

Waiaatarua Community News

900 copies

December 2011



Sweet solo singer **Angela Asuncion** returns again this year to charm the crowds.



Victoria (Vicki) Vigenser leads the Waitakere Christmas Festival Choir in singing Christmas Carols

Waitakere Christmas Festival celebrates 10 years!!

This is a very exciting year for the Waitakere Christmas Festival Trust as it plans its 10th year at Parris Park, Oratia on 3rd December 2011.

A very special show is planned and being Directed by the very talented John Goudge and we welcome back once again West Auckland's very own Pio Terei who believed in us 10 years ago when he agreed to become our Patron and MC.

The 2011 Waitakere Christmas Festival boasts a fine variety of talented performers, including BlackSandDiva, Tamashii Taiko Drummers, Show West Singers, & the Recliner Rockers.

Alongside our experienced adult artists will be the young stars of Waitakere music & dance. The festival also features school & cultural groups, making a truly diverse programme of acts this year.

This year we are very proud to be working in tandem with Violence Free Waitakere's 'Have a Happy Holiday' promotion and as our charity bucket collection so don't forget to bring along those gold coins for the collection.

So bring along your picnic baskets and rugs and be prepared to be entertained

NOTE: Due to new rules set by Auckland Council this event is now alcohol free as well as smoke free.

Give It Up For Hospice

A great idea for the planet, the community, your wallet and your wardrobe!

The Hospice Shops (Henderson, Te Atatu, New Lynn & Helensville) are key revenue streams for Hospice West Auckland. Sales from these shops help ensure that specialist palliative (end of life) care is given to the members of our community, free of charge. Hospice West Auckland invites you to give up your unwanted designer clothes this summer... and win free backstage passes to a Gin Wigmore concert!

Step one

Drop in a dress, blitz the bling and lose those shoes – not only are you cleaning out your wardrobe ready for the new summer fashions but you are helping your community. Either drop your clothes in to one of the friendly Hospice shops (Henderson - 21 Railside Ave, Te Atatu - 538 Te Atatu Road, Helensville - 36 Mill Road, New

Lynn - Delta Avenue) or call 0508 446 7742 to arrange for the collection of your clothes.

Collection bags are being dropped at workplaces across West Auckland, so if your workplace would like a collection bag please contact campaign coordinator Jacob Bish on (09) 834 9750 ext 706.

Step two

Want to pick up some designer threads at a great price? From November 21 – December 10 the donated designer clothes will be on sale in our Hospice Shops – and by purchasing the garments you'll also have the opportunity to win tickets and backstage passes to Gin Wigmore's 2012 concert tour! Keep your eye on the website www.giveitup.co.nz for more information on how to win.

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

EDITOR: All enquiries to Robyn O'Sullivan - Ph 814 1143, E-Mail: munster@ihug.co.nz • **WRRR President:** Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697, E-Mail: davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Community Hall & Library: 911 West Coast Road • **Hall hire (bookings)** John Goudge - Ph 814 9744

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.waiaatarua.org.nz

From the Editor Robyn O'Sullivan

This year has passed relatively quickly and my family has been quite fruitful. I started off the year a mere mother of four and am ending it as a grandmother of two! The weather is warming up nicely, we're all happy and healthy and life is good!

Many thanks to our contributors, who always get their copy in on time even when their editor forgets to remind them and to our advertisers... I hope we help you as much as you help us. Enjoy the next few weeks, have a lovely Xmas and I promise not to hassle any of you until mid-Jan.

And to our readers, enjoy your holidays and stay safe over the break!

Community Notices

Kids Giftmaking - a FREE event for children Saturday 3 December 2011. Two sessions (9am - 11.30am or 12.30pm - 3pm) Corban Estate Arts Centre, Shed 2. 426 Great North Road, Henderson.

All children from West Auckland are invited to make special Christmas gifts for their families. Children must be registered and accompanied by an adult.

To register, please phone (09) 839 0400 or fill out the registration form online at <http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz>

Donations of giftmaking materials are welcome and volunteers are needed to assist. Please phone Eilis (giftmaking coordinator) ph 838 4455 ext 208 or email eilislovestrees@hotmail.com

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Lessons and Carols Service

Enjoy the spirit of Christmas with the Oratia Singers.

Sunday December 4, 7.00pm, Oratia Church - 622-624 West Coast Rd Oratia, Ph: 818 8344.

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Oratia Christmas Picnic

Local entertainment, carols, face painting, Santa.

Sunday December 11, 6.30pm. Rain date: Dec 18, 6.30pm. Oratia Church - 622-624 West Coast rd Oratia, Ph: 818 8344.

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Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust

Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust is already gearing up for its first production of 2012. Local resident Kathy Lowe is keen to direct the play "Steel Magnolias" by Robert Harling.

With a cast of six women, the action takes place in Truvy's beauty parlour and the women who regularly gather there. The underlying group-friendship among all six women is prominent throughout the drama.

Watch out for auditions in March. For further information and/or expressions of interest please phone 814 1850.

Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

Come along and choose your reading for the Christmas period.

If you live in Waiatarua you are welcome to come along to our Community Library and borrow books from us. We are open Thursday 10am - 12pm; Friday 7pm - 8pm; Saturday & Sunday 11am - 12pm and you will find us in the lower area of the Community Hall - on West Coast Rd just past the Forest Hill Rd and West Coast Rd Intersection.

A Selection Of This Month's New Books:

"The Invisible Bridge" - Julie Orringer. Starting in 1937 this tells of the journeys of three Hungarian brothers. One is an architecture student in Paris, one studying medicine in Modena, and the other an actor. Family bonds are hard to break but when war breaks out the family is shattered. War is devastating but will the relationships survive?

"Golden Earrings" - Belinda Alexandra. Moving between Barcelona in the period prior to the Civil War and Paris in the 1970s, a young ballet student sets off on a quest to find the story behind earrings handed to her in strange circumstances. What is their connection to the earrings and their previous owner?

"Carver" - Tom Cain. The collapse of Lehmann Bros. in 2008 was devastating for the financial markets and blamed on many things - greed, poor management, and the sub-prime market. Was it, perhaps, a deliberate act and a dry run for a much bolder attack on the London financial markets?

"Matilda Is Missing" - Caroline Overington. A couple break up and go to the Family Court over the future custody of their two-year-old daughter. Matilda's needs are getting lost in the war between the parents. Does the system exist to meet the child's needs or those of the parents?

"The Help" - Kathryn Stockett. A young white woman in 1960s Mississippi learns the stories of the black women who survive against all the odds as maids who are indispensable but never trusted by their employers. Can they cross the boundaries that divide them and have a better life?

"Obedience" - Jacqueline Yallop. The convent in rural France is closing. Sister Bernard, in her 90s, confronts her past as she prepares to move to a retirement village. She had an inappropriate relationship with a German soldier during the war. What is the line between innocence and guilt, ignorance and complicity?

"The Fear Index" - Robert Harris. Hoffman runs a hedge fund company and has developed a software programme that helps predict the vagaries of the stock market. An intruder breaches the security of the programme and all is in danger. What is the real fear?

The library will be closed from 12pm, Thursday 22 December 2011, and reopens 10am, Thursday 12th January 2012.

Advantages of being a WRRRA member?

Show your membership card at the following businesses for a 10% discount (conditions may apply)

Glen Eden Landscape Supplies 293 West Coast Rd. Ph: 818 6129

Colourplus Paint & Wallpaper Glenmall, Glen Eden. Ph: 818 8263

Auckland's Waitakere Estate 573 Scenic Dr. Ph: 814 9622

Awakenings Massage Therapy 834 West Coast Rd. Ph: 814 1199

Blow Moulders Ltd 8 Waikaukau Rd Glen Eden, Ph 818 7709 (cash and cheque sales only)

Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

Email: _____

I ENCLOSE:

\$10 household

To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Waitakere City, or leave at the library

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Letters to the Editor

In last month's Fire Brigade report, Louisa neglected to mention that Elaine Alexander, until very recently a member of the Waiaatarua brigade, was also in the female fire-fighters calendar, as Miss November. The calendar is in support of child cancer. The poignant aspect of this is that between the photo shoot and the publication of the calendar, Elaine's 15-year-old son Declan was taken suddenly ill, and diagnosed with stage four lymphoma. With his heart and his lungs compromised, he fought for his life for more than seven weeks, several of them in an induced coma, before he was stabilised. At the time of writing he is still in ICU and is still receiving chemotherapy. This seems worthy of mention, because even though the family has moved to Te Atatu in the past few weeks, they are still very much "one of our own".

Norma

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Prompted by Tony Bacon's recent letter, and having harboured a similar view for a while, I too would really enjoy reading a bit more local news in our Waiaatarua Community News instead of so many advertisements.

I do acknowledge just how much hard work goes into this publication, and I know that local news does not come knocking on the door as frequently as advertisers do; but perhaps a way can be found to encourage the community to be more proactive in coming forth with interesting news-worthy reports.

Robin Essex

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Every month we stick in a notice urging the public to share whatever with the rest of the community. People promise much but are slow in delivering material to my door. I too would like to see more local news but short of breaking into homes and forcing them at gunpoint to write something interesting, I think I've gone as far as I can.

I have had far more support for the advertising than against and many thanks to the people who took the time to ring and tell me so! One of our back page advertisers who also stuck a small inquiry in last month's column, had an extremely quick response on the day the newsletter came out and now we have two very delighted members of our community able to solve each of their dilemmas with a few words in print. Surely that's what a good community newsletter should do...bring the members together!

We will continue with the good work! -Ed.

Fire Brigade Report

RFF Louisa Ferguson

The Guy Fawkes Bonfire at the fire Station was a huge success again this year. The bonfire was great and many fire works were let off. We had a call out early in the night, so everyone got to see our members in action and our truck go out the door under lights and sirens.

Thank you to all the Waiaatarua fire Brigade members who helped organise this, it was a fun evening. Thank you to all the members of the community who came along.

Well it's that time of year again. Christmas!! From the Waiaatarua Fire Brigade have a safe and Merry Christmas in Waiaatarua and a Happy New Year.

Fire safety - Christmas tree lights

- Remember your lights have been stored away in their box since last Christmas. Check the lights carefully before placing them on the tree. If any of the wires are frayed or broken, throw them out and buy a new set of lights.
- Make sure all the connections are tight and that the bulbs/cords are in good condition. Loose connections and frayed cords can cause a short circuit.
- Test the lights before you place on the tree. Once installed, you should be able to turn the lights on and off without having to crawl under the tree.
- Never leave the tree lights on overnight or when leaving the house.
- Never use candles near the Christmas tree or as tree decorations.
- If your tree becomes dry and starts shedding needles you should remove it from the house. Don't take the risk!
- Check that your artificial tree is made from flame resistant materials.
- Lights should never be used on artificial trees with metal frames.
- All tree ornaments should be flame resistant.

Calls

22/10/11, 1:31pm, Scenic Drive, Titirangi - Motorbike off the road

30/10/11, 8:24am, Scenic Drive, Henderson Valley - Car over bank

05/11/11, 6:24pm, Beach Valley Road, Piha - Roof fire

07/11/11, 8:47pm, Piha Road, Piha - Car spun out

11/11/11, 9:19pm, Marine Parade, South Piha - Scrub Fire

Need A Smoke Alarm? Standard Smoke Alarms are available Free from the brigade; Please Contact DCFO Karl Nuttall Details Below.

Waiaatarua Fire Brigade Contacts: Phone 111 for any Fire or Emergency. Otherwise please call Chief Fire Officer Helen Longley (814 9855), Deputy Chief Fire Officer Karl Nuttall (814 8777), Station Officer Ian Ford (814 8871), Station Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505), Station Officer Gareth Mullins (814 9282).

Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Contact Robyn O'Sullivan, munster@ihug.co.nz, ph 814 1143.

Community Notices are free to financial members 2009, January to December.

Babysitter Jade Casey Waby, 15 yrs, reliable and has experience with babies and little kids. Price negotiable. Ring 814 9386 or text 021 153 8582 if you want a babysitter.

Broadband in Waiaatarua - To be kept informed about developments (or lack of them), send your name, phone number and email address to Tony Bacon at tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz

Dog-Sitter: I can look after your dog in my own home. Daily bush/beach walk, long or short stay and Xmas holidays. Ph Diana on 814 9144 or 027 279 3509

Handyman Out West. Any work undertaken. House and property maintenance, renovation and decoration eg gutter cleaning, water blasting, deck building, tree felling, painting etc. Reliable and no GST charge. Phone Mike 814 9708.

Iyoga formerly Yoga Aravinda at Waiaatarua hall: For Iyengar Yoga call Vanessa Greenwood on 816 9522 or 027 541 4810 or visit www.iyoga.co.nz for timetable information.

Otimai: Events and training centre is available for hire (Guides Auckland) and is open to view by appointment. Phone Bruce on 814 9992 for bookings.

Plants: Bromeliads \$5 - \$6; Taros, cannas and various shrubs \$4 - \$5. All sales to Nepalese Educ Trust. Phone Margaret 814 9859.

Social card player wanted to make up four-some to play Canasta/Samba for occasional Saturday nights. Please ph Lynn on 8149468 or 0274918294 or email lbainbridge@xtra.co.nz

Nadine needs to rent a room asap. Please contact her after 5pm on 828-2404 (and leave a message) and anytime on weekends and on 021 056 5523

NORMA is available to take bookings for weddings and other ceremonies. Phone 814 1868.

The Oratia Community Church: On the corner of Parker & West Coast roads. Fellowship (trips, meetings etc.): 2nd Thursday of each month.

Waiaatarua Playcentre: 911 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua. Phone 09 814 8835. Sessions: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm.

Wanted for Feb. 2012 - Reliable person to take child to and from Rangeview school, pick up and drop off from Turanga Road, Henderson Valley. Payment to be arranged. Ph 09 838 2093 asap.

WANTED: Someone with an engineering lathe to do a very small bit of turning for me. Phone Tony Bacon, 8149860.

WorkWanted: Drainage - 40 years experience, call Ray on 814 9242.

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor
by **FRIDAY 13th JANUARY 2012 - 5PM**
Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143
munster@ihug.co.nz
No January issue

Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year
to all our readers.

We wish you a safe and happy
holiday season and look
forward to hearing from you in
the new year.

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