



Waiaatarua Community News

800 copies

August 2023

From the Editor

Hello everyone

I am absolutely thrilled to announce that we have a new printer! This and future issues will now be printed by Marketing Impact based in Penrose. Naturally the WRRRA Committee and I are delighted that we can continue to bring this publication to you. Marketing Impact have given us exceptionally good rates and we are very grateful for their support.

Massive thanks must go to Waiaatarua resident Michael Griffith who put us in touch with our new printer. Were it not for his connection with them we would have struggled to continue to bring you the newsletter in its current format. Michael, we are truly grateful to you—thank you so very much. It's people like you that make the community in which we live, a special one.

"The land where it never stops raining" is my new name for Auckland. The ground is saturated, there is mud everywhere and nothing at all is growing. I think I've forgotten what sunshine is actually like, there's been so little of it for what seems like a very long time. Surely Spring must be on its way? Maybe it is, with Taiwanese cherry trees already in bloom down West Coast Rd. hard to believe with the atrocious weather. Hurry up Spring, you can't get here soon enough!

Cheers, Erin

From the President

Hello neighbours!

Council has signed off their budget. It's time for the Local Board to do the same and it's at this time that decisions that impact our community are made. The Waitakere Ranges Local Board have had their budget cut by 10% which will have a knock-on effect to what we can and can't do in our area.

On Thursday 3rd August I will be speaking at the Local Board "Have Your Say" event promoting the needs of the Waiaatarua area, especially the desire to keep open the Waiaatarua Community Hall & Library. It's starting at 5:30pm, I'm speaking around 6:00pm at the Glen Eden Library 12/32 Glendale road. Feel free to come along. If you would like to speak, please contact <mailto:waitakererangeslocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz> to book in your session time, otherwise if there's anything you want me to mention on your behalf let me know - Mark 021 354 831

What a wonderful Quiz Night!

Despite the terrible weather and the conflicting timing due to the Super Rugby Final match, there was a wonderful turnout for the Quiz night. A big thank you to Ian Ford and Cathie Wells for hosting the event. I'm not sure by what I was more surprised, the extensive general knowledge of our residents or the enticing food that graced every table. A great night enjoyed by all. A couple of photos from the night are on page 6.

Meet the Candidates event confirmed

In advance of the General Election later this year, I'm pleased to announce that a Meet The Candidates evening will be held on **Thursday 21st September starting at 7:00pm at the Waiaatarua Community Hall & Library**. All the major political parties will be represented and I will be hosting the evening to ensure that all your questions are answered. You can either raise questions at the event or, if you prefer, you can email me beforehand (president@waiatarua.org.nz) and I will ask the questions on your behalf. There will be nibbles and drinks available afterwards for people to

mingle with the candidates (and each other).

Indoor Bowls every Thursday night at 7:00pm

If you want to have a little exercise and a lot of fun, come along and join us in playing indoor bowls every Thursday at 7:00pm at the Waiaatarua Community Hall & Library. It's \$3 per person with all proceeds going to charity. Don't worry if you are new to bowls, trust me, I'm not very good and it's a very simple game to learn so come along and have some fun. You can see a pic of the bowling in action on page 6.

Is your pet the cutest in Waiaatarua?

We know all pets are cute, but is your beloved furry family member the cutest in Waiaatarua? We are launching a competition to find the cutest pets so send your photos through to me and let's turn the spotlight on our furry friends. Prizes will be available.

Here's the eligibility criteria:

You have to be the owner of the pet;
You have to live in Waiaatarua;
Send only one photo per pet.

You must be happy for us to share your photo in the Waiaatarua newsletter, Facebook page and website.

The competition closes on Wednesday 16th August 2023 so starting sending your photos to president@waiatarua.org.nz. See our ad on page 3.

Classic Movie Night - Saturday 26th August at 7.00pm

We are still in the process of making this work but the intention is to have a FREE movie night on Saturday 26th August showing the classic movie "Charade" starring Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn. We start at 7:00pm, entry is free and snacks will be available for purchase. See our ad on page 6.

Mark Wager
WRRRA President

president@waiatarua.org.nz

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

Contact Us

Editor: Erin Kingsleigh-Smith Phone: 021 355 009 Email: editor@waiatarua.org.nz
WRRRA President: Mark Wager Phone: 021 354 831 Email: president@waiatarua.org.nz
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

Library hours: Thursday 10.00am–12.00pm
Friday 7.00pm–8.00pm
Saturday and Sunday 11.00am–12.00pm
website: www.waiatarua.org.nz

Letter to the Editor

It appears there is a small population of golden pheasants living wild in the Waitakeres. For pictures, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/golden_pheasant and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gtHA8-UHPU>. If you have encountered golden pheasants, I'd love to hear about your sightings.

These exotics come originally from mountain forests in west China. They're smaller than the common ring-necked pheasant, which prefers more open country. Some people here breed golden pheasants, but we don't know of anyone doing so in west Auckland (<https://www.rarebreeds.co.nz/pheasant.html>).

We live near Parkinson's lookout. In late March 2022, we met a young female in bush on our property. She was quite tame. She ate tradescantia, dandelion leaves, and other flowers and vegetation, but she also took a shine to the grain we put out for wild birds. She became a fixture at our place and the neighbours'.

At the beginning of October, the first bird was joined by another female. This second bird was shyer (at least initially) and displayed a strange, skittish behaviour: she would often make short, nervy, fast runs back and forth for no apparent reason.

In December, the splendid tails of both birds were badly broken, possibly as a result of mating behaviours. Though we did not hear

or see a male, both females had some chicks at this time, small enough that they had to have hatched locally. The two chicks that survived were raised jointly by the females. They both turned out to be males, one of which also had the same eccentric behaviour as the second female. By April 2023, the juvenile males were fully grown, bigger than their mothers, and bright red in colour, with long tails. They didn't yet have the gold bonnet and yellow eye; these develop when they are more than one year old. In late April, all four pheasant disappeared. In June 2023, the second female and the eccentric juvenile male returned to our garden for three days, but they then moved on again.

We've heard indirectly of a fully adult male golden pheasant that is resident on Bush Road, which is about three or four kilometres by road from here. But we're guessing that there are more, perhaps closer to hand. Have you seen any of these lovely birds? Please let me know.

Stephen Davies
sj.davies@auckland.ac.nz

(Image of golden pheasant taken from internet)



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:

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

Library News

We have just received our new lot of books from Auckland Library which we have for 3 months. There's a great variety, including, fiction, crime, large print, western, historical, non fiction, plus teen reads and board books for young persons. Come and have a browse — you might just find what you want.

We have been donated an historical book by NZ author Jane Tolerton called "Make Her Praises Heard Afar" about NZ women overseas in WWI. It makes for very interesting reading with all the different jobs they did and where they went in the War.

We still need a couple of volunteers for the library. Pop in on a Thursday morning between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon, come and have a chat and a look around our lovely library.

Barbara Field
Waikarua Library

Please accept my Membership to the Waikarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2023

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

I ENCLOSE:
\$20 household.

Email: _____

To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Rd, Waikarua, Auckland, or leave at the library, or email these details to: treasurer@waikarua.org.nz

Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

Waitakere Forest and Bird 2023 Lecture Series

Thursday 17th August 7.30 pm

Talk by Stephen Davies – Bird Banding, why, how and how many

Stephen has been involved in bird banding for fifty years in the UK and Channel Islands, Australia and New Zealand. He'll talk about the reasons for bird banding, the New Zealand system and his experiences all over the world – including training new banders at local Auckland sites like orchards and reserves such as Matuku Link.

Venue: Ranui Community Centre 474 Swanson Rd, Ranui. Non members welcome, join us for supper afterwards. Koha appreciated to cover hall hire. lizanstey@hotmail.com

Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Erin Kingsleigh-Smith, 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

Free Stuff: I'm decluttering and so far there are about a dozen ring binders, 2, 3 and 4 ring. Free to a good home. Call Tony Bacon, 0274 598 226 or tony.bacon@sthw.co.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 the local food bank and CPNZ. Ph Celia: 814 9660

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

Oratia Combined Church: Sunday services at 9.30am, Kids Klub Sunday 9.30am, Fellowship 2nd Thursday in Hall at 1pm, Scrabble/ Rummikub last Friday of month at 7pm. Hall is available for community use. Contact 818 8344.

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

Tiler / Stone layer: 30 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 or www.facebook.com/waiataruaplaycentre

We are Loud: Modern Music Lessons. Vocals, piano, guitar, ukulele, bass, drums, theory, song-writing & band. Group & private lessons, online & in-person for all ages & skill levels. Visit www.weareloud.co.nz or contact us on 027 470 7042.

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 email yovistopstitch12@gmail.com



W A I A T A R U A
**CUTEST
PETS**
2023

**DO YOU HAVE
THE CUTEST
PET IN
WAIATARUA?**

**SEND YOUR
PHOTOS TO:**

PRESIDENT@WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ
CLOSING DATE: 16TH AUGUST 2023

Need to get out more?

You're never too old and you're never too young



to play table tennis

Community Hall every Wednesday at 7pm
\$2 a session

Whether you are a gun player or an absolute beginner, we'd love to see you. We have three tables and all the gear, so all you need to bring is yourself.

Just come along, or if you want more information call Tony Bacon on 814 9860 or tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz

**SEPTEMBER
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

**Copy needs to
be with the
Editor**

**by 5pm on
FRIDAY
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Call Elena on 0272 697 979

Deborah Russell

MP for New Lynn

09 820 6245
newlynn.mp@parliament.govt.nz
1885 Great North Rd, Avondale
/DeborahRussellLabour
@BeeFaerie




Authorised by Deborah Russell MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



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 **0800 10 20 11**

Great opportunity to advertise directly to locals in Waiaatarua. Get in quick before the limited spaces are snapped up!

This newsletter is hand delivered to 800 households in Waiaatarua and uploaded to the website. You can see previous copies here: <https://waiatarua.org.nz/our-monthly-newsletter/>. The newsletter makes it easy to target messages to local residents. It is perfect for advertising discounts, events and to reach people who are not on social media. Price list and format below:

1 square size: 62mm wide x 54mm high - \$40 per issue for up to 4 insertions or \$35 per issue if a year (11 issues, total \$385).
2 square size: 124mm wide x 54mm high - \$80 per issue for up to 4 insertions or \$75 per issue if a year (11 issues total \$825).
4 square size: 124mm wide x 108mm high - \$160 per issue for up to 4 insertions or \$155 per issue if a year (11 issues total \$1705).

Send us your artwork in either jpeg or png format. Contact Erin Kingsleigh-Smith, Editor on editor@waiatarua.org.nz

The Trusts Karekare Surf Clubhouse/Kaha Ropi wins Architectural Award

The brand new Karekare Surf Clubhouse which officially opened in September 2022, has won the Best Public Building Award in the recent Auckland Architectural awards held in Auckland on Thursday 08 June 2023.

The Clubhouse with its name - Kaha Ropi – gifted to us by local iwi Te Kawerau ā Maki, had the original concept designed by local architect Richard Priest. 106 Architects then worked on the build alongside MPM projects, and construction was completed by Cassidy Construction over the protracted hard lockdown and winter.

Club President David Munro said that after more than ten years of plan-

ning and fundraising this is a great honour for the club and the Karekare community. Te Kawerau ā Maki worked with the club on a four metre Powhenua which graces the entrance to the complex carved by Mihaka Marikena and which depicts a local legend.

The building has five bunkhouses named after some of the clubs' early greats in their honour, and seven bathrooms as well as a large communal lounge area with a bespoke fireplace. A fully equipped kitchen with state-of-the-art Miele appliances serves for a variety of sizes of event, and the clubhouse is able to be configured for any number of arrangements depending on the nature of the event.

On the ground floor is our Cassidy Lifesaving Hub and St Lazarus First Aid facility which houses all our rescue watercraft, vehicles and life-saving equipment.

The club was founded in 1935, and the land it occupies was gifted by the Farley family in 1947. The family plan to return to Karekare for a grand reunion when Karekare can re-open following the recent Cyclone Gabrielle.



The club takes bookings for events, weddings, small conferences and family gatherings, and we can sleep up to 30 people and host up to 100 guests. Due to the cyclone, bookings have been put on hold in the short-term, but the club will be opening again for bookings shortly.



Waiatarua Community Dinner Saturday 22 July

A big thank you for everyone who attended the Waiatarua Community Dinner on Saturday 22 July. It was a fun night and a wonderful opportunity to catch up with neighbours and make new connections.

Let the WRRR Committee know if you would like us to do this again! Email president@waiatarua.org.nz or phone 021 354 831.



Quiz Night and Indoor Bowls at the Waiatarua Community Hall

Locals enjoying another very successful quiz night at the Hall, with indoor bowls (below right) taking place every Thursday at 7pm.

Quick and easy dinner for a cold winter's night

One-Pan Honey Mustard Chicken Thighs

800 gram chicken thighs, free-range boneless, skinless, at room temperature

olive oil, for cooking

2 leeks, white and light green parts only, sliced into 1cm-thick rounds

1 cup chicken stock

1 1/2 tablespoon wholegrain mustard

2 tablespoon honey

2 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves

1/2 cup crème fraîche

mashed potato and steamed beans or broccoli to serve

Pat chicken thighs dry with paper towels and season with salt. Add a drizzle of oil to a large, non-stick frying pan on medium-high heat (choose a pan with a lid as it will be

needed later). In two batches, sear chicken for 2-3 minutes on each side until golden (thighs do not need to be cooked through at this point). Set aside on a plate.

Return pan to heat (do not clean; you want to retain the flavours from the chicken), add a drizzle of oil and reduce heat to medium. Add leek rounds and cook for a few minutes on each side until golden. Try to keep the rounds intact as this will prevent them from drying out and they'll look beautiful for serving.

Mix stock, mustard and honey in a bowl then add to leeks in the pan, along with thyme and seared chicken (plus its juices). Allow to bubble for a minute, then cover with a lid and cook for 8 minutes.

Remove lid and reduce heat to low-medium. Carefully transfer about 1/4 cup of cooking liquid to a bowl. Add crème fraîche to bowl, whisk until smooth, then return to the pan. Simmer gently until the sauce thickens slightly. Season generously with freshly ground black pepper. Serve with mashed potato and steamed beans or broccoli.



MOVIE

NIGHT

FREE SHOWING AT WAIATARUA COMMUNITY HALL

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

CHARADE

CARY GRANT AUDREY HEPBURN

SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST
7:00PM

