

Doctors leaving practice at end of year

Helensville husband and wife doctors Adrian and Maryanne Gane leave the Kaipara Medical Centre they helped set up on December 2 this year.

"We're not retiring really - more having a change," explains Maryanne. "We want to work some of the time and have some time off."

They plan to work as locums around the country, but only as they feel like it.

"There's a great need for locums all around the country, especially in rural areas," says Adrian. "Small town New Zealand has trouble getting holiday relief for GPs."

Adrian's vocation as a doctor was really set in childhood. His father was a general practitioner in Remuera, Auckland, and Adrian used to accompany him while he drove around making house calls.

"I was always a bit altruistic, so aimed to become a doctor when I finished school."

Maryanne was born in England to Kiwi parents - her father was also a doctor, specialising in obstetrics and gynaecology - and moved to Tauranga in time to start school.

Like Adrian, she grew up with a desire to help people - which led to her meeting her husband-to-be when they both attended the Auckland University School of Medicine, from where they graduated in 1981.

They worked initially for two years based at Waikato Hospital, which included two, three-month stints at Tokoroa Hospital, before spending a year in Tauranga on the GP training programme.

They then left New Zealand to work as volunteer doctors in the highlands of Kenya at a former mission hospital, spending a few weeks travelling in the UK and Ireland before their return home.

In early 1987 Maryanne took on the role of locum doctor for three months for Helensville GP Dr Don Liddell.

The couple were in the process of deciding where to settle and work long-term and Helensville appealed. They bought Dr Liddell's practice in March 1987, and started as the town's new doctors the following month.

They would have been here 25 years in April next year.

That original medical practice was a very different proposition to the current Kaipara Medical Centre. In those days most GPs worked from their homes, as did Don Liddell.

The Ganes initially followed suit, living for two years in the doctors' rooms and residence at the corner of Commercial Rd and Porter Crescent, a building now called the Alison McKenzie House and which houses the Helensville Women & Family Centre, as well as offices for Mt Tabor Trust and Parent Aid Kaipara.

In 1990 they built the home in Pipitiwai Drive they still live in, and the following year were joined in the medical practice by Kiwi doctor Duncan McDonald, who stayed on for 12 years.

The 'house' was now a 'medical centre' and getting busier by the day; it became obvious as the decade waned that the practice was outgrowing the premises.



• Adrian & Maryanne Gane

An agreement was reached with the Helensville District Health Trust to purchase the existing medical centre.

Fundraising was then put in place to raise the funds to build the new Medical Centre, which opened in December 2006. The land and buildings are owned by the Trust, while the practice itself stayed with the Ganes.

"We wanted to make sure medical care in Helensville carried on," says Adrian, who was the 2008 ProCare GP of the Year.

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editorial

Each year, Helensville holds several major community events - the A&P Show in February and the Christmas Parade in December are the obvious ones that come to mind. They are the times that locals from all over our district can get together and have a good catch-up.

This coming weekend is one that could give those events a run for their money.

The culmination of several weeks of events around the town, this Saturday's Community and Heritage Festival is a development of the heritage days held over the past few years, expanded into an evening of entertainment with live screenings of two Rugby World Cup quarter final matches. It's sure to draw big crowds. All the details start on page 6.

What else have we got for you this month?

People come and go from the district all the time, but the impending 'departures' of two well-known couples will affect many locals.

Doctors Adrian and Maryanne Gane are retiring in December from the medical centre they have been involved with for almost 25 years. You've probably already read their story on the front page. And Ian and Trish Skipper are leaving Waitoki School after 23 years - check out their story opposite on page 3.

It should be pointed out that neither couple is leaving Helensville - just the roles we have so long associated them with. We wish them all the best with their future endeavours.

- Dave Addison, Editor

\$10,000 advertising win for A&P Show

The Helensville A&P Association has won \$10,000 worth of television advertising in a 'lucky draw' at the Royal Agricultural Society's annual conference in Hamilton.

The prize includes the production of a 30 second commercial, which will air on Country 99 TV, part of the Sky TV network.

The advertisement will screen approximately 100 times during January and February next year in the lead-up to the 2012

Helensville A&P Show.

Country 99 TV general manager of sales and marketing Gordon Legge says the station will also have a trade stand at the show.

Meanwhile, association secretary Marion Stutz says business sponsorship for next year's show is going very well.

"We've had a great response from the community."

Doctors leaving (cont)

• From page 1

They have now sold the practice to Peak Primary Ltd, a large organisation which runs the business side of general practices, freeing the doctors to concentrate on the medical work. Maryanne is keen to reiterate that the dedicated and hard working staff they have enjoyed working with will continue to provide high quality general practice care. The couple say they have many happy memories of wonderful and inspiring patients and the real sense of community still found in Te Awaroa.


"We've enjoyed working in Helensville," says Adrian. Sons Matthew and Ronnie

were born and educated here, and both doctors have been involved in various other community activities, such as a stint on the Helensville Primary board of trustees for Maryanne and a role as Chair of the South Kaipara Men's Trust for Adrian.

As well as part-time locum work, Adrian and Maryanne are looking forward to spending more time with family in Auckland, Tauranga and Christchurch, and indulging their passion for tramping. They won't be moving from Helensville, however.

Travel plans include a desire to travel to Spain to walk the Camiño de Santiago, a 1000-year-old pilgrimage route to Santiago de Compostela in north west Spain.

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Skippers to leave Waitoki School

Long-serving husband and wife principal and teacher team Ian and Trish Skipper will leave Waitoki School at the end of this year.

The pair have taught together at various schools since 1982; Ian has been principal at Waitoki for 23 years and Trish has been there almost as long.

Other than travelling and spending more time with their family, in particular their elderly parents, Ian says he "isn't really sure" what they are going to do next.

"We're really too young to retire fully," adds Trish - which leads Ian to admit they



• Ian and Trish Skipper

may take on some short- or long-term relieving teaching after a "good long break", some of it to be spent re-exploring parts of New Zealand by campervan.

They also hope to travel overseas to England and Europe.

Born in Thames, Ian began school at Ohingaiti, south of Taihape and then Hikurangi before his family moved to Helensville, where he completed his last two terms of primary school before continuing his education at Kaipara College.

He then attended North Shore Teachers

Training College before starting his education career in 1977 teaching at a selection of our local schools - a year at Helensville Primary, two years at Waimauku School and then a stint at Waioneke until August 1982.

Meanwhile, Trish, born in Palmerston North, had grown up in Mt Roskill in Auckland. Having met Ian through an acquaintance in 1979, she too attended Auckland Teacher Training College and started her teaching career at Whangarei Primary.

Married in 1981, the couple moved in 1982 to remote Matiere in the King Country under a 'dual appointment' with Ian as principal and Trish as teacher. Their son James was born at Waikato Hospital during their time at Matiere.

After five years there they shifted to nearby Tokirima for 16 months, before Ian took up his current position as principal at Waitoki School in May 1989, bringing his education career virtually full circle.

"I've spent the biggest percentage of my teaching and living in the Helensville area," he agrees.

Trish began teaching part-time at Waitoki the following year, with her hours gradually increasing until she joined the permanent staff in 1994.

The couple made the decision to move back to 'civilisation' as they needed to be closer to a hospital for son James' medical condition. He had considered larger schools, but they liked the benefits the smaller school offered James and daughter Anna, born in 1989.

When Ian started at Waitoki the school only had two teachers and a roll of 30 - today that roll has trebled.

Earlier this year Ian oversaw the opening of a new \$1.2 million building incorporating administration and office space, a new hall, staff room, music room, sports storage and toilets - a building which accounts for more than half the school's area.

The Waitoki School Board of Trustees is currently going through the process of choosing a new principal with the aim of making an appointment by mid-November.

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Waitangi Treaty settlement deed

Local Maori have closed the books on a 24-year claim process with the signing on September 9 of their Treaty of Waitangi Deed of Settlement.

Around 400 people gathered at Aotea/Shelly Beach where government, Auckland Council and whanau representatives arrived by ferry from Helensville.

The settlement covers both cultural redress, and financial and commercial redress.

Cultural redress includes recognition of

the traditional, historical, cultural and spiritual association of Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara with places and sites owned by the Crown within their area of interest.

The settlement vests nine sites totalling approximately 675ha, subject to specific conditions including protection of public access and conservation values: Atuanui Scenic Reserve; Mairatahi Landing; Mauiniu Island; Moturemu Island; Tipare; Makarau; Makarau Bridge Reserve; Parakai; and Ten Acre Block Recreation Reserve.

The 18ha Parakai Recreation Reserve will vest, in trust, jointly in Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara and the Auckland Council. A Parakai Recreation Reserve Board will be set up to administer the reserve. Reserve status will continue and public access maintained.

The settlement does not provide for cultural redress in relation to Kaipara Harbour, as that is to be developed in negotiations with



• Treaty Minister Chris Finlayson and Maori Affairs Minister Pita Sharples sign the Deed of Settlement - Mark Heaslip Photography

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Corridor restaurant taking part in festival

The Corridor Restaurant and Bar at 88 Commercial Rd is back in local ownership - and will show off its wares with bite-size selections from the menu at a stall as part of this weekend's Community and Heritage Festival (see page 6).

Originally called 'Gallery 88' when opened 16 years ago by John Burke, the restaurant has since had several owners and names and appeared on a television reality makeover series for restaurants.

It is now being run again by former owners and locals the Roberts family.

Aaron Roberts says The Corridor has a new winter menu and an extensive range of wines, beers and cocktails.

"When creating the menu and beverage

lists I was very conscious of what's changed in the last few years. We are all more careful spending money now; it needed to provide great value for money but not compromise quality."

"I didn't want to make the Corridor just a place for special occasions, but rather somewhere for people to frequent."

"Our takeaway menu has been going so well we have expanded it to include our Corridor burger, tempura battered fish and home made lasagne," says Aaron.

The Corridor is open from 5pm until late Wednesday to Sunday. Menus can be viewed on their Facebook page, and the restaurant can be booked for functions and corporate events. Phone 09 420 9050.

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signed at Shelly Beach ceremony



• The official party arrives at Shelly Beach for the settlement signing - Mark Heaslip Photography

• From page 4

the Crown that will include Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara at a future date.

As mentioned in last month's Helensville News, six existing geographic names will change and nine sites which do not currently have official names will be assigned geographic names.

The settlement's financial and commercial redress recognises the economic loss suffered by Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara arising from breaches by the Crown of its Treaty obligations and is aimed at providing Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara with resources to help them to develop their economic and social well-being.

Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara will receive financial redress to the value of \$22.1 million plus interest through their settlement.

They will purchase, at market value, Woodhill Forest; the land under Kaipara College, Kaukapakapa School, Parakai School, Tauhoa School, Waimauku School and Woodhill School, which will all be leased back to the Crown; and three properties in Old Woodcocks Rd, Kaipara Flats.

No private land is affected.

The Deed of Settlement also provides for Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara to purchase available selection units of Riverhead Forest up to a value of approximately \$6.4 million,

and to have a the right to purchase the Paremoremo Housing Block.

In 1864, Te Otene Kikokiko, of Te Tao Ū, gifted to the Crown a 10 acre block of land in Te Awaroa for public purposes on the condition that the land be returned if it was no longer required for those purposes. The Crown alienated parts of the block to private parties rather than returning it to Ngāti Whātua when it was no longer required for public services.

Accordingly, two sites from within the Ten Acre Block will be returned to Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara: Ten Acre Block Recreation Reserve as a reserve; and 24 Commercial Road, Helensville.

Following the official signing of the settlement document, all the guests present were offered the chance to sign as well, many of whom took up the offer.

Indoor netball starts again

The next season of Helensville's indoor netball competition starts on October 31.

Both social and competitive play is held at the Helensville School hall on Monday and Tuesday evenings on a condensed court.

The six-week competition costs \$230 per team, umpires fees included.

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Community & Heritage Festival expands into evening celebration of rugby

This Saturday is Helensville Community and Heritage Festival - and the chance for locals to get together to celebrate the Rugby World Cup.

There will be events around town all day, and in the later afternoon and evening we will be celebrating the rugby with free entertainment and live quarter-final match screenings.

The day kicks off at 9am with an official opening and kapa haka performance at the Helensville Museum in Mill Rd. At the same time, market stalls and entertainment will begin in Commercial Road and the memorabilia room at the museum will open.

Throughout the day at the museum there will be heritage activities, historic photo presentations, and children's game and entertainment including pony rides. Museum entry will be by donation.

There will be musical performances all

day, including the Christian Youth Band; Marian, Ernie and Kevin on flute, keyboard and guitar; Foster on saxophone; a ukulele group; Kevin and Marian on guitar and flute; and the Singing Cowboy.

The historic Old Post Office building and Malolo House will open to the public, and there will be a guided tours of the Grand Hotel at 10am and 2pm.

The younger set will be able to enjoy rides on Sammy the Steam Train at the railway station.

A highlight of the day will be the wearable trash parade, starting at the ASB Bank at 11.30am and repeated again in the evening - complete with people's choice judging - at 5.30 in the evening.

Scottish Dancers will perform at midday, followed shortly after by bagpipes and 'Addressing the Haggis'.

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Programme of Events

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
9.00	Opening ceremony & Kapa Haka Stalls; music; entertainment; face painting Memorabilia room; model trains; vintage & classic vehicles	Museum Midtown Railway station
9.30	Heritage activities; children's games & entertainment; pony & donkey rides; face painting; Marion, Ernie & Kevin on flute, keyboard & guitar	Museum
10.00	Historical photo presentation Christian Youth Band Old Post Office & Malolo House open to public Sammy the Steam Train rides; Foster on saxophone; Grand Hotel guided tour	Museum Creek Lane Heartlands Railway station
11.00	Historical photo presentation; Cordair Accordion Group	Museum
11.30	Wearable Trash parade, starts outside ASB	Commercial Rd
12.00	Historical photo presentation Scottish dancers	Museum Midtown
12.15	Pipers & Haggis Address	Midtown
12.30	Kapa Haka performance	Midtown
1.00	Historical photo presentation; Ukelele Group Christian Youth Band Kevin & Marion on guitar & flute	Museum Creek Lane Railway station
2.00	Historical photo presentation Grand Hotel guided tour	Museum Railway station
3.00	Youth band performances; childrens entertainment; licensed bar; food and drink	Behind hall
5.30	Wearable Trash parade people's choice judging	Behind hall
6.00	First rugby quarter final match screening	Behind hall
8.30	Second rugby quarter final match screening	Behind hall



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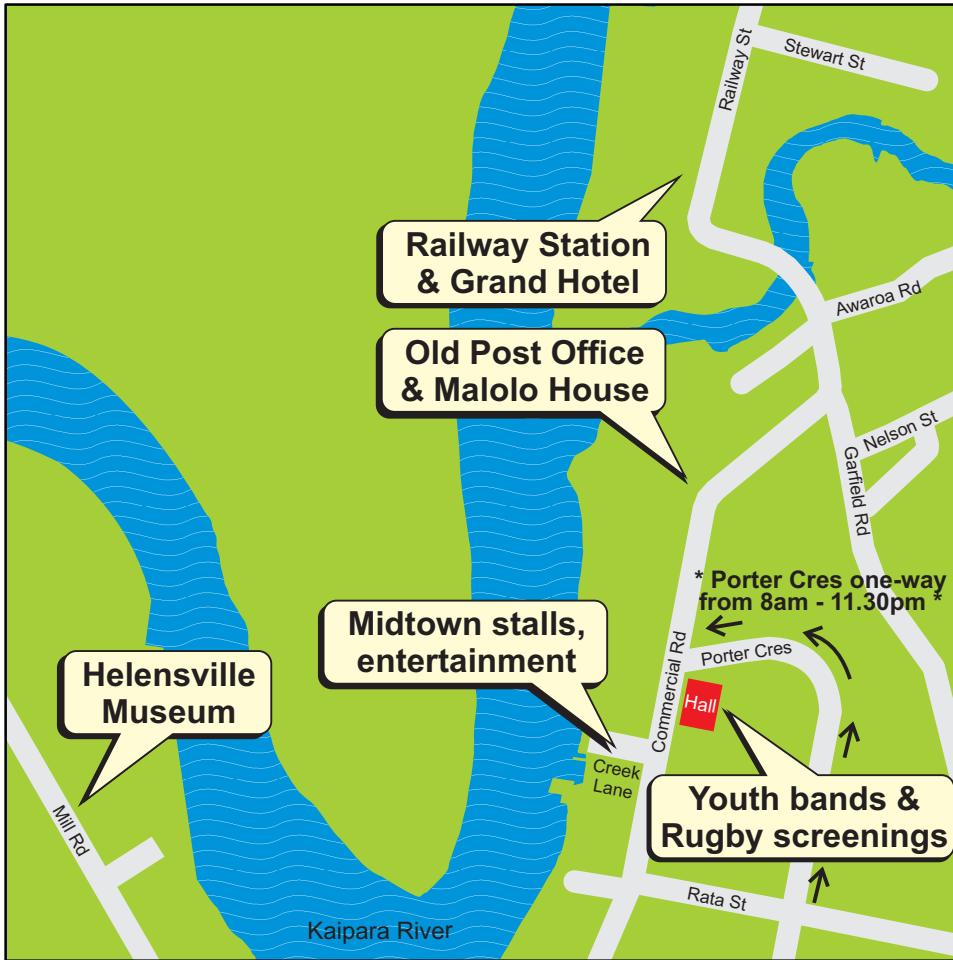
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• The location of major events and attractions at the Community & Heritage Festival

• From page 8

At 3pm the action will move to the carpark behind the War Memorial Hall. There will be live youth band performances and children's entertainment leading up to the screening of the first of two rugby quarter final matches on a giant screen. Tables and chairs will be provided.

The hall will be open, decorated by the Helensville Floral Art Society and with a cafe catered by Macnut Cafe, serving a range of food. Outside there will be more food on offer from Helensville Primary and Kaukapakapa Playcentre and the Helensville Lions sausage sizzle.

The second rugby quarter final will screen at 8.30pm, with the evening finishing around 10pm.

Ritchies will run a free shuttle bus service

starting from Springs Road in Parakai via Kaipara College, Awaroa Road and the railway station, dropping off at the corner of Commercial Road and Porter Crescent. It will start at 5.30pm about every 20 minutes, with the last return trip from Commercial Road at 11pm.

Locals should note the carpark behind the hall will be closed all day for set-up for the evening event. Additional parking will be available next to the Kaipara Tavern in Commercial Road and on the corner of Stewart and Railway Street.

Additionally, Porter Crescent will be one-way traffic only from 8am to 11.30pm, with entry only from Rata Street and exit only onto Commercial Road. Parking will be restricted to one side only due to security fencing of the hall car park.

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Lifestyle Expo on this month

Helensville's third annual Rural Lifestyle Expo will be held at Oikoumene Forest in West Street on Sunday, October 30 from 9am to 2pm.

Aimed at the lifestyle block market, the Expo is designed as a 'try before you buy' experience, where locals will be able to get their hands on some 'big boys toys' and obtain first-hand information on matters such as which animals may best suit their particular situation.

With experts such as the Helensville Vet Service on hand, who will be giving out information packs on animal management and holding talks on various types of animals during the course of the day, it's designed to make sure lifestyle block owners make the right decisions and informed purchases.

Last year's Expo attracted around 500 people, and organiser Chris Smith expects a similar number at this year's event.

C o n f i r m e d exhibitors at the time of writing included: Honda Warkworth, Bikesport Suzuki, Harcourts Helensville, Makita, Strainrite and Hurricane Fencing.

Some exhibitors from previous expos such as Paslode, the Kumeu Small Land Owners' Association, John Deere, Treescapes, Baby Barns, Helensville Meat Centre homekill, Kaipara Plant Centre, The Barn Co, Jim's Septic tanks, Poland Motors are expected to return.

There will be displays of typical rural activities such as sheep shearing and dog handling and animals such as alpacas, calves, and sheep for visitors to check out.

Parakai School will be helping with the gates and parking. There will be a barbeque, and the Hospice will benefit from the sale of mini donuts. The Coffee Guy will be providing refreshments.



• Mark Murdock & Kelvin Rawhiti on the Makita stand at last year's Expo

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College building work nearing completion

Kaipara College's new \$4 million building project is on schedule for completion by the end of November, with the hall ready in time for NCEA exams at the start of the month.

That's despite a wet autumn and winter and difficult subsoil conditions - it's an old stream bed - which meant timber piles had to be driven 10m into the ground in places.

When complete, the government-funded work will see the total replacement of the original 1930s to 1970s school block.

The work has also involved upgrading all the major services such as the power supply, data links, stormwater and sewerage, which didn't meet current standards.

When complete there will be a new staffroom, a student services block including health and guidance facilities, an international students' centre and English and IT classrooms.

The hall has been shortened by one bay

at one end, and by the removal of the stage at the other, with a drama suite and two music practice rooms added.

The building project will allow for the development of a "performing arts centre based around the restructured hall," says Principal John Grant.

The current project follows the opening in the middle of last year of the college's new \$2 million science block - and it isn't the end of construction work at the school.

Next year, the original science block will be demolished to make way for new social sciences rooms.



• Work progresses on the new college buildings, seen here from Rautawhiri Rd

Election candidates invited to KKK meeting

Candidates in the upcoming general election have been invited to an open meeting at the Kaukapakapa Hall on Thursday, November 10 at 7pm.

Kaukapakapa Residents and Ratepayers' Association chairman Ralph Martin has invited every party to send candidates to address and answer questions from the public.

Candidates will speak first, and then answer written questions which would need to be handed to Ralph prior to the meeting.

"The meeting should be an interesting and stimulating one if

Labour, National, Act, NZ First, the Maori Party and Mana's Hone Harawira all front up to voters and their questions," says Ralph.

Wine and nibbles will follow the meeting, with the public having an opportunity to directly interact with the candidates.

Entry to the meeting will be by gold coin donation, which will go towards the association's village beautification project, fermentation and/or worm farms.

For more information or to book email admin@kaipatiki.org.nz or phone 09 482 1172.

FREE METAL COLLECTION

A major fundraiser for the Tamaki Sports Academy is the free metal collection service it offers.

We will pick up any old metal - whiteware such as fridges, stoves, dishwashers, washing machines; roofing iron; metal piping; venetian blinds; computers; batteries; car panels; cars; metal shelving; filing cabinets; machinery; lawn mowers; engines; and so on.

Tamaki Sports Academy offers mentoring, coaching and work experience to South Auckland youth who have dropped out of the mainstream school system but who show some sporting talent. Academy members are enrolled in the Correspondence School, and work towards unit standard credits and national qualifications.

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Hearing clinic sets up in Helensville

Bay Audiology, which has more than 65 hearing clinics nationwide, has set up a part-time clinic in the Helensville Physiotherapy Centre's building at 10 Commercial Road.

It's being run by Steve Darcy, the charge clinician at Bay Audiology's Albany branch, and will offer a full range of hearing services, including:

- Full diagnostic hearing tests
- Hearing aid consultations and evaluations
- Hearing aid testing and servicing, and batteries
- Information and advice on tinnitus
- Advice on hearing protection
- Advice on funding and finance options
- Advice on assistive listening devices
- Courses for getting the most from a hearing aid.

The clinic will be open once a fortnight, with Steve working on Fridays and his colleague Melissa Mesina on Thursdays. Opening days are expected to grow to meet demand.

Steve is originally from Liverpool in England, but has lived and worked all over the United Kingdom.

He moved with his wife Di and two sons to New Zealand in June this year, and is now living in Whangaparaoa.

"We wanted a better quality of life," says Steve. "We didn't want our kids brought up in the crowded UK. There are far more opportunities here."

Steve spend 11 years as an engineer



• Steve Darcy

with the Royal Navy - experience which he says is valuable for his work now as an audiometrist.

"It's not just about hearing - I need to have an understanding of how the hearing aids work, and my engineering background helps with that."



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UHY, lead by Mark Foster in Helensville, purchased the practice from Ken Downer and started trading out of Ken's Commercial Road building in May 2010.

Late last year the opportunity came up to purchase Robert McKeown's practice, and in February the deal was done.

Ken and Mark moved into the McKeown offices at 2a Rata Street and employed two additional staff as well as the current McKeown team as part of the plan.

Mark's background was in farming back in the 1980s. He was brought up on a diary farm in Northland then when he left school at 17, worked on a dairy farm for a couple of years before heading off to Waikato University for an Accounting degree.

After university, Mark initially worked for Deloitte (one of the 'big four' accounting firms) where he received tax and accounting training.

After a three-year stint there he left for the 'big OE' experience where he spent three years in England working for the BBC. In 1997 he returned to NZ and was offered partnership at UHY in 1999, where he currently now heads the Helensville practice.

"I guess one of the biggest benefits of working in Helensville is working with local people and also more specifically local rural people," says Mark.

"I particularly like dealing in the rural sector as I also run a small beef farming operation with my father. Its good talking to the other farmers in the area to see what's

going on - and also having a specialist tax knowledge in the rural sector, I can also advise clients of best tax practices."

Mark says he gets the best of both worlds, working during the day with his mind, helping people achieve their financial goals, and then afterwards getting his hands dirty on the 37 acre block he and his wife Jane and their three children have in Kauakapakapa.

"One of the goals I have set for the practice this year is to get my clients to better understand how their business is going through good management reporting. We are a big user of the BankLink electronic cashbook system," explains Mark.

"This systems allows our clients to download their own business transactions from their bank then code their transactions, which are lined up with our own accounting systems.

"During the year our clients have a better measure of how they are going by producing cashflow reports and comparing their financial performance

against the previous year's results, as well as any budgeted targets they have set.

"Therefore at the end of the year there are no surprises at tax time when we work out the profit, as they already have an idea of how the business has gone."

Mark's wife Jane also works in the business and fronts the reception desk. The rest of the team is made up of Harry Bultema, Helen Sircombe, Julia Rewi, Robert McKeown and Ken Downer.

"All in all I think we are a friendly bunch down here at UHY and we enjoy being part of the local community," says Mark.

"So for a first visit free meeting come down and see us, we will ensure that your financial and business interests are well looked after."

For more information visit our website at www.uhyhn.co.nz phone 420 7972 or email us at markf@uhyhn.co.nz



• The Helensville UHY team: Jane Foster, Robert McKeown, Ken Downer, Mark Foster, and Harry Bultema (absent - Helen Sircombe & Julia Rewi)

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Interest sought on microchipping

The Helensville A&P Association is looking into microchipping of horses in conjunction with their regular horse measuring days and is keen to gauge interest from horse owners.

Microchipping is expected to become a requirement in future years, particularly for competition horses and ponies, as a means of positively identifying horses.

The A&P horse measuring team hope to hold a combined microchipping and measuring day, with a vet on hand to carry out the microchipping in conjunction with the horse measuring.

The aim is to save the cost of the vet's travel time, helping reduce costs for the horse owner. Life measuring certificates will be able to be issued on the combined day (but not within a year of a current certificate being issued).

At this stage costs are still being



• A&P horse measurers Graeme Bradley (left) and Hec Aitkenhead (right) measure Alison Lally's horse Prima Bella

finalised, but microchipping is likely to cost around \$55 on top of the \$10 for an Annual Measuring Certificate (or \$65 for a Life Measuring Certificate).

Horse owners interested in taking part in the microchipping day should phone Shona Addison on 420 7215. If enough people are keen a date will be set and the interested parties advised.

Green Party candidate named

Auckland IT professional and mother of two Jeanette Elley has been selected as the Green Party's candidate in the Helensville electorate for the general election next month.

Commenting on running against incumbent MP, Prime Minister John Key, Jeanette says: "The advantage of MMP is that everyone has two votes. While the Helensville candidate vote might be expected to be a foregone conclusion, this is not an obstacle as we will be asking people to show their support by giving the Greens their party vote."

"New Zealanders are seeking real answers to the economic and environmental

challenges that we face, and more people are starting to realise the Greens offer practical solutions," she says.

"The Green Party message this election is for a clean green economy that works for everyone. This means cleaning up our waterways, bringing our children out of poverty, and a focus on plenty of green jobs."

Ms Elley, number 19 on the Green Party list, previously lived in Torbay for 10 years and has contested both Northcote and East Coast Bays electorates in previous elections. She is a keen sportswoman, and has represented New Zealand at water polo.



• Jeanette Elley

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New manager for Men's Centre

Tony Silvester-Clark has been appointed operations manager for the Men & Family Centre in Helensville.

He will handle the organisational development tasks to let director Andrew Connolly focus on the people and leadership roles.

Prior to joining the Men & Family Centre Tony was involved with Man Alive in Henderson, where he undertook projects including the development of their 'Youth Hub'. He was also project manager for what is known as the 'Collaboration Project' involving Man Alive, Western Refuge and the Waitakere Abuse & Trauma Counselling Service.

Before working with Man Alive Tony's career involved social and market research projects and an involvement in manufacturing and marketing in the clothing industry.

He is married to Beverley, a nurse and counsellor in private practice. He has two adult sons living overseas.

Locals can meet Tony at the Men and Family Centre's annual showcase and AGM on October 13 at the Men and Family Centre, Gerald Stokes Ave, Helensville, starting at 5.30pm, with presentations at 6pm and supper at 7.15pm.



• Tony Silvester-Clark

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Kindy logo competition for under-12s

River Valley Kindergarten in Parakai wants a new logo - and is calling on current and former pupils to enter a competition to design it.

The new logo will go on the kindergarten's sign and be used for promotional purposes. The teaching team and committee say the design should reflect the special character of kindergarten, our bi-cultural heritage, or the unique natural environment of the South Kaipara.

Entrants must to aged 12 or less, and entries need to be dropped off at the Kindy at 8 Fordyce Road by Friday, October 28, or email to rivervalley@naka.co.nz. Entries should be on white paper, maximum size A3. The child's name, age, address and phone number should be on the back of their entry.

The staff and committee will select a shortlist which will be displayed in the kindergarten, with the winner decided by a vote.

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Xmas Parade floats

The Helensville Christmas Parade is on Saturday, December 3 starting at midday, and locals wanting to enter a float should be getting ready for that now says organiser Noel Harris.

It's free to enter, and floats can optionally be judged in one of three categories - schools and preschools; sports and community groups; and businesses.

Anyone wanting in entering a float or walking group should contact Noel Harris on 09 837 1824 or email abbeyp@ihug.co.nz.

Big turnout for free singing lessons



• Scot puts participants through their singing exercises during the workshop

A free public singing workshop for 'non singers' held by local singing teacher Scot Hall last month was a great success.

Scot expected to be working with about 10 people and was astounded when more than 40 residents from all over the NorWest and Rodney turned up.

"It ended up being a very different Suddenly we had this community of extremely enthusiastic learners, and the atmosphere in the room was at times electric," says Scot.

"The feedback has been extremely heartwarming - people have connected with

something that they have been looking for for a long time."

Participant Lea Campbell says the workshop was "fantastic - it achieved everything I expected, and I shall be lip-syncing no more!"

Demand is high for followup workshops, and Scot has plans for several themed workshops, new locations, another 'for non singers' event and other ideas. The next workshop will be in early November.

Locals who want more information about upcoming workshops should phone Scot on 09 420 6159.



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Salsa time

with Peter Brennan of Porcini Cafe

The start of daylight saving heralds the start of barbecue season, so with the cooking moving outside, dress up a barbecue steak and salad by making a spicy salsa to add freshness and zing to a simple meal.

Many supermarkets carry 'chipotle chilli in adobo', usually in 100g tins. Chipotles are jalapeno chillies that have been smoked and dried; the adobo is a Mexican barbecue sauce that preserves the whole chillies. Store what you don't use in the fridge in a screw top jar. Chipotle in adobo will give your salsa an authentic smokey taste and plenty of heat.

■ Roast tomato salsa

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion peeled and diced
- 8 cloves of garlic diced
- 10 firm ripe tomatoes (approx 800g)
- 1/2 cup chopped coriander
- 1/4 cup cider or white wine vinegar
- Juice of a lime or a lemon
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- 2 teaspoons of sugar
- 1 or 2 chopped chipotle chillies from the can, or 2-3 chopped fresh red chillies



Blacken the tomatoes by either placing them under a grill and turning them as the skin blisters and blackens, or on the bars of a hot barbecue grill. If you have a gas hob place a cake rack over the flame and place tomatoes on top, turn as they blister and then remove. Once roughly blackened but not mushy, transfer to a bowl.

Heat a pan with the oil and sauté the onions for a few minutes, add the garlic and cook for a further 2 minutes, set aside.

Place the softest half of the tomatoes into a food processor with the onion, garlic, chopped chipotle, vinegar, lime, sugar and salt. Leave most of the blackened skin on the tomatoes as this adds to the smokey flavour. Pulse to combine but do not puree. Pour into a bowl.

Chop the rest of the tomatoes by hand and add them along with their juice and the coriander. Mix together, adjust the seasoning, cover and leave in the fridge for a couple of hours before serving.

■ Eggplant and chipotle salsa

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 large egg plant, peeled and diced into 1cm cubes.
- 6 cloves of garlic chopped
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- 150g approx of fresh green beans, blanched in boiling water and refreshed in cold
- 2 chipotles and some adobe sauce, chopped fine
- 2 red peppers
- 1 table spoon of white wine, cider or sherry vinegar
- 1/4 cup of chopped parsley.

Roast the peppers as for the tomatoes above, then rinse them under cold water to remove the blackened skin. Cut in half, remove the seeds, dice and place into a bowl.

Set a pan on the stove, add the oil, egg plant and garlic. Sauté for a few minutes until egg plant is tender then add to the bowl. Cut the blanched beans into 3cm lengths and add to the bowl. Finally stir in the chopped chipotles with some of the sauce, add the vinegar, parsley and salt. Cover and store in the fridge for a couple of hours before using.

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community tidbits from town and around

■ TU TANGI ORA SPORTS AWARDS

The 2011 Tu Tangi Ora - South Kaipara Sports Awards evening will be held on Friday, October 14, 7pm at the Helensville War Memorial Hall. General public admission tickets are \$10 (individual nominees receive two free tickets and teams five free tickets). For more information email Heena King at heenatto@gmail.com or visit the website www.tutangiora.co.nz.

■ KAUKAPAKAPA MARKET

The next Kaukapakapa Market is on Sunday, October 16 from 8.30am to 1pm. Contact Sarah on 420 9175 or Kim on 420 5776.

■ ARTHRITIS SUPPORT GROUP

The Helensville Arthritis Support Group next meets on Thursday, October 20 at 10am at the Pool Room at Aquatic Park, Parakai. Guest speaker will be Donna Kerridge, talking about naturopathy. Gold coin

donation appreciated. Contact Merle, phone 420 8774 or Judy, phone 420 6058.

■ PONY CLUB RIBBON DAY

Kaukapakapa Pony Club is holding a novice ribbon day on Labour Day, Monday October 24, starting 9.30am at the club grounds in Henley Road. For more information phone Debbie on 420 4586.

■ ATHLETICS CLUB

Helensville Athletics Club's registration night is Wednesday, October 19 from 5.30pm to 6.30pm at the Lions Clubrooms, Rautawhiri Park, Helensville. The season starts with the first club night on Wednesday, October 26 from 5.20pm at Rautawhiri Park. Fees are: school age - \$15, pre-school age \$5 or \$20 per family. For more information phone Ally Grey on 420 7497.

■ FIRE BRIGADE HONOURS NIGHT

The Helensville Volunteer Fire Brigade will hold it's annual Honours Night presentations on Saturday, October 29.

Since it was formed in 1914 our local brigade has been part of the United Fire Brigades Association, and every year service honours are awarded to the members of the brigade by the UFBA in recognition of their service to the community.

In order to qualify for honours a brigade member must attend at least 60 percent of weekly training over a year. After three years of service a firefighter receives a framed certificate, and after five years a silver medal. From then on they receive a silver bar for the medal every two years until they have completed 25 years service.

At 25 years the silver medal is replaced by a gold medal, the Gold Star. From then on a gold bar is awarded every two years until a second Gold Star is awarded after 50 years service - a very rare event.

The honours night includes a dance and supper.

As the Helensville Brigade is voluntary, the UFBA honours is one of the few ways the countless hours of training and attending calls are rewarded.

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Helensville News - Publication Information

November deadline: Friday, 17th October, 2010

ISSUE DUE OUT TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1st

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2011/12 issue dates and deadlines:

Due out: Nov 1st	Copy by: Oct 17th	Due out: Feb 7th	Copy by: Jan 20th
Due out: Dec 6th	Copy by: Nov 18th	Due out: Mar 6th	Copy by: Feb 17th

Editor & Publisher: Dave Addison, Helensville News Ltd, PO Box 59, Helensville 0840. **Editorial:** Dave Addison, 420 7215.

Design, Subediting & Layout: Dash Design, 420 7215. **Printing:** Rob McCorkindale, Print Matters, 0274 740 657.

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Letters to the Editor: should be kept to around 250 words and may be edited as space dictates.

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