



A weekly feature on the
communities in
Horowhenua & Kapiti

Caring for Our Community

This week's feature community - Waitarere Beach

Like many seaside towns along the West Coast, Waitarere Beach is experiencing growth and change but one thing remains constant—a desire to keep the town a wonderful place to live.

The residents of the friendly coastal town are justifiably proud of their community's assets and thanks for the excellent parks and facilities must go in large part to the Waitarere Beach Progressive and Ratepayers Association.

"The Ratepayers Association liaises between the council and the community to get things moving," said the president Harold Haley.

"We take up issues such as roading with council. We enjoy a very good working relationship with council - probably because we're prepared to help with the work," Mr Haley said.

With an active committee of eleven and plenty of volunteer support from the community they have

dedicated themselves to a number of projects in conjunction with the Horowhenua District Council over the last year.

The Waitarere Beach Domain has been improved and new play equipment installed, the skate board ramp has been repaired and repainted and Holmwood Park also has new play equipment.

The major project this year has been redeveloping the beach entrance and resealing the car park with dune planting designed to reduce the amount of wind-blown sand in the area.

In a real Kiwi spirit the people of the town were right behind the Waitarere Beach Ratepayers Association to renovate and paint the community hall where a kindergarten is held for the town's littlies and the Community Library is situated.

PAINTING THE WAITARERE COMMUNITY HALL



Residents - Ray Blackwood, Peter Wright (front), Mike Fletcher, Chris Judd.

In May 1997 the Ratepayers Association commissioned the Maritime Archeological Association of New Zealand to study the area's once famous landmark - the wreck of the Hyderabad. In recent years sand accretion has almost covered the wreck and the Association is now requesting MAANZ to align it with GPS (Global Positioning System) so the wreck's position can still be identified if it becomes completely buried.

"Most people can't even find it now - they look to the water's edge and it is just about swallowed up in the foot of the sandhills." Mr Haley said.

Preserving the town's assets that the community can enjoy is now the focus of the Waitarere Beach Ratepayers Association.

For more information contact the president, Harold Haley on 06 368 4941.

Adventure of the week

Great Forest Marathon

This annual event to be held this **Saturday, April 3** attracts thousands of runners and walkers to the picturesque tracks through the Waitarere Forest. Races distances are marathon and half marathon, 10 km and 5 km.

Details on (06)368 4067 or www.come.to/levinjwc

Business Breakfast

Wednesday April 7th,
7.15am - Cost \$15
Southwards Museum

Speaker - Clive Long
INNOVATIVE EDUCATORS

RSVP

Heather Meads (04) 904 5757

Ask Electra...

A regular column to answer your questions about Electra and its services

Question:

Who is Electra?

Answer:

Electra is the electricity lines company in Kapiti-Horowhenua that delivers electricity sales discounts as well as a reliable and efficient electricity supply to you.

Question:

Who owns Electra?

Answer:

Electra is owned by the Electra Trust. All consumers on our network are beneficiaries of the Trust - that is all households and business in the Kapiti Horowhenua region.

You automatically become a beneficiary of the Electra Trust when you connect your house to the Electra's network.

Question:

What is the Electra Sales Discount?

Answer:

Electra provides Kapiti & Horowhenua electricity users (the beneficiaries of the Electra Trust) with a sales discount every 6 months in April and October.

You receive your sales discount no matter which electricity retailer you use. The sales discount is highlighted on your electricity bill.

Buying a New Appliance?

Look to the stars

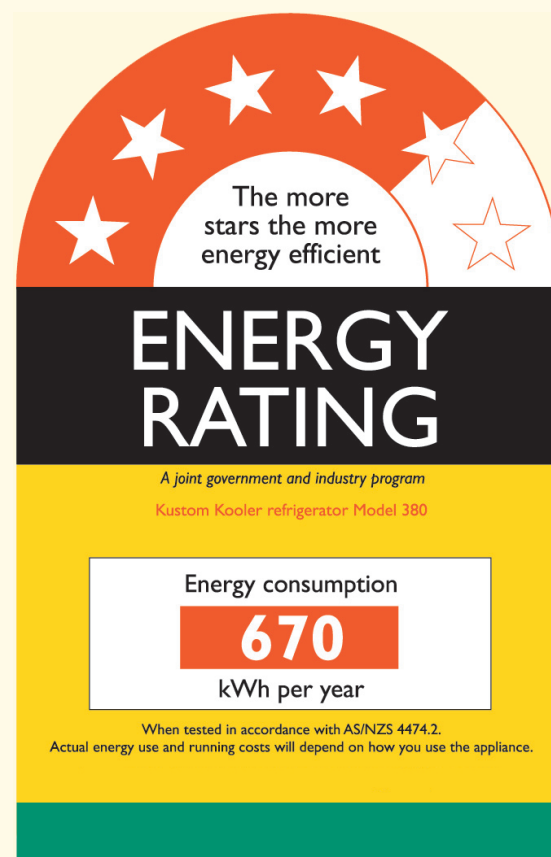
Have you noticed labels like the one pictured while out browsing your local appliance store? Wondered what they mean?

Over the next few weeks we will show you how the information on the energy label can help you to compare and choose whiteware that saves energy, reduces your power bills and helps the environment.

We will show you how to work out how much that fridge, freezer, washing machine, dryer and dishwasher costs to run. Differences between similar appliances can add up to hundreds of dollars over the time that you might keep them.

We'll also show you where to access comparative information on hundreds of appliances that have been tested to produce an energy label.

Use energy labels to do yourself a favour and help New Zealand to be more energy efficient at the same time.



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