

# Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

February 2018

### Piha Road Perennial Problems Proliferate

AT response risible

Concerned resident Wayne Edwards has provided a large amount of evidence and imagery demonstrating the continuing issues surrounding the Piha Road Intersection. The entire set would fill several newsletters, so here is an extract from what he has provided.

The most pertinent point from his letter is this:

"In correspondence I have received from Auckland Transport they do acknowledge that the intersection does require a redesign and alignment with a roundabout the preferred option BUT as no funds have been allocated for this they advise they have no plan or timetable to remedy this dangerous intersection. As a health and safety issue I strongly believe this matter requires more urgent priority."

It would seem to your (temporary) editor that this is an issue that needs to be vigorously pursued by our committee, but we as residents can help by also communicating with Auckland Transport to add our voices so that Wayne is not just seen as a solo complainer. You can also help by passing on your concerns to our local councillors:

Penny Hulse penny.hulse@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz Linda Cooper Linda.cooper@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

"The photo on the right looks undramatic but illustrates the problem. These two camper vans coming from Piha took several minutes to complete the same turn. The leading vehicle tried to turn close to the edge of the junction and due to bad road alignment lost traction which resulted in wheel spin. (There is nearly always tyre rubber on the roadway here.) Unable to move forward this driver then asked the driver of the following vehicle to back up away from the intersection to allow the first driver to reverse back into the Piha Road and allow another attempt at the turn. After three attempts and a lot of backing and manoeuvring he completed the turn north onto Scenic Drive. The photo shows his backing lights as he backed and manoeuvred."

Wayne Edwards









# ICONIC WEST COAST HOUSE TOURS OF KAREKARE

Fundraiser for Karekare Surf Club new clubhouse

Gather a group of your friends (8-10 people) and have an enjoyable time at Karekare on a day to suit you. Visit the beach's most beautiful houses: the oldest, the newest, the award-winners, and hear about their famous guests. All of the houses are right by the beach and, after the tour, you will have a lunch of fresh home-made pizzas from a wood-fired oven.

A reasonable level of fitness is required.

\$60.00 per person including woodfire pizza and non alcoholic beverages.

For bookings contact Christine Sidwell at chris.david@xtra.co.nz

Or phone 0274160089

or checkout our facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/Karekare-Beach-House-Tours-263919884100715/

ALL FUNDS GO TO THE KAREKARE FACILITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

#### From the Editor

Erin is off catching the rays somewhere so I've been given the job of putting this issue together.

Happy New Year! I hope you all managed to navigate through the Christmas and New Year madness and things are settling back to what passes for normality at your place.

Did any of you have a water delivery a day before the deluge? Some years ago that happened to us twice in two years, which was one of the things that made us get as big a tank as we could when we built the new house. Even so I was down to about a quarter full and had instituted level-one conservation measures—being extra careful about leaving taps running, stretching out watering the plants, etc. And then the rains came and filled the tank overnight.

On the right is the invitation to the WRRA AGM. I urge you to mark this in your diary with the note "will attend" rather than "washing my hair". While we can promise that no-one will be bullied into coming on the committee, I know there will be vacancies, so if you would like to give a little time each month to help your community, now is the time to put up your hand. Apart from anything else, who can resist "wine and cheese, coffee and cake"?

I'm seeing a lot more tuis around the place this year. Normally I'll get one at a time to my feeder, but recently I've had them queuing up and chasing each other off. Quite a few of them are youngsters with no ruff and sometimes still a bit of fluff on the back and a touch of nestling yellow round the beak. I've even had adults feeding the young ones at the feeder. Isn't it great living here?

Tony Bacon

#### Hello Waiatarua!

I hope you all had a peaceful break.

But while we enjoy this great place during great weather there is a silent death going on.

A few of you have asked me what's happening with Kauri dieback? And does the rāhui mean anything?

At December meeting of the combined Ratepayers and Residents associations Dr Nick Waipara who's been a lead on the science and research explained the now undeniable facts that humans have largely caused the spread. We all agreed to lobby councillors ahead of council meeting next day. The council Environment Committee meeting the next day was an arduous session that pushed all other items off the agenda and forced a live re-draft of the motions around track closure and proper costing and planning by council. Chair Penny Hulse said it was one of the most challenging days of her political career.

The WRRA fully support the rāhui and urge you not to walk tracks without a permit from Te Kawerau ā Maki. This position could change once council have done the work on what is actually required to make a track safe.

You can find accurate facts on Kauri dieback at www.thetreecouncil.org.nz.

If you want to help more, the WRRA suggest a donation to The Tree Council or to ask your local politician what they are doing about it.

Peter Casey

president@waiatarua.org.nz

## Catch up and connect at the WRRA AGM 2018

7:15 for a 7:30pm start **Tuesday 27 February** 

Waiatarua Community Hall 911 West Coast Road

Wine and cheese, coffee and cake.

With guest speaker Dr Mels Barton from the Tree Council who will talk about Kauri dieback, the rāhui and answer questions.

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## **New At The Library**

"Drawn Out" – Tom Scott. This memoir from Tom tells of his life from childhood his days as a student and through to his life as a journalist, cartoonist, scriptwriter, playwright and raconteur. An interesting read.

"The Crown" – Robert Lacey. This is the official companion to the popular show on Netflix. It adds expert and in depth details to events in the series. Lacey was the show's historical consultant.

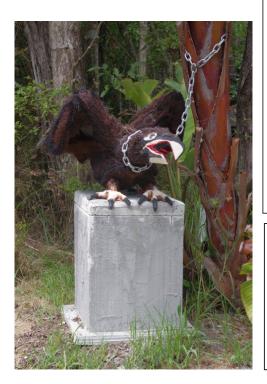
"Collected Stories" – Barry Crump. OK, not new stories but Crump's books are out of print. This collection, containg 5 stories has been published following renewed interest after the movie Hunt For The Wilderpeople which was based a Crump book.

"The Seagull" – Ann Cleves. Cleves is the writer of the TV detective series "Vera". In this novel cranky, overweight Vera Stanhope is inveestigating a cold case of corruption in her community. GREAT.

Jeannette Zeisler

### **More Exotic Bird Sightings**

In the last issue we reported the sighting of a Kokako in Mountain Road. There is even more exciting news this month. The extremely rare Waitakere Eagle (Aquila pongaii artificialis) has been seen in Kelly Road. How the creature was captured and how it is reacting to being chained up is unknown, but apparently the population of errant children and other small animals has been drastically reduced in the immediate vicinity. We look forward to reports of other sightings of unusual fauna.



# Invasive Weed Action During February

Agapanthus is an invasive weed in the Waitakere Ranges.

A really simple thing you can do to halt the spread of agapanthus is to cut all the flowers off before they dry out and drop their seeds.

If you want to receive emails from the Pest Free Waiatarua group please email us at <a href="mailto:committee@waiatarua.org.nz">committee@waiatarua.org.nz</a>

# Creamy Avocado & Mayo Potato Salad

Serves 6-8

**Prep Time 15 minutes** 

**Cook Time 20 minutes** 

#### **Ingredients**

700g bag baby gourmet potatoes (e.g. Perlas) .

4 rashers streaky bacon, cut into small pieces .

3 spring onions, chopped.

I ripe avocado.

½ cup mayonnaise.

Juice of ½ lemon or to taste.

3 eggs, hardboiled, peeled and cut into quarters .

Handful fresh parsley leaves, chopped.

#### Method

Wash and cook potatoes in lightly salted boiling water until tender (about 20 minutes). Drain. Set aside until potatoes are cold. Cut potatoes in half.

Fry bacon until golden and crispy.

Place potatoes in a bowl. Add spring onions and bacon.

Mash the avocado flesh with a fork. Stir in mayonnaise and lemon juice. Season with freshly ground black pepper.

Carefully mix the avocado dressing through the potatoes, spring onions and bacon. Transfer to a serving bowl.

Top with hardboiled egg quarters and sprinkle over chopped parsley.

#### Questions of the month:

Who is Dale?

Why is he digging holes?

Why should we care?

Answers on the back of a \$20 note should be sent to the editor.

## Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Erin Kingsleigh-Smith, editor@waiatarua.org.nz, ph 814 8856. Community Notices are free to current financial members.

**Better Scrapbooking Ltd:** Regular scrapbooking workshops as well as other regular scrapbooking and cardmaking classes. Supplies available: 153 Solar Rd, Glen Eden. Ph Megan 818 2045

**Doers Networks:** local, fast internet 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.

Indoor Bowls: every Thursday at the Hall 7pm for 7.15 start. No experience needed. Coffee and tea provided, BYO nibbles and other drinks if wanted. \$3 donation to CPNZ and WPAT. Ph Celia: 814 9660

Lawn mowing and section clean ups: Ph Grant at Top Grass Ltd. 814 9493 mob 021 024 75610

**Plants:** Bromeliads \$5 - \$6; Taros, cannas and various shrubs \$4 - \$5. All sales to Nepalese Educ Trust. Phone Margaret 814 9859.

**Table Tennis:** Is having a break until March, when the hall will be a bit cooler.

Contact Tony 814 9860,

email tony.bacon @sthw.co.nz

The Oratia Community Church: On the corner of Parker & West Coast roads. Fellowship meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1pm in the church hall. Ph 813 9869 for information.

**Tiler / Stone layer:** 21 years experience in the trade available for indoor and 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 7-8pm Oratia Settlers Hall. Ditch the workout, come join the party! Cost \$10 per class. Ph Grace 818 2046

#### MARCH NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY Feb 16th @ 5PM



\*\*\* Show us your WRRA card \*\*\* \*\*\* and get half price pizzas \*\*\*

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