



# Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

August 2018

## Hello Waiatarua!

I've been asked recently by Waiataruans, new and old, what are the benefits of being a WRRRA member.

Many of you will already be aware that the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association was born in 1964 "Because of bad temper and that's the truth of it." This was uttered by a lady called Mrs Patricia Cole (known to most folk as "Coley"), who went on to say "We had all received our rates notices and were furious!" To this day one of the key benefits of being a WRRRA member is that of **representation**. Along with the other 9 R&R associations in the Waitakere Ranges the WRRRA interface with the Waitakere Ranges Local Board and maintain close watch and representation on your behalf on local issues. The most recent of these are impacts from Kauri dieback and the Rahui, and upcoming is representation on a study by AT on traffic speed in and around the ranges.

The WRRRA maintain an email list direct to members so that you are always **informed**.

The WRRRA also **lease** and **hire** the **Waiatarua Community Centre**. We maintain the lease of this facility from Auckland Council. The hall is heavily utilised and some great news is that the **Waiatarua Library** below the hall has begun a **revitalisation** project. The intention is to make the library a far more **accessible** space for our community. This is being directly supported by the rural librarian of Auckland City Libraries.

Some absolutely fantastic news is that the whole building now has

air conditioning. This has transformed the place and it is so nice to visit our warm, cosy, quiet library with free super-fast WiFi on a winter's day. The project to get this upgrade has taken me around 12 months of gentle liaisons with the Auckland City Council and the support of their facilities department has been fantastic.

The library will soon be receiving more new books than ever. Please get in touch if you'd like to volunteer to be a part of this exciting project.

In the past the WRRRA has also had a strong contingent of thespians on our committee. Recently this has not been quite as strong as in the past. What we are lacking is some additional help with planning, promotion and running **events**. *If you have an idea for an event, or would like to help bring back **The Great Waiatarua Debate** please get in touch to find out what is involved.*

In February is our AGM and at that time next year we will be looking for some key executive officers, including Treasurer. If you have some interest in being part of the committee please also get in touch.

The benefits of being a WRRRA member, at only \$10 per year per household are **representation, information, preferential hall hire, library access, free fast WiFi, and community events**. Of course, there are also discounts which you will find on our website.

Please update your membership this week.

Peter Casey

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

**Please accept my Membership to the  
Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2018**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose \$10 for the household

To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua,  
Waitakere City, or leave at the library

Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

## Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust

Present to Waiatarua on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August

### A mystery...Karaoke night??

Gold Coin entry fee per person

Bring your own drinks and nibbles



Entertainment between songs that has never been seen before! (at least in Waiatarua)

Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua.

Doors open 7:30pm for 8.00pm start - should finish around 10.00pm

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

Contact  
Us

**Editor:** Erin Kingsleigh-Smith. Phone: 814 8856 Email: [editor@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:editor@waiatarua.org.nz)  
**WRRRA President:** Peter Casey. Phone: 814 9386 Email: [president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:president@waiatarua.org.nz)  
**Community Hall and Library:** 911 West Coast Road. Phone: 814 9353  
**Hall hire bookings:** John Goudge. Phone 021 232 9822

**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)

## WANTED: Waiatarua Community Hall Custodian

The WRRRA are looking for a new Custodian for the Waiatarua Community Hall. This is a modestly paid position that is responsible for helping with rental bookings and causing maintenance to happen. The role suits someone who lives close to 911 West Coast Road, has a flexible schedule and has a strong interest in making sure our community has a space to meet with friends, family or community.



able for helping with rental bookings and causing maintenance to happen. The role suits someone who lives close to 911 West Coast Road, has a flexible schedule and has a strong interest in making sure our community has a space to meet with friends, family or community.

In this role you will work directly with the President, Vice-President and Treasurer as well as anyone who wants to rent the Community Hall.

If this role interests you please contact Peter on 0274 32 32 49 or [president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:president@waiatarua.org.nz)

## From the Editor

Hello everyone

Not much from me this month – I'm nursing a cold as I write which, while it doesn't have me incapacitated in bed, is highly irritating to say the least.

Has World Cup fever struck your place? I can't say it's really been a big event at ours, despite me being married to a Brit! I do feel for the England team, once again out of contention, but so pleased to see Croatia doing so well. I think that's who we'll be backing in the final – it doesn't seem right to support France, especially when we have so many Croatians in our community, and especially in our neighbouring Oratia. It'll be a hard match, but all the very best to them! By the time this newsletter is printed, we'll all know the result...!

School holidays are upon us once again which I for one usually really enjoy – no getting up early for school runs and no making lunches, either. My boys are enjoying the late starts and catching up with friends. Hard to believe that we are nearly into Term 3 – Christmas will be here before we know it.

*Cheers, Erin*

### Things your Granny should have told you: How to boil an egg

The simplest things are often the hardest, which is why some grown-ups can cook a meal, but then confess they don't know how to boil an egg. The trick here is that you don't actually boil the egg. Put the eggs in a pan of cold water so they are covered by half a finger length. Bring to the boil, then take off the heat and cover. For six eggs or fewer, leave in the pot for 12 minutes. For a very large pot with many eggs, as little as six minutes will do. Allow an extra minute or two if eggs are straight from the fridge or are particularly big. Drain and cover with cold water. Peel the eggs as soon as they are cool enough to handle. If not using immediately, store in fridge, peeled and covered with cold water.

## Crossroad Crisis Continues

Wayne Edwards, long time resident of Quinns Road, has been actively trying to seek a remedy for the ongoing traffic problems at the Piha Road intersection, as published in previous issues of the newsletter. The following article provides a background to the situation at the intersection, and information on the recent work completed there.

Conceived as a tourist route, Scenic Drive was constructed during the 1930s as a project to provide work for the many unemployed during the Depression. Construction was intentionally labour intensive featuring pick, shovel and wheelbarrow with limited use of machinery and the occasional explosive. Consequently, the alignment of the roadway closely followed the topography of the ranges, resulting in a narrow and winding road that was acceptable for the slow and low volume traffic of the time.

Scenic Drive intersected with West Coast Rd., which provided access to the West Coast from Auckland City, in Waiatarua. With the benefit of hindsight it appears there was very little consideration given to designing an intersection for safe traffic flow, but the vehicles of the time were small with short wheelbases and slow at acceleration. However, over the subsequent eighty odd years traffic volumes have increased massively, vehicles have become longer, faster, and apart from tar seal and some paint and signs, absolutely nothing has been done to improve the intersection to cope with the modern situation.

Wayne has been told that Waitakere City had identified the intersection for a major upgrade. Irrespective of whether or not this is correct, the intersection somehow "dropped off the radar" as far as Auckland Transport has been concerned and is regarded as low priority. Subsequent to Waiatarua and Piha residents and others expressing their concerns about safety in the media over the last couple of years, and a recent call for action from the Local Community Board, AT have responded, but to date this response has been inadequate and superficial.

Wayne is concerned that, while he believes AT have since reduced the chance of head on collisions, other dangers remain or have even been increased by the work completed.

## No Walking Tracks in Foreseeable Future

Are you aware that in spite of striking a special rate to upgrade tracks in the Waitakere Ranges, Auckland Council is not planning to re-open any of the local tracks in the foreseeable future?

They have prioritised Kite Kite Falls Track and the more remote coastal tracks comprising the Hillary Trail.

Are you happy about this? Or do you, like us, think they should be prioritising the more popular, shorter local tracks, of which Fairy Falls Track is a good example?

If so, we need to act together to lobby our two local Auckland Councillors, Penny Hulse and Linda Cooper to make our views known.

If you are interested in lobbying the Councillors please email Tom Austen at: [austen@inspire.net.nz](mailto:austen@inspire.net.nz)



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## Waitakere Forest & Bird

### Kauri Dieback, Rahui and forest closures—what, why and what's next

**Thursday 16 August, 7.30pm**

The Waitakere Ranges are closed by Auckland Council to stop the spread of kauri dieback following the rahui placed upon it by Te Kawerau a Maki. After a quick overview of the basics of kauri dieback our experts on the panel will be talking about the future: what is happening now? What's the plan to save our whole ecosystem in the Ranges? What research is being done and what more is needed?

This important topic requires the input of the people most involved, so we are delighted that Te Kawerau a Maki executive manager Edward Ashby, biosecurity manager Jack Craw, kauri advocate and Tree Council spokesperson Dr Mels Barton and plant pathologist Nick Waipara confirmed their attendance. They are all experts in their field with years of experience working with kauri who will be able to paint us a picture of the needs, opportunities and threats for the future.

Venue: Kelston Community Centre, cnr Awaroa/Great North Rd.

Non members welcome, join us for supper afterwards. Koha appreciated to cover hall hire. For further information phone Liz on 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

**For Sale:** New Samsung colour laser printer. Only use has been to set up and test. Retail price is \$300-350, I'm asking \$195. Phone Tony Bacon 814 9860 or email to-ny.bacon@sthw.co.nz

**Free to a good home:** Fuji Xerox 255DW mono laser printer. I've moved to a colour printer so this is now superfluous. It needs a new toner cartridge. Phone Tony Bacon 8149860 or email tony.bacon@sthw.co.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

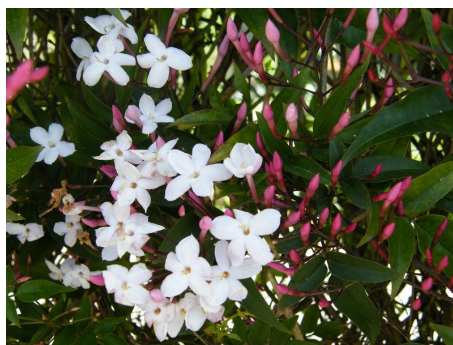
## Environmental Corner

### Weed Bin

The next weed bin will be Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th August. Get in early!

### Weed of the Month

Weed of the month is jasmine. Pretty and gorgeously scented though it is, this climbing species can reach even the tallest canopy and emergent trees. Now is a good time of year to tackle jasmine, before it warms up and wasps pose a threat. If you are overrun, contact the Weed Group for help. Cut the jasmine vines at the base of trees to limit the damage they're doing in the tree canopy. More details on control can be found on the Waiatarua Facebook page and the Waiatarua website.



### Waiatarua Seedling Bank

Have you got excess seedlings on your property? Why not give them a shot at finding their own space and bring them up to the Waiatarua Community Hall, where they will join the seedling bank.

The seedling bank will collect 24/7 and we will hold annual seedling swap days (watch this space) during which we will give them away (and of course encourage donations)

*Please note—if you have Kauri on your property please follow all dieback protocols. Do not collect seedlings from within 5m of a Kauri.*

Want more info? Email Rita Steel on sciencemademedoit@gmail.com

Rita Steel

## Our Local Library Needs You!

We are still looking for someone to come and help our team on a Thursday morning. No specific skills required. You will be helping our great team prepare books for borrowing and issuing books etc.

Thursday 10am – 12pm. Call Bev Latimer : ph. 8353237



### SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

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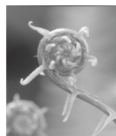
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