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Lockdown - foodbank demand soars

Over June and July Gemma Donaldson, manager at Kai Collective Te Awaroa - our local foodbank - starting stockpiling supplies in anticipation another lockdown was on the cards.

Her foresight paid off. When the latest lockdown was announced the demand for food parcels almost doubled, shooting up to 93 parcels during the busiest week, instead of the usual 50 before lockdown.

Overall, there's been a 40 per cent increase in demand in August and September compared to June and July.

Throw into that the biggest local flood in recent memory and the first week of lockdown was an exercise in tenacity.

Food bank volunteers couldn't get through on packing day, supplies from New World Kumeū were stranded, and there were extra requests for food parcels to help those flood-affected families. But the team stepped up and met the challenge, all while working with half the number of usual volunteers and meeting strict health and safety Covid requirements.

"The floods hit some of our most vulnerable incredibly hard," says Gemma, "but when we were facing logistical

challenges of getting supplies in because of the floods, other suppliers in Helensville stepped in."

Indeed, the community response to support those in need at this time has been admirable.

Just before lockdown, the Kai Collective Te Awaroa launched a Midwinter Appeal, setting itself a lofty \$10,000 target.

"It was great to have that online platform up and running because once we were in lockdown we were forced to buy in lots more food than we usually would, because the donations we usually rely on weren't able to get through, particularly the fresh produce we receive weekly from Paremoremo Prison," Gemma explains.

Seven weeks after the Midwinter Appeal was launched it had smashed the \$10,000 goal with donations totalling \$11,521.

"For some people it meant a \$10 donation, for others it was \$1000, but every little bit counts and it was really humbling to see the community rally at a time of need and prove that we really do look out for one another."

Each of the weekly emergency kai pack contains four bags containing fresh produce, meat, dairy, pantry staples, and all the ingredients and recipes needed to make three easy, nutritious family meals per week. Those who received parcels over lockdown will have enjoyed lemon risotto, vegetable soup, leek frittata, Margherita pizza, and bolognese.

Cath Rameka is an advocate for Te



• Kai Collective Manager Gemma Donaldson packing emergency kai packs

Ha Oranga, the iwi-driven mobile nursing facility which refers clients to the Kai Collective for support when times are tough.

"Some of our whānau have found this lockdown much tougher than previous ones, but when I drop off one of Gemma's amazing kai packs, it's humbling to see the gratitude and relief in their eyes," she says.

"The packs really do make a huge difference, and offer hope and let people know they are cared about."

Gemma also wants to pay particular mention to Te Runanga o Ngāti Whatua, Helensville Lions Club, Foodstuffs New World Kumeū, Parakai Four Square, and Countdown Helensville as well as the many other local businesses who have supplied donations of food over lockdown.



• Kai Collective volunteers prepping for deliveries during the second week of lockdown

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editorial

How are you all enjoying your takeaways - and being back at work, for those of you who are able to?

For many people, Level 3 isn't much different to L4. Certainly the logistics of getting a printed issue of *Helensville News* out under L3 are still too difficult, which is frustrating, but here's hoping we'll be dropping to Level 2 soon and we'll be able to be back in print for November.

Enjoy the articles in this issue in the meantime - and fingers crossed for that L2 shift!

- Dave Addison, Editor

Poetry fundraiser for St John

Door sales and three raffles raised \$460 for Helensville St John Ambulance at the most recent Poems After Dark evening in Helensville.

A capacity audience in the old BNZ bank building was treated to an evening of funny, moving and entertaining poems and stories - the event just sneaking in before lockdown.

"This was so much more than just poetry," says local artist William Robert Boyd, who is based in the old bank building.

"Genuinely funny poems and stories delivered with consummate skill. It was a celebration of the spoken and written English language."

He says the calibre of the work was "amazing", a mix of original pieces and extracts from books and memoirs. He described it as "the sort of evening that makes one realize everyone you meet has the potential to be interesting."

Highlights of the evening included:

- Cliff Wright, known for his homemade telescope, sang and played an autobiographical love song on a Scandinavian dulcimer he had built himself;
- Myra Lloyd, Helensville's resident hatter, read a funny and insightful story about being a five-year-old artist;
- Stories from Field Candy's moving and humorous autobiography;
- William Robert Boyd's childhood memoir of plugging his young sister into the Christmas tree (apparently funnier than that sounds!);
- Pauline Denton's poems featuring humorous takes on everyday life.

"To say this was an evening of eclectic

entertainment is a vast understatement. Everyone who attended left knowing they had just witnessed a unique event.

"Who knew anyone in Helensville was accomplished at Mongolian throat singing?"

The next Poems After Dark will be during Arts in the Ville, Helensville's annual three-day Labour Weekend festival of art. It will run from 6pm to 8pm on Saturday, October 23 in the Magnify Church Cafe, 118 Commercial Road. There's a \$5 cover charge and attendees are encouraged to bring a plate, a poem, story or anecdote - or just turn up to enjoy listening.



• Poems After Dark performer Tora Mckenzie

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Chance to represent local area as a Youth MP

Local youths aged 16-18 years have the chance to become a 'Youth MP' at next year's three-yearly Youth Parliament in Wellington.

Marja Lubeck, the Labour list MP based in the Kaipara ki Mahurangi electorate, wants to hear from local youth interested in representing her at the 2022 Youth Parliament.

She wants local youths who are involved in the community and keen to push themselves with a new challenge to send her an introductory video.

"Send me a three-minute video introducing yourself and what you're passionate about. Tell me what you would advocate for at Youth Parliament - and why."

Video applications should be emailed to Marja by 5pm on October 29 at: marja.lubeck@parliament.govt.nz.

Youth Parliament is held every three years with the aim to give young New Zealanders the chance to learn first-hand about our democracy, influence government decision-making, and have their voices heard.

The 2022 event will be the 10th time the event has been held and will run from March 1 to August 31, with the two-day Youth Parliament itself held on Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 July.

Each of New Zealand's 120 MPs will select one young person to represent their community.

The chosen 120 Youth MPs will have the opportunity to advocate for their

communities and debate the issues that affect them and other young people, on a national platform. They will get the chance to connect with the MP they represent, engage with their peers, and work on self-initiated projects.

During the Youth Parliament event, they will debate legislation, sit on select committees, and ask parliamentary questions of Ministers.

All participants will receive training, support, and guidance along the way.

In addition to the 120 Youth MPs, the press gallery will choose 20 young people to represent them during Youth Parliament, and for the first time the Office of the Clerk will choose one young person to represent the Clerk of the House.

The chosen Youth Press Gallery members will report on the activities of Youth MPs, and the debates, select committees, and bills during the Youth Parliament event. They will get to learn from some of New Zealand's top political journalists, and learn about the role of the press gallery.

The Youth Clerk of the House will be at the heart of political decision making, providing advice to Youth MPs, and ensuring Youth Parliament runs as it should. They will learn from Clerk of the House David Wilson, and witness the inner workings of Parliament.

Youth Parliament is run by the Office of the Clerk and the Ministry of Youth Development, Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi.

The Ministry organises and funds the event, including providing travel, meals, and accommodation for all Youth MPs and Youth Press Gallery members attending from outside the Wellington region.

For more information visit: <https://www.parliament.nz/en/get-involved/youth-parliament-2022>.



Horse trek sells out

Helensville A&P Association's annual fundraising Edwina Francis Memorial Horse Trek, to be held on Sunday, November 28, has been fully booked out and will raise more than \$2000 for next year's Helensville Show.

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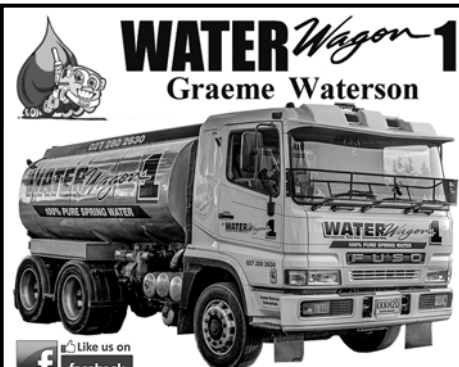


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Arts in the Ville to go ahead

Arts in the Ville, Helensville's annual three-day arts festival held over Labour Weekend in October, is still going ahead - on the assumption Auckland has dropped to Level 2 by then.

Under Level 2 restrictions the event should be able to run fairly much as usual. Covid sign-in at venues will be mandatory, and face masks should be worn in all indoor locations. It is unlikely visitors to the largest venue, the 'Makers' Market' in the War Memorial Hall, will need to be restricted as it is unlikely to exceed the 100-person limit.

Helensville's Floral Art group will be opening its clubrooms as part of the event, as well as having an installation in the hall foyer.

The Helensville Community Recycle Centre will have a pop-up gallery, and Helensville Museum will open specially for the weekend and will have a Jeff Thomson sculpture on display.

Kaipara Coast Sculpture Gardens will be offering half price entry to its gardens.

Organiser Jo Ogilvie says 42 artists have signed up so far, and 18 studios will be open to the public, plus pop-up galleries featuring other artists and their works.

Here is a small selection of the artists who will be showing their works:

■ **Raywin Cruickshank** has been painting in oils seriously for eight years, doing many

commissions and selling by word of mouth, and through the monthly Helensville Art Trail. As a passionate gardener many of her works are of flowers, and her garden will also be open for Arts in the Ville.

■ **Terry Vernon** works with recycled or scrap timber to create pieces of functional art - things like 'river tables', which feature epoxy 'rivers' running through the wood. Terry will be showing his wares in the Makers' Market in the War Memorial Hall.

■ **Jacky Pieper** has an incredibly diverse background, spanning mechanical and aeronautical engineering and design, graphic design, and owning a fashion boutique where she made bridal dresses and ball gowns as well as jewellery. In 2018 she went to France to learn classical sculpting techniques. She has now mastered mould making and started glass casting (pictured at left), and has been experimenting casting in various metals.

■ **Rosemary Parcell** works in oil on large canvases and says she is "reintroducing the horse into the mainstream with studies of musculature, articulation and form." She trained at the Canterbury University of Fine Arts and has works in collections from NZ to the UK. Rosemary will be exhibiting in a pop up gallery during Arts in the Ville.

■ **Barbara MacKinnon** paints entirely from imagination and memory and loves to find opportunities for chaos and foreboding to creep into her compositions. Her works are scraped, partially destroyed, wiped and reworked, and represent "our imperfect, ephemeral reality". Barbara will be exhibiting in a pop up



• A Raywin Cruickshank painting of cattle

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• Equestrian art by Rosemary Parcell

• From page 4

gallery.

■ **Steven Valiere** of Makarau was born in North Dakota, USA of Sioux, French, German, and Scottish ancestry. In the late 1950's the surfing bug got hold of him and controlled his life, leading to a painting style he calls 'calypso/surf/international in acrylics'. After near 40 years his paintings are exhibited internationally including Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, France, and the USA. His collectors include surfers, doctors, and lawyers.

■ **Linda Stevenson** is an artist, designer, and counsellor. Her three fields of interest frequently overlap and feed into each other, manifesting in richly-coloured artworks. Born in Cape Town, South Africa, Linda originally trained as a graphic designer-artist. Her art is influenced by travel, nature, philosophy, spirituality and psychology. "In my paintings, words and emotions are transformed into combinations of symbolic colour, pattern and images. Psychology, theology, spirituality and art therapy provide the material from which I source my imagery." Linda will be in a

pop up gallery.

■ **Leda Daniel** is originally from Argentina, graduating from the University of Fine Arts in Buenos Aires and migrating to New Zealand with her Kiwi husband in 1991. Her art has evolved from portraiture and landscapes to abstract, using an extensive range of media from watercolours and acrylics, to inks, oils and resin. An Arts in the Ville regular, Leda has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions over the years. Her work is held in collections as far afield as Russia, Israel, the UK and the USA as well as Australia, Argentina, and New Zealand. Her Helensville studio will be open during Arts in the Ville.

■ **Joanne Sullivan's** studio gives an insight into the world of bronze and crystal glass lost wax casting, and the chance to see works in progress. Her noted sculptures include the life sized bronze of Phar Lap at Timaru, a life sized 'Sir John Walker winning Olympic gold' which stands opposite his school in Manurewa, and 'Balance' - a rooster toppling a chair, at Albany Village. Joanne is currently working on a large



• One of Steven Valiere's colourful paintings

sculpture of Sir Keith Park for the Sir Keith Park Memorial at Thames Airfield. She is an elected Signature Member of The American Academy of Equine Art (Sculpture), and her studio will be open for Arts in the Ville.

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Helensville area initially to miss out on new road maintenance programme

Auckland Transport (AT) has developed a new system for improving Auckland's unsealed roads - but initially at least there will be no benefit for the Helensville area.

Not a single road in our local area has been selected for treatment under the new Unsealed Road Improvement Programme methodology for the 2021-22 programme.

The new maintenance approach will see AT work with local boards to prioritise work on Auckland's 800km of unsealed roads.

The new approach gives a wider range of treatment options, rather than defaulting to a full seal. These include: pavement strengthening; road widening; safety improvements; pothole, corrugation and drainage improvements; dust mitigation; and seal extension.

It is designed to increase the number of unsealed roads which can be improved or upgraded, says Mayor Phil Goff.

"Around 80 percent of Auckland's gravel

roads are in the Rodney area," he says.

"Working with local boards will enable Auckland Transport to target upgrades to the specific condition of roads needing an upgrade, which will help us get better value for money from our roading upgrades and improve more roads across the region."

Rodney Councillor Greg Sayers says the change will help with the longstanding issue of unsealed roads in the ward.

"This is mainly a Rodney problem and we need to do something to deal with it as this area continues to grow.

"Sealing just one road every second year simply wasn't good enough. We need to be doing more for rural road users, including sealing, rebuilding the base of over-graded roads, and getting the water tables right."

Rodney Local Board deputy chair Beth Houlbrooke adds: "Unsealed roads are a

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Library update - what will L2 look like?

What will Level 2 look like for Helensville Library and Service Centre?

"As it's a case of moving goalposts, it is hard to predict exactly how things will look and work," says Senior Librarian Anne Coppell.

But she says they do know the following:

- Numbers in the building - including the library - will be limited. "We have a small space, so trying to maintain a 2m distance between us will be tricky."
- Unwell people should stay home.
- A homebound service may be able to be organised for people not comfortable in a public space who need to return or take out library items. This is not limited by age, however older customers are a priority.
- Wear a mask in the library building.
- Signing in will be mandatory. As well as QR code posters in the building, there will be a manual sign-in option. These will be kept securely in date bundles for use by Covid tracing team if necessary. Once they are no longer needed, they

will be disposed of securely.

Once the library reopens, it hopes to offer the Ready-to-go-Reads service. Fill in the form (offline at L3) and the library team will select five books for you. You will be contacted to arrange pickup. Book at: <https://bit.ly/3o6ErRb>.

Locals looking for reading recommendations should visit the 'My Librarian' service - a curated list of recommendations for you or your children or grandchildren: <https://bit.ly/2Y20vSf>.

The school holiday programme, Around the World in 14 Days, will be online starting October 2 through Auckland Libraries' Beanstack channel. Visit: <https://bit.ly/3zMe70N>.

"We hope to have activity packs families can take home on the theme of Around the World in 14 Days," says Anne.

Any questions can be emailed to: helenlib@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz, or phone the Library Connect team on 0800 695 427, who can redirect your call to Helensville Library if necessary.

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Art Centre Bits & Bobs

Helensville Art Centre can't reopen until Auckland moves to Level 2. Until then, you can follow it on its Facebook page.

■ Exhibitions for the rest of the year

The planned exhibition of Helensville Art Trail work has been postponed to March next year.

The Gallery's October exhibition will feature art made by Arts in the Ville participants, while the media room will feature a solo exhibition by painter Liana Steedman. This exhibition may flow into November, depending on Covid.

The December exhibition will feature art by Art Kaipara members and will be 'cash and carry', with art for sale at \$150 or less. The workshop room will be used for a

separate exhibition of children's art.

■ 2022 planning

The Art Centre is now planning for 2022 and is looking to the community for suggestions and offers for exhibitions and workshops. Ideas can be emailed to: manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz, with 'Ideas for 2022' in the subject line.

■ Art Kaipara membership

Annual membership of the Art Centre's governing organisation, Art Kaipara, is \$20 for adults and \$10 for those 16 years and under. Members are entitled to take in two free submission exhibitions each year. People interested in joining should email: manager@artcentrehelensville.org.nz.

medical centre notes

If you have not already heard the news or been contacted by us directly at the practice, we are pleased to let you know that you can now get your Covid-19 vaccination in Helensville.

The vaccination centre is being run by the wonderful team at Unichem Pharmacy in Helensville and supported with staff from Kaipara Medical Centre. Vaccinations are currently available Monday to Friday from the War Memorial Hall in Helensville, right next door to the library.

You can book your vaccine through the website below. Or, if you are having difficulties using the website or know anyone who would prefer to phone to book, then we can take bookings directly at the medical centre for our enrolled patients. This can be particularly useful if you have any specific mobility issues, disabilities etc that need to be accommodated.

Once we move out of Level 3, even if the hall is not available as a vaccination centre both Unichem Pharmacy and Kaipara Medical Centre will be working together to ensure this essential service remains in the local area.

If you are unsure about the vaccination, or would simply like to discuss your options and any questions you have, then please feel free to phone the Medical Centre to speak to one of our doctors or nurses about this. To book: bookmyvaccine.nz.

On a completely different note: just prior to lockdown we had a visit from a nurse at Dementia Auckland. She came in to tell us more about the wonderful service they provide to people and their families with a diagnosis of dementia.

This is not a service you need to be referred to by your GP. If you or a family member are affected by dementia, then please get in touch with them. They run local support groups, carer education programmes, and can visit you at home to provide support and advice. They are looking to increase services in the Helensville area so are keen for as many people to get in contact as possible.

If you would like to find out more phone 0800 433 636 or visit: dementiaauckland.org.nz.

- Dr Kathryn Elcock



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Accountant wins award

A Kaukapakapa-based bookkeeper recently won a national award.

Jessica Millar, founder of Accountable Bookkeeping, won the 'Small Business in Practice 2021' award at the annual Institute of Certified NZ Bookkeepers (ICNZB) conference, held in Rotorua prior to lockdown.

She was also named as a finalist in the 'Certified Bookkeeper of the Year 2021' category.

"This award was a huge achievement after what was a difficult year for my clients due to Covid-19," Jess says.

"Putting myself up for an award like this pushed me out of my comfort zone,

and I am so proud and honoured to have won.

"Throughout 2020 we faced situations as bookkeepers and business owners that we have not faced before. Clients were unsure of where to go and what would happen, and so we offered our services and a friendly ear during those uncertain times."

Jess, along with her husband Andrew, has been a business owner for the past 13 years and started her own bookkeeping business in 2016 to help small businesses with their accounts.

The pair have lived in Kaukapakapa for five years and have children at the local school. She is treasurer for both the Kaukapakapa Scouts and Kaukapakapa Netball.



• Jessica Millar with her award

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Winning way with wood

Helensville wood artist Ray Scott has won two of the seven categories in the recent National Association of Woodworkers 'The Art of Wood' Exhibition.

Ray won the 'Domestic Ware' category with a segmented spiral vase (right) made from purple heart, wenge, maple, rosewood and sapele timbers. The category is for any wooden items the maker believes to be useable in a domestic situation, and entries covered the gamut from rolling pins and spoons through to stools and tables.

He also won the 'Plate/Platter' class with a 40cm platter made from wenge with a maple inlay.

Ray wasn't placed in the two other categories he entered.

The competition attracted almost 300 entries, and was judged via photo entries by international judges Joey Richardson, Chris Ramsey, and Neil Turner.



Kaukapakapa sports heritage

Kaukapakapa's historic library will feature old photos and more from the town's sporting past when it next opens on Sunday, October 17, from 9am to 1pm. The exhibit was to have been held in September, but was postponed because of Covid-19 lockdown.

"In a time when travelling any great distance was difficult, there was a need to make your own fun closer to home, and make fun they did. Gatherings took place which were as much about socialising as exercising and competing - a way to keep up with the news of village life," explains 'librarian' Megan Paterson.

In 1885 the Kaukapakapa Jockey Club was formed and the first race meeting attracted more than 300 people. School swimming was for boys only, and involved stripping off behind a hawthorn hedge, swimming naked, and then running up and down the paddock to dry off.

"That's until the girls wanted in!" jokes Megan.

Next came a tennis club with courts marked out at the school, the Kaukapakapa Rifle Club in 1914, the bowling green in 1929, and the school pool in 1953.

"Add to that rugby, croquet, horse riding, hockey, and cricket to name a few, and you can conjure up an image of a thriving active community."

Anyone with old sporting photos or trophies is asked to take them to the library on the day.

"We [would] love to take copies to add to the library's archives," adds Megan. For more information contact Megan, phone 021 959 017, email: threehorses@xtra.co.nz.

point of view

I know it's been a challenging few weeks for everyone here in Kaipara ki Mahurangi.

My heart goes out to all those whose homes and businesses were flooded out in Kumeū. I have been keeping the Minister for Social Development, Carmel Sepuloni, informed about the problems people are facing in the area and the assistance needed.

The community spirit shown by the Muriwai Volunteer Lifeguard Service and local service groups who stepped up to help stranded families and the clean up deserves a huge thank you from us all.

The challenges that Covid-19 has created are huge but we're starting to see that mahi pay off. I want to say thank you, again, to everyone who's doing their bit to stop the spread of Covid-19. It's a mammoth effort, and it's not going unnoticed.

A lot of people are already doing it tough here in Auckland. But even if we can't meet up, we can give our friends and whānau a call, or try to arrange a virtual coffee catch up or hui.

If you're having a really hard time, or know someone who is, you can call or text 1737 at any time for free to speak with a trained counsellor. Recent case numbers show we're heading in the right direction, but we're not quite out of the woods yet. There are things we can all do to make sure we keep our communities safe.

If you have any cold- or flu-like symptoms, or if you've been identified as a contact, please get a test as soon as possible and self-isolate in your bubble.

The vaccination programme is continuing safely at Alert Level 3 – and getting vaccinated is the best way you can protect your community and your loved ones. If you haven't booked yet, I strongly encourage you to do so by visiting bookmyvaccine.nz or by calling 0800 28 29 26.

Everyone in Auckland has been asked to step up and do their bit to keep the whole country safe. Thank you for all of the ways you're reducing the risk of spread and helping each other stay safe in Alert Level 3. It's making a huge difference.



- Marja Lubeck

Labour List MP in Kaipara ki Mahurangi
marja.lubeck@parliament.govt.nz

from our local MP

I hope everyone is doing OK as we head towards what is (hopefully!) the last little period of the current lockdown. I'd like to think it will be our last lockdown ever, but then I've said that and been proven wrong before.

Everyone is affected by these things differently, and in my role as local MP I'm acutely aware of the fact that many are challenged in ways that most others would not understand. My office and I tend to hear about these situations as locals come to us for help.

While we always go into bat for the vulnerable, the sad reality is that it's government agencies - rather than local MPs - who get to make these calls in compassionate cases.

This lockdown we've been contacted by constituents wanting to visit dying relatives, as well as others desperate to visit lonely, grieving family members left behind by bereavement.

Usually people in this position are able to point to mitigating factors such as being vaccinated, having tested negative for Covid-19 and so on. Even so, the answer is almost always 'no'. In one case, the government decision maker was insensitive enough to say they'd established there wasn't a good enough reason for a daughter to make a final visit to her father.

I'll sometimes ask a constituent if they'd like help going to the media, but am always clear it's their call. Publicity can be an opportunity to change the minds of officials and have them take a second look.

There are various reasons families often don't want to go to the media to highlight their plight, so I'm never surprised if they don't feel comfortable doing so. For one thing, not many people are comfortable with their personal situation being discussed in the public sphere. I'm sure we'd all agree that's totally understandable. For another thing, people will sometimes fear that if they go to the media then the hearts of the authorities will harden against them, with pride or spite becoming factors.

It's messy and complicated stuff. Here's hoping for an end to the need for lockdowns so we can leave all this behind.

- Chris Penk, MP for Kaipara ki Mahurangi
chris.penkmp@parliament.govt.nz | Ph: 09 412 2496.



local board matters

The recent flooding in Kumeū and Huapai have hit families and business at the worst time possible.

With next to no warning, late at night, people had little to no time to move animals and belongings - and being in Level 4 lockdown meant the recovery was made more complicated. For businesses this has come at a particularly bad time, having been closed for weeks with no sales to then be faced with additional expenses and delays in reopening is a hard blow!

Council will be reviewing the response, recovery efforts, and investigating measures such as an early warning system of future floods on the river.

Part of any review should also include consideration of Neighbourhood Response Plans and whether there is community interest in developing these to help with local resilience.

I have been approached by groups interested in discussing these, and there

was a lot of public support and assistance offered so having a plan in place to constructively channel this might be useful for the future. Unfortunately, we are supposed to be having more adverse weather events due to climate change, so now is a good time to investigate this.



To help the Local Board consider the best way to help with this I have put together a survey to help us look at this in our upcoming annual budget process.

This will only take a few minutes and will help us advocate on your behalf: www.surveymonkey.com/r/rodneysurvey01.

During level 4 lockdown there was a large quantity of asbestos waste dumped on Ararimu Valley Road and School Road in Waimauku. This got spread along both roads, creating a public health risk at a time when people were more likely to be out walking.

The cost of clean-up to ratepayers has been considerable, more than \$90,000. Dumping of rubbish seems to come in waves in the area. Sometimes it's household waste, and I've seen truckloads of garden waste dumped in the middle of quiet rural roads, tyres dumped down banks, and other waste like oil drums has been dumped. Some of this waste appears to be from businesses avoiding tip fees, and they are simply putting the cost on ratepayers and creating health and environmental risks along with it.

Some of the asbestos that was dumped was distinctive: the sheets on School Road contained pieces with blue and white paint on them, while others were corrugated roof material - some of this was in plastic hazardous waste bags.

If you know anything about this or see dumped material or dumping happening, please phone 0800 NO DUMP immediately.

- Phelan Pirrie

Chair, Rodney Local Board

021 837 167

phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Road maintenance programme cont...

• From Page 6

constant issue in our rural community with dust, mud, run-off, and potholes. We strongly support AT finding a better way to look at these problems so that we can deliver more fixes to more roads."

AT chief engineer Murray Burt says around 10 per cent of Auckland region's roads are gravel.

"The unsealed road improvement budget is now available for a wider range of targeted solutions to address the specific problems identified on each road, so that a greater number of roads can have improvement work completed on them.

"The new approach considers a wide range of criteria to prioritise unsealed roads for seal extension or other improvements, including strategic importance, safety, public health, natural environment, and climate change."



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HELENSVILLE NEWS - PUBLICATION INFORMATION

■ **NOVEMBER 2021 deadline: Tuesday, 19th October, 2021**

ISSUE DUE OUT TUESDAY, November 2nd 2021

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■ **Free Subscriptions to Online Edition:**

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2021/22 issue dates and deadlines:

Due out: Nov 2nd

Due out: Dec 7th

Due out: Feb 8th

Due out: Mar 8th

Copy by: Oct 19th

Copy by: Nov 21st

Copy by: Jan 25th

Copy by: Feb 22nd

■ **Editorial:** Ph 420 7215. **Editor & Publisher:** Dave Addison, Helensville News (2011) Ltd, 502 Fordyce Rd, RD1, Helensville 0874.

■ **Design, Subediting & Layout:** Dash Design, 420 7215.

■ **Printing:** Rob McCorkindale, Print Matters, 0274 740 657.

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Please check with the organisers of any of the events listed below to see if they are going ahead as planned. Some may be cancelled or postponed due to Covid lockdown. - Ed.

■ KAUKAPAKAPA MARKET

The next Kaukapakapa market is planned for Sunday, October 17 from 8.30am to 1pm. There will be live music and a selection of stalls selling fresh local produce, artisan food and preserves, handmade crafts, soaps, jewellery, gifts, and second hand and collectibles goods. Plus there will be locally grown plants, herbs, vegetable seedlings, and potted colour. For more information contact Sarah, phone 0274 831 542 or email: sarah1@maxnet.co.nz.

■ RUGBY CLUB AGM

Helensville District Rugby Football Club

will hold its Annual General Meeting in the club rooms, 162 Awaroa Road, on Tuesday, November 16 starting at 7.30pm.

■ GIBBS FARM FUNDRAISER

Helensville A&P Association is holding a fundraising visit to the Gibbs Farm sculpture park on Thursday, November 18, with all funds raised going toward the running of the 2022 Helensville Show.

Tickets cost \$60 per person, and are available through the show office (phone 420 7572 or email info@helensvilleshow.co.nz) or directly through the Eventfinda website at: tinyurl.com/svs7xk5t.

Christian Art Fest to help kick off Arts in the Ville

A Christian Art Fest entitled 'Born to Create' and hosted by The Lighthouse, part of Helensville's Magnify Church, will be one of the events kicking off this year's Arts in the Ville over Labour Weekend.

The works on display won't necessarily be religious in nature, but rather the exhibition is a chance for Christian artists to put their works on show.

The exhibition will open at 6pm on Friday, October 22 at The Lighthouse, 118 Commercial Road.

Organisers Pauline Denton, Barbara Harry, Michelle Humphris, Marion Taylor, and Jodie Allen have been working for several months to get the event up and running.

Works for exhibit should be dropped off at The Lighthouse between 3pm and 7pm on Wednesday, October 20, along with an exhibitor fee of \$5 for one artwork, or \$3 each for two or more pieces.

For more information email Pauline at: paulinekiwidenton@gmail.com.

The exhibition is just one way Magnify Church will be involved with the annual Helensville art festival.

There will be a creative space for children in the basement of the main church building from 11am to 3pm on both the Saturday and Monday of Labour Weekend, October 23 and 25.

And upstairs, Barbara Harry will be hosting a 'reflective space' within the main Church building.

Barbara, who grew up in Hamilton and recently relocated to Waimauku, is passionate about creating spaces for contemplation and rest.

She recently published a book called



• Barbara Harry

Waiting: Transformation of the Soul, a contemplative parable about the monarch butterfly using beautiful photography. Several years ago, Barbara created a colourful chrysalis banner depicting a human being's inner person.

She will be displaying both her book and the chrysalis banner at 'The Lighthouse' during the Christian Art Fest.

Barbara has diverse experience in the nursing and pastoral care sectors, and through personal recovery from burnout. She enjoys exploring the world through bush walking, photography, and travel.

Barbara is currently preparing a collection of poems, prose and images, a life journey of reflections from the heart due for release later this year.

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