



Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

March 2016

Hello Waiatarua!

It was fantastic to see so many of you turn out to the Catch Up and Connect AGM last week. The event was such a community success that we are planning another one soon; not with the meeting part, but to catch up, connect with neighbours and share ideas.

This is my third year now being involved with the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association and I'm excited about the things that are coming up this year. The one that I believe will really tie it all together nicely will be the website re-launch.

Waiatarua has a Facebook group, a Neighbourly presence and the WRRRA run an email bulletin to members, the WRRRA HOTMAIL (and a *splendid newsletter-Ed.*) but the re-launched website will be the place to bring all these together, as well as collect and present historical and current issues of relevance to Waiatarua, to you and the world. Stay tuned for that, and an event to match.

Over the summer I've been enjoying more than ever the musical events out west, in particular John Goudge and his band - Ionosphere- on the roof at Lopdell House, Lord Echo and Supersonic at Armour Bay and two fine afternoons curated by the Director of the Audio Foundation, Jeff Henderson, at our own marvellous hall at 911 West Coast Road. After the first event, Jeff surprised us with an absolutely magical Silent Sound Walk winding up through the forest to a local but hidden lookout.

But along that magical climb, I was appalled to see intense outbreaks of one of the most aggressive weeds in these parts; the climbing asparagus. A reminder that we need to do all we can to at least keep the weeds from spreading further, even if we don't have the energy or time to eradicate them right away. And if we don't have the means or energy, then to inform the Weed Free Trust to request help.

So, my top two tips for you as we embark on the March annual War On Weeds are these:

If you see any of those beautifully ornate and complex looking yellow flowers opening up on Wild Ginger, SNAP THEM OFF AND THROW THEM ON THE GROUND. If you get them as soon as they come out, the seeds that would grow after pollination by bees and then drop on the ground or get moved around by birds will never develop. This won't stop the ginger from continuing its spread underground, but it will slow it down and stop it spreading across large distances by pigeon mail. If the seeds are already forming then you need to put them in the weed bin.

If you are interested in getting help with weeds on your property, then please send me an email and I will make sure you are informed about our upcoming initiatives and also the things that the Weed Free Trust are doing to help people like you; I've received quite a lot of help from them, as have my neighbours.

I'll finish by saying that this month we received a piece for the newsletter re destruction of some local trees and have checked in with the Auckland Council to understand what was going on. The trees didn't make it to the level of Titirangi-type national-interest proportions, but we were very concerned. It was great to find out that one benefit of the Super City is that the council is now coordinating its efforts far more efficiently on these issues and is involved. I can't comment any further except to say abatement and restoration is in progress; a process that will take some time to resolve.

Next month; we talk about Broadband in Waiatarua.

Peter Casey
president@waiatarua.org.nz

From The Library

Jeanette Ziesler

Here is a brief synopsis of some of the new books we have received so far this month. The good news is that there are more books on the way.

"The Widow" – Fiona Barton :- a psychological thriller.

"Strictly Between Us" – Jane Fallon :- relationships with twists.

"Spinster" – Kate Bolick :- choosing to stay single.

"Grand Slam" - Kathryn Ledson :- drama, horror & suspense.

"Napoleon's Last Island" – Tom Keneally :- Napoleon and a pretty girl on St Helena.

"The Secret War" – Max Hastings :- did guns or intelligence win the war?

"The Words In My Hand" – Guinevere Glasfurd :- 17th century Amsterdam.

Good reading.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE EDITOR OR THE WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

EDITOR: ALL ENQUIRIES TO ROBYN O'SULLIVAN - PH 814 1143, EMAIL: MUNSTER@IHUG.CO.NZ WRRRA PRESIDENT: PETER CASEY - PH 814 9386, EMAIL: PRESIDENT@WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ

COMMUNITY HALL & HIRE: 911 WEST COAST ROAD HALL HIRE (BOOKINGS) JOHN GOUDGE - PH 814 9744

LIBRARY HOURS: THURSDAY 10.00AM - 12.00PM; FRIDAY 7.00PM - 8.00PM; SATURDAY 11.00AM - 12.00PM; SUNDAY 11.00AM - 12.00PM

WEB SITE: WWW.WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ

Fire Brigade Report

In December the Brigade farewelled its Chief, Helen Longley, who has retired after 20 years of volunteer service. Helen joined us in 1995 and quickly rose through the ranks, and in 2009 she became one of only a handful of women to attain the rank of Chief Fire Officer. Helen has certainly earned the break and we wish her well. Although no longer an active



Helen Longley at an informal Xmas function where she was farewelled.

-Thanks to Peter Casey for the photo.

attention, they were three very lucky young men. Their vehicle hit the end of an Armco roadside barrier at speed. The barrier literally went right through the car and came out via the roof and back window, passing between all of the occupants. On the way through it dislodged the motor, causing it to flip the bonnet through the windscreen and into the passenger compartment. It could so easily have been yet another multiple fatality.

Contacts:

Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency. Otherwise please contact:

Deputy Chief Fire Officer Gareth Mullins (814 9282),
Station Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505)
or Station Officer Ian Ford (814 8871).

firefighter, Helen is still able to compete at World Firefighter Games and strive to add to her impressive medal collection, so there will be no respite for her opponents there just yet!

Fire Safety Product Recall:

Did you buy a Haier top-loading washing machine (model HWMP55-918 or HWMP65-918) between mid-2012 and mid-2014? Over time the wires between the cabinet and washing bowl can become fatigued and fracture, with the potential to create a fire hazard. Go to www.fire.org.nz and type "Haier" into the search box for details.

Recent Calls:

The Brigade's average call rate of about one per week certainly bumped up over the Christmas / New Year period, with the siren sounding 8 times in 11 days.

6:30pm, 24 Dec	Flooding	Raroa Tce
7:03pm, 26 Dec	Car crash	Piha Rd
2:38pm, 28 Dec	Car crash	West Coast
5:30pm, 30 Dec	Car off road	Anawhata Rd
7:57pm, 31 Dec	House fire	North Piha
11:43am, 1 Jan	Person trapped in lift	Piha
4:02am, 2 Jan	Trees on road	Piha Rd
9:24am, 3 Jan	False alarm	Arataki
5:33pm, 25 Jan	Grass fire	Piha Rd
7:34pm, 1 Feb	Car crash	Scenic Drive

Although the occupants of the car involved in the Anniversary Weekend crash needed medical

Notice from our treasurer, Sue:

Re membership payments which have been made online.

Some are coming through with just a name attached.
Can we please have an address, phone number and an email address in order to be added to the hotmail message service and to be issued with a card.

I hope the ones who have already paid this way will read this and get in contact.

Thank you.

From The Editor

Robyn O'Sullivan

Well, hello. I have left myself with not enough space to wax lyrical this month so enjoy the peace!

Oh, the times when I have huge holes to fill and nary a thought enters my head and then, as in this moment, much to say and nowhere to say it!

Enjoy the month.

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This January we patrolled for over 50 hours to help keep Waiatarua safe. We not only monitor our area for opportunistic criminals, but report rubbish being dumped help with the local school crossing.

If you can spare 2 -4 hours per month then see below:

Contact Les Duffield on 814 1130 / 021 720 100 or email Les at les.duffield@xtra.co.nz

For more details see the CPNZ website:
<http://www.cpnz.org.nz>



Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2015

Name: _____

Address: _____

I ENCLOSE:

Phone No: _____ \$10 household.

Email: _____

To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Waitakere City, or leave at the library Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

APRIL NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY MARCH 11th @ 5PM
Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143
munster@ihug.co.nz

HALL HIRE

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

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.

Art Classes: Pathway Studio & Gallery, 786 West Coast Road Oratia. Starting February 2016

Ph Carol 814 9438/021 033 0055

Better Scrapbooking Ltd: Regular Scrapbooking workshops as well as other regular scrapbooking and cardmaking classes. Supplies available. 153 Solar Road, Glen Eden. Megan ph: 818-2045

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.

Lawn mowing and section clean ups. Ph Grant at Top Grass Ltd. 8149493 mob 02102475610

Otimai: Girl Guiding. Would you like your daughter to have new adventures and develop life and leadership skills through new, fun and exciting programmes? We have places for girls aged 5 to 12 years in Pippins, Brownie and Guide Units. For more info contact Angela Westerman at aratakidistrict@gmail.com or ph 021 511 575

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

Table Tennis every Wednesday at the Hall, 7-9pm. No experience needed, all equipment supplied. \$2 per week. Contact Tony 8149860 or email tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz

The Oratia Community Church: On the corner of Parker & West Coast roads. Fellowship meets on second Thursday of the month at 1pm in the Church Hall. Ph 813 9869 for information.

Tiler/Stone Layer: 21 years experience in the trade, available for indoor or outdoor projects, large or small. Phone Craig Starr 021 610 408.

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

Yoga/Chi Kung/Meditation, Waiatarua Hall. Monday Evenings 7pm - 8pm No experience necessary. Enq: Kath Ph. 814 1108

Zumba with Grace... Thursday 7pm-8pm Oratia Settlers Hall. Ditch the workout, come join the party! Cost \$10 per class Grace ph: 818-2046