

Waiaatarua Community News

900 copies

September 2009



Interested In Becoming A Fire Fighter?

Waiaatarua Volunteer Fire Brigade is always looking for willing people to come on board. Fire Fighters, Fire Police and Operational support members are needed. Volunteers can be women or men from any walk of life. Volunteers include students, self-employed, mothers at home, shift-workers, trades people and professionals. They are people who care about their community and want to be actively involved. You must be at least 18 years old, fit and healthy and available to attend weekly Monday night training nights and preferably, live within close proximity to the fire station.

For more information contact:

Helen Longley 814 9885 or 0274 814 312 or email helen.longley@fire.org.nz

Gareth Mullins 814 9402 or 0275 854 020 or email gareth.mullins@fire.org.nz



Operation Spring Clean 2009

It's time to start rallying your team for the annual Operation Spring Clean.

Litter and graffiti send a signal that no one cares. Every year residents, schools and community groups come together to turn this around by cleaning up a chosen part of their neighbourhood such as a stream, reserve, street or local beach. The result is a cleaner, greener environment as well as a renewed sense of pride and ownership for the residents. Cleaning up these areas also acts as a deterrent for further illegal dumping. Keep Waitakere Beautiful Trust, in partnership with Waitakere City Council, makes this possible by providing registered individuals, groups and schools with the resources that they need to make it happen, such as rubber gloves, bags and bins. The disposal of the collected waste is at no cost to the groups.

In 2009 the Trust is trying out a new approach to the disposal of waste collected during the annual event. A trial is being undertaken to reduce the amount of waste that ends up at landfill by providing participating schools with a bin to sort recyclable waste into. The recycling trial is optional for schools that enroll, but with around 30 schools participating each year, the Trust expects to see great results from this approach.

The target for this year is 20,000 participants. So if you have an area that you would like to see spruced up, start getting your troops together now. Operation Spring Clean 2009 runs from 1 September to 17 October and registration forms are available at www.ecomatters.org.nz or by phoning Keep Waitakere Beautiful Trust on 826 4276.

Daylight Saving Begins

Please put September 27th 2009 in your diaries as this is the change to Daylight Saving. Our clocks go forward one hour, but more importantly it's time to replace the batteries in your smoke alarms and test them. Also it's a good idea to clean your smoke alarm as well. To do this, remove the end from your vacuum cleaner and slowly move the pipe around the unit as this will help remove dust and other particles from the filter.

Recent Calls

18 Jul 2009 08:23:13	Scenic Drive	Power line down on road
24 Jul 2009 03:17:05	Scenic Drive	Tree Down on road
26 Jul 2009 18:18:27	Parrs Cross Rd	Large Fire in Fruit Shop, (Waiaatarua was fourth arriving fire appliance in a large building fire with eight other crews and fire appliances)
31 Jul 2009 17:11:34	Whites Beach	Hang glider into cliff (Police Eagle Helicopter was able to assist before arrival of Fire Crews, which also saw the Fire service High Angle Rescue team from Auckland City Fire station being called to assist)
08 Aug 2009 17:44:07	Scenic Drive	Car vs. Car. Luckily no injuries for occupants of both vehicles.

Contacts

Phone 111 for any fire or emergency. Otherwise please call Ian Ford (814 8871), Helen Longley (814 9855), Kevin Healy (814 9505), Gareth Mullins (814 9402), Karl Nuttall (814 8777)

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

EDITOR: All enquiries to Robyn O'Sullivan - Ph 814 1143, E-Mail: munster@ihug.co.nz • **WRRRA President:** Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697, E-Mail: davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Community Hall & Library: 911 West Coast Road • **Hall hire (bookings)** John Goudge - Ph 814 9744

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

Special Notices

MEET THY NEIGHBOUR Spring 09

Sunday 27th September 2009, 11am
Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Road
LAP question and answer 12.15pm
(approx)

Time once again to get together for an informal chat, a glass of wine and meet new people or catch up with old friends.

After the sausage sizzle there will be the opportunity to have your question answered with regards to the Waiatarua Local Area Plan as I am sure that like me, the boundaries of our little piece of paradise are of great interest. Mark Tollemache, from council, will be in attendance for this.

A donation of a gold coin or two would be greatly appreciated to help offset costs.

See You There

Dave

.....

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 10th October at the community centre.

Keep this date free - more details in October newsletter.

News from Waiatarua Performing Arts Trust

We are currently planning the next production, and with auditions held on Sunday the 23rd of August we are one step closer to putting on another great show for you all at the beginning of November (4th - 14th).

Once again we have well-known Actor/Director Peter Mason in the Director's chair. The production committee is still looking for some assistance to make sure that everything runs smoothly behind the scenes. Are you the person we are looking for? Well I am sure you have a skill we can use. Why not phone or send an email and tell me how you think you can put your skills to good use? From distributing posters to designing the set, and everything in between and around it. Don't think 'I am sure they already have someone doing that', because we don't mind sharing the job with you. So to become part of the team phone Kor on 814 1850 or email korprins@xtra.co.nz I look forward to hearing from you.

Korstiaan Prins

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor
by FRIDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2009 - 5PM
Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143
munster@ihug.co.nz

From the President

Dave Pocock

Had to have a chuckle upon reading Robyn's comments last month regarding her appointment and admit there is an element of truth in the statement of desperation.

What I do now recognise are Robyn's talents having stepped into the role with the utmost ease and rendering me redundant overnight. Yippee!!

The newsletter is now in the hands of two ladies that we are very lucky to have on board and I am sure things will move forward under their control.

This got me thinking as to how lucky we are in Waiatarua and how lucky I am to have such a high calibre of people now and in the past on the W.R.R.A. committee, some who have gone on to head Neighbourhood Support and Waiatarua Performing Arts.

I encourage all of you to attend the LAP meeting immediately after The MEET THY NEIGHBOUR meeting (notice elsewhere) in fact come and socialise at 'meet thy neighbour' first. We have something worth fighting for in this great community of ours and ensuring we retain the area we have come to class as ours and which may be under review, so come and add your voice to the discussion.

Our hall was the victim of a burglary in the last week of July when some cheeky individuals decide to remove the copper water pipes from the basement area leaving the hall and library high and dry, so to speak. Luckily Brian Riley (alias "The Oratia Plumber") soon had us up and running again. Apparently, theft of copper pipes, spouting etc is becoming more regular, so I suggest we all padlock our basement areas and pump houses, where applicable. The Police were notified as was the council.

This brings me to Neighbourhood Support. If you are not a member I recommend you become one as we have a very active network here and more than one offender has been apprehended thanks to the network in Waiatarua. Phone Les Duffield 814 1130 for details.

Now on a totally different tangent, have you been to Glen Eden shops lately, in particular behind the main street? What a busy little place including a 4 Square with a great selection and good prices and the Asian grocer (where London Deli was) is absolute heaven for us ethnic cooking junkies with things like tinned roasted eel, great on rolls for lunch, fully stocked and very reasonable prices.

Well that's all for now as I had better go and cook dinner,

Dave

Settlers Film Club

Just an up-date on things...not sure whether it was the awful weather, the type of film or that there was something better on TV but "Beyond the Gates of Splendour" attracted a small but very select audience.

I am assuming that everybody who put themselves down to get a newsletter and information on the films is actually receiving the e-mail with details of the films. The local paper is always given the information plus an invite to come along but this year we haven't made it into print, the more publicity we get then the more people we get coming along which means we can put more films on. The future success of the film club relies more on word of mouth recommendation and I am very grateful to all those people who pass on information and add it to their websites.

I have just applied for a license to allow us to sell wine by the glass at the rest of the Settlers Film Club evenings, this should be in place for "Topp Twins- Untouchable Girls" and all films following in the season...we will continue to provide complimentary Teas and Coffees.

Diary Dates September

Friday 11th 8pm: "Topp Twins - Untouchable Girls" Settler's Film Club, Oratia. Certificate (M) Licensed bar/refreshments. PLUS Short Film "Meet" (3 mins) An encounter on the moors of West Cornwall when two tweed clad walkers meet for the first time!! Tickets \$12 Adults only.

Friday 18th 8pm (doors open 7.30pm): "HOME - the Movie" Settler's Film Club, Oratia. Free admission (There will be a donations box to help cover the costs of screening the film.)

Phone 09 818 2489 or E-mail: settlersfilmclub@xtra.co.nz

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From the Editor

Robyn O'Sullivan

I love September. Spring has officially started which means the weather is on the way to warming up. It can't come soon enough for me!

And of course the warmer weather means an influx of visitors to the hills with the usual people roaring through to Piha and now The Shore People desperately seeking non-poisonous beaches on which to walk their wee pooches. Let's not kill them, I say! Not on the beaches and certainly not on the roads.

I am having issues with the West Coast/Scenic Drive intersection. Every day as I approach said intersection I think 'will it be today?' Will my car be demolished and my body parts scattered to the four winds as I try to turn right into West Coast Rd today?

I will admit I have been known to have the odd flirtation with speed myself. However, I do endeavour to abide by the road rules. They are there for a purpose. They are there so I don't kill others and they don't kill me. Waving cheerily and mouthing 'sorry' as you whizz down the hill and turn left onto West Coast Rd, doesn't impress me at all.

So please, let's all be careful and stay alive.

Letter to the Editor

Hail to the Supershitty !

We thank Tony Powell for his great article in the June edition of our "Community News". What a visionary he is! But he is not going far enough though.

We could build a boulevard from Kaipara South Heads right down to Whatipu with white high-rise hotels, casinos and clean, white raked beaches all along it.

The Gold Coast will look amateurish compared with it! Of course there are some ugly rocky outcrops on that coast but we can bulldoze them away. Supercity pays! They simply increase our rates! And what about some stadiums and boy-racer tracks everywhere? We also could do with some airports, complete with helicopter platforms, to fly in the millions of tourists from all over the world! However, some of the dumb locals could resist these brilliant plans and become a nuisance. The answer to that is to ask the government to disown their properties (Rodney will happily do that) and build some concentration camps in the Waitaks for them. Put them in chain gangs to do the heavy work for us: cutting down all the trees and flattening shrubs (stuff the environment) to improve the views from our multi-million dollar villas that we are going to build. They can even help to shovel the tourists' dollars into our pockets. What a wonderful thought!

On the other hand, don't worry about your tongue-in-cheek problem Tony...that can be surgically attended to. It's not as bad as some people in the National government who want to sell our airport again so that the next Labour government will have to clean up the mess again, at the cost of us taxpayers of course. Rodney for example, goes to the government to sell us out to the ARC, without consulting us, people of the west. This is undemocratic dictatorship and an insult to us! WE DO NOT LIKE IT! We are happy with the Waitakere City as it is! I have lived in big, I mean BIG European cities and I think our area is heaven! Well almost! All we want is to have a bit of a say in what happens to us and around us. People who ignore that should have brain surgery urgently!

Herman Zuidmeer.



Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

New This Month At Your Library.

"The Defector" – Daniel Silva. Another from this popular author featuring his ex-spy, Gabriel Allon and, this time, a Russian arms dealer.

"Sea Robber" – Tim Severin. This fine author's new novel is about 17th Century seafaring, with all the risks and rewards, plus pirates.

"Crimson Rooms" – Katherine McMahon. Katherine's fifth novel is set in London in 1924.

"Who Sings For Lu" – Alan Duff. NZ's own is busy writing again and this is a story of two contrasting worlds resulting in envy and broken relationships.

"Matters of the Heart" – Danielle Steele. Wow. This is her 100th book! The title says it all.

"The Weight of Heaven" – Thrity Umrigar. Thrity writes another novel exploring cultural divides. This time an American couple go to India following the death of their young son.

Library hours are elsewhere in the newsletter. Come along and enjoy our books.

Hidden Gems

Victor Maxwell

Our community Library contains many wonderful books languishing on the shelves often unread for years. Each month one of these hidden gems will be given an airing via this newsletter. We hope you enjoy.

This month's offering is "City of Dreams" by Beverly Swerling (Pub. 2001). In the tradition of Rutherford's "London", "City of Dreams" is the story of two medical families living in New Amsterdam from 1661. The story tells the story of their life in the new world and the enormous changes from Dutch to British rule and finally the American War of Independence. In essence this is the story of the birth of New York and its complex political and social history.

In addition this novel shares with us early medical procedures and remedies of the day via the practice of surgeons, physicians and apothecaries as practised by members of the two families.

A fascinating novel and a great read. Enjoy.

Garden Group

Eileen Powell

Our September visit is to the garden of Olaf John who is a landscape gardener with a passion for subtropicals. Meet at 1 pm 68 McCullough Ave, Mt Roskill, Wednesday 2 September, Entry fee \$5. Our get together in October is a visit to the noted plant breeder Dr Keith Hammett in Massey to see his world class clivia collection. This will be held on October 7 and there will be an opportunity to purchase some excellent quality specially bred plants. Waitaruaans are welcome to join us, phone Eileen on 814 9298 for further information or email etpowe@clear.net.nz

Advertising & Community Notices

Commercial advertisements are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Contact Robyn O'Sullivan, munster@ihug.co.nz, ph 814 1143.

Community Notices are free to financial members 2009, January to December.

Cell phone safety: Protect yourself and your family from harmful EMF. Attach a Biopro Cell Phone Chip, \$60. Phone Emily 835 3777.

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.

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

Plants: Taros, bulbs, cannas and various perennials for sale. \$1 – \$3. Also some shrubs. All sales for charity. Phone Margaret 814 9859.

The Oratia Community Church: On the corner of Parker & West Coast roads. Fellowship (trips, meetings etc.): 2nd Thursday of each month.

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Contributions and suggestions for the newsletter are welcome; however publication will depend on available space

Contact Robyn O'Sullivan
Ph 814 1143, munster@ihug.co.nz

If emailing photographs, please do not include in text documents, but send as a separate file, preferably JPG, at high resolution

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