

Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

November 2010



Sea Adventures - Guided Sea Kayak Tours

We are a recently established local based Sea kayak company running kayak tours across Auckland.

We offer a range of trips for everyone (novice to the expert paddlers) with our half day 'Manukau Magic' tour being a favourite for westies. Trips explore the marvels of the Manukau harbour with great coastline, beautiful birdlife and fantastic coffees along the way.

Gift vouchers for Christmas and birthdays available, group rates also. To make a booking or an enquiry, feel free to contact us at www.seaadventures.co.nz.

Happy paddling and roll on summer.



Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Waiatarua 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.waiatarua.org.nz

Word On The Street.....

...is that Elevation is now open on a Monday and Tuesday for your culinary pleasure ...and by the time this newsletter hits your letterboxes, the newest eating place on the Scenic Drive (the old Montana site) should be open...everyday except Mon and Tues. We are becoming spoilt for choices!

Garden Group

Eileen Powell

Our 3 November trip is to the Whitford area starting at the Huntingwood Garden at 10.30. It is a medium size country garden with formal and woodland areas. The entry fee is \$8. After lunch, we will visit Broomfields Garden This garden of 6 acres has been developed over the last 12 years with the help of a legendary landscape architect and features 3 large natural lakes and at various stages of maturity are approx. 85 Puriri, 65 Karaka, 40 Pohutakawa, 70 Kowhai plus flowering shrubs and seasonal flowers. Entry fee \$7. Please contact Eileen on 814 9298 for further information.

Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

These books are so new they have just been delivered and not yet processed.

The Finkler Question – Howard Jacobson. Winner of 2010 Man Booker prize. A funny/sad book about Jewishness, male friendship and ageing.

Cat Among The Pigeons – Cath Tizard. A former Governor General, mayor, and university lecturer, Cath has at last written her memoir.

Jump – Jilly Cooper. Set in Larkshire, this Jilly classic is centered on jump racing with a cast of trainers, owners, stable boys, and jockeys.

Worth Dying For – Lee Child. Jack Reacher's latest adventure is one of righteous vengeance fighting three nasty brothers and a wife-beater.

The Fall of Giants – Ken Follett. First of a new Follett trilogy. This tells of five interrelated families from different countries during WWI, Russian revolution, and women's suffrage.

Our busy volunteers will now process these and the other seven new books.

Fire Brigade

This is a reminder sort of report

November 5th Our Guy Fawkes bonfire at the fire station, from 7pm onwards

With a rain date of Saturday 6th. So come along, bring your fireworks and join in with us. If you have any doubt about the weather on the day just phone the fire station from 6.30pm onwards - on 814 9213.

The Waitakere Licensing Trust smoke alarms for the community.

Anyone that would like to take up this opportunity please contact Helen Longley on 814 9855, helen@longley.co.nz, helen.longley@fire.org.nz or Karl Nuttall on 814 8777 knutts@clear.net.nz, karl.nuttall@fire.org.nz, Karl.Nuttall@waitakere.govt.nz

Fire Safety – Electrical Safety

Overloaded electrical circuits, faulty electrical equipment and misuse of electrical equipment are common causes of fire.

- If you have any concern about the performance of appliances like electric blankets, heaters, air conditioners or fans have them checked by a qualified electrician.
- Do not overload multiboards with double adaptors. Remember – one appliance per multiboard or wall socket.
- Ensure that leads on appliances are in good condition and not frayed.
- Extension cords are not designed as permanent replacements to your home's internal wiring. Never put them under carpet or mats or use them while they are tightly coiled.
- Turn off and where practical, unplug appliances when not in use.
- Keep electrical appliances clear of water.
- When buying second hand appliances ensure that they have been tested by a licensed electrician or gas fitter and have been certified safe.
- Do not place fans, heaters, televisions and electrical equipment in areas with restricted airflow as overheating may occur.

Fire Calls

23/09/2010	Rubbish Bin Fire	Scenic Drive, Waiaatarua
10/10/2010	Medical Assist	Scenic Drive, Waiaatarua
10/10/2010	Car Fire	Anawhata Road, Waiaatarua

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

Arataki Rangers Roundup

Arataki staff have been busy clearing tree falls from the high wind events of last month. Many of the tracks are also taking considerable time to dry out from the winter rains. This has been the case particularly on the first day section of the Hillary Trail that leaves the Arataki Visitor Centre and ends in the Karamatura Valley in Huia. All trampers and visitors to the Park are advised that this area contains significant stretches of deep mud. Definitely not sneaker country!

The Arataki Gateway Sanctuary pest control programme has entered it's second year of operations. Two new volunteers have bolstered the team and allows an expanded range

The Friends of Arataki are hosting another 'Arataki Kids Day' on Sunday November 14. Please phone the Arataki Visitor Centre for details on this very popular event. Further good news is that the long awaited replacement pou should be in pride of place at the Arataki Visitor Centre in the next couple of months! This new pou is a replacement of the previous one which suffered excessive rot after spending 16 years as an iconic feature at the front of the Centre and became a safety concern. Carving has been completed and work is now shifting to the supporting structure and an appropriate time for the installation. Still at the Visitor Centre, approximately half of the gardens have now been replanted and interpretive signage is on it's way.

That's it for another month. Bye for now.

Ka kite

The Arataki Rangers

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor
by FRIDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2010 - 5PM
Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143
munster@ihug.co.nz

Please note the following issue
will be February 2011 (no January issue)

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Hi From Paul Osborne

“Rain rain go away, come again another day”. This was my mother’s favourite chant, pre tumble dryer days, each Monday when she wanted to hang her washing up but it was pouring down. Now I don’t have to remind you how wet it has been this winter but my mother’s mantra has been chanted a few times as my wife’s little winter project has been worked on.

I should have seen the writing on the wall 6 ½ years ago when we moved in from the concrete jungle that is Panmure, the first two years were spent removing noxious weeds from the section. We managed to fill a free 9 cubic meter bin from the council (remember if you have these pests there is a free bin at the fire station). The section was now cleared of these pests, apart from African club moss and I defy anyone to tell me how to get rid of it bar using Agent Orange which I think is a no no. But I digress; the next project was a veggie garden. The first one was a roaring success, well at least for the first summer, but once we realised that it wasn’t a winter garden a second was built using ponga logs that formed a fence under the deck that seemed to fit no purpose other than attract spiders et al.

This is where we come up to date. Last year my wife had an accident and blew a disc which was operated on early this year, so as you can imagine heavy lifting & digging is out of the question. This is where I’m considering getting “mug” tattooed across my forehead. The second veggie garden was now decaying so we had to replace it. Getting the materials was no problem, apart from the bill, but they had to be built in situ, and I don’t have to remind you what rain and clay do, didn’t Simon and Garfunkel do a song called “Slip Slidin’ Away”?

The last couple of months have been spent demolishing the old large one and building 3 smaller but easier to manage ones. Firstly we had to get 3 cubic metres of compost delivered which had to be shovelled by yours truly, then we, or should I say I, had to dig a trench to put 25 metres of drainage in. This last week, thankfully dry, has been spent covering everything in weed mat and shovelling 3 cubic metres of scoria to make the paths around said labour of “love”. I have worked out that we will be in profit after about 440 cabbages.

If anyone needs advice about setting up a veggie garden in the bush I will charge out the Foreman (aka wife) at nominal rates, but as for a labourer don’t look at me I’ll be at home with a cold beer watching the rugby!!

Foster Home Wanted

Eccentric Oratia orchard cats Mr Spidey and Mrs Slinky are looking for a local cat lover to foster them for a year while their family are overseas.

These two cats were adopted as kittens at the end of 2008 from the Lonely Meow and after their troubled start have found true love together and at home in Oratia. They are a pair of mischievous and marvellous cats who are often seen play-fighting and bickering like an old married couple and then making up lovingly by grooming each other and curling up next to each other on their favourite blankets. They are much loved and for this reason their family of 4 don’t want to subject them to the harsh journey of moving to the south pacific which is paradise for kids but not cats!! They need a local home with space they are used to, tolerance for their various good and

naughty behaviour and love, safety and kindness as all pets deserve. Note: Their Mum and Dad are open to helping out with their care while they’re away (vet bills etc) and are open to letting them go to a new home ...all is up for discussion with the most important thing being finding good carers and keeping them together. They have grown up with 2 kids under 9 but no dogs...

Call us on: 818 9966 or email : tabatha@xtra.co.nz



From the Editor Robyn O’Sullivan

The last few days have been very exciting! I have put away my Drybars clothesline for the summer and have hung clothes outside...and...they have dried! Wahey!

All winter, my garage looks like a Chinese laundry with washing everywhere especially since the youngest child decided to come home and spend the cold months with his beloved parents. Wet clothes hang on the electric drybars, shrouded in a huge old sheet which creates a warmish micro-climate until they are dry enough to finish in the dryer. The excess clothes await their turn on the mini-rotary line on the internal wall of the garage and then it is, with great relief, that Spring arrives and we can move to the great outdoors where the other clothesline awaits its turn in the one square metre patch of sunshine we get between 10-1pm on a good day. Life is good!

On another thought...two of our erstwhile committee members are leaving for greener pastures shortly and we will need to find replacements. Could this be you? We get together once a month to discuss the comings and goings, the organising of the local entertainment, developing a good rapport with the local board etc Nothing too taxing and a good bunch pf people! Please consider it and enjoy the warmer weather.

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.

Handyman Out West. Any work undertaken. House and property maintenance, renovation and decoration eg gutter cleaning, water blasting, deck building, tree felling, painting etc. Reliable and no GST charge. Phone Mike 814 9708.

Household Items For Sale: Folding table tennis set, size 7 ladies intermediate ski boots and poles, car bike rack, new shower 3 door slider, a moped and a holiday timeshare. Ring Nadine Fletcher on 0272 942 344.

Otimai: Events and training centre is available for hire (Guides Auckland) and is open to view by appointment. Phone Bruce 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.

Wanted to Rent: Professional couple looking for 2-3 bedroom home in Waiaatarua. Close proximity to the fire station is desired. Can provide references. Lock up garage also preferred. Please contact Kerry 027 272 9312.

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