

Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

March 2015



Oratia Country Fair 2015

World famous in West Auckland, Oratia District School's biennial Country Fair returns on Sunday 22 March 2015 - bigger and better than ever.

The Oratia Country Fair runs from 10am to 3pm, offering plenty of entertainment for the whole family, with funfair rides, police dog demonstrations and live music and performances by students and other talented locals.

From The Editor.

Robyn O'Sullivan

By now I'm sure, we'll be basking in the glow of a new and re-vitalised WRRRA committee. Yes, the AGM has come and gone, old committee members (oooh not old, I meant long-serving) have retired and we will miss them, especially for all the time and good works they have carried out.

But on the bright side, fresh blood has emerged and with this usually comes fresh ideas and new ways! Onwards and upwards!

Membership fees are due for those scoundrels who have yet to remember and pay. We are doing our best to make this year the most membership ever so please do your bit. It's only ten dollars, not enough to break your bank and what good savings you can make. (See page 3)

Let's hope the good weather continues for this month and enjoy the great outdoors!



Fairgoers can try their luck at the hotly contested fishing competition in the school pool, bid on dozens of great prizes in the silent auction and pick up a winning ticket in the quickfire raffles running throughout the day.

With the biggest and best white elephant stall in the West filling the school hall, and entire classrooms rooms full of clothes, books, CDs and toys to browse through, the fair is a bargain-hunter's dream.

And if fairgoers work up an appetite after all that shopping they can get their sugar fix at the Jolly Jar stall, pick up a homebaked cake at the cake stall or sample everything from freshly roasted coffee to butter chicken at the many food stalls.

If you are interested in promoting your business to thousands of people at the fair, please phone Francene McIlroy on 814 8840 or email countryfair@oratia.school.nz for information about sponsoring a stall or

donating goods or services.

What: Oratia Country Fair

When: Sunday 22 March 2015, 10am-3pm

Where: Oratia District School, Corner West Coast Road and Shaw Road, Oratia

Why: To raise money for soft-fall under the school's adventure playgrounds

For more info: Visit oratia.school.nz or like Oratia School Country Fair on Facebook

Garden Group

Eileen Powell

Hope everyone is coping with the shortage of water.

We know that gardens come at the bottom of the list when it has been dry for a while and the flowers and vegetables may suffer.

At least the lawns don't need as much cutting but unfortunately somehow the weeds keep on growing.

Next month we are changing direction and visiting gardens in the North of Auckland.

Please ring Eileen on 8149 298 for further information.

Welcome To Meditat

Where Meditation Meets The West Coast

Meditat is a weekly beginners meditation group, based in Waiatarua, West Auckland. Located in the heart of the West Coast bush, Meditat creates and spreads relaxation and positive energy from the moment you arrive.

Each Monday at 7pm, the group meets at 911 West Coast Rd at the Waiatarua Community Hall. The sessions involve a variety of meditations and meditation exercises, interjected with readings from enlightened authors and light stretches.

Meditat is a beginners' meditation class and offers exercises to suit all levels. Newcomers are always welcome, so please come along and bring a friend

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

Ever wondered what that double garage is that sits next to the Waiatarua Play Centre at the bottom of the drive at the Waiatarua Community Hall?

Affectionately known as 'Badgers,' it belongs to the Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust, & is a storage space for set construction materials and a few props & costumes.

'Badgers' is in need of a clean-up and the trust is discussing ideas to keep out the mould & mildew that all us bush dwellers are familiar with.

Built in the 1980s by the Waiatarua Drama Club, my first memory of it was in 1989. As a 21-year-old, I acted in the first play I was involved in at Waiatarua - The Nerd - an American comedy by Larry Shue. I remember rehearsing in the upstairs room there and there was a framed picture on the wall depicting a group of badgers. The picture can still be found among the props.

We even had a ghostly experience there at midnight. We must

have been having a couple of glasses of wine after rehearsal when we felt a presence in the room with us. I haven't felt it on any other occasion in the 26 years since.

The drama club went into recess for more than a decade, but was reinvigorated in the new century. For legal reasons a new structure had to be formed, so the new name Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust (WPAT) was born.

WPAT is currently considering a programme of plays for 2015, so watch this space. If you would like to get involved, contact Korstiaan Prins 814 1850

John Goudge



Fire Brigade News

The Waiatarua fire brigade has had a relatively busy start to 2015 with a steady run of fire calls and new recruits heading away to the National Training centre for a week long Basic firefighting course. Well done to those attending. This month also sees the brigade doing our annual first aid training.

Fire Safety - What to do in a fire

- Crawl low and fast to escape smoke. 'Get Down, Get Low, Get out.'
- Shut doors behind you to slow the spread of fire
- Meet at the planned meeting place.
- Once out, stay out - never go back inside.
- Phone the Fire Service from a safe phone. Tell the Fire Service•house number•street•nearest intersection•suburb and city

What to do after a fire:

Do not enter your damaged house unless you have to and have been advised it is safe to do so. The Fire Service will check the water, electricity and gas supplies and either arrange to have them disconnected or advise you what action to take.

Fire Calls:

20 Nov 2014 17:37	WEST COAST RD ORATIA	Motor Vehicle Accident
24 Nov 2014 19:04	WEST COAST RD and SCENIC DR WAIATARUA	Motor Vehicle Accident
12 Dec 2014 00:40	PIHA RD and ANAWHATA RD PIHA	Van Fire
14 Dec 2014 09:10	SCENIC DR WAIATARUA	Tree down on Road
17 Dec 2014 18:56	PIHA RD PIHA PIHA	Motor Vehicle Accident
26 Dec 2014 15:22	CORNWALLIS RD CORNWALLIS	Scrub Fire
30 Dec 2014 22:20	ANAWHATA RD and PIHA RD PIHA	Car Fire
01 Jan 2015 19:23	SCENIC DR HENDERSON VALLEY	Person lost in Bush Assist Police
01 Jan 2015 22:18	SCENIC DR NIHOTUPU	Scrub Fire
02 Jan 2015 13:11	SCENIC DR NIHOTUPU	Motor Vehicle Accident
13 Jan 2015 04:33	SCENIC DR WAIATARUA	Fire Alarm Sounding
19 Jan 2015 19:29	NULL WAIATARUA	Brigade Exercise
24 Jan 2015 15:56	FOREST HILL RD WAIATARUA	False Alarm
01 Feb 2015 04:21	SCENIC DR WAITAKERE	Car Fire
06 Feb 2015 16:22	PIHA RD and ANAWHATA RD PIHA	Motor Vehicle Accident
11 Feb 2015 18:11	BUSH RD WAIATARUA	False Alarm

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) Station Officer Ian Ford (814 8871), Station Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505)

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Hello Waiatarua!

It's high season in the foothills of the Waitakere ranges. The amount of rubber rolling past the gate is at an annual high, there are 4 to 5 downpours of rain and brilliant sun every day and the smell of the forest is enchanting. As I write this, that's how it's been for the past few days and today, after getting jammed in a dozen traffic queues and over an hour getting home, I couldn't quite believe I live in such an awesome spot. As soon as I walked in the door and out to the courtyard to the sun filtering through the greenery from a hundred angles, the urban crawl to get home all seemed worthwhile. A dozen organic eggs hand delivered from Bush Road sitting at the front door too.

Perhaps the enjoyment at being home in Waiatarua today was heightened from sitting through a rather long, but regular, bi-monthly meeting last night of the several residents and ratepayers associations of the Waitakere Ranges, hosted by our extremely hard working Local Board at Glen Eden.

We heard about the ten year budget plan of Len Brown's team and as the presentation progressed, it was salient to note the valiant initiatives that have fallen by the wayside - developed by previous governing bodies cooperating with caring locals - initiatives that are locally grown and reflect the knowledge of how to care for this precious area. The most concerning theme to me was that all the decisions are now taken in Queen Street by people who may never have visited Waiatarua and so wouldn't necessarily understand what makes this place special and how it needs to be cared for so that it is retained.

It's also been great catching up with a few Waiatarua locals over the break and getting some perspective on their life in Waiatarua. I went to couple of celebrations and the WRRRA also had Brett, the new owner of Elevations, come and see us. He's getting through an enormous amount of work bringing it back up to a high standard with a great menu. I thoroughly recommend you forget all of your previous experiences there and call in to see what he's up to.

Peter Casey
President, WRRRA

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

Auckland's Waitakere Estate 573 Scenic Drive Ph: 814 9622

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

Elevation 473 Scenic Drive Ph 814 1919

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 current financial members.

Better Scrapbooking Ltd: Paper crafting and scrapbooking supplies. Great children's classes. Mondays 3:45pm - 4:45pm 7yrs - 13yrs \$15 each Phone Megan 818-2045

Electrician & Alarm Installer - Small local business providing a professional, reliable, quality service. From new installations to additions and small maintenance jobs. Including: power, lighting, alarms, data, TV, phones and home ventilation. Ben Fitness 833 1052 or 021 184 5276 FIT Electrical & Alarms.

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 friendly. Phone Mike 814 9708.

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

Otimai: Girl Guiding. Would you like your daughter to have new adventures and develop life and leadership skills through new, fun and exciting programmes? We have places for girls aged 5 to 12 years in Pippins, Brownie and Guide Units. For more info contact Angela Westerman at aratakidistrict@gmail.com or ph 021 511 575

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: 21 years experience in the trade, available for indoor or outdoor projects, large or small. Phone Craig Starr 021 610 408.

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

Zumba with Grace... Party yourself into Shape. The Latin-inspired easy-to-follow, calorie-burning, dance-fitness party. Feel the music and let loose. Oratia Settlers Hall, Tuesdays 6:30pm - 7:30pm (toning) Thursdays 7pm - 8pm Adults \$10 Students \$5 (with ID) For more information phone Grace 021 081 12610

Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2015

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____ I ENCLOSE: \$10 household.

Email: _____

To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Waitakere City, or leave at the library Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

HALL HIRE

911 WEST COAST ROAD
WAIATARUA

1-2 hour sessions \$20.

Half day hire \$60

Half day & evening function (deposit required)
\$150

Contact John Goudge on 814 9744

Elevation

10% off total bill for WRRRA members.

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They are now integral members of the Harcourts team where their combined business skills, local knowledge and sound track record in this area bring fresh energy to the sales arena.

Having two sets of eyes on a situation or problem at all times gives clarity and the opportunity to brainstorm all possible avenues to reach a successful outcome. Testimonials have flowed from both sellers and buyers who have worked with Catherine and Lindsay confirming their professional and all-encompassing approach to the process.

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