



WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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

## DOES SIZE REALLY MATTER?

The inaugural *Great Waiatarua Mid-Winter Xmas Dinner and Debate* held on June 23rd went off with an almighty **BANG**, and it is hoped this will become an annual WRRR event.

Almost eighty people were treated to the culinary delights of local caterer Elke Key. Tables were dressed festively, Christmas music filled the air and the stage was set to look like a parliamentary chamber. The titillating focal point was unquestionably a coveted bright blue trophy, sedately awaiting etchings of the winning team.

The night was typical of winter, but inside Waiatarua's Community Hall the atmosphere couldn't have been cosier. People of all ages had come from far and wide (and even from nearby) and from many walks of life. Lively dinner conversations quickly abated when the highlight of the evening got under way.

Tony Bacon, chairman of the debate, resourcefully introduced the individual participants to the sound of hearty cheering and applause. The moot, one of great controversy, was *That Size Matters*. Kevin Healy captained the affirmative team, alongside Christine Shepherd and Oliver Driver. The negating team's captain, Simon Prast, was joined by Penny Hulse and John Goudge.

Dramatic and sometimes desperate tactics unfolded over the hour-long altercation, with the general tone rising and falling like a roller coaster. Fame, rank and skill all melded into one as both teams fought for their honour. Arguments on both sides were extremely creative, and rebuttal was swiftly formed for clever delivery. Mr Bacon was forced to use his water pistol and squeaking hammer on several occasions.

After dessert, debaters were back on stage to receive their appraisal by way of audience appreciation. The electrifying anticipation was soon crushed by a couple of deafening rumbles made up not only of clapping but also stomping, whistling and extreme screaming. The second reverberation was quite obviously higher on the decibel scale, and so the negative team proudly took possession of that monumentally prestigious award – their captain waving it high above the intellect of his fellowship, whilst cameras blinded the three victorious winners.

Merriment continued into the wee hours, fostering a spontaneous and unexpected challenge from one neighbouring suburb for next year's debate. So, don't be too late for 2008!

*On behalf of the Waiatarua Ratepayers' and Residents' Association, I would like to say a huge thank you to the seven brave champions who gave up their time to entertain us – Robin Essex*



Front row: Penny Hulse, John Goudge, Christine Shepherd, Oliver Driver. Back row: Tony Bacon, Simon Prast, Kevin Healey.

### EDITOR:

Jenny Bebbington - Ph 814 9665  
E-Mail: bizart@xtra.co.nz

### WRRR President:

Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697  
E-Mail: davepocock@xtra.co.nz

### Community Hall & Library:

911 West Coast Road

### Hall hire

Les Duffield - Ph 814 1130

### Library hours:

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

### WEB Site:

www.waiatarua.org.nz

WAIATARUA PERFORMING ARTS TRUST INC.

## AUDITIONS

For the hilarious play **"AT THE BACH"**

AUDITIONS WILL BE HELD AT 2:00PM ON SUNDAY THE 19TH AUGUST  
at the Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua.

**A dozen actors aged 14-65 needed, along with anyone interested in working behind the scenes.**

**All enquiries to the director John Goudge – telephone 814 9744**

## WAIATARUA QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 18th August 2007 at 7:30pm

at the Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Road.

Based on that favourite Pub Quiz format, and kindly facilitated by **Cathie Wells and Ian Ford**.

Create a team of 6-8 people, or just drop in and become part of a friendly table team. Use your imagination to create a catchy name for your dynamic crew.

**Fantastic prizes to be won once again. Don't miss out!**

Cover charge just \$5 per person. Please BYO drinks and also BYO nibbles – this enables us to keep costs down so that everyone can enjoy a very affordable night out.

**For more info please call Ian Ford on 814 8871**

## From the Editor

Jenny Bebbington

The meeting at the Hall on July 13, regarding the recent spate of burglaries, had a great turnout and was a valuable source of information for all those that attended.

Les Duffield shared some great tips on alarms, security lights and buzzers to warn residents of people on their property. Mitre 10, Lincoln Road have a particularly helpful assistant who is passionate about security and willing to help those on the lookout for better protection. Other helpful tips were 'Beware of the Dog' and 'This Property is Monitored' signs on letterboxes, lockable gates and motion detector cameras, to name just a few.

Alarms of the past were constantly going off for no apparent reason, and we now tend to ignore our neighbours' alarms. But technology has improved significantly over the years and these alarms don't go off without a reason. Therefore we should react to our neighbours' alarms; get car registration numbers, descriptions of people and report anything that looks suspicious. But please don't confront anyone, leave this to the experts – the Police.

Neighbourhood Watch came to an end due to lack of funds, but it is in the process of being replaced by a new scheme, 'Neighbourhood Support Waitakere'. Les Duffield is currently on the lookout for residents to be liaison members – specifically for Mountain, Cascade, Tui, Raroa, Rimu, Atarua and Forest Hill Roads. There were people that attended the meeting that had continued Neighbourhood Watch on their own accord, with fantastic results. In one area there were reports of no burglaries at all since the scheme had been put in place. So these schemes do work, but of course the community needs to get behind it.

Please phone Les Duffield for further information 814 1130. Take care and until next time... **Jenny Bebbington**

## The Arataki Rangers' Roundup

Well, what a wild and woolly month it has been! Heavy rain fall and strong winds have seen more windfalls than usual. Staff have been busy removing these obstructions from the tracks and removing debris from drains that could cause surface flooding. Overall the Park escaped significant damage, with a minimum of disruption to services.

The same weather patterns have hindered some of the planting days throughout the region. In an effort to address these delays, a team is set to tackle a planting project at Te Rau Puriri. Te Rau Puriri is the newly acquired name for the Park on the Kaipara. It is a recent addition to the ARC and it is hoped that the thousands of *Kanuka* and *Manuka* to be planted will establish successive regeneration on what used to be primarily a farmed block.

After consultation and fine tuning of the design, construction has begun on the upgrade of the Arataki Visitor Centre Toilets. With the upstairs area of the Visitor Centre receiving regular updates, it was thought to be time for the toilet area downstairs to be brought up to a comparable level. During this time the toilets will be closed to visitors but there are still toilet facilities open behind the Education Centre. Completion is projected for the first week of September. **Be sure to schedule in a quick stop-over on your next visit!**

**That's all for this time around.**

**Kakite – The Arataki Rangers**

## From the President

Dave Pocock

Hi. Well winter started late but it sure has made up for lost time. It is at times like this that living in the hills is even more attractive. During the last month we received an anonymous letter in the hall mailbox, so it must be time for a gentle reminder that we do not acknowledge anonymous correspondence and immediately file it in file 13 (rubbish bin). We are quite happy to keep your identity protected but do need to know with whom we are communicating. I am a firm believer in approaching people face to face to air possible grievances, as 90% of us are realistic and do not intentionally upset our fellow beings.

School holidays are over, so time for a reminder that the 40kph speed limit regulations are back in force. Also, between the hours of 7:30am and 5:30pm, within 200 metres of school grounds 50kph is strictly enforced. This also applies at any time school activities are on i.e. sports days, gala days etc. As Councillor Linda Cooper stated in a recent press release, "Why not treat the speed limit as 40kph around all schools at all times".

Well the Dinner/Debate has been and gone and I know Robin is writing a report but I would just like to congratulate the contestants, the caterers, and all concerned on the night. Our family thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the evening. By the way, as predicted by Simon Prast on numerous occasions prior, the negative team led by Simon WON!

We are fast approaching the local body elections and it would be nice to see us moving from one of the lowest polling areas to at least average and lets face it, voting is easy with postal ballots, you do not even have to leave home. To help with this, the next issue of this newsletter will be an Election Special with profiles on as many Waitakere Ward candidates as possible. This will cover Mayoral, Council, Community Board and Licensing Trust candidates, so if you are one or know of one, contact our editor at [bizart@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bizart@xtra.co.nz). Les Duffield held a meeting at our hall on the 13th with the subject being burglaries and neighbourhood support. I was suffering the winter cold/flu but Shirley went and found it very interesting and well attended, thanks Les. One thing that came out was people may be members of WRRRA but are not receiving our Hotmail, the reason for that will be that I do not have your email address. I compile a new list each year and you must include that detail on the registration form, so if that is you, send details to [davepocock@xtra.co.nz](mailto:davepocock@xtra.co.nz). If you are not a member it is only \$10 per annum or part thereof, 1st January–31st December, send details: name, address, phone number, email and deliver or post to The Treasurer, 911 West Coast Rd, or if easier drop in my box 792 West Coast Rd. WRRRA Hotmail is a service for financial members.

Well that's me for this month and next month my space may be cut down for the candidates. – **Dave**

## Fire Brigade

Ian Ford

All of the drivers in the Brigade have passed a 5-yearly Fire Service revalidation of their Emergency Response driving skills in the last few weeks. The Brigade also had a familiarisation visit to the Kordia Communications (TV mast) site recently – our thanks to Rodney Anderson for his time showing us through.

### Safety Tip – Wheat Bags

Always place a glass of water in the microwave with the wheat bag. This replenishes the water content in the grain, maintains the effectiveness of the bag as a hot pack and prevents the grain drying out. If the bag is overheated an irreversible deterioration of the grain can occur – signs are an overcooked odour, smell of burning or charring and, in extreme cases, smoking. If this happens then you should let it cool down thoroughly on a non-combustible surface (e.g. vanity unit or metal bench-top) before disposing of it.

### Recent Calls

**1:15 am, Saturday 23 June** – Car fire, Piha Rd.

**11:30am, Sunday 24 June** – Medical assistance, Bush Rd.

**7:04pm, Monday 2 July** – Car fire, Lone Kauri Rd.

**9:46 pm, Friday 6 July** – Packing shed fire, Shaw Rd. Nine appliances were called to this third alarm fire.

**10:05pm, Friday 6 July** – Tree across road, Scenic Drive.

**9:50pm, Friday 13 July** – Car rolled, Forest Hill Rd.

## Garden Group

Eileen Powell

Our last get together was a very interesting tour of the Unitec School of Horticulture, including the organic garden and the herbarium. Next time we have something different as we will visit the subtropical garden of Peter Brady at 56 Marsden Avenue, Mt. Eden. This is a constantly changing garden and the latest developments include two dramatic sculptures cascading into a pool. Meet at 11 am, Wednesday 1 August. The entry fee is \$5. We will then head for Eden Gardens where we will have lunch and soak up the sight of hundreds of camellias in flower.

**All Waitaruaans are invited to join us. Ring Eileen on 814 9298 or email [etpowe@clear.net.nz](mailto:etpowe@clear.net.nz) for further information or to arrange car pooling.**

## BRICKBATS and BOUQUETS

Sponsored by the Fairy Flower Shop,  
423 Titirangi Road, Titirangi. Phone 817 3780

This month's **bouquet** is a hearty thank you to all those who look out for their neighbours; reporting suspicious activity and reacting to alarms.

There have been no nominations for the **brickbat** this month.

### Waitarua Rainfall (June 2007)

	Rain Days	Wettest Day	Mth Total	Year to Date
Mountain Road	19	2nd – 39 mm	220 mm	629 mm
Brabant Road	20	29th – 32 mm	176 mm	602 mm
Quinns Road	21	30th – 21 mm	136 mm	498 mm
Forest Hill Road	20	29th – 40 mm	213 mm	647 mm
Auckland City	–	–	81 mm	382 mm

## FOCUS ON BUSINESS

Raised by a mother who sang in *Gilbert and Sullivan* productions since before he can remember, and a Methodist minister father who heavily influenced his participation and involvement in music, John Goudge's love of drama and music was probably inevitable. As a four-year-old boy soprano, John sang in *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat*. At 10, he began to learn the piano.

These days, John Goudge is a familiar name in Waiatarua. His professional time is split between teaching drama, playing in his own band, and involvement in community theatre. A journalist by profession, John's move into drama as a serious business came 10 years ago, when Donna Clark (of *Gloss* fame in the 1980s) closed her drama studio where John had been teaching classes for her. John took over the existing classes, building up to six or seven classes. Until three years ago, John also taught at the Titirangi Theatre.

Around seven years ago, John and Kathy purchased their home in Rimu Rd (he refers to Kathy as 'my lovely partner'). With an existing studio, the need to find venues to rent for classes came to a welcome end. It's probably worth joining one of John's classes just to spend a bit of time in his unique studio; from the full-length windows along one wall overlooking the bush, to the fabulous outside decks and warming wood fire inside, it's a treasure that John is constantly working to improve and upgrade.

John's classes cover a range of age groups (now all adults) and abilities. His students are there for reasons ranging from wanting a personal challenge, to a need for improved confidence and presentation skills, or to hone skills for amateur or professional theatre.

John has always enjoyed playing the guitar and singing for friends, but 1995 saw the beginning of his foray into music at a different level, with a performance of his own original music at the Titirangi Theatre. Today, the John Goudge band consists of eight dedicated and talented members. In 2006, at West Point Centre in Motions Road, the band debuted with their own concert. They've since played at events such as the Waitakere Christmas Festival, and regularly perform at a variety of venues. More exciting times are ahead as the band works towards the release of their first album (all John's original compositions) at the end of the year.

Those who attended the *Great Waiatarua Dinner and Debate* in June will no doubt have enjoyed John's performance as a member of the debating team – he was quite impressed at how many people heckled him! His involvement in local drama clubs has now completed a full circle – 20 years ago, prior to becoming involved with Titirangi Theatre, John had the lead role in a production of *The Nerd* with the Waiatarua Drama Club. Today, he is president of the newly formed Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust; my guess would be that they feel pretty fortunate to have him.

Web: [www.myspace.com/johngoudgeband](http://www.myspace.com/johngoudgeband). Email: [goudgedrama@zip.co.nz](mailto:goudgedrama@zip.co.nz) – **Jan Haine**

## Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

**NEW THIS MONTH:** We have two new recipe books for slow cookers and crockpots – lovely to browse through and plan those meals. *Barbara Kingsolver's* new book on a year of living as a 'locavore' is a very good read (locavore is a newly coined term meaning someone who eats mostly locally produced food).

**What is the What** – *Dave Eggers*. This has had excellent reviews. It is the story of a young man and his trek across Sudan; his survival and eventual swapping of life in a dusty jungle for one in a concrete jungle.

Also, a reminder that we do get **Consumer Magazine**, and while it can't be borrowed it is available for you to read.

**Good reading.** Remember you can reserve books; call in or email [jawz@clear.net.nz](mailto:jawz@clear.net.nz).

## ARTHRITIS IN PETS

**WHAT IS IT?** Arthritis is the inflammation of a joint. There are many joints in the body, but it is usually the limbs that are affected. It can affect one joint, or many. The lining of the joint, called cartilage, is involved and is very important in treatment. **WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?** A classic sign is that when he's had his walk, your pet flops down in his bed for a snooze, and can hardly walk when he tries to get up later. Usually he will have problems climbing the stairs or jumping into the car. The sooner this is looked into the better, to prevent the condition worsening. **HOW IS THE DIAGNOSIS MADE?** An x-ray will be taken of the dog's leg, usually under a general anaesthetic. This is necessary because the dog will lie still, so that better pictures can be taken and it can all be over quickly and smoothly. **WHAT IS THE TREATMENT?** This involves daily medication, tablets or liquid, alone or in combination. Most are easy to remember and to give. It's worthwhile to know that if one drug is not effective, another might be. As in humans, some dogs respond differently to different treatments. **IMPORTANT RULES:** There are some important rules that need to be followed! **WEIGHT** – weight control is crucial as this is the key to success in keeping your dog comfortable. **EXERCISE** – this is a bit tricky, too much will make it worse, and too little can make the joints seize up. **MEDICATION** – we now have medications that work well.

– **Zoran and the team at West Coast Veterinary Clinic**

*West Coast Veterinary Clinic are offering a free 10-day arthritis drug trial until the end of August. Just pay for your consultation – the follow-up consultation will be free.*

Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association

Name \_\_\_\_\_ I ENCLOSE:  
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## Letters to the Editor

I am motivated to share my recent experience from a shopper's point of view. Despite the convenience of 'everything under the one roof', I have come to the conclusion that we as consumers have lost quality of service somewhere within the maze of the modern shopping mall.

Let me explain... I recently wanted to have a few extra charms added to a silver bracelet, which also needed a small repair job done on the clasp. First port of call was the West City branch of a well-known jewellery chain. From the moment the young assistant opened her mouth, I received nothing but a "too hard" attitude with exorbitant prices to match. Apparently the job could not be done on the premises, and so the piece would have to be sent away – thus incurring further cost. No amount of supplication made a blind bit of difference, so I turned on my heel with bracelet in hand and frustration aplenty.

On the advice of a friend, my next stop was a small jeweller in Glen Eden. The contrast in service was amazing. Nothing was too much trouble, costs were extremely reasonable and a free clean and polish offered. All work was done on the premises, and I could collect my goods within a few days.

It's a no-brainer working out where my custom goes from here! I recommend we keep these 'little guys' in business. Yes – we might need to park a wee bit further away or get the umbrella out, but why should the slackers have our money?

– **Robin Essex**

## WEED BIN

The weed bin has now been delivered to the Waiatarua Fire Station at 464A Scenic Dr. This note is to encourage Waiatarua residents to remove their environmental weeds and put them in the bin. The most invasive weeds in our area are: *ginger, plectranthus, blue morning glory, agapanthus, wandering jew, woolly nightshade, jasmine, pampas grass and climbing asparagus*.

We are hoping that this bin will be there permanently, but this depends on how well it is used and whether it will be abused, so at the moment it is on trial only. Please note that this bin is for environmental weeds only and NOT for general garden waste and other household rubbish.

**Susanne Timms – WRRRA Environmental Officer**

## Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc. Committee as from February 2007

### President / Community Board

Dave Pocock Ph 814 9697 [davepocock@xtra.co.nz](mailto:davepocock@xtra.co.nz)

### Vice President

Korstiaan Prins Ph 814 1850 [korprins@xtra.co.nz](mailto:korprins@xtra.co.nz)

### Treasurer

Jan Haine Ph 837 2318 [jan\\_haine@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jan_haine@xtra.co.nz)

### Secretary

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### Newsletter Editor

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### Hall Manager

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### Committee Members:

Frank Hogsden Ph 814 9869

Robin Essex Ph 814 1850 [robsx@free.net.nz](mailto:robsx@free.net.nz)

Brian Riley Ph 814 9957 [brian.riley@xtra.co.nz](mailto:brian.riley@xtra.co.nz)

Susanne Timms Ph 814 9346 [shtimms@xtra.co.nz](mailto:shtimms@xtra.co.nz)

Simon Prast Ph 308 5520 [simon@twa.co.nz](mailto:simon@twa.co.nz)

Oliver Driver [driver@easytoremember.co.nz](mailto:driver@easytoremember.co.nz)

### Representative:

Ian Ford Ph 814 8871 [ian.ford@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ian.ford@xtra.co.nz)

(Fire Brigade)

# Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Jenny Bebbington via email [bizart@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bizart@xtra.co.nz) or phone 814 9665. Community Notices are free to financial members 2007, January to December.

**ACTING TRAINING FOR ADULTS:** Monday and Wednesday night classes at Rimu Glade Studio, 4 Rimu Road, Waiatarua, with tutor John Goudge. Nine-week courses enrolling now. Phone 814 9744 for info.

**GARDENER:** Trained and experienced. For regular garden maintenance. Phone Hugh 838 3594.

**HANDYMAN WORK:** - Reliable, efficient with fair rates. SPECIAL gutters cleaned and gutter guard installed, from \$45. Phone Mike 814 9708

**LA LECHE LEAGUE:** Meetings held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Kelston Community Centre. For more info call Adith: phone 818 7728.

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

**ORATIA SCHOOL 125<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATIONS NOVEMBER 2007**  
We have started work on a book covering the events of the last 25 years, and would like to know about past pupils who have done things that might be of interest to other people. Can you help us? Any stories, events, occurrences, successes, will be gratefully accepted at the school office.

**OTIMAI:** - Events and training centre is available for hire (Guides Auckland) and is open to view by appointment. Please phone Lynne & Walter on 814 9992 for bookings.

**THE ORATIA COMMUNITY CHURCH:** On the corner of Parker & West Coast Roads. Activities - Bible Study and Prayer Group: Tuesdays 1.00pm. - Fellowship (trips, meetings etc.): 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays of each month.

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

**WAIMATA 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.

## HALL HIRE

**911 WEST COAST ROAD  
WAIATARUA**

1-2 hour sessions \$20  
Half day hire \$60  
Half day & evening function  
(deposit required) \$150

Contact Les on 814 1130 or Dave on 814 9697

### Advantages of being a WRRRA 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
- Elevation Licenced Café & Restaurant**  
12.00pm till late - 471 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 10.00am-5.00pm)

## WEST COAST VETERINARY CLINIC

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## WAIATARUA TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Every Tuesday night - 7pm  
Waiatarua Hall - 911 West Coast Rd.  
\$2 per person.

Everyone welcome, so bring along your family for this fun, weekly event.

Contact Les on 814 1130 or Korstiaan on 814 1850, for further information.

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## WEST COAST PAINTING



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### WINTER AT ELEVATION...

**Sunday Roast** - Still very popular get the family together for a traditional family Sunday Roast diner. Out of the oven at 6pm. Only \$16.50 per person. Bookings essential!

**Winter Hours** - Monday & Tuesday - Sorry we are closed.  
Wednesday & Thursday 12 noon till 3pm.  
Friday - Sunday 10 am till Late

**Kids Nite Out** - Fridays kids eat free off the childrens menu

The fire is blazing every day and the restaurant is warm and cosy.

Waiatarua Ratepayers Association members 10% discount (on two diners).

Come along for casual relaxed dining.

## ELEVATION

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## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of The Editor, by **WEDNESDAY 8TH AUGUST, 2007**

Jenny Bebbington Ph 814 9665  
[bizart@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bizart@xtra.co.nz)