

## MASSEY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GROUP PROJECT: CHRISTMAS IN TRIANGLE PARK

As a Massey North resident I have a vested interest in my community, so to be given the opportunity to be part of a resident's engagement group that put into action Massey's first Christmas in the Park was very exciting. In partnership with Massey community organisations (namely Massey Matters and Massey Community House), the event was true, ground-up community development; a project that was culturally and socially reflective of the diverse communities of people who make Massey so unique. It was a relaxed, engaging and interactive celebration that most importantly brought together family, friends, neighbours and the wider community.

The dunking stall was a crowd pleaser for both participants and spectators, and let's applaud Luke,



our local community policeman, for taking the plunge. Despite the relentless heat, the spirit and enthusiasm of both the volunteer barbeque team and our over-dressed Santa were admirable. The talent and passion of the musicians and singers that entertained us added that "party vibe".

Thank you to the hundreds of Massey Primary School and Redhills and Massey kindergarten children for creating the wonderful Christmas decorations that swung merrily between park trees. A personal highlight for many organisers was overhearing children proudly pointing out to friends and family the decoration/s they had personally made.

The event organisers would like to say a huge thank you to every sponsor, volunteer, business and participant who enabled this fun community celebration to be great.

- Jeannie Colmar

## MASSEY MEANS BUSINESS

### BUY LOCAL

Massey Means Business reminds you that the Buy Local directory is available via the Massey Matters website. A large range of businesses and services can now be found using the 'search' function. Just follow the instructions, enter the service you need and the directory will give you a list of local businesses.

Using Massey Means Business in this way helps to create live local / buy local / trade local opportunities and will bring businesses more into the heart of the local community thinking.

### HOME-BASED BUSINESS

Are you running a business from home? We are planning a marketing campaign through the website to help you reach local residents in Massey, Westgate and Hobsonville. Please contact Barbara Joy, email: recreating@xtra.co.nz to learn more.

### LOCAL EXPANSION & DEVELOPMENT

As the North West changes continue, new businesses and business opportunities will be developed. The conversation around how this will affect local established businesses and the general community, will be an increased focus for 2014. Massey Means Business intends to be involved wherever possible as information continues to be released. Take a look at the current fly-through of the developments on the members page at [www.masseymeansbusiness.org.nz](http://www.masseymeansbusiness.org.nz)

### NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

How many of us make these? About this time of the year we have difficulty even remembering them! One way to change this is to turn your resolutions into projects with clear goals, timelines and the outcomes that you want to see. Although this comes from a business development model, it can equally apply to anything you want achieve this year, be it a better job, a holiday, a family occasion or learning a new skill. Remember that as this is YOUR plan and goal posts can be moved – as long as you don't remove them altogether!



Search for Local Trades and Services

'Buy Local' Directory

[www.masseymatters.org.nz](http://www.masseymatters.org.nz)

# NETWORK FOR SCHOOLS LAUNCHED

On 26 November 2013, Massey Primary School held a powhiri for the Prime Minister John Key, Ministers of Education and invited guests from the Ministry of Education, local schools and the Massey community to launch the government IT initiative, Network for Schools.

Massey Primary had the privilege of being the first school in New Zealand to be connected to this network.

The network, fully funded by the ministry, enables schools to connect to ultra-fast broadband at no cost to them. It includes uncapped data, 100mb download and upload, filtering and firewall and technical support.

This means that our students will have immediate access to

the Internet at their fingertips, which will assist their learning and achievement. As they have books, rulers, pens beside them, so too can they now have electronic devices.

It is important to understand that these devices are only as good as the teaching that goes alongside them, and so the staff at Massey Primary are undergoing intensive professional training in their use. This includes training in blended e-learning, personalised learning and self-directed learning.

We also acknowledge the support of our Board of Trustees and Chairperson Kurt Jarrett, who are resourcing the school to enable this learning to move forward.

Bruce Barnes



# WESTGATE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The exciting regional town centre redevelopment of more than 150 hectares of land at Westgate has reached the construction phase. Westgate will become the thriving hub of the north west as the population booms and more land is made available for housing.

NZRPG and Auckland Council, over the past three years, have been involved in intensive earthworks, preparatory and infrastructure work onsite and building is now imminent.

"The Westgate development is part of the north west 'big picture' which will result in a balanced and integrated urban community to ensure regional growth and social, recreational, environmental and transport benefits," says Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse.

"It is absolutely wonderful to see the progress being made at Westgate because as we all know this development has been in the pipeline for years. Now we are finally seeing the fruits of all our planning and infrastructure investment, the catalyst for private sector development, and that's incredibly exciting."

At the core of the Westgate development is a new town centre and state-of-the-art library. The new civic square will be a pedestrian-friendly, slow-speed zone and will be THE place for people to gather and relax with family and friends.

Most of Auckland Council's stormwater and roading work is now complete. Rua Road South (off Fred Taylor Drive) will be finished by the end of March. The Don Buck Road extension and Waru link road to the town square will be complete by the middle of this year.

Work on the council's library and town square is programmed to start in August this year and is expected to be complete by October 2015 with construction coordinated with the private sector developments.

A new Foodstuffs Pak'n Save is currently under construction on the corner of Rua Road and Fred Taylor Dr and is expected to be open by the end of the year. DNZ, who purchased zone 5 where the mall will be built, are targeting to get underway with building this year. A Mega Mitre10 and Palmers Garden centre is expected to open by the end of 2014.

"The north west redevelopment which includes the increasingly popular Hobsonville Point residential development will provide up to 20,000 new jobs, 5000 new homes and will definitely be the place to live, work, play and shop," says Ms Hulse.

"It will also provide a major contribution toward helping the Auckland Plan meet the projected need for housing, business land and economic growth over the next ten years."

Kim Dawson, Westgate's Centre Manager says while there is lots of building activity on the extension of Westgate, the existing Westgate shopping centre continues to be a thriving shopping hub for the community.

"We introduced our first Christmas Parade in November and it was a total hit with local residents as was the Huapai Hot Rod Show 'n' Shine with over 100 classic cars in the Food & Entertainment precinct of the Centre. Feedback from public and retailers alike was extremely positive, especially around the fact that the activities and entertainment at both events was free – a real feel-good factor for the community at Christmas time. We plan to make both of these annual events."

Movement in the Centre includes a new physiotherapy clinic situated alongside the medical centre and United Travel have recently relocated next to Lab tests on Westgate Drive. Ms Dawson says the liquor store opening right next to Countdown will be handy for shoppers to pick up their bottle of wine once they have completed their grocery shopping.

"There is constant movement in the Centre, with some shops closing and others opening. It's a matter of retailers meeting the community's needs and change is a natural occurrence in the Centre. We are proud of our 98% occupancy rate over the last five years – there is always something happening at Westgate, such as the recent refit of The Warehouse including new lighting, shopfittings and layout, giving the store a new fresh look," says Ms Dawson.

# MASSEY MATTERS UPDATE



We are looking forward to the year ahead – it's going to be another year of change! Unfortunately Mary Nicholas, our Massey East Community Development Broker resigned just before Christmas to take up another community development role in Rotorua. Mary did some great work in Massey East over the last four years, especially around the development of the West Harbour Hub and she will be greatly missed. We wish her every success in her new role.

This has obviously meant some changes for Massey Matters – Sam Farquhar, our existing Community Development Broker will move to take over Mary's work in Massey East and will also focus her time on working alongside local schools and residents to assist in developing community hubs at the decommissioned dental clinics. To help Sam out we have enlisted the support of local resident Olga Mills (pictured below) to work on a range of projects including the newsletter, Massey Matters Fund and the Community Network Meetings. As part of my role, I will continue to explore training, employment and enterprise opportunities for Massey. However, as this is our transition year – our first year of operation outside of Auckland Council as an independent community organisation – myself and Kerry will continue to work away on ensuring we have the systems, policies,

procedures and funding to enable us to not only function but also to continue to grow and better serve the needs of this community.

We all look forward to working with you and please feel free to call in and say hello!

Tracy Watts,  
Manager (Acting)



[www.masseymatters.org.nz](http://www.masseymatters.org.nz)

## WESTGATE SALVATION ARMY

**Office hours:** Tuesday-Friday, 9am-1pm. Ph: 833 6856

**Community ministries:** Overnight food parcels, Ezee meals, social work and counselling.

**Church programme:** Family church service, 10am Sunday; prayer groups, and more. Seniors morning tea, Tuesdays at 10am.

**Family Store:** Clothing, household goods and a garage sale on the first Saturday of every month. Ph: 833 8633

**Children and youth programmes:** Alternating Friday nights. Contact the office for more details.



## ROYAL ROAD COMMUNITY HUB

The Royal Road Community Hub has been up-and-running since August with the support of Massey Matters. It is located in the Royal Road School now-decommissioned dental clinic. It has been set up to provide services and education for the local community and is all about helping local people to connect with each other, learn and have fun.

Some of the wonderful sessions the hub has had so far are a pamper session at The College of Camille, a seminar on healthy lunchbox ideas from the Heart Foundation, Massey Employment Gateway CV help and training, a Quit Smoking Clinic and Open Wanaga free courses. At Christmas, visitors learnt how to make table centrepieces and card making.



Paula Vaughan (left) is a local resident and the hub co-coordinator, and believes in empowering and connecting the community to make it a safer and friendly place to live. She has been working hard planning lots of awesome events for the coming year and is always available to hear about your ideas and suggestions.

The hub's information sessions are advertised on their facebook page (Royal Road Community Hub) as well as on the Massey Matters facebook page.

The hub is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 11am. Pop in for a cuppa and stay for the session – you might learn something, make a friend and enjoy yourself.

Royal Road Community Hub is located at 112 Royal Rd, Massey. Ph: 833 6192.

## IN2IT AT SUNLINE CIRCLE

On 18 December our local park was alive with the sound of laughter. Thanks to assistance from Massey Matters we held a fun games evening and picnic at the Sunline Ave park with the street games crew, In2It.

Our community manned the barbeque and doled out the fresh pizzas kindly donated by Domino's on Swanson Road and the children were let loose – the In2It crew set up their inflatables and games equipment and it was so good to see our children have good, wholesome fun in our local park with their parents – I don't know who was enjoying it more, the parents or the children! Even when In2It finally packed up about 6.30pm some families stayed on to have a chat and a catch up.

Thanks In2It for providing the equipment and the great crew, thanks Massey Matters, without whose assistance the evening would not have been possible and thanks also to Domino's Swanson Road for their kind donation of pizzas and garlic bread.



Olga Mills

## COMING DATES

### TODDLER DAY OUT

SAT 1 MARCH, TRUSTS STADIUM

### MASSEY MATTERS GENERAL FUND

OPENS 1 MARCH

Closes 31 March. Contact Massey Matters for further information.

### CAP MONEY COURSE

6.30PM, 3, 10 & 17 MARCH, CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, 22 MOIRE RD, MASSEY

Free instruction on how to manage your money so that it doesn't manage you. Over three evening sessions. Register by contacting the church office, ph: 832 5998.  
[www.masseyanglican.org.nz](http://www.masseyanglican.org.nz)

### WEST AUCKLAND 11TH ANNUAL SOAPBOX DERBY

SUN 16 MARCH, WESTGATE SHOPPING CENTRE

### MASSEY SENIOR CITIZENS BOWLS

10AM-12NOON, TUESDAYS, MASSEY RUGBY CLUB

Anyone over 55 is welcome. This is a great place to learn and socialise. For further details please contact Robert or Dawn on ph: 833 7555.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT:

ENCOURAGING COMMUNICATION AND CONNECTING NEIGHBOURS encouraging communication and connecting neighbours. To join please call Sharon on ph: 834 5815.

## MASSEY MATTERS MATCHING FUND

The Massey Matters Matching fund is open four times a year. It aims to assist residents that contribute to the wellbeing of the community.

A maximum of \$500 is available per project and there are four rounds a year.

The fund priorities are as follows:

- Building social connections between neighbours;
- Participation in a community activity;
- Enabling residents to develop different skills;
- Renewal and revitalisation of places and spaces within the neighbourhood.
- Projects which improve the quality of life for local residents

The application requires two residents to complete and must live within the Massey Matters funding boundaries, including part of West Harbour.

For more information or assistance in completing an application please contact Sam or Olga at Massey Matters on ph: 832 0431.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



## OUR AMAZING PLACE TREASURE HUNT IS COMING SOON!

Come and discover our neighbourhood treasures... follow the treasure map and explore the activities along the way! The Massey Our Amazing Place community treasure hunt will be starting at Lincoln Heights School at 10.30am on Saturday 29 March.

There will be a community Neighbours' Day Picnic to follow, which will be held in the grounds of Lincoln Heights School from 12.30pm.

Get a team together made up of your family, friends and whanau and register for the big day – there are loads of prizes to be won!

**A FREE EVENT**

# OUR AMAZING PLACE MASSEY

COMMUNITY TREASURE HUNT  
**SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014**  
10.30 start at Lincoln Heights School Keegan Drive

Bring a friend or make up a team, collect your map and discover the hidden treasures of our Massey community "People, places, business and services"

Registration opens at 10.15am finish at Lincoln Heights School field at 12pm with prize draws, food and more fun for treasure hunters  
Rain Date: Saturday 5th April  
**IT'S ALL FREE!!**

For more information please contact Massey Matters on 832 0431 or Sam.Bergin@masseymatters.org.nz  
[www.OurAmazingPlace.org.nz](http://www.OurAmazingPlace.org.nz)

## HIPPY ROYAL HEIGHTS

What do you dream of for your child's future? Do you want them to succeed? You can make it happen when you become a HIPPY (Home Interactive Programme for Parents and Youngsters) family.

HIPPY supports you to teach your child the skills they need for a successful start at school. Trained tutors, who are doing HIPPY with their own child, show you what to do. You get a starter kit, workbooks and story books to keep for only \$1 a session!

The next intake for HIPPY is now enrolling, with limited spaces. Contact Laurel Belworthy, ph: 625 3688, mob: 027 667 4589 or email: [laurel.belworthy@barnardos.org.nz](mailto:laurel.belworthy@barnardos.org.nz) or pop into Room 21, Colwill School, Kintara Ave, Royal Heights.



**two Sparrows**

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