

LEIGH RAG

April 2019

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

Anzac Day - Thursday, 25 April

Would you like to march at the Leigh Anzac Day service?

There is no limitation on those that march. If you feel a connection to a the event, had a family member or friend who served in any of the services, or you want to demonstrate respect for those that helped shape our nation, at home or abroad then please march with us.

If you are wearing medals awarded to someone else, please remember that these are worn on your right, as a protocol, only the recipient wears them over the heart. We invite you to come and join the march to commemorate those that served our nation. Muster in Harbour View Road near the corner of Kowhai Terrace at 10:45am. Service at the cemetery flagstaff at 11.00 am.

Poppy Day is on Thursday, 18 April 18this year — Poppies on sale at the Leigh General Store from 7am – midday.



ANZAC Day commemorations are organised by the **Leigh Community Club**. The service is followed by a gathering at the Leigh Bowling club. Please bring a plate to share.

WHANGATEAU HALL

May 6-10, Creative Matakana is running workshops at the hall. Contact Robin Barclay: robin@salcombe.co.nz for more information and to register.

Wednesday, May 15, Peter Tichener of Adelaide folk band Colcannon performs a full concert. 7:30pm. \$15.

Monday, May 27 is our monthly club night. Our guest this month is singer/songwriter Donna Dean. 7pm. \$10.

Want to get involved? The harbour care group meets at the hall on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Whangateau Residents and Ratepayers meets on the second Tuesday of each month. And the Whangateau Hall and Reserve Committee meets once every three months. Check www.whangateau.co.nz for more information about any of these groups or events .

Jenine Abarbanel

LITTLE BLUE PENGUINS – kororā

During May, penguins come ashore around our coast to look for suitable nesting sites. As part of our little blue penguin project we have placed around 40 penguin nesting boxes around the Ti Point to Goat Island coastline. If you spot one, please do not disturb any penguins that may have taken up residence. It would also help if dog owners could keep dogs on a lead especially at dusk and dawn. Any queries or penguin sightings can be sent to leighpenguins@gmail.com



Jenny Enderby

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Leigh Community Club

I was overseas when the terrible events occurred in Christchurch. I was with a group of Kiwis and we felt the collective sadness which has been expressed so eloquently in speeches and services across New Zealand and the world. As a result of that day, there was question over whether we should hold a public service on Anzac Day. Across the district, communities have been asked to cancel their service this year and attend the ones in Warkworth where the police are better able to provide the security that is deemed necessary while the country remains on high alert. After a series of discussions, the police have agreed to provide police support for our service. We have also talked to our invited guests and I am pleased to say that the Leigh Anzac Service will be going ahead. The phone has been running hot, but we got to a good conclusion! There will be a police presence at the service and no parking beyond Hill St so give yourself time to park and walk. People who can not walk that far will need a driver to take them to the gates and then take the car away. Please bring a plate to share if you attend the bowling club after the service.

At our April meeting we had a speaker from the Warkworth Museum who has a particular interest in the early settlement and settlers of Leigh. Did you know it is 160 years this year that the *Spray*, from Nova Scotia arrived in Matheson Bay for the first time? So thank you to Carolyn Cooper for her interesting talk.

At our May meeting, Helen and Guy Parkes will be showing video and photographs. Both of them are enthusiastic photographers as well as experienced travellers in Africa and this will be very entertaining and interesting I'm sure. Everyone is welcome to come and join us on Sunday 5 May at 4pm to enjoy the photography and travellers tales.

Lucy Harris

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GOOD SORTS

Our GOOD SORT this month is the lovely **Helen Parkes**, nominated by a number of locals for the Leigh Waste Minimisation Project she is fully involved with. This programme of workshops is well underway in our community and along with some helpers, Helen has arranged sewing bees to put cloth bags in our local store, taken sewing classes and organised presentations/speakers on other topics of great interest. As well Helen has assisted with the Leigh Rag and the Leigh Hall Committee. Many thanks to you Helen for these great initiatives happening right here in Leigh. The *Leigh Community Church* is very pleased to acknowledge your efforts from which we all can benefit.

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Leigh Business Community

We have had a busy summer season with lots of sunny weather and warm seas. With Easter and school holidays coming up, we are hoping for the fine weather to carry on a bit longer.

The LBC committee continues to meet monthly and focuses on creating ideas for continuing to support business in the area. We are very pleased with having a 'Trade Service Section' on our website and do encourage others to join. This allows both locals and visitors to be able to access information and of course support our local trade and service people. Our website also has lots of other useful information such as the library opening hours and online copies of the Leigh Rag.

Check it out! www.leighbythesea.co.nz

We now have our logo and website on the reusable bags at the general store. This will help to promote our area as well as support the 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle community venture.

Next month, on Sunday, 19 May, we are planning a social evening for all business members at Leigh Central - a 'Movie and Burger' night. More information will be sent out to members shortly.

New members are welcome at any time, for further information:

Contact Jan Scott 09 4226681

Email leighbytheseaNZ@gmail.com.



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Forest and Bird COMMUNITY COAST CARE GROUP, Leigh

An interesting couple of weeks for our group. Last week we had a very productive working bee with a good turn out. If you walk the Leigh Harbour track you might notice a lot of dead morning glory, and fewer seedling pines and gorse bushes along the track. This is another area where our planting from about four years ago is really taking off.

Also last week a couple of senior managers from Auckland Council were brought out to see our project, partly because it is long running (almost ten years) and partly because the project is moving from pest plant removal into pest animal removal - in conjunction with the Kororā/Little Blue Penguin project. They gave very positive feedback and offers of support.

When we did our latest weekly check of our Leigh coastal trapline we got a catch rate of six from eleven traps! They're out there! Now is the time when rodents are looking for winter hideouts, so any help Leigh householders can give by having traps on their properties will help everyone. We'd love to have your support.

Neil Sutherland

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 LeighRagNZ@gmail.com.

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

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Pest Free Leigh Woolly Nightshade/Tobacco Weed

This plant produces toxins that poison the soil and inhibit regeneration. It spreads rapidly and can grow up to ten metres tall. The grey-green leaves are covered in dusty hairs and the stem is whitish and soft. When in flower there are clusters of purple flowers 15-20mm in diameter, followed by round yellowish berries. Seeds are spread by birds, especially native pigeon (kererū). Around Leigh there are plenty of woolly nightshade trees growing and it is another nasty plant that would be good to get rid of.



Pull up any small plants and leave to rot. This is easiest during winter months. Larger trees should be cut off and have poison applied to the stumps. To help stop it from returning cut any stems that re-sprout.

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Kia Ora

We have some more fabulous new books for your reading pleasure!

For the children – the delightfully named 'Doctor Proctor's Fart Powder', the lovely little board book 'Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes', and 'Magnus Chase & The Ship Of Dread'.

If you like some non-fiction we have 'Historic Sheep Stations of New Zealand', Wendy Nissen's 'The Natural Home' and 'Mad, Bad and Dangerous To Know' by the intrepid Ranulph Fiennes.

New Fiction is looking great with perennial favourites David Baldacci, Harlan Coben, Nicky Pellegrino, Philip Kerr, Donna Leon, Andrea Camilleri, Deborah Challinor and Don Winslow having new releases.

Also, don't forget that we are running a library book club at Leigh Library on the last Tuesday of the month at 7pm. This is open to Leigh Library members and is a chance to talk briefly about one book you've read from the library. Tea and coffee will be provided.

Tracey Lawton

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ANZAC DAY



World War One ended in November 1918 and peace was celebrated between 19 and 21 July 1919. There was no official day to commemorate the war and the New Zealand Government suggested moving St George's Day to 25 April and to declare the day a public holiday. There was very little support for this but having an Anzac Day appealed to the public.

In 1920 the government, in response to the Returned Services' Association (RSA) request, declared a holiday with the first to be held on 25 April 1921. Legislation at first closed banks, hotels and banned race meetings, but the RSA wanted the holiday to be like a Sunday. Anzac Day became a full public holiday in 1922 and evolved during the 1920s and 1930s. Many public war memorials were erected in provincial towns around New Zealand and Anzac Day ceremonies held there. The ceremonies became less religious and RSA leaders, local politicians and servicemen made speeches instead of the clergy. Ceremonies began to include laying wreaths and dawn parades commemorated the first landings at Gallipoli by New Zealand and Australian troops. After the Second World War, Anzac Day became a commemoration of all wars in which New Zealanders had served. Veterans from both world wars paraded together and attendance at Anzac Day services increased.

Legislation protected Anzac Day from becoming 'Mondayised', meaning that Anzac Day would always be held on 25 April. Some services were moved from dawn to mid-morning or extra services were added.

Now many younger New Zealanders proudly wear the medals their grandparents and great grandparents won during the wars. There are no longer any veterans left from Gallipoli or WWI and veterans from WWII, Korea and Vietnam become less each year.

Leigh's Anzac Day parade often has numbers greater than the population of the town with large numbers of children present. What better way to remember those who fought for our freedom in wars past and to ensure that our way of life is preserved.

The actions of some officials in Auckland in closing Anzac Services this year are far removed from what our forebears went away and fought for. If common sense prevails Anzac Day will return to all the venues where it was previously celebrated.



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MATHESON BAY NEWS

The area is looking fresher after some heavy showers lately (raining as I write this) and tanks should be well replenished. The stream is back to the south side having finally broken through again. With the water still pleasant there are plenty of swimmers enjoying the bay.

It is good to see everyone's favourite seat has been replaced with a very solid and very well bolted down one. The fallen tree on the track was cleared away the day after it was notified which was great as we're all enjoying the upgraded walk.

With autumn being a busy time to tidy up in the garden, keep a look out for ginger and asparagus fern, both common weeds in the area. Remove all flower heads of agapanthus too so we don't have to clear them from the drains again in the future. With so many empty properties it is hard to keep these pests in check.

Gradually houses in the bay are being upgraded and the old baches replaced. Another one bites the dust in a few weeks, at 1 Spray Crescent. Great memories I'm sure, as it was one of the many in the street which hosted summer holidays since the 50s. Owner Jill Brewis says the new build (after 15 months of preparation and building consent hold ups) will be a modest bach style home that will sit below others in the area so no views are lost.

Let's hope the weather stays warm through to Easter so all the bach owners coming up will get to enjoy their beach before winter.

Louise van Campfort

LEIGH BAR

EST 2014

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May 20th Quiz Starts 7.30pm (book now!)

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Leigh School

The school garden is getting ready for winter plantings. If you have a green thumb and keen to help, you are welcome to join Awa in the garden on Monday mornings from 9am for an hour or so. Also, we are collecting any seeds, seedlings, poos and fertilizers that will help our beloved garden flourish!

"Last Wednesday we planted a soup garden. We planted leek, broccoli and calvolo nero." by Daylia.

"Last Wednesday we did some gardening. We planted leeks, broccoli and calvolo nero. We looked at all the plants. It smelled good because it had rained." by Kayden

"Our plants can grow big. I think it is awesome and they will taste yummy. I hope the soup will taste yummy." by Kaito.

Leigh School will be holding its triennial Board of Trustees elections this June. The BoT is comprised of five elected representatives from the community, a staff representative and Julie Turner, the principal. The Electoral Roll is open for inspection at the school office and closes on 8 May.

The pool will be closing from Friday, 12 April. If you have a key please return it to Fay at the front office and receive your \$10.00 deposit.

Enjoy the holidays. Term 2 commences Monday, 29 April.

Kate Shears



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Omaha Cove (Leigh Harbour) Walk Closed 16-30 April

DOC will be working with a contractor to undertake track construction works to prevent the spread of kauri dieback by people on tracks. The work will occur on two tracks: Omaha Cove Walk and Beverley Price Loop Track.

The construction work will include improving drainage, reshaping and resurfacing tracks, building boxed steps, a staircase and boardwalk. These tracks will be temporarily closed during the works to ensure soil hygiene and safety to the public and contractors.

The Beverley Price Loop (Warkworth) will be closed from 16 April 2019 to 28 June 2019.

Specific track closure and opening dates will be placed on these tracks on the DOC website. For further information please contact the DOC office: Maungauika/North Head

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Warkworth age-friendly community survey

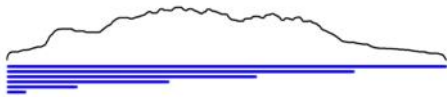
If you are aged 65 years and over and live in the Warkworth area you are invited to complete the survey on the age-friendliness of Warkworth.

The results will be available to the Warkworth community as part of a larger age-friendly research project. Enter the prize draw for \$100 grocery voucher at the end of the survey. Full details available at the beginning of the survey.

Electronic link below:

https://aut.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/formSV_9U19CT4yMIKf3AV

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Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade

Things have really quietened down for brigade members with only four callouts in March. To date this year we have attended half the callouts we did for the same period last year. March callouts were to a house fire at Leigh and medical calls to Goat Island (2) and to Leigh.

Now that autumn has arrived and the ground is getting wetter we should be over any vegetation fires although a permit from Auckland Council is still needed for any open fire. At this stage the open fire season will come into effect from Monday, 15 April.

Daylight saving has ended and this is a good time to check batteries in smoke alarms. These little gadgets are a lifesaver in a fire and everyone should have at least one working alarm in their house. If anyone needs help with this just contact any brigade member.

The annual raft race was held at Matheson Bay and although Matakana Fire Brigade were first across the line, our unbiased judge, Bill Rutherford, handed out prizes for creativity. Leigh entrants won that section with a great range of sea craft with Matakana trailing in creativity with their raft made from a block of polystyrene. Thanks to Leigh Eats, Leigh Bar, Central Landscape Supplies and Leigh Sawmill Cafe for their generous donations for prizes.

Training will now be a little less pleasant in the cooler darker nights but our guys and girls will keep working on skills.

Tony Enderby



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Angela Wain

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Leigh Community Hall

By the time you read this the Hall Committee will have trialled a kids "drop-in" session in the school holidays. We are trying to gauge interest in these free activities and would like your feedback on what you would like to see in the future. We believe that this great community of Leigh deserves more options for things to do that are within walking distance, - particularly in the school holidays when kids get bored too easily and lots of families have visitors.

Our AGM is Monday, 13 May at the hall, 5pm - 6pm.

We need some help please, someone who can formally (or informally) audit our books for the year ended 31 March 2019. Because it is public money we need to be accountable and have someone check it out.

Please let any committee member know if you know someone who can do this for us, or email leighhallauckland@gmail.com

Yes, we have another working bee coming up too, - look out for details on facebook or noticeboards. Sunday, 28 April, (the day before Term 2 starts). We achieved a huge amount last time — so this time the tasks are not as arduous, but still important so that we can achieve the best hall we can for Leigh and surrounding areas. An hour (or more) of your time would be wonderful. Morning tea supplied.

Lynn Mellsopp



Leigh Church Services

All denominations and visitors are most welcome to join with us each
Sunday at 11 am

There is also a prayer meeting every Sunday at 10.30 am.

Church Hall bookings please

Phone (09) 425 8054

All welcome

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Helpful Contacts

***For all emergencies dial 111
and ask for police, ambulance or fire***

Auckland Council

Dogs, pollution, rubbish etc call 09 301 0101 toll free or to report something that is causing an immediate risk to the safety of a person, people or property.

Auckland Transport: public transport enquiries 0800 103 080

General roading and street light queries 09 355 3553

Harbourmaster: maritime safety, moorings, harbour emergencies Call 09 362 039

Coastguard

Call *500 for on-water assistance or for marine emergencies dial 111 / VHF Channel 16

Department of Conservation (DoC)

Call their hotline 0800 362 468 (marine reserve offences, marine mammal strandings, sick or injured wildlife, etc.)

Healthline

Call 0800 611 116 for 24-hour medical services

Lifeline Helpline

Call 0800 543 354 or text HELP (4357) for free, 24/7, confidential support— 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Whatever the issue, they are there to listen.

Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI)

Call 0800 80 99 66 to report fisheries offences.

Northlink Health enquiries for Home Help Ph 0800 425 999

North Shore Hospital Emergency Care

24 hours 7 days Shakespeare Rd, Takapuna 0800 809 342

Orca Hotline

Call 0800 733 6722 to report orca sightings.

Police - urgent but not life-threatening incidents

Call *555 (minor crashes, non-injury, continuous poor driving, traffic congestion, breakdowns and obstructions on the highway.)

Warkworth Police Station 09 425 8109 8am-4pm Mon - Fri

Shorecare Accident & Medical: 24/7, Sovereign House, Smales Farm

Takapuna National Poison Centre: 24 hrs advice 0800 764 766

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EMAIL—leighmotors2017@gmail.com

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 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. Glen Walker 09 422 6486

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 Club - meets 4pm, 1st Sunday of month at Leigh Bowling Club.

Organises Anzac Day Service and Community Matters. New members welcome.

President Lucy Harris 021 202 8932

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

Plunket meet 1st Monday of month Leigh Church Hall Contact Adele 0272901915

Rodney Rams Secretary Amy Weller 021 138 1407 rodneyrans@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.