



Community News

OCTOBER 1994

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THE PUNGAS

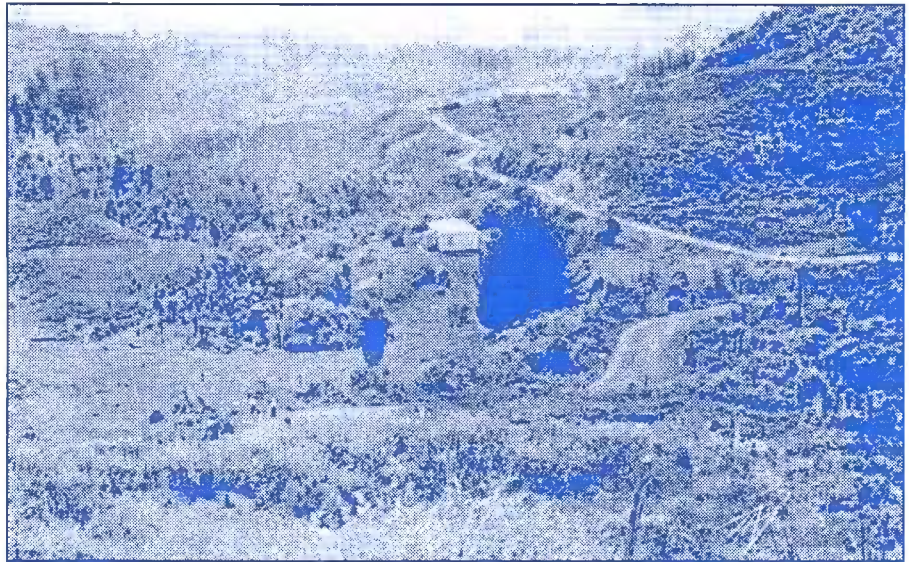
Marian and Peter George of 895 West Coast Road are happy to share with the whole of the Oratia/Waiatarua Community the announcement that their home, "The Pungas" is now one hundred years old!

This grand centenarian of the district has been kept almost in the original setting as it was back in 1894.

The crown granted title to William Appleton on 17

April 1894 and he paid a price of £59-8-0. This was for a land area of 62 acres and 52 perches. On the 10 August 1894 Appleton advised the completion of a dwelling.

The pictures show the property as it was in 1924 and as it is now in 1994. The 1924 picture is

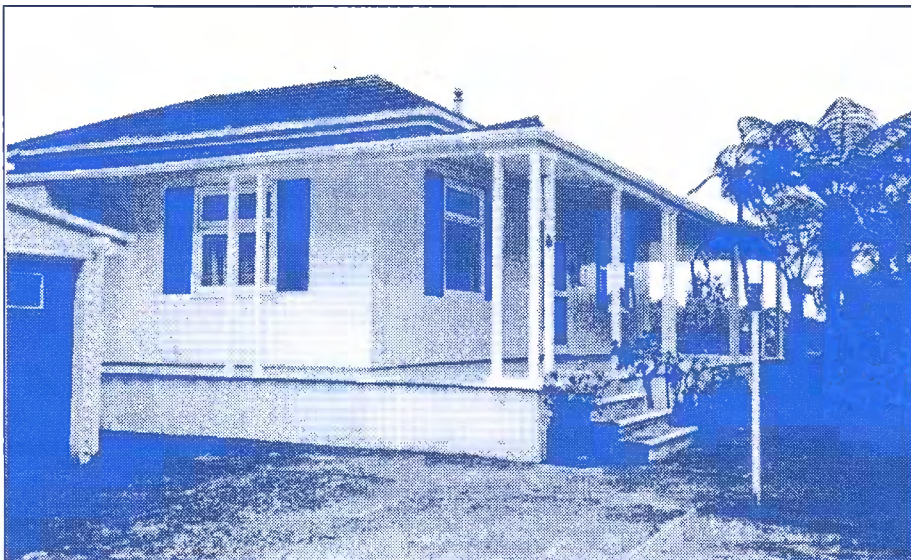


interesting as it shows people working on the property and the pine tree which now still stands at the gateway of "The Pungas".

People of note have been associated with "The Pungas", the most famous being the aviatrix Jean Batten, who visited on many occasions as a schoolgirl.

One feature of "The Pungas" which is unfortunately no longer, is the seat placed in front of the house for weary travellers to rest as they plodded their way up the hill, and a cup of tea was always forthcoming.

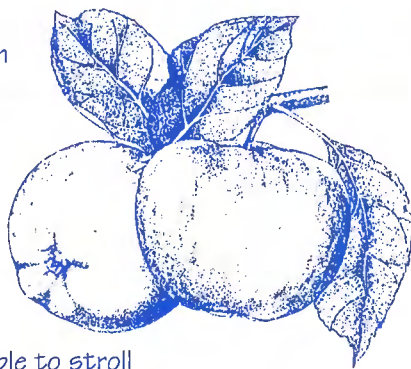
The Georges, as present owners, have occupied the property for twenty years, this being the longest occupancy.



ORATIA SCHOOL GARDEN RAMBLE

Oratia School is holding a fund raising tour of nine local gardens on November 5. Several of the gardens have been featured in the Trinity Garden Festival and several gardens which have not been open to the public before will be so. These include Annie Whittle's garden.

On the day garden viewers will be able to stroll through all or some of these lovely gardens at their own speed seeing all the beautiful



spring and early summer blooms. Devonshire teas will be available at one of the venues.

Tickets at \$10 per person are available through the school during school hours, phone 818-6216 or may be ordered from Bridget Brent phone 814-9745 (anytime) or John Sumich phone 818-5267 (anytime).

The tickets include a map and garden description.

OUR FIRE BRIGADE REPORTS

Guy Fawkes

There will be a community Guy Fawkes night bonfire at the Fire Station on Saturday November 5. As usual, the Volunteer Fire Brigade will provide the bonfire, barbecued sausages (for sale) and a bar (including soft drinks). You can supply fireworks. We have learnt from a couple of near misses last year and so to improve safety there will be a separate cordoned area which **must** be used when lighting fireworks.

Arrive any time after 7 pm. The bonfire will be lit later, after nightfall. If the weather is unkind on the fifth, it will be held on Sunday 6 at the same time. Call the Fire Station on the night if doubtful - 814-9213.

Please remember - the volunteer firefighters are not there to act as baby sitters. So parents, please supervise your children. This will help to ensure everyone's safety and enjoyment.

Restricted Fire Season.

The fire season normally doesn't start until after Guy Fawkes. However, the Waitakere City Council introduced it early, several months ago because of the water crisis, and it will be in effect until the end of April 1995. What does this mean to you? It means that you need a permit for **all** outdoor fires apart from self contained barbecues. This means that rubbish fires and bonfires **must** have a fire permit - ring the Council, ph 836-8000. If the Fire Brigade is called to your bonfire and you don't have a permit, they must put it out - they have no discretion.

Firefighters Required

The Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade needs reinforcements. Volunteer firefighters are (reasonably)

normal people with normal lives and normal jobs (eg drivers, office workers, mothers, engineers, gardeners, unemployed). They enjoy the opportunity to contribute to their community while learning useful skills and (it must be said) getting a few thrills and excitement along the way. Full training and uniform supplied. No pay. We would love to hear from you if this sounds like you.

For all fires and other emergencies you should always dial 111. For enquiries contact Peter Hand 814-8860, Ian Wells 814-9601 or Ian Ford 814-9618.

GARDEN GROUP



This month we are visiting two gardens, side by side on the Scenic Drive Titirangi. The first is Cosy Dell, the home of Joe and Brenda Fowell, 238 Scenic Drive and the second the Frankhams next door.

Cosy Dell is a half acre all seasons garden of rhododendrons, camellias, azaleas and magnolias. Lots of roses (old and new), bromeliads growing in a natural environment and many unusual plants. A multiple winner of the West Auckland Garden Competition.

Angle parking is available for several cars outside the property and we are due at 1.30 pm on Wednesday 26 October. Admission is by donation.

Please phone Margaret on 814-9843 for further information on the Garden Group. Anyone is welcome once or every month, there is no membership.

*The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth;
One is nearer God's heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth.*

PLAY CENTRE



The Play centre sessions are as follows:

Tuesday 9.30 am - 12noon

Wednesday 9.30 am - 12 noon

Friday 9.30 am - 12 noon

We are at 911 West Coast Road, below the Community Centre. You're welcome to join or drop in for a visit. Phone the Play Centre 814-8835 or Marjan 814-9832.

We need a couch in good condition. If you have one please give us a ring.

We would like to thank you all for having so far responded to all our "requests" with great generosity.

ORATIA SPINNING AND CRAFT GROUP

Fair and show of work

This will be held at the Oratia Church Hall, corner of Parker and West Coast Roads.

Saturday 29 October, 10 am - 3 pm

There will be a sale of work, display of crafts and cakes, sweets and plants for sale.

Please join us!

PIHA SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

The club offers a Youth Training programme that teaches surf techniques, surf survival skills and surf rescue. The younger members are able to work towards achievement awards, while at 12 years of age members may sit their Surf Life Saving Certificate. (This is an award that is available to anyone in the community). The Advanced Surf Life Saving Certificate is a challenging test available to 13 year olds ready to move into patrol ranks.

Training sessions are held on Sundays at South Piha from 10 am 12 noon with a special fun programme running over Christmas.

Registration is on Sunday 23 October at 10 am outside the clubhouse.

Youth training fees are \$20 per person or \$30 for 2 or more children. Contact Allan Seagar, phone 818-3462

WEST AUCKLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Beryl O'Rourke requires blankets to line the patch-work quilts she is making to sell at a Historical Society craft stall to raise funds for the restoration of Mill Cottage. If you can help please phone Beryl on 818-5010

BRILLE WEEK COLLECTORS

Linda Mason, Braille Week Manager for West Auckland is looking for Team Captains and collectors for this area for the appeal which takes place from November 1 - 7.

Collectors are required to collect from approximately 25 homes and are formed into teams with a Team Captain.

Details of Team Captains and collectors need to be put in place as soon as possible.

The appeal will be well advertised and is well supported by the public.

If you or your organisation can help please ring Linda at work on 818-6837 or home on 818-4229.

LIBRARY NEWS.



Not a lot to report this month.

Regular bookworms are ploughing their way through the new and Te Atatu exchange books. Come and cast your eyes over them.

Join the burrowing, sorry I mean borrowing!

This wet weather good for reading and dams.

Bev 836-4420

Christine 837-4651

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

911 West Coast Rd,
under the Community Centre.

Phone 814-9353

Hours of Opening

| | |
|----------|----------------|
| Tuesday | 7pm - 8 pm |
| Thursday | 10am - 12 noon |
| Friday | 7pm - 8 pm |
| Saturday | 11am - 12 noon |
| Sunday | 11am - 12 noon |

Books can be returned at any time through the chute by the library door.

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor, Margaret Blumhardt, 849 West Coast Road, opposite Raroa Terrace, by Wednesday November 2nd, 1994



WAIATARUA THEATRE PRESENTS

Waiatarua Theatre will present – “The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen’s Guild Dramatic Society’s production of Macbeth” from Thursday October 27 – Saturday November 12. This is the second Farndale comedy that we have presented. If you saw the hilarious Farndale Castle, you can look forward to even greater hysteria with the next in the series. Those who did not see last year’s Farndale, the upcoming comedy is one of five plays by two playwrights who create madness and mayhem in the form of an abominable amateur dramatic society. Any performance the Farndale Avenue Ladies Guild put on is bound to be a disaster - and it’s a laugh a minute.



FOR BOOKINGS PLEASE PHONE GILLIAN ON 818-7310 OR GAY ON 814-9433

ADVERTISING

This is free to financial members for 1994, January to December. A list of financial members and receipts are available at the library, and any queries about membership can be answered by phoning the treasurer Mary Crosbie on 814-9858

Tuition in French and English – by an experienced teacher. Also English as a second/other language. If interested ring Sabine 814-9690.

Gallery 807: To let you know that we are opening an art and

**Please accept my subscription to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
for 1994**

I enclose: \$7 Household, \$4 Single Occupant

Name

Address

Phone

To Treasurer,
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association.,
911 West Coast Rd., Waiatarua
or leave at the library.

craft outlet at 807 West Coast Rd. in early November. Details from Bob or Rita on 814-9269

Marriage Celebrant – Phone Peter George JP on 814-9456

For Sale – Orchid Collection comprising 15 cymbidiums, 1 dendrobium barrel display, 2 dendrobium hanging pots (kingis), odds and ends, liquid fertiliser feed for all year, flower stakes and bag of potting bark. \$200 value for \$100. Ring Eric 814-9638.

Excavator for Hire – Rubber tracks for minimum damage. Drilling to 6 metres deep, Truck Hire. Difficult conditions our specialty. Peninsula Contractors Phone Len on 834-6125, mobile 021 939-740 or Ross on 814-9002, mobile 025 939-740

Window Cleaning – Water blasting, House washing, Painting. Free quotes. Commercial and residential All work undertaken and guaranteed Glenn Ripley, 860 West Coast Rd., phone 814-9480

Lawn mowing Services – reasonable rates, phone Ted 8462-454

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

Many thanks to the Longley family for once again printing this newsletter.