



Community News

FEBRUARY 1990

EDITOR: TONY BACON

EDITORIAL

As I sit here in 25° heat, with the tanks getting low and a total fire ban in place, I sometimes wonder whether I wouldn't prefer to live in an air-conditioned apartment in the city. But then I hear the whoosh-whoosh of a pigeon flying past, the combination of liquid notes and harsh squawks that tells me our local tui is back in the garden, and look out over the green hills and valleys that surround us all and I realize that Waiatarua really does have something over the rest of Auckland, and I wouldn't really want to live anywhere else.

Hasn't January been exciting? I've just about recovered from Commonwealth Games fever, got my nose burnt going to see the Whitbread yachts leave and tried to convince myself that the little dot in the distance really was Kiri te Kanawa, and that was only the major events! If 1990 continues at this rate, I shall need all of 1991 to recover.

Elsewhere in this issue you will see a report of a meeting at the Community Centre to do with the mast. It has been suggested, both locally and at the Waitakere City Council, that those opposing the mast developments represent only a small minority of residents. This would seem to be contradicted by the attendance at the meeting, but it seems to me to be important that people who

support further development of masts in the area or are just undecided should be able to be heard as well. If you have such an opinion on the matter, this is the place to get it aired. Just remember that your contributions must be accompanied by a name and address, even if that is not for publication. I am not about to publish material from people who are not available for further follow-up or discussion.

AUCKLAND SCHOOL OF NURSING 1883 - 1990

After 107 years the training of nurses in Auckland Hospitals comes to an end.

To mark the completion of this era, CELEBRATIONS begin on 21 March 1990 for all past students and staff.

For registration forms write to:

Nursing Celebrations 1990
P.O. Box 137
Glen Eden
Auckland 7

or telephone:

688-129 (office hours)
450-267 (after hours)
642-640 (after hours).

1990 SUBS ARE NOW DUE — SEE COUPON ON BACK PAGE

COMMUNITY BOARD

There will be a meeting of the Community Board on Tuesday 27th February at 7pm at the Community Centre. The purpose of the meeting is to receive submissions on the Waitakere City strategy plan. We forewarned that this would be happening in our December issue, so I am sure that there will be lots of you with ideas and suggestions as to how our City and local community should approach the millenium. If you need any help in preparing submissions, or have any questions, Graham Wilson at Waitakere City Council will be pleased to help you.

This is a rare opportunity for individual citizens to have some input into city planning, so let's see Waiatarua produce plenty of constructive and imaginative ideas for the community's future.

While we are on the subject, I must apologise to Ian Wells, who was left off the list of Community Board members published in the December issue. He is the same Ian Wells who did make the list of Councillors - Ed.

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

We would like to say THANKYOU to all those people who took the trouble to try to help us find Reuben our ginger and white cat who went missing on December 9th. Especially to Clair of Ngapuka Road who found him on January 11th. Her kindness and help with reuniting us all will not be forgotten.

Dave and Jackie Walker.

Dear Editor,

Through your pages my wife and I would like to thank all the kind Waiatarua people who assisted us and the Police in trying to name the person who burgled our house recently and/or commiserated with us over our losses. We would also thank Lawrie Hart for the effort he put into circulating descriptions etc.

The police have arrested a man who tried to cash one of our cheques and we know more enquiries are being made.

It has brought home to us these points:

- keep your Neighbourhood Support groups active.
- make sure your house is secure with deadbolts and patio locks. Check your insurance policy for your excess if you are not secure.
- don't keep your jewellery or valuables in one place, spread them around.

Have a happy and safe New Year,

Warwick and Valerie Blight.

Dear Editor,

We were wondering if you would maybe place in your next issue an article on the DOG problem in our area. As new residents to Waiatarua we feel the serenity and attractiveness of our environment is being spoilt by what seems to be continual barking and the ferocious nature of these animals as we pass some of their owners' properties. Although we feel that dogs may be beneficial in terms of security etc. on property, surely we as residents do not have to put up with vicious confrontations as we go on an evening stroll. Could owners be made more aware of these problems, and do something to remedy the problem, i.e. fencing them in etc. We would appreciate if something could be mentioned about this as soon as possible so the problem could be curbed.

S.W.Lyons P. Taylor.

Readers will recall the problems with dogs reported in our July and August 1989 issues - it seems the problems are still with us. The August issue showed how to make a running line for your dog, which would certainly make things less stressful for passers-by. If you have continuing problems, you may be able to get some help from the rangers at the Waitakere City Council - Editor.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You will have received a notice about this event, and it may well have occurred by the time you receive this newsletter. Anyway here is a reminder that it is on Wednesday 21 February at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

FINANCES

One of the things that gets discussed at AGMs is finances. Your current committee have produced a budget, and based on the 1989 membership (about 200) we will run a deficit in 1990 of around \$200. We are loth to raise the membership fee, so that means we really need to get the membership up to around 250 this year if we are to break even. The usual form can be found on the back page, so please send us your membership fees as early as possible. Of course if any of you want to contribute more than the \$5 fee, we will be quite happy to accept your donations!

One possibility we have considered to increase membership is to run a prize draw for all valid memberships before a certain date. If there is person or business out there in the community who would like to donate a prize for such a draw, we would love to hear from you. You can contact the editor with the hundreds of offers that I know will come flooding in.

MORE ON THE MAST

It was standing room only at the Waiatarua Community Hall for the meeting convened by the Ratepayers Association to bring the community and invited local government representatives up to date with events surrounding the Waiatarua transmission mast and community concerns about electromagnetic radiation (EMR) levels. Apart from the local community, the meeting was attended by his Worship the Mayor, local council and community board members, and representatives from the Health Board, the ARC and the press.

Tom Baker gave an introduction and brief history of the events leading to the present state of affairs, and then Kevin Lynch of the Waitakere Ranges Protection Society told the meeting about the current BCL attitude.

This was followed by local resident Ivan Beale, who told the meeting about provisions of the State-owned Enterprises Act which require SOEs to be good neighbours, some more information about possible health effects from EMR, and

compared the levels in Waiatarua with general urban levels (we undergo much higher exposure). As an example he indicated that the meeting at the hall was being exposed to radiation levels some eight times higher than current Czech and Polish standards. He then introduced a BBC video which explored possible links between health problems and low level EMR. These links are suspicions only at present, but warranted further investigation.

Questions from the floor followed, and eventually the meeting agreed to petition the Waitakere City Council to appeal the decision of BCL to proceed with requirements 28 and 29 despite the Waitemata City Council's opposition.

The local government representatives were then asked about their individual attitudes to the community requests, and responded in varying degrees going from unqualified support to very definite fence-sitting.

As a postscript, your committee will be giving notice of appeal in its own right.

FIRE BAN

Waitakere City have specified a prohibited fire season starting February 12th until further notice. This means that no fires are allowed in the open air. Please do your bit to observe this prohibition and help preserve the ranges. I must admit that every time I have heard the fire klaxon go over the last couple of weeks I have wondered whether this was the big bush fire I am sure we all dread. The thought of our clean green community being turned into a smoking ruin is something I prefer not to think about.

ADVERTISING

FLUTE LESSONS

For beginners. Grade 6 student wishes to teach. \$7 per lesson. Phone Melissa 8149-867.

ROOM WANTED

Room wanted to let for apprentice chef. Close to the Fork'n'View. I have a puppy. Phone Richard 8149-804.

CHILD CARE

Reliable and caring parent will look after your child through the day or after school. Please call Marlene 8149-966.

WORK WANTED

Female with a sound clerical background wanting to work from own home. If you lack office space or would like someone on a temporary basis, please phone me for more details. I have experience in typing, filing, accounts, banking sheets, R.T. systems, computers, bad debts, sole office and customer services. Negotiable rates. Phone Jennifer 8149-762.

FOR SALE

Aluminium framed ranch slider: non-opening, \$80. Atlas Sheraton oven: one element not working. Clean condition, \$50. Rotary clothesline: has been removed from ground but needs dismantling, \$20. Rimu veneer bedside cabinets. Two drawers, as new. \$180. Phone 8149-616.

FREE TO GOOD HOME

Double bed, sprung base and mattress, rimu headboard. Old but in good condition. As is - where is. Phone 8149-650.

FOR SALE

TV antenna with upstand. High gain ghostbuster WM12. Below half price. \$80. Phone 8149-638.

JAZZ BALLET

Tuition available at Waiatarua Community Hall. Initials and grade 1 exams with emphasis on fun. Phone Vonnie 8149-767.

RECORDER TUITION

For beginners of all ages. In Oratia. Music reading taught, private or group. Phone Vonnie 8149-767.

RAGAMUFFINS DAY CARE

Hey Mums: Working - got to do the shopping? Relax - experienced child social worker and Mother helper available to look after your child. Phone Alison 8149-795.

TRANSPORT REQUIRED

by ATI student to the city from Waiatarua until June. Phone 8149-012.

Please accept my 1990 subscription to the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association.

I enclose \$5.00 (Household)/\$2.50 (Single occupant)

This is a renewal/new subscription (Delete one)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Please send to the Treasurer:

Ian Ford,
7, Atarua Gardens,
Waiatarua

or leave at the Library.

Deadline for the next issue is Wednesday, 7th March. Please send legible copy to the Editor, Tony Bacon, 11 Cascade Avenue. All submissions must have a name and contact phone number, even if that is not for publication.