



Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

March 2017

Local News...

... for Local People

Waiatarua Quiz Night

Saturday 25th March
At 7.30pm

Waiatarua 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 Talk:

Thursday 16th March
7:30pm

Kelston Community Centre,
cnr Awaroa/Great North Rd.
Non members welcome, koha appreciated.

Info: ph Liz 0274 762732
lizanstey@hotmail.com

Mel Galbraith, Senior Lecturer in Applied Ecology, Environmental and Animal Science will be talking on the black-backed gull in urban Auckland - breeding and feeding.

Eco West Festival 2017

Waiatarua Hall Community Centre

Sunday 12 March @ 4pm

* a community provided BBQ

* all ages welcome

* "Who's Weed is it Anyway?" - an entertaining theatrical odyssey of invasive Western weed-scapes

* world premiere screening of the locally made short film "The War On Weeds"

* invasive weed identification assistance

* introduction and success stories from the Waiatarua, Laingholm and Piha weed eradication groups

* update on Kauri Die-back control

* FREE stuff to help you save your local area or favourite tree, bird, or bush

Expressions Of Interest:

Especially for those with an historical bent or wanting a good time with a bit of exercise thrown in.

Who would be up for an organised walk around Waiatarua giving a view on how the place has changed over the past half a century and beyond?

We're thinking of a walk on a weeknight (duration: around an hour and a half) when there's not much traffic, taking in several landmarks of old restaurants and other points of interest.

We could meet at the Community Centre at about 7pm and take a stroll in the vicinity before hopping into cars and relocating to Elevation, where there are several other points of interest.

The walk would be ably led by Lyndsay Whittle, so there's your assurance of a good time.

Please register with Lyndsay on 021 925 271 if you're even slightly interested as you don't want to miss out and it may not be advertised again in this newsletter as I'm sure Lyndsay will want to take advantage of the summer light.

From The Community Patrol:

In the last month of 2016, Community Patrol Waiatarua (CPNZ) were responsible for the recovery of 3 stolen vehicles, all in recoverable condition.

Our local area does seem to be an attraction for local miscreants, with stolen cars being regularly dumped.

If you think a car may be stolen, then simply type the registration plate into www.carjam.co.nz and see if the vehicle is reported stolen.

We are also looking for new recruits to join the ranks. CPNZ Waiatarua is a great community group to get involved with and 2 hours per month is all that is needed to keep patrolling.

We do live in a spectacular area to drive around and we are acting as the 'eyes and ears' for the Police, so are asked to observe and report anything of interest.

Please consider joining our group by contacting Les Duffield on 814 1130 / 021 720 100 or email at les.duffield@xtra.co.nz

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

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WEB SITE: WWW.WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ

Hello Waiatarua!

It's boring to talk about the weather, right? But hey, it's been so good being back on the black sands and in the sparkling waves out West, why not. It is time to start thinking about conserving water if you have a tank though. Most are near full but the rain gets scarcer between now and April.

Hopefully I got voted back as President of the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association and if not, then this is like a portal back in time; the last thing you'll read from me as President since I'm writing this on 10 Feb.

Over the holiday break I avoided most news so it was an amazing late Christmas gift to come back to find that with your help we have been successful in getting fibre fast internet locked in for Waiatarua in 2020, having missed out on the first UFB round. To all of you who filled out the online survey, Thanks!!! This probably wouldn't have happened without you.

I want to personally apologise for the late delivery of the newsletter in Feb. We've had a few people change in the distribution side and we fumbled the ball a bit on that. Normal service resumes this month so you should see this on or before 1 March.

At this time of year we're always looking for more committee members on WRRA; fresh ideas always welcome. In particular we really need someone, or multiple people to help keep the website fresh. If you are good at Wordpress, or want to learn how to run a website in Wordpress, then please email me directly. We also need an environmental advocate the year from April until August; all training provided.

Please email or call me with anything you would like us to focus on this year.

Peter Casey
President@waiatarua.org.nz

From The Waiatarua Library:

Jeanette Ziesler

"Hunting Hitler's Nukes". Damien Lewis writes about a courageous, secret wartime mission undertaken by the British and Norwegians. They were concerned that the Nazi's had stolen the march on them in the race to produce an atom bomb. So began a hunt for the scientists, the plant and the materials needed for the manufacture of the bomb. Not the least was the need to destroy the heavy water plant hidden deep in Norway. A true story of cloak and dagger activities during WW2. Exciting.

"The House With No Windows". Nadia Hashimi's latest book is set in Afghanistan and looks at the plight of women living in a traditional society in a modern world. A woman is charged with murdering her husband and once in prison finds a group of women there for behaviour deemed immoral by their society. A young lawyer, born in Afghanistan but raised in America, sets out to defend the woman but she is strangely uncooperative. In prison she has found a safe haven from a world that is often harsh and lacking in justice. Read it!

"The Fence". Meredith Jaffe tells the story of an ordinary suburb that was settled in the 1960's with some of the original inhabitants still there. One neighbour dies and the property is sold to a family with children and a dog. The "original" that is left loves the fact that an informal boundary of trees between the 2 properties is all that was needed. The new people want a fence to safely contain their family and this will involve removing the trees. Disagreements follow over the removal of the trees and the height of the fence which lead into other disputes. This is a wonderful insight into a real and metaphorical divide between generations and expectations.

"Crimes Of The Father". Tom Keneally explores the clerical abuse scandals of the 1990's. Once ex-communicated by the church in Australia because of radical beliefs Father Frank returns to Australia from his home in Canada to address a Council of Clergy on celibacy and the church. He is confronted with stories of people suffering as a result of having been abused by a priest in childhood. The actual accused is himself part of a church-appointed commission investigating reports of abuse. Father Frank gets involved bringing the stories of the crimes to the authorities. Profound.

From The Editor

Robyn O'Sullivan

Enjoy the following in lieu of my editorial this month!

Teaching Maths In The 1950's.

A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His production cost is 4/5 of the price. What is his profit

Teaching Maths In The 1970's.

A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His production cost is \$80 or 4/5 of the price. What is his profit?

Teaching Maths In The 1980's.

A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His production is \$80. Did he make a profit? Yes or No.

Teaching Maths In The 1990's.

A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His production cost is \$80 and his profit is \$20. Your assignment: Underline the number 20.

Teaching Maths In The 2000's.

A logger cuts down a beautiful forest because he is selfish and inconsiderate and cares nothing for the habitat of animals or the preservation of our woodlands. He does this so he can make a profit of \$20. What do you think of this way of making a living?

Topic for class participation after answering the question:

"How did the birds and squirrels feel as the logger cut down their homes? (There are no right or wrong answers. Feel free to express your feelings e.g. anger, anxiety, inadequacy, helplessness etc.)"

Should you require debriefing at the conclusion of this exam there are counsellors available to assist you to adjust back to the real world.

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Waitakere Forest & Bird:

Our flagship project Ark in the Park turns 15 this year and we want to share our story with everyone!

The first activity is a suite of guided walks to discover the results of years of volunteers working at predator control: a flourishing bush and rare reintroduced birds.

Saturday night 25th March: Sunset and night walk. Our experts will show you the Auckland City Walk at sunset and in the dark, trying to find the nocturnal animals that inhabit our bush, finishing with insect specialist Robert Hoare's famous contraption to attract moths and night insects...maybe you'll even see a giant green puriri moth! Park at Cascades Car Park, end of Falls Road. Bring a torch, sturdy shoes, a jacket and your friends. – booking mandatory at 15yearsArk@gmail.com.

Sunday morning 26th March: Listen to the Dawn Chorus at Ark in the Park with our experts highlighting the different birds. Maybe you'll even hear a 'Grey Ghost', a kokako with its haunting song, one of the species re-introduced in the Waitakere Ranges. Bring a torch, sturdy shoes, a jacket and your friends. Park at carpark at Cascades, then carpool, meet at 6.30 am – booking mandatory at 15yearsArk@gmail.com.

Sunday walks 26th March: Guided Walks from 10 – 3 pm. Continuous as soon as there are 10 – 12 people. Come to our stall at the Cascade Kauri Car Park and our walks will start from there. Our volunteers and experts will take you around the Auckland City Walk to highlight how special this area is – no booking necessary.

From The Fire Brigade:

Ian Ford.

Congratulations to Matt Smith and Brent Duffy who aced their Recruit Firefighter course just before Christmas. The whole Brigade went through a First Aid refresher in February, brushing up on skills that we hope we never need to use.

Recent Calls:

2:55 pm, Mon 2 Jan	West Coast Rd	Car crash
7:10 am, Tue 3 Jan	Forest Hill Rd	Car crash
5:58 pm, Tue 3 Jan	West Coast Rd	Car crash
12:17 am, Mon 9 Jan	West Coast Rd	Car crash
5:07 am, Sun 15 Jan	Scenic Drive	Car crash
3:51 pm, Mon 30 Jan	North Piha	Grass fire
12:20 am, Tue 7 Feb	Piha Rd	Smell of smoke in house

Observant readers will have noted a common theme through the first five calls of 2017. None of the crashes were caused by local residents, but that doesn't mean we can be complacent. We should always drive as though there's an idiot coming our way...

Coming up:

As pen goes to paper, the summer that was slow to start looks as if it may continue for a while yet. With that comes a higher fire danger.

Most of us within about 2km of the Waiatarua hall are in the Auckland "urban" area which bans open fires year-round anyway. Those in the "rural" area need to apply to Council for a fire permit. To find out which applies to you, go to www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz, search for "open fires" and then click on the address locator link.

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

Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents

Association

2017

Name: _____

Address: _____

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 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

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.

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