



Waikere Community News

900 copies

Ranges Timeline Begins Early December

Waikere City Council has set timelines for a further round of public consultation on a package of measures for the permanent protection of the Waikere Ranges and foothills.

Central government and local government are considering developing a special piece of legislation that deals specifically with the Waikere Ranges. The goal is not to take away property rights under the RMA, but to write a set of guidelines that must be taken into account in this area.

Supporters of the legislation say that the area has unique characteristics in its landscapes, bush, wildlife and lifestyles that are nationally important and vulnerable. They say existing legislation and rules can control major development but they are not geared to deal with cumulative effects of lots of small impacts in the area.

The legislation would define the boundaries of the area needing specific protection, and the various values that must be preserved. Landowners would keep their existing rights under the Resource Management Act but resource consent applications will have to meet specific objectives.

However, if the proposed legislation is to be considered in the term of this Government, it will have to be lodged at the High Court in early March. Accordingly the Council has decided to try to complete speaking with the community by 4 February 2005. If, however, more consultation is needed at that time, the timelines will be extended.

"The timing is not ideal, but New Zealand no longer shuts down for a month as it once did. We have some time before Christmas and from mid January and a lot of people will be on the West Coast for their holidays in early January," says Mayor Bob Harvey.

Mr Harvey also successfully pushed for a professional research firm to independently monitor the process, to see how well-informed the public was by the beginning of February. The results of this will help determine whether to extend the timeline.

"I want this research to be completely independent, so that nobody can accuse the Council of organising things to suit itself," Mr Harvey says.

Communication with the community will begin with letters to people living in the Ranges and Foothills area and a special Ranges Update Newsletter, to be delivered city-wide in late November-early December. This includes a questionnaire. Both newsletter and questionnaire will be also available on line at www.waikere.govt.nz

The deadline for the questionnaire and comments is 4 February 2005.

From December through to February 2005, Council representatives will also be available to attend meetings organised by communities or groups. Detailed information will be distributed through pamphlets and on the Waikere City website.

Community feedback will be evaluated during February. A decision on whether to support legislation will be made mid to late February.

If legislation is pursued, a Local Bill will be finalised in late February and lodged at the District Court in March for three weeks. The Bill will then be introduced to Parliament and referred to a Select Committee at which time there will be further opportunities for public submissions.

The option of legislation is supported by the Auckland Regional Council and also local MPs Hon David Cunliffe and Lynne Pillay. Rodney District Council has also been invited to be involved and is considering the invitation.

'Sweet As' and Still a Size 10 !

A local mother of two young children, Alessandra Zecchini, has produced an exciting new *dessert and baked treats* cookbook containing over one hundred simple-to-follow recipes using easily sourced ingredients.

Italian born Alessandra acknowledges 'sweets' is an area of cooking often ignored in these times of barbecue or ethnic food, when it's considered easier to buy a dessert rather than make one.

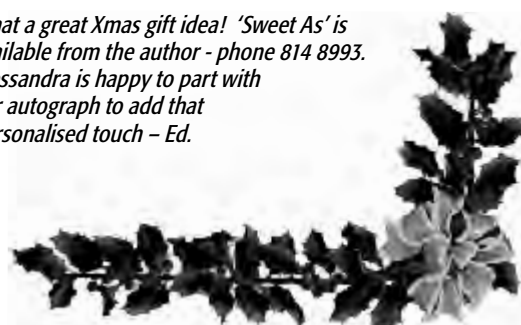
There is something for everyone within these refreshing pages of international delights, with the focus on lots of fruit and much less butter and sugar. Many of the recipes are suitable for those with food allergies, and also others who may just want to exclude dairy or wheat products from their diet.



Alessandra points out that despite the necessity of a year or so of cooking and tasting every day in order to develop her ideas for this project, she remains a petit size 10.

Having lived in Waikere with her kiwi husband Peter for the best part of eight years, Alessandra talks about her love for the bush. She says, "This area reminds me of the Dolomite Mountains back home... on a smaller scale of course."

What a great Xmas gift idea! 'Sweet As' is available from the author - phone 814 8993. Alessandra is happy to part with her autograph to add that personalised touch - Ed.



WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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From the Editor

Christmas greetings to all readers... as we enter into the inevitable chaos leading up to Xmas 2004 I am working hard at damping down my panic – a wee way to go before the start of some well-earned annual leave, and very little festive shopping under my belt. However, residing up in the bush 'away from civilisation' definitely helps!

On a recent trip to Perth many issues came into perspective for me. Deep breathing and relaxation techniques on the plane proved a sure way of keeping blood pressure down. Completely surprising our eldest son with my unexpected arrival brought an understanding that just the presence of a loved one can be far more valuable than any present under a Christmas tree.

Other 'warm fuzzies' surfaced, passing through the electric of my head and heart, perhaps born from the deep passion I had suddenly developed for Aboriginal art and culture.

After returning home, I continued to process these ideas; and they grew further like a forest floor gathering wealthy layers of flora, following me into a work-related course I attended over the next three weeks. As a group we explored cultures, identities, language etc. and some socio-political content. Each afternoon I would return to Waiatarua with an enriched appreciation of this wonderland and its people. We are from all walks of life with diverse belief systems but still manage on the whole to cohabitate harmoniously. I believe that generally we appreciate the simple, healthy things in life. We are protective of our children, for they are the future. We harbour many creative artists and are supported by countless passionate advocates.

So, thank you to my community for both your richness and simplicity.

Keep safe and may we all enjoy happy holiday times.

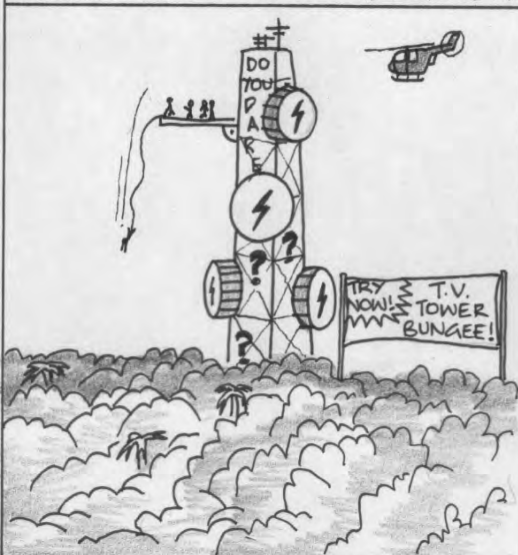
- Robin

BRICKBATS and BOUQUETS

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

This month we did not receive any nominations for **bouquets** or **brickbats**. Please remember if you feel strongly about acknowledging anyone in the community drop us a line for the next newsletter

For all Waiatarua Thrillseekers...



GARDEN GROUP

Our December visit will be to the Geddes Garden at 15 Rangiwai Road, Titirangi. This is a heritage house and garden of one hectare with a mixture of rhodos, annuals and natives. Park on the road or in the village, and meet at 1pm Wednesday December the 1st. Another date for your diary: we are holding our Christmas lunch on Wednesday the 15th of December. Contact Eileen on 814 9298 for further information.

From the President

YO! HO! HO!

Yes, it's that time again! Thanks to the people who responded last month - as a result we are having a Community Breakfast on Sunday the 12th of February 2005. Also in February is our A.G.M. (what? already?). Details for both these later...

As we approach summer and the season of unseasonable weather it seems timely to discuss an issue raised by a concerned local - storm water. Apparently, the three month period between December '03 and March '04 saw three 50-year floods in Waitakere City, one of them being in Raroa Terrace. We all take measures to keep our properties as dry as possible but did you know that we are also responsible for ensuring that water from our own property does not cause grief to a neighbour, either next door or across the road? This means making sure that our water actually goes into storm water drains. Communication is a big part, so if you have problems please discuss them with your neighbour and perhaps offer to help. When you see a drain blocked by a piece of debris, remove it. If a major blockage occurs, ring the council call centre (Ph 839 0400).

Next issue worthy of a mention is the cutting of vegetation, referred to as "Vegetation Alteration". You need Resource Consent (no charge) when pruning removes more than 20% of a native tree's foliage in any one calendar year, as per District Plan Guidelines. All this information and much more is available at the council chambers call centre and on the council website www.waitakere.govt.nz If in doubt, find out because the fines can be expensive. In my experience council will try to accommodate your reasonable requests.

On Thursday the 18th of November we had our very successful Who, What & Why evening. A good turnout of locals enjoyed an entertaining, educational, informative night. Thanks to all presenters who did a fantastic job and provided vast amounts of take away literature, which is always available at council. This information is vital to residents in Waiatarua. We all learnt something - I found out I can't plant the Banana Passionfruit I wanted!

That's all until next year so have a great Xmas and safe holiday. Don't forget, if you are going away, arrange for someone to collect mail; and feed the cat, cancel newspapers etc. as burglars don't go on vacation.

Merry Xmas to you all from Dave.

Waiatarua Playcentre News

We are right in the throes of a very busy season with lots of fun and social engagements, helping everyone get into the summer spirit.

We have had a few new parents join in lately, so a big welcome to: Shalema & Shawn and their daughter Jessika; Mark & Steph and their son Liam; Amanda & Paul and their son Thomas; Trish & Tim and their daughter Jillie; Kate & Tim and their son Wil. Welcome back to Jackie and Charlotte. Now we have at least 50% of our Playcentre families who come over the hill from the west coast.

Some events coming up are: Monday 13th December is our last session for Term 4, so we will have a Christmas party to celebrate. March 2005 is the time for our annual camp at Shakespear Regional Park.

We had a lovely BBQ on the 7th November in real summer weather to send Samuel off to Lone Kauri School, and also to thank Angela & Chris for their contribution to Playcentre over the years. This was a great chance to catch up with some parents and partners who cannot visit on weekdays.

On the 8th of November a fire engine visited the centre from Glen Eden. The children listened to a safety talk about matches, were advised on what to do if there is a fire and were shown the safety equipment used by firemen. One youngster was lucky enough to try some equipment on, and all others had an opportunity to use the hose.

On November 9th we held a formal welcome for the new parents at Playcentre. Our trip to Mt. Albert farm on the 12th was enjoyed by all and ended with a lunch at Rocket Park. The usual Mum's weekend away in Leigh from November 12th to 14th was a roaring success too, just like all previously.

Mon/Wed/Fri 15/17/19 November became our session evaluation dates, where playcentre parents brought in forms to complete the latest child development updates. Tuesday November 16th marked our monthly meeting at the centre, when people came to see what we're up to and share ideas.

- Julia Moore



Garden History Sought by Consultants – Rose Hellaby House

Auckland Regional Council has engaged Heritage Landscape Consultants Louise Beaumont and John Adam to prepare a conservation plan for the Rose Hellaby House gardens.

Designed, planted and maintained by Rose and her gardener Mr Tompkin for 35 years, the garden has undergone a number of changes following Rose's death in 1974.

For this reason the consultants are interested in hearing from anyone who may have photographs which show the garden at the time Miss Hellaby lived at 'Aranui' or anyone who was a regular visitor to the property. They also hope to trace any relatives of Rose's gardener.

Contact can be made by email or phone: Louise on 0274 865560 or lbmont@ihug.co.nz, John on (09) 379 8955 or jpadam@kiwilink.co.nz

Play and Win - Where am I ?

We received the following message via e-mail in response to last month's picture.

Hi there

I'm pleased to say that the photo is of our place at 217 Forest Hill Road - not that I expect to win but was wondering if you could add in a message in the next newsletter in association with the winner - we used to sell the tomatoes from the stall there but we decided mid-year to retire from tomatoes - so we'd just like to thank all our loyal Waiatarua tomato customers for their support [Mel and Jill who used to do it for years before we came along would probably want to say thanks as well from Queensland!]

Keep up the great work with the newsletter, appreciate receiving it each month

Regards

Cathy and Bill

Thank you Cathy and Bill for you reply and your positive feedback. I never had the pleasure of tasting your tomatoes but I am sure they will be missed by everyone that did. I am sorry to say you didn't win. The name out of the hat this time is: Joan Holt, congratulations - your price will be delivered before Christmas.

Where am I ? - I ponder on that sometimes, and while preparing for this newsletter I noticed that the date (20 November 2004) is exactly 30 years to the day that I arrived at Wellington Airport from the Netherlands. When the Air New Zealand DC8, in which we travelled the last leg from Sydney, stopped in front of a shed - also known as the International Terminal - I said to myself, "This is going to be interesting." A lot has changed in New Zealand and I am so glad I stayed around to witness all those changes. It definitely has been interesting. The opportunities I was given and the people I have met over the years confirm to me that the decision to emigrate to this country was one of the better ones I made in my life. I have been fortunate enough to travel around NZ both for work and pleasure, and have been told many times that I may have seen more of this beautiful country than some New Zealanders. I have lived and worked in Wellington, Hamilton, North shore City, Auckland and now Waiatarua and the beauty of this country and its people never ceases to amaze me.

Christmas is always a good time to reflect on things. I often look back on how lucky I have been. Maybe I was in the right place at the right time occasionally as well. This year's Christmas will be more special to me for many reasons, and I will fondly remember my first Christmas in New Zealand for sure. We will be back towards the end of January 2005 with a new competition but for now, from us and our families, a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2005 to you all.

- *Korstiaan*

The Arataki Rangers Roundup

It is all go up at Arataki at the moment! We have the Visitors Centre currently closed for a revamp. The big re-opening is scheduled for December 5th - a great opportunity for you to come along and see the wonderful changes made to the Centre.

The Friends of Arataki Kids Day is also being held in the Visitors Centre grounds on the 5th December. This day has all sorts of fun, free activities for kids to have a go at and is well worth attending.

Summer is going to be as busy as ever for us. Last month was hectic for the staff here with three Search and Rescue operations and, sadly, another whale stranding at Whatipu.

The Arataki Nursery is kicking into top gear with the plants growing at an alarming rate! Brendan would love any volunteer help he can get with the Nursery. He can be reached on Ph: 817-0094. There is a wide variety of tasks to be done - from pricking out to bagging on, and seed collecting to general maintenance.

We have put new signage in at Rose Hellaby house which looks great. This venue is open for public viewing during weekends. The tenants offer antiques for both viewing and purchase. Rose Hellaby House is located on the right of Scenic Drive 200m north of Piha road.

A great project has begun at Arataki - the construction of an underground tunnel for access to the Nature Trail! This tunnel will lead under the Scenic Drive from the Education Centre to the top of the Nature Trail. The project has been a long-time goal of the staff here to create a safe road crossing for the public, in particular school groups.

We are constantly striving to make the Waitakeres a special place for present and future generations. Come and help us by volunteering for any of the various projects happening in the park, from weed and animal pest control to gardening and track work. Contact us on the rangers station phone if interested Ph: 817-0099 Ka Kite

Arataki Rangers

Walk of the Month

This month's walk is Maungaroa lookout track (to the lookout only). The track leaves from halfway along Glen Esk Road at Piha. It leads across Piha Stream and ascends steeply up the side of a hill to reach Maungaroa Ridge.

Near the top a short branch leads to Kitenui lookout on a rocky bluff. The lookout gives spectacular views back down to Piha beach. Return back the way you came. Return walk to the lookout from the road is 30 minutes. The track does continue further to meet Nikau Grove walk - make sure you have a map if you wish to attempt going along that far.

Fire Brigade

If you want to light an outside fire in Waiatarua or other rural areas after the 1st of December then you will need to obtain a permit from Waitakere City Council's Rural Fire Officers. You can contact them through the Council's 24-hour hotline, Ph: 839-0400. They will visit your site before issuing the permit, so will need at least three working days notice. The good news is that this is a free service.

More information is available at: <<http://www.waitakere.govt.nz/abtc/cp/ruralfire.asp>>

Our community Guy Fawkes bonfire was held successfully at the fire station on Friday the 5th of November, with about eighty people present. This was the first fine Guy Fawkes Night for a few years.

Recent Calls

6:32 pm, Tue 19 Oct - False alarm, Quinns Rd.

10:08 pm, Fri 22 Oct - Car fire, Scenic Drive.

6:54 am, Wed 27 Oct - Cat up a tree, Forest Hill Rd. Cat returned safely to the ground, firefighters unscathed.

2:52 pm, Fri 29 Oct - False alarm, Kauri Loop Rd.

8:10 pm, Fri 5 Nov - Bonfire, Mountain Rd. No action required.

11:55 pm, Fri 5 Nov - Scrub fire, Marine Parade, Piha. Turned back enroute, sorted by Piha Brigade.

10:25 pm, Sat 6 Nov - Scrub fire, Lion Rock, Piha. Turned back, handled by Piha and Karekare Brigades.

10:58 am, Sun 7 Nov - Tree across road, Scenic Drive.

12:51 pm, Sun 7 Nov - False alarm, Forest Hill Rd.

3:15 pm Sat 13 Nov - Road washdown after a car accident on the Scenic Drive.

12:55 pm, Tues 16 Nov - Car 40m down bank on Mountain Rd. perched on top of 50m cliff. This incident reached the media on quite a large scale, emphasizing how lucky the two young male occupants of the vehicle were to have been rescued successfully.

Contacts

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

Local Book Review



Hut and Headland is the story of The University of Auckland's Anawhata reserve. The purchase of the land and the building of the hut in the 1920's was taken on by enthusiastic students, many of whom went on to become world-renowned scientists and leaders in their fields. The stories of endurance and the enjoyment of the Anawhata hut by many contributors have been collected in a book by Lucy Cranwell Smith and John La Roche.

Unfortunately the hut is no longer in existence, having been burned down on Saturday April 11th 1998. Many of those most closely involved in the acquisition of the property, including Lucy Cranwell, are no longer with us. However, the property remains - with the rugged landscape little changed since so many gained camaraderie and enjoyment from this wild and unique place.

The A5-size 84-page book contains approximately 75 black & white and coloured photographs spanning the time period 1929 - 2004. It is available from the School Registrar, School of Biological Sciences, The University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland. Email enquiries to s.jones@auckland.ac.nz or by phoning 373-7599 ext 87978. Price \$24-00 (if placing a mail order please add \$4.50 for pip).

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.

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

COMPUTERS - ADSL, Wireless if available, virus protection, firewalls, networking upgrades and new computers, websites Wst Connect ph Mike 8128420 or mob 025-2910477, email mike.nixon@wstconnect.co.nz

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.

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

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

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.

DRAMA STUDIO SHOW: "The Shady Hotel," - two one act plays performed by local adult drama students, **9 - 11 December, Rimu Glade Studio** 4 Rimu Road, Waiatarua, at 7.30 pm. Directed by tutor John Goude. Ticket \$10, bookings essential. Phone 814 9744.

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

POSTURE KNEELING STOOL: ideal for office or home. Cost \$180.00, sell \$80.00 phone 837 4616

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

THE NIKAU CLUB: Bar, Café, Restaurant. Monday closed, Tuesday - 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.

TOASTMASTER: meetings held on every other Tuesday morning from 7.00 till 8.20 AM - more information call Adith Stoneman 818 7728

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

WAIATARUA USA: University of the Third Age Friday the 3rd December 10.00am at the Waiatarua Community Hall - Topic: Art Appreciation - Info Shirley Tomlinson Phone 814 8938

WAIATARUA MUSIC STUDIO: There are some places available on Saturday mornings. Started 6 November. For more information please call Cellia Wood-Calvert at 814 9660

WAIEMATA 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.

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

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.

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
Sandy McConnell 550 Scenic Drive	814 9962

Advantages of being a WRRR member?

Show your membership card at the following businesses for a 10% discount (does not apply to already discounted or sale items).

Glen Eden Landscape Supplies

293 West Coast Rd. Ph: 818 6129

The Nikau Club Café

Scenic Drive Ph: 814 1919 (applies to max 2 adults per visit)

Colourplus Paint & Wallpaper

Glenmall, Glen Eden Ph: 818 8263

Elkes Wine and Food Market

113 Sturges Rd. (Sat 10am-2pm)



Christmas Period Hours

closes
12.00pm Sun 19th Dec 2004
reopens
10.00am Thurs 6th Jan 2005

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and good reading over the holiday break.

Remember: a list of all new books is available on the website... Anyone wanting to reserve books online can do so by contacting Jeanette at jawz@clear.net.nz

Waiatarua Rainfall (October 2004)

	Rain Days	Wettest Day	October Total	Year to Date
Mountain Road	18	7th (31 mm)	147 mm	1601 mm
Brabant Road	24	7th (33 mm)	154 mm	1663 mm
Quins Road	22	8th (28 mm)	137 mm	1455 mm
Forest Hill Road	16	7th (33 mm)	161 mm	--
Auckland City			112 mm	1049 mm

Please accept my Membership to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

I enclose: \$10.00 household, \$5.00 Single Occupant

Name

Address

Phone

E-mail

To Tressurer

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 this excellent facility for training sessions meetings parties dances birthdays etc.

Fantastic bush setting for a relaxed and pleasant environment.

For booking enquiries phone the
WRRR enquiry line on 814 9353

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 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 12th JANUARY, 2005**
Robin Essex, 13 Bendalls Lane, Waiatarua.
Phone 814 1850 - E-MAIL: robsx@free.net.nz

The WRRR Committee would like to thank

Longley Printing Co. Ltd.
29 Bruce McLaren Rd Henderson - Ph. 837 0729

for their support in printing this publication.