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# Waiaatarua Community News

850 copies

Spring issue—September 2020

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## From the President

Hello again

Wow, only the second opportunity for me to touch base with you all. It seems longer but I have been busy meeting with your Executive representatives and reviewing all of the documentation available as I want to gain a sound understanding of what the current position is, how everything works and from there I am confident that we can begin planning a way forward.

As a next step I would really like to meet as many of you residents as possible over the next few months. I had hoped this would start at the “meet the candidates evening” that we had planned for the 24<sup>th</sup> August, but which we have had to postpone because of the current lockdown restrictions. We will be trying very hard to arrange this for a later date depending on when the elections will be held.

The best opportunity, I am sure, will be the planned event at the Waiaatarua Hall, hopefully in September to connect with the other residents, meet the Executive Committee members and share your experiences and ideas for the future of this magnificent area that we choose to call home. The details are to be found in the newsletter so make a note to come along and join us.

Dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic has reminded us of the importance of our community coming together and helping those who need it the most. My focus for meeting and hearing from you all is really to identify those residents who are most at risk during times like this. This information will then allow us to focus our efforts to ensure we assist where it's most needed.

Over the next couple of months the committee will be reviewing current processes and procedures which will identify all of the roles/functions required to take the association forward. We will be publishing these in the hope that we can encourage some skilled residents to assist us in certain capacities.

So for now I will leave you with one question “if you are currently not a member, then why not?”. Take this opportunity to fix that by joining now.

Please stay safe.

Tom Hoey

president@waiatarua.org.nz

## Important information concerning community events

Due to current Level 3 restrictions the following events to be held at the Waiaatarua Hall have been postponed until further notice:

**MEET THE CANDIDATES EVENING, MONDAY 24 AUGUST**

**SPRING FLING, SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER**

When we are eventually able to hold this latter event, music in the rock/pop genre from the 60s to the present will be performed by Peter Leenan. These include artists such as The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, Radiohead and the Raconteurs. Board games for young and old will be available in the library.

Please take note and watch for updates in the newsletter and on our website: [www.waiatarua.org.nz](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)

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## Fire Brigade News

As this is being written we are at level 3 lockdown for the Auckland Area. For the Fire Brigade it is business as usual— there is no change to our response to calls.

Since the previous newsletter we have attended:

12 July	Car Crash	Scenic Drive
22 July	Transformer sparking	West Coast Road
11 Aug	Car vs Power Pole	Scenic Drive

### We need your help

For most of the calls we attend we are grateful to have our second vehicle. This ute helps transport extra firefighters to calls and carries additional tools and equipment.

We are still needing to pay off this vehicle and are asking for your help to do this.

Please support us by visiting our givealittle page to donate. <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/waiatarua-volunteer-fire-brigade-fundraising>. We will also have the link on our Facebook page.

**Hope you are all keeping safe and well in your bubbles.**

### Contacts:

Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency. For anything else, please call Chief Fire Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505), Deputy Chief Officer Ian Ford (814 8871) or email Volunteer Brigade Support Christine Healy (Christine.healy@fireandemergency.nz)

Christine Healy (Brigade Support)

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or the Waiaatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

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**WRRRA President:** Thomas Hoey Phone: 027 585 1486 Email: [president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:president@waiatarua.org.nz)

**Community Hall and Library:** 911 West Coast Road. Phone: 814 9353

**Hall hire bookings:** Matt Smith Phone: 021 059 3467 Email: [hallhire@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:hallhire@waiatarua.org.nz)

**Library hours:** Thursday 10.00am–12.00pm

Friday 7.00pm–8.00pm

Saturday and Sunday 11.00am–12.00pm

**website:** [www.waiatarua.org.nz](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)

Contact Us



Letter to the Editor

Regarding Marq Holibar's experience with the installation of fibre in the July newsletter.

Our experience was a real saga. I thought the installers would be quite receptive to our requirements, but now I realise how wrong I was after a six month protracted and painful experience.

I think that intending customers need to realise that the installers' job is to 'make a connection' at the least possible cost or trouble to themselves and mark another up as completed for the government.

It doesn't matter if the fibre arrives miraculously from the moon or from the centre of the earth, they will do the least they possibly can. If, like us, you have had three phone overhead cables and a power cable brought down by tree branches through the years, they rub their hands with glee....more ongoing work at the customer's expense if the job is overhead again.

Obviously Marq's experience of how the pulling-through of a readily provided conduit should be any more difficult than pull-

From the Editor

Hello everyone

Something a bit different this month as you can see. Thank you to all those of you who kindly responded to my requests for spring-themed photos to brighten up our newsletter and to help us all feel a little more positive now that we have once again been plunged back into lockdown. Hope you enjoy this array of beautiful images.

Cheers, Erin

ing across an overhead cable is complete rubbish. We were offered to go overhead free and then at our expense to pay them to pull it down later and then pull it through our conduit, with our pull-through provided, as it would then allow them to charge the 'customer' additional rather than the government...thereby making a good profit on the side.

When it dawned on my neighbour and I what was going on, we spent two months of our lockdown keeping fit, hand-digging a common 100m of 450mm deep trench through the bush. Of course they did offer the option of trailing the cable on the ground through the bush for free!

We supplied the conduit and pulled through our own cable and did our own in-attic conduit and cabling. The contractor admitted we had done 95% of their work and even suspiciously asked if I worked for Telecom or Chorus!

That was our experience. Be prepared to be firm for anything other than what they want.

Geoff Waller



Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Erin Kingsleigh-Smith, editor@waiatarua.org.nz, ph 814 8856. Community Notices are free to current financial members.

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**Handyman Out West:** Any work undertaken. House and property maintenance, renovation and decoration eg gutter cleaning, water blasting, deck building, tree felling, painting etc. Reliable and friendly. Ph Mike 814 9708

**Indoor Bowls:** every Thursday at the Hall 7pm for 7.15 start. No experience needed. Coffee and tea provided. \$3 donation to CPNZ and WPAT. Ph Celia: 814 9660 or Liz: 814 9688

**Lawn mowing and section clean ups:** Ph Grant at Top Grass Ltd. 814 9493 mob 021 024 75610

**Oratia Community Church:** On the corner of Parker & West Coast roads. Fellowship meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1pm in the church hall. Ph 813 9869 for information.

**Plants:** Bromeliads \$5 - \$6; Taros, cannas and various shrubs \$4 - \$5. All sales to Nepalese Educ Trust. Phone Margaret 814 9859.

**Table Tennis:** every Wednesday in the Hall, 7-9pm. No experience needed, all equipment supplied. \$2 per week Contact Tony 814 9860, email tony.bacon @sthw.co.nz

**Tiler / Stone layer:** 21 years experience in the trade available for indoor and outdoor projects large or small. Phone Craig Starr 021 610 408.

**Waiatarua Playcentre:** Come and have 3 free visits at our bush nestled Playcentre. We are child led, parent run and full of fun! Open 9:30am - 12:30pm Mon and Weds. Contact Ronni O'Brien 09 814 8835 or waiatarua@playcentre.org.nz or www.facebook.com/waiataruaplaycentre

**Yovi's Topstitch:** Alterations or sewing projects I can do at your budget, from cushions, squabs etc. Contact Yovi 021 084 36450 or yovistopstitch12@gmail.com

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

by FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER @ 5pm