

HISTORY OF THE OLD PACKHOUSE



Rod MacDiarmid bought this land during World War 2 and moved to Kerikeri with his wife Flo in the 1960's. He planted navel oranges and later chinese gooseberries (kiwifruit) and tree tomatoes (tamarillos) and built the family home at the rear of the building. Unfortunately Flo died when their four daughters were young, and Rod was a devoted father, bringing up the girls on his own. He originally did all his sorting and packing of produce in the basement of the house and then built this building in 1979 as a community cool store and packing shed known as Dundee Packhouse

and Cool Store. It is remembered as a family friendly environment where children were involved in working alongside their parents and grandparents, with more than 70 people working here at its peak time. Rod was a real pioneer of the citrus and kiwifruit industries in Northland. For his services to horticulture and the community he was made a member of the NZ Order of Merit. The poem on the wall was found in a folder of Rod's photos and papers. The branding on the boxes is a tribute to Rod's beloved Dundee heritage, and Keri Best was one of the original brands of the citrus industry.

Between the late 80's and 2012 the building became a timber and cabinetmaking business -Dundee Lumber owned and operated by Rod's daughter and son in law. During this time there was also a liqueur distillery here and a ceramic business. The current owners bought the property in 2013 and in keeping with that ethos of (community) the building was renovated to cater for a Growers and Artisan Market which promotes and showcases the produce and artisan products of Northland. Where once the building brought the community together to sort and pack local produce, it is now a community

hub where locals and visitors meet, and buy the wonderful produce of Northland. A real affiliation and respect for supporting local has resulted in the Café also retaining this philosophy. Café staff have a close rapport and association with local growers in Kerikeri and Waipapa who supply fresh fruit, vegetables and herbs. Local artisan producers, including many of those on our display shelves, supply condiments, preserves, cheeses, fish, and more for our menu items, which change seasonally in keeping with what is being harvested at the time.



AVAILABLE FOR TAKEAWAY OR PRE-ORDER

PIE AND SALAD

An easy and delicious dinner option.
STANDARD \$12.00
GOURMET \$14.00

PARTY SALADS

Great for Summer Barbecues,
Our ready-made salads are available in
any size to suit your requirements.
We can supply takeaway containers
or plate up on your serving ware.
Talk to our staff for pricing and ordering.
(PRICED FROM \$15)

MORNING TEA BOXES

Easy morning or afternoon tea for
meetings or visiting friends. Choose from
a selection of scones, delicious
cakes and slices.

Coming Events

NIGHT MARKETS

NOVEMBER OODLES OF NOODLES NIGHT

Thursday 26th November

The Sound Loungers Playing LIVE Street Food
Vendors and Licenced Bars

- CHRISTMAS - NIGHT MARKET

Wednesday 23rd December

Santa Claus, Photo Options, LIVE Music, more
than 60 stalls. Perfect for last minute shopping,
fresh produce and Christmas treats.



VISIT OUR BUTCHERY/DELI

Brian our friendly butcher makes our own Packhouse Sausages, Black Pudding and Chorizo. Local cheeses from Mahoe Farmhouse Cheese co, Grinning Gecko, Winsam Just Ewe and Smoked Cheese Bella Vacca Farm milk, smoked and fresh fish also available.



The Old Packhouse