

This Month at WRRRA

A quorum was not reached at our April meeting. At present we have 8 executive committee members of the WRRRA and we need to co-opt a few more. If you are a community minded Waitataruan please consider attending our monthly meetings and playing an active role in Community issues. Contact Geoff Wood on 836-8630 if you are at all interested or enthusiastic.

At this month's meeting...

- Progress is being made on the website. You can now view the Community News on this, as well as using the website as an avenue to express ideas and concerns etc. www.waiatarua.org.nz
- The Waitakere City Council Annual Plan submissions are due in by the end of May. (See later article) A sub committee of the WRRRA has been formed which will discuss and draft submissions to the Annual plan on behalf of the Waitatarua Residents and Ratepayers. Some areas of thought for the subcommittee to consider, that arose from discussion at April's meeting, were Road Maintenance in Waitatarua, Septic Tank Cleaning, Rubbish Disposal and Waitatarua Hall Improvements. If you would like to have your say as a Waitataruan, thru the WRRRA, then visit the website or contact the editor or Geoff Wood, the president.
- A proposal and discussion document on the upgrading of the Waitatarua Hall was presented by Lyndsay Whittle and Cathie Wells. A copy of this has been placed in the library. Discussion on this will take place at May's meeting of the WRRRA.
- A combined Ratepayers Meeting is to be hosted by Piha R & R in the Waitatarua Hall on the 18th April. These meetings bring the Waitakere Ward Ratepayers groups together where issues of interest or concern can be presented, discussed, and all can be informed.
- Road Safety Issues: Forest Hill and West Coast Road intersection and proposed traffic island – Tony Bacon is to progress this matter further with Council on behalf of WRRRA.
- The white painted markings on areas of upper West Coast Road (highlighting areas of poor seal or levelling) are still there. The urgent and necessary improvements have yet to be made to this well used section of road. Watch this space.
- Library Deck: This has now been fixed. The Council has installed and painted the new plywood decking.

The next meeting of the Waitatarua Residents and Ratepayers Association will be held on Monday 6th May at 7.30pm at the Waitatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Rd.

A BIG thank you to Helena Horswell who has been the Bulk Deliverer and Delivery organiser of the Community News for the past couple of years. Helena is unable to continue in this role due to work commitments.

Rumour has it that Helena is celebrating her 40th birthday this month. Happy Birthday.

The Long and the Short of it – Get yourself heard.

We will soon have the opportunity to have a say on the future of Waitakere City.

This is an interesting year in that it combines both the Annual Plan (Budget for 2002/03) and the 10 year Strategic Review (eco city + 10).

From May the public will get an opportunity to have a say on both those long and short term plans.

Annual Plan

Each year the Council produces a work programme for the city. Part of this process is to inform and engage the community to have their say. This is achieved through the submissions process. The Council produces a draft Annual Plan and during May the public can make written submissions to suggest changes. Submitters can also talk directly to Councillors at hearings, in support of their submissions.

10 Year Strategic Review (eco city +10)

It has been 10 years since Waitakere City decided to be an eco city. Alongside the Annual Plan the Council will also be asking what the community's long term priorities and goals are. From this the Council will produce a 10 year plan for Waitakere City.

How to get involved:

- The May edition of the Waitakere City News will provide a summary of the key issues in the draft Annual Plan plus a submission form. Look out for this in the first week of May.
- Submissions for the Annual Plan can be made from 1 May – 31 May and right through to October for the Strategic Review.

For further information visit the Waitakere City Council website at www.waitakere.govt.nz

Source ; Media Release. Waitakere City Council.

Waitakere's Draft Annual Plan

The following is edited pieces from a Media Release from Waitakere City Council.

- Councillors have signalled a rates rise of 9.19%. The single biggest reason for increased costs is depreciation, which accounts for almost 8% of the proposed rates increase for next year. 'By not fully funding depreciation, rates have been kept artificially low, and we are now paying the price for that decision' says Councillor Clews.

Key aspects of the proposed budget include:

- New libraries for Glen Eden and New Lynn.
- Planning for when the Hobsonville Airbase is disposed of by the Government.
- No increase in water charges.
- Detailed planning for new library in Henderson.
- More Council run events and more support for Community events.
- Facilitating a tertiary institute in Henderson.
- \$100,000 to implement Stage 1 of the Glen Eden Town Centre Plan (signage, planting, a heritage trail etc.)
- A 7% increase in funding for the mowing of parks and other public areas.
- An extra \$195 000 for new library books (\$1.112 million in total)
- Continued revitalisation of the Ranui and Swanson Town Centres.
- An annual inorganic rubbish collection, rather than twice yearly. This will save an estimated \$120,000 a year.
- A start on the new indoor stadium complex in Central Park Drive in Henderson.
- \$450,000 for new footpaths.

Brickbats and Bouquets

A selection of *brickbats* to those travelling to or from Piha, along Forest Hill Road, who stop their cars for the occupants to urinate on the verges outside #235. During the summer months this can be 6-7 cars a week. Residents do not appreciate the view they have to put up with, from their dining room.

Another *brickbat* to the driver of a silver falcon ute overtaking dangerously at great speed along West Coast Road outside Sumich's.

A *bouquet* is still awaiting its rightful owner here at the editor's desk. If you don't tell me of the good deeds occurring in Waitarua, one cannot share them. Your input is needed here.

Fire Brigade News

Your neighbours

Congratulations to Brooke Kelly who has just completed a Basic Firefighting course, to Helen Longley and Gareth Mullins who are now Pump Operators, and to Paul Kauder for passing his course in Emergency Response Driving. We thank Marie Brittain for more than 7 years of volunteer service, and we're sorry to see her go.

Recent Calls

MARCH

- Fri 8th, 9:05 p.m. – Car fire, Piha Road
- Tue 12th, 10:25 p.m. – Car fire, Scenic Drive
- Mon 18th, 1:37 a.m. – Car fire, Scenic Drive
- Sun 31st, 6:11 p.m. – Car crash, Piha Rd. Moderate injuries to one person

APRIL

- Wed 3rd, 0:52 a.m. – False alarm, Piha RSA
- Sat 6th, 8:11 p.m. – Phone lines down, Cascade Ave

The rugby season is half over...

... so it must be nearly winter. It's time to follow on from last month when you all checked your potential lifesavers – the smoke alarms and batteries. Both you and your insurance company could benefit further if you got the chimney swept and checked the electric blankets.

Contacts:

Phone 111 for all emergencies. Otherwise, call Ian Ford on 8148871 or Richard Seccombe on 8141115

Waitakere Hospital Upgrade

by *Adriana van Nes*

AN UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF WAITAKERE HOSPITAL:

Construction started on 7th December 2001.

Civil works are currently in progress. The loop road around the back of the hospital closed in the middle of February for the development of a new car park. A new loop road will open at the end of April.

New building construction will commence in May, to be completed by about July 2003. This will be followed by the refurbishment of the existing Hughes Block, completed by about July 2004.

Negotiations are under way with Waitakere City Council regarding traffic lights from Lincoln Road into the hospital.

Council gives \$25,000 to save Waitarua Land

The Waitakere City Council has given major financial assistance to the Waitakere Ranges Protection Society to help it preserve a significant plot of land in Waitarua.

The Council made a \$25,000 grant to assist the society with the purchase of land at 71 Turanga Road, which was in danger of being sold to a residential developer.

The land adjoins Spragg Bush Reserve – a particularly fine example of high altitude kauri forest.

Land at 14 Turanga Road is also to be purchased. This land is believed to be the only privately owned section adjacent to Spragg Bush that still bears the original forest. Unlike No. 71 it has never been cleared.

Both pieces of land are of major ecological importance and act as both a buffer zone and a corridor for wildlife to other bush areas.

Friends of Arataki News

The Friends of Arataki have recently had their A.G.M. and we welcome the new committee for 2002. There are still committee spaces to fill should anyone wish to become more involved with our organisation. We are looking forward to another interesting year assisting projects.

The Ark in the Park project promises to materialise this year, as the strategic plan reaches completion, and the field research undertaken by Royal Society scholar Brent Booker in the Waitakere Reservoir/Cascades area will provide a useful knowledge base for introducing new species to this area.

A subcommittee of The Friends of Arataki will be formed shortly to progress *The Ark in the Park* project. We are looking for conservation minded people with experience in areas such as marketing, fund-raising and advocacy, who would enjoy a long term involvement with this project. Anyone interested in becoming involved with either The Friends of Arataki or *The Ark in the Park* project, please call Fiona Drummond on 817-5445 or John Sumich on 818-5267.

What's On

The *West Coast Gallery* in Old Fire Station Road, Piha, has Market Days on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Phone 021-297-2052 for information.

Waitakere City's Pacifica Living Arts Festival runs from 27th April until 4th May at the Corban Estate Arts Centre in Henderson. To book in to any of the workshops Phone 838 4455. The final festival day on Saturday 4th May is a vibrant market day.

Anzac Day

A candlelit dawn ceremony will be held at Waikumete Cemetery on April 25th. The dawn service is organized by Waitakere City Council and hosted by the Glen Eden RSA.

The service will begin at 6am, with people asked to assemble by 5.45am.

Waikumete is the largest war graves cemetery in New Zealand. Some 10,000 veterans from the First and Second World Wars, as well as Korea, Malaya and Vietnam conflicts, are buried there.

Neighbourhood Watch

- Mid March there was a sighting of suspicious activity involving a black Mitsubishi car in the upper Forest Hill Road area.
- Also, around this time, and over a period of 2 – 3 days, two young male occupants in a white 1980's car were observed to be 'hanging around' the vicinity of the Waiatarua Playcentre and Community Hall. When they were eventually approached they quickly drove off.
- Sometime during Easter weekend the Waiatarua Library has been broken in to. The door has been forced and a small amount of money taken. The offenders locked the door upon leaving. Council has since replaced the locks.

Be aware and be observant of any suspicious activity, take note of registration numbers, and report it immediately to police. Talk to your neighbours.

(Please advise the editor of any concerns, sightings or burglaries that happen in your immediate area, so that we might all be informed and aware.)

Congratulations

To Kevin and Christine Healy and big brother Jack, on the birth of daughter and sister, Elesa, born March 18th weighing in at 3.7kg (8lb 3 oz)

Waiatarua Playcentre

An exciting and fun filled Term two begins on Monday 15th April. Playcentre is open to all children from 0 – 6 years and their caregivers each Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.15am – 12 noon, down the drive at 911 West Coast Road.

Come and visit. You can make three visits with no obligation. Phone Jenny on 814-9954 for more information.

Waiatarua Library News

We have at least 11 new biographies and memoirs.

Amongst them are:

CLIVE JAMES – Always Unreliable

MILES HURSTHOUSE – Vintage Doctor.

Doctored in Nelson, Hawkes Bay, Auckland.

JULIE BIUSO – Dancing on my Table

PETER TAYLOR – Wet behind the Ears.

At 16 a runaway to sea. Napier – The World.

PETER SHERIDAN – 47 Roses Set in Dublin, hilarious and often painful.

MANETTE ANSAY – Limbo.

A pianist who copes with a serious muscle disorder.

JOHN BAYLEY – Iris. The film.

ANGELA D'AUDNEY – Angela.

We are closed ANZAC Day but open at the following times.

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



A return visit next month to Len Trotman and his collection of spectacular Bromeliads. Meet Wednesday 1 May 1 pm at 40 Tirimoana Rd, Te Atatu and be prepared to be tempted.

Please phone Eileen on 814-9298 for further information or car pooling.

April jobs in the garden

Another busy month to finish tidying up perennials.

Towards the end of April Begonias cease flowering and the foliage starts to die off. Gradually ease off watering for plants in containers and when dried off can be stored in a dry area until spring. Outdoor plantings should be cut back by half and tubers lifted to allow to dry off in a cool position. Do not remove soil from around tubers until dry.

Sow seeds of spring/summer flowers.

Plant trees and shrubs to allow them to establish before winter

Weed of the Month – Privet

We're all familiar with the pungent smell of Chinese Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) when it flowers in spring and early summer, and irritates hay fever and eczema sufferers. But it's the closely related Tree Privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*) that is more of a potential threat to the Waitakere Ranges. It's not a major problem in Waiatarua – yet – but it can dominate an area of forest. It will grow to 10 metres, has dark green glossy leaves (paler underneath) and will produce large clusters of small cream flowers in mid to late summer.

Seedling plants can be dug out with roots attached, but herbicide is necessary to control larger plants.

Escort (5 gm to 1 litre of water with 10 ml Pulse) is the most effective for knapsack use, and a number of others are suitable if stumps are painted within 15 minutes of being cut. Refer to <http://www.arc.govt.nz/about/biosecc/plantpf.htm> for more details on these.



TREE PRIVET
(*Ligustrum lucidum*)

The War on Weeds bins located at Parkinsons Lookout and Kauri Loop Road are supposed to be removed shortly after 9th April. Both bins have been well supported by the weeds of Waiatarua. Thank you to those residents who have used them for the purpose they were intended ... weeds.

Fire Permits Required

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

Advertising

This is free to financial members
for 2002, 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.

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 818-4104.

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.

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.

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.

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

MATHS TUITION, ALL LEVELS. Experienced high school teacher Ph 814-9269
WOODEN FARM GATES AND ENTRANCE GATES made to order.
Phone 814-9700.

TREE WORK: Fully insured and qualified arborists.
Phone Guy Thomas 813-1481 or 021-244 8733.

LAWN MOWING: Local, reliable. Phone Eric 837-2333.

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

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

BABYSITTER: Friendly, mature and responsible 15 year old girl. \$6 per hour.
Phone Danielle on 814-9131 or 021-268 4401.

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	
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 2002

I enclose: \$10 Household, \$5 Single Occupant

Name

Address

Phone

To Treasurer

Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Auckland 8 or leave at the library
Web Site: www.waiatarua.org.nz

HORSE MANURE: \$1 per bag at 253 Forest Hill Road. Phone 814-9771.

STRESS? NECK AND BACK PAIN? OOS? SCIATICA? CARPAL TUNNEL? SPRAINS AND STRAINS?.. if so, maybe I can help. I am TMA (NZ) registered. Phone Rowan anytime on 8337866.

RESTAURANT AND LICENSED CAFÉ The recently refurbished restaurant at 473 Scenic Drive, Waiatarua, now offers fresh and interesting breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Phone Christine at The Nikau Club 814-1910.

FAYS YOGA CLASS for true fitness and relaxation Phone 817-8233.

PLANTS: various perennials, shrubs, bulbs, bog irises, mondo grass and a few indoor plants \$1 - \$5 Phone 814-9859.

MOBILE REIKI & MASSAGE THERAPIST 7 years experience. For further information, or to arrange an appointment phone Vicky 836-8633.

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

LANDSCAPER: For experienced, professional landscaping services (including paving, concrete, retainer walls, fences, decks, gardens/plants, water features) at a competitive price, contact Bevan on 837-1992 or 021-375 707 or at totaland@ihug.co.nz

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.

“HOLLY HOMESTEAD B & B FRANZ JOSEF”: Taking a break on the ‘West Coast’? How about staying with former Waiataruan’s in Franz Josef? Check us out at www.bnb.co.nz/hosts/hollyhomestead/html or www.greenwoodguides.com or Phone 03-752 0299 Fax 03-752 0298.

GARAGE SALE – Lotsa stuff. Chest freezer, books, computer bits, bric a brac, pottery, clothes dryer, microwave, garden furniture plus lots more. Saturday 27th April 8am start at 318 Forest Hill Road, Waiatarua.

BABY SITTER – Friendly, outgoing and experienced Unitech student available most evenings? Saturday and Sunday evening. \$6ph/\$7 two or more children. Phone Tara on 814-8834

PROPERTY FOR SALE off Scenic Drive, fully fenced 3 ¼ acres with views in 3 separate titles, 2 bdrm cottage with large basement. GV \$550,000 Price negotiable. Phone 8374641.

DRAMA CLASSES TERM 2: 8 week courses for adults, teenagers and children. Phone John for further information 814-9744. Afternoon and evening classes held in beautiful bush studio in Waiatarua.

ART CLASS – Wednesday 7 – 9pm Waiatarua. Interested in joining a local adult art group? This class will introduce you to a range of media, skills and techniques to help you develop your ideas in a creative way. Want to know more? Contact Carol on 814-8740

PART-TIME VISUAL ARTS PROGRAMME at Titirangi (term time) Fridays 9 – 3pm. Do you have a desire to be creative? Now in it's second year, this programme introduces students to the ideas surrounding Contemporary Art making. Visiting artists and gallery visits form an important part of the course. Enrolments now being taken for Module 2, starting 3rd May. Phone Carol Bisset 814-8740

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

MAY / JUNE NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of

The Editor,

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by WEDNESDAY 8th MAY, 2002

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.