



WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

EDITOR:  
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## This Month at WRRRA

*By Tony Bacon*

This month we welcomed a new committee member, Justin Walker. It is great to see a new face. We were also pleased to meet another potential committee member – who shall remain nameless until s/he has decided if they want to be associated with the assorted bunch of Waiataruans that currently looks after your local affairs.

This month your committee has, among other things:

- Completed and sent a submission on the Waitakere City Annual Plan to the Council (see report elsewhere in this issue)
- Attended a meeting discussing the proposed "Ark in the Park". This consisted of some excellent presentations by DOC staff about similar efforts in other parts of the country, particularly the work in the Ureweras with the Tuho community. Kokako conservation efforts there have been so successful they are now calling it the "Kokako factory" and have supplied birds to other areas of the country, notably in Northland. There was also a description of work being done in the Karekare area by Peter King. General discussion followed about the proposal for our district, with the main effort being proposed for an area of some 1700ha round Kauri and Cascades parks and the Waitakere reservoir. Support was gained from the meeting for the following priorities to be carried out by the Ark in the Park committee:
- Develop processes in strategic plan for carrying out actions (including core areas, co-ordination, expansion)
- Work plan be developed for the Cascade areas
- Develop a funding strategy
- Develop better communication with the community.

Copies of the strategic plan are available from John Sumich ([cjnk@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cjnk@xtra.co.nz))

- Discussed the formal winding-up of the former Waiatarua Drama Club in order to release the club funds and clarify the position of the "Badgers" building by the Playcentre. This is to be organised by Kevin Healy.
- Discussed problems of speeding (yes really!) cyclists on the Scenic Drive, and we decided to ask the cycling clubs to make their members more aware of the traffic dangers in the area.
- Discussed social events for the community over the rest of the year. So far we have thought of:
- Quiz evening (September 7)
- Community breakfast (October 20)
- Christmas Concert/Music Hall (December 8)
- "Harvest Festival" garden produce fair – end of summer.

We are also wrestling with the issue of how to get more people along the AGM. If anyone has any ideas of how to fill the hall for this annual occasion, your committee would be delighted to hear it.

Did you know that the newsletter is also available on the WRRRA website? You can see the site at <http://www.waiatarua.net.nz>.

## Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association (WRRRA) Submission to Waitakere City Draft Annual Plan 2002/2003

The following is Part I of the submissions made to WCC from the WRRRA. Part II will feature in the July/August Community News.

### Introduction

The WRRRA Community does not enjoy much of the infrastructure and facilities supplied to the urban areas such as quality roading and footpaths, street lighting, water and sewage services. The Community is therefore concerned this should be compensated for by providing good services for those that we do receive.

At the same time we recognise the interest of the Waitakere City as a whole to provide all areas with good infrastructure. We wish to make submissions on the annual plan and the items are listed below:

1. WRRRA supports the increase in rates arising from funding of depreciation. It is not the increase in rates per se but rather the fact that Council is now prepared to carry out the obligation to fund depreciation and to recover in one year the past depreciation which has not been provided for. We would support the Council in continuing to fund depreciation in the future on a year by year basis. We would not expect the percentage increase to be high in future years, bearing in mind the nature of this year's one-off funding to cover past depreciation.  
We believe that this approach by Council will ensure there is money to renew the infrastructure as it wears out.

- We support the establishment of a major tertiary institute in Henderson and work on libraries.
- Protecting the ranges: This is dear to the hearts of WRRRA members. We support the Council in finding long term solutions to protecting the Ranges from subdivision or development which would destroy its unique character, and the elimination of predators.

Weed control and the use of jumbo bins is supported by us, as we accept our responsibility to protect the environment. From time to time everyone needs reminding of what are noxious weeds. We would like to see the jumbo bins being used twice a year ie in spring and in autumn. The Association is happy to assist in monitoring the filling up of those bins.

We therefore support "ARK in the Park" programmes and the West Coast Management Plan which can further advance the environment.

- Roading continues to be a major concern of WRRRA, particularly the feeder roads to the Scenic Drive. There is no indication in the Annual Plan of upgrading any of these roads, nor of any long term strategy to upgrade them. Our submissions to previous plans have stressed the dangerous nature of such roads and the poor condition in which they are. Statistics have been provided to show the dangers, but little has been done. There has been some resurfacing done on the Scenic Drive although there is still a lot of loose metal, but the feeder roads, which often lead to major tourist attractions, are still in a dangerous and poor condition. These roads provide the access to the major tourist attraction of Waitakere City. Their danger is of constant concern to the commuting ratepayers and residents and the danger is highlighted by the lack of street lighting and the limited use of road barriers.

We would like Council to explore ways of making those roads safer – particularly the one-way sections of those roads. From time to time those roads are used by heavy vehicles, buses, trucks, fire engines. It is also felt that Council should have a policy for patching of roads which reflects safety issues. On some bends on these roads it appears that repairs are not always made using the safest form of surface to avoid skidding by road users in wet conditions.

### **Safer roads campaign**

This is fully supported by WRRRA with the signs that have been put in place in an endeavour to slow vehicles down on narrow, winding and dangerous roads in the area, and the other materials supplied for that campaign.

We would like to know whether there are any engineering or other plans in existence for future upgrading of these roads in our area.

- WRRRA view with concern any proposal to reduce the number of inorganic collections. Our concern is that this will have the effect of making the Waitakeres a dumping ground for inorganic rubbish.

The Waitakeres are already used by many for dumping of stolen and burnt out cars, and failure to remove inorganic rubbish will exacerbate the situation. We think it a more efficient use of resources for the organised removal of quantities of inorganic material, rather than on an ad hoc basis by owners.

Inorganic rubbish can also have the effect of visually polluting the environment by not being disposed of on a regular basis. The failure to remove some of that material could raise safety issues in a family environment, so we would totally oppose any reduction to this service. This should continue to be paid for out of rates as a free collection – it is part of being an eco city with a clean environment.

Improvements have been noted in the lack of general dumping as a result of these inorganic collections. If Council still decides to reduce the number of inorganic collections then we would request reinstatement of baling station vouchers on a six monthly basis.

### **Brickbats and Bouquets**

A **BOUQUET** to the mechanics at Kenloch Motors in Oratia. Always approachable and helpful to those less mechanically minded.

A **BRICKBAT** to the dog who attacked and killed chickens in their enclosure on private property on lower West Coast Road during the last weekend of May.

A big **THANK YOU** to the Fairy Flower Shop of Titirangi who have kindly offered to supply a bouquet of flowers for the Brickbats and Bouquets column.

### **Possums, Rats and a Toyota too.**

It was a bleak, wet Wednesday afternoon when the 'a typical' Toyota ute pulled up outside. (At first I thought it was Ken Stacey – our local Bush Reporter. I hadn't seen him in a very long time. Rumour has it, he's awaiting the next Play from the Waiatarua Fire Brigade.)

A knock on the door, however, heralded the arrival of Peter Anderson from the ARC.

Peter has been contracted by the ARC to set up bait lines to kill rats and possums in our bushland areas.

This contract is part of an ongoing maintenance programme as a follow up to the 1998 Operation Forest Save. It's aim is to maintain the low possum numbers in a 2km buffer zone from the ARC Park edge.

Peter was here to gain consent to enter our land in order to lay some bait stations. He may well come knocking on your door, soon.

The bait stations are white plastic enclosures containing bait in pellet form. These are nailed on to trees, usually on ridges or near streams, where rats and possums frequent. The distance between bait stations is approximately 200 metres.

This Possum Control Programme started in early February covering bush clad areas from the Southern end of Bethells Beach to the Southern end of Muriwai Beach to Goldies Bush, Henderson Valley, through parts of Waiatarua and up to Shaw Road in Oratia. The programme finishes at the end of June.

Stoats have not been targeted in this programme but evidence of their presence has been visible.

Since 'Operation Forest Save' bird count numbers have risen.

A bird count is where 135 spots are selected and a 5 minute bird count taken.

	<b>1997</b>	<b>2001</b>
PIGEONS	27	68
TUI	78	118
FANTAIL	79	134 <i>(although can be seasonal)</i>
TOMTIT	29	48

For further information contact Andrew Stein on 832 6683 or 021-222-9070.

### **Submissions Double**

#### **by Sonya Schischka**

More than 730 written or email submissions – covering about 1360 separate issues – have been made to Waitakere City Council's 2002/03 draft Annual Plan. This is twice the number received last year.

The number of Internet submissions also continued to grow, with 111 received this year, compared with 52 last year.

In keeping with tradition, many submissions were also last minute – with more than 200 received in the last two days of the month-long submission period ending on May 31.

The single largest issue was chemical-free weed management of the City's reserve and roadside areas.

A small number of submissions (about 3%) related directly to the proposed 9.19% rates increase to fund the Council's depreciation shortfall. Of those, roughly two-thirds accepted or supported the decision to fund depreciation with a rates rise, although a few were concerned about the size of the increase and its effect on those with fixed or low incomes.

Submissions were predominantly to do with local concerns such as footpaths, roads, walkways, parking and recreational facilities.

There was a variety of views on recreational spaces, particularly the 'People's Park' on Te Atatu Peninsula and a number of submitters support faster, more frequent, rail services.

Public hearings will be held on June 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, and 27 to enable people to speak to their submissions. The Council will then finalise its 2002/03 Annual Plan.

### **Wanted . . .**

. . . **your input** into the content of the Waiatarua Community News. News, Ideas, Information, Interesting people and places within Waiatarua.

Please contact the editor Ph/Fax 814-9945 or via email at [forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz](mailto:forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz)

# GARDEN GROUP

We will stay in the local area for our July meeting and have arranged a talk by Jeff McCauley from the Oratia Native Plant Nursery on the subject of Project Pennantia. This is said to be the worlds rarest plant and work on propagating has been done by Landcare Research and the Oratia Nursery. There is a fascinating story on how it is being brought back from the brink of extinction on the Three Kings. Not to be missed!!!

Put the date of Wednesday July 3 in your diary and come to the Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Rd, at 1 pm. \$2 charge. Everyone is welcome!

Ring Eileen on 814 9298 for any further information.

## Jobs for July

- Read lots of gardening books during the rain showers and plan for spring and summer
- Cut back and divide perennials
- Plant roses and remove diseased wood from established roses
- Prune autumn flowering Sasanqua Camellias when flowering has finished.
- Prune Fuchsias and geraniums to maintain shape.
- Sow seeds in containers of early spring flowering flowers and vegetables.

## Waiatarua Playcentre

We are located down the drive beside the Waiatarua Community Hall, at 911 West Coast Road.

Our session times are 9.30am – 12.30pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Children 0 – 6 years and their caregivers are welcome to attend. Come and visit us. You can make 3 visits without any obligation.

For further information phone Fiona on 817-5445 or Jenny on 814-9954.

## Waiatarua Library News

There appear to be some books missing from the Library which we would appreciate being returned as soon as possible.

They are:

THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL by Phillipa Gregory

NAME OF THE BEAST

FINAL JUDGMENT

NIGHT OF THE DARKNESS

BROTHERHOOD OF THE TOMB . . . all by Daniel Eastermann.

Please look in your neglected corners and shelves, especially the Eastermann fan and return these to the library as soon as possible. Thank you.

### New Books Available for loan:

PERFECT MATCH – *Jodie Picoult* comes very highly recommended.

DESERT DAWN – *Waris Durie* which is a true story of Africa.

COAST LINERS – *Joanne Harris*, who is the author of the popular 'Chocolate'.

SEA GRASS – *Anita Shreve*.

STONE MONKEY – *Jeffrey Deaver*.

## 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

## Weather Report

The last 11 days of May provided most of our rainfall, and typically it came in short, intense squalls. The effect of some of these was quite localized.

	RAIN DAYS	WETTEST DAY	MAY TOTAL	YEAR TO DATE
<i>Mountain Rd</i>	22	24th (18 mm)	130 mm	547 mm
<i>Brabant Rd</i>	26	19 mm (22nd)	143 mm	642 mm
<i>Quinns Rd</i>	27	19 mm (23rd)	88 mm	510 mm
<i>Forest Hill Rd</i>	21	20 mm (28th)	147 mm	598 mm
<i>Auckland City</i>	–	96 mm	399 mm	

## Congratulations to . . .

Greg and Jenny McGee, Anton, Grayson and Charlotte, on the birth of their son and brother *Harrison Joseph*. Harrison was born on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2002, weighing 7lb 9oz.

## Neighbourhood Watch

The following incidents have occurred in our area over the past month.

WEST COAST ROAD: Business premises burgled overnight. Break in to shed and office site on property.

QUINNS ROAD: Unlawful entry into house during daytime hours.

Occupants were not at home. Drawers rummaged through and money taken.

CARTER ROAD: Garden shed on property burgled. Tools stolen.

CASCADE AVE: House burglary.

BUSH ROAD: Car stereo stolen from car parked in garage, also a neighbour's car had been interfered with the same night or early hours of the morning. Note : Both of these incidents occurred up long driveways.

There seems to be an increase in the petty and opportunist type burglaries of late.

Lock up securely and keep your eyes open for any suspicious activity in and around your area.

Take note of registration numbers, time of day and descriptions of suspicious activity. Phone the police and communicate with your neighbours.

## Fire Brigade News

Our thanks Kevin Pennycook, who has served as our Training Officer for the past 3 years. The benefits we've gained from Kevin sharing his 24 years with the Fire Service in Auckland have been invaluable. Well done to Paul Kauder who has passed his Emergency Response Driving course, and to Brooke Kelly who gained his Breathing Apparatus qualification in May. We believe Brooke's 10 minute time through the obstacle course at the Mt Wellington Training Centre is the best achieved by a Waiatarua firefighter. The course has a 20 minute benchmark.

### Recent Calls – May

10:02 pm, Fri 9th – Car fire, Scenic Drive. A Nissan Primera totally gutted.

11:37 pm, Fri 17th – Car fire, Piha Rd. A near-new Toyota Landcruiser this time.

12:25 pm, Sat 18th – Car over bank, Piha. A low-speed, soft landing meant that no one was hurt.

### "Lights Out" Check When You Go To Bed

- Are kitchen appliances turned off and safe?
- Are heaters turned off, and furniture and clothes one metre from heaters or the fire place?
- Has the ashtray been emptied into a metal bin outside?
- Have you turned the TV off using the power switch on the set and not the remote control 'standby'?
- Are all candles out?
- Have you closed kitchen and living room doors to slow a fire from spreading to bedrooms?
- Is the house secure with keys in deadlocks?
- Are the passageways clear for a clear escape?

### Contacts

Phone 111 for all emergencies. Otherwise, call Ian Ford (8148871) or Richard Seccombe (027 491 5525)

# 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.

**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.

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

**MATHS TUITION, ALL LEVELS.** Experienced high school teacher Ph 814-9269

**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.

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

**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 Waiatarua's in Franz Josef? Check us out at [www.bnb.co.nz/hosts/hollyhomestead/html](http://www.bnb.co.nz/hosts/hollyhomestead/html) or [www.greenwood.guides.com](http://www.greenwood.guides.com) or Phone 03-752 0299 Fax 03-752 0298.

**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.

**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

**THE NIKAU CLUB** – Bar, Café, Restaurant. Open 7 days and nights. Available for functions and parties up to 50 people (but more soon) and there's no charge for room hire. Live entertainment Friday nights and Happy hour 6 – 8pm Thursdays. Phone 814-1919.

**HOLISTIC THERAPY FOR MIND AND BODY.** Therapeutic massage (straight), with aromatherapy and beauty therapy works, including problem skin treatments. Gift vouchers available. Phone Kate for an appointment 818-4300.

**BABYSITTER:** Mature, honest and reliable lady. Experienced. \$10 per hour. Phone Juliette on 814-8802.

**OUTBACK CHUTNEYS AND SAUCES:** Gorgeous sauces, jams and preserves fresh from the garden. Totally home grown and free from preservatives. \$4 each. Also gift baskets available on order and free delivery in Auckland. Phone Jill on 814-8825.

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST** specializing in lower back pain, headaches, neck and shoulder pain. Clinic at 95 Lincoln Road, Henderson. Home visits also arranged. Phone 833 7866.

**MRS DOUBTFIRE REQUIRED** – Have all your children ‘flown the nest’, or are you looking for a Nanny position for 4 or 5 days a week? We are looking for a warm, caring and nurturing person to look after our two children who are almost 5 and 1. Must have a sense of humour, be patient and reliable. Please phone Steve or Kim on 814-9964.

**HOUSE WANTED TO RENT.** Long term by responsible family in Oratia/Waiatarua or Glen Eden areas, 3 or 4 bdm pref. In Oratia School zone Ph 818-4300.

**PROPERTY FOR SALE:** 3 titles on adjoining sections, 2 bdm cottage + extras and view, situated off Scenic Drive. Phone 521-6492.

**KIM MOBILE HAIRDRESSING.** Ph 626 0133 or 025-688-4166. Cuts, hair design and tying for all occasions.

## 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 Tee	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 .....

Email .....

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](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)

## 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

## JULY / AUGUST 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](mailto:forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz)

by WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY, 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.