassoc@gmail.com

U3A, University for the Third Age, Helensville. For more info call 021-131-7308 or 420-7858

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Date	High Water Shelly Beach			Sun Rise	Sun Set
February					
1 Sat	0354	3.5	1612	0635	2032
2 Sun	0440	3.4	1701	0636	2031
3 Mon	0533	3.3	1756	0637	2030
4 Tue	0636	3.3	1756	0638	2030
5 Wed	0747	3.4	2010	0639	2029
6 Thu	0859	3.5	2121	0641	2028
7 Fri	1002	3.8	2223	0642	2027
8 Sat	1056	4.0	2317	0643	2026
9 Sun	1144	4.3	-	0644	2025
10 Mon	0007	4.2	1230	0645	2024
11 Tue	0053	4.3	1315	0646	2023
12 Wed	0139	4.3	1359	0647	2022
13 Thu	0224	4.2	1444	0648	2020
14 Fri	0309	4.1	1531	0649	2019
15 Sat	0357	4.0	1620	0650	2018
16 Sun	0450	3.8	1715	0651	2017
17 Mon	0549	3.6	1818	0652	2016
18 Tue	0658	3.5	1929	0654	2015
19 Wed	0812	3.5	2042	0655	2014
20 Thu	0919	3.6	2145	0656	2012
21 Fri	1015	3.8	2238	0657	2011
22 Sat	1101	3.9	2323	0658	2010
23 Sun	1142	4.0	-	0659	2009
24 Mon	0002	3.9	1218	0700	2007
25 Tue	0037	3.9	1250	0701	2006
26 Wed	0109	4.0	1321	0702	2005
27 Thu	0140	3.9	1351	0703	2003
28 Fri	0211	3.9	1423	0704	2002
29 Sat	0243	3.8	1457	0705	2001
March					
1 Sun	0319	3.7	1536	0706	1959

Trade/Professional & Services List

Accountants	ECE Astute Accounting	420-7835
Accountants	UHY Haines Norton	420-7972
Agecare	Craigweil House	420-8277
Age Concern Rodney		09-426-0916
Acupuncture		
	Helensville Acupuncture and Herb Clinic	021-1133-665/420-8211
Art	www.patikistudio.com	021-037-9499
Beauty Therapy	Beauty Elixir	022-465-0727/420-9775
Birthing Centre	Commercial Road, Helensville	420-8747
Block & Bricklayers	Gary	027-339-9038/420-8380
Boats & Outboard Mtrs	Mike Stanton	0276-058-225
Budget Service	Francis	420-7740
Building Supplies	PlaceMakers	420-9150
CAB		420-7162
Cabins	Rodney - Just Cabins	0800-58-78-22
Chiropractor	Kaipara Chiropractic Healthcare	420-6224
Computer Repairs	Michael	021-251-4138/420-9307
Concreters	Brewis Concrete	021-992-590
Diggers	Helensville Diggers	021-454-793/420-7023
Dog Grooming	Christine	420-2706/021-521-303
Drainage	Helensville Drainage	021-657-276/420-9091
Early Learning Centre	Active Explorers	09-222-3277
Early Learning Centre	Gumboots	09-411-9038
Early Learning Centre		
	The Homestead Early Learning Centre	420-9810
Electrical	Kinetic Electrical	027-420-6545
Flowers	Love Flowers	420-6572
Garage Doors	Hibiscus Garage Doors	027-476-2741/09-426-0851
Gasfitting		
	Habitat Plumbing Heating Gas	027-HEAT-NOW/027-4328-669
Gift Baskets	Riverside Crafts - Sarah	0800-831-542
Gifts & Clothing	Eleventh Hour - 83 Commercial Road	
Gunsmith	John Hall	420-2837
Ink and Toner	Huapai Copy and Print	09-412-8882
Insurance	Rodney District Insurance	022-363-2377
JP's	Greville Walker	02108-290-768/420-7173
Language Tuition	ABC Language Tuition	0274-904-321

Laundromat	Helensville Laundromat	420-6050
Lions Club of Helensville	Pauline	420-6208, Chris 420-8527
Markets	Kaukapakapa Village Market	0274-831-542
Markets	Waitoki Village Market	Gill 420-3301
Meat Wholesaler	River Valley Meats - Andy	021-685-199
Mechanical Repairs	Helensville Mechanical Services	420-8177
Mechanical Repairs	McLeod Motors	420-8633
Motorcycle Repairs	Helensville Motorcycle Services	420-7754
Mower Repairs & Sales	Lifestyle Mowing Machinery	0274-955-948
MP	Chris Penk	021-0230-6106
Osteopath	Osteopathic Natural Health	420-7867
Painters	Stroke of Genius - Keri	021-701-061
Panel Beater	Helensville Automotive	420-6050
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Plumbers	Aqua Plumbing Ltd	021-045-5950
Plumbers	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Property Management	Private Residence	021-872-336
Pumps	Mid West Pumps	420-7694
Real Estate	B&T - Doug & Kerry King	420-6090
Real Estate	B&T - Rene Vos	027-275-4321
Real Estate	B&T - Eveline Vos	021-353-009
Real Estate	Burmester Realty - Kelly Davison	0274-670-175
Real Estate	Prestige - Jana Mills	021-509-990/420-9953
Reflexology	One Leaf Reflexology - Jen	021-041-2586
Reiki Healers	The Healing Heart of Helensville	420-9098
Shower Installation	GSILtd	0800-466-5327/420-8777
Storage	JS Storage Helensville	420-9991
Takeaways	Kaipara Fresh Fish & Takeaway	420-7190
Takeaways	Shark n Tatties	420-5062
Typesetting/Photocopying	Huapai Copy & Print	420-9307
Venue Hire	Kaipara Memorial RSA	420-8888
Water Cartage	A1 Water	0800-A1-WATER/0800-21-9283
Water Cartage	Waioneke Water	020-420-2132/420-2131
Water Cartage	Water Wagon 1	0800-KKK-H20
Windscreen Repairs	Bullseye Windscreen Repairs	027-605-4630
Your Local Business Book	yourlocalbusinessbook@gmail.com	

The Lions Roar



Our thoughts and prayers this New Year, have been with Australia and their terrible fires. Our Lions International Foundation (to which we contribute) have already donated US\$100,000 to assist with immediate needs and long term rebuilding. Lions Clubs in those States affected, are working alongside the Government, to offer aid and comfort.

This month we are supporting Creative Workshops for Kids over the summer holidays; and donating to the Well Foundation towards a baby unit at Waitakere Hospital and Diagnostic Breast Service at North Shore.

The new Lions Telephone Directory is being prepared and if you were not in the last Directory and want your name/business included, E Mail : helensvilledirectory@gmail.com or write to: PO Box 74, Helensville 0840.

Don't forget to visit our tent at the A&P Show 29 February and get your snacks from our Kiosk.

HELENSVILLE A&P SHOW INFORMATION

Saturday, 29th February 2020

Helensville Showgrounds, Railway St,
northern end of Helensville

Open: 9am – 4.30pm

Tickets: Adults – \$10.00

Children (5-15 yrs) – \$5.00

Family Pass (2 adults & up to 4 children) – \$25.00

Parking – Free (Stewart Street)

Please Note: Eftpos and cash at Stewart St entrance only – other entrances cash only. An Eftpos facility is available at the show office once you are on the grounds.