



Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

November 2018

Weedy Properties Wanted

Auckland Council have been working on a biocontrol (a beetle) for Tradescantia, or Wandering Willie, for many years. Now, it's been approved and has been proven effective. The Council are now looking to release the beetle.

The beetle is looking for a home that meets the following description:

A plentiful supply of tradescantia, roughly 1Ha;

Good accessibility;

A low risk of flooding, land slips or any other type of disturbance, however:

- if the site is prone to flooding then the Council are also trialling a new biocontrol agent called kordyana. This is a fungal pathogen for tradescantia, which can handle periods of flooding and therefore may serve as an alternative option to the beetle;

Co-operative landowners that understand the importance of biocontrol as a long term management approach. They should be aware that there will be a period of 5-10 years following release where other forms of tradescantia management should not be undertaken, e.g. herbicide application or manual removal; and

A low probability of being sold during this period - to avoid risks around project commitment by new landowners.

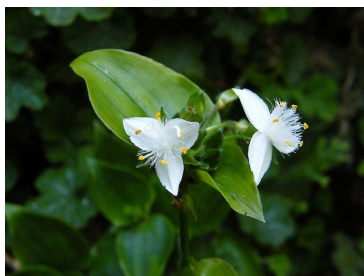
Even though there is a waitlist for the beetle (because these have to be bred), it is recommended to get on board now.

In addition, the Council are also looking for properties with a lot of Chinese privet on which to test a biocontrol lacebug.

Any residents whose properties meet the above criteria and are interested in finding out more, can contact Emma Edney-Browne at Auckland Council on 301 0101 or emma.edney-browne@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

Rita Steel

Above: A carpet of Tradescantia
Right: Tradescantia in flower



Hello Waiatarua!

Public service announcements this month.

First up, a reminder to those of us with water tanks that this is the time of the year to make sure roofs, gutters, filters and pumps are all working smoothly. That's because, for the benefit of anyone new around here, Spring is typically the wettest time and December through to February the driest. So it's important to get this sorted now.

The second notice is that the weed bin will be moving to the Community Centre as a trial for the weekend of Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 November.

This has come about because the Kauri Loop weed bin site is actually the site of - you guessed it - a Kauri grove.

Which causes Rita, the WRRRA environment advocate, and me to remind ALL residents to think about what comes on and off their properties. Even if you don't have Kauri you could be uphill from some and any earth work could impact Kauri down below. While most tracks are closed there is zero plan in place for private residences. If you love the sight of the Kauri near you, please think before you move weeds or earth.

Peter Casey

president@waiatarua.org.nz

From the Editor

Hello everyone

My family and I recently spent several days visiting my brother and sister-in-law in Nelson. It was a well overdue trip, with my husband and I not having visited for many years, and our boys never having been at all. We had a lovely relaxing time there and the weather could not have been better, albeit a little cooler than Auckland. It was great to re-connect with family and explore the beautiful Nelson region. One of the highlights was a trip over the Takaka hills to the Anatoki Salmon farm, where you can catch your own salmon. Hubby and the boys caught one each and we enjoyed them smoked for dinner that evening. A little further on from the salmon farm was Te Waikoropupu Springs, the largest natural springs in New Zealand. I have never seen such beautiful, crystal clear water as I did here. Absolutely stunning and well worth the visit.

We achieved most things on our sightseeing list during our time there and thoroughly enjoyed our much needed break away. As usual there wasn't enough time to do everything, but those things can always be saved for another visit. Now it's back to the realities of daily life, work and school. Ho hum!

Cheers, Erin

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

Contact
Us

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Community Hall and Library: 911 West Coast Road. Phone: 814 9353

Hall hire bookings: Matt Smith. Phone: 021 059 3467 Email: hallhire@waiatarua.org.nz

Library hours: Thursday 10.00am–12.00pm

Friday 7.00pm–8.00pm

Saturday and Sunday 11.00am–12.00pm

website: www.waiatarua.org.nz

WRRRA membership

Membership currently stands at 88 members, with 8 out of area subscriptions. Membership forms are available at the Waiatarua Library and Elevation, and the form is regularly printed in this newsletter. You can also visit <http://www.waiatarua.org.nz/about-us/wrra-annual-membership> and join from there. At great deal at \$10 per household.

Advantages of being a WRRRA member

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

Heritage Collection 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 Brasserie 473 Scenic Drive Ph: 814 9727

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

Email: _____

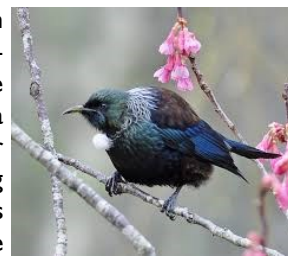
I enclose \$10 for the household

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

Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

Environmental Corner

Plenty going on around Waiatarua! I hope you've had a chance to hear the Tui mating calls? If not, it's a 4.30am wake up you won't



regret. Listening to them calling each other across the valley is my favourite thing to do this time of year. It's also the time of year to start watering any trees you may have planted over winter. My trick: if I've managed to get through all my washing, its usually because I've had a few days of nice weather - so it's probably a sign my new seedlings are drying out. Also you may have noticed that we are temporarily placing the weed bin at the Waiatarua Hall (Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th November). We will keep you posted with its permanent location once we find one.



And finally, the weed of the month is Bartlettina, with the common names Purple Torch and Blue Mist Flower.

Endemic to cloud forest habitats in Mexico, this is one of those weeds that just looks gorgeous - you may have noticed purple flowers popping up on the side of the road. A fast growing perennial erect shrub, it inhabits all types of wasteland and in filtered sunlight in the margins of scrubland. It's now classed as an invasive weed in New Zealand and so, unfortunately, it's not a friend. Keep an eye out for more info on the Waiatarua Facebook page or check out the Waiatarua website for more on how to tackle this one!

Rita Steel

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), ideally retirees. A flexible commitment of around 4 hours per month is required with full training and uniform supplied. A Police Security Clearance check is also 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 or find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/waiataruacommunitypatrol or contact Les Duffield on les.duffield@xtra.co.nz, tel 814 1130 or mob 021 720 100



Quote of the month

"Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow".

Helen Keller



Direct Mail Solutions are proud to support their community by fully sponsoring this publication.

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To find out how we can help you give Josh Lindsay a call on 021 656 275 or email josh@dmail.co.nz

Fire Brigade News

It doesn't take too many days without rain for the bush around our homes to start to dry out. That's why it's important for all of us in Waikarua to understand and respect the potential dangers and high fire risk of fireworks if we want to use them at home this Guy Fawkes.

So please don't use them in windy or dry conditions; light them in an open area away from anything else that's flammable – and read the instructions. You should also have a hose, a bucket of water, or both, handy.

And of course they should always be pointed at the stars. Not people, buildings or vegetation. Your pets should already be inside.

But if accidents happen, make sure everyone is safe and call 111 – not the fire station or firefighters.

We hope you have an enjoyable and safe evening!

Recent Calls

7:08 pm, Mon 17 Sept - Car fire, Scenic Drive

8:30 pm, Wed 26 Sept - Car rolled, West Coast Rd

1:08 am, Wed 10 Oct - False alarm, Forest Hill Rd

Contacts

Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency, or if you think a fire engine should attend.

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

Ian Ford

Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Erin Kingsleigh-Smith, editor@waikarua.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 card making 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

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. \$3 donation to CPNZ and WPAT. Ph Celia: 814 9660 or Liz: 914 9668.

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.

Waikarua Playcentre: 911 West Coast Road, Waikarua. 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.



Forest & Bird
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Waitakere Forest & Bird An introduction to New Zealand spiders Talk by Arachnologist Grace Hall

Thursday 15 November, 7.30pm

Come and see the real Avondale spider! Arachnologist (spider specialist) Grace Hall will bring some living spiders along for her talk on our native eight legged friends. Did you know we have over 2000 spiders in New Zealand, and we know so little of them, that over 1200 haven't been named yet? In her talk, with lots of pretty pictures and examples, Grace will explain the peculiarities of a number of spiders she is studying at Landcare Research.

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



New Location of Waikarua Weed Bin



As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, the weed bin, which was formerly located at the top of Kauri Loop Road, will be temporarily located at the Waikarua Community Hall carpark (911 West Coast Rd) on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th November.

With the ground still soft from winter rain, and weeds beginning to make their appearance, now is the time to wage war on them!

HALL HIRE

911 WEST COAST ROAD

WAIKARUA

New hall hire fees document

available on our website:

www.waikarua.org.nz

Contact Matt Smith on 021 059 3467

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

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