

Community News

FEBRUARY 1991

EDITOR: TONY BACON

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

Why is it that when new people move into this area they automatically presume that they can let their dogs run loose and unattended all day long, or when they arrive home from work as they're too lazy to take them for a proper run; and even nights, causing all kinds of damage, disturbances, heartache, inconvenience and expense to the rest of us.

It's about time they were made to realise that we do not wish to have their dog on our properties breaking our shrubs, fouling our lawns, killing our hens, chasing our goats and ducks and maiming our cats. Even when they're not on your property they create problems with their constant barking causing broken sleep, disturbed relaxation periods, and breaking trains of thought in your study if you work at home.

All these problems have happened to us, and to neighbours around us, especially in the last 6 months because of a large number of new houses being built and existing ones being sold in and around the Tui Crescent area.

I wonder how these people would react if it was them who have to come home each day with a feeling of apprehension because they knew they had to count their pets to see if they were still there and in one piece. And also if they couldn't relax from one day to the next because every time that they heard their pets make some alarmed noises they had to leap up to the window or run outside to check or worse still had to watch their pet die because they couldn't get to it quick enough. And if they had to spend the many hours going back and forth from the veterinary surgery and then nursing the injured animal back to some sort of normality again.

In the space of 2 months we lost: 14 ducks, 2 hens, 1 goat, hundreds of eggs (the hens wouldn't lay after having so many frights), and countless hours sleep because of only one of these thoughtless newcomers to the area and their dog.

Since then, there have been many other scares and more new dogs, and other neighbours reporting similar stories.

So let us advise these people that some of us are going to take no more of this. From now on, we will personally deal with any dog that threatens our lifestyle on our properties and especially if our pets lives are at stake.

Lorraine Lindsay.

Commentary

Long as it is, I published this letter in full as it clearly represents a cry from the heart from someone who has suffered long and hard from inconsiderate dog-owners. Why is it that this issue seems to rear its head every 6 months or so? One would have thought that one of the reasons for moving to an area like ours was to be part of a community rather than an anonymous suburb, but it seems that some newcomers are so unconcerned about community opinion and basic social responsibility that they go their own way irrespective of the suffering and hardship they cause to others.

What practical steps can one take? Dog traps are available from the Council, if you actually catch a dog in the act you can kill it (but you must do it humanely), and if you can catch a dog on your property you can get it impounded. The Association is taking this matter up again with the Council, in the hope that the Rangers will take a more pro-active role in keeping our locality free of these pests.

WAIATARUA THEATRE

If you've always wanted:

- to produce the play of your dreams
- to try out sound and light effects
- to design and/or make costumes
- to help make and paint a set
- to budget for and produce a succulent supper
- oh yes, and ACT too!

Come along to our friendly group for the (brief) AGM and informal get together after at our Club Rooms in the lower car park at Waiatarua Community Centre, 911 West Coast Road, on **Tuesday, February 19th, at 7.30 pm.**

Our first production for 1991 is coming up soon - for auditions phone Phyl on 8149-837 or Andrew on 818-3140.

WHERE, OH WHERE IS MY LITTLE CAT GONE?

A black cat with a red flea collar was knocked down on the West Coast Road, almost opposite Rimu Road about 4.40 pm on 24th December 1990. A young man driving a light coloured van stated he was taking him to a vet. Would this person or anyone knowing what happened to the cat please contact Gloria Burke on 8149-751.

LIBRARY NEWS

A reminder to new borrowers and old - the library hours are:

Sunday	11.00 - 12 noon
Tuesday	7.00 - 8.30 pm
Thursday	10.00 - 12 noon
Friday	10.00 - 12 noon (school term only)
	7.00 - 8.30 pm
Saturday	9.30 - 11.00 am

We have on loan 200 books from the Waitakere City Libraries which are changed every 6 months. A changeover has just taken place. In addition special or specialist books can be borrowed through

Technical Services. We add many new titles to our own stocks every month.

We are saying goodbye to one of our Library stalwarts, Diane Thornley, who is leaving the district. Our gratitude and good wishes go with her.

MISCELLANY

Septic Tanks

Apparently the Council's septic tank emptying scheme is running about 6 months behind schedule, so Waiatarua residents should expect a visit from McDonalds takeaways sometime in the first half of 1992. However your editor can report from personal experience that if you need your tank emptying before then, the service is quick (the next day) and efficient. It looks like a Council initiative that is actually working.

Ginger

You will all have seen the big patch of ex-ginger on the corner of Bush Road. This will take about a year to rot down, and then we will organise planting of rhododendrons, native plants, or whatever to pretty the area up. It certainly looks like Escort does the trick, doesn't it?

Western Leader Delivery

This is still being thought about - more news when there is something to report.

AGM

This is on 27th February at the Community Centre.

You will probably have received the formal notice already, so this is just a reminder. This year we have several vacancies to fill on the committee, including the office of President, as Tom Baker is not standing this year due to his expected move to the wild north.

There must be heaps of people out there all straining at the bit to help the community, so why don't you all come along on the 27th and join in the fun?

Oh yes, only financial members can vote at an AGM, so hurry now and send off the form on the back page, and make sure you can have your say!

Community Board

There is a meeting of the Community Board at our Community Centre on 20th February. One agenda item will be consideration of the WCC 1991 Annual Plan, so if you want to make a contribution or hear the discussion, this is your chance. The meeting time is 7 pm.

Recycling

I am afraid the promised supplement on recycling hasn't yet materialised - your editor has had to do boring things like work for a living this month and hasn't had the time. Fear not, it will appear sometime!

March's Newsletter

(And maybe April's too) will no doubt be full of goodies as usual, but will appear under a different editor, as I am off to Hong Kong and Singapore on business for a few weeks.

Rumours and raw random data

A little bird tells me Waiatarua will soon have a restaurant again by the Piha turn-off. Let's hope the new owner gets less strife from some of the locals than the previous one did.

ADVERTISING

HOUSEMINDER WANTED

For period from April to September 1991. No children or pets. Phone 8149-757.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION WANTED

We've just moved up from Dunedin and need a breathing space to find a house to buy. I'm an occupational therapist and Geoff is a computer programmer - no children. We are really neat and tidy and reliable! Could we house-sit for a few weeks, or any other ideas? We have a tiny West Highland Terrier called Santa. Please ring Judy or Geoff on 8149-546.

WORK WANTED

Lawns mowed, sections cleared, trees cut, rubbish removed. Free quote, casual or permanent. Phone Scott on 817-4738.

FREE FOR COLLECTION

3-light window about 8ft by 3ft. Phone 837-2816.

WORK WANTED

Lady available to sit with elderly, 3 to 4 hours daily, Monday to Friday. Reasonable rate. Phone Joyce on 8374-644.

FOR SALE

2 mosquito nets, \$35 each, o.n.o. Phone Rachel 8128-173.

Please accept my 1991 subscription to the Waiatarua Ratepayers and Residents Association.

I enclose \$7.00 (Household)/\$4.00 (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 6th March. Please send legible copy to the Editor: Tony Bacon, 11 Cascade Avenue. (He will make sure it gets to the right place.) 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.



Mustn't forget to
pay my subs!