



The Waiatarua Library

The first Waiatarua library began in the 1940s when Vic Whittle purchased 2 tons of books from Ngaruawhai. These were put in a back room

of his store on the Elbow, but were later destroyed in a fire.

In the early 1950s, books were exchanged through the Country Library Service, with 120 books every three months. Two local women at each end of the district each had 60 books in their homes, and after six weeks they swapped over. This system continued into the early 1960s, then closed.

In 1974 (at the same time as the new hall was built), Mrs Ngaere Holebar opened the present library under the hall. Books were donated by residents, with volunteer help. By 1979 the library had over 6,000 books and more than 500 members. Books were exchanged from Waitakere, 100 fiction and 100 non-fiction every six months. Checking and collecting was quite a job.

As well, publishers' lists were used to get new books at a discount through Grant Longley's business. The library at this time managed the money – this was discontinued in the late 1990s and the Ratepayers' Association took over. Books were then purchased through Whitcoulls at a discount of approximately 25% with accounts going to the Waitakere Library. We were given a budget to work to, at present \$6,000 per year which is carefully managed.

The library currently caters to approximately 120 borrowers a month, and buys around 230 new books each year.

Opening Hours

The library used to open on a Tuesday night, but this was discontinued when the Brownies left. Current opening hours are Thursday 10am to noon, Friday 7 to 8 pm, and Saturday and Sunday 11am to noon.

A group of loyal women over the years have covered, accessioned and managed the Thursday morning volunteer roster, ordered and discarded books. The morning tea provider was responsible for ringing the week's volunteers, thus opening was almost 100 percent.

A roster of locals mans the library, each for one hour per month. Anyone who has an hour each month to spare is always very welcome. A very good place to meet if new to the district.

Overdues are not generally a problem, as after a month or so everyone is rung with a reminder. This works well and most books are returned. Worst is people leaving the district and forgetting to return their books.

Old books go to rest homes or good causes.

There is a very good selection of children's books for ages 1 to 10 and quite a good turnover. However there are very few teenage books.

The library also has, NZ Gardener, Cuisine and NZ House & Garden magazines which are very well used.

It is a great little library, and hopefully can continue well into the future.

Article by Bev Latimer, who was recently awarded life membership of the WRRRA in recognition of 29 years as a library volunteer.

Nominate an UNsung HERO for a 2009 Waitakere City Community Board Award

Waitakere's community boards want to hear about the "unsung heroes" of your community.

These awards are an opportunity for local people to celebrate and honour community volunteers at a grassroots level. Nominees must be truly 'unsung' and not have received recognition in the past.

Nominees can be individuals or small informal groups (who can not be properly organised clubs or Societies) who have done something worthwhile in the Community.

In about 250 words, describe who they are, what they have done, the length of time they have worked in the community and the impact they have made.

Send your nominations to:
Waitakere City Council
'Unsung Hero' Community Board Awards
Private Bag 93 109, Henderson
Waitakere 0661
Attn: Barbara Cade

Or email:
barbara.cade@waitakere.govt.nz

**Nominations are now open and close on
Friday 8th May 2009.**

**There will be five awards per ward
Henderson, Massey, New Lynn and Waitakere**

www.waitakere.govt.nz



WRRRA President Dave Pocock presents Bev Latimer with her Life Membership for service to the library.

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

EDITOR: All enquiries to Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697, E-Mail: davepocock@xtra.co.nz • **WRRRA President:** Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697, E-Mail: davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Community Hall & Library: 911 West Coast Road • **Hall hire (bookings)** John Goudge - Ph 814 9744

Library hours: Thursday 10.00am - 12.00pm; Friday 7.00am - 8.00pm; Saturday 11.00am - 12.00pm; Sunday 11.00am - 12.00pm

WEB Site: www.waiatarua.org.nz

Community Events

MEET THY NEIGHBOUR Autumn 09

Sunday 19th April 2009, 11am-1pm
at the Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Road

Wouldn't it be a good idea if all of us neighbours got together for an informal chat and a glass of wine and all got to know each other a little better once again for the first one this year? After all we do live in the best suburb in the Country.

A donation of a gold coin or two would be greatly appreciated to help offset costs.

See You There - Dave

TABLE TENNIS

Restarts at the Hall on Wednesday 7th April, at 7pm.

Come along and get some exercise and have some fun.

All ages and skill levels welcome.

Very social, competitive if you want it.

Phone Tony Bacon on 814 9860 for more details.

Waiatarua Performing Arts has cast their latest production "Ghost Writer" by David Tristram and directed by Marie Goudge.

A spooky comedy that will ensure many laughs, some scary moments and a little bit of "magic".

Season is May 13th - May 22nd.

Bookings: Tony on 814 9298 or e-mail etpove@clear.net.nz

Garden Group

Eileen Powell

Our April 1 visit is to the garden of Graeme Ross, 2/137a Rangitira Rd, Beach Haven. Entry fee is \$3 and we will meet at 1 pm. Our May visit is to the garden of Black Sands Lodge, Beach Valley Rd, Piha. Lots of natives with exotics thrown in. Please note that the date is Wednesday 13 May - a week later than usual. Further information from Eileen on 8149 298.

Neighbourhood Support

Les Duffield

COMMUNITY PATROLS ... to all residents of Waiatarua, I am trying to set up a daytime community patrol vehicle for the area of Waiatarua and Oratia. This is a non confrontation patrol vehicle marked with ensign and a stripe, a telephone, police linked radio and a camera., patrolling our area from 10am - 6pm. Perhaps other groups may want use of during evening. BEFORE I go any further I need to know that you the community want this and if any of you are willing to put a couple hours or so on a rota basis.

I have an opportunity for funding, vehicle servicing, authority..... I just need people. Please contact me on 814 1130, 021 720 100 or email les.duffield@xtra.co.nz

MAY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

by FRIDAY 17th APRIL 2009 - 5PM

Dave Pocock Ph 814 9697

davepocock@xtra.co.nz

From the President

Dave Pocock

Hi all,

Well I am happy to start this report with some very good news and that is we have another two committee members. Paul Osborne and Murray Smith attended our last meeting to check us out and fortunately everyone was on their best behaviour and they both decided, there and then, to join us, so welcome aboard to you both.

Paul has a background in I.T. and Murray in local bodies having been among other things Town Clerk for Mt Roskill Borough. There is always a but and our BUT is we could do with a couple more new people.

At the very successful L.A.P. workshop held in conjunction with our A.G.M it was very interesting to see that all present were unanimous on three major points and they were:

- 1/ We want to be treated as a separate identity and not part of the Oratia L.A.P.
- 2/ Waiatarua defined and recognised by all parties such as council, postal services etc.
- 3/ Footpaths on three major roads, West Coast, Forest Hill and Scenic Drive.

It was also interesting that we all were happy with Waiatarua as it is apart from some minor changes and wishes, such as improved public transport, relaxation of tree trimming criteria etc.

Unfortunately this appears to have fallen on deaf ears as the L.A.P is now being marketed as the Oratia/Waiatarua Plan and this is not acceptable. As a Committee we have raised this issue with the Community Board Chair Kubi Witten-Hannah, who sympathises with us, and await further development.

The A.G.M, like a number of other activities, was held in our hall and our only regret is that it is not enjoyed by more people. Apart from the beautiful polished floor, large kitchen with two ovens, tables and chairs to seat 80 people, you have a beautiful, tranquil bush setting. So don't forget it when you are planning a family celebration, a reunion, company training session, a meeting, hobby group etc. Just give John Goudge a bell on 814 9744 and believe me he would love to hear from you.

Our weed bin at the fire station was the target of an illegal dumping of rubbish recently but Ian Ford (Fire Chief) and Susanne Timms (Environment Officer) found an envelope with the culprit's details on it. It turns out that the gentleman concerned had asked his son and given him the money to take rubbish to the tip but our bin on his way to Piha was a better bet and he got to keep the tip fee. Well dad did the decent thing and made son come and remove all the rubbish. Good work Ian and Susanne.

A little birdie tells me that committee member Frank Hogsden had the misfortune to be bitten by a spider twice whilst gardening recently. After contacting the medical profession, who advised him to come and get it checked, Frank went upstairs to get ready, only to be stung by a bee. I understand that Frank now wears a Raid Robocan around his neck.

Become a member of W.R.R.A and get 10% discount from Colourplus Paints, Glen Eden Landscape Supplies, Elevation Licensed Cafe and Restaurant and Auckland's Waitakere Estate plus be kept up to date with W.R.R.A. Hotmail which is emailed to financial members on a regular basis.

Don't forget there are a number of ways to join,

Put \$10 with details including email in an envelope addressed to Treasurer and post or place in letterbox at 911 West Coast Rd or 792 West Coast Rd.

Drop the above into the Library.

Pay direct into Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc. ASB Bank 12-3051-0278313-00 - reference your name.

Well that's me for now, Until next month

Dave

Waiatarua Rainfall February 2009

	Rain Days	Wettest Day	Mth Total	Year to Date
Mountain Road	16	21st - 73mm	232mm	281mm
Brabant Road	19	20th - 71mm	238mm	291mm
Quinns Road	18	19th - 55mm	225mm	273mm
Forest Hill Road	14	20th - 63mm	213mm	252mm
Auckland City		20th - 46mm	120mm	152mm

Councillor's Report

Paul Mitchell

Well another summer is nearly over, and it is hard to believe that I am half way through my term as your Ward Councillor. Mind you, if somebody had told me two years ago that I would be representing the Waitakere Ward, I would have laughed and said you're crazy.

On a spur-of-the-moment decision, I chose to stand for election, as I firmly believed there was need for change. I don't necessarily mean the Councillors, but a total change in the way Local Government and Regional Authorities operate. In some respects this has been confirmed by the fact of **The Auckland Governance Review**. The results of the Governance Review will be known in the next few weeks, and I am sure there will be changes. We need to ensure that they will be beneficial to Waitakere.

I am often asked what it's like being on the Council. From a marine background, it is easiest to explain that in the beginning I felt that I was on a ship, and didn't quite know where I belonged. I certainly new that I wasn't the Captain, and alternately knew that I wasn't the deck boy. I guess I was looking for the engine room, and to be quite honest, entering Local Government is a challenge in itself. Now, after a year and a half, I believe I am well established and sailing in moderate seas.

It's not easy, and I take my responsibilities seriously. I am very pleased that the Waitakere City Council's Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Committee agreed to recommend to Council that an indicative rates rise of 3% be adopted for its draft Annual Plan for 2009/2010. Public consultation on the Draft Annual Plan will open on March 31 and continue until April 30. This year the Council is giving consideration to the introduction of a dedicated Rugby World Cup targeted rate of \$4.50 per rateable property, that aligns investment with the benefits of the tournament and that the proposed model for this targeted rate be reported back to the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Committee, following consultation with the community.

This is your chance to agree or disagree.

We as a city, have large debts that need to be serviced in the forthcoming years. This will be a challenge to the Councillors and the Council staff, particularly with the current economic recession, it really does become a balancing act. Waitakere City Council has invested heavily in the redevelopment of New Lynn, and the green field developments of North Massey and Hobsonville. The business plans certainly show the long-term benefits to our city.

A rewarding part of Council for me is being able to assist Residents and Ratepayers in addressing their concerns at a personal level. Please remember I am always available to assist you.

Cr Paul Mitchell

Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

Many thanks to the people who have offered to help us out in the library. We have filled the Sunday spot and have a back-up reliever as well. Much appreciated.

New Books.

First we have two new cooking books, "Sizzle" by Julie Buiso; and "Gran's Kitchen" by Natalie Oldfield.

"The Art of Racing in the Rain". Garth Stein has written a story of human life from a dog's perspective. Much loved.

"My Father's Roses". Nancy Kohner shares the true story of her Jewish family's life from the end of the 19th Century onwards. Recommended to us.

"Land of Marvels". Barry Unsworth's latest novel is about an archaeologist in Mesopotamia in 1914. Solid read.

"A Whispered Name". William Brodrick's new Father Anselm tale follows an Irishman who can no longer stomach the horrors of the trenches in WWI. For all Brodrick fans.

"Once In A Lifetime". Cathy Kelly takes the reader from the Irish coast to an upmarket department store. Cathy Kelly at her best.

Seen the movie – now read the book (if you haven't already): "Q & A" (the original Slumdog Millionaire) and "A Boy In Striped Pyjamas" are both on our shelves.

Good Reading

Fire Brigade

Ian Ford

Well, the time is fast approaching. With the change in the weather and the definite cooling we have been seeing over the last week and a half, autumn is upon us. With this comes the end of daylight saving. Clocks will be wound back an hour and please change the battery in your smoke alarms. No smoke alarm? There are 12 free to a good home (one per household) on a first come first served basis. Call Karl on the number below.

Recent calls:

5:35pm, Thu 5 March – Tree down, Piha Rd

5:51pm, Thu 12 March - Car rolled Forest Hill Rd

4:02pm, Sat 14 March - Car v car, top of West Coast Rd. No injuries.

8:15pm, Sat 14 March - Car rolled, Te Henga Rd. Handled by Bethells crew.

Contacts: Phone 111 for any fire or other emergency. Otherwise please call Ian Ford (814 8871), Helen Longley (814 9855) or Karl Nuttall (814 8777)

Environmental Report

Susanne Timms

Unfortunately the weekend weather recently has not been very favourable for digging up your environmental weeds. However I hope some of you were able to take advantage of the two extra weed bins at Kauri Loop Road during the War on Weeds in March. Remember that there is a permanent weed bin situated at the Waitatarua Fire Station. This is well used and emptied on a regular basis

If you are not up to removing your ginger and agapanthus plants, it is really important that you remove the flower heads immediately after the flowers have finished and before they set seeds. Ginger can be spread by birds eating the seeds. I have a large puriri tree on my property and there is no ginger anywhere near it, but this year I have pulled out at least 100 tiny ginger plants from underneath it. It is unfortunate that such a beautiful flower can be so damaging to the environment.

I am pleased to say that I have not had any pig damage on my property for many months. I hope this is also the case for those of you who have had problems in the past. I know that the ARC have put a lot more effort into eliminating pigs in the bush recently. If any of you notice any pig damage, you must report it immediately to the Arataki Visitor Centre, phone 817 0077, so they can send out a pig hunter while the scent is still strong for the dogs to follow.

Bouquets & Brickbats



Sponsored by the Fairy Flower Shop,
423 Titirangi Rd, Titirangi. Ph 817 3780

This month's bouquet has gone Wendy and Bruce Ronald who have retired from Library duties after 20 years' service.

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Committee members 2009

President/Community Board: Dave Pocock Ph 814 9697 davepocock@xtra.co.nz
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 Murray Smith Ph 814 9964 s.smith@sdv.com
 Paul Osborne Ph 8353940 leonieandpaul@xtra.co.nz
 Representative: Ian Ford (fire brigade) 814 8871 ian.ford@xtra.co.nz

Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Dave Pocock via email davepocock@xtra.co.nz or phone 814 9697.

Community Notices are free to financial members 2008, January to December.

Cell phone safety: Protect yourself and your family from harmful EMF. Attach a Biopro Cell Phone Chip, \$60. Phone Emily 835 3777.

Handyman work: Reliable, efficient with fair rates. Special gutters cleaned and gutter guard installed, from \$45. Phone Mike 814 9708.

La Leche League: Meetings held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Kelston Community Centre. For more info call Adith: phone 818 7728.

Otimai: Events and training centre is available for hire (Guides Auckland) and is open to view by appointment. Phone Lynne & Walter on 814 9992 for bookings.

Plants: Taros, bulbs, cannas and various perennials for sale. \$1 - \$3. Also some shrubs. All sales for charity. Phone Margaret 814 9859.

Room To Rent: Quiet, pte, own entrance area & carport. Incls all exps: net, sky, power etc \$100 p.w. Ph 814 9871.

The Oratia Community Church: On the corner of Parker & West Coast roads. Fellowship (trips, meetings etc.): 2nd Thursdays of each month.

Upstairs Gallery at Lopdell House presents: Art From The Heart 2009 - 2020 Vision - Opens Thursday 2nd April 2009 until Sunday 26th April 2009. Our children's creative vision of the world in 11 years' time. With categories of Food, Clothing, Transport and Buildings. Just imagine! Open 7 Days, 10am - 4:30pm, Free Entry.

Waiatarua/Oratia: Roomy 2 storey 2BR house plus storage room. Suit quiet business couple. Set in 2 acres of bush and lawns, in quiet green belt. \$310 per week includes water rates plus lawns, ph mobile 0210 509 209.

Advertising Rates

There are three categories/sizes of advertisement, as follows:

Run-on

Community: Free to current, paid up WRRM members who are community groups or individuals involved in not-for-profit activities, or who are placing other advertisements that are generally one-off in nature (eg seeking employment, for sale). Includes students advertising for part-time work (eg babysitting, lawn mowing). Included as space permits.

Commercial: \$25 per annum, regardless of number of issues published and the number of insertions required by the advertiser. *Commercial* is defined as any individual or organisation who is operating a business and does not fit the *community* category as defined above.

Small Display

62mm wide x 27mm deep - \$10 per issue

Large Display

62mm wide x 54mm deep - \$20 per issue

Contact Dave Pocock
davepocock@xtra.co.nz

ph 814 9697

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Contact John Goudge on 814 9744

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