

Newsletters

This collection of community Newsletters spans the period from December 1981 until November 2017.

A total of 264 pages in 119 issues collected, divided into six volumes, spanning 39 years. Each volume has a contents page listing the issues included, by year and month. There is no page numbering system. There are gaps in years and/or months but it does not necessarily mean there was no newsletter. There may be some that have not yet surfaced for this collection.

On each volume content page there are a few topic highlights that 'popped up' from that volume's content.

Koitiata Matters is a very apt community newsletter title, first applied by Joyce Smith, an avid village wordsmith on the April 2001 issue. A continuing use for close to a hundred issues over the next sixteen years, earns it the rightful place as the encompassing title for this collection of records for Koitiata's history.

Differing formats and many authors over a period of 39 years. A quote from a resident: "It is tempting to rate the content to help you to avoid reading some which are possibly a waste of time, paper, and space. But if the rating system was for effort on the part of the numerous 'Newsletter Editors' then they would probably all be 5-star. And if all the content, styles, and formats were rated as to their usefulness they would collectively rate 10 out of 10 for being an integral building block of the Koitiata community."

1981 - 1999	20 Issues, 57 pages
2000 - 2002	22 issues, 31 pages
2003 - 2004	21 issues, 30 pages
2005 - 2008	20 issues, 45 pages
2009 - 2011	22 issues, 72 pages
2012 - 2017	14 issues, 29 pages
	2000 - 2002 2003 - 2004 2005 - 2008 2009 - 2011

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2000	March	2002	February
2001	April	2002	March
2001	May	2002	April
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2001	June	2002	June
2001	July	2002	July
2001	August	2002	August
2001	September	2002	September
2001	October	2002	October
2001	November	2002	November
2002	January	2002	December

Highlights:

June 2001 It is reported from local RDC councillor that Koitiata is getting a 16% reduction of property rates!

November 2001 There is a proposal for a village recycling centre, (21 years later, nothing!)

KOITIATA RESIDENTS' COMMITTEE

(TURAKINA BEACH)

NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH 2000.

HELLO EVERYBODY, LONG TIME- NO WRITE. THIS IS THE FINAL, LETTER TO BE PUT OUT BY THIS COMMITTEE, AS THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS TO BE HELD IN THE KOITIATA COMMUNITY HALL, ON SUNDAY **26**TH MARCH 2000, AT 11AM. YOU ARE ALL REQUESTED TO BE THERE, AS ISSUES AFFECTING YOU AS RATEPAYERS WILL BE ON THE AGENDA. BE THERE, HAVE YOUR SAY, OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR PEACE. THIS IS A FRIENDLY, CARING COMMUNITY, BUT OF COURSE NOT ALWAYS TO EVERYONES LIKING, SO COME ALONG AND PUT YOUR IDEAS FORWARD.

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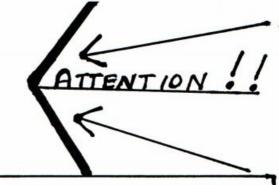
BASKETBALL HOOP AREA, FROM A DIRECTIVE AT LAST YEARS' AGM, HAS EVOLVED THIS WONDERFUL, WELL USED AREA, FOR THE YOUTH OF THE VILLAGE.AS YOU WILL RECALL, A SUM OF MONEY WAS GIFTED TO THE RESIDENTS CTE. TO USE FOR SOMETHING FOR THE OLDER CHILDREN OF THIS COMMUNITY, THE SUGGESTION BEING A HOOP. WELL, AS WE ALL KNOW TO DO A JOB PROPERLY, IT NEEDED A CONCRETE PAD LAID, BUT ALAS NOT ENOUGH MONEY. THE GOAL POST ALONE WAS OVER \$1000-00, AND ON PRICING CEMENT, GRAVEL, ETC. IT SEEMED AN UNATAINABLE OBJECT, BUT THANK HEAVENS FOR TRUSTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT DONATE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH. THE FINISHED OBJECT IS FOR ALL TO SEE, AND IS VERY MUCH USED. I CAN'T THANK ENOUGH, THOSE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ATTENDED THE WORKING BEE'S, CARTING SAND, YARDS AND YARDS OF IT, AND THAT WAS JUST TO GET A LEVEL AREA. THE HOURS PUT IN BY YOU ALL WAS TRULY WONDERFUL, GOSH I BET THERE'S NOT MANY AREAS THAT CAN BOAST OF THE SUPPORT GIVEN, LIKE WE CAN. THANKYOU EVERYONE, YOU WILL BRING A LOT OF PLEASURE TO A LOT OF PEOPLE FOR A LOT OF YEARS TO COME. THANKYOU TO THOSE WHO SUPPLIED THE REFRESHMENTS TOO, VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. YOU ARE ALL JUST WONDERFUL.

FURTHER TO THE FIRE EARLY THIS YEAR, WHERE SEVERAL LOCALS OFFERED HELP, IT WOULD DO WELL TO REMEMBER TO WEAR STOUT FOOTWEAR, NOT RUBBER GUMBOOTS, OR JANDALS ETC., AND TO HEED ORDERS GIVEN, DIRECTIONS ETC. FIREFIGHTING HAS A CODE OF CONDUCT, A DRESS REQUIREMENT, AND THE LOCAL FIREFIGHTERS ARE KEPT UP TO DATE WITH THEIR PRACTISES, AND IN FACT HAVE BEEN CALLED OUT SEVERAL TIMES THIS SEASON, ALREADY. ANY NEW RECRUITS? PLEASE PHONE PETER IF YOU ARE

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2000, PAGE 2.

KOITIATA RESIDENTS COMMITTEE, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, COMMUNITY HALL, SUNDAY 26TH MARCH 2000. STARTING AL 11AM.

WE HAVE RECIEVED TREMENDOUS INPUT FROM OUR ELECTED COUNCILLORS, MR BOB MAJOR, AND MRS JILL STRUGNELL. WE THANK THEM BOTH SINCERELY, FOR THEIR ABLE ASSISTANCE TO US, THIS PAST YEAR.



SOMETHING BUGGING YOU??? HAVE YOUR SAY, NEW IDEAS? THIS IS YOUR CHANCE.!! SEE YOU ALL THERE.

CRAFT AFTERNOONS ARE STILL GOING STRONG, 2PM ON TUESDAYS. GAMES / SPORTS AS FROM APRIL THURSDAY AFTERNOONS 1-30PM. SOCIAL COMMITTEE HAD A GOOD RESPONSE TO IT'S AGM. CHAIRPERSON TRISH DOONEY, SECRETARY/TREASURER NOLA EUSTACE AND A COMMITTEE COMPRISING MAVIS HOWATSON, HAZEL KUITI, BETTY READING, TOM DOONEY, AND NEVILLE ? SORRY, NOT SURE OF SURNAME. ALL ENQUIRIES TO NOLA, PHONE 3273790. WATCH FOR THE NEXT COMMUNITY FUNCTION. (EASTER WEEKEND I HEAR.) 0

SPEEDING THROUGH THE VILLAGE BOTH ENTERING AND EXITING, HAS IMPROVED A LITTLE, BUT THERE IS STILL MUCH ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT. IF IT WERE ONLY "OUTSIDERS" SPEEDING, NOT GOOD, BUT IT IS RESIDENTS WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER. VERY BAD. THE THRESHOLDS ARE DECORATIVE, AND ARE MEANT TO GIVE A NARROWING EFFECT, WHICH IN TURN WOULD SUGGEST YOU SLOW DOWN, BUT NO, STILL FAR TOO MUCH SPEEDING, RDC HAVE BEEN KEPT IN TOUCH, AND ARE LOOKING INTO OTHER MEANS, POSSIBLY MORE APPEARANCE OF POLICE PATROLS, AND SPEED HUMPS OF SOME KIND. AT LEAST THEY SEE OUR PROBLEM. THERE ARE SO MANY MORE CHILDREN AND SENIOR CITIZENS IN OUR AREA NOW, AND WITH NO FOOTPATHS, IT . MAKES FOR REAL DANGER. WHEN VEHICLES SPEED. EVEN 50KPH IS TOO FAST SOME-TIMES. PLEASE TAKE CARE, SLOW DOWN, WATCH THE BEND NEAR THE HALL, STAY ON YOUR SIDE OF THE ROAD.

ARE YOU RESPONSIBLE FOR DUMPING OF RUBBISH INCLUDING GARDEN RUBBISH, IN AREAS SURROUNDING KOITIATA, SUCH AS THE WETLANDS, AND AREA BESIDE THE FOREST? IF YOU ARE ONE OF THOSE ILLEGAL DUMPERS, IT MIGHT PAY YOU TO RECONSIDER YOUR ACTIONS. IT IS A HIGHLY ILLEGAL PRACTISE, TO DUMP ANY RUBBISH ANYWHERE EXCEPT A LEGAL BIN, A RUBBISH BAG FOR COLLECTION, OR

A DESIGNATED WASTE TRANSFER STATION. PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

THIS COMMITTEE SAYS THANKYOU TO ALL RESIDENTS FOR THEIR INPUT THROUGHOUT THIS PAST YEAR,, AND WISHES THE INCOMING COMMITTEE ALL THE BEST".

year, Gerdon, Warren, Inial, Kake, Hayel Many, manis - anold. REGARDS,

April 2001

Introducing...

YOUR COMMITTEE 2001

Peter Smith (chair)	ph 3883
Joyce Smith (sec/treas)	3883
Lou Corcoran	3993
Tom Dooney	3770
Garvan Laing	3838

Mail – 50 Rapaki Street Email –joyce@wordsmith.co.nz

Reaffirming...

OUR AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1. To liaise with the Rangitikei District Council, DOC, Horizons, Earnslaw Forest, local hapu and iwi and the surrounding communities.
- 2. To hold a public monthly meeting and provide minutes to residents and RDC.
- 3. To support Civil Defence.
- 4. To support the Rural Fire Service.
- 5.To maintain a neighbourhood watch.
- 6. To support the Koitiata Social Club.

Updating...

THE FORD REPORT

The AGM and follow up meeting gave unanimous support to go ahead with the planned ford across the "ex"-river to the beach at the playground site. The Ford Sub Committee (Peter Fraser and Peter Smith) has had on-site meetings with DOC, Horizons and RDC and support for the ford has been writing confirmed in from concerned. We do not need Resource Consent to upgrade the track so we hope to commence work on that as soon as possible.

Peter Faser has costed the project and we have made a submission to Pub Charities Inc for the full amount. Thanks for all the pledges. We will call for them if required.

Wellwishing ...

Good wishes for a speedy recovery to Peter Fraser and Garvan.

Encouraging...

Please read our minutes and bring us your concerns and suggestions.

KOITIATA MATTERS

In May 2001

om Dooney wants people to know that the facilities at the Community Hall: bowls, darts, pool etc. are available for use anytime by any resident – the key can be obtained from him at 15 Rapaki St..

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Gordon Howatson reminds us that Community Watch is still active and to remain diligent.

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ur very active country pusic club, which is part of, and raises funds for, the social club, welcomes all-comers to have one hell of a time at their regular shindigs which are notified at the hall. The next 'do' is on **Friday 29**th of **July at 1.30** and will be followed by a pot luck dinner.

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Did you know that each Tuesday at 1:30 the craft group meets in the community Hall? This is an opportunity for people to get together and share their interest in various crafts. If you would like to come, contact Trish at 15 Rapaki, or just turn up.

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It was agreed at the last Residents Meeting to fundraise through the

winter to raise the \$400 or so necessary to build a petanque pitch on the recreation area.

Petanque, also known a boules, needs no organisation, can be played by people of all ages and you do not need to bend down to play. It can be played from a wheelchair and you do not need to put down your wine - alright then, your beer - when you have your turn.

Hopefully the petanque pitch will become a focal point for summer evenings when we can share a game and a drink or just spectate and enjoy the company.

A petanque set costs about \$30 or so at the Warehouse and we hope to have a couple of community sets.

The ford update: we have applied to Horizons for resource consent and to the Pub Charities for a grant to cover costs and are hopeful for positive responses in the near future.

Once we have funds we can get on with upgrading the track as this does not need resource consent. We hope this will be in the next week or so.

Four 5m x 200mm fibrolite pipes have been purchased for \$50, to use as drains under the track

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plan of the recreation area will be posted at the hall indicating proposed new projects. Please view this and come and share your insights at the next committee meeting on the 21st June at 7.30.

KOITIATA MATTERS

In June 2001

O orry about the small print but there is a lot to e squeeze in this month.

The good news is that Councillor Bob Major reported that Koitiata is to receive a rates *cut* of 16–18% - and that's official!

From July, rubbish bags will no longer be delivered – we have to purchase them at a \$11.00 for a pack of ten. Keep your eyes open for notices in the local papers for details. The new blue bags will be available at the Turakina service station (as well as service stations, dairies and supermarkets in Bulls and Marton). Meantime we can still use our current green bags.

hen making our submissions to RDC Draft
Annual Plan we were reassured that there
are no plans to sell the hall – it was a mix
up in section numbers. No news on the
submissions yet.

he fire chief wants people to note that, being a rural fire party, a 111 call for a house fire will not automatically call out the Koitiata fire party. Still call 111, but, to get a swift local response you will need to call a member of the fire party who will then sound the alarm and the fire party will be there within minutes.

Also, water for fighting house fires is taken from water tanks (priority is given to the tanks of non-permanent residents and the water is replaced). Therefore, the unfortunate incident a few weeks back where a large quantity of water was lost from a tank in Rapaki St. meant that properties, and perhaps lives, in the surrounding area were placed at risk in the event of a house fire while this tank was empty. As recent events up north indicate house fires are most likely to happen in winter and where there are children.

here is a proposal to beautify the village by planting pohutikawa trees on the berm.

However it is acknowledged that some

people may not be happy to have a tree stuck outside their place – let the committee know what you think of this idea.

The ford report – Thanks to Bob Major's help (and promise of more) we are much further ahead than anticipated. We now have a good layer of sand on most of the track and are happy for tractors to use it - there is a bit more sandbaging to be done but we almost have enough.

In view of our isolation and reliance on transportation it has been suggested that for times of emergency, we resurrect the idea of a 'car pool'. That is, those of us with regular journeys who are willing to give stranded villagers a lift, give their names, together with times, to the committee and we will circulate this with the next newsletter and upgrade it monthly. Joyce, Ph: 883, is happy to kick this off: she leaves the village for Palmerston at 7:30 and returns at 6:00 Monday to Thursday. If you don't go anywhere regularly you might like to give your name to ferry people to hospital and doctor appointments if they have no transport.

he Social Club is having a Throw Away

Market day on Saturday 20th October and are
looking for donations of plants, baking, vegies
and saleable goods – so if you're thinking of
throwing it away – throw it the way of Trish
Dooney or one of her committee.

Another social club activity that everyone is welcomed to is the Country Music Shindig and Pot Luck tea on Sunday 29th of July – Gold coin entry, everyone welcome. Come and support these activities that keep our community alive. There will be a 50c raffle.

Pemember, the minutes of meetings are posted at the community centre and if you feel strongly about any issue and wish to have your point view heard, the meetings are open.

The Ford Update

JUNE 2001

It will be obvious by now that the money I from the Pub Charities (\$1150) came through. It has been spent on digger hire, resource consent and purchase of culverts.

Thanks to Alex Glasgow's generosity and Lance Vogelaar's hard work we managed to get more done with the digger than we anticipated. The track, with a drain down either side, has been reformed further to the lagoon than we anticipated, and there are a couple of culverts at the top of the track to prevent ponding at this end.

We also have resource consent to build the ford. Unfortunately, it has a few fishhooks: The work has to be done within nine days, we cannot do any work in July and August to avoid the nesting season (we thought birds nested in the spring!), and we cannot use sand from the dunes.

This left us with a dilemma: we could either plough on and build the ford before July or put it off until September - we have decided to put it off.

- The reasons for this are:

 The track will be soft and boggy for a while yet and to tractor sand over it to build the ford (as we will need to) would destroy it before we started.
 - We can use these two months to let the track consolidate and get a good layer of sand on top.
 - We can prepare the sandbags to be ready to start early in September (Bob Major has opened his paddock at the north end of Rapaki street).

We can use this time to level off the bottom of the lagoon in readiness for sand bagging.

Q o, we are asking everyone to resist the **O**temptation to take the tractors over the new track for the next few weeks - let's get it good now, then, once established, the drains should keep it intact. The old track is still functional and once in the water you can use the marked ford crossing. Eventually this will be levelled off making it even easier.

hanks to everyone for the many offers of help. We will be organising working Bees to get this work done. Meanwhile. sand bag filling can be done anytime (just follow your nose over hill at the end of Rapaki St.).

 \mathbb{W}^{2} e plan to fill the bags and leave them on site – about 600 or so. This will mean minimum handling as they are put on a tractor tray/trailer then placed in place in the lagoon.

We are optimistic that we may get enough sand fill for the ford as we level off the bottom to the correct depth but we may also need to cart some sand for this.

To fulfil our part of the resource consent the ford must be at least 100mm under water for 30 meters at its lowest level in the summer

We look forward to everyone's co-operation, patience and help through this time. Then, hopefully, well before Labour day we will have a dry and stable track and a crossable ford all year round.

If you have any questions, suggestions, ideas, Lor labour, contact the Peters Smith and Fraser or Arnold Nation – your ford sub committee.

In July 2001

Tt is with regret that we have accepted LGarvan Laing's resignation from the committee. Garvan is leaving the village to live in Marton. My predecessor writing the newsletter, we thank Garvan for his contribution to the community (particularly his documentation of village history and fascinating local trivia). Garvan has had more than his fair share of health setbacks recently and we wish him the best of health and fortune in the future. Good Luck Garvan.

On June the 20th Bruce Attwell and Peter Smith attended a meeting in Marton about *Zero Waste*. *Zero Waste* is a world-wide movement to eliminate waste. Initially sceptical, we were both pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm and apparent feasibility of this idea.

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The *Rangitikei Employment Trust* is a group based in Marton who are looking into the idea of creating employment through a *Zero Waste* scheme in this District. It was agreed that we should invite them to come and talk with us to see how we at Koitiata might participate in the scheme.

A full report on the meeting has been posted on the notice board, see Peter Smith -883 – if you wish to have a copy.

Pire-party News -2001 is the **Year Of The Volunteer** and on the 4th of July in the Marton Council Chambers a medal

was presented to all members of the fire party to celebrate their contribution to the community.

Funds have been allocated to enlarge the fire-shed and it is hoped to start on this project in the next week or so.

They are also looking for new members and anyone interested in joining, men or women, will be warmly welcomed.

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ur Resource Consent demands the Ford project remains at a standstill until the 15th of September when there will be a big working bee to complete the job in one day. More about this next month.

The petanque raffle (drawn at the last committee meeting) was won by No. 62: Mardel Cosgrove of Wanganui – an occasional vistor to Koitiata. Congratulations Mardel.

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We made \$200 towards building the pitch and a start has already been made. Further funds will be raised with a sausage sizzle and bring and buy stall at the Market Day on the 20th of October, so don't forget when spring cleaning or clearing out the garage to bring us anything we can sell – you can leave items at the hall (see Tom Dooney for key).

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Lastly, we extend our condolences to the family and friends of Brian Bayley. A long term resident, Brian was an active participant in village life. He served on the committee and was a member of the fire party until ill-health forced his retirement.

KOITIATA MATTERS

IN AUGUST 2001

It has been a quiet month – too cold and stormy to get up to much mischief.

A start has been made on the new fire shed and the pétanque pitch. Work on these projects will continue so that we are ready for the summer fire season and sociable evenings.

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Despite all that the weather has thrown at it the track is holding up and consolidating well.

We have marked out the ford and, on the 15th of September at 8:30am there will be a big working-bee to lay the sandbags and level off. Then, hopefully, we will at last have a safe and reliable crossing. If the weather is too bad on Saturday, the working-bee will be on Sunday the 16th.

So, if you have waders or a wet suit, are willing to heft and maybe fill a few sand-bags, or just want to be part of this major community project do come along. There will be continuous warm food and drinks (maybe you would like to help with this?).

If you would like to contribute contact Peter Fraser (754) or Peter Smith (883).

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The lack of news gives us a chance to welcome all our new residents and to let you know that you do not need a formal invitation to any of our regular or casual events. These are usually well posted, so just come along and get to know people, you will be made most welcome.

Our Civil Defence co-ordinator is worried new residents having a lay-in on a Saturday morning might be having their reveries disrupted by his testing the siren at 9.00. Stay in bed – you haven't made the earth move, it's not a tsunami, nor are

we about to be bombed, it's just Bruce being diligent.

Also, anyone new might not be aware that all exterior fires are restricted *throughout the year* everywhere on the forest (the south) side of Wainui Street. This includes Omanu St. and the South end of Rapaki St.. Any queries or doubts about lighting fires contact Peter Bamford (644), our fire chief.

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Lastly, this is the time of year when many of our residents, lost in a deluded world of their own. wander the riverbank worshipping a fish the size of matchstick. A time when normally nice people become mean and sneaky and go round telling lies to each other about the size of catches and where they were not caught. When friendships are tested (and often fail) in rivalry for the best spot, the biggest catch and the most outrageous lie.

Sufferers of 'whitebait fever' believe these fish to have outstanding wisdom and intelligence and that eating copious quantities of them will make the fisher as wise and intelligent as the fish – sadly, they are right only in the latter.

Well good news: scientists at the Department of Marine Biology at Massey University are on the verge of a breakthrough. A spokesperson tells us that they are optimistic that by the end of this decade there will be a genetically engineered flour that, when mixed with whitebait to make a fritter, will bring an end to this madness. "Well, it's the families I feel sorry for." Added the spokesperson. "Because the sufferers actually believe they are blissfully happy, which just goes to show how crazy they really are."

In the meantime we can only wish the whitebaiters well, hope they all have equally big catches and that none of them suffer too much from exposure. They will soon be back to normal.

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September

If August was a quiet month; September made up for it.

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The big news is that the ford is now fully usable. As the water level drops it will be necessary to adjust the level slightly and later, if required, we may lay some river run metal on top.

Our heartfelt thanks to all helpers and volunteers over the past few months – owing to your efforts the project went smoothly from start to finish. It's really nice to see so many people already making use of it.

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y the time you receive this we will be just about finished rebuilding and enlarging the fire-shed. This was a major undertaking that allows us to house both our current appliances, all the gear and expand in the future.

The village is fortunate in having the skills and experience available to allow us to complete this undertaking. Most of the volunteers staggered out of retirement to clamber up, over and under, to hoist, haul and hammer and generally get themselves completely buggered – and all in the best of humour (well, mostly).

We have already had the first fire call of the new season.

The grand opening of the Fire-shed will be on Saturday October the 6th
– everyone in the village is invited to share in this event and the afternoon tea that will follow.

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with all this activity the pétanque pitch has been put on hold but we hope to get on with that as soon as

the fire-shed is finished – well before summer.

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October. There will be various stalls selling crafts, garden ornaments, produce and toys. There will also be a bring and buy stall and a sausage sizzle. This is the major village fundraiser of the year so we look forward to seeing you there.

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congratulations to Jackie Abrahams, who recently won a silver medal at the World Rowing Championships in Switzerland. Jackie is Rea and Jack Laurie's daughter. Already back in training Jackie is looking to next years world champs with an eye on the 2004 Olympics. Jackie will then join our other Olympian, Tom Dooney, (Munich 1970) - who won three silver medals at the last Masters Games in Wanganui.

The Country Music Club is planning a New Years Eve Party. It will be BYO, and ladies-a-plate (I put that in to bemuse our new Pommie neighbours). More about this later.

t the last meeting of the committee it was agreed to change the name of the Hall to the Koitiata *Centre*. It seems this allows us to apply for more grants. It is also a bit more 21st century – we did resist the temptation to call it the leisure centre.

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astly, our thoughts are with Hilton Farr, whis family and his friends. Hilton and his late wife Masie were the first permanent residents in the village, and he is having a tough time of it in ward 27 Palmerston Hospital. Our best wishes Hilton.

October 2001

A busy month made sad by the death of our longest resident, Hilton Farr. We send our condolences to Hilton's family and many friends. Hilton, who died here at the beach he loved, in the whitebait season (he had his share this year), was in his ninetieth year. Few who knew Hilton would disagree with the description of him as a Koitiata icon – rest well, Hilton.

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Next, an apology to the country music club who were surprised to discover in the last newsletter that they were playing at our hall on New Years Eve – They are not. Our own

Rhythm 'n Keys'

are the group that will be playing. So don't be on your own on this festive occasion, come along and see the new year in with friends. It will be a family party from 8pm, BYO drinks, partners, children and nibbles.

If you don't have a partner but would enjoy having a dance, a drink or a nibble (we'll be discrete about the having of children), come anyway – you never know your luck.

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Over the next few weeks we are hoping to update the village telephone list. So, if you would like to be added or removed, have an out of village, cellphone, fax or email address/number on the list – let me, Peter Smith (883), know as soon as possible.

I would also like to hear from anyone who would be willing to be an emergency driver to take people to hospital, doctors appointments, etc. This is for emergency only, not regular, social, shopping or other non essential trips. Please let me know even if you believe you are already on such a list. The pétanque pitch is now complete and ready for use, so no one need worry what to buy you for Christmas this year.

A set of Boules at the Warehouse cost something like \$30-\$50. As this might be a bit too much for those who only want to play the odd game, thought is being given to procuring a set for community use. These would be kept in a secure metal box by the pitch that can be accessed with keys distributed to interested residents. To cover cutting and loss a deposit of, say, \$5 would be charged for each key.

Before going ahead with this we are keen to know if there will be enough interested people to make it worthwhile. So if you think you might take advantage of such a facility, please ring me (883). If you don't, it won't happen.

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Now we are into the fire season you will notice the siren being rung at 4pm each Tuesday calling the faithful to practice.

Already this season we have had two calls, one local, so it is timely to remind people to be extra careful over the coming summer months.

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The ever popular Koitiata children's Christmas party will be on Saturday the 8th of December. This year it is planned to have a parade, so get your thinking caps on and decorate your buggy, tractor, farm-bike, bicycle, or whatever, and help make a great day for the children. More about this later.

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Despite the threatening weather, market day this year was a great success. Our thanks to all those who participated and helped make it such an enjoyable occasion.

Our congratulations to the winners of the Market day raffles, who were:

N°. 125 – Joyce Price, &
N°. 3 – E. Feeley

November 2001

Few months back there was a report posted about a zero waste project being started in Marton (it is still on the notice board). Following this initiative the Resident's Committee has invited Anne Billing of 'Rangitikei Recycling' to talk to a:

Public Meeting at the Koitiata Hall on Wednesday November

The proposal is that we have a **recycling centre** situated in the village. This is likely to be an adapted freight container that will be emptied at regular intervals.

Apart from the environmental benefits of recycling, such a system also offers savings in rubbish bags and trips to the dump. By recycling it is relatively easy to cut the amount of waste put out for collection by 75%. So come along, find out about recycling and have your say.

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People will have noticed the increasingly run down state of the Community Centre. Over the years strenuous efforts have been made to improve the hall, unfortunately, to no avail. We are embarking on yet another initiative to get this work done.

One problem holding up any progress appears to be the method by which the Community Centre is funded. Koitiata is one of the few remaining halls that goes cap in hand to RDC each year. Most others are funded by an annual grant.

Whilst such grants have fish hooks (but, as we know to our cost, so does the 'cap in hand approach), they also have advantages. Quite what these advantages and disadvantages are will need to be fully investigated and discussed but accepting a different method of funding might be the trade off we need to make to get the work done and ensure future upkeep.

The committee is aiming to come to a provisional agreement with RDC over funding and upgrading the Centre prior to the next funding round so that a proposal can be put to the village AGM.

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adly, Tu and Hazel Kuiti are leaving the village. Tu and Hazel, who were married in the Koitiata hall, have made a big contribution to village life during their stay and they will be greatly missed. This year Tu graduates as a primary teacher so they are moving on to pursue new careers and we wish them well in their new life.

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ne place Tu will be missed is in the fire party. To maintain a viable service, it is imperative that we keep the numbers up so, if you think you might like to participate, contact Peter Bamford at 644. Apart from your contribution to community, this is a great opportunity to get to know people and participate in village social life.

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If you notice any discrepancies in the updated telephone list circulated with this newsletter, please let me know on 883 and I will post any corrections in the next newsletter.

~000~

reminder about the well advertised Children's Christmes Perty on the 8th of December. Trish Dooney is desperate for help with the Party and – unless she gets a few more helpers it will have to be cancelled – so give her a call at 770

~o0o~

Pinally, when making holiday plans, don't forget the New Years Eve dance in the hall.

In

January 2002

his is the first Newsletter of 2002 so the committee would like to wish everyone a very happy and prosperous new year. Perhaps 2001 was exemplified in the way we got together to see the new year in. It was a wonderful night and our thanks go to Rhythm in Keys for organising everything and playing so well.

~000~

Y apologies to Wes Greenhorn & Veronica Hodges ~ on the recent telephone list I not only got their number wrong, I put them in the wrong house! As they live opposite me I have no excuses. So, could you please amend your list? Their address is 43 Rapaki and their phone number is 934.

~000~

n the 26th of Nov. Peter Smith & Tom Dooney met with the new 'Community RDC **Facilities** Manager' Albie Hunia regarding the disrepair of our Community Centre. There is a move to 'bulk funding' hall maintenance but the committee is adamant that the Community Centre upgraded prior to must be discussion about reorganisation funding. Albie appears sympathetic to our proposals (see the notice board) regarding upgrading and has promised to support these at the annual funding round that is currently in progress. At least the leak in the roof was promptly fixed – a hopeful sign?

~000~

n the 28th of Nov. about 25 people turned out for the public meeting about a recycling centre for the village.

'Rangitikei Billing of Anne Recycling' gave an interesting talk on the future of recycling, particularly as it applied to our area, and responded to questions from the floor. It seems that the most suitable recycling 'centre' for us would be a converted transport container that is regularly emptied. It was unanimously agreed that 'Rangitikei Recycling' supply the village with a such a container. It is thought that one will be available April/May.

~000~

oming one Sunday soon 'Mary's Music Mates' will be playing and having a BBQ on the recreation area and they would welcome people to come and join them.

~000~

Prish Dooney and Joan Nation will be putting on a Country Music afternoon on Easter Sunday - \$2 entry with a pot luck dinner to follow (bring a plate). Start at 1.30 ~00~

The fire chief, Peter Bamford, has permission to take on non-residents who would be willing to help with fire-fighting on a part-time basis. Some training and basic equipment will be issued. If you are interested, contact Peter at 644.

~000~

astly, a reminder not to dump rubbish particularly at the access site of the fire-pond! – as someone did recently. Also, we don't want to lose the privilege of getting through the paddocks to the river so please, be careful of fence lines and leave gates as you find them.

In

February 2002 (a bit late!)

This is the last Newsletter before the:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON Sunday the 17th of March at 10 am

The committee urges everyone to come along for this is the one opportunity in the year to make sure you have your say.

This is the time you elect your representatives onto the Beach Committee. As well as the usual business of the village The Residents Committee represent Koitiata to the Rangitikei District Council, other local authorities and the wider community.

~000~

The social committee has recently informed us that it has gone into abeyance. Its duties have been taken over by the Residents Committee. All monies held by this committee have been placed in the Residents Committee account.

The social committee was the main fundraiser for the village. Their efforts funded most of the projects around the village and thanks to them we have now have a reasonably healthy bank balance. In recent times 'they' were, Trish Dooney. Trish has been the driving force behind Christmas parties for the children and market days. She organised raffles and bullied and shamed and sweet-talked us into helping her.

So, Trish, whilst appreciating all that you have done for the village, and knowing that you have earned a break, you will be sorely missed. On behalf of us all - thank you.

~000~

Once again we are congratulating Rea and Jack Lawrie's daughter Jackie. Jackie won three gold medals at the National Rowing Championships for the pairs 4's and the quad, was voted rower of the year and is ranked number two in the WORLD! in her specialty (and she's one of us).

~000~

We welcome Richard and Nicki Corcoran to the village. They live at 10 Wainui and their phone number is 909.

~000~

There will be a fire party exercise on Sunday the 24th of March for those who cannot make regular practice on Tuesdays, so If you think you would like to be on the fire party – don't let you lack of availability put you off, talk To Peter Bamford on 644.

~000~

It was recently noted that someone had dumped rubbish on the beach. After a similar incident in one of the fire-ponds this is really disappointing. Lets hope that whoever does this soon learns that the rest of us take a pride in our village and that they are letting us down. This is particularly galling to those who volunteer their time cleaning up the beach by collecting rubbish washed down the rivers.

~000~

Over the next few weeks the ford sub committee will be having a few working bees to do some running repairs to the track, the ford and the drains. Anyone interested in helping contact Peter Fraser at 754

~o0o~

Country Music will be having a shinding on Easter Sunday at 1.30. \$2 entrance and bring a dish (I don't think they mean your current lover).

~000~

SEE YOU AT THE AGM

In

March 2002

Welcome to all new residents

Eighteen residents attended the Annual General Meeting of the Koitiata Residents Association at the Community Centre on Sunday March 17th 2002.

The incoming committee is Nola Fraser (chair), Joyce Smith (secretary/treasurer), Mavis Howatson and Lou Corcoran.

Peter Fraser, Arnold Nation and Peter Smith will remain the Ford sub-committee and the Residents Committee will co-opt other residents for their expertise or labour as required.

The main item on the agenda was official notice that the Social Club is currently in abeyance. All funds and responsibilities have been handed over to the Residents Committee. Thanks once again to the Social Club for a sterling effort of fun and fund raising.

Another important matter is the recycling container which we are

looking forward to test driving for Rangitikei Recycling.

Minutes of all meetings are posted in the front porch of the Community Centre and meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. The next one will be on April 17th

~000~

The Country Music Club will be holding another great afternoon's entertainment at 1.30pm on Easter Sunday. Entry \$2. Followed by a pot luck dinner. There will also be raffles. Come along and bring the visiting rellies.

~000~

Our good wishes go to Wes Greenhorn for a speedy recovery. At the time of writing, Wes is in Palmerston North Hospital.

~o0o~

Remember this is your newsletter. So if you have any news or views contact Joyce Smith ph 327 3883, 50 Rapaki Street.

April 2002

elcome to all residents and visitors. Your Residents Committee holds a meeting on the third Wednesday of each This is an month at 7.30 pm. open meeting which you are welcome to attend. Minutes are posted in the porch of the Community Centre.

~000~

There will be a working bee spring clean the Community Centre on May 19th at 10 Sunday am. help Volunteers to will be welcome. More hands will make short work of it.

~000~

The Ford Subcommittee reports that the holes in the car park have been filled and one side of the culvert to the ford has been cleaned out for the winter rain. The other side will be cleaned soon. The ford itself has been levelled and more sand will be laid for the winter. Our thanks to all the volunteer muscle.

~000~

Someone will be round soon with a raffle for a large trailer load of firewood. Tickets will be \$1 each and the draw will be made by mid May.

~000~

e are disappointed to see some Koitiata have residents been dumping rubbish around the village perimeters and in the forest. This is illegal and offenders are liable for prosecution. If anyone has problems with rubbish disposal please come and see the committee about it. If you object to Council policy make your protest through legal channels. If you can't afford the rubbish tip you certainly can't afford the fine for dumping it in the Rubbish place. recycling is everyone's business, so let's deal with it together.

~o0o~

ouncil has been dealing to the drainage problems at both ends of Rapaki Street. Please keep a watch out when it rains and let us know if any problems recur.

~o0o~

he Fire Service could use more male and female volunteers. If you cannot make the Tuesday afternoon practice sessions, the crew now meet on the third Sunday morning of each month. The Sunday practice sessions are working well and the family sausage sizzles which follow them are proving popular. If you are interested in joining the Koitiata Rural Fire Service please contact the Fire Chief, Peter Bamford, phone 327 3644, 17 Wainui Street.

~000~

his is your newsletter – if you have anything to put it in, contact Joyce Smith, 50 Rapaki Street, phone 327 3883.

May 2002

Telcome to all new residents and visitors. Your Residents Committee holds a meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. This is an open meeting which you are welcome to attend. Minutes are posted in the porch of the Community Centre.

~000~

It's that time of year again. Our submission to the RDC's Draft Annual Plan for 2002 is in. Details are on the notice board in the Community Centre porch.

~000~

A request has been made for a list of all first aiders in the village. If you have a current First Aid Certificate and would be prepared to have your name on a list of people who can be contacted in an emergency, please contact Joyce – (contact details at end of newsletter)

~000~

The Ford Subcommittee report: A few very successful working bees lately have resulted in the clearing of the culverts, placing new marker poles in the water

and the filling of over 100 sandbags for future maintenance.

On May 11th a meeting of local Costal Care Groups from as far afield as Foxton and Waverley was held at the Koitiata Community Centre. Visitors were very impressed with our ford.

~000~

The working bee to spring clean the Community Centre was postponed and a new date will be announced.

~000~

The wood raffle is proving very popular and will be drawn soon. Tickets are still available from Nola Fraser (ph 3754)

~000~

With the merging of the Social Club with the general committee, Mavis Howatson (ph 3884) has agreed to be the contact person who will ensure that we note those special occasions when residents need sympathy, congratulations or a leg pull.

~000~

After their great success last New Year's Eve, Rhythm 'n' Keys have booked the Community Centre to do it again this year. If you have any plans for alternative or additional celebrations, please contact Joan or Arnold Nation so that these can be co-ordinated and we can all have another great evening.

There is now a visitor's/log book in the Community Centre. Please enter the details every time you use the Centre. Any questions or problems refer to the Caretaker, Tom Dooney (ph 3770)

~o0o~

This is your monthly newsletter – if you have anything to put it in, contact Joyce Smith, 50 Rapaki Street, phone 327 3883.

June 2002

elcome to all new residents and visitors. Your Residents Committee holds a meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. This is an open meeting which you are welcome to attend. Minutes are posted in the porch of the Community Centre.

~000~

Joyce Smith presented the annual submissions to the Rangitikei District Council on June 4th. There were no questions from the Council. We await a reply to our five submissions.

~000~

The Ford Subcommittee report:

More sandbags and markers have been placed and some grading is planned-thanks Peter and Arnold.

There will be a working bee to clean up the beach in the near future. Contact Peter Fraser Ph 327 3 754) or watch the community notice board for details.

DOC will shortly be financing a sheltered notice board along the approach to the ford with illustrated details of local fauna and flora.

~000~

Congratulations to Judy Wilson who won the firewood raffle.

The Country Music Club will be holding a musical afternoon followed by a pot luck dinner on June 30th from 1.30 pm onwards. Bring a savoury dish and BYO.

~000~

As there appears to be insufficient interest, there will be no general midwinter social gathering this year.

~000~

There is now \$1478.13 in the KRC bank account including \$250 from Sands Alive to be spent on Conservation related expenses and \$650 to be spent on new curtains for the Community Centre.

~000~

A request has been made for a list of all first aiders in the village. If you have a current First Aid Certificate and would be prepared to have your name on a list of people who can be contacted in an emergency, please contact Joyce Smith.

~000~

his is your monthly newsletter – if you have anything to put in it, contact TJoyce Smith, 50 Rapaki Street, phone 327 3883.

July 2002

elcome to all new residents and visitors. Your Residents Committee holds a meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. This is an open meeting which you are welcome to attend. Minutes are posted in the porch of the Community Centre.

~000~

From Coastal Care

Thirteen children and ten adults braved a cold southerly to clean a large amount of rubbish from the beach on July 3rd. Helpers came from as far and wide as Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Feilding and Marton. Thanks to all those and the locals for a great effort. The rubbish was removed with money from Coastal Care.

There was also a working bee on the approach track to the ford. Soft spots in the sand were filled.

~000~

The bouncy car in the children's play area has been in need of

repair again. A sign is to be erected in the playground stating that it is for children 11 years and under.

~000~

From the Fire Service

Peter Bamford would like to remind you that in case of a fire in the village, please phone 111 first and then call the local fire number 327 3644 or 025 754 780.

If you are a weekender, or work all week, you could be on fire standby in case there is a fire in the village when the fire crew are To enquire away on a shout. about the Sunday monthly practice session, phone Peter Bamford on either ofthe numbers above.

~000~

We are sorry that Joyce Price will be leaving the village soon. She has made a significant contribution to the social life of our community. A farewell for Joyce will be held on Saturday August 10th at 2.30pm in the Community Centre. Come and enjoy afternoon tea and a chat and please bring a small plate of finger food.

~000~

We are purchasing some new luncheon plates for the Community Centre as stocks are low. We have also replaced the Rummikub game.

~000~

his is your monthly newsletter – if you have anything to put in it, contact Joyce Smith, 50 Rapaki Street, phone 327 3883.

Koitiata

Matters

Ip

August 2002

elcome to all new residents and visitors.

Your Residents Committee holds a meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. This is an open meeting which you are welcome to attend. Minutes are posted in the porch of the Community Centre.

~000~

We have at last had some movement from the RDC on the maintenance of the Community Centre and we are in negotiations with the Community Facilities Manager about it. Watch this space.

~000~

We were also heartened to receive six letters of apology from the young people who damaged the bouncy car in the Children's Play Area and their parents, with offers of help to fix it. The apologies were promptly accepted.

~000~

From Coastal Care

The sub-committee has received \$1,000 from DOC to erect a covered sign with information on the local fauna and flora.

~000~

Thanks to Bev and Max Fearn for donating cup cupboards for the kitchen in the Community Centre.

The new plates are bought and there is an inventory of the crockery in the kitchen.

~000~

There will be a country Music Concert on Sunday 29th September at 1.30 pm. at the Community Centre. \$2 at the door, children free, plus raffles. Afternoon tea provided. Followed by a pot luck dinner. Please bring a savoury dish.

It's time to start thinking about the Labour Weekend Craft Day on October 26th Start making all the goodies and sorting out those white elephants!

~o0o~

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if you have anything to put in it, contact Joyce Smith, 50 Rapaki Street, phone 327 3883.

September 2002

Welcome to all new residents and visitors. Your Residents Committee holds a meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. This is an open meeting which you are welcome to attend. Minutes are posted in the porch of the Community Centre.

~000~

There was no Residents Committee meeting this month as we did not have a quorum. However, on September 18th, six residents had a very productive discussion with Albie Huia, the RDC Community Facilities Manager, who assured us that sufficient funds were available to undertake all necessary work on the Community Centre. This should be carried out at the end of 2002 or beginning of 2003.

~o0o~

Please be careful driving through the village – it is a 50 kph area. Watch out for children, dogs and residents who are hard of hearing.

~000~

Fliss Newton would like to thank the kind person who fixed her gate at the end of Omanu Street. Please contact Fliss so that she can thank you in person.

We received a thankyou card from Joyce Price for her farewell function and present.

~000~

Hilton Farr's 1936 tractor is on its way to be restored. The starting handle and part of the battery system have either fallen off in transit or been removed. If you know anything, please phone Vic on 327 8577, or leave the parts in the mailbox of

48 Rapaki Street - 'DUNWIRKIN' ~00~

Come to the Labour Weekend Craft Day at the Community Centre on Saturday October 26th from 9am to late lunch time. There will be great bargains, teas and scones and an all morning sausage sizzle.

That's only a month away! Hire a table and sell on your own behalf (contact Mavis on 327 3884), or donate craft and second hand items to sell for community funds

(contact Nola -3273754). Don't forget those cakes and preserves which are very popular sellers.

The Ford Committee will be upgrading the ford on Monday Sept 30^{th} – contact Peter 327 3754 or Arnold - 327 3841.

~000~

Joyce is updating the village telephone list – please contact her (details below) with any amendments.

~000~

Next month – details of NewYear's Eve Social Evening.

~000~

This is your monthly newsletter - if you have anything to put in it, contact Joyce Smith, 50 Rapaki Street, phone 327 3883.

October 2002

STOP PRESS

Craft Fare Postponed

due to lack of stuff!

Welcome to all new residents and visitors.

Your Residents Committee holds a meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm. This is an open meeting which you are welcome to attend. Minutes are posted in the porch of the Community Centre.

~o0o~

The annual Koitiata Craft Fare will now be held on Saturday November 23rd from 9am.

We need stuff to make the day a goer. You can sell or donate your arts and crafts, Baking and preserves are always popular. And your junk may be someone else's treasure. Bring along all those preloved

items - buttons and bedsteads, teaspoons and telescopes, soda streams and sofas.

If you would like to hire a table to sell your own stuff, contact Mavis Howatson on 327 3884. If you have stuff to donate for the Community funds stalls please contact Nola Fraser on 327 3754.

There will be all morning sausages sizzling and teas and scones.

And great raffle prizes!

~000~

The village phone book seems very popular and I am currently updating it. I will be contacting you shortly to check the details you want listed or you can contact me as detailed at the bottom of this newsletter.

~000~

It's not too early to plan your New Year's Eve Party. Join with Rhythn 'n Keys Band at the Community Centre – a truly family night . B.Y.O plus a plate of finger food towards supper . No charge, handy to home, good dancing music. Tuesday Dec 31st from 7,30 pm

~000~

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November 2002

STOP PRESS

Craft Day moved to

TURAKINA SCHOOL!

s you know we postponed **L**our Craft Day to November 23rd. We have since learned that the Turakina School is having a Gala that same day. The Committee has decided to take our residents' table up to the school, as we feared we would not get people down to the beach. We would still like some baking and any other items to sell. Please take them to the Community Centre on Friday 22nd at 7pm, so they transported that can be altogether to the school. Contact Mayis Howatson on 327 3884 or Nola Fraser on 327 3754.

~o0o~

The village phone book update is just about ready to go. If you have any changes let Joyce know immediately!

Country Music Concert

Sunday 29th December at 1.30 pm. at the Community Centre. \$2 at the door, children free, plus raffles. Afternoon tea provided. Followed by a pot luck dinner. Please bring a savoury dish.

~000~

New Year's Eve Party

Join with Rhythm 'n Keys Band at the Community Centre – a truly family night. B.Y.O plus a plate of finger food towards supper. No charge, handy to home, good dancing music. Tuesday Dec 31st from 7.30 pm.

~000~

There will be no Residents Committee meeting in December. The next one will be on January 15th at 7.30 pm.

In the meantime have a Very Happy Christmas and a Great New Year.

~000~

This is your monthly newsletter - if you have anything to put in it, contact Joyce Smith, 50 Rapaki Street, phone 327 3883.

December 2002

Welcome to all new residents and visitors. Your Residents Committee holds a meeting at 7.30 pm on the third Wednesday of each month, except December. This is an meeting which open you are welcome to attend. Minutes are porch posted in the of the Community Centre.

~000~

Isn't it great to see the Community Centre painted at last? There's still the inside to do and don't forget we have money in the account for curtains to finish it off.

~000~

Country Music Concert

Sunday 29th December at 1.30 pm. at the Community Centre. \$2 at the door, children free, plus raffles. Afternoon tea provided. Followed by a pot luck dinner. Please bring a savoury dish.

New Year's Eve Party

Join with Rhythm 'n Keys Band at the Community Centre – a truly

family night. B.Y.O plus a plate of finger food towards supper. No charge, handy to home, good dancing music. Tuesday Dec 31st from 7.30 pm.

Trev and Freda Gudopp would like to thank the Koitiata community for the thoughts and sympathy card after the tragic death of their brother and brother-in-law. They would like to say: "try to smile and be happy, because life is not permanent, it is more like a lease and you don't know when it will expire."

~000~

Congratulations to Robin Hope and Bev Hyde who were recently married. Our warmest wishes for a long life of health, happiness and laughter together.

~000~

The new village phone list is coming round. Please throw your old one away.

~000~

Don't forget that if you want all the activities we have grown used to – craft days, Christmas parades and parties etc, we will need more volunteers on the committee in 2003. We look forward to seeing a few more willing hands at the AGM in March.

In the meantime have a Very Happy Christmas and a Great New Year. ~000~

This is your monthly newsletter - if you have anything to put in it, contact Joyce Smith, 50 Rapaki Street, phone 327 3883.