

The Helensville Community News

Issue 125 - April 2020

A new JP for Helensville *By Helen Martin*

Grev Walker and Chas Holst have served Helensville as JPs for many years. They have now been joined by Lindy McDermott, who was recently sworn in as a Justice of the Peace.

While she moved to Helensville just six years ago, Lindy has already made her mark as a woman on a mission to leave the world a better place than she found it. Keen on fitness – she goes for a 90 minute walk every day - when she arrived here, she went to the Citizens Advice Bureau to check out local tramping clubs and joined up a CAB volunteer. In short order she became the secretary of the Helensville CAB and is now the chairperson.

Lindy also volunteers at Helensville St John's op shop and Kaukapakapa Church op shop. Sponsoring the education of a Nepalese girl when she lived in Australia sparked her interest in the plight of the Nepalese, and for the past few years, she has travelled to Nepal to preach at Christian Women's conferences. The first time she went she met a Nepali couple Indra and Jyoti Shrestha who live in Kodari on the Tibetan/Nepalese border. They have set up 21 churches in Nepal and Tibet and look after 11 children orphaned by the devastating 2015 earthquake. As well as supporting them, at home Lindy is on the River Valley Baptist Church committee that supports eight missionaries around the world.

In the process of becoming a JP, Lindy met a fellow trainee whose teacher wife, hearing about her work in Nepal, is organising a gold coin mufti day at her school, the money from which will be



sent to Jagaran Community School in Nepal for paper, pens and other items which to the children there are luxuries.

Lindy is matter of fact about adding the role of JP to her many commitments. "People are always needing help. I live locally and I'm available. It's just sharing the load."

Normally, each Saturday there is a JP available at the Helensville Plunket rooms from 10am 12pm. At the moment, the service has been suspended until further notice.

TED TALKS *By Helen Martin*

Initially inspired by the book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury, people around the world have been putting teddy bears in windows and on fences and letter boxes to entertain children going on family walks during the Covid-19 lockdown. Creative approaches have been interesting and varied, and Helensville is no exception.

In just one example, William Robert Boyd, who lives in the old BNZ bank in Commercial Road, has taken to the teddy-in-the-window idea with enthusiasm. "When I first heard about it, I thought it was a cute idea. Then I realised it might be an opportunity to do something more - TED TALKS would resonate with adults and possibly start conversations other than "there's another bear". Humour and learning are good companions and children are sponges, so we need to ensure they absorb positive and accurate information. After we had our first Covid-19 death in New Zealand I heard a child in the street say to his mum 'What does R.I.P. mean and why has the teddy got a black stripe on his arm today?'"

William's TED TALKS captions change each day, for example explaining why TED was given a bath (blaming the bear's first less-than-clean appearance on the resident schnauzers, Turner

and Greta), asking people not to forget the elderly and those in lockdown on their own and reminding people to be kind and to respect the lockdown on behalf of all of us. He says the response has been amazing. "There have been many very positive comments and much feedback. I really hope this helps."



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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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Kaukapakapa Library Short Story Competition Friday 27th March To Sunday 19th April 2020

Here's a challenge to occupy you over the next couple of weeks.

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The short story competition is open to residents from Glorit/ Makarau to Waitoki to Helensville/Parakai and including Kaukapakapa. Stories may be fact or fiction and be any genre and subject.

One entry per person. Prizes will be presented to:

Best junior story for under 10 years old - 100 word minimum

Best intermediate story for 11 - 15 years old - 500 word minimum

Best senior story for 16 years and over - 800 word minimum

Best short story in Te Reo Maori.

The winner of each category will receive a \$50 gift voucher from the fabulous Paper Plus in Helensville. Prizes to be distributed when they are open again. The judge's decision will be final, and entries may be used for publicity purposes by the Kaukapakapa library. The judging decision will be advised Sunday 3rd May.

Email your entries to threehorses@xtra.co.nz by midnight Sunday 19th April.

Entries **must** include name, contact number, address and age category.



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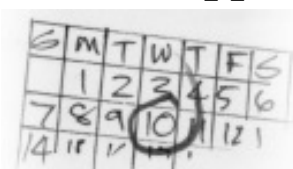
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What's happening this month



Compulsory holidays for most of us-

Working from home for some of us-

A great deal of uncertainty for All of us.

So its a really good time to spend with your family, make the most of it, don't spend it all on your phone or other device, be a family that shares.

Key Report . . .

Preparing for a natural disaster

Hon John Key, MP for Helensville says Disaster Awareness Week is an opportunity to make sure you and your family are prepared for a natural disaster.

I urge people in our communities to take some simple steps to prepare themselves.

If you are prepared, you are more likely to be able to look after your family in the event of a disaster, and recover quickly.

The best international advice tells us that you should plan for the worst, as you may be on your own for three days or more.

The National-led Government is committed to ensuring that our communities prepare for disasters, our emergency services are ready to respond, and that our country can recover quickly from disasters.

Civil Defence will continue to be there for New Zealanders in an emergency, as they have been since the 1930's.

The Minister of Civil Defence, Hon John Carter, has announced that there will be a comprehensive review of the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management.

"We're committed to making sure we have the best possible civil defence and emergency management systems in place, and supporting civil defence teams in communities throughout New Zealand," says Mr. Key. Disaster Awareness Week will run from Sunday 11 until Saturday 17 October 2009. It was organised by the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management.

It coincides with the United Nations "International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction", which is on the second Wednesday of October every year. For information on how to prepare, visit: www.civildefence.govt.nz or see the back of the Yellow Pages.

What have we learned since then, see Dunne Speaks on page 4 - 5 Ed

BUYING OR SELLING PROPERTY?

Jana Mills

Mob: 021 509 990
AH: 09 420 9953

Jana Mills Real Estate Specialist

PRESTIGE

From our very first issue - December 2009

When the lockdown is over and things gradually (*nothing is going to miraculously happen overnight*) get back to normal remember these words of the HDBA Secretary from 2009. In recent years they have been forgotten and so often we have seen local businesses close down because locals buy near where they work instead of where they live. This time it is even more important to shop local as well as shop New Zealand. *ED*

Helensville District Business Assn News

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- It motivates customers to see Helensville as a "one stop shop" for all their needs. If your business gives to the community, your community will give back to the business.
- When you need to refer, do so to another local business, it creates good word of mouth – the most powerful advertising.

The Helensville District Business Association visualises we have not only what we need here, but the power to attract what we want, independent of anything else. Your business will not just survive; it will thrive, if your focus is your customer and your community and how we ALL benefit from your business.

Let's face it, if our local economy grows, so will your business. Sadly, the opposite is also true.

SHOPLOCAL - IT JUST MAKES SENSE.

HDBA Secretary

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This column, by former United Future MP Peter Dunne, is reprinted from his weekly newsletter Dunne speaks

Dunne speaks

A recurring theme in contemporary literature is of the plague that appears suddenly from nowhere and takes hold of the world, destroying or severely damaging life in the process. In 2003 acclaimed author Margaret Atwood's novel *Oryx and Crake* was premised on a super-pharmaceutical cutting loose and causing a global pandemic. The 2011 movie *Contagion* focused on a global pandemic that jumped from animals to humans and spread around the world. Perhaps most eerily of all though the American science fiction writer Dean Koontz predicted in a 1981 novel the emergence in 2020 of a man-made virus called Wuhan-400 with a 100% kill rate, which had been developed in Wuhan as a biological weapon but got out of control.

Although all these accounts are fictional, and while the tolerance for conspiracy theories should be limited even at the best of times, they do draw attention to situations that could become reality at some point. Yet, despite various occasional national and international warnings from researchers and clinicians, the Covid-19 outbreak has shown overall that the world was in a relatively poor state of preparation for such an occurrence.

This was notwithstanding the fact that in the last decade alone a number of global disease threats had appeared – Ebola, Zika and coronaviral diseases like Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, known more commonly as SARS-Cov-1, to name just a few. Add to that, the constant threat of influenza related epidemics, and bioweapons, and the world should have well and truly been prepared for an event like Covid-19.

The New Zealand Influenza Pandemic Plan was published by the Ministry of Health in August 2017. It is a thorough and comprehensive document, but it does not appear that all that much has been happening since then to implement it. As early as late 2017, in the wake of the Ebola crisis health professionals were warning that New Zealand's preparations for dealing with global disease outbreaks needed to be stepped up, both in terms of clinical and research capacity, and wider community response strategies.

The Pandemic Plan calls for "a nationally consistent monitoring and surveillance system during the period between pandemics" as an "essential component of preparedness." It urges that "overseas trends must be monitored and analysed and surveillance systems in New Zealand maintained to enable the early detection of a novel influenza virus following announcements by WHO, and these systems must be capable of tracking the progress of a pandemic in New Zealand."

But it is not clear what notice the government has taken of all

continued on page 5

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Dunne speaks *Continued from page 4*

the warnings. The difficulties we now hear reported almost daily of tracking Covid-19's spread around New Zealand, and the initially slow and chaotic response, the shortage of essential items like ventilators, masks and gowns, not to mention the confusion over community testing, all confirm that the Plan has not been given the priority it deserved.

While not much can be done about that now, there are lessons for the future about the need to ensure that neglect never happens again, and that we are better prepared for the next global pandemic, whenever and in what form it may occur.

Because, as we have seen, the response to a major pandemic is a whole of government and not just a Ministry of Health issue, the way we deal with it needs to be similarly broad-based. Although the Plan acknowledges that, the response it suggests is a little narrow. It suggests the Ministry of Health should be the lead agency, but these issues are simply too big to leave to any one agency as the lead as is the case now. There needs to be a single standing all of government agency, reporting directly to the Prime Minister on a quarterly basis.

That agency needs to have the capacity to review from time to time the overall state of future preparedness, and to be able to recommend changes as necessary. It needs to be able to suggest to universities, research institutes and Ministers areas for future desirable research and to recommend appropriate levels of investment to ensure they occur. Also, it needs to be empowered to challenge the operational autonomy of District Health Boards to ensure a consistent range of clinical response is available across the country in such situations. PHARMAC needs to be in this loop as well to ensure funding is available to keep up the appropriate level of medicines and medical devices.

At the civil level, the pandemic co-ordination agency should set the parameters of any Police operations, both at the national and individual levels. For example, it is neither good enough nor acceptable for the Commissioner of Police to be able to say as he did this week, that while detailed operational instructions have been issued to individual Police officers during the current emergency he is not prepared to make those public. The Covid-19 response is not just another (albeit bigger than normal) Police operation so cannot be conducted that way. It involves many more public organisations than just the Police, so in these instances it needs to be clear that its traditional "constabulary independence" from the government has to become both subservient and accountable to the whole of government process.

While the immediate focus is on getting rid of Covid-19 in New Zealand, it would be foolhardy in the extreme to treat this as a once in a lifetime situation. Rather than filing plans like the New Zealand Influenza Pandemic Plan on a shelf, we need to be ensuring they are constantly updated and kept in a state of readiness so that when next required they can be given effect to at a moment's notice.



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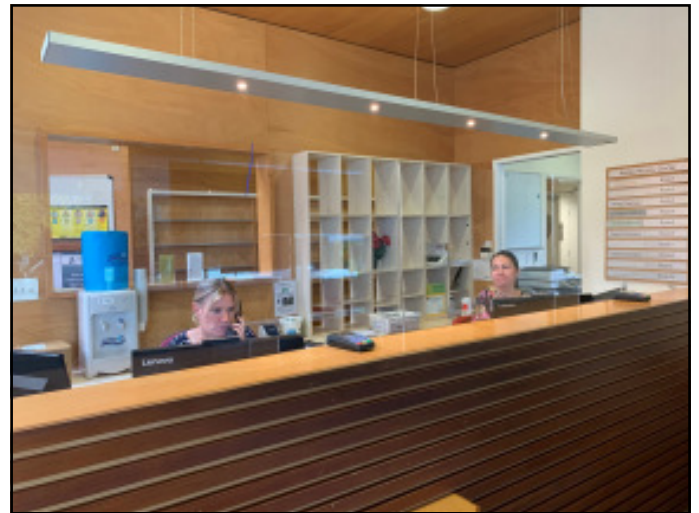
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In these times of change, we thought it would be useful to let you know how we are still serving our community here at the Kaipara Medical Centre.

With medical centre waiting rooms being identified overseas as risky places during a pandemic, we are trying to do most of our consultations with our patients on the phone. Hopefully we will soon be able to offer you a video consultation. Phone and video consultations are a safe way to provide you with health care, and means we are protecting both you and our staff.

Of course, there are some medical issues where you need to be seen face to face. When this is the case, we will make you an appointment in the usual way. However, when you arrive at the medical centre please **stay in your car** and **phone us on 09 420 8400** to let us know you have arrived. Either a doctor or a nurse will come out to collect you and bring you through to the clinic room.

Each day we will have one doctor managing **non** infective urgent cases- such as non Covid-19 infections, injuries etc., and one doctor who is the “viral doctor” for the day. The viral doctor will see potentially infective patients in their cars in the carpark. The viral doctor will be wearing full personal protective equipment (goggles, gown, gloves, mask).

At time of writing, if someone needs to be swabbed for Covid 19, then we will refer them down to our nearest testing centre in Waimauku.

The other Doctors will be doing their routine appointments ideally virtually over phone or video. For those patients who usually use Manage My Health we will be opening this up soon for you to book phone/video consultations. However, in the interim please ring the practice to make an appointment.

Current advice for people who are swabbed because they fit the criteria from the Ministry of Health for Covid-19 testing, even if you have a **negative result**, you must quarantine for 2 weeks.

For prescriptions, to help the workload for the pharmacy and their exposure, we are delivering prescriptions each day down to the pharmacy rather than patients picking them up from the medical centre and taking the prescriptions down themselves. We are sending a text to confirm when this is done.

An important matter to raise for everyone, is that there are other health needs that still need to be managed despite the lockdown, so I would please ask that if you are worried about your chronic health condition please contact us on 09 420 8400 as we are still available to help you.

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Museum news By Helen Martin

Before lockdown, Helensville Museum was still closed for repair but there was plenty going on. The restoration work will continue when normality is resumed.

In January, Jennifer McCann and Emma Watts ran a Cluedo game, which was like the board game but with real-life characters who were interrogated by the players then given an impromptu trial. The prize for guessing the murderer was won by Shona Addison. President Leigh Bosch says it was a lot of fun. "Everyone, especially the young ones, loved it. We'll be doing it again. Hopefully, next time we'll have some buildings open."

The following month the museum hosted Te Atatu's Wheels Incorporated Hot Rod Club, following a visit from their President John Campbell to the Kaipara Classic Cars Shine in da Ville. The museum grounds served as the destination for the Hot Rod Club's rally, and the event was so successful it will become a regular on the museum calendar.

An initiative to help locals during the water shortage saw the museum acting as a village well, complementing the Auckland Council initiative in the middle of town. After announcing on Facebook that people could take up to 1000 litres, Vice President Robyn Stewart and Leigh added dispensing water to their

workload. "Whenever we were there, we opened the gates," says Leigh. "There's nothing worse than having no water and people were very grateful."

The freezing and defrosting for the pest eradication, currently supervised by committee member Toni Walmsley, is nearing the end. Plans are in place to buy a small freezer so every new artefact that comes into the museum can be frozen at -18 degrees before it goes on display.

Repairs to the buildings are time consuming but progressing. Gib stopping in the annexe is finished, the skirting is now being done. Simon Lely from Rewiti has provided vinyl for the floor and has found someone who will lay it free of charge, while Auckland Museum have provided shelving and will help install it.

Robyn is running the building project, which still has a way to go. Floor coverings are problematic, as they have to be asbestos tested, an expensive process which is also time consuming and complicated. The floor in the courthouse is rotten in places and has to be replaced, while the story of getting the leaks in the schoolhouse roof identified has been as lengthy as a Norse saga. Leigh and Robyn are very grateful to Glen Tompkins, a Helensville roofer, who has given his time free to help identify problems in the school house roof, which was repaired five years ago by an out-of-town company, and he's doing a great job repairing the other rooves, which are showing the effects of age.

Toni, Robyn and Leigh, who has been doing the admin, going to meetings and networking, are also writing a business plan for the museum. Before the lockdown they were each working around 40 hours a week, trying to spend as little as possible in the process, and would love more community help. "I don't think people realise the extent of what we're doing at the museum," says Leigh. "It's a huge job and we'd be happy for people to come, even for just an hour, to give us a hand. As much as we want to re-open the museum, we're not going to do it until it's ready."

The Covid-19 lockdown has brought on-site work to a halt. Spending time volunteering at the museum means gardens and family often lose out, so the lockdown has provided a breather for Leigh, Robyn and Toni to catch up on their own gardens and house maintenance and enjoy time with their families. But museum work continues. Robyn is planning displays and continuing to liaise with people, such as the security firm to fine-tune the security system and Leigh and Toni are working on their individual projects.

Leigh has moved the office to her house and is finalising the end of year accounts while also working on the business plan and updating the photo records.

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A photograph showing two men standing in front of a display board. The man on the left, John Campbell, is wearing a dark shirt and glasses, and is handing a large cheque to the man on the right, Leigh Bosch. Leigh is wearing a black t-shirt with a red logo. The background shows a display board with various photographs and documents.

President Leigh Bosch receives a welcome cheque from Te Atatu Hot Rod President John Campbell at the Helensville A&P Show

8



Auckland's planned rate hike looks increasingly absurd

6 April 2020

Christchurch City Council's move toward a rates freeze shows that Auckland Council's planned rate hike can be withdrawn, says the *Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance*.

Alliance spokeswoman Jo Holmes says, "With councils across the country moving toward rates relief, the Mayor's planned rate hike looks increasingly absurd."

"The economic situation facing Auckland households is unrecognisable from what it was when Phil Goff committed to his 3.5% rate hike. The Mayor needs to scrap his old spending priorities and urgently rejig council finances so he can assure Aucklanders of a rates freeze."

"If he's concerned about council cashflow, he ought to take a hard look at the 2500 council staff paid more than \$100,000. Bosses in the private sector are taking financial haircuts, and council managers shouldn't be any different."

"We urge all Auckland Councillors to make rates relief and cost cutting their absolute priority at Thursday's Emergency Committee meeting."

ENQUIRIES: Jo Holmes, 021 286 5544

The *Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance* is a not-for-profit community group dedicated to championing prudent fiscal management of our Super City. Membership is free and open to all Aucklanders who sign up at www.ratepayers.nz.

The *Ratepayers' Alliance* has spokespeople available for comment on ratepayer and Super City issues. Representatives can be contacted on 09 281 5172 or via media@ratepayers.nz. License free, high-resolution images are available here.

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As a consequence of the lockdown the two current events (Easter Flower Arranging planned for Sunday 29th March and the Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday 12th April) have been cancelled.

We will of course be placing a notice on our website plus sending out "one-on-one" communications to everyone on our email database so will likely catch a large majority of potential attendees.

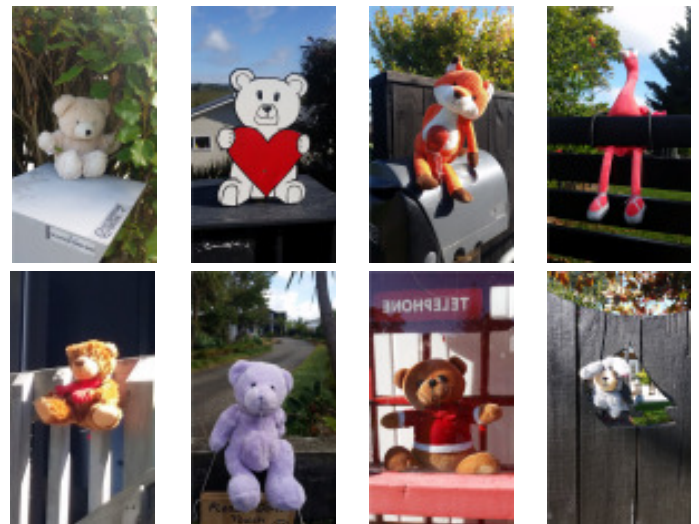
However, due to the current situation we have seen an unprecedented demand for vegetable seeds and seedlings (I guess not unsurprising) and are finding that many people have absolutely no idea what, where and when to plant and how to care for various vegetables.

As a result we are planning to run a series of articles tackling these subjects. We feel it's very useful information and has the potential to get more people out in the fresh air with the very positive outcome of growing some of their own food.

These articles will be forwarded through to the Helensville Community News as they are produced.

Adrian Burden, Events Coordinator

You had been invited to an Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday 12 April but now you may be allowed to go on a Teddy Bear Hunt instead! (see front page)



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Chris Penk
MP for Helensville

365 Main Road, Huapai
09 412 2496
chris.penkmp@parliament.govt.nz
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ARTS in the VILLE 2020

Despite the current lock down we are working busily in the background and looking forward to another great ARTS in the VILLE at Labour weekend. By that time, many, many people will be keen to come to Helensville to join us in making the festival the BEST YET.

To that end we are working on some new events. One is a new branding, which we will launch on 1 August. This will include a new website, and Facebook header.

We are also working on our version of Antiques Road Show, which will be held from 4pm - 6pm on the Saturday of Labour weekend. It will be like the much-loved television programme, but of course will have a local flavour, with antiques expert John Perry fronting the event.

In the meantime, we hope you are all keeping safe, keeping well, and keeping your arty/crafty hands busy. Keep safe, keep strong, and keeping looking forward to a brighter day.

Kura Geere-Watson

Quick Quiz

1. What scale are earthquakes measured on?
2. What Scottish writer's poetry included "My Love is like a Red Red Rose"?
3. What is Amsterdam's best supported soccer club?
4. Who was Russia's first elected president?
5. How many locks are there on the Suez canal?
6. What character narrated Disney's Pinocchio?
7. How many great pyramids does Giza boast?
8. Who was the first Windsor monarch?
9. How many books in the Bible make reference to Eve taking a bite from an apple?
10. What famous British racecourse gave its name to racecourses in Perth and Toronto?

6. Rinkley Cricket, 7. Three, 8. King George V, 9. None, 10. 1. Richter, 2. Robert Burns, 3. Ajax, 4. Boris Yeltsin, 5. None.

QUIZ ANSWERS



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From Penk's Pen

“The Only Constant: Change”

It's probably always been true that “the only constant in life is change” (as the Greek philosopher Heraclitus observed in 500BC) but today it feels more true than ever.

In 2020 we might add that “constant change” is the order of the day, as we navigate life in a brave new, coronavirus-infected world.

I'd be on a fool's errand if I were to attempt recording certain kinds of information here that will inevitably be outdated by the time you read this. Incidentally, I don't know whether you will get a chance to read this at all, given that local media seem not to be deemed an “essential service” at time of writing. But the bigger point is that advice on where and how you can live life should be taken one day at a time. Please keep listening carefully to those well placed to give such advice.

You will forgive me speaking in reasonably general terms, therefore, when I urge that as the communities of west and northwest Auckland we band together metaphorically in this time of trouble.

Community spirit must have two different meanings right now: one is internal (keeping physically distance) and one external (doing the right things by others, partly simply by taking care of yourself and partly by reaching out to find out how others need help).

At the moment I'm posting a daily Facebook briefing so can I request and suggest that you check those out to see what's happening out there for the good people of the Helensville electorate – the page is “Chris Penk”. And it goes both ways, of course: if you can share any information with me please do that on my Facebook page or through my (virtual!) electorate office: email chris.penkmp@parliament.govt.nz or call 09 412 2496.

Take care. Stay safe. Fight on.

Chris Penk MP



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20 March 2020

Following today's announcement from Auckland Council on its response to COVID-19 (coronavirus), all Auckland Libraries will be closing from the end of the day (Friday 20 March), until further notice. This decision will be reviewed in two weeks.

This decision hasn't been made lightly, but the safety and wellbeing of our customers, staff and communities in Auckland is our utmost priority.

- If you have any library items, please hold onto them and do not return them to the library until we re-open. All book returns slots will be closed from the end of the day Friday 20 March until we re-open.
- You will not accrue any late fines on library items that you are holding or requests you have not picked up. This will be back-dated to Saturday 16 March.
- Any notices you receive regarding overdue books or fines from Saturday 16 March, please disregard. Fines will not accrue while libraries are closed.
- Any library item requests will be held and will be available for you to pick up when we re-open.

We understand that this is an unsettling time, however, please be reassured that you will still have access to our extensive eCollections and online resources.

Please visit the Auckland Libraries website for more information, how to login and manage your library account, and access our eCollections and online resources.

We will keep you updated via the Auckland Libraries website as the situation develops.

Additional information is available on COVID-19

Thank you for your understanding during this time.

Kind regards

Mirla Edmundson, General Manager Libraries



Helensville Birthing Centre

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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.

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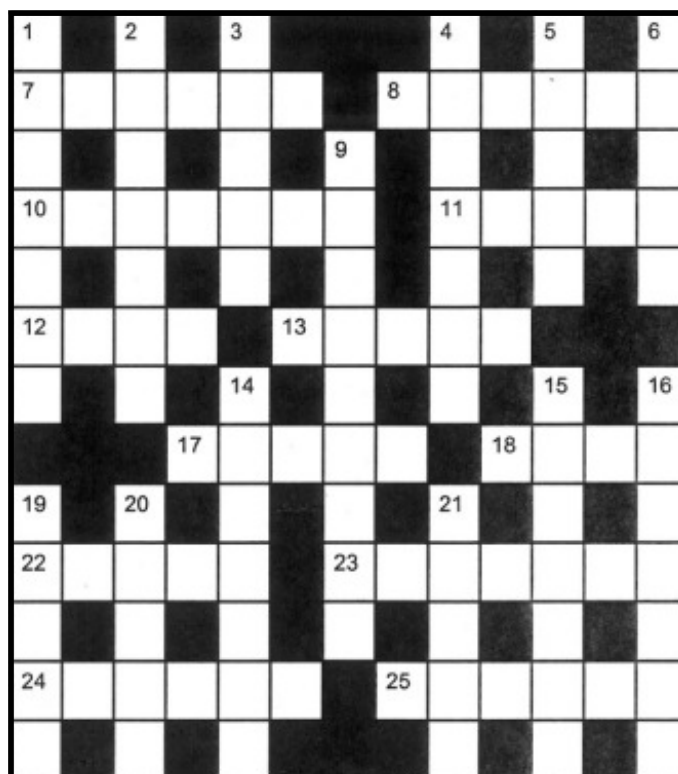

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Crossword Clues

Across

7. _____ mile beach in Northland. (6)
8. A Judge may be referred to as "Your _____" (6)
10. An island located in the Hauraki Gulf. (7)
11. What is the name of Gwyneth Paltrow's daughter? (5)
12. Skin disease in which pus-filled spots form on the face. (4)
13. What is Winnie the Pooh's favourite food? (5)
17. What word can be preceded by carving, pocket, hunting or paring? (5)
18. King _____ is a Shakespearean play. (4)
22. Venomous snake. (5)
23. What is the last name of Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa and Maggie? (7)
24. Polish composer and virtuoso pianist. (6)
25. Paris is the capital of which country? (6)

Down

1. Frosty was one of these. (7)
2. Indianapolis is the capital of which U.S. state? (7)
3. Iron and carbon form which alloy? (5)
4. Canadian-born English evolutionary biologist and physiologist, George _____. (7)
5. Type of sports car. (5)
6. Hellenic is a synonym for what nationality? (5)
9. Cobia is another name for what shark? (5, 4)
14. What is a robot resembling a human being called? (7)
15. The _____ is a cartoon about George, Jane, Janet and Elroy. (7)
16. One of Rudolph's reindeer friends. (7)
19. What word is an area of land for raising livestock and also a type of dressing? (5)
20. An expression, word or phrase that has a figurative meaning different from its literal meaning is known as what? (5)
21. Papa _____ is the leader of a community of small blue creatures. (5)

Answers next month or for the desperate visit our website www.myhelensville.co.nz



Regular Events

Will hopefully resume soon!

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 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-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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4 Sat	0759	3.6	2032	0737	1910
5 Sun*	0807	3.8	2038	0637	1808
6 Mon	0905	4.1	2134	0638	1807
7 Tue	0957	4.3	2224	0639	1806
8 Wed	1045	4.5	2311	0640	1804
9 Thu	1131	4.5	2356	0641	1803
10 Fri	1215	4.4	-	0642	1801
11 Sat	0039	4.3	1259	0643	1800
12 Sun	0123	4.2	1343	0643	1759
13 Mon	0208	4.0	1430	0644	1757
14 Tue	0257	3.7	1524	0645	1756
15 Wed	0355	3.5	1630	0646	1754
16 Thu	0506	3.4	1744	0647	1753
17 Fri	0618	3.4	1853	0648	1752
18 Sat	0721	3.5	1952	0649	1751
19 Sun	0815	3.6	2043	0649	1749
20 Mon	0901	3.8	2127	0650	1748
21 Tue	0941	3.9	2206	0651	1747
22 Wed	1017	4.0	2241	0652	1745
23 Thu	1050	4.0	2313	0653	1744
24 Fri	1123	4.0	2345	0654	1743
25 Sat	1156	4.0	-	0655	1742
26 Sun	0018	4.0	1230	0656	1741
27 Mon	0053	3.9	1307	0656	1739
28 Tue	0131	3.8	1349	0657	1738
29 Wed	0213	3.7	1436	0658	1737
30 Thu	0304	3.6	1533	0659	1736

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Real Estate	Prestige - Jana Mills	021-509-990/420-9953
Real Estate	Prestige - Jenny Killick	021-259-0091/420-4947
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A Collection of New Works by Colin Harris & Jeff Thomson *By Helen Martin*

Held at artHaus in Orakei, this February/March exhibition was the result of a collaboration between 2019 Māpura Studios Wallace Trust Scholarship winner Colin Harris (Māpura is “a creative space that provides programmes and activities in visual arts practice, creative expression, dance-movement, music and art therapy for people living with disability and diversity”) and renowned Helensville sculptor Jeff Thomson, a combined effort springing from their friendship.

The 21 works featured Colin’s paintings, drawings and prints, all inspired by his interest in comics. With the exception of a series of free-standing heads in wood, Jeff enhanced Colin’s works with corrugated iron frames, weavings and roofing products such as ridge caps. The fruitful result demonstrated the potential possible when two artists coming from very different practices put their heads together.

Profiles of the artists can be found at <http://www.mapurastudios.org.nz/news/2019/3/13/artist-profile-colin-harris> (Colin Harris) and <https://www.jeffthomson.co.nz/bio/bio1.php> (Jeff Thomson).



Colin and Jeff with one of their collaborative works.