

# THE CAUSEWAY

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July 2014

## NEWS & VIEWS

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## Fifteen hundred new houses? Tell Us More!

By Suzanne McFadden

If you're interested in or concerned by the cluster of 1500 new homes that the Government has heralded for Whenuapai, then make sure you're at the Whenuapai R&R annual general meeting on Thursday, July 31 at 7pm.

An area of land on Brigham Creek Road, straddling Totara Road, has been earmarked as a Special Housing Area under plans by the Government to provide Auckland with another 33,000 homes.

Lisa Whyte, deputy chair of the council's Upper Harbour Local Board, will be our guest speaker at the AGM, and will try to answer any questions you have on the future of Whenuapai.

This rural part of Whenuapai had been zoned "Light Industrial" in the new Unitary Plan, drawn up by Auckland Council. However the council has recently changed the zoning to "Future Urban" – and from now until 2016, when the Unitary Plan comes into effect, Special Housing Areas are being zoned to allow the fast-track development of new housing.

Details on the standard of housing are very sketchy. But what's already concerning residents is whether the infrastructure will be in place to cope with an intensive housing area and potentially another 1500 families.

How will Whenuapai School cope? How will the already troublesome Brigham Creek Road manage? Will Whenuapai Village be connected up to sewerage, as this new area will be?

Please bring your questions along to the meeting in the Whenuapai Village Hall – and any other issues that may concern you about the future of our village. One of the burning questions remains: when does the council intend to put new footpaths along Kauri Road?

And don't forget to join the R&R Association while you're at the AGM – \$2 a resident or retired couple; \$5 a family for the year.

A light supper will be provided at the end of the night.

Further details at [www.whenuapai.org.nz](http://www.whenuapai.org.nz)



We're online at  
[www.thecauseway.co.nz](http://www.thecauseway.co.nz) & Email: [news@thecauseway.co.nz](mailto:news@thecauseway.co.nz)



## Causeway Information

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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](http://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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"Smoothtime & Ella Jay"

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Saturday 19 July ~ 7pm

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# Calendar

- 4-21 July** School Holidays.
- 17 July** U3A Hobsonville, next meeting 10am at the Whenuapai Village Hall.
- 19 July** Herald Island Mid-Winter Dance, 7pm at the Herald Island Hall. Tickets phone 416 7304.
- 21 July** Herald Island Writer's Group, next meeting 7pm at the Old Fire Station.
- 31 July** Whenuapai R&R Annual General Meeting, 7pm at the Whenuapai Village Hall.
- 12 August** Herald Island Garden Club presents Tony Murrell. \$5 entry. 7.30pm at the Herald Island Hall.
- 7 September** Gold Card Afternoon Tea: If you are interested in attending the afternoon tea, wish to help, or know someone we should invite, please contact Mike 416 7304.

## "HAVE YOUR SAY"

at the Whenuapai Ratepayers and Residents AGM  
Thursday July 31  
7pm, Whenuapai Village Hall

Want to know more about the 1500 new houses in Whenuapai?  
Want a new footpath on Kauri Road?

Upper Harbour Board deputy chair Lisa Whyte will be there to answer your questions.  
Light supper provided.  
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## Upper Harbour Local Board column

*We welcome news from our local board.*

July is an important month for Upper Harbour Local Board. We're asking for your feedback on our draft Local Board Plan. Keep an eye out for a summary document in your letterbox - this will give you an overview of our vision for the great Upper Harbour communities for the next three years. We are very keen to make sure we've got it right and your feedback is essential. We have six outcome areas that we will be focussing on:

- An attractive built environment.
- High-quality sport and recreation facilities.
- An expansive business environment.
- A protected natural environment.
- A well-connected and accessible Upper Harbour.
- Accountable and transparent reporting.

Take some time to visit [shapeauckland.co.nz](http://shapeauckland.co.nz) to read the plan, find out more about our outcomes and our key projects. As part of the feedback, we are interested in your thoughts on sports grounds. What is more important for Upper Harbour right now, indoor or outdoor sports facilities? Feedback on this question will help us prioritise our investment in our excellent sport and recreation facilities. Sport and recreation is a priority for Upper Harbour Local Board. At its 10 June meeting, members unanimously agreed to fund a feasibility study to see if the former Sovereign Yachts boat shed at Hobsonville Point can be converted into an indoor sports facility. We are looking forward to the results and to see if there is an opportunity to provide more space for sports in our growing community.

Finally, I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in our recent survey about Hobsonville Point's community facilities. We received over 140 surveys to give us an idea of what you'd like to see the Sunderland Lounge and the Headquarters Building used for. Auckland Council is analysing the feedback at the moment and will be discussing recommendations with us shortly.

*Brian Neeson*

*Chairperson Upper Harbour Local Board*

# SHREE LOTTO SUPERETTE

## Another BIG Winner!

Having previously had a "Big Wednesday"  
1<sup>st</sup> Division winner, and then sold a  
**Lotto 1st Division** ticket to a local resident,  
Pramod & Nirmala of Shree Superette are  
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# All eyes locked on Lauren

By Suzanne McFadden



Look out for Whenuapai's swimming sensation Lauren Boyle on the medal podium at this month's Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

Lauren is one of New Zealand's hottest medal prospects at the Games, and will swim in four freestyle events at the Tollcross Aquatic Centre – her first event, the 200m free heats on July 24.

After spending most of the summer at home in Whenuapai Village, she's chosen to do her build-up to the games in Europe, training and living with the Spanish swimming squad before going to high-altitude training with her New Zealand team in the Sierra Nevada mountains.

"It's nice doing the whole campaign away because there are no distractions. All I'm focusing on is the swimming. It's hard but it's good," she said via Skype.

It's meant that she's been able to train with one of her toughest international rivals – Spanish double Olympic medallist Mireia Belmonte – because the pair won't meet in any international competitions this year.

Lauren admits that it's been lonely – especially with few English-speaking swimmers around her during day-in, day-out training. "I daydream about going to the Catalina Café for a coffee, or walking along Takapuna Beach..."

But she believes it was the only way to prepare for the Commonwealth Games and next month's Pan-Pacific championships on the Gold Coast. Her goal at both events is to swim personal best times in all of her events.

The former Whenuapai School pupil is the most accomplished member of the New Zealand swimming contingent in Glasgow and her medal chances have been heightened by her performance at last year's world championships, where she won three bronze medals.

These will be her third Commonwealth Games. She won silver and bronze medals in the 4 x 200m freestyle relay in Melbourne, 2006, and New Delhi, 2010. And who can forget her incredible swim at the London Olympics when she narrowly missed a medal in the 800m free?

**When to watch Lauren:**

200m freestyle – July 24,  
4 x 200m relay – July 26,  
800m freestyle – July 27,  
400m freestyle – July 29.

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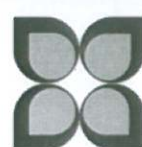
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## Lively Letters . . .

### European Hockey Tour for Herald Islander

Hi, my name is Tony Brinkman. I live on Herald Island and am currently in year 11 (5th form) at Westlake Boys High School. I have been chosen to play hockey for my school on a tour to Europe in April 2015. We will be playing hockey in the Netherlands, Germany, England and Singapore.

As part of our 3 week tour we will be competing in a Dutch Easter hockey tournament, having numerous coaching sessions and games, plus seeing the sights.

I'm currently fundraising for the tour. If you would like to buy kindling or sweets from me, have me babysit your children, or have anything you would like to donate that I could sell on TradeMe please contact me on 027 921 6091.

Thanks,  
Tony.

### Thank you for your support

Our daughters, Breanna and Kiera Sumner, recently participated for the first time in the 40 hour Famine with World Vision and we would like to say a big thank you to all the Herald Island families (many people we don't know) who supported them with sponsorship.

They did really well and so far have raised over four hundred dollars (much of that from the community) to go to the children of Malawi, Africa.

It has been a great experience and we really appreciated the positive and often generous response. Thank you for helping them achieve this – Herald Island is a great place to live!

Regards,  
Donnelle and Ian Sumner  
The Terrace, Herald Island

### Car thieves

My husband and I have lived in Puriri Road for 2 years now and love the area!

We just wanted to inform the neighbourhood about car thieves in the area. In the early hours of Monday 30th June a car was stolen from our driveway, inside a fenced section.

Please everyone be aware and make sure to lock your vehicles and any other possible valuables that may be easily taken by thieves.

We have informed police, and as the vehicle was inside our property it is classed as a burglary. Lets hope they find the crims.

Thanks,  
T&G Heeps  
Puriri Road, Whenuapai

In addition to this car theft in Puriri Road, there were also two attempted car thefts from driveways in Pohutukawa Road, overnight Sunday 29th/early morning Monday 30th June. The police have also been informed of both these cases.

Their advice is to be vigilant – if you see anything suspicious, or cars/people you don't recognise hanging around, or if your car is broken into (even if nothing is taken) then report it to the police.

~ Ed.



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# Big Sing secondary school choirs

I was privileged to play a part in Big Sing 2014 again this year. The choir director, Robert Loretz, and I accompanied 'Sublimitas', the Massey High School choir consisting of 42 members. The choral competition is held in the Auckland Town Hall each year. The venue is amazing, the huge organ pipes tower behind the choirs as they perform. Many of our choir students had never attended a Big Sing before, so it was a real eye-opener for them – the crowds, the noise and the excitement.

The Auckland regional heats took place over three days, each choir singing up to 3 pieces, with a total of 67 choirs participating from 10 – 12 June. Prizes were presented at the Gala Evening held on Thursday 12 June. No awards for Massey this year, but we certainly entertained the crowds at the Gala evening with a rendition of "I know an old lady who swallowed a fly"... you had to be there!

Sue McElroy



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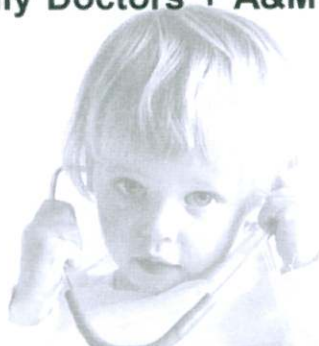


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### Keeping safe at home ~ Self Defence

The law relating to self defence – this is the law:

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What does it mean? You are allowed to defend yourself from attack. But use your commonsense. The idea is to defend yourself – not to murder somebody or get revenge. If you use unreasonable force, you are committing a crime.

In general, it is much safer to avoid a fight. Don't challenge the intruder – just escape and call the police.

Plan SAFE routes and routines

To keep safe in the street, think ahead. Develop the habit of judging each new situation – am I safe? If not, what will you do? Talk with your friends or your neighbourhood support group about dealing with dangerous situations. Discuss the situations below, and do the checklist together. Use your commonsense and develop routines for personal safety.

Self-defence courses are very useful – and not only for women. Like defensive driving courses, they teach you to think ahead and avoid danger. For information about courses phone the YMCA, Citizens Advice Bureau, or local school.

Remember that your life is more important than your money!

If you often go home ALONE after dark...

Plan the safest way to go. For example, in the daytime you might walk through a park. At night or in the winter, you might change your routine, and walk around the park on a well-lit path.

If you take a taxi, sit in the back. Ask the taxi to wait till you're safely inside your home.

For emergencies, whistles are cheap and loud. If you can afford it, consider a personal alarm in your pocket. They cost about \$25-\$30. They make a huge noise. Keep your keys separate from your bag. If your bag is stolen or snatched, at least you have your keys.

If you think someone is FOLLOWING you...

Keep looking ahead and walk briskly. Cross the road and see if they follow. If they do, go to the nearest place where there are people. This might be a takeaway bar, a service station or a house with lights on. Call the police immediately.

If a driver stops and asks for directions, be polite but stay out of reach. If you don't trust them, walk away quickly in the opposite direction. Don't accept a lift from a stranger.

*Next month: Be safe in your car.*

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# Tales from Herald Island's Old Post Office Museum

We have received a letter from Betty Grant who is requesting information about the time her grandfather lived on Herald Island. Betty used to visit her grandfather, George Creamer (1878-1955), during her teenage years and remembered many happy times spent here some 67 years ago. Now age 82 years old, Betty recalls attending dances at the local hall, and with other local teenagers, going to meet the ferry when it came in, as that was such a great event. Grandfather George was known for being a Water Diviner on behalf of his island neighbours and on several occasions, Betty saw his successes. George and his wife Mary Ann Elizabeth (died 9 March 1945) named their children Clarence, Myrtle, Henry/Harry, Eva, Reginald and Olive. In World War I, Private Reginald Creamer, born in Australia, came to NZ and served with the Territorials before enlisting for WWI. He was sent back to NZ after serving at the 'front' for three weeks, and spent eight months hospitalised before returning to NZ in April 1916.

George's granddaughter, Betty Grant, nee Weavers, is the daughter of Olive Creamer. In her letter dated 25 June 2014, Betty wrote from her Western Australia home, that she recently made a trip across the causeway to Herald Island. Her aim was to visit where she stayed, but she found that the natural bush of the island had disappeared and she could not exactly find out where granddad lived. "From memory", she wrote, "I think my grandfather lived along from the Post Office, towards the jetty, and on the other side of the road where there are now some two-storied homes."

Betty made the trip to the island with her two daughters and wanted to introduce them to the family connection here; now she has contacted the HIR&R's Heritage Sub-committee to ask for help in obtaining information about her grandfather's time on the island.

Betty's granddad lived mainly in the Takapuna area, but was shown on the electoral roll for 1949 as living on the island with his second wife, Christina Woodhead Stirling: Creamer, George, Herald Island, retired, and Creamer, Christina, Herald Island, married.

We need your help; Etta, Jan and I have looked at our land deeds copy and so far, have not found any reference to George Creamer. If you can help out, in the meantime, please contact me at [heraldislandmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:heraldislandmuseum@gmail.com)

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## **Upper Harbour Board to investigate boat shed for sports centre**



Upper Harbour Local Board has unanimously agreed to investigate converting a former boat-building shed into an indoor sports centre at Hobsonville Point.

The shed, which was formerly tenanted by Sovereign Yachts, is currently unused and could provide a unique opportunity for an indoor sports facility, says local board chairperson Brian Neeson.

"There is a significant shortage of indoor sports facilities in Auckland.

"We have a chance to see if we can use the hangar to address this need for the growing Hobsonville Point community and the region," he says.

The local board has agreed to spend up to \$60,000 to investigate whether the council-owned building could be converted into an indoor sports centre.

The study would also investigate which sporting codes have the greatest needs for indoor play space.

"We are committed to making the most of what we have and we look forward to finding out whether the boat-building hangar could fill a real gap," says Mr Neeson.

## **Herald Island Writer's Group**



We had a good meeting in June, despite the weather. Our project for July is to write a children's story. Elaine Hahn showed us her wonderful children's story which she wrote and illustrated herself, which inspired us.

It's to be a story for pre-schoolers, no more than 22 pages (or what may count for a page). Any illustrations are entirely voluntary, which is just as well, considering the artistic skills of some of us.

We next meet on the third Monday of July, the 21st, at 7pm in the Herald Island Fire Station.

*New members are warmly welcome.*



# Welcome to the Department of Cycling (DoC)

## Who are we and why do we exist?

DoC is committed to support all kinds of cycling activities in Waitakere, organise exciting events and work with the Council and other organisations on improving the cycling infrastructure in the Waitakere region.

DoC has been started to support an existing community of road cyclists and mountain bikers who have fallen into that interesting community between elite and youth – the majority of riders out there today. However, we do have a lot of youth riders and elite riders joining our ranks as well.

## What did this community of riders want?

To cycle within a supportive and encouraging environment and gain knowledge from other experienced individuals, no matter what their ability or equipment.

## How is DoC catering to these needs?

We are continuing to support our existing cycling community with proven events as well as developing and adding new services. Maintaining the culture is paramount to supporting our riders, a culture of inclusiveness and provision of support for all levels of ability. We are introducing rider and coaching pathways to ensure that this support is available to all.

## Below are some of the ways we action this:

### Road Cycling:

- Saturday no drop bunch rides for novices – this is all about learning and building confidence.
- Sunday bunch rides are for that next level up as well as more elite riding.
- In conjunction with AvantiPlus Waitakere we run spin classes at the shop with a professional teacher.
- Summer (daylight saving) we are run a Time Trial circuit out at Kumeu, which caters for riders of all abilities (this has been very popular).
- One of the services DoC provides is event support to existing events (accommodation and support packages). We will take a support team to most major events.
- Working with the Council and BikeNZ to promote and support safer cycling and the existing cycleways.

### Mountain Biking:

- Saturday and Sunday mornings trips to Woodhill or Riverhead.
- Provide support and teams for major events (Moon Ride and The Dual).
- This community is growing rapidly and as it grows and develops we will provide further support and services to this group.

So essentially no matter who you are or what your ability you will fit into our community. We will provide a supportive learning

environment where our members can learn and develop as a cyclist or coach in any discipline through the existing experienced riders that we have and the professional coaches we have aligned with.

## Who are the Committee Members?

**Chairman:** Allan Postance, chairman@deptofcycling.com

**Secretary:** Bernadette Mark, secretary@deptofcycling.com

**Treasurer:** Rob Norcross

**Club Captain – Road:** Darrall Castle, road@deptofcycling.com

**Club Captain – Mountain Bike:** Sarah Natac, mtb@deptofcycling.com

**Event Manager:** Clint Knox, events@deptofcycling.com

**Membership:** Sandra Postance, membership@deptofcycling.com

## DoC bunch rides

### • Saturday Social Spin

**When:** Saturdays 8am

**Where:** Avantiplus Waitakere

**What to bring:** water, spare tube, pump, energy food and helmet.

**Distance:** 35km. 35km Course Map.

The 35km group is perfect for newcomers or as a recovery ride. Each week an experienced Department Of Cycling rider will lead the ride and support the group from start to finish. The 35km is a 'no drop' ride with several regrouping points to ensure the group stays together. (This ride runs all year round but is unsupported between mid-December and mid-January inclusive).

### • Longer rides:

These are suited to more advanced riders. They are not supported, however if you're doing this ride for the first time, someone will make sure you don't get left behind or lost. This ride runs all year around. The routes will change on a weekly basis.

**When:** Sunday 7.30am

**Where:** AvantiPlus Waitakere

**What to bring:** water, spare tube, pump and energy food.

**Distance:** 60km – 120km

There is typically 2 or 3 groups for riders of different levels. It is expected that groups actively try to stay together and each ride will have a release point at which you may ride at your own pace. Course maps are posted on the home page on Tuesdays and for more bunch riding information check out the "Knowledge Hub" tab of the homepage.

These rides will be posted on the main wall as well as Weekly Newsletter. Also check out our Facebook for regular updates.

### • Tuesday Night Ride of Truth

Casual group that meet up on a Tuesday night at AvantiPlus Waitakere. Called the ride of truth due to the small undulations that make it a bit of a challenge.

29km Ride of Truth.

### • Thursday Timed Social Race

Summer Series of racing run during daylight saving hours. First ride for this season will be early November. We will be starting with a 2 lap individual time trial to set handicaps.

Start time: 6.30pm Sharp!

\$5 per ride for members.

*Season passes available at the event or from AvantiPlus Waitakere – Prices to be confirmed.*



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# Mums take on \$10 Challenge for a Close-to-heart cause

By Suzanne McFadden

It's a crazy, madcap challenge – making your way from Auckland to Queenstown, kitted out in fancy dress at the tail-end of winter, with just \$10 in your pocket. But Whenuapai mum-of-two Ruth Waller is taking up the gauntlet and hitch-hiking with it, all for a very special kids' charity.

Ruth and her friend Kyla Kitching, who lives in West Harbour, have joined forces as the "Georgie Pie Girls" in the \$10 Queenstown Challenge, which leaves Auckland on October 1. All money raised goes to Cure Kids, who've been involved in the Amazing Race-style fundraiser for 10 years.

"We're stepping totally out of our comfort zone," says Ruth. "But we're passionate about raising as much money as we can for Cure Kids. Kyla's daughter Addison lives with a heart defect and we have other close friends whose children have also suffered, or still suffer, from childhood illnesses. So we realise the importance of the vital medical research that Cure Kids does."



**The Georgie Pie Girls –  
Ruth Waller (left) and Kyla Kitching (right)**

Ruth and Kyla first got involved with Cure Kids through one of its young ambassadors, Eva Mitchell. Six-year-old Eva has spent most of her life in Starship Hospital, after being born with a large hole in her diaphragm, with many of her internal organs unable to develop normally.

"We met Eva and her mum, Tiff, while Addison was in hospital. Eva continues to inspire us every day and reminds us how important it is to keep funding cures for childhood illnesses," says Kyla.

Tiff Mitchell will be the guest speaker at Ruth and Kyla's main fundraising event – a Charity Auction evening on Friday, July 25, at Goldfinch in the Viaduct Harbour. The pair has set a goal of raising \$7000 before the race begins.

They've been amazed by the generosity of donors who've given prizes to be auctioned at the event – including a night for two at Heritage Hotel Auckland, a Huawei mobile from 2degrees Mobile, a set of drawers from Draw'n In, art from Move Ur Art, and two tickets on Auckland Jet Boat Tours.

"A lot of our auction items have come from people we know, or purely from us getting out there and asking. People can only

say no, right?" Ruth says. "We even managed to get a signed cookbook from Masterchef judge Simon Gault."

Ruth and Kyla approached McDonald's to get permission to enter the \$10 Queenstown Challenge as the Georgie Pie Girls. A few years ago, they went to the Wellington Sevens dressed as Georgie Pie staff.

"We got a lot of positive feedback from people, so we thought – if we have to rely on people when we hitch-hike, they might like to help the Georgie Pie Girls! We just have to behave in an appropriate manner!"

McDonald's Britomart has come on board with sponsorship and vouchers to keep the girls fed on our three-day race with a meagre \$10 in their pockets.

The goal is to raise more money during the race, through completing various dares and challenges designed to test each team's brain, body and creative bent. It's not about winning or losing, but a lot of kudos goes to the highest fundraising team.

For Ruth and Kyla, the reward will be helping Kiwi kids – and having plenty of fun along the way.

"Their research has helped save many young lives and improved the quality of life for thousands of children," Kyla says. "The money we raise will help researchers find cures for childhood conditions such as cancer, cystic fibrosis, heart defects, asthma and rheumatic heart disease."

• Tickets for the Georgie Pie Girls' Charity Auction on July 25 are \$40 each, and available from [thegeorgiepiegirls@gmail.com](mailto:thegeorgiepiegirls@gmail.com), or phone Ruth on 021 414266 or Kyla 021 416 820.

*Or you can simply make a donation to the cause.*

*Keep up to date with their progress at [www.facebook.com/thegeorgiepiegirls](http://www.facebook.com/thegeorgiepiegirls).*



# Herald Island Community Planting Project



Kowhai Beach Reserve and the Herald Island Domain became richer in local native plant life on Sunday 22nd June, when Herald Islanders held another community planting day.

Twenty volunteers, ably helped by Ian and Shane McNeill of NZ Biosecurity services, made short work of five hundred native plants, eco-sourced from the Auckland region.

Plant species native to Herald Island were chosen, to ensure that the island's original plant life is preserved for the enjoyment of future generations. These species include the yellow flowered 'Kowhai' and 'Kumeraho', the white flowered 'Olearia' or 'Tree Daisy', the silvery leaved 'Coastal Astelia' and lime green, strap-leaved 'Carex'.

As winter rains water our plantings, we envisage luxuriant green spaces, conserving Herald Island's natural heritage.

Special thanks to:

- Auckland Council for providing plants, advertising and refreshments.
- Volunteer Co-ordinator Paul Duffy for overseeing the whole project.
- NZ Biosecurity Services for Kowhai Beach site preparation, controlling plant pests Agapanthus, Sweet Pea Shrub and Pitted Crassula.
- John Jarvie for Kowhai Beach site preparation.
- Karen Williamson for Domain north east corner site preparation, controlling plant pest Arum Lily.
- John Diprose for sign writing.
- Anne McNeill for flyer delivery.
- Ian and Shane McNeill for supervising the planting.
- John and Joanna Diprose and Anne McNeill for moving plants.
- Mike Hassett for photography.
- All the wonderful volunteers, whose many hands made light work!

*Jan Diprose*

*Chair Keep Herald Island Beautiful,*

*Subcommittee of Herald Island R&R*

# Council property group gets resources to lift supply of housing land

Auckland Council Property Limited (ACPL) has been given additional resources to expand its operations and lift the supply of land for housing and town centre regeneration.

The Finance and Performance Committee recently expanded the role of the council's commercial property arm to streamline its ability to acquire land and amalgamate council-owned and private sites.

"ACPL is the council's primary vehicle for freeing up land for housing development. The resources approved recently give it the flexibility to move faster and deliver better results for the council and the housing market," said committee chair Council Penny Webster.

"It's important to note that ACPL will not be venturing into property development in the built form, simply becoming more active in providing land for the private sector in support of the council's housing policies," she emphasised.

The improved resources include access for the ACPL board to up to \$15million from the council's Strategic Development Fund and a new self-funding \$5million annual development budget to cover investigatory activities and for adding value to properties prior to sale.

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# MGs visit Herald Island

By Judy Hindman



The Auckland MG Club has a popular Midweek Gallivant once a month, and on Thursday, 22nd May, several different types of MGs, 16 in total (26 people), paid a visit to the Herald Island Museum. Mike Hassett was there taking photos of all the MGs where we had parked by the Domain. At the Museum, Margret Brands gave a very interesting talk about the history of the Island. The Museum is housed in the old Post Office building on the Island. We looked at some old photos that were laid out on a table and walls, and also the painting in the Old Fire Station.

Everyone was very interested in the Island's history, particularly me, as I remember my father, John Donaldson, telling me how he had sold a couple of houses on the Island in the 1960's, when he ran his own company, Western Real Estate. Our

family used to live in a boomerang-shaped house not far from Whenuapai at the time, where we lived on the main road SH16 and we were next door to a noisy sawmill and had constant planes flying overhead. My poor mother nearly went bonkers with all the noise.

Everyone was very interested in the history of the Island – how it used to be called Pine Island and before that, Wood's Island. Margret told me that there used to be three wells on the Island for locals to draw their water from. She told us people used to go to the Island on the Kestrel Ferry to spend the day picnicking at the Domain. Christmas Beach looked nice too.

After our visit to the Island, we all stopped on the causeway so that Mike could take a photo of all the MGs. Then we drove on to The Brigham Café for a lovely lunch. We all really enjoyed our day.

(My maiden name was Donaldson – I am one half of the singing duo The Chicks.)

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# U3A Hobsonville ~ Learning is Forever

Dr Anna Sandiford, Forensic Scientist, was the guest speaker at the June meeting of U3A Hobsonville.

Dr Sandiford was educated in the UK with a BSc and MSc in geology from the University of Southampton. She came to New Zealand in 1996 and undertook a PhD at the then School of Environmental and Marine Science (now the school of Environment). In the fourth year of her PhD she decided to retrain in forensic science. Between 1998 and 2002 she was a Consultant Forensic Scientist in Auckland where her casework varied from food contaminants to murder reviews. Wanting to further her career she returned to the UK where she spent 6 years as a Senior Forensic Science Consultant, and finally Practice Manager to an independent consultancy. Here her specialities developed into glass, footwear, drugs, drug and drink driving as well as assessing cases from all over the UK.

In 2008 Dr Sandiford returned to New Zealand and within six weeks she was working on the David Bain case. Her work on that case inspired her to develop the independent forensic science industry in New Zealand and now has her own forensic science consultancy. This consultancy provides a wide range of forensic science skills to the criminal justice system and beyond.

Dr Sandiford is in the process of working with the Justice Department to upgrade our systems, this is a very slow process and will take some time to see any changes.

We often read about the miscarriage of justice, Dr Sandiford made the following points how this can come about:

- Poor/Inadequate Police Investigation
- Poor/Inadequate Forensic Science/Experts
- Poor/Inadequate Legal Defence Team

Being a forensic palynologist means Dr Sandiford is one of only a handful of these specialised people world-wide. She provides advice and training to police forces, crime scene managers, forensic pathologists and intelligence agencies. She is involved in all kinds of casework involving the pollen analysis (pollen means collecting samples from a body), identifying

geographical regions where drugs such as cannabis may have originated as well as associating items, people and places using pollen signatures. Forensic science is a very specialised and time absorbing occupation.

Dr Sandiford has published a general interest book called *Expert Witness* – it's all about forensic science and what it really involves: It's not at all like the TV programmes CSI, NCIS and Bones!

*The next meeting of U3A Hobsonville will be held on 17 July at Whenuapai Village Hall, Waimarie Road, commencing at 10am.*

*For further information contact Don Chambers 416 2213.*



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## Hobsonville Point PPPP

The Pohutukawa Pocket Park Project has started. We are dressing its resident pohutukawa (or tree-cosying, as it's known in the Yarn Bombing/Knitted Graffiti business), in three stages. It all started with a suggestion to the Hobsonville Land Company by their Arts Consultant Naomi McCleary; and the group known as Knitted Graffiti (previously known by their work on Corban Estate Arts Centre), led by Alison Milne, are coordinating/curating this community project.

There are currently 15 crocheters/knitters from local communities, but there is room for more from the new suburb that is becoming Hobsonville Point. We meet weekly at the Radar Station, provide all materials (and a cuppa) – alternating day and evening meetings, and are hopeful of completing Stage One by the time the construction fences around it come down in a couple of months or so.

Contact Alison, phone 817 8266 or email [tidmilne@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tidmilne@xtra.co.nz)



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Available for take away or eat in, the Brothers have incorporated famous deli sandwiches with a mix of traditional baking including cakes, muffins, slices and much much more.

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Not only does it provide incentives with the monthly challenges, there's also the Block Rider game, where riding your bike can mean you own your block or hood until you become a superpower! All your achievements are recorded and count towards going in the draw to win real life prizes.

Keen to give it a go or know someone who might be? Go to [www.move60.co.nz](http://www.move60.co.nz), download the Move60™ app, and start getting active today!

Move60™ is an initiative from Coca-Cola in partnership with BikeNZ and the Foundation for Youth Development (FYD), aiming to inspire 100,000 kiwi teens to get active for 60 minutes a day by 2020. The programme is one of four commitments made by Coca-Cola to help to address the issue of obesity in New Zealand.

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# "The causeway killed the Island"

Part three of Jill Ellery's story,  
retold by Etta Gillon

Welcome back to one of our many heritage stories of Herald Island on pioneer Jill Ellery. Many decades have past in Jill's life time and we are grateful for the time that she has given unraveling many historic events which have been great milestones that make up the island as we see it today. Especially thinking of the very real people in Jill's everyday life as portrayed in her eyes being our link to the people in her past has made her vast number of stories come alive.

Jill reminded me of the time when she worked locally for "The Tetteroo's" at Whenuapai in Bristol Rd. The Tetteroo's grew flowers for the market, Lilies and Carnations for the market and had six glass houses.

When Bob was up in Singapore, Jill remembers "I worked at Huapai where there is a big pottery place and across the top of the Causeway and right towards Riverhead at a Meat Factory which is now the Eel Factory".

She recalls when Jackie Middleton used to work in Whenuapai and used to keep his boat five days a week would commute backwards and forwards dragging his boat across the mud. He pit sawed all the timber for his house, just in the front where the punga's are when he lived in Duncan Rise where Willem also known as Wim and Nel (Petronela) Wezenberg live.

She spoke of the hard times never forgetting others going through the same struggles. She recalled having a copper which she knew their close friends Betty & Ned Kelly (Engineer) from Riverhead could do with and would dearly love, so Bob dropped it off to welcoming arms. Betty and Ned Kelly of Riverhead have since passed on and have remained friends to the very end. They had five beautiful daughters Helen, Trish, Colleen, Val and Kathleen, despite having had no boys Ned's love of rugby and was a member of the Kumeu Rugby Club, they have both left a wonderful legacy as pioneers of Riverhead.

Jill and son Don heartily remember the time on Herald Island when they had a party phone line. Don said anyone could pick up the phone and listen into people's conversations. "Three short rings", Jill recalled catching one of the young local girls listening into one of her conversations and she would hear a click and knew who it was so she rang the lass back and said "Is that you.... family name... Well B...! \*... Hang up. Many a family had party lines including the Cole and Mayne family, both shop keepers and George and Dolly Rogers.

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The Darlows bought not long after the Ellery family did in the 1940's she recalls, "The Darlows knew about the sections for sale through my dad so they thought they'd have enough money and bought the section next door". Looking outside (Don's home now) she said, "the pines are still there too."

She recalls Norman King helped a group of people prevent a marina being built on the other side of the island and when old ferries/boats were scuttled and left to rot around the back of Herald Island.

Very elated she recalls when drinking water came to the island and thinking how wonderful it was.

Long drops were in place and much to the delight of local residents sewerage came to the island in the eighties.



Jill recalls a strange incident on the island when two young children misbehaved. They wanted ice cream and paid for them with old out dated coins. The two children managed to acquire coins, which were stored in a special place at a private home that they helped themselves to and thought they wouldn't be caught out. Well much to their surprise old foreign coins were a bit of a giveaway when they tried to buy their ice creams so at that time, they were appropriately dealt to by the powers that be.

As per our last part of Jill's story, you would have realised that as a JP on the island life was not always easy especially when the police would ring her up at 2am in the morning to deal with issues.

She also recalls for many years owning and mowing the lawn at the corner of Alison Ave and Ferry Parade before it was sold to the Midgley Family and then on sold to the Brinkman family.

Jill remembers when Bob and Norm bought, along with the Prescott family. She recalls Alec Prescott senior persuading Norm, Bob, and Vince, to buy the three sections that came up for sale and to this day the families still own. Also "George Moran who lived down Coleman Ave married a Tongan lass. She was related to the Prescott's and persuaded George to buy sections on the island. Jill recalls that they had a fantastic flower garden."

Jill recalls Arthur Bailey's place at 13 the Terrace and Arthur's son who lived near the old school. She also recalls Charlie Baker Skiffington and Joan & Merv Brown.

Jill has a great wealth of knowledge regarding many families on the island she recalls "Algie Dobson, Mr Tubb's son-in-law and Erich Merriman an electrician who was a good friend who stopped with the Tubb family until he had accommodation." Both Erich Merriman and Algie Dobson worked to help establish the electricity lines on the Island together before the big "Switch-On" ceremony at the then Pine Island Boating Club on April the 13th in 1955.

This can also be also viewed at the Herald Island Museum.

First up are Norm Armstrong and Mrs Armstrong and the Hodders, Connie Hodder (Alice German's sister) and Tom & Nell Organ and their daughters.

Jill noted, "Dick Tantau in spring, summer, autumn and winter always wears a singlet and shorts and Win Tantau who always looks good." There was also Harry Hodge on the other side of Win who is Don Reeve's next door neighbour.

There was George Moran from Coleman Ave where the Prescott family originated from and Ron Nottingham from the Terrace.

Mr. & Mrs Black who was an air force doctor lived near Win & Dick Tantau and had his own plane.

Tom Mayne Junior lived next door and senior who were close neighbours and The Rex family who are related to the Mayne family.

She recalls Del Cook and Nola who also lived in Twin Wharf Road and Laurie Bancroft who worked with the German family for years.

Not forgetting Dolly Rogers who lived where the Turners used to live on the Terrace and Sid Brown a well known happy go lucky local fellow.

Bill & Muriel Colcord and Charlie Bancroft who came to mind as did neighbours Winnie Darlow and Fred & Mabel Darlow.

Jill noted Connie Hodder Alice's sister where the Petersons live now and Mr Lloyd who loved his garden lived down from Mr Peterson on the corner remembering him being a lovely person who would help anyone out and where nothing was ever a problem.

Another gardener on the Island was a Mr Slade who worked in the gardens at St Mary's college in News Street, Ponsonby. He used to have lovely gardens on the island as did Bob McCloud who Jill remembers "would sell a lettuce for three pence."

There was also the Harvey family, an old couple whose son moved to Hatfield's beach to build a house and with another great story that Jill can happily tell you about, regarding a newly ruined planted row of fruit trees, an angry Harvey lad and a very blasé Rob Muldoon.

Last but not least is Charlie Sinden, Alice German's dad who was Santa's helper on the Island for many years. Don Reeves can be seen here in this photo probably the youngest as a young blond headed toddler at the bottom third from the right.



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Continued on page 16



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Continued from page 15

Typical meals growing up were stews, casseroles, tripe, sausages, lambs fry & bacon and Fish n Chips on a Friday night. She recalls always being reminded not to stoke the fire up too much so as to prevent making the fire too hot.

Steamed pudding seeped in golden syrup was a real treat for Don & Sonya's boys.

Jill notes proudly remembering her nephew Hugh being a Foundation pupil of Henderson High. With her being a foundation student at Avondale College she felt it was something pretty special to be really proud of.

In the old days to keep fit she like Sonya would help mow the lawns.

Jill's grand children keep her young, as do her great grandchildren. The photo opposite shows her grandson Robert, and great grandchildren Tyler and Van.



Don Reeve's wife, Sonya Anne Reeves

(nee Davie) was born on the 9th of October 1960 and was the caregiver for the Wills family in Holgate Ave. For many years Sonya played an active part on the Island in the community and at play group with her boys Robert and Michael and looked after many other children who were so lucky enough to be under her care. Sonya, Sally Haysom and Gill Clive helped to establish the Holiday Programme on the Island which was successful for some time before a lack of funding from the government prevented them from continuing.

Sonya briefly spoke about why they have lived and love Herald Island but also made mention of her husband Don, the local mechanic and the impact it would make on all his loyal regulars once he retires. He has worked as a mechanical engineer for well over thirty years. Like Sonya is a hardworking person, Don has worked tirelessly to keep his business going and to keep our new and especially our old cars on the island economically roadworthy for many years. We as old time customers think that he rightly deserves a medal. The down to earth spirit that we know appears to have been instilled in him and his brother Jan by their very loving mother Jill.

Thinking of the happiest moments in Jill Ellery's life while living on Herald Island is that everybody knew everyone and everybody spoke to everyone.

Jill can recall many people saying that the first New Year after the causeway was built was just so flat and felt that "The Causeway killed the Island." Hence the title of our story where once the causeway was built and the connection was made, Herald Island then became part of the greater Auckland in which then dampened the old strong pioneer spirit that made the Herald islanders like Jill so very special.

I have been very honoured to be given Jill's unique perspective to share the many voices and characters she knew. Relaying what people did and said has made the past more exciting especially with her being that physical link to the people in the past.

Many thanks to Don Reeves for the family photo and also to Mike Hassett for the enhancement of the group photos.



# Herald Island Garden Club

Our last meeting was the night the nasty storm was brewing up trouble, so we were glad to retreat to Lee's place to watch a documentary called "The Realm of the Rhododendron." It featured the origins and history of the species from Nepal to China and South America to New Zealand.

There were some lovely shots showing the Nepalese people holding the blooms in their traditional ceremonies. There were also glimpses of some of our own greatest rhododendron gardens including Pukeiti, Cross Hills, Iiam and Larnach Castle.

Some rhodo experts gave tips on propagating the many species and hybrid varieties that grow easily in New Zealand. We are fortunate to have the soil and climate particularly in the southern regions to grow virtually any species and in Auckland we also manage to get trees displaying their spectacular blooms in such a diverse range of colours, from winter to late summer.

*Next month we have a local brewer Trevor to talk Craft Beers. Also, mark your diaries for Tuesday 12 August – the entertaining Tony Murrell will be our extra special speaker!*



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# Whenuapai Floral & Garden Circle

As there was no meeting in June, being the month when we celebrate our birthday, I decided to review a book instead. Of particular interest, because she has been a guest speaker for us and we recently visited her Hunua garden, the author of "Back to the land, a year of country gardening" is Lynda Hallinan.

Easy to pick up, hard to put down, this is written in a relaxed conversational style and exudes the love of all things growing, especially edible, to which Lynda brings a fresh enthusiastic encouragement to both new and seasoned gardeners. With heaps of wonderful bright photos and recipes this volume makes a great read.

The foreword says: "Lynda Hallinan is editor-at-large of NZ Gardener magazine. In 2007 she made an ambitious (some might say nutty) New Year's Resolution to spend 12 months living self-sufficiently in the city, growing all her own food in her 733 square metre Auckland garden. In 2010, having met her soon-to-be husband, Jason, she started all over again on a 20 hectare property 45 minutes from the city. Lynda is a keen gardener, pickler, brewer, frustrated florist and a regular stallholder at the Clevedon Village Farmers' Market. Back to the Land follows her journey for 12 months and includes tales from her weekly column in the Sunday Star-Times' Sunday magazine, and her blog."

Not afraid to chronicle her failures along with her successes, Lynda's book is both entertaining and encouraging and great to read in front of the fire whilst planning your next season of growing your own nutritious produce.

As I write, our Club Birthday lunch is just a couple of days away, and we are looking forward to sharing a sumptuous meal at Gracehill Vineyard Estate Restaurant near Kumeu.

*Until next time, Keep warm and dry,  
Mary Anne Clark*



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July					
5 Sat	0020	3.0	1247	0734	1717
6 Sun	0105	2.9	1336	0734	1717
7 Mon	0153	2.9	1430	0734	1718
8 Tue	0245	2.9	1528	0734	1718
9 Wed	0340	2.9	1628	0733	1719
10 Thu	0439	3.0	1726	0733	1720
11 Fri	0538	3.1	1821	0733	1720
12 Sat	0637	3.2	1914	0732	1721
13 Sun	0734	3.3	2007	0732	1721
14 Mon	0828	3.4	2058	0732	1722
15 Tue	0921	3.5	2150	0731	1723
16 Wed	1014	3.5	2243	0731	1723
17 Thu	1106	3.4	2336	0730	1724
18 Fri	1159	3.3	-	0730	1725
19 Sat	0029	3.4	1254	0729	1726
20 Sun	0124	3.03	1351	0729	1726
21 Mon	0219	3.1	1450	0728	1727
22 Tue	0315	3.0	1551	0727	1728
23 Wed	0412	2.9	1648	0727	1728
24 Thu	0508	2.9	1742	0726	1729
25 Fri	0601	2.9	1831	0725	1730
26 Sat	0650	2.9	1915	0725	1731
27 Sun	0736	3.0	1957	0724	1731
28 Mon	0819	3.0	2036	0723	1732
29 Tue	0858	3.0	2114	0722	1733
30 Wed	0936	3.0	2150	0721	1734
31 Thu	1013	3.0	2227	0721	1735
August					
1 Fri	1051	3.0	2306	0720	1735
2 Sat	1130	2.9	2347	0719	1736
3 Sun	-	2.9	1213	0718	1737
4 Mon	0031	3.0	1301	0717	1738
5 Tue	0118	2.9	1355	0716	1739
6 Wed	0211	2.9	1455	0715	1739
7 Thu	0310	2.9	1558	0714	1740
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9 Sat	0516	3.1	1758	0712	1742



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Dance Teacher	Jazz & Hip Hop - Tania Foster	416-6557	Real Estate	Barfoot & Thompson Sam Bennett	416-2071
Desktop Publishing	Huapai Copy & Print	412-8882	Real Estate	Barfoot & Thompson Michelle Rose	416-5599
Drain Layer	Echo Drainage	021-416-420/416-6849	Real Estate	Bayleys Leila Morris	021-893-413/09-215-2849
Drain Layer	Lupton Drainage	0274-776-154/810-9595	Real Estate	Glenn Savery	027-499-8415/832-0832
Dog Groomer	Scruffy 2 Fluffy (Ashley)	021-204-0482	Real Estate	Harcourts Geoff Polglase	027-874-663/416-8176
Electrician	Connect Electricals	022-332-6663/412-6066	Real Estate	LJ Hooker Sandra Anderson	417-0262/027-268-4322
Electrician	Good Electrical Ltd	0274-984-762/416-WIRE	Real Estate	Premium Courtney Wood	027-688-0818
Electrician	Wired Electrical	416-6148	Restaurant/Takeaways	Manthana Thai Cuisine	416-5578
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Firewood - Kindling	Brian	416-9428	Skincare, Natural, Botanical		
Florist	Jenni	021-0838-0970	www.gracecosmetics.co.nz/twillmot		416-8156/0274-844-285
Garage Doors	Don Morris	416-4907	Solar Water Heating	Ecosolar	416-6997
Glass Services	Nor-West & Kumeu Glass Services	412-9914	Spouting + Facia	Ace - Roger Lyttle	0800-874-546/027-447-9380
Grocer & Lotto	Shree Superette Whenuapai	416-8813	Storage	About Storage	0274-958-933/09-9450-470
Hairdresser	Margo's Hair Design	412-7276	Surveyors	Boundary Consultants	021-855-247/838-3109
Hairdresser	Whenuapai Hair Co.	416-8926	Taxi	Cheap Cabs	621-0505
Handyman	John Van Westrene	027-442-0288/413-9066	Timber/Hardware	Western ITM	416-8164
Health	Club Physical	0800-258-248	Travel	The Travel Brokers	027-294-7744/416-1799
Herbs	Sue - Hobby Herbs	416-4298	Tree work esp. fruit trees	Gayo Vodanovich	416-7050
Ink and Toner	Huapai Copy and Print	412-8882	Upholsterers	T&K Upholsterers Ltd	833-5822
Insurance	Fundagroup Insurance Brokers	416-9944	Water - Pure	Aquadynamics	0800-787-396

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