



Waitakere Ranges Protection Society Inc

Waitakere Ranges Protection Society Inc.
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news

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Issue 150 August 2011

Your President's Report



This newsletter has introductions to our two new committee members Paul Walbran and Nardia Yozin who were voted in at the AGM in March. Paul's long experience as an Auckland Regional councillor and Nardia's degree in planning have already proved valuable to the committee. There is also an update from Watercare Services on their progress to provide compensation flows from the five Waitakere Dams and we are hopeful that the 35-year consents which were initiated in 2005 will soon be signed off by Auckland Council.

As reported in our last newsletter, the Society is now in discussions with the Auckland Council about (Waitakere Ranges) Plan Changes 35, 36, 37 to which we are an appellant. Together with these, we have longstanding appeals relating to the subdivision of two properties in the Henderson Valley which can now be progressed with Council and the Environment Court.

We have made submissions and are awaiting Council's decisions on the Auckland Council's Spatial Plan which is a long-term vision for the future of Auckland, and on the Waitakere Ranges Local Board Draft Annual Plan. The two groups that have conducted canyoning operations at Karekare and Piha since 1998 have applied for renewal of their concessions to occupy parkland and we are in discussion with the Council and the operators.

Our Oral History project has completed another stage with

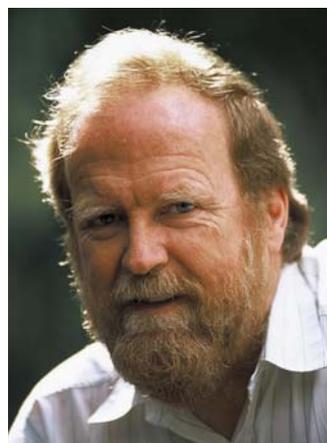
interviews by Anna Fomison of Jack Colmar, Geoff Davidson and Dave and Barbara Harre. This stage was funded with a grant from Waitakere City Heritage Fund. We have Lotteries funding for the next stage which is already underway. Since we began in 2004 we have interviewed 17 people, and the recordings and transcripts are lodged with the Alexander Turnbull and Auckland Libraries.

We are still looking for a volunteer to assist Sandra Jones with the Society's quarterly newsletter, and as the summer comes we will be grateful for help coordinating our presence at events and festivals. Anyone interested in helping out can call me on 8187447.

Thank you to all members who have renewed their membership this year and for those of you who were able to make a donation to the Society's work. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

John Edgar
President

New Committee Members – Profiles



Paul Walbran

Paul has lived in Laingholm for over 30 years, is married with 4 adult sons and is the proprietor of a small family motor trade business.

He was active in the Manukau Harbour Protection Society for many years, including as the society's president, and has been closely involved with major initiatives which

have seen big improvements in the health of the harbour, including the upgrade of the sewage plant at Mangere.

Paul spent several terms on the Auckland Regional Council, the last two as its planning chair. During his time on council he was closely involved with measures to improve sustainability in Auckland and had a particular interest in the environmental area. He is also chairman of the Environmental Advisory Group to Watercare, an independent panel of environmental advocates.

Paul moved to the west attracted by the bush and the coast and has a long standing interest in seeing that the values of these are preserved, and welcomes the opportunity to contribute to this through his involvement with the Waitakere Ranges Protection Society.



Nardia Yozin

Nardia has grown up in Swanson, but moved into the city after her first year to be closer to work and University. She became involved in the Waitakere Ranges Protection Society through her parents Anne and Maurice Yozin.

Nardia is a current student at The University of Auckland. She finished her Bachelor of Planning Degree with Honours in 2010 and is now completing a Masters of Professional Studies in International Relations and Human Rights. Alongside her Masters she is also studying German and French.

Nardia has a strong interest in all aspects of sustainability and the environment. This interest started at High School through Geography, Biology and Horticulture which lead her to choose the Bachelor of Planning degree at The University of Auckland for her undergraduate studies. Nardia then chose to do her Masters in International Relations to get a better understanding of Government at an international level and to build on the local government knowledge she developed during her Bachelors. She plans on doing her Masters dissertation in post-crisis regeneration.

Nardia spent her last summer volunteering in Gvozd, central inland Croatia, before a little bit of travelling around Europe. She is also a Girl Guide leader for the Tahatu Unit in Mt Eden and her spare time is currently occupied with her University work and part time job at AUT University.

Nardia hopes to be able to bring what she has learnt during her planning degree to the Waitakere Ranges Protection Society and of course keep learning. She also hopes to get more youth involved in the protection of the Waitakere Ranges and in the Society itself.

WRPS Newsletter Email List

If you are receiving this newsletter by post but would prefer to receive it (as a .pdf file) by email, please let us know by emailing us at wrps@waitakereranges.org.nz. **You will have the added advantage of being able to view the photographs in full and glorious colour.**

Western Dams Consent Upgrades

Source: Suzanne Naylor, 18 July 2011

In 2005, resource consents were granted for the operation of the five Watercare water supply dams located in the Waitakere Ranges (Waitakere, Upper Nihotupu, Lower Nihotupu, Upper Huia and Lower Huia Dams). To ensure full compliance with these consents, physical works were required to be undertaken, particularly in regard to the provision of compensation and flushing flows.

Works at each of the Dams were undertaken in sequence to minimise any disruption to Auckland's water supply whilst ensuring the minimal amount of time was taken to gain full compliance with the resource consents.

- **Waitakere Dam.** Major site works were required at this dam which included the provision of a Free Discharge Valve, Compensation Valve, Intake Valves and associated pipework. Upgrades were also undertaken on the electrical and control systems as well as the installation of new meters to accurately record and transmit data. Construction commenced on site in August 2008 and all works were completed in December 2008. The provision of compensation flows began in December 2008 and the first flushing flow also occurred in December 2008.



Waitakere Dam Upgrade, October 2008

- **Upper Nihotupu Dam.** Major site works were required at this dam which included the provision of a Free Discharge Valve, Compensation Valve, Hydro-generators, Intake Valves and associated pipework. Upgrades were also undertaken on the electrical and control systems as well as the installation of new meters to accurately record and transmit data. Construction commenced on site in April 2009 and all works were completed in December 2009. The provision of

compensation flows began in September 2009 and the first flushing flow occurred in December 2009.



Upper Nihotupu Dam Upgrade, July 2009



Upper Nihotupu Dam Upgrade, October 2009

- Upper Huia Dam.** Major site works were required at this dam which included the provision of a Compensation Valve, Hydro-generators and associated pipework. Upgrades were also undertaken on the electrical and control systems as well as the installation of new meters to accurately record and transmit data. Construction commenced on site in April 2010 and primary works were completed in December 2010. Secondary works which include the installation of an additional Free Discharge Valve for dam safety reasons is currently underway and will be completed by December 2011. The provision of compensation flows began in June 2010 and the first flushing flow occurred in December 2010.



Upper Huia Dam Upgrade, March 2011



Upper Huia Dam Upgrade, March 2011

- Lower Huia Dam.** This Dam only required minimal electrical and control upgrades which was undertaken in 2008. A separate project is currently underway at Lower Huia Dam to replace the existing Free Discharge Valve for dam safety purposes. These works do not impact upon the compliance of the consents.
- Lower Nihotupu Dam.** This Dam only required minimal electrical and control upgrades which was undertaken in 2008.

In conclusion, all physical upgrades to the Western Dams to ensure compliance with resource consents are now complete. All other consent conditions i.e. native fisheries management, riparian planting, ecological monitoring, reporting and operational documentation have or are being met.

Your Committee

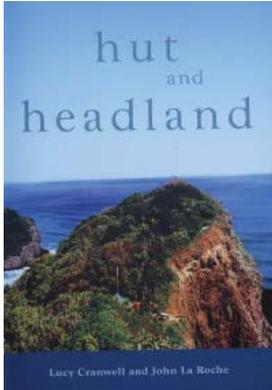
Committee meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month

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BOOKS FOR SALE

“HUT AND HEADLAND”

This is the story of the “Anawhata Hut” overlooking the Tasman Sea and Whites Beach.



For sale \$25 incl p&p

(WRPS receives part of the proceeds)

Lucy Cranwell & John La Roche, 2004. Publisher SBS, The University of Auckland. 77pp, incorporating many historical – present day photographs, in colour and b&w.

A plaque on the site reads:

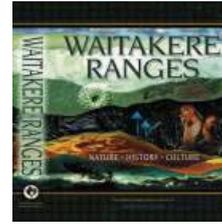
*The University Hut, Anawhata
1926-1998*

This plaque marks the site of a 12 bunk rimu hut that stood here for over 70 years, giving shelter to a stream of students and their friends. For many years it was a second home for the University Field Club.

The 7ha block of land was purchased by five Auckland University students in 1926 and the hut was constructed a year later.....

In 1966 the property was gifted to The University of Auckland. Although it survived a devastating fire in the surrounding forest and coastal scrub in 1950, the hut was destroyed by fire on Easter Saturday 1998.

“WAITAKERE RANGES”



Cost to members: \$85.00 incl p&p
First edition almost sold out

Name: _____

Address: _____

Number of “Waitakere Ranges” (\$85 ea): _____

Number of “Hut and Headland” (\$25 ea): _____

Phone number or email address (in case of queries):

PAY ONLINE:

- (1) Email your order information to the Treasurer at kemsdale@ihug.co.nz
- (2) Make online payment to Kiwibank:
 - “Waitakere Ranges” account number 38-9010-0379887-02
 - “Hut and Headland” account number 38-9010-0379887-01

OR

PAY BY CHEQUE: send your order and cheque to:
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PO Box 15668, Auckland, 0640.



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