

The Helensville Community News

Issue 202 - September 2026

Rodney Local Board update *courtesy of Mark Dennis, Local Board Member*

Rodney Community Team

The Rodney Community Team was established by the Rodney Local Board to support the development of more community-led, locally delivered activities, programmes, events and placemaking activations across Rodney. If you have an event or programme which could do with some support, please contact our Rodney Community Team www.rodneycommunity.org.nz. I have attached their guidelines so you can have a read on how they can support you and your next community event

More Public Rubbish Bins

The community contacted me regarding the real need for a rubbish bin at the Cabeleigh Playground, also well-known local Eli Foreman, who looks after the mowing of Kaipatiki reserve in Parakai, has spoken to me about the amount of rubbish he picks up around the new bus stop.



After discussions with council staff and contractors, we have managed to find 2 unallocated bins. The first one has already been installed at Cabeleigh Playground, and the bin for the Parakai Bus Stop is on its way shortly.

Cabeleigh Playground Footpath



After the construction of the Cabeleigh Playground there has been an unusual gap in the footpath connection which meant families walking on the eastern side of Cabeleigh Drive Footpath would need to cross the road twice or walk

through the grass to access the playspace. I felt this was not acceptable, and when the opportunity came up for me to lobby to have this address by Auckland Transport, I ensured they had a clear understanding of the importance of this project and managed to not only get it approved but prioritised as a quick win project.



This construction is funded under the Climate Action Transport Targeted Rate. Because this was a small and low budget project, we were able to push it to be actioned quickly.

This is a great example of local issues and voices, being heard and addressed.

Kahikatea Flat Road – Progress Update

Progress is going well with the final repair to the Kahikatea Flat Road slip and everything looks to be on schedule

MILESTONE UPDATE

- Anchoring works all completed and ongoing anchor testing
- Ground slope reshape to keep all drainage away from the water and piles

Upcoming works

- Pavement works removing existing pavement build up on the North bound lane.

Kahikatea Flat Road – Single Lane with Traffic light set up

- Single lane with temporary traffic lights controlling traffic flow East and West bound still set up with reduced speed at 30KPH limit to the extent of the site.
- Temporary speed hump is working well, this control is helping everyone to staying safe on the road and on site.



Helensville War Memorial Hall Closed! But now Open

A couple of weeks back there was a little scare following a number of unusual cracks suddenly showing up around the building, including in the Library and the Art Centre. Fortunately, the staff who noticed the cracks reported them quickly and the building only remained closed for one day while one of our structural engineers assessed the building and its safety. Turns out it wasn't anything alarming and the building was quickly reopened. We will be receiving a full report from the engineer shortly which will outline likely causes and any advice on next steps.



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Like us on Facebook or visit www.helensvillecommunitynews.co.nz

Helensville Community News

Email: helensville@copyandprint.co.nz

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312 Main Rd, Huapai. P O Box 165, Kumeu

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

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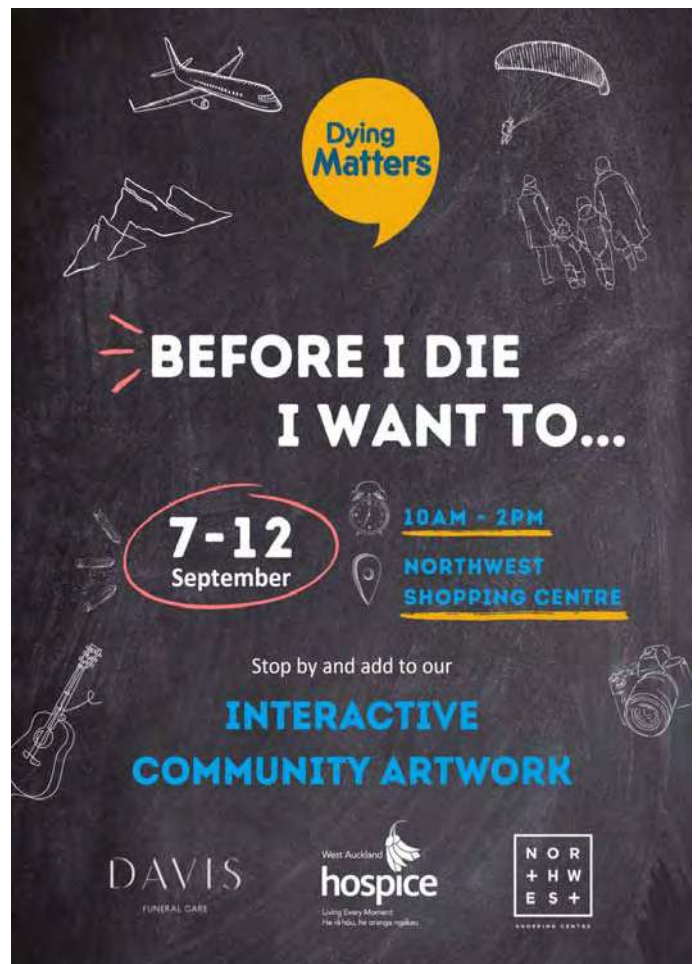
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NORTHWEST SHOPPING CENTRE

Hospice West Auckland, with thanks to Davis Funerals, are hosting an interactive community artwork mural 10am-2pm daily at Northwest Shopping Mall 7th-12th September. We'd love you to come along and participate.



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What's happening this month



Sunday, 13 September, Bittern Workshop, 10am Waioneke School Hall, Meet NZ biter expert Wendy Ambury and discover how you can help protect South Head's precious matuku hurepo. Join the Great Matuku Muster citizen science project

Saturday, 19 September, 2026 Black Sandz Brawl, 8.15am gates open, Auckland Off Road Adventure Park, Rimmer Road, Spectators \$20 Adult, Kids under 12 free, Bew racers also welcome, go to www.ultra4newzealand.com for more details

Sunday, 20 September, 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, Treasure Hunt Captain Swigger Stacey's pirate show 10am to 12pm songs & tunes of the seven seas, 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.

Friday, 25 September, Term 3 Ends

Tuesday, 6 October, U3A Monthly Meeting, 10am – 12pm: Speaker - Adrian Blackburn. Adrian describes himself as a dinosaur journalist, house sitter and born again tennis freak. This will be a very entertaining presentation. Guests are very welcome. U3A www.u3a.nz is a national and international volunteer led organisation for retired and semi-retired people committed to lifelong learning and who enjoy interesting company. South Kaipara U3A has more than 60 members and is thriving. There is an informative meeting on the first Tuesday of every month 10am-12pm. There are also a number of smaller interest groups. Guests and new members are very welcome. For enquiries contact Heather Hyland heathertrish.hyland@gmail.com 021 829454

Monday, 12 October, Term 4 Starts

Monday, 26 October, Labour Day

Friday, 27 November, Christmas Parade, Commercial Road, Helensville, 6.00pm – 7.00pm, The Helensville Christmas Parade is back on the main street and promises to be a fantastic evening for the whole community! Join us as the streets come alive with colourful floats, marching groups, music, classic vehicles, community organisations, and a special visit from Santa himself. It's a wonderful way to celebrate the start of the Christmas season with family, friends, and neighbours. Whether you're entering a float, supporting a local group, or simply coming along to enjoy the festivities, there's something for everyone. Bring a chair, find a spot along the parade route, and enjoy an evening full of Christmas magic and community spirit. We look forward to seeing you in Helensville for another unforgettable Christmas Parade!

Friday, 25 December, Christmas Day



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**Sunday 20 September
A&P Showgrounds
8.30am – 1pm**

Treasure Hunt, Captain Swigger Stacey's pirate show 10am to 12pm songs & tunes of the seven seas

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



KAUKAPAKAPA TAKEAWAYS



Welcome to our new store. We opened our store on 19 May, 2026 and look forward to staying for many years to come.

We are proud to serve the community with daily fresh Kebab foods and soon will be including Burgers, Coffee, Tea and a variety of snacks to our range as requested by our ongoing regular customers.

Our menu currently includes:- Delicious Chicken, Lamb, Falafel and more in wraps, on rice and on chips. We have a variety of side dishes, from fries, wedges and more plus our very yummy garlic pita bread and our very own delicious hummus



Come and try out our delicious iSkender.

Some of our regulars keep coming back for this as an ongoing addition to their weekly menu

Imran and Carole are dedicated and hard working, always willing to go the extra mile to ensure customer satisfaction.

Imran's knowledge of the Turkish food industry surpasses many and Carole's 30 years of management skills keep everything ticking over.



Soon we will be fully up and running with Google and other social media sites - keep an eye out for this coming soon.

.....



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Kaukapakapa



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Thursday	10.30am - 8.30pm
Friday	10.30am - 8.30pm
Saturday	10.30am - 8.30pm
Sunday	10.30am - 7.30pm



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- ✓ 3pm-5pm
- ✓ Rautawhiri Park
- ✓ Food Trucks
- ✓ FREE EVENT
- ✓ Giveaways



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Officially halfway

by Sequoia Thomson, Year 13 Student, Kaipara College

We are officially past halfway through the year! July 2nd marked the exact middle of the year, and whilst we are only a little past it, it must come as a relief to many.

Whilst, of course, we should always try to enjoy time as it passes and not live our moments in the past or present, I know personally that I am glad my time at school is coming to a close. Whilst I do love to reflect upon the incredible and wonderful moments of the past few years of high school, all the exciting things I've done, and the people I have met and now love, I very much can feel that, deep down, I am ready for change. I am ready to move on to something new!

Speaking of something new, over the course of this term, the student leaders, including myself, have spent some of our time going around and visiting local primary schools in the surrounding area to encourage new students to come to Kaipara College. We were in charge of the big responsibility of speaking about all the wonderful features of our school, and brushed upon subjects including our incredible sports teams, very, very cool science department, and wonderful arts department.

In terms of the arts department, as I am writing this, Paradise the musical has completed its incredible week of shows! I myself went to the closing night show on Saturday 15th August, and I was completely wowed by the very awesome set and the wonderful singing. The entire musical was written by Kaipara's own drama teacher, Stephen Lunt, and the music and lyrics were all done by Nick Roberts, our fantastic Music teacher. A massive round of applause to the entire cast for pulling this all together, especially in such a short period of time. Every single actor did so well!

I also have a little message to any student who is feeling exhausted, stressed or overwhelmed. While it seems backwards, keep going! Don't just stop; just learn to manage your time, commitments and energy levels. Get good sleep, plan out your days, and remember to have fun. If you need a day of rest for yourself and your mental health, take one - but remember to still study a little. We are so close to the finish line, but I know this last mile is the hardest, especially with NCEA and end-of-year exams and tests for our younger students. But when you cross it, it's the absolute most rewarding experience; I speak from experience.

I will leave you with these last couple of words from Harriet Beecher Stowe, American author and abolitionist from the 1800's;

"When you get into a tight place, and everything goes against you, till it seems as though you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up then, for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn."

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Nga Kete Matauranga

Written by Dante Numa for Te Awaroa Museum

Long ago, the Maori atua Tane searched for knowledge among the heavens and he successfully returned with the Three Baskets of Knowledge that were given to him by Io from the sacred house of Rangiatea.

These baskets contained the wisdom that would help the creation of humankind and Tane shared it with other Maori atua, including his brothers Tangaroa, the atua of the ocean, Rongomatane, the atua of cultivated foods, and Haumia-tiketike, the atua of uncultivated food.

Kaipara's ancient history is interwoven with the knowledge of the atua and it was shared by Maori with early European settlers. In turn, Europeans shared new food species and food preparation skills creating a sacred partnership between Maori and European.

On October the 4th, Te Awaroa Museum is excited to share with our community the Kaipara's history of fishing, cultivating and tikanga practices as part of the Auckland Heritage Festival "Tastes of Tamaki".

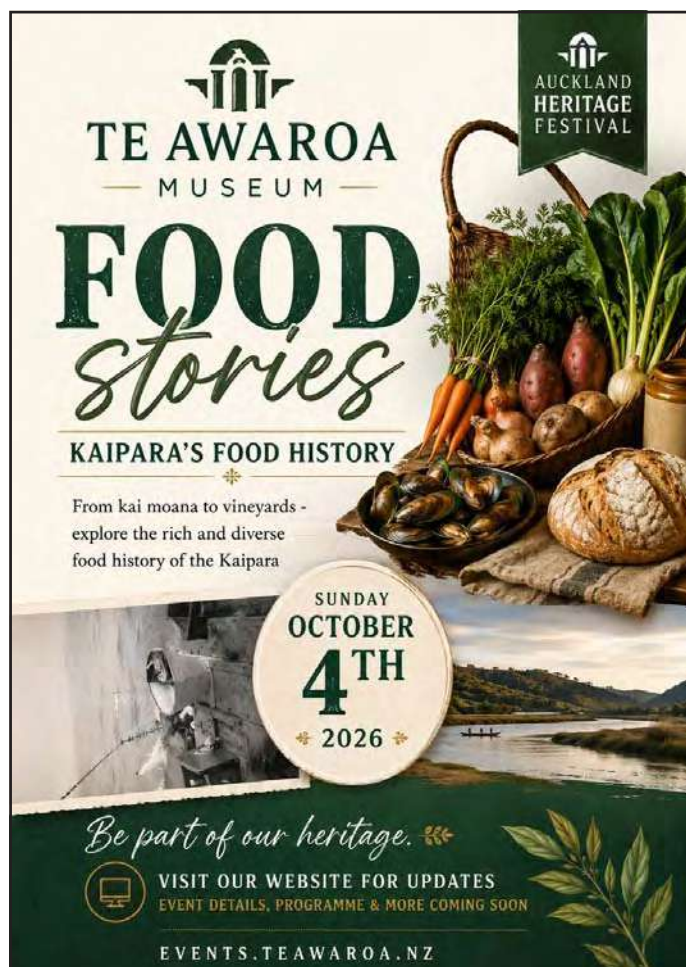
There will be opportunities to explore the Kaipara's wine making history, the Kaipara Dairy Company and our new exhibit showcasing the era of fishing that took place in the Kaipara Harbour.

Learn about butter making, vintage gardening practices, weaving demonstrations and Rongoa healing practices.

The Museum will provide vintage refreshments and a classic kiwi sausage sizzle for a koha, a raffle will be held, and our wonderful local artisans will be there to sell their plants and products. There will also be a children's colouring competition.

See Te Awaroa Museum Facebook for more details.

Step into the past with us on Sunday 4th October from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Koha on entry.



TE AWAROA MUSEUM

FOOD stories

KAIPARA'S FOOD HISTORY

From kai moana to vineyards - explore the rich and diverse food history of the Kaipara

SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH 2026

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EVENT DETAILS, PROGRAMME & MORE COMING SOON

EVENTS.TEAWAROA.NZ



"A case of mistaken identity"

Recently Te Awaroa Museum had an enquiry regarding the founder of Helensville, John McLeod and a lady named Agnes Brown. There were historic records showing that Agnes Brown had married John McLeod in 1862, but it is known that the founder of Helensville married Helen Alexander. The confusion possibly stems from the Henderson Mill in the 1850's where two men named John McLeod were both employed by the mill's owners Thomas Henderson and John McFarlane. Before he was the founder of Helensville, John McLeod was employed at the Henderson Mill in 1854 as the Manager of the Mill. Then in 1857, Thomas Henderson cleared the land around the Mill to create Delta Farm.

He employed a Shepherd named John McLeod to manage the farm and animals. Then to avoid confusion he was nicknamed "Shepherd John". The founder of Helensville, the manager of the mill was nicknamed "Long John". "Shepherd John" was married to Agnes Brown in 1862 at the Henderson Mill and they are buried together in the All Saints Cemetery in Kaukapakapa with one of their daughters Frances.

"Long John" sailed back to Nova Scotia in 1861 to retrieve his wife Helen Alexander and their children, returning to NZ aboard the *Seagull*, and settling in Te Awaroa, renaming it Helensville in 1862. The mill is believed to have ceased production in 1868. "Shepherd John" in 1873 was granted the license for the Oratia/Falls Hotel in Henderson. In 1876 he left for Henderson with Agnes for Kaukapakapa where they remained until their passing. "Long John" is buried in Rhode Island, and his wife Helen Alexander is buried at the Waikumete Cemetery.

Written by Dante Numa for Te Awaroa Museum.



The grave of 'Shepherd' John McLeod, in the All Saints cemetery in Kaukapakapa



The Falls Hotel in Henderson, still in existence



Shepherd John McLeod



Business North West press release, September 2026

This September, we are proud to celebrate with Markovina Vineyard Estate as they mark an incredible 60 years in business. A well-known family-owned vineyard in Kumeu, Markovina Vineyard Estate has been producing wines and welcoming visitors for generations, becoming an important part of our area's heritage and business community.

Could your business be one of the area's longest established? We're on the hunt for North West's longest-running businesses. If your business has stood the test of time, we'd love to hear from you. Put your business forward and we'll help share your story, celebrate your achievements, and promote your contribution to our community through our newsletter and marketing channels. Contact us today to be part of the celebration.

Businesses across North West Auckland are encouraged to take advantage of free opportunities to increase their visibility through Discover Auckland. Discover Auckland is our regional tourism body that promotes all of our businesses.

Event organisers can list events via Eventfinda, Ticketmaster or Ticketek to appear on the Discover Auckland monthly events calendar for free. Hospitality businesses can join the free Restaurant Hub directory, while tourism operators can create a free profile on Tourism New Zealand's database to be featured on Discover Auckland. If you want links to get your business listed, check out your members September Newsletter or contact Danielle Hancock on manager@northwestcountry.co.nz.

We are hosting a Business Speed Networking evening this month at The Beekeepers Wife in Riverhead. A popular networking format, businesses will overcome awkwardness with a fun night of quick introductions to other businesses while enjoying woodfired pizzas.

The Beekeepers Wife is always keen to support locals and has proudly sponsored the event but spots are limited. Anyone interested to join the fun and make new connections can contact Rebecca Beavis at info@northwestcountry.co.nz.

Our AGM is close so save the date. We will be at Deacon's Kitchen at The Riverhead on Tuesday 13th October from 6:30pm. Members welcome and all attendees must register. Simply email Danielle Hancock at manager@northwestcountry.co.nz with your name and business legal name and we will register your attendance.



Connection update

**CONNECTION, Shop 3,
Helensville Railway Station, next to
The Shoppe and Ginger Crunch café.**



Regular events:

Wednesday Raranga/flax weaving - by appointment - individuals or small groups. Learn the basics, putiputi/flowers and kono/basket including harvesting and tikanga. Contact Heather 0220366985
Friday Sewing Circle - 10am to 1pm, \$10 for a 2 hour session. Bring your machine and your mending or a project. Also Dresses for a Girl Around the World, Pacific cohort. Chrissy 0274 671843.
Room available for hire: Acoustic music practice, Workshops, Meetings, Interest groups, Celebrations, Exhibitions etc.
Heather.

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Sayers says it

By Rodney Councillor Greg Sayers.

Now is the time to reintroduce trains to Huapai.

On behalf of the community I have written to KiwiRail calling for a proper investigation into returning passenger trains to Auckland's north-west, initially to Huapai and potentially extending to Helensville.

In my open letter to KiwiRail Chair Suzanne Tindal, I requested KiwiRail to provide information on the cost, infrastructure requirements and potential opening date for a passenger service.

KiwiRail staff have previously stalled any investigation, saying that once the City Rail Link (CRL) was completed, their organisation would then have the capacity to thoroughly evaluate passenger rail services to the north-west.

With the CRL now completed and formally handed over to KiwiRail and Auckland Transport, I believe the time has come to reintroduce trains to Huapai.

Public opinion is existing infrastructure could potentially support an hourly shuttle between Huapai and Swanson, including the use of the crossing loop at Waitakere. The Waitakere Tunnel could potentially accommodate electrification, hybrid-electric or diesel trains.

The north-west remains one of the most difficult commutes in Auckland to commute in, with State Highway 16 carrying extraordinarily high traffic volumes and limited public transport alternatives.

A dedicated NZTA (central Government) rapid transport corridor for buses into Huapai and Kumeu could still be 15 to 30 years away, or potentially longer. Our community believes passenger rail would offer an opportunity to provide traffic relief much sooner.

KiwiRail has responded, saying it is aware of the ongoing interest in bringing passenger trains back to the area. KiwiRail reiterated it has been focused on the delivery of the CRL, but once it opens later this month, 13 September, there is the opportunity to consider how north-west rail could fit into Auckland's future transport network.

I welcome that commitment – but would add our community unequivocally needs a train service.

The next step is simple: I will get KiwiRail (central Government), Auckland Transport and Auckland Council around the table, establish what is realistically possible, what it would cost and how quickly it could be delivered – and publicly report that back.

North-west residents have waited long enough for better public transport. With the CRL now creating new opportunities for Auckland's rail network, I believe it is time to push hard for how trains to Huapai do become part of Auckland's future transport network.

Balinese Bees and Exotic Honey

I'm writing this while on holiday in Ubud, Bali. To be honest, in the excitement I'd forgotten about this month's article. Before leaving, I'd just started two new classes for the upcoming beekeeping season and then when I get back, I'll be diving straight into the start of the hornet response. Fortunately, there still has not been any hornets sighted in New Zealand since the beginning of April, but the essential monitoring program continues in earnest. I'm on holiday with Sandra; we met up with her son and his lovely girlfriend here, halfway between Glasgow and Auckland. It was great for us to catch up, but I was able to slip away for a couple of bee-themed excursions into the heart of Bali.

I travelled two hours north of Ubud to visit a beekeeper near Plago, who keeps Asian honey bees (*Apis cerana*). There were 10 hives in his apiary, sited in a clearing in the bush. Yellow-legged hornets were preying on every hive. These hornets were crawling around the hive looking for alternate entrances and on the ground scavenging for dying bees. Most commonly though, hornets were hawking in front of the hive i.e. hovering about 25 cm in front of the entrance waiting to catch returning bees that had been foraging. These small bees (half the size of our honey bee) carpeted the front of their hive and shimmered in waves, this deterred the hornets from approaching the entrance. The bee's next defensive mechanism was to approach or depart very quickly – almost too fast to see.

Later in the week I travelled to the west of the island with Wajan to some of his apiaries. We visited an apiary with Asian bees in the jungle, on the way in we checked some of his bait hives where he hoped to catch some swarming stingless bees, known locally as madu kele-kele. We returned to his village, and I was shown his stingless bee hives. These were smaller than a shoe box. Wooden with two compartments, one had the brood nest, a haphazard pile of round propolis cells smaller than a Rice Krispie. In the adjoining compartment were the iconic honey pot cells, also made of propolis and filled with their delicious tangy honey. Yellow-legged hornets also prey on these tiny insects, at first glance they look like little flies. These small stingless bees had, over millions of years, adapted to live with these apex predators. Being unable to sting, these bees will use their strong mandibles en masse to attack vulnerable parts of the hornet. More effectively, they will dab propolis on the hornet's wings and eyes, immobilizing them; within minutes, mummifying them. Hives in the wild have another defence; long thin entrance tubes made of propolis, making them more easily defensible.

A highlight for me was to taste the Balinese bee's honey. New Zealand is fortunate that we only have pure honey for sale. We don't allow any imported honey, which could have been adulterated. This protects our biosecurity and is vital to protect the integrity of our exports – if we allowed imported honey, these honeys could then be used to adulterate our export honey, potentially damaging our international honey reputation. The unfortunate flip side to this is that we can't taste anyone else's honey in Aotearoa.

New Zealand has only one species of honey bee (*Apis mellifera*). So, all the variety of our honey is from the source of the floral nectar or honeydew. This gives us our distinctive mono-floral honeys like Mānuka and pōhutukawa. More commonly we get multi-floral honeys from a variety of plants; often from a hobbyist beekeeper's garden, the bush, or meadows. The first thing that stood out from all of these Balinese honeys was their viscosity – they all seemed thinner or waterier than honey

Continued on page 10



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Balinise Bees *Continued from page 9*

from home. I believe this is caused by the higher humidity. I tasted multi-floral honey from bees like ours - the Western honey bee, which I'd purchased in the supermarket. The honey was from flowering trees in the bush. It had a floral taste with a fruitiness. I also tasted honey from three other species of native bee - stingless bee, Asian honeybee and the giant honey bee.

The giant honeybee (*Apis dorsata*) produced honey that tasted most like ours – sweet but with a melony flavour; the aroma was slightly acidic and earthy. It was light and fresh. The Asian bee (*Apis cerana*) had foraged on Kaliandra, a medium-sized tree from the legume or pea family. The flowers look like a red bottle brush. The honey is opaque with a golden yellow colour. The aroma is of citrus tropical fruit. The taste is mild, slightly acidic, warm banana-like, reminiscent of dilute Perky Nana. The stingless bee (*Tetragonula laeviceps*) also loves Kaliandra, their honey looks very thin and liquid. It has about 20% to 35% water content – in contrast New Zealand honey usually has less than 18% water content. At first taste, it doesn't taste like honey at all. It is such a surprise, it is very tart almost vinegary. It actually undergoes a natural fermentation. On second taste it is citrusy with tropical fruits, you can also taste the propolis; it gives a subtle humus, resinous lingering aftertaste. Next month I'll relate my hornet hunting adventures.

It is worth coming to Indonesia just for a taste of these incredible honeys. It looks like my future holiday itineraries will be tracking unusual bees and their honeys around the world. Maybe Sainfain Mountain honey from Kyrgyzstan or Himalayan "mad" honey from Nepal, or while visiting the in-laws with their Scottish heather honey.

An arrangement without Flowers.

The Helensville Floral Art Club held an interesting August competition with a difference, members were challenged to create a table arrangement using foliage only, with some manipulation of the leaves or foliage required. To add interest and creativity, arrangements could also include fruit, succulents, vegetables or cones.

The competition produced a wonderful variety of imaginative designs, demonstrating just how much can be achieved without using a single flower. Members showed great creativity in shaping, folding and arranging their chosen foliage to create eye-catching displays.



The entries were judged by Carmel Wilson, who had the difficult task of choosing the winning arrangements from the many creative designs.

Another enjoyable and inspiring competition for the Helensville Floral Art Club, showcasing the skill and imagination of its members.



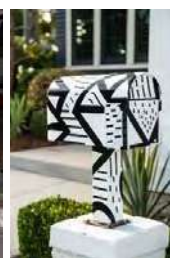
ARTS in the VILLE
2026

Arts in the Ville
is right round the
corner! Happening
over Labour
Weekend, 24th –
26th October.

What to look forward to: open artists' studios in and around Helensville, 'Out and About' play activities for kids to lighten the tour for families this will be outside the Art Centre building hub alongside food trucks and live music.

The hub will also be the central location for Artist's; Makers Market and our celebration event held at the War Memorial Hall on Labour Monday 5pm for the whole community to come enjoy.

Our regular and popular activities to look forward to and participate in for Arts in the Ville, Paper Boat Race created by Jeff Thomson 'Kaipara Cup' – make your own paper boat to enter the race held over the weekend! Prize for first place and for best designed boat! Wendy, winner from 2025 has already completed two designs we can't wait to see the rest! The Art Centre will be running two free paper boat making workshops during the October School holiday's, Tuesday 1st and 8th October 1-3pm bring the kids and create your boats together! The annual treasure hunt run by Jeff Thomson is back again, and this year our new addition... Decorated Mailboxes! A great way for the community to join in and be involved in the Art Trail, we will be giving a prize for the 'best dressed' letter box! Construct, paint, create or decorate! The possibilities are endless. Must be completed by Friday 23rd October!



At the Art Centre this September is our member's exhibition, 2nd – 26th September opening night 4th September 5-7pm all welcome.



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From the Kaipara College Principal's Desk



Principal Jane Coup

Whanaungatanga and the Science of Belonging

At Kaipara College, whanaungatanga is one of our WAKA values. It speaks to relationship, connection, the sense of belonging to something bigger than yourself. It is easy to think of it as a value that makes school feel warmer. Research suggests it is something more than that, a vital part of how young people learn. A major review of research from 2020, led by Dutch education researcher Hanke Korpershoek and colleagues (<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02671522.2019.1615116>), brought together 82 studies on secondary school students and their sense of belonging at school. The review looked at what belonging is connected to, motivation, social and emotional wellbeing, behaviour, and academic achievement. Students who feel a stronger sense of belonging tend to be more motivated, more engaged in their learning, and perform better academically. One particularly finding was that students who saw their classroom as a place focused on growth and improvement, rather than just competition or grades, and who felt positively about their overall classroom environment, also reported feeling more strongly connected to their school. In other words, belonging and learning are not separate things running alongside each other. A student who feels like they matter to the people around them is a student whose brain is more available for the work of learning itself. You can see whanaungatanga in action all over Kaipara College. Lately, our students, from Years 9 through to 13, have been visiting local primary schools to share their experiences of being part of our kura. Senior students talking to younger children about what school is like. This is whanaungatanga at work. Those connections, made early and made in person, mean that by the time those younger students walk through our gates, they already know a face, feel a sense of belonging before their first day has even begun. Another recent example of whanaungatanga could be seen at the Tough Guy & Gal Challenge where our students volunteered as marshalls for the race. Following the competition, we received a lovely email from the father of a primary school student who credited the "positive attitude, never-ending energy and enthusiasm directed at my daughter by your wonderful students.." for enabling his daughter to complete the race. He finished his email by saying "If your students who were present on Tuesday are any indicator of what the future holds, we are in good hands". We thoroughly agree.



Whanaungatanga in action – Thank you to ex-student Riley (seated left) who volunteers his time weekly to tutor current students around his university study.jpg



A group of student marshalls at the Tough Guy and Gal Challenge.

The research is a reminder that belonging is not separate from learning, it is part of what makes learning possible. That is why the relationships being built here, in classrooms, in corridors, and on visits to primary schools down the road, matter as much as anything we teach. If your child is happy and doing well at Kaipara College, tell a friend. If something isn't working, call us and let us know, so we can fix it. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see the latest from our school. Facebook: facebook.com/KaiparaCollegeHelensville Instagram:



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Helensville Library and Service Centre update for September

"I can say with certainty that today's event was the most fun my kids have had in so long! Was so well organised and so special to them! Thank you" ~ Christine.

Thank you to everyone who made our Everybunny Reads event such a success!

Children adopted a soft toy bunny, after promising to read to their bunny every day.

Thanks to our sponsors – particularly Helensville Paper Plus Select, Vets North Helensville, and Scholastic NZ – for helping make the day so wonderful. Their support just added a sparkle of magic.

Children received a gift bag, including a book – which they chose from one donated by Scholastic NZ or Helensville Paper Plus Select. They also had the chance to have their face painted – and to explore one of Auckland Council Libraries mobile library vans!

The bunnies received a health check from Dr. Georgia and Bunny Nurse Alyssa from Vets North Helensville. Thankfully, all bunnies were healthy and well.

Everybunny Reads was held as part of Auckland Council Libraries We Read Auckland month, and as the launch in to the inaugural NZ Children's Book Week, organised by Read NZ Te Pou Muramura.

Photos are available on our Facebook page: facebook.com/HelensvilleLibraryAndServiceCentre

Adult Learners Week and Dying Matters Week:

ASB Better Banking Workshop: Monday 7 September, 11am to 12noon.

Learn how to use self-service banking including mobile and internet banking, ATM and phone banking. We'll also discuss how to stay safe from scams and fraud. You can ask us any questions, and we'll guide you through tools that can make everyday banking easier.

Note: you do not have to be an ASB customer.

Dying Matters Chat with Heather Steadman, End of Life Doula: Saturday 12 September, 11am to 12noon.

A chance to ask questions, share stories, and talk about death and matters surrounding it. We will also discuss the possibility of starting a regular Death Café.

We are still finalising events for these weeks. Check our Facebook page, or contact the library for updates.

September School Holidays:

Our feature event: Messy Rainbows!

Messy Rainbows will be running a Dinosaur themed session on Monday 28 September, 10am to 11.30am.

Who are Messy Rainbows? Messy Rainbows sessions are perfect for tamariki (and grown-ups) who are after a bit of sensory magic - where everyone is free to be themselves and explore a world where play has no limits!

Monday 5 October, 10am to 12noon: Movie time! Movie tbc.

Our regular programmes will run throughout the holidays, but with a bird and / or dinosaur theme.

We will also have a New Zealand birds scavenger hunt.

Our regular programmes:

Kids Time, for under 6s and their grown-ups: Wednesdays, 10am to 10.30am

Minecraft Club: Wednesdays, 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Crafternoon for adults: Thursdays, 3pm to 4.30pm.

Helensville Library *continued*

Crafternoon for kids: Thursdays, 3.30pm to 4.30pm.

Baby Play, a playgroup for under 6s and their grown-ups: Fridays, 10am to 11am.

Lego and Duplo Club: Saturdays, 10.30am to 12noon.

BrainCharge: Wednesday 9 September and 23 September, 11am.

Note: due to popularity we are running two BrainCharge sessions a month.

Book Chat: Thursday 24 September, 10am.

Getting in contact:

The Helensville Library and Service Centre is open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 1pm on Saturday.

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

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

Auckland Libraries: 0800 695 427

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

[facebook.com/HelensvilleLibraryAndServiceCentre](https://www.facebook.com/HelensvilleLibraryAndServiceCentre)

Anne Coppell

Senior Librarian / Poukôkiri - Children & Youth / Helensville Library and Service Centre



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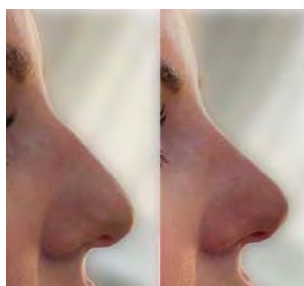
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One station down. Now build the rest.

By Simon Court, ACT MP and candidate for Kaipara ki Mahurangi

A government infrastructure project opened at Westgate this month on time and under budget. That sentence ought to be unremarkable. In New Zealand, it is almost shocking.

The new bus station was funded at \$50 million. Forecast savings of around \$19 million will help pay for the next station at Brigham Creek and improvements along the North-Western Motorway.

Taxpayers got something useful, and the saving can go straight into the next job.

As an engineer, I judge a project by what is on the ground and what it cost to put there. Westgate passes both tests.

Labour's Auckland light rail scheme failed the same test. After six years and more than \$228 million, it produced precisely zero metres of track.

Ministers had meetings and consultants. West Auckland got the bill.

The demand for practical public transport has been staring Wellington in the face. The WX1 carried more than 1.1 million passenger trips in the year to May. Westgate now gives people travelling from Helensville on Route 125 a proper connection with express services into the city.

Once the full busway is built, the corridor could move up to 9,000 passengers an hour in each direction. That is four motorway lanes' worth of people. Moving more commuters by bus leaves more space on SH16 for freight and people who need a vehicle for work.

Anyone driving south from Helensville knows what happens when the network cannot cope. A crash turns an ordinary commute into an expensive exercise in sitting still. A builder misses an appointment. A delivery turns up late. Those delays cost businesses money and families time.

But the job is far from finished. Brigham Creek and the separated busway must be delivered. The Kumeu bypass has spent long enough as a line on a map.

The North-West is growing whether Wellington is ready or not. Infrastructure needs to keep up.

For too long, the RMA has made basic infrastructure slower and more expensive to build. Projects become trapped in years of process while costs climb and communities wait.

ACT has pushed to replace the RMA with a system based on property rights, so useful projects can get consented and built faster.

RMA reform alone will not deliver the Kumeu bypass. Government still needs the discipline to choose projects that stack up and get on with delivering them. Communities should not have to wait for an army of consultants before getting the road they were promised.

Too many politicians point to the size of an invoice as proof they have achieved something. ACT asks a simpler question: what did taxpayers actually get?

At Westgate, they got a station and enough money left over to help build another. Labour's light rail scheme left taxpayers with a \$228 million invoice and no track.

Every dollar wasted on a project that goes nowhere could have been used building something useful or left with the people who earned it.

New Zealand has had enough announcements and lines on maps. We need infrastructure people can actually use.

More ACT MPs means more pressure to cut waste, remove the roadblocks to building, and get projects like the North-Western busway and Kumeu bypass delivered.

No more delays. No more excuses. It is time to build.

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Date	High Water Shelly Beach	Sun Rise	Sun Set
September '26			
1 Tue	0045 4.1 1309	0642	1800
2 Wed	0124 4.0 1349	0641	1801
3 Thu	0207 3.9 1434	0639	1801
4 Fri	0256 3.7 1528	0638	1802
5 Sat	0356 3.5 1637	0636	1803
6 Sun	0511 3.4 1802	0635	1804
7 Mon	0639 3.4 1924	0632	1805
8 Tue	0756 3.6 2030	0632	1805
9 Wed	0858 3.8 2124	0630	1806
10 Thu	0950 4.0 2211	0629	1807
11 Fri	1035 4.2 2253	0627	1808
12 Sat	1116 4.2 2331	0626	1809
13 Sun	1153 4.2 -	0624	1809
14 Mon	0007 4.2 1228	0623	1810
15 Tue	0040 4.0 1301	0621	1811
16 Wed	0112 3.9 1334	0620	1812
17 Thu	0145 3.7 1408	0618	1813
18 Fri	0222 3.5 1449	0617	1813
19 Sat	0306 3.3 1541	0615	1814
20 Sun	0406 3.1 1657	0614	1815
21 Mon	0534 3.1 1828	0612	1816
22 Tue	0704 3.2 1936	0611	1817
23 Wed	0805 3.4 2026	0609	1817
24 Thu	0853 3.6 2108	0608	1818
25 Fri	0934 3.8 2147	0606	1819
26 Sat	1013 4.0 2226	0605	1820
27 Sun	1151 4.1 -	0703	1821
28 Mon	0004 4.2 1229	0702	1921
29 Tue	0043 4.2 1308	0700	1922
30 Wed	0123 4.2 1348	0659	1923
October '26			
1 Thu	0205 4.0 1431	0657	1924
2 Fri	0251 3.8 1519	0656	1925
3 Sat	0343 3.6 1618	0654	1926
4 Sun	0450 3.4 1733	0653	1927
5 Mon	0612 3.3 1855	0651	1927
6 Tue	0732 3.4 2007	0650	1928



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 Kaipatiki 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.

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, helensvillerrailwaystationtrust@gmail.com, www.helensvillerrail.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 Kaipatiki 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: Caroline 0221-674-823, caroline.thompson@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 Heather Hyland. heathertrish.hyland@gmail.com 021-829-454.

Trade/Professional & Services List

Accountants	ECE Astute Accounting	420-7835
Agecare	Craigweil House	420-8277
Age Concern Rodney		09-426-0916
Beauty Therapy	Premier Aesthetics	www.premieraesthetics.co.nz
Birthing Centre	Commercial Road, Helensville	420-8747
Budget Service	Francis	420-7740
Business Hub	Business Northwest, Danielle	0204-0027-008
CAB	16 Commercial Road	420-7162
Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning	Curtis	027-200-5456
Chiropractor	Kaipara Chiropractic Healthcare	420-6224
Computer Repairs	Michael - Controlaltrepair	021-251-4138
Concreters	Brewis Concrete	021-992-590
Container Roofs	Container Roofs NZ	0274-669-464
Diggers	Helensville Diggers	021-454-793/420-7023
Drain Unblocking	ClearFlow Drain Unblocking	021-223-1513
Early Learning Centre	Gumboots	09-411-9038
Electrician	Templeman Electrical - Jordan	021-127-1708
Electrician	Sean Gray Electrical	0274-784-396
Filtration	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Flooring	North West Flooring Xtra, 10 Shamrock Drive, Kumeu	09-412-8188
Gift Baskets	Riverside Crafts - Sarah	0274-831-542
Gifts & Art	FIGG 44 Commercial Rd	021-488-427/420-6026
Gifts & Clothing	Eleventh Hour - 60 Commercial Road	
Glass Services		
	Nor-West & Kumeu Glass Services	09-420-8210/0800-825100
Handyman	Dale Browne	0274-397-519

Homekill	Country Meat	021-161-4270/420-3113
Homekill	The Local Farmer	027-466-3545
Ink and Toner	Huapai Copy & Print	09-412-8882
JP's	Lindy McDermott	022-049-2871
Lions Club of Helensville	Chris Clark	027-646-3324
Market Opportunity	Car Boot/ Garage Sale	021-488-427
Markets	The Village Market	0274-831-542
Markets	Waitoki Village Market	Gill 420-3301
Mechanical Repairs	Helensville Mechanical Services	420-8177
Mower Repairs & Sales	Lifestyle Mowing Machinery	0274-955-948
MP	Chris Penk	021-0230-6106
Pet Spa	Groomville Boutique	021-246-5354
Plant Centre	Kaipara Coast Plant Centre	420-5655
Plumbers	ATL Plumbing Ltd	021-245-9677/420-7868
Plumbers	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Pumps	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Pumps	Mid West Pumps	420-7694
Real Estate	Barfoot & Thompson-Kelly Davison	0274-670-175
Real Estate	Burmester Realty	420-8360
Real Estate	Prestige - Jana Mills	021-509-990/420-9953
Roofing	KPL Ltd	420-9108
Shower Installation	GSI Ltd	0800-466-5327/420-8777
Storage	J S Storage	021-462-930
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Venue Hire	Kaipara Memorial RSA	420-8888
Your Local Business Book	yourlocalbusinessbook@gmail.com	

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A local herself, Sheree lives in the area with her husband and two daughters and has a genuine love for the community.

Having already gained valuable experience within the real estate industry, moving into sales was a natural next step. Sheree brings experience, energy and a personal touch to Burmester Realty — helping people make their next property move with confidence, care and a little fun along the way.

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