



The Roundabout

September 2022/Volume 57/7

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



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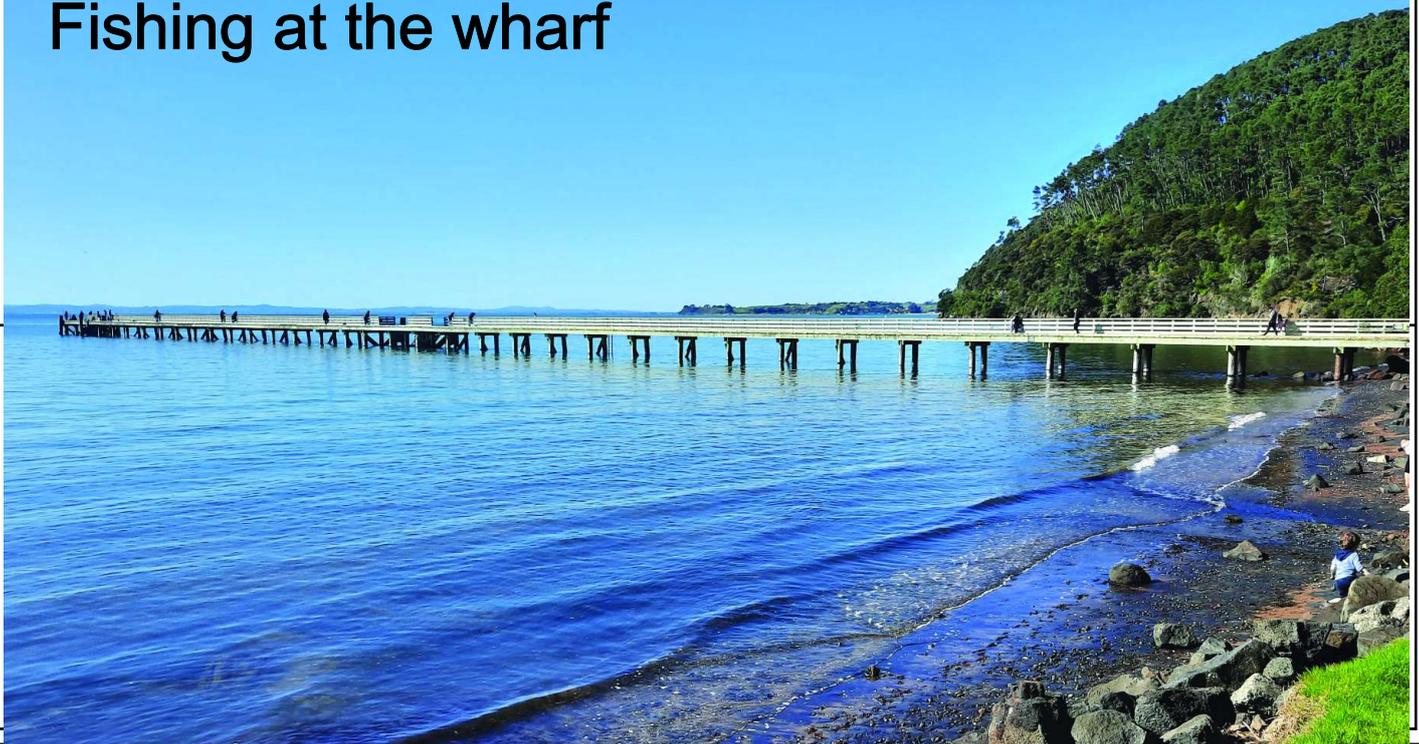
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The Roundabout is a totally voluntary organisation using editorial and writing skills, desktop publishing, computer graphics, printing, logistics and administrative skills.

If you have any of these skills or just want to catch up on what is happening in the neighbourhood, come along to the Laingholm Village hall on the first Wednesday of each month.

Help with collation, have a good gossip and a great morning tea. You will not regret it.



Susanna Dvorak
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Waitakere Ranges - our back yard

Walking the Bays - Titirangi

Category: Easy **Duration:** 90mins approx

Rating: 9/10

Walking locally is the best way to explore this beautiful part of the world that we sometimes take for granted.

Before Kauri die back closed many of the local bush walks around Titirangi, you could easily walk via these from bay to bay around the Titirangi waterfront. Now it is still possible, but check that the tide for Arapito is out first!

I started from Jenkins Bay at the bottom of South Titirangi Rd. On a clear day there are views way out to the heads and beyond. Check out the birdlife too, lots of Kingfishers, Spoonbills, Petrels & Shags.

From Jenkins Bay, you can walk around the waterfront to Herrings Cove, Davies Bay and on to Titirangi Beach. From Titirangi beach the Zig Zag track is still open if you fancy a bit of hill work up to Titirangi Village. From here I recommend you treat yourself to a little something from one of Titirangi's many cafes and eateries!

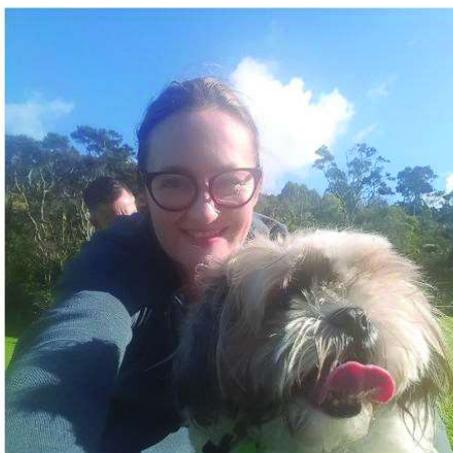
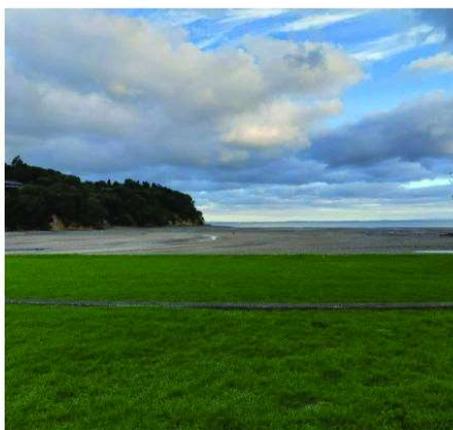
If you need to get back to where you started and had enough walking, catch the 170 bus from the village back down South Titirangi Rd - or walk off your snacks... it's all downhill from here!

Sacha Collins

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#LoveWaitakeres

#SachasWalks





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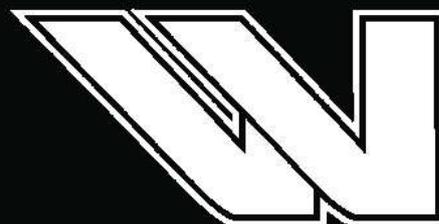
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Ken Turner

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I'm very clear I'm here to represent the people.

I work collaboratively, but also have the fortitude and determination to stand strong in the face of bureaucratic pressure.

Fourth generation born and bred Waitakere: Tradesman, Business owner, Family-man, Farmer.

I'll work to make our community centres safer and with less crime. I'll make decisions that help our businesses prosper, grow, and build good fulltime jobs.

I'll ensure our local needs and aspirations are heard by the decision-makers in Town.

I'll advocate for one department to oversee all core services, and for local boards to have more say in the delivery and maintenance of their areas core services.

I'll campaign to reinstate minimum residential parking requirements for new housing developments and the return of sensible height-to-boundary rules that protect existing homeowners from being built out.

I'll oppose Three Waters. I'll fight Council's extravagant costs.

VOTE
**KEN TURNER &
SHAWN BLANCHFIELD**
WAITAKERE

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WestWards

Authorised by Ken Turner, 213 Woodlands Park Road, Titirangi, Auckland 0604. Tel: 022 087 2985

Shawn Blanchfield

I'm standing with Ken Turner and supporting the WestWards Team.

I grew up and raised my family in Titirangi, now living in the Nor-West, so still a Westie.

After-school I started my career as a Tradie, then Ships Master with a diploma in nautical science.

Now a successful Business Owner manufacturing products in NZ for New Zealand families.

I will oppose Watercare asset being amalgamated into Three-Waters.

I'll champion community free-speech and steadfastly deliver the publics views to Council.

I will oppose the misuse of targeted rates and challenge council's costs.

I will oppose monetising public access to beaches and open spaces.

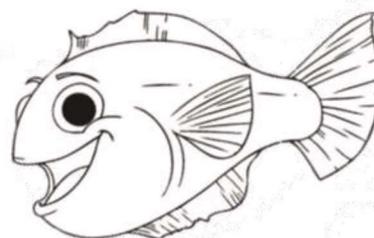
I will support local businesses and their customers right to public parking, and I will advocate for initiatives that help keep small businesses afloat.

I will progress cleaner greener options for Public Transport but without throwing common-sense and ratepayer money out of the window.

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Market Day Huia Hall

Labour Day

Monday 24 October

Arts - crafts - bric-a-brac; refreshments

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September's Photo Gallery
"Lorraine's Farewell"

Farewell to Lorraine Glanville

After over forty years service to the school, Lorraine Glanville has finally retired. As a school we wish her, and her family, all the best for whatever life brings them.

What follows are the words I shared at the farewell assembly we held for Lorraine.

In her wisdom – knowing how difficult the challenge would be – Claire left me the task of trying – in a few short words – to summarise what Lorraine means to this school and personally to each one of us.

Having stared at a blank page on my computer screen for what seemed like hours unable to find the right words, I did what I often do I turned on some music, seeking inspiration in the words and the melodies.

It wasn't long before I found a song that I think captures what Lorraine means to us, and how she was able – so effectively – to touch the hearts of so many people.

Just inside, and up the stair
A friend is sitting, waiting there
You can leave your cares behind
Empty chatter of your mind
Come and rest; no need to fear
Only love is spoken here
Only love is spoken here

This is what Lorraine did for so many years for so many students,

She allowed her students to put aside their cares
To be at peace, no need to fear
And, in her room, she ensured that only love was spoken there

And when these three things came together – as they so often did – powerful, life changing learning, took place.

Lorraine you are the 'second mother; to many of the teachers here today. You are the 'honorary grandmother' to the entire student body.

For so many years, as the hurricane of chaos and change has battered the doors and rattled the windows of the education system – you have been our calm at the centre of the storm.

As your faith has grounded and centred you, you have grounded and centred us.

While you may not be around as often as you have been, I know that your presence will never leave this place.

A presence that I hope will ensure that

Our students can put aside their cares
To be at peace, no need to fear
And, in our school ensure that only love is spoken here



Martyn Weatherill – Speaking at Lorraine's Farewell Assembly





Fulltime Caretaker / Cleaner:

Now that the amazing Atish has returned to Fiji, we are exploring options to fill the combined role of caretaker and cleaner here at Laingholm Primary School.

It is possible that we might find, in our local community, another Atish. Someone equally capable of cleaning, fixing what needs to be fixed or arranging the appropriate tradespeople if what is broken needs expert attention.

Alternatively there may be a family that would like to share the roles in a job share.

The combined role is a full time position with each part taking roughly half of the day.

Full training and support will be provided with a number of the regular property tasks requiring specific training and certification.

If you are interested in this role, e-mail the school office - office@laingholm.school.nz - to make an appointment for a initial conversation about the role, including a more detailed discussion of the work required and the remuneration on offer.

Casual - Teacher Aides

To cope with the increasing levels of illness among our teacher aides, we are looking for experienced people who might like to work at the school on a casual basis, while casual this is a paid position.

By seeking people who are experienced in working in a school environment, perhaps you have previously worked in a school as a teacher or teacher aide, we hope to minimise the learning curve, but support and guidance will be available.

While we can offer some regular hours, what we are really looking for is someone – ideally local – that we can call on at short notice to cover sickness or other absences among our regular teacher aides.

If you are interested, please e-mail Posie in the school office – office@laingholm.school.nz – noting any previous experience you have had working in a school environment.



September's Photo Gallery
 "Lorraine's Farewell"



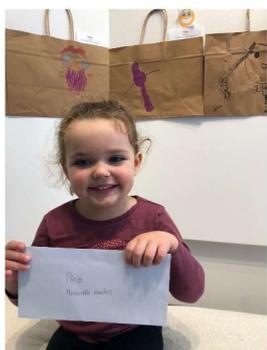
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We introduced to our tamariki (children) a book called 'Papatūānuku has a tummy ache', which is about how we continue to fill our landfills with rubbish. Papatūānuku (Earth Mother), and the worms are suffering with a tummy ache. This story led to a lot of conversations about what Papatūānuku doesn't like in her puku (tummy). We decided from this to do a visual experiment with our see through compost container. Our tamariki can then see how different rubbish decomposes over time. Our tamariki made lots of predictions of what they think will happen to this rubbish. This had led to lots of art exploration, interesting conversations, and discussions on ways in which we can help to reduce the amount of rubbish we produce and different recycling options we have at kōhungahunga (kindergarten).



Well done to Pieta and Joselyn who won prizes in the 'My brown paper bag selfie' art exhibition at The Upstairs Gallery. All your kaiako (teachers) and hoā (friends) were so proud and excited for you both.



Finn's Grandma came to visit Kōhungahunga with her two dogs, Mac and Frankie. Mac and Frankie are specially trained to do lots of clever and fun tricks! We loved having these special visitors for mat time. Experiences like these help our tamariki to make connections between Kōhungahunga and home life.





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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & PUBLIC MEETING

12pm to 2pm, Wednesday 21 September 2022
Te Pai Netball Courts, 31-35 Te Pai Place Henderson

with Guest Speaker:

Dr Dale Bramley
Interim National Director,
Hospital and Specialist, Health NZ

Followed by...

Community Health Services

Brief presentation by all community health organisations present who provide health services to people and help support them to stay well in the community.

Board Vacancy for a Waitakere Youth Voice

The Executive of Waitakere Health Link have identified the need for a Waitakere Youth Voice on the board. We invite any organisations with youth workers to nominate a person to fill that position.

*If you would like to find out more please Ph: 839 0512 or
email: office@waitakerehealthlink.org.nz*

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Book Reviews

GEORGE WADSWORTH & IAN JOHNSON



The Accidental Further Adventures of the 101 Year Old Man by Jonas Jonaasson

A Sequel to The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared.

If you enjoyed the first book you will have a lot of fun with the sequel.

Allan Karlsson (now 101) and his friend Julius Jonsson find themselves with a suitcase full of money on Bali. Escaping from Bali by hot air balloon and three bottles of champagne after spending the money and running up bills, they soon found themselves in North Korea, meeting the Supreme Leader, slinking out of there on diplomatic passports and straight into a meeting with President Trump. Then its back to Europe to see Angela Merkel, before becoming involved in a coffin selling business. So what with uranium, asparagus, seances, gangsters and Africa there is plenty of action intrigue and high jinks to keep any reader happy.

The Murders at Fleet House by Lucinda Riley (the acclaimed author of the Seven Sisters Series)

The author wrote this novel in 2006. She died from cancer in 2021 at the age of 56 and this novel with the help of one of her sons was first published this year

Charlie Cavendish. An 18 year old student at St Stephen's, a boarding school in Norfolk is found dead in his bedroom. Reluctantly Jazz Hunter a detective inspector, recently divorced and hoping to start afresh in Norfolk is persuaded to take on the investigation. She soon finds that what the headmaster wanted to portray as a tragic accident is far from that. Then when a teacher is found dead possibly by his own hand, the plot thickens. Some of those intimately connected with the boarding school are not whom they seem and as their past is revealed the mysteries are gradually solved and Jazz decides on her future. This is a great read, fast paced, complicated, but not too much. Good for a wet afternoon in front of a warm fire.

A Gentle Radical, The Life of Jeanette Fitzsimons, Gareth Hughes; foreword by Chloe Swarbrick (Allen & Unwin, 2022): A biography of Jeanette Fitzsimons who is known as being the co-leader of the Green Party for nearly 15 years to 2009.

In fact, her whole life involved politics and championing environmental causes often as an activist in the broadest meaning of that word.

Her personal story reveals someone of deep integrity and passion. She was from a rural conservative background, was a leading light in the Values Party (remember them?) and helped establish the Green Party's (via the Alliance Party) presence in New Zealand Parliament.

The biography is written by Gareth Hughes who was a Green MP until 2020. Jeanette Fitzsimons was a friend and mentor but this does not influence the way he presents her life story. The first part relies on third person accounts of her life mainly by interviewing those who knew her in her early life or by in-depth research. The later part of the book is also written from the author's observations and participation of the politics of the day but it is not a rose-tinted view of her life. There is much discussion on the tensions between the Green and Labour Parties particularly during Helen Clark's term as prime minister. He also recounts details of her personal life to give a balanced and well-rounded biography. Very thorough and impartial, the book held my attention throughout, something very unusual in political biographies.

Missing, Tom Patterson (Allen & Unwin, 2022):

This is an account of the life of Mark May who disappeared in 2017 having lived and survived in a remote wilderness area of rural New South Wales for the past 30 years. He was the second-eldest of a seven -brother Catholic family. All the boys were bright academically and entered practical vocations (two are doctors) but Mark who is more interested in the arts gradually becomes involved in the heavy use of alcohol and drugs. He drops into addiction preferring a hermit-like life. Gradually withdrawing from day-to- day life, he lives and survives by growing marijuana in the remote Oxley Wild Rivers National Park. Having heard of Mark's disappearance, the author and some of his brothers go searching for him. This book is an account of the search and revelations of Mark's life. There are other books with similar stories but what makes this account different is the style that the author employs. Everything he writes is true but he uses a fiction technique; that is, when reading the account it seems to be fiction, an almost adventure story. Confused? Then try this book. It is not overly long and empathetically written.



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The Baker-Smiths – legends of the Manukau

Manukau man George Smith also went by the name George Baker: the reason for his two different surnames went back to his past as explained by Sam Fletcher, an old resident of Huia:

“George Smith was one of those men who terminated their service to the Queen without official blessing and sought the sanctuary and sustenance of the bush. He thought it discreet, when he exchanged his uniform for the bushman’s slomecky dress, to exchange George Smith for George Baker, henceforth respected member of the bush fraternity. He and his children bore that name, at least unofficially, until the next generation which reverted to Smith.”

George Frederick Smith was born in Little Thurlow, Suffolk, England, in 1835: George’s father was a tailor and barber and his mother, Caroline, a school mistress. George originally came to New Zealand during the New Zealand Wars, in 1860, on the *Nugget* with the British 65th Regiment. In late 1861, while he was on duty in Auckland, he deserted and made for the Waitakeres, the distant hiding place of many a soldier sick of the regimental life. George was 26-years-old, and in England had worked as a groom which may explain his penchant for high shiny black boots that were one of his trademark features at The Huia.

George found milling work at Cornwallis on the Manukau Harbour coast, one of many deserters to find refuge in the bush. The families running the early mills – the Gibbons and Kilgours - rang a goat bell to warn absconders when the police came looking, and there is an apocryphal story that on one occasion when the bell rang “only two men answered the dinner horn out of 40 employed”. While at Cornwallis George was befriended by the Auckram family – the Fencible widow Catherine Auckram with her children: four boys aged from 10 to 19 and 15-year-old Elizabeth or Bertha, who soon caught George’s eye.

By 1865, Bertha Auckram, aged only 15, was living with George Smith. Marriage was delayed as George could not show his face to the authorities, and the couple lived under George’s assumed name of Baker. Indeed, Bertha was referred to as Aunt Baker all her life by some of her nieces and nephews, even after she and George finally married in the name of Smith in 1876.

By the time they regularised their union, Bertha and George already had six children: four daughters and two sons. After the marriage, four more sons and two daughters were born, a total of twelve children. While Elizabeth was not literate, and signed her marriage certificate with a mark, George’s mother had been a school teacher and George had some refined hobbies. This hard man of the bush did beautiful embroidery and passed these skills onto his daughters.

The Smiths lived up and down the coast, moving where the work took them: Titirangi, Cornwallis, Kakamatua, Laingholm, Huia and Little Huia. George bought land at Cornwallis and Kakamatua and at one point the family lived in the old mill manager’s house while cooking was done in the former cookhouse. The children would row a dinghy along the shore collecting oysters off the rocks. Charles Murdoch cautioned not to think the big shellfish middens along the shores of the Manukau were all deposited by Maori: “To help the family finances they [the Smith family] had shellfish at most meals with the result that there were great heaps of discarded shells in their garden...” There would also have been plentiful meat as George ran cattle on his land.

Old settlers recall that one move – from Barr’s cottage at Little Huia up the steep muddy track towards Whatipu – induced in George Smith a frustrated rage and he dealt with it by taking two chamber-pots out on the beach and swinging them together with an almighty crash.

That remote spot up towards Whatipu gave the family its only permanent memorial on the coast. The stream near where they lived up near Mt Donald McLean became known as Baker Stream and so it is today.

The Smiths' foremost claim to enter the annals of Manukau Harbour lore was their skill with horses and bullocks. After working in the bush, George Smith bought a bullock team and many in the family had skills as bullockies, including the daughters. With both the Smiths and Auckrams having horses in their histories, it is no wonder all members of the family were excellent horse riders and Sam Fletcher reports his family being entertained by the Smith children demonstrating their skills with jumps on the flats at Little Huia at low tide.

In August 1917 George and his son Henry were in court for stealing a fishing net from a Cornwallis man, James Ward. Police found the net in a sack in George's whare at Cornwallis. George said he did not know how it got there, and on account of his age – he was 83 – he was discharged, while Henry – described as a bushman - was convicted and fined £5 and costs. What became of young Henry is not clear: descendants think he disappeared to America.

George and Elizabeth grew old at Cornwallis. According to descendants, Elizabeth wanted to move into town but George did not. There are two versions of what happened next. In one, George burned the house down. In the second, the family burned the house down to get George out. George and Elizabeth lived at Onehunga then New Lynn. At some point George moved into the Costley Home with dementia where he died on 3 June 1920 and was buried at Waikaraka Cemetery. Elizabeth went to live with her son Charles and his family in Rotorua where she died in 1926.

The Smiths were not wealthy people. Perhaps the family had a whip-around to find the money to erect a memorial to their son Jack Smith at Waikaraka Cemetery. Jack died at Messines during WW1 and has no known grave. At Waikaraka, the imposing grey granite monument commemorates Jack on one side and on another, his older brother, William Alfred, who had died in 1911.

Bertha Smith, George Smith, and their daughter-in-law, Helen Woodruffe.



Live Lightly – Titirangi Library Sustainability Afternoon

Saturday 17th September 12.30 – 4pm (1pm start in the hall).

Bringing together the community with guest speakers, workshops, activities and displays all based on living in a lighter way.

Feature presentation: Tiny houses - well-known NZ author Catherine Foster is discussing how the harnessing of architectural design principles for smaller smarter dwellings can contribute to a sustainable future.

Workshop: Join The Re-Creators and make your own bokashi bin and zing. \$5 workshop fee, registrations required (see our Facebook page for more details).

Don't trash it - bring your broken items to the Repair Café to be fixed for FREE rather than throwing them into landfill

Covering various aspects of life with our local sustainability heroes -

travel with The Electric Bike Team,
food with Refill Nation and the Vegan Society,

shopping with White Cloud Skincare,
the Green Bay Toy Library,

West Auckland Woodturners and
re:purpose upcycled earrings.

EcoMatters present simple ideas for healthier homes, and our local eco heroes the pest-free networks, Ark in the Park, Kauri Rescue and Arataki Visitor Centre are also involved.

There are activities for the kids too with a Library scavenger hunt and colouring activities, and the Steiner School will be here for the afternoon with a zero-waste bake sale so bring some cash.

Something for everyone! More details on our Facebook page 'Titirangi Community Library.

LIVING LIGHTLY



Author Catherine Foster on small house living, ReCreators bokashi workshop, Repair Café volunteers, Healthy Homes presentation, plus e-bikes, sustainable shopping, pest-free networks and a bake sale. Visit our Facebook page for details.

**SATURDAY 17TH
SEPTEMBER**
12.30 - 4pm
(1-4pm in the hall)

Titirangi Library & War Memorial Hall
500 South Titirangi Road
Titirangi
facebook: Titirangi Community Library



The Real Estate Update

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Presenting a SAFE home

Spring is upon us and we start to feel more excited about working around the house as the weather is a bit warmer and the days are a bit longer. If you're planning to sell your home or an investment property sometime in the future, then below are a few things to keep in mind to keep yourselves, your tenants and potential buyers of your home safe. We have compiled this list from hazards we have come across ourselves.

TRIP HAZARDS – these occur both inside and out. Commonly inside, this is from clutter in the walkways, carpet or flooring that might have been damaged and is starting to lift or furniture that may need to be moved to a more suitable location. Most of these can be resolved without much cost, just a bit of creativity. Outside, this is generally from fallen debris from the trees or gardens we haven't been able to keep trimmed over the Winter. Organise a garden bin and have a good clean up.

DAMP AND SLIPPERY AREAS – for the outdoors, you may need to get the water blaster out and give the footpaths and driveway areas a good wash. Inside may need a bit of elbow grease, use of a mould remover, or giving the space a good airing out, will help to freshen the space again.

RAILINGS – often in older homes the deck railings are a lot lower than the minimum standard allowed for new builds and overtime they become loose and wobbly. Look at replacing these or finding a way to make them safe and sturdy again.

SMOKE DETECTORS – did you remember to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors?

HIGH WINDOWS – adding safety guards to high windows removes the risk of younger children falling. They don't cost a lot and can easily be installed.

STAIRWAYS – do you need to fix or replace any of the stair treads on your outdoor staircases or would an anti-slip tread along the edge help? Similarly, inside maybe the carpet is worn or railings are loose and need repair.



**Bronwyn
Scott-Woods**

Maintaining your home on a regular basis is more affordable if you keep on top of things rather than leaving them to accumulate. If you just keep chipping away at tasks as you can, the cost can be spread, and it doesn't seem like such a big job.

Regards,

Bronwyn

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HUIA HOTSPOT

HUIA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Contact us for any enquiries - Fire Station Ph: 8116885 or message us through our Facebook page.
In an emergency dial 111

MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENTS

The Brigade have responded to a few call outs recently related to Motor Vehicle Accidents on Huia Road and surrounding areas.

Various factors have come into play on why the incidents occurred including alcohol and speed.

Please be safe on our roads and drive defensively. Remember you can always call *555 phone to report road incidents which are urgent but not life-threatening.

This includes such non-injury crashes, breakdowns which block the road, and obstructions (such as trees) on the road.



MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDERS RECERTIFY

Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade provide Medical First Response for medical events in our communities. The members of the Brigade who are both Fire Fighters and Medical First Responders attend regular training sessions additional to regular Fire Fighting training.



This includes a weekend training day facilitated by St John's Ambulance every six months.

Unfortunately, COVID restrictions have made recertification impossible for all Fire and Emergency volunteers.

Thankfully after a couple of years the formal St John's recertification course took place at the Huia Fire Station.



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

Volunteer Lunch hosted by The Huia Settlers Museum

Chief Fire Officer Coryn Laloli and Station Officer TJ Laing represented the Brigade at a 'Volunteer Lunch' hosted by The Huia Settlers Museum at the Huia Community Hall.

An annual event is held in appreciation of the time volunteers in the community, and from various local community groups, give in support of the Museum and its volunteers.

A lovely meal of roast lamb, ham, winter vegetables, gravy and of course Rosalie's locally famous coleslaw followed by an array of desserts and sweets were enjoyed by all.



A huge thank you to everyone of the volunteers in our community. It's what makes where we live so special.

Nga Mihi

Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade



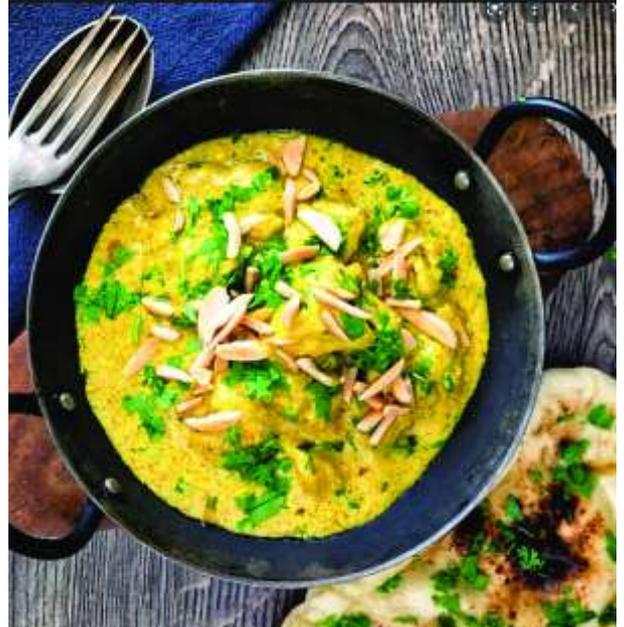


RECIPES WITH A DIFFERENCE

FROM ADRIENNE PEEK

SPECIAL CHICKEN

4 Tablespoons Vegetable Oil
6 Whole Cloves
2 Cinnamon Sticks
2 Teaspoons Cumin Seeds
2 Teaspoons Grated Ginger
5 Garlic Cloves - Crushed
3 Shallots or ½ an Onion – Chopped
3 Bay Leaves
2 Teaspoons Garam Marsala
1 Teaspoon Ground Coriander
800 Grams Chopped Chicken
1 Cup Plain Yoghurt
3 Tablespoons Ground Almonds
Chilli Powder to Taste
Salt to Taste



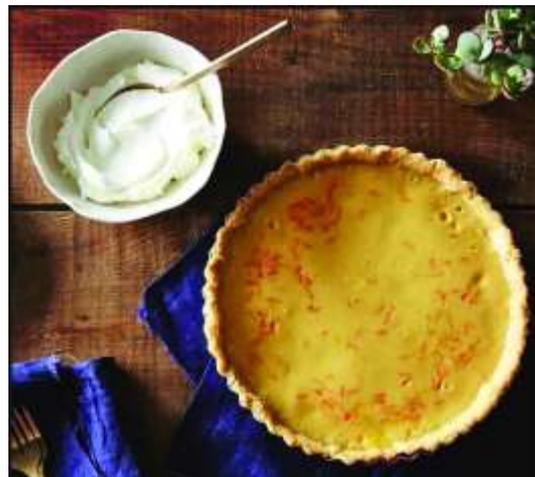
Heat the oil and add cloves, cinnamon and cumin and fry for 30 seconds. Add ginger, garlic, shallot and bay leaves and cook for 2-3 minutes. Add the garam marsala and coriander and fry 30 for seconds. Add the chicken and fry quickly for 3-4 minutes. If too dry add a little more oil. The chicken should be slightly brown. Add the yoghurt and ground almonds and cook until the chicken is fully cooked through. Season with chilli powder and salt and serve while still hot. You can scatter flaked almonds and coriander on top and serve with rice and naan. You can substitute the chicken with vegetables such as kumara, carrots, potatoes, broccoli or cauliflower.

EASY GRAPEFRUIT DESSERT

1 Store-bought Pastry Case

GRAPEFRUIT CURD

2 Grapefruit Rind – Grated
1 Cup Grapefruit Juice
1/3 Cup Caster or Plain Sugar
75 Grams Butter or Margarine
4 Egg Yolks - Slightly Beaten



Whisk all ingredients together and cook until thick - about 15 minutes. Add 1 teaspoon of cornflour to a little water if not thick enough. Pour into pastry case and cook for about 15 minutes at 160 degrees until heated through and serve hot or cold with cream.

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“Not just your calculator, your compass too”

Memories of a 12 year old Schoolgirl, Huia in the winter of 1944.

A lifetime ago I was asked if I could write my memories of my short time in Huia, 78 years ago. At last I have managed to write something.

I use the word 'memories' in a very loose manner as in February of this year I became a nonagenarian. How I managed to get here I have no idea.

Living at Huia was a magical time for me. A freedom I was never to have again and never to forget. The sea, fresh air and a time to leave the rest of the world behind and enjoy my days in this idyllic setting.

The year was 1942 and my family of Mum, Dad, 1 sister and 2 brothers had relocated to the big city of Auckland from a little place called Kiwitahi, just outside of Morrinsville. The Americans had invaded NZ and my Dad managed to get a job working for a firm called Downer and Co., building roads etc. Downer & Co. and the Americans were involved in building aerodromes in the Pacific prior to the Coral Sea Battle. My father was sent overseas with Downers and the Americans. While Dad was away we lived in a motor camp at Papatoetoe and when he returned from his first stint away we managed to rent a house in Otahuhu. Dad returned finally in early 1944. Somehow we lost our house in Otahuhu and rentals were as scarce as hens teeth in Auckland and surrounds but Dad managed to rent a bach at Fosters Beach, Huia. All the family except my father lived in Huia. Dad was now working for the PTC Bus Co., at Otahuhu and he boarded in Auckland and came out to Huia most weekends.

From what I remember at the time there would have been maybe 5 or 6 baches at Fosters. Ours had 2 bedrooms and was right on the waters edge. Whenever there was a high tide it would reach the open verandah and splash against the door. Sometimes it seeped in and we would all put down towels and anything else that was capable of soaking up the water. We, as kids, loved it. Not so my poor Mother. When the tide receded there would often be fish flapping around in the sand because they couldn't reach the water. Stupid me, would grab as many as I could and throw them into the deep water, most floated back, DEAD!

I was 12, my sister Nancy 10, my brother Terry 8 and my youngest brother, Bill would have been 4.

Nancy, Terry and I all went to the school at Little Huia. I loved it. There was one teacher, a man, and I'm sorry but I can't remember his name, who taught us all. At the time there would have been probably 10 children in the class and I was the eldest. So basically I think he taught from Form 2 down to Primer 1. For me, it was the best of all my schooling years. I think I learnt more from this man in the 5/6 months that I was there than at any other time. I always liked spelling and arithmetic but this man taught me how I could use them in life and figures were to be the centre of my career in years to come. We walked from Fosters Beach to Little Huia to school each day. Looking at it today I don't know how my little fat legs survived and also my younger brother and sister, but we did. My Mother said there was a way across the water when the tide was out, I don't know if this was true but we were never allowed to try it. As it was winter our Teacher made us cocoa every day on the coal range and even though it was rationed we always had sugar in it. Big hot mugs and if you couldn't finish it we poured it out the window. We thought we were smart but when you went outside later in the day you could see where the cocoa was dripping down the outside of the building. Oh, we were smart! War or rationing did not seem to affect us in any way but we knew all about the Japanese and the Germans and we made up stories of spys hiding in the bush and up by the Nihotapu Dam.

Huia had the one shop and a petrol bowser. My Mother shopped mostly at the shop and we always seemed to have food on the table. Dad would bring out extra goodies when he came out. Whenever we needed something that the store did not sell, Mum would get the bus into New Lynn. I don't know if I am right but I think the bus went in once a week.

Some weekends Dad would be on shift and couldn't make it out to Huia so as a treat my Mother would take us for walks around the coast line. I'm not sure if we made it to Cornwallis but that is where we would be making for.

We roamed all over the place on our own or with our friends and just beyond Fosters Beach there was a farm and the lady said that we were not to go into the back paddocks as the cows were wild and would chase us. Oh, come on, we're not worried. We went into the paddock and yes, the cows were wild and did chase us and we ran and ran and hoped our (my) fat little legs would carry us to the fence line before they caught us! Luckily we survived. We confessed to the lady about what happened and she just laughed, that was not kind!

We visited the Nihotapu Dam with the school and went for bush walks with our teacher.

But things end. Mum and Dad managed to buy a house in Auckland and we returned to the big city where I was to spend the next 70 years of my life.

I will never forget my time at Huia and the freedom we had and the people there who made such a difference (without me really knowing at the time) to a 12 year old.

Ngairé Murphy (nee Johnson)

24th July 2022



Huia School, 1954. J. T. Diamond Collection, JTD-07A-00349, Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections



Our Stories, told by us

Inside this report

Book Week

Interschool Gymnastics

Book Week

Book Week 2022 was a bookish blast! Our Book Week this year coincided with SLANZA's first ever Aotearoa NZ School Library Week, celebrating school libraries around the motu.

Our Book Week kicked off with the Scholastic Book fair, which was well supported. Thank you to WPS parents and whanau for supporting the fair. We have raised almost \$2000 in books for the school library. It is great to be able to stock the shelves with new, exciting books for the children.

We celebrated books by inviting community guest readers to read to children including parents and whanau. Past principal, Liz Manley visited and read to children. Debra from the Titirangi Community Library read *The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors* to a class, followed by a Rock Paper Scissors challenge. We all celebrated together with a morning tea.



On Thursday of Book Week, Weng Wai Chan, visited our school. The visit was organised through ReadNZ Te Pou Muramura who run an excellent Writer's in Schools programme. Weng Wai won the Wright Family Foundation Esther Glen Award for Junior Fiction at the NZ Children's and Young Adult Book Awards in 2020, and received a Storylines Notable Book Award in the same year. Weng Wai Chan was warm, friendly, engaging and sincere. She shared some of her early life in Singapore bringing in humour and educational information. A bit of Zumba got the children to have a stretch and a wiggle before they settled in for some more interesting learning. Weng Wai also ran a writing workshop for around 20 students. I was impressed with our tamariki who engaged with the author's questions, demonstrating how much their teachers have taught them about writing narratives.



We also ran a Bookmark Design competition - and winners won prizes from the Book Fair. The winners' bookmarks are available to children in the library. It was a "pawsome" effort!



The sun came out for our annual Book Character Parade, which was a real blessing. It was wonderful to see parents back at school - all of us enjoying a special event together. Here's our principal, Nardz Stephenson dressed up as Violet Beauregard turned into a Blueberry, and "I am Jellyfish". The costume winners excitedly collected their prizes from the Book Fair after the parade. They went away buzzing.



Thank you to everyone who helped to make Book Week a success.

Interschool Gymnastics



On Friday 19th of August WPS participated in the Inter-school gymnastics competition. We had a mixed ability team, for some of our children it was the first time that they had done gymnastics, while others in the team competed for a club. The children worked hard on their routines during their lunch times leading up to the competition and showed real commitment. On the day of the competition there were six other schools and the nerves were high!

We were so proud of their results, and especially proud that teachers from other schools commented on the sportsmanship that our children showed.

Y3/4 girls - Ruby - 9th

Y3/4 boys - Aiden - 9th, Arlo - 7th, Fred - 6th

3rd place team (Aiden, Arlo, Fred, Arie)

Y5 girls - Eva - 7th, Macy - 2nd, Taliyah - 1st

1st place team (Eva, Macy, Taliyah, Jessica)

Y5 boys - Oliver HH - 3rd, Terenzo - 4th

Y6 boys - Koby - 6th, Lachlan - 2nd, Mac - 1st

1st place team (Koby, Mac, Lachlan, Oscar)



National Poetry Day



We celebrated National Poetry Day (26 August) in the library for that whole week. On Monday 22nd, the Poet-Tree (inspired by a poem by Shel Silverstein) was rather bare, but by the end of Poetry Day, it was laden with spontaneous poems written by children during their library visits.





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

Another month gone! The Museum has been surviving with the help of the few dedicated volunteers that we have. We are still looking for more.

Annual Report of the Huia Settlers' Museum Trust 2021-2022

Covid 19 has disrupted another year and the museum was closed for several months due to Auckland's city-wide lockdown. So visitor numbers are well down on last year – from 623 to 468. The Labour Day Market Day and Cake competition and the Waitangi Day Farm day were cancelled because of Covid which, along with the drop in visitor numbers, not only reduced our income but also meant we lost opportunities to advertise ourselves to the local community and beyond. The usual Armistice Day commemoration was also cancelled, but the trustees met for a quiet ceremony in the museum and each shared stories of their families' service during times of war.

This year the Phil Sharp award was presented during a Christmas luncheon for the trustees and volunteers. The recipient was Rosalie Hunter for her service to the community over many years.

The roof leaks have been fixed – thanks are due to T.J. Laing.

Two stalwarts of the community and supporters of the museum died during the year. Paddy Rule and Phil Hill, a former recipient of the Phil Sharp award for his services to the community, most notably, the Huia Fire Brigade. Rest in peace. You will both be missed and remembered with fondness.

A big thank you to our auditor, Irene Hunter, and all who support the museum – the Huia Fire Brigade, the Huia Fishing Club, the Huia Ratepayers and also Poul Scott, a Huia local who does lots of little jobs around the museum.

Thank you, too, to all the wonderful trustees and volunteers. These tremendous people keep the museum going and will continue to do so into the future, I'm sure.

Carl Harding (Chairman, Huia Settlers' Museum)

Then on Monday 24th October we will once again be holding our **Fruit Cake competition**. This year we have decided to allow men to enter as well. Actually, we never thought to ask you! So, if you are interested in cooking, come and have a go. Show us women, that men can do it too! Cakes need to be at the Museum by 10.30 a.m.

The cakes go on sale after the competition.

Armistice Sunday will be on 13th November. Again, more details later.

Come and find more interesting stories from Sam and support the museum!
Entrance \$5.00. Children under 12 free

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For more than 30 years John Walsh's working day could include helping fight a fire, searching for a lost person, assisting an accident victim, sorting out illegal hunters, stopping motorcycle gangs intimidating people, or dealing with a whale stranding. These events happened in the Waitakere Ranges and in the Huia area in particular where John was a familiar figure as a resident Ranger. Now he has written a book which makes interesting reading, especially for anyone who has lived in this part of the world. It's called "So You Want To Be a Park Ranger" and is available from John at huia8118@gmail.com

John says : " I wrote the book for two reasons: firstly, to leave a record for my family of how I had spent the bulk of my working life; and secondly, for the benefit of people who may have been

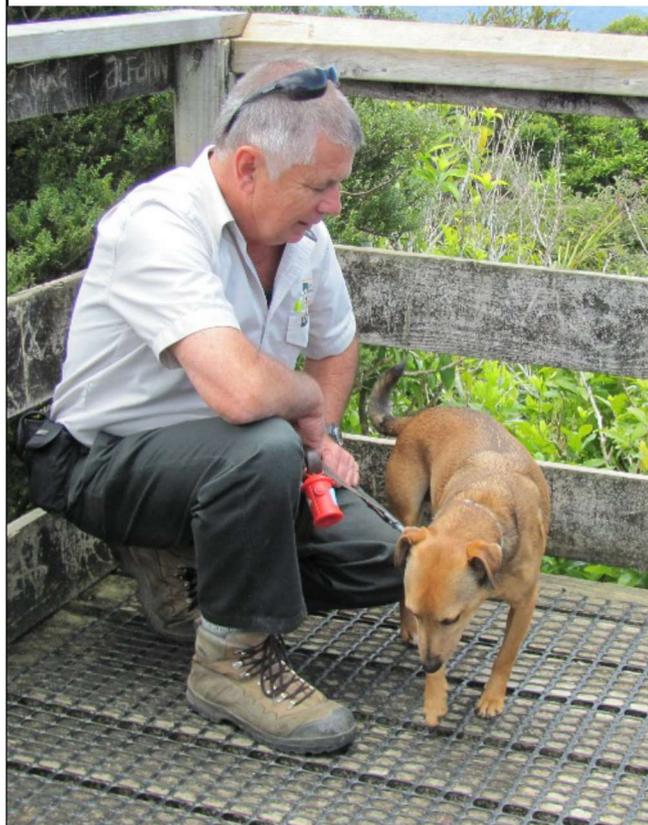
keen on the park ranger profession, to illustrate that the job involved dealing with scenarios that most folk would never have considered a possibility.

So my intention here was to highlight the huge variety of situations that rangers in the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park were expected to deal with.

The book covers John's deep love for the Waitakere Ranges: "I first discovered "the Waitaks" in the mid-1960s, on my first ever tramping trip. From a high ridge I looked down on Huia Bay at high tide on a calm, sunny day and vowed that one day I would live there. Ten years later I was not only living there but was working in the area as well. I knew this was where I was meant to be. I realised how much I valued the place when, in the early 1970s the then Auckland Regional Authority proposed building a road along the coast from Whatipu to Karekare. So I organised a campaign to put a stop to it and public pressure achieved that.

Although I've tramped extensively throughout both the

North and South Islands, the Waitakere Ranges have always been a special place for me, and it was a privilege as a park ranger to be a kaitiaki of the ngahere for 38 years."



SO YOU WANT TO BE A **PARK RANGER**



JOHN WALSH

What did he do for recreation? Why, tramping in the Waitakere Ranges, of course: Early farm holdings were usually traceable by a row of roughly shaped fence posts deep in the forest. These posts, cut from nearby puriri trees, often sported rusty wire and staples.

Deep holes which would have been wells for water supply were a constant danger while exploring off track, especially if they were shrouded by thick vegetation. A stone wall would be evidence of a farmer using local materials for fencing, and wooden sheep pens still exist, now in tall, thick vegetation.

A small cave in a stream cutting provided a refuge for a military deserter during World War

Two, and a larger cave in a steep cliff face with difficult access hid a Conscientious Objector during the same conflict. Wooden headboards, sometimes in a cluster, indicated a cemetery and the proximity of a homestead, as did a "cave" excavated in a clay bank to be used for keeping perishable food cool."

It's a very readable book and I highly recommend it to anyone with an interest in this area in particular and the Waitakere Ranges in General

- Graeme Booth



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Tartuffe... et Plus

It is a challenging and exciting end to Term 3 for Class 12 (Year 13) as they prepare, rehearse and present their chosen final year play – Molière’s *Tartuffe et Plus* at Lopdell House Theatre.

Performance and drama are an integral part of the curriculum from Class 1 on, but it is not till Class 12 that the emphasis is on theatre and professionalism as much as any specific ‘therapeutic’ aspects for the students. It is part of an intense learning experience from the inside, not the outside, of a work. Academic study of drama texts can be somewhat abstract unless the imagination is truly engaged. Even then, there is no substitute for entering into the life of a play by bringing its imaginations to life in production.

Drama in a Waldorf-Steiner school is not an elective subject, but one which all students participate and in working together build a true community of shared endeavour. They learn to cover for each other when lines are lost or entries delayed and take pleasure in the success of the others. They learn too that the success of a play depends on the smallest cog, not just the big roles, for its whole impact. It is a real picture of how true communities can work.

Certainly, the Class 12 Play, along with the Class 12 independent project, is a culminating event in every Waldorf-Steiner student’s school journey and the aim is to perform a drama of substance; something that deals with serious issues and which connects to the curriculum they have had over the years.

Tartuffe et Plus meets this (and more) - it is a witty and innovative production examining the damaging effects of fanatical and inhuman behaviour through contrasting two of Molière’s best comic portraits of dangerous obsession.

Orgon from *Tartuffe* looks up to heaven and outward to the world with blind fanaticism whereas Argan from *The Hypochondriac* looks inward to the body and down to the earth with depressive, psychotic fervour. Manipulating them all for his own corrupt desires comes the religious hypocrite Tartuffe, who plays all the characters with his unnerving energy and charismatic presence. While viciously funny, this seventeenth century satire carries modern resonances of anxiety and existential crisis in relation to questions of spirituality and health.

TITIRANGI RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL

The play, *Tartuffe*, satirised the Jesuits, an order of Catholic priests which had been extremely politically successful in seventeenth century France. Molière explored the contemporary concern that Jesuits were preying on the devout French household and turning families against each other to gain money, power and influence. *Tartuffe* was considered controversial and edgy (and was initially banned) but Molière defended the play as upholding the expression of true religion against political and spiritual corruption and hypocrisy.

Molière pushes his characters and situations to extremes of language and behaviour. This is an energetic, physical and witty interpretation of Molière’s seriously comic masterpiece.

All are very welcome to the public performances at Lopdell House Theatre on the 28, 29 and 30 September - contact the school office for tickets in advance ... as performances will highly likely sell out.

Open Day

Following our Spring Festival on Saturday 24 September, our doors will be open wide from 12.30 – 2.30pm for anyone interested in exploring this education. There will be an Introductory Talk at 12.30pm and then the opportunity to wander around all areas of the school including Pēpi Aroha - Playgroup, Nursery, Kindergarten, Ngahere – bush kindergarten, School and Upper School. Work will be on display and teachers available in all classrooms to talk with.

We welcome you to come and see what is offered at Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School!

“Receive children in reverence, educate them in love, and let them go forth in freedom.”

Rudolf Steiner

TRSS - upcoming events

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School's

Class 12 presents

Molière's

Tartuffe et plus

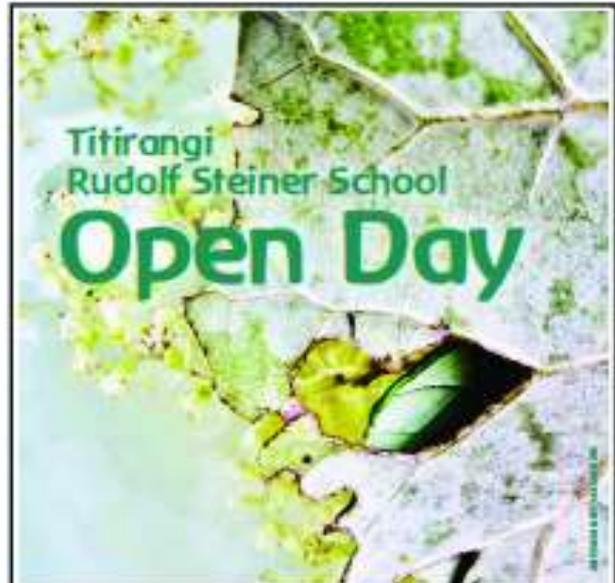


28, 29, 30 September - 7pm

Lopdell House Theatre - all welcome

Tickets available from TRSS office

email: admin@titirangi.steiner.school.nz



Come and visit our:

Playgroup

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Kindergarten

Bush Kindergarten

Primary School

Intermediate School

High School

SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

5 HELIOS PLACE, TITIRANGI

SPRING FESTIVAL 11-12.30

INTRODUCTORY TALK 12.30

OPEN CLASSROOMS 1.30 - 2.30

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



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A Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School Initiative.

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner Pēpi Aroha - Playgroup

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For more information email Carlene:

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Meet the Future West team

For Waitakere Ranges Local Board

Future West is a progressive coalition of Independents, Labour and Green Party. Members of the team come from all parts of the Local Board's geographic area, from the towns and villages to the rural areas and coasts. We combine experience with new fresh faces. We offer experience in community development, environment, emergency management, commerce, urban design, education, law, arts and heritage. We all volunteer in our communities and stand with our communities in bringing the best for the West.

Vote for us and we will work hard for you

- Provide a strong voice for Waitakere and the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area
- Support value for rates and wise Council spending
- Support community action by local residents and environmental groups
- Develop Climate Action Plan, push for Manukau Harbour water safety programme
- Foster the arts, support Te Uru, Open Studios
- Oppose shifting Auckland's port to Manukau Harbour
- Protect the wilderness of Te Wao Nui a Tiriwa/Waitakere Ranges
- Continue support for pest animal and pest plant programmes
- Showcase our heritage, repair Titirangi War Memorial Hall
- Oppose selling off council assets such as parks.

www.futurewest.org

To find out more and tell us what you think please go to

- Facebook www.facebook.com/futurewestnz
- Twitter <https://twitter.com/futurewest>

Future West

Authorised by Greg Presland, 512 South Titirangi Road, Titirangi, Auckland Ph: 021 998 411



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Kia ora and gidday fishos, I'm sitting here with pen and paper waiting for some nautical inspiration to flood over me to help fill up this fishing page. How do fishing mags manage to fill at least 100 pages every month and still keep readers hooked (dreadful pun)?

Anyhow, a bit of local fishing news to start with. A keen young fisho from Huia recently caught a 43cm John Dory from off the rocks at Little Huia. John Dory are rare in these waters but I checked out with a veteran fisho who said that in all his many years of fishing the harbour and over the bar he had only ever seen one caught over the bar and had never heard of one caught in the harbour. So I checked up in Hohepa's book, *How to Catch Fish*, and he says they do lurk in deep water but are mainly found on offshore reefs. He goes on to say they will grow up to 60cm in length. They are funny looking geezers with flimsy fins and a distinguishing black spot on their body which Hohepa reckons was made in biblical times when St Peter hauled one in and tried to extract a silver coin from its mouth (I knew I'd find something to fill this page with!) Anyhow, should you have a burning ambition to catch one of these fellas get yourself some small live rock cod, which John Dory love. The young fella said he caught it on kahawai – good luck.

I always thought electric reels were a bit of a fashion fad and used mainly by wimps and lazy fishos. However after struggling to reel in two big snapper from 65m it was obvious they are useful, especially to the Big Boys who target groper, hapuka etc in 500m. Suggested to the old man it would be nice to get one for christmas. "Waste of money at your age," he said. "You'll never get your money's worth out of it." So I'll keep on cranking.

Now another bad luck fishing story. Was out fishing one day with two rods and a handline. I had one rod in the holder and the other in my hands, with the handline under my foot so I would feel it move if anything tugged at it. Well what happened next falls into the Sod's Law category. The rod in the holder bent over, so I jumped up to put the rod I was holding in another holder so I

could grab the first one while taking my foot off the handline. It was a good fish and I was struggling to wind it in and didn't see the line disappearing off the handline at a great rate of knots till I heard it rattling about on the deck. By the time I had got my head around what was happening the handline had skidded across the deck, over the stern and into the murky. I was put out but carried on winding in but the brute kept taking line so I tightened up the clutch and of course the line broke and the big fish joined the handline in the murky. The words I uttered are not fit for a family publication!

With no other fishing news of any interest to tell, it's joke time.

It was tough luck for Ernie, he missed two alimony payments and his wife repossessed him.

Now a sexist joke or two because it's okay for women to tell sexist jokes about other women.

Excuses given by little old ladies for traffic accidents:

Officer I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.

In my attempt to kill a fly a power pole collided with me.

A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.

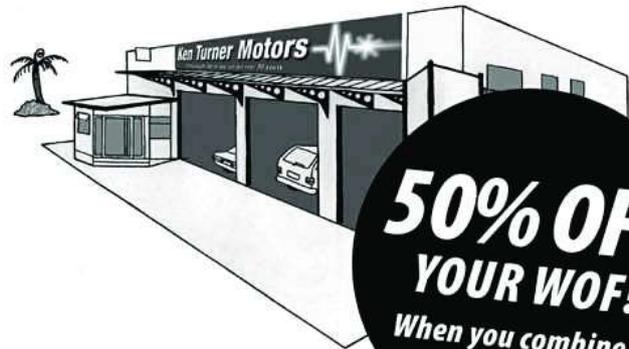
My car was legally parked when it backed into the car behind.

The tree appeared out of nowhere and hit me.

Ok fishos, that's Winnie done for this month. Happy fishing, cheers.

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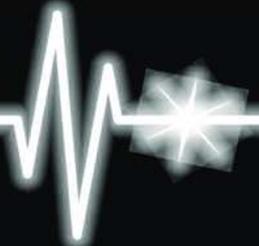
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GREEN-FINGERS

What a time the slugs and snails have been having with my winter staples. Nothing seems to deter them and it's a tale of woe I've heard repeated by many a gardener lately. They've even chomped through my rhubarb leaves which are meant to be poisonous to humans but clearly not snails. However this week I've been given a new tip which involves burying a jar half full of beer in your garden and apparently the next day it will be full of slimy things. Watch this space for the results!

Being September spring has officially sprung and everything starts to grow but while you're working on making sure your soil is ready for planting be equally vigilant about getting rid of weeds before they take over. Hopefully you've still got some winter staples such as broccoli, cauliflower and brussel sprouts to harvest while your summer vegetables are getting established. You can sow or plant beans, peppers, sweet corn, beetroot, tomatoes and basil and your seed potatoes should be sprouting nicely ready for planting in deep, well composted soil.

Watch for brown rot in fruit trees which can be treated with a fungicide.

Most flower seeds – too many to list - can now be sown. And September is a good time to tart up the lawn: water (as if we haven't had enough lately!) before sowing seeds on a good day and then carefully rake over. The experts say scatter from east to west rather than north-south. Keep moist during the germination period and don't mow too soon.

Happy spring gardening!



The Lady Green-fingers

OPERATION POSSUM BLITZ

Possums are pests!

They are classified as a pest in New Zealand and are destroying our forests & gardens, and eating our birds' eggs. They are fully awake when it becomes cooler, and will seek out cosy places to breed and spend the winter - like your garage, shed, roof or loft. If you hear a coarse coughing sound outside after sunset it's a sure sign you have a possum on your property.

Time to trap!

If you need a new Timms Trap phone June 817 8315 - open weekends.
Purchase price is \$45.



This is a voluntary project supported by Auckland Council



Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade

Last month marked an important anniversary for the brigade. It's fifty years since we moved from our original station at the corner of Kauri Point and Victory Roads to the present station at 75 Victory Road. When the weather gets warmer we will be holding an open day so that our community can celebrate the anniversary with us. It will be a good time to remember what has been achieved, not only since the opening of the present building, but since the brigade was founded back in 1955.

So let's start with the first station. The early 1950's saw New Zealand experiencing droughts which resulted in numerous fires in the Waitakere Ranges. Titirangi had formed their volunteer brigade in 1949 and assisted with getting Laingholm underway six years later.

In those days entrance into Kauri Point Road was made via a Y junction and there was room to locate a small building between the two arms of the Y. (See picture on right) Locals got busy and built a fire station with whatever material they could get and a war surplus airport crash tender was located and modified for a civilian role. (middle picture) Labour weekend 1955 saw the community come together for the official opening of the new station.

But by the early 70's the inadequacies of the building, which included a "long drop" toilet were becoming obvious. Drainage from the toilet was proving inadequate and an attempt by two young members to shock the ground with explosives and cause the contents to drain away was a failure with the contents being distributed around the station instead ! Bottle drives to raise funds were held in those days with the bottles being stacked up against the station to await collection. When they were moved, part of the wall of the station fell out !

Back in those days the brigade was under the control of the Waitemata County Council which eventually agreed to buy a section and build a brand new station. It was a huge improvement over the old station, which was demolished shortly after the brigade moved out. The picture on the right shows the brigade moving on June 17 1972



It was officially opened by the then Minister of Internal Affairs Allan Highet on August 5 1972. The picture on the right shows that important day with the station's J2 Bedford sitting in front and on the left Titirangi's Ford D600. The ceremony had to be delayed slightly when the brigade dashed off to deal with a car fire. Since then the station has served the brigade's needs very adequately, although there have been numerous changes and improvements. The interior is considerably different, the roof was replaced a few years ago and a large building at the rear houses the brigade's rural truck, Gator all terrain vehicle, the medical response van and the original Ford V8 former crash tender that was present on the day the first station was opened. It was located rusting away on a Northland farm and is being restored by the brigade as time and money allows.



The station engine bay has been occupied by a variety of fire trucks over the years. Names on them have included Bedford, Ford, International, Dodge, Mitsubishi and currently Iveco. We will hold a celebration to remember those who have served at Laingholm's two stations, many of whom have now passed on. The station and the brigade will go on serving the community for many years to come.

The past few months have been fairly quiet when it comes to emergency calls but our members have been busy with training which takes place every Monday night. As well there have been specialised training courses both on and off our station. Niomi and Andrea spent a weekend at the FENZ national training centre on an operational support course. Operational support members carry out important duties such as



traffic control at emergency incidents. We held a chainsaw course on our station which was also attended by brigade members from Shelly Beach, Waitakere and West Harbour brigades. Our medical first responders had a revalidation from St John trainers. Picture shows Brad and Logan taking a break from conducting CPR with St John instructor John Moselen



The Forgotten Suburb

Last century the Laingholm bus would start its run at Brownie Rd and proceed to Woodlands Park via Laingholm Dr, Sandys Pde, Victory and Huia Rds. The return trip was the opposite, so the bus went both ways through Laingholm. This was changed about 20 years' ago when the New Lynn to Laingholm bus started to turn left at Woodlands Park and take the shorter route along Huia Rd turning right up Laingholm Dr to Brownie Rd. This was not very convenient if someone wanted to get a bus home to Brownie Rd from the school, the hall or the church. When asked if the 20th century system could be reinstated, Auckland Transport said "the infrastructure is too difficult (the hairpin bend at the junction with Warner Park Ave?) and there is not room for the buses to pass on Laingholm Dr." That statement is nonsense! I have been on the 171 bus when it has passed a school bus on Laingholm Dr, and the 171 bus going one way will not meet a 171 going the other way – the buses are not that frequent.

Then Laingholm Dr collapsed and the bus is again going both ways on Victory Rd and Laingholm Dr (negotiating the hairpin bend) as far as Dorothy Rd, where it turns.

Some years' ago, the bus drivers were told only to stop for passengers at designated bus stops – even

though, particularly on Victory Rd, it was a long way between stops. After six and a half years' of campaigning, we eventually got an official bus stop at the top of Warner Park Av. With the buses going down Victory Rd again, the question is, "Will they stop for passengers even though there are no bus stops on that side of the road?" The answer is, "Yes, they will!" Hurray for commonsense.

However, the New Lynn to Laingholm run now takes longer (no short cut along Huia Rd). Although the buses leave New Lynn on time, they are running very late by the time they have turned and started the return trip from Laingholm, so the passengers don't know when the bus is due. A simple solution, Auckland Transport, would be to give us a temporary timetable until Laingholm Dr is fixed – and that will take several months. Then, perhaps you could consider changing the route permanently so that the bus, once again, goes both ways through Laingholm.



Laingholm Local



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to book a table or participate go to

<https://www.facebook.com/ElevationBrasserie/>



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As part of our work to support households with the cost of living, we're taking further action to make sure Kiwis are paying a fair price at the supermarket.

It's not acceptable that people have been paying a premium for the basics while supermarkets earn \$1 million a day in excess profits. That's why we've called on supermarkets to open up wholesale access for their competitors, at a fair price – or we will do it for them through law.

Right now, New Zealand has one of the most concentrated grocery retail sectors in the world. The high prices we're facing are driven by the lack of competition in the sector. Opening up wholesale access will make it easier for new competitors and independent dairies to enter the grocery market.

Our new toolkit of measures means we can demand major grocery retailers provide wholesale supply at certain terms, including price and range. It also sends a very strong message about how serious our Government is about seeing more competition in the market so people get a fair deal.

Spring brings flowers ... and more weeds!

I've been enjoying the first signs of spring in my garden. I've had daffodils blooming, my old fashioned roses have fresh shoots and the riroriro have been singing. Manuka trees on our verge are starting to wake up and there are new leaves on our pohutukawa. It's been a long, wet, grey winter and I think all of us have been struggling to keep our spirits up. Warmer days and sunshine certainly help!

Of course, just as the planted flowers in my garden are starting to bloom, the weeds are taking off again too. This month, I would like to commend the work done by all the conservation groups around the Waitakere Ranges, especially the people who spend time and effort pulling out noxious weeds like wild ginger and climbing asparagus. Even the sweet scented jasmine and honeysuckle are not welcome in our native bush.

If you're unsure about which plants are invasive weeds, check out EcoMatters War on Weeds page -

<https://www.ecomatters.org.nz/in-nature/war-on-weeds/>

Gardening is one of the things I do when I manage to have time out from my busy job. For me, gardening is a very important way to relieve stress. I know that many of us have been struggling over the past couple of years due to the strain of the pandemic. Although we are moving towards a new normal and the immediacy of Covid-19 is fading, I do think it's important for us to remember that it's still in our community, and that it's still affecting us in many ways. Let's try to keep on looking out for each other as the days lighten and we move into spring.



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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 3 May after Covid shutdown.



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.

Environmental heroes celebrated in the Love Your Place Awards

Volunteers, businesses and schools working to help preserve the unique environment of the Waitākere Ranges have been recognised in the 2022 Love Your Place Awards

.More than 100 guests helped celebrate the mahi of these special people at an awards ceremony held at the Titirangi War Memorial Hall on Tuesday 2 August 2022.

The awards are held every second year, thanks to the funding from the Waitākere Ranges Local Board and are organised by EcoMatters Environment Trust.

“Once again, we’ve been delighted to hear the stories of those in our local community who are so dedicated to enhancing and protecting our stunning natural environment. We’re honoured to celebrate those who are helping to preserve this very special place for us all to enjoy,” says Saffron Toms, Chair of the Waitākere Ranges Local Board.

EcoMatters CEO Carla Gee says the judges always find it difficult to make a decision.

“The calibre of nominations continues to be high and as judges, we are always humbled as we read about the difference all these nominees are making for this special place. We’re grateful to the local board for supporting these awards and helping recognise the mahi of those generously dedicating time and effort to the community and the environment,” says Carla.

Awards were given in five categories, recognising youth, school groups, businesses, volunteer groups and individual volunteers who have made an impact in cleaning up rubbish, pest control, planting and more. There were also two special mentions of groups doing great work locally.

The winners are:

Denise Yates Award

For youth (under 16) showing emerging leadership around local environmental issues

Winner: Jay Leighton is a keen conservationist who designed his own pest traps to protect New Zealand's native species. He shared these designs with the Department of Conservation to ask for their feedback and was interviewed on prime-time television, to encourage others to do their bit. Jay joined the Oratia Primary School leadership programme Ngā Rākau Kaha and devoted his 20 hours of community service required for this to trapping pests at his local wetland.

Judges’ Commendation: Jasmyn Bensemann is a natural leader who is inspiring others of her age to get active, get outdoors and protect the environment. She undertakes pest plant removal and pest animal control and monitoring at home. Jasmyn has been an Arataki Junior Ranger for two years and uses these skills to help her care for the environment in our parks.

Karaka Award

For a school or school group taking action on a local environmental issue

Winner: Woodlands Park School is a Green-Gold Enviroschool. The school community is involved in litterless lunches, worm farming and composting, bee-keeping, food growing, sustainable fundraising and native bush regeneration. They have been working with community groups and Auckland Council for more than five years now to help restore Titirangi and Waima. In the last two years they have planted 1000 trees at Tangiwai Reserve.

Judges’ Commendation: Laingholm School’s Outdoor Classroom and Gardening Club both play vital roles in the students’ environmental education. The Outdoor Classroom, led by Richard Kerr, provides a holistic and organic approach to learning outdoors. The Gardening Club led by Caroline McCartney, builds sustainability skills for future gardeners and sends surplus food and seedlings to the school community and a local free community pantry.

Judges’ Commendation: Henderson Valley School provides great opportunities for students and the wider community to connect to and take action for the local environment. Last year students worked at various locations along the length of the Opanuku Stream to carry out water testing and a rubbish clean-up.

Nīkau Award

For a business or social enterprise making a contribution to improve the environment

Winner: Sustinnoworx is a social enterprise which promotes a circular model while diverting textile waste from landfill. They trade in second-hand clothing, with profits going to support other non-profit organisations. Sustinnoworx also holds workshops and seminars teaching upcycling and facts about fast fashion and waste. They communicate accessible information through social media channels, to highlight essential information to change consumer behaviour.

Judges Commendation: Led by Geraldine Tew, The ReCreators is a social enterprise focusing on teaching upcycling skills to the local community as a way of encouraging people to be more sustainable and to help move our community towards a circular economy. The ReCreators teach in libraries, community centres, parks and carparks – places that are accessible to all. Sustainability is a clear thread of activism that runs through The ReCreators workshops.

Rata Award

For an outstanding volunteer group or organisation taking action on a local environmental issue

Winner: Pest Free Piha is targeting both invasive weeds and predators across Piha. They have organised a group of volunteer “Pest Warriors” that work enthusiastically to improve Piha’s ecological environment. Activities include wasp eradication/trapping, weeding and planting of the road corridors throughout the community, lupin eradication on the sand dunes, management of the weed bin funded by Waitākere Ranges Local Board, manufacture of traps, weed recognition and spraying programs and much more. Over the past three years, lupins have been eliminated from Piha dunes – last year alone 12,000 lupins were removed by volunteers.

Judges Commendation: BirdCare Aotearoa cares for more than 6,000 birds a year, most of which they help rehabilitate. Not only do they care for birds, they also care for the local native bush through pest animal and plant control, and by planting more natives. This is improving local conservation and biodiversity, providing more native wildlife habitat for food and breeding.

Judges Commendation: Len Gillman and Deidre Green are two outstanding individuals who are transforming Laingholm through driving a successful volunteer conservation movement. They are two of the early founders of Laingholm’s local volunteer conservation group Restoration Ruatuna. The group was started in 2018 by Laingholm residents who were responding to concerns about poor water quality at the beach. Thanks to their tireless efforts, the beach was made safe for swimming, the causes of the overflows were discovered and steps were taken towards a permanent solution.

Kahikatea Award

For an outstanding individual volunteer taking action on a local environmental issue

Winner: John Staniland, is a former Kelston Boys classics teacher (Latin and Greek) of 40 years, who inspired his students not just on his topic but also on ecology, biology, botany, conservation and everything involved with New Zealand flora and fauna. In 2006 he was awarded a Royal Society of NZ Science, Mathematics and Technology Teachers Fellowship, which he used to research hihi (stitchbirds) in the Ark in the Park restoration project, of which he was also a joint-founder.

Outside of teaching, John was the founding Chairperson of Waitakere Branch Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society and has served as the Chair or Deputy Chair for 33 years. He was instrumental in bringing about the purchase of Forest & Bird's Matuku Reserve (off Jonkers Road), a 120 ha forest and wetland sanctuary, in five stages over three decades. He also helped organise the purchase of another 37 ha of land in the Waitakere River valley, another forest and wetland restoration project known as Matuku Link. He's actively involved in pest control and growing of eco-sourced plants for both these reserves, as well as helping with other local conservation efforts.

Judges Commendation: Guenter Niersbach has been an outstanding volunteer ambassador for the Kauri Rescue project over the last 12 months. As a landowner with sick kauri, Guenter wanted to treat his own trees, but since then he has turned out to undertake fieldwork treating kauri and monitoring their health every week during the last field season.

Judges Commendation: Graeme Carrie has led the Piha Ratepayers & Residents Association's efforts to make the Piha Lagoon safe for swimmers for more than a decade now. This included routine testing for E.coli and liaising with Auckland Council. As a result, Auckland Council is now seeking consent to undertake work that will help flush the lagoon when it can't be done naturally.

Judges Commendation: Nova Gibson is an eco-warrior who filled countless black rubbish bags with litter from alongside the walkways, cycleways, motorways and any public area. Her initiative to repurpose old fridges and convert them into kerbside mini-libraries is legendary in many suburbs, from Massey to Titirangi.

Special Mentions

The judges felt two other nominees deserved special recognition for their mahi.

CatchIT-Schools: Karen Colgan and Kay Wight volunteer to deliver a programme to school children in the Waitakere Ranges providing hands-on trapping and monitoring experience. Karen and Kay have delivered this CatchIT-Schools programme for the children at Waitakere Primary School, Henderson Valley Primary School and Oratia Primary School. So far at least 1,000 Year 5 and 6 children at local schools have had the chance to become conservation scientists through this programme.

The Glen Eden Scout Group has long had strong ties to the community but it was close to closing down. Thanks to new leaders stepping in, the group is thriving again with close to 50 scouts now. The group contribute to local environmental improvement, through rubbish pick-ups which can net more than 20kgs in just a few hours. The group has a big focus on sustainability, oceans, climate change and conservation.



EcoMatters Nature

WEED BIN WEEKENDS

Got invasive weeds?
Get rid of them at your
local community weed bins.

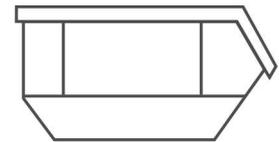
BIN LOCATIONS

Waiatarua Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Rd

Laingholm Laingholm Hall, 69 Victory Rd

Glen Eden Kōwhai Reserve, 28 Withers Rd

Swanson (9am-4pm) Central Landscape Supplies, 598 Swanson Rd



2022 SCHEDULE

Aug 13-14	Swanson	Glen Eden
Sept 10-11	Waiatarua	Laingholm
Oct 15-16	Swanson	Glen Eden
Nov 12-13	Waiatarua	Laingholm
Dec 10-11	Swanson	Glen Eden

2023 SCHEDULE

Jan 21-22	Waiatarua	Laingholm
Feb 11-12	Swanson	Glen Eden
March	Multiple locations for War on Weeds	
May 13-14	Waiatarua	Laingholm



- ♥ Bins onsite from 9am Saturday
- ♥ EcoMatters staff member onsite for weed advice Saturday 9am-3pm
- ♥ Permanent weed bins available at Huia Domain and Piha Domain
- ♥ Check which weeds are accepted at www.ecomatters.org.nz/weedbins



Letter to the Editor

Victory Road has become a race track lately and a potential hazard with one meter deep ditches, potholes, narrowing of the road and deceptive bends.

Please slow down and take it easy before a major accident happens.

And if you don't slow down, the Council, no doubt, will put judder bars across the road...

Concerned resident



**RESTORATION
RUATUNA**

Restoring Nature in Laingholm

NIGHT-TIME FISH HUNT



On Sunday last week as darkness settled on Ruatuna Reserve, a bobbing sea of head-torches approached the stream. Led by the intrepid aficionado Dan, the children flowed over the fence - drawn to the reflections from his day glow stripped ranger vest. He said in a low voice - "if you quieten down it will be easier to see the fish". A hush settled, the only sound a squelch of mud on gumboot rubber as 34 kids pressed closer to the edge of the stream. "There! I see one." "That's a kokapu", said Dan. "A native fish, secretive and hard to find.

They feed at night and hide during the day". "And there look more inanga". They have spawned here in the rushes. Up the road at a secret location in a dark, hidden pool awaits our kuia, long finned eel. Fingers rippled the surface, and an oily dark shape rises. An excited squeal and an indrawing of breath as another bold child leans closer to the water. Something special is happening here - a new generation inspired, looking, and listening more closely.

MANUKAU WADERS



The Manukau is New Zealand's most important harbour for migratory wading birds. Around 30,000 wading birds feed on the mudflats every day and an estimated 60% of all New Zealand waders visit the harbour at some stage in their lives. Species include South Island Pied Oystercatchers, Pied Stilts, Banded Dotterels, Wrybills, Eastern Bar-tailed

Godwits, Red Knots and Ruddy Turnstones. If you live in Laingholm, then you're lucky enough to live on one of the world's most unique and amazing harbours and more and more in our community are treasuring this special place.

PLANT OF THE MONTH



Dracophyllum sinclairii

This plant is endemic to New Zealand and grows in lowland to montane shrubland from Northland to East Cape on boney harsh sites such as coastal cliff tops. There are a few plants struggling to survive on the headland at the end of Kauri Point Road. Much of its habitat in Laingholm has been lost to weed trees such as Cotoneaster and Willowleaved hakea. It has thin leaves that are distinctively twisted and form grass-like tufts and old branches are fissured. Flowers are white to red.

PEST PLANT OF THE MONTH



Willowleaved hakea

Willowleaved hakea can dominate shrubland on poor soil habitats such as coastal cliffs. It contributes to local extinction of rare native ferns, orchids and shrubs such as *Dracophyllum sinclairii*. Control options: Pull out small plants and cut and paste larger plants with MetPaste.

PREDATOR REPORT

Hats off to our dedicated and growing predator control team who have been out checking traps. This is a really important time of year as the birds start to look around for nesting sites. Adult birds, their eggs and chicks are very vulnerable to prey so it's important work that our team undertakes. Catch numbers have been low but this is not unexpected for this time of year. Our goal is to restore the bird and invertebrate life to Laingholm. If you would like to join our team of trappers or want help to get started trapping in your own back yard, please email us on restorationruatuna@gmail.com

WATER TESTING OF RUATUNA STREAM

The July water testing results of the stream were very good with Phosphate back down and dissolved Oxygen up.

July rainfall was 375mm - the highest level we have ever recorded.

VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE COMMENDATION

Len Gillman and Deirdre Green, two of our founders, received a commendation at the EcoMatters 'Love Your Place' awards. Len and Deirdre want to thank those who nominated them, EcoMatters, our local ranger and the Local Board for their ongoing support.

RESTORATION RUATUNA COMMUNITY DAY

Laingholm Hall

**1pm-3pm Sunday
October 9th**

[www.facebook.com/groups/ruatuna/
restorationruatuna@gmail.com](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ruatuna/restorationruatuna@gmail.com)



Pony Tales

Let's hear it for the boys!

At Huia Road Horse Club we are lucky to have two gorgeous club ponies. Here's a little bit about them.

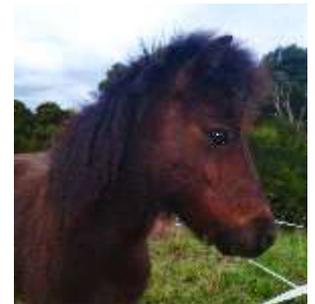
Paddy



Paddy is an awesome, Welsh, palimino pony who is in his 20's! He's about 11 hands high. Paddy loves being groomed, and playing with the giant red ball. He can really push that ball far! He's a clever pony, who learns tricks really easily. He has lived at the club for many years now, and has become a real favourite with our club members and our community pony riders. Paddy is a really sweet boy, and has taught many kids about looking after and handling horses. We think you are wonderful, Paddy!

Merlin

Merlin is the newest horse member of the Huia Road Horse Club, and is already a much-loved pony. He's become a companion for Paddy, although he is much smaller! What he lacks in size, he makes up for in spirit, and we have had to adjust the pony paddock to stop him from practising his escape artistry. He also loves a good grooming, especially now that he is starting to loose all his shaggy winter coat. He is cuddly and loves a good scratch, and also loves to learn new things and tricks. He is a real star at bowing!



Our super cute ponies have a bit of a pickle that we would love some help with. They are in need of some new shelter for their paddock. If you are able to help with skills, labour, or materials, we and the ponies would be really happy to hear from you!



Don't forget to come to our next Pony Rides Day – always the first Sunday of the month, from 3-4pm. Paddy and Merlin would be thrilled to see you.

For enquiries or more information, please contact Club President Louise on 0274991732, or see <https://www.facebook.com/huiaroadhorseclub>.



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