

LEIGH RAG

June 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 COMMUNITY CLUB update

Winter is now truly upon us. The nights have closed in, we have had our first storms and the shortest day is just around the corner.

While winter means hibernation in many parts of the world, in our little bit of paradise winter is a busy time for the Leigh Community Club. It is when we get most of our plans put into action as members are looking for activities to keep them busy and involved.

Our Pest Free Leigh and Waste Free Leigh members are out and about supporting The Mid-Winter Swim and the Snugleigh Projects.

Keep an eye out for the Mid-Winter Lights in Leigh as part of the Mahurangi Winter Festival of Lights in mid-July.

On the Council Liaison front we are delighted to advise that after many years of lobbying, the Rodney Board has confirmed that the footpath extension to Leigh Sawmill Café is approved for this year's capital budget with a start date yet to be advised. This is great news as it means walking to and from the Sawmill can be a safe family experience and is another step in keeping our community well connected.

Our main fund raiser this year is to help get a safe public pre school play area in Leigh on some of the available Council Land. This is likely to be a multi-year project but hopefully a lot shorter than getting the footpath extension through council.

Our Leigh 100 Raffle is the main fund raiser for this cause and while we have had great support thus far, tickets are still available.

email: leighcommunityclub@gmail.com

Guy Parkes Chair.



PEST FREE LEIGH

pestfreeleigh@gmail.com

We are now six-months into our project, aimed at creating a safe haven for wildlife in the Leigh environs. We have started by working towards reducing the number of rats. Collectively we have now caught more than 244 rats and 148 mice over six months. Of these, 100 rats were caught in the month of April alone! That is a great effort from all the team.

Our initial goal was to get rat traps into the backyards of Leigh, Matheson Bay and Ti Point residents. Over 200 trappers have picked up the challenge and are monitoring a rat trap, however there is still more work to do. We plan to expand our efforts soon, by adding in more rat traps and different types of traps to target possums and mustelids (stoats and weasels).

Although looking after one rat trap may feel like a small contribution, each person that has a rat trap is supporting our Pest Free Leigh objectives. Our collective efforts contribute to larger, 'landscape-scale' projects such as the work of The Forest Bridge Trust, and this in turn contributes to our nation-wide 'Predator Free 2050' goals. The recent series "Fight for the Wild" (TV programme and podcast) highlighted the groundswell of effort New Zealanders are making towards achieving predator-free status. It's all about protecting our precious wildlife. If you are not yet a part of Pest Free Leigh and would like to join us, please contact us at pestfreeleigh@gmail.com.

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Community Planting Day in the Matheson Bay Reserve.

Our planting in the Matheson Bay reserve is looking superb, thanks to the wonderful planting and weeding efforts of a lot of people, and some very kind donations of mulch.

This week Leigh School had a tremendous morning, planting 400 trees along the bank of the stream. A fabulous contribution to further enhancing the Reserve. A big thank you to all those involved.

Our programme is now to plant another 1250 trees in the area that has been sprayed and prepared.

When: Saturday 3rd July 9am -12pm. Backup wet day if needed, Sat 10th July.

Bring: A spade, your gloves, boots, appropriate clothing and some water. And lots of enthusiasm.

When: Meet in the Reserve, by the Kohuroa Stream Track bridge

Tea / Coffee and BBQ: will be provided. If you need a chair please bring one.

We would like many hands to get the planting done - please consider it. Join in to enhance your reserve and meet your neighbours. Any assistance will be appreciated and if you are not able to assist directly with the planting, bring along a fold-up chair, set up and be social.

We need to know how many folk will be joining us. Please send an email to **David Edwards**, dbe@xtra.co.nz, to advise who will be coming, whether or not they will be planters, and contact points (phone and email) so any postponements or other changes can be communicated.

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.*

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Leigh Library 150th Anniversary Celebration

The organising committee wish to acknowledge and thank, most sincerely, the wonderful support received prior to and on the day from the many individuals, businesses and the wider Leigh Community. Despite the cool, overcast day, we were delighted to host 220+ attendees who helped create a great atmosphere.

In Particular, John Carr & his team of volunteers at Mahurangi Trading Post without whom, the day as it was, would not have been possible.

Olivia Haddon & Paula Morris, Jacky Ruck, Neil Sutherland, Jacky Atkin, David Wyatt, Gavin Matheson, Sally Greenwood, Val Stern, Vern Smith, Julie Greenwood, Jo Evans, Lynn Mellsopp- Leigh Hall, Betty Howell, Guy Parkes + Martin Lefley-Leigh Community Club Sound System, Helen Parkes-Leigh Rag, Steve Mantle-cement + Geoff Alexander, David Shapleski, Ian Bradnam-installing board, Kahu Viliua & her catering team, Jenny Enderby- photography, Tony Kelly, Victoria Joule +Volunteers of Warkworth Museum, Pipi Pickers:Jenine, Nat + Barrie Torkington, Barry Bigwood, Jennifer Kirker & Pat Vaisserie-Warkworth Needlework display boards, Jasmin & Alan McDonald + Heather & Ian Johnson Lee-wet weather option, Richard Scott-Leigh Bar, Ray Chappell Printers, David Ogier-Coastal Painters, Colin Staples Camera Shop Team, Azar Atkins-Leigh Motors, Grant Fife-Leigh General Store, Hilary Austin-Calder-Foundation Gallery, Rachael & Wayne Jackson-Leigh Eats, Borich Family-Reptile Park, Leigh Fisheries, Jannette Thompson + James Addis-Mahurangi Matters, Kevin Lawton +Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade.

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Adult \$20 - schoolchildren \$10 – preschooler - no charge - family pass \$50

Email enquiries@reptilepark.co.nz ph 09 422 6021

Plastic Free July

Some tips to help you reduce your plastics to help you prepare for Plastic Free July!

- Get your reusable items out! Reusable coffee cups, drink bottles, shopping bags, containers for meat, bags for bread, cutlery, take away containers; anything can get access without the packaging.
- Bakeries for your bread! That way you don't get bread in the plastic bags. There are really easy bread recipes available online, you can bake a few at a time and freeze the rest.
- Butchery for your meat! Go to any store with a butchery, bring your own container for your meat.
- Bin inn! Stock up on all your bulk items at bin inn with containers you have already; jars, bottles etc. Or start saving them up!
- Swap out packaged items where you can for easy to make alternatives; like crackers, hummus, bread, pizza bases, yogurt, milk, you name it. Check online for recipes.
- Swap out plastic bottles for boxes, glass or cans where you can. There are lots of alternatives for juices, laundry detergents, and milks now!
- Say no to packaged fruits and veggies, frozen or fresh- you can prep your own veggies and freeze them or shop at places like the Matakana Market where you can get fresh produce without the packaging. Or swap with your locals for fresh veg and fruit that they probably have!
- Swap out your cleaning products for easy DIY ones that you can store in your empty cleaning containers (like old spray bottles) these often are much better for you too. Heaps of recipes online.
- Swap out the unnatural fibres for natural fibres- unnatural fibres are often in sponges or scrub brushes, check out natural alternatives, like cotton cleaning cloths or coconut husk scrubbers.
- Check the labels! Some facial scrubs and other personal care products contain tiny plastic beads- avoid anything with "polyethylene" listed as an ingredient. Try out some natural hygiene products like deodorants which usually come in paper or tins!
- Second hand stores! These places are a treasure trove of goodies, and this way you are giving items a second life.

There are so many options and alternatives to list, but the best thing you can do is to research what you can and see what fits best for you and your life style. This is to encourage you to see what you can change, and it's the little steps that count!

Lily Walkington



Waste Free Leigh

Recycling collection receptacles are at the Leigh Hall Cumberland Street.

Keep Leigh Waste Free

Remember to:
**Refuse, Reduce,
Reuse, Repurpose,
Rot, Recycle and
Repair.**



MATHESON BAY NEWS

Well, almost halfway through the year, how did that happen so fast. Watching the night sky when I take my dog out for last toilets, it is fascinating seeing the Southern Cross make its way from East to West. The 'Blood Moon' was particularly interesting to see and we were lucky that it was a clear night. There have been some beautiful harvest moons coming up over the sea too.

The re-sealing of the southern carpark is underway with the road closed to traffic, but with pedestrian access. They have widened the turn around which will be a help and it is hoped that the parking and yellow lines are replaced once the sealing is done, which probably won't be this week due to the rain. On the day that the works started a group of Leigh school pupils planted 400 various natives along the riverbank side of the reserve. This will help the wet area that has developed. A **Community Planting Day on the 3rd July at 9.00am**, will be held to add to the planting already done over the past two years. The plants are doing well and the next 1250 to be planted will make a serious difference to the ecology of the area over time. Once the smaller plants have established, larger trees will be able to thrive there too. If you would like to be part of the day and enjoy a cuppa and a catch up with neighbours after, contact David on: dbe@xtra.co.nz to register. Planters to bring a spade, gloves, boots, water and wear old clothes.

The toilet block should be open in the next two weeks with temporary plywood partitions to replace those that were vandalised. New partitions have been held up overseas. Bathers will finally be able to change at the beach again.

Louise van Campfort

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.

BUILDING PLANS & CONSENTS

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LOCAL BUSINESS

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Contact the Editor

leighragnz@gmail.com

Waste Free Leigh

The Leigh Waste Minimisation
sewing group meets

Thursdays and Mondays

9.30 am to 11.30 am.

Meeting at the Cumberland street
rooms, Leigh Hall.

MOWING

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LEIGH TENNIS CLUB

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Leigh Tennis Club,

Albert St, Leigh

If you wish to play at the above
times, can you contact Liz Jones
Ph 021 0721 101.

WHANGATEAU HALL

Music and Events at Whangateau Hall

Introducing the Whangateau Radio Hour

It's winter time and we all need something to warm our hearts. What better than an old-fashioned radio show? Broadcast live from Whangateau Hall, four of New Zealand's finest folk musicians will make beautiful music and entertain you.

Come by for a bowl of soup, a glass of wine, and a show!

You'll hear: **Jenine and Nat Torkington**, from the Pipi Pickers. Jenine's moving voice, Nat's unique banjo, and Jenine's anchoring bass will warm your extremities.

Chris 'Albi' Dent, from Albi and the Wolves. Chris's character-filled voice and distinctive guitar playing have wowed audiences around the world.

Shimna Higgins, from David and Shimna. Shimna's divine voice and sweet Irish fiddle playing are the fiery brew the doctor prescribes for midwinter blues.

We'll livestream the show to an international audience from the acoustically- and aesthetically-beautiful 132-year old Whangateau Hall. Tell your friends to watch the stream on the night: visit <https://whangateau.co.nz> to find links to the stream.

Monday, June 28, \$10, 6:45pm doors open, 7pm floor singers, 8pm break, 8:30pm radio show.

July club night is Monday the 26th. Our guests will be the incredible Looking for Alaska, rescheduled from our March Club night. The music they make is simply phenomenal: soaring acoustic ballads driven by Aaron Gott's instrumental brilliance and Amy Maynard's powerful, soaring vocals. They are a band not to be missed!

Monday, July 26, \$10, 6:45pm doors open, 7pm floor singers, guests after the half time supper break.

Jenine Abarbanel 021 428 568



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Leigh Church Services

All denominations and visitors are most welcome to join with us each

Sunday at 11 am

There is a prayer meeting every
Sunday at 10.30 am.

Children's Ministry enquiries

Ph : Janette 422 6204



All welcome.

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Leigh School

Kia ora Leigh Community,

Well it's been a busy month here at Leigh School. We've got a few special projects underway at the moment with the kids presenting their current Te Wiki Ako projects to friends and family last week. They had worked in groups to look at their school environment and make maps and plans and finally models of what they would like to improve. A selection of these projects were presented Dragon's Den style to a parent / BOT group of judges and 3 projects were chosen to come to fruition. An outdoor 'Mud Kitchen', improvements to the playground wooden tower, and the building of a 'Buddy Bench' - which is a large outdoor seat where kids can sit if they would like, or need, someone to play with. 3 very worthy projects out of an exciting and creative range of ideas.

Thanks to the lovely community members who gathered this past Sunday to help us make a huge 'Compost Lasagne' to feed our amazing school fruit and veggie garden. This was facilitated by dedicated parent Sarah Solaris, who also introduced our 'Garden to Table' programme. The paid Garden to Table kitchen & garden coordinator roles, and all supplies for both, are being funded by our 'Te Kai' stall. So the garden itself is helping support that, and also all of the generous community donations and purchases from the stall. So another big thank you all for your contributions!



Finally one more BIG THANK YOU to everyone who nominated Leigh School in the AA Insurance competition to hopefully win \$10,000. If we were lucky enough to win, we hope to put the prize money towards a potential Pump Track at the school and / or new sports gear and uniforms.... more to come on those projects in the future, meanwhile fingers crossed we win!

Georgie Brebner

What's Going on around here?

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

<i>What Date</i>	<i>What is it</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>How much</i>	<i>Where</i>
June 23 Weds June 25	Walkathon Garden ceremony			Leigh School
June 26 to July 4	Landcare NZ annual garden bird research		More info	landcarersearch.co.nz
July 3 Sat	Matheson Bay Assn Planting Day	9.00 am		Matheson Bay
July 9 Fri July 12 Mon	Last day of term 2 School Disco			Leigh School
July 10 to July 25	Mahurangi Festival of Lights https:// onemahurangi.co.nz/			Warkworth Check the Events page on the website
July 23 Fri	Light up Leigh Festival Event			Leigh School Field
July 24 Sat	Matheson Bay Assn Mid Winter Dinner	Members TBA		Leigh Hall
July 26 Mon	Term 3 Begins			

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

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/Pages/report-a-problem.aspx> or you can phone 09 301 0101 Hotline 24 hours, 7 days

For Illegal fishing ncc@mpi.govt.nz ph:0800 4 POACHER (0800 47 62 24)

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

<https://www.police.govt.nz/advice/driving-and-road-safety/report-road-incident-unsafe-driver>

No matter where you are in NZ, 111 is the number to call to report a water rescue to Police.

COVID-19 Vaccination News

Group 3 vaccinations underway If you're over 65 and live in the Auckland or Northland regions, you'll receive your invitation to book a COVID-19 vaccination by Friday, 18 June. All invitations to Group 3, including people with underlying health conditions, will be issued by mid-July. You'll receive a text or an email from NMF Immunisation bookings inviting you to book your appointment. If you belong to a GP clinic that is also offering COVID-19 vaccinations, you may also receive an invitation from them too. You can click on the link in the text or email to make your appointment. The invitations are issued automatically by text or email, so you don't need to do anything until you receive yours.

More information can be found at <https://immunisation.northernregion.health.nz/>

Note At the time of publication the **only DHB vaccination centre on the North Shore is at Highbury mall Birkenhead**

Coast To Coast Health Care

COVID-19 Vaccination

Eligible people

Please call any of our Coast to Coast practices to book an appointment.

You can book a vaccine if YOU or a Whānau member in your household are:

- ◆ Māori or Pacific from age 16+
- ◆ Kaumatua, 65+
- ◆ Have a chronic disease (diabetes, cardiac, respiratory, asthma etc.)
- ◆ Have a mental health condition
- ◆ Have a whanau with disabilities or
- ◆ Are an essential frontline worker.

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.
leighcommunityclub@gmail.com 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 Tue 2-6pm, Wed 2-4pm, Thur 11am –1pm Sat 9am –1pm. 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 – leightennisinc@gmail.com

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

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 nick@nickmolloy.co.nz

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

Pest Free Leigh pestfreeleigh@gmail.com; www.facebook.com/groups/pestfreeleigh

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 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 www.fabulousweddingnz.com 027 929 7767

FACEBOOK

Leigh Community Club - www.facebook.com/Leighcomm/

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

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

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LEIGH RAG

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\$20 each or \$80 for 11 issues
(Larger ads priced as required)

Email leighragnz@gmail.com

Phone Helen Parkes Editor
021484432

LEIGH BOWLING CLUB

Results for season 2020/2021



1st Year singles - Arthur Crombie Trophy- R/up Steve Mantel

Winner George Brooks

Junior Singles – “Life Cup” – R/up Willie Sellars

Winner Scott Wilson

Handicap Singles – Jack Frost Memorial – R/up Richard Norburn

Winner Glen Walker

Leads & Twos – Roy Steadman Memorial – R/up Lance Micelle

Winner Richard Norburn

Drawn Pairs – Donated by LWBC efforts for opening pavilion 66/67

R/ups Logan Campbell & Lance Michelle

Winners Glen Walker & Don Richfield

Handicap Pairs – Cup donated by Ivan Pivac – R/ups Lance Michelle & Richard Norburn

Winners Don Richfield & Willie Sellars

Darby & Joan Trophy R/ups – Lance Michelle & Juliet Mantel

Winners Bernie Gravatt & Jackie

Most improved – Stewart Cameron Memorial

Winner Scott Wilson

Club Person of the Year / Pegleg Trophy – No Handicap Trophy

Winner Ron Perry

Champ Pairs – Wills Cup – R/ups (\$10ea) Lance Michelle & Richard Norburn

Winners Stu Macdonald & Mike Beretta

Champ Triples – Derry Wray Memorial – R/ups (\$10ea) Glen Walker, Richard Norburn, Gary Ward

Winners Stu MacDonald, Lance Micelle, Gary Robertson

Champ 4s – Wellsmore Bissett Trophy – R/ups (\$10ea) Brain Hagger, Biscuit, Gary Ward

Winners Kerry Hyde, Glen Walker, Gary Robertson, John Brooks

Open Singles Champion – Crabb Cup – R/ups (\$10) Logan Campbell

Winner Glen Walker

Forest and Bird COAST CARE GROUP Leigh.

No Man's Land to Everybody's Land.

There are a few tiny pockets of No Man's Land around Leigh; public land which people have used as garden dumps or household dumps over the years. We need to reclaim them and bring them back into Leigh's beautiful rugged landscape – make them Everybody's Land. Last year our group cleared and cleaned up the weedy dump beside the Kowhai Tce steps, readying it for planting next month. Neighbours have helped by removing the piles of bottles and household rubbish we gathered. Thanks. But now we hope you can help us with the next step. Please diary these dates.

Thurs 27 May. Working Bee 9-11a.m. Kowhai Terrace steps. Final clearing and weeding.

Sat 12 June. Planting Bee 9-11a.m. at the same place.

Hope you can help make this a community effort. Families are welcome at the planting.

Neil Sutherland

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 6.00 - 7.00pm

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 - 12 noon

Saturday: Yoga with Kaye 9.00 - 10.00am

LEIGH BAR

LEIGH BAR



EST 2014



EST 2014



QUIZ NIGHTS

\$5 per person

6.30pm

First Monday of month

Book tables at Leigh Bar

Numbers are limited

Meals available

Open 7 days

9.30 am till late

Saturday and Sunday special
bottomless brunches and \$5 mimosas
from 9.30 to 11.30am

21 Hauraki Road, Leigh
or call Richard on 021 0419 242



LITTLE BLUE PENGUINS – KORORĀ

You can hear the buzz of citizen science in Leigh these days. Talk to most locals and before long you're discussing the success of a new rat bait or which 'poo' is best for the compost or what to do to control the guava moth. We're all gathering ideas- doing a bit of science in our own back yard.

It's the same with the Kororā project. We're citizens who are learning, trying, analyzing, as we develop our practices for bird monitoring and creating a safer environment for our local kororā population. Which is the best place for a penguin box? What can we learn from where they choose to build natural nests? Is there a trend in what they use for nesting material? Is there a time pattern to when they arrive or leave their nest each night? Why have some returned now when it seems too early for nesting? We're constantly recording information in the hope that with time, patterns will emerge from which we'll learn more about our little blue friends.

Through our project we have learnt so much, but increasingly realize we know so little. One thing we recognise, though, is how great it is to live surrounded by a world of natural things waiting to be discovered. We just need to keep our noses, ears and eyes open to the opportunities. It's a bit like living in a giant natural laboratory sometimes!!

Neil. For the Kororā citizen scientists.



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Leigh Hall

Along with a new member on committee, we now have a totally new list of Council contacts due to restructuring within Auckland Council. The Committee are developing new relationships with these new people.

A replacement rural Hall Advisor who we have yet to meet is keen to visit and see our fabulous hall. We hope to meet Jamie soon and show him a rural hall to be proud of. Thanks to our wonderful local community and in conjunction with Council, we are gradually improving the whole facility, and are delighted to hear so many positive comments about how it is looking and what a great venue it is. There are so many people to thank for your ongoing help and support, thank you, thank you.

We also have a new Council facility coordinator and she is sorting out the maintenance schedule including cleaning, gardening, gutters, water quality, electrical and fire safety checks etc, many of which involve new contractors. She already has a list from us, and the most urgent one, pest control, is now fully in place again much to our relief.

Excitement: we plan to open up another separate hireable room in the next month or two, which is complete with a kitchenette, heater/cooler and basic furniture. We anticipate this as being suitable for a small group meeting of up to about 8, or one-on-one support/teaching etc. This room will be available for \$5/hour.

Enquiries or bookings for this small room or for the main hall to Lynn Ph 0272868625 or email to leighhallauckland@gmail.com.



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Leigh Volunteer Fire Brigade

Another quiet month for the Fire Brigade with a total of 6 callouts; a couch fire in Leigh, an electrical fire in Whangateau, a false alarm in Matakana and 3 medical calls in Leigh.

The Brigade continues to get stronger in numbers. Congratulations to Martha Stafford and Hayley Nessia for successfully completing their Recruit Fire Fighter practical course and becoming part of our operational crew. Congratulations also to Nick Torkington who recently returned from the National Training Centre in Rotorua where he completed the Executive Officer training programme as part of his role as Deputy Chief Fire Officer. Training and development are a critical part of what we do, and all crew members are actively encouraged to continue to develop their skills and progress through the ranks within FENZ.

The annual Firefighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge was held on Saturday 22nd May. As always Leigh sent a strong team to the event raising money for Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand. This gruelling event has participants charge up 51 flights of stairs in full firefighting equipment weighing about 25kg! This year our team consisted of Martin Lefley, Mark Simmonds, Carmel Simmonds, Mark Brockie, Brook Sanderson, Ewen McGeorge and Martha Stafford. Well done team! Earlier in the month Pakiri School held their annual fun run which had the kids doing a lap around the paddock with several obstacles in their way, including our fire appliance. The crew were happy to give them all a good squirt of water on the way past. Despite the weather being a little cooler they were right into it with most coming back for a second drenching. A big thank you to Pakiri School for inviting us to be part of the fun.

THIS MONTHS WINTER FIRE SAFETY MESSAGE

"Keep your household toasty but not toast this winter".

- ♦ keep everything a metre from a heater
- ♦ don't over-plug your multi-board
- ♦ be careful where you dispose of your ash

Nationally, May was one of the worst months ever recorded in the number of fatalities with a sharp rise in fatal house fires. Remember it only takes minutes for a house fire to kill. Take care out there.

Paul Smith Brigade Co-Secretary



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Thursday 11am-1pm Saturday 9am-1pm

Kia Ora

The Library's 150th Anniversary celebrated last month will live on in the books kindly donated by some generous attendees, thank you – these books will reach the shelves in coming weeks. Meanwhile, new titles include two from NZ writers: 'The Mirror Book', Charlotte Grimshaw's vivid memoir of growing up in a literary family and 'Loop Tracks', Sue Orr's inter-generational novel that opens in 1978 at Auckland Airport ... US author Nalini Singh takes readers into a twisted world in NZ-set 'Quiet in Her Bones' and self-admitted space nerd Andy Weir (author of 'The Martian') thrills with 'Project Hail Mary'. A lighter note is struck by Emily Itami in 'Fault Lines', a contemporary love story set in Tokyo. Leigh library members may reserve a book that is out on loan, just ask at the desk

Jenny Stewart (for Tracey)

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Forest and Bird COAST CARE GROUP, Leigh.

The community response to our removal of pest plants from the village's coastal areas has been amazing. Two weeks ago we had thirteen at our working bee in the Kowhai Tce bush, getting it ready to plant. On Saturday fifteen came to our "planting bee" and although we covered a huge area, 350 plants and an hour and a half later we were done and feasted and on our way home! We use only native species that grow naturally in the Leigh area and planted the area where we'd removed huge amounts of jasmine, wandering Willie (tradescantia) and some acmena trees. We also wanted to plant to get shade back on the stream where some large fish perished in the heat last summer.

This week a small group will do some additional planting at the harbour end of Kowhai Tce, and another group will plant the area beyond the cemetery which has not regenerated since the fire there a couple of years ago.

Thanks to Auckland Council for the plant supply and to Whangai Trust who grew such quality plants for us. We'll hang up our spades for a while now and let winter do its thing. It's been a highly productive season. Thanks all.

Neil. Convener.

THE LEIGH COMMUNITY CLUB

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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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GOOD SORTS

This month our GOOD SORT is **Wendy Brown**, nominated by many, for her organizing of the 150th Year celebration of the Leigh Library. This most successful event attended by over 200 supporters and founders' descendants entailed months of planning. As Library Secretary and team Leader for this celebration, Wendy and her fellow volunteers did a superb job of showcasing our wonderful community Library and acknowledging its place in our local history.

The *Leigh Community Church* have home-baking coming your way.



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