

A large flock of seabirds, likely albatrosses, is captured in flight against a clear blue sky. The birds are scattered across the upper two-thirds of the frame, with some in sharp focus and others slightly blurred, suggesting movement. Below the birds, a coastal landscape features rolling dunes covered in green and brown vegetation. In the foreground, a body of water, possibly a lagoon or estuary, is visible with some reeds and marshy areas. The overall scene is bright and naturalistic.

Koitiata

Matters

Newsletters 6

2012 - 2017

Koitiata Matters

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."*

Newsletters 1	1981 - 1999	20 Issues, 57 pages
Newsletters 2	2000 - 2002	22 issues, 31 pages
Newsletters 3	2003 - 2004	21 issues, 30 pages
Newsletters 4	2005 - 2008	20 issues, 45 pages
Newsletters 5	2009 - 2011	22 issues, 72 pages
Newsletters 6	2012 - 2017	14 issues, 29 pages

Koitiata Matters

Newsletters 6 2012 - 2017

2012	March	2015	June
2012	August	2015	December
2012	November	2016	May
2013	April	2016	September
2014	January	2017	August
2014	October	2017	September
2014	December	2017	November

Highlights:

March/April 2012 The new Inspire.Net Wi-Fi internet service is installed and connecting all the disgruntled ex-Airstream customers.

April 2013 There were two art galleries in the village back in 2013

August 2017 The village had their 100th Birthday Party

Koitiata Matters

March/ April 2012

Summer weather has been a stop start affair, but has still seen everybody making the most of the beach. Some nice fish are being caught and the boatmen and long liners are all smiles....(most of the time!)

There has been the odd kontiki lost off the coast, don't think Max intended to set it free though.

Daisy and Mike have had to row back to shore, Mike realised the boat was going in a circle, looked back to discover Daisy having a smoke not paddling. But I do hear Daisy is a dab hand at removing fish hooks from fingers, Thank you Dr. Daisy.

Takes quite some time to sort out tangled long lines too, see Jim or Arnold for advice if needed.

We have a fishing competition winner in our midst, who got largest non scaled fish and I hear has a nice new rod, congratulations Maree, no doubt Paul will always have space on the boat for you.

Soft sinky sand, gets you every time. Mike C was out on a bike ride (firewood spotting no doubt) when his trusty bike sunk, help was just a bit further down the beach and they came and pulled the bike out and off Mike went, alas the helpers then drove into the same trouble and had to spend quite some time getting themselves out on their own, Mike says thanks Russell and Jenny.

Bet the policeman in the patrol car who had to get a tow from a local beach buggy wasn't saying much at work, seems he missed the sign that warns 4x4 vehicles only on the way out to the beach. This was not our local man, he is too wise for that!

Very scary to go for a ride on the quad bike and run out of petrol close to the water with the tide coming in. That fast dash for help is good for fitness, and I'm sure Tina is pleased she wasn't at Turning in Creek.

Please add Fliss Newton to your phone list. (06)212 0420 or 0272335477
20 Omanu St.

Jigsaw Wanganui had a whitebait cook up as a fundraiser in 2011, and has produced a cookbook of the recipes. They are for sale at Paige's Book Gallery in Guyton St, or Jigsaw, or talk to Fliss

The Bryant phone number is incorrect on the list, the number printed belongs to Jules, and she has sadly declined the offer to be my secretary. Please note this number,
James and Suzi Bryant 327 3870.

Tom and Trish Dooney would like to thank you all for your best wishes and support while Tom has been unwell.

Who is this? Seen leaving his partner and dog to drown while he goes to find a tow to save his little bomb! Had to be a visitor didn't it? A local wouldn't do that would they!!!



Is anyone interested in car sharing to Pak n Save in Palmerston North fortnightly? Phone Margaret 3273668 or Nicole 3273721.

Ewen Johnston is the caretaker for the Koitiata Hall. Please contact Ewen for hall bookings etc, 327 3939

Craft Group is being held every second Wednesday at 1.00pm at the Koitiata Hall. Everyone welcome. Next meeting 4th April, then 18th April and so on. Enquires to Suzi 327 3870.

Community meeting is at Koitiata Hall on 4th April at 7.00pm

Pot Luck Dinner is on Saturday 7th April (Easter Saturday) 5.30pm. everyone welcome. Last months dinner was postponed due to no power on the planned day. So was held the following week with a great meal attended by many.

Anyone interested in having a Fishing Contest? To be held on our beach. Any ideas and input welcome. Would need to set up a small committee. Meeting at the hall Tuesday 3rd April at 7.00pm or contact Keith on 3273985 before then.

The Fire Brigade were having their practice this week down the forest road, and had the pleasure of seeing a wild deer. Guess they will be taking a bow and arrows with them next time.

Our **Broadband Internet** system is growing.

Inspire are coming out soon to install some new connections to their broadband service and need to finalise how many additional connections are required.

If you are still using dial-up and want to upgrade to broadband, or if you are accessing Inspire via one of the "on-roof" repeaters and want a better and more secure connection let me know.

The price for installation is approx. \$300 for receiver, cabling, and installation, plus some additional for travel; the more connections being done at the same time, the lower the connect cost.

If you have not already committed and are interested please let me know pronto, as they are due to do installations in the next week or two.

Eddy (327 3676)

Emergency Information

Emergency fire sirens:

1 long siren – Fire crew only.

2 long sirens – Local fire.

3 long sirens - Civil emergency.

All villagers to report to the fire shed at the hall to hear what the emergency is.

The fire crew has a practise every second Sunday at 9.00am. At this time they check the siren briefly.

Defibrillator Instructions

This is housed in the cupboard on the front of the community hall. Look for first aid sign. Instructions to access this are on the outside of the door.

This is for anyone's use, take time to read it next time you are going past.

In the case of an emergency Phone 111 in the first instance.

If any one would like any thing published in future newsletters, I would be very happy to include it. Contact details below.

Happy Easter, and here's to some fine weather to enjoy the long weekend.

Koitiata Matters

August 2012

Congratulations to Tom and Trish Donney upon Tom being presented with the gold star from the fire service for 25 years of service. This was a special evening shared with their family and fellow brigade members. Ian McFarlane was also recognised for his 3 years of service.

There has been a recent fire in the village in which a house truck was lost but surrounding structures saved. Thank you to our brigade who held it at bay, and thanks also to the locals who helped them out. This happened during a work day and there were only 3 fire brigade members in the village, and it also shows how important their practices are. Thank you again for your commitment (and every 2nd Sunday morning that you give to the brigade practise).

Funny how quiet the village is at the moment as the whitebait nets and screens are pulled out, cobwebs removed and any repairs made. Some fishermen (and women) have even been up the river scouting out the best spots. Here's to a good season, specially Keith up at the Koitiata Jetty,

Easter has been, but could Russell and Jenny please share the secret as to what they feed their hens, we hear the hens laid tinfoil covered chocolate eggs.

Trying to cross the river in their vehicles has seen several non locals require assistance, thank you to those who come so quickly to help.

Craft Group every second Wednesday. All welcome. Ring Suzi 327 3870.

Working Bee for a weedathon in the reserve south of the village, on Sunday August 19th. Meet at 10am at the green waste area, wear gloves and bring tools. Thank you to Laurel Stowell and Richard for organising this.

Pot Luck Dinner is on the first Saturday of every month, next dinner is September 1st at 5.30pm at the hall, all welcome. Great time to catch up and find out if the whitebait are running!

Market Day is being held on Saturday 20th October 2012. At the Koitiata Hall, from 9.00am - 1.00pm. This is Labour weekend. Items for the white elephant stall gratefully received. These can be dropped off at 11 Wainui St. or 3 Rapaki St. or the hall will be open on Friday 19th between 4.30 and 6pm of Labour weekend.

Melbourne Cup will be watched at the hall on Tuesday 6th November from 3.00pm. Please bring plate of finger food and BYO. Wear your best race day hat!

Centenary for Koitiata has been researched and new information shows that we will celebrate 100 years in early 2017, planning has now shifted to this time frame. Thank you to Eddy Mason for the hours devoted to this task. Lots of time spent reading to get the right information. Thank you also to Eddy for the Koitiata Facebook page.

Koitiata Residents Committee has had the AGM. Thank you for your efforts to those who have retired, and welcome to those who have been elected. Keith Gray remains chairman and Jeanette Jurgens as secretary, cheers! Thanks go also to the social committee girls, and the men who look after the ford.

RDC rates were in the mail box this week. Thank you to those in the village who have spent considerable time and energy pursuing this issue on our behalf. Fair to say the council knows how we feel.

Fishing Contest idea has been put aside due to lack of interest.

Local Fire – what to do!

Concern has been voiced after the recent fire about the response time to a local call. It appears that there is some confusion in the village regarding how the local crew is alerted for a local fire. So this is what to do and how it works;

First, this is what you do;

1. ***If there is a fire, call 111 first!***
2. ***Then get the siren switched on; break the glass and flick the switch!***
3. Do this by ***going to the fire shed yourself, or arrange for someone else to do it*** while you are on the phone to the 111 service.
4. Whoever turns the siren on needs to ***stay at the shed*** to tell the fire crew where the fire is.
5. ***But you must ring 111 first!*** And remember, it is better to have 4 or 5 people phone 111 than none at all.

Second, this is how it works;

- Our Koitiata fire crew members each have a pager that will be triggered by the 111 service controller.
- The first member to arrive at the shed ***manually*** starts the fire siren, (if not previously switched on by someone else).
- The local siren ***is not*** started by the 111 service controller. It can ***only*** be turned on at the fire shed.
- Because there is no guarantee that local fire crew see or are aware of the pager message, ***the siren is a key element for alerting the local crew.***
- There is a fire alarm / siren switch on the outside wall at the fire shed. This can be used to start the siren by breaking the glass and switching it on.
- The 111 controller will have alerted the other fire stations directly, (Marton, Ratana, Wanganui etc).

In the case of any emergency, always phone 111 in the first instance.

Army Exercise

The army are coming again. They will be setting up a base on the domain for a week from 5th to 12th October. During their exercise they will be armed, but there won't be any 'scare the dogs' and 'amusing the locals' shooting stuff this time.

Rates Protest Signs

There are still some signs left. If you still need your first sign, or want to put a second one up on your front or back fence, get in touch and we'll fix it up for you.

If your neighbour hasn't got a sign up tell them to give Keith (327 3985) or Eddy (327 3676) a holler and we'll get one up on their fence for them.

Thanks to everyone who is doing your bit to let RDC know what we think. (***Tip; use the postage pre-paid envelope your rates bill comes in to sent a message back to RDC***)

Village Hoons

Doing doughnuts on street lawns is usually a sign of immaturity. But not in Koitiata!

There was a recent bit of doughnuting in Omanu Street where it was obvious that the driver and the passengers were well and truly of an age where they should have known better.

We are sure you'll agree Maree!

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Koitiata Facebook: www.facebook.com/koitiata

Koitiata Blog Site: www.koitiata.blogspot.co.nz

Koitiata Matters

November 2012

Well here we are with Xmas just around the corner again. Those of you who haven't been out to the beach in a while are in for a treat, sand is always on the move, and move it has. The dunes have disappeared from out in front leaving lovely sea views for all. This has also moved the river mouth down the beach a bit, but also left some soft spots, which has caught out the odd person visiting when they get stuck.

Xmas pot luck dinner is on Saturday 1st December at 5.30pm. Dust off your tinsel and come along, all welcome.

The **Xmas Goodies raffle** will be drawn at pot luck dinner. Thank you Joan for getting around everyone with the tickets.

White bait season is finished on the 30th November, with some good catches by some at times. There were a few days at the river mouth when there were more people than sand flies. At times the wind has been very unpleasant which saw off the softer ones of us. Ewen and Annette just dug in and built a shelter. Good on ya mate!

The locals can still get caught out though. One gent in the village drove his tractor to the river mouth to go white baiting, and then ran out of petrol.... Had to borrow some from a well prepared lady white baiter who always carries a container with her on the back of The B....! Peter says thanks Pat.

Another of the white baiting gents went to Turning In Creek fishing, the trip home took a lot longer than expected when the mule became bellied. It took quite a bit of digging to get himself out, and after the mule was cleaned at home a wheel barrow of sand was removed from the lawn. Keith

is now going to take extra lunch for days like that!

Seems two of our Annette's have been caught out, one after having been white baiting, went home, showered, and fell asleep on the couch in her dressing gown. There was a visitor who saw a little more than he expected. Ewen is looking for net curtains and Jim is working on a very loud whistle.

The look-out on the hill on the way to the green waste has always been a good look out over the surrounding countryside, but it has been discovered that a certain outdoor bath tub can also be spied on. Annette will wave back if she sees you too!

There are quite a few of us that would do nearly any thing (legal) to get that big catch of whitebait. One man was seen trying to tempt the wee fish with lilly white legs in the water, but not sure if fishing in your underpants is good for your health Daisy!

People on the beach two weeks ago were treated to a rare spectacle. The kahawai were in a feeding frenzy right at their feet, the water boiled with feeding fish both in the river mouth and in the surf, and the little silver fish they were feeding on were washed up along the water line. Not something that is seen very often.

A few keen men have dusted off their long lines, and I hear the odd snapper is starting to be caught. One very keen man had to take two days off fishing to get his line untangled. I saw that birds nest of line and congratulate Russell and Jenny for their patience. Some guys would have spat the dummy on that one!

Koitiata Market Day Raffle.

1st \$50 Meat Voucher

G. Brewer, Castlecliff.

2nd Whitebait

E. Duganzich, Turakina.

3rd \$30 Petrol Voucher

Rex Wilson.

Market Day at Labour weekend was enjoyed by all. Fund raising was successful with the sum of \$1760 being added to community funds. Thank you to our sponsors, and to every one who helped and supported the day.

Community funds are reasonably healthy. In addition to the retention of funds for the Koitiata 100 year birthday party, some other projects have been initiated by your community committee;

1. Replacement and additional chairs for the hall.
2. A 'look-out' platform is being built across the road from the camping ground.
3. An 'above-water' walking track is being formed on the old road from the southern end of 'Teone St' down to the old 'river-side-car-park'.

Wanted; we are looking for a 50 to 100 litre plastic container/tank that we can use as a tank for a 12volt weed-sprayer that we intend to make. We have a pump, we need a tank.

Keeping the new 'car-park-track' clear will add to the task of keeping the weeds controlled in the beach causeway drains. A ute/quad/tractor carried unit will be a step up from knapsacks as presently used by committee members.

Let Keith Gray or Eddy Mason know if you have something that may be suitable.

Melbourne Cup afternoon was huge fun, with some wonderful hats, some winners

and some losers, and our very own horse and jockey. Jim's nag (not called Robyn) was well behaved and suffered no punctures thank goodness, and left no surprises behind.

Beach Clean-up on Saturday 8th December.

Meet at the play ground area at 10am. Please bring sacks and bags if you have any.

This was very worth while last year and a real eye opener to how much plastic etc there is on our beach.

Please help if you can as many hands make light work of a job like this.

Craft group will finish for the year on Wednesday December 5th with a Xmas shared lunch, please bring a finger food plate. 12.30pm at the Koitiata Hall. First get together for Craft Group in 2013, Wednesday 13th February at the Hall 1.30pm. Everyone welcome.

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Wishing you and your loved ones a safe and happy holiday season.

Remember to check-out our Facebook page for other Koitiata news;

www.facebook.com/koitiata

Koitiata Matters

April 2013

Summer has been fabulous for fun at the beach, not so much for those of us with water and lack of grass woes. The river is still doing its own thing and for a while there, with the mouth blocked we had quite a lake, which some were able to tow the kids around behind the boat on their wake boards. All back to normal now with the mouth sneaking down the beach slowly.

Welcome to the new-comers, and all the best to those who are moving on, we know that Koitiata is a great place and that a little of that magic goes with you.

Thank you to those who have put time and energy into making the new walking track. This is at the southern end, past the camping ground at the end of the metal road. You go through the rails and at the end can turn left to join up with the sandy track, or right to go out to the beach. No motorcycles or vehicles please, this is for walkers only.

Pot Luck Dinner is on Saturday 4th May at 5.30pm at the Koitiata Hall. Everyone is welcome.

The Mystery of the Flounder. Poor wee thing was high and dry (and dead) between the dunes and the estuary. Where did it come from? How did it get there? Well it took a while for the story to surface... There were two fit fellows who decided the conditions were just right to set their nets in the sea for the night. One had to retrieve his net which had been set in the river, the net was bundled into the trailer with the fish and off they rushed. Along the way,

unnoticed, the net bounced about and began to fall out and drag along behind, the net then wrapped around the trailer wheel into a bit of a tangle. The flounder was the loser, Terry and Barbara came along and saved the day, a trip home to get the tools and remove the wheel, net saved. Thank you from Trevor and Jim.

Tangled long lines have been a theme for some and even yours truly has been there. So it's heartening when those with lots more experience also have this problem, Latest being Tom and Bob, took them hours to sort out.

Fishing is all about not knowing what's on the line. Alan thought he'd hooked the big one while fishing, turned out it was a kontiki that Steele's had lost and the hook had caught on a wing nut.

Firewood gathering is almost a competitive sport at the beach, many a log can be seen with a notch chopped out, as it is decided if it's worth taking home. If you have to go home to get the chainsaw and you still want it to be there when you come back, you have to hide it by making it look like it hasn't been discovered. The real trick is to be able to find it again! No names as I can't pick on my neighbours every newsletter. But if you see Jim with a shovel and a chainsaw... looking puzzled...

Husband was doing a spot of welding in the garage with the bike parked over dry grass and feathers dropped by the birds; wife pops her head in to see how it's going and says "I can smell something burning." He says "It's ok! It was only a small flame." He is a local fireman and thought wife loyalty would save him from making the news. Yeah right!

Fishing is good, with some nice snapper being caught. There are a few kontiki being lost, lines getting snagged, and nets getting tangled. So it can get a little frustrating. Still, it is a wonderful way to enjoy the day. But....

... **the burley trail** starting on the track is a bit too much, Daisy was so keen to get out fishing, and the bait was jumping out of the boat along the way to the beach.

Happy Birthday to those who have celebrated a special big O, or are now on the govt. pay roll. You can remain anonymous as we would never have guessed if it hadn't been for the celebrating.

Thank you to everyone who helped look for the lost dog, and offers of rides on your bikes down the beach. The dog was found, managed to get into another house. Sorry I've misplaced the name of these folk, but they are very grateful for your help.

Power Surges have been happening of late. This turned into a deep freezer of food being lost in a holiday bach. If you are able, please check your friends' houses after the power outages.

Congratulations to Darren & Ash-lei on the arrival of wee baby Karla. It is lovely to have small people in the village, makes some old girls quite clucky I hear!

Fishing with a net from a boat has its own set of problems. One man got the net tangled around the propeller, and while leaning over to untangle it, fell in. When he asked his mate to give him a hand back into the boat, he was teasingly told to stuff off. Next time Paul is going to ask

Mike to lean out, as his arms are longer. (Watch your back mate!)

Firewood raffle was won by Bob & Tina Miller. Thank you to Keith for donating the wood.

Someone (Eddy) knows how to pull off a good April fools joke. Some in the village took a while to click. If you missed it check out the web sites about the award from Chalky;

www.facebook.com/koitiata
www.koitiata.blogspot.com

Driving up the beach in the darkness, lights could be seen in the distance, they were white, then they were red, then white, then red, this continued. As the distanced closed a big rooster tail of sand could be seen as well. Daisy had a job to do! Shona won't be back on that part of the estuary anytime soon.

Great places to take your visitors to see our local talented artists;

Red Bach Gallery at 9 Rapaki St.
Thursday - Sunday 10am - 4pm

Monday - Wednesday by
appointment

Ph 06 327 3606

The Turakina Beach Gallery is at
45 Wainui St.

Thursday - Sunday 10am - 4pm

Monday - Wednesday by
appointment

Ph 06 327 3678

Please be aware of children around the beach and village, school holidays start on the 19th April.

Take care, and keep the news coming.

Koitiata Matters

Jan/Feb 2014

Hello to all of the new residents at the beach. And we wish those that have moved on, all the very best for the future. You are quite right to be giving me a razz as it's been a while between newsletters, but just be grateful for all your tricks that have slipped under the radar! But no more..

It was a very busy 2013 with all the great get togethers that we have had. Mid winter Xmas pot luck was wonderful with the hall full of happy people, Market day saw a grand turn out with lots of bargains, Thank you to all those who support this day. Babies arriving, congratulations to all the tired parents. Wedding vows being renewed on the beach by a very special couple with their friends and family. Flooding with our road awash for days, and the river mouth washing out further up the beach. Thank you to those who have planted and are now maintaining the new trees and shrubs around the village, they are looking lovely.

Milestone birthdays celebrated in fine style, the latest being Joan, Happy Birthday Joan, 90yrs young, what a lovely afternoon tea with present and past villagers all here to celebrate with Joan, what's more it was kept a surprise which is no mean feat!

Rubbish is always a hassle but if any of you spot offenders dumping please take number plates or other details, some one dumped a large quantity of party bottles and cans on both sides of the beach track which easily could have been recycled, thank you to the picker upper. The worst has to have been for the man that decided to pick up the cardboard carton off the side of the road, when he lifted it the bottom fell out and it was full of used disposable nappies, he went home and got a sack and shovel and then back to do an unpleasant job, That man deserves a beer! Thank you Mike C. I know that these issues are not caused by locals so if you see anything...

We have had a lot of wind through the year but one night was really bad (wedding anniversary night) An upper Rapaki St. resident had to go out and secure items on the deck, Luckily he was not naked at the time as the sliding door locked

behind him. You know the song 'knock three times on the ceiling if you want me, twice on the pipe if the answer is no' Well it seems you have to knock a lot harder or as they say, "just do me a favour and let me in please". Jeanette and Trevor now have a secret knock! That storm did quite a bit of damage round the village, fences blown over and one tractor shed had half its roof in the power lines.

Our village phone directory is currently being updated. We would like the directory to include a contact phone number for all residents if possible, whether permanent or "weekenders". Please note that (a) having a listing is voluntary, and (b) the directory is distributed to all Koitiata properties for residents use only. If you do not have a land-line connected in Koitiata you can list your home number and/or your mobile, (*1 mobile only*).

Listing a contact phone for your "weekender" will enhance the security of your property. as you will be able to be contacted if there is anything you should know about your property.

If you are already listed please check your current listing and advise of any errors or amendment.

Please send name, address and phone numbers to the Koitiata email address, koitiata@gmail.com or phone Suzi at (06) 327 3870.

To the people of Koitiata,

"This is a **huge thank you** to those of you who gave us your support, friendship, love and your prayers throughout this very difficult last year. Without your help and kindness we would have struggled considerably. This little community of ours known as Koitiata has shown us both how much you care about people without even being asked. That doesn't happen in the big cities, sometimes you don't even know your neighbour. This makes us very proud to live in this wonderful little village. Daisy and I will never forget what all of you have done for us both. We would like to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts. Happy New Year to each and everyone of you.

Here's to a great 2014. Many thanks, Daisy & Judy.

Gorse Bush Fries.

For those who haven't been out lately, there are now takeaways available in the car park at the hall on Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday evenings.

Fishing is picking up with some nice (and tasty) ones being caught. Just a reminder to play safe though, as one family had to make a dash back to shore when the boat had a problem. Now Hogget has more storage space he may need a new boat to fill it up. Maybe he could slip it by Gill and call it a mothers day gift...

It is also very tricky to drive home through the trees with the rods sticking up. (so I hear). Brian could probable tell you more on this.

One of our new girls needed rescuing when she and Mum went for a drive in the shiny truck and the trip ended at the point when they were seesawing on a log. Thank you to Barbara and Terry B for a rescue that required a tractor, chain, shovel and jack. Mum required a sherry, and our new midwife will be a lot wiser next time.

Pot luck dinner, Saturday 1st March 2014, 5.30pm at the hall. BYO. Everyone is welcome, if you have visitors bring them too. This is a great way to meet everyone if your new. Pot luck dinner is held on the first Saturday of the month.

Church service is held at the hall first Sunday of the month at 10.00am.

Craft group will start Wednesday 19th February 2014. 1.00pm at the hall, then every second Wednesday, all welcome.

Enquires to Suzi ph. 327 3870.

Thanks to the residents committee for the work you all put in, and the causes you champion on our behalf.

Community Chairperson is Keith Gray, contact him if you have any concerns ph 327 3985.

There was a committee treasurer who went with the chairman to buy some chairs for the hall, and on the way decided it would be a good idea to get the cash at the ATM in Bulls on the way past. Keith is sitting in the ute thinking this is taking a while, when Eddy arrived back very flustered, "the b..... thing won't give me back the card, and no cash!" We can tell Eddy doesn't do the shopping much, the card had expired big time, and been swallowed!

Thank you to those who on their trips along the beach pick up the rubbish they come across, some of it is tyres and other large items. Nice to see the council collection picks up from beside the bin at the play ground too. Thanks RDC.

Thank you Eddy for your efforts with the Facebook page; www.facebook.com/koitiata. He is also working on a community web-site for the village and also manages our Koitiata residents email list.

If you have email and this newsletter wasn't received by email, let Eddy know your address at koitiata@gmail.com. *(The email list is strictly confidential and only used for community notices.)*

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2 long sirens – local fire

3 long sirens – Civil Emergency: all villagers to report to fire shed at the hall to hear what the emergency is.

Fire brigade practise every second Sunday morning at 9.00am and test the siren briefly.

Just a reminder that **fires are prohibited** and to take care if down in the forest.

Defibrillator Instructions

This is housed in the cupboard on the front of the community hall. Look for first aid sign. Instructions to access this are on the outside of the door.

This is for anyone's use, take time to read it next time you are going past.

In the case of an emergency phone 111 in the first instance.

For hall booking please contact hall custodian Ewen Johnston ph 327 3939.

Any and all contributions for the newsletters will be warmly welcomed (and held in the strictest of confidences). I know some of you out here like to hear all the news, so please share some too.

Contact Suzi Bryant ph 327 3870.

Koitiata Matters

Oct/Nov 2014

The weather is typical for spring with a bit of everything. The sun last week, school holidays and the whisper of whitebait saw so many people out and about, that a white line was needed in the middle of the beach track.

Long lines, boats and rods are getting the cobwebs dusted off, which on the whole is seeing some fish playing the game. But beware.. there is one man, who in the past had his kontiki out fishing and as the tide came in jumped into his mule and pulled up the beach, straight over the top of his fish bin which was on the ground in front... with a fish in it.... it's ok though as Annette has brought a new one, bin that is not a fish. Happy fishing Keith.

White baiting has it's wee set-backs as well. There are two lovely ladies who are often seen at the river mouth, and are so keen, one arrived from home to stay with her friend and had to send hubby home to get the bag of clothes she had forgotten in the rush. The pair have lots of experience between them ... (fishing!).. but the other day they arrived at the river and what, no nets! They had blown off the back of the *#*&^\$# back of the truck on the way down the beach. Trish and Mavis hoped that nobody had noticed as they back-tracked to find them.

One keen white baiter tried swimming after the fish. Hermise may now be adding snorkel and goggles to her fishing ensemble.

Another has attempted drift netting. Peter's net was seen on the other side of the river, and he hopefully won't have that happen again.

Catch and release is another method to be trialled, as Jim's bucket tipped and he watched quite a few little fish get a second chance.

A warm welcome to all new residents to our wee patch of coast, and we wish those that are on the move all the very best as they get settled in their new homes.

Some have just changed address in the village, Darrell & Deidre have moved to 10 Wainui St., their new phone number is 327 3637.

The wind did it's best again, and the power outage lasted about 28 hrs but in true pioneering spirit we all hunkered down and managed, but spare a thought for the lads out in the gale fixing the lines that had come down onto the road at Tunnel Hill. We can add Joan and Davey to the TV celebrity list along with Trevor riding the Otago bike trail in the snow and Ian in his work vehicle.

Market Day was a success again this year with the weather fine and many people about for Labour weekend. The raffle results are;

Fantail -	C. Turtle
Bird-house -	J. Mason
Meat Voucher -	M.Hearsay
Whitebait -	D. Alabaster
Petrol Voucher -	P.Dooney

Huge Thank You to everyone for making Market Day a huge success. Those who came and shopped, those who help out on the day, and a special thank you to the following for all their generous support;

Dublin St Butchery
Turakina Service Station
Red Bach Gallery
Doughty Contracting
Mant Fisheries
Eddy's Publishing

Thank You to the Koitiata Residents Committee for their continued work in the interests of our community. There are always things happening which they deal with on our behalf, this takes a lot of time and effort, so thank you again for your hard work. Enquires to chairman Keith at ph 327 3985.

Some men it seems love hard work... they could watch it all day! Daisy and Mike have been spotted recently watching Judy mow the lawn. Think they were making sure the clippings were put on the trailer right so they didn't blow off when she took them to the green waste!!!

Thank you to Ken who kindly used his tractor to tidy the green waste. Big job, well done, cheers.

Xmas Pot Luck Dinner is the 6th December at 5.30pm at the Koitiata Hall. Everyone welcome. If you are new to the village we would love to welcome you along. The next pot luck dinner will be February 2015.

Melbourne Cup afternoon tea(?) at the hall was as noisy as usual. The hats were on, the jockey ready to race (Annette G in her silks, and crop at the ready!) Thank you to Eddy for his time and effort that lets us all have a fun afternoon.

The new 'Leave a Thought' box down at the beach access is getting use, which is great, and not all comments are about the weather!

Daisy walking across the domain is a rare sight, but he had to walk home to ask Judy to come and help as he had bellied the car on the green waste track. Thought this only caught out the visitors Daisy!!!

New phone number for Ray & Shirley Gilchrist, Wainui St, 327 3994. Please change this on your list.

A new car with all those gadgets built in has had a respected citizen of the village scratching his head a bit, but what he didn't know is that the nice Crystal Lime Metallic green colour is an attraction for breathalyzers! Just keep poking that touch screen Jim, you'll get the hang of it!

Koitiata Matters

There are a few changes to the way the newsletter is being distributed and the form it takes, some with this issue and others for future issues.

1. To enable the content of *Koitiata Matters* to be more topical and regular, the emphasis will be on posting items on the *News* page of the *Koitiata Web Site*.
2. We are aiming to get items onto the site's *News* page at least monthly, but new items may appear more often. The regular monthly postings will include a summary of regular village events. The bits and pieces that Suzi comes up with will also be regularly posted on the *News* page.
3. There will still be a printed copy; the print issue will be a collation of the web site postings and come out as content dictates.

Emails please; if you have email but didn't receive this via email please send a message to koitiata@gmail.com to ensure you are on the mailing list. If you have changed your email or are new in the village you may not be on list; (*our email list is confidential*).

If you have any information or news for the editor please contact Suzi at; phone (06) 327 3870 or send email to: jtsjbryant@outlook.com

If you have any inquiries re our Koitiata web site (or the Inspire broadband service) contact Eddy at; phone (06) 327 3676 or send email to koitiata@gmail.com

Koitiata Matters

Xmas 2014

Note: This paper copy has been copied from the Koitiata web site for those residents of the village who are not 'wired'; hence the odd looking formatting, The original posted copy is on the site at www.koitiata.co.nz/news/

Xmas Pot Luck

The 2014 Xmas Pot Luck was enjoyed by a good crowd of residents and a few visitors. The Xmas Hamper was won by Reg Jermy and also 2nd prize by Liz Ward.

The Social Committee did a splendid job of decorating and setting up the hall and also looking after the evening.

Special "Thanks" to Annette, Jenny, Suzi and Merle, and also to all the other helpers on the night.



Xmas 2014



Pickled Pot Luck Pixies

Residents Committee meeting minutes are now being posted on this web site on the Community/Committee Minutes page.

A reminder for those with dogs, please check them for spear and barley grass seed heads. One dog in the village has already had a trip to the vet for this.

and now from around the village**A house in the village** that is being renovated recently had a special greeting left on the gib wall, a portrait of Donald Duck. If you see Ewen with a mischievous smile and a pencil be aware he may leave his mark!!

The fishing is all go at present. Daisy was in such a hurry to get home to clean the catch, he took off in the tractor with such a rush, the boat was left sitting on the sand. The boat is supposed to be hitched to the trailer Daisy. It must be hard to find good crew.

A damsel had to go to Trevor's rescue. When he was worried about being licked by the cow, and then got a flat battery, he had to get a jump start from the fair maid Judy. Just as well white-baiting has finished or Ma would be wondering what goes on up the river!

Some of the blokes in the village are finding themselves able to help out when the campers (cute blondes mostly) find they need a \$2 coin for a shower. No signs offering free showers have been seen yet, but a pocket full of \$2 coins may be heard jingling when Eddy is out for a walk.

Kontiki fishing involves tangle ups at the best and worst of times. Alan B had to lift his over the set nets one morning. Another one of those bugger moments!

A local drain laying tradesman was recently seen exchanging season's greetings with a highway patrol man, which was a really nice thing to do I thought. Hogget will be hoping he doesn't have to wish him happy new year as well.

A **new** and **very colourful mail box** has popped up in Wainui Street. You can't miss it. Peter and Liz aren't too sure about the bird who has already made a nest inside, is it a sea gull, is it a starling or is it a chook?

The Piano On The Beach



10.34am, 30th December, 2005

It's just about nine years since the piano was deposited down on the dunes. It sure got us in the news! Next year will be the tenth anniversary and it is suggested that we have a celebration of the occasion. It was suggested that maybe the occasion should include some musical instruments and nudity as a means of getting the media's attention again.

We think there needs to be more on that subject in the future.

**Christmas greetings, wishing you all the very best ,
and have a happy and safe new year!**

Koitiata Matters

KOITIATA

June 2015

Koitiata has seen a few longtime locals move on to new pastures, we miss you all and wish you the very best as you settle into your new homes.

A warm welcome to all new residents to our wee patch of coast. Whether you are permanent or 'weekenders' you are all now Koitiata residents and we wish you "welcome". Please come along and join us at Pot Luck Dinner, in the hall on the 1st Sat each month. All (family and friends) are very welcome, it's a great way to meet more of the locals.

For those who attended last Saturday's Pot Luck Dinner it was a pleasant surprise at the improvements the new ceiling has made to the hall's acoustics. The recently installed suspended ceiling covers the angled-shed-type-ceiling and has all but eliminated the echo that made conversation difficult before. New lighting installed at the same time is also a great improvement.

Winter has arrived and most of the avid fisherman have started the countdown to whitebaiting season. The river and beach have changed after several floods, big tides and rough seas. This has brought lots of new driftwood and created great opportunities for those gathering firewood, or just exploring and also for those who are unwise and/or unwary enough to get into strife.

With the changing river, the water and moving wood is catching a few people out. Davey drove his tractor across the estuary channel where we've all driven before, but this day he got stuck. The shovel was never going to solve this one, so a big thank you to Andrew who pulled it out with a bigger green tractor.

That same spot got another victim the next day, Felix and Oscar and their wee mates must have really enjoyed the adventure, what a great Dad to show them it is one big sand pit out there!

And just to show that you don't need a vehicle to get into trouble at the beach, one man and his grandchildren were seen shuffling about and looking intently into the water. Lost, one bottom set of dentures. Pleased to report that Max is back with a full smile.

Eddy finally has a new quad bike after trying out just about all of Keown Honda's stock on the beach. And then he sold his old quad on to a fellow who has discovered how cruel fate can be. He went for a ride down the beach and got caught out between the waves and the dunes. The wave washed over them and swamped the bike. Thank you to Terry and Barbara for drying out the owner retrieving the bike from the surf in the dark with their tractor.

He won't feel so bad if he witnessed the adventure of one man, one woman, one dog and one Rav4 who also got wet just recently. On their first attempt to drive across the Turakina river they were able to reverse out before getting into trouble. But the second attempt was closer to the river mouth and still a bit optimistic. The end result being a wet and floating vehicle. Fortunately a hero with a large tractor pulled the vehicle out before King Neptune devoured it. A hero because it is quite a risk to drive on that soft area close to river mouth.

But, you don't have to live here anymore to get into our newsletter. One ex Koitiata man who has moved into Wanganui got himself a jetski to go fishing on. He also had an issue that after getting out to sea, he went to get ready and found that he had left the bait behind. With Ron's years of fishing you would think just shows that

.... any one can get caught out, so I'll have to come clean. Yes, in case you are one of the very rare people who haven't been told, James and I went fishing and James got pinged going home again shortly after arriving down the beach. That trip back home was to get the hooks; very important to take them with you if you actually want to catch a fish!

Firewood collecting off the beach is a major pastime for most of the men; they can be seen looking, chipping with the tomahawk to decide what tree it is, and it's suitability for the fire. It appears that the chipping also signifies some sort of ownership. Is there a secret sign, number of chips or something to this system that women don't understand? Because looking on, it still remains a mystery to me.

Then some use a tractor to take home large trunks of tree, some cut it into trailer sized bits, some find a piece and and some cut pieces off, go fishing and come back to find that the rest is gone! It appears that when Chaddy stands on a bit of wood that was being worked on by someone else, ownership changes and it is now classed as his, possession being nine tenths of the law that may be the theory, but let Davey win next time!

It was great to see a new piano up on the sand dunes. We're sure it was played and photographed by many of the visitors who wouldn't have realised there once was another piano on the beach. The original 'Turakina Beach Piano' made it into national media and stayed around for years. Unfortunately the implementers of the latest effort didn't plan for longevity and the power of mother nature has already taken it's toll on the piano and tipped it over and undermined its original precarious position. The wind and the sand and the sea will no doubt finish it off and devour it, unless the ones who placed it there or one of our generous 'beach cleaner residents' disposes of the remains before that happens.

Nice to see Davey home safe and sound after being in Nepal during the earthquake, it is an experience we can only imagine... and just in case you're thinking, what's a newsletter without Daisy, we'll say "it's good to have you back with us Daisy, and Judy".

If you have any inquiries, information or news for the editor please contact Suzi at; (06) 327 3870 or send email to: jtsjbryant@outlook.com

Inquiries re Koitiata web site contact Eddy; (06) 327 3676 or send email to koitiata@gmail.com

If you have email but didn't receive this via email please send a message to koitiata@gmail.com to get on the village mailing list. If you have changed your email or are new in the village you may not be on list; *(our email list is confidential, we don't share residents email addresses)*.

Koitiata Matters Dec 2015

Note: This is the village paper copy, go to www.koitiata.co.nz/news for the web copy which includes photos.

Merry Christmas. It's amazing to think another new year is nearly here, it must be true about time flying, (when you are having fun!)

Welcome, hope this finds you all well and ready for Summer. Winter and all it's fury is behind us, those who were flooded are hopefully nearly back to normal.

Water at that time had a strange effect on some people;

- Keith was cleaning his car twice a day.
- Alan and Merle felt the need to have drive in the ute .. into the drain by the camp ground.
- People who were looking at the mud at Waipu Farm gateway went to turn around and drove into the ditch full of mud, thank you to Cory and Jade for towing them out.
- Blair got stuck, the reason he was distracted was... blonde...
- Jim made one lady a cup of tea, forgot to boil the jug though.

Yellow NO PARKING lines will appear outside 42 Rapaki Street soon; Debbie had her car stopped there and was visiting when the man of the house decided to go off in his vehicle and backed out... you can guess the rest..

Mind you it happens all the time, just ask Annette or Eddy, as for me,

backing over the whitebait net doesn't count.

The flag pole is up, thank you to Chaddy and we are enjoying the flags. Capt. Morgan was first, then NZ, then Canada, (to welcome some special friends). We watch with interest to see what's next.

Congratulations to Ben and Rosie on the birth of their baby boy.

Market Day this year was great, a big Thank You to everyone for their help and support, those who donated and those who shopped, those who cooked and those who ate, you made the day a success.

A special Thank You to those who donated goodies for our raffles:

Kevin Dais & Michael Hearsay
Dean & Cate Smith /Dublin St Butchery
Turakina Service Station
Shona Walsh /Cafe Du Monde
Barbara Bowness /Red Bach Gallery
Trevor & Jeanette Jurgens
Keith Gray

Raffle results:

Raffle 1;

Firewood - #125 James Bryant
\$50 Meat - #251 Robin Millan
\$30 Petrol & Cafe Du Monde vouchers
- #30 Debbie Richdale

Raffle 2;

Copper Fantails - #72 Ross Sharp
Whitebait - #105 Debra Peck
Knives Block - #34 Gay Hammond

Blokes in the village seem to think scones are the order of the day.. One lovely lady who was feeling the pressure made scones two weekends in a row and even delivered them, only to find ... nobody home; Davey you should have been there, jam and cream, mmm..

The Melbourne Cup 2015 afternoon at the hall was as noisy as usual. The hats were on, the pools were all sold, the race was run, the place-getters declared, the jubilant winners queued up for Eddy to pay them their winnings, the TV turned off and disconnected, the drinks were finished and the crowd dispersed until they return again on the first Tuesday of November 2016.

The beach and river mouth is always changing and this year has seen it up at the top of the beach and now moving back down, this has tempted some to take risks and drive in to the soft sand, those who help pull them out, thank you, it can all get a bit frustrating,

White-baiting was a mixed season with weather and floods all playing their part, but that's fishing. Some have already been trying out the rods and long lines so good luck for the summer.

Christmas Pot Luck dinner was a happy affair which was enjoyed by all. From Joan, our oldest resident, to Felix and Oscar who are nearly our youngest, it was great to share the occasion with you all.

Next Pot Luck Dinner will be February 6th 2016. 5:30pm Everyone is welcome, visitor, camper, weekender, we would love you to come and join us.

This is Waitangi Weekend, so we can all enjoy a long weekend.

Greyhound Racing Trip is being organised for Friday evening, 12th February 2016

This was great fun last time, and all who went will be there again I'm sure. Please phone Jim Mant 327 3909.

Red Bach Gallery Notice: Due to surgical running repairs on her "copper-hammering-arm" Barbara will be unable to operate Red Bach Gallery for quite some time. The gallery will be closed until further notice from Barbara; please pass this info on to your visitors.

Additional copies of the Wanganui Phone Book are available from Joan at 46 Wainui Street if required.

The Koitiata History project is 'progressing' with Eddy now being ably helped by Joyce & Peter Smith. It is planned that the main collection of close to 1000 photos, video, documents, maps, newspaper clippings that record our history will be published on our Koitiata/History web site page. It is also envisaged that some form of printed version will be created, by necessity a summary of our history.

BUT there are gaps in the collection. If you have, or know of other (family?) sources of photos or any other records of stuff that happened in our village please contact Eddy. We only need to copy your photos or other documents, and all will be returned after copying. Early in the new year a selection of our history collection will be posted on koitiata.co.nz to give you a taste of what's on hand; advice will be emailed when this happens.

Koitiata Matters May 2016

Welcome, The summer has been a real treat with some fabulous warm days and a few fish being caught.

Fishing from a boat can be quite an adventure, Daisy has been out to sea and done his man over board drill, or may-be he was just testing the water temperature, but it's a wee reminder to please play safe.

Kontiki fishing is such fun, one man with his brand new kontiki pulled it in on his first ever set and was rapt to see fish, came back the next day hopeful for more good luck. While it was going out it snagged the surf cast rod and that too head out to sea. Great surprise, when it was winched in, more fish and the rod was still attached, that's fishing. Jeanette's brother will be back again soon!

One gentleman got the boat attached to the tractor to go fishing and had an issue before even leaving his section. When he started the tractor it was in gear with a mind all of it's own, it ended up with it's wheels spinning, boat pointing skywards in a bit of a swamp. One new gate post and a bit of fence to repair, not sure if the air was blue but I bet there was steam... Dean is sure that it won't catch him off guard again.

Jeanette's brother has really got the fishing bug now... pulled in a 16.5 kilo kingfish on his long line on the beach. Now I can just see the excitement that caused. Well done Neville.

Our friendly butcher had a very mad crew member the other day, not hopping mad though, as he waved and flapped his arms around, Dean was trying to decipher the message..... Russell did manage to (tell !) him the trailer wheel was on his foot! But only after Dean had stopped to see what he wanted.....

Is Anyone needing a hand? Racheal is looking for work and is willing to do cleaning and odd jobs during school hours, please phone 027 277 7525.

Fishing has been a bit up and down but some men have been able to just pull them from the surf, Trevor was down having a swim and came home with 3 snapper, now that you can produce fish like that, some of us are waiting for water into wine, if you've got time Trevor... His mate came by in his boat, as he couldn't get close into shore he let the fish surf in tied to a float.

The trip to the grey hounds was a great success, the bus was loaded and departed on time, and some folk had been doing a little bit of research, and came armed with a few favourite picks, but the most excitement had to be Sharon's win on the last race. Good time had by all and a big thank you to Jim for organising the trip.

We have our own Avon lady in the village. Vicki can be contacted 027 420 4455 or robandvic@xtra.co.nz . Some of you blokes may find this a great chance to do birthday and other special occasion shopping without having to go to town... just a thought...!

The prize fish catching kontiki has hit a snag, Neville watched the water for hours with fingers crossed but no sign, it was truly stuck, but we hear from somebody who was there that a couple of blokes have retrieved it, *yeah!*, but have not returned it to Neville, even though it was very clearly marked with his details, *boo!* He would still love to get it back, no questions asked.

A bit like the theft of Tam's trailer ... someone in the village is suspected of being involved in that bit of low life activity ... but *you* were seen and The Plod knows who you are.

The hay bales have been spread over the sand blow to try and stabilise the sand, it will be planted also so please do not drive on it, thank you to the burly men of the beach who rolled the bales out by hand, and thanks to Jeanette and Barbara for bringing morning tea down to them.

We wish all those who are moving the very best on their new adventures. You will all be missed very much.

A very warm welcome to those moving in. We hope you all get settled in and look forward to meeting you.

New Zealand Sign Language taster class Sunday 29th May, 3 – 4pm at the hall, this is a free class for deaf awareness and has been kindly organised by one of our new families, as we will have two hearing impaired children in our village it would be great to be able to show our support. Please contact Katie, txt 027 464 1007 or email katie.mcmenamin@yahoo.co.nz

Daisy and Judy were seen this afternoon on what could only be described as a wild goose chase, they were hot on the trail of two adorable wee dogs that had escaped from their home, and I don't think they were in any hurry to give up their freedom, Daisy was driving while Judy was doing all the running. I hope the adorable wee dogs and Judy weren't too tired after their outing.

Big thank you to our rural fire brigade, they applied for a grant and have now installed fire alarms with a 10 year life into the houses at the beach, this has been quite a job to catch everybody and a few holiday homes are still to be caught up with. Thanks again.

Thanks also to Powerco Trust. The committee applied for a grant and have received \$7,500 which will be used to continue with the upgrade at the hall. The lowering of the ceiling has worked magic with the acoustics and all of this is achieved with the hard work of the committee, so big thank you to you folks also who do the hard yards on behalf of Koitiata.

If you are a new resident and want to be on the Koitiata Email List send your email address to: koitiata@gmail.com . The list is confidential and only used for Koitiata Matters, other newsletters and community notices.

It's Koitiata Phone Directory update time again. Listing is voluntary but it is good security if the directory includes a contact phone number for all property owners, whether permanent or "weekenders".

You can list your home number and/or mobile. Space dictates only one listing per Koitiata address and only two phone numbers per listing; e.g. 1 land-line+1 mobile, or 2 mobiles. Send amendments etc via email to koitiata@gmail.com or phone Eddy 06 327 3676

Koitiata History project is progressing. The collection of stuff that records our history is currently being allocated into the subject headings that will be the Koitiata/History pages on our web site. Also a draft of the printed summary booklet has been designed and costed.

It is possible if all goes to plan that there will be some type of history preview at the Queen's Birthday weekend Pot Luck. A confirmation notice will be emailed a few weeks prior; keep the date free.

We are still also aiming to have a selection of our history collection posted on the Koitiata web site to give you a taste of what's on hand; advice will be emailed when this happens.

BUT there are gaps in the collection. If you have, or know of other (family?) sources of photos or any other records of stuff that happened in our village please contact Eddy, (06) 327 3676 or email at koitiata@gmail.com

Inspire.net switched on our working internet access five years ago next week and it has turned out to be a world class service. It's a pity that one of our "*always on TV telling us how great they are*" phone companies can't provide us with more than a 'third-world' mobile phone service!

A very warm welcome to those who have recently moved to our wee corner of the world, we know you'll love it as much as we do.

The Koitiata Residents Committee AGM was well attended and the minutes from the meeting are on the notice board in the porch at the hall.

Koitiata Centennial Celebrations

11 February 2017

These are some of the details with some others to be finalised.

A catered evening meal at Koitiata.

A booklet outlining the history.

(any historical photos would still be welcome please)

Centennial stone is in position opposite the playground, will have a plaque unveiled on the day.

Guest speakers.

A centennial flag competition is running at the moment.

A competition for beach wood and coastal gems has been requested along with a cake making competition (with a beach theme)

Community will be asked to get involved with a centennial parade (more later).

Static and working displays of vintage machinery.

A huge thank you to those people who are organising this occasion for us, you are few in number with a big job, involving lots of time and effort, thank you again.

Pot luck dinner was again a super evening and it's always great to meet new people and catch up with each other. 1st October, 5.30pm for the next one.

The Hall looks fabulous with the new wall covering, it has made a huge difference to the acoustics, and was also noticeably warmer

as well. Thank you again to Powerco trust for making this possible. The exterior of the hall will be painted when the warmer weather allows.

Turakina Tennis Club Bingo Evening Friday 16th September from 6.30pm onwards at the Ben Nevis Hotel, all welcome.

Market Day At the Hall

Saturday 22nd October. 9am-2pm

Bargains galore, Hot food, Morning teas, and lots of stalls.

Please start sorting your unwanted treasures for donation to the white elephant stall.

A letter from the family of Trish Dooney.

On behalf of Tom and the Family I would like to take the opportunity to thank the community for all of their help and support during this period.

Special thanks and acknowledgement must go to "Piesy" and Gill for their assistance given to Tom until family could arrive and all of the assistance since the passing of Mum. A mention to Hogg for "suing up" and running the service, Mum would have loved seeing him cleaned up!

Also special thanks to the Rural Fire Brigade and Koitiata Social Committee for all of the assistance in holding Mum's service.

Mum always said Koitiata was her special place, the love, support and unconditional offers of help during this awful period proves that the people in this community are also very special.

As a family it was good for our souls to see all of Mum's whitebaiting, country music and community friends come together to share their memories of Mum.

So once again thank you to the special folks of Koitiata.

Now I know you all love to feature in the news letter but you're all being very well behaved...mostly...



Paul and Marie have recently had a holiday in Phuket, well we know they had a wonderful time, Chaddie tells me his face is sunburnt, I'm wondering if his blood pressure might have gone up a little, I'm sure he knows those legs reach his waist...

A gent was seen mowing grass (quite a lot of a paddock) and had to walk home to get his lovely wife to drive the rav and pull his ute off the lump it was parked (bellied) on.

STUCK! has to go to the white ute on the beach that the tide and time is dealing to at the moment. Let that be a lesson to those sightseers that think driving along the beach is a walk in the park!

One local didn't make it to the beach without a whoopsie moment. Yes Davey you were seen hooking the boat trailer back on to the tractor down by the playground.

A new couple to the village are already fitting in well, they are discovering all the lumps and bumps of Koitiata. Lynda has been bellied on the bike with Ken riding to the rescue, then Ken has discovered yes, we do need a WOF, then there's that culvet that can push you over the edge...good fun.

Nice to see Jenny walking again after having broken her ankle, Russell can now put his nurses outfit away...

The battle with the sandblow is on going, thank you to all those involved, the fence from horizons has sand building up around it, so hopefully will slow the creeping sand from entering the playground.

We have a number of children living at the beach now, please remember to drive carefully and help to keep them all safe. As the weather warms up and more people walk along the beach track please be aware if you are driving, as little people can be difficult to see, and they are so busy they will not realise you are there.

Latest updates are on the Facebook page. Eddy does a great job keeping the information flowing, but he needs you to keep him in the loop too.

Spring is here and with it the wind (must be whitebaiting season), Happy firewood gathering and happy fishing. Just all remember to stay safe.

Koitiata Matters - August 2017

The Koitiata Matters newsletter has been given a reboot with this edition. This issue is a transition, being the last issue from Suzi as editor and is a catch up with some of what has been happening in 2017. *(More on the new Koitiata Matters team later in this issue.)*

A warm welcome to all who are new residents of Koitiata. We welcome you into our community, no matter whether you are permanent or 'weekend' residents.

Koitiata celebrated its 100th birthday at the beginning of the year. It was a successful day for those involved in giving their time and effort to organise the event.

Many current and previous residents gathered to share the day and evening. Those attending who had lived at the beach and others who had holiday and weekend memories took the chance to catch up.

A parade of vintage vehicles, tractors, cars and local floats was held to launch the day with a commemorative rock being unveiled later.

The afternoon included a guest speaker, David Young author of "Coast", and cutting of the cake by Joan Shadbolt, (our oldest resident), and Judy Wilson, (our longest permanent resident).

"100 Years At The Beach" by Eddy Mason. We applaud you, we cannot even guess at the time that has been spent searching, trolling, reading, eating and sleeping this book to get it to what we are now all able to hold in our hand and read.

Thank you so much for your dedication. The History web-site and the book are fabulous assets for our community and they are now being enjoyed by us all.

" THANK YOU EDDY "

New BBQ at the park is operated by \$2 coins, with its walls and roof this will be very popular with visitors. *(A community potluck BBQ & Petanque event?)*

The sand stabilisation held up well to the winds. Thank you to all those involved in the bark spreading as this involved many men and their shovels and forks for quite a few mornings. Also, a big thanks to Hogget and The Plains for the use of the tractors. The area has been planted, with the help of the South Makirikiri School senior pupils, RDC and locals.

The School bus is now collecting and dropping off 7 children from Koitiata. Please remember the legal speed is **20km per hour** past the bus when it is stationery at Andrew Major's gateway. Some people are driving past too fast! Please keep our children safe.

And talking about young people, Angela's family went to the aid of a visitor who was stuck down the beach. They went home and got shovels and helped dig him out. Great to see young folk around enjoying the Koitiata life and helping when they can.

Tractor driver trainer wanted. Jo, who claimed to have a lot of experience driving tractors, borrowed a tractor to take some girls for a trip to the beach. All aboard and set to go, but after a dragster like take-off the front wheels are seeing air, and Jo turns to find all the passengers on their backs on the ground.. It's ok Jo, they should have been holding on tighter!

And now what-you-see-down-the-beach subjects; men really are DIY at heart. When your quad bike won't start, and you're down the beach it is a b..... nuisance. But Dr John has the answer, a very big hammer and a TAP in the right place and you're away..

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While fishing down the beach, and poking around while waiting for fish to bite, Russell found a bottle on the beach. This one had a piece of paper inside, so home it went to be dried out. After drying and carefully retrieving from inside the bottle, a traffic infringement notice appears. It was for someone with date of birth 29/3/85, issued at 10:06 on 10/12/03, in Heads Rd, Wanganui, to the driver of a Mitsubishi for not wearing a seatbelt, \$150 fine. The ticket does look very tatty and faded and hasn't gone far; it just took a while.

Whitebaiting is just about here again but this tale from last year is timeless. It's one of those *"the things you see while down the beach and I wish I had a camera"* moment.

Trevor was whitebaiting at the river mouth last year, in his black wetsuit, and right in front of his net is a seal, just floating there looking up at him. Now there could be several things going on here; was it mustering whitebait or wanting a share, or was it looking up and thinking ... come and play. Or was it looking at Trevor and thinking, are you my mother? Another of life's little mysteries.

Another amazing sight was being at the river to see the launch of Ken and Lynda's barge. It was backed into the water, Barbara loaded the quad bike on. Off they went to the other side of the river, unloaded the quad and drove off up the beach. Well done Ken we thought, *(but he wasn't finished making beach stuff yet!)*

The Labour Weekend Market Day is the community's main fund-raising effort and this year it will be held on Sat 21st October. Please start thinking about unwanted goods to donate for sale by the Residents Committee, treasure only please. If you require more information, phone Suzi 327 3870 or Lynda 327 3829.

This issue of Koitiata Matters is the last of many great editions from Suzi Bryant. Every editor adds their touch and Suzi has always managed to come up with some great little tales of the mishaps and goings on from within our seaside community. Thanks heaps Suzi! *(See how Suzi gets out of sticky situations on our web-site).*

Suzi has handed over the reins to a new Koitiata Matters team, Lynda Marsh and Eddy Mason. *(Yes, it will take two to replace Suzi.)*

There are a few changes being made to the way the newsletter is to be distributed and the form it takes.

1. To enable content to be more topical, the focus will be on frequently posting items onto the www.koitiata.nz/news page. We will be able to include colour photos, plus include links to other information. A link to the printed issues will be included on the website.

2. The printed issues will be a less frequent collation of the web site content, without the colour photos or links to other items.

3. Email advice of new Koitiata Matters news *(and other notices)* is sent to all on our email list. If you have changed your email, are new in the village, or if you have email but don't get our emails send a message to koitiata@gmail.com to be added, *(our village email list is confidential)*.

POT LUCK DINNER

1st Saturday each month, 5.30pm at the Hall. Next is on 2nd September.

Everyone is welcome, this is a great way to meet the folk of the village, not to mention the delicious food ...

CRAFT GET TOGETHER

This is an informal gathering that is held every 2nd Wednesday at 1.30pm at the Hall. Next is on 30th August.

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Koitiata Matters - September 2017

Surprise! Another issue of Koitiata Matters.

A few items were left out of the August issue due to space, these are included in this issue. There are additional items/photos on the web-site version on the /News page.

The Koitiata Residents Committee Annual General Meeting was held at the end of July. A full copy of the minutes is available on the Koitiata web-site.

AGM summary; Keith Gray resigned as chairman, Jeanette Jurgens and Marie Cairns also resigned. Annette George and Merle Benson resigned from the social committee.

Koitiata Residents' Committee members for 2017/18 are;

James Bryant (Chairman) 3273870, Alan Benson (Dep Chair) 9270791, Jim Mant, Robert (Hog) Doughty, Keith Grey, Russell Mason, Merle Benson, Kate Pearse, Ken Gillon, Peter McDonnell.

Village Maintenance Committee; Trevor Jurgens, Jim Mant & Ken Gillon.

Social Committee; Suzi Bryant, Debbie Collins, Veronica Greenhorn, Lynda Marsh, Jeanette Jurgens, Angie Ford.

The community thanks those who have been, those who remain, and those new members of our committees. We have had a residents' committee in one form or another since 1917; it's the glue that keeps together a strong community in our village.

Committee meetings are held at 7.30pm on the 1st Wednesday of each month. All residents are welcome to attend the monthly meetings.

If you have any village issues or suggestions you want brought to the committee's attention, you can attend the meetings or talk to any of the Residents' Committee members listed, (*phone numbers & addresses are in Village Directory*). Or you can send questions and/or suggestions via an email to koitiata@gmail.com

Working Bee at lookout on edge of domain, Sat 16th Sept. Contact Keith 327 3985.

Koitiata Rural Fire Force News. As of the 1st of July, the New Zealand Fire Service became FENZ (Fire and Emergency New Zealand) which now incorporates the Rural Fire Force previously administered by the local council. Whilst it is early days the future looks good for our village with further training for our members being offered, a replacement 4wd Fire Truck, and a 4wd Toyota Double Cab which will offer us more versatility both in the forest area and on the beach.

Our Fire Force members are looking forward to receiving some First Aid Training to enable us to become a Community First Response Team which can only benefit the community we all live in.

If you feel you can give a few hours on the first Sunday morning every month at 0900hrs (when the siren sounds) please come along and see if it is a bit of you as new recruits are more than welcome and don't forget that "you get out of a community what you put into it"

Alan Benson, Fire Force Controller

Market Day is 6 weeks away on 21st Oct. and the Social Committee is getting it organised.

Donated goods are wanted for the White Elephant stall; these can be left with Jenny Mason at 10 Omanu street, (327 3870).

Stall Holders are still required. If you want a stall or know of anybody who may wish to have a stall, please phone Suzi at 327 3870.

It's Koitiata Phone Directory update time again. It is good security for the community if the directory includes a contact phone number for all property owners, whether permanent or "weekenders".

Please note that (a) listing is voluntary, and (b) the directory is distributed to all Koitiata properties and is for residents use only. (*cont.*)

If you do not have a land-line connected in Koitiata you can list your out of town home and/or your mobile number.

Space dictates only one listing per Koitiata address and only two phone numbers per listing, land-line and or mobiles.

Please check your current listing and advise of any errors/amendments. Send your new numbers and/or amendments via email to koitiata@gmail.com or phone Lynda at 06 327 3829 or Eddy at 06 327 3676.

Reminder: Do you have your email address on the Koitiata Email List? Have you recently changed it? Or are you a new resident? If you didn't get this via your email address you are not on the list. It's your choice, but you may miss out on **email-only-notices**. Send your email address to koitiata@gmail.com. The Koitiata email list is only used for community info/notices and not available to or for use by any other parties.

A rumour heard during the week, the wild seas were coming right over at high tide and dumping whitebait onto the beach. It was just a matter of being there at the right time and having the suitable gear to hand to scoop them up. Heard that someone managed to fend off all the gulls and get themselves a good feed just after high tide on Friday. Sorting the sand from whitebait was an issue.

Talking about strange sights on the beach, have you seen that big-wheeled LaserJet on the beach. No doubt about it, he's got too much time on his hands! (*Photo on web site*).

Did you know we have Neighbourhood Watch (*now called Neighbourhood Support*) in our village? Jeanette Jurgens is the village chief, give her a ring if you need to know more on 327 3901.

And Jeanette is getting in early and looking for donated goods for the Xmas Hamper raffle. If you know what's good for you you'll cough up; contact Jeanette at 42 Rapaki St or phone her on 327 3901.

There are still some copies of the "100 Years At The Beach" (Koitiata History) books available if you would like a copy for other family members or friends. Contact Eddy at 327 3676 or koitiata@gmail.com

A letter to the community;

Dear neighbours,

My name is Jo Anson and I have recently moved into the village full time at 43 Rapaki St. I'm really looking forward to getting involved with my new community and have been thinking about what it is that I can contribute.

I have worked for the past 30yrs in the cancer field, firstly as a radiation therapist (treating cancer) and more recently working with hospitals and other services to improve cancer services for patients. So, I know a lot about cancer, cancer services and what is available to support people at the time.

If you or your whanau have questions about cancer or accessing services I would be very happy to come and have a chat and if I am not able to answer your questions I should be able to link you into someone that can. Please call in and say hi or give me a ring and I can come and see you. 027 446 3261

Thank you to those who have already warmly welcomed me into this community and I look forward to getting to know more of you.

Pot Luck Dinner: 1st Saturday each month, 5.30pm at the Hall. Next is on 7th October.

Everyone welcome, a great way to meet the village people, and always delicious food ...

Craft get together; An informal gathering every 2nd Wednesday at 1.30pm at the Hall. Next is on 13th Sept.

Koitiata Web Site has some new pages under the new *Community* menu. The *Community* page will have information & photos about the 'organised' stuff that goes on in our village. The *What's On* page is the full Events Calendar and the *Residents Committee* page is for meeting minutes and any other relevant documents. The AGM & Aug minutes are available now. Check it out at www.koitiata.nz

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The last newsletter for 2017, printed, but there may be a Web Update in December.

Yes, it is only five weeks till Xmas. So, to help you get in the mood for Xmas, there are two Xmas events in the village on Saturday 2nd December.

Father Christmas is coming to Koitiata. Bring the pre and primary school aged children to the Sausage Sizzle being held at the Koitiata play ground on Saturday 2nd December. Starting at 12pm, it will be a great day to have some family time with the kids and the grandchildren. They are all welcome. *(For more info; Suzi 327 3870)*

Then the **Big Xmas Pot Luck Dinner** in the hall on Saturday 2nd December, starting at 5.30pm. Come along and join in. Wear your Xmas hat. Or wear some mistletoe, you never know your luck!

2017 Market Day was a great success. A *Big Huge* thank you to all those who donated goods, fire wood, whitebait and to the many who helped on the day.

Well done to the social committee for making it another fantastic fund-raising event. Special thanks go out to Cafe Du Monde, Dublin Butchery and the Turakina Mobil Garage, for their kind donations for the raffle prizes.

Raffle winners:

Firewood 1st – Ray & Shirley
Firewood 2nd – Mrs Turtle
Whitebait – Ben Nevis
Meat Voucher – Jo Robinson
Lunch Voucher – Ben Nevis
Petrol Voucher – Eddy Mason

And especially, thanks to all residents and visitors who attended and spent generously.

There is a profit of \$3106.00 from Market Day this year. If you have any suggestions as to what projects you would like village funds to be spent on, or anything you don't want funds spent on, let the Residents Committee know. It's your community!

You can attend the monthly meetings (*1st Tuesday each month*), or talk about community matters with any of the Residents' Committee members, (*listed at end of newsletter; phone numbers & addresses are in Village Directory*). Or you can send questions and/or suggestions via an email to koitiata@gmail.com

Hats off to those who made this year's Melbourne Cup a fun filled afternoon. About 30 people attended the 12th Koitiata Melbourne Cup event and as finer array of hats as ever were on display.

Lyn came fully dressed to ride a winner around the hall and fortunately Jim left his horse suit at home this year, (*but he did look charming in his bright pink cowboy hat*). There was even a strange new Scotsman in attendance this year. *(photo in web version)*

FENZ has a new appliance truck. A Hino and the crew have had a play and found it fit for purpose. Also, a 4WD double cab Ute will be arriving in the next week to complete the fleet. *(FENZ - Fire & Emergency NZ)*

Misadventures on the beach seem to be a family thing, well for one family anyway.

The slow driving local in a blue ute had the misfortune of not going fast enough and got stuck in the soft loose sand on the beach. His beloved wife was summoned and rescued him with the 4-wheeler. What would you do without her James?

Saturday Donuts in the domain turned pear shaped for three young guys, (*that's a polite term relative to what the locals used*).

Whilst doing donuts in their white car they managed to peel some tyres off their rims. Yes, they got the wrath of some adjacent residents and then they had to endure a long wait for assistance.

And while we're on about people whose behaviour suggests they are possibly 'one-short-of-a-six-pack'; the white marker post with orange arrows, which marked the turn-off from the walking track beside the forest, has been "removed". If you come across it lets know. (*photo in web version*)

While we are on signs, thanks heaps to Ken Gillon for his effort replacing the Green Waste sign. A man of many talents.

There have been a few issues of late with the way some people have been dumping at the Green Waste area. Please note that it's for green waste only and please be mindful of where you unload your trailer or ute. Please ensure there is room for others who follow and try to get right up to the face.

Thanks heaps to Terry for using his digger to give the Green Waste area a tidy up.

Have you seen the new Rapaki Street commercial fisherman in his shiny aluminium boat? He'll be taking orders shortly for his catch. That's if Mike catches anything.

The new Phone Directory update is close to print time! And as is usual, getting up-to-date details is a bit like getting blood out of stone.

If you value the Directory, do your bit and check that your new neighbours have provided their details. Tell them about the security benefits of the directory including a contact phone number for all properties, whether they are permanent or weekend residents.

Pot Luck Dinner: 1st Saturday each month, 5.30pm at the Hall. Next is on 2nd December. Everyone welcome, a great way to meet the village people, and always delicious food ...

There will be NO Pot Luck in January; next after Xmas is 3rd Feb 2018.

Craft get together: an informal gathering every 2nd Wednesday at 1.30pm at the hall. Next is on 22nd November.

The last before Xmas will be on 6th December, starting again in 2018 as from 14th February.

The Koitiata Web Site has a *What's On* page with a full **Events Calendar** for village events. If you need to know when the next Potluck, Committee Meeting etc is on, it's all there for you to use.

The *Residents Committee* page has meeting minutes and any other relevant documents available. Check it out at www.koitiata.nz

Resident's Committee meetings have been changed to the 1st **Tuesday** of each month, at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend the monthly meetings.

Residents' Committee:

- James Bryant (Chairman) 327 3870
- Alan Benson (Dep Chair) 927 0791
- Jim Mant, Robert (Hog) Doughty, Keith Gray, Russell Mason, Merle Benson, Kate Pearse, Ken Gillon, Peter McDonnell.
- Social Committee: Suzi at 327 3870

MERRY
CHRISTMAS

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