

The Helensville Community News

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Issue 169 - December 2023

Art Centre events

It's that time of year again! December is our Cash and Carry exhibition, perfect way to get a unique gift for someone (or treat yourself). All artwork under is \$250! Dates of this exhibition are 6th – 22nd December with the opening event 'Christmas Party' on Friday the 15th December 5-7pm all welcome.

Decorate our Christmas tree! Jeff Thomson has cut metal shapes primed ready to decorate. These decorations will be available at the Art Centre from Saturday 25th November to Saturday 9th December, come pick up a shape, paint or decorate it as you like then return it to add to our Christmas tree by December 14th.

Workshops for December!

Wine and paint evening Thursday 7th of December with artist Jacky Pieper 5-7pm, all material provided \$55pp. Christmas Table Centre Piece workshop with Jacky Pieper Saturday 16th December 10-12, \$65 all materials provided, come away with a decorative table piece for Christmas and enjoy a day of creating! Please email manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz to book. More details can be found on our Events page on Facebook.



We will be closed for Christmas from December 23rd to January 31st, our first exhibition to start the new year in 2024 will be 'Kaipara Awa – A River That Connects Us.'

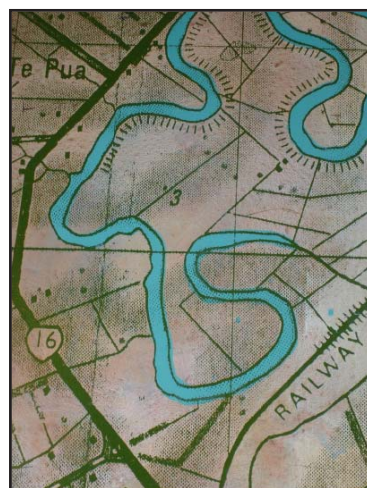


Christmas centre piece workshop Jacky Pieper

Decorations

ARTcentre HELENSVILLE

The Kaipara River, which winds its way through our town, preceding the settlement of Helensville, and at times defining it, is as much a symbol as a physical body of water. This New Year at the Art Centre, we will be hosting an exhibition which reflects what our awa means to us. This show is open for all to participate in, young and old, and in any media of your choice. It is a purposefully broad subject which can be interpreted as imaginatively as desired.



Kaipara River February Exhibition
Call to all artists to enter

Details and entry form can be found on our website artcentrehelensville.org.nz. We are now accepting proposals for 2024 exhibitions. If you are an artist and wish to have an exhibition with us we would love to hear from you.

In this issue...

- Strength in Adversity - CAB ~ Pg 2
- What's happening this month ~ Pg 3
- The End of a Five Year Journey ~ Pg 4
- Helensville Library and Service Centre ~ Pg 6
- From Penk's Pen ~ Pg 7
- Northwest Country Awards night ~ Pg 8
- Rodney Local Board update ~ Pg 9 & 13
- Kaipara korero ~ Pg 10
- Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens - Flower arranging - Christmas theme ~ Pg 11
- Give the gift of Care this Christmas ~ Pg 12
- Letter to the Editor ~ Pg 13
- Rodney Local Board update ~ Pg 13
- A Coalition for change: ACT's commitment to Real Solutions ~ 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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All correspondence should be legible and include writer's name and address.

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Sun 17 Dec
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face painting & Santa.

Contact Sarah 0274 831 542
sarah@riversidecrafts.co.nz

Strength in Adversity

There is a new dawn on the horizon in 2024 for Citizens Advice Bureau Helensville.

Taku pou whakawhirinaki i nga wa o te porotaika: My source of strength in moments of adversity one of our main sayings/whakatauki, this is certainly true as Citizens Advice Bureau Helensville reflects over 2023.

Since "Rebuilding, reconnecting and sharing" has been the emphasis of CABNZ following COVID-19, this year started with a whitewash of weather- Auckland Anniversary flooding and Cyclone Gabrielle.

"But our volunteers responded to this crisis and CAB Helensville was open for locals needing guidance, support; power and the Internet- many who had never needed us before!" says manager Rani Timoti of Muriwai.

"They are where the magic happens, where people experience empathy, compassion and the skill and training to help them find the next steps, the pathway to deal with whatever issue or problem they are struggling with," says Kerry Dalton, CABNZ Chief Executive.

Then another wave hit us personally- our existence. Auckland Council's funding cuts threat rallied our 32 Auckland CABs.

"However, from hard times out of the tunnel- the public rallied behind us shining our light," says Rani. "Whether we expected it or not, the limelight was on our organisation, which is so often working behind-the-scenes and under valued or underrated by the powers-that-be who take from us but don't/minimally reciprocate."

Thankfully the Save our Auckland CABs petition generated more than 22,500 signatures and the media highlighted our service.

Here are a few comments from the public:

"I used CAB before. I was feeling very lost, financially strapped, and it was such a relief to talk and converse with people who knew what they were talking about and who could help navigate and advocate for one amongst the various health, social, employment, legal systems in NZ."

"These people helped me to see things another way, they gave me the time of day, they helped me unpack my issues. If it wasn't for the support, advice and compassion I may have been homeless. I am 20 now I was 17 years old then. People like me need people like them."

CAB North Shore's Impact Lab report got the council's attention too- showing that every \$1 invested in the CAB returns \$13.20 of measurable good to NZ- a massive social return on investment (SROI). Auckland Council gave us a reprieve- but there is still funding challenges ahead.

However, after our festive break where our office closes from December 18 and re-opens January 15, we're back in business.

"A number of community groups have been booking our venue during our office hours and we aim to continue our great relationship with them and build more," says Rani.

Volunteers will be at the Helensville Show on February 24 also hosting the Seniors Drop-in Zone.

*CAB Helensville's office at 16 Commercial Rd is open Monday to Friday, 10am to 1pm and Saturdays, 10am to noon with a CAB-trained volunteers and JPs available.



Tim Charman, CAB North Shore manager of South Head

What's happening this month



Friday, 8 December, Twilight Christmas Market, Helensville A&P Showgrounds, 4pm – 8pm. Solve all those Christmas gift dilemmas and join us for a relaxed evening with food, entertainment and market stalls offering a great selection of Christmas gift ideas. Local crafts and art, handmade gifts and much more. Live music from Ukelele Union, free hair plaiting & face painting for the kids and Santa...A great opportunity to shop local and pick up something unique. For more information contact sarah@riversidecrafts.co.nz.

Saturday, 9th December, Waitoki Xmas Market, 8:30-12.30 down at the Waitoki Hall, 1095 Kahikatea Flat Rd. It's that time of year for celebrating Xmas. Hot toddies, mulled wine, lots of bubbles and something or someone to celebrate with. Now that I've grabbed your attention, it's time to let you know that the Waitoki Village Market is on, Waitoki. Come on down to see if there is a little something special that you could use to celebrate Xmas. You never know what you'll find. If you're not into celebrating a Xmas, not a problem. Come on down anyway to hi, Kia ora, welcome, catch up with friends, have a natter, cup of tea or even a barbecue sausage or bacon and egg muffin kindly supplied by Butcher Jacks and have a little gander at what is available with our stall holders. A piece of jewellery, personalized tea towels, local plants, homemade jams, cakes etc. There is bound to be something to tickle one's fancy. Remember our hall is community owned and run and all proceeds go back into our community. Interested in having a stall? Contact Gill by email markets4waitoki@gmail.com or message our Facebook page Waitoki Village Market. Looking forward to seeing you all.

Sunday, 17 December, The Village Market, Helensville Showgrounds, 8.30am – 1pm. Now being held at 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, coffee, food, live music from "Take Two", free hair plaiting & face painting for the kids and Santa... *Please bring a gold coin donation for parking - proceeds going 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 17th December, Flower Arranging – Christmas Theme, Kaipara Coast Plant Centre, 12.30 – 2.30pm. Have you ever wanted to create your own beautiful Christmas table setting etc. for that special lunch or dinner but aren't sure where to start or how to go about it? Then this 2 hour workshop will be ideal to get you on your way (as well as impress family and friends ☺).

Wednesday, 20 December, Term 4 ends

Monday, 25 December, Christmas Day

Tuesday, 26 December, Boxing Day

Saturday, 31 December, AUM New Year's Festival 2023, Leighton's Farm, 320 Wilson Road, South Head. AUM Festival is a music, arts and camping festival held over three days and nights featuring: music, performance art, wellness and themed nights, multiple stages and zones.

AUM is held at an idyllic campground surrounded by Kanuka forest an hour north of central Auckland. Each year over 120 artists spanning music, visual and performing arts gather to create this wonderful festival. We are New Zealand's joyful, inclusive, loving, community spirit event. For more information visit <https://www.aum.co.nz/>

Tuesday, 2 January, 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, 24 February 2024, Helensville A & P Show, 9am – 4:30pm, Adults \$15, Children under 16 FREE. The Helensville A&P Association held its first show in 1900 – and barring three occasions it's been held every year since. The Helensville Show is easily the biggest event on Helensville's annual calendar, and is the largest one-day show in the Royal Agricultural Society's Northern District.



CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

SAT 16 DECEMBER

*Rain date: Sunday
17th December

4-7 pm

**FREE
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The End of a Five Year Journey

by Lauren Morley, Year 13 Student, Kaipara College

At the beginning of this year, I sat at my computer and wrote one of my favourite articles. It was entitled "A Year of Endings and Beginnings". At the time, I was writing with a great feeling of excitement and anticipation for the future. It was the beginning of my final year of high school, a five year journey which had seemed to go by so slowly that being near to the end was such a relief. But now that it's over, looking back, those five years went by faster than I could ever have imagined.

Friday the 27th of November, 2023, was my last official day of high school. During our last hour of school, all 100 or so year 13s gathered in an empty classroom. We all talked, laughed, took photos and enjoyed a lovely sausage sizzle cooked up by a few kind teachers and fellow year 13 students.

On Thursday the 2nd of November, we had our year 13 prize giving. Being able to sit back and watch as many of my classmates and closest friends received prizes and scholarships which they were so deserving of was such a special moment. I watched as our head students Bianca Bayly and Xavier Taylor addressed the cohort with beautifully written speeches, which so wonderfully summed up how all of us felt. Our Proxime Accessit, Sherly Peng, and Dux, Luca Donne, are two of the kindest and hardest working people I know, and I could not be happier for them.

With exams finishing on November 30th, we all have new journeys ahead of us. Some are jumping straight into the workforce, others are embracing adventure and traveling the world, and many of us, come February, will be taking our first steps as enrolled students into the hallowed halls of our chosen universities. I myself am moving to Wellington, and I am incredibly fortunate to have three close friends making that transition alongside me. However, it is a strange feeling knowing that I will be leaving many of my friends, my family, my house, my bedroom and possibly most sadly, my two cats.

I am incredibly grateful for the five years I have spent at Kaipara College. The teachers and staff I have got to know have been so lovely and passionate, and I look forward to keeping in touch with them in the future. I am lucky enough to have found some of my closest friends while also keeping many friendships I made in primary school. Like everyone says, it really is a bittersweet moment.



2023 Year 13 Graduates

Latest Listings



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2 BED | 1 BATH | 3 CAR

31F SPRINGS ROAD, PARAKAI

This cosy two-bedroom home is tucked away on a private 565sqm section down a shared driveway. The home has two bedrooms, has high ceilings and a heat pump, with the main bathroom boasting both a shower and a corner bath, with a single garage.



**PRICE BY
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4 BED | 2 BATH | 6 CAR

69A PIPITIWAI DRIVE, HELENSVILLE

This spacious residence plays host to four bedrooms and two bathrooms. With mature trees, mature orchard and vegetable gardens, glass house, shade house, chicken house, with a separate barn/workshop with bathroom facilities and a bedroom/office.



**PRICE BY
NEGOTIATION**

3 BED | 2 BATH | 3 CAR

10 MAHI ROAD, HELENSVILLE

If you have been looking to escape the hustle and bustle of the city, this exceptional near-new family home is the one for you. With three bedrooms and open plan living and dining area that flows seamlessly to the outdoors, creating a vibrant space.



**PRICE BY
NEGOTIATION**

3 BED | 1 BATH | 4 CAR

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If you are looking for a property with potential, then this is it! With 4.3725 hectares, this property is a rare find. With 3 bedroom open plan living and a single garage. The land is split into 5 paddocks with water, a large workshop, storage shed and chicken shed.

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December and January at Helensville Library and Service Centre

Here comes Santa Claus!

Santa Claus is coming to town! Santa will be at Helensville Library and Service Centre on Thursday 21 December, and will help with crafternoon. Details will be on our Facebook page.

The remedial building work, impacting on the Library and Service Centre space, continues. We are operating out of a mobile library bus, parked in the front courtyard. Selected library items, and selected library and council services, are available on the bus.

Public computers, printing, and photocopying is currently unavailable. Please ask at the Citizen's Advice Bureau, or any other Auckland Libraries site.

You can pay your rates at the PostShop, in Paper Plus Select Helensville, if you have your rates invoice with a barcode.

We will update our Facebook page with any changes, including any closure dates.

We do not have access to the Helensville Library email, nor

the library or service centre direct dial numbers. Please contact Auckland Council and Auckland Libraries through these methods:

Phoning Auckland Council (open 24/7 and toll free): 09 301 0101. Phoning Auckland Libraries: 0800 695 427.

Visiting our Facebook page: facebook.com/HelensvilleLibraryAndServiceCentre.

The Library and Service Centre is open our usual hours, with selected council services available: Monday to Friday: 9.30am to 5pm. Saturday: 9.30am to 4pm.

As weather permits, our regular events continue:

Kids Time:

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

Crafternoon:

Thursdays at 3.30pm. We have sessions for

STOP PRESS

The bus is leaving on Wednesday afternoon 29 November for repairs. Instead of waiting for another bus to be available – we're going to Click and Collect, and Grab Bags from Thursday 30 November. We will be operating out of the foyer of the building. The outside returns slot is open 24/7.

both adults and children. These sessions are a chance to learn new skills, teach others, and chat.

Please note: these sessions will finish the week beginning December 17. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for when will they re-start.

Anne Coppel,
Senior Librarian /
Poukōkiri
Children & Youth,
Helensville Library and Service Centre



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National N From Penk's Pen

CHRIS PENK – MP

What the future holds

In the period following the election, I've tried to use my time productively in the electorate.

I'm particularly enthusiastic about the prospect of getting key infrastructure projects across the line for northwest and north Auckland.

All the problems I've been talking about for the past 6 years – including in the recent election campaign – I remain very keen to help solve with a sympathetic government onboard.

Throughout it all, I'm determined to take a problem-solving approach. That might sound obvious but consider how often in the past political parties have started with clear preferences on detail, rather than focusing on providing what's needed.

A classic example is transport. Part of the issue is that if our area had more work, leisure and education opportunities locally, the amount of traffic currently on our roads could reduce. Obviously there will always be people who choose to live in this part of the world but work elsewhere, send their children to school elsewhere etc, which is fine.

But if we provide as many opportunities as possible locally – and thereby reduce the necessary number of movements needed to and from the area – that will help somewhat.

This ties into our longstanding need for an additional high school in this part of the world. I'm committed to make that happen.

And then in the domain of transport itself, our starting-point should not be a particular mode of transport that doesn't stack up (a new light rail project from scratch, anyone?) but instead to take easy wins where they can be found.

We also should be open-minded about whether a road gets built or an existing rail corridor utilized (etc) using solely government funds or whether a public-private partnership might deliver the same value much more quickly.

And the same goes for filling in those gaps in internet and mobile connectivity. I'm keen that the government help to provide solutions for those still somewhat in the dark. These could involve the extension of existing types of supply (eg upgrading copper, laying fibre, building antennae) but equally could be using new technology such as satellites.

As you can probably tell, I'm pretty excited at what might be possible for this electorate if we focus on the needs of the people. And I'm grateful for the chance to continue pushing for exactly that. Thank you.

Cheers, Chris



Chris Penk
MP for Kaipara ki Mahurangi

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NorthWest COUNTRY Awards night



We had a fantastic night of glitz and glamour at our North West Country Business Awards on 7 November where we celebrated 26 local businesses.

One hundred and seventy people gathered to recognise the 36 finalists competing in 10 different categories, 3 special categories as well as the People's Choice Award and overall Supreme Award.

Alison Mau, a local celebrity, was our MC for the evening and made the whole event come together. We want to offer our heartfelt thanks to all businesses who took the time to enter this year and we encourage all businesses to consider running next year. Check out our website for more information and our regular social media posts where we highlight each winner and make sure you support local.

Christmas is looming and we want to paint the town green and red to celebrate. Our outdoor Christmas

trees will be installed in the week of the 28th November with the Kumeu Santa Parade being held on 1st

December. Look out for the decorated floats. North West Country business association is proud to be one of the major supporters bringing cheer back to the community.

Make sure you get decorating as our Christmas Store Decorating competition opens on 1st December and runs until the 16th December. We have two cash prizes of \$1500 to give away to the two best decorated stores.

See the back page for details of all the winners.

On the 7th November we attend the North West Country Business Awards, we went along happy to wine & dine with hoping to achieve more network for ourselves with in our local community.

Little did we know that we would walk away with not one but TWO WINS



Aldrin and Laura with their awards

Aldrin and I were honestly blown away and humbled to receive Top spot for **HOSPITALITY** and also Winner of **PEOPLES CHOICE** taking the lead by over 13k votes. Totally unreal and with no speech prepared (as honestly we didn't think we'd be nominated for anything) and a few wines deep by that point, our receiving speech was a bit short and sweet. So we wanted the opportunity to post here what we truly want to share about receiving such awards!

Firstly we want to thank our amazing TEAM who keep the wheels and the engine running on a daily basis. Without them we would be truly lost and it's surreal that we've created a second family for ourselves who we care about just as much as our own.

Most importantly our customers, without whose constant support we wouldn't have survived these 7 years in business let alone the craziness of a global pandemic and recession. You are the ones that keep our dream alive daily and give us the luxury of supporting not only ourselves but our team too so a huge MARAMING SALAMAT to you.

We're still blown away and can't wait to pop our trophies up at our Huapai HQ for you all to see.



At the NorthWest Country Business Association awards held in early November, **River Valley Meats won the Best New Business and the Retail category. Their sister company, Kumeu Meat Processors, won the Supreme Award and the Rural Services category.**

River Valley Meats opened at 27 Commercial Road in August 2022 by Andy and Wendy Cummings. River Valley Meats specialises in beef and lamb sourced from local farms in the River Valley area along with hand made sausages, smoked salami, deli products, chicken and other various meat.

If you've noticed a lot of toy piggies on the main street, it's Andy's collection which started when local artist, Jeff Thompson, lent him his famous life size corrugated iron pig. The collection of piggies grew and grew and now features other animals including kiwi, cats and a hippo. It is a focal point of the street. Andy gets lots of comments and kids love them!

You might recognise Andy's name from earlier editions of the Helensville Community News with his charity boxing fights that raised over \$1,000 for local charity, The Angel Fund. Also, for several years, Andy and Wendy have run a yearly charity music event called CHILL in the VILLE. This year they helped promote the D4 concert, along with the wrestling evening that was held at the Kaipara College. As a natural event organiser, Andy runs themed occasions at the River Valley Meats store: 'meet the farmer/grower' with farmers from Bradley Beef, Whenuanui Farm, Wilson Olive Oil, Helensville Honey, Lemon and Lime Grow Farm. He has also hosted chef, Mike van de Elzen, and the Hangi Master, along with watching the odd RWC rugby game with shoppers.

Andy says: "It is our belief that this region produces the best wine and beer. The local farmers produce the best beef and lamb. At River Valley Meats we loyally promote the beef and lamb that is produced right here in our backyard. It is our mission to get wonderful local products to as many dinner tables as possible".

One of River Valley Meat's proudest achievements is becoming the exclusive supplier of Bradley Beef and chicken to Helensville's latest food entrant, Liberty Burgers, which is next to Andy's favourite watering hole, Liberty Beers and Burgers, at 64 Mill Road. "We have created a full circle of consumption because the Bradley Farm collects and uses the used grain from Liberty Brewing to feed their cows, then River Valley Meats turns the cows into premium mince for the burgers. This represents everything that we believe about the River Valley region. We make the best beer, the best wine, and the best beef right here in our own backyard!!"



Andy and the Team

Rodney Local Board update

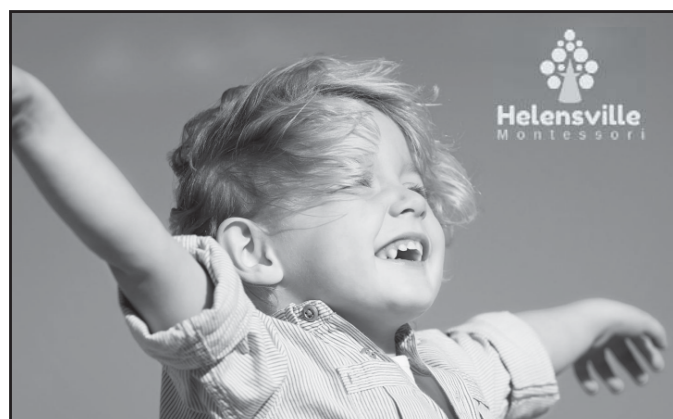
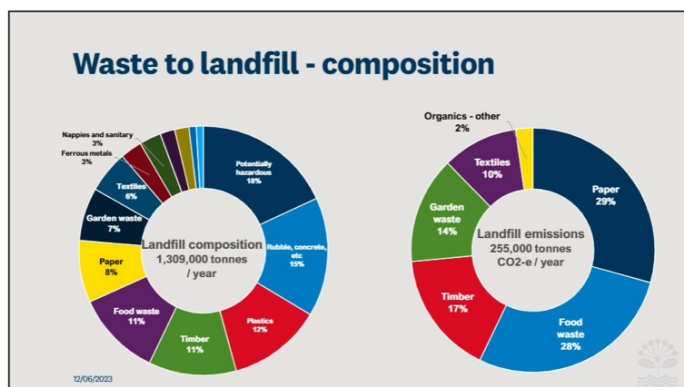
from Mark Dennis

Food Scraps.

Turning waste into resource. Can you believe that our leftovers (Food waste) make up 11% of what goes into our landfills by weight (41% of household waste), that's almost the same as the amount of plastic that we dump. Worse than that, our food waste makes up 28% of landfill emissions, that's 71,400 tonnes of CO2 per year, this is worse than all the waste from the building industry. Who would have thought that sandwich crusts, apple cores and lunchbox leftovers would be so bad for our environment.

Food Scrap bins are coming to most parts of Auckland but Rural areas like Helensville are missing out (don't worry this means we aren't being charged for it). But if you are missing out on a Food Scrap bin, it's a great opportunity to start thinking about how you can reduce your food waste and look at composting or warm farming what you do have.

To see if you are getting a Food Scrap Bin – Search your address at https://aucklandcouncil.uq.co.nz/forms/d59hfwtpvgzn107m13fhx613_s000vfb78nz01bfm9djkp80wj5tpvh3zcjj For more info on the Bins go to <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/rubbish-recycling/food-scraps-collections/Pages/default.aspx>



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Kaipara korero

Principal Cindy Sullivan

From the Kaipara College Principal's Desk:

Celebrating Success

Reflecting on the year that was When I think about student achievement at Kaipara College, what impresses me the most is the breadth of success. Whether it be achievement academically, in sporting, cultural or artistic endeavours, Kaipara College is a school that punches above its weight. We have celebrated a record number of students achieving excellence in their NCEA year level through the year, outstanding results from our many and varied sporting competitions and accolades and recognition for excellent work done in the arts. Some of these notable successes have recently been acknowledged and celebrated in our sports prizegiving, Music Art and Drama or MAD awards night, Senior Prize Givings and our Excellence Assemblies.

In these events we celebrated the achievements and contributions of our outstanding students. This includes awards for academic excellence, leadership and community service, as well as recognition for students who have demonstrated exceptional character, sportsmanship, or other excellence qualities. I would also like to acknowledge all our students who have worked to their best this year – those who have struggled and overcome and those who continue to develop their resilience and pursuit of excellence.

2023 has been another great year for Kaipara College where positive progress has been made in many areas of the school. This year we have developed a new strategic plan which aims to strengthen our connections within and beyond the school, prioritising wellbeing, belonging and accountability for all, building on and strengthening our school identity and of course supporting all students to reach their potential. This plan for the school acts as a compass, setting Kaipara College in a purposeful and positive direction. We have also seen a number of initiatives aimed at maximising engagement in learning, and maximising learning time at school. Our teachers have been learning how to design learning to meet the diverse and varied needs of all students, providing support and challenge as required through a research-based framework called Universal Design for Learning. We have removed late start Wednesday to ensure we maximise the learning time for our students at school and we have been heavily focused on teaching literacy and numeracy across all curriculum areas. We have also begun our journey embedding the new school values: Whanaungatanga, Aroha, Kaitiakitanga and Angituutanga through “te WAKA o Kaipara”, resulting in increased consistency of high expectations of behaviour and of learning and strengthening the identity of the school. Our long-awaited multimillion dollar building project is finally underway and when finished will see a state-of-the-art Innovation Centre to house art and technology, new purpose built Whare Ako and Faculty of Special Education buildings. The initial disruption to the school site the building projects will inevitably bring will be a small price to pay in this massive investment in the future of Kaipara College students.

Kaipara College is a school with a very bright future. With continued collaboration with the community we will thrive as a place where all our students can navigate to their own success. Kaipara College will keep our focus on what is important for all our students – strong values, high expectations of all round achievement, a commitment to personal and academic excellence, a focus on positive behaviour for learning and a high expectation of contribution of our students to their school and their community.

It's now time for much needed rest and rejuvenation. Thank you once again, wonderful community, for your ongoing support of our rangatahi.

Maa te paa te tamaiti e whakatipu

It takes a village to raise a child



Tuu Rangatira & Kapa Haka students performing at Prize Giving.



Year 13 students performing at Prize Giving.



Te WAKA o Kaipara: Navigate to Success
Te WAKA o Kaipara: Eke panuku, eke Tangaroa

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Flower Arranging – Christmas Theme

**Sunday 17th December
12.30 – 2.30pm**

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

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

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



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

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

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

If you have a small dish or other container you would like to utilise to contain your creation please feel free to bring that along, although all materials are provided.



After the workshop you can also spend some more time in the Gardens which has a beautiful sculpture exhibition along a 1.2km pathway as



well as our nature trail which is a further 2.4 km for you to explore. This is all set in the idyllic Kaipara countryside and placed so as to blend sympathetically with the surrounding environment.*

There is also as our cute little coffee shop on site plus of course the Plant Centre for you to browse through.

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

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

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

Venue location: 1481 Kaipara Coast Highway (SH16), 4km north of Kaukapakapa. Tickets \$30 per person. To Book go to info@kaiparacoast.co.nz OR 09 420 5655.



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Helensville Birthing Centre

TE PUNA WHANAU KI TE AWAROA

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

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

**53-65 Commercial Road, Helensville
Ph (09) 420 8747**

Email bookings@helensvillebirthingcentre.co.nz

www.birthingcentre.co.nz

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Give the Gift of Care this Christmas



Christmas is often a time of joy, togetherness and celebration. But for many of us, it can also be a time when we feel the loss of a loved one more deeply as we revisit special memories and traditions from years gone by. For Hospice West Auckland, this is a time for us to come together to remember the patients and their families we have supported and cared for throughout the year. If you would like to support patients and their families this Christmas, please visit our website www.hwa.org.nz/donate. Your generosity makes a real difference to families who are caring for someone facing end of life this Christmas, enabling us to wrap these families in the physical, social, emotional and practical support they need. *Thank you for your support.*



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WARMLY INVITES YOU TO...



Rodney Local Board update

from Mark Dennis

Shelly Beach Playground Upgrade.

More upgrades coming to Shelly Beach! I'll keep you updated as more details come through, but below you will see a concept plan for the playground with work to start shortly and completed in February 2024.

Great to see so much funding going into our smaller communities that historically have missed out.



What is the future of our coastal areas?

The photo below is from Snells Beach, and you will see a nearly brand-new footpath washing away in a storm...

This is a conversation that communities need to have right across Auckland and indeed across NZ. How far do we go to hold back nature and the changing shape of our coastlines?

Seawalls do not work in every situation and can often only buy more time. Properties being built on reclaimed land or close to coastlines are at risk, and is a managed retreat the answer? Or do we try and hold back the 'Changing tide' at a massive cost to the wider ratepayers for the benefit of coastal landowners?



In the 1900's we had an era of 'reclaiming' land to be used for farming and housing, and in some areas, it feels like nature is looking to claim that land, back plus some.

If you live in a high risk area please visit <https://getready.govt.nz/en/prepared/household/> for how you can be better prepared.



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A Coalition for Change: ACT's commitment to Real Solutions

As the newly appointed Undersecretary for Infrastructure and RMA Reform and Member of Parliament for ACT, I am pleased to share the coalition agreement that ACT, National, and NZ First have negotiated and unveiled on November 24. This alliance is a testament to our commitment to delivering the real change that countless New Zealanders voted for in the recent elections.

Throughout the campaign, ACT championed the call for a government of real change, and now, as we embark on this partnership, we are determined to contribute innovative ideas that address the urgent issues that our constituents elected us to tackle. The coalition agreement outlines a comprehensive policy program focused on making life more affordable, ensuring consequences for criminals, and safeguarding democratic principles where they have been eroded by co-governance.

Several key ACT policies have found a home in this coalition agreement, reflecting our dedication to pragmatic and effective governance. One of our top priorities is to restore safer streets by reinstating the Three Strikes law, introducing tougher sentences for workplace criminals, bolstering prison capacity, and scrapping Labour's ill-conceived prisoner reduction target. These measures are crucial for ensuring the safety of our communities and holding offenders accountable for their actions.

Red tape has long hindered progress, and we are committed to addressing this issue head-on. The establishment of a new Minister and Ministry of Regulation, coupled with legislation ensuring that regulations adhere to the principles of good law-making, will streamline processes and promote a more efficient and responsive government.

Moreover, we recognize the need for fiscal responsibility. By reducing non-essential bureaucracy and headcounts in government departments, we aim to deliver savings that can be channelled back into initiatives that directly benefit New Zealanders.

Housing affordability is a pressing concern, and our commitment to restoring mortgage interest deductibility for rental properties aligns with our vision for a more accessible property market. We have set clear targets for this restoration, with a 60% deduction in 2023/24, 80% in 2024/25, and reaching 100% in 2025/26.

The coalition agreement also addresses critical issues related to the environment, education, and health. We are set to replace the Resource Management Act with new laws grounded in the enjoyment of property rights, providing financial incentives for councils to facilitate more housing. Additionally, we are focused on empowering farmers by reducing regulatory burdens and rebalancing freshwater management to better reflect the interests of all water users.

Our commitment to education is evident in the reintroduction of partnership schools and the policy allowing state schools to become partnership schools. These measures aim to provide diverse and effective educational options for our youth.

As we embark on this significant program of work for the next three years, ACT's Ministers are poised to hit the ground running. We extend our gratitude to every Kiwi who entrusted ACT with their vote, and we pledge to work tirelessly to repay that faith with real solutions and the change New Zealanders voted for.

While we represent three distinct parties, the negotiation process has showcased our ability to build strength from our differences. Together, we are prepared to tackle the considerable challenges left by the previous government and strive for a victory that benefits all New Zealanders. The coalition agreement marks a new chapter, one where collaboration and commitment to real change will define our government's legacy.



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SHELLY BEACH TIDE CHART					
Date	High Water Shelly Beach		Sun Rise	Sun Set	
December '23					
1 Fri	0136	3.7	1359	0555	2025
2 Sat	0214	3.6	1435	0555	2025
3 Sun	0253	3.4	1515	0555	2026
4 Mon	0337	3.3	1602	0555	2027
5 Tue	0430	3.2	1658	0555	2028
6 Wed	0531	3.2	1758	0555	2029
7 Thu	0634	3.2	1857	0555	2030
8 Fri	0735	3.3	1953	0555	2031
9 Sat	0832	3.4	2046	0555	2031
10 Sun	0924	3.6	2136	0555	2032
11 Mon	1013	3.8	2226	0555	2033
12 Tue	1059	3.9	2313	0555	2034
13 Wed	1144	4.1	-	0555	2035
14 Thu	0000	3.9	1228	0556	2035
15 Fri	0047	3.9	1313	0556	2036
16 Sat	0134	3.9	1359	0556	2037
17 Sun	0223	3.8	1447	0556	2037
18 Mon	0315	3.8	1538	0557	2038
19 Tue	0409	3.7	1634	0557	2038
20 Wed	0507	3.6	1732	0558	2039
21 Thu	0608	3.6	1833	0558	2040
22 Fri	0710	3.6	1934	0558	2040
23 Sat	0814	3.7	2035	0559	2040
24 Sun	0915	3.7	2134	0559	2041
25 Mon	1012	3.8	2229	0600	2041
26 Tue	1102	3.9	2319	0601	2042
27 Wed	1147	4.0	-	0601	2042
28 Thu	0003	3.8	1228	0602	2042
29 Fri	0044	3.8	1306	0603	2043
30 Sat	0121	3.7	1341	0603	2043
31 Sun	0157	3.6	1415	0604	2043
January '23					



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, 12.30 pm in small office at rear of carpark Magnify, 118 Main Road, www.al-anon.org.nz.

Aqua Aerobics – Low impact exercises to improve your health - Green Prescription – with or without. Classes: Mon, Wed, Fri, 9am – 10am, held in outdoor pool all year, except public holidays. Cost: \$2 per class. Parakai Springs Hot Pools. Contact Ruth on 0210-2277-481 for more details.

Citizens Advice Bureau: Helensville, is open every Saturday from 10am to noon at 16 Commercial Rd, Helensville. JPs are always available. Come for information and advice.

Diabetes & Arthritis Group - First Monday in the month unless it's a public holiday. Held at the Anglican-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.

FLexercise with Fitness League: Friday 10am - Kaipara Cruising Club. FLexercise low impact exercise to music incorporating balance and flexibility-move dance enjoy. All ages and abilities. Call Christine 0212602190 Web www.thefitnessleague.org.nz

Freemasons at Helensville; Regular meetings at The Duke of Albany Lodge, Kowhai Street, Helensville. For more information call Bob Greenough on 0210-829-2345

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

Hana's Group Fitness Classes, small group fitness bootcamps at Rautawhiri Park 3 times per week Mon, Thurs & Fri at 9am. Please contact Hana on 0211623362 or on Facebook @HanasGroupFitnessHelensville.

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, now at outside rooms of River Valley Baptist Church, Fordyce Road Parakai, opposite Parakai Primary School, Every 1st and 3rd Saturday, 11a.m-12p.m. We offer prayer for help with what you need healed, All welcome, no appointment, no charge, ph 0276-058-225

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 Tennis Club Building, Rautawhiri Park. 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.

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
Agecare	Craigweil House	420-8277
Age Concern Rodney		09-426-0916
Acupuncture	Parakai Acupuncture	027-351-7377/09-449-0690 (Parakai Church)
Auto Supplies	Thrifty	420-7127
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 Commercial 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	Gumboots	09-411-9038
Early Learning Centre	Helensville Montessori	420-7181
Electrician	Sean Gray Electrical	0274-784-396
Freemasons at Helensville	Duke of Albany Lodge	0210-829-2345
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 King	0274-587-299
Real Estate	Burmester Realty	420-8360
Real Estate	Harcourts - Nicky Horsborough	027-288-0113
Real Estate	Prestige - Jana Mills	021-509-990/420-9953
Reiki Healers	The Healing Heart of Helensville	420-9098
Storage	J S Storage	021-462-930
Typesetting/Photocopying	Huapai Copy & Print	420-9307
Venue Hire	Kaipara Memorial RSA	420-8888
Water Cartage	Waioneke Water	021-420-2132/420-2131
Water Cartage	Water Wagon 1	027-280-2630
Windscreen Repairs	Bullseye Windscreen Repairs	027-605-4630
Your Local Business Book	yourlocalbusinessbook@gmail.com	



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People's Choice Award

Hapunan Filipino Kitchen

Special Awards

OUTSTANDING CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD - Soljans Estate Winery

ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD - South Kaipara Good Food

BEST NEW BUSINESS - River Valley Meats

Recreation and Leisure

WINNER - KC Fit

Highly commended - The Dance Shed

Hospitality Non-Licensed

WINNER - Hapunan Filipino Kitchen

Highly commended - Sweet Retreat New Zealand

Business, Professional and Public Services

WINNER - Marbles (People and Culture Hub)

Highly commended - Released

Manufacturing and Trade

WINNER - Dan Taylor Plumbing and Gas

Highly commended - Blackout Electric

Retail

WINNER - River Valley Meats

Highly commended - Parakai Four Square

Hospitality Licensed

WINNER - Morepork BBQ

Highly commended - The Beer Spot

Highly commended - The Hunting Lodge

Health and Fitness

WINNER - PWR FIT Studios

Highly commended - The Body Clinic

Beauty

WINNER - Aneia Warner Salon

Highly commended - Roots to Ends

Rural Services

WINNER - Kumeu Meat Processors

Highly commended - Country Meat Processors

Not For Profit/ Social Enterprise

WINNER - South Kaipara Good Food

Highly commended - Parent Aid North West

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