



Community News

APRIL 1988

EDITOR: TONY BACON

First of all, an apology. Last month I omitted a thank you to Carol and Grant Longley of Longley Printing for their help with the printing of this newsletter, which incidentally they are quite happy to keep quiet about. We certainly couldn't give you such a flash production without them. Well, I think its flash, anyway.

Those of you who came to the St. Patrick's do at the Community centre (and are probably still recovering) will be pleased to know that the event and the auction of the various donated items raised \$1500, of which \$500 has gone to the Cyclone Bola relief fund. I thought it was a great night, and rediscovered that drinking Black Velvet (Guinness and champagne to the non-Celts among you) is a very pleasant way to get legless. The limerick competition was great fun, but I think it's just as well that most of the entries, especially mine after the third B.V. (see above), were not recorded for posterity. We are assured that a repeat performance is scheduled for next year. Many thanks to the Fire Brigade for all their efforts - but will Swan Lake ever be the same again?

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT

There are 600 householders in the Association area, which covers Scenic Drive from Shaw Road to Mountain Road, Forest Hill Road from West Coast Road to Kelly's Road, West Coast Road from Scenic Drive to Kelly's Bridge, plus all the associated side roads. Each householder pays an average of \$800 per year in rates, which amounts to about \$500,000 annually.

From this amount 11% (\$55,000) is paid in GST, 12% (\$60,000) in levies paid to the Auckland Regional Authority, leaving a balance of approximately \$385,000. Included in this balance is a sum of \$45,000 levied as rubbish collection charges, which is the only service we get.

What happens to the balance?

Are we subsidising the A.R.A. who get a 50% discount on rates for properties in our area?

Are we subsidising tourists, visitors and holidaymakers, who use our access roads as main routes to tourist attractions and West Coast beaches? These access roads are in a very bad state of repair and are deteriorating, especially Scenic Drive. The council ducks its responsibilities in providing regular maintenance of roads and drains.

What do we, the ratepayers, get for our rates? Our two council representatives appear to be more interested in playing politics than representing the ratepayers.

So this coming year your committee have a huge programme in getting some of our money back in improvements and services. Get behind your committee members and discuss the problems, both social and environmental, so they can work successfully to maintain our area in the way we want it.

TELETHON '88

It's that time again! Last Telethon Waiatarua ran a very successful and entertaining fundraising event. If you want to be part of another effort this year, Laurie Squires would like to hear from you. The more helpers and organisers we can get, the more we will be able to raise. Telethon '88 runs over the weekend of June 25-26. Contact Laurie on 8149-830.

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RUBBISH COLLECTION

Anzac Day is April 25th., so rubbish collections will be **one day later** than usual during that week. Help keep our community beautiful by not putting your rubbish out too early and giving a free meal to the possums and stray dogs.

Wouldn't it be nice to go past the end of Tui Crescent and not see either broken rubbish bags or their remains?

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PLAYCENTRE NEWS

It was excellent to see some new faces during our Open Week, from 12-15 April. We are now operating three sessions per week: our usual Tuesday and Friday mornings for 0-5 year olds and a Wednesday morning for 3½-5 year olds.

Our programme this year for our own building will concentrate on fundraising, as negotiations on the site are still unclear.

Thankyou everyone in anticipation of your support, and new parents, we hope to see you at the Community Centre some time, or you can phone 8149-766 for information.

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LIBRARY NEWS

The response to our amnesty on overdue books has been disappointing. Please check your shelves again and remember there is always the chute if the library is closed. Particularly, will whoever borrowed "The Snow Goose" by Paul Gallico in 1986 please return it. It is a Waitemata City loan book.

These are some of the adult titles added recently:

The White Tiger, The Icarus Agenda, At Close Quarters, Oscar and Lucinda, The Couple from Poitiers, Presumed Innocent, together with over 20 new children's titles.

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CASCADE SWIMMING HOLE

From our treasure house of fairly interesting facts comes this:

Some of us own 1/60th of a swimming hole in the bush at the end of Cascade Avenue. It is currently rather more like a pile of stones covered by mud, but is certainly restorable to its former glory (brief pause for images of nymphs and fauns glimpsed through dappled sunlight and sparkling spray). If any potential nymph or faun would like to help in cleaning out their 1/60th, Tony Webber would like to hear from them. A good day's work should complete the task if enough people volunteer. Contact Tony on 8149-693.

FITNESS

Someone must have read last month's issue!

There will be fitness classes every Tuesday and Thursday at the Waiatarua Community Centre, starting in the first week in May. Come and join the group at 7 p.m. and have a 'cuppa' afterwards. Cost - \$2.50.

You should also note that the 'TOP SHAPE' fitness centre in Henderson, run by Waiatarua residents David and Tina, have many different types of class every day and evening. The cost is \$4.50 which includes sauna and shower, and concession cards are available. For more information, phone 837-0072.



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ODDS AND ENDS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES.

The local Fencing of Swimming Pools Bylaw came into effect on 7th. April. The total Bylaw covered 7 pages in the Council Agenda, but basically if you have a pool, fence it. Full details available from the Council Offices.

The local Clean Indoor Air (No smoking) Bylaw came into effect on 7th April as well. This one is five pages long.

The Council is to lobby for national legislation to license dog owners rather than dogs.

The Council resolved to appoint a parking enforcement person by the 1989/90 financial year. Is this an end to double parking at the Community Centre?

The free Bob Geldof concert cost Ratepayers \$14,000, apparently. Wasn't that generous of us?

From the Parks Committee:

"Your Committee resolved that where ginger plant is removed by residents from reserves it shall be the responsibility of Waitemata City Parks Officers to dispose of, however when the plant is cleared from private property removal shall be the responsibility of the property owner."

If you think the Council should be giving more incentives to encourage ginger plant eradication, why not write or phone your local Councillors - Gary Taylor and Peter Furze?

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WESTERN LEADER

You can pick up copies from the box outside the Library.

(Another gem from our 'I bet you didn't know that' department!)

HOW DOES YOUR NEWSLETTER ARRIVE AT YOUR DOOR?

I hope your answer isn't "wet and soggy and late"! . Quite a few people are involved in getting this epic publication to you each month, so there are several chances for disaster to strike. If your newsletter is late or doesn't arrive, please contact a committee member or the editor, and we will try to improve things for you. (I realise this is a 'call me if you don't get this letter' message, but it is the best I can do.)

Remember too that copies are available at the Library and the Oratia Dairy.

I would like to say a special thank you to our faithful distributors , who battle all weathers to get this newsletter into your mailbox on time.

So thanks to:

Cilla Cooper, Ivan Beale, Wayne Edwards, Mrs. Saville, Tony Webber, Gisella Kernot, Tony Holt, Margaret Marshall, Mrs. Stockham, Mrs. Zuidmeer, Warren Allely and Sylvia Collins.

While I have their attention, a word to our distributors:

We really appreciate the work you do, and that it is sometimes difficult to find the time to do it. If possible though, please try and deliver the newsletter as soon as possible after you receive your supplies - the same weekend if you can. There is nothing worse than reading in the newsletter that something great is going to happen - last week!

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ROSE HELLABY HOUSE

Did you know that Rose Hellaby House won an award for the best Museum in West Auckland? The competition was run as part of Heritage week by the Auckland Heritage Trust and the Waitemata City Council. Congratulations to the West Auckland Historical Society, who run this jewel in our midst.

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SOCCER

Anyone interested in forming a social soccer team should contact Gerard Van de Walle on 8149-654.

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ADVERTISING

WANTED

- Person for lawns, car cleaning etc., Waiatarua area. 3 hrs. every second week. \$5 per hour. Phone 8149-228 evenings.

- Person for ironing, housework etc., Waiatarua area. 3 hrs. every second week. \$5 per hour. Phone 8149-228 evenings.

FOR SALE

Romesse pot belly stove with expansion ring, wetback and some flue parts. Healing ten-speed bicycle. Olympus RC 35 viewfinder camera. Ralta 'Mr. Coffee' coffee maker. Phone Tony or Jean on 8149-860 evenings.

CHILD CARE

Mother of two preschoolers, with University Education qualifications, willing to care for children on a part-time basis. Phone 8149-766 if interested.

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

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This Newsletter is published by the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association and delivered to all households in the area. 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. Subscriptions may be sent to the Treasurer, Gisella Kernot, 12 Tui Crescent, or left at the Library.

Please accept my 1988 subscription to the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association.

I enclose \$5.00 (Household), or \$2.50 (Single occupant)

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