



# Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

November 2019

## Hello Waiatarua!

A few weeks ago we called on the community to help with our annual hall clean up, and I'm pleased to say we had a good turnout of helpers. We were lucky enough to have the Waiatarua Fire Brigade turn up with their appliance and support vehicle, much to the delight of the kids, with Kevin and his team helping with the heavy work around the outside of the hall. Waiatarua Playcentre also had their clean up at lunchtime, and they had a team keeping the kids entertained in the hall. We made some great progress, including water blasting the entrance, library footpath and deck. Our gardens were given a once over, and we put a good dent in the abundance of weeds surrounding the hall. We still have lots of Tradescantia and African club moss to eradicate around the rear of the hall – we are looking at getting a one-off weeding day planned for early next year to finish this. More details will be in next month's newsletter.

We're interested in hearing from the community what events you would like held in the future, whether this is something along the lines that we have hosted in the past, or something totally new and different. We're continually looking at ways to help bring the community together and also utilise our hall – events hosted here do both of those things. If you have any ideas, please get in contact with me (contact details at the bottom of this page).

We're also looking for a part-time cleaner to tidy up the hall and library every week or two (depending on how often it's hired). This would suit someone local, and can be done at any stage during the week or weekend while not on hire. If this may be of interest to you, please contact me to discuss. See our ad on page 2.

Ryan Robertson

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



Left: Ryan (WRRRA President) and Kim tackle the weeds around the Hall.



Left: Sue (WRRRA Treasurer) and Grant (WRRRA Committee member) giving the gardens a good tidy up.

Below: Sustenance for all the hungry workers! Jacqui (WRRRA Secretary) at the BBQ.



Left: All hands were on deck for the Hall Spring clean.

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](mailto: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](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)



## Waiatarua Fire Brigade volunteers URGENTLY needed



The NZ Fire Service attend around 80,000 incidents every year. These incidents go well beyond firefighting and include hazardous substance responses, rescuing trapped people, urban search and rescue, medical emergencies, maritime incidents, weather events and disasters. Their volunteers are often first at the scene. Where would we be without this es-

sential service?

Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade rely on volunteers to help keep our community safe, and they are always looking for new recruits. Right now, they desperately need your support in this way. Primarily they are wanting active firefighters, but volunteers for support roles are also needed. Sometimes people hold back from joining because they think the Brigade are looking for super fit super-heroes. This couldn't be further from the truth. They want women and men of all ages and backgrounds who are team players and want to learn some awesome life skills.

In the words of one of the station's newest recruits, Damian: "Really straightforward, the team have been great and very welcoming. I feel part of the firefight "family". I've been given a great insight into the expectations, and it fits in with my work and family life. It's a good feeling to be able to do something worthwhile and positive in my community and I cannot recommend it highly enough"

Does this sound like something YOU could do?

If so, please call Chief Fire Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505) or Deputy Chief Officer Ian Ford (814 8871) for more details.



### Native parrot spotted in Oratia

Parker Rd resident Penelope Sparks was lucky enough to have this beautiful kaka visit recently, contentedly feeding on kowhai flowers in her garden. Thank you for the photo Penny, he or she is certainly a very fine specimen!

### December NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the  
hands of the Editor

by FRIDAY 15th November @  
5pm

### WANTED: Cleaner for Waiatarua Hall

Part-time position, a few hours every 1-2 weeks (dependent on number of hires). The role involves cleaning inside of the hall, kitchen, toilets and library areas and generally maintaining a tidy and presentable appearance for users. The rostered day for cleaning is flexible. \$25.00 p/hour. If interested, please contact Ryan on 021 441094 or president@waiatarua.org.nz



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## Library News

Some new titles just in!

Margaret Atwood—The Testaments  
Ann Cleaves —The Long Call  
Tony Park —Ghosts of the Past  
Nick Trout —The Wonder of Lost Causes  
Elizabeth Knox —The Absolute Book  
Paul Cleave — Whatever it Takes  
Stephen Leather — Short Range  
Wilbur Smith — Ghost Fire  
Jeffrey Archer — Nothing Ventured

This is just a small selection of a number of books that the Library has recently bought. Come and see what else we have got for you to enjoy.

We are short of a couple of people to do the Friday night shift. It is only 1 hour, 1 day per month from 7.00pm-8.00pm. Come into the Library on Thursday (we open at 10.00am) or phone me on 837 0965.

We look forward to seeing you!

Barbara Field



## From the Editor

Spring is definitely here! The shining cuckoos have been announcing it daily at my place, despite the typical changeable weather. With Spring's arrival, of course, come all the jobs that need doing in the garden and in and around the house in preparation for summer. Our community hall Spring Clean was a perfect example of one of these tasks and as Ryan says, we had a good turnout from the community on the day. Plenty of food for the hard workers was prepared by Jacqui, Tricia and myself and was a nice way to end the morning's toils. Thanks to everyone involved.

I'm enjoying the lighter evenings now that the clocks have gone forward, even though it's still a bit chilly to take full advantage of them just yet. Summer is only just around the corner. World Cup Rugby fever has also struck—I have a number of friends lucky enough to actually be in Japan to see the games and I am quite jealous of their photos and experiences in this fascinating country. I hope to visit there myself one day. In the meantime, I'll content myself with watching some of the games on TV at home. I have to admit they can be quite exciting, even for a non-rugby fan like myself!

Cheers, Erin

## New Pest Free Alliance Formed

Pest free groups working in the Waitakere Ranges heritage area have formed an alliance to support and facilitate their work. Called Pest Free Waitakere Ranges, the alliance seeks to improve the impact and effectiveness of biodiversity conservation in the Waitakere Ranges by supporting the efforts of groups and networks working here, which number at least a hundred.

PFWR does not profess to represent these groups; rather, its role is to provide support and facilitation. These groups are working hard in innovative and committed ways but their potential impact can be increased with collective advantage. PFWR plan to identify gaps where restoration activities can be enhanced and to support all these groups to contribute to Waitakere Ranges wide initiatives.

A committee has been formed to guide the Alliance's work, a member of which is ex-WRRA President, Peter Casey. Accountability to Waitakere Ranges groups and networks working in the Waitakere Ranges will be via quarterly meeting, the first of which will be held on Sunday 10 November at a venue yet to be fixed.

Contact [pestfreewaitakereranges@gmail.com](mailto:pestfreewaitakereranges@gmail.com) for more information.

## Waitakere Forest & Bird

### Talk by Biologist David Havell

**Thursday, 21 November at 7.30pm**

For our final talk of 2019, we've invited the renowned biologist David Havell. David currently works at in the Northern Threats Unit, Biodiversity Group, New Zealand Department of Conservation where he does work in ecology, botany and with pest plants.

A current project is 'The Vegetation, Flora and Mycobiota of the Kermadec Islands', especially exotic and heritage flora. He will be talking about his work and discoveries on Raoul Island and surrounds, accompanied by his beautiful photos of the local plant and flowers.

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](mailto:lizanstey@hotmail.com)

## Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Erin Kingsleigh-Smith, [editor@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.



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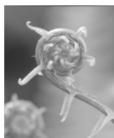
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