



Community News

MAY 1997

EDITOR : MARGARET BLUMHARDT

ANNUAL PLAN

All our three submissions to the annual plan were rejected for the year commencing in July!

(1) Scenic Drive - Piha Road intersection.

Council staff stated that over the last two years the intersection has been investigated. It is unlikely to qualify for Transfund subsidy and a roundabout design cost estimate was in the order of \$200,000. This cost is influenced by the grades of the intersecting roads. Alternative layouts and minor upgrading has been considered but no acceptable design found. The project has been listed on Council's miscellaneous safety works and will be considered for action in the 1997/98 plan and has been given a high priority.

Recommendation.

NOT considered for inclusion in the Draft Annual Plan. This will be reviewed as part of the road crash investigation study and if proposed, will be carried out as minor safety works.

Ratepayers committee recommendation

Every time you have a near miss there please ring the Council and report it. This phone number is answered day and night so don't put it off. All calls to 836-8045 are logged and the information passed on.

(2) Raroa Terrace footpath -called Rania Tce. by Council

This has however been given a low priority!

The following is information from Council:

Footpaths issues are dependent on city-wide and Waitakere Community Board's post budget priorities. 1997/98 Draft Annual Plan provides \$250,000 for citywide footpaths. This is a reduction from \$400,000 in 1996/97 year.

Footpaths

Council has a policy and programme for the construction of new footpaths to ensure the rational provision of footpaths throughout the City. The aim is to provide, for fully urbanised streets, at least one footpath on one side. Kerb and channel are also provided where required for stormwater control. Council has adopted a 'points system' to establish priorities for the construction programme.

The points system is based upon:

1. Safety factors including physical/safety features, ie. road and shoulder widths, sight distances, traffic volumes and the classification of the road in the roading hierarchy.
2. Likely number of pedestrians ie. number and location of attractions/generators such as schools and shops.

The footpath requests are then assessed in terms of the points system, and their citywide priority established according to policy. Actual construction programs are then reviewed and approved by the Community Boards annually. Boards essentially have the discretion to change the priority ranking of projects based upon local knowledge, but not alter the allocation of funds between Wards, which is based upon an overall assessment of needs.

*What can I say to that! West Coast Road has speeding traffic of a substantial volume, there is **no** shoulder on the road at that point and it has a bend as well and no footpath on the other side. The parents signed a petition and supplied extra data to support the submission, you wonder what else you have to do! Do note that the budget has been reduced, perhaps Council could cut out a lot of the extras they have spread into and provide basic needs such as this! The Ratepayers committee suggest that any people adversely affected phone members of the Waitakere Community Board whose names were printed with the March newsletter reference sheet. You may also contact them at Waitakere City Council.*

Editor

(3) Parking improvements at Waitakere Community Centre

Council states that Council Property Services will undertake preliminary work and investigations in 1997/98

(4) Culvert clearance

Waitakere Ratepayers and Residents Assoc. also requested that Council clear the culverts under driveways at the same time as the water tables are cleaned to avoid erosion, slippage to the roads as well as to private property.

Council's answer was that this is an operational issue.

Operational issues can include:

- * works/projects underway in the current financial year or programmed future years
- * actions/changes to current practices that can be and should be accommodated within current resources
- * clarification of Council's policies, practices and procedures, and
- * issues which are not a council's responsibility and where no action is necessary.

Drainage maintenance

The existing water table maintenance contract requires all road and driveway culvert entrances to be hand cleared. That local residents be informed of cleaning programs and measures, of verge pothole and water table maintenance.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The names of our current co-ordinators are listed below. If you haven't been approached yet and would like to belong to one of these groups, give the co-ordinator a call.

Name	Address	phone no.
Mary Kelly	3 Atarua Gardens	814-9857
Tony Holt	56 Bush Road	814-9688
Ross & Kath Mullins	330 Forest Hill Rd	814-9402
Jenny McGee	886 West Coast Rd	814-9954
Chris Field	799 West Coast Rd	814-9876
Ngaire Mason	21 Tui Crescent	814-9036
Bernie Oudemans	15 Quinns Road	814-9941
Margaret & Paddy Marshall	19 Raroa Tce	814-9859

I apologise if there are other groups in our area which have been operating for a long time and are not included in this list. If this is the case, I would appreciate your call.

There are three other people considering being co-ordinators at the moment. If anyone else is interested, please let me know. It is not an onerous task, but one that is well worthwhile and which is a great opportunity to get to know your neighbours. It also provides a way in which we can look out for each other. Mary Kelly, JP.

GARDEN GROUP

This month we have the speaker on fuchsias who was unable to come last month. This will be on Wednesday May 28 at the home of Pam Adams' home, 268 Forest Hill Road, Waiatarua, commencing at 1 pm.

You are very welcome to join us at any time, there are no fees and you can come as often as you like or just once.

Any questions about the group refer to Eileen on 814-9298

MARKET DAY

As part of our commitment to keeping your spare rooms empty and your bank balances full, your Association is hosting another Market Day. The date for this is Sunday, 22nd June, from 12 noon onwards. The cost will be \$10.00 for a table inside the hall, or \$5.00 for a car boot in the car park. Bookings will definitely be first-come, first-served, so book your place now by phoning **Chuck Humphrey** on 8149-557.

MORE EXCITING EVENTS

The Market Day is the first of a series of activities that your Association is organising at the Hall. We have a great resource in our midst, and we want to see it used more. So over the next year or so, we are planning:

- A History afternoon on Sunday 3 August – come and find out what happened in Waiatarua in the olden days
- Halloween event on 31 October
- Christmas event
- Another Waiatarua Whoopee – a fun day for all the family (probably Feb 1998)
- St Patrick's event

GOAT FOUND – Please phone Jane on 838-6392

MYSTERY!

The librarians have discovered a plaque with a key to the City of Huntington Beach California.

Does anyone know the history of this key?

If so please contact the librarians.

LIBRARY NEWS

New members always welcome!

So far we have eight people wanting copies of "Song of Two Waters - an early history of Waiatarua" by Jeanne Wade. Please let us know if you would like a reprint of a really excellent little book, full of local knowledge in years gone by. Please phone the library Thursday between 10 am and noon, 814-9353, (or drop a note in the library slot.)

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.

GOING BUSH

A number of people are interested in joining a group to go walking some of our local bush tracks, some on a weekday and others on a Saturday morning. We hope to have started by the time you have received this. Please phone Terry or Margaret on 814-9843 if you wish to find out more.

GINGER CLEARANCE

It was great to see the bins filling up with ginger and being replaced and refilled. They seem to be still there in May although they were promised only until the end of April.

The local bins are at Parkinson's Lookout, outside the Community Centre and at the top end of Kauri Loop Road.

PLAYCENTRE

The Playcentre is situated down the drive next to the Community Centre, 911 West Coast Road, and if you would like to join us our session times are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am - 12 noon. You can phone us on 814-8835.

MOUNTAIN BIKES IN WAITAKERE RANGES

A draft amendment to the management plan concerning the use of mountain bikes in Regional Parks including the Waitakeres has been released. Written submissions on these amendments are invited before 4.30pm on 6 June 1997.

The new draft policy would apply to biking in the parkland (including Lake Waimanu Reserve and the Catchment Parkland).

- (a) Non motorised bicycles including mountain bikes will be permitted on specific trails in the park as of right and restricted to trails, as determined from time to time by the General Manager Parks that will minimise adverse impact on other existing uses, native vegetation, wildlife, heritage and archaeological sites.

(There are nine more clauses to the proposal and if you want to read the document it will be available at Waia-tarua library or no doubt, Arataki Centre)

For further information please contact: Neil Olsen or Christopher Howden, phone 366-2151.

IMPROVED BUS SERVICES

We have a greatly improved service on the loop to and from the Henderson Railway Station. This is via Bruce McLaren Road, Forest Hill Road, West Coast Road which with a greatly improved train service operating will be of great benefit. I have not got all the details but timetables are available from the transport centre in New Lynn.

The Piha service is also improved.

I will give further details next month.

A BIT OF HISTORY

WRRRA President's report for the year ending 31/12/73

This year has indeed been a momentous one for the district with the completion of the Community Centre (both Hall and Library) and its opening in September. The new Centre has also made this the busiest year for the Committee - in the history of the Association but looking back over the year I think we can be fairly proud of our work and trust that most of our decisions will have pleased the majority of residents.

In spite of the activity demanded of the Committee in 1973 (or perhaps because of it) we have had some trouble in keeping the Committee at full strength. The year started with the eleven members prescribed by the constitution but before long one member had resigned due to pressure of work, one later left the district, a third departed on an extended overseas tour and Mrs J. Wade, our very hard working Secretary, became seriously ill and though remaining on the Committee was unable to continue her secretarial duties. Our former Secretary, Mrs B. Watts, valiantly stepped in and became Acting Secretary for the remainder of the year. Mrs Vincent, Mrs Holibar and Mr Abel (who formed part of a Library Sub-Committee constituted in mid-winter) were co-opted on to the main committee thus returning it to full strength.

During 1973 eleven Committee meetings were held together with several Sub-committee gatherings and some discussion sessions. One important meeting was held on May 31st where the administration of the Community Centre and the conditions of such administration were discussed with members of the Waitemata County Council. The result of this was that the Association Committee agreed to take over the day to day administration and guidelines were subsequently entered in the Minute Book.

At subsequent meetings it was agreed to purchase or otherwise obtain many things required in the new Centre. These included 100 chairs and 4 tables, large teapots, crockery, glasses and cutlery for the hall, book-shelves, books, desk, chairs and the necessary stationery etc. for the Library together with such mundane articles such as rubbish tins, paper towels and lavatory brushes for both floors. In addition to articles purchased there has been an abundance of donations both in kind and in cash. Included in this category are the new piano, cups and saucers, 3 tables, a tea-trolley, side plates to match the Hall crockery, some of the glassware, some furniture, and many, many books and magazines, both new and second hand. The proceeds from the sale of a large quantity of waste paper (together with use of vehicles for

transport) made a useful contribution to the funds and further donations have included prizes for raffles or articles for the Bring and Buy Table in the Library. Because of the multiplicity of gifts I feel it is better not to mention anyone by name but on behalf of the Association I should like to extend our great appreciation to all of those very generous donors.

The main social events of the year have been the opening of the Centre on September 29th and the Dine and Dance on November 17th. The Official Opening was staged largely by the Waitemata County Council, who, as owners and designers of the Centre, naturally had this privilege but an Art and Craft display, arranged by Mrs Maunsell, was a very welcome Residents addition to this occasion. The Dine and Dance however was a Residents and Ratepayers affair and was meant primarily as a "house warming" - a social rather than a fund raising event. The sterling work carried out by Mrs Vincent and her Sub-Committee ensured that it was not only a fabulous evening but also a financial success into the bargain.

The opening of the Library was fore shadowed by the establishing of a Library Sub-committee under the leadership of Mrs Ngaere Holibar. Together with a number of extra helpers this Sub-Committee has worked tirelessly for many months to ensure that the Library is not just a collection of books but a real cultural centre for the district, covering as many authors as our limited means will allow. Funds for the operation of the Library come from an Annual Grant from the Waitemata County Council, from the Association's General Account, together with library subscriptions, rentals and fines and this year the Auckland Savings Bank has acceded to a Committee request for assistance and has made a generous donation of \$200. The Ladies of the Library also run a small trading table, the proceeds of which gradually add up to the price of a book.

Apart from the Centre other happenings in the district have been the laying of water pipes to Bush Road and its unfortunate concomitant - the massacre of West Coast Road. Luckily "old faithful" was eventually "patched up" but the water pipes remain empty a state of affairs which must have worried many residents during the recent drought. Other roads in the area seem to have been satisfactorily maintained and we are pleased to see that the traffic hazard of Kelly Bridge has at last been reduced by the demolition of the parapets. (*Kelly Bridge was one way still at this stage and the parapet sides meant no visibility of traffic on the bridge until you were almost on it. Traffic going down West Coast Road from Waiatarua were supposed to give way - but I had the frightening experience of sharing the bridge! -Editor*)

The Association's year started with a relatively small number of financial members but I am pleased to report that a membership drive undertaken by the Committee, on behalf of both the Association and the Library, resulted in the Association's membership reaching an all-time high of 109 members and the Library's roll far surpassing the original goal of 100.

Medical services to the district is another matter which has received some attention together with some small improvements in the bus time table (as a result of our mid-year questionnaire and subsequent meeting with the Auckland Bus Company) and the delivery of the "Western Leader" to Mr Langley's store.

In conclusion, I should like to thank most sincerely the hard working members of my Committee and the many voluntary helpers who together have put in the multitude of man - (and woman) hours which have been necessary to carry us successfully through 1973.

B.J.G. Holibar, President, WRRRA Assoc. Inc.

FOOTNOTE: We hear that the Government Valuers, having been in the district, have decided that we are becoming a prestige area with consequent inflation of property values. As we are rated on unimproved value it seems likely that a fairly steep increase in rates is inevitable.

Seen - Bedford? van - dark blue with broad white stripe down side and paler blue stripe down the middle of that, cruising in Cascade Avenue. Please be aware of this vehicle.

ADVERTISING

*This is free to financial members for 1997,
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*

**Repeat commercial advertisements of financial members will only be printed as space allows,
for the remainder of the financial year**

MARIE HASLER - Member of Parliament for Waitakere. Electorate Office, 423 Titirangi Rd., P.O. Box 60204, Titirangi.
Phone 817-3889, Fax 817-2728.
Email address - mariehasler@mp-waitakere.gen.nz

FIREWOOD FOR SALE - dry split macrocarpa, \$55 cm. Call at 17 Rimu Road or phone 814-8833

HELP WANTED - creative person to cook dinner for working Dad and 3 children, Monday to Thursday. Ring Grahame to discuss options 814-9001

CLASSICAL HOMOEOPATHY - I wish to thank those of you who have been my exam cases. These exams have now been passed. I am happy to see anyone who would like to try Homoeopathy or who wishes to find out about it. Phone Tricia Lukas on 814-9221.

WOOL WANTED - Any leftover balls of wool required for knitting peggy squares for blankets for charity. Phone Rozanna on 814-9374

MATHS TUITION AVAILABLE. Up to and including Form 5, School C maths. Qualified teacher. Phone Jo on 814-9945.

ALL STUDENTS!! Do you need help in 5th form Accounting, Economics or mathematics. I am offering my services as a one to one tutor and am prepared to teach within your own home. Phone Paul Goldsmith, BCom on 818-8139

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

PIANO LESSONS Practical or theory, children or adults, beginner up to Grade 5. \$10 per half hour. Phone Penelope on 814-8833.

FERNS RESTAURANT - Patronise our local restaurant, a la carte dining. Open Wed. - Sun. from 6 pm. Sat. & Sun. lunch from 11 am. Fabulous new chef, fabulous new menu, fabulous view. Fully licensed and BYO. Phone 814-9804.

BRICK & BLOCKLAYING - BBQ's, tiles etc. Phone 837-4677.

JOHN HENDRIKSE, lawyer and Notary Public; available after hours at 914 West Coast Road, Waiatarua by appointment. Phone 814-9991.

Please accept my subscription to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
for 1997

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

Name

Address

Phone

To Treasurer
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Auckland 8
or leave at the library

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of
Margaret Blumhardt
PHONE 814-9843
849 West Coast Road, Waiatarua
(opposite Raroa Terrace)
by WEDNESDAY 4th JUNE, 1997

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.