

THE GREAT WAIATARUA MID-WINTER XMAS DINNER & DEBATE



MOOT: Only Women Can Multi-Task The winning team debated the negative.

Winning Team: Captain Simon Prast. Team mates were Penny Hulse and John Goudge.

Losing Team: Captain Christine Healy. Team mates were Lynne Pillay and Korstiaan Prins.

Front row: Simon Prast. Back row: Christine Healy, Tony Bacon, Lynne Pillay and Korstiaan Prins. Middle row: Penny Hulse, John Goudge.

WAIATARUA PERFORMING ARTS TRUST – AUDITION NOTICE:

“Stepping Out,” by Richard Harris. A comedy with dance.

AUDITIONS SUNDAY 17 AUGUST, AT 2PM. Waiatarua Community Hall, 911 West Coast Rd, Waiatarua.

Cast required: 9 women (aged 18 – 70), and 1 man. A pianist required for the role of Mrs Fraser. Production crew of all types also required.

For more information, phone the director Kathy Lowe, ph 814 9744

Being involved with local theatre is very rewarding and a lot of fun. Anyone can get involved. So why don't you?!

SETTLERS' FILM CLUB IS BORN

Despite the gales and hailstorms and the threat of a power cut the first film of the Settlers' Film Club was well attended, with an enthusiastic audience wanting more. The idea of setting up a film club came from film-maker Robin Kewell, who has recently moved from his native Cornwall. This first event was to test the water and gauge what interest there might be in a film club for the Oratia population. Judging by Saturday night's attendance and the number of e-mails and telephone calls from people who could not make it, it looks like it's "Lights, roll sound, roll camera and ACTION..."

The Glastonbury movie was shown the same weekend as this year's Festival in the UK, and weather conditions in both parts were quite similar, but at least the Oratia audience did not have the mud to contend with. The event not only provided a great night's entertainment but also raised \$250 to be donated to Water Aid.

For its first season the Settlers Film Club will be putting on four or five film events and following hot on the heels of their first screening is 'The Real Dirt on Farmer John' on Friday 18th July. The winner of 34 major awards since its release you can check it out at www.pbs.org/independentlens/realdirt/

The main purpose of the Film Club is to show films that are never shown in the main theatres; top quality world cinema, from documentary to drama, arts to animations, music and much more. Robin is also willing to put on some of his own films and will present them with some of the background stories that go with them.

So, here are some dates for your diary: the next film event will be August 8th then September 12th and an October date to be confirmed – all Fridays! For information check www.eventfinder.co.nz.

Anyone wanting to find out more about the Settlers Film Club can contact Robin on 818 2489

MEET THY NEIGHBOUR

Wouldn't it be a good idea if all of us neighbours got together for a chat and a glass of wine and all got to know each other a little better once again? After all we do live in the best suburb in the Country and what could be better than everyone meeting each other in a relaxed environment over a glass of wine. You may have some ideas to share with us. Who knows what else we could end up discussing, planning, plotting or celebrating?

Come and Join Dave and Oliver on 17th August, between 11 am and 1 pm

A DONATION OF A GOLD COIN PER ADULT TO OFFSET COSTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED

Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association

Name _____

Address _____

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I ENCLOSE:

\$10 household

\$5 single occupant

2008

WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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

EDITOR:

All enquiries to:
Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697
E-Mail: davepocock@xtra.co.nz

WRRRA President:

Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697
E-Mail: davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Community Hall & Library:

911 West Coast Road

Hall hire (bookings)

John Goudge - Ph 814 9744

Library hours:

Thursday 10.00am - 12.00pm
Friday 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Saturday 11.00am - 12.00pm
Sunday 11.00am - 12.00pm

WEB Site:

www.waiatarua.org.nz

Advantages of being a WRRRA member?

Show your membership card at the following businesses for a 10% discount (does not apply to already discounted or sale items).

Glen Eden Landscape Supplies

293 West Coast Rd. Ph: 818 6129

Elevation Licenced Café & Restaurant

12.00pm till late - 471 Scenic Drive

Ph: 814 1919 (applies to max 2 adults per visit)

Colourplus Paint & Wallpaper

Glenmall, Glen Eden Ph: 818 8263

Auckland's Waitakere Estate

573 Scenic Drive. (Thursday-Sunday)

(applies to max 2 adults per visit)

From the President

Dave Pocock

Hi all, first, a clarification: After last month's newsletter the W.R.R.A. committee received a copy of an email sent to me complaining about an article in the newsletter. The complaint was written using abusive language and expressing personal venomous feelings.

Two things regarding this: firstly we do not need that sort of language or attitude in any correspondence and secondly what appears in the newsletter is not decided by the W.R.R.A. committee which is why it is called Waitarua Community News. In fact the first time committee members see it is when it is delivered to their letterboxes so, unless an article is written by a committee member in their official capacity, views and articles expressed are not necessarily the views or opinions of W.R.R.A. either collectively or individually.

I know it may be confusing at present with me being President and acting Editor, but I can wear two hats and I believe we are all entitled to have factual, constructive information available on a wide range of subjects, and believe me I do not necessarily support or agree with everything that appears in the newsletter. That subject is now closed.

I received a phone call from a gentleman from Quinns Rd who, like the rest of us, had power cuts, except that their one on Friday night lasted until Saturday afternoon. The gentleman kept in touch with the power board and when it went off again on Saturday evening he once again 'phoned them, only to learn they knew nothing about it. However, they were able to have it rectified in 10 minutes. Moral of the story: when you have a power cut, 'phone the power board, do not assume they know about it.

Saturday 28th June was the night of the second Great Waitarua Mid-Winter Xmas and Debate. What a night, with great food once again from Waitarua's own Thoughtful Food, www.thoughtfulfood.co.nz, and fantastic hilarious entertainment courtesy of our celebrity contestant and chairman Tony Bacon. Simon Prast, Penny Hulse and John Goudge once again took away the spoils after a hard fought battle with Christine Healy, Korstiaan Prins and Lynne Pillay. Thanks also to Auckland's Waitakere Estate who kindly donated a night's accommodation as a spot prize which was very warmly received.

Those of you who have not experienced our re-decorated hall yet are missing a treat, especially the floor which is magnificent, thanks to Waitakere City Council. Table tennis is now up and running again so turn up on a Tuesday night at 7 pm and give Tony and Les and the regulars some new competition.

Talking about Les, Neighbourhood Support is operating very actively and doing a great job of ensuring those naughty types don't get away all the time so if you haven't joined yet phone Les on 814 1130 or email him at lesjudyj@xtra.co.nz. Don't worry, there is no cost and no committee to be on, just a network of your immediate neighbours for mutual security and sharing of information.

Jan Haine, our dedicated Treasurer of the last three years, is not seeking re-election as treasurer at February's A.G.M. so we are looking for her replacement to start working with her now so we have a nice smooth change over. If you are interested, phone Jan on 837 2318 or jan_haine@xtra.co.nz (there is an underscore between jan and Haine).

Meet Thy Neighbour is happening again (see the notice elsewhere in this newsletter) so roll up for a friendly time, also the Drama club is auditioning for its next play (again see separate notice).

Well that's me for another month and man are they disappearing in a hurry, with Xmas starting to loom again in the not too distant future.

Thanks, Dave

Fire Brigade

Ian Ford

WINTER FIRE SAFETY

Well, now that you have all had your chimneys swept after last month's newsletter, it's time for a few more fire safety precautions for the winter.

Remember the 'Metre Heater' rule – keep all clothing, objects, furnishings, furniture and children at least one metre away from heaters and fireplaces

Don't dry or store objects on top of your heating source

Always use a fire guard or spark guard with open fires

Remember that ashes can take up to 5 days to cool. Empty ashtrays and fireplace ashes into a metal bin and pour water over them prior to disposal

Ensure all electric heaters are in safe working order – replace frayed cords, broken plugs and faulty switches

Don't use heaters through multi-boxes (power boards)

If your gas heater does not light straight away, turn it off before you try again. Don't let the gas build up before trying to light it

Just remember the three biggest causes of fires are...men, women and children.

Contacts

Phone 111 for any fire or emergency. Otherwise please call Ian Ford (814 8871), Helen Longley (814 9855) or Karl Nuttall (814 8777).

Garden Group

Eileen Powell

Wednesday 3rd September at 1pm. We are visiting "Firlong" in Carter Rd. They are transforming an old orchard into a park with many trees and a lake.

It is some time since we visited them at the beginning of the project so will be interesting to see their progress and how the trees have grown.

Drive in by the shed. Entrance fee is \$5

We will have afternoon tea locally – a small plate please.

Everyone is welcome to join us.

Ring Margaret on 8149859 or Charlene on 8149316.

In October we will be heading to Pakuranga.

Procedure for invoicing/payment for newsletter advertising

ADVERTISING RATES

There are three categories/sizes of advertisement as follows:

RUN-ON

Community: Free to current, paid up WRRRA members who are community groups or individuals involved in not-for-profit activities, or who are placing other advertisements that are generally one-off in nature (eg babysitting, lawn moving). Included as space permits.

Commercial: \$25 per annum, regardless of number of issues published and the number of insertions required by the advertiser. Commercial is defined as any individual or organisation who is operating a business and does not fit the community category as defined above.

Small Display (62 x 27mm) – \$10

Large Display (62 x 54mm) – \$20

Please ensure supplied advertising is at the correct size.

BRICKBATS and BOUQUETS

Sponsored by the Fairy Flower Shop,
423 Titirangi Road, Titirangi. Phone 817 3780

There have been no **bouquet** nominations this month.

BRICKBAT: What a pity that those who walk their dogs (especially in the area from Raroa Tce up into Bush and Atarua Gardens) don't have respect for others who like to walk in this area or for children on their way to the bus stop. I see so many doggie poos. This is not the dogs' problem, but the owners' who forget that all it needs is a plastic bag and the desire to keep our Waitakere pavements clean!

BANGLADESH – PART 5

The next morning, Friday 22nd February, we four intrepid travellers were up at 5.30 for breakfast then off to the station for the train trip back to Chittagong. The train of course was late and when it did arrive we had 8 minutes to locate which of the 17 carriages was ours and get us and our luggage aboard, no mean feat in the mass of humanity milling around the platform. Finally we left at 9.05 (on the 8 am train), comfortably settled in our first class carriage, which means we had a padded seat and a compartment for the four of us and Mostafa our guide. We were visited by a family of three young girls, aged 14, 8 and 3 years old, who were very keen to practice their English and entertained us by singing a local song.

We arrived in Chittagong around 5 pm and transferred to a couple of vans in which we were driven to the river for a boat cruise. I saw more boats in one place than you could imagine, literally hundreds moored in line after line, ranging from fishing boats through to cruise liners, Bangladesh style. A number had been confiscated for breaking fishing laws and were waiting to be auctioned off. Most looked to be in a dubious state of repair.

Next we were off to buy Shirley some Jandals for NZ\$1 and get Muriel, one of our travelling companion's, glasses fixed followed by a surprise visit to a local family, who turned out to be the family of Didar, the owner of Bangladesh Eco-Tours. Didar, his wife, young child, and sister live in a beautiful spacious three bedroom apartment, but have no running hot water. All water heating is done on the gas burners which probably has something to do with the fact that they have at least one power cut every day, and we moan.

On Saturday morning we set off in a landcruiser for our adventure, a bit cramped with five of us and our luggage and this was one of those times that I am happy to be on the large side as I ended up in the front seat, out of everyone's way. We had the inevitable border stop for a passport and signature check under the watchful gaze of a soldier armed with a machine gun and then a couple of minutes later it was the turn of the Police border patrol. At this point we saw our first 'Welcome to Bandarban' sign, which is where we were heading, so a little buzz of excitement went through the group. Mind you, the excitement waned after spending quite some time in the local town waiting for our Police escort although we did get to have lunch at a local restaurant. Finally we set off accompanied by four policemen in another landcruiser, reaching the river at 3.30 pm after travelling over dusty, rough roads. We then had a peaceful, serene trip of about an hour up the river to our destination, passing riverbanks covered in crops of tobacco, cabbages and mustard plus long boats used to move logs with these boats also serving as home to the operators.

We were met by porters which is just as well for Muriel, who is 74 and has three bags, as the climb is uphill to the village and then further uphill to our host. Our host family consists of a husband and wife, their three and a half year old son, and the husband's mother and sister, living in a bamboo house which was effectively one room, divided by a curtain to form living and sleeping areas with cooking carried out on a deck at the rear. The toilet was the most evil smelling, squat long drop you can imagine, although it was fortunately some distance from the house and my first thought was how can I avoid using it for the two days of our stay. The village, which is called Ruma, consists mainly of pineapple plants, lemon and other fruit trees and has thirty-five 35 families whose thirty-two children attend the local two teacher school.

The people are very religious and we finally ate dinner after a grace of some ten minutes, which was held in total silence. Dinner was served on a mat on the floor with none of the women joining us. After this thin mattresses were brought out to be our beds for the night, placed on the floor of bamboo poles with pigs and chooks running around underneath.

Next morning, Sunday, we were woken from a very fitful sleep by the Muslim call to prayer, chickens clucking and pigs snorting. We really were experiencing local life. After breakfast we headed off on foot to visit the local nearby Bawm tribe and one and half hours later we arrived to find that they, all twelve families, were at church, so we made ourselves comfortable in the head man's house to await their return. Around a tree outside Turmeric tubers were drying – they look just like root ginger. Upon the return of the villagers we were invited to partake of tea and cookies and during this Rosemary, our other travelling companion, visited the loo. She came back to report that it was clean and odourless, which was the solution to the problem of my hanging on for two days.

After exchanging pleasantries we headed off to the next village, little knowing what lay ahead!

Dave

Waiatarua Rainfall (June 2008)

| | Rain Days | Wettest Day | Mth Total | Year to Date |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| Mountain Road | 20 | 25th – 26 mm | 219 mm | 781 mm |
| Brabant Road | 26 | 24th – 29 mm | 219 mm | 726 mm |
| Quinns Road | 27 | 17th – 23 mm | 151 mm | 622 mm |
| Forest Hill Road | 22 | 28th – 30 mm | 201 mm | 682 mm |
| Auckland City | – | – | 141 mm | 448 mm |

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SITUATIONS VACANT TREASURER

After three years of dedicated service Jan Haine will not be seeking this position at our next AGM. To ease the transition we invite interested parties to contact Jan now and work towards the handover.

**For further details Jan Haine
ph 837 2318 or jan_haine@xtra.co.nz**

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Contact John Goudge on 814 9744

WAIATARUA TABLE TENNIS CLUB

**Every Tuesday evening
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**WAIATARUA HALL
911 WEST COAST ROAD**

Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc Committee as from February 2008

President / Community Board

Dave Pocock Ph 814 9697 davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Vice President

Korstiaan Prins Ph 814 1850 korprins@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer

Jan Haine Ph 837 2318 jan_haine@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Jan James Ph 814 9194 pmandjijj@clear.net.nz

Newsletter Editor

c/o Dave Pocock Ph 814 9697 davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Hall Manager

Dave Pocock Ph 814 9697 davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Committee Members:

Frank Hogsden Ph 814 9869

Robin Essex Ph 814 1850 robsx@free.net.nz

Susanne Timms Ph 814 9346 shtimms@xtra.co.nz

Representative:

Ian Ford Ph 814 8871 ian.ford@xtra.co.nz
(Fire Brigade)

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of The Editor,
by **THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST, 2008 – 5PM**
Dave Pocock Ph 814 9697
davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Dave Pocock via email davepocock@xtra.co.nz or phone 814 9697. Community Notices are free to financial members 2008, January to December.

CELL PHONE SAFETY - protect yourself and your family from harmful EMF. Attach a Biopro Cell Phone Chip, \$60. Phone Emily 835 3777.

GARDENER: Trained and experienced. For regular garden maintenance. Phone Hugh 838 3594.

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LA LECHE LEAGUE: - Meetings held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Kelston Community Centre. For more info call Adith: phone 818 7728.

LAWN MOWING: - Local, reliable. Phone Eric 837 2333.

OTIMAI: - Events and training centre is available for hire (Guides Auckland) and is open to view by appointment. Please phone Lynne & Walter on 814 9992 for bookings.

PLANTS: - taros, bulbs, cannas and various perennials for sale. \$1 - \$3. Also some shrubs. All sales for charity. Phone Margaret 814-9859.

SITUATIONS VACANT - TREASURER: After three years of dedicated service Jan Haine will not be seeking this position at our next AGM. To ease the transition we invite interested parties to contact Jan now and work towards the handover. For further details Jan Haine ph 837 2318 or jan_haine@xtra.co.nz.

SL MACOMBEE - SINGER / SONGWRITER PLAYS ELEVATION Singer/Songwriter and Huia resident SL Macombee will be at Elevation Restaurant on Friday 25th July. With all original works, drawn from eclectic influences, SL's music is gritty, haunting and beautiful. This is a rare opportunity to be entertained by this enigmatic and soulful performer. 7-10pm, 25th July, Elevation Restaurant.

THE ORATIA COMMUNITY CHURCH: On the corner of Parker & West Coast Roads. Fellowship (trips, meetings etc.): 2nd Thursdays of each month.

TOASTMASTER: - meetings held on every other Thursday morning from 7-8:20am - for more information call Adith Stoneman 818 7728.

UPSTAIRS GALLERY AT LOPDELL HOUSE PRESENTS: THE TCAC EMERGING ARTIST AWARD. Thursday 14 August to Sunday 7th September. 6-8pm. For those that are still finding their 'art feet' with 2 fortunate artists coming away with an arts grant to help further their arts careers. Free entry.

WAIMATA TECORIAN SPEAKERS: - Gain confidence, communicate more effectively, extend knowledge, stimulate imagination and have fun at the same time. We meet at the Titirangi community centre every second and fourth Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. Men and women are welcome. Contact Margaret on 817 0520 or Gill on 838 1983 for further information.



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MONDAY & TUESDAY - Sorry we are closed

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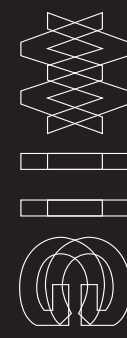
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