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Hauraki Park Industrial Subdivision and Food Technology Hub

"Best choice business-wise"
 says Pohutukawa Frame and Truss Ltd



Pohutukawa Frame and Truss Ltd directors: from left to right - Jeremy Cryer, Martin White, Leanne Cryer, Fiona White

Searching far and wide for somewhere to relocate their business, Pohutukawa Frame and Truss Ltd directors Jeremy and Leanne Cryer, and Martin and Fiona White, eventually realised the perfect site was right under their noses. After outgrowing their Kopu-based site the close friends and business partners spent two years weighing up their options before choosing the nearby Hauraki Park Industrial Subdivision and Food Technology Hub, developed by Hauraki District Council at Kerepehi.

The fact they all grew up in the Plains area and are now raising their own families in similar back yards is an added bonus. Originally supplying the Coromandel Peninsula with pre-cut frames and trusses for a wide variety of residential and commercial buildings, the company now exclusively supplies Bunnings stores in the Bay of Plenty, Whakatane, Waikato and Southern Waikato.

"It (Kerepehi) was the ideal site. We considered Thames, Hamilton and Tauranga but because of the large area we cover we have to transport our products wherever we're based, so being on State Highway 2 between three major cities is perfect for us" says Martin.

Construction work on the company's 1200 m² purpose built building for the manufacturing of frame and trusses began in January with production now in full swing at the site. Martin says there has been a positive working relationship with Hauraki District Council.

"HDC has been very proactive in helping us from start to finish, from developing the land and throughout the building process. All we've had is help. The industrial subdivision is a really positive thing for the area," he says.

Early concerns around implications for the company's staff should the business relocate, have proved groundless with those living in Thames happy to make the 15 minute commute out to Kerepehi. Two staff members have even bought houses on the Plains.

"For a country area there are lots of opportunities and options," says Jeremy, "the schools are great, there's no traffic jams and there's always plenty to do."

When it comes to rural communities the Plains is very much a tall poppy. It's central location, the outstanding reputation of its local schools, availability of brand new house and land packages in modern subdivisions from \$300,000, along with industrial sections priced from \$43 per m² all make it stand out in the field of places to live and do business.

It may have taken a while for Pohutukawa Frame and Truss Ltd to find its way to Hauraki Park but now it's there, it won't be leaving in a hurry.

"We are in it for the long term," says Jeremy, "We all have the same goal - to continue to produce a quality product and service, to look after our staff as best we can and carry on building our business that will be around for a long time to come yet, and after two years of looking we honestly couldn't find a better base from which to do it."

If you're ready to make a business-wise choice, contact us about Hauraki Park Industrial Subdivision and Food Technology Hub:

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Hauraki District house values are up

The latest monthly QV House Price Index results are out and they show Hauraki District values have risen 4.6 percent in three months.

This is likely to be a result of Auckland buyers looking outside the city, according to a recent report by Corelogic NZ director of research, Jonno Ingerson.

Across the Auckland Region values are up 18 percent annually and 5.7 percent over the past three months. This is the fastest rate of growth since 2003 and reflects the current supply and demand imbalance in Auckland.

"In some sort of reaction to this (imbalance) the Government and the Reserve Bank announced back in May further restrictions on both Auckland and the wider market," writes Ingerson.

The proposed changes due to come into effect on 1 October 2015 are:

- Low deposit lending restrictions for owner occupiers have been loosened in the rest of the country but will stay as they are in Auckland.
- Auckland property investors will require a 30 percent deposit.
- Any property bought and sold within two years that isn't owner occupied will be subject to capital gains tax.
- Foreign investors will need a New Zealand bank account and IRD number.

Hauraki District Council Economic Development Chairman Toby Adams is ecstatic to see Hauraki showing more prominently on Auckland's real estate radar, and commends the Council's foresight in developing a new residential subdivision in Ngatea.

"We know Hauraki is a great place to live and do business, and we've been working hard to spread the word. It's fantastic to see that message hitting home. It's positive for Auckland in terms of easing housing pressure and it's a great boost for us. It's a win-win really," he says.

Harcourts Paeroa sales consultant Rob Harlick has definitely noticed an increase in activity over the last few months. He says people in the area are starting to build houses again because there's nothing to buy.

"The demand is there. Properties that have been on the market for awhile are selling because the market has caught up. In some cases we're getting three offers on the same property and it hasn't even been on the market for a week."

Wet wipes - a hidden menace

We all know we shouldn't flush disposable nappies, sanitary pads, nappy liners, or the neighbour's annoying lap dog down the loo, but what about 'flushable' wet wipes?

Life before the invention of wet wipes was a much messier business. Kids were generally 'stickier', especially during family car trips, and changing babies' nappies was a muckier process too. But what began as a convenient way to clean kids up on-the-go has now expanded into a billion dollar industry producing a wipe for every occasion. A quick stroll along your local supermarket aisle will reveal floor wipes, glass wipes, feminine wipes, moist toilet tissue wipes, car wipes, anti-bacterial wipes, even anti-ageing and pet wipes. And, because most wipes are flushable, you can just pop them in the toilet after use and forget they ever existed, right?

Actually, it's not that simple. Theoretically no one's telling lies when they say wet wipes are flushable because the majority of them do clear the S-bend - it's what happens further down the pipe that can cause problems for everyone. Tougher and more durable than toilet paper, wet wipes often become lodged in public sewer mains, where they get together with other undesirables like congealed fat to form 'fatbergs' - drain-blocking lumps that look every bit as attractive as they sound (google them - but not while you're eating dinner!). Loitering on dark, dank sewer corners, fatbergs block pumps, slow sewage moving through the pipes, and are a growing menace in sewage systems around the world.

"They're (wet wipes) not disintegrating like normal toilet paper does and that's the big issue," says Hauraki District Council Utilities Engineer Gordon Dabell.

Thankfully, it's an issue with a simple solution.

"Always put them in the rubbish bin," says Dabell, "Despite what it says on the label, wet wipes should never be flushed down the loo."

PUBLIC NOTICE

Council and Committee meetings

Pursuant to Section 46 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, public notice is hereby given that the following meetings will be held in the Council Office, William Street, Paeroa unless otherwise stated during the month of September 2015.

Consultative Water & Waste Committee
 Tuesday, 1 September 2015 - 9.00am

Judicial Committee
 Monday, 7 September 2015 - 9.00am
 Monday, 21 September 2015 - 9.00am

District Licensing Committee
 Thursday, 10 September 2015 - 10.00am

Thames Valley Civil Defence Emergency Management Committee
 Friday, 11 September 2015, at 9.30am - to be held at Thames-Coromandel District Council Chambers, Mackay Street, Thames

Ward Committee Meetings
 Tuesday, 15 September 2015
 Plains Ward - 10.00am
 Paeroa Ward - 12.30pm
 Waihi Ward - 2.30pm

Operations Committee
 Wednesday, 16 September 2015 - 9.00am

Economic Development Committee
 Wednesday, 16 September 2015 - 1.00pm

Western Plains District Drainage Committee
 Tuesday, 29 September 2015 - 10.30am at the Ngatea office

Paeroa Rural District Drainage Committee
 Tuesday, 29 September 2015 - 1.00pm

Ordinary Meeting of Council
 Wednesday, 30 September 2015 - 9.00am

Langley Covers
 Chief Executive
 Hauraki District Council