

SeniorNet (Pakuranga) Inc
PO Box 82-306 Highland Park, Auckland 2143
Telephone 09 576 4500

SEPTEMBER 2021

Established in 1996 especially for Pakuranga, Howick and Botany residents



Our next Meeting,
Friday 3 September
at 10.00am



This issue:

- ◆ Next meeting
- ◆ September Help days
- ◆ New members
- ◆ **Bits and Bytes**
- ◆ Dawn's Ravings
- ◆ Kate's Take
- ◆ Tips and Tricks for Pest Control
- ◆ Your Committee
- ◆ How to join a course

We are planning a Zoom meeting this month and if all goes well, StJohn will give a presentation on the services they offer.



2 NEW MEMBERS

Colleen Appleton
June Clark

**SEPTEMBER
HELP DAYS**

Wednesday	8 Sept	10am
Thursday	16 Sept	1pm
Wednesday	22 Sept	10am
Monday	27 Sept	10am

Sadly it is likely these will have to be cancelled due to Covid restrictions.



We are planning for continued lockdown at least until after our September meeting date. On line Zoom options will be advised via email.

Meanwhile the October AGM is in our sights and this newsletter contains information on methods of nominating members for the committee.

All positions are open and our rules require Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer to be individually elected as "office holders" with a further minimum of 4 and maximum of 8 committee members to make up the Committee.

As I have been haranguing you for some time we need strong numbers to make up the committee and share in the tasks needed to continue our SeniorNet ticking over.

Attached to this newsletter (page 11) is a paper nomination form but in lockdown we have an alternative Email method. As a number of members do not have a Word processing package they regularly use, email enables you to complete your part of the nomination form and forward on to the next stage.

The stages assume you have some knowledge of the persons involved (a good idea for any nomination activity)

- 1) You receive our Email nomination form with space to enter details.
- 2) Choose Forward this email in your email program. This enables you to enter details to the right-hand side of the green text
- 3) As nominator you enter your name and membership number and enter the name of the person nominated.
- 4) Forward to the member you want to be the seconder
- 5) As seconder choose Forward this email in your email program and enter your details
- 6) Forward to the nominated person
- 7) As Nominated person you have to indicate acceptance of nomination
- 8) Choose Forward this email in your email program
- 9) Enter your details and Forward to secretary@senpak.nz

See the following page for sample of the email you will receive.



The Email will look like this, but not in italics:

“To nominate a candidate who is a current member please phone them for initial acceptance, then select FORWARD on your email service -that lets you fill in names and numbers alongside the green items on this email. In lieu of a signature the email trail will be used as confirmation using your email address we have recorded.

You will find it easiest to only nominate those you know because you do need their email address. The current committee members who are candidates will be nominated as part of this process but you don't need to initiate any action on their behalf.

Please complete by 24th September 2021

Nominator choose FORWARD this email to the seconder. Before sending add your name and number as nominator. Then Send

Person Nominated

Person Nominating

Membership number

Seconder choose FORWARD this email to the nominee. Before sending add your name and number as seconder. Then Send

Person Seconding.....

Membership number

Nominated Candidate choose FORWARD this email to secretary@senpak.nz. Before sending add your name and number and indicate acceptance. Only emails from the candidate's recorded email address will be accepted . Then Send

Acceptance

Membership number

Dawn Howarth Secretary

Brian Erikson Chairman

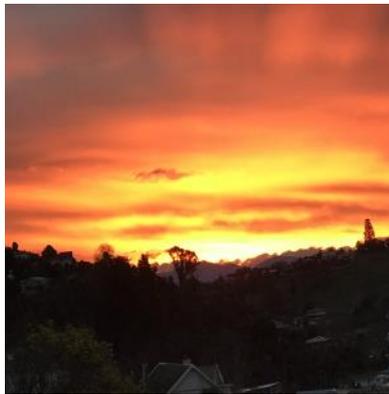


Who would have guessed we would be confined to our homes again. What a surprise. We can be grateful that we are in our homes, warm, safe and comfortable. I imagine it can be boring if you live alone, when it is, remember living alone can be a blessing too. Trust me !

I have been stitching, weeding, walking, watching TV, especially our Covid bulletins, some Netflix. Today I think I will get out the Rummikub. I was reading until 3am this morning, that was a real treat.

Two meetings in a row I have missed now — and I have had yet another glorious holiday, this time Nelson and Blenheim. We do have a beautiful country full of interesting people and places. I have scattered a few photos around the newsletter to bore you. I wonder whether you recognise any.

Aren't telephone cameras wonderful. Shoot away, toss out the real rubbish and keep lots of rubbish really, but occasionally one or two turn out beautifully. One night I took a photo of the sunset from our hotel room. The next night we went early to a restaurant (50 of us, including Colleen, a lovely Pakuranga SeniorNet member) to see the sunset but it didn't happen, instead I saw this amazing aura around the sun—I called it a sunbow.



PS I haven't been inundated with SeniorSwipe laughs or comments. Where are they ? Perhaps we could have some goods/bads about Lockdown. My man spilt a container of beetroot on the carpet. No carpet cleaners likely to visit anytime soon. It's a good job I'm a scrubber !!



PEST FREE HOWICK

A great talk from Lorelle Stranaghan, many thanks. Lorelle is the coordinator of the Pest Free Howick programme which was started in 2017. There are now nearly 20,000 traps around Howick. This is a Howick Local Board funded project which is working towards pest free Auckland and the national goal of being predator free by 2050.



Rats, possums and mustelids (weasels, stoats and ferrets) are the animals that pose the greatest threat to our native animals and plants.

Pest Free Howick is focusing on four areas of ecological significance within the Howick Ward and these are Musick Point, Mangemangeroa Reserve, Point View Drive Reserve and Murphy's Bush.

With our close proximity to the predator free Islands in the Hauraki Gulf our little peninsular can be a launching point for predators from the mainland. By working to eliminate the predators in our gardens and surrounds we are defending these very special Island refuges.

Rat traps are available free to every household in Howick. There is also a trap library where traps suitable for catching mustelids and possums can be borrowed.

When you catch your pest you can download information such as the bait you used and the animal you have caught into the Ecotrack App which can be loaded onto your mobile phone or your computer. Search for EcoTrack.nz in Google.

There are several applications with similar names so look for the icon



If you would like to keep an eye on the success of the various pest control efforts locally and around the country have a look at CatchIT, a web site managed by Auckland University.

Lorelle also drew our attention to the eradication of noxious weeds such as Rhamnus and Moth Plant.

These plants pop up everywhere. This is not surprising, when you consider that each Moth Plant pod can contain up to 1000 seeds that are dispersed on the breeze when the fruit ripens. Remove the pods and cut down the vines at ground level, then apply a gel weed killer to the stump. But remember to wear gloves to avoid the white sap from coming in to contact with the skin or eyes as it is toxic. Moth Plant pods and vines can be placed in your household rubbish bin.



For more information contact Lorelle Stranaghan at pestfreehowick@gmail.com

Or click on this link to view on the Facebook page www.Facebook.com/PestFreeHowickWard

Or subscribe to the newsletter using link <http://eepurl.com/dMSIOg>

Lorelle recommended that we all have a look at the YouTube Documentary - [Fight for the Wild](#), a fascinating documentary on the wildlife of New Zealand.

WHAT'S GOING ON IN HOWICK FROM TOWN CRIER, JIM DONALD

Unfortunately, Morrin Cooper, ex-Mayor of Howick was unavailable to talk to us but Jim Donald, our very own Town Crier, gave us a wonderful talk on a range of subjects.

Jim is part of the committee organizing next year's, 175-year commemoration of the arrival of the 2000 Fencibles who came to Howick. At that time there were only 2600 Europeans living in Auckland so it certainly was a significant event.

Although it is still early days, there are lots of things being organized for the commemoration. There will be picnics at the beach, with the Spirit of Adventure moored offshore as a back drop, a special commemorative beer will be brewed and all the various organizations based in Howick will be encouraged to mark the anniversary in their own way. Not to be lonely, Jim has already booked four other Auckland Town Criers to join him at the Howick Market, on November 5th, 2022 which will be the first day of the focused activities that will run through to Sunday, November 13th.



Jim also gave us an insight into his own history. He is the son of a returned soldier from the second world war whose time overseas left him a physical and mental wreck. Jim grew up on a farm and was the eldest of eight children. Having been educated by Marist Brothers at school in Masterton when the time came for him to leave school he decided to join the Brothers. He then headed to Samoa where he helped to build a couple of schools. After eleven years he decided to follow his brother to the police force where he stayed for 21 years. During that time, he joined the dog section where he became the handler of Luke, the German Shepherd who was seriously injured during a shot gun incident in Queen Street, in October 1983.

For a time, Jim was also a Councilor and he told us the story of how the Star of the Sea School, in Granger Road, was in danger of being sold to developers but the Council fought for 13 years to retain it for the community. It is now used by the Children's and Young Persons' Theatre Group and the church is available to the community for spiritual events without the constraints of a consecrated church.

There were also questions from the floor regarding the plans for the Information Centre and the old Town Hall building at the corner of Moore Street. Jim pointed out how these two buildings are valued by the community but it seems as though there is a difference of opinion between the Council and the Local Board and as a result these buildings remain unoccupied.

A big thank you to Jim for a very interesting talk and for all the work he has done for our community over the years.

Welcome and thank you for joining your local pest free project!

Please remember to record your catches – we cannot stress that enough!

Two ways to load your catch info:

Use the newly launched EcoTrack APP

<https://ecotrack.nz/download-the-ecotrack-app-and-sign-up/>

And or

Use the website based CatchIT program

(we will email you login details)

Office
Use

Please note all the catches are collated together into CatchIT – you don't have to worry about this you will get updates on the project via our quarterly newsletter, but please look out for the email from CatchIT if you wish to load your data via a computer.

Instructions on using both will be emailed to you in the next few days.

Tips and Tricks for successful trapping!

Wear gloves when setting and emptying the trap – rats may be scared off by human scent

Think like a rat!

Rats and Mice like to run along a wall for safety – place your trap along a fence line, under trees, beside an outdoor shed or pool pump. Think about a food source, do you have a compost bin or fruit trees?

Check your lure regularly – insects and snails love peanut butter too, they will eat the lure then the rat has no reason to visit your trap.

Make sure the trap is stable – if the trap moves when the rat goes to enter, this will scare the rat away and it will become “trap shy”

Check out Predator Free NZ 2050 an awesome website full of great info!

<https://predatorfreenz.org/resources/trapping-best-practice/>

Any problems or queries please do not hesitate to get in contact with our team at

pestfreehowick@gmail.com

Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbours – we need 1 in 5 households trapping!



PEST FREE HOWICK WARD

We are using a wooden tunnel trap with one of the following trappers placed inside, check out these links to remind you how to use your trap:

TREX



<https://bit.ly/31XuAka>



VICTOR POWERKILL



<https://bit.ly/2PN2vtn>



VICTOR PROFESSIONAL

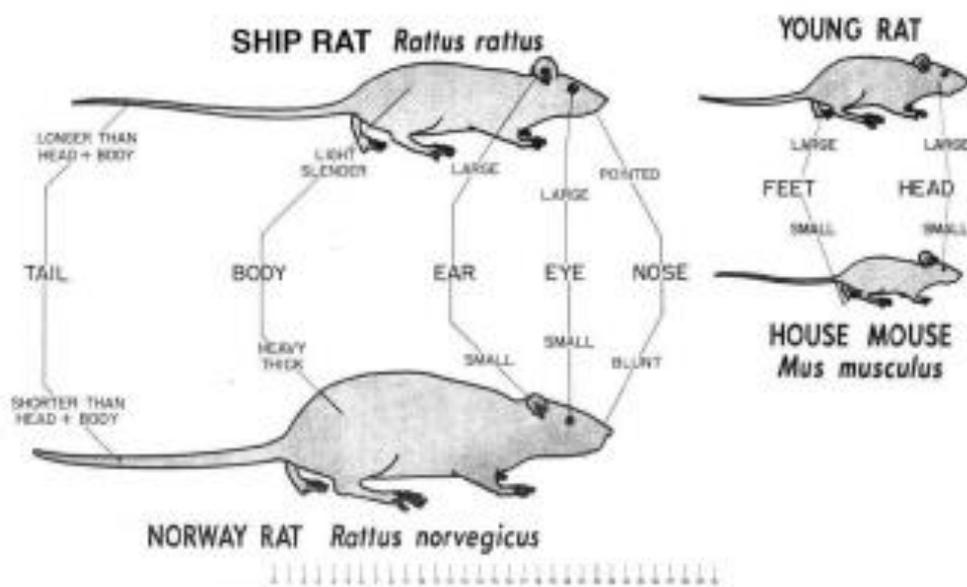


<https://bit.ly/3rYT9b8>



Rat Identification – What have I caught?

FIELD IDENTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC RODENTS



Comments, Queries, Suggestions, Free Advertising

COMMITTEE

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Newsletter Editor	Dawn Howarth	576 6798
	dawn@senpak.nz	

LEGENDARY WORDS

One day, the Churchill couple walked through a posh neighborhood in London.

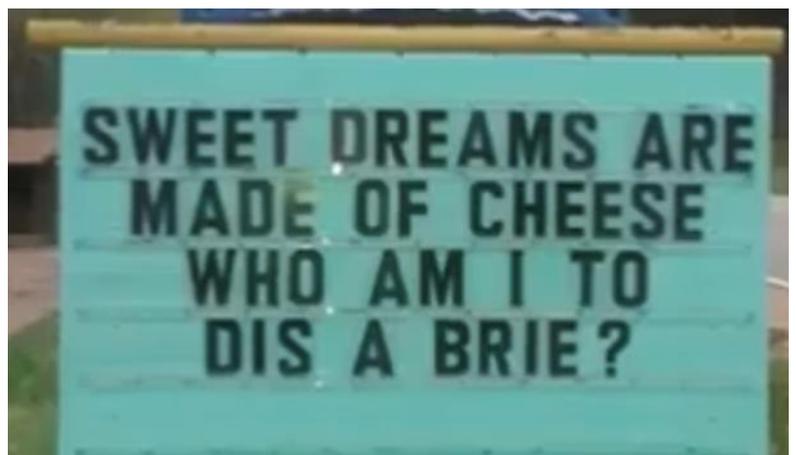
People greeted and exchanged words with the Prime Minister.

A street sweeper, on the other hand, greeted Ms. Churchill in particular, and the two stayed aside for a while in a familiar conversation. Churchill then asked his wife what she had had to discuss with a street sweeper for so long. "Ah... he was in love with me a long time ago," she said.

Churchill smiled and said, "You see, if you had married him, you would be the wife of a street sweeper today."

Mrs Churchill looked at her husband in amazement and said the legendary words:

"But no Darling, if I had married him, he would be Prime Minister today."



COURSE TIMETABLES, HELP DAYS AND COURSE BOOKING INFORMATION

To view all SeniorNet courses and timetable, click here

<http://www.senpak.nz/courses/>

SEPTEMBER **HELP DAYS**

Wednesday	8 Sept	10am
Thursday	16 Sept	1pm
Wednesday	22 Sept	10am
Monday	27 Sept	10am



WAIVER: Some of our members voluntarily and willingly give help and advice to other members on matters relating to computers, associated equipment and software. This includes information contained in the columns of this newsletter and other publications including our SeniorNet Website. This help or advice is taken solely at the recipient's risk and imposes no responsibility or liability of any kind, either on those providing such help or advice, or the newsletter Editors or SeniorNet (Pakuranga) Inc.

SeniorNet (Pakuranga) Inc
Nomination for Election of officers and Committee

I wish to nominate: Member No:

for the position of: (Delete as needed)

Chairman / Secretary / Treasurer / Committee

Nominated by: (please print) Member No:

Signature:

Seconded by: (please print) Member No:

Signature:

Nomination accepted:

Please post your nomination prior to 23th September.

To: SeniorNet Pakuranga Inc

P O Box 82 306

Highland Park

Auckland 2143

Alternatively scan and email to secretary@senpak.nz