



Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

June 2021



Nolas Housing Development

In last month's newsletter we highlighted this issue and asked those interested to please write to their minister and councillors highlighting issues like traffic, schooling and train transport. To follow is the letter the Association wrote on behalf of residents and that was sent to all concerned. This has been well received and our local Minister Dr Deborah Russell has told us in person that she agrees with the points raised and will ensure that she follow it up with the right people.

"The Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers association (WRRRA) has some serious concerns in regards to the development that is proposed under the COVID fast tracks legislation at the Glen Eden/Oratia Boundary (the old Nolas orchard).

Of particular concern is traffic congestion for the following reasons:

Most of our residents utilise West Coast Road to go to work, shop, visit doctors, drop off children at Oratia Primary school etc.

The roundabout at Parrs Cross is congested and badly laid out as it stands with many near misses on a daily basis.

We have concerns that there is no upgrade considered in this development despite a significant number of new residents and cars that will be fed on to West Coast Road.

Of particular concern is the suggestion that the entrance to the development from West Coast road is a left in left out only, with residents then required to use the roundabout to U-turn back to the city.

We can see the logic behind this for safety reasons if there is no intention to insert another roundabout or to mount traffic lights at the entry and exit point, but as it stands this will create a build up of morning traffic in particular from those coming from the new development, using the roundabout which will mean a potential massive build up of traffic coming from the west into the city.

Many of our residents currently use the train system to get to work with park and ride options available at nearby Sunnyvale and Glen Eden. Both these areas are already at capacity by 7.30am each day with travellers required to find parking nearby to the station which is already under stress. We have concerns that this development relies heavily on its residents utilising trains, and as it is, is further than the average 800m zone that most people are comfortable walking to public transport. We will as a result see added pressure on car parking around the train stations with users required to park further away or give up on public transport and drive.

Parrs Park is the nearest urban/recreation park with almost all of

the existing facilities (basketball Courts, dog off-leash, children's playground) at peak times. We would like to see planning in place for new facilities for our residents. To cater for the additional 800 or so residents across the road will bring additional pressure to this park.

Many of our residents' children are in-zone for, and currently attend, Oratia Primary School. The large scale of this development means that there is likely to be a significant increase to roll numbers that will potentially put a lot of pressure on the resources on the school. We would like to see what plans are in place to ensure that the zoning system will not be changed and what extra resources are being considered.

Although the development itself is outside the Waitakere Heritage Area its large scale will have a flow on effect that will be impacted by the Act that governs the area. For example the growth of Oratia Primary School is limited due to its protection as a "country" feel school under the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act. Can you assure us that these impacts are being considered and include us in these discussions? We have the knowledge within our Association to assist greatly in the decision making process and want to be involved so that the requirements of the Act are enforced..

In summary we believe that the above effects especially in regards to the residents who live further out have not been fully considered. There is no doubt that all residents in the area will be impacted by the additional pressure on infrastructure that a development of this scale will have.

We want to see a development that has been properly planned for and assurance that these impacts are fully considered and adequate funding is available to support the existing as well as the new residents.

Rita Steel, our Environmental Lead and I are available to meet with you and discuss the content of this letter. You can contact me on the number below or email us at sciencemademediot@gmail.com; or president@waiatarua.org.nz

Kind Regards

Thomas Hoey
President
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
Auckland
Cell: 0275851486

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 and Sunday 11.00am–12.00pm
website: www.waiatarua.org.nz

Advantages of being a WRRRA member?

Show your membership card at these friendly local businesses for a 10% discount (conditions may apply)

Waitakere Resort & Spa Ph: 814 9622 573 Scenic Drive
www.waitakereresort.co.nz

Blow Moulders Ltd (cash & online banking) with 10% discount off retail Ph: 818 7709

8 Waikaukau Rd Glen Eden www.bml.co.nz

The Landscape Yard (bulk product sales only) Ph: 818 6129 293
West Coast Rd, Glen Eden www.thelandscapeyard.co.nz

Henderson Hire Ph: 838 8879 Cnr Railside Ave & View Rd, Henderson www.hendersonhire.co.nz

Other special rates for WRRRA members at:

Elevation Brasserie Ph: 814 8727 473 Scenic Drive
www.elevationbrasserie.co.nz

Plyman/Timberman Ph: 021 738420 70 The Concourse, Henderson www.plyman.co.nz

Please accept my Membership to the Waiaatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2021

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

I ENCLOSE:
\$20 household.

Email: _____

To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua, Auckland, or leave at the library, or email these details to: treasurer@waiaatarua.org.nz

Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

Quote of the Month

Your growth will trigger those who are stagnating.

Your authenticity will trigger those who wear masks.

Your boundaries will trigger those who benefitted from you having none.

Your healing and growth is mirroring their unhealed wounds.

Don't let their unhealed wounds derail you, Keep shining.

From the President

Hi all

We are now heading into the dead of winter so it's a great time to ensure that your homes are cosy and warm. We've just had our wall heater serviced and the extra warmth we are now getting is amazing and more importantly it is saving us money.

We continue to do well in our efforts to keep Covid-19 out of our lives. The experiences overseas remind us that we cannot take this virus for granted so I ask that we all take extra care now that we are entering the cold and flu season of winter. I know from speaking to my family in Ireland that this has been a big issue over there and although they have been in full lockdown for many months they are still seeing 400 - 450 cases per day. The age group has also dropped and most of those infected are under 45 years young. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to all of our residents who have families overseas in countries that are still doing it really tough.

I am still looking for a Committee secretary to help me prepare board agenda, minutes and other communications and also to take over the management of our membership database including the recording of new members and the printing and delivery of the new membership cards. Not too many hours a month required so please contact me if you have any time to spare, are computer literate and would perhaps like some experience of what happens in a Governance environment.

Rita Steel, our Environmental representative has a lot planned over the rest of the year including community weeding bees, trap library days and the launch of the seedling recourse reserve. Watch for further updates from her with dates for the events and instructions on who to contact, how to register and what the process will be from there. We will also continue to prepare legislative submissions where required as there are new issues popping up regularly that affect our area.

We have been reviewing the local hall and can tell you that we will be upgrading the curtains including the installation of a projector screen over the main stage. We have agreed to upgrade the sound system and will be purchasing a system with two portable speakers and two cordless microphones. WRRRA Vice President, Marq Holibar has once again been very generous in sourcing a commercial standard projector so watch this space over the coming months. This will allow us to host more community events and the projector and sound system will add value as we can make these available as part of the hall hire for an extra charge.

There were over 40 attendees at the monthly locals night at Elevation Brasserie on 14th May including our local Member of Parliament, so I do encourage you attend if you can. This is a great way for you to meet the local residents and tradespeople especially for those who are new to the area.

Have a great month and keep safe.

Tom Hoey

president@waiaatarua.org.nz

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Meet your new WRRRA Executive Committee—Part 3

Erin Kingsleigh-Smith—Newsletter Editor

Born in West Auckland, I grew up in Green Bay. I spent 8 years living in the UK from the early 90's where I met my English husband. We returned in 2001 and lived in Henderson for another 8 years before moving to Waikarua over 11 years ago where we have a 2 acre lifestyle block (or "life sentence block", as my husband calls it). We have two teenage sons, 11 chooks and 2 cats. I have always had a passion for reading, writing, spelling, grammar and the English language generally. I have been your Newsletter Editor for nearly 4 years now and really enjoy putting this publication together once a month. I hope you all enjoy reading it as much as I like creating it for you.



Peter Casey—Committee Member

I've been involved with the WRRRA as an executive committee member since 2014, and five years of that as President. I'm staying on the committee this year with the personal mission to support Rita Steel on the environmental issues by reviving the weed action group, which was a bunch of us who needed help on our properties getting rid of or managing invasive weeds. We would rotate around the group, usually on a Saturday morning, helping make a big difference for someone. The host would always ensure a hearty lunch was available for the weed crew. If you've got invasive weeds at your place and would like some help, and to help others, then please get in touch with me at pete@waikarua.org.nz.



Waitakere Forest and Bird 2021 Lecture series

Thursday 17th June 7.30 pm

Thomas Stolberger- University of Auckland – Rapid sea level rise in the past and the future

Thomas studies paleontology and ancient environments and his work focuses specifically on ancient marine environments. He will talk about how communities of fossilised marine invertebrates preserved in the rocks underlying Auckland have helped us to better understand rapid sea level rise in the prehistoric past (about 20 million years ago) and the environment's ecological response to such an event.

Venue: Kelston Community Centre, cnr Awaroa/Great North Rd. Non members welcome, join us for supper afterwards. Koha appreciated to cover hall hire. For further information ph Liz 0274 762732, lizanstey@hotmail.com

Waikarua Trap Library

Trap library open: **Saturday 19th June, 9am-10am, Waikarua Hall, 911 West Coast Rd, Waikarua**

Rat and possum traps available

If you'd like traps outside this time or you'd like to return them please email Rita Steel on sciencemademedoit@gmail.com

This beautiful image on the right of the moon above the TV mast on Scenic Drive was taken a couple of nights before we had a supermoon. Greg Lokes, who took the photo, quipped "I hope it doesn't pop!"



JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Copy needs to be with the Editor

by 5pm on FRIDAY 11 JUNE

Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Erin Kingsleigh-Smith, editor@waikarua.org.nz, ph 814 8856. Community Notices are free to current financial members.

Doers Networks: local, fast internet providers info@doers.net.nz

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. Ph Mike 814 9708

Indoor Bowls: every Thursday at the Hall 7pm for 7.15pm start. No experience needed. Coffee and tea provided. \$3 donation to CPNZ. Ph Celia: 814 9660 or Liz: 814 9688

Lawn mowing, ride on work only: Ph Grant at Top Grass Ltd. 814 9493 mob 021 024 75610

Oratia Community Church: On the corner of Parker & West Coast Rds. Fellowship meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1pm in the church hall. Ph 813 9869 for information.

Plants, crafts etc: Various plants, shrubs and bromeliads. Assorted crafts, scarves, net fruit bags \$2, occasional cards, knitting, sewing, second hand books. All proceeds to Nepalese Educ Trust for Tertiary Scholarships. Phone Margaret 814 9859.

Table Tennis: every Wednesday in the Hall, 7-9pm. No experience needed, all equipment supplied. \$2 per week Contact Tony 814 9860, email tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz

Tiler / Stone layer: 21 years experience in the trade available for indoor and outdoor projects large or small. Phone Craig Starr 021 610 408.

Waikarua Playcentre: Come and have 3 free visits at our bush-nestled Playcentre. We are child led, parent run and full of fun! Open 9:30am - 12:30pm Mon and Weds. Contact Ronni O'Brien 09 814 8835 or waiatarua@playcentre.org.nz or www.facebook.com/waiataruaplaycentre

We are Loud: modern music lessons — vocals, piano, guitar, bass, drums & songwriting. Group & private lessons for all ages and levels. Visit www.weareloud.co.nz or contact jo@weareloud.co.nz 0274 707 042.

Yovi's Topstitch: Alterations or sewing projects I can do at your budget, from cushions, squabs etc. Contact Yovi 021 084 36450 or yovistopstitch12@gmail.com



Friday Night is Locals Night (after 5pm)

25% discount on our handmade pizzas,
and a reduced price on beers and wines

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Fire Brigade News

Greetings again from the Waiaatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade Crew. Firstly, congratulations to Dave Anderson who has completed his Qualified Fire Fighters course with flying colours.

It has been a quiet month for call outs, but we did have a crew in attendance at the Henderson Countdown Fire.

In preparation for winter and increased use of fires and heaters, why not have a look at this great online resource to help plan your home emergency escape - <https://www.escapemyhouse.co.nz/>.

Fire safety quiz! Answers in this issue.

1.How long does it take for a house fire to become unsurvivable?

- 30 seconds.
- 30 minutes.
- 3 minutes.
- 3 days.

2.How often should you test your smoke alarms?

- Once a year.
- Once a month.
- Twice a year.
- Once a day.

3. When creating an escape plan for your home, how many exits do we recommend you have from each room, as a minimum? At least:

- One exit.
- Two exits.
- Three exits.
- Four exits.

4.What should you do with your deadlock keys before going to bed?

- Keep them secure in your kitchen.
- Hang them in your kitchen.
- Leave them in the doors and windows.
- Leave them on your bedside cabinet.

5.What is the minimum safe distance from a heater or open fire?

- One step.
- Two steps.
- One metre.
- Two metres.

6.How often should you sweep your chimneys?

- Once a month.
- Once a year.
- Twice a year.
- Every two years.

4.What should you do with your deadlock keys before going to bed?

- Keep them secure in your kitchen.
- Hang them in your kitchen.
- Leave them in the doors and windows.
- Leave them on your bedside cabinet.

7.What is the leading cause of house fires in New Zealand?

- Cigarettes.
- Children.
- Unattended cooking.
- Electrical fault.

8.What should you do if the cooking oil in your fry pan catches fire?

- Carry the pan outside.
- Throw water on the fire.
- Smother the fire with a damp towel or cutting board.

Contacts:

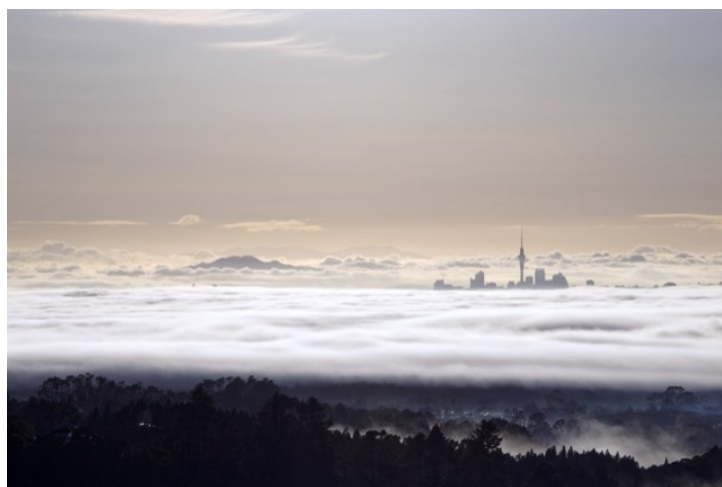
- Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency.
- To check if you need a permit to light a fire: checkitsalright.nz (or 0800 658 628)

For our Brigade:

- Chief Fire Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505)
- Deputy Chief Officer Ian Ford (814 8871)
- Volunteer Brigade Support Christine Healy (Christine.healy@fireandemergency.nz)

Pictures from the deck

A continuing or occasional newsletter feature called "Pictures from the Deck" is starting in this issue. Readers are encouraged to email the Editor with photos you have taken from your back deck or door. Here are two spectacular ones sent in by Tony Bacon. Photos don't have to be city views however – they could be kids on the lawn, the dog playing in the lawn sprinkler, chooks, autumn colours



– anything you can think of really! Looking forward to receiving your photos for publication in this newsletter. Email Erin Kingsleigh-Smith on editor@waiatarua.org.nz

PROSPECT HEIGHTS *Nihotupu*

IT is our pleasure to again bring before the Public a further subdivision of a portion of the famous Blue Mountains of Auckland.

IT has recently fallen to our lot to have successfully disposed of every section on the adjoining beautiful Bushy Park Estate in a little less than six weeks. There can be no question of the popularity and progress of this wonderful Mountain pleasure ground and health resort of Auckland, with its magnificent views and invigorating air.

IT is now only a question of a few months until the Power Board will have electrified the whole of this District, and the main North concrete road will pass within 2½ miles of the Estate; there is also a proposal to bituminise a further length of road towards the property, which is now served by a good metal road.

THE attention of the Public of Auckland is steadily being drawn towards the Waitakeres, and we have only to mention the recent developments, in this District to prove to you that PROSPECT HEIGHTS is a good investment for health and pleasure.



From the Editor

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, pictured left is a scanned image from a copy of the original sales brochure for Prospect Heights, one of a number of subdivisions once planned for Waiaatarua that never eventuated. This one was in the Rimu Rd/Raroa Tce area.

Even though winter is nearly here and we can usually expect more rainfall at this time of the year, our dams are still very low, particularly the Upper and Lower Nihotupu and Huia dams. A timely reminder to still conserve water and use it wisely.

The autumn colours are spectacular at the moment and we are lucky at our place to have a number of large deciduous trees which put on a lovely display every year, particularly our claret ash with its deep red foliage.

With the colder weather on its way (who felt the chilly blast we had for a few days recently!) it's a good idea to make sure you stay warm and for those who have wood burners and fires to ensure you have plenty of dry firewood. So far though it has been quite mild, and while we haven't started having fires every night, it won't be long until we do!

Cheers, Erin

Locals Night at Elevation Brasserie

473 Scenic Drive,
Waiaatarua Second
Friday of each month
at 6.15pm



What better way to get together and get to know your neighbours than over dinner and a few drinks? Everyone pays for themselves, but the good folk at Elevation can offer great prices. The next dinner will be held on **Friday 11 June**. To RSVP, and for more information, please phone Carol Longley on 814 9855 or 0274 814 500. Hope to see you there!

Fire Safety Quiz Answers

1. How long does it take for a house fire to become unsurvivable?
3 minutes.

2. How often should you test your smoke alarms?
Once a month.

3. When creating an escape plan for your home, how many exits do we recommend you have from each room, as a minimum? At least:
Two exits.

4. What should you do with your deadlock keys before going to

bed?

Leave them in the doors and windows.

5. What is the minimum safe distance from a heater or open fire?
One metre.

6. How often should you sweep your chimneys?
Once a year.

7. What is the leading cause of house fires in New Zealand?
Unattended cooking.

8. What should you do if the cooking oil in your fry pan catches fire?
Smother the fire with a damp towel or cutting board.