

Community News



JUNE 1996

EDITOR : MARGARET BLUMHARDT

Letters to the Editor

... keep them rolling! Editor

Dear Editor,

I, along with my wife and friends had the pleasure of attending the play "Phone 1125J". The Waiatarua Fire Brigade along with the theatre group put on an absolutely fantastic performance. The lighting, sets, costumes, timing were worked out to perfection. The play was superbly written with copious humour and an original song to boot. The whole atmosphere during the performance was casual and inviting. It is gratifying to see the local community supporting these volunteers to raise funds which may well be used to save property in the district. I have spoken to many residents who went to the play and all have the same sentiments as myself.

Congratulations to all concerned, from our point of view it was the best \$15 we have spent in a long, long time.

Grant Kelly

(At the time of going to press 1,028 people have seen the play, well done to all concerned - EDITOR)

Dateline Waiatarua March 2026

Retrieved from
the voice interzone network.

This is the last message from Bob Harvey. My apologies for such infrequent communications, but my recent classification by the new state of CHE ZEALIND as a non-citizen and the removal of all my social cards has meant that transmissions are very difficult. To my former friends and supporters that are not yet in the camps I can assure you that I am in good health. You may recall my stance on assisted ageing some years earlier. I am managing very well on my old organs and have no need for spare parts borrowed from victims of our oppressive justice system.

You may also recall during my time as Mayor of the City of Waitakere, now absorbed into the Super City we call Lesland, that we advocated strong policies towards sustainability. We called ourselves the 'eco-city' and we had aspirations that would have prevented the enormous environmental and social degradation we have witnessed in the last twenty-five years, even before the water wars and the virus plagues.

Older citizens may recall Waitakere City's stance against the Waikato River Pipeline. We all know the disastrous

consequences of this, and the health affects of drinking water from that source. That so many of the Auckland population experience trauma when hearing bells, specifically cow bells, is tragic. Was it just the Waikato versus Auckland fever? Not that there's been much rugby football recently with the players strike now in it's fifth year.

The impact on the beaches and natural environments around the Super City are well documented, and seem regrettably to be well accepted. The dense smog over the central city is a regular feature, the gleams bronze for all of the year now. The only advantage is that it does serve to screen some of the sun's UV rays that pour through that huge hole in the ozone layer.

The re-designation of much of the western and eastern parts of the Super City for residential have made huge in-roads into the Waitakere ranges. Despite the protests of the older local residents we have even seen the establishment of huge factories as part of the cybernaut industry in the ranges. They say that industry fitted the area. The purchase of large tracts of the eastern coastline by overseas investors has seen the construction of many high rise hotels exclusively marketed at the tourist trade, what with trouble in the northern regions after the fallout from the Russian reactors.

The opening up of the remnants of the Waitakere ranges to a wide range of recreational uses - including four-wheel drive vehicles and jetsleds - resulted in the loss of a large number of species. It's now argued that the logging of Kauri should be resumed. I have seen a proposal that landowners in the Waitakere ranges undertake extensive logging of Kauri trees. They say the trees are blocking the three hours of daylight left.

When we argued that this would destroy the character of towns like Titirangi, it was pointed out that the clamour from residents for views of the Manukau Harbour has resulted in the removal of nearly seventy percent of the species in the area. The removal of a few more trees wouldn't make much difference.

I heard administrators of our Super City are still talking about a Light Rail scheme. The subject has become an established national joke, and listed in the recent dictionary of Kiwi Slang as meaning 'procrastination'. For example: "When she asked him to make a commitment, he light railed her".

Looking back it seems to me a great pity that we didn't deliver something better to the present generation. I think, in the end, you can only show the way. Please keep my whereabouts secret. You never know when the thought police are watching and listening... is that man Diggle still in charge?

Bob Harvey

GRAFFITI CLEANUP

Thanks to Charles Scoones the clean up strategy is in place. Tony Holt has taken over co-ordinating this and you are urged to ring Tony on 814-9688 as soon as the menace has struck.

He and his merry band will clean it off as soon as possible – preferably within 24 hours. One tag tends to attract other tags and they are easier to remove when they are fresh.

Help yourself and your community by reporting the culprits. If you see someone *in the act of tagging* advise the police immediately. If they are travelling by car get a registration number and description.

Thank you Tony for taking over this Community service.

Please don't wait for someone else to report any graffiti, ring Tony yourself. Write his number down for future reference, hopefully on the sheet with all the other local contacts which you received earlier in the year.



MARKET DAY

The event hasn't happened at the time of writing, but many thanks to our newsletter deliverers for putting flyers into letter boxes. Also due is an apology and 'grade one grovel' to those deliverers who found flyers strewn all along the road because I didn't weigh them down properly.

Tony Bacon

PLAYCENTRE

Dear friends, it has been a while since we last wrote with any news, so we will fill you in on what's been happening this year.

We'd firstly like to welcome four beautiful babies to Playcentre; Grace Hinton, Campbell Brown, and twins Payne and Amber Whittle.

Recently we took the children on a trip to the Arataki Centre, walking around the nature trail before going inside to look at the wetas, geckoes and other exhibits. The weather was beautiful and we had a great time.

Three major projects have been completed at Playcentre this year.

The tarsealing of the driveway was completed over the summer holidays ending eighteen months of potholes, puddles and loose gravel. The Playcentre is very grateful for all the support it received from the Council and the community for this work.

The carpentry area is now vastly improved, with a large enclosed decked area being built near the kitchen for it. The children love working in this new area and every session new creations are made, and then proudly taken home.

The lower playground has also been completed. A great

LIBRARY NEWS

Nine new books are now being processed and will be available soon. A pleasing number of these are by New Zealand writers, including:

Owen Marshall, Paul Thomas and Lynda Wharton.

Also watch this space – the latest John Grisham will be here soon.

Books taken out during May have increased – Wonderful! Keep it up!

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

911 West Coast Road,
under the Community Centre.

Phone 814-9353

Hours of Opening

Thursday	10am – 12 noon
Friday	7pm – 8 pm
Saturday	11am – 12 noon
Sunday	11am – 12 noon

Books can be returned at any time through the chute by the library door.

deal of thought has gone into developing this area and the little balcony surrounding the stand of tall kahikatea trees is a great success and a favourite spot.

If you and your child are interested in coming down to Playcentre to see what is going on we'd love to see you. We are down the driveway next to the Community Centre, 911 West Coast Road.

Our sessions are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9.30 am - 12 noon and our phone is 814-835 or phone Debbie 814-9187.

GARDEN GROUP

This month we are having Councillor Peter Maddison talk to us about beautifying our roadsides. A good month to have an inside gathering. The date for this is Wednesday June 26 at 1 pm at Terry and Margaret Blumhardts', 849 West Coast Road, opposite Raroa Terrace.

You are welcome to join us occasionally or every month, there is no membership or fees to pay. We normally meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

For further enquiries phone Eileen on 814-9298 or Margaret or Terry on 814-9843.

PROPOSED NEW RUBBISH SERVICE

Only Pay for What You Throw Away.

If your neighbour throws away ten sacks of rubbish a week (and believe us, there are people who do) then you end up paying more for it in rates. That's hardly fair, and that's why the Waitakere City Council wants to change things. Every year more and more rubbish is collected, which ends up in landfills, resulting in increasing environmental damage and rising costs. Unless we can all reduce this amount, you'll end up paying more and more for collection and disposal.

Under our proposed new system, recycling will continue, but every bag or rubbish bin will need a sticker on it before it can be collected. You will be able to purchase the stickers at shops handy to where you live. If you put one bag out, you will only pay for one bag, and not be subsidising the person who puts four or even ten bags out on the roadside.

You only pay for what you throw away.

Inorganic collections are planned to be reduced to one per year, garden waste and other rubbish can be deposited at the Baling Station with a charge, and street cleaning, litter and graffiti removal services will be improved.

Your views are welcome. But we need to hear from you before 26 June 1996. To give your views, phone the Actionline on 836-8045 today, or write to us at Waitakere City Council, Private Bag 93109, Waitakere City.

Please give your views on this. I personally feel that we need to be issued with one sticker per household unit each week or else the bush will just become a rubbish dump for people who have not bought stickers. There is also nothing to stop someone leaving a bag outside your gate or where there is a group of flats - how does anybody know whose rubbish has no stickers. EDITOR.

GINGER

You will now have not failed to see the large signs telling you that you are responsible of clearing your land of ginger. What a pity they arrived as the bins departed!

There are two species of wild ginger, Kahili ginger and Yellow ginger both of which have been classified as noxious plants. Both species have the ability to form dense colonies in native forests, smothering native plants as well as preventing native seedling establishment. This leads to the alteration of both the function and structure of the native forest and in some instances results in the total death of the forest.

Kahili ginger is a native of India, growing on the lower slopes of the Himalayas, while yellow ginger originates in Eastern India and Madagascar. It is believed that both gingers have been cultivated in NZ. gardens since 1865, but it was not until the 1940's that Kahili ginger was officially recorded as growing wild.

Wild ginger grows from large, branching rhizomes (tuberous roots). Beds of living rhizomes can form a dense layer up to a metre thick.

Kahili ginger flowers, yellow with red stamens, are seen from February to April after which each head can produce 100 seeds. Yellow ginger flowers are cream to light yellow and come out in the autumn/early winter period. They do not produce seed. Both

wild gingers spread outwards along the ground by way of rhizomes, with new stems sprouting annually.

New plants may develop from rhizome portions which have become detached from the parent plant. The major source of this spread is by people illegally dumping ginger rhizomes on roadsides or in the bush. Kahili ginger also spreads by birds, such as the tui and the blackbird, eating and dispersing seeds away from the original infestations. Seed is spread, accidentally, by people who have cut off stems which contain mature seed heads.

Kahili ginger flowers can be cut and dropped on the ground prior to the seeds being formed, but if the seeds are present put the heads in a bag and put them out with your rubbish. Flowerhead removal will not kill the plant but it will stop it seeding.

Digging is an effective method of removing small stands of wild ginger, providing all the roots are removed intact and disposed of safely at an authorised transfer station.

Wild ginger can also be controlled by killing it with Escort herbicide. Being careful not to spray desirable neighbouring plants, spray the leaves, stems and root system making sure that coverage is complete. Do not remove the stalks and leaves until they have gone brown and dried out.

Escort should be mixed at one 2.5 gram sachet per 5 litres of water plus 10 mls of a spreader / sticker like Pulse. For larger applications mix Escort at 25 grams per 100 litres of water, adding 100 mls of spreader / sticker. Escort is available in small packs at most garden centres and larger quantities can be bought at Wrightsons

If the ginger plants are too tall for convenient spraying they can be chopped to waist height and sprayed as soon as possible, or alternatively chopped right down, allowed to regrow to a couple of feet and then sprayed. These methods mean less spray is used and there is less chance of drift.

The effects of the spray are noticeable after 3 months and the weed will have died and it's rhizomes rotted after 12 to 15 months. Use chemical safely and refer to the product label for full instructions.

For further information contact your local Noxious Plants Officer at Waitakere City Council, phone 836-8037.

This information was copied from the ARC's Pestfacts pamphlet 28, obtainable from Councils and Link office Railside Avenue, Henderson.

Waitakere City Council has produced a pamphlet with a list of Contractors who may help you. This information was gathered from the yellow pages and local papers and the standard of work is not guaranteed by WCC or ARC or of course WRRR. These contacts may help you.

Wild Ginger Removal and Native Bush Specialists

JULIAN SWIER	025 905 979	817-9784
DON RHODES	025 747 159	(09) 420-7382
BRUCE ROGERS	025 993 211	473 5189

WILD GINGER DISPOSAL

Free dumping of Wild Ginger is available at the Waitakere City Council Baling Station, The Concourse Henderson. Alternatively a maximum of two cleansacks per week may be disposed of through the roadside rubbish collection.

Other types of contractors are also listed on this pamphlet.

If your neighbours have ginger have a chat to them about getting rid of it, and if that neighbour happens to be Waitakere City Council or the ARC ring them up and insist on having it removed. EDITOR.

CLEAN OUT THE GARAGE AND HELP CLEAN UP THE CITY

Have you got tins of old paint cluttering up your garage?

Have you often thought about throwing them out but felt guilty about wasting the paint?

Why not donate them to the city and put your old paint to good use wiping out graffiti?

All paint donated will be collected, colour coded and used to paint over any graffiti that appears in the City.

Just drop off your old paint tins at any one of three locations anytime until the end of June 1996.

- Hammer Hardware, 2 Margan Avenue, New Lynn.
- Massey Mobil Service Station, Triangle Rd, Massey.
- Waitakere City Baling Station, 48 The Concourse, Henderson.

After this date, tins of paint may be dropped off at the Baling Station only.

HELP WIPE OUT GRAFFITI

For further information on the "Old paint campaign" phone the Waitakere City Council Hotline on 836-8045.

ADVERTISING

This is free to financial members for 1996, January to December. A list of financial members is available at the library, and any queries about membership can be answered by phoning the Treasurer - Eileen Powell on 814-9298

Repeat commercial advertisements of financial members will only be printed as space allows, for the remainder of the financial year

HOUSE CLEANER WANTED – 3 hours a week.
Phone Lisa 814-9345 after 8 pm.

HAIRDRESSER – will cut your hair at your home.
Over 25 yrs experience, reasonable rates,
phone Lesley 814-9242.

GERMAN AND SPANISH translations and language tuition by qualified teacher. Phone 814-9903

FIREWOOD FOR SALE – split dry macrocarpa,
\$45 cubic metre, dry pine slabs, some need splitting,
\$25 cubic metre.
Call at 17 Rimu Road or phone 814-8833.

VETERINARIAN – For pets and farm animals. House calls a speciality. Phone Neil Pullan on 814-9504.

PALMS, BANANAS AND OTHER EXOTICS FOR SALE – visits to Landsend – Valley of the Palms are by appointment only – so please phone 818-6914 and we will love to show you around at 108 Parker Road, Oratia. \$5 entry fee is redeemable on plant purchases.

MORRIS LANDSCAPES – Design and construction specialists. Making the most of your outdoor space. Whether you require:- design, paving, retaining, fencing, planting, a new lawn or maintenance.
Phone 814-9918 or (025) 974519

EXCAVATOR FOR HIRE – Rubber tracks for minimum damage. Drilling to 6 metres deep, Truck hire. Difficult conditions our speciality. Peninsula Contractors.
Phone Len on 834-6125, mobile 021 939-740 or Ross on 814-9002, mobile 025 939-740.

THE WATER FILTER WAREHOUSE – Mobile Service for Water Filters/Purifiers. Sales, Service, Installation, Replacement cartridges. Free quotes.
Phone Robin 814-9202.

Please accept my subscription to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
for 1996

I enclose: \$7 Household, \$4 Single Occupant

Name

Address

Phone

To Treasurer

Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Auckland 8
or leave at the library

JULY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of
Margaret Blumhardt
849 West Coast Road, Waiatarua
(opposite Raroa Terrace)
by WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY, 1996

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

Many thanks to the Longley Family for once again printing this newsletter.