



# Waiaatarua Community News

850 copies

Easter issue—April 2021



## From the President

Hi all

We had our first meeting of the new committee last week. Just a reminder for you all that we have roles yet to be filled including the most recent one of Transport. You will see an advertisement for the Events and Secretary roles in this edition so please contact me if you feel that you have a little time available and want to gain experience in any of these roles. The current roles are as follows:

Marq Holibar is Vice President and also Hall Custodian. The role of Hall Hire Manager will report directly to Marq and he will be responsible with all aspects of Hall management. Any questions relating to the hall should go directly to Marq.

Matthew Smith is the new Treasurer and also retains the role of Hall Hire Manager.

Erin Kingsleigh-Smith is the Newsletter Editor so all content related questions or enquiries for advertising should be directed to Erin.

Rita Steel heads up the Environmental portfolio. This role leads our work in the areas of Weed and Pest eradication and all other aspects related to our wonderful environment.

Ryan Robertson heads up our Technology programme, a key role to ensure we have the most efficient means of communication with our stakeholders.

Peter Casey is an Executive Committee Member who will undertake a role in the Environmental Portfolio reporting to Rita.

Grant Longley is our Librarian.

Two Executive Committee positions are available. If you are interested in discussing these please contact Tom Hoey at [president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:president@waiatarua.org.nz) or call on 027 585 1486.

We had a great turnout for the Weeds and Trap Library morning on 20<sup>th</sup> March and thank you for the positive feedback. I'd also like to thank Rea from the Neighbours Day fund for approving the \$200 that went towards morning tea and other essential items. There are some photos to follow.

The intention is to host more events like this through the year and also to add other event types to the agenda. If you have the skills and time to organise an event please contact me to discuss.

Just before sitting down to write this I watched Rehutai sail home for their seventh win to once again secure the America's Cup. Well done to Peter Burling and the team. They are really impressive young men proudly representing Aotearoa. This once again shows what teamwork can achieve and the importance of good planning. This is what I would like to see, not just at the WRRRA but as a combination of all of the Stakeholders with responsibility for preserving the beauty we now enjoy in the wider Waitakere Ranges community.

At the AGM I asked for feedback from the community as to what areas you feel we should be concentrating on. I have yet to receive any feedback so please think about it and email me your thoughts. This is not about things like looking after the hall but the real issues like transport, environment etc.

What education classes could we run for example? Are there young people in the community that could help those less fortunate with after school lessons, art classes or music classes? Could we be fundraising for scholarships, say in Science or Biology or other disciplines?

Let's get some feedback and get moving with the year ahead. We can have a strategy meeting one evening at the hall for those keen to participate. We can supply some wine, tea and coffee for those who want to attend. Please email me if interested and I will see what we can arrange.

I trust you are all in good cheer and ready for what is hopefully a lockdown-free year.

Tom Hoey

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



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

Contact  
Us

**Editor:** Erin Kingsleigh-Smith Phone: 021 355 009 Email: [editor@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto:editor@waiatarua.org.nz)

**WRRRA President:** Thomas Hoey Phone: 027 585 1486 Email: [president@waiatarua.org.nz](mailto: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](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)

## Board Secretary Required

The purpose of this role is to create, maintain and store all documents pertaining to the Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers Association (WRRRA). To ensure a true record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Association is created and kept, ensure that all resolutions and actions agreed and passed at the meetings are documented and signed off by the President prior to being communicated to the Committee Members. This is a simple role and will take no more than 4-5 hours per month.

For further information please email Tom Hoey on president@waiatarua.org.nz or call him on 027 585 1486

## Events Manager Needed

The purpose of this role is to manage the planning and implementation of events on behalf of the Association with the assistance of the Executive Committee to ensure that all allocated resources are used in a cost-effective way to deliver high quality services to the public and members while raising sufficient funds for the association. This can be a voluntary or paid role that can also be shared with more than one person. It is key role and therefore the hours are dependent on the efforts that equates to income.

For further information please email Tom Hoey on president@waiatarua.org.nz or call him on 027 585 1486

## Meet your new WRRRA Executive Committee

As mentioned in the March newsletter, over the coming months you can read a little about each of your new Executive Committee members, as follows:

### Tom Hoey—President

I have extensive experience as a Not for Profit Board member and spent 10 years as a board member and Chairman of Northern Football Federation. I am currently the Executive Chairman of Neuro Connection Foundation, Executive Director of Taifead Holdings and owner/Director of TJH Consulting Limited. I was recently elected President of the Association and am looking forward to the challenge. The Association delivers an important service to the community and it is important that we continue to deliver and expand on the service to preserve the beauty of the area in which we choose to live.



### Marq Holibar—Vice President

Born and living in Waiatarua from the 1960's (apart from 6 years away in the 1980's) with three generations of the Holibar family name having gone through Oratia District (Primary) School. I have lived in Cascade Ave since 1995, and was previously in Turanga Rd.

I work full time in Ellerslie as the HR and Operations manager for a large nationwide company in the Health Sector running a team of HR professionals and the Operations Team which cover the day to day stuff like Health and Safety, Customer / Client issues, Systems and processes, Help desk, Privacy Officer, legal compliance etc.

I have extensive management experience across several industries running both small teams and large to full Profit and Loss accountability.

My father was the WRRRA President involved with the initial setting up of the hall in the 1970's and my mother was the initial librarian that set up the Library which we still have today under the hall.

I am keen to ensure that we get greater community engagement and use out of both the library and the hall.

With the current council looking for cost savings it is important that we use it or we risk losing it, so I welcome hearing from you all on how to achieve this.



### Ryan Robertson—Technology Portfolio Head and Committee member

A former President of the WRRRA, I'm pleased to introduce myself as your Technology Portfolio Head. After having grown up in the Warkworth area, I've spent time working both in the south island and then abroad in the United States, where I met my wife Ariana. We fell in love with the Waiatarua/Oratia area due to its semi-rural location, great kindergarten & school, beaches on our doorstep, all the while being a relatively short 35 minute commute to work. With that, we purchased a section on Rimu Road a few years ago and have been thoroughly enjoying getting to know the community ever since.

In this role I will be managing and coordinating all of the computer-related activities for the organisation, determining our IT needs and having responsibility for implementing computer systems to fulfil the organisation's information systems requirements. I will also ensure that we stay up to date with new email systems and ways of sending data to our members via digital platforms, as well as ensuring that our technology is appropriate so that we connect people, build relationships, increase participation in governance, reveal common needs and shared values and enhance the ability to act for the better of the Association.



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## Waitakere Forest and Bird 2021 Lecture series

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 pm

### “Extraordinary eels and enigmatic Inanga”

by Kimberley D'Souza and Laura Torre

Kimberley D'Souza and Laura Torre are freshwater enthusiasts from Whitebait Connection. The health of our streams is declining in the Auckland region and we are seeing negative impacts on our freshwater species. Laura will speak about the extraordinary behaviour and lifecycle of our very own endemic longfin eel and Kimberley will go into the New Zealand whitebait species, especially the migratory lifecycle and spawning habits of the inanga. They will both discuss some of the threats to our native species and what we can do to help protect freshwater habitats. *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*



Working together throughout New Zealand to reduce crime and build safer communities

### Waiatarua Community Patrol needs you!

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## WE NEED YOU

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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.

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If you want to make a difference in our local community, get in touch and find out how you can help.

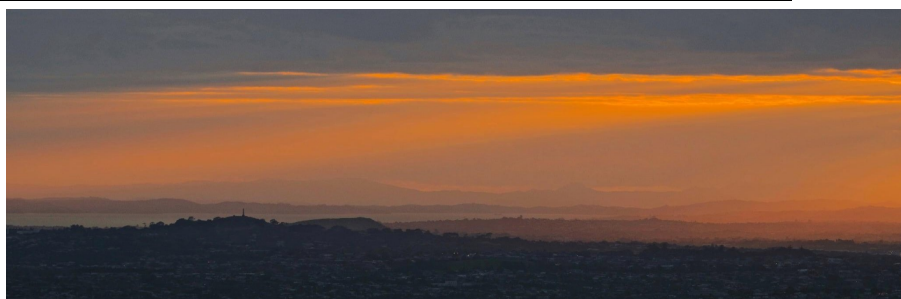
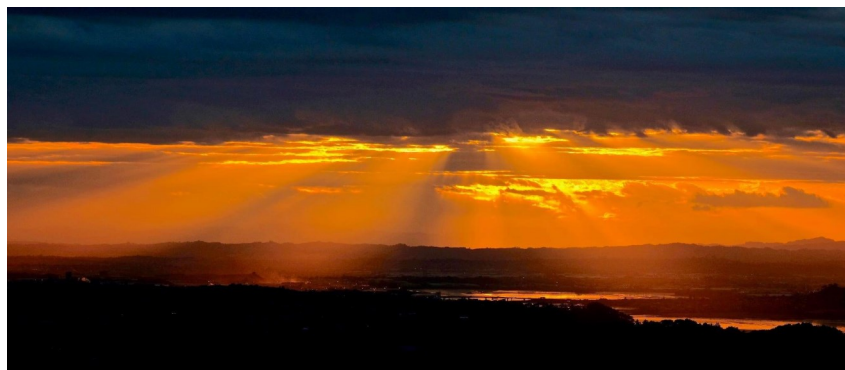
For more, see the CPNZ website:

[www.cpnz.org.nz](http://www.cpnz.org.nz) or find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/waiataruacommunitypatrol](https://www.facebook.com/waiataruacommunitypatrol)



SCAN ME

Waiatarua resident Greg Lokes took these beautiful photographs of the sun's rays breaking through the cloud cover at sunrise on Quinn's Rd. A bit later some subtle shades settled over the city. And he is also quite right when he says that while it's the same view, it's never the same mood. Thank you Greg for allowing these to be published.



## 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.

**Doers Networks:** local, fast internet providers [info@doers.net.nz](mailto: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 7.15pm 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 Rds. 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](mailto: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.

**Waiatarua 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](mailto:waiatarua@playcentre.org.nz) or [www.facebook.com/waiataruaplaycentre](https://www.facebook.com/waiataruaplaycentre)

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**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](mailto:yovistopstitch12@gmail.com)





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## Need to get out more?

You're never too old and you're never too young



### to play table tennis

Community Hall every Wednesday  
7-9pm \$2 a session

Whether you are a gun player or an absolute beginner, we'd love to see you. We have three tables and all the gear, so all you need to bring is yourself.

Just come along, or if you want more information call Tony Bacon on 814 9860 or [tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz](mailto:tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz)

## Library News

We have just ordered our first lot of new books for the Library, and with us going back to Level 1 at last, we will be able to look forward to enjoying a lot more to come.

Here is some interesting news from Auckland Libraries (NZ Herald 17th March).

The main Auckland Libraries are thinking of dropping the fees for overdue books. It will be interesting to see whether that will eventuate. Apparently, it's to encourage more people to join the Libraries.

Did you know that our Community Library hasn't charged for overdue books for a few years now? We usually give people a ring and a friendly reminder, that seems to work for us. If we are closed, there is a slot to the right of the entrance for you to drop the books in.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

*Barbara Field*



## NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED...

sunshine is not cancelled  
love is not cancelled  
relationships are not cancelled  
reading is not cancelled  
naps are not cancelled  
going for a walk is not cancelled  
kindness is not cancelled  
imagination is not cancelled  
conversations are not cancelled  
HOPE is not cancelled



## Waiaatarua Garden Club

Our next outing is on **Wednesday 7 April**

Because of Covid restrictions for last month's outing we have decided to visit **West Lynn Gardens, 73 Parker Ave, New Lynn**. We will meet there at 10.30 am. Entrance is \$3.

Afterwards we will have lunch at Columbus Café in Mitre 10, New Lynn. All are welcome.

Any queries please phone Paddy or Margaret on 814 9859

## Fire Brigade News

There is an Autumn feeling to the air, signalling the change of season, which is a great time to remind everyone to check their smoke detectors. If you don't have any it is also timely to stress how important they are in saving lives. In the Healy household we recently upgraded our smoke detectors to ones that talk to each other wirelessly, which had the bonus of an afternoon's entertainment with one of us up a ladder pressing the test button while the other ran round the house to see if they really were talking to each other.

By the time you read this the Brigade would have attended the Oratia School Fair on the 27<sup>th</sup> March with a couple of the fun FENZ educational trailers.

Also getting out in the community are several of our Brigade members who are training for the Firefighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge. The challenge raises money for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand. They will be climbing 1,103 steps across 51 flights wearing 25kgs of structural fire fighting gear. You may spot them training out at the Nihotupu Dam.

The Challenge takes place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021. If you would like to support the team, please visit:

<https://firefighterschallenge.org.nz/garethwilson>

<https://firefighterschallenge.org.nz/jacob-moolman>

<https://firefighterschallenge.org.nz/lorna-biggam>

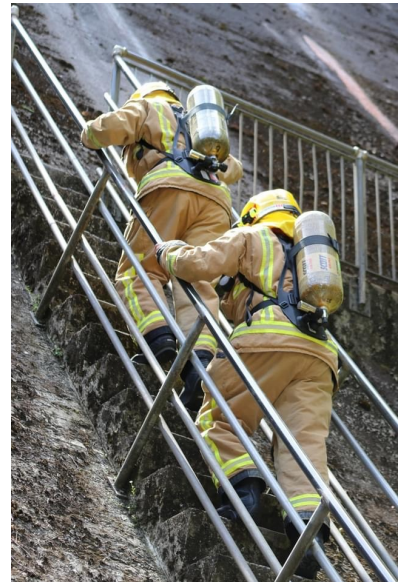
Thanks to Watercare for supporting the team by allowing access to their stairs for training.

### Calls since 1 February 2021:

8 Feb – Medical Call  
15 Feb – Dunes Fire, Piha  
17 Feb – Fire in Car Park, Scenic Drive  
21 Feb – Car Accident, Scenic Drive  
25 Feb – Faulty Garden Lights, West Coast Road  
28 Feb – Tree on Power Line, Tui Crescent

### 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](mailto:Christine.healy@fireandemergency.nz))





## Waiatarua Community Pest Plant Roadshow and Trap Library Day, Saturday 20 March



A few photos from this successful event which was held at the Waiatarua Hall on a beautiful sunny Autumn morning.

*Photo credits: Tom Hoey and Marq Holibar*

## From the Editor

Last month I wrote a little about part of our local area that was once going to be a subdivision named Prospect Heights. Raroa Tce resident Margaret Marshall has kindly provided some further information on this. Raroa Tce was originally called Prospect Tce. She believes this area had a fire in the early 1900s and was a farm at one stage. There was also a paper road linking Raroa Tce to Rimu Rd, and on down to houses on the long driveway below Potters Corner.

Who has been watching the America's Cup yacht racing?: I must admit I'm not a massive fan, but I am still thrilled that The America's Cup STILL remains New Zealand's cup! So wonderful to see all the celebrations in the city, giving a much-needed morale boost to Auckland and New Zealand generally. Huge congratulations to Team NZ, very well deserved.

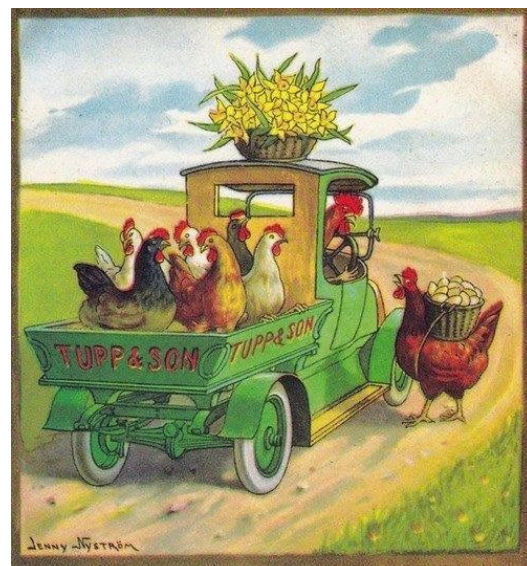
Once again Easter is upon us, with thoughts of chocolate eggs and hot cross buns (although these have been available in the shops for months already!) I can hardly believe it has been nearly a year since we had the first major lockdown—I remember at this time last year we were all looking forward to celebrating Easter with friends and family. Hopefully this Easter we won't be imprisoned, and that some of you will have a chance to re-connect with loved ones over the break. If you are going away, please travel safely, and keep well!

I found this delightful image on the right in a poultry group to which I belong, and which is very apt for Easter. The message written in Swedish translates as follows:

*I wish you merry and happy Easter  
And at least one kilo of eggs.  
Sun Spring and yellow flowers  
Will be Easter's happy reward!*

And with that, happy Easter to one and all.

*Cheers, Erin*



*Glad och trevlig påsk dig önskas  
Och av ägg ett kilo minst,  
Sol och vär och gula blommor  
Blive påskens vackra vinst!*  
E.E.

**MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**Copy needs to be with the Editor**

**by 5pm on FRIDAY 16 APRIL**