

the loop.

Keeping you in it

August 2023

SPECIAL EDITION

Pukekohe Business Excellence Awards

People's Choice

Liquorland Pukekohe

Supreme Award

Columbus Coffee inside Mitre 10 Mega

Nau mai, haere mai Welcome to Pukekohe

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What is the Pukekohe Business Association?

Our aim is to promote prosperity in Pukekohe by encouraging growth, development, and sustainability.

We support local businesses by working closely with business owners, the council, and community, to enhance business success and growth. Founded in 1992 to promote and represent local interests, we represent over 700 Pukekohe businesses.

The PBA is governed by a volunteer executive committee of local business owners. The Association administers the Pukekohe Business Improvement District (BID), a partnership between local government and the business community to develop, promote, and support the local economy.

Pukekohe means "hill of the Kohekohe"; Kohekohe is a native hardwood tree. The town is named for its dominant feature, Pukekohe Hill. This dormant volcano contributes to the fertile soil that, along with a mild climate and high rainfall, has made the region famous as the food bowl of New Zealand. We acknowledge Ngāti Te Ata and Ngāti Tamaoho as Mana Whenua in this area.

Close to Auckland, Hamilton and Tauranga, Pukekohe is positioned in the heart of Franklin. This growing town holds a unique character of rural culture and an increasingly urban vibe. Even as it grows, Pukekohe continues to deliver on its reputation as a well-connected town with outstanding lifestyle quality and a vibrant village atmosphere.

What do we do?

- Free events such as School Holidays in the Square and Christmas on the Green
- Sponsoring community initiatives & events
- Giveaways and competitions
- Town placemaking projects
- Local advocacy via our relationships with Police, Government Agencies, Auckland Transport, Franklin Local Board, Auckland Council and its subsidiary organisations
- Promotion of Pukekohe
- Business support including subsidies, training & seminars, networking, promotional & advertising opportunities
- Pukekohe Business Excellence Awards

For more information about the PBA or The Loop, please contact us on 09 910 0137 or email, info@pukekohe.org.nz

WE ADVOCATE FOR, SUPPORT, & PROMOTE LOCAL BUSINESSES.

MANAGERS' REPORT

A Celebration of Businesses



Last month 420 of our business community gathered to celebrate business in Pukekohe. Not only did we celebrate the finalists and winners, but we also celebrated how far we've come over the last 3 years.

Covid had a huge impact on the way we do business from stock and supply, price increases, staff shortages due to sickness, and a change in consumer spending habits. However, the rallying cry to support locals is evident as we have seen an increase of 19.4% in local

spending between Jan 2022- Jan 2023 (\$723.0M) compared to 2019-2020 (\$605.8M).

The businesses of Pukekohe represent the best of what a small town has to offer. They have shown that success is not just about individual talent or luck, but also about teamwork, persistence, and passion.

Each of the businesses we work with have overcome challenges, embraced change, and have stayed true to your values. Thank you for the positive impact on your customers, your employees, and your community.

It takes a lot of courage, determination, and hard work to start a business and succeed in today's competitive environment.

But business success does not just come from the owner. It also reflects the support and guidance received from family, friends, colleagues, and mentors. It is a reminder that we are all connected and that our success is intertwined with that of others.

So, let us celebrate each other and the positive impacts of business. Let us inspire the next generation of business leaders to dream big, work hard, and make a difference.

Shawna Coleman, PBA Manager

“Business is not just about making money, but creating opportunities, solving problems, and contributing to the greater good”

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Disclaimer: Whilst every effort has been made to provide valuable, useful information in this publication, the Business Association accepts no responsibility or any form of liability from reliance upon or use of its contents. Any suggestions should be considered carefully within your own particular circumstances, as they are intended as general information only.

— News From The PBA

This month we announce the date and location of this year's Christmas on the Green, celebrate locals doing great things and share future plans for Franklin and upcoming business events.



FRANKLIN LOCAL BOARD PLAN

The Franklin Local Board has drafted a strategic three-year plan, in response to community feedback, the impact of recent Auckland weather events, as well as the rising costs of living, business operations and borrowing money.

Feedback on the plan can be submitted until Monday 14 August 2023. View the draft plan and have your say at https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/franklin-local-board-plan-2023/survey_tools/feedback-form

PHS FINALISTS IN SCHOOL JAZZ COMP

Pukekohe High School has been announced as a finalist for the 2023 Young Jazz Band-it School Competition. They are the only Auckland school to be selected.

They will be one of 10 bands playing in the Essential NZ Jazz Band competition at Victoria University of Wellington on Saturday 23 September.

WINTER WELLNESS GIVEAWAY

We're lucky enough to have been gifted some amazing prizes from local businesses for our winter wellness giveaway!

Two hampers are up for grabs, with a delightful range of items to help your physical and mental health this winter.

Thanks to Images MediSpa, 23 Therapies, The Herbarry, Pik 'n Mix Lollies and Liddell's Pharmacy for providing these goodies.

To be in to win one of these two hampers, enter on the competition posts on our facebook or instagram [@pukekoheba](https://www.instagram.com/pukekoheba) by 5pm on 7 August.



CHRISTMAS ON THE GREEN

Pukekohe's family Christmas event, Christmas on the Green is returning for a second year. Mark your calendars and keep 2 December free. We're planning a great lineup of performances, stalls and activities that you don't want to miss!

EVENT SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Want a unique way to advertise your business to Franklin? We have two different sponsorship packages for Christmas on the Green still available!

Raise the profile of your brand and support a free family day out in Pukekohe. Contact us to find out what is included in our sponsorship packages. Limited spots available.

What's On

Upcoming member events

BUSINESS & BEERS

This month, PBA are implementing a new monthly members event. Business & Beers is a casual, drop-in event to meet and catch up with local businesses over a cold one. We would love to see you there!

WHEN: First Wednesday of every month from 5PM starting 2 August 2023

WHERE: Each month will be hosted by a different local business. Check out the email from us for the details.

MID-YEAR POLICE MEETING

PBA and local police are hosting a meeting with guest speaker and crime prevention spokesperson, Gary Boles, and to provide updates on plans for new CCTV cameras. Please RSVP to Kate.

WHEN: 5:30PM, Tuesday 22 August

WHERE: Netball Courts, Bledisloe Park, Queen Street, Pukekohe

SMALL BUSINESS SERIES

Co-hosted by PBA and Campbell Tyson, we are introducing a series of seminars covering all things smalls business.

The first of which 'Let's Talk Business' will be held in September and have a panel of professionals discussing relevant updates for small business owners. More information to come soon.

WHERE: Campbell Tyson, 1 Wesley Street, Pukekohe

PUKEKOHE BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

On Saturday 22 July, our business community gathered at the PIA Event Centre to celebrate the Pukekohe Business Excellence Awards.

After a three-year hiatus, 79 local businesses and their guests attended the black-tie ceremony to celebrate the achievements of Pukekohe businesses in a challenging and competitive environment.

The event recognised the outstanding success, hard work, innovation and resilience of the winners and finalists, inspiring other attendees to strive for excellence in their own businesses.

Pukekohe Business Association President, Rupert Ross said, "The interest in and calibre of this year's awards blew our expectations out of the water. It seems a celebration of local business success was long overdue".

The high standard of entries and the number of public votes for Peoples' Choice demonstrates the competitive business environment and quality of Pukekohe's local businesses.

Liquorland took home the Peoples' Choice Award with a landslide victory of 1,085 votes. This is the second time Liquorland owners, Toya and Steve Nirwan have received this award after earning the same title in 2017. This great honour signifies the strong connection this family-owned business has with its customers.

Monique Porter, the manager of Columbus Coffee inside Mitre 10 Mega Pukekohe received two category awards, Employer of the Year and Excellence in Community Contribution, and took home the trophy for Supreme Business of the Year which was selected from all the category winners at the awards night.

Within this special edition of the Loop, we take a look at each of the winners and their business excellence.

Thank you again to everyone that made the awards possible. So many members of our community supported this event, from our hosts, sponsors, the judges and their counsels, the businesses contributing to the event, the finalists who put time and effort into their submissions and of course the 8,361 voters that supported their favourite Pukekohe business in the People's Choice Category.

For links to the photos, visit www.pukekohe.org.nz/pukekohe-business-excellence-awards/



THE 2023 WINNERS ARE:

Excellence in Community Contribution:
Sponsored by Crosbies Security

Columbus Coffee Inside Mitre 10 Mega Pukekohe – Winner
Ebbett Pukekohe – Highly Commended

Excellence in Customer Service:
Sponsored by Mitre 10 MEGA Pukekohe

Guthrie Bowron – Winner
Kitchen Inspirations – Highly Commended

Employer of the Year:
Sponsored by Franklin Law

Columbus Coffee Inside Mitre 10 Mega Pukekohe – Winner
Your Local Coffee Roasters – Highly Commended

Excellence in Innovation:
Sponsored by Innovation Franklin

Crosbies Security – Winner
Loom Shared Space – Highly Commended

Excellence in Manufacturing:
Sponsored by Cairnscorp

Kitchen Inspirations – Winner
Carlielle Kitchens – Highly Commended

Excellence in Marketing:
Sponsored by RAZOR: Web, Design & Marketing

Bessie S – Winner
Pukekohe Toyota – Highly Commended

Excellence in Sustainability:
Sponsored by Counties Energy:

Natasha Boustridge Hair – Winner
Computer Food – Highly Commended

Peoples' Choice:
Sponsored by Stuff

Liquorland Pukekohe – Winner
Designer Flowers NZ – Runner Up

Supreme Business of the Year
Sponsored by Weck's ITM:
Columbus Coffee Inside Mitre 10 Mega Pukekohe

PUKEKOHE BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS



Supreme Business of the Year: Columbus Coffee (inside Mitre 10 MEGA)

Also awarded Excellence in Community Contribution & Employer of the Year

Locally owned, tight-knit team dedicated to providing locals with quality service, freshly baked goods and excellent coffee.

Developing a great workplace culture is a difficult feat. One that Monique Porter, manager at Columbus Coffee in Mitre 10 MEGA has taken seriously since she took over the cafe.

Her approach is guided by these simple but crucial concepts for leading a team, 'Care, connect, coach, contribute and congratulate, along with the importance of connection, communication, growth, energies, emotional connection and motivation.'

The business offers employment opportunities for staff with various skillsets and flexible rostering. This provides young people,

parents and individuals with different abilities or restricted hours a chance to enter employment. Everyone is treated as equal and an individual - kitchen hands, dishwashers, chefs, front of house, cleaners and managers alike.

Helping the team grow in areas they want to develop - the cafe offers qualifications and NZQA credits, CV skills, internal promotions, personal support and maintains a staff care box - all to keep Columbus employees engaged within their roles. Staff are welcomed to voice concerns and input into business planning and goals, events and their many charity initiatives.



From sponsoring youth organisations, fundraising and gift drives, supporting local growers and businesses, donating unsold food and complimentary vouchers, providing discounts and free food and drinks to local emergency services, and educational workshops with local primary schools this team has a far-reaching impact on the community.

Supporting staff well-being is crucial to Columbus Coffee. Monique ensures that her employees get to utilise their full allocated break times, uses differing learning methods that best suit the staff member, and does not roster team members more than 40 hours a week. The franchisee also offers medical benefits and staff discounts.

"A happy, appreciated team member will be the key to success for any business," Monique says.

To show this appreciation, the Columbus Coffee crew also have regular staff awards and team-building activities such as dinners, beach trips, bowling, movies, boat rides and hot pools. The team also have a box to write compliments and recognise each others efforts which is shared at monthly team meetings.

When some of the younger staff had their school balls cancelled two years in a row due to Covid, Monique even hired a venue, DJ, photographer and catering and rolled out the carpet for the teen staff members and their friends.

Monique and her management team go above and beyond to engage, support and celebrate both the team and the community - clearly appreciating how crucial these groups are to her business success.



Columbus Coffee in Mitre 10 MEGA Pukekohe

This locally owned and managed cafe serves freshly baked goods hand-crafted in-house, and coffee brewed with own special blend of beans roasted fresh each week in the Columbus Coffee Roastery.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES INCLUDE:

- Over 500 Christmas gifts donated in 2022
- 700 pairs of pyjamas for less fortunate families
- Funding school stationary and bags
- Free children's days and school holiday activities
- Free Christmas event and Santa visits
- Warm hoodies, uniforms, and drink bottles for sports teams
- 3,000 Player of the Day vouchers per year
- Isolation meals sold and delivered at cost
- Fundraising and charity events for Cure Kids NZ, Pink Breakfasts, I am Hope, Gumboot Friday, Prostate Cancer Foundation, sports teams and community members requiring medical treatments

PICTURES:

The Columbus Crew captured at the during the Awards evening by Yarn NZ.

Rare 2023 All blacks team signed Jersey, running in a silent auction for Cure Kids NZ, organised by Columbus Coffee inside Mitre 10 Mega Pukekohe.

Monique Porter, who has managed the café and many versions of her team for 11 years.

WHERE TO FIND THEM

Columbus Coffee inside Mitre 10 MEGA
12 Wrightson Way, Pukekohe
09 238 3103
columbuscoffee.co.nz

— Guthrie Bowron

Awarded Excellence in Customer Service

An inspiring destination where locals come to enjoy the process of decorating their homes. It is a one stop decorating shop; from window treatments, to flooring, paint, wallpaper, homewares, and advice.

Owned by Luke and Stacey Graves since last year, this new management has done an excellent job taking over the store and honing a thoughtful and thorough customer service approach.



The Guthrie Bowron customer experience is one of self-discovery where you can figure out what you like with the guidance of their knowledgeable staff.

Staff undergo online training modules in customer service and have opportunities to practise with and know the product range. Their service approach asks staff to empathise with customers and gather as much information as possible to address needs appropriately.

Developing relationships with customers is a key part of their service. Custom orders are sent an introductory email from the one staff member that will oversee their whole process so that a meaningful relationship can be built.

The team go above and beyond in their service, from free in-home

measurements and consultations to giving away the spare curtain hooks that they don't typically sell.

To measure and improve on customer service, they utilise customer surveys emailed after every job and offered on their counters. The team has a staff 'shout-outs' board that appreciates and incentivises staff while encouraging a high standard for customer service.

Judge Audrey Williams from Manukau Business Association was thoroughly impressed by the store and service.

"The store was immaculate. When I was approached it was very professional, but with a genuine warmth and interest in the project I had planned. They also had the most amazing product knowledge across all divisions," says Williams.



— Crosbies Security

Awarded Excellence in Innovation

Founded in Pukekohe in 2018 by Joshua Parsons and Jasmine Crosbie, this family-owned solar security company employs 20 specialists on Alpiro Place.

As a response to the growth in workplace burglaries in the civil and construction sector, Crosbies Security have designed a revolutionary Smart Solar Tower for mobile workplace monitoring that is not just useful post-crime but also prevents burglaries from occurring. In this process, they developed a new array of monitoring solutions.

Later models of these cameras don't just monitor and deter potential crimes from construction sites, the technology also detects hard hat and hi-vis compliance, heat mapping, licence plate recognition and facial recognition.

Today, they are monitoring 699 individual cameras across hundreds of Smart Solar Towers. The current model includes two sets of cameras, spoken warning messages, torch lights, solar panels and regulation equipment, and their own black-box technology - revolutionising workplace surveillance.

"Our biggest hurdle in the development of the Smart Solar Towers was that it was an entirely new market," says Joshua Parsons, Crosbies Security Managing Director.

Parsons spearheaded a strenuous year-long development phase prior and during Covid, entirely developing software and componentry for the state-of-the-art solar towers.

Crosbies Security source over 70% of all componentry required from New Zealand manufacturers, developing every unit and its software in Aotearoa by their internal Pukekohe team.

Within the first quarter of 2023, Crosbies successfully



stopped 147 workplace burglaries through Smart Solar Towers and records a break-in a day - from flatbed trucks stealing pallets to opportunists pinching copper.

These solar products have also prevented 10.6 metric tonnes of CO² from being emitted in the last 12 months.

The companies success in changing security outcomes for their customers, and the continual development of products to answer additional needs of the construction industry has ensured they remain a front-runner in this growing industry.



Peoples' Choice: Liquorland

Premium liquor outlet, trading from the heart of Pukekohe.

Family owned and operated business Liquorland Pukekohe, has won the hearts and votes of the Pukekohe community, earning Peoples' Choice for 2023.

Toya and Steve Nirwan took over the store in 2012, and since then have gotten to know and serve the whole community.

Their great relationships with regulars and their commitment to serving locals from 9am up to 10pm meant many were willing to support them in this year's awards.

This is the second time they have won this award, having earned the same title in 2017. This shows that they are truly beloved and trusted by customers.

If you've ever visited the store, you may have also met Leo, the owner's dog that often sits behind the counter. He is at the heart of the business - providing friendly and well-mannered customer service, employee satisfaction and starring in the store's marketing.

The friendly faces, service and the furry friend of the local Liquorland exemplify the community spirit of Pukekohe. It's no surprise that they received an impressive 1,085 votes for this coveted award.

We would like to thank Toya and her team for supporting the Pukekohe Business Association and supplying beverages for this year's business awards night.



— Natasha Boustridge Hair

Awarded Excellence in Sustainability

Natasha Boustridge Hair is a luxury sustainable salon in Pukekohe, where clients get to experience a one-on-one service with Natasha in a beautiful, relaxing, private environment. Using her 20 years of industry experience she dedicates the entirety of her booking to only one guest at a time, believing in quality over quantity.

Natasha says, "(Her) journey in becoming more sustainable and environmentally aware has been so rewarding and inspires her to push her business and others to do more".



As a home-based salon, Natasha undertakes many actions to reduce the carbon foot-print of her small business and home, including:

- Bi-monthly stock orders to reduce courier trips and packaging.
- She then on-supplies packaging to a small plant nursery to be reused
- Coffee sourced from local brewers, Roma, and offered with plant-based milks. Coffee grinds are then composted for Natasha's garden
- Online communications as an alternative to printing
- Energy efficient LED lights that use 75% less energy and last 25 times longer
- In house laundry with energy-efficient machines. Ensuring full loads to conserve water and energy
- Replacing weekly magazine subscriptions to bi-monthly, sustainably made magazines
- Empty cleaning bottles are refilled from eco-friendly dispensaries
- Offering customers to return empty product bottles to recycle through the Sustainable Salons program
- Testing sustainable product alternatives and optimising inventory management to prevent unnecessary waste

Natasha Boustridge Hair conserves an estimated 4,999 kg carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) - comparable to 5,000 trees absorbing CO2 over a year!

Natasha collaborates with a larger local salon to recycle waste materials such as hair clippings, foil, empty colour tubes, bottles and broken equipment through the 'Sustainable Salons' recycling scheme. This enables her to donate ponytails that are turned into wigs for charitable organisations, and contribute hair waste used in cleaning oil spills.

"Witnessing the amount of waste firsthand motivated me to look for waste management alternatives, which led to the discovery of Sustainable Salons. Unfortunately, due to the smaller size of my business, my salon didn't meet the criteria to partake," says Natasha.

"However, instead of giving up, I found another way by teaming up with a larger local salon, 'Common Thread.' I love joining forces and am so grateful for their support in helping our industry become more sustainable and eco-friendly."

Natasha is actively developing an incentivising scheme to encourage clients to return their empty bottles to ensure proper recycling. Under this scheme, clients will be credited \$1 for each empty retail product purchased from her salon that they bring back. Customers are also able to bring in empty haircare bottles from other brands to manage responsible disposal on behalf of her customers.

Her future sustainability goals includes implementing a water management plan that explores rain water collection and minimise waste water.

Natasha's commendable efforts shows that how she runs her business fulfils the needs of the current generation without compromising the needs of future generations. This balance of economic growth, environmental care, and social well-being has earned her this award.

HAIR FACTS

- Hair booms are an organic and more effective alternative to synthetic booms and chemical dispersants used for oil spills
- Recycled hair can help stabilise solar panels to be more effective and last longer
- Across Australia and New Zealand, more than half a million kilos of hair end up in landfill each year which creates methane emissions
- However, human hair is a safe, pathogen-free compost material that holds valuable nutrients to supercharge soil into a high-grade fertiliser

— Bessie S

Awarded Excellence in Marketing

Bessie S is a boutique beauty salon located in the heart of Pukekohe. They offer a expansive range of treatments including brows and lashes, waxing, skin care and facials, spray tanning, advanced skin care treatments, massage, makeup artistry, permanent makeup tattooing and teeth whitening.

Bess started Bessie S as a makeup and brow artist from a back bedroom in her family home six years ago. In late 2019, she secured a premises in central Pukekohe and now employs four full time and two part time staff members.

They engaged with the services of Topgate Marketing to produce their marketing advisory programme that defines their services, segmented their target market and created buyer personas.

James Smith, the judge and founder of marketing advisory, Xennial, says "Bessie S shows a clear understanding of who their ideal target customers are, what makes them different from the competition and how to measure the performance of relevant marketing and communications channels".

To compete in this large industry, they focus on providing a high level of professionalism and knowledge, a great environment and salon experience, specialised treatments and a customer loyalty programme.

As a Pukekohe local, Bess has garnered an excellent reputation in the beauty industry and word of mouth has been a significant factor in increasing their database.

To remain relevant to their customer base, Bessie S stayed up-to-date on industry trends, technological advancements and cultural shifts that may impact their target market's needs and preferences.

Staff are internationally trained and certified in professional skincare products and niche services such as permant makeup (PMU) including lip tattooing and scalp micropigmentation.

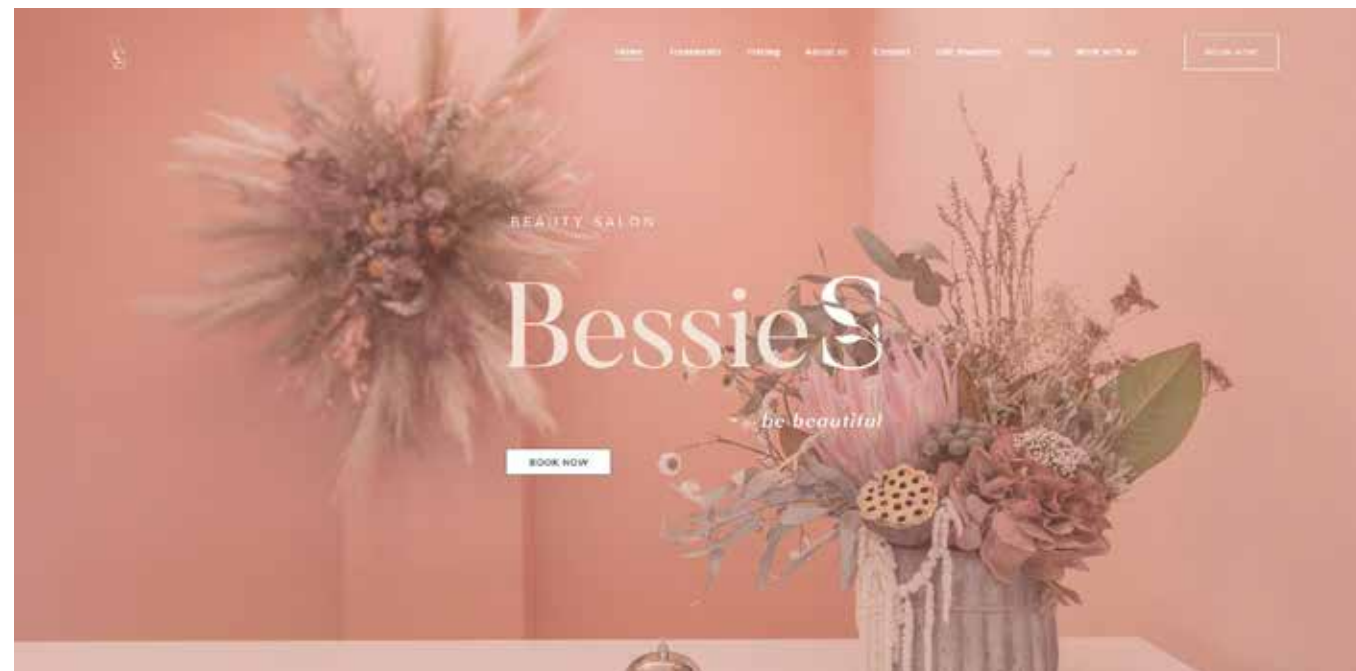


Bessie S utilises various marketing channels from social media, email, websites and Google My Business to in-store monthly specials, gift vouchers and print brochures. Marketing initiatives include giveaways, business collaborations and timely promotions.

Not only does this small business upskill in their own services, but also business operations and digital marketing including courses covering SEO, social media, display advertising and content marketing.

They are avid data analysers, using both analytics tools and customer feedback to track satisfaction levels and preferences. They also reach out and engage with potential customers through social media, online forums and offline events.

After the Covid Lockdowns, Bessie S sought advice for a multichannel marketing plan to nurture existing clients, reach new customers and gain passive revenue streams via online sales and in salon bookings. This plan supported the resilience and continuity of their business in today's challenging landscape.



— Kitchen Inspirations

Awarded Excellence in Manufacturing

Kitchen Inspirations began 18 years ago when Justin purchased a saw, a computer and a few basic tools and began odd cabinet making jobs in a small shed he rented in Buckland.

Nowadays, they have a large team situated in a beautiful premise on John Street, a professional showroom and machine automation. Their brand is known for exceptional quality and workmanship with kitchens and cabinetry.

Kitchen Inspirations design, manufacture and install kitchens, laundries, wardobes, vanities, offices, shelving and shop fit outs. By combining the best available materials and machinery, quality control measures, product knowledge and precise workmanship, they deliver high end products to their happy customers.

Staying up to date on the latest technologies and design trends, Kitchen Inspirations experiment with new materials and production methods to create unique and distinctive designs and fostering an environment for their designers to be innovative and original.



Investing in advanced technologies, such as CNC and Edge Banding machinery ensures more efficient, sustainable and automated operation. The CNC machine nests kitchen parts economically per sheet, maximising how many pieces they can get. Their conveyer returns edged panels back to the machinist for greater efficiency.

Most products are sourced from sustainable suppliers such as Laminex NZ and Prime Panels which use low emission materials and commit to responsible forest management.

Design software from Cabinet Vision and Vortek are used to provide concise, visually appealing designs for customers, which can then be used in the manufacturing process.

Customer satisfaction is maintained through a personalised service and tailored designs. Their regular communication ensures they understand client needs and preferences, as well as a willingness to make adjustments in response to customer feedback.



THE FUTURE OF FRANKLIN TRANSPORT

Franklin Local board has provided formal feedback on Te Tupu Ngātahi Supporting Growth's work around future transport networks for Pukekohe, Paerata and Drury South.

Te Tupu Ngātahi is a collaboration between Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency but changes since 2019 have required new local input.

The board provided its formal feedback on the report, agreeing the programme is essential in supporting the planning for Pukekohe-Paerata and south Drury's economic, environmental, social, and cultural well-being.

But deputy chair Alan Cole pointed to questions highlighted by the board.

"The diversion of freight away from residential areas and the town centre would deliver significant quality of life and safety outcomes while also reducing carbon emissions," Cole says.

"We have significant concerns about the change from providing a ring-road in Pukekohe to divert trucks and freight from pedestrian-heavy areas, and the exclusion of upgrades to intersections on Route 20 on the Supporting Growth map.

The board backed efforts to support cycling and walking paths and the north-east and north-west sections of the ring road around Pukekohe as proposed, but not using the Golding Road intersection as the outer ring road connection point.

"We do not support sending traffic past Pukekohe Hill Primary School because it would create safety and congestion issues, and we don't support using West Street and Helvetia Road because it would split a residential community and undermine their quality of life."

Other concerns centred on the proposed reduction from four to two lanes for any Ramarama-Pukekohe expressway.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON AT'S PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLAN

The public is invited to contribute feedback on Auckland Transport's (AT) proposed Regional Public Transport Plan by 17 August, 2023.

For the local area, this includes:

- The trial of on-demand rideshares, AT Local, in Pukekohe area to replace bus routes 391, 392 and 393 by 2025
- New stations in Drury and Paerata that will open by 2026 and electric trains to be extended to Pukekohe via these stations
- Doubling the frequency of East-West and Southern lines which will operate roughly every 7 to 8 minutes at peak times and every 15 minutes during off-peak hours.
- A new bus route from Clarks Beach to Papakura

To read the full draft plan and have your say on these changes, visit at.govt.nz/rptp

LOCAL ACHIEVEMENTS



POCO LOCO

Local hospitality moguls Eugene and Hannah have recently purchased Poco Loco! Good luck for your new adventure into Tapas! 15 Queen Street, Pukekohe



SUMEI

Happy first birthday to local asian fusion restaurant, Sumei! A new sister restaurant, Hana Michi, will be opening soon! 3b West Street, Pukekohe



VILLA TE SORO

This beautiful B&B was highly commended in the Essence of B&B of the Year Competition. 14 Premila Drive, Pukekohe



POKENO BACON

Won gold for Manuka smoked ham and bronze for dry cured bacon at the Bacon and Ham awards. 20 Subway Road, Pukekohe



TRAILLITE GROUP

Four members of their motorhome building team have achieved a Level 3 NZ Certificate in Coachbuilding. 77 Paerata Road, Pukekohe

NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO THE PUKEKOHE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

A & K THOMSON LTD

Freelance agency specialising in business coaching, mentoring, pastoral care, and well-being services.

Level 2/7 Hall Street, Pukekohe
0800 817 118
akthomsonltd.com

ALL ROUND NETWORKING NZ

Business support, networking and referrals. 5a Glasgow Road, Pukekohe
arn.nz

GJ GARDNER HOMES

NZ's most trusted home builder, having built over 20,000 homes in 25 years.

135 Manukau Road, Pukekohe
09 217 1659
gjjardnerhomes.co.nz

GOOD VIBES NUTRITION STUDIO

Delicious and nutritious drinks and shakes. 14 King Street, Pukekohe
@goodvibes_pukekohe

PAGANI

NZ owned and operated women's clothing store. 5 King Street, Pukekohe
021 272 7188
pagani.co.nz

ROAST HUT

Local roast shop. Unit 3, 65/71 Edinburgh Street, Pukekohe
09 238 1191

TOMMY & CO

Locally-owned and growing team of chartered accountants. 7 Wrightson Way, Pukekohe
09 238 8079
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