

## Bin away but back again now

Via the grapevine, Matt Adams and Jo Blincow heard the Warkworth branch of Bin Inn was closing down, so they checked it out and they are now the proud new owners.

Matt and Jo already own the Bin Inn at Papamoa and it has been a big success. 'I laughed when the Tauranga business broker said she would take us to the Papamoa Bin Inn. My view of Bin Inn was of it being old and crusty, and not very attractive. But we put in new stock and new ideas, and it has gone gang-busters,' Matt tells me.

Bin Inn is coming back into fashion, Matt says. 'The original concept was to remove the cost of the packaging so you saved money. Now it's more about sustainability and reducing waste. You buy only what you need, so there's a financial and environmental saving.'

For those of us who were already loyal to Bin Inn, you'll be pleased to know you can get everything you were previously able to purchase, but there will be lots of new products.

'There will be a much bigger gluten free and organic range, kombucha on tap, a large home-brew section, and a much broader range of bulk supplies such as flours, oils, grains, seeds, and so on,' says Matt.

The back section of the store which will be an Ecostore refillery. 'We will sell their entire range in bulk. People can bring their existing container in and refill with any Ecostore product.'

There is free exchange of information, back and forth, between staff and customers. 'We like to employ people with a real interest in nutrition and food. Everything from complete foodies – they just love food and cooking, no matter what it is – through to vegan, vegetarian and gluten free people who really understand the needs of those, and other, diets. All our staff have different strengths so we always have someone to call on for help in particular areas. We also learn a huge amount from talking to our customers.'

A slightly exhausted Matt says, 'We are hoping to open in the second week of February, if all goes according to plan. Shop hours will be 9am–5.30pm, Monday to Friday, and 9am–4pm on Saturday. We will be closed on Sunday at this stage, but we'll gauge the interest for Sunday openings.'

If you haven't bin before, make sure you check them out in February.

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