



Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

June 2017

From The Editor

Robyn O'Sullivan

There's nothing like waking up of a morning and finding you're in the middle a power cut (eyes down for the culprit)and an old friend is coming for morning tea! Last night, it seemed such a good idea to go to bed early and leave the cooking and cleaning till the morning ... in the dawn of a new and powerless day - oops - turns out not to have been such a good idea after all!

Thank goodness half our cooker runs on gas. At least we can have a cuppa. Oh no - no power, no pump, no water - wait, there's half a flagon of emergency water in the garage. Eew, the date on the bottle says it's two years old. Should I drink that? Rather not, but at least I can boil it up and have a wash. One problem solved!

Yes folks, winter has come, power cuts will no doubt abound as per usual and this is a timely reminder to make sure candles are at the ready, batteries are charged and ready to go and you have a good and fresh supply of emergency water.

By the time this missive reaches your letterboxes, we should know the outcome of the Oratia/Watercare debacle (to be decided on May 30) I hope good judgement and commonsense has prevailed and that Graeme Gash is out wandering the valley and strumming his guitar!

"There'll be peace in the valley for me some day
There'll be peace in the valley for me
I pray no more sorrow and sadness or trouble will be
There'll be peace in the valley for me"

Enjoy the month.



Photo taken Friday morning May 12th of the vector guy and the tree that took out the Waiatarua power....pic courtesy of Peter Casey.

An Important Announcement:

Tony Bacon has spent many hours putting all of the monthly Waiatarua Community Newsletters from 1988 until December 2016 onto the
WWW.WAIATARUA.ORG.NZ WEB PAGE.

We are planning to launch this interesting and captivating section of the website on 1st June at 7pm IN THE LIBRARY.

(Note - captivating because once you start browsing it's hard to stop).

The Great Waiatarua Debate...

... Is Back Again This Year.

The moot has been decided.
(Embargoed until teams decided).

The date has been agreed August 19th 2017.

The adjudicator has been selected.

The meal is being debated.

More info to come next newsletter.

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

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Hello Waiatarua!

We've had such a great time the last few weeks dipping and diving through the Waiatarua Community News newsletter archive which is online now at www.waiatarua.org.nz.

Our past president and newsletter editor Tony Bacon has done the hard lifting of getting these online. This has been a project that's been on my mind for a few years now and it is simply fantastic to see them all there.

The events and stories are quite compelling to read. There's so many interesting facts buried in there. I can't thank Tony enough for his effort in scanning, uploading and laying the pages out.

AT have ambushed us again with very sudden announcement that our 156 bus service will not be running from 11 June. Extensive planning and communications have been planned for all the changes out West; except for Waiatarua!!!!

The promises of helping us find alternative options also seem to have vapourised. There has been zero communication about how our kids are meant to transition to the promised school buses either. Or whether these even exist for all the schools.

This is uncomfortably close to the Watercare fiasco all over. The consultation process for both these service organisations seems to pay insufficient attention to the needs of those who are adversely affected. If you rely on the bus please give me a call or send me an email.

And if you want to help, or be part of decision making also get in touch. We are always looking for volunteers to be part of the WRRRA Committee.

Peter Casey
president@waiatarua.org.nz

From The Library: Jeanette Ziesler

Recent Additions On The Library Shelves.

“Laucala Bay” – Bee Dawson. Laucala Bay is in Fiji and NZ was given the responsibility of air reconnaissance in that part of the Pacific at the start of WW2. A RNZAF base was established and maintained there until 1967. Initially the base was to provide facilities for flying boats. Many of our servicemen served there over that long period, often moving there with their families. Dawson has written a very interesting social history of the base, with the inclusion of many photos.

“No Man's Land” – Simon Tolkien. The author is the grandson of the great J.R.R Tolkien and has written this novel based on the experiences of his grandfather. A young lad grew up in a poor environment until a twist of fate enabled him to live in a stately and eventually go to Oxford University. He went to France during WW1 and fought in the battle of the Somme. His experiences in the trenches form a part of the story and then the coping afterwards when it became apparent that not all war wounds are visible. Good read.

“The Restorer” – Michael Sala. This story is set in Newcastle, Australia. A mother takes her 2 children and reunites with her estranged husband in an effort to save her marriage. They move into a derelict house which the father is restoring. All is not well however, and the original reason for the separation still haunts their lives. Slowly the suspense builds up, the family becomes more dysfunctional and a climax is reached.

“The Mothers” – Brit Bennett. Set in an African American community, the Mothers are a group of older women in a church community who observe, judge, opine but are also kind and do share their combined wisdom. Some things do escape their oversight though. The lives of 3 young members of the church become intertwined, with one young woman having a relationship with the Pastor's son and later becoming a friend of the other woman. The secrets and consequences of this will haunt them forever.

Good reading.

Waitakere Forest & Bird Talk

Dean Baigent- Mercer: The Forgotten Forests of Northland

Dean will discuss the current collapse of Northland's native forests and how he and others are working to turn the tide.

All welcome, koha appreciated to cover hall hire.

Thursday 15th June 7:30pm

Kelston Community Centre, cnr Awaroa/Great North Rd.

Further info lizanstey@hotmail.com 0274 762732

Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust

If you are interested in acting, props, wardrobe etc and would like to be part of an enthusiastic group revitalising the local drama group ...

... then please contact Celia at
celiawoodcalvert@gmail.com

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Fire Brigade News

Ian Ford

Many of Waiatarua's volunteer firefighters didn't get a lot of sleep in the first week of May. On the evening of the 1st and wee small hours of the 3rd, crews from Piha, Karekare and Waiatarua were kept busy extinguishing multiple small scrub fires lit in the Piha area.

Then early Sunday morning it was all hands to the pump. A second-alarm shop fire and two large scrub fires all occurred simultaneously in South Piha, eventually drawing firefighters from as far away as Silverdale and Hunua. Unfortunately the shop was already well ablaze when the first crews reached it, but quick work and a calm night meant that the scrub fires were contained before they claimed any houses.

At the time of writing, Police had just confirmed that they had made an arrest and laid charges of arson, so Piha residents and all of West Auckland's firefighters hope that this is over.

Recent Calls:

2:41 pm, Sat 15 Apr	Piha	False alarm
6:11 pm, Sun 30 Apr	Scenic Drive	Car crash
9:48 pm, Mon 1 May	South Piha	Scrub fires
12:33 am, Wed 3 May	North Piha	Scrub fires
2:01 am, Wed 3 May	Lion Rock	Scrub fires
4:14 pm, Sat 6 May	Piha Rd	Car crash
1:47 am, Sun 7 May	South Piha	Shop fire
2:03 am, Sun 7 May	South Piha	Scrub fires
6:10 pm, Mon 8 May	Scenic Drive	Tree on road
5:52 am, Tue 9 May	South Piha	False alarm

Winter Fire Safety

Whatever you use for heating, always remember the heater-metre rule. Keep furniture, curtains, clothes and children at least one metre away. Don't store anything on top of them, and don't cover them.

Your clothes dryer is a winter necessity but its safety is often overlooked too. Cleaning the lint filter every time you use it and not overloading it will not only save you money - it will also keep you safer.

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).

Advantages of being a WRRRA member?

Show your membership card at the following businesses for a 10% discount (conditions may apply)

Glen Eden Landscape Supplies 293 West Coast Rd Ph:818 6129
Auckland's Waitakere Estate 573 Scenic Drive Ph: 814 9622
Blow Moulders Ltd 8 Waikaukau Rd Glen Eden Ph 818 7709
(cash and cheque sales only)
Elevation 473 Scenic Drive Ph 814 8727

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

JULY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY JUNE 9th @ 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

Doers Networks – local fast internet service providers info@doers.net.nz

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

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(from March 1st)

www.waiatarua.org.nz

Contact John Goudge on 021 232 9822