Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

August 2013



The Great Waiatarua Mid-Winter Debate

by Susanne Timms

On Saturday 22 June we held our annual Great Mid-Winter Debate.

This was a great success with 61 people attending and the Committee had beautifully decorated the hall earlier in the day. The moot was "A

Good Man is Hard to Find".



negative team won and it is very reassuring to know that there are lots of good men out there. Congratulations to Denise Yates, Jean Avery and Boun Khamwanthong, only the second team to survive two challenges, the other one being Simon Prast, Penny Hulse and John Goudge. It was a close contest and the affirmative team of Mike Morgan, Brittany Raleigh and Dave Pocock also did very well with only two points separating the teams.

Thanks also to Lyndsay Whittle for chairing the debate and to our advertisers who donated the spot prizes. Robin and Kor were invaluable with Robin organising the participants and Kor the sound and lighting. Unfortunately this is the last year Robin will be organising our participants as she takes a well earned rest, although she is still heavily involved in the drama club. Frank Hogsden once again did a fantastic job with the banner.

Thoughtful Food did the catering and Elke created a delicious selection of canapes and desserts. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining evening.

Local Government Elections 2013

We normally expect fewer than 30% of voters to tick the boxes and post the envelope in local government elections. Social researchers don't seem interested enough to find out why this is. But we can ask the question. Do the mayor, councillors, local board members, licensing trust members and health board members – yes, you are asked to vote for all of these positions – tell people of Auckland what they do and for further information places centret Filespa are

Far be it for me to blame the media, but it's a fact that the mayor has a big media profile and it's a fact 8149298. We are assuming that many people vote for only the mayor. So I conclude that voters just do not know enough about other the rains will have departed candidates.

Waitatarua is an active community where people care about their place. The decisions made by the Auckland council and the local board of the council do affect that place and we need the best people making those decisions.

So when your voting papers arrive soon after 20 September please take time to read about each candidate, ring them up if possible, check out their facebook page and even better hold a 'meet the candidates' meeting at the hall. Ask them what they do, how they do it and why they'd be good at the job.

Judy Lawley, Waitakere Ranges Local Board Member

Garden Group

Eileen Powell

Next month we are visiting

Eden Gardens to see the
fabulous collection of

Camellias and Magnolias.

The date is 7 August and
for further information
please contact Eileen on
8149298. We are assuming
the rains will have departed
and it will be a beautiful
spring-like day.

Isaiah's Fire

Waiatarua Community Hall \$25 ea includes Fish & Chips Book Now! Lyndsay 814 9872 Louisa 814 9282

A BRIEF SELECTION OF SOME From The President. **NEW BOOKS AT OUR** LIBRARY.

Jeanette Ziesler

Jeremy Scahill has researched and written the story of what is, without a doubt, the world's most powerful private military company. "Blackwater" investigates the role of the company as a prime player as part of the US war machine in Iraq and its involvement with the US army since. He believes Blackwater's operations are often shrouded in secrecy and the company often not held accountable for its actions. A solid but very interesting read. Wayne McCauley's third novel tells of a troubled youth who is sent to a rural cooking school in an effort to get him to mend his ways. "The Cook", young Zac, finds that he loves cooking and fine food. He is ambitious and ruthless as he aims for the top. However, all does not end as planned. An ending well worth hanging in for. Susan Elliot Wright has written engrossing dual narrative. "The Things We Never Said" unfolds and interweaves the story of Maggie, who in 1964 is in a psychiatric ward, and Jonanthan, in 2008 feeling unsettled about life. Maggie is slowing recalling the events in her life that led her to where she is. Jonathan ends up in trouble with the police, who following up on a DNA test start asking questions. Things that have long been hidden are about to be exposed. Kate Forsyth came across the story of Dortchen Wild when doing research about Rapunzel for an earlier novel. "The Wild Girl" is the novel she has written as a result of the fascination she felt for the young woman who shared many stories with her Grimm. neighbours. the brothers Napolean had invaded their Kingdom and feeling their heritage was under threat the brothers decided to collect and record all the old tales of their land. Dortchen was closely involved, with many of the well-known stories coming from her. She eventually married Wilhelm Grimm. Good reading

Met a friend I hadn't seen for a while who asked how I was after surgery etc and then said that he had a bowel test kit at home but wasn't doing it, as he visited his doctor regularly and had regular blood tests. His mouth dropped when I told him 'I visit my doctor every 3 months and have a full range of blood tests annually but none of that will detect bowel cancer'. His reply 'I had better do it then' If you know anyone like this tell them to do the test.

Last month I reported that we are losing Robin Essex from sourcing debate candidates and this month I report that we are losing our newsletter compositor Nicki Warner, Nicki's computer has broken and she has decided 'May be time for a break after 4 years anyway'. I would like to thank Nicki on behalf of us all for her excellent and reliable work and I know that Robyn O'Sullivan is going to miss her. Talking of Robyn, this newsletter comes to you courtesy of Robyn doing a crash course on compositing over the last few weeks. Those of you that attended the debate will have noticed the unvarnished lectern which that man of many talents created in the weeks leading up to debate- thanks Kor Prins! Lastly, I would like to offer congratulations to Denise, Jean and Boun for once again being victorious in the debate and thanking my team members Mike Morgan and Brittany Raleigh in helping me give them a run for their money.

Misuse of the Weed Bin.

Susanne Timms

I know a lot of residents use the Weed Bin at the Fire Station and this following information will not impress either the bin people or the fire brigade and puts our weed bin on the endangered species list. Following are two emails received from local people. About half an hour ago (five o'clock) I took garden waste bag full of wandering jew up to the weed bin, only to find the thing chock-a-block with the spoils of what was quite obviously a commercial operation. While the product in the bin was ginger plant roots it was nonetheless mixed in with cluggy clay. Not only is the bin filled so heavily that I doubt the lifting device on the bin truck will be able to lift the bin off the ground but to add to my disgust the area where the bin sits is now a sea of smelly mud. The load must have been put in the bin by somebody with either a front-end loader or a team of people, however judging by the mess, my money would go on the loader option. In any event someone must have seen some action going on at some point in the day that might help us to track these cretins down!Inconsiderate ar*@!%les like this really hack me off!!!!! Someone (probably one of us) will have to carry out some remedial work to tidy up the bog that's been left in the wake of this act of complete inconsideration." I think the sad truth is that news has spread about our weed bins and you can guarantee 2 days of it being emptied - it's full again. The bin on Henderson Valley Rd, which is now double the original size due to excessive use, usually has all manner of clippings not associated with 'weed control'. Because of all the roadworks in this area these people are dumping their garden refuge in black rubbish bags at any vantage point on Mountain Rd where they're able to stop and off load. Sadly our Council's generous gesture is being taken advantage of. Perhaps we need to go back to a seasonal bin and try to catch them off guard! The reality is that we may go back to a seasonal bin only during the month of March for "War on Weeds", whether we like it or not, if the Council get sick of the abuse currently happening and or the fire brigade get sick of the disrespect shown to their property! For those of you who are clearing gardens commercially: the residents' bin is not for you. Please take your rubbish to the appropriate place. If you want the bin to stay, be vigilant in keeping an eye out and reporting any misuse either to me shtimms@xtra.co.nz or davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Fire Brigade News August 2013 Issue

Fire Calls 15/06/2013

09:56pm MVA Oil on the Road

Piha Rd, Waiatarua

Due to a single car motor vehicle accident there was a large amount of transmission fluid over the road, making for a possible dangerous situation. We did the usual scene safety / traffic management while the vehicle was dealt with by police & then the tow truck. Once the car was removed we then used absorbent on the spill.

19/06/2013

03:44pm MVA Scenic Drive, Waiatarua

.27/06/2013

06:04pm Assist Public

Tui Crescent, Waiatarua

This was an assistance call only

14/06/2013

5:30pm Power Lines arcing

Scenic Drive Waiatarua

Power lines were arcing at the entry point to the house. This could have been serious if the occupants had not noticed in time.

Fire Safety

Fire Extinguishers What type to use and how to use them

Fire extinguishers should only be used in the following circumstances: When everyone has been evacuated and accounted for at a safe meeting place. When the fire service has been called. When it is safe to do so considering the size and location of the fire. Access to the fire is unrestricted and a safe retreat is possible at all times.

Remember life is more important than property, don't put yourself or others at risk. Only when everyone is outside and the fire service has been called, should you attempt to put the fire out, and only if it is contained and you can safely escape.

What type of fire extinguisher do I need? Fire is divided into 6 classes. Note: This is a new classification - be aware that most extinguishers will be labelled with the old four classification. Some extinguishers are more suitable than others for putting out the different classes of fire. Note: Under the Ozone Layer Protection Act 1996, it is illegal to use or maintain Halon extinguishers.

Where should I install the fire extinguisher? Fire Extinguishers should be wall mounted above the normal reach of children, and in or near the kitchen. If it is in the kitchen, don't put it to close to the stove or cooking surfaces.

Ideally have another extinguisher in the garage and one in the car. Caravans should have one attached to the inside of the door. Boats should have one mounted in a protected area where it can be reached from the open deck.

Operating the extinguisher Always carefully read the instructions on the side of the extinguisher, and make everyone staying in the house is aware of where it is and how to use it. Most extinguishers require a safety pin or clip to be removed before a trigger can be operated. Aim the extinguisher at the base of the fire, keeping yourself low, and work the extinguisher in a sweeping motion from left to right. Don't start too close to the fire (most extinguishers are designed to be operated from about 2 - 3 metres away).

Smoke Alarms Need A Smoke Alarm!!! New Photoelectric long life Smoke Alarms are available Free from the brigade; If you would like some smoke alarms or advice on where to put them or help installing them, Please contact Louisa Mullins on 8149282

Waiatarua Fire Brigade Contacts Phone 111 for any Fire or Emergency. Otherwise please call Chief Fire Officer Helen Longley (814 9855), Deputy Chief Fire Officer Gareth Mullins, (814 9282) Station Officer Ian Ford (814 8871), Station Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505)

From The Editor

Robyn O'Sullivan

If you think the newsletter looks a little different this month, then well done for spotting the change. You have won a place in the draw to be the next newsletter compositor! Yes, we have lost Nicki the professional and it's been left to me to do it this month! You might have gathered it is not my forte but bear with me....it could get even worse or maybe some kind soul will volunteer for the job...On a completely different topic...the amount of rubbish which is casually thrown from passing cars onto the Scenic Drive never ceases to amaze. On my Friday morning perambulations, I have to dodge the usual glass bottles and paper coffee cups etc but lately there has been much more. Tell-tale chips of plastic on the side of the road led me to dumping site...a baby's change mat, a couple of computer monitors, what looked like a bit of an old shed...somewhere there looks to be part of a washing machine or a stove. This was not an isolated incident. A wee bit further down the road was another dump site and from where It was strewn, I would say the offender was a local who knew the best places to go unnoticed....only visible to walkers. Shame on you!May the rest of you be blessed with a good month!

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Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Contact Robyn O'Sullivan, munster@ihug.co.nz, ph 814 1143. Community Notices are free to current financial members.

Broadband in Waiatarua - To be kept informed about developments (or lack of them), send your name, phone number and email address to Tony Bacon at tony.bacon@sthw.co.n

Creative Drama Workshops: The 2nd block of Creative Drama workshops start 29th July at Titirangi Community house. Thursdays Fridays 3.30-4.30 The prime purpose is for your child to develop creatively, intellectually and emotionally; they also develop skills that form the basis for a career in Drama. Numbers are strictly limited.Phone Edith Shawyer 09 814941 Email edipus @ orcon.net.nz

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Handyman Out West. Any work undertaken. House and property maintenance, renovation and decoration eg gutter cleaning, water blasting, deck building, tree felling, painting etc. Reliable and friendly. Phone Mike 814 9708

House For Rent: Will you be renovating or between homes for four months of this year, then ring Charlene on 021 808 822.

Lawn mowing and section clean ups. Ph Grant at Top Grass Ltd. 8149493 mob 02102475610 Local Justice of the Peace: Adrian Delaat JP, 26 Rimu Rd, phone 09 814 9038.

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

Plants: Bromeliads \$5 - \$6; Taros, cannas and various shrubs \$4 - \$5. All sales to Nepalese Educ Trust. Phone Margaret 814 9859.

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

Tiler / Stone layer, 20 years experience in the trade available for indoor and outdoor projects large or small. Phone Craig Starr 021610408.

Waiatarua Playcentre: 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua. Phone 09 814 8835. Sessions: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am 12.30pm.

WANTED: Person to take child to Rangeview school, from Turanga Road, off Scenic Drive. PAYMENT to be arranged. Please contact Belinda on 838 2093, or email liley@slingshot.co.nz

West Auckland Yoga at Oratia Settlers Hall: Tues 9.30am and 6.30pm, Fri 9.15am (cost \$15). Ph Tasha 021 0274 9136 or Steph 0272 841 178 www.westaucklandyoga.kiwi.nz

Work Wanted: Drainage - 40 years experience, call Ray on 814 9242.

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911 WEST COAST ROAD WAIATARUA

1-2 hour sessions \$20. Half day hire \$60 Half day & evening function (deposit required) \$150

Contact John Goudge on 814 9744

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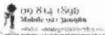
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SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY 16th AUGUST 2013 - 5PM

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