

The Helensville Community News

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Issue 157 - December 2022

Briefing Note - Helensville Solar Farm:

The purpose of this Briefing Note is to raise awareness and to address some myths relating to the proposed installation of a solar farm in the Helensville catchment.

For context, the Google Maps view below shows the proposed construction area, and its relative size and proximity to the Helensville Township. (Other aerial photos are on the Helensville Community News website.)



Due to the position of the site in a valley and proximity to the township, the limited planting proposed will offer little or no screening and the outlook will be changed from rural to industrial.

This proposal requires change of resource consent from Council under the Resource Management Act and this process is underway. Originally submitted as limited notification, it was publicly notified in September and public submissions have now closed. Council have since requested additional information from the applicants as a result of the submissions. Next steps are a Council determination and in all likelihood a Hearing at which submitters wishing to, may be heard and present evidence. The timing of these are not yet known.

As current guardians of the land for future generations, the establishment of sustainable energy production is a no brainer for most, but it needs to be undertaken ethically, truly sustainable and should not come at a cost to the environment in which it is constructed.

SO WHAT ARE THE CONCERNS?

It is understood that there were some 65 submissions made to Council, 55 of which were largely against the application. This is not nimbys-ism but genuine concern that the application is inadequate and full of inconsistencies. Insufficient information and evidence has been provided, there are a number of issues that are unknown and unquantified making it impossible to make an **informed** decision as to its construction.

Key areas of concern which remain to be addressed sufficiently by the applicants are:

- Assessments not yet provided, and therefore commentary on these is at best anecdotal or heresay and not the appropriate basis for considered decision making, include:

- Ecological Effects – potential ecological effects (for better or worse) are unknown
- Noise/Acoustic - amplifying effects from its situation in a natural amphitheatre
- Heat – solar farms alter the way incoming energy is reflected back into the atmosphere
- Electromagnetic Fields – and therefore it is impossible to determine whether the standards required of the relevant International Commission or World Health Organisation are met
- Inappropriate use of highly productive land (the practicalities of the proposal to graze sheep on the land is unsubstantiated and it is contended that, being on a flood plain, will not be viable)
- Flood flow and stormwater and effects from the disruption of the natural flood plain impacting downstream and upstream flooding
- Effects on Rural Character and Amenity Values
- Landscape and Visual Effects – a large firm of Landscape Architects turned down an approach by HES to work on this due to the issues around the flood plan and natural character – a huge red flag
- Inadequate assessment of glint and glare effects on all receptors
- Cultural assessment
- The site has a Natural Resources overlay, namely 'Quality Sensitive Aquifer Management Areas Overlay [rp] – Kaipara Sand Aquifer' – this serves a number of bores at properties in the vicinity, no assessment has been undertaken on any impact of the construction on the aquifer

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Solar Farm breifing..

Continued from page 1

- With a loophole around the lack of council regulation on solar farms there are many such proposals coming into NZ at the moment – NZ is easy pickings for substandard installations
- Many applications are being sent back to drawing board and some being declined (in NZ and abroad) often around proximity to towns or villages

As can be seen there's a lot more to it than the impact of views.

TO DISPEL SOME MYTHS

- Cheaper power - it is the applicants intent to sell the power generated to the national grid at spot rates, the volume is such that it is highly unlikely to have any impact on the national power prices and certainly **unlikely to mean cheaper electricity for Helensville homes**
- Additional jobs generated – the site will be operated remotely on a day to day basis, so it is very **possible that less labour will be required than for the current farming activities**
- My property won't be impacted – we don't know that yet, it might be, directly or indirectly:
 - **Temperature change** – not assessed and therefore unknown
 - **Noise** – these panels move with the position of the sun, there are 8 substations around the site, will the acoustics of the valley mean the town will hear a constant mechanical noise – not assessed and therefore unknown

THE RESPONSE

In response to the concerns and with a daunting path ahead, a group of some 30+ people from Helensville and surrounding areas have formed an Incorporated Society. With the background that the design is poor and not the best that can be done the potential is for a sub standard installation to be imposed on the community. The Incorporated Society's Purpose is to represent its membership, to identify and mobilise the necessary methods to meet what is coming with sound body of evidence and to ensure the Group is appropriately prepared for the Hearing and any longer term hurdles ahead.

The Incorporated society made a very broad submission which will enable it to raise issues and request more information, be heard at any Hearing and Environment Court if it comes to that. Its first tasks will be to raise the money needed to appoint appropriately qualified experts to support the processes (funding may be available if it proceeds to the Environment Court).

If the above resonates and you find yourself in agreement with the sentiment of the concerns and would like to know more or join the Group please email hgosfcinc@outlook.com.

Full details of the application are available from the Council and may be viewed at

- Orewa Service Centre, 50 Centreway Road, Orewa - Monday to Friday 8:30am to 5:00pm.
- Helensville Library, 49 Commercial Road, Helensville – Monday to Friday 9:30am to 5:00pm, and Saturday 9:30am to 4:00pm.
- Auckland Council website: <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/have-your-say/have-your-say-notified-resource-consent/notified-resource-consent-applications-open-submissions/Pages/ResourceConsentApplication.aspx?itemId=528&applNum=BUN60395894>. email helensvillesolarfarm@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.


KAUKAPAKAPA
VILLAGE
MARKET

Sunday 18th December
Kaukapakapa Hall
8.30am – 1pm

10.00am - 12pm, live music
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What's happening this month



1st - 24th December Christmas Remembrance event hosted by Hospice West Auckland at Hospice House, 52 Beach Road, Te Atatu Peninsula; 6:00 – 7:00pm. A special moment in time to remember your loved one. Phone (09) 870 4612 or www.hwa.org.nz for more information or to confirm your attendance.

Tuesday, 6 December, U3A monthly meeting. 10.00-12.00. St Johns Hall behind ambulance station, Rata St, Helensville. Guest Speakers, Jo Dixey, embroiderer trained at Royal School of Needlework, Hampton Court Palace. Guests are very welcome. U3A is a unique organisation of retired and semi retired people who enjoy learning from each other and sharing their skills and expertise through meetings and interest groups. Members have a general meeting on the first Tuesday of the month and choose special interest groups to join. Groups at present include: Book Club, Food and Wine Appreciation, Mah Jong, Gardening, Critical Thinking, Shared Reading, NZ History, Out n About and TED Talks. Costs are minimal. For more information contact Gloria Middleditch jandgmiddleditch@outlook.com 094203007/0211658428 or Bev Silvester-Clark bev.s-c@outlook.com phone 0274316205.

Friday, 9 December, Helensville Twilight Christmas Market, 4pm-8pm, Te Awaroa Helensville Museum Grounds, Mill Road, Join us for a festive evening out with market stalls, food, live music, santa and much more....plus the Helensville Museum will be open. For more information email sarah@riversidecrafts.co.nz

Saturday, 10 December, Waitoki Village Christmas Market, 8.30am – 12.30pm Christmas Treats Galore. The Kaukapakapa Fire Truck will be on display, so you can see it up close. We will also have a selection of REAL Christmas trees for sale too. You'll be spoiled for choice: A feast for the eyes and taste buds, with a truly delicious range of hand crafted treats from sugar cookies to cupcakes and cake pops designed by Lexi of HaloSuga Lexi has a passion for baking and seeing the satisfaction and enjoyment on friends' faces made her so elated she decided to start up a small home business on the Hibiscus Coast so you too can enjoy that same feeling. She now caters for the Hibiscus Coast Community and has had customers throughout New Zealand enjoying her goods!

Jax Homekill traditionally flavoured gourmet sausages will be available on the BBQ - give them a try, they are delicious!

If you are looking to order your Christmas Hams, order now, Butcher Jacks, Wairau Rd offer FREE DELIVERY to Waitoki area for all Xmas Ham / Meat orders, Both businesses can be found on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/LocalMeatProcessors> <https://www.facebook.com/butcherjacksldt>

Future market dates: Feb 11th 2023, April 8th, June 10th, August 12th, October 14th, and December 9th

Saturday 10 - 24 December Trees of Remembrance in support of Hospice West Auckland. Make a donation and hang a message on our remembrance trees at Bunnings New Lynn and Westgate, Pak'n Save Alderman Drive and New World New Lynn.

Saturday, 17 December, Christmas Floral Workshop, 9.30am – 11.30am Kaipara Coast Plant Centre & Sculpture Gardens, 1481 Kaipara Coast Highway (SH16). Have you ever wanted to create your own beautiful Christmas table setting etc. for that special lunch or dinner but aren't sure where to start or how to go about it? Then this 2 hour workshop will be ideal to get you on your way (as well as impress family and friends). Louise Kirkwood from Old School Yard Blooms will present this event, which has traditionally been extremely popular. Louise will bring her experience from growing, gathering and curating fresh, local, seasonal flowers on the property that housed the old Upper Waiwera School. Her approach to growing and arranging flowers is to work with passion and in a manner which is sensitive to our ecological environment. In this very interactive workshop, you will get the opportunity to: Learn about tools and materials needed, with a focus on re-useable supplies select flowers and foliage from the Kaipara nature trail and gardens Practise some different ways to create smaller and larger pieces for a tablescape Learn how to help your creations last longer

If you have a small dish or other container you would like to utilise to contain your creation please feel free to bring that along. Tickets: \$20 per person To Book: info@kaiparacoast.co.nz OR 09 420 5655.

Sunday, 18 December, 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 from Cougar Chorus, free face painting & hair plaiting. Also a visit from Santa and his elves 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. For more information, stall-holder, busker and music enquiries contact Sarah: Phone - 0274 831542 or Email - sarah@riversidecrafts.co.nz. Eftpos cash out available.

Term 4 ends Tuesday 20 December

Sunday, 25 December, Christmas Day!!!

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Gateway at Kaipara College

by Lauren Morley, Year 12 Student Kaipara College

For a young person today, it feels as if there are millions of careers just waiting to be explored. But in a world with an endless and ever-expanding number of job opportunities, it feels almost impossible to know which path may be the one for you. Many secondary schools around New Zealand partake in the Tertiary Education Commission's Gateway Programme. This is a programme that is designed to give senior secondary school students the chance to experience a workspace in a professional capacity, learn new skills, and make connections with people. This year, Kaipara College had 52 students across Years 12 and 13 complete a 'Gateway placement' of their choice. I was fortunate enough to be one of those students.

At Kaipara College, we have a diverse student body, with people coming from many different areas and backgrounds. This meant that we had a vast array of career paths explored, from things such as beauty, fashion, drama, architecture, and early-childhood care to engineering, marine biology, physiotherapy, farming, and piloting. Before entering any workplace, all 52 students had to complete courses in first aid as well as workplace health and safety. Both of these gave students important skills which were not only used throughout their placements, but also in everyday life.

My personal experience with the Gateway programme was something that I will forever be grateful for. Through connections of my own, I was able to spend six days working at *Jasmax* – a well-established architecture firm in Parnell. Every Thursday, instead of heading to school on the bus, I hopped on the train and spent my 40-minute journey reading my book or keeping up with the school work I would be missing out on that day. Once I reached Parnell, it was just a short walk from the train station to the office, which I would reach at around 9:30 am. For the next eight hours, my day was filled with nothing but paint colours, carpet samples, floor plans and building designs – all of which brought me much joy. I spent my lunchtimes in the staff room and attended several talks with the other members of the office. I enjoyed learning new skills and meeting new people in a space where I was not treated as a student, but instead as a colleague.

The Gateway programme is fully funded for all students who take part. This means that students who may typically miss out on school outings and experiences are still able to put themselves out there and learn new skills, meet new people and develop the confidence they need in their chosen career to enter the workforce or tertiary education after high school.



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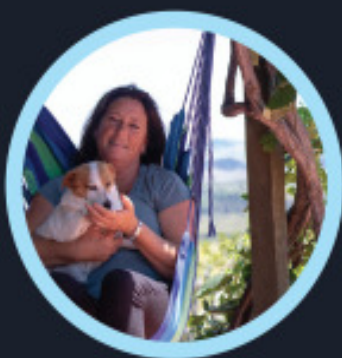
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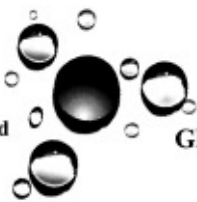
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Our Government has a very clear vision for New Zealand's future. It's one where our economy provides security and opportunities for every New Zealander and their family. It's one where everyone has a healthy, affordable place to call home. It's one where all of us have access to world-class healthcare. It's one where we look after our environment for generations to come.

We have worked hard to put in place the foundations for this future, and as we mark five years since coming into Government, I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on our progress so far.

Despite COVID causing the greatest economic downturn in New Zealand since the Great Depression, our economy is in a good position. Thanks to our strong economic management, debt is low, exports are up, and our economy is larger now than before the pandemic.

We have more people in work, with higher wages, which makes both families and our economy strong. We've also seen child poverty continue to improve, and measures such as our Families Package, minimum wage increases, benefit increases, and free lunches in schools have helped to lift families' wellbeing.

Turning around New Zealand's record on child poverty wasn't the only big, long-term challenge that we were elected to fix. The housing crisis is a problem that has been decades in the making, and while there's no easy solution, the actions that we've taken are already making a real difference.

Housing supply is ramping up, we've changed the law to make renting fairer, and we've successfully tipped the balance in favour of first home buyers. We're speeding up the scale and pace of house building through our Infrastructure Acceleration Fund, and we've built more public and transitional houses than any Government in decades.

We're also making good progress on our plan to make sure that everyone in New Zealand has access to world-class healthcare. We're upgrading hospitals and health centres and training more nurses and doctors. We've put in place more mental health support, boosted Pharmac's funding, and extended free GP visits to all children under 14, and lots more.

We've also made tackling climate change a priority, and thanks to the actions that we've taken since 2017, such as passing the Zero Carbon Act and supporting businesses to switch to cleaner energy, New Zealand is on track to bend the curve of our emissions downwards for the first time in history.

It can sometimes be easy to forget just how far we've come since 2017, particularly as we've all faced a global pandemic and economic shock.

While there's still more work to do, I'm incredibly proud of our Government's record.

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Helensville Museum news

"Happy to turn a visitor into a volunteer" is a phrase that a colleague used the other day that struck a chord as that is exactly what happened to me. Four years ago I visited the Helensville Museum to take my first time proper look at the history of the district. I was born in Helensville 70 years ago with local family ties to Helensville, Parakai, Waitoki, Muriwai and Waimauku. Like many other young ones of the time, and today, I set my sights on a career far away and to make my own history. After 2 O.E's and 27 years I returned and found reconnecting with this historic town and the people easier than I had thought.



Toni Walmsley
President – Helensville and District Historical Society Inc.

I was impressed with the collection of oral and family histories available. These are all personal stories of how people lived in the early years of this area's development. I felt connected here and decided to volunteer. I had no idea at the time that this was to become a deep dive and when tasks needed doing I got stuck in alongside the other volunteers. A very diverse and interesting group of people. The responsibility of preserving history is challenging yet very satisfying when the results of our team's work are presented. The garden team must also take credit for the colourful and thoughtful presentation of the gardens.

While the Helensville RSA will be closed for refurbishment from mid-December the museum has a new display of war memorabilia combining the RSA and their own records showcasing artifacts and stories of our district's military personnel and the local war effort.

Our final event for the year will be the Twilight Market, at the Helensville Museum on Mill Road, on Friday 9th December 2022 4pm – 8pm

After three years of closures and lockdowns it is time to re-engage with the community and again share our district's history.

We are always on the lookout for volunteers. They are a scarce commodity and their value immeasurable. We value any skill and any time you have available. Please make contact by phone (09) 420 7881 or email – info@helensvillemuseum.org.nz

The Helensville Museum will be closed from 22nd December 2022 and will re-open 9th January 2023

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Kaipara korero

Principal Cindy Sullivan

Senior Prizegiving Address

Ka mua, ka muri:

Looking back in order to move forward

When I look at student achievement at Kaipara College what impresses me the most is the breadth of success. Academic results are outstanding across the school. Around 60% of last years Yr13 gained Level 3 with merit or excellence, while level 1 round 50% and over 78% of our level 2 students gained success in NCEA. Not only that, Kaipara College is a school which achieves above its weight in sporting, cultural endeavours, arts, music and performing arts. The most notable successes are celebrated at our Senior Prizegiving, and you will already have read about others through the year on our social media platforms and in our panui. To all who have achieved and to all who gave it their best this year, congratulations.

It is only with the support of our parents, caregivers and community that we are able to offer these myriad of opportunities to our students. I would like to thank all those who have given generously of their time to coach, manage, transport, encourage, sometimes cajole and always support our students in this fine array of endeavours.

A noted Cognitive Scientist, psychologist and educationalist Guy Claxton tells us "Learning is the need to develop the ability to face difficulty, complexity and uncertainty, calmly, confidently and capably." And this learning does not just take place at school, it takes place throughout our lives. In other words, we teach, but the deeper prize is preparing our students for a life well lived. That is our deeper purpose. We teach young people before we teach subjects, we teach them to be human before we teach them skills and knowledge. We teach them to have educated hearts as well as minds. History and indeed today presents us with examples of well-educated tyrants and cruel leaders with no conscience or compassion. The world our students are stepping into is very different to the world we stepped into on leaving school or the one you as parents experienced. It is critical that we provide an education which prepares students for their future, which enables them to embrace diversity and play a role in meeting and solving the problems they will face as global citizens. This will require multiple talents, thinking and aptitudes. Producing excellent NCEA results is not sufficient in itself as an end goal, important though it is. We deliver so much more.

It has been long and difficult years for all of us and we are still unsure at times of what the future holds. None of us would ever have imagined the global scenario we have found ourselves in with recent memories of a country locked down, borders closed, and mask wearing normalised. I want to thank you as parents, caregivers and our community for your support this year and over the past three years, and thank you to our students for your ongoing optimism and hard work in these unusual times.

To our Board – it has been a challenging year again. Thank you for supporting the education we are developing here at Kaipara College and being an open and visionary Board. You provide sound and strong governance to our school. In particular, Rochelle, thank you for your support as Board Chair to me in my role as Principal and your generous offering of time and support to the school.

To all our staff, all of you have risen to the challenge of another year of catch-up, of learning lost, and going the extra distance I know this took many hours of work over and above and I know you did it because you care about our students – I know your care for them is embedded in deep relationship and supporting them to be the best they can be. Your reward is that you touch their futures in ways we cannot measure in the present and may never know. To our senior leadership team, thank you for your professionalism, hard work, loyalty and vision. Your calm approach, focused leadership, unity as a team and courage guided the school through the most challenging of times and continue to do so. To our parents and caregivers, thank you for working in partnership with us to mold and create these fine young people we see here today. Parenting is not an easy ride but certainly a worthwhile one. Our children bring us our greatest joy, our greatest challenge and also our greatest learning.

To our head students: Billie, Riley, Abby, Kaia and Binley, thank you for sharing you with us. I have so enjoyed working with you this year and will miss you immensely, but you are more than ready and prepared to fly solo now. And to our student leaders. Leading has required different thinking and they have done a wonderful job in focusing on communicating a positive culture and supporting the rest of the school through this time. A huge thank you to you – for your videos and fun projects, your perseverance and resilience. You have made a real difference for our students.

Looking forward, the future of Kaipara College is very bright and we are well placed for a prosperous and learningful future. Our brilliant new build begins early 2023 with a state of the art Innovation centre, combining facilities for art and technology. We will see renewed vigour and opportunities in education outside the classroom, beginning with our Y9 camp in March 2023 and the development of a music and performing arts academy. I am very excited for what the future holds for Kaipara College, the great young people still to arrive who will develop into exceptional young people, like the ones we share this evening with

To our students my hope is that you will continue to make the most of the opportunities that Kaipara College has offered and that with the support from your family, friends and the school, you will equip yourselves well, to face the challenges that lie ahead next year and beyond. I am confident in saying that you have are provided with the very best opportunities at Kaipara College.

Senior Prizegivings are a celebration of our student's achievement and success, the recognition of targets set and goals achieved, but above all it is the celebration of the hope we invest in you, the next generation of young people, who will leave Kaipara College in the not too distant future to make their way in an increasingly complex and challenging world. We are all very proud of the wonderful progress you continue to make.

Whaia te iti kahurangi.

Ekea to tapuhipuhi.

Pursue excellence.

Follow your dreams.

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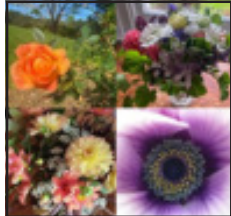
PLANT CENTRE Specialists in plants for this area - Vegetables - Fruit trees - Natives - Garden plants - Design services - Planting - Landscaping	 Kaipara COAST	SCULPTURE GARDENS Get inspired and have a relaxed fun family afternoon out. Come on our 1km garden and sculpture trail. Allow 1-2 hours. Garden entrance fees apply
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Flower Arranging – Christmas Theme

Saturday 17th December
0930 – 1130am

Have you ever wanted to create your own beautiful Christmas table setting etc. for that special lunch or dinner but aren't sure where to start or how to go about it? Then this 2 hour workshop will be ideal to get you on your way (as well as impress family and friends)



Louise Kirkwood from Old School Yard Blooms will present this event, which has traditionally been extremely popular.

Louise will bring her experience from growing, gathering and curating fresh, local, seasonal flowers on the property that housed the old Upper Waiwera School.

Her approach to growing and arranging flowers is to work with passion and in a manner which is sensitive to our ecological environment.

In this very interactive workshop, you will get the opportunity to:

- **Learn about tools and materials needed, with a focus on re-useable supplies**
- **Select flowers and foliage from the Kaipara nature trail and gardens**
- **Practise some different ways to create smaller and larger pieces for a tablescape**
- **Learn how to help your creations last longer**



If you have a small dish or other container you would like to utilise to contain your creation please feel free to bring that along.



After the workshop you can also spend some more time in the Gardens which has a beautiful sculpture exhibition along a 1.2km pathway as well as our recently created nature trail which is a further 2.4 km for you to explore. This is all set in the idyllic Kaipara countryside and placed so as to blend sympathetically with the surrounding environment.*

There is also a kid's play area as well as our cute little coffee shop on site plus of course the Plant Centre for you to browse through.

Our knowledgeable and friendly staff will also be on hand to help with any garden related questions.

*Please note: Trails not suitable for wheelchairs or walking frames.

Venue location: 1481 Kaipara Coast Highway (SH16), 4km north of Kaukapakapa
Tickets: \$20 per person



To Book: info@kaiparacoast.co.nz OR 09 420 5655



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From Penk's Pen

CHRIS PENK – MP

Supporting local businesses

In the past couple of years we've talked quite a bit about supporting local businesses. During the covid lockdowns, this became a near necessity as well as feeling like the right thing to do.

Switching the focus to the decisions that we all make as consumers, at an individual level, the choices made by government are also important.

From the perspective of policy makers, supporting local businesses should look like enabling the family firms and other small outfits to get a fair go. When it comes to rules and regulations, often the big end of town is better placed to weather a storm of red tape, simply due to scale. A larger firm (for example a multinational operating an office in New Zealand) will usually have a broader workforce – so can hire a dedicated “health and safety” officer, for example – in a way that Mum-and-Dad businesses simply doesn't. And then of course there's a question of having a big balance sheet backed my many shareholders, compared with the small start-up reliant on borrowing against the family home.

Recently I had the privilege of visiting Wharehine Construction Contractors, a multi-service civil construction, quarrying & transport business. They're based in Wellsford but operate across both the Auckland and Northland regions. What stood out to me was not only their reputation of employing locals but additionally that they are built on a foundation of family values and a family culture. They're a seriously impressive and credible organisation, as can be seen in the infrastructure projects they're completing in our area, such as Matakana Link Road. Importantly, though, they are part of the community and are literally invested in the success of this area.

I give the example of Wharehines to illustrate the bigger point that we all need to play our part, including Wellington, to support local businesses both big and small.

I hope this column finds everyone well and surviving the early onset of silly season activities. Christmas seems to have come early this year (although maybe I've allowed it to sneak up on me!) and I hope to see you out and about at the various local Santa parades, markets and the like ... supporting local businesses and a certain jolly fellow from the North Pole too.

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Craigweil House

The festive season is upon us once again and Craigweil House residents have been busy getting out and about and enjoying the warmer weather. With our regular bus trips back on, a favorite stop at the Helensville Museum inspired many residents last Month. Resident Roland, a long-term contributing rural community member was fascinated by the equipment and machinery seen, reminiscing of the long hours worked in the fields.



Roland standing next to the different carts used by local people long time ago.



Barbara standing next to an old suite room at Helensville Museum.

As we edge closer to Christmas residents are excited that this very week the decorations are going up at the same time that a joyous feeling is beginning to build, Craigweil House is glad and relived to be welcoming friends and family back once again to visit their loved ones and have a chance to catch up on another interesting year.

If you would like to enquire about Craigweil House for your loved one, please get in touch. We are a boutique rural facility with personalized compassionate support and care for rest home, hospital, and secure dementia levels of care – 09-420 8277. From everyone at Craigweil House, warm greetings and Merry Christmas to come!

Art centre update

Our final exhibition for the year is Cash and Carry. All works are priced under \$250 making Christmas shopping affordable and unique! Included is renowned artist and Art Centre board member Jeff Thomson, with his sculptures at only \$250 a piece it is an absolute bargain! Get in quick it is always fly out the door.

We will be closing the Art Centre early this year, our final day is December the 9th. The public have been made aware of the construction surrounding our premises, we have now been informed we have to be out of the building between December 9 and March 6th. But don't worry we have lots in store so keep following us on Facebook and Instagram to see what is ahead!

School holiday programmes with Creative Matters!

These workshops have been exceptionally popular this year with each holiday having full classes!

As the Art Centre will be closed we are holding our holiday programme at Helensville Primary School. To book please go on the Creative Matters website. December dates are 19th, 20th and 21st.

Sponsor a child!

Previously we have offered a reduced rate for Creative Matters holiday programmes, however we do not have the funding to continue this. So we are reaching out to the community to ask if anyone would like to 'Sponsor a Child' so we can continue offering these courses at a discounted rate.

Please email manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz for more details.

Our first exhibition in 2023 will be a combined member's show at Kumeu Arts. This will be a lovely summer exhibition so be sure to pop into Kumeu and check it out.



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Helensville Library and Service Centre update

Registrations for this year's Te Ara Poutama – Level Up programme for 5 to 18 year-olds open on Monday 12 December. The programme runs until Friday 20 January. Keep an eye out on our Facebook page and at: aucklandlibraries.govt.nz.

Santa at the library:

Santa will be making his annual visit to Helensville Library and Service Centre in December. We are talking to his elves to work out the best day for him to visit on Wednesday 21 December.

Kids Time at 10am. All welcome to storytime and to take photos with Santa afterwards.



Out and About at Kaukapakapa:



The Auckland Library Mobile Library team now have a regular stop at Kaukapakapa. This is fortnightly, on a Thursday,

from 2pm to 4pm. The dates in December are: 8 December and 22 December. Come and visit them in the carpark at the back of the hall.

The Library and Service Centre is open our usual hours: Monday to Friday: 9.30am to 5pm. Saturday: 9.30am to 4pm. Council services are available during these hours.

Hall building work update:

The remedial building work in the Library area of the building has been delayed. If there are any changes to our opening hours and availability, we will be updating our Facebook page. facebook.com/HelensvilleLibraryAndServiceCentre.

Anne Coppel

Senior Librarian / Poukōkiri - Children & Youth



Going for Goals

Citizens Advice Bureau Helensville starts 2023 with a fresh perspective.

Volunteers have supported a merger with Citizens Advice Bureau North Shore this month which retains Helensville's unique identity and gives it access to specialist teams and resources.

Under the CAB North Shore banner, Helensville joins six other branches which are enjoying the positive benefits of pooling their talents and resources to give more support to managers and volunteers.

Administrative roles including managing finances, learning and development, peer reviewing and an overall board will be overseen by the umbrella organisation.

This leaves new manager Rani Timoti the freedom to focus on volunteers to deliver a quality service to clients. "We empower clients with options and information; rights and responsibilities while collecting evidence to address issues at a systemic level and for social policy."

Rani, who is also from the long-standing Hill whanau of Haranui Marae, will also spearhead networking and promoting the valuable work of the CAB in the South Kaipara district.

Along with volunteers, she has attended the Kaipara Kapa Haka Festival and invited members of the Community Support group for a lunch and information sharing time at the CAB's spacious office at 16 Commercial Rd.

Both Rani and dedicated volunteer Gloria McLeod now have their service certificates respectively, Rani with 5 years and Gloria racking up 20 years with the non-profit service organisation, reflecting on in all stages of its development.

We will be recruiting new volunteers for 2023 so if you're interested please pop in and talk to one of our friendly volunteers at our office from Monday to Friday, 10am to 1pm.

Our Christmas break will be from Friday, December 23 and we re-open on Monday, January 09.

Please phone 09 420 7162 or email: helensville@cab.org.nz or

go to <https://www.cab.org.nz/> for our national website.

*What is the Citizens Advice Bureau? A community organisation that provides free, confidential, independent information and advice.



Volunteers from Citizens Advice Bureau Helensville vote on a merger with CAB North Shore to gain the positive benefits of pooling talents and resources to provide effective support for clients.

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Getting nowhere fast in the North West

On a recent Saturday morning I hooked up my trailer and headed to the Cypress Sawmill to pick up a load of garden mulch. Before I left home I checked traffic on my route from Te Atatu to Waitoki.

The map showed me the fastest route would be 45km via State Highway 1, rather than the 37km through Kumeu on State Highway 16.

What possible reason could there be for a journey 25% longer taking less time?

State Highway 16 route is heavily congested and mostly two lanes, as the four-laning ends just after Westgate. The State Highway One route is a modern four to six lane highway, with a 100kmh speed limit, and generally free flowing traffic on a Saturday morning.

There is a huge volume of traffic, up to 37,000 vehicles per day on the SH16 section South of the Coatesville Riverhead highway, on what is essentially a two-lane rural road at that point. That is similar to the number of vehicles recorded passing daily through the six lane Takanini interchange when the data was collected in 2019.

Yet the growth in traffic volumes over the last ten years on these two very different parts of the network is similar, around 10,000 extra vehicles per day.

How is it that in one part of the city, the transport agency has built additional capacity to allow for growth, yet in the North West, we are totally ignored?

Under nine years of a National Government when the Prime Minister was the local MP, nothing was done. Under the last five years of a Labour government, it got even worse as major roading projects around the region were cancelled when bike bridges and light rail became new priorities. It feels like the North-West is simply not a priority for either major party. So, what do we have to do to get a road built around here?

Central and local government plans for growth need to be coordinated. It is no good having councils rezone large areas for housing and commercial development, which are totally ignored by governments and politicians when it comes to delivering the needed infrastructure at scale.

The Auckland Future Land Supply Strategy, when it was published in 2017, estimated that around 12,000 additional homes had been added to the North West in the previous decade. That's around 30,000 extra people wanting to go places every day.

The growth is set to continue over the next three decades at a similar rate. We are all familiar with the cycle of politicians announcing projects which they run out of money to deliver, or projects which are simply cancelled following a change of Government.

ACT would instead establish 30-year infrastructure plans to be agreed between central and local governments for each region.

Local government has a much better idea where growth is going to occur and would know which projects are needed to provide for that growth. Central government has the size and scale to design and procure major projects.

Under a government involving ACT, local needs like building roads for tens of thousands of new residents would become the priority for government, not bike bridges and light rail fantasies.

We would also use New Zealand's independent Infrastructure Commission as the auditor to make sure that the 30-year plans deliver the necessary benefits, within acceptable times frames.

This Government might be allergic to long-term decision making, but ACT is not.



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SHELLY BEACH TIDE CHART					
Date	High Water Shelly Beach		Sun Rise	Sun Set	
December '22					
1 Thu	0521	3.5	1749	0555	2024
2 Fri	0626	3.5	1852	0555	2025
3 Sat	0728	3.6	1951	0555	2026
4 Sun	0827	3.7	2047	0554	2027
5 Mon	0922	3.8	2139	0554	2028
6 Tue	1012	3.9	2227	0554	2029
7 Wed	1057	4.0	2310	0554	2029
8 Thu	1138	4.0	2350	0554	2030
9 Fri	1215	4.0	-	0554	2031
10 Sat	0026	3.8	1250	0554	2032
11 Sun	0101	3.7	1323	0554	2033
12 Mon	0135	3.6	1356	0555	2033
13 Tue	0211	3.6	1432	0555	2034
14 Wed	0250	3.5	1512	0555	2035
15 Thu	0334	3.4	1558	0555	2035
16 Fri	0425	3.3	1651	0556	2036
17 Sat	0523	3.3	1749	0556	2037
18 Sun	0624	3.4	1849	0557	2038
19 Mon	0727	3.4	1949	0557	2039
20 Tue	0830	3.6	2050	0557	2039
21 Wed	0931	3.8	2150	0557	2039
22 Thu	1028	4.0	2247	0558	2040
23 Fri	1121	4.1	2341	0558	2040
24 Sat	1211	4.2	-	0559	2040
25 Sun	0033	4.1	1300	0600	2041
26 Mon	0124	4.0	1348	0600	2041
27 Tue	0215	4.0	1437	0601	2042
28 Wed	0306	3.9	1528	0601	2042
29 Thu	0358	3.8	1621	0602	2042
30 Fri	0453	3.7	1716	0603	2042
31 Sat	0550	3.6	1813	0604	2043
January '23					
1 Sun	0649	3.5	1911	0605	2044



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: Invite you to a game of Bingo (No cost involved) and a friendly chat. Every Wednesday morning 9.30am - 12.30pm. Please bring a plate for lunch plus \$4 each week. For more information and location please phone Joan 021 029 51753.

Core Hit - Tuesday 5.30. Bonnie Casey, War Memorial Hall, Helensville. Deep core and pelvic floor strengthening, plus cardio workout for ladies of all ages.

Diabetes & 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.

Fitness League - Friday 9.45am - War Memorial Hall, Helensville. Exercise to music (posture + balance). \$6 if you are a member, non members \$8. Membership \$20 per annum. Come and check us out. Christine Ph. 425-7108

Groovy Line Dancing Tuesday 9.30am - War Memorial Hall, Helensville. \$6 - Levia Aukino-Uruamo. Ph 022-626-7030

Helensville Aglow, meets on the first Friday of the month at Magnify Church, 118 Commercial Road Helensville (around the back of the building, downstairs) All welcome. Contact Bridget at helensvilleaglow@outlook.com 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 cushanddez80@gmail.com for more information.

Helensville Healing Rooms, Helensville Community Church, 40 Mill Road, Next to the Hospice Shop, Opposite Mitre 10, Every second and fourth Saturday, 11am-12noon, 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 Rautawiri Road, 6.30pm for 7pm start. Just come along to any meeting to see what we are about - you will be made very welcome. Contact Chris 420-8527.

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.

Hot Pool Stretching and Exercise Class: Every Tuesday 8-30-9.30am. Suitable for arthritis sufferers or those wanting to warm up these muscles and stay flexible. Lots of fun; pool noodles available and fully instructed. At Parakai Springs Hot Pools. For more information contact Chrissy on 027-258-2010

Kaipara Memorial RSA. - Quiz night every Wednesday at 7.00pm. 20 easy questions, free to enter, different quizmaster each week. Meals available from 6.00pm. All welcome at the RSA, 49 Commercial Road, Helensville. Any queries, give me a call, Rex Keane, 027 293 2768

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.

Our Village Coffee/Playgroup - Northwest (Find us on Facebook). Social community group for all ages and stages. Everyone welcome along: Parents, caregivers, grandparents, all the whānau, with/without children. Every Thursday 930am - 130pm St Matthews Church Lounge - 60 Garfield Rd, Helensville. Email: ourvillagenorthwest@gmail.com

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 09-411-5151

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.

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

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

U3A South Kaipara: 1st Tuesday of the month for general meeting. See What's happening this month column for more information or contact Gloria Middleditch. jandgmiddleditch@outlook.com 094203007/0211658428

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
Acupuncture	Parakai Acupuncture	027-351-7377/09-449-0690 (Parakai Church)
Beauty Therapy	Beauty Elixir	022-465-0727/420-9775
Birthing Centre	Commercial Road, Helensville	420-8747
Budget Service	Francis	420-7740
Butcher	River Valley Meats	021-685-199/412-2007
CAB		420-7162
Cabins	Northwest Cabins	022-1209-562
Carpenter	Maguire Carpentry	021-990-268
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	021-521-303
Early Learning Centre	Active Explorers	09-222-3277
Early Learning Centre	Gumboots	09-411-9038
Garden Sheds	Baby Barns	022-075-8283/420-3298
Gasfitting	Habitat Plumbing Heating Gas	027-HEAT-NOW/027-4328-669
Gift Baskets	Riverside Crafts - Sarah	0800-831-542
Gifts & Art	FIGG 44 Commercial Rd	021-488-427/420-6026
Gifts & Clothing	Eleventh Hour - 60 Commercial Road	
Ink and Toner	Huapai Copy & Print	09-412-8882
JP's	Ralph Martin	022-600-5730

Lions Club of Helensville	Chris Clarke	420-8527
Markets	Kaukapakapa Village Market	0274-831-542
Markets	Waitoki Village Market	Gill 420-3301
Mechanical Repairs	Helensville Mechanical Services	420-8177
Mechanical Repairs	McLeod Motors	420-8633
Mechanical Repairs	Parakai Automotive	09-420-7224
Mower Repairs & Sales	Lifestyle Mowing Machinery	0274-955-948
MP	Chris Penk	021-0230-6106
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Picture Framing	The Picture Framing Company	0800-372-633
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Plumbers	ATL Plumbing Ltd	420-7868
Plumbers	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Pumps	Mid West Pumps	420-7694
Real Estate	Arizto Real Estate - Kara Singer	021-414-376
Real Estate	B&T - Kerry & Laura	0274-587-299/0277-726-969
Real Estate	Burmester Realty	420-8360
Real Estate	Burmester Realty - Kelly Davison	0274-670-175
Real Estate	Prestige - Jana Mills	021-509-990/420-9953
Real Estate	Quest & Co - Raewyn	027-449-7391, Karlene 027-677-6166/021
Reiki Healers	The Healing Heart of Helensville	420-9098
Storage	J S Storage	021-462-930
Takeaways	Shark n Tatties	420-5062
Typesetting/Photocopying	Huapai Copy & Print	420-9307
Venue Hire	Kaipara Memorial RSA	420-8888
Water Cartage	Water Wagon 1	027-280-2630
Water Cartage	Waioneke Water	020-420-2132/420-2131
Windscreen Repairs	Bullseye Windscreen Repairs	027-605-4630
Your Local Business Book	yourlocalbusinessbook@gmail.com	

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Source: REINZ

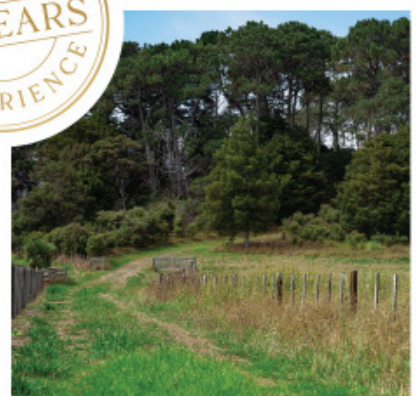
HOW'S THE MARKET?

October

LOCAL STATISTICS

Source: REINZ

UNMATCHABLE
FEE FOR SERVICE



The Simple Life LOT 5 WAITOKI ROAD

Have you been dreaming of a more relaxed way of living? Of wide open windows overlooking green fields and tree groves, of living off the land?

If living immersed in nature is an idea you've been manifesting, then this opportunity for a convenient farmlette lifestyle is one you can't let pass you by.

Nestled down a long driveway, this private lot offers 3.7600ha of peace and serenity only a short skip from amenities and motorways. Enjoy a slice of country life without compromising a sophisticated lifestyle as you are so close to amenities. Perfect for horse lovers and those wanting to escape the city for a more relaxed pace.

Land Area 3.7600HA/9.29ACRES Sale by NEGOTIATION



RAEWYN 027 449 7391 ♦ KARLENE 027 677 6166 ♦ QUESTANDCO.NZ