



Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

February 2017

From The Editor

Robyn O'Sullivan

Happy New Year everyone!

Are you hoping for a much better year than the last one? I certainly am. Who knows what wondrous things are in the cards...

First up, we have the AGM towards the end of February. We are luring you in with another wine and cheese and I have heard murmurings of a delectable carrot cake, that could also make an appearance. If you wish to vote on anything, then make sure you are a current financial member before the night. The treasurer will be on hand for any last minute cash paying punters. Remember, ten dollars pays for your entire household's membership...probably the best bargain anywhere.

Have we got any young people in the shire that plan to delve into local body politics at some stage of their careers? A good way to start would be a term on the WRRRA so have a quick think and get your nominations in. We need new people especially those with good, fresh ideas who will turn up once a month to meetings.

Anyone aspiring to higher levels? Maybe a future prime minister or a dictator of a small country? Start with the WRRRA...we would welcome new blood.

May 2017 be a good year for everybody and here's hoping that summer will finally arrive this month.

Enjoy!

Catch Up and Connect...

...at the WRRRA AGM 2017

Tuesday February 21st

Come at 7.15 for a 7.30 start.

Waiatarua Community Hall

911 West Coast Rd.

Wine and cheese, coffee and cake!

Guest Speaker: Greg Presland, incoming chair of our Local board.

DOERS INTERNET:

If you give somebody a very fast car, they will drive quickly. The people on board with us in Waiatarua have demonstrated exactly that, but with internet – our network here is currently delivering hundreds of gigabytes of data over our heads every day; to sites that previously have been served by the motoring equivalent of a pushbike. It's fair to say our service has been well received, customers have been very happy!

December was busy! We've focussed on Carter and Shaw Road, parts of West Coast Road and Forest Hill Road. We've met people from so many different walks of life, but the common thing we have noticed is the good-sort nature of the people in our community, and a general willing to help others if they can. Good stuff, it does not go unnoticed! Next areas in the planning stages include Kauri Loop and Parker Road, and hopefully a push towards the north of Waiatarua with a second broadcasting site to cover some of the homes and areas that we have not been able to reach.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates from us, you can message and stay in touch from there and keep up to date with our progress. Have a safe summer!

Matt & Matt - Doers Networks Limited

Waitakere Forest & Bird

Saturday 4th February 2017
10 am – 4 pm
Open Day Matuku Link

Celebrate World Wetland Day with a visit to Matuku Link, the 37 ha bush and wetland area bought after a successful fundraising campaign, to link Forest & Bird's reserve Matuku with the other predator controlled areas and increase the safe zone for native flora and fauna.

With stalls, food and information on the future of this exciting project. Don't forget your bathing suit and go for a dip at one of Auckland's iconic black sand beaches afterwards!

111 Bethells Road, Te Henga
(West Auckland).
Further information ph Annalily
832 6408

How does climate change
impact on us?

Adelia Hallett will talk about the impacts of climate change on nature in the Waitakere area and how conservation programmes can be adapted to help mitigate these.

Kelston Community Centre,
cnr Awaroa/Great North Rd.

Non members welcome, supper
and a gold coin donation is
appreciated.
For further information ph Liz
833 4145

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 AND LIBRARY: 911 WEST COAST RD. HALL HIRE (BOOKINGS) JOHN GOUDGE – PH 021 232 9822

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

WEB SITE: WWW.WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ

Tom Baker

WRRRA President 1988-1991

I am sad to report the death late last year of Tom Baker. Tom had been living in Kerikeri since he and Lesley moved from Waiatarua in 1991. During his time as WRRRA President, apart from all the usual president-y things, Tom along with Ivan Beale and the residents of Quinns Road and the Scenic Drive was almost full-time engaged in battling the proposals to erect a series of transmission masts in the area. It is thanks to this group that we don't have to live with a "picket fence" (as one resident described it) of masts along the skyline. The group, spearheaded by Tom, took on a largely antagonistic or at best, indifferent Council and eventually won a decision that (a) no more masts would be erected and (b) any changes to the configuration of the Parkinson's Lookout mast had to be subject to EMF testing with the results shared with residents. Tom also made representations to Standards New Zealand that helped to establish proper standards for EMF emission safety levels.



I don't know how he found time but Tom was also a model railway enthusiast and a JP and Marriage Celebrant (you can blame him for my being a NZ citizen.)

Tom admires the model.

The Community said farewell to Tom and Lesley in November 1991 with a dinner at the hall, where he was presented with a framed photo and a model of the mast with "Tom battling the forces of darkness". Tom continued to be active in community affairs in Kerikeri and was a District Councillor from 2002-2014. He was awarded the QSM in 2014. Tom never forgot Waiatarua and received the Community News right up to his death.

Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust into the Future

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be involved in a drama production? Then Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust is a great place to start.

The Trust would like to invite a new wave of people to become involved in a revamp of the reputable group. Five trustees are currently in place, however numbers are in need of boosting both on the production committee and in the way of general helping hands. A healthy bank account exists for future productions.

Please contact Celia Wood-Calvert to leave your contact details in preparation for a get-together in order to offer more information. celiaaewoodcalvert@gmail.com

All enquiries are welcome, experienced or novice.

From Robin and Korstiaan:

We became residents of Waiatarua early 2003, when we moved into our new home in Bendalls Lane. Within the year we were on the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association (WRRRA) committee, including looking after the publication 'Waiatarua Community News'.

By the following year we took up the challenge of sharing in the revival of what was once the 'Waiatarua Drama Club'. Some funds had been left behind, in the hands of the WRRRA, by the club after it disbanded a number of years before. Interest and people-power grew and a play was born in 2004 - "Murder in the Music Hall", directed by Norma.

Most years since then saw two productions, thanks to a strong core group of committed members. Audiences, directors and actors came from far and wide to fill the Waiatarua hall. Along the way a Trust was eventually formed, the club then becoming 'Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust'.

Trustees and members of the production committee came and went, as happens in life, and circumstances changed for others. This resulted in a period of rest for Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust during 2016.

Last year we sold our Bendalls Lane property in preparation for the next stage of our lives, semi-retirement. Our new home in Waikato is nearing completion, so the big move is all set for February. Therefore, we sadly say goodbye to our local drama group where we have made many good friends and had so much fun.

Hello Waiatarua!

In the close of 2016 so many were writing it off and complaining of those big names who we loved and who died. A slew of "F*** You 2016!" videos appeared and did the rounds. We experienced the hottest-equal year on human record and one could easily sit around being depressed about the whole lot.

In Waiatarua we reckon there was a bit more traffic and maybe it was a bit quicker; my son and I narrowly escaped smashing into a drifter as we came around the corner and found him completely sideways blocking both lanes. But there was enough room to stop, smile and look into his slightly terrified eyes.

We could sink into despair about Kauri dieback or the advance of invasive weeds.

Or we could look back on all the great things we achieved in Waiatarua in 2016 (see my closing message at <http://www.waiatarua.org.nz/hello-waiatarua/>) and work out how we can build on this in 2017.

Whether you want to help some neighbours with a weed clearing day for a single morning of 2017 or you'd like to join the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents (WRRRA) as a full committee member; a great time to meet us and others is at WRRRA AGM on 21 Feb. I promise it won't be boring. Come along to catch up, connect and share some refreshments.

Peter Casey
president@waiatarua.org.nz

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Kauri Rescue TM Project :

A new project team comprising scientists, social scientists, iwi and community groups has gained two-year funding from the Government's Biological Heritage National Science Challenge, one of only six successful projects out of 111 applications. Their exciting new project Kauri RescueTM otherwise known as the Community Control of Kauri Dieback: Tiaki mō Kauri seeks to engage the public in refining a new citizen science tool for the treatment of Kauri Dieback Disease, which is decimating kauri forests in northern New Zealand.

The project team will recruit private landowners to work alongside scientists to treat their own trees with a chemical called phosphite which has shown great promise in Kauri Dieback Programme-funded scientific trials, by enabling kauri to fight back against the Phytophthora agathidicida pathogen that causes the disease. The initial pilot study will involve a small number of private landowners to test and refine the methodology before expanding this to a larger group in the second stage of the project.

The project will also encourage landowners to test other treatment techniques, encouraging both western science and mātauranga Māori methods, rigorously monitoring results and collecting data on all treatments so that their efficacy can be determined.

Project Team Leader Dr Ian Horner of Plant & Food Research is delighted at the opportunity to take his research to the next level and engage the public in actively developing the treatment tools themselves.

"We hope that people will find this opportunity empowering and a positive step forward in the fight against Kauri Dieback Disease."

From The Library:

Jeanette Ziesler

"Days Without End" – Sebastian Barry. Thomas McNulty is wondering where the last 50 years went. He arrived in the USA as a child escaping the famine in Ireland. This is his story as he looks back over those years and the adventures he had as a soldier. He carved out a place for himself in the American frontiers fighting in the Indian and Civil Wars. His attitude of being expendable in the environment he works in gradually changes as he develops a lifelong friendship with another soldier. Barry can always be relied on for a well written novel.

"The Sellout" – Paul Beatty. This is the winner of the 2016 Booker Prize. The oddities and eccentricities of race relations in USA is explored in this novel in a humorous but profound way. A black American man receives damages from the LA police after they killed his father. He buys a farm and sets out to desegregate California, acquiring his own slave in the process. Worth reading.

"Conclave" – Robert Harris. The Pope is dead. Cardinals from around the world gather for the conclave to select their new Pope. Some are ambitious and hold high hopes but others are frankly not interested in the post. These "men of God" know that they must make the right choice, find the man who can lead their church into the future. The power plays, secrets and ambitions all come into play as men of different backgrounds and cultures struggle to elect a leader they all approve of. This Harris book is set in the near future.

Plus we have the latest books by:- Margaret Attwood; James Lee Burke; John Grisham; Cathy Kelly; Fiona McIntosh; Ann Patchett; Jodi Picoult and more.

Good Reading.

Cont'd from Page 2...We wish the next wave of thespians and support crew the ride of their lives!

Please accept my Membership to the Waitarua Ratepayers & Residents

Association

2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____ \$10 household.

Email: _____

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

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10th @ 5PM

Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143

munster@ihug.co.nz

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

Oratia Folk Museum: We are seeking volunteers to help with light gardening in our cottage garden. If you are able to give an hour a week, please contact Sharon Walker 8133884.

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.

Waitarua Playcentre: 911 West Coast Road, Waitarua. 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