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Rodney Community Mail
Issue 2
Q1

Winter edition!
July, Aug, September



We work on behalf of the Rodney Local Board to support the development of more community-led, locally delivered activities, programmes, events and placemaking activations across Rodney.

Kia ora!

Now that we're into Term 3 and the winter months, things have started to slow down and our event calendar is a bit less hectic. We have some great weekly programmes to keep you warm, active and connected, including She Connects, Unplugged Lounge, Tai Chi and Everstrong Fitness. Our Facilitators have been busy out in their communities meeting locals and community organisations and putting in place some really cool collaborations. Read more below.

A primary objective of the Rodney Community Team is to increase **placemaking** initiatives across Rodney and we have recently made some great progress here. We want to create **community spaces** (e.g. community centres, community living rooms, parks, venues for hire) in Rodney's towns and villages that are attractive and vibrant. Read below to see the work Arwen has started in Helensville.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our activities!

Stay warm.

If you or your community organisation would like help with a community project, please contact us at kiaora@rodneycommunity.org.nz

We can provide assistance with:

- Planning your project
- Finding venues, and in some cases helping with the cost of venues
- Finding other people to work with who might support your project
- Negotiating and understanding council processes
- Landowner approvals (permission to use a public space)
- Consulting with your community
- Finding additional financial support
- Marketing and promotion
- Governance

Have you attended one of our events or activities?

Please give us your feedback. This really helps us improve things and extend on the ideas that are working well.

Satisfaction Survey

Upcoming

See our
calendar

Warkworth: Buy your tickets now for The Music of Bridgerton!

Dearest gentle reader,

You don't have to drive into the city to experience award-winning entertainment - the event of the season is coming to **Warkworth Town Hall on Saturday 15 August: The Music of Bridgerton**. Enjoy a blend of Regency-era pieces and Bridgerton inspired modern music by a classical quartet featuring stunning vocals by Valorie Lafaele.

Prepare to step into a world of elegance, music, and a little Regency dance. Dress the part and immerse yourself in a unique experience. Bar and platters by Village Picnic available for purchase. Get your tickets before its too late!

Check out more of the work I'm doing in the area from Warkworth to Dairy Flat [here](#)



Jess Brown, Community Facilitator for Warkworth to

Dairy Flat

21 July

**THE MUSIC OF
BRIDGERTON**

STRING QUARTET - VOCAL SOLOIST

AUGUST 15TH
DOORS OPEN 7PM
WARKWORTH TOWN HALL

TICKETS \$20

jess@rodneycommunity.org.nz
FB: @rodneycommunity

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:

Rodney Local Board
Auckland Council

RODNEY COMMUNITY

[Book now](#)

Snells Beach: Community Conversations final report & Matariki

On June 11th, a total of 336 votes were cast and \$15,000 was made available to support community-led action, thanks to Rodney Local Board.

Funding has been allocated to the four strongest themes: supporting young people, increasing opportunities for community connection, keeping active & healthy and creating community spaces. Please have a read of our [final report](#) and let us know if you would like to help get something going. Catch up on the whole project [here](#).

This year's [Mahurangi Matariki Festival](#), held in Snells Beach on 18 July, was a heartwarming success — Mahurangi Community Centre was absolutely pumping with good vibes, music, food, activities and dancing!



Lou Perkins, Community Facilitator for East Rodney

21 July



[Read the Community Conversations report](#)

Helensville: Making space for Connection

Our last [Community Soup Chats](#) - happened today, Tuesday 28 July in the Council Meeting Room next to the Helensville Library. Led by me in collaboration with community partners, these sessions have been a great way for locals to connect with each other as well as to community services while enjoying some delicious, warming soup. Each week, this simple combination of good food and a welcoming space has provided the perfect environment to unlock genuine connection. Strangers have become friends and organisations have reconnected and are now collaborating. What's exciting is that this model is now going to be replicated in other parts of Rodney.

I am also thrilled to have made great progress on the [Pop-up Shared community space](#) in front of Helensville Library. You may have noticed brand new, colourful outdoor furniture (made locally by Breswa Furniture) is now installed. This project is a placemaking initiative to revitalise this space so that it becomes a place to gather and a venue for pop-up activities and events. Let us know what you think!

Check out my page to see [what I'm supporting in Helensville & South Kaipara](#).



Arwen Flowers, Community Facilitator for Helensville & South Kaipara

21 July



Read more about this [new shared space](#)

Kumeū & Surrounds: Community getting together

We had an awesome inaugural [Family Fun Day](#) at Huapai Hub on June 20th. The area behind the Kumeū Arts Centre was filled with laughter and activity, featuring entertainment for all ages including Hungerball, Junk Play, face painting, and a scavenger hunt hosted by the Kumeū Library. Activating the Huapai Hub and making it a welcoming, interesting and accessible community space is a big focus of my work. Keep an eye out for a transformation of this area coming soon!

Upcoming projects I am working on include a series called She Connects (currently running in Warkworth), Community Chats (successfully trialed in Helensville) and a Biodynamics Workshop. Catch me at Kumeū Market on August 16th where I'll have a table and kids crafts. Come say hi and let's talk about what we can do together!



Kyra Shaw-Toomey, Community Facilitator for Kumeū & surrounds

July 23

Community activities: Aug - Oct 2026

TAI CHI CLASSES

Thursdays 1pm-2pm | Term 3 & 4
Kumeū Community Centre
\$10 class



EVERSTRONG SENIOR GROUP FITNESS

Thursdays 10:30–11:30am until Sep
24th Kumeū Community Centre



WILD STREETS OF PLAY

Friday October 2nd 10am-2pm
Huapai Hub



[Read more](#)

Play, Youth & Recreation in Rodney

A new winter [Out & About](#) programme of free activities is coming soon with an increased focus on adult fitness and reaching smaller communities who may have been left out in the past. We will make sure to share the programme with you.

Two recent wins for me, were the Adaptive Skate lessons delivered by Wellness Riders at Snells Beach and Kumeū and the [Bluelight](#)

[Fishing Program](#) just delivered last week.

We had a great turnout for both Adaptive Skate events and we received awesome feedback from parents who really appreciated the inclusiveness of the classes and the opportunity to meet other parents in similar situations.

The Bluelight Fishing Program is an awesome example of community collaboration and generosity thanks to the many volunteers involved. It has been described as "awesome" and "amazing" by some of the young teens who participated. We have already had people inquiring about the next one!



Dan Grant, Play, Youth & Recreation Coordinator

July 23



[Read more about my work](#)

**Rodney Local Board Plan draft:
consultation now closed**

Over the next few months, the Rodney Local Board will be analysing your feedback, finalising the plan, and sharing it with you once it's been adopted.

Every submission helps shape the future of our community and what matters most, and we appreciate everyone who took the time to have their say.

In the mean time catch up on the latest Rodney update. Discover what's planned for Huapai Domain and see the fresh new look at Ahuroa Hall.

Read it here: <https://tinyurl.com/yc89x5xm>

Get future updates straight to your inbox: <https://tinyurl.com/ywjya9jp>

Rodney Local Board Plan 2026



Te mahere ā-rohe o Rodney 2026

24 July



See what our team is working on across Rodney

Click for
more

Email us: kiaora@rodneycommunity.org.nz

[Meet our whole team](#)

Rodney Community

www.rodneycommunity.org.nz

kiaora@rodneycommunity.org.nz



You may have received this email because you signed up to the Rodney Youth Project mailing list which is now looked after by the Rodney Community team.

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