



Merry Christmas to all

by Gerry Davis

At this time of year, most of us are busy thinking and arranging things for Christmas, and the Holiday Season. The members of the Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers Association wish you all a "Merry Season" and "Happy Holidays".

This time of the year there is a much stronger sense of excitement and wonder, as we also end the Century and the Millennium at the same time.

It is not just another New Year's Day, but one in a thousand, and the whole world seems to be spinning into a giant celebration, and sense of wonder.

When I was a child in school, I always loved to get a new exercise book to write in. The pages seemed so unblemished, and I wrote my best handwriting. It was so nice to get away from the mess of the old, with its margins doodled in and the tattered corners. My new book was so fresh.

And I usually made a small promise to myself to keep this book looking nice.

For me, and many others, the new century and millennium dawning on us, looks fresh and inviting, especially compared to the scars and some of the messes of the last 1000 years. Are we going to write in it, trying to learn from the past, and improving the future?

It is hard to imagine what the future may bring, but we know this, that change is happening faster and faster. In the last 100 years, we have seen the invention of cars, planes, TV, space travel and modern medicine, to mention a few positive things. We have also seen the rise of new diseases, like Aids, and warning signs from nature, like the growing ozone hole to tell us that we must think carefully, and globally, about our new Millennium.

What will this new beginning bring us?

My poor brain can hardly begin to conceive the possibilities. Our association will continue to work to do our part in keeping you informed about council matters. We also seem to be moving towards creating more opportunities to come together as a community.

Enjoy the Christmas and New Millennium Season, and above all, keep yourself and your loved ones, safe. We will see you in the next Millennium.

Fire Brigade News

by Ian Ford

THE NEW STATION:

It may be the longest building project since the Pyramids, but it's still progressing...slowly...

The original design was canned because we were unable to come up with the additional \$40,000 odd, that wasn't in the Fire Service's budget. So it was back to the drawing board for Plan B.

The engine room has been reduced from double width to one and a half bays. This is still wide enough to fit the fire appliance and the Brigade-owned ute side by side, albeit a little more cosily, but still comfortable. The parking and the drill yard at the rear have also been removed, and the need for retaining walls have gone. One or two "luxuries" have also been eliminated.

The result is a more basic project, that we will not have to find any extra money for, above what we have already set aside. We have received Building Consent and are waiting (and waiting, and waiting...) for Resource Consent. Once that arrives, it will be back out to tender. So, we certainly wont have a new fire station by the start of the year 2000. Easter perhaps?

NEW APPLIANCE

Since early November we have been trialling a new (second hand, but fully reconditioned) fire engine. The 1984 Hino that has been at Waiatarua for 11 years has gone to Patumahoe Fire Brigade. It wasn't well suited to the hilly, winding roads of Waiatarua. In its place is a 1982 International, which was previously at Manly. This has spent several weeks at the workshop being re-powered, tarted up and having a foam system fitted. So it has been all hands to the pump over the last few weeks, as we become familiar with the equipment and attempt to come to terms with a 7-speed gear box.

Fire Permits Required

It's now summer, so from now until the end of April you will need a fire permit from the Council for all outside fires except gas barbecues. Phone 839-0400

Community Christmas Carols

All residents and their families are invited to join us for Carol singing on the lawn at Rose Hellaby House.

— on SUNDAY 19TH
DECEMBER at 5.30 pm

Santa and his helpers will make this a fun and enjoyable time.

Phone 814-9945 for further information.

Bring your mince pies/Christmas Cake or whatever plus a blanket to sit on. We would love to hear from anybody who would like to participate as one of Santa's Helpers

(If you wish to make a night of it, the Oratia church has it's Carol Service starting at 7pm)



Waiatarua Residents & Ratepayers Association Year 2000 AGM

Yes, that time has come around again, when all the residents of Waiatarua, over 600 families, are invited to attend our annual meeting to decide who is going to manage the Association for the next year. Come and have your say. Without new people, the Association will eventually die, and there will be no newsletters, car boot sales, meet the candidates nights, library, no voice in council and many other lost opportunities. All volunteer groups eventually die, if no new people join in. So, if you are at all interested in keeping your community group alive and functioning well, come to the meeting and be willing to put your name forward to join a delightful group, and play a part in developing a better community to live in. At least, come to the AGM to show your interest in your community.

The AGM of 2000 will be held on Thursday 24th February at 7.30pm at the Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua.

Needed

This is call to any "couch potatoes" who wish to change their lifestyle...and, in doing so, help to deliver the Waiatarua Community Newsletter to local letterboxes, once a month. This can be an enjoyable time, when you can **walk** around and see so much more of the beautiful environment that we live in. *If you are able to help, please contact the editor on 814-9945.*

Unique People & Places in Waiatarua

by Jo Hall

Have you ever noticed the **large green dodo bird** that resides on West Coast Road?

It stands guard in front of the little cottage that was once the original dwelling on the "Potter's" land. (Rumour has it that the cottage began it's life as a cow shed.)

W Potter bought 355 acres of land in 1855, an area that included land on both sides of West Coast Road. A lot of the land was gradually cleared and used for grazing.

Today there is evidence of the farm paddocks of yester-year, as 20 feet up in the trees, some number eight fencing wire can be seen ... the tree, having once been used as a fence post, has since grown, and has taken the wire with it.

The area between West Coast Road and Oratia Stream was subdivided in 1924/25.

The well loved character cottage, and other small buildings on this ½ acre, are surrounded by an enchanting garden, full of expressions of the owner's personality. Judy has lived here for 27 years.

She remembers growing up in Sunnyvale – always being in view of the ranges – and fell in love with Waiatarua ... the bush, the streams and the wildlife.

Judy has seen many changes in Waiatarua, over the years. She comments on the loss of communication and closeness in the community, and puts this down to Waiataruan's being part of a more mobile society. Judy recalls how locals used to meet on the old bus, gather down at the local shop, ("Drags"), and casually chat while picking up their mail at the old Oratia Post Office, on the corner of West Coast and Carter Roads. A family neighbourhood, kids playing on the road and locals wandering along the road, passing the time of day with their neighbours. (The road was sealed then, but was in horrendous condition, so that cars didn't travel fast, as they avoided the potholes, humps and hollows.)

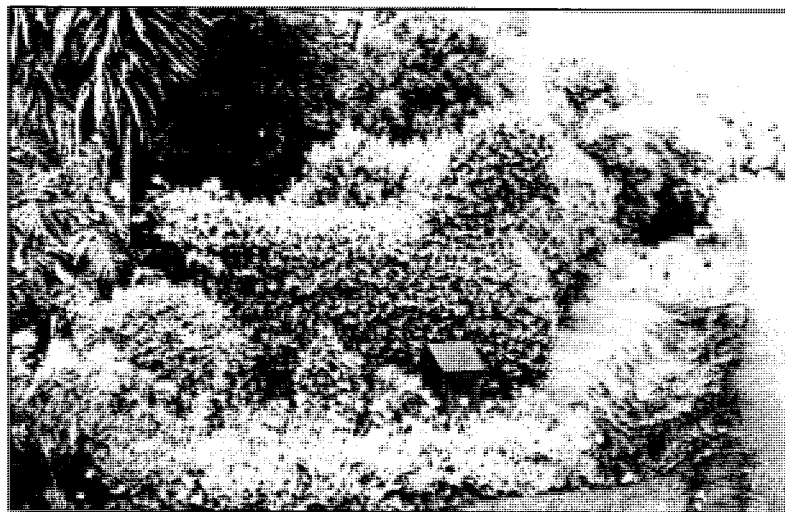
When asked how might Waiatarua be improved, Judy replies, "...close West Coast Road to any through traffic" ... tongue in cheek, of course... but then adds, "Retain Waiatarua as it is. Don't let them build houses all over the hills. Waiatarua has a special essence to it."

Judy's work and hobbies includes her love of gardening, animals and nature, and her 1963 regal green Morris Oxford.

Why the dodo bird? She answers "...because the bush grew there and I kept clipping it so I could see to back (my car) out. So gradually the dodo evolved."

Do you know how the dodo bird became extinct?.....This feature of our landscape being Judy's subliminal message to mankind.....ever decreasing circles...?!

I was indeed privileged to meet and talk with Judy, and totally adore the unique home and garden she has created here in Waiatarua.



Library News

Christmas holidays are fast approaching, so get your reading material for the new Millenium.

The last day for borrowing will be Sunday 19th December 1999, 11am-1pm.

The library will re open on Thursday 13th January 2000, at 10am.

Our experiment of opening for two hours on Saturday and Sunday has not been successful, so next year we will be back to the normal hours of 11am – 12 noon, Saturday and Sunday.

Thank you to the new volunteers who have offered their time. This will get us off to a good start next year.

A happy Festive Season to all of our members, and especially to all the volunteers, without which, the Library couldn't operate.

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

911 West Coast Road, under the Community Centre.

Phone 814-9353

Hours of Opening

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

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

Playcentre

We have had a great year, with lots of fun and learning, and many enjoyable trips. These have included * a 'wind' trip to the Domain

- a trip to Arataki
- visiting a farm and a pet shop
- 'Winnie the Pooh' show
- 'Fairy Trails' in the Rose Gardens
- and a trip to the city Fire Station
- with a great Christmas Party to end the year, and a special visit from

Santa.

We congratulate Jayne, Gordon and Olivia on the birth of their son and brother, Regan, also, congratulations to Warren, Tracy and Taylor, on the birth of Trent.

The first day back for next year is 26th January, 2000.

It would be great to see some more new faces. Please don't hesitate to contact Elke, Ph 814-8803, during the holidays for more information.

From all of us at Playcentre, we wish every one in the community a

Happy

Children Playing

Happy Days

Running, Skipping

Innocent and free

Smiles and laughter

Treasures and treats

Mothers, Fathers, family

Altogether for festivities

Surprises and sunshine

and a fantastic New Year.

Congratulations

Maurice and Lesley Tetley of West Coast Road, Waiatarua, are celebrating their **Golden Wedding** Anniversary on 17-12-99.

Forty years of their married life has been spent in Waiatarua bringing up their two children, Stephen and Dianne. Maurice was the Bread Vendor in Oratia from 1951 until 1968 when he sold his bread round. Lesley had the Glenmall Children's shop in Glenmall Place from 1970 until 1989. Their son Stephen is deceased, their daughter Dianne is married to Graham Thompson of R G Thompson Monumental Mason's in GlenEden, and have two daughters Michelle and Nicola

What is Excessive Noise?

Section 326 of the Resource Management Act defines 'excessive noise' as "... any noise that is under human control and of such a nature as to unreasonably interfere with the peace, comfort and convenience of any person (other than a person in or at the place from which the noise is being emitted) ..."

Excessive noise is **typically** loud stereos, noisy parties etc.

The definition of "excessive" changes, **depending on the time of day and other circumstances.**

For example, the use of a lawn mower at 3pm might be acceptable, but the use of the same lawn mower at 10pm, would not. A stereo played at a certain volume may be acceptable at 10pm, but the same volume might not be acceptable at midnight.

Noise may be deemed to be excessive for a number of reasons.

Possible scenarios involving excessive noise include :

- A noise stops someone from going to sleep, or wakes them up at night.
- In the daytime, a noise is seriously intrusive to work and concentration.
- A noise prevents normal conversation in a neighbouring property.
- A noise requires radio or television to be turned up to an excessive level, in order to be heard.

Noise can be deemed 'excessive' at any time of the day.

It is best to contact the council about a noise complaint **when the noise is happening.** This allows Council's noise procedure to take place.

The noise procedure involves making a site visit and assessing whether the noise is excessive or not. If the noise is deemed excessive, Council will issue an excessive noise direction. This notice is given to the people or person making the noise, and they must immediately turn the music, or noise down to a reasonable level. The direction notice stays in place for 72 hours. If there continues to be excessive noise, and Council receives another call within 72 hours of the direction notice being issued, and once again the noise is assessed to be excessive, Council can seize the noise-offending equipment with the help of the Police.

There are strict rules about the hours that construction activities may take place. These are . . .

Monday - Friday: 6.30am - 8pm, Saturday: 7.30am - 6pm, Sunday and Public Holidays: No **noisy** construction permitted.

If you are going to have a celebration, party or the like, it is recommended that you advise your neighbours in advance, of your intention. Let them know the date of the party, and the starting and finishing times . . . By communicating with your neighbours there may not be the need for Council to become involved. However, your neighbours have the right to complain to Council about excessive noise at any time during the day or night.

This information was extracted from Customer Services documentation "Excessive Noise Information" from the Waitakere City Council.

Scene or Heard in Waiatarua

Driving up West Coast Road did you see the bright red heart shaped sign, with the words,

"I love you, Alby"? Even Ken Stacey, our super sleuth bush reporter, has been unable to find out the identity of Alby, or the Waiataruan who wishes to display his/her affection in such a manner.

There must be a story behind this sign . . . please contact Ken ... c/o the Editor.

Adopt a Plot

by Terry Chapman

Did you know that the garden of the Oratia Folk Museum won a First Prize last year? - "Best Restoration Project"

It is a beautiful cottage garden. Do come and see it.

If working in your own garden always turns out to be making walls, digging holes, laying paving, cutting down trees etc. you might like the chance to retreat to the museum garden to quietly and relaxedly plant a few flowers.

Contact Neville on 837-1085 and ask about "Adopt a Plot".

The Ad Man

Have you seen those billboard adverts with a bright red background and white lettering, saying,

"Get noticed - expose yourself outdoors"

I always thought that these were advertising something - but now I realise it's a Labour Party slogan.

Anon

I Swear I Didn't Drink Mum

*I went to a party Mum, I remember what you said
You told me not to drink and drive, so I drank coke instead
I felt proud inside Mum, the way you said I should
I didn't drink and drive Mum, though the others said I should*

*I know I did the right thing Mum, you've always said you're right
Now the party's finally ended Mum, and I drive in to the night
I know I did the right thing Mum, and I drive away alone
The other car didn't see me Mum, now I never will come home*

*As I lie here on the footpath Mum, I hear the Policeman say
The other guy is drunk Mum, and I'm the one who'll pay
I'm lying, crying, dying Mum, I hope you can get here
How come this happened to me Mum, I guess that life's not fair*

*There is blood all around me Mum, most of it is mine
I hear the doctor say Mum, I'll be dead before my time
I just wanted to tell you Mum, I swear I didn't drink
It was the other guy Mum, he just didn't think*

*He knew what he was doing Mum, he was at the party, same as I
The only difference is Mum, he got drunk and I will die
Why do people do it Mum, it can ruin your whole life
I'm feeling real bad pains now Mum, like I'm being stabbed with a knife*

*The guy who hit me is walking Mum, I don't think it's fair
I'm lying, crying, dying Mum, while all he can do is stare
Tell my brothers not to cry, Mum, tell Daddy to be brave
And when I get to heaven Mum, write "Daddy's girl" upon my grave*

*Someone should have told him Mum, not to drink and drive
If they'd only taken time Mum I could stay alive
My breath is getting shorter Mum, I'm becoming very scared
Please don't cry for me Mum, you made sure I was prepared*

*I have one last question Mum, before I say goodbye
I didn't even drink Mum, so why am I the one to die?
This is the end Mum, I wish I could look you in the eye
To say these final words, Mum I love you and goodbye...*

...Mrs Edwards

***Please keep sober when behind the
wheel of a car this festive season.***

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. Phone/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	chrislzf@voyager.co.nz
Ngairi Mason	21 Tui Crescent	814-9036 + Fax	
Adith Stoneman	8 Kauri Loop Rd	814-9822	
Margaret/Paddy Marshall	19 Raroa Tee	814-9859	
Goelene/Tony Goodrich	17 Cascade Ave	814-9788	

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

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 Phone 814-9344

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. Phone 814-9006 for bookings.

HOME & INVESTMENT PROPERTY LOANS : Mortgage restructuring, debt consolidation & reduction, line of credit facilities. Free independent service. Phone your local broker on 814-9544 or 025-297-0322

WEST COAST VET CLINIC - Offering full veterinary service for your pets, including medical treatment, surgery, radiology, dental services, selected petfoods and housecalls.
Mon -Fri 9.00am -12.00noon, 2pm-7.00pm. Sat 9.00am-12.00noon
3 Raroa Terrace, Waiatarua. Phone 814-9419

DRIVEWAYS, Garage floors, Pool and Patio Areas, Timber Decking, environmentally friendly chemical cleaning, waterblasting and sealing (to minimise future maintenance). Free Quotes. Ph Ian on 814-8902 or 021-433-009

MASSAGE for Relaxation, treat yourself (or a friend). Vouchers available. Ph Irene 814-9311.

JACK RUSSELL PUPPY - an ideal Christmas present! Beautiful markings and lovely nature. These puppies will be ready for a new home from 17th December. (We will be happy to hold them until Christmas Eve!) Phone 814-8800

HORSE MANURE - \$1.00 per large bag. Available from the gate at 253 Forrest Hill Road. Ph 814-9771

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

FEBRUARY/MARCH NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of
The Editor,

757b West Coast Road, Waiatarua. Phone 814 9945

EMAIL: forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz

by TUESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY, 2000

Thanks to the Longley Family for printing this Newsletter.

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