

The Helensville Community News

Issue 161 - April 2023



**Sunday 9th April
(9.00am to 3.00pm)**

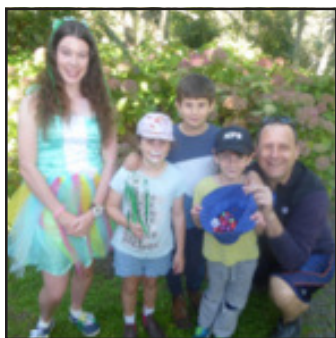


We're holding our annual Easter Egg Hunt again so time to load up the kids and head to Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens this coming Easter Sunday.

If you want to come along in your bunny suit or other seasonal dress you won't be alone ☺.

Egg tokens will be replenished during the day to ensure everyone goes home with Easter eggs. While on the hunt you walk around the beautiful 1Km sculpture trail which has over 40 marvellous new sculptures created for our 2023 exhibition by local and international artists on display.

There is also a 2.5km nature trail which meanders around farmland and native forest, has a beautiful lookout point of the Kaipara Harbour and forms an important part of the Kaipara Coast Plant Centre conservation and restoration program.*



PLEASE NOTE; the popularity of this event plus the limited spaces available means that **BOOKING YOUR ENTRY TIME IS ESSENTIAL.** You can email info@kaiparacoast.co.nz, or phone 094205655. Or for your greater convenience use the ticket link below.

Our cute little coffee shop will be running a sausage sizzle on site on Easter Sunday, plus you can select plants for your garden at the Plant Centre during your visit.



A wonderful way to spend Easter Sunday and we're only a few minutes' drive North of Kaukapakapa (and around 35 minutes from downtown Auckland).

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

* Trail not suitable for wheelchairs or walking frames.

Venue location: Kaipara Coast Highway (SH16), 4km north of Kaukapakapa
Entry: \$35 per family
Booking: <https://kaiparacoastplantcentre.com/product-category/vouchers-tickets/>



In this issue...

- I'm looking for "Good Sorts" to thank ~ Pg 2
- ANZAC Day and Poppy Day Appeal ~ Pg 2
- What's happening this month ~ Pg 3
- Love is actually all around Kaipara College ~ Pg 4
- Helensville Primary School museum visit ~ Pg 5
- Helensville Library & Service Centre ~ Pg 6
- Kaipara korero - ~ Pg 7
- A Letter to Council from Chris Penk ~ Pg 8 - 9
- Craigweil House resident's birthday ~ Pg 10
- Children's Day family fun ~ Pg 10
- Waterways Protection workshop ~ Pg 11
- From Penk's Pen ~ Pg 12
- CAB celebrates diverse volunteers ~ Pg 13
- Art Centre Exhibitions ~ Pg 13
- The response to the storms & flood events ~ Pg 14
- Tide Chart ~ Pg 14
- Regular events updated ~ Pg 15
- Find a local business with T&P listing and give them your support ~ Pg 15

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I'm looking for "Good Sorts"



If you know any "Good Sorts" let me know so I can tell them how much they are appreciated. Send your stories to helensville@copyandprint.co.nz and we will tell the whole community next month. *Brian Hale*

I want to propose Greg and Helen Smith as Good Sorts. Helen and Greg had been very actively supportive of the community who live toward the end of South Head during the recent cyclone. They negotiated with the Defence Force to open their base. They let us have a shower and do some washing for those of us who had no water. They listened to our concerns.

What was so important too was that people out here could meet, have a cup of tea and a bikkie and have a chat. Both Greg and Helen got our community together and helped with many things – too many to mention.

They made sure we had what we needed in their unassuming and humble way. I would not have survived as well as I have without Greg and Helen. They are my heroes.

Greg and Helen do need to be acknowledged for their support of their community during cyclone Gabrielle.
Sarah

Helensville Community News

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

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Kaipara Memorial RSA - ANZAC Day 2023



POPPY DAY Appeal 2023

Poppy Day will be Friday 21st April, when RSA collectors will be out in force. Poppies will also be available at the usual retail outlets before the 21st, so you can make a donation and take a poppy, all proceeds go to the Veterans Welfare fund.

Alternatively you can make an on-line donation to the KMRSA Welfare account- 12-3139-0003621-04, reference Poppy Donation.

If anyone wants to help collect Poppy donations in the Helensville, Parakai or KKK retail areas on Friday the 21st April, please call Steve Wilson, Ph/text 021 494 945.

ANZAC Day 2023

This year the Kaipara Memorial RSA will be holding a Dawn Parade at the Parakai Cenotaph, Veterans and Service organisations to fall-in 0550 hours outside the Parakai Springs, 150 Parkhurst Road. Parade Commander Peter Mills will march you to the Cenotaph for an ANZAC service starting at 0600 hours. All other attendees can gather in the carpark in front of the Cenotaph.

This service will be followed by a wreath laying Ceremony at the Helensville Service Cemetery at 0700 hours. An Anzac breakfast will be held at the Helensville Bowling Club at 0730.

Kaipara Memorial RSA President Rex Keane says that due to the closure of the Helensville War Memorial Hall and the RSA clubrooms, there will be no Helensville street parade or service this year. Rex also stresses that Medals should be worn, if wearing your relative's medals, wear them on your right side and wear them with pride.

There will be an opportunity for any Service or Civic organisations to lay a wreath at the Dawn Parade.

If wanting to lay a wreath at the Dawn Parade you need to register by emailing kaipararsa@xtra.co.nz, one week prior to ANZAC Day.

This year in addition to the white crosses with a Poppy being placed on every Veterans plaque in the Helensville Service Cemetery, the Kaipara Memorial RSA with the help of the Remembrance Army will be placing wooden crosses, with a Poppy on all 22 of the Veterans graves scattered throughout the Helensville public cemetery, some dating back to the Boer War, most from World War One and others from World War Two and some Contemporary Veterans. Crosses will be erected the weekend before ANZAC Day and the RSA asks the Helensville community to visit the gravesites in the public area and the Service Cemetery and pay your respects to Veterans who fought for our freedom. The KMRSA will be laying a wreath at the Helensville Service Cemetery after the Dawn parade.

The Helensville Museum will be open from 1-3pm on ANZAC Day with a display of the Helensville RSA memorabilia.



Sunday 16th April
A&P Showgrounds
8.30am – 1pm

10.00am - 12pm, live music
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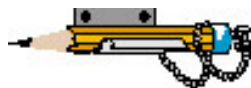


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What's happening this month



APRIL 2023

Tuesday, 4 April, U3A monthly meeting. 10.00-12.00. Catholic Church Hall, Kowhai Street, Helensville. 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, Needle Stitches and TED Talks. Costs are minimal. For more information contact Gloria Middleditch jandgmiddleditch@outlook.com 09-420-3007/0211-658-428 or Bev Silvester-Clark bev.s-c@outlook.com phone 0274316205.

Thursday 6 April, Term 1 ends

Friday, 7 April, Easter Friday

Saturday, 8 April, Waitoki Market, Waitoki, Waitoki Village Hall, 1000 Kahikatea Flat Road, Waitoki. 8.30 – 12.30 Come on down and celebrate, see what lovely delights await you. Have a look at what wares are available, a nibble, a bite to eat, filling a gap in the pantry, a little bling, greenery for the garden, a plethora of things to see and choose from.

Come and catch up with friends/neighbours whilst having a little wander. Feeling Peckish? A sausage or even a bacon & egg muffin could fill the gap. Interested in having a stall? Contact Gill 09 420 3301 or email markets4waitoki@gmail.com or message Waitoki Village Market on Facebook for more information. Come support your local community hall, run by your own local people. Next Market 10th June.

Sunday, 9 April, Kids Easter Egg Hunt, Kaipara Coast Plants & Sculpture Gardens, 1481 Kaipara Coast Highway, 9am – 3pm. We're holding our annual Easter Egg Hunt again so time to load up the kids and head to Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens this coming Easter Sunday.

If you want to come along in your bunny suit or other seasonal dress you won't be alone. Egg tokens will be replenished during the day to ensure everyone goes home with Easter eggs. * Trail not suitable for wheelchairs or walking frames. Entry: \$35 per family booking: <https://kaiparacoastplantcentre.com/product-category/vouchers-tickets/>

Monday, 10 April, Easter Monday

Sunday, 16 April, Kaukapakapa Village Market, Helensville Showgrounds, Railway Street, Helensville, 8.30am – 1pm, *Due to flood damage at the Kaukapakapa Memorial Hall the March market has been relocated to the Helensville A&P Showgrounds, 63 Railway Street. New Venue – same great market! Friendly people, great atmosphere and a tempting selection of quality stalls with everything from locally hand-made crafts, plants, preserves, fresh

fruit & veg to pre-loved treasures and collectibles, food, live music hair plaiting and much more...Our April musician is Foster on the tenor saxophone, free hair plaiting, sorry no dogs **Please bring a gold coin donation for parking – proceeds go to the scouts jamboree** The Helensville A&P Showgrounds management have a no dogs policy with the exception of assistance dogs as there is stock grazing in the grounds. Email: sarah@riversidecrafts.co.nz Phone: 0274 831542 @kaukapakapavillagemarket. Eftpos cash out available.

Sunday, 16 April, Helensville Art Trail, Visit the home studios of artists and sculptors! Studios are all conveniently situated within two kilometres of central Helensville. Head into Helensville for a wonderful way to spend the day. Head for Helensville and follow the signs. All studios have info and brochures. Works include: lost wax casting in bronze and crystal glass; figurative and abstract paintings and prints; corrugated iron shaped into incredible forms; intricate woodwork; elegantly hats for every occasion; mixed media creations and much more. Free Entry.

Monday, 24 April, Term 2 starts

Tuesday, 25 April, ANZAC Day

Friday, 28 April, Food Truck Collective, Tapu Road, Huapai 5pm – 9pm Food Trucks are heading to Kumeu! Tell your mates, family & neighbours as no one will want to miss this amazing selection of street food. Music and entertainment, plus a craft beer pop up bar. Plenty of seating and an atmosphere you can only truly experience at an outdoor Street Food event. Food Truck line up: Check out the Facebook Event Page for all the vendors & up to date information! Huapai Reserve This community event has been brought to you by the Food Truck Collective! Dogs welcomed on a lead. Follow our Facebook page to see where you can find your next street food fix!

Saturday, 29 April, Waterways Protection – Free Workshop, Kaipara Coast Plants & Sculpture Gardens, 1481 Kaipara Coast Highway 9.30am – 11.30am The Kaipara and surrounding environs, whilst some of the most attractive and environmentally diverse areas of New Zealand, face many of the same ecological challenges as other rural parts of the country. Agricultural, commercial and residential activities over the years have created many environmental issues particularly impacting on water quality. **See more on Page 11.**

MAY 2023

Tuesday, 2 May, U3A monthly meeting. 10.00-12.00. Catholic Church Hall, Kowhai Street, Helensville. 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, Needle Stitches and TED Talks. Costs are minimal. For more information contact Gloria Middleditch jandgmiddleditch@outlook.com 09-420-3007/0211-658-428 or Bev Silvester-Clark bev.s-c@outlook.com phone 0274316205.

Saturday, 27 May & Sunday 28 May, Lions Club Book Fair,

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Love is Actually all Around Kaipara College

by Lauren Morley, Year 13 Student Kaipara College

With a bumpy start to the year, the Kaipara College PSSP (Peer Sexuality Support Programme) team felt it was important to spread a little love during this tough time. The PSSP team focuses largely on spreading knowledge about healthy relationships, whether it be relationships between friends, partners or with oneself. The team also focuses on the LGBTQIA+ community and education around sexuality and sexual health. All of which is crucial to high school aged students. The 2023 PSSP team consists of students Scarlet Payn, Kingston Dean, Ella Fournier, Kate Larsen, Chanté Penetana, Madi Kensington, Jesse Webster, and Echo Kruger.

These wonderful people spent countless hours planning, organising and putting together this year's celebration of love for the school.

On Tuesday the 28th of February, the PSSP team put together our first ever "Love Day". With Cyclone Gabrielle forcing many Aucklanders to be isolated from their friends, partners, and families on Valentine's Day, the PSSP team did not want this international day of love to simply be ignored. So instead, they decided to host a "Love Day." This involved students being able to write letters to their future selves with the idea of talking about goals, dreams and personal progress; These will be returned to them at the end of term. The main attraction of the day, however, was the chocolate hearts. On Monday the 27th, students lined the school quad, patiently waiting to place a secret order so their loved ones could be surprised the next day.

On Tuesday, during our "whanau class" time, the PSSP team made their way into every class, sporting red balloons and little woven baskets full of chocolates. Many students, and a few teachers, received chocolate hearts from their partners, friends or even themselves - because a little self love is important too!! Small, personalised notes were given out with these chocolates as well. I can personally say that it is so special to watch the faces of my friends and classmates light up after receiving such a simple gift.

One member of the PSSP team, Scarlet Payn, said that the legacy of Valentine's Day at Kaipara College was a key factor in keeping this tradition alive despite the interruptions at the time. She has personally been observing the significance of celebrating love at Kaipara College since about 6 years ago, when her older brother was also a member of our PSSP team. When I asked her what the purpose of this year's "Love Day" was, she said that "through staying home from school because of Cyclone Gabrielle, it kind of morphed into wanting to celebrate the love we have in the community." With the chocolates being sold for two dollars each, the PSSP team wound up raising just shy of \$150, which will now be put towards their future projects and making positive change around the school.



PSSP Team preparing chocolate hearts

Helensville Primary School museum visit

In early March around 100 Helensville Primary Year 3 and Year 4 students braved the rain to walk down to Te Awaroa Helensville Museum to see the treasures on offer there for themselves.

Several teachers and parents were on hand to keep a close eye on their charges as, separated into four groups, they went from building to building, where knowledgeable museum volunteers were in hand to talk about the taonga and answer questions.

As well as listening to talks and seeing the displays in Aotearoa's first Land Court building, the Ken Pavish Memorial Post Office and Hec's Barn, the students, whose current Inquiry Topic was 'Then and Now', had the opportunity to play stick and poi games in The Schoolhouse and to look for treasure hunt answers in Hedley House.

The children were very active in enjoying the chance to see and touch the taonga and ask questions about the history of the area, and those on hand to provide answers and insights were pleased with the responses.

The museum is working with students, schools and teachers to provide visits that are engaging, interactive, challenging and of value.

Inspired by a Helensville Primary approach to the museum, this is to be the first of what it is hoped will be many school visits.

Bookings can be made by contacting Te Awaroa Helensville Museum at info@helensvillemuseum.org.nz



Vice President Leigh Bosch explains Maori stick games to Helensville Primary visitors.



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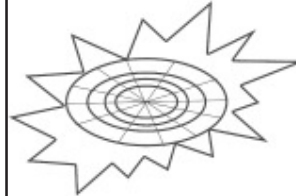
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Helensville Library and Service Centre update for April

The library and service centre team have a number of events planned for April – with many continuing as regular events.

Book Chat: Fourth Thursday of the month at 10am. A chance to share books you've read and enjoyed – or read and hated! – with fellow readers. This will be on Thursday 27 April at 10am.

Crafternoon: Thursdays at 3.30pm. We have sessions for both adults and children. These sessions are a chance to learn new skills, teach others, and chat.

Minecraft club: Wednesdays 3.30pm to 4.30pm. If lack of a device is stopping you, or a child in your life, from taking part – please contact us.

Kids Time: Wednesdays, 10am to 10.30am. Under 6s and their grown-ups are invited to share songs, rhymes, and stories.

Helensville Library ANZAC Memorial Wall:

Call into the library any time in April to see our memorial wall for local service people. Find out more about some of the locals whose names are on our honours boards. We are also running a poppy project and would love to decorate the wall with your handmade poppies. See us for a pattern or use one of your own.

Eco-Warriors School Holidays: Become an Eco-Warrior these school holidays, with activities and challenges aimed at 5-12 year olds, and 13-18 year olds. Wednesday morning Kids Time sessions will be eco-warriors themed, and aimed at older children.

Thursday afternoon crafternoon sessions will be making poppies using recycled materials.

Getting in contact: Recent events have shown that we need to get contact details for Council agencies more widely known. Some of you may have direct dial numbers for the Helensville Library and / or the Helensville Service Centre, as they have been previously published.

The Helensville Library and Service Centre is open 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday, and 9.30am to 4pm on Saturday. We often don't make it to the phone in time, particularly in the Service Centre, as we are dealing with other customers.

If you want to be sure that someone will help you, please use these numbers:

Auckland Council: 09 301 0101 (toll free and available 24/7)

Auckland Libraries: 0800 695 427

If your question is directly related to Helensville Library – you can email us on: helenlib@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

Other contacts: AT (Auckland Transport): AT is responsible for all the region's transport services, from roads and footpaths, to cycling, parking and public transport. 09 355 3553 at.govt.nz

Venue Hire: The Venue Hire team provide a 24-hour, seven days-per-week service to help Aucklanders book and access any of Auckland Council's 90 community venues with 162 bookable spaces. 09 370 2030 aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/parks-recreation/community-venues/Pages/default.aspx

Watercare Faults: 09 970 1467 watercare.co.nz/

Waka Kotahi (NZTA): Waka Kotahi is responsible for issues on the state highways, which includes Mill Road and Commercial Road in Helensville. 0800 44 44 49 nzta.govt.nz/



Crafternoon idea



Kid's time with Anne



Handmade Poppies



Kaipara korero

Principal Cindy Sullivan

From the Kaipara College Principal's Desk:

Teenagers these days sometimes get a bad rap. I can assure you there are many, many great teenagers living,

learning and contributing in the Helensville Community. At Kaipara College we have a fabulous team of student leaders, who very ably lead their peers in many aspects of school life and who serve as great role models both within and outside the school. The impact of the positive work of our great team of student leaders is beginning to be felt in and beyond the school. Some student leaders (the head and deputy head students) accompanied me to talk to the Helensville branch of U3A (University for the 3rd Age). The branch wanted to learn about the school and what young people were like these days. I felt very proud of the exemplary behaviour of the student leaders and even more so of the way they shared their hopes, aspirations, interests, and sources of inspiration with the audience. They were also able to answer questions with intelligence, flair and empathy. The U3A members felt our young people were kind and thoughtful and they had renewed their faith in a hopeful future for New Zealand.

The team of student leaders are working on a number of initiatives at school. They successfully raised money through a non-uniform day which is being split up and donated to each of our cyclone affected Muriwai families.

They also lead their own student assemblies where they address issues of interest that are relevant to our students and also issues of national and global importance. Other initiatives our student leaders have been working on include discussing how they can take action to help our students feel safe at school and working on getting our Student Council up and running in Term 2, to afford other students leadership opportunities in the school. Our peer support programme continues with our Year 13 Peer Support Leaders working with our Year 9 students. The leaders have attended a two day training camp and work with the Year 9 students on a weekly basis leading wh. naungatanga activities, helping students starting at the College to build self-confidence and resilience, and developing their own leadership qualities in the process.

One of my favourite quotes that I often share is about



Peer support leaders



Student leaders

teenagers:

"I am a better person for being around teenagers, not because they test me but because they have this perfect balance of unapologetic and fiery strength, and unfiltered raw vulnerability. They are beautiful examples of aliveness. We should all strive for a little more of that"

Dr Amy Fast

Next time you come across a teenager in the community, stop for a chat. You may be pleasantly surprised!

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24 March 2023

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Dear all

Northwest Auckland – Pause on further development

My office has been in touch with the Supporting Growth team since August 2022 seeking information and assurances that the flooding risk for the area has been adequately planned for and addressed.

I remain deeply concerned on behalf of the local community about the potential impact further development will have on flood prone land, homes and commercial properties in the area. I am therefore seeking an urgent hold on all plans for growth and development until the flooding issue has been meaningfully acknowledged and adequately addressed by the Council.

Background

I am not sure if you are aware, but a number of properties in Kumeu and Huapai have flooded several times in the last 18 months. One home that I am aware of was repaired following the August 2021 floods (at a cost of \$179,000), only to now be “red stickered” following flooding in January this year. Its owners are in limbo for the foreseeable future. My constituents are completely exhausted and traumatised from these events.

Email 9 March 2023

My office received an email from Supporting Growth on 9 March 2023, in response to requests for formal analysis/reports from a hydraulic engineer (or similar) regarding the impact various proposals and plans from Supporting Growth would have on the flood plain/prone areas of north west Auckland.

Below are the key points from that email that I consider need addressing:

1. Quote from email:

“It is unlikely that newer developments in Kumeu have contributed materially to recent flood events. This is due to the large upstream catchment for the Kumeu waterways, located to the south of urban Kumeu. The catchment covers largely rural areas and these are the main source of the floodwater.”

The statement above appears to disregard, or at the very least minimise, the fact that significant flooding has occurred in the industrial and urban areas of Kumeu and north of Kumeu (Huapai).

There has been significant development on, and adjacent to, known floodplains in the Kumeu-Huapai area in the last decade. The new developments have been built on raised platforms to avoid flooding for themselves. However, the homes and commercial properties that sit adjacent to these developments, and were built decades ago, have experienced significant flooding at a never-before-seen intensity and frequency (four times in the last 18 months, with three of those times in the space of a month).

Flood damaged property owners who are adjacent to developments on raised platforms would argue that the newer developments have contributed materially to their situation.

What evidence is available to support the claim that newer developments (e.g. Huapai North) are unlikely to have contributed materially to the recent flooding in neighbouring Rheingold Place/Pinotage Place for example?

2. There are a number of statements contained in the email which indicate any future development will appropriately manage stormwater effects to avoid flooding on adjacent land. Similar statements were made in the District Plans for various developments in Kumeu/Huapai (e.g. Huapai North and Kumeu Central). Yet, the experience for constituents over the last 18 months has been that the stormwater has not been effectively managed. The river, waterways and stormwater infrastructure in its current state clearly cannot cope with the volume of stormwater run-off in periods of heavy rain in the region. This is obvious from the flooding of homes and commercial properties three or four times in the last 18 months.

3. Auckland Council District Plan (Rodney Section) 2011 – Chapter 5 Natural Hazards 5.4.1 Policies (**attached**) states:

*“In areas prone to natural events caused by the weather, earth, water, or sea ... sensitive activities should, where possible, be avoided. New subdivision, use and development should be located and designed so that the need for hazard protection works is avoided. Where this is not possible, activities should ensure that any risk of loss of life or injury or environmental damage is minimised through appropriate mitigation measures [...] **Wherever possible the approach to the management of natural hazards should be to avoid development and subdivision in hazard prone areas, such as floodplains [...] Recently, technical work has highlighted the complex interplay of coastal geometry, bathymetry, tidal effects and climate change and other physical phenomena which requires Councils to take a cautious and prudent approach to new development and mitigation of existing risk.**”* [Emphasis added]

Despite this policy, developments have continued to be built on, and adjacent to, floodplains and flood prone areas with devastating effects on neighbouring land, and with little/no attempt to mitigate the effects of increased stormwater run-off. For example, the Kumeu Town Centre Zone was constructed on the basis/expectation that the floodway project would be completed:

“The section of Kumeu River at Kumeu is prone to flooding and implemented mitigation works (Stages 1 and 2 of the Kumeu River floodway) together with the Council’s proposed works to complete the floodway (Stages 3 and 4 of the floodway project) will combine to reduce the impact of flooding over time [...] Following completion of the initial floodway works, much of the Special 34 Zone falls within the 100 year ARI flood plain. This is an interim state pending completion by the Council of the

final two stages of the floodway works, and residential development within the flood plain will be considered on a case by case basis prior to completion of those works.”[Auckland Council District Plan (Rodney Section) 2011 Special 34 (Kumeu Town Centre) Zone: Chapter 12.8.34.1.1.4 – **attached**]

The floodway was not completed but development was permitted to continue.

In addition, it is known and documented (in the Kaipara-Kumeu Catchment Management Plan – Hydraulic Modelling – Chapter 5.5) that the floodway project would adversely impact on residential properties in Pinotage Place/Rheingold Place and therefore certain measures would need to be taken in order to protect them from flooding (in particular, the embankment would need to be raised and vegetation would need to be controlled and maintained). Despite this, part of the floodway project was completed without any of the additional measures taken to protect those properties in Pinotage Place/Rheingold Place, and they are now paying a huge price for that omission (financially, emotionally and physically).

Concerns

Naturally, in light of the above points, the local community have no faith that the flood modelling being relied upon is accurate, or that stormwater management plans will be effective (or will even been implemented - given their experience with the floodway project).

Despite warnings for decades about climate change and the land being a floodplain/flood prone, development has continued apace. At the same time, the Kumeu floodway project has stalled; the river, drains and culverts have not been cleared out or maintained to handle the extra volume of stormwater; the embankment has not been raised to protect Rheingold Place and Pinotage Place. This is all despite the Council knowing that these areas were at increased risk of flooding.

It is not good enough for a lack of available funding to be cited as a reason not to complete the floodway and maintain the waterways (and so on) yet still go ahead and permit developments, reckless as to whether they will further exacerbate the flooding risk to the local properties and roads.

It is unconscionable to proceed on this basis. New development plans must halt to prevent still further damage to property or, even worse, the loss of life. The entire strategic plan for the area (to the extent that there is such a thing) needs a major re-think, not based on models alone but on what has actually been happening on the ground over the last 18 months.

Meeting request

I would find it helpful to discuss the above issues in person. My office will be in touch in the near future to suggest some possible dates for this to take place.

Yours faithfully

Chris Penk MP

CHRIS PENK

MP for Kaipara ki Mahurangi

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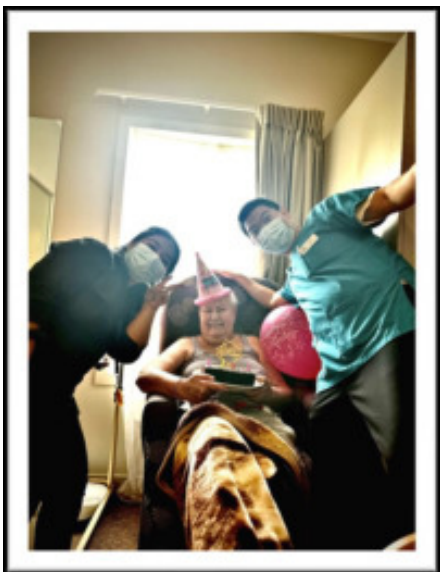
Craigweil House

Birthday celebrations are an important time to honour elderly residents and let them know how much they are appreciated and valued. It is very important to remember that a birthday is a day to make them special. Robyn, who has been a long term resident at Craigweil House, recently celebrated her birthday. Our staff gifted her a cake, a balloon and a party hat. She had a lovely day.

We would also like to welcome our new residents Greta Barson, Jean McCarthy, Terry Mischefski, Douglas Poland and Vasa Sagasaga.

Holidays always go down in our memories as special times. Easter is just around the corner and it is also particular for elderly people, who often associate Easter celebrations with lifetime memories. In our rest home it is a great opportunity to spend quality time together cooking, eating, and enjoying Easter activities that make our residents' life complete.

If you would like to enquire about Craigweil House for your loved one, please get in touch. We are a boutique rural facility with personalised compassionate support and care for rest home, hospital, and secure dementia levels of care – 09-420 8277.



Successful Children's Day family fun day event in Helensville

Helensville was filled with happy faces as families and their children gathered for the Children's Day Family Fun Day event organized by Kindred Family Services. With over



445 children and 961 attendees, the day was dedicated to celebrating tamariki and fostering family togetherness.

According to Ana Christmas, Executive Director of Kindred Family Services, "This event came at a very important time for our community. After the devastation of the cyclone, many local events were cancelled, and we considered doing the same. However, the team at Kindred felt strongly that a fun-filled and completely free day out for local families would be very positive for the well-being of tamariki, and it seems that in the end, the timing was just right. Thanks to volunteers Florence Te Ohaere, Jaylene Penetana-Fitzgerald and Michelle Rapana-Wharewaka who helped organise the event, under some pretty tight time pressures. The event came together beautifully under their manaaki."



The event offered various games and activities, free ice creams and sausages, and a host of performances and entertainment that made it a day to remember for local

children. Positive feedback on the day was overwhelming, with at least one child overheard shouting, "This is the best day of my life!"

In addition to Kindred Family Services, over 17 local organizations collaborated to make Children's Day a success. The event also received sponsorship from Kaipara Medical Centre, Paper Plus Helensville, Helensville Lions, Ninja Kiwi, Generation Homes, and Christine & Joe Wood, who helped to fund the entertainment, kai, and ice-creams throughout the day, ensuring everything, from sausages to pony rides, were completely free for all.










A big highlight of the day was Helensville Primary School's Kapa Haka and Pasifika groups, whose performances drew huge crowds and rowdy applause from parents and spectators. Helensville Primary School can be proud of its children's passionate performances.

Overall, the Children's Day Family Fun Day event was a huge success, bringing together the local community for a day of fun, laughter, and family togetherness.

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Waterways Protection - Free Workshop

Saturday 29th April – 0930 to 1130

The Kaipara and surrounding environs, whilst some of the most attractive and environmentally diverse areas of New Zealand, face many of the same ecological challenges as other rural parts of the country. Agricultural, commercial and residential activities over the years have created many environmental issues particularly impacting on water quality.

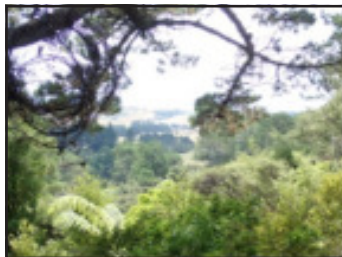
As a consequence there is increasing governmental and local authority focus on upgrading and protecting these vital assets including opportunities for landowners to source expert advice, and potentially, financial assistance to help implement such improvements.



Our guest presenter for this workshop is Rita Kpodonu, Senior Healthy Waters Specialist with Auckland Council. Rita is a landscape scientist specialising in water quality within agricultural and other rural communities and with a significant focus on community engagement.



She will be discussing the causes and manner in which our water assets are being compromised and government and local policies and legislation in place to attempt to redress the situation; as well as answering any questions you may have.



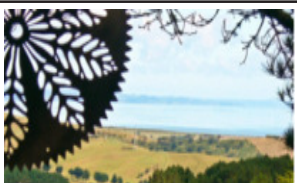
If you would like to know more about this extremely important and interesting topic and potentially understand how you may be able to manage and protect waterways on or near your property Rita should be able to offer invaluable information.

After the workshop you may like to buy tickets to stroll through the Sculpture Gardens, which are a 4 star Gardens Trust Garden, as well as the native forest trails located adjacent to the Plant Centre.*

There are also games areas and many ideal locations to sit and enjoy a picnic as well as our cute little coffee shop in which to relax.

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

Venue location: Kaipara Coast Highway (SH16), 4km north of Kaukapakapa.
Free admission to workshop. To book email info@kaiparacoast.co.nz
OR Phone 09 420 5655.
kaiparacoastplantcentre.com/events



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From Penk's Pen **CHRIS PENK – MP**



Cyclone recovery.

There are many reasons that people get involved in politics. One is the chance to advocate on behalf of a local area, as I've been fortunate enough to do for the Helensville and then "Kaipara ki Mahurangi" electorates these past 6 years.

Another is the chance to influence policy at a national level. Mostly this happens in Wellington through a series of select committee hearings, speeches in Parliament and discussions in caucus rooms. The government of the day has earned the right to put its policies into law, which is currently the other side of the aisle from where I sit.

Every now and again the planets of local advocacy and national level policy align.

I've recently been given such an opportunity with appointment as the National Party spokesperson for Cyclone Recovery.

The government response to flooding and other storm-related damage in areas like Helensville will be crucial to the long-term prospects of this area. When I say "government", of course I mean local government as well as central government. It probably goes without saying that liaising with other key players – such as insurers and banks – will be vital too.

My advocacy for northwest Auckland and my other areas will focus on getting a fair deal for those affected by recent extreme weather events, along with decision making for the future that avoids similar pain.

The key challenge for those affected by the extreme weather will be compensation for loss, where this isn't available via private insurance. Part of the issue is that policy terms usually don't compensate where there hasn't been property damage but the property as a whole isn't usable. That's the situation facing my constituents in areas like Muriwai and frequently flooded areas.

The rural lens will be important as well. Farmers in the Kaipara Hills area and elsewhere have been telling me about huge additional costs incurred where stock feed has been needed to replace grazing land. And then you have the EQC focus on land damage within a certain short distance from a dwelling, ignoring the rural reality that land owned by the farmer away from the house is just as valuable as that nearby.

We have our work cut out for us. We can only hope to succeed by facing these challenges together, staying in touch about what's needed and speaking clearly and loudly with one voice.

Let's make sure the North-West and surrounding areas are heard.

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Citizens Advice Bureau celebrates diverse volunteers

Helping people access information is what the Citizens Advice Bureau has been doing for over 50 years. Manager Rani Timoti says at CAB Helensville their diverse group of volunteers have been busy supporting clients across a whole range of issues with locals appreciating having someone they can contact, who's willing to take the time to listen and help them work through their options.

Rani says the service is delivered by 12 volunteers but they are always looking for new people to help serve the community. "Every volunteer brings a varied skill set with them and adds value in their own unique way. Our volunteers are passionate about ensuring that everyone, regardless of who they are, has access to their rights." CABs can also access other multilingual CAB volunteers around the country or use telephone and video interpreting services, so clients can get help in their own language.



Lindy and Oliver chat during their Monday roster

"We recognise the value of having a diverse workforce of volunteers and are keen to welcome new volunteers from all backgrounds to our CAB whanau", says Rani. CAB is proud to deliver a people-centred service, something they believe is valued now more than ever. CAB volunteers are dedicated

to giving back to their community. They are supported with training and resources so they can respond to queries and issues and provide clients with options based on research.

We take the time to listen and aim to ensure that you get the information you need. Whether it's about your rights in a particular situation or to find a specific service, we will help you find a way forward," says Rani. Our volunteers range from serving our South Kaipara area for more than 25 years to one currently undergoing training. "Why not come and join us and learn skills which can also help you personally and your whanau and friends?"

You can visit us at CAB Helensville, 16 Commercial Rd, call 09 420 7162 or 0800 367 222 or email helensville@cab.org.nz for more information.



Marama and Frank at CAB Helensville

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Art Centre Helensville

We are excited about April as we will be back at the Art Centre! We have been so grateful to the Museum for hosting us over the past few months. I have really enjoyed getting to know the staff, the majority of whom are volunteers! My hats go off to them for all their arduous hard work and their passion for our community. We have loved having different people come through as a result of being at the museum, and all the workshops we have had here which are continually booked up!

Our exhibition in April will however still be at the museum. It is a member's exhibition titled 'New Works.' Our member artists have been encouraged to produce works that have not yet been displayed at our Art Centre, so come on down and see a variety of fresh artwork! Dates for this exhibition are 12th – 29th April. Opening night 14th April 5-7pm, all welcome.

Ceramics may start at the Museum but move when we are able to get back to the Art Centre, confirmation of the location will be advised on our website. Local artist Rachel



On the Shores of Our Land - Group XI



Last Blush pieces

Murphy will be teaching a 6 week slip casting course, dates are every Friday 10-1pm from 28th April – 2nd June. Course cost is \$200 for the whole course which includes all materials.

This class will fill up quickly so please email manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz with your name and number to reserve a spot and receive payment details.

Our Oil Painting with Palette Knife workshops with artist Diana Peel have been a huge success, each class has been fully booked so far. The workshops have been colourful, fun and informative with a completed painting to take away, and skills to continue with. Diana will be doing regular classes and workshops with us, please check our website and Facebook page for upcoming classes. artcentrehelensville.org.nz

Membership! Joining as an Art Kaipara member allows you to participate in three members exhibitions a year with free entry. Being a member means you will be adding to the arts in our community, you will have the opportunity to present your work in a gallery setting regardless of your level of training or skill! If you



Diana Peel

are passionate about art, and enjoy creating, membership is a great way to connect with like minded individuals as we work together to support each other in the art sector. Membership details can be found on our website



The response to the storms and flood events.

The slow motion response to the storms and flood events which wrecked homes and lives in January and February revealed the worst aspects of government. People understand they might need enough water and food for three or more days. What becomes harder to understand is how slow and incremental the government is with its response.

I visited homes damaged by flooding in West Auckland. Wall linings, kitchens and bathrooms have been removed, and the owners are ready for builders to start repairs. Yet no repairs can start until insurers decide whether they will insure again and at what cost. Councils need to decide whether to invest in hard infrastructure, and/or the blue-green infrastructure needed to hold water during future flood events.

Neither councils nor insurers are prepared to give the go ahead until the Government decides what it will do in response to the floods and storms.

Labours first attempt at emergency legislation on 14 March was almost six weeks after floods hit Auckland, and a month to the day from when a state of emergency was declared in response to Cyclone Gabrielle.

The Severe Weather Emergency Legislation included some sensible stuff, like allowing councils to meet over Zoom, and providing an extension of time for food businesses which need regular inspections in order to maintain their food safety licenses.

There was even a slight relaxation of the RMA rules, which mean that anyone doing emergency work can apply for consents that would normally be needed, between 2 and 6 months after work starts.

With one caveat of course – if there is a culturally significant site either on the land, or simply nearby. The new laws require a landowner or council to give 20 days’ notice to what could be a large number of Māori groups with an interest, and obtain written permission from all, before any work may start.

It is fair to assume that permission would be freely given. However instead of making this a simple requirement to consult, identify any wahi tapu or sacred sites to steer clear of, then get on with the job, Labour created a new opportunity for division.

The emergency laws also try to fix a problem caused by the 2022 Three Waters legislation. The Water Services Entities Act limited councils to only routine maintenance on their water networks. Floods and storms caused severe damage to three waters assets, which now need to be repaired and replaced. Some will need significant upgrades to withstand future storms.

Labour’s less-than-urgent emergency laws amend the Three Waters legislation to permit councils to fix their broken water pipes, treatment plants and drinking water supplies.

However, any budget for repair or upgrade will need to be approved by the accountants at the Three Waters Transition Unit in Wellington, and only once approval is given can councils procure designers and contractors to do the work. That is likely to take months or longer.

This could be the plot of a black comedy about useless governments, but it is not at all funny to people without drinking

water and forced to use a portaloos for weeks and months.

ACT MPs are practical people who want to help the communities we represent. Before the rain had stopped, we were on the phone to people affected by flooding, to council staff and insurers, asking what could and should Government do?

On Friday 3rd of March ACT released our response to Cyclone Gabrielle - 15 urgent Ideas for recovery. These can apply equally to communities hit by Cyclone Hail and the severe weather on Auckland Anniversary weekend.

ACT believes that as a first principle, the Labour Government should reprioritise existing spending cutting unhealthy obsessions like Light Rail and the transport “mode shift” and put that money into rebuilding roads and bridges.

The second principle is for Government to get out of the way. The Christchurch rebuild and the COVID-19 recovery led to a permanent expansion of the big Wellington machine. The recovery from recent floods and storms should not be used as a further excuse to expand the size and reach of Government.

Instead of tinkering with the RMA, ACT asks that Government remove RMA requirements altogether so communities can get on with the rebuild, like after the Kaikoura earthquake. Clearing slips and vegetation, reforming streams and channels, and building much greater capacity into the stormwater system needs good design and agile contractors, not Wellington accountants holding the pen and a whip.

ACT offered our 15 ideas to Labour, but they were ignored. We will offer them again when Parliament resumes in late March to debate the next round of recovery legislation.

SHELLY BEACH TIDE CHART					
Date	High Water	Shelly Beach	Sun Rise	Sun Set	
April '23					
1 Sat	0818	3.3	2045	0734	1915
2 Sun	0814	3.5	2038	0635	1814
3 Mon	0859	3.6	2122	0636	1813
4 Tue	0938	3.8	2200	0637	1811
5 Wed	1013	4.0	2235	0637	1810
6 Thu	1048	4.1	2310	0638	1808
7 Fri	1123	4.1	2345	0639	1807
8 Sat	1159	4.1	-	0640	1805
9 Sun	0022	4.1	1237	0641	1804
10 Mon	0100	4.0	1317	0642	1803
11 Tue	0141	3.9	1401	0643	1801
12 Wed	0228	3.7	1452	0643	1800
13 Thu	0324	3.6	1557	0644	1758
14 Fri	0436	3.5	1716	0645	1757
15 Sat	0557	3.5	1836	0646	1756
16 Sun	0710	3.7	1945	0647	1754
17 Mon	0812	3.9	2044	0648	1753
18 Tue	0906	4.1	2136	0649	1752
19 Wed	0954	4.2	2222	0649	1750
20 Thu	1039	4.3	2305	0650	1749
21 Fri	1120	4.2	2344	0651	1748
22 Sat	1158	4.1	-	0652	1747
23 Sun	0022	4.1	1235	0653	1745
24 Mon	0057	3.9	1310	0654	1744
25 Tue	0133	3.8	1347	0655	1743
26 Wed	0210	3.6	1427	0656	1742
27 Thu	0255	3.4	1518	0656	1740
28 Fri	0354	3.3	1627	0657	1739
29 Sat	0514	3.2	1748	0658	1738
30 Sun	0624	3.3	1856	0659	1737
May '23					
1 Mon	0722	3.4	1951	0700	1736
2 Tue	0810	3.6	2038	0701	1735
3 Wed	0853	3.8	2121	0702	1734



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 held at the Anglican and Methodist Church, 60 Garfield Road, Helensville, from 10am to 12pm. 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 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 & NOCHARGE.

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.

Helensville St John Youth: Ages 5-18 yrs see youth@stjohn.org.nz for more information. Monday 5.30-7pm during school terms, Makiri Street, Helensville. Contact: Carla. carla.lang@stjohn.org.nz

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

Kaukapakapa St John Youth: Ages 5-18 yrs see youth@stjohn.org.nz for more information. Tuesday 5.30-7pm during school terms, 1015 Kaipara Coast Highway, Helensville. Contact: Sheryl 0211900591, sheryl.pawley@stjohn.org.nz

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 09-420-3007/0211-658-428.

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	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	16 Cammercial Road	420-7162
Carpenter	Maguire Carpentry	021-990-268
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning	Curtis	027-200-5456
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	Gumboats	09-411-9038
Electrician	Sean Gray Electrical	0274-784-396
Garden Sheds	Baby Barns	022-075-8283/420-3298
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	Grev Walker	420-7173

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
Painters	Robert Wright & Company	027-374-1105
Picture Framing	The Picture Framing Company	0800-372-633
Plant Centre	Kaipara Coast Plant Centre	420-5655
Plumbers	Aqua Plumbing	021-0275-3821
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	Prestige - Jana Mills	021-509-990/420-9953
Real Estate	Quest & Co-Raewyn 027-449-7391, Karlene 027-677-6166021	
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
Windscreen Repairs	Bullseye Windscreen Repairs	027-605-4630
Your Local Business Book	yourlocalbusinessbook@gmail.com	

YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE SPECIALISTS

QUEST & CO

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LIFESTYLE & RESIDENTIAL



Meadow View

309 MONOWAI ROAD, WAINUI

3 2 2 2 1

Land Area 3.0008ha

Floor Area 208sqm

Sold prior to deadline

For recent sold prices, please get in touch



The 'Panorama'

131 OYSTER POINT ROAD, KAUKAPAKAPA

4 2 1 2 2

If you stopped to imagine what idyllic country life looked like, chances are it would be a lot like this charming home only 5 minutes to Kaukapakapa Village and 20 minutes to the motorway. Established grounds with mature, manicured gardens, abundant fruit trees, gently contoured green hills, sheds and stables with horses grazing on 4.9ha, room for the kids to play, and plenty of living space for a comfortable family life.

Sounds just like what you've been dreaming of for yourself? Well, there's something else you may not have thought to add to your list - uninterrupted rural views all the way out to the beautiful Kaipara Harbour to top it off.

Land Area 4.9ha | Floor Area 280sqm

Expressions of Interest Over \$1,775,000



STUNNING KAIPARA HARBOUR VIEWS



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Delivering an unrivalled experience for discerning homeowners.

Quest & Co was founded to provide a superior experience and higher level of service, with an emphasis on marketing that truly connects with discerning buyers. Our value lies in offering insight that puts the power back in your hands when it comes to selling your home.

As a boutique agency, we don't let inefficient layers get in the way of providing a more personal experience that results in greater value for you.



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