Communities · Laingholm, Parau, Cornwallis and Huia

The Roundabout

August 2026/Issue 61/06

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

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What's happening in our area?

To see what our Volunteers have had to do this Month
Check out pages 34, 35 & 52 & 53.

What have our schools been doing?

Laingholm Kindy see p 40

Steiner see p 30 & 31

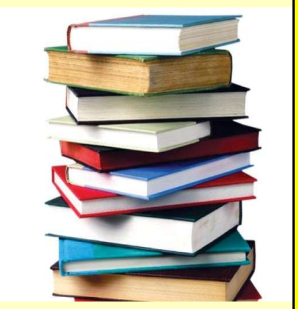
Woodlands Park see p 42 & 43

Laingholm see p 24-25

Laingholm PlayCentre see p 8

Book Reviews

Page 50



Titirangi Library

See Page **6 !!!!**

Something Fishy? see p 12

Who's making tracks?

To find out more, See page 14

Smelly letters?

See p 22

Who & What are growing?

See page 44 & 46

Whats cooking for August?

See page 16 for

A DIFFERENCE

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Sandys Parade see p 44

Where are the Buses?

Maybe on Pages 28 & 29

Civil Defence · Citizens Advice Bureau · Community News · Plumbers · Schools · Builders · Education · Mechanics · Counselling · Real Estate · Kindergartens · History · Humour · Information · Accountants · Recipes · Massage · Landscaping · Opinions · Veterinarians · Health · Classified Advertisements · Council Information · Electricians · Gardeners · Travel · Crafts ·

Laingholm, Parau, Cornwallis and Huia Communities

The Roundabout

Contact Phone No: 817-4658 August 2026 Vol 61/06

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We welcome letters to the editor but no longer allow nom-de-plumes, except under exceptional circumstances with each case being considered by the management committee. All letters must contain the name and address of the writer.

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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 ofomission or commission is limited to the refund of any money which the advertiser may have paid for the appearance of the offending advertisement in any issue of the Roundabout

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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

The Roundabout

MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES AND SIZES	
FULL PAGE (180 x 267 mm)	$96
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SIXTH PAGE (89 x 88 mm)	$24
CLASSIFIED (Up to five lines)	$10
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OUR NEXT ISSUE

2 September 2026
The deadline for ALL copy is
Monday 24th August 2026

PAYMENT

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

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Titirangi Library



It's official!

Titirangi Community Library and foyer will reopen on Monday 10 August!

From August the 12th all our regular children's programmes will be held back in the Library Building.

Wednesday 9.30 -10.00: Rhymetime pre-school music, rhymes and Storytime.

Wednesday 3.30 – 4.30: Afterschool Lego Club. Suitable age 5+

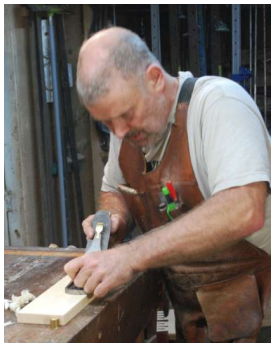
Friday 9.30-10.00: Wriggle and Rhyme babies music and movement programme.

Reading Around Aotearoa Event from 15-21 August: Come and celebrate the very first NZ Children's book week with us, we're starting off the week off with a special storytime.

Monday 17th August 11- 11.30am: Dazzle Hands Storytime. Dress up or come as you are. Throughout the week we'll be having scavenger hunts, book displays, and an afterschool DIY kids Make-and-take craft station.

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SCAN TO BOOK

From the chair, Waitākere Ranges Local Board

Kia ora,

One of the privileges of serving as the chair is seeing the tremendous amount of work happening across our communities that rarely makes headlines but has a real impact on local people. This month, I want to recognise some of those smaller projects and grassroots initiatives that help make the Waitākere Ranges such a cool, vibrant and resilient place to live.

Across our coastal and village communities, volunteers continue to demonstrate extraordinary commitment to the environment. Friends of Kawaka Reserve recently planted 420 native trees along the Hibernia Stream, helping stabilise stream banks, improve habitat and strengthen resilience to future storm events. It is another example of local people quietly restoring the ngahere and waterways we all value.

Equally inspiring is the Tiaki Pekapeka programme. Community groups in Swanson, Cornwallis and Huia are undertaking long-tailed bat surveys, gathering valuable ecological information while building local conservation skills. What began as a specialist project through Community Waitākere has now grown into a multi-community effort that is increasing awareness of one of our most fascinating native species.

Across our parks network, a series of small but important improvements continue to be delivered. Track upgrades at Davies Bay Reserve, a new boardwalk section at Annison Green, drainage improvements at Parrs Park, repairs to Swanson Rail reserve, and the ongoing renewal of amenities at Piha Domain and Piha's public facilities all contribute to making our open spaces safer and more enjoyable for residents and visitors.

The board has also continued to progress its shade initiative through the planting of 51 new shade trees across 12 locations throughout the local board area. These projects may seem modest individually, but together they progressively contribute towards our long-term canopy cover aspirations and help future-proof our communities against a warming (and wetter) climate.

Community halls continue to play a remarkably important role. From Oratia Settlers Hall to Laingholm Village Hall, Huia Hall, Waiatarua Hall and Barnett Hall, thousands of residents are using these facilities every year for events, meetings, classes and celebrations. They remain the beating heart of many of our local communities, managed by community for community.

In Glen Eden, community activation programmes continue to build a stronger sense of place. Events such as Village Vibes, Lunch Time Live Sounds and Glen Eden Twilight Christmas have helped bring people together while strengthening partnerships between community organisations, local businesses, schools and social service providers.

Matariki this year has had a theme around Herenga Waka, referencing the anchoring place for many canoes, a wonderful metaphor for hugely diverse communities that call our area home. One of the great pleasures of being the chair is to take the oaths for our west citizenship ceremonies that a hugely moving affairs. I am therefore also pleased to see the development of newcomer initiatives helping recent migrants settle into the area, including practical service guides and workshops introducing people to local services, government systems and community networks. These programmes help create a more connected and welcoming community.

Our libraries continue to innovate beyond their traditional role. The Seniors Tech Club, after-school activities, school holiday programmes and the return of the book bus are all helping connect people of different ages and backgrounds (and we are all looking forward to the re-opening of the Titirangi Library and War Memorial Hall soon).

Likewise, the Pasifika Youth Leadership Programme is supporting more than 80 young people from across West Auckland to build confidence and leadership skills.

The arts sector also deserves recognition. Whether it is the 10th anniversary of the Lopdell Film Festival, Open Studios Waitākere, Going West's 30th year, community theatre productions, or emerging artist exhibitions, creativity remains one of the defining strengths of our area.

These projects may not involve ribbon cuttings or major infrastructure announcements, but collectively they are what make the Waitākere Ranges unique. They reflect the creativity, resilience and generosity of local people, and I thank everyone who continues to contribute to the wellbeing of our communities.

Ngā mihi,

Mark

Mark Allen / Chair

Te Poari ā-Rohe o Waitākere Ranges / Waitākere Ranges Local Board

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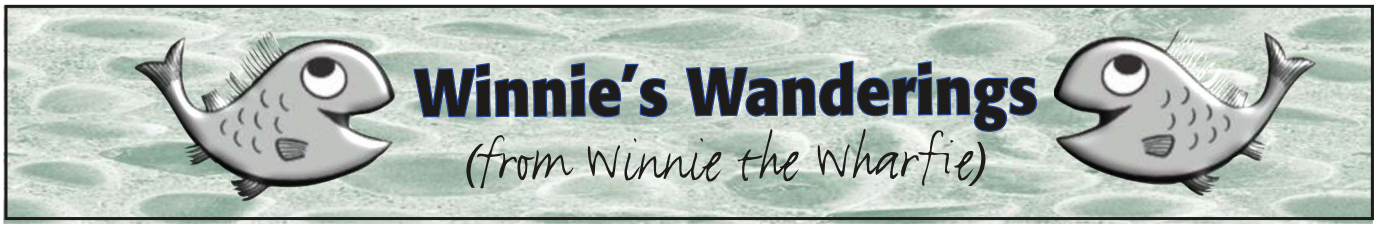
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Hi there fishos, how's the winter fishing going? Not much activity out there from what I've heard.

A mate went out recently and fished the confluence of the three channels in the harbour. He usually cleans up there and gets good sized snapper. Well he fished from 10.30am to 4pm and got two gurnard and not even a little snapper bite. You have to admire such optimism and staying power! Some neighbours went over the bar recently, four POB, stayed out for ages and got four fish between them. With petrol the price it is it makes them very expensive fish.

On the subject of the price of petrol despite the many days of flat calm weather we've had, there's been a noticeable lack of boats out on the harbour which leads you to wonder if the price of gas is inhibiting nautical activity. We all know what gas guzzlers outboard engines are.

It's common knowledge that the harbour is in a constant state of flux but there's been a very noticeable change to the huge sand bank down the middle of the harbour between Cornwallis and the Purukau Channel. This bank used to uncover for a long way up and down the harbour and widely across. In the scalloping season there would be a mass exodus of scallopers going over to roam the bank and collect scallops. Hardly did we ever come home without our limit. Now the bank barely uncovers at low tide and the low tides we used to get at Cornwallis where we could wade out up to our knees and get scallops are not seen now. Wonder if it's to do with the rising sea level that has been predicted?

A bit of good news over the bar. Some mates went out to 72m a few days ago and cleaned up – even caught a big kingi. Wonder how much gas it guzzled to go that far? (15km).

This month's handy tip is on how to catch your own bait and save yourself a bob or two. Mullet, being so oily, is probably the number one bait however they can usually only be caught by netting and with all the net bans in the harbour it's no easy task. But it's still legal to drag a net so your best bet is the shore line from Cornwallis to Mill Bay. Mullet make their presence known by jumping out of the water not far from shore. Another good possie is off the wharf where if you use sabikis with small hooks you should get piper, jack mackerel, sprats and kahawai. If you chop up your bait into usable pieces and soak it in fish oil it saves messing up your boat cutting fish up for bait. So go forth and experiment!

Ok, that's the nautical stuff, it must be joke time.

Why do women have smaller feet than men? So they can stand closer to the kitchen sink.

What's worse than a male chauvinist pig? A woman who won't do what she's told.

And some signs collected by travellers.

Sign on door of Moscow hotel: If this is your first visit to the USSR you are welcome to it.

At a Budapest zoo: Please do not feed animals., If you have food please give it to the guard on duty.

Outside doctor's in Italy: I'm a specialist in women and other diseases.

Must be out of room by now so will sign off till next time.

Cheers Winnie

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RESTORATION RUATUNA

Restoring Nature in Laingholm

WAEWAE ADVENTURES ON THE TRACKS OF RUATUNA
TAKING A WALK IN LAINGHOLM



Over the next few Roundabout editions, we will shine a light on some of the walkways in Laingholm. Tracks that lead from one road to another, or down to 'secret' beaches. Special access ways that we are really lucky to enjoy. We aim to give social history and information about the plants that grow there, and the part you can play as kaitiaki of these walker's gems.

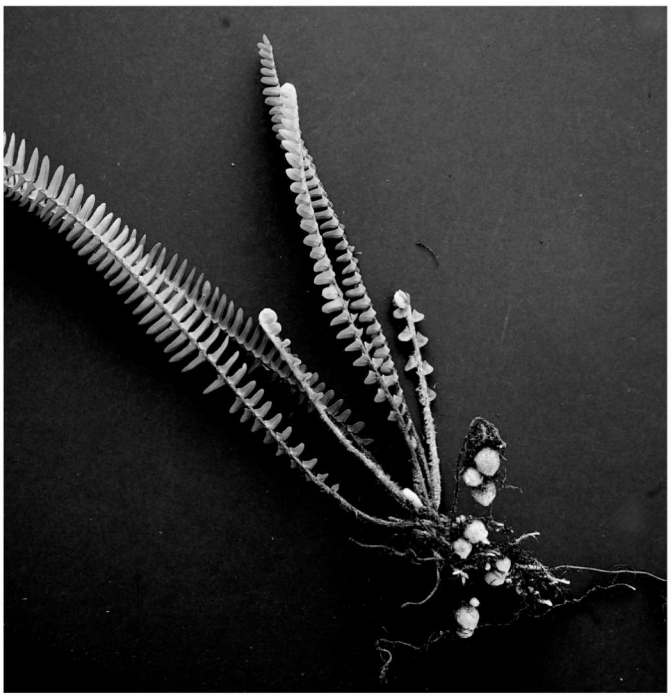
Typical of the tracks is the **Warner Walk** – it runs steeply up from Western Rd to Victory Road, coming out almost opposite Kauri Point Rd. If you watch your feet at the bottom of this track you will see an amazing mat of orange-brown needles and looking up through dappled light, there are several 20 meter plus Kahikatea – some of the tallest trees in the valley. Kahikatea is New Zealand's tallest tree species, gaining heights of 60 metres over a life span of 600 or so years. So, expect these trees to be around for some time yet. Kahikatea is a podocarp, which means it does not have flowers and its succulent orange-red fruit is formed from a swollen stem. The fleshy fruit can be eaten but the hard seed on the tip must be removed.

In the gully on the left as you go further up there is a grove of Nikau, New Zealand's only palm species. And then on the right you can see the largest tree in the Laingholm valley – a northern Rata. Northern Rata can live for 1000, possibly 1500 years. Will this tree still be here in 1000 years from now?

The lower end of this track is really well cared for – with not many invasive weeds - it is obvious that someone is weeding this patch of bush (thankyou neighbour). The trouble with invasive plants (including *Plectranthus*, Ladder Fern and Ivy found on this track) is that they can smother and kill all of our native ground ferns and sometimes can even kill large trees. In the long term they prevent the establishment of native seedlings and natural regeneration.

Earlier this month with the much-appreciated help of volunteers from the "Art of Living Foundation', Restoration Ruatuna made a start on clearing some of these weeds on this track. It's a big job and one we would love you to join us in completing. It belongs to you! Every time you walk by with Pooch take two minutes to pull some Ladder Fern (see pest plant of the month), put the tubers in the dog's poo bag, dispose of them in your rubbish bin, and feel good about yourself for the rest of the day! The Ladder Fern fronds can be left on the ground to rot away. Please visit our website for more information on Laingholm's invasive weeds and how to identify and control them.

LEN'S PEST PLANT OF THE MONTH



TUBER LADDERFERN

Nephrolepis cordifolia

Family: Davalliaceae

Tuber Ladderfern is often mistaken for a native fern, but its proliferation is a clue to its weediness. It has erect fronds (40-100 cm tall) with many oblong leaflets, rounded at the tips. The rhizomes produce long runners and round, 1-3 cm diameter, hairy potato-like red tubers. These marble sizes tubers are a key way to distinguish it from similar looking native ferns. Tuber Ladderfern smothers and kills native ground plants, shrubs and native ferns, and it can contribute to streamside erosion.

Control options:

1. Pull out and leave fronds on site to rot down but dispose of tubers and runners at a refuse transfer station.

2. Spray with metsulfuron-methyl (600g/kg strength) mix only 0.1 g/L (about 0.2 ml of granules) per litre of water). Leave sprayed sites 3-4 months to allow herbicide to translocate to tubers before clearing or replanting. If you are spraying foliage with Metsulferon you need to be careful as it can kill other plants through their leaves and through their roots. Treeferns are particularly vulnerable to poisoning through roots.

LEN'S NATIVE PLANT OF THE MONTH



WAITĀKERE ROCK KOROMIKO

Veronica bishopiana

Family: Plantaginaceae

The Waitākere Rock Koromiko is a threatened species with a natural distribution that is limited to the coastal margins of the Waitākere Ranges. It occurs from Anawhata in the north to Whatapu in the south, and Destruction Gully is the furthest East on the Manukau Harbour margin that it grows naturally. Waitakere Rock Koromiko is a delightful low sprawling shrub with maroon stems and white to mauve flowers. Its maroon to green elliptic-shaped leaves are long and narrow, usually with pointed tips. It prefers south facing cliff faces and streams sides that are permanently damp from seepage, although it can also withstand drought.

The main threat to this species is the invasive Mexican Daisy and Pampas Grass. Both of these pest species have been featured in previous Roundabout articles, and photos and information on how to control them, can be found on our website: www.restorationruatuna.nz.

Community Working Bee

10am Sunday 9 August

@ opposite 105 Victory Rd

www.facebook.com/groups/ruatuna/

restorationruatuna@gmail.com

RECIPES WITH A DIFFERENCE

by

ADRIENNE PEEK

LEEK AND BEAN SOUP

2 Tablespoons Olive Oil
1 Onion (Chopped)
1 Large Leek (Chopped)
2 Sticks Celery (chopped)
1 Litre of hot water with instant stock added, about 1 teaspoon per cup
2 Tins of White Beans
1 Tablespoon White Vinegar
Salt and pepper to taste
Chopped Parsley to serve



Heat the oil, add the onion and cook for 5 minutes. Add the leeks and celery and cook for 2 minutes. Add the stock and beans and cook until the leeks are soft.
Season and add the vinegar.
Serve with a sprinkling of parsley.

LEMON OR LIME CUPCAKES

1 ½ Cups Flour
1 Cup Sugar
2 Tablespoons Grated Rind
1 Tablespoon Juice
2 Eggs
2 Tablespoons Melted Butter or Margarine
2 Teaspoons Baking Powder
1 Teaspoon Vanilla
½ Teaspoon Salt
¾ Cup Milk



Mix all of the ingredients together and bake in small cupcake tins at 160 degrees for 20 minutes.

ICING

1 to 1½ Cups Icing Sugar
1 Teaspoon Butter or Margarine
1 Teaspoon Grated Rind
2 Tablespoons Juice
½ Teaspoon Vanilla

Mix all of the ingredients together, add a little water if necessary. Ice the cupcakes when cold.

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To the Editor and Whom it May Concern

Councillor Turner wrote a page in the July edition, which I found a bit difficult to understand. It was a response to a correspondent called Civicus, who posted in June. Personally, I valued Civicus' offering in that edition, though as I later lit fires with it, I no longer have it on hand. The topic was clearly 'Regulatory Relief', which the Regulatory Standards Act and now the new resource management reform bills seek to enable.

Mr Turner seems to feel Civicus has it wrong: that rather, this is about Council compe-nsating you for bureaucratic holdups. However, regulatory relief is not this at all.

Let's make this real. Sarah Pettigrew lives on two hectares of mature bush in Laingholm: a Significant Ecological Area (SEA). Because Sarah can't get resource consent to clear-fell the section, subdivide and build two further houses, she claims 'regulatory relief' for the additional $5 million her property would otherwise be worth. The Council (using our rates money) would be obliged either to pay up, or let her do it, or compensate her another way. It's as simple and dirty as that.

The 'relief' provisions take particular aim at rules relating to 'specified topics', including:

- historic heritage sites and structures
- sites of significance to Māori
- areas of high natural character in coastal, lake, river and wetland settings

•terrestrial indigenous biodiversity.

Overall, the broader RMA reform would mean that pretty much anything can be built, pretty much anywhere. And if a fragile, irreplaceable bit of ecosystem is in the way, then councils must either compensate a claimant for the profit they would make (theoretically), or let them do it. It's described as rolling back decades of environmental protection, and elevating economic interest over 'environment' as a final fiat.

And yes, the Ranges, which folks have battled to protect, are vulnerable. 'The Minister' will be able to override any District Plan (e.g. zoning). This will also have a 'chilling effect'. If legislators know that efforts to protect our natural taonga may trigger huge financial claims from the purportedly inconvenienced, they'd be crazy to legislate.

For a thorough analysis of this legislation, I recommend (Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment) Simon Upton's letter of 26th July to all MPs about it, which is on the PCE government website. He states: "The Bill effectively reasserts a right to destroy biodiversity which, if curtailed, must now be compensated for by ratepayers." Surely the alarm bells need to be ringing.

With all good wishes
Susie from Laingholm

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

Ph: 8118971

It is with sadness that we learnt of the recent passing away of two of our former committee members, Moira Neal and Angela Marsden.

Moira Neal Passed away a few days after her 90th birthday, she was instrumental in establishing the Armistice Day Commemorations and having the Spragg Memorial recognised as a general war memorial.



Moira taught local children Piano, she wrote and directed plays for the committee and volunteers to act in, we got many a laugh from the audience.

Moira was made a life member of the museum in 2009

Our sincere condolences to Barry and family.

Angela Marsden passed away at the age of 82, Angela served on the foundation committee of the museum. By the time the museum opened in 1984 she was its president, she was made a life member in 2009.

Our sincere condolences to Penny, Janet and families.

The planning, progress and completion of the museum project were made possible by the support and team work of the foundation members. We are grateful for their vision and hard work.



Angela Marsden and daughters Penny & Janet at the opening of the Huia Settlers Museum in March 1984.

The Huia Settlers Museum would like to thank and acknowledge the Lions Club New Lynn we have been granted funds which will enable us to remedy some urgent repairs thank you for your support.

SAVE THE DATE

Oral History Day Sunday 20th September

Huia Hall 2pm, $5.00 children under 12 free

Please bring cash, online banking available

Speaker Harvey Stewart author of

RAILS IN THE RANGES

To be followed by a light afternoon tea.



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WHY WE CHOSE LAINGHOLM... AND WHY THAT STORY MATTERS

One of the greatest privileges of living and working in Laingholm is watching our little community evolve. As both a local and a real estate agent, I've had a front row seat to the changes over the past decade. One thing that fascinates me isn't just what our homes are selling for, but who is buying them. Ten years ago, Laingholm was predominantly discovered by first-home buyers and young families. It was an affordable place to buy a home with space, where children could walk to school, neighbours knew each other by name, and life moved at a gentler pace. Then came Covid.

Almost overnight, the market changed. Buyers weren't just looking for a house anymore; they were looking for a lifestyle. Professional couples working from home wanted privacy, space, bush views and somewhere to escape the city. Demand surged, and for a period we even saw Laingholm values overtake many homes in Titirangi as buyers competed for our unique lifestyle. That shift also changed our community. With fewer young families moving in, we saw the school roll affected and the demographic gradually changed.

Today, we're seeing another shift. The professional buyers are still around, but they're no longer the dominant group. First-home buyers and young families are returning, searching for somewhere they can afford to put down roots and raise children in a genuine community.

Personally, I love seeing this. It's bringing Laingholm back to what so many of us fell in love with in the first place. At the same time, today's buyers have more choice than they did a few years ago. More homes are available in central Auckland, and some are being marketed with very attractive asking prices. We regularly hear buyers say, "Laingholm just feels a bit too far out." Of course, those of us who live here know differently.

We know the extra few minutes in the car are rewarded every morning by birdsong instead of traffic. We know our children still ride bikes, walk to friends' houses and grow up surrounded by nature. We know weekends mean beaches, bush walks, kayaking, fishing, community events and neighbours who genuinely look out for one another. Those are things you simply can't measure on a property website.If we want future buyers to see what we see every day, we need to tell our story better.

Why does that matter?

Because buyers don't just purchase houses; they buy into communities. The stronger Laingholm's reputation becomes, the more buyers we attract. More competition for homes helps support property values, strengthens our local school and clubs, and keeps this incredible community thriving. The good news is that New Zealand continues to experience significant population movement. While many New Zealanders have headed overseas in recent years, thousands of new residents are also arriving each year, and many are looking for somewhere special to call home. They simply need to discover places like Laingholm.

So here's an idea...

WHY I LOVE LAINGHOLM

Over the coming months I'd love to create a community series showcasing the people who make Laingholm so special. I'd like to invite you to tell us:

- Why do you love living in Laingholm?
- What keeps you here?
- What would you tell someone who's thinking about moving here?

Send us a short video (around 30-90 seconds), filmed on your phone. It doesn't need to be polished or professional. Authentic is far more powerful.

To say thank you, the creator of our favourite video will receive: Two nights' accommodation at Little Bay, Coromandel, for a family of up to five people.

Let's show future buyers what makes this place different. Because nobody can tell the story of Laingholm better than the people lucky enough to call it home.

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Septic Tank Inspections – Have you received a Council Letter?

If you live on a rural or semi-rural property, you'll know Auckland Council sends septic tank inspection letters every six months, annually, or bi-annually depending on your system. Judging by the number of calls we're receiving. a new round of letters have been sent out and plenty of people are talking about them.

What many homeowners don't realise is why these inspections matter. A septic system might be hidden underground, but when it fails, the effects are anything but hidden. Overflowing effluent, blocked soakage fields, and cracked lines can contaminate waterways, affect neighbouring land, and create real health risks. That's why these inspections are a legal requirement, they protect both your property and the wider community.

Ignoring the letter won't make it go away. Council will follow up, and enforcement can escalate if inspections aren't completed. But honestly, the bigger issue is what can happen underground if you leave things unchecked. A small fault today can become a major repair tomorrow, and septic failures are notoriously expensive to fix.

A common misunderstanding is the list of companies printed on the Council notice. Those names are examples only. You're not required to use them. Any qualified professional who can inspect your system and provide the correct documentation is acceptable.

Drain Ranger, as certifying Drainlayers, meets all Council requirements. We carry out full septic system inspections, explain any issues in plain language, quote if you need repairs and provide the official compliance letter you need.

Council letters might feel like another chore, but they're really a reminder of something important: maintaining your septic system protects your home, your neighbours, and the environment we all share.

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Laingholm primary school the greatest little school in the universe

Term 2 was another highly successful and rewarding term at Laingholm Primary School.

Our students proudly represented the school at the cluster rippa rugby tournament, enjoying both the competition and the fun it fostered. A number of our boys also took part in the rugby day at Archibald Park, embracing the opportunity with enthusiasm.

Our Matariki celebration and Whānau Day provided a special occasion to come together as a community. It was a privilege to welcome families into the school and share in performances that reflected the pride and spirit of our students.









Rugby

Thesephotos capture moments from the recent cluster rugby tournament. It was a real pleasure to watch our boys tackle with determination, compete with pride, and, most importantly, enjoy the game. Throughout the day, they embodied our Laingholm values of Honesty, Excellence, Aroha, Respect, and Trust. We were especially proud to receive positive feedback from other schools, who commented on what a pleasure our boys were to play against.

Rippa Rugby

Laingholm Primary School also took 67 children to our cluster rippa rugby tournament at Eastdale Reserve.
The children were amazing and we were so proud of the way they played, their sportsmanship and their attitude.
Thank you to all the parents who came along and coached or supported our children. You are the best!









Our article next month will celebrate our wonderful Matariki Whanau day.

Laingholm primary school the greatest little school in the universe

KEN TURNER

WestWards

Plan Change 120 needs to be scrapped, because it relies on Market Forces.
Yet last week Councillors voted 17 to 5 to proceed despite this core flaw!

It relies entirely on market forces to concentrate intensification around transport hubs, when developers plainly aren't building those buildings. The result will be intensification happening where the market does want to build, in the suburbs, the very outcome that 93.7% of the 10,550 submitters to PC120 did not support."

PC120 is becoming the most divisive, pointless piece of policy change of my time in politics, promoted despite growing misalignment with public concerns.

'Divisive' because it is putting neighbours against each other. Those who hope intensification will lift their property values and give them the opportunity to capitalise on it, and those who worry that development next door will collapse their property values and destroy their intrinsic worth. In short, those happy to go and those wanting to stay.

'Divisive' because it pits suburbs against each other. Those mature, established suburbs, often described as leafy, wealthy areas, are being contrasted with first generation suburbs, who, by inference, are left thinking they are less worthy of the right to grow, build, and retain their own uniqueness.

'Pointless' because there's no need to intensify beyond existing policies. The 2016 Auckland Unitary Plan allowed 900,000 more homes over three decades, marking a major zoning shift. These previous changes are what places like Te Atatu Peninsula are presently grappling with.

'Pointless' because the people promoting PC120's further increase of 1.4 million openly say "it will never be used within the prescribed timeframe".

'Pointless' because PC120 relies on Market Forces to implement the underlying town planning concept, e.g. that most of the dwelling increase will happen vertically within the identified walkable 800 and 1200 metres around transport hubs that PC 120 marks for high-rise development.

'Pointless' because empirical evidence shows no market drift towards walkable catchment high-rise living. The proposed complex above what should eventually be Auckland's busiest train station (Aotea) has not presold any apartments, NOT ONE.
The old Waitakere City Council building, which sits over the top of the Henderson Train Station, was sold partly for apartments, but has seen no development for years. All existing West Auckland high-rise apartments required a government joint venture to get off the ground.

Concluding that most future intensification will occur in suburbs, 67% of the 10550 submitters to PC120 cite the resulting on-street parking as a top concern. Despite this, Council has deemed "on-street parking" a miscellaneous submitter comment (e.g., out of scope) and therefore not considered.

One of the silliest arguments for advancing PC120 was that too much time and money has already been spent to turn back now. But that's exactly why due diligence matters: the five years and $15 million spent on PC120 and its failed predecessor PC78 haven't been wasted, it has exposed the fundamental flaw at its heart. The cost isn't a reason to proceed, it's the evidence why we should not.

Ken Turner, WestWards

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171

Laingholm to New Lynn

via Woodlands Park and Titirangi Rd

	170 Laingholm Drive (stop 5514)	Woodlands Park roundabout (stop 5489)	Titirangi Village (stop 6221)	Stop E New Lynn (stop 5914)
Monday to Friday	06:20	06:38	06:47	06:59
	06:50	07:08	07:17	07:30
	07:20	07:38	07:47	08:00
	07:50	08:09	08:19	08:33
	08:54	09:11	09:20	09:33
	09:36	09:53	10:02	10:15
	10:21	10:38	10:47	11:00
	11:21	11:38	11:47	12:00
	12:21	12:38	12:47	13:00
	13:21	13:38	13:47	14:00
	14:21	14:38	14:47	15:00
	15:25	15:42	15:51	16:07
	15:55	16:12	16:21	16:37
	16:25	16:42	16:51	17:07
	16:55	17:12	17:21	17:37
	17:25	17:42	17:51	18:07
	17:55	18:12	18:21	18:37
	18:25	18:41	18:49	19:03
	18:52	19:08	19:16	19:29
	19:22	19:38	19:46	19:59
	19:52	20:08	20:16	20:29

171

Laingholm to New Lynn

via Woodlands Park and Titirangi Rd

Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays	07:21	07:35	07:43	07:56
	08:21	08:35	08:43	08:56
	09:22	09:37	09:45	09:58
	10:22	10:37	10:45	10:58
	11:23	11:39	11:47	12:00
	12:23	12:39	12:47	13:00
	13:23	13:39	13:47	14:00
	14:23	14:39	14:47	15:00
	15:23	15:39	15:47	16:00
	16:22	16:38	16:46	16:58
	17:22	17:38	17:46	17:58
	18:22	18:38	18:46	18:58
	19:22	19:38	19:46	19:58

us Timetable

171 New Lynn to Laingholm

via Titirangi Rd and Woodlands Park

	Stop C New Lynn (stop 5910)	Titirangi Village (stop 5236)	Woodlands Park roundabout (stop 5996)	170 Laingholm Drive (stop 5514)
Monday to Friday	**07:27**	07:36	07:44	07:50
	08:30	08:40	08:48	08:54
	09:15	09:24	09:31	09:36
	10:00	10:09	10:16	10:21
	11:00	11:09	11:16	11:21
	12:00	12:09	12:16	12:21
	13:00	13:09	13:16	13:21
	14:00	14:09	14:16	14:21
	15:00	15:12	15:19	15:25
	15:30	15:42	15:49	15:55
	16:00	16:12	16:19	16:25
	16:30	16:42	16:49	16:55
	17:00	17:12	17:19	17:25
	17:30	17:42	17:49	17:55
	18:00	18:10	18:18	18:25
	18:30	18:40	18:47	18:52
	19:00	19:10	19:17	19:22
	19:30	19:40	19:47	19:52

171 Laingholm to New Lynn

via Woodlands Park and Titirangi Rd

Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays	**07:00**	07:08	07:15	07:21
	08:00	08:08	08:15	08:21
	09:00	09:09	09:16	09:22
	10:00	10:09	10:16	10:22
	11:00	11:10	11:17	11:23
	12:00	12:10	12:17	12:23
	13:00	13:10	13:17	13:23
	14:00	14:10	14:17	14:23
	15:00	15:10	15:17	15:23
	16:00	16:09	16:16	16:22
	17:00	17:09	17:16	17:22
	18:00	18:09	18:16	18:22
	19:00	19:09	19:16	19:22

Times in bold are scheduled, all other times are approximate
This service is provided by Ritchies Transport

For School Buses see AT 075 & 076

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School

Our First Matariki Hautapu Ceremony at TRSS

Last month, Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School held its first-ever **Hautapu** ceremony, a beautiful, community-led initiative that already feels like it will become a treasured moment in our school rhythm.

We gathered while it was still dark, waiting for dawn to break over the bush that surrounds our kura (school). A fire was lit, and kai was placed over the fire, representing different domains of the natural world, from the sea and from the land, echoing the traditional practice of offering food connected to the stars of **Matariki**. In tikanga Māori, each star in the Matariki cluster is associated with a different realm: Tupuānuku with what grows in the soil, Tupuārangi with the forest and sky, Waitī with freshwater, and Waitā with the ocean. By preparing kai from these different sources, the ceremony becomes a way of giving thanks to, and asking blessing from, every part of the environment that sustains us.

We shared waiata and story, and took a quiet moment to read aloud the names of those in our community who have passed since the last rising of Matariki, a moment of **remembrance** that grounded the gathering. Karakia and hue (a traditional Māori gourd instrument) were part of the ceremony throughout, honouring the sacredness (tapu) of the occasion. We then shared **kai** together for breakfast. The act of eating together brings the ceremony to a close and returns the gathering to a state of everyday openness (noa).

For our school, this was a significant moment. It felt like it filled a gap that had been missing from our year - a chance to pause, reflect, and connect as a community in the stillness of midwinter guided by **tikanga**. For many of our parents, it was also deeply personal: an opportunity to connect with and share their own whakapapa Māori.

Our kura is so grateful to the parents and kaiako who initiated and led this kaupapa, and we are already looking forward to making it a lasting part of our school's yearly rhythm.

Save the Date! Spring Open Day

19 September
11am | Spring Festival
12:30pm | Welcome Talk and Open Classrooms

If you have ever been curious about **Steiner education**, now is a great time to learn more! This **September**, our **Open Day** welcomes visitors to walk through all classes, from early childhood through to high school, view displays of student work, and meet our teachers. It's a wonderful opportunity to see for yourself the **richness** a Steiner education can offer your whānau.

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Discover how to create a living fence using basket willow





In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn how to establish a living willow fence from cuttings, including site selection, preparation, planting techniques, weaving methods and ongoing care.

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14 August | 28 August | 11 September | 25 September
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Register on 817 4386 or enrol@trss.nz

Brought to you by Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School

Titirangi Village Market

Last Sunday of the Month

Next market 30 August

9am - 2pm

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

Follow us on facebook **@titirangivillagemarket**



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Held with care by an experienced kindergarten teacher, our playgroup fosters belonging and supportive connections through the early years, ages 0-3. A Steiner-inspired approach gently underpins our time together.

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The Forgotten Suburb

The 1970s brought a building boom in the Waitakere Ranges. The steep terrain meant that house construction was challenging and this was overcome by designing pole houses – many of which are still standing today, 50 years later, having withstood wind, rain and landslips. The narrow roads, many still unsealed back then, made delivering poles to a building site challenging and this was overcome with the use of a helicopter. To the uninitiated this seemed extravagant, but it was often easier and quicker and no more expensive than trucking them in. But things did not always go according to plan.

Back in August 1976, a helicopter was delivering poles to a building site in the Wood Bay area and hit a power line causing the pilot to make a forced landing on the front lawn of a house. The emergency services were called – including the Laingholm volunteer fire brigade – who stood by while the wires were disentangled from the chopper and the machine was checked.

Having someone literally drop in for a visit in this way must have been a surprise for the homeowner! It was certainly an unusual way to make a call – so unusual, in fact, that it made the national news. TVNZ dispatched a reporting team to the scene, and an attempt was made to interview the pilot of the downed helicopter. It's probably not surprising that he was reluctant to talk to the media. He would have been somewhat shaken by his ordeal and probably thanking his lucky stars that he was still alive! Many such helicopter incidents often result in a tragedy. The helicopter also survived the ordeal unscathed and was able to resume its flight to wherever it was going.

This incident was reported in the Fire Brigade News of the September 1976 edition of the Laingholm Roundabout. Extra details were obtained from the TVNZ reporter who attended the incident – who was none other than the chair of the present Roundabout – Graeme Booth. It's a small world!!



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- Vincent Van Gogh

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Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade

Last month, crews from Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade responded to reports of smoke near the point between Laingholm Beach and Warner Park Reserve.

The fire was first spotted by a vigilant local resident who did exactly the right thing and called 111. Thank you —early reporting gives us the best chance of stopping small fires from becoming much larger incidents.



Locating the fire proved challenging. Wind conditions and the steep terrain made it difficult to pinpoint the source of the smoke. Once located, crews discovered a vegetation fire over the cliff face.

Firefighters from Laingholm and Titirangi worked together to contain the fire using several lengths of hose, along with portable backpack water units known as Scotty packs. Due to the steep and exposed terrain, crews were required to work in safety harnesses and on rope lines while operating near the cliff edge.

A special thank you goes to a local resident who offered the use of their drone. The aerial view gave crews a clear picture of the fire's location and spread, allowing us to see exactly where water was landing and helping guide firefighting efforts more effectively.



We were also grateful for the assistance of Avondale fire crew, whose specialist line rescue capability helped ensure crews could operate safely in the challenging conditions.

Finally, a huge thank you to the team at Laingholm Beach Takeaways, who opened early and put on a fantastic feed for the crews after the incident. Support like this means a great deal to our volunteers and is one of the things that makes our community so special.

If you see smoke and something doesn't look right, don't hesitate to call 111. We always rather investigate early than arrive too late.

When people hear the word “volunteer” they sometimes assume it means inexperienced. The reality can be very different.

Pictured here is Russ, one of our Qualified Firefighters who is also a St John officer, taking the brigade through a St John ambulance and explaining the equipment, systems, and procedures he works with every day in his professional role. Russ is a great example of the experience that exists within volunteer brigades. Across our Laingholm team we have current and former members from organisations including St John, the New Zealand Defence Force, Police, aviation emergency services, and professional firefighting roles.



Some of our members have spent years responding to emergencies as part of their careers before choosing to continue serving their communities as volunteers. Others continue to do both. That experience, combined with ongoing training and regular operational callouts, helps build a capable and professional brigade ready to respond when our community needs us.

Volunteer firefighters may not be paid for the role, but many bring a wealth of real-world emergency service experience to the truck.

We are very grateful to the residents who put their used aluminium cans in the bins outside our station. They help our funds but our main reason for collecting them is to help the environment. But if possible, please crush the cans before putting them in the bins. That way you will be helping the environment even more by cutting down on the number of trips the collection trucks have to make to us when the bins are full



It’s a bit hard to see what’s happening here thanks to the picture being taken off mobile phone video. It’s a cat rescue and, yes, we do get them from time to time. We don’t rush to such incidents but we are OK to help out where we can. In this case puss had climbed a tree, couldn’t find a way down and was handed back to a grateful owner after being rescued by our crew using a ladder



Laingholm
BAPTIST CHURCH

THINGS HAPPENING AT OUR PLACE

EVERY WEEK A LOT GOES ON AT OUR PLACE THAT YOU MIGHT ENJOY. HERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING IN AUGUST



K A U R I C O N E S

I SCREAM. YOU SCREAM. WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM!

Here at the church at Number One Victory Road, Laingholm, we are extraordinarily blessed by having “Kauri Cones", our own ice cream community hub. Many of us remember the old days, when once or twice a year ice cream arrived in insulated canvas bags. It was scooped out by hand, always either too hard or too soft, into cones which tended to crack.

Today, we have modern machinery, which creates a perfect mix of fresh fruit and, of course, ice cream, and dispenses the delight in a towering pyramid which amazes children at first sight.

It is all professionally hygienic,. The church kitchen is graded "A". You are not allowed to go into the kitchen unless you have had The Training, and wear a hat. The business employs several people. There are never fewer than two on duty.

Decisions, decisions."Small, medium, or large? Cone, or bowl-and-spoon?” It doesn't stop there. How about some crispy hot chips?

Two pm until five pm, in case you were wondering. There's an outside playground and plenty of toys inside to give the kids a break. And you.

by Ken McAllister who visited to check it out for you!







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Welcome to our monthly newsletter.

In clubs up and down the country, you will usually find a dedicated team of volunteers working hard to ensure people/members are provided with good service and making sure things run smoothly and this is certainly true of our committee members.

We are very appreciative of the Laingholm community's support and especially the lovely positive comments we have received recently on the Laingholm Face book page. We will as volunteers continue to work hard to make the Club a welcoming place for the community to enjoy. If you wish to become a member, check out the membership details at the end of this newsletter, go on our Facebook page or pop in on either a Friday evening or Sunday afternoon to find out how to join.

Events

We had Chrys come and play her guitar for us a few Sunday afternoons ago and this was enjoyed by many. We are hoping she will return at another time.

We are lucky there are quite a few talented musicians living in and around Laingholm and on Sunday August 16th from about 4.30pm we will welcome Warwick to play his guitar for us.

We just held a very successful pub Quiz with Luke the Quizmaster and although it was a bit chaotic at the beginning of the night, lots of people gave us positive feedback asking when our next quiz will be and how they enjoyed participating with their family members and friends. It was also great to see teenagers joining in as well.

We will look to maybe arranging another quiz next year in the summer and implement all the things we learnt from this recent quiz.

Currently we have no fishing competitions planned and I am reliably informed there is no fish around anyway! However, as winter ends, we will look to have some competitions especially with junior fisherfolk in mind.

That's it for now and we look forward to seeing you at the Club

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
lfcsecretary@hotmail.co.nz

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"Matariki hunga nui"
Matariki, the gatherer of people

Matariki

To celebrate Matariki we travelled by bus to Pinesong Retirement Village to perform a Matariki concert. The tamariki were excited to travel by bus and proudly performed a selection of waiata for the residents, sharing their confidence, enthusiasm, and joy through music. After the concert, everyone enjoyed a delicious morning tea together, giving the children and residents time to chat, laugh, and build meaningful relationships. Experiences like these foster empathy, kindness, and a sense of belonging, while showing our tamariki the value of connecting with and contributing to their wider community. We are so grateful to the residents and staff at Pinesong for their warm welcome and look forward to visiting again.







Winter gardens

Our garden has been thriving this winter! Our microgreens have flourished, providing plenty of fresh greens for the tamariki to observe, harvest, and taste. Alongside them, our winter vegetables are growing beautifully, with cabbages, cauliflower, carrots, silver beet, and other seasonal veges coming along well. The children have loved caring for the garden, watching the changes each week, and learning about where our food comes from.







Football news

Our FIFA World Cup journey came to an exciting finish with Spain being crowned World Cup champions! Throughout the tournament, each child proudly supported their allocated country, cheering them on every step of the way. A huge congratulations to our Spain supporter, who celebrated the victory by winning our World Cup prize; a new football! It was a wonderful way to bring the excitement of the tournament to life while encouraging teamwork, sportsmanship, and learning about countries from around the world



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WOODLANDS PARK SCHOOL

Poipoia te kakano kia puawai
Nuture the seed and it will blossom

CELEBRATING MATARIKI

On Friday 26 June, our school community gathered before dawn to celebrate Matariki.
The weather may have been wet and wintry, but it didn't dampen the spirit of our celebration.
The softly lit hall, decorated with stars, fairy lights and Matariki art from across the school, provided a warm and inviting setting to celebrate the Maori new year.
The celebration began with a school karakia before our kapa haka group led us in a selection of waiata. Students and members of our school community then shared the significance of the nine whetū (stars) of Matariki, while Harakeke students retold the traditional story of Matariki, helping to deepen our understanding of this important time in Aotearoa New Zealand's cultural calendar.
Following the ceremony, everyone gathered for karakia kai before enjoying breakfast together. Families brought plates to share and helpers put on a sausage sizzle, bringing students, staff and whānau together over food and conversation.



A celebration like this is only possible because of the many people who generously give their time. Thank you to our kapa haka leaders, students, staff, volunteers and everyone who helped organise the morning or contributed food. Most importantly, thank you to all of the whānau who joined us.
Your presence made the celebration truly special and reflected the strong sense of community that makes Woodlands Park School such a special place.

Mānawatia a Matariki.



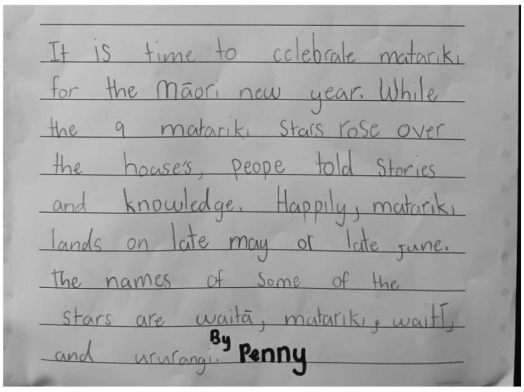
MATARIKI IS A TIME TO REMEMBER THE PAST, CELEBRATE THE PRESENT, AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE

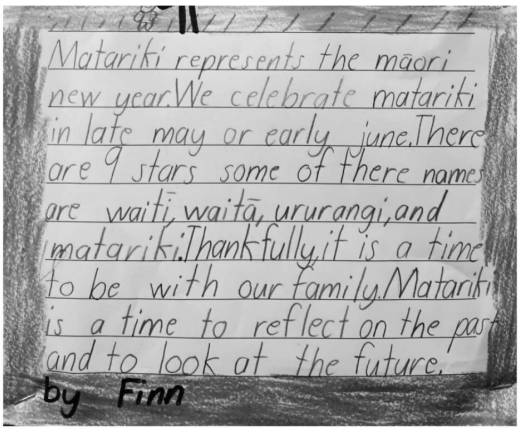
TIMA RIMA

CELEBRATES MATARIKI

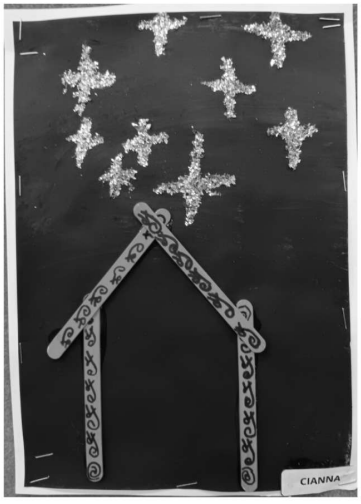
To celebrate Matariki, the students in Room 5 learned about the significance of the Māori New Year through reading, writing and art.
They explored the stories and meanings behind the nine whetū (stars) of Matariki before writing info about this special time of reflection, remembrance and hope.

Their learning was brought to life through beautiful night-sky artwork featuring the Matariki star cluster and traditional Māori-inspired patterns.
We are incredibly proud of the thoughtful work and creativity shown by all of our students.

















WOODLANDS PARK SCHOOL
"Poipoia te Kakano kia Puawai" Nurture the seed and it will blossom



Last winter it was wet, wet, wet but this year it has been glorious gardening weather with the opportunity to get into the garden with sun on our backs during the day and then snuggle up in front of the fire or heater on cold evenings. Even the recent rain hasn't been too brutal in this part of the country and the occasional frost is apparently very good for my garlic.

Gardeners will be getting ready for spring by adding nutrients and organic matter to the soil and now is the time to cut and dig in cover crops such as mustard, lupin and oats.

I've been a bit lazy this winter and have just been pulling the plants up and resting them on top of the soil. In a few weeks I'll dig them in. It is fairly easy at this time of year to pull weeds but it does involve a lot of kneeling and bending while getting wet and dirty.

If you want home grown potatoes for Christmas dinner the advice is to start them sprouting now. Rocket and Cliff's Kidney are good early seed potatoes while swift are fast growing. I continue to have most success with Desiree but the sprouting potatoes from my pantry have been a solid failure.

Peas can go in the ground now (mine are looking very promising until I compare them to my sister's in Orewa which already have pods). Beans, lettuce and celery can also be started off but if you plant early season lettuce remember slugs and snails will decimate them if given a chance. I am still nurturing my brassicas in the hope of eventually getting some produce but this has involved a lot of slug bait.

Now is a good time to replenish your herb garden with sage, coriander, thyme, rosemary and parsley but it is a bit early for basil.

In the flower garden you should be picking your flowering bulbs such as daffodils, jonquils and hyacinths. My bulbs have flourished this season, especially snowdrops, despite a diet of complete neglect.

Bring on spring!

Thank you to everyone who attended the drop-in session held at Laingholm Hall on Tuesday 21 July to provide feedback on the proposed **Sandys Parade upgrades.**

Following the session, we have reviewed the consultation programme and have decided to bring the feedback submission closing date forward.

New feedback closing date is Friday 7 August 5pm.
See QR code in July issue for feedback form or email hmwrprojects@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz for a copy of the form.

Ngā mihi

Shaq Rietveld | Programme Manager - Waitākere Ranges & Henderson-Massey

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Goodness Gardens -

-Truly Peculiar Seasons.

Tai, Beau, Zara and Tane helped harvest these large Pumpkins in July!

Late Pumpkins..

We re-planted some self germinated pumpkin seeds in March, not expecting them to come to anything useful.

Surprise surprise, this year's long lingering Autumn meant we were able to harvest several Crown pumpkins in July. 3 months later than our first crop. The plants were still growing new leaves and flowers after the shortest day. This is Truly Strange!

Perhaps the downside of an extended, warm, dry Autumn is that the cold, wet winter weather is yet to come.
That could be Truly Sad!






Twins, twins and twin Pumpkins



The first Daffodil is showing her pretty face to the sun. Truly Beautiful.

Piwakawaka are dancing all around the garden.

There are so many this year, flitting about, fanning their tails, perching on the bare budding branches of the fruit trees.
They meet us at the gate, chirping, swooping and following everyone's feet.
They are Truly Joyous.
Compliments are keeping the Gardeners inspired.

The Goodness Garden appears to bring lots of cheer for.many people who walk at Owen's Green.

We are pleased to hear these positive comments, Truly Motivational. Thank you.






OakTEC learners have planted their own Citrus trees onsite recently.

They prepared the areas by removing weeds, enriching the soil with worm filled manure, building a mound, planting, staking and mulching.

A Truly Satisfying project, particularly for Louis who worked so hard on this educational experience.

Jaycob picked Parsley and Pumpkin for the group's Matariki Soup day.




Alice offered some labour and Ruby socialised with the other regular Gardeners. A Truly Jovial Day.

Hats off to the fabulous staff who support these Rangatahi. They are Truly Special folk.

Please join us on Thursdays and Saturdays from 10am. Social Gardening for Health. All Truly Welcome.

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FRIENDS OF ARATAKI

Winter soup lunches 2026

Sunday August 23rd Robin Kewell will be showing his film 'From Pit To Paradise" that Celebrates 25 years of the Eden Project. Located in a reclaimed china clay pit, in Cornwall, England. The complex is dominated by two huge enclosures consisting of adjoining domes that house thousands of plant species



Sunday September 13th Lindsey Dawson will do a presentation on her book "Poisoning on Parker Road" One Family, Two Deaths and All the Secrets In Between, is a true-crime New Zealand tale that began in a house called Sunnydale, in Parker Road, Oratia. It centres on the shocking death of a young settler, William Thompson, in 1892.



All soup lunches are held in the Lecture room at Arataki at 12 noon. Donation for soup lunch would be appreciated.

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Book Reviews





GEORGE WADSWORTH & IAN JOHNSON

The Unlikely Doctor *by Dr Timoti Te Moke*

For the first 6 years of his life the author lived with and was loved by his grandparents. Then his mother obtained custody and his next 8 years were hell as he was the subject of continual abuse by his mother and stepfather. As a teenager his attendance at school suffered, he lived on the street, accumulated a lengthy criminal list, was drawn into a gang, went to prison and had the experience of a boot camp. Eventually he went to Australia but he became a patched gang member. When he decided he had had enough he returned to New Zealand. He became an acupuncturist, then qualified as a para medic in the ambulance service and while there was accused by the police of manslaughter. At the trial he was found not guilty.
So with all that stacked against him, how did he, in his 50s, qualify as a doctor who now works at Middlemore Hospital?
His experiences have given him deeply held views about the police, boot camps, prison gangs and other matters that some of the public do not like hearing or facing up to.
His story is an unbelievable one of setbacks, perseverance, ability to turn his life around and a never say die attitude. Everyone should read it,

Hook Line And Misadventure by David Hastings
Stories from legendary Kiwi Fisherman Cliff Barnes

Apart from the fact that he was a fantastic fisherman and not scared of hard and risky work, was that Cliff taught himself how to make, repair and maintain all his fishing gear and boats and motors that he used. Some of his boats needed a lot of tender loving care Most of his fishing occurred off the East Coast of the North Island between North Cape and Kawau Island. He also crewed on an American super seiner in the Pacific.
He usually started at 4.30 am. He had worked out that the best time to catch fish was before dawn. Like other commercial fishermen he was very secretive about where he caught fish.
What makes this book so readable is his recounting of his adventures. Like the time he was given up for dead but survived for 6 days in a cave on the Hen and Chicken Islands until an easterly storm abated.
Capsizes were not unknown and sometimes he was reckless. But he survived it all including hard times and good. Its great that Cliff and the author have put in the time and effort to produce a compelling life story on a subject that gets rarely told.

Brave: The Life of a Pacific Correspondent, Barbara Dreaver. (Awa Press, 2026) is the memoir of journalist Barbara Dreaver, a journalist for over 30 years, her specialty being the Pacific Islands. She started her career in Rarotonga for the Cook Island News and was involved in exposing Government corruption and scandals of the day. For the last 25 years she has worked as Pacific correspondent for TV One. It has not been an easy career – in 2008 she was detained and deported from Fiji by the government of Frank Bainimarama, arrested in Nauru in 2018 for interviewing refugees in the offshore Australian detention facility and covered the 2019 measles outbreak in Samoa. She has encountered danger in Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands when reporting on their internal politics. She constantly exposes the threats of climate change to the Pacific Islands. Barbara was born on Kiribati and through her family roots and background has a deep understanding of the region. She is a true investigative journalist, direct and honest, but at the same time compassionate which is shown in her warm connections to the local people. It also shows how little most of us know of recent Pacific history. She covers the process of bringing the news to the screen and her interesting colleagues – camera people and fellow reporters. Her style is conversational which makes her book very readable.

Maybe Baby, ***Emma Neale (Bateman, 2026):***

Nate and Kelly have decided to try for a family when Kelly is diagnosed with terminal ovarian cancer. In her dying wish, Kelly asks Nate to have the babies for them. They decide to store several embryos so that this wish can be honoured. Kelly dies and Nate is left with fulfilling the promise as well as dealing with his grief at the same time. Nate becomes caught in the complex hinge of three powerful desires: his loyalty to his late wife, a primal urge to be a father, and his knee-weakening attraction to Sadie, who has her own reasons to resist starting a family. When he cannot find a suitable surrogate to carry an embryo, he leaves Dunedin for London to take part in a radical medical experiment - I will just use the term ‘surrogate father’ and let the novel reveal what this means and actually happens. Whereas the first part of the book is slow as Nate confronts the realty and dilemmas of his situation, the plot really picks up in the second part. As noted by one reviewer, “Maybe Baby opens the door to an interesting discussion about what the future of parenthood and family planning could be, aided by genuine desires and a bit of revolutionary science.”
Claire Williamson, ketebooks.co.nz

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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

More Than Firefighters – We're Medical First Responders Too

Our volunteers are often called to medical emergencies where every minute counts. In many situations, brigade members can arrive quickly to provide immediate care and support before ambulance crews arrive. This early intervention can make a significant difference during serious medical events.

One of the biggest challenges our first responders see is people ignoring symptoms that may indicate a serious medical condition. Many people delay seeking help because they believe the symptoms will go away, they don't want to inconvenience others, or they simply underestimate the seriousness of what they are experiencing.

Symptoms You Should Never Ignore

Seek urgent medical attention if you experience:

- Chest pain, pressure, or tightness
- Sudden difficulty breathing or severe shortness of breath
- Signs of a stroke, including facial drooping, arm weakness, or difficulty speaking
- Sudden loss of consciousness or fainting
- Severe allergic reactions
- Unexplained severe abdominal pain
- Persistent or worsening symptoms that concern you

Don't Wait – Act Early

Unfortunately, first responders frequently encounter situations where people have experienced symptoms for hours, days, or even weeks before seeking help. Early medical assessment often leads to better outcomes and can prevent a serious condition from becoming life-threatening.

If something doesn't feel right, trust your instincts. It is always better to seek medical advice and be told everything is okay than to wait until the situation becomes an emergency.

A Message from Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade

As members of your local volunteer fire brigade and medical first response team, we encourage everyone in our community to look after their health, know the warning signs, and seek medical assistance when needed.

Remember: ignoring symptoms won't make them disappear. Early action can save lives.

If you think someone is experiencing a medical emergency, call 111 immediately.

HUIA HOTSPOT

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

Motor Vehicle Accident Training

The Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade have been conducting motor vehicle accident training exercises in and around our local area over the last few weeks.

As we move through the winter months, road conditions throughout our area can become more hazardous. Wet roads, reduced visibility, surface flooding, fallen debris, and longer stopping distances all contribute to an increased risk of motor vehicle accidents. Unfortunately, this is a time of year when emergency services often see an increase in road-related incidents.

The Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade encourages all motorists to take extra care by slowing down, increasing following distances, ensuring their vehicle is roadworthy, and driving to the conditions rather than the speed limit.



Many locals may have noticed vehicles that have previously been involved in accidents positioned on the side of the road. Some remain there for quite some time before they are taken away.

Training is essential to keeping our community safe. By regularly practising and maintaining our skills, we can provide the best possible response when real emergencies occur.

Motor vehicle accident training is one of the most important activities undertaken by the Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade. While every incident is different, our firefighters regularly practise a range of skills designed to help keep both patients and responders safe during road crash incidents.

Training typically includes:

- Scene Safety and Hazard Management
- Vehicle Stabilisation
- Patient Assessment and Care
- Gaining Access to Casualties
- Working with Other Emergency Services



The images are from a recent training exercise which also includes SO Colin supporting our very upset and rather volatile victim Deputy Chief Rene.

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TUESDAY
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12-4pm Op Shop
WEDNESDAY
10-12pm Men's Breakfast
2-5pm KauriCones
4.00-5.30pm Youth Drop-In
7-9 pm Craft Art (fortnightly)
THURSDAY
2-5 pm KauriCones
FRIDAY
12-3pm Op Shop
2-5pm KauriCones
3.30-5pm Friday Club
SATURDAY
10-1pm Op Shop
2-5pm KauriCones

For more info contact Alison 021 141 1483

WE NEED YOUR CANS

Your aluminium cans are useful to us

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

Please flatten if possible

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, she will meet you at the Church to select your requirement. Selection of both meat and vegetarian.



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HENDESON POLICE STATION	09 839 0600
LAINGHOLM FIRESTATION	09 817 5475
HUIA FIRESTATION	09 811 8885
ELECTRICALFAULTS - 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
VETERINARIAN (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 VILLAGEHALL EMAIL lainghol mhallhire@gmail.com	022 490 1237
LAINGHOLM PRIMARY SCHOOL HALLAND COMMUNITY ROOM	09 817 8874
HUIA HALL– Charissa. MANAGERS EMAIL bookinghuiahall@gmail.com	021 151 9958
FOSTER BAY HALL	09 811 8769

COUNSELLING

CITIZEN ADVICE BUREAU	0800 367 222
(GLEN EDEN)	09 818 8634

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

CARLHARDING	09 811 8672
DOREEN SUNMAN	09 817 6486 021 143 2388

CELEBRANTS

UNA RYAN, MARRIAGE CELEBRANT	021 304 916
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ANNELIES ROSKVIST MARRIAGE CELEBRANT	021 555 924
ANGELA MEYER MARRIAGE CELEBRANT	021484897

Communities · Laingholm, Parau, Cornwallis and Huia

The Roundabout

Ākuhata 2026/Putanga 61/06

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

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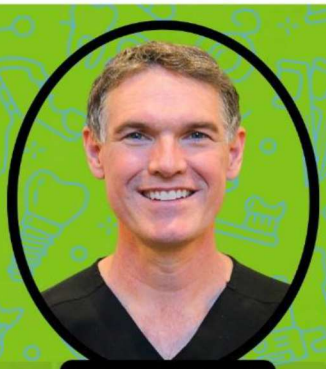
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