

# Waiatarua Community News

www.waiatarua.org.nz

JULY 2003

The WRRRA membership target by 31st July was for 150 financial members. As of printing we have 140 financial members for 2003. If you have still not sent your \$10 per household or \$5 for an individual, please do so asap. The draw for the 'Brunch for two' at 'Waitakere Park Lodge' will take place after this date, and the winners notified in August.

## *It's been a funny old month*

It has been a month of goings and comings at the WRRRA. We have said goodbye to three stalwarts on the committee, and are welcoming one more. As reported last month, our long-time Secretary, Christine Healy, left us, and committee members Denis Graham and Maxine Arden have also had to give up to due to pressure of other commitments. We wish them well in the future, and thank them very much for the time they have given to the WRRRA in the past. That's the bad news. The good news is that we have a new Secretary. Norma has volunteered her services, and after we had finished kissing her feet we immediately gave her some minutes to type!

Norma's arrival takes a little of the pressure off, but the departure of Denis and Maxine means that we are once again desperately short of committee members. Your current committee has all sorts of ideas for projects and things to do, but we are just not going to be able to do them unless we get more members. Apart from anything else, the current committee makeup means that if anyone can't attend a meeting, we are likely to be short of a quorum and so can't do much that is useful anyway.

## *The sorts of things we are trying to do at the moment are:*

- Community Hall Marketing – Trying to get more hirers for the hall.
- Environmental Affairs – Keeping us clean and green.
- Autumn Festival – Coordinating the organisation of the event.
- Hall Lease Negotiations – Talking to Waitakere City Council about the Hall Lease.
- Neighbourhood Watch – Overseeing/monitoring/promoting/reporting this.
- Graffiti Watch – Keeping the neighbourhood clean.
- Community Board liaison – Keeping in touch with officialdom.
- WRRRA Web site – Maintaining and promoting the site.

With our current committee membership we just can't find time to do all this, as well as the other tasks we do that aren't listed, like submissions to Council, keeping a watch on Council decisions that affect Waiatarua etc. In fact we feel we are not doing any of it very well, just because there are too many jobs and not enough people.

We would like to find four more people who are prepared to come on the committee and help. We meet once a month, and depending on what else is on, there is an occasional need to be available at other times during the month, either for meetings (rarely) or more likely just to do stuff that is required. The committee meetings run from 7.30pm to 9.30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Community Hall. If you would like to volunteer, you can phone me, Tony Bacon on 814 9860, or the Vice President, Cathie Wells on 814 8871 or the Treasurer, Eileen Powell on 814 9298. If you want check us out before you commit yourself, you are welcome to attend a committee meeting and see what goes on – we promise not to tie you down until you volunteer! The next meeting of the WRRRA is on Tuesday 19th August at 7.30pm in our Waiatarua Community Hall at 911 West Coast Road. Tony Bacon

## **The 'jungle drums' report**

'CONGRATULATIONS' ARE IN ORDER...

*Tony and Jean Bacon celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary this month. Great stuff.*



## **Waiatarua Residents and Ratepayers Committee Member Profile**

Hello. When in this great local newsletter, a few months ago, I saw a request for people to go on our local committee I thought – 'Maybe in a couple of years I will do that'.

Well, those years certainly were compressed! Tony Bacon approached me to join the WRRRA committee and here I am. My name is Jeannette, and my husband and I returned to West Auckland after 10 years in Wellington. We knew we did not want to live in 'suburbia' but neither did we need a lifestyle block to enjoy. So, here we are in Waiatarua. Peace and quiet, bush, sun, views. What more do we need? There is a great little library, a gardening group, beaches and bush tracks to enjoy.

On a personal note, I am an Early Childhood Teacher – now retired, have 3 adult children and 3 grandchildren who, as I write, are busy building a hut around me.

I help at the Waiatarua Community Library every week with a great team of people who turn up every week and have done so for years to ensure you are able to get the latest books fairly quickly. I love my volunteer work at Arataki, helping in the plant nursery and am on the Quilters Circle committee. My interests are reading, gardening and quilting. My life is enhanced by living in Waiatarua and being involved in what it has to offer.

WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

EDITOR:  
JOSEPHINE HALL  
WRRRA PRESIDENT:  
TONY BACON PHONE 814-9860  
WEB SITE [www.waiatarua.org.nz](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)

## Fire Brigade

We chose the two coldest weekends of the year to start on the earthworks, drainage and preparation for tarsealing at rear of Fire Station. It should be complete by the time you read this column. We are indebted to the companies and individuals outside the Brigade who donated time, materials and money to make this affordable for us - Warren Fowler Earthmovers, Porter Hire, Hynds Pipes, Hughes Civil, Swanson Transport, Fulton Hogan, Oratia Native Plant Nursery, Glen Eden Landscape Supplies, MacClures Timber, R M Tru-Earth Contracting and the Waitakere Licensing Trust.

We recently purchased 8 sets of TurboFlares - traffic safety beacons with a \$5000 donation from New Lynn Country Women's Institute. These were distributed to Volunteer Fire Brigades at Titirangi, Laingholm, Huia and Piha as well as ourselves. In the Waitakere Ranges traffic is actually a greater threat to our safety than fire, so we're very grateful for this donation.

### Recent Calls – June

THURS 19th, 9:30 p.m. – Car vs. tree outside the Fire Station. People fine, car not.

SUN 22nd, 6:30 a.m. – Action replay! Car rolled outside the Fire Station. Same result.

MON 30th, 7:11 p.m. – Car overhanging house, Piha. Resolved by Piha Brigade.

### July

FRI 4th, 6:05 p.m. – Assist Police with lighting, Arataki.

FRI 11th, 8:47 a.m. – Car crash, Bethells. No crew available, but Henderson, Waitakere and Bethells crews had it sorted.

SUN 13th, 9:03 p.m. – Power lines down, Piha Rd. Brigade diverted traffic until repaired.

MON 14th, 1:42 a.m. – House fire, Piha Rd. The two occupants were fortunate to escape with their lives and just the clothes they were wearing.

MON 14th, 6:51 a.m. – on our way back from the earlier call - Car crash, Piha Rd. Vehicle lost control after hitting ice on the road.

After three calls in one night, there was lots of coffee consumed the next day when we all went to work...

### How Safe Are You REALLY?

The two house fires in the last two months have highlighted how easily it can happen to anyone. You don't have to be careless, just unlucky. July's could well have been a double fatality - it was only good fortune that one of the occupants woke, and even then their only way out was by breaking a window and jumping for their lives. When we arrived, three-quarters of the house was engulfed in flames.

The Brigade arrived at this fire 12 minutes after a neighbour dialled 111. That's the total time it took to for the call to be processed, the pagers and siren activated, the firefighters to get out of bed, get dressed, drive 1-2 km from their homes to the Fire Station, put on protective gear and drive the fire engine 6 km to the fire. That's pretty good going, but it's still far too long for the Fire Brigade to save your life. You have to do that yourself.

That's why it's vital that you are prepared. Working smoke alarms and an evacuation plan for the household are the bare minimum you need to ensure your family's safety. We're happy to provide advice or assistance.

### Contacts

Always phone 111 for all fires or emergencies. Otherwise phone Ian Ford on 814 8871, Helen Longley 814 9855 or Karl Nuttall 814 8777.

## Waiatarua Rainfall

	RAIN DAYS	WETTEST DAY	JUNE TOTAL	YEAR TO DATE
Mountain Road	19	8th (41 mm)	236 mm	777 mm
Brabant Road	23	8th (51 mm)	229 mm	931 mm
Quinns Road	21	9th (49 mm)	199 mm	912 mm
Forest Hill Road	17	8th (54 mm)	211 mm	872 mm
Auckland City		9th (20 mm)	99 mm	546 mm

## An Appeal

Fifty years Jim and Dawn Forbes built their house on Piha Rd, just past Anawhata Rd. We all know the green house perched just above the road. Many of us have come to know the Forbes' over the years, whether through different community events or, in years past, just calling in to buy eggs.

Fortunately, Dawn was away a few days ago. For some reason Jim, now 85, woke in the night to find fire taking a hold on the house. He woke his son Ross and was forced to break a window to get out as they leapt for their lives. Everything in the house was lost. Apart from their car and some gardening equipment in the garage all they have left are the clothes they escaped the flames in.

We are all grateful that Jim and Ross lived to tell the tale, and that the house itself was insured. However they have belatedly discovered that their contents insurance had not been reviewed for some time, and is now woefully inadequate to replace those things lost that are replaceable.

If you would like to assist Jim and Dawn, Lyndsay Whittle will collect donations on their behalf. Please contact Lyndsay on 814 9872 or 025 925 271, or post to Forbes Family, c/- 434 Scenic Drive.

## From Councillor Carolynne Stone

Council has recently completed its deliberations on the Long Term Council Community Plan and our Annual Plan for 2003/04. Waitakere City was one of a small number of Councils that decided to undertake the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) this year. The New Local Government Act requires all Councils to go through this process by the year 2006.

The planning process requires us to have a plan that covers 10 years and reflects what the community has said are its desired outcomes and priorities.

Waitakere has found this process to be very much in concert with our own strategic planning, which extends to 2020 and something we have been doing for a number of years. Our compliance with the Act is in fact an endorsement of our own approach to long term strategic planning.

The full document will be available from Council in the next couple of weeks. Rates have been very much in the news of late and our own rate increase of 4.8% is less than the draft proposal of nearly 6%. The Council worked hard with staff to reduce the final impact – This is a difficult task as we are a young and rapidly growing city with many calls on the limited resources we have.

The ARC has been receiving extensive media comment on their Rating. This is the first time the ARC has separately rated properties. Much of the media comment has been unfair and reflects misunderstanding of the changes.

Our Council has supported the ARC in their desire to improve the transport problem the region faces. This does come at a cost to us all but so does the cost of no improvement to transport services in congestion, environmental, social and health impacts.

If you would like further information on any of the issues I have briefly raised please contact any of your ward Councillors.

Carolynne Stone 8368000 extn 8131. Penny Hulse 8325358. Denise Yates 8118770.

## Crash Reporting

### By Kevin Healy – Waitakere Community Board

Locals and visitors alike continue to crash their cars up and down our winding narrow Waiatarua roads. Every one of these crashes is speed-related, but until everyone decides to slow down and keep left, we have to look at other ways to improve road safety.

Some success has been had with signage improvements on Forest Hill and Piha Roads, but we are still some way from solving all the worst crash spots.

Unfortunately, the only way to gain priority for road safety improvements is to prove that there is a significant number of crashes, or incidents, that occur in our area.

We need to report **all** incidents to Council's Call Centre. This includes everything from actual crashes, to near misses, even tyre skid marks on the road.

If you have a crash, witness a near miss, or see evidence of a crash, please phone the Waitakere City Council Call Centre on **839-0400**

- with the date and time of the incident
- where (ie street address)
- details of the incident (ie 'car in tree', 'tyre marks going into bush')

If we don't report the incidents, it is harder for me to justify spending our rates money on road safety improvements – Please phone them all in, thanks.

# GARDEN GROUP

Our August Garden visit is to the Regional Botanic Gardens at 11 am Wednesday August 6 to check out the Camellia Garden. We will have lunch at the Gardens and then go to Camellia Haven to take advantage of the knowledge of the owners before buying new plants which grow so well in our area. Please ring Eileen on 8149 298 for further information or carpooling. We spent a very interesting and enjoyable hour and a half at the Arataki Nursery last month and came away very impressed with the dedication of the ranger and the knowledge he has of the plants and problems of the Waitakere Ranges.

## Welcome to Waiatarua

Welcome David and Vanessa to Quinns Road.

## More about Septic Tanks

The Waitakere City Council will pay an annual rebate of \$40 on the septic tank emptying rate to the owners of high-tech systems.

At the moment it is necessary to apply every year, enclosing the annual inspection certificate. We are working to get this changed so that the council automatically applies the rebate once it gets the inspection certificate from the maintenance company.

We will keep you up to date with progress. Contact the WCC call centre on 839 0400 to confirm the exact details of how to get the rebate.

## Brickbats and Bouquets

This month's **Bouquet** is awarded to the Waiatarua Community Library Volunteers who give freely of their time to make our Community Library unique.

As a **Bouquet** could not be shared among all the volunteers, a sumptuous morning tea has been arranged to show Waiatarua appreciation for work well done. Thank you.

This month's **Brickbat** nomination is to the driver/s of a Subaru and a Holden who drive up and down Turanga Road with little care or thought given to pedestrians and children who frequent this area. Slow down! Our roads are not a race track!

## Ken Stacey, Bush Reporter back on the job

I was driving my ute down Forest Hill road the other day, dog in the back, when 'bugger me' I come across a traffic light.

Unbelievable!

Well, I got such a fright, that I slammed on the anchors, the dog flying through the air, and my meat pie landing sizzling on my lap.

Sitting there in shock, looking at that traffic light, it suddenly occurred to me that traffic congestion had "arrived" in Waiatarua. That, as far fetched as it seemed, we were now part of that Auckland traffic congestion problem. I thought it would be generations before we had traffic lights in Waiatarua, but there it was.

Then it hit me, the idea I mean – Hang on a minute – this traffic light wasn't here because of a slip in the road – oh no – it was the work of the ARC!

After finding no reason to increase our rates bill, because none of us bother going to town, and having heard about the militant Waiatarua Residents & Ratepayers Association, (WRRRA) in our area, local Government had come up with a way of creating traffic jams, by placing portable traffic lights randomly on key roads.

Well, I'm not going to stand for it. I'm inviting all Waiatarua ratepayers, to not only pay 10% of your ARC rates bill, but to also ignore all traffic lights in the Waiatarua area – I've set up a hotline you can ring if you spot one of these traffic signals. It is: 0800 ARCOFF.

I've also sent the ARC a bill for my meat pie!

## Neighbourhood Watch

Please continue to be vigilant in noticing suspicious activity in your local area, and reporting such to the police.

Letterboxes and mail still seem to be targeted in some areas of Waiatarua.

A house was burgled during the day on Scenic Drive, near Mountain Road.



## Letter to the Editor

*In Praise of Waiatarua Playcentre. Our family have had the pleasure and privilege to be involved with Waiatarua Playcentre for the past 5 years. It is as our youngest child moves on to school that we pause to reminisce on the quality of educational activities and experiences we found there, it's unique environment and the avenue it provides for meeting and forming friendships with other Waiatarua and Piha families.*

*Waiatarua Playcentre is a great community asset and we would highly recommend it to other families as a fantastic early childhood education option.*

The Hall family. Waiatarua.

## Native Herbs in Waiatarua

By Sonja Cartwright

*Waiataruan and Naturopath  
at 'Health wise' Naturopath Clinic.*

### MANUKA / KANUKA

The Manuka and Kanuka are two of the most common trees in the local bush, and both have medicinal properties, but the Kanuka tends to be more gentle in it's action.

The main use of Manuka/Kanuka is as an anti-septic, antibiotic and anti-fungal, and the essential oil can be used in much the same way as the better known Australian tea tree oil, externally on bites, stings on acne and as an antiseptic.

Medical trials have shown Manuka honey to be very beneficial in the treatment of ulcers, and in particular stomach ulcers, as it has the ability to destroy *Helicobacter pylori*, the organism involved.

As a herbalist I would use it primarily in a herbal extract for throat infections, tonsillitis, colds and flu's (it also helps clear mucous) and externally for acne and infected sores or wounds. However it could also be used at home for these conditions in the form of a tea. To make a tea from Manuka/Kanuka, steep 3 teaspoons fresh leaves or 2 teaspoons dried in a cup of boiling water for 20 minutes.

## Waiatarua Community Library

### Non Fiction:

'KRAKATOA' by Simon Winchester.

'COFFEE TRADER' by David Liss.

'NEITHER HERE NOR THERE' by Bill Bryson.

'CEASAR' – Anzac Dog by Patricia Stroud. (A good story to introduce the young to ANZAC History.)

'THE CHILD THAT BOOKS BUILT' by Francis Spufford. (Books that have influenced children through the years.)

'THE OLIVE FARM AND THE OLIVE SEASON' by Carol Drinkwater.

### Fiction:

The latest in the 'HARRY POTTER' series by J K Rowling.

'THE LAKE HOUSE' by James Paterson.

'THE SECOND TIME' Around by Mary Higgins Clark.

'THE COLOUR' by Rose Tremain.

## 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

# Advertising

This is free to financial members  
for 2003, 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.

**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.  
www.atarua-bandb.co.nz

**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.

**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.

**MAKE UP ARTIST:** Prof. International makeup/hair artist available for weddings, special occasions in your own home. Phone Juliette on 814-8802

**LOCAL ISSUES:** Phone Kevin Healy, Waitakere Community Board on 814-9505 or email: [kevin@healy.co.nz](mailto:kevin@healy.co.nz)

**PLANTS** – One day lilies, taros, bulbs, mondo grass and various perennials for sale. \$1 – \$3. Also some shrubs. All sales for charity. Phone Margaret 814-9859.

**FOR SALE: 2 pairs wooden french doors**, almost new, 1.5m x 2.35m, high quality hardware, no frames. \$450/pair. Phone Tony or Jean on 814 9860.

**FOR SALE:** Stainless steel pipe, 200mm diameter, 2.3m long, 1mm thick. Spiral crimped construction. Ex. pottery kiln flue. \$150. Phone Tony or Jean 814 9860.

**FAYS YOGA CLASS:** Classes to suit busy schedules plus Antenatal – Glen Eden Ph 817-8233.

**BABYSITTER:** Mature, honest and reliable lady. Experienced. \$10 per hour. Phone Juliette on 025-875-805.

## 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 Road	814-9402 + Fax	
Jenny McGee	886 West Coast Road	814-9954	
Margaret/Paddy Marshall	19 Rarua Terrace	814-9859	

Please accept my Membership to the  
Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association

for 2003

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](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)

**ELKE'S FOOD & WINE MARKET** is now open for cake and coffee, or a prosciutto open sandwich and a glass of wine. Fresh Pandoro bread, a large selection of wine and gourmet goodies to tempt your taste buds. Open 10 – 2pm Saturdays at the Seibel Winery, 113 Sturges Road, Henderson. Ph 814-8803 or 836-6113.

**WATER SERVICES LTD.** Pump sales and service. Tank repairs, cleaning and new tanks installed. Filtration and water treatment. Phone Phillip on 812-8537 or 025-279-6036.

**WEST COAST WATER.** For all water deliveries phone Patrick on 812-8079 or 027-288-9111.

**AUCKLAND'S WAITAKERE PARK LODGE:** Open Thurs to Sun for lunch & dinner. Now open for Sunday brunch from 10am. Enjoy the log fires in our luxury lounge bar, magnificent views & dining on the deck. Ph 814-9622.

**FOR SALE:** One white dishwasher – excellent condition. Only used for a year from brand new. Surplus to needs. Offers? Ph 814-1850.

**FOR SALE:** One full size girls 12 speedbike. Only used half a dozen times. Great gift. \$100 Ph 814-1850.

**FOR ALL BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT AND INFORMATION** please call your local La Leche League leader, Adith on 818-7728.

**"HEALTHWISE" YOUR LOCAL NATUROPATHIC CLINIC @ 123 Glendale Road** Ph 813-3615. For menstrual, digestive problems, low energy, freq. colds and flu etc.

**THE NIKAU CLUB BAR, CAFÉ, RESTAURANT.** New hours. Open from 5pm till finish Tues – Friday. 10am – finish Sat and Sun. Closed Mondays. We will be putting on some music over winter so phone and check if you are interested. Don't forget we have the open fire going most of the time. Ph 814-1919.

**'RELAX & REJUVINATE'** A Sunday workshop for women to unwind and boost winter spirits. August 3rd, 9.30am – 4.30pm @ Titirangi Community House. \$60 Call Helen on 814-9963.

**SIX WEEKS OF CEILIDH DANCE CLASSES** with local Celtic Band, TWISTY WILLOW. Monday evenings 7 – 9pm starting 28<sup>th</sup> July in the Henderson High School Hall. Cost \$25 for 6 weeks or \$5 per night. Ph Fraser to enroll 810-8651. Funs and exercise for all ages – family groups welcome.

**LIFESTYLES MASSAGE THERAPY:** Providing therapeutic, sports and relaxation massage in a safe, professional environment. Ph Doug Maynard on 814-8981 or 021-543-302.

**GARDENER AVAILABLE** – Excellent, honest and reliable garden labourer with 2 years experience. \$18 per hour. References available. Please leave a message on 021-145-5725 for Daniel.

**ROOFING AND SPOUTING** – Free advice, consultation & inspections, 28 years experience. Quality new and reproofs, repairs, spouting etc. Onduline organic and non polluting roofing, gutter leaf protection Ph Mark 812-8337 or 025-958-058.

**COOKING CLASSES** – Italian, Japanese and Chinese cuisine in small classes right here in Oratia, \$40 including food and wine, Saturday afternoons August 2, 16, 30, September 13, 27. Ph Alessandra on 814 8993 or email [pdaz@clear.net.nz](mailto:pdaz@clear.net.nz)

**TREEWORk** – Fully insured and qualified arborists. Ph Guy Thomas 021 244-8733.

**PAINTING AND DECORATING.** For quality one service phone Graham on 8371612.

**HELP – CLEANER NEEDED** for 4 hours per fortnight. Please ph Carol on 837-0729 (day) 814 9855 (evenings).

## 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

## SEPTEMBER 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](mailto:forwardthinking1@xtra.co.nz)

by WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2003

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