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• The road works underway in Puriri Street

Roundabout mooted for Commercial Rd

Puriri Street in Helensville has been upgraded with a pair of chicanes and a mini-roundabout in an effort to slow speeding drivers.

And the \$195,000 project may be followed by a roundabout at the intersection of Commercial Road, Puriri and Kowhai Streets.

"Police at Helensville have received repeated requests from residents to prosecute people who speed down the hill on Puriri Street between Garfield Road and Makiri Street," says Auckland Transport media liaison, Mark Hannan.

After consulting residents, the police and councillors a decision was made to install the chicanes and roundabout.

"Other options were considered like speed humps and isolated road narrowing, but these were rejected because of possible disruption and noise concerns for nearby residents," says Mark.

"Studies have shown chicanes can reduce speed by up to 30 percent at the slow point and 15 percent between slow points. The 'mini-roundabout' is to reduce the speed of approaching traffic. [They] achieve up to a 46 percent reduction in speed and also reduce the severity of any collision," he says.

The roundabout has been designed to allow large trucks to travel over the top of the concrete collar surrounding the central island. Modifications were being made so larger truck and trailer combinations will be able to drive over the centre of the roundabout.

Mark says Auckland Transport will be investigating traffic congestion and safety issues at the intersection of Puriri Street with Commercial Road this financial year, with a roundabout a possible solution. There are also plans to build a bus turnaround in Railway Street outside the A&P show grounds.

Western Pioneers win North Harbour rugby championship

The Century 21 Western Pioneers team has won the 2012 North Harbour club rugby championship - the first time a team from this area has won the title.

The premier team, which for the past two seasons has been made up of players from both Helensville and Kumeu rugby clubs, defeated Silverdale 21-15 in the final at North

Harbour Stadium on Saturday, July 28.

It was the first time since 1996 that a senior premier team from Helensville had made it into a North Harbour final.

Hundreds of locals, many dressed in the team's red, black, gold and green colours, were there to support the Burmester Realty-sponsored team.

Tries were scored by top try scorer Richie Ah Chong and Nalu Tuigamala, and kicker Kyle Nuualiitia kicked two penalties and a conversion. Phillip Tuigamala added an impressive drop goal.

The team was only formed two years ago and now has a solid base of players and management to remain a dominant force.

The Pioneers had secured their place in the final with a nail-biting semi-final victory over Takapuna

the previous weekend at Riverhead Domain. Behind on score for much of the match, they clawed their way back in the second half, eventually winning 25-23 in the last minutes of play.



• The Western Pioneers team members celebrates their win

Inside...

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editorial

My June editorial asking the question 'is Helensville dying?' generated some comment from locals. So did last month's Letter to the Editor from Gary Steel, in which he voiced his opinions about our local retail and service sector. A lot of people have voiced their opinions about that to me, and you can read three responses to his letter on page 4.

From my point of view this is great - it shows people are reading this paper, but more importantly it shows people are thinking about the issues and putting forward some ideas and opinions. That's the sign of a community at work.

Talking of communities at work, one of the most overt examples of that locally is the Helensville A&P Association, which runs our local show each year on the back of hard work by volunteers - locals young and old who give up their spare time for the good of our community.

This issue on page 3 we meet one of the 'young' ones - Jordan Bradly, who at 21 has just been elected as the youngest ever president of the association. And on page 6 we meet four of the more senior show helpers who between them have given around 125 years' service to the show - and have just received either life memberships or outstanding service awards for their efforts. Well done ladies!

We have an update on what will be one of this year's biggest events, Helensville's 150th anniversary celebration, on page 7, and take a look at what local arts identity Pauline Mee is up to on page 8.

For some time I have been intrigued by the large cloud of smoke that occasionally appears over Mill Road on a Saturday. A couple of weeks ago I went and took a look at the cause - a burnout competition. The spectators there were loving it, and if revving, squealing car action is your thing, it's a fun and cheap day out just be prepared to wash all your clothes afterwards! You can read about it on page 11.

- Dave Addison, Editor

Kids get arty during the holidays

Navana Mclachlan and Neive Starky (right) show off the laminated bird masks and chokers they made at the Helensville Art Centre during the school holidays. Local children had great fun at a variety of art courses, which included a painting and drawing workshop; making laminated jewellery, crowns and masks; and learning how to make pompom creatures.



Matariki celebrated at Muriwai

Muriwai was blessed at a Matariki celebration with a musical event at the old surf club. The evening began with a putatara and karakia from 8-year-old twins Ariel and Noam Lazarus-Mercer from Whiti te Ra Rewiti Marae, and a crowd of around 120 enjoyed performances by Zuubi, Kinaki, and Kara Gordon and his band, who also performed with locals Tamar Lazarus on flute and Natrose on vocals. Special guests included Hollie Smith.

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Youngest president elected for A&P Show

The Helensville A&P Show has just elected its youngest ever president.

Jordan Brady, a 21-year-old studying economics at Auckland University, took on the role at the A&P Association's AGM last month. He has been on the Helensville A&P executive committee for two years, though his involvement with the show goes back much further.

His family have been strong supporters of the show for four generations. Jordan's father Richard was president in the mid-1980s, and his uncle Graeme is the current chief horse steward. Jordan's great-uncle, J. W. Brady, was president from 1938 to 1947 and is credited with helping the show survive through the Second World War. His paternal great grandfather was also a member of the association, and started a popular competition that involved visitors guessing the weight of livestock.

With such a long family connection, it was probably inevitable Jordan would end up involved with the show.

His early memories of show day are fond; he loved sliding down the big hill on cardboard, something children still do today.

As a child Jordan raised group day calves to compete with at the show. He was also a keen competitor in the indoor events, particularly enjoying the model farm competition. He recalls going out in the early mornings to chop soil and grass out of the garden with his father to craft the perfect prize-winning farm.

These days Jordan's involvement is more work than play. On show day he can usually be found on a tractor, ferrying visitors from the car park into the show grounds; when shows have been wet he has towed stuck cars out of the mud.

He and Richard also work year-round keeping the grounds in order. This year they oversaw the removal of a number of large trees, the laying of some new concrete, and the regular shifting of grazing stock.

When it was first suggested Jordan become president, he thought it must have been a joke. Despite this he is confident his term will be a good one. He is looking forward to presiding over his first committee meeting, and hopes the rain will stay away on show day during his two-year term.



• Jordan at work at the A&P Show in February

The rest of the committee have been very supportive, he says, and organising the show is always a team effort.

Jordan hopes his age will be an advantage, as the show is always looking for young people keen to get involved. He wants people to know anyone can join and that it is a great way to extend their interest in rural life, agriculture and animals.

"There's a lot of fulfilment in being a part of something as huge as the show," he says.

Last year Jordan spent five days helping out at the Royal Easter Show in Auckland. That experience made him realise how unique the Helensville Show is, being closer to the traditional A&P show style than the more entertainment-oriented Easter Show.

The youngest president foresees a future for the Helensville A&P Show that lives up to its bright past.

"Every year it gets a little bit better, and it stays better. We're not just making temporary improvements ... I just want to continue doing that."

- Courtney Addison

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letters

I wanted to reply to Gary Steel's letter in the July issue of the *Helensville News*. I too have only lived here for about five years, but to us the ultimate charm and attraction to continue living here are the wonderful, friendly, welcoming 'locals'. All the shops, cafes, businesses, tradespeople, health providers, council and extremely helpful library staff make every day in Helensville a pleasure.

Maybe Gary Steel has missed the 'magic' of Helensville and is still seeking the professional 'city' image - especially with noisy coffee machines and quick moving, overworked cafe staff. We much prefer the warm friendly staff and relaxed atmosphere of Helensville cafes - yes, the coffee and food are great too! Thank you everyone ... and please don't change!

We also want to congratulate and thank you for your dedication to the *Helensville News* - a very important contribution to the community.

- Terri Walsh

I have read with interest the commentary on Helensville's woes from two different perspectives. One from a 'newcomer' (Gary Steel) and one from the editor and long time local Dave Addison. Both contributors provide valuable input to a rather vexing issue, made even more frustrating by a lack of response from the business community.

By their absence from public recognition of the town's problems, I assume the Business Association has gone into recess.

Regardless, there are hundreds of practical ideas that could help to address our CBD woes, but we need a fresh group of business minds to analyse the issues, consult with the businesses and set some priorities for action.

Back in the late 1980's I had just arrived to work and live in Helensville and was promptly put into the chair of the Business Association. We had just as many empty shops, the Kaipara Dairy Factory and the Bendon plant had closed and dairy farming was at an all time low. Our Business Association committee initiated many remedial actions. Here are just three:

1. Local real estate agent Alan Hargreaves, in conjunction with the council and Business Association, ran a national media campaign to attract industries and investors to our wider catchment.

2. The tourism interests at Parakai joined forces with the Business Association who then created a tourism promotions sub-committee that set about co-ordinating local, regional and national publicity.

3. Concerned about the negative impact from the depression, Mayor Eric Glavish requested the Business Association organise a Vice Regal visit and concert to showcase local talent and lift everyone's spirits (see page 13).

None of these projects would have succeeded without the drive and involvement of a well focused business association.

So ... business people and 'newcomers', I urge you to commit to your community and take up the challenge!

- Greville Walker

Congratulations to all you enterprising souls for providing us 'long established' locals with great service, great coffee, great choice of food, professional service. Nothing is too much trouble - "if I don't have it, let me see if I can get it for you". Just good old relaxed, happy-to-oblige country service. No mental time-warp here - just an aversion to the panic and fast pace of city life.

Is that not one of the reasons Mr Steel chose to reside in the area? Maybe he should return to the more lucrative city where the supermarket stocks what he likes.

- Name Supplied



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Don't argue with new chef!

Diners at the Riverview Restaurant probably won't want to argue with new chef Riccardo Pellizeri - he's a former professional rugby league player and a black belt in jiu jitsu.

Not that they are likely to have anything to complain about as Riccardo brings with him years of restaurant experience both overseas and here in New Zealand, along with a bunch of culinary awards to back up his skills.

Riccardo, who took control of the Riverview's kitchen last month for owners Manny and Karen Correia, was born in Fiji. His father came from Roma, on the outskirts of Rome in Italy, and his mother was Fijian - but Riccardo was raised in Sydney, Australia.

He was trained as a chef while in the Australian air force, which he followed by

working for two years as a chef in Antarctica. He has travelled widely through England, France, Italy, the United States and Asia, learning the intricacies of foreign cuisines along the way.

After his travels he arrived in New Zealand where he worked as a chef for Air New Zealand before taking on a similar role with Singapore Airlines. A stint at a variety of hotels and cafes in Sydney was followed by running both Sails Restaurant and the Union Fish Company in Auckland.

"I love my seafood," he points out.

Riccardo then headed back to Australia, first running the fine dining Tower Restaurant in the Sydney Tower Eye, followed by the Ama Roma Italian restaurant at Sydney's The Rocks.

He has the gongs to go with all the experience, including five Salon Culinaire 'hot box' awards, plus awards for cakes and main courses.

Riccardo's time in the air force led him into a variety of past-times. He played league for the Paramatta Eels, and raced a Holden V8 Konica Cup car for a couple of years. He qualified as both a marksman and a parachutist, and gained his black belt in jiu jitsu. He also found time to gain a diploma in accounting.

Manny says the restaurant's signature dishes will remain, but the

menu will evolve over the next couple of months as Riccardo stamps his mark on the place - already evident with new blackboard specials like chicken breast filled with scallops and topped with avocado and mango sauce.

The current Portuguese/South African theme will be enhanced with Italian options, and Riccardo will introduce an international brunch menu introduced from Tuesdays to Sundays from September.

Manny says employing a professional international chef will allow the restaurant to step up to the next level in terms of service and food consistency.



• Riccardo at work in his Riverview kitchen

Vote to keep Helensville

Locals have voted overwhelmingly in an online poll to keep our town's name as Helensville.

The poll on the Helensville Online website (www.helensville.co.nz) was prompted by a discussion on the Helensville Facebook Community group.

Ninety-two percent of respondents want to town to retain its current European name. Only three percent want it renamed as Te Awaroa, a further three percent combined as Helensville-Te Awaroa, and two percent a completely new name.

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Life memberships and outstanding service awards go to four A&P show stalwarts

Two long-serving women A&P Show members have been awarded life memberships of the Helensville A&P Association - and two others have been given Outstanding Service Awards.

The awards were made at the Association's AGM on Wednesday, July 11, although the recipients won't formally be presented with their certificates and badges until next year's A&P show on Saturday, February 23.

Life memberships will be awarded to Hilary Bott and Thelma Faulkner.

Hilary's involvement with the Show goes back to 1989, when she and husband David first moved on to their lifestyle block in Mangakura Road. She began by helping with catering for the show workers during show week but was soon persuaded to join the Ladies Show Committee.

She was at the forefront of involving non-farmers with the show, instrumental in introducing the now popular show's family pet dog section which she ran during its formative years.

Hilary has always helped out in the indoor section, stewarding in various sections and for the past four years as Chief Indoor Steward. She is also a keen competitor, entering many sections - particularly floral arts.

Hilary was elected show president in 1997 and served for two years, the first woman president not from a farming background.

Former show president Shona Addison says of Hilary: "Her sense of humour and community spirit can only be admired, and David has been a staunch supporter also."

Thelma Faulkner and husband Graeme were South Head dairy farmers and initially became involved with the show through the calf club rings during the 1970s. Their three children all participated with their calves and Graeme was a qualified calf club judge.

Graeme was a keen cattle breeder and exhibitor and became Chief Steward of the show's dairy section; Thelma was involved behind the scenes, sorting tags, putting them in order, re-stringing them, and helping Graeme on show day in the cattle rings.

Thelma was elected to the show committee in 1990 and when Graeme became president in 1995 she was heavily involved during his term when he was suffering failing health.

Over the past 20 years she has been the steward of the now-defunct Women's Division of the Federated Farmers stalls, spent many years with Joy Moore stewarding the cooking classes, and more recently the preserves section.

Thelma is always involved in cleaning and setting up the indoor area on show week, and regularly attends and contributes at indoor meetings.

Outstanding service awards are to be given to Adelia Hackett and Jackie Milina.

Adelia first participated at the Helensville Show more than 60 years ago in Highland dancing, a sport she had started at age four.

She joined the show indoor committee in the late 1980s and has always been involved in the handcraft section, initially with knitting and later with the handcrafts in general, when the crafts were all combined.

Adelia has been a loyal show supporter

• To page 7



• Hilary Bott



• Thelma Faulkner



• Adelia Hackett



• Jackie Milina



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Art exhibition for 150th anniversary

An art exhibition in the Helensville War Memorial Hall will be part of the four days of festivities when Helensville celebrates its 150th anniversary over Labour Weekend.

All levels of artists, from amateur through to emerging and established artists are being invited to participate in the exhibition, which is simply being titled 'Helensville'. It's open to current and past residents, or anyone who has had an involvement in the local art and craft scene.

Exhibition co-ordinators Trudi King and Leda Daniel say there is a wealth of talent across a diverse range of media in

A&P awards continued...

• From page 6

for around 25 years, helping with the set up the week before the show and always attending indoor steward meetings.

Like Adelia, Jackie Milina's early show involvement was through Highland dancing, which she began at age 11. She began helping at the show in 1980 and has spent the last 32 years involved with the children's indoor section. Like Adelia, Jackie has been a supportive member of the indoor committee and during show set up week.

Jackie has often entered the indoor competitions, particularly floral art, and in recent years she has encouraged her children and grandchildren to be involved.

Helensville. The pair met several years ago through Art Kaipara and were part of the establishment committee for the Helensville Art Centre.

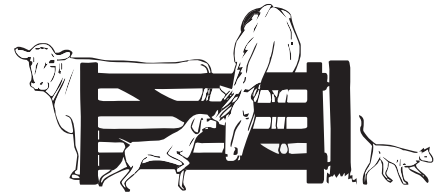
The pair stress the exhibition is a celebration for all artists, and hope to see a wide range of work on display.

The exhibition opening will coincide with a wine and cheese film evening, limited to 250 people, being held on Friday, October 19 to kick off the 150th anniversary celebrations. It will then be open all weekend free to the public.

For more information or to receive a registration pack, phone Trudi on 027 655 5374 or email trudi.king@clear.net.nz, or contact Leda on 021 268 6397, email mikeleda@xtra.co.nz.

Registration packs can be downloaded at www.helensville150th.org.nz, which also has full information on the weekend's other events.

The weekend will also feature a photography exhibition in the old courthouse at the Helensville Museum, titled 'Helensville Past and Present'. It's a collaborative effort between the museum and Trudi, who is a descendant of a Helensville pioneer and is actively involved with the historical society. Helensville historian Wynne HaySmith has worked alongside Trudi on the project, and the hope is the body of work will be used in a historical society project at some stage.



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medical centre notes

We are sad to announce we are losing Michele Cray, one of our nurse leaders, this month; she is taking up an exciting new role in ProCare after a decade working in Helensville. This is a wonderful opportunity and change in position for her, though we are all going to miss her immensely for her excellent clinical acumen, and not only as a colleague but as a friend too. We wish her all the best for the future.

We also welcome our new registrar for the next six months - Dr Anne Mathieson - who has taken over from Dr Hollie Shine.

There are also changes from ProCare relating to the funding for schemes for those with more than one chronic illness. Previously we have enrolled selected patients on 'care plus' for those needing intense input for their chronic conditions, a scheme that allowed heavy subsidising of these patient's care. Unfortunately the funding has changed (and been reduced) for this, and so we are in the process of re-prioritising our chronic care patients so we can still offer the subsidy for those with the most need clinically.

And a final reminder about flu vaccines: August is the last month for free flu vaccination programme for eligible people, so if you haven't had one yet then please come and see us.

- Dr Phillip Barter, Clinical Director

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Pauline's artwork is a 'steel'

Pauline Mee comes from the 'Steel City' - Sheffield in England. But the arts graduate had never worked with steel as an arts medium – until her boyfriend bought a plasma cutter and she found herself in overalls having a go in his workshop.

"It was great fun," she says, "though I screamed and jumped backwards when I first saw all the sparks! But once it was my turn I loved every minute."

Pauline visited the 'Degas to Dali' exhibition at the Auckland City Art Gallery recently, and was inspired by the simplicity of the Henri Matisse woodcuts. Using just a few lines, French artist Matisse produced "amazingly strong and beautiful work".

"Next time I was at the Art Centre's untutored Life Drawing session I grabbed a big bit of builders' paper, a pencil and some scissors and made a torso," says Pauline.

"In the workshop I drew around the torso and followed the pencil line with the plasma cutter.

Pauline says she was "really rapt with the result" and entered the finished piece, called 'Soft as Steel', in the '3 for All' exhibition held at the Art Centre in Karaka Street last month.

This month the Art Centre is holding 'The Art of Paper & Wood' exhibition, for which Pauline says some lovely big pieces of work have been entered. It will feature works including papier-maché and bark fibres.

September will see the 'By Hand From Heart' exhibition, the second to last of Art Kaipara's annual shows for the year. It will feature a

collection of new work produced by the groups members who have been working consistently to improve and surprise.

Pauline, coordinator at the Art Centre, is keen to see the centre being a "real community art space".

To receive the Art Centre's monthly newsletter, phone Pauline on 021 158 6859, email admins.artcentre@gmail.com, or check out the centre on Facebook.



• Sparks fly as Pauline uses the plasma cutter to create her artwork

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Helensville School camp

Helensville Primary School year 7 and 8 students attended their biennial camp at Carey Park in the Henderson Valley recently.

The students spent the week struggling through rope mazes, falling out of kayaks, problem solving as teams, shooting bulls eyes with air rifles and archery bows, completing a confidence course, and even eating raw onions in a challenge styled along the lines of television programme 'The Amazing Race'.

Whether conquering a 7m climbing wall or slamming into the tyres at the end of the massive flying fox, the students enjoyed every minute of the camp.

The students and teachers would like to thank the parents who attended, and the members of the community who contributed to camp costs.



• Shades of 'The Hunger Games' as Georgia Logan (12) tries archery

Undead come alive in Old North Road

The undead came to life in Old North Road last month - but there's no need to fear an invasion in Helensville.

They were just actors, taking part in the filming of a Hollywood remake of cult American horror movie *The Evil Dead*.

Old North Road was closed for most of Friday, July 6 as the US movie production company taped scenes for the film due out in April next year. Filming is also taking place in Detroit, Michigan.

The original *Evil Dead* film, released in 1981, became a huge cult hit with its mix of pre-CGI special effects, corny dialogue, bad acting, outrageous violence and bizarre humour.

It was directed by Sam Raimi, who went on to direct some of the top Hollywood blockbusters, including the *Spiderman* trilogy.

Raimi is co-producing the *Evil Dead* remake, along with the film's original star, Bruce Campbell, who was last seen here in the television series *Burn Notice*. Campbell, a popular figure on the cult film circuit, will cameo in the movie.

The film's third producer is Rob Tapert, the American husband of Kiwi actress Lucy Lawless.

The *Evil Dead* remake follows the same plot as the original, with a group of 20-somethings trapped in a cabin in the woods. One of them discovers the 'Book of the Dead' which he proceeds to read, inadvertently bringing the dead back to life with gory consequences.

As is the current trend, the remake is expected to be darker, more violent and forgo the humour which was a hallmark of the original - moves that have angered fans.

CAB Helensville gets \$4500 grant

Helensville Citizens Advice Bureau has received a \$4500 grant from the Lottery Grants Board.

Bureau chairman Ralph Martin says the Helensville CAB receives a "greatly appreciated" cheque from the Lottery Grants Board each year.

"This year the funds have gone towards operating cost; this will help us continue to deliver a high quality service to the people of Helensville."

Ralph says the CAB's trained advisers can help locals with information on almost any issue including consumer rights, work and unemployment, budgeting, finance and tax, health and counselling, and housing and tenancy.

The Helensville CAB is at 27 Commercial Road Helensville. Phone 420 7162 or email cab.helnv@xtra.co.nz. The office is open Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm.

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HIPPY mid-year celebration

Local HIPPY parents and children celebrated reaching half way through the year recently by working together on a variety of simple yet fun activities in the

Parakai School hall.

The children were all presented with certificates to acknowledge the work done on the programme at home with their parents, and the morning ended with a shared morning tea.

The HIPPY programme promotes shared time between parent and child. Research shows those with a secure relationship with a parent or caregiver develop emotional well-being. Time spent talking and listening to children, reading to them, playing with them, baking together, making things, taking walks or exploring the neighbourhood together are invaluable.

For more information phone Bernie on 420 7434.



• HIPPY tutor Rachel Levenson shows Cherie (8) how to make a sock puppet at the mid-year celebration

More than \$3600 raised for St John

Local St John staff and volunteers wish to thank the communities of Helensville, Waimauku and Kumeu for their generosity, which saw \$3642 raised during the organisation's recent local collection by members of the local area committee, youth leaders and cadets.

The money raised will go towards helping the local St John youth groups and the Helensville station.

Particular thanks go to the Artstop Cafe, DD's Cafe Waitoki, Ginger Crunch Cafe, Helensville Service Station, Helensville Vet Service, Kaipara Medical Centre, Kaukapakapa Store, Parakai 4 Square, The Cafe Helensville, and The Traditional Butcher, businesses which put St John collection boxes on their counters and sold special St John pens.

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Funding for arts and cultural projects

Creative Communities Scheme

Auckland Council invites applications for funding under the Creative Communities Scheme.

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- support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities
- enable and encourage young people to engage with and actively participate in the arts
- create opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities

Information sessions and application workshops are being held in your local area. Applications close Friday 5pm, 24 August 2012.

► Find out more: phone 09 301 0101
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Smokey but no bandit at burnout competition



Smoke billows from the rear tyres of the black Ford Falcon of locals James Hanham and Hayden Bird as they squeal their way to winning the six cylinder class at the Kaipara Classic Car Club's latest 'burnout' competition on July 14.

Around 300 spectators enjoyed the pungent smell of burning rubber and watched as 15 competitors from as far away as Whangarei and Hamilton - and including a number of locals - spun their tyres in an effort to produce the biggest cloud of smoke and ultimately blow out their tyres on an oval set up in Dave Swale's Mill Road yard.

Competing for prizes in three classes - V8s, six cylinder, and four cylinder or rotary - the drivers are judged on a scale from one to 10 covering areas such as finesse around the oval, the amount of smoke produced, and tyre popping. Each burst tyre is worth one point. Different club members judge at each event.

Club spokesman Mike Barton says they are very conscious of wind direction, and points out a halt was called to the day's event late in the afternoon when the wind started to blow toward Helensville.

"We really appreciate the consideration of the locals," says Mike, who adds the club sees holding these events as a way of engaging with local young people and hopefully encouraging them to participate in a controlled environment, rather than on the streets.

The club has permission from Auckland Council to run six events each year; this is the second year they have held competitions at Swale's yard. The next burnout competition is scheduled for Saturday, September 15.

Visual tour of Kaukapakapa over the years at third lecture

Viewing Kaukapakapa over the years was the subject of the third Lecture of the Historical Society's Winter Series, held at the Father Sakey Centre on Sunday, July 15.

An audience of more than 40 people followed Colin Lunt's narrative and picture presentation, which gave a comprehensive view of Kaukapakapa's past.

The first section highlighted most effectively the reasons for emigration to New Zealand - the poor living and working conditions, particularly in the midlands of England, the lack of opportunity for improvement in prospects for ordinary people, and the desire to make a new start in a new land.

Video footage of the Kaukapakapa 150th celebrations showed the story of local pioneers as presented in tableau format, with Isla Willis's commentary and representatives of the actual families. Footage of celebration events, including the luncheon and the interdenominational church service were also part of Colin's presentation.

Some of the audience travelled from outside the district to attend and were very complimentary about the presentation.

A double DVD set including musical background was on sale on the day, and can be obtained from the Helensville Museum for \$20 (phone 09 420 7881, or email helensvillemuseum@xtra.co.nz).

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Parakai mechanic pair back after three-year 'retirement'

"We're back" - that's the message from Davey Leach and Noel Bodle, who have started up in business again at Springs Road under the Parakai Automotive banner.

The pair started Parakai Motordrome in 1980 and ran it for 29 years, selling the company in 2009 to Bernie Flynn.

They spent "a year or so" working part-time for Bernie and running the local AA breakdown service, but the past couple of years have been spent in semi-retirement.

Last month we reported how Bernie had moved the Parakai Motordrome business to Mill Road in Helensville and rechristened it Helensville Mechanical Services.

That left the Parakai building empty, so Davey and Noel decided to put their retirements on hold and start again.

The premises are another matter, with the pair putting a major investment into all new equipment, including two new hoists, work benches and all the

electronic testing gear needed by a modern mechanical repair shop.

They are currently working on their own, with help from a part-time office person, but Davey says they will employ staff as business builds up again.

As well as the usual vehicle servicing, mechanical repairs and warrants of fitness, they will also be doing tractor and ride-on mower repair.

They also offer a breakdown, lockout and flat battery service and on-site servicing, courtesy cars and are official AA battery stockists.



• Davey Leach (left) and Noel Bodle outside Parakai Automotive

Local bowls hero passes away

Fishing on the Kaipara and playing lawn bowls were lifelong passions for Helensville's Ivan Kostanich, who died recently aged 91. Friends say that his two interests would overlap when he shared his catches with his bowling cronies.

A walk around Ivan's home patch, the Helensville Bowling Club rooms, shows he won his first club title in 1942, and his last in 2010 - a span of 68 years, a pretty amazing record. In the intervening years he won a very large number of trophies at all levels of the sport - club, region, national and international.

Ivan won awards as a singles bowler and a team player. He is reported to have taken 23 major singles and 35 team titles, and in 1978 took the Commonwealth Games Pairs. He won four Gold Stars (representing 20 titles) and in 1984, 1989 and 1991 was Auckland Bowler of the Year.

Anyone following Helensville bowling results from the 1960s onwards would have seen Ivan's team on the board week after week. Ivan will be sadly missed by his local club members and bowlers throughout the country.

- Wynne HaySmith



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Farewell to former town champion

Former Parakai and Helensville resident Mary Throll passed away on June 13 at her home in Glen Eden at the age of 90.

Mary was a leading talent scout and booking agent for nearly 50 years, an accomplished singer and entertainment industry leader who earned the ultimate accolade - the Benny Award for Services to Entertainment.

She was a tireless worker for the hundreds of clients on her books. In 1987, suffering from burnout and needing a break from her hectic schedule, she moved into Craigweil House at Parakai for rest and personal health care by then owner and well known naturopath, Val Wright.

Mary's autobiography attributes her health recovery entirely to the relaxed and friendly environment of Helensville and Parakai - so much so that she bought her own home, set up an entertainment office, restarted her booking agency and returned to performing her song and dance routines.

She promoted local businesses including Aquatic Park, the Grand Hotel and the Kaipara Tavern.

In 1989, concerned about the depressed state of the area, Mayor Eric Glavish and Business Association Chairman Grev Walker organised a community concert to raise locals' spirits.

Called the 'Helensville Does It' Variety Show, it performed to a full house, which included then Governor General, Sir Paul and Lady Reeves. Mary auditioned, selected

and directed the entertainers, and Helensville's Alan Hargreaves compered the show, which ended with a rendition of Pokarekare Ana by the artists, led by Mary.

Mary continued her work in our area until 1992 when she returned to Auckland and met and married Les Harris, with whom she shared 20 happy years.

- Greville Walker



Helensville couple Mike and Pauline O'Neill with their Lloyd Morgan Lions Clubs Charitable Trust Life Membership Awards, which they received from the Helensville Lions Club. It's the highest award in New Zealand for service to Lions and the community. Mike and Pauline have been members of Helensville Lions since 2004 and have held positions including president, secretary and committee chairs.

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From the Chairman

Your Health Trust has received feedback that local residents, either without their own

transport, or perhaps temporarily unable to drive, have difficulty attending local health appointments. These appointments are important for recovery and rehabilitation, whether they be doctor, physiotherapy or specialist visits from Waitakere.

We would be most interested to hear from you as to whether a volunteer driver service for local appointments might be of assistance to you. Please phone the Health Trust (09) 420 7878 if you have feedback or an interest in supporting this.

Waitemata runs a community-to-hospital shuttle service for Waitemata Health residents who are attending appointments at North Shore, Waitakere and Auckland Hospitals and the Greenlane Clinical Centre. There are charges made for this service, but children under five are free. Other passengers pay standard fares.

For more information about fares and bookings, phone 0800 809 342 OR (09) 426 0918 Monday to Friday between 9.30am – 4pm. Bookings are essential and must be made two working days in advance.

Child Health

The opening of the extended children's ward in June is very good news for local families. The Rangitira Ward at Waitakere Hospital was officially opened by the Hon. Paula Bennett. There are now 33 beds for children.

Waitemata Health strongly advise that children who are unwell should be seen by their local doctor first. Local doctors can work closely with the paediatricians at Waitakere anytime and get 'on the spot' advice by calling them directly from the surgery. As a result, we can ensure that the best decisions for the healthcare of our children are made. If the doctor refers the child, then the Hospital and paediatrician are expecting the unwell child on arrival.

The Waitakere service also provides specialist clinics for children at the request of your family doctor. The clinics are run at Waitakere Hospital but some outreach clinic sites include a monthly paediatrician clinic based in Helensville at the Kaipara Medical Centre.

This is all part of the ongoing development of child health services in our region. Some of the planning to prevent hospital admissions and keep children healthier is involving work with Auckland, Counties and Northland District Health Boards acting as a regional group. This group is looking at ways to work together to reduce childhood injury, sudden infant death, serious skin infections, serious chest infections and rheumatic fever.

Strategic Broker

The South Kaipara Community is fortunate to be one of five recipients of Ministry of Social Development funding for community development. This will support an 18 month contract for a strategic broker.

Arohanui – Grace was appointed to this position in May. Grace is working closely with a wide range of social agencies and trusts in our community.

The purpose of this project is to work with services and organisations, towards creating a more collaborative, connected way of managing funding and activities to achieve healthy outcomes. The Health Trust has been appointed to administer the funding and is working closely with Grace to help facilitate her work.

We are actively supporting the South Kaipara Community Treasure Hunt on Saturday 18 August. Join in and find out what we already have in our community. You may be very pleasantly surprised how much is happening!

Dianne Kidd,
Chairman

Our South Kaipara Community Treasure Hunt Seeking out the treasures of our community

- ✦ Come to our FREE Community Treasure Hunt for the whole neighbourhood!
- ✦ Start at the Helensville Memorial Hall and travel around finding the treasures with your whanau and neighbours
- ✦ Travel around Helensville collecting clues that piece together some of our area's amazing story and natural beauty
- ✦ Bring your whole family, friends and lively spirits
- ✦ You can walk to find clues and surprises, go hard out on your bicycle, scooter or donkey to cover the distance, or just sit back and enjoy the hustle and bustle
- ✦ Gather a team and enter the fun!

Registration for the event will start at the Helensville Memorial Hall at 12.30 pm on Saturday 18th August 2012 and treasure hunters will finish at the Hall by 3pm.

There will be something for everyone to participate in and enjoy!

Contact Grace on 027 457 1550
oursouthkaipara@gmail.com

Helensville Birthing Centre update

For the fifth year in a row we are hosting 'The Big Latch On' at the Alison McKenzie community House. Local mums and their babies will gather to try and break the record for the number of babies breastfeeding simultaneously throughout the country. The theme this year is Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding.



Baby Estelle, born at Helensville Birthing Centre keeps warm in her Alpaca hat.

The Baby Friendly Community Initiative in the Helensville district continues with HIPPY tutors and Parent Aid completing their breastfeeding support training. Other community organisations are expected to follow.

In the last year we recorded more than 400 families having stayed with us for either birthing or post natal care after a transfer from either North Shore or Waitakere Hospitals. Even after some of our busiest months ever, comments such as these reinforce the value of this special community service: 'The most calming and tranquil experience with a newborn baby.' – (first time parents) 'All the advice was great and extremely helpful and instilled confidence.' Our special thanks to Waitakere Alpacas and others who have generously donated knitted garments for babies who stay here to take home with them.

with Peter Brennan of Porcini Cafe

Here's to pears

"There are only ten minutes in the life of a pear when it is perfect to eat." - Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Pears are in the stores now; the varieties include Comice, Bosc, Taylor's Gold and Winter Nelis. Pears generally ripen in the late summer through to autumn, and if picked at the correct time they will store very well in the cool room or fridge. Leave them on the bench for a few days and they will warm and begin to soften. My wife likes them very crisp but I enjoy pears with a little softness and plenty of juice. We can get both from the Winter Nelis just by managing the time out of the cool store.

Pears have been part of the human diet for a very long time and are very adaptable with a bit of imagination. They make great chutneys and spicy sauces, they stew well, they can be peeled and roasted with a splash of balsamic vinegar and soft brown sugar, diced and added to warm roasted walnuts as a salad garnish, they can be poached in syrups and wine, dipped in melted chocolate, eaten raw with blue cheese or made up into pies and pastries as a beautiful dessert.

Perhaps the most romantic of pastry desserts is the Tarte Tatin, often made with apples but wonderful when made with pears.



Tarte Tatin

- 30g butter
- 1 cup Caster or white sugar
- 3-4 Firm pears, peeled, quartered then halved again.
- Puff pastry

Place a non stick pan onto a low to medium heat and add the sugar. Heat until the sugar begins to melt and starts to bubble, remove from the heat, add the butter and stir in. Return to the heat and allow to simmer until the caramel starts to slightly brown.

Add the pear slices to the caramel and stir gently to ensure they are all coated in the sugar butter mix. Allow to cook gently for several minutes until the pears begin to soften, then remove from the heat.

Use a non stick spring-form cake tin.

Add the pear mix until it is two thirds full.

Cut a disk of pastry slightly larger than the cake tin and tuck it over the warm fruit.

Heat the oven to 200° celsius, bake the tart until the pastry is cooked and evenly browned, about 15-20 minutes. Some of the liquid will also bubble out of the tin.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool, then chill in the fridge for a couple of hours. Light a gas ring or turn on the stove element, pass the bottom of the tin over the heat briefly to loosen the sugar butter mix from the pan. Place a plate over the tin and turn upside down, give a couple of shakes and the tart should pop out, pastry down and glazed fruit on top. Cut portions and serve with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream.



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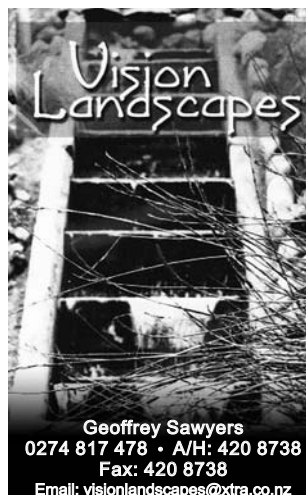
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■ TRIVIAL PURSUITS #1

Helensville Junior Rugby holds its annual Trivial Pursuits evening at the Helensville War Memorial Hall on Saturday, August 11. Doors open 7pm and tickets are \$15 per person. BYO drinks, light supper provided and raffles with many prizes. Phone Roxanne on 420 4458 with enquiries.

■ TRIVIAL PURSUITS #2

The Helensville & District Historical Society holds its annual Trivial Pursuits evening on Friday, 17th August starting 7.30pm at the Helensville War Memorial Hall. Cost is \$10 per person, teams of eight. Contact John Smith, phone 420 8428 to register a team.

■ TRIVIAL PURSUITS #3

A 'Game of Brains' Trivial Pursuits evening will be held at the Kaipara Memorial RSA in Commercial Road on Wednesday, 29th August starting 7.30pm. Cost is \$10 per person. Register as an individual or a team of up to four at the club, which opens at 4pm. Prizes on the night. Contact Brian Caltaux, phone 420 8888 or kaipara.rsa@xtra.co.nz.

■ KKK PONY CLUB

Kaukapakapa Pony Club is holding a

registration for the new season on Saturday, August 25 from 2pm to 4pm at the end of Henley Road, Kaukapakapa.

■ ARTHRITIS SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting of the Helensville Arthritis Support Group is on Thursday, August 16, at 10.30 am in the Helensville War Memorial Hall meeting room. Guest speaker will be Kaz Howlett from the Disability Resource Centre, who will showcase the equipment they supply. Everyone welcome, tea/coffee served, and a gold coin donation is appreciated. Phone Merle Griffiths on 420 8774 or Ina Stoner on 420 7875 with enquiries.

■ TREASURE HUNT

Our South Kaipara is holding a 'treasure' hunt on Saturday, August 18 from 1pm to 3pm. The free family event will take 2-3 hours wandering around Helensville exploring the 'treasures' of our local community. Along the trails will be activity stations highlighting community treasures, which may include special parts of the local landscape, people, community resources, groups or projects.

Mini events, special tasks, information or refreshments may be available at each point of discovery on the trails. The trails will converge at the Helensville War Memorial Hall for a barbeque, music and prizes.

Contact Grace: phone 027 457 1550, email: oursouthkaipara@gmail.com

■ MASQUERADE BALL

The South Kaipara Community Fund will hold a masquerade ball on Saturday, August 18 from 6.30pm at the Helensville War Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$50 per person, limited to 90 tickets, which includes a three-course dinner and entertainment. Tickets available from Helensville Copy and Print.

■ KAUKAPAKAPA MARKET

The next Kaukapakapa village market is on Sunday, August 19. Stalls, live music, sausage sizzle, and raffles plus a free craft workshop from 9am to 1pm with Sharon, who will show how to knit & crochet using silk.

Contact Sarah, phone 0274 831 542, email sarah1@maxnet.co.nz or Kim, 420 5776.

■ COFFEE, CAKE AND CONVERSATION

A Coffee, Cake and Conversation group meets on Friday mornings from 10am-12pm in the Helensville Community Church building, behind the Hospice shop in Mill Road. Meetings are free and suitable for anyone wanting friendship, someone to talk to or needing encouragement. Contact Glenys Coombridge, phone 420 2995.



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