

THE CAUSEWAY

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March 2011

NEWS & VIEWS

- Help Christchurch ~ Pg 3
- Calendar ~ Pg 3
- H.I. R&R Report and local goings on ~ Pg 5
- It's heating up in the Hall ~ Pg 6
- Airfield Upgrade ~ Pg 7
- H.I. Book Club ~ Pg 8
- Village Wanderings with Norman Dunkley ~ Pg 11
- Achilles Tendon Injuries ~ Pg 13
- Regatta Day Crowds ~ Pg 14
- Causeway Clips ~ Pg 15
- Lively Letters ~ Pg 17
- H.I. Garden Club ~ Pg 18
- Mutterings from the Mangroves ~ Pg 19
- Whenuapai Floral & Garden Circle ~ Pg 20
- Tide Tables & Club News ~ Pg 21

Regatta Day draws a great crowd

By Sue McElroy

It was a brilliant turnout for the annual Herald Island Regatta Day. A good breeze gave sailors and swimmers alike a bit of a challenge. Colourful kayaks of all shapes and sizes littered the beachfront on Saturday 26th February. We even had a couple of rafts turnout for a duel on the briny, complete with water bombs and eggs. A bit of a blast from the past, a few years back it was a common sight to see a healthy turnout of crazy themed rafts at Regatta Day. If team 'G-Squad' can tie a raft together the morning of the race with granny knots, (that actually held together) imagine what could be created given a bit of time! You've got a year to plan your raft, get to know your neighbours, what about a street team?

Many thanks to the Herald Island Residents and Ratepayers committee and helpers for organizing the day and a special thank you to Sue Noonan from Harcourt's who kindly sponsored Regatta Day again this year. Sue presented prizes to our winning youth.

Congratulations to our place getters...
Kids Kayak Race: 1st – Kiera, 2nd – Brianna
Raft Race: 1st – Team Jean, Harding family
2nd – G Squad
Dinghy Race: 1st – Jason, 2nd – Spencer
Ladies Kayak Race: 1st – Katrina
2nd – Fleur Leisky
Adult & Child Kayak: 1st – Kiera & Maya
Men's Kayak Race: 1st – Karl Leisky
2nd – Josh Third
Kids Swimming Race: 1st – Bethany Green
2nd – Brianna Sumner
Yacht Race: 1st – Jeff & Cindy Beresford
2nd – Rainer Leisky

• More photos Page 14



Preparations for an awesome Regatta Day



Fleur and Karl Leisky relaxing after racing

We're Online! ~ www.thecauseway.co.nz

Causeway Information

Email: news@thecauseway.co.nz

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Phone: 416 6160

Address: 11 Ferry Parade, Herald Island

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

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ADVERTISEMENT SPECIFICATIONS:

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

Fundraising run

By Tanya Sealey-Swain

I am a mum with 2 beautiful children, an understanding husband and I work full time. Just before Christmas a girlfriend decided that she was going to run the Buller ½ marathon (Westcoast South Island), and then signed me up to keep her company. The first 2 weeks of training were great and then you guessed it the wheels feel off over the festive season. Back to work I hit the road again but it

was just too hot, so I was only running 3 times a week if I was lucky (should be 5 times with my level of fitness). It was fair to say that my training plan was not going as well as I hoped so I decided that I needed an incentive to get to the finish line.

I set up a fundraising page to sponsor an event called Jump Start. Jump Start happens every year on the RNZAF airbase at Whenuapai. It is a charity event

that skydivers help raise money to sponsor a teenager from Project K or CanTeen. These children get to do a tandem jump from a C130 Hercules. Everybody involved gives their time and equipment free this includes the RNZAF and staff, tandem masters, camera flyers etc. This year that event is on the 19 and 20 of March.

Well back to race day, up at sparrows fart, throw something down then pile into a bus that drives you to the start line. The bus goes on the actual route and this is when I really started to get nervous as I had not completed the distance in training, I had only gone 16 km once with the rest of the runs being around 10km, it sure was a long way. My girlfriend also said that there was only 1 hill, well I should have known that was not the case. With sweaty hands and my heart racing I lined up at the start. Boy did I get a fright when the starting gun went off it was an actual rifle being fired, only on the West Coast! As everyone took off the most amazing thing was no one was talking and all you could hear was the sound of hundreds of feet running along and the scenery was spectacular, alas the novelty soon wore off especially when we hit the first hill, that sorted out the real athletes from the amateurs like myself. I had a man pass me going up the hill pushing a buggy. All was going great until the last 3km when the blisters got me and my toe started to throb. Then I don't know why but I started a funny grunting noise in time with my running. I passed a guy on the bridge going into town and apologised for the noise I was making and he said "don't worry you sound like one of those tennis stars", I wish. That last 3 kms was the longest run of my life and I would not have made it if it was not for the locals on the side of the road and knowing that I had raised over \$600 for my charity. My charity page is still open if you have a few spare dollars you would like to donate to this worthwhile cause <http://www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/TanyaSealey-Swain2011>

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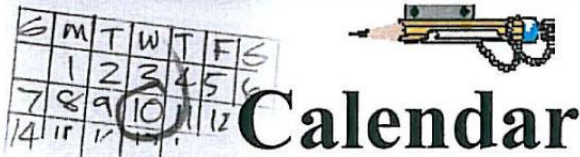
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Calendar

- 11 Mar** "Runaway" Band, Hobsonville RSA
- 18 Mar** "The Cavaliers" Band, Hobsonville RSA
- 20 Mar** Soap Box Derby at Westgate
- 21 Mar** Whenuapai Air Show and Open Day
Gates open at 9.00am **Entry fee:** \$5 a head and children under 10 years are free
- 25 Mar** "Creme Brulie" Band, Hobsonville RSA
- 26 Mar** Massey High School Gala
- 27 Mar** Car Boot Sale, Hobsonville RSA
- 1 Apr** Blonde Moments, Hobsonville RSA
- 8 Apr** John McGough (The Trumpet Man), Hobsonville RSA

Births & Deaths

- * Congratulations to Gin and Charles of Herald Island on the birth of twins. One of each - how perfect.
- * Congratulations to Anita Hassett & Dan Thomas on the birth of their wee baby Mack born 7lb 13oz on the 11th February 2011.
- * And condolences to the Harding family on the loss of Kieran's sister Jean after a year long battle with cancer. Many will have met her at the Trivial Pursuits nights. She was a valued winning team member and will be sadly missed.

HOW CAN WE HELP THE PEOPLE OF CHRISTCHURCH?

An appeal account for people to donate to a proposed relief fund will be set up once details of the fund are finalised by the Christchurch City Council, meanwhile you can donate to accounts set up by the banks:

- ASB** - 12-3205-0146808-00
- ANZ** - 01-1839-0188939-00
- National Bank** - 06-0869-0548507-00
- Westpac** - 03-0207-0617331-00

The Red Cross is currently not requiring or accepting donations of goods or volunteers – keep an eye on their website for information. They are accepting online donations.

The Salvation Army is accepting donations online, and by phone - 0800 53 00 00.

Vodafone users can donate to the Red Alert Canterbury Earthquake Appeal by texting Quake to 333 to make a \$3 donation, or by texting Quake to 555 to make a \$5 donation. A universal donation text number is currently being set up.

Telecom stores around the country are collecting corded landline (analogue) phones to distribute to those who can't use their digital phones.

A donation of \$5 to the Salvation Army's Earthquake Appeal can be made at Dailydo.

To lodge an enquiry in relation to missing relatives please call the NZ Red Cross National Enquiry Centre on 0800 REDCROSS (0800 733 276) (note this line may be overloaded) International calls can be made to +64 7 8502199

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dclark@orcon.net.nz

debbie clark

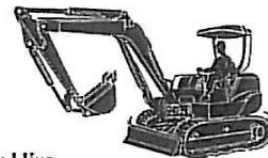
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Hobsonville Point Farmers Market

We now have a true farmers market every Sunday 9am – 1pm right on our doorstep. Located just across the road from Catalina café it is a real foodies delight. Goods on sale included fish, fruit and vegetables, meat, free range eggs and chicken, wild pork, sausages, salami, cheeses, bread, cakes, avocados, honey, organic plants, olive oil, preserves, spices, chocolates, teas and I'm sure new stallholders will be on the way. With the main market being inside in what is called No 5 store it doesn't matter if it rains! The outside area also has stalls and a grassy area for buskers.

The aim is this will be a place where you can get your whole weeks supply of fresh produce in a relaxed and vibrant environment. You can grab a coffee and a takeaway if you get hungry looking at all the goodies on sale. I for one will be dropping in on a regular basis.

Stallholders and buskers who want to be part of the Hobsonville Point Farmers Market should contact Keith Stewart on 412-7002.



FREE METAL COLLECTION

A major fundraiser for the Tamaki Sports Academy is the free metal collection service it offers.

We will pick up any old metal - whiteware such as fridges, stoves, dishwashers, washing machines - roofing iron, metal piping, venetian blinds, computers, batteries, car panels, cars, metal shelving, filing cabinets, machinery, lawnmowers, engines and so on.

Tamaki Sports Academy offers mentoring, coaching, and work experience to South Auckland youth who have dropped out on the main stream school system but who show some sporting talent. Academy members are enrolled in the Correspondence School, and work towards unit standard credits and national qualifications.

PH (09) 276 0328

What's going on all around us?

It's hard to believe how much money is currently being invested in our little neck of the woods.

Whenuapai Airfield runway and taxiway upgrading is at last underway with work projected to be finished by around May 2012. Drainage settlement ponds are being built on land by Kauri Road. Waimarie Road airfield entry is the primary access point and location of the site office.

Cycleway and Pedestrian Footpath around Whenuapai Airfield (Totara and Brigham Creek Road) construction should start before winter once the final designs are completed shortly.

Kauri Road slip reconstruction is well underway and expected to be finished by May. It's quite a job as you can see and we expect some road closures to be necessary as it moves into the final construction phase.

The SH18 and SH18 Motorway development continues to push ahead. Although the signs say the opening is projected to be mid 2012, the latest official news is last quarter this year. Who knows if this great fine weather holds up, it may come even closer. The sign of tar-sealing on the road provides a false impression. This motorway is being constructed using a four-layer bitumen application and layer after layer has to be applied, rolled and compacted. Finally the last hard wearing coat will go on just before opening.

The New Sinton Road is now open and joins Brigham Creek Roundabouts right next to the Brigham Restaurant. If you want a nice drive, walk or cycle go down the new Sinton Road to the canary coloured bridge at Clarks Lane and wander over it. You will see the motorway stretching out in both directions, see the local ceramic tiles laid on the edges of the pathway and see the interesting sight of the window frames all in line for the bridge when you walk west.

Kumeu and Riverhead sewerage is coming our way as the black pipes are installed along Dale, Totara, and Brigham Creek Roads and into Trig Road where it will join up with a pipe from the new Westgate pumping station to be built shortly. The combined pipe will continue through the farm lands down to the new Whenuapai pumping station to be built shortly opposite Kauri Road. Pipes already have been laid from that site up to the new Hobsonville pumping station being built in Buckley Road at Hobsonville Point. With the pipes coming on the edge of the Whenuapai Village, one wonders when Whenuapai will also be hooked up to the sewerage system.

The Major Flood – possibly the one-in-100 year event. The storm water drainage system worked overtime draining the harbour backwards into properties from either their private drainage system of the Council drains which almost acted like fountains. The amazing contribution by residents made sure any pain suffered

by some houses was minimised and sand bags did a great job after the first tide played havoc.

Many residents expressed concern that we had announced by the loud hailer that we were asking people not to use the Causeway between 11pm and 1am on the Sunday night as we expected the next tide to cover the causeway and if a car became stuck it may block the route for emergency vehicles. In such an event the offending car would have been pushed over the side of the causeway. Our local Civil Defence team do not have the power to close any road which is why they just asked for your cooperation. It's in the interests of your safety and what they have been trained to do. Just like when they asked for you to minimise the use of the toilet system for a while when the local pumping stations were flooded. Civil Defence organised them to be pumped out very quickly and our system was quickly restored.

One last thought. That event could be the dress rehearsal for what may happen if a significant Tsunami was to hit NZ. Be prepared, look after yourself, pets and your neighbours. Our response on this occasion was amazing. It's a great place to live!

Noel Rugg Chairman,

Herald Island Residents & Ratepayers Assoc.

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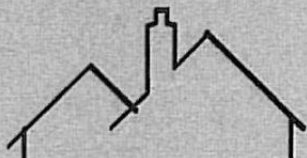
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It's Heating Up in the Hall

The Whenuapai Village Hall will be a lot cosier this winter – thanks to a \$16,000 grant for heating.

The grant has been made by the Trusts Charitable Foundation to the Whenuapai R&R, so we can put in three new heat pumps in the main hall area. The money will also go towards rewiring the switchboard.

Thanks to R&R committee member Haydon Mattson for his successful efforts in securing these funds. It will certainly make our grand old hall a much more inviting place!

Our new noticeboard should be up and running outside the village dairy in Puriri Rd this month, through a grant from the old council and work done by Phillip Pratt. Please feel free to post your notices here.

We've attended our first meetings of the Upper Harbour Local Board, who meet in Albany twice a month.

It was important to clarify the wording in the draft Upper Harbour Local Board agreement, which listed among its key objectives for the next two years "Development of the Whenuapai Airport".

We were assured by the board's chairman, Brian Neeson, that the wrong wording had been used in the draft, and that the Whenuapai airbase was recognized as "a military installation only".

"Everyone on the committee to my knowledge opposes the commercialisation of Whenuapai airport. Don't lose any sleep over this," Neeson says.

The development instead refers to the change in zoning to allow development in the Whenuapai area, and to the Ministry of Defence's multi-million repair and upgrade of the airbase runway, which is now underway.

We'll be keeping a close eye on this, and making sure the board stays true to its word.

The village has been the target of a string of burglaries in the past few weeks, and some minor vandalism.

The Massey Community Constable, Aidan Crossman, has reminded us to keep an eye out for any out-of-the-ordinary behaviour, and not be afraid to report it to the police.

If it's an incident that's happening at the time, please phone 111.

But if it's not an urgent incident – like tagging – you can ring the Massey Community Police Station on 832-4099. Any information may be a piece in solving a large puzzle.

Suzanne McFadden Chairperson,
Whenuapai R&R



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Whenuapai airfield upgrade

The Royal New Zealand Air Force Base Auckland would like to advise the local community of a likely increase in the volume of heavy vehicles on local roads around RNZAF Base Auckland during the upgrade of Whenuapai airfield.

The contractor, Fulton Hogan Auckland Ltd, will make every effort to minimise any disruption to the local community and maintain a high level of safety.

Residents within the local community may also notice an increase in the level of air traffic overhead as aircraft temporarily fly alternative circuits. These alternative circuits will be required as the secondary runway and, later on, the main runway is closed to allow the works to be undertaken.

While the contractor and the RNZAF will be making every practical effort to minimise disruption it is inevitable that works of this nature will have some impact within the local area. The Air Force regrets any inconvenience this work may cause and appreciates the support and patience of the local community during this period.

The upgrade comes after a recent announcement by the Minister of Defence that the Government will spend \$24 million as part of upgrading Whenuapai airfield at Royal New Zealand Air Force Base Auckland.

Work has begun this month and will extend over two earthworks construction seasons, with completion projected for May 2012.

The work includes an overlay and re-profiling of the main runway, upgrading of taxiways, improvements to storm water drainage and new airfield lighting.

Existing materials will be incorporated within the works including re-cycling of redundant concrete taxiways and recycling of asphalt in the new construction.

The airfield is expected to remain operational with some limitations over the course of the works.

Whenuapai is home of No.5 Squadron's P-3K Orion aircraft, No.6 Squadron's Seasprite helicopters; as well as Boeing 757 and C-130 Hercules aircraft of No.40 Squadron.

It's an exciting time for the NZ Defence Force and especially the Air Force at Whenuapai. The contract is really about having the appropriate infrastructure in place to support our fleets of operational aircraft in the provision of vital Defence outputs.

For more information please contact Squadron Leader Don Richardson; (09) 417 7440 or 0274 838 208.

The wonder year

Think about this:

This year, July has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. This happens once every 823 years.

Also, this is the year with 1/1/11, 1/11/11, 11/1/11 and 11/11/11.

If you add the last two digits of your birth year to the age you will turn this year, you should get 111.

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Herald Island Poets rediscovered by HI Book Club

It was Herald Island Book Club's Christmas meeting. We had (fortuitously) abandoned all efforts to do the usual "Christmas club" activities and decided upon a simple poetry recital evening, on the lawn next to the Herald Island library. A moonlit evening, candles, nibbles and an array of poetry recitals. "What a magical night" were the general comments made by most of us.

Limericks aside (we had a few) the most amazing discovery was of two, prominent, New Zealand poets, whom had resided on Pine Island between 1949 and 1952.



Kendrick Smithyman and Mary Stanley married in 1946. They moved to Pine Island (Herald Island) in 1949 with their 2 year old son Christopher, where they lived in a fibrolite bach. (Who knows which one - it will be on your title)! Kendrick was the sole teacher at the primary school on the Island between 1949 and 1951. They had another son called Stephen whilst living on the Island. In 1952 they

moved to Nile Road in Milford where another son Gerard was born in 1953.

It was in 1951 that Kendrick wrote a series of poems titled "Paihia Remembered" with 6 poems about Herald Island. This is the first of Herald Island poems.

Herald Island (1)

*Know-nothing about courtesies ocean swears
fealty nowhere, or respect. At this drab reach,
backwater shaped of mud and shallows,
ambitious dinghies quit their beach
trembling on numerous hazard which follows
small sea-going or large,
as consequent (you may have heard) as when one bears
staggering censure for nice trivial sins.
Bear witness,
terns rise aghast, gannet dive to press
obstinate down channels, by shoal and wreck
scouring shores puckered below cloud.
Sea scud holds land hard at its beck
even here, remote from courtesies our dead move
or seem to move urged by our protest lauding
good conduct (Theirs? Ours? Are worthy?)
worthily applauding as proper, as necessary, love.
My dead misgiving principles, witness our unforgiving
grieving habits wail. We do not get to prove
we tenant elders, tenanted. They're of us, crowd
our channels. Our eyes turn. They nod and crack!
our course is headed. We thrust, accurately
are thrust on wreck.*

Kendrick Smithyman is now considered one of New Zealand's finest poets. His poetry was "academic" in style and he published four substantial collections as well as other writings. He died in 1995.

His wife Mary Stanley had been Dux of Thames High school was also a poet. Mary wrote her only compilation "Starveling Year" in 1953 which had some poems directly referring to life on Pine Island!



Householder

*Never build a house to the south, they say.
It's cold. The sun goes north on holiday,
the nights are bitter, even the fleas retreat.
But summer, ah, summer is another time.
The flimsy house is hot enough, the doors
and windows gape to catch a breath of air.
And yet I like this house under the pines.
We have mended the roof, painted the walls, set all
in order. Only the garden will not be tamed.*

Poetry back then was a male domain yet Mary succeeded because she persisted on acknowledging life in poetry from a women's perspective. Isolated on Pine Island between 1949 and 1952 (there was no causeway until 1958) must have been challenging for a young mother of two. She got arthritis early on and that was to cripple her and cause her considerable pain but it's not known why she never published more poetry. She has since been noted as an outstanding female poet of her time.

For those of you interested in these two outstanding New Zealand poets, there is a wealth of information available on the internet. It would be nice to obtain copies of their works and to set up a small memorial for them on the Island. Perhaps next to the library? Any suggestions?

Anyone who remembers them personally, please contact Gill on 021 132 6649.

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Hobby Herbs



Well, I have put one of my plastic planter boxes to good use lately. I've wired it to the front of my push bike, and am using it to deliver circulars. What we do for our kids! A few extra dollars go into the consolidated fund for the largely, looming German trip.

I'm kidding myself that I'm getting paid to exercise, which is true; I can feel it in my shoulders and legs.

But to be honest, it's quite nice to get out and about and smell the roses so to speak. I must say Whenuapai; you do have some lovely gardens. But it's the letterboxes I've taking an upfront and personal interest in lately. Some are 'easy pesty' to deliver mail in, and some bite your fingers! I had a bit of fun the other week, a lady was using a scooter to deliver newspapers on one side of the street, and I on the other, on my push bike. I kept up with her for almost all of Pohutakawa Road, yah. Speaking of Pohutakawa Road, if you haven't been down there lately you are missing a treat, what a lovely view. It was a still Friday morning when I was out delivering, and the view at the end was simply gorgeous. What a neat area we live in.

My poor old garden has taken a back seat over these lovely Summer months as we've been busy out and about, but I did make a start last weekend, I trimmed the Lemon Balm that was overhanging the driveway so I could walk down the drive without getting lost in the undergrowth... well it's a start, and oh what a lovely smell once I'd trimmed it.

Enjoy summer while it lasts - Sue McElroy

Herald Island Garden Club Tea Towel

Herald Island Garden Club have produced a "Herald Island Tea Towel" which are for sale at \$10 each, or \$8 each for two or more.

Three of our local members, Dell Lupton, Sandra Shaw and Lee Barry, came up with the concept ideas and Sue McElroy drew up the final design. It is an unbleached linen tea towel, printed with a bottle green design.

It depicts some of the history of the Island and includes a map of the streets and a selection of local iconic buildings. It also features a selection of the native flora and animal life we recognize from the area.

If you would like to purchase some tea towels please contact Di 416-6160 Margaret 416-7492 or Lee 416-3981.

They would make perfect Christmas gift, and don't cost much to post overseas.



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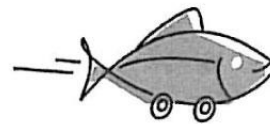
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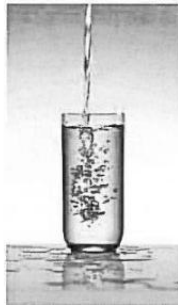
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Turning back time . . . Front Page Feb/Mar 2001

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"Together we *can* make a difference". Was an article from the Whenuapai R & R asking "What are we getting for our rates and how can we influence this?". Regularly there are circulars telling us about the next City Budget plan or the next five year strategic plan. Individually we can make a submission but how many do, and will it be listened to? How many of us have time to attend council meetings and really know what is happening until after the event?

A collective voice is always best and both Whenuapai and Herald Island are fortunate to have Resident and Ratepayers Associations. Last years AGM guest speaker spoke of the need for communities to create their own plans otherwise outside influences will do it for us. It was sad that very few residents attended the meeting and the current membership of the Whenuapai R&R is approximately 25 families out of over 400 properties. Submissions from the Whenuapai R & R are listened too and influence what happens in the area.

Herald Island multiple garage sales

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You may not have been able to visit them all, some residents choosing a leisurely breakfast before opening their garage doors whilst others closing before you had reached them, but they WERE there.

There were large and small sales, some households having joint ones with friends, many incredible bargains and the usual 'stuff' that is one man's rubbish and another man's gold. Well done to the gentleman who bought a bird cage at his first sale and carried it all round the rest of the Island sales before getting it back to the car! And well done to the family who pointed out to the parking warden that giving tickets for parking on the wrong side of the road wasn't exactly fair. Pikelets (with cream and jam of course), and sausage sales helped to energise the buyers as they worked their way round the Island.

And to everyone who either donated or bought items at the Bookfair cum garage sale at the Hall, sincere thanks from Neighbourhood Support and the R&R for your contributions. Any Items left over have been given to the Salvation Army and Cancer research.

(If you have thoughts on how we can improve this day for next year, please let me know- later start perhaps?)

Linda 416 1911

Village Wanderings

by Norman Duncley

Hello to all and welcome back for another year. I hope the summer season has seen you slip, slop, slap and not so much pop, plug, burp. Certainly it's been a pleasant summer with a lot of people out and about enjoying the village, walking and being out on the water.

As the "norties" (is there such a word) decade draws to a close our coming years will bring changes to our area with the opening up of the new motorway system basically on both sides of us, from the shore and Kumeu. Myself I had little trail out to see which direction would be the shortest to get onto the motorways system into town when it opens. Either to go out Kauri Road or Brigham Creek. Both were 3.5k in either direction, so back to square one on that. Like everything, everyone will have their own preferred way they wish to go.

We look forward to work starting on our footpath from the shops around Totara Road, this will definitely be an asset for the area.

As the last decade slips into the history books, one thing I'd like to mention for the journal is another long term resident who has left the village. Maria Gregg from down the end of Waimarie Road that was once Wharf Road, a street of its own. If you knew her or not, Maria was a regular icon, her family having built and lived in several properties in the village. She had a passion for American cars and walking her German Shepherd dogs. Personally as born and raised in the area, Mrs. Gregg had always been a familiar sight from my childhood with her big black 41 Plymouth then later a Pontiac. A family like my own that has been in the village well over 50 years. It amazed me on my returns to the village over the years to still see her walking her dog up the road just the same as when I had been a school boy. The Village wishes you well and you will forever be a part of our local history. Strange how people and their actions can be as iconic as something material. I had a person from Puriri Road mention to me the other day "I always knew it was about 3.30. I would see a yellow flash in the lounge window or mirror as your father drove past to pick Katie up from the post office and 10 minutes later going back again". That's like a good memory, Herald Island post office has been closed for 30 years.

Community patrol & neighbourhood watch would like to remind you "Crime never sleeps". Don't consider yourself, or your neighbours nosy, by keeping a watchful eye out. This time of year in particular people are away and properties can be left unattended. Warm fine evenings can lend it to opportunists out for a walk/cruise. Common thing 'temptation' don't leave stuff lying about. I know it's hot and easy to just leave things lying about but it also makes it easy for others to pick up as well.

Another thing worth mentioning, while we have just had Xmas and is exciting to show off some of our goodies and gifts, remember we are in tough times and not everyone has been so fortunate, portable electronics especially, can be targets for light fingers. Flashing stuff about wont always get you respect and popularity. People talk and word gets around on who has what. Unfortunately like most of the crime in this area, it is from out of area people that consider this part of town "good pickings". Don't let yourself become a victim.

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Charity Music Night By Di Wright

A big thank you to Chris Cayzer for his idea of a charity concert to raise funds for Herald Islanders affected by flood damage. It happened after a talk on a Friday evening and by the next Friday Chris had organized, with a few helpers a concert in the Herald Island Hall. We had local musicians the Pleasures of June with Ian Haylor and Tim Smith singing some of their original songs. They were followed by Ewan and Nathan who are part of a band. Next up Rose and the Wooden Hearts who Chris heard playing at the Packing Shed. The final act was Stone Gypsy, with Chris himself and Nathan Boston. Added excitement was provided by a very attractive singer called Adele.

The musicians really appreciated their audience LISTENING to the music rather than just playing in the background. They gave their time and talent for free.

It was a great evening, with great music and for a very worthy cause. Even the musicians who had come from off the Island insisted on donating.

All the money raised was used to buy food vouchers. The group of residents most affected by the flood have all received some help. They have been overwhelmed by the generosity and caring of everyone.

This was a true community effort and shows what a fantastic Island we are lucky to live on. I would have liked to see the Hall packed but there you are there will always be those who would rather keep themselves to themselves.



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Carol Hooton, Ethel Yelavich, Verna Koster, Annette Billington, Gina Paurau-Balfour.

Zumba comes to the Island

Licensed Zumba instructor Rosita Hendry, has started Zumba classes at the Herald Island Hall.

No previous experience needed, just come along and have fun while getting fit.

Classes are held every Tuesday night from 7pm and Thursday morning from 10am at the Herald Island Hall. Rosita can be contacted by phone on 412-9457 or mobile 021-209-5014.

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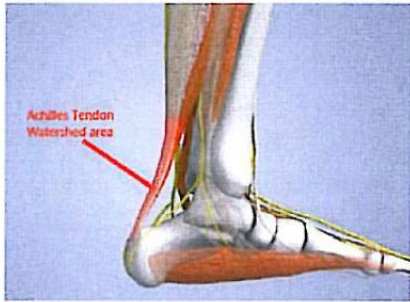
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Achilles Tendon Injuries

By Craig Neale

At this time of year, everyone is motivated to exercise and shed the excesses of Christmas. Sometimes this new found motivation needs to be tempered with careful application to avoid injuries to structures such as the Achilles tendon.



Characteristics of the tendon - The tendon itself is approximately the same diameter as your little finger and is designed to withstand extremely large tension loads of up to four times your body weight for short periods of time as in jumping from a height. One of the characteristics of this tissue is its low metabolic rate and poor blood supply. This enables it to withstand large repetitive loads but unfortunately also explains a very slow rate of recovery.

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Management - Early management is best as they typically do not resolve with time. Continuing exercise may interfere with the healing process. Initially ice massage can give good relief as can topical anti-inflammatory cream when acute. Identifying underlying causative factors is essential in conjunction with activity modification. Treatment will depend on stage of healing but may include soft tissue massage, acupuncture, taping techniques, orthotic prescription and a progressive strengthening regime to ensure long term recovery.

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~ Firewood Fundraiser ~

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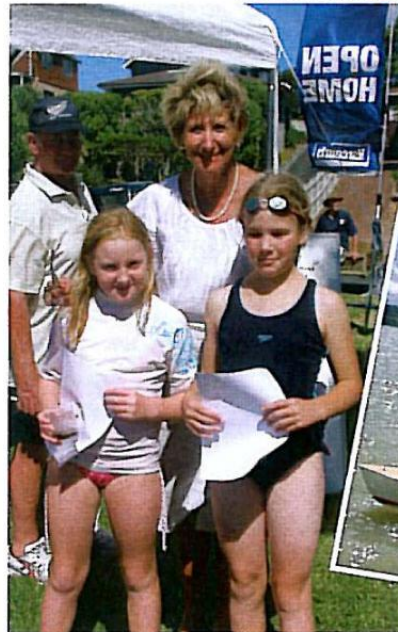
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Street Party *by Linda & Pat*



On a lovely sunny evening, the 13th of February, about 35 people (from the causeway down) enjoyed our annual bar-be-que get together at the reserve at the end of Kauri Road. (very nice of WCC as it was then) to help us establish it with a tree planting occasion some years ago. There was a real mix of the "old and new". One new neighbour generously lent us their barbeque. Several people commenting that we hadn't seen each since the last one, so entrenched are we with our cars, others see a lot of each other and all think that we live in a great little part of the country. A great evening was had by all, with plenty of food and full of laughter and fun. If you haven't had a get-together with your neighbours...give it ago, you might even like each other!

That's the spirit

I'm glad I live on Herald Island because if there ever is a major disaster I won't be on my own. The recent high tide and ensuing flood brought it home to me, and I hope some others, what a caring community we live in. Neighbours helping out on the day; a fund raising concert; a free waste bin to cart away all the water damaged stuff. Thanks have to go to Neighbourhood Support, Chris Cayzer and friends, John Axmann and Waste Management for the Bin.

Found Christmas Beach

Childs black sequined tights. Size 5 brand ange n' disguise. Look almost brand new. Contact Di 416-6160 to claim.

Herald Island Playgroup is growing

Playgroup is in full swing again, we're looking forward to another great year. It's fantastic to see lots of new faces in the last couple of weeks, so again a big welcome to you all. At playgroup we offer a safe, fun place for the kids to play and learn. We are also a very social place, so it is a great place to make new friends and have a chat. New members are always welcome, so please come along and check us out. We are open every Tuesday morning from 9.30-11.30am, in the Herald Island Hall. It's a \$1 donation plus a piece of fruit for a shared morning tea. If you would like more information please call Sharon 416-8933. We also appreciate any donations of crafty bits, and quality used toys (eg: Lego, blocks, dolls) thank you.

Musical Treat

During the summer months The Marina restaurant at West Harbour have local bands playing on Sunday afternoons. Recently I was there for an 80th birthday, get-together, and local band "Stone Gypsy" was playing. They were fantastic, and well worth a listen. They certainly added a wonderful ambience to the place. I highly recommend a visit if you are at a loose end on Sunday afternoon. Head on down for a bite to eat a drink and enjoy the music, it's a great way to spend a summer afternoon!

- Sharon White

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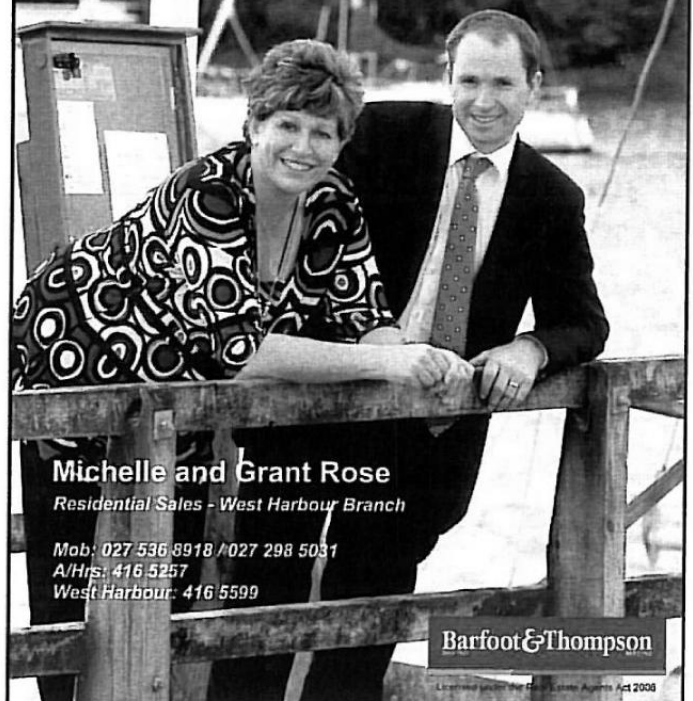
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A few home truths



By Michelle Rose

After a fabulous holiday camping with the family at Kai-Iwi Lakes up North, I am sure you will agree what a wonderful summer we are having and hope you are making the most of getting those outside projects completed and the garden looking glorious!

I am pleased we are all getting back into a routine now that the kids are settled back at school. My son has started at a new school as he is starting year 7 (intermediate). He is now getting used to an earlier start, catching buses and the increase in homework! My eldest daughter is starting Year 11 and will be working hard towards exams at the end of the year. My middle daughter is Year 10 so gets to enjoy one more year without too much pressure!

Maybe you have headed home from your holiday having had time to think about whether you wish to downsize, move further out to the country, move closer to the sea or trade up to a nicer roomier home. Your question may be – 'How is the market currently?'

It was a sluggish start to the year within real estate and a major factor was the lack of homes being listed and consequently the modest number of homes sold in January. Prices held steady however and come February, we hit the ground running with fresh properties that brought renewed interest from potential purchasers.

One property we listed in Te-Atatu had an offer accepted on the day it was listed and subsequently sold. Another property we listed in Westgate had an offer on the 3rd day and a week later had a back-up offer in place. A property in West Harbour that we took to Auction in the middle of February had 41 groups view the property and was sold at the Auction. The owners were thrilled!

Looking to the future, the outlook for 2011 is positive as interest rates are holding steady at attractive levels. The market is stable and there is growing confidence among buyers and sellers. For those looking to move into a bigger house, the gap between the value of your existing smaller home and a larger property is much closer than it was 3 years ago - so a great time to make this transition.

If you are thinking of making a move, please contact myself or Grant if you would like to find out the marketing strategy that was used to achieve the successful results I have mentioned above.

Michelle & Grant Rose tel 416-5599 A/H 416-5257

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Lively Letters . . .

To The Editor,

Well, wasn't that high tide something! We were one of many who had water on their property where it hasn't been before, to us it was just interesting but we felt for the folk on Herald Island who were affected. However, one must ask, would it have happened if the culverts had been in the causeway? We have lived here for about 23 years and the culvert situation has been mentioned many times. We live in hope that it will one day happen and the silting situation might just improve.

P&P Hooper.

To The Causeway,

I'd like to extend my special thanks to the community for their support and concern throughout the floods on Herald Island. My property is on The Terrace, but I was very fortunate, sea water only washed my lawn, no damage was caused.

Thank you again to the people who checked to make sure I was alright.

Regards,

Gay Greig

Vet's Corner

Cicadas and Cats

We have recently seen a number of cats off their food, with intermittent vomiting and diarrhoea. All of these cats have been observed eating cicadas and crickets.

Apparently some cats see the cicadas as little pieces of flying candy and cannot resist them as a tasty morsel. Fast food for cats! Unfortunately cicadas have a chitin exoskeleton that is indigestible, creating abdominal pain and as a result vomiting and diarrhoea ensues especially if too many are ingested at once.

However cicadas do not sting and are not toxic so do not panic. They are a good source of protein and are cooked and eaten as part of the normal diet by humans in some parts of the world. I guess they are like eating potato chips, one is never enough. The cicada season will be over soon and those cats that hunger for a big juicy cicada or two will just have to wait until next summer.

Jeff Jowsey B.V.Sc. Hobsonville Vet Clinic - ph: 416-6751

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Herald Island Garden Club



It always amazes me what fantastic gardens are on Herald Island. We started the year with a ramble around three gardens all completely different. Thanks to Sue and Fiona for opening up The Anchorage to us while they were away. Now where to begin this is the kind of garden I love, bits and pieces everywhere all with a nautical theme. I counted nine anchors, gave up on the oars and flags though, bits of old wharves and barges too. Apparently one of the anchors was off a submarine! There was a huge iron plate that held the cars in place



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on a ferry. Lots of the bits had been retrieved from Greenhithe where they were discovered when they were digging for the new motorway. Sue and Fiona gave them a very good home. They had also taken time to photocopy the history of the ferries that served this area.

A gold fish pond full of fish and really real looking artificial water lilies. A spotty wooden dog in the front garden digging for a bone and a stone dog out back by the farm gate. Lots of mature trees with a tri-trunked rubber tree (some thought it was a Moreton Bay fig tree?). Natives trees too. This was a bird friendly garden with several bird baths and bird houses.

The next garden was a waterfront one, and the garden started on the street. When the house was built any natives removed had to be replaced, and the council checked to make sure this happened! Only 15 months old this was a garden designed and planted by our very own Matthew Edwards. Instead of the beds being covered with the usual bark Marion chose black bark which looked very dramatic and showed off the plants to their best advantage. In all Matthew planted 558 plants. One which took everyone's attention was the Ligularia with large dark, glossy green leaves that were the shape of a tractor seat! Another very attractive plant was Allamanda, a subtropical from South America. The flower is golden yellow and trumpet shaped. They like warm walls and thrive by the coast. Mathew had created a large bed down one side of the garden with an excellent colour combination. Strobilanthes had unusual silver-grey foliage which went well with a green/gold striped Yucca called Garland's Gold. Even the lawn looked different; it had been planted with California Green ready lawn which is a very wide bladed grass. Marion loves her garden and we appreciated her letting us share her enjoyment.

Then it was off to Cindy's garden, another totally different one. A boat shaped flower bed greeted us and at first it looked like we were visiting a small cottage garden with hollyhocks and box hedging but turn a corner and there was a grassy area with trees. One tree had us all guessing. A big established tree it had most unusual tiny greeny grey triangular shaped leaves sprouting from a stalk. Somebody said it could be a wattle. This area led to flower beds then turn right and lo and behold a very large vegetable plot with built up beds. Then tucked around another corner a herb garden sheltered by a wonderful thick climbing Tecomanthe speciosa more commonly called Three Kings vine. This was another garden with a fish pond stocked with goldfish. Cindy kindly provided us with our supper and even had enough cups for all of us! Thank you Cindy and Geoff.

Next month, Tuesday 8th March will be another Garden Visit, depart the car park 7.00pm sharp.

**RADIATOR PROBLEMS CALL
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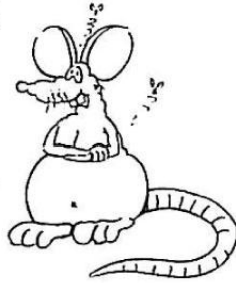
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Scott O'Donnell, 42 Ferry Parade, Herald Island. sar1@nznet.co.nz

Mutterings from the mangroves

- Water Rat missed the fund raising concert but has been told Stone Gypsy is a great duo and can be heard on Sunday afternoons at the Marina restaurant.
- What miserable soul alerted a traffic warden to the Herald Island garage sales ...? They are not normally seen and must have spoilt any bargains picked up.
- Water Rat didn't know there were two local pin-up girls till the Sunderland College flyer turned up in the mail box.



A lot of thought went in to this!



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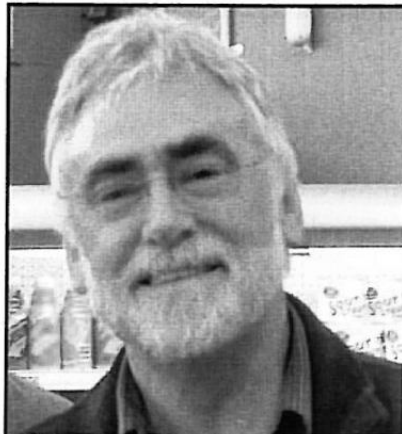


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LOTTO

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1st Division winner, Pramod & Nirmala of
Shree Superette have sold **another** winning
ticket. A local resident won **Lotto 1st Division**
on 20th June. As everything comes in threes,
it's now 2 down and 1 to go!!

Many thanks to our customers for your
continued support.

Shree Superette

89 Brigham Creek Road, Whenuapai

Ph. 416 8813

Hours 6am ~ 7.30pm

Whenuapai Floral & Garden Circle

For our first Meeting of
the year, there were a
hundred people crowded
into the Hall and all seemed
pleased to resume after the
holiday break.

We were entertained by
guest speaker, Margaret
Jones, who was chosen
Gardener of the Year in 2008. At 90+
years, she doesn't mince her words.
As she doesn't eat cake she asks any
visitors to bring her seaweed, sawdust
or shit - for her garden of course.
From 6am till 10pm each day she is
busy all the time, goes dancing twice
a week, claims she has a certificate to
prove she is sane, can count backwards from a hundred to zero in
sevens in seven seconds flat. (Try that yourself and it's not as
easy as you think it might be!) She says she is following in the
footsteps of her great grandfather, who at the age of 97 cycled
Hillsborough Road daily.



Margaret was the first child in her family and she was loved
not spoilt (her words), her parents had the first roadside wine
licence in New Zealand. Life on the farm was chaotic but the tins
were always full with baking, the meals were plentiful and life very
busy. Her parents were political activists and this seems to have
rubbed off on Margaret who, as a protestor about many things,
got nicknamed "the Nanna with the banner" and says she has
been arrested seven times, but never kept in overnight. One
episode included throwing tennis balls from up a tree but she
wasn't caught for that particular escapade.

Just when you felt that we were learning a lot about Margaret,
that had nothing whatsoever to do with gardening, she mentioned
that she favours the "no dig" method of gardening, and evidently
this declaration led to a proposal of marriage from the man who
became her husband! She wouldn't be without celery, lettuce,
silver beet, carrots, kale & broccoli in her vegetable patch. Feed
the ground well to feed the plants to feed you seems to be her
motto. We got the feeling that if we'd been willing to stay all
afternoon, Margaret would still have had more interesting stories
to tell.

Well, until next time,

Happy Gardening from Mary Anne Clark.

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

Citizens Advice Bureau
833-5775

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

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

Herald Island Boat Club
Paul Judd - 416-4194

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

Herald Island Hall For Rent
Eddie Grassick - 416-8220

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

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

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

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

Hobsonville R.S.A.
416-7227

Justices of the Peace
Mr N Huljich
7 Dale Rd, Whenuapai 416 7595
Mr T Mulligan
18 Karaka Rd, Whenuapai 416 7496

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

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

NZ Society of Genealogists,
Waitakere Branch
4th Thurs from Jan - Nov
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Room, Glen Eden. 7.00pm
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Lani Rimington - 818-2161

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Worship service 9am (Ecumenical
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Centre 417-7006

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

Club Physical Toastmasters
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Paul - (021) 278- 3345
Tina - (021) 289- 3343

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

West City Concert Band
Invites brass and woodwind
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nights 7.30pm, Henderson High
Colin Hill - 444-6236

West Harbour Tennis
416-6886, email:
westharbourtennis@xtra.co.nz
Open morning every
Fri 9.30-12 noon
\$3 ~ Non-members welcome
Raewyn Hassett - 416-7304

Whenuapai Air Scout Group
Mark Kirker - 416-4263

Whenuapai Floral & Garden Circle
Noelene Meadows - 833-1283

Whenuapai Pony Club Inc.
Clark Rd, Hobsonville
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Jan Shackell - 416-7818

Whenuapai Village Playgroup
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Whenuapai Community Hall
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Sonia - 416-5346

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

Whenuapai Venturer Unit
Ian - 416-6047

Whenuapai Hall For Rent
Margaret Barnard - 416-4499

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| Date | High Water Auckland | | Sun Rise | Sun Set |
|--------------|---------------------|-----|----------|-----------|
| March | | | | |
| 5 Sat | 0851 | 3.1 | 2112 | 0709 1955 |
| 6 Sun | 0930 | 3.1 | 2150 | 0710 1954 |
| 7 Mon | 1008 | 3.1 | 2226 | 0711 1952 |
| 8 Tue | 1044 | 3.1 | 2300 | 0712 1951 |
| 9 Wed | 1120 | 3.0 | 2336 | 0713 1950 |
| 10 Thu | 1157 | 3.0 | - | 0714 1948 |
| 11 Fri | 0013 | 3.0 | 1235 | 0715 1947 |
| 12 Sat | 0054 | 2.9 | 1317 | 0716 1945 |
| 13 Sun | 0140 | 2.9 | 1404 | 0717 1944 |
| 14 Mon | 0233 | 2.8 | 1458 | 0718 1942 |
| 15 Tue | 0333 | 2.8 | 1559 | 0719 1941 |
| 16 Wed | 0437 | 2.9 | 1705 | 0720 1939 |
| 17 Thu | 0539 | 3.0 | 1810 | 0720 1938 |
| 18 Fri | 0638 | 3.2 | 1910 | 0721 1937 |
| 19 Sat | 0733 | 3.4 | 2006 | 0722 1935 |
| 20 Sun | 0826 | 3.5 | 2059 | 0723 1934 |
| 21 Mon | 0919 | 3.6 | 2150 | 0724 1932 |
| 22 Tue | 1010 | 3.6 | 2240 | 0725 1931 |
| 23 Wed | 1101 | 3.5 | 2330 | 0726 1929 |
| 24 Thu | 1152 | 3.4 | - | 0727 1928 |
| 25 Fri | 0022 | 3.4 | 1244 | 0728 1926 |
| 26 Sat | 0115 | 3.3 | 1337 | 0728 1925 |
| 27 Sun | 0211 | 3.1 | 1432 | 0729 1923 |
| 28 Mon | 0310 | 3.0 | 1530 | 0730 1922 |
| 29 Tue | 0410 | 2.9 | 1630 | 0731 1920 |
| 30 Wed | 0508 | 2.9 | 1730 | 0732 1919 |
| 31 Thu | 0602 | 2.9 | 1826 | 0733 1917 |
| April | | | | |
| 1 Fri | 0651 | 2.9 | 1916 | 0734 1916 |
| 2 Sat | 0736 | 3.0 | 2001 | 0735 1914 |
| 3 Sun | 0718 | 3.0 | 1942 | 0635 1813 |
| 4 Mon | 0758 | 3.0 | 2020 | 0636 1812 |
| 5 Tue | 0836 | 3.0 | 2056 | 0637 1810 |
| 6 Wed | 0913 | 3.0 | 2132 | 0638 1809 |
| 7 Thu | 0950 | 3.0 | 2208 | 0639 1807 |
| 8 Fri | 1029 | 3.0 | 2247 | 0640 1806 |
| 9 Sat | 1110 | 2.9 | 2329 | 0641 1804 |
| 10 Sun | 1154 | 2.9 | - | 0641 1803 |
| 11 Mon | 0016 | 3.0 | 1242 | 0642 1802 |
| 12 Tue | 0109 | 2.9 | 1336 | 0643 1800 |
| 13 Wed | 0208 | 3.0 | 1437 | 0644 1759 |
| 14 Thu | 0310 | 3.0 | 1541 | 0645 1758 |
| 15 Fri | 0411 | 3.1 | 1646 | 0646 1759 |
| 16 Sat | 0510 | 3.2 | 1747 | 0647 1755 |
| 17 Sun | 0606 | 3.4 | 1843 | 0647 1753 |
| 18 Mon | 0701 | 3.4 | 1937 | 0648 1752 |
| 19 Tue | 0755 | 3.5 | 2029 | 0649 1751 |
| 20 Wed | 0848 | 3.5 | 2119 | 0650 1750 |
| 21 Thu | 0940 | 3.4 | 2210 | 0651 1748 |
| 22 Fri | 1031 | 3.3 | 2301 | 0652 1747 |
| 23 Sat | 1122 | 3.2 | 2353 | 0653 1746 |

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| Health | The Fitness League | 489-7159 | Upholsterers | T&K Upholsterers Ltd | 833-5822 |
| Herbs | Sue - Hobby Herbs | 416-4298 | Water - Pure | Aquadynamics | 0800-787-396 |
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