

EDITOR:
JOSEPHINE HALL
WRRRA PRESIDENT:
GERRY DAVIS PH 814-8833

This month at the WRRRA

Over the past year we have shared information about the rates.

We have gone through the debates of the Inner/Outer differential, which has been eliminated, and council has opted to have the rates be applied in the same way, across the entire city. They will be applying a "stepped differential" to set the rates this year.

In last month's newsletter we gave the formula for the differential.

Rather than restating the formula, I am going to give some examples of what you paid last year, and what you will be paying this year.

All properties will pay a fixed charge of \$612. This is made up of the Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC) of \$510, Rubbish \$30 and Sewage pumpout \$72.

Old land value New land value Rates 98/99 Rates 99/2000

	<i>Old land value</i>	<i>New land value</i>	<i>Rates 98/99</i>	<i>Rates 99/2000</i>
1.	\$55,000	\$100,000	\$825	\$1,051
2.	\$150,000	\$200,000	\$1,342	\$1,400
3.	\$200,000	\$260,000	\$1,614	\$1,566
4.	\$270,000	\$350,000	\$1,995	\$1,782
5.	\$350,000	\$450,000	\$2,430	\$2,023

Another way to look at the figures, if your property value has not changed, is:

Property Value 98/99 and 99/2000 Rates last year Rates this year

	<i>Property Value 98/99 and 99/2000</i>	<i>Rates last year</i>	<i>Rates this year</i>
1.	\$86,000	\$994	\$1,002
2.	\$90,000	\$1,016	\$1,016
3.	\$150,000	\$1,342	\$1,225
4.	\$250,000	\$1,886	\$1,542
5.	\$400,000	\$2,702	\$1,902

I realise that these figures may not match the figures on your property, but I hope they give you an indication of how your rates may go. If you want to know what your rates will be this year, phone me.

I will need to know the new government valuation of the land only, for this year.

If there is any other way, we, the representatives of the ratepayers can help you, please feel free to discuss this too.

Gerry Davis

The next Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers meeting will be held on Monday 6th September at the home of G Davis.



This month we are visiting West Lynn Gardens,
73 Parker Ave, New Lynn.
Meet at 1pm on Wednesday 25th August.

Playcentre

A trip to Arataki at the beginning of term was enjoyed by all who attended.

Called "Sensational Senses" the children, and their mums and dads were able to experience nature from a new and different perspective.

We were encouraged to use all of our senses to explore the different smells, textures colours and sounds of the nature trail...."Scratch the leaves, smell them..." said our guide with great enthusiasm. The older children concentrated and enjoyed the varied activities, while the little ones, at times, were busy playing and running, exploring their new environment, in their own way.

Much was learnt, however, as various mums commented that later that week they observed their children in the garden scratching and smelling plants, and one even using the toilet roll as a microscope.

Fun was had by all, and thanks to Arataki for putting this on for our little people...our future scientists, rangers, botanists etc.

Other playcentre news... Two of our long time members are turning 5 years old. We wish Jessie and Marijke a very happy birthday and all the very best for their future school years. They and their family have been a friendly and fun part of our centre.

We would like to apologise to anyone who tried to attend the holiday session previously advertised, and found us closed.

Unfortunately there was a communication error on our part.

After school sessions will continue this term, the 1st Friday of the month at 3.30pm. All ex-playcentre families welcome!

Our AGM will be held at our Playcentre on Tuesday 14th September at 7.15pm. All welcome.

Playcentre is open every Mon/Wed/Fri 9.15am-12.15pm

At 911 West Coast Road. Phone 814-8835 or Ph Elke on 814-8803 for further information.

New families are always welcome.

Who can step into my shoes?

With an expanding family and various other volunteer duties, my shoes are bursting at the seams. Therefore, would somebody please take over the bulk delivery duty of the Waiatarua Newsletter. This would involve 1 - 1 1/2 hours per month. Please step forward. Phone Adith on 814-9822

Library News

Saturday 28th August 10am – 3pm is our library open day, and also our 25th birthday.

A grand day is organised.

A Treasure Hunt for Adults, & One for Children.

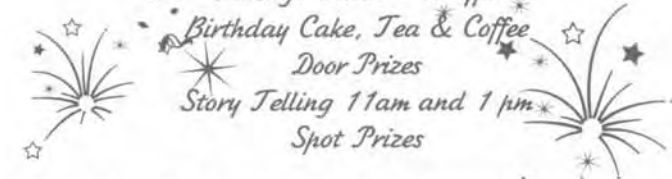
Sausage Sizzle – Raffle

Birthday Cake, Tea & Coffee

Door Prizes

Story Telling 11am and 1 pm

Spot Prizes



Come and join us all on this day. New members welcome. We need you.

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

911 West Coast Road, under the Community Centre.

Phone 814-9353

Note
new Sunday
hours!

Hours of Opening

Thursday	10 am – 12 noon
Friday	7 pm – 8 pm
Saturday	11 am – 12 noon
Sunday	11 am – 1 pm

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

Scene or Heard in Waiaatarua

The culprit caught! Another mess to clean up.

A plea to dog owners – please keep your dog from roaming, especially on rubbish day.



Neighbourhood Marks

The bus stop at the corner of Forest Hill Road and West Coast Road was demolished during the first weekend in August. I wonder if it was an act of vandalism, by a bus, perhaps; No, it couldn't be, as there are not a lot of buses passing through the area these days. Did anyone see the incident? I doubt it as no one waits for buses as there are not many bus stops, especially at the junction of Forest Hill Road and West Coast Road.

I contacted Stagecoach, (Remember the movie? I think it starred John Wayne), and the person I spoke to wanted to know if it was one of their bus stops. "What colour was it? What sign was on it?"

"A bus stop", I said. "You will need to ring your local council."

I contacted Waitakere City Council and was put through to the Bus Stop department. Brilliant service, immediate action.

"We'll get someone up there today, and sort the matter out by the end of the week."

Perhaps the photograph in last month's issue of the Community News was not the new Fire Station, but a bus shelter for the new bus stop.

This month's Quiz: The Hollies pop group had a hit in the '60's entitled _____. Fill in the blanks.

The young chap who drives what looks like a Mazda Familia three door hatch, colour black, certainly can't wait around for public transport. In the past week I have spotted him twice overtaking other vehicles in a reckless manner doing 90 - 100 kms per hour by the Oratia Superette (not far from the school). Let's not have another tragic accident in our area where innocent parties could be hurt, or even worse. **SLOW DOWN!!**

Unique Places in our Local Community

Isaachsen's Bamboo Nursery is at 833 West Coast Road, Waiatarua.

The driveway, being a feature in itself.... a 1km long private road, enclosed by stands of towering bamboo...(makes you think you're on an adventure to the unknown)... a waterfall cascading down to the left, creating it's natural music in the mystic surroundings.... curving and climbing, the driveway leads to the bamboo nursery... many a cluster of varying bamboo types, and a gong to hit to announce your arrival...

John and Pauline Isaachsen own and run the bamboo nursery.

They write...

There continues to be a national niche market for bamboo, which is produced on our 5ha property, here in Waiatarua.

The main demand is for narrow clumping screens of various heights for residential privacy.

Our range of bamboo includes the giant edible, for bamboo shoots used in Asian cooking ; fine ornamental varieties, many for shelter as well as land stabilization, from some of the 80 plus species we grow.

John's mother and father, who added flower growing to their general gardening, ventured into bamboo collection and research from 1945, to add to their range of unusual wet climate plants.

Much of the Oratia and Waiatarua area had been cleared for orcharding, or milking stock, so when John came to develop a road through the family estate to the present nursery, he needed to stabilize the waterfall roadside and steep banks.

Today the bamboo continues to complement the mature natives, in these otherwise unstable places, controlling flash floods and frequent soaking rains that flow down these slopes.

The fourth generation of Isaachsen sons happily play among the bamboo poles, not ready to commit to the lifestyle that sustains them, but they watch in awe the flocks of sparrows and other birds that return to roost in the bamboo tops each evening. They chat to the fantails, stop traffic for quails, pheasants and other wildlife that find refuge in these parts.

The glowworms at the waterfall, the reflection of the watching morepork in the bamboo provide interesting night entertainment.

These are some of the special memories unique to living here in Waiatarua.

Some interesting facts about bamboo :

- The growing tip is the fastest growing plant known.
- The record in Japan is 38 inches in 24 hours in 1964.
- It's tensile strength can be as great as that of steel.
- There are two main groups of bamboo, those that sucker and those that clump.
- When some bamboos flower they usually die out completely.
- The new seed plant will have it's own future seedling programme.
- Bamboo belongs to the grass family and cannot be destroyed by simply cutting it down.
- There are approximately 1400 species in the world.



John Isaachsen in the Bamboo nursery

Isaachsen's Bamboo Nursery is open on Sundays and by appointment, during the week.

Bugs

By Denis Graham

So much for the Y2K bug. What about other bugs? Fluffybums.

There was a plague of these during the summer. Our passionfruit vine got wasted, in spite of spraying with Target. Any suggestions?

Another bug, really is a bugger, is *Protasparagus scandens* – also known as *Asparagus scandens* or *Asparagus fern*. On my walks around the neighbourhood I have noticed this invasive climber weed, popping up all over the place. It is a very fast grower and will climb anything that it can get a hold of. If it is not eradicated, it will, in time, destroy the native bush. Spraying will kill it, but remember to read the instructions/directions on your weed killer container very carefully before using. A description of this plant is ; evergreen, scrambling climber with lax stems and short, curved, leaf like shoots, in whools of 3. Tiny white nodding flowers appear in clusters of 2 – 3 in summer, followed by red berries. Height 1 metre or more. More being the operative word.

If in doubt ask at the Oratia Native Nursery. I'm sure they will be happy to help.

ADVERTISING

*This is free to financial members for 1999,
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 members
will only be printed as space allows, for the remainder
of the financial year**

JP – Mary Kelly. For personalised weddings, re-affirmation of wedding vows, ceremonies of commitment, naming ceremonies, MC, Chair for public meetings etc, Ph/Fax 814 9857.

LAWYER & NOTARY PUBLIC - John Hendrikse. Also available at night and at weekends. Very competitive fees for housing transactions with a free will. I will accept briefs for Criminal cases in the Henderson Court. Familiar with Afrikaans. 914 West Coast Road, Waiatarua – Ph/Fax 814 9991

MUSIC TEACHER – available to teach piano, keyboard and theory. Based in Waiatarua. Offers one-to-one tuition, practical and theory exams, competitions, all at reasonable prices.

Contact NZ Modern School of Music on 0800 696874

LEARN TO SPEAK ITALIAN - with an experienced native teacher.

Private or groups, all levels - conversation, grammar, business.

Phone Alessandra, 814-8993.

Neighbourhood Watch

The names of our current co-ordinators are listed below. If you haven't been approached yet and would like to belong to one of these groups, give the co-ordinator a call.

NAME	ADDRESS	PH/FAX	E-MAIL
Mary Kelly, JP	3 Atarua Gardens	814-9857 + Fax	turtle@xtra.co.nz
Denis Graham	Back up - Atarua Gdns	814-9706	
Tony Holt	56 Bush Road	814-9688	
Ross & Kath Mullins	330 Forest Hill Rd	814-9402 + Fax	
Jenny McGee	886 West Coast Rd	814-9954	
Chris Field	799 West Coast Rd	814-9876	chrislizf@voyager.co.nz
Ngairi Mason	21 Tui Crescent	814-9036 + Fax	
Adith Stoneman	8 Kauri Loop Rd	814-9822	
Margaret/Paddy Marshall	19 Rarua Tce	814-9859	
Gaelene/Tony Goodrich	17 Cascade Ave	814-9788	
Debbie Irving	562 Scenic Drive	814 9789	

**Please accept my Membership to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
for 1999**

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

WINDOW CLEANING / WATERBLASTING, Chemical & House Washing. Excellent rates, free quotes. Phone Glenn 814-9480

ECSTASY AND ENERGY EATING – Food For Life – In true middle eastern fashion in my beautiful Moroccan style home, half day workshops in the ultimate way to stay lean. Learn recipes and cultures from Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Turkey, Morocco, Algeria etc.

Please phone Tami Vazey on 814-9024.

LEARN HOW TO TREAT YOUR FIRST AID AILMENTS

WITH HOMEOPATHY. I am offering classes now in this, with further topics to include family and pet care. Ph Trica (Dip. Hom) 814-9221

FIREWOOD FOR SALE, guaranteed dry, pine \$50 a cubic metre. Phone 814-8833

BEAUTY THERAPY – Fully qualified with 9 years experience, waxing, electrolysis, facials, massage, tinting, manicures and pedicures. Phone Vicky 814-9317 (7 days)

SANDY MCCONNELL ANTIQUES: Fascinating genuine antique maps and views of New Zealand and Australia. Wide price range. Contact Sandy McConnell on 814-9962 or email: sandy_mcconnell@clear.net.nz

“MAYIM SUB – Counseling Service: Helping people overcome the problems life throws up. Contact Sandra Gibbons B.Min, Cert CPE on 814-9642 to find out more or for a brochure.

AUCKLAND SUN CLUB INC. The family club for clothes-free recreation invites you to visit. For further information please call 814-9973

WOODEN FARM GATES. Tanalised timber with galvanised bolts. 10' - \$61.00 12' - \$68.00 or made to order. Ph 814-9700

ELECTRICIAN – Phone Jim your local man Ph 814-9344

FIREWOOD : Split dry hardwoods \$60 per cubic metre Ph 814-9724

MACADAMIA NUTS : Oratia grown, pesticide free, 250 grams, shelled for \$5, larger quantities if wanted, Phone John 818-5267

CITY LIGHTS CAFE & BRASSERIE – Waiatarua (the only place you can sit and look down on the Sky Tower) Open Friday, Saturday & Sunday CAFE ... 8.30am – 6pm come on up for eggs benedict & a read of the newspaper, watching the sun rise over the city.

BRASSERIE ... 6.30pm – 11pm, try our Sunday night roast dinners, or sample exotic ostrich. Ph 814-9006 for bookings.

WAITAKERE BAHAI'S present a series of public talks on meaning and direction in the future, on 26/8, 2/9 and 9/9 at Lopdell House, Titirangi at 7.30pm.

For more information contact Cassandra Mosko Ph 814-9887

Waiatarua Community Hall Hire

Remember to hire this excellent facility for your meetings, parties, dances, birthdays (children's and adults) etc. Lovely wooden floor for dancing.

Friday and Saturday evenings, (including chairs & tables) \$100.

Hourly rate, (max 3 hours) \$10 per hour

Sunday to Thursday evenings

\$65, hourly rate \$7 per hour, (max 3 hrs)

Daily rates Monday – Friday, Full day \$25, hourly rate \$5

Saturdays & Sundays, Full day \$35, hourly \$7

Crockery hire \$25, Bond up to \$250.

Discount for regular users. Community Barbecue hire \$20

Phone the Custodian Pauline Isaachsen on 814-9847

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of

The Editor,

757b West Coast Road Road, Waiatarua. Ph 814 9945

by WEDNESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER, 1999

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