



Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

September 2016

Musings From The Mountains.

Now I'm not against the idea of combining all the recycling but the expression, "couldn't organise a p--- up in a brewery" comes instantly to mind.

The first we knew of this change was the arrival of the new bin, with a letter explaining everything... arriving a day later!

In this letter we were told what was happening and that our collection day might have moved and to check the sticker on the side of the bin.

So it was here we found we'd moved from Tuesday to Wednesday. We were also puzzled as to why we were to have an emergency collection to tide us over. Firstly, we weren't having to go 3 weeks, but 2 weeks and a day and secondly this emergency collection was to be the day after the last collection in June. Were they expecting mass parties to celebrate the change?

We then had a letter telling us that the sticker on our bin was wrong and our real collection day was - wait for it- Wednesday.

Well, the first week in July the rubbish went out on Wednesday for it not to get collected; after a phone call it went the next day. Week two, rubbish and recycling, another phone call ensued and the rubbish went Thursday, the recycling Friday. By now I was corresponding with our councillor who would forward it to the relevant department and I had a call ensuring me we'd be sorted by week 3.

Well, here's where it gets interesting. We happened to have the Monday off that week and as we were coming home that morning, we noticed that everyone else who'd been on our Tuesday route, had their rubbish out. Surely they hadn't moved everyone to Monday except our road, right in the middle of the route. A call to the council and I was assured that we were on Wednesday, and guess what, at 6:30am Thursday we met the emergency truck coming out to pick up our uncollected rubbish. More emails ensued before a sheepish man from the council rings to admit there's been a "slight" faux pas, our day is Monday all along. They were going to ring everyone personally but for the next 2 weeks they'd send a truck on Wednesday as well.

I tried to get the message round on the neighbourhood support grapevine but it was short notice. Anyway, week 4 we put rubbish and recycling out on Monday and it went. And the secondary collection on Wednesday?... well at 6:30am Thursday, guess what we met at the bottom of the road.....

Note-Ed. Those emergency bin guys must be working so much overtime. They came on Thurs to collect our previously-not-collected Monday bins although our bin was not amongst them. It had gone walkabout sometime during the night! What moron steals a full recycling bin???

Local News...

...for Local People.

Waiatarua Website:
Have you seen our website at www.waiatarua.org.nz ? If you haven't, then please take a look.

If you have any ideas or content, please let us know and we'll find a place for it."

We now have a 'Waiatarua Weed Action Group' (WWAG). Please get in touch at weeds@waiatarua.org.nz if you want to know more?

A gentle reminder for local residents re land sizes and dog licenses: Up to 600sqm site 1 dog only, 2 dogs only up to 2000sqm site, over 2000sqm site you can have as many as your heart desires. Please bear this in mind for the safety and sanity of your neighbours!

Waitakere Forest and Bird. Public Meeting.

Thursday 15th September, 7.30pm

Kelston Community Centre
cnr Awaroa/Great North Rd.

'Emerging Issues In Predator Control'.

Our speaker, Dr James Russell is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Auckland and Strategic Advisor to the Predator Free New Zealand trust.

Join us for supper afterwards.
Gold coin donation appreciated
Further info: Liz 833 4145

Meet The Candidates Night.

Get prepared for the upcoming council elections.

Come and ask the questions you want the answers to.

Thursday September 8th, 7.30pm

Waiatarua Community Hall.

Any further information should be on the website closer to the date.
www.waiatarua.org.nz

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

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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

Hello Waiatarua!

Peter Casey

Spring time is here!! And spring tides with it, it seems. Last month it was no internet; this month no water. The huge rains are usually welcomed by those of us with tanks to collect our water, but the big downfall about six weeks ago stirred up the bottom of our tank so much my pump had a little hernia dealing with it all. Four or five days with no water is also quite humbling. But I did feel better when the family started talking about the strange bottles of water that I have stashed and insist on cleansing and refilling every few months. I think they thought I was some sort of weirdo, like the people in the 1980's who put 1.5L bottles of water on their lawns to stop dogs messing them up. But my family thought those mysterious water stashes were quite cool that week. And (I hope) that some of the things I do for no apparent reason are actually carefully planned.

There's quite a few little things beginning to happen in Waiatarua and I'd like to mention a few.

John Goudge has looked after the bookings in our hall for several years and the WRRRA committee recently refreshed that arrangement which sees John taking on additional responsibility for the maintenance and care of the community centre to help meet our obligations to Auckland Council under the lease agreement. I've been impressed with John's diligence and care; thanks John; it's great to have your help.

Rita Steel continues to vaporise weeds in a single bound, and has established weed action plans for a number of properties; if you're interested please get in touch with rita@waiatarua.org.nz or me. Although I have to say she's slowed ever so slightly of late; maybe something to do with her pregnancy, that may have just ended as you read this. Thanks Rita! And good luck, (or well done?)

Did you hear about the Cuban Rumba classes just that started last month? Again, check our website for details and meet to meet Ale, a professionally trained dancer; yes, in Cuba. I guess the other big one is getting fast internet installed at the Community Centre (hall and library, and carpark) for any of our members or hall or library visitors to use. If you have slow or non-existent internet at your place you are welcome to come on down and use it, 24/7. WRRRA Members will have been sent the details already by email, we change the password each month. If you're not a member then please email treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz and sign up - ONLY \$10 for 365 days of free internet!!!

From The Library.

Jeanette Ziesler

Please note: the library will be closed on Friday evenings until further notice.

A selection from some of the new books at our library.

"The Snow Farmer" – Sally Rae. This is the story of the adventurous John Lee and his work in developing the Cardrona Valley into the world class tourist facility it is now. This naturally beautiful location now has 3 different snow sports areas and a testing ground for vehicles. Plus, he helped restore that wonderful iconic Cardrona Hotel. Lee has sometimes alienated some of the local residents because of the changes he has made in the environment but his work has provided many economic benefits. Agree or not with what he has done it is a book well worth reading.

"White Sands" – Geoff Dyer. White Sands is in New Mexico and is one of the many places that Dyer has written a series of "not so ordinary" travel essays. He thinks of his writings as being as much about the meaning of life as travel. He likes seeking out offbeat tourist spots for new experiences and writes about adventures, pilgrimages, heritage and oddities. This guy is a great and interesting writer.

"The Last Time We Spoke" – Fiona Sussman. Told in alternating chapters this novel focusses on a home invasion and the impact on all involved. The farming family was quietly celebrating a wedding anniversary when the violent invasion occurs. One of the perpetrators is a disaffected youth seeking admission into a gang. The author examines the impact of this crime on both involved and how their lives are forever interwoven. Set in NZ.

"The Man Who Cycled The World" – Mark Beaumont. Beaumont left university determined not to settle for an average existence. He was a keen cyclist and wanted to travel. He set off with a plan to circumnavigate the world and do it in a record time. Travelling an average of 160kms a day he did just that and has now shared his experiences in this book. He cycled through NZ on his journey.

Good reading.

THE GREAT WAIATARUA DEBATE RETURNS!

After going missing for a couple of years, the most famous annual debate in the west returns to the west. And what better moot than... "That The West is Always Best."
There are some big names coming up on the teams.

Save the date - Saturday 15 October - in your diary now.

Watch out for further details and ticket sale information in

WRRRA HOTMAIL bulletins and at www.waiatarua.org.nz

Vote

JUDY LAWLEY for WAITAKERE LICENSING TRUST

- 45 years working in the Waitakere Community, a J.P.
- Independent decision-making
- Past Licensing Trust Member and Board Director
- City Councillor/ Local Board Member, 12 years



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Fire Brigade News:

Ian Ford

Advertising & Community Notices

In October 1965, Chief Ranger Bill Beveridge ran the first training session for the newly formed Waiaatarua Rural Fire Party. Included in the ranks of community-minded locals that day was a fresh-faced young teenager by the name of Lyndsay Whittle. And apart from a couple of years away, Lyndsay has been there ever since – training most Monday evenings, then a few times a month dropping everything to answer the pager or siren at any time of the day or night. On top of that, he's been an integral part of the Brigade's many "extra-curricular" activities over the years: ridge runs, plays, a movie – and probably a few things that he wouldn't thank us for mentioning. So when Lyndsay told us last month that he felt he'd been doing it for long enough we fully understood. Thank you Lnz for the best part of five decades of service to the Fire Brigade and to Waiaatarua. It's a gross understatement to say that it won't be the same at the station without you.

Recent Calls:

4:08 pm, Fri 22 July	Bush Rd	Assist ambulance
6:09 am, Sun 24 July	Scenic Drive	Tree across road
6:54 am, Sun 24 July	Scenic Drive	Tree across road (different tree!)
5:40 pm, Thu 28 Jul	West Coast Rd	Chimney fire
9:59 am, Sat 30 Jul	West Coast Rd	Boat trailer brakes on fire
10:28 pm, Tue 2 Aug	Turanga Rd	Smell of burning
5:23 pm, Thu 4 Aug	Scenic Drive	2 car head-on crash
5:43 pm, Sun 7 Aug	Scenic Drive	False alarm, smoke from "burnout"

One Simple Equation:

Most months we remind you of a wee snippet of advice that you've probably heard before - correct disposal of ashes, sweeping the chimney, care with flammables etc. If you heed all of these then that's great! You'll minimise the chances of having a house fire. But there's never a 100% guarantee that it won't happen to you, and the TV ads show you how quickly a fire can take hold. Here's one simple equation for you to take away this month: Smoke Alarms + Escape Plan = Getting Out Alive

Contacts:

Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency. Otherwise please contact Station Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505) or Station Officer Ian Ford (814 8871).

Auckland Transport ...

... has taken a good look around Waiaatarua and added a few signs that were missing.

However, the job isn't complete and there are still some that need to be (re)established.

Could you please make us aware of any that you think are missing or new ones we might need. What would have been a good sign for the accident in this pic?



There will be a
TRANSPORT MEETING

at the Waiaatarua Hall

Tuesday 27th September at 7pm.

All are welcome!

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 16th @ 5PM

Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143

munster@ihug.co.nz

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Robyn O'Sullivan, munster@ihug.co.nz, ph 814 1143.

Community Notices are free to current financial members.

Any houses available to rent in the Waiaatarua area?? Please call/email The Editor.

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

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.

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

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