



# Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

April 2018

## Piha Road Intersection—The Saga Continues

Subsequent to the advice Wayne Edwards received from Auckland Transport regarding plans to improve safety at the Waiatarua intersection of Scenic Drive, Piha Rd and Quinns Rd, as published in the March newsletter, he has been advised that the information he was given was not “official”.

Wayne now understands the information he received came from “the roading team” and it was not the “official” position. Despite assurances that directional arrows and advisory signage for long wheelbase vehicles would be in place within weeks, this apparently is now problematic. It could be that communication between the entities within AT may be the problem. It may be a case of wait and see, but the application of directional arrows and signage should only be a minor expense when road safety is involved.

A concept for a roundabout has been requested but as this is a “major project”, feedback on this may not be available until May.

In the meantime, Wayne has been contacted by Anna Shattky, a Piha resident. A few weeks ago she was hit head on as she came around the Scenic Drive curve in front of Elevation by a tourist driver who came off the Piha Rd compulsory stop and entered the Scenic Drive on to the wrong side. Luckily there were no injuries, but because no one was injured, this accident, like many others, was not reported.

AT have advised that they have few records of the many “events” that happen at this intersection and for this reason attention to the intersection has not been a priority. Because of this, Anna has undertaken to compile a register of accidents and near misses to present to them in the future, and can be contacted on [shatters@xtra.co.nz](mailto:shatters@xtra.co.nz). If you witness an event, it would be very helpful if you could email her and provide as much of the following information as possible:

Name of witness and their phone number

Date/time/year of incident

Weather

Location

Details of incident

Injuries

ACC Claim

Damage

Insurance claim

Residential status of driver



It would also be useful if residents could please advise Anna of accidents or near misses, even if you are unable to provide all the specific information that she has requested.

## Hello Waiatarua!

After a fantastic and unprecedented turnout at the WRRRA AGM 2018 we can now introduce you to your new Executive Committee.

I was re-elected as President and I'm excited about the year ahead and the plans we've got in place. This will be my fifth and last year in this role as I have other things I'd like to focus on a little bit more.

I'm really excited to introduce Pasquale Monachino who starts on the committee as Vice President. Pasquale and his family have lived in Waiatarua for a number of years and he'd like to help us to progress some of the community initiatives of these parts. You might recognise his name from his real estate work in the area.

Our other new member is Ross Forbes who has lived in the Waitakeres for a considerable time. Welcome Ross and Pasquale!

It's good to have Sue Bowers back as Treasurer and this will be her last year in that role. Ruth Gregory remains as Secretary, Erin Kingsleigh-Smith as our newsletter editor and we're so pleased to have Rita Steel back on committee in the environment portfolio. Brett Whyte, Tric Andersen and Grant Longley (Library rep) are also on the WRRRA Executive Committee and you can get hold of us collectively at [committee@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:committee@waiatarua.org.nz) or individually from our contact details on the website.

We are still looking for committee members who can look after drama and events, and our website/social. You would need to attend as many of our monthly meetings as fits with your life (once a month 1-2 hours) plus additional effort as you can.

After the AGM we enjoyed a fantastic and detailed explanation of the science of kauri dieback and the current action from Dr Mels Barton. Comments were that Mels provided a great summary and detail on the back of peer reviewed science and the quest to gain control over Kauri Dieback disease.

It was great to also have Auckland City Councillors and Local Board members present and hear what we can do. Hopefully you are with us and voted before 28 March for the targeted rate to help control kauri dieback and look after the Waitakere Ranges Heritage area.

A closing note to say a HUGE thank you to Gary Ertel who did not stand again this year for Vice President. Gary has been a massive driving force for the committee over the years I've been involved. He has taken on a new challenge which means he can't dedicate himself to the committee any more, but is still very much here if we need him. Thanks Gary, and all the best.

Peter Casey

[president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:president@waiatarua.org.nz) 0274 32 32 49



*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 Road. Phone: 814 9353 Hall hire bookings: John Goudge. Phone 814 9744

Library hours: Thursday 10.00am–12.00pm; Friday 7.00pm–8.00pm; Saturday and Sunday 11.00am–12.00pm

website: [www.waiatarua.org.nz](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)

## From the Editor

Hello everyone



It feels like autumn

is virtually upon us. The pink flowers of naked ladies, or belladonna lilies, are blooming everywhere, a sure sign that the summer has ended. And it's darker in the evenings that much earlier – and dark in the mornings as well. I do love the summer, but the autumn is a lovely season too, and it's nice to still have warm sunny days in between the cooler mornings and evenings.

Easter is almost here once again, which, for our family, is usually a time to get some much needed jobs done around the house and garden, and catch up with friends for barbecues before the weather begins to deteriorate. Our boys still look forward to doing the annual Easter egg hunt even though they are not little any longer! The lure of chocolate appeals to all ages it seems.

The Easter break also means that a lot of you will no doubt head away. If you are, please travel safely. I hope you make time to recharge and relax if you have the chance. Enjoy those chocolate Easter Eggs!

Cheers, Erin

## Help us get the newsletter out

Every month your newsletter arrives safely in your mailbox (at least, I hope it does). There are quite a few people involved in getting this to happen.

At the heart of this web is our Editor, Erin. She gathers in material from various contributors and weaves it into the seamless whole that you eventually see. The wonderful people at Longley Print and Packaging then give great support to our community by printing and folding 850 copies at no charge to the WRRRA. Carol Hinton collects the finished product and painstakingly divides the 850 copies into bags for our various deliverers. She delivers them to me and I do a monthly trip around the district and drop off the packages so they can be delivered. I also post copies off to various people and deliver some to the Local Board, the Community Library and the Oratia Dairy. Our faithful deliverers do a monthly walk around their own locality to deliver a newsletter to your door (or mailbox, anyway). So thank you to Erin, Longley Print and Packaging, Carol, Mike, Celia, Peter, Wayne, Graham, Jenny, Geoff and Margaret, Christine and Eric, Tony (Yates), Jenny, Geoff and Charlene, Shannon, Jeannette, Gay, Margaret and Paddy, Anita and Helen.

That's quite a list, and they all do their job efficiently and without fail. However they do sometimes insist on taking a holiday or even falling sick, so I am trying to make a list of people who would be willing to act as backups in case there is a sudden need. The commitment is not large; maybe 30 minutes once a month, and only then if we are faced with a gap.

So if you like the idea of occasionally helping out then please contact me, Tony Bacon, on 814 9860 or [tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz](mailto:tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz), and I'll add you to the list.

Tony Bacon

## Table Tennis is back and looking for players

After a summer break, table tennis is back at the Hall on Wednesday evenings. We play from 7pm – 8:30/9pm, and we are always looking to welcome new players, whether total beginners or super-skilled. We have bats and balls, so you need bring nothing but your enthusiasm and \$2 a session. It is the cheapest way to get some exercise you'll find anywhere! If you have any questions, email to [ny.bacon@sthw.co.nz](mailto:ny.bacon@sthw.co.nz) or phone 814 9860.



We welcome all ages and skill levels



## Waiatarua Community Patrol needs you!

### What are CPNZ (Community Patrols NZ)?

A community based volunteer organisation helping the Police make communities a safer environment in which to live – by providing extra “eyes and ears” patrolling local streets in a sign written vehicle, undertaking surveillance and observation. Our aim – to be a deterrent, to stop the crimes before they happen.

### How can I help? Become a volunteer patroller for the Waiatarua CPNZ group (covering Waiatarua, Oratia and Henderson Valley)

Volunteers needed for both daytime and evening patrols (weekdays and weekends).

A flexible commitment of around 4 hours per month. Full training and uniform supplied. Police Security Clearance check required.



If you want to make a difference in our local community, get in touch and find out how you can help.

For more, see the CPNZ website: [www.cpnz.org.nz](http://www.cpnz.org.nz) or find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/waiataruacommunitypatrol](https://www.facebook.com/waiataruacommunitypatrol) or contact Les Duffield on [les.duffield@xtra.co.nz](mailto:les.duffield@xtra.co.nz), tel 814 1130 or mob 021 720 100



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## Waiatarua Library Needs Your Help

We need a couple of people to come in on Thursday mornings (10am – 12pm) and help us process the new books. You don't need to come every week but would really appreciate you being available when the books arrive. No special skills required – just a willingness to help out. Contact Bev Latimer on 835 3237.

We have many new books this month, but give special mention to our David Walliams purchases. These are a great read for children and adults to share and the latest three are now available at the library.



Happy reading.

Jeannette Ziesler

## Waitakere Forest & Bird

Talk by Annabeth Cohen, Forest & Bird's Freshwater Conservation Advocate

**Thursday 19th April 7:30pm**

**Kelston Community Centre**

**Cnr Awaroa/Great North Road**

**"Are we doing enough to protect our freshwater ecosystems?"**

Non members welcome, join us for supper afterwards. Koha appreciated to cover hall hire.

For further information ph Liz 0274 762732 lizanstey@hotmail.com

## 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:** every Wednesday in the Hall, 7-9pm. No experience needed, all equipment supplied. \$2 per week 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 \$5 per class. Ph Grace 818 2046

## Fire Brigade News

Would you like to join us? If you're 16 or older, live within 2½ kms of the Fire Station and want to contribute to your community then we'd love to hear from you. We can offer you something a little bit different. As a volunteer firefighter you can be hands-on at an emergency, or you can provide support to those who are.

Please contact Kevin Healy on 814-9505 if you're interested and want to know more.

### Fire Brigade Recent Calls

At last, a welcome respite from the busy start to 2018.

11:16 am, Sat 17 Feb, Anawhata, Car and bush fire

2:33 am, Sun 18 Feb, West Coast Rd, Bonfire

11:09 pm, Tue 20 Feb, Scenic Drive, Tree across road

8:00 pm, Wed 7 Mar, Piha Rd, False alarm

### Open fire season

In mid-March, Council removed the requirement for fire permits until next summer. You can now light "considerate" fires without a permit in daylight hours. Fires must be away from your boundaries, not be a smoke nuisance, and cannot burn green vegetation, treated timber or building waste, plastics etc. Go to Auckland Council's website and search for "rural fire" to find out more.

### Contacts

Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency.

Otherwise please contact Chief Fire Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505) or Acting Deputy CFO Ian Ford (814 8871).

Ian Ford



## Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust

**Waiatarua Community Hall**

**Saturday 5 May at 7.00pm**

Informal play reading with audience, gold coin donation.

For those of you who would like to be on stage, this is an easy way to try it. Get in touch with Gary by email (Mortel@xtra.co.nz) for more information. **ALL ages welcome.**

Audience also required. Be ready to laugh and enjoy yourselves. Bring your own drinks and nibbles.



## Walking tracks in the Waitakeres

It seems there are still some tracks in the Waitakere Ranges that we will be able to use. Follow the link below to see a pdf image of the tracks in the Waitakere Ranges which are proposed to remain open for walking, as of 7 March 2018.

<http://engagemedia.azureedge.net/files/file/1f7PR4N1R0uA0AjVhQIMKg>



## MAY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY April 13th @ 5PM



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