



# Community News

JULY/AUGUST 2001

EDITOR:

JOSEPHINE HALL

WRRRA PRESIDENT:

GEOFF WOOD PH 836-8630

## This Month at WRRRA

We welcome Grant Longley to the WRRRA executive committee.

The committee for 2001 is ... President: Geoff Woof, Vice President: Karl Nuttall, Secretary: Kevin Healy, Treasurer: Eileen Powell, Committee members: Celia Wood-Calvert, Catherine Wells, Terry Chapman and Jo Hall.

\* At this month's meeting we received and discussed "The West Coast Plan" document. This is a plan for the future management of the West Coast and the Waitakere Ranges.

The plan was initiated by Council in response to feedback during the District Plan consultations. Produced by the West Coast Communities – (Volunteers who have met every six weeks since March 1998.) – as their vision and Action Plan for the future of the West Coast and Waitakere Ranges. It is expected that the relevant authorities will use it as a guide when developing policies and projects that impact these areas.

A copy of the West Coast Plan is available at our Waiatarua Community library.

\*The two historical photos of Waiatarua have now been identified in terms of date and place and will soon grace the foyer walls of our community hall. If you have, or know of, the existence of other historical photos of Waiatarua, the committee would love to view these. Contact Jo Hall on 814-9945.

\* There was lengthy discussion on the formation of Structure Plans.

\* A new letterhead is to be designed for WRRRA.

\* The heating in the Community Hall is to be revamped.

\* A combined Residents and Ratepayers meeting has been planned for August, focussing on the important issues common to all.

\* Running out of time, we postponed the discussion of a possible social event for Waiataruan's, until our August meeting. If you have any ideas for this, or wish to be involved in the organization, please contact any of those on the committee.

\*Membership of the WRRRA for 2001 is 119 – slowly creeping up. But still only 18% of our community. Send your membership in now and support your local community. See the back page.

The next meeting of the WRRRA will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30 pm in the Waiatarua Community Hall, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua.

## Catherine Wells

*Catherine is a new member of the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Committee. Here is a little about her.*

We lived in Laingholm.

Where could we move to that was cleaner and quieter than where we already were?

The answer – a Lockwood in Turanga Road, with a magnificent view of Auckland City, in a place we'd never heard of, "Waiatarua". That was twenty-five years, three houses, three children, more cats, dogs and other assorted pets than I can recall, ago. Now that the offspring have places of their own and only three cats left, there is time and energy to spare, and a chance for me to contribute to the community by serving on the Ratepayers and Residents Committee.

In the past Waiatarua has provided opportunities such as a number of years' involvement in the Waiatarua Drama Club, including two as President, and being the proprietor of the Mountain Top Café (most recently The Boohai) in one of its previous incarnations. Apart from the four and a half year sojourn as restaurateur, the day job is freelance Graphic Designer, which for the first time ever is close to home, in Henderson.

## Fire Brigade News

Most of the Brigade attended a First Aid course held on station on Saturday the 9th. Monday night training in the last month has included two exercises using breathing apparatus. The first was at the Community Centre, and the second at 'The Boohai' while it was being renovated. We're pleased to report that our mannequin 'victims' were successfully rescued on both occasions.

We can also advise that since the last newsletter the main door has been operating normally, and we haven't had to use Plan B to get the Big Red Truck out. Touch wood.

### Care on the Roads

Most Aucklanders aren't used to encountering ice on the roads, but the recent cold weather has resulted in a few ice patches on both Piha Rd and Scenic Drive. It can linger for a while – at least a couple of hours after sunrise, sometimes more – so be aware of the potential in the mornings and slow down. It's too late by the time you're on top of it.

### Recent Calls

At the time of writing there has been just one call since Queen's Birthday weekend. This makes 16 for the first 6 months of 2001, the quietest period for years.

Mon 18th June, 10:56 p.m. – Car fire, Anawhata Rd. A Subaru Legacy this time, and it despite us arriving less than 8 minutes after the caller picked up the phone there wasn't much left to save.

### Contacts

For all fires and emergencies phone 111. For everything else contact Ian Ford (8148871) or Richard Seccombe (025 915 525).

## Weed of the Month

### Wandering Jew

This plant poses more problems than just a politically incorrect name. Wandering jew, or wandering willy (*Tradescantia fluminensis*) is another South American import. Most people will recognize the dense carpet formed by the succulent stems and leaves of this aggressive invader, which thrives in damp, shady, cool conditions. It's one of the worst weeds in our part of the world and will smother virtually all native plant regeneration.

Physical removal is best attempted when the weather is dry. It can be raked or hand pulled, and the mats of stems can often be rolled up. All parts of the plants must be removed, as it will grow from any remnant. It will survive composting and drying out, so the only place you can safely get rid of it is the Baling Station.

Chemical control can be successful on its own. It can also be used as a follow-up to physical removal – you're likely to need it unless you only have a small patch to control. Grazon at 50 mls per 10 litres of water, plus 10 mls of a penetrant such as Pulse, has been effective. Yates hydrocotyl killer has the same active ingredient as Grazon, and is available in smaller quantities if you don't need a lot.

Grazon is available at Wrightsons, Pinepac or Veg-Gro, and you can get Yates hydrocotyl killer at most garden centres.

### Tip of the Month

Start with areas of low infestation, or isolated weeds. You'll see results quicker, and you'll avoid them spreading and forming a larger patch to deal with next year.



## Driving you crazy?

"All roads lead to Waiaatarua". Well not all, but most traffic to the West Coast passes through. Are you concerned about road safety and road conditions in our area? The Waiaatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association (WRRRA) is launching a 'Safer Roads Waiaatarua' campaign. Association President Geoff Wood made a presentation to the Waitakere Community Board's meeting this month outlining the hazards of our narrow, winding, busy roads—issues of which the Board are well aware. Council Roading and Traffic officers informed us that a city-wide 'Transport Corridor' study is in this year's Annual Budget, due to start in January / February 2002. The study will list the priorities for road upgrading and suggest a programme for the next 5 - 10 years. We can have input to this study. The WRRRA committee is researching crash statistics for Waiaatarua to identify problem areas and come up with suggested solutions. As well, the Community Board encouraged us to canvass the Waiaatarua community for information about road safety and road conditions in our area. We need your help to make a difference! What is your main moan about our roads and traffic?

Fill in the online 'Safer Roads Waiaatarua' feedback form on Waiaatarua's website – [www.waiaatarua.org.nz](http://www.waiaatarua.org.nz) or phone Kevin Healy, Waitakere Community Board on 814-9505 or email: [saferoads@healy.co.nz](mailto:saferoads@healy.co.nz).

## News from the West Coast Vet Clinic.

We are moving to new premises.

We have bought the house at 546 West Coast Road (next door to Kenloch Motors) and that will be our permanent address. Working hours will be the same but the telephone number is new, 818- 4104. You can still reach us through our old number, but please be prepared to use our new one.

For more information about our service you can visit our website [www.westcoastvet.co.nz](http://www.westcoastvet.co.nz) where you can also find a lot of useful links. So, from 5<sup>th</sup> July 2001 we will be operating from 546 West Coast Road.

To observe: During winter time cats are very prone to develop cystitis during the cold weather. If you notice your cat is going to the toilet frequently, passing just a small amount of urine, it is time to visit us.

I hope you won't have that problem with your pets, but if you do, or have any other problems, please give us a call on 814-4104. Our advice is free.

Zoran Dakic

## Scene or Heard in Waiaatarua



1. (Left) A recent and novel addition to our Waiaatarua landscape.
2. Wednesday morning, early... Rubbish day. Grey cleansacks littering the West Coast Road. Movement... rummaging... observed up ahead. Rubbish strewn everywhere. A dog? But no! too low.. too big.. too solid...  
**A fat, pink pig gleaning morsels for his breakfast from the rubbish.** Where else in Auckland would such a sight be seen? ...and who got to clean up the mess?



Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> August at 1.30pm we will be visiting the garden of Beverley Davison at 59 Knights Road, Rothersey Bay. It is a coastal garden surrounding a Chapman Taylor house, featuring camellias, a variety of perennials and a new terraced area. Phone Eileen for further details or carpooling on 814-9298. Everyone is welcome.

## Submissions to Waitakere City Council Draft Annual Budget 2001 –2002

*This is a copy of the last of the submissions made by The WRRRA to the Draft Annual Budget. A full copy of the submissions made is available at the library.*

### **Structure Plans, Development and Environmental Issues**

WRRRA supports the Structure Plan approach to subdivision and development of new parts of the city. We acknowledge that this is an approach that allows forward planning and addresses the matter of "cumulative effect", provided that proper expert advice is taken.

We submit that adequate funding must be provided to allow for community involvement in the process, and ongoing communication and information-sharing between Council, relevant professional advisors, landowners and the community, without unnecessarily prolonging the time-frames.

We therefore support provision in the Budget for adequate funding to complete those Structure Plan processes already underway, and to fund the early stages of new proposals.

We note that Council has proposed funding for environmental protection through application of the District Plan, stormwater protection, weed control, cleaner production, etc. and Advocacy to Auckland Regional Council and the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, all of which we support.

We submit that funding for weed control is essential.

We support non-chemical methods of weed control and ask Council to fund for these in preference to chemical methods. This is for the health of the environment and people alike.

The Green Network Rates Relief programme should be retained and funding increased.

### **Parks**

We support Council's decision to restore funding in the draft Annual Budget for mowing of Reserves, planting of median strips and traffic islands, and berm mowing.

We support funding for development of Reserves Management Plans as required by the Resource Management act, including funding for community involvement in developing these plans.

### **Road Sealing, Footpaths and Safety**

WRRRA regards the sealing of roads and the provision of footpaths as a safety issue, but also as an equity issue.

Poor road surfaces present dangers to motorists, pedestrians and cyclists alike, cause stormwater problems, cause dust to enter drinking water tanks, and cause respiratory problems.

This year it has been proposed by Council that some roadsealing and footpath construction could be done, using loan-funding with interest paid from the Waitemata Asset Acquisition Fund.

It is unclear whether it is proposed to fund some "catch-up" renewals in a similar fashion.

WRRRA does not support either of these proposals.

It is our submission that renewals should not be funded by loans. The

## Waiaatarua Community Library

Quentin has answered the call for the Friday night spot. Thank you very much, Quentin.

Thank you Barbara for your five years of faithful service on the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday morning. We now need another person for this spot. (It only means about 4 times a year.) Please phone Bev 814-9430 if you can help.

The new financial year has begun, so we will have a nice lot of new books very soon.

Come on up to the library where it is very warm, and check us out.

New books this month are:

Somewhere South of Here by William Kowaski (author of 'Eddie's Bastard' – an excellent read.) His new book is about the young man's life.

1<sup>st</sup> to Die by James Patterson.

House of Sand and Fog by Andre Dubus.

(Library hours on back page)

required changes to the Funding Policy should this course of action be supported would open the gate for other renewals to be funded by loan, thus placing the costs on future ratepayers.

We oppose the use of the Waitemata Asset Acquisition fund for roadsealing and footpath construction also as an equity issue.

When Council voted to abolish the Inner Outer Differential it declared its reason for doing so to be a matter of equity.

It was said that we are "one city" and that all residents have equal access to and benefit of all Council facilities and assets. It was said that all ratepayers should similarly contribute to the provision of and maintenance of those facilities and assets equally. Outer area residents and inner area residents and ratepayers were to be seen simply as Waitakere residents and ratepayers.

Our residents and ratepayers who live on unsealed roads or have no footpaths are therefore entitled to the same safety, health and access provisions, funded in the same manner as their fellow citizens.

We therefore expect that their roads will be sealed, and footpaths laid, and all maintenance kept up, funded in the same way as infrastructure provided elsewhere in the city.

The Waitemata Acquisition Fund should be used in a tangible fashion to benefit the area, and the city as a whole, as have similar funds in the other wards. Public consultation as to an appropriate use of this fund should be undertaken at the earliest opportunity.

The provision of footpaths throughout the city should also be subject to a progressive programme. The ward/population-based allocation of funding has resulted in inequities with some roads having footpaths on both sides or in low-use locations while other roads have no pedestrian safety provisions at all.

Provision also for disabled persons to safely use footpaths, or to move from place to place at all is an equity measure, and we support Council's intention to fund this Consultation with disabled people should occur to ensure satisfactory outcomes.

Speed of traffic on both urban and rural roads alike is of concern.

### **Stormwater/Wastewater**

WRRRA urges Council to fully fund maintenance of stormwater and wastewater systems in our city, including replacement of old pipes, stream-clearing, and re-vegetation projects.

We submit that Council must fund a catch-up programme to correct maintenance and new work deferred over the last two years.

Monitoring of water in waterways for water quality has not been carried out lately, and we submit that funding for this is imperative to avoid contamination going uncorrected.

Funding for refund of the Septic Tank Pumpout Charge to people with high-tech systems is appreciated.

However we urge Council to provide funding for advocacy to Government to change the law regarding charging the pumpout fee to all properties, whether built on or not. This is an inequity that could be easily remedied.

### **Wellbeing**

WRRRA supports Council's proposal to fund CABx, WADCOSS and other agencies, on a three-year basis. A similar certainty of funding should be extended to Surf Life Saving Clubs, Rural Fire Brigades, etc.

We support Council's intention to continue to provide housing for the aged.

We submit that Council should provide funding for the young in the way of funding for Out-of-School and Holiday programmes for children.

### **Communications**

Many parts of the city do not have the "Western Leader" delivered denying them access to information regarding Council's plans, or the opportunity to comment. They rely on Council's own publications. Council must therefore fund to ensure that communications are made city-wide and adequately.

Local issues: Community Boards are the link between residents and Council. Phone Kevin Healy, Waitakere Community Board, on 814 9505 or email: [kevin@healy.co.nz](mailto:kevin@healy.co.nz)

### **Oratia Spinning and Craft Group**

We meet every Monday 10am – 12 noon in the church hall in Parker Road. Good company. Learn new crafts. Teach spinning, knitting etc. Recently a stamping expert has joined us. All welcome. Phone Bev on 814-9430.

## **Letters to the Editor**

*Dear Madam Editor*

*In reply to Wade Cornell (letters to the Editor, June/July issue).*

*Firstly, for the record, I am totally opposed to any further subdivision of the Waitakere Ranges environment.*

*Wade, I appreciate that you are passionate about this issue, but stating that Structure Plans "opens the Waitakeres to massive development." is simply not true.*

*Linking Structure Plans to the American gun lobby is borderline hysteria. I believe our community would be better served by the facts.*

*Under our current District Plan, fought hard for by people with an environmental conscience, there is no possibility of a Structure Plan in Waiatarua or anywhere from here to the West Coast. Structure Plans can only be even considered for the 'Foothills' environment, eg: Oratia, Swanson, Birdwood. Structure Plans are designed to protect the environment by looking to manage (not subdivide!) the whole catchment, rather than the piecemeal approach that the District Plan allows.*

*Wade, who are the "majority" that are not being consulted?*

*We heard from Steve Healy (no relation) of the Swanson Residents & Ratepayers Association (letters to the Editor, April/May issue) that "The [Structure Plan] process is lengthy, involving extensive consultation with all landowners."*

*It is true that we must be constantly on our guard to prevent the "death by a thousand cuts" fate for the ranges, but in this case, Wade, I believe you are shooting at the wrong target.*

*If you can prove otherwise, I will fight with you all the way.*

*Anyone who would like to discuss this issue rationally, please contact me on 814 9505 or [kevin@healy.co.nz](mailto:kevin@healy.co.nz).*

*Regards,*

*Kevin Healy*

*Waitakere Community Board.*

*Secretary, Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association.*

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Mail is being stolen from letterboxes again. The week beginning June 6<sup>th</sup> a cheque book was stolen from a letterbox on West Coast Road. Cheques were cashed before the culprit was caught. The only deterrent, it seems, is to have a lock on your letterbox to ensure your mail does indeed get to you. Thank you to the resident who has shared this with us, it is important to be aware and to keep a look out for any suspicious activity in our community. If this stirs you in to action and you would like to form a Neighbourhood Watch/Support group in your local area phone Trish Maxwell at West Auckland Neighbourhood Watch/Support on 8344331.

### **The Auckland Sun Club**

It's their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday! Celebrations will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August at the club.

14.00 hours.. Welcome with Bubbly, 15.00 hours.. Auckland Sun Club Café.

Celebrate with us in ASC fashion, Café Vienna style with plenty of good food and great company. There will be photos of the rich history of the club on display and plenty of memories shared. Meet old and new friends alike. Phone 814-9973 for bookings.

(Contributions of \$8 to cover costs would be appreciated.)

### **Waiatarua Playcentre**

Playcentre had a special fairy visitor a few weeks ago, from the 'Aunties'. Parents and children were treated to a delightful hour long teddy bears picnic. Each child brought their favourite teddy along to join in the fun, laughter, magic, dancing and songs.

At Playcentre we believe in Parents playing and learning alongside their children. There is no shortage of activities to keep big and little fingers busy.

Our sessions are Mon, Wed, Fri, 9.15 – 12noon. We also run a supervised session for the over 3 year olds on Thursday mornings. All visitors and enquiries are warmly welcome. Phone during session 814-8835 or Elke 814-8843.

### **Welcome To Waiatarua**

Welcome to Lee, Margot and their family—new to Turanga Road.

# Advertising

This is free to financial members  
for 2001, 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 members will only be printed  
as space allows.

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

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

**WEST COAST VET CLINIC** – Offering full veterinary service for your pets.  
**24 hour service** Phone 818-4104.

**VISIT "EARTH SEED" 100% ORGANIC SHOP** for a great selection of organic and GE-free foods. 547-549 West Coast Rd. Open 7 days Phone/Fax 818-6411.

**SOLICITOR** – Are you buying and/or selling your business/house? Are you interested in setting up a Family Trust? Phone Geoff Wood for your legal needs at 623-7541 DDI or 836-8630 a/hrs weekdays. Home visits by arrangement.

**WORK WANTED:** Registered drainlayer, 30 years experience. 6 tonne and 2½ tonne diggers for hire. Phone Ray 814-9242.

**WEB PAGE DESIGN,** Desk top publishing, Graphic Design, Computer Support, Phone Petrik 8365202.

**RELAXING, REFRESHING AND REJUVENATING** – for a therapeutic massage ring Rowan on 833-7860.

**ATARUA GARDENS BED AND BREAKFAST:** No room for your out of town visitors? Contact Carol and Denis. Phone 09 814-9706 or 025-283-7544.

**LAWYER AND NOTARY PUBLIC:** John Hendrikse, available 24 hours by appointment. Are you buying and/or selling your house? Competitive fees. Home visits by arrangement. Overseas documents can only be witnessed by a notary public. Familiar with Afrikaans. 914 West Coast Road. Ph/Fax 814-9991.

## 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@xtra.co.nz
Denis Graham	Back up - Atarua Gdns	814-9706	
Ross & Kath Mullins	330 Forest Hill Rd	814-9402 + Fax	
Jenny McGee	886 West Coast Rd	814-9954	
Chris/Liz Field	799 West Coast Rd	814-9876	crislizf@voyager.co.nz
Adith Stoneman	8 Kauri Loop Rd	814-9822	
Margaret/Paddy Marshall	19 Raroa Tce	814-9859	
Gaelene/Tony Goodrick	17 Cascade Ave	814-9788	

Please accept my Membership to the  
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

for 2001

I enclose: \$10 Household, \$7 Single Occupant

Name .....

Address .....

Phone .....

To Treasurer

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

**ELECTRICIAN:** Phone Jim your local man Phone 814-9344.

**OUTBACK COUNTRY COLLECTION:** Gorgeous Preserves. Chutneys and relishes. Available in three sizes. Large bottles \$5. Medium bottles \$4. Small bottles \$2. Gift baskets available at various prices on application. Free delivery in the Auckland area. To order Phone Jill 814-8825.

**BABYSITTER** – Mature, honest and reliable lady. Experienced. \$8 an hour Phone Juliette 814-8802.

**WANTED TO BUY:** Land, with or without house. Prefer private, sunny, flat-ish location in Oratia/Waiatarua district. Ph 814-9251 or 021 649 251.

**LAWN MOWING:** Local, reliable. Phone Eric 8372333.

**MATHS TUITION, ALL LEVELS.** Experienced high school teacher Ph 814-9269

**FAY'S YOGA CLASS** – Unique programme of stretching, relaxing fitness health – Glen Eden Phone 817-8233.

**KENDRICK PAINTING AND DECORATING:**

for quality and service Phone Graham on 837-1612.

**TREE WORK:** Fully insured and qualified arborists.

Phone Guy Thomas 813-1481 or 021-244-8733.

**VICKY'S BEAUTY THERAPY:** 10 years experience. Facials, waxing, massage, manicures etc. Available 7 days Phone 814-9317.

**FIREWOOD FOR SALE:** shed stored, pine and macrocarpa \$50-\$65. Phone 814-8833.

**BABYSITTER:** Friendly, mature and responsible 15 year old girl. \$6 per hour. Phone Danielle on 814-9131 or 021-268 4401.

**WANTED:** Large Birdcage. Phone 817-5445

## WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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

### Hours of Opening

Thursday	10 am – 12 noon
Friday	7 pm – 8 pm
Saturday	11 am – 12 noon
Sunday	11 am – 12 noon

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

## 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

Hall phone 814-9353

Phone the Custodian Pauline Isaachsen on 814-9847

## AUGUST/SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of  
The Editor,

757b West Coast Road Road, Waiatarua. Phone 814 9945

EMAIL: forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz

by WEDNESDAY 8th AUGUST, 2001

Thanks to the Longley Family for printing this Newsletter.

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