



Community News

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2000
EDITOR:
JOSEPHINE HALL
WRRA PRESIDENT:
GERRY DAVIS PH 814-8833

This month at the WRRA

We welcomed Kubi Witten-Hannah, our Community Board representative, and Brian Morris from West Coast Road to this month's meeting.

Matters arising :

- There was much discussion over the proposed boundary changes and representation for the Waitakere ward. The council proposal is that Sturges Road, Bruce McLaren Road and Henderson Valley Road be included in the Henderson ward, and Glen Eden Heights (Glengarry and Solar Road) be included in to the New Lynn ward. The effect of this would be a reduction from 3 to 2 councillors representing our Waitakere ward.

Kubi Witten-hannah expressed his concern about the proposed boundary changes, as this could lead to a further reduction in services to those residents in the rural areas of Waitakere City.

- There was much discussion about road widening and the provision of footpaths in Waitakere. In short, it seems as though a few more accidents, some resulting in death, are needed, before any road widening will take place. It has been WRRA policy to bring-home to the Council that our roads do not meet the LTSA standard for busy national route roads – and this is strange, when it is considered how much is spent advocating the Waitakere's as a tourist play-area.
- Septic tanks and the inspection of such, were talked about at length – there have been long-standing questions over the effectiveness of the 'inspection' carried out when tanks are emptied. More on this next month (hold your breath).
- We are still investigating ideas for redecorating the hall. Fire equipment in the hall and library is being upgraded.
- We have 16 new financial members for August ... a total of 134 for this year.
- Information is being sought on the two old time photographs that are hung in the main hall. These will have a small description added to them. If you have any information about them please phone Jo Hall on 814-9945.
- Terry spoke briefly about the absolutely amazing Wine and Cheese tasting quiz to be held next month – see elsewhere in this issue.

The next meeting of the Waitakere Residents and Ratepayers Association will be held on Monday 2nd October at 7.30pm at the Waitakere Community Hall, 911 West Coast Road, Waitakere.

All are welcome to attend.

Waitakere Community Board

Chairperson's Column – August 2000

Two events have completely overtaken all other concerns this month. Both have huge implications for the future of our "Eco-city" and our Ward.

1. Proposed Boundary Changes:

Council chose (by 8 votes to 6) to recommend new Ward boundaries effective from the local government elections next year.

For Waitakere Ward this would mean that our well-populated areas on our fringe, that have given us the numbers when that aspect of the calculation is considered, will be Incised and handed to New Lynn (the "Zodiac" area of Glen Eden) and to Henderson (Bruce McLaren and Henderson Valley). We would lose a Councillor, dropping us down to two, and Henderson would gain a Councillor, bringing them up to four.

The effects of this are manifest, including:

- Loss of voting strength on important issues

- Enormous workloads for the two Councillors
- "Divide and rule" approach and contestability on every level between "urban" and "rural" interests
- The urban limit has been stretched out making it extremely difficult to argue against sub-division just outside that boundary
- Minimalisation of funding for infrastructural items such as footpaths, and for Community Wellbeing funding, etc which is allocated on a population basis, leading inevitably to a second-class status for the Outer areas

The Waitakere Community Board has taken a stand on this matter. Council wanted us to reduce our numbers and to accept the same boundary changes for Community Board representation.

We have refused to reduce our numbers and we have contested the boundary changes so that the matter of Community Board boundaries has been referred to the Local Government Commission.

You need to contest the Ward Boundary changes. While the Go Waitakere councillors will tell you that the changes reflect the "community of interest" of the rural area versus the urban area, it is really a manipulation of the boundaries to weaken the voice of the Outer area in favour of the views expressed by many "Inner area" councillors.

You should write to Council (a few lines will do) saying that you want the boundaries for both Council and Community Board to remain as they are now, and that you want to retain 3 Councillors for Waitakere Ward. You must have your letter/submission in to Council no later than Friday 29 September. Contact your local R & R Association or a Community Board member for more information.

2. Change to the Annual Plan process:

Instead of budgeting on a "Pathways" system where it has been easy to see how much money was being allocated to a particular aspect of the city, next year Council will have a "line by line" budget process.

This will mean that it will be easy to see how much Council plans to spend on photocopying, but almost impossible to see a total figure for the amount being spent on roading over-all, the environment, or advocacy. It will take the focus off a total picture, or "pathway" and focus on bookkeeping.

We will let you know when you can submit on this.

Both of these decisions by Council will, if not challenged, have a huge impact on the direction and character of Waitakere City for the future.

Denise Yates
Chairperson

Owen Hughes
Deputy Chairperson

News from the Waitakere Community

Board Monthly Meeting - 5 September

by Geoff Wood

Open Forum is a chance for Residents and Ratepayers to have their say on local issues. Normally a maximum of 5 minutes is allowed to address the Board. Presentations can be quite informal so that even inexperienced speakers can get their message across. The Board members pass comments and/or may ask questions.

In many cases the members may have researched the problem already and this can help to lead to an early, successful conclusion. The Board are there to help the Community and if need be can take issues up with the Council.

Of interest on September 5 – First up was a request to allow a delicatessen and entertainment area in the Piha camping ground. Council approval seems likely.

Secondly, a common type of problem in our area was discussed. It was a complaint about an open culvert in the lower part of Rimu Road. There is a deep sump hole in which a child could become trapped. A grate over the sump was sought. There is also a storm water problem as sediment from the road is blocking the drains. This discussion led to Owen Hughes a Board member commenting on the need for a general survey of storm water/roading issues.

Other comments were that the removal of the inner - outer rating differential has raised the expectations of outer residents, that such matters will be addressed by the Council. If such a survey takes place, W.R.R.A. should be part of that process.

Finally, safety issues on West Coast Road and the pedestrian crossing near Parrs Park, the recent scene of a serious injury to a child, was again raised. Traffic islands may be planned to slow down the traffic on either side of the crossing.

After Open Forum comes the rest of the Agenda of the Board with numerous reports and proposals covering such diverse topics as the "Ginger Out" campaign, footpaths, weed management, flooding and sewage systems.

Waiaatarua Fire Brigade News

Dates for Your Diary:

On Saturday 4th November there will be an *Open day at the new Fire Station*, followed by a Guy Fawkes bonfire in the evening. A fortnight later, on the 18th, we've pencilled in the official opening with the NZ Fire Service Commission. Details and times will be in next month's newsletter.

Calls for August

Just the two – and if you've been reading this column regularly you might guess what they were.

Tues 22nd, 1:55 am – Car fire, Forest Hill Rd

Weds 30th, 9:17 pm – Car fire, Scenic Drive. It had been reported stolen, and the motor was still running when we arrived. I guess they must have been in a hurry . . .

Fire Permits

Permits from the Council are normally only required from November through to April, so at the moment you don't need to get one. But all fires in the open, must still comply with Council By-laws. They must be away from the boundary, under control at all times, and out by sunset. And please consider the effect on your neighbours.

Contacts – Ian Ford ph 814 8871 or Richard Seccombe 814 8860

Wine & Cheese Tasting Quiz

Can you tell a Chardonnay from a Riesling? Will you care by the time you've had some of both?

On Saturday 28th October at 7.30 PM there will be a chance to see how well your friends, and neighbours, can hold their cheese and whether they are as clever as you are.

No previous experience or knowledge required.

Introductory sheets will give you some information on cheeses and New Zealand and Australian Wines.

Everyone will then taste and try to identify two red and two white wines, and four cheeses.

The cost will be \$10; this price includes a total of about 1/3 to 1/2 bottle of wine, and enough cheese and nibbles to keep the possum from the door.

There will also be a short quiz on wine and cheese in general. Marking for both quizzes is on an individual basis but you will probably enjoy yourself more if you can get a table of friends together – including one to stay sober enough to drive home.

Oh, it's BRING YOUR OWN WINEGLASS.

Exact details subject to change.

Please contact Terry Chapman on 814 8778 to book now.

Neighbourhood Watch

by Sandy McConnell

The National Neighbourhood Watch Support New Zealand was launched in Wellington a couple of weeks ago. So there is now a national body representing Neighbourhood Watch. This will give the group a stronger voice for lobbying for government funding.

The community constable reports that residents cars are being broken into, in their driveways and carports. He advises that nothing be left in cars, as this encourages thieves. Fairy Falls car park has had a bad spate of car break-ins of late.

Brickbats and Bouquets

(This will be a regular feature in the Community News from now on ... so if you see or hear of any incident deserving either a brickbat or a bouquet, please contact the editor.)

A *bouquet* to the gentleman seen one cold, grey afternoon, along West Coast Rd, armed with two plastic supermarket bags, full to overflowing, with rubbish, gathered from the roadside and kerb. Making our environment a nicer place to be. Thank you.

Brickbats to those owners of wandering dogs, in the Rimu Road/Raroa Terrace area. Private property, such as gumboots, washing, and other miscellaneous items have been taken, and then found further along the roads, seriously chewed. Please be aware of where your dog is at all times, and please keep your dog within your own property during the night.

Oratia Antiques and Collectibles

... now closed.

Sadly, Ann Wilson has shut up shop at 723 West Coast Road. She is, however, still seen selling antiques and collectibles from 'Huapai Collectibles', (opposite Carriages Café in Huapai), and at the monthly Antiques fair at Alexandra Park. She is also selling 'on the net' @ e bay – oratiaann.

Ann has found her time increasingly taken up with her celebrant duties (weddings and baby namings), so the doors of Oratia Antique and Collectibles had to close.

Ann says, "I have met lots of interesting people, but I will now enjoy my weekends with my husband and family."

Scene or Heard in Waiaatarua . . .

. . . Rumour has it that a relatively recent resident of Waiaatarua had been informed of a suspicious looking vehicle cruising the local streets.

Being a caring, responsible, neighbourhood-aware Waiaataruan she duly kept her eyes peeled for such a vehicle on her travels up and down the hill. Her vigilance was rewarded, when one day, while driving home, she spotted a car fitting the description given. She slowed down, watched from a distance and took the registration number. Upon her return home she phoned her friend to tell her that she had indeed spotted the suspicious looking vehicle, and described how the vehicle was driving slowly past houses, backing up, turning and pausing suspiciously on the roadside.

Alas our recent resident, come 'Sherlock Holmes', had spotted the postie.

The Scenic Café

Under new management . . . Michael and Marama are the new hosts at the Scenic Café, 233 Scenic Drive. The café is open Sun – Thurs 9am – 4pm, Fri & Sat 9am – 9pm. Dinner mains are from \$12.50 – \$18, while lunch can be anything under \$16. They also have a catering service for your special event. Phone 817-1154

"Operation Spring Clean"

Keep Waitakere Beautiful's 7th annual "Operation Spring Clean Campaign involves the whole community in three weeks of "Community Clean ups".

The Operation Spring Clean Campaign 2000 kicks off on 18th September and closes on 9th October.

Week One: 18th – 24th September is *Clean up New Zealand Week*.

Week Two : 25th – 30th September is *Waterways Clean up week*.

Week Three: 1st – 9th October is *Weed out week*.

Keep Waitakere Beautiful can assist by promoting a clean up, providing jumbo bins, rubbish bags and gloves, and in some cases can provide plants and mulch. If a graffiti paint out is organised, paint and brushes can be provided.

All community members that register and complete a clean up will be in to win a gas bbq.

Previously, in Waiaatarua, Tony Holt had been the organiser of such events and working bees. We desperately need someone with similar enthusiasm and drive to take on the challenge of promoting and organising us, to keep Waiaatarua the beautiful place it is. Please contact the editor for further information, if you would like to give this a go, or if you would like to organise a clean up in your street, steam or rid your local area of graffiti.

Operation Spring Clean closes with the annual family "Kite Day" at the Whenuapai Air Base in October.

Unique People in Waiaatarua

by Jo Hall

SANDY MCCONNELL

Sandy describes herself as an Antique dealer, but she actually sells antique maps and prints and books over the internet.

Sandy has lived in Waiaatarua for the past 2 ½ years, enjoying the privacy, space, beaches and bush. She is also a committee member on the WRRRA.

Sandy studied printmaking at University, and carried this on in the form of an apprenticeship, working with a top print dealer in London, for 7 years.

Sandy buys her prints and maps mainly from the UK, but also from other dealers and auctions.

The oldest map she has sold was a Hondius world map dated 1580.

Depending on subject matter, condition and date, the maps and prints can range in price from \$30 to \$3000.

Sandy says the people who purchase antique maps and prints vary enormously – from collectors to students. New Zealanders are still finding out about prints and maps, and there is often a misunderstanding about what an antique print is. "I often have to explain the difference between a reproduction and an original antique print," says Sandy.

Sandy also finds that New Zealanders tend to be more cautious buyers than Europeans or Americans.

Most people buy to frame and hang the print, or map, in their home. They make great gifts as they are generally more affordable than any other antique, and a great conversation piece.

Most antique prints fall into one of the three major categories of printmaking; relief printing, intaglio and lithographic.

Although some very early medieval manuscript maps still exist, it is only with the invention of printing in Germany and England, that technology advanced to the stage that it became possible to produce more than just one copy of an image.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Madam,

As a new family to Waiaatarua, we decided that joining the Walking Group would be an excellent way to get to know the area, as well as the people. This has proved to be correct.

The small amount of people that gather at Oratia church, every Saturday morning, are a wonderful bunch of people; entertaining, witty, intelligent, and quick to point out the landmarks of Oratia/ Waiaatarua – including a few dressing-gowned residents, who decline our invitation to join us, but wave to us from their morning paper.

The opportunity to peruse landscaping and exterior decorating is unsurpassable, and the pace of the group is such that you can dawdle or near run, depending on your wish.

The only downfall is those few individuals that seem to view our group, especially those with pushchairs, as targets, as they hoon up the roads. Please be aware, that even if you have suicidal tendencies, we are walking for enjoyment, and not to derive pleasure out of jumping out of the way of speeding vehicles.

Yours faithfully

C. Leader

Waiaatarua Playcentre

PLAY – is a reaction to stimulation or curiosity. Through play – exploration, manipulation and creativity are woven into thought. Play is a necessity in life.

At Playcentre our children have 16 areas of play to explore, manipulate and create with, on each session.

If you have children between the ages 0 –6 years, why not come and explore and enjoy the wonderful world at your local Playcentre.

We would love you to visit us Mon/Wed/Fri 9.15 – 12.15, or contact us for more information on 814-8835 or after hours Elke on 814-8803.

Waiaatarua Playcentre's Annual General Meeting is to be held on Monday 18th September at 7.30pm at the Playcentre, down the drive at 911 West Coast Road.

Waiaatarua Library News

Spring has arrived – brush up on visiting your library – there are some exciting new titles.

Colleen McCullough's – "Morgan's Run", Rosamunde Pilcher's – "Winter Solstice", Graeme Hunt's – "The Rich List" – *read how the other half lives*, and the very highly recommended "Hatchet" by Gary Paulsen – a young boy's struggle to survive in the Canadian wilderness.

Have you read Nicci French? – a very engrossing writer.

"The Twins" Tessa de Loo – another extraordinary story, and well recommended.

Do remember, if you want a title, we can put your name on the reserve list – just phone us here on 814-9353 on Thursday 10am – 12 noon.

WAIATARUA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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

Hours of Opening

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

What's On :

... Don't forget

The Oratia Spinning and Craft Group Bi-annual Fair
to be held at the Oratia Church Hall, cnr. Of Parker and West Coast Roads, on Saturday 23rd September 10am – 1 pm.
Crafts of all kinds, cakes, jams and plants. Tea and Coffee available.
Come and meet us all.
(the last one was great ... Ed.)

... 'Fay Weldon' goes West for a Dunny do...

one of Britain's best loved writers is the special guest at a fundraiser for the Kare Kare and Piha community. On Friday 6th October at 7.30pm, Max Cryer will interview Fay about her life and writing. There are a limited number of tickets available for the evening at \$20 and a light supper will be served. Tickets are available by phoning 812-8188. The money raised from the event will be used by the Piha library to install a much needed toilet and composting system; the Karekare Surf Lifesaving Club will use the money for their First Aid room.

... The Wine and Cheese Tasting Quiz,

Saturday 28th October, 7.30pm at the Waiaatarua Hall.
Phone Terry Chapman 814-8778 to book. BYO wine glass.



A visit to a colourful country garden is arranged for Wednesday 4th October at 1 pm.

It is the garden of Colleen and Ray Jones at 6 Rata Street, Whenuapai, where many foliage plants are blended with a variety of rhododendrons, roses, bulbs and perennials. This is a garden not to be missed. Entry fee is \$3. Everyone is welcome - ring Eileen on 814-9298 for further information or car pooling.

Isaiah's Fire The Video

Available at only \$20 each
from Ian 814-8851 or Helen 814-9855

Advertising

*This is free to financial members
for 2000, 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 members will only be printed
as space allows.**

JP – Mary Kelly. For personalised weddings, re-affirmation of wedding vows, ceremonies of commitment, naming ceremonies, MC, Chair for public meetings etc, Phone/Fax 814 9857.

LAWYER AND NOTARY PUBLIC : John Hendrikse, also available after hours and at weekends. Fee when buying a house, if no complications \$800. When selling, if no complications \$510. Familiar with Afrikaans. 914 West Coast Road Phone/Fax 814-9991

AUCKLAND SUN CLUB INC. The family club for clothes-free recreation invites you to visit. For further information please call 814-9973.

WEST COAST VET CLINIC – Offering full veterinary service for your pets. ...
24 hour service Phone 814-9419

KENDRICK PAINTING AND DECORATING: for quality and service
Phone Graham on 837-1612.

PHONE “HERE FOR HAIR” MOBILE CUTS.
Phone Lesley 814-9242 or 025-203-9276.

TREE WORK – Fully insured and qualified arborists.
Phone Guy Thomas 813-1481 or 021-255-6418

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 | PH/FAX | E-MAIL |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Mary Kelly, JP | 3 Atarua Gardens | 814-9857 + Fax | turtle@xtra.co.nz |
| Denis Graham | Back up - Atarua Gdns | 814-9706 | |
| Ross & Kath Mullins | 330 Forest Hill Rd | 814-9402 + Fax | |
| Jenny McGee | 886 West Coast Rd | 814-9954 | |
| Chris/Liz Field | 799 West Coast Rd | 814-9876 | crislizf@voyager.co.nz |
| Ngairi Mason | 21 Tui Crescent | 814-9036 + Fax | |
| Adith Stoneman | 8 Kauri Loop Rd | 814-9822 | |
| Margaret/Paddy Marshall | 19 Raroa Tce | 814-9859 | |
| Gaelene/Tony Goodrich | 17 Cascade Ave | 814-9788 | |

**Please accept my Membership to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association**

for 2000

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

VISIT “EARTH SEED” 100% ORGANIC SHOP

for a great selection of organic and GE-free foods.
547-549 West Coast Road. Open 7 days Phone/Fax 818-6411.

ORATIA KEAS GROUP: Keas is a scout group for boys and girls aged 5½ - 7½. We meet on Mondays at the Oratia Settlers Hall 4.30-5.30pm. Join us for fun and friendship. For further information phone Debbie Brown 814-9187 or Tina Ripley 813-6151.

SOLICITOR – Are you buying and/or selling your business/house? Are you interested in setting up a Family Trust? Phone Geoff Wood for your legal needs at 623-7541 DDI or 836-8630 a/hrs weekdays. Home visits by arrangement.

WORK WANTED: Registered drainlayer, 30 years experience. 6 tonne and 2 ½ tonne diggers for hire. Phone Ray 814-9242

WEB PAGE DESIGN, Desk top publishing, Graphic Design, Computer Support, Phone Petrik 8365202.

TYPING OUTWORK WANTED: Secretary with general and legal background wanting work for own computer. Skilled in Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher. Affordable Rates. Phone 814-9788.

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

RELAXING, REFRESHING AND REJUVENATING – for a therapeutic massage ring Rowan on 833-7860

SKI GEAR FOR SALE: Ladies Size 14 black salapet (bibbed trousers) and brand new Size 14 snug ski jacket, Cerise colour. \$150 both.
Phone Tracy 817-1191

VICKY’S BEAUTY THERAPY: 10 years experience. Facials, waxing, massage, manicures etc. Available 7 days. Phone 814-9317.

ATARUA GARDENS BED AND BREAKFAST: No room for your out of town visitors? Contact Carol and Denis. Phone 09 814-9706 or 025-283-7544

MARRIAGE CELEBRANT PLUS VENUE PLUS J.P. for your specifically designed ceremony and garden setting (if required), talk to Peter George Ph 814-9456

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 Pauline Isaachsen on 814-9847

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of
The Editor,

757b West Coast Road Road, Waiatarua. Phone 814 9945

EMAIL: forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz

by WEDNESDAY 4th OCTOBER, 2000

Thanks to the Longley Family for printing this Newsletter.

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