



Waiaatarua Community News

900 copies

November 2016

The Power of the Jungle Telegraph in Waiaatarua

Recently, CPNZ Coordinator Les Duffield received a phone call from a friend for some advice on a developing situation.

A large parrot had flown on to this gentleman's balcony and then his onto shoulder. The large Grey African parrot was friendly but clearly hungry.

The friend had contacted Les as he knew that the Duffield family owned a Galah parrot.

Les advised them to keep the large parrot indoors and lent them a parrot cage. Then Les put out a notification on the local area Facebook pages advertising the find of the parrot.

At this point another CPNZ member, Sue Dell, saw this and found (on the web) that there was a missing bird from Opanuku Road. This information provided the contact details for the owners, who very quickly responded to a phone call and identified the bird as theirs.

Bird and owners reunited! They were very pleased and offered a reward to the finder, which has been shared with the local Community patrol group.

This shows the power of a well-connected local area group and the same applies to crime in our area.



Waiaatarua Spring Clean.

November 5th 8.30am-11.30am.

Please assemble at the hall. Our area of focus will be West Coast Rd to Kellys Rd through to Forest Hill and back to West Coast.

If you do not want to/cannot come to the hall, then ravage your road frontage + 200m each side for rubbish. Place in a bag (contact WRRRA for a bag or two...we have heaps) and leave outside your gate... large items in a pile. It will be collected!

For those who come down to the hall accompanied by bags of rubbish from your area, light refreshments will be provided.

As always, the committee appreciates the way the community supports these events.

Volunteers Required:

Waiaatarua Library is looking for a couple of volunteers to open the library on Friday evenings 7pm -8pm.

If you are able to help us, please ring: Bev Latimer Ph. 8353237 or Jeannette Ziesler Ph 8141999.

Thank you.

Qigong Class:

We have a Qigong class operating out of the Waiaatarua Hall on a Monday night.

Come down and find out what it's all about.
All are welcome.

For more information contact the teacher:
Oleg Amiton

Email: oleg.amiton@gmail.com

There is also a website to visit: <http://www.qigong.net.nz>

WAIATARUA QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 19th November.... At 7.30pm

Waiaatarua Hall 911 West Coast Rd...

Pub Quiz format ...teams of around 6-8 (but we're not that strict). You can organise your own team or just turn up on the night and we can fit you in.

Entry \$5 per person. Please BYO drinks and nibbles to share with your team (AND the quizmasters!)

For more info please call Ian or Cathie on 814 8871

Waitakere Forest & Bird.

Our speaker, Richard Jakob-Hoff is passionate about wildlife conservation and is currently Conservation and Research Department manager at Auckland zoo.

Gerald Durrell is famous for his wildlife conservation work and his most well known book "My family and other Animals".

Richard will talk about his work with Gerald Durrell, the Jersey Zoo and the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust which continues to be a model that many zoos, including Auckland, emulate.

Thursday 17th November at 7:30pm
Kelston Community Centre, cnr Awaroa/Great North Rd.
Non members welcome, join us for supper afterwards.
Gold coin donation appreciated.
For information ph Liz 833 4145

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

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COMMUNITY HALL AND LIBRARY: 911 WEST COAST RD. 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

WEB SITE: WWW.WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ

Hello Waiatarua!

This month we held a transport meeting to gather issues important to you in Waiatarua. Now that we've gathered the issues we're able to prioritise and build plans around getting better representation from Auckland Transport.

Piha, Karekare and Anawhata are often regarded as black diamonds in the crown of Auckland's natural heritage and all who visit must travel through Waiatarua. Both Auckland residents and visitor/tourist numbers will keep increasing. This means that the traffic on our roads will also steadily increase. Locals commented they have noticed effects of increase over the past 5 years or so. AT will need to continually improve our roads.

Safety Issues: For any road safety issues call AT on (09) 301 01 01. We plan to keep a register of commonly occurring issues and raise these with AT. It would be very helpful if you can contact us at the WRRRA when you raise a safety issue and let us know what it was and the reference number.

(Of course, if it is a life threatening emergency always call 111; but if the road safety issue remains after the emergency, or was caused by unsafe road, also lodge a ticket with AT).

PLUS, if you see a car crash or leave the road please ring AT and also have them record it in their database of crashes.

The removal of a speed advisory sign by AT near 751 West Coast Road has resulted in a doubling of cars leaving the road this year and yet AT won't replace it, partly because they have no records of most of these crashes. They think and tell us that this is an improvement; but it is not.

The WRRRA will continue to work to have this sign replaced, hopefully before someone gets hurt or killed at this corner. The intersection of Piha Road and Scenic Drive is also a priority.

Speed Limits: A national guide to setting speed limits is being developed. This is likely to allow more sensible step changes to speed limits along a road, rather than, say, 70km/h all the way. May also allow limits other than 50, 70, and 100 km/h.

Auckland Transport (AT): A Council owned organisation, AT recently implemented measures to ensure it consults locals on any planned changes to roads or transport. However, under the Super-City structure ratepayers cannot talk directly to AT, except for safety issues.

To represent to AT we need to go through the Waitakere Ranges Local Board; Greg Presland attended the meeting and was helpful in explaining some of the issues.

Footpaths: Footpaths can be established by AT, but with Local Board discretionary funding; these are costly and we are unlikely to be successful in the short term.

Roadside Weeds: AT are responsible for these and is an

on-going issue to have them recognise that some of the methods they use worsen invasive weed spread in Waiatarua.

Noise: It has been disappointing to see that the provision in the draft AT design guide for the ranges has deleted the provision for smooth seal on stretches of road where noise impacts houses. In the early days of AT before they began consulting effectively a lot of this smooth seal was destroyed with chip seal, and we're putting up with increased noise. The WRRRA will campaign to have this rectified.

Cyclists: The ranges are an awesome place for a training ride, but the narrow roads can make it tough, as well as both inconsiderate drivers and cyclists. A hard one to improve on.

Specific Local Issues: Brabent Road has had no maintenance in 15 years.

The area between Old Forest Hill and Forest Hill Road is AT land and the weeds are overtaking.

The 156 Bus Service will be discontinued this year and replaced by school buses. A trial of on-demand shuttles to the west coast beaches will hopefully include Waiatarua.

Please get in touch with any other issues or visit www.waiatarua.org.nz/issues/transport/.

Peter Casey - president@waiatarua.org.nz

We Bid a Fond Farewell...

...to Tony and Eileen Powell who are fleeing the shire for the sunny climes of Tauranga. It will be a big wrench for them to leave the area where they've lived for the past thirty years. Both have volunteered in many different ways during their time here.

Tony has been member of Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Support and then the Community Patrol. He always has a smile and never fails to impress with his stories and his humour.

Eileen was once treasurer for the WRRRA for several years. She has worked in the library and with the gardening group and as such, did the Garden Report for the Newsletter for many years. They have both been stalwarts of the EasyBeats quiz team which could prove a future disaster for the rest of the team.

They will be sorely missed but we wish them well for their future life in Tauranga.

Thanks to Les Duffield and Tony Bacon for additional info...Ed.

What??...the Weed Bin Has Been Removed?

The weed bin at the corner of Kauri Loop Rd and West Coast Rd has been removed due to frequent abuse by contractors and other people.

However, it will be returning once a month on the **second Saturday of the month** from approx. **8.00 am to 2.00 pm**. There will be a staff member from Ecomatters on site during this time to ensure that only the correct weeds are put into the bin.

This information is on the sign where the bin used to be.

INTERNET HERE IS UNHAPPY AND SLOW.

We are local, we live and run our business from here and we know the challenges that people put up with because of poor quality internet.

We have recently upgraded our own private supply of fast internet, and are now accepting expressions of interest from members of the Waiatarua community who wish to have their internet supply improved.

Should you be interested please email your details through to info@doers.net.nz.

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Fire Brigade News:

Ian Ford.

October was a busy month for the Fire Brigade's trainers. Included in the mix was a visit to Whenuapai Airbase, where there was some hands-on experience with the Air Force's crash fire vehicles - which can be used at calls off the base, for backup water supply. About half the Brigade also had a refresher in (very) realistic interior fire training at Auckland Airport's training facility.

We also extend a warm welcome to Matt Smith, Lee Budd and Brent Duffy who have just joined our ranks.

Recent Calls:

1:25 pm, Sun 18 Sep	Piha Rd	Car crash, traffic control
9:07 pm, Tue 20 Sep	Scenic Drive	Car fire
3:36 am, Thu 22 Sep	Scenic Drive	Tree and slip on road
2:41 pm, Sun 25 Sep	West Coast Rd	Car down bank
12:24 am, Sat 1 Oct	Scenic Drive	Car down bank
6:10 am, Wed 12 Oct	Mountain Rd	Car down bank

Look after your barbie:

Eventually the rain will stop, and we'll be looking forward to heading outside and using the barbecue. If you have a gas barbecue, then we recommend you give the lines a visual check for wear and make sure all connections are secure. Make sure the drip tray is clean to avoid the risk of flare-ups - lining it with tinfoil and using kitty litter or other absorbent is a good idea.

As with all fires, keep an eye on the kids around the barbecue and keep matches and lighters away.

If you use a charcoal burner, always dispose of hot coals properly - douse them with plenty of water, and stir them to ensure that the fire is out. Never place them in plastic, paper or wooden containers.

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).

From The Library:

Jeanette Ziesler.

"Selection Day". This book is set in a modern India as seen through its' most popular game with all the virtues and vices which are also reflected in the broader society. Cricket is played by all classes in India. Two young Indian brothers are being groomed by their father, a chutney seller, to be the best 2 batsmen in the world. Dad wants his elder son to be the best batsman and the second son to be no.2, and both to be better than Sachin Tendulkar. An agent is appointed to ensure success and the riches the father desires. But do the boys want to be professional cricketers and are they naturally talented? This is not just a book about cricket but one which is a chronicle of modern Indian society. By Aravind Adiga.

"Golden Hill". New York in 1746 was a town with 7,000 citizens. Richard Smith arrived from England with a Bill of Exchange for a very large amount of money and 60 days to find a merchant to honour it. Smith will not tell the merchants how he came by the money or what he intends to do with it. Should they trust him or maybe even kill him? The highs and lows of a vibrant and violent New York are just one of the things that make this an excellent read. This is well written, interesting and entertaining. By Francis Spufford.

"The Best Of Adam Sharp". Do you ever wonder what happened to an ex girlfriend or boyfriend? Adam is living in England and gets an email from a girlfriend he had in Australia 22 years ago, saying that as she will be in France, with her husband, he might like to catch up with her. His current relationship is going a bit stale so he decides to join them. A music lover Adam uses songs of the 60's & 70's as a soundtrack to his life. The first part of the book focusses on the Australian years and the next on the week in Burgundy with a happily married Angelina and her husband. Human relationships from a mature perspective. By Graeme Simsion. The soundtracks to this book are available on Spotify.

"Out of The Ice". An environmental scientist is sent to an Antarctic island to report on an abandoned whaling station. However, she finds evidence of recent human activity and the protected wildlife is behaving oddly. After an odd experience while diving, she starts to wonder if she has been affected by spending too much time on the ice. Her questions about what she has seen are ignored by the scientists at the base. She decides to stop at nothing to uncover the truth and becomes aware of the dark side of whalers and whaling around the globe, but also discovers there is love and hope in the world. By Ann Turner.

Advertising & Community Notices

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.

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.

Waatarua Playcentre: 911 West Coast Road, Waatarua. 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

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY NOVEMBER 11th @ 5PM

Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143

munster@ihug.co.nz