



WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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

WEED BIN

The weed bin at the Fire Station has been filled and emptied for the first time. Well done to those residents who have been removing their environmental weeds in spite of the wet winter weather. It was good to see that the bin was filled with only the correct weeds. If you are unsure, there is now a sign beside the bin.

One last thing; please don't put plastic bags into the bin. Just environmental weeds. We have to remove the bags before the bin is emptied; which can be a challenge.

Susanne Timms – WRRRA Environmental Officer

The Arataki Rangers' Roundup

This last month has seen a massive increase in the dumping of tyres in the Waitakere Ranges. Historically an occasional problem, this recent activity has shocked both locals and Rangers. Four large incidents resulted in a total of 250 car and truck tyres dumped along the Scenic Drive by the Arataki Visitor Centre and at Mill Bay and the Orpheus graves, Cornwallis. Given the volume of tyres and the fact that many were carrying chalk and crayon markings, it is likely to be one, or several, commercial tyre companies. An intensive clean up by Rangers and a large disposal fee has seen the ARC make a public appeal through media channels. Please, if anyone witnesses, or has information regarding these dumpers, contact the Arataki Visitor Centre on 09 817 0077. This has been an ongoing problem for years and the current increase in activity must be stopped. Help us protect our beautiful Park.

On a more positive note, many new specimens have been planted at the Arataki Visitor Centre gardens. This has been to replace fragile species as well as a general increase in the number of plantings.

Construction is still on track for the Arataki Visitor Centre Toilets. It is expected that these fully refurbished facilities will be ready for the first week of September.

That's all for this time around. Kakite – The Arataki Rangers

Oratia District School Reunion

Did you go to Oratia District School? Here's your chance to catch up with all your old school mates, swap life histories and reminisce about the good old days.

The school is holding a reunion to celebrate its 125th anniversary on the weekend of 9–11 November, and all past pupils, teachers and friends are invited. An exciting weekend of activities is planned; starting with a chance to mix and mingle on Friday night, followed by a sculpture unveiling, a parade of vintage orcharding vehicles and school children's floats, decade photos, a casual lunch and formal dinner on Saturday, and a church service on Sunday.

You can take part in all the events or just choose the ones that tickle your fancy – but don't miss this rare opportunity to take a trip down memory lane.

To register, visit www.oratia125.org.nz, email Jocelyn McAlpine on reunion@oratia.school.nz or phone (09) 818 6216 during school hours.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IS REBORN

We are in the early stages of setting up a network of volunteer coordinators. In the October issue of this Newsletter we intend to include an envelope for each household, giving information on *Neighbourhood Support*, *Civil Defence*, useful information sheets and individual actions in times of crisis.

Following this a Street Coordinator will make themselves known to you, any questions prior to this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Help Us Keep Waiaatarua Safe
– Les Duffield 814 1130**



CONFUSING SIGNAGE WEST COAST ROAD

This road sign appeared at the upper end of West Coast Road and what made it even more hilarious is that it wasn't even on a bend. It has since been rectified.

Waiaatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc Committee as from February 2007

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Community Hall & Library:

911 West Coast Road

Hall hire

Les Duffield - Ph 814 1130

Library hours:

Thursday 10.00am - 12.00pm
Friday 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Saturday 11.00am - 12.00pm
Sunday 11.00am - 12.00pm

WEB Site:

www.waiaatarua.org.nz

From the Editor

Jenny Bebbington

This month we've given the candidates in the forthcoming Waitakere City Council elections the opportunity to submit their profiles. In the interest of being fair, the WRRR Committee has tried very hard to contact all the candidates. Not everyone responded, but if any have been missed, we do apologise. Hopefully these profiles give you some insight into what our candidates are proposing for Waitakere City; and help with your voting decisions.

I was staggered at the Rainfall figures for July; and it certainly looks as though August will be similar. But thankfully the days are getting a bit longer, which gives us all a glimmer of hope that summer is not too far off – and as Dave has mentioned, the next newsletter will mark the beginning of a new season.

Jenny Bebbington

STORYFEST – SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd. FROM 10am–4pm KELSTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, CORNER AWAROA & GREAT NORTH ROADS, KELSTON.

A FREE fun festival for children of all ages, featuring clowns, magic, puppet theatre, dance performances, mythical creatures, storytelling and entertainment. Take part in the free workshops and make masks and flags, do printing and calligraphy, or make collages and cards. Get your face painted and enjoy the mural art based on the theme 'One World – Our World'. Enter the Starlab to see our world at night. *Come and be entertained.*

Enquiries: Julie Nash 836 8000 extn 8934 or Julie.Nash@waitakere.govt.nz

Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

GREAT NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY: We have the **new Harry Potter** in now. Plus:

Opportunity by Charlotte Grimshaw – an excellent read

The Bourne Betrayal – another in this popular series

Fire by Deborah Challinor – a novel based the Ballentynes fire in Christchurch

Simple Genius by David Baldacci – you will have to put your name on the reserve list for this.

Happy reading.

Garden Group

Eileen Powell

Our September 5 get together is a visit to the Coatesville area. We will meet at the beautiful garden of **Camperdown** 455 Coatesville/Riverhead Highway at 10:30am for morning tea.

We will then head to **Pinelee** at 21 Coatesville Heights. This garden has a wide variety of native and exotic shrubs complemented by flowering bulbs. We will have lunch there and enjoy a talk by Warren Howard, who makes exquisite Sheraton Style furniture. The total cost is \$23 which includes morning tea and lunch.

Everyone is welcome, just ring Eileen on 814 9298 for further details or carpooling.

BRICKBATS and BOUQUETS

Sponsored by the Fairy Flower Shop,
423 Titirangi Road, Titirangi. Phone 817 3780

Sadly, there is no **bouquet** nomination this month.

The nomination for **brickbat** this month goes to a lady in a deep red Holden Calais, who followed a Waitataruan through Oratia, sitting right on their back bumper and then passed on the **WRONG** side of the road on the hill down to the dairy. This took place whilst the red 40kph signs were flashing. She then proceeded to tailgate another vehicle before turning into Kauri Loop Road.

From the President

Dave Pocock

Hi, guess what, we have just hit the 100th member so lets see how many of the remaining 600 households we will see join by Xmas!

Well the elections are looming, with some of our keen candidates providing profiles for this newsletter. One name missing this time is Oratia resident and Deputy Mayor Carolynne Stone. After 15 years service Carolynne has decided to take a well earned rest and return to some form of normality in life, although she will be contesting the Health Board. I am sure you will join me in thanking Carolynne for her years of service and wishing her all the best for the future.

I mentioned last month that we have the dubious honour of having one of the lowest voter returns in the country – why? It is so easy as the forms are delivered to your letterbox; fill them in (put a tick in the right box), and return in the supplied envelope. Are you happy with your current representative? Then vote to keep them in. Are you unhappy with your current representatives? Then vote to remove them.

If you do not vote you lose the right to an opinion. Let's see us join the national average on percentage of voter returns. When the papers arrive fill them out and return them. We have very proactive Councillors and Community Board members in the Waitakere Ward, so let's support them.

Enough Politics! At the end of July I attended my granddaughter's fifth birthday party and was enthralled and amazed by the entertainment, namely a magician that goes under the title Chicane Amazing Fun Magic. Well, on the 25th November he will be performing at our hall. Oh by the way, breakfast will be served the same morning. Yes our Community Breakfast will be on 25th November with a magic show for young and old. Keep an eye on next month's newsletter for final details and kids, there may be a competition for you to enter.

What with quiz nights, Tuesday night table tennis, another outstanding production from the Waitatarua Performing Arts Society, and the breakfast, there is no excuse for being bored.

Well that's all from me and just think, the next newsletter will be in the spring.

Dave

Fire Brigade

Ian Ford

The recent agreement between the NZ Fire Service and St John Ambulance regarding assistance at medical incidents only serves to formalise what already exists. St Johns will ask the Fire Brigade to co-respond to any known or potentially life-threatening incident if it is likely that the Fire Service will arrive there significantly quicker. In our case, that means if the Te Atatu-based ambulance (and possibly New Lynn's) is unavailable at the time.

We recently hosted the Oratia Air Scout group to the station; showing the group around the station and equipment, and also offering some home safety information.

Recent Calls

8:44pm, Thursday 19 July – Car fire, Piha Rd

11:47pm, Tuesday 24 July – Car fire, Piha Rd

Contacts: If you want the Fire Brigade to arrive, always dial 111. Otherwise please call Ian Ford (814 8871), Helen Longley (814 9855) or Karl Nuttall (814 8777).

Waitatarua Rainfall (July 2007)

	Rain Days	Wettest Day	Mth Total	Year to Date
Mountain Road	24	6th – 68 mm	255 mm	884 mm
Brabant Road	26	6th – 72 mm	252 mm	854 mm
Quinns Road	26	6th – 74 mm	250 mm	748 mm
Forest Hill Road	24	6th – 68 mm	253 mm	900 mm
Auckland City	–	6th – 56 mm	172 mm	554 mm

BOB HARVEY – FOR MAYOR

When I first decided to leave business behind and become the Mayor of Waitakere I had a clear idea of what I wanted to achieve for the West. A city to be proud of, a safe city and a green one.

Take a look around, we are one of the most respected cities in New Zealand, the first eco city in New Zealand is also a smart city. We have built the future together and I'm very proud of our achievements. Four beautiful libraries, the finest stadium in New Zealand, a world class aquatic centre and now double tracking and soon electrification for our public transport system. Less than 3% unemployed and with the Police we have made a serious effort to keep our streets crime free.

In the ranges you care about the environment and so I do, I've spent a lifetime working for sustainable green issues and I couldn't be more proud that the Ranges are now safe from over-development, it's been hard work but worth it.

These are big dreams that have come true with your help. This City can now feel proud, it stands tall in New Zealand and with my continued leadership as the Mayor of Waitakere we can build a future for the next generation. This is a beautiful city, it deserves the best and I'm prepared to commit another term for working for you and your city. Give me a council, young and willing to pitch in. Please do vote and make your vote count.

Waitakere Ward Electoral Candidates

2007

Voting documents will be sent to all eligible electors, by post, from Friday 21 September 2007.

WAITAKERE CITY COUNCIL ELECTION 2007

ELECTIONS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

Mayor (1), Councillors (2), Community Boards (5), Waitakere Licensing Trust (1).

ELECTION DAY
Saturday 13 October 2007
Votes must be returned by noon that day by post
or at drop off points at Waitakere City Council or
at Waitakere Libraries.

Make Your Vote Count...

CARL HARDING – for a fresh start

Experienced in business and local government. Works as a part time volunteer on the Huia farm project. Life member of 4 agricultural societies and 2 museum societies. Goals that he has achieved to date: Titirangi Laingholm sewerage system 1987, Crash barriers on motorway 1987, work commenced on North Western Motorway (Clean up Hillsborough Road), Doubling of the railway lines; Funding for the New Lynn railway station; Council now runs as a one-stop-shop. ESSENTIAL GOALS: Development of Waitakere Ranges and Foothills with awareness of their uniqueness and the importance of keeping that uniqueness. Carl Harding. He's your local man. For a fresh start. Removal of GST from rates.

KEVIN HEALY

– Waitakere Licensing Trust

Waiaatarua resident 19 years. Married to Christine, father of Jack and Eles. Community involvement: Waitakere Licensing Trust, Keep Waitakere Beautiful, EcoMatters Environment Trust, Friends of Arataki, Senior Firefighter Waiaatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade. Community is my passion, and a highlight is serving on the Trusts the last six years. In that time over \$50M has been donated to schools, sports, arts and community groups, plus five new venues have been purchased this year.

It's an honour to support our hard-working volunteers. This is our unique community asset. I will fight to keep it, and work to build it for our future.

LINDA DAVIES M.Ed, B.Soc.Sci. (For A Fresh Start)

– Waitakere Community Board

I am married to Ivor, we have four children raised and educated in West Auckland and we have lived here for 38 years. I am an experienced community worker, co-founder of Heart Children NZ, and the Parent and Family Resource Centre, past member of La Leche League, Bereaved Parents, ADPN, and Parent to Parent. I'm currently a volunteer at Huia Museum and PHAB. I tutor at Unitec Waitakere in the School of Community Development. "West is Best" but I am concerned about the lack of activities and educational opportunities for youth, rural street lighting and footpaths, Safe speed zones around schools, and support for community organisations.

PENNY HULSE

I chair the City Development committee, am a member of the Waitemata DHB (but not restanding) and a member of many community organisations eg: Hospital foundation, Waitakere anti violence services, Earthsong Trust, Swanson Railway trust.

Recently I have been part of large projects chairing the youth centre project, leading the \$120 million New Lynn transport project and the Ranges project, also smaller projects such as 40km school zones, speed limit review and renewable energy pilot projects.

I offer experience, total dedication to my community, a practical focus on the environment, and a tough approach to council spending.

CHRISTINE ANNE SHEPHERD

– Waitakere Community Board

Waitakere Community Board elected member and Chairperson 2001–2007. I have supported and advocated strongly for my Ward, especially to retain the Waitakere Ward and an effective level of representation. I have worked to achieve proactive and positive decision-making processes and represent the Waitakere City Community Boards at a regional and national level. Justice of the Peace, Graduate Diploma 'Not for Profit' Management (Unitec), Club Development Advisor for Sport Waitakere, Founder/Chair Waitakere Christmas Festival Trust, Keep Waitakere Beautiful Trustee, Secretary Waitakere Rugby League. I am active in the Waitakere Ward NOW and welcome the opportunity to continue to represent you.

KUBI WITTEN-HANNAH

– Waitakere Community Board

First elected to the Board in 1998, in 2004 he was elected as part of Team West.

He is committed to the Heritage Area Bill; to protecting the Waitakeres environment and communities; and representing people dealing with Council. He has a strong interest in road safety issues and has trained in the administration of the Resource Management Act.

Kubi is a school careers adviser and is active in the community as a life-guard at Karekare, a rural fire officer, JP and Chair of the West Coast Plan Liaison Group.

MONIQUE DAVIS – Waitakere Community Board

To continue service to the communities of the Ward, building on experience and knowledge gained. As a Community Board member she campaigned for the retention of the Waitakere Ward & strengthening community consultation. Member of the West Coast Plan Liaison Group. Former secretary of the Piha Community Centre & service on the Piha Ratepayers & Residents Association. Co-founder of the Piha Community Preschool, the Wildcoast Boardriders Club & the Surfbreak Protection Society. Former editor of the Piha Community News for 17 years, she has linked with a large variety of community organisations & has a sound understanding of community issues & needs. Monique lives in Oratia with 2 teenage children and works as a language teacher at Rutherford College.

SHARON DAVIES – Waitakere Community Board

I have the drive, commitment and passion for this City. I've enjoyed the past 3-year term and will continue to work hard and serve my community. I support various Council community initiatives ensuring we live in an inclusive society. My community involvement includes: Disability Information Waitakere Network' Waitakere City Council's Well-being Collaboration Call to Action Group, Culture of Inclusion, Keep Waitakere Beautiful and Waitakere Christmas Festival Trust. I've also built great relationships with many Ratepayer groups in the Ward. My personal skills, drive, personality and experience on the Waitakere Community Board will ensure continuation of excellent representation for the people of this Ward.

Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Jenny Bebbington via email bizart@xtra.co.nz or phone 814 9665.

Community Notices are free to financial members 2007, January to December.

ACTING TRAINING FOR ADULTS: Monday and Wednesday night classes at Rimu Glade Studio, 4 Rimu Road, Waiaatarua, with tutor John Goudge. Nine-week courses enrolling now. Phone 814 9744 for info.

GARDENER: Trained and experienced. For regular garden maintenance. Phone Hugh 838 3594.

HANDYMAN WORK: - Reliable, efficient with fair rates. SPECIAL gutters cleaned and gutter guard installed, from \$45. Phone Mike 814 9708

LA LECHE LEAGUE: Meetings held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Kelston Community Centre. For more info call Adith: phone 818 7728.

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

OTIMAI: - Events and training centre is available for hire (Guides Auckland) and is open to view by appointment. Please phone Lynne & Walter on 814 9992 for bookings.

THE ORATIA COMMUNITY CHURCH: On the corner of Parker & West Coast Roads. Activities - Bible Study and Prayer Group: Tuesdays 1.00pm. - Fellowship (trips, meetings etc.): 2nd Thursdays of each month.

TOASTMASTER: - meetings held on every other Thursday morning from 7.00 till 8.20 AM - more information call Adith Stoneman 818 7728

WAIEMATA TECORIAN SPEAKERS: - Gain confidence, communicate more effectively, extend knowledge, stimulate imagination and have fun at the same time. We meet at the Titirangi community centre every second and fourth Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. Men and women are welcome. Contact Margaret on 817 0520 or Gill on 838 1983 for further information.

HALL HIRE

911 WEST COAST ROAD WAIATARUA

1-2 hour sessions \$20

Half day hire \$60

Half day & evening function
(deposit required) \$150

Contact Les on 814 1130
or Dave on 814 9697

Advantages of being a WRRRA member?

Show your membership card at the following businesses for a 10% discount (does not apply to already discounted or sale items).

Glen Eden Landscape Supplies
293 West Coast Rd. Ph: 818 6129

Elevation Licenced Café & Restaurant
12.00pm till late - 471 Scenic Drive Ph: 814 1919
(applies to max 2 adults per visit)

Colourplus Paint & Wallpaper
Glenmall, Glen Eden Ph: 818 8263

Elkes Wine and Food Market
113 Sturges Rd. (Sat 10.00am-5.00pm)

WEST COAST VETERINARY CLINIC

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Every Tuesday night - 7pm

Waiaatarua Hall - 911 West Coast Rd.

\$2 per person.

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Contact Les on 814 1130 or Korstiaan on 814 1850, for further information.

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WINTER AT ELEVATION...

ELEVATION NEWS

Sunday Roast - Still very popular get the family together for a traditional family Sunday Roast diner Out of the oven at 6pm. Only \$16.50 per person. Bookings essential!

Winter Hours - Monday & Tuesday - Sorry we are closed.
Wednesday & Thursday 12 noon till 3pm.
Friday - Sunday 10 am till late

Kids Nite Out - Fridays kids eat free off the childrens menu
The fire is blazing every day and the restaurant is warm and cosy.

Waiaatarua Ratepayers Association members 10% discount (on two diners).

Come along for casual relaxed dining.

ELEVATION
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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of The Editor,
by **WEDNESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER, 2007**

Jenny Bebbington Ph 814 9665
bizart@xtra.co.nz