

The Helensville Community News

Issue 171 - February 2024

An interesting experience to start the year

On the first day of 2024 I had an interesting experience. While pottering around the garden in the early afternoon, I came across a swarm of insects in our lime tree. Although they looked like bees, I was unsure whether they were bees or wasps. A number of them were flying to and fro, but most were just attaching themselves to the outside of the swarm.



As we all know, Facebook has the answer to any query, and sure enough, the response to the uploaded photo came back as definitely bees, followed by how we should get rid of them. One sad person suggested spraying the tree with petrol and setting fire to it. The more sensible and helpful respondents gave us names of who we should contact to have it removed, which in turn has led to a new association and hopefully an informative one for you, our readers.

Within a short time we had a message from Ken Brown offering to come and remove the swarm free of charge. Ken's wife, Sandra, had seen the Facebook post and alerted her husband to our problem. Ken, it turned out, is a beekeeper in our area; he is also an Apiculture Tutor with Land Based Training and President of Auckland Beekeepers' Club. Clearly his knowledge of bees is extensive and his explanation of their behaviour had me spellbound.

Ken described our swarm as fairly small, at an estimated 4,500 bees, and told us that the bees would be swarming around a queen. They give off a pheromone that attracts their sisters to settle in the swarm. He described our swarm as very docile and expected them to be easy to handle. Ken had brought with him a homemade wooden hive, the size of a banana box, to put the bees into for transport. He laid a white sheet on the ground under the lime tree, held the box under the swarm and gave the tree branch a brisk shake. The majority of bees fell into the hive which Ken then put the lid on and laid on the sheet.

Obviously, this process led to numerous bees now flying around somewhat disorientated. Some bees returned to their original branch, so Ken sprayed the tree with air freshener to interfere with the "home" pheromone that was on it. It is important that all the bees stay together, otherwise they would not survive long by themselves. Meanwhile the bees around the entrance to the new hive were giving off pheromones as before, and gradually attracting the returning forager bees to the hive to join their friends.

Ken left the bees to settle into the box and returned around dusk to collect the hive. By this time there were virtually no bees left flying around.

Ken has kindly agreed to provide readers with future articles about these fascinating insects that are so critical to human life. In the meantime, should you have an encounter like I did, please take the opportunity to arrange for the bees to be collected by a local beekeeper or Auckland Beekeepers' Club to help nature continue the wonderful work it does, without us even being aware of it most of the time!

PS. The hive has been treated for varroa mites and is now happily thriving in its new apiary feeding off clover and manuka. There should be a good late honey harvest from them, of course leaving lots for them for over the winter.



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

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HELENSVILLE SHOWGROUNDS

Sat 24 Feb
9.00am – 4.30pm
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Sculpture Gardens Guided Walk

Saturday 24th February
0930 to 1130



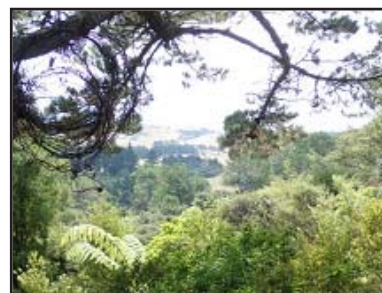
Join David Bayly on a guided walk around the Sculpture Gardens as well as our native forest & farm trails at Kaipara Coast Plant Centre. As a one-off opportunity for this special event we will also be including access to a forest track that has previously not been open to the public thus offering a unique gardens experience.

David will chat about the origins and establishment of the gardens, the history of the property plus conservation measures we have in place as well as answer any questions you may have.

Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens and its associated nature trail is located within some of the most stunning countryside in Auckland.



There are approximately 40 works of art along the 1km sculpture pathway, which are changed each November. The 2.5km nature trail meanders through long established as well as newly planted areas of native flora and with a real focus on regeneration and sustaining the ecological diversity and integrity of the area. There are also some amazing rural and harbour views.



The gardens were established in 1994 by the local Bayly family who still own and run it and are now a 4 star NZ Gardens trust nominee.

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 once you have completed the walk.

Please ensure that you wear suitable walking footwear and bring a drink (plus a rain jacket if the weather looks unsettled).

The walk will take approx. 2 hours and will be around 5km in length.

Venue location: 1481 Kaipara Coast Highway (SH16), 4km north of Kaukapakapa. Tickets \$15 per person, To Book go to info@kaiparacoast.co.nz OR 09 420 5655.



What's happening this month



Kaipara College Term 1. Thursday, 1 February. Year 9 Orientation (DAY 1). Friday, 2 February. Year 9 Orientation (DAY 2)

Saturday, 3 February 2:00pm – 10:00pm. Sonorous Festival 2023

The Hunting Lodge, 307 Waikoukou Valley Rd, Waimauku. Early Bird tickets: \$99.00 each. Relive the special moments that can only be experienced at Sonorous, this time at the stunning Hunting Lodge Winery. Expect only the best in sound design attached to a picturesque backdrop, featuring the most influential DJ of the past 30 years: Audiology and Collude collide once again for the biggest house & techno odyssey this side of the Tasman. Carl Cox (UK), plus: Josh Butler (UK), Juliet Fox (Aus), All your favourite local selectors A-Z. Aunty El, Cam Harris, Dick Johnson, Kady Webster, Logan Baker, Miss B Rayza, Sanoi and Seb Selknam.

Tuesday, 6 February, 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, 10 February 11:00am – 2:00pm. Arts in Action. Kumeu Arts Centre, 300 Main Rd, Kumeu. Free admission. Arts in Action is an arts festival and community open day giving everyone the opportunity to try a range of art-based activities. Join us in fun-filled Arts in Action at Kumeu Arts and try a range of art-based activities completely free of charge. Bring your family and Whānau for this fun, unique, and educational experience for all ages. Activities include: Clay, Painting, Badge-Making, Flax Weaving, Botanical Art, Teen Zine-Making, Creative Matters, Brain Play (3D printing), Art for Under 5's, a Live Band, Face Painting and more.

Sunday, 18 February, Helensville Art Trail. Helensville 10:00am – 4:00pm. Free Admission. Third Sunday of each month until May. Open studios are all conveniently situated within three kilometres of central Helensville. Head into Helensville for a wonderful way to spend the day. Follow the signposts. All studios have maps and info. The artists have spent years honing their skills in an extensive variety of genres. Enjoy meeting them and gaining an insight into the processes involved in creating a diverse array of artworks. Works include: lost wax casting in bronze and crystal glass; figurative and abstract paintings and prints; corrugated iron shaped into incredible forms; intricate woodwork; ceramics; mixed media creations, jewellery crafted from reclaimed items and much more. Visitors have the opportunity to purchase a treasure, large or small, directly from the artists should they wish.

Saturday, 24 February, Helensville A & P Show, Railway Street, Helensville. 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 annual calendar, and is the largest one-day show in the Royal Agricultural Society's Northern District.

The Village Market Helensville Showgrounds

There will be no Village Market in February but a selection of your regular stalls will be at the Helensville A&P Show Saturday 24th February from 9am to 4.30pm. Riverside Crafts windchimes and birdfeeders, Keelys candles and wax melts, handcrafted jewellery by Tony and Lynne, rocking horses and other crafts by Shirlee, Photos Past framed historic prints, Gentle Pearls healing balms, Small Orchard cordials, resin art by Alyse, Kahikatea Haven preserves, Button Up button craft, WindDale Farm art, crafts & flowers, Satherley's Silks and garden art, hand knits by Jenny, chalk board art and skin care by Cathy plus children's author Stephanie Schellingerhout and much more. Look for us in Row D.

For more information contact sarah@riversidecrafts.co.nz or for more information on the show contact info@helensvilleshow.co.nz

Saturday, 24 February, Kaipara Coast Gardens & Trail Guided Walk 9:30 - 11:30

Tuesday, 5 March, 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.

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The start of my last year at college

by Noah Everard, Year 13 Student, Kaipara College

When I was first presented with the opportunity to write for the Helensville Community News paper, my answer escaped me. It seems my mind did not allow time for any anxious or self-doubting thoughts to creep in and plague my enthusiasm in taking on this task. I would not describe this act as bold, writing is hardly a daring task. However, as 2023 came to an end and the due date to produce my very first article waved at me from the other side of this week, I felt doubtful. But hey, the mindset I had whilst accepting this task, is the exact one I hope to have for my last year of college, so bear with me as I plunge into my first article.

School is a tremendous part of a teenagers' life, due to it absorbing substantial amounts of our time, as well as being our primary source of life-lessons. I come to school to learn, not only about academics, but about parts of myself. When I was younger I would perpetually question why I had to attend school so often, or even at all sometimes. It is only in recent years that I have begun to understand and appreciate the significance of school in my life. This is largely due to the realisation that I would be bored and lazy if I did not have school to drag me out of bed in the mornings on a Monday. This year, being my last, will be spent appreciating every aspect of high-school I can and diving into year 13 with confidence and a smile. Especially in the midst of such abnormal social times and international strife, I will seek to dearly value the fellowship of the classroom environment, where one can converse and learn shamelessly with their peers.

Every year it seems as though the hard becomes less difficult and the tedious becomes less tiring. The idea of leaving high-school for good and moving on to bigger and more mature things does not frighten me. All my life I have acquired different tools and skills which will help me in the years to come. School has been a primary proprietor of such life skills, instilling a robust mindset and work ethic within myself. Therefore, I see the prospect of leaving school, not as a frightening thing, but rather what I was taught to do. To use the tools which school has offered and apply them the best I can.

Going in to year 13, my outlook on my schooling life will be thankful and ever so retrospective. The newspaper has graciously allowed me a platform where I can express my thoughts, and formulate my feelings.



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CONNECTION is a new hub for Helensville and surrounds.



Situated at the Helensville Railway Station next to The Shoppe – Artist and Crafters Collective and Ginger Crunch Café.

Connection aims to bring people together for: Creative workshops, flax weaving, macramé and a painting group due to start. Self-motivated tutors are welcome to get in touch to enquire about running classes and workshops.

Wellbeing clinic: Jen Bailey, Reflexology practitioner <https://www.facebook.com/oneleafreflexology/>, and Sandra Feran, Reiki practitioner. Other practitioners are welcome to get in touch.

Flax Weaving: Heather Steadman and exercise and dance classes - trained teacher, small classes, move to music and some floor work.

Sewing Circle: Chrissy Mawhinney and food/health presentations. Interest groups –are invited to use the space for meetings and presentations. Reasonable rates on application.

Facebook page: Our new facebook page “Connection Hub” is up and running with a few planned regular events.

We supply 20 chairs, 2 large folding tables, 4 room dividers, screen with HDMI and DVD player, fridge, kettle/kitchenette, crockery, cutlery. BYO tea, coffee, milk etc. The space is light and airy, café and toilets next door.

Contact Heather Steadman on 0220-425-652 for more information.

We’re operating on a “pop in” basis for all of the current activities so feel welcome to drop in, just come to the door to enquire if you see it open. Or you can leave a message, we’ll leave pen and paper, to connect another time.

Our current hours are growing but someone is there Wednesday 9am - 2.30pm, Thursday 9.30am - 1.30pm and Friday 8am - 3.30pm.

FLAX WEAVING CIRCLE for beginners.



Venue: CONNECTION Shop 3, Helensville Railway Station. (next to Ginger Crunch café)

Time: Wednesdays 10.30am - 2.30pm.

Cost: \$20 for 2hrs. Pay on the day, no EFTPOS.

Stay part or all day (\$40) then practice at home and come again anytime. Learn putiputi (flowers), kono (square basket), koha kete (2 corner) at your own pace.

Flax and tools supplied first time.

Enjoy the company.

Contact: Heather 0220425652 for further information.

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Venue: CONNECTION, Shop 3, Helensville Railway Station.

Times: Wednesday 9 - 10am and

Friday 8.30am - 9.30am

Cost: \$10 per class.

Wear comfy clothing, bring a water bottle, towel and socks.

Contact: Heather 0220425652

SEWING CIRCLE

“A group of like minded people who get together regularly to sew and talk together.”

Venue: CONNECTION Shop 3, Helensville Railway Station (next to Ginger Crunch café)

Time: Fridays 10.30 – 12.30pm
1.30 - 3.30pm

Cost: \$5 per 2 hour session

Pay on the day, no EFTPOS

BYO: sewing machine, scissors, fabric, etc for your own project.

Contact: Chrissy 0274 671843 for further information or call in for a visit during the above times.

Upcoming project
Memory Bear





From Penk's Pen

CHRIS PENK – MP

Happy New Year! I hope that all readers of the Helensville Community News have had a great start to 2024.

I am enjoying being back at work now, after travelling post-Christmas to visit extended family in South East Asia.

I had visited Singapore and other nations in that region many times since I first joined the Navy but that was more than 20 years ago now.

Every city that I visited is much changed since that time but I wonder if the same can truthfully be said of NZ (in a uniformly good way) in the intervening couple of decades.

I certainly couldn't help but feel as though residents of those cities have seen a lot more progress than northwest Auckland ever has. There is more planning evident in Singapore's airport alone, for example, than in all of Auckland ... and certainly in northwest Auckland.

While I was not travelling for work purposes, naturally I was taking mental notes about things that they do well overseas that we do poorly at home in terms of planning, transport systems etc. It would be impossible for any of us not to make those kinds of comparisons, I suspect.

Of course this is not to say that New Zealand is not an

exceptional country. I'm genuine when I say that I think we have the best little country on earth.

But, if we are honest with ourselves, much of the charm here lies in our natural advantages, rather than the result of any good planning or policies implemented by central government. Indeed, you could make a case that New Zealand remains a pretty good place to live despite, not because of, the efforts of government actors (whether elected officials or agencies) in the recent past.

States like Singapore seem to have a very permissive regime when it comes to allowing the private sector get on and build commercially, albeit within very well-defined parameters of planning and land use.

In New Zealand, by contrast, often we have these things the wrong way around: very loose notions about what can be done in different areas, and then we make it hard for people to do it. The worst of both worlds!

If you don't believe me, look out of the window while sitting in Kumeu or wherever else you may be reading this column. I bet you are not much more than a stone's throw away from gridlocked traffic in an area of ad hoc growth.

In making arguments for northwest Auckland to get a better deal on transport, I realise that we are not about to get Singapore's mass rapid transit system; population density is an obvious point of difference.

But we can at least get much better than we have now, surely. The first full year of the new government has now begun; wish me luck!



Chris Penk
MP for Kaipara ki Mahurangi

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Enter online or drop your entry at the North West Country business association stand at the Kumeu Show.

Prize draw live on Sunday 10 March 2024.

The Helensville and Kumeu Shows will be in town soon and we hope to help make them successful events to kick start 2024.

This year we are doing things a little differently after hearing from our membership about what support they need. It is so hard for our local businesses to take part in fantastic events like the Helensville and Kumeu Shows when staff numbers are low and business owners need to manage their stores on weekends. So this year we have invited local businesses to share our business association marquee.

While I am at the shows telling everyone about the business association and our members, I can also showcase some of our wonderful businesses who have an opportunity to put their goods on display. This trial has many benefits as it allows businesses to get their products in front of the thousands of people who will come to the show, and we hope it will encourage visitors to spend more time in the North West after they leave and go and visit the businesses in person. It is so important for us to make the most of the anchor events that are in our area and all the hard work that the Helensville Show team put into putting on the event.

We will also be accepting entries into the Ultimate Day Out competition at the Helensville and Kumeu Shows. Everyone who spends \$50 or more with any of our member businesses within the months of January or February can go in the draw. Simply head to our website and upload your receipts for your chance to win. The prize pack consists of:

- Tickets for two to the Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens Kaukapakapa
- Lunch for two at Ginger Crunch Café Helensville
- 16,000 foot skydive at Skydive Auckland Parakai
- Full body massage for two at Phoenix Beauty Therapy Kumeu
- Dinner for two at The Landing Riverhead.

The prize draw will be live at the Kumeu Show on Sunday 10th March at 2pm.

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Art Centre Helensville

We welcome 2024 with our first exhibition 'Kaipara Awa – A River That Connects Us'. Dates for this show are 31st January – 24th February, opening event Friday 2nd February 5-7pm all welcome.

Image William Boyd, 'Wine O-Clock' exhibited in Kaipara Awa.

We have a great lineup of new classes and workshops this year to sign up too; Portrait class for adults with Olga Atkins, Illustration for kids after school program with Olga Atkins, Drawing class with Mike Rowland and an Artist run workshop with Emma and Shona coinciding their exhibition \$25pp 16th March 11-1. Details will be updated on our facebook page and website including more workshops to come.



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>>> For enquiries and enrollments email manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz or phone 09 9730852

Art Centre Helensville

In March we exhibit two local artists Emma Springford-Gough and Shona Cameron. Their diverse practices are congruent with aesthetics of drawing and linear techniques. This will be a stand out show not to miss, dates are 28th February – 28th March, opening event 1st March 5-7pm



Please email manager@artcentre.org if you would like to sign up to our mail-out and keep posted about new events.

PORTRAIT DRAWING CLASSES **(FOR BEGINNERS)**



Unlock Your Artistic Potential with PORTRAIT DRAWING CLASSES for Beginners!

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Classes are taught by Olga Atkins... https://www.instagram.com/art_atkins_art/

>>> For enquiries and enrollments email manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz or phone 09 9730852

Call for exhibition proposals 2024

Our gallery doors are now open! We have fresh new walls and gallery lighting ready for 2024 exhibitions!

If you are an artist and have a show in mind, please send your proposal to manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz

We have two gallery rooms for rent, Main Gallery \$120 for the month and Media Room Gallery \$60 for the month.



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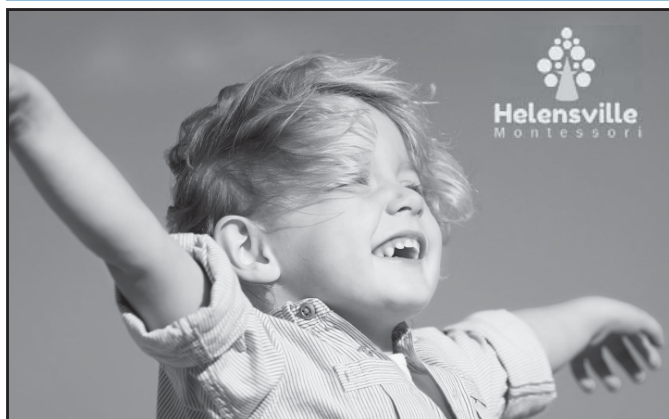
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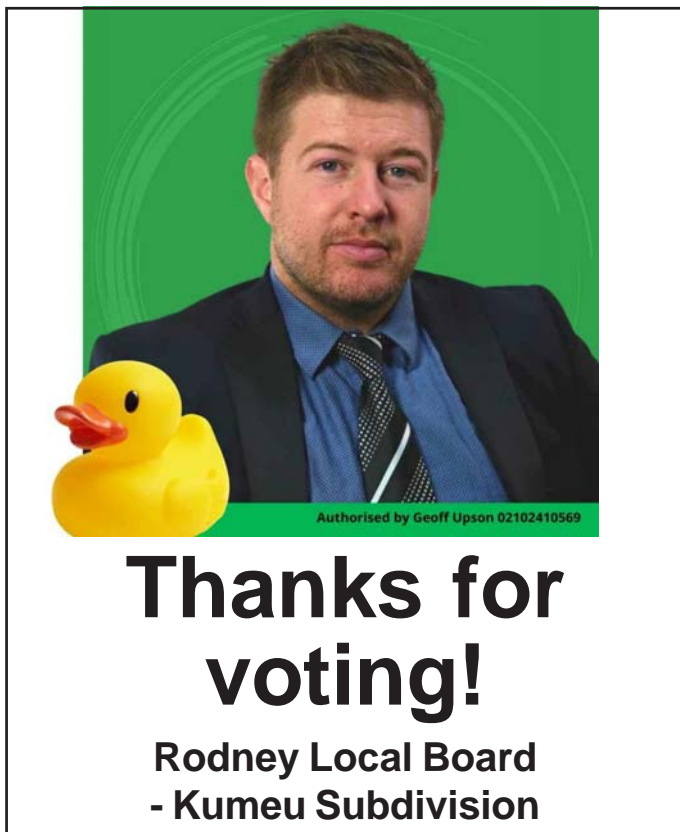
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Helensville Library and Service Centre update

Helensville Library and Service Centre update for February:

February means Helensville A&P Show! We have copies of the schedule available for interested entrants.

The Library will have a stand at the Show. We will be doing pop up storytimes and songs throughout the day.

February means the return of our regular events, starting after Waitangi Day. Kids Time, Wednesdays 10am to 10.30am. Kids Time is aimed at under-6s and their grown-ups. Each session is different, and content depends on the day's audience.

Craftnoons return on Thursday afternoons, from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Bring along whatever portable craft you're working on. It is a great opportunity to meet other crafters, share your knowledge, and learn new things. Children's crafts are aimed at under-10s, who will need someone over 14 with them. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for the monthly themes. In February, we will be acknowledging Lunar New Year, and Year of the Dragon. In March, it's all about pets and animals.

Rates are due by the end of February. At the moment, the Helensville Library and Service Centre is unable to take payments. This may change over February, and we will update any changes on our Facebook page.

If you have your invoice, with the barcode, you can pay these at New Zealand Post, at Helensville Paper Plus Select. If you need a copy of your invoice, we can print these for you.

The Library and Service Centre is open our usual hours:

Monday to Friday: 9.30am to 5pm. Saturday: 9.30am to 4pm.

Council services are available during these hours.

Hall building work update: The remedial building work in the Library area of the building continues.

The date for the Library to be open to the public hasn't been finalised. We will open as soon as we can. If there are any changes to our opening hours and availability, we will update our Facebook page.

facebook.com/HelensvilleLibraryAndServiceCentre.

Anne Coppell Senior Librarian / Poukōkiri - Children & Youth Helensville Library and Service Centre

Kaukapakapa. Yes or No to speed bumps on the state highway?

The Rodney local board has allocated \$3.25 million dollars for approximately 600m of footpath in Kaukapakapa (that's almost five and a half thousand dollars per lineal meter of footpath), this money is coming from the RLBTTR (Rodney Local Board Targeted Transport Rate) and is something many community members have been lobbying for over the years, to connect the community hall with North Crescent on both sides of the state highway. Please note the project does not extend to Moses Estate in the north or to Riverview in the south.

As some will be aware; a particular group has been sharing misinformation about the project and more concerning they have been sharing misinformation about me, the elected member on the Rodney local board who lives in the area.

This project went out for public consultation and many community members who provided feedback expressed concern about losing car parking in front of the Kaukapakapa dairy and expressed serious concern for the speed bumps, or raised pedestrian crossings, proposed for the state highway due to the noise, vibration and pollution associated with the speed table option.

Design guidelines allow for pedestrian crossings to be flat / at grade / flush with the road surface if they have kerb build outs or a centre island refuge for pedestrians (or both kerb build outs and centre refuge)

But unfortunately a small group of people, including some who are on the payroll of public entities, have been sharing misinformation and disinformation about this and have tried to lead people to believe the only way to have a pedestrian crossing is if the pedestrian crossing is also a speed bump / raised.

The Rodney local board resolved at our October meeting to investigate the design options for flat pedestrian crossings

"whakaee / review the design options with Waka Kotahi for non-raised crossings further to the local board's decision, one at the Kaukapakapa Hall close to the Kaukapakapa School and one near the petrol station"

While decisions relating to what items make our local board agenda are made by the chairperson I do expect to see this item on our agenda for discussion at our February 2024 Rodney Local Board business meeting. (This is open to the public and anyone can request a deputisation to speak for 10 minutes by emailing the staff at least 7 working days before the meeting or can request to speak for 3 minutes by showing up on the day and advising staff / the chair person you wish to address the board).

The community members who have bothered to contact me personally are almost all in support for a flat option due to the negative impacts on the community and travellers of the state highway if there were to be raised tables and speed bumps installed on the highway. The noise, vibration and additional pollution from the speed tables is something which needs to be considered and when state highway one is closed or congested we can see up to 2,000 trucks a day travel through Kaukapakapa... this is a lot of noise, vibration and extra diesel fumes from the trucks slowing down and accelerating to climb over the speed bumps.

Have anything to add? Didn't get a chance to provide feedback officially? Were you told misinformation about this project? Feel free to get in touch any time.

Geoff.upson@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Kaipara korero

Principal Cindy Sullivan

From the Kaipara College Principal's Desk:

Looking back to last February's column I reflect again on how much things change in a year. This time last year we were coping with severe weather events interrupting our lives, with devastating and ongoing consequences for many in our communities. At school we were once again faced with loss of time at school and loss of learning. Fingers crossed for a more settled start to the school year this year. We are already well underway!

For example, recently I was lucky enough to attend a Young Leaders Summit run by Massey University with our 2024 cohort of student leaders. We were treated to leadership workshops on everyday leadership, servant leadership, Rainbow Youth, event management, leadership styles and public speaking. The Summit served to strengthen the leadership capability of our young leaders for 2024. The students all agreed there is much to learn and they are excited to begin this part of their journey at Kaipara college. The Young Leaders Summit was followed by a two day student leadership camp up at Shelly Beach where the students engaged in team building activities, reflected on their leadership style and planned for key leadership opportunities through the year.

One of our student leaders' first duties is to join staff in welcoming our shiny new year 9 students, with their oversized uniforms and matching enthusiasm, a palpable excitement and some trepidation about starting secondary school life. These youngest members of our school family experience two days of orientation led by our talented and enthusiastic senior student leaders who are ready to lead, motivate and inspire. This is a crucial and exciting time for our school as we begin to instill the Te WAKA o Kaipara values of Whanaungatanga (Our People), Aroha (Our Way), Kaitiakitanga (Our Place) and Angitutanga (Our Success) in our newest students, providing a solid foundation for their high school journey, navigating their way to success.

At Kaipara College our focus, as always, is to teach our young people so they all reach their potential and take their place as curious, connected and contributing citizens in their community, New Zealand and the world.

Te WAKA o Kaipara: Navigate to Success

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

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

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Email bookings@helensvillebirthingcentre.co.nz

www.birthingcentre.co.nz

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Come Join Our Team!
To be or not to be a volunteer?

Logically, rather than being over-dramatic about that question, being a volunteer makes great sense.

Next month celebrates Citizens Advice Bureau Awareness Week with a focus on youth. However, you can be as young in heart as you like no matter what age.

"We belong to a renowned and respected organisation which provides core social infrastructure and improved access to justice in our communities," says CAB Helensville manager Rani Timoti. "Whoever walks in calls or emails our office to talk to real people, no matter their circumstances or questions, we will aim to reasonably help and support. Our volunteers are trained and skilled in listening, unpacking issues and empowering people with options for moving forward."

Citizens Advice Bureau attracts amazing people, at all stages of life, who share a common motivation to support and empower others. This means CAB is a thriving environment for intergenerational, learning and support.

From March 11 to 17 the awareness week aims to show young people the worth of CAB in volunteering as it's an opportunity to contribute, learn, improve personal development and connect with community.

What skills do you need?

To be a good communicator, patient, welcoming and able to treat diverse clients with dignity and respect. You need to be comfortable using a computer and doing research using our extensive database.



CAB Helensville information board display.

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What's the time commitment?

Most volunteers help for one shift each week, generally 3 hours. Volunteers also commit to initial training and ongoing learning. If you want to know more pop in and visit our friendly volunteers at 16 Commercial Rd from Monday to Friday, 10am to 1pm or Saturday from 10am to noon.

Also come chat to us at our display at the Helensville Show on February 24, where we also host the Seniors Drop-in Zone.



Christmas lunch with volunteers and visitors to CAB Helensville on November 23, 2023

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Embracing Change: A Positive Outlook on New Zealand’s Direction in 2024

Happy New Year to the vibrant community of Helensville. As we step into 2024, I find myself compelled to share my thoughts on the real change in direction that the Coalition Government has already delivered and the optimistic atmosphere that has enveloped our great nation.

Firstly, let me express my gratitude to all those who worked tirelessly over the holiday period, especially those in retail, service stations, and hospitality. Your dedication and service did not go unnoticed, and we are thankful for your hard work.

As the ACT MP and Under-Secretary for Resource Management Reform and Infrastructure, I am excited to kick off a comprehensive work program aimed at simplifying the consenting and building processes. Kiwis, particularly those residing in Auckland, are well aware of the traffic bottlenecks and flood-prone areas on our roads. When scaled nationally, we are looking at a staggering \$200 billion worth of infrastructure that needs building and renewal over the next thirty years.

One of the major challenges we face is how to fund and finance these essential projects, ranging from long-term maintenance to significant developments in public transport and roading. Drawing on my background as a civil engineer turned politician, I am uniquely positioned to spearhead policy development on infrastructure funding and financing tools.

These tools, including public-private partnerships, value capture, road tolls, leasebacks, and other innovative approaches, have already seen success in New Zealand and abroad. Addressing this issue is crucial to providing central and local governments with the capital and revenue streams necessary for delivering and sustaining infrastructure in a fair and equitable manner.

While infrastructure may seem like a distant concern for some, it plays a vital role in shaping our urban landscapes, facilitating housing, and fostering business growth. The ultimate goal is to make housing more affordable, offering Kiwis greater flexibility in choosing where to live and work.

Undoubtedly, the upcoming years will pose challenges as we grapple with aging infrastructure, surging housing demand, and a funding system struggling to keep pace. The commitment of the Government to replace the Resource Management Act (RMA) of 1991 with new laws centered on property rights marks a significant departure from the current “integrated management” system. This shift is essential to resolving conflicts between development and the environment effectively.

For far too long, New Zealanders have anticipated resource management reform that facilitates the efficient use of land and common resources for agriculture, housing, and essential infrastructure. The Government’s commitment to a clear vision, emphasizing better environmental outcomes and unlocking housing and business growth, sets the stage for a successful reform.

In essence, the overarching objective is to make the consenting

and building processes more accessible, be it for large-scale projects or individual homes. The Government’s determination to streamline these processes aligns with the broader mission of making New Zealand a place where innovation and development can thrive.

As we progress through 2024, I am eager to share more updates on the advancements in resource management reform and infrastructure development. Let us embrace the positive changes taking place, collectively contributing to a brighter and more prosperous future for all Kiwis.

Simon Court. ACT MP, Under-Secretary for Resource Management Reform and Infrastructure.

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SHELLY BEACH TIDE CHART					
Date	High Water	Shelly Beach	Sun Rise	Sun Set	
February					
1 Thu	0314	3.6	1529	0636	2032
2 Fri	0353	3.5	1611	0637	2031
3 Sat	0440	3.4	1701	0638	2031
4 Sun	0535	3.3	1759	0639	2030
5 Mon	0642	3.3	1908	0641	2029
6 Tue	0800	3.4	2026	0642	2028
7 Wed	0915	3.6	2141	0643	2027
8 Thu	1017	3.8	2243	0644	2026
9 Fri	1110	4.1	2335	0645	2025
10 Sat	1158	4.3	-	0646	2024
11 Sun	0023	4.2	1244	0647	2023
12 Mon	0109	4.3	1328	0648	2022
13 Tue	0153	4.3	1411	0649	2020
14 Wed	0237	4.2	1455	0650	2019
15 Thu	0321	4.0	1540	0651	2018
16 Fri	0408	3.8	1629	0652	2017
17 Sat	0501	3.6	1724	0653	2016
18 Sun	0604	3.5	1830	0654	2015
19 Mon	0718	3.4	1946	0656	2013
20 Tue	0834	3.4	2059	0657	2012
21 Wed	0937	3.5	2159	0658	2011
22 Thu	1028	3.7	2248	0659	2010
23 Fri	1111	3.8	2330	0700	2008
24 Sat	1148	4.0	-	0701	2007
25 Sun	0006	3.8	1221	0702	2006
26 Mon	0039	3.9	1251	0703	2004
27 Tue	0109	3.9	1321	0704	2003
28 Wed	0139	3.9	1350	0705	2002
29 Thu	0210	3.9	1422	0705	2021
March					
1 Fri	0243	3.8	1458	0706	2000
2 Sat	0321	3.7	1537	0707	1959
3 Sun	0404	3.5	1625	0708	1958
4 Mon	0458	3.4	1724	0709	1956
5 Tue	0607	3.3	1838	0710	1955
6 Wed	0730	3.4	2004	0711	1954
7 Thu	0849	3.6	2121	0711	1952



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 Rautawhiri 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.

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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)
Beauty Therapy	Beauty Elixir	022-465-0727/420-9775
Beauty Therapy	Premier Aesthetics	www.premieraesthetics.co.nz
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
Calf Rearing Specialist	Jensen Cattle Co	0212-388-116
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
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Picture Framing	The Picture Framing Company	0800-372-633
Plant Centre	Kaipara Coast Plant Centre	420-5655
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Plumbers	KPL Ltd	420-9108
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Real Estate	Burmester Realty	420-8360
Real Estate	Prestige - Jana Mills	021-509-990/420-9953
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	



MAGNIFICENT VIEWS ON PIPITIWAI

Welcome to a property that offers "SIMPLY THE BEST OF VIEWS"! Located at 58 Pipitiwai, this property is truly exceptional. Prepare to be impressed and have your breath taken away by the stunning views from the Lounge, Kitchen/ Dining area, and master Bedroom.

Designed by the vendors to capture the unique Southern Kaipara land and seascape. These views take in the twinkling night lights of Shelly Beach and Parakai, the Woodhill Forest and farms of South Head Peninsula, the fishing boats coming and going on the river and Kaipara Harbour and skydiving parachutes gracefully gliding to touchdown. And don't forget those stunning sunsets at dusk. Unforgettable!

The home is a low maintenance Lockwood Ranchstyle, highly regarded for its natural timber benefits and rustic appearance. Three double bedrooms, two bathrooms, (master with ensuite) well-appointed kitchen, formal and informal dining areas and a separate lounge with a huge picture window showcasing those incredible views, this home has it all. French doors lead to multiple patio areas, allowing you to soak up the sun or relax in the shaded spots at your leisure. The added bonus of a large office that could double as a fourth bedroom, connecting to a single garage via internal access, adds to the practicality of this property. And don't forget the shed – double garaging with auto door, heaps of workshop/storage plus a garden shed.

The grounds surrounding the property are mature and well-maintained with a meandering driveway leading you to your perfect Haven. Elevated on 2 acres of land, there is enough space for some livestock grazing. The privacy and unobstructed views make this property truly special. You'll feel enthralled from the moment you look out the window.



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