

LEIGH RAG

October 2018

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 leighragnz@gmail.com

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

LEIGH COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL'S

Country Gala



Sunday of Labour Weekend | 9:00am - 2:00pm

LEIGH SCHOOL GROUNDS

Local Seafood | Quick Fire Raffles | Carnival Rides | Vintage Clothing
Gourmet Food | Farmers Markets | Silent Auctions | Pre-loved Treasures

Leigh School 

Community Meeting

We welcome you to
come and share your
thoughts on the
future of
Leigh School.

**Thursday
25 October**

**5.30-7pm
at Leigh School**

*Food, drinks and
childcare provided*

Editorial

It's good to see Auckland Transport, with a bit of a push from our local board members, attempting to improve local bus services.

There are now buses from Warkworth to Wellsford, Snells Beach, Omaha and Point Wells. The bus which did run to Whangateau has been discontinued.

From the support on the Love Leigh facebook site there is a good case for a bus and this is supported by our Local Board Member Beth Houlbrooke.

Attempts to extend the service that went to Whangateau were ignored by Auckland Transport when it was established, so we need to get the message through this time if we want to get a bus service to Leigh.

The support on facebook has been noted and we need further support for a petition which will be set up. If we had a bus service I would use it. Why not get the bus from home and have a day in the city and a ride on Auckland's ferries.

There was a recent effort by Auckland Transport to get more people in this area onto their Hop Card service. They came to Warkworth and many people set up their card. There doesn't seem to be any date set for another of these so those of

us who are entitled to a Gold Hop Card need to travel to Albany to get one.

As we are all paying a transport levy, we need to get something back for it. Having a bus service would be great, even just to get to the market at Matakana without the problem of parking.

Let's get out and push for a bus service as without a push, nothing will change and Leigh will be forgotten yet again.

Given that around 200,000 visitors come to Goat Island each year, there is probably a case for a bus to continue on to there in the morning with a pick up later in the day. Let's get this happening.

Tony E



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Leigh Community Club

October! How did the year go by so fast? At the last club meeting the local bee man, Andres from Matheson Bay gave us all a very interesting talk about all things bees. Even better, he came loaded with honey which was rapidly snapped up. Bees swarm mostly from now to Christmas and Andres is the person to call if you see a swarm anywhere. Phone 0212899060.

So called E Waste, that is old computers, printers, mobile phones, modems etc are a problem to get rid of, so it is good to know that Mike Francis is trying to get a collection together. He will then take it to Abilities in Glenfield for the items to be re-cycled and the Leigh School will get a donation given back. Win Win! See page 19 of this Leigh Rag or contact Mike for more details.

The repair and upgrade of the waterfall walkway in Matheson Bay is nearing completion thanks to the hard work by a group of volunteers and the council has been putting up new signage around Leigh marking various reserves and walkways. All done in time for the summer influx of visitors.

The next meeting will be on Sunday 4 November at 4pm. We are inviting some of the local recipients of the club grants to come to the meeting, so come along and meet them. See you soon. *Lucy Harris*

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GOOD SORTS

This month's GOOD SORT has been nominated by Wendy Brown who wrote.... "I would like to nominate **Gideon Nolan** for 'Good Sort' of the month. Since his arrival in Leigh, with his lovely wife Rawinia & beautiful daughter Hanalei, Gideon has helped me out with no hesitation on a number of occasions. Gideon is a cheerful, happy, kind, gentle man with an unassuming nature and is a wonderful asset to the Leigh community. His beautiful bass voice has also been most welcome in the Leigh Winter Choir. Thank you so much Gideon"

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Leigh Community Preschool

Don't forget to support Leigh Preschool at their annual Gala this Labour Sunday, 9am-2pm at the Leigh School field. Come along for some delicious food, quick fire raffles, rides, farmers market, silent auction and pre-

loved treasures.

There will be plenty of entertainment throughout the day for both young and old. George the Magician will be performing from 10:30 to 11am, followed by Aysha on her ukulele from 9:45 – 11am, multi-instrumentalist Seven Zen from 11:15 to 12:30pm, and The Mangroves, a five-piece band covering new age indie/reggae in the afternoon. Invite your friends and family and enjoy a beautiful day out!

Thank you to Richard Scott and the Leigh Bar for sponsoring Leigh Preschool on their October Quiz night. Lots of fun was had by all!

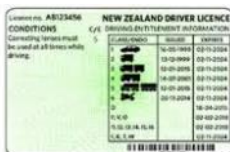
Kate Shears

Did You Know?

You can renew your New Zealand driver's licence on the third Thursday of each month at the Warkworth RSA.

Take along your old licence or other ID.

Phone 0800 822 422 for more information.



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All welcome

Gardening then and now

Springtime and an abundance of flowers in gardens and on roadsides is a reminder of peoples' interests in gardening, a pastime enjoyed for a long time in this district. I have seen a photograph of the garden plots tended by Ngati Manuhiri iwi on Hauturu/Little Barrier.

Charles Clarke had been busy in his flower garden in October 1918. He had sieved cow manure for the garden plots and then planted Gaillardia sunflowers, scabious, marigold, white mignonette, white mallows, 40 pansies, zinnias, portulacas, stocks, candidtufts, cœnoria impelia; and lobelia in a puna stump.

He had had many visitors looking at his garden, and he likewise visited others and picked flowers for the church, for friends and for the captain of *SS Kawanu*. His garden was colourful and no doubt brought memories of England.

This gardening tradition continues. About eight years ago, many responded to Bobbe Free's advertisement in the Leigh Rag for people interested in meeting regularly to discuss gardening in the Leigh environment.

I've been interested in the roadside shrub commonly known as the pale-flowered kumarahou which has been flowering abundantly this year. Its botanical name is *Pomaderris hamiltonii*, and is found only on the poor clay soils in Warkworth to Leigh areas and at the tip of Coromandel. So it is quite special.

Who was the person of the Hamilton name? The NZ Plant Conservation Network states it bears the name of W.S. Hamilton of Southland, a place far from the plant's habitat. In this area it's recognised as the name of a local man, W.M. (Max) Hamilton who H. Mabbett in his book "The Rock and the Sky" describes as "Rodney's brightest boy." He grew up on his parents' dairy farm and orchard in Hamilton Road on the Mahurangi River. From 1936 until 1971 he contributed to plant research nationally and internationally and later became head of DSIR. And the evidence for the name being our man is in a letter written in 1955 by Lucy Moore, a local woman who was a botanist in the DSIR and gave the plant his name.

Conversation with Lyn Wade and Maureen Young; <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies>;
www.nzpcn.org.nz

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You may NOT loiter down town in ice-cream parlours.

You may NOT travel beyond the city limits without the permission of the Chairman of the Board.

You may NOT ride in a carriage or automobile with any man unless he is your Father or Brother.

You may NOT smoke cigarettes.

You may NOT dress in bright colours.

You may, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES, dye your hair.

You must wear AT LEAST two petticoats and your dresses must NOT be any shorter than 2" above the ankles.

To keep the school room clean you must

Sweep the floor at least once daily.

Scrub the floor with hot soapy water at least once a week.

Clean the blackboard at least once a day.

Start the fire at 7am so that the room will be warm by 8am.

Reprinted from *Leigh – Then and Now*
by Bethea Frost.

You can borrow a copy of the book at the Leigh Library to read about other interesting Leigh history.

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Leigh Business Community

At the recent committee meeting, it was decided to welcome a new group of members into the group - those who provide services in the Leigh area, ie electricians, builders, mechanics, plumbers etc. It was decided that the fee would be set at 50% of full membership fees - there will be a listing on the web page, but no listings or mention in any publications. The LBC accordingly would welcome any applicants to this new membership group . . . please email Jan Scott for more details. Thanks Alan Macdonald . . . Chairperson LBC.

That time of year again, with summer days around the corner and businesses getting ready for our visitor influx to Leigh.

Renewal of memberships for this coming year is happening so any new business who is interested in joining our small, yet strong business community, do feel free to contact myself or any of the committee at any time.

One of the benefits of belonging to our group is being able to work side by side and support each other.

When visitors come, we can refer them to activities, eating places, local events happening and knowing each other makes this so easy.

Thank you to all who display our brochures and do contact us when getting low so we can restock your supplies. (Both Leigh by the Sea and walking brochure). The committee continues to meet monthly and are always kept busy with new ideas and projects.

A social function will be organised before Christmas for all members so watch this space!

For all information, contact the secretary Jan Scott 09-422 6681 or email LeighbytheseaNZ@gmail.com

www.leighbythesea.co.nz

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Kia Ora

Wow! We have lots of exciting new books ... it is that time of year when lots of new books are published prior to the Christmas shopping season. The beauty of libraries is that you can read one of these new books for free . . . unless it becomes overdue. When you take out a book from us, you are given a month to read that book. If you haven't finished it and would like to do so, you are welcome to bring it back in and get it re-issued. But when books aren't returned by their due dates, they are not available for others to read. We have a very reasonable fine, which is \$1 per book per week overdue. We will be looking at increasing this next year in the hope that this will encourage our members to be more vigilant in returning their books before or on the due date.

Some of our new novels this month are by authors such as Kate Atkinson, Robert Galbraith, Andrew Miller and Anne Tyler. We have a couple of novels short-listed for the Man Booker Prize. We also have Kiwi Back Yard by Andy Ellis and the very beautiful Paradise Gardens by Monty Don. For the cooks among us we have Always Delicious by Lauraine Jacobs and The Village Table by Matakana School.

I'm currently reading John Boyne's new novel and don't feel guilty curling up in front of the fire when the spring weather takes a turn for the worse. Happy reading.

Tracey Lawton



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HUGE DAY OUT

Warkworth Town Centre
Saturday, 27 October 2018

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There will be stalls including art, craft, food, clothes, toys – well just everything from Rodney and beyond.

There will also be amusements for kids, music (mostly Country & Western), a licensed garden bar, a dog show, bull (artificial) riding and much more.

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MATHESON BAY NEWS

The drainage issues at the top and bottom of Matheson Bay Road have been dealt with and it is hoped that when we get our next heavy rain there will be no gravel and debris spread over the road. Those who live near-by will also no longer have to go out and clear the drains to protect their driveways.

I met with the Project Manager for Treescape Environmental who are contracted to council and look after trees etc in various reserves including Matheson Bay Reserve. We walked the track and looked at where to put traps and what could be used where. With the steep terrain and the close proximity of people and boundaries there will need to be some buy-in from residents who back onto the reserve. Only traps will be used as with all public areas, poisoning is not allowed, something I personally feel OK with. We went into the reserve at Leigh Road and there are some areas there also that are showing signs of possum damage. She will work on a plan for the area and we should be up and running next year. This project will work well alongside the one proposed to run along the coast from Ti Point to Leigh and the Whangateau trap lending library. With over 40 rats caught recently on Goat Island there is definitely a need out there. One only has to walk up the Kohuroa Stream track and hear the lack of bird calls to realise that all is not good. But last week I heard the first Shining Cuckoo call in my garden after its arrival from the Solomon Islands, or thereabouts and knew that summer is around the corner. Bring it on!

Louise van Campfort

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LEIGH SCHOOL



Hopefully you did not miss the school's production of Pirates vs Mermaids at the end of last term. The Leigh Hall was completely full with parents, grandparents, siblings, ex-students, locals and out-of-towners who came out mid-week for an evening full of laughter, amazing costumes and remarkable scenery and props. A fantastic job by the children and teachers!

Thank you to Pub Charity for a very generous grant donation of \$10K to be used on our school grounds. The Board will be purchasing two new shade sails for above the picnic tables, a garden shed, two bench seats and a new rubbish bin.

I personally thank all of you who voted for and shared our nomination in the PlaceMakers kitchen renovation competition. Unfortunately, we came in second place by less than 25 votes . . . that's right, only 25! . . . despite having more than 2200 votes. Your support was over-whelming and I feel inspired to continue the cause. Watch this space.

The school is due to review its direction and set a path for the future. They will be holding a Community Consultation on Thursday October 25 at 5:30pm at the school. Please come along. Light food and refreshments as well as free baby-sitting will be provided.

Looking forward to the final term of the year and summer!

Kate Shears

NOMINATE A LOCAL GOOD SORT

Our Good Sorts column has run for a number of years, sponsored by Leigh Community Church. Many fantastic locals have been the Good Sort of the month over the years but there are others out there who also deserve the award.

If you know someone like this who has not yet been nominated, 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 enderbys@xtra.co.nz.

The person considered most deserving will receive home baking courtesy of Leigh Community Church.

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Forest and Bird COMMUNITY COAST CARE GROUP, Leigh

We've had a couple of working bees and at the last one had a good clean out of pest plants along the cliff top walkway. This is such a gem of a walk and it is good to keep it looking at its best. Thanks to all those who helped.

The new project area for the Coast Care group is at the end of Kowhai Terrace - an area which eventually will be a small reserve. In consultation with Auckland Council, a restoration plan was prepared for the area some months ago, and council has our planting list, in anticipation of a community planting morning, May next year.

Kukuyu spraying has now been completed. Special thanks to the adjoining property owners for their very substantial input, enthusiasm, and help with the project.

I was impressed to see a new building site in bush up Frost Road which prominently displays a Kauri Dieback board at the entrance. It asks all to clean and spray their footwear and for contractors to spray their machinery before entering the site. Good on you builder. Good on you Auckland Council. The spray is provided.

How's that for everyone working together as a community to control a problem. It sits well with the wonderful work that the Matheson Bay community has undertaken to boardwalk around the Kohuroa Stream kauri trees to protect them. I hope everyone uses the footspray they provided at the entrances to Matheson Bay bush.

Neil Sutherland



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WHANGATEAU HALL

FOLK CLUB

Club Nights \$10

October club night is Monday 29th. Auckland alt-folk trio Albi and the Wolves are coming back for another show. They had the whole hall rocking along with them last year. First half will be floor singers as per our usual. That's a \$15 show, 7pm start. Book via our website and no booking fees.

Coming Up at the Hall

November 14:	Alpaca Social Club (NZ+)
November 26:	Sonoran Dogs (US)
December 2:	Tattletale Saints (US)
December 26:	Boxing Day potluck and jam session/open mic
January 16:	Rhode Works (NZ)
January 28:	Lonely Heart String Band (US)
February 13:	Nine Mile Creek (AU)
February 25:	Dennis Duigan & Ramblin' Ash. (US)
March 6:	Frank Burkitt Band (NZ)

Full details about the bands on our
[website: www.whangateau.co.nz](http://www.whangateau.co.nz)



Thanks to the Leigh Community

Merv Wright would like to thank the Leigh Community for their kind support and best wishes on the recent death of his wife Bev.

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Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade

A rather fragmented month with callouts at the start and at the end of the month, making a total of seven. These were a structure fire at Matakana, a false alarm at Omaha and medical calls to Leigh (4) and Whangateau.

With the fire station alterations complete it was great to show the Leigh community, who had made donations towards it, the end result. I think everyone was impressed and the brigade now has a modern, comfortable and functional home. Thanks to everyone who came along.

With daylight saving now giving us much longer evenings to get out enjoy ourselves, everyone should have tested and checked their smoke alarms. Remember these gadgets are life savers and if you have any reservations whether yours works then contact one of the brigade members to check it.

Daylight saving also means more light for brigade members to train each Tuesday night. We also have members attending training courses for line

rescue (abseil rescue) and first aid over the next few weeks.

The ground has dried out a little but hopefully we don't get too many scrub fires. Also remember if you decide to burn off those piles of cuttings to check which way the wind is blowing and make sure you don't smoke out the neighbourhood.

We are still short of a few firefighters and if you think you want to give firefighting a go, come along on a Tuesday night and see what you think. It's a great contribution to our community.

Tony Enderby



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@mikeperomatakanacoast

Little Blue Penguins

Have you seen any penguins coming ashore around the Ti Point to Leigh area? Let us know if you have spotted some as it will help us decide where to place penguin nesting boxes. Please email Leighpenguins@gmail.com or phone 09 422 6127 with your information whether it is historic or recent.

To help protect them further there will be some local trapping to target their predators and give the chicks a better chance of survival.

FOR ALL EMERGENCIES

DIAL 111

Fire - Ambulance - Police

Don't waste valuable time trying to find local numbers to call if you need fire, ambulance, police or assistance.

Call 111 and ask for the appropriate service.

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E Waste collection for Leigh Fundraising for the Leigh School

We are working on collection of Electronic Waste for Leigh. Each item will have a small charge for dropoff to cover the disposal costs. Local volunteers will collate the items and transport to the depot in Glenfield.

The School will receive 50% of the dropoff fees as part of Abilities School EWaste program. The fees are the same as if you had dropped the items off yourself.

Fees as follows:

CRT TVs \$20

Flat screen TVs and monitors \$20

Hard drive shredding 1-3 drives \$15 includes inside a computer

Printers Scanners and Fax Machines \$10

Photocopiers Medium \$20 Larger \$35

Laptops, phones, keyboards mice dvd vcr
players stereos \$5

There is a bit of logistics to sort out and we are looking for a covered dropoff point and someone to look after the list and the fees.

If you are in a position to help please contact Fiona at fifiinleigh@gmail.com or call 021353176.



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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
www.leighbythesea.co.nz or email LeighbytheseaNZ@gmail.com

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 / enquiries phone Lynn Mellsopp 027 2868 625 or email leighhallauckland@gmail.com

Leigh Harbour Valley Society - 09 422 6880 www.leighharbourvalleysociety.org.nz

Leigh Historic Group currently being formed email historyleighnz@gmail.com

Leigh Library – 'The Cottage' opposite Leigh General Store. Librarian Tracey 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 mathesonbayassn@gmail.com

Pakiri Community Landcare Group - Frankie 021 688 997 or nick@nickmolloy.co.nz

Pakiri Tennis Club Contact Linda Taylor (Secretary) on 021 242 7459

Rodney Rams Secretary Amy Weller 021 138 1407 rodneyrams@outlook.com

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 sharyncarew@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

TOSSI www.facebook.com/tossi.nz/

If your club or group does not appear, please advise the editor.