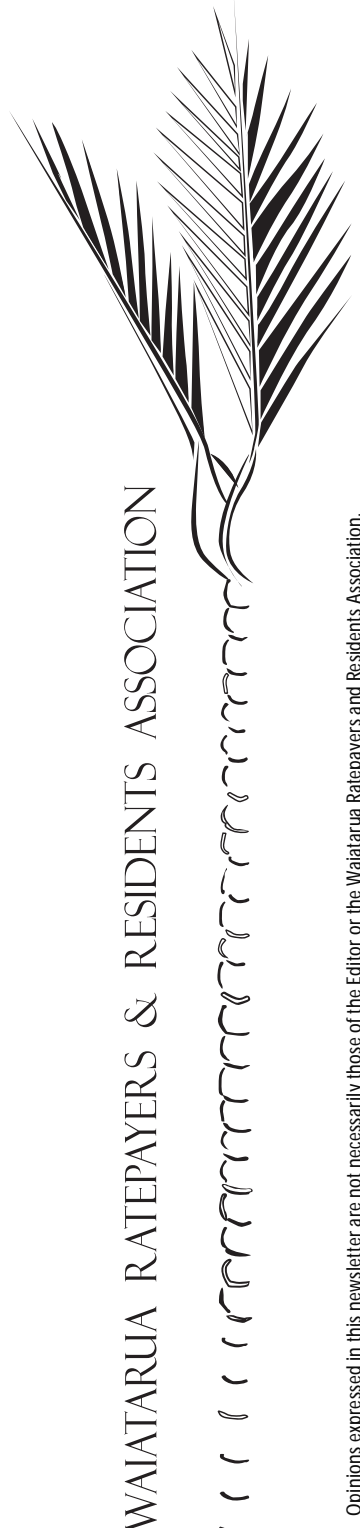


Waiatarua Community News

900 copies

June 2007



WAIATARUA RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

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

The Great Waiatarua Mid-Winter Xmas **DINNER & DEBATE**

Saturday 23rd June 2007 at 7:00pm

A riotous night at the Waiatarua Community Hall, 911 West Coast Road

DEBATE MOOT: That 'Size Matters'

Chaired by: Tony Bacon (immediate past President, Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc)

AFFIRMATIVE TEAM:

Kevin Healy

Community entrepreneur, volunteer firefighter

Christine Shepherd

Chair, Waitakere Community Board

Oliver Driver

TV/radio personality, actor, director

NEGATIVE TEAM:

Simon Prast

Producer, director, actor

Penny Hulse

Long-service WCC Councillor

John Goudge

Singer, songwriter, actor, tutor

Tickets \$50 ea – includes buffet dinner created by 'Elke's Food for Thought'. BYO drinks.

Prepaid tickets only – Purchase before June 14th.

Phone Jan Haine 837 2318 or email jan_haine@xtra.co.nz

WAIATARUA QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 9th June 2007 at 7:30pm

at the Waiatarua Hall, 911 West Coast Road.

Based on that favourite Pub Quiz format, and kindly facilitated by **Cathie Wells and Ian Ford.**

Create a team of 6–8 people, or just drop in and become part of a friendly table team. Use your imagination to create a catchy name for your dynamic crew.

Fantastic prizes to be won once again. Don't miss out!

Cover charge just \$5 per person. Please BYO drinks and also BYO nibbles – *this enables us to keep costs down so that everyone can enjoy a very affordable night out.*

For more info please call Robin or Korstiaan on 814 1850

EDITOR:

Jenny Bebbington - Ph 814 9665

E-Mail: bizart@xtra.co.nz

WRRR President:

Dave Pocock - Ph 814 9697

E-Mail: davepocock@xtra.co.nz

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.waiatarua.org.nz

HALL HIRE

Do you need somewhere tranquil, with bush views, a large kitchen, a stage, a large hall and tables and seating for 80?

Do you need to bring your workmates together for a training session – or a party? To celebrate a birthday or an anniversary?

What's wrong with a boot fair, or your own garage sale?

CHARGES ARE:

1 – 2 hour sessions \$20

Half day hire \$60

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

The hall is currently used by the table tennis club and drama club. *Come and look at the facility.*

Contact Les on 814 1130 or 021 102 6670 or Dave on 814 9697.

WAIATARUA TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Every Tuesday night, 7pm, Waiatarua Hall – 911 West Coast Road. \$2 per person.

Everyone welcome, so bring along your family for this fun, weekly event.

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

From the Editor

Jenny Bebbington

It seems we still have letterbox thieves in our area, as seen in this month's brickbat nomination. These thieves take the mail from our letterboxes, looking for money, credit cards, cheque books etc.

I had a similar incident a few months ago, finding a large pile of open mail scattered at the top of our driveway. I gathered it all up and phoned the local police – who gratefully came and retrieved it from me with the intention of trying to retrieve fingerprints and then return the mail to the intended recipients. Unfortunately, I'd handled the letters and may have unintentionally made the thieves fingerprints unreadable.

So, if you find mail, do gather it up; but wear gloves and handle it as little as possible, then contact the Glen Eden Community Constable, Theresa McCabe on 818 8295. NZ Post will also need to be notified.

Hopefully we can all play a part in stopping these thieves.

Take care and until next time...Jenny Bebbington

Come Drive With Us

The Cancer Society Auckland is on the lookout for people willing to drive patients to and from cancer treatments at Auckland Hospital. We ask for one drive a week when there's a patient in your local area and the time commitment is around 4 hours.

We provide clear guidelines, petrol vouchers and plenty of pats on the back – you'll be joining one of Auckland's very special teams. Cancer Society Volunteers are a treasured resource.

Please phone Marin on 308 0242 for more information.

Garden Group

Eileen Powell

We have something different next month as we have an expert in Floral Art to demonstrate her craft. There will also be an opportunity for us to experiment with the available foliage and flowers. The date is 6 June and anyone interested should contact Eileen on 814 9298 or email etpowe@clear.net.nz for further details. There will be a small charge to cover costs.

Our 4 July get-together is a visit to Unitec on Carrington Road, where we will tour the Horticulture department and check out the gardeners of tomorrow.

All Waiataruans are invited to join us. Ring Eileen on 814 9298 or Margaret on 814 9859 for further information or to arrange car pooling.

BRICKBATS and BOUQUETS

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

This month's **bouquet** goes to Jeff and Donna Marie Knight, for their kindness in recovering, burying and leaving a message at the local vet's about a cat which had apparently drowned in their swimming pool. The cat was a very affectionate and much loved 19 year old named Peanut, who had been missing for several days to the owners' great distress.

The **brickbat** goes to the scumbags who raided letter boxes in the Parker Road area, presumably looking for money or credit cards, and then dumped the letters over a bank in Raroa Terrace. The letters found have been returned to NZ Post and the police notified.

From the President

Dave Pocock

Hi!

I start off this month with what appears to be a very disturbing spate of burglaries around the area, with one well known identity having had unwanted visitors three times and losing irreplaceable collectors' items. There are also reports of cars being broke into in the driveway, whilst owners asleep inside the house – and don't be fooled, security lights do not stop them.

In total I am aware of six individual cases, mainly in the Scenic Drive and West Coast Road areas so far, so we need to bring our neighbourhood watch skills into play and report anything suspicious. Don't forget our community constable Theresa McCabe (818 8295). Let her know by leaving a message, as I am sure that if we can build up a pattern more will happen on the police front. Whatever you do, do not approach these characters.

I have been asked by a number of you what the big yellow tanker is doing parked at the top of Kauri Loop Road. No, it is not somebody parking the company car, it's not stolen; it's the septic tank waste removal truck. They have smaller trucks that empty your tank and then transfer to the big one, like a mother ship!

Do you have trouble remembering the recycling collection weeks? Obviously some do, judging by the bins out in the wrong weeks! You can 'phone the council hotline (839 0400) for a calendar, or check the dates on the back of your rubbish bags.

And finally, the building being built opposite Parker Road Church is an electric power sub-station. Right that is all the queries answered!

I have just spent six weeks as Production Manager for the latest offering from our own drama club and what a great experience it was. It was very rewarding to see and hear people thoroughly enjoying themselves in our own local hall which, I might add, had been transformed into an intimate theatre. The professionalism of the set and the acting is a credit to all involved. If you missed it never fear, as on the 23rd June the Hall will be transformed into a Theatre Restaurant for our Mid-Winter Xmas Dinner/Debate with a fine array of talent on hand!

Have you moved into the area in the last 12 months or so and would like to meet more neighbours or find out more information about local happenings?

If so we would love to hear from you either by email davepocock@xtra.co.nz, phone/fax 814 9697, or drop a note to my attention at 911 West Coast Road. This is to help us plan a function to answer your wants. Our membership stands at 70 so lets see how soon we can crack 100!

I had better stop now before Jenny goes crook at me.

Till next month – Dave

Fire Brigade

Ian Ford

We welcome Rob Forrest to our ranks this month. Rob is working as an ambulance officer, and we're sure his experience and knowledge will be a great asset. We also congratulate Maxine Arden who completed her 4-day Qualified Firefighter course at Hopuhopu last month with flying colours!

Recent Calls:

9:01am, Sunday 22 April – Fire on the beach, North Piha. Handled by Piha crew.

10:22pm, Saturday 12 May – Van fire, Scenic Drive. While we were there, we gave a little 'inter-agency' assistance to a red-faced policeman, winching his police van out of a ditch after he misjudged his 3 point turn.

Winter Fires:

Every year far too many people face the tragedy of a fire in their home caused by hot ashes. The ash you clear from your fireplace or wood burner can take up to five days to cool. Place these in a metal container well clear of your home. Please remember the heater-metre rule – keep furniture, clothes and curtains at least one metre away from heaters and fireplaces. You should also turn off all heaters and your electric blanket before you get into bed.

CONTACTS: Always phone 111 for fires and emergencies. Otherwise, please call Ian Ford (814 8871), Helen Longley (814 9855) or Karl Nuttall (814 8777).

Waiatarua Rainfall (April 2007)

	Rain Days	Wettest Day	Total	Year to Date
Mountain Road	15	30th	106 mm	360 mm
Brabant Road	17	27th	117 mm	385 mm
Quinns Road	17	28th	85 mm	289 mm
Forest Hill Road	12	28th	114 mm	391 mm
Auckland City	–	–	52 mm	282 mm

Weedfree Waiatarua

I recently discovered another ginger plantation on my property along one of my boundaries. I started digging it out but ran out of energy. I was given the name of a man who does smaller jobs in his spare time at a very reasonable rate. His name is Ryan and he is very experienced in environmental weed eradication. He cuts off the ginger stem and paints poison on the stump or sprays the small seedlings. I would highly recommend him – in 5 hours he treated an area which would have taken me weeks to dig out. You can reach Ryan on 027 484 4152.

Susanne Timms

Oratia Hot Tips Seminars

Last term Oratia District School held a very successful seminar on 'Getting boys to excel at school' with key speaker Ian Grant. Approximately 250 people attended, including parents from the school and people from the wider community. They gave us some outstanding feedback and we are determined to continue to offer these sorts of seminars to the community.

The next seminar – 'Hot tips on raising girls' – will be presented by John and Naomi Cowan from *Parents Inc* and has already been booked for Tuesday 31 July 2007. The Hot Tips seminars are hugely popular around the country, drawing large numbers and providing a fantastic opportunity for parents in the community to enhance their parenting skills.

You can buy tickets from the Oratia District School office for \$10 per person. For more information you can contact Erik van den Top on 814 9821.

Library Report

Jeannette Ziesler

LOTS OF NEW BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY!

We have over 30 new books this month and more to come. There is something for everyone – come and get yours.

- TRAVEL: **Backblocks America** – Jo & Gareth Morgan
WAR: **Dying Day** – Robert Ryan
CRIME: **One Under** – Graham Hurley
AFRICA: **When the Crocodile Eats the Sun** – Peter Godwin
THRILLER: **Fear** – Jeff Abbot
CHICKLIT: **No Strings Attached** – Clare Dowling
CONTEMPORARY: **19 Minutes** – Jodi Picoult
NZ: **Mr Allbones Ferrets** – Fiona Farrell

On a personal note, my family and I would like to thank the many people of Waiatarua who offered their support and sympathy after Tony died. We are grateful to those who attended the funeral, sent cards and personal messages.

Jeannette Ziesler

The Arataki Rangers' Roundup

The Arataki Nursery is preparing for the Public Planting Days scheduled for June and July. This is timed to coincide with the cooler, moister growing conditions at this time of year. The public are invited to join in and plant native species in selected areas located in the Waitakere Ranges, Muriwai and the South Kaipara Regional Park. Species planted will vary depending on the site but can include Manuka, Kanuka, Flax, Pohutukawa, Cabbage Trees, Kawa Kawa, Mahoe and Mapou. Details on the Public Planting Day programme are available at the Arataki Visitor Centre (817 0077).

The Education Team is looking forward to starting their popular 'Tales of Timber Trickery' and 'Help Save Our Forests' programmes. These interactive days combine the fun of theatre with a strong environmental message. For more information and school group bookings, the Education Department can be contacted on 817 0085.

Remember, we are heading into a time of year that allows a great deal more seclusion in enjoying your favourite parts of the Park. Whilst some tracks can become increasingly muddy and greasy from more frequent rainfall, the walks to areas with streams and waterfalls in particular, are all the more worth while.

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

Focus on Business

Five years ago, calling on his background in senior management and consulting in large manufacturing organisations around the world, Erik van den Top identified a gap in the market – manufacturers needed help with business and supply chain planning, and he could visualise a product that would solve the problem.

Erik began to design computer software he knew would meet the unique needs of the manufacturing industry, and to find a New Zealand based development team to put it all together. His software, along with associated business consultancy and training, became the base for what is now a well-established business.

Peak Solutions Group Ltd has an impressive list of clients throughout New Zealand and Australia, including Carter Holt Harvey, Amcor, Hubbard Foods, Delmaine Fine Foods, and many others, all serviced from Waiatarua.

Why did Erik choose Waiatarua as his base? No surprises – he lives here, and could see the obvious advantages of working from home (his other staff and resellers work from their own offices in other parts of Auckland.) Erik doesn't have to suffer all those commuting hours and, to further avoid the traffic; he doesn't make appointments before 10 am. There are none of the usual costs associated with running office premises, but Erik's clients and associates certainly don't suffer; he has what's referred to as a 'remote' connection from his home office computer to their computer servers, all around the world – it's exactly the same as if he was sitting in a client's office looking at their computer screen! Although it's mostly good, Erik comments on a potential disadvantage of working from home – "your work is always there, so it's important to be disciplined enough to take time out."

Those of you with children attending Oratia District School will probably know Erik, at least by name – he is Chairman of the PTA, and a member of the Board of Trustees. As Erik commented to me "one of the advantages of working from home is having the flexibility to be able to give back to the community". A perfect example of the key role business plays in our community.

Web: www.peak-solutions.com

Email: solutions@peak-solutions.com

Jan Haine

Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc Committee as from February 2007

President / Community Board

Dave Pocock Ph 814 9697 davepocock@xtra.co.nz

Vice President

Korstiaan Prins Ph 814 1850 korprins@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer

Jan Haine Ph 837 2318 jan_haine@xtra.co.nz

Secretary

Jan James Ph 814 9194 pwmandjjj@clear.net.nz

Newsletter Editor

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

Hall Manager

Les Duffield Ph 814 1130 lesjudyj@xtra.co.nz

Committee Members:

Frank Hogsden Ph 814 9869

Robin Essex Ph 814 1850 robsx@free.net.nz

Brian Riley Ph 814 9957 brian.riley@xtra.co.nz

Susanne Timms Ph 814 9346 stimmms@xtra.co.nz

Simon Prast Ph 308 5520 simon@twa.co.nz

Oliver Driver driver@easytoremember.co.nz

Representative:

Ian Ford Ph 814 8871 ian.ford@xtra.co.nz

(Fire Brigade)

2007

Please accept my Membership to the Waiatarua Ratepayers & Residents Association

Name _____ I ENCLOSE:

Address _____ \$10 household

Phone No _____ \$5 single occupant

Email _____
To: Treasurer, WRRRA, 911 West Coast Road, Waiatarua, Waitakere City or leave at the library

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.

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

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

ORATIA SCHOOL 125TH CELEBRATIONS NOVEMBER 2007
We have started work on a book covering the events of the last 25 years, and would like to know about past pupils who have done things that might be of interest to other people. Can you help us? Any stories, events, occurrences, successes, will be gratefully accepted at the school office.

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.

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. 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

WAIATARUA TABLE TENNIS CLUB: - Waiatarua Hall 911 West Coast Road. NEW TABLES. Everyone welcome. \$2 entry. Contact Les 814 1130 or Korstiaan 814 1850.

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.

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)

NEW TIMES FOR ELEVATION...

ELEVATION NEWS

Winter Menu starting 16 May. Lamb Shanks are back!
Efficiencies in the kitchen by our new chef have being passed back to you, our customers in lower prices!

Free Coffee with breakfast (Dine in only sorry) Saturday & Sunday until 12 noon! Be there!!

Check the website for the dates that Dave Alley & Rod Redgrave are playing. Great Eagles, Phil Collins, Doobie Brothers era covers!! Great entertainment!

Sunday Roast - Out of the oven at 6pm. Just the thing for a winter evening only \$16.50 per person!

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

Come along for casual relaxed dining.

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Michelle Stanborough
Sales & Marketing Consultant

Res: 814 9707
Mob: 021 605 996



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JUNE NEWSLETTER

Copy needs to be in the hands of The Editor,
by **WEDNESDAY 13TH JUNE, 2007**
Jenny Bebbington Ph 814 9665
bizart@xtra.co.nz