

the Westerly

FREE monthly community magazine for Massey to Hobsonville

PROPERTY MARKET REPORT IT'S A DOGS LIFE

- Peace poppies project
- Home and garden
- Community notices
- Food & beverage

NEW BUILDS

Circulation is 12,000 print copies.

Editorial contributions are free from cost. Advertising starts at \$75 plus gst for a business card size.

Contact John Williamson on 021 028 54178 or jbw51red@googlemail.com

May 2016

Intro

Thank you for reading this May edition of the Westerly.

It's a great magazine to dip into and pick up again later. There is just so much going on to interest you.

What is the deal about land and house packages? What's happening in the local property market? If you are thinking of moving up the property ladder, what is worth doing to your home and garden to increase the sale value of your home? Who can help?

Read what is happening in your community - your community notice board. What activities are available locally or events you might want to attend? Hear from the organisations making our communities safe.

Mention the Westerly when contacting advertisers, they really like to know their efforts are appreciated.

Enjoy your local free community magazine.

John,
Editor



the Westerly

May 2016 issue

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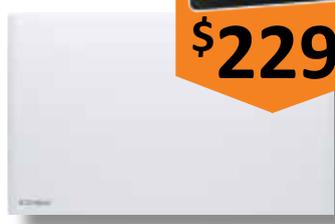


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Community notices

Kip McGrath Education Centres: A Reputation for Excellence

With a reputation for excellence, Kip McGrath Education Centres have been improving and extending the learning outcomes of NZ school children for over 40 years. This reputation lies not only in the professionalism and compassion of the teachers that tutor at our centres, but also the quality curriculum-based learning programmes we tailor to meet each child's specific needs. At Kip McGrath you will see your child:

- enjoy learning
- develop confidence in his/her natural ability
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- 'get it' and smile

NZ relevant assessments and teaching methods

To ensure your child gets the right help with learning, we will assess him or her against the National Curriculum and use teaching resources and activities best suited to your child's learning style.

Our experienced and qualified teachers use proven teaching methods and computer-assisted learning to develop programs that meet National Curriculum requirements so you can be assured that what is learnt at Kip McGrath will provide benefits at school.

A positive learning environment

Your child will also love the friendly, kind, positive reinforcement of our carefully selected teachers whose goals are to see every child get results, love learning and grow in confidence. Kip McGrath Education Centres provide a calm, positive learning environment, giving your child the best possible chance of learning and getting results. www.kipmcgrath.co.nz/NZ/Westgate.



The Massey Birdwood Settlers

The Massey Birdwood Settlers Association Inc are a resident and ratepayers group that own and manage the Massey Birdwood Settlers Hall on the corner of Don Buck and Red Hills

Road in Massey.

Events include a Quilters group, a Wine club and the Associations monthly meetings, as well as the following: Churches fill up the hall on a Sunday and throughout the week day the Red Hills Community Kindergarten and the English language partners operate.

Aikido with Craig - Monday at 6.30pm. Pilates with Tanya - Tuesday at 7pm. Massey Indoor Bowling Club - Wednesday at 7pm. Kung Fu with Mark - Thursday at 7pm. Fitness League with Brenda - Friday at 9.30am. Housie - fund raising for Massey Primary at 7pm. Waitakere City Cake Decorators - Saturday. Check us out online at masseybirdwoodsettlers.org.

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If you are looking for a quality RV at an affordable price Euro RV Ltd is the place to go.

This family owned and operated business has imported European RVs since 2006 and is currently the sole agent and exclusive importer for German made Eura Mobil motorhomes as well as the French made Caravelair and Sterckeman caravan brands.

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There are always some RVs on display at their yard in Massey. Brand new models as well as demonstrators at very attractive prices are in the current line up. Sorry, no trade ins.

Please visit their website euro-rv.co.nz for more information or ring Rainer on 021 266 3602 or 09 832 0064 for enquiries, catalogue orders and appointments to view.



ASAP Promo

It is coming into Winter and, with the prospect of the rainy season, we at ASAP Promo have been getting lots of enquiries from clients wanting to put their brand on wet-weather gear for their staff and thinking about what branded merchandise they could

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UK to NZ Pension Transfer Update – Counting Down to 1st December!

When you bring your UK pension to NZ, the current UK rules allow a New Zealand QROPS (Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme) to pay members a lump sum amount of approx. 30% of their transferred UK fund at age 55, plus provide an income for life. However, New Zealand legislation coming into force on 1st December 2016 will restrict withdrawals significantly, only allowing less than 10% in total to be paid at this age.



Therefore, if you wish to take advantage of the current legislation, it is imperative that your pension transfer is well underway before 30th November. It typically takes six months to complete the transfer process, so phone Tony Chamberlain and the GBPensions team on 0800 427 693 as soon as possible or visit www.GBPensions.co.nz to learn more. Disclosure statements for our advisers are available without charge or obligation.

SeniorNet NorWest

SeniorNet held its usual monthly meeting at St Chads last Wednesday 6th April, talking on the PICASA programme, a free download from the WEB. This was a great morning, a good crowd attended, which is open to all.

We tried something a little different and it paid off. Bev Meredith, (yes our own Auntie Bev the delicious scone maker) had put together a very interesting slide show on how Picasa can help you improve your photos. Some of the photos were truly beautiful, and as Bev moved through each process Joan Crowe, our President, narrated each move, so not only could

we see what was happening to each photo on the big screen, we were being told how to make each improvement. It was a great concept. Joan was very clear and able to be heard by all. This then prompted many questions from the floor. There would have been some of the guests go home and try things they had learnt from the morning. We will be running a class on this Picasa program in the next few weeks. It is one that I have enjoyed and I still make my own business cards, changing the photo each time as I learnt to do when I attended a class. Our next meeting will be Monday 2nd May Guest Speaker Tony Soljan from Soljan's. (Remember that each month is alternated with Mondays and Wednesdays.) Entry fee \$3. Multiple Raffles. \$2 for 1, \$5, for 3. Welcome to the new people who joined our Kumeu Club. Annual joining fee is \$20 – contact Joan Crowe 09 416 7172.

Winters well and truly on its way

Pure Allies has balms to help your winter ailments, try totally natural Congesteaze, a balm to help coughs, chestiness and snuffles. It's totally natural so totally safe for all ages. Or for winter sports injuries and aches try our pain relief balms. Great relief for strains, and also muscle pains and joint issues such as osteo and arthritis, rheumatoid etc. Email - pureallies@gmail.com or Facebook Pure Allies NZ.

A Special Mother's Day Concert

The Bryan Heron University of Auckland Fazioli Series No. 10. At the Bruce Ritchie Performing Arts Centre, Massey High School, 274 Don Buck Rd, Massey. On Sunday 8th May at 4pm. Tickets at the door: Adults \$15, Students \$5. Massey High School is proud to host the top pianists from the University of Auckland in a stunning concert of classical piano music played on one of the country's best pianos – the Fazioli 228.

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WEDDINGS/SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Safercommunities

Waitakere Fire Brigade

Over the third weekend in April the members of the Waitakere Fire Brigade undertook portable pump training with the Civil Defence and Emergency Management West Auckland Response Team. The training was for them to up skill in the use of portable pumps so that they could assist at large vegetation fires and flood conditions such as flooded houses.

Training took place in a variety of locations including creeks, ponds and portable dams. The heavy on the Sunday made the training challenging and realistic. All members of both teams did a fantastic job and it is great to see professional volunteer units working collaboratively to benefit the community.

Worn and old electric blankets can cause electric shock, fire and possibly even death

- Have your electric blanket tested annually by a qualified electrician
- Turn off the electric blanket power when you get into bed
- Do not place heavy objects on the bed while the electric blanket is turned on
- Ensure electric blanket controls are not twisted or caught between the mattress and base
- Make sure the electric blanket is tightly secured and laid flat on the bed
- When not in use, store your electric blanket rolled up, NOT folded
- Electric blankets are not recommended for use by babies or young children as "bed-wetting" may occur

The Waitakere Brigade was present at both Swanson and Waitakere RSA's and it was an honour for us to be involved. This is a very important day for New Zealand and Australia and I hope you made time to reflect on the sacrifices made by our service men and women. Lest we forget.

Denis Cooper, Officer in Charge - Waitakere Volunteer Fire Brigade, phone 09 810 9251.



Fleeing driver incidents must end

A stolen Mazda was seen by police on Waimumu Road, Massey. Police followed the vehicle for a short time then stopped alongside it at an intersection where they signalling the driver to pull over. The driver initially indicated that they would comply, but then drove off at speed along Central Park Drive.

Police activated lights and sirens and a pursuit was initiated. The vehicle passed Te Pai Place, travelled over the bridge spanning Henderson Creek along Central Park Drive. After the bridge the driver lost control of the vehicle, veering over the footpath on the left side of the road. The vehicle proceeded up the bank and skidded along the grass coming to rest against a nearby tree. The driver's side took the full impact.

The driver was initially trapped in the vehicle which caught fire. Officers used fire extinguishers to stop the fire whilst other officers extracted the driver from the car. The driver was taken to hospital with serious injuries, while three police officers were assessed by ambulance staff at the scene for the effects of smoke inhalation.

The driver, a 15-year-old male spent significant time in Auckland Hospital.

Acting Area Commander Inspector Claire Humble says this is another example of the tragic consequences which can occur if a driver fails to comply with a simple instruction by police to stop.

"This is a devastating event for both the victim and his family, as well as my staff. This situation could have easily been avoided had the driver pulled over.

"I also note that my staff put themselves at considerable risk to get the driver out of the car while it was on fire.

"Once again we must give the message that if you are told to stop by police, then just pull over and get the matter sorted out. The consequences of not doing so can lead to a devastating outcome, as we saw" said Inspector Humble.

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Budgets are tight and advertising is often expensive, but it's nice to know that someone is making it easy and cost effective. For \$75 plus GST you can be exposed to over 18,000 locals for a whole month. That is only \$2.50 a day. For more information email our editor at jbw51red@googlemail.com.



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InBrief updates:events

New Dawn for Grand Old Home

Insomniacs and early risers would have been in for a strange sight recently at Hobsonville Point – the rather imposing Base Commander’s house rumbling down Sunderland Ave in the dark, small hours of the morning, on the back of a truck. At 260m², it’s a large house to be moved in a single piece. Building removal specialist, Craig Walker says it tested the limits of their equipment and provided the kind of challenge he and his team relish. The house was moved to a new site on the corner of Sunderland Avenue, where ten other heritage homes have been expertly refurbished by developer Willis Bond & Co. In one of life’s happy coincidences, Craig lived in the house as a small boy, so he was delighted when his firm won the contract to move the house. Craig’s father was the Base Commander at Hobsonville Air Base when the family lived in the house between 1961 and 1964. In those days the Second World War was still fresh in people’s minds and the Base Commander had a position of status. “Dad even had his own batman [the military version of a valet] to help with domestic duties.” The house was far larger than any of the other homes on the base. Through the eyes of a six year old boy it was “absolutely massive”. Craig recalls grand Christmas parties for Auckland’s leading military and public figures in a big top-sized marquee on the front lawn. Military training was compulsory in New Zealand until 1972 and Craig says the base was busy with soldiers marching and performing drills. “They overflowed the barracks so they were housed in long rows of tents.” For the children of the officers that lived on the base there were some perks. “We were allowed to use the swimming pool. We had a swimming vest and once you’d passed your swimming test your badge was sewn onto your vest and you could swim.” They could also use the tennis courts and gymnasium. On the other hand, there were also some ‘no-go’ zones and if they strayed into forbidden areas the marshal charged with maintaining law and order on the base would be after them. “If you got caught by the marshal you were in heaps of trouble. We were pretty scared of him”. The Base Commander’s house was moved in one piece to preserve as much of the original timber as possible. Cutting the house would have required it to be respliced with modern



materials. Once renovated it will complete Sunderland Avenue, a street of 1930s officers’ houses which have been painstakingly restored by Willis Bond. The Base Commander’s House will be brought to market when its restoration is complete. Craig says he feels “honoured” to be part of shifting his one-time family home. “Auckland is a wooden town – or at least it was until the seventies. We’re lucky that we can move these buildings to preserve them. I think Hobsonville Point is an amazing template for residential development in New Zealand. Keeping the old houses and buildings adds dignity to the whole development. When you drive around the corner and see all of the Sunderland houses lined up and given a new lease on life, it’s brilliant. I have nothing but praise for their [Hobsonville Land Company’s] approach.” You can also view the recently relocated Base Commander’s House on its new site. Visit www.sunderlandlife.co.nz for more details.

Plunket Fashion Show

Farmers and fashion stylist Lisa O’Neill are joining with Plunket to inspire women around NZ to sort out their wardrobe and never have that feeling of “having nothing to wear” ever again! Farmers is supporting Lisa in her travels around the country to present this comedy-filled Plunket fundraiser which covers body-shapes, make-up and accessories, and feeling fabulous! What a fantastic way to support Plunket parent groups in West Auckland by enjoying a thoroughly entertaining evening with Lisa O’Neill, stylist, motivational speaker and author. Get some friends together for a great mid-week laugh on Tuesday 10 May 2016 - Doors open at 7pm and the show starts at 7.30 at Salvation Army Auditorium: 532 Don Buck Road, Massey, Waitakere City – across from Westgate. Extra parking at Massey Leisure Centre and Westgate Shopping Centre across the road. TICKETS \$25 and include a complimentary dessert supper – enjoy spot prizes and \$1 raffle tickets! Book yours now at <https://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2016/may/what-a-woman-wants> (service fee applies). For more information: Contact: Gwenda Dowler, Mobile: 027 344 5953, Email: Gwenda.Dowler@plunket.org.nz.

Hobsonville Point Windsocks

Isthmus installed them for HLC. Wind continues to blow across Hobsonville Point as it has for millennia. Birds take wing from the mudflats where planes once flew from the grass. The wind-

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socks provide a playful touch to this airborne heritage.

Why 10? We would have covered the place if we could! The original concept was to use windsocks to mark the old runway alignment. The windsocks would be built around and then slowly repositioned as the development grew. Then over time slowly removed as the development continued to be built out. This concept got simplified to a collection of windsocks near the entrance to Hobsonville. Here they can have impact and be allowed to fly for some time to come. The windsocks are designed to be temporary so they can be repositioned or removed easily.



Knots and Tangles Occupational Therapy

Does your child have difficulty at school? Is handwriting, reading or just concentrating a challenge? Do you have an extremely fussy eater or behaviorally perplexing child? Amy at Knots and Tangles Occupational Therapy may be able to help you. Amy's passion is helping the kids that fall through the gaps in the system. Your child may not be struggling enough to qualify for government help, but they might not be reaching their potential either. Developmental Occupational Therapy (OT) looks at the building blocks in the brain of academic, physical and social/emotional skills to work out why a child is having difficulties. Amy uses world class standardised assessment tools and the latest in intervention techniques all bundled up in the guise of play so children enjoy the learning process! Practicing out of a custom built sensory integration studio in Muriwai, the therapy room is kitted out with what looks to be a child's dream playroom! Your only problem will come when they don't need to go to OT anymore! For more information call Amy on 09 411 9533 or amy@knotsandtangles.co.nz.



Wedding gown style

Choosing the right wedding gown for your big day can be a difficult decision, so having the support and advice of an experienced and friendly specialist like Andrea at Fancy Frocks is one way to make finding your perfect dress easy and enjoyable. Fancy Frocks is Auckland's newest bridal showroom. Based in Beach Haven on the North Shore, Andrea has a large collection of beautiful wedding gowns for hire and for sale, along with bridesmaid dresses, flowergirl frocks and pageboy suits. Wheth-

er you're looking for a stunning designer piece or a gorgeous fashion gown, Andrea can help you find the perfect dress to reflect your personal style and capture your individual beauty, at a price you can afford. At Fancy Frocks you'll find your dream gown for your special day – be it formal, casual or something in between. Contact Andrea today on 021 129 8537 or andrea@fancyfrocks.co.nz to book your free appointment.



Peace Poppies Project

The Hobsonville Point Community has again taken part in the Auckland wide 'Peace Poppies Project'. This is a temporary art installation of handmade poppies that will be in Hobsonville Point Park to commemorate ANZAC Day. Visitors are welcome to view the stunning installation between Thursday 14 April and Wednesday 27 April. Poppies were made by students of the Hobsonville Point Primary School and Secondary School, residents of the Waterford retirement village, and the wider Hobsonville Point Community. The installation/park can be accessed via De Havilland Road, Hobsonville Point.



West Auckland SPACE

West Auckland SPACE has a new programme starting this month in Kumeu. Parents and their babies will get to meet each week to enjoy play/music, development discussions & guest speakers. A new baby can be very isolating. The focus of SPACE is to bring parents together as a community to enjoy playing with their babies. The SPACE programme has been designed

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to support parents through the first year of their child's developmental journey. The programme runs weekly for 3-4 terms (i.e. 30-40 weeks). The sessions are run by qualified facilitators who have knowledge, experience, and training in early childhood care and education.

Parents love the support and ongoing friendships they make at SPACE. They also love the ideas and confidence that builds as they interact with baby in a supportive environment. For further information and to enrol please email space@teakoranga.org.nz or phone 09 838 8849 to enquire further. www.facebook.com/groups/476218675729314/



Wedding celebrant

Theresa Sjoquist - Wedding celebrant – Make your special day one to remember by creating an original, innovative ceremony, I'll join my imagination to yours, and we'll create a ceremony (traditional or ultra-modern) with which you'll feel confident and comfortable, as well as delighting your guests. Great ceremonies demand great imagination, an expert sense of timing, a skilled speaker with the capacity to manage an audience, leadership and guidance, and most of all to make your ceremony completely, uniquely, your own, and memorable. Phone 021 577 503 or visit www.theresasjoquist.com.

Elopement wedding – what is it and what to look for

An elopement wedding can often, but not always, be described as a marriage ceremony that is conducted in sudden and secretive fashion, usually involving a hurried flight to a remote location. On one hand what could be more romantic than just the two of you eloping to a secret destination.... and going home as husband and wife! On the other hand there are few points to consider when choosing to elope. This article covers two major points and offers potential compromise ideas. 1. When you elope, you don't have an audience. This means there will be no one there but the two of you, your witnesses (who are often just strangers) and your celebrant. So there will be no one to share and remember it with and, in months and years to come, memories and details could easily be lost in the busy-ness of life. However, there are a few of things you can do:

- Document it well with photography and possibly a video. You will then be able to tell the story to your friends, family and future children. It will help them feel like they were there too.
- After the wedding, during your honeymoon maybe, sit down

and write your thoughts and memories from your wedding, together or independently. This way the little details, feelings and thoughts can be preserved for years to come. Then seal them up and read them sometime, on your anniversary days or keep them for 10 years as a time capsule.

- Break the rules and invite your closest family and friends to elope with you. You can still have a very intimate ceremony, but with your closest family and friends right next to you.

2. Breaking the news to your friends and family about your decision to elope could elicit some strong reactions. The thought of upsetting close friends and family is probably what holds most people back from eloping.

What can you potentially do?

- Involve your family in making this decision in the first place. Then, at least, it's a collective choice and you have the agreement of the most important people.

- Consider throwing a post-elopement party. Depending on the scope it could end up being very similar to planning a traditional wedding, except you will only have to focus on the party part. But you will get to enjoy some of the trappings of a regular wedding too. Really, the best of three worlds: a private ceremony, an intimate dinner and a big party.

At the end, the underlying reason couples choose to elope is partly financial, but mainly because they want to spend their engagement time discussing major issues like children, careers, lifestyle, instead of debating with friends and relatives about china and silver and guest lists and flowers and a million other things that aren't priorities in their lives.

Also, an elopement wedding doesn't have to include a long distance flight or sweating out on a nearby island - New Zealand has one of the most romantic backdrops in the world for beautiful wedding ceremonies. So if elopement is something that is on your mind and time isn't something on your hands, with a little help, we can craft a very intimate and personal experience for your wedding day. Wedding Girl offers a great elopement package that includes all the right and necessary elements and a very attractive price. For more details you can visit www.weddinggirl.co.nz or call Anna on 027 440 8665.

Cruising: The future of travel

With the growth in cruising for Kiwi travelers, it was only a matter of time before a specialist Travel Agent opened out West. Cruiseabout opened in Westgate last November. The team brings a wealth of experience in cruising & travel to help you plan your next getaway. Claudette has over 15 years working in the NZ travel industry. Penni has joined the store with a number of years experience selling cruises to the New Zealand public. Sam is a more recent entrant into travel retail, having previously worked aboard a number of cruise ships throughout the world. The most popular cruise destinations for Kiwis include the

Special thanks

We have a number of pick-up-boxes in the area and we would like to thank the following companies for their support:

Countdown Westgate
The Warehouse Westgate
Mitre 10 Mega Westgate
Countdown Hobsonville
Countdown North West
Mike Pero Hobsonville



RYAN JACKSON

M: 027 498 6202. E: ryan@treehouseprint.co.nz

P: 09 810 8609.

PO Box 133, Kumeu 0841 Auckland

South Pacific, the Mediterranean, Alaska, and European River Cruises. If any of these appeal, or if you would like something more exotic, contact the store on westgate@crui>About.co.nz or phone 0800 338 152 and they will find the perfect holiday for you.

No Drippity FlatMate

Introducing the No Drippity FlatMate - the perfect companion to the IceBlock Buddy! No need for lots of room in your freezer, as this is an iceblock mould that lays flat!! You can slide it into that wee shelf at the top of your freezer, or lay it on the loaves of bread in that draw! Perfect size for little mouths or a treat size iceblock, as it makes smaller iceblocks, using "smoothie thickness" filling. Don't let this weather put you off making these delicious snack size treats! Let them set, then just pop them into your 100% NZ designed IceBlock Buddy! Get yours today! <http://www.nodrippity.co.nz>.



Wharfside artisan food market

A wharfside, artisan food market trading every Saturday and Sunday 9-1pm | The Landing, by Hobsonville Ferry Terminal. Ample parking, under cover farmers market, resident cafe, live juice station and more! Adjacent parks, art walk, playground and recreational cycling in the neighbouring Hobsonville Point precinct. Walk your dog; meet up with friends and family for a morning stroll and share food, glorious food, sample artisan products and shop for your gourmet essentials from our hand picked product selection. Enjoy street style food celebrating international flavours & culinary influences of our cultural metropolis - Auckland. Live music + great atmosphere + good times for all. So, take time out to visit Hobsonville Point Farmers Market this weekend!

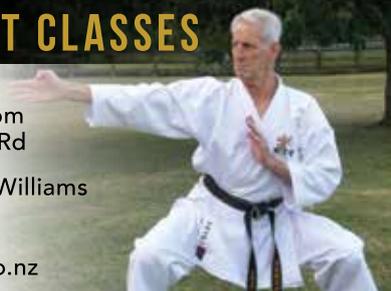
Are you a small business based in the Northwest?

Running your own business is rewarding but at times you can spend so much time working in it you never get chance to work on it and grow the business. e-commerce never sleeps as it crosses the world and time zones - so at any time a customer can be looking to buy from you and unless a business keeps

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Contact Sensei Bryan Williams
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09 412 9768 or
julia@bwainsolvency.co.nz



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moving forward and looking for ways to grow it will never reach its full potential. That's where e-pack can help. E-pack specialise in providing SME business with robust distribution solutions across New Zealand & the world - we combine freight from multiple customers to gain the best rates in the area, we then pass those discounts onto our customers. From 3PL warehousing to courier and freight solutions e-pack can provide value to you and your business. e-pack - local support for businesses in the northwest, call us today on 09 412 7018.

Take to the Ice at Hobsonville Primary School

Come enjoy ice skating at Hobsonville Primary School. It's a great, safe and fun way to get active and also an activity that kids can do together with their parent(s) and friends. Entry fee is \$7 for kids (under 16) and \$13 for adults (ice skates included). The Ice Skate Tour travels around with a mobile ice rink in the Auckland Region. All events are open for general public so don't worry if you or your kid(s) are not attending the school. Most events are in school halls but it's an all weather activity anyway, rain or shine! Hobsonville Primary School, 104 Hobsonville Road, Auckland. Restrictions: All Ages. Ticket Information: Kids (under 16): \$7.00 Adults: \$13.00 Door Sales Only.

Ambience Home and Gifts

Warm up this winter with a possum and merino poncho that is so light and yet so warm priced at \$180.00. Good for travelling, elderly and young - you will love your timeless piece. New Ecoya candles in store now and citta throws, dressing gowns, mens included. Ambience Home and Gifts - 325 Main Road, Huapai. Open 6 days closed Mondays. Phone 09 412 2466.

ORTHODONTICS



Give kids a lifetime of
Beautifully Straight Teeth.

Give your kids a lifetime of confidence with orthodontics ('braces') at Fraser Dental in Hobsonville. Our dentists have the experience and expertise to set your kids on the path to a confident, straight smile.

Call 416 5050 for a consultation about teeth straightening.

 FRASER DENTAL

www.fraserdental.co.nz

Localcybertalk

Hobsonville Point Farmers' Market. Saturday and Sunday 9am-1pm. Housed in an old airplane hangar, the Hobsonville Point Farmers' Market is a one-stop shop for your foodie needs. For some idiotic reason, coffee is quite often found at the far end of a market—but not here! Local Hero Coffee Works do amazing freshly roasted coffee to sip on while you browse the other great stalls.

We have a new West Auckland SPACE programme starting in West Harbour on May 3rd at 12.30pm. SPACE is a programme for first time parents and baby where they get to meet each week to enjoy play/music, development discussions & guest speakers. Having a new baby can be very isolating. The focus of SPACE is to bring parents together as a community to enjoy playing with their babies. Email space@teakoranga.org.nz to reserve your place. Only \$3 donation per session. Places book up fast. www.facebook.com/groups/476218675729314.

Hi everyone I'm a qualified and very experienced nanny looking for some babysitting work. Please pm me or txt me on 021 255 4517 if you would like any other information. Look forward to hearing from you.

Ros here from Hobsonville Point Secondary School. We're in the process of booking speakers for our dispositional learning programme for Term 2 and 3. Would love to have local speakers and we're looking for nominations. We are looking for people to speak on one of our Hobsonville Habits - Adventurous, Purposeful, Resilient, Resourceful, Responsive, Reflective, Curious, Compassionate, Creative, Contributive. The audience is Year 9-11 and the session/workshop would need to be up to an hour in length. Let me know if you or someone you know would be an effective speaker. email: ros.britton@hobsonvillepoint.school.nz. Thanks in advance for your suggestions.

Hi mummies, wanted to let everyone know about a fun Plunket Playgroup that's on Mondays at Hobsonville Hall - 9.30am - 11.30am \$2 cost and coffee and biscuits provided for the adults. Hope to see you there.

Hi guys! Anyone thinking of doing their garden and need bags to put their tree clippings or leaves in or renovation work? I have some 1sqm bags available for sale @ \$5 each. Txt me on 027 714 2458 if you're interested. These bags are industrial grade and can take up to 1000kg in weight. Great for keeping your trailer & garden tidy. Best thing about it u buy it n own it not like the flexi bin -they're \$45 to buy & \$100 to be picked up - it's really a no brainer.

Letting everyone know that West Harbour Pharmacy is staying in West Harbour on 45 Luckens Road. We all hope that this lovely community continues to support this local and independent pharmacy so that it may continue to serve you all for many

years to come.

For Painting & Plastering give us a call, we have large teams, so able to accommodate any size job. Our Teams have over 20 years experience. Free Quotes: 022 036 7481. References provided from large building companies we work for.

Mini bobcat hire for all those hard to reach places. Only 1100mm wide so I can normally get to those hard to reach places at the rear of most sections. \$80 per hour plus gst minimum 2 hour charge. www.nzlandscapers.co.nz

Here at Lucena Drywall, we provide quality interior drywall and plastering services at competitive prices. We treat every job as if it were our own, holding ourselves to the highest standards of quality and service. We have developed great relationships with our customers and other professionals in the construction industry. They choose to work with us because of our dedication to high quality and because we do things the right way. We never cut corners. Choose us for your next project. Call Richard - 021 131 6421. As seen on TV's "Our First Home 2016" The Roughan Family.

New Mums/Old Mums/any Mums with nothing to do on a Monday morning or just want to get your baby/toddler interacting with others Join us On Monday (Term time only) 9.30 -11.30 at Hobsonville Papis Playgroup at Hobsonville Hall 397 Hobsonville Road. Tea & Coffee and great conversation provided! Our fabulous playgroup coordinators are Fleur Garmonsway and Kirsty Mew www.facebook.com/PapisPlaygroup/?fref=ts

Just saw this and thought I should share here. I expect we are within The Trusts' boundaries as we can only buy our beer and wine at the West Liquor shops.

From the 2nd May 2016, The Trusts are providing a FREE toolkit for every household in West Auckland within The Trusts' boundaries until 31 July 2016 or until stocks lasts.

Use this link to find out how/where to get your free toolkit and if you are eligible and live within The Trusts boundary area - <http://thetrusts.co.nz/toolkit/how-to-get-your-free-toolkit/>

Hi all, I am a porse qualified nanny looking for a job!! Part and full time/ before and after school, if you or you know anyone looking please pm, call or email me at shannonpurvis16@gmail.com. Thank you.

Work is currently underway to complete connection of the coastal walkway from Bomb Point Drive to Bomb Point (going past the rifle range). There will be pedestrian access at all times, and a 'stop and go' system will be used when the new path is being connected to the existing path. Works are due to be complete on it by mid May.

AREA PROPERTY STATS

Suburb	CV	Land Area	Floor Area	Sale Price
Herald Island	660,000	840M2	150M2	885,000
	520,000	941M2	70M2	780,000
	1,050,000	1026M2	220M2	1500,000
	1,000,000	809M2	270M2	1550,000
	850,000	942M2	100M2	1100,000
Massey	230,000	450M2	157M2	750,000
	580,000	541M2	160M2	885,000
	455,000	1115M2	130M2	589,500
	480,000	1287M2	140M2	749,500
	550,000	735M2	110M2	660,000
	500,000	809M2	130M2	676,000
	640,000	525M2	201M2	820,000
	475,000	549M2	120M2	695,000
	510,000	615M2	160M2	489,000
	420,000	634M2	90M2	650,000
	420,000	607M2	110M2	660,000
	395,000	665M2	90M2	623,000
	475,000	603M2	120M2	735,000
	570,000	3012M2	200M2	720,000
	410,000	1446M2	80M2	640,000
	650,000	453M2	235M2	888,000
	685,000	600M2	207M2	900,000
West Harbour	700,000	738M2	160M2	1,141,000
	1,250,000	715M2	330M2	1,888,000
	1,000,000	749M2	271M2	1,512,000
	630,000	666M2	100M2	850,000
	570,000	658M2	110M2	775,000
	830,000	636M2	200M2	1,366,000
	385,000	690M2	70M2	570,000
	810,000	718M2	210M2	1,250,000
	700,000	620M2	190M2	855,000
	700,000	451M2	170M2	760,000
	650,000	900M2	160M2	755,000
	1,600,000	1638M2	400M2	1,795,000
	580,000	592M2	130M2	722,000
	385,000	1152M2	130M2	625,000
	470,000	696M2	100M2	745,000
	520,000	786M2	100M2	765,000
	690,000	612M2	180M2	870,000
965,000	812M2	280M2	1,200,000	
Whenuapai	1,025,000	2125M2	107M2	1,700,000
	555,000	926M2	129M2	757,000
	575,000	873M2	95M2	881,000
	850,000	110M2	140M2	915,000
	3,000,000	4.2HA	140M2	8,300,000
	1,675,000	1.4HA	1434M2	3,100,000
	2,325,000	2.3HA	2020M2	4,488,000
Waitakere	500,000	8,109M2	90M2	480,000
	560,000	809M2	120M2	660,000
	570,000	1752M2	140M2	740,000
	910,000	2403M2	229M2	1070,000

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Graham McIntyre
Brand & Territory Owner

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Every month Mike Pero Hobsonville assembles a comprehensive spreadsheet of all the recent sales in the area that reviews the full range of Residential and Lifestyle transactions that have occurred. If you would like to receive this full summary please email the word “full statistics” to hobsonville@mikepero.com. **This service is free from cost.**

Disclaimer: These sales figures have been provided by a third party and although all care is taken to ensure the information is accurate some figures could have been mis-interpreted on compilation. Furthermore these figures are recent sales over the past 30 days from all agents in the area.

“We charge 2.95% not 4% that others may charge” “We also provide statistical data, free from cost to purchasers and sellers wanting more information to make an informed decision. Phone me today for a free summary of a property and surrounding sales, at no cost, no questions asked” Phone 0800 900 700.

Propertynews:advice

Money Matters

Sometimes your lending needs don't meet mainstream banking requirements. You may be looking to fund a "spec" build or perhaps develop some land? Second tier lenders or non-bank alternative lenders can provide funding for these types of products and it costs less than what you may think. From 7.5% (plus fees) you can secure the capital which would otherwise have been unachievable via traditional avenues. We have access to a wide range of lenders that specialize in "out of the box" lending so call us today for a no obligation chat. 09 411 9251 / 027 411 9255 or david@davidlloydmortgages.co.nz.

Market Report with Graham

Solid sales activity in Residential and Lifestyle markets with a broad range of buyers. The market has split into a larger group of micro markets where purchasers are influencing much of the cultural make-up of developments and the type of buyer groups that are drawn to areas. In areas like Riverhead, the majority of buyers are New Zealand families, while in Huapai, the new homes are dominated by Chinese families and Chinese Investors. Hobsonville Point has a greater mix of many cultures and also an outstanding customer satisfaction rating. It all adds to a colourful and vibrant multi-cultural landscape which adds new opportunities for services, products and community engagement.

So let's recap the last month:

Herald Island has solid sales starting at \$780,000 and \$885,000 at entry level, with leading sales at \$1,100,000 to \$1,550,000. Whenuapai also has solid activity at \$757,000 to \$915,000 through to \$3,100,000 to \$8,300,000 for land banking buyers. Hobsonville Point and Hobsonville have had very light trading with low sales at present. West Harbour has a number of sales ranging in \$675,000 to \$850,000 with both family and investor buyers keen on real estate near Westgate and North West Mall. Transactions in the top range are \$1,200,000 to \$1,795,000. Massey real estate continues to surge ahead with most sales in the range \$582,000 to \$900,000 and volumes being some of the strongest that we have seen for some time. Investors, and family buyers are very strong and Massey seems to be flavour of the month. This may change as the prices reach dizzying heights. Autumn and Winter is an excellent time to market your property for sale, the supply of property is reduced and the buyer

demand solid. This provides an element of scarcity that can sometimes deliver a better reward for sellers. Buyers often prefer viewing homes on a cold wet day as it often gives them the best feel for a property in the bleakest of conditions. If you are contemplating selling please call me for a free no obligation discussion.

Mike Pero Real Estate has a very sensible commission rate that will save you thousands and deliver a substantial multi-media advertising campaign that will reach many thousands of interested and well financed buyers. It costs nothing to meet and talk about your thoughts, the market, value and time frames. It will deliver strong peace-of-mind and may be the motivation you need to get you motivated to start your journey. Phone 0800 900 700 or view www.grahammcintyre.co.nz or drop into our high profile office at 2 Clark Road, Hobsonville. Licensed REAA (2008).

Re-Roofing Specialists!

Precision Roofing provides complete re-roofs using Colour Steel / Zinalume / Clearlite, whether your home has a tin or tiled roof, we have your re-roof covered. We understand that choosing the right



roofing company is a crucial decision. We ensure your property; residential or commercial is water tight, air tight and the correct materials have been used for climate and sun exposure. Re-roofing your home or business will usually take about a week, depending on the size of your property. We can install insulation when re-roofing, saving you time and money. If your Colour steel roof is needing a repair, we can send an expert out to provide advice, a solution and a quote. Call us today on 0800 002 222 to arrange a FREE no obligation quote - we would love to hear from you.

AT Home Staging

20 years ago nobody worried about "staging" their home before putting it on the market, however this has changed as more and more people use the services of home stagers. As with many trends once the standards have been raised, it's hard to go back. Home stagers are similar to an interior decorator with expertise



David Lloyd
Director

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in planning and choosing colours and furniture and arranging them all in a way that makes your home look its best.

A stager doesn't create a home that suits your personal taste and need for every day comfort, but instead makes your home appeal to a broad range of tastes, livable or not!

By minimizing the flaws of your home and making it appear larger, brighter and more appealing, it is possible that your home may receive better offers from potential buyers and spend less time on the market. A stager's job is to help people fall in love with your place and want to buy it. Staging may be one of the most important steps in selling your home quickly and at the right price.

Mike Pero and Quinovic team up in the North West

Quinovic Property Management has been operating in Auckland for over 26 years. Their expertise is the effective management of residential properties to enhance the care and return for owners.

Quinovic business owner Graeme Henderson has an alliance with Mike Pero Real Estate. They manage properties in central, north, and western suburbs operating from offices in Takapuna and the CBD. Graeme is keen to expand the portfolio in Hobsonville, West Harbour, Massey and surrounding areas.

"We have leading edge computerised management systems that give owners 24/7 access to their property file and a big advantage is that property management is our business. That's what we do" says Graeme, "Pure and simple, that's our core business."

Janine McCormick, Quinovic's Development Manager, is a West Auckland resident with extensive property management experience. "I understand the need for owners to maximise the return on their investments", explains Janine. "We work to maximise the rent, often higher than our competitors".

We make the whole process easy for the property owner," says Graeme. "I challenge north western home owners who are looking for a better property management experience to let us show you what we can do. We offer a free rental appraisal for your property with absolutely no strings attached."

Contact Janine McCormick at Quinovic, phone: 0508 272 786 or 021 844 531 or email: enquiries@quinovic-takapuna.co.nz.

Getting your Home 'Open Home' Ready: Top tip 3

Interior Makeover in a Couple of Days! Giving your home a makeover in preparation for open homes needn't be expensive

Graham McIntyre
LICENSED SALESPERSON
BRAND & TERRITORY OWNER





P 09 412 9602
M 027 632 0421
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E graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com
www.mikepero.com

Mike Pero Real Estate Ltd. Licensed REAA (2008)
327 Main Road, Kumeu, Auckland
2 Clark Road, Hobsonville, Auckland

or time consuming. Be realistic about what you want to achieve and prioritise where you will get the most 'bang for your buck' in terms of your dollar spent and creating a bit of WOW factor with buyers.

So, before you take action the first step is to research and Make A Plan. Check out the DIY section at the library and use the internet to find style looks you can easily achieve. Pinterest is an amazing source of all home decorating ideas from gardens to soft furnishings to colour schemes – pretty much anything you can think of will be covered.

Once you know what you want to achieve book in any trades-people well in advance. Do This First! They are often very busy and have to turn work away so book well in advance.

Other useful but inexpensive purchases include items like a laundry basket with a lid. New towels for the bathroom, throws to cover scruffy or dated furniture.

Got a dated kitchen? New brushed chrome handles for kitchen and bathroom kitchens can take years off!

Clean tiles and grout where possible or consider getting a tradie in to fix. Mouldy dirty grout is a turn off and can repel buyers.

Lastly don't be afraid to delegate! Get someone to mind the kids and a work bee; get some mates to help and keep them well fed and watered. Your taskforce may be limited but everyone has some special skill or talent when it comes to repairs, creative ideas, cleaning and sorting clutter. More helpful ideas and tips in next month's magazine. Meantime, please call Susan Annett if you would like an appraisal or any advice in getting your property ready to go to market. Mobile: 021 345 788 or email susan.annett@mikepero.com. Licensed REAA(2008).

\$75 = Exposure for a month

Budgets are tight and advertising is often expensive, but it's nice to know that someone is making it easy and cost effective. For \$75 plus GST you can be exposed to over 18,000 locals for a whole month. That is only \$2.50 a day. For more information email our editor at jbw51red@googlemail.com.

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TICKS ALL THE BOXES: LOCATION, SIZE AND SUN



Set Date of Sale

51A West Coast Road, Glen Eden

Set Date of Sale - 5pm, Tuesday 17th May 2016 (unless brought forward).

Nestled on an elevated site this warm, spacious home has wide appeal for a wide range of buyers: families, retirees, first home buyers, singles or investors. Park your car in the double car garage with auto door and internal access to one level living featuring generous open plan kitchen, dining and lounge flowing to sun drenched decks wrapping three sides of the house. Large master bedroom, a second double bedroom and one single bedroom all with built in wardrobes. Family size bathroom complete with separate bath and large shower. Located within easy walking distance to rail and bus transport and local schools. Lynmall, Kelston and Glen Eden shops nearby.



Susan Annett
021 345 788

susan.annett@mikepero.com

www.mikepero.com/RX768118

Mike Pero Real Estate Ltd. Licensed REAA (2008)

www.mikepero.com



COUNTRY LIVING - 4 HECTARES IN TAUPAKI



Set Date of Sale

69 Amreins Road, Taupaki

Set Date of Sale - 5pm, Wednesday 11th May 2016 (unless brought forward)

Nestled on a north facing gentle sloping hill with expansive views of grazing land and pockets of native bush. The property is ideal for horse owners with a stable area and small arena area adjacent to the house. The home is of hacienda-style which has all day sun, excellent entertaining and alfresco living around extensive decking, featuring an in-ground pool and covered spa area. Three bedrooms, and master room with ensuite, open plan living and a separate outdoor office area located off the garage. Solid masonry over block construction with tile roof. In addition the property has a large barn that provides extra space for storage, workshop projects or easily adapted for more stables. Email susan.annett@mikepero.com for recent sales information.



Susan Annett
021 345 788
09 412 9602

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www.mikepero.com/RX769576

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CLASSIC KIWI BUNGALOW WITH CHARACTER & CHARM

2 1

Set Date of Sale

51 West Coast Road, Glen Eden

Set Date of Sale - 5pm, Tuesday 17th May 2016 (unless brought forward).

Sitting on an elevated site catching all day sun, this home features generous living area, sunroom and two double bedrooms - a perfect choice for first home buyers, singles, small families or investors. The kitchen has recently undergone extensive renovations. Excellent outdoor flow from dining area to generous size deck offers great scope for entertaining, complete with sea views of the upper harbour. Easy care lawns and gardens along with double carport to complete the picture. Located within easy walking distance to rail and bus transport and local schools. Lynmall, Kelston and Glen Eden shops nearby.



Susan Annett
021 345 788

susan.annett@mikepero.com

www.mikepero.com/RX768115

Mike Pero Real Estate Ltd. Licensed REAA (2008)

www.mikepero.com

Mike Pero Real Estate Hobsonville is delighted to welcome Susan Annett.

Susan Annett is currently working in your area.
Want to know what your property might be worth
in today's market?
Contact Susan for a no obligation FREE appraisal.

Susan Annett

021 345 788

susan.annett@mikepero.com

Office Location: 2 Clark Road, Hobsonville

www.mikepero.com





AWARD WINNING EX- JALCON SHOW HOME - HOBSONVILLE POINT

4 2 3

By Negotiation

15 Station Street, Hobsonville Point
By Negotiation

This highly specified, meticulously finished ex-Jalcon show home delivers contemporary styling, earthy tones and very pleasing flow to meet the needs of the executive, early retirees, or the family looking for an easy care, natural flow, alfresco home. Entertainers open plan, kitchen and dining leading to informal lounge and patio area with spa and shade sails. Astute plantings providing colour, creativity and contrast. The double garage is lined and carpeted to allow options for impromptu rumpus or games area, while having easy access to the formal lounge and downstairs toilet/ powder room. Four rooms upstairs with main bathroom and ensuite, the home has been well planned for family living, ensuring separation between the master and additional rooms, delivering privacy and quiet places.



Graham McIntyre
027 632 0421

graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com

www.mikepero.com/RX742038

Mike Pero Real Estate Ltd. Licensed REAA (2008)

www.mikepero.com



VILLAGE OUTLOOK - COLONIAL DESIGN - WAIMAUKU

4 1 2

By Negotiation

8 Mabbett Lane, Waimauku
By Negotiation

Looking for a country aspect with a traditional 1/4 acre section, neighbourly quiet country lane and services and high decile schooling close by? Look no further than 8 Mabbett Lane, Waimauku. A country style home with 4 bedrooms, 2 lounges, 2 bathrooms, open style living and dining opening to decking to the North and South. Elevated cul-de-sac living environment, single garage, and minutes from high decile and high ERO rating Waimauku Primary School, parks, convenience shopping and transport links. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com.



Graham McIntyre
027 632 0421
graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com



Ian Sneddon
027 209 0789
ian.sneddon@mikepero.com

www.mikepero.com/RX693911

Mike Pero Real Estate Ltd. Licensed REAA (2008)

www.mikepero.com



ROYAL HEIGHTS BRICK AND TILE WITH A PEEK OF THE SEA 2 1 1

Set Date of Sale

101A Colwill Road, Massey
 Set Date of Sale - 5pm, Tuesday 10th May 2016 (unless brought forward)

Elevated, North East facing brick and tile home offering a light, open plan, well presented home offering significant value for the downsizer, upsizer, first home buyer or investor. Two generous bedrooms, excellent single level flow and alfresco to a fully fenced patio. A separate wide access bathroom, and laundry is integrated in the easy flow of the home. Single garage and off-street parking to the rear of the home keep things safe and secure. Close to Royal Heights Shopping Area, Primary School, Parks and walking areas. The home is extremely well presented and enjoys a sun filled, great feel environment. The CV on this property is \$485,000. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com.



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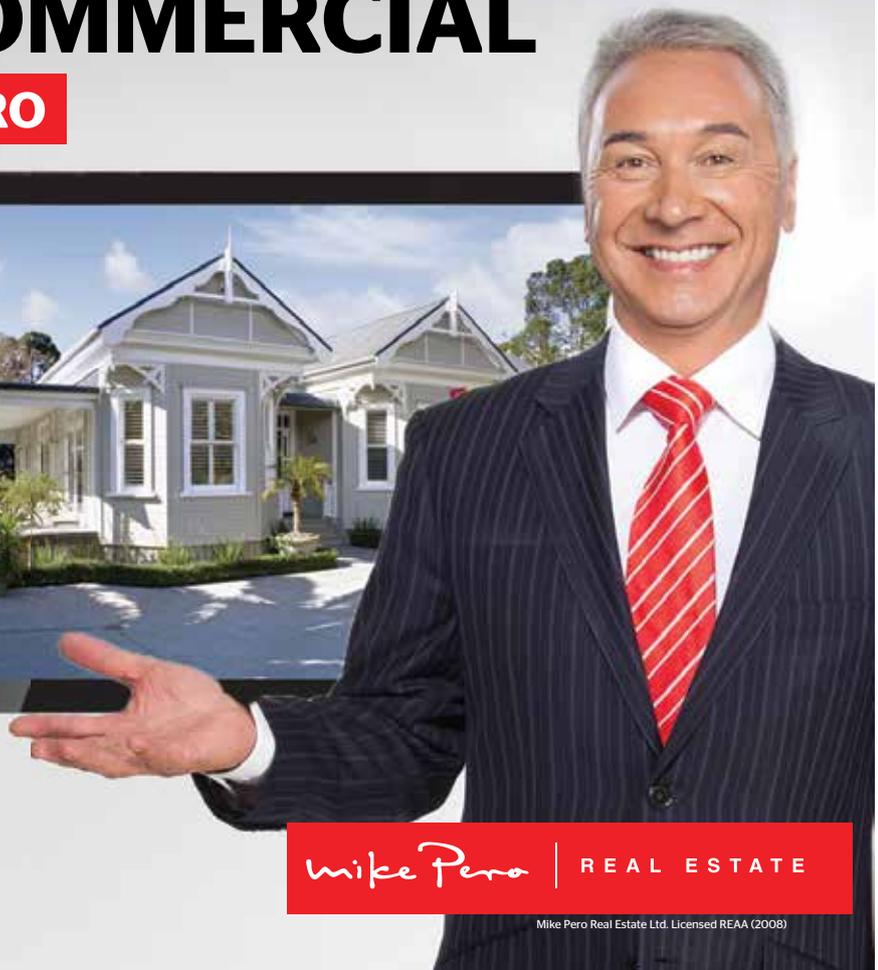
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This has a market value of more than \$6,000.*



*Subject to availability in certain areas.
 **A 15 second TV commercial produced by a professional 'agency' elsewhere and played on TV One or TV3 could cost you in excess of \$6000+gst. For a limited time only. Conditions apply.

Mike Pero Real Estate Hobsonville
 0800 500 123
hobsonville@mikepero.com

Mike Pero | REAL ESTATE

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COUNTRY COTTAGE STYLE - GOLD IN KUMEU

3 1

By Negotiation

50 Trigg Road, Huapai By Negotiation

Established semi-rural setting, this tidy three bedroom weatherboard bungalow set on 1049sqm is a golden opportunity. An idyllic setting with white picket fence, and extensive entertaining decking leading out to north facing pool, this home offers an investor or a family a substantial home with options to add diy value in the future. This picture perfect setting is located across the road from Huapai School and is literally minutes to parks, playgrounds, convenience shopping and transport links. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com.



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LAND FOR BANK OR FOR LIFESTYLE - NEAR KUMEU

3 3 2

By Negotiation

81 Foster Road, Kumeu By Negotiation

Whether you are seeking an investment for the future or a property with multiple incomes this idyllic lifestyle property offers a tantalising 4 hectare (10 acre) gentle sloping backdrop with which to buy and hold or buy and invest. The land has a three bedroom brick home, storage sheds (that are rented) and cool store. The property also has a water bore for a buyer wanting to use the land for horticultural use. Close to schools, parks, convenience shopping centres and transport links. The CV on this property is \$1,125,000. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com.



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Lyndsay Kerr
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www.mikepero.com/RX688266



PANORAMIC VIEWS

\$570,000

69 Garfield Road, Helensville
Asking Price \$570,000
Viewing by appointment

This elevated home set on a 1/4 acre section on one of the best roads in Helensville is an ideal first home or a great DIY opportunity. With a bit of imagination this 140 square metre home could be tailored to your needs. The views from the lounge room and sunroom are spectacular an interesting feature is the sunken spa in the lounge room. Priced to sell this home is a must see.

Property Details

Land Area: 1012 M2 **Building Size Area:** 140 M2

www.mikepero.com/RX768612



Lyndsay Kerr
027 554 4240

lyndsay.kerr@mikepero.com



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WAIMAUKU - PEACE AND TRANQUILITY

2 4 1

By Negotiation

126 Hinau Road, Waimauku By Negotiation

North facing home in elevated bush setting. Currently set up as a two bedroom but if required an easy conversion to three bedrooms can be achieved, with walk in wardrobe and own toilet with options for an ensuite. Single level, high stud, weatherboard home with open plan styling and modern designer kitchen opening on to tranquil north facing decks with flowing water fish ponds. Six car garaging with workshop and an abundance of extra parking. Close to Waimauku shops and school only minutes away to Muriwai beach and Woodhill forest and 20 minutes to new north western shopping centre this has to be the best country living around. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email ian.sneddon@mikepero.com.



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MUST BE SOLD - 2 HECTARES, BIG BARN, CHARACTER IN COATESVILLE

4 1 2

By Negotiation

557 Ridge Road, Coatesville By Negotiation

Idyllic setting, this 1920's old charming bungalow has character, presence and delivers a relaxed and social environment. Outdoor living flow steps out to extensive entertainment decking to the north-west, to enjoy the sun but provide shelter from the wind. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms (one traditional and elegant), integrated kitchen/dining that makes the most of the space and the view. In addition the property also has a large 150 sqm barn that provides extra space and options for workshop projects, storage or stables. The CV on this property is \$1,100,000. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com.



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MUST BE SOLD - WAIMAUKU CHARACTER HOME

3 1

Enquiries Over \$729,000

279 School Road, Waimauku
Enquiries Over \$729,000

This elevated two level home is a blend of Swiss chalet and traditional Kiwi homestead, offering open plan kitchen/dining, formal lounge with extensive northerly views from both levels over Waimauku Valley. Three rooms (two downstairs), the home has excellent flow to wrap around decking, lawn, and garden area with extensive fruit trees, berry vines and chicken run. Excellent off street parking with options for parking under the house or easy conversion for a workshop and storage area. The home provides all the elements of nature, growing, bird-life and self-sufficiency. In all respects it is one out of the bag. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com.

www.mikepero.com/RX742003



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LIFESTYLE LIVING NEAR WAIMAUKU

4 1

\$718,000

1548 State Highway 16, Woodhill
Asking Price \$718,000

This Woodhill property on just under half an acre has great gardens and mature fruit trees. The 1950's bungalow allows for easy living and a pleasant rural outlook. Elevated north facing decks and lawns give a private setting with great outdoor living. The home features 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, and multiple car parking (there's even room for the boat). Perfect to raise a family or for those passionate about outdoor adventures, or just to indulge and relax in a country setting. Embrace the relaxed rural life on this easily maintained block. Sit back, watch and listen to the tui and other birdlife whilst enjoying the bounty from the garden. We are happy to supply a list of the last 12 months of transactions in this area. For a complete transaction list please email graham.mcintyre@mikepero.com.

www.mikepero.com/RX666090



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Health:beauty

Westgate Dental Centre

We all often hear people say that prevention is cheaper and easier than treatment, but not many of us understand what "prevention" means exactly. At Westgate Dental Centre we pay a lot of attention to preventive treatments.

For example, a thorough exam may reveal a few early decays which can actually be reversible if treated earlier. To prevent and stop the decay process, (which could potentially lead to more complicated and expensive treatments) you may be given a special treatment like a tooth mousse to use. Then it will be noted in your treatment plan that these decays are to be monitored.

When people postpone their visit to a dentist, they are much more likely to end up with major decays or a more complex problem such as root canal infection. Fixing those can end up costing hundreds of dollars. Now compare this to receiving consultation, exam, a tooth mousse and a piece of mind for less than hundred dollars and you get the picture.

Call now to book your consultation appointment on 09 832 2998 or fill in the contact us form on www.asmile.co.nz.

Office Workstation

How many problems with the workstation on the photo can you pick up?

Obviously, the screen is too low. Anything else? Look at the sitting posture. The guy is sitting too low and too close to the desk. Bad position of the forearms. Sitting too far left – the mouse is too far from right arm. All these issues will inevitably result in muscle tension in the neck, shoulders and wrists.

Solution? Check your workstation or let someone do a workplace assessment to find and rectify potential problems. If you've already developed pain and tension in your neck, back, shoulders or arms come and get them treated at our Family Osteopathic Clinic. We will ease the pain and will give you some advice on your workstation as well.

Better still, take a picture on your mobile and bring it with you for your treatment session with us!

Ilya Chemeris at www.familyosteo.com, phone 09 416 0097 or visit us at 39 Hobsonville Road, West Harbour.



Hobsonville Chiropractic Centre Welcomes a New Chiropractor

Chiropractor Dr Aimee Strickett has joined existing Chiropractor Dr Lynnette Orrell at Hobsonville Chiropractic Centre. Their newly renovated office is located at 295 Hobsonville Road offering late nights, early mornings and Saturday hours.



Dr Aimee has grown up in this community and continues to live locally with her husband. Aimee completed her 5 years of training at the NZ College of Chiropractic. She has a passion for working with families and has completed extra Chiropractic study in the area of paediatrics and maternal health.

Chiropractic is a natural form of healthcare focusing on the function of the spine and nervous system. The nervous system controls every action of your body so it is important that this functions optimally in all people from young to old. Dysfunction in the spine may cause discomfort as well as other symptoms throughout your body. Chiropractors address the cause rather than cover up your symptoms. Phone us 09 416 7589.

To all Members of the Male Gender - Mum's the Word!

Mother's Day is almost here and you are welcome to come and see our varied selection of thoughtful gifts. Hobsonville Optometrists - Glasses and Gifts at 413 Hobsonville Road, opposite Dominos, offers a unique and quite different gift selection with an emphasis on quality without an absurd price tag. Starting from pocket money prices, we have sourced tasteful, attractive and delightful gifts. Woollen/silk scarves, handbags, etched glassware, pewter carafes and oil jars, amazing vases, tiny trinkets, fun tea towels and elegant but inexpensive jewelry. Feel free to ask our advice - we have the expertise and love to help! Browse from 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday and from 9am to 3pm on Saturdays.



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KUMEU
OSTEOPATHY AND MASSAGE THERAPY

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Ruby Nails & Beauty
Add: Shop 3 192 Main Road, Kumeu
(next to Subway, VTNZ, Labtests, French Cafe)
Tel: (09) 4129922
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Special!
Spa Pedicure \$29
Manicure Shellac/Gel \$38
Pedicure & Manicure \$45
Spray Tan \$20
(Please mention Kumeu Courier to get this special)

Hobsonville Pharmacy

Jeff Spearman and his team have re-located Hobsonville Pharmacy from Clark Road to 124 Hobsonville Road, Hobsonville, in the new Countdown complex.

Jeff has owned pharmacies and lived in the area for over 25 years and first opened Hobsonville Pharmacy in 1995.



“Over the years many of the customers I know have become like friends. We not only look after their health needs but enjoy a good catch-up in the shop. I can remember some coming into my first pharmacy in Whenuapai as children and I now see them in our new site with children of their own.”

There is a real sense of community spirit in the area and I have supported local clubs, the RSA, and surrounding schools.

The new pharmacy has attracted a lot of positive comments with a modern, spacious design, good lighting and easy parking.

We have been able to combine with local medical and allied health services in the centre, including doctors, physiotherapy, podiatry and dental services.

Hi Tech Beauty comes to Swanson

Nestled up a driveway opposite the Swanson train station is Oh So Beautiful. OSB is a small boutique home based beauty therapy studio run by stay at home mum Michelle Hiebendaal. Michelle has been a beauty therapist for 11 years and has a purpose built studio that is private and has plenty of parking. While working at a prominent West Auckland studio Michelle was trained as IPL technician (laser hair removal) and has been passionate about IPL ever since. Michelle has recently made a significant investment in a New Zealand made professional Eclipse IPL machine. This machine would not be out of place in Auckland's best studios and comes with the revolutionary pain free SHR technology. As well as IPL, OSB offers a range of beauty treatments at great rates. Give Michelle a call or find her on Facebook. Phone 021 931 731 or visit www.ohsobautiful@gmail.com. OSB accepts EFTPOS and has online booking, Book early to avoid disappointment.

Have you taken your Big Blue Pill?

How is your mood today? Have you been feeling negative or depressed? The jogging craze began years ago in late 1960's and soon after people began to understand that exercise caused

them to 'feel good', mentally. Not long after, it was realised that exercise created what is now called the endorphin effect.

But interestingly, if you do tend to feel depressed it could be all within your imagination. A study was conducted recently where doctors substituted a pill for depression with a placebo. They also experimented with different colours of pill. Amazingly it was found that large 'blue' placebos had the best positive effect on people who were depressed. And this worked on most people treated. So there you have it. If you want to 'feel better' today, either go for healthy life-giving workout or swallow a big blue pill. Paul – CEO, Club Physical.

No Hogwash

Westgate Optometrists are the original & exclusive optometry practice at Westgate Shopping Centre in West Auckland. We pride ourselves on the rarity of providing truly honest guidance in every aspect of your eye care. Spending up to an hour with you for the examination allows us to discuss your needs and ensure you understand all of your options.

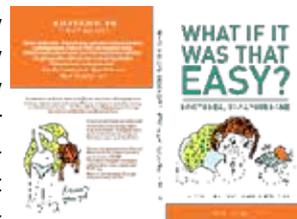


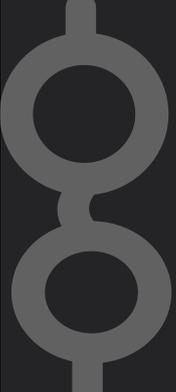
For genuine and knowledgeable advice, simply give us a call or pop in to see our friendly team.

Phone: 09 831 0202 or visit our website: www.westopt.nz or Facebook: www.facebook.com/westgateoptometrists.

What if it was that easy!

I'm so excited to announce my new book, 'What if it was that easy'! How to heal you and your home! How Earth's energies may affect your life. Every week, my clients generally have never heard of Geopathic Stress, however it becomes completely apparent, when I identify where these magnetic fields and underground water lines of energy are in their homes. If Geopathic Stress crosses through the locations where they spend lots of time, it can irritate and make you feel uncomfortable. This week for example I have had everything from skin allergies, and eczema, tingling, heart palpitations, menstrual issues, to melanoma and colon cancer. All had Geopathic Stress crossing their body in the same location as the illnesses or disease. What if it was that easy? Check out the website or give me a call Nicky 021 545 299 or www.clearenergyhomes.com.





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Optometrist

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Kumeu Chiropractic

adjust ♦ adapt ♦ thrive

Dr. Chris McMaster ♦ Dr. Nolene McMaster

412 5536

www.kumeuchiropractic.co.nz

8 Shamrock Drive, Kumeu

Free public lecture

Osteoporosis and Bone Disease:

Auckland Medical Research Foundation (AMRF) is holding a free public lecture at 7pm on Wednesday 27 May at the Auckland Medical School. Distinguished Professor Ian Reid will discuss the impact and treatment of bone diseases, including osteoporosis and Paget's disease. To register phone 923 1701 or email us at amrf@medicalresearch.org.nz.

Help for Anxiety and Depression

Do you or someone you know suffer from anxiety or depression? These conditions can be debilitating and affect your overall quality of life and those around you. There are many things that can be done to strengthen the nervous system and support these conditions. Diet, lifestyle changes and herbal medicine can all be used to achieve this. Make the most out of your life by supporting your nervous system the best you can. Take an integrative approach to your health care and contact me today. Contact Selena Quinn, Phone 027 448 7096, www.dam-healthy.com, Family Osteopathic Clinic, 39 Hobsonville Rd, West Harbour, Facebook @ DamHealthy.

What is osteopathy?

Osteopathy is a form of hands on medicine which encourages healing by focusing on how the joints, muscles, nerves, circulation, connective tissue and internal organs function as a holistic unit. Osteopaths can identify dysfunctions in your body and treat them using a variety of techniques including, stretching, massage and manipulation of the joints. Osteopaths can treat people of any age, from children through to elderly. Osteopaths are registered ACC treatment providers (No GP referral is needed). This means that if your visit is related to an accident or injury that occurs at home, in the car, playing sports, at work etc.

then you may qualify for ACC to help cover some of your costs. Osteopathic treatment is also covered by most private health insurers.

Some of the conditions osteopaths assist with include:

- Back pain, pelvic pain, or sciatica
- Neck pain, headaches or migraines
- Hip, knee or ankle pain
- Shoulder, elbow or wrist pain
- Sports injuries
- Overuse syndrome or repetitive strain
- Pregnancy and post-pregnancy related pain
- Asthma or other breathing related disorders

To book in or if you need more advice or information please contact The Body Clinic, 09 320 3803, info@thebodyclinic.co.nz or visit www.thebodyclinic.co.nz.

Therapy helps with Seasonal Related Stress

As the days shorten and there is less playtime after work some people find themselves becoming a bit more negative about their employment situation, even if during the rest of the year it doesn't bug them half as much. Many people come to see me for therapy because of a seemingly unresolvable issue at work. Perhaps their boss feels its ok to freely vent his or her stress in the workplace, but the employee is not allowed to show any emotional distress themselves. Perhaps there is a lack of recognition or validation. Therapy provides a safe place to discuss the problem. A couple of conversations with a neutral party can alleviate the sense of a growing resentment, and it often brings insights that enable new and more creative solutions to emerge. It is usually our relationships at the heart of the matter. Feel free to call me to discuss whether it might be at yours. 021 477 523 Sarah Hamilton.

Mother's Day gifts at Zash Hair

MOTHER: The one who loves you unconditionally from birth, the one who puts her kids before herself and the one you can always count on above everyone else. I couldn't find a better definition of the word Mother if I tried. I know that personally speaking my Mum is the total package of this definition and I work hard daily to make sure that I am the same for my boys too. So I thought it would be nice for this Mother's Day to have some extra special gifts available at Zash Hair so that you can spoil her and make her day important. Come on in and purchase our pamper package which includes a haircut, blow dry, straightening (if required) and a moisturising treatment. 1 hour of pure bliss. Sebastian and Wella both have a fantastic range of all hair-care products, perfect for creating your own gift hamper. Also

Don't let the seasons change your lifestyle.



AUTUMN SPECIAL - Free installation and a KitKat saving up to \$518.00 *conditions apply

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www.boricfoodmarket.co.nz



stunning gift vouchers are available, you decide on what service you would like to gift her and we will make it happen. Let's make this Mother's day her day. I know how much she will deserve it. Phone or txt Carla at Zash Hair today 021 814 663.

Body-balance Massage & Neuromuscular Therapy

What does massage mean to you? Relaxation or Swedish massage therapy is the modality that comes to mind when most people think about massage. Massage goes beyond relaxation – regular massage has numerous and exceptional benefits. As the modern world speeds onward; our lives overflow with schedules, work and chores. Pushing our bodies harder for longer without actually listening to them; yet our bodies listen to the world they live in. Your body knows, even if you don't, when it is time to take a break and our bodies speak to us in the only language we hear...pain or dysfunction. Massage and neuromuscular therapy (NMT) is a great way to help the healing of these issues. NMT identifies and addresses the causes of soft tissue pain/dysfunction and helps to achieve a balance between the nervous and musculoskeletal systems. Contact Debbie 021 120 2175.

Mothers Day coming up soon

What to do? Well here's an idea, skip the chocolate and give mum some me-time at the spa – tranquil environment, soothing music and pampering treatments. Not to mention how relaxed she will be when she returns home! At Waimauku's Spa Di Vine we are celebrating Mother's Day with great new treatments to book on the day, or buy her a gift card for later use (our gift cards are valid for 6 months). If mum just loves facials

choose the Mothers Day Super Facial Pack – 75 minutes of expert care of face, eyes, neck, shoulders, arms and even hard working hands - \$160

If she enjoys a de-stressing massage, choose the Mothers Day Massage – 75 minutes of full body massage using our heated basalt stones to relieve achy and tired muscles, bliss! - \$160

If you book your mum in at Spa Di Vine on the 8th of May only, for any treatment from our menu of services (prices start at \$119), she will receive a glass of bubbles with our compliments. Phone Paula – Spa Di Vine on 09 4115290 or www.spadivine.co.nz.

Chiropractic and your Immune System

Don't blame catching a cold on your colleague or school friend or even the virus itself. They are not the problem. The problem is your body's inability to adapt to the virus. If your body adapted well, then your immune system would destroy the virus so it would not cause you any trouble. Your nervous system controls your immune system and is most important for coordinating adaptability in your body. How does Chiropractic care help? Chiropractic care does not treat or cure viruses or any other disease, but focuses on improving the function of the spine and nervous system so it can help your body adapt to your environment better. In fact, a healthier nerve system can help everyone adapt to everything...better. Are there other things you can do to help your body adapt? Yes of course. Stop creating unnecessary inflammation in your body, reduce stress levels, exercise, eat well, rest, and drink plenty of water amongst others. If you want to learn more about the Chiropractic approach to better health, call us at Kumeu Chiropractic - phone 09 412 5536, to make an appointment.

Modern Montessori for 21st century Kiwi Kids

At Kumeu Montessori, our aim is simple...to provide an innovative and modern preschool environment, where learning is irresistible and children flourish.



Our programme is based on your child's individual strengths, needs and interests, enabling them to learn in a style and at a level that is just right for them. Because one size does not fit all.

Combining the best of Montessori tradition with modern learning practices, we will help give your child a flying start, preparing them not just for school...but for life. Our day combines learning, discovery and play - the best of all worlds.

Ask us about our 2016 pricing specials!

p 412 9885 | 8 Grivelle Street, Kumeu | kumeumontessori.co.nz



Making learning irresistible

Regularcolumnists

Time to Re-Focus

The main thing I do for clients is give them a reminder about life's many options and what kind of things are on offer. When you start having that sort of conversation it becomes very clear there are so many choices and opportunities. There is an infinite sea of potentials available to us but we keep recreating the same bunch of things as last week.

For some inexplicable reason, humans tend to naturally focus on what we don't want. We aren't really aware that we do it, we only know our one perspective and we end up being trapped in it. Every possibility is available to us but we won't live like that. In fact, it's uncanny what we humans do to ourselves. We all know the saying 'we are our own worst enemy'. We will talk about, think about, complain about, and wake in the night stewing about exactly the things we don't like.

I don't believe we are really at fault. We do have a choice of course but we are not taught any differently and perhaps our human brains work against us. We are told over and over that our brains are built for survival... fight or flight etc. Our success as a race is perhaps because we get cleverer at surviving but we don't get cleverer at being happier and more peaceful. We have more mental health issues than ever before. Can we say we are really flourishing? And what about abundance? Take a look around - for some reason abundance doesn't come as naturally as 'just getting by'. From what I see over and over again, it's difficult for us to view ourselves or any of our situations with clear perspective. We do the opposite of sugar coating everything. We actually shit coat everything then set about living it. It is very subtle of course. Mark Twain said, "it ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble, it's what you know for sure that

just ain't so".

I help people take a look at themselves from a different perspective. The main before and after difference, is a shift in perspective. I recently heard in a TED talk that hindsight is human alchemy. Hindsight is an after-the-fact gift, an aha moment, a realisation, a learning of wisdom; when we learn something about ourselves that changes the way we see things. I also heard in a TED talk (yes I was on a TED talk marathon) that only 1 in 9 people will actually experience change in their lives and this is even when diagnosed with a fatal illness. We just don't see what's necessary for life change (our mind playing the most important role). But when the shift is made, and we do this constantly, look out, because life starts to respond. Perhaps it's true when they say 10% of life is what happens to us, and 90% is how we react to it. For a session please call Anna 021 555 658 or email anna@thinkyourbest.co.nz.

The Importance of Riding a Bike

Every Thursday at Country Bears, "Bike Day" brings a lot of excitement and fun to the children and teachers. Initially this was just a day for special occasions, like in our school holiday programme, however, after recognising the importance of bike riding and the learning it brings, we have started this on a weekly basis. And why not? We have the space and capacity for this to happen!



From as young as 12 months old, the children here at Country Bears bring their bikes, helmets and excitement from home, and arrive with anticipation as they wait patiently for their time on their bikes. The children are learning many aspects from these experiences, including turn taking, observation and social skills.

They are also gaining a knowledge and understanding of the rules and boundaries of space and direction during these experiences; spatial awareness and mental alertness as they maneuver around other children and objects; developing and strengthening core body strength and fitness, which also helps to develop their co-ordination and brain, and lastly, it helps to build strong muscles and bones.

Since the introduction of these weekly sessions, teachers have noticed that the children are gaining so much more confidence in their bike riding skills. They are also able to try out other children's bikes to gain a different or more challenging experience

Sue Cook

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If you would like to visit our wonderful Centre, designed to provide the children space and time to develop at their own individual time, give us a call on 09 412 8055 to arrange a suitable time. In the meantime, check out our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/cbearsecc.

Big Data - are you using it?

It doesn't matter what type of business you have, sooner or later you will find yourself needing to work with Big Data. This term refers to extremely large amounts of information that may be analysed by computers to reveal patterns and trends especially relating to human behaviour and interactions. Even the smallest businesses generate data these days if they have a website, a social media presence, accept credit cards etc., and even a one-person shop has data it can collect on its customers, its user experience, web traffic, and more. This means companies of all sizes need a strategy for big data and a plan for how to collect, use, and protect it. Like it or not, the companies you do business with know a lot about you — and the quantity and diversity of what they know about you is increasing every year. Every company (from car manufacturers who will monitor our driving to tennis racket manufacturers that know how often and how well we play) will get much better insights into what customers want, what they will use, what channels they use to buy, and so on. From using sensors



to track machine performance, to optimising delivery routes, to better tracking employee performance and even recruiting top talent, big data has the potential to improve internal efficiency and operations for almost any type of business and in many different departments. Data is breaking away from the IT nerds and becoming an integral part of business. Are you using the data you collect to improve your products and customer experience? Here at Utopia we have experience in working with all sorts of business information. Contact us on 09 412 2473 or michael@utopia.co.nz and we can help you assess your database and Big Data needs. We are based in Kumeu and provide website design, consultancy and app development to a range of businesses all over New Zealand.

Anytime Pest Control

Anytime Pest Control offers a full range of quality Pest Control Services, including ants, cockroaches, fleas, flies, wasps, mice, rats etc. Give me a call (Kevin) on 09 420 9988 or mobile 027 277 7143 or email: skyline@xtra.co.nz for a free no obligation quote. I have over 40 years' experience in the Pest Control Industry and I am a registered Pest control Technician.

We need you at Kumeu Gym & Indoor Sports

Are you interested in playing Indoor Netball or Soccer in your community? We are currently looking for players who would like to join teams. We are also looking for netball umpires and

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Islands Direct new outlet shopping store opens 30th

Mike & Kathy Parry, owners of e-pack fulfilment on Shamrock Drive, have been working with manufacturers and suppliers for over a year sourcing good quality products and selling them online.

Because they buy in bulk and get the items at heavily discounted price they pass the discount onto the customer to make expensive items more affordable.

With the new stock arrival the outlet shop is bursting at the seams with bargains so they are opening their doors for locals to grab a bargain.

Open from 12 to 2pm every week day the Islands Direct outlet store has everything from children's and adult books to CD's and DVD's.

Included in our household goods we have small appliances / sauce pan sets / stoneware / kettles / fry pan sets and knife blocks and most things you need or didn't know you needed for the kitchen and home.

Large selection of bedding items including pillows / toppers and duvets.

Health and beauty products including foot spas & massagers.

Tool sets / power leads / torches / first aid kits.

Toys for everyone and a great collection of jewellery for all occasions.

If you're looking for a gift for someone who lives in other parts of NZ or the world why not pop in, buy it, gift wrap it and ship it all in one go...simple easy and local!

We offer top quality products at great value and because of that things sell out quickly so don't wait to come in, you might miss a bargain! New stock arrives every week so it's always worth checking in.

Alpacas Farm Visits / Shop

Rosala Alpacas are located in the Ararimu Valley, Waimauku on a life-style block, with approximately 40 alpacas.

We are open to farm visits, by appointment, where visitors can feed the alpacas, take photographs, get up close and personal with them and then visit our shop and view the range of alpaca products available.



Alpacas make great lifestyle pets and lawnmowers. Your choice if you want to halter them up and walk them or just interact over the fence with them.

To learn more or book a visit, you can contact us on phone 09 411 9188 or email us at info@rosala-alpacas.co.nz.

Adult Karate classes in Taupaki

Taupaki Dojo is a long established friendly place to learn traditional Okinawan Goju Ryu Karate. We are members of Jundokan New Zealand (an official branch of Jundokan Japan) a non profit organisation established to promote the practice and study of Goju Ryu (hard & soft style) karate in New Zealand.

Under the guidance of Sensei Bryan Williams, a 5th dan Black Belt, you will learn a style of Karate that trains the mind as well as the body. Emphasis is placed on learning practical self defence skills, building strength, co-ordination, endurance and flexibility which drastically improve fitness and confidence levels. Central to Goju Ryu is Kata, detailed choreographed patterns of movements practised either solo or in pairs, rather than sport or competition.

Goju Ryu can be practised by anyone, regardless of build, gender, age or athletic ability and whatever your physical condition. No previous proficiency in sport is needed, rather a commitment and a desire to progress.

When you join Taupaki Goju Ryu Karate, you are joining a club within a much bigger organisation that can give you direct access to some of the highest graded and respected karate masters in the world. This November for example we are privileged to be hosting Sensai Tetsu Gima and Sensai Tsuneo Kinjo (9th dan Okinawa masters) at our 'Masters Seminar 2016' in Kumeu on 19th and 20th November 2016.

We are a very friendly club and welcome everyone from the complete novice to those who want to get back into karate after a break from training.

If you'd like to give it a go we offer a two week free trial and very affordable training fees so drop us an email or make an introductory phone call and come and join in.

WHERE: Taupaki Hall (Opposite Harry James Reserve, Taupaki Road, Taupaki)

WHEN: Tuesday & Thursday 7 to 8.30pm

CONTACT:julia@bwainsolvency.co.nz or 09 412 9768.

Little Miss Enchanted

Little Miss Enchanted and The Little Vintage Party have teamed up to bring you the best at home fairy party experience for your child's special day.

We create a unique party setting and experience with everything you will need for a magical day.

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You can also book our amazing Little Miss Enchanted Fairy entertainer Aimee for your at home party. Aimee will come to your desired venue and entertain the children with songs, fairy games, dancing, crafts, bubble machine and more.

For more information or to book Aimee our amazing fairy entertainer please email info@littlemissenchanted.co.nz or info@thelittlevintageparty.co.nz.

From the North-West to the North-West of France

Have you always dreamed of visiting France? Experiencing authentic French culture? Eating and cooking French food? If this sounds like you, book now into our boutique tour of Normandy and Brittany this September 2016.

This is a great opportunity for all citizens to travel France under the guidance of your local French and English speaking tour guides who understand both cultures well.

Catherine and Patsy will take you throughout the picturesque coastline of Normandy and Brittany in the North-West of France. This encompasses Honfleur, St Malo, and Mont St Michelle to name a few. With private transport, the tour will visit regional craftsmen, food and antique markets to provide you with a true insight into French culture.

Cost: \$7200 NZD Includes: 15 day tour, International airfare, all accommodation and Transport. Limited spaces available. Good food, good company and good times, contact boutiquetours-france@gmail.com or 027 490 4321.

John Rowles

John Rowles showcases his brand new album "The Greatest Song of All", with 18 new tracks plus some of his greatest hits. Don't miss this exciting event at Origins Restaurant & Bar. \$120 per person including a three course meal and the show. Limited to 100 people. Make your reservation today at Origins Restaurant & Bar or by phoning us on 09 831 0266. Don't miss out, book now. Sun 15 May 2016, 3:00pm-9:30pm. Where: Origins Restaurant and Bar, Westgate Shopping Complex, Auckland
Restrictions: All Ages Ticket Information: Three course meal and show: \$120.00 Door Sales Only

<http://cdn.eventfinda.co.nz/uploads/events/transformed/781472-362898-34.jpg>

Pot-holed roads, litter spread, congested roads

As more homes are built and more families move in. As more retail and fast food outlets take main road sites through the area. As round-a-bouts are designed, constructed and traffic diverted. Our little paradise may become somewhat hectic, clogged and grubby. It doesn't mean that we simply accept that is how it is. There are projects underway for litter control and beautification. There is consultation with Council and NZTA over roading, intersections and by-pass routes. One thing is for sure, if you want this area to stay the best place to live, you must get involved. For more information email gims@xtra.co.nz with your question and we will put you in touch with who can help you or how you can help.

Selling in Winter - Myth Buster

As the temperature cools, the leaves fall and the rain clouds beckon, many property owners ask that age old question, "should I sell now or wait till spring". With over a decade of sales experience, we put the question to Graham McIntyre, Brand and Territory Owner of Mike Pero Real Estate. "Winter is a great time to be on market, there is less choice for buyers and buyers generally like seeing how a property copes in the rain and the cold. Buyer demand stays constant through the year so with fewer homes to consider sale prices can be better" says Graham. For more feedback phone 027 632 0421.

Traditional art new to NZ

It presents beauty and elegance to eyes. It is meditative and relaxing and reflects your imagination onto water such as a design, a pattern, a shape of flower, a flying bird or a butterfly. You can draw it on the water and transfer it onto a paper, fabric, ceramic or timber. The learning is very easy and pleasing. It is suitable for all age groups, no age restriction at all. Place where the course will be held: Kumeu Art centre, Auckland, New Zealand. Fee: \$30 per person, per session (materials included)

All materials are natural and environment friendly. Water, sea weed, earth pigment paints, ox-gall, brushes, acid free papers. Please see some samples and the link on Facebook that leads to the performance by Belgin Bolu who has experience of more than 17 years in this art and has participated in international expo exhibitions quite a number of times. For enrollment please contact Victor on 022 136 8490 or e-mail zbolu@hotmail.com.

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Food: Beverages

Spicy Chai Bliss Balls

- 12 medjool dates, seeds removed
- 1 cup dry roasted almonds
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon cardamom
- 1/4 teaspoon Chinese five-spice
- 1/4 teaspoon cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon concentrated natural vanilla extract
- pinch of salt



Place the ingredients into your processor and blend at high speed until the mixture resembles a fine, sticky crumb. Use your hands to press and shape the mixture into balls. Place in the fridge to set. Eat and enjoy!

15 min Chocolate squares

Base:

- 1 3/4 Tbsp Cocoa
- 1/2 tsp Baking Powder
- 1 cup Flour
- Pinch salt
- 1 cup cornflakes
- 1 cup coconut
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 150 g butter
- Chocolate icing:
- 2 1/2 cups Icing sugar
- 2 Tbsp melted Butter
- Approx 2 Tbsp hot water
- 1 tsp vanilla essence



Combine all together and add enough water to make a thick spreadable consistency. Melt the butter and set aside. Combine all the other dry ingredients together then stir in the melted butter until well combined. Press into the base of a shallow tin. Bake at 180 for 10-12 mins. Remove from oven and while it is still hot cut into squares and spread chocolate icing over the entire top. The icing will soak in and make the slice more 'fudgy'.

Leave to cool and set and then drizzle with melted chocolate or sprinkle with coconut.

The Tasting Shed

The Tasting Shed's Pork Belly dish reigned supreme by being voted People's Choice Best Dish in Auckland at the recent Metro Magazine Awards, where we were included in the Top 50 Restaurants list for 2016.



We would like to thank all our local customers who have supported us with their tick of approval – we couldn't have done it without you! This May will also be the start of our winter 'Trust the Chef' dinners on the last Wednesday and Thursday nights of the month, commencing May the 30th & 31st. Places are limited so please book early to ensure you get first look at what our Chef is planning over the coming months! Price is \$55 per person. Call 09 412 6454 or make a reservation online at www.thetastingshed.co.nz.

Sashimi Recipe

Do you know you can buy sashimi-grade fish from Ocean Seafood in Silverdale? Simply give them a call and ask for stock available. For this recipe, do not pre-slice the fish; bring a whole chunk home and start from there. Instead of pan-fried, this recipe uses just boiling water to make it healthier.



Ingredients

Sashimi-grade tuna 500g in one piece

Chopped spring onion

Sauce

1 tablespoon lime/lemon juice

2 tablespoon soy sauce

1 tablespoon tsuyu (available in Countdown)

1 teaspoon mirin (again, available in Countdown)

To make

1. Cut the tuna into a few long rectangular pieces, approximately 3 x 6 x 15cm, depending on the size of your fish

2. Put the fish into a deep bowl or saucepan, pour in hot boiled

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- water. Use chopsticks to quickly turn the fish over to ensure all sides are well covered and turn "white"
3. Immediately soak the fish into cold water to avoid "over-cooking"
 4. Carefully slice it into around 1cm thick and it's ready to serve with the sauce!

The Gallery Café and Japanese Restaurant

For a limited time we are offering the community ten free dumplings when you spend 40 dollars or more on our takeaway menu. Here at The Gallery Café we offer a delicious all day café menu but we also have the option of Japanese meals for lunch and dinner to give you the ultimate culture experience within your meal. Our community is continuously growing and so is our menu to satisfy our customers and keep things exciting for you all. If a romantic dinner for two or a family dinner with the kids sounds like what you're after give us a call and book in now. Not only do we deliver delicious meals but our talented chef has previously done photography for National Geographic and has some of his work on display right here for all of you locals to come view and even purchase. All of his photography currently has a 30 percent discount. So be sure to pop in for a coffee, breakfast, lunch or dinner and check out what The Gallery Café and Restaurant has to offer. Pop online to our Facebook page www.facebook.com/thegalleryjapaneseandcafe to find out a little bit more about us and the food on offer. 329a Main Road, Huapai 09 412 8983.



mation please email Brittany Willemse at functions@soljans.co.nz or to book your table in the café phone 09 412 5858.

10 years and a Biergarten

This month we celebrated 10 years of Hallertau with the opening of our new biergarten, a subtropical oasis under a colossal retractable canopy. The Allistar Cox designed extension boosts Hallertau's capacity to 250 guests. Our popular kids' playground remains at one end, now enclosed with a climbing wall with new outdoor games offered to kids big and small.



Chef Michael Van de Elzen has overseen a menu revamp offering sharing plates that are more refined and less fried than typical 'pub food', fresh, juicy local clams or mussels cooked over charcoal embers, traditional wood fired pizzas with blistering mozzarella cheese and from the 'pans' menu, options include pulled lamb shoulder rubbed with the sweet and spice of Ancho chillies.

Hayley & Steve's goal of lifting the beer experience in New Zealand continues into a new decade and they look forward to welcoming customers old and new to Hallertau Brewery.

Hobsonville Kitchen is well worth a trip

Wow what a great place! such great service and an amazing variety of food that is vegetarian, vegan, dairy free and gluten free etc. food super tasty also, I had the mushrooms on toast on vege hash and it was divine!...will definitely be back, this place

Soljans Estate Café

Soljans Estate Café and function centre is perfect for groups of all sizes and celebrations of any kind. Soljans Café is dedicated to producing a varied and delicious menu for its customers, whilst ensuring that all dishes represent excellent value for money. Soljans has long been a popular spot, with loyal customers returning time after time to enjoy the Soljans experience. Soljans offers the perfect vineyard setting for all functions: from wedding ceremonies and evening receptions to corporate conferences and private parties such as birthday and anniversary celebrations. Soljans provides flexible facilities to cater for all requirements so get in quick as available dates fill up fast. To get in contact and receive more infor-

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is a huge asset to the community!

Great place to eat! We were greeted by a lovely waiter and served water immediately which was nice. In general the staff were very welcoming. I



ordered a chicken and prawn salad, I totally recommend this dish if you want something fresh and extremely tasty! Serving size was good too. My husband had the open steak sandwich it looked great and he said it was yummy! Our food was out pretty quick which we appreciated as we had two young children. Our 4 year old had the chicken nuggets and potato cut chips, he was surprised to see that his meal did not look like the processed chips and nuggets he would normally have, however I appreciated that he was eating real chicken and potato. We also had the cookies and cream cheesecake it was a lovely sweet ending to our meal. Keep up the great work Hobsonville Kitchen Team. Love this place! Nice to finally have a place open a few days a week later than 5pm so you can go grab a coffee or a bit to eat late in the evening.

The staff are fantastic too, so nice and friendly. Nice to walk in and they know my order. Shows the attention to detail the Hobsonville Kitchen Cafe & Eatery staff have. Thanks guys.

Called in for a coffee, probably the best I have had in a long time. The flavour was incredible the best foam/texture and it was the perfect temperature for drinking. Hobsonville kitchen roast their own beans to get this amazing taste. Very friendly staff. Can't wait to go back for a meal in the very near future.

Roberts café – Hobsonville Point

Had a late lunch today. OMGosh the pasta salad (with feta, spinach and pine-nuts) was to die for. I had it as an accompaniment to a slice of chicken & asparagus



quiche; couldn't fit the quiche in (so took it home for later). Big size and only \$9.90. Superb value, superb food. I will be back for sure.

First time here and coffee was to die for, perfectly made with full bold flavour. Fast service on food and drinks. Food was ordered from there "keto, paleo, clean eating" menu and it was amazing. Great size portions with fantastic flavors. Staff were delightful and very friendly. Definitely will be making Roberts our new regular.

Wow amazing staff, great coffee and the food was outstanding, the positive happy accommodating staff made my day. Very busy but the outside area was beautiful in the sun. A place that will become everyone's local.

Great place, yummy food, perfect chai - gets busy in the weekend and around lunch time, but it's worth it. Outside tables if you come with your dog, toys and play area inside when you come with your kids!

Lombardi's Café – Yummy Food

I decided to go for the \$10 lunch special and had the bacon

and egg tart and a coffee. The tart was served with a side salad and topped with a creamy sauce. It was absolutely delicious... The tart was had a lovely smooth, creamy taste which complimented the saltiness of the bacon. Would totally have this again!



I always come in with my parents, and always order the garlic herb hash - it has to be the best thing on the menu! The cakes in the cabinet always look absolutely beautiful, not that I ever have any room to eat anything more, and the waitresses are lovely, and are always up for a chat with mum and I.

This was the first time we have eaten here. Food looked fresh, there was a variety to choose from in the cabinet and also a blackboard menu. The coffee was good, and the cake we had was delicious. Even though it was busy staff were efficient and friendly. The restaurant was clean and presented well. Would definitely go back

Soljans Café – food is great as are the people

We ate lunch here on the recommendation of our hotel concierge. Glad we took her advice. What a wonderful cafe in a beautiful winery setting. First of all, my wife's latte was one of the best she'd ever had. I ordered



eggs benedict with bacon, which was very good. My wife had a filo vegetable wrap which she said was amazing. Wonderful, friendly service. We didn't want to leave. Later, we visited the winery gift shop and began talking with the woman behind the counter, Sue. She was very helpful with wine selections and then offered to take us on an escorted tour of the winery. What a treat. Can't recommend Soljan's highly enough. Food is great as are the people.

Had a family meal here which was superb. We unfortunately made the mistake of ordering a side order of extra chips they were not required as the portion sizes were so large. We will be eating here again very soon. The staff were very attentive and made the experience more enjoyable.

Absolute world class food & wine, place is amazing service was first class. This undoubtedly is a New Zealand treasure.

Beautiful vineyard, friendly and efficient staff - I have never been let down by Soljans and the quality of their meals. I leave satisfied every time.

Following a very enjoyable wine tasting, we decided to try the cafe for lunch. There are a number of choices but we settled on the Platter for two -- it has seafood, cold meat, bread/crisps, etc. Great value - enough for 4 if you just want a snack with drinks. Friendly service too!

Kauri Gum Store

Came here to this cute cafe in Riverhead for morning tea with my mother in law and friend. The staff were so approachable, very friendly and welcoming. My chai latte was amazing - one of the best I have had. I thanked them for such a lovely morning tea and they thanked me. We told them that we were coming back in a few hours for lunch. The lady said she looked forward

to seeing us again. Two of us ordered the chicken vegetable soup it was absolutely delicious! - just like home made, and only for \$10 amazing. I truly recommend this cafe. You will love it.



Fantastic rustic cafe that serves GREAT COFFEE! I often meet people stopping in from Herne Bay or Orakei (yes people from the opposite side of the bridge) just to enjoy a relaxing cup of coffee, after they have played a round of golf - (that says alot) You can feel a little bit of history as you walk in the door and sit down, with lots of antiques you'd expect from the old Kauri Gum digging days. The service is good and the food off the menu is good also - it's a little goodie.

We were out this way, so popped in for a coffee and cake. The home baking here is delish! The cakes came with fresh cream, decorated with an edible flower, and the coffee was very good. (There is a small range of gluten free cakes) They do cooked breakfast and lunch etc also,; and it's a very nice relaxed setting both inside and out in this historical cafe set up with objects and decor from the gum digging days. This cafe is dog friendly, with plenty of seating outside and plenty of doggies visiting.

Pizzeria Venezia – Zacs Pizza

We are excited to be the new owners of Zac's Pizzeria in Kumeu. Zac has built an authentic and traditional pizzeria business over many years and we intend to follow his lead. Everything will stay the same, down to making the pizza dough by hand - Zac has taught us well! We look forward to meeting Zac's customers and continuing Zac's long standing tradition of awesome food and great service. We will post the menu (unchanged) on Facebook within the next few days and invite you to stop in and say hi, or try us with your favourite dish! Wayne & Glenn

This is what customers are saying:

Zac's pizza is amazing. Have rated everything based off this place and nothing has beaten it yet.

Love this place, great pizza and friendly staff. can't wait to go back. Zac's lasagne is amazing. Nice friendly atmosphere, highly recommend :)

The Riverhead – I love this place

What can I say I love this place! Obviously the setting is gorgeous on the river, perfect on a sunny day. I just wish I could venture away from their all day breakfast to try something else...I'm a sucker for breakfast any time of the day!! My friends have had the ribs which were excellent and generous portions, you may have some to take home. When you're finished you can move to the beer garden next door, the live music on Sunday's is excellent



Was one of those nights when the wife and needed not to cook. Picked something local and never looked back. Great views of water and greenery, lovely clean welcoming restaurant which was full and only downside was the noise.

Now the important part. The food. For a starter the prawns were really tasty however the batter was a little too heavy to be tempura she thought. Wife then had the confit duck and myself the ribs. Both loved our meals. My ribs, wow, so many, plus chips and slaw. Great price \$27. Well worth going again!

Such a nice place to have dinner, a quick drive and you are out of the city. The menu has loads of great options that are reasonably priced. We had crayfish linguine and the ribs. Both were tasty and were large in portion size. Left feeling full and happy. Awesome service by our waitress who was attentive and gave great explanations about the food.

Wowzers! The Riverhead restaurant has the most romantic evening set-up out doors. The back porch area overlooks the river and it is some seriously dreamy Ryan Gosling.

I went here for one of my best friends 20th birthday dinner. They had our area set up already and it was a quiet Monday night. The waitress staff were attentive and did a good job with all our indecisiveness.

The Riverhead has a fancy vibe going on with a beautiful menu to match.

West Harbour Tide Chart

Date	High	Low	High	Low	High
Sun 1 May	01:40	07:45	13:58	20:05	-
Mon 2 May	02:37	08:43	14:59	21:08	-
Tue 3 May	03:37	09:43	16:02	22:11	-
Wed 4 May	04:35	10:41	17:05	23:10	-
Thu 5 May	05:33	11:38	18:04	-	-
Fri 6 May	-	00:06	06:29	12:33	19:01
Sat 7 May	-	01:00	07:24	13:27	19:54
Sun 8 May	-	01:53	08:18	14:19	20:46
Mon 9 May	-	02:45	09:12	15:10	21:38
Tue 10 May	-	03:38	10:05	16:01	22:29
Wed 11 May	-	04:32	10:57	16:52	23:22
Thu 12 May	-	05:27	11:50	17:44	-
Fri 13 May	00:15	06:23	12:43	18:38	-
Sat 14 May	01:09	07:19	13:38	19:35	-
Sun 15 May	02:05	08:16	14:34	20:34	-
Mon 16 May	02:59	09:12	15:31	21:33	-
Tue 17 May	03:53	10:04	16:27	22:27	-
Wed 18 May	04:43	10:54	17:19	23:16	-
Thu 19 May	05:31	11:40	18:07	-	-
Fri 20 May	-	00:00	06:16	12:23	18:51
Sat 21 May	-	00:42	06:59	13:04	19:32
Sun 22 May	-	01:22	07:40	13:43	20:12
Mon 23 May	-	02:01	08:21	14:21	20:50
Tue 24 May	-	02:41	09:01	15:00	21:29
Wed 25 May	-	03:22	09:42	15:39	22:09
Thu 26 May	-	04:05	10:24	16:20	22:51
Fri 27 May	-	04:50	11:07	17:03	23:36
Sat 28 May	-	05:38	11:53	17:50	-
Sun 29 May	00:25	06:28	12:43	18:42	-
Mon 30 May	01:17	07:22	13:37	19:41	-
Tue 31 May	02:13	08:19	14:37	20:44	-

Daylight Saving: Please note that tide times have been corrected for daylight saving time.

Disclaimer: MetService and LINZ accept no liability for any direct, indirect, consequential or incidental damages that result from any errors in the tide information, whether due to MetService, LINZ or a third party, or that arise from the use, or misuse, of the tide information contained in this website.

Petstips:advice

The Dog Safe Workplace

Last year almost 800 people reported dog bites to ACC that occurred whilst they were performing their job. With the Health & Safety at Work act now in place it is important that companies are covering all the risks associated with their industry.



There has been an astounding 53% increase in dog bites in New Zealand since 2005! Dog bites are increasing each year with 12,937 dog bites reported, costing over \$4,800,000 in 2015.

The cost of dog bites isn't just financial, the consequences can be felt in other areas such as time off work, loss of confidence and how that affects the person's ability to carry out their role. The Dog Safe Workplace has been created to provide education in the workplace with the aim of reducing dog bites and minimising the potential risk from canines.

The Dog Safe Workplace assists employers and employees in being able to understand basic canine body language, which provides them with the knowledge that allows them to assess a situation and remove themselves appropriately.

The course is now available online; below is a link to a demo that shows how the course works. Pricing is available for individuals and companies of all sizes.

vimeo.com/pawsforeducation/dogsafeworkplace. The Dog Safe Workplace, 0508 DOG SAFE or dogsafe@petfat.co.nz.

Hunting for the very best in pet nutrition?

At Raw Essentials we have a simple philosophy for ensuring that your pet gets the best nutrition: Feeding a species-appropriate, raw meaty bone diet of the highest quality works wonders for health.

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The K9 Way

Awesome dog and puppy training kept simple! Your time is precious. We make sure it does not get wasted. Independent of age, breed or behavioral problem we offer you a common sense approach to Dog and Puppy Training that works, empowering you and relaxing your dog. The focus is on the relationship between you and your dog and how you can build more respect, trust and understanding. After all, you want a sound solution for the issues you are facing, not a band-aid.

If you are busy and do not have enough time for your dog, the K9Way's professional dog walking & minding services will fulfill your dog's mental and physical needs. Book a free phone consultation or free Meet & Greet online at www.thek9way.co.nz or call us now on 021 239 0635. We speak dog, let us teach you to do the same!

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Due to modern genetic testing it is now possible to know what "bit-sa" this and that, your dog actually is. We can now offer tests that are that can help you discover your dog's ancestry, which can influence a surprising number of day-to-day aspects of your dog's life, such as behaviour and health. We can also do genetic tests to assess the likelihood of your dog and cat developing certain diseases over their lifetime. This form of testing is also recommended if you plan to breed from your dog or cat, and are unsure of their parentage. Doing these tests ahead of time can help you and your vets to prevent disease and improve the wellbeing of your pets. A simple mouth scrape is all that is required. Call 09 411 7575. Ashley Dempster BVSc. Dr Bob's Vet Clinic.



Hydrotherapy

As a Canine Fitness Coach and Canine Physiotherapist, I often get asked about hydrotherapy. Canine hydrotherapy is swimming and its biggest advantage is that it can be done without the need for the dog to weight-bear. There are many conditions that can benefit from hydrotherapy including joint surgeries, fracture repairs, non-use of a limb, spinal surgeries, neurological cases, degenerative conditions such as arthritis and obesity. It can also be used for leisure and fitness purposes as swimming can require physical stamina which benefits the whole body. Hydrotherapy is best carried out in warm water (26-30 degrees C), which contributes to improvement in function and a more effective and comfortable form of exercise.



Hydrotherapy exercise is demanding on the dog's cardiovascular system and is therefore not suitable for dogs with heart conditions. Swimming requires four times as much effort as land-based exercise, so a five minute swim is equivalent to a 20 minute brisk walk. Thus, it provides rapid improvement in cardiovascular fitness, boosts healing, burns energy and builds strength.

Give me a ring to find a canine hydrotherapy centre near you, phone 027 459 6675. Tania Evans -Dip AnPhys, visit: www.pawsitivelifestyles.co.nz.

PAWS for Thought

Reactivity, what is it? While it comes in many different forms, reactivity is a common behaviour problem that many people en-

counter at some point in their dogs' lives. Simply put, reactivity can be defined as an overreaction to external stimuli. Dogs may be reactive to people, dogs, other animals, noises, motion, or any combination of the above. Some dogs are very specifically reactive, only responding to certain things (men with baseball caps; large, black dogs; skateboards) while some seem to react to anything. This overreaction can manifest as hyperexcitability, barking, whining, lunging, mouthing, pacing, panting, difficulty responding to well-known cues, difficulty calming down, hypervigilance, or any combination of the above.

It's a dog's life

Catch the amusing story in the Herald recently about the mischievous Husky dog? Left on his own he got his paws on a bottle of ink and had the best time redecorating the entire home with a lovely pawprint design!! Floors, fabrics, you name it. A costly day for the owners! With daily exercise and stimulation a different story is quite likely. Put simply, a tired dog is a good dog. Life however, makes daily long walks tricky, compounded by dark evenings, time to get in doggy exercise can be incredibly difficult. Enter the dog walker. Health, longevity, better behaviour, socialisation, and peace of mind are just a few reasons to use a dog walker. Feel good knowing that you're doing the best for your beloved pooch.

Paws to Hooves Pet care, based in Muriwai, offers doggy adventures from only \$20. Experienced and trusted. Your dog enjoys forest and beach walks while you work so you come home to a content dog and calm home. Find Paws to Hooves Pet Care on Facebook, <https://web.facebook.com/pawstohoovespetcare/> or online at www.pawstohooves.co.nz or call Lisa on 027 380 0265.



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New: Builds

Maddren Homes: Heart of the west

A Kumeu based company with 100 years of history in the area is gearing up for its second century in operation.

Maddren Homes' recently completed custom-designed head office is more than a centre of operations. The complex reflects the company's values with a unique layout which features innovative design creating an efficient happy work environment. A sure sign of Maddren's commitment to the significant growth in the region are plans for another on-site show home. The new Maddren show home will be an architecturally designed contemporary home to compliment the existing show home already on site. "Typically customers have had to drive all over to see different show homes. Having two on site show homes displaying varying designs and specifications means they will be able to see everything they need within close proximity to the surrounding subdivisions" explains Maddren Homes General Manager, Rodger Scott. Rodger says the creation of a new building precinct is a sign of the companies' dedication to the area. "Maddren Homes has been building in the area since 1935. The name is synonymous with West Auckland, in particular Kumeu and has been a cornerstone of the local community for many years. Maddren Homes is 100% Kiwi owned and operated. "Not being part of a franchise has given us the freedom to create a culture where innovation is encouraged, but values and craftsmanship will not be compromised." Property prices will fluctuate as they always have, but if your home is built using proven products to highest construction standards, such as practised by Maddren Homes it will only ever be an appreciating asset-



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and a joy to live in. To enquire about any of our exciting new House and Land packages or design and build options please contact us on 09 412 1000.

Could an Axis Home be for you

Hobsonville Point has been planned to provide for a diverse range of New Zealanders. Most of the homes in the community are currently priced between \$400,000 and \$1.2 million. Twenty per cent of the houses built at Hobsonville Point will be sold at or beneath the \$550,000 mark. These are called 'Axis Series' homes and they are designed for people who earn an average Auckland wage. To ensure these homes go to the people who they are intended for the Minister for Housing has asked that buyers meet some simple criteria. The homes are two bedroom, one bedroom, 106sqm on a 268sqm section offering compact living with a private courtyard. The build is covered by a ten year masterbuild guarantee, includes brick and weatherboard cladding, double glazing and is finished, fenced and landscaped. For more information go to www.axisseries.co.nz.



Let Willis Bond & Co inspire you

Willis Bond & Co is developing Sunderland (A) Precinct which hugs the coast between Catalina Café and Mill House. This precinct will include a mix of new and heritage homes. New homes are available to buy off the plan now and the renovated heritage homes will arrive on the market in early 2015. Willis Bond & Co has engaged Studio Pacific Architecture to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for around 210 homes of varying types. As part of the award-winning Hobsonville Point housing area, the Sunderland precinct aims to set a new standard of living, with unmatched quality of design and attention to detail. Sunderland lies at the heart of the former Hobsonville Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) Base, stretching along the northern coast of the Hobsonville Point peninsula and bordered by riparian reserves.

The neighbourhood plan for Sunderland has been carefully



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designed by Studio Pacific Architecture. It includes a range of over 190 new homes and 19 fully-refurbished former Air Force homes from the 1930s. A distinct design ethos underpins the entire Sunderland precinct and every Sunderland home. It has taken painstaking planning and exacting attention to detail, but the result is a quality of living not yet experienced at Hobsonville Point, or rarely seen anywhere else in Auckland. The Sunderland Townhouses enjoy the advantages of urban built environment with residential and park-like community living. Interiors deliver modern open-plan areas, with contemporary kitchens, clever storage solutions and a seamless flow between indoor and outdoor living. Outdoor areas are landscaped and orientated to make the most of the sun, while providing shelter too. Prices in Sunderland ranges from \$940,000 to \$1,125,000 with a limited number available. For more information see www.sunderlandlife.co.nz.

Retirement Living at the Waterford on Hobsonville Point

Manor Group Investments is developing Waterford on Hobsonville Point, a retirement village comprising 64 Villas and 90 Apartments. The staged development is being built by Classic Builders. The residents who have purchased off the plan in Stage One say that they love the location and the fact that the village is part of the wider Hobsonville Point community. Manor Group has been involved in delivering services in the aged care sector for over 25 years. Go to www.waterfordathobsonville.co.nz.



Maddren Homes – old hands at building new homes

While the Maddren name has long been synonymous with the Kumeu area, the company's award-winning contemporary homes seem a world apart from the Kumeu of the late 1890s. Then most of the land was uncultivated and Kumeu was a village in name only. Those early residents had to make do with a small general store, post office, butcher, bakery and a blacksmith. Today, the region is thriving with people attracted to the combination of countryside setting, restaurants, specialty shops, boutique wineries and easy motorway access to the city. It's what attracted Tony Anderson and his family to the area. When Tony purchased Maddren homes in (2007) he was buying into both Kumeu's past and its future. At first glance it would ap-

pear there is little in common with the polished concrete mono pitched roof and stainless steel fittings of a Maddren built Murawai Beach home and the old homesteads that once dotted the Kumeu landscape. But there is a link between past and present. The men who logged the Kauri and built the first houses had the skills, knowledge and craft to build both homes and community. This was hands on building; timbers sawn by hand, perfection achieved by touch and by feel. At Maddren they are building contemporary homes with techniques and technologies that have stood the test of time. Building fashions might have changed, but craft remains key. For more information go to www.maddrenhomes.co.nz

Could Classic Builders offer you more options

Kiwi-owned and operated, the success story behind Classic Builders began almost 20 years ago. This was when Peter Cooney and Matt Lagerberg saw a need in the market for quality, value-for-money homes, delivered within a pre-agreed time frame and at a fixed price. Founded in the Bay of Plenty, Classic Builders has grown to include the Waikato, Northland, Auckland and Queenstown. The company has expanded to become the largest residential house builder in the Bay of Plenty and Waikato, and is the fifth largest residential building company in New Zealand. We build almost 450 homes a year. This growth is phenomenal, as Peter and Matt personally oversee every region, choosing to avoid the franchise model of home building, which inevitably adds additional costs to a customer's home build. Matt and Peter also wanted to grow digital technology within the building industry, for the benefit of customers. Today, as leaders in building technology, they implement a highly func-



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tional computer system that supports the building process. In turn, this means client services run seamlessly from beginning to end of a home build. Building a home should be life changing and choosing the right builder is crucial in making this change a good one. We take all the stress out of the process; our builders and designers are the best in the industry. The majority of our home building is a direct result of customer referrals, which is a testament to our excellent customer service. With a portfolio of over 150 house plans available, ranging from \$100,000 homes to multi-million dollar residencies, we believe we offer a wide range of options and have a great team of people to help walk you through the building process. Our teams have local building experience and knowledge, and they work together with you to design and build a home that suits your needs, and your lifestyle. For more information go to www.classicbuilders.co.nz.

Signature homes offers a personal family flavour and a solid build

Dean and Amanda Pritchard, proud owners of Signature Homes West & North-West Auckland. We've personally been involved in the creation of beautiful new homes for New Zealanders for over 20 years, and we really look forward to the opportunity to meet with you and help you bring your brand new Signature Home to life." Licensed Building Practitioner Dean Pritchard is a trade certified Builder and Project Manager with a passion for design and over 20 years practical experience in the trade. Prior to joining Signature Homes, Dean's building career mainly centered around the construction of high-end Design & Build homes, many of them large projects. The beautiful homes Dean built during this stage of his professional life included both national and regional gold award-winners. Dean also spent time renovating historic Auckland homes, a big challenge requiring careful planning and execution, and one he really enjoyed.

The Signature Homes ethos provides Dean with the opportunity to use the extensive trade knowledge he has gained over the years to create quality homes for any budget, whether that budget be large or modest. Providing quality new home solutions for such a wide market is something Dean both enjoys and believes in strongly. He also feels that regardless of the budget, new home buyers should receive the same attention to detail and quality service, from the time they make contact with Signature right through to the maintenance performed on the home after it has been handed over to the client. Dean's wife and business partner is Sales & Marketing Manager Amanda



Pritchard. Amanda has two Bachelor degrees, in the fields of Social Science and Health Science, and has held roles in occupation therapy and at the Starship Children's Hospital. Amanda is also extremely passionate about new homes, and in particular has a love for Interior Design – an interest she shares strongly with Dean. Dean & Amanda are also parents to five children, so they certainly understand how important the right home environment can be for families. For more information go to www.signature.co.nz/franchises/signature-homes-waitakere

Buy new and then go shopping – Big Save

Big Save is proud to be a New Zealand family owned and operated business currently employing approximately 350 people. We opened our first furniture store in Paraparaumu in 1973 based on the common sense ideals of exceptional customer service and excellent value for money. Those original ideals still haven't changed and have seen us gain many happy and loyal customers over the years. We understand that everyone is different and we like to decorate our homes in our own unique style. Our collections include contemporary cutting edge designs, modern and classic ranges – the choice is yours. Our buyers travel New Zealand and the world every month to source the latest in furniture trends. All our furniture is built to last with a minimum 2 year warranty on everything we sell. Our great designs never stand still and we are always working hard to bring you the very latest looks and styles and to make your home look great. No other furniture retailer in New Zealand changes their collections more often than us, you can always be sure there's something in store to surprise and delight you. All our stores are packed full of all the inspiration you need to really make your home look fabulous. So, whether you're looking for something modern, traditional or totally off-the-wall, you'll find it at Big Save. For the latest catalogue go to www.bigsave.co.nz.

Building and Housing Minister

Building and Housing Minister Dr Nick Smith has welcomed the decision by the Hobsonville Land Company (HLC) to bring forward the development of 1000 new homes at Hobsonville Point in Auckland. "The decision by Hobsonville Land Company to speed up the release of precincts at Buckley B, the Village and the apartment site near the Hobsonville Point Primary School means that more homes will be delivered faster. These homes would not have been available until 2019 on the previous schedule, but they will now come on-stream from 2017 – providing an additional 1000 new homes more quickly to help address Auckland's urgent housing need," Dr Smith says. "I further

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welcome the Company's target to deliver a higher proportion of affordably priced homes at the Buckley B and Village precincts. At least twenty per cent of all the homes built at Hobsonville Point are already sold at under \$550,000 – at these two sites, the proportion will be 30 per cent." Hobsonville is former Defence Force land that is being developed by Housing New Zealand subsidiary Hobsonville Land Company. The first sod for housing was turned in 2002 by the then-Labour Prime Minister but no further work was carried out as the project became mired in planning disputes. The National-led Government revived a housing plan for the land in 2010, and the land was given Special Housing Area status under the new Housing Accords and Special Housing Areas Act in 2013. Earthworks were consented a week later and now 716 homes and sections have been sold. The development also includes parks, playgrounds, cycleways, walking tracks, a farmers market and new schools. Last year the Mayor of Auckland and the Prime Minister opened the new ferry terminal and service to downtown Auckland. HLC chief executive Chris Aiken said that the last twelve months had seen record house sales at Hobsonville Point, with 337 homes sold in the twelve months to the end of May 2015. "We see strong demand continuing, especially driven by the more affordable end of the market. We are bringing forward the development of Buckley B by around two years and the Village development by one year, while construction of the apartments near the primary school has been accelerated by revising super lot plans and the approach to land release in that block – all of which makes good sense in light of current market conditions," Mr Aiken says. "Earthworks on the Buckley B precinct are planned for this coming summer and master planning for the Village precinct will commence immediately. This accelerated development timetable ensures that builders have sufficient land in two to three years' time to continue momentum. It reflects both the very strong demand and the planning lead time of up to two years between starting a precinct and the first homes being complet-

ed," Mr Aiken says. So far at Hobsonville Point, around 550 new homes are either under construction or have been completed. HLC and its development partners have allocated builder-ready land to builders for a further 500 homes in the last stages of the Buckley A precinct, the first stage of the Catalina Precinct and in the Sunderland A precinct; building homes on this land is starting now. HLC also has development partners in place for around another 500 homes in the Sunderland precinct and the second stage of the Catalina Precinct, ready for construction to begin at these sites in mid-2016. This means that – in addition to the homes already completed or under construction – there are 1000 additional homes in the pipeline in precincts where development is already underway. The initiative announced today is additional to this, and brings the total of homes that are either complete, under construction or in the development pipeline to 2550. "The Government is focused on increasing the supply of housing in Auckland, and Hobsonville Land Company is at the forefront of this. I commend Mr Aiken and the team at HLC on the successes achieved to date, and look forward to more in the future," Dr Smith says. "Hobsonville Point illustrates the type of scale and momentum the Government wants to support, and the type of development that Auckland needs to address its housing supply and affordability challenge. "We have a wide programme of complementary initiatives in place, including constraining new section development contributions, removing tariffs on building materials, and making record investments in building apprenticeships. Our KiwiSaver HomeStart scheme, which came into effect on 1 April 2015, provides financial assistance to 90,000 first-home buyers. The next key measure is our planned second phase of the Resource Management Act reforms to tackle the long-term issues affecting housing affordability and supply."



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Home:garden

Attracting Birds to your Garden

Many a gardener is a nature lover as well, and one of life's pleasures is seeing your garden provide food and shelter for native wildlife year round.



Whether you have a large garden or small, there are plenty of plants to attract and feed the birds especially during winter and spring when birds such as Tui's and our native wood Pigeon will travel long distances in search of food. Food sources are scarce during the winter, so even if you planted a couple of different varieties of plants for the birds, and your neighbour planted a couple more, soon you will have birds visiting throughout the year.

Awa Nursery has a range of plants to help you on your way to creating a food haven for the birds. Kowhai, Titoki, Karaka, Flax, Wineberry, Corokia, Cabbage Trees, Fuchsia procumbens, Putaputaweta, Copromas, Griselinias, Rewarewa, Pittosporums, Pseudopanax, Puriri, Tea Tree, Kawakawa, Lacebark, Mapou, Muehlenbeckia, and Pohutakawa are some popular natives to encourage the birds, providing nectar, fruit or seeds. You can also encourage insects for birds to feed on by providing a good layer of mulch or leaf litter on your garden.

Large or small there is bound to be something that will fit in your garden to help feed the birds. Come and see us at Awa Nursery to add your garden to the many who enjoy the birdlife.

What to consider when buying a sewing machine

You may be looking at purchasing a new sewing machine for yourself or as a gift for someone else. Where do you begin as there are many different brands out there?

The questions I ask my customers are:

- What type of sewing do you want to do and how often will the machine be used?
- What warranty comes with the machine and how easy is it actually get?
- Will I get a demonstration on the machine?
- Does it come with a free service?
- Does the machine come with free lessons on how to use?

There are many budget machines in the market place which are fine for occasional sewing or minor repairs. For a little bit more

you can get a machine which will do more and generally last longer.

In the medium price range there are some brilliant machines which are compact and therefore lighter to carry around to classes and often come with extras for patchwork, quilting etc. In the top of the range models you have machines which can do embroidery, quilting, sewing and have the latest technology to make creating your projects a breeze. In the sewing machine world you get what you pay for!

At All things Patchwork/ Bernina West, we offer all ranges of machines from Bernette and Bernina. When you purchase from a Bernina store you are getting a 5 - 10 year warranty, a free service in the first year and free lesson in using your machine. We also offer in store technical support for Bernina's and Bernette's. Cheryl Houston - All Things Patchwork - 09 411 7618 or www.allthingspatchwork.co.nz.

Paint Colour Workshop

Renovating or building? This workshop is a must. Take the guess work out of selecting paint colours, be inspired with creative and fresh ideas, and gain the skill set to confidently select the RIGHT colours for your home or business.

Learn how to put tones together, push the boundaries with colour, use dark pigments, select the right lighting and more. I'll reveal my go-to, fail proof interior and exterior colour combos and my all-time favourite feature colours to die for. Don't miss out on this fun and relaxed evening, the last workshop sold out and was a huge success! Visit www.loubrown.co.nz for more info.



For now, here are a few tricks to getting the most out of your paint scheme. Test your colour before painting the whole room. Trust me! Grab a test pot and on a large A2 sheet of card, paint two coats, leaving a 2cm border around the edge. Place this card in different areas of the house (north and south facing) and examine it during the day and night.

Paint the ceiling a colour. Yes, that's right, out with the old boring white ceiling and in with the bold and beautiful! Add a feature pendant light and watch the mood of your room completely change.

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Use some of this season's elegant but bold colours; burnt orange, grape purple, deep green, teal and mustard yellow. Experiment, it's fun and easy! If you need more persuasion, peruse through Pinterest and score some yummy ideas.

Natural and artificial lighting have an enormous effect on the paint colour. The same colour will look different depending on the orientation of the space; north facing rooms tend to make colours look warmer while south facing rooms make colours look cooler.

Likewise with artificial lighting; a cool LED will keep your bright whites fresh (great for a white bathroom) while a warm LED will make your paint colour look warmer and whites creamier. There's a whole raft of tricks when it comes to paint and lighting! If you're going dark, consider using a multi-pigmented paint in a flat or low sheen. This will give you a great perception of depth; walls that will draw you in and hug you rather than slap you in the face. Using a flat finish will help disguise surface imperfections.

However, I still recommend a level 5 plasterboard finish. Finally, make sure you nail your lighting. Have plenty and dimmable so you can control the mood.

Get your colour strength right. If you'd like your ceiling to be the same colour as your skirting and/or walls, then make your ceiling 1-2 shades lighter. Ceilings receive less light so will always appear darker.

Decorating is all about taking risks. Even the pros get it wrong from time to time. If you make a mistake, just take a step back, put your detective hat on and ask yourself what the missing link is, what's not quite working? Then tweak until voila! Magic happens!

Yes, there's loads to learn when it comes to paint, so if you'd like to fast track your skillset, join me at my paint colour workshop and learn all of the tricks of the trade! See you there!

Selling your home - some Garden Secrets

To follow on from last month's tips on how to show off your property to its best when presenting it for sale, here at Mike Pero Real Estate we have included some more tips on how to turn your section into a more desirable feature of your home.

1. BBQ areas are always popular and pretty much a necessity of New Zealand outdoor living, if you don't have a built in BBQ either build one or roll out the one in your garage and create a dedicated area around it.
 2. These days with more people wanting to grow their own vegetables, plant up or build a vegetable garden in a place that does not interfere with the flow of the rest of the garden, whatever the season ensure it is planted out and weed free.
 3. Beg, borrow (but don't steal) outdoor furniture, plants, urns and pots - anything to add more excitement and interest for your potential buyer.
 4. Ensure your garden is safe. Are ponds and swimming pools properly fenced? Is your garden fenced? Having a secure fenced backyard is a real plus for buyers.
 5. If you have a shed, studio or sleep out on the property, be sure to have it clean and tidy and totally useable so purchasers can see the potential of this space.
 6. Use trellis to hide a multitude of sins, be it the neighbors garage, the rubbish bins or anything unsightly on the section. To top this off, plant some climbing plants to grow up the trellis.
- If you would like any further information on this or have any other real estate related questions, please call Ian on 027 209 0789 or email Ian.Snedon@mikepero.com - Licensed REAA (2008).

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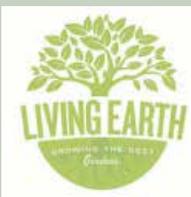
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Update from Sparkn

On the electrical front, there are a large number of new builds going on in the area. If you are one of the lucky new homeowners you will be thinking about your electrical usage and fittings. It is essential to plan well, consider the number of powerpoints you will need in the kitchen, are you looking at Solar to cut costs? How will you be using the residence or shed? Once you have decided what you need, remember to think about the future too and what equipment you may wish to put in later. Feel free to give Tony a call to discuss or provide us with your plans and let us know what you want to achieve. We much prefer to talk to our customers in the early stages and get it right first time. Tony 021772756 or email us info@sparkn.co.nz

SPS Plumbing Services

Hi I'm Scott, the owner/operator of SPS Plumbing Services. I pride myself on high quality workmanship at a fair and affordable price. I am a Certified plumber with 11 years experience. I do not charge a call out fee, have a very competitive hourly rate and also offer free quotes. I am based in West Auckland and will work in the greater Auckland area. I cover most aspects of plumbing and treat every job as if I was working on my own home. I strive for customer satisfaction and believe in getting it right first time. My services include - Full Bathroom renovations. (I can organize the whole job including all other trades from start to finish), Kitchens, Toilets, Roofing and spouting, Solar systems, Water mains, Hot Water Cylinders, Burst Pipes, Dishwasher and washing machine installation. Scott Sutherland - Certified Plumber contact 027 430 0251 or 09 832 7267. www.nocowboys.co.nz/businesses/sp-s-plumbing-services.

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Total Cover Shade and Awnings are the number one residential and commercial suppliers for outdoor shade and wet weather products. We aim to give every family and business in Auckland the opportunity to create fabulous memories outdoors no matter the weather and most importantly keeping you safe away from the harmful UV rays from our Sun. We are passionate about what we do and want to offer our products to everyone who needs something in their home, whether it be a customised retractable awning for much needed shade or a fully enclosed canopy which you can use all year round, we want to find you a solution which you will love. Owned and operated by 2 Kiwi families, Total Cover has been in business for over 20 years! If you are looking for professionals who know exactly what they are doing, with great client testimonials to back their work, then Total Cover is the place to come. Keep your family protected

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Carpet your garage with Garage Carpet Pro

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Budgets are tight and advertising is often expensive, but it's nice to know that someone is making it easy and cost effective. For \$75 plus GST you can be exposed to over 18,000 locals for a whole month. That is only \$2.50 a day. For more information email our editor at jbw51red@googlemail.com.

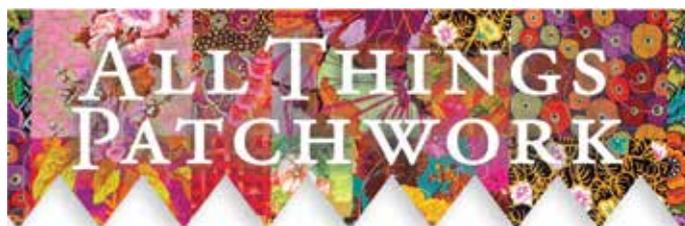


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Small Space Design

How many of us are coming up against small spaces whether it be at home or work that you just absolutely need a solution for. Two common enquiries Pocketspace Interiors receives are; companies wanting to re-spaceplan to fit another two people into their already cramped space, or a home needing additional storage. Pocketspace Interiors was founded in August 2014 in West Harbour Auckland, now also in Sydney. New builds, special housing areas and existing extensions were on the incline as Auckland creates a diaspora affect. I could see the lack of specialised design help so Pocketspace interiors became and still is the only small space specialist in New Zealand. At Pocketspace Interiors we can be as involved as you want us to be. I could simply offer you colour, finish and furniture guidance for your new build, custom and standard design storage solutions, or a full space plan and fit-out of your workspace. Give Pocketspace Interiors a call for specialist design help to get your space functioning to its full capacity. www.pocketspaceinteriors.co.nz or call Laura at 09 212 6820.

Dogs on leads

There has been some discussion of late regarding the dogs on leads policy, so hopefully I can clear some of this up. I was involved heavily with the Hobsonville Land Company when the signs first went up, and discussed with them at length at the time. The Hobsonville Point Residents Society were pleased when as an offer the land company built a dog park. Not something they had to do, but an offer of goodwill while they managed their health and safety policy for the development of the area. Since then in addition the council went through a proposal and feedback process. It is now in the council policy applying to all of Hobsonville Point "Apply an under control on-leash rule on Hobsonville Point Walkway and associated reserves." This came into effect October 2015, so is in-force now.

Clearly the fenced dedicated dog park at Bomb Point is off leash, and the only area within Hobsonville point where dogs can be off leash.

There will be different views on what people see as annoying or threatening when a dog is found to be off the leash. My view is that the communication needs to be.

If dogs are seen of the leash, the first thing to do if you feel safe in doing so is to point out to the owner that HP is an on leash only area, and there is a dedicated dog park at Bomb Point. There is no shortage of signs around parks that people could refer to. Whether this is a HLC sign or council is now irrelevant as the law is in place. At this stage as many may not even be aware of the law, it is an education thing.

If the dogs are being a nuisance, then they should call the coun-

cil who will send out dog control. If the dogs are in anyway aggressive, then the first call should be to the police. The police have the ability to prosecute, and you yourself have the right to take up a civil case if there is damage to person, pets or property. I myself was a dog owner up until earlier this year, and I understand there are different points of view. However the council rules are now very clear and there is an education phase that people need to consider. We can all be friendly when we approach the situation while keeping ourselves and kids safe.

Help Hospice West Auckland keep the wheels going round

Every year, Hospice West Auckland's vehicles travel more than 190,000 km and rack up \$22,800 in fuel bills. Due the growth of West Auckland's population, combined with a generally ageing population, our team spends even more time on the West



Coast roads and therefore some of our vehicles need to be replaced. Our first priority is replacing our equipment van, which is worn out. Thanks to this van we are able to provide a responsive service to patients, delivering oxygen concentrators, wheel chairs and shower stools to patients' homes promptly, to help them remain in their chosen environment comfortably. The van is constantly on the move delivering and collecting equipment and must be both reliable and safe. Make your donation hwa.org.nz/donations/donate-now now to help keep this service functioning. Or, if you can help in other ways, please get in touch via info@hwa.org.nz.

Many people may not realise that the majority of the care we deliver is in patients' own homes, or the sheer size of the area we serve – from central West Auckland all the way to the South Kaipara Heads.

Please help us stay on the road, serving the people of West Auckland.

Hospice West Auckland On The Road:

- 19 vehicles, including vehicles used by our health and social care team, a specialist equipment van, a people mover for group sessions, trucks and vans to ensure timely collection of people's generous donations and prompt delivery of purchases
- 8,000 home visits made each year
- 80% of our care delivered in patient homes
- Annual fuel bill of \$25,000
- Annual servicing costs of \$10,000
- More than 190,000 km driven every year

Each year Hospice West Auckland needs to fundraise 60% of its operating budget, or between \$3 and \$4 million, in order to provide specialist palliative care to the people of West Auckland.





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land. Your help and support is appreciated.

Kotare Brownies recycle and fundraise for a good cause

The Kotare Brownies have partnered with global recycling experts TerraCycle and Fonterra to participate in a nationwide free recycling program called the Fonterra Pouch Brigade to save yoghurt pouches from landfill and giving them a second life as a recycled plastic item from park benches to plant pots. TerraCycle's national programme is giving a second life to traditionally non-recyclable children's yoghurt packaging. The group's passion for the planet drove their leader, Alison Hucke, to join the Fonterra Pouch Brigade and set up their collection box at the local Kumeu New World supermarket. Locals can now drop off their Anchor Uno pouches or any other yoghurt pouches they have to the Kotare Brownies public access collection box located at the Kumeu New World. For more information visit www.terracycle.co.nz to join the Brigade.

Luxury Holiday Company

Are you planning your holiday and you need some advice? Give Carolyn at the Luxury Holiday Company a call. She is experienced in planning all sorts of travel whether it's a family holiday, romantic escape, honeymoon, wedding or your business travel. Carolyn is locally based in Totara Road in Whenuapai so you don't have to worry about parking and getting wet or waiting until its your turn in the travel agency, just phone for your ap-

pointment. Carolyn has all the specials you see advertised and can help you plan your european holiday, cruise or winter break in the South Pacific at the best price. She has had over 20 years experience in the travel industry so has accumulated a lot of knowledge to pass on to you such as which is the best cruise line for you to travel on and even down to the best ship for you. Don't worry if you don't think you are a luxury client, all her clients get the same special care. Give her a call or email Phone 09 416 1799, carolyn@luxuryholidaycompany.co.nz. or www.luxuryholidaycompany.co.nz

Gardening Tips

With the cooler days settling in it's now time to get your winter vegetable garden ready, plant trees, pop in some spring flowering bulbs and either establish or repair lawns. Summer crops are coming to an end in the cooler areas of the country and the early frosts may start to appear. Pick the last of the tomatoes and let them ripen in a sunny spot indoors. Replenish compost and start sowing your winter harvest. Carrots, chinese broccoli, cabbages, coriander and parsley do well at this time of year. This time of year is one of the best times to plant your flowering garden. The soil is still relatively warm and moist, and they can establish over winter before the spring blooms. Deadhead, prune back plants that have finished flowering. Fertilise new and established bulbs well. Aphids, slugs, snails and white butterflies can still be out especially if the weather is still warm. Their numbers would have increased over the summer. Squash small infestations with your finger or blast off with a hose. Lay slug or snail bait down every few weeks to keep slugs and snails at bay.

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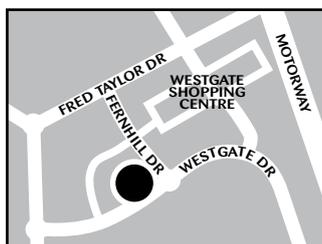
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