

February 2021

Leigh Rag is supported by the Leigh Community and compiled and edited by Helen Parkes

22 Harbour View Rd Ph 021484432 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, View the Leigh Rag online www.leighbythesea.co.nz/news-events



Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade OPEN DAY at the fire station

Saturday, 13 March from 10am to 2pm Come and see our team demonstrate the use of the new CPR and training mannequins which were paid for from donations from the Leigh Community Plus we will have the Kitchen Fire unit demonstrating the do's and don'ts of kitchen fires



The Leigh Business Community is a varied group that encourages and supports local business owners. As part of the promotion of businesses in the area we like to promote a local business each month and this month we are pleased to introduce you to Leigh Central.

Leigh Central was created from the old Leigh Hotel that was abandoned for 10 years. The 5 'Coastels' - fully self contained motel units were opened at the end of 2016, the old public bar was opened as a wedding venue at the end of 2017 and a motorhome park and boatshed cabins have also been added to the accommodation options.

For Functions, the main Seaview Room can



seat 150 guests with a deck and lawn adding indoor/outdoor options for weddings and celebrations. Our smaller Courtyard Lounge is a great meeting space and has been used by a number of businesses from Auckland for a couple of days retreat away from their office. The Courtyard Lounge is also a great space for smaller celebrations such as a 60th birthday or wedding celebration. Our Commercial Kitchen has everything needed to prepare food for the Functions.

Our guests love staying in the middle of Leigh with access to eating options, great walks and close to Goat Island activities.

Call us on 021 246 0757 or email us on <u>enquiries@leighcentral.co.nz</u> if you would like to find out more about what we can offer

For any information about the Leigh Business Community, please contact Jan Scott 094226681 or email <u>LeighbytheseaNZ@gmail.com</u>



From the Editor

As I put this publication together we have started a Level 3 lockdown for 3 days.

I want to remind everyone to **Use the Tracer App to Scan the codes** and keep a note of other places you visit. These actions will help everyone if you contract Covid-19.

We all have probably eased off the frequency of hand washing and drying. This is a timely reminder to keep it up and practice social distancing when out.

Keeping yourself safe helps keep our community safe.



January Draw 1st Prize \$300 #93 2nd Prize \$150 # 32 3rd Prize \$50 #96

Congratulations to Ruth Gardiner, Zephyr Brown, Kahu Viliua Next draw due on Friday February 26th @ 5pm at the Leigh Bowling Club.



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After a quiet school holiday period at the hall, classes and activities have started up again. There are lots of physical activities, - good for mind, body and soul. Just what some of us need after a hectic Christmas / New Year break, too many yummy eats and possibly having been inundated with visitors to our lovely neck of the woods. For contact details for Yoga, Dancing and Nia classes, and the Waste Free Leigh Sewing group email leighhallauckland@gmail.com.

The hall committee has purchased new curtains from our fundraising done over the years. These should be in place well before the cooler weather comes, as will the trophy cabinet which has been removed and renovated by Bernard Dooling – wow it looks wonderful. Thank you, Bernard.

Aluminium cans still provide a small fundraising stream and we appreciate your continuing to fill the can cage in Cumberland Street. The Community also has soft plastic bag recycling there. We love that Leigh visitors and locals are being so waste free aware.

We do have some little jobs coming up soon – please watch Facebook or your club/school newsletters for volunteers wanted. We like the fact that this is still a rural community hall and the community cares about it and uses it a lot. Talk to us if you would like to use the hall, - we have reasonable rates. Lynn Mellsopp Ph 094226797 / 0272868625

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COASTAL PAINTERS

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Leigh Community Club

Notice of AGM SUNDAY 7th March 2021 AT 4.0 PM AT THE BOWLING CLUB ALBERT STREET, LEIGH NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME BAR WILL BE OPEN ELECTION OF OFFICERS for 2021 year \$10 SUBS FOR THIS YEAR NOW DUE Guy Parkes President Ph 021352588

Reporting Community Problems and Safety issues.

We notice complaints on local social media about local issues, that can be dealt with by going direct to the **Auckland City Council** who have a range of ways for you to report a problem They cover Maintenance of public facilities or spaces, Transport parking and roads, Environment and Marine pollution, Illegal rubbish dumping, Graffiti, noise pollution, wandering dogs and marine vessel incidents. These can all be reported online at https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/report-problem.aspx or you can phone 09 301 0101 Hotline 24 hours, 7 days

For Illegal fishing <a href="https://nc.uc

Report a road incident or unsafe driver – *555 and Roadwatch

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Leigh Hall

Times: Tuesday 5:30-6:30 pm

Friday 9:30-10:30 am

11:00-12:00pm

Intro trial pass for \$15 which covers first 3 classes

\$15 casual rate

\$135 for 10 card concession.

Koha is also an option

To book or if you have any questions text 022 169 6481 or visit our website www.niamatakana.co.nz



Leigh School

Leigh School would like to welcome all the new children and their families to our community. We would also like to welcome Georgie Brebner to the team, taking over from Fay.



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As you know, the schools major fundraiser was cancelled due to Covid19. We are looking at ways to make up for this shortfall in our budget. Watch this space!

If you have any spare produce to donate don't forget about the school garden stall, Te Kai.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kate

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Waste Free Leigh

The Leigh Waste Minimisation sewing group meets Thursdays and Mondays 9.30 am to 11.30 am. Come along and enjoy some ompany and belo us raise funds

company and help us raise funds for a pre schoolers play area. Meeting at the Cumberland street rooms, Leigh Hall.

A Soft Plastic receptacle is outside the sewing room for your convenience near the aluminium can collection cage.

Local News

High Speed Optic Fibre Internet Chorus will be at the Leigh Hall for Tuesday 23rd February from 11.30 to 1.00.

The purpose is to inform residents, businesses and landowners who now have fibre outside their place about connecting to fibre broadband. We encourage everyone to drop in to this session to find out more about fibre connection. They say they will even make you a "cuppa". Thank you for helping to spread the word.







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What's Going on around here?

If you have an event coming up, send an email to <u>leighragnz@gmail.com</u> and it can be included in this monthly notification

| What Date | What is it | When | How much | Where |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Feb 23 Tuesday | Fibre connection information drop in sessions hosted by Chorus | 11.30-1pm | No charge | Leigh Hall |
| Feb 27 | Annual Matakana Opera Picnic | 5.30 pm on | \$57.50 <16 free | Cnr Ward & Matakana Valley Rd |
| Mar 7 Sunday | Gitbox Rebellion Music honouring the Acoustic Guitar | 4.00 pm | \$25 –\$35 | Warkworth Town Hall |
| Mar 7 Sunday | A.G.M. Leigh Community Club | 4.00pm | | Leigh Bowling Club Albert Street Leigh |
| Mar 10 Wed | Trio Jackson | 7.30 pm | \$25 School Students Free | Whangateau Hall |
| Mar 13 Saturday | Fire Station Open day | 10.am –2pm | | Leigh Fire Station |
| Mar 14. Sun Mar 15 Mon | Harvest Festival Harvest Festival | 11.00 am 8.30am-10.30 | | Leigh Church Leigh General Store |
| Mar 25 Thur | Operatunity 20th Anniversary Show | 11.00 am | \$37 Adult | Warkworth Town Hall |



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Forest and Bird COAST CARE GROUP Leigh.

We must have had good weeders for our last three working bees. The area at the end of Kowhai Tce we prepared for planting still looks good, with little regrowth of jasmine. Let's hope for rain late April and May, ready for our planting later that month. As usual we aren't having working bees just now, waiting for the weather to cool a bit.

We'd be delighted if residents had a good look for MOTH PLANT- both in their section and in their neighbourhood. It's very easy to spot now with it's creeper vines poking out with creamy flowers, or some now have big choko like pods already formed. Please get the roots of the plant out, and put the pods into your rubbish sack for disposal. We want to stop the wind spreading the MOTHPLANT seeds to Hauturu/Little Barrier Island, and across to Tawharanui. This is a community wide project. Please help!.

Neil Sutherland.



Proper Hand Washing is still an important and effective way to eliminate the spread of the Covid 19 virus. Please keep it up and stay safe.





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Kia ora Leigh Community

Leigh Library Xmas Raffle Results

Very many thanks for your support for this raffle, either by donating prizes or buying + selling tickets. Proceeds are going to the Leigh Library 150th Anniversary celebrations in May 2021. 1st Prize: Lucy Harris 2nd Prize:Gary Simpson 3rd Prize: Suzette McFarlane 4th Prize: Jenny Enderby 5th Prize: Jimmy Larkin 6th Prize: Alan Hodge Winners of spot prizes at Xmas Luncheon: Jenny Stewart & Neil.

Just a reminder to holiday home owners, please remember to return your Leigh Library books before you head back to the 'big smoke'.

Leigh Library book club will resume on Tuesday 23rd February at 7pm. We talk about a book we've read from the library and if this sounds like something you would be interested in, please come along and check it out.

Tracey

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.





LEIGH TENNIS CLUB

TENNIS FOR ALL!

Thursdays 9.30-11am Thursdays from 5pm Saturdays from 3pm

Leigh Tennis Club, Albert St, Leigh If you wish to play at the above times, can you contact Liz Jones Ph 021 0721 101.



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Well, the summer is certainly cooler than last year and there has been more rain, but not enough to close the large cracks or wet the undergrowth. The Kahuroa track is looking better than this time last year, but still could do with more rain, as could many tanks in the area.

The beach was very busy over the two long weekends, but now that the main holiday period is over it is mainly back to the regular swimmers. It was interesting watching the contractors returning the pontoon after it came off in recent swells. They have re-attached it to the original mooring, so hopefully that will keep it there until Autumn.

There were a few problems with jet skis in the bay (which under Rodney Council was illegal). Signage is still up, but it appears that our bay was left off the no-go areas when we joined Auckland Council. One would think it was a no brainer not to come through swimmers and divers in a swimming beach. Evidently not.

A large pohutakawa tree at the turn-around in Matheson Bay Road, which gave up the ghost during last year's drought has been cut down. The two remaining are looking very healthy still which is great for all the birds who enjoy them. Speaking of which, Californian Quail have been busy breeding with a family of three and another family of 10 adding to the wide variety of birds in the area.

Someone has thrown fish carcases into the creek behind the toilets which left a disgusting smell and pollution of the stream, but on the whole the reserve has been kept pretty clean which is good to see.

Louise van Campfort



GOOD SORTS

This month our GOOD SORT is

Lily Walkington nominated by Helen who wrote: "Lily has recognised a need for a soft plastic collection service in Leigh and has built a receptacle, put up instructions and will transport the contents to an official collection centre in Silverdale on a regular basis. This is a fantastic service for our Community"

We at the Leigh Community Church totally agree and have Homebaking coming your way Lily. We also understand your services entail sorting and even cleaning this plastic so please people give Lily a hand by dropping off only clean soft plastic.



Californian Quail Photo by Helen Parkes



The annual Harvest Celebration will take place @ Leigh Church on Sunday March 14th 11am and Monday March 15th Produce Stall 8.30 - 10.30 outside Leigh General Store, all proceeds to Kiwi Missionaries Greg & Rosie Blok in Thailand.





LITTLE BLUE PENGUINS – KORORĀ

A Forest & amp; Bird Warkworth initiative By now young penguins have most likely fledged and gone out to sea to feed. The adult penguins will continue to come ashore till around the end of March to moult. They need to shed their feathers and stay ashore while their new ones grow and could be on land for two weeks during this time. They cannot swim

again until moulting is complete and their feathers are waterproof. This makes them very vulnerable to any land predators until they are ready to go to sea again. If you do see a penguin on a beach or rocks please leave it alone. They are quite scruffy looking during moulting but not ill. It would help if dogs are kept on a leash around our coastal areas where penguins come ashore.

To help penguins further we now have seven traplines and have regular trappers checking these for us. This must be making a huge difference to our local birdlife as we have reduced the numbers of rats, mustilids and possums around the coast. Email Leighpenguins@gmail.com with details of any penguin spotted on land.

What's on at the Leigh hall:

| | Regular bookings: |
|-------------|---|
| Mondays: | Waste Free Leigh Sewing 9.30 - 11.30am |
| Tuesdays: | Yoga with Marion 9.30 - 11.00am |
| - | Nia class with Amara 5.30 - 6.30pm |
| Wednesdays: | Yoga with Kaye 6-7pm |
| Thursdays: | Spinning Sun dancing 9.15 - 10.15am |
| - | Waste Free Leigh Sewing 9.30 - 11.30am |
| Friday: | Nia class with Amara 9.30 - 10.30am |
| - | Nia class with Amara 11.00 - 12noon |
| Saturday: | Yoga with Kaye 9.00 - 10.00am starts 27th Feb |



LOCAL BUSINESS

wanting to promote goods & services. Advertising space is available from \$20 for 1 insertion or \$80 for 10 issues Contact the Editor leighragnz@gmail.com

Parcel Delivery - Reminder

If you have bought something to be couriered to Leigh Please check the Leigh General Store and Leigh Motors regularly for your Items. Goods need to be picked up in a timely manner to avoid congestion in these businesses. *Editor*.





Almost 50 more households have joined the Pest Free Leigh initiative since our October launch. We have now given out around 200 rat traps and boxes, most of which are on the ground in

backyards across Leigh, Matheson Bay and Ti Point. The traps on the ground form a network, and every trap that is baited and set contributes to our collective effort. Thanks to the amazing work of a small group of volunteer box-builders, we still have rat traps and boxes to give to residents who don't yet have one.

There were reports of 20 rats caught in November and December. At this stage there are no obvious 'hot spots' for rats – they seem to be distributed throughout the community. Quite a few mice were also caught in traps. We welcome reports from all trappers – including those 'zero heroes' that have persisted despite catching nothing! Grateful thanks to all our street coordinators. We currently have street coordinators covering about half of the Leigh, Matheson and Ti Point areas, but we are looking for more people to help fill the gaps. If you would like to know more about helping as a street coordinator, please get in touch on our email address. If you currently don't have a street coordinator, please continue to report your trapping results (yes, even if you caught nothing!) directly to pestfreeleigh@gmail.com.

As we settle into 2021, the team will be looking to expand our network. Keep up the good work, it all helps!



31 Woodcocks Road, Warkworth

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

Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade

Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and another fine summer holiday. Santa did his annual Christmas Eve stint around the local streets on the fire truck which was enjoyed by all.

Leigh brigade members had one their busiest ever December-January holiday periods with 17 callouts in December making a total of 132 callouts for the year, followed by a further 15 in January.

There were structure fires at Omaha, and Leigh, machinery on fire at Ti Point. vegetation fires at Leigh (3), and Whangateau (2), motor vehicle accidents at Leigh, Whangateau and Matheson Bay, an animal rescue at Cape Rodney and false alarms to Goat Island (3) and Leigh. The other calls were 1st response medicals to Leigh (4), Matakana, Cape Rodney (2), Ti Point (2), Whangateau (2), Pakiri (2) and Goat Island (3).

In spite of the dry conditions and the lack of a complete fire ban we had no major vegetation fires to attend. There were reported problems with campers lighting fires around Ti Point, none of which spread into the grass or trees.

The brigade has finally obtained its CPR training manneguin and indestructible training mannequin which can be rescued from anywhere for training. Thanks to those members of the community who made this possible. As St John Ambulance have been unable to provide first aid training the CPR manneguin especially, will be vital over the coming months for training.

Our new mannequins will be on display at the fire station for an open day on Saturday, March 13 from 10am to 2pm. Brigade members will display rescue and CPR skills and a specialist kitchen fire demonstration unit will be on site. This should be a good day and the chance to see our crew in action. We look forward to seeing you there. Everyone is welcome.

The brigade is fairly strong at the moment but there's always room for new recruits. If you think you'd like to give firefighting a go, come down to the fire station at 7pm on Tuesday night and have a look at what we do.

Tony Enderby—Brigade Co-Secretary



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THURSDAY

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WHANGATEAU HALL

Music and Events at Whangateau Hall

Events coming up at Whangateau will be subject to Covid Alert Levels. Currently on our March schedule we have:

Friday, 19 March: Full concert with Gillian Boucher and Bob McNeill. Monday, 29 March: Club Night with special guests Looking For Alaska More information about the bands and whether or not schedules will change because of Covid Alert Levels will be posted

to <u>whangateau.co.nz</u>, or subscribe to our mailing list on the website to get updates sent direct to you.

Rules for Whangateau Hall under Covid Restrictions:

Alert Level 3: Maximum 10 people in hall and on grounds, event duration 2 hours.

Alert Level 2: Maximum 40 people in hall and on grounds, event duration 2 hours

See <u>www.whangateau.co.nz</u> for all your up to date Whangateau Hall News.

Jenine Abarbanel

NOMINATE A LOCAL GOOD SORT

The Leigh Community Church has run the Good Sorts column since 2013. 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 Tennis Club

While all spectators at the Australian Open are now subject to lockdown and the Grand Slam is being played in an empty stadium, the situation at Leigh Tennis Club is quite different. Players are enjoying glorious summer weather – perfect conditions for tennis and the grandstand is full of enthusiastic and supportive spectators.

There are several new members who are bolstering the keen band that are playing on Thursday and Saturday afternoons. If you are keen to join in phone Marie Dominique Ph 021 490 039.

We are keen to reinvigorate the Thursday morning casual play, especially while temperatures are kind. Phone Liz Jones Ph 021 0721 101 if you'd like to play from 9.30-11 am during daylight saving hours. Great way to get fit, have some fun with the locals and enjoy some "me" time.

New member inquiries are welcome. Ph Marie-Dominique 021 490 039.

Forest and Bird COAST CARE GROUP, Leigh.

We must have had good weeders for our last three working bees. The area at the end of Kowhai Tce we prepared for planting still looks good, with little regrowth of jasmine. Let's hope for rain late April and May, ready for our planting later that month. As usual we aren't having working bees just now, waiting for the weather to cool a bit.

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Neil Sutherland

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COVID-19 queries

For COVID-19 health advice and information, contact the Healthline team (for free) on 0800 358 5453



For other COVID-19-related queries, email covid-19response@health.govt.nz

Helpful Contacts

For all emergencies dial 111 and ask for police, ambulance or fire Auckland Council 09 301 0101 toll free Auckland Transport: public transport enquiries 0800 103 080 Healthline 0800 611 116 for 24-hour medical services Graffiti Coordinator – Lionel Anderson 021 795 306 call or txt with location of graffiti Lifeline Helpline Call 0800 543 354 Northlink Health enquiries for Home Help Ph 0800 425 999 North Shore Hospital Emergency Care 0800 809 342 Orca Hotline Call 0800 733 6722 to report orca sightings. Police Non Emergency Dial 105 theft, vandalism, shoplifting, lost property, stolen cars, drugs etc. or 0800 105 105 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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Community Directory

Forest & Bird Coast Care Group - a community initiative to restore reserves and bush areas through monthly weeding and planting bees - Neil Sutherland 422 6001

Leigh Badminton Club - Anyone interested in re-starting this club call Dennis Humphrey 422 6625

Leigh Bowling Club - to foster fellowship and the game of bowls. New members welcome. President Biscuit McLean 027 590 4829 or Secretary Glen Walker 4226486

Leigh Business Community - meets 3rd Wednesday of month - Jan Scott 422 6681 LeighbytheseaNZ@gmail..com or www.leighbythesea.co.nz

Leigh Cards 500 - 1pm - 3.30pm Tuesday, Leigh Bowling Club, all welcome, \$3.00 Leigh Cemetery Trust -Secretary Joyce McCormick 422 6893

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

Leigh Community Club - meets quarterly, Anzac Day Service, Interesting speakers, council communication, care of walkways, beaches and more. <u>leighcommunityclub@gmail.com</u> President Guy Parkes 021352588

Leigh Community Preschool - 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 - 422 6880 www.leighharbourvalleysociety.org.nz

Leigh Library – 'The Cottage' opposite Leigh Store. Librarian Tracey Lawton 021 825 818 / 422 6944

Leigh Penguin Project 0211671524 or email leighpenguins@gmail.com

Leigh School - 422 6031 www.leigh.school.nz

Leigh Tennis Club – <u>leightennisinc@gmail.com</u>

Leigh Walking Group - meets Mondays at 9.30am for interesting walks throughout the Rodney, Kaipara and Auckland regions. Valda Paddison <u>paddis@xtra.co.nz</u>

Leigh Women's Bowling Club - meet Tues, Oct -April, for friendly bowls. New members very welcome. Bev Cassidy 4226599

Matheson Bay Neighbourhood Assn - Secretary Peter Spence 021 404 529 or mathesonbayassn@gmail.com

Pakiri Community Landcare Group - Frankie 021 688 997 or <u>nick@nickmolloy.co.nz</u> Pakiri Tennis Club Contact Linda Taylor (Secretary) on 021 242 7459

Pest Free Leigh pestfreeleigh@gmail.com;<u>www.facebook.com/groups/pestfreeleigh</u> 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 <u>sharyncarew@vodafone.co.nz</u> Whangateau Residents & Ratepayers Assn - meets 7.30pm, 2nd Tuesday of month at Whangateau Hall. Audrey Sharp 422 6209 or Hugh McKergow 422 6219

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE & CELEBRANTS

JP - Fay Bradnam 422 6038 JP & Wedding Celebrant - Dr John Peebles 021 974 247 Celebrant – Annie Mellor <u>www.fabulousweddingnz.com</u> 027 929 7767 FACEBOOK Leigh Community Club - <u>www.facebook.com/Leighcomm/</u> Love Leigh - <u>www.facebook.com/groups/LoveLeigh/</u> Leigh by the Sea - <u>www.facebook.com/pages/Leighbythesea/251994924849626</u> Leigh Historical Photographs NZ - <u>www.facebook.com/groups/739949979454558</u>

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