

This Month at WRRRA

A quorum was not reached at May's meeting of the WRRRA.

Your WRRRA Committee cannot function properly without the input from you ... members of our community. We need some more active and committed Waiataruans to attend our monthly meetings, involve themselves in important community issues and to express an interest in being co-opted on to the Committee. If this is you, please phone Geoff Wood, President of the WRRRA on 836-8630 now.

The following was discussed at May's meeting of the WRRRA.

- Discussion was held on features to be included in our Annual Plan submission.

It was decided to include a request for a grant to investigate the feasibility of extensions to the entrance of the Community Hall.

Road Safety and the condition of local roads and footpaths is a concern of the Committee and will be included. We will ask the council to ensure that the infrastructure of the Ranges will be increased to cope with the higher number of visitors, bearing in mind resident's concerns.

A sub committee is meeting mid May to finalise our submission which will be posted on our Web Page.

- * President, Geoff Wood, reported on a combined Ratepayer Groups meeting where Park Rangers wanted to encourage partnerships between Councils and local Committees. It was suggested that we could arrange functions at Rose Hellaby House.
- Sealing of the deck outside the Library has now been completed.
- Cathie Wells from the Ratepayers Group and Ian Ford from the Fire Brigade have now taken over the running of the Waiatarua Web Site.
- Concern was expressed at the speed some cyclists were coming along Scenic Drive and especially on bends where residents needed to turn into their driveways. We are writing to the Cycling Clubs with our concerns.

President Geoff was to ask the Community Board to request urgent road repairs on the stretch of West Coast Road between the Waiatarua Hall and Scenic Drive.

As Queen's Birthday falls on the WRRRA's regular meeting date, the next meeting of the Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers will be held on Tuesday 4th June at 7.30pm at the Community Hall, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua.

Fire Brigade News

The Fire Service has just commissioned a new Pump Rescue Tender at Henderson. This will be an advantage for us. It means that if we need rescue gear for an incident (typically a car crash) it will normally be only 5 minutes behind us, instead of the 15 or so we had to wait when the closest Rescue Tender was at Avondale.

Recent Calls - April

- **3:15 pm, Wednesday 10th** – Vehicle overturned opposite The Nikau Club on Scenic Drive. It had allegedly just been stolen from the Nihotupu Dam car park on Piha Road, but the driver didn't stick around for anyone to ask questions.
- **8:27 pm, Tuesday 16th** – Car crash, Scenic Drive near Rose Hellaby House. Fortunately no one was hurt after a tourist forgot which side of the road we Kiwis drive on.
- **10:00 am, Sunday 21st** – Electrical fire at Rayner Road Piha. It was already out when the Piha crew arrived.

The Police have made around 15 arrests in the West lately, allegedly relating to incidents where cars have been stolen and sometimes burnt out. By some remarkable coincidence, our epidemic of late-night car fires has dropped off in the last few weeks. Neighbouring Brigades have noticed the same thing.

Hot Tips

- Ashes can take up to 5 days to cool. Place them in a metal container, well clear of your home.
- Don't overload power points or multi-boxes.
- Remember the Heater-Metre rule – keep clothing, curtains and furniture at least a metre away from heaters and fires.
- Always turn off your electric blanket at the wall before getting into bed.

Contacts

Phone 111 for all emergencies.

Otherwise, please call Ian Ford (814 8871) or Richard Seccombe (027 491 5525).

WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Waitakere Community Board

At the meeting on the 7th May, President Geoff Wood made submissions to the Board regarding our Community's continuing concern over roading. It is likely this will continue to be of concern in future years as the funding is always a problem. However, it is important that this issue be kept before the Council.

At the meeting three points were raised:

1. In many instances, the roads around Waiatarua are patched rather than a whole section of road repaired. The type of material used for repairs seems to vary and an explanation is sought from the Council. In particular, repairs have been made on the outside of some very dangerous bends, using smooth bitumix finish rather than a chip seal. We are questioning whether this form of road seal is more slippery on bends than a chip or other seal would be. Your president came off his bicycle on such a bend repaired with smooth seal, as the front wheel slipped sideways on the road surface at that point. The road was damp but there had been no rain for some hours.
2. Repairs have been promised to the upper end of West Coast Road where the camber falls away very steeply. The Community Board has been asked to check with the Council as to when the remedial work will be done.
3. The Association appreciates the work of the Council and Kitch Cuthbert for the Safer Roads Campaign which has seen signs erected in the area, to keep the speeds down. However there is nothing in the Annual Plan indicating that the roads themselves will be improved under any long term planning, and whether Council is considering ways to improve the surface, the safety of bends, or widening. It is accepted that in many cases widening may perhaps have the effect of speeding traffic up. Roads in the particularly "dangerous in parts" category include West Coast Road, Forrest Hill Road, and Mountain Road, and only recently there has been another accident on Mountain Road. A suggestion came from a Board Member that traffic light signals on the dangerous sections may be worth exploring. We are looking for help from the Council for solutions.

Local Drug Lab Busted

Two people made a brief court appearance recently to face charges relating to the manufacture and possession of methamphetamine for supply after Police raided a Waiatarua house this month. They were remanded to appear again on 24th of May.

After a brief surveillance operation, armed Police raided the rented house in Forest Hill Road around 4 pm on Thursday 2nd May. They arrested the occupant at the scene, and a second person was taken into custody later the same day. Other specialist agencies were asked by the Police to assist with decontamination.

Waiatarua Rainfall

Do your friends worry about you when you get excited by a Dehumidifier Sale?

Did you know that botanists call Waitakere bush "temperate rain forest"?

Our weather correspondents will keep you up to date with the latest rainfall figures, and you'll be able to see how we compare with those less lush pastures in the flatlands.

	RAIN DAYS	WETTEST DAY	APRIL TOTAL	YEAR TO DATE
Brabant Road	14	32 mm (25th)	85 mm	499 mm
Quinns Road	13	19 mm (25th)	58 mm	422 mm
Forest Hill Road	11	36 mm (25th)	94 mm	451 mm
Auckland City	-	27 mm (25th)	62 mm	303 mm

April's drought (15 consecutive days without rain) seems to have broken...

Scene or Heard in Waiatarua

'Rhythms of Nature Captured in Art'

Well, it's not quite in Waiatarua, but have you 'scene' the sign advertising The 'Kiwi Water Wizards' at 16 Holdens Road in Oratia?

The Water Wizards are in the business of constructing and selling unique 'Vortex Dishes'. These vessels are artistic sculptures with curved chambers, water channels and drain ports. Water is pumped into the sculpture where it meanders and swirls around, soothing the senses with sound and rhythm. As air passes through it is cleaned of solids, is cooled and negatively ionized, thus imparting a positive effect on an indoor environment.

Vortex dishes can be situated in foyers, the garden, the lounge or even in the paddock.

A curiosity for children and adults alike.

Come and see for yourself.

Attend the Grand Opening of the Kiwi Water Wizards on *Sunday 26th May at 1pm* at 26 Holdens Road. Wine and Cheese, Music, Display and Sales.

Ph 838 8449 or email; www.karal.com/water-wizards

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Mr and Mrs Jones of Rimu Road, Waiatarua, who were married on Saturday the 4th of May.

Inorganic Collections

Advance notice of the Inorganic Collections for Waiatarua

3rd JUNE – 7th JUNE:

Quinns Road

10th JUNE – 14th JUNE:

491/480 WEST COAST ROAD TO THE TOP OF WC ROAD

Kellys Road

65-327/66-362 Forest Hill Road

Brabant Road

17th JUNE – 21st JUNE:

475-573/542-574 Scenic Drive.

1st JULY – 5th JULY:

Onwards from 576 and 575 Scenic Drive (North of Piha Road)

Mountain Road

Turanga Road

You will receive notification of your Inorganic collection, in your letterbox, closer to the time.

Waiatarua Community Library News

There is a lovely lot of new books on our shelves.

ROBERT HARRIS – 'Enigma' (*Filming at the moment*)

MICHAEL ASHER – 'The Real Bravo II'

JOANNA TROLLOPE – 'Girl from the South'

PENINA SPINKA – 'Picture Maker' (*A very good read – Fascinating.*)

JAMES PATTERSON – '2nd Chance'

A BIG thank you to Joyce for her many years of service at the library. Welcome to Jeannette and Jeanette and also June (who was helping 15 years ago.)

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

GARDEN GROUP

Our June visit is to the Fernglen Native Plant Garden in Birkenhead. The gardens were established by the Fisher family in 1888 and plantings of Rimu, Kahikatea and pohutukawa were established in the early 1920s. A significant collection of alpines, ferns and rare plants from the offshore islands are held in this 3 hectare garden which is now owned by the North Shore City Council. The address is 36 Kauri Rd, Birkenhead and we will meet at 1 pm. on Wednesday 5 June.

Everyone is welcome but would appreciate a call the day before. Please ring Eileen on 8149 298 or Margaret on 8149 859 for further information or for carpooling.

Jobs for May:

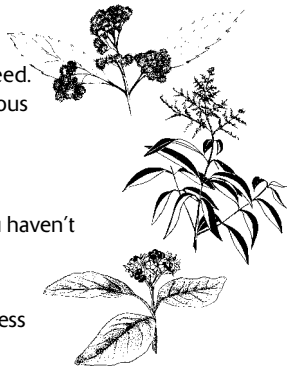
Prepare new planting areas for trees and shrubs working in plenty of compost before the soil becomes too wet. Prune back shrubs that have finished flowering. Use a clean up spray of copper on fruit trees and prunus. Many seeds can be sown now, such as ageratum, impatiens, honesty, Iceland poppy, sweet pea, pansy, potatoes, lettuce, spring onions and broad beans

Weed of the Month

The ARC website has changed. Their Plant Pestfacts are probably the most up-to-date reference on most of our serious weeds. To access their weeds index, go to www.arc.govt.nz then click on "Environment" and "Biosecurity", and follow the link to "Plant Pestfacts". If you're not on line you can contact them on Enviroline, ph 0800 80 60 40 and they're only too happy to post out information – free!

The Waitakere City Council tells us that the average property in the city has 12 species of weed. This column has covered some of the most serious or aggressive of them. Council's recommended action plan is

- remove weeds – in current focus area
- remove flower heads – on those weeds you haven't got to yet
- dispose of weed waste appropriately
- prevent regrowth, i.e mulch or replant - unless in bush
- establish 'edge' plants – on the edge of bush
- chat to neighbours – get rid of seed sources that might re-infest



Waiatarua Playcentre

A new term, and we have farewelled a few of our children off to school. This has meant our Thursday extension session was down to around 4 families attending, so we made a decision to combine this session with our existing Friday session, which was also lower in numbers.

The result is a richer combined session, where we take the themes and values that were unique to the extended session, and apply them to the Friday session.

Last month we had our second womens weekend away, and this year mums had a child free, pamper experience in seclusion at a private bach in Leigh. A refreshing experience for all those took part, and definitely an occasion which will be repeated.

We have just been visited this week by the Education Review Office who, overall, seemed extremely impressed with our Playcentre, our systems, strategies and the environment that our children play and learn in. The report will be available within the next month, and this will be able to be viewed by anyone, on the E.R.O. website. We welcome anyone interested to visit the website, or even better, come and see what we have to offer for yourself, you and your children will be made most welcome.

Contact Fiona on 817-5445 or Jenny on 814-9954.

Waiatarua Playcentre is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.30a.m. to 12.30p.m.

Brickbats and Bouquets

These are nominations from fellow Waiataruan's. Share your brickbat or bouquet by contacting the editor.

A **BOUQUET**, to Helena Horswell who has undertaken the bulk delivery of the Community News for the past two years.

A Big Thank you to Tony and Jean Bacon who have volunteered to take on this very important role. If you have any problems with the delivery of the Community News in your area contact Tony or Jean on 814-9860.

A Waiatarua family would like to award a **BRICKBAT** to the people who did such a wonderful job of trimming their hedge ... then promptly dumping the said trimmings on the side of the road. There are several firms that offer a really inexpensive garden bag collection service. Even a trip to the dump with organic waste is not particularly expensive. Mountain Road is such a pretty drive, it's disappointing when this sort of thing happens.

A massive **BRICKBAT** to the woman seen in Atarua Gardens with two ferrets on leads. In an ecologically sensitive area like ours, cats are suspect enough, but the thought of either or both of the ferrets getting loose and wreaking havoc with the local wildlife is too horrible to contemplate.

On a more positive note ... A **BOUQUET** to Christine Brien and her staff at 'The Nikau Club' for their superb catering for our wedding on Saturday the 4th of May. The atmosphere was idyllic, the food was divine, and the hospitality was exceptional. There can be little doubt they've preserved the magic of the old Waiatarua General Store.

Neighbourhood Watch

Please advise the editor of any concerns, sightings or burglaries that happen in your immediate area, so that we might all be informed and aware.

It seems to be a time of year for the number of house burglaries to rise.

Please be observant. Jot down descriptions of any suspicious activity you see and do not hesitate to contact the police.

In mid April a house was burgled in Forest Hill Road and a house was burgled and ransacked in the Oratia area in early May.

On the 24th of April at approximately 7.30am a car failed to take a corner near 751 West Coast Road and rolled down the bank. Police and ambulance were in attendance, and the car was towed away shortly after 9am. Many Waiataruan's on their way to work and school stopped to see if any help was needed. At this time the car's stereo was on and the car upside down in the bush, the occupant/s had since been taken away in the ambulance, and the police had left the scene, but the tow truck had yet to arrive. It was impressive to see how many actively concerned residents stopped to offer help, even though none was needed. Well done Waiataruan's.

Glen Eden Library Opening at New Premises

The Glen Eden Library on Glendale Road closed it's doors on Saturday 4th May to open again in new premises in the former Nationwide Centre building at 277c West Coast Road. This is a short term lease organized by Waitakere City Council until a new, purpose-built library is built in the Glen Eden Town Centre.

(Our very own **Waiatarua Library**, situated underneath the Community Hall at 911 West Coast Road, is well worth a look, browse or quiet read. See the article and opening hours later in this issue.)

Piha Community Art Gallery

The old fire station in Piha is to remain a community Art Gallery with the negotiation of a more permanent lease.

The Waitakere Community Board has agreed to a five year lease for the West Coast Arts Gallery Trust.

Community Board chairperson, Christine Shepherd, expressed that there had been a favourable response to the gallery's presence and it was already recognized as a very positive addition to Piha, displaying the work of local artists.

The West Coast Gallery hosts Market Days on the third Saturday of each month. Phone 021-297-2052 for more information.

Advertising

*This is free to financial members
for 2002, 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.**

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 818-4104.

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.

ELECTRICIAN: Phone Jim your local man Phone 814-9344.

MATHS TUITION, ALL LEVELS. Experienced high school teacher Ph 814-9269

LAWN MOWING: Local, reliable. Phone Eric 837-2333.

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

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: shed stored, pine and macrocarpa \$50-\$65.
Phone 814-8833.

HORSE MANURE: \$1 per bag at 253 Forest Hill Road. Phone 814-9771.

FAYS YOGA CLASS for true fitness and relaxation Phone 817-8233.

PLANTS: various perennials, shrubs, bulbs, bog irises, mondo grass and a few indoor plants \$1 – \$5 Phone 814-9859.

MOBILE REIKI & MASSAGE THERAPIST 7 years experience. For further information, or to arrange an appointment phone Vicky 836-8633.

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

LANDSCAPER: For experienced, professional landscaping services (including paving, concrete, retainer walls, fences, decks, gardens/plants, water features) at a competitive price, contact Bevan on 837-1992 or 021-375 707 or at totaland@ihug.co.nz

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.

"HOLLY HOMESTEAD B & B FRANZ JOSEF": Taking a break on the 'West Coast'? How about staying with former Waiataruan's in Franz Josef? Check us out at www.bnb.co.nz/hosts/hollyhomestead/html or www.greenwood.guides.com or Phone 03-752 0299 Fax 03-752 0298.

BABY SITTER – Friendly, outgoing and experienced Unitech student available most evenings? Saturday and Sunday evening. \$6ph/\$7 two or more children. Phone Tara on 814-8834

PROPERTY FOR SALE off Scenic Drive, fully fenced 3 3/4 acres with views in 3 separate titles, 2 bdrm cottage with large basement. GV \$550,000 Price negotiable. Phone 521-6492.

DRAMA CLASSES TERM 2: 8 week courses for adults, teenagers and children. Phone John for further information 814-9744. Afternoon and evening classes held in beautiful bush studio in Waiatarua.

ART CLASS – Wednesday 7 – 9pm Waiatarua. Interested in joining a local adult art group? This class will introduce you to a range of media, skills and techniques to help you develop your ideas in a creative way. Want to know more? Contact Carol on 814-8740

PART-TIME VISUAL ARTS PROGRAMME at Titirangi (term time) Fridays 9 – 3pm. Do you have a desire to be creative? Now in it's second year, this programme introduces students to the ideas surrounding Contemporary Art making. Visiting artists and gallery visits form an important part of the course. Enrolments now being taken for Module 2, starting 3rd May. Phone Carol Bisset 814-8740

WANTED... Mature person to help me with my garden. Phone 814-9646.

THE NIKAU CLUB – Bar, Café, Restaurant. Open 7 days and nights. Available for functions and parties up to 50 people (but more soon) and there's no charge for room hire. Live entertainment Friday nights and Happy hour 6 – 8pm Thursdays. Phone 814-1919.

HOLISTIC THERAPY FOR MIND AND BODY. Therapeutic massage (straight), with aromatherapy and beauty therapy works, including problem skin treatments. Gift vouchers available. Phone Kate for an appointment 818-4300.

FOR SALE: Panasonic Genius Microwave \$100, NEC 15" computer monitor \$50, Konturest garden furniture – 2m by 1m table, 4 chairs, umbrella \$950. Phone Tony or Jean on 814-9860

BABYSITTER: Mature, honest and reliable lady. Experienced. \$10 per hour. Phone Juliette on 814-8802.

OUTBACK CHUTNEYS AND SAUCES: Gorgeous sauces, jams and preserves fresh from the garden. Totally home grown and free from preservatives. \$4 each. Also gift baskets available on order and free delivery in Auckland. Phone Jill on 814-8825.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST specializing in lower back pain, headaches, neck and shoulder pain. Clinic at 95 Lincoln Road, Henderson. Home visits also arranged. Phone 833 7866.

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	
Margaret/Paddy Marshall	19 Raroa Tee	814-9859	
Gaelene/Tony Goodrick	17 Cascade Ave	814-9788	

Please accept my Membership to the
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

for 2002

I enclose: \$10 Household, \$5 Single Occupant

Name

Address

Phone

Email

To Treasurer

Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association
911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Auckland 8 **or leave at the library**
Web Site: www.waiatarua.org.nz

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.

HALL PHONE 814-9353

Phone the Custodian Pauline Isaachsen on 814-9847

JUNE / JULY 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 5th JUNE, 2002

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.