



## Community groups and organisations – tell us what you do

Community groups and organisations can get the recognition they deserve by putting a nomination forward - their own or someone else's - for the West Auckland voluntary community awards.

Auckland Council and awards sponsors Infratil Limited know that volunteers are at the heart of every community, dedicating hours of time and energy to make their communities better places to live.

The awards are an opportunity for not-for-profit groups to let other people know about their own work, or another deserving organisation's work, and at the same time receive acknowledgement from their communities.

They are in five categories – heritage and environment, health and wellbeing, arts and culture, sport and leisure, and education and child/youth development – with an overall supreme winner.

“We want these voluntary organisations to come out of hiding so we can thank them properly for all the good things they do on behalf of others”, says Waitakere Ranges Local Board member Judy Lawley.

“They work selflessly to help others and fill in the cracks that people can so easily fall through. Our communities would struggle to meet their needs without them and we are grateful for their work - be they Boards of Trustees at our schools, sports clubs, service organisations, social services, environmental groups or some other volunteer collective.

“Any voluntary organisation can participate in our awards and we invite them to get their nominations in to us before the November 14 close-off date.”

More information, including nomination forms, can be accessed through the Auckland Council website or by contacting peter.matvos@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

For more information, please contact Judy Lawley, Waitakere Ranges Local Board member, on 837 7107 or 029 293 1747, or Events Coordinator Peter Matvos 301 0101. [www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

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Nominations are open for the annual EcoWise Community Awards until Friday November 4.

The awards are open to West Aucklanders who care for their environment and work voluntarily to beautify Waitakere.

They can nominate themselves or others for the awards, which are organised by the Keep New Zealand Beautiful Trust and the Auckland Council.

The awards will be presented in a ceremony at the Council chambers in Henderson on November 25.

Further information is available from Gin Fong [gin@ecomatters.org.nz](mailto:gin@ecomatters.org.nz) or call 826 4276

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

#### Quiz Night

Saturday 19th November, 7.30pm - Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Road....

Pub Quiz format - teams of around 6-8 (but we're not that strict). You can organise your own team or just turn up and we'll fit you in.

Entry is just \$5 per person. Please BYO drinks, and nibbles to share with your team (AND the quizmasters!)

For more info please call Ian or Cathie on 814 8871.

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#### Community Patrols New Zealand

Again there is a calling for CPNZ to be established in Waiatarua and Oratia, the Crime Prevention Officer from Auckland Council has asked me to sound this out again.

I believe apart from the great work my Street Contacts and the residents do we do have need for a Community Patrol, especially during the day, this is conducted with a marked car having communications with the police and a central office.

This would require a minimum of 2 occupants patrolling the area on a report only basis, they would not be required to take part in any confrontation. This type of patrol is very successful in Blockhouse Bay, Herald Island and on the North Shore.

If you are interested please contact me. Les Duffield 814 1130, 021 720 100 or email: [les.duffield@xtra.co.nz](mailto:les.duffield@xtra.co.nz)



### The Great Waiatarua Egg Mystery

Tony Bacon

Those of you on the Hotmail list will have seen the message with the mystery photo. It can now be revealed that it is actually an ostrich egg (not a moa, as suggested by some). The mystery is how it came to be on the ground at the front of my section. It can't have fallen from a vehicle because it would have shattered, and in any case it was too far from the road. I suspect it did not fall from a passing aircraft, for the same reason. So what happened? Any clues or claims to ownership will be gratefully received.

*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](mailto:munster@ihug.co.nz) • **WRRR President:** Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697, E-Mail: [davepocock@xtra.co.nz](mailto: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](http://www.waiatarua.org.nz)

## From the Editor Robyn O'Sullivan

For the last few weeks, the ownership of the rights to our front door has been hotly discussed between my husband and the couple who reside there. Last year's swallows obviously did not read the eviction notice pinned to the door-jamb and have returned with a vengeance.

They are driving my husband demented. Their cuteness has long worn off and he spends his nights plotting their deaths. They like to build their nest right over the front door so our visitors are treated to bits of straw and fluff falling into their hairdos and unmentionable fluids drip down to pool at their feet.

Someone suggested putting giant bottlebrushes (the ones you put in your spouting to stop leaf buildup) above the doorway as a deterrent to their landing there. How the swallows laughed. Now they don't even have to leave to look for building materials!

I suggested removing the All Blacks flag from the deck and maybe attaching it to the entrance to our porch so they would fly into it and slide to their demise. It took a mere few seconds for them to work out how to fly beneath it and resume their positions.

Tonight, our porch is covered with two garish beaded curtains from a cheap Chinese shop, as my husband was sure these would do the trick and befuddle the birds but they have managed to fly in between the beaded strands. Moments ago, he opened the door to do a headcount and is now chasing swallows around the lounge, brandishing a huge umbrella with the hope of frightening them out. Will this madness ever end?

Has anyone any brilliant ideas for eradicating unwanted birds?

## Garden Group Eileen Powell

What a beautiful time of the year this is with so much blossom around and our gardens full of spring flowers, then the summer to look forward to. In November we are spending a full day in the Waiuku area visiting a variety of gardens. Ring Eileen on 8149 298 for further details.

### Great Price Offer:

#### Ted Scott's 'Spirit of the West' 2012 Calendar

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## From the President

Dave Pocock

Hi ,

As you know we have a beautiful community hall and I am pleased to say it is getting well used, with every week night, except Friday, having some activity from Zumba, Yoga to Table Tennis. As well as this it is becoming popular for those special family occasions such as weddings ,21<sup>st</sup> etc.

We have John Goudge to thank for this as he keeps a good hold on the bookings and of course it is kept in tip top condition by Paul Mortenson.

Every now and then things happen that we wished hadn't and this happened last month when the fire brigade had to attend our hall twice in two weekends in answer to our fire siren being activated by the use of a smoke machine.

This brought to our attention that the Fire Service allows us three false alarm type call outs a year after which there is a \$1000 call out fee, which I can assure you we will be passing on to the hall users at the time.

The first step we have taken is a total ban on the use of smoke machines and any other smoke inducing equipment.

The Fire Brigade also pointed out that if you are in the hall when the siren goes off you must vacate the hall immediately and assemble in the car park.

The council is carrying out a refurbishment of the toilets to the extent of replacing ceilings and cisterns, new light fittings, repainting, and replacing vinyl with non skid type, this should be completed by the time you read this.

You will see elsewhere that we are selling calendars at a discounted price to our readers. This is made possible by the generosity of Heritage Publishers and Cathy Wells, these will make great Xmas presents, especial for those overseas friends and family.

Well that's all for now, see you at Quiz night on the 19<sup>th</sup>,

- Dave

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am rather concerned about the increasing amount of space in Waiaatarua News being taken up by paid advertising, greatly reducing the space left for actual news. The tipping point for me was the October issue, where the back page finally reached capacity and the community ads spilled over to the previous page, plus another advert (paid, I hope) on page 2. I am sure the WRRRA committee welcomes the increased revenue, but it is starting to make the newsletter look like the Western Leader, where you have to struggle to find the news among all the advertising. Please reassure me that there is some editorial policy that will ensure that there is no more "advertising creep" and that the majority of the available space will continue to be used for actual news.

Tony Bacon

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As Editor and Senior Executive in charge of Advertising, my policy is as follows:

Fill up the back page with paid advertising; the more the merrier. I fully believe in letting the locals know what other locals can do for them.

And what a fine selection of advertisers we have on the back page!

Looking at the afore-mentioned Oct issue (where I do believe I can still squeeze a couple more ads) we can prepare you for your wedding with massages, yoga and beauty therapy **and** fit you in a wedding gown; arrange the celebrant, taxi you to your reception at the Estate; we can build and paint your house whilst you're on your honeymoon; look after your pets or have them fixed while you're away; and while I'm on a roll, let's throw in a new driveway and re-do your bathroom.

From memory, I dropped my editorial once due to lack of space but no great news articles have ever been missed. We sometimes have too many over-lapping articles (eg broadband), or too much from the one contributor where I have to decide which takes precedence, but I'm happy with the balance we've got. -Ed.

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See the WRRRA website for more letters regarding the broadband issue.

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## Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

The Affair – Lee Child. Another one for all the Jack Reacher fans. Child is one of the most popular thriller authors.

The Time of My Life – Cecelia Ahern. A young woman learns that life can get serious. Ahern is a young woman author of “chick lit.”

House of the Hanged – Mark Mills. Murder on the French Riviera in the 1930s, involving an ex-spy. Mills has written other well regarded mysteries.

Kill Alex Cross – James Patterson. Alex Cross is not wanted on an investigation of a political abduction. Patterson is a prolific, popular author.

The Language of Flowers – Vanessa Diffenbaugh. A woman, who grew up in foster care, discovers flowers as a catalyst for emotions. This is a debut novel.

The Briny Cafe – Susan Duncan. This decrepit cafe is the focal point of a sea bound community. Duncan wrote the well received Salvation Creek.

The Invisible Ones – Stef Penney. An investigation is started after a recently married gypsy woman disappears. Penney won awards for her last novel.

There But For The – Ali Smith. A dinner guest goes upstairs, locks himself into a room and refuses to leave. Smith has been short listed for many awards.

What's For Pudding? – Alexa Johnston. Recipes for lots of mouth watering puddings. Johnston is the author of “Ladies A Plate”.

## Fire Brigade Report

RFF Louis Ferguson

Last month I organised a visit to the Fire Station for the Waiaatarua Play Centre. Fire Fighter Darren Gee kindly offered his time to come and help out. The kids and parents met us at the station on Wed 28<sup>th</sup> September. The kids had a great time as they took turns of sitting in the fire engine and learning about all the fire fighting equipment. FF Darren Gee donned his fire fighting gear so the children could see what a fire fighter would look like if they had to turn up to their home. So a big Thank You to FF Darren Gee.

### Fire Calendars

The annual New Zealand Fire Fighters Calendars are now on sale for 2012. However this year there is two to choose from. This year the first Female Fire Fighter calendar has come out along side the male one. I am honored to say that I myself am in the Calendar as Miss April. I had great fun doing the shoot and it is for a great cause. Some of the proceeds go to The Child Cancer Foundation, and some go towards the Fire Fighters Sports Foundation. Our Chief Helen Longley is selling them to help fund her trip to compete in the next World Fire Fighter Games. So if you would like a calendar contact Helen (her number is below) or you can go to [www.nzfirefighterscalendar.co.nz](http://www.nzfirefighterscalendar.co.nz) to order.

### Guy Fawkes

The Waiaatarua Fire Brigade will be holding the Guy Fawkes Bonfire as usual. So come along on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> of November (or the rain day Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup>) for a fun family night. If you have any doubt about the weather just phone the fire station on 814 9213 on the night. We will light the bon fire once it gets dark. Fire works are welcome, but children must be supervised at all times.

Where: Waiaatarua Fire station – 464a Scenic Drive

When: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> of November from 6pm onwards

### Calls

17/09/11	18:19	Waiaatarua	PFA Community Centre
18/09/11	15:08	Henderson Valley	Tree across road
20/09/11	19:20	Rayner Rd, Piha	Chimney Fire
24/09/11	13:11	Waiaatarua	PFA Community Centre
13/10/11	21:38	Scenic Drive, Waiaatarua	Rubbish Fire

### Need A Smoke Alarm!!!

Standard Smoke Alarms are available Free from the brigade; Please Contact DCFO Karl Nuttall Details Below

### Waiaatarua Fire Brigade Contacts

Phone 111 for any Fire or Emergency.

Otherwise please call Chief Fire Officer Helen Longley (814 9855), Deputy Chief Fire Officer Karl Nuttall (814 8777), Station Officer Ian Ford (814 8871), Station Officer Kevin Healy (814 9505), Station Officer Gareth Mullins (814 9282)

## Advertising & Community Notices

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

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

**Babysitter** Jade Casey Waby, 15 yrs, reliable and has experience with babies and little kids. Price negotiable. Ring 814 9386 or text 021 153 8582 if you want a babysitter.

**Broadband in Waiaatarua** - To be kept informed about developments (or lack of them), send your name, phone number and email address to Tony Bacon at [tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz](mailto:tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz)

**Do you have** a house or apartment for rent in the area for Feb/Mar 2012? (I have a friend coming from overseas) If so please contact Annie Prince on 814 1896.

**Dog-Sitter:** I can look after your dog in my own home. Daily bush/beach walk, long or short stay and Xmas holidays. Ph Diana on 814 9144 or 027 279 3509

**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.

**Iyoga formerly Yoga Aravinda** at Waiaatarua hall: For Iyengar Yoga call Vanessa Greenwood on 816 9522 or 027 541 4810 or visit [www.iyoga.co.nz](http://www.iyoga.co.nz) for timetable information.

**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:** Bromeliads \$5 - \$6; Taros, cannas and various shrubs \$4 - \$5. All sales to Nepalese Educ Trust. Phone Margaret 814 9859.

**Social card player** wanted to make up four-some to play Canasta/Samba for occasional Saturday nights. Please ph Lynn on 8149468 or 0274918294 or email [lbainbridge@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lbainbridge@xtra.co.nz)

**Thanks** to the support of a wonderful community, WAIATARUA now has its very own Marriage Celebrant. NORMA is available to take bookings for weddings and other ceremonies. Phone 814 1868.

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

**Waiaatarua Playcentre:** 911 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua. Phone 09 814 8835. Sessions: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm.

## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor by FRIDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2011 - 5PM

Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143  
[munster@ihug.co.nz](mailto:munster@ihug.co.nz)

*Please note we do not publish in January, so please ensure your January events are included in the December issue.*

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*

## HALL HIRE

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