

Waiatarua Community News

www.waiatarua.org.nz

JUNE 2003

Ten Dollars a Year for What ?

Why should my household spend \$10.00 a year to be a financial member of the Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers Association when all we get is an annual quiz night, a sumptuous breakfast, a Harvest Festival gathering, an ad hoc Neighbourhood Watch group, a committee which makes submissions, on my behalf, to Waitakere City Council on issues such as roading and road safety, footpaths, drainage issues, public transport, refuse collections and more, during the Annual Plan process.

I can even attend the Association's monthly meeting and rev up the Committee or better still the chairperson (tea coffee and bikkies provided).

I hear that Councillors' come along so I could have a go at them too.

I get the monthly Community Newsletter delivered. All the gossip, info on Library, Community happenings, Playcentre, Fire brigade news, Garden club, Council news and lots more.

If I am a financial member I even get free advertising.

Not a bad deal for \$10.00.

Cheque's in the mail.

See the back page of this Community News for the Membership Form.

Have you paid your 2003 subscription to the WRRRA? Now's your chance!

The Waiatarua Residents & Ratepayers Association needs you!
By the end of July, all 2003 paid up members of the WRRRA will be entered into a draw to win a delicious 'brunch for two' at 'The Waitakere Park Lodge.'

- Restaurant open Thursday to Sunday for lunch and dinner
- Magnificent luxury lounge and bar facilities with log fires
- Now open for Sunday Brunch from 10am
- 'Midwinter Christmas' 14 June to 19 July
- Magnificent Bush and City views.
- Enjoy brunch/lunch on the deck.
- **Phone 814-9622**

www.waitakereparklodge.co.nz

email reg@waitakereparklodge.co.nz



This Month at WRRRA

We welcomed Councillor Penny Hulse, and Betty Hansen from the Waitakere Community Board, as well as four local Waiatarua residents. It is great to see such community interest.

The WRRRA Annual Plan Submissions were presented to the Committee for comment and approval prior to these being submitted to Council by 23rd May. These submissions relate to us all as Waiataruan's. A copy of the WRRRA submissions is held in the Waiatarua Community Library and will also be posted on our website. www.waiatarua.org.nz

Membership of the WRRRA for 2003 is low. We aim to have at least 150 paid members by July 2003. If you have not paid your annual \$10 please do so asap to ensure we can continue to serve our Waiatarua Community.

Ian Ford reported on happenings at the Waiatarua Fire Station, the successful Open Day held on the afternoon of Anzac Day and the resulting increase in volunteers to the Fire Brigade. Ian was asked about the possibility of another 'Fire Brigade Play' to enhance the winter social events listed in one's diary. Alas the answer was that a new play 'appears to be some way off'. Keep crossing your fingers. I believe there is action occurring behind the scenes, albeit slowly.

The WRRRA website is progressing towards a larger site. It's there, visit it. What information would you like to see included on the site? Make your comments and ideas known. The website is a great avenue for information and communication. www.waiatarua.org.nz

By the time this issue of the Waiatarua Community News hits your letterbox, many Waiataruan's will have indulged in the famous 'Waiatarua Community Breakfast' being held in the hall on Sunday 25th May. Well known for it's great food and a time to relax and meet other locals. If you missed this one, make sure you watch for the next WRRRA Community event coming up.

The next meeting of the WRRRA will be held on Tuesday 17th June at the Waiatarua Hall at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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WEB SITE www.waiatarua.org.nz

Waiatarua Residents & Ratepayers Committee Member Profile

Hi to all Waiatarua residents. My name is Maxine and I am a relatively new member of the WRRRA committee. I moved to the area in December with my mum and my two daughters. We love the peaceful nature of the area, the magical surroundings and the fabulous community spirit that we have encountered in Waiatarua.

I have a social science degree and am currently studying full time at Waikato University to complete a master of management degree. I work three days a week at a local plant nursery, and attend kickboxing training twice a week. I have also joined the Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade which I enjoy immensely thanks to the relaxed and friendly way the others make me feel that I belong. Becoming a WRRRA Committee member was not something I intentionally planned, it just happened. While attending the first WRRRA meeting of the year my darling mother nominated me. I looked at the smiling faces around me and decided it would be a great way to meet and get to know the locals. As I soon came to realise, the community seems to centre around the WRRRA and the Fire Brigade.

Both organisations provide an avenue to give time, energy and commitment to the people that are our neighbours. Both organisations provide a chance for personal growth. There is much to recommend becoming involved in this wonderful Waiatarua community spirit.

Waiatarua Fire Brigade

The Fire Service has appointed Helen Longley as our Deputy Chief Fire Officer, and all of us in the Brigade offer Helen our warmest congratulations. We're also pleased to welcome Kerry Chislett, John Hinde, Glen Hughes and Alan Marychurch who have taken the plunge and joined us.

As well as our regular Monday night training, a number of other courses were attended: Officer Development for Ian Ford, Advanced Firefighter for Lyndsay Whittle, and a Rural firefighting weekend at Henderson for Helen, Ian, Karl Nuttall and Aaron Offenbaker.

Be firewise when the power goes off

Power cuts increase our risk of fire in the home. Ensure you use them only in a secure holder with a wide base, and keep them well away from curtains, bedclothes and anything else flammable. Children must always be supervised when candles are in use.

Over the years, we've been to several fires caused by carelessly discarded ashes. Empty fireplace ashes and ashtrays into a metal bin to get cold before throwing away – it can be several days before they're safe. A "lights out" fire check for anything that may pose a fire risk to your family before you go to bed is a great idea.

Recent Calls

Sat 26th April, 12:49 a.m. – Car rolled, Scenic Drive. The four occupants had only a few cuts, but their new Mitsubishi Mirage was a write-off.

Sat 17th May, 5:49 p.m. – Assist Police with scene lighting and traffic diversion after a serious accident, motorcycle vs. car near Arataki.

Contacts

Phone 111 for any fire or other emergency. For other enquiries please contact Ian Ford on 8148871 or Helen Longley 814 9855.

Waiatarua Rainfall

	RAIN DAYS	WETTEST DAY	APRIL TOTAL	YEAR TO DATE
Mountain Road	10	20th (35 mm)	82 mm	441 mm
Brabant Road	15	20th (45 mm)	104 mm	588 mm
Quinns Road	16	21st (38 mm)	115 mm	603 mm
Forest Hill Road	9	20th (52 mm)	101 mm	563 mm
Auckland City		6th (18 mm)	56 mm	361 mm

GARDEN GROUP

Wednesday 4th June at 1 pm.

We are again going to visit Greenacres, 78 Coulter Rd, Henderson Valley. Lots of succulents and varying areas of the garden and Karen tells me she now has a sales area. We will have afternoon tea at the Swanson Railway Station and if there is still time we will check out Olsen's Nursery on Metcalfe Rd. They usually have some great bargains.

Ring Eileen on 814 9298 for further information or carpooling.

Our July get together will be held at Arataki where we will hear about all the exciting things happening in the ranges and have a guided tour of the small nursery which is across the road from the visitor centre.

Glow Worms in Waiatarua

Did you know you can easily see galaxies of glow worms in the forest in Waiatarua?

Well, I didn't until I started to go for runs with my dog at twilight. One evening, after watching the sun set over the Upper Nihotupu dam, I started my run back to the car. As I gasped my way up the hill next to the waterfall that plunges into the reservoir, I noticed a few twinkling lights on the right hand bank of the track. As darkness fell, thousands of glow worms lit up right in front of me. I could see even more in the forest as I jogged back to my car. This is a wonderful sight to show friends and children. You'll need to take some torches as the trail back to the car park will be quite dark by the time you head back. If you walk during very heavy rain you may be lucky enough to see the waterfall doing a good job of imitating the Huka Falls!

Peter, Scenic Drive.

Waiatarua Community Library

'Why do Dogs Sniff Bottoms?' by Dawn McMillan. A new book to our shelves this month and very popular with the young ones. Other new additions to the library are...

'LAYING ON OF HANDS' by Alan Bennett. *Funny, whimsical and deliciously cheeky – a small treasure.*

'DROP CITY' by T C Boyle.

'WHITE RUSSIAN' by Tom Bradley. *Set before 1917- Revolution and murder.*

'BLUE HORIZON' by Wilbur Smith.

'THE DENNISTON ROSE' by Jenny Patrick.

'SECOND GLANCE' by Jody Picoult.

More are in the pipeline. These are but a few to whet your appetite ... the very latest

Stuart Harruson, Stephen Coonts, Annie Prouloc, Jeffery Deaver, The Story of Salt.

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

Waiatarua Playcentre

There has been much progress made on building the new deck area, giving the children a greater and more varied area for play. Come along and visit us on any of our session times.

Waiatarua Playcentre is open Mon, Wed and Fri from 9.15am until 12.15pm. All 0-6 year olds and their caregivers are welcome to attend. Your first three visits are free, and we're a friendly bunch.

Playcentre is located down the drive by the Waiatarua Community Hall at 911 West Coast Road. Contact Jenny on 814-9954 for further details or phone Playcentre during session times on 814-8835.

Brickbats and Bouquets

There have been several nominations for this month's *brickbat* award. The nominations are...

A **Brickbat** to those inconsiderate people who chose to dump their garden weeds and waste opposite Rose Hellaby House on the Scenic Drive.

A **Brickbat** to the Ford Anglia occupants and companion vehicle, with grunter mufflers, zooming in and out of Bush Road and Atarua Gardens between 8pm and 9pm recently. Registration numbers have been taken.

A **Brickbat** in aesthetics with the placement of an old two storied house transported to a recently sold vacant section opposite the Red Shed on West Coast Road. This is not only an eyesore but a potential danger to inquisitive big and little people. One hopes that in the very near future this *brickbat* becomes a **Bouquet** once the development is complete.

On a more positive note, this month's **Bouquet** goes to Helen Longley who has been recently appointed as Deputy Chief Fire Officer in Waiatarua. This makes Helen the highest ranked female firefighter in the Auckland Region. Go girl!

Please forward your nominations for the '**Brickbat**' or '**Bouquet**' awards to the editor. Thanks to the Fairy Flower Shop of Titirangi who donate a beautiful bouquet each month.

Neighbourhood Watch

In early May there was an attempted break in to a house on West Coast Road in the vicinity of Forest Hill Road. The culprit, or culprits, came equipped with a screwdriver and seemed to be familiar with the area.

Please help to keep our community aware, and share sightings or happenings through the Community News so we might all be vigilant in fighting future crime in our area. Neighbourhood Watch coordinators are listed on the back of the newsletter. If you would like to start a Neighbourhood Watch group in your local area contact one of the coordinators for information.

The Waitakere City Council is Moving

At the April meeting of the Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers, Deputy Mayor Carolynne Stone, spoke to the committee about the Council move.

At present the Council fully utilizes the current Civic Centre and 7 other leased buildings in Waitakere City. There are 500-600 council staff.

The options looked at were to:

1. double the size of the current building, renewing existing leases until then...

or...

2. develop a new Civic Centre.

There were 2 potential sites – Trading Place by Unitech or Henderson Valley Road, (the old Carter Holt Harvey site) with the library sited in Trading Place. Both of these options entail a major revitalization of Trading Place (similar to a town square scenario).

The second site has been chosen as the better prospect.

The cost

\$3.8 million for the 3 ha of land.

Approx \$25.5 – \$29.5 million for the new Civic Centre sited on 1ha.

The remaining 2ha of land may be sold or developed.

The existing Civic Centre (GV \$4.9 million) would be sold.

Council will save about \$1.6 million per year having all staff under one roof.

Work is expected to be completed in 2006.

What we will be paying on our rates:

We are already paying \$8.82. If a low rise new Civic Centre is built on the new site, we will be paying \$14, a high rise new Civic Centre \$20 and if the current Civic Centre was doubled in size \$11–\$12. These figures would be extra on rates per rateable dwelling in Waitakere City.

The strategic issue is that Council wishes to consolidate business near the Town Centre.

(\$300 million is soon to be spent on upgrading the rail corridor.)

If you wish to read further on the whole issue, there is substantial and readable information to be found in a brochure '*It's time to have a Heart in Waitakere City*'. These brochures can be sourced at any local library. (*How about visiting the Waiatarua Library for your copy.*)

War on Weeds Review

The month long campaign run by 'Keep Waitakere Beautiful' has resulted in more than 1,179 cubic meters of weeds removed from Waitakere City. (Over half the weight of a full 747 aeroplane or a rugby field that has been filled 2 meters high.)

28 bin sites were located in Waitakere City, with 130 jumbo bin changes. There was a great response.

If you still have ginger to get rid of from your property you are able to acquire free ginger bags from Waitakere Council which can then be put out at your gate the same day as your normal rubbish collection occurs.

Remember dumping weeds on a neighbouring property or in bush on the roadside only adds to their ability to spread.

If you have other noxious weeds on your property, you can acquire from Council a 'Green Network Info. Pack' which has in it an application for the Council to provide a bin for noxious weed disposal. This would obviously be a great thing to do with neighbours, working together and sharing the use of the bin.

For further information phone the Council on 839-0400.

Advertising

This is free to financial members
for 2003, 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.

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

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.
www.atarua-bandb.co.nz

LAWN MOWING: Local, reliable. Phone Eric 837-2333.

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

LANDSCAPER: For experienced, professional landscaping services (including paving, concrete, retainer walls, fences, decks, gardens/plants, water features) at a competitive price, contact Bevan on 837-1992 or 021-375 707 or at totaland@ihug.co.nz

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.

FIREWOOD – shed stored. Can deliver. \$60 – \$70 per cubic metre. Ph 814-8833.

MAKE UP ARTIST: Prof. International makeup/hair artist available for weddings, special occasions in your own home. Phone Juliette on 814-8802

TREE WORK: Fully insured and qualified arborists. Phone Guy Thomas 813-1481 or 021-244-8733

LOCAL ISSUES: Phone Kevin Healy, Waitakere Community Board on 814-9505 or email: kevin@healy.co.nz

PLANTS – One day lilies, taros, bulbs, mondo grass and various perennials for sale. \$1 – \$3. Also some shrubs. All sales for charity. Phone Margaret 814-9859.

JAYZ ORATIA BEAUTY THERAPY: Treat yourself to a fabulous mind and body experience. New sunbed, facial, waxing, electrolysis. Open every day. Late night. Ph Jaylene on 813-1199 or 025-614-6652. Located at 542B West Coast Road, Oratia.

CANAL HOLIDAYS IN ENGLAND Narrow boat cruising at bed and breakfast rates. Contact Charles or Annie, phone 8149 235 or www.watergipsy.co.nz <http://www.watergipsy.co.nz

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 Road	814-9402 + Fax	
Jenny McGee	886 West Coast Road	814-9954	
Margaret/Paddy Marshall	19 Raroa Terrace	814-9859	

Please accept my Membership to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

for 2003

I enclose: \$10 Household, \$5 Single Occupant

Name

Address

Phone

Email

To Treasurer

Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Auckland 8 or leave at the library

Web Site: www.waiatarua.org.nz

FOR SALE: 2 pairs wooden french doors, almost new, 1.5m x 2.35m, high quality hardware, no frames. \$450/pair. Phone Tony or Jean on 814 9860.

FOR SALE: Stainless steel pipe, 200mm diameter, 2.3m long, 1mm thick. Spiral crimped construction. Ex. pottery kiln flue. \$150. Phone Tony or Jean 814 9860.

ELKE'S FOOD & WINE MARKET is now open for cake and coffee, or a prosciutto open sandwich and a glass of wine. Fresh Pandoro bread, a large selection of wine and gourmet goodies to tempt your taste buds. Open 10 – 2pm Saturdays at the Seibel Winery, 113 Sturges Road, Henderson. Ph 814-8803 or 836-6113.

FAYS YOGA CLASS: Classes to suit busy schedules plus Antenatal – Glen Eden Ph 817-8233.

THE NIKAU CLUB – BAR, CAFÉ, RESTAURANT: Open 7 days and nights from 10am. We now have our fabulous deck open and licenced – so come along and dine Alfresco on the deck, in the forest, under the stars, overlooking the city and harbour. Ph 814-1919.

BABYSITTER: Mature, honest and reliable lady. Experienced. \$10 per hour. Phone Juliette on 025-875-805.

LOCAL SPA POOL SPECIALIST: Registered electrical technician for all your spa and swimming pool pump repairs. Phone Lyndsay Whittle 814-9872 or 025 925 271

WATER SERVICES LTD. Pump sales and service. Tank repairs, cleaning and new tanks installed. Filtration and water treatment. Phone Phillip on 812-8537 or 025-279-6036.

WEST COAST WATER. For all water deliveries phone Patrick on 812-8079 or 027-288-9111.

ACTING AND THEATRE TRAINING: 8 week drama course for adults, with tutor John Goudge. Thursday evening classes (7.30 – 9.30) at Rimu Glade, Waiatarua. 22 May – 10 July, 2003. Course Fee \$95. Limited spaces available. Phone John to enroll on 814-9744.

FLUTE TEACHER WANTED Phone 814-1166.

WANTED; Your input in to the Waiatarua Community News. Have your say. Congratulate others, welcome and farewell residents, nominate someone for a brickbat or bouquet, tell a story, write a book review, share the local gossip...Contact the editor now. All input eagerly received. Ph/Fax Jo on 814-9945 or email me at forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz <mailto:forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz>.

FOR SALE: 1999 Holden Astra, forest green, 5 door, 66,000km, manual, excellent condition \$9500 Ph Miriam on 814-9821

AUCKLAND'S WAITAKERE PARK LODGE: Open Thurs to Sun for lunch & dinner. Now open for Sunday brunch from 10am. Enjoy the log fires in our luxury lounge bar, magnificent views & dining on the deck. Ph 814-9622.

TUTORS WANTED to teach fortnightly classes in Term 3. Knitting for beginners, Landscape design for your home, Calligraphy, Taking better family photos or any other subject suitable for Community Education classes. Ph. C Healy on 827-3300 8.30am – 12.30pm Mon – Fri.

FOR SALE: Two rubber wood coffee tables 50cm x 50cm, 42 cm high. Good condition, \$40 both. Ph 814-9945.

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

JULY 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 TUESDAY 17TH JUNE, 2003

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.