

Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

July-August 2004

From the President

Hi All...

I have just returned after six weeks away – hence, no Presidents Report for the last two newsletters. Wayne Maguire has left us for bigger and brighter pastures, career wise, in Tauranga. I'd personally like to thank Wayne for being an excellent Vice President; and a general thanks for the well-organised, methodical work he did for us over the past year. Our caretaker Vice President will be Molly Whittington until the next A.G.M. I look forward to working with Molly, who has a 'no nonsense get on with it' outlook. The Hall Manager is now Korstiaan Prins. Our monthly meeting was attended by Christine Shepherd (Chairperson Waitakere Community Board), as well as two ratepayers. It was pleasing to hear Christine make the comment, "What an enthusiastic and positive committee we have" - sentiment I endorse totally.

Starting next meeting, we are introducing an Open Forum 7.30 – 8.00pm where you can raise issues with the committee. Each person will be allowed five minutes to present their topic, then the committee will ask questions if needed. You may also write, phone or email issues but all correspondence must include name and contact phone number to be considered by us. Our meetings are held every second Wednesday of the month at the Waiatarua Fire Station.

Progress is being made on the 'area identification' signs, and this project should happen in the next month or two. If you notice any road signs obscured by trees, bush etc. please phone the council call centre as they cannot rectify what they don't know about. Call centre phone number is 839 0400.

By the time you read this we should have, or be in the process of getting, a new kitchen at the hall which is all very exciting.

It's that time again for the membership reminder, so drop those ten dollars per household into the letter box at the hall or send by post. To those who have paid, "thanks". And to those who have always meant to but never have, "please feel welcome". On an individual household basis ten dollars is not much but collectively provides us with funds to serve you better, and if we have more members we can look at new ventures.

Thanks to the committee for their hard work during my absence. I'm still catching up with all the happenings. One thing that hasn't changed is still the need for a 'minute taker' for our meetings. We promise this will only involve taking and distributing our monthly meetings minutes. Phone now and beat the rush!

Till next month,

- Dave Pocock

Arsonist Welcomes New Residents

Good luck was probably the only factor saving a local couple's Waiatarua home from completely burning to the ground. The pair had just bought a property in the area around Easter time when arsonists attacked. The victims told how they moved partially into their new house before the holiday break and then went away for the long weekend. On their return it was obvious someone had attempted to burn the house down. "It was a bit of a shock, considering we hadn't really moved in!" says the lady of the house.

The fire was started by a piece of carpet rolled into several layers and then saturated with kerosene. Thanks to a hardiplank-type cladding the flames did not burn right through the wall. However an aluminium door and a few windows were ruined, some timber needed replacing and the interior required repainting where smoke damage had taken its toll.

Surprisingly, none of the neighbours were aware of the incident so the fire brigade was not alerted at the time. Police were quickly notified and arrived within 30 minutes, but so far the culprits have not been caught. "It was a terrible experience to come home to" reflect the owners.

Home Invasion

Thieves recently burgled a house in the vicinity of Bendalls Lane, causing unnecessary trauma for the owners on their return home. Entry was gained by smashing two windows. The villains must have been hungry, as food made up the bulk of their haul. Muddy footprints throughout the house indicated that perhaps the route taken was through the bush. Police are currently investigating the incident. If anyone has information pertaining to this please contact Henderson police station on Ph: 839 0600. Extra security is now in place and neighbours are supporting the victims by maintaining vigilance. **Local residents uphold zero tolerance for crime in the sanctuary of Waiatarua.**

If Waiatarua residents do not already belong to a Neighbourhood Support group, they might like to consider it as an option. People can watch out for each other and work together to fight crime. Contact list is below - Ed.



Neighbourhood Support

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 | PHONE | 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 Road | 814-9402+Fax | |
| Jenny McGee | 886 West Coast Road | 814-9954 | jenny.mcgee@xtra.co.nz |
| Margaret/Paddy Marshall | 19 Raroa Terrace | 814-9859 | |

WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

EDITOR:

Robin Essex - Ph 814 1850
E-Mail: robsx@free.net.nz

WRRRA President:

Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697
E-Mail: pocock@wave.co.nz

WEB Site:

www.waiatarua.org.nz

From the Editor

My kids tell me I'm getting old when I object to a food outlet sporting Heaven's antonym as a trade name. I'm still trying to get my head round the invitations to Little Johnnie's party: "Come along to H _ _ L for a birthday you'll never forget"!

Turning half a century old this month must have tipped me into the 'square box'. Time to reflect on those rebellious days when no skirt was too short and crocheted, barefoot sandals reigned over sensible shoes. Our Mums were square, our Dads were outright embarrassing and we spoke an entirely different language. Now it seems the tables have turned on me. The generation gap in our house has become a grand canyon. The proverbial full circle has sneaked up and bitten me on the backside.

Not to worry - I happen to like eating in our local bush clad establishments, watching clouds drift by. The ambience is always serenely rejuvenating. It's my kind of Heaven.

Cheers from Robin

Seasonal Garden Advice

We could still be in for a few more frosts in certain areas, so if you haven't already invested in some 'frost cover' cloth for your special favourites it might be a good idea. Otherwise, check out this list to save disappointment in the future.

Cold Hardy Plants

- **Trees** - quercus (oak), magnolias, fraxinus (ash), junipers, betula (birch), podcarpus (totora), cornus (dogwood).
- **Shrubs** - viburnum, roses, corokia, daphne, hydrangea, hebe.
- **Climbers** - clematis, vitis cognetaie (ornamental grape), wisteria, ivy (hedera), roses, humulus (hop).
- **Perennials** - peonies, geraniums, delphinium, malva (mallow), primula, violas, polyanthus.
- **Bulbs** - narcissi, trilliums, tulips, iris, alliums, crocus, cyclamen.

Happy planting!

- Big H

BRICKBATS AND BOUQUETS

Sponsored by the Fairy FlowerShop, 423 Titirangi Rd Titirangi Phone 817 3780

The **bouquet** this time will be delivered to Eileen Powell who does a fantastic job each month organising outings of interest for our local Garden Group. Thanks Eileen for your tireless dedication!

The **brickbat** is bestowed upon those trades people and contractors who chase business, then don't bother to return phonecalls. Worse still, some have been known to quote on jobs but never follow through. If you guys have too much work on PLEASE communicate this to your customers so they are not waiting around and can go elsewhere. Sorry to say it has been reported this even applies to a few of the advertisers promoted in this brilliant newsletter.

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

911 West Coast Road, under the Community Centre. Phone 814-9353



Hours of Opening

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| Thursday | 10.00am - 12.00pm |
| Friday | 7.00pm - 8.00pm |
| Saturday | 11.00am - 12.00pm |
| Sunday | 11.00am - 12.00pm |

GARDEN GROUP

A visit to Eden Gardens in Epsom is planned for our August get-together. The Camellias will be at their best, along with Hellebores, Azaleas and Vireyas. We meet at 1pm on Wednesday the 4th of August and there is a small entry charge. Please **contact Eileen on 814 9859** by August the 1st for further information, or if you can offer / need a ride.

Waiatarua Rainfall (May 2004)

| | Rain Days | Wettest Day | April Total | Year to Date |
|------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Mountain Road | 16 | 5th (42 mm) | 175 mm | 999 mm |
| Brabant Road | 21 | 4th (41 mm) | 168 mm | 1051 mm |
| Quins Road | 22 | 5th (38 mm) | 136 mm | 902 mm |
| Forest Hill Road | 17 | 18th (37 mm) | 165 mm | 997 mm |
| Auckland City | | | 111 mm | 718 mm |

Fire Brigade

We're currently in discussion with St John Ambulance about the Brigade taking on a formal, medical response role. A number of fire brigades outside the metropolitan area, or some distance from the nearest ambulance station, already do this. At the start of July we completed our annual assessment in the use of our defibrillator and oxygen, and we're investigating additional training.

Hot Tips

Please be aware that ashes can AND DO stay hot for up to five days! When you clean out the fireplace or log burner, ashes should be stored away from the house in a metal container. And remember the 'heater metre' rule - keep furniture, clothes and curtains at least one metre away from heaters and fire-places.

Recent Calls

June

11:09 am, Mon 14th - Rubbish fire, Rimu Rd.

00:31 am, Thu 17th - Car fire, Piha Rd.

8:41 pm, Tue 22nd - Power pole on fire, Piha. Turned back en route.

6:20 pm, Tue 29th - Assist Police, North Piha. Turned back.

6:23 pm, Wed 30th - Tree across Piha Rd.

July

6:54 pm, Sat 10th - Back up to a house fire, Opanuku Rd. Turned back.

Contacts

Always dial 111 for any fire or emergency. For other information please call Ian Ford (814 8871), Helen Longley (814 9855) or Karl Nuttall (814 8777)

Road Safety

Look Out! You may be searching long and hard to find signs indicating the lawful speed limits in and around various parts of Waiatarua. However, the Waitakere Community Board is liaising with WCC to hopefully rectify this problem in the not too distant future. In the meantime, please be aware that apart from small sections of the Scenic Drive all roads within the Waiatarua area are limited to 70kms per hour. This of course means drivers are welcome to remain below the speed limit if they so see fit.



From the Constitution of the WRRRA

Excerpt from 'Objects': "To pursue and undertake any activity with the object of establishing, improving or preserving social, cultural or sporting activities or amenities or the unique natural environment of the area".

Perhaps some readers are wondering what the WRRRA is all about, and how the association may be able to help you as residents. If any of the above-mentioned issues interest you, let us know your views / what's important to you and your household. The WRRRA committee encourages anyone residing in the area to communicate how they would like executive officers to represent them in the Waiatarua community.

In the first instance, please call Dave Pocock on 814 9697.

From your library.

Firstly, has anyone borrowed our copy of "Rhubaiyat of Omar Khayyam" from the library? We had it in the workroom, awaiting repair, and it is no longer there. We would much appreciate its return so we can get it repaired.

Amongst the new books this month: Kidnapped in Yemen - NZer Mary Quin's account of her dramatic survival after being kidnapped.

The Girl in Times Square - a new title for all our Paulina Simons fans.

Deep Black: Biowar - Stephen Coonts' latest techno-thriller.

The Stolen Woman - the biography of the early african explorer Florence Baker.

We have many other new titles - these are listed on our website at the end of each month. Remember we are happy to reserve books for you if they are already out.



Play and Win - Where am I ?

The response to last month's "Where am I" was overwhelming. However, sorry to say no one had the correct answer. We also received some requests to identify the picture from the May issue. The door in the top of the garage is located between the Community hall and the Play centre. The building has the nick name of "Badgers" and stores the props for the Drama Group. The power pole depicted in June's issue is located at 233 Scenic Drive.

This month's photo (below) reflects the traffic for residents to ensure a safe exit from their property. If you have seen this "mirror" and would like to win some fresh healthy vegetables from **Woodford Gardens**, write the answer on the back of an envelope and place it in the letterbox at the community centre 911 West Coast Road or e-mail your answer to korprins@xtra.co.nz.



Drama Group's Demise?

Regular reminders in this newsletter of a local drama group awaiting revival have resulted in little response. Is this because we have all sent our creative spirits into permanent hibernation? Perhaps everyone feels just too plain stressed-out and busy. What a shame, as 'playing for fun' is a proven stress-reliever!

Actually, I tell a lie - I've been responding silently within myself but just haven't had the courage to verbalise it yet. Hey, that's it - I'm coming out from behind the curtain! I have never been involved in more than the equivalent of a school play. However, this secret burning desire deep inside is becoming more and more difficult to ignore. Fear is definitely the only factor holding me back. Could there possibly be others out there in the same lifeboat as me? Imagine if we could all band together and take a leap of faith on to that ocean liner in lights. We may not necessarily require a qualified producer and director, but together as a team we could pool our ideas and learn to develop these skills.

A first small project might be a short farce, performed early next year at a community breakfast or such like.

There are four thousand dollars sitting in an account, untold costumes and set designs, a perfect venue for rehearsals etc. What more could we want?

The reality is, if we don't respond, this amazing opportunity might leave our community for good. I guess the assets could be donated to another suburb's drama group. And Lopdell House may possibly be happy to accept our \$4000.00 as a donation.

If you have any ideas or are prepared to step outside your comfort zone, come and hold my hand so we can tread the boards and bring it on.

- Robin

Please pick up the phone and call Lyndsay on 814 9872

Letter to the Editor

I am writing to your community about the roads in the area. I believe they are in shocking condition, and as dangerous as a drunk driver! I took my kids up to some look-outs, driving through 'Waiatarua' using West Coast Road. Between Kauri Loop Road and Bendalls Lane the corners are very hazardous to drive around. Even at a slow speed of 35 km our car slid. My husband says the problem here is caused by permanent 'tracks' made by heavy trucks, which makes the road very bumpy. There is no warning. How about if we'd been going the recommended speed? Gosh, I'd hate to think! "C'mon guys... it's our lives". Being winter now, maybe you need to make your community safer. It's one of the worst I have seen. I'm picking your fire brigade must be very busy.

N.Y. (Waitakere City)

The Arataki Rangers RoundUp

We have been soldiering along through this cold snap, getting on with jobs around Arataki. The Nursery has had a major cleanup this week, making it look sharp and ready for business coming into the peak nursery work season.

Work is continuing on the Arataki Visitor Centre gardens. The revamp is a huge undertaking and we are inching our way toward completion using ranger staff and volunteer groups. These areas are looking great, refreshing the arrival zone.

The Arataki tracks have been keeping us busy with some high winds, causing 'tree falls' on just about every track in our area! We are getting around and clearing them as best we can. If you are out on a track and see a fallen tree, please help us by reporting it on the rangers station phone.

The animal pest control around Arataki has had an impact. Monitoring has been done to assess how well the possum numbers have been knocked back. The results show that there was a 0.8% trap catch rate in the area, which is very low. The other indication of low possum numbers is the increased presence of birds in the area. Rangers report frequent sightings of tomtits, which have been uncommon in the area during the past.

We are constantly striving to make the Waitakeres a special place for present and future generations. Come and help us by volunteering on any of the various projects going on in the park, from weed and animal pest control to gardening and track work. Contact us on the rangers station phone if interested.

Arataki Rangers Station ph: 817-0099

Ka Kite
Jonathan Gould

Walk of the Month

This month's walk is on the Whatipu Coast. The Whatipu area is located at the far south-western corner of the Waitakeres. It is a wild, rugged landscape comprised of an expansive dune and wetland system beside the Manukau harbour entrance. This spot can be reached by following Huia Road onto Whatipu Road, then driving to the end. Take a map (available from Arataki Visitors Centre) and allow two hours or so to stroll through the dunes and take in this amazing zone for yourself. There are no dogs allowed here as the area is a Scenic Reserve and has ground-nesting birds such as the New Zealand Dotterel.



'Common Weed' Sense



Self-Heal has a long tradition as a wound-healing herb. The fresh leaf may be used or a poultice / compress made to aid in the clean healing of cuts and wounds. For sore throats it may be infused and used as a gargle, sweetened with honey. Infusion: - pour a cup of boiling water onto 1 to 2 teaspoonfuls of the dried herb and leave for 10 minutes. This can also be taken 3 times a day as a tonic.

The Little School in the Valley Old Time Dance

7.30pm, August 21st 2004
in a joint venture between

Oratia and Waiatarua Ratepayers &
Residents Associations
and
the Oratia School & Community
Development Group



a live band
'The Texas Kiwis'
will provide old time dance music for a great
night out.

Where?
At the Oratia Settlers Hall.

Funds raised go towards a sculpture for the Oratia School
125th Jubilee. Cash bar, supper provided, \$20.00 per ticket.

To order tickets, please phone Dave Pocock on 814
9697 and leave a message on the answer phone
if necessary.

Notice Board

Notices are free to financial members 2004, 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 - Rod Maunder on 814 1831

Repeat commercial advertisements of members will only be printed as space allows.

BABYSITTER: mature, honest and reliable lady. Experienced. \$10 per hour. Phone Juliette on 0274-875-805.

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

BIRDS: Parrakeets. Indian Ringnecks (Green) \$45.00ea. Lovebirds. (Fisher x Blue mask) \$35.00ea.

Aviary. 6' x 4' \$120.00 ONO
Phone 838-5526

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT AND INFORMATION: please call your local La Leche League leader, Adith on 818-7728.

CLEANER: experienced cleaner available evenings and weekends for domestic cleaning. \$16.00 per hour. Phone 0274 875805.

COFFEE MACHINE: Sunbeam espresso as good as new seldom used still with six months guarantee \$ 170.00
Phone 814 9684

CREAM FOR JOINTS, MUSCLES, BRUISES: essential oils and all natural ingredients. Phone 814-1868.

DEEP FRYER: Black and Decker stainless steel unused Christmas gift \$ 45.00 Phone 814 9684

JP - MARY KELLY: for all personalised weddings, re-affirmation of wedding vows, ceremonies of commitment, naming ceremonies, MC, Chair for public meetings etc. Phone/Fax 814-9857.

HEALTH: for healthy, fast weight loss; nutritional and personal skin care products: contact Linda, your independent Herbal Life Distributor on 818 8949 or roglin@paradise.net.nz

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

LAWN MOWING: Local reliable. Phone Eric 837 2333.

LOCAL ISSUES: Kevin Healy, Waitakere Community Board email: kevin@healy.co.nz or Phone 814-9505

LODGE - AUCKLAND'S WAITAKERE PARK LODGE: open Thursday to Sunday for lunch and dinner. Now open for Sunday brunch from 10am. Enjoy the log fires in our luxury lounge bar, magnificent views and dining on the deck. Phone 814-9622.

MASSAGE - LIFESTYLES MESSAGE THERAPY: providing therapeutic, sports and relaxation massage in a safe, professional environment.
Phone Doug Maynard on 814-8981 or 021-543-302.

MINUTE TAKER REQUIRED: Duties - take minutes of monthly meetings, type minutes and email to committee members. No other committee involvement required.
Interested? Contact Lyndsay Whittle on 814-9872

NATUROPATH - your local Naturopathic Clinic at Waiatarua Phone 814-8881. For menstrual, digestive problems, low energy, frequent colds and flu etc.

OTIMAI: Events and training centre is available for hire (Guides Auckland) and is open to view by appointment. Please phone Cherie and Graham to view 814 9992 or 638 9060 for bookings.

PLANTS: taros, bulbs, cannas and various perennials for sale. \$1 - \$3. Also some shrubs. All sales for charity. Phone Margaret 814-9859.

PROPERTY SALES: looking to buy or sell? For best results and free advice please phone John on 0274-122-853. Bayleys Titirangi.

ROOFING AND SPOUTING: free advice, consultation and inspections, 28 years experience. Quality new and reroofs, repairs, spouting etc. Onduline organic and non polluting roofing, gutter leaf protection Ph Mark 812-8337 or 025-958-058.

SECURITY: FIRST CITY CARE SECURITY SERVICES. For all your security requirements. Ph Greg on 814-9954. Mobile 021-356-066. Email gregmccgee@firstcitycare.co.nz
Website www.firstcitycare.co.nz

SWIMMING POOL FENCE - Galvanised steel flat top with tubular 1.25m verticals, powder coated Karaka green, designed by Fencing Systems of NZ. Four lengths x 2.0m; 2 lengths x 2.4m; plus posts and brackets and 1 matching gate plus fittings. Never used. Reduced to \$1,200 o.n.o.
Phone Alan or Jan on 814-9407 or 814-9596 or 0274.961.914.

THE NIKAU CLUB: Bar, Café, Restaurant. New winter hours: Monday/Tuesday closed, Wednesday-Friday open midday till after dinner, Saturday/Sunday 10.00am till after dinner. New chef/new menu. Children welcome. Phone 814-1919.

THERAPIST/COUNSELLOR: Marguerite Laing BSP. Reducing the effect of conflict, stress, eating disorders, communication difficulties; and liberating energy to bring serenity and clarity. Phone 814-9889.

TOYS - FABULOUS WOODEN TOYS: have a look at our website www.creativetoy.co.nz for amazing wooden toys imported from Germany and Switzerland. Free delivery in Waiatarua! Phone 814-9903

TREWORK: fully insured and qualified arborists. Phone Joe Krazz 021 244-8733.

VET - WEST COAST VET CLINIC: offering full veterinary service for your pets. **24 hour service** Phone 818 4104

WAIATARUA U3A: University of the Third Age
Join us for our first get-together! Thursday 5th August 10.30am at the Waiatarua Community Hall - 'Planting for posterity'. Have your say. Future subjects? Italian oracini? Tibetan culture? Perching bulbophyllums? Persian carpets and rugs? NZ sculptors? For more info phone Shiley Tomlinson Phone 814 8938

WAITEMATA TECORIAN SPEAKERS: Gain confidence, communicate more effectively, extend knowledge, stimulate imagination and have fun at the same time. We meet at the Titirangi community centre every second and fourth Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. Men and women are welcome. Contact Margaret on 817 0520 or Gill on 838 1983 for further information.

WATER SERVICES LTD.: pump sales and service. Tank repairs, cleaning and new tanks installed. Filtration and water treatment. Phone Phillip on 812-8537 or 027-279-6036.

WEST COAST WATER: for all water deliveries phone Patrick on 812-8079 or 027-288-9111.

WINE AND FOOD MARKET - ELKE'S: open every Saturday morning for fresh Pandoro and German Rye Breads, organic cheeses, german meats, Q-garden pickles and chutneys, chocolates and more. Also a great selection of Siebel wines, Port and Mead at cellar door prices. Tastings available. Open Saturday 10am - 2pm at 113 Sturges Road, Henderson.

YOGA - FAY'S CLASS: for true fitness and relaxation Phone 837-7794

The Recipe For A Happy Marriage

For Her:

1. Two times a week we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, good food and companionship. He goes on Tuesdays, I go on Fridays
2. We also sleep in separate beds. His is in Manurewa and mine's in Waiatarua.
3. I asked my husband where he wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been for a long time" he said. So I suggested the kitchen.

For Him:

1. The last fight was my fault. My wife asked "What's on the TV?" I said "dust!"
2. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.
3. My wife told me the car wasn't running well because there was water in the carburettor. I asked my wife where the car was. She told me "In the lake".
- 4 She got a mudpack and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.



Please accept my Membership to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

2004

- I enclose: \$10.00 household, \$5.00 Single Occupant
 I would like a copy of the book "Song of Two Waters" @ \$20.00 (delivered)

Name

Address

Phone

E-mail

To Treasurer

Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Waitakere City or **leave at the library**
WEB Site www.waiatarua.org.nz

Waiatarua Community Hall Hire

Due to renovations the Community Hall is unavailable for hire until the middle of August

For more information phone Korstiaan Prins on 814 1850

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

From time to time snippets of news come to our attention via the 'bush telegraph'. We would prefer to access information on any interesting news articles directly from the original source. If you would like to share stories with our community we welcome your contributions wholeheartedly. Please don't hesitate to contact us.

Copy needs to be in the hands of The Editor,
by **WEDNESDAY 11th AUGUST, 2004**

Robin Essex, 13 Bendalls Lane, Waiatarua. Phone 814 1850

E-MAIL: robsx@free.net.nz

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

Our thanks to Longley Printing for their continuing support in printing this publication