



Community News

MAY 1998

EDITOR : CARLEINE RECEVEUR

WRRRA APRIL MEETING

This was held on Monday 6 April. Below is a brief summary of some of the main issues that were looked at:

1. Submissions to the Annual Plan 1998/1999

The committee has received from the council the decisions on the issues that were submitted by WRRRA. Please note that this is for the draft annual plan.

Response includes:

- a) Agreed increased funding for footpaths
- b) Footpath for West Coast road and Raroe Tce: council comment that the bus stop and footpath options are being designed, and funding for the selected option is programmed for 1997/98. It is not included in the 1998/99 annual plan.
- c) Intersection Piha / Scenic Drive : The intersection is still on the priority listing for Council's minor safety improvements. Major upgrading is expensive and would not qualify for Transfund NZ subsidies. The intersection will be assessed by the Community Board for the 1998/99 year but not included in the draft annual plan.
- d) A request for provision of increased parking at Waiatarua Community Hall has not been included in the plan.

2. Inner - Outer Differential

Hopefully everyone would have received the two pamphlets that were circulated by the committee concerning this.

A core number of committee members have worked hard on the issues and have submitted a reply to Council. Thanks to them for their hard work on this. The closing date for submissions was April 9th - your contribution as residents was also imperative, thanks to those who sent in separate submissions - the more voices heard the better.

3. Changes to Committee Members

Chris Field has resigned as a committee member.

Jill Abbott from Scenic Drive, has kindly taken up the position of Secretary. She can be contacted on 814-9089.

4. New Community Sign

If you haven't seen it already a new sign has been positioned outside the Community Hall. Unfortunately it hasn't been placed in the recommended place! The committee is looking at it being relocated so that it is more visible for people travelling up and down West Coast Road.

5. Contribution

The Waiatarua Fire Brigade has donated \$500 to the WRRRA as a thanks to the association for the use of the Hall for their fund raising Drama productions. Thanks guys.

FILMING IN THE WAITAKERE'S

- a media release from the Waitakere City council -

The City Council has relaxed the rules governing filming in Waitakere City. Film companies can now use locations in Waitakere for up to 30 days without a resource consent. For longer periods, filming has now been designated as a controlled activity which carries few restrictions.

Mayor Harvey estimates that television shows (like Xena and Hercules which are shot in Henderson and Bethells), movies like the Piano which was shot at Karekare, documentaries and advertisements, bring more than \$10 million a year into Waitakere's economy.

The announcement of the new rules come on the heels of the start of a BBC funded history of Auckland called "Greenstone". It includes filming at Bethells / Te Henga and the construction of a set, of 19th century Auckland at Studio West in Glen Eden.

Another production starting shortly is a film entitled "Wild Blue", it will include film sequences with an old Tiger Moth at Whenuapai.

MESSAGE FROM OUR WAIATARUA

BIOSECURITY OFFICER

Chris McKain is the Auckland Regional Council's Biosecurity Officer for our region. Chris will be making regular contributions to the newsletter providing us with interesting facts and figures and informing us of the current and relevant issues that affect us as residents of Waiatarua.

This month we look at four invasive weeds that the Auckland Regional Council is targeting, in the...

Gang of Four

The Auckland Regional Council is targeting its "Gang of Four" in its war against plant pests in West Auckland. **Woolly Nightshade, Moth Plant, Mignonette vine** and **Smilax** have been identified by the council as invasive weeds which are particularly difficult to control. The council is asking residents of the area to keep an eye out for these plants and remove them from their properties. The council's Biosecurity Unit is willing to assist residents in identifying and controlling these plant pests.

Chris McKain says that the Waitakere Ranges are a unique natural area which is worth protecting. "Over the years many types of invasive plants have encroached on this area severely impacting upon the native flora and fauna. These four plants have the potential of becoming wide spread in a short time period if they remain unchecked. We don't want to see them become as big as a problem as wild ginger" he says.

Woolly Nightshade

The more common of the four plants, can quickly invade open regenerating bush areas. The plant was first introduced into New Zealand from South America as an ornamental tree for gardens. Its leaves look like a tobacco plant, which is its common name. Woolly Nightshade is a fast growing plant which can grow into a substantial sized tree.

The plant produces masses of yellow berries which are a popular food source for birds. This is the principle way the plant is spread over wide areas. Its seedlings are often found around the favourite roosting trees of native pigeons.

Each berry can produce a large number of seedlings. The seedlings can germinate in shady areas and out-compete most native species. Their rapid growth rate means that they can form a forest within a relatively short time. This has happened in many parts of the Auckland Region as well as substantial parts of the upper North Island where regenerating bush has been stifled by Woolly Nightshade forests.

The Waitakere City Council is methodically removing Woolly Nightshade from all their reserves. The Auckland Regional Council is working with the city council to help achieve this. However, both councils need the assistance of private property owners if we are to win the war against this weed. "It's no point removing the plant from the public areas if it is still allowed to thrive on private land" says Chris. "If we all play our part we can win the war to eradicate this plant pest from West Auckland.

The Auckland Regional Council has a range of pest factsheets on all these plants. These are available for free from the Regional Council's information service, Enviroline 0800 80 60 40.

If you have any of the "Gang of Four" growing on your property or you are unsure of how to identify them, contact Chris McKain, Auckland Regional Council Biosecurity Officer on 817 5153 or 025 222 9059.

LIBRARY NEWS

After 25 years - a founding member as a helper on the Desk and in the back room, we are sad to say goodbye to Otteline van Rosem. Hans and Otteline are moving to Noosa Australia for the climate, we wish them all the very best in a new country. Thank you Otteline.

New books arrived this month:

<i>Penny Vincenzi</i>	Windfall
<i>Jackie Collins</i>	Thrill
<i>Derek Hansen</i>	Sole Survivor (this is about three people living on a remote part of Great Barrier Island. Recommended.)
<i>Lynda La Plant</i>	Cold Heart

AMENDMENT

Please note that Debbie Irving has taken over the role as Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator from Daniel Muller.

She is located at 562 Scenic Drive ph: 814 9789.

PLAYCENTRE

Firstly, we at Playcentre would like to extend our appreciation to those in the community who have already responded to our Telecom fundrasier and become sponsors. This means a great deal to us. If you still wish to register for this scheme phone the Playcentre on 8148835 or Debbie Brown on 8149187.

Our recent open days at the centre were a success with visits from new families within our district. If you didn't manage to visit us then please remember we always eagerly welcome new members. Visit us Monday, Wednesday, Friday 0930 - 1200pm 911 West Coast Road (down the community centre driveway).

Lastly, a poem for thought . . .

*If I had my child to raise all over again
I'd fingerprint more and point the finger less
I'd do less correcting and more connecting
I'd take my eyes off my watch and watch with my eyes
I would care to know less and know to care more
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites
I'd stop playing serious and seriously play
I'd run through more fields and gaze at more stars
I'd do more hugging and less tugging
I would be firm less often and affirm much more
I'd build self esteem first and the house later
I'd teach less about the love of power
And more about the power of LOVE.*

by Dianne Loomans

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 & Sunday	11am — 12 noon

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

WRRRA COMMITTEE PROFILE

Introducing..... Terry Chapman

My wife, Ruth and I immigrated to New Zealand in June last year, after a three week holiday in 1996. This was a coming-home for Ruth as she left Henderson for Europe in 1978. After spending a year in France and doing the kiwi tour of Europe she became a teacher in London. We met in 1981, and subsequently moved out of London to Maldon in Essex, and Ruth left teaching to join me in the wonderful world of computing.

We had been living in Essex for fourteen years, with two dogs (both Border Collier – one short hair in the traditional black and white, and one fairly rare, reddy brown and white one), two cats (both black, one fat, the other fatter), two cars (one Renault Clio now there are two in Auckland), and about two thousand books (fair competition for Waiatarua's library. All have been transplanted safely and happily.

The Maldon district of Essex is pretty flat – the part we lived in is called "The Dengie Hundred" – a low lying area of about 30 000 people that lies between two salt-water river estuaries, to the North and South, with the wild and lonely mud-flats of the East coast protecting it from the cold North Sea. It is called a "Hundred" because in Saxon times 100 elders would meet for "council moots" at the central village of Dengie. Here they would gather and ask each other questions such as "do we think it is right that the king is going to raise our rates, us living in this wild and outer district and all?" Surely those living in Middlesex who have roads and water supplies should continue to pay more than us!"

The northern of these two rivers, the Blackwater, is where the Saxons fought the Danish raiders at the Battle of Maldon (losing gloriously) – a few years ago the district celebrated the 1000th anniversary of this. The southern of these two rivers, the Crouch, is where Cnut The Great demonstrated to his people that even a king cannot turn the tide. It was also the setting for the story "The Snow Goose".

From these wild, lonely, low, flat, historical, fields of grass and oak trees we have come to the 400m high, modern, eco city and its lofty Waitakere ranges filled with exotic palms, pongas and possums.

When we were house hunting dashing from Open Home to Open Home. proving you could almost do eight in a day, sixteen in a weekend, we passed through and saw and liked. We have been living here since October, I work in Grafton Road, Ruth on the North Shore, both in computing.

What do I miss most about England? TV with no adverts, Tesco Supermarkets and vowels. What do I like most about New Zealand? Fresh air, sunshine, scenery and smiles. My favourite place is Piha – the dogs love it – and they are allowed there. Have tried some of the recommended East Coast beaches, but like the fountains at Versailles, the sea is always switched off and not doing anything when we get there. Trying to cultivate the garden, but its hard work going up and down hill all the time. We have a small plot of wild ginger. Don't the flowers smell nice?

WHAT'S ON:

Sunday 26 April – Nihotupu Tramline Walk

start walking anytime between 9.00am and 2.00pm
2 1/2 hours walk, wet or fine

An annual event, the Nihotupu Tramline Walk is where the public are invited to walk through the water catchment area. Buses will take people from Arataki to the start of the walk at the entrance to the Upper Nihotupu Dam on Piha Road. Sponsored by Water Care Services, the walk is in aid of the work of "Water for Survival", a New Zealand Charity which helps developing countries with basic water supply, sanitation and health education.

It is recommended that people bring: torches for tunnels, donation to assist Water for survival Charity \$5 per adult, family members under 15 fee and groups of children \$2 per child.

Light refreshments may be purchased at Nihotupu Dam.

For more information regarding the walk ph 636 7719

Sunday 26 April – Waitakere Historical Tour

9.00am – 5.00pm Southern Waitakere Ranges Parkland

Join the tour bus to travel through and experience the early European pioneering history of the southern Waitakere Ranges. Learn about the milling, bushmen, farming history, local tragedies and events

Cost \$20 per person. Bookings essential.

For more information contact ParksLine ph 303 1530

30 April – 7 June Lopdell House Gallery

Revisoning the Real : recent figurative painting and sculpture

The exhibition groups together a number of established New Zealand artists who work in the figurative tradition and ask the question "What is it about their works which makes them such insightful reflections of our times?."

Artists include Peter Siddell, Sylvia Siddell, Joanna Baithwaite, Greer Twiss, Paul Dibble, Terry Stringer, Stanley Palmer, Mary McIntyre, Glenda Randerson and Michael Smither.



Last month we visited Colourline Nursery on West Coast Road which was a very informative and interesting session. This is a wholesale nursery supplying local garden centres, specialising in Perennials, and the distinctive purple labels are easy to pick out when buying plants for Autumn planting

This months theme is Bromeliads and we will be visiting a specialist grower at 40 Tirimoana Road, Te Atatu South on Wednesday 22 April 1pm.

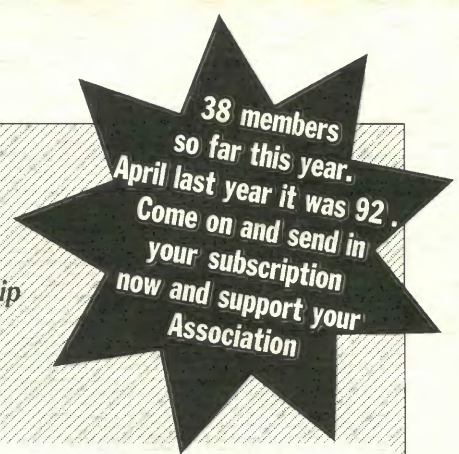
Ring Eileen on 814-9298 for further information or car pooling.

ADVERTISING

This is free to financial members for 1998, 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



LEARN TO SPEAK ITALIAN with an experienced native teacher. Private or groups, all levels – conversation, grammar, business. Phone Alessandra, 814-8993.

PROFESSIONAL ROCK BAND FOR HIRE – Very versatile with full stage show. For details and bookings phone 814-9191.

VETERINARIAN – Full veterinary service for dogs, cats and other pets; including spays and neutering, Xrays, urgent medical and surgical treatment. House calls. Phone Neil Pullan on 814-9504.

EXCELLENT CHEAP GLASS REPAIRS – phone 814-9786

FIREWOOD FOR SALE – guaranteed dry split macrocarpa, \$55 per cubic metre. Call at 17 Rimu Road or phone 814-8833

MUSIC TEACHER – available to teach piano, keyboard and theory. Based in Waiatarua. Offers one-to-one tuition, practical and theory exams, competitions - all at reasonable prices. Contact NZ Modern School of Music on 0800 696874

KEEP HEALTHY NATURALLY – Tricia Lukas, Classical Homoeopath Dip. A.C. Hom. First Aid and Chronic Health Problems. Phone 814-9221

FOR SALE – tramping boots, Asolo superscout, size 7, worn just once \$75. Phone Ria Molema on 814-9705

CHICKS FOR SALE – Wyndotes, Buff and Black Orpington's 12 weeks old. Phone 814-9272

GARDENING – Design; rose and fruit tree pruning. Phone Linda Bell (Dip Hort) on 833-7860

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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.

Name	Address	Phone
Mary Kelly	3 Atarua Gardens	814-9857
Tony Holt	56 Bush Road	814-9688
Ross & Kath Mullins	330 Forest Hill Rd	814-9402
Jenny McGee	886 West Coast Rd	814-9954
Chris Field	799 West Coast Rd	814-9876
Ngairi Mason	21 Tui Crescent	814-9036
Bernie Oudemans	15 Quinns Road	814-9941
Margaret & Paddy Marshall	19 Raroa Tce	814-9859
Debbie Irving	562 Scenic Drive	814 9789
Gaelene & Tony Goodrich	17 Cascade Ave	814-9788

Please accept my subscription to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
for 1998

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

WAIATARUA

COMMUNITY HALL HIRE

Remember to hire this excellent facility for your meetings, parties, dances, birthdays (children's and adults) etc. Lovely wooden floor for dancing.

Friday and Saturday evenings, (including chairs & tables) \$100.

Hourly rate, (max 3 hours) \$10 per hour

Sunday to Thursday evenings \$65, hourly rate \$7 per hour, (max 3 hrs)

Daily rates Monday – Friday, Full day \$25, hourly rate \$5

Saturdays & Sundays, Full day \$35, hourly \$7

Crockery hire \$25, Bond up to \$250.

Discount for regular users. Community Barbecue hire \$20

Phone the custodian, Terry Blumhardt, on 814-9843

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of

The Editor,

722 West Coast Road,

Waiatarua

by MONDAY 8TH MAY, 1998

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