



Waiatarua Community News

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May 2019

Every litter bit hurts

Debris dumping deplorable

Have you noticed the section of West Coast Rd between Rimu Rd and Raroa Tce looking like a rubbish dump? Not only there, but along Bush Rd as well?

A person or persons is dropping empty wine boxes and bladders



into the culverts on these roads almost daily. Frustrated residents say this has been going on for around three months. The culprit clearly has a penchant for Longridge. Whoever you are, if you are going to dump your wine refuse, at least make sure that it's good quality, not the Chateau Cardboard we've been seeing.

But this of course really is no joking matter and is totally unacceptable. It would be sad to think this was a local. Please respect our environ-

ment, and like everyone else, use your recycling bin!

Residents will also doubtless have noticed the large amount of refuse dumped at the side of West Coast Rd opposite no. 650 near the Kelly's Rd bridge, pictured here. The good news is that



evidence of the culprit was found and reported to council. The rubbish has now been removed. Let's hope we don't see a repeat performance!

Hello Waiatarua!

Well the temperatures have dropped and the days are getting shorter – winter is certainly on its way! It's around this time of year when we tend to get hit with storms in the ranges that can result in trees down across roads and lengthy power outages. Our Vice-President, Marq Holibar and I have just completed a civil defence 'In Case of Emergency' course on behalf of the WRRRA, and we have a few ideas that we hope to bring to the community as a result.

We need to be especially diligent at this time of year to make sure we have an emergency kit on hand at all times should we experience any sort of civil emergency (including power outages which, you will remember from April previous, can last more than a week). Keep an eye out for tips on staying prepared throughout the next few newsletters.

Most of us received a letter from Council last month announcing a proposed change to the rural activity tables in the Unitary Plan titled 'Plan Change 20'. The letter was incredibly vague and there have been many questions as to exactly what it was all about. The objective of this proposed plan change is to limit residential and industrial activities in rural areas so that rural zones (e.g. Waiatarua) are predominantly used for rural purposes. It amends the activity table for the rural zones so that any activity not specifically listed in the table becomes a non-complying activity, and must go through a rigorous assessment process to be considered.

I'm pleased to introduce Sue Smith as our new Treasurer. Sue has a previous history of working with non-profit organisations and has taken on both the treasurer and bookkeeper roles (which we were going to split), so she is a very welcome addition to the team. We're very grateful for the work Sue Bowers has put into these roles over the past years, and I'm happy to say she is remaining on the committee.

At our latest committee meeting, we've established the need for a Grants & Funding role, where one (or more) people are tasked with looking for community grants and funding that we can apply for, to fund future projects. The role is new to us and wouldn't be overly time consuming, and would mostly involve staying in touch with Council, Local Board and trusts in the area to see what funding is available to us. If you are interested in this, I'd love to hear from you!

Ryan Robertson

president@waiatarua.org.nz



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

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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

The Cancer Society needs you

Every day, hundreds of people visit Auckland City Hospital for radiation treatment, chemotherapy or both. Most of them have good support networks to help them get there and back, but some don't. For those people, the Cancer Society runs a volunteer driving service to make sure people get to and from their treatment safely and promptly.

The need for this service is continually growing, and the Cancer Society is in desperate need of more drivers.

Can you help? The commitment can be as large or small as you wish. Most people drive one return trip a week, but some do more. Patients come from all over, but usually you would be driving people from the West Auckland area. A contribution is available for petrol costs.

So if you want to perform a valuable and much-needed service for the community, meet interesting people and visit bits of Auckland you have never seen before, call Jacqui or Gretchen at the Cancer Society on 308 0496, or if you just want a chat, call Tony Bacon on 814 9860.



Fire Brigade

When the Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade was founded 54 years ago, it was by people just like you - local residents who wanted to help their community when they were needed. Right now, we could do with a few more of you to join us.

None of them were Wonder Woman or Superman back in 1965, none of us are now (sorry team!) and you don't need to be either.

You just need to want to help, and there are different roles available. We can offer flash, state-of-the-art equipment and vehicles, excellent training, and a great bunch of people to work with. Contact Kevin or Ian for more - details below.

Recent calls

3:10 am, Sun 17 Mar, Scenic Drive, Person trapped

2:02 pm, Sun 24 Mar, Piha Rd, Car rolled

6:18 pm, Thu 4 Apr, West Coast Rd, Car off road

Fire Ban lifted

It will come as no surprise that the fire ban has been lifted, and you don't need to apply for a permit at the moment. But you do still need to follow Auckland Council's rules for what type of fires you may have, and this varies across Waiatarua. Many properties are not allowed any type of rubbish fire. Go to www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz, search for "fire permit" and then follow the link to "check if you can light a fire". You can check your own address there.

Contacts

Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency. But if you'd like to find out more about joining us, please call Chief Fire Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505) or Acting Deputy Chief Officer Ian Ford (814 8871).

Waitakere Forest & Bird

Talk by Quentin Paynter – Research Scientists at Landcare Research – Weed Biocontrol

Thursday 16 May, 7.30 pm

Quentin Paynter is an entomologist with over 20-years of experience in weed biocontrol. Originally from the UK, Quentin has worked on biocontrol projects in France, Australia, and New Zealand, where he has worked for Manaaki Whenua - Landcare Research since 2003. Quentin divides his time between scientific studies designed to improve the success rate and ensure the environmental safety of weed biocontrol and hands on weed biocontrol work, developing biocontrol agents for key invasive weed species in New Zealand and Pacific Island countries, such as the Cook Islands and Vanuatu.

Biological control is often the most cost-effective management tool for invasive weeds. This presentation will cover the history of weed biocontrol in New Zealand and ongoing work undertaken by Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research to ensure that biocontrol agents are and effective. The talk will also reveal what biocontrol agents are in the pipeline for release in the Auckland region over the next few years.

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 ph Liz 0274 762732 lizanstey@hotmail.com

Dog Management Bylaw changes

Proposed changes to the Auckland Council Policy on Dogs 2012 and Dog Management Bylaw 2012 is open on the Auckland Council website in the 'have your say' section. The link below should take you directly to the start of the submission process. Submissions are open until 10 May.



<https://engage.ubiquity.co.nz/surveys/z04zxn2xb1v4m28v13cbwwyppd0b4by4pr2q7v4lpbjknp4r475cmg>

Capital gains tax: A potential 'nightmare' for lifestyle block owners

Lifestyle block owners may be in for a shock if the Capital Gains Tax goes ahead in 2021.

Under the recommendations of the Tax Working Group, land that is larger than 4,500 square metres will be subject to the tax.

There's no mention lifestyle blocks will be exempt like family homes, or treated like farms, which allow for the house and surrounds to be left tax-free.

You can read more here by following the link below:

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/index.cfm?objectid=12216712&ref=twitter>

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Are you prepared in an emergency?

Winter is approaching, and with that, bad weather and storms, resulting in inevitable and tiresome power outages for Waiaatarua residents. It's always a good idea to be prepared in an emergency, particularly when there were major power outages after the huge storms in April of last year. Here's a list of items which are recommended you have readily available for use in such an event.

1. Non perishable food for three days or longer
2. Water—three litres per day per person and 150mls per kilogram for pets (don't forget sources like your hot water cylinder)
3. Additional water for washing and cooking
4. Torch with spare batteries or dynamo/solar torch
5. Battery radio with spare batteries (a car radio counts)
6. Hand-operated tin opener
7. Emergency toilet (bucket, toilet paper, plastic rubbish bags, hand sanitiser)
8. Basic first aid kit and essential medicines
9. Blankets, duvets, sleeping bags
10. Windproof and waterproof clothing, strong outdoor shoes, sun hats
11. Face masks or dust masks (you can use a damp tea towel as a face mask)
12. Camping stove or gas barbecue, including fuel (or access to one)
13. Food, formula and drinks for babies and small children
14. Pet supplies



From the Editor

Hello everyone

It is with sadness that I must inform readers of the recent passing of Zoran Dakic, who had been unwell for a period of time. Most people will probably know Zoran as the vet in Oratia and who had looked after the pets of members of the community for many years. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. On behalf of the WRRRA I would like to express my deepest sympathy and condolences to his wife Suncica and family at this very difficult time.

Autumn is well and truly here, as evidenced by the changing colours in the trees especially as you come into Oratia down the bottom of West Coast Road. The crickets have been madly singing for weeks now—hearing them is always a reminder that the summer is ending and cooler weather on the way. With so many of them about our two rescue kittens are delighting in bringing them in every evening, thinking that they are very clever. Not so delightful to find bits of leg and half chewed bodies the next morning however.

With the clocks having gone back it really does feel like winter is only just around the corner—something which I am not looking forward to, especially after the lovely long hot summer we've had.

A friendly reminder about WRRRA memberships. We've had a few new people join recently but we can always do with more! What are the 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 8727

The joining form is often printed in this newsletter. You can also go online at www.waiatarua.org.nz and join from there.

Cheers, Erin

Did you know....

...that you can view the Waiaatarua Community News online, and in glorious colour?

Well, you can! Visit either the Waiaatarua website www.waiatarua.org.nz/our-monthly-newsletter, or the Waiaatarua and Oratia Neighbourhood Facebook pages.

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.

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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: 814 9688.

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.

Waiaatarua Playcentre: 911 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua. Phone 09 814 8835. Sessions: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am-12.30pm.

Waitakere Choir: we are looking for men and women aged 16+ to join our fabulous new all-comers choir, Monday nights from 7.15pm-9.15pm in the Titirangi area. Phone Mel 021 677 778 or visit www.thechoir.co.nz

Zumba With Grace: Thursday 7-8pm Oratia Settlers Hall. Ditch the workout, come join the party! Cost \$5 per class. Ph Grace 818 2046.

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY May 17th @ 5pm

HALL HIRE

911 WEST COAST ROAD

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New hall hire fees document

available on our website:

www.waiatarua.org.nz

Contact Matt Smith on 021 059 3467

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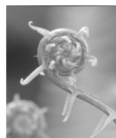
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