



Community News

MAY 1990

EDITOR: TONY BACON

AND NOW - THE MOMENT YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR ...

BE IN TO WIN THE WRA MEMBERSHIP PRIZE DRAW!

The names of all paid-up members as at the 1st July 1990 will go into the draw for a set of 3 ArcoSteel saucepans, value \$130, generously donated by Waiaatarua residents Graeme and Alison Storie. These saucepans are stainless steel with glass lids and a heavy copper base.

Remember, to be eligible, the treasurer must have received your membership fee before 1st July 1990.

The name of the lucky winner will be published in our July issue.

WAITAKERE CITY RATES

Not surprisingly, rates were the hot topic at the last Association committee meeting, not least for the 4 residents who came to express their ire and urge the Association to take up the cudgels.

This is what was decided:

In conjunction with other ratepayers organisations in the city, we will be organising public meetings protesting both about the scale of the increase and the undemocratic way the rate was struck, with no prior consultation with or information to community groups - so much for the spirit of open government that was supposed to come with amalgamation!

We will also be helping organise a petition for a ratepayers poll that will call for the rate to be reconsidered.

Three resolutions were passed -

a) rejecting the increase

b) requiring our ward councillors to move to have the increase rescinded

c) endorsing a Community Board Resolution requiring the full year's rates to be last year's rate plus 4% plus the rate of inflation.

It has been suggested that one way for the community to register its displeasure is for ratepayers to withhold payment of their rates until the very last day before the penalty is imposed. A token maybe, but it is a small way to show our feelings.

So much for the emotive stuff. What we also have to do is to examine the estimates (which we have not officially seen yet!) and see if we can come up with constructive suggestions for reducing the rates bill. Don't forget this increase is only for the transitional quarter to the end of June, so even if we fail to budge the Council on this increase, we have a second chance.

MR. R CLAUDE ABEL
1903-1990

Claude Abel was an honorary life member of the Association, a resident in Quinns Road, Waiatarua for about 15 years and Secretary of the Association in the early 1980's. His association with the Waitakeres goes back to early this century.

During his retirement after a career as a primary school principal he worked energetically for the area. His interests in nature and history were put to good use and he was always a willing worker for the various organisations working in these and other fields.

Claude was a great friend to many local residents, a fascinating raconteur on many subjects and, uncommonly, a recorder of many of them too. He now becomes part of our history and is sure to be the subject of fond memories for many years.

Richard Hoyle.

The following was submitted as an advertisement, but I am sure those of us who know John Isaachsen would want to give it more prominence:

BAMBOO PARTNERSHIP

"The business at 833 West Coast Road, formerly owned and managed by John Isaachsen is, since 27th December 1989, the business partnership of John and Pauline Isaachsen, with Pauline as Co-Managing Proprietor. Our service will we trust be better than ever, helping with anything about bamboos."

The letter enclosing the ad ended: "We were married on 3rd December 1989".

Congratulations, John and Pauline, from everyone in Waiatarua.

O tell her, brief is life but love is long

- Tennyson

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

I wholeheartedly support Len Cooper's letter (April 1990 Newsletter) against "Letters to the Editor".

A Community Newsletter should be just that - a factual report of community news and activities; not an emulation of a newspaper.

It is regrettable that the Newsletter has become a personal tabloid.

Lesley Baker.

Hea-yy! Ah well, everyone to their own opinion, though I wouldn't have thought encouraging the expression of community opinion amounted to creating a 'personal tabloid', whatever that is. - Ed.

LIBRARY NEWS

Those of you who use the Library on Thursday or Friday mornings will be sorry to hear that "Joe" has to go into Greenlane Hospital for heart surgery. We will put a bulletin on the notice board when we know more. Can anyone offer to take his place temporarily on a Friday morning from 10 - 11am, during term-time?

Don't forget the Library is now open on Sunday mornings from 11am - 12 noon.

BITS AND PIECES

NEW TELEPHONE BOOKS

The Sunnyvale Scout Group delivered all the new books in the Waiatarua area during March. If you by chance were omitted, or would like more copies, please ring Richard Hoyle, 8149-641.

GINGER PLANT

It seems possible that Waitakere City will organise a serious attack this year on this seductive destroyer of our environment, which has to be good news.

In the meantime, do your bit by at least breaking the old flower heads off before the seeds have a chance to form. Birds love the fruit, and they are a principal means of the plant being spread. Of course if you want to destroy the plants by digging them up or spraying, that would be even better.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Our President is Tom Baker, and he has just been appointed a Justice of the Peace, which means you can ask him to perform all those odd functions that only JP's can.

Wayne Edwards is our Treasurer, and he would like you to send your subs to his postal address, which is PO Box 21197, Henderson.

GOODBYE AND HELLO

Goodbye to Zannie who has given up the Oratia dairy, and hello to Waiatarua residents Eric and Margaret Allen and their daughter Michelle, who have taken her place.

MARKET DAY

It's time to dig through the recesses of your cupboards and workshops, dust off all those things which you keep saying will come in useful and know won't really, and book a table for the Market Day.

The date is SATURDAY JUNE 23RD, at the Community Centre, from 9am till it's all sold (probably about 11.30).

The cost of a table is \$5.00, and you can book a place by phoning Margaret Blumhardt on 8149-843.

TUI SLATER

The community is beginning to rally round to help raise the substantial amount of money that is required to fund the liver transplant that saved Tui's life.

The main news is that the Lions are going to take over the organisation of fund-raising, and as we know, that is the sort of thing the Lions do very well. In the meantime, the Western Leader is acting as a collection point for donations, so if you want to contribute, send your cheque to:

Tui Slater Liver Transplant Fund,
Suburban Newspapers,
Private Bag 15,
Penrose

PESTS IN THE RANGES

The following article was supplied by Greg Chalmers of Du Pont NZ Ltd:

In recent years residents of the West Auckland/Waitakere area have become increasingly aware of two major pests that are continually turning up in their back yards. Wild Ginger or Hedychium gardenerianum as it is technically known and the common opossum are causing widespread concern. What is generally not known in the greater Auckland area is that there is expertise available to the general public in the fight against these pests. Long considered the province of the farmer, the stock and station agency can often give the kind of advice not readily available in the urban retail sector. There are several of these outlets in the Auckland area only too willing to help with practical advice. The opossum can be treated in a variety of ways ranging from the humane cage trap to the skin trappers gin model. There are traps available that kill quickly and humanely and these can be seen at any outlet that services the rural or horticultural communities.

Wild Ginger poses a different problem. Until recently there hasn't been a herbicide that will control this hard to kill weed. Escort from Du Pont is a new generation herbicide that kills Ginger stone dead. It's easy to use and is available from most rural service centres. Gorse, blackberry, Privet and Ragwort are just some of the other hard to kill weeds controlled as well. This product has been endorsed by conservation groups keen on keeping Ginger out of the bush around

Auckland. Escort has no adverse effects on birds or wildlife.

You can buy Escort locally at CRT, Veg-Gro or Wrightson, Kumeu.

ADVERTISING

DRESSMAKING

Reasonable rates. Phone 8149-616 after 3pm.

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SERVICES

Guaranteed fast reliable and efficient work. I will collect and deliver where possible or work from your premises. Typing can be done at my premises and will be completed within a couple of days depending on your urgency. Reasonable rates - call Jennifer Dalton 8149-762.

A tiger with tastes anthropologous
Had a tickle inside his oesophagus
When passing a Brahmin
He thought "What's the harm in
Becoming a travelling sarcophagus?"

A bather whose clothing was strewed
By breezes that left her quite nude
Saw a man come along
And, unless I am wrong,
You expected this line to be lewd.

Deadline for the next issue is **Wednesday, 6th June**. 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.

Our thanks to Waiatarua residents Grant and Carol Longley of Longley Printing for their help in the production of this Newsletter.

This Newsletter is delivered to all Households in Waiatarua by the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association. If you are not already a member, your subscription of \$5.00 per household (\$2.50 for single occupants) will help us to maintain and improve the services we provide.

THE DOG LOVERS

So they bought you
And kept you in a
Very good home
Central heating
TV
A deep freeze
A very good home -
No one to take you
For that lovely long run -
But otherwise
'A very good home'.
They fed you Pal and Chum
But not that lovely long run,
Until, mad with energy and boredom
You escaped - and ran and ran
Under a car.
Today they will cry for you -
Tomorrow they will buy another dog.

Spike Milligan
1970

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:

Wayne Edwards

PO Box 21197

Henderson

or leave at the Library.