



Community News

APRIL 1996

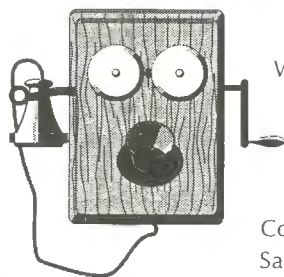
EDITOR : MARGARET BLUMHARDT

WAIATARUA FIRE BRIGADE NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

No! We are not asking you for donations, only to come along and see our play. In these changing times, funding for Volunteer Fire Brigades is getting less. We need extra finances to keep our equipment and training up to date, not only for fire fighting but also for medical emergencies as well.

Please support us so that we can support you.

In return, we'll transport you back to the year 1958, play you music from that era, make you laugh, serve you a light supper and a glass of what you fancy at half time.



We'll give you a night you'll remember for a long time . . . all for \$15..

When and where?

The season will run at the Waiatarua Community Centre on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights - April 25, 26, 27 and May 2, 3, 4 and 9, 10, 11.

Book early to avoid disappointment!

For bookings phone Lyndsay on 814-9872, Tony Holt on 814-688, Kevin Healy on 814-9505 any of whom will be delighted to take your bookings.

**"Phone
1125J"**



This will be held at the Community Centre on Sunday May 26 in the afternoon. This is not a craft fair as such and so you can empty your cupboards and sell your unwanted goods to become someone else's treasure. Stalls inside the Hall will cost \$10 and car boot stalls \$5.

To book a stall please ring - Tony Bacon on 814-9860 or Chuck Humphries on 814-9557.

Mark your calendar for this day and plan to come with your whole family, have a sausage and enjoy meeting other locals.

MAIL DELIVERY

There was some concern expressed at our last Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association about the number of misdirected letters in the last two or three months. I have received letters clearly addressed to other numbers on different streets as well as my street. Has this been a problem for you?

The worry of course, is that mail that I want to receive . . . could be lost or misdirected. Please phone 814-8833 if you are receiving mail that is not yours. If the problem is serious enough then action will be taken and directed to NZ Post.

GINGER BINS ARE HERE

Without warning they have arrived but at least this year the previous request for more have been answered.

Bins are located in Waiatarua during April at -

- Parkinson's Lookout, Scenic Drive
- Near 693 Scenic Drive
- West Coast Road, opposite Tui Crescent and
- West Coast Road at the top of Kauri Loop Road

These **FREE BINS** are additional to the year round **FREE TIPPING** of ginger in rubbish bags or domestic trailers at the Baling Station, The Concourse, Henderson.

This offer applies only to resident's private cars, vans, utes or single axle domestic trailers containing wild ginger only.

ABUSE IT - YOU LOSE IT!

For further information ring 836-8000

Please make the most of this opportunity. A big impact was made on the ginger when we had a Task Force Green Group clearing the roadsides but it is creeping back again. It has been declared a noxious weed and you are required to rid your property of this menace to the bush. Some of you are letting the side down. Editor

Letters to the Editor

... keep them rolling! Editor

Dateline Waiatarua March 2026

- an Alternative View

I woke up with a start this morning - I think it was the excavation work on the new subdivision up on Scenic Drive. They have been using explosives to remove the trees and make a uniformly flat set of building sites. They need a good flat area if they are properly going to make foundations for those 20-storey apartment units that everyone is so excited about.

Unfortunately I won't be able to see them. Since they made the minimum subdivision area 200 sq m. our house has been gradually surrounded by others until we only see other houses when we look out of our window. It will certainly be an impressive sight as the new apartments rise up on the skyline.

Exciting event yesterday - we saw a Tui! Since the restrictions on clearance of native vegetation were lifted their habitat has gradually disappeared, and now the occasional sightings are big news. There was a brief item on the interactive Internet feed, and you could just see the bird through the petrochemical haze - yesterday was particularly bad - I had to use my top level filter in the nose plugs.

The same feed also reported the death of the last native frog in the ranges. Since the bush has become fragmented with all the building, the populations of native animals are becoming isolated, and the proliferation of domestic pets has meant a huge increase in the depredation of native fauna. Still, at least the possums are thriving.

I also heard that a group of reactionaries are blaming the current problems on the lack of vision back in the nineties when Waitakere City had a chance to "preserve" the Ranges in some sort of "natural" state. If only they would recognise that things like the new Waiatarua motorway extension are progress, and if there are a few inconveniences, why that is the price we must all pay.

Tony Bacon

I've been thinking too!

It's no wonder politicians both from central and local government can force through legislation with impunity. Can steal assets from the people and totally disregard public opinion. Here we are facing tremendous rate rises in the community, and if certain local politicians have their way rate rises will be a certainty because they know and play on the lethargy of the people.

For example in the last newsletter a correspondent asked you to make a tick in a box and out of over five hundred newsletters being distributed there were about fifteen responses to this request.

The Ratepayers Association Committee is working hard to retain the status quo with regard to the method of rating. And if you all got off your behinds and supported us we might have a show of stopping these eager beavers in local government. But like the politicians, evidence shows that you will probably do nothing about it and it will be left to a few

volunteers in your community to attempt to do battle on their own.

So don't grizzle if your rates double in the next year or so - the Ratepayers Association will have done their best.

Chuck Humphrey

I am responding to the questionnaire in the March Community News asking for opinions about the Newsletter and subscription fees. Unfortunately, I want another box - I am happy to pay a higher subscription, but also think the Newsletter should be delivered to everybody!

I think the description of the Association as a 'small time giggle' is unkind and unjustified. There may be no matters of huge import to talk about at present (apart from submissions to the Council about the District Plan, the Annual Plan and Rating levels, all of which could profoundly effect us all), but I recall the work done by the Association in conjunction with the Waiatarua Action Group when erecting new masts or extending existing ones were flavour of every month for a couple of years; work which resulted in a City Council by-law restricting emission levels and also a recognition by the Standards Association of the need for a national standard. I also recall the great work done by the Association in getting ginger under control in the corner of Bush Road. Those who remember what it used to look like will agree. I wonder if the correspondent who was so contemptuous was around for the 25th Anniversary celebrations when we had the picnic at the dam, or the history evening at the Community Centre that was standing-room only?

The WRRRA tries to represent **all** ratepayers and residents, and to do this it is necessary to let all the residents know what is going on. Sure, we could become exclusive and inward looking, a tight little club that worries only about the concerns of a few, but I for one don't believe that is how it should be.

Newsletter delivery - to mail or not to mail? The current system appears to work satisfactorily for greater than 90% of the time. The group of volunteers who do the delivery enjoy the job and usually do it perfectly. Out-of-date news can be caused by several things:

*Copy is given to the Editor without recognising that there is an inevitable delay between the copy deadline and the delivery date.

*Newsletter assembly can be delayed - when things are done by volunteers, delays can sometimes not be avoided.

*Printing the newsletter can be delayed. Longley Printing print the newsletter at no cost to the Association, and so there will inevitably be occasions when 'real' work has to take priority. It should be said that the number of times that this has happened is very small indeed.

*Delivery can be delayed. This also happens rarely. The aim is for copies to be with the deliverers on the 3rd week-end of the month, and most people will get their copy within 2 or 3 days. If delivery is persistently late, the answer is to take the matter up with Gay Cook, telephone 814 9433 who will sort things out.

Subscription fees - are they too small? Here I agree. \$7.00 per year per household is a small amount, and should be increased. Although the fee is described as a subscription, it

is more properly a donation to the Association to help with running costs. Linking it to the Newsletter I think clouds the issue.

Universal delivery - does it reduce credibility? I think not. Waiaatarua is a fairly wide-spread community, with no obvious focal point, apart from the Community Centre. We have no village store where neighbours run into each other and can paste notices, adverts etc. We have no local pub where people can socialise and swap gossip. The newsletter could be described as the thing that keeps our community in touch with itself. If distribution was limited only to those who paid a subscription, I fear what little cohesion we enjoy would soon disappear.

While it may seem that the many are freeloading on the few, I believe the answer is to make the Association and the Newsletter an indispensable part of Waiaatarua life, so that more people think it is worth the fee.

Tony Bacon

RESULTS OF LAST MONTH'S SURVEY

The following are the results of the survey on the newsletter and the delivery thereof. As you can see the counting of the votes was not a time consuming matter.

I am disappointed that so little is heard from folks on issues even though at times there is a lot of emotion and perhaps some activity as a result but your committee really needs to hear from you more. Editor.

- (0) I am one of the 83% who receives the Community News without paying a subscription and am happy with the status quo.
- (1) I am not going to subscribe, and don't wish to receive the newsletter. *Must have read this one!*
- (10) I am a subscriber and happy with the status quo.
- (4) I am a subscriber and would be happy to pay a higher fee and have the newsletter posted to me (on time)

WAITAKERE CITY NEWS

Waitakere City puts out a quarterly newsletter which it would seem is not reaching all letter boxes. The latest one is March and is eight pages long, the front page having an article on planning for a new New Lynn and containing information on school holiday programs.

Cascade Avenue seemed to have missed out on all of these publications and Waitakere City Council would like to know if other areas have also been missed. Please ring Margaret or Terry on 814-9843 and we can then inform the Council.

GARDEN GROUP

This month is a visit close to home, Oratia Native Plant Nursery where you can learn about native plants, what is appropriate to plant here and know what you can buy on the spot or put on the wish list for later on. Plenty of parking is available at the nursery, 625 West Coast Road and the date is Wednesday April 24 at 1 pm.

You are welcome to join us occasionally or every month, there is no membership or fees to pay. We normally meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

For further enquiries phone Eileen Powell on 814-9298.

LIBRARY NEWS

Richard Prebble has been thinking! We have the results in the library. A thought provoking book about various approaches to government - especially relevant to MMP

NEW BOOKS;

I've been thinking	Richard Prebble
Quick mix biscuits and slices	Aust. Women's Weekly
A tale of oak apple wood	Jenny Partridge
Just go to bed	Mercy Mayer
What can you see around the world	Lynn N. Grundy
Growing indoors	Susan Conder
The good provider	Jessica Stirling
The seasons in Fern Hollow	Bedtime stories
Pocahontas	Justine Korman

Come and check out our Waiaatarua Library.

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

911 West Coast Road,
under the Community Centre. Phone 814-9353

Hours of Opening

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

ANZAC DAY

This year there will be an Anzac Day service at Kare Kare as well as at Piha. Sorry I have no more details.

PLAYCENTRE

Our sessions are

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9.30 am - 12 noon.

If you are interested in seeing what goes on at Playcentre, come along during a session to 911 West Coast Road, down the driveway, or you can phone Marjan on 814-9832 for further information.

SEMINAR

with Astrologer/Traveller Stephen Hill will be held at Lopdell House, Titirangi on Thursday April 18 at 7.30 pm.

The evening will start with some of his own music and continue with a talk on Motivation and the need to understand the basics of Astrology for use in improved Self Government. The talk will cover subjects such as politics, religion, commerce, education etc.

Tickets \$25, limited numbers, or further information contact Lucille 811-8615 or Graham 827-6869

ferns restaurant

473 scenic drive Phone 814-9804

Sample of dishes from our new Menu . . .

*All main dishes served with potato of the day,
Ferns salad or stir fried vegetables,
at no extra charge*

Fresh baked ferns breads - \$2.00

Foccacio Breads - \$2.50

Soup of the Day

ENTREES -

Lambs Kidneys

sauteed with mushrooms and cream - \$7.00

Chicken and Mango Salad

tossed with cashew nuts - \$8.00

Ferns Vegetarian Salad

served with garlic bread - \$8.50

Venison Kebab

served on wild rice with a game jus - \$9.00

Sauteed Scallops

served in a smoked fish sauce - \$12.50

MAIN DISHES -

Whole Poached Baby Salmon

served on a silverbeet puree - \$18.50

Pork Medallions

served on a peanut and mild curry sauce - \$18.50

Chicken Breast

with a pesto stuffing served on a basil & tomato coulis - \$19.50

Scotch Fillet

served on a red wine and garlic glaze - \$21.50

Smoked Duck Breast

served on a berry and orange sauce - \$25.00

Vegetable Pie

served on a tomato coulis, garnished with mixed nuts - \$16.00

**BYO OR
FULLY
LICENSED**

**Come to ferns
for a yummy
dessert and coffee
after the play!**

Please accept my subscription to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
for 1996

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

Name

Address

Phone

To Treasurer,

Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association,
911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua

ADVERTISING

*This is free to financial members for 1996,
January to December. A list of financial members
is available at the library,
and any queries about membership
can be answered by phoning
the Treasurer - Eileen Powell on 814-9298*

FIREWOOD FOR SALE - split dry macrocarpa, \$45 cubic metre, dry pine slabs, some need splitting, \$25 cubic metre. Call at 17 Rimu Road or phone 814-8833.

VETERINARIAN - For pets and farm animals. House calls a speciality. Phone Neil Pullan on 814-9504.

HOME CARE SERVICES AVAILABLE

Two schemes funded by North Health are available. The main aim is to provide quality home support to people with physical disabilities which will enable them to remain in their own home for as long as they choose.

The service is free provided the client has a Community Services Card and both services are able to operate seven days per week.

*Home Help provides Personal Cares for people over 65 years, eg. bathing, dressing, toileting and Domestic Tasks, Shopping etc.

*Attendant Care provides Personal cares for severely disabled people under 65 years, eg. bathing, dressing, toileting, feeding.

For further information phone Karen Cottle on 813-0133. The office is situated at the rear of Glen Eden Baptist Church building at 97 Glendale Road, Glen Eden.

If you are seeking part time work and would be interested in this work close to home your enquiries are welcome also.

MAY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of
Margaret Blumhardt
849 West Coast Road, Waiatarua
(opposite Raroa Terrace)
by MONDAY 6th MAY, 1996

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

Many thanks to Carol and Grant Longley at Longley Printing, Bruce McLaren Rd. for once again printing this newsletter.