

K *indergarnerings*

NEW ZEALAND
FREE KINDERGARTEN UNION INC.

NO. 1.

MAY 1986

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is a great pleasure to be able to participate in this, the inaugural issue of the NZFKU Newsletter. You will be aware that this is part of an overall package prepared by the Executive to increase communication with Associations.

We have been extremely fortunate to secure the services of Lyn Blow of the Tauranga Regional Association as our Editor. Lyn is an extremely capable and witty writer with a wide knowledge of kindergarten.

The newsletter is intended to be chatty, informative, and fun. But it can only succeed with your support. Assist us, and yourselves, by sending information to Lyn. She, and the Executive, will be most grateful.

Best Wishes.

BRIAN ELLIOTT

PEOPLE IN KINDERGARTEN

PAT LOCKHART

Patricia Mary Lockhart, married with 5 adult children, has been involved with the kindergarten movement for 29 years, as a parent, committee, Association and National Executive member, and, from 1975 to 1979, as the President of the NZFKU. Editor of "Kindergarten Education" for 4 years, and author of "Kindergartens in New Zealand", a history of the movement, Pat is well known in educational circles. She has represented the Union on several Departmental committees, and has assisted in the preparation of submissions on reports which have had a profound effect on us all.

These are the dull facts about Pat. Those of you who know her through her various kindergarten activities, or her attendance at 19 consecutive conferences, may find it easier to recognize some of the characteristics below.

- great sense of humour
- attention to every detail
- well-versed in Parliamentary procedures
- friendly, outgoing, noisy, especially in the early hours of the morning
- great user of dark glasses
- above all, dedicated to the cause

And, to quote the lady herself :-

" I have thoroughly enjoyed the very active years at all levels. I always feel a sense of pride at what the movement has achieved, and the part I played in it. I love the people - thousands of them - with whom I've worked. I enjoyed the challenge of persuading Government to respond to our numerous needs. In all, a thoroughly satisfying choice of a life-long interest."

FIRE! FIRE! FIRE!

Why is it that some people are fascinated by setting fires, and watching other people's property burn ?

The Otahuhu Kindergarten in Auckland was gutted by fire in the middle of a recent Saturday night/ Sunday morning. One poor Executive Director was called out of his warm bed to drive right across Auckland to a quite devastating sight. A burned-out building is always a sad spectacle. A burned-out kindergarten is just that much worse. There is so much of the community and its children in the building and environment - all gone because of someone's odd idea of entertainment !

The hard-working staff and committee have spent hours and hours in the heart-breaking task of cleaning-up, sorting out, and salvaging.

Thanks to fabulous community support, the kindergarten is back in business in a classroom at the local intermediate school, and rebuilding is underway. But would you believe it ? Vandals have been in to the boarded-up shell of the old building again !

One must smile and wonder at the workings of a child's mind on this as on many other occasions. "Where are our teachers? Did they burn up in the fire while they were asleep?" But of course we all know that our teachers sleep in their kindergartens every night !!

DENISE IVERSEN

AN UNUSUAL OR SUCCESSFUL FUND-
RAISING IDEA ?

PLEASE TELL US ABOUT IT.

WE SHOULD BE A PROFIT-SHARING
MOVEMENT !!

THE COUNCIL MEMBER'S LAMENT

(Dedicated to all large Kindergarten Associations!)

When you're worried 'cos you've got a falling roll,
Or your kindergarten's slipping down a hole,
"Call the Council!", that's the shout,
" It's their job to pull us out
For the care of kindergartens is their goal!"

When your office bearers walk out in a bunch,
And your finances have finally hit the crunch,
It's the Council that you call
When you're going up the wall,
In the hope they'll have the problem solved at once.

When you've run things without going by the book,
Then one day find they've suddenly gone crook,
Though the Council may turn white,
They're supposed to put things right,
And work it out so you're let off the hook.

But when the whole affair is going well
And there's only glorious victory to tell,
Then it's, "Who's that nosey crew
Telling us what we can do ?
We don't need 'em. Tell 'em all to go to *****!"
("You know where!!")

ANITA MARSHALL

Some of us get up bright and early.
Some of us get up early.
Some of us just get up !!

A FLYING START

(Illustrations by Susanna Day, Cuthbert Kindergarten, Auckland.)

I declare this kindergarten -----

The Mayor jumped,
The sky was filled with sound
The planes roared past
Turning in perfect harmony
A flypast -----

A practice for tomorrow's air-show
But we were impressed.
The children - they'd seen it all before.
Not one glanced up or interrupted play.
OPEN !!

With a shout of triumph the ribbon was cut
And Sunderland (ex Hobsonville Air Base)
Was ready for business again,
And the guests for their champagne !!

SUE WOOLLEY

DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 7th, 1986

ADDRESS FOR MATERIAL

BOX 969

TAURANGA

A Committee is a group of people who individually can do nothing, and who collectively decide that nothing can be done. (Is this true ???)

HOW TO FLOAT A SUCCESSFUL FUND-RAISING IDEA?

As a publicity gimmick, and to promote kindergarten, 13 of our kindergartens grouped together and produced a Christmas float, which was entered in Palmerston North's annual parade last Christmas. Staff, parents and children all contributed to the project which took some time and trouble, but was worth all the effort.

We literally had a kindergarten on a truck! Father Christmas, and a huge tree adorned with every imaginable collage decoration possible. A pergola of collage hangings made a roof befitting the "Big Mac". Children sat at various activities with some of our staff, and mothers walked with the truck and handed out flags and pamphlets to the thousands who came to watch.

We had advertising banners around the base of the truck, and children's art work decorated its sides and tail-board.

The entire float was a group effort, but much praise must be given to Helen Page, a member of our teaching staff, who co-ordinated all the art work from 13 kindergartens. Helen threw herself into the project with such gusto that none of us dared assume a casual attitude. Her efforts and enthusiasm were rewarded, however, when we were awarded the grand prize of "Best Overall Float".

What a proud bunch we were when we pulled off the parade route to park in the "Best Float" position. It must be mentioned that we worked as a group. Had parents, children, staff, and Board members not been able to work as a unit, our efforts would have been in vain.

At present 19 of our 22 kindergartens are involved in yet another mammoth promotion/fund-raiser. News of that in the next issue of Kindergartnerings.

BEVERLEY KILLINGTON. PUBLICITY OFFICER. RUAHINE K.A.

***Has one of your kindergartens, or a combination of them, run some fund-raising activity which has proved to be a bonanza - or a disaster? Details, or dire warnings, of either would be welcomed by the Editor - and other kindergartens!! **

FROM THE EDITOR

The purpose of any newsletter is to inform and to entertain. Hopefully this will do both. But it will be successful only if you, the readers, provide the material.

The newsletter is not an extra Executive memorandum, nor should it become a sounding-board for my own peculiar views on any or all topics, however fascinating they may be !

What may seem to you to be of only local interest or importance may, in fact, be the solution to a major problem for some other kindergarten or Association. For example, the problem of how to avoid having an LPG installation in explosive distance of one of your kindergartens may already have been faced up, and resolved, in some other area. (It has. They did. Watch for further gripping details!!)

I hope that you enjoy this first issue of the newsletter. Perhaps you will feel moved to make your own contribution to the second in October. I do hope so.

LYN BLOW
Editor

A LAST WORD ON COMMITTEES ?

To be really effective, any committee should consist of three people - but to get anything done, one should be sick, and another absent.

(ANON. Fortunately!!!)