



# Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

December 2014

## WAIATARUA PLAYCENTRE HERITAGE TRAIN TRIP

Waiatarua Playcentre is a busy little centre nestled in the hills of the Waitakere's. A normal session involves lots of paint, sand, music and fun, BUT this week we did something a little different. We took a train ride from the Glen Eden Station out to Waitakere Station.

With the proposed changes to the Auckland Transport System we will not be able to do this in the future, as electric trains will only go as far as Swanson (missing out the best

bit... where the train goes through the tunnel). During the trip we passed through a tunnel, talked to the conductor and explained how trains worked to the children.

When we got to the Waitakere Station we walked to nearby Heritage Farm. The children had a wonderful time playing on Terence the Tractor, holding new-born chicks, playing with the goats and petting a calf. Heritage Farm also has an extensive range of heritage chickens which the children investigated.

We had an amazing time and totally recommend that people get out and support their local businesses or take a ride out to Waitakere while you still can.



Playcentre is a parent run organisation that offers 3 free visits to prospective families. Waiatarua Playcentre is situated at 911 West Coast Rd, Waiatarua. Phone 814 8835 to organise a time to join us for a great coffee and some delicious baking.

## From The Library

Jeanette Ziesler

**“Edge Of Eternity”** – Ken Follett. This follows the fortunes of 5 intertwined families and their respective countries through the 1960's, '70's & '80's. The social, political and economic upheaval of this period is accurately portrayed in this fast moving story. Although this is the final in the “Century”, it can be read as a one-off. A big book but well worth reading.

**“The Rosie Effect”** – Graeme Simsion. For all those who loved “The Rosie Project”. Don has seen the light and married Rosie. They have moved to New York, and Rosie is unexpectedly pregnant. True to form, the father-to-be uses his logical approach and lateral thinking as he plans for parenthood and assesses his ability to be a father. A must read for Rosie Project fans.

**“Hard Country”** – Robin Robilliard. Gary and Robin moved to Golden Bay in 1957 and used all their meagre savings to buy a rundown and marginal piece of land near Takaka. They raised their family and eked out a living on the sheep farm. What's more they are still living and working there. The title says it all.

**“The Dwarf Who Moved”** – Peter Williams. A memoir from one of our more colourful and outspoken QC's. Williams shares many stories of the good, bad and strange of the legal world. A wonderful accumulation of experiences from a principled man who has practised the law for 50 years.

**Last day for borrowing before Christmas is Sunday 21st December, and we will reopen at 10am on Thursday, 8th January, 2015. Enjoy the summer break.**

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE EDITOR OR THE WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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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

## Local News...

### ...for Local People

The WRRRA have decided to offer FREE membership until the end of our financial year. This gets you onto the 'Hot Mail' list which brings instant Waiatarua news to your email inbox. You also get a discount at many of the advertisers in the newsletter. Join now by emailing Sue at [treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz). Offer only open until end of 2014.

#### From The Waiatarua Community Patrol...

A busy month with 21 patrols, 976K, 83 hours and 16 incidents reported. The highlight was locating a stolen truck.

Two more members joined, so heading towards our goal of 40, as we have two cars and want to have them both on the road. And lastly, we attended the police briefing for operation Speedo which starts 1st November and runs till the end of March. We will see our patrol working closely in this operation to keep our area safe.

Stuart Hampton.

#### From The Garden Group...

Our last visit for the year is to a local garden in early December and a week or so later, we will enjoy our Christmas lunch.

We wish all the gardeners out there a happy Christmas and hope you are able to pick the tasty home grown vegetables and have time to smell the roses. Further information from Eileen on 814-9298.

Boys and their toys certainly make the job go faster at The Great Waiatarua Clean-up!

Many thanks to everyone who gave up their time to come and help. It was most appreciated!

## Hello Waiatarua!

To be honest it's taken me a while to get used to the delay between writing this column and publication. The process of writing, then the editor/producer layout, the printing and then the distribution means that it can be almost a month before anyone sees what I wrote.

But that aside, after being an Waiatarua rate payer for almost 5 years, this first year of being involved in the WRRRA has been fantastic.

The Waiatarua Spring Clean last month was a real highlight. I was slightly worried that we might not have filled the huge bin that the Keep Waitakere Beautiful Trust provided but No! In the end there were 6 TVs found alongside our roads, and 9 cubic metres of other discarded cr@p, including 1 kitchen sink. That's a LOT of rubbish. Thanks so much to all who called in, even if it was just for a coffee. It all helped. The community centre looks amazing and several people have asked me if we had it repainted. No! We just got it cleaned up.

Sounds like we'll all be paying more in rates soon. And what does Len plan on giving us in return? It seems that the proposed deletion of the bus service to Waiatarua is a consequence of needing to pay for the rail loop. I do think the rail loop is a good idea. And I understand that most of you haven't even thought of catching our bus. But when your car is in the shop or, shock; horror, you have kids who need to get to and from school, or you are just someone who doesn't drive, then the bus can be rather essential. And you've already subsidised most of it in your rates! And if our bus service is deleted you will still be paying the same in rates! ! !

I seriously and strongly urge you all to make a submission if you don't want to Waiatarua to lose its buses. It can be done quickly online at <http://bit.ly/1vaRikf> and explain what losing the bus service do to you.

The WRRRA will also make a submission so feel free to send us an email about your situation.

This being the last newsletter of the year I must say best wishes to all of you for Christmas and New Year. Hope you have a great one!

Peter  
[president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:president@waiatarua.org.nz)



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December and the silly season have all but arrived so well done for another year under your belts. I hope your mistakes have been few this year and your pleasures many! May you have a long and rewarding summer. Merry Christmas to all my contributors (keep your pencils sharpened) and to our many advertisers. I hope you too, have prospered from the advertising



and will continue into the next year. Last Christmas I had one grandchild in the country and a fully employed husband. This Christmas, I will have five grandchildren and a husband who will be home ALL THE TIME! The two are not connected ...we haven't gone mad and opened a creche or anything but life changes and change is good.



Have a very happy and joyful Christmas...

**Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade News**

It was a very quiet guy Fawkes this year for Waiatarua. No callouts at all. We had our annual Guy Fawkes Bonfire at the Fire Station on Fri 7th Nov. It was a great night with members of Waiatarua community coming along to share fireworks and a fun time with the brigade.

On Sunday 9th the Brigade took the Fire truck down to The Arataki Visitor center for the annual Kids Fun Day at Arataki. The kids got to meet the fire fighters, have a squirt with the fire hose and see the kitchen fire demonstration. A very worthwhile day for teaching fire safety and having some fun with the kids.

We are currently working on training up our new recruits for them to go on recruit courses down in Rotorua in January and February. Have a wonderful holiday Season, A merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade

**Fire Calls:**

**25/10/2014** 04:35pm MVA, Car Rolled West Coast Road, Waiatarua This was a single car motor vehicle accident. The usual traffic management was required

**Fire Safety: At Christmas**

- Make sure your tree has lots of water.
- Select a place in your house that is cool and away from busy areas, stairs and doors – especially doors leading outside.
- Secure the tree so it cannot be knocked over by children or pets. 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.

**Waiatarua Fire Brigade Contacts**

Phone 111 for any Fire or Emergency. Otherwise please call Chief Fire Officer Helen Longley (814 9855) Waiatarua Fire Brigade Contacts Phone 111 for any Fire or Emergency. Otherwise please call Chief Fire Officer Helen Longley (814 9855), Deputy Chief Fire Officer Gareth Mullins (814 9282),

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Contact John Goudge on 814 9744

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 current financial members.

**Better Scrapbooking Ltd:** Scrapbooking workshops on the last Saturday night of each month. Cost \$15 Other regular scrapbooking and cardmaking classes and supplies available. 153 Solar Road, Glen Eden Phone Megan 818-2045

**Creative Drama Workshops** for 6 & 7 yr olds. Tuesdays Titirangi School.3.30-4.30 Upper Primary and Intermediate. Community House Titirangi Mon 3.30-4.30 Director Edith Shawyer 8149410 edipus@orcon.net. nz **dance dance dance school.** Classes for kids 5-11 years at Oratia Settlers Hall. Looking for something other than jazz and ballet? Creative, contemporary and dance making Jams. Tuesday 3:20 & 4:20, Thursday 3:20 & 4:20. Ph Christina 814 9540, 02102237414 or dancencedanceschool@gmail.com

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**Lawn mowing and section clean ups.** Ph Grant at Top Grass Ltd. 8149493 mob 02102475610

**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.

**The Oratia Community Church:** On the corner of Parker & West Coast roads. Fellowship meets on second Thursday of the month at 1pm in the Church Hall. Ph 813 9869 for information.

**Tiler / Stone layer,** 20 years experience in the trade available for indoor and outdoor projects large or small. Phone Craig Starr 021610408.

**To Let:** Double bedroom, large wardrobe, separate entrance as well as normal entrance, \$160 per week, shared laundry, reasonable internet, phone, sky tv. Queen bed if necessary. Ph Jan 8149938 or 027 475 8799 or jank3006@xtra.co.nz

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

**West Auckland Yoga** at Oratia Settlers Hall: Tues 9.30am and 6.30pm, Fri 9.15am (cost \$15). Ph Tasha 021 0274 9136 or Steph 0272 841 178 www.westaucklandyoga.kiwi.nz

**Zumba With Grace** It's Dance! It's Fun! It's Zumba! Oratia Setter's Hall Monday, Tuesday and Thursday \$10 per session Phone Grace or Megan on 818 2046 for times <http://gkapma.zumba.com/classes>



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February Newsletter  
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