



Community News

FEBRUARY 1997

EDITOR : MARGARET BLUMHARDT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association (Incorporated) will be held on Thursday 27 February 1997 at the Community Centre, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the President's report, and the financial statement, elect officers and transact general business.

Tea and coffee will be served from 7 pm followed by an address from Councillor Gwen Nash at 7.30 pm. Cr. Nash has been invited to talk to us about rating issues, specifically the current study into the Outer/Inner Differential. The Annual meeting will follow the speaker.

Note that only financial members may vote at the AGM. Subs fell due on 1st January 1997, and the Treasurer will be at the meeting, ready to accept your sub with suitable cries of thanks.

CUSTODIAN

Terry Blumhardt, 849 West Coast Road, (opposite Raroa Terrace) has been appointed Caretaker/Custodian of the Community Centre. Please contact him for bookings of the Centre and also if you should be passing and have any concern about the Centre, any lights left on or other issues. We need you to consider how we can use the centre more. Meetings, seminars, birthday parties, especially children's, dinner parties, etc. The wooden floor makes the venue very suitable for dancing.

The number to phone is 814-9843

ACTORS WANTED

For 1125-J (Les Pompiers)

Male and female, including a boy aged 10-12, for the sequel to 'Phone 1125-J, a short and three longs'.

For auditions and enquiries phone Tony on 814 9688 or Lindsay on 8149-872

GARDEN GROUP

This month's visit is on February 26 at 1 pm to the Brady garden on Taupaki Road. \$4 entrance fee includes entrance to the cottage garden and Devonshire tea. Ring Eileen on 814-9298 for exact details and car pooling.

PLAYCENTRE

The Playcentre is situated down the drive next to the Community Centre, 911 West Coast Road, and if you would like to join us our session times are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30 am - 12 noon.

For more information please phone 814-8835.

LIBRARY NEWS

A happy New Year. The library is now open for business and we look forward to seeing all our existing members and would welcome new ones. We have had some books donated, including:

Ramage at Trafalgar	<i>Dudley Pope</i>
The Dark of the Sun	<i>Wilbur Smith</i>
Not as a Stranger	<i>M. Thompson</i>
Christine	<i>Stephen King</i>
Corroboree	<i>Graham Masterson</i>
A Time to Embrace	<i>Lilli Palmer</i>

For the Youngsters:

The Porter Brothers	<i>William Taylor</i>
The Trouble with Gran	<i>Babette Cole</i>

Contact Bev 836-4420

or Anne 814-8874 for any queries.

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.

PETITION

The petition raised by residents in the Raroa Terrace area concerning the need for a footpath between Raroa Terrace and Bush Road has been endorsed by your committee and passed to the Community Board with a request for action. Your committee has already made submissions to the Annual Plan process on the same topic.

DECIBELS DISTURB DISTRICT

If you were kept awake by the noise from the music over Anniversary Weekend, you might like to know it did not come from Rose Hellaby House, as reported by one complainant, or the Community Centre, as reported by another, but from Cascade Avenue. The moral: make sure of your facts before you complain, and if **you** intend to have a party, be aware of how far sound travels in the hills. To add insult to injury, the music was live and excruciatingly badly performed!

MAST RADIATION MONITORING

This issue is raising its head again. If you read the document that came with your last rates demand, you will have seen that the Council is proposing a variation to the District Plan that changes the requirements for radiation levels from compliance with the New Zealand Standard to a more general health and safety requirement. Depending on who you listen to, this is a good or a bad thing, however one thing is sure – it is something we need to be concerned about. Submissions on the matter close on March 14th, so we do not have a lot of time. Your committee is trying to develop a submission, and if there is anyone in the community with an interest or expertise in these matters, please phone the President, Gerry Davis, on 814 8833 as soon as possible. If necessary, we will try to organise a public meeting on the matter, in which case we will let you know the details as soon as they are available.

WAIATARUA RESIDENT

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

to be held at

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY CENTRE

18TH MARCH 1997 at 7pm

Learn how we can make our Community safer

SPEAKERS:

Trish Maxwell District Coordinator for West Auckland Neighbourhood Support.

Sgt Martin Landsey Community relations Co-Ordinator

Brent Copson Glen Eden Community Police

EVERYONE IS INVITED

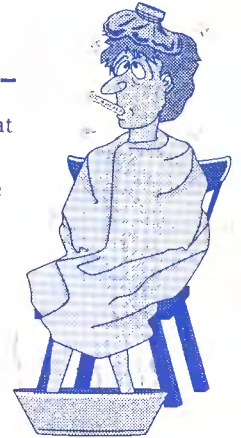
One member from every household should attend

Enquiries - phone Mary on 814 9857

OF SHOES AND SHIPS . . .

Temporarily on the Sick List –

Our amazing Editor is out of action at the moment but according to a close source she's much improved and will be home again soon and raring to go on yet another exciting Newsletter.



Welcome –

To the Jamieson family newly arrived in Raroa Terrace.

As we all like living in a "Community", it would be really great to hear of comings and goings and other breathtaking news around us. Even though we don't get to actually see a lot of our neighbours it's good to hear what's happening.

This is meant to be a "Community Newsletter" so it would be lovely if anyone has any news to share, if they would either drop it into Margaret and Terry's letterbox or even phone Margaret if putting pen to paper is too much. See page 4 for all the relevant info.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

On my way around our area it's become very evident that rubbish (especially building rubble and the like) is often simply 'put' out the front of our properties for the rubbishmen to collect. Surely it would make everyone's lives much easier if it was put into some sort of suitable container – ie cartons, garden sacks etc.

Carol Longley



RAGING WAR ON POSSUMS!

BY KEVIN GOULD

They may look cute and cuddly, but don't underestimate the devastating effects these noxious pests are having on our forests. Possums not only browse on selective tree species, they also impact upon native bird life through predation of chicks and eggs, and by eating berries and insects. ARC has conducted a survey to assess the extent of the problem in the venous regions of Waitakere Ranges. I attended a meeting on 6th November at the Arataki Centre to hear the outcome of the survey, and to discuss the best course of action.

How many possums are there?

In 1995, possum density was estimated for the whole of the Waitakere Ranges by counting the numbers caught in 100 traps per night over three nights. The higher the figure, the faster our forests can be destroyed by possums:

Density per 100 trap-nights

20 or more

15

10

5

Rate of destruction

High

Medium

Low

Negligible

Possums were found to be around 20 per 100 trapnights in all catchments of the Waitakere Ranges. *There are too many possums for the forest to survive!*

For the **forest to stay the way it is, we need** to reduce possums to 10 per 100 trapnights and in areas of endangered plants and animal the target is 5 per 100 trapnights .

Which areas are most at risk?

Areas within Waitakere Ranges were ranked from 1 (low) to 6 (high) for botanical and wildlife values, and from 1 (low) to 5 (high) for vulnerability to possum damage, based on visual assessment of 'indicator species', such as pohutukawa, northern rata, totara and Kohekohe. The two ranks were multiplied together to provide priority ratings for areas of high conservation value. The Whatipu coast had the highest conservation ranking, and is top priority for possum control:

Score	Priority	Area
30	1	Whatipu Coast
25	2	Huia, Piha
20	3	Nihotupu Basin Big Muddy Creek
15	4	Waitakere

What can be done?

ARC has inaugurated the *Waitakere Ranges Possum Control Project*, in collaboration with WCC and RDC. The first, crucial step is to inform and educate people from all walks of life who live within the periphery of the Waitakere Ranges. Brian Austin (ARC) has coordinated a 'roadshow' on the dangers of possum infestation that will be taken to schools, local groups, and shopping malls. A display has also been set up at the Arataki Centre, where people can purchase Timms traps for a modest \$35.

With public support behind them, ARC can begin the assault on possums. The cost could range from \$500,000 to \$1,500,000 depending on the methods used, and who does the work. The precise plan of action has yet to be determined, but it is likely to involve a combination of methods including trapping and poison baits. It is due to start later this year.

What can you do?

- Purchase a Timms trap, and urge your friends and neighbours to do the same.
- Write a letter of support to Brian Austin, Auckland Regional Council, 21 Pitt Street' Private Bag 68912, Auckland.
- Invite the roadshow to talk to your local group

What does WRPS committee think?

The Waitakere Ranges Protection Society approves of, and fully supports the possum control project. However, we are concerned that there is no provision in the programme for the eradication of other exotic pests, such as rats and feral cats. Their role in the destruction of our forests should not be ignored. We encourage you to write to ARC on this matter.

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**

ACCOMMODATION OFFERED Couple wanted to share house. \$75p.w. plus expenses. Phone Amanda 832 5401 a.h.

FOR SALE House lot of Cedar doors and windows. Includes french doors, kitchen window, front door etc. Various sizes. Sell as house lot or separately. Phone Lynn 814 9611.

WANTED TO RENT House in Waiaatarua for responsible adult tenants. Prefer 3/4 bdrm long term, but anything considered. Phone 8148 860.

PIANO LESSONS Practical or theory, children or adults, beginner or up to grade 5. \$10.00 per half hour. Phone Penelope on 8148 833.

ATTENTION ALL BOATIES A Coastguard Day Skipper course covering aspects of boating safety will be run at Henderson High School, commencing Thursday 20 February at 7pm. For full information call Chris Field on 814 9876, drop in to 799 West Coast Road or ring the school office on 838 9085.

JOHN HENDRIKSE, LAWYER AND NOTARY PUBLIC; available after hours at 914 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua by appointment. Phone 814-9991.

WAIATARUA MUSIC STUDIO. Violin and piano. Individual and group lessons. Celia Wood-Calvert. Phone 814-9660.

CHARACTER HOUSE WANTED TO RENT Oratia / Waiaatarua, 2 brm. City and sea views, sunny positioning, lock up garage with workbench by professional couple. Phone Brett or Julie 379-7300 business.

BUILDER - all work undertaken and guaranteed. Phone Mike Visser on 814-9440 or 025 931246.

FRENCH LANGUAGE LESSONS - call Nada on 833-7860

LEBANESE FOOD for all occasions, call Nada: 833-7860

HANDY MAN available, call Martin on 833-7860

PORTABLE SAWMILLING to your specifications. Macrocarpa for sarking, furniture and framing, also slabs available. Phone Eric 814-8833.

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

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 professional. Wide range of music, will suit any occasion. For details and bookings please phone Steve on 814-9191

Please accept my subscription to the
Waiaatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
for 1997

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

Name

Address

Phone

To Treasurer

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

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of

Margaret Blumhardt

PHONE 814-9843

**849 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua
(opposite Raroa Terrace)**

by WEDNESDAY 5th MARCH, 1997

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

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