



Community News

MARCH 1991

EDITORIAL

This newsletter is under temporary editorial management, so don't throw all the brickbats at once!

Our Annual General Meeting has once again come and gone with a very disappointing turnout of residents. Everything must be going well and you can't have anything to complain about!

At the Annual Meeting Tom Baker, our President for the last three years, did not seek re-election, and was honoured by being made an honorary life member of the association.

Tom has worked extremely hard for the Ratepayers Association, spending many hours conferring with Council, and other Ratepayers Associations over the Mast and many other issues affecting us all. Thank you Tom. I am sure you would all join with me in wishing Tom and Lesley well for their retirement in Kerikeri.

Margaret Blumhardt.

NEW COMMITTEE.

The new committee and their duties are listed on an insert further on in this newsletter, along with some other handy local information. Keep this page of useful numbers in your phone book for future reference.

Members are invited to bring any items of concern to the committee meeting, on the first Wednesday of the month, but it would be appreciated if the Secretary was first contacted.

Association membership fees have been set at \$7 per household, \$4 single, and the committee would very much appreciate your support in the affairs of the area.

GINGER

The Association is planning a 6 month clearing and spraying programme to remove ginger plant from public land in the Waiatarua area. This will be additional to work undertaken by council workers.

Labour will be employed under the Task Force Green Job Creation Scheme, and Waitakere City Council may provide the necessary equipment.

Subject to approval, work will commence on April 8th.

PLAY CENTRE

We are a family orientated group, aiming to provide learning opportunities for parents and children from 0-5 years. If you are a first time parent, or new to the area, feel free to call in Tuesday or Friday mornings between 9:30 and 12:00 at the Waiatarua Community Hall. For more information call Jan Parkes on 814 9676.

WAIATARUA THEATRE

presents.....TRIO MACABRE,
things aren't just what they
seem in: THE MONKEYS PAW,
OVER MY DEAD BODY, and
E. and O.E.

directed by Richard Chitty, and
performed 8p.m at the Community
Centre, 911 West Coast Rd.

Thursdays April 4th and 11th,
\$8 adults, child under 2 \$4.

Fridays April 5th and 12th,
Saturdays April 6th and 13th,
\$15 supper and refreshments in-
cluded.

Bookings Phyll 8149 837 or
Bob 8149 324

Come along for a pleasant eve-
ning , enjoy a little shiver
down the spine.

Share in the World Premiere of
"Over my dead Body" by Richard
Chitty, and support your local
theatre.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

The article by Lorraine Lindsay
in last month's news, regarding
the dog problem in our area.
Congratulations, you said it
all.

I am about to take legal action
against one of these incon-
siderate dog owners.

It's a measure of the inade-
quate laws governing dog owner-
ship, when it is necessary to
wait for a series of attacks,
over many months, before a case
history is built up to prove a
point, expense, suffering, in-

convenience and heartache, not
to mention over \$600 in veteri-
nary bills.

All this just to qualify for a
day in Court, and no guarantee
of satisfaction, the only thing
that's certain is that a great
deal of expense, time and ef-
fort will be needed.

Licence the owners NOT the
dogs, a sentiment held by many
people in our position.

Gloria Burke, 11 Raroa Tce.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT.

I was reading the President's
Report for the 20th Annual
General Meeting and noted some
of the issues relating to the
area at that time, namely Hall
painting, roaming dogs, Rural
Delivery, footpaths and the
state of the Scenic Drive. All
these issues are still with us
six years later, and will
remain on the Agenda of the
Ratepayers Association until
they are resolved. When re-
quests were made to the present
Council and previous Councils
to improve our area we received
the same negative reply, "We
have no money - if you want
these requests carried out we
will have to increase your
rates".

The question I would like
answered is - what has the Coun-
cil done with the rates col-
lected over the years from the
650 Waiatarua property owners.
It has not been spent on
Waiatarua, therefore we would
assume we are subsidising other
areas, especially the urban
area.

When Dr Bassett as Minister of
Local Government legislated for
Local Government Re-

organisation his policy was "Preparing to serve the community better, faster, and cheaper" by amalgamation and the establishment of Community Boards. Every Ratepayers Association thought that at last their voices would be heard. Unfortunately that was not the case.

It is now more difficult dealing with the present Council as they have established more committees and sub committees and a system of management which spends more time and money on theoretical management plans, annual plans, objectives and policies than on achieving practical works for community benefit. In the seventeen months that the present administration has been in office, this Association has met with nothing but frustration. The Community Board was elected so that the community could have some input into Council's operations and policies. The basic objective of the Local Government Re-organization is "to identify and provide for the needs and wants of the local community so as to make them better places in which to live and work". Although the Community Board is endeavouring to achieve this basic objective, they receive no encouragement from the Council, who only wish to window-dress the principles of the community participation in the Community Board's responsibilities. In other areas, such as Auckland City, Manukau City, North Shore City and Rodney, the Community Boards with the backing of the community, have been recognised by their Councils, and so have achieved some of the policies as set down by the Local Government Re-organization.

This Association and the Waitakere Ward Combined Ratepayers and Residents Association support the Community Board principle. I would like to see more participation from residents in the democratic system of Local Government Re-organization.

Some of the issues this Association has been fighting for over the years are-

Hall Maintenance and Painting. This issue has been going on for at least ten years. Almost every year provision has been allowed in Council Budget for painting, but every year we lose these funds to some other "more worthy cause" such as the John Waititi Marae, etc.

Proposed Hall Extension.

This will provide better facilities for the Drama Group and a Children's Library. These Hall Extensions would also upgrade the Hall to comply with the N.Z. Fire Service Regulations.

The N.Z. Fire Service condemned the Hall in 1974 as it did not provide an alternative means of egress, and therefore did not comply to N.Z. Standards.

In June 1990 the N.Z. Fire Service condemned the Hall as unsuitable for Playcentre activities. To date the Council has ignored these reports and recommendations from the N.Z. Fire Service, thereby disregarding the safety of users of the Hall.

For over five years the Play Centre has been negotiating with Council to achieve a permanent Childcare facility. Other Councils appear to be

KEEP THIS PAGE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

Name	Phone	Responsibilities
Richard Hoyle	8149-641	President
Tony Bacon	8149-860	Vice-President, Editor
Ian Ford	8149-618	Secretary
Marilyn Trubuhovich	8149-266	Treasurer
Margaret Blumhardt	8149-843	Social Director
Jeff Brinton	8149-969	
Wayne Edwards	8149-976	Newsletter Distribution
Jan King	8149-769	Neighbourhood Watch
Pam Robinson	8149-355	
Joan Rudall	8149-747	Library
Chris Timms	8149-346	Community Board
Tom Baker	8149-340	Immediate Past Pres.

Assoc. Committee meetings 1st Wed. of month, at the Hall
 Deadline for Newsletter copy 1st Wed. of month
 Newsletter delivery 3rd or 4th week of the month

COMMUNITY CONSTABLE John Maxwell 837-0765
 WAITAKERE CITY COUNCIL 837-3700 Office hours
 778-730 after hours.

An answering service answers after hours calls and contacts the appropriate officer on call, e.g. noise or animal control.

WAITAKERE COUNCILLORS Helen Haslam 812-8890
 Ian Wells 814-9601
 PLAY CENTRE Meets Tues, Wed., Fri., 9.30-12
 Contact Jan Parkes 8149-676

LIBRARY Opening hours
 Tuesday 7pm - 8.30pm
 Thursday 10 - 12 noon
 Phone 8149-353 Friday 10am - 11am
 (School term only)
 7pm - 8.30pm
 Saturday 9.30am - 11am
 Sunday 11am - 12noon

COMMUNITY BARBEQUE HIRE Hire \$25, Contact Custodian,
 Richard Hoyle 8149-641

COMMUNITY HALL HIRE Contact the Custodian, Bob Langley,
 8149-324

Standard Hiring rates : DAY \$5/hr weekdays, \$6 weekends.
 EVENING \$65, + \$250 returnable bond.

Crockery \$25 Chairs \$15 Piano \$10

Cheaper rates available to local groups.

more understanding of Childcare needs and do their utmost to provide appropriate facilities.

So you can see that there are many issues which still have to be achieved and resolved. I would hope That the incoming President and Committee will continue to fight for these issues for the benefit of the Waiatarua Community.

1990 has been a very busy year occupying most of my time attending meetings and preparing submissions on the many issues associated with Waiatarua. With the help of other Ratepayers Associations and the Waitakere Community Board we were succesful in obtaining a relatively low rate increase compared to other Local Body Councils, 8% for the current year. I am sure that without the action and input of the various community organisations our rates could easily have reached a 20-25% increase.

The mast issue reached its climax during the year when it was proven that BCL were exceeding the exposure limits of the Australian Standard. BCL were instructed to alter the antennae configuration in an attempt to change the radiation pattern sufficiently to comply to the Standard. It took considerable effort to prove that BCL were allowing unacceptable electromagnetic radiation levels around those residents properties in close proximity to the mast. With no outside support it was left to the Waiatarua Action Group, who in desperation took the matter to the High Court at a cost of over \$50,000., which obviously

shows the sincerity of reidents concern against radiation hazards from transmitter sites.

I am pleased to advise that BCL have modified their original stance and are now communicating with the Association and the residents in regular meetings to discuss the expansion of the site. In fact they are now members of this Association.

In March 1990 the Waitakere City Council requested BCL to enter into a Deed to restrict radiation levels to the Australian Standard until a N.Z. Standard is formalised. As an interested party I requested that this Association should approve the Deed before it was signed. After many meetings, modifications and amendments to draft Deeds, a formal Deed was finally signed in October, nine months after the first draft was submitted.

We are now faced with two further mast issues. Broadtech have applied to Council for approval to erect a transmitter tower in Quinns Road. Although 1300 objections were received to the application, Broadtech are still determined to proceed. The Hearing will be commencing on March 20th 1991.

The other mast issue is that the Government has let a tender to a Wellington company to erect a mast to allow transmission of an FM station on top of Pukematekao on the Scenic Drive. With the decision of Government to deregulate the Broadcasting Industry, there will be a continual demand for masts to be erected in the Waitakere Ranges.

The social functions have already been reported in this newsletter. Most of these were very successful and well attended.

I would like to thank Joan Rudall and her library assistants for maintaining an excellent community library. Bob Langley for his duties as Caretaker of the Hall. Carol and Grant Longley for their donation of publishing the monthly newsletter, and to the many distributors who donate their time to deliver them and other notices. Also the outgoing Committee for their support.

I have been President of this Association for three terms which I have enjoyed and found to be most enlightening and interesting. I would like to thank the residents for their support and encouragement over these three years.

I will not be standing for re-election as Lesley, my wife, and I have decided to retire to the Bay of Islands to enjoy the sunshine and the relaxation of boating.

Thankyou,
Tom Baker

ADVERTISEMENTS

House to Rent

3 bedrooms, unfurnished in Waiatarua, \$200 per week, phone 524-8844 or 8149-969 evenings.

Work Wanted

Odd jobs are needed locally, inside or outside, conscientious workers please phone 8149-654.

Debbie or Gerard van der Walle.

For Sale

Tae Kwon Do Suit with N.Z. Federation badges. Mens size 5. Seldom worn, \$55.

Nappies. 1 doz. quality cloth \$20, never used.

Doors. 2 split wooden sliding/folding doors 240 c.m. high * 240 long. \$20

TV 26" Bell Colorsonic. Excellent sound and picture, \$150

Contact Jennifer on 8149-312 for all the above goods, also Free, Fleece of 2 sheep.

Please accept my subscription to the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Assoc. for 1991.

I enclose \$7 (Household),
\$4 (Single Occupant)
Renewal / New subscription

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

To Treasurer, W.R.R.Ass.
911 West Coast Rd
Oratia.
or leave at the library.

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

! STOP PRESS ! STOP PRESS ! ST

Broadtech have cancelled their application for the proposed mast on the Quinn's Road site !