



Community News

JULY 1990

EDITOR: TONY BACON

CONGRATULATIONS

To the Wilson Family of Bush Road who were the lucky winners of the prize draw for financial members. The Arcosteel saucepan set is on its way. Thanks once again to Graeme and Alison Storie for donating the prize.

The incentive of the draw seemed to have some effect, as our membership is now 148, as against 135 in July 1989. Only 102 to go to reach our target for the year!

COMMISERATIONS

Our sympathy goes to Mrs. Connie Spencer, whose husband Douglas died recently. Mr. Spencer was a long-time Waiatarua resident and a well-known local clockmaker and jeweller.

And to Pam Whyte, who broke her arm while painting the back wall of the Community Centre. We all hope she will soon be strong enough to hold a medicinal gin and tonic.

CORRESPONDENCE

More Dog Problems

Dear Editor,

My family has resided in Waiatarua for the past 7 years. We breed and show labradors and have our dogs in a very large secure compound with a six-foot Cyclone fence.

We have had continual problems with other people's male dogs being on our property, not only 'visiting' but killing our poultry,

our lamb and our cat. We have also had to put up with dog fights during the night and untold faeces on our decks and lawns.

I used to take the soft option and wherever possible contacted the owners and returned the dogs. After being abused a number of times for owning bitches I now send them directly to the pound.

The problem of 'visiting' dogs reached an all-time peak over the period 6th-10th July. We became host to yet another stray (uncontrolled) dog which was extremely aggressive. We tried all the normal methods of catching it in order to send it to the pound but to no avail.

The dog (a ridgeback/labrador cross with no collar or identification) challenged a member of our household on 9th July and would not allow anyone near the compound, so my own dogs were unable to be fed or exercised. I contacted the Ranger, to be told I had to catch the dog myself, then they would remove it. On the 10th July I was attacked by the dog whilst attempting to feed my own dogs. Luckily I wasn't hurt, only badly shaken.

Through the intervention of the police I was able to get the Dog Rangers here to eventually catch and remove the dog, a process which took over an hour.

The same weekend a friend who lives locally was attacked and badly savaged on his own property by another two uncontrolled dogs.

Over the past seven years, neighbours on one side have lost 7 sheep and numerous ducks and fowls. Neighbours on another boundary have lost goats and ducks and had their daughter attacked. I am sure there have been other occurrences.

Owning a dog is a responsibility, not only for the dog's welfare but to your neighbours. Just because we live in a semi-rural area it does not entitle us to leave our dogs running free. The dog that is on the doorstep when you go work and when you return home has probably become bored during the day and been 'visiting'.

I will no longer tolerate 'visiting' dogs on my property. I will send them to the pound and the owners will continue to pay the pound fees. If I am attacked or threatened again, I will insist the dog be destroyed.

Laurie Squires.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Waiatarua central services have sent us an interesting mixture of fiction and non-fiction. There is something for everyone.

If you think parts of New Zealand have cold winters try reading "Riding the Iron Rooster" by Paul Theroux. Are you interested in our social history and people? Read the prize winning biography 'Born to New Zealand'.

Romance, block-busters and who-dunnits - we are adding them all the time to the library, including the latest Jack Higgins, Brian Forbes and Wilbur Smith. If your favourite author does not come up trumps, don't blame us, we only buy the books, we do not write them!

Joan Rudall

RATES

Consultation

The Community board was given a chance to scrutinise the new estimates, although as it was only a couple of days before the relevant Council meeting, there has to be

some doubt as to the Council's commitment to prior consultation.

Did you know?

27% of rate revenue goes in debt servicing costs (i.e. interest).

In the last year before amalgamation the four West Auckland Councils between them spent \$1.2 million of money earmarked for capital expenditure on maintenance work. This couldn't have been an attempt to keep the rates artificially low, knowing they were going out of business, could it? They wouldn't do something like that, would they?

There is virtually zero capital expenditure planned for the coming financial year - only committed projects are likely to go ahead. As our Community Centre expansion and maintenance project is not 'committed', we can look forward to another year of tat and decay, although we are assured that we are 'top of the list' for next year.

MAST UPDATE

Minor changes to the proposed deed between BCL and the Council have been recommended by Ivan Beale and Tom Baker, and these have been agreed to by the Council. BCL have not yet signed it, but have indicated that they will agree to the Australian standard. The last series of EMR measurements carried out by Dr. Whale showed that the Australian standard was being exceeded, and BCL have agreed to take steps to ensure the transmission levels do comply. Further measurements taken by Ivan recently using a meter volunteered by the Navy showed more hot spots of up to 344 microwatts/cm².

"All decent people live beyond their incomes nowadays, and those who aren't respectable live beyond other people's. A few gifted individuals manage to do both."

DRAMA CLUB

Who did you say was coming?

"The Nerd". Well, who is he? It's really a very silly play, written by Larry Shue and first performed by the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. It was silly enough for Rowan Atkinson to perform it at the Aldwych Theatre's West End production - and now Waiatarua Theatre are going to have the N.Z. premiere. We open at the Community Centre on Friday July 27th at 8pm, then Saturday at 2pm and 8pm, Sunday 29th at 2pm and the following week from Wednesday onwards at 8pm.

The Sunday performance is dedicated to the Tui Slater Trust Fund - nett profits from that will go to the fund.

Come along and support your Community Theatre - bookings (as usual) are essential for Friday and Saturday nights.

Telephone Phyl on 8149-837 or Gill on 8149-220.

WELCOME TO WAIATARUA

Mr and Mrs Mackenzie.

The Romano family.

The Nicholson family.

The Zwerink family.

TUI SLATER'S TRANSPLANT FUND

Trust documentation is still being prepared for the Lions to organise the fundraising - \$20,000 seems to be the target. There are lots of small efforts going on around the place, and thanks must go to Jeanette Zuidmeer for her copious baking and Anne Rawlinson for donating the mangle to the Market Day.

A lot of people will also urge you to put some money in a bank, and in fact - within reason - this is very good advice. But don't go overboard. Remember, what you are doing is giving your money to somebody else to hold on to, and I think it is worth keeping in mind that the businessmen who run banks are so worried about holding on to things that they put little chains on all their pens.

Miss Piggy, 'Miss Piggy's Guide to Life', 1981

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.

Deadline for the next issue is Wednesday, 1st August. 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

Waiatarua Theatre
Presents

N.Z. Premiere

THE MERD

by Larry Shue



A VERY SILLY PLAY

July 27, 28, 29, Aug. 1, 2, 3, 4

Bookings Essential

Phone 8149220 or 8149837