

## *Your community, your place.*

We're into the third month of spring already. With the arrival of better weather, our thoughts turn to getting out and about more and enjoying social and leisure pursuits. Activities are definitely the theme of this month's newsletter.

It's also a time when everyone likes to do a spot of spring cleaning, and we bring you a few tips on preventing mould and dealing with any unwanted visitors in your home, such as ants.

Speaking of unwanted visitors, a reminder about 'stranger danger'; if you notice anyone behaving suspiciously, or if you feel unsafe at any time or concerned about strangers in your village, don't hesitate to ring the Police. Contractors working on behalf of Haumaruru Housing will always be happy to show you their ID, when asked.

Here's to enjoying sunnier days.



**Gabby Clezy, Chief Executive Officer**

## What's on at your local Community House

Haumaruru Housing has partnered with Volunteering Auckland to support the creation of active communities for older people. The aim of the new "Head - Hand - Heart SIXTY PLUS" campaign is to connect seniors with other 60-plus locals and introduce them to the wide range of activities that are available at their nearest Community House.

From arts and crafts, to gentle exercise sessions, friendship groups and community information, there's something for everyone. And if there's something else of interest you'd like to do, they may even start up a new activity for you!

The Community Houses are funded and supported by Auckland Council and the Local Boards. Speak to your Community Manager for more information on what's going on near you.



*From left: Carla van Walen (Birkdale Beach Haven Community Project), Cheryl Martin (General Manager, Volunteering Auckland) and Haumaruru Housing Community Manager Lisa McKinnon at the "Head - Hand - Heart SIXTY PLUS" launch at Birkdale Community House.*

## Safety first for scooters

If tenants are considering purchasing a mobility scooter, please would you discuss this first with your Community Manager. As each village is different in terms of the general environment and pathways, it's important that all health and safety issues are considered beforehand. This includes where scooters might be parked, how they'd be re-charged and access routes to be used. We want to avoid any nasty accidents and to be sure that you, your scooter and other village tenants are kept safe at all times.

## Gardening Guru just for you!



Spring is here and it's time to get your summer veges and potted colour planted!

For the next few months, Haumaru's very own garden guru, Talei Tasi ('Lei' for short), will be available to assist with your gardening activities.

You may have spoken to Lei before, as she's been a member of our Service Desk team since March.

She's a passionate gardener and worked in the nursery at Bunnings Warehouse, before joining Haumaru.

If you'd like some help with your garden projects, or advice on planting, please call the Haumaru Service Desk on 0800 430 101 to book a 30-45min appointment.

## Mould-busting tips

Mould is a common household problem caused by the presence of moisture in poorly ventilated areas. A dry, well aired unit is easier to heat and healthier for you. To keep mould at bay:

- Open windows, so steam can escape from cooking or bathing.
- Keep lids on pots when cooking.
- Open windows when using a clothes drier, so moisture can escape.
- Leave wardrobes slightly open for ventilation.
- Keep the shower curtain hanging inside the shower/bath, so water doesn't drip on the floor, and wash the curtain every few weeks.
- Use an electric heater, rather than gas (which creates a damp heat).
- Keep only a few plants inside.

To remove mould, wash with diluted household bleach as soon as it appears. Use a clean sponge and rinse it often to reduce the risk of mould spreading. Open windows to improve air flow while you clean.

## Busy, busy, busy...

One tenant who definitely enjoys getting out and about in his local community is Mr Sam Anania of Manurewa's Leabank Court. Sam's wide range of interests keeps him very busy. His activities include golfing, keeping fit, playing 8 Ball Pool, attending the Weymouth Cossie Club where he's a member, and going out on fishing charters every month.

A Haumaru tenant since 2014, Sam greatly enjoys village life, chatting with neighbours and sharing his fish catch with fellow tenants. He's now looking forward to going along to the village's revamped community centre, once all the renovations are complete.



*Sam's pictured with an array of fresh vegetables for sharing, having just returned from a trip to Pukekohe*

## Controlling pests

You can do a lot to keep **rats and mice** away by keeping your home clean and tidy, so they have no food source and nowhere to nest. If they do get inside, mouse holes and nesting areas can be blocked with steel wool. You can get mousetraps from the supermarket or buy poisoned bait from garden or hardware stores.

If **cockroaches** are an issue, keep bay leaves or garlic in your cupboards, and wash the floor and wall behind fridges and stoves regularly, spraying these areas with long-lasting insect spray. For an **ant** problem, sprinkle ground or whole cloves in cupboards. You can also sprinkle talcum powder or cream of tartar at the point where they come inside. If you find an ant nest, pour boiling water into it.

If you'd like us to organise pest control for you (at your own cost), please contact your Community Manager.

We always appreciate your feedback. You can talk to your Community Manager, call us on 0800 430 101, email [info@haumaruhousing.co.nz](mailto:info@haumaruhousing.co.nz) or visit [www.haumaruhousing.co.nz](http://www.haumaruhousing.co.nz)

The Selwyn Foundation



Auckland Council  
Te Kaunihera o Tamaki Makaurau

