



Waiaatarua Community News

900 copies

December 2015



Musings From The Mountains ... Christmas Edition

Each year as we approach Christmas my thoughts, usually in September, think about the Christmas cards to the UK. I like to write a letter to the family as to how we all are down here. Eventually these letters get posted off about a week before Christmas but usually make it there before the big day. Weeks before, I'd have posted off the birthday card for my father so it got there for the 29th December. For some strange reason both cards usually arrived at the same time.

This year will be different, in June we were over in the UK and met most of the family. The reason? My fathers funeral.

So this year's a bit different. It's been, as the Queen would say, an Annus Horribilis. When Dad found it hard to recover from a bad cold last Christmas he had various tests which established that he was anaemic so a blood transfusion and some iron tablets seemed to fix the issue. But a month or so later we were back to square one. To cut a long story short after various tests Dad was diagnosed with Cancer of the small intestine on the 8th May, we started to talk about a visit to the UK, but by the 21st it became urgent and despite Internal Affairs turning the boys passports round in 8 hours we couldn't make it back before he died.

We spent 3 happy and sad weeks in the UK with the boys finally meeting their Big brother, but nothing would take away that fact that Dad wasn't there.

Then to really make this year rotten we have several friends who have also lost mothers, and fathers.

So this Christmas is going to be different, I will get around to writing that letter, and sending the christmas cards to the UK, but we will be remembering Dad as last Christmas no one suspected it would be his last.

So I ask you all, as you all prepare for the festive season to remember the people who have passed, celebrate with those around you and have the best Christmas you've ever had.

- Paul Osbourne.

From The Community Patrol...

A quiet two months for CPNZ members with just 24 patrols , 1336 k travelled and 150 hours of work.

A big thank you to people who gave us goods for the car boot sales. Proceeds from these see us with another two months running costs covered, which is great.

We have a number of members leaving before Xmas due to moving away from the area, so we are on the lookout for new members. Training and uniforms provided, so please contact:

Les Duffield ph. 021 720 100 or 814 1130

And we also wish all the best for Xmas and the New Year and we will be out there patrolling.

- Stuart Hampton

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE EDITOR OR THE WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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COMMUNITY HALL & HIRE: 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

Hello Waiatarua!

What a fantastic year it has been in Waiatarua. I've been able to meet more of you and get to know those of you I already knew a bit better. It has been very enjoyable.

One of the highlights for me was Blackadder. Those of you who also witnessed it will remember the amazing set and the incredible performances, both front of house and behind the scenes.

We have also just seen a great move from Auckland Transport who have prepared and will soon publish a design guide for the road corridor in the ranges. I'm confident that this will pave the way for many of us to finally get the roading issues close to our homes progressed.

The WRRR Committee have got a lot lined for 2016 and have begun the planning. Any of you who are interested may want to join our team.

If you do, or just want to find out more, please get in touch and we can have a chat. We've got plans around better faster internet, weed control or you could perhaps be the maintenance liason for our hall and library at the Community Center. We would love to hear from you and explain the benefits of being involved. We're not about dumping work on you, but inviting you to help us be instrumental in getting things done.

If you are new to the area and have any questions then just drop me an email or call me and I'm more than happy to help.

This year has been a big one for me personally as well. So much has happened it feels like there's been two years in one. Double the life experience? That's a good thing; right? Being able to come back to the life and tranquility of Waiatarua to recharge is as awesome as it always has been. And the last few weeks the bird population seems to have exploded into chorus with my thoughts.

I'm really looking forward to the Great Waiatarua Debate early in 2016. It's one of the biggest events on our calendar and returns after the break. I hope to see you there!

Have a great holiday and new year! Peter president@waiatarua.org.nz 0274323249/814 9386

Local News ...

... For Local People

Volunteer Required:

We are looking for a willing volunteer to open the library for just 1 hour per month.
11am – 12pm on the 1st Saturday of each month.

Contact: Bev Latimer : Ph. 8353237

AGM:

Coming to a hall near you.
February 24th, 2016

The Great Waiatarua Debate

Also returning in February

WRRR Subscriptions:

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treasurer@waiatarua.org.nz

From The Library

Jeanette Ziesler.

Xmas Closing: The library will close at 12pm Sunday 20th December and reopen in the New Year on Thursday 17th January.

For those fans of the novel "Shantaram" we have the long awaited sequel, "**The Mountain Shadow**" by Gregory David Roberts.

Twenty years ago, many of us loved Bill Bryson's "Notes From A Small Island". Just arrived is his follow up "**The Road To Little Dribbling**".

Simon Winchester never fails to deliver. "**Pacific**" is his "biography" of the ocean and many countries bordering it.

One of the most popular thriller authors has penned his memoir. "**Frederick Forsyth – My life In Intrigue**" shares his own exciting and often dangerous life.

Enjoy the summer.

Thanks to all our volunteers for their work over the year.

Go On, Have A Laugh!

A hole has been found in the nudist-camp wall.

The police are looking into it.

A rubber-band pistol was confiscated from an algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

The midget fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

A backward poet writes inverse.

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Caveat Emptor.

I now fully understand the definition.

Recently my water pump stopped working. So I called a local plumber recommended by a local plumbing supplier. Rang the plumber and said my water pump was not working. "Ok", he said "I'll be there this afternoon".

In the mean time I thought I'd clean the filter and in the process broke the plastic fitting. Not despairing as I knew the plumber was coming that afternoon. He arrived, assessed the situation and said "mate this is all wrong". (Note it had been going well for three years)

I was ready for this as every time a plumber comes up they say it is wrong. They then set it up as they think it should be.

But to cut a long story short, he got the water pipe repaired and re-aligned pipes and filters and then we tried the water and the pump did not work. "Oh I'm not a pump technology expert, you need an electrician". My local electrician I use said straight out 'I don't do pumps.'

To be fair, I then rang the original plumber and he arranged for a pump technician to come. The pump technician took around 20 minutes, found the problem, fixed it and was gone. I expected to pay around \$500 for the plumber – his account \$900 and I still have to pay for the second visit.

Therefore, if you think you have a pump problem, don't call a plumber or if you do, ask if they know about pumps and how to fix them. What really grates is that all the time the plumber was here on site, he was talking about pump systems he had been installing over the last twenty or so years. Caveat Emptor

-Gary Ertel.

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 current financial members.

Better Scrapbooking Ltd: Paper crafting and scrapbooking supplies. Great children's classes. Mondays 3:45pm - 4:45pm 7yrs - 13yrs \$15 each Phone Megan 818-2045

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 friendly. Phone Mike 814 9708.

Lawn mowing and section clean ups. Ph Grant at Top Grass Ltd. 8149493 mob 02102475610

Otimai: Girl Guiding. Would you like your daughter to have new adventures and develop life and leadership skills through new, fun and exciting programmes? We have places for girls aged 5 to 12 years in Pippins, Brownie and Guide Units. For more info contact Angela Westerman at aratakidistrict@gmail.com or ph 021 511 575

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

Table Tennis every Wednesday at the Hall, 7-9pm. No experience needed, all equipment supplied. \$2 per week. Contact Tony 8149860 or email tony.bacon@sthw.co.nz

The Oratia Community Church: On the corner of Parker & West Coast roads. Fellowship meets on second Thursday of the month at 1pm in the Church Hall. Ph 813 9869 for information.

Tiler/Stone Layer: 21 years experience in the trade, available for indoor or outdoor projects, large or small. Phone Craig Starr 021 610 408.

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

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Zumba with Grace... Party yourself into Shape. The Latin-inspired easy-to-follow, calorie-burning, dance-fitness party. Feel the music and let loose. Oratia Settlers Hall, Tuesdays 6:30pm - 7:30pm (toning) Thursdays 7pm - 8pm Adults \$10 Students \$5 (with ID) For more information phone Grace 021 081 12610

From The Editor

Robyn O'Sullivan

Many thanks to all our wonderful advertisers who grace our back page and our community column each month.

Please support them, lovely readers and may you all have a safe and happy Xmas and return next year for an even better 2016. Who knows what the new year will bring!

Enjoy the break and we will return in February.

Please accept my Membership to the Waiaatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association 2015

Name: _____

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To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiaatarua, Waitakere City, or leave at the library Bank details: 12 3051 0278313 00 WRRRA

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of the Editor

By FRIDAY JANUARY 15th @ 5PM

Robyn O'Sullivan Ph 814 1143

munster@ihug.co.nz

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