



This Month at WRRRA

The Waitakere Draft Annual Budget for 2001/2002 has arrived and is available for viewing at our local library. The closing date for submissions to this is Friday 25th May. This gives the WRRRA very little time to make submissions on behalf of Waitataruan's. A sub committee has been formed and is to hold special meetings prior to May 25th to ensure our voice is heard in regard to council spending.

Congratulations to Kevin Healy, secretary of the WRRRA, who has been appointed to the Waitakere Community Board. Kevin will no doubt keep us up to speed on all that is happening in the Waitakere area, as well as continuing with his work with the Ratepayers, the Waitatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade and his day job.

The next Waitatarua Residents and Ratepayers meeting will be held on Monday 4th June at 7.30pm at the Waitatarua Community Hall, 911 West Coast Road. Residents and Ratepayers are welcome to attend any of our meetings.

Rating impacts –

Draft Annual Budget 2001/2002

by Kevin Healy

Rates are levied to cover the costs of providing services to run the city. These costs are allocated between the business and residential sectors. In the 2001/2002 Draft Annual Budget it is estimated that the cost of providing services to the business sector will be 17.26% of the total rate requirement. Currently 21% of the total rate requirement is levied on the business sector.

Council is looking at nine models for reallocating costs, based on changes to the business sector's percentage of costs and changes to the residential stepped differential.

So, what does this mean for our rates?

Using a property in Waitatarua (outer area) with a land value of \$86,000 (city average) as an example, model 1 (least change) would result in a rate increase of \$17 in 2001/2002, while model 9 (most change) would result in a rate increase of \$81 in 2001/2002.

A property in the business sector with a land value of \$86,000 would have a rate increase of approximately \$41 if the business sector levy remains the same (21%), and a rate reduction of approximately \$690 if the business sector is levied for its estimated cost of services (17.26%).

Structure Plans

– good or bad?

by Kevin Healy

In fact, a Structure Plan is neutral - it is a *tool* for assessing the ability of a given catchment area to absorb an increase in development. A brief (and approximate!) sense of where Structure Plans fit into our scheme of things is this:

In New Zealand, the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) "places the emphasis on the effect a proposed activity will or might have on the environment (www.mfe.govt.nz).

At a regional level: "The Auckland Regional Growth Strategy provides a resource management framework for managing environmental effects within the region associated with urban and rural development." In the Proposed District Plan (for Waitakere City) "for the Foothills Environment (ie: where urban meets rural), a minimum site size approach (ie. 4 hectares) has been adopted with some flexibility for lot sizes less than this if a structure plan approach is followed."

And: "The structure plan approach is a comprehensive planning process that seeks to establish settlement thresholds based on the carrying capacity of a stream based catchment."

Fire Brigade

Recent training has concentrated on getting our new members up and running - becoming familiar with the gear and learning basic skills. We'll be continuing with this as well as updating our hydrant and water records over the next few weeks.

Winter's on its way

Please remember the "heater metre" rule – all clothing, drying racks, curtains etc should be kept at least a metre away from heaters and fires. It's also electric blanket time – heavy objects shouldn't be left on top of them, and they should be turned off when you get into bed. Henderson Electrical in Lincoln Rd can test blankets; the cost is \$10.

Recent calls - April

- Thu 5th, 6:57 am – Car fire, Mountain Rd. A Toyota ute completely burnt out.
- Tue 10th, 11:34 pm – Unknown fire, Erangi Place, Bethells Beach. Four appliances from Waitakere, Henderson and Waitatarua were called, and a small scrub fire was found and quickly extinguished.
- Fri 13th, 9:04 am – Car vs telephone pole, Piha Rd. Both were demolished. A Subaru Legacy hit a bank, flipped and broke the wooden pole off at the base. We're not sure how, but the driver climbed out unhurt.

Cultural Enrichment Opportunity

By the time you read this, the season for our play "If That's Not Out I Won't Play" will be nearing its end. Money raised goes towards sealing the rear carpark and training area. Male members of the cast were asked to make the ultimate sacrifice for the play, set in 1969 – to grow sideboards! How could you not support people prepared to go to those lengths?

Contacts

Phone 111 for fires and other emergencies. You can order tickets to the play from Helen, 8370729 (bus) or 8149855. For other queries, call lan 8148871 or Richard 8148860.

The Ark in the Park update

by John Sumich

What a good AGM for the Friends of Arataki; it was well attended and we welcome new committee members Martin and Debra Williams, Karen Colgan, and Maurice Williams. They bring a range of skills and backgrounds in conservation issues which will benefit the Friends and particularly, The Ark project. John Staniland another new, or should I say recycled committee member, gave an excellent talk on the birdlife within the Waitakere Ranges; the ranges' significance as a sizable North Island lowland forest area; and why we should try to reintroduce certain species.

Although promotion of the Ark in the Park has been low key to date, the availability of our new brochures since January and a "Metro" magazine article in February has certainly increased our profile and resulted in many new members and donations. The brochure request to list areas of interest in various activities; field research; weed eradication; bird counts; fund raising etc etc, is already proving valuable and some new members are involved now in assisting in plant surveys.

Another aspect of promotion was outlined to the committee by a new member who will help set up our web site. The multiplicity of ways in which a website could benefit the project was outlined. As well as the obvious electronic version of our brochure with linkage to other conservation groups etc, we discussed, and will institute, a newsletter, and will be able to post documents for discussion, on our site.

On the study and research front, Peter Maddison is discussing with

Unitec suitable student projects within the Ark in the Park. The Ornithological Society, Auckland branch, are going to organise jointly with us a bird census. Details are being worked out but the aim is to hold perhaps quarterly bird counts over certain defined areas within the proposed Ark and Friends who have good bird recognition skills are invited to contact John Sumich. Brent Booker, meanwhile, has started his year-long Royal Society funded study in which he will be assessing invertebrate numbers; comparing sites in the proposed Ark area with Matuku, the Forest and Bird sanctuary at Jonker's Rd. Brent is also assessing the relative numbers of rodents as these influence the numbers of larger invertebrates. Already initial impressions indicate the 2 years of intensive pest control at Matuku has lead to greater amounts of invertebrates including many more large beetles, found in the pit traps. Brent will be among a group of us who will be observing the techniques used at the northern Te Urewera mainland island at the end of March. Of particular interest is their poison-less predator control. Ultimately, as a sole technique, or interspersed with some poison baiting years, this may be the rodent control of choice. David Butler, head of the Nelson Lakes mainland island at Lake Rotoiti and speaker at our initial seminar in 1999, recently communicated their experience with rat trapping. In 2000, they chose to commit to trapping, rather than baiting, but the year started as the worst in 30 years for rats after the second beech mast [seeding] in a row. However although they couldn't quite achieve their control target they will continue to trap as rodent populations decline. In "bad years" they would probably return to a toxin. The trapping alternative took 2-3 times the man-hours. What a great opportunity for all our volunteers !

Remember also, this is the Year of the Volunteer and if rat traps don't thrill you, nor does the list in the second paragraph, how about shop fitting and display skills. Yes, seriously, folks for a brand new modern Ark in the Park display at Arataki.

Any offers?



Our June visit will be to The Palm Farm at 119 Walmsley Rd, Mangere on Wednesday 6 June at 1 pm. There are 5 acres of Palms to wander through and someone to give us the lowdown. Apologies to those who were expecting to visit the Kevin Kilsby Garden which unfortunately due to house alterations has been closed for the immediate future. Anyone is welcome to join us. Ring Eileen on 8149 298 or Margaret on 8149-859 for further information or car pooling, or e-mail Eileen at etpowe@clear.net.nz

Weed of the Month

Japanese honeysuckle

As the common name suggests, *Lonicera japonica* is a native of eastern Asia. This vigorous vine is coming to the end of its long flowering season (September to May). The tube-like white and yellow flowers are easily recognized and quite fragrant, but the dull green leaves are sometimes overlooked until the plant is established.

This nasty climber is most prominent on forest margins and in second-growth forest and can form a complete blanket over small trees and tree ferns, smothering and killing the plant underneath.

Hand-pulling the vine is time-consuming and of limited effectiveness. It may be practical for removal of small patches of seedlings, but is generally counter-productive because nodes broken off will resprout. Recommended herbicide is Versatill at a rate of 125 mls in 10 litres of water. Glyphosate eg Roundup (100 ml / 10 l) and Escort (at 15% of the rate for gorse and ginger) have also been reported as successful. You'll need to be careful to minimize the amount of spray reaching the host plant.

Tip of the Month:

Plan the attack – divide your section up, and tackle one area at a time.

Waiatarua Inorganic Rubbish Collection

The date for this is 11th June for most of Waiatarua. Turanga Road area the date is 2nd July.

Residents will be notified by way of a flyer in your letterbox.

Waiatarua Library News

Thank you Geof . . . Friday night is in good hands.

Come and visit the library . . . underneath our Community Hall at 911 West Coast Road.

NEW BOOKS THIS MONTH:

Anita Shreve – 'The Last Time They Met.'

P.J. James – 'Death in Holy Orders'

Bryce Courtney – 'Smokey Joe's Cafe'

Joanne Harris – '5 Quarters of the Orange'

Diana Williams – 'Horizon'

Sue Williams – 'Getting There'

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 – 12 noon

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

Waiatarua Playcentre

Waiatarua Playcentre is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.15am – 12.15pm and is located down the drive at 911 West Coast Road. All children aged 0 – 6 years and their caregivers, are welcome to attend. A supervised session for children aged 3 years + is held on Thursday mornings. For further information contact Elke on 814-9430.

Neighbourhood Watch

The only reported incident this month being a house burglary on West Coast Road.

Did you know . . . International research shows households that belong to a support group have a one in 325 chance of being burgled each year, compared to a one in 35 chance for those without a Neighbourhood Watch group.

If you wish to coordinate Neighbourhood Watch for your immediate area of Waiatarua contact Trish Maxwell at West Auckland Neighbourhood Watch/Support on 834-4331.

A Polite Reminder . . .

Have you paid your Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers membership for the calendar year 2001? Support your Waiatarua Community by sending this in now . . . \$10 per family or \$7 for a single occupant. See the back page for the coupon.

Brickbats and Bouquets

Two Waiataruan's deserve *bouquets* this month for volunteering their time and energy to 'man' the library on Friday night's . . . thank you Geof, and for becoming our Waiataruan representative to attend reference group meetings for the Waitakere Hospital upgrade . . . thank you Andy.

There were no nominees for the *brickbat* this month, despite indepth research, investigation and inquiries.

(Nominations for either a brickbat or bouquet can be forwarded to the editor each month by phone, email or jungle drum)

Oratia Spinning and Craft Group

We meet every Monday 10am – 12 noon in the church hall in Parker Road. Good company. Learn new crafts. Teach spinning, knitting etc. Recently a stamping expert has joined us.

All welcome. Phone Bev on 836-4420.

Conservation Covenant

Information and Inquiry Form for:

Waitakere's Green Network Community Assistance Programme #5

WHAT IS A GREEN NETWORK CONSERVATION COVENANT?

A partnership in the form of a legal agreement between a landowner and the Waitakere City Council, which serves to protect and proactively manage an area of native vegetation (bush, streams, etc) on private property. The owner retains the title to the covenanted land.

WHY VOLUNTEER FOR A CONSERVATION COVENANT?

Many landowners have areas of native vegetation on their properties that they wish to see preserved for future generations to enjoy. Many are already working hard to manage their properties, while others are keen to care for their land, but are unsure where to start.

The Council supports the development of conservation covenants as they benefit the wider community, as well as the landowner.

HOW IS A GREEN NETWORK COVENANT ARRANGED?

The Council's Green Network representative will visit and assess the proposed covenant land. A Management Plan is prepared with the owner to identify what needs to be done. The owner, with the help of skilled Council staff, gains the understanding and support needed to preserve and manage the land.

By formalising their intent to protect and manage the land, landowners are committing themselves, and any future landowners, to ongoing good management of their property with additional support from the Council.

WHO MANAGES THE COVENANTED LAND?

The landowner.

The Council works in partnership with the landowner, offering advice and practical assistance with management and revegetation.

A Green Network representative will visit the covenanted property once every two years to maintain contact and discuss the future management of the land.

HOW THE COUNCIL CAN HELP . . .

- Paying surveying and legal costs.
- Offering skilled advice about managing your covenanted property.
- Offering assistance with fencing to keep stock away from bush areas.
- Assisting with weed control.
- Providing free plants for such purposes as rehabilitating an area after weed eradication, improving streamside vegetation or connecting separate areas of bush to provide cover for bird life.

WHAT IS IN A COVENANT DOCUMENT?

- The names of the landowners who established the covenant
- A definition of the land covenanted.
- A Management Plan for the covenanted land, including the owner's management responsibilities for the next two years and agreed assistance from the Council.
- Any public access agreements.
- Listed objectives for the different areas within the covenant.

WHO GETS ACCESS TO MY PROPERTY?

Public access is at the discretion of the owner. The issue of property access can be discussed with your Green Network representative. It is also elaborated on in the Covenant Management Plan.

WHAT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WILL I GET WITH A COVENANT?

The Council currently has a Rates Relief policy, for which a conservation covenant is a prerequisite. A conservation covenant will enable you to apply to the Council for rates relief. This is worked through with the owner on a case-by-case basis.

HOW DO I ARRANGE FOR A COVENANT?

If you are interested in a Green Network Conservation Covenant for part, or all, of your property, you can contact the Council in one of three ways:

- Fill in the form (see right) and post to the address provided
- Phone the Council's 24-hour Customer Service Line on 8390400.
- Email your Green Network representative at chris.ferkins@waitakere.govt.nz

A staff representative will contact you as soon as possible to discuss your options and answer any questions you may have.



This is a
Green Network Project

The Green Network joins natural areas to create a network of gardens, parks, streams, roadside plantings and coastlines. The Green Network gives you more places to play, connects you with the countryside and encourages birds and other wildlife to make their home here in Waitakere.

YES

I would like to receive more information about a Green Network Conservation Covenant!

MY NAME IS:

.....
.....

I LIVE AT:

Address

.....
.....

Suburb

YOU CAN REACH ME AT:

Phone

Fax

Email address

PROPOSED COVENANT AREA.

Address:

.....
.....

Other details

.....
.....

SEND THIS SLIP TO :

Community Project Coordinator
Waitakere City Council,
Private Bag 93 109 Henderson,
Waitakere City



Advertising

This is free to financial members
for 2001, 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.

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.

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

WEST COAST VET CLINIC – Offering full veterinary service for your pets.
24 hour service Phone 814-9419.

VISIT "EARTH SEED" 100% ORGANIC SHOP for a great selection of organic and GE-free foods. 547-549 West Coast Rd. Open 7 days Phone/Fax 818-6411.

SOLICITOR – Are you buying and/or selling your business/house? Are you interested in setting up a Family Trust? Phone Geoff Wood for your legal needs at 623-7541 DDI or 836-8630 a/hrs weekdays. Home visits by arrangement.

WORK WANTED: Registered drainlayer, 30 years experience. 6 tonne and 2½ tonne diggers for hire. Phone Ray 814-9242.

WEB PAGE DESIGN, Desk top publishing, Graphic Design, Computer Support, Phone Petrik 8365202.

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.

RELAXING, REFRESHING AND REJUVENATING – for a therapeutic massage ring Rowan on 833-7860.

ATARUA GARDENS BED AND BREAKFAST: No room for your out of town visitors? Contact Carol and Denis. Phone 09 814-9706 or 025-283-7544.

MARRIAGE CELEBRANT PLUS VENUE PLUS J.P. for your specifically designed ceremony and garden setting (if required), talk to Peter George Ph 814-9456.

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	
Ross & Kath Mullins	330 Forest Hill Rd	814-9402 + Fax	
Jenny McGee	886 West Coast Rd	814-9954	
Chris/Liz Field	799 West Coast Rd	814-9876	crislizf@voyager.co.nz
Adith Stoneman	8 Kauri Loop Rd	814-9822	
Margaret/Paddy Marshall	19 Raroa Tce	814-9859	
Gaelene/Tony Goodrick	17 Cascade Ave	814-9788	

Please accept my Membership to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

for 2001

I enclose: \$10 Household, \$7 Single Occupant

Name

Address

Phone

To Treasurer

Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Auckland 8 or leave at the library

HORSE MANURE FOR SALE \$1 per bag at 253 Forest Hill Road.

LAWYER AND NOTARY PUBLIC: John Hendrikse, available 24 hours by appointment. Are you buying and/or selling your house? Competitive fees. Home visits by arrangement. Overseas documents can only be witnessed by a notary public. Familiar with Afrikaans. 914 West Coast Road. Ph/Fax 814-9991.

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

ELECTRICIAN: Phone Jim your local man Phone 814-9344.

OUTBACK COUNTRY COLLECTION: Gorgeous Preserves. Chutneys and relishes. Available in three sizes. Large bottles \$5. Medium bottles \$4. Small bottles \$2. Gift baskets available at various prices on application. Free delivery in the Auckland area. To order Phone Jill 814-8825.

WHITE FANTAIL DOVES FOR SALE \$10 each. Call 814-8833 for viewing.

BABYSITTER – Mature, honest and reliable lady. Experienced. \$8 an hour Phone Juliette 814-8802.

WANTED TO BUY: Land, with or without house. Prefer private, sunny, flat-ish location in Oratia/Waiatarua district. Ph 814-9251 or 021 649 251.

LAWN MOWING: Local, reliable. Phone Eric 8372333.

MATHS TUITION, ALL LEVELS. Experienced high school teacher Ph 814-9269
FOR SALE – Laying hens and broilers \$2 – \$7 Phone 814-9724.

FAY'S YOGA CLASS – Unique programme of stretching, relaxing fitness health – Glen Eden Phone 817-8233.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: Dry, split hardwood \$65 cubic metre Phone 814-9724

FOUND: A big brown turtle on West Coast Road. To claim Phone 814-9186.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE : shed stored, pine and macrocrapa.
\$50 – \$65. Phone 814-8833.

KENDRICK PAINTING AND DECORATING:
for quality and service Phone Graham on 837-1612.

TREE WORK: Fully insured and qualified arborists.

Phone Guy Thomas 813-1481 or 021-244-8733.

HOUSE WANTED in sunny, private location. Must be a minimum of 3 bedrooms, with, or room for a double garage and plenty of flat land for the children to play on. Prefer town water. Phone 814-9251 or 021 649 251.

PRIVATE SALE: House shortly becoming available on the market. A large, warm. Low maintenance brick and tile home in a sunny location with double garaging and large kitchen, including a safe play area for children or pets. Low – mid \$300's. Phone 814-9251 or 021 649 251.

VICKY'S BEAUTY THERAPY: 10 years experience. Facials, waxing, massage, manicures etc. Available 7 days Phone 814-9317.

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

Hall phone 814-9353

Phone the Custodian Pauline Isaachsen on 814-9847

JUNE / JULY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of
The Editor,

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

EMAIL: forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz

by WEDNESDAY 6th JUNE, 2001

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.