

The Helensville Community News

Issue 191 - October 2025

Mapping a future together: South Head Community leads conservation push

More than 30 people came together at the Helensville War Memorial Hall last month to chart a future for predator control and species protection on Te Korowai-o-te-Tonga/South Head Peninsula.

Hosted by The Forest Bridge Trust (TFBT), the GAP Analysis workshop placed giant maps of the peninsula at the centre of the room. Iwi, landowners, South Kaipara Landcare, Rewild the West, Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara, Auckland Council regional park rangers, the Department of Conservation, and threatened species experts gathered to mark traplines, predator hotspots, and taonga species sightings.

The result is a shared knowledge base that is now being transformed into digital GIS mapping layers to guide a long-term conservation strategy.

“Our role is not to reinvent the wheel,” says Project Manager Helen Jamieson, who facilitated the workshop, “but to strengthen and connect the incredible work already happening on South Head. The enthusiasm and collaboration we saw in that room was inspiring.”

Protecting precious taonga

South Head is home to some of Aotearoa’s most threatened native birds. The tara iti/fairy tern, our rarest breeding bird with fewer than 40 individuals left, nests at Papakanui Spit at the peninsula’s tip. The matuku-hurepo/Australasian bittern, a critically endangered wetland bird known for its booming call, still clings to survival here. And the pateke/brown teal, once widespread, remains nationally threatened but may recover in South Head’s dune lakes and estuaries.

Building on strong foundations

The two-year DOC Community Fund project throws some additional support behind an already active project. TFBT aims to unite these community efforts into a coordinated predator control network. The peninsula has been divided into two zones:

- **Northern “tip” (8,500 hectares):** intensive predator control to support existing DOC, Ngahere forestry, and community traplines.
- **Southern “buffer” (16,700 hectares):** strengthening and expanding community-led predator control efforts.

TFBT will bring its expertise in GIS mapping, digital tools, and predator control to complement community knowledge. Predator Control Team member Cam Rathe is coordinating deployment of remotely monitored traps, mobile arrays, and trail cameras to help build a connected predator-free landscape.

Community learning in action

The first event following the GAP Analysis was a matuku-hurepo workshop at Waioneke School, featuring guest speakers Wendy Ambury (Love Bittern) and Boyd Steel (Project 700). Locals learned more about the ecology of this elusive bird and what can be done to protect it.

Looking forward

With the GAP Analysis complete, The Forest Bridge Trust will compile and share a strategic conservation plan through **our newly appointed South Head Community Liaison, Heather Steadman**. This plan will guide work during the DOC-funded project and provide a framework the community can continue to grow long into the future.

“This project reflects our long-term vision,” says the TFBT team. “It’s about native species thriving across Rodney, with engaged communities and connected habitats.”

The Forest Bridge Trust acknowledges the work undertaken by Nga Maunga Whakahii, South Kaipara Landcare, Auckland Council and Department of Conservation, whose funding is enabling this critical work on South Head to take flight.



The forest bridge trust GAP Analysis.

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Opportunity for Christian Artists and Poets

Labour Weekend sees the return of the Christian Arts Fest, showcasing over 100 works by local artists and a wall of poetry in the 'Lighthouse' next to Magnify Church on Commercial Road. The works are done by Christians but, though many have a spiritual



flavour, few are overtly Christian. Come along and vote for your favourites. There are also tables laden with crafts, clothing from 'Witness Merch', silk scarves and much, much more. Eftpos is available and there will be a coffee Cart on the Sunday and Monday of Labour Weekend as well as on November 1st & 2nd, where the exhibition continues. Woodturner Andrew Denton will also be present over Labour Weekend creating turned items and doing demonstrations at 11am and 2pm each day.

If you are a Christian who would like to exhibit your art, be it painting, photography, sculpture, collage, clothing, poetry etc. or have any craft items you wish to sell on out tables then please contact Pauline Denton for more information: paulinekiwidenton@gmail.com

Works to arrive between 4.30 and 6.30 on Monday 20th October at the 'Lighthouse' next to Magnify Church, 118 Commercial Road, Helensville.

Everybody is invited to our opening event at 6pm on Friday 24th. This will take the form of an 'Open Mic Poetry event' at the Magnify Cafe, followed by the official opening at the 'Lighthouse', where you will have the opportunity to meet many of the artists.

Woodturning demonstrations and items for sale

Woodturner, Andrew Denton will be demonstrating bowl and spindle turning over Labour Weekends ARTS in the VILLE annual festival. Come and see him outside of the 'Lighthouse', next to Magnify Church, 118 Commercial Road. Andrew will be there the whole three days from 10am-4pm and turning such items as wooden Christmas trees and tea light holders, (demonstrations 11am and 2pm) Please come along and say 'hi', and while you are there pop in to see the Christian Arts Fest in the 'Lighthouse' and



vote for your favourites of the 100 or so works on display or simply browse the craft tables where there will be a huge array of very affordable items from silk scarves to fridge magnets, soft toys and clothing. Eftpos available.



What's happening this month



Tuesday, 7 October, U3A Monthly Meeting, 10am – 12pm 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 and Stitches and TED Talks. Costs are minimal. For more information contact Bev Silvester-Clark bev.s-c@outlook.com phone 0274316205.

Sunday, 19 October, The Village Market, Helensville Showgrounds, Railway St, Helensville, 8.30am – 1pm. A monthly event that takes place on the third Sunday of every month (except for February) at the Helensville A&P Showgrounds. A lively and friendly market that offers a variety of stalls, live music from Emilie-Amber, free hair plaiting for the kids, and delicious food and coffee. You can find fresh local produce and plants, artisan food and preserves, handmade crafts, gifts, collectibles, pre-loved items and more. If you are looking for a fun and relaxing way to spend your Sunday morning, you might want to check out this Village Market. No dogs please with the exception of assistance dogs. Gold coin donation for parking – proceeds to the Helensville/Kaukapakapa scouts and St John youth. For more information contact sarah@riversidecrafts.co.nz.

Sunday, 19 October, Muriwai Half Marathon, 7.30am – 1.30pm, Muriwai Surf Life Saving Club. Get ready to lace up for a cause — an event for everyone from serious runners to families and corporate teams. Choose from a scenic Half Marathon, a relaxed 6 km Run/Walk, or a fun-filled 2.5 km Family Run/Walk. Every step helps raise funds to support our mission to bring kiwi back to our local forests. Run for fitness, fun, and a future full of birdsong! Entries open! Every finisher receives a free native plant—yours to take home or gift back to help restore local habitats. Generously provided by our sponsors and nurtured with care by community nursery volunteers. Entry at: www.predatorfreemuriwai.org/events

Labour Day Monday 27 October,

Saturday 25 October – Monday 27 October, Arts in The Ville 2025, 10am – 4pm, Helensville's ARTS in the VILLE is an annual festival and art trail, enjoy art demonstrations, exhibitions and displays, food carts, and fun activities for all ages. Experience a variety of art made by a huge range of local artists in different media, across multiple indoor and outdoor spaces. Purchase art directly from artists at open studios, collab groups and pop-ups. There will be a craft market, an emerging youth artists competition and a paper boat race. The map will be available for download at www.artsintheville.co.nz, plus printed copies will be at Helensville Arts and participating venues during the festival weekend. Check out the website for more info and follow us @artsintheville.co.nz

Tuesday, 4 November, U3A Monthly Meeting, 10am – 12pm 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 and Stitches and TED Talks. Costs are minimal. For more information contact Bev Silvester-Clark bev.s-c@outlook.com phone 0274316205.

Sunday, 9 November Helensville Art Trail (HAT) Returns this November, After a refreshing winter break, the Helensville Art Trail (HAT) is back! Starting this November, our studios will be open on the **second Sunday of every month.** We're excited to welcome you back to explore our creative spaces, meet local artists, and enjoy the diverse art on display. All studios offer free entry, ample parking, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere. There's also a brand-new studio to discover this season – another reason to come along and see what's new on the HAT. We can't wait to see you there!

Tuesday, 18 November, North West Country Business Awards 2025, 5.30pm Markovina Vineyard Estate, Kumeu, Come out and celebrate your business achievements at the North West Country Business Awards gala dinner. We have 14 awards to give out on the night, as well as prizes for winners and attendees. Be entertained by the incredible comedian, Nick Rado as we celebrate all things local. Tickets are open to all finalists, friends, family and customers. Come along and cheer your favourite business on as they collect their awards.

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We're getting there!

by Kaiya Jones, Year 13 Student, Kaipara College

Kia Ora, Reader!

Latest news? Kaipara's Ag day has now been and gone and it was a success! There were lots of entries into the indoor section and many lucky winners. The sheer talent on display on those tables was a great example of the diversity in the student and staff populace at KC. The organisers of Ag day also involved the community by running a raffle and having prizes which included vouchers to many different stores and businesses in our community. The prize pot was quite a bounty to win, and I imagine it enticed countless relatives and friends of students (who advertised the tickets to any who would listen).

The last week of term (for the seniors) will be a time for celebration and laughs, as the Year 13's will engage in many themed dress up days. The most notorious of these is 'dress as your type day'. Notorious for a reason, the theme is sure to bring about some hilarious get-ups which will last in the memories of any who see.

Speaking of dressing up! Kaipara organized a 'dress as your culture day' on the last day of term three. Students were encouraged to come dressed in an outfit which represents their culture, and what a great idea it was! I saw so many beautiful representations of countless different cultures, and I think it was a great way to show a side of the student populace which we typically don't see.

With exams creeping ever closer, as does the time when senior students vacate the school premises to (definitely) study at home. This leaves the school to just the junior students...let us all pray for the mental wellbeing of all the teachers and staff of Kaipara.

With the approaching end of the year comes a lot of important decisions for KC students, including subject selection, student board and Tira leader selections. All students, sans Year 13's ('cause we rock), need to pick which subjects they will take next year. Some subjects, such as physics or calculus, require the student to have taken the exams the year prior in order to get into the course. This means a student kind of needs to have their path sorted by the time they get to Year 11/12, or they may have trouble taking the subjects they want later on (though I have known exceptions to be made, for example moi). The vote for who will be the student board representative has been going on and it is a very important decision, as that person influences change at the school on behalf of the student body. Also of importance is the choice of Tira leaders, as they will lead each Tira into the coming year. The leaders organise activities and serve to lead their team towards victory in the year-long Tira competition.

As always, have a fab month! 'Til next time!

Kaiya J.





Connection update



CONNECTION, Shop 3,

Helensville Railway Station, next to
The Shoppe and Ginger Crunch café.

Regular Events:

Wednesday: Raranga/flax weaving 10.30 - 2.30pm, just drop in,
\$20 for a 2 hour session. Heather 0220366985

Wednesday evening fortnight (next is 10 Sept) Knit and Knatter
6-8pm. Bring a project or make a blanket for prem babies. \$10.
Heather 0220366985

Sewing Circle: 10.30am to 12.30 and 1.30 - 3.30pm, \$10 for a 2
hour session. Assistance available from Chrissy 0274 671843.

Chrissy's Friday sewing group members Bronwen and Ros
are driving a project for a charity called Dress A Girl Around the
World and have so far sent 16 dresses to the NZ cohort. If you'd
like to take part contact Chrissy on 0274671843 or drop in Friday
10.30 - 12.30pm. You can also bring your own project or mending
and your machine. Koha is \$10 for a 2 hour session.

The Knit and Knatter group meet on a Wednesday evening
fortnightly (next is October 8th 6-8pm) and have been knitting
blankets for babies admitted to the SCBU (Special Baby Care Unit)
at Waitakere Hospital with a bag full of blankets and booties
heading off for delivery next week. We received a donation of
more wool recently so have plenty of resources. You can just
drop in or contact Heather 0220366985. You can bring your own
project as well, it's all about connection. Koha is \$10.

Connection Hub is a welcoming and versatile space with

reasonable rates for groups and/
or practitioners. Located next to
The Shoppe and Ginger Crunch
cafe at the Helensville Railway
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Contact Heather 022036985
or weaverweb@xtra.co.nz.



Vote for Your Favourite Businesses in the 2025 Business Awards

Voting is currently open for your
favourite businesses in the 2025 business awards. Everyone has
one chance to vote for their favourite businesses so get clicking
and make sure your local wins the People's Choice Award.

Head to our website for voting forms and check out our social
media feeds for more information.

Business Awards Gala Event Tickets now on Sale

Get your tickets to the gala dinner and enjoy a night of hilarity
with Nick Rado. We have business performance packs to give out
on the night, plus a free Glamour Photo Booth with Aisling O'Brien
photography! Wylde Creative will be offering free video reels of
your team that you can use after the event.

Finalists are entitled to two half price tickets so we hope to see
your whole team there. Tickets available on Eventfinda or check out
our website www.northwestcountry.co.nz/business-awards-2025/

Annual General Meeting

North West Country Incorporated is hosting its AGM on Tuesday
14th October, at 6pm at Country Club Huapai, 23 Vintry Drive.

A current vacancy exists for a Parakai Business Representative
on the Executive Committee and we welcome all nominations from
full members. Nominations for the position must be received by
Tuesday 8th October, 5pm. See our website for the nomination
form <https://northwestcountry.co.nz/annual-general-meeting-2025/>

Supporting Kumeu and Huapai Businesses with Flood Resilience

Holmes Limited, an international engineering firm, has come
forward to offer support to local businesses to achieve flood
resilience. Local engineer, Sam Cooper, has experienced floods
first-hand and has now offered to help the community he lives in.

A meeting of local business and commercial landowners who
have been affected by floods and want to work with Sam to develop
a toolbox of solutions, will be held in October. The aim is to attract
funds to develop the toolbox, and with support of Auckland
Council and national government, attract funding for individual
businesses to implement the solutions.

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Sunny Days Community Preschool Hosts Refreshing Lemonade Day

The children at Sunny Days Community Preschool Inc. brought smiles and refreshment to the community on Tuesday, September 9th, with their special **Lemonade Day** event.

Using fresh lemonades grown right on the preschool property, the children rolled up their sleeves to squeeze juice and mix it with water and soda water. The younger ones focused on preparing the lemonade, while the older children took on the role of servers. They stepped outside to scoop ice and fill cups, offering drinks to people walking by and even to some who came especially for the treat.

"This was our way of giving back to the community," said Gillian a teacher and Manager at the preschool. "The children had so much fun learning about teamwork, sharing, and the joy of giving."

Sunny Days Community Preschool Inc. is a not-for-profit and registered charity. All money received through funding, fundraising, and fees is reinvested back into the preschool, ensuring children and families continue to benefit from resources, learning experiences, and community events like Lemonade Day.

Adding to the fun, the children and teachers waved colourful signs at the roadside. Big trucks and cars honked their horns in support as they drove past, filling the air with cheerful toots.

Passersby were delighted to pause for a moment and enjoy the refreshing taste of lemonade prepared with love by the little ones. The event not only quenched thirst but also strengthened the bond between the preschool and the local community.


The simple act of sharing lemonade turned into a sweet lesson in kindness, teamwork, and community spirit. Sunny Days Preschool hopes that Lemonade Day becomes an annual event spreading cheer and kindness — one cup at a time.



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Helensville Community Church has a new pastor

At a recent church service Helensville Community Church welcomed a new minister, David Cooper, along with his wife Lucy. (Helensville Community Church is in Mill Rd, behind the Hospice Shop).

David is an experienced pastor, with a friendly and relaxed style. He has previously started and developed two churches, and for the last seven years he has led the Riverhead Family Church. He will now lead the ministry in both churches. He enjoys leading worship with a guitar, and both he and his wife Lucy are strong vocalists.

David and Lucy have several children, all now grown up. Lucy is a kindergarten teacher in South Auckland, and a fluent speaker in Maori.

The arrival of a new pastor at Helensville Community follows the re-establishment of a Sunday children's programme. It runs at the same time as the church service (now at 1.00 p.m.), and is taught by Mrs Andrea Frame (who also runs Alphabet Art for pre-schoolers on Thursday mornings). The church is eager to welcome additional children and families, and is confident that the arrival of a new pastor will increase the momentum in Helensville Community Church.



Helensville Community Church David and Lucy by HCC mural



David and Lucy outside HCC



Kaipara korero

Principal Cindy Sullivan

From the Kaipara College Principal's Desk:

Kaipara College: Fact Over Fiction

Imagine opening your local paper and seeing the headline: "Local School Condone Vaping, Violence and Racism." Outrage would be immediate. Many would believe it without hesitation. Others might even share it online before pausing to consider if it's true.

But in this case, that headline is false. Fake news spreads quickly, and sadly, it often drowns out the truth. We live in an age where judgement is swift, outrage comes easily, and fact-checking often gets left behind.

At Kaipara College, accusations like these are levelled against us almost daily—usually without any verification. The reality is that **97% of our students are outstanding young people** who embody our school's WAKA values with embody respect, compassion, celebrating difference, and striving for success. These values underpin our teaching, our culture, and our everyday practice.

Of course, a small number—around 3%—make poor choices around vaping, aggression, or disrespect. But these behaviours are not taught at Kaipara. Students arrive at secondary school at 13 with values and worldviews already shaped by family, trauma, community, society, and increasingly, the influence of social media. Unlearning harmful patterns takes time, patience, and support.

That is why Kaipara College takes a restorative approach. We don't shy away from addressing issues, but we do so through processes that rebuild relationships, foster understanding, and help students grow into decent young adults. Our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) framework and restorative practices are woven through both our teaching and our discipline systems. This isn't "soft"—it is courageous, demanding work that leads to genuine, lasting change.

So next time you hear someone say there's a "fight culture" at Kaipara College, or that vaping is unchecked, or that racism is tolerated, we encourage you to pause. Ask: is this fact, or just noise? The truth is that Kaipara College is a school committed every day to respect, restoration, and positive futures for all our young people.



BEAUTY ELIXIR

Helensville with Maria Schofield

Mob: 022 465 0727

Pollination Nation: Why Beekeepers matter more than ever - Revealing the true economic value of Beekeepers in Aotearoa

Apiculture in New Zealand is currently in a state of flux, with so many competing interests in a relatively small industry it is unsurprising that we beekeepers cannot reach a consensus.

There is a saying amongst beekeepers – ask five beekeepers a question and you'll receive six and a half answers. This highlights the idea that beekeepers often have differing opinions from each other and even with themselves. NZ's national beekeeping organisation has morphed from NBA to APINZ almost ten years ago; only recently APINZ was to wind up with a loss of confidence, but they have been brought back from the brink with an agreement

to restructure.

Other competing organisations had attempted to form a new national organisation, but no one could agree on which sectors should be included and who left out – contenders include: commercial beekeepers, hobbyist beekeepers, honey packers, honey exporters, honey buyers, pollinators, pollination recipients, researchers, regulators etc. Who should be given a seat at the table? On the face of it, it should be quite simple, with beekeepers running their own industry-led organisation, but who actually has an interest? With the rise of Manuka honey exports, it had rejuvenated our beekeeping industry but peaked with an unsustainable 930,000 hives (the highest number of hives in the world at the time, both per capita and per km²). The boom times are over, and the industry has corrected itself and there are now less than 500,000 hives.

Manuka honey had been a boon to the industry but it had also created instability with some new entrants drawn by high returns without long term commitment to bee health and a sustainable industry. This has given the perception of beekeepers being wealthy bee farmers selling a luxury product. I feel that the industry has lost sight of what its core purpose is and the actual benefits that it provides to NZ.

Honey prices have been languishing at a low ebb for years due to over-supply and loss of faith in the purity of bulk honey on the international market. Honey could be seen as a by-product of our industry; honey accounted for \$419 million in exports last year and probably \$70 million nationally. Consider the importance of pollination; this is worth over \$5 billion to our country's exports. Beekeepers are the stewards of pollination in our country, not only the introduced honey bee but also the important wild pollinators. Bees are one of our most delicate livestock and reflect the health of our country. NZ's reputation overseas as a clean green country (whether entirely accurate is another discussion) adds value to most of our exports and should be maintained to the best of our abilities. With the accidental introduction of the deadly Varroa destructor mite 25 years ago we no longer have wild/feral honey bees, therefore beekeepers are essential for pollination.

It is surprising how many industries rely on beekeepers, directly and indirectly. Many crops rely on the honey bee for pollination including kiwifruit; apples and pears; stone fruit; berries; other fruits and vegetables; and seed crops. Also, honey bees pollinate clover which besides feeding livestock helps to fix nitrogen into the soil, reducing the use of imported fertilizers. There are other industries that indirectly benefit from bees, including forestry, viticulture, cosmetics, traditional medicine, tourism and research.

We need to re-evaluate our focus around pollination, collaboration and stewardship, working together for a sustainable future in the land of full fat milk and honey.

Ken Brown is President of Auckland Beekeepers Club and assistant chocolatier.



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We would also like to extend a warm thank you to **Carl from DC Detail**, one of the talented painters who has been working on this project. With many years of experience at DC Detail, Carl's skill and dedication have helped bring a fresh and welcoming look to our home, making a real difference for our residents and families.

As work continues, we invite you to stop by and see the progress for yourself. Our team would be delighted to show you around, answer any questions, and share more about how this new extension will enhance the care we provide. To learn more or arrange a visit, please contact us on 09 420 8277.





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From Penk's Pen CHRIS PENK – MP

Working Towards a New Secondary School for Northwest Auckland

By Chris Penk, MP for Kaipara ki Mahurangi

One of the issues I hear most often from local families is the urgent need for another secondary school in our part of Auckland. With rapid growth in the northwest, it's no surprise that existing schools - primary and secondary alike - are under real pressure. Parents want their children to learn close to home, without spending hours each week commuting across to the North Shore or into town. Students and teachers deserve classrooms that aren't overcrowded, meanwhile, with the right facilities to support their learning.

That's why I've been continuing to push hard for a new high school to be built in the area. While this has been a long-running conversation, the need has only become more pressing as our population continues to expand. We're a growing, dynamic community and our education infrastructure has to keep pace.

I have been raising this issue with colleagues in government and the Ministry of Education at every opportunity. The latter advise that they are working on securing land in northwest Auckland but, as this "update" has remained unchanged for the past few years, it's a matter of some frustration that they have not yet landed this.

From my perspective, it's not just about classrooms, important as those are: it's also about building strong communities where young people can thrive close to where they live.

In the meantime, I'll keep working alongside local principals, Boards of Trustees and parents to make sure that pressure is relieved where it can, augmenting the facilities of our excellent existing schools. But ultimately, with rolls growing towards capacity everywhere, a new secondary school is the long-term solution, and that's what I'll continue to fight for on your behalf.

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Fixing what matters: Safer communities as youth crime falls

Simon Court MP, ACT – Under-Secretary for Infrastructure and RMA Reform, and Civil Engineer

Once upon a time, New Zealand's approach to youth crime was little more than tag and release. A young offender could ram-raid a shop on Friday, be back on the street by Saturday, and repeat the cycle by Sunday. It was a revolving door that left shopkeepers, families, and entire communities paying the price.

For too long, offenders knew the system was soft. Victims were forgotten, and communities felt abandoned.

But things are changing, and fast. Thanks to the hard work of Police and the leadership of ACT's Minister for Children, Karen Chhour, we're seeing a remarkable turnaround.

Serious and persistent youth offending is down 14.6 percent compared to June 2023. Ram raids are falling. Repeat offending is dropping. Communities up and down the country are beginning to feel safer again.

This isn't by accident. It's because ACT's relentless focus on fixing what matters across all areas of Government.

At Oranga Tamariki facilities, Karen Chhour has ensured the basics are finally in place. Locks actually work. Staff wear uniforms. And if a young offender climbs onto the roof, they don't get rewarded with a bucket of KFC anymore.

These might sound like small changes, but they're changing the culture inside youth justice facilities.

Karen has also ensured support is there for at-risk young people by directing investment into upskilling the social worker workforce. This will mean staff are better prepared to guide young people back onto the right path. More than \$103 million over four years is being invested into upgrading youth justice residences and funding initiatives to reduce reoffending.

These improvements are about both security and rehabilitation: making sure facilities are safe for staff and the community, while giving young offenders the tools to turn their lives around.

On the front line, Police deserve real credit too. More officers on the beat mean more visibility, quicker responses, and stronger deterrence.

Ram raids, which once dominated the headlines, are becoming the exception instead of the expectation.

And there's more to come. The wider roll-out of Military-Style Academies for the worst offenders is on its way. These academies will provide discipline, structure, and training – exactly what's needed to stop a teenager from graduating to a lifetime of crime. They will take the most persistent offenders out of communities, give them routine, and show them that actions come with responsibilities. That's how you break the cycle.

Of course, if we're serious about preventing crime in the long run, we need to start even earlier. That's where my colleague David Seymour is making real progress.

As Associate Education Minister, David has overseen the rise in school attendance to pre-Covid levels. In Term 2 this year, nearly 60 percent of students attended school regularly, up more than 11 percentage points compared with 2023. Chronic absence is also falling.

Why does this matter for crime? Because kids who are in school are less likely to be on the streets causing trouble. They're learning, building connections, and preparing for a future that doesn't involve the justice system. Attendance is the first step toward better life outcomes and ultimately, safer communities.

Karen is fixing Oranga Tamariki, Police are tackling crime head-on, and David Seymour is lifting school attendance. Together, these changes add up to safer communities and better futures for our young people.

For the small business owner who's had enough of replacing their shopfront window. For the parents who want their kids safe when walking home after sport practice. For the victims who deserve justice instead of excuses. These changes matter.

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Date	High Water	Shelly Beach	Sun Rise	Sun Set	
October '25					
1 Wed	0512	3.1	1757	0657	1924
2 Thu	0635	3.1	1921	0655	1925
3 Fri	0758	3.3	2029	0654	1926
4 Sat	0902	3.5	2124	0652	1927
5 Sun	0954	3.8	2212	0651	1928
6 Mon	1042	4.1	2258	0649	1929
7 Tue	1127	4.3	2342	0648	1929
8 Wed	1210	4.4	-	0646	1930
9 Thu	0026	4.4	1253	0645	1931
10 Fri	0110	4.3	1337	0644	1932
11 Sat	0155	4.1	1422	0642	1933
12 Sun	0242	3.9	1511	0641	1934
13 Mon	0336	3.6	1609	0639	1935
14 Tue	0441	3.4	1723	0638	1936
15 Wed	0601	3.3	1842	0637	1937
16 Thu	0717	3.3	1950	0635	1938
17 Fri	0821	3.4	2048	0634	1938
18 Sat	0916	3.6	2137	0633	1939
19 Sun	1003	3.8	2220	0631	1940
20 Mon	1045	3.9	2259	0630	1941
21 Tue	1122	4.0	2334	0629	1942
22 Wed	1156	4.1	-	0627	1943
23 Thu	0006	4.0	1228	0626	1944
24 Fri	0036	3.9	1258	0625	1945
25 Sat	0107	3.8	1329	0624	1946
26 Sun	0139	3.7	1402	0622	1947
27 Mon	0215	3.6	1439	0621	1948
28 Tue	0256	3.4	1522	0620	1949
29 Wed	0345	3.3	1616	0619	1950
30 Thu	0447	3.2	1724	0618	1951
31 Fri	0602	3.2	1837	0617	1952
November '25					
1 Sat	0715	3.4	1943	0615	1953
2 Sun	0820	3.6	2043	0614	1954
3 Mon	0918	3.8	2137	0613	1955
4 Tue	1011	4.1	2228	0612	1956
5 Wed	1101	4.2	2318	0611	1957



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. Chris K 021-157-1692

Aqua Aerobics - Low impact exercises to improve your health - and wellbeing. Classes: Mon, Wed, Fri, 9am - 10am, held in the outdoor pool at Parakai Springs Hot Pools all year except public holidays. Cost: \$2 per class, \$7 pool entry for non-cardholders. Contact Ruth on 0210-2277-481 for more details.

Car boot, garage sale market. \$15 per stall. 2nd Saturday of the month, 8.30am to 12.30pm. Positioned by the bollards up by the street footpath, 40 Commercial Road, beside WINZ. Enquiries to 021 488 427

Citizens Advice Bureau: Helensville, is open Monday - Friday from 10am to 1pm 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 - Helensville War Memorial Hall. 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, email rmowat@slingshot.co.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 classes. Pilates, Functional Fitness & Boxing for Fitness held indoors at the Helensville Rugby Clubrooms, 5 x per week. Please contact Hana on 0211623362 or email hanalundon@gmail.com

Helensville Floral Art Club, Third Thursday of the month at Helensville Masonic Lodge, 9 Kowhai Street. All welcome. Contact Cushla 0212-588-979 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 Monday 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 027-646-3324.

Helensville Railway Museum. 2 Railway Street, Helensville. Open every Sunday 10.30am to 3pm. 09 420 8961, helensvillerailwaystationtrust@gmail.com, www.helensvillerail.org.nz

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

Kaipara Memorial RSA. - Dining available from 5.30pm Wed, Thurs, Fri and 11am on Sundays. All welcome at the RSA, 49 Commercial Road, Helensville. Any queries, give me a call, Rex Keane, 027 293 2768

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 9.30am - 1.00pm St Matthews Church Lounge - 60 Garfield Rd, Helensville. Email: ourvillagenorthwest@gmail.com

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. Entry is free. Why not come along and find out what we have to offer. Contact details: Brian Lacey brian@lacey.nz, 0221-831-811, Nigel Dempster 09-411-9444

South Kaipara Community Patrol, Contact Paul on 021345928. or southkaipara@cpnz.org.nz

Te Awaroa Museum Open Monday - Wednesday 10.30am - 1.30pm 09-420-7881 info@museum.teawaroa.nz www.museum.teawaroa.nz

U3A South Kaipara: 1st Tuesday of the month for general meeting. See What's happening this month column for more information or contact Bev Silvester-Clark. bev.s-c@outlook.com 0274-316-205.

Trade/Professional & Services List

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Agecare	Craigweil House	420-8277	Ink and Toner	Huapai Copy & Print	09-412-8882
Age Concern Rodney		09-426-0916	JP's	Lindy McDermott	022-049-2871
Beauty Therapy	Beauty Elixir	022-465-0727	Lions Club of Helensville	Chris Clark	027-646-3324
Birthing Centre	Commercial Road, Helensville	420-8747	Market Opportunity	Car Boot/ Garage Sale	021-488-427
Budget Service	Francis	420-7740	Markets	The Village Market	0274-831-542
Builder/Handyman	Dugald Henderson	027-381-9151	Markets	Waitoki Village Market	Gill 420-3301
Business Hub	Northwest Country, Danielle	0204-0027-008	Mechanical Repairs	Helensville Mechanical Services	420-8177
Butcher	River Valley Meats	0212-130-060/0274-833-400	Mechanical Repairs	Parakai Automotive	09-420-7224.
CAB	16 Commercial Road	420-7162	Mower Repairs & Sales	Lifestyle Mowing Machinery	0274-955-948
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning	Curtis	027-200-5456	MP	Chris Penk	021-0230-6106
Chiropractor	Kaipara Chiropractic Healthcare	420-6224	Paddock Mowing	Tractor mowing with mulcher	0274-669-464
Clothing	MarvinSmithApparel	021-790-101	Pet Spa	Groomville Boutique	021-246-5354
Computer Repairs	Michael - Controlaltrepair	021-251-4138	Plant Centre	Kaipara Coast Plant Centre	420-5655
Concreters	Brewis Concrete	021-992-590	Plumbers	ATL Plumbing Ltd	021-245-9677/420-7868
Diggers	Helensville Diggers	021-454-793/420-7023	Plumbers	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Dog Grooming	Christine	021-521-303	Pumps	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Drainage	Alpha Drainage - Scott	022-352-140	Pumps	Mid West Pumps	420-7694
Early Learning Centre	Active Explorers	09-222-3277	Real Estate	Barfoot & Thompson-Kelly Davison	0274-670-175
Early Learning Centre	Gumboots	09-411-9038	Real Estate	Burmester Realty	420-8360
Early Learning Centre	Helensville Montessori	420-7181	Real Estate	Courtney & Co	027-688-0818
Electrician	Sean Gray Electrical	0274-784-396	Real Estate	Prestige - Jana Mills	021-509-990/420-9953
Filtration	KPL Ltd	420-9108	Roofing	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Garden Sheds	Baby Barns	022-075-8283/420-3298	Roosters, any unwanted	Drop off at 62 Mill Rd, H'ville	022-584-7719
Gift Baskets	Riverside Crafts - Sarah	0800-831-542	Shuttle Service	Helensville Shuttles	0272-777-339
Gifts & Art	FIGG 44 Commercial Rd	021-488-427/420-6026	Shower Installation	GSI Ltd	0800-466-5327/420-8777
Gifts & Clothing	Eleventh Hour - 60 Commercial Road		Storage	Container Warehouse 220 S/Hway 16, Whenuapai	
Glass Services			Storage	J S Storage	021-462-930
	Nor-West & Kumeu Glass Services	09-420-8210/0800-825100	Typesetting/Photocopying	Huapai Copy & Print	420-9307
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