



The Roundabout

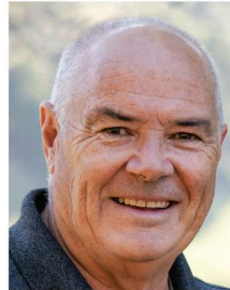
November 2023/Volume 58/09

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

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See page 4 for details.



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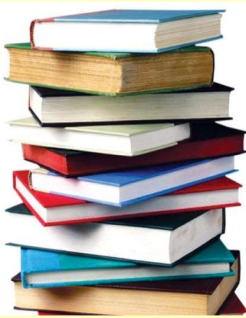
Huia

HERE WE COME!
NOV 12TH

To find out why See page 10

What has Dan
discovered?

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Whats cooking?
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Restoring Nature in Laingholm

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And don't forget our advertisers!

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

**Check out pages
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What are our schools doing?

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Laingholm pages 30-31

Woodlands Park pages 34-35



The Roundabout

Contact Phone No: 817-4658 November 2023 Vol 58/9

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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 \$45 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)	\$91
HALF PAGE (180 x 132 mm)	\$47
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COVER ADVERT (89 x 54 mm)	\$27
SIXTH PAGE (89 x 88 mm)	\$23
CLASSIFIED (Up to five lines)	\$10
CLASSIFIED (Each additional line)	\$2

OUR NEXT ISSUE

The next publication date is **6th December 2023**

The deadline for ALL copy is

Monday 27th November 2023

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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Prompt payment is always appreciated

A new JP

We have some good news for our area with a new JP recently appointed. Responding to a noticeable shortage of Justices of the Peace in the Roundabout district well-known Laingholm local Doreen Sunman has taken up the challenge. After a comprehensive training programme over the last few months Doreen was officially installed as a JP in the Auckland District Court on October 9. Doreen is involved in several West Auckland organisations and this new role will make her a fulltime volunteer! She will ease into the role over the next few weeks and plans to be fully operational in the new year.



Pictured are Alan Martin JP (President of the Auckland JP Association), District Court Judge Peter Winter and Doreen Sunman JP.



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We get quite a few car fires in this area, usually the work of some miscreants who steal cars then set them alight. We suspect that in some cases it's owners getting rid of old cars they no longer want and can't be bothered taking to the dismantlers. But a car fire on Huia Road near Woodlands Park last month was an exception. The owner was driving home in his Jeep Cherokee when he smelt petrol. Within a very short time the car was alight and the brigade was called. We were on the scene within eight minutes but by then it was burning fiercely around the engine compartment. The picture shows one of our crew with a high-pressure hose quenching the flames, but it's likely the vehicle will be a write off.

We are pleased to report yet another win for smoke alarms. A family living in Warner Park Avenue was alerted by a smoke alarm just before daybreak one morning last month and realised there was a very strong smell of burning in their home. We responded both our fire appliances and Titirangi responded with one. The culprit was found to be the controller for an under-floor heating system (pictured) that had burned out.

We strongly recommend having several smoke alarms in each home. If you are having difficulties paying for them, or need advice on where to locate alarms, we are here to help. Contact Chief Officer Graeme Booth on 021764741



What does the rescue gear carried on our number one fire truck have in common with e-bike, e-scooters, mobile phones and vaping devices ? They all use lithium ion batteries and Fire and Emergency will be mounting a campaign over the next month to make everyone aware of how to handle these increasingly common devices safely.

Let's look at our rescue gear for a start. To get our old rescue equipment to work we had to connect it to hydraulic hoses which were in turn connected to a hydraulic pump driven by a small engine. This all took time and small engines can sometimes be a bit temperamental and not want to start. So we have gone over to equipment powered by lithium-ion batteries and the chances are that most homes in our area will have at least one device that uses them. These include mobile phones and we see increasing numbers of battery electric vehicles running around our roads powered by lithium-ion batteries.



So what are some basic rules in handling these very useful batteries

- Always use the battery charger that was provided with the device
- Don't use a charger that has been damaged
- If a battery gets damaged discard it. But not in the general rubbish. There have been a few instances of rubbish trucks going up in smoke thanks to carelessly disposed of batteries
- Don't open batteries and attempt to "fix them" . This can cause a process called "thermal runaway" which starts a fire that is very difficult to extinguish
- Don't recharge batteries on soft surfaces or in unventilated areas. There have been instances of people putting a battery under the pillows after going to bed then connecting a charger.
- Don't recharge a battery in an area that would be used as an escape route in the event of a fire.
- Most importantly, if a lithium-ion battery catches fire evacuate the area, call 111 and ask for the fire service



Lithium-ion batteries will play an increasingly important roles in our lives in the years to come. Treat them with care and they shouldn't cause any problems



SPRING TREATS

By **ADRIENNE PEEK**

FIVE-SPICE KUMARA WITH BOK CHOY & NOODLES

500 Grams Kumara - peeled and chopped
1/2 Teaspoon Five Spice Powder
Pinch Chilli Powder
1 Teaspoon Sea Salt
2 Tablespoons Soya Sauce
¼ Cup Sunflower Oil - approximately
1 or 2 packets of Udon Noodles
6 Spring Onions or ½ Chopped Onion
Small Piece Chopped Ginger or 1 Heaped Teaspoon of Ginger from Jar
Splash of Chilli Sauce or 1 chopped Chilli
2 Bunches Bok Choy - chopped
Extra Soya and Toasted Pumkin seeds to garnish



Place chilli powder, spice, salt, soya and 1 tablespoon of oil in a bowl and toss kumara pieces in the mixture. Cook at 180 degrees for approx. 25 minutes, turning half way through. While the kumara is cooking, heat some oil in a pan, add onions, ginger, chilli sauce and fry for several minutes. Add the bok choy and cook for several minutes. Cook the noodles for 2 minutes. Plate the bok choy and noodles and place the kumara on top with a little soya and seeds on top. Serve.

GINGER AND LIME OR LEMON KISSES

80 Grams Soft Butter or Margarine
½ Cup Caster Sugar
2 Tablespoons Golden Syrup
2 Eggs
1 ¼ Cups Flour
2 Teaspoons Ginger Powder
1 teaspoon Cinnamon
¼ Teaspoon Baking Soda



Combine all ingredients and place small spoonfuls on a baking tray lined with baking paper. Allow plenty of room for spreading. Cook at 170 degrees for about 10 minutes. When cool make up icing with a little melted butter, juice of a lemon or lime and the rind. Thicken with icing sugar and spread on top of the biscuits.



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Armistice Day Service

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month was the moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front in 1918, following the signing of an armistice.

We invite you to attend this Service on Sunday 12th November at the Huia Hall.

10.30am for 10.45am start.

At the conclusion of the service a light lunch will be served. Everyone welcome.

We would like to thank the Titirangi RSA and the Huia Fire Brigade, for their involvement and help.

There were many men from our Community who served in these wars. Some luckier than others. The Turner men from Huia were some of them.



Bertram Huia Turner, WW1, 1915-18

Served in Egypt 1915-1916

Western Europe 1916-1918

Was in some of the famous battles in France and Belgium

Married with 2 children at the time

Arundel (Del) Turner, WW1, 1914-1918: During his service with the NZers in France a bomb exploded near him and destroyed the hearing in his left ear.

Ernest Wilfred (Ernie) Turner, WW1, 1914-1918: He served overseas for 3 years but while in France he developed a cyst in his leg and was unable to do any more active service.



Grahame Harvey Turner, WW2, Airforce 1939-1945

After his training he became a Pilot with Bomber command flying Lancasters in England aged 21, and was back home in NZ in 1946 having finished his Tour (25 missions) aged 23.

He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Jack Penman Turner, WW2

In 1939 Jack was one of the first of 20 men to enlist when volunteers were called for at the outbreak of war WW2 and went overseas with the first group of soldiers as a machine-gunner.

He served in Egypt, France and Crete and was taken prisoner and ended up in Stalag VIII B. He spent the years 1941-1945 as a POW.



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Term 4

It's wonderful to have the arrival of warmer weather again and the liveliness it brings! Seeds are being planted, the field is drying out and the anticipation of all the outdoor activities and camps for many of the classes to look forward to in the upcoming weeks.

This term we have welcomed new students and their families who have joined the school and kindergarten as well as several prospective students for school joining classes for 1-2 weeks to experience what school life is like in a Steiner school in preparation for starting next year.

It's also a busy time for enrolment enquiries for 2024 as prospective families for Nursery, Kindergarten, School and High School come to visit to learn more about the education. We have Introductory Tours most Friday mornings – please call the school office 817-4386 or email m.ryder@titirangi.steiner.school.nz if you're interested.

Advent Fair

Preparations are in full swing as we prepare for one of our very special annual events – the Advent Fair on Sunday 19 November.

The Fair is not only popular locally, but also draws people from far and wide. Now, in its 34th year, it's a wonderful community event that reflects and shares the values of the school with all – weaving together craft, music, hospitality, and storytelling for a great day out!

Visitors have the chance to be involved in creative advent activities such as the very popular wreath-making. Here adults and children can enjoy a relaxed environment to decorate a mānuka wreath base (pre-made the day before from our abundant school mānuka resources), with a variety of decorations mostly collected from nature throughout the year – pods, seeds, shells, lichen, dried flowers and much more, everything all set out at their finger-tips. The creations are stunning!

For young children the fair is a magical experience – over in the Kindergarten area, they can find the Fairy Queen once again in her secret grotto, enter the wondrous Children's Bazaar to buy their own special treasures, dine at the Children's Café, choose a bottle of fairy dust from the Fairy-Shoppe, have their faces decorated, use their casting skills to catch a (chocolate) fish at the Fishing Game, and watch an enchanting puppet show put on by the Kindergarteners.

TITIRANGI RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL

For the more adventurous youngsters, there is the thrilling flying fox over water! And for all ages there are lots of field games to try out – archery, coconut shy, tug-o-war, three-legged and egg & spoon races and more.

There's plenty of food and beverages for all tastes - a vegetarian buffet style café with pies, sushi, curries, salads, pizza, fruit salad, desserts... also beefy and vegetarian sausage sizzle, nice blocks, barista coffee, doughnuts and, of course, plenty of cakes! The Baking Stall has a wide variety of home-made Christmas treats as well as traditional Christmas cakes.

The Fair's village market character is brought to life with 60 hand-selected stalls offering such things as Christmas decorations, fleece fairies & angels, jewellery, clothes, toys, handmade soap & shampoo, art tiles, wood-turned items and so much more. It's a really great place to find those special Christmas gifts.

And of course, there is great live music all day from some of the best musicians and singers around creating a vibrant festival atmosphere.

There is limited parking in surrounding areas – we ask visitors to please park considerately or use the free shuttle service operating all day to and from Titirangi Memorial Hall, and Woodlands Park School.

Visitors are also encouraged to drop off passengers at the school gate and then park near the shuttle pick-up points.

The Fair is a fun day for all, and we are looking forward to seeing you there!

For stallholder enquiries: stallsadventfair@trss.community or general enquiries adventfair@trss.community

For more information, latest updates, featured musicians and stalls see: **Face book @AdventFairTitirangi**

TRSS - upcoming events



Advent Fair

19 November 2023

10am - 3pm

5 Helios Place, Titirangi

SCRUMPTIOUS FOOD • FLYING FOX • WREATH MAKING
FAIRY QUEEN • LIVE MUSIC • FIELD GAMES • FACE PAINTING
CHILDREN'S CAFE • BOUTIQUE STALLS • CHILDREN'S BAZAAR
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FREE SHUTTLE 9:45am - 3:15pm • Runs every 15 minutes

Stops: Titirangi Memorial Hall and Woodlands Park School

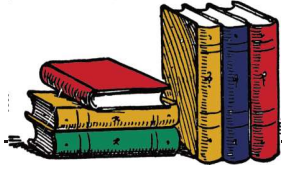
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Dogs are not permitted
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Book Reviews



GEORGE WADSWORTH & IAN JOHNSON

The Last Devil to Die by Richard Osman

The Thursday Murder club is at it again.

Kumlesh, an old friend and antiques dealer has been murdered and his shop ransacked. All the club members are back in action. Ron has fallen out with Pauline over the best time to unwrap Christmas presents, Ibrahim is visiting Connie, a drug dealer who is in prison. He opens up about his earlier life as the novel goes on, Joyce still has her eyes on any new male residents in the village and meets Mervyn who is having a passionate online romance with Tatania but is she for real? Elizabeth and Stephen are plotting together as Stephen's life is ebbing away as Alzheimer's takes its toll. In the course of the club's investigation with the help of Donna and Chris, two local police officers who have been taken off investigating Kumlesh's murder by the National Crime Unit, three leading drug dealers and a forger are also murdered and Tatania is dealt with. What more do you want?

I love Richard Osman's sense of humour, he is very funny and this novel is a fun read. In addition the author writes very movingly, sensitively and seriously about Stephen's Alzheimer's. - read the acknowledgements {after you have read the novel} to find out why.

Sorrow and Bliss by Meg Mason

Martha Friel is the daughter of a minor poet and an alcoholic mother who acts and sculpts. She has a sister, Ingrid. When she was 17 she suddenly became mentally ill "a little bomb went off" in her brain. Some days she cannot get out of bed. Her life is sympathetically told and the author shows a deep understanding of mental illness which is cleverly never specified. At middle age, her long suffering husband, Patrick leaves her as her illness resurfaces and she is forced to go back home. This debut novel is funny in parts but deals seriously with an affliction which many people have, and according to the author, has put into words what people feel but do not have the words to express. A serious issue deftly handled leaving much to think about. author writes very movingly, sensitively and seriously about Stephen's Alzheimer's. - read the acknowledgements {after you have read the novel} to find out why.

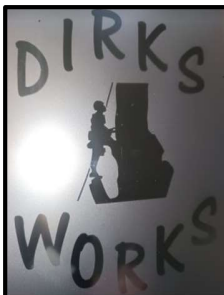
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words what people feel but do not have the words to express. A serious issue deftly handled leaving much to think about.

Catherine Chidgey would have to be one of the best New Zealand living novelists. Her most recent novel, *Pet* (Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023), follows Justine Grieve as a 12-year old student in 1984 and pivots between then and 2014 where she visits her father who now has dementia and lives in a rest home. In 1984 Justine is dealing with her mother's recent death and her father's grief, as they struggle to come to terms with what has happened. At school, she has a new charismatic teacher, Angela Price, who favours several of the popular girls and they are regarded as the teacher's pets. Justine and her best friend, Amy are not amongst them. Justine is kept behind after school one day and she tells Mrs Price about her mother's death and health issues. All of a sudden, she becomes the latest pet. Various items in the class start to go missing, and Amy cops the blame by innuendo. Then tragedy hits the class – I will leave the 1984 plot there. In 2014 where she now visits her father, she becomes unnerved by one of the carers in the rest home who has an eerie likeness to someone from her past. In some ways the plot seems unbelievable but this book is so well-written this becomes irrelevant. What we have is a chilling psychological thriller that captures the atmosphere of Wellington of the 1980s and deals with themes of vulnerability, disorientation and manipulation. Catherine Chidgey has won the NZ Best Fiction award twice before. This rates up there with those previous novels.

Many years ago, I read a book by John Banville. He is a seriously good novelist. I was surprised to find that over recent years he has been writing crime novels, the latest being *The Lock-Up*, (Faber, 2023) which takes place in 1950's Dublin. Rosa Jacobs is found dead in a garage and the immediate assumption is that it is a suicide. But DI John Strafford and the Irish State pathologist Dr Quirke believe that this is murder and set about trying to find the perpetrator(s) and why. Quirke and Strafford are an odd combination and do not get on but manage to remain professional. Quirke is recently widowed and subduing his grief with alcohol. Strafford appears to be separated but really doesn't know why- his way of dealing with this is constantly working and avoiding the issue. Investigation involves digging into the intrigues of a wealthy German family living in the Irish countryside, their links to Israel, and two other deaths of investigative journalists that maybe related. I won't go any deeper into the plot but political and church machinations at the highest level are involved. The story seems to start very slowly. This is deceptive as the story develops into a smouldering thriller and the end is a shock. The author's skill in revealing the plot, evoking the atmosphere of Dublin and depicting the main characters makes this a genuine crime novel, not just a thriller.



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The Forgotten Suburb

Did you think that the weed bins had forgotten The Forgotten Suburb? They hadn't been seen in Laingholm for several months. Where had they gone? There is a simple explanation. Like most things – weed bins cost money and the funding for the weed bin programme had run out. It was not just The Forgotten Suburb that was mourning the loss of the weed bins – none of the other usual locations had them either. Even the permanent ones – like the one at Huia – had gone.



But the good news is – they're back! Labour Weekend saw two bins parked at the Laingholm Hall carpark and, by the end of the weekend, they were

full. Residents of the Forgotten Suburb clearly appreciate these bins. This is, after all, reputed to be the weediest suburb in the weediest city in the world. How sad! Once, in a long-forgotten time, Laingholm was a suburb of giant trees – kauri, kahikatea, totara, rimu, tanekaha and others. They were felled – or burnt – to make way for farming. When farming ceased, the weeds took over. The wet weather that we've been experiencing the whole of this year seems to suit those invasive exotic species very well. Haven't they grown! The war against these weeds seems never ending and impossible to win. But every section, every piece of Council reserve or road reserve cleared of weeds is a battle won. And these weeds can go in the weed bins!

A word of warning, though; the bins are only for weeds. Native plants like flax, nikau and so on do not belong in them. And household rubbish is definitely not for these bins. Please – use the bins the way they are meant to be used, if they are abused, we may lose them for ever.

The permanent bin is back at the Huia Domain. The bins will be at the Laingholm Hall again on these weekends: 20-21 January and 13-14 April. Laingholm has not been forgotten!

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Laingholm & District Community Emergency Response 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.

The Most Important Preparedness Gear on \$100 Budget

1 - Water Storage Container

Clean drinking water is the #1 supplies item to have. It costs almost nothing when we have services and roads, but if services and roads are cut off for a few days it quickly becomes precious. The container needs to be made of quality stable plastic that doesn't leach contaminants into water and contains no BPA. It should have good carry handles and a tap that is not flimsy or easily broken. The best plastic for water storage is HDPE - what house water tanks are made of. The best we found is Marquee 25L Water Container With Tap from Bunnings - costs only \$29. Make this your first preparedness item, fill it with tap or filtered water, store away from sunlight and replace the water annually. Store one 25L container per 2-3 people (for 3-5 days of drinking water).

2 - Cellphone Car Charger

In many kinds of emergency situations your cellphone will be the first tool for getting important information and for checking up on and coordinating with your family. Plus it has a basic torch. You need to have a dependable way of recharging your cellphone when the power is off and your power banks are depleted. The most common reliable power source is your car. Some newer cars have USB ports which can charge your cellphone - check yours. You may need to turn the car on - first click of the key, or push Start without the pedal - but you shouldn't need to run the engine. If your car doesn't have a built-in USB charger, look for a cigarette lighter or a round 12V accessory socket - you can buy a Car USB Charger that goes there. These are sold everywhere, even in supermarkets and petrol stations - usually for around \$10. Keep one in your car for emergencies.

3 - Emergency Camping Cooker + Hot Water Bottle

Third priority item is a portable camping gas cooker. It is for: 1) emergency cooking if the electricity is out for days, 2) boiling water for hot drinks (great way to warm up during winter power outages), and 3) filling hot water bottles (the best way to keep warm at night during winter power outages). At Mitre 10: Single Burner Butane Stove is \$29 and Butane Canisters 4 Pack (fuel) is \$7.50. Buy in advance - these fly off the shelves in bad weather! Hot Water Bottle is \$8 (one per person). Remember that cooking with gas needs to be done outdoors or in a well ventilated area.

You can also buy all of this equipment through us and pick up locally in Laingholm!

Use this link: waitakere.org.nz/product-category/equipment or **freephone:** 0800 007 008

This is Article 3 in our preparedness series. Cut this page out and collect the other issues to make a small prep booklet you can keep for handy reference.

by Valera Koltsov & Steven Price

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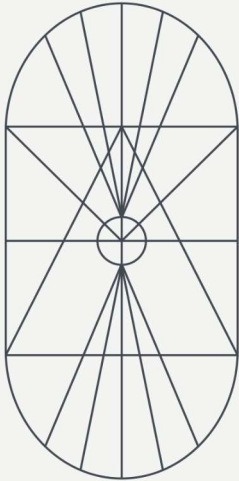
Labour Weekend has been and gone and it normally signals the start of spring gardening for many enthusiasts. But while the weather was okay it quickly turned cold again making it difficult to nurture young seedlings and there's still quite a lot of tidying up to do such as weeding, dead heading and feeding the soil.

Now can be the time to plant peas, beans, carrots and salad greens but I find it's too early to plant chillies and peppers. Tomatoes can be planted now but again I find it is often better to wait a bit longer and in the meantime dozens of self-seeded ones pop up randomly throughout the garden.

This is a good time of the year to freshen up the herb patch, cutting back some such as thyme to encourage new growth. Unfortunately slugs, snails and other creepy crawlies also enjoy the spring weather and love to dine out on young seedlings so deal to them in your preferred manner. Encourage bees for pollination purposes.

Roses are blooming at the moment but might like some fertiliser and keep an eye on them for pests and diseases. Marigolds can help with this because as well as adding brilliant colour to your veggie patch they help keep away aphids.

So keep weeding, ward off those pesky slugs and snails, protect yourself from the rain and sun and watch your garden flourish in the warmer weather.



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Kia ora and giddy fishos, well I have been advised by a fishing mate to stop moaning about the lack of fish or else what few readers I've got will defect to the recipe page for something a bit more cheerful. So off to a positive spin. Big boys fishing over the bar has been good all winter and according to a mate of mine getting even better. 55m seems to be the favourite posse while a mate went out to 75m and didn't do all that well. Fishing out there is vastly different to harbour fishing where we fish the banks, edges of channels etc. Out there it goes by depths mainly and it drops off very slowly so even 55m is a long way out.

Was out at Little Huia last week and quite a few boats were coming in that had been over the bar. There was a fella and his Mrs so I said have you been over the bar and she said yes, without elaborating. Did you do any good, I asked. Yes, she said. What did you catch, I asked. Snapper she said. Her monosyllabic answers were getting monotonous – it was like pulling teeth! Was it rough out there, I asked. No, she replied and glowered at me. I gave up and slunk off, maybe she'd had a row with the old man. Anyway, enough irrelevant talk and on to more informative stuff.

I have a book called The Fisherman's Bible which is mind-bogglingly comprehensive. Pages of fish species including many I've never heard of such as oil fish, five-finger sucker fish and bastard trumpeter! There are pages of tying knots and rigging hooks, a whole chapter on fishing rules but little on actual fishing techniques. However another little treasure is a book called Fish Galore by Laurie Reece. Now this one is a bit more meaty and there's a whole chapter and maps of fishing possies in the Manukau. For those who still row there's a handy guide to easy rowing possies, one being Green Bay. However you have to carry your dinghy, plus your own gear, down a flight of steps to the beach and presumably carry it back plus your catch when you return. Anyhow, should you feel compelled to do this, then row about 30m to the right where the channel comes in close but not a lot of rip. The writer says he and his mate fished there and caught 45 snapper and two kingfish in two hours. I can only assume it was in the days when there was no bag limit and you could take snapper at 25cm. This is a great little book for the novice fisho if you can locate it.

Now to a bit of useless info about sharks. Did you know that unlike most fish, sharks can't swim backwards and each year more people die of coconuts dropping on their heads than from shark attacks. Some sharks give birth to live young while others lay eggs in leathery shells. And a shark anecdote....In 1949 a lady was swimming in Oz when a shark attacked her and tore off her forearm. She managed to escape to the beach and while she was in hospital she got an unusual gift. The shark had been caught, cut open, and inside was her hand, still wearing her treasured gold ring. The ring was given back to her but she had to wear it on the other hand of course.

So after that riveting info it must be joke time.

What's the definition of a fisho? A jerk at one end of a line waiting for a jerk on the other end.

Ok fishos, that's all for now.

Keep cheerful and the fishing will improve! Cheers Winnie.

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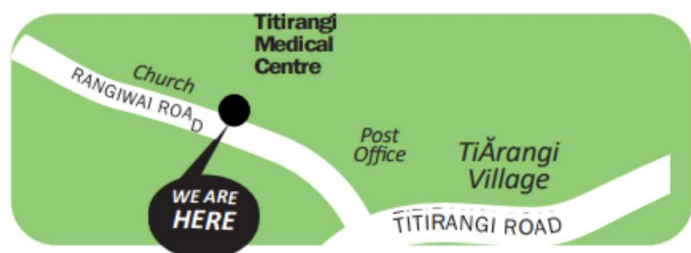
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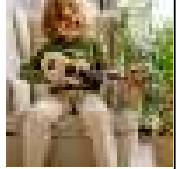


Our usual children's activities are back after the school holidays, no need to book, drop in for:

Monday 6, 13, 20, 27 3.30 – 4pm After school Uke sessions with Mark.

Wednesday 1,8,15, 22,29 3.30 – 4.30pm After school Lego club.

Wednesday 1,8,15,22,29 9.30 – 10am Rhymetime morning session of dance, bubbles and more, ideal for 18+ months.



Titirangi Library offers a home delivery service – if you or someone you know are unable to visit a library due to mobility, access or other special circumstances, we have volunteers who can collect and deliver items to your home. Monthly book selection, delivery and pick-up, free service. For more information contact the library 817 0011 or email us titirangi.library@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Forest & Bird

TE REO O TE TAIAO | *Giving Nature a Voice*

Waitakere Forest and Bird 2023 Lecture Series: Thursday 16th November 7.30 pm

Erica Hendrikse –The Great Pest Genome Treasure Hunt

One way to improve and refine our pest control efforts is to more deeply understand our invasive species. Erica Hendrikse, a scientist with Landcare Research, will talk about an ambitious research project that looks into the genomes (DNA) of rats, stoats and possums, trying to identify their Achilles' heels. This research aims to identify new pest control tools that are highly pest specific. Come and hear about this ground-breaking research initiative that could one day transform pest management.

Venue: Ranui Community Centre 474 Swanson Rd, Ranui.

Non members welcome, join us for supper afterwards.

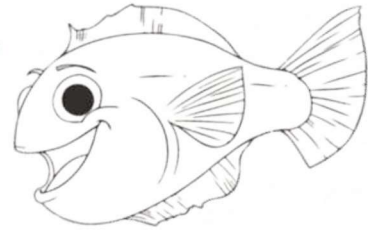
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EXCERPTS FROM EARLY SCHOOL LOG NOTES

19-11-64

Today marked the first issue of the school and locality newspaper "Roundabout". This is a trial issue and with support could grow into a major for the school. F.2. will supply the editors.

ADVERTISEMENT

Austin A50 1955 – 56 goes well as can be expected for a 15 year old. Can pull a ½ yard of wet builder's mix comfortably with 3 bags of dry cement in boot and one perspiring passenger alongside (alongside the driver that is). Clean and tidy inside and out (no spiders). Since I only need local transport for work and the wife, bless her, will let me use her car when it snows – will swap (the car that is) for good motorcycle or exchange scooter plus cash or sell for \$325 to pay for the bus fares

April 1971

MEMORIES

The following is an excerpt from a letter from Mrs McKenzie to a class at Laingholm School:-

"My name was Grace Laing before I was married and my Great – grandfather and his family were the first settlers in Laingholm. His name was John Laing and he came from Scotland in the ship "Jane Gifford" in the 1840's. Their house was near the beach and was on the hill near where Western Road now is. Where the hall is (refers to the old Beach Hall. ed) was a woolshed. They had quite a lot of sheep and would bale the wool to send to the city."

From Laingholm School 25th Jubilee booklet.

A policeman radio's in to headquarters.

"Hello, is that you, Sarge?"

"Yes, go ahead."

"We have a case here. A woman has shot her husband for stepping on the floor she had just mopped clean."

"Have you arrested the woman?"

"No Sir, the floor is still wet!"

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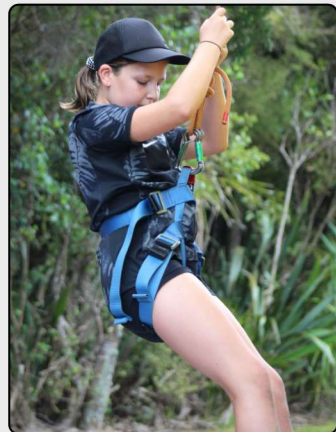
Check out Facebook for details -

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November's Photo Gallery
Year 6 Camp - 2023

Year 6 Camp - 2023



At the 2023 Year 6 camp we did all sorts of fun activities such as Archery, bivy building, rock climbing, tent assembling, Disc golf and we made damper. Sadly, we had no water activities but that didn't stop us from having fun.

On Wednesday afternoon we did the skits that we practiced at school. They were all very funny.

On Wednesday night after the skits, we got our jumpers and jackets on and headed to the Burma trail. The Burma trail is a walk through the woods at night; it's pitch black and you aren't allowed to use torches, you follow a rope so you don't get lost. There are two levels to the Burma trail the first one easy and everyone does it but the second one is harder because the adults scare you, some grab at your feet, some jump out of bushes to scare you, and some got kicked in the face (Julian) and there was a killer tree stump that people kept tripping on.

Some people from bigfoot adventures came to help us with the more extreme activities like archery, rock climbing and bivy building. When we did archery, a lady called Becca taught us how to remove the arrow from the target without damaging the arrow.

Altogether the year 6 camp was a great experience and extremely fun.

By Daisy and Tahlia

This year the Year 6 students at Laingholm Primary School got the amazing opportunity to go on school camp. We did lots of fun activities like making damper and doing lots of outdoor activities like tent pitching and fun outdoor games. Then on Thursday bigfoot adventures came and we did so many activities! We did archery, rock climbing, disc golf, and bivouac building! The camp was brilliant!

By Anika

This year, all the year sixes of Laingholm Primary School got to experience school camp at the Houghton's bush camp. We got to do archery, rock climbing and even something called Frisbee golf!

I would like to thank the parents who volunteered their week for us kids, because without them, we would not have been able to go.

By Arietty

On the 18th of October 32 kids from Laingholm Primary School went to Muriwai Houghton's Bush camp. When we got to the camp there was a big playground, everyone rushed onto the playground. Then the teachers called us over to sort out our





cabins. Then we settled down for dinner where we had a plate of yummy nachos. After that we roasted marshmallows on the fire and then headed off for bed.

The next day we had lots of fun activities planned for us such as tent pitching, old school games, made damper on gas stoves and sports activities, on Thursday bigfoot adventures came and did our activities we did archery, rock climbing, bivy building and disc golf.

Then it was Friday, the last day at camp, we tidied up our bunkrooms and had breakfast for the last time at camp. Then before we knew it, we were back at school so tired we were sleeping on the floor then our parents had to pick us up witch they weren't happy about, and that's year 6 camp done year 5s next.

By Dylan and Avalon

Houghtons Bush Camp 2023 Year 6

On the afternoon of 17 October 2023, all the Year 6 students departed school with Miss Bowater, Mr. Cox and Mrs. Walsh along with lots of parents for Houghton's Bush Camp, due to return on 20 October 2023, after an action-packed 4 days and 3 nights at camp.

Arriving at about 4:00 PM, the students all quickly found their rooms and had an out of bounds walk. After dinner, they had a campfire and toasted marshmallows, while some students got ready for bed.

The next day was amazing with fun activities such as outdoor games, old-fashioned games, tent pitching, gas stove cooking, etc. That night, we had a special surprise: the Burma Trail, where we walk into a bush, holding onto a rope as a guide without torches.

Finally, Bigfoot Adventures joined with a new set of activities: Archery, Rock Climbing, Bivvy Building, and Disc Golf.

On the last day, everybody packed up, ready to return to school. We certainly had a fun time!

By Solomon

75th Jubilee

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

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

If you would like to help, or register your interest in the Jubilee, please e-mail the school on

office@laingholm.school.nz.

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



November's Photo Gallery



Diwali

Diwali is India's biggest and most important holiday of the year and is known as 'the festival of lights'. At Laingholm Kōhungahunga (kindergarten) we love to celebrate many cultures and festivities, and we all learn so much from doing so. Our children are learning about the wider world and community, and how these are an integral part of the early childhood curriculum.

We have been listening to stories about Diwali, and creating our own Diya and Rangoli in the lead up to Diwali.



Baking

Baking is always a popular activity on offer at Laingholm kindergarten. Inspired by one of our tamariki, we set about baking muffins. The kindergarten filled with a sweet smell of a bakery and everyone enjoyed their delicious berry muffins at lunchtime.



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Inside this report

Tūrangawaewae: Our place to stand

Our Stories, told by us

Tūrangawaewae: Our place to stand

Laingholm

Out of all my places to stand my home is definitely the most important. Where the wind whistles softly past the glistening ocean, I am watching the sunset on the astonishing Laingholm horizon, where my family and my dogs are standing. Before night falls my family and I leap into the sparkling water. I listen to the silence as I sink to the bottom of the sand covered floor. I rise my head out from under the crystal water. We swim around until night falls. I stand up stepping on all kinds of magical shells. I stride out of the water with force. The waves crashing against the back of my cold legs. My feet hit the sandy beach with a thud. The sand is soft under my wet feet. Water drips off my silky hair, a singular drip makes the sand go brown. I dry myself off and watch my dad drag the kayak out of the clear water. I hear the kayak crunching all the rocks underneath the wheels that you attach. My Dad drags the heavy kayak up the concrete hill. Every step looks tiring and breathtaking. I watch as a piwakawaka flies over my head magnificently. I glance at my two dogs who are walking very freely on the cold veined path. My bare feet are stepping on spiky stones. The path is dark grey, almost symmetrical to the sky at this time of night. My dogs bark at a stranger walking past us. My dad smiles at him while my dogs are barking. My mum tells them to be quiet although they never listen to her. Just at that moment we arrive home.

By Charlotte, Room 6



Minnehaha Avenue

All our places to stand are unique, but mine to me is THE MOST unique. It's the whole avenue where I live, Minnehaha Avenue. Every time I wake up, I glance out my window and think: I'm so lucky to live here. We walk to school every morning, past nature and neighbours, past bushwalks and birds, and every morning I think what a beautiful place Minnehaha is. In our house, we have a view of the sea out almost every window, and we also have a huge playroom. On our street is also Woodlands Park Kindy, which my little sister Beatrix goes to. Each morning, I watch the sun rise magnificently over the silhouetted mountains. I always play in my enormous playroom, and I am constantly drawing and creating art at the craft table. We also have beautiful gardens out the front which are BRIMMING with pansies, poppies, and roses. Our house is surrounded in kauri forest, and we call it The Lowlands. I LOVE going exploring in it. Once I even found a hut made of sticks, twigs, and leaves! And apparently the last owners of the house drew a map of The Lowlands, ALL of it, and according to that map, there are TWO waterfalls in The Lowlands! Also, we have a bushwalk around the back of our house, which leads to a big clearing. Out the window of my room is a view of a MILLION kauri trees surrounding us entirely. This is my special place to me.

By Matilda, Room 6

Tūrangawaewae: Our place to stand

The Waitākere Ranges

The trees are tall, the sky is bright, and I am excited. We are starting my favourite bush walk up in the heart of the Waitākere Ranges. The Arataki Visitor Centre has some good walks for all ages. Me and my family start the walk by going through the tunnel with all the murals, made by different schools. Me and my brother always look for my school, Woodlands Park. After that we start going down the sloping hill that leads to the intersection with other walks. I love this walk for many reasons. I like being in nature because the trees make me feel safe. The huge Kauri trees rise up from the ground, like the guardians of the birds, lizards, weta, and the walkers. From the view points you can see for miles. The hills are covered with trees. Some big, some small. This walk is the first bush walk I ever did, and the second I stepped foot on the gravel path, I felt a special connection with this part of the ranges. Information signs are everywhere telling people about certain types of trees, snails, weta, and history of the walk. My favourite part of the walk is when you turn off the track briefly, and climb up some steep stairs to find a beautiful view point. There is an information sign about snails that live under the deck that you stand up on. There are many benches for people to stop and look at the scenery. As the path gently slopes back uphill, you can hear the songs of a tui floating down the valley. In the end you pass back through the tunnel with the murals, towards the car park and the adventure ends. I really like this walk, and I hope you do too.

By Owen Fisher,
Room 6





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Legal 1st Weds of month By appointment

New Lynn 09 827 4731 newlynn@cab.org.nz

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Immigration Thurs 6pm-7pm By appointment
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Massey 1pm-3pm

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“Bronwyn is an amazing agent .. she has gone above and beyond our expectations to ensure we sold our house and to find us a new home. I would highly recommend her to anyone I know. Vendor - 91 Victory Road, Laingholm”



“She was responsive, proactive, professional and displayed true kindness and concern for our wellbeing. We felt 100% supported and trusted that she would do the best for us. Vendor - 502 Huia Road, Laingholm”



Where does the time go?

It's hard to believe that the end of 2023 is fast approaching and before we know it the festive season will be upon us. If you would like to be sold before Christmas, or in your new home in the New Year, call us now to discuss a marketing schedule to fit your time frame and to find out about our marketing specials.

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Coffee and Company

Starting October 10th

At 9:30 AM

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

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

Karen Clare, Co-ordinator at 828 5812

Between 10.00 and 1.00 pm weekdays.



**RESTORATION
RUATUNA**

Restoring Nature in Laingholm

DAN'S DISCOVERY TUA TAHI

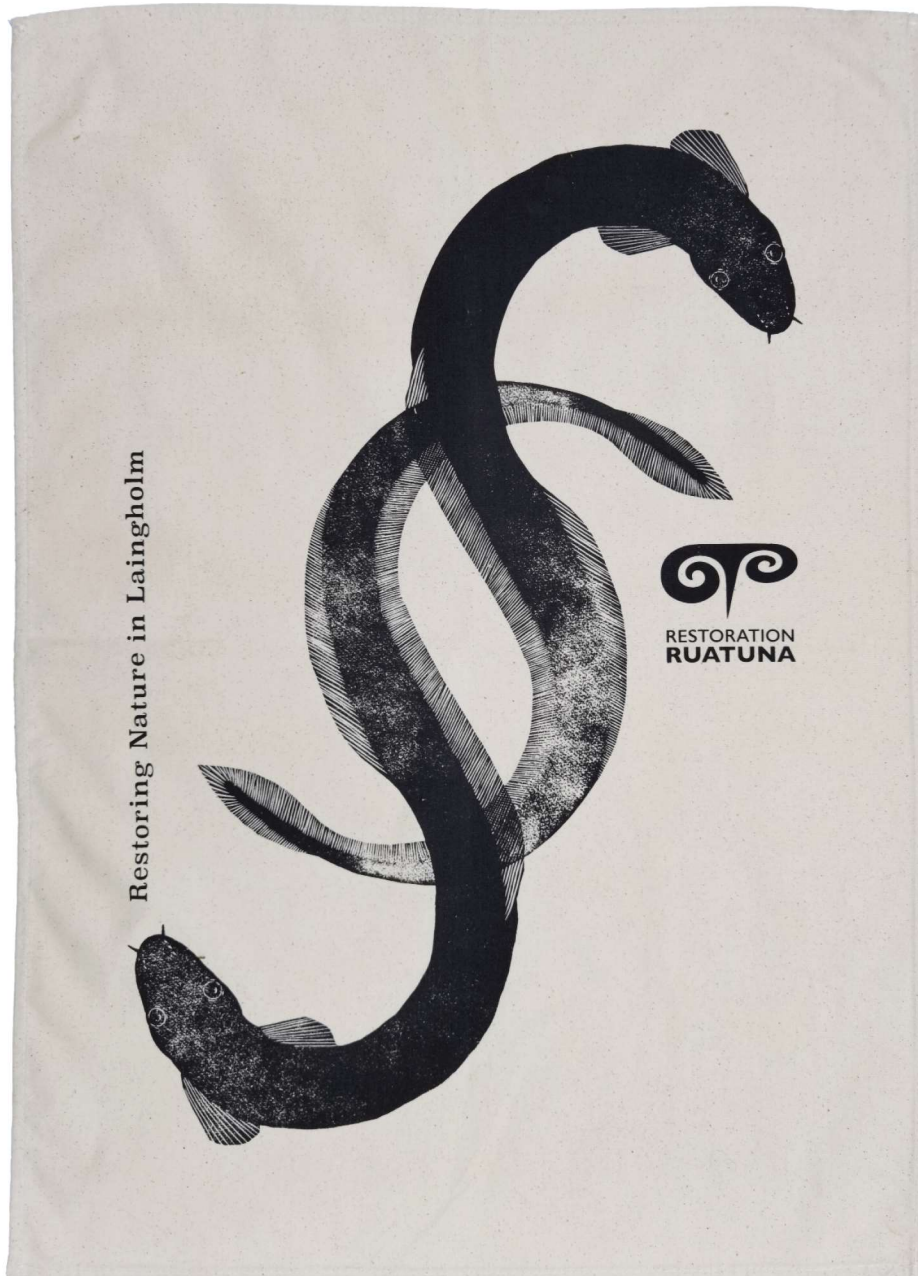


Recently, I was walking along the Little Muddy Creek end of Laingholm Beach and when I stopped to flip over an old log, I was amazed to see revealed, the alien like larval form of the native large sand scarab. This is an amazing beetle and a rare find. It's also known as *Pericoptus truncatus*, mumutawa and ngungutawa; and only two others have been recorded on the Manukau Harbour. Both were found on Whatipu's south coast, although there was also an unconfirmed sighting near Huia. I found this special larvae in its favourite habitat: on a sandy beach and under a log near spinifex grass.

The adult form of the scarab beetle is large, black and bulky, with jacked up back legs for digging. Surprisingly, this really chunky creature leaves its burrow at night and flies around like a bumblebee looking for mates, or it might go for a swim and get rid of some parasites.

This discovery is a good reminder that Laingholm Beach is home to a huge array of species. We can all see our more flamboyant birds, but we're also lucky to have obscure creepy crawlies (like the large sand scarab) hiding under the driftwood.

OUR NEW TEATOWEL



Dear Laingholm,

Every year we provide you with a different tea towel to help with your Xmas shopping problems.

This year we bring you a beautiful print by artist Emma Kitson. The entwined eels speaks to the name of the Laingholm stream: Ruatuna or Two Eels. The tuna are an iconic and treasured taonga. Their presence reflects the health of our waterways – something we as a Restoration Group are seeking hard to preserve.

When you buy your tea towels the money will go towards native plants for our restoration projects.

\$20 for one or \$30 for two.

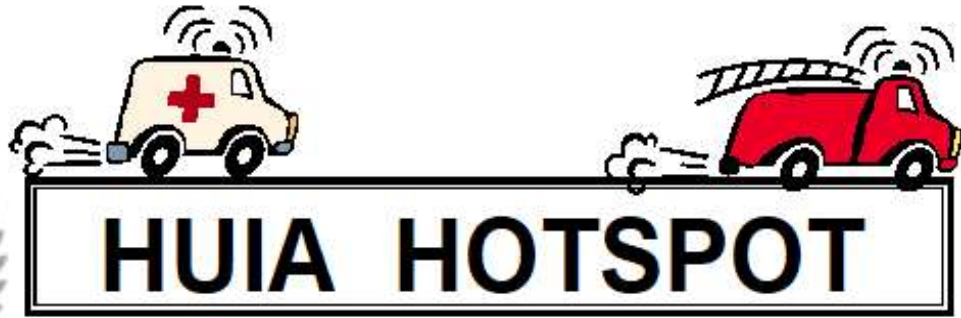
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HUIA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

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

HUIA FIRE BRIGADE WELCOME NEW RECRUITS

Recently the Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade welcomed some incredibly special visitors from the **Huia Playgroup**. With the visit taking place during school holidays, we hosted our highest attendance with over 30 children attending.

Station Officer Steve supported by Qualified Firefighters Sarah & Dan; ran the kids through the Firewise program. The kids got to understand why the fire siren goes off and what we often respond to.

Of course (and let's not kid ourselves here) after all the talking the real excitement started when Huia 721 came out with the siren and beacons going.



The kids got to have a go in the fire truck, listen to all the radio chatter from Firecomms and of course the fire hose came out and the kids got to have a go putting out a "Fire".

The photo above is QFF Sarah showing one of our smallest supporters how to do it. You couldn't have a better mentor and you never know; we may be seeing a photo of a future firefighter here. A special thank you to Emma and Helen from the Huia Playgroup for organising this. As well as to Vero Insurance, Fonterra & Te Aka Whai Ora who (as employers) support our volunteers by allowing them to take part in these community activities.

For those that are interested, the Huia Playgroup is run every Friday at the Huia Hall from 10am. New members are always welcomed and most of the fire brigade's members children have gone through this vital community group which provides a connection to local kids and support to local families and whanau.



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

SANTA RUN 2023

Keep the Date!!!!

The Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade will be taking Santa around the Cornwallis, Huia and Little Huia are on **Sunday 10th December.**

The brigade will start from the Huia Fire Station at 10am and head straight to Cornwallis. Follow us on our Facebook page as we will go live during the Santa run to let you know where he is. Listen out for the siren and the music.



Please come out and see us, say hello, and take a photo with Santa as we take him right through our communities.

CAR FIRE WHATIPU ROAD



Unfortunately, after a day spent at Whatipu Beach a group of people were heading back to Huia on Whatipu Road when their vehicle caught fire.

The remote area with unreliable cell phone coverage made it difficult to call 111. However once alerted, the brigade responded ensuring the fire had not spread into the surrounding vegetation. The photo shows QFF Sarah putting out the fire with DCFO Rene overseeing the operation.

Nga Mihi

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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

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