

## Local woman caught in Japan earthquakes

A young Helensville woman caught up in last month's deadly earthquakes in Japan says she was "really scared" by the ordeal.

Elley Stanton (25) lives right in the centre of Kumamoto City on the island of Kyushu, where she teaches English. Her apartment is only 14km from the epicentre of the first 6.5 magnitude quake which struck at about 9.30pm on Thursday, April 14, and which was followed at 1.30am the following Saturday by another of 7.3 magnitude which caused widespread damage and killed at least 47 people.

When the initial quake struck Elley was in a friend's apartment with two other English teachers on the sixth floor of her apartment building. They spent the rest of that night in an evacuation centre in a nearby elementary school gym.

When the bigger quake struck the next night she was sleeping in another friend's apartment directly above her own.

"We had thought the initial earthquake was the 'big one' so we decided to stay in the apartment building rather than at the

evacuation centre. But we were wrong!

"In my time here we have experienced quite a few small quakes, nothing serious and we were never impacted by them, so when the first one started we initially thought it was another small one.

"But it quickly became violent and was quite long, and when the shaking had stopped we realised it had trashed my friend's kitchen quite a bit," she says.

They quickly left the building and met up with the other tenants of their apartment building.

"We were all pretty shaken. There were frequent strong aftershocks, but we couldn't see much damage in the dark to the buildings in our neighbourhood besides a few roof tiles on the ground."

They spent the night with about 50 people in their local evacuation centre.

"It was the second quake that really scared us," says Elley.

"We were asleep, and woke up to the whole room shaking, curtains swaying, the TV fell over, the kitchen was trashed. We had

backpacks ready to go in case we needed to leave, so we grabbed them and headed out, and spent the rest of that night and the next three nights in the evacuation centre.

"On the way to the centre we could see a lot more damage, piles of rubble here and there, and there was still a lot of shaking. We were walking in the middle of the road to stay clear of falling roof tiles. This time, the gym and a lot of the hallways and



• Elley Stanton

classrooms were packed with people. We estimated about 1000 people in our evac centre."

Elley was able to go back to her apartment on the April 19. The building, a six-storey concrete structure, suffered some visible

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• The view which greeted Elley through the front door of her apartment

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## editorial

It's a bit of a sad issue this time, as we farewell three prominent locals who have passed away in recent weeks.

Publishing obituaries is always a difficult thing. These people have had packed lives, and have made major contributions to our local community. Trying to convey their measure in a few hundred words is almost impossible, and we always run the risk of doing someone a disservice.

However, it's important to celebrate what they achieved, so that those who knew them can reminisce, and those that didn't can learn something of the people who have helped shape the Helensville area.

On the front page you can meet local Elley Stanton, who has just lived through the earthquake in southern Japan - she tells us just what that was like.

- Dave Addison, Editor

## Caught in earthquakes (cont...)



• The evacuation centre where Elley spent five nights in total

• From page 1

cracks in the stairwell, but Elley says it didn't appear too bad. Her apartment was another matter.

"My kitchen was hit the worst - cupboards opened and glasses, plates, food etc flew out and smashed."

The fridge, microwave and pantry tipped over and their contents were mostly broken, although a few items survived the fall. There was still no running water two days after moving back in, and the gas was expected to take one to two weeks to restore.

Elley, who studied Japanese while a student at Kaipara College, is employed by the Kumamoto City Board of Education and teaches at four schools - three junior highs and one elementary school, to mainly 11 to 15-year-olds.

The schools were to stay closed for at least a week and Elley hadn't been able to see if they suffered damage, but she says the Board of Education building "was a mess".

"They have a lot of shelves of books and paperwork, and it was all over the

place."

As for the city of Kumamoto itself, Elley says it's "sad and shocking" to see damage to familiar places.

"I live about a five minute walk from Kumamoto Castle, and from the road you can see a lot of damage. There is a lot of cleaning up to do. But it's also heart-warming to receive such care and support from people in our neighbourhood and the city.

"I work as an assistant language teacher (ALT) and there is quite a large community of ALTs. We have all been sticking together, and have received help from friends, colleagues and strangers. Drinking water, food, and other supplies have been supplied at the evacuation centres, and everyone is watching out for each other."

"We are grateful we are so fortunate. There are some towns where a lot of people have lost their homes," she adds.

Elley has been in Japan for almost two years, and her Board of Education contract finishes in August. The quakes haven't made her want to leave early, and at this stage she doesn't know if she will return home at the end of her contract.

## Photography exhibition

Locals can take part in the 2016 Auckland Festival of Photography by displaying their own works at the Helensville Art Centre.

The festival, from June 2 to 25, features exhibitions across Auckland, but Helensville is one of only a handful of venues holding an exhibition open to anyone.

Framed photos should be taken to the Art Centre between 10am and 4.30pm on Tuesday May 31 or Wednesday June 1. There will be a \$2 fee per photograph. The exhibition will open on Friday, June 3 from 5pm to 7pm.

During the exhibition the Art Centre's media room will be showing over 1000 images by photographer Fred Mans.

For more information contact Pauline, phone 021 158 6859 or email: coordinator@artcentrehelensville.org.nz.



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# 110-years for Makarau hall

A weekend of events to celebrate the 110th anniversary of the Makarau Hall will be held on the weekend of May 14 and 15.

While aimed primarily at locals, it is expected people will be coming from well outside the district to attend the events.

On the Saturday there will be a high tea at 2pm (cost \$10) and dinner at 6pm (cost \$25), followed by a short stage play titled 'So You Want to Move to Makarau?', performed by the 'Mad Makarau Players'.

On the Sunday there will be a non-denominational service run by celebrant Felicity Smith at 11am, followed by a light luncheon (cost \$15).

There will be displays, as well as stories written down by locals, which will include those from Tahekeroa. Anyone with memories of Makarau and its environs which they would like to share should phone Alison

Adams on 420 5112, or Christine Pikett on 420 4042.

In the past Makarau had a railway station, and a school which ran three days per week with a teacher shared with another part-time school.

To book for any of the weekend's events, phone Amisha O'Brien on 420 4282.



• Makarau hall

## Adult literacy course ready for clients

Helensville's free adult literacy programme is looking for its first clients.

This programme provides confidential one-on-one teaching for locals who need help with reading and writing. Based at the South Kaipara Men's Trust in Commercial Road, it provides flexible, supervised support in reading development free of charge.

Clients will initially be assessed to establish an appropriate starting level, then methods and materials chosen to suit their individual needs. Flexibility is key, with session times and dates arranged to suit. Each learner will work individually with a trained volunteer, who themselves undertake regular supervision.

Overseeing the whole programme is Dr Tony Morrison, a life-long adult educator.

Links with other services available in the Helensville area will be made as needed.

Anyone wanting to take part in the free adult literacy programme, or people who know someone who would benefit from it, should phone South Kaipara Men's Trust director Frank Veacock on 420 8263 or 027

2288 603, or call into the SKMT in person at Alison McKenzie House, on the corner of Porter Cres and Commercial Rd, on Thursdays and Fridays.

## Brewers win gold

A Helensville-based boutique brewery has won two gold medals against stiff competition from around the country in a prestigious competition.

Joe and Christina Wood's Liberty Brewing Company is based in Mill Road, and they won gold for both their Knife Party IPA and C!tra Double IPA beers in the New World Beer & Cider Awards.

The couple, who have lived locally since about 1990, were competing against 82 other brewers who entered 458 different beers and ciders in 13 categories. The entries were blind judged over two days by a 15-strong independent panel of experts. Overall 40 gold medals were awarded.

The Wood's gold medal beers are now available in New World supermarkets nationwide.

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# Busy time for tennis club at Rautawhiri Park

Helensville Tennis Club has been flat out setting up the pavilion at Rautawhiri Park since taking on the community lease from Auckland Council last October.

Club members have been working with the other user groups, the Lions Club, Kaipara Netball and Kaipara Junior Touch, to develop a well-run facility for our community.

Just having someone on site on a regular basis has made a difference, says club administrator Gaylene Ashton.

The crockery supply has been sorted and is planned to be built up to an 80 place setting to cater for major functions, and the club is

also hoping to get a meeting room table and chairs for the meeting room off the lounge so that room can be hired separately for smaller meetings.

The main pavilion is available for hire for a wide range of functions at reasonable rates.

The club has just wrapped up another successful season, with the mixed doubles team winning its division in the Tennis Northern interclub competition. The team of Vicky Beattie, Fred Pereeti, David and Justina Ruzich, Tony and Annette Hemehe, and David and Mili Sipa, won eight of their games through the season outright, drew another, and drew the remaining game but lost it on a count-back.

All of the fortnightly interclub games were played away, as the Rautawhiri Park courts are not in good enough condition to host home games – resurfacing the astroturf courts will be a focus of the club's upcoming fundraising.

To that end the club is holding a Trivial Pursuit evening on Friday, July 1 in the Rautawhiri Park Pavilion at 7pm for a 7.30 start. Tickets are \$10 per person with tables of eight. Supper will be provided, and there will be the usual raffles and prizes; the evening will be BYO drinks & nibbles.

Helensville Tennis Club currently has 16

junior members (up to 18 years) and 37 seniors, plus another 13 casual payers. It is looking to increase those numbers, and will hold an open day on Sunday, September 18 from 2pm to 4pm.

Gaylene says the club is looking to work with local schools to boost junior membership.

The men's senior team finished 10th out

of 12 teams in the interclub competition, while the boy's junior team, made up of Karl Ruzich, Jordan Cowper, Josiah Sipa, Jirah Karowia, and Branden Cowper came second equal in Grade B2 out of eight teams.

As well as interclub, the club has the Burmester Realty business house mixed doubles competition, which this season had 24 teams.

It's a social competition with every level of player catered for, including complete novices, and players don't have to be club members – or even locals for that matter. Pool A winners this year were the RCI Ltd team of Phillip Ashton and Rewa Ross. Pool B was won by the PG Smith Ltd team of Miles and Rosie Smith, while Pool C winners were Anne Holst and Richard Benson-Cooper of Kaipara Farm Services.

The club also has its own championships played over four weeks each season.



• Concentration during play from club member and Kaipara College student Karl Ruzich (14)

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## Stopping number plate thieves

This is Nick Jennings (right) of South Kaipara Community Patrol (SKCP), making life harder for thieves by fitting security screws to a car's numberplate during a recent 'Safer Plates' event in Helensville.

SKCP members fitted the special screws, which cannot be removed with normal screwdrivers, to around 50 vehicles during a four-hour session in the Mitre 10 carpark on Saturday, April 9. The screws were fitted for a gold coin donation, and Mitre 10 owner Michael Beale donated sausages and bread for a fundraising sausage sizzle.

Nick says four SKCP members were on duty for the event, which is part of a nation-wide programme run by Community Patrols New Zealand, which supplies the special anti-theft screws. He says it's likely a repeat event will be held later in the year.

Helensville community constable, Mandi Bell says: "It makes it difficult for the opportunist thief to remove. It can be quite a nuisance to have your number plates stolen. This is an easy step we can all take to reduce that chance."

Nick says SKCP has around 16 members, but is always looking for more. Anyone interested in joining can pick up an application form at the Helensville police station.





## PPTA award for college branch chair

Kaipara College careers advisor and Post Primary Teachers' Association (PPTA) branch chairperson Claire Couch has been awarded the PPTA's Guy Allan Branch Activism Award for the Auckland/Counties Region.

Claire was nominated by fellow PPTA members for her achievement in maintaining a 92 percent membership rate during her 13 years at Kaipara College, which they put down to her personable abilities.

"Her mediation skills and advice has been appreciated, and problems sorted before they have been blown out of proportion," says Auckland PPTA field officer Andrew Barron.

The nomination also acknowledged the extra hours she put in on their behalf, frequently making round-trip journeys of 100km to attend regional meetings, while also filling the roles of branch secretary and treasurer.

Claire's years of experience as a PPTA branch chair span her teaching career. From the early 1990s she has served as a branch chair at Bay of Islands College, Opotiki College and Raglan Area School, before joining the staff of Kaipara College in 2003.

"Over the years as branch chair in the various schools I have been in, I loved



• Claire Couch with her award

standing up for what I believed in," she says. "Protest marches, meetings in town, conferences, the hard talks on behalf of colleagues, baking scones on behalf of the PPTA..."

## Three free compost courses

Three free, two-hour courses on composting will be held in Helensville over the coming months.

The courses will be run by the Compost Collective team of Rosie Hutchinson, Tori Christie and Pip Beagley, and will cover traditional composting techniques, worm farming, and bokashi systems.

Bokashi is a Japanese-developed system that allows materials such as cooked food, meat, fish, cheese, bread and eggs that normally attract pests to be composted in a sealed bucket.

Participants will learn how to use the various systems effectively. They will be shown how to make their own bokashi or worm farm using materials provided, will help to develop a hot compost system, and

will be given practical advice to take home.

Each participant will also receive a \$40 discount on the system that suits them.

The first two courses, on Wednesdays May 18 and June 15, will be held at Peacemakers in Fordyce Road, Parakai, while the third course, on Wednesday, July 20, will be held at the Community Recycling Centre in Mill Road, Helensville.

The Compost Collective is funded by Auckland Council, and its courses have already reached more than 10,000 people Auckland-wide. A previous workshop held locally attracted a dozen participants.

To book, phone 021 104 1680 or email: [rosie@compostcollective.org.nz](mailto:rosie@compostcollective.org.nz). More information is available online at: [www.compostcollective.org.nz](http://www.compostcollective.org.nz).

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# New physio enjoying local work

New Helensville physiotherapist Tania Stokes is relishing working locally for the first time.

Tania has lived in Helensville all her life, but has always worked elsewhere until joining the team at PhysioFlex in March.

Well, not quite all her life - she was actually born in Rarotonga, but moved to New Zealand at just three weeks old. Her mother's family come from Aitutaki and Pukapuka in the Cook Islands.

She attended Helensville Primary and Kaipara College, then went to AUT where she studied sport and recreation. She followed that by working for five years for Sport Waitakere in a number of roles, including administration and as a youth coordinator.

A keen netballer who played at rep level, Tania developed an interest in physiotherapy from always being surrounded by physios while playing, so she headed back to AUT for a four-year degree course in physiotherapy, aided by a scholarship from Netball Waitakere (she was at this time playing for Te Atatu Netball Club).

She has spent the last nine years since qualifying as a physiotherapist working with the physio rehabilitation group at Waitakere Trust Stadium, covering mostly sports-



• Tania Stokes in the PhysioFlex gym

based therapy and post-operative rehabilitation.

While there she spent a lot of time working and travelling with elite netball teams such as the Mystics.

Tania has kept up her professional development, completing post-graduate studies in acupuncture last year at AUT - and hopes in future to put that qualification toward a masters degree.

She says the post-graduate study was "a bit hectic" with young children to look after at the same time.

Tania and husband Scott, a boat builder, have three daughters. Six-year-old Rhia goes to Helensville Primary and is already following in her mother's netball playing footsteps, and four-year-old twins Mikyah and Charli attend Montessori.

Twins run in the family - both Tania and her mother are twins as well. Tania's whole family live locally.

Tania works at PhysioFlex in Commercial Road on Mondays, a half-day on Wednesdays, and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings - though she expects she will increase her hours once all three children are at school.

## College victorious at Waka Ama champs

Kaipara College teams won three gold medals and gained three other podium finishes at the Te Wānanga o Aotearoa National Secondary School Waka Ama Championships at Rotorua in April.

Principal Patrick Gale says the highlight for him was the school also taking away the prestigious Putu Mihaka trophy for the team that displayed the best spirit and sportsmanship.

The college Under 16 mixed team won gold in the W12 250m event. The boys U16 team took gold in the W6m 500m final and bronze in the 250m final. The girls U16 team won silver in their W6 250m final.

The U19 girls team took gold in the W6 250m event, while the U19 mixed team gained silver in the W12 250m final.



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# Winter lecture on Shanks family

A slideshow presentation on the Shanks family of Kaukapakapa will kick off this year's Historical Society Winter Lecture series.

It will be held at the Father Saakey Centre at the Catholic Church in Kowhai Street, Helensville, from 2pm on Sunday, May 15. Entry costs \$10 per person (\$8 for society members) and includes afternoon tea.

The lecture will be presented by Bruce Shanks of Manurewa. Bruce was born in Helensville, as were his parents and grandparents, and he also has ties to the Russell, Spinley and Bradly families in the local area.

Bruce has been investigating his family history since the late 1980s, and his detailed family histories are held in the family history section of the Helensville Museum.

A hobby photographer before he began researching genealogy, Bruce has found his two interests have complemented each other. He took his first photos at aged 12 on his grandmother's Box Brownie camera - and double exposed every shot. That mistake spurred him on to learn how to take

photographs properly.

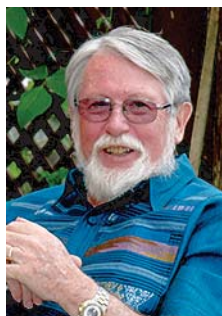
Bruce considers he has been a trendsetter as a photographer - for example, he began using digital cameras around 1998, long before they were in general use.

He has been an active member of camera clubs, and has taken many exhibition and prizewinning photos.

Bruce worked as a pharmacist in managerial roles for 57 years, before retiring at 73. As well as a hobby, photography was a parallel profession for Bruce, and he was a member of the New Zealand Professional Photographers Association for more than 30 years.

He has lived in Manurewa since 1961, but has retained a keen interest in the Helensville-Kaukapakapa district, and is a long-standing member of the Historical Society.

The second lecture in the Historical Society's three-part series will feature Chris Hagon of the Cauldrey House Society, Wenderholm, who will talk about some of the stately homes in England where he worked. It will be held on Sunday, June 19.



• Bruce Shanks

## medical centre notes

Kaipara Medical Centre is encouraging patients to register and enjoy the benefits of the 'Manage My Health' secure online health solution.

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May sees the arrival of Dr Anuj Gupta, our new permanent GP from Singapore. There will be a more detailed profile in the June issue. Also, at the end of May Dr Emily Moss returns to the UK following her six month stay here in New Zealand, and we wish her all the best and hope to see her here again.

- Dr Phillip Barter, Clinical Director



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## AUTUMN 2-DAY BOOK FAIR

Helensville War Memorial Hall  
Saturday 28th May 9am-4pm  
Sunday 29th May 10am-3pm

# 24,000 books up for grabs

Probably the biggest ever selection of books will be on offer at the Helensville Lions Club's two-day Autumn Book Fair later this month.

The club's 'chief book sorter' Chris Clark told *Helensville News* he already had 501 banana boxes full of books packed a month before the event, with another 54 boxes in the process of being sorted and stacked.

Just the day we spoke with him he had received 48 new boxes of books, then found his mailbox full as well.

"I guess that there will be in the region of 24,000 books to hand by the end of May, and that is the maximum that we - and the hall - can handle," says Chris.

Most previous sales have topped out at around 15,000 books, so the increase in stock is huge.

The fair will be held in the Helensville War Memorial Hall over the last weekend of May, open from 9am to 4pm on Saturday 28, and 10am to 3pm on Sunday 29.

Organising the fair is a major effort. Chris sorts and organises the books pretty much on a year-round basis, and stores them in his farm shearing shed. It then takes a big group of Lions members to set up and run the event.

Bargains they are too: books are priced to sell with paperbacks \$1, hardbacks \$2, and all children's books just 50c. There will also be a selection of jigsaw puzzles, board games, videos, DVDs, music CDs and vinyl



• Stacks of boxed books in Chris' shed

LPs, plus a range of quality magazines.

The fair is organised to make browsing as effortless as possible by grouping areas of popular interests and authors.

Nonfiction is split into 20 separate categories, while fiction is arranged in alphabetical order, with six special interest groups.

The Lions' 2015 Christmas Fair raised \$7600, and the last autumn sale more than \$8000. Chris says the club is hoping to better those figures this sale.

Donations for the book fair can be left at Helensville Copy and Print, or phone Chris on 420 8527.

All funds raised through the fairs are used for the benefit of the local community. Last year the club put back more than \$30,000 into the community.

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# We say goodbye to three valued community men

Over the past few weeks, Helensville has farewelled three locals, all of whom contributed greatly to our local community over many years. Sam Sanson passed away in March, and both Allan Pengelly and Stanley Phillips last month. Here we celebrate their lives and what they did for our area.

## Sam Sanson

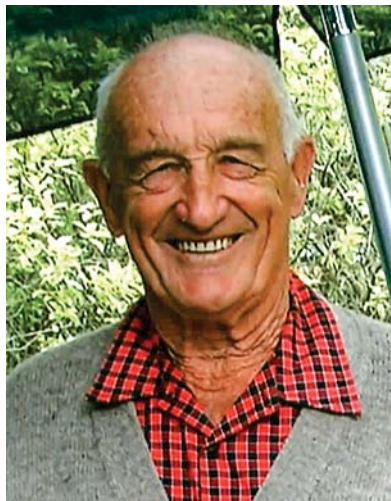
**Samuel Robert Sanson**  
**2 October, 1926 – 10 March, 2016**

Sam was born in Helensville, and apart from spending some time in Taranaki where his mother's family lived, he lived and worked in Helensville as a farmer, gardener and contractor, and served the local community in many different ways.

Sam was born in October 1926, the fifth child of William Angus Sanson and Rita Penny Brown Hill, who had married in 1919 and lived at Te Aroha and Taranaki before moving to Helensville in 1926.

The family moved to South Head in May 1928, and the family's three younger children were born there.

In 1932 the Sansons bought their own land at Kelly Spur. With a lot of hard work they turned it into a productive dairy farm with a pedigree jersey herd.



• Sam Sanson

Sam's mother Rita was a trained teacher, and began teaching her own and other South Head children in her own home. By 1936 there were 13 children and a school building was needed.

The Sansons donated land at Waioneke, and while the school was being built the children were taught in a large marquee. Rita Sanson was the first appointed teacher.

When they weren't helping out on the farm, Sam and his seven siblings made their own fun – swimming; fishing for snapper; whitebaiting or eeling in the creek; riding

their pony to Muriwai beach to collect toheroa; or hunting deer. They gathered fruit from neglected orchards, and had a prolific garden and orchard of their own.

After finishing primary school, Sam completed his secondary schooling at home by correspondence. In 1941 he joined the home guard's mounted troops, and won an award for being the best presented rider and horse. Their job was to protect the coastline along Muriwai beach. When he turned 18, Sam joined the RNZAF as a pilot.

After the war, in 1946 Sam went to work on a dairy farm at Pongakawa in the Bay of Plenty for a year. He was a promising rugby player and was selected as a representative for the BoP province.

In 1948 he returned to Helensville, where he drove trucks for the Kaipara Dairy Company.

While partnering his sister Maire to her debutante ball that year he met Thelma Cliff. After a six-year courtship, Sam and Thelma married on November 27, 1954. In February 1955 they bought part of the Sanson farm at Kelly Spur and ran a dairy unit.

Over the next decade, the Sanson family grew to six children, and Sam passed on his love of singing and story-telling to them.

Sam had a reputation as a 'green fingers' gardener with a big garden and orchard; the family were into organic farming long before it was trendy.

Fishing was a popular pastime, and Sam also enjoyed hunting. He was always a keen sportsman; playing rugby, cricket, golf, badminton, and indoor and outdoor bowls.

Sam was a progressive farmer, and in 1958 built the first herringbone cowshed in South Head and increased the herd to 120.

Sam showed jersey cattle at the Helensville A&P show and his

children won numerous ribbons and cups at calf club, group days and the shows. Later he moved on to cross-breeding his Jerseys with Friesian bulls. In 1969 Sam reclaimed 226 acres of marine flats and a decade later built a rotary cowshed, growing his herd to 300 cows.

In 1970 Sam got one of the first licenses to farm deer at South Head. After building deer fences he captured 100 feral deer at the back of the farm, and purchased red deer hinds and stags.

Another farming experiment in the 1970s was growing buttercup pumpkins with brother Alex. They employed up to 20 pickers to harvest the crop, which was sold in New Zealand and exported to

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## Sam Sanson (cont...)

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Japan.

One of Sam's first community projects was helping form the first nine holes of the South Head Golf Club in the 1960s. That same decade he was on the Waioneke School committee and served as chairman.

In the 1970s Sam was elected to the Board of Governors of Kaipara College. He served on the board for most of the decade, for some time as chairman, and was involved in fundraising for the new school gymnasium.

In 1986 Sam and Thelma sold some South Head land, leaving sons John and Ian to run the dairy unit, and built a house in Garfield Road.

Now 'retired' Sam worked on the college grounds, and joined the bowling club, the

Lions Club, and the Duke of Albany Masonic Lodge. Sam was an active Lion, working on many club projects and was recognised with a service award in 2013. In the Lodge, he was made an honorary life member in 2015.

Sam served one term on the last Helensville Borough Council prior to its amalgamation into Rodney District Council.

His second 'retirement' came in 2002 when the Sansons moved to a new home in McLeod Street. He still kept a great garden, and continued winning produce awards at the Helensville A&P Show.

Sadly his health declined, and his last move was a brief one to Craigwell House, prior to his death in March.

- Wynne HaySmith, from material provided by Mary Herlihy (nee Sanson)

## Allan Pengelly

**Allan Anthony Pengelly**  
17 February, 1928 – 6 April, 2016

Allan Pengelly was born in 1928 at Malolo Hospital in Helensville to Jim and Hazel (nee Keane), the eldest of seven children.

In his early years he lived in Puriri St, but the family moved in the early 1930s to a dairy farm at Woodhill, where his parents milked and his father raced an old Austin on Muriwai Beach.

The family returned to Helensville (Karaka St) after three or four years. For a time pre-war his father had an Austin agency, with a showroom in Commercial Road.

Allan played a lot of sports, particularly swimming. He attended Helensville Primary School until age 12, then went to Helensville District High School, where he said he got the strap – "four of the best" – every morning for not doing his homework.

At the age of 11 he was working in a local bakery, being paid in bread, and also at Tom Derryhouse's butchery, where he made sausages and did the deliveries.

With life-long friend Gordon Constable, Allan used to go to the Saturday matinee movie at the old Lyric Theatre in Helensville, raising the 6p ticket price by selling vegetables from the family garden.

Another popular childhood pastime was trolley racing down Garfield Road or Karaka Street. A bad crash gave him the first of several broken legs; he also broke legs twice at Hinemoa House at Parakai, which was run by his grandmother - once falling off the dining room roof, the other time by falling into the coal bin.

Hinemoa was a big part of Allan's family life. Like his siblings, he started waiting tables in the dining room there when he was about nine years old, and attributed his ability to mix with people to his experience there.

Allan's parents moved to Hinemoa to help run the business after the death of his Granny

Keane in 1948. Allan and his brother Charlie went into business as Pengelly Builders.

Growing up Allan regularly attended church and Sunday school, and for a while was a choir boy. His parents were the first to be married in the old Helensville Anglican Church, which blew down in a severe storm in the late 1950s; Allan and brother Charlie helped build its replacement.

Allan learned to swim at Hinemoa and became a very strong swimmer. He was a member of the Helensville Swimming Club for many years, including acting as



• Allan Pengelly

secretary, chairman and coach. In 1947 he became a founding member of the Muriwai Lifesaving Club and a regular competitor in surf life-saving competitions.

During war time Allan helped milk cows on his uncle Bert's dairy farm at Waiuku, and later on other farms at Wellsford and Tauranga.

His love of rugby started very young. At age eight he was the mascot for the Parakai rugby team, which played under the Kaipara Union. He played for that team all his life.

In 1949 Allan bought a bus which he used on school runs, and often provided free transport for sports teams travelling to away games.

He met Cherry Nordstrand in 1948 when she started work at Hinemoa House, and

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# Allan Pengelly (cont...)

• From page 10

they married in 1950 at St Luke's church at Parakai - the wedding postponed by two weeks so Allan could play rugby in the championship final, which his team won.

Their five children - Kenneth, Irene, Dianne, Shirley and Gordon - were born between 1951 and 1957.

They started married life milking cows near Whangarei, with Allan buying a pedigree Jersey herd. But they lost half the herd within a few weeks to 'black pox' and the rest had to be destroyed, with no compensation from the authorities.

They then milked at Maungakaramaea for a year before moving to Kumeu where Allan drove a truck for Wally Reber for a couple of years before moving with Cherry back to Parakai.

When the Parakai House boarding house burnt down in 1956, they bought the land and set up the first motel in the area, complete with a roller skating rink. Later they added on the Cherry Grove restaurant, a proper takeaway bar and family accommodation.

The skating rink was hugely popular. When the president of the NZ Roller Skating Association died suddenly, Allan was handed the job of organising the World Championships which were to be held in Christchurch.

Allan became the first school committee chairman when Parakai School opened in 1958, and was instrumental in a deal which gave free admission to the hot pools for school swimming.

In 1966 following his father's heart attack, Allan and Cherry took over running Hinemoa, eventually buying the property, renaming it Hinemoa Travel Hotel and building 12 motel units. That property was razed by fire in 1977, a huge loss to the family and to Parakai.

Boating was a major love of Allan's, and over the years he and Cherry owned a number of launches, and were members of the Kaipara Cruising Club.

He was a member of the Parakai Licensing Trust for 25 years,

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### Business minds gain momentum

Te Wānanga o Aotearoa's Certificate in Small Business Management is well underway at Te Whare Oranga o Parakai, with 20 students gathering weekly to explore and action their business goals.

"Students are building their confidence so that they can make the right decisions to make their dream become a reality," says tutor Colin Frampton.

Colin says that financial literacy is a key component of well being. "As the residents of the South Kaipara community gain greater financial literacy, the well being of each person improves. This enables them to have the confidence to contribute more to their partners, family and the greater community."

The course, which is a NZQA level 4 programme, caters for those who are thinking about going into a business and are not sure how to go about it, and also those who are already in business and want to take it to the next level.

The free 36-week programme covers management, law, marketing, accounting, and financial projections, and involves developing a comprehensive business plan.

**For further enquiries contact Imelda on 09 420 9983 or Colin on 09 420 2628.**

### Free safeTALK workshop

The South Kaipara community is invited to attend a free safeTALK workshop in May. The workshop teaches the skills to become a suicide-alert helper, and is presented by Lifeline and funded by the Waitemata DHB.

It is the result of a community request last year to the DHB for training to assist with suicide alertness and support at first point of contact, says Manu Fotu, Waitemata DHB suicide prevention manager. The talk prepares anyone 16+ years old to become a suicide-alert helper, regardless of prior training.

The workshop is being held on 10th May 2016 at Te Whare Oranga o Parakai, 2/11 Parakai Ave (via Te Moau Ave) and runs from 6-9pm with a light tea being provided.

Numbers are limited so please register by email to [spec@lifeline.org.nz](mailto:spec@lifeline.org.nz) or phone Kayte on 09 909 9216.

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- Judy Lawry, patient

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## Allan Pengelly (cont...)

• From page 11

and was deeply involved with the re-formation of the Helensville Rugby Club in the late 1960s, becoming a life member and patron of the club. He was also instrumental in Helensville and other clubs breaking away from the Auckland Rugby Union and forming North Harbour Rugby, of which he became the first vice-president.

Allan was also the driving force behind the creation of Helensville's Rautawhiri Park sports complex, coming up with the initial idea for a multi-sports ground, and convincing Rodney District Council to buy the land. The final design is very close to his initial concepts, and he became patron of the Rautawhiri Park Trust.

In 1997 Allan received an award from Rodney District Council in recognition of outstanding service to the local community, and in the 2014 New Year Honours he was awarded the Queen's Service Medal for his commitment to sport and the community.

## Stanley Phillips

**Stanley John Phillips**  
1946 – 2016

Community worker and leader, farmer and rural politician, sportsman, educationalist and family man Stanley Phillips was farewelled in style at Helensville on Wednesday, April 13.

Helensville War Memorial Hall was full to capacity for the service, which was conducted by celebrant Felicity Smith. Senior students of Kaipara College, where Stanley was involved for many years, formed a guard of honour.

Stan's widow Wendy, their three sons Stanley Junior, Nathen and Campbell and their partners Tracey, Joanne and Erin and children were supported by many family and friends.

Many aspects of Stanley's life were honoured by the speakers at the service.

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# Stanley Phillips (cont...)

• From page 12

Aged 69 when he died after a brief illness, Stanley lived all his life on the family farm at Wharepapa, Helensville. His long term friend Graeme Bryant spoke of their growing up years, including schooling, sports, adventures and escapades.

Family memories and stories were shared by Stanley's sons and their partners



• Stanley Phillips

and children, and it was obvious that alongside the many aspects of community life that Stan was involved in, his family life was very important to him, and he was advisor, supporter and mentor to his children and grandchildren.

Tributes to Stanley's part in local community life were made by a number of speakers.

Wynne HaySmith talked of the Helensville Hospital Committee, led by Stanley, which fought successfully to prevent the closure of the Helensville Obstetric Hospital in the 1970s and 80s. At one point in 1976 when the Auckland Hospital Board closed the hospital after the resignation of the matron, the committee was able to have it reopened the next day when local nursing sister and midwife, Glenn

Hoare took the post on in a 'temporary' capacity. She stayed on for 13 years.

The Hospital committee supported many improvements and alterations with fundraising, and the Helensville Birthing Centre is a lasting legacy.

Wynne also described Stanley's support for the Rodney Community Learning Centre, especially from 1989 to 1994. The RCLC, a post-school training facility for second-chance learners, widened its activities from basic office and rural skills courses to a much broader range of subjects including partnering with Kaipara College to provide long-term forestry and farming courses for the school's students.

Brian Chamberlain spoke of Stanley's role in Federated Farmers at local, regional and national levels, outlining his grasp of leadership skills and his rapport with political and business leaders. Stanley further developed his knowledge of leadership in rural affairs by attending the inaugural Kellogg Rural Leaders Scholarship Programme at Lincoln University.

Stanley's involvement with the Helensville Rugby Club was spoken of by Rex Keane, who described how active Stanley was during his term as club president in the 1990s, and his subsequent appointment as a Life Member. Stanley's encouragement of the sport benefited many players and supporters.

Perhaps the most eloquent speaker was John Grant, recently retired principal of Kaipara College. He spoke of Stanley's long service to the college. His understanding of the needs of students, and promotion of opportunities especially for the non-academic boys, was praised by John, who said despite their differing backgrounds and often opposing opinions, he and Stanley had forged a strong bond of friendship.

Stanley recently retired from the school's board of trustees after 23 years, 17 as chairman. The college closed for a half day so staff and pupils could attend the funeral.

Stanley's illness came soon after his resignation from many of his public responsibilities, and Wendy and their family had been looking forward to enjoying his retirement with him.

- Wynne HaySmith

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Currently we have property stored at the Helensville Police Station which has been recorded as lost property. If you lose or find any property, your first port of call is to report it to police.

Property is only held at the police station for 30 days; during this time we make every attempt to locate the owner - especially when the item is deemed to be of sentimental value.

On average about 10 items a month are handed into the Helensville Police Station. Unfortunately most are destroyed after the 30 days because nobody claims them.

If you find any lost property, by all means use all avenues to try and locate the owner of the property, such as posting about it on community Facebook pages. But bear in mind not everyone has access to Facebook.

Police do have a better chance of locating the owner, and we make every attempt we can to reunite people with their lost property.

Don't sit on found property for weeks - drop it in to the police as soon as you find it. If the police station is closed, leave a note with your details and we will contact you, or alternatively call the Crime Reporting Line, 0800 115 019, and it can be arranged for someone to pick the property up from you.

It is important also to note down serial numbers and unique features of your own property, either on a piece of paper or by using the SNAP website. This is a fantastic online tool to describe all your valuables - visit: [www.snap.org.nz](http://www.snap.org.nz). If items are stolen this information can be entered into the database, and there is a better chance of having your property returned to you.

- Mandi Bell, Community Constable



## Parenting pack winners



Meet Talia and Joel Crawley of Helensville, who were the lucky winners of the Waste Free Parenting Pack draw we ran in the last issue of *Helensville News*.

They're pictured at their Karaka Street home with children (left to right) Noah (9), Brody (7), Paige (5) and 8-month old Cooper.

The pack, courtesy of 'waste free warrior' Kate Meads and Auckland Council, included two reusable cloth nappies, a Honey Wrap, a Kai Karrier sample pack, a Charlie Banana reusable menstrual pad, and a selection of eco cleaning products.

Talia has lived in Helensville her whole life, and says the prize is a boon as her family is struggling financially.

"We are currently working with our wonderful local Waimauku-Helensville Budgeting Service, who are working to help us regain control of our finances."

Baby Cooper is in cloth nappies and moving onto solid food, and Talia says she can't afford to buy more cloth nappies, so the two in the pack will come in very handy.



with Kaipara chef, Peter Brennan

## Borscht

We have had a bumper crop of beetroot this year, in fact all the root vegetables did well, carrots and potatoes were excellent and the yacon is yet to be harvested. Judging by the size of the yacon greenery there will be plenty of tubers to dig.

Borscht is a soup from Eastern Europe, an amazingly-coloured soup that can be enjoyed fresh and hot from the pot, or chilled and served cold.

This soup recipe is quite a simple soup to make - just don't wear a white shirt or use a white table cloth when you serve it!

### ■ Borscht

- 800g of fresh Beetroot
- Oil and butter for cooking
- 2 large onions
- 2-3 stems of celery
- Salt and pepper
- 2 litres of either chicken or vegetable stock
- 1 tablespoon of balsamic or red wine vinegar
- Fresh dill weed for garnish
- Sour cream



Peel the beets and roughly chop. Peel the onion and roughly chop. Wash the celery and also chop up.

Heat the butter and oil in a large pot and add the beetroot, onion and celery. Stir and sweat for a few minutes, add salt and pepper and pour in the stock. Simmer for at least an hour then blend until smooth. Add the balsamic vinegar and check the seasoning.

Serve with a dollop of sour cream on top with a sprinkle of chopped dill greens. Serve this way whether having it hot or chilled.

## making the difference

Is there someone special who has done something that's really made a difference for you or your family? Someone you'd like to see receive a little public recognition?

In this new column, you can nominate that person, and if they are the chosen recipient they'll get a wonderful treat courtesy of Nicky Horsbrough of Harcourts Helensville - a \$100 voucher to spend at a local business.

What's more, the lucky recipient gets to choose what business they want the voucher for - the only condition is that it must be a local business. The choice is theirs.

Each issue we'll bring you a little information about that month's recipient, what they did to deserve their award, and hopefully a photo too!

To nominate someone you think deserving of Nicky's 'Making the Difference' award either write to: Nicky Horsbrough, Harcourts Helensville, 37 Commercial Road, Helensville 0800 or email: [nicky.horsbrough@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:nicky.horsbrough@harcourts.co.nz).



• Nicky Horsbrough

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## ■ SOUTH KAIPARA U3A

Tania Simon will give a talk about, and demonstration of, New Zealand sign language at the May meeting of South Kaipara U3A, on Friday, May 6. The meeting, with gold coin entry and afternoon tea provided, will be held in the St John Ambulance rooms at 7 Rata Street, Helensville, starting 1pm. Phone Judy Goodsir on 09 411 8322.

## ■ KKK MARKET & TAROT READINGS

The Kaukapakapa Market will feature a 'Pink Ribbon' breakfast on Sunday, May 15. The market goes from 8.30am to 1pm with live music from Jessica on the keyboard from 10am until noon; the breakfast will run from 8.30am until sold out, with all proceeds going to the Breast Cancer Foundation. Stalls will cover crafts, plants, organic vegetables, collectables, food, and barista coffee, and there will be a 'pink hatters' parade.

Also on May 15, Kaukapakapa library will host tarot reading with Frances, from 10am to 1pm. Frances has more than 30 years' experience in tarot, and will be in the library doing individual readings. Readings cost \$20 and will take around 15 minutes.

For more information or to book a market stall phone Sarah on 0274 831542 or email her at: sarah1@maxnet.co.nz.

## ■ WAITOKI MARKET

One of the coordinators of the local Neighbourhood Support Group will be at the Waitoki Market on Saturday, June 4 to talk

with locals about the group and its role in the community. The market will feature homemade and pre-loved bargains, bric a brac, baked goods, preserves, plants and more, and a barbeque brunch will be available. All proceeds from the market go to maintaining the hall, which is not council owned, and to the local community. Stall holder enquiries to Shirley on 420 5111.

## ■ ART OF GLASS

The Art of Glass is on display at the Helensville Art Centre during May. Featuring the works of Darryl Fagence but open to all artists in glass, the exhibition runs from Saturday, May 7 to Saturday 28 and is open Tuesday to Friday 10am to 4.30pm and Saturdays 10am to 3pm.

## ■ HELENSVILLE AGLOW

Speaker Ngaire Harvey from Aglow International Transformation Ministries will talk on 'Miracles Still Happen' at the next Helensville Aglow meeting at 7.30pm on Friday, May 6 at the Helensville Community Church, 40 Mill Rd, Helensville. Email: yvonne@hello.net.nz for more information.

## ■ WAITOKI CRAFT DAY

Locals are being encouraged to get 'crafty' and attend the Waitoki Craft Group's annual 'Knit In, Spin In, Come In and Have A Go Day' at Waitoki Hall on Saturday, June 25 from 10am to 3pm.

Held in collaboration with the Auckland-Northland branch of the Black and Coloured Sheep Breeders' Association, the day aims to help people get started on simple, inexpensive and effective craft ideas. Demonstrations, workshops and displays will cover subjects such as crafts for Christmas, decorations, needle felting, spinning, weaving, felting, knitting, crocheting, dyeing techniques - and sheep. Free entry, with a gold coin donation to cover the cost of the materials participants use.

Contact: Lisa Clapperton, ph 420 5455 or Sandra Owen, ph 420 5450.

## classifieds & trade

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