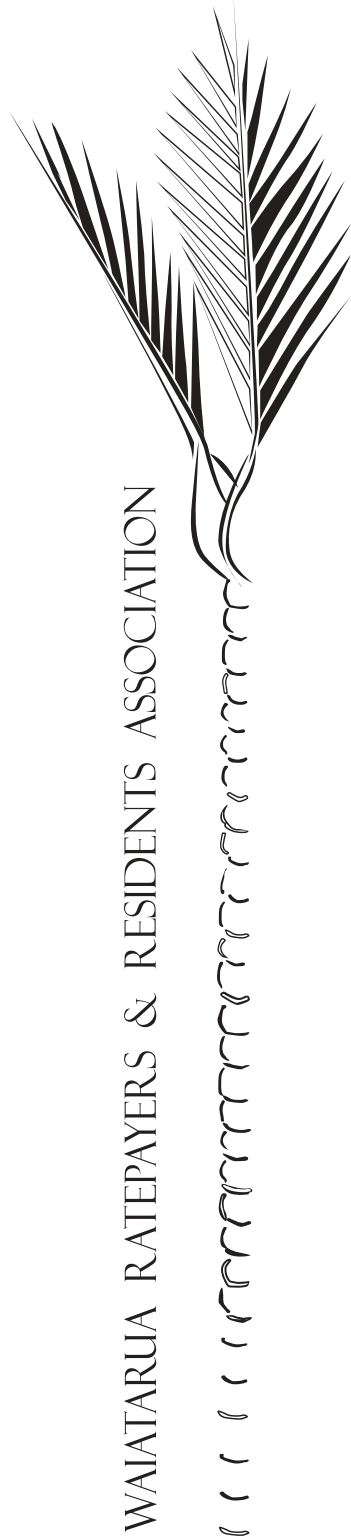


# Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

October - November 2005



WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



## Mayor Bob Tallies Local Signs

Following the release of this recent Mayoral Report from Bob Harvey, our photographer has been out and about taking pictures of signage in our neighbourhood.

Mr. Harvey's count of 126 road signs was allegedly challenged by Diane Goodley, Waitakere Community Board's deputy chairwoman. Mrs. Goodley counted only 79.

We contacted the Mayor for feedback and his comments to us were: "I am all for safety, it's of major importance, but it's got to be matched with the environment. We didn't even count the street signs, just road signs and markings. The whole road is festooned with bits and pieces and I am sure they are not all necessary."

What do you as residents think? Do our unique roads require so much signage? We welcome your feedback, or you can contact Bob directly via [Bob.Harvey@waitakere.govt.nz](mailto:Bob.Harvey@waitakere.govt.nz)



*Mayoral Report September 2005*

## The Road to Waiatarua—A Sign of Our Times

"Although I believe in public safety and signage, lots of it around dangerous corners and nasty bends, it seems to me our roads, particularly through rural areas, don't need to be festooned every 100 metres with warnings and instructions.

I have certainly noticed on the Desert Rd that large, anti-speeding signage tends to slow you down and large and serious warnings on the fatal Meremere stretch have reduced the carnage. But the West Coast Rd, from Parrs Park to Waiatarua, is a different kind of highway. It moves quickly from urban density to orchards, vineyards and the foothills of the Waitakere Ranges. Yes, it does have a few more bends than the Desert Rd but these come much later, near the summit of the ranges. Most of the time the road goes past schools, along the flat down to Kelly's Bridge and then rises to Waiatarua and onto Piha.

Over the past five years I've noticed more and more signs appearing on this stretch of road, a mere 5.1 kilometres, so we are not talking serious distance. So how, I have to ask, have we accumulated 126 road side signs? That's right, I said 126. I've counted them. And that doesn't include street or road signage. That's just signs nailed, screwed or bolted to posts warning



about horses, graders, speed, road contours and bridges. I have included in my Mayoral count broad bands of arrows and bridge markings – after all they are on the road and clearly indicate what you should do and what to watch out for. And there is a lot to watch out for. I have no problems with signage around schools and particularly Oratia, one of my favourite schools, so a warning that a school is nearby is a must. But, as for the rest I believe we have gone truly overboard.

To be honest I don't see any end to it. Every new community board adds more signs. Go count if you need to but would someone please take stock of what is needed, what warnings need to be spelt out and therefore what can go."



## EDITOR:

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E-Mail: [robsx@free.net.nz](mailto:robsx@free.net.nz)

## WRRRA President:

Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697  
E-Mail: [davepocock@xtra.co.nz](mailto:davepocock@xtra.co.nz)

## Community Hall & Library:

911 West Coast Road

## Hall hire

Michelle Stanborough  
Ph 814 9707

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



Become a member  
on the day and  
support the WRRRA

## Community Breakfast - Spring 2005

- Where** Community Hall, 911 West Coast Road  
**When** Sunday 6th November 2005 at 9.00am  
**What** Extensive, delicious fully home-cooked breakfast; raffle; colouring competition; intriguing harmonograph demonstration  
**Why** Fun, relaxation, comradeship  
**How** Pre-purchase your tickets by Wed. Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> call Rod Maunder on 814 1831  
**Cost** WRRRA adult members \$10-00, children under twelve \$5-00  
Non-member adults \$15-00, children \$10-00

Kids: Grab a colouring competition entry form from the special box posted at the front door of your community hall (address above), or download it from our website [www.waiatarua.org.nz/newsletter.cfm](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz/newsletter.cfm)

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

## From the Editor

Robin Essex

I've been thinking lately about 'misinterpretation' and what it can lead to. I don't know why really although, as editor, I do make a conscious effort in listening to or reading contributions carefully - so as to try and convey what was originally intended.

In this day and age of emails and text messages it is becoming increasingly difficult to translate underlying connotations. After all, reading voice tone and facial expression provides us with many extra clues. I have, on more than one occasion, got things wrong via the modern methods; and then I've been forced to 'rewind' and make amends.

Did you hear about the boy who watched his Dad trying to pull out a tree with his jeep and a tow rope? After quite some considerable time of 'jeep skidding and non-budging tree', the boy said: "Dad - if you take that rope off, I think your jeep will go." Not sure if that story was true but. . .

I was witness to this next scenario: Serious rat problem in the workplace, so traps were duly set. Bingo - a strike! Boss handed an employee the wooden snare, with deceased victim still attached, and asked him to please bury it. The person returned a little later empty-handed and was asked where the trap was. . . blank expression. You guessed it, full burial: lock, stock and barrel.

## Drama Group Report

Comedy play 'A Knight To Remember' was well-received by the community, and The Waiatarua Performing Arts Society is already working on a 3<sup>rd</sup> production which will hit the stage in 2006. Anyone wishing to join this bunch of friendly fun-loving folk, please contact Robin on 814 1850.

## Tag Your Intruders

An intruder-deterrent paint has been designed to mark the clothing and hands of trespassers who come into contact with it. Not only will this make for easy criminal identification but the product renders any surface coated with it almost impossible to climb, lowering the actual risk of unauthorised entries. It is recommended that warning signs be erected to deter would-be intruders from even attempting an entry. The sticky solution is safe and easy to apply, with no volatile solvents. It sheds most airborne debris and provides weatherproof protection to metal, masonry and wood. Please note that, although designed to deter humans, the paint will be just as effective on animals. So, if anyone spots a blue cat . . . give the poor thing a bath!

## The Oratia Community Church

The Oratia church is the charming house of worship on the corner of Parker & West Coast Roads. The land was gifted by Queen Victoria for religious and educational use i.e. a school in the early days. The original building was extended and moved to its present position to allow the new church to be built in 1967. The design was the work of Russell Gash and was completed debt-free by donation of materials and volunteer labour in 1968.

The church services are interdenominational: 9.30 - 10.30am 1st Sunday of the month, Presbyterian; 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, family service; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, Methodist; 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Anglican; 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, one of each of the denominations by rotation.

-Frank Hogsden

## Garden Group

Eileen Powell

A full day out in South Auckland is planned for our November 2nd get-together. At 10:00 a.m. we visit Fairlane, 71 Gellert Rd, Karaka; which is a large garden featuring a mix of formal and informal areas. There are also relics of early farming days and antique/classic cars on display. Bring morning tea to enjoy in the garden. Lunch will be at Shed 16, Pukekohe highway. We will then be visiting Kinnaird garden, 1551 Great South Rd, Ramarama at 1:00 p.m. where Dawn Pyne is the new owner. This is a 3-acre semi-formal country garden with sweeping lawns, rose borders and lavender hedging. Each garden has an entry fee of \$5-00 and there will be time to visit Joy Plants, 86 Jericho Rd to see their range of interesting and scarce perennials. Ring Eileen on 814 9298 for carpooling or further information.

## From the Vice-President

Molly Whittington

Hi - I'm Molly Whittington, your WRRRA Vice-President. I live at the old Chisholm farmstead on Forest Hill Road with my husband and four children. We've been here for fifteen years and absolutely love it. I joined the WRRRA committee nearly two years ago and have worked on community events such as the dance at the Oratia Hall, the Community Breakfasts and the Autumn Festival coming up next year. I would recommend the WRRRA as a committee to be on. There is the opportunity to be involved in community events, encourage conservation of our bush and native flora & fauna, make the roads safer by working with the Council, and generally provide a hub for the community of Waiatarua so that we remain the special place we are.

If there's one thing committee would like, it's feedback from you (our readers) as to what you would like to see happening in Waiatarua or would find interesting to read about in the Waiatarua News. Anything from line-dancing classes to longer Library hours to seminars on noxious weeds. Whenever committee discuss something, the question is "Will anybody turn up?" We're in the dark a bit as to what there is a need or enthusiasm for. So you are welcome to contact us by emailing our Editor or writing to us at WRRRA, 911 West Coast Rd.

We're looking forward to a good turnout at our Community breakfast on November 6th. If you haven't been to one, do come along. Enjoy a cooked breakfast and a chat with fellow locals, and meet the committee members. I'll be the one in the kitchen!

## Introduction of Bill delayed

The Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Bill will be delayed in reaching Parliament, because the Councils promoting it have discovered a minor draughting error in one of the boundary maps. It was discovered at the last minute, that a small area of land in Rodney had accidentally been included when it should not have been. This arose because two private coastal properties, adjoining a Department of Conservation reserve, had inadvertently been included in the heritage area. The intention had been to include the reserve but not the private property. The map forms part of the documents publicly notified during the preliminary process required before a local bill can be introduced to Parliament. As a result Rodney District Council, Waitakere City Council and the Auckland Regional Council have chosen to correct the error and publicly notify the bill a second time. It is hoped the Bill can still be introduced this year (2005).

## Fire Brigade

Ian Ford

The Community Guy Fawkes bonfire will be held at the Fire Station on Saturday 5th November, rain day on the Sunday. The usual arrangements apply - you supply your fireworks, we'll supply the bonfire. We'll have an area set aside for fireworks, and ask - as always - that parents take responsibility for supervising their own kids. Turn up any time after 7pm. We'll light the bonfire later, when it gets dark (if we can dry it out).

**Ready?** In the last few weeks we've seen natural disasters strike New Orleans, Guatemala and Kashmir. There's a lesson we should all learn. Regardless of whether you live in the richest country in the world, the Third World or somewhere in between... when disasters strike out of the blue you're on your own for at least the first 3 days. Your food, water, shelter and survival are up to you. A good start is to read the last page of your phone book and follow the steps to be prepared. Now!

### Recent calls:-

After 72 siren-free days since Friday July 29th: 4.32pm Sunday 9th Oct - tree across road, Scenic Drive.

**Contacts** - phone 111 for fires or other emergencies. Otherwise call Ian Ford (814 8871), Helen Longley (814 9855) or Karl Nuttall (814 8777).

## Roadwatch Report

Overnight 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> October a major slip occurred on Scenic Drive, completely blocking the road 200 metres from West Coast Road intersection (vicinity of 440 Scenic Drive). A day later the road was open again as a single lane, but with frequent delays for earthmoving activities. Road barricades have been under this slip area for several months, indicating a concern. At the time of this report the road was fully open again, with a row of plastic barricades in place at the foot of what still appears to be an unstable hillside.

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October a couple of guys in a black car were 'practising parking' in the ditch just before 710 West Coast Road. Cell phone reception looked non-existent for organising the tow they obviously needed. Luckily no-one required an ambulance. Once again this risky stretch of road has proven that drivers must always take great care!

## Waiatarua Autumn Festival

Sunday 26th March 2006 (10am on)

Put this in your diary now and come along for a good old-fashioned country day. Enjoy the wonderful crafts our area is so well-known for, plus games and entertainment. Of course there will also be baking, gardening and craft competitions for adults, children, and families - all with prizes! Devonshire teas and lunch available. Don't forget pumpkins, sunflowers and some flowers and vegetables for our competitions when you put your garden in this spring. And we have procured Frank's gingerbeer recipe for you. Even if your brew doesn't win the prize, you will enjoy this refreshing bubbly mix over the summer months.



## Lynda's Ginger Beer (at last !)

2 tps granulated yeast, 2 cups sugar, 1 tsp ginger, 1 tsp citric or tartaric acid, juice of a lemon, 16 cups water - 2 litre milk bottles are ideal, but allow space for expansion. Stand 24 hrs in pantry, or 48 hrs in colder weather. Then refrigerate. A good source of Vitamin B, apparently. A pleasant and sparkling drink. - disclosed by her husband Frank

## What do people REALLY want for Waitakere City?



### What's a community outcome?

It's what we think will help the city become a great place to be.

It's something good for the city that will make all our lives better.

It's something positive that we can help the Council do for the city.

It's what we think will be good for the economy and for us all now and in the future.

Community outcomes are the main features, facilities and services that the city's residents say will create the kind of city they want to live in. To find out what those key outcomes are thirteen community workshops, attended by over 500 people, were held throughout the city between May and August this year. Two community panels, drawn from local residents and business people, combined the material from these workshops into specific (draft) community outcomes.



## Working TOGETHER for a strong vision and great outcomes and priorities for Waitakere City.



**HAVE YOUR SAY...**

**GO ONLINE...**

Get the full draft Community Outcomes report and tell us your response to the outcomes and priorities at [www.waitakere.govt.nz/havsay](http://www.waitakere.govt.nz/havsay)

Or phone Waitakere City Council's 24-hr Call Centre on 839 0400 for the draft Community Outcomes report and a reply paid response form.

Dear Editor

I would like to say to John Goudge in Rimu Road that I was annoyed at his choice of words in last month's Community News - "you probably live a pathetic life with no fun" - in response to a neighbour calling 'Noise Control' after a disturbance at your property.

Have you thought that maybe this person had to work early Saturday morning, John?

We have Noise Control authorities for a reason. They are trained to deal with the unexpected. Folk have been attacked, at times, when they take it unto themselves to visit the person responsible for excessive neighbourhood noise.

John: next time you want to play loud music, you could be a polite and understanding neighbour by letting surrounding residents know of your intentions. Perhaps if you'd done this in the first place you could've played longer on September the 8<sup>th</sup>.

N.Y. (Waiatarua)

## Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

New in the library this month is:

"Blackout" by Chris Ryan - *what happens when the power goes out in L.*

"Dreamhunter" by Elizabeth Knox - *the extraordinary world of the reality of dreams.*

"Breakdown" by Jacquelyn Mitchard - *the author of The Deep End of the Ocean.*

"Crossbones" - *Kathy Reich's latest.*

"Moscow Vector" - *from the pen of Robert Ludlum.*

We also have some of the latest glossy magazines available on loan.

Remember this is your library so come in and browse, talk and borrow. Good reading.

A big thank you...

Ros Rothschild has been a stalwart helper at the library for a very long time. She is now moving on to put more time into new interests. Ros, our thanks for all the work you have done over the years. It has been very much appreciated.

Ros's departure means that we could do with some more helpers at the library. If you are able to give us an hour, once a month, at the weekend, please ring Bev Latimer - ph. 814 9430.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

After the letter last issue re noise it got me thinking about what the rules in our area are, so I did a little research. With the festive season coming up I thought it would help to have some ways of remaining on friendly terms with neighbours. The information comes from the council and can also be easily accessed on their web site. The Council describe noise as; stopping someone from sleeping or waking them, if during day time it causes a serious intrusion to concentration, if it prevents normal conversation in a neighbouring property or it requires the radio or television to be turned up significantly (by the neighbour) to be heard. The noise officers can be called out at any time day or night, but from Monday to Thursday and on a Sunday between 10pm and 8am or Friday and Saturday 11pm to 8am if a complaint is laid it will be sent straight out for action to the noise officer. If a complaint is laid at other times, the complaint is logged and if another neighbour complains or if you ring back and activate the complaint 30mins later the noise officer will be sent to investigate. The same rules apply city wide. The web site <http://waitakere.govt.nz/cnlser/eh/noise.asp#excessive> gives several suggestions for keeping noise levels down including; keeping equipment inside, keeping radio etc. close when working and relaxing, and warning/respecting neighbours. I suppose the modern ultimate sound solution are the ipod silent concerts.

In our area where we often can't see our nearest neighbour it's important to realise that sound travels. Bass particularly has a way of invading other peoples homes, and whilst the music may not seem loud to you, the bass can cause neighbours distress and can result in receiving a visit from the noise abatement officer. Whilst it may appear that here we are more isolated from our neighbours, noise can travel and introduce us to people on a different ridge or in a valley some distance from our house. Whilst talking to the neighbour may be the ideal, not all neighbours feel safe asking for the noise to be turned down; and the neighbour being affected may not be right next door to you, and therefore unable to pop across.

- R.F.

Dear Editor

Have we checked our addresses lately? As a resident here for seventy-two years so far, may I suggest that everyone carefully checks each line of their residential address, especially when it is also a business and/or postal definition.

Example: Waiatarua Community Centre, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua (*suburb*), Waitakere City (*city*), Auckland (*region*), New Zealand (*country*).

Can you improve on this? Does anyone in our area know about those 4-digit codes? Is it 1007 for all of Waiatarua?

As an intellectual exercise, if nothing else, some criteria: Is the address complete enough for the purpose? Are there any unnecessary details, or lettering? Is it up-to-date and legally correct? Is it helpful to visiting motorists and emergency services?

I would welcome input from other experienced and qualified people.

Reasons we should consider include:

Waiatarua has officially been defined, at least in Ratepayers and Residents minutes. Does our Council define Waiatarua? The "city", for around ten years now, has been officially recognised as defined and few people need to be told which it is: WAITAKERE - no longer just the village northwest of Swanson.

Mail for here is, I believe, sorted elsewhere. Is it new Lynn? It used to be sorted in Glen Eden's little Post Office, and the address in the 1930's was *West Coast Road, Nihotupu, Glen Eden R.D., Auckland*. And now we have standard urban delivery (don't you think these quiet little motorbikes and their cheerful riders rather charming and efficient?).

Whilst on the subject... I was horrified to see three or four letterboxes damaged, between Kauri Loop Road and Rimu Road early on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> of October - but several bright new ones too!

Cheers, John Isaachsen

# Advertising and Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Korstiaan Prins via Email korprins@xtra.co.nz or phone 814 1850. Community Notices are free to financial members 2005, January to December. Any queries about membership can be answered by phoning the treasurer - Rod Maunder on 814 1831

**2006 FIREFIGHTER CALENDARS:** Support the Child Cancer Foundation by purchasing a firefighters' calendar for next year. They are available right now, and still only \$10.00. Please call Helen Longley, on 814 9855 or 027 481 4312.

**ATARUA GARDENS BED & BREAKFAST:** No room for your out of town visitors. Phone Carol or Denis on 814 - 9706 for quality accommodation at an affordable price.

**CLOCK REPAIRS:** Experienced clock repairer will restore most mechanical clocks back to life. Clocks made before 1900 a speciality. All work guaranteed. Phone Mike on 814 1817 or e-mail: mikesclocks@paradise.net.nz

**OPEN PERFORMANCE NIGHT:** Friday 28 October, from 7.30 pm, 4 Rimu Rd, Waiatarua. For actors, poets, musicians & dancers to perform in an encouraging atmosphere. Everyone is welcome to either watch or perform (entry by donation). For more info. ring John (ph) 814 9744, or email goudgedrama@zip.co.nz

**LAWN MOWING:** - Local, Reliable. Phone Eric 837 2333.  
**LA LECHE LEAGUE:** Meetings held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Kelston Community Centre. For more info call Adith: phone 818 7728.

**MARVELLOUS MOSAICS:** A chance to make some beautiful Xmas gifts - an ancient art - surprisingly easy to learn. Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November. 9.30am - 5.00pm @ Titirangi Community House. Cost: \$65.00. Call Lorraine on 817 7448 to enrol, and Helen (tutor) on 838 1320 for list of materials you'll need.

**STRAY DOGS:** Several residents in the general area of Devil's Elbow (West Coast/Forest Hill Rds) are concerned about frequent visits from two dogs. One, a standard (medium-sized) black poodle; the other, a dark-coloured chihuahua. The people involved have gone to a lot of effort - calls to SPCA, Animal Shelter, neighbours etc.- in an attempt to find the owners: all to no avail. I'm sure folk in this area are only too aware of the danger to any creature straying onto our roads. Please could the owners, or anyone who knows of these little dogs, contact Jenny McGee on 814 9954 or Judy Roberts on 814 9434.

## Legend Surfies Coming Our Way

As this publication hits local letterboxes, Waiatarua roads will be carrying thousands of surfers and enthusiasts out to our aquatic backyard, Piha, for the inaugural Vodafone Surf Sessions on Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Four of the world's top surfers are confirmed as participants - Andy Irons, Sunny Garcia, Mark Occhilupo and Joel Parkinson. Never before has a group of this calibre visited Aotearoa to compete in such an event. They will take on New Zealand's best: Daniel Kereopa, Maz and Jay Quinn and Bobby Hansen.

Not only will this occurrence put NZ on the surfing map, but it will also lift local competition and boost top Kiwi surfers' profiles worldwide.

### 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

**The Nikau Club Café**  
Scenic Drive Ph: 814 1919  
(applies to max 2 adults per visit)

**Colourplus Paint & Wallpaper**  
Glenmall, Glen Eden Ph: 818 8263

**Elkes Wine and Food Market**  
113 Sturges Rd. (Sat 10.00am-5.00pm)



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## Thinking of Selling?

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### Michelle Stanborough Sales & Marketing Consultant

Res: 814 9707  
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- dental services (ultrasonic scaler & micromotor)
- microchipping
- housecalls
- selected Pet Foods & requirements
- easy parking

Hours: Mon-Fri 8.30 - 6.30pm  
Saturday 9am - 12noon



Phone 818 4104 for an appointment

The WRRRA Committee would like to thank

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## The Waiatarua Community Hall

Excellent facility for training sessions, meetings, parties, dances, birthdays etc. in a relaxed and pleasant environment.

For booking enquiries phone the  
WRRRA enquiry line on 814 9353

## Neighbourhood Support

The names of our current co-ordinators are listed below. If you haven't been approached yet and would like to belong to one of these groups, give the co-ordinator a call.

Denis Graham Atarua Gardens	814-9706
Ross & Kath Mullins 330 Forest Hill Road	814-9402+Fax
Jenny McGee 886 West Coast Road	814-9954 jenny.mcgee@xtra.co.nz
Margaret/Paddy Marshall 19 Raroa Terrace	814-9859
Sandy McConnell 550 Scenic Drive	814 9962

For more information about  
**Neighbourhood Support**  
take a look at the website at [www.ns.org.nz](http://www.ns.org.nz)



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### SHERYL HAWKES

HENDERSON / WAITARUA

RES: 838 6520

Mob: 021 757427

Email: [newfie@xtra.co.nz](mailto:newfie@xtra.co.nz)



## NOVEMBER - DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of The Editor,  
by **WEDNESDAY 9th NOVEMBER, 2005**  
Robin Essex, 13 Bendalls Lane, Waiatarua.  
Phone 814 1850 - E-MAIL: [robsx@free.net.nz](mailto:robsx@free.net.nz)