

Bringing Back the Birds – a 'Predator and Weed Free Herald Island'



Araceli setting a live rat trap

The volume of birdsong in New Zealand has greatly diminished since people first settled here around 1250 – 1300 AD.

Maori, the first settlers, introduced the Pacific rat (Kiore) and dog (Kuri) to New Zealand. These mammals, along with the destruction of about forty per cent of our native forest, led to an initial extinction of many native bird species, which had previously been free from the influence of humans and predators.

In the late 1700s, European explorers such as Captain James Cook introduced the Norway rat (brown rat, sewer rat or water rat) to New Zealand. The Norway rat nests in underground burrows and targets birds that live and nest near the ground.

Then, from the mid-1800s, during the time Europeans settled New Zealand, the ship rat

(black rat, house rat or roof rat) became established in New Zealand, causing a major reduction in numbers of Kiore and native forest birds. The ship rat nests below ground and above, but prefers to nest in shrubs and trees, is an agile climber and predates many forest bird species. Other predators such as ferrets, stoats, weasels and possums further reduced bird species and numbers. Major native forest destruction also occurred, resulting in a huge loss of native bird habitat and food, so that today only a quarter of New Zealand's native forests remain. This loss has been further exacerbated as about two thousand introduced plant species have become invasive weeds and replaced native habitats.

Since 2006, Auckland environmental Continued on page 2

NEWS & VIEWS

Г		
•	Calandar	~ Pg 3
۰	Hobsonville Church	
	renovations	~ Pg 4&5
•	Council Clips	~ Pg 6&7
•	Causeway Clips	~ Pg 8&9
•	Massey Library	
	happenings	~ Pg 11
•	Hobsonville Herb	
	Group	~ Pg 12
•	Spoilt for Choice	
	~ from sorted	~ Pg 13
•	Herald Island	
	Garden Club	~ Pg 14&15
•	Whenuapai Garden	
	Circle	~ Pg 16
•	Club News - a free	
	community club/gro	up
	noticeboard	~ Pg 17
•	Tide Charts	~ Pg 17
•	Trade & Professiona	al
	Service listing	~ Pg 18

Your bus service is changing see page 14



We're online at www.thecauseway.co.nz & Email: news@thecauseway.co.nz

Causeway Information

Email: news@thecauseway.co.nz www.thecauseway.co.nz

Address: 10 Coleman Ave, Herald Island

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

~COPY DEADLINE ~ 15TH OF THE MONTH ~ GENERAL ENQUIRIES: Ph: 416 4298 DISTRIBUTION ENQUIRIES: Ph: 416 6061 ADVERTISING ENQUIRIES: Ph: 09 420 9307

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Black & White in newsletter and Colour Online \$25.00 per single issue. \$22.50 per issue if paid in advance (10 issues).

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All adverts supplied must be in one of the following formats: Corel Draw 9, Pagemaker 6.5, Powerpoint, .jpg, .tif or MS-Word (with any graphics sent as .jpg or .tif images as attachments).

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.

Layout & Printing: Huapai Copy & Print



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Bringing back the birds - Continued from page 1......

groups have been working towards improving the North-West Wildlink, a green corridor for native birds and wildlife between the Hauraki Gulf and the Waitakere Ranges.

The Upper Harbour Local Board has generously funded the Herald Island Environmental Group to carry out a Predator and Weed Free Herald Island project that aims to 'Bring Back the Birds' to our section of the North-West Wildlink. The funds will be used in the first stage of the project to help private residents address three issues that affect native bird populations: (a) rat control (b) invasive weed control and (c) local native plant numbers. At a later stage, we hope to target other predators such as possums.

When the project gets underway in July, Herald Island residents will be offered loaned rat bait stations and traps, weed control advice, and low cost local native plants from the community nursery. Baseline measures of invasive predators are currently being assessed by University of Auckland postdoctoral researcher, Araceli Samaniego and regular bird counts will be carried out to monitor the project.

To facilitate the project, the island has been divided into twelve neighbourhood areas so that residents within an area can support each other. Each area will have one or two 'Area Volunteers' acting as the point of contact for that area. Together, we can bring back the birds and increase the volume of birdsong on the island.

For more information contact:

Jan Diprose: 416 8348 Ian McNeill: 416 6047

Co-chairs Herald Island Environmental Group

Craig Walker Technology Centre opens at Massey

By John Tinling

On Friday 24 March, twelve years after work started, we have finally been able to officially open the "Craig Walker Technology Centre".

The event was celebrated with a tour of the technology facilities and then the Honourable Paula Bennett declared the centre open. Once the formalities were complete, guests were served a lunch that was prepared by the students in our first year Hospitality Academy.

Craig was a foundation student and his wife, Sharon, started a year later. Since that time, the Walkers have maintained their association with Massey High School with their daughters Kylie and Rhianan and now their granddaughter Cameron attending the school.

Craig has a special interest in Technology and the Vocational Academies and he has contributed hugely in many ways. In particular, his company has facilitated three additional classrooms, shifted four student-built houses to their final sites (the longest trip being to Waimate North) and has donated the proceeds from the sale of four houses which he has purchased and renovated. He is also responsible for much of the recent painting, concreting and site works around the back of the school.

On top of this, he has provided opportunities for the staff on a number of occasions and contributed to professional development and uniform expenses, to name just a few.

Perhaps most importantly he has contributed himself and his knowledge, in particular, of building. It was Craig who stepped up when we needed to design a different house build for the Carpentry Academy. It is Craig who spends time with our students who are likely to be involved in the building and construction industries. Craig, Sharon, Kylie, Dave, Rhianan, Matt and the CWBR team, we thank you.



13 May Mothers Day

19-21 May Waitakere Garden Show. The Trusts Arena,

Central Park Dr, Henderson. 10am-5pm daily. Adults \$8, Seniors special \$5 (Friday only) and

Children under 16 years free.

21 May Kumeu Farmers Market, 9am - 2pm

Help 3rd Sunday of each Month

28 May Auckland Xterra Run/Walk, 9am - 4pm

Riverhead Forest, off Ararimu Valley Rd.
Tickets available, check our the website,
www.trailrun.co.nz/auckland-xterra-trail-run-

walk-series.html

4 June Riverhead Craft Market, 10am-2pm

Held 1st Sunday of each Month

5 June Queens Birthday Weekend, public holiday.

6 June Hobsonville Herb Group meet. Whenuapai

Village Hall from 7.15pm. \$5 entry. For

further information contact

Diane 021-135-9613

Waitakere Home & Garden Show 2017

Friday 19 May 2017: 10.00am - 5.00pm Saturday 20 May 2017: 10.00am - 5.00pm Sunday 21 May 2017: 10.00am - 5.00pm

The Trusts Arena, Central Park Drive, Henderson, Auckland Cost: Adult \$8, Senior special (Friday only) \$5, Child (under 16) free.

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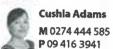
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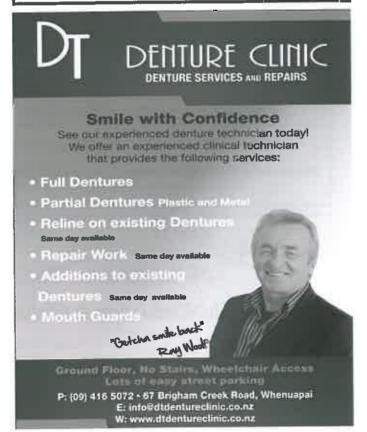
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Major renovations have Hobsonville Church &



The beautiful, historic and recently refurbished Hobsonville Church is available for hire.

The church is a gorgeous setting for weddings, and available for baptisms and other services for all denominations.

Available for meetings, clubs and local group hire, there is also a well-appointed kitchen.

The church was built of pit sawn Kauri in 1875 as a combined church and school and was the heart of the district.

The first five Hobsonville settlers were the trustees: Joshua Carder, Rice Owen Clark II, Joshua Ockleston, Thomas Scott and William Sinton. The Trustees are buried in the graveyard, along with other members of Hobsonville settler families, including Anderson, Boyd, Luckens, Midgley, Williams and Wiseley.

The Church and graveyard is looked after by us, the Hobsonville Church and Settlers' Preservation Society (Inc). We are volunteers and descendants of the settlers who are keen to maintain our heritage Church and graveyard. We are always keen

Seacharger's on display in New Zealand

Greetings SeaCharger fans, You're receiving this email because at some point during the last year you contacted me regarding SeaCharger



If you haven't heard,

SeaCharger completed its California-to-Hawaii trip last July. We then launched it again from Hawaii, headed toward New Zealand. It made it to within a couple hundred miles of New Zealand before finally dying and being rescued by a passing container ship. Overall, it travelled about a quarter of the way around the earth. SeaCharger is now on display in the New Zealand Maritime Museum until July.

For those of you who might be in the San Francisco Bay Area in a couple of weeks, I'm going to be speaking about SeaCharger at MakerFaire Bay Area on Saturday, May 20th, at 1:30 PM on the "MAKE: Live" stage in Zone 2. Stop in and say hi if you're around!

Thank you so much to all of you for your interest and support. I truly appreciate it.

Damon

taken place at the Settlers' Cemetery

for new settlers to Hobsonville, Hobsonville Point, Scotts Point and the Whenuapai area to join us and become part of our Hobsonville heritage.

The Hobsonville Church and Settlers' Cemetery is situated at 1 Scott Road, Hobsonville, Auckland.

Acknowledgements at reopening:

Members, supporters and those with an interest in the preservation societies work on the Hobsonville Church and Settlers' Cemetery met on Saturday 29th April. The group gathered to acknowledge the many hours of work that have been put into resorting the history church and grounds to their former glory.

The rain showers during the morning didn't keep people away, the church seated over 50 people who attended the event. Jason Midgley welcomed the group and acknowledged the many people and companies who made this project possible. Guests were invited to look around the church and grounds and enjoy the morning tea provided.

Renovations and improvements included:

Replacing rotten weatherboards, new flashings, fire sprinkler system installed, painting the exterior and interior of the church, new curtains and carpet runner, kitchen and bathroom re-stocked and freshened, repairs to kitchen door, fence repaired, 1940's historic gates repainted, church bell cleaned and reinstalled, gardening and tidying the churchyard, boundaries and more. Ongoing maintenance will continue.

If you have an interest in preserving the Settlers' Cemetery and Church property as an historic district amenity, then you might like to consider joining the Society.

Membership:

While membership has been made up of mostly descendants of the early Hobsonville settlers, the group is really keen for more recent settlers to join.

Adult Membership - \$10.00 per year

Senior Membership - \$5.00 per year

Life Membership - \$200.00 (Donations are always welcome).

Upcoming Events:

AGM, Sunday 15 October 2017, 1-2pm followed by afternoon tea and viewing of further renovations.

Hobsonville Church & Settlers' Cemetery Preservation Society Incorporated - Contacts:

Bookings & Weddings: Leanne Midgley - 021-688-164

Facebook: hobsonvillesettlerschurch

Email: hobsonvillesettlerschurch@gmail.com

Website: www.hobsonvillechurch.co.nz







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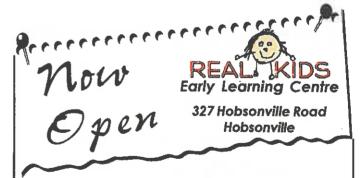
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Council Clips ...

New property developer announces \$300 million pipeline

International property developer Far East kicks off New Zealand presence with residential Hobsonville development.

21 April 2017: International property developer Far East announces its first New Zealand development, a collection of 39 three to four bedroom terraced homes to be built in Hobsonville, Auckland. The development is the first in Far East's anticipated pipeline of around \$300 million worth of residential and commercial projects in New Zealand.

The Hobsonville development, known as Q|One, is the first stage of a wider Hobson Quarter development with approximately 150 houses planned for future stages which may include apartments, terraced houses, duplexes and walk-up houses.

In addition to the Hobson Quarter development, Far East has purchased a 3406m² site adjacent to Albany Mall on the North Shore, earmarked to become more than 200 apartments over 18 storeys in two buildings, plus retail and carparking facilities.

Far East has also identified other potential development sites in Auckland and Wellington, including prime office buildings.

Far East Marketing Manager Daniel Zou says the move into the New Zealand market is a natural one with the strong demand for housing and Kiwis beginning to consider a wider range of housing options.

"We spent a long time analysing the New Zealand market to determine the developments that would best suit local demand. We built an Auckland-based team and have partnered with wellknown, respected local companies to develop homes tailored to the Kiwi lifestyle.

"We firmly believe that every property development needs to suit each community's needs and Q|One is the epitome of this; higher-density living that supports Auckland's growing population, while still embracing New Zealanders' love of large homes with generous outdoor spaces," Mr Zou adds.

Pre-sales are underway through Bayleys Realty Group, with Q|One construction scheduled for completion in late-2018.

Far East is part of the globally recognised JiaHe JianAn Group, headquartered in China, and has undertaken high profile apartment developments in Perth and Sydney.

About Hobson Ouarter

Q|One homes feature contemporary interior styling and meticulous detailing, with sleek, modern kitchens and bathrooms, dedicated dining areas and breakfast bar, flexible living spaces, generous balconies and private gardens, many of these homes are with studies and double garages

Architectural and interior designer Kate Roach is behind the contemporary, light-filled design of each home. Kitchens feature premium finishes including engineered stone bench tops, marble-look splashbacks and Fisher & Paykel appliances, while bathrooms have porcelain floor and wall tiles, glass showers and underfloor heating. Q|One will be project managed by Greenstone Group. The contractor tender is underway and all candidate companies are well-known local builders.

About Far East

Far East is a residential and commercial property developer located in Auckland. As part of the globally recognised JiaHe JianAn Group, Far East draws on 16 years' experience creating bespoke, high-quality developments in Sydney, Perth, Hong Kong and the China mainland.

The business prides itself on being an analytical developer. Far East partners their world-class experience with best-in-class local companies, to create developments tailored to the unique needs of each community.

Far East is fiercely dedicated to enhancing the communities in which they operate. They create developments that are beautiful and effortlessly functional, setting a benchmark for quality and design.

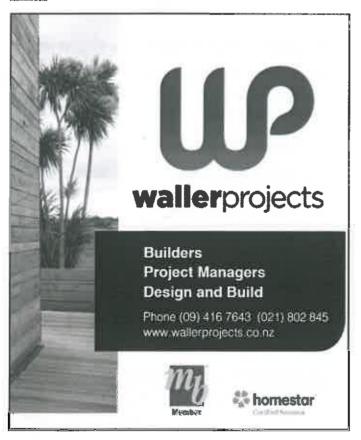
Far East's first New Zealand development is underway at the heart of Hobsonville Village in Auckland, comprising 39 terraced, elegantly designed, three to four bedroom homes in stage one, with approximately 150 houses to follow in other stages. Far East also owns a 3406 m2 site adjacent to Albany Mall on the North Shore, earmarked to become an 18-floor complex of retail, carparking and more than 200 residential apartments.

Record summer of concerts delivers \$37m boost for Auckland

Music lovers from around New Zealand flocked to Auckland's outdoor stadiums this summer, boosting the local economy by more than \$37M - the city's most successful outdoor concert season to date.

The mammoth international line-up – including concerts by Grammy Award-winning pop superstar Justin Bieber, international rock favourites Guns N' Roses, Bruce Springsteen and Coldplay, and three concerts by one of the world's best-selling recording artists, Adele – drew more than 300,000 fans to Auckland's best outdoor stadiums.

Independent research commissioned by Regional Facilities Auckland (RFA), the organisation responsible for securing and staging the events, shows that the seven concert line-up attracted more than 126,000 people from outside Auckland, generating 170,420 visitor nights that boosted the city's economy by \$37.7 million.





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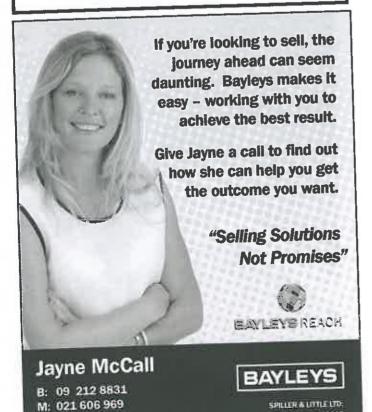
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Causeway Clips >>> 8



Bouquets for Local

A friend put me onto Andrew Head for computer issues and I can really recommend him for resolving a range of issues we were having. He was both prompt and well priced - Ian

Kumeu Farmer's Market

Kumeu Showgrounds, Access Road, Kumeu, Auckland

Sun 21 May 2017, 9:00am-2:00pm

Sun 18 Jun 2017, 9:00am-2:00pm

Sun 16 Jul 2017, 9:00am-2:00pm

Sun 20 Aug 2017, 9:00am-2:00pm

Sun 17 Sep 2017, 9:00am-2:00pm

Sun 15 Oct 2017, 9:00am-2:00pm

Kumeu Farmers Market is starting Sunday 21st May at the Kumeu Showgrounds. This is a market with a difference.

We are keeping it local and will have an animal petting area for the kids. Make sure you support the market - to be held once a month - 3rd Sunday of the month.

If anyone would like to apply for a stall, please contact send us an email: kumeushowgrounds@xtra.co.nz.

Operatunity Presents: From Phantom to Les Miserables, Evita, Miss Saigon, Cats and so much more...

Te Atatu Baptist Church, 448 Old Te Atatu Rd, Te Atatu Peninsula, Auckland

Wednesday 24 May: 11.00am-1.00pm

General admission (lunch included) \$34.00

Groups of 10+ (lunch included) \$31.00

Groups of 30+ (lunch included) \$30.00

Book for all 8 concerts for the year in advance - \$28.50 Buy tickets - 0508-266-237 (additional fees may apply)

Te Atatu Peninsula Artisan & Handmade Market

Te Atatu Peninsula Library, 595 Te Atatu Road, Te Atatu Peninsula, Auckland

Sun 14 May 2017, 9:00am-1:00pm

Sun 18 Jun 2017, 9:00am-1:00pm

Sun 2 Jul 2017, 9:00am-1:00pm

Sun 20 Aug 2017, 9:00am-1:00pm

Sun 17 Sep 2017, 9:00am-1:00pm

Enquire about a 2.2-metre space today, or for more information please do get in touch: Mobile: 0274 753 341 Email: teatatu.handmade@gmail.com

Fame the musical

Is being performed at Massey High School from the 8-11 August 2017.

More details in the June Causeway.

For Causeway advertising phone Brian 09-420-9307

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Herald Island Library News



Anzac Day "Lest We Forget"

Thanks again to the help of Margaret & Richard Brands Our Moving Heart of poppies once again adorn our Pohutukawa Tree on our causeway reserve. Thus signifying our "Moving Heart" going out to all the families all over the world who remember the soldiers and loved ones that have made thatultimate sacrifice to make this a better place for us to live. The poppies on the chains signifying the strengthand links that bind us all as oneAustralians & New Zealanders a Combined Force In its self. Our Anzacs - Lest we forget.

The Herald Island Library welcomes all the community of Whenuapai and Hobsonville not only Herald Islanders. Please feel free to pop in and have a cuppa or two with Sue and her Craft ladies on the Wednesdays or with Etta, Christine or with Ann and Julie on the Saturdays.

We have an awesome array of genres of books/DVD's and Audi Booksto appease your interests and hobbies. For the travellers who want to entertain going to a warmer climate in winter, we have a series of Lonely Planet books which have a tremendous amount of information of places to explore and see.

For those who seek something more out of a book check this book review by one of our locals.

The Redeemer by Jo Nesbo a Book Review by Peter Gillon

This book is one of many great books in our Library's thriller collection. Jo Nesbo is a Norwegian crime writer in the tradition of fellow Nordic crime writers Henning Mankell & Stieg Larsson.

It is a freezing December night and Christmas shoppers have gathered to listen to a Salvation Army carol concert. Then a shot rings out and one of the singers falls to the floor dead. Detective Harry Hole and his team are called in to investigate but have little to work with, there is no immediate suspect, no weapon and no motive. When the assassin discovers he's shot the wrong man the case only becomes more urgent. Harry Hole is an astute detective, a complex and flawed character who holds your interest throughout the book.

This is a terrific read, a superb crime novel that commands your attention from start to finish, very hard to put down. In fact it has all the attributes a good crime novel should have with plenty of twists and turns. If you haven't read any "Scan-Noir" this is a good introduction and if you have then you will know what to expect.

Many thanks to Mike and Ian from our HIR&R for our fantastic new blinds and foot stool in our library.

Remember the Library is opened Wednesdays 9.30am to 12.00noon and Saturdays 10.00am to 12.00noon.

We will be closed on Queens Birthday weekend.

If you have any queries or wish to assist on Saturdays please phone Etta Gillon on 09-416-7638 or email us at Heraldislandlibrary@gmail.com

- "Autumn paints in colours, summer has never seen"
- Valerie McKeehan



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Auckland Xterra Run/ Walk – Riverhead

When: Sunday 28 May 2017 - 9am - 4pm Where: Riverhead Forest, Off Ararimu Valley

Road, Riverhead, Auckland Restrictions: All Ages

Tickets available, check out the website Auckland Xterra

There is an endless and ever changing network of trails in this pine plantation forest. Once again, like last winter, we can expect Riverhead to have a sufficient amount of glorious mud and clay! For the most part, this course is on a clay surface except for the metalled road sections. We recommend wearing shoes with sufficient tread or pairing up with a buddy at the start or out on course for some of the slippery and steeper parts It's not by any means scary but it sometimes helps runners and walkers, especially those new to the trails to have someone close by to lend a hand.

The mid and short courses are relatively friendly (elevation wise), once you head deeper into the wilderness (from the event base) there are some real lung busters and some pretty cool views to be had at these Heights. Long and Super long participants, be prepared.

We have made it easy for you to gather the entire gang, irrespectively of varying fitness and age levels, and head out of the city for an action-packed family outing. The Mid and Short courses are available as walks too, so one event you may get to stretch out in the long or super long while your partner takes a wee whipper snapper or two around the mid or short course.

Short course: 5-8km (walk or run) Mid course: 10-14km (walk or run) Long course: 16-20km (run only) Super long course: 20km+ (run only)





Artwork on display at **Massey Library**

Massey High School students Joshua Black (artist) and Kadeea McElrov helped install a display of student artwork, in the youth area, at the Massey Library during the April school

Massey library manager, Joanne Crummer, was keen to brighten the area and worked with the Massey High School, Arts Coordinator to arrange the student's display.

The artwork is a mixture of past and present students artwork. A selection of different styles and mediums has been chosen to showcase student's abilities.

The back wall is earmarked for two panels of graffiti/street art. The team involved are still working on the panels, which should be installed shortly.

Auckland libraries celebrate NZ Music Month

Events during May at the Massey Library include:

*Monday 23 May - 1pm Adult Ukulele Lesson Do you fancy learning the ukulele? Use one of our instruments and join a class for free!

*Tuesday 23 May-7pm Musical extravaganza by students and friends of Marina View

Be entertained by the Marina View-keleles, senior choir and the Auckland M.U.Gs.

*Wednesday 31 May - 10.30am Pre-school Kitchen Band Story-time

Join us for a musical story-time with lots of dancing, singing and percussion.





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Hobsonville Herb Group

~ Bay Leaf (Laurel)

Bay leaves are one of the most powerful antioxidants in existence. In fact, researchers have actually studied the antioxidant power of over 120 herbs, spices, and vegetables, and bay leaves were at the top of the list!

Bay leaves are rich in iron, calcium, manganese, magnesium. potassium, and vitamins A and C. They are also famous for their astringent properties, which can be helpful for skin toners, helping infections, preventing illnesses, and more.

Bay leaf has been a traditional remedy for arthritis for a long time. Researchers have discovered that bay leaves contain antiinflammatory properties as well as volatile oils that alleviate arthritic pain. Bay leaves also work for joint pain, strains, or sprains for reducing pain and inflammation.

Bay leaf essential oil has long been a traditional remedy for repelling mosquitoes. It is also great for keeping other bugs and insects away. If you put bay leaves (whole or ground) in your cabinets or on your floors, they are powerful natural insecticides. You can also put bay leaves in your linen closets to prevent bad smells, insects, and moths.

Studies have shown that the chemical compound in bay leaf called 'parthenolide' slows the growth of some types of cancer cells, including breast cancer, leukemia, and cervical cancer.

The powerful anti-oxidant properties of bay leaves has been found to be very effective against type 2 diabetes. Researchers have been studying the effects on humans and have found that bay leaf supplements have given big drops in blood sugar levels for those with diabetes.

Bay leaves have traditionally been used for many years to treat many types of stomach and digestive problems. Researchers have been studying the bay leaf oils in animal studies and have found that it stimulates stomach acids that help break down foods as well as prevents stomach ulcers. More research needs to be done on the effect on humans.

Scientists have been studying the effect of bay leaf on food poisoning in animals. They have discovered that bay leaves fight bacteria and germs in a way that helps your body overcome food poisoning such as E. Coli and Salmonella. More research has to be done on the effect on humans.

Researchers have been studying bay leaf's oils and have found that the volatile oils have helped speed up the healing of wounds. It is best used as a poultice to help heal wounds.

The Hobsonville Herb Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month in the Whenuapai Hall from 7.15pm.

Phone 416-3095 or Text/ Call Mobile 021-135-9613

Email: hobsonvilleherbgroup@gmail.com

NEXT MONTH: Our herb is Kawakawa and we will make salve.

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Sorted ~ Spoilt for choice

by Tom Hartmann in Money minded

Tell me this has happened to you too:

You're on the hunt for the best deal out there on something, so you do your research, your due diligence, you shop around. You find the lowest-cost, best-quality option for whatever thing you're buying. You're good to go!

And then, out of the blue, you end up in some shop or website and - throwing all your comparison shopping to the wind - you pull the trigger and take the first deal you see.

We might know the right thing to do, but doing the right thing is a different matter. And when it comes to financial products like credit cards, savings accounts and mortgages, choosing gets even more complex.

"People are universally very, very bad at it," says behavioural finance expert Elaine Kempson, based on her work with focus groups in a variety of countries. One person she interviewed described it as "paralysis by analysis" because of all the complexity involved - "the more I look at what's out there, the more paralysed I become".

All of which leads us to either stay with what we've got, or just go with whatever we find easiest. Here are some top tips for choosing financial products.

See all your options. Gather information on more than one product so you can make the best choice for your situation. Ideally you want to get a view of the entire market to see what's on offer. With a KiwiSaver fund, for example, you want to look beyond what your bank offers.

Shortcuts don't cut it. To make things easier, we often try to use simple rules of thumb, like "I'll just go with what my bank has." We end up selling ourselves short.

Keep it about more than just price. Buying on price alone won't get you the best deal - it's about getting the most for your money. Cheapest is not always best but, conversely, you do not always get what you pay for!

Remember you're being sold to. Salespeople are not independent, impartial advisers, but we often consult them as if they are. Sales staff are experts at pointing out the features of their product, but their job isn't to help you compare their offers with other providers' or even to advise you on what's best for your circumstances.

Follow through and make the switch. If your comparison shopping reveals you're in a less-than-optimum deal, try to find strategies to make yourself switch to the better one.

Too many of us stay in situations - or with products - that are not the best for us. We deserve better!





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Herald Island

As ANZAC Day was approaching, the club met to create a wreath, from the knitted. crotcheted, felt and hand stitched poppies we had made last year. The randomness of each person's own creativity, melded together amazingly well and gave a very pleasing finished product. We have since displayed this wreath on the Herald Island Museum wall, in honour of those who have served our country across the world. We also shared our own stories of generations of family members, who



fought from WW1 till today, some still currently in service. We heard about the loss of life, the suffering and terrible hardships (some as Prisoners of War) the disabilities, the nightmares and the refusal to talk about their experiences. But it was also great to

Big changes to bus services in West Auckland from 11 June

The biggest change to Auckland's bus network kicks off in West Auckland on Sunday 11 June 2017.

New bus routes, timetables, bus operators, and better information for customer are all ready to go. Expect more buses more often across West Auckland and new bus services for Helensville and Kumeu/Huapai.

What the community needs to know:

*From 11 June, all bus services in West Auckland including Helensville, Kumeu, Huapai and Greenhithe will change.

*If you catch buses in these areas, you will need to re-plan your journey on the new services before they start on 11 June.

*To do this, visit www.AT.govt.nz/journeyplanner, enter your journey details, and use a date that is after 10 June. This will tell you what bus you need to catch, where to catch it, and what time it departs.

*Be the first to receive updates about these changes - sign up to the New Network email newsletter from our website www.AT.govt.nz/newnetwork (make sure you select 'New Network for public transport' when choosing your email newsletter preferences).

A brochure about the changes has been mailed to all households this week, along with a new timetable.

For further information:

Main information page - www.AT.govt.nz/NewNetworkWest Plan your new journey – www.AT.govt.nz/journeyplanner Find out about AT HOP, the reusable prepay smart card for travel on trains, ferries and buses around Auckland www.AT.govt.nz/ATHOP

Find out about bus, train and ferry fares – www.AT.govt.nz/fares Contact centre 09-366-6400 or email busreview@AT.govt.nz.

Public information sessions:

Sun 21 May - Hobsonville Point Farmers Market: 9am-1pm

Sat 27 May - Westgate Shopping Centre

(outside Burger King): 3pm-6pm

Tues 6 June - Westgate Shopping Centre (outside Burger King): 6.30am-11am

Garden Club

enjoy light hearted memories from some, who could only joke and delight the next generation, with the adventures and mischief they got up to. Thank you to all the members who helped produce such a lovingly made, piece of art. On Anzac morning, a few of us decided it would be appropriate to gather together, to dedicate our poppies. The sun shone on the small group, as poems were read and others spoke of their relative's sacrifices. Thank you to those who participated.

We will Remember them.







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Whenuapai Floral & Garden Circle

The 25 members who attended the April Meeting were nearly outnumbered by the 19 apologies which were received from absentees. Dire weather warnings, the proximity to Easter, ill health and travels all were factors in this being the lowest attendance. ever, in the thirty plus years of the club. Back in October 1986 the inaugural Meeting was attended by 27 persons of whom three were male. Even our Secretary was away in Europe but minutes were taken by another member. There were just seven blooms on our display board which looked a little Diane Griffin and Dorothy Whyte lost and lonely in



comparison to our usual extensive and colourful array.

Members were invited to book for the Birthday lunch to be held on June 8 at the Swanson RSA also for the August outing to the movies and lunch, which will be at Westgate this year. Our Guest Speaker was Diane Griffin, convenor of the Hobsonville Herb Group and member of several Garden Clubs. Herbs which produce a flower that has a single row of petals, rather than double flowers, are favourites of honey bees since the single blooms make landing and retrieving nectar much easier.

Herbs in the mint family provide excellent sources of nectar. These include Basil, Bergamot, Catmint, Lavender, Lemon balm, Mint, Rosemary, Sage and other Salvias, also Thyme. Bees are particularly attracted to herbs which have blue, purple, yellow or

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white flowers. Aside from being attractive to bees. Herbs are very good for us. Parsley is rich in Vitamins A, B, C and K, folic acid and iron, which is probably why it is the world's most popular

Mint is best grown in a pot to keep it confined as otherwise it will completely take over the garden bed. We learnt about Gingermint, which can be frozen inside icecubes for adding to refreshing drinks.

Basil, Sage, Chives, Coriander (aka Cilantro, but avoid growing in the same bed as Fennel), Oregano, Bay Leaves,

Bergamot (Bee Balm); all were discussed in turn. Apparently Dandelions, which we all have heard are good for us but personally I have never eaten any (although I have tried Dandelion tea) come in three different varieties, Hawksbeard, Hawkbit and Catsear: just shows how a "weed" can be interesting and useful. Don't disparage dock, the leaves can reduce pain after a wasp sting. Don't discard all citrus peel for when soaked overnight, then strained, add a little dishwash and some white vinegar and spray onto plants which are harbouring snails. This solution is kind to the foliage and definitely not to the slimy invaders.

Until next time, Happy Gardening from Mary Anne Clark





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> Herald Island Boat Club Paul Judd - 416-4194

Pat - 410-6272

Herald Island Art & Craft Group Meet every Wednesday morning from 9.30-12noon at the Herald Island Fire Station. Friendship, crafts and a cuppa. All welcome. Enquiries:

Sue McElroy 416-4298

Herald Island Garden Club Second Tuesday of each month. Lee Barry - 416-3981

Herald Island Hall For Hire heraldislandbookings@gmail.com

Herald Island Heritage
Sub-committee
Margret Brands 416-7452
heraldisland.museum@gmail.com

Herald Island Library Weds: & Sat: 10-12noon Etta Gillon - 416-7638

Herald Island Museum 57 Ferry Parade Open first Sat of month 10am – 12noon or by appointment 416-8348

Herald Island Playgroup Tues 9.30-11.30am at the HI Hall.



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Hobsonville Herb Group Meets 1st Tue of the month Diane - 021-135-9613

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12 Fri	0823	3.1	2051	0709	1725
13 Sat	0902	3.1	2129	0710	1724
14 Sun	0941	3.0	2206	0711	1723
15 Mon	1019	3.0	2245	0712	1723
16 Tue	1059	2.9	2326	0713	1722
17 Wed	1140	2.9	-	0713	1721
18 Thu	0010	3.0	1225	0714	1720
19 Fri	0057	3.0	0353	0715	1720
20 Sat	0149	3.0	1406	0716	1719
21 Sun	0243	3.0	1504	0716	1718
22 Mon	0338	3.1	1606	0717	1718
23 Tue	0434	3.2	1706	0718	1717
24 Wed	0530	3.3	1804	0719	1716
25 Thu	0626	3.4	1859	0720	1716
26 Fri	0721	3.5	1952	0720	1715
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29 Mon	1005	3.5	2230	0722	1714
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Lawns/Garden Maintena	nce Brian Stevens 021-344-1552	/416-7033
Lawns and Property Har	ndyl Trade Services 0800-242-639/027	7-242-6391
Loans	Fundagroup Insurance Brokers 027	
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Palms & Landscaping		1-442-313
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Playgroup	Whenuapai Village (Sonia)	416-5346
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Plumber & Gasfitting	-	-224-0872
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Rawleigh's Healthcare		2-34-7035
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RSA	Hobsonville	416-7227
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www.gracecosmetics.co.na		4-844-285
Storage	About Storage 0274-958-933/09	
Storage		4-953-930
Surveyors	Boundary Consultants 021-855-247	
Takeaways		-157-9318
Taxi	Cheap Cabs	621-0505
Timber/Hardware	Western ITM	416-8164
Travel	The Travel Brokers 027-294-7744	
Tree work esp. fruit trees		416-7050
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