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Hepetema 2025/Putanga 60/07

I whakaputaina e te Komiti Roundabout - Tiamana: Graeme Booth 817 4658

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What's happening in our area?

Who's story have we found in
Huia?

Find out on page 46, and
50,51

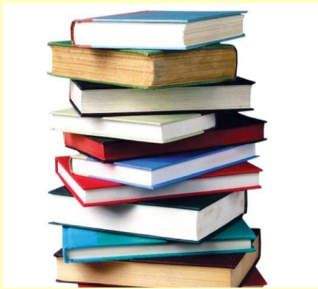
What have our schools been doing?

Woodlands Park see p 24 & 25

Steiner see p 44 & 45

Laingholm see p 52 & 53

Laingholm Kindy see p 36



Titirangi Library

Programmes In other
areas due to building
work.

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Book Reviews Page 42

**Whats cooking for
September?**

See page 26

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

To find out more See page 32

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

**Check out pages
14, 15 & 30, 31.**

What was busing around in the past?

Check out page 20

And needs in the future?

See page 22 for possibilities to prepare for.

MANAGING COMMITTEE FOR THE ROUNABOUT

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 Anonymous articles or those with just pseudonyms will not be published.

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

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

ADVERTISING ARTWORK AND/OR ARTICLES

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

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

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

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION

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



MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES AND SIZES

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

OUR NEXT ISSUE

1st October 2025

The deadline for ALL copy is
Monday 22nd September 2025

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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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THE SHINING CUCKOO – PIPIWHARAUAOA -CHRYSOCOCYX



With September comes the spring - and the return of the shining cuckoo after a trans-oceanic flight from the Solomon Islands or the Bismarck Archipelago of northeast Papua New Guinea. The bird is common in New Zealand, not threatened, and yet many people have never seen one. The shining cuckoo prefers dense foliage and so is hard to spot – but their distinctive call echoes across the forest: several, loud, upwardly -slurred whistles, concluding with one downwardly slurred note.

By definition, a cuckoo is a parasitic bird that lays its eggs in other birds' nests. Throughout New Zealand, grey warblers are the foster -parents for the shining cuckoo chicks. The shining cuckoo will remove one egg from the grey warbler's nest and replace it with her own. The grey warbler accepts the new egg,

incubates it and then feeds the chick. As the cuckoo grows, it ejects the grey warblers from the nest and is raised alone by its foster parents. As the grey warbler is New Zealand's most common native bird, this behaviour does not impact their numbers.

Shining cuckoos feed on insects and caterpillars. They even take those that are toxic to other birds – including the caterpillar of the monarch butterfly! The best chance of seeing this bird, with its iridescent green plumage and white underparts with dark bands, is when it is feeding on insects in the open foliage of a kowhai. This is a bird that often flies into windows and is stunned or even killed. Stickers on windows or mobiles hanging in windows will deter this unfortunate behaviour for this bird - and, also, our beloved kereru.



Cats are remarkable animals: When they bestow favour by smooching or sitting on your lap, they can ‘light up your day’. Scientific studies show that interacting with cats can lower stress, reduce anxiety, and even boost serotonin levels, uplifting mood and mental health. Their contented purrs are not only soothing but are also believed to promote healing. Despite their independent nature, cats possess a quiet attentiveness and quirky intelligence that endears them to many. In Aotearoa New Zealand, the domestic cat stands as a graceful, calming, and cherished companion in countless households. But like lions and tigers they are true apex predators – skilful killers. In Aotearoa, domestic cats have a significant impact on native bird, reptile and invertebrate populations. Studies

have shown that both owned and feral cats are prolific hunters, contributing to the decline of many native species. Unlike ecosystems where native animals evolved alongside mammalian predators, New Zealand's wildlife is particularly vulnerable. A single domestic cat can kill more than 100 native birds per year. One cat was found to have 17 native lizards in its stomach at one time. This predation pressure places a massive strain on vulnerable populations. Many owners believe that their cat is too lazy or too well fed to kill wildlife, but the research shows that in almost all cases this is a misconception.

So how do nature lovers like you and me reconcile cat ownership with conservation? Is it even possible? Being a responsible cat owner in ecologically sensitive areas like ours means keeping your cats indoors at all times. However, if you are unwilling to do that, then it is especially important to keep them indoors at night, when they hunt most actively. Desex your cat to prevent unwanted litters and microchip and register it for identification in case it roams. Use collar-mounted bells or deterrent devices to reduce hunting success. Feed your cat well and provide stimulation at home. But note that these measures do not prevent all kills and some cats are skilled enough to fully negate their effects.

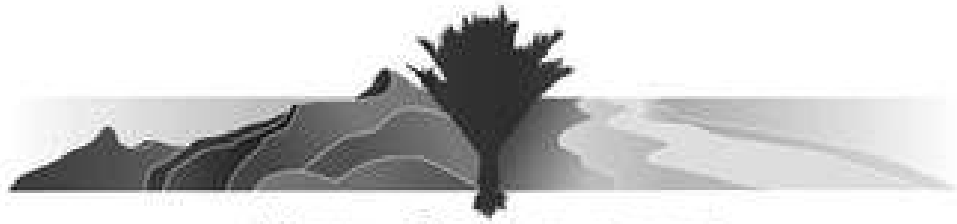
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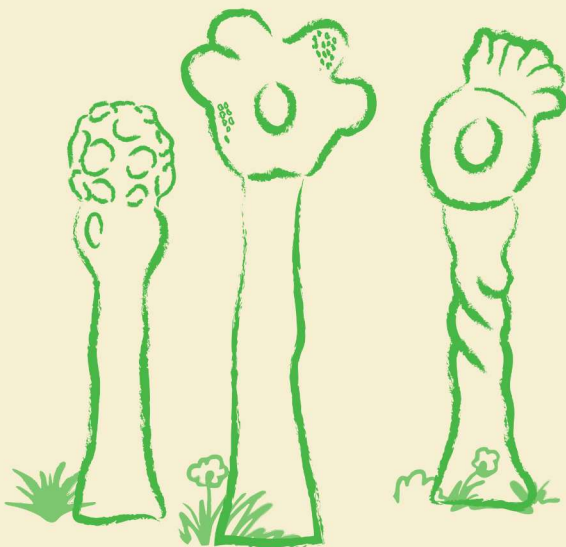
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Authorised by Ken Turner, 213 Woodlands Park Road, Titirangi, Auckland 0604. Tel: 022 087 2965.

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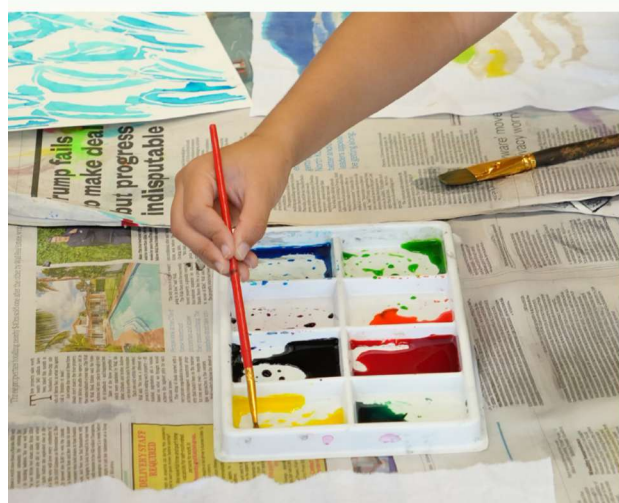


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Authorised by P Garcia, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.





EMERGENCY SOS

As we move out of the winter season, we will see a significant amount of foot traffic in the Waitakere Ranges taking advantage of the beautiful Hillary Trail.

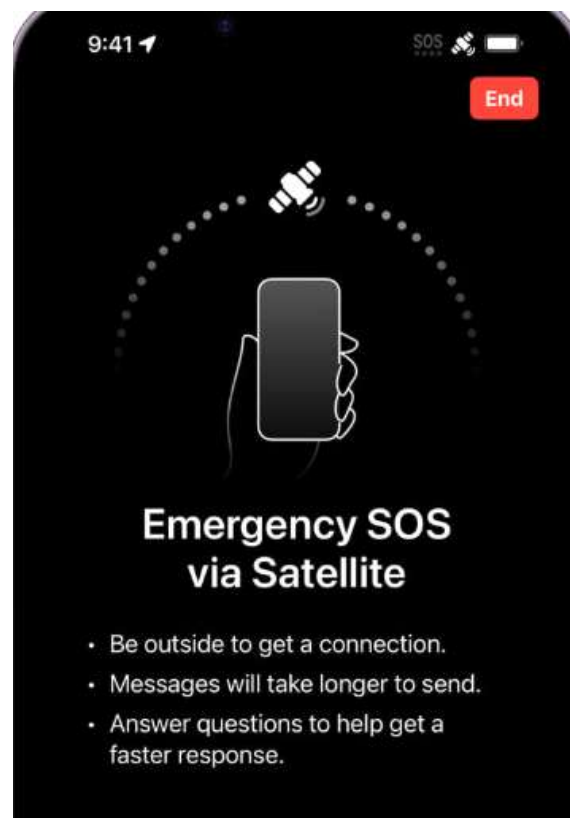
Many of the tracks have had significant improvements completed by Auckland Council. However, over the last few years, we have also seen an increase in the amount of people getting injured requiring emergency support.

Whilst there has been upgrades to cell phone coverage in the area, there are many places that remain black-out areas for cell phone coverage.

One of the key messages we want to share is the ability for many new smartphones to provide an Emergency SOS using satellite technology.

In an emergency, your phone may have the ability to send your location to emergency services or to a person in your contacts.

The information you can send can include your coordinates and a brief description of your emergency. This can be critical in providing emergency services with the right information to respond to you in the quickest way possible.



Our brigade also recently purchased a rescue mule which is a significant asset to our brigade and region.

This allows our crews to safely carry injured persons out to a waiting ambulance or helicopter.

We want to thank The Trusts for providing a grant to purchase this life saving asset. Within 48 hours of operationalising the asset it was deployed in an emergency.



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SENIOR FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

We currently have two Qualified Fire Fighters enrolled in the Senior Fire Fighter program. QFF Dan and QFF Ross have become the focus of our current training program which looks to have them lead a crew in certain events.

This also allows our brigade to go right back to basics in our training program. The core skills always warrant a refresher, and this is a fantastic time to refresh on the basic skills of firefighting.

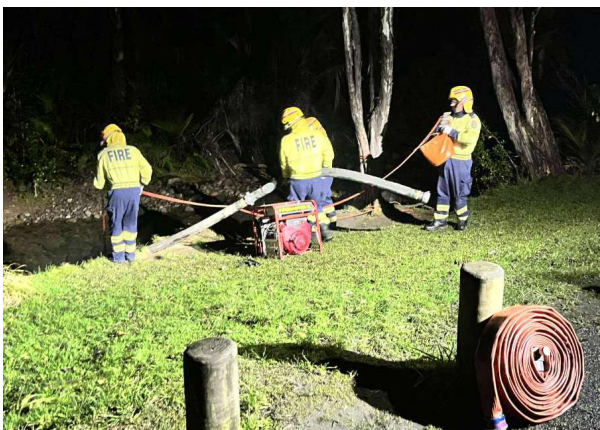
QFF Dan will be taking part in the Senior Fire Fighting course in early 2026.

We also have QFF Paul enrolled in the Emergency Response Driver course in October 2025.

Paul will be taking part in a four-day course based at the Te Hiku Training Centre in Mt Wellington.

The course allows Paul to respond in emergency situations under lights and sirens.

Having recently passed his Pump Operator course, this gives our brigade better coverage in responding to emergency situations.



The brigade is also in the process of having SFF Glen and SFF Neil begin the Station Officers training program. This development opportunity allows Glen and Neil to further develop their leadership skills and making good decisions on the fire ground.

We look forward to seeing our crew members develop on the coming year.

Nga Mihi

Duncan Milne

INDEPENDENT

Portage Licencing Trust



Authorised by Duncan Milne, 14 Tane Road, Laingholm

**Integrity
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Hi - my name is Duncan Milne and I'm standing for the Portage Licencing Trust in the upcoming local body elections. I want to keep the Trusts but make them better.

I'd like to tell you a little about myself. I've been a Laingholm resident for 30 years, and a member of the Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade for more than 20. I'm a mental health nurse by trade, and so I'm under no illusions about how harmful alcohol can be - car crashes, domestic violence, mental health concerns all have a huge impact on our community. But I'm also involved with Titirangi Theatre, where I've been their licensee and qualified Bar Manager for 20 years, so I also understand that a quiet drink with friends can be fine. And both Titirangi Theatre and the Fire Brigade have received grants from the Trusts, to help them do what they do.

So firstly, I believe that we should keep the Trusts. They give back huge sums to our community, and if the Trusts are opened up to competition, that'll be significantly impacted. The supermarkets won't give back, they'll send their profits offshore (as they do now). And you'd also see many

more bottle stores opening, with the social problems we know come with them, and they'd be run by owner-operators with fewer staff and likely less staff training. The Trusts are not perfect, but at least they pay the Living Wage and have really worked on their staff training.

But there is room for improvement. I will work on improving venue quality. I want better food, safer and more welcoming venues, and even tighter alcohol control policies. Trusts venues should be a clean, safe and attractive place to have a meal with friends, without being worried about being accosted by some person who has had too much. I want the Trusts to be really smart about their giving back, making grants where they will do the most good for the people who need them most in our community. And I'm against bottle store proliferation - I won't support any increase in store numbers.

Voter turnout is often low in local body elections, but there are many ways in which your vote can make an immediate difference in our communities (I've given some examples above) - so please take the time to read the booklet and return your voting papers. And if you'd like to keep the Trusts but make them safer and more welcoming, I'd really appreciate your vote.

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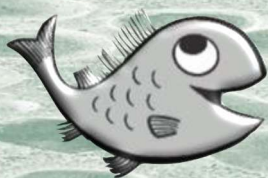
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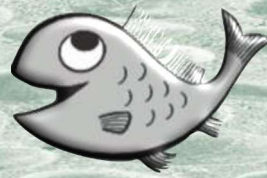


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Winnie's Wanderings

(from Winnie the Wharfie)



Giddy fishos, how goes it out there on the murky and beyond. Despite the long periods of calm weather we've had I haven't had many fishing reports apart from the neighbour who goes over the bar when he can. A couple of weeks ago they went out, 5 POB, and cleaned up, getting their quota of snapper, plus gurnard and being plagued by kahawai, he said. Last week they went out, 5 POB, tried at all depths and got only five snapper between them with not a sign of a kahawai. The fishing gods certainly know how to frustrate and torment a fisho. Netting for mullet has been poor according to a commercial fisho I see occasionally yet August has always been a good month for mullet. I haven't seen a single one jump for ages. Strange goings on what with the weather and global unrest. A mate of mine who's religious reckons God is angry with us so it's a bit reassuring to have someone to blame it on.

Was reminiscing about old fishing mates and recalled one old fella who I will call Len. He was a helluva nice guy but a 100% liability on a boat. He had a neurological problem that caused him to fall over if he wasn't holding on to something, plus his hands shook badly. Getting him in and out of the boat was an acrobatic feat. Once in he would insist on getting up to get to the bait board on the back of the boat, then he would topple over and more than once I had to drag him back from going over the side into a watery grave. He caused all sorts of problems with his stumpy rod, trying to cast it away from the boat but his shaky hands meant his line hardly ever got over the side and he'd end up hooking into things, including me! When he did manage to catch a fish I'd have a helluva job trying to get hold of it because he had no control of the flailing. He just loved fishing and I dreaded him ringing and asking are we fishing this week? In the end I resorted to deceit and told him we were selling the boat. "I can't believe it," he said, asking why. I crossed my fingers and lied, saying we need the money. But boy did my conscience suffer! Sadly a few weeks later he fell down, got a bad head injury, and died. I only hope he's not up there looking down on me!

Ok, must be joke time.

Quote: I'd really laugh if the world ends before we manage to destroy it.

The roof over our bed leaked when it rained so I asked hubby to do something about it. He bought me some waterproof pyjamas.

And to finish: News isn't news any more, it's hour to hour warnings.

Ok fishos, make the most of life before that big foot comes down out of the sky and stamps on us all.

Cheers (or should I say commiserations) Winnie

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The Forgotten Suburb

Fifty years ago, cars were very expensive. With no vehicle manufacturing in New Zealand, they had to be imported. Some were brought in in bits and assembled here – but they were still expensive.

So, the one car household was the norm, and that car would be used by the “breadwinner” – usually the man-of-the-house – to get to and from work.

The Laingholm school children were taken to school by bus – even the primary school pupils. With no power steering or power assisted brakes, the skilled drivers managed to negotiate the twists and turns of Laingholm Drive and then could be heard across the valley as they chugged up Victory Road (the only sealed road at that time). After school, the children were taken home again on the regular bus from New Lynn. Each child had a “concession” ticket for ten trips, and the driver would clip this ticket as they boarded the bus. Intermediate and high school children, then as now, had a free ride.

As well as the school buses, there was another much appreciated service. The Titirangi businessmen (does that mean that no women ran businesses in the 1970s?) sponsored a shoppers’ bus. The bus left Titirangi at 9.50am, travelled down Huia Rd to Laingholm Drive, on to the Post Office (today’s takeaways), up Victory Road and through Woodlands Park and Waima to Titirangi. (Note: There was a similar service for French Bay and South Titirangi). It left for the return trip at 11.30. Plenty of time to do shopping and have a coffee!

Today, the last bus into Laingholm leaves New Lynn at 7.25 in the evening, Monday to Friday and 5.55 pm on Saturday and Sunday. Back in the ’70s, there was a bus on Friday evening that left Auckland just after 9 pm. Those were the days of “late-night shopping” – and shops closed for the weekend. This late bus brought the shop-workers, and the late-night shoppers, home to Laingholm.

The buses were similar to the ones in the picture. These are 1950s Bedford buses, probably once owned by New Zealand Road Services. But some of the buses may have been even older than these! Bus drivers today have it so easy compared with drivers of the 1970s!

Laingholm Local





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Riddle:

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

A: A Towel!

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PUBLIC MEETING

LAINGHOLM COMMUNITY RESILIENCE GROUP



THE RECENT STORMS, SLIPS, POWER OUTAGES AND EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS ARE REMINDING US THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE PREPARED - AS FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS BUT ALSO AS A NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY.

LAINGHOLM COMMUNITY RESILIENCE GROUP IS A GROUP OF LOCAL VOLUNTEERS FOCUSED ON NEIGHBOURHOOD RESILIENCE AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.

COME TO OUR PUBLIC MEETING TO:

- ✓ LEARN HOW YOU CAN PREPARE YOUR HOUSEHOLD.
- ✓ JOIN YOUR LOCAL PREPAREDNESS GROUP.
- ✓ LEARN WHAT TO DO IN DIFFERENT WEATHER EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.
- ✓ REGISTER YOUR INTEREST FOR A FIRST AID COURSE.
- ✓ MEET OTHER RESOURCEFUL AND COMMUNITY-MINDED LOCAL FOLKS.
- ✓ RAISE YOUR CONCERNS AND SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE.

ALL RESIDENTS FROM LAINGHOLM AND NEARBY AREAS ARE INVITED.



WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER



7.00 PM - 9.00 PM



LAINGHOLM VILLAGE HALL, 69 VICTORY ROAD, LAINGHOLM

Laingholm Fishing Club.

Welcome to our monthly newsletter.

Now that the days are getting longer and spring is on the way, it's time to start thinking about getting back out on the water and maybe even doing a spot of fishing.

Generally, we hold our fishing competitions on long weekends but if you catch a fish or two and want them weighed then you can pop down to the Club on weekends to do this providing you are a member. Our board has lots of spaces on them and it would be great to see new names of fisher folk including children as well as the fish caught.

We hope in the near future to arrange a Coastguard visit to talk about water safety.

Our membership continues to grow and it's exciting to see new faces every Friday and Sunday enjoying the vibe of the Club.

We are planning to continue with providing regular meals on Fridays and once it is warmer we may have regular BBQS.

Pool Competitions are a regular calendar event and with the addition of another Dart board we are looking at introducing regular Dart Competitions.

Plans are currently in the pipeline for "Jag the Joker" prize draws, more details will be available when this is ready to be rolled out.

If you are at a loose end on a Tuesday morning from 10.00am to 12noon then join us, to have a go at Artwork with Beryl Sweeting-Shaw.

Once again, a warm welcome to our new members and if you are curious about the Club, why don't you pop in to have a look. It is a great way to meet new people and the visitor's fee is inexpensive as is the membership fee once you join.

Andrea



Fridays 5:30 – 11pm

Sunday 4- 8:00pm

Sandys Parade, Laingholm Beach.

Find us on Facebook for event and dinner details.

New faces always welcome,

come down and try us out!! Visitor fee \$3.00

Single membership - \$40 initial then \$30 per year- Family membership \$50 per year

Any questions please contact the Secretary

lfsecretary@hotmail.co.nz



WOODLANDS PARK SCHOOL

Poipoia te kakano kia puawai

Inside this report

.. Speeches by Room 14

Our Stories, told by us

Speeches

Are Aliens Real?

Are aliens real? It is something that has been asked for hundreds of years. Fortunately I'm here to prove that aliens are real. So come with me on a journey past the cosmos and beyond. First off if aliens aren't real how could the concept even exist? Secondly, thousands of alien reports have happened over the years. Thirdly, aliens have been reported since nineteen forty seven, which proves aliens existence. After all aliens are probably asking the exact same question as us right?

Imagine if aliens look exactly like us and there is a version of all of us out there. They might be hiding among us. If that is true it means aliens would never invade the planet anyway. There might be an alien presenting this exact speech right now. This might sound kind of weird but, we might all be aliens to some other life forms. If you think about it that doesn't seem that strange. Aliens are famously creepy creatures with strange unnatural bodies.

Others consider aliens to take many different shapes and sizes. Considering the idea of aliens is actually incredibly realistic. Aliens have been seen all through time through clues in Egypt to caveman etchings. Aliens must be real because there are so many sightings and encounters.

Many people believe in aliens but I think everyone should believe in them.

So since aliens have been around for as long as we have, we should believe in them. So that is why I believe in aliens and you should too.

By Billy Gray, Y5, R14



Mountain Biking

Hi my name's Gus. Today I will be persuading you to try mountain biking. Did you know mountain biking is one of the top sports that has a mental and physical benefit? So lock in and listen so you can learn more cool facts like that.

Did you know that there's no age restriction for mountain biking? You might wonder why. It's because there are trail grades. Trail grades are what tells you how hard the trail is so you know if you can do it or not. On some features there are age restrictions because they are very hard. Most trails don't though. Anyone can do them depending on their skill level.

Also you can all do it as a family, friend group or just by yourself. Also, did you know it improves physical fitness by strengthening muscles and enhancing cardiovascular health? Also you know the average screen time of an 8-12 year old boy is 4 hours and 55 minutes and an 8-12 year old girl is 6 hours and 11 minutes. But mountain biking can help you get off those screens and into the wild. Mountain biking is really adventurous because it is out in the bush. Some parks are inside but not a lot of them. Did you know lots of indoor mountain bike parks are getting taken over by pickle ball courts?

Thank you for listening to my speech. I hope you liked it and learned something and I also hope you try Mountain biking. The end. By Gus Hearnden Hartwell, Y6, R14

Why We Should Eat Healthier

Hi, my name is Ethan, and today, I will be telling you about why we, as ten-year-olds, should be eating healthy food. For our bodies are like machines; they need good fuel to work properly, and that fuel is healthy food. Healthy food contains vitamins and minerals that we need to come strong, fit, and smart. Eating healthy food takes a lot of hard work, and sometimes it means eating things that we don't like.

So let's have a look at what a healthy ten-year-old child should be eating. Every day, a ten-year-old should consume 2 servings of fruit, 5 servings of veggies, 2-3 servings of dairy, 4-5 servings of cereals and grains, and 3 servings of lean meat, eggs, nuts, or seeds. When we don't eat healthy food, we have no energy, we can't concentrate, and we don't grow as well as we should.

Food like McDonald's, Subway, and Chinese takeaways might seem healthy, but they are packed with processed foods and bad fats, and sugars. These types of food can lead to cancers, diabetes, and obesity if we aren't careful.

We all want our bodies to work as they are meant to, and this means doing everything in our power to eat good quality foods that fill us up, keep us full, growing, and healthy. So let's think about what we put in our mouths and lunch boxes every day, so that we can become healthy kids with great minds. Thank you for listening to my speech.

By Ethan, Y5, R14

Girl Guides

Have you ever wondered about a place where you can adventure? Well did you know I go there every Thursday night? It's called girl guides! It's for girls that like to explore in the wild and I'm here to tell you why you should join! First you can learn how to be confident. There are around 50 guides in my unit, it's very loud. Another way to build confidence is by attending camps. Also if you are 12 and a half, you get to run a camp called "guides take charge."

Also did you know that Taylor Swift was a Girl Guide and Queen Elizabeth the 2nd was one too! Second, you can go to camps every term. There are fun games and activities! Also, another good thing is you can make new friends and learn new things! Like at camps you will be one of the oldest girls because there are 7 and 8 year olds too. You also get badges if you go to camp at the end of term.

Third it will help make new friends, like you work in different groups every term. Also you can meet new people at every camp term too. Another thing is there is a disco every year with 5 to 16 year old girls. Also you can run a night at Pippins who are the smallest group. They are 5 to 6 year old girls.

By Isla Appleby, Y5, R14

Why rugby is a cool sport

You can get inspired. Well I got inspired by my brother and his friends. You can get rewards. Get inspired: I do not think my brother is cool but I do think he is good at rugby. He runs fast, he picks up the ball a lot, and he carries the ball. When he's not, he makes tackles and he's at good at tackling. He has a positive attitude so his team can win.

You can get rewards and incentives: You can get lots of lollies and chocolate. You can get player of the day, a certificate and a trophy with a whole chocolate bar from the other team and lollies and more lollies. And a lot of lollies. And the whole bag of lollies!

Social make new friends: When you start you meet your team and your team has either boys or girls or both or just girls/boys and you can meet them and you should talk to them. Maybe you could become friends and play and meet their friends and their family and then they can meet your family and friends and cousins and everyone that you know and that they know and you become best friends for ever and ever - the end.

In conclusion, I really hope you like my speech about why rugby is a cool sport and why you should try it out and have fun!

By Madison Pyne, Y5, R14





VEGETABLE RECIPES WITH A DIFFERENCE

by

ADRIENNE PEEK

CREAMY KUMARA PASTA

350 Grams Spaghetti Noodles

Cooked Kumara, Broccoli, Cauliflower or any vegetables you want to use up

1 Can Evaporated Milk

2 Teaspoons Wholegrain Mustard

3 Teaspoons Cornflour

$\frac{3}{4}$ Cup Grated Cheese

Salt and Pepper to Taste



Cook the noodles and keep hot. Toss the previously cooked vegetables in a bowl to combine. Mix all of the other ingredients together, heat and cook for 1 minute. To plate up, place the noodles on plates, followed by the vegetables and then the sauce. If you want you can sprinkle with more cheese and chopped spring onions.

SWEET AND SOUR YAMS

500 Grams chopped and cooked yams

2 Tablespoons Butter or Margarine

2 Tablespoons Honey

1 Teaspoon Chopped Ginger (fresh or from a jar, or use powdered)

1 Tablespoon Vinegar



Melt the butter and sauté the yams. Add the honey and ginger and cook for 2 minutes. Add the vinegar and cook another 2 minutes and they are ready to eat.

LEMON POTATOES

4 Large washed potatoes (Chopped) boiled for 8-10 minutes

$\frac{1}{4}$ Cup Lemon Juice

3 Tablespoons Butter or Margarine

1 Teaspoon Curry Powder

Ground Black Pepper

Place potatoes in a lined baking dish. Microwave butter, lemon juice curry powder until butter is melted. Pour over potatoes to coat and bake for 20-30 minutes at 180 degrees fan bake, turning a couple of times. Sprinkle with black pepper and serve.



and

Vote for the Future West team

Local Government elections are approaching. The Future West team is seeking your vote for the Waitākere Ranges Local Board and licensing trusts.

Since our inception Future West has delivered on our pillars of more local decision making, stronger environmental protection, commitment to Te Tiriti and value for council spending. We're glad to report that we've:

- provided funding to diverse and vibrant local groups through organisations such as EcoMatters, Community Waitākere, and Hoani Waititi Marae
- engaged directly with locals at community meetings and events to hear their issues first hand
- developed social and economic resilience, via both Titirangi and Glen Eden community houses
- supported and championed local arts and cultural groups, such as Te Uru, the McCahon House Trust, the Maurice Shadbolt writers' residence, the Going West Writers' Festival and the Playhouse Theatre
- completed our local Climate Action Plan and continued work on shoreline adaption and protection, for example the Huia seawall
- supported local environmental projects and funded a Pest Free Waitākere Ranges Alliance Controller to coordinate local groups' activity
- regularly reviewed budgets to ensure Council's spend is efficient
- worked to improve water quality and insisted that our beaches should all be swimmable. In the past few years Titirangi Beach, Laingholm Beach and Wood Bay have been designated as swimmable, at least some of the time.

We are proud of our efforts to keep people safe in a changing climate and our ongoing commitment to protect our unique local environment, which underpins our Westie identity.

With your continued support, we will push for further upgrades to Glen Eden town centre, complete the Titirangi War Memorial Hall and Library and ensure that solar panels are installed, better design standards in urban development, and deliver on the Climate Action Plan. We will keep up our strong support for the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area, and continue to support local community groups and activities. We will also seek special recognition of the unique fragility of our area and the need for infrastructure, including roads, walking tracks and power supply, to be able to resist increasingly frequent heavy weather events.

You should receive your voting papers from September 11 and we urge you to vote as soon as possible. Voting closes 12 noon on October 11. It's super easy this year: in addition to free post, you can drop your papers off at the local library.

If you have any questions or comments please email us at futurewest.akl@gmail.com.

The Future West team

Who We Are

Future West is a coalition of Labour and Green Party members and community-minded independents, united in our commitment to protect and enhance the West. We're open about our political allegiances — they reflect our values — but we are not committed to any one party or ideology. Our focus is always on what's best for the community.

What We Stand For

Reliable, Resilient Infrastructure

Out West we all need everyday infrastructure to allow us to connect with our neighbours, our jobs and the greater Auckland Region. We will:

- Fight for localisation of maintenance contracts
- Advocate for safe, low-cost, and sensible transport options
- Push for better maintenance of our roads, footpaths, and drains

Protecting Our Environment

The West is defined by its natural beauty, and we are committed to preserving and enhancing it. We will:

- Protect the Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area / Te Wao Nui a Tiriwa
- Implement the Local Board's Climate Action Plan
- Improve community resilience to climate change
- Advance the establishment of a Dark Sky Sanctuary in the Waitākere Ranges
- Work to ensure our beaches are swimmable year-round

Supporting Our Communities

Stronger communities need strong local voices. We will:

- Support the construction of Te Henga Marae
- Deepen our partnership with Hoani Waititi Marae
- Amplify the voices of local residents, community groups, and environmental advocates
- Advocate for localised Council spending
- Oppose the sell-off of strategic Council assets
- Ensure value for money in the use of rates

Promoting Arts, Culture and Thriving Town Centres

The West's identity is shaped by its diverse communities. We are committed to:

- Supporting local arts, culture, and heritage groups
- Funding community events and facilities
- Progressing the long-promised upgrade of the Glen Eden town centre
- Enhancing the design of growth areas such as Swanson and Glen Eden to reflect strong urban design and community values

For more information visit www.futurewest.co.nz



Advertisement

Authorised by Greg Presland 512 South Titirangi Road, Titirangi

Titirangi Library events for September 2025

Tuesday 9th September 9 – 11am: Staying Safe: A refresher course for older drivers. With the generous support of New Zealand Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) and Age Concern, The Titirangi Community House is offering an opportunity for people to be confident that their knowledge of traffic rules and safe driving practices is up-to-date and for those over 74 to get the latest information on licence renewal. Bookings required phone 098177448 or email admin@titirangihouse.co.nz In collaboration with Titirangi Library.

Thursday 11th September 1.30 – 3.30pm: Create a memoir your own way. Join us at Titirangi Community House for a brainstorming session where we explore creative ways to fashion a memoir through art, crafting, recipes etc. Free but bookings required for seating, visit: events.humanitix.com and search 'memoir'.

Tuesday 23rd September 2-4pm: Titirangi Theatre movie screening 'Uproar'. Join us for this free Heritage Festival screening of a fun-filled outstanding NZ movie. An inspiring coming-of-age story about 17-year-old Josh Waaka, who dreams of becoming an actor but feels out of place at his rugby-obsessed school in 1981 New Zealand. Along the way, he learns the importance of following your heart, standing up for yourself, and finding where you truly belong. PG 13+

School holiday events for the kids/teens:

Friday 26th September 10.30-11.30am: Bead Weaving Workshop at Glen Eden Library. Try a different type of weaving with beads and yarn! Make a gorgeous piece of artwork that you can wear or make a cute gecko out of beads.

Tuesday 30th September 10am-12pm: Drop-in Wonky Soft Toy Workshop. Join us for a morning of creativity and turn scraps of fabric into one-of-a-kind wonky soft toys! Use simple sewing techniques, craft materials and your imagination to bring your unique soft toy to life. Directed for school-aged children, but younger children are welcome to join with parental assistance. This event will take place in the lobby of the Titirangi Theatre, in the basement of Lopdell Precinct.

Wednesday 1st October 2pm-3.30pm Teen Painting Workshop at Glen Eden Library. Come along for a beginner-friendly painting session just for teens. Our tutor will guide you step-by-step through creating your own artwork, so no experience is needed! This workshop is a great way to give painting a go or build on your artistic skills. Suitable for ages 12+

Booking required: <https://events.humanitix.com/teen-painting-workshop-sywxzlxx> Registration for this event will launch on Monday 15 September.



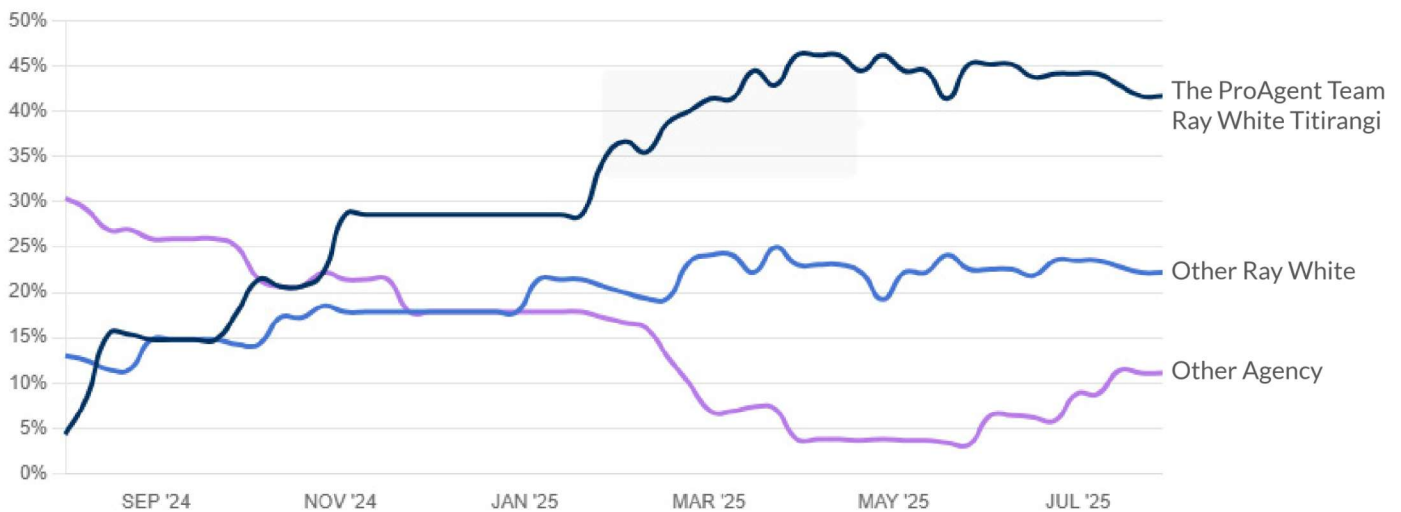
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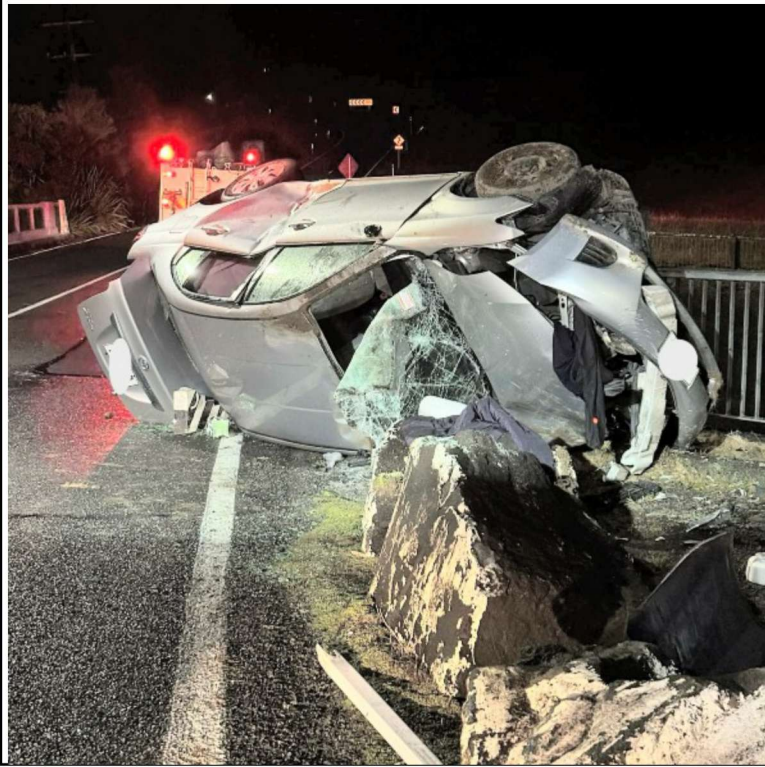
If you live near the fire station you may have heard a very different-sounding siren wailing away alerting us to calls lately. It's our backup siren which has been brought into use because our main siren suffered a major problem and had to be taken away for repairs. Here it's being brought down from its lofty perch ready to go away. The backup siren (it's actually a siren from a Japanese ambulance) is usually brought into operation during power cuts as it operates off batteries.

We sometime get asked why we use a siren as our main method of alerting our crew. Yes, we have pagers and the call details are also sent to our mobile phones, but we live in an area where coverage for such devices is patchy. Some streets (Warner Park Avenue, for example) have no coverage at all in places. The siren also reassures people who call us out that things are happening and that we will be on our way as soon as possible. We very frequently hear from such folk that they were reassured by hearing the siren's call. We expect that our main siren will be back from the repairers soon.



Thanks to the Trusts Charitable Foundation we now have our own training mannequin. These are specially built for emergency services work and are correctly weighted so that it's just like dragging an adult human . Even more importantly they are ruggedly built to stand up to being dragged about. We will use it for on-station training and also for the fire service competitions we take part in, which is what's taking place here with Station Officer Liam Flynn performing the "rescue"





We certainly get our share of crashes on the winding roads of our area. This one got us out of bed early one morning last month after it came off second best in an argument with the railings near the Lower Nihotupu Dam. The driver had absconded. Another crash during a week day saw us called to Huia Road in what is normally the Titirangi Brigade's patch but they were engaged elsewhere. In such cases our communications centre responds the next closest brigade, which was us .



Pictured here is Becky after putting our Lukas Combi Tool to work at a recent car fire on Huia Road. In this case, she used it to open up the bonnet and boot so we could fully extinguish the fire and make the vehicle safe.

The Combi Tool is part of our hydraulic rescue gear – you might know it better as the “Jaws of Life.” It’s designed to cut through metal and spread apart wreckage, giving us fast access when people are trapped in a vehicle after a crash. On other calls, like this one, it helps us quickly open up tough areas to deal with hidden fire or hazards. It’s a powerful piece of kit, but it takes skill and training to use it safely and effectively. That’s why our firefighters spend time practising with it, so when

seconds count, we know exactly how to get the job done.

The tool was financed several years ago by The Trusts and donations from local residents. It’s battery powered which means it can be got to work almost immediately. It replaced our older equipment which had to be hooked up via hydraulic hoses to a hydraulic pump which was driven by a small engine.



Pony Tales

We have so many amazing club members at Huia Road Horse Club, who look after Paddy and Merlin and are involved in helping HRHC run during our monthly pony rides. As a way to say thank you for all their hard work, members who complete a certain amount of pony care days, pony rides, or working bees get a one-on-one experience with one of the grazer's horses. During this time they might get to learn more about grooming and tacking up, feeding, hoof care, and will definitely get a ride if they want to!

In the weekend, our long-term and awesome members Cara and Hannah had a day with Beau and Tink. Cara is a fantastic pony carer, who comes twice a week. The ponies are always happy to see her, and she is wonderful at working with Merlin, our trickier little guy. Hannah helps out three times a week. She's quickly become a super valuable member of the pony team.

Cara was awesome on Beau. She, being a more experienced rider, had an impressive ride, complete with trotting and even cantering.

Cara has had a chance to ride on most of the horses at the club now. As horse owners, it is so much fun to see how well she is progressing.



Hannah on Tink was equally as impressive. While Tink is not quite up to major rides at the moment, she could offer Hannah a bareback ride. Hannah did great, and her and Tink did weaving through cones, steering through obstacles, and going over the seesaw. There was even some bareback trotting, which was very cool as it is quite a different experience from trotting with a saddle.

Both Cara and Hannah did very well with the horses, and everybody had fun (horses included!). It is great to deal with many different horses, as they all have something unique to offer.

We would like to advise that our AGM will be held onsite on Saturday the 13th of September at 2pm. In the event of rain, we will meet at the Barfoot & Thompson offices, 406 Titirangi Road. Please check our Facebook page on the day for confirmation of location. All are welcome.

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





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Friends of Whatipu and the beautiful Tara

Friends of Whatipu are a group working to protect our stunning west-Auckland beach and have been working to develop the Campground Green Shed as an educational facility for use by people coming to explore the scientific reserve and surrounding environment.

The facilities being developed make it a great base for talks by interesting people like ornithologists, geologists and historians and it is used as a base for search and rescue operations and as a base for trapping operations, beach cleans, and bird monitoring exercises. It is also the base for the wonderful Auckland Council rangers who supply native plants and help us on our planting and weeding days. Our weeding days are focussed on noxious invasive weeds like the woolly nightshade that is so pervasive in Auckland and so debilitating for respiratory health - especially for children and babies.

The Green Shed is the base for people doing bird counting and other work in the Whatipu Scientific Reserve. Whatipu is a very special place and home to many endangered bird species including the incredible hunter, the Tara or white fronted tern.

Nature has fitted out the Tara with a special forked tail that enables it to manoeuvre with incredible agility in the air as it hunts down shoaling fish at sea or in the sheltered lagoon in Whatipu scientific reserve. They were first recorded in the 1960s, although they will have been there much earlier, breeding at Whatipu as a colony in spring laying their eggs within a few days on a rock adjoining Te Toka Tapu a Kupe (Ninepin Rock).

When they are about 2 years old they begin courtship, where the male offers the female a fish mid-flight and if the female dives and catches the fish, they mate for life! When the colonies go to other places, Tara lay their egg, usually one, all around New Zealand's coast and up rivers but they are seldom found far from the coast.

Like us, they have relatives in Australia who live on Flinders and Cape Barren Islands in Tasmania Australia. And again, like us they go to Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria during winter to catch a bit of warmth and sunshine.

Although they are surprisingly long-lived for a bird at around 18 years, our Tara are **endangered** as cats, ferrets, stoats and rats eat their eggs and chicks. And the adults are seriously put off mating when they are stressed (who wouldn't be!) by being chased for fun by dogs and people who think drones are harmless - they are NOT.

On Saturday 6th September a beautiful painting of a Tara by Celeste Stewe will be unveiled at the Green Shed to Friends of Whatipu as part of the Pest Free Waitakere Ranges Alliance Special Species Spotlight campaign, at an event in The Green Shed at Whatipu. Come along at 2.30pm if you would like to hear about our Tara from expert Darryl Jeffries, and see if your community group would like to use The Green Shed for your next educational opportunity.

Sandra Gorter
Friends of Whatipu



Whatipu Tara
(White-fronted tern)
Saturday 6 September 2.30pm
Whatipu campground
Green shed
Unveiling of Tara artwork
by Celeste Stewe
Followed by talk from seabird and shorebird expert Darryl Jeffries

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Mā te tamariki te ao e tō, mā te kaumātua te ao e tau.”

The children will carry the world forward, the elders will steady it.

Pinesong Retirement Village visit

The residents of Pine Song Retirement Village recently joined our kindergarten tamariki for a very special visit. Together they shared stories, admired our wall displays, and watched the children decorating Kiekie - Tongan skirts in celebration of Tongan Language Week. The joy was evident as young and old connected through conversation, laughter, and shared experiences.

Intergenerational relationships such as these are incredibly valuable in the early years, supporting children's sense of belonging, cultural understanding, and wellbeing. They also provide meaningful opportunities for older adults to share wisdom, stories, and time. We love having our local Pinesong residents in to visit us at Laingholm Kindergarten.



Auckland Philharmonia

Laingholm Kindergarten was delighted to welcome the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra for the second time as part of their special series of visits. This time, tamariki were captivated by the beautiful sounds of the violin and had the exciting opportunity to try out new instruments for themselves. These experiences spark a love of music, build curiosity, and give our children the joy of exploring sound in creative and hands-on ways.



“The Hungry Giant’s soup”

Our teachers recently shared the story ‘The Hungry Giant’s Soup’ by Joy Cowley, where one of the villagers cried while chopping onions. This captured the children’s curiosity – why do your eyes water when you chop onions? Together we set up a small experiment, giving tamariki the choice to experience onion chopping for themselves. This marked the beginning of our “Why” questions, where we explore small experiments to investigate and deepen children’s natural sense of wonder about how things work.



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Spring has arrived after a very wet winter but it still feels very cold for this wimp and I am finding it very hard to motivate myself to do those early spring chores.

Top of my list is digging in the wintering over plants, followed by preparing the soil for the next crops. With the clay soil in this area, I try to dig in some gypsum along with worm wee, seaweed, compost and a generic fertiliser.

Weeds need to be pulled along with any winter failures. Slugs and snails love this time of year so if you've still got some winter staples such as broccoli, cauliflower and brussel sprouts you will need to deal to them by either the search and squash method or using bait. I've had success this year with broccoli and my other brassicas are finally starting to heart up so they'll be taking up space I want for other crops.

Beans, peppers, sweet corn and beetroot can be sown or planted now and your seed potatoes should be sprouting nicely ready for planting in deep, well composted soil.

Crops that prefer it to be a bit warmer such as capsicum, chilli and tomatoes and basil can be started off indoors.

Watch for brown rot in fruit trees which can be treated with a fungicide. Most flower seeds can now be sown and September is a good time to spruce up the lawn.

Happy spring gardening!

Lady Greenfingers

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**for Waitākere Ranges Local Board
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Authorised by D Blomfield, 13 Brownie Rd, Laingholm





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This month has been surprisingly dry, allowing us to prepare for spring. Luckily, the sun has shone often, particularly when our friends from OakTEC arrive. This is a blessing as we haven't managed to build a human sized shelter yet. If there is anyone with building knowhow, spare time and is willing to guide us with this project we'd be enormously grateful. We have volunteer labourers, some materials and enough money for the roof. thanks to Barfoot and Thompson. If you can assist in any way with materials or experience please contact Louise 0274991732

Goodness Gardens .



Workers from the Corrections Department built a small shed from pallets to tuck some of our equipment away in and have been de-nailing timber to build raised beds with. They enjoy helping and learning in the garden.



The Pukekos are growing in number ,confidence and size. They are everywhere. sadly, this means we see very few families of ducklings anymore.

Last week we enjoyed Toby Morris' delightful new Children's book Pukeko Who-keko while we gardened. It gave us lots of laughs while the birds all screeched around the place.



The fruit trees Ecomatters has supported us to buy are nearly all in the ground. We had a lovely morning planting them with children from Laingholm Kindy and OakTEC learners..



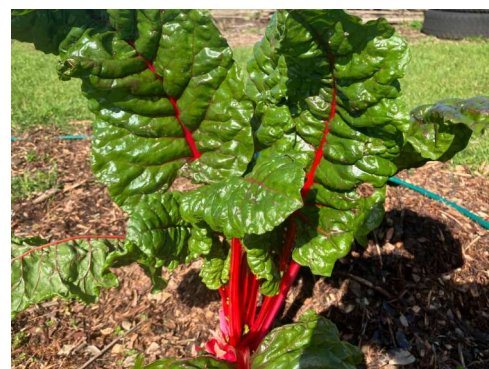
The little orange elephant shaped watering cans are popular. Other families have been participating with this project on other

days and at weekends.

We have planted locally sourced Kowhai and Titoki trees from a Woodlands Park home nursery. This is an exciting new collaboration.

Silver beet and Parsley are still our main winter crop. The good leaves being shared with humans and the less pretty ones feeding local chickens and guinea pigs.

Our public social gardening time is 10am each Thursday, Please join us.



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Book Reviews



GEORGE WADSWORTH & IAN JOHNSON

Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

This is an intense read but well worth it. It is a story of friendship, romance, love, betrayal and gaming.

Sam sees Sadie when getting off a train and they renew acquaintances and we read of how, years before they had first met. They were both interested in gaming. Sadie asks Sam if he is still interested in gaming and gives him a copy of a game she has invented. He and his roommate Marx watch it. The three of them combine to invent games and market them and they do very well. We learn how hard it is to actually make a successful game. As they work together their frailties and ambitions are revealed. Sadie meets Dov and has an affair with him and she gets the engine needed to power what became a successful game. Despite promises he never divorces his wife and eventually she leaves him. Sadie thinks Sam is taking advantage of her gaming expertise. Later Sadie and Marx marry and have a daughter but tragedy strikes. Sadie wonders if she has been wrong about Sam. Underlying all this is that we live in an imperfect world and we need to be loved and connected to each other.

This novel was No. 45 in Whitcoull's 100 best books of the year.

Swirly World Lost at Sea by Andrew Fagan

Wow what an adventure! What an epic undertaking to sail his 5.18 m (16.99 ft) yacht non-stop around the world via the Great Southern Capes a total of 28000 kms, estimated to take 14 months.

He writes entertainingly and frankly about getting his boat prepared, the food he needed, his brush with bureaucracies, and how he mentally coped with the strains of storms, huge seas, too much wind and not enough wind. Then how he coped with disaster and got back to New Zealand after 6300kms sailing.

As well, we become acquainted with the trimaran Physalia (10.9m) which had not been unmoved on its mooring in Little Shoal Bay for 10 years, until one day it mysteriously disappeared,

Then to earn money for his trip he gets a job on the cargo vessel Claymore 11 trading between New Zealand and Mangareva and Pitcairn Islands.

But it is his memoir of the event, how it affected him and the detail of the conditions he endured that make this book extraordinary.

There are quite a few books around about the tragedy and genocide in Gaza. I mention two in this review. The first is **The Killing of Gaza: Reports on a Catastrophe, Gideon Levy (Verso, 2024)**. The author is an Israeli journalist who has covered the conflict in the Middle East for over 40 years. While the 7 October 2023 massacre by Hamas is a starting point for this book, he covers the modern history of the Gaza conflict by reprinting some of his newspaper columns from mid-2014 to mid-2024. Through these columns, he pivots between what is happening now giving a modern historical context to how the present crisis has built up over the decades. The brutality of the Hamas attack horrified him but he writes "I cannot help but feel a profound shame over what my country is doing to Gaza." The author reports from Israel (journalists are not allowed to enter Gaza) but has numerous individual contacts with those in Gaza and first-hand personal stories from those affected by the conflict from his extensive network. He recalls the 1948 violence against and the displacement of 750,000 Palestinians from their homes and land (called the Nakba); the military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza in the 1967 Six Day War; and the restrictions imposed by the Israeli government on the Gaza from 2007. As can be expected, there is strong criticism of his work particularly from those in Israel as he continues to report on what is going on.

The second book is **Being Jewish After the Destruction of Gaza, Peter Beinart (Alfred A. Knopf, 2025)**. The author who is an Israeli American-based academic and journalist. He takes a longer historical view and analysis, drawing on his expertise in Judaism and Israeli and Palestinian history going back to biblical times. He deals with Israeli and US politics in relation to Gaza, the immense suffering and very importantly, the confusion and distortion of any criticism of Israel as being antisemitism. He highlights the selective use and misuse of history and biblical texts particularly by the American Jewish community of which he is a member. Both books delve deeper than most reporting in the media and are written in an easy-to-read style.

The South, Tash Aw (4th Estate, 2025) is a tantalizing story of a smouldering relationship between two boys/young men over one summer with a background of disintegrating families. It takes place in rural south Malaysia where Jay, his parents and two sisters are spending their summer break on a small farm that has been in the family for several generations. The farm is falling apart, maybe symbolic of the family relationships. The farm is managed by Jay's father's half-brother who is the sole and lonely parent of Chuan. Amidst this, Jay and the more worldly Chuan are drawn to each other. Jay is introduced to physical work helping Chuan on the farm, and being part of Chuan's busy social life. Jay can imagine a future being part of Chuan's life but that dream is about to be shattered.... The South is an elegantly written novel where life appears static but in fact a lot is going on. Try it.

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Class 12 in "The Cherry Orchard": A tragi-comic masterpiece of world theatre

This year Class 12 (Year 13) have taken on one of the most challenging and beautiful plays of world theatre, Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*. Konstantin Stanislavski, directed the first performance of the play in 1904 at the Moscow Art Theatre, a production that angered Chekhov because he felt that Stanislavski had pushed the interpretation too far towards tragedy. Since then, all directors have struggled to find the right emotional balance as the tone and tempo shift moment by moment.

A family are pushed to sell their estate and their beloved cherry orchard as they are beset by forces of social, environmental and political change. The characters whirl around the problem and bring their emotional baggage, colliding, colluding and sometimes briefly and poignantly connecting.

We are pushing the comedy as far as we can, finding the farcical clues in the text and working with the extreme elements in the characters. But Chekhov also demands emotional depth and range as powerful feelings surface and are quickly drowned in the flow of daily existence. Whatever inner lives we lead, life presses on in all its real random craziness and time holds us all to account.

The play raises questions of change, freedom, and destiny that resonate strongly with the Waldorf Steiner philosophy, where art is not simply about performance but is a path towards self-knowledge. The play asks: How do we let go of what has shaped us, and how do we meet what is coming?

We invite you to join us at **Lopdell Theatre between 10th to 12th of September** to share in the culminating dramatic work of Class 12's school journey, reflecting the depth of their artistic growth and the collaborative spirit that has been fostered through the years.

Sasha Matthewman, Upper School Drama and English Teacher and Class 12 Play Director

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School

You're invited! Spring Festival and Open Day

On **Saturday, 13 September**, we warmly invite you to our Spring Festival and **Open Day** — a chance to get a glimpse of life at Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School.

At 11am, the school community will gather to welcome Spring with music and maypole dances presented by Class 1-12. Then join us in the school hall for an *information talk*, followed by the *Open Day*, where you can explore classrooms across the **whole school, from classes 1-12 and early childhood**, view student work, and meet our teachers.

Art Awards Exhibitions

Congratulations to three of our senior students whose artwork has been accepted into three different art award exhibitions recently.

- *Emerging Artist Awards 2025* (30 Aug-21 Sept) at The Upstairs Gallery, Lopdell House, Titirangi.
- *2025 Secondary School Art Award* (11 Sept-19 Oct) at The Arts House Trust, Pah Homestead, Hillsborough.
- *Pat Hanly Creativity Project Exhibition* at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki (16-31 Aug).

As Rudolf Steiner beautifully expressed; *"The task of art is to take hold of the shining, the radiance, the manifestation, of that which as spirit weaves and lives throughout the world."*

TRSS Upcoming Events

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Last Sunday of
the month

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

New additional location!

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



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Spring Festival Open Day

**5 Helios Place, Titirangi
Saturday 13th September**

Spring Festival - 11-12.30
Introductory Talks - 12.30
Open Classrooms 12.30 - 2.30

Join us for our Spring Festival and
Open Day!

With an introductory talk in the hall
and open classrooms displaying student
work, come along and talk with our
teachers about the education at
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TRSS Class 12 Presents

The Cherry Orchard

by Anton Chekhov

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Why not visit your local museum, come and browse a wide range of interesting local artifacts. 1251 Huia Road, Huia.

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Huia's first European settler

On 7th January 1860 an article by “Viator” was published in the New Zealand Herald. He had been on his way to Whatipu when he met a “strange character” by the name of John Wade. “He appeared more Maori than Pakeha,” wrote Viator, “surrounded, as he was, by his Maori wife and many half-caste children.”

John, an Englishman, married Charlotte (Harata), the daughter, and only survivor of the 11 children, of Wetere Te Kauae, a chief from the Awhitu peninsula. In the late 1830s, Wetere sold 1,000 acres of land near Waiuku to John who found it was insufficient to support his growing family. So he exchanged that block for land at what we now call Little Huia. John had been a mill worker at Parau and, possibly, also Laingholm, so was able to work the kauri on his new block of land to supplement his income as a farmer. He appears in the electoral roll of 1855. He had 6 children – Eliza, John, Laura, Thomas, William and Henry. The Maori called him Hake-a-Marama.

In 1853, the government bought the Hikurangi block, which included the land John and his family occupied. John was finally granted title in April 1862, by which time Harata had died, and he was about 70 years old. He sold his land the following month to Samuel Jackson who, at the end of 1863, sold it to Thomas, Ebenezer and Robert Pierce Gibbons. It was Robert Pierce Gibbons who sold it to Edward Turner in 1889, and it remains in the Turner family to this day. The Huia Private Reserve was established as a private trust in 1939. The trustees are members of the Turner family, and the aim is to preserve this area of land for environmental and sentimental reasons.

There are many descendants of John and Harata and they now live in Mangere, Manukau and Waikato. But their legacy also lives on in Little Huia. The Maori name for the conical peak at the western end of Huia Bay is “Te kā ā Maki” – meaning “The fire of Maki” – but has been corrupted to “Te Komoki”.

Today the peak, which is within the Huia Private Reserve, is known as “Jackie’s Peak” – Jack being an alternative form of John – and is named for John Wade. The stream flowing through Little Huia is the Marama Stream – referencing John’s Maori name.



Jackie's Peak, Huia Bay

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Joke:

Q: What do you call an old Snowman?

A: Water!

PS, if you don't like my jokes , please send us an advert to fill this space.



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MORE THAN FISHING

We hold Darts and Pool comps, social sports, quiz nights, special events, and Friday night feeds by local legends, plus space for the kids to run around and meet other local kids.

UPCOMING MEMBER EVENTS

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

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The Hills of Huia



In the late 1880's as the kauri was finally cut out, Huia settlers turned their attention to farming and selling manuka for industry and the fireplaces of Auckland's homes. Foremost was Mr. Alfred 'Hookey' Hill who was later to become storekeeper, postmaster and J.P. at Huia.

The residence of Mr. Hill was where the main road first touches the shores of Huia Bay. His property extended over the entire eastern side of the valley and up to the highest ridge. His first home and store was a modest one near the present telephone exchange. In 1908 he built a grand, stately house nearby, ('Hills House' which still remains), and across the road from the house, on the seaward side, he built his 'new' store which operated from about 1915 to 1940.



Hill's store and Post Office prospered as road travel increased and became an important place of communication and business.

Our family are now 6th Generation Huian's. We all live very close to one another and have kept our family history alive by reviving the extensive history Alfred and Matilda created. We all were born and

bread in Huia and for me the Huia Store was my first ever job working with Sue and Sovann who were the store owners back in 2003 - 2009 They taught me everything from making coffees to customer service. They shaped who I am and inspired me to continue working hard at such a young age. And just like that 10 years passes - thats when the shop came up for sale. as a family were curious as to how his store was fearing after so many years. What we found was enough to get us to quit our day jobs and start the process of bringing it back to life. The building required extensive work, a complete rewire, new plumbing, a whole new

septic system and major upgrades. We felt in our soul that we needed to do all of this so it could stand for another 160 years, and the state that it was in before we purchased it we were surprised it was still able to operate. Now with the store completely signed off to 2025 standards and Huia's history all over the walls we can take a breath.

6 Years ago we started our mission to bring Alfred's name back into Huia's minds, we began selling shirts and jumpers with his name on it with the goal to purchase him a headstone which he did not have. We didn't realise doing this we would meet a large number of people who were in fact our family (also related Alfred himself). All of us together managed to fundraise enough money to get Alfred the headstone he has so long waited for. It was a great feeling, we found family and a purpose along the way. From this we were given photos, stories and items that Alfred and his family owned. We were told stories of his 6 sons in the wars, one who was a little naughty and got a write up while serving. And how they all lived their lives. Of His 6 daughters who all grew up to have large families of their own and hand down what their mother taught them.

Alfred was a business man and a very social man, he and Matilda created a one stop shop for those families in Huia who relied on the store for everything. One of my favorite parts of all of this is that the descendants of the Hills, Fletchers, Barrs, Duffs, Hinges, Turners are all still here and are all still friends. Alfred was a part of something that has lasted multiple lifetimes. Friendships that have span over 160 years and the new generations are continuing this.

We have stories of Huia's past residents on our walls and we get many many people coming in who have fond memories of growing up in Huia, riding their horses to Alfred's shop. and getting their fresh bread for their mums from here back in the 60s (and eating the warm crusts before walking home, whoops that got them in a little trouble but was apparently worth it). Everyone who speaks of it has a smile on their faces. It makes us very very proud to have started the conversation again and to have given Alfred his shop back while we have been here. I love talking about our history, our past is ingrained in us and so many other people who have had the blessing to call Huia a special place to them. You never know who is going to walk in through those doors but you know there will be a story following

Huia is a dream, we love it here and we know everyone else does too. It's in our heart,

Though we are selling the store so someone else can start their story, we will be staying in the area supporting them and cheering them on. There is no other place we would want to live.

The Roundabout is celebrating 60 years of service to the area this year. Supposedly the oldest community run by volunteers magazine in NZ,

We would be interested in any other historical stories of the families this side of Titirangi. See page 4 for our contacts.

Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring!

As winter draws to a close, we're excited to welcome the fresh new season of spring. The frosty mornings and grey skies of Term Three are slowly giving way to warmer days, blossoming trees, and the promise of new life all around us. Just as nature awakens, so too does our school community, ready to embrace the energy and opportunities that come with this seasonal change.

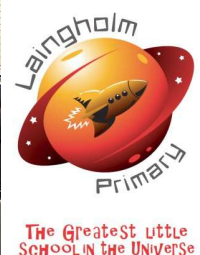
This term began with a change in leadership as our principal, Mr Weatherill, embarked on a six-month sabbatical. In his absence, the school is in the fantastic care of Mrs Walsh as principal and Mr Cox as deputy principal. Another big highlight has been the move for Tātai 13, a Year 4/5 class, and their teacher, Mrs H, into the newly renovated Old Block. Now known as Tātai 6, the class is enjoying their spacious, sunny new room—complete with fresh carpet and shiny new toilets (a feature the students are especially thrilled about!). Leaving behind their tired 1970s classroom, the excitement has been huge.

We also recently completed mid-year learning conferences with parents and caregivers. These meetings were a wonderful opportunity to connect with whānau and celebrate the progress and successes of our children so far this year.

One of the real highlights of the term was our lively Book Character Day. Both staff and students came dressed as much-loved characters from their favourite stories, filling the school with colour, fun, and imagination. After a buzzing morning assembly, the whole school stepped outside for a cheerful parade of costumes, where everyone had the chance to admire the creativity on show. Adding to the excitement was the Scholastic Book Fair, which gave children the opportunity to explore and take home some wonderful new reads. It was a day that truly celebrated the joy of books and brought our school community together.

Sport has also been a big part of our winter term, with both boys' and girls' basketball teams competing proudly. The children trained for months under the expert guidance of Coach Heathorn, and it was fantastic to see their skills and teamwork grow each week. Their commitment and effort really paid off, with huge improvement shown across the teams and plenty of exciting moments on the court. The season was not just about competition, but also about learning, growing in confidence, and having fun together.

As we look ahead to spring, we're excited about the new life and fresh energy it brings to our school. The warmer days will see us outdoors more often, and there are plenty of exciting events and opportunities still to come in Term Three. Just like the blossoms beginning to appear, our students are continuing to grow, thrive, and shine.



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

“Goodbye 13, Hello 6 – News from Tātai 6”

This term Mrs H and her students have been busy creating vibrant artwork inspired by the famous French artist Henri Rousseau. Although Rousseau never travelled to the jungle, he became well known for his imaginative rainforest paintings filled with wild animals, lush plants, and mysterious scenes. His most famous work, *Tiger in a Tropical Storm*, shows a fierce tiger prowling through the jungle, surrounded by swirling leaves and dramatic colour.

Using Rousseau’s artwork as inspiration, the children learned how to draw their own tigers step by step, bringing them to life with black pen and coloured pencil. Some chose to go further by adding other jungle creatures such as geckos, toucans, snakes, sloths, and chameleons. To complete their masterpieces, bold backgrounds were painted or dyed, while textured collage papers were used to build up layers of leafy jungle. The finished artworks are a stunning celebration of colour, pattern, and imagination—just like Rousseau’s!

Please enjoy reading Tatai 6’s “Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring” poems!

Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring!

Goodbye frosty, white snow.
Hello plants that like to grow.

Goodbye giant, snowy heaps.
Hello fluffy baby sheep.

Goodbye wailing, flying leaves.
Hello luscious, green trees.

Goodbye fluffy winter hats.
Hello T-shirts and caps.

Goodbye snow, so white and true.
Hello tūi in bright shades of blue.

WRITTEN BY
Jett Murray
Year 5

Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring!

Goodbye boiling homemade soup.
Hello strawberry ice cream scoops.

Goodbye clunky, snowy boots.
Hello delicious apple fruits.

Goodbye frosty, chilly weather.
Hello kiwi bird’s feather.

Goodbye dead, black trees.
Hello cute, yellow bumblebees.

Goodbye icy cold breeze.
Hello light green trees.

Goodbye shivery rain showers.
Hello bright sun we see for hours.

WRITTEN BY
Jack Harrison
Year 5



Meet Henri Rousseau – Fun Fact Box

Henri Rousseau was a French artist who lived in the late 1800s and early 1900s. He loved painting jungles and wild animals, even though he never actually visited one! Rousseau used his imagination to create colourful, mysterious scenes full of tigers, monkeys, and tropical plants. His paintings show that creativity can take you anywhere—even to a jungle you’ve never seen!

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD



St John West Auckland Free Health Shuttle
(Donations welcomed to help cover costs)

Phone 0800 925 2672

For Waitakere Hospital or any West Auckland medical
related appointments commencing between 9.30 am and
1.15 pm - door to door service.

Hospital Shuttle

For Greenlane, Auckland and North Shore Hospitals
Phone 0800 809 342

Pick up and drop off at the Titirangi bus stops

Laingholm Baptist Church 1 Victory Road

Sunday Service time: 10 am
Youth: 6.45- 9 pm, during term time.

Church Ph.: 09-817-4323
Youth & Children's Pastor:
Alison Diprose 021 141-1483

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

WE NEED YOUR CANS Your aluminium cans are useful to us

Please put them in the bin beside the
Laingholm Fire Station.

The cans are recycled and the
money raised helps to fund the
Laingholm Fire Brigade's
Medical First Response Work.



HomeMade at Work

A large team often meet at the Laingholm Baptist Church to cook a
large batch of frozen meals for the community.

This is a vital ministry of the church to the surrounding areas, usually
on a as need is known about basis but at this time of stress for all of
us, if you let Lorraine know on 027 779 6077 that you have a need,

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Cash buyer for smaller home/land from Titirangi to Hui
Sun and a wee peek of the Manukau a bonus.
Contact Joy 022 069 1706

My name is Tinker Bell, I am a tortoiseshell cat, I am
12 years old, I am in good health and have lived in
Laingholm Drive all my life with my elderly owner,
who has gone to a rest home now, I have been
looked after temporary by a kind and good neighbor
while I find a forever home. Can you help me? Love
Tinker Bell ♥ For enquires please contact Sherol
09 8321802 or Michelle 02108366750

CLOTHING ALTERATIONS
Ladies, Mens, Mending, Repairs,
40 years experience.
Anything considered.
Phone Annette 0210304450

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SERVICES

EMERGENCY - POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE	111
NON-EMERGENCY - POLICE	105
COMMUNITY CONSTABLE - NEW LYNN	09 826 2454
HENDESON POLICE STATION	09 839 0600
LAINGHOLM FIRE STATION	09 817 5475
HUIA FIRE STATION	09 811 8885
ELECTRICAL FAULTS - VECTOR	0508 832 867
WATERCARE	09 442 2222
AUCKLAND COUNCIL	301 0101

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

TITIRANGI MEDICAL CENTRE	09 817 8069
TITIRANGI DENTAL CENTRE	09 817 6057
HEALTH NEW LYNN	09 827 8888
INTEGRATED MEDICAL CENTRE	09 817 6772
TITIRANGI PHARMACY	09 817 7658
TITIRANGI HERBAL DISPENSARY	09 817 7102
MEALS ON WHEELS	09 828 5812
TOUGHLOVE-AUCKLAND	09 624 4363
AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS	0508 425 266
VETERANARIAN (ANDREW PEGMAN)	09 816 9018

EDUCATION

LAINGHOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL	09 817 8874
WOODLANDS PARK SCHOOL	09 817 5140
TITIRANGI RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL	09 817 4366
LAINGHOLM KINDERGARTEN	09 817 4372
LAINGHOLM PLAY CENTRE	09 817 3489

HALLS FOR HIRE

WOODLANDS PARK SCHOOL HALL	09 817 5140
LAINGHOLM VILLAGE HALL EMAIL	021 712 105
laingholmhallhire@gmail.com	
LAINGHOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL AND COMMUNITY ROOM	09 817 8874
HUIA HALL – Charissa. MANAGERS EMAIL	021 151 9958
bookinghuiahall@gmail.com	
FOSTER BAY HALL	09 811 8769

COUNSELLING

LAINGHOLM BAPTIST CHURCH	09 817 4323
CITIZEN ADVICE BUREAU (GLEN EDEN)	0800 367 222 09 818 8634

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

CARL HARDING	09 811 8672
DOREEN SUNMAN	09 817 6486 021 143 2388

CELEBRANTS

UNA RYAN, MARRIAGE CELEBRANT	021 304 916
JENNY MACINTYRE, MARRIAGE AND FUNERAL	021 434 837
ANNELIES ROSKVIST MARRIAGE CELEBRANT	021 555 924
ANGELA MEYER MARRIAGE CELEBRANT	021484897



The Roundabout

September 2025/Issue 60/07

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