



The Roundabout

April 2023/Volume 58/02

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



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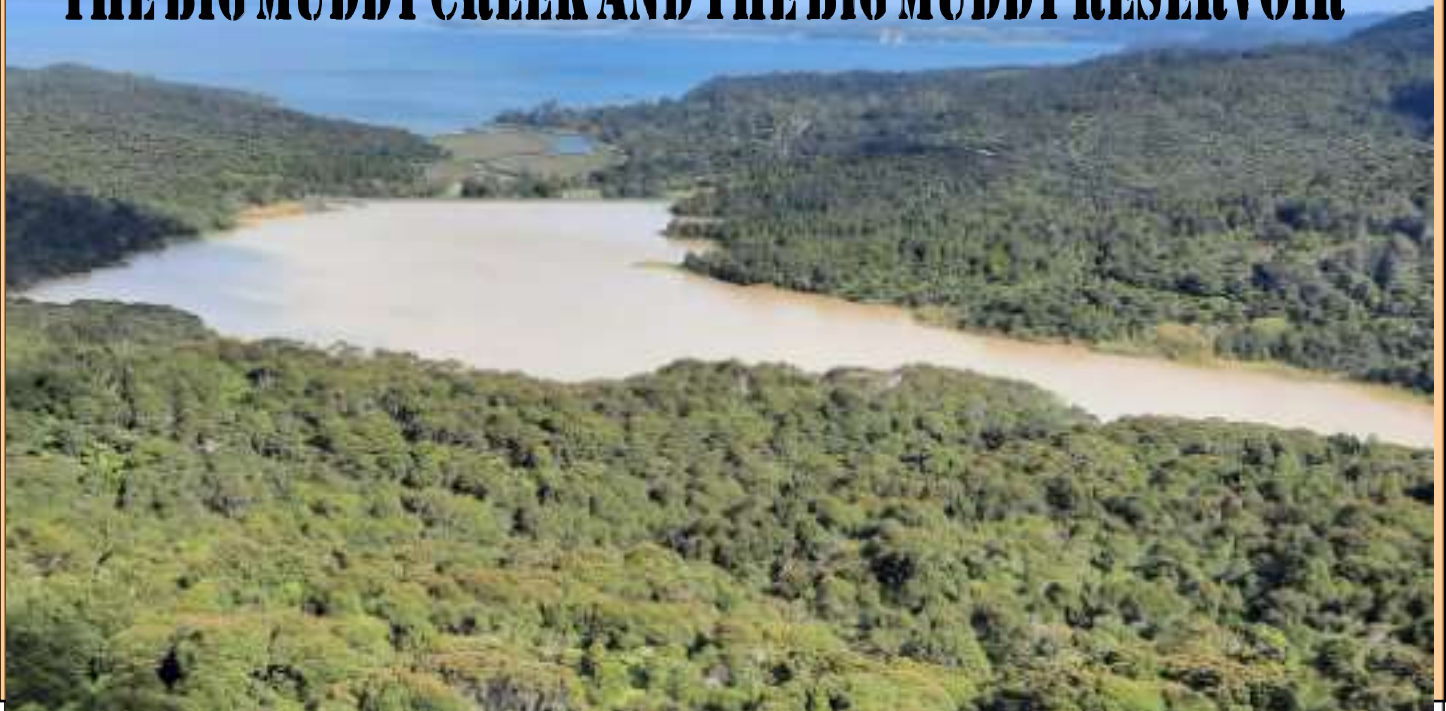
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ADRIENNE

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The Roundabout

Contact Phone No: 817-4658 April 2023 Vol 58/2

MANAGING COMMITTEE FOR THE ROUNDABOUT

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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 Anonymous articles or those with just Pseudonyms will not be published.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 Roundabout production team. All political adverts will be reviewed by the Editorial Committee.

Advertisers should be aware that the liability of the Roundabout Management Committee for any errors of omission or commission is limited to the refund of any money which the advertiser may have paid for the appearance of the offending advertisement in any issue of the Roundabout

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We prefer to have artwork and articles submitted electronically wherever possible. The online address is:

editorial@theroundabout.org.nz or
theroundabout.editorial@gmail.com

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 \$30 for ten issues (March to December). However, the latest issues can be found at our web-page: theroundabout.org.nz



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CLASSIFIED (Up to five lines)	\$10
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OUR NEXT ISSUE

The next publication date is **3rd May**

The deadline for ALL copy is

Monday 24th April
PAYMENT

Invoices for advertisements appearing in the Roundabout will be sent monthly by the Roundabout Society. They may be paid via internet banking to:

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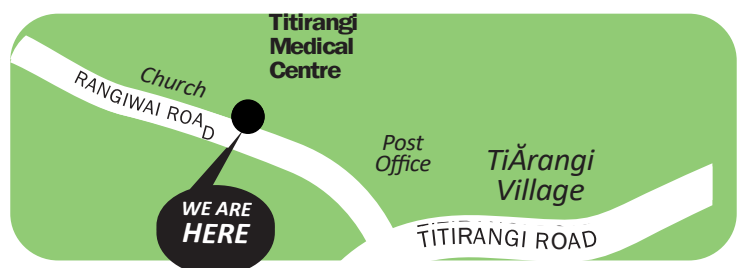
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- 2 TE ATATŪ PENINSULA 580 Te Atatū Rd
- 3 MASSEY Massey Leisure Centre, corner Westgate Dr and Don Buck Rd
- 4 SWANSON Central Landscape Supplies, 598 Swanson Rd

WAITĀKERE RANGES LOCAL BOARD

- 5 LAINGHOLM Laingholm Hall carpark, 69 Victory Rd, opposite the primary school
- 6 PARAU 695 Huia Rd
- 7 KAURILANDS Konini Primary School, 44 Withers Rd
- 8 TE HENGA Regional Park carpark, next to 110 Te Henga Rd
- 9 TITIRANGI Zig Zag track carpark, Park Rd
- 10 TITIRANGI Tangiwai Reserve carpark, Huia Rd
- 11 WAIMA Corner of Boylan Rd and York Rd
- 12 WAIATARUA Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Rd
- 13 HENDERSON VALLEY SCHOOL, 389 Henderson Valley Rd

PERMANENT WEED BINS

PIHA DOMAIN Seaview Road
HUIA DOMAIN Huia Road

PEST PLANT ROADSHOW

Konini School, 44 Withers Road,
Glen Eden – Sat 15 Apr
Huia Domain, 1193 Huia Road,
Huia – Sun 16 Apr

For more info on weed bins and Pest Plant Roadshow events, visit ecomatters.org.nz/war-on-weeds



FREE WEED BINS COMING BACK IN APRIL

Do yourself, your neighbours our local parks and reserves and the beautiful Waitākere Ranges a favour by digging in to clear weeds and disposing of them in free community weed bins this April.

Thanks to support from the Waitākere Ranges and Henderson-Massey local boards and Auckland Council, War on Weeds is back to help West Aucklanders dispose of invasive weeds from their backyards for free.

The bins for invasive weeds will be available from 1 April to 30 April 2023, at 15 locations across West Auckland. The bins are usually available in March, but were postponed by a month to help the community focus on immediate storm and flood recovery efforts.

“We know these bins are valued by our community, who work hard to help stop the spread of invasive weeds that can threaten native bush, and we’re grateful for support we receive from the local boards and council,” says Mel from EcoMatters’ Nature Team, who manages the bins.

Invasive weeds accepted at the bins include moth plant, wild ginger, climbing asparagus, Japanese honeysuckle, jasmine, woolly nightshade and more. They all have a serious ecological impact when they invade our beautiful Waitākere Ranges, parks and reserves. “The recent extreme weather also reminds us of the importance of protecting our environment. Weeding is a great way to protect our native plants, as well as te whenua and te awa. To help stop the spread of moth plant and wild ginger, we’ll appreciate your effort in bagging up seed pods and seed heads before putting them into the bins. “

If you are keen to know more about efforts to tackle weeds in your area, EcoMatters is also hosting the Pest Plant Roadshow during April.

“If you want to find out which weeds you should bin, bag or put in a barrel, come along and have a good chat with our Nature Team. We’ll be very pleased to give advice and answer any questions about pest plants—how to identify invasive weeds, best practices for keeping kauri safe while caring for the bush, and free services available to support you,” says Mel.

The Pest Plant Roadshow will be running from 10am-1pm at:

Konini School, 44 Withers Road, Glen Eden – Saturday 15th April

Huia Domain, 1193 Huia Road, Huia – Sunday 16th April

Pest Plant Roadshow is supported by the Waitākere Ranges Local Board and Auckland Council.

More information can be found at ecomatters.org.nz/war-on-weeds

Kia pai tō rā Angela



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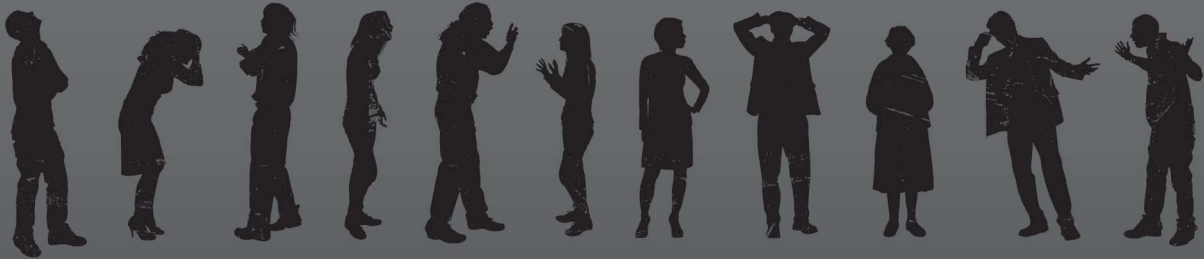
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PLAYHOUSE THEATRE INC. PRESENTS THE **taelsolutions** PRODUCTION OF

12 ANGRY JURORS



Playhouse Theatre Glen Eden 15th - 29th April

Book at playhousetheatreinc.com or Eventfinda

By Reginald Rose. Adapted by Sherman L. Sergel.

A Community Theatre production of 12 Angry Jurors by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing Ltd and New Zealand Play Bureau Ltd.



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Auckland Council

In April, Playhouse Theatre Inc. are staging their first show for 2023, the Tael So-lutions Ltd season of 12 Angry Jurors.

Written by Reginald Rose and adapted by Sherman L. Sergel, this play is a courtroom thriller based on the Emmy Award winning TV movie 12 Angry Men, amended to reflect the fact that both men and women are now represented in the jury.

It seems a straightforward murder trial. In the deliberation room, most of the jury pushes for a quick guilty verdict, but a single juror holds out and insists that they examine the evidence thoroughly to make sure that the accused really deserves his punishment - a mandatory death sentence. What starts out as a calm discussion builds to frustration, irritation, confrontation and eventually a violent outburst before the jurors recover their tempers and ultimately arrive at a unanimous verdict.

12 Angry Jurors examines the huge responsibility of 12 ordinary people as they consider the evidence and bring their own histories, prejudices, and biases to the jury room.

Directed by Paul Roukchan and performed at the historic Glen Eden Playhouse Theatre, the themes and attitudes examined in 12 Angry Jurors remain as relevant today as they did over half a century ago.

Season runs 15th - 29th April. Book at Eventfinda.



Waitakere Ranges - and beyond



Onehunga Bay to Waikowhai

Category: Easy Duration: 40mins Rating: 10/10

Unfortunately our neighbourhood has taken a bit of a beating with the recent storms and will take quite some time to recover. My thoughts are with those in our beachside communities - Laingholm, Piha, Titirangi and Karekare, who are still reeling from the destruction that has been caused.



So, this month I have gone beyond the Waitakeres for this walk review, to the Onehunga Bay Reserve off Beachcroft Road. There is plenty of parking and public toilets, plus a children's playground.



From the Reserve there are established paths - easy for pushing strollers and for children to bike, scoot or roller-skate. Dogs will love this too and there is an off leash area alongside the man-made lagoon. However, dogs are not allowed beyond the Taumanu Reserve car park as there are nesting birds.



Take a walk across the Taumanu bridge with amazing views to Mangere Mountain. Weave around the reserve paths, beaches and picnic areas. Unfortunately the Waikowhai Boardwalk under the Hillsborough cliffs was closed due to slips.

Sacha Collins

#LoveLocal
#LoveWaitakeres
#SachasWalks

• photos courtesy of Auckland Council





Giddy fishos, how goes it out there on the murky and beyond. I gather Big Boys fishing over the bar was a bit slow during January and February but that's the time of the year when snapper spawn so should be picking up now. The more adventurous have been out at 100m trolling for marlin and doing okay but my mate (who sometimes feels sorry for me and takes me over the bar) says marlin fishing is boring and uses a helluva lot of petrol. Was yarning with a fisho recently who said it costs him well over \$100 in fuel to go fishing over the bar but when I whistled at that he pointed out that with snapper at \$50 a kilo they are on the winning side because they catch several kilos of it. However fishos are not allowed to sell their catch or even barter it but how the hell do you quantify bartering.

Was fishing out from Mill Bay near the edge of the channel recently and landed a 51cm snapper. Ok the Big Boys may snigger at that but I've fished around that area for 35 years and never got one that size before. I have caught the odd one in the 40s by the ski lane buoys.

Was fishing the edge of the channel by number five buoy the other day on the outgoing tide when I heard a bit of a rumble and looked around to see one of the Sandford trawlers about 50m away. I swear it's a sport to them to sneak up on little old ladies in dinghies and scare the pants off them. Even when you think you are far enough away they will come right out of the channel and make a beeline for you. Well have respect for these fellas because they make an almighty wake, far worse than the cement boat did. Anyhow panic set in. I had three rods out and a handline, plus a berley bag. Got the rods in, was pulling the handline up and of course 'sod's law' kicked in and a big kahawai took the handline. Well the flaming thing did a dance in the water and the handline was wet and kept slipping through my fingers. It got around the berley bag and all was chaos.

I finally got it in, threw all the gear on the floor with kahawai and berley bag on top. The sodding kahawai did more dancing in the boat and tangled up lines, sabikis, anchor rope and everything else it could get round. Sandford is nearly upon me but I managed to get the anchor up and start the engine before he mowed me down. Experience has taught me that you have three minutes to get out of their way before the wake hits – just enough time to put a safe distance between you. However when I finally came to anchor up again and resume fishing I saw the chaos in the bottom of the dinghy, with tangled lines, hooks in the anchor rope and the flaming kahawai still dancing. I headed for home defeated but not before I had beaten the kahawai to death with hatred and revenge (sorry animal lovers).

Anyhow, moving along, harbour fishing has picked up depending on where you fish. The hole at Whatipu has fished well but drifting is probably the best technique down there due to big tide run. Opposite side of the harbour under the lighthouse at South head has produced some wondrous snapper if what I've been told is true.

Ok fishos, that's about all the fishing news done with so must be joke time.

Fisho says to his wife, not tonight dear, I've got a haddock.

What do you call a woman who always knows where her husband is? A widow.

Johnny asks his teacher, "Miss do you think people should be punished for things they haven't done?" Certainly not, says the teacher. That's good, says Johnny, because I haven't done my homework.

Ok fishos, that's all for this month. Cheers and tight lines.

Cheers - Winnie.

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Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade



Huia Road again and again ! We were called to three crashes on Huia Road last month, fortunately none of which resulted in anyone being seriously injured. In the picture above a car collided with a boat on a trailer that was being backed into a driveway. The towing vehicle didn't suffer any damage but the same couldn't be said for the boat trailer and the car that collided with it, both most likely being write offs. The boat appeared to be undamaged. We had to close the road until the vehicles could be removed.



Earlier in the month we were called out with the Huia Brigade to a car that had hit a power pole near Mill Bay and later a car vehicle went off the road on Bunker's Hill. So please take care on Huia Road as there have been some very serious crashes on it in the past they have resulted in deaths and life-changing injuries.

It's the time of the year to check your smoke alarms as they could save your life. We have had several calls in recent times where the screech of a smoke alarm has alerted the sleeping occupants to a fire in their home and has enabled them to get out. If you don't have smoke alarms please get them and if finance is a problem please get in touch with us via our Facebook page or call Chief Officer Graeme Booth on 021764741





ANZAC DAY 2023

***“They would not ask for sorrow
They would not ask for tears
Simply to be remembered
Throughout the coming years”***



***The Anzac legend was born in the blood and carnage of Gallipoli
On Anzac morning (April 25) members of our community will gather
at the flagpole outside Laingholm Hall
to remember those who gaveso much.***

***All welcome Organised by the
Laingholm Volunteer Fire
Brigade***

Starts at 10.30 am

Morning tea will be served in the hall at the conclusion



**THE
HUIA
SETTLERS
MUSEUM**

**Have you visited your local museum ?
Come and have a browse!
The museum is full of local history,
and a wide range of
artifacts are on display.**

Entry : per person \$5.00 Children under 12 free

Museum Opening Hours :

**Saturday and Sundays from 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm
(summer) or 4.00 pm (winter).**

Enquiries : info@huiamuseum.org.nz

Group Bookings : PH 09 8118 971

Already into April! Is it my old age making the months fly by?

We have had a steady flow of people through the museum.

We could still do with some more volunteers. Please help to keep us going. The more volunteers we have, the less often you are asked to give up a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. We try to keep it to once a month, but with the so few volunteers we have, they are helping out more often. So, come on Huia and Cornwallis residents!! Support your local community!!

We had an interesting visit from an Auckland Vintage Military Car Club. They came out in a fleet of fabulous War World II jeeps. I'm glad I was on duty that day!

I thought I would continue with some more about the origins of Laingholm.

The work on the property was hard and the living, at first, primitive, but after the logging of the millable timber, first the valley, and later the hillsides were burnt, cleared, and sown in pasture. Firewood for the home fires and the industry in Onehunga, was also a feature of their early industry.

Soon, post and rail fences were erected, sheep grazed and the previous wilderness gradually developed as a sizeable farm.

The house was sited in a sheltered position not far from the beach. It had the typical steep pitched iron roof and small attic rooms, up a narrow stairway, It is said that Jane Laing, as an old lady, always kept a lamp burning at the window facing the sea, as a guide to whoever may be out there at night!

Plum trees, fig trees and others flourished closely around the house. Henturkeys and beehives were kept and water was obtained from a spring up an adjacent gully.

The house and farm was called "Roseneath" after a place of similar name back in Edinburgh.

The house was extensively altered in 1915. People visiting the homestead in later years described it as "being two storied, with many large rooms some opening on to two, full length frontal verandas. It had a roomy kitchen with a wood stove flanked by two ovens It's most notable feature, on entering the downstairs hall, was the grand staircase, leading to a large entertainment room upstairs.

See page 31 for a picture of the house.



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Wonder

If we wish for our children to have inner-discipline, direction and purpose in life, and a feeling of responsibility for the well-being of the planet and their fellow-humans when they grow up, then Steiner says we must foster gratitude in the first seven years, love in the second seven years, and responsibility in the adolescent years.

This month, we share an article from one of our Kindergarteners about how they (and all adult caregivers can) nurture a sense of wonder and goodness in the world guiding children towards gratitude as an important foundation for their future development and wellbeing.

A sense of wonder is a birth right for all children. They greet each new experience with joy and enthusiasm. Steiner speaks of the need to ensure that young children, especially in the first seven years of life, experience the world as 'good', in order to provide a firm, confident foundation for future growth and development. As adults we are very aware of all that is not good in the world, but it is important that we make our best effort to shield and protect our tender-souled children from the harsher realities of life if we want them to be better able to deal with life's challenges when they are older.

When using the analogy of growing a plant and growing a human being, we recognise that both focus on the importance of the foundations. In the case of a plant this relates to the quality of the soil, and with a child - the environment, but more particularly the people in that environment are the vital element. Just as a young plant needs support to grow straight and strong, so too the young child needs the support of loving adults who know what the child needs to feel secure - secure in the knowledge that the loving carers know what is best for them.

The loving adults have the capacity to provide what is best for the child because of their life experience. They have a broad understanding of what is needed in the moment based on that experience and relevance to the situation. This functional ability characterises the adult mind - with its need to get on with the practical tasks of the day, and the sense of wonder can be lost. The young child is blissfully unaware of the many demands of the moment that occupy their busy caregivers' minds. Their

TITIRANGI RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL

natural state of mind is still connected with the state of wonder, and in the Kindergarten, we honour this. If we overload children with questions relating to what they want, to eat, to wear, to do, we overwhelm the child and awaken premature consciousness of likes and dislikes, wants and 'don't wants'. Being prey to the whims of the moment, the young child needs the guidance of an adult who carries the bigger picture. In providing that guidance, rather than asking the child what it wants, the parent is creating the foundations for his or her natural authority in the relationship with the child. A young child wants, needs and respects this.

An overwhelmed child carrying the responsibility for making decisions, whose implications they may not be aware of, may not be as free to experience the wonder of the magic moments in nature.

If we can take time away from our busyness to observe together with the child, in a truly mindful way, the spider, fungi or flower that we have been called to see, then both, child and adult, have received a gift, the gift of shared wonder.

The natural wonder experienced by the child can be guided by a loving adult towards the experience and expression of gratitude which is the mother-soil for love and in turn - responsibility.

'There are three primary virtues which we must develop in the child: gratitude, love and responsibility. These three virtues are the foundation on which the whole social life is built'

Rudolf Steiner

TRSS - upcoming events

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Wednesday 10 May 1pm

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Information Afternoon
or arrange a School Tour

Contact School

office 817-4386 or email

m.ryder@titirangi.steiner.school.nz




Titirangi Village Market

Last Sunday of the Month

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

10am - 2pm

Titirangi War Memorial Hall
500 South Titirangi Road

 follow us on facebook @titirangivillagemarket

A Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School Initiative.

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner Pēpi Aroha - Playgroup

Monday - Friday mornings

9:30am - 12pm

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'the highlight of our week.'

Limited spaces available.

For more information email Carlene:

pepiaroha@trss.nz



Friday Club and CONNECT FC

This summer we began a new venture associated with Friday Club and CONNECT: KauriCones - selling real fruit ice creams.

KauriCones has three goals:

- to raise money to enable the things we do with children and youth in this community: Friday Club for primary children, CONNECT for Intermediates, and RockSolid for secondary school youth
- to provide local training and employment for youth and young adults
- to open a hospitable space for our local community in which people can meet up, relax and enjoy a treat

This was not the best summer to start an ice cream business! During the 10 weeks that we were open from January to March, 1/3 of the days had bad weather. We endured two major storms and 2 power cuts requiring generator intervention. A power surge associated with the second storm caused \$600 damage to our fridge and freezer.

We had only one totally fine week in January, and in that week alone we sold over 900 ice creams. Over the whole 10 weeks we sold 5,300 ice creams. Many people relaxed and enjoyed hanging out here. We were able to employ 8 youth and young adults for the summer, paying over \$16,000 in wages. So our second two goals were well and truly met.

Here is our KauriCones team with our A Grade Food Registration from Auckland Council.



The bad weather and our set up costs meant that although we broke even, we have not yet made money for Friday Club, CONNECT and RockSolid. We have stopped KauriCones for 6 weeks to assess our progress and decided how we want to move forward from here. We will let you know what we decide to do. In the meantime, we hope you enjoyed one of our ice creams over summer!

Friday Club (for Years 1-6) and CONNECT FC (for Year 7-8) are run by LBC and adults and youth from our community, to provide children and Intermediates and their families with a safe and welcoming environment to get to know each other and have fun. We also give children and Intermediates a chance to get to know older teenagers in our community - our fantastic group of young leaders; to be mentored and encouraged; to think about and explore life with God and to develop strategies for resilience that will help them with challenges they encounter. There is no charge. We run by donation.

If you would like to enrol your child or get more info about Friday Club or CONNECT ring Alison Diprose on 021 141 1483.



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More support for families

As part of our work to help New Zealanders with the cost of living, we've announced a package of support which will boost the incomes of pensioners, students, families, and those on main benefits. These changes will help approximately 1.4 million New Zealanders.

Recipients of superannuation will receive an inflation adjusted increase of 7.22 percent from 1 April. This means a couple who are both aged over 65 receive \$102.84 more a fortnight and a single person living alone will receive an extra \$66.86. These increases will ensure that the incomes of older New Zealanders don't go backwards.

I know some people are also worried about the cost of higher electricity bills. The good news is our Winter Energy Payment will restart on 1 May. Single people will receive more than \$80 per month, and couples more than \$125 per month. This payment has made a real difference to older residents in the New Lynn electorate, helping them stay warmer and healthier through winter, so I'm sure it will be welcomed again this year.

The government are also boosting the student allowance and student loan living costs payments by around \$20 each payment to make everyday life more affordable for tertiary students.

To support families, we're boosting Working for Families, including increases to Best Start Payments, and increasing the eldest child rate for the Family Tax Credit. We're also expanding childcare assistance, cutting costs for working parents.

These measures build on the steps we've already taken to ease the pressure on Auckland families, including increasing the minimum wage and cutting the cost of petrol and public transport.

We've had to make some tough choices. A suite of programmes have been delayed or cancelled to free up funding and resources for where they are needed most. These policy changes will provide greater bandwidth for us to support New Zealanders in the here and now. They won't solve everything, but they are practical steps to support families with the cost of living.

Rates Relief for Property Owners

Auckland City Council have reopened the Emergency Relief Fund, with an additional \$1 million targeted at rates support for those impacted by the recent flooding and cyclone events. The funds are for people whose properties are uninhabitable due to being white, yellow, or red-stickered and will be allocated for the third and fourth quarters of this financial year.

No penalties will be imposed on red stickered properties for late rates payments for the February and May rates instalments.

This is a practical and common sense approach. Hopefully there will be more certainty for affected home owners soon.

Help with Insurance Claims

If you need help dealing an insurance claim, the government have set up a new service - The New Zealand Claims Resolution Service (NZCRS). This service is designed to avoid disputes, resolve issues and ensure claims are settled as quickly as possible. For assistance from the NZCRS phone 0508 624 327, email contact@nzcrs.govt.nz or visit www.nzcrs.govt.nz

My office is continuing to assist people affected by the flood and cyclone. If there's anything my team or I can help you with, or if you'd like to raise an issue that's affecting our community, please do get in touch. You can reach us at 09 8206245, or email newlynn.mp@parliament.govt.nz or pop in to our office at **1885 Great North Rd, Avondale** between 10am and 2pm Monday through Thursday.

For now, though, I hope you're keeping safe and well.

Ngā Mihi

Deborah Russell, MP for New Lynn

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"What is done in love is done well" – Vincent van Gogh



mainly music

Join us for Singing, Dancing and Fun, followed by Morning Tea, (we are famous for our yummy coffee - mmmmm!)

Mainly Music is a programme for Babies, Preschoolers and their Mums, Dads and Caregivers for only \$3.00 per family. We enjoy making newcomers feel welcome - so why don't you join us too!

Tuesday Mornings from 10.00 - 11.15 am
Laingholm Baptist Church
Corner Huia and Victory Roads

Please Note: Mainly Music does not run during the school holidays.

For more information please phone **Lorraine** 027 779 6077
Re-Starting Tues 14th Feb 2023



NEW ZEALAND
RED CROSS

MEALS ON WHEELS

The New Zealand Red Cross organises volunteer drivers for the MEALS ON WHEELS programme. In Auckland there are over 1000 people involved in driving and delivering meals to elderly and unwell people in the community.

If you would like to join our team of volunteers to help with MEALS ON WHEELS please telephone

Karen Clare, Co-ordinator at 828 5812
Between 10.00 and 1.00 pm weekdays.

Adults:

Saturday 1st April drop in session: Make your own no-sew bunting or garland using recycled fabric scraps. Drop in any time on Saturday between 10.30am – 2.30pm and create something that will spark joy from what would otherwise be wasted. Suitable for adults or children (with supervision). All materials supplied, no registration needed. This activity is part of EcoFest, visit <https://www.ecofest.org.nz/> to see more events.

Saturday 15 April 11-11.45, then 12.45 – 1.30pm:

We are very excited to be screening digital copies of almost 30 movies that were shot at Titirangi Primary School during the mid to late 70's, some with Brian Hirst as the teacher, and then later with other teachers. These movies are a special taonga for our neighbourhood and were digitised by the West Auckland Research Centre. They include views of the village, school, surrounds and parent helpers from that era. Please spread the word to ex-pupils who are now aged mid to late 50's as they, or their parents, could be in the movies. Reel 1 screens at 11am, reel 2 starts at 12.45pm so there is time to grab some lunch in-between.

Kids: Titirangi School Holiday Programme

Tuesday 11 April 10-11am: Join us for a storytime session with local author Stephanie Thatcher as she reads her latest book 'Hot Cross Bunny'. Stick around afterwards and make your own funny bunny. Suitable for children aged 4 to 8.

Wednesday 12 April 2-3pm: Bring your creativity and join us to make your own special mini marble maze out of upcycled materials. Bring along any treasures you want to include in the maze, or you can use ours. Suitable for ages 5+. Registration required email titirangi.library@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz. This event is part of EcoFest.

Thursday 13 April 10-11am: Do you dream of fantastic beasts? Create your own sock puppet creature using our upcycled materials. Bring along an old sock or two. Suitable for ages 5+.

Friday 14 April 10-11am: Are you interested in board games? The fabulous Johnny Green will be at Titirangi Library with a whole lot of fun vintage board games for you to try. Suitable for ages 5+.

Tuesday 18 April 10-11am: Make your own funny plant pot out of upcycled materials. Suitable for ages 5+

Wednesday 19 April 10-12pm: Make a cool paper sombrero at Titirangi Library and join us to visit the Mexican exhibition at Te Uru art gallery.

Thursday 20 April 5:00-6:30pm: Get the whānau together for a fun library themed quiz night. Suitable for ages 7+. Registration required titirangi.library@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



The Real Estate Update

RayWhite

EASTER TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Countries and communities across the continent use geography, ethnicity, and history to interpret holidays like Easter very, very differently. What is the tradition in Laingholm and Parau? Or which one do you think could suit our community?

In Corfu, Greece, the Saturday of Easter weekend is dedicated to Pot Throwing, where citizens literally throw pots and pans into the street from their kitchen windows. The custom is said to be inspired by farming communities of old, who would discard their earthenware to welcome spring.

In Florence, locals celebrate the day with a 350-year old tradition known as 'Scoppio del Carro', which means 'explosion of the cart'. An old cart is loaded with fireworks and pulled by white oxen to the front of the Duomo (church). The priest lights a rocket shaped like a dove, which in turn ignites the fireworks on the cart. If the dove returns, then the year will be prosperous.

In Haux, France, people spend the holiday gathering as many as 5,000 eggs to cook an omelette large enough to feed 1,000 people. Apparently, Napoleon spent time in Haux and loved their omelettes so much that he ordered the town to make an omelette large enough to feed his army.

In Finland, children sometime dress up as witches and wander the streets carrying twigs decorated with feathers, asking for treats. Another tradition is burning bonfires on Easter Sunday, as the fire wards off the witches who fly around on brooms between Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



Happy Easter!



**Bronwyn
Scott-Woods**

If you have any questions or would like to chat about your property, please give me a call.

Regards,

Bronwyn

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**RESTORATION
RUATUNA**

Restoring Nature in Laingholm

CYCLONE GABRIEL WAS JUST THE BEGINNING

Unfortunately, the impacts from climate change are going to get very much worse even if we stop all greenhouse gas emissions tomorrow. We are currently racing towards 2 degrees of warming, at which point we will breach several tipping points that will make climate change unstoppable, and much of the earth will simply become unsurvivable with temperatures 5 or 6 degrees above preindustrial levels.

The previous paragraph is almost unbelievable it is so terrifying, but it is what the science shows. Our emission per capita in New Zealand is 16.4 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year. These are some of the highest in the world, so there is a lot we can do to improve our emissions.

WHAT CAN WE ALL DO?

- 1 Cancel our plans for overseas travel.** A trip to London and back in economy class will result in 11 tonnes of CO₂ emissions. You could cover these emissions by planting native trees, but you would need to plant 3,300 m² (0.8 acres) and wait for it to grow for 10 years.
- 2 Eat much less meat and dairy products.** Of the 16.4 tonnes each of us emits, approximately half is due to beef, lamb and dairy.
- 3 Make your vote count.** Vote for a party that will take real action. Vote for councillors/ mayor that won't cut the budget on environmental restoration.
- 4 Use your voice** regularly – write to MPs and councillors.
- 5 Find an alternative** to commuting by car.

- 6 Drive slower** on main roads. The OECD found that driving at a maximum of 90 kph emitted 23% less carbon than driving at 110 kph. A New Zealand study found that reducing the maximum speed on New Zealand roads by 10 kph only added 2-4 minutes to a 100 km trip. This was a study conducted using test drivers and GPS tracking on several different main routes in NZ.
- 7 Send your kids to a local school** and don't drive them there.
- 8 Paint your roof white.** Reflection of UV light cuts down on atmospheric heating.
- 9 Buy local produce** to reduce transport emissions.
- 10 Plant trees.** Trees absorb carbon from the atmosphere, cool the air, reduce flooding risk, help to hold cliffs in place (the deeper the root system the better they are so pohutukawa or karo are much better than weeds like ginger or bamboo).

NATIVE PLANT OF THE MONTH



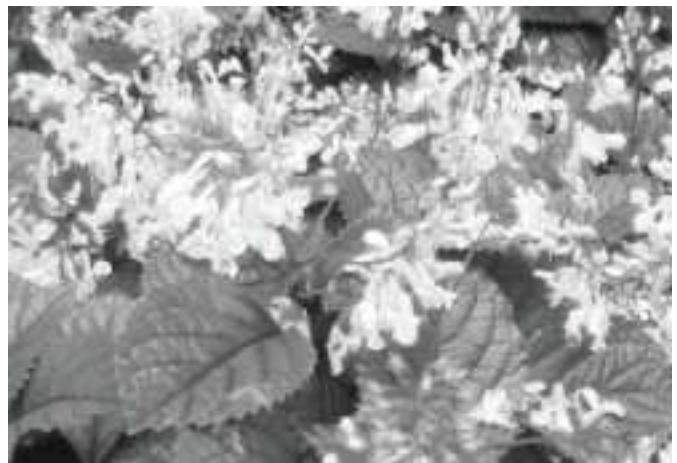
***Nestiges lanceolata*. White Maire**

Height: up to 15 m. Trunk: up to 1 m diameter.
Bark: grey-white. Leaves: in opposite pairs.
Adult leaves: 50-100 x 10-25 mm, lanceolate, margins smooth. Juvenile leaves: 60-150 x 4-8 mm.
Flowers: small and on small panicles, pale green, densely hairy, without petals. Fruit: 8-11 x 4-5 mm, red or orange.

Distinguishing features: Veins are not visible on underside of White Maire leaves, whereas they are visible on Black Maire. Midrib is flush with upper leaf surface towards the leaf base whereas that of Black Maire is sunken. Adult leaves are wider than those of *N. montana*.

Distribution: Lowland forest in the North Island and north of the South Island. There are several on the Karamatura to Mount Donald Mclean Track where there is also Black Maire and several Narrow Leaved Maire. They are not common in Laingholm but there are a few nice ones dotted about.

PEST PLANT OF THE MONTH



***Plectranthus ciliatus* and *Plectranthus ecklonii*.**

Family: Mint

Plectranthus forms dense mats that smother native plants, preventing native seedlings from establishing.

Control: Pull up and dispose in weed bins or spray with glyphosate (10ml/L + penetrant) or triclopyr 120g/L (15ml/L).

**Next community weeding day
10am April 2nd at the AT Block
Cnr Victory Rd & Warner Park Ave
and we are having a BBQ at the
beach at 1pm on the same day.**

 www.facebook.com/groups/ruatuna/



restorationruatuna@gmail.com



Book Reviews

GEORGE WADSWORTH & IAN JOHNSON



The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell

The date was 1560 when Lucrezia the fifteen year old daughter of Cosimo, the Grand Duke of Tuscany, left Florence to start her married life with Alfonso, Duke of Ferrara. The only other time she had seen him was when he was engaged to Maria, Lucrezia's older sister. But Maria died before she was married so Lucrezia's father and Alfonso's father agreed that Lucrezia would take her place—she was thirteen at the time.

She was the odd one out. She soon discovered that she was not able to have any independence or be part of any discussions or have an opinion about anything. Her sole purpose in life was to produce children so that Alfonso's line would continue.

Alfonso decided that her portrait should be painted with her in her wedding gown. The portrait was carried out by a team of three including a deaf and dumb mute, Jacopo, who plays a pivotal role at the end of the book. The life she led and the way she was treated makes for a riveting but sad and somber read. The author is adept at setting the scenes with her great descriptive ability. But Wait There is More which means you will need to read it to see how it all pans out.

Does she have children? does she even survive?

The Van by Roddy Doyle.

This is the third book in the Barrytown trilogy. I hesitated before reviewing it for two reasons. One a lot of the writing and conversations are in the Irish vernacular which does take some getting used to and secondly there is a lot of swearing which may not be to everyone's taste.

Jimmy Rabbitte has lost his job and if it was not for his mates he would be a lost soul. Then his best friend Bimbo is made redundant. So as you do, they buy an old chipper van -minus engine, and set up a mobile chip shop focusing on closing time at the local pub. It is a great yarn encompassing Jimmy's family. Very funny in parts but also sad as it all goes wrong. As the blurb on the back cover says "The van is a tender tale of male friendship, swimming in grease and stained with ketchup

Two books by **Claire Keegan** who usually writes short stories, but has written two longer books of about 100 pages each, both taking place in the early 1980's in Irish towns. The first is **Foster (Faber, 2010)** about a young girl who lives with her parents and several young siblings in a struggling and chaotic family. She is sent to temporarily stay with foster parents, distant cousins of her mother, as her mother is due to give birth to another child. Her father drops her off abruptly, almost glad to be rid of her. The household she is taken into are a gentle couple, Edna and John Kinsella who are in their 40's and without children. Edna is a very caring and warm person and takes time with the girl to show her chores and involve her in household activities, rather than the neglect she suffered in her own family. John is more reserved but gradually develops a special relationship with the girl. Although they are kind and caring, we become aware of an underlying sadness that pervades the Kinsella household. The reason for this is gradually revealed. The story was released last year as a movie called "The Quiet Girl" (the girl is called Cait in the movie); it follows the storyline closely. The movie was made in the Irish language, "An Cailin Ciuin" and was the first Irish film nominated for an Academy Award for Best International Feature Film this year. It is really worth watching.

Clare Keegan's second novella **Small Things Like These (Faber, 2021)** was shortlisted for the Booker Prize last year. It revolves around Bill Furlong who is the town's coal merchant and the busy period he experiences leading up to Christmas with his family activities and last-minute coal deliveries – it is the middle of winter. Like 'Foster', this revolves around family but in this case one that is very close, his wife and five daughters. One of his deliveries is to a convent which operates a training school and laundry where girls and young women work in terrible conditions. Many of them are unmarried mothers who have been separated from their child. When making a delivery Bill finds a young girl hiding in appalling circumstances and is confronted with a moral dilemma. In the last part of the book, we follow Bill as he deals with this dilemma, learning about his own traumatic birth and upbringing. A moral tale of great depth and compassion which too, is about to be made in to a movie. I would recommend both books, each can be read in about an hour but provide a compellingly and deeply moving experience.



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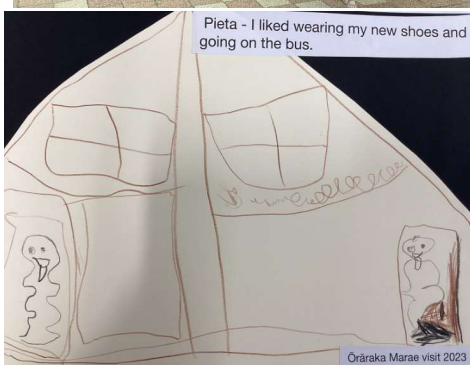
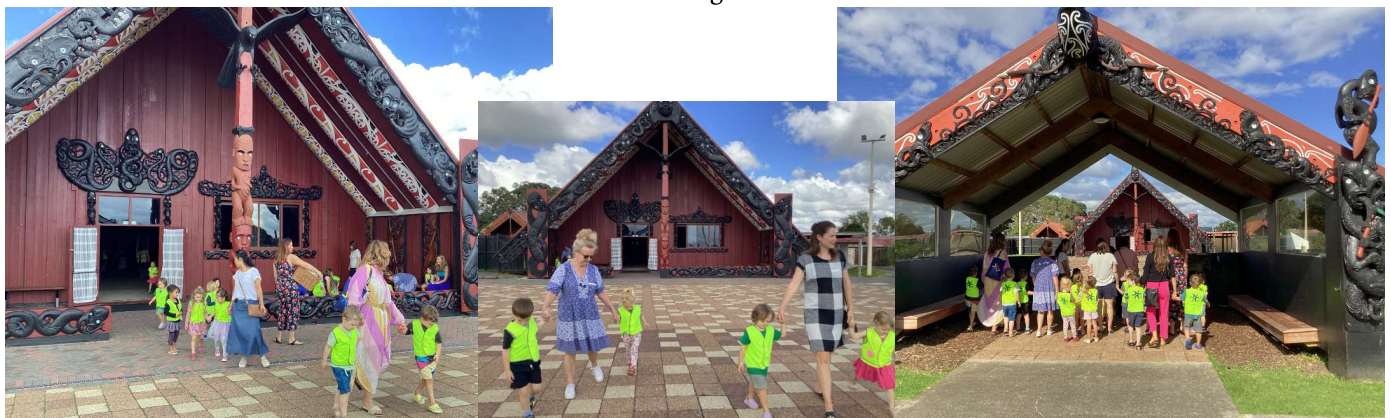
www.ecoexteriorhousewashing.co.nz

During Seaweek our Kōhungahunga (kindergarten) went to Cornwallis beach for our annual beach clean up. Our tamariki (children) found lots of rubbish that doesn't belong on the beach including; dirty nappies, cans, bottles, plastic forks, chocolate wrappers and even a broken roof tile (possibly from the cyclone we thought). Our tamariki did an amazing job and collected it in buckets to return to the Kōhungahunga rubbish and recycling bins.

We had many discussions about what effect this rubbish can have on the moana (ocean) and Papatūānuku (Mother Earth). This is such an important learning experience for our tamariki and a great afternoon to connect with whānau.

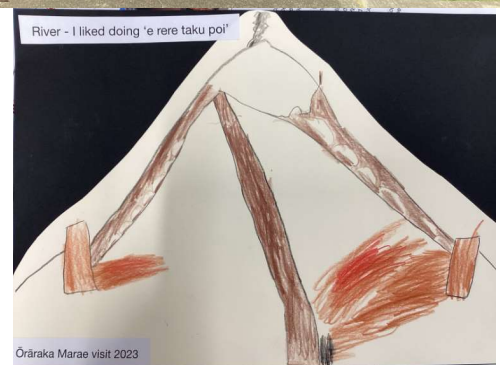


We were fortunate to visit Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Marae. In preparation our tamariki practised and learnt 'E rere taku poi' for their poi performance and waiata (song). We also learnt about marae tikanga (ways of being). When we arrived at the marae we participated in a pōwhiri (welcome ceremony). We listened to a Karanga (call), and some korero (speaking). Warrick, one of our dads, did his whaikorero. Our tamariki then did a poi, and waiata song performance of 'E rere taku poi'. Our tamariki did such a beautiful job performing at Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Marae. Our tamariki, whānau and kaiako got to visit the Whare Pora, where weaving is done, and look around at the whakairo (carvings inside the whare Tumutumuwheua). After a run around Bastion Point it was time to get back on the bus and head back to Kōhungahunga. This was an amazing experience for all involved and led to lots of discussions about the marae following this excursion.



The day after our visit to Ngā ti Whā tua Ō rā kei Marae, our tamariki drew some pictures to represent their time spent on the Marae.

1





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The Landing Road Bridge as it looked in 1955

The editor learnt to swim on the left of the bridge, lived on the left side and grandmother lived to the right

Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections
JTD-09J-00795

Engaging Learning

One of the biggest challenges in getting children, particularly boys, to write, is providing the necessary motivation. One of the best ways to provide the necessary motivation is to provide an amazing experience that the teachers can use to build language and ideas.

With the support of our incredible school Board, we were able to bring into the school two inflatable obstacle courses. The students, and the occasional teacher, have had an absolute ball racing through and challenging themselves to try new things. Over the next few days this experience provided the basis for our initial writing evaluation and our creative writing programme.

Thanks again to our School Board, Hamish, Michelle, Grace, Terry, Stephen and Debbie, for supporting our push to create engaging learning activities.



Describing a Moment in Time:

You are walking down a rubbly, earthy path. You see two huge colourful inflated bouncy castles that are placed over the greenest grass that almost looks fake.

You sit and wait in line with noisy people until you come to the orange entrance that looks as though it'll vacuum you up. You start with the yellow and orange bristles that fling when you walk past them and WHAM! Two blue barriers that are placed in between the walls that looks like it connects them together like a power system.

As you keep running you feel the hot sun reflecting on your skin, you hear this constant amount of yelling and see a bright light reflecting on everything.

You will climb up a climbing wall that's every colour of the rainbow. You immediately fall down a slide from the wall you just climbed and go through a red and yellow tube that almost looks like a giant marshmallow.

You are running on the bright green grass, that picks at your feet, to get back in line on the second bouncy castle. You are pulling on the thin mesh to get into the blue, yellow, and green inflated castle. You see a big platform of rubbery plastic. You jump over the other barriers to get up another wall that again tips you over as you get out and line up again.

April's Photo Gallery
 "Engaging Learning"

By Arietty



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

The Greatest Little School in the Universe



'Roseneath': The Laings original homestead at Little Muddy Creek

Laingholm Primary has just received a Creatives in Schools grant to make a film about the history of the school and our local community. Film maker Martin Sercombe and animator Britta Pollmuller will be helping the children collect interesting stories and illustrate them using cut out animation.

We would like to invite long term members of the community to share their memories and help us build a picture of how village and school life have changed over the years. We are also keen to meet local historians who have research or memorabilia they would like to share with us.

A small documentary team of students will be recording informal interviews, then sharing the stories with the animators. The interviews will take place on Fridays, from May 12th, for 8 weeks, either in school or at places of local interest. They usually take about an hour each. The topics we are interested in exploring are school days, childhood adventures, working lives and memorable village events. If you would like to get involved, please contact Martin Sercombe on 09 600 1186 or email info@mediaprojects.co.nz

We can then set a date and time for you to meet the team, and send you a set of standard questions to adapt as you wish.

Examples of similar projects with local schools can be viewed here:

<https://martinsercombe.com/heritage/>



April's Photo Gallery
"Engaging Learning"

75th Jubilee

Laingholm Primary School, 'The Greatest Little School in the Universe' will be celebrating its 75th Jubilee in 2025.

The celebrations will take place around the Matariki holiday weekend with events running from Thursday 19th June to Saturday 21st June 2025.

If you would like to help or register your interest in the Jubilee please e-mail the school on office@laingholm.school.nz.



The Greatest Little School in the Universe

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

Autumn Surprises

FROM ADRIENNE PEEK

CHICKPEA SALAD

1kg Baby Potatoes
1 Tin Chickpeas
300g Small tomatoes
1 Block Feta Cheese
Handful Spinach or Silverbeet
2 Tablespoons Olive Oil

CHILLI DRESSING

3 Tablespoons Chilli Sauce
3 Tablespoons Yoghurt
Juice of 1 Lemon

PARSLEY DRIZZLE

Small Handful Parsley
3 Tablespoons Finely Grated Parmesan Cheese
1 Teaspoon White Vinegar
1 Tablespoon Olive Oil



Chop potatoes into bite size pieces and cook 10 mins in salted water. Drain and place on oven tray with drained chickpeas and tomatoes and drizzle with oil and season and bake for 20 minutes at 200 degrees. Mix dressing and drizzle ingredients in 2 separate jars. Put potato mix into a bowl and chop feta and spinach and add. Sprinkle with the 2 sauces before serving or once on plates.

BRANDY ICE CREAM

3 Egg Whites - stiffly beaten
300g Whipped Cream
½ Cup Icing Sugar
1 & ½ Dessertspoons Cocoa
1 Tablespoon Brandy (or Caramel Sauce)

Beat the sugar into the egg whites then fold in the whipped cream. Divide in half (work quickly from this point).
To 1 half add 1 ½ dessertspoons cocoa which has been melted with a bit of hot water.
To the other add 1 tablespoon of brandy or caramel sauce. Swirl together to make a streaky pattern and freeze in an ice cream container.
Serve with wafer biscuits. Enjoy.





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Rubbish dropped at the Laingholm Community Shop? What to do?

The Community Shop's goal is to support our area. We love our community and happily serve it through the Laingholm Baptist Church (corner of Victory and Huia roads). Besides giving goods a new life and new home our incomes goes to support our community, except the amount we regularly spend disposing of dumped rubbish.

What to do with the dumped rubbish is a challenge.

Please sort out damaged books, puzzles with bits missing, and broken toys, says volunteer worker Pat Gill, "and don't use us as a tip for broken, stained, un-usable items."



[photo: Pat Gill and overflowing rubbish bin. Pat is smiling.
Caption: "We can cope," says Pat]

The issue is two fold; unsaleable items being left for the Community Shop to dispose of as well as opportunists stripping saleable donations after hours. Dropping donations during open hours is preferred as is leaving after hour donations under the shelter of the porch on the new building.

Things have got busier since the youth group got a food-handling licence to sell fresh fruit ice cream from the brand-new kitchen. The church activities serve a large community from Huia to Henderson. Cameras make a difference. Cameras identify the driver of a ute who recently over-filled a bin with dirty, heavy car parts. The church, of course, had to pay for their removal, on top of which our volunteers valuable time is spent tidying up the rubbish. Our bins are regularly overflowing which can be discouraging. We are very thankful for the community members who keep an eye on the shop as they pass as well as those who help our volunteers keep things tidy. We live in a very generous community



Well, sad to say there were no late bloomers and my summer garden was a fail. In a bid to get some produce I succumbed and bought some more seedlings but they have all now shrivelled up. My harvest consisted of a handful of tomatoes, three miniscule chillies, no capsicums, one successful lettuce plant out of about 12 (I confess to some neglect here), no radishes (yes, I know, anyone can grow radishes), three beetroot left over from winter and one basil plant out of about six. The pumpkins still look as though they might produce something but I'm not holding my breath. Now is a good time to sow or plant brassicas and beetroot is a good hardy plant for this time of the year. It might linger under the ground for a time but tends to pop back up after weeks of neglect. All plants like to start off in good soil so if the funds allow you might find it beneficial to invest in a good vegetable mix or dig in some of your home made compost. Courgettes (or marrows if you leave them too long as I've been known to), cucumbers, pumpkins etc may all now be cursed with mildew and the experts advise spraying this with fungicide but I find ignoring the problem or cutting off the worst of the leaves seems to be just as effective. This is your last chance to plant spring bulbs (which usually start blooming in winter) and marigolds make a great companion plant in the veggie garden. Now is also a good time to give the lawn a bit of a boost so dig in for a few more weeks before resting up over winter. Let's hope autumn and winter are kinder to us than what was meant to be summer. And remember that while as domestic gardeners we may be disappointed with our veggies it has been terrible for our commercial growers and they need all the support we are able to give them.



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Inside this report

Haikus about Rosie, Alison's class cockateel

Te Ahi Ora—fire performances & confidence building

Haikus about Room 6's bird, Rosie

The blood red eyed bird
With her kind beauty of love
Feathers like white snow

Her nice pale pink beak
The proud crested bird we love
With a white long tail

Majestic white bird
Spreading tail feathers
like hands
Claws sharp as teeth

By Zoe

Her shiny pink beak
Rosie's a majestic bird
Her crest is lovely

Soft feathers like snow
Amazing red ruby eyes
She's Adorable

Our sweet little bird
Wind rustles through her tail
Spreads her wing for flight

By Charlotte

Rosie is so sweet
Rosie loves to sing cute songs
Sometimes she is cheeky

Delicate feathers
Very dark ruby red eyes
Our proud crested bird

By Terenzo

Our proud crested bird
Rosie's sweet songs bring
us joy
Our sweet little bird

Our little angel
Really picky about food
She is very cheeky

Snowy white feathers
Our cute adorable bird
Eyes as deep as blood

By Maxwell



Te Ahi Ora

Whoosh!

The sky ignites invisible heat which passes through me like a lost ghost.

Rising flames, risking burns, beautiful dancing fire twirling in the air.

Flickers pouncing out trying to catch fire.

The steaming, swirling, searing, swords!

With glowing fire crackling in the eyes of the crowd.

Charcoal smudged on hands and faces.

Friends smiling from afar places.

Te ahi ora is as joyful as can be.

Te ahi ora (plus it was free)!

By Pearl, R8

The stick ends were still, nothing happening, until Josh put the sticks up to flames, and the burning flames engulfed the ends and came up to meet me!

THUD!

The stick left my hands in a flash!

My heart was frozen with fear until I picked up my stick and the glistening flames melted it away.

Rose red flames exploded into huge fireballs like a dragon just ate a Carolina Reaper*.

Exciting music played as smoke gracefully rose up, giving everyone a rush of adrenaline.

By Louis Wadsworth, R8

* A Carolina Reaper is the spiciest chilli in the world.



THE GREAT LUNCHTIME SHOW

Clock ticks, bell rings

Books dropped on desks

Grab the lunch, grab the sushi

Everyone rushed to the stage

Josh does his trick which is a kind of flip

While people started to arrive...

He asked "fire?" We shout back "FIRE!!"

A huge ball of heat appears

The fireball has ignited

He does a wrap; a neck and a hand

We do the Mexican wave

He asked us to touch it

Though I didn't get to

The great lunchtime show

By Olivia, R8

The Forgotten Suburb

I might have to change the name of this column. A few days ago, the Forgotten Suburb featured in an article on the Stuff website. The photo should give you a clue as to what the article was about. That's right – the road damage on Laingholm Drive. The article clearly stated that it was due to a burst watermain ten months ago, not flooding or a cyclone. It took the experts a while to work out how to fix it. You can imagine the scene, can't you? They heard there was a hole in the road, so they looked into it. I'm sure there was a lot of head scratching under those obligatory hard hats and then tapping of keyboards in between generous slurps of coffee. Eventually, They came up with a plan and a start date – just when the weather turned really ugly. More roads cracked and slumped, slips blocked other roads and whole hillsides came crashing down. But They decided that the work to fix Laingholm Drive must go ahead. The Forgotten Suburb was remembered in all that chaos. Three cheers for Them!

Slowly and carefully piles are being driven into the ground and then there will be back fill and the road will be rebuilt. It is due to fully reopen on 24th April (according to Stuff).

There's a saying that you don't appreciate what you've got until it's gone. We missed you, Laingholm Drive! Having to go the long way round, passed the school, to get to Titirangi was a real pain – and it put a lot of pressure on narrow, windy Warner Park Avenue. Most of Laingholm Drive lost the bus service – sometimes all of the Drive because the driver turned round at the beach, even though they were supposed to go to Dorothy Road and turn there. By the time the next issue of The Roundabout lands in your letter box, normal service should have resumed.

However, for the last ten months, bus passengers who live on Huia and Victory Roads have been spared the tortuous ride along Laingholm Drive. Commercial Buses and the ARA buses used to go both ways through Laingholm. It would be so convenient, AT and Ritches, if you could do the same and, while you're at it, adjust the timetable so that the Laingholm school pupils can use the bus to get to and from school just like they used to in those forgotten good old days when Commercial Buses and then the ARA had the route.

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Welcome to
our Village

Laingholm
Playcentre 

Laingholm Playcentre is turning 45!

The history of Laingholm Playcentre

After beginnings in the Baptist Church and the community hall, our Playcentre operated in the old Laingholm Schoolhouse which was moved to its current site in 1990 and was subsequently refurbished. Thanks to the determination of five families in 1978 and the vision and enthusiasm of many others since, Laingholm Playcentre continues to serve its community. Today, the centre continues to operate with the support of a paid facilitator on hand to support the needs of the newest generation of tamariki.

The history of Playcentre in New Zealand

Playcentre began in 1941 just outside of Wellington, NZ. The movement started during the Second World War with the aim of providing “leisure for mothers and opportunities for the social development of the pre-school child”. It has come a long way since then, and now welcomes fathers, grandparents, and caregivers of all varieties, and provides free NZQA education in Early Childhood Education and Care to ensure our tamariki are supported at centre and at home. Today there are around 420 centres across New Zealand, running with the support of thousands of volunteers, to deliver education and community to their tamariki.

Laingholm Playcentre whānau are looking to rediscover more of the history of the centre.

Did you attend Laingholm Playcentre as a child or parent?

Do you have any stories or photos you would be happy to share with us?

We would love to invite our community in to see what the centre looks like today, so please contact us if you would like to be included in communications about our open events planned for this year.

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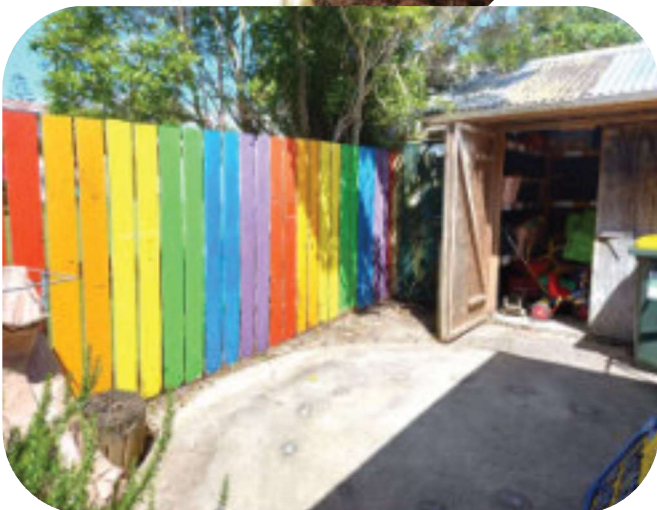
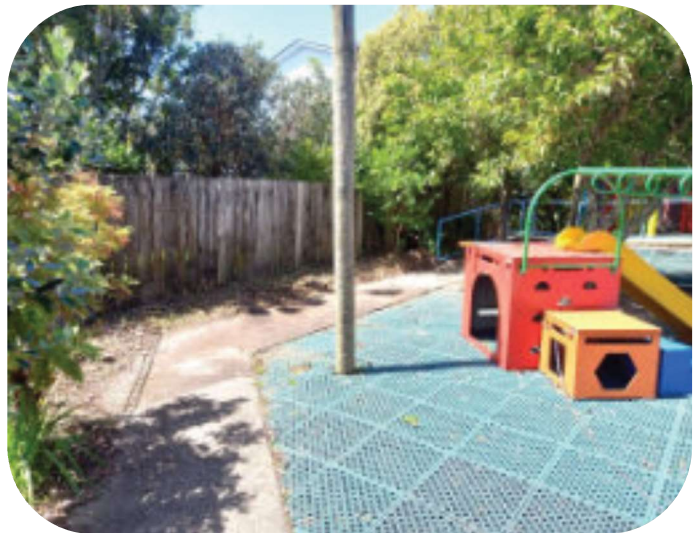
Find us at 69 Victory road
www.playcentre.org.nz/centre/laingholm
Laingholm@playcentre.org.nz
Mon and Fri 9.30am-12.30pm

Community rolls up sleeves for Playcentre

March 4th and 5th saw many people descend on Laingholm Playcentre with gardening gloves on and a great community spirit. The centre whānau and tamariki have been delighted by the transformation that has taken place with fresh bark for under the fort, weeds pulled out, old equipment fixed or discarded, and lots of plans made for fresh planting. Special thanks has to go to Bree and Naomi for organising the skip bins, calling for volunteers to help, and bringing in family to help. These working bees were the start of a fresh start for Laingholm Playcentre. The centre whānau are planning to host more community events this year to reconnect with the community that has supported it for 45 years.

Ititi rearea, teitei kahikatea ka taea

Although the rearea is small it can ascend the lofty heights of the Kahikatea tree



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In an emergency dial 111

BACK TO A LEVEL OF NORMALITY

With the weather events easing, our brigade has managed to focus on keeping our core skills at the appropriate levels with training.

This month the brigade has focused on Breathing Apparatus (BA) training. Using our smoke machine, we can create a semi-realistic Search & Rescue training exercise having to retrieve a patient from within a building.

During this training exercise we were lucky enough to have Waitemata District Assistant Commander Gary Lane not only present but participate in the exercise by acting as the "patient" we had to retrieve from the building. Nothing says pressure like trying to save the boss 😊



BRIGADE RECEIVE CHAINSAW DONATION

Our brigade was lucky enough to receive a call from Stihl NZ offering a donation of a brand-new Stihl chainsaw. Stihl Shop Glen Eden provided us with the new equipment which will come into great use in events that occur in our area.



On behalf of our brigade, we sincerely want to thank Stihl NZ and Stihl Shop Glen Eden for donating such a tool which will help us in our work when clearing roads of fallen trees or trees that have fallen onto property.



HUIA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

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In an emergency dial 111



In March every year we celebrate the globally recognised International Women's Day. We have always held a strong contingent of women within our brigade which feature from our CFO Coryn Laloli to various roles and ranks within the brigade.

Often, a female fire fighter or first responder will be in the responding crew during an event. We have always benefited from having a diverse crew as we operate using each other's strengths. We are a better brigade because they are part of us.

SAD GOODBYE

We are a small brigade and not often have people leave. Therefore, it's hard when it happens. The day before the Auckland Floods happened to be Jade's final training night with us.

We want to wish Jade and her whanau all the best in their new adventures. You will be missed Jade aka "The Machine".





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Easter 2023**



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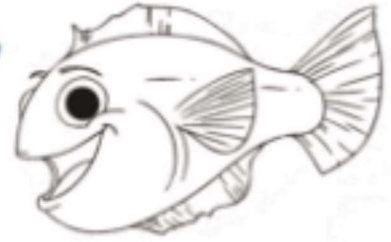
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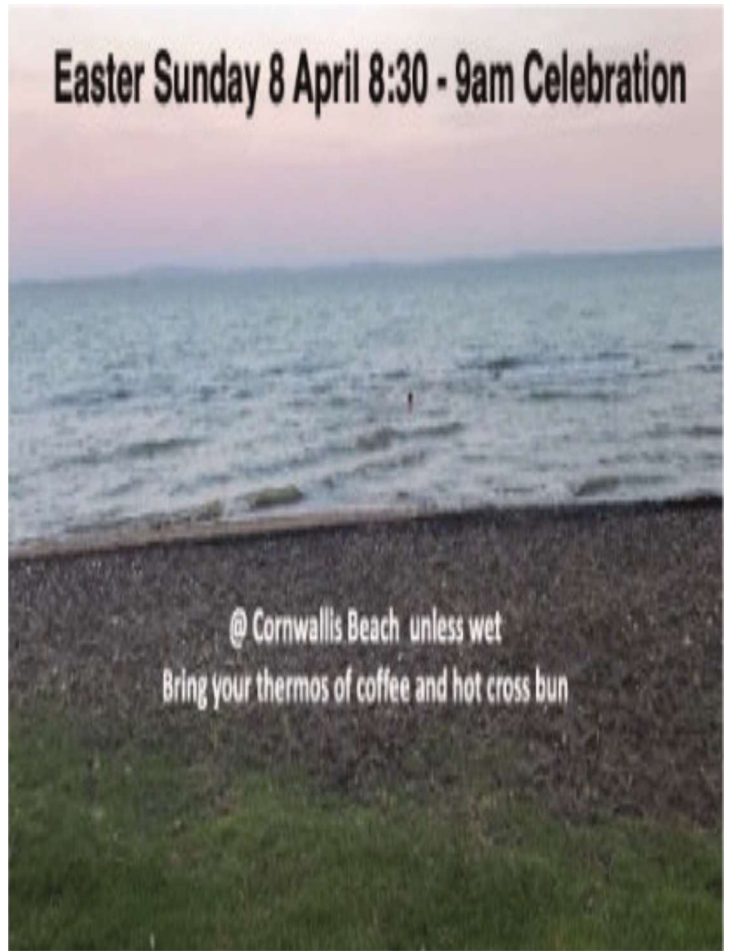
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All Welcome!

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Pony Tales

Working on Weeds

Was that Summer? Huia Road Horse Club made it through the storms okay, but the humans and horses have all been wondering where our summer went. It was hard to remember what it was like to have dry feet and hooves!

Despite the weather, our club has managed to do some amazing work, clearing invasive weeds from our beautiful grounds. We have had two productive working bees, focusing on removing weeds such as gorse, dock, ginger, woolly nightshade, inkweed and honeysuckle.



Our ponies really appreciated us getting rid of some of the gorse from their paddocks. They'll have heaps more room now. Thanks to everyone who helped.



Pony Care

Have you got a horse-crazy member of your family? Would you like to come and learn how to care for horses and ponies? We are looking for more families to help look after our wonderful club ponies. Paddy and Merlin offer an awesome opportunity to learn about all aspects of pony care, in a supportive environment with lots of help to get you started. Ideally suited to late primary aged kids up, but age is no real barrier! We need parents or other whanau to be involved, but no experience is necessary. As part of the pony team and Huia Road Horse Club, you will be invited to Club Days and other events, which usually involve some activities and riding with the big horses and ponies that graze at the club.

For more information about what is involved with joining our fantastic club, please contact our Club President Louise on 0274991732, or see www.facebook.com/huiaroadhorseclub.

If you want to meet any of our horses or ponies up close, don't forget to come to our next Pony Rides Day – always the first Sunday of the month, from 3-4pm. It's a \$5 donation per ride, with all proceeds going to the cost of keeping our club ponies



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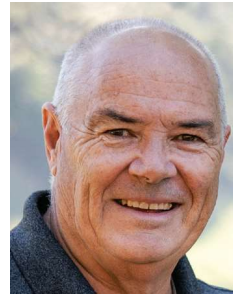
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