



# Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

May 2022

*At the risk of sounding like a broken record....*

## Waiatarua Residents & Ratepayers Association needs YOU!

**Do you know a few people locally?** Here's your opportunity to give back to the community while also getting your and the community's voices / opinions heard at local Government.

### Volunteer roles available for WRRRA Committee

No you don't get paid. Expenses are reimbursed.

### **President – we are looking for a leader with good people and communication skills**

#### **Tasks:**

To liaise with the Committee on issues relating to Waiatarua and the wider Waitakere Region.

Monitor emails from Auckland Council. Liaise with the Council Local Board on matters that are likely to affect the Waitakere Region, forwarding to appropriate committee members.

Conduct a monthly or bi-monthly committee meeting – they don't take long.

Submit a President's report for the monthly newsletter.

If you have a few hours a month and would like to contribute to your community and are interested in joining our Committee then please email the Secretary on [secretary@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:secretary@waiatarua.org.nz). The

Vice President will show you what happens and support you as you come up to speed.

### **Treasurer – basic bookkeeping, must be able to count.**

Our current Treasurer, Matt Smith has resigned from the Treasurer's role but is staying on the Committee, so we are seeking a replacement Treasurer. Full training provided and Matt will assist with the handover; the organization uses MYOB software, so everything is set up, it just needs to be run.

#### **Tasks:**

Preparation of monthly accounts report (all templated)

Payments as required – not many

Manage membership renewals and membership list

For more information regarding this role please email Matt on [treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz)

### **Committee – has an opinion, knows some locals, team player**

We have at least two vacancies on the general Committee. If you have a few hours a month to spare, have got some good ideas to bring along and wish to help and contribute to your Community, then come join us. We would greatly appreciate your assistance and input, so please email the Secretary on [secretary@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:secretary@waiatarua.org.nz)

### **Don't delay—do it now !**

**Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2022**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

I ENCLOSE:  
\$20 household.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Auckland, or leave at the library, or email these details to: [treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz)

Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

#### **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](http://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](http://www.bml.co.nz)

**The Landscape Yard (bulk product sales only)** Ph: 818 6129 293 West Coast Rd, Glen Eden [www.thelandscaperyard.co.nz](http://www.thelandscaperyard.co.nz)

**Henderson Hire** Ph: 838 8879 Cnr Railside Ave & View Rd, Henderson [www.hendersonhire.co.nz](http://www.hendersonhire.co.nz)

#### **Other special rates for WRRRA members at:**

**Elevation Brasserie** Ph: 814 8727 473 Scenic Drive  
[www.elevationbrasserie.co.nz](http://www.elevationbrasserie.co.nz)

All members of the WRRRA who present a WRRRA card at the time of purchase at Elevation Brasserie are entitled to a 15% discount for the table across all meals. Usual terms and conditions will apply.

**Plyman/Timberman** Ph: 021 738420 70 The Concourse, Henderson  
[www.plyman.co.nz](http://www.plyman.co.nz)

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

**Contact Us**  
**Editor:** Erin Kingsleigh-Smith Phone: 021 355 009 Email: [editor@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:editor@waiatarua.org.nz)  
**WRRRA President:** TO BE ELECTED  
**Community Hall and Library:** 911 West Coast Road. Phone: 814 9353  
**Hall hire bookings:** Matt Smith Phone: 021 059 3467 Email: [hallhire@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:hallhire@waiatarua.org.nz)  
**Library hours:** Thursday 10.00am–12.00pm  
Friday 7.00pm–8.00pm  
Saturday and Sunday 11.00am–12.00pm  
**website:** [www.waiatarua.org.nz](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)

# Nature Boy – recognising one of the West's great photographers

Just opened at Auckland Museum is an exhibition of the work of a long forgotten West Auckland photographer. Olaf Petersen ran a photography business for a living, but he also recorded the people, events and natural beauty of West Auckland, which explains why the handsome book accompanying the exhibition is titled *Nature Boy - The Photography of Olaf Petersen*.

Of Danish and Swedish heritage, Olaf Petersen was born in Swanson in 1915 and was educated at Swanson School. He never strayed far from Swanson for his entire life. The Peterson poultry farm was in Tram Valley Road and one of the neighbours was Henry Winkelmann, a well-known photographer of early Auckland. Winkelmann taught Olaf's mother Ester how to use a camera and the sight of the red glow emanating from the Petersens' bathroom as Ester developed film must have left a lasting impression for young Olaf.

While in his paid work Olaf often photographed events, clubs and weddings, leaving us with a great historical record of the west in the post-war years, Olaf also joined up with university tramping club enthusiasts and naturalists and became quite an expert on birds and as a photographer of nature. His happy place was the Te Henga coast where he photographed monumental sand dunes, the shapes of foam on the shoreline, windswept trees, dramatic shadows and cloud effects. He found patterns in natural phenomenon but also in the entry of man into the natural world, such as tyre marks on sand, or the pattern made by a top-dressing plane on the Jonkers farm. He often included local children in his photographs, such as members of the Wheeler family of Te Henga.



Amongst the thousands of his photographs held at Auckland Museum are those seen here, of the Dutch Kiwi Inn and the Back O' the Moon. These were the go-to destinations for revellers in the post-war years. The west was a dry area and there were no cafes and bars; instead it was the heyday of the "dine and dance" and there were a number of these at Oratia and Waiaatarua. Twenty-firsts, engagements and wedding breakfasts were held at these glamorous places, where there was live music, fabulous views and alcohol. The Dutch Kiwi was located just east of today's Elevation in what had been the Waiaatarua Boarding House; it burned down in the 1970s. The Back O' the Moon was on the sharp corner past the Waiaatarua Hall (south side of road) heading west. It was originally named Nihotupu House and built by early settler Edwin Gash. In the 50s Mary and Bill Lane, seen here admiring their spectacular view, converted it into a popular dine and dance. Photographs like

these were probably commissioned, but those like the early surfers at Piha were taken because the subject took Olaf's eye.

Olaf Petersen stayed in Swanson all his life. He took over the family farm in 1960 when his parents were in their seventies. He married late in life but remained on the farm until he went into a rest home where he died in 1994.

The Museum's Olaf Petersen Collection was recognised by the UNESCO Memory of the World Aotearoa New Zealand Trust and added to the New Zealand Memory of the World Register in 2021.

## Nature Boy: The Photography of Olaf Petersen

Exhibition opens 7 April 2022 and runs until March 2023

Sainsbury Horrocks Gallery, Level 2, Auckland War Memorial Museum

Free with Museum entry

## Nature Boy: The Photography of Olaf Petersen

Edited Catherine Hammond and Shaun Higgins

Auckland University Press, \$59.99

Sandra Coney



Top right: Bill and Mary Lane at Back 'O the Moon in Waiaatarua around 1960. Photograph Olaf Petersen.

Middle left: The interior of the Dutch Kiwi Inn, the go-to party place of the 60s, Waiaatarua. Photograph Olaf Petersen

Bottom right: Early surfers at Piha, 1950s. Photograph Olaf Petersen.

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## Fire Brigade News

### Winter is coming

Whilst we are still enjoying some lovely sunny weather there is a crispness to the air that heralds the cooler months and with it the dusting off heaters, electric blankets and acquisition of firewood. Don't forget to take the time to check that electric cords are still in good order, that chimneys have been swept, LPG gas heater hoses are not damaged and that electric blankets have been checked. For more information and winter safety tips go to <https://fireandemergency.nz/home-and-community-fire-safety/winter-fire-safety/>

### Join the family!

We are still looking for new members, we are a friendly, accepting bunch and welcome anyone. If you have been thinking about joining, now is the time. To find out more, give us a call, our numbers are below.

**Calls since 1 Mar 2022**

18 Mar – Car off road, Nihotupu

20 Mar – Tree & power lines on road – Anawhata Road

4 Apr – Van rolled, Scenic Drive

8 Apr – Car vs power pole, West Coast Road

9 Apr – Car Fire, Tawari Road

15 Apr – Grass Fire, Parker Road

### Contacts:

Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency.

To check if you need a permit to light a fire: [checkitsalright.nz](http://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](mailto:Christine.healy@fireandemergency.nz))

## Library News

We hope you all had a relaxing time over the Easter holidays. We have a great selection of books from the Auckland Library and hope you'll come and choose some. Our shelves are full of a variety of books for everybody, all your favourite authors, fiction and non-fiction.

We have plenty of books for young children as well in an area where they can sit and enjoy looking at them. With Autumn here and the cooler days, we have also put out a selection of jigsaws for you.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

*Barbara Field*

## Waiatarua Playcentre update

It is the end of Term one and Waiatarua Playcentre has had a fantastic start to the year. We have enjoyed welcoming our new families and love having lots of little ones at the centre again. There has been plenty of fun this term, with egg-celent Easter festivities, countless obstacle courses, lots of time in the sandpit and some brilliant painting and messy play. Our other big news is that we have also had two axolotls join our centre! Our tamariki helped to think of names, and now Peaches and Magic are settling in well. Everyone enjoys keeping up with their antics during our sessions – thank you to Bird Barn Henderson for helping us with our choices, and for adding in turtle petting and other fun experiences along the way. We are looking forward to starting back for Term 2 on Monday 2 May. New members are welcome, and we encourage anyone in the area with 0-6 year olds to email/message to arrange a visit.



*Waiatarua Playcentre is open 9:15am-1:15pm on Mondays and Wednesdays at 911 West Coast Rd, Waiatarua. Email [waiatarua@playcentre.org.nz](mailto:waiatarua@playcentre.org.nz) for more information or to arrange a visit.*



**JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**Copy needs to be with the Editor**

**by 5pm on FRIDAY 13 MAY**

## Advertising & Community Notices

*Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Erin Kingsleigh-Smith, [editor@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:editor@waiatarua.org.nz), ph 021 355 009. Community Notices are free to current financial members.*

**Doers Networks:** local, fast internet providers [info@doers.net.nz](mailto: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 Cecilia: 814 9660

**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, from 7pm. No experience needed, all equipment supplied. \$2 per week Contact Tony 814 9860, email [tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz](mailto: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.

**Waiatarua Playcentre:** Come and have 3 free visits at our bush-nestled Playcentre. We are child led, parent run and full of fun! Open 9:15am - 1.15pm Mon and Weds. Contact [waiatarua@playcentre.org.nz](mailto:waiatarua@playcentre.org.nz) or [www.facebook.com/waiataruaplaycentre](http://www.facebook.com/waiataruaplaycentre)

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**Work To Do:** Sort out that 'To Do' list for your House, Garden or Property. Clean Ups, Maintenance, Simple Repairs, Tree Trims, Window Cleans, Painting etc. Local and Reliable. Call Chris 027 600 3977.

**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](mailto:yovistopstitch12@gmail.com)



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is Locals  
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(after 5pm)

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and a reduced price on beers and wines

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# DON'T READ THIS

*Gotcha.....*

Just like you, around 2,000 other Waikaruarans are reading this newsletter. And many  
will come back and read it more than once...

The fact is that people do read print publications.

More often than not, their search for a specific product or service starts with some-  
thing that they have read somewhere.

And even if they do additional research and make their eventual purchase through  
some digital platform, their choice will still be shaped by what they have seen in print.  
To have your promotional message read by a good sized, engaged readership, adver-  
tise in a publication that is read.

Contact the Editor today on [editor@waikatara.org.nz](mailto:editor@waikatara.org.nz) for more information and  
pricing at very reasonable rates.