

## First stage of museum reopening

Helensville Museum held an 'open barn day' of its Hector Nicholls Barn as a first step on the long road to getting the museum back open to the public.

The museum hopes now to open a part of Hedley House in May, and the courthouse within a month of that.

Around 80 people took the chance to have a look around the barn, which houses farming, fishing, timber milling and other similar equipment, for a gold coin donation, as well as getting a close look at a special visitor - a 3m-long polar bear sculpture by local artist Jeff Thomson.

"People were very positive about the changes we had made and how we were progressing," says Helensville & District Historical Society president Leigh Bosch.

The museum has been closed since mid-2019 after an infestation of bugs like borer and silverfish were discovered.

It had initially been hoped to reopen within a few weeks, but the task proved much larger than expected.

A new committee headed by Leigh has had the daunting task of gathering every item in the museum's collection, carefully wrapping them in acid-free tissue, sealing them in polythene, and then freezing them in a specially hired industrial freezer to kill the bugs.

Buildings have been fumigated, and the frozen items thawed, cleaned and made ready for exhibit again. Wood items too large to freeze have had to have every individual borer hole treated by hand.

"The pest control (freezing) is close to an end," says Leigh, "but we will be looking to purchase an industrial freezer or a large domestic freezer to continue with some of the smaller items on an ongoing basis. We have a Pest Management Plan in place to try to prevent a repeat of the issue."

One upside has been the discovery of numerous items in the collection no-one knew about. So another job was added - photographing and re-cataloguing the entire museum's collection.

"The reorganisation of exhibits is what actually takes longest because of the research needed to ensure our signage is correct, and to give a flow to exhibits," says Leigh.

"But once we have everything going we will try to change some exhibits every three months or so. We will also be closing rooms one at a time to give a full overhaul to them. If we did it all now we wouldn't be open for some years to come."

Leigh expects the museum will hold similar open days to mark each stage of its reopening. In the meantime, the Hector



• Jeff Thomson's new polar bear sculpture was greatly admired by museum visitors at the barn re-opening



• Ron Iles, life member, volunteer, and "the most knowledgeable person about stuff in the barn" according to president Leigh Bosch

Nicholls Barn will be open by appointment, with a small entry fee.

Jeff Thomson's polar bear sculpture was a popular hit with museum visitors. Taking around 200 hours' work and using more than 9000 rivets, it was displayed outside the Hector Nicholls Barn on large blocks of ice made in the museum's hired freezer.

### Garden working bee

Helensville Museum is holding a working bee for the "big stuff" in its garden on Saturday April 17, from 10am to 1pm.

"We need guys with chainsaws and the ability to get old tree roots out. We need people who can take green waste to the recycling centre - they'll need a trailer and there will be multiple trips. A couple of people with weed eaters would also be useful," says president Leigh Bosch.

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# editorial

If you had told me way back in February 2003 that I would be still be working on the *Helensville News* 200 issues later, I would have said, "yeah, right!"

But that's the case - after 18 years and 200 issues (counting this one), I'm still at it. Back then I simply helped with the layout and design of adverts, working for then editor and owner Cynthia Thrush.

Although from my very first issue I redesigned the layout to more along the lines of how it looks today, I didn't take over ownership of the paper until 2011, beginning with the July issue in which I further rationalised the layout and began developing the style the paper uses today. And of course introduced our online version.

Nowadays I not only have to do the layout and advert design, I also have to sell those adverts, do the interviews, take the photographs, write the articles, and organise printing and distribution. Some content is of course submitted by other people, but that all has to go under the editor's knife too.

Will I still be doing *Helensville News* in another 200 issues? I think I can emphatically say "no" to that, as I'd be nudging 80 by then! Hopefully I'll see it through to my semiquincentennial anniversary with the paper - there's a big word for you (it means 250th...)! That'd be a good milestone to reach.

The continued success of the paper relies, of course, on two main factors - people keeping me in the loop with things happening in the area, and having enough advertisers to support production costs. To be honest, both have been a bit in short supply recently, so if you have anything newsworthy, or are looking for a way to promote a business in our circulation area, please get in touch - Phone: 420 7215, Mobile: 021 178 5568, Email: dave@helensvillenews.co.nz.

- Dave Addison, Editor

## Friends of Helensville cemetery?

"Lockdown is a good time to spend in a cemetery - there's seldom many about, and social distancing can be easily achieved!" says Megan Paterson.

Having some enforced time on her hands and guessing other people did as well, Megan put out the call on local Facebook pages to see if there was any interest in cleaning some of the neglected graves in the Helensville cemetery. A small group met up and tackled some of the plots that were overgrown and covered in lichen.

"Motivated to both preserve history and respect our dead, with just water, soft scrubbing brushes, time and aroha, a small difference was achieved," she says.

Megan hopes to build on these efforts and start a 'Friends of the Helensville Cemetery' group, which could meet regularly.

Anyone wanting to find out more or to get involved with the project should phone Megan on 021 959 017 or email her at: threehorses@xtra.co.nz.



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# National skydiving competition at Parakai

Parakai hosted the New Zealand Parachute Federation's national skydiving competition at the end of March.

Around 25 entrants competed in the event, which for the last few years has been held at an Australian drop zone in conjunction with the Australian Nationals.

The 2020 event was cancelled because of Covid-19, and the on-going pandemic

water, and the best trick they can do.

This was the first time a national canopy piloting competition with a swoop pond has been held in New Zealand.

Skydive Auckland marketing manager Jo Austin says: "Our swoop pond has been a substantial investment by Skydive Auckland in support of the sport, and we hope to host international competitions once the borders open up."

In a move to help boost the local economy, Skydive Auckland had a number of local businesses attend the event, including food and coffee trucks, as well as providing attendees with information and deals for businesses such as The Ville Turkish Cafe, Fire n Slice, and Parakai Springs.

Following the national competition, Skydive Auckland was to host for the second time a seven-day sport skydiving

festival known as the 'Mad King Boogie II', in honour of Parakai local 'Mad Dog' Ross King.

The event was due to take place from March 30 through to April 5 and include skydives onto Auckland beaches as well as coaching jumps, novelty jumps, and competitions - including using the swoop pond. There were to be sunset and sunrise beach jumps into Orewa and Muriwai beaches, and an attempt at a national women's sequential record for the most number of women building a formation.

At the time of going to press, more than 100 people from around the country had signed up to take part in the Mad King Boogie II - well up on last year's 50 participants.



• The swoop pond ensures exciting action for spectators and competitors

meant this year's event was able to be hosted back in New Zealand.

The NZPF National Competition was held at Skydive Auckland in Green Road, Parakai from March 27 to 29. It covered multiple disciplines for skydivers to compete in, including four-way formations, performance wing suiting, and canopy piloting.

Skydive Auckland's Parakai site features the largest swoop pond in the Southern Hemisphere, where experienced skydivers can land at high speed, skimming the water as they do so. The pond is 100m long, and the skydivers swoop over the water at speeds of up to 120km/h. They are scored on factors such as how accurate they are, the distance they go while in contact with the

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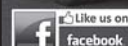
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## Health Trust selling investment property to fund development

Helensville District Health Trust is selling a Parakai investment property to raise cash for future development work at its Commercial Road health campus.

The house, at 3 Rere Place in Parakai, will go to auction on Friday, April 9.

It's being marketed by local real estate agent Nicky Horsbrough of Harcourts the Difference as a fundraising event for the community. To that end, the Commercial Road-based company is providing its services free

of charge, with no commission on the sale as well as providing all the marketing at its own cost.

Harcourts auctioneer Scott Cousins is also providing his services at no cost.

With a CV of \$520,000, Nicky expects the house to sell "in the \$600,000s".

The three bedroom, two toilet, one bathroom home, on a 497 sq.m. section, was one of two rented houses gifted to the Health Trust along with the former Parakai Tavern in 2013 by the now-defunct Parakai Licensing Trust.

The Health Trust sold the second rental



• The Rere Place property which is up for auction

house almost straight away to help fund major redevelopment work on the old tavern, which was turned into community hub Te Whare Oranga o Parakai. That facility opened in 2015, but was shut down in late 2019.

At the time the tavern and two houses were gifted, all three properties had a value around \$1m. The current value of the Rere Place house shows holding on to it was an astute investment choice.

The house will be auctioned at 6pm on Friday, April 9 in Harcourts the Difference offices at 92 Commercial Road.

## All Saints cemetery repairs

Restoration work at the All Saints church cemetery at Kaukapakapa is continuing, with another wave of repairs to headstones starting in the next few months.

Repairs to a further 19 damaged headstones will be undertaken, following on from work by the New Zealand Remembrance Army to restore veteran's graves and repair eight badly damaged headstones.

Spending Covid-19 lockdown going through research produced by Bruce Shanks, a descendant of one of Kaukapakapa's early settler families, Megan Paterson has identified around 80 unmarked graves in the cemetery.

"Many of these are either early graves or children's graves, and it's thought that perhaps these were marked by wooden crosses which haven't stood the test of time," says Megan.

She says the next challenge will be to get those marked, with a view to a more permanent solution being found.

For more information phone Megan on 021 959 017, or email her at: threehorses@xtra.co.nz, or phone Grev and Maureen Walker, 420 7173.

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# Silver (make that colourful) lining to lockdown for early childhood centre

The saying goes “it’s an ill wind that blows nobody any good”, and to prove the old adage last year’s Covid-19 lockdowns had a positive for Helensville’s Sunny Days Early Childhood Centre.

Under the leadership and vision of centre manager Brenda Spick, the 2020 lockdowns provided the opportunity for an interior upgrade at the Commercial Road based early learning centre.

It has now been refreshed with colour, an easier flow, and a digital platform set up to record the children’s progress and development. And a new exterior paint job is being planned – just hopefully not during another lockdown!

A new management structure has been put in place at Sunny Days. Primary teacher-trained chairperson Fiona MacBride has overseen the establishment of a new office administration, and has maintained the on-going professional relationships with auditors, accountants and the Registered Charities Commission.

“All this, while Covid presented delays and confusion, taught us to trust and to respect the process,” says Fiona.

Licensed for 34 children (including six under-tuos) the centre is staffed by qualified teachers with Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood) degrees. There has been a steady Ministry of Education push to move

Early Childhood Centres from day-care to education.

“Sunny Day’s staff are local, and know the families they work with. Local knowledge is a vital part of the centre’s success,” says Fiona. She adds the centre’s philosophy is to “...provide a safe, warm, nurturing environment for our children, whānau and parents from all different cultures and backgrounds.”



• The revamped over-tuos indoor area

Sunny Days has been running since 1990. In the late 1980s funding for early childhood services changed to allow for a mix of sessional and day care arrangements – ideal at a time when families were starting to need two incomes to keep surviving.

“We are not a franchise and have no overheads other than maintenance on the building,” says centre manager Brenda. “Because of this, fees are low. The centre sees itself as accessible, aware, and community focussed.”

She adds Sunny Days would love to hear from anyone involved in the original planning to set up the centre.

The building, in a former life the Union Bank of Australia, is owned by Sunny Days, and its exterior featured in the 2016 movie ‘Mahana’, a film by director Lee Tamahori based on the Witi Ihimaera novel Bulibasha and set on the East Coast.

Sunny Days can be reached on 420 7253 or email: sunnydays102@gmail.com.

## Rugby Club turning 50

Helensville District Rugby Football Club will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in June. Celebrations will be held over Queen’s Birthday weekend (June 4 to 6) and will include games by both senior teams, Premier 2, and the Raging Bulls. Festivities will also include a golf day, and an old boys’ lunch. We hope to bring more detailed coverage in the May issue of *Helensville News*.

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# College artist in exhibition



• Odette's NCEA portfolio of the Dye's slaughterhouse

A year 13 student at Kaipara College last year has had her NCEA Level 3 Painting portfolio selected for display in NZQA's Top Art exhibition this year.

Odette Sullivan-Yates' portfolio, which features beautiful paintings based on the historic Dye's slaughterhouse at Kaukapakapa, was one of just 60 portfolios selected from throughout New Zealand for the annual exhibition, which covers the mediums of design, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture.

After graduating Kaipara College as head student, 17-year-old Odette has decided to pursue a career in aviation, rather than art.

"I am currently studying towards the qualifications needed for my private pilot's license at North Shore Aero Club. My long term aim is to become an RNZAF trained pilot," she says.

Odette has had an interest in art from a young age - "This love was encouraged and cultivated through my grandmother, who had a long career teaching secondary school art."

At college Odette considered subjects such as physics, chemistry, English and calculus as vital to keep her options open, and to ensure she was well prepared to pursue her ambition.

"However painting provided a creative outlet which proved to be invaluable," she says. "This year my aim is to continue learning to fly, and to continue learning to paint. Both pursuits are important to me."

Odette chose the old Kaukapakapa slaughterhouse as the theme for her portfolio as it had been a part of her daily life.

"Throughout my years at Kaukapakapa Primary, I saw supportive structures installed in the slaughterhouse, and became aware that the building was deteriorating and would eventually collapse. I chose Dye's slaughterhouse as the theme for my Level 3 painting boards to honour the history of both the people and the animals that served them," she says.

"When standing close to the old building I was aware of the high degree of tranquility, which I endeavoured to show, particularly on board three.

"I feel, before it is too late, the slaughterhouse should be treated by the community the same as the Kaukapakapa Hall and Kaukapakapa Library. It is an important part of the history of the district," she adds.

Top Art is an annual touring exhibition featuring a selection of the NCEA Level 3 portfolios which achieved Excellence in Visual Art in the previous year. The artworks go on show from March to September at schools, museums, community centres and galleries around the country, with a Northern Tour covering from Kerikeri to Hawke's Bay and a Southern Tour covering from Whanganui to Invercargill.

Artworks from the Northern Tour exhibition, including Odette's, will go on show at Kaipara College for one week from Monday, August 2.

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# Mounted Games champs

Around 30 riders from the local area, Northland, and as far south as the Waikato took part in the Northland Mounted Games Association's Individual Championships, held at the Helensville Showgrounds over the weekend of March 20 and 21.

Competitors tested themselves over 24 different courses (pictured at right) to win rosettes, with Holly Andrew of Kerikeri winning the overall Open Champion trophy.

Mounted games is a branch of equestrian sport, originally formulated by Prince Phillip, in which very fast games are played by riders of all ages on ponies up to a height of 15 hands (152 cm). They require a high degree of athletic ability, good riding skills, hand-eye coordination, determination, perseverance, and a competitive spirit. The ponies must be nimble, fast, strong and brave - but most of all must have the right temperament.

The annual championship, which

was cancelled last year because of Covid-19, was to have been held in conjunction with the Warkworth A&P Show, but switched to Helensville at the last minute.



# Holiday art classes

Helensville Art Centre has four widely varied classes planned for the April school holidays.

First up, on Wednesday, April 21 will be a Macrame Jewellery class. Participants will learn to tie basic macrame nets and to create jewellery, starting with a necklace and moving on to bracelets, anklets and keyrings if time allows.

The following day, Thursday 22, will be a class on Journal Making. Children will learn how to make a journal out of recycled materials, including making a cover, gathering materials, sewing in pages, and learning how to make pockets and other things for the journals. As sewing is involved, parents or caregivers are welcome to attend at no extra cost.

On Wednesday, April 28 the Art Centre will run an Air Dry Clay Modelling class, with children learning to craft fairy and elf houses using air-dry clay and other natural materials - and then to make magical characters to occupy their creations.

Finally, the Friday, April 30 class will teach children how to make Handstitched

Felt Mice, learning how to cut, sew, and stuff felt mice with cotton wool.

All classes cost just \$20 thanks to a Creative Communities subsidy, and run from 10.30am to 2pm, with a midday lunch break. They are all designed for ages seven and up except for the clay modelling class, which is for ages five and up.

Phone or text 021 158 6859 or email: [manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz](mailto:manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz) to register for the classes.

## Art Trail run extends

The Helensville Art Trail has been expanded until the end of October.

Conceived by 11 local artists as a summertime follow-on from the successful annual Arts in the Ville event, the monthly opening of artists' studios will carry on for another six months.

The artists are all within 2km of central Helensville and open their studios from 10am to 4pm on the third Sunday of each month. Visitors can meet and talk with the artists, learn how they create their works, and maybe buy an artwork direct from the artist.



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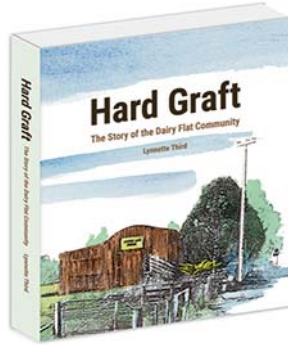
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# 'Hard Graft' at Kaukapakapa library

Lynnette Third, the author of a book on the history of the Dairy Flat community, will be at Kaukapakapa Library on Sunday, April 18 to chat with library visitors about her book and the Dairy Flat area.

'Hard Graft - the Story of the Dairy Flat Community' is the culmination of eight years of research by Lynnette, and has been published by the Dairy Flat Community Trust. Richly illustrated with historic photos, the book covers everything from early families - Nevilles, Bawdens, Earwakers, Bayes - through to the changes that each decade has brought. The book is an engaging read, full of personalities and beautifully presented.



Within easy reach of the heart of Auckland city, residents of Dairy Flat enjoy

the dual benefits of country living and a handy location. Beautiful homes, lifestyle blocks, and a growing number of businesses thrive in the semi-rural area. Yet back in the mid-19th century a trip to Auckland could take several days, with only itinerant gumdiggers, foresters and intrepid travellers navigating the lonely expanse between the busy coastal outposts of the Wade and Lucas Creek.

Kaukapakapa Library will be open from 9am to 1pm. For more information email Megan at: [threehorses@xtra.co.nz](mailto:threehorses@xtra.co.nz), or phone 021 959 017.

## Property values keep going up

The median price of a residential property in Helensville is now \$776,450, according to the latest figures released by CoreLogic. Parakai is sitting on \$698,000, Kaukapakapa on \$978,200, while Waimauku is up to \$1,158,050. Our neighbour to the north, Wellsford, has a median property value of \$632,800.

## from our local MP

It almost goes without saying that tourism is massively important to Helensville and the surrounding areas. That shouldn't be left unsaid, however, as providing support to tourism should be a high priority for politicians of all parties.

Some of the reasons tourism is so important here are obvious, and others less so. Here are my top five reasons that the government should be trying much harder to enable our tourism operators to do what they do best:



First, tourism recently became our top export earner. As it happens, our traditional powerhouse earner of overseas dollars, namely agriculture, is another area in which Helensville excels. Sadly, as a result of decision-making related to Covid-19, tourism has fallen off the pace and we desperately need it back near the top.

Second, all tourists are able to contribute strongly. Whereas Tourism Minister Stuart Nash wants to emphasise "high value" tourists to the exclusion of those who spend lower amounts, local tourist operators tell me we need everyone right now. With the borders now having been closed for 12 months, this is particularly poor timing for getting picky.

Third, we don't have a monopoly on global tourists. New Zealand is not the only show in town, wonderful as we have it here, and in a competitive marketplace we shouldn't be asking our tourism operators to try winning a race from behind the start line.

Fourth, tourism doesn't just help those directly involved in tourism. The economic effect ripples through our community. An easy example would be tour bus operators needing to be supported by mechanics maintaining the vehicles, petrol pump attendants to keep them fuelled, etc.

Fifth and final, those involved in tourism simply can't survive without revenue indefinitely: they face ongoing costs that are incurred whether or not they have visitor numbers, including property rates, insurance costs, and rent.

In summary, it makes sense for the government to do much more to support those in the Helensville area and elsewhere who make their living through tourism. The livelihoods of many depend on it.

- Chris Penk, MP for Kaipara ki Mahurangi  
Ph: 09 412 2496



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# Spoken word performance

'Dulce et Decorum est' translates from Latin to: 'It is sweet and fitting to die for one's country'.

It was the name of a poem written by Wilfred Owen during World War I, and published posthumously in 1920. William died during the war, but his words lived on and made a lasting impression on Helensville's Tony Morrison. It was the first poem Tony remembered hearing at school, and he chose it to read at the Poetry and Spoken Word event 'Poems After Dark', held at the Helensville Community Church in February.

The next Poetry and Spoken Word event is on Saturday, April 10, from 6pm to 8pm in the Magnify Church cafe at 118 Commercial Road. All locals are welcome to share a poem or story - either original works or ones that have made an impression. There's a \$3 cover charge, and participants are asked to bring a plate. For more information email Pauline at: paulinekiwidenton@gmail.com.



• Tony Morrison recites 'Dulce et Decorum est' at the last event



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# ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS

Sunday 25th April, 2021



The Kaipara Memorial RSA invites the people of the district to join us in commemorating ANZAC Day 2021. The format for the day is as follows:

- 05.50 Dawn Parade at the Parakai Cenotaph, followed by a service at the Helensville Soldiers' Cemetery. Breakfast at the RSA \$5.
- 09.30 Kaukapakapa service at Kaukapakapa War Memorial.
- 10.50 Fall In at Super Liquor car park for a parade down Commercial Rd followed by a commemorative service at the front of the Helensville War Memorial Hall.

Lunch and refreshments will be available at the RSA rooms following the service.

If your group would like to march in the main parade, or lay a wreath, please contact the RSA Manager by April 16th. Wreaths may be ordered through the RSA and can be picked up from the RSA on the morning of the 25th.

Contact: Les Coste Ph: 027 499 8066  
kaipararsa@xtra.co.nz



## Helensville Birthing Centre

TE PUNA WHANAU K I 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.

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

## point of view

Thanks to everyone who came and said hi to our team at the Helensville Show.

We were very lucky the show went ahead, despite Covid-19 lurking in the community at the time. We enjoyed the fantastic volunteer effort and organisation that went into such a successful show. Many children enjoyed our face painting and other activities (pictured below), while their parents discussed things that matter to our communities.



At the Show we set up a white board to capture local concerns, which members of the public added to or supported via a 'red dot' system. By day's end, the board was covered with issues - and red dots. You told us that the things that matter most include housing, train services, traffic congestion, and rural roads.

These things matter to the government, too. In recent weeks we have announced more funding to improve safety on State Highway 16, the local roll-out of the Healthy School Lunches scheme, and free period products issued through schools from June, to help alleviate poverty in our communities.

I'm here to help - so if you'd like to contact me, or to have me along at your local event, please email me.

- Marja Lubeck, Labour List MP in Rodney  
[marja.lubeck@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:marja.lubeck@parliament.govt.nz)



## 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, 92 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, plus flowers from Love Flowers.

April's recipient is Tyler McCracken, who chose a \$100 voucher for use at Countdown Helensville.

Tyler was nominated by Paula Francis, who says: "Tyler attends Kaipara college. He comes to my house almost every day to let one of my huskies out of its kennel three times a day, and gives him and my other three huskies love at the same time. I am a shift worker in mental health and my shifts change and get extended at short notice. Tyler will race down at short notice and care for my 'kids' - I trust him 100 percent. He has taken away so much stress from my life. An awesome young male in our community."



• Tyler (left) with Nicky

# local board matters

## Regional Land Transport Plan

By the time you are reading this the Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-2031 (RLTP) will be out for public feedback.

Normally this would have been done during Auckland Council's 10-year Budget consultation as it helps to understand what's being spent where, particularly as transport is a massive issue locally. Due to longer than expected discussions with government the RLTP was delayed, and public feedback will be gathered from Monday, March 29 until Sunday, May 2.

The RLTP is 10 year plan which is refreshed every three years. Given that the last one had roughly \$8b of unfunded transport projects included in it, and projects have either not started or been completed, there isn't a lot of exciting new stuff in there.

The plan includes investment from Auckland Council, NZTA or Waka Kotahi, the government transport agency that is responsible for State Highway 16, and Kiriwai. This can be a bit confusing because

while Auckland Transport is leading the consultation, many of the big-ticket items are not it's direct responsibility - nor are they being paid for from council rates.

At the time of writing, I haven't seen the details of what various budget lines are. Projects like the Waka Kotahi Brigham Creek to Waimauku project to improve SH16, including more lanes and a roundabout at the Coatesville-Riverhead Highway intersection, were in the last plan. The funding for this project has increased to \$137m, however it is now not due to start until 2022/2023.

There is also nothing in the plan to indicate any thought has been given to a rail service to Huapai, and rapid transport network (RTN) planning to Huapai does not appear to be a high priority.

On the plus side there is a considerable increase in budget for maintenance and renewals, and I think this will be welcomed locally.

Auckland Transport has been forced to sweat road renewals for far too long, and increasing this budget is a primary advocacy goal for Rodney Local Board. More frequent grading of gravel roads, faster pothole repair, and a boosted renewals program is going to make a huge difference to our roads.

I would encourage people to go and have a look at the information when it comes out and provide feedback. Even if it is to supporting things like improved maintenance and pointing out that the lack of public transport needs to be urgently addressed, is going to be incredibly helpful to support our advocacy on your behalf.

To find out more and make a submission, Google 'Auckland Transport RLTP Have Your Say'.



- Phelan Pirrie  
Chair, Rodney Local Board  
021 837 167,

[phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

## ANZAC commemoration

The Kaipara Memorial RSA will commemorate ANZAC day in Helensville on Sunday, April 25.

The day will begin at 5.50am with a Dawn Parade at the Parakai Cenotaph, followed by a service at the Helensville soldiers' cemetery. Breakfast will be available at the RSA rooms in Commercial Road for \$5.

Starting at 10.50am there will be a parade down Commercial Road, followed by a commemorative service at the front of the Helensville War Memorial Hall. Lunch and refreshments will be available at the RSA after the service.

Anyone wanting to march in the parade, or to lay a wreath at the service, should contact the RSA no later than Friday, April 16. Phone 027 499 8066 or email: [kaipararsa@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kaipararsa@xtra.co.nz).

A service will also be held at the Kaukapakapa War Memorial at 9.30am.



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## ■ WAITOKI MARKET

'Protecting Pets Naturally' will be a theme at the next Waitoki market on Saturday, April 10 from 8.30am to 12.30pm.

Marilyn Begg believes in "protecting pets naturally" and has a range of natural, chemical-free products including food, parasite control, and health support. She will be on hand to chat with market visitors about how they can provide a natural lifestyle for their pets - and if she doesn't have the answer, she will be able to point people in the right direction for further support.

Visitors will be able to pick up baked goods, plants, essential oils, locally crafted gifts, homemade and used bargains, preserves, and more at the market in the Waitoki Hall, 1095 Kahikatea Flat Rd.

New stall holders welcome - contact Gill 420 3301 or email: waitokihall@gmail.com.

## ■ ART KAIPARA EXHIBITION

Helensville Art Centre will hold an Art Kaipara Member Exhibition, opening on Friday, April 9 at 6pm, and running through until Saturday, May 8.

Members can exhibit three works for free, and pay a 25 percent commission on sales. Art will be displayed at the manager's discretion, and a size limit may apply. Works should be dropped at the Art Centre either Wednesday, April 7 or Thursday, April 8 between 10am and 4.30pm, and unsold works will need to be collected between 2pm and 3pm on Saturday, May 8 or on Wednesday, May 12 from 10am to 4.30pm.

## ■ TARRA MEETING

With Covid-19 and other matters having thwarted earlier plans, Te Awaroa Residents

and Ratepayers Association has a meeting planned for Wednesday, April 14 from 7pm at 44 Commercial Road Helensville.

Councillor Greg Sayers will be present to answer questions about rates and other Council related matters, and a discussion of the tree planting in Commercial Road will also be included. Everyone welcome.

## ■ MACHINERY AUCTION

South Kaipara Rotary will hold a machinery auction on Saturday, April 17 starting 11am at 1473 Kahikatea Flat Road, Kaukapakapa. It's a community fundraiser which follows a successful similar auction in 2019 which raised more than \$5000 for the club, and organisers are now looking for donations of farm equipment and machinery, tractors, trucks and other vehicles, and tools and other equipment. The auctioneer will be Carrfields stock agent Jasyn Yearbury.

Alternatively people can supply items to be auctioned on behalf, with a 10 percent commission going to the club. At the 2019 auction, sales topped \$17,000, and around \$12,000 of that was for items sold on behalf. An auction planned for 2020 was cancelled due to Covid-19.

For more information phone Howard Smith on 027 446 9713.

## ■ KAUKAPAKAPA MARKET

The next Kaukapakapa market is on Sunday, April 18 from 8.30am to 1pm. There'll be freshly brewed coffee, donuts, cakes, pies, a sausage sizzle and more. Live music will be from duo Gillian and Mike, and there will be the usual free face painting for children. There will be local crafts, and bargains in the car boot area, plus a range of other items on sale, including hand made soap, skin care items, books, knitting, jewellery, plants, preserves and fresh locally grown fruit and vegetables.

For more information phone Sarah on 027 4831 542 or email her at: sarah1@maxnet.co.nz.

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## Helensville News - Publication Information

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ISSUE DUE OUT TUESDAY, May 4th 2021

#### Editorial Enquiries, Letters to the Editor and Advertising:

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

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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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