



Waiatarua Community News

850 copies

February 2021

From the President

Kia ora

So 2021 is now upon us. As we look back at 2020 I hope that we can all find something positive to reflect on during these unprecedented times. My appointment as the Association's new President was for me a very positive part of last year and I look forward to continuing what we started towards the end of last year and working with the local community during 2021.

From my perspective we will not look back so much but focus ourselves on the work to be done in 2021. To that end we still need to replace the Treasurer and the Secretary and really need to find some enthusiastic people to assist the Environment and other Portfolios. To put it simply, the more people we get to help, the better we can spread the workload. The complete role descriptions are now on the website and printed on page 2 of this issue. **If you are interested in helping please email president@waiatarua.org.nz or call me on 027 585 1486 to discuss.**

The year has already started positively with the refurbishment of the Library. More on this from the Librarian but the message for you all is that we are fortunate to have a local Library and we must ensure that we keep it. To do this you have to use it. Go there and experience it, look at the books available (library hours are printed at the bottom of this page). If you then have suggestions to help make it better, please submit them. Again I say, that this is your local library, so support it and use it, or in the future you may lose it.

On Saturday 13 February we will hold the first Trap Library day for the year. Rita Steel will be there to replace and hand out traps to those who want them. She will also provide advice and training on how to use them effectively. There is more information on this in the Environmental section in this newsletter.

On Tuesday 23 February we will hold the AGM from 7pm at the local hall. **"HAVE YOUR SAY"** is the theme we will set for this event. Since becoming President in August, I have been given lots of advice and am often asked why we are not doing certain things. This has been from the same people who have been involved previously, so I implore all the new residents who read this, to come and ask the questions, have your say and help us form a plan that achieves what the residents want. This is your Association; you elect an Executive Board to represent your interests so please turn up and tell us what these interests are.

The formal part of the AGM will include an opportunity to discuss what the members see as priority issues for 2021. We will have a presentation by Rita Steel on our proposed environment plan for 2021. We are hoping to have time set aside for other speaking slots and once confirmed will promote these on the website.

In March we will also be supporting War on Weed Month with a bin at the hall for locals use for the whole month. There will also be an education evening held at the hall during the month and we will inform you all of the date and time once known. Ecofest West also takes place from 20 March to 18 April, so these are real opportunities for the community to get working on your local part of the environment.

The newsletter has a new look for 2021. It will now be 6 pages for every edition with both sides of the centre pull-out page dedicated to advertising local businesses. These advertising spaces are very cost effective so if you have a local business you wish to promote then please call or email our Editor, Erin Kingsleigh-Smith and she will sort you out.

So we have a few key dates to focus on for February and March. I am looking forward to 2021 and feel that we can achieve plenty if we all get together to identify the real priorities and focus on clear and achievable outcomes.

I would like to see you all at the AGM on 23 February.

Tom Hoey

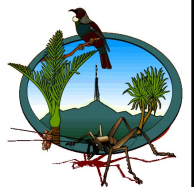
WRRRA: Notice of Annual General Meeting —"HAVE YOUR SAY"

Tuesday, 23 February 2021 Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Rd, Waiatarua

6.30pm for a 7.00pm start

All residents and ratepayers are invited to attend. Refreshments provided. You can join and pay your membership fee (\$20 per household) on the night. To vote you need to be a member for more than 21 days prior to the meeting. Members have one vote per household.

Nomination forms for election are available now from the President (contact as below). Completed nomination forms need to be with the President **no later than 7.00pm on 21 February 2021**. For further information please email the President, Tom Hoey on president@waiatarua.org.nz



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

WRRRA President: Thomas Hoey Phone: 027 585 1486 Email: president@waiatarua.org.nz

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)

Waitakere Resort & Spa Ph: 814 9622 573 Scenic Drive
www.waitakereresort.co.nz

Blow Moulders Ltd (cash & online banking) with 10% discount off retail Ph: 818 7709 8 Waikaukau Rd Glen Eden www.bml.co.nz

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

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

Other special rates for WRRRA members at:

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

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

Please accept my Membership to the Waiaatarua
Ratepayers & Residents Association 2021

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____

I ENCLOSE:
\$20 household.

Email: _____

To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua, Auckland, or leave at the library, or email these details to:

treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz

Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

Classes/activities in the Waiaatarua Hall

What activities or classes would locals like to take part in or attend at our local hall? For example, there is some local interest in having Pilates classes there. We need to assess the level of community interest, therefore please contact Tom Hoey, WRRRA President on president@waiatarua.org.nz if that's something that would interest you, or if you have any suggestions about what could be run at the hall. And if you're a Pilates teacher, or teach something else, or have interest in running some sort of class at the hall, please get in touch with Tom as above. The hall is a valuable community resource. If we don't use it, we risk losing it.

Executive Committee Roles

Your Association needs to have a committed team elected at the AGM in February 2021. Here is an outline of the roles.

President

Purpose: For the President to manage and lead the Executive Committee so that they achieve the Association's goals and fulfil the Association's mission. Current president is Tom Hoey who was seconded to the position in August 2020 and is standing for election again in 2021.

Vice-President

Purpose: For the Vice-President to provide advice and direction to the President and the Executive Committee so they can achieve the Association's goals and fulfil the Association's mission. Facilitate effective communication between the Executive Committee and any Sub Committees of the Association. Current vice-president is Marq Holibar who is standing for election again in 2021.

Secretary

Purpose: To ensure a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Association is created and kept. Ensure that the agenda and all papers to be discussed and agreed at each meeting are distributed to the Executive Committee. Ensure that the correspondence of the Association and any committees under its direction is conducted as required. Current Secretary is Peter Casey who has decided not to stand for election again in 2021.

Treasurer

Purpose: To account for the money received, spent and invested by the organisation. Submit every year to the AGM a statement of audited accounts and balance sheet at the close of the financial year. Have custody of all funds and keep account of them in such a manner as will at any time clearly show the true financial position of the Association. Current Treasurer is Sue Smith who has decided not to stand for election again in 2021.

Newsletter Editor

Purpose: For the President to ensure that the newsletter is a publication for the exchange of news and opinion for the benefit of the members of the Waiaatarua Residents and ratepayers Association (WRRRA). Ensure that the activities of the WRRRA are properly communicated. Current Newsletter Editor is Erin Kingsleigh-Smith who is standing for election again in 2021.

General Executive Committee Member

These members have an important role on the Executive Committee and work to support the Waiaatarua Residents and Ratepayers Association (WRRRA). Current Committee members are Sue Bowers, Brett Whyte and Ryan Robertson. Ryan is currently looking after our Technology portfolio. All at this stage are standing for election for 2021.

Co-opted Positions

There are currently two positions, being the Environmental Portfolio held by Rita Steel and the Librarian held by Grant Longley. These positions will be confirmed by the new committee after the AGM. **We need more involvement so should you have any interest please email or call the President on 027 585 1486 to discuss.**

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Contact the Editor on editor@waiatarua.org.nz for more information and pricing.

Waitakere Forest and Bird 2021 Lecture series

Thursday 18 February, 7.30 pm

Godwits: Long haul champions – by Ian McLean

Ian McLean is the Auckland representative for Birds New Zealand, a bird expert and organiser of many local events - from birding days to beach patrols. He will be talking about a very special bird, the kuaka or Godwit. The talk is about Kuaka/Bar-tailed Godwits, but also touches on other shorebirds that reside in the Manukau Harbour. These birds certainly are long haul champions, one bar-tailed godwit was recorded last October to have flown more than 12,000km from Alaska to New Zealand in 11 days.

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



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Quotes of the Month

"One day you will wake up and all of a sudden the weight of the last few weeks, months or even years will be lifted off your shoulders. You can't control when that day comes, all you can do is stay strong and trust that it is coming".

"You become a master of your life when you learn how to control where your attention goes. Value what you give your energy and time to".

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.

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. Ph 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. Ph Celia: 814 9660 or Liz: 814 9688

Lawn mowing, ride on work only: Ph Grant at Top Grass Ltd. 814 9493 mob 021 024 75610

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.

Plants, crafts etc: Various plants, shrubs and bromeliads. Assorted crafts, scarves, net fruit bags \$2, occasional cards, knitting, sewing, second hand books. All proceeds to Nepalese Educ Trust for Tertiary Scholarships. 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

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: Come and have 3 free visits at our bush-nestled Playcentre. We are child led, parent run and full of fun! Open 9:30am - 12:30pm Mon and Weds. Contact Ronni O'Brien 09 814 8835 or waiatarua@playcentre.org.nz or www.facebook.com/waiataruaplaycentre

Yovi's Topstitch: Alterations or sewing projects I can do at your budget, from cushions, squabs etc. Contact Yovi 021 084 36450 or yovistopstitch12@gmail.com

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be with the Editor

by 5pm on FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY



Friday Night is Locals Night (after 5pm)

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and a reduced price on beers and wines

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Fire Brigade News

Happy New Year!

Firstly, thank you to our community for your support in 2020. Despite it generally being a year we were all very happy to put behind us, here at Waiatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade we still managed to have a successful year.

We welcomed four fabulous new Firefighters and their families into our Brigade Family. They managed to prepare for and complete their recruit Firefighter courses in 2020 which is no small task!

We also were able to appoint two new officers, have several members achieve Senior Firefighter rank and have other Firefighters working towards their Station Officer, Senior Firefighter and Qualified Firefighter ranks.

We were able to finally pay off our ute thanks to some very generous donations from members of our community and brigade. We cannot thank you all enough.

Looking back at the calls we have had since the beginning of December and moving forward into 2021 we would like to remind everyone to take care on our roads. Four of the six calls have been car crashes.

Please also remember we are on a restricted fire season, this means:

- Fire by Permit only
- Your proposed fire must also comply with local and regional council requirements

For more information call 0800 658 628 or visit www.firepermit.nz

Calls since 1 December 2020:

6 Dec – Tree blocking road, Scenic Drive
10 Dec – Car crash, West Coast Road
20 Dec – Car crash, West Coast Road
23 Dec – Car crash, West Coast Road
16 Jan – Tree and lines on road, Raroa Terrace
18 Jan – Car crash, West Coast Road

Contacts:

Always phone 111 for any fire or emergency. For anything else, please call Chief Fire Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505), Deputy Chief Officer Ian Ford (814 8871) or email Volunteer Brigade Support Christine Healy (Christine.healy@fireandemergency.nz)

Christine Healy

Waiatarua Garden Club

The Garden Club meets on the first Wednesday of the month, and visits private and public gardens, nurseries etc., with an opportunity to socialise over a cuppa or lunch. Garden visits are usually during late morning due to traffic in the later part of the afternoon.

This month we are visiting Yard Art/Phoenix Italia in Crown Rd, Paerata on **Wednesday 3 February**, meeting there at **10.30 am**. We will also visit Joy Nurseries in Jericho Rd, Pukekohe, after lunch.

For further information or queries please contact Paddy or Margaret Marshall on 814 9859.



Environmental Corner

2020 - what a year. It's a year we spent more time in our beautiful bush surrounds that we ever expected. It was also the year that, against all odds, we launched the Trap Library. We had two dates lined up for an in-person trap collection, both were cancelled due to lockdown (one in March and one in August), BUT we managed to hand out traps via a social distance collection service. We currently have 34 members, 64 traps (21 possum traps and 43 mustelid tunnels with Doc 200's). Over the year the members have caught 173 pests - with rats being our prime target. There are now 114 less of those thanks to the trap library members!!!

We are now ready for new members!! We will be hosting an open day (technically a morning) for you to come and join up, get a demonstration on how to use the traps and take them home with you. It's first in first served, so those who pre-register will have priority. New members please bring ID and proof of address. You will need to be a member of the Waiatarua R&R and if you aren't, you can simply sign up.

Trap Library Open Day

Saturday 13 February , Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Rd, Waiatarua

10.00am - trap drop off for all members who have been contacted and haven't returned their traps and for new member registration.

10.30am - trap demonstration, collection and bait/strategy discussions

11.00m - finish

Email Rita Steel to register on sciencemademedoit@gmail.com

More on the environment. I am currently working on the 2021 plan for the environment portfolio of the Waiatarua R&R. In particular pests, (both animal and plant), rubbish dumping, protection and education of the Heritage Area and septic tanks are on my radar. It would be great to hear from you about any other environmental concerns you have. I plan to go through the topline of the plan in our AGM - so be there or be square!

Until then enjoy the sun and get out to see some of our native birds!

Myrtle Rust

It has been announced that we unfortunately have Myrtle Rust in the Waitakeres. This devastating disease affects a lot of our natives and can cause us some major problems out here. The disease attacks new growth and is airborne, but you can help stop the spread!

1. Please check all plants that are on the list, especially LillyPilly and Ramamara, Pohutukawa, Manuka, Kanuka, Bottle Brush and Feijoa.

2. Don't prune until late Autumn/Winter as this will reduce the spread and not place the plant under stress.

Things to look for are:

- Bright yellow powdery eruptions appearing on the underside of the leaf (young infection)
- Bright yellow powdery eruptions on both sides of the leaf (older spores)
- Brown/grey rust pustules (older spores on older lesions)
- Grey, 'fuzzy' spore growth on undersides of leaves. Some leaves may become buckled or twisted and die off.

The disease can be sprayed. We will be looking for community solutions to help with this so watch this space.

Rita Steel

Library News

The Waiaatarua Library is currently closed for refurbishment. We will re-open, all bright and sparkling on **Thursday 11 February 2021**. Library hours are listed on the bottom of the front page of the newsletter. Until then, would all members please hold onto your library books. We will look forward to seeing you all soon. In the meantime, here are a few photos of the refurbishment work taking place.



Thanks to Marq Holibar for the photos.

Barbara Field

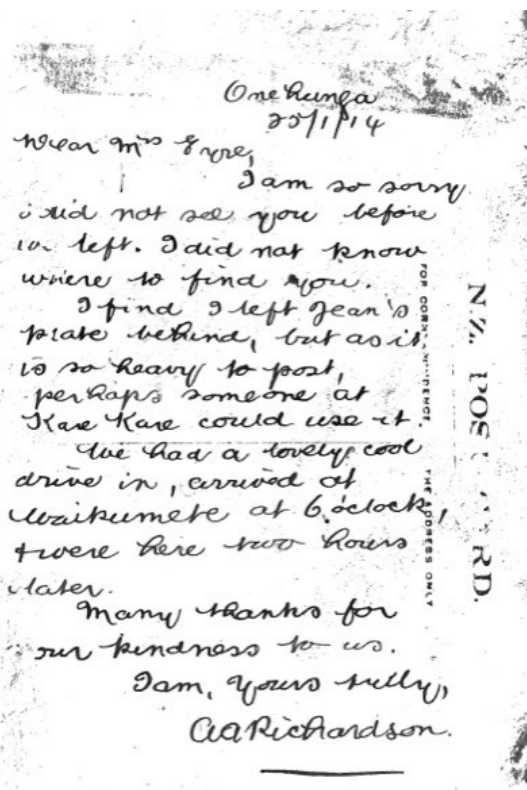
A bit of local history

These two images of the Nihotupu Falls are actually two sides of an old postcard dated January 1914. The postcard reads:

"Onehunga, 25/1/14. Dear Mrs Eyre, I am so sorry I did not see you before we left. I did not know where to find you. I find I left Jean's plate behind, but as it is so heavy to post, perhaps someone at Kare Kare could use it. We had a lovely cool drive in, arrived at Waikumete [the old name for Glen Eden—Ed] at 6 o'clock and were here two hours later. Many thanks for your kindness to us. I am, yours truly, AA Richardson".



Nihotupu Falls.



There is mention of a Mr and Mrs Eyre in the book *Song of Two Waters* by Jeanne Wade, stating that "Mr and Mrs Eyre came with their family to Waiaatarua in 1919 where Mrs Eyre kept house for Andy (Handley) Lloyd who remained a bachelor until his death". Locals may be aware that Handley Lloyd started a coach run between Auckland and Piha, and the derelict red shed located on West Coast Rd just below Bush Rd is all that remains of the staging posts and stables that he built there.

It is not known if the Mrs Eyre who kept house for Andy was in any way related to the recipient of the postcard.

Thanks to Judy Roberts for the images.

From the Editor

Last but not least—a wee bit from me. Happy New Year and welcome to 2021. I hope you have all had a great summer and had the chance to get away and relax for a bit. I have just returned from a week at the beach which was wonderful. So good in fact, that I didn't want to come back! I felt an enormous amount of gratitude to be able to go away at all, and do relatively normal things unlike the poor folk overseas, particularly in the UK who are in the grips of yet another lockdown. My heart goes out to them.

The WRRRA are kicking off 2021 with the AGM, details of which you will find on the front page. I hope as many of you as possible will make the effort to attend. As Tom says it is an opportunity to have your say to let us know what you as the residents want from your Association so please be there.

You will see that our newsletter has a new look with a pull out page, each side of which is dedicated to advertising. I have space available if you have a local business you wish to promote, so please get in touch with me either by phone or email (contact details at the bottom of the front page of the newsletter). This means I now have four pages to fill with content, which I am confident I can achieve, but this will be aided with anything you may feel would be of interest to the local community. Don't be shy—get in contact with me if you've got anything you think would be newsworthy! I would love to hear from you.

Cheers, Erin