

### Normandale Mainly Music playgroup

Will recommence its weekly sessions for Western Hill parents/caregiver and their little ones, on Thursday 12th February.

Our doors open at 0900 with the music sessions starting at 0930.

Cost \$3 per family.

For further information ring Pat 589 6638

Calling all girls between the age of 5 and 13 who are interested in joining Girl Guides or would like to see what kind of shenanigans we get up to. Your local Girl Guide group are having an

Open Evening on Tuesday 24th February from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Come along and join in on the fun. We meet at St Aidans Church, on the corner of Poto Rd and Stratton Street, Normandale.



If you have any questions in the mean time please go on our website [www.girlguidingnz.org.nz](http://www.girlguidingnz.org.nz) or call Kylie on (027)208-1547.



Based in the Maungaraki shops, we offer weights, pilates and yoga, nutrition plans, massage, personal training . . .

Nikki and Reno are committed to your success, if you are then contact us on 586 4881 or [info@o2exercise.co.nz](mailto:info@o2exercise.co.nz)

### ART/PAINTING CLASSES



For further information please contact Estelle at [stel.colourart@gmail.com](mailto:stel.colourart@gmail.com)  
0204 039 2062  
Maungaraki Community Centre



- + your local landscapers
- + all landscape works carried out
- + from concept to completion

Blair 021 586385  
[elements.landscapes@xtra.co.nz](mailto:elements.landscapes@xtra.co.nz)

# NORMANDALE TIMES

Published by the Normandale Residents' Association

## SuperCity



February 2015

You can't have failed to notice the flurry of publicity regarding regional governance following the publication of the Local Government Commission's (LGC) report and preferred option for a single unitary council covering the region, the option commonly referred to as 'Supercity'. The debate in the local press ranges from reasoned to acrimonious with entrenched views seeming to dominate over any factual analysis.

The NRA's position has always been determined by you, our members, as expressed at the various meetings held since the subject was raised. This is currently to oppose the proposed change and advocate for the current system, based on the loss of local democracy, and a lack of any evidence that similar amalgamations elsewhere have led to any improvement in services, or cost savings. A position confirmed by the recent HCC poll of residents throughout the city where 76% of residents in the Western ward opposed amalgamation. Having read the LGC's report I have found nothing in the evidence presented that would warrants a change to our current position. Currently the proposal is open for submission and we will be making a submission to support our view.

As you will be aware, the proposal is also open to a poll, the result of which will determine the outcome by a simple majority. The NRA will be holding a public meeting to discuss these matters once we get to that stage, and in the interim, we are happy to discuss the issue and provide any information required to anyone interested, or who would like to put in a submission on their own behalf.

Please let us know if you have any views on the proposal either via the web site comment page, or by contacting a committee member.

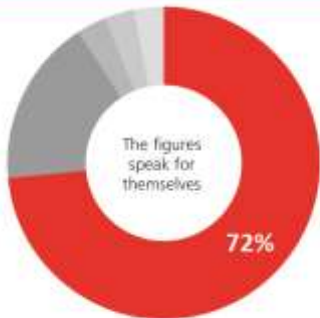
Pete Matcham

President Normandale Residents Association

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Email: [ntimes@hotmail.com](mailto:ntimes@hotmail.com)

Disclaimer: the opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.  
Note: Copy deadline 25<sup>th</sup> of preceding month

The next meeting of the NRA will be held at St Aidan's Church on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.30-9pm. All association members welcome



# 72%

sold by Professionals in Normandale  
January 14 - December 14

Source: Marketing Department, January 2015.  
Last available statistics: December 2014

Professionals  
Other Agencies



Cheryl Salt P 569 0768  
E [saltteam@redcoats.co.nz](mailto:saltteam@redcoats.co.nz)

Chrissy Kibblewhite P 619 1042  
E [chrissy@redcoats.co.nz](mailto:chrissy@redcoats.co.nz)

## Minoh House News

More than 30 people visited Hutt Minoh Friendship House at 38 Normandale Road on February 8 to learn more about the year's classes in Japanese culture.

At the Meet the Tutors Day several people signed up for Japanese conversation for travellers, beginners Japanese calligraphy, and Japanese for pre-schoolers and primary school children.

Tutors in shibori (tie dyeing) with nuno felt, origami paper folding and the martial art based at the house, kyudo (Japanese archery), also gave demonstrations or displayed their work.

Minoh House is the focal point of Lower Hutt city's relationship with the city of Minoh in Osaka, Japan.

At the end of January a delegation from Minoh, including its mayor, Tetsuro Kurata, visited Lower Hutt to celebrate 20 years since the relationship agreement was signed.

The visitors were welcomed at a reception at Minoh House on January 30.

An official celebration, powhiri and displays of Japanese culture and martial arts took place in the Little Theatre and Riddiford Gardens on January 31.

The next public event at Minoh House is the annual Japan Martial Arts Expo on Sunday, March 22, 1-4pm, showcasing martial arts groups from Lower Hutt keen to attract new members.

More information on classes and the expo is at [www.huttminoh.org.nz](http://www.huttminoh.org.nz)



Minoh House's calligraphy tutor Akiko Crowther demonstrates how to use a giant brush to write the Japanese word for sheep as 2015 is the year of the sheep.

**Maungaraki  
OSCAR  
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Heather - 0211331608  
[www.maungaraki-oscar.co.nz](http://www.maungaraki-oscar.co.nz)  
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**Down to Earth Planning** is a new business operating in Normandale under the direction of local resident **Jenny Grimmett**. Jenny offers a personal approach, tailored to help with all aspects of resource consent processes in a pragmatic, cost effective way. Jenny can help you with initial advice, preparing consent applications and submissions, and attending hearings, and much more:

- Do you want to make a house alteration/extension, set up a new retail business, a restaurant, a shopping complex, a childcare centre, a retirement village, a special event in a rural area, an industrial building, or something completely different?
- Do you have a project that involves earthworks near streams and sensitive water bodies?
- Do you have a neighbour who is building something you are concerned about?

With more than 22 years experience, Jenny knows the sorts of things you need to think about, the information you need to compile to meet Council requirements, who you need to talk to and what to say to them to get the best result. She can find you other specialists (e.g. ecology, landscape design and assessment, traffic, geotechnical and civil engineering, surveying, noise) to help present your project or submission in the most effective way. You can rely on the good relationships Jenny has developed and maintained with the councils she works with on a regular basis, and can help you with consultation with your neighbours or organizations such as Department of Conservation, Transpower and the NZ Transport Agency. Jenny is encouraging a "paperless office" to speed up communication, save costs for clients and help to protect the environment.

Would you like to help your community group? We are looking for a new editor for this newsletter. If you are interested in helping, please email the President at [normandale.residents@gmail.com](mailto:normandale.residents@gmail.com)

**Need help with resource consent applications or submissions?**

Contact **Jenny** on **029-200-3057** or email [jenny.k.grimmett@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.k.grimmett@gmail.com)

Web: [www.downtoearthplanning.nz](http://www.downtoearthplanning.nz)



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