



Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

August 2019

Hello Waiatarua!

A hot topic for the WRRRA committee at the moment is the Waiatarua Community Hall and its financial stability, essentially keeping the Hall's expenses balanced with fees charged for hireage as best we can. Currently the expenses far outweigh the halls income, and we're working on ways to bring this back into check.

The most obvious and effective solution is to increase hall bookings. We feel there may be a lack of awareness in the community around the Hall and what it offers, so to help change that we've started a campaign to bring to front of mind all the many uses it has including birthday parties, weddings, community group gatherings, dances, playgroups, exercise classes and so on. The Hall can now be found on Facebook (www.facebook.com/WaiataruaHall), where we will bring regular updates to the community and create awareness of its existence. If anyone has any hall photos or that might be worth putting up here of past events, it would be much appreciated!

The Hall is due for a tidy up around the outside of the building and in the carpark, as it's starting to look a bit overgrown and is due for a decent wash. As a result, we've decided to hold a community spring clean get-together on the 29th of September, all help welcome and appreciated. This is a great chance for you to get involved, spending a few hours keeping the Hall presentable and meeting others in the community, followed by food and drink. In the next issue of the newsletter we will provide further details, or follow the Waiatarua Community Hall Facebook page for updates.

Our hall is a fantastic asset to our community and we all need to ensure it's utilised as much as possible. It helps bring us all together and maintain our community spirit, which is part of what makes this region such a great place to live.

We're very pleased to announce the support of two new local businesses this month, namely The Landscape Yard and Henderson Hire. By presenting your WRRRA membership card at these businesses, you can now receive 10% off your purchase. More about this further in this newsletter.

July is the wettest month of the year here in Auckland, so although the short days and plenty of rain can make for a lot of time stuck inside, it's nice to know the days are slowly getting longer and soon drier! I'm looking forward to getting stuck back in to getting things done outside once the weather improves – in the meantime I'm enjoying using the rain as an excuse to relax!

Ryan Robertson

president@waiatarua.org.nz

From the Editor

My family and I have recently returned from a 3 week trip to the UK to visit my parents in law and to celebrate my father in law's 90th birthday. We had a wonderful time, but it all passed by far too quickly and before we knew it we were back on the plane heading home again. However, it was definitely worth it as we managed to pack in quite a bit during that time and also caught up with as many of our old friends there as we could.

We were pretty lucky with the weather although the temperatures during our first week were more or less the same as what we're having right now – and it's meant to be their summer! Luckily we had plenty of warmer clothes with us along with summer outfits, which we were able to wear during our last two weeks, when the weather took a turn for the better.

The English countryside is truly stunning. So different to NZ which is also beautiful, but in a rugged sort of way. It's much softer and more rolling in the UK and is particularly pretty around where my in-laws live in Northamptonshire. One of the highlights was a visit to a friend's place up on the Yorkshire moors, a part of the country to which I have never previously been. It really was spectacular there with dry stone walls bisecting the fields. Our friend lives in a beautiful old cottage with very thick walls and her parents live in a house next door which dates from the 1700's. While in Yorkshire we visited Skipton Castle which dates from Norman times and has an ancient yew tree growing in the castle courtyard. It was planted in 1659 and is absolutely huge. Mind boggling when you think about it, we just don't have that sort of history here in NZ.

Another thing I particularly enjoyed was a proper English afternoon tea at a beautiful country house hotel in a village called Fawsley, not far from where my in-laws live. It was a stunning location and the afternoon tea was complete with assorted cut sandwiches (including cucumber) and delicious light fluffy scones with jam and clotted cream (the ONLY sort of cream to have with scones!).

We did plenty of shopping - that's one thing I miss about living there. Even a trip to the supermarkets there was exciting due to the vast range of products available. The shopping trip was not complete without a visit to IKEA where we picked up a few goodies to bring back home. It can't arrive here soon enough in my opinion!

We visited the local village pub quite a number of times and how lovely it was to be able to walk there, sit in their pleasant garden bar, enjoy a few drinks and a delicious meal along with other families, and then walk home again. Wouldn't it be great if we had pubs like that in West Auckland!

Now it's back to reality, but we have many happy memories of our holiday and are looking forward to going back sometime. That said, it's certainly a good feeling to be home again.

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

Advantages of being a WRRRA member?

Show your membership card at these friendly local businesses for a 10% discount (conditions may apply)

Heritage Collection Waitakere Estate Ph: 814 9622
573 Scenic Drive www.heritagehotels.co.nz/waitakere-estate-auckland

Blow Moulders Ltd (cash & cheque sales only)
Ph: 818 7709 8 Waikaukau Rd Glen Eden www.bml.co.nz

Elevation Brasserie Ph: 814 8727 473 Scenic Drive
www.elevationbrasserie.co.nz

The Landscape Yard (bulk product sales only)
Ph: 818 6129 293 West Coast Rd, Glen Eden
www.thelandscapeyard.co.nz

Henderson Hire Ph: 838 8879 Cnr Rainside Ave & View Rd,
Henderson www.hendersonhire.co.nz

Other special rates for WRRRA members at:

Plyman/Timberman Ph: 021 738420 70 The Concourse,
Henderson www.plyman.co.nz

Please accept my Membership to the Waiaatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2019

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To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua, Auckland, or
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Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

September NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY August 16th @ 5pm

Waitakere Forest & Bird

Talk by Eugenie Sage – Minister for Conservation, Associate Environment Minister and Land Information Minister

Thursday August 15th 7.30pm

We are extremely pleased to announce that the Minister for Conservation, Eugenie Sage will be talking to us in August. Eugenie will give us an overview of current Government conservation policies followed by her thoughts on important issues for Auckland Region, including the urgent need for more no-take marine reserves. After her talk there will be a Q&A session for your burning questions.

Eugenie spent her first 25 years in Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland. She studied law and history at Auckland University and then journalism at Canterbury University, settling in Christchurch. After graduating she worked in environmental forestry, as a political and media adviser at Parliament, a freelance journalist and then spent 13 years campaigning with Forest and Bird, including to protect West Coast beech and rimu forests and the South Island high country.

She is proud to have been made a Distinguished Life Member by Forest and Bird and values the huge amount of practical conservation work volunteers do around the country. Eugenie campaigned for the protection of Canterbury's rivers and groundwater and was elected to the Canterbury Regional Council in 2007. In 2011 she stood for the Green Party and was then elected to Parliament.

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

Library News

Here is a selection of the latest books that we have purchased:-

Kate Atkinson	<i>Big Sky</i>
Jeffery Deaver	<i>The Never Game</i>
Thomas Harris	<i>Cari Nova</i>
Tony Parsons	<i>Taken</i>
Greg Hurwitz	<i>Tell No Lies</i>
James Rollins	<i>Crucible</i>
James Patterson	<i>Unsolved</i>
Danielle Steel	<i>Lost & Found</i>



133 years—Britain's longest overdue library book! It was borrowed from the Armley Library, Leeds and the family got round to handing it back in 1996. The fine of £10,679 was waived.

Will there be any libraries in a hundred years' time?

Barbara Field

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Preparedness need not cost a lot

The latest in our series of Civil Defence articles

Most emergency items are regularly found in homes, and others are able to be improvised or shared.

For example:

a car radio is a battery-powered radio

a phone recharger in the car can charge your phone if the power is out

a damp tea towel can be used as a dust mask

talk to your neighbours about sharing a gas barbecue.



Use battery operated lights or chemical light sticks – the use of candles can be dangerous and is not recommended as a lighting source.

Leave a written message in a place known by your family and friends if you need to evacuate. Make this part of your planning.

A Getaway Kit

A getaway kit is a small bag or backpack of essential items to take with you, if you have to evacuate your home with little warning. Consider also having emergency survival items and a getaway kit stored in your car and at work.

You can:

have a fully packed kit ready to go

have a partially packed kit with a list of the remaining items

store your getaway items in their regular place and have a list to remind you what to pack.

Remember to check these items and review your list regularly.

You may need to evacuate on foot, so distribute items among the members of your household, ensuring what you are taking is not too heavy or bulky. If evacuating:

take your getaway kit

turn off electricity and water (do not turn off gas unless you suspect a leak or have been asked to do so by authorities)

take your pets with you

Keep physical or digital copies of important documents and photos on a memory stick stored in an alternative location or online (in the cloud).

Try to keep your vehicle fuel tank topped-up.



Fire Brigade News

It's something that can never happen to "us", except that for too many people, it does.

Accidents happen, and if your house catches fire who is going to save your life? A house fire can be unsurvivable less than 5 minutes after it starts. The Fire Brigade won't get there in that time.

The only people who can save the lives of you and your family, are you. And your chances are greatly improved if you're prepared, with working smoke alarms and a plan to get out of your house.

To learn more, go to <https://www.escapemyhouse.co.nz/> - or Google "escape my house".

Recent calls

12:40 pm, Sat 8 June, Cascade Ave, Power lines down

5:45 pm, Fri 14 June, Arataki, False alarm

11:33 am, Sun 15 June, Piha Rd, Car rolled

4:21 am, Fri 21 June, Piha Rd, Car off road

5:32 pm, Thu 27 June, Rayner Rd, Piha, False alarm

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).

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.

Bluedoor Wireless Broadband Communications: fast, unlimited wireless broadband. Book now for a free signal check. Ph 0800 258 336 email info@bluedoor.nz website www.bluedoor.nz

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. \$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.

Waiatarua Playcentre: 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua. 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.

HALL HIRE

911 WEST COAST ROAD

WAIATARUA

New hall hire fees document

available on our website:

www.waiatarua.org.nz

Contact Matt Smith on 021 059 3467

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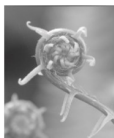
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