



Community News

SEPTEMBER 1996

EDITOR : MARGARET BLUMHARDT

CANDIDATES MEETING

This year our meeting to hear our parliamentary candidates takes on a new significance with an MMP election.

The date will be Thursday September 19 at 7.30 pm at the Waiaatarua Hall. We will have a cups of tea and coffee available at 7 pm and you can socialise before the meeting.

All candidates for The Waitakere electorate will be invited and will be able to speak for five minutes. This will be followed by question time.

So far the following candidates have accepted our invitation (in no special order) are;

Suzanne Sinclair – Labour, Marie Hasler – National, Liz Thomas – Alliance, Mark Bellingham – Progressive Greens, Stephen Depiazzi – ACT, and a Spokesperson from Christian Coalition.

I have left three messages for Ralph Maxwell, NZ First over a period of three weeks but as yet he has not replied.

This is a not to be missed occasion when you have a good chance to assess the relative merits of the candidates standing in our electorate.

OPERATION SPRING CLEAN

This year "Keep Waitakere Beautiful" is organising the annual "Operation Spring Clean" on September 21 and 22.

This has become a world wide clean up day.

The focus this year is to clean up the rubbish from the main roads in our area. We will be supplied with gloves and rubbish bags for the project.

Tony Holt has offered to co-ordinate this in our area and would like to hear from all those able to take part – come and help make this a significant clean up weekend in our area.

A lot of people could make a big difference if they were able to help, even for a short time. Please phone Tony on 814-9688 and help clean up Waiaatarua.

GARDEN GROUP

This month we are having a guided tour of the attractive gardens and nursery of the Ellerslie Racecourse. We will meet at the Racecourse administration building on Wednesday 25 September at 1 pm, entering at the main entrance on Greenlane and driving through the next set of gates to the lawn enclosure.

There will also be an opportunity to view the Racing Museum after the tour.

Mark your diary now for our October 23 meeting which will be a full day visiting the Waiuku area gardens with a picnic lunch. Hopefully the rain will have ceased by that time.

You are welcome to join the Garden Group activities occasionally or every month, there is no membership or fees to pay. We normally meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

For further enquiries phone Eileen on 814-9298 or Margaret or Terry on 814-9843.

PLAYCENTRE

If you and your child are interested in coming down to Playcentre to see what is going on we'd love to see you. We are down the driveway next to the Community Centre, 911 West Coast Road.

Our sessions are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9.30 am – 12 noon and our phone is 814-835 or phone Debbie 814-9187.

FIRE BRIGADE

All fires and emergencies – dial 111.

For anything else, Ian Ford (814-9618), Lyndsay Whittle (814-9872) or Richard Seccombe(814-8860).

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY CENTRE

Your committee has not yet signed the lease but is finding that dealing with the council officers dealing with the lease and getting the maintenance up to scratch is surely the partnership situation we find much more beneficial than in the past. Although the lease is not signed we have taken over the renting responsibilities.

Terry Blumhardt is acting Caretaker and will take bookings etc. Phone him on 814-9843. The committee is working on reviewing the conditions of hire and the charges.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 125 members this year so far. The subscription form is itching to be sent in!

NZ POST REPLY to complaints concerning mail delivery

Dear Mr Davis

In response to your letter of 30 July 1996 concerning problems with mail deliveries in your area.

New Zealand Post views this service failure seriously and the matter has been brought to the attention of those concerned.

A complete review has been undertaken of all delivery Rounds in your area and a current "recast" of those Rounds is underway.

Improvements to the delivery service will be imminent upon commencement of the Round revisals.

The proposed date for commencement is 2 September 1996.

I trust that you will not have cause for concern regarding your mail delivery in the future.

Please feel free to contact me should you experience any further difficulties.

Yours sincerely Jan Edwards, Manager, New Lynn Postal Delivery Branch.

We will be replying to this letter and asking what we should be expecting from the service so that we know if it is not happening, eg time to expect delivery.

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Zoe, Andrew and wife and Juith Evison of Forest Hill Road on the death of husband and father Don.

WAITAKERE LIFE EDUCATION TRUST

presents . . .

Spring Festival of Country Gardens

From Waitatarua to Coatesville.
November 9 and 10.

Mark your diary now. For further information phone 814-9298



ANYONE WANT TO GO WALKING?

I would like to have company to go walking during the day for about an hour once or twice a week. Phone Margaret on 814-9843.

GRAPEVINE

You can subscribe to Grapevine and receive every edition monthly by post instead of only some as in the past. The cost is \$29.95 for 12 editions (normally \$35.95). Students, beneficiaries and senior citizens pay \$22. Post subscriptions to - Freepost 86, Private Bag 92124, Auckland. Phone 624-3079 to subscribe via credit card.



NOTED . . .

On Monday 26th August - our trusty Waitatarua Volunteer Firefighters removing the debris from a slip on West Coast Road. Thanks heaps - from fellow Waitataruan's.

LIBRARY NEWS

Spring is just around the corner - get your gardening books here.

"Gardening on Clay"

"Organic Gardening"

"Gardening with NZ Plants" and lots more!

NEW ARRIVALS:

Rhododendrons	<i>Murray Richards(NZ writer)</i>
From Potters Field	<i>Patricia Cornwell</i>
The Horse Whisperer	<i>Nicholas Evans</i>
Cry of the Haldon	<i>Robert Ludlum</i>

Our 200 exchange books arrived last month from the Te Atatu South Library - come and have a browse through them. We have them for six months.

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

911 West Coast Road,
under the Community Centre.
Phone 814-9353

Hours of Opening

Thursday	10am - 12 noon
Friday	7pm - 8 pm
Saturday	11am - 12 noon
Sunday	11am - 12 noon

Books can be returned at any time through the chute by the library door

HOW THE WAITAKERE TRACKS WERE NAMED (Part 2)

Continuing the track naming story from the letters of the late Arthur Mead, he explains that when a new track was formed from Anawhata Road to the top end of the Piha gorge he had planned to call it **Black Rock Track**, after that prominent feature where it met the gorge. But trampers had already begun to call it **Centennial Track**, so that name was formally adopted.

From the old timber dam at the gorge there already existed a bushman's track running up the south ridge to **Home Track** and the name **Centennial** was now extended to this, giving a through route. Later the Piha Valley Track, partly a timber getting route, partly new formation, was extended to the gorge crossing.

The principle of naming a track from entrance to exit could not always be followed. **Kauri Grove Track**, running down the Kitekite branch of the Piha Stream, took its name from a group of kauri at the head of the valley near the West Coast Road. In Arthur Mead's time this fine grove was reached by a faint trail from the road on a very bad grade. As he planned a new grade it became clear that the valley could provide a through route. So the track was extended to a point where it linked up with a sledge track and old bushman's route past the Kitekite Falls to the blind end of Glen Esk Road in the lower Piha Valley. The idea was to

call it Kauri Grove Track from West Coast Road from entrance to exit. "But", wrote Arthur Meade, "Trampers considered that this was too long and should be divided, particularly as it was crossed at right angles about half way by a track athwart the Kitekite Valley. The top half to the cross track was accordingly called **Kauri Grove Track** and the lower half **Kitekite Track**".

Another case of a compromise in track naming was **Fairy Falls Track** in the upper Henderson Valley. Some voluntary work on this track had been organised by a keen and popular trumper, **Dick Jones**. He had seen service in the western desert in World War II and wanted to preserve the name Diamond Trail, a military name in that sector. The tramping clubs were happy for this to be adopted but the nature clubs had fallen into the habit of calling it Fairy Falls Track from a series of leaps taken by the stream where the track met it about half way. Finally it was agreed that the name **Diamond Trail** be given to a loop of the main track, the track itself retaining the Fairy Falls name.

Arthur Mead, a keen amateur botanist himself, decided to provide a track especially planned for botanical interest - a loop returning to the same road entrance and traversing as much variety of bush as possible.

"I decided to use the upper half of **Kauri Grove Track**, cross the Kitekite stream and grade along the other side of the valley back to the West Coast entrance. When it was formed I led a party of the Auckland Botanical Society round the loop and explained it's purpose, suggesting that we might commemorate **Lucy Cranwell**, who had done so much for the botany of the range, by naming it Cranwell Track. The party preferred the full name **Lucy Cranwell Track** as there were other Cranwells in Auckland, so it was done".

Footnote: Lucy Cranwell's *The Botany of Auckland*, published by the Auckland Institute and War Memorial Museum in 1981 is a delightfully readable and well illustrated account of our plant life, from dunes to rainforest.

Many thanks to the Piha Community News for this and the previous very interesting article on this subject - EDITOR.

AUCKLAND REGIONAL PARKS

SPRING BIRD WALK, Wenderholm Regional Park, Saturday 21 September, 10am - 1 pm, Entry Fee.

ADVENTURE TRAMP, Waharau Regional Park, Monday 28 October, 9 am - 4 pm. A full day tramp through the south eastern Hunuas. Entry fee.

SECOND PUHOI RIVER RAFT RACE, Wenderholm Regional Park, Saturday 16 November. Get a raft organised and compete for the Wenderholm Cup. Entry fee.

WENDERHOLM NIGHT WALK, Wenderholm Regional Park, Saturday 23 November, 6 pm - 11 pm. Entry fee.

BOTANIC GARDENS GUIDED RAMBLES, 10 am - 12 noon, \$3.

Native plants October 6, **Herbs** November 3, **Perennials** December 1.

HOME GARDEN DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE, \$5 payable at door.

HOUSE PLANTS/ OUTSTANDING PERENNIALS September 22.

For more information and bookings phone 366-2166.

CALENDAR FOR ARATAKI GALLERY, Arataki Centre, Scenic Drive

Aug 31 - Sept 26 - Alison Milne, floor rugs - colours of the forest - woven out of recycled rags.

Sept 28 - Oct 31 - Ann Robinson interprets our environment in hot glass.

Nov 2 - Dec 5 - Janet Bothner - by acrylic Waitakere landscape paintings.

Programme is confirmed at this time but changes are possible. For more information contact Ann Tibbutt, Arataki Visitors Centre, 817-7134

Auckland Regional Parks News and Events pamphlets are available from Waiaatarua library and Arataki.

Waiaatarua

By Julie Morrow

"Waiaatarua - um . . . where's that?" they say

"Never heard of it!"

I reply

"It's next to a place called Oratia

It has an excellent superette there

Last shop till Piha."

Waiaatarua — bush clad sections hidden away

Choice views and kauri trees

Mostly rather steep

We live on poles

And when that westerly wind blows

Well. You all know!

Beautifully cool in summer

Refreshing really

Winter is a slightly different story

We won't go into that!

Waiaatarua — we do get a lot of rain

Some of us collect it

We're lucky

We don't pay those water rates

But we do have something on our minds

How much water have we?

Are we overflowing?

or can that washing wait?

Waiaatarua — driving in Waiaatarua can be fun

Always an experience

Wouldn't you say

Notorious driveways

Steeper than steep

I've been stuck in that one

Have you?

or did you park at the top?

Waiaatarua in summer

A drive to the dairy

cold drinks and ice-creams for the family

(The drive can be a bit hazardous

with all that traffic

off out to the beaches)

On the way home

Fresh fruit, veges and flowers for sale

Stop!

Only a dollar or two

No excuses for all you males!

Waiaatarua — though we have no dairy

We don't miss out

We do have a community hall

A play centre nestled nicely in our bush

And a library

With all the latest titles

And of course

The best part of all

You

Our very friendly Waiaataruan!!

ADVERTISING

*This is free to financial members for 1996,
January to December. A list of financial members
is available at the library,
and any queries about membership
can be answered by phoning
the Treasurer – Eileen Powell on 814-9298*

**Repeat commercial advertisements of financial
members will only be printed as space allows,
for the remainder of the financial year**

ELECTRICIAN – Phone your local man, Jim
on 814-9344.

CARING BABYSITTER WANTED for 12 month old,
occasional Saturday nights etc as required, in our
home. Must be responsible, experienced and capable
of caring for a young child. Moutain Road area.
Phone 8375-285.

BIRKENSTOCK SANDALS – German style sandals,
from \$85. Some pairs on special 20 – 30% reduced.
Phone 814-9996

CLASSICAL HOMOEOPATHY – After 3 years of
intensive study I am now a final year undergraduate of
the Auckland College of Classical Homoeopathy. I now
need cases for my Diploma exams. If you are curious
about Homoeopathy or have a health ailment which
needs some attention then please feel free to give me a
call. I am a mature person with a sympathetic ear. Full
confidentiality is assured. In lieu of fee any donation
would be appreciated. Looking forward to your call.
Phone Tricia Lukas on 814-9221.

GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING –
Phone Linda 833-7860

BAND FOR HIRE – Experienced, reliable and profes-
sional. Wide range of music, will suit any occasion. For
details and bookings please phone Steve on 814-9191

THE FAIRY FLOWER SHOP – 543A West Coast Road,
for that special gift. Phone 813-0333.

PALMS, BANANAS AND OTHER EXOTICS FOR SALE
–visits to Landsend - valley of the Palms are by
appointment only - so please phone 818-6914 and we
will love to show you around at 108 Parker Road,
Oratia. \$5 entry fee is redeemable on plant purchases

MORRIS LANDSCAPES – Design and construction
specialists. Making the most of your outdoor space.
Whether you require:- design, paving, retaining,
fencing, planting, a new lawn or maintenance. Phone
814-9918 or (025) 974519

VETERINARIAN For pets and farm animals. House
calls a speciality. Phone Neil Pullan on 814-9504.

HAIRDRESSER – will cut your hair at your home. Over
25 yrs experience, reasonable rates, phone
Lesley 814-9242.

GERMAN AND SPANISH translations and language
tuition by qualified teacher. Phone 814-9903

EXCAVATOR FOR HIRE Rubber tracks for minimum
damage. Drilling to 6 metres deep, Truck hire. Difficult
conditions our speciality. Peninsula Contractors.
Phone Len on 834-6125, mobile 021 939-740 or
Ross on 814-9002, mobile 025 939-740.

THE WATER FILTER WAREHOUSE – Mobile Service
for Water Filters/Purifiers. Sales, Service, Installation,
Replacement cartridges. Free quotes. Phone Robin
814-9202.

Please accept my subscription to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
for 1996

I enclose: \$7 Household, \$4 Single Occupant

Name

Address

Phone

To Treasurer

Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Auckland 8
or leave at the library

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of

Margaret Blumhardt

Phone 814-9843

849 West Coast Road, Waiatarua

(opposite Raroa Terrace)

by WEDNESDAY 9th OCTOBER, 1996

*Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessar-
ily those of the Editor or the Waiatarua Ratepayers and
Residents Association.*

Many thanks to the Longley Family for once again
printing this newsletter.