



# Waiatarua Community News

800 copies

October 2023

## From The President

### New Emergency Generator purchased



Let's start with some good news. We have been able to purchase a new generator for the Waiatarua Community Hall & Library (pictured above). This means we are now able to provide water, sanitation, internet connection and shelter to put at the disposal of our local community in times of need. I want to thank our Vice President, Marq Holibar for his hard work in putting this all together and none of this would have been possible without a generous grant towards the cost from the Waitakere Ranges Local Board.

### Ideas wanted

Moving forward the WRRRA Executive Committee will continue to be proactive in ensuring we get hold of any grants available. I've lived in Waiatarua for just over a year now and I know that is nothing compared to the many years that some other members of our community have lived here. However, during this short period of time, I've seen how easy it is for Waiatarua to be overlooked and resources diverted to other communities with higher profiles. This is something that I want to stop and to start making sure that our voice is heard. One way we can do this is to apply for potential

funding for resources and activities which can add value to the lives of our community. For this to happen, we need your input.

We are currently looking at ideas, especially those that are resilient and environmentally friendly. If you have any then please feel free to contact me on [president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:president@waiatarua.org.nz) or call me on 021 354 831.

### Successful Classic Movie Night

A big thank you to everyone who attended our first Classic Movie Night last month. We all gathered together with handfuls of popcorn, chips and drinks to see the movie "Charade" starring Audrey Hepburn and Cary Grant. We will definitely be looking at putting on more nights like this one, so keep checking the newsletter for further details.

### Community Day—Saturday 28 October

On Saturday 28 October we are holding our second annual Community Day event from 10:00am - 1:00pm at the Waiatarua Community Hall. It's going to be like last year's, but only bigger with more stalls including baking, gifts, shoulder bags, wax candles, art, soft toys and even hot dogs. In addition there will be a Zumba demonstration and an opportunity to talk to people from local community support groups like the Waiatarua Fire Brigade, Eco Matters, Waiatarua Playcentre and library. All will be present in order to answer any questions you might have. It's going to be a great day so if you are available, please come along. See our flyer on page 3.

*Mark Wager, WRRRA President*

**Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2023**

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To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Rd, 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  
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**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:

**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:** Mark Wager Phone: 021 354 831 Email: [president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto: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](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)

WRRRA thank Marketing Impact Ltd for their support in producing this newsletter [www.marketingimpact.co.nz](http://www.marketingimpact.co.nz)

# Winners of Waiatarua's Cutest Pet Competition

We received a mountain of entries for the 2023 Cutest Pets In Waiatarua competition and there's no doubt that we are the home for a wide range of wonderful furry (and not so furry) friends. After a long debate and an extensive online poll on Facebook, here are our fabulous winners! A big thank you to everyone who sent in entries. Each and every one would be a worthy competitor of the title "cutest pet" but the community decided through popular vote. There had to be some winners and I'm sure you will join us in congratulating Marshall, Toby, Eddie & April.



**Cutest Cat - Winner: Marshall**  
*Pictured with his owner, Rochene Morgan*

**Cutest Dog - Winner: Toby**  
*Pictured with his owner, Dave Howarth*



**Cutest Buddies - Winners: Eddie & April**  
*Pictured with their owner, Zoe Alison-Tomlin*

## Library News

Here are a few more books that we have purchased for you:-

Kathy Reichs	<i>The Bone Hacker</i>
Daniel Silva	<i>The Collector</i>
Abraham Verghese	<i>The Covenant of Waters</i>
J.D. Robb	<i>Encore in Death</i>
Martin Cruz Smith	<i>Independence Square</i>
Conn Iggulden	<i>Empire</i>

We are still in need of more volunteers for the library. If you are interested, please pop in on a Thursday morning and have a chat with us. We are there from 10.00am to 12.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

*Barbara Field*



SATURDAY  
28TH  
OCTOBER

# Waiatarua Community Day

10:00AM - 1:00PM

## FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

CRAFT STALLS  
CAKES  
HOT DOG STAND  
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[WWW.WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ)

Meet your neighbours and  
find out what's happening in  
the Community



## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://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

## Quote of the Month

"The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month."

*Henry Van Dyke*

## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Copy needs to be with the  
Editor

by 5pm on FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER

Where FAITH grows, FAMILY gathers, and FREEDOM's gained. 2 Cor 3:17

Family Church Service  
& WANL Kidz Church  
Sundays at 10am

## West Auckland New Life Church

Since we're new to the neighbourhood we'd love to invite you:

Church Community BBQ, and it's on us!

Sunday 22nd October @ 11.30am

Waiatarua Community Hall

Contact:  
Pastor Nancy Matana  
Ph: 021 145 1495  
Email:  
wanlchurch@gmail.com

*Bring the whole family  
You are welcome!*



*We look forward to  
meeting you!*

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Leaky basement, Big diggers,  
Small diggers, Bob cats, Retaining walls



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# PAULO GARCIA

## Working hard for New Lynn



Authorised by P Garcia, 107 Great South Road, Auckland

National N

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**Deborah Russell**  
for New Lynn

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Authorised by Rob Salmond, 117 Featherston Street, Wellington.



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**TRADING HOURS**

WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY  
10AM - 10 PM

SUNDAY  
10AM - 8 PM



## TEAM HIGHAM

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www.barfoot.co.nz/s.higham



**BARFOOT THOMPSON**

## Car vs power pole causes outage



This was the scene in Forest Hill Road on the afternoon of Tuesday 5 September at about 4:30pm. The orange hi-vis is not the driver which is why he has been greyed out. The driver seems to have lost control on the slippery road. Although obviously shaken, they were not hurt, and it took until about 5am the following morning to restore the power.

*Tony Bacon*

## Meet The Candidates Evening

On Thursday 21st September we held a very successful Meet The Candidates Evening at the Waiatarua Community Hall. We had over fifty people in attendance to hear the candidates, Deborah Russell (Labour), Paulo Garcia (National), Steve Abel (Greens) and Jake Curren representing ACT, answer a wide range of questions from the community.

It was an excellent opportunity for people to get better informed and ensure that the candidates are fully aware of the issues facing our community. It was clear that despite the many differing views in the room and certain topics inviting a lot of passion (especially when addressing the environmental challenges we are all facing), it was good to see that at the end of the day we are, above all, neighbours.

The evening concluded with informal chat, drinks and snacks.



## How to choose a library book

I enjoy reading, but can never decide what book to read next. We have a great library below the community hall, but I always feel a bit overwhelmed at the huge number of choices available to me. Being a nerd from way back, I decided to let technology help me.

I have created a spreadsheet on my phone and when I open it, I randomly get told what book to read. It tells me:

The stack number (A – F)

Front or back side (1 or 2)

Shelf number (1-5)

Book count from left (1) or right (2).

I follow those instructions, and whichever book I come to, that is the one I borrow and read. I have found lots of books that I would never have chosen otherwise. I always start reading with the intention of keeping on to the end whatever it seems like in chapter one, and with a couple of exceptions they have been entertaining and enlightening. There have only been two books where I have given up early, both because you could foresee the ending by about page 20.

Of course, you don't have to have a spreadsheet to do this. Plan B would be to get your family/friends/workmates/random people in the supermarket to give you the numbers.

Give it a go!

If you are feeling nerdy like me, I can send you the spreadsheet.

*Tony Bacon*

[tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz](mailto:tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz)



*Above: Labour MP for New Lynn, Dr Deborah Russell, addresses the audience with the other three candidates in attendance*

*Left: a good turnout of locals for the event. Thanks to Mark Wager for the photos*

## Fire Brigade News

Despite an increase of “fast and furious” wannabes on our local roads, it’s been a relatively quiet month.

### Motor Vehicle accidents

Piha Rd—car into bank

West Coast Rd—vehicle over bank

### Make your home fire safe—did you know 80% of the house fires firefighters attend, smoke alarms are either not installed or not working?

Having working smoke alarms saves lives. When we are asleep, we can’t smell smoke so the alarm is the early warning that could save your life. We recommend you install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home and within three metres of each bedroom door. It’s even safer if there is an alarm in every bedroom. If you live in a rental property, your landlord is required by law to install smoke alarms.

If you have smoke alarms in your home you should test them every month by pushing the test button

If you don’t have smoke alarms give us a call. We have a limited number of alarms that we can provide (Steve Smith, Chief Fire Officer 021 398 425 or Jay Percival, Deputy Chief Fire Officer 021 205 2756)

### Celebrations

Congratulations to Frederic Abbott (Frabit) - recipient of Gold Star medal, recognising 50 years of service and dedication to your brigades, communities and the public - Te Atatu Station Career Staff & Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade. We really appreciate your outstanding contribution, and are thankful to Christine for supporting you.

### Learning....Improving...Growing

Congratulations to Jacob Moolman for completing his 5 day Emergency Response Driving Training and to Steve Smith and Jay Percival who completed their 5 day Officers Executive Course in Rotorua.

## Recruitment

According to statistics New Zealand voluntary and community organisations contribute \$4 billion to the New Zealand economy. Fire and Emergency New Zealand contributes to this total with 11,500 volunteers that crew many of the 600+ stations nationwide.

It’s easy to head towards the excitement of the role and attempt to convince those on the volunteering fence that thrilling tales await them. I would be lying if I said there was no excitement; the Waiharara Wildfire, Countdown Chip Aisle Fire are big for me. However, after being involved for 4 years I reflected on what stuck in the grey matter and it was not all about the big jobs or the tall tales.

What got me thinking was the little things like sitting on the appliance bay floor with my daughter, her captivated as I explained our medical bag or finding a patient’s phone before they headed to hospital, knowing they needed the voice of a loved one. Being a volunteer with Fire & Emergency New Zealand is many things, Firefighting is only part of our story.

I joked once, that a volunteer fire truck has firefighters but also a builder, electrician, forklift operator, mechanic, administrator, software engineer and a helpful bunch of managers. The reality is our truck represents the community in many ways, enthusiastic and broad with talent. Cyclone Gabrielle taught us a lot about our brigade and reinforced that, like us, our community is strong and full of people willing to help.

Our future capabilities as a brigade strengthen when someone steps forward. It might take time to learn the ropes but your existing skills and experience immediately add value not just to us but the wider community we support. Our real strength has always been our compassion, teamwork, diversity and courage, not the courage to be a firefighter but the courage to get involved.

Is now the time to get amongst it and give back within an organisation that values your existing skills, offers training progression and welcomes both you and your family.

### Contacts

Steve Smith, Chief Fire Officer	021 398 425
Jay Percival, Deputy Chief Fire Officer	021 205 2756

*Steve Smith, Waiatarua Fire Brigade*



Photo credits: Lisa Stark

## Rubbish Dumped on Kelly’s Rd

Yet another disgusting rubbish dumping incident on Kelly’s Rd, discovered on the morning of Sunday 24 September. It appears a trailer load of household rubbish was strewn across the road, blocking one side. At the time of writing it had been reported to Council who were apparently urgently investigating.



It is so disappointing that these delightful individuals seem to think they can do this, probably because they can simply get away with it under cover of darkness.