

200 ISSUES!

That's right - *Helensville News* is 200 issues old!

Looking back over the past 17 years' worth of articles gives us a unique insight into the development of Helensville and the surrounding area so far this century.

When our first issue came out in June 1999, there was no Auckland Super City - our administration was handled by the more local Rodney District Council.

Helensville had no supermarket, medical centre, physiotherapy clinic, gym, riverside walkway, skate park, recycling centre, Te Whare Oranga, rail museum, art centre ... the list goes on.

We've seen the closure of the town's two long-standing banks, the ANZ and BNZ, within weeks of one another. The ASB arrived in 2006 to replace them - but closed again nine years later.

Looking at the advertisements, we can see many long-running businesses still around (some with new names) - the likes of Allsorts, Unichem, Parakai 4 Square, Helensville Stationers (Paper Plus), Premier Mechanical, Helensville Hire, Sellars & Co,

and Oikoumene Forest (BuildLink).

But others have also gone during that period, among them Screamers, Helensville Insurance, Helensville Garden Centre, Video Ezy, Mike Ross Appliances and Black Pete's.

The range of local events has grown over the 17 years, although some of those have also since disappeared.

The annual A&P Show and Christmas parade are still the biggest shows in town, but over our 200 issues we've seen the arrival of successful new events like the Lions book fair, Arts in the Ville, Kaipara Classic Car Club's annual Shine in d'Ville, and the Lions Roses Festival.

Spring Fling started in 2000, not long after *Helensville News* began, but sadly closed a couple of years ago. And there have been heritage days, five Horse Expos, Christmas carol evenings ... all a sign of a town becoming more vibrant.

As a paper we have regularly celebrated the academic and sporting successes of pupils from our area schools, and we've kept our readers up to date with the activities and successes of a huge range of interesting locals - many of them on the national stage, and some even international.

We've also covered a number of issues and big developments that ended up coming to nothing, such as the gas-fired power station at Punganui, the Kaipara Mills residential development on the old Kaipara Dairy Company site, and underwater power turbines in the Kaipara Harbour entrance.

And of course the perennial issue of rail transport - our very first issue covered a meeting by Rodney District Council and Waitakere City Council to look at funding

passenger rail. We did get a trial nine years later, but nothing came of that. And now even the recreational steam train visits to our town have gone. Some things don't change!

Here's to the next 200 issues.

Rocking it...



This is Teone Wilkinson of the Tie Fighters, one of the Kaipara College bands that made it through to the regional finals of the SmokeFree Rockquest. Read the full story on page 19.

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editorial

I think I must officially be old now. Having worked on this paper for 158 of its 200 issues, since February 2003, and having been editor and publisher for six years, it sure feels like *Helensville News* has been a significant part of my life.

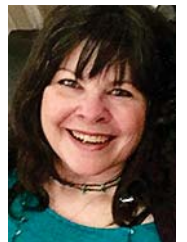
200 issues is a great milestone to achieve, and something I'm very proud of. It wouldn't have happened of course without the foresight of those who set the paper up in the first place - see Andrea Mullin's message below - and all the people since who have helped by writing columns, proof reading, contributing articles and story ideas. And the advertisers, without who the paper could not exist.

I'd like to think the quality of the paper has improved over the years, and I feel we've done a pretty good job of keeping locals in touch with the important issues affecting our town. However, it's the people I've met over all those issues that have been the highlight. I've said it before in my editorial, but this area is just chock full of the most interesting people doing the most amazing things.

Expect issue #300 out some time late in 2025...

- Dave Addison, Editor

A message from Andrea Mullin, who was instrumental in founding the Helensville News. She now lives in Canada.



Congratulations to Dave Addison and all of the many contributors over the years to the *Helensville News* on its 200th issue.

Dave reminded me of our humble beginnings, when UK publisher (and sometime Helensville resident) Peter Stonham and Kiwi Bernie Walsh approached New Horizons with their concept of a community newsletter in 1999. Peter's vision was for "...an independent forum for news and views about issues affecting Helensville and its residents."

Bernie edited the first six issues, followed by Peter Reaves. New Horizons was the publisher, providing a management committee (Mark Anderson, Fred Hendon and myself) to oversee content, advertising, production, etc. during the early years.

For the paper's 100th issue, I remarked my amazement at Cynthia Thrush and Dave Addison doing all of this work themselves, and now Dave is the heart and soul of the paper, running it single-handedly. Well done, Dave, and thank you for continuing to champion our town.

My mother-in-law used to mail the *Helensville News* to keep me up to date on local goings on. Sadly, Edythe and Noel Mullin are no longer with us, but I continue to enjoy the paper's online edition to catch up on friends and former neighbours. Two of my kids are living in Auckland now, so a big piece of my heart is still in New Zealand!

Thank you for continuing the legacy of this important community resource. Best of luck for the next 100 issues!

- Andrea Mullin

Have say on Parakai Reserve (cont...)

• From page 3

The plan identifies the need to monitor the impacts of sea level rise and climate change on the reserve, to mitigate any risks of inundation from the Kaipara River.

When it comes into effect later this year, the Reserve Management Plan will guide all decisions on the future management and

development of the reserve.

The draft plan is available online at shapeauckland.co.nz, and in hard copy at the council service centres in Helensville and Huapai, and at Helensville and Kumeu libraries.

Written submissions on the draft plan can be submitted via an on-line feedback form at shapeauckland.co.nz.

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Chance to have say on future of Parakai Reserve

Locals have until 4pm on Friday, June 23 to provide feedback on the future of Parakai Reserve.

A draft reserve management plan covering potential developments on the 18.4ha site over the next 50 years was released last month.

The plan provides little in the way of specifics, but rather is more of a vision document outlining the potential for the site,



• Te Poari o Kaipātiki ki Kaipara team members (from left): chair Margaret Kawharu, Brenda Steele, Tracey Hill, Glenith Samson and Phelan Pirrie at a public consultation meeting at the Parakai market on May 28

Auckland's only geothermal reserve, as seen by the reserve's management group, Te Poari o Kaipātiki ki Kaipara (previously the Parakai Recreation Reserve Board).

It includes five- and ten-year development projections, with improvements suggested for the next five years to include native revegetation, an enhanced educational track network, community gardens and high quality temporary holiday accommodation.

Thrusts to the plan include promoting healthy activity, restoration of natural features, and developing and enhancing the Maori heritage and tradition of the area.

The plan suggests a volunteer programme for revegetation programmes be set up, and efforts made to improve wildlife habitats. Maori names would be restored, and bilingual signs installed.

A native nursery and a network of tracks are envisioned, and any developments on the site would use design principles drawn from Ngāti Whātua design and narratives.

The draft plan would see the reserve split into four 'zones': a 'family' zone emphasising open space and informal play along the Parkhurst Rd frontage; an 'active' zone aimed at organised recreation covering the existing campground and Parakai Springs area; a 'quiet' zone behind the pools area built around the natural and scenic aspects of the reserve; and access pathways, aiming to make pedestrian and cycle access the main mode of movement around the reserve.

Separate to the management plan process, the reserve is undergoing a formal name change to Kaipātiki, the original Māori name given to the whenua (land) by iwi prior to European settlement.

Margaret Kawharu, chair of Te Poari o Kaipātiki ki Kaipara, says that after a lot of exploratory work, the board is excited about the future of Kaipātiki as a much-enhanced community and cultural

space.

"The reserve is already a hub for community activity with the well-known hot pool complex. Less known but incredibly significant is the rich cultural history of the area.

"The draft plan looks to unlock the potential of the reserve as a destination in the South Kaipara while also restoring the site to its historical and cultural prominence as a place of healing."

The Crown formally returned the reserve jointly to Ngāti Whātua and Auckland Council in 2013.

The draft plan draws on insights from community engagement on the Parakai Recreation Reserve Master Plan developed in 2015.

• To page 2

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Book to launch at market

Waitoki man John Clapperton will be launching his book 'The Clapperton Diaries' at the Waitoki market on Saturday, June 10.

The self-published 284 page large-format book, co-written with Kaukapakapa-based journalist Crispin Caldicott, details John's family history from the 1885 voyage to New Zealand of his grandfather William Nicol Clapperton aboard the clipper sailing ship Crusader.

John, who purchased his 3.2ha (8 acre) block at Waitoki in 1986 and built his home there in 1992, was prompted to write the book when Crispin saw his detailed model of the Crusader, and then discovered John also had his grandfather's original diary covering the voyage to New Zealand.

Crispin said the story needed to be told, and John says he just said: "Oh, goodo".

John's grandfather moved almost immediately to Pahi on the north Kaipara Harbour after arriving in the country in 1885, starting a long family association with the Kaipara area.

The highly-illustrated book covers four generations of the Clapperton family as they worked and lived around New Zealand.

It details John's working life, first as a surveyor for the government, in particular surveying the whole of the far North, and later as an engineer on the Upper Mangatawhiri and Huia dams.

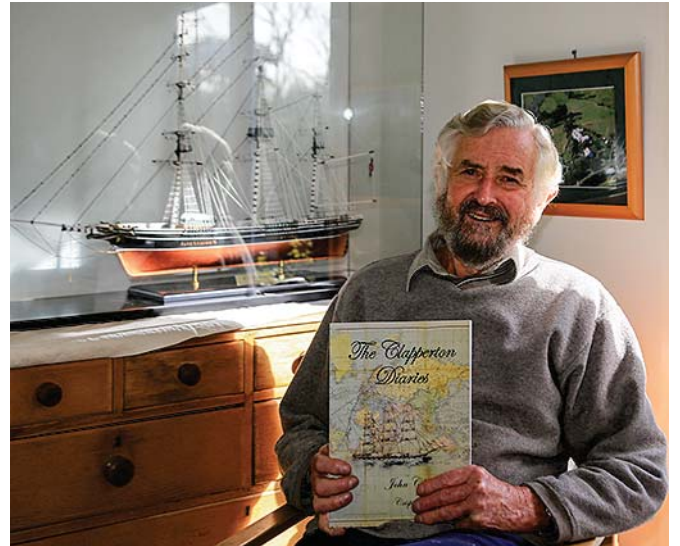
Overseas travel is covered, including a post-war tour around Great Britain on an old Norton army motor bike and side car.

John's daughter Lisa, who organises the Waitoki market and runs Waitoki Plants, lives on a second house beside John's. His other daughter Deb runs a bed and breakfast based in the old Post Office and telephone exchange at Paparoa.

The book, a three-year labour of love, is

dedicated to John's wife Marie, who died in 2013 after a 10-year battle with a brain tumour. John says Crispin became a "very special friend" during Marie's illness.

Initially 100 copies of The Clapperton Diaries have been printed and will sell for around \$35. More will probably be printed, depending on demand.



• John with his book, and the model of the Crusader

John and Crispin will be at the Waitoki market to chat about how the book came about and to sign copies.

The book's printer, Chris Else of Image Concepts, will also be there to discuss producing any kind of book, from runs of 20 upwards.

The market runs from 8.30am until midday in the Waitoki hall.

Parakai Reserve meeting


Te Awaroa Residents & Ratepayers Association is holding a meeting in the Parakai Springs function space on Wednesday, June 7 at 7pm to discuss the Kaipātiki draft reserve management plan.

The aim is to help people understand the plan so they can make a submission, and add their views to the community summary for TARRA'S submission. Forms and information will be available.

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New church building opens

River Valley Baptist Church officially opened its massive new building extension with a special service and afternoon tea for around 150 people on Sunday, May 28.

It's been five years since the major project was first mooted, and almost two years since construction began on the \$850,000 building at the corner of Parkhurst and Fordyce Roads in Parakai.



• Kenny and Sarah Wright inside the spacious new meeting room

With a growing congregation currently numbering about 80, the extra room was vital for the church.

As well as a new entrance foyer, office, storage room, toilet block and decks, there's a huge main meeting room which co-pastor Kenny Wright says can comfortably take 130 people.

That room has been designed for the future, too. One end is currently walled off and being used as a creche. When the congregation grows enough, that wall can be

removed and the main meeting room expanded to provide seating for 200.

Co-pastors Kenny and Sarah Wright are a young married couple who came to River Valley Baptist Church last August. Kenny is a Kiwi with Canadian heritage, while New Zealand-born Sarah grew here and in France while on missions with her family.

They say much of the finishing work on the building was completed by members of the congregation, saving hugely on the building's labour costs.

The new building was designed by a member who is an architect, and the closed-in shell completed by local builder Paul Nasmith.

Work on the building is now complete, but the carpark still has to be paved to complete council consent requirements says Kenny.

Kaukapakapa photos in video display

Kaukapakapa library will show videos of historic and contemporary photographs on the morning of Sunday, June 18 to coincide with the Auckland Festival of Photography.

The presentations will screen twice an hour and run for about 20 minutes.

The photographs will include historic images from the Alan Jordan collection, plus photographs recording the 2010 celebration of the 150th anniversary of the European settlement of Kaukapakapa taken by photographer Colin Lunt, and a collection of contemporary photographs of Kaukapakapa, its people and places.

DVDs of the collections will be available for sale for \$20.

For more information contact Megan Paterson, phone 021 959017 or email: threehorses@xtra.co.nz.

Draft plan drop-in

A drop-in session will be held on Saturday, June 10 from 10am to 3pm in the Lions Lounge at Rautawhiri Park to meet local board members and learn about the draft Rodney Local Board Plan 2017.

Feedback on the draft plan closes at 4pm on Friday, June 30. Locals can give their views online at shapeauckland.co.nz, by completing a feedback form which will be delivered by mail, or at the drop-in session.

The full draft plan can be read online at shapeauckland.co.nz or at libraries, service centres and the Local Board office.

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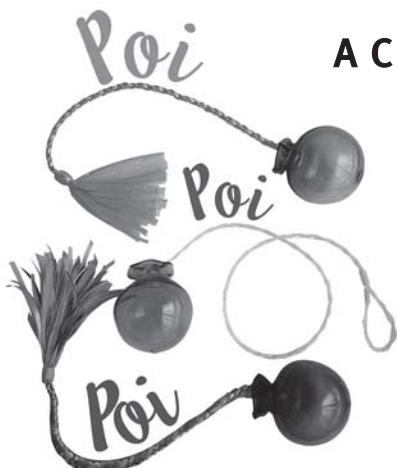


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College student chosen for international science school

Kaipara College Year 13 student Paice Vaughan is among just six students selected from around the country by the Royal Society Te Apārangi to attend the Harry Messel International Science School (ISS) in Sydney, Australia.

The ISS is a biennial science school that celebrates and honours excellence in young people who display a passion and aptitude for science, and aims to encourage them to pursue careers in science and related areas.

It is a two-week residential science camp from July 2 to 15 which will include a range of activities including lectures by renowned scientists, hands-on scientific workshops, and an active social program.

"I'm always looking for ways to grow my passions and interests," says Paice. "I discovered the Royal Society collates all these international science opportunities for secondary students, including the Harry Messel International Science School, and you can apply for as many as them as you like in one big application.

"So I gathered a bunch of references from my teachers at the start of this year and sent my application to Wellington. I then learned that I was one of six students selected from over 300 applications to attend the International Science School, so naturally I was thrilled."

Paice studies physics and chemistry at Kaipara, as well as digital technology and mathematics.

"It was actually when I began high school at Kaipara that I discovered my love of science," he says. "I loved the idea of trying to explain and understand what we see in

the world around us."

As for a future career, after leaving Kaipara Paice plans to do an degree in New Zealand, most likely in physics or engineering.

"There are so many areas I want to explore that extend off from those fields."

He says he would love to work in science communication, theoretical physics, or in the space industry - "that is where we are

pushing the boundaries, and working right on the doorstep into the rest of the universe."

Joining Paice and the five other Kiwi students will be another 140 from Australia, China, Japan, Singapore, Thailand and the United Kingdom.

The theme of this year's International Science School is 'Future Power'. Among those presenting are Nobel laureates and eminent scientists from Australia, the United Kingdom and the USA.



• Paice Vaughan

"This is a great opportunity for talented young New Zealanders to interact with experts at the top of their fields in science," says Andrew Cleland, chief executive of Royal Society Te Apārangi.

70 percent of the student's airfares are covered by a Talented School Students Travel Award, managed by Royal Society Te Apārangi and funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. All other expenses while in Sydney are covered by a scholarship to the International Science School.

Paice wants to encourage other students, whether their passion is science or something else entirely, to get out there and go hunting for those opportunities they are passionate about.



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'Day in the Life of Kaukapakapa' photography competition

'A Day in The Life of Kaukapakapa' is the theme for a photography competition being run by Kaukapakapa library administrators and organisers of the Kaukapakapa market to coincide with Auckland's Festival of Photography.

The competition is for photographs taken in the Kaukapakapa area during the 24 hours preceding midnight on Saturday, June 10.

Photographs must be identifiable as having been taken in the area, defined for the competition as spanning from Makarau to Helensville, and Kaukapakapa to Waitoki. They can be of any subject - "anything which could be included in a collection of images under the heading 'A Day in The Life of Kaukapakapa'," says library administrator Megan Paterson.

Photographers can enter a maximum of three digital images, which must be emailed to: colinlunt@xtra.co.nz by 6pm on

Monday, June 12.

One photo from each entry will be printed and displayed in the Kaukapakapa hall to coincide with the Sunday, June 18 market.

Prizes will be awarded for the best photo in under-12 and over-12 age categories, plus a people's choice photograph. Winning photographers will each receive an A3 canvas print of their winning image plus a \$50 Westfield Voucher.

Awards will be presented in the Kaukapakapa hall at midday on Sunday, June 18. The people's choice winner will be chosen from the images displayed during the morning of the market. The judges will be Megan, photographer Colin Lunt, and Kaukapakapa market organiser Sarah Legg.

For more information visit www.clc-photographic.com or contact Megan Paterson, phone 021 959 017 or email: threehorses@xtra.co.nz, or Colin Lunt, phone 027 370 4188.

medical centre notes

Typing this with slightly numb fingers from the cold this morning gave me the topic for this month. Numb or tingly fingers can have many causes other than just not wearing gloves on a cold day.

When people hyperventilate (breathe too quickly, often caused by anxiety), they can cause numbness and tingling (paraesthesia) in their hands, toes and around their lips, which can even progress to being light headed and fainting.

Paraesthesia can also be caused by chronic medical conditions that effect the small nerves in the extremities, such as diabetes, a deficiency in vitamin B12, or long-term alcohol abuse.

Carpal tunnel syndrome causes paraesthesia in the palmar aspect of the hand affecting the thumb, index, middle and part of the ring finger - normally worse at night or driving with the hands on the wheel. This is where the median nerve is pinched in the wrist, and there are options to treat this such as splints, cortisone injections or surgery.

Raynaud's phenomenon is a condition where the blood vessels to the fingers spasm and contract, causing the fingers to go white, then blue then red. This can be triggered by cold, emotional stress, or vibration. The first step is avoiding cold temperatures, and there is medication that can help as well.

On a different note, with this busy time of the year for appointments, I'd like to encourage patients to enrol in our free online health portal, ManageMyHealth. It allows you to make appointments online or via a smartphone app, as well as check results and order prescriptions. To enrol, contact our staff - all we need is your email to enrol you and you're good to go (note: different family members do need separate email addresses).

- Dr Phillip Barter, Clinical Director



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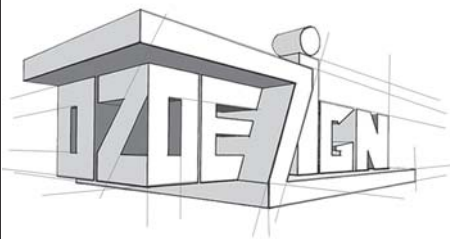
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Former KDC man passes away

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1938 – 2017

Former senior Kaipara Dairy Company employee Brian Davies was farewelled on Tuesday, May 2 following his death as a result of an accident, a sad blow to his family, friends and colleagues.

Described as 'a legend of a man', Brian was an innovative designer of dairy technology, and considered well ahead of current thinking throughout his career.

Brian completed a BAgSc in dairy technology at Massey University where his leadership skills were recognised, being elected student president in his final year.

Brian and Carole were married in May 1962. Their three children - daughters Kim and Jan, and son Michael - were all born in Helensville. Brian was also a dedicated grandfather of seven.

After his graduation in 1962, he worked briefly at Eltham in Taranaki, then moved to the Albertland Dairy Company at Te Hana, near Wellsford, where he set up a new laboratory.

As well as his work at the factory, Brian and Carole were involved in the community there. In particular Brian was instrumental in setting up a Te Hana jogging group after hearing a talk at Rotary by Arthur Lydiard, and establishing a Te Hana to Wellsford road race which was held for many years.

Brian was the race's inaugural winner, and took those honours in many subsequent years.

In 1964 Brian became the chemist and assistant manager at the Kaipara Dairy Company in Helensville, under manager George McWhirter.

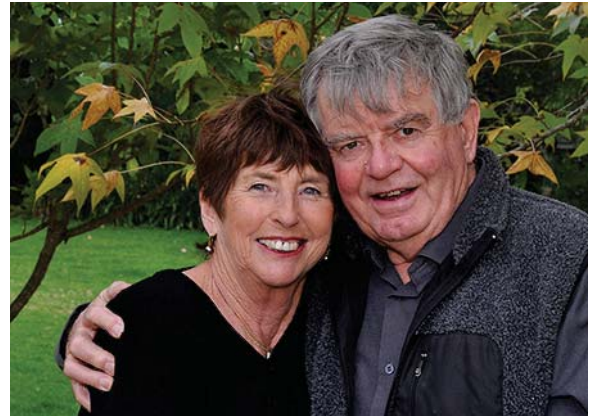
Brian and Carole stayed at Helensville until 1970, through a time of great change at the KDC as new products were trialled, and then produced for local and international markets.

Due to the vigilance of George McWhirter and local veterinarian Jo Tyndel, the KDC's supply area was declared TB free, enabling the factory to be awarded a

prestige export order for frozen cream to the United States. They also produced cheese, yoghurt, cheese curd, and a range of milk powders, eventually expanding into margarine. Brian's children remember being used as tasters for some of the products.

Community involvement included the Playcentre, Brian's membership and presidency of the Lions Club, and as deputy mayor of the Helensville Borough Council.

In 1970 the family moved to Edgecombe and the larger factory of the Rangitaiki Plains Dairy Company as production manager for



• Carole and Brian Davies

three years. That was followed by a return to his home area of Taranaki, where he spent nine years as general manager of Taranaki Dairy Company in Stratford, controlling three cheese factories, two milk powder factories, a casein factory, a butter factory, and a milk treatment station.

This period was a test of Brian's leadership skills and concern for people and communities, with the amalgamation of the TDC and the smaller Kiwi Dairy Company at Hawera.

After the merger, Brian struggled with what he believed was a fair balance between shareholder demands and delivery to his customers and people. Rather than take the general manager role in the new company, he decided to start a consultancy.

Brian returned to the KDC in Helensville for a two-year period in the 1980s, where he installed a new milk powder facility for both local and export markets, which had the ability to dry milk with zero, medium, or 100 percent fat.

The expansion of Brian's consultancy career took him to Vietnam, the Himalaya region, Europe, South America and Australia, through such entities as the World Bank, World Health Organisation, and Australian dairy companies.

Based in Australia for some time, Brian and Carole travelled often, exploring much of Europe by camper van. In the 1990s they returned to New Zealand, renovating and selling six houses.

Brian continued his consultancy work, and spent time developing new technology including a machine capable of producing potable water or making concentrates from diverse products such as milk, juices, and even industrial and abattoir waste.

- Wynne HaySmith



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Local owners for old business

For the new owner of one of Helensville's oldest businesses, buying McLeod Motors in Railway Street is sort of a home-coming.

Daniel Norrish attended Kaukapakapa Primary and Kaipara College, but has spent his working career at different automotive businesses around Auckland, travelling from Kaukapakapa each day.

He trained at Paul Stockman Motors in Ellerslie, and has worked at Nissan and Mazda dealers around the city, plus with the Automobile Association.

Now, he will have a much shorter commute to work. And so will wife Liz, for the one day a week she helps out in the office. Liz, the daughter of local real estate agent Rene Vos, will still work as an emergency department nurse at North Shore Hospital the rest of the time.

Daniel says buying his own business is "something I always wanted to do - to be able to do something for yourself, and to grow it."

He says it's a "whole different atmosphere" working locally. "It's nice to be back in Helensville."

Daniel is a qualified auto electrician as well as a mechanic, so is already expanding the business to provide auto electrical services - including a mobile service.



• Liz and Daniel in their workshop

The business now stocks the full range of 'Total' brand oils and lubricants, including those for farm machinery, plus a full range of batteries. He is also carrying a small range of 4WD 'recovery' equipment.

He has invested in a new electrical diagnostic scanner and a wheel balancing machine, so McLeod Motors can now supply and fit tyres as well.

He's also hired an extra mechanic - a local - which brings the workshop team to four, although one is currently on long-term leave.

When he's not repairing cars, Daniel says he is busy tidying the premises up. Some of the interior has already been repainted, and the outside is next, along with new signage.

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AN UPDATE FROM NORTH WEST

A MESSAGE FROM NWDBA CHAIR: TONY FORLONG



It's been a busy time for the North West District Business Association. The Committee have been working hard to achieve our goals and in turn, firmly make the North West the desired destination for people to live, work and explore.

In this, our third full year of operation, we have been focused on talking with groups in our business areas, such as Helensville Commercial Property Owners, Business Owners, and with our very supportive Rodney Local Board. We have welcomed their feedback as it helps us ensure we are focusing on areas that our members see as the most important.

We have set ourselves some big goals for the year. One was to establish a signature event showcasing the unique hospitality offerings in the North West. This was a great success - the inaugural North West Wine, Beer and Food Festival was very popular, with attendance at capacity and the iconic Dave Dobbyn as the headliner. It's our aim to make this an annual festival that will continue to include local businesses and expose the wider Auckland public to the treasure trove of businesses in the North West.

Our second significant goal was to showcase the quality of businesses. The first North West Business Awards aims to acknowledge all types of great businesses, across all industries, and had many nominations from across the whole area. The Riverhead was a fantastic host venue for the Awards Dinner, and it was clear all the categories were a very close call! So congratulations to the winners and runners up again - a full list and photos can be found on the North West Country website.

All in all, the Business Association faces a unique challenge in being the only Business Improvement District (BID) that covers multiple town centres and a large area, but we are making great progress, and are very proud to be sharing this update with you. If you would like to be more involved, get in touch, or remember all are welcome at our AGM, to be held later this year.

In the next few months, keep an eye out for our mobile app, and gateway signage - we're excited, and we hope you are too!

2016

1st September - Father's Day

promotion. Over 80 North West stores participated, with hundreds of entries from local shoppers, and a wide social media reach.

14th November - Helensville commercial property owners meeting.

A key group with the aim to "improve and enhance our townships, to make them desirable places to work, live and visit".

5th December - Accommodation brochure.

Showcasing the very best of accommodation to capitalise on the summer season and events attracting visitors to the area.

COMING UP...

- **Rail to Huapai campaign** - we are working alongside the Chair of Public Transport Users Association to support the Rail to Huapai Campaign.
- **Signage** - we have submitted a formal application to NZTA for two main information signage boards for Kumeu and Helensville. These will show area specific information, history, things to do, maps and itineraries offering visitors the opportunity to discover new things in the North West area.
- **Buy Local Mobile App** - Currently under development is a Buy Local App especially for our members. This will be packed with information on the areas, business locations, trails, shopping promotions, and events with scope for further functionality.

COUNTRY

16th December - Christmas Promotion.

Over 60 North West stores participated, with the majority of retail store across all town centres involved.

North West Wine, Beer and Food Festival

2017

13th March - Helensville business owners meeting.

Getting feedback from the local business community about what they want to see happen in their town. Further actions and consultations are underway.

11th February

Great new annual event established, enticing Dave Dobbyn, Trinity Roots and Nomad to perform for over 2,000 attendees. The event gained wide media coverage and put the North West on the map.



CONTACT US:

www.northwestcountry.co.nz

facebook.com/nwdba

or: facebook.com/NorthWestCountryNZ

info@northwestbusiness.co.nz

26th April - Mothers Day Promotion.

Over 60 North West stores participated in our Mother's day promotion which attracted over 1,000 entries from local shoppers, and gained a wide social media audience.

North West Business Awards

2nd May

More than 150 local business operators and their staff, friends and family enjoyed a gala dinner held at The Riverhead with Wallace Chapman as MC. Sixteen local North West businesses were recognised with awards for doing excellent business.



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Work progressing on Kaukapakapa project

From the road it might not look like much is happening, but a tour of the building site for the Kaukapakapa Village Centre development shows just how much has been achieved.

Helensville News was taken around the site by realtor Dave Crow and shown all the infrastructure work already completed, or nearly so.

Stage 1 of the \$11 million project has a target opening date of September 1 this year. That date could change depending on scarcity of building materials caused by the Auckland building boom. A second stage, including a supermarket and more shops, is slated for completion 12 months later.

The first stage will bring a sigh of relief to many Kaukapakapa residents, bringing with it both a service station - something the town has been lacking since 2010 - and a medical centre and pharmacy.

Currently the main visible sign of construction is the framework for the new Gull petrol station. Unlike most stations which have flat roofs, this one will have a timber-clad, high-peaked gable roof.

That's part of the design ethos of the whole

village project, which aims to mimic the country style and architecture of the Kaukapakapa area, both in design and materials used.

One of the major infrastructure items already finished is a waste treatment plant at the rear of the site, which has 2.6km of pipes buried under ground which has been planted in natives.

A large concrete retaining wall for the stormwater pond - which has been planned to look like a small lake - is almost finished. The pond has also been designed as a water source for the local fire service.

As well as the medical centre and pharmacy, the first stage will include two additional retail premises, with two apartments above them.



• Dave Crow by the stormwater pond, with the station frames behind

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Help sought to build house in Thailand

Year 11 Kaipara College student Qunique Tarawa and SKYouth youth worker Alex van Dam are off to Thailand this month - funds permitting - after being given the opportunity to build a house at Rayong as volunteers with Habitat for Humanity.

Alex says the project is a youth initiative started this year in memory of Gavin Spillane, who spent much of his life working as a missionary in Papua New Guinea, before owning a sawmill in Helensville where he provides work for a number of local youth.

"My vision is to establish a sustainable youth scholarship where this opportunity

can be offered to a local youth on an annual basis," says Alex.

She says Qunique stood out as an appropriate candidate to pilot the scheme, as the former SKYouth member is interested in pursuing a career in building.

Qunique and Alex are currently seeking support to raise the \$8000 needed for this trip. At the time of writing they were halfway towards their target with a few more fundraisers planned, but they need some extra help to get there.

"We would like to thank the Lions Club of Helensville, PhysioFlex and the Woodhill mountain bike park for contributing towards



• Qunique Tarawa and Alex van Dam

our trip," says Alex.

Anyone keen to help can email Alex at: alex.is@hotmail.co.nz.

local board matters

■ 3 Year Local Board Plan

The ink isn't dry on our annual budget and we are straight into our three year 'Local Board Plan'.

This plan will set the overall direction for the work we do from July 2018 to 2022. Once we finish this around mid-year we then have to get approval for the budgets from councillors through the Long Term Plan refresh at the end of the year.

I got a bit of flack on Facebook for posting about this year's main advocacy project - a multi-sport facility for Huapai. Why were we wasting time on this when the roads needed sorting out? It's a good question. The Local Board has budget responsibility for local parks and amenities like halls and community hubs. We also make decisions on local matters, provide local leadership, and support local communities. In addition we advocate for you, giving local input into region-wide strategies and plans including those of the council-controlled organisations (CCOs).

Auckland Transport is the CCO that provides our roads and public transport (not to be confused with the central government agency NZTA that controls SH16). CCOs are at arms length from politicians, and there are pros and cons with that. We don't get to interfere in operational matters. It can, however, lead to a perception the CCO is ignoring local concerns.

Back to the Local Board. Our focus over the next few years will be on a few realistically achievable advocacy items outside our budgetary control - these will be taken to the governing body (councillors) and CCOs. Naturally these will be around population growth related issues - public transport, roads and planning.

In addition we will be using our budget to focus on: providing sports fields and public parks and infrastructure to cope with our growing population; providing safe and user friendly walking, cycling and riding links across Rodney and in our townships; improving the environmental health of our main harbours; and an ongoing budget to kick start the plans sitting on a shelf in Orewa to provide much-needed town centre improvements.

We are also seeking your feedback on a suggested targeted rate specific to Rodney that could be used for road sealing, park'n'ride provision, and a train service to Huapai.

Why isn't this being done out of general rates? Council currently has a \$200m hole in the annual budget due to the limitations of its 2.5% rate increase. The community tells us these are three transport issues it wants sorted out, so if we want to bring forward providing them, one way is a targeted rate that can only be spent on those projects.

When providing feedback please think beyond your immediate neighbourhood. A train service to Huapai may not seem very useful to someone in Helensville, but getting traffic off the roads benefits everyone from local businesses to commuters.

We have tried to get an even spread of projects, however we must prioritise how we spend your rates to achieve the best results. Spending small amounts on a myriad of tiny projects hasn't delivered the benefits we need. Our plan is about dealing with growth, providing better townships and facilities, and helping you get around our area safely while also trying to tackle a long term environmental problem in our harbours and waterways.

Consultation is now open. You can make a submission online at: www.shapeauckland.co.nz.

- Phelan Pirrie, Deputy Chair, Rodney Local Board
phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



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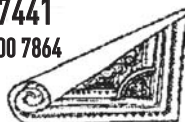
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Firefighters' big climb

A team of three firefighters from the Helensville Volunteer Fire Brigade took part in the annual Sky Tower Challenge last month.

They were among around 900 firefighters from around the country and overseas who climbed the 51 flights of stairs - that's 1103 individual steps - to the top of the Sky Tower, while wearing full fire fighting kit weighing up to 25kg.

Combined, the competitors raised \$1.25 million for charity Leukaemia & Blood Cancer NZ.

Chris MacDonald was fastest of our local team, finishing the climb in 15m 35s to place 195th overall. Danni Sorby came in 260th with 16m 32s, while Alex van Dam finished 374th and 23rd female with a time of 18m 31s.

It was Chris's fifth crack at the climb, and Alex's fourth. Danni was a newcomer to the event, but both he and Alex plan to have another go next year.

"We all did reasonably well," says Alex, "and enjoyed the tough climb, pushing our bodies, and also the stair training leading up to the event at Muriwai."

Kaukapakapa Volunteer Fire Force was represented by Marcel Hendriks (435th) and Dylan Buchanan (567th), while the Shelly Beach brigade had a five-strong

team of Brian Flood (216th), Joseph Ineson (274th), Darren Wood (512th), Leah Hide (554th) and Gemma Wood (570th).

The event attracted 10 entries from Australia, two from Chile, five from the United States and one from Croatia. The overall winner was Josh Harrison of Mt Wellington Station in 9m 20s.

"We are always proud to be able to do our bit to help raise money to provide care and comfort to those with cancer," says Alex van Dam.

"The Helensville Volunteer Fire Brigade would like to thank our local community for their continued support over the years."



• From left: Firefighter Danni Sorby, and Senior Firefighters Chris MacDonald and Alex van Dam

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making the difference

Is there someone special who has done something that's really made a difference for you, your family or our town? To nominate someone you think deserving, write to: Nicky Horsbrough, Harcourts Helensville, 37 Commercial Road, Helensville 0800 or fill out the form online at: <http://nickyhorsbrough.harcourts.co.nz>. The lucky recipient will receive a \$100 voucher for a local business of their choice.

Our March recipient is Robyn Taylor, who chose a voucher for Allsorts. Here's her nomination from Joeline Hart:

I think Robyn totally deserves to receive one of these as she is always keeping it together in the Parakai School office, especially when it comes to the start of year [and] start of new terms.

She is constantly on her feet, helping the parents and children, fitting uniforms, organising stationery, attending sports events, bus role-calls and more. And from what I see she is often doing it on her own.

I'm sure a lot of other parents from Parakai School would agree.



• Robyn (left) with Nicky



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You will need to be a self-starter who can support and mentor traders and entrepreneurs in their journey to success. You will be familiar with the "pop up" culture that creates low cost access to markets for start-up businesses and will also be expected to recruit, develop and manage a team of volunteers.

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Applications close 23 June 2017.

Living with diabetes

If you or someone you care for has diabetes then you're invited to attend a free course aimed at giving you the tools to successfully manage the condition on a day to day basis. The course covers everything from blood glucose monitoring, to tips for healthy eating and exercise. The



course is run by Procare and is two hours, once a week for four weeks at Te Whare Oranga ō Parakai. The next four week block begins June 13. Contact paula.takiwa@procare.co.nz or visit thrivekaipara.org.nz for more information.

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SALES and RENTALS

'Fencibles' and lighthouses subjects of winter lectures

Many New Zealanders who take up genealogy discover Fencible soldiers as part of their family history.

The Royal Fencibles Corps is the topic for the Helensville & District Historical Society's second 2017 winter lecture, which will be given by Don Gallagher on Sunday, June 18 starting at 2pm in the Helensville Catholic Church's Father Sakey Centre.

The name 'Fencible' is derived from the word 'defensible', and regiments were raised from trained soldiers who had served for at least 15 years, then were sent to trouble spots all round the world - including France, America and New Zealand - to help in local conflicts. In New Zealand's case it was to help quell disputes over ownership of land, now known as the New Zealand Land Wars.

More than 2500 people in Fencible families arrived in New Zealand between 1847 and 1862.

Working as a lighthouse keeper from Cape Reinga in the north to Puysegur Point in Fiordland was local Trevor Scott's topic for the first of the Historical Society's winter lectures, held in May.

When they were married in 1958 Trevor was working as a grocery assistant and wife Marion at Cohen's drapery, both on low wages and unable to afford to build a house. After seeing a film about lighthouse keeping they decided to try it for themselves, beginning a 13-year career around the coast of New Zealand.

Their first appointment was at Tiritiri Matangi in the Hauraki Gulf, which Trevor says was the ideal start, being far less isolated than many of the places they later worked. He started as an assistant keeper, and to progress to head keeper had to pass a range of exams on topics such as communication and first aid. Their children were born during the lighthouse years, and completed schooling through correspondence.

The Scott's most isolated appointment was at Puysegur Point in Fiordland. Other positions included Godley Head, Cape Egmont, Cape Reinga and Akaroa, but most of Trevor's stories were about Portland Island in northern Hawkes Bay. Trevor amused the audience with yarns about the trials and pleasures of living in remote areas, and of the people they met.

On their return to Helensville in 1971, Trevor helped out his father Mick, (one of the well-known Scott fishermen on the Kaipara) who had suffered a back injury - leading to his third career, fishing.

Music therapy helps stroke victims

Helensville woman Retts van Dam has started an adult music therapy class for people recovering from a stroke, or dealing with other neurological issues such as Parkinson's.

The Community Music Therapy Group is being held every Friday from 10.30am to 12.30pm until mid-December, when they will take a break for the summer.

The two-hour sessions cost just \$10, although the first session is free. Carers or whānau are welcome to attend.

They are being held at the Father Sakey Centre at St Joseph's Catholic Church in Helensville, which Retts, who has a masters degree in music therapy, says is ideal because of its off-street parking and ramp access.

Contact Retts on 027 270 5126 or email: retts@mimtfale.co.nz.



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town talk

community titbits from town and around

■ HISTORICAL SOCIETY AGM

Giuseppe Gallina will speak about the Italian Campaign of the 2nd NZ Division (1943-45) at the Helensville & District Historical Society's AGM on Friday, June 16. The meeting starts at 1 pm in the Father Sakey Centre at the Helensville Catholic Church.

■ DEPUTY MAYOR TO SPEAK

Auckland City Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse will be guest speaker at Te Awaroa Residents & Ratepayers Association's 2017 AGM, which will be held on Wednesday, June 28 in the Helensville War Memorial Hall meeting room, starting 7.30pm.

■ KAUKAPAKAPA MARKET

The next Kaukapakapa market is on Sunday, June 18, 8.30am to 1pm. Mike Lea will provide live music. Fresh coffee available and food from the market café. For more information or to book a stall phone Sarah on 0274 831 542 or email: sarah1@maxnet.co.nz.

■ WAITOKI MEMORIES DAY

The annual Waitoki Memories Day, a joint venture by the Helensville & District Historical Society and Waitoki School, will be held on Saturday, July 1, this year in the Waitoki Hall.

The programme begins at 11am. Archie Drinnan will relate his memories of Waitoki-Wainui residents who attended school during his time. After a shared lunch there will be musical entertainment.

Entry costs \$10, plus a shared plate for the lunch. Copies of the Waitoki Memories booklet will be available.

■ BEACH WALK RAISES \$11,000

\$11,000 was raised by around 80 participants on the inaugural Turning The Tide Fundraising Walk along Muriwai Beach on Sunday, May 21. It's hoped the walk, a public show of solidarity and an attempt to "turn the tide" against family violence in northwest Auckland, will become an annual event.

from the frontline

From time to time I hear of people receiving calls from aggressive salespeople who try to bully and intimidate them into purchasing goods or services. This is common, not just with the elderly but with other vulnerable people. Don't ever feel pressured to say yes to a service or product unless you are 100 percent sure it is what you want.

It's advisable to take some time to think about what has been offered to you. Ask for a phone number and say you want time to think about it. A reputable salesperson will remain calm and polite and not hurl abuse at you over the phone!

Never sign a contract until you have completed due diligence. It's advisable to take time to read over contracts when there are no salespeople hovering, and when you won't feel pressured to read over it quickly. Never pay upfront - only pay for work that has been finished. If you are unsure, discuss it with someone you trust.

No one should be the victim of a pushy salesperson, an unfair contract, or overpriced or second-rate home maintenance or improvements. Even though these situations are predominantly civil, there are occasions where tradesmen have been employed or contracted to do work, been paid and then intentionally haven't finished or even started the work. That is a fraudulent criminal offence and should be reported to the police for investigation.

The Citizens Advice Bureau can offer advice in most civil cases; the Helensville branch number is 420 7162. Age Concern Rodney has a list of vetted tradespeople ranging from hairdressers to gardeners, plumbers to housecleaners; their number is 09 426 0916.

If that sales pitch sounds too good to be true, then it probably is!

- Mandi Bell, Community Constable



Six bands through to finals

Six Kaipara College bands have made it through to the regional finals of the Smokefree Rockquest this year.

The college entered 46 students spread from years 9 through to 13 in a dozen bands in the North Shore regional heats. In total there were 31 bands in heats, with Kaipara taking out almost half the 13 finals spots.

"There was a lot of incredible talent on display," says college music teacher Greg McLarin.

He adds it's a "huge achievement for a school of around 750 students" to get that many bands through to the final.

Particular note goes to Taine Ngatai, Bryony Roberts, and Bianca Bailey, who have now made it to the regional finals five years in a row.

"While the musical success was nice, I feel the true testament was the way that the Kaipara music whānau conducted themselves on the night," says Greg.

"Not only did the students succeed on stage, but they showed an amazing amount of support for each other."

The groups that made it to the regional finals are: Tie Fighters: Taine Ngatai, Teone Wilkinson, Jack Stenning, and Daniel Way;



• Taryn Wishart sings with band Denon

Some Form of Mustard: Katie Ashworth, Benjamin Stanley, and Mila Clark; 1023MB: Merania Paraone, Wiremu Black-Hyland, Dane Grey-Hohepa, and Braidy Henry; O-Boy!: Bianca Bailey, and Bryony Roberts; Denon: Ashleigh Thompson, Taryn Wishart, Angus O'Sullivan, and Jackson Hayes; and 3-4 Glory: Grace Cameron, Jaidyn Paul, Finn Gowthorpe, Callum Clarke, and Floyd Clark.

The college also has 12 students preparing to perform in the upcoming Solo/Duo regional heats.

Bus service changes

All bus services to and from Helensville will change on Sunday, June 11 as part of a city-wide revamp of bus services.

Routes 122 and 125 will have improved weekend services. The combination of 122 and 125 will create an hourly service between Huapai, Kumeu and Westgate, seven days a week. Route 125x will provide a peak express services from Helensville, through Huapai, Kumeu and Westgate to the city centre. There will now be all-day direct services from Westgate to the city centre via the Northwestern Motorway.

Four local bus stops will close for regular public buses: #4892 at 2059 SH16; #4917 opposite 2059 SH16; #4929 opposite 8 Parkhurst Road; and #4910 on SH16 near Te Pua School Road.

Locals can plan new routes online at: www.at.govt.nz/journeyplanner. Enter journey details and a date after June 10 to find out what bus to catch, where to catch it, and what time it departs.

Shopping promo winners

First prize in the North West Business Association's Mother's Day shopping promotion was won by Gwen Carruthers, who made a purchase at Zubu in Commercial Road. She won an E-Pack hamper worth more than \$350.

Second prize of a mother and daughter massage, spa and facial at Christine's Health Spa & Beauty at Parakai, was won by Michelle Learnan.

Daphne Peri won a North West Hamper for third prize after entering at Kaipara Fresh Fish Takeaways.

The competition had more than 1300 entries. The association's next shopping promotion will be in the lead-up to Father's Day on September 3.



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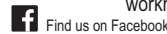
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Vision issues no problem for photographer

Rachael Clarke has a vision impairment, yet her disability seems to increase her ability with a camera.

Rachael, who lives at the Mt Tabor community in Helensville, needs to get up

the Helensville Art Centre.

The Art Centre is holding one of just a handful of exhibitions which are open to anybody to participate in as part of the Festival of Photography.

"It's always exciting to see works by local photographers, and it was great that Rachael's work got selected for the brochure," says Art Centre coordinator Pauline Denton.

The Helensville exhibition runs from Saturday, June 3 to Saturday June 24, with a public opening event on Friday June 2 from 5pm to 7pm. The Art Centre is open Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 4.30pm and Saturdays 10am to 2pm.



• Rachael (right) with fellow Mt Tabor Community resident and flatmate Sandy Sturgess with some of the works in the exhibition

close to see things in everyday life - but she has no trouble when viewing things through the lens of a camera.

This has led to her image 'Closing Down' being selected for the Auckland Festival of Photography brochure, where it will represent the open exhibition being held at

■ **Town Talk is on page 18 this issue.**

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