



THE CAUSEWAY

www.thecauseway.co.nz

December 2011

NEWS & VIEWS

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Bonecrushers Triumphant

A huge congratulations to Whenuapai School students Kieran Bingham, Liam and Makayla-Rose Judd, Kylan Waters and Luke Constable for winning their age group grade in the basketball competition at the Massey Leisure Centre.



After winning their semifinal against the Nimble Ninjas, their "Bonecrushers" team took out the title by beating the Marina View Lakers by a whopping 25-9. Throughout the two-term season, the Bonecrushers had only two losses, and the rest of them wins.

They were each awarded trophies as Under-11 B grade champions for 2011, and truly deserved it after only one season of playing as a team. They worked really hard at trainings and as the coach and manager of the team, Suzanne and myself are amazingly proud of them all. We hope they continue to progress with their basketball, as they all have the potential to go further in the game.

We are looking at starting various age group teams to represent Whenuapai School next year, and any parent or child who is

The victorious Bonecrushers basketball team - (back row from left: Liam Judd, Kylan Waters, Caleb Bishop, Makayla-Rose Judd; front row: Luke Constable, Ben Clarke, Ciara Bishop and Kieran Bingham.

interested should keep an eye out in the school newsletter early next year.

Well done the Bonecrushers of Whenuapai!

The basketball victory capped off a great year for Makayla-Rose, who was also a member of the Waitakere team who won the national ninth grade girls soccer tournament in October.

- Mishel Judd and Suzanne McFadden

Festive day not dampened



persistent downpours failed to keep the crowds away from a great day at the Whenuapai Hall, where they soaked up the talents of our local craftspeople in some beautifully presented stalls, good food, and the music of Tahini Jam and guitarist Ian Haylor.

The kids - and even the odd adult - braved the long waterslide (that's Steve Hahn showing the kids how it's done).

It was the icing on the cake for a great

festive weekend, with the annual Christmas Lights Switch-on two nights before.

Thanks to all the locals - and even those from outside the village and the island - who came along and supported our events throughout the year. It has been a fantastic year for Whenuapai; we've achieved a lot including our wonderful new paths. The Whenuapai Ratepayers & Residents Association wishes you a happy festive season and a very prosperous 2012.

It wasn't only the giant waterslide that made the most of the rain during this year's Whenuapai Village Market Day. The

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Causeway Information

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All correspondence should be legible and include writer's name and address.

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Causeway is published as an independent community newsletter to support both the Whenuapai Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc. and Herald Island Residents and Ratepayers Association Inc. to inform the residents and ratepayers of events and proposals that affect the local area.

Circulation 1,200 — pass it on to your friends or tell them to read the Causeway online at www.thecauseway.co.nz

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Causeway Committee.

While we try to ensure accuracy of information, the Causeway Committee accepts no responsibility for errors or omissions made by individual contributors.

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Local Happenings for your diary

Dec 20 – Christmas Carols - 7-9pm at the Herald Island Hall. This is a family evening of traditional carols with The Salvation Army Band. Why not dress up your little ones in a nativity theme? (Donations to The Salvation Army as usual).

Dec 25 – Santa Parade – Meet outside the Post Office on Ferry Parade at 9am. Trailers, bikes, cars, people, horses, dogs, or 'what have you'! Santa will be there with his balloons and lollies. Let's make this one the BIGGEST and the BEST ever!

Dec 31 - New Year's Eve – Pot luck shared dinner, 8pm-12 midnight, Herald Island Hall. Don't be lonely on the last night of 2011, come and share the final meal with family, friends and neighbours. BYO food, drink, crockery and cutlery.

Feb 11 – Multi-House Garage Sales, Herald Island – Hold your own garage sale at your gate. 7am start, at YOUR place! Clean out your cupboards, de-clutter your house and have some fun making money. Maybe have a joint sale with your neighbours? A balloon at your gate will bring in the customers. There will also be an R&R sausage sizzle and cake stall outside the Fire Station. We would love your donation of a cake or biscuits which can be brought to the Fire Station first thing on Saturday or dropped off at Raewyn's (72 The Terrace) the night before. All advertising will be done for you and a donation bucket will come round during the morning to cover this cost. Any profit will go towards the purchase of a new stove for the Hall kitchen.

Feb 26 – The Herald Island Regatta Day – Kicking off at 10.30am at Christmas Beach. Sue Noonan of Harcourts is once again pleased to sponsor this fun event- rafts, dinghies, kayaks etc, as long as it floats you're in! Just turn up on the day with your craft, there are races to suit all age groups. There is also a RAFT CHALLENGE between Whenuapai and Herald Island, so prior help is required in the making of said rafts, please contact Sue Noonan 027-475-2012 sue.noonan@harcourts.co.nz for Whenuapai or Linda 416-1911 lindjo@xtra.co.nz for Herald Island to be part of the building teams. Prizes, sausage sizzle, hamburgers, drinks and Monster Raffle on the day.

May – Scrap Metal R&R Fundraiser - A collection of any metal objects, small or large, will be happening in May, so hang on to your old fridge or 'whatever until then.

Mar 18 – Cricket Match & Sports Day - 10am-2pm Herald Island Domain. Sandy Anderson of Bayleys Real Estate is proud to sponsor this family day. Is it Herald Island's turn to win the cricket cup? Running, cycling, fun events and picnic with all the family. More details to come. And if you would like to have a market stall of some kind, please ring Raewyn on 416-7778. If it is too wet, this event will be postponed until the following Sunday, a decision will be made by 9am on the 18th.

Apr 13 – Trivial Pursuits – Be at the Herald Island Hall by 7pm for 7-30pm start. Grant and Michelle Rose of Barfoot & Thompson are pleased to sponsor the return of Trivial Pursuits. This will now be an Annual Event only, so be in quick to book your table. \$10 per person. Phone Linda 416-1911.



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Ian Jamieson



Calendar

- 20 Dec** CHRISTMAS CAROLS 7-9pm Herald Island Hall
 - 25 Dec** HERALD ISLANDS SANTA PARADE
 - 31 Dec** NEW YEAR'S EVE - Pot luck shared dinner 8-12 midnight Herald Island Hall
- 2012**
- 11 Feb** Multi-house Garage Sales Herald Island 7am
 - 26 Feb** The Herald Island 'Regatta' 10-30 am Christmas Beach
 - 18 Mar** Cricket Match & Sports Day 10am-2pm Herald Island Domain.
 - 13 Apr** Trivial Pursuits Herald. Island Hall. 7pm for a 7-30pm start

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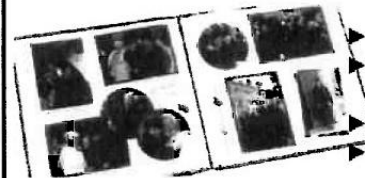
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Lively Letters . . .



It seems I'm not the only one who disagrees with Noel Rugg's assertion that traffic flow on Brigham Creek Road remains unchanged since the Hobsonville Motorway opened. A number of people have affirmed my observation that, since the motorway opened, one invariably has to wait for a break in the traffic when exiting Totara Road on to Brigham Creek Road. Some have noted that having a quiet coffee at Lombardi's is now a thing of the past. While the quality of the coffee is as good as ever, it is now virtually impossible to hold a conversation without straining to hear or be heard because of the noise of the constant flow of traffic. One ex-resident who still regularly frequents Lombardi's particularly noted the increase in heavy traffic. Brigham Creek Road was never constructed as a main thoroughfare designed to take the volume of traffic it now carries. I predict that it will require vast sums of money to upgrade Brigham Creek Road in the future, money that would be well spent designing and constructing an interchange that will connect the Kumeu motorway extension with the Hobsonville motorway.

Ian Young
Whenuapai

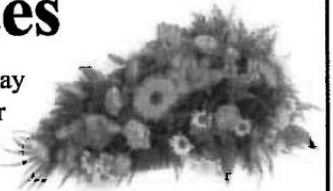
Letter to the Editor,

I am also extremely disappointed that the council stopped the beautification of the utility box at the end of Waimarie Road. A leading local artist painting dinghies on a utility box just 100 metres from the boat ramp was a fantastic idea. Just one complaint and the painting stopped? Hard to believe! Painting of these utility boxes beautifies our village; it prevents graffiti and gives everyone a sense of pride seeing local artwork while out and about in the village. Was this an overreaction by the council like the referee in the France vs. Wales quarterfinal? Let's see all of the utility boxes painted in the village!

Haydon Mattson
Whenuapai

Condolences

To our hard working Causeway member Sue McElroy and her family on the death of her Father. New Plymouth is a long way away at a time like this.



Another Islander, Kim Axmann, lost her Mother this month, we send our sympathy to both families.

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Special day for Pony Club *By Suzanne McFadden*

The Whenuapai Pony Club was host to a very special equestrian event last month - the first ribbon day for the new Special Olympics Greenhithe equestrian club.

The athletes - both kids and adults - came from across North Shore and the Hibiscus Coast, with three of the riders from the new Greenhithe team.

The youngest rider at the invitation event was nine-year-old Whenuapai resident Taylor Wilgar, who's also a member of the Greenhithe Riding for the Disabled.



Riding friends Molly Scott, Billy Lupton and Taylor Wilgar.

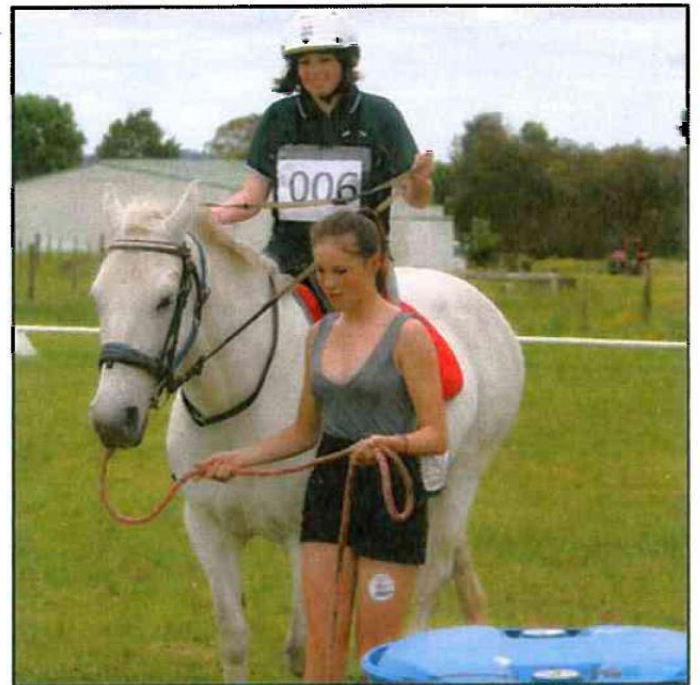
Equestrian events have been part of the Special Olympics worldwide since 1983. Athletes who compete in equestrian events - including walk, trot and canter - learn to ride, develop sports skills and gain the self-confidence to direct and control a horse.

The Whenuapai Pony Club generously provided the horses for the event and the handlers, who guided the horse and rider around the arena on a lead rein. Club stalwart Kristen van Rossem helped to organize the day at the club's grounds in Clark Road, Hobsonville.

It was a special day in particular for young rider Molly Scott, who not only recorded the fastest time of the day and won the pole bending and barrel racing sections, but also celebrated her 12th birthday. Along with her clutch of ribbons, Molly received a birthday cake for her efforts.

Emma Wilgar, co-ordinator of the Special Olympics ribbon day, was thrilled with the success of the day, and the support of the Whenuapai Pony Club, who also gave a demonstration of their riding skills. "They were great natured horses, and the girls who were leading were really understanding of both the horses and the athletes. It's really important to find the right horse for the riders," she says.

For more information on Greenhithe Special Olympics equestrian and Riding for the Disabled, contact Emma Wilgar on 416-7055.



Molly Scott riding, and Shannon Henry leading.

Mutterings from the mangroves



- The new footpath is indeed a joy for walking along. But what about the horses do they like the new path? I see from the amount of droppings they use it well. A shame horses can't read the 'no horses on the path' sign. I'm sure if I were a horse I would prefer grass anyway.
- Who butchered the palms on Ferry Parade? Now they look just plain ugly!! Get your axes out and chop them down completely folks.
- Water Rat was pleased to hear that Alan Hooker's home was not to be bowled. It will be having a revamp but hopefully will retain some of its bachy charm.
- Oh my paws and whiskers Water Rat has heard a rumour... no Christmas lights on the tree at the end of the causeway this year. What a shame after the nativity scene disappeared it was all that was left.

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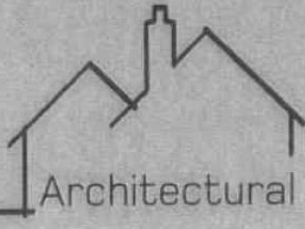


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Village Wanderings

by Norman Duncckley

Now as we head into the beginnings of summer, so starts our many events happening around the village. December of course is market day, supported by everyone and good day out.

We have had a very generous donation made to the hall by Whenuapai local Ian Haylor who has gifted to the Hall a photographic tri-picture entitled "Waimarie Sunrise" Ian took the picture himself one early morning down the beach at the end of Waimarie Road back in 2010. It captures the still waters of the area just seconds before sunrise. For a sight that a lot of us know, it can now be shared with visitors to the hall and show just how beautiful our little corner of the world is. I'm sure I speak for all the people in the village when I say "thank you" for such a worthy donation that will be appreciated by all.

Before I go I do have to put my 5c in and agree 200% with Mr. Young's letter in last month's *Causeway* about right turning from Totara Road on to Brigham Creek in the mornings. Any time saved on this new motorway is now lost trying to get on to Brigham Creek, thing is that at that hour of the morning 6.30 – even 8am, its not just cars but big trucks ripping through there. Our only saviour might be when they build the road bridge from 18 over to Trigg Road (that's the lonely pillar you see in the new motorway), and traffic chooses to use that instead. Ian you're not alone and I'm sure a lot agree with you that the link should have been built when they built the motorway, but its history repeating itself, the penny pinching, lack of vision for growth, and politics. Harbour bridge originally designed with 8 lanes that could have had extended to 12. So they built a 4 lane bridge that within 10 years was overloaded, the clip on lanes they brought cost just as much as the original bridge. Spaghetti junction, 33years to finally complete and join all the motorways together. Pillars and ramps rusted and rotted for decades as you had to crawl up inner city streets to go from one motorway to the other. While "the powers" shuffled papers over costs and debated do we really need to do it. So don't hold your breath for a quick fix.

A reminder to visit our website www.whenuapai.org.nz we invite you to send your pictures of the area. Local news and contacts for the R&R members are shown.

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Herald Island Library News

Wishes you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year, all welcome! Don't forget your Holiday reading! We have a great selection DVD's and puzzles too.

Normal Hours of opening are:

Mondays 2-4 pm

Wednesday's 10-12noon

Saturdays 10-12 noon

The last day the library will be open this year is on Monday the 20th of December 2-4pm 2011

We will reopen on Monday the 14th of February 2-4pm 2012.

Have a safe and happy holiday, happy reading!

Our immense gratitude to all the helpers that have assisted this year. Without you would have made our task virtually impossible.



Thank You!

Volunteers always welcomed. Any queries phone Etta on 416-7638

The Herald Island Library would like to pay tribute to...

Mate Peterson

It was with much sadness that we said goodbye to our wonderful librarian and friend in September this year.

Gay Smith, Sonia Lee and Mate Peterson spent countless hours categorising and setting up the book system that is in place today. A library log is kept up to date and the first entry Mate made was on the 26th of November 1998. From that day on Mate has worked in the library with the exception of the annual holidays on a weekly basis up until the middle of last year. Unfortunately medical ailments prevented her from coming as often as she would have liked in recent times.

People of all ages, different races, varied backgrounds, professional achievements found a common bond in their love for books and shared that with Mate. She especially empathised with children so much so that they enjoyed themselves and felt at ease in her company. My daughter Rochelle has so many fond memories of Mate in the library and her beautiful smiles. We are all so much richer to have known Mate.

What a wonderful legacy that she left behind. Mates love of books is a living tribute to Mate's legacy of friendship, sharing, and dedication.

All those who have used the library remember her with much affection and will miss her.

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Still a great neighbourhood

By Ian Young

After more than 27 years I still think the Village is a great place in which to live. I've always maintained that as long as we have to live in Auckland, this is the place to be. Even when I retire, until my wife and I can find a quiet little paradise, I expect this is where we'll stay. On a scale of 1 to 10 I would give it somewhere between 7 and 8, which implies that it's not perfect and there is room for improvement.

Whenever I write to the *Causeway*, or on those rare occasions when my letters make it to the *Herald*, my neighbour light heartedly ribs me about "Discontented of Whenuapai having his say again". The fact is, when I do bleat on about things that aren't quite right it's usually the result of consultation with others. In other words the views I air aren't necessarily always just my own. More often than not I burst into print after I discover that others share my views.


So, what is there that detracts from making our neighbourhood perfect?

First is dogs, especially those that seem to be trained to let the whole neighbourhood know that either a) someone or, heaven forbid, another dog is passing their property or b) they are home alone and pine for a bit of company. The latter is probably most vexing because the owners won't be aware what a nuisance their beloved pet is because they aren't home to witness its endless yapping.

Second is open rubbish fires. Quite apart from the offensive stench the smoke creates and that infiltrates washing on the line, many new and renovated homes have a ventilation system installed. This sucks in air either from the roof cavity or from outside. So it doesn't take much to figure that it takes very little time for the smoky smell to be pumped right throughout the house. I can say from experience it is not nice.

The now completed pathway along Totara Road is great and is well utilised by pedestrians, joggers and cyclists alike. However there can be a problem there in the form of vehicles that park across the path. On a recent weekend walk along the path we encountered no less than three cars blocking our way. I can also vouch for an employee at the Air Force Base who was cycling to work one morning only to find his way blocked by a large black 4WD straddling the path. No, not parked across it but along it with wheels either side of the path. Said cyclist had no option but to exit the path to be met by a large Ritchies bus coming around the corner. In his haste to get back on the path the cyclist lost traction between the road and the path, fell in the mud and landed heavily on his shoulder on the path. After a visit to his doctor, three X-Rays, an ultra-sonic scan and finally an MRI scan the victim is now awaiting surgery to repair the damage he suffered. Unless they read this article I expect the owner of the vehicle will remain oblivious of the effects of their ill considered actions.

All in all, our neighbourhood is still better than most by a long shot. With Lombardi's, Baba's and The Brigham we have eating establishments that rank with the best, the neighbours are friendly and our respective R&R committees do a great job organizing entertainment and fostering community spirit. We just need to eliminate the little thoughtless acts to bring us a notch or two closer to 10 out of 10.



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Causeway Clips

* Keys Found

A set of keys a few weeks ago, on the footpath in Totara Rd. There are 3 keys and an alarm monitor disc plus a key ring. If these are yours please call Lorraine 021-634-773.

* Clothing Found on Kauri Road

Some items of clothing including a Massey High School jacket were found on the side of Kauri Road. Phone: 416-4298 to claim.

* Situation Wanted

Do you need an extra pair of hands doing your housework, if so please call me, Lorraine 021-634-773 (refs available)

* Massey High School has "New Zealand's Most Inspiring Teacher"

Way to go Mr Loretz! If you didn't see Close Up on Wednesday 7th December, you missed a treat. Our very own Mr Robert Loretz, head of the Music Department at Massey High School, took out the 2011 title of "New Zealand's Most Inspiring Teacher". Robert has been inundated with media attention since the news broke, and a story will appear in our local Western Leader on Friday 9th December, among other publications. He is truly inspirational, a very talented teacher and the students just love him. Robert has an amazing, interactive way of teaching, a real funny man. Congratulations Robert, you deserve the bouquet, keep doing what you're doing.

* Progress

Well the Totara Road foot path is progressing but as one resident has observed it comes at a cost. The boxing pulled off and just left lying on the ground along with piles of loose nails. But of a more serious concern is that the new footpath is built so close to some driveways that an exiting car is in danger of knocking down kids on skateboards or bikes.

* Christmas Holiday Reminders

Have you organised a house sitter for while you are away this Christmas or if you are not going away have you let your neighbours/family know you are available to check on their homes while they are away?

We suggest you organise this now, we will be adding reminders/tips for the Christmas holidays every week.

Neighbourhood Support Waitakere

* Thank You From The Herald Island Playgroup

Herald Island Playgroup would like to say a big thank you to all the wonderful people who have donated toys, craft material and other bits and pieces to the playgroup recently. All your contributions have been greatly appreciated. Playgroups last date this year will be the 13th December, we will return at the beginning of the 2012 school year. Have a lovely holiday and a very Merry Christmas.

Turning back time Front Page December 2001

The front page was a picture designed by 8 year old Emerald O'Keefe of Whenuapai.

It showed a big smiley sun, an R.N.Z.A. plane, a parachutist, a sand castle with bucket and spade, a tree and two people. At the bottom it read Happy Xmas Everybody!

I wonder where you are now Emerald?

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Herald Island Craft Group news

The Craft Group has finished up for 2011 and will reopen on the first Wednesday in March. We gained some new members and lost some, but still have plenty of room for new people. We are a friendly bunch and have some great skills to pass on. One new member has learnt to crochet and finished a blanket for a grandchild.

Over the year we kept up our association with the ESOL language group. We all benefit for interacting with different people and cultures. Our group went along to their last meeting which had a Christmas theme.

Our last meeting was a cooking demo and instructions on how to make won tons and dumplings for soup. Erica from Taiwan was our teacher and hopefully we will have more cooking sessions next year. Another of our members has been running cake decorating classes. It is good to see our old Fire Station being put to good use.

Here is a photo of our Christmas function. We visited Tara Orchards, where there was an excellent co-op craft shop, paid a visit to Just Plane Interesting which



has a range of Antiques, Curios, Collectibles and just plain interesting things. There was time for some wine tasting at Artesian winery before lunch at the Packing Shed.

As well as looking for new members, no charge, just \$2 if you come, we need someone to take over from Di who will be moving away from the Island. There is not much to take care of and it would be a shame to see it fold. Please call me on 416-6160 if interested.

Vigilantes on the island

We think we are living on a peaceful idyllic island, in fact a lot of people in Albany where I work don't know where it is.

But we have the unsavoury lurking, many in the way of vandalism and thieving cars and boats.

Where there are teenagers living there are always going to be a few rowdy ones. They don't always choose special occasions sometimes it's just random times.

Recently a group of three teenagers decided to go to the beach after having a few drinks at home. With ipod in hand and ipod dock for some music they made their way along Ferry Parade doing the shuffle dance on the road heading for the beach oblivious to the noise they were making but having a good time.

Out of the dark they were confronted by a large man who put his hands around one of the lads necks almost strangling him and then asked for the music. He threw the ipod on the ground, smashing it. It had been turned off at this stage. Shocked the lads said they would have turned it down as they weren't aware it was playing loud, but no communication of any sort came from the man and nor was there any provocation from the lads.

This man in my eyes is no better than the louts who have been committing vandalism and stealing on the island. Assaulting the lads was no way to solve a problem, just more vandalism.

I don't think this island is a tranquil safe suburb anymore.

~ Causeway Competitions ~

Lucky Causeway Colouring-in Winners - 5yrs & Under

1st - Maya Hegh, 5 years - Herald Island
2nd - Sophie McKenna, 4 years -
Whenuapai

Highly Commended:

Bradley Edwards, 2 years - Herald Island

6-9 years

1st - Litianna, 7 years - Herald Island
2nd - Sophie O'Donnell, 7 years - Herald
Island

3rd - Lexis Randell, 8 years - Whenuapai
Highly Commended:

Olivia Edwards, 9 years - Herald Island
Charlotte Edwards, 7 years - Herald Island
Jessica McKenna, 6 years - Whenuapai
Ella Delaney, 8 years - Whenuapai

10 years and over

1st - Kadeea McElroy, 10 years - Herald
Island

2nd - Danielle Anderson, 10 years -
Whenuapai

3rd - Ethan Judd, 14 years, Whenuapai
Highly Commended:

Petra Brinkman, 11 years - Herald Island
Tyler Flanagan, 11 years - Whenuapai
Maddison Randell, 11 years - Whenuapai

Christmas Poem

By Danielle Ashley Anderson, 10 years

C - Crunchy paper
H - Happy children
R - Really happy parents
I - Inviting food
S - Super presents
T - The whole family loves it
M - Many, many toys
A - A happy bunch
S - Special pudding

D - Damp weather, happy house

A - A time to cheer

Y - Yes, yes, yes

Thank You From The Causeway~

Thank you for all the wonderful entries in our colouring-in competition, awesome effort kids! Prize winners are listed below, also a big thank to the children who took the time to send in some really neat stories and poems this year, we've included them in this issue. Congratulations to you all.

Also a big thank you to Sam Bennett from Barfoot and Thompson who has kindly donated prizes for our winning entries in the Colouring-in Competition and to our judges Amethyst and Georgia Harvey from Whenuapai School.

The Causeway will donate prizes for the stories and poems and our highly commented winners.

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to wish all our readers, advertisers, contributors and deliverers a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2012 year. We couldn't put The Causeway together without you all, it's a team effort! Thank you so much, The Causeway Committee

Christmas Poem

By Alice Donovan - age 9

Christmas time a time to have fun
Ham and turkey the most
mouth-watering treats
Reindeer galloping across our roof
Interesting shaped presents under the tree
Sounds of carols echo all around
Twinkling Christmas lights excite
little children
Making Christmas cookies to share
with friends
Advent calendars opened with interest
each day
Santa has come to Herald Island

The Christmas Season

by Liam Judd, 10 years

Nothings quite like the holiday season,
Receiving lots of books,
Eating packets of M and M's,
Dad got some fishing hooks.
Taking part in the Santa Parade,
Mum spends lots of money.
Spilling hot chocolate on your pants,
Big brother thinks it's funny.
For our Christmas dinner,
We have Christmas ham,
And thn come our dessert,
And we have a Tim Tam.

Christmas Eve!

by Makayla-Rose Judd, 8 years

All the kids are sleeping in their beds.
Mums and Dads listening to the radio and
trying to get to sleep. Gran looking for
toys to wrap up. Grandad looking for a
game to play. Nana feeding the cats
nearly half asleep. Then watch out in a
flash all the presents are there in a minute.
They go back home for the Reindeers to
have a drink. Then goodbye and have a
Merry Christmas!

Santa

by Sophie O'Donnell, 7 years

Santa's big.
Santa's red.
Santa hasn't got time for bed.
Off he goes, from the snow,
Always got somewhere to go.

Pohutukawa Tree


By Tony Brinkman (aged 13 years),

Herald Island

Pohutukawa
Kiwi native Christmas tree
The flowers blossom
Bursting bright red and scarlet
Swaying in warm summer air.



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Vet's Corner

FIREWORKS 2011

It seems that the fireworks displays have become larger and louder and much more spectacular than years gone by.

This is great for those who love to watch the displays, but for those of us that have pets that fear loud noises it can be devastating for the pets.

If you have a pet that develops signs of noise anxiety, such as cowering, hiding and seeking out company, you need to consider a few simple steps that can make the stressful episode more tolerable.

It is best to settle your pet inside before an anticipated noisy event.

Close the curtains, put the TV on louder than usual but not too loud. Create a cosy confined space for your pet so that they can bunker down and feel secure. Do not pander to them too much as you will be rewarding the behaviour and this can make the situation worse. Just a few reassuring words now and again will usually suffice.

In cases of severe anxiety you may need to have anti anxiety medication prescribed by your Veterinarian, as well as DAP diffuser (Dog Appeasing Pheromone) plugged into a wall socket to control the stress related symptoms.

It would be nice if Guy Fawkes occurred on one or two nights of the year not starting a week before and dragging on for a week afterwards.

Jeff Jowsey B.V.Sc.
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Eating Out

We have a very fine dining restaurant on our doorstep in Huapai. If you watched the Monteith's Wild Food Challenge you may have seen Eugene Sokolovski from Ribier Restaurant. He is a past winner and was one of the three finalists this year.

The Saturday night we were there it was a full house but the service was friendly and efficient. The pricing system is simple - all entrees are \$18, all mains are \$29 and all deserts \$14. Salad, vegetables and roast or chipped potatoes \$7. The helpings were just the right size and beautifully presented on the plate. We all enjoyed our meals and the only wee criticism I have is my food was not hot enough. It is definitely a restaurant I will revisit. Ribier Restaurant is located at 329A Main Road Kumeu.

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Christmas diversions

Five Riddles for you to solve....

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 years. Which room is safest for him?
2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?
3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and gray when you throw it away?
4. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday, or Sunday?
5. This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious as to just how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is highly unusual though. Study it and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out. Try to do so without any coaching!

Answers

1. The third room. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead. That one was easy, right?
2. The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry (shot; held under water; and hung).
3. Charcoal, as it is used in barbecuing.
4. Sure you can name three consecutive days, yesterday, today, and tomorrow!
5. The letter e, which is the most common letter used in the English language, does not appear even once in the paragraph.



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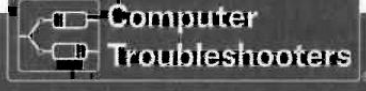
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There are many factors that can cause this:

- Weak hip rotators or quadriceps muscles
- Poor foot biomechanics
- Excessive tightness around the hip/ knee
- Poor running technique

How should this be managed?

To prevent further damage and irritation, avoidance of the aggravating activities is important. Treatment will focus on settling the pathology but most important to long term relief is identifying the underlying causative factors.

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Craig has worked with National and A League football teams, Cycling NZ, local Junior Football and serves on the executive for Auckland Sports Medicine NZ

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Café Check ~

Scone run

By The Snoopes

We wagged work early on Friday, heading north through the twin tunnels and left to Puhoi.

Winding our way along the river bank, passing heritage buildings and the now famous Bikers Pub, resurrected to its former glory.

At No. 50 Ahuroa Road appeared The Puhoi Cottage Tea Room.

Built in 1907, reputed to be the oldest café serving cream teas, New Zealand Style.

Opening Hours 10-4pm, Shut on Wednesday. Parking Limited, but supplemented with plenty of roadside spots.

There was limited inside seating but heaps of outside BBQ style benches, that could charitably be described as rustic nooks and crannies. The other option would be to take a rug and make it into a picnic under the amazing willow tree. Loads of room for the progeny to run riot without causing too much strife.

The menu included a cream tea which consisted of 2 very large scones, butter, whipped cream, home-made jam and tea for two. The food was great but was served on railway style stained and chipped china, carried on an old plastic tray. All for the princely sum of \$21.

Also available was a gluten free offering of cake and vegetarian salads, pies, cakes and a child's tray of sandwiches. Coffee was available, although not sampled.

The toilets were old but clean, one tap was broken, the towel dispenser was empty and replaced by an old grubby shared towel.

Lengthen your day with a visit to the museum to learn of the unique village history or a visit to the nearby hot pools. Canoes are available for hire on the top 2 hours of the tide. Ambience and value for money, average.

Would we go again? Think we will go to the pub next time.

New goals at Bill Moir

By Suzanne McFadden

Within hours of their arrival, the new soccer goalposts at Bill Moir Reserve on Waimarie Rd were put to the test by our young Ronaldos and Rooneys. The two permanent posts were erected at the beginning of the month, and come courtesy of the Upper Harbour Local Board, after the Whenuapai Ratepayers & Residents lobbied to make the reserve more usable for local kids and adults alike. A future Whenuapai v Herald Island soccer match is on the drawing board, so get along to the park and have a practice.



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Another BIG Winner!

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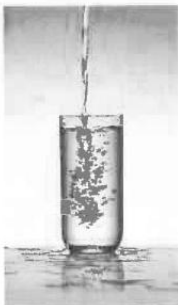
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Harbour panorama tops off renovation

By Suzanne McFadden



Next time you walk into the Whenuapai Village Hall, stop to take in the transformation.

With the help of Auckland Council grants, the interior of our hall has been given a fresh lick of paint.

And gracing the newly painted walls is a canvas triptych of the Upper Harbour. The stunning waterfront panorama was captured by local photography enthusiast Ian Haylor, taken from the Waimarie Rd reserve. Ian shot the photo at 6.45am on a clear May morning. We'll be looking to add more local images - some historic, some new - to the walls.

Next on the hall renovation agenda are new drapes, repolishing the beautiful native timber floors and repainting the exterior.

For those of you who are interested, the Resene colours used in the hall's new colour scheme are Thorndon Cream, Triple Thordon Cream, Half Mondo and Double Mondo.



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Until 31st March 2012

Whenuapai Floral & Garden Circle

Annual General Meeting time again and the formalities needed to be observed once more. With ninety three members present there was no trouble getting the required number of members for the positions available. A bit of a shuffle around of duties and a new President was elected, with Kaye Trubuhovich taking over from Noelene Meadows, who has led the Club most ably for the last five years. Kaye grew up here in the Village and looks forward to a closer association with locals through her new position.

There were many thanks and accolades for jobs well handled and the committee of eighteen worked well together to organize the smooth running of our sizeable group. There were prizes too for Best Bloom with there being a tie for first place between Linden Bisset and Dave Clark (yes, my husband, didn't he do well!), second place went to Mary King, with there also being a tie for third between Yvonne Harlick and Colleen Bell. The Zita Horsley Memorial Trophy will spend half a year with each of the two winners and all place getters received plant vouchers for their efforts. Phil Cooper received a daylily plant for winning the Bloom of the Month judged by the members vote.

Our speaker was member John, who went on a safari in South Africa with his wife, who added comments to his recital of the exciting trip, where they saw 32 different species of animals in eleven days including many birds. Buffalo can attack without warning and hippos kill more humans than any other animal, so it was not a trip for the fainthearted. Apparently lions place two feet in exactly the same spot as they move so only leave a single path.

Photos taken on the safari were on display as we listened to the tale of their adventures in the wild.

Well, another year almost over so it is time to wish you and yours all the best for a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year and if you intend to be away over the holidays, don't forget to ask a neighbour to clear your letterbox and water your precious plants in pots as nothing screams "empty house" so much as yellowing papers and *browned off plants*.

Happy Gardening from Mary Anne Clark

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School Gala A Blazing Success

By Suzanne McFadden

It was fortunate fire trucks were on hand at the Whenuapai School Gala last month to put out two blazes - one organized, one not. After dousing a burning car during an exhibition of their skills on the school field for the large gala crowd, the firefighters were diverted across to a classroom block where an unexpected fire had started in the toilets.

The drama was an unfortunate end to an otherwise stellar day for the school. Around \$16,000 was raised, which will go towards providing ICT computer resources for the teachers and students.

Among the highlights were the quick fire raffles and auction, which included a day as school principal, won by student Connor Frith; the RNZAF band and dog display; smash the car, and the ever popular sponge the teacher.



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TAUPAKI'S BEST KEPT SECRET

Herald Island Garden Club



A big thank you to Linda and Alby Hart who opened up their garden and home in Kingfisher Grove Greenhithe for our last meeting of 2011. A very good turn out with lots of new faces. The weather was kind, perfect for wandering and poking about in someone else's garden. And what a large garden it was, even with a swimming pool taking up a goodly portion. It takes 1 hour just to mow the berm!

They have been in the house for two and a bit years and inherited a yellow, cream, orange and white coloured garden. One of these being Poached Egg plant!! Linda is gradually introducing more colour with bright blue Batchelor's Buttons (being hard of hearing I thought she said they were called Butchers Bottoms!), mini agapanthus, purple Glory Bush, Pink Cloud Daphne. Another challenge is getting rid of rampant Plumbago.

Vegetables and flowers were mixed together and Nasturtiums were planted by the citrus trees to deter white fly. What a selection of fruit trees ... orange, tangelo, lemon, persimmon, lemonade, apple, blueberry. Lots of interesting nooks and crannies, this



was a big garden 1642

square meters to be exact and I take my hat off to them for having such an interesting and well kept one.

After our garden tour Linda hosted us to tea (a choice of about five) and coffee, with our usual scrummy supper. Because we only did one garden there was time for a garden quiz. Alison provided 30 different kinds of plants which we had to identify both with the botanical and common name ... yeah right!! I for one found it very, very hard and only got

one right. Margaret May from Greenhithe got the most with 21 correct answers.

A last chance to purchase one of our fantastic tea towels for Christmas pressies. \$10 each or \$8 if you buy two or more. Contact Di 416-6160 or Margaret 416-7492.

We will now take a break and start again 14 February with a garden ramble. Watch your email for details. If you have any ideas of topics you would like covered next year please let Lee know and we will see what we can do 416-3981.

Wishing everybody a happy and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Book Club News

by Di Wright

Another successful year with lots of interesting and diverse books read. A few changes to our group with a great idea from one new member. Instead of us all reading the same book we have a choice of three titles to read each month. It was getting difficult for us all to get the same book from the library. Some people even manage to read two of the books!! I for one like this as I can choose the one I like best to read instead of ploughing through a book I don't really enjoy.

We have very lively discussion about the books and get a different perspective on what each of us got for the book.

A big thank you to Gill Clive for hosting and organising our monthly meetings. Late this year Gill took up a full time position with Auckland Libraries but will still carry on with her book duties.

Our last meeting of the year was held at the Library Bar (very apt) in town where we seemed to forget to discuss the last books read!! We did have a literary quiz which got the old grey matter stirring. The winner was Barbara Hadfield who it was nice to see after her moving off the Island.

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Alcoholics Anonymous
Whenuapai Branch
Meets Tues from 7.30 pm at
Whenuapai School Hall
Margaret - 810-8521

Citizens Advice Bureau
833-5775

Community Patrol
Herald Island, Raewyn
Patterson 416-7778
Whenuapai, Graeme Barnard
416-4499

Greenhithe Bridge Club
Mon evenings 7.30pm at the
Old School House, Collins Park.
Social players and
beginners welcome.
Gill - 413-8339
Pat - 410-6272

Herald Island Boat Club
Paul Judd - 416-4194

Herald Island Garden Club
Second Tuesday of each month.
Lee Barry - 416-3981 or
Margaret Hollis - 416-7492

Herald Island Hall For Rent
Eddie Grassick - 416-8220

Herald Island Library
Weds: & Sat: 10-12noon
Ann Thompson - 416-8569

Herald Island Playgroup
Tues 9.30-11.30am at the HI Hall.
\$1 per family, all welcome.
Sharon - 416-8933

Herald Island R&R
Noel Rugg - 416-1740
Eddie Grassick - 416-8220
Graham Shaw - 416-7775

Hobsonville Bowling Club
Lloyd Wong - 416-1766
Barry Wheaton - 416-0140

Hobsonville R.S.A.
416-7227

Justice of the Peace
Margaret Sauvarin 1/163
Hobsonville Road 416-6458

Karate Classes
Adults - Children - Teenagers
Herald Island Hall
Monday 7.00-8.00pm
Thursday 7.00-8.00pm
David Cox - 416-6620
Frank - 413-9397

Neighbourhood Support
Herald Island, Linda
Lewis 416-1911 Whenuapai,
Graeme Barnard 416-4499

NZ Society of Genealogists,
Waitakere Branch

~ CAUSE WAY ~
CLUB NEWS
FREE SERVICE



4th Thurs from Jan - Nov
Glen Eden Library, Meeting
Room, Glen Eden. 7.00pm
\$4 door charge.
Lani Rimington - 818-2161

from 9.30-12noon.
Contact: Di Wright 416-6160

Tauhinu Sea Scout Group
Rahui Rd, Greenhithe
Keas (Wed 6 - 7pm) Ages 6 - 7
Cubs (Mon 6.30 - 8pm) Ages 7 - 11
Scouts (Thu 6.30 - 8.30pm)
Ages 10 - 15
Venturers (Tue) Ages 14 - 18
Phone 416 4451

Club Physical Toastmasters
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Early morning and evening groups
Paul - (027) 291- 7989
Tina - (027) 291- 8027

Upper Harbour Boat Watch
Co-ordinator
Eddie Grassick - 416-8220
Greenhithe
Neil Beken - 483-7323

West City Concert Band
Invites brass and woodwind
musicians to join them on Wed
nights 7.30pm, Henderson High
Colin Hill - 444-6236

West Harbour Tennis
416-6886, email:
westharbourtennis@xtra.co.nz
Open mornings Monday &
Fridays 9.00-11.30
\$3 ~ Non-members welcome
Raewyn Hassett - 416-7304

Whenuapai Air Scout Group
Mark Kirker - 416-4263

Whenuapai Floral & Garden Circle
Noelene Meadows - 833-1283

Whenuapai Pony Club Inc.
Clark Rd, Hobsonville
New members welcome,
including adults. Grazing
available.
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Jan Shackell - 416-7818

Whenuapai Community
Playgroup
Mon 9.30-11.30am, at the
Whenuapai Community Hall
\$1 per family, all welcome.
Veronica - 834-0488

Whenuapai R&R
Janine Pratt - 416-7617
Roy Arkesteijn - 416-1690

Whenuapai Venturer Unit
Ian - 416-6047

Whenuapai Hall For Rent
Margaret Barnard - 416-4499

Yoga
Monday evenings 7.00-8.30pm
West Harbour Tennis Club,
Picasso Drive, West Harbour
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everyone
Val - 416-5758, 0210-444-909

WAITEMATA TIDE CHART

Date	High Water Auckland	Sun Rise	Sun Set
December			
18 Sun	0131 3.0	1354	0557 2038
19 Mon	0225 3.0	1449	0557 2038
20 Tue	0325 3.0	1547	0557 2039
21 Wed	0429 3.0	1648	0558 2039
22 Thu	0534 3.1	1750	0558 2040
23 Fri	0635 3.2	1232	0559 2040
24 Sat	0101 0.4	1329	0559 2041
25 Sun	0156 0.3	1423	0600 2041
26 Mon	0248 0.3	1516	0600 2042
27 Tue	0338 0.3	1606	0601 2042
28 Wed	0425 0.4	1655	0602 2042
29 Thu	0511 0.5	1743	0602 2043
30 Fri	0556 0.6	1829	0603 2043
31 Sat	0641 0.7	1915	0604 2043
January			
1 Sun	0132 2.9	1359	0605 2043
2 Mon	0219 2.8	1446	0605 2043
3 Tue	0311 2.7	1535	0606 2044
4 Wed	0407 2.7	1626	0607 2044
5 Thu	0504 2.7	1719	0608 2044
6 Fri	0559 2.7	1812	0609 2044
7 Sat	0649 2.7	1903	0610 2044
8 Sun	0107 2.8	1333	0610 2044
9 Mon	0154 0.7	1417	0611 2044
10 Tue	0235 0.6	1501	0612 2043
11 Wed	0318 0.5	1545	0613 2043
12 Thu	0401 0.4	1630	0614 2043
13 Fri	0444 0.4	1715	0615 2043
14 Sat	0530 0.4	1801	0616 2043
15 Sun	0617 0.5	1850	0617 2042
16 Mon	0113 0.5	1335	0618 2042
17 Tue	0206 3.1	1428	0619 2042
18 Wed	0306 3.0	1526	0620 2041
19 Thu	0410 3.0	1628	0621 2041
20 Fri	0515 3.0	1732	0622 2040
21 Sat	0618 3.1	1835	0623 2040
22 Sun	0715 3.2	1313	0625 2039

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Beauty Therapy	Jillz Beauty Therapy	0274-756-514	MP	John Key-National Party	412-2496
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Chiropractic	Christopher McMaster	412-5536	Physiotherapist	Hobsonville Physiotherapy Clinic	416-4455
Citizens Advice Bureau	Massey CAB	833-5775	Playgroup	Herald Island Playgroup (Sharon)	416-8933
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Computer Problems?	info@norwestit.co.nz	0274-388-603/416-5129	Plumber	G Maber	021-626-299/416-9686
Computer Repairs/Sales	Scott Trask	416-6011	Plumber & Gasfitting	Hyflo	027-224-0872
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Electrician	Wired Electrical	416-6148	Real Estate	Glenn Savery	027-499-8415/832-0832
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Glass Services	Nor-West & Kumeu Glass Services	412-9914	RSA	Hobsonville	416-7227
Grocer & Lotto	Shree Superette Whenuapai	416-8813	Solar Water Heating	Ecosolar	416-6997
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Hairdresser	Whenuapai Hair Co.	416-8926	Taxi	Cheap Cabs	621-0505
Hairdresser	The Cutting Krew	416-6998	Timber/Hardware	Pinepac	416-8164
Handyman	John Van Westrene	027-442-0288/413-9066	Travel	The Travel Brokers	027-294-7744/416-1799
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