



# Community News

MAY/JUNE 1999

EDITOR : MICHAEL GRIFFITH

## This Month at the WRRRA

The Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers Association (WRRRA) meets on the first Monday of each month - all members may attend.

NOTE: Next months meeting is on Tuesday 8 June as Monday is a public holiday. Start time 7.30pm.

*This month's report is by Terry Chapman.*

We spent some time discussing the best way to analyse the survey results - thank you to those who returned the survey - almost half of you! This is a very good level of response to a survey - it must have been the hamper of goodies offered. The winner of the hamper will be drawn later this month - look out for the photo-opportunity in the local newspapers! We will let you know 'the results' of the survey in a future issue.

Waitakere City Council recently published the draft Annual Plan - all households should have received an invitation to make a submission in writing and in person. The WRRRA made a submission on several topics that were highlighted in the survey responses. Notably concerning the safety of the footpaths and road junctions in Waiatarua, waste collection, and the increase in the Dog licence fees. Many residents are concerned about the likelihood of illegal dumping in this area. The survey results proved useful in supporting the submissions. The council agreed to increase the amount of money reserved for dealing with this problem from \$16,000 to \$65,000.

(As an aside, if you, like me, are a dog owner you might ponder on the following major savings made on the rates bill: about \$200,000 dollars saving was achieved by axing the extension to the animal welfare centre, and another \$200,000 by increasing the dog licence fees. Further to this, most recently elected, 'cost cutting' councillors have been against providing part of the old 'Bird Road' depot site as a permanent site for use by the Waitakere Dog Training Club. The club currently meets under street lamps at the back of the 'Big Top' car park. Those wishing to do 'Tux Wonder Dog' type exercise with their dogs have to travel to the North Shore, or Auckland, clubs, whose councils provide somewhere better to meet and store equipment. If you are not a dog owner, but do enjoy playing field sports, netball, skateboarding, skating, bush walking, or one of the many other activities supported by the council you can congratulate yourselves in not having to pay an annual licence fee.)

With Ian Ford, we looked at the plans for the new Waiatarua fire station (news of this in this issue), who also reported on the risk management and educational programmes

Followers of the national news should note that the recent 'body in the burning car' incident was attended by Henderson fire brigade, not the Waiatarua service.

Those of you who have paid your subscription for membership of the ratepayers association will shortly be receiving a plastic laminated membership card - the first time that we have used one - it is produced in an attractive bush green!

Another long-running concern of those not on main sewerage is the septic tank emptying service paid for by all those with a tank. The council had previously stated that when the tanks are emptied they are checked to see if they are in good operating condition - i.e. not allowing too much polluted water to seep into the water table. It now appears that this is not the case. Many people feel that an inspection service is more important than an emptying, since a 'healthy' tank should not need emptying. The WRRRA is making a second draft Plan representation on this topic. We will keep you informed.

## Wanted

The WRRRA requires the services of an Auditor to audit the books of the WRRRA for the 1998/99 financial year. If you are able to help please contact Eileen Powell on 814-9298.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Dawn Miller who has been the association's auditor for many years.

## Fire Brigade News

We know you've heard this before but... there's a serious chance of a new Fire Station in Waiatarua this year. We can tell you that -

- the NZ Fire Service Commission has committed \$375,000 for the project
- we've seen plans for the station
- an application for Resource Consent is to be lodged this month, followed by a call for tenders.

As always it seems, there's just the smallest hitch. The amount that the Fire Service has allocated will build a single bay station, to house the Fire Service-owned fire engine. It's not enough for a second appliance bay for the 4-wheel-drive ute owned by the Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade. We'd already committed \$16,000 to extend the meeting room, and are now looking for an extra \$41,000. Philanthropists are invited to call Ian at 814 9610.

Preparation for the film version of "Phone 1125J" is taking most of the waking hours of the Brigade's own Film Production Unit. Unitec's Film School are interested in taking on the technical side of the project. If you can volunteer tailoring or dressmaking skills, we'd love to hear from you. And we also need to beg or borrow clothing and hats of the era (late 50's). Contact Lyndsay 814 9872 or Tony 814 9688.

## Can You Help?

The secretary for Waiatarua Ratepayers and Resident's Association (WRRRA) has moved out of the area - so we need a new one. You don't need to have had previous experience, the role is straight forward and you will get assistance from the other committee members. The secretary's role consists of taking the minutes of the monthly meeting and circulating them to committee members along with some correspondence. Meetings are on the first Monday of the month usually from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Anyone interested in helping on the committee and filling the position of secretary should phone Gerry Davis 814-8833 (President). We would appreciate your help, thanks.

## Latest Update of the Survey

We sent out 641 surveys and have had 240 returns at the May 1st deadline to be in for the hamper draw. There will no doubt be more returns but they will not be in time for the draw. This represents a return of 37%. Thanks to all who took the time to fill it out.

Our first look at the survey was for information that we might use to strengthen our presentations regarding the annual plan which we presented to council on April 26th and May 7th. Our second look was to take off the coupons to put in the draw and to record the names of people who

offered some assistance to help in community programmes / activities.

Would you believe that 45 people offered their services. One volunteer has lived in our community for 50 years. Seven volunteers have lived here for less than 1 year. One respondent has lived in Waiaatarua for 66 years.

We have read only a fraction of the returns, and already we have read many excellent suggestions for improvements in our community and for social activities.

We have today, (May 5) set the wheels in motion to tabulate the information from all the returns and when this is done we will analyse the responses. Eventually all details will be read and the Ratepayers Association will have a mountain of information to share with you, the Waitakere City Council and to help determine some of our future directions.

Once again I thank the 240 people who took the time to assist us by filling out the survey.

## Message From Neil Pullan

Just a note to all my clients and friends in the Waiaatarua area to advise them that I have retired from veterinary practice due to ongoing health problems. I am at present negotiating with a colleague to take over my clients to enable a continuity of service to be provided to residents in the area. Hopefully this will result in a new veterinary clinic being established in the Oratia district. Initially the service will be on a house call basis until suitable premises can be found. As soon as arrangements for the hand-over are finalised the details will be notified in a personal communication to all of my clients, as well as being publicly advertised.

I wish to thank all of my clients for their support and friendship over the last 8 years and to wish them and their pets all the best. *Neil Pullan.*

## Oratia Kindergarten Dance

The time has arrived for Oratia Kindergarten to organise another fundraising dance. This was such a huge success last year and many people have been asking if we were going to hold another. Well, yes we are. We have managed to secure the band Tongue & Groove which was a big draw card last year, and they are more than happy to come and play for us again. We have also been lucky enough to obtain the same venue. We would like to thank Titirangi Community Centre for helping us again with using their facilities.

The funds obtained will go to upgrading several areas in the kindergarten so as it complies with guidelines set by the Kindergarten Association. We have organised this dance for the community of Oratia and Waiaatarua, and would like to see this dance become an annual event for us, but we can not do it without your support. Tickets will cost \$20.00 each with the dance being held on June 19th 1999 at 7.30 p.m. There will be a cash bar operating and a supper will be provided. For more details contact Lynn Radford the Secretary of Oratia Kindy.

## Mitch's Recommended Bush Walk

*(This is a regular feature by Mitch, who spends many hours running along the wonderful tracks in the ranges along with running City Lights Café and Brasserie. You are welcome to call in to City Lights Café and Brasserie to chat with Mitch about other walks)*

### Pukemateko Lookout

I thought that with all the lovely crisp clear days we are having Pukemateko Lookout would be a great place to start. It is the highest spot in the ranges and possibly the only place to see both the Waitemata Harbour and the magnificent waterfalls of the Waitakere dam from the same place.

From here a steep downhill walk for about one hour takes you through the Waitakere golf course better know as the goat trail. From there you take the Upper Kauri track where if you are lucky you may see flocks of Cockatoo and Rosella who have made this particular part of the ranges

their home (along with other native birds).

On your return a short detour will take you to the famous Cascade Falls and if you time it so you reach the swing bridge at dusk you will see the birds come down to the river to drink and socialise.

Pukemateko walk = 3 hours return  
Pick the walk up at Cascade Park = 2 hours.

On the Mitch scale of 1 to 10, I would give this one a 7 as the steep downhill is a little tough on the legs but well worth the effort.

Good luck and good tracking - *Mitch.*

## City Light Café – Winter Hours

CAFÉ: Thursday to Sunday – 8.30am to 6pm  
(Closed other days)

RESTAURANT: Friday to Sunday – 8.30am to 11pm  
(Closed other days)

*Sunday is Roast Dinner Night from 6pm.*

## Playcentre

A smile is such a funny thing  
It wrinkles up your face  
And when it's gone  
You'll never find its hiding place

But much more wonderful is  
To see what smiles can do  
I'll smile at you  
You smile at me  
And so I smile makes 2.

Smiles, laughter and lots of fun are all part of the positive environment at your local playcentre. We welcome all children between the ages of 0 – 6 years old and their caregivers.

It is wonderful to see all the new enrolments and visitors to the centre.

A special thank you to the Waitakere Licensing Trust for the generous grant received for the funding of our new sunshades and sand-pit cover. A cheque and plaque were presented to our centre at a special dinner attended by two of our members.

So why not come along and see what a great place this is on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9.15am – 12.15pm. We are located at 911 West Coast Road, down the driveway at the Community Centre, phone 814-8835 or contact Elke on 814-8803 after hours for further information.

## Library News

The colder weather is approaching. Time to snuggle up with a good book! We have plenty of new ones to choose from including:

Under the Dragon Ray McLean  
Fathers Who Dare, Win Ian Grant  
(great for Fathers with teenagers)  
Be Very Afraid Dave Henderson (all about the I.R.D.)

We also have Monica's Story by Andrew Morton, who is the author of Princess Di's controversial biography.

Remember, new members are always welcome and if you are already a member please check to see if you have any overdue books.

## 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 & Sunday 11am – 12 noon

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

## What's On

### Lopdell House

**Johanna Pegler So Far – A Survey**  
**30 APRIL – 6 JUNE 1999**

"Pegler's work reveals a passion she has with and for her experience of the New Zealand landscape"

**Terry Stringer & Mary McIntyre – The Shrine**  
**30 APRIL – 6 JUNE 1999**

The works presented by Stringer & McIntyre are meditations on the ambivalences present in human behaviour, both the beauty and ugliness that resides in people.

Check Lopdell House's internet site on the for more information.  
[www.lopdell.org.nz](http://www.lopdell.org.nz) or phone the Gallery on 817-8087.

### TCAC – The Upstairs Gallery

**Weave ~ 14 May – 30 May 1999**

An interactive installation created by Iona Matheson, Jasmine Clark and Sue Garlick.

Open daily from 10am to 4.30pm. Phone 817-8087 for further information.

## Inorganic Rubbish Collection

"The time has come the walrus said...." For another inorganic rubbish collection. The Council will be delivering flyers to everybody in the next week or two advising you exactly what you can and cannot put out for collection. The flyer will also give you the dates when the collection people will be in your area. It will also advise when you can start placing rubbish at the roadside, however, for the majority of the Waiatarua Com-



munity the collection will start on Monday 14 June. Therefore all your inorganic rubbish needs to be out by Sunday night 13 June.

### Important guidelines:

- Garden waste (branches, clippings), Hazardous waste (paint, oil, chemicals), Concrete and bricks, Car parts (tyres, engines, gear boxes, panels) or anything that is very difficult or unsafe to collect (heavy, large, jagged) including Commercial Waste WILL NOT be collected.

### Also

- Quantities greater than a car trailer load may not be collected.
- Household quantities of hazardous waste can be left at the Refuse and Recycling Station, The Concourse, Henderson, free of charge.
- Put small items or pieces into boxes.
- The Council discourages "scavenging" from inorganic piles because of litter safety considerations.

Try to reduce rubbish. Can you reuse, donate or sell your old furniture, appliances or toys, instead of throwing them out?

For further queries, contact Customer Services, 839 0400

## New Rubbish Collection Service

Are you aware that Waitakere City Council is changing the way it collects rubbish from households and businesses from July 1<sup>st</sup>? From July 1<sup>st</sup> only official, prepaid Council rubbish bags will be collected.

You may have many questions about why the Council is introducing a "user pays" service for rubbish collection. There are many different ways that the Council can help answer your questions:

1. Information brochures to be distributed to all households and businesses in May. The brochures include a number of recycling tips that will encourage people to reduce the amount of rubbish going into their bags, save on their collection costs, and place less of a demand on the environment.
2. You can phone the new **Refuse and Recycling Hotline**, on **839 0419**, where friendly customer services staff will answer your questions, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To assist the change over to the new system, all households will receive **one free Council rubbish bag**, delivered to their letterboxes in June.

## A Tribute to Neil Pullan.....

### On his retirement

Thank you Neil .....and I know I say this not only on behalf of the four felines that share my home but on behalf of the many many beloved family pets be them furred, feathered or otherwise that dwell here in the hills of Waiatarua.

The majority of Neil's career has been spent practicing in distant lands. He and his wife Margaret have lived in a number of countries including, England, The Falklands, Nigeria, Libya and New Guinea. They returned to New Zealand in the mid 1980's where Neil was working nights at the After Hours Vet Clinic until he built up his clientele to enable him to set up his own practice from home in the hills of Waiatarua.

We have been fortunate and spoilt by not only having our own veterinarian living and practicing out of the converted (by his wife) spare bedroom into a friendly inviting surgery, but the benefit of home visits day or night. It didn't matter what the hour it was always a relief to call Neil who would attend to the care of our beloved pets and not to mention comforting the owners too.

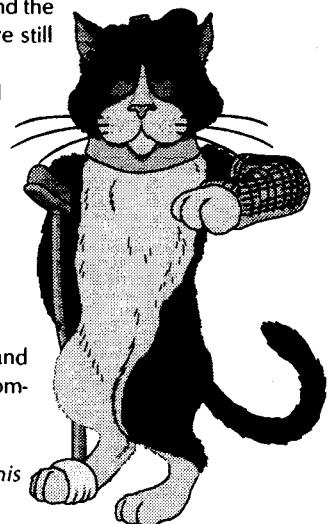
Such was the dedication to animals that if the Pullans happened to be driving past a paddock and see a horse they would stop and offer the lucky horse a couple of juicy carrots or what about the huge cave wetas that moved into the darkroom Neil carefully constructed at the back of the house for developing X-rays. Such is Neil's nature that he let the wetas stay irrespective that one vet Nurse flatly refused to develop any more X-rays unless the wetas were evicted. Years on and the wetas (there is a myriad of them now) are still there enjoying their "foster home".

All creatures receive the same love and care that this gentle, dedicated man has shown our pets throughout the years. His services will be greatly missed but I know he retires from practice with a wealth of wonderful memories.

Neil, again our heartfelt thanks.

From - Judy, Neil, Flute, Thorn, Birdie and countless others from in and around the community.

(Next issue Neil will share one of his memorable moments for us - Editor)



# ADVERTISING

*This is free to financial members for 1999,  
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**

**JP - Mary Kelly.** For personalised weddings, re-affirmation of wedding vows, ceremonies of commitment, naming ceremonies, MC, Chair for public meetings etc, Ph/Fax 814 9857.

**FAY'S YOGA CLASS - Glen Eden -** Your complete Health and Fitness Prog. Mon to Sat ph: 817-8233.

**LAWYER & NOTARY PUBLIC - John Hendrikse.** Also available at night and at weekends. Very competitive fees for housing transactions with a free will. I will accept briefs for Criminal cases in the Henderson Court. Familiar with Afrikaans. 914 West Coast Road, Waiatarua - Ph/Fax 814 9991

**DESKTOP PUBLISHING / WORD PROCESSING / WEB PAGE DESIGN -** all your typing needs catered for at very reasonable prices. Call Elaine 837 8207

**EXCELLENT CHEAP GLASS REPAIRS -** phone 814-9786

**MUSIC TEACHER -** available to teach piano, keyboard and theory. Based in Waiatarua. Offers one-to-one tuition, practical and theory exams, competitions, all at reasonable prices.

Contact NZ Modern School of Music on 0800 696874

**LEARN TO SPEAK ITALIAN -** with an experienced native teacher. Private or groups, all levels - conversation, grammar, business. Phone Alessandra, 814-8993.

**PRUNING -** roses, fruit trees, shrubs and Garden Design and Maintenance. Phone Linda 025 8335610 or evenings 833-7860

**WINDOW CLEANING / WATERBLASTING,** Chemical & House Washing. Excellent rates, free quotes. Phone Glenn 814-9480

**ECSTASY AND ENERGY EATING - Food For Life -** In true middle eastern fashion in my beautiful Moroccan style home, half day workshops in the ultimate way to stay lean. Learn recipes and cultures from Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Turkey, Morocco, Algeria etc. Please phone Tami Vazey on 814-9024.

**SINGLE BED -** Free for removal. Phone 814-9505

**LEARN HOW TO TREAT YOUR FIRST AID AILMENTS WITH HOMEOPATHY.** I am offering classes now in this, with further topics to include family and pet care. Ph Trica (Dip. Hom) 814-9221

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE,** guaranteed dry, pine \$50 a cubic metre. Phone 814-8833

**BEAUTY THERAPY -** Fully qualified with 9 years experience, waxing, electrolysis, facials, massage, tinting, manicures and pedicures. Phone Vicky 814-9317 (7 days)

**SANDY MCCONNELL ANTIQUES:** Fascinating genuine antique maps and views of New Zealand and Australia. Wide price range. Contact Sandy McConnell on 814-9962 or email: sandy\_mcconnell@clear.net.nz

**"MAYIM SUB - Counseling Service:** Helping people overcome the problems life throws up. Contact Sandra Gibbons B.Min, Cert CPE on 814-9642 to find out more or for a brochure.

**EAT AT THE HIGHEST RESTAURANT IN AUCKLAND -** Yummy food and great views. Roast Dinners on Sunday Night. Phone 814-9006 for bookings etc. City Lights Cafe and Restaurant.

**AUCKLAND SUN CLUB INC.** The family club for clothes-free recreation invites you to visit. For further information please call 814-9973

## 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	PH/FAX	E-MAIL
Mary Kelly, JP	3 Atarua Gardens	814-9857 + Fax	turtle@atrua.co.nz
Denis Graham	Back up - Atarua Gdns	814-9706	
Tony Holt	56 Bush Road	814-9688	
Ross & Kath Mullins	330 Forest Hill Rd	814-9402 + Fax	
Jenny McGee	886 West Coast Rd	814-9954	
Chris Field	799 West Coast Rd	814-9876	chrislizf@voyager.co.nz
Ngaira Mason	21 Tui Crescent	814-9036 + Fax	
Adini Stoneman	8 Kauri Loop Rd	814-9822	
Margaret/Paddy Marshall	19 Rarua Tce	814-9859	
Goelene/Tony Goodrich	17 Cascade Ave	814-9788	
Debbie Irving	562 Stanik Drive	814-9789	

Please accept my Membership to the  
**Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association**  
**for 1999**

I 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

## Waiatarua Community Hall Hire

Remember to hire this excellent facility for your meetings, parties, dances, birthdays (children's and adults) etc. Lovely wooden floor for dancing.

Friday and Saturday evenings, (including chairs & tables) \$100.

Hourly rate, (max 3 hours) \$10 per hour

Sunday to Thursday evenings

\$65, hourly rate \$7 per hour, (max 3 hrs)

Daily rates Monday - Friday, Full day \$25, hourly rate \$5

Saturdays & Sundays, Full day \$35, hourly \$7

Crockery hire \$25, Bond up to \$250.

Discount for regular users. Community Barbecue hire \$20

Phone the Custodian Pauline Isaachsen on 814-9847

## JUNE/JULY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of

The Editor,

35 Quinns Road, Waiatarua

by TUESDAY 8th JUNE, 1999

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