

## New manager for business assn

Rodney Local Board member Phelan Pirrie has been appointed as the new manager for the NorthWest Country Business Improvement District (BID).

He took over on July 1 from Gary Holmes, who has headed the business association since it was formed four years ago, and already has some ideas to progress the organisation.

Phelan says Gary got the BID to a good level with things like branding, events, and the business awards.

"But we need to now start looking at businesses, and how we can help businesses that are here survive and grow," he says. "There are some quite basic things we could do as an association.

"It's just a reorientation of focus, it's not that we are doing anything wrong, it's just that we could do things a bit differently."

Phelan acknowledges some people are unhappy with the association, in particular around communication with members.

"You are always going to get that, but there were some legitimate concerns.

"I don't want to see [the BID] fall over, I think it's really important for the area, and really important as we grow.

"There are challenges, but the challenges



• Phelan Pirrie

are opportunities. I'm probably going to take it in a slightly different direction. I'll take on board some of the complaints from members," he says.

Phelan sees the manager's role as hands-on: "knowing your membership base, and understanding what their issues are.

"One of the things we have to do is demonstrate value to members, because they're all paying the rate, and so they really need to be able to see what they're getting for it. And obviously they don't feel they're getting value for that. We need to look at what we can do."

One plan is to put together a package for members, similar to those in place in other Auckland BIDs, which could include things such as cheaper credit card and insurance

rates. The aim would be to provide members with benefits that make belonging to the BID cost neutral.

He is also keen to see the BID reorient itself more towards member services, directly helping local businesses with things such as social media.

Phelan comes to the role not just with his experience as a local board member and former businessman, but as a former member of the now-defunct Kumeu Coast & Country business association, and even more relevantly as chairman for 12 months of the Queen St BID in downtown Auckland.

The opportunity to take on the BID manager's role coincided with the winding-up of the strawberry business Phelan had been involved with for the past decade, following the retirement of one of the partners.

Phelan sees two big opportunities for our area.

"The first is the population growth, which is a big opportunity because we've got more customers locally.

"The business association has been focused on visitors coming in - we need to look at the local population that's growing.

"Do all the new residents in Riverhead and Kumeu come up to the northern part of the area, do they know about all the facilities in the area?"

The other opportunity, he believes, is a potential visitor spin-off following the closure of the Waitakeres because of kauri die-back.

"That's millions of people a year potentially looking for alternative destinations. So Woodhill, Muriwai Beach, are potentially going to be really slammed.

"People are going to be looking for alternative parks," he says, mentioning as an example the yet-to-be-developed regional

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# editorial

We have a heap of great reading for you this month. Advertising is down a bit, but that leaves more space for articles and photographs, so enjoy a bit of a bonus issue.

Business owners in our area will be interested in our interview with new NorthWest Country Business Improvement District manager Phelan Pirrie. Since its inception four years ago there have been some grumblings and misunderstandings about what the business association does and what it's trying to achieve, so hopefully some new blood at the helm will clarify things and move the BID forward.

Helensville's biggest annual event, the A&P Show, only comes around once a year - or does it? The Show has just introduced a 'Winter Series' (page 9) so locals can keep their hand in with a few friendly competitions over the off-season. Could be good practise for next February...

Elsewhere, read about a young local boy sailing in the European Optimist championships (page 3); the effects of cattle disease micoplasma bovis locally (page 5); and a new specialist treatment for women suffering from cancer (page 6) that's now available locally. Keep turning those pages!

- Dave Addison, Editor

## Rural scholarship on offer

The Helensville A&P Association is calling for applicants for the first of its new annual Rural Scholarships.

The \$500 scholarship is open to anyone interested in pursuing a career in New Zealand's primary industry sector - that could include agriculture, horticulture, viticulture, veterinary studies, bee keeping, aqua farming or equestrian.

Applicants must be going to undertake at least one year of full time study at an applicable institution.

The scholarship has been offered as it fits in well with the A&P Association's aim of

fostering excellence in agriculture in the local area.

There are few other scholarships available in the primary industries sector in our area, and those that are tend to be tied to a specific tertiary organisation.

Helensville A&P Association plans to offer one scholarship each year.

Applications close on September 30, and prospective applicants should contact the show office on 420 7572 or email: [info@helensvilleshowgrounds.co.nz](mailto:info@helensvilleshowgrounds.co.nz). More information will be available on the show website shortly.

## New business assn manager cont...

• From page 1

park at South Head, and the potential for trails in places like Woodhill Forest.

Before Phelan had even taken on the role of BID manager there were some claims there would be a conflict of interest because of his being a local board member.

"It's not unusual for BID managers to sit on local boards," explains Phelan. "There are some synergies there in the sense I've got a good understanding of how some of the issues that the business association struggles with can be dealt with."

"The conflict of interest with the board is interesting. If the board was funding

economic development, it would be a conflict. But we're not doing economic development as a board. We've allocated no money over the next three years for economic development.

"We are doing town centre improvements, and yes there is some tie-up, but the money isn't being paid to the business association. Conflicts of interest are to do with whether I'm a financial beneficiary - I'm not."

"I wouldn't have taken the role on if we were doing economic development as a board because it would have been too difficult."

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# European champs for local lad



• George Pilkington at the helm of his Optimist

- Photo: Suellen Davies, LiveSailDie

Helensville 12-year-old sailor George Pilkington represented New Zealand at the 2018 Optimist European Championship in Scheveningen, the Netherlands; late last month.

George, in Year 8 at Helensville Primary School, was one of four young kiwis in the prestige event, sailing against 260 other competitors from around the world.

It was George's third year in a row representing NZ at international regattas in the Optimist class. In 2017 he competed with the New Zealand team at the Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship in Hong Kong. The same year he won silver for Helensville Primary School at the AIMS Games Yachting Championship for Year 7 male sailing.

And in 2016, George qualified and was selected in the New Zealand development squad that trained and competed in the Noumea National Championship.

His results from the 2018 championship in Holland weren't available at the time of going to print.

While George's achievements are pretty special, he's not the only one in his family making his mark in the sailing world.

Younger brother Tom, a nine-year-old Year 5 student at Helensville Primary, is off to the Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship to be held in Myanmar in November.

"This is his first official selection and is quite an achievement, as Tom's team mates are aged between 12 to 14 years," says mum Jane.

Finally, George's older sister Greta competed in the 2017 European Optimist Championship in Bulgaria as the top kiwi female sailor for the class.

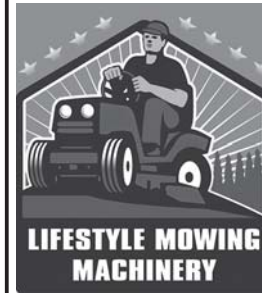
The year before she had competed in the IODA Asian & Oceanian Optimist Championship in Sri Lanka, and in 2015 she won Helensville Primary's first gold medal with the female Year 8 sailing team at the AIMS Games Yachting Championship.

Jane will accompany Tom to Myanmar later this year, while husband Guy went with George to The Netherlands as manager.

The boys were selected for their teams after being nominated following the national regatta held at Easter. Since then they have been training regularly in between playing rep soccer.

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# History lecture has bite

Three generations of shark fishing on the Kaipara Harbour from 1946 through to 1977 were covered in the Helensville and District Historical Society's second Winter Lecture, held in late June.

The speaker was Trevor Scott, whose family has had three generations fishing on the harbour.

In 1946 the first boat was fishing sharks for the livers only. This was 'Settler', owned and operated by Richard (Dick) Somers – father of Terry Somers who now runs Kaipara Harbour tours. The livers were used initially as a replacement for linseed oil, but later went into cosmetics and various other uses.

Jim Scrivens arrived from Australia in

known as the old coal wharf, where a building was erected with a cooling room and a deep freeze which would freeze up to a ton of fish at a time.

In 1953 'Te Tui' caught fire at Port Albert, and Jim sold his share in the business to Mick and Len.

In 1955 other fishermen started fishing for sharks. The average catch was about 5000 sharks for the three-month season, and the fishermen received £2 per carcass and the livers were two shillings per pound.

Over the next 20 years, the sharks stopped coming so far up the harbour and stayed closer to the bar. In 1972 fears rose about the levels of mercury in sharks, and fish and chip shops stopped using them.

By 1974 the local market began to accept shark meat again, as there was a shortage of snapper and the shops realised the advantages of having a boneless, fleshy fillet. That caused a boom for the shark fishing industry.

But in 1977, the health department stopped the sale of shark meat, saying it was unfit for human consumption. As far as the Scott's know nobody ever died from eating shark meat.

Following his talk, Trevor showed two films – one made by the National Film Unit in 1954 and the other from an 8mm home movie taken by Trevor between 1964 and 1967. Noticeable in these films was the lack of safety gear – bare feet, no life jackets, and gloves which were just gardening gloves which wore out in a couple of days due to the sandpaper-like skin of the sharks.

At the end of the home movies, there was also a small film clip showing when the Scott brothers removed four whales from Tapora at the request of the marine department. Len was the first at the wheel of the boat but had some trouble and Mick took over, saying that towing four whales was no different than towing 200 kauri logs which he had done for Mr West years previously.

Although the turnout for the talk was smaller than expected, there were visitors from out of town who had been recreational fishermen on the Kaipara, and everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

The final Winter Lecture for 2018 will be about the Russell Family, by Bruce Shanks. Bruce is a keen genealogist who has researched the family, and he likes to tell the stories of the families who settled the district.

The lecture will be held at the Father Sakey Centre at St Joseph's Church on Sunday, July 15 at 2pm. Entry is \$10 per person or \$8 for society members, and includes afternoon tea. All proceeds raised will go towards the renovation of the Waitoki Sunshine Block at Helensville Museum.



• A Kaipara shark caught by the Scott brothers, 1950s

1947 and bought 'Te Tui', an old cargo boat. At that time the shark carcasses were taken by Jack Simonovich, who then passed them on to Standfords for processing.

In 1949, brothers Len and Mick Scott turned to shark fishing on a 42-footer called 'Ivy'. This boat had no winches, so manpower was the only way to pull in the lines. Mick and Len would pull in the lines and take the sharks off while Trevor would be in the aft cabin coiling the lines ready for the next time.

In the Kaipara Harbour there are a series of deep holes in the main channel from the heads to South Creek spit, and the sharks would mill around in these holes. The higher the tide the further into the harbour the sharks would come.

The Scott brothers teamed up with Jim Scrivens in 1950, and the company now had three boats – the 'Olga' skippered by Len, the 'Ivy' skippered by Mick, and 'Te Tui' skippered by Jim. Each boat had a young lad for a deck hand.

The following year land was bought,

# Make sure about *Mycoplasma Bovis*

Helensville farmer John Glasson says local farmers need to be “doubly sure” that any cattle they bring onto their farms have had no contact with infected herds to prevent the spread of *Mycoplasma bovis* to our area.

John is the Rodney sub-provincial chairman for Federated Farmers, and is optimistic about the government’s plans to eradicate the disease.



• John Glasson

“If they have managed to stop the spread of it, and I think they have, it’s feasible to have a crack at it [eradication],” he says.

“I’m hopeful that they can stop it. They

## Mathex kids do well

Helensville Primary School’s Year 8 team finished second out of 15 teams at the annual Mathex problem-solving competition held at Kaipara College last month.

The team of Aaron Gillard, Kate Larsen, Jacob Bloemendal and Daisy Oliver-Chambers missed out on first place by just one question.

The school had two Year 7 teams in the contest, and they tied for fifth equal out of 16 teams, with Rebecca Bloemendal, Rocco Mowat, Ryan Uluinayau and Remi Bultema-McMahon in one team, and Braydon Gelderman, Tom Bengé, Finlay Tanner and Lexie Orange in the other.

seem to have been able to track all the [infected] animals.”

At the time of writing, the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) website list of infected farms nationwide showed the closest to us being in the Waikato.

“Above the harbour bridge, any farms that are on notice of direction that’s because of stock that’s come in from further south,” says John.

“At this point in time there don’t seem to be any dairy farms involved. That probably won’t change.”

He says the main spread of the disease has come from calves reared on *Mycoplasma bovis*-infected milk, and then sold to other farmers.

“Farmers have to be really careful where they get their stock from.”

In May John told the Farmers Weekly

that cattle movements between the North and South Islands should be restricted, and he believes that is still the case, even though the disease is already confirmed in the North Island.

John says it is devastating for farmers when their herds become infected. He says it’s really important for farmers to talk with one another, and support can also be got from the Rural Support Trust.

*Mycoplasma bovis* is a difficult to detect bacterium which causes illness in both dairy and beef cattle including mastitis, abortion, pneumonia, and arthritis. Cattle can be infected but not be ill.

The disease occurs in almost all cattle producing countries around the world. It does not infect humans, and is not a food safety risk. *Mycoplasma bovis* is not listed with the OIE (the world animal health organisation) and doesn’t present a trade risk for New Zealand farmers.

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# Cancer rehabilitation treatment available locally

Helensville physiotherapist Sue Narbey is now offering specialist rehabilitation treatment for local women cancer sufferers at PhysioFlex in Commercial Road.

Sue qualified in May as a Certified PINC Cancer Rehabilitation Physiotherapist.

The PINC programme, developed in New Zealand by physiotherapist Lou James of PINC and STEEL International, provides individual rehabilitation to women diagnosed with cancer; helping them heal as well as possible and to function at optimal levels through every stage of their treatment and recovery.

The programme, which now operates internationally, is suitable for any type of cancer, and rehab therapy can be carried out over four separate phases - pre and post-operative, during cancer treatments such as chemotherapy and radiotherapy, and a fitness phase following cancer treatments.

Sue has also qualified in the PINC

'Next Steps' programme, a 10-week specialised group exercise programme combining pilates, yoga and cardio exercises to help women regain strength, flexibility and stamina following cancer.

While the new service is solely for women, there is a complementary programme called STEEL Cancer Rehabilitation for male cancer patients, which Susan may expand into in the future.

Sue became interested in PINC after seeing friends and family members go through cancer in recent years, and she says a large part of the programme is to shift focus from illness to wellness.

"I really wanted to get into it because I knew there was such a gap [locally for treatment]. We really needed to have this in our area."

She received a scholarship for rural

therapists which funded a large portion of the online-based course. The course covered different types of cancers and how they behave, surgery techniques, chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and side-effects.

Sue says there is "overwhelming evidence" coming from the medical profession about the impact exercise and maintaining activity levels has on recovery from cancer.

"There's really strong evidence to show



• Sue Narbey is thrilled to be able to offer the new rehab treatments

that if you can be exercising after surgery, even exercising during chemotherapy treatment, your survival rate is better, the rate of recurrence of cancer is reduced.

"Exercise is the single most effective thing that you can do."

She cites a large Australian study released in May which recommends every cancer patient should have exercise as part of their recovery.

The PINC rehab programme is designed individually for each patient, and aims to help optimise physical and functional recovery; ease pain and muscular tension; regain strength and mobility; increase energy levels and improve breathing; strengthen core muscles and improve posture; improve physical functioning and maintain independence; reclaim body confidence and

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# National art tour visiting college

Kaipara College is hosting the annual Top Art exhibition featuring some of the best NCEA Level 3 students' art portfolios from around New Zealand. Around 60 three-panel portfolios are on show in the college Careers Centre from Monday, July 2 until Thursday, July 5. The exhibition is open during school hours, 9am to 3.10pm.

The exhibition tours 40 venues nationwide from February until August, with Kaipara College one of seven in Auckland. It doesn't just go on show at schools, however, but also universities, libraries, community venues and art galleries such as the prestigious Govett-Brewster Gallery in New Plymouth, and the Suter Gallery in Nelson.

Top Art is an annual touring exhibition featuring a selection of the NCEA Level 3 portfolios that achieved Excellence in Visual Arts in 2017. Exhibits are divided into five streams covering design, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture.

For more information phone the college's career advisor, Claire Couch on 420 8640.

## Cancer rehab treatment (cont...)

• From page 6

control; and reduce treatment side effects.

"That can consist of hands-on treatment, massage, acupuncture, gentle stretching - whatever is appropriate at that stage."

She says it's all about helping people get back "to their normal lives".

The PINC & STEEL Cancer Rehabilitation Trust receives funding from the Breast Cancer Foundation, the Bowel Cancer Foundation Trust, and other organisations and local supporters to help

patients needing financial support to attend rehabilitation sessions. People can apply online for funding at: [www.pincandsteel.com](http://www.pincandsteel.com). Funding is also available for the Next Steps programme, which can be completed whether or not a patient has undergone PINC treatment.

There is also a 'gifting' scheme whereby friends and family can gift treatment sessions through its website. For more information about this service in Helensville contact Sue at PhysioFlex.

## medical centre notes

Winter is upon us, the busiest time of the year for the health services.

This year, many of you may have noticed that for people wanting urgent appointments the same day, they are getting phone calls from one of our doctors before 10am. The reason for this is some issues can be dealt with over the phone, or some patients are best served by seeing their regular GP that same day, or it may be it's best to see them in our duty clinic. Hopefully, this will streamline the needs of patients to where we can meet the need in the best way.

Many thanks to everyone in the community for being so understanding last month when two of our doctors were both suddenly off sick for two weeks at the same time. Patients' understanding and patience (pun intended!) is much appreciated by us.

This winter we have a new registrar - Marek Lang - here for the next six months, taking over from Olga. We also have Dr Tomos Longworth on Mondays and Fridays, to help increase our doctor capacity and available appointments over the busy winter season.

Another change we are considering due to a notable increase in demand for prescriptions, is changing the turnaround for non-urgent prescription orders, from 24 hours, to 48 hours to cope with the increase in prescriptions. 48 hours is in line with other GP practices.

- Dr Phillip Barter, Clinical Director



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**Mob 021 0829 0768**

# Lodge opening again

Following two highly successful open days last year which saw an increase in membership, Helensville's Duke of Albany Lodge will repeat the event this month.

The Lodge is Helensville's oldest community organisation, and the open days are part of a continuing effort to show the local community what it does, and hopefully to attract further members.

The Lodge will open its doors to interested locals this Saturday, July 7 and Sunday, July 8 between 2pm and 4pm. Locals will be able to meet Lodge members, view the Lodge rooms, learn about its history, and discover the benefits of belonging to the Lodge fraternity.

Helensville's Masonic Lodge, based in Kowhai Street, currently has around 40 members, half of whom actively attend meetings.

Long-standing local member Grev Walker says members come from all walks of life, and points to the list of Helensville Lodge Masters displayed on the wall of the Lodge, whose names reflect virtually every trade and profession.

The Masonic Lodge has for many years had the reputation of being a 'secret society', but current Lodge Master Peter Phelan says that isn't the case any more.

The Lodge is very open these days, he says, and members are happy to answer questions about what it does. However, learning the Lodge's rituals is still restricted to members.

The organisation even has its own Facebook page - Helensville Freemasons.

The Masonic Lodge is non-religious and non-political - those are the only two subjects members will never discuss. However, prospective members should have a belief in a supreme being.

People can join irrespective of race, religion, political views or social standing, although membership is restricted to men.

That said, members' partners aren't left out, and are able to attend social events like the charity ball held at the Langham Hotel in Auckland, which raised funds to provide teddy bears for children going into hospital.

Unlike most other local community organisations, the Masonic Lodge doesn't



• Lodge members and partners at a recent social function

run public fundraising events. Instead, the money it distributes to the community comes primarily from investments and internally from members.

Peter says the organisation is complementary to other local groups like Lions and Rotary, rather than competing with them.

There's a \$200 annual membership subscription, and meetings are held from February to November on the fourth Wednesday of each month. The formal meetings in the Lodge temple are followed by a relaxed supper. Interestingly, in the Lodge's early days, meetings were held to coincide with the full moon, so those attending on horseback could see to find their way home.

Most people who join the Lodge do so in their 40s and 50s, but the organisation is keen to attract younger members.

At 26, Josh Taylor is Helensville Lodge's youngest member.

Keith Timmins, a recent lodge recruit at age 40, says he's got to meet a lot of people he would otherwise never have met, and has made a lot of new friends.

Helensville's Masonic Lodge was named after Queen Victoria's youngest son, the Duke of Albany, who died aged just 31 in 1884, just three months before the local Lodge was established. British royalty has a long association with the English Freemasons Lodge movement.

Chas Holst, a member for 48 years, says there is much to be gained from the Lodge fraternity, and encourages locals to call in during the open days.



• Helensville Masonic Lodge members in the Lodge temple



# Get early start on Show fun with A&P Winter Series

Locals who can't wait to enter the indoor competition at next year's Helensville A&P Show are in for a treat.

The show is holding a mini 'winter series' of competitions spanning four months and covering four popular different categories - baking in July, knitting and crochet in August, painting in September and photography in October. Most months will include a children's only class.

The series is being focused as a fun and friendly community competition, with locals dropping off their entries in the morning and having morning tea with other entrants and show committee members while judging takes place.

It's also the chance to win some prize money, with each class offering prizes of \$15 for first place, \$10 for second and \$5 for third.

The July baking competition will be held on Sunday, July 29 featuring four categories: Any Slice (3 pieces); Banana Cake not iced; Shortbread (3 pieces); and Decorated Cup Cake (ages 12 and under).

There will be three classes for the knitting and crochet competition on Sunday, August 26: Baby Blanket; Fashion Scarf; and Any Article in wool or acrylic.

Painting, on Sunday, September 30, will feature three Original Painting classes - one each for oils, acrylics and watercolours - plus



• Baking is always popular at the Helensville A&P Show

a children's class of an A4 painting in any medium.

The last competition of the series is photography, with classes for Action, Workmates, Animals, and for children, Me and My Pet Selfie. Photography entries can be any size, colour or black and white, and framed or unframed.

To enter, people will need to drop off their creations and fill out an entry form at the Helensville showgrounds main building between 9am and 10am on the appropriate day. Entries will cost \$3 each.

Judging will start around 10.15am, and entrants are welcome to stay for morning tea while judging is under way. Judging should be finished and entries available for viewing around 11.15am, and entrants will be able to collect their entries about half an hour later.

For more information phone Julie Croft on 420 7941, or Rick Croft on 027 492 0345.

## Dave Bell

**David William Bell**

November 4, 1941 to June 4, 2018

Helensville farmer Dave Bell passed away on June 4. He was president of the Helensville A&P Association from 1995 to 1997 and a long-serving committee member who did a lot of work on the grounds, including mowing. Dave was also a former president of the Auckland A&P Association.

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# 'Cuppa with our Community' popular

Neighbour issues, elderly inquiries, cyber bullying, youth programmes, and drugs were among the topics discussed with local police and other community agencies at a recent casual South Head meeting.

Helensville Community Constable Mandi Bell says a "significant number" of people from the South Head community turned up for the first 'Cuppa with our Community', held at the South Head hall on June 10.

"There were general questions about

## City season for play

The stage is set for what is hoped will be a successful theatre season in Auckland city for a story that has Helensville at its heart.

The play *Te Waka Huia* has a five-night run at Auckland's Basement Theatre as part of its Matariki Season. It's on at 8pm, Tuesday, July 3 to Saturday, July 7. Tickets cost from \$20 to \$25. Visit iTicket.co.nz or bit.ly/TeWakaHuia to book.

Inspired by the 1963 Brynderwyn bus crash which killed 15, many from Reweti Marae, it had two sell-out performances last year at Kaipara College and played around the upper North Island.

Playwright and producer Naomi Bartley is also acting in it this time, filling in for one of the scheduled actors who had to pull out.

crime in the community," she says. "Some people just came down to say hello."

As well as police, there were representatives from Neighbourhood Support, South Kaipara Community Patrol, Age Concern, Helensville Citizens Advice Bureau, South Kaipara Men's Trust, and the Helensville Women and Family Centre.

Bark NZ community ambassador Brett Logan and his huge Dogue de Bordeaux dog, Ragnar, also attended.

Mandi says South Kaipara Community Patrol had a few people interested in volunteering to join the patrol. Community patrollers work closely with police as extra "eyes and ears" to assist police and other agencies to build a safer community.

Several residents signed up as street contacts with Neighbourhood Support, which promotes communication between neighbours

in an effort to reduce criminal offending.

Mandi says there is a common misconception that because Helensville Police is not a 24-hour station, there are no police working in our community after hours.

"This is incorrect. Police are always working, and will respond to emergency calls in the Helensville area."

Mandi thanks all the agencies and services that were present and made the event a success.



• Community constable Mandi Bell (back on) chats with South Head residents at the 'cuppa' event - Photo: Stellanova

## Search on for new A&P Show manager

The Helensville A&P Association is looking for a new show manager and secretary.

The sole-charge, part-time position involves providing administrative, secretarial, financial and promotional support for the A&P Association, acting as the public relations front for the organisation, and co-ordinating and managing all aspects of the annual Helensville A&P Show.

Nominally the position is for 28 hours per week, however that varies widely through the year, with the four months from November until just after the show at the end of February being full time.

Management of the annual show, the biggest event on Helensville's calendar and the largest one day show in the Northern Region, is a vital part of the role.

The work includes preparing the show schedule and catalogue; organising trade space; co-ordinating judges, stewards and volunteers; arranging and maintaining sponsorship; and booking everything needed to run a successful show.

Attributes needed for the job include good organisational and time

management abilities; computer literacy and a working knowledge of Microsoft Office; proven administrative experience; and top communication and inter-personal skills. Event management and accounts experience are also desirable.

A&P Association president Rick Croft says: "The role is varied, flexible and involves dealing with a wide range of people. It also offers a unique opportunity to engage and develop relationships with different groups and businesses within the local community."

Rick says applicants will need excellent interpersonal and communication skills as well as top planning and organisational abilities.

"They must be self-motivated and able to work independently. Experience and knowledge of working within the community services sector, and/or event management skills would be helpful," he adds.

Full details for the position and an application form are on the show website, [www.helensvilleshowgrounds.co.nz/showmanager](http://www.helensvilleshowgrounds.co.nz/showmanager), or phone the show office on 420 7572.

Applications for the position close on Friday, July 20.



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# Orchard under way at school

South Kaipara Rotary has been helping Parakai School develop an orchard.

A big number of volunteers, including Rotary members, parents and children, turned up at the school in Fordyce Road on Saturday, June 9 to help build 15 planter boxes on the school grounds.

A dozen of those planters were put into place, and were filled, mulched and planted the following weekend. Rotary's Leigh Kelly says "a great number of very enthusiastic pupils" turned up to help with the planting.

Stage two of the project will take place in the spring, or once the ground has dried sufficiently to transport more topsoil onto the site. Then, a further 11 boxes will be constructed and the remaining trees planted. When completed the orchard will comprise 28 fruit trees including mandarin, lemon, lime, orange, ugly, plum, peach, fig, almond, feijoa, apple and pear.



• Planting underway at Parakai School



## Helensville Birthing Centre

TE PUNA WHANAU KI TE AWAROA

Helensville Birthing Centre is your local community facility. It provides a free service for women who choose to give birth in a low-tech environment. Alternatively, women who give birth in hospital can then transfer to us for the opportunity to rest and establish breastfeeding.

You are welcome to call in and have a look around, or browse our facilities online.

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Email: [bookings@helensvillebirthingcentre.co.nz](mailto:bookings@helensvillebirthingcentre.co.nz)

[www.birthcentre.co.nz](http://www.birthcentre.co.nz)



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# Healthy Helensville

Our vision: To be the healthiest rural community in New Zealand

## An invitation to parents

If you're a parent of a baby or toddler and would like to meet others for a regular friendly catch-up then come to the Helensville Birthing Centre Coffee Group,



Jacinda Travers and baby Liam at last year's Big Latch On.

every second Wednesday morning at Te Whare Oranga ō Parakai. Guest speakers make regular appearances, on everything from Maori natural medicine, pregnancy massage and postnatal depression.

The coffee group isn't just for mums. Dads, grandparents and other caregivers are welcome too.

There are some special sessions around caring for your new pēpi, with the next one on 11 July.

In August personal trainer Kirstyn Campbell will be talking about safe exercise. And on Friday 3 August the Coffee Group will once again host The Big Latch On, an annual event where women turn up at registered venues to breastfeed their babies at the same time.

For more information look up Helensville Birthing Centre Coffee Group on Facebook or [www.birthcentre.co.nz](http://www.birthcentre.co.nz).

## Be your own boss

Do you harbour plans of ditching your job and working for yourself? The Certificate In Smart Steps To Business is a course that'll teach you everything you need to know to turn that business idea into a reality. It's a zero fees course run by Te Wānanga o Aotearoa. By the end of the course you'll be able to assess the feasibility of your small business idea, write a business plan and know what your legal obligations are.

It runs every Wednesday evening for 20 weeks from 18 July.

To find out more about the course contact tutor, Colin Frampton on email: [colin@knowledgebasecentral.co.nz](mailto:colin@knowledgebasecentral.co.nz) or phone: 027 679 5622.



# HELENSVILLE

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## Show Manager/Secretary Part-time

We need a confident, organised and experienced person to take responsibility for the day to day administration of the Helensville A&P Association and the event management of the annual Helensville A&P Show.

This is a sole-charge contract position of approximately 28 hours per week. It is an event management and secretarial role requiring skills in sponsorship, time management, communication and organisation. A sound working knowledge of Microsoft Office, and proven experience in administrative roles are important. Accounts experience is desirable. While based at Helensville Showgrounds, there may be flexibility for some work to be undertaken from home.

A complete job description, application form, and information on how to apply for the position is available online at: [www.helensvilleshowgrounds.co.nz/showmanager](http://www.helensvilleshowgrounds.co.nz/showmanager)

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## Students off to Wellington

Kaukapakapa School Year 7 and 8 students are off on an activity-filled trip to Wellington in November - and they are looking for sponsors to help cover some of the costs.

The 45 pupils, three teachers and eight parents will bus down to the capital on Sunday, November 11, stopping at the National War Museum in Waiouru on the way before checking into the Base Wellington backpackers.

The next day they will visit the Beehive and parliament buildings, go for a ride on the cable car, visit the Carter Observatory, and call in briefly at Te Papa before rounding out the day with a movie at the iconic Embassy Theatre.

On the Tuesday much of the day will be spent at Capital E, where among other things they will make a television programme. There will be another visit to Te Papa, followed by 10 pin bowling in the evening.

The following day will see the children tackle a high ropes course at Adrenalin Forest before visiting the Zealandia eco-sanctuary. On their last day the pupils will learn circus skills at the Wellington Circus Trust, then visit Wellington Zoo before flying home.

While a huge learning experience for the students, the trip is a major expense at more than \$25,000. The school has a range of sponsorship options for locals or local businesses, from just over \$200 for the cable car ride up to more than \$8000 for the bus ride down. Anyone able to help should contact deputy principal Selma Nicholson on 420 5477.

## from the frontline

There are many reasons why we should report a crime or suspicious activity to the police. Obviously the main reason is that if we don't, the offender will get away with it, and it's highly likely that they will do it again. I hate to say it too, but most offenders will continue to commit crime regardless of whether they get caught or not!



I hear all the time from people in our community that they didn't report it because they thought that the police were either too busy, wouldn't be able to do anything, or they didn't think that there was much chance the offender would be caught.

If crime is not reported, the offender is even less likely to be caught. It is true police are busy, but we are never too busy to deal with crime - that's the reason we all do this job in the first place. No matter how trivial you may think it is, immediately call the police and do your bit to make your community safe. If the police know about crimes or suspicious behaviours, these may present as a pattern and resources can be allocated to areas in an effort to reduce crime.

Members of the community can help police catch the crooks, and they can do this simply by passing us a description of a suspicious person or vehicle. Police respond to this information; they may come across the person or vehicle, and can then lawfully detain them for further enquiries. If the police hadn't received that call then there is no reason to detain them, and at the time we probably wouldn't have known that an offence had even been committed. In some instances it's likely that we may just drive past them.

Yes, it can take time, and to some it may be inconvenient, especially when you are in a hurry. But by promptly reporting crime, you could be saving yourself or someone else the heartache of being the victim of any future offending in our community.

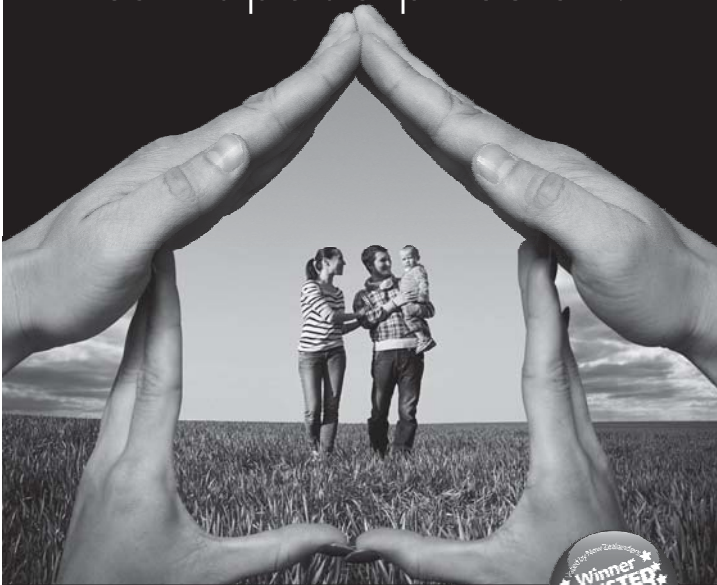
Spending those 15 minutes reporting what has happened to you to the police is essential to identify crime hot spots where police can patrol those areas in an effort to reduce crime, making our community safer. Report all crime no matter how big or small.

Helensville police officers work hard in an effort to make this community a safe place, and with the community's help we can identify and investigate the crime that unfortunately does occur.

If you witness anyone committing a crime call 111. If you wish to report an offence that doesn't require an emergency response, phone the Crime Reporting Line on 09 571 2800 or phone Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

- Mandi Bell, Community Constable

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# Harcourts

# Matariki at the Art Centre...

This is 'Bird of Welcome', which Kortne Snedden will be exhibiting at Helensville Art Centre's Matariki 2018 Exhibition, to be held from July 7 to July 28.

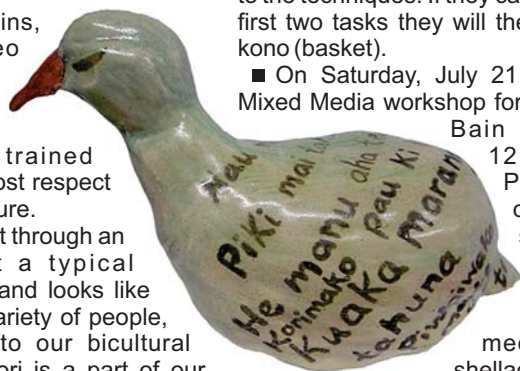
Describing its origins, Kortne says: "Te Reo Māori is a beautiful language that I feel I have an affiliation with. As a New Zealand trained teacher I have the upmost respect for Māori values and culture.

"The bird came about through an expression of what a typical classroom in New Zealand looks like today; we welcome a variety of people, values and culture into our bicultural classroom. Te Reo Māori is a part of our everyday teaching. The bird is a symbol of becoming one and welcoming all of these different individuals into our nest."

Other happenings at the Art Centre in July include:

- On Saturday, July 7 there is an Assemblage/Up-cycle workshop with Andrew Hall from 10am to 2pm, cost \$5. All ages and abilities welcome. Andrew will be bringing a heap of 'junk' for up-cycling with him, and participants can also bring their own to use.

- A weaving workshop with Nat Rose on



Sunday, July 8 from 10.25 to 3pm, cost \$20. Students will learn how to weave a basic whetu (star) and putiputi (flower) to get used to the techniques. If they can complete those first two tasks they will then make a basic kono (basket).

- On Saturday, July 21 there will be a Mixed Media workshop for children with Jo Bain from 10.30 to

- 12.30, cost \$15.

Participants will create a textured surface with collage,

layering it with paint and other mediums such as shellac, ink and pastel

to finish a painting in the workshop. Natural and man-made fibers will be brought by the tutor but those attending can bring their own as well.

This class will be repeated for adults on Saturday, August 19 for \$20.

The Art Centre holds its annual '3 for ALL' exhibition from August 4 to 25, where absolutely anything, in any media, may be exhibited for just \$3 per item. Works should be delivered to the centre on Saturday, July 28 between 10am and 2pm or on Tuesday, July 31 between 10am and 4.30pm.

## ...and at Helensville Library

Helensville Library will be celebrating Matariki during the July school holidays, with a range of Matariki-themed children's sessions from Tuesday, July 3 until Thursday, July 19.

The sessions will be on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10.30am. They last about 30 minutes, and are aimed at under-6 year olds - however, all ages are welcome.

The theme for Matariki 2018 at Auckland Libraries is: Te Kawerau a Maki: Ngā kōrero hauāuru (Stories of the West). This, and the sub-themes of kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and rāhui (conservation) will be the focus of the sessions.

The school holidays will start with Helensville Library's annual Soft Toy Sleepover on Friday, July 6. Children can bring along a soft toy (not a special one that has to be home at bedtime) between 4pm and 5pm. Toys will be registered and photographed for ID purposes.

Between 5pm and 6pm there will be a story time, milo and marshmallows (or similar). The toys will then stay in the library overnight - under supervision - for a sleepover.

"They will be fed dinner and breakfast, so we will need to know of any dietary requirements," quips senior librarian Anne Coppell.

Children can collect their toys the following day, Saturday, July 7 between 9.30am and 4pm.

During the school holidays there will be special events between 3pm and 4pm each day the library is open. Details are available on Auckland Libraries' website

(www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz) and on the Helensville Library Facebook page (facebook.com/HelensvilleLibrary). Flyers are also available at the library.

Finally, Helensville's librarians are enjoying the building's recent revamp.

While the public area received new paint and some carpet tiles were replaced, most of the work was behind the scenes in the main staff area.

"It's a whole facelift," says Anne. The area which is used as a kitchen, tea room, store room, work room, and locker room, was designed for three staff.

"We now have seven staff, with up to six at work at a time - and it is the kitchen for Council's Helensville Service Centre staff, too, so it can be quite crowded.

"We are enjoying being able to open the

freezer without having to move the rubbish and recycling bins.

"Not to mention, more than one person can have lunch at the lunch table at a time! It's definitely making our lives easier," says Anne.



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# Kaukapakapa photo competition winners

The Matteucci family has come up trumps in the 'A Week in the Life of Kaukapakapa' photography competition. Mum Lottie won the senior category, while 12-year-old son Tom took out honours in the junior class.

Lottie's photo of Kaukapakapa in the morning mist (top right) "caught the moment, fulfilling the brief", says one of the competition's judges, photographer Colin Lunt. "It just goes to show how much mobile phones have progressed, with a combination of perspective, light and mood beautifully captured."



• Tom & Lottie Matteucci with judge Megan Paterson

Tom's photograph of a morning mist covered valley with the Gibbs sculpture farm in the background (bottom right) also illustrated a "well seen" photo, says Colin - "especially coming from a 12 year old."

Both Lottie and Tom received a certificate, a \$50 Westfield voucher, and an A3 print of their photos.

Judges Megan Paterson, (who organised the competition), Sarah Legg, and Colin were unanimous in their choice of winners.

The public got a say too, with around 100 people who attended the

Kaukapakapa market voting for a People's Choice award. The winner of that was 13-year-old Luka Richards for his photo of a kingfisher. He also received a \$50 Westfield Voucher and an A3 print of his entry. Certificates of merit were also awarded.

All entries can be seen online at: [www.clc-photographic.com/a-week-in-the-life-of-kaukapakapa.html](http://www.clc-photographic.com/a-week-in-the-life-of-kaukapakapa.html).



## Early learning seminar

A free two-hour seminar on early childhood development presented by the Brainwave Trust will be held at Parakai next month.

Titled 'The Early Years Last Forever', it will be held in the Parakai School hall from 10am to midday on Thursday, August 16 and facilitated by HIPPY South Kaipara.

The seminar will aim to help build knowledge and understanding of the importance of early brain development and its lifelong impact on children, and will give parents the information they need to support their child's brain development.

Topics will include: why a child's early experiences are so important; how a parent's relationship and everyday interactions with their children can help their brains grow and thrive; the factors which can help or hinder a child's brain development; and the important role adults play in helping children during their early years.

Locals wanting to attend the seminar should phone HIPPY programme coordinator Bernie Malizia on 021 0220 6017.

Last month HIPPY South Kaipara families met at the Parakai School hall for a morning of activities.

The HIPPY children were then presented with a book each and certificates for working hard on their HIPPY programme. The new entrant class at Parakai School also joined in the fun, with senior



• Four-year-old cousins Riwia and Hoani Tapurau with their certificates

## making the difference

Is there someone special who has done something that's made a difference for you, your family or our town? To nominate someone, 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 July recipient is Chris Clark (pictured below), who has chosen a \$100 voucher for use at Mitre 10.

Chris was nominated by Margaret Collins, who says:

"We have just had another very successful Lions Book Fair. I wondered if you could do a special reward for Chris Clark who is the chief organiser of the Lions books. Up until now he has always stored all the books in his shearing shed and he does all of the sorting out into categories etc - we had over 500 banana boxes of books this time, and if he is asked about a particular author or title, he has a fair idea of whether it would be there or not. Most days he spends some time sorting books in between farm work.

All the money Lions make from the Book Fair goes back into the local Community."



• Chris Clark with Nikki Horsbrough

# local board matters

I thought it would be useful to do a bit of a 'mythbusters' column.

I keep hearing a regular list of issues with Auckland Council - some of these are actually issues with our previous local council in its various forms over the last 50 years, some are more recent.

One of the most common ones is: "we're not getting our fair share of rates". Always a problematic one as does this mean what I pay being spent right outside my front door? In the township? Or the district? Some residents of Wellsford define things as anything north of Dome Valley, for example.

I tend to look at things in terms of the Rodney Local Board area I have been elected to represent.

So are we getting back into Rodney what we pay to Auckland Council in rates? It would appear so. In fact we are ahead, clocking up an additional \$20 million of investment in Rodney this year above the rates contribution (just don't tell the rest of Auckland that!).

This is really not too surprising. No-one should forget the double-figure rates increases under Rodney District Council, which struggled with a tiny population that was rated to finance a huge area's infrastructure. Watercare alone is now pouring hundreds of millions into failing infrastructure across Rodney, and the new Auckland Transport budget is signalling a spend of over \$700 million in Rodney over the next decade including an unprecedented \$121 million in road sealing. Between AT and NZTA over \$70 million is being spent over the next three years just on the section of SH16 from Brigham Creek to Waimauku.

So are we getting back what we pay in rates in Rodney? It would appear so.

Another chestnut is: "the Council has an unsustainable debt level..."

Rodney District Council struggled with its finances, evidenced by bringing one of the

highest level of debt of any legacy council into Auckland Council on amalgamation. It may well be that this legacy is why this comes up.

Auckland Council has actually been a prudent borrower. Don't take my word for it - Standard and Poors give Auckland Council an AA rating, and Moody's an AA2 rating.

Borrowing to fund capital investment in infrastructure, which is what Council does, is a perfectly logical way of financing its capital spending. The government does it, and in fact so do other councils and governments across the world.

The idea that council has unsustainable debt levels isn't born out by the facts; looking at other similar sized corporations or government entities it's quite normal. Council also doesn't splash its capital spend around on pointless stuff; since I've been on Council I've seen the lid come down on capital spending, and a focus on core business. Operational spending is slightly different, and there will always be areas where this could be done better or where the value is debatable. Council needs to constantly be vigilant to ensure it delivers value for its ratepayers.

And finally: "Council is wasting billions on a tram system to the airport and North West". Council is not spending money on light rail. Both proposed light rail projects in Auckland are central government ones and funded primarily by NZTA, a government agency. In the case of the proposed North West light rail project government has pledged \$2b, but needs the rest of the money to come from private investors. Again, don't take my word for it - a quick Google will show this is an NZTA/Government, not Council, project

If you have anything council related you need assistance with please do not hesitate to contact me on either 021 837 167 or phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



- Phelan Pirrie  
Deputy Chair, Rodney Local Board



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## MP to speak at ratepayer AGM

Helensville MP Chris Penk will speak at the annual general meeting of Te Awaroa Residents and Ratepayers Association on Wednesday, July 18.

The AGM will be held at 7.30pm in the Helensville War Memorial Hall meeting room. Chris will be available for questioning at the meeting.

Anyone wanting to join TARRA, or to find out more, should phone the association's chair Holly Southernwood on 021 488 427 or email her at: tarrassoc@gmail.com.

TARRA's petition, which aims to have a bypass created for heavy vehicles from the Helensville-Parakai roundabout across to the approximate vicinity of Mt Rex, is still available for signing at Helensville Copy & Print in Commercial Road.

Chris Penk has indicated he is able to help with the petition.

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## community titbits from town and around

### RAILWAY STATION AGM

The Helensville Railway Station will hold its annual general meeting on Saturday, July 7 at 10am in the Railway Museum, 2 Railway Street, Helensville. Anyone interested in the Helensville railway history is welcome to attend. For more information, phone Sheryl Walker on 420 7126.

### GLORIT MARKET

The Glorit Hall community market will be held on Sunday, July 8 from 9am to 1pm.

The market will feature handcrafted items to wear and eat, fresh free range eggs, and herb plants for sale.

Children can be kept occupied at the 'Let's Have A Go Kids Korner', giving parents the chance to have a tea or coffee break

Anyone wishing to become a stall holder or share a table with a friend should email community market ambassador Jeff Dagger at: jeff\_dagger@xtra.co.nz.

### A&P ASSOCIATION AGM

The Helensville A&P Association will hold its annual general meeting on Wednesday, July 11 at 7.30pm in the main showgrounds building. Nominations for committee members must be received by Wednesday, July 4. For more information contact the office on 420 7572 or email: info@helensvilleshowgrounds.co.nz.

### KAUKAPAKAPA MARKET

The next Kaukapakapa market is on Sunday, July 15 from 8.30am to 1pm, and will feature live music from Mike Lea & Mary-Anne, and for the children a free craft table and face painting.

Stalls will include everything from locally hand-made crafts, fresh fruit and vegetables,

plants, jewellery and preserves to used goods, books and collectibles.

For more information or to book a stall phone Sarah on 0274 831 542 or email: sarah1@maxnet.co.nz.

### 'FLEETWOOD MAC' SHOW

Fleetwood Mac/Stevie Nicks tribute band 'Landslide' will play at the Helensville Rugby Club rooms on Saturday, July 28 from 8pm to 11pm.

Tickets cost \$25 and are available through Eventfinda or from Helensville Super Liquor in Commercial Road.

Landslide is a professional band which aims to provide the full Fleetwood Mac show complete with lighting and sound system.

### HELENSVILLE AGLOW

Helensville Aglow will next meet at 7.30pm on Friday, August 3 at the Helensville Community Church, 40 Mill Rd. Owen Pomana will share his story, 'A Life Transformed'. All welcome. Email: yvonne@hello.net.nz for more information.

### CONTROLLING PESTS

Locals keen on doing their bit for the environment while protecting their property from pests should visit the Waitoki village market on Saturday, August 11.

Qualified pest control experts Adeline and Pauline, who have been working on ridding Whangaparaoa Peninsula of pests, will be on hand to give advice on controlling unwanted pests.

Nancy Todd from Operation Christmas Child will also be at the market to show how easy it is to bring joy to a child this coming Christmas by putting together a shoe box of small gifts to be sent to areas of poverty.

As usual the market will feature baked goods, olive oil, plants, homemade and used bargains, bric-a-brac, and preserves. It will be held in the Waitoki Hall, Kahikatea Flat Rd from 8.30am to midday.

New stall holders enquiries to Gill, phone 420 3301 or email: waitokihall@gmail.com.

## trade & classifieds

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## Helensville News - Publication Information

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Dave Addison - Ph: 420 7215 • Mobile: 021 178 5568 • Email: dave@helensvilleneews.co.nz

#### Free Subscriptions to Online Edition:

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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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