

AVCA Newsletter



Arapuni Village Christmas Party

from 4:00pm  @ Village Hall

Saturday 11th December

Bouncy Castle, Games, Santa Photos
plus Live Music for the adults

Sausage Sizzle, BYO kai and refreshments

Note: Vaccination Passport required for over 12's

**Followed by the Arapuni Christmas Lights
Ramble from 8.30pm**

Presented by South Waikato District Council, Arapuni Village Committee Association
and Lottery Community

Chairperson's Intro

Olá from Maputo, Mozambique!

Yes, I'm currently in a much bigger 'village' supporting my son and his family as they deal with some of life's challenging 'curve balls'.

Ian remains in Arapuni holding the fort, coordinating Hall bookings and keeping the credit card topped up!

COVID has certainly made an impact all around the world and I think back to life in Arapuni last March/ April during our first lockdown. We really couldn't have been in a better place back then, and the village continues to be such a supportive and friendly place for us all.

And it is the spirit of that, which I am so happy to have been appointed Chair for AVCA for this year – albeit from afar currently. Our consultations last year regarding the DRAFT Long Term Plan, really reinforced what we all value as a community and we are so fortunate to be able to have had some excellent committee members working for the benefit of AVCA in the past years.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the outgoing members: Shannon Atwill, Nicki de Reus, Wendy Haig, Wendy Parker and Mark Brawn. They put in a huge amount of work not only last year, but in previous years to help represent our community. Thank you all for an amazing job!

Returning committee members Heather Cheer, Janice Abo Ganis and I are now joined by Jill Bradburn, Tawny Hardy, Lesley Hutton, Jo Norman and Liddy Aislabie - a really energetic and proactive group of people who just want the best for our village. Thank you so much for putting your hands up and for working so hard already to organise events for our village.

I am excited about the coming year and what we can achieve to keep our village the caring and supportive place it is.

We will continue to work on the issues which were raised with the South Waikato District Council during this past year and remain really committed to enhancing the safety of our village for all members of our community.

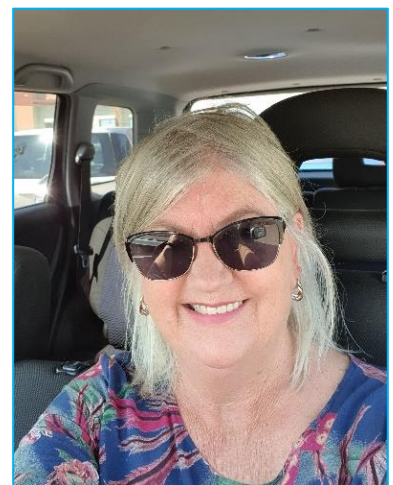
Please don't hesitate to contact any of our committee members should you have any suggestions, feedback or questions. We are there to represent the whole community!

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and special times with those who matter to you over the holiday season.

Keep safe

Raewyn Calvert

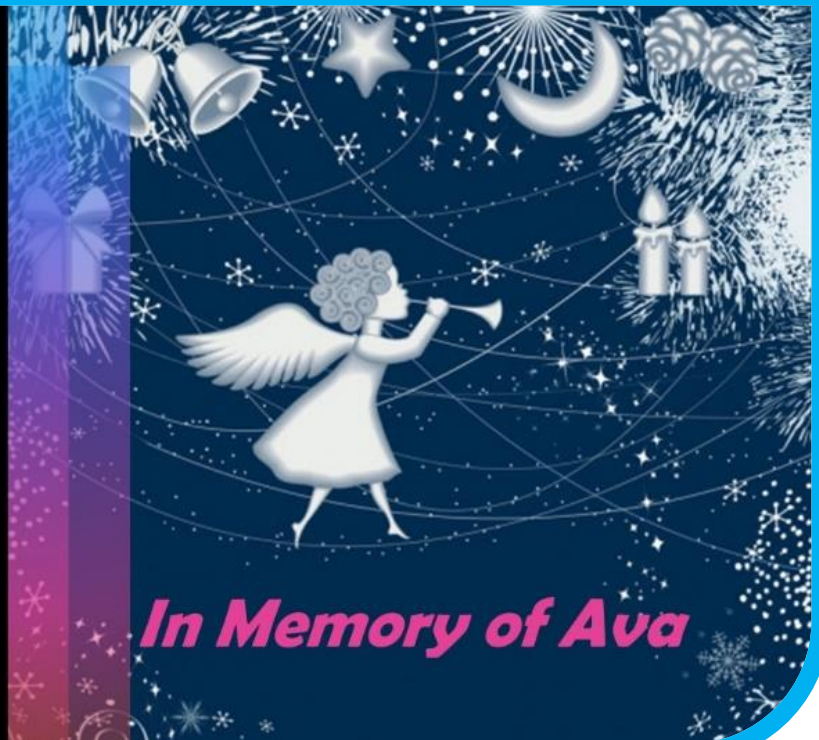
Chair



It's Sparkly Christmas Lights time!

Bling your home for the Arapuni Village Evening Ramble

Saturday 11 December



In Memory of Ava

Family Fun Day

Save the date:

Arapuni Waitangi

Family Fun Day

Sunday 6 February

3-7 pm

Arapuni Village Hall



ARAPUNI COMMUNITY LIBRARY
EVERY FIRST AND THIRD
SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
10AM-12AM AT THE HALL
ALSO LOOK OUT FOR THE LIBRARY
BOXES ABOUT THE VILLAGE AT
1120 ARAPUNI ROAD - 3 SEALY CRES
9 PIONEER CRES - 1269 ARAPUNI ROAD

 **Arapuni Village**
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Arapuni Village
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Doing stuff for Arapuni Village and the People who live here

Committee Members 2021/22

Raewyn Calvert	Chair-person and Council liaison
Liddy Aislabie	Secretary
Lesley Hutton	Treasurer
Janice Abo Ganis	Membership, Web, Facebook
Heather Cheer	Funding / Grants
Jo Norman	Civil Defence
Jill Bradburn	Phone Tree, Newsletter
Tawny Hardy	Everything else! (role vacated by Raewyn)

Contact us at:

- arapunivillage@gmail.com
- www.avca.co.nz
- Arapuni Village Grapevine (FB)
- Hall suggestion box

Committee Bios

Hi! I'm Raewyn Calvert and this is my second year on the AVCA committee I am delighted to be the newly appointed Chair and Council Liaison person for this year. I've been living here with my husband Ian in this gorgeous village for just over 2 years after fleeing Cambridge in search of a more peaceful life.

Initially from a teaching background, I moved into adult facilitation about 20 years ago and also spent at least 10 years as a cancer consumer representative. These days I focus mostly on my work as a celebrant - work I just love! I conduct mainly funerals, but weddings and other ceremonies as well.

Kia Ora. My name is Lesley and I've been in Arapuni for almost six months now. As a nature lover I was drawn to the area because of the trails, mountains and lakes.



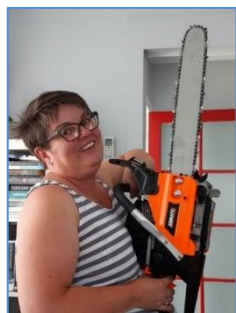
I am from Auckland and have also lived on the Thames coast, Wellington, Sydney and the Gold Coast. I spent 16 years living in South East Asia teaching and doing volunteer work with street animals. I'm a huge animal lover.

I've joined the committee as the treasurer and look forward to learning a new skill and being involved in our beautiful community. Ngā mihi.

Kia Ora, I am Janice and I have been living in the village for about eight years although I first bought my house here in 1999. I live with my partner John and granddaughter Milliana who is thirteen. Plus aging cat, young dog and three chickens. I am retired now but my working background is in photography, contemporary art, digital design and art education at high school and tertiary level.

I am now looking after AVCA membership, the website and Facebook Grapevine page. I have taken on the challenge of investigating ways and means in which the school buildings can be renovated to enhance our village. It is very much a work in progress. Watch this space.

Kia Ora. I am Liddy and I am new to AVCA. I grew up in Mahoenui, a small village in the King Country.



I moved to Hamilton for university, and there I stayed ... until my family of 1 husband (Garth) 1 daughter (Grace) and 1 dog (retired Greyhound Kay who considers herself head Queen of everything) and I escaped about 2 1/2 years ago and wound up in this little patch of paradise.

I work part time in Hamilton at Volunteering Waikato with the official title of Projects and Events Co-ordinator, and the unofficial responsibility of filling whatever role is needed in a small community organization. Hopefully this means I have a diverse range of skills that I can put to good use on the committee

Kia Ora, I am Jill and have lived in the village for just 8 weeks. Love it to bits already.



I work full-time as a Science Publication Coordinator at Plant & Food Research, Ruakura, Hamilton (although I hide at home often). My role is to coordinate the processes around scientists and their documentation, which is a bit like herding cats. I have had a range of positions in education and the corporate world and am happiest when creating spreadsheets or formatting documents.

I have lived in the Waikato for most of my life, but also escaped to Taranaki and Sydney for a few years many moons ago. I am a mad DIYer and also try to find time to garden, read and sew. I have joined the committee to meet people and get involved in the community. My roles are looking after the phone tree and newsletters.

Kia Ora, my name is Tawny Hardy, and I am new to the AVCA. I grew up in the village from 5 till 18, when



I joined the Army as a driver. I **worked in the old Working Men's Club with Lynn, when** I was a teenager and while studying automotive engineering, I have also done work experience with Morrie at the old garage.

I lived on the West Coast of the South Island, for 8 years, working at a Ski Field, cafes and with Department of Conservation for 5.5 years. I travelled to various parts of the world, and I volunteered as a First Responder with St John for 4.5 years. I found work at Kinleith as an Emergency Responder and moved back to the village the end of 2018. I am **working as Accounts Payable & H&S for Revital Group's 5 composting, aggregates, and quarry sites, plus our 8+ landscape sites in Auckland for a year now.**

Ricky and I purchased our first home in the village in February 2021 **(to my mother's relief)** with our fur baby Sylvie who will hopefully be an agility star one day.

Kia ora. My name is Heather Cheer and I have been the Grants and Funding Coordinator for AVCA for the last three years. I have lived in Arapuni for nine years, but visited my in-laws at the old service-station for several decades before that.



I grew up in West Auckland, studied nursing in London, and now work from home as part of a Nurse Liaison Team for Fertility Associates. I absolutely love living in the 'Puni. I love the clean air, the dramatic sunsets, the stately Maunga, the sense of community, the serenity and just the general vibe really!

I have two girls, ages six and eight, who also love being country kids, but would like to move so they can live in a two storey house. They would also like a horse, some llamas and a better dog than the one we have. I'm always happy to meet new people, so please come say hello at our next event.

Funding Update

Kia ora e te Whānau,

Thankfully, despite the Covid situation, funders are still very keen to look after small communities like ours and AVCA have been very fortunate to receive two substantial grants recently.

Firstly, \$5,000 funding from Lottery Community to be put towards community events and administrative costs, specifically associated with increasing community participation and engagement. We would love to hear your ideas about what sort of events or celebrations you would like to see, either via the Arapuni Grapevine or the Hall suggestion box.

Also, \$1,800 from a South Waikato District Council Community Development Grant towards our community external defibrillator (AED). Together with the \$750 received from Rural Communities Trust, we are nearly there, with just \$837 outstanding. We will aim to get this funding early next year to be able to finalise the project.

*Ngā mihi nui, Heather Cheer
Grants and Funding Coordinator*

Traffic update – quail signs at the west end of Arapuni Road

Liaison over the speeding through the village is an ongoing mission of AVCA, as many villagers can attest to this being a long-term issue for us. Police have been seen recently stopping speedsters, so long may this continue.

One of the initiatives has finally come to fruition, so we can just hope that the Quails can read as well as the motorists.



Civil Defence

Unfortunately, the recently planned CD simulation was cancelled due to lockdown, so watch for a new date next year.

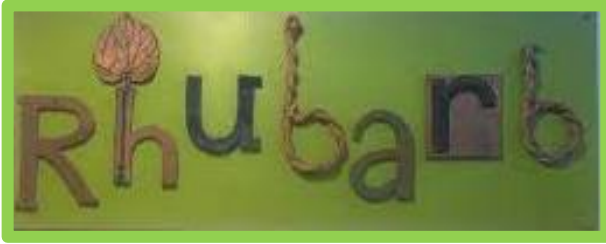
The CD phone tree is currently being updated.

If you have moved to the village recently or want to check your current details are correct, please contact Jill via arapunivillage@gmail.com

The phone tree is available via the Grapevine Facebook page. Details we need are:

- Address
- Name/s
- Contact number (this can be kept on our private emergency list if requested)
- Any special requirements during an emergency
- Any skills or equipment available





There was a good turn-out each time and a few mentioned that they would like them to happen again. So this will be a regular timeslot from next February. Come join us!

Residents at Rhubarb

Community Café – Second Sundays - 2pm

We have recently had two informal gatherings at the Rhubarb Café, advertised on Grapevine at short notice, while Waikato was under the Level 2 & 3 split.



Call for New Members

There is an opportunity for villagers to have input in what they would like to see happen in our village. AVCA is not the only way you can contribute but we are developing links in the community, initiating projects and successfully fundraising for these activities and would like to create a wider representation in our group. All are welcome. Membership is just \$10 a year. If you would like to join the Arapuni Village Community Association please contact Janice via arapunivillage@gmail.com or the website. AGM in September 2022.

Taoist Tai Chi for 2022 will recommence on the 18th January at Arapuni Hall. We have two sessions on a Tuesday morning. Continuing at 10am, and Introductory/Beginning Sessions at 11am.

www.taoisttaichi.org

Kathy 022 066 4250

or Lesley 021 0272 3345



Strength Flexibility Stillness - Develop a mind that is dynamic yet clear and calm and a spirit that is resilient yet light and peaceful. Taoist Tai Chi® practice is a moving meditation that reduces stress and helps you find joy. Physically it will make you energetic, balanced, strong and supple. Taoism teaches that health comes when body, mind and spirit work together in harmony. Taoist Tai Chi® arts grew from this tradition and are a powerfully beneficial path of ultimate transformation.

Taoist Tai Chi® practice brings **Pain Relief, Health Improvement and Spiritual Development** - The meditative and physical aspects of Taoist Tai Chi® arts involve deep stretching with a full range of motion and continuous turning of the spine. They exercise the whole physiology including muscular, skeletal, nervous and circulatory systems, as well as tendons, joints, connective tissue and organs. This whole body approach has a beneficial effect on many conditions, from stress and sore backs to deeper health issues.

Introducing the 2022 Event Calendar

A new idea from AVCA, this will be updated throughout the year. Obviously the dates given can be changed, due to Covid or other circumstances, but we will do our utmost to give enough notice when we can. Remember to check on the FB Grapevine, website (or contact a committee member if you don't have internet access).

2022

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Bold Dates:	
Jan 31	Anniversary Day
Feb 6-7	Waitangi Day
Apr 3	Daylight saving
Apr 15	Good Friday
Apr 17	Easter Sunday
Apr 18	Easter Monday
Apr 25	Anzac Day
Jun 6	Queen's Birthday
Jun 24	Matariki
Sep 25	Daylight saving
Oct 24	Labour Day
Regular Events	
	Primary Sch Hol's
	Rubbish & Recycle
	Rubbish Only
1 st / 3 rd Sat	Library
2 nd Sun@2	Residents @ Rhubarb
Tues 10&11	Taoist Tai Chi
Fri 6pm	Social Bowling Club
1 st Fri 7pm	AVCA Meeting
Other Events	
Feb 6	Family Fun Day
June 24	Movie night
Sep 18	AGM
Dec 10	Xmas Picnic / Lights
tbc	Rangatahi Excursion
tbc	History/High Tea
tbc	Civil Defence Sim