

NOVEMBER 2017

Leigh Rag is supported by the Leigh Community and compiled and edited by Tony Enderby, 19 Albert St, Leigh, Ph 422 6127. Please submit contributions before the 15th of each month. Leave copy in the box at the Leigh General Store or email to <u>enderbys@xtra.co.nz</u>

Please Note: The Editor of the RAG does not take any responsibility for the contents of items supplied.

Newsletter for Leigh, Matheson Bay, Whangateau, Pakiri Sponsored by Leigh & Districts Ex Services and Community Club, Leigh Fisheries and the Leigh General Store View the Leigh Rag online

www.leighbythesea.co.nz/news-events

Combined Christmas Party

Leigh & District Ex Services & Community Club Leigh Bowling Club

Members only

Friday, 15 December 2017 at 5pm

A night of fun for all with corner-to-corner bowls raffles and spot prizes

Everyone please bring finger food for dinner





7pm Thursday 14 December

The Christmas story in word and song with the Leigh School Kapa Haka group bringing their gift of waiata.

Leigh & Districts Ex Services & Community Club

The year is nearly over already! We had a very interesting talk at the November meeting given by Paul Decker from Mahurangi Technical Institute, on his work with whitebait, breeding it commercially and also releasing it into local rivers. We have more speakers lined up for meeting next year.

The joint bowling club and ex services Christmas party will be held on 15 December. Please bring a plate of finger food for a shared supper.

Marion Ross has moved into Warkworth and after the meeting on 3 December we will be having drinks and nibbles to wish her well and thank her for all she has done in and for Leigh over the years. Please come along and join us.

Lucy Harris, President



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The beach is looking lovely with the water clear and now at 17 deg. The pontoon was delivered in time for Labour Weekend. More sand has built up at the steps allowing for easier access. A few campervans have been arriving and staying at the southern end, but the council evidently still has to pass a by-law to limit the numbers. Considering the trial, which worked well, was carried out late last summer it would have been good to have had some signage up by now.

A survey of what was in the recycle bins was done by a woman on a motorcycle last month and some bins were stickered and not emptied. These had non-recyclables in the contents. If you are renting or have visitors to your properties they can check what is OK to put in by the list on the underside of the lid. Unfortunately one bin that had to be left out for 10 days was filled with disposable nappies by some mystery passer-by. Might pay to get a neighbour to put your bin out if you're not up for re-cycle week.

Matheson Bay Road and Spray Crescent roads are sporting numerous yellow arrows and instructions for the upcoming stabilising and resealing. Locals are most excited as little has been done on these roads for the past 22 years. Hopefully they may even become two lanes so that campervans, boats and SUV's can pass without ending up in the ditch.

With the warmer weather everything is growing well including agapanthus seedlings in the drains where they were removed with much effort. If you are up and have time between swims, BBQs and Gin & Tonics it would be great if you can dig them out while they are small. Louise van Campfort

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Leigh Business Community

For further information about joining the Leigh Business Community please contact Jan Scott 09 422 6681 or email secretary@leighbythesea.co.nz

The business community has been working hard over the last few weeks to reproduce our Leigh by the Sea Brochure, with current information on activities, accommodation, places to eat and general information and a map of the area — all ready for the summer season.

Our new website is up and running with lots of positive feedback from members and the public so we are very pleased.

Leigh Bar is now open and keep an eye out for sports events - a great venue for guests and locals to gather and enjoy these games and if morning, having the option of a great breakfast.

Brochures will now also be available in Paihia and other northern i-sites. They are currently displayed in Auckland i-sites, Auckland Airport and other places and there is a big demand for them.

The business members' **Christmas party** will be held on 6 December at Matheson Bay – weather permitting. More info will be sent to members.

The following day, Thursday, 7 December a **Leigh Clean Up** has been organised. Everyone in the community is invited along to help out. It will only be around one hour and gloves and bags will be supplied. Meet at Leigh Central at 5pm. Last year one helper found a \$50 note, so there's an incentive to come along and see who has the best find on the day.





LEIGH VOLUNTEER LIBRARY

Situated in The Cottage opposite Leigh General Store

OPEN: Tuesday 2pm-6pm Wednesday 2pm-4pm Thursday 11am-1pm Saturday 9.30am-1pm

Kia Ora

Christmas is around the corner and we're stocking up on good reads for the summer holidays. We have some great new blockbusters by John

Grisham, Lee Child, John le Carre, Ruth Rendell, Penny Vincenzi, Danielle Steel and Kate Furnivall. We have the new Lonely Planet Epic Drives Of The World plus some excellent thrillers.

Also with an eye on the impending holiday season, we have been building our children's book stock and have everything from the new Diary of a Wimpy Kid, and Bad Dad by David Walliams to some great teen reads including the new John Green novel, Turtles All The Way Down. We have also been buying some new early readers for children who are just starting on the reading journey.

This year the library is celebrating Christmas in a different way. You are all welcome to pop in to the library for some cake and coffee with us on Saturday 16 December any time from 9.30am-1pm. We will have our regular raffle and will be selling tickets on Saturday mornings outside the Leigh General Store with the winner being drawn at 1pm on the 16th.

Please remember that we have increased our opening hours for summer and we look forward to seeing many of you over the holidays.

Tracey Lawton

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LEIGH COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Meet at Leigh Central 5pm, Thursday, 7 December

The Leigh Business Community is organising a Leigh Clean Up and everyone in the community is invited to help. It will only take around one hour and gloves, bags and safety vests will be supplied.

Good Sort of the Month

This month our GOOD SORT is once again Karen Richfield. Nominated by the Leigh & Districts Ex Services and Community Club who wrote . . . Our committee deals with Karen on a regular basis over use of the bowling club for meetings and for the running of Leigh Cards 500 on Tuesday afternoons.

She is unfailingly cheerful and helpful and is a major strength and ongoing support to us. She is an accomplished knitter and has been teaching this skill at Leigh School.

This wonderful woman also gardens and we were sorry to hear that the beautiful gladioli she planted on the bank of the bowling club were destroyed by persons unknown, just as they were flowering. Sorry to hear that Karen, but please know that your efforts are very much appreciated by all of us! The Leigh Community Church were delighted to bake for you Karen.

Do you know of a special person in the Leigh area who deserves acknowledgement? Please write in a few words their good deed or thoughtfulness, including their name, address and phone number and drop it into the Leigh General Store in an envelope marked "Good Sort" or email the Editor at <u>enderbys@xtra.co.nz</u>. The person considered most deserving will receive home baking courtesy of Leigh Community Church.



Editorial

Having a member of a community vanish is hard to understand. Maree Wilkins disappearance from Whangateau spurred the community into action with large numbers of people getting out and searching the roadsides, harbour foreshore, bush areas and around houses in Whangateau. Sadly the efforts were to no avail.

This does show what an amazing community we have who are prepared to get out and help when someone is in trouble. There have been comments that the police were slow to act and subsequent meetings may have made it clear how a search for a missing person works.

What was needed was a co-ordinated approach to using volunteers, knowing where everyone was and ensuring the safety of those searching, something the police also covered.

What may have been overlooked was that the Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade members are trained in urban search and rescue but although their help was offered it was not taken up. In a previous search the brigade ended up coordinating the search and finding the missing person after some hours of searching.

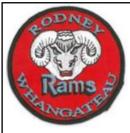
Thanks to all those members of the local community who went and helped and hopefully she will be found, giving closure to family and friends.

Our community gets out and does some amazing things such as the Leigh School and Leigh Pre-School galas to name just a couple. Another event needing volunteers is the roadside cleanup on Thursday, 7 December. Bags and gloves will be provided and everyone is to meet at Leigh Central at 5pm. The area to be covered will depend on the number of volunteers on the day. It would be great to see some of our roadsides cleared of rubbish in time for summer and hopefully encourages visitors and locals to keep our community clean.

Tony Enderby



Rodney Rams



Thursday night meat raffles are on sale from 4pm, and for the latecomers there will be an extra raffle sold after the first ones have sold. Ham raffles also selling now in time for Xmas.

Visitors and new members are welcome. Social member subs are only \$25 per year.

We are pleased to advise that there is carpet going down in the clubrooms at the end of this month, which will help with acoustics and the echo in the building.



ADVERTISEMENT RATES Deadline 10th of month

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\$15 each or \$70 for 11 issues (Larger ads priced as required)

Email copy to: <u>enderbys@xtra.co.nz</u> or phone Tony on 09 422 6127



Leefish Bin Amnesty

Fish bins are a large cost to our business each year, ultimately costing the fishermen. There are bins all over our community and we would like them bins back please

Please deliver to Leigh Fisheries yard. They will be gratefully received, no questions asked. Or call 09 4226424 to arrange collection.

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Forest and Bird COMMUNITY COAST CARE GROUP



I forgive the native birds that are digging up my seedlings,

and just enjoy having them in the garden. It's 'feeding chicks' time as the adults scratch around in the soil seeking protein for their young. Quite a few shining cuckoo around too, so the grey warblers are busy.

We had a great Coast Care working bee last month with a good turn out of keen workers. Our focus area was the cliff top reserve between Kyle St and Wonderview Rd. One group worked removing blackberry, and two separate groups removed gorse. It was one of those perfect Leigh mornings and a huge amount of work was completed. Thanks to all who helped. With the follow up work completed the areas cleared are now ready for our autumn planting.

Neil Sutherland



Leefish Bin Amnesty

Leigh Fisheries, our town's largest employer and also a sponsor of the Leigh Rag, is wanting to get some of its fish bins back. These bins appear everywhere and are really

useful, but not as useful as they are to the fishermen.

Replacing these fish bins is expensive which affects the income of the company and the fishermen.

The bins all have the Leefish logo stamped onto them. The company would be grateful for any you may have sitting in your backyard to be returned to them, no questions asked. Alternatively they will come and pick them up from you.

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LEIGH SCHOOL



Kia ora koutou,

Well we are racing through a very busy 4th term!

The painters are in at school at present finishing the final touches before our official classroom opening ceremony at 10am on Wednesday, 29 November.

Please let us know at the school office if you would like to attend and see inside our lovely new classrooms.

We have a working bee from 10am on Sunday the 26th to tidy up the last few jobs before the opening, so if you have a free hour or two we'd really appreciate your help.

Thanks to the generosity of our AMAZING community our pool has been sanded, plastered and refilled (using water from our new tanks), and (as Julie says) "It looks a million dollars." Happily it has all been completed just in time for the kids to start swimming.

A few of the working bee jobs will help complete the pool refurbishment with a little painting, waterblasting and some work on the shade area to do.

In December we have two performances of the school kapa haka group for you to look forward to - on 10 December at Morris & James and our annual performance at the Leigh Church Carol Service on 14 December.

We look forward to hopefully seeing you at one of these events over the next two months.

Thanks again for all of the community support with fundraising and completing our school pool project!!

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou, Melissa and Leigh School

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Leigh's local family bar is open for summer

We will be open weekends until the 20th December then we will be open 7 days.

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Leigh Tennis Club

The club held its AGM at the Bowling Club on Sunday, 8 October. The new committee was elected with me staying on as President for another year to be ably assisted by Barbara Straka as Vice President, Deen Hall continuing with the Secretary/

Treasurer duties and MD, Wax, Jackie Atkins, Judee Hall and Louise Garlick forming the committee.

My heartfelt thanks to the outgoing committee members being Arthur Gundy, Tony Kelly, Cilla Prime and Andrew Cowan for their support in joining the committee to start the club. Without your support this project would never have delivered the community asset we now have in the courts.

Wayne Jackson outlined the current and planned activities of the club and welcomed all prospective members to contact him at Leigh Eats or Marie-Dominique at Hookers or just join them at the courts on a Sunday 4pm at the courts for a social hit.

Annual subs will remain the same at \$100 for a family membership, \$50 for a senior, \$30 for a junior and \$20 for a social non-playing membership.

The fundraiser cinema night – "Borg vs McEnroe" on 30 October was a great success with about 70 tickets sold thanks Marie

Anyone wishing to join should contact Deen Hall, <u>djhnz@gmail.com</u> or pick up a form from Leigh Eats or Hookers Real Estate, Leigh.

Geoff Alexander President Leigh Tennis Club alex.g.h@xtra.co.nz

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HISTORY - November 1917

Roading is an ongoing issue. A public meeting had been called by the Rodney Chamber of Commerce to look at the need for better roads alongside the general development of the district. The County Engineer was present. They discussed the best quality roading surface for the local conditions. Some had heard that in the US concrete was being used and there was some enthusiasm about that but conditions here were different. There was general agreement that the use of local sandstones topped with Leigh metal provided a lasting road surface with good drainage.

Roy Neeley, of 29th Reinforcements, was also on the same boat as Archie Dunning of 32nd. Roy had had his final leave dance in Leigh at the end of May. 810 men from 29th to 34th RFTs and Field Ambulance of the Mounted Rifles Brigade embarked on the "*Tofua*," the 98th Troopship to leave New Zealand on 13 November. They disembarked at Suez on 21 December and moved to a



15 Neville Street, Warkworth 09 425 8037

info@webstermalcolm.co.nz www.webstermalcolm.co.nz camp at Moascar. They both returned to New Zealand in 1919.

The Omaha District's Roll of Honour board had been erected in the Leigh Hall in October.

Two further men from the district would not return, one from Palestine, Captain Sidney Charles Ashton; and George Knight Leonard Wyatt [Len] who had been at Polygon Wood near Ypres.

Rodney and Otamatea Times, 7 and 21 November,1917; Charles Clarke's Diaries and military records

www.archway.archives.govt.nz

Sheryl Corbett



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Leigh Community Preschool



Kia Ora koutou.

A massive thank you to everyone who was involved in our amazingly successful Labour Weekend Gala. We couldn't do it without our amazing sponsors, volunteers and people who came along to enjoy the day. You have all played a key part in raising a phenomenal \$15,464.25

for our little preschool. This will go towards giving the bathroom in our Hauturu class room a much needed upgrade.

Last term our tamariki, with help from Silvia, made pots of "Sunshine Balm". This herbal healing balm is made from all natural, all local ingredients. The herbs come from our preschool garden, the oil is from Leigh School's olives, and beeswax is from a local beekeeper. It is amazing for cuts, scrapes and rashes. If you would like some for your first aid kit, or for gifts, it is available from the Preschool office — \$5 for a small pot, \$12 for the larger size.

With summer almost on us nga tamariki are enjoying outside play. We are lucky to have grass on our playground and plenty of shady areas. Hats are on. Sunscreen is on, and so is the hose! Xavia Healey-Diaz

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Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade

It was back to the busy time for Leigh firefighters during October with 14 callouts. These were a call to assist police at Matheson Bay, a false alarm at Goat Island, structure fire at Cape Rodney (this one saw 14 fire appliances attend), rubbish fire at Matakana, electrical fire at Omaha, motor vehicle accident at Omaha and medical calls to Ti Point where a Westpac helicopter also attended, Whangateau (2), Leigh (3, one with the Westpac helicopter attending) and Matheson Bay (2).

Quite a few people have asked why the Leigh fire brigade did not participate in the search for missing Whangateau resident Maree Wilkins. In this kind of emergency the police are the lead agency and have control of the scene and decide on what resources are needed. They were aware that Leigh brigade was available but decided against using us. Several brigade members did participate in the search around the harbour and the streets of Whangateau.

Brigade members have taken advantage of the longer evenings to practise pumping water, something that's vital in a fire. Our new portable pump is performing well and brigade members have had plenty of practice using it. Our new recruits are working hard, getting more skills under their belts before attending a recruit course in the New Year.

Our numbers are down a little, but if you think you'd like to give firefighting a go, come down to the fire station at 7pm on Tuesday nights and have a look at what we do.

SFF Tony Enderby Brigade Secretary

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Whangateau Hall News

Monday, 27 November: Folk Club Night with RhodeWorks! 6:45 pm doors. Show starts at 7pm with first half floor singers. Special supper presentation with the Matakana Cookbook folks at halftime, and the outstanding bluegrass band RhodeWorks second half. \$10. More information: <u>www.whangateau.co.nz</u>.

Sunday, 3 December: Concert Night with The Danberrys from Nashville, Tennessee with special guest Vanessa McGowen on bass. Doors open 7pm. \$15. Tickets at the door or through <u>Eventfinder</u>

For anyone wishing to get more involved with the Hall or the Whangateau Community:

Monday, 4 December: Hall Committee quarterly meeting. 7pm

Tuesday, 12 December: Whangateau Residents and Ratepayers Association AGM. 7pm.

www.whangateau.co.nz



31 Woodcocks Road, Warkworth

Phone 09 425 9100
E: <u>splashwater@xtra.co.nz</u>

Leigh Walking Group

Each Monday - wet or shine - the Leigh Walking Group, led by Hugh McKergow, meets for a leisurely walk around the Leigh/Rodney area. The walking group has been running continuously for over thirty years - Dorothy Torkington was the instigator back in 1987.

Two of the longest walks the Group did were:

Ninety Mile Beach

Around Lake Waikaremoana

Dorothy lead these walks and as each of them took three days it meant carrying camping gear as well as sufficient food. Nowadays the walks are less strenuous and the group wimp out on really wet days.

There are many delightful walks nearby. Favourite walks are along Pakiri Beach

and Tawharanui but there are more unusual walks on tracks not normally open to the general public.

Walking time ranges from two to four hours over easy terrain. When the weather is not so pleasant and paths are muddy during the winter months, alternative outings to visit Auckland art galleries or museums are organised. The group takes advantage of the Gold Card travel options by using the Auckland Transport buses from Orewa to Auckland.

Contact Hugh McKergow Ph 422 6219 to get details of the next walk.



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The Lebratta Netana Music & Art Festival 27 November – 9 December 2017

Artists and musicians, alongside locals young and old, will be creating and promoting the integration of arts, culture, and music in the Auckland region. The festival will be guided by a theme set by Ngati Manuhiri (the local iwi), which strongly hinges around natural resources - Te Ao o Tangaroa, Te Ao o Tane Mahuta (The Realms of Tangaroa (Moana)) and Tane Mahuta (land/forests).

Live Wood & Stone Sculpture Symposium

There are three components known as the 'Triniti' process. First is the Live Wood & Stone Sculpture Symposium which is a unique event held at the Leigh Sawmill Reserve. This is where artists have been invited to create a form that relates to the local iwi Ngati Manuhiri theme. Ngati Manuhiri are the cultural advisors providing historical influences, which will inspire the design of the sculptures. This event is free to view and all the artist are in with a chance of winning a prize of either \$3000 for first place, \$2000 for second and \$1000 for People's Choice. There will also be a chance for the public to buy sculpture through an auction that will be held on site.

Live Music Performances

The second component is Live Music Performances that will be held at Leigh Sawmill Café over the two weeks, including a closing event headlined by Trinity Roots. Trinity Roots have performed sell-out shows locally and globally, building on their reputation as a multi-award winning, platinum selling band.

Little Labratta Lens Photography Competition

The third and final part of the festival will be the Little Labratta Lens Photography Competition.



Community Directory

Forest & Bird Community Coast Care Group – a community initiative to restore Leigh's reserves and bush areas, monthly weeding, planting bees Neil Sutherland 09 422 6001 Graffiti Coordinator - Lionel Anderson 021 795 306 call or txt with location of graffiti Leigh & Districts Ex Services & Community Club - meets 4pm,1st Sunday of month at Leigh Bowling Club. Anzac Day Service and Community Matters. New members welcome. President Lucy Harris 021 202 8932 Leigh Badminton Club – anyone interested in re-starting this club please call Dennis Humphrey 09 422 6625 Leigh Bowling Club - to foster fellowship and the game of bowls. New members welcome. President Biscuit McLean 027 590 4829 or sec. Dave Johnson 09 422 6560 Leigh Business Community - meets 3rd Wednesday of month Jan Scott 09 422 6681 secretary@leighbythesea.co.nz web www.leighbythesea.co.nz Leigh Cards 500 - 1pm - 3.30pm Tuesday, Leigh Bowling Club, all welcome, \$3.00 Leigh Cemetery Trust -Secretary Joyce McCormick 09 422 6893 Leigh Community Preschool - 09 422 6516 www.leighpreschool.co.nz Leigh Girl Guides, Brownies & Pippins - Fay Bradnam 021 0279 0161 Leigh Hall - Bookings / enguiries Bernie Middleton 021 396 6194 Leigh Harbour Valley Society - 09 422 6880 www.leighharbourvalleysociety.org.nz Leigh Library - 'The Cottage' opposite Leigh Store. Librarian Tracev Lawton 021 825 818 / 09 422 6944 Library Hours as follows: Open Sat: 9.30-1pm; Tues: 2pm-6pm; Wed: 2pm-4pm; Thurs: 11am-1pm Leigh School - 09 422 6031 www.leigh.school.nz Leigh Tennis Club – enquiries at Leigh Eats or Marie Dominique 021 490 039 Leigh Walking Group - meets Mondays at 9.30am for interesting walks throughout the Rodney, Kaipara and Auckland regions, Hugh McKergow 09 422 6219 Leigh Women's Bowling Club - meet Tues, Oct-April, for friendly bowls. New members very welcome. Olive Gravatt 09 422 6273 or Wendy Brooks 09 422 7963 Matheson Bay Neighbourhood Assn - Secretary Peter Spence 021 404 529 or mathesonbavassn@gmail.com Pakiri Community Landcare Group - Frankie 021 688 997 or nick@nickmolloy.co.nz Tawharanui Open Sanctuary Society Inc. (TOSSI) - www.tossi.org.nz Secretary Karyn Hoksbergen 09 585 1315 email secretary@tossi.org.nz Whangateau Acoustic Music & Social Club - www.whangateau.co.nz Whangateau Neighbourhood Support - Sharyn Carew sharvncarew@vodafone.co.nz Whangateau Residents & Ratepayers Assn meets 7.30pm, 2nd Tuesday of month at Whangateau Hall. Audrey Sharp 09 422 6209 or Hugh McKergow 09 422 6219 **JUSTICES OF THE PEACE & CELEBRANTS** JP - Fay Bradnam 09 422 6038 JP & Wedding Celebrant - Dr John Peebles 021 974 247 JP & Funeral Celebrant - Barrie Mason 021 683 747 Celebrant Annie Mellor www.fabulousweddingnz.com Ph 027 9297767 Facebook Love Leigh - www.facebook.com/groups/LoveLeigh/ Leigh by the Sea - www.facebook.com/pages/Leighbythesea/251994924849626 Leigh Historical Photographs NZ - www.facebook.com/groups/739949979454558

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