



The Roundabout

October 2025/Issue 60/08

Published by the Management Committee for the Roundabout - Chairman: Graeme Booth 817 4658



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What's happening in our area?

Who's story have we found in
Huia?

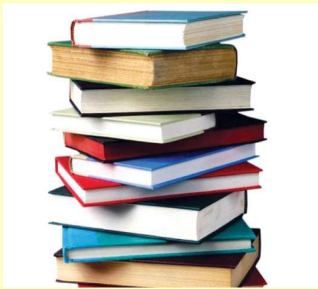
Find out on page 10, and
11

What have our schools been doing?

Laingholm see p 6 & 7

Laingholm Kindy see p 34

Steiner see p 48 & 49



Titirangi Library

Programmes In other
areas due to building
work.

See Page 45 for their
facebook link.

Book Reviews Page 44 & 46

**Whats cooking for
September?**
See page 26

**Who's horsing around in our
Community?**

To find out more See page 30

Who & What are growing?

Pages 36 & 38

**To see what our
Volunteers have
had to do this
Month**

**Check out pages
24, 25 & 42, 43.**

Birthdays have not been forgotten!



See pages 22 & 52!!

MANAGING COMMITTEE FOR THE ROUNABOUT

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Before any letter or article can be printed, the Management Committee for the Roundabout must have the writer's full address and contact details. Only the author's name may be published. Anonymous articles or those with just pseudonyms will not be published.

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As with all newspapers and magazines, we reserve the right to edit where necessary. This is to protect ourselves and you, the contributor, from any action that could be taken, and to keep the tone of our publication high. Editing is done by the

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ADVERTISING ARTWORK AND/OR ARTICLES

We prefer to have artwork and articles submitted electronically wherever possible.

"The online email address for **"Editorial"** is theroundabout.editorial@gmail.com and for **"Advertising"** is advs@theroundabout.org.nz

Including the word 'copy' somewhere in the subject line ensures that your material goes into the current copy folder and avoids accidental loss. It also helps us if you provide contact details for invoicing and to help sort out any problems that may arise. Common formats including *.docx, *.pdf, *.jpg and *.png files are preferred.

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION

The Roundabout is delivered door-to-door, free of charge by volunteers in the immediate Laingholm, Parau, Cornwallis and Huia areas. We are happy to mail copies outside the free delivery area at a cost of \$60 for ten issues (March to December). However, the latest issues can be found at our web-page: theroundabout.org.nz



MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES AND SIZES

FULL PAGE (180 x 267 mm)	\$96
HALF PAGE (180 x 132 mm)	\$49
THIRD PAGE Tall or wide (180 x 88 mm)	\$38
QUARTER PAGE (89 x 132 mm)	\$30
COVER ADVERT (89 x 54 mm)	\$28
SIXTH PAGE (89 x 88 mm)	\$24
CLASSIFIED (Up to five lines)	\$10
CLASSIFIED (Each additional line)	\$2

OUR NEXT ISSUE

5th November 2025

The deadline for ALL copy is
Monday 20th October 2025

PAYMENT

Invoices for advertisements appearing in the Roundabout will be sent monthly by the Roundabout Society. They may be paid via internet banking to:
 Kiwibank Account No. **38-9017-0529446-00**
 Prompt payment is always appreciated



The Roundabout is now an amazing 60 years old.

Sometime in 1965 the first issue of The Laingholm Roundabout was published, starting as a school newsletter, and it has been for 10 months per year, almost continually, ever since. There is some difference of opinion about exactly in which month the first edition was published so, to be sure, we are planning to celebrate the 60th anniversary with the December 2025 edition.

For those who are not aware, The Roundabout is a community magazine published by The Roundabout Society, a not-for-profit incorporated society, made up of a band of volunteers led by a small management committee. The magazine is compiled, over 1700 copies printed and then delivered to in the Laingholm, Parau, Cornwallis and Huia communities, as it has been since 1965. It is also available from the dairies in Laingholm, Woodlands Park and Waima, as well as copies provided to several businesses and facilities in Titirangi township, for customers to pick up and read.

Articles are provided by local readers, community groups and institutions. As part of the anniversary celebrations, we would like to include memories and comments of The Roundabout over the years

Our area has weathered so much over this time – controversies, new halls and recently Covid and unprecedented weather damage to our roads. The Roundabout has been there through it all and has always counted on great local support.

We are asking for your support again now. As your local magazine we would love to see your memories from the area over the last 60 years. We would like to publish as many of them as we can.

These may be memories of

- being involved in production, compilation or delivery of the Roundabout
- buses, post offices and libraries in the area
- local controversies and comedies
- significant events
- etc.

Please email contributions to theroundabout.editorial@gmail.com or mail/deliver to:

The Roundabout
6 Lookout Drive,
Laingholm,
Auckland 0604

Contributions would be appreciated by **Sunday 9th November**



September's Photo
Gallery
**Sports, Speeches
and Laingholm at
work**

Life at Laingholm

Laingholm is the best place to be all the time. This edition focuses on the things that have been going on at our school in the second half of term 3.

Netball

The wonderful Mrs Heathorn took 2 teams to the netball cluster interschool tournament. The practices all paid off with the girls finishing 5th and the boys finishing 2nd in their respective grades. Thank you to the amazing parents who came along and supported the children on the day.



Term 4 Sports Excitement

Term 4 will be action packed on the Laingholm sporting calendar.

Early in the term we have 8 teams heading off to the football interschools which are held at Crum Park. 80 Boys and girls from year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will attend this day. We organise this event in conjunction with our friends from Bay Olympic football club and we cannot wait.

Then we have our school athletics competition which will flow into the interschool competition to be held at The Trust Stadium.

At the end of term Mr Cox is taking the year 6 children surfing at Piha and we will have our Top Team Day.

Students at The Greatest Little School in the Universe Will Reach the Stars.



**The Greatest Little
School in the Universe**

Jump Jam

Our amazing Jump Jam team entered the Auckland wide Jump Jam Competition. Our year 1-4 team performed The Witch Doctor. Our year 5-6 team performed Can't Hold Us. The event was loads of fun and all the children did the school proud.



Speech Contestants

Daisy, Ava and Jessa-Rose competed at the Kotuitui speech competition. Daisy entered the English speaking competition and Ava and Jessa-Rose entered the Te Reo Māori section. All 3 girls were fantastic.



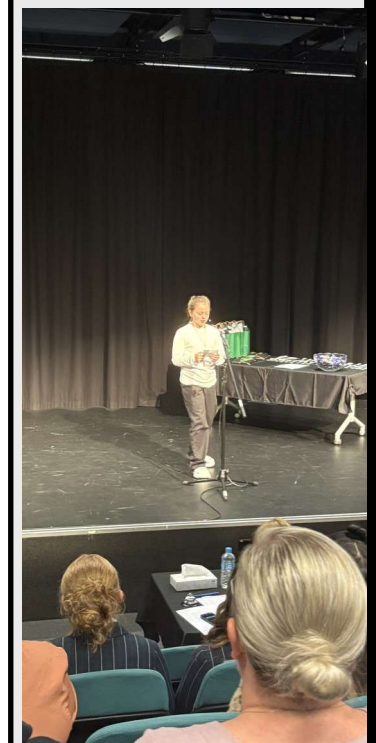
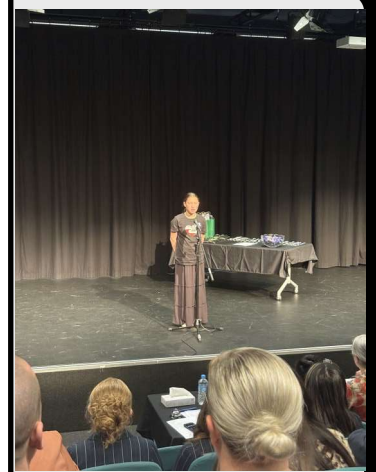
Gymnastics

Our gymnastics team once again did an amazing job finishing second overall in our sports cluster. 5 of the children then went on to compete at the Auckland champs, Noah, Connor, Emma, Arno and Natalie competed with some great placings. Congratulations to Emma who came out as the top year 3 gymnast in Auckland.



The Greatest Little School in the Universe

Students at The Greatest Little School in the Universe will reach the stars.



*Thank you to Tātai
14 for putting
together this
months Laingholm
Primary School
Roundabout page*

My three-year plan - if re-elected.

Every Term, the incoming Mayor resets the Council Committees, their Terms of Reference, and appoints councillors to them. Followed by a refresh of the 10-Year Long-Term Plan (LTP) and long-term budget. I was oblivious to the strategic importance of this period at the beginning of last term, but I'm not now.

My aims remain unchanged, of course, with representing the West still the priority, but I am now better informed on how to achieve them.

If re-elected, I will be advocating the following principles:

1. Reduce council operating costs
2. Increase productivity
3. Decentralise local maintenance management and procurement back to local boards, thereby prioritising ratepayers' money to the area collected.
4. Restore the Regional Park Department autonomy
5. Growth that aligns with infrastructure (and vice versa)
6. Restore a public servant ethos throughout the organisation

I'll fight to implement these principles practically by:

- Advocating to reduce staff levels in dubious roles like Reputation Planning and eliminate expert-advice duplication by constant 'peer review'. Reassign staff from prediction and monitoring roles to on-site management and delivery roles. Return Council Capital and Operational contracts to traditional tendering processes and ensure cost scrutiny through market contestability. Advocate for merging the Council's Full Facilities and Procurement Departments so that the same staff oversees their funding and delivery, ensuring clear responsibility for outcomes. Empower Local Boards to procure maintenance services for their LOCAL (rather than regional) public built and open space facilities. (Supports principles 1, 2, & 3)
- I will seek reappointment as Parks Committee Chair and ask the mayor to expand the Terms of Reference to include policy, operational budget decisions, leasing of Regional Park assets, and the establishment of commercial concessions. I will advocate for increased funding for Regional Parks. I will defend the public's right to speak to the Parks Committee and ensure there are no overlaps of sub-committees or stakeholder groups, thereby maintaining transparent communication. I'll expedite the long-overdue Waitakere Ranges Track and Recreation plans and champion the re-opening of all tracks with more cost-effective ways to meet dry foot track standards. (supports principles 4 & 1)
- I'll seek appointment to the Regulatory and Safety Committee and propose adding 'Resource Consent Fee Appeal' and 'Consent Infringement Appeal' processes to its Terms of Reference. I aim to provide ratepayers with a way to challenge the bills the Council charges for internal activities related to processing private Resource and Building Consents, and to contest the Council's unilateral acceptance of neighbouring minor consent infringements, without needing to go to Court. (supports principle 6 & 2)
- Seek re-appointment as Lead Councillor to the Watercare Services Ltd Board. (supports principle 5)

And of course, continue assisting with your individual issues and serving as your link to understanding the Council through clear, honest, and regular reporting.

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Summer Fun on the Water



Spring marks the start of the summer boating programme for the New Lynn Sea Scouts. The first event was the Waikato Spring Regatta, more affectionately known as the 'Ice Breaker'. Pictured above is New Lynn's second Junior Scout crew preparing to give their first rowing race a go. Only their second time on the oars and forming a team of 5 rowing against crews of 6, but they still managed a fourth placing against crews with much greater experience. The key to their success was teamwork and a focus on rowing in time rather than brute strength.

Teamwork, leadership, communication, and giving new experiences a go is a primary focus of the Scouting programme which based around developing important life skills through an adventurous outdoor programme. The New Lynn Sea Scout Group is blest with sitting on two harbours and in the lea of the Waitakere Ranges giving an excellent adventure playground to for new experiences.

To the right are some of the Kea Scouts who ventured up Mt Atkinson to end term 3 exploring some of the local landmarks as they made their way up from Titirangi Village.

Term 4 will bring evenings on the water at French Bay and on the Whau River making rafts, paddle boarding, canoeing, rowing and power boating for the younger sections while the older sections will also plan for a trips down the Waikato River camping on the riverbanks over Labour Weekend and boating expeditions to Ponui Island to close out school exams. Throw in an extra camp or two and what more could you ask for?



The New Lynn Sea Scout Group caters for boys and girls aged 5 - 19 years. So if you want a slice of the action on the water, or to go camping and explore the awesome adventure playground that we are blest with out West, then give Andrew a ring on 027 6939 756 or check out www.newlynn.seascouts.org.nz for more details.



Why not visit your local museum, come and browse a wide range of interesting local artifacts.

Admission: \$5 children 12 and under: free

Open Saturday and Sunday 1.30 – 4.30 pm (summer or until 4.00pm winter)

Enquiries and group bookings: info@huiamuseum.org.nz

The Gray Family of Foster Bay

History and memories from Matthew Gray, Editor Western Leader 2000 to 2010 who wrote the “Tales from The Crypt Column” for The Western Leader.



My late father, David, often brought my sister and I out to Huia as children for a Sunday drive and it was a place that was clearly special to him.

From left, David, Hubert, Essie and Suella Gray. 1 Foster Avenue, Foster Bay. 1965

His parents bought a bach within a stone's throw at Foster Bay during the late 1940s/early 1950s and it stayed in the family until 1969. Huia/Foster Bay was among the first places I sought solace in the months after his death in 1996 and it still frequently draws me back.

Dad's sister Suella was also a regular visitor and took great pleasure walking the beach and bush trails with her own children and grandchildren. She died in 2019 but shared some of her memories with me in her last few months of life. - Matthew Gray

Huia - my happy place. Memories by Suella Gray



Hubert, left, Suella (standing in the tide) and David Gray (4th from left). Circa 1952.

My fondest childhood memories are of Foster Bay in Huia and the family bach at 1 Foster Avenue. Mum was always very happy there and Dad was more relaxed too. They discovered the property on a drive one day and ended up buying it off Old Man Foster.

It had a boat shed back then with a ramp that went straight into the water at high tide.

Dad kept a 12-foot dinghy in it and used to go out fishing most days with some of the other men who stayed out there also with their families. We had an old brass dinner gong in the bach and Mum would bash the hell out of it if it was getting late and they were still out on the water somewhere. Sure enough, they'd hear it and come back in. It was just a nice relaxed and easy-going time. Our neighbours from 'town' would all have turns coming down in the Christmas holidays. They'd spend a day with us at the beach and then stay for dinner.



We had a huge table next to a big window that looked out over the Manukau Heads and the adults would sit there and play Canasta at night after I'd gone to bed. We didn't have a fridge and perishables were kept cool in a safe that hung from a hook on a rope underneath the old water tank. There was no bathroom either - just an outside loo in the bush and a big old tin baby bath kind of thing that we could use to sponge ourselves down in. Generally though, we'd walk to Little Huia - up the jigger track and into the bush where there was a water hole. We'd take soap and shampoo and have our big wash in there.

David, Suella and Hubert Gray at "the waterhole" – Little Huia. Circa 1954

We used to get up early in the morning if the tide was right and go netting for piper. Just one drag of the net and we'd probably have enough to supply all of the families at Foster Bay with breakfast. The kids from other baches would often come along and take away whatever we didn't want. Mum would roll the piper with a milk bottle to crush the bones before she cooked them on the coal range. Then we'd be off for the day.



Suella and David Gray with grandmother, Ethel Faulder

Outside the original Huia Store. Circa 1960



David and Suella Gray, Foster Bay. Early 1950s

My brother David used to knock around with John Dufty, John Tait and Rod Ferguson among others while I had my girlfriends to play with.

One of the better-known residents at Foster Bay was a woman named Irene Farrelly. Huia became her permanent home after she retired from a residential school for the deaf in Titirangi where Lopdell House is today. She swam every day on high tide until she was well into her 80s. You'd look out from the beach and see this plastic bathing cap bobbing on the water and that would be her. Irene used to plan walks in the bush and knew every track from Huia through to Whatipu. She would often write a notice and put it up at the local store for the kids to read. It would include a little map of whatever she had in mind and say something like: "Tuesday. Meet here at 7.30am. Bring packed lunch and drink." Those of us who wanted to go would meet her there and off we'd hike. She was an amazing woman and she'd make sure she had some one-on-one time with each of us at some part of the day.

We would think nothing of a full-day walk to Whatipu. It was absolutely wonderful and cost nothing. - **Suella Gray**

Huia Museum Archives.



HUIA CORNWALLIS
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HUIA CORNWALLIS COMMUNITY GROUP

Welcome to the first edition of the new HCCG Monthly newsletter!

We have recently held our AGM where Tony Speechley stepped down as chairperson after serving many years on the committee. Tony has been chair since 2017, but was a key player in the committee before taking the helm. Tony was the voice and connection between the community and Auckland Council. He knew all the right people and dropped everything to help. He was a key lead in the Westcoaster and Huia Raft Race, as well as many other events.

Tony's experience and depth of knowledge is impossible to replace, and he will be sorely missed. We can not thank him enough for everything he has done. Good luck on your new journey Tony!

Rebecca Fletcher has been voted in as the new Chair Person, with Charissa Minty moving from hall hire to vice chair. Lisa Coleman has joined as Secretary, with Penelope Miller, Josie Parker-Simon, Michael Fletcher, Rachael Naomi, Ken Turner and Dave Parker making up the rest of our committee.

We are actively looking for representatives from Cornwallis to join us, as well as a new person to manage hall hires.

With a new website and booking system currently under development this should be an easy role for someone who is detail orientated. Get in touch if you're interested

Hall Updates

We have recently replaced all tables and chairs, as well as crockery, glassware and silverware. We are now equipped up to host a fully seated party of up to 80 people and have several weddings booked through to March next year. From 1st birthdays to 50th Anniversaries, Huia hall is perfect for your next function. Come and have a look around

UPCOMING EVENTS

LABOUR DAY MARKET

27th of October from
10am till 2pm

SPOOKS & SPARKS

Halloween Party on the
8th of November from
4pm till 6pm

SANTA'S GROTTTO

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our Christmas Grotto
from 17th till 20th of
December



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HUIA CORNWALLIS COMMUNITY GROUP

Your Hall - Your Ideas

We are looking for more wonderful people from our community to bring more classes and fun activities to our hall, and would love to hear from you. What would you like to see in your hall? What would you like to participate in? We will be putting it out on facebook for your suggestions, but get your thinking cap on. Know anyone who would be great in this space? We would love you to put them in touch with us.

Meet the Team

Rebecca Fletcher “My family first had a humble bach here generations ago, and when I was four my parents made Huia our forever home. I did try to escape in my 20s —but instead married into one of the earliest settler families in Huia. It wasn’t long before I realised: you can take the girl out of Huia, but you can’t take Huia out of the girl. These days I’m very much a jack of all trades —one day behind the wheel of the First Response Van, the next helping out at Alfred’s, and in between I’m whipping up cupcakes, getting crafty, or bringing along my vintage crockery collection for a local event. After serving as Secretary since 2021, I’ve now been nominated as Chair —proof that if you stick around long enough, they eventually hand you a bigger job title!”

Charissa Minty is Huia’s current hall manager, snack ninja, and the exhausted CEO of two pint-sized cyclones. She takes hall booking calls from the car, and her Crocs are permanently in sport mode because life’s a sprint. Her husband traps pests, and she is powered by coffee, chaos, and questionable Wi-Fi.

Josie Parker is Half of Alfred’s Huia stores heart, 6th generation Huian, and Halloween enthusiast. Huia is her happy place, and where she plans to spend her life as it’s the most beautiful place on earth, and holds all of her best memories.

Lisa Coleman is busy raising the next generation of Huia Hooligans. Driven by wine and cheese, she has severe environmental anxiety and very little hope for the future. Loves Huia. Will be carried out in a wooden box and fed to the fishes across the bar.

Rachael Naomi is a creative passionate about living in Te Wao Nui a Tiriwa, surrounded by trees, hills, birdsong & the sea. She loves the community, its support of each other & the rich history of this area.



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Authorised by P Garcia, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



From past issues of The Roundabout

Volume 24 No. 2 April 1989

Memories

A Senior Citizen is one who was here before the pill, before television, frozen foods, credit cards, and ball-point pens.

“Hardware” meant hammers, nails, nuts and bolts and “Software” was not even a word.

A chip was a piece of wood.

Senior Citizens were here before drip-dries, dishwashers, clothes dryers and electric blankets, along with Batman, disposable diapers, jeeps, pizza and instant coffee.

When Senior citizens were young they got married then lived together.

Cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was for mowing, pot was something you cooked in, and a gay person was the life of the party. Aids was the plural of aid, which meant help for people in trouble.

Senior Citizens are a hardy bunch when you think of some of the adjustments they have had to make.

(From the Probus Club of Attadale. WA)

A Couple of Quotes

1. A mistake is evidence that someone has tried to do something.
2. A man can fail many times, but he isn't a failure till he begins to blame somebody else.

Grace

Volume 24 No. 5 July 1989

Memories

Listening to the radio recently, to talk-back about telephones of the past, brought to mind the party-lines we used to have in Laingholm.

What a curse they were, but they also had their funny moments, I'll tell you of one such incident which wasn't funny at the time but we had many a laugh about it later, when the mystery was solved.

There were four on our party-line at the time and every morning the phone rang right on the dot of 5.00 am. Every day for two weeks it happened, until it finally came out why.

One young member on our line got keen on an early morning run, so her neighbour who was always up getting her husband off to work, would ring with this “wakey-wakey”.

When she finally realised that she was also waking up three other households, the neighbour apologised, but what amused us was that she said “And I always spoke quietly so as not to awaken the others!!”

Grace

Quotes for this Month:

1. A foreigner is a freind I haven't met yet.
2. A friend is one who knows all about you and still likes you.

Fireworks and bon fires are with us once again. Many years ago it was always a fun night on Laingholm Beach. A big bonfire was lit and everyone brought their own fireworks.

But one night ended sadly. A couple of local boys decided to make their own fireworks in a Baked Beans tin. There was a mighty explosion and the two boys were badly hurt. I can't just remember the exact injuries but they both had very bad hand wounds, one boy lost two fingers.

Bonfire Night can be a lot of fun but care must be taken. Enjoy yourselves. Grace

Quotes for this Month:

1, Taxes could be much worse. Suppose we had to pay on what we think we're worth.

2, Tact is the ability to close your mouth before someone else wants to.

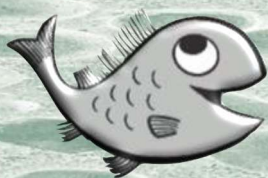


NOTICE

**The Roundabout ANNUAL
General Meeting**

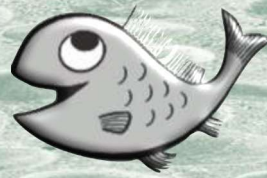
2.00 pm Sunday October 12th

Laingholm Hall – Victory Road.



Winnie's Wanderings

(from Winnie the Wharfie)



Howdy and gidday fishos. At the time of writing this it's blowing a vicious easterly and cold but it doesn't deter the stalwarts on the wharf who we believe are after piper. There's up to a dozen of them nearly every day and it's a wonder there are any piper left in the harbour!

Some time ago I mentioned a book by a US author, Victoria Braithwaite, called 'Do Fish Feel Pain'. She admits her experience of fish goes no further than keeping goldfish as a kid but we won't hold that against her. She's obviously done the research to write nearly 200 pages on the subject. Well as fishos I think we'd like to believe fish don't feel pain as this interferes with the pleasure of catching them but if her research is valid I'm afraid fish do feel pain, even tiddlers. Here's why according to Victoria. Whilst we have five basic senses, fish it seems have lots more. The thin line that runs along the flank from behind the gills (the lateral line) is filled with sensory receptors some of which allow fish to detect nearby objects and even danger. She quotes various examples of these but one of the main things that tell us fish feel pain is that after a stressful or painful event their bodies release more cortisol into the blood, just as humans do. So what more evidence do you want? However it is easy to tell ourselves that maybe the evidence has been fine-tuned to suit the purpose of the book. I will leave it with your conscience to decide.

Anyhow moving along. The scallop season is upon us but I think the scallops must be thin on the ground around Cornwallis as the number of divers has diminished and I haven't noticed anyone dredging. Okay that's the claptrap over with. Must be joke time.

Why do they bury politicians 12 feet down? Because deep down they're not all that bad.

Did you hear about the dyslexic fella who sold his soul to santa?

And lastly: Why did the one-handed fella cross the road? To get to the second-hand shop.

Ok fishos, that's it for now.

Tight lines, cheers Winnie.

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The Forgotten Suburb

This year, The Roundabout has reason to celebrate. It is 60 years since the very first issue of “The Laingholm Roundabout” rolled off the presses. It was printed on a “Gestetner”. The pages were typed onto stencils, using a typewriter without an ink-ribbon. The illustrations were drawn by hand. Those old Gestetners could be very temperamental, and the ink had a way of straying onto things other than the paper, such as the printers’ hands! The magazine’s covers were professionally printed.

The purpose of the magazine was to raise funds for the school. Ten years later, in 1975, this was still the case. There seemed to be no shortage of advertisers. By today’s standards the prices seem ridiculously low – just \$2.90 for a full (A5 size) page! Just as now, local community groups like the Fire Brigade, the Baptist Church, Plunket, the Playcentre and many more were able to report on their activities. Something else that has not changed is the inclusion of poems and short stories written by the pupils of Laingholm School. However, we now give the pupils of the other two local schools – Woodlands Park and the Rudolf Steiner School – an opportunity to see themselves in print, too.

But, returning to finances, even making allowances for inflation, it is interesting to note that what was then a small monthly magazine could raise significant funds to help the school. Today’s Roundabout could not do that. As an Incorporated Society we have to fulfil certain requirements, one of which is to present annual audited accounts. The accountant has to be paid.

Because we use a Council building, we have to have personal liability insurance, as well as insurance for our equipment and stock. The price of paper, ink and staples keeps going up. Month by month we hover around the break-even mark. Finances are tight for The Roundabout – just as they are for everyone else. So, The Roundabout as a fund-raiser? Sadly, not these days

If you would like to know more about The Roundabout’s finances – and also other aspects of producing this iconic magazine - come to the **AGM at Laingholm Hall. 2pm October 12th**. See you there!



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Riddle:

Q: What gets wetter and wetter the more it dries?

A: A Towel!

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FAREWELL TO A LEGEND

In September we were saddened to hear of the passing of our regions Volunteer Support Officer Mike "Sooty" Barratt. Sooty achieved an extraordinary milestone in dedicating 55 years of service to Fire and Emergency NZ.

Sooty is unquestionably the most well-known Firefighter in the Te Hiku region as he supported most of the Waitemata Volunteer Stations.

It was commonplace for Sooty to be present at training nights and provide his humour and guidance to all. It didn't matter if you were there for your first day as a recruit, or if you were a Gold Star recipient, Station Officer etc, Sooty always gave you time and remembered you by name.

Sooty's funeral at the Greenhithe Hall was attended by an overwhelming number of past and present Fire and Emergency personal. Honouring him with a guard of honour and a powerful and passionate haka.

Sooty will be dearly missed by all involved

As a mark of respect, fire stations across the region lowered their flags at half-mast.

At our brigades recent Gold Star event, Sooty spoke about his enjoyment of supporting Volunteer Brigades and how each station was unique creating their own respective culture under a single strategy of protecting communities. Even after 55 years, he still enjoyed coming to work and seeing these stations develop and thrive.

You will forever be missed Sooty.

"What you leave as a legacy is not what is etched in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others"





HUIA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Contact us for any enquiries - Fire Station Ph: 8118885 or message us through our Facebook page.
In an emergency dial 111

WHEN SHOULD I CALL 111 IN A WEATHER EVENT?

We are in Spring, aren't we? This weather has been intense. In particular, the wind which has caused havoc around the region.

On some occasions people can ask when they should call 111 and report an issue in a weather event. The basic rule is if there is immediate risk to life or property call 111.

So, what does that mean? Some will be self-evident, however there are scenarios that can cause risk to life and property that are commonly overlooked. The most common risk to life and property during a weather event are fallen trees.

Trees that have fallen onto a house, garage or onto the road can pose a significant risk to both life and property. Often trees that have fallen onto the road can appear quickly to a driver with little reaction time in the rain and during the night. Fire Crews may be deployed to assist making the scene safe for traffic and clearing the road.



Trees can also take down power lines which pose a significant risk. During a recent call out at Mill Bay, the crew had to close Huia Road for a period of time until Vector could isolate the power to make clearing the debris safe.

MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDERS

The Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade is also Medical First Response unit. With the closest ambulance often a minimum of 20 minutes from Huia, the dedicated crew that are Medical First Responders recently sat their revalidation certification with St Johns.

Nga Mihi



VEGETABLE RECIPES WITH A DIFFERENCE

by

ADRIENNE PEEK

TUNA AND CHICKPEA PIE

60 Grams Butter or Margarine
 ¼ Cup Flour
 1 ½ Cups Full Cream Milk - warmed
 100 Grams Grated Cheese
 425 Grams Tuna (drained)
 425 Grams Can of Chickpeas (drained – 300g drained weight)
 ¼ Cup Chopped Parsley

Cheesy Mash

800 Grams Cooked Potatoes
 100 Grams Butter or Margarine
 150 Grams Cheese (grated)
 100 grams Parmesan Cheese (grated)



Place 1st measure of butter in a pan and melt. Add flour and slowly add the milk until it thickens. Add cheese and stir in the tuna, chickpeas and parsley and season. Place in a greased oven dish.

Mash the potatoes with the butter and cheeses and place on top of the tuna mix, sprinkle with a little cheese and bake for 35-40 minutes at 200 degrees fan bake. If you don't want the mash, slice potatoes in thin rings and cook and place on top of the tuna and sprinkle with cheese.

TUNA OR SALMON PANCAKES

BATTER

1 Cup Self Raising Flour
 2 Eggs
 1 ¼ Cups Milk
 ½ Cup Grated Cheese
 Mix all the ingredients together and cook like pancakes. While cooking prepare the filling.

FILLING

3 Tablespoons Butter or Margarine
 3 Tablespoons Flour
 1 Cup Milk
 1 Cup Grated Cheese
 1 Small Tin Tuna or Salmon (drained)
 Salt and Pepper to taste



Melt the butter, add the flour and slowly add the milk then cheese and fish. Season. Divide the mixture between the pancakes and place on the end nearest you and roll up and garnish with lemon and parsley.

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 - Vincent Van Gogh

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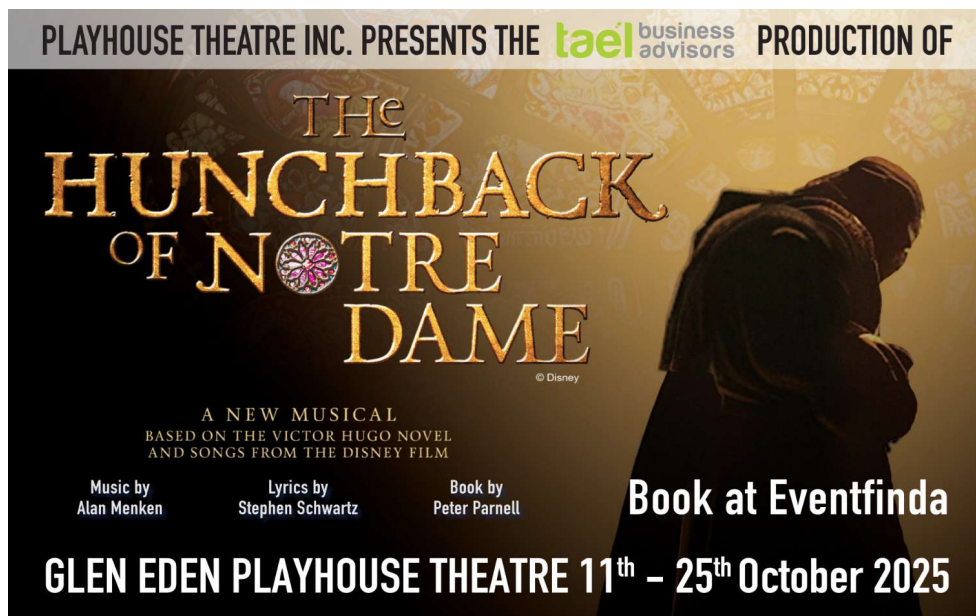
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This stage musical is an epic story of love, acceptance, and what it means to be a hero.

The show features songs from the Disney animated film, with a soaring score by Alan Menken and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, while drawing its inspiration from Victor Hugo's classic novel.

Set in 15th-century Paris, the story centres on Quasimodo, the deformed bell-ringer of the famed Notre Dame Cathedral. Hidden away for much of his life, Quasimodo longs to connect with the world beyond the cathedral walls but is kept captive by his controlling guardian, Archdeacon Frollo. Portrayed by Daniel Wright, Quasimodo is a character of deep humanity whose courage and kindness lie at the heart of the story

Esmeralda, played by Zaverri Doctor, is a free-spirited and compassionate Romani woman who refuses to be silenced by prejudice. She sees Quasimodo's worth when others do not, sparking a friendship that brings him hope and strength. Esmeralda also captures the attention of both Frollo and Phoebus.

Sam Iosefo takes on the role of Archdeacon Frollo, a man torn between rigid devotion to the church and his own darker desires. Balancing this is Captain Phoebus, portrayed by Patrick Cunneen, a soldier whose sense of honour is tested when he becomes entangled with both Esmeralda and Frollo. Through Esmeralda, Phoebus begins to see the injustices around him and must decide whether to follow duty or conscience.

Guiding this production are directors Charlotte Harris and Jacob Harris, whose vision and creativity bring fresh energy to this beloved musical. With their leadership, the cast and creative team have crafted a production that promises to captivate audiences from the first note to the final curtain.

This production is supported by a live orchestra and choir, bringing to life Menken and Schwartz's magnificent score.



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WHAT LAINGHOLM IS TELLING US

Here are some recent data points from Laingholm and the broader market, so you can see what's happening on the ground.

From **realestate.co.nz**
over the past 12 months:

- Median sale price: \$880,000, down ~8.3%
- Median asking price: \$887,500, down ~9.4%
- Median days to sale: ~51 days
- Median rent: \$690/week, also down ~14.3%.

From **Opes Partners:**

Average house value sits around \$1,001,450,
up ~6% in the last year

From **Investment Property /
RealestateInvestar:**

Median listing price ~ \$995,000

Rental yield ~3.82%

Average time on market ~95 days

These give a mixed picture: values are under pressure in some respects (asking vs sale price declines, rental declines), but overall house values seem more steady (or creeping up in some reports).

LOCAL OPEN HOME NUMBERS & METHOD OF SALE STATS:

NEW LISTINGS: Rauhuia Crescent: 9 groups through the first open home

Laingholm Drive: 11 groups through the first open home

AUCTIONS: 20 Laingfield Tce – 1 active bidder | 21a Western – 2 active bidders

3 Laingfield Tce – 1 active bidder

DEADLINE SALES: Multi-offers presented on 61 Western Rd and 145/147 Victory Rd

These are healthy open home numbers, signalling buyer interest. But quantity alone doesn't guarantee conversion - quality of presentation, realistic pricing, and managing buyer expectations still count for a lot.

STATS FROM OUR RECENT BIG EVENT:

We sold 6 of 16 properties under the hammer, plus one more right afterwards to the highest bidder = 7/16, or 44% success under the hammer.

Bidders:

Of the 16, 10 had bidders. Average bidders per auction was ~1.4.

Where bidding occurred, 70% sold either during or right after the event; under the hammer success was ~60% for those with bidders.

WHAT IT ALL MEANS:

- It is still more of a buyer's market in many ways. Buyers are cautious. They show up when there's clear value.
- Sellers who are motivated vendors, and are realistic about terms – these are the ones seeing success. Unrealistic reserve prices or high expectations without justification, tend to stall.
- Negotiation is increasingly the norm. Almost every deal requires negotiation



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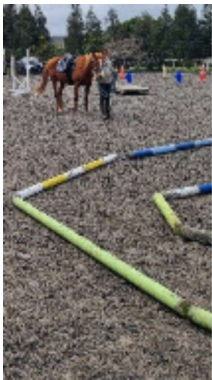
ALAN WHITE
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Pony Tales

Huia Road Horse Club holds monthly club days for all club members, with fun activities. These tend to involve education and we try to offer riding as often as we can.

This month we decided to create an obstacle course. Everyone pitched in to make the course using various objects from around the club. The final course was awesome! It had some easier obstacles, including weaving barrels, a pole setup, and a maze of jump stands and tree branches. For a bigger challenge, there were some harder tasks as well. These were the seesaw, a ring of cones to weave around and through, and a super-scary pool noodle gate that the horses had to push through.



The horses had so much fun in the obstacle course! The pony trio – Paddy, Merlin, and Red – were led through the obstacles and did great navigating them. The bigger horses took the club members on an obstacle course ride. Everyone had a great time, and all the horses were very brave. It is very good for horses to do obstacle courses as it gets them using their brains and overcoming challenges.



Don't forget – next month we celebrate the spooky season! Like last year, the horses at HRHC will be dressing up for Halloween, and we are excited to welcome everyone to come along, get some candy and see the horses' costumes. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for further details.

Our Community Pony Rides run most first Sundays of the month, from 3-4pm, but check our Facebook page for any changes. We are always open to new members. There are plenty of opportunities to be involved as much as you would like and in plenty of different ways. For any further enquiries, see our Facebook page to send a message or feel free to contact the secretary.





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Laingholm Fishing Club.

Welcome to our monthly newsletter.

We continue to attract new members and it's very exciting to see the Club on Friday and Sunday's evenings becoming busy.

Children are also allowed until 8pm. Our "Jag the Joker" has now started and is drawn every Friday at 8pm. You just need to buy a drink or two to be part of the draw, it's that's easy!

We welcome non-members so if you haven't visited us, then come on in and have a drink.

In other news we have arranged for the Coastguard to come and talk on Sunday 12 October at 2.30pm. This will be an informative session covering conditions on the Manukau Harbour and the Bar including safety considerations. There will be a sausage sizzle with proceeds being donated to the Coastguard. All are welcome to attend this presentation.

Every Tuesday morning from approximately 11.00am to 1pm, a small informal art class occurs. You do not have to be an artist to join the group, so pop in and see what we are doing.

The Club is free for use by other community groups, so if you are interested in using our space for your community activities then please contact our Secretary via email at lfsecretary@hotmail.co.nz for further details.



Fridays 5:30 – 11pm

Sunday 4- 8:00pm

Sandys Parade, Laingholm Beach.

Find us on Facebook for event and dinner details.

New faces always welcome,

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‘Eharatau toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini’

‘My strength is not that of an individual, but that of the collective’

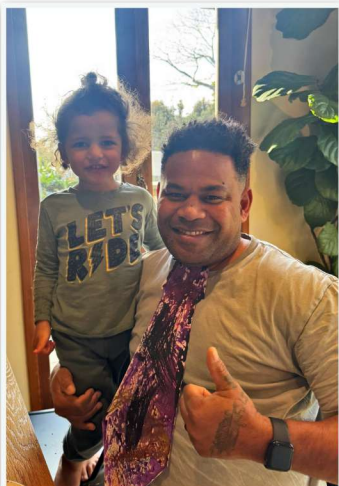
Disco

Our tamariki lit up the Laingholm Hall at our Kindergarten Disco! The hall was transformed into a glowing “Rave Cave,” where children danced the night away with their kindergarten friends, enjoying glow-in-the-dark fun and all their favourite songs. It was a joyful evening full of energy, laughter, and movement, and a wonderful chance for our kindergarten whānau to come together, connect, and celebrate as a community.



Fathers Day

For Father's Day, our tamariki got creative and made something truly special for their dads and important father figures. Each child designed their own colourful tie using card, crayons, and dye, making everyone unique. To make the gifts even more meaningful, we added the children's own words about what they love most about their dads. These heartfelt creations were a beautiful way to celebrate and acknowledge the special role Dads play in their lives.





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Once again as it's time to prepare for spring in the garden my brassicas have finally decided to produce and so they will continue to take up room and time needed for other crops.

But the erratic spring weather does provide opportunities to do some work on the soil by adding compost and other nutrients in between the squalls. Experts advise rotating crops so you're not planting in the same place but I haven't always found this to be the case and having had a good crop one season when I move it to another part of the garden I often have a fail the next year. I am trying hard to develop a strawberry patch but have had very mediocre returns and last year was particularly bad...I could have counted the total number of berries on one hand.

While your garden is recovering from winter this can be a good time to start growing from seed - it's cheap and can reap great rewards. Many veggie seedlings can be planted now and if you can afford it they appreciate a dollop of vegie mix to start them off, before feeding them once a month or so with a booster of some kind. I tend to plant with tender loving care then give them a healthy dose of neglect which sadly often has obvious consequences.

Labour Weekend is traditionally seen as the ideal time to plant spring crops such as tomatoes, capsicums and cucumbers but sometimes patience is a virtue and by waiting a few more weeks I have found the final harvest is often better.

The flower garden can now be hit with a burst of spring colour and more routine spring chores such as dead-heading and tying off the tops of spring bulbs are easier now daylight saving is here. If you give your bulbs food apparently this is the time they suck up all the good stuff so you get a bumper show next year. But really, who's worrying about next winter as we spring into this next season. Enjoy!



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Goodness Gardens.



Spring is springing, pretty pink blossoms on the newly planted Peachcot tree ..(pictured)

We have some unusual Mulberry trees sprouting new crinkly lime green leaves and the well staked feijoa trees have stood up to the recent fierce winds. These have all had manure and mulch applied in abundance awaiting the warmer months ahead. (pictured)

We'll be pollinating the first flowers on our terrific triffid like passionfruit vine ourselves again this year, until the bees find it.

They really are the most beautiful intricate flowers with so many busy parts. We hope to have another year of abundance and are trying to propagate our own new plants.



Recently the learners from OakTEC moved mulch around the citrus trees in the public orchard, and picked the odd mandarin as they worked. Jason and Kush did an especially great job. (pictured) This is their last year at the school. We have all enjoyed their company and will miss them next year.



Lots of planting to be done this week. Always plenty of weeding to do. Fighting with the climbing honeysuckle in the stream area is a good workout. If any of these jobs sound like you, please join us on any Thursday or Saturday morning from 10am for our public Social Gardening sessions.

We are lucky to be teaming up with the Waima 2 Laingholm Pest free group soon.

The first project will be to set up some trap lines. If anyone is keen to exercise themselves while checking the traps on a rostered basis, we'd love to hear from you. Thanks.



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Louise



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Cake Competition**

Monday 27th October 10.00am start



**Cake competition rules : must be a plain fruit cake, no
decoration or icing, cakes must be in by 10.00 sharp
on the Monday . Cakes can be left at the museum Sat
25th Sun 26th between 1.30 – 3pm.**

Cakes will be judged by 2 gentlemen from Huia.

**After judging cakes will be sold for museum fund
raising.**



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Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade

This month marks an important anniversary for the brigade. On Labour weekend 1955 the brigade's first station at the corner of Kauri



Point and Victory Roads was officially opened and it was obviously an important occasion for the small community. The brigade's first fire appliance, a wartime Ford V8 that had seen service as a crash tender with the RNZAF, holds pride of place. The station, which was built by volunteer labour, lasted until 1972 when the present station in Victory Road near the hall and school was opened. The old station was demolished shortly after and today Kauri Point Road runs through the middle of the former station site.

As for the Ford V8 it was found lying

derelict on a farm in Northland, bought back by the brigade and has been slowly restored over the ensuing years as finances and time allows. It comes out for special occasions such as the Anzac commemoration.

Appropriately as it's a war veteran having served on the island of Bougainville.

Seventy years ago the brigade had just 10 members and was an auxiliary unit of the Titirangi brigade which had been formed six years before. In 1955 fire brigades were expected to deal with fires and not much more. Today we have 24 members and deal with a variety of emergencies including



medical responses, road crashes, chemical spills, and weather events. In those days all brigade members were men but today women form an important part of our team.

We handled a dozen calls last month but none was of a serious nature. Three calls were weather events



with trees coming down on roads and bringing down lines.



Chief Fire Officer Paul and QFF Nicole represented Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade at the Auckland Provincial Fire Brigade's Association Firefighter Combat Challenge, held in Rotorua.

A huge congratulations to Nicole for her outstanding achievements:

1st place – Female Tandem

1st place – Female Relay

3rd place – Female Individual

Amazing effort and a great showcase of skill, strength, and determination. We'll also be out fundraising at Green Bay New World on Saturday 4th and 11th September. Come down, grab a sausage sizzle, check out the fire truck, and support your local brigade!



We were all shocked last month to learn of the sudden death of our volunteer support officer Mike (Sooty) Barratt. Sooty served for more than 50 years in the fire service, starting as a volunteer firefighter then becoming a career firefighter, before rising to the rank of Senior Station Officer. In recent years he served as a support officer, looking after Laingholm and a number of other brigades. (He was known as Sooty thanks to him being a chimney sweep on his days off.) Our members joined with a huge crowd of firefighters in Greenhithe to pay their final respects to Sooty. Rest well Sooty, you were one of the best.

These days, lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries are everywhere, from e-bikes and e-scooters to vapes and power tools. They are light, compact, and long-lasting, but can be a fire hazard if they are damaged, mishandled, or improperly disposed of.

- Do your research. Only purchase and use devices and equipment from reputable manufacturers and suppliers.
- Only use chargers and batteries supplied with the device, or certified third-party charging equipment compatible with the battery specifications (same voltage and current).

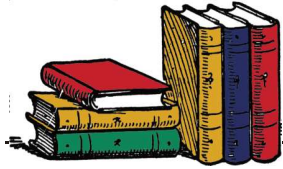


- Always charge e-scooters and e-bikes away from exits to ensure you can safely escape in the event of a fire. Where possible these should be stored and charged outside or in a garage, shed or carport, away from living spaces.
- For smaller devices, such as vapes, phones, and laptops, do not charge these under a pillow, on the bed or on a couch
- Do not overcharge your batteries. When your item is fully charged, disconnect it from the charger.
- Always store lithium-ion battery devices in cool dry spaces, out of direct sunlight.
- Only get device repairs and battery replacements done by a qualified professional.
- A working smoke alarm or a heat alarm should be installed in any room, garage or structure where lithium-ion batteries are regularly charged.

Our newest "member" joined us for our brigade AGM last month. He didn't have anything to say, which wasn't a surprise as officially he's a dummy. His name's "Rescue Randy" and will be helping us with training on station and at the United Fire Brigades'



competitions which we participate in. Our thanks to The Trusts Charitable Foundation for providing the funds to buy him



Book Reviews



GEORGE WADSWORTH & IAN JOHNSON

The Lasting Harm by Lucia Osorne-Crowley

The author who is an English journalist was sexually assaulted when she was a child. She uses the trial of Ghislaine Maxwell to staunchly advocate for victims of sexual violence. In this book she tells what happened at the trial as she was there every day it lasted. To do so she had to get up at 1. 30 am for four weeks to make sure she had a seat in the courtroom as there were only four seats available. More importantly she became friends with the four women who very bravely gave evidence of the grooming, and sexual assaults they suffered at the hands of Maxwell, Epstein and many others. She sets out the arguments used by the prosecution and the defendant, the women's testimony and the defence lawyers tactics and harrowing cross examination. Maxwell was found guilty of five out of the six crimes she was charged with and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. She is appealing.

What is so sad and graphic are the stories of the author and the four women and how badly their lives have been affected. Many women do not tell anyone about the abuse they received for decades. if at all. The author wondered why other women's statements were not used by the FBI to prosecute Maxwell and Epstein and concludes the trial was a show trial so the FBI could close the file after having only four women testify. She also strongly considers that the defamation laws need reform so that women do not suffer the threat of defamation proceedings brought by wealthy men to keep their offending secret. This is a serious book and a fascinating read. Well worth the effort.

Tinkering- the complete book of John Clarke Introduction by Lorin Clarke

Have you ever heard of Saint Expensives School or Laurie Keat and Packer-Galahs, some of the students overseen by Sue Persivisor, to say nothing of the co-ordinator of the book club, Iva Krapp-Daley. If you haven't, you are in for a treat and sore sides from laughing so much. This book tells the story of John Clarke's life as a writer. Sometimes serious but mostly very very funny. You may have never heard of Farmarkeling, a sport with its origins in Mesopotamia, it is Icelandic in structure, Urdu in metre, and Celtic in its relationship between meaning and tone. Can't you just wait to give it a go? He writes about the New Zealand sense of humour and people such as Paul Holmes, Marcus Craig and Bob Hudson. The Fred Dagg advisory bureau gives advice about real estate, sewing, dreams, going to the races, teaching, plumbing, dentistry and many others. He

asks three questions for budding accountants but the nub of the matter is, can you draw a line from near the top of the paper to somewhere near the bottom and can you count to three on both sides of the line? This is the lifeblood of accountancy and if you can do that you are not only halfway there, you're halfway back as well. Australia form has to be read as it is impossible to describe. Golf gets special attention, down to diagrams of how to place your feet on various shots but above all keeping your head up so you can see where the ball goes. As he says by the time you have taken his advice you will be able to shoot 63. New Zealand, a users guide is not to be missed, nor are his gentle but telling stories about Australian politicians, including St Paul's letter to the Electorates. I could go on but space forbids. A brilliant comedian sadly missed.

There is a plethora of books about the Holocaust. While many are best-selling novels often based on actual stories, the two books mentioned this month are strictly non-fiction.

A summary of The Women's Orchestra of Auschwitz: A Story of Survival, Anne Sebba (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2025) - "In 1943,

German SS officers in charge of Auschwitz-Birkenau ordered that an orchestra should be formed among the female prisoners. Almost fifty women and girls were drafted into a hurriedly assembled band that played marching music to other inmates, forced labourers who left each morning and returned, exhausted and broken, at the end of the day". The author has done a lot of research to give a graphic account of the experiences of those women who briefly came together to make the music that saved their lives. There is a focus on Alma Rosé, the conductor, who worked tirelessly to recruit the members, some who were professional musicians to those who only had a few music lessons in their past. The moral dilemmas of being part of the orchestra are presented: becoming a member to ensure survival; playing light music with black smoke being emitting from the crematorium chimneys; playing concerts for Nazi officers knowing what they were doing. In summary; "...running through this fine book is Sebba's empathy for the impossible moral choices presented to these young women, who were given a chance of survival in exchange for making music." (The Guardian reviewer). An excruciating and sobering read.

Continued on next page.

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A more personal story is **The Piano Player of Budapest, Roxanne de Bastion (Hutchinson, 2024)**.

This is the author's family history of her piano-playing and composer grandfather and the piano itself that he played. The author inherited the piano that had been in the family for over a hundred years.

When she investigates further, she discovers the de Bastion family history; it focuses on her grandfather Stephen, a Hungarian Jew who performed professionally in the 1930s. During WW2, he was sent to a Russian labour camp where conditions were horrific, "...after being abandoned by his captors, he made the journey home on foot (of the 1,070 Jewish men sent there, eight made it home)." But after returning to Hungary, he was deported to German concentration camps. He survived that as well. He moved to Britain after WW2 and recounted his wartime experiences in a series of taped recordings. Based on these and her own research the author's very personal story is told.

Chris Hammer is an Australian journalist who also writes a bit of crime fiction – I don't usually read a lot by any one author but there is something about his style and story-telling that draws me back to his books. **In The Valley (Allen & Unwin, 2024):** DS. Ivan Lucic and DSC Nell Buchanan are assigned to investigate the murder of an entrepreneur in a remote mountain valley town. The answer is adeptly revealed as the story progresses. There are two story lines – the first is the present-day investigation by Ivan and Nell; and the second goes back to 1988. The present is the investigation into the murder of Wolf Burnside, an entrepreneur who has plans to convert an abandoned mine to a power plant to generate power to the town and the surrounding area. The past involves a family link that Nell discovers that she has to the town through her mother. Political intrigue, police corruption, local family rivalries, a dishonest lawyer everything that makes for a great story, it's all on! But make no mistake, this is a good book which held me captive to the end – that takes a lot these days!



Waitakere Forest and Bird Talk:

Thursday 16th October 7:30pm

John Dyer - The role of Fish & Game's management of game birds

Recently retired Northern Wildlife Manager for the Auckland and Waikato Fish & Game Council John Dyer will talk about his experiences and management of waterfowl over the past decades.

This includes the reasons and data behind the annual banding thousands of grey and mallard ducks, many of these done by volunteers and people learning to band. It also covers past banding of paradise shelducks, current aerial monitoring of Canada geese, black swan and paradise shelducks. The other part of his job he'll discuss will be the law enforcement of the Wildlife Act and freshwater fisheries management..

Venue: Ranui Community Centre 474 Swanson Rd, Ranui.

Non members welcome, join us for supper to chat with like minded people,

Free but koha appreciated to cover hall hire.

For further information

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UPCOMING MEMBER EVENTS

AGM: 23 August, paid members only, see our Facebook page for more detail

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Bush Sanctuary News at TRSS

After many years of dreaming, Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School is taking exciting steps to support the flourishing of native birds, plants, and wildlife across our 29 hectares of bush in the Waitākere Ranges. The school community is committed the regeneration of this whenua, both for the tamariki who come here to learn, and the native species who call this home.

When the numbers of introduced predators such as rats and possums are reduced, our native ecosystems are able to rebound. Birds flourish, invertebrates and reptiles increase, and plant life thrives - balance is restored. For the children of TRSS, learning and playing in this bush setting is already part of daily life.

With deep gratitude to our neighbours at *Titirangi Urban Sanctuary* and *Waima to Laingholm Pest Free*, we were able to begin this mahi with the generous gift of traps and guidance. Last month, 18 enthusiastic students, parents, and teachers came together to install 25 rat traps, 6 possum traps, and 10 monitoring tunnels across the land. It was a day of teamwork, learning, and connection — and a wonderful achievement to see our first stage complete.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to those who came to lend a hand, loan their expertise, and learn. From carrying tunnels through the bush to setting up traps, every pair of hands made the work lighter and the day richer. Ka rawe!

Monitoring with tracking tunnels will be used to establish baseline data on mammalian predators. From there, regular trap checks will be rostered, beginning in Term 4, and the results will guide our next steps.

As the traps quietly do their work, we hope that this mahi will support the native taonga we share this whenua with to thrive.

Term 3 Drama at TRSS

Late last term, the community was treated to two special performances. Across three nights at Lopdell House Theatre, Class 12 (Year 13) presented *The Cherry Orchard* by Anton Chekhov, showcasing the depth and expressive talent that students bring to their final year of school here at TRSS. Class 5 (Year 6) presented *The Persephone Play*, a traditional school milestone that honours the cycles of nature and myth through music, movement, and spoken word. Together, the plays reflected the richness of the curriculum — offering a window into the journey of educating the child's whole being - head, heart and hands.

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School

Welcoming Spring

The School recently welcomed the season with its annual Spring Festival, a celebration of community and renewal. Students across the school shared maypole dances, folk dances, waiata, community singing, and even a crowd captivating sword dance!

In Early Childhood, children celebrated the season by adorning themselves in spring flower crowns, shared kai and songs, and a joyful special spring storytime.

Festivals such as these are woven into the fabric of school life, connecting the children and the community with the cycles of nature and marking the turning points of the year. Seasonal rhythms are an integral part of life at Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School and at Waldorf schools worldwide, nurturing a wonder, gratitude, and belonging in both children and the wider community.



TRSS Upcoming Events

2026 Enrolments Open Now!

Kindergarten and Nursery Info Talks + Tour

Discover the wonder of it all in our play-filled rooms, blooming gardens, and Ngahere, the bush Kindergarten, where imagination and curiosity are nurtured.

Tue 25 Nov & Tue 2 Dec | 1:15 pm
Registrations for 2026 now open

School Introductory Talks + Tours

Come and explore how a Steiner education unfolds with rhythm, creativity, and connection across every year level.

Fridays in Term 4: 10 Oct | 24 Oct | 7 Nov | 14 Nov | 28 Nov | 5 Dec - 9:30 am, adults only
-- Registration essential--

Register on 817 4386
or email enrol@trss.nz



Brought to you by Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School



Last Sunday of the month

February to November + 2nd and 3rd Sunday of December

New additional location!

Due to renovations in the hall, indoor stallholders and the cafe will be in the **Titirangi RSA**, outdoor stallholders in the **War Memorial Hall Carpark**.

Indoor stalls - 9am - 1pm
Outdoor stalls - 9am - 2pm



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 Titirangi
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23 November
10am – 3pm
2025



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Other Activities see:
<http://www.laingholmbaptist.org/ministry/>

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large batch of frozen meals for the community.

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us, if you let Lorraine know on 027 779 6077 that you have a need,

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