# EiGH RAG

#### **July 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.

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 Community Club, Leigh Fisheries and the Leigh General Store View the Leigh Rag online www.leighbythesea.co.nz/news-events

## LEIGH LIT UP



#### **Leigh Community Club**

Trapping is definitely on trend! The Leigh Penguin Group is doing great work to trap pests which prey on the little blue penguins and the Community Club had Peter Thomas and Laurence Eyres, members of the Point Wells trapping group to speak at the July meeting.

The Point Wells group has been trapping for over two years, having made an exclusion zone around shoreline and across the peninsula and has caught over 300 possums, stoats and rats. People living inside the area are already reporting increased bird life. Peter and Laurence were able to share their knowledge and experience with our members which was of great value.

Ngaire Wallen, from Takatu LandCare also came to meet our community. Ngaire is working to help landowners control pests and invasive weeds, to create a buffer zone around Tawharanui Sanctuary which will further protect the wildlife inside the sanctuary. If you are a land owner and want to get

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Repair of the bridge on the coastal path starts on 15 July so that section will be closed until the work is completed.

After canvassing ideas with the young mothers in Leigh, the committee is discussing what we can do to make a safe play area for the smallest members of our community, something which is sadly lacking at the moment.

The August meeting is on the 4th at 4pm at the bowling club. See you then.

Lucy Harris

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#### Leigh School Art & Craft Programme Term 4

Leigh School is running its Art and Craft programme next term, each Tuesday afternoon starting on 30 July. It will run for 6 weeks (till 3 September).

We are seeking assistance from the Leigh community to help each Tuesday from 1.40 till 2.40pm including 5-10 minutes for tidy up time, which will be within that hour.

Activities could include painting, photography, drawing, knitting, crocheting, whittling, macramé, painting, modelling or any other skills. We are looking for up to 10 practical big brothers and sisters. Your experience can be used so these kids gain practical skills that are not a usual part of the school programme. Please can you let us know what you are offering and if you need any materials

Can you contact principal@leigh.school.nz asap.

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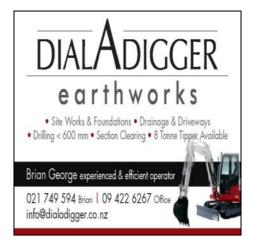
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#### LIGHT UP LEIGH

The very successful Light Up Leigh event was part of the Mahurangi Festival of Lights. LJ Hooker gave prizes for the best lit house in the Leigh area and best letterbox in the Whangateau area.

First prize equal for the best lit house was awarded to Milan and Saun Wilson at 54 Grand View Road, Matheson Bay and Clive and Sara Mathers at 21 Albert Street, Leigh. Second prize went to Dave and Annette Wyatt at 25 Albert Street, Leigh. Third prize went to Alice from the Goldminer's Daughter at 19 Cumberland Street, Leigh.

The prize for the best letterbox display went to Laurie and Leesa Irving at 524 Leigh Road, Whangateau.

Congratulations to all those who made an effort to participate and let's hope that next year we will have even more contestants.

A huge thank you to Michelle who organised this beautiful event.

The scavenger hunt included guessing the number of jelly beans in the jar which

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EFTPOS AVAILABLE Phone 09 422 6034 was 249. Winnie and Holly both guessed 250 which was pretty close.

Around 150 children participated in the scavenger hunt which included toasting marshmallows at the fire station, visiting the King Tide tattoo shop, putting a spark plug into a car at the Leigh Garage and several other tasks.

The night market at Leigh Central was very successful for some stall holders and the Gold Mine's Daughter was open to view.

Special thanks go to Carlton Hire Warkworth for their help with lighting and to the Leigh community including local businesses who participated.

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#### Leigh - Cotterell Street Esplanade boardwalk

Community Facilities have advised that works to renew the failed sections of the boardwalk along the Cotterell Street Esplanade walkway are programmed to start on 15 July 2019.

Construction will take approximately 5 weeks with completion estimated for the end August 2019 (weather permitting).

Signage will be installed and the boardwalk will be closed for public use until the project is completed.

Susan Quinn | Stakeholder Advisor Stakeholder and Land Advisory Community Facilities | Customer & Community Services Toru Area: Henderson-Massey, Rodney & Waitakere Ranges

Mobile: 021 242 8091

#### Forest and Bird COMMUNITY COAST CARE GROUP, Leigh

It's not a Garden. This weekend we did some more planting at our restoration site on the road reserve at the harbour end of Kowhai Tce. It looks wonderful, but we've had some problems with the project. It has been the supply of plants. Because the Coast Care Group works with Auckland Council to restore the natural coastal margins around Leigh, we are neither creating gardens nor a landscaping the sea cliffs. We're a restoration group and are bound to plant only those native plants which have traditionally grown in the environment we're restoring. In the case of the harbour cliff environment at Kowhai Tce, some of the plants we need are uncommon and hard to get. We are not free to create 'gardens' or plant what we think would look nice. For example we can only plant the flax or kowhai varieties that are natural to the Leigh coastal area.

With climate disruption our native species are under threat. With kauri die back, myrtle rust, large areas of puriri dying, and now kanaka dying too, our plants are under threat. It is critical that we get our plant selections right.

Neil Sutherland.



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#### **LEIGH HALL**

We have gratefully received some very kind donations recently, and as a result can now offer wine glasses for hire as well as our existing cutlery and crockery sets. Thank you to the Leigh Community Club.

Tauwharunui Lodge have been doing some renovations to their accommodation and conference centre, - as a result of their generosity we can now offer the use of a projector and screen for hall users. They have also donated drapes and rugs, making our small meeting room and the hall more cosy and much nicer.

We have some more kitchen items, again donated, - and after the last working bee have sorted the kitchen to find that we are now fairly well equipped for small and medium catered events.

Leigh Community – you are fabulous and very generous. Thank you.

Lynn Mellsopp



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#### PEST FREE LEIGH

Recently at the Leigh Community Club meeting we were privileged to hear some locals from the Point Wells Community who were involved in making their area predator free. They brought some traps to show and talked about how they got started. With the help of the Forest Bridge Trust they created three traplines right around the Point Wells perimeter. They have teams for each trapline who take turns in doing fornightly checks.

The Kiwibank Predator Free fund would be a good place to start for Leigh as their fund helps communities right around the country. They select outstanding communities who wish to be predator free, supplying funding to purchase subsidised trapping equipment. On top of that, they give these groups ongoing support, information and advice. Their goal is to get a trap in every 5th backyard in towns, suburbs and neighbourhoods in New Zealand who want to make their community predator free.

There are around 500 houses in the Leigh/Matheson Bay community so by Kiwibank's goal that would mean we would need around 100 rat traps to cover every 5th house. There are already quite a few locals trapping on their properties. Other areas to be considered in any plan are council and DoC areas, school, preschool, fire station, shops etc. A large map showing current trapping would be a great start.

The coastline from Ti Point to Goat Island is slowly being covered by our Leigh Penguin group with two traplines set up so far. One covers the Ti Point walkway and the other part of the Leigh Coast. Another will be set up soon to include our harbour. The Leigh Harbour Valley Society is also trapping and the Goat Island Trappers are doing a great job on the island and the coastline around the Leigh Marine Laboratory. Matheson Bay were also hoping to begin predator controls alongside the Kohuroa Stream but the kauri dieback issue has delayed this.

Our Rodney Local Board have been amazing by helping with some of the council areas by supplying traps and advice.

Possums, rats, weasels and stoats are a real problem but with a community effort we can reduce these predators. Our birdlife is amazing and we want to maintain that and even improve it by reducing predators. Why not start with your own rat trap and tunnel in your backyard?

Next month we will feature some information on making your own rat trap tunnels.

Jenny Enderby







#### **LEIGH VOLUNTEER LIBRARY**

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Morgan

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#### **Leigh Waste Minimisation Project Report**

On Tuesday, 2 July, the Leigh Waste Minimisation team hosted Liam and Hannah from The Rubbish Trip. They are a dynamic young couple who assimilate all aspects of waste elimination in their everyday life. They are imaginative in how they follow the six principles of waste management by refusing, reducing, reusing, repurposing, recycling and rotting almost all their waste.

A small audience from Leigh, Matakana, Snells Beach and Whangaparaoa attended their presentation. Leigh and Hannah provided an interesting supper of their own prepared food. This event was kindly hosted by Leigh Central – thank you for your support.

Hannah and Liam swear that by following their zero-waste approach they save money – enough incentive for any of us. Check out their website at <a href="https://therubbishtrip.co.nz">https://therubbishtrip.co.nz</a>.

The weekly sewing bees are continuing through the winter. These are held in the meeting room on the Cumberland Street side of Leigh Hall on Thursday

mornings from 9.30am. We are keen for more locals to help with our production efforts. Presently we are making items for use by the Leigh School. Other Leigh Waste Minimisation events will be held in Term 4.

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There was recently an article in the Mahurangi Matters paper regarding reserves that could be closed in Auckland due to Kauri dieback. As Matheson Bay reserve up the Kahuroa Stream, has numerous large and regenerating kauri, it was on the list. Auckland Council have decided, due to the new track and board walk that has been installed, the reserve will remain open.

They have decided, however that the pest eradication that I was heading up will not proceed at this stage. This is due to the need to lay and monitor traps in the bush out of the track area, resulting in a heightened risk of the spread of Kauri dieback disease should it occur. I will however still be involved with upcoming training (dates to be confirmed) with the Leigh group.

The intention is that some properties surrounding the reserve will come on board and have traps installed that can be monitored. These unfortunately won't be funded by council, but I will be in touch soon with an environmental person in council who will let us know where to get traps at a reduced price. It would be great to get the outer boundaries backing onto the reserve covered to enlarge the area of pest control that is being undertaken between Ti Point and Goat Island.

A reminder that the Matheson Bay Pot Luck Dinner is on Saturday 20 July at the Leigh Hall from 6 pm. RSVP by 18 July to Peter Spence on: mathesonbayassn@gmail.com

Louise van Campfort





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The school had the opportunity to visit Morris & James to see how pottery is made. This paired nicely with their inquiry for the term looking at states of matter. It was a very interesting tour and the children asked some great

questions. They also got to see the totem pole pieces that they will be decorating and placing on campus next term for their art inquiry.

The following Sunday was the Leigh Community Mid Winter Swim. Many school families along with community members, as well as some visitors to Leigh, braved the coolish waters of Matheson Bay and took the plunge. The Friends of Leigh School were selling hot soup, sausages and baked goods, and Leigh Central kept the hot drinks flowing. Thank you to all who helped and donated to this event. We raised \$638, some of which will be used to buy trees for the school campus and the rest added to our kitchen renovation fund!

To top off the last week of term the school put on a hangi! We can't thank Theresa, Isaac, Lili and Matt enough for organising such an awesome event. The children spent Thursday peeling veges and digging the pit, and on Friday morning some got to school early to watch the lighting of the fire and the food going in. A few hours later we got to enjoy a delicious, hot lunch on the school field. It was a truly fantastic day and a great start to Matariki!

Finally and most importantly, we said farewell and best wishes to our much-loved school principal Julie Turner. Julie has been principal at Leigh School for eight and a half years and is moving on to the principal position at Waipu School. We are sad to see her leave, she has made a huge contribution to Leigh School and is leaving the school in a very strong position. All the best Ms. T!

School is back in session Monday 22 July.

Kate Shears



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#### Whangateau Hall

Folk Club is on Monday, 29 July with second half guest Al Young. Al is a well-known member of the folk community, skilled in many genres including blues, gospel, bluegrass and folk. Jenine will be hosting the evening, so e-mail her to sign up for a 1st half floor spot, <a href="mailto:jenine@torkington.com">jenine@torkington.com</a>. Our August club night is Monday the 26th. We don't have a second half guest for the evening, so it will be floor singers and Pipi Pickers all night long! Doors open at 6:45pm for our club nights, and the fun starts at 7pm. More information can be found on our website:

www.whangateau.co.nz www.facebook.com/whangateauhall/

#### Want to get involved?

Whangateau Harbourcare Group meets the first Tuesday of the month. Whangateau Residents and Ratepayers group meets the second Tuesday of the month.

The Whangateau Hall and Reserve Committee meets the first Tuesday of every third month





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#### **GOOD SORTS**

This month's GOOD SORT is **Wendy Stephens**, nominated by the members of Leigh Library who wrote: "Since her arrival in Leigh, Wendy has totally immersed herself into the Leigh Community and unfailingly volunteers to help at every opportunity. She is very generous in heart and spirit. As a member of the Library Committee, Wendy does regular library duty and commitments, and regularly waterblasts 'The Cottage' to keep it sparkling clean and as well, uses her ute to transport books from and to the Warkworth Library for our 3mthly exchange. Over the past 2yrs she has volunteered her expertise in formulating the library's extensive Health & Safety manual and helps manage policies as required. We all consider her a wonderful recipient of the monthly Good Sort Award" and the *Leigh Community Church* wholeheartedly agree. Wendy Stephens you have baking coming your way.

#### The Supakidz programme at Leigh School

Every school term, at the Leigh school House of Learning, there is a six week programme called Supakidz. The programme is run by the Leigh church group and focuses on giving children stories from the Bible that reflect the values that society upholds. Stories that illustrate choices people make and the consequences of their choice. Stories of people who overcame their fears and succeeded in the face of difficulties. Stories that have inspired generations of folk through the centuries.

Alongside these stories there is also the fun of games and creative activities. The next six week programme begins on 6 August from 3-4pm at the House of Learning. Your children are welcome to be part of the fun and the learning. For further information phone Barry and Janette Lee on 422 6204.

#### 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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## **Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade**

June was a reasonably busy month for the brigade with 9 callouts. These were to a diesel spill between Leigh and Whangateau with the others all medical calls to Leigh (4), Matheson Bay, Ti Point, Omaha Valley and Pakiri. Many of these medical calls have been quite lengthy for our team with delays in an ambulance arriving. In two cases the Westpac helicopter was called and evacuated the patient.

Recent complaints regarding speeding have seen an increase in police presence in our area. On a couple of occasions our crews have seen some crazy driving, with cars driving far too fast when approaching a fire truck with flashing lights, and traffic controllers with signs and glowing night signalling devices. Please slow down for any emergency vehicles displaying flashing lights and follow the instructions of those involved in traffic control. We have avoided the road carnage that occurs around New Zealand so let's keep to speed limits and keep it that way.

Recent events involving the fire brigade were the Light Up Leigh Event with our team organising the cooking of marshmallows on the station forecourt as part of the scavenger hunt. Great community event – well done to the organisers – look

forward to next year's event. The brigade also held its Midwinter Christmas event at Leigh Bar which was also very successful. Thanks to Richard and the team for a great night.

On a recent Tuesday night several passers by noticed smoke coming from the inside of the fire station. This was a full-on simulation of a structure fire with team wearing breathing apparatus searching for casualties and rescuing them. We have a strong team at the moment but will always welcome any prospective recruits at the fire station at 7pm on a Tuesday night and see what we do and whether you could be a part of it. *Tony Enderby* 



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## Leigh Business Community

The Leigh Business Community sadly lost an important member early last week when Scotty (who owned and ran the Glass Bottom Boat) lost his long battle with cancer. Our sympathy goes out to his family and friends. He was a strong personality in the area and worked hard to promote the Goat Island experience, one of the most important attractions in our area.

Leigh Business Community AGM Thursday 15 August at Leigh Bar 7pm for drinks and nibbles followed by AGM at 7:30pm



#### Leigh Swim

This year, we had over 70 swimmers and many spectators so well done Leigh. It was a good fund raising event for Leigh School so thank you so much for supporting this event. Thank you also to Leigh Central for the tea and coffee stall. Kind regards—Jan Scott

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#### ANTI-SPEEDING MEASURES FOR WHANGATEAU AND LEIGH

Since our meeting on the 15 March in the Whangateau Hall, there's been an immense amount of work going on behind the scenes addressing this issue. Here's an update for you:

#### Police - Marked Cars

Sergeant Mark Stallworthy, the Office in Charge of the Warkworth Police Station confirmed on the 17 April ...

"I have asked for extra support from Road Policing Teams across Auckland to come into our area to address the issues on Leigh Road between Matakana and Leigh and specifically Whangateau settlement.

I have asked for traffic camera vans. They will do some deployments in Whangateau and Leigh areas and enforce the speed. We have requested Auckland Transport's support to install speed recording devices so we can get a picture of the actual speeds in the area.

I hope that you will see an increase in Police presence as soon as possible."

There has definitely been an increase in police presence in the area over the past 2 months.

#### Police - Camera Vans

The now dedicated Speed Camera Van Operator for our area has been in touch with the Whangateau Residents & Ratepayers Association (WRRA). They have completed the process of mapping the sites in Leigh and Whangateau suitable for the van. Expect the van to be in our area regularly.

#### **Auckland Transport**

Auckland Transport Traffic Engineering Management & Safety has confirmed five new SLOW red and white road markings will be painted between Tram Car Bay and the beginning of Whangateau Village. This work will commence late June / early July.

#### **Auckland Council**

The WRRA is working with Beth Houlbrooke on a community sign and another measure which is yet to be confirmed.

Thanks everyone for your commitment and support for these initiatives. Further updates will be published as they come to hand.





Join us for a great morning tea at

38 Barrier View Road, Leigh 30 August at 10.15am

All Welcome

Leigh Community please bring a small plate of finger food.

#### TOSSI PLANTING DAY

Sunday, 4 August

Bring your families and friends All Welcome

at

Tawharanui Regional Park Followed by BBQ lunch

#### FOR ALL EMERGENCIES **DIAL 111** Fire - Ambulance - Police

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#### Leigh Church Services

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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 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 Church** - Church Hall bookings please Phone (09) 425 8054

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 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.