



*A dog minder, who is also an animal photographer, will look after your pet so you can enjoy a carefree market*

## Balloons, Balloons and more, Balloons



*Make sure you see one of the Mike Pero Real Estate team and get a free helium filled balloon—UP UP and AWAY!*



**Lynn, Ginny and Ian  
Mike Pero Real Estate Puhoi**

## WHAT'S ON IN PUHOI

- February 25 Puhoi Village Market 10<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations, sports club grounds 9am -1pm
- February 25 Warkworth-Puhoi Catholic parish picnic, Puhoi Pioneers Memorial Park 'pony paddock', midday
- February 27 Puhoi Community Forum monthly meeting, all welcome, sports club, 7.30pm
- March 17 Puhoi Children's Choir and musicians St Patrick's Day sing along, all welcome, hotel grape arbor, 6pm
- March 25 Puhoi Village Market, sports club grounds, 9am-1pm
- March 27 Puhoi Community Forum monthly meeting, all welcome, sports club, 7.30pm
- March 30 Good Friday

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# Puhoi Community NEWS LETTER

February 2018 Edition 158

### Dear Puhoi residents and friends of our community,

Following the summer holidays, I am aiming to return to the routine of a monthly newsletter for distribution through the Puhoi store mailboxes, and Mike Swain's website, [www.puhoinz.com](http://www.puhoinz.com) as well as through my big, bulk, email contact list, with over 400 addresses now, but, you will have to agree, working inside in an office warmed by the heat of a computer is a bit of a bind in this sticky, humid weather.

So my apologies if some of my newsbriefs are only snippets.

**Judith Williams**  
 (Puhoi Community Newsletter editor)

Terri from the Puhoi Community Forum reminds us that, now the children are back to school, **drivers need to be careful** around the Central Puhoi Business Area in the mornings and around 3.30pm on school days, when buses depart and arrive, and asks us to keep to the 20kph rule for passing such buses. Thanks for that, Terri, ed.

**Keeping your cool** in every sense is becoming a full-time job – some people use electric fans and wet sheets rigged up in doorways. I work outside in my bathing suit and keep it wet, or get under the cold water tap several times a day and then go around in a wet towel for a while. It works for me, but try doing this at the office and you might get a few stares! A good trick to teach kids is simply to immerse their wrists in cold water.

What really helps get me a good night's sleep is a mosquito net, which you can buy from several outlets (google them) and which allows you to keep the doors and windows open at night without the nuisance of mozzies and baby crickets trying to share the bed.

And here is something else that might help beat the heat.  
**JUDITH'S EASY GINGER BEER** (does away with starters and other recipe complications)

Fill a mixing bowl (not metal) with about 16 cups of water, sling in two cups of sugar, one or two dessertspoons ginger powder and a pinch or so of baker's or winemaker's yeast ( don't overdo the yeast or you will make too much alcohol too quickly) Leave in a warmish place to ferment for about 24 hours and then bottle it in plastic bottles with corks or screw caps or swing top glass bottles. Glass bottles with tightly screwed down lids are just asking to explode if you are not careful. At this point I add a bit of lemon juice to prevent it becoming too blandly sweet. Put a raisin in each bottle and when the raisin rises to the surface, theoretically it should be ready to drink. I usually refrigerate it at this stage as, in this hot weather, fermentation might proceed to the point where you are washing your kitchen ceiling with ginger beer. And don't make the mistake of shaking the bottle!

Now, it's always good to hear a different voice, so I shall hand you over to **Heather from the Puhoi Sports Club**.

Hello Judith, yes we have a new committee, some of them new to

the village, and all eager to get new things going at the club.

President Brendon Petrich 021904065  
[Bpetrich70@gmail.com](mailto:Bpetrich70@gmail.com)  
 Secretary Leah Hall 0220796358  
[lachristie1106@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lachristie1106@yahoo.co.uk)  
 Treasurer Helen Furniss-Massey  
 Committee Troy Connolly (senior coach)  
 Laurence McKinstry (maintenance)  
 Chris Webb (all bookings)  
 Jackie Higgins  
 Darryl Windsor  
 Heather McKinstry  
 Stacey Beardmore

We also have a list of approximately 20 very active volunteers willing to assist on a regular basis, and this is not something we have had before. We will be expanding the sports activities and advertising the whole venue, upstairs and downstairs, to be hired out. We will be opening every Thursday and Friday evening with good food at a very affordable price and bar open.

All news and items of interest regarding the club can be sent to you by the new secretary, Leah. She had mentioned she would like to meet you and do this if it suits you. And of course you can always e-mail me anytime. (Thank you, Heather, I would love to meet Leah. Our gratitude, also, to recent president Ian Boothroyd for all the time and enthusiasm he invested in seeing the club thrive and move ahead.)

**But now I should like to take the opportunity of paying tribute** to someone who has faithfully served the Puhoi Sports Club since its inception, and who is no longer a member of its committee. I refer to Sharon Hallett, who, for as long as I can remember, has been associated with the club and its prized position in the hearts of Puhoians. Thank you, Sharon - you have always been helpful when I needed information, and answered my queries sensibly and knowledgeably. I appreciate your forthright approach and contribution to Puhoi and its community life, and hope some group or organisation snaps you and your talents up so that we may continue to use them. Ed.

Congratulations to Puhoi Community Forum co chair Dustyn O'Leary and partner Jimmy McPhie on **the birth of baby Kit**. Infant experts say he is adorable!

There are many **end-of- an-era moments** in our Puhoi lives – the close of waste metal collections at Puhoi Motors, a mundane but extremely useful service, for example, but the most precious, and saddest, are the departures of the loved friends and families who have decided it is time to move

away. One such, coming ever closer, is the departure of Kathy and Cody Mankelov, founders of Puhoi River Canoe Hire, and for around 30 years good friends to our hall and its committee, and just generally good neighbours. Who else of our residents could claim to know our river, its tides and its currents, its floods and its ups and its down like they do? And who could forget the flood which rose to the top of the Krippner – Puhoi Roads STOP sign, almost covering a car there and trapping the driver on its roof, until along came Cody in his kayak to the rescue! Legendary, but, sadly, with the increasing turnover of residents, easily forgotten.

With all the upsurge of activity that goes with the start of the working and academic year, we will have to **can the Puhoi Community Forum-hosted annual street party/picnic**, usually held in December, but which was this year to be in early March, on the Puhoi Pioneers Memorial Park 'pony paddock' river bank. The preceding weekend will already be given over to the local church picnic, on the same grounds, plus the Puhoi Village Market's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday bash on the neighbouring sports club land.

And this brings me to a situation likely to become increasingly contentious as our population and the demand for public buildings and open space for meetings and outdoor functions by residents and outsiders increases. The situation is the potential for **accidental doubling up of bookings** and plans to use public land. We are all aware that weddings in our church and use of the hall and sports club for receptions, birthdays, family reunions and suchlike now have to be booked about a year in advance and double-ups are easily avoided by consulting the bookings' officer for these premises. But there is also more interest now in use of public open space, for example the Rotunda reserve, or the Puhoi Pioneers Memorial Park 'pony paddock' for community picnics, outdoor wedding ceremonies and musical events for which no formal booking, and therefore no notification of intended use, is necessary.

Discussion about this potential problem came up at the Puhoi Community Forum's January meeting and it was agreed some form of community calendar could be useful to which people planning functions could contribute their dates - not just public ones such as the monthly village market, but also private ones such as a wedding on parts of the memorial park undesignated for specific use.

Since I already have a What's On In Puhoi section in my newsletter, I would be happy to create an additional section for potential users to alert us by phone call or email to plans for their functions, if they wished. Advising the community would be sensible, but optional, and one thing we - both forum and myself, - would definitely not want to get involved in would be arbitrating in case of a dispute. Let me know your thoughts.

This year, **St Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17**, starting around 6pm, there will be some new entertainment in the form of a musical get-together combining the Puhoi Children's Choir and some of the musicians from the Celtic Sessions, and anyone else who would like to bring their voice or an instrument and join in the music-making. It will be held in the grape arbour, an all-weather venue beside the Puhoi hotel, with its bar and bistro.

I wonder how many of us are aware of the Rodney North

Community Patrol, in association with our local police, which, **while we are sleeping**, on Friday and Saturday evenings visits our village as part of its voluntary service, and which could do with more volunteers. Look for the patrol car at our village market this Sunday and have a talk to Ross Sutherland, 021 301 339, about the patrol's work. The distinctive white and striped car will be near the Neighbourhood Support and Civil Defence stall.

Three weeks ago I went to prison – the visit for me as a journalist was arranged by our retired beekeeper Brian Alexander of Tahekeroa, who you may have seen in a recent TV report about the apiculture course he tutors in the Corrections Department's Paremoremo men's prison. It was a most encouraging and positive experience and I understand now how many Kiwis have a real wish to **help prisoners turn their lives around** on release. There is, for example, a need for jobs for released prisoners and for business owners to not only provide these jobs, but also do some mentoring. Please ask yourself if you could provide such an opportunity and contact the Department of Corrections.



*Judith goes to jail ... me in white beekeeper's suit surrounded by warders and staff members on a recent visit to Paremoremo prison to report on tutor Brian Alexander's apiculture course.*

**Our thanks to new, very active and very energetic Puhoi Village Market manager Jaqui Barrett for the following press release.**

**The Puhoi Village Market is celebrating a milestone** on Sunday, 25 Feb, 9am - 1pm. Ten years of offering music, fresh produce, delicious food, plants, arts and crafts to the local Puhoi community is worth celebrating. Come and join us, this will be a fun family morning. We have music by Didelli, with Jan Elliott on vocals & guitar & Tom Didovich on piano. This vibrant, melodic, duo from West Auckland will be performing a tasty selection of songs which have been described as quirky, fresh, varied 'jazzed up folk 'n soul'.



*Market visitors can participate in 'standing yoga' with Shelley*

Joining us also are The Puhoi Ramblers, our local talent, playing around 10.30am.

And throughout the morning are the sounds of the Jade River Ukes. Dianne Morgan and the Jade River Ukes are a performing group of individuals that love learning the ukulele and play gigs at local and community events

A family-friendly drum circle will join the bands for a few numbers around 10.45am. Our Puhoi Volunteer Rural Fire Force is setting up a Water Slide for the kids (and big kids) to get wet and soapy, between 10am – noon.



*Kids, bring some old clothes, as Puhoi's volunteer firefighters will be running a water slide on the sports field*

Around 11.15 we will cut the birthday cake and spend a few moments acknowledging some of the people who have supported the village market for the past 10 years. It is thanks to you that the market has reached its 10th birthday. At the same time we will, as has become an annual birthday tradition, be making some small grants to organisations and local groups to continue their contribution to the wellbeing of our community. Standing yoga will be around midday and spot prizes throughout the morning.

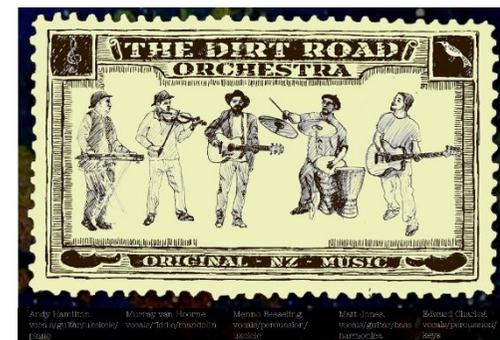
The Tomato Competition will be judged around 11am. To enter the competition you need to bring a selection of your best, not necessarily biggest, fruit to the competition table ideally before

10am. Judging will be by popular vote and the reward is an engraved trophy plus a bag of tomato fertiliser.

The sports club is running a fund-raiser and offering a Full English Breakfast, served upstairs in their comfortable rooms. Come and support your club - they do a lot for our kids and the community.

The Warkworth Theatre Group, a local group of actors and theatre enthusiasts providing regular entertainment will be there, promoting their next production and always on the lookout for new talent to join them.

Foodbank will have a stall to help raise funds for all the amazing work they do in helping families in need, and Neighbourhood Support and Civil Defence will have information on keeping ourselves and neighbours safe in these very uncertain days of climate change.



*Some of these characters will be among the many musicians performing at the market*



*Cloud 9 Kites, waiting to give the kids a run for their money*