



The Roundabout

July 2022/Volume 57/5

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

The Award Winning



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Huræ 2022/Putanga 57/5

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



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What's happening in our area?

WHAT SLIPPED?
& How does it affect you?

Find out on Page 8 & 9

FROM
ADRIENNE

Go to page 14
To feast with
the eyes



Join Peter Pan, the Darling Family, the Lost Boys and Brave Girls and visit Neverland where you never grow up, with the Tael Solutions season of Peter Pan Jr. produced by Playhouse Theatre Inc.

Perfect entertainment for the school holidays.

on Page 44

**Another of our hard
workers is missing from
our Community!**

Find out who on page 20!

How are our Volunteer Fire
Brigades prepared for events
in our communities?

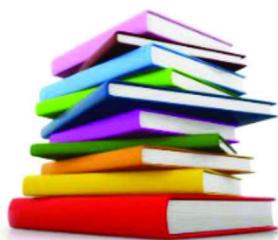
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AGM see page 18

**THE
HUIA
SETTLERS
MUSEUM**

**BOOK
REVIEWS**

On Page
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See page 26





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The Great Laingholm Drive Slip

On Friday 11th June a watermain burst and a chunk of Laingholm Drive was washed into the gully and the stream below.



It was a lack of water that alerted residents to the fact that something was wrong. Katja Jacobs and her family went outside to have a look.

‘The pipe under the road had burst and the water was violently gushing out from under the road down the hill. So much had gushed out that you could see a cavern under the road and all the topsoil down the bank had been washed away,’ she said.

About a half a kilometer further down the road, Andrea Holmes noticed their water pressure was low.

‘We saw on Facebook that a pipe had burst and there was a slip,’ she said.

On Monday 13th June, the school bus didn’t arrive. The slip had worsened, and the road was closed.

Jeremy Masters’ property borders the slip directly. ‘About 150 to 200 square meters of our property is now unsafe. A few trees have come down and the course of the stream has been changed. Our shed has been turned up on its end,’ Jeremy said.

“We cannot afford to lose the Laingholm Dairy”

At the Laingholm Beach Store and Takeaways, business was barely a trickle. Owners Vijay and Monika Punjabi learnt about the slip through the Laingholm Community Facebook page.

‘After three days, we knew it was major. We rely on customers coming from both sides of Laingholm, but if they are over the slip and driving in the opposite direction, they are not going to drive all the way around.’

Monika and Vijay have been heartened by the support of their community. ‘We are very grateful. We love this community. People have been popping in to buy little bits and pieces and saying they are here to support us,’ she said. ‘But it is still so worrying. It may take months and months to fix.’

Laingholm resident Namakau Nalumango is concerned for her local dairy. **‘We cannot afford to lose them. They provide the essentials that people might need in a hurry,’** she said

Long journey back to normality

One thing everyone agrees on is that it could be a long journey back to normality. Residents closest to the slip have been up in arms at slow communication from Auckland Transport.

‘Our water was reinstated quickly, but in over two weeks we didn’t have a single piece of direct communication,’ said Katja Jacobs. ‘A simple flyer in the postbox with the project manager’s details on it or a knock on the door saying is there anyone old here that needs their car close to the house, or, sorry it is not safe to access your driveway for the next few months, would have been appreciated.’

For students living in the affected area, pick-up and drop-off for the school bus was the beach stop. Parents were concerned for their children’s safety walking long distances, some before full daylight.

Andrea Holmes thought initially that single lane access might be open in a few days. ‘When I read that it was going to be a few months at least, I couldn’t understand why the school buses couldn’t come up to Dorothy Road turn off and begin the bus route there,’ she said. Andrea didn’t feel it was safe for her daughter to walk by herself to get there. ‘I had to drive her there and pick her up each day. That means I had to be home from work in time to do that - cutting my hours shorter. I’m lucky to have a car - some parents don’t.’



The Waitakere Ranges Local Board has been very active in collating concerns and lobbying to get things fixed for the community. Transport liaison for the Local Board, Mark Allen, board member Ken Turner, Councillor Shane Henderson, Laingholm Fire Chief, Graeme Booth, LDCA committee members and several residents have met onsite to discuss community needs and response moving forward.

LDCA Slip Response Liaison

The LDCA has established a Slip Response Liaison Group with the aim of helping to keep the community informed. We have been given direct liaison with Auckland Transport, and will be linked too with the contractors Fulton Hogan, and the utility providers on their plans. We are actively lobbying for outcomes to residents’ concerns, and we intend to post regularly on the Laingholm Community Facebook page to give updates as we get them.

And no, the information isn’t coming as quickly as we’d like, either - - but be assured, we’re applying all possible pressure!

Liz Manley

Slip Liaison Response Group

Laingholm and District Citizens Association (LDCA)



**Forest
& Bird**

TE REO O TE TAIAO
Giving Nature a Voice

Waitakere Forest & Bird Lecture Series Thursday 21th July. 7.30 pm -Via Zoom

Casey Wills and Erin Grierson, Auckland Zoo Birdkeepers – The latest on the Waitakere Ranges Kokako

In 2009, thanks to the hard work of many volunteers managing to maintain low mammalian predator numbers, Ark in the Park welcomed their first translocation of North Island kōkako back to these forests where they were once naturally found.

Since then, multiple kōkako translocations have boosted numbers and genetic diversity.

Since 2011, Auckland Zoo has worked alongside Forest & Bird at the Ark in the Park monitoring the kōkako population by carrying out the annual census.

Introducing Casey and Erin, Bird Keepers from Auckland Zoo coordinating the annual kōkako census at Ark in the Park. Come and learn about the methods involved, the importance of the data collected and what it is used for, and the impact Covid-19 has had on the census. An opportunity at the end for Q & A

["To access the link go to the Forest & Bird website, Waitakere Branch "events programme" or email lizanstey@hotmail.com and we will email you the link."](#)

Letters to the Editor

I live on Western Road in Laingholm, and was disappointed last month to see that many of the grass verges of properties on Western Road had been sprayed. The result is now a row of ugly brown strips on both sides of the road.

The spraying was presumably carried out by Council workers who came to prepare Western Park (12 Western Rd.) ground for "Community Planting Day" on May 8th. Publicity for the event included the following phrases: "**restoring nature in Laingholm**", "**Ruatuna is working to restore natural ecosystems in Laingholm**", yet the entire area to be planted was sprayed.

The hypocrisy of this action is obvious and should be addressed. I have been told by long-time residents in the area that the spraying of roadsides was not historically carried out. Now however, the roadside edge is bordered by an ugly, brown border on both sides. Council workers are exposed to toxic chemicals, as are local wildlife and the water table. My understanding is that residents are responsible for maintaining their verges. A few minutes with a weed wacker once in a while is all it should take to keep the roadsides tidy.

I respectfully request that the Council stop this unnecessary spraying. This change in policy would not only save money in the budget, but more importantly re-align Council policy to reflect our growing concern about the environmental health of this country that prides itself on being "100% Pure New Zealand".

I understand that change takes time. This however could and should be actioned immediately.

Save money, save the planet.

Respectfully,
Annette Fitzpatrick
Western Road resident



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Buzz Club is a place where all children aged 5 - 13 are welcome. We are at Laingholm School Hall and Woodlands Park School Hall. After school is at Woodlands Park with a shuttle service available for children from Laingholm School. We provide a safe, warm environment for your children with nutritious food and fresh fruit. Our programmed activities are provided daily. **For hours, bookings, enquiries and our holiday programme call today.**

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Matariki is about coming together as whānau to mark the dawn of a new year.

Titirangi Library is celebrating the festival with some good kai by producing a community cookbook and we need your recipes! We'd love to include not only a special recipe but the story behind it. Maybe it's something Grandma used to make, or maybe it's a dish your kids always want to eat at Christmas. Email us at Titirangi.library@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz for more info or check out our Facebook page, and be in to win some yummy goodies.

Titirangi Community Library has lots happening in the children's space this July with a new **Kids' Book Club** meeting Tuesday 5th July 3.30-4.30pm where we will discuss books, find new books, and play book games. A great after school group for all young bookworms. Suitable 7+

There is no stopping them, school holidays will arrive again soon, and we have a great line up of whānau friendly events to keep the kids entertained this July.

Matariki Folded Candles

Tuesday 12th July 10.00-11.00am

Create your own Matariki candle book art

Suitable 5+

Matariki Juggling Balls

Wednesday 13th July 10.00-11.00am

Join us for DIY juggling balls and other fun activities

Suitable 5+

Whānau Disco

Thursday 14th July 6.00-7.00pm

Let's get together and celebrate Matariki. Family friendly music, dancing, and games.

LEGO Challenge

Tuesday 19th July 10.00--11.00am

Bring your brick building skills to the library for a super surprising LEGO challenge.

Suitable 5+

Ururangi Paper Planes

Wednesday 20th July 10.00-11.00am

Celebrate the wind star in our fold 'n' fly tournament.

Suitable 5+

Wriggle & Rhyme Holiday Session

Friday 22nd July 9.30-10.00am

Come along for a relaxed, social music session for you and baby.

Ideal for 3-24 months

The Real Estate Update

RayWhite

Laingholm listing numbers decline as winter sets in. The demand for the area is still high with people recognising the benefits of living in an area where development is restricted. As the vendors of many of our more centrally located listings realise, neighbouring developments do affect sales values. Unfortunately, many developers are struggling with material shortages and the higher interest rates swallow already small margins. This results in developments remaining at unsightly foundation levels for longer periods affecting the values of neighbouring properties. This is one of the major benefits of Laingholm and the majority of Titirangi properties.

Tony Alexander has recently reported that house prices are falling at a much faster rate than originally expected. House prices have dropped by 7.7% and he would expect a further 7.7% drop giving an overall adjustment of around 15%. This has been accelerated by bank restrictions, loan to value ratios and Governments changes to the Credit Contracts and Consumer Finance.

He predicts that we are half-way through the decline. Our advice to homeowners remains the same, if you are considering the market in the next 2 years, then selling yesterday is better than selling tomorrow. This could be the perfect opportunity to use the current equity in your home to purchase a rental investment property but be aware of the rising interest rates to ensure you are able to cover the increased mortgage payments. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss your options.



**Bronwyn
Scott-Woods**

The ProAgent Team continues to grow with the addition of another proactive agent to the team. Rosa Solano has recently joined the team and will be focusing her attention on the Titirangi area and assisting buyers to purchase a home.



Regards,

Bronwyn

The
PRO AGENT.CO.NZ
Team

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Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade

Our regular training includes CPR and we highly recommend that everyone learns it and keeps their skills up to date. Last month a distressed mum rushed to a neighbour shouting that her 18-month-old had stopped breathing. The neighbour started CPR and the little one began taking breaths. We responded in our medical vehicle but thankfully we just had to monitor the patient's vital signs as the sirens of an ambulance and a police car told us that more help was on its way.

We turn out as fast as we can when we receive a call indicating that someone has suffered a serious medical event and an ambulance is always sent as well. We have had a few instances over the years we have been handling medical calls and bystander CPR

has been a critical factor in each case. It's part of what's called the chain of survival - early CPR, early response of emergency services and early transport to a medical facility after the patient has been stabilised.

We would have liked to say more about the lady who carried out CPR in this case but she didn't want her name mentioned.



The winter is now well and truly with us and here's a few tips to keep you and yours fire safe:

- Remember the heater metre rule : Keep all combustables at least a metre from heaters
- Chimneys: Has yours been cleaned ? We recommend cleaning at least once a year
- Electric blankets: Never sleep with the blanket turned on. Discard after five years
- Multiplugs: Only one heat generating device per multiplug
- Electric cords: Don't run under carpets or mats
- Clothes dryers. Clean lint filter after every use to avoid build up and risk of fire
- But if fire breaks out in your home

Get Out !

Stay Out !

Call us out - dial 111 !





The past month was fairly quiet for the brigade and it was just as well because our station was receiving a major upgrade. It was opened in June 1972 and we will be marking the occasion later in the year. There have been numerous improvements over the years with the most recent being made as part of Fire and Emergency' resilient fire station programme. It's designed to keep fire stations running in the event of the community being hit by a serious event and with climate change becoming more obvious there's a lot of merit in it

Last month all the bitumen around the station was ripped up and replaced. Much of it had been down since the station's opening and numerous holes had opened up. But the big change was the installation of a 25,000 litre emergency water tank at the rear of the main station building which will take water off the large shed alongside that houses our rural appliance, medical vehicle, Gator ATV and our vintage Ford V8 which was the brigade's first vehicle. In the event of the water mains being damaged this will give us a source of water and if there's another drought we will be able to carry on our regular training. It will also add surge capacity when there is heavy rain. Part of the tank will normally be empty but will fill up, then slowly discharge the surplus water.

Last year as part of the policy gas hot water heating was installed along with a small water purification system. So in the event of a civil defence emergency the station will be able to play a vital role in helping the community.

We are grateful to the contractors who were set up to move their vehicles in a hurry when the siren sounded. Thank fully that happened only once during their working hours.



We have had to temporarily stop collecting aluminium cans. The company which processes them has been acutely short of drivers for its trucks with the result that the bin outside the station was often filled to the top and we were running out of storage, especially with major work being planned around the station. We hope it won't be too long before we are able to get back in business



WINTER WONDERS

FROM ADRIENNE PEEK

LENTIL SOUP

- 2 Tablespoons Olive Oil
- 1 Tablespoon Butter
- 2 Teaspoons each of Curry Powder & Ground Turmeric
- 1 Teaspoon each of Cumin Seeds & Mustard Seeds & Ground Garam Marsala
- Pinch of Chilli Powder
- 1 Tablespoon Chopped Ginger
- 3 Cloves Crushed Garlic
- Zest of 1 Lemon
- 2 Teaspoons Honey
- 1 Onion - Finely Chopped
- 800 Grams Peeled & Chopped Kumara or Potato or Pumpkin or a combination of the 3
- 1 Carrot - Peeled and Chopped into pieces
- 1 Can Lentils
- 1 Can Crushed Tomatoes
- 4 Cups Vegetable Stock or Water
- Salt & Pepper to Taste



Heat the oil and butter and add all of the listed ingredients down to and including the honey. Add onion and vegetables and cook until coated. Add the rest of the ingredients and cook 30 minutes until everything is cooked. Mash or blend to what texture you want the soup and serve.

EASY KEY LIME PIE

BASE

- 1 Packet Chopped Biscuits (I used Ginger nuts)
- 150 Grams Butter or Margarine (Melted)

Mix together and place in a lined flan tin and bake for 10 minutes at 160 degrees.

FILLING

- 1 Tin Condensed Milk
- 3 Egg Yolks (Beaten)
- Finely Grated Zest & Juice of 4 Limes



Whisk everything together and place on top of the base and bake for 15 minutes. Chill at least 3 hours before eating. You can whisk up the whites of the eggs with sugar and have a meringue on top if you wish. Thanks to the people in Foster Ave who have supplied me with limes.

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Waitakere Ranges - our back yard

Tasman Look Out Walk

Category: Easy **Duration:** 20mins **Rating:** 8 / 10



If you're looking for a quick, bracing walk with spectacular views to help blow away those winter blues, then this is the walk for you.

Discover some of Piha's hidden treasures!

Park at south Piha and walk up lots of steps for just 10 minutes (just enough to get that heart rate up!) and enjoy this gorgeous lookout over Piha. It is spectacular to see the sea raging below.



Try and plan this walk for low tide if you intend to roam around the rocky outcrops, islands and inlet.

This time of year you might like to treat yourself to a toasty hot beverage at the Piha Cafe afterwards.

Diary this walk to come back in the summer - it would be a great place to watch a stunning west coast sunset.

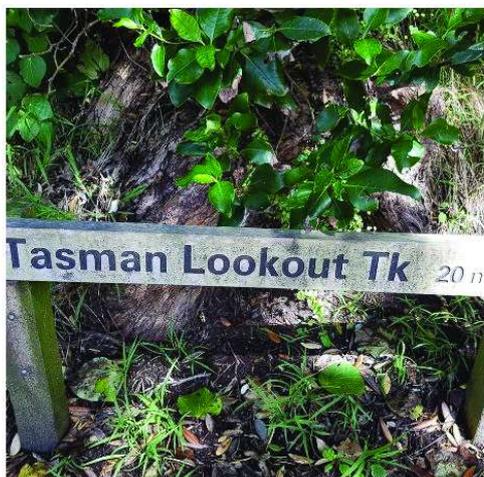
Cheers

Sacha Collins

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Group Bookings : PH 09 8118 971

It is great to be able to open the museum again. Unfortunately, though, we are very short of volunteers. Thank you, those few people who have stepped forward to support us.

History is very important for knowing how this lovely place we live in, evolved. We do not want to lose the museum due to lack of interest.

For instance, did you know the old Huia of the 1860's was made up of three timber communities that grew around the mouths of three creeks, called by the settlers the Big Huia, the Kaimatura and the Little Huia, all spilling into the Huia Bay. Water wheels drove the mills and driving dams flushed the logs down from the back country, which explains the siting of these settlements. The felling of native timbers continued until 1920's.

The trustees are all getting older and may some day not be with us. From volunteers, trustees may rise!

So, if you would like to help us keep the museum going, put your name forward as a volunteer. It only involves your time, approximately one Saturday or Sunday afternoon once a month. We would welcome you with open arms! Or elbow bumps in these times!!!

On June 9th we welcomed a group on tour with Silver Rose Tours from North Shore. They were all seniors, so there was a lot of reminiscing going on!

On June 19th we held a lunch to thank the volunteers and those people who supported us during these difficult times. Thank you to them all. What a delicious spread the trustees gave us!

On 31st July we have our **A.G.M.** in the Huia Hall at 1.00p.m.

Then on Monday 24th October we will once again be holding our **Fruit Cake Competition**. Are you a good cook and would like to enter? More details later. Or maybe you would like to buy one. They go on sale after the competition.

Armistice Sunday will be on 13th November. Again, more details later. Come and support the museum! Entrance \$5.00. Children under 12 free.

AGM

**31 July 2022 12.30
pm**

At the Huia Hall

**Followed by a yummy
afternoon tea**

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and local history? Then
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Maureen Ann Moyle

27th May 1946 ~ 6th June 2022

Sadly Maureen died on 6 June.

Maureen believed in giving back to the community. She supported the Roundabout for many years, firstly helping with production in the early period. She laughed about pushing a baby in a pushchair up Bunker's hill to help. She moved on to run the kitchen at collation for quite a while and played a large part in producing the Roundabout cookbook. She also ran the girl guide group in Laingholm for many years and fundraised for Laingholm School and Kindergarten. After leaving Parau she moved on to helping at the Citizen's Advice Bureau and voluntarily teaching English as a second language



Maureen loved family. She was always a strong support to her sisters and was the mother of a large family. If you had a young Moyle on your team or in your group Maureen was always there to help where she could. She spent countless hours on the side of draughty netball courts and swimming pools and even learned to umpire cricket to help when her boys were playing. The big yellow van was often full of members of sports teams as she ferried them around to their games. As her children became teenagers there were many teenage parties at her home.

Then she became an adoring grandmother reveling in her grandchildren's achievements and sayings and she passed on her skills to them when she could. The highlight of her final days was meeting her first great grandchild.

Sadly, in the last few years ill health and mobility problems curtailed her lifestyle a lot and meant she eventually had to move into a retirement home. Even there she was interested in the other residents' welfare and helped if she could.

She will be missed.



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(Restoring Nature in Laingholm)

Western Park and AT Reserve

We have now completed planting at Western Park. In front are low grasses so you can see through to the stream. The stream is now shaded to provide safe water for tuna. At the back by the steps, we have had the help of Conservation Volunteers to clear 14 species of invasive weeds. In the AT Reserve (crn. Victory and Western Park Ave) we have removed vast swathes of ginger and Jasmin and replanted bare areas. This will not only restore the area but prevent slips from occurring.

Community Trap Library (te whare turupana).

Possums in your roof? Rats in your compost? Dawn Chorus barely a squeak? Meet us at the community trap library on Western Road, borrow the trap that you need and learn how to use it. This is a free service for the Laingholm community. Text 0274 240949 or email rrtrapping@gmail.com to book yourself in.

Spotlighting Fish Hunt - Friday August 19th, 6.30pm. Meet at the playground, Western Road. Our annual nocturnal fish hunt excursion will be held on the 19th of August (rain date Sunday 21st). Rug up the whole family, wear sturdy shoes, bring a torch and let's see what we can find swimming in our creek. Hosted by Restoration Ruatuna and guided by Whitebait Connection, these adventures are always a lot of fun. Don't miss out.

Why do we do it?

I'm sure many of you like the sweet smell of Jasmine and Ginger and the air is just as fresh and the green just as calming as it is in a natural native plantscape. The thrush's song just as sweet as the Tui. So, what are we on about? What drives Restoration Ruatuna to spend hours weeding and planting and managing pests? Why are we excited when the bay gets a favourable swimmable report? and dismayed when there is excess *E. coli* bacteria in the stream?

It's because we can't un-know what we know. That if we do nothing the invasive weeds will take over and the natives will be lost and the birds and creatures that rely on native ecosystems will be lost too. It sounds dramatic – but it is fact. Ginger kills off all seedlings and ferns in the understory and Jasmin, Honeysuckle, Mile-a-minute and Black-eyed-susan strangle our trees to

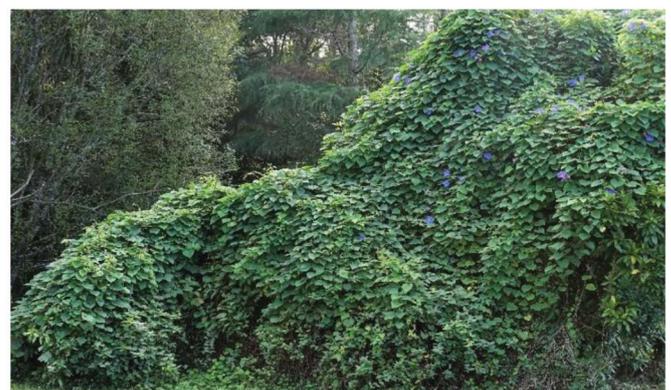
death. Restoration Ruatuna believes we have a responsibility to the land, to the whenua. This is Aotearoa, a group of islands separated from continental landmasses for 60 million years. That is why our land is so unique. We need to preserve this uniqueness.



Climbing Asparagus smothering the forest floor

Māori talk about a deep connection to the land, and we have just celebrated Matariki - a symbol of our growing nationhood and of a unique country at the forefront of anything that requires courage, innovation and ethicality. Tackling invasive pests is not simply 'tidying' the environment, it is celebrating the uniqueness of Aotearoa. It requires courage and ethics. We challenge you to look around and see the green with new eyes. What is native? What belongs? What is out of place here? Perhaps you too can see the creeping demise of our unique ecosystem?

Restoration Ruatuna is driven by our connection to the land, but also by our connection to the people that live here. Come and join us.



Ipomea strangling mahoe to death

www.facebook.com/groups/ruatuna/ or restorationruatuna@gmail.com or text 021 818950



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Winnie's Wanderings

(from Winnie the Wharfie)



Hi there fishos, how goes it out there on the big murky and beyond. It's been a funny season so far with warm weather right into June. A bit confusing I think for the fish who must be a bit disoriented by now.

On the fishing front the big boys are still getting outstanding catches over the bar and it shows no sign of slowing down even with the cold weather. Around the 60m mark seems to be the magic spot according to a few veteran fishos. A mate went out recently, 3POB (persons on board), to 63m and in half an hour had their quota – I know fishos have a tendency to 'embroider' but I'm pretty sure this fella is kosher.

Can't say fishing in the harbour has been so crackin. We seem to have a plague of kahawai and not much else although I did get lucky the other day and caught a couple of nice gurnard and a respectable snapper. There's a channel in the sandbank that runs almost parallel to the Wairopa channel which dips down to about 28 feet on a high tide. If you can get in the middle of this channel there's not a lot of tide run and if the moon is in the right quarter it fishes quite well. If you don't have a fish finder proceed up the channel to half way between the number 5 and number 7 buoys, hang a right and go over the bank till you get number 7 buoy lined up with Mill Bay and you should be 'in the paddock'. But, just a caution, if you don't get a bite in the first 20 minutes then up anchor because it's not going to happen.

Read a few tips in the fishing mag recently on winter fishing. Apparently the diets of fish alter a bit in the winter and strangely they become a bit more fussy about baits, lures etc but the writer doesn't say why. Anyhow, apparently big snapper that mooch about reefs in winter are particularly partial to piper and those little beasties can be caught all year round either from wharves or drag netting.

Gurnard are mainly a winter fish in the harbour but they are fussy critters and won't take rubbishy bait. They like gourmet food, the bloodiest parts of good quality pillies and fresh mackerel. When you clean them you often find they are full of little crabs but forget trying to entice them with crabs as bait because it just doesn't work. Now a tip on where and how to catch mackerel.

Proceed up to Mill Bay and hang a right heading toward the channel. When you get the beacon at Shirley Point, half way down the point and at the number 7 buoy lined up with the end of Puponga Point, you're more or less on the edge of a sandbank that runs almost from the wharf up to within spitting distance of Shirley Pt.

Anchor up here, get your lines out because it's a good fishing spot, then put one of those really small hook sabikis on a hand line and drop it over the side. Secure your hand line well as sometimes a big kahawai will take this rig. Even though mackerel have big mouths, they take really small baits. I call this spot mackerel alley so good luck.

Ok, in the absence of any nautical anecdotes it must be joke time.

A terrorist threw a bomb into a pet shop and shouted you've got 30 seconds to get out. A parrot piped up and said "That's not giving the tortoise much time."

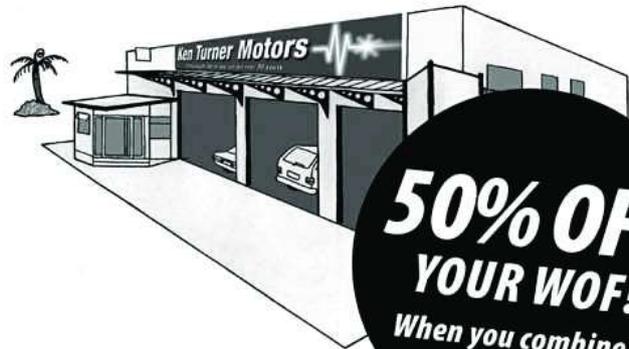
Fishing, fishing, fishing, that's all you can ever think about, nagged the wife. I bet you can't even remember the date of our wedding anniversary. I can, he replied, it was the same day I caught that striped marlin.

It's always darkest before the dawn so that's the best time to steal your neighbour's newspaper.

Ok fishos, that's Winnie wandering enough for this month.
Cheers, tight lines.

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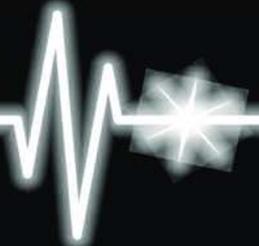
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GREEN-FINGERS

Although it's a quiet time for gardeners there's plenty you can do in the way of maintenance and you can still plant garlic and shallots with a variety of onions in the mix. Peas such as sugar snaps and snow don't mind the cold and celery seedlings can be planted out.

In the herb garden thyme and rosemary don't mind the winter, while mesclun can be sown for easy winter salads. But this is a good time to get out of the rain and cold and into the shed if you have one and have a bit of a clean out and tidy up.

Plants for early spring planting can be sown in seed trays and kept in a warm spot. Now is the time to get your potato beds ready by digging over the soil and adding compost and you can start your early seed potatoes sprouting.

Begonias and impatiens can be sown in winter. Roses can be planted and dead wood should be removed from existing roses as well as excess growth – definitely time to invest in good quality gloves although somehow the thorns always seem to find a spot to attack!

It's all part of the joys of gardening.



The Lady Green-fingers

OPERATION POSSUM BLITZ

Possums are pests!

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

Time to trap!

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Play Matters

Last month you may have heard on a RNZ Nine to Noon show, neuroscience educator Nathan Wallis being interviewed by Kathryn Ryan on the advantages (and extensive research) behind children waiting to start school at six (or seven/eight) years old and why *play* matters so much for their future development.

As Dr Stuart Brown (medical doctor, psychiatrist, clinical researcher, and the founder of the National Institute for Play) puts it so well: “The truth is that **play seems to be one of the most advanced methods nature has invented to allow a complex brain to create itself.**”

Waiting to start school in the year a child turns 7 years old is a foundational aspect of Waldorf-Steiner education based on comprehensive understanding of human development through the indications of not only Rudolf Steiner, but of many researchers before and since and in recent years backed increasingly by neuroscience.

Before seven, children here are in Kindergarten, a nurturing environment based on an understanding of the young child's specific developmental needs. Young children naturally take in the world through their wide-open senses and unite themselves with their surroundings through imitation.

For young children, play is their work. Great care is taken to create an environment for them that is warm, orderly, and beautiful. Most playthings are either gathered outdoors, (such as pinecones, smooth stones, shells and acorns) or are hand-made from natural materials. This enables the children to experience directly the truth and beauty inherent in nature.

The toys provided are simple in form to stimulate the children's imaginations enabling them to complete them in their own way. As they transform simple objects into homes, castles, farms, and forests, they are practising the mastery of their own physical and social skills. Daily outside play in the playground, with walks in nature, and blocks in Ngahere - the bush kindergarten, engages the children in the wonder of the natural world.

Imagination is further enlivened through a variety of artistic activities. A typical week will include watercolour painting, coloured drawings, beeswax modelling, seasonal crafts, simple puppetry, singing, circle games and many stories. Strong daily, weekly, and seasonal rhythms bring all these activities into a form in which the children feel secure and are able to participate with confidence and joy.

During the child's early years, the Kindertaners work to foster the wonderful vitality and creativity inherent in every child, establishing solid roots for the future. Reverence for the surroundings, when young, later helps instill a feeling of gratitude, rhythm in daily activities develops into strong will for work, imaginative play helps to develop the creative and independent thought that will be needed for later intellectual learning.

TITIRANGI RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL

This month a newsletter article from one of newest Kindertaners highlights some of the wonderful things that are happening in Kindergarten:

The Kindergarten is a magical place that appreciates the importance of a child's play, a perspective that we know translates holistically into many aspects of life; I feel privileged to start my career here. Childhood and individuality are truly valued, play is self-initiated, spontaneous and happens with little to no adult input.

What I have admired most during my tenure at our kindergarten is the satisfaction of children who are simply let be. We observe, holding them steady in their environment and rooted with purposeful tasks to guide them. Most days I witness children imitating those around them, compelled to recite and practice the daily tasks of their adult role models. This includes constructing their own homes and shelter, where they actively iron, sweep, serve tea and prepare a comfortable space for their babies to rest.

Other days I'm informed of the inner workings of their imaginative play, involving characters with intricate back-stories and a world perceived through a colourful lens. The resources at their disposal are also an important element, adding depth and dimension to their stories, so that their physical surroundings can intertwine with the narrative. A pine cone starts the day as a very effective tower, but may end up as a boat by the end of the day.

Their play varies from day to day, but still the same premise applies: it allows them to process what they have seen, heard and experienced. Through play, children become active rather than passive, reliving enjoyable experiences and resolving anxieties.

This warm environment allows our children to be better prepared to enter the game of life, promoting sustained confidence, creativity and a genuine consideration of others, all while enjoying the ride along the way.

I genuinely look forward to coming to Kindergarten every morning; being here brings me so much joy, and I am so grateful for that.

TRSS - upcoming events

FOREST FOLK

natural art & craft materials - books
toys for creative play - games

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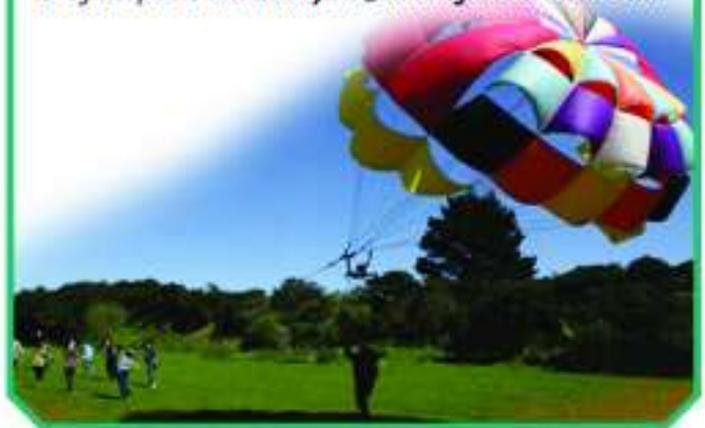
 @TitirangiForestFolk

OPEN DAYS

Kindergarten Information Afternoon

Monday 22 August 3:30pm

Come along and learn about the education philosophy and practice
in Kindergarten and Nursery; including an overview for all of early
childhood – the first seven years. Visit the rooms and gardens
including Ngahere, our bush base for Kindergarten children.
To register please email: m.ryder@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
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The Forgotten Suburb

A long time ago, there was a quiet inlet on a harbour. Tall kauri, totara, kahikatea and other trees were reflected in the calm waters. Each tree had its own ecosystem of ferns, climbing plants, bats, birds and insects. At dawn, tui, koromiko, piwakwaka, riroriro, kaka, kakariki, kokako and others sang in a deafening chorus. Among the trees moa strutted, ever watchful for the huge eagle looking for a meal. At night the ruru and kiwi called. The rasps and clicks of weta and other insects proclaimed that the forest never slept. The clear waters of the stream and the bay supported an abundance of fish, shellfish and eels.

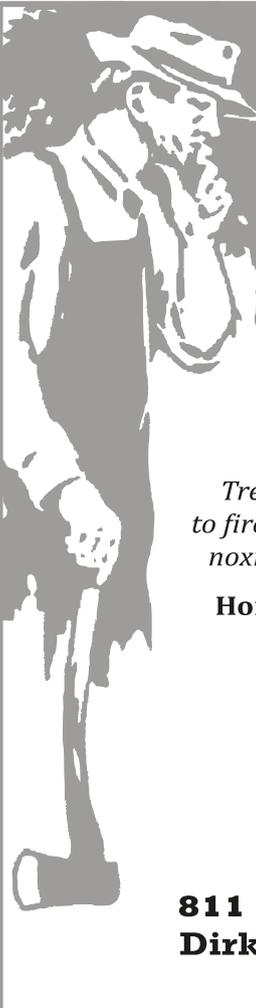


One day, a new species arrived. This creature walked on two legs and used waka of various sizes on the harbour. These people saw what a good place this quiet inlet was. The moa were easy to catch and there was plenty of kaimoana. They brought kiore and kuri which hunted the birds. The area was given a name – Ruatuna, meaning two eels. Fire came to the inlet and hand tools that cut down and carved the mighty trees. Pa were constructed on the headlands to protect the inlet from other tribes. A marae and gardens were established.

Many years passed and a different kind of waka was seen from the shore. This one was bigger and had many sails. One day two men who spoke a strange language came ashore and decided that the inlet was now theirs. They cut down the trees and used the timber to make fences, a homestead, a woolshed and workers' cottages. As they cleared the land they shipped timber further up the harbour and they introduced sheep to graze the pasture they had sown. They brought their wives to Ruatuna and their families grew. They called the homestead "Roseneath" after the place they had come from far, far away.

The children grew. Some worked on the farm, others moved away. The time came when it seemed best to divide the farm and sell sections so that people from the growing city of Auckland could build holiday homes. The new suburb was called Laingholm, after the men who had established the farm. The farm tracks had road metal spread on them. Some people came to stay permanently. There were shops, a bus service, a postal service, milk deliveries, telephones. Laingholm became, for a while, a place to buy an inexpensive house. The houses became bigger and were better constructed. Introduced plants spread and made it difficult for the giant trees to re-grow. Many of the birds that made that deafening dawn chorus were no longer to be seen. Those original farm tracks were tar sealed. Without the tall trees with their deep roots, the steeply sloping land moved. Roads were patched. Retaining walls were built. But still the land moved – and Laingholm Drive cracked and half of it fell away so the road had to be closed.

Laingholm Local



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Three Waters Reform

I thought I would write a few words about the Water Services Entities Bill, the legislation to enable our infrastructure to provide safe and affordable drinking water, wastewater and storm water services (also known as Three Waters).

Simply, the Bill establishes four dedicated Water Service Entities as a cost effective system to manage New Zealand's water. Our aging water infrastructure is falling apart. Every year, around 34,000 Kiwis get sick from their drinking water.

Local councils can't afford to fix their rundown water networks without massive hikes to rates and families' water bills. This bill will ensure all New Zealanders get the high-quality water services they deserve, no matter whether they live in our biggest cities or heartland provincial communities.

The Bill secures community ownership of the water entities, protects against privatisation, and ensures a stronger community voice in these new entities. It will save Kiwi families thousands of dollars each year.

We want to make sure our drinking water is safe, that we can swim at our beaches, and that our water remains in public ownership for future generations.

If you would like to learn more about the Water Services Entities Bill go to: <https://www.parliament.nz/en/get-involved/topics/all-current-topics/water-services-entities-bill-begins-three-waters-reform/>

Submissions on the Water Services Entities Bill are open until 22 July 2022 at: https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/53SCFE_SCF_BILL_124081/water-services-entities-bill

Celebrating New Zealand's first Matariki public holiday

I'm really proud we've delivered on Labour's election commitment to establish a public holiday marking Matariki, the rising of the star cluster Ngā mata o te ariki o Tāwhirimātea. For the first time, we will have the chance to enjoy a mid-winter holiday that is uniquely our own.

Matariki heralds the start of the new year in the Māori lunar calendar and has increasingly become a time of celebration not just for Māori, but for many people across New Zealand. By making Matariki a public holiday, we're ensuring everyone can spend this special time with friends and family.

We know there are lots of benefits to public holidays, and we've seen business leaders around the country noting that Matariki will provide a real boost to the tourism and hospitality sectors, with lots of families planning mid-winter holidays.

Alongside New Zealand's reputation for manaakitanga and being a beautiful place to visit, te ao Māori is another drawcard for international guests, as it's unique to Aotearoa. Matariki is another great opportunity for us to share our country's history and culture with the world.

At the time of writing, there have been many community events planned across the country. I'm looking forward to attending some of these over the next few weeks. For now though, in keeping with Mātauranga Māori (ancestral knowledge and wisdom), I'm going to enjoy time with my family, spend time in remembrance of my Mum who I lost recently, and think about the year ahead.

Whether your family already had Matariki traditions, or you took the opportunity to start new ones, I hope you and your loved ones got a chance to come together and enjoy New Zealand's first Matariki public holiday. Mānawatia a Matariki.

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Mainly Music is a programme for Babies, Preschoolers and their Mums, Dads and Caregivers for only \$3.00 per family. We enjoy making newcomers feel welcome - so why don't you join us too!

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 Corner Huia and Victory Roads

Please Note: Mainly Music does not run during the school holidays.

For more information please phone **Lorraine** 027 779 6077
Re-Starting Tues 3 May after Covid shutdown.



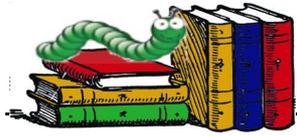
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 Between 10.00 and 1.00 pm weekdays.



Book Reviews

GEORGE WADSWORTH & IAN JOHNSON



Uncommon Type-Some Stories by Tom Hanks

Tom Hanks is multi-talented, from well-known actor and director to writing for the New York Times, Vanity Fair and the New Yorker and these short stories are his first foray into fiction. Uncommon events and subjects, written in a very engaging manner take us into space and back, bowling with the perfect player, three weeks of sex with the dynamic Anna, memories of a terrible war at Christmas time, a B grade actor's sudden celebrity and incredible publicity tour, how a journalist from a small town views today's world, a young surfer's discovery of the secret life of his father and many more Tom Hanks loves typewriter and they appear in passing or as an integral part of a story throughout. The stories are diverse, dealing with the human condition and its foibles, funny, sometimes sad, but written with great panache and action. Most enjoyable.

Horse by Geraldine Brooks

Set in America partly in the 19th century and partly in the 21st century The link between the owners and slave groomsmen Jarret, on the one hand and Jess and Theo whose interest in the same subject but from different angles brings them together on the other is the famous racehorse Lexington. He was owned and raced in the enslaved South, looked after by a family of slaves, then sold along with Jarret. The intrigue, betting, heartbreak, contests, and the way life was in the South at the time abolition of slavery was on the radar is sublimely told mixing imagination with historical events and figures. Interwoven with this are Jess a scientist at the Smithsonian with an interest in horses and their bones and Theo an art historian wanting to find out about Jarret. The novel has been succinctly described as "a sweeping story of spirit, obsession and injustice" and is right up there with her Pulitzer prize winning novel "March"

The Passenger, Ulrich Alexander Boschwitz (Pushkin Press, 2021): First published in 1938, this book has been recently translated and reissued. It is set in the days after the Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass), the pogrom against Jews carried out by the Nazi Party's SA paramilitary wing in early November 1938 where many Jewish-owned stores, buildings and synagogues were

smashed and destroyed. The Nazi forces pound on the door of Otto Silbermann's apartment in the middle of the night looking to arrest him – Otto is a Jewish businessman. He escapes through the back door and takes a train from Berlin to Hamburg and then back to Berlin. But where to go? To avoid the constant threat of arrest he continues using trains over subsequent days. Otto meets several people during his 'journeys', some are fleeing as well, others are sympathetic to the Nazi regime. He is effectively trapped in a Kafkaesque nightmare. The author has an interesting backstory. Boschwitz who was half Jewish escaped Germany in 1935 eventually ending up in England. Although Jewish, he was interred by the British authorities at the outbreak of WWII and sent to Australia. He was returning to England in 1942 when the transport ship he was on was bombed by the Germans and all on board died.

This is a novel of unbearable tension written by a 20-year-old who had experienced first-hand the threat of the Nazis. A remarkable book.

To Be Fair, Confessions of a District Court Judge, Rosemary Riddell (Upstart Press, 2021): Reminiscences and commentary on the life and experiences as a District Court judge by the author who retired from the bench in 2018. Rosemary Riddell started a law career at the age of 40 and in 2006 was invited to become a District Court judge. The book is a series of short chapters dealing with various aspects of the job related through anecdotes, observation and opinion that can be both humorous and thought-provoking – mental health, social media, the sentencing process and the inherent responsibility of that process, institutional racism, poverty, social inequality, etc. Written in plain English, the book ticks in at just over 200 pages. As she is fully retired from her judicial role, she has no qualms in expressing her opinions and feelings about the justice system and environment. As she says, "Judges are only human. Maybe it is time to tell that story. And so, here it is." She also touches on the challenges in her own life including the death of her daughter Polly who struggled with drug addiction. I suspect that Rosemary Riddell has another book in her dealing with the other aspects of her rich and varied life.



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Our Stories, told by us

Retelling a Māori Myth

Inside this report

Māui and the fire
Turtles (a speech)

Māui and the fire

Once, a long, long time ago, there lived a clever demigod named Māui. Every night, his whanau would gather around their fire, sharing stories of their ancestors. Once when Māui's father was telling a story, Māui wondered to himself, "Where does fire come from?"

He asked around the tribe, but no one had a clue. So, after no answers, Māui devised a plan. He would put out all of the fires in the world. Then he could witness firsthand how it is made. Then, as night fell, Māui carried out his scheme. He went around putting out all of the flames. The next morning, all the villagers were shocked. "How will we keep warm?" yelled one. "How will I cook kai for my whanau?" shouted another. Once everyone had settled down, they asked their Rangatira for assistance. She said someone needed to travel far away to the edge of the earth to a fiery god. "I will! I will!" shouted Māui.



He then travelled far, far out, carefully following the Rangatira's instructions. After a long, long travel, he finally reached a flaming mountain. He figured this was the place.

"Who dares enter the mountain of fire?" yelled the powerful god Mahuika. Māui explained his problem, and Mahuika seemed to understand. "Take care of this," she said, giving him a flaming fingernail. "Thank you," he says, leaving. Before the voyage back, he looked at his reflection in a lake. Then a thought dawned upon him. "What if the god has no more nails? Where will the fire come from then? He returned to the mountain. "Who dares enter the mountain of fire?"

"It's me again!"

"Māui?"

"Sorry. I dropped your nail into the river. May I have another?"

"Well, okay then. Take care of this one."

"Thank you." This went on until there was only one nail left. By then, she had found out about Māui's little scheme.

"How dare you trick me?"

Māui quickly transformed into a kōhu (Native NZ bird) to get away. With that, Mahuika threw her last nail at Māui, singeing the underside of his wings. As Māui flew away, he called the god of weather, Tōwirimōtea.

Mahuika retreated, and the mountain stopped flaming. Then Māui noticed a tree branch rubbing against another, creating a smoking smell. After a long journey back, Māui returned with a fire-making tactic. He rubbed two sticks together until they set alight.

"Thank you, Māui! We can cook again! We can keep warm." Everyone lived happily ever after except the Moa.

Noah, Room 6

Turtles (a speech)

Did you know that large turtles have been known to live up to 500 years? I know, that is crazy! Hi my name is Koby and I am here to talk to you about turtles.

Where do turtles live?

Freshwater turtles live in ponds and lakes and they climb into logs and rocks to lay in the sun. Sea turtles rarely leave the ocean unless they leave to lay eggs. Turtles live in a variety of habitats, from deserts to tropical wet forests. Land turtles can be found on every continent except Antarctica.

What do turtles eat?

Sea turtles eat squid, seagrass, crabs and jellyfish but the sad thing about turtles eating jellyfish is that plastic bags in the water look a lot like jellyfish. The turtles eat the plastic and sadly could die. They also eat some human food like kale, collard greens and mustard greens. These are healthy and tasty. They also eat fruits like bananas and apples.

There are also foods that kill turtles: anything dairy, like milk, yoghurt or cheese.

Types of turtles?

There are hundreds of types of turtles but it will be very long if I tell you all of them. Some types are box turtles, common snapping turtles, pond slider and many, many more.

Predators and prey

Adult turtles have very few predators apart from large sharks. Tiger sharks and killer whales (orcas) are also known to prey on leatherback turtles.

Now that you have read my turtle report, please spot pollution in the ocean and look after turtles.

Koby, Room 5



Meet the Future West team

For Waitakere Ranges Local Board

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

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

www.futurewest.org

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

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Future West

Authorised by Greg Presland, 512 South Titirangi Road, Titirangi, Auckland Ph: 021998 411



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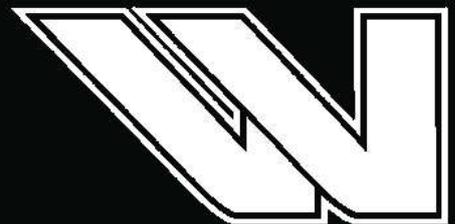
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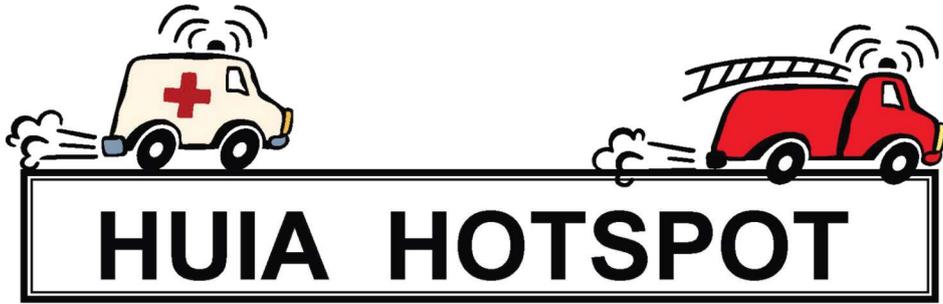


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DEPUTY CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (DCFO)

Rene Bullinga

We are fortunate to announce the appointment of the Huia Volunteer Fire Brigade's new Deputy Chief Fire Officer Rene Bullinga.

Rene has been with the Brigade for 15 years and often represents the brigade at the annual UFBA conference. Where he is well respected by other brigades.

Rene will do a fantastic job as an executive officer and continue to serve our communities with the highest respect. We are fortunate to have Rene in our Brigade.

Rene will be presented his new White Helmet by CFO Coryn at our next training.



UFBA GOLD STAR (25 YEARS)

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions, the brigade has been unable to hold our Honours Night which recognises the effort and commitment members bring to Fire and Emergency NZ.

The 2022 Honours Night will be somewhat special for the brigade as we celebrate two members achieving the UFBA Gold Star.

This medal recognises 25 years of commitment to the Fire and Emergency NZ. We also have members receiving other honours for their commitment over the years and we look forward to sharing more details after the event.



SPECIAL VISIT FROM LOCAL KIDS

The brigade recently had the pleasure of hosting our favourite guests from the Huia Playgroup. QFF Sarah Carter and QFF Dan Wright showed these future firefighters the ropes.

You can't argue that those smiles make it all worth it.





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POWER LINES DOWN!!!

During a recent weather event the brigade came across some people which were unaware that the downed power lines were still live and came dangerously close to being seriously hurt.



Even though the lines had been ripped from the poles, they were still active and began to smoke and arc when touching the metal road signs.

In the event you see or notice downed power lines, always treat them as LIVE and call 111.

You should keep at **least 10 METRES** away from downed power lines as it is within this area which will cause the highest risk of harm.



-RESPONDERS RECERTIFY

Recently our Firefighter Co-responders completed their two-yearly Medical Co-Responder course run by St John Ambulance instructors.

Co-Responders are Firefighters in our brigade that support our Medical First Responders during significant medical events.

PERSONAL

We currently have two recruit Firefighters preparing for their seven-day recruit Firefighter course.

QFF Ross James is also preparing for an upcoming Senior Firefighter course in early 2023.

The last few weeks have been busy and there is a bit more than usual to talk about. First there's the Laingholm Drive slip which will negatively impact a lot of people, and it's a big repair job. Some people will be affected more than others, but I fear the Laingholm Dairy will bear the brunt of the pain.

During one site visit I dropped into the Dairy and checked how business was going. I was met by a worried shop owner who said he and his wife had just been saying they would be better off shutting their shop rather than staying open while the road was closed. He explained that the road closure had stopped custom like turning off a tap and asked me when I thought the road would be reopened. I swallowed hard and gave him my honest opinion. He wasn't surprised, but very disheartened.

Please everybody, support your local Dairy. Dairies are more than just a corner shop, they're the micro-centre of their immediate areas and underpin residents' resilience. We take dairies for granted, we drive past them without a thought, but when we've run out of the necessities, got visitors coming and found there's no biscuits, or just fancy a treat, we walk in expecting to be satisfied. In so many ways our dairies are the unsung heroes in what identifies and supports our very local communities. I can insure everyone that Council parties and their staff know the importance of getting this problem solved ASAP.

Next is the Laingholm Fishing Club which is having a spot of bother from Council. Well before the Covid upheaval the Club repositioned rocks in front of their clubhouse to help maintain the building's foundations and firm up their protection from the tide. Council help top-up the hard fill behind the rocks, which also had the added effect of improving the small outside area which club members and public often picnic on. The council have even issued a Dining Licence for this small outdoor area.

Then out of the blue Auckland Council asked for a retrospective Resource Consent. Thinking this was just a formality the Fishing Club agreed to Council's request. Long story short, the club was told to return the rocks and land to its pre-maintenance condition, which I think is ludicrous. Then in the middle of negotiations, and 20 months of Covid interruptions, Council issued the Club an Abatement Notice, threatening prosecution if the work was not undertaken. This despite not responding to the Clubs' concerns of what will happen to the clubhouse should their maintenance work be reversed.

Anyone who receives an Abatement Notice has the right to appeal to the Environment Court for its removal. To start this process only costs a few hundred dollars. I think the Court will see this matter as less than minor. I'm the first to admit I'm not an expert, but I have talked to some who are, and I have also recently witnessed a small matter like this play out and I think the court was very reasonable in its determination.

What has really incensed me about the Fishing Clubs situation is councils \$9656.15 charge for 'TIME SPENT' (which the club has paid). A breakdown of which makes for astonishing reading.

I want the Council I'm involved with to support community groups not milk them for their very meagre and hard-earned cash.

Another subject surfacing in Laingholm is whether phoenix palms are still appropriate on the Beach front. Eighteen months ago, a Laingholm resident approached me very concerned to have heard talk of these long-standing palm trees being removed. This was news to me, but shortly after, removal of the palms was mentioned in this magazine. Then last month another local commented on how disappointing the loss of these phoenix palms would be. This coincided with Community Facilities (councils works department) raising the possibility of removing the phoenix palms along Sandies Parade and replacing them with Pohutukawa's at a recent Board workshop. I questioned if council was going to ask for community opinion before proceeding and was assured this would be done. I will be interested in what local people want. So far, it's 100% for retaining these palms.

To finish on a bit more uplifting note, the Huia Hall run by the Huia Cornwallis Residents and Ratepayers Association has hosted some good events recently. On Saturday of Queen's Birthday weekend, the first Pam's Market Day event in over 12 months was held. A couple of Saturdays later a fundraising event called High Tea for Breast Cancer had a very successful event with the Hall looking magnificent. The next day the Huia Museum held a Volunteer Luncheon which was well attended, and I can attest to how nice the food was.

This is a good reward for the Hall Committee who have frugally kept the Hall financially above board during 20 months of Covid inactivity, the committee also planned and prepared for things getting back to normal, which included new ideas to market the Hall as a facility and increase usage. Members of the committee got a website up and running and with generous sponsorship from Select Solutions the Hall now has free Wi-Fi for users. The Chairman and committee got the septic tank system renewal project in and operating despite all the Covid disruptions. The Committee has paid all bills except for a small retention until we get the final Council sign-off. Council even kindly wavered consent fees.

But satisfying councils paper trail requirements has been fraught with Council shortcomings. Our secretary has worked tirelessly to satisfy Council's compliance requirements. There seems to be no continuity in council's internal processes. Council's last claim was the committee had not presented an 'as built plan' but now claimed there is discrepancies between the two (so presumably they found the first one). The Committee is hoping for Council assurance that compliance is satisfied and a sign-off issued.

I'm asking Auckland Council to be as philanthropic with the Laingholm Fishing Club as it has been to the Huia Hall. After all the Fishing Club is not just a club it's also a community hub.

Ken Turner



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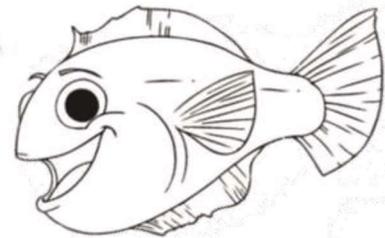
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