



The Roundabout

March 2024/Volume 59/01

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

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What's happening in our area?

Who is..40?

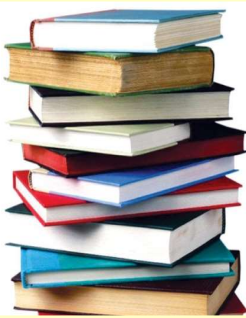
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What is going on at Whatipu?

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Restoring Nature in Laingholm

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

**Check out pages
12-13 & 20-21**

What are our schools doing?

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And don't forget our advertisers!



The Roundabout

Contact Phone No: 817-4658

March 2024 Vol 59/1

MANAGING COMMITTEE FOR THE ROUNDABOUT
Chairman: Graeme Booth 817-4658
Treasurer: Doreen Sunman Secretary: Frances Rodden
Accounts: Gina Towl Printer: Neil Thomas
Advertising: Keith Towl Production: Kevin Gill
Circulation & Deliveries: Corrinne Thomas 022 319 3995

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 Anonymous articles or those with just pseudonyms will not be published.

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As with all newspapers and magazines, we reserve the right to edit where necessary. This is to protect ourselves and you,

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We prefer to have artwork and articles submitted electronically wherever possible. The online address is: theroundabout.editorial@gmail.com.

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

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTION

The Roundabout is delivered door-to-door, free of charge by volunteers in the immediate Laingholm, Parau, Cornwallis and Huia areas. We are happy to mail copies outside the free delivery area at a cost of \$45 for ten issues (March to December). However, the latest issues can be found at our web-page: theroundabout.org.nz



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OUR NEXT ISSUE

The next publication date is **3rd April 2024**
 The deadline for ALL copy is
Monday 25th March 2024

PAYMENT

Invoices for advertisements appearing in the Roundabout will be sent monthly by the Roundabout Society. They may be paid via internet banking to:
 Kiwibank Account No. 38-9017-0529446-00
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Congratulations to the Huia Settlers' Museum

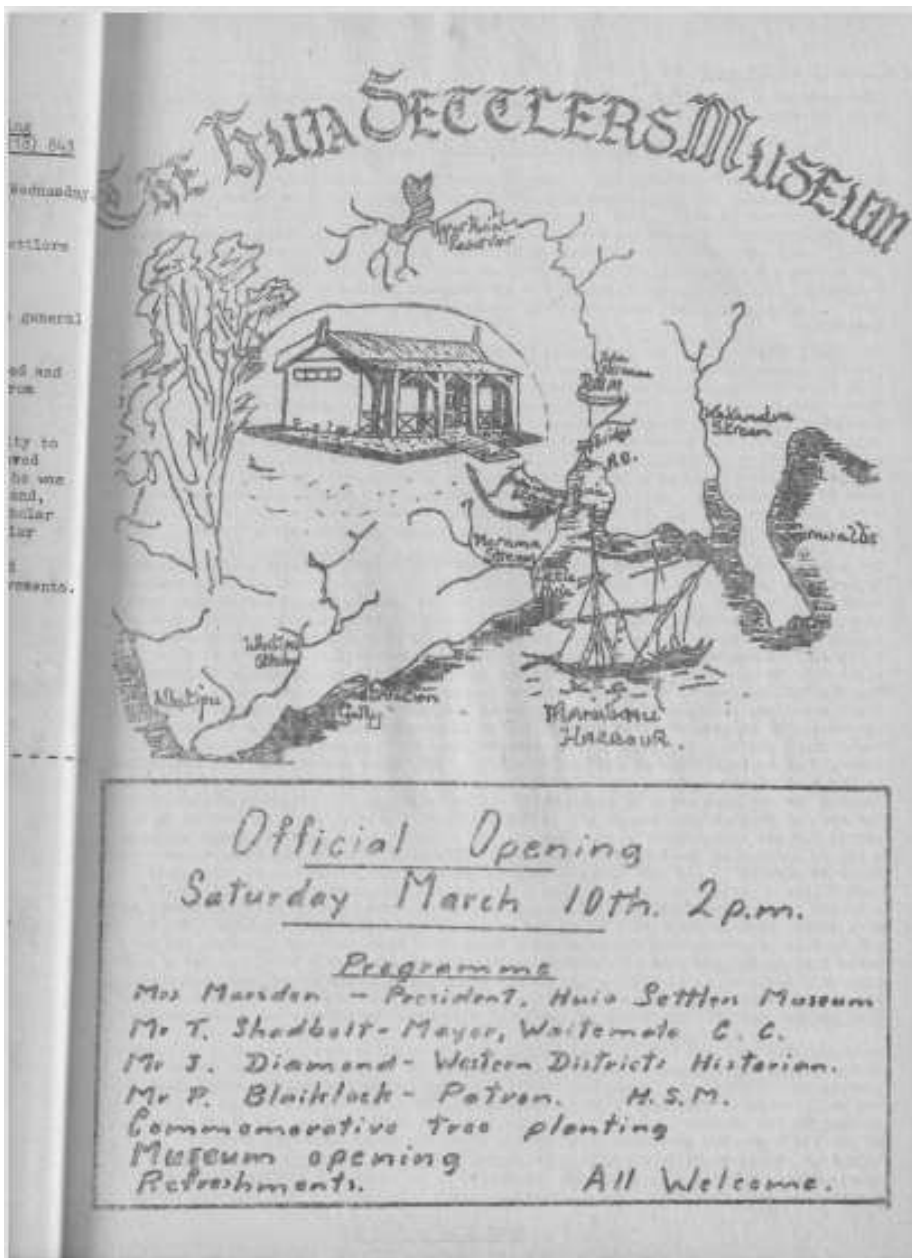
On 10th March 1984, the Huia Museum was officially opened. Local dignitaries and celebrities were present, including the Mayor of Waitemata City, Tim Shadbolt, historian Jack Diamond and the patron of the museum, Peter Blaiklock.

While evidence of Maori hill forts and other fortifications in the area were acknowledged. the museum was established, primarily, as a memorial to the early European settlers, including the Gibbons, Kilgours, the Barrs, Fletchers, Turners, Highams, Hills and Bryans. Many of their descendants still live in and around Huia. Also listed in the booklet printed for the official opening, are early committee members, sponsors and supporters.

A meeting held on 25 October 1981 marked the beginning of the establishment of the museum. A constitution was drawn up, a bank account opened, a name chosen and the collection of artifacts

began. The necessary funds were raised from generous donations, garage sales, raffles and the sale of felled pine trees on local properties. The search for a suitable site resulted in the museum being located on Auckland Regional Authority land, adjacent to the Huia Hall and close to the Karamatura walking track. The build began in June 1983.

It is a tribute to the vision that members of the Huia community had in 1981 and the dedication and hard work that established the museum and continued to develop it, that, 40 years later, it remains an interesting and delightful place, attracting visitors from all over Auckland, New Zealand and, indeed, the whole world





The Roundabout

Maehe 2024/Putanga 59/01

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



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**RESTORATION
RUATUNA**

Restoring Nature in Lougholm

HARI TAU HAU TE WHANAU WHANUI HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE

Each year, after a winter break, Restoration Ruatuna meets to plan the year ahead. We always hold our first meeting in time to make the deadline for the first issue of the Roundabout, so thanks to our wonderful community magicians for giving us that little kick start to the new year and for being the best way to reach our neighbours all year long.

We made great progress last year, our two big restoration projects (Western Park, Western Road and the Auckland Transport land on Warner Park Avenue) are bursting with life and looking great. Thanks especially to all the volunteers that helped to pull weeds and plant natives, not just because it helps with the work, but because it shows us that when the chips are down, we have the community behind us. This is really important to us, and we are very grateful for every little bit of support you can spare, so thank you again.

The Warner Park Avenue site is especially worth celebrating because it has an amazing 'before and after' story. It's a story that we are keen to share with the Lougholm community, and we're working on some creative and fun ways to do this, so watch this space. Good news stories like this are really important for any restoration group, because so much of our work involves killing weeds and predators. We have to keep reminding ourselves that our ultimate goal is to give life to our amazing natural environment. We are on a rescue mission to remove these threats so that our natural environment can survive and thrive.

Have you seen rats running around your property lately? We're getting lots of reports from neighbours about rats running up and down trees and along powerlines into their roofs. They've even been seen running around in broad daylight, sometimes in small packs. This is bad news, when we start seeing them like this, it means they are out there in big numbers. Restoration Ruatuna can help with your rat problem, we have traps and bait and we can teach you how to use them. Email us.

 www.facebook.com/groups/ruatuna/

 restorationruatuna@gmail.com



Mothplant

ARAUJIA HORTORUM

FAMILY ASCLEPIADACEAE (ASCLEPIA)

If you see this weed please take a photo and log it's location on the iNaturalist app: <https://www.inaturalist.org>

Mothplant is a terrible weed, its nickname is the 'bush plant' because it traps and kills butterflies in its sticky gum. Left unchecked, it will completely smother and kill large trees. It grows very rapidly and reproduces by forming a gel seed pods that burst and scatter thousands of seeds. The pods are forming now, so it's really important to cut them off and put them in the bin. Cut the vine at the base and paste to kill the plant completely. Wear gloves because the white milky sap can irritate your skin and eyes.

Prickly, causes dermatitis, protect skin against contact with sap. Destroy ripe pods first to minimise seeding.

1. Pull up seedlings (all year round).
2. Stump swab (best in summer-autumn) a product containing 100g picloram+300g triclopyr/L (100ml/L) or a product containing 200g 2,4-D+100g dicamba/L (200ml/L) or dicamba 50g/L (400ml/L). Remove all pods and dispose of all refuse transfer station, burn or bury deeply. Leave remaining cut material on site to rot down.
3. Spray (summer-autumn): a product containing 100g picloram+300g triclopyr/L (30ml/10L) or a product containing 200g 2,4-D+100g dicamba/L (12ml/L) or dicamba 50g/L (24ml/L).

Stumps sprout. Re-rat areas reseed profusely. Follow up 6 monthly, replant bare spots.

Wild ginger

HEDYCHIUM GARDNERIANUM
FAMILY ZINGIBERACEAE (GINGER)

At this time of year, we're facing flowering wild ginger, and it must be going crazy in this weather because we've noticed lots of seedlings popping up in unusual places. If you see it anywhere, it would make a big difference if you could chop off the flower heads and put them out in the rubbish. If you can do more, maybe dig them out or cut and paste the stems, that's even better.

Plants in deep shade produce few or no seed, so begin control on margins to minimise reseeding.

1. Cut down and paint stump (all year round): cut above pink 'collar' at base and apply picloram gel or glyphosate (250ml/L) or metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (1g /L) or metsulfuron gel. Leave stems and leaves on site to rot down.
2. Dig or pull out small plants (all year round). Don't compost, leave on site to rot down or hang rhizomes in trees, as they survive indefinitely. Dispose of rhizomes at a refuse transfer station or by drying out and burning.
3. Spray (all year round): metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (5g/10L knapsack). Add penetrant in winter. For dense patches keep spray away from roots of vulnerable plants. Don't replant sprayed sites for 6 months.

NEXT WORKING BEE:
MULCH MOVING
SUNDAY 10/3 10AM @ WESTERN PARK



Setting the Adventurous Spirit Free

The purpose of Scouting is to empower young people through adventurous experiences to lead lives that make a positive difference.

This is something that the New Lynn Sea Scout Group has been actively delivering in our community for over 100 years!

Last year finished with New Lynn hosting a water activities day at French Bay for Kea Scouts (5-8 year olds) from Scout Groups across West Auckland. While the Keas at New Lynn get to regularly play on the water as part of their programme, many others do not. So, this was an opportunity for them to experience a range of different water activities and gain some confidence and basic skills while out on the water.

With the sun and weather finally coming to the party, over 100+ Keas worked their way through 8 bases during the course of the day that included paddle boarding, kayaking, sea-biscuiting, power boating, beach games, sailing and diving off boats.

Watching the young Keas progress from lack of confidence about giving something new a go, to having huge smiles on their faces once they have overcome their nervousness is what makes it so rewarding for the Leaders who volunteer their time. Most of the bases were run by the senior Scouts and Venturers, (youth teaching youth) and enabling them to further develop their teamwork and leadership skills along the way.

For those older sections at New Lynn, they are now looking forward to the many camps and regattas that Term 1 brings. The first event being the 184th running of the Auckland Anniversary Day Regatta before heading off to Kai Iwi lakes in Northland for a weekend camp and regatta.

With the Start of term 1, this is an ideal time to set that adventurous spirit free. The New Lynn Sea Scout Group caters for boys and girls aged 5 - 19 years. So if you want a slice of the action on the water, or to go camping and explore the awesome adventure playground that we are blessed with out West, then give Andrew a ring on 027 6939 756 or check out www.newlynn.seascouts.org.nz for more details.



Some of the action from the Kea Boating Day.



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MARKET UPDATE

So what are we seeing in the property market right now? The property market is largely driven by supply and demand.

After a less than normal 3 year cycle where listings numbers didn't follow their regular trends in alignment to seasonal changes due to political climate, world health, extreme weather events and economic downturns, we are now seeing a rather extreme upturn in listing numbers across the board with Titirangi reaching a staggering 65 listings and Laingholm 16 listings, the most I've ever seen on the market in our suburb at one time.

Our values in November recovered marginally from the excessive downturn experienced between January 2022 and October 2023, with some great sale prices in November / December 2023 and overall hope for better things to come.

Unfortunately 2024 has seen a record number of listings, along with the lowest sale price recorded in Laingholm in years, a nosedive to our home's values and another onslaught of low asking prices crippling the areas values.

On a positive note brokers are offering hope to first home buyers, historically one of Laingholms larger buyer pools, offering 95% loans and less bank intervention into peoples personal habits... ie no more coffee counting by banks. Investors are also feeling some relief from overly tight bank restrictions. The overall mentality however is still one of caution.

If you would like to know where your house is sitting in today's market, contact us for a market appraisal, keep informed and beware of unscrupulous door knockers.



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"Join us at Whatipu Lodge on Sunday 17 March 11am to hear historian and author Graeme Murdoch. Graeme will talk about the history of Whatipu, Maori place names and traditions.

Bring a picnic lunch, portable seat and please park in the public car park. Celebrate the fascinating history and love for this wild corner of the Waitakere Ranges. Tea and coffee is provided. Koha is appreciated. This event is hosted by Friends of Whatipu."

Friends of Whatipu 0221359330

(From webpage <https://www.whatipulodge.co.nz>)

Whatipū is beautiful, wild and remote with significant Māori associations and many historic sites. There are five documented pā sites. Shell middens, karaka groves and earthworks for housing and gardens are evidence of Māori's long occupation. Te Kawerau ā Maki are acknowledged as retaining the mana whenua of their ancestral domain. Whatipū is the name of a taniwha who settled at the mouth of the Manukau Harbour. The land of Paorae once extended south from the Manukau Heads to the Waikato River mouth. Māori tradition records Paorae as a place to gather food.

Laingholm Craft Mkt

Where: Laingholm Baptist Church 1 Victory Rd, Laingholm
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Welcome to 2024!!!!

With the weather events that took place in 2023, I think many of us were happy to see the back of 2023. What a different summer we seem to be having this year compared to last year.

If you have been around this summer, you would have likely seen us out and about. This has been one of the busiest summers we have had in some time. The re-opening of many of the Waitakere Tracks have brought a vast array of visitors. The Brigade have been involved in a few rescue operations in the Waitakere Tracks. Some common themes to these rescues;

- Not taking any water;
- Wearing clothing not appropriate for the heat (jeans, jumpers etc);
- Bad planning
- Not asking for advice during the trek

What also hasn't helped is the lack of access due to overcrowding the car parks.

On more than one occasions our vehicles and other responding vehicles (including ambulances) have been unable to gain access into certain areas because vehicles have parked so close to each other that it has restricted access.

It has been one year since the devastating events of the Auckland Floods and Cyclone Gabrielle.

It was by far the busiest time for our brigade in quite some years.

It was also time to remember the fallen firefighters from the Muriwai Volunteer Fire Brigade. It's important that we come together in these times to discuss the impacts these events had on us and support each other.





HUIA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

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In an emergency dial 111

2023/24 Summer Summary

Our call outs have been varied. From Motor Vehicle Accidents, Car Fires, Medical Calls, Boat v Power pole just to name a few.

We also had a great time at the Karamatua Farm Day during Waitangi Day. Another great annual event supported by locals.



FAMILY FUN DAY



6th of April 2024



3pm to 6pm

1 Victory Road, Laingholm

- Gladiator Arena
- Cake
- Pulled Pork Buns
- Games
- Bouncy Castle
- Ice Cream
- Nachos & Vege Nachos
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- Sausage Sizzlers

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before daylight saving kicks in

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 - 2 Tablespoons White Vinegar
 - 1 Teaspoon Grainy Mustard
 - 1 Teaspoon Brown Sugar
 - 1 Clove Garlic crushed or 1 Teaspoon Garlic from a bought jar
- Mix altogether and shake in a jar

SALAD

- 1 Cup Peas or Beans - cooked
- 4 Cups Rocket or Lettuce Leaves
- 2 Peaches cut into slices
- Chopped Tomatoes
- 100g Smoked Chicken - diced
- Salt & Pepper to Taste



Place all of the salad ingredients, except the peaches into a bowl. Pour over the dressing and season with salt and pepper and toss. Decorate with peach slices and tomatoes and serve immediately.

PLUM OR BERRY FROZEN CAKE

- 8 Plums - stones removed and chopped, or 2 Cups of Berries
- ¼ Cup of Sugar
- 2 Tablespoons Water
- 2 Teaspoons Grated Ginger or pre-grated Ginger from the jar
- 1 Packet Meringues - you can buy at a supermarket for around \$8 or make your own.
- 200mls Whipped Cream

Cook the fruit with the sugar, water and ginger for about 10 mins until soft. Blend and cool.

Crush the meringues, fold in the cream and slowly fold in about half of the puree.

Spoon the mixture into a baking tin lined with baking paper and freeze. Before serving take out of the freezer for 10 minutes before eating. Drizzle with a little puree and a little fruit and a mint leaf and more whipped cream.





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COMING SOON : a presentation on the Orpheus shipwreck hosted by Sir Bob Harvey.

Tragedies in The Huia. 1873 tragedy. The Reverend David Hamilton goes missing. An extract from “The Settlement of The Huia”.

On Wednesday, July 9th1873, he left on horseback for a preaching and visiting tour in the ranges between Avondale and the Manukau Heads. He conducted a service at Gibbons timber mill at Big Huia (15 miles from Avondale) on the 10th and then proceeded to travel the remaining 5 miles further on to the mill at Whatipu, but never reached there.. When he failed to turn up at Avondale to conduct the next Sunday service there, alarm spread as to his whereabouts and safety. The bridle track between Huia and Whatipu was notoriously difficult to negotiate, particularly for the Rev, being newly arrived in the colony and unused to travel in such difficult conditions as existed in the remote areas of the Waitakere Ranges. Two settlers set out at once in search of the missing Rev. On the Monday morning these were followed by two others. During the day a meeting was held at Avondale at which four additional people volunteered their services. Two constables and 20 men from the Huia Kakamatua and Whatipu mills scattered themselves throughout the search area. Eventually the horse was found entangled in supple-jack and tracks were discovered leading from it, but those were soon lost in the rain sodden bush. Not hoping to find the Rev alive in such adverse weather. The searchers gradually grew discouraged and returned to their homes. On the Thursday, exactly one week after his disappearance, the Rev Bruce and Mr Buchanan from the Whau church rode to the Huia and offered a reward of 25 pounds to anyone who should find the Rev Hamilton, dead or alive. Stimulated by this, a number went out who had not previously taken part in the search and on the following Sunday, July 20th, three men found his body in the Whatipu stream within half an hours walk of his destination at the mill. One arm was broken and the body considerably bruised. Some supposed that, overcome by nightfall, the deceased had left his horse and going forth to search for the track to the mill, had in the darkness of the bush, fallen over a precipice into the stream below from whence his body was washed by floodwaters to where it was found. Others surmised that after becoming lost and disorientated he had died from exposure and that his injuries were received by being swept along the torrent. The weather was now so stormy that it was impossible to transport the body back to Avondale by boat so ten of the men from the mills took turns in carrying it overland, a distance of about 20 miles. The so-called road being little more than a bush track, but even this venture was only accomplished with much difficulty. The Rev David Hamilton was buried in the Presbyterian Church cemetery at the corner of Great North Road and St Georges Road, Avondale. Later a monument was erected over his grave which still remains and can still be visited today. His epitaph reads : :In memory of Rev David Hamilton, clergyman of this parish, who after a pastorate of 15 months, died from exposure in the Manukau Forrest in the month of July 1873, aged 29 years”.

Submitted by Lesley (Jakobi) Laing, Secretary, Huia Settlers Museum.



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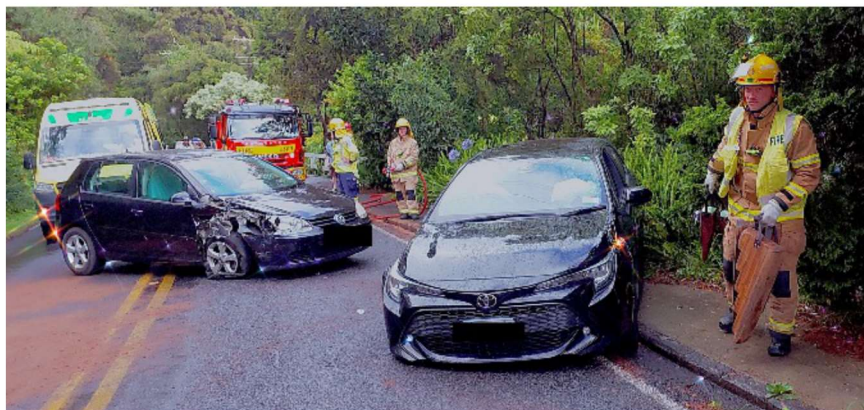
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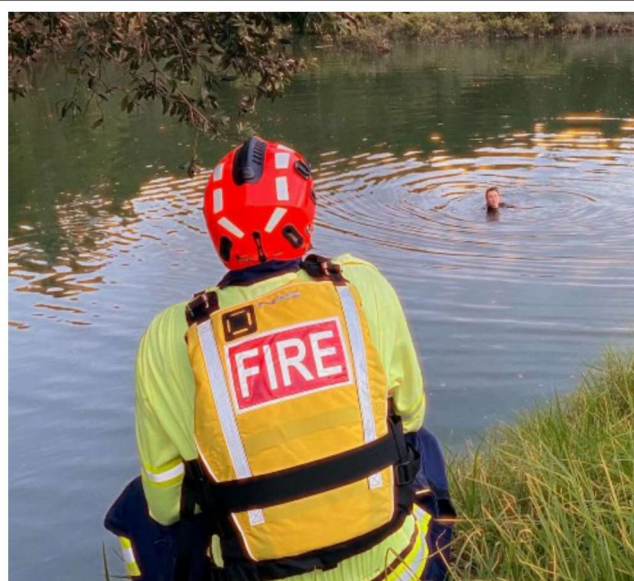
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Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade

Huia Road again. We were called to Parau where two cars had collided head on. We gave first aid to an injured driver prior to the arrival of ambulance. The crew of the Avondale rescue tender cut away part of the metalwork of the vehicle so he could be removed to the ambulance without worsening his injuries. Huia Road had to be closed during the operation and we are grateful to the patient motorists who waited until the operation could be completed.



On a more cheerful note here's some of our crew ready to set out for our Santa run just before Christmas last year. We distributed hundreds of bags of lollies to our local children and it's something we have been doing every year since the brigade was founded in 1955



The days when fire brigades just put out fires are long gone and in recent years we have embraced the skills needed to work safely in and near water. As the climate changes brigades are increasingly being called to floods and other extreme events. All fire appliances now carry water safety kits and here's our crew using flotation aids in the estuary near the Lower Nihotupu Dam. In addition to practical work like this all brigade members must go through regular skills revisions on station.



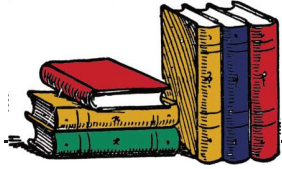
It was with great regret that we said farewell to Station Officer Richard Kerr who has spent over 19 years in the brigade. Richard and Gina are moving to Okato in Taranaki where there is a volunteer brigade he will be transferring into. We held a function on station to thank Richard for his service where Chief Officer Graeme Booth presented him with a medal making him a Life Honorary Member of the brigade, along with an inscribed statuette.



Senior firefighter Brad Laloli was presented with his five year medal by Chief Officer Graeme Booth on a recent training night. He has become a very important member of the brigade in that time and we look forward to him moving up in the ranks. He has accepted the role of a training officer and has spent a lot of time training recruits. So it was appropriate that he presented Jen Mason with her firefighter epaulettes after she had completed her week-long basic firefighter training course.

Working with our neighbouring brigades Huia and Titirangi is very important as we often depend on them to assist us and do the same for them in return. A crew from our station went to Huia to take part in rural fire training last month which involved working with portable fire pumps and forestry hose. It also gives crews a chance to see what is carried on other fire appliances and where it's kept.





Book Reviews



GEORGE WADSWORTH & IAN JOHNSON

Politics on the Edge-A Memoir from within by Rory

Stewart The author was a conservative member of the United Kingdom Parliament from 2010 to 2019. This book gives a searing, critical and honest account of how, first he was chosen for the seat of Cumbria and his electorate experiences and secondly the incredible difficulties he had in whatever portfolio he held and whatever he tried to do when his party was the Government. He left with nothing but contempt for what the conservative party had become, its leaders, in particular Boris Johnson and Liz Truss. I found the book enthralling but deeply troublesome, definitely worth reading. Rory Stewart is the other half of the very popular podcast "The Rest is Politics" and was president of the charity GiveDirectly, to name but two of the many activities and posts he has held.

The Grouchy Historian -An old- time lefty defends the Constitution against right wing hypocrites and nutjobs by

Ed Asner with E.D.Weinberger. Ed Asner was Lou Grant in the Mary Tylor Moore show. E D Weinberger is a comedy writer. Apart from setting out how the American Constitution came to be written, including a thumbnail sketch of the 55 framers of it, they take serious but hilarious aim at the Christian Right, Senator Ted Cruz, Ben Carson MD, Mark Levin, a broadcaster, the Justices Scalia and Clarence Thomas, and Guns and the NRA and others. Here are some of the quotes -on the Second Amendment "The Constitution does not give everyone the right to vote. Hell the Framers didn't want everyone to have a vote, let alone a gun". The Framers of the Constitution -"As diverse a group as the Mormon Tabernacle Choir" and former Justice A Scalia "The one percent's favorite judge since Pontius Pilate". Not only is the book entertainingly educational but is is very funny.

A History of New Zealand in 100 Objects by Jock Phillips.

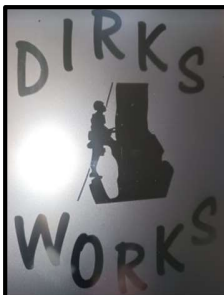
The author dedicates this book to generations younger than his in the hope that they would find the history of New Zealand exciting.

He has taken 100 various objects ranging from early Maori such as a Crocodile jaw, Monks cave kuri on to early European, including De Survilles anchor and James Cook's cannon and finishing off with "Thunder Down Under", Christchurch portable toilet and last but not least, AilysTewnions 'crocheted bears' You will have to read the book to find out the bears' names.

Around each object he has woven history and comment which is not only educational but a very easy and fascinating read. If only history was taught like this in decades past. Most of the objects are pictured and there are numerous references for further reading. A fabulous book and a must read.

The Trail West , Hang Him Twice by William W Johnstone with his nephew J A Johnstone

This is a wild west thriller set in the time of Buffalo Bill Cody, Wild Bill Hickok, Horatio Whitman who died in chapter one saving the life of our hero, Dooley Monahan, and others, never forgetting Dooley's faithful hound Blue or his horse General Grant. Dooley wins a gold mine in a poker game from Horatio but before he can tell Dooley the site of the mine he dies - see above. Soon we are introduced to former friends of Dooley, namely George Miller and his beautiful partner Julia Cooperman and their mutual friend Butch Sweeney. Eventually after several gun shooting skirmishes where Dooley escapes but his protagonists die, he becomes Marshall of Leadville, a wild west lawless town. Then he locates his mine, makes money while all the while refusing to sell and antagonising the wealthy mine owners who want the mine themselves. Dooley and Julia find themselves trapped in the mine by George Miller (a real baddie if ever there was one) but with the help of Butch, our Hero lives again only to be disappointed and finally riding off -with Blue of course, into the sunset. Definitely a fun read which took me back to Saturday afternoons at the Royal Cinema in Kingsland where cowboys and indians and Tarzan were on show.



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Journey through sound with Sika at Laingholm Village Hall.

South Island multi-instrumentalist Sika returns to Laingholm to weave a shamanic sound journey at Laingholm Village Hall on Tuesday 12th March at 7.30pm.

Sika's sound experience features didgeridoos, drums, flutes, voice and orchestral elements. Field recordings that he makes out in nature are also part of this rich arrangement, that is designed to unfold like a powerful soundtrack, carrying us into worlds within worlds.

The New Zealand-based sound artist, originally from Sussex in the UK, aims to enhance our relationship with nature through music.

Sika records live loops and works with the elemental sounds of water, stone, fire, trees, animals and wind, aiming to create powerful soundscapes that give voice to wood, skin, bone, stone and shell.

It is suggested that you bring along your own comfortable seating or mat to sit or lie down. Tickets are available in advance online at eventfinda.co.nz or at the door if not sold out prior.

The last time Sound Artist Sika played at Laingholm Village Hall in 2023 he had a full house, so booking is strongly recommended.



Tomatoes, tomatoes, tomatoes! Welcome back to Roundabout gardening. I hope everyone has enjoyed some summer produce after last year's challenging season. One of the joys of being a gardener is being able to share produce and after last year's fail it has been great to share a bountiful crop of tomatoes with friends and neighbours. I really did take care of my tomatoes this year, staking and feeding them regularly and the results prove it is worth the effort. Gardeners seem to be a sharing, caring bunch and I've been fortunate to receive plants and seeds from like-minded people, with quite a high success rate. I had an average yield of potatoes but after last year's rotting in the ground I was happy to get any. My garlic is also a bit average while the lettuces would have been great if I'd given them a bit more TLC. Peppers and chillies are flourishing! At this stage the pumpkins look promising although the leaves are covered in powdery mildew in this warm humid air. I'm largely ignoring this although I'm cutting off the worst affected, but what to do with it? Personally I'm not ready to think about autumn yet but the dedicated will be starting to sow their seeds for the colder months. Let's hope we get some good gardening weather and fine evenings over autumn. Meanwhile, enjoy those summer delights. Cheers

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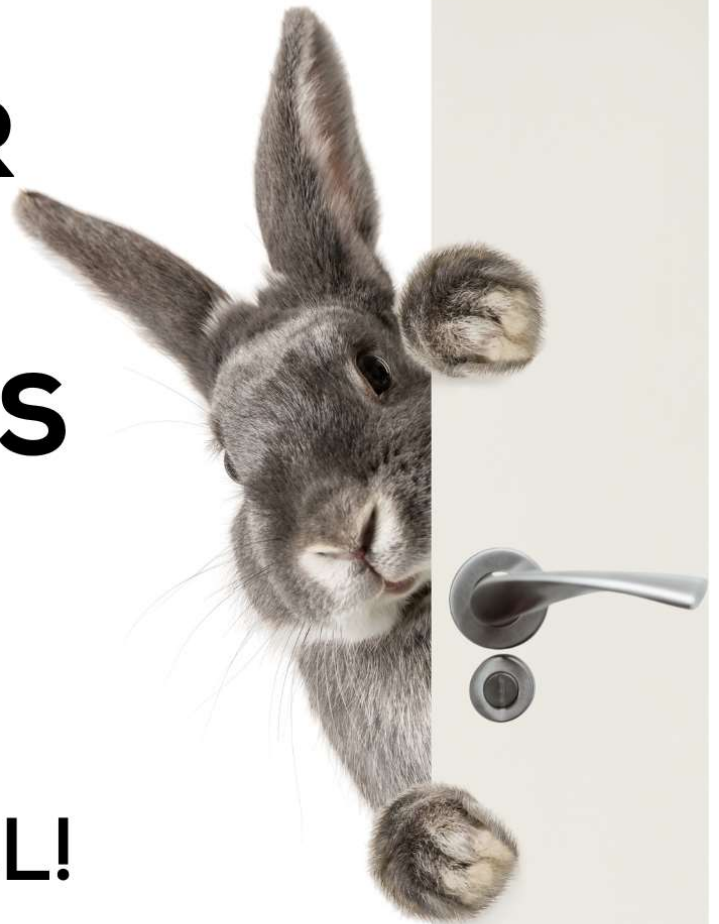


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Top Salesperson, Titirangi Branch, to end March 2023

Milestone

Welcome to a new school year! This year, 2024 marks a significant milestone in the life of Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School - the first year of having a full set of twelve stand-alone Classes 1 – 12, alongside Pēpi Aroha (Playgroup), Nursery and the Kindertagens.

It's the realisation of a dream and the commitment set in motion all those years ago in 1986 when the Rudolf Steiner Schools (Titirangi) Trust was established, and the first small kindergarten group began at the Titirangi Beach Hall.

It comes a full 30 years after the lower school classes moved to the site known as Laing's Hill in 1994 from a rented property in Parau, with kindertagens preceding them a few months earlier. The creation of the school on this site was a huge step and a momentous undertaking by parents and teachers of the day in transforming a defunct clay quarry into a functional and lovable school with classrooms, landscaping, and all the necessary services. Much gratitude goes out to those parents and teachers who made this happen!

Life-long Learning

This summer holiday of 2023/2024 has been one of amazing energy and enthusiasm, with several events held on school grounds epitomising the ethos that Waldorf-Steiner education upholds of life-long learning.

Participants from our school community, as well as from all over the country and beyond, gathered here and participated in truly inspiring events: the Christmas Foundation Meeting Centenary Conference, ECE Diploma course, a child development mini-conference, and Dr Torin Finser's talk, workshop and seminar.

The first event began on Boxing Day, a three-day conference to mark the 100-year centenary of the 'Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Anthroposophical Society', recognising a very important moment in the life of Anthroposophy, the impulse which underpins Waldorf schools. Each day contained talks, small group discussions, a delicious lunch and afternoon workshops - including the arts of painting, sculpting, eurythmy, speech and drama, and biodynamic agriculture, now well established at TRSS.

A wonderful event which served to strengthen the foundation of not only this school but other initiatives too.

Towards the end of the holidays, following the ECE Diploma course, came the hugely popular mini-conference with the lively and engaging Mary Willow. Mary, who has worked almost a lifetime with parents and children as a nurse, midwife, and Waldorf early childhood teacher, founded Plum Parenting in 2004 to provide one-on-one services to help parents with parenting. Parents and teachers came from all over the country to receive Mary's wisdom and participate in afternoon outdoor craft workshops.

TITIRANGI RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL

Next, another esteemed visitor, Dr. Torin Finser, made his way from the east coast of the USA. A former Waldorf teacher and renowned author, Dr. Finser delivered an inspiring evening talk on 'Education for Nonviolence and Healing - The Waldorf Way', highlighting how Waldorf schools provide pathways towards wholeness through sensory and nature-based education, the arts, character education, community building, and traditions of hospitality and asking thought provoking questions for our collective future.

His visit also included a full-day workshop for TRSS staff and a one-day leadership seminar attended by leaders of initiatives throughout the country. Indeed, a very special and inspiring visit!

Whakatau – Welcome 2024

What a wonderful opening it was to our school year with our first Whakatau - welcoming the new year, new staff and new families.

The day included a hīkoi - a walk on the land – to pass on some of the history and see first-hand where and what our pupils get up to in the bush, gardens, native nursery and outdoor areas. The weather was stunning, and our talented musician parents also enhanced the day's social and joyous atmosphere.

Special thanks go to everyone involved, including the amazing hāngī crew for the abundance of food cooked and served. In the spirit of giving, we were able to share leftover vegetables with a supported community that has lost its grants. Their gratitude for the food they received reminds us of the importance of generosity and community support.

As the proverb says:

*Nāu te rourou, nāku te rourou ka ora ai te iwi
With your basket and my basket, the people will thrive*

All these events bring a sense of rejuvenation and enlivening for the school and this education as we head into 2024 with much enthusiasm!

TRSS - upcoming events

Biography Work an introductory evening

Tuesday 12 March | 7pm - 8:30pm | Free

Biography Workshops work with 7-year life phases and planetary cycles, along with artistic processes to facilitate insight into our unique paths through life aiming to:

- create a space to meet, learn and value human life more deeply
- understand the laws, archetypes and phases of human life
- develop our knowledge of ourselves and our own particular path

It is a gentle means of increasing our awareness of our inner resources and connecting to our common humanity.

The introductory evening is designed to explore

- concepts of Body Soul and Spirit across the life span
- 7-year phases as a tool for understanding our life span
- how Steiner Education is an education for life and
- answer questions about Biography Workshops

Workshop Leader

Rhyll Stafford has run Biography Workshops since 1998. She is a registered Counsellor, Facilitator and Trainer and regularly sponsored to Worldwide Biography Conferences in Europe. Enquiries rhyll@miracompanions.co.nz or ph: 027 344 9847

Open Days Kindergarten Information Afternoon

Monday 13 May 1:15pm

Tuesday 11 June 1:15pm

Come along and learn about the education philosophy and practice for Early Childhood.

Visit the Kindergarten & Nursery rooms and gardens including Ngahere, our bush base, for Kindergarten and beyond.

Kindergarten & School Tours

by arrangement

Learn about the underlying philosophy of this education and overview of the curriculum.

To register for an Information Afternoon or arrange a School Tour

Contact School

office 817-4386 or email

enrol@titirangi.steiner.school.nz



Titirangi Village Market

Last Sunday of the Month

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

10am - 2pm

Titirangi War Memorial Hall
500 South Titirangi Road

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A Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School Initiative.

Titirangi Rudolf Steiner Pēpi Aroha - Playgroup

Monday - Friday mornings

9:30am - 12pm

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For more information email Carlene:
pepiaroha@trss.nz



The Forgotten Suburb

50 years ago, The Laingholm Roundabout was a much smaller publication – A4 sheets, folded in half. Today, The Roundabout is printed on A3 sheets which are folded in half – and we have dropped “Laingholm” from the title as the magazine serves a much wider area than that. The magazine was established as a fund raiser for the school. In the March 1974 edition of The Laingholm Roundabout, there appeared this item:

To ALL who worked so very hard for LAINGHOLM SCHOOL BOTTLE DRIVE, a very big

THANK YOU

It was a joy to see all the boys and girls – especially the primers – giving so much of their energy!

A happy crowd of helpers managed to process all the bottles before 5 o'clock and even the weather held! The people of our district contributed to the school \$326.63 in bottles and glass, with which we will buy some audio-visual teaching equipment.

Thank you all ... School Committee

This is definitely a fund-raising activity from a by-gone era. In today's health and safety conscious climate there is no way such an event would be sanctioned. But, back then, there was no kerb-side recycling – in fact, another article in that same Laingholm Roundabout indicates that some of the area had no rubbish collection at all. Most bottles were glass. Often there was a deposit on the bottle that you could claim from

the dairy or the bottle store. So many people didn't bother to return their bottles that schools, scout troops and other organisations would organize bottle drives to collect them to raise funds.

This bottle drive also collected broken glass which was put into drums. Even 5 and 6 year olds, it seems, were enthusiastically joining in the fun. I can imagine them – on the back trays of the utes and trucks being driven around the then-unsealed roads. No compulsory child restraints in those days. Hair-raising stuff! There are other references to the bottle drive in the March '74 magazine – but no mention of any injuries. Perhaps there was none. Everyone (even the youngest) took personal responsibility and kept themselves safe.

And what of the money raised: \$326.63? Adjusted for inflation, that is about \$2,044 today. Not a bad day's work!

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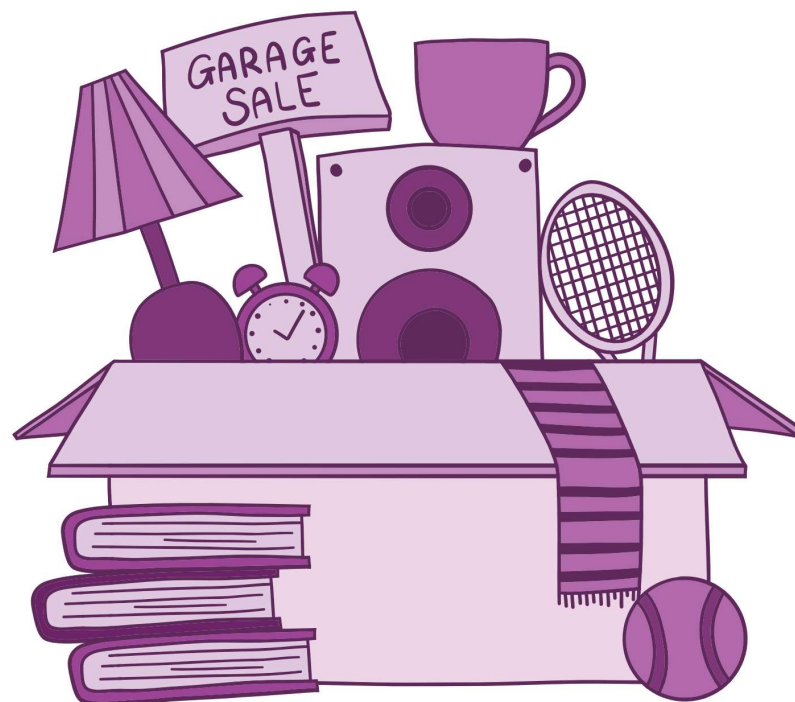
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Giddy and a belated happy new year fishos. Where did 2023 go? The fishing was not memorable in the harbour but from memory the big Boys regularly cleaned up over the bar. This year not as good so far – poor catches and fishos having to go out as far as 80m to do any good. In the recent Chesters fishing competition a 485cm gurnard won a prize but the fella who caught it said he tried at 70m then out to 80m (which is a helluva long way) before he got onto the snapper, but nothing huge.

Got to thinking about the nature and make-up of fishos and decided that they're mostly an upright honest breed but there are the odd few who tell porkies when it comes to fishing tales. Now these fishos wouldn't consider themselves actual liars – more distorters of the truth. There is definitely a reluctance for some of them to admit they fished badly – or worse still caught nothing at all. It's as if it's a slur on their masculinity to admit to failure so a little exaggeration helps to repair the ego. (Before I'm accused of sexism I'm sure there are female varieties of this type of fisho too.) I once had first hand experience of such a fisho. We were over the bar, catching nothing, when a boat sidled up alongside. Doing any good...any decent snapper? asked the skipper. Yeah, shouted my mate, we're doing okay. I was gobsmacked, we didn't have a single snapper on board! I stared at him but he made no attempt to explain this deception and after that I became very cynical about fishing stories.

Moving on, this February would have to be about the worst fishing I've known. The harbour is overrun with little snapper but not a trevally or kahawai in sight and I've almost forgotten what a gurnard looks like. Was out a while ago on one of the biggest tides of the year and became the victim of that red hairy weed which is a fisho's curse. The flaming stuff collects on your sinkers, hooks, bait, swivels and anything it can attach itself to. It just keeps building and eventually the rods bend over with the weight. At this point you naively believe you have a small shark or dogfish on as they act like a dead weight, then up comes a ton of weed. There was no escaping the stuff, it was everywhere. On the odd occasion a fish did get hooked it was a small snapper. Things couldn't get any worse and a girl could need counselling for this. I slunk home disgusted and fishless.

A quick word of warning about being out on the harbour on big tides. All manner of debris gets swept in, including tree trunks, and it can be like an obstacle course dodging your way through it. So not a good idea to plane out at a great rate of knots. Be vigilant.

Now a little anecdote told to me by a reliable fishing mate. He'd been yarning to a fella who fishes off the rocks at Whatipu. This fella told him he collects mussels off the rocks, smashed them up and makes a berley trail around the edges of the rocks. The snapper come around and he dips in a landing net and hauls them out! My mate seemed to think this fella was telling the truth but I will leave it for you to decide the pros and cons of it. The intrepid among you may even want to try it and see if it works.

Ok fishos, that's all on the nautical front so joke time but I've just about exhausted my supply. No apologies for any repeats.

Fella at Huia Fishing Club: "Last week I caught a fish so big I dislocated my shoulder describing it." Dolphins are very intelligent. After a week or so in captivity they can train humans to stand on the side of the pool several times a day feeding them fish. Ok fishos, that's all for now, good luck with the fishing and remember it's all to do with how you hold your mouth.

Cheers Winnie



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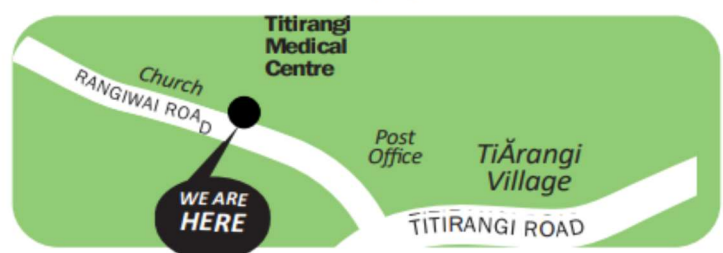
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Titirangi Library and Titirangi Community House events for March

Tuesday 5 March 2 – 5pm Drop-in during the afternoon to have your say on Auckland Council’s next long-term plan 2024 – 2034 which is the 10-year recovery budget. Meet with Zenovia Pappapetros, Engagement Advisor for Henderson-Massey, Waitākere Ranges & Whau Local Boards

Saturday 16 March 2 – 3.45pm A celebration of Ron Riddell’s new book “Awakening to Timelessness” with readings by Ron Riddell, a collection of Titirangi poems with a cello performance by Raul Pierard. Titirangi War Memorial Hall, entry by koha, books available for purchase at \$25. All welcome.

Tuesday 19 March 10.30 – 11.30am Have you heard that new recycling nationwide standards have been adopted, affecting some of the things you can put into your bin? Learn about the changes in a welcoming presentation from the Waste-wise team, who can answer your questions on the new protocols. This event is running as part of EcoFest.

Tuesday 26 March 11am – 12pm Charity crafters drop-in session. Come and join us for a cuppa and share in the enjoyment of creating for a purpose. We use donated materials to produce items which are gifted to local charities. All levels of skill are welcome and we help each other with the projects. This event is running as part of EcoFest.

Vibrant Auckland-wide EcoFest will kick off in March 2024



EcoMatters

Learn to make butter like they did one hundred years ago, explore Auckland’s largest wetland on a VIP kayak tour; nurture native seeds to help restore our local streams; master the art of Japanese gift wrapping! These are just a few of over 250 inspiring and sustainable activities on offer during this year’s EcoFest, running from 15 March to 14 April.

EcoFest’s aim is to make sustainability fun and accessible; inspiring people to make simple changes to reduce their impact on the environment.

“EcoFest has always been a grassroots festival, offering local change-makers a chance to share their skills and ideas, championing our local environment, supporting collaboration and celebrating the importance of community,” says Carla Gee, CEO of EcoMatters Environment Trust.

Starting on Friday 15 March, the month-long EcoFest 2024 programme will be packed with events, activities, installations and workshops for people of all ages and at any stage of their sustainability journey.

This year, Arataki Visitor Centre is hosting a wonderful twilight walk experience with Annette Lees, author of *After Dark: Walking into the Nights of Aotearoa*. Starting with a kōrero, attendees will embark on a sunset walk along the Nature Trail, using their senses and limited sight to experience the rainforest in a whole other light.

West Aucklanders already know and love EcoFest, which has run in their area for more than a decade now. In 2023, organisers EcoMatters Environment Trust joined forces with Kaipātiki Project, Beautification Trust and Waiheke Resources Trust to take the festival regionwide. Find out more at ecofest.org.nz

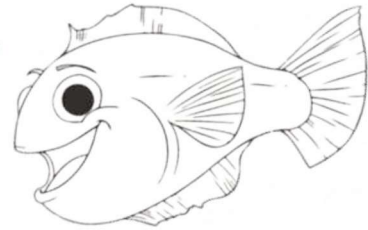
Local Events for 2024 include:

[Recycled Tea Cup Birdfeeders, Titirangi](#) [Wonderful Wetlands, Titirangi](#) [Recycle Right, Titirangi](#) [Titirangi Village Market](#)
[Titirangi Library](#) [Charity Crafters](#) [Pest Plant Road Show, Laingholm](#) [Love Your Stream Day, Glen Eden](#)
[Waikumete Stream Clean Up, Glen Eden](#) [Have your say Waitakere Ranges, Glen Eden](#) [Native Seed Bomb Workshop, Arataki](#)
[Visitors Centre](#) [Twilight Walk with Annette Lees, Arataki Visitors Centre](#) [DIY Beeswax Wraps with Earthbound Honey, Arataki](#)
[Visitors Centre](#) [New Lynn Hub](#) [Trip to Arataki Visitor Centre, New Lynn](#)

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Last week, I voted against Auckland Council's proposed Long-Term Plan public consultation document. Because I believe it is disingenuous to the internal cost-cutting and disestablishment of present procurement practices that are alluded to in the small print.

I feel this way because the document's headlines reinforce the premise that ratepayers must pay more for better service levels, and if they ask to pay less, they must understand they will receive fewer services. This is accompanied by much talk about asset sales, underpinning a perception to the reader that our problems will be resolved by releasing more money.

For 18 months, I've been hammering away at Council's exorbitant costs of infrastructure delivery. However, the draft LTP gives no concise direction on how Auckland Council will curtail this spending other than the numerous comments regarding driving efficiencies.

The problem is way bigger than mere physical inefficiencies. We need an overhaul of our service delivery methodology and the bureaucratic thinking behind it.

In the NZ Herald business section Thursday 22 Feb, Matthew Birchall wrote an article titled "Deficit obsession ignores abysmal state of Kiwi infrastructure delivery." Oh, how I wish I could articulate the problem as well as this article does. It is worth the read!

Below is my pick of the main points. These figures are for the whole of New Zealand, but council costs are just a smaller reflection of this.

It's presently estimated that \$200B is needed to address shortfalls in NZ infrastructure.

The deficit narrative obscures the harsh truth about the poor state of infrastructure delivery. NZ spends about 5.5% of GDP on public infrastructure more than Australia and the OECD medium.

But we reap a poor return from this infrastructure investment, ranking near the bottom 10% of high-income countries for the efficiency of our infrastructure spending.

The price of building and maintaining our infrastructure has risen one-third faster than prices elsewhere in the economy, while infrastructure construction productivity has grown at one-third the rate of the overall economy.

Aucklanders know this is true; they see evidence of it every day. Here is just another small example of this every day unnecessary spending: The removal of



Henry Atkinson's statue in Titirangi while new steps were constructed, and someone decided it a good opportunity to do some upgrading.

11:30 100% LTE1 LTE2 71%

← [Icons]

reviews and re-design. The site also has infrastructure services underneath that required hydro-excavation for the new foundation.

Category	Cost
Specialist conservation incl. purchase and preparation of granite plinth	\$43,285
Engineering design and geotechnical assessment	\$6,640
Foundation Build - including hydro-excavation	\$64,555
Transportation and installation	\$2,500
TOTAL	\$116,980

Thanks,

[Navigation icons]

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The Annual Woodlands Park School Triathlon

I looked around me and the only thing I could see was people. This was a crowded Triathlon, an annual event that is loved by all of our community. This felt surreal. The triathlon consists of three summer sports: biking, swimming and running. The ages go from 5 to 10 years old and when you are eight or older you can do a team consisting of three people: one who does a run, one who does a swim and one who rides a bike.



This year I made a team with my sister and one of my friends Livia. She swam, and my younger sister Sofia did the bike and I ran. A rush of excitement filled my body up to the top as my sister started the bike. By the time she had finished I saw Livia run like the wind into the pool. After a minute I saw Livia sprint so when she tagged me I did the same; we were in 1st until I got overtaken I felt defeated but then I saw I was in third place. The rush of excitement that I had before came back to me. Then I slowed down, someone overtook me but luckily my best friend Ella helped me and with her help we came 3rd. It was the best day of my life.

Written by Ellie (Rm 18)

Room 15's Adventure

Yesterday, Friday the 19th of January 2024, at about 11:10 to 12:00 o'clock, Micah led Room 15 out on a dangerous journey around the terrors of Woodlands Park School on a tour (even though most of us had been there for a few years at least.) Earlier, he had given us a clue as to what the 3rd place we would visit was: "Somewhere with water that isn't the pool." It clicked in my mind that it must be the stream, which was exciting, because it was not in the actual school grounds and it was a beautiful and memorable place to be.



Our first stop was the wonderful mural at the front of the rainbow room. Micah explained that it was positioned there so that any visitors could see it clearly when they arrived or drove past in their cars. He also told us that it was a visual way of telling people who we are through beautiful artwork. It showed the roundabout in the village with the sky tower and eels in the running stream. There were big rocks positioned in front of it so that people could sit and admire another's hard work. The rocks were the same ones that around this time last year I had played on and created Mr. Pea. Suddenly, while Micah was explaining the mural, there was an earsplitting screech. We realised that it was a car alarm from the car repair place, Ken Turner Motors. I saw a car driving away from there, and I'm hoping for the owner's sake that it wasn't being stolen. Micah hurried us off. Maybe he had been hoping to stay longer, but he didn't want anyone to go deaf under his watch.

Our second destination were the flax bushes behind room 19 and 20, where the children from the kindergarten had casually moved in. Micah made us sit down, so he could do yet more talking, this time about how the seniors at the school had got their name. It would have been a peaceful experience, if the preschoolers hadn't been making background noise.

Finally we set off on our quest to the place that I had worked out that morning: the stream just outside the school gate. By "just" I mean maybe a few miles. Hacking our way through the densely clustered jungle, I was avoiding stepping on sticks, as I had no shoes on. It wasn't actually that long until I heard the trickle of the stream. Eventually it came into sight. Micah announced that it looked very different from the last time he had been there. The changes were: the large rock had moved from the shore into the water, and some branches had fallen in.

It was an amazing experience, and I loved it!

Written by Gaby (Rm 15)



Hiking up mountains, splashing through a stream, pushing your way past branches and trampling through tall grass. All the things that people would usually think of when they hear the word 'adventure'. You may even be thinking this right now, but on Monday, 19/02/24, we went on a different type of adventure: an adventure through our school. Our school, Woodlands Park School has many memorable places that you have to see! Room 15 went to: our school mural, the Harekeke Pa and Kopai stream. This different yet exciting adventure needs to be told to everyone! We went to three stunning places and I will tell you all about them.

When morning tea ended that day, we all gathered back in Room 15. Micah had a surprise for us all: we were going on an adventure! Everyone in Room 15 grabbed their hats and off we went. Micah had told us before we set off that chatter was allowed. There was chatter about many different things until we arrived at our first destination: the school mural. In front of the mural was three giant boulders that you could sit on with a tree behind the boulders. Lots of people rushed to get a spot on the boulders. Micah started talking about the pepeha and the meaning of all the amazing pictures on it. Micah was talking about the things that were on the pepeha when a car alarm started blaring from Ken Turners. It was screeching and it hurt our ears too much so we left the mural

and headed to the next destination: the Harekeke Pa.

We went past the great oak tree and to the Harekeke Pa. There were a lot of Harekeke plants and it was quiet (apart from us) and peaceful. Micah told us about why we were called Harekeke. We, as children, were protected in the middle by our parents and teachers. They were surrounded by our grandparents and ancestors. In front of the Harekeke was a sign; there were pictures of the people that planted the Harekeke. Micah was there in one of the photos dressed in a Batman costume. There was many acorns on the ground. Everyone stood up to leave to go to Kopai stream.

We headed down to the gate on the field that led into the bushes. There were a lot of sticks and sometimes a fallen tree. There was a patch of sticky grass. When we were almost at the stream there was a steep hill, that luckily, wasn't slippery. There it was. Everybody stood on the bank and looked at the water. A slip had obviously happened on the other side of the stream. A giant rock had fallen from our side of the stream; a rubber tyre had made its way into the stream. Big nikau palms towered over us and lots of the fronds had fallen. He then told us to be quiet. There were lots of cicadas. A truck zoomed by and you could hear the sound of the water. It was calming. After staying at the stream for a while, we went back up the track to go to the school grounds. We went up the steep hill, through the sticky grass and over the fallen log. At last we arrived back in class.

Personally, I really enjoyed the tour around the school. The mural was an amazing, beautiful way to show who we are. The Harekeke Pa told us why we were called Harekeke; the stream was calming. I would love to do it again.

Written by Abigail (Rm 15)

Happiness, joy and Sadness.

Joy is a feeling that you feel when you're doing something that you love.

Sadness always comes around the corner when you least expect it

But that's okay because joy and happiness is always there when you need it.

Last year I felt a great bunch of grief when my great grandmother passed away

But that's ok because we also need sadness to hold us up

To help solve our problems

Throughout our lives we're always going to have bumps in the road happy moments sad moments

And when people pass away in our lives it feels like half of our heart is gone

Like life is going to end

But friends and Family are always here for us when we need them

Written by Sorcha.(Rm 18)

MANAAKITANGA | WHANAUNGATANGA | KAITIAKITANGA | RANGATIRATANGA

Scholastics book week

Me mahi tahi tātou mo te oranga o te katoa

We must work together for the well being of all



We have had a wonderful busy start to term 1 at Laingholm kindergarten. We had a fun dress up day to celebrate our Scholastics book week. We loved seeing everyone dressed as their favourite book characters and enjoying lots of reading and exploring new books.



Chinese New Year

We have been celebrating the Chinese New Year - the year of the Dragon, by creating our very own kindergarten Dragon. Lots of our children and teachers all helped to create this Dragon who now hangs on our deck, watching over us all. We have been learning about why Chinese New Year is important and all the ways in which we can celebrate this. We have listened to stories and music, and created paintings and lanterns to celebrate.



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Friday Club and CONNECT FC

Friday Club and CONNECT FC are not running in Term 1 of this year. That is because we are developing our Real Fruit Ice Cream social enterprise KauriCones so that we can run KauriCones all year! We hope to soon be offering new products including Curly Fries, Teas, Espresso Coffees and Hot Chocolates and Toasted Sandwiches, and not running programmes in Term 1 gives Alison the time to develop this.

We run Friday Club, CONNECT and RockSolid (up to 4 programs a week in the school term) with no charge to children and youth who come. So that everyone who wants to come, can come, we run by donation only. To make enough money to run these programmes without charging the children and youth, required us to develop a sustainable way to fund the costs. This was the motivation behind starting up KauriCones. KauriCones profits support Friday Club and CONNECT (as well as our youth programme RockSolid).



In addition KauriCones employs youth and young adults, training them in food handling and commercial kitchen procedures, and giving them a hand up into employment.

We also want to provide a hospitable place for people in our community to hang out together and connect with others in the community.

KauriCones opening hours are:

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday:
12.30 - 5.15pm**

**Wednesday, Thursday
2.00 - 5.00pm**

We are putting up a fun activity for our Friday Club kids that any child is welcome to participate in. It is an:

EASTER EGG HUNT

You may remember the Christmas Doors that appeared on trees around the church lawn in December of 2021. The Tiny Critters, whose doors these are, are celebrating Easter, and many little Easter Eggs have been delivered to these doors. How many can you find?

If you do your Easter Egg Hunt when KauriCones is open you can get a Easter Egg Hunt clue sheet from KauriCones staff. if you bring your completed sheet back to show a KauriCones staff member, you can buy a Real Fruit Ice Cream and they will upgrade it for you for free, to an *EASTER TREAT Real Fruit Ice Cream* for you to enjoy.

The Easter Egg Hunt and *EASTER TREAT Real Fruit Ice Creams* will be available from Saturday 9 March until Easter.



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

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



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Cornwallis Petrelheads expand successful pest trapping

The Cornwallis Petrelheads have expanded our trapping program with over 380 traps now covering the Cornwallis Peninsula east across Mill Bay and west to cover the Kakamatua and Kaitarakihi. We mostly use Goodnature A24 and DOC 200 traps. Big thanks go to our local volunteers who regularly check the traps. In the past year hits on the traps recorded 1173 rats, 13 stoats, 150 mice, 21 hedgehogs, and 7 possums. Our data from past years show more pests being caught in the autumn months around April.

Our trapping program began in 2016 to help protect a petrel colony on Puponga. Monitoring this year showed that this colony was the only one on the west coast that did not have pest incursions allowing the young birds to fledge successfully. And not only are we helping the petrels but we're also noticing improved birdlife in the area and we know the invertebrates and bush will also be improving.

If you'd like to volunteer and help maintain the traps please drop a note to Alex, our pest control coordinator at pestfreecornwallis@gmail.com.

We are grateful to Auckland Council and the Waitakere Ranges Local Board for grant funds which we use to purchase traps and supplies. SCOW (Save Cornwallis Old Wharf) provides administrative support.

Important Fire Information

Cornwallis residents are concerned about the risk of wildfire in the area threatening our homes and SCOW has been talking with the Huia Fire Brigade and Scott Marchant, Group Manager Waitemata District, Fire and Emergency NZ. Fire response has been improved since the last fires in Cornwallis. But they say the best strategy to reduce fire risk is to keep vegetation away from houses. Also, if you do see smoke or a fire, be clear when talking with 111.

Top things to say when calling 111 to get best response:

What's burning – the type of vegetation

Size of fire

Estimate of wind speed and direction

What's at threat – how close is the fire to houses

Exact address or closest address to the fire

Gillman Rae, Chair, SCOW Incorporated: 09 8118775, sales@overthetop.co.nz

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 - Vincent Van Gogh

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At Laingholm Baptist Church

All ages welcome to join us.

Mums with babies to Retired

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NEW ZEALAND
REDCROSS

MEALS ON WHEELS

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

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

Karen Clare, Co-ordinator at 027 703 9454

Between 10.00 and 1.00 pm weekdays.

The West gets \$1 million through new charitable funding model

The Trusts are distributing \$1 million into The West through [a new charitable funding model set to help address inequity](#).

The entity comprising the Portage and Waitākere Licensing Trusts opens the Your West Support Fund and the Your West Innovation Fund on 18 March 2024. Under the framework, the funding will back projects and organisations that can contribute towards long-term positive change in The West.

The grants focus on initiatives that support or are led by communities experiencing inequity in The Trusts' region. The goal is to enable everyone to reach the starting line to lead a good life in The West. This means having the ability to participate, to access opportunities, resources, networks, and supports, that enable people to do well on their own terms.

The development of the funding model has been based on research that surveyed more than 200 charities and community groups throughout The West, as well as supporting data from other sources. Respondents were asked to identify the biggest issues or trends that will affect communities living in the region over the next 20 years.

More than a quarter of those surveyed (27%) saw social issues or trends having the biggest impact on the community in the future, followed by economic factors (21%) and the environment (17%).

The Elected Members listened to this feedback and developed a strategy that responded to the information.

Funding Information

Members of the community can apply for their share of \$750,000 through [Your West Support Fund](#).

The Trusts has set aside one-off grants to support community initiatives associated with key focus areas. This can include support for project, operating or capital costs. The debut [Your West Innovation Fund](#) will see community groups applying for their share of \$250,000. This fund is designed to support investment in initiatives aligned with key focus areas and having a high potential for impact. This could include investment in seed funding, testing of small-scale innovations, co-design, social enterprises, and evaluation.

Applications for both funds will close on 15 April 2024.

CEO of The Trusts, Allan Pollard, says respondents were eager to see investment in rangatahi through youth-led support programmes and the rejuvenation of areas with a high presence of youth. Evidence shows that socio-economic deprivation and other inequities are experienced more by young people and by Māori, Pacific, and diverse ethnic groups, he says.



Pollard says unsurprisingly respondents at the coal face of community need said economic factors would continue to be a significant issue for the area over the next two decades.

“Families are struggling and finding it hard to make ends meet and with living costs continuing to rise even middle-class families were reaching out for support.

“In addition to economic factors, climate change and kaitiakitanga (guardianship of the sky, land, and sea) were key concerns for the majority of respondents,” he says.

“Respondents were eager for our organisation to support local initiatives to help support ecosystems and restore biodiversity, reduce emissions and waste, mitigate climate change and educate those in the community on how to live more sustainably.”

The research shows clearly there is significant social, economic and environmental need in the West Auckland area. “Based on this evidence, The Trusts have developed key focus areas that will support community where the most impact can be made.”

[Learn more about the new funding strategy and priorities.](#)



Supporting our community.

Applications open on 18th March 2024.

Apply for your share of

\$1,000,000

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your requirements, visit thetrusts.co.nz**

Your West
**Innovation
Fund**

\$250,000 total

Your West
Support Fund

\$750,000 total



Applications close on 15 April 2024
thetrusts.co.nz  The Trusts

the trusts
Keeping it local



TITIRANGI SOLDIERS MEMORIAL CHURCH

is celebrating it's Centennial

In May this year and we are looking for families that have been involved in this historic church over the past 100 years.

The church is a nondenominational memorial to all those that lost their lives and their families that have been affected by wars since World War 1.

We are keen to find out more of the history and names of people involved throughout that long history.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Contact through email

John Shaw... je.shaw@hotmail.com

Beryl Sweeting-Shaw... berylsweeting@msn.com

Waitemata Community Support Brochure has new updates

Local community organisations play a vital role in building healthy communities, with their strong community relationships and intimate local knowledge, they provide important services that help to keep people healthy. Waitakere Health Link partnered with Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand to produce this fantastic new resource that can guide you to some of the many services available in our area.

Most of the services in this booklet are free or low-cost.

To view the brochure visit our website: [Waitemata Community Support - Waitakere Health Link](https://www.waitakerehealthlink.org.nz)

Any requests for changes to information contained within the brochure please contact us.

<http://www.waitakerehealthlink.org.nz>

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Waitakere Contemporary Gallery



09 March-12 May |

underfoot is a group exhibition including works by Māori, Aboriginal and Pākehā artists from Aotearoa and Australia for which organic earth matter (whenua) is utilised in a range of poetic ways to quite literally give body and voice to the land.

09 March-12 May | Ava Seymour: Domestic Wild

This exhibition draws on Tāmaki Makaurau-based artist Ava Seymour's ongoing series of prints, collages and assemblages derived from her evolving library of cat books.

09 March-26 May | New Cuts Old Music

Richard Reddaway, Grant Takle and Terry Urbahn collaborate on the installation New Cuts Old Music, an eclectic mix of found-object constructions intersecting with painted/sliced vinyl records saturated in mutated sounds and images.

23 March-26 May | Squiggla Making Space

In the world of Squiggla, you will experience mark making in action. You are invited to exercise and embrace your creative thinking with whānau and friends. Experiment with marks, dots and lines to play, make, imagine and invent – explore your curiosity and unleash new ideas!
constructions intersecting with painted/sliced vinyl records saturated in mutated sounds and images.

In for a scrap

by Ken McAllister, (“Roundabout’s Parliamentary and Environmental consultant” *said tongue in cheek*)

The new Auckland Council Food waste service [see here <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/rubbish-recycling/food-scrap-collections/Pages/how-to-use-your-food-scrap-bin.aspx>] collects a surprising range of scrap food.

Meat bones, fat, and trimmings. Fish bones and guts, including shellfish shells. Egg shells, nut shells and coconut husks. Coffee grounds and tea leaves. Fats and oils. solid or liquid. Indoor cut flowers. Paper to soak up any liquids.

The pakaru kai (“worthless food”) fills up otherwise empty trucks running to the anaerobic digesters at Reporoa, north-west of Taupo. There, your snapper heads, dead possums, and chip fat, instead of rotting, get digested into electricity, fuel gas, fertiliser, and tomatoes. Glasshouse tomatoes by the hectare!

What you *cannot* put in your food scraps bin is the predictable no-nos:

Plastic, Cling film, waxed paper, foil. Cloth and clothing.

Nappies and tampons. Pet poo, whether in a plastic bag or not.

Soil, rocks, weeds, lawn clippings, hedge trimmings.

Each Auckland property pays less than \$80 a year. I wouldn’t drive a lorry around Laingholm for \$80 a day, let alone 52 times a year. People will need fewer sticky labels for normal rubbish bins. It seems to be a win-win-win.

Of course, the new rate is compulsory, and it may all be an international communist plot. People have opted out already. Not for the money, nor for any objection to global conspiracies, but for the best of reasons – they already compost everything possible.

One couple, whose identity we shall hide behind the names Pat and Kevin, not only recover trailer-loads of coffee grounds from the Laingholm church, but are still in the process of recycling a very large Douglas Fir.

For 40 years, a carelessly planted Christmas tree increased in width by a centimetre a year and 2 cm in a good year. The roots grew sideways for stability, tipping a footpath on edge, ruining the fence, and invading the Sewer line. The tree was four times as high as the house. It had to go.

It cost nearly \$3000 to get rid of it. The contractors started at the top and came down branch by branch, whorl by whorl. They finished the same day, mulching every branch as it fell. The last few metres of trunk crashed down spectacularly, revealing rot to the core. Now Pat and Kevin – and the neighbour – have got tonnes of firewood drying for next year. Of mulch, they are sorting and sieving two piles the size of a car. The fence is fixed. The sewer is clear of invasive rootlets.

“Be more careful with Christmas trees over the next 40 years!”, I hear you cry. But that tree was a oncer. The remaining 800 square metres of fruit, vegetables, and flowers are a joy. Like other serious gardeners, Pat and Kevin deserve, I think, to be excused the new \$80 rate for pakaru kai.

Some of us sitting around the coffee machine at the Laingholm church remembered half of these. The rest are from the Internet.

This isn't a puzzle. It is an enjoyable read. That's why we have provided the translations.

A for Horses (hay for horses) A for cado (avocado)

B for mutton (beef or mutton) B for my time (before my time)

C for thighlanders (Seaforth Highlanders) C for yourself (see for yourself) C for miles (see for miles)

D for ential (differential) D for dumb (deaf or dumb)

E for brick (heave a brick) E for Adam (Eve or Adam)

F for vescence (effervescence) F for lump (efferlump)

G for police (chief of police), G for take (give or take)

H for retirement (age for retirement) H for teen/tea (Age 14/40) H for consent (age of consent) H for themself (each for themself) H eer for the winner (A cheer for the winner)

H for looting (High Faluting) I for get/got (I forget/forgot) I for nate (hyphenate) I for nasty cold (I've a nasty cold)

J for oranges (jaffa oranges) J for dollar to spare (Do you have a ..)

K for teria (cafeteria) K for toway (gave it away) K feine deficiency (caffeine ..)

L for leather (Hell for leather) L for goblin (elf or goblin) L for bet (alphabet)

M for sis (emphasis) M for sema (emphysema)

N for a dig (Infra dig) N for lope (envelope) N for mation (information) N for end (end-for-end)

N for a penny .. (in for a penny..) N for lid (invalid) N for red (infrared)

O for (over .. the garden wall/my dead body/the moon) O for .. (goodness sake/the wings of a dove/ crying out loud/a nice cold beer)

P for (pee for relief/for a penny) P for cake (piece of cake) P for ate (perforate)

Q for (Queue for) .. tickets/a bus/hours Q for billiards (cue for billiards) Q for all ills (Cure for all ills) Q for a song (cue for a song)

R for mo (Half a mo') R for Bitter (half of bitter) R for loaf (half a loaf) R for King of Britain (Arthur) R for itis (arthritis)

S for you (As for you/it's for you) S we have no bananas (yes, we have no bananas)

T for two (Tea for two) T for dentures (teeth or dentures)

U for mism (euphemism) U for Fox (Uffa Fox, British yachtsman and boat-builder) U for ia (euphoria) U for age (youth or age) U for got (You forgot) U for nasia (Euthanasia)

V for .. (Viva .. La France/ l'amore/ la difference)

W for a bob (I'll carry you on my pushbike for a shilling) W for .. (double you for .. nothing/quits etc. - gambling)

X for .. (eggs for omelettes/breakfast)

Y for (Wife or .. mistress/husband/girlfriend) , Y for (Why, for .. God's sake/goodness sake/ crying out loud?) Y for runts (Y-fronts) Y for thin (wafer thin)

Z for breeze (Zephyr breeze) Z for Zodiac (Ford Zephyr); Z for his hat (His head for his hat) Z for the doctor (send for the doctor) Z for a joke (said for a joke)

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Youth & Children's Pastor:
Alison Diprose 021 141-1483

Other Activities see:
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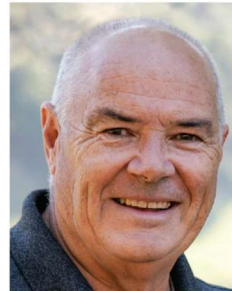
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