



# Community News

FEBRUARY 1992

EDITOR: TONY BACON

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## EDITORIAL

I'm going into the rainmaking business. You will recall in our last issue the continuing story of our water tanks. I commented that we needed rain to fill them up. By the last week in December we were down to the dregs, so we bought 3000 gallons of water, and yes, you've guessed it, that night and for the next two days it rained non-stop. This is the **second** time this has happened to us, so if you are running a bit short of water, just phone me up and I will order some for us, which should guarantee a tankful for you too.

The lines of cat's eyes ("raised pavement markers" in bureaucratese) are creeping along the Scenic Drive and West Coast Road. We are told that it is the Council's intention to have them on all the major roads this financial year, which has to be a plus for road safety, especially out here where the roads are twisty and the hoons are careless.

The other good news is that the Community Centre is receiving some long overdue maintenance. This includes some more fire safety improvements, but also painting and decorating, and, joy of joys, the floor is to be re-surfaced and the curtains replaced. These last two will probably not happen until the playcentre moves to new premises (current guess is the third term of 1992), but there is a definite commitment from the Council that the money will be there.

This issue is my last as editor. Good luck to my successor, and I look forward to having the second weekend of the month free in the future.

Tony Bacon

**SUBS ARE NOW DUE - SEE NAG  
ON THE INSIDE!**

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## LIBRARY NEWS

### Your Library

Where is it? - under the Community Hall.

When does it open? -

Sunday	11am - 12 noon
Tuesday	7.00 - 8.30pm
Thursday	10am - 12 noon
Friday	10 - 11am (School term only)
	7pm - 8.30pm
Saturday	9.30 - 11am.

Staffed by volunteers and financed by your rates through Waitakere City.

A number of new books by popular authors and others have been added since Christmas. On February 12th there was an exchange of Waitakere City loan books.

Our plea for more volunteers in the December newsletter brought a very good response - thanks to all our new helpers.

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## FIRST AID COURSE

A First Aid course is to be run at the Waiatarua Fire Station. The course will consist of 2-hour sessions, once a week for 8 weeks.

The course will cover all aspects of first aid and a course certificate will be presented at the conclusion of the course.

If you are interested in learning how to do temporary repairs to the human body, contact Tony Holt on 814 9688 for details of course fees and times.

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## WAIATARUA ART AND CRAFT SHOW

Well, why not? There's plenty of talent in the area...

Over the Christmas holidays a few of us started talking about mounting an exhibition of local artists and craftworkers at the Waiatarua Community Centre.

We're tentatively looking at mid-April for the show. If you would like to take part, or have any suggestions, call Gillian Nicholson on 814 9599 evenings or weekends. We'd like to get our first meeting under way **soon**.

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## ODDS AND ENDS

Ginger - will we ever be rid of it?

Probably not, but the battle continues with the resumption of the task force green spraying programme, and another Council-organised ginger awareness week from **9 - 22 March**. You will get more information about this later.

### Rural Delivery

The Rural Delivery/Town Delivery debate has started again, with NZ Post asking people who would like to be transferred to town delivery to write to them. The address is:

Trevor Maclachlan,  
NZ Post Limited  
District Managers Office  
Auckland Central  
PO Box 90345  
Auckland Mail Service Centre

There would appear to be no guarantee that a letter will actually cause you to be changed, and you should be aware that a change of service will probably also mean a change of postal address.

### Community Directory

Every year, in our March issue, we publish a bunch of information, such as WRRA committee members, Library hours, community constable name etc etc. If you have any ideas for other information or organisations that should be included, please contact Tony Bacon on 814 9860, so that we can make the list as useful as possible.

## Keeping Our Streets Safe

The footpath from the Piha turn-off up to the mast has been cleaned up. Thanks to Cr. Helen Haslam for pushing the Council into finally doing something.

## Membership

It's that time again! Thanks to all of you who forked out a subscription in 1991 - the good news is that now it's time for you all to do it again! Remember subs are due on 1st January, **not** on the anniversary of your last payment, so how about overwhelming our treasurer with all those cheques as early as possible in the year. Last year we had 163 paid up members, so is 250 for 1992 a reasonable hope or just a pipe dream? See later issues for more in this gripping saga.

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## NEWS FROM HELEN HASLAM

### Community Boards

The future of Community Boards in Waitakere City has now been assured by the current Council until November 1995, albeit in a more restricted form with decreased budgets, reduction of elected membership to 4, and no automatic provision for ward councillors to be members, nor even a requirement that councillors must attend meetings of their local Community Board. Despite these factors and the lack of delegation of decision making authority, I believe that Community Boards fulfil an essential role in our city by keeping Council fully advised of issues and priorities and the most appropriate methods of dealing with them.

### Resource Management Act

The new Resource Management Act is proving to have far reaching implications and consequences on much of Council's work. It requires much fuller consideration of issues and options and greater public consultation than ever before. All decision making must take account of the long term effects on the environment for future generations. A current example of its application is the full public consultation process and formal hearings being undertaken to determine the current controversy as to the most effective management of the South Piha sand dunes and foreshore.

*"To err is human, but to really foul things up requires a computer."*

*Paul Ehrlich*

## Long Term Planning

During the coming year Council must complete preparation of comprehensive long term policies for management of the environment, liquor licensing, recreation/leisure, health, and solid waste (including waste minimisation, recycling, composting and alternatives for disposal). We are also preparing a strategic plan to provide clear guidelines for the development and management of the city in the next decade. All these policies are being prepared with public input and they will be put up for public comment before being adopted by Council.

## Review Of District Scheme

This has been renamed the District Plan and the review is now in its early stages. It must comply with the Council's mission statement, goals, long term policies and strategic plan. Existing community management plans will be utilised in preparation of the plan. You will be advised of the various opportunities for public input into the plan over the next couple of years.

## Recycling Programme

Our kerbside recycling programme begins in April this year. It includes weekly collection of recyclables in the rural areas on the same day as the regular refuse collection. Interest in our Ward has been very high with many people already operating personal recycling programmes by using drop off centres. More detailed information on kerbside recycling will be sent to you over the next few months.

## Bush Protection

Council's planning section has recently published an attractive little booklet entitled "Living and Building in the Waitakere Ranges". It explains bush protection restrictions and general requirements for building in the Ranges. Copies will be sent to all property owners in the Ranges, and will be provided to all applicants for building permits. They are also available from CAB's, libraries and Council. Council has successfully prosecuted some property owners for destruction of native bush in the last year.

## Corban's Homestead

An open weekend is to be held in April this year to enable you to view this historic property. Stalls, exhibitions and displays will be held, and ideas will be sought from the public on the most effective and equitable use of the property. Ideas currently under

consideration by the special subcommittee include an all-weather sports stadium, arts and cultural centre, and facilities for community organisations such as WEA. Crs. Tim Shadbolt and Ian Wells are the Waitakere Ward representatives on the Corban property subcommittee.

## Western Leader and Ward Communication

Our efforts to obtain better coverage of the Ward by Western Leader have not been successful. Rather than increasing distribution, Suburban Newspapers have indicated that rural residents will be charged 50 cents a copy. Although I can understand the economic constraints faced by Suburban Newspapers, I am most concerned that this new policy will disadvantage our Ward through restriction of such an effective method of publicising Council business. By now you should have received the first of our quarterly Council newsletters with your current rate demand. This should help to provide some regular information about Council matters. I am also trying to provide regular news updates for inclusion in Roundabout and Ratepayers' newsletters. I would appreciate hearing some feedback on improving methods of communication with you all.

Helen Haslam

Councillor for Waitakere Ward Ph 812 8890

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## JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

A couple of issues ago, we promised you a list of JPs in our area. Well, here (in no particular order) they are at last:

Ann Wilson	723 West Coast Rd	814 9547
	(also a Marriage Celebrant)	
Helena Horswell	751 Scenic Drive	8374 665
Gordon Sunde	16 Shaw Road	818 6376
Royston Brown	Scenic Drive	814 9691
I Sapich	Forest Hill Road	814 9655
R W Gash	140 Parker Road	818 7451
Mrs. F McConnell	West Coast Road	814 9775
Mrs. A Wilson	West Coast Road	814 9547

If you need the services of a JP, these people should all be reasonably handy. It would be courteous to ring first. If you look in the Yellow Pages, you will see heaps more names listed - the above are those that seem closest to our neighbourhood.

*"Love conquers all things except poverty and toothache"*

Mae West

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## WORKING BEE

The Community Centre needs some more tender loving care, and the day to do it is **Sunday 8th March**, from 10am onwards. The tasks include the usual path weeding and window cleaning, but the main job is to renew the steps at the rear of the hall that lead down to the Playcentre play area. The lower steps were replaced a couple of years ago, now it is the turn of the top set.

It would be really nice to see more people than just the committee there - the Centre exists for the whole community, and we should all expect to help with its upkeep (end of sermon). Bring your tools and your muscles, and we'll see you there!

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## DOGS DYING FROM DIRE DISEASE

### Parvo Virus in West Auckland

In West Auckland we've been having a lot of young dogs dying recently from Parvo Virus disease. The onset is sudden and dramatic. It causes depression, vomiting and bloody diarrhoea. Untreated, death can follow in just a few hours, or it can take a few days. There is no specific treatment, only supportive therapy with fluids to combat the dehydration. Even with treatment many dogs die.

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of vaccination against this disease not only in puppies but with yearly boosters in older dogs. Preventative vaccination is the only real answer as most deaths have been in unvaccinated or partly vaccinated dogs. Parvo Virus spreads directly from dog to dog or by their smelling or licking where infected dogs have been. I'd strongly advise dog owners not to let their pets stray as this exposes them to the possibility of picking up this deadly disease.

Neil Pullan  
Veterinarian, Waiatarua.

Please accept my 1992 subscription to the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association.

I enclose \$7.00 (Household)/\$4.00 (Single Occupant)

This is a renewal/new subscription (Delete one)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to:

The Treasurer,  
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association  
911 West Coast Road  
Waiatarua

or leave at the Library

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## ADVERTISING

### OPTOMETRIST

Matthew and Molly Whittington announce the opening of their new Optometry Clinic at 245 Forest Hill Road (3.5km from the roundabout). Appointment hours are flexible (before or after work is no problem) and they offer a range of services as follows:

- Full visual examination \$35
- Glaucoma test \$15
- Visual screen for children under 8 years old \$15

Members of the Ratepayers and Residents Association are eligible for a 10% discount on the above prices, and also on the large selection of frames and lenses.

- Contact lenses fitting and aftercare from \$270
- Home visits \$45

Phone 814 9034 for appointments.

### ELECTRICIAN

Insite Electrical. Free quotes. Extra lights and power points \$50 + GST. Call Richard 025 923 518 (mobile phone) or fax 814 9137.

Deadline for the next issue is **Wednesday 4th March 1992**. Please send **legible** copy to Tony Bacon, 11 Cascade Avenue, who will pass it on. All submissions must have a name and contact phone number, even if that is not for publication.

Our thanks to Waiatarua residents Grant and Carol Longley of Longley Printing for their help in the production of this Newsletter.

This Newsletter is delivered to all households in Waiatarua by the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association. If you are not already a member, your subscription of \$7.00 per household (\$4.00 for single occupants) will help us to maintain and improve the services we provide.

*Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association*