KEWRIOSITY

City of Kew, Municipal Offices,
Charles St., Kew. 3101. Telephone 862 2466

JULY 1990

HAY'S PADDOCK — OR BUSSED

For twenty children of Threes and Fours kindergarten it was a major highlight of the year. A double decker London bus pulled up, and took them on an excursion to Hay's Paddock. They took it in turns to enjoy the view from the top deck; they received tickets from the conductor; and at their destination, they enjoyed the rural playground — with horses looking on.

The kindergarten was established by Holly Fletcher in 1979, in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church. For Holly, it seemed only natural to return to that site, since she was christened, confirmed and married at the church. And except for 3½ years overseas, Holly has lived her entire life in Kew. She has drawn on the talents of "a wonderful staff"; all mature ladies, the most recent staff arrival was almost 4 years ago.

A strong emphasis in the daily routine for the three and four year olds is music. With Mrs Fletcher at the piano, and the staff leading the singing, the children learn a wide repertoire. As an appropriate lead-up to the London bus trip, the children brushed-up on "The wheels of the bus go 'round and 'round".

With a long waiting list of children, the kindergarten does not have to advertise. The reputation, by word of mouth, has made it one of the most popular — though still small — kindergartens.

Postscript: Bob Gay, the bus conductor, brought the 1956 London bus out to Australia in 1972, in the hold of the vessel "Port of Launceston". Since then it has been enjoyed by almost a million travellers, and is regularly chartered by schools, kindergartens and community groups. Mr Gay praises the sturdiness of the 34 year old bus, with its front engine and separate driver compartment next to the engine. He says that it will outlive many brand new buses, with continued love and care. Although he had to admit: "It is becoming rather a museum piece".

ROOMS WITH A VIEW

Willsmere Hospital will once again become "somewhere to go". The former asylum, located on a high hill with spectacular views, has been a Melbourne landmark for a hundred years. At the end of the 1890's, it contained 1000 patients — or exactly one seventh of the population of Kew at the time!

It was also an object of curiosity, and a major feature of Melbourne guide books at the time. Visitors would alight from the Kew horse tram at Princess St, walk up the hill, and be welcomed to visit the asylum between 9.30am and 4pm — with a two hour lunch break closing it from 12.30 to 2.30pm. According to the guide, they would "find an interest in observing all the means adopted for the comfort and amusement of the patients".

Now tourists will again be welcome. The Jennings Group, which has bought part of the site for $15 million, will refurbish the southern portion of the historic building to provide a hotel of about 130 bedrooms and suites. Facilities will include dining rooms; brasseries; lounges; swimming pool; health club; tennis courts; and landscaped gardens. A "banquet hall" will provide a conference centre which will be able to cater for 300 people.

Some of the other existing buildings will be added to by some new construction work, in order to create 112 apartments and town houses. Northern parts of the large building will become apartments, and the two existing gatehouses will be the centre-piece of town house development.

BARKERS ROAD SILENCED

A burst water pipe at the corner of Barkers Road and Glenferrie Road resulted in the closure of the busy intersection for over two days. The 225mm wide seal at the dead-end of a junction, off a major 450mm wide pipe, blew off at 3pm on 21st May; the resulting water spout flooded gardens in nearby Xavier Avenue, and left a crater in the road two metres deep.

While Board of Works staff worked around the clock to repair the damage, a daily load of 43,000 cars per day on Barkers Road, and just over half as many again on Glenferrie Road, were forced to find alternative routes.

No houses suffered a water cut, because the pipe is one of several running down Glenferrie Road. Commented one official: "We're not exactly sure where the pipe comes from, and where it's going to!" Some of the mysterious pipes were laid down about 80 years ago.

Such a broken pipe occurs in Victoria about once a year, but the location this time — at the border of Kew and Hawthorn, and two busy roads — caused a greater disruption than ever before.

Mending of the damage was delayed because of a problem with the spare parts of replacement pipes that were required. And to make sure that the repair was permanent, the workers poured a special mould of lead around the repaired join.

During the second day of repairs, radio station 3MP reported in its news that the hole was still in the road. "But", it added, "the police are looking into it".

By 10.30pm on 23rd May, the hole had been filled in, the road re-surfaced, and barriers taken down to allow the endless stream of vehicles once again to take over the intersection.

Dates for July

1 Sunday. School holidays begin.

4 Wednesday. 9-10.30am — measles/mumps/rubella immunisation, North and East Kew Infant Welfare Centres.
American Independence Day.

5 Thursday. 7.45pm — Penguin Club (Kew) meeting, municipal hall, ph 808 9327.

7 Saturday. 1.30pm — (and every Saturday) — Mixed Indoor Bowls, East Kew Bowling Club, ph 859 2535.

11 Wednesday. Nomination Day for Council election candidates.
8pm — Kew Historical Society meeting, #3 Hall, speaker Prof Shaw, President RHSV, on the topic: "The Foundation of Melbourne". Ph 817 4660.

12 Thursday. 8pm — Kew Garden Club meeting, Senior Citizens Centre. "All about Perennials". Ph 853 7057.

13 Friday. 7.30pm — Neighbourhood Watch area G 63 meeting, Kew Bowling Club, Wellington St.

14 Saturday. 6.30-7.30pm — evening immunisation and adult rubella session, #3 Hall, Municipal Library.
8.15pm — Youth Concert, Camberwell Music Society, St John's Hall, Burke Rd. Ph 889 3935.
Hawthorn Historical Society tour of Williamstown. Ph 818 2547.

15 Sunday. School holidays end.
2 to 5pm — Book Sale, Friends of Kew Library, at the Library.

18 Wednesday. 10.30am — Kew Arthritis Self Help group, AGM, Library Complex Hall, speaker Barbara Burford, Librarian, AFV. Morning tea. Ph 862 2021.
10.30am — 'Early Music from England' concert, Camberwell Music Society, St John's Church, Burke Rd. Ph 889 3935.
11.30am — Kew Community House, 'Know Your Community' talk, Mrs Kristin Stemps (World Vision), cost $1.50, including lunch, ph 862 3126.

27 **TO 4 AUGUST.** "Ruling Class" play, Spectrum Theatre Coy., Stonnington, Ph 578 8760.

31 Tuesday. Closing date, adult literacy award competition, Soroptimist Club. Ph 861 5333.
August 4 Local Government elections.
August 3-4 8pm — Track Players at Kew, three one act plays, 958 Burke Rd, Deepdene. Ph 818 5612

HOLY TRINITY EVENSONG

As well as the weekly Sunday morning services, part of the choir of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, in High St, has taken on an extra role. The men from the choir have started singing at evensong on the first Sunday of each month.

The complete choir has been built up to sixteen boy-choristers and a dozen men. The boys practice before the mid-morning Sunday service, as well as after school on Wednesdays. The men practice after the Sunday service, until about 12.30pm.

Says the vicar, Andrew St John: "Because of other commitments, the Sunday practice suits best, although it is not as desirable as an evening practice during the week".

The new Sunday evening commitment brings them back again, at 5pm during winter months, and at 7pm at other times of the year.

At this time of the year, with the light in the spectacular stained glass windows fading, the evensong is especially haunting.

Comments the vicar: "This service is an Anglican gemstone, in its Book of Common Prayer form, and lends itself well to enrichment through choral music".

And already the choir is heartened by the enthusiastic response of its first sung evensongs.

LOCAL THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS...

The Spectrum Theatre Company has decided to present one of the largest and most exciting satires ever written about the English aristocracy. "The Ruling Class" runs at the Stonnington Drama Theatre, 336 Glenferrie Rd Malvern, from July 27 to August 4.

Well-known repertory and musical comedy actor, Gordon Lindsay, plays the 14th Earl, who succeeds after his father — played by Pip Smibert — has hanged himself in a tutu.

At one stage of the play, a huge teddy bear is brought alive by a mad Scotsman, and this scene creates enormous lighting and technical effects to make its point. The show is full of music too, including toe-tapping songs like "The Varsity Drag", "My Blue Heaven" and even a little "La Traviata".

The Playwright, Peter Barnes, has painted a memorable portrait of the British ruling class, with all the tea; crumpets; gin and tonics; and sarcasm to keep the audience entertained.

The play is directed by Ross Campbell, well-known broadcaster and journalist, who directed the company's Australian premiere of "The Scarlet Pimpernel" last year. There is a large cast of more than 20 actors and musicians.

For tickets please ring Maggi McInnes on 578 8760.

TOUR OF WILLIAMSTOWN

Members of the Hawthorn Historical Society are welcoming northerners from across the border to join them on a tour of Williamstown, on 14th July. The Williamstown Historical Society will conduct a two hour tour of places of interest, including the Museum.

To reach Williamstown, members — and friends — are boarding the 10.46am train from Hawthorn Station. This connects with a 11.02 train from Flinders St station to the final destination. After a lunch at the Yacht Club Hotel, the tourists are being picked up by a bus which will take them on the tour. And they will be returned to Williamstown Station by 4pm.

Since the bus only seats 30 people, interested people are asked to confirm their places early, by contacting Club President Marion Letcher (818 2547) or Vice President Merle Merchant (819 3036).

In the meantime, two days earlier than the tour, 12th July, marks the release date of Australia Post's "Boomtime" issue of stamps. This is the third, and final release of stamps in its "Colonial Collection".

The stamps recall five varieties of prosperity during the years 1870 to 1890: land boom; building boom; investment boom; retail boom and factory boom. The "land boom" 41 cent stamp shows a scene at a vigorous auction, common in Kew until the Australia-wide economic crash of the early 1890's.

Last year Australia Post released a stamp showing the first cable tram along Victoria St, Kew, in 1886 — another result of the boom years.

DEADLINE

This month's Kewriosity was written and produced by freelance journalist, Mr Nicholas Cree, while the publication's regular editor was on annual leave. Copy for the August edition should reach the Editor, Olwyn Eaton, at the Municipal Offices, Charles Street, by Monday, July 9.

Commentary

As I end my term of office as Mayor of Kew I feel extraordinarily sad that the year has passed so quickly.

Socially it has been an extremely rewarding and satisfying year for me, for my wife Salvina, and for our family. A year in which we have been privileged to meet so many community groups and individuals, to have enjoyed their hospitality, and to have visited so many institutions and organisations we may never have otherwise visited.

I feel fortunate to have presided over some of the most important issues that Kew has had to grapple with in recent years.

The most prominent of these has been the sale of the Willsmere Hospital site by the Government to the Jennings Group.

The sale and development of Willsmere Hospital is of vital concern to us because it has great potential for the City, but also because it will place added pressure on our infrastructures.

Through the newly formed Willsmere Liaison Committee, we intend to ensure that the interests of the community are represented through all development approvals stages. The committee will thus provide a forum for receipt of a range of views on the development process and will clarify and convey those views to the Council.

The second most important issue confronting us now is Kew Junction. Concern for the viability of the Junction's commercial centre prompted us to commission a study of the area earlier in the year and to survey resident opinion in May.

Early results show that our concern for the centre's viability is shared by considerable numbers of residents and that the local community would like to see some improvements in the area. Again there is great potential and an opportunity for some imaginative development of Kew's main retail and commercial area.

Other important issues considered during my term of office have been the Kew Conservation Study, the Streetscaping Master Plan, various major traffic management plans, Waste Minimisation and Recycling, and plans for a skateboarding facility in Kew for local youngsters.

All these issues are in various stages of planning or development at the moment and all have occupied a considerable amount of the Council's time in the last twelve months. All are major issues that we have been called on to deal with and each has had considerable input from interested and concerned residents.

It is this input which as Mayor for the past year, I have been most happy to receive. Given the long tradition of open government in Kew where all views are welcome, I have enjoyed the closer personal contact that a Mayoral year affords. The feeling of being confidant to many people who may not have expressed their views in other ways, to other people, or at other times, has been particularly satisfying to me.

I feel privileged also to have presided over a year in which several of our citizens have demonstrated an extraordinary willingness to contribute major gifts to the community — Mrs Leopoldine Mimovich for her twelve exquisite bronze sculptures; Ms Louise Foletta for her work of contemporary art; East Kew Rotary Club for its joint access project for Alexandra Gardens; and Big Ben Scaffolds for donating scaffolding worth many thousands of dollars to help restore the roof on the historic Villa Alba.

Cr. Michael Montalto, Mayor of Kew.

Such gestures, the wonderful hospitality given to us wherever we have been during our mayoral term, and the concern for local matters expressed to me during my term in office, have only served to confirm for us that Kew is a warm, wonderful, close-knit community and a dynamic City in which to live. I am proud to have spent the last twelve months as its Mayor.

COUNCIL TO FORM WILLSMERE LIAISON COMMITTEE

Kew Council is to establish a Willsmere Liaison Committee to continue the City's approach to public participation in the planning and implementation of the Willsmere Project.

The Committee will act in an advisory capacity to the Council in the development approvals process for the Willsmere site and will provide a forum for the receipt of a range of views on the development process so that the Council can be fully informed in its decision making.

Announcing the formation of the committee Kew Mayor, Councillor Michael Montalto, said "The process will enable the Jennings Group to be aware of the community's concerns at an early stage, thus providing them with the opportunity to review and amend their proposals where appropriate. Consequently, long delays in seeking approvals will be avoided and the process will enable Jennings to explain any aspects of the proposal in more detail so that misunderstandings or incorect interpretations of their intentions can be avoided".

If the Liaison Committee is used in an open and constructive way, it will ensure that there are no surprises for either the community, the Council, or the Jennings Group, the Mayor said.

Councillor Montalto said the groups nominated to join the Liaison Committee are the Yarra Parks and Willsmere Coalition, Yarra Bend Park Trust, Wills Street Residents' Group, the National Trust, Kew Cottages (through Community Services Victoria) and Jennings Industries.

"With the exception of the developers, those groups nominated to be represented have been involved with the Willsmere Project since the Government first announced its intention to close the hospital and sell the property. They therefore have a good understanding of the history of the project, including an understanding of the issues which have been previously resolved. In addition, they are fully aware of the community's concerns about aspects of the project and are thus able to articulate those concerns to the developer in a forum which will enable them to be negotiated and recommended to the Council for decision", Councillor Montalto said.

PARTICIPATION = RICH REWARDS

Why do residents stand for Council? The reasons vary with the number of Councillors. A Box Hill candidate for that Council is solely concerned to overturn a decision which limits the number of chooks that residents can keep in their back gardens. A St Kilda Councillor is re-contesting this year, merely to "keep the other councillors on their toes". In a contest on tiny Bruny Island, off Tasmania, the successful candidate was surprised when he won the 47 votes, out of a grand total of 58 votes; he guessed that there must have been a last-minute swing his way — or perhaps the other candidate's family didn't make it to the remote polling booth!

Looking back over their terms on Council, most former Councillors like to reflect on particular pet projects that they helped to bring to fruition. Some receive a thrill when they realise that a particular park; or Child Care Centre; or technical innovation; or section of the library, owes something of its creation to them. These former Councillors' scrap books — and lots keep them — are the proof to history of their contribution. And it's that idea of contribution that they all have in common. All can feel happy that they have contributed.

Attendance at Council and Committee meetings at least once every week, plus numerous engagements at civic or social events, put a large dent in the free time of every Councillor. And unlike State and Commonwealth members of Parliament, these Councillors must dig-into their free time, for all have outside occupations. Their commitments to Kew, and the other 209 Victorian municipalities, are additional to their normal careers. They receive only a small fee for out-of-pocket expenses; they must liaise with sometimes hostile constituents; they must accept rebuffs and thwarted ambitions in the Council chamber; and they must sacrifice their valuable free time.

But they're in good company. Fellow Councillors can share the rich rewards of service to their community. And as Kew's Federal member of Parliament, the Hon Andrew Peacock, stated in his first press statement after stepping-down as leader of the Liberal Party, in April: "The important thing for me was to have participated". Any resident who would like to contest an election, in order to join the Council, can lodge his or her interest any time up to 4pm on Nomination Day, 11th July.

The election this year falls on 4th August.

HEALTHY FACES

Kew's new health surveyors are keen to promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

Mauro Bolin, the incoming Chief Health Surveyor, competes in triathlon competitions. This gives him a chance to keep fit through swimming, cycling and running. Emmanuel Lazarakis, the Health Surveyor, is a keen squash player and gym user. As Mr Bolin explains: "an active body leads to an active mind."

The new look health team is keen to provide ratepayers with a greater service through the development and implementation of new programmes and initiatives, as well as the expansion of existing services.

"We're a good resource for residents to use. If we don't have the answers, then we can refer people on," says Mr Bolin. "If local residents can think of things that would make Kew a healthier community, let us know."

Mr Bolin and Mr Lazarakis both studied the relevant Health Surveyors' course at Swinburne TAFE, and were together at jobs at the City of Prahran. Married, and resident of Keysborough, Mr Bolin has also worked at the Cities of Camberwell and Pakenham.

Mr Lazarakis, from Elsternwick, enjoyed a cadetship year at the State Health Department; this exposed him to an interesting variety of tasks, covering the whole range of health-related complaints to the Department. He even had to take fish samples for testing of mercury levels. In his private life, he's hooked on the playing of the guitar as his non-sporting hobby.

Health Surveyor Emmanuel Lazarakis, and Chief Health Surveyor, Mauro Bolin, go in to bat for a healthy Kew. Their bat is a less than desirable pot stirrer found on a food premises.

MEETING DATES

July 3 General Purposes Committee, 7.30 p.m.
July 10 Council, 8.15 p.m.

The next round of Council and committee meetings starts on August 14 after the annual election of the Mayor and councillors.

COMMITTEE EXAMINES RECYCLING

Kew's Waste Management Committee has released a summary of "Recycling Options" which might be possible in the future. Under the headings of paper; glass; aluminium; clothing and rags; plastics; batteries; waste oil; steel; household composting; municipal composting; road materials; street sweepings; prunings and concrete, the "options" suggest ways of reducing Kew's yearly pile of collected rubbish.

At present, the twice weekly rubbish collections raise about 4,500 tonnes each year, or about 155 kilograms per person. It costs the municipality $841,000 annually to collect the rubbish, and deposit it at the Whittlesea tip, via the Heidelberg transfer station. Another $123,000 is spent on the half yearly "hard rubbish collection".

"It is becoming desirable to reduce waste" says Ian Poulter, the Council's Manager Engineering. "This is because putting rubbish into tips is creating problems. Apart from being a potential threat to the environment, tips are becoming more expensive. Future tip sites will be more costly to buy, will be more expensive to establish, and will be further away."

The Committee is also to consider waste collection options including "big bins", as are used in such nearby suburbs as Camberwell and Malvern.

"Big bins would provide possibly the highest level of service to residents", suggests Mr Poulter. "But there are residents known to oppose these because they are not seen as encouraging waste minimisation. They would result in a 70% increase in volume of waste collected by the Council, there would be higher operational costs than at present and there would be a substantial capital requirement of about $1 million to bring them in", he added.

Mr Poulter says that the Waste Management Committee is devising a strategy that will provide "an improved level of service in a way that recognises the environmental and cost pressures". Rather than "Big Bins", the answer might be the opposite: recycling of the different forms of waste, and an incentive to residents to reduce their volumes of waste by introducing separate charges for rubbish collections — a sort of "waster pays" system.

The Committee has suggested several new options to recycle Kew's rubbish and waste: recycling of the Council's office paper; investigating the use and promotion of syntal; and investigating the Council's collection of car batteries and waste oil, along with the existing glass collections. Mulching schemes, and the re-use of crushed concrete and street sweepings have been put on the list of options for considerations.

However, working against the Committee has been the falling price of several recycled items, such as paper, cardboard and aluminium. With tipping costs rising and recycling dividends falling, the Committee is busy floating some new and imaginative ways to deal with the bulging mountains of waste.

TUESDAY FREEDOM FOR MUM

An additional weekly session for two year old children has been established at the Occasional Care Centre. Five children are being cared for by a mothercraft nurse each Tuesday morning, from 9am until 1pm.

The extra session brings the number of children using the Centre up to 30. The parents pay $17.60 for the new session, which allows it to be self-sufficient.

The new group follows the establishment of an earlier two year old group, and requests for another such session. A feasibility study recommended the second session to the City of Kew at its May meeting.

All photographs in this issue, with the exception of that on page 8, are the work of freelance photographer Jan Bottcher.

BURNING ISSUE

Residents have responded to a proposed local law, number 5.2.21, which would have the effect of prohibiting incinerator use, and open air burning. Submissions from people concerned about the proposed law were received up to 30th May.

Use of barbecues, fireplaces and solid fuel stoves would also be covered by the new law.

Certain offensive materials and substances would be prohibited from burning in open fire places and solid fuel stoves.

The new law, if adopted by the Council, would repeal Section 5 of Part 2 of By-Law number 115.

In arguing for the new law, Cr Jim Tutt noted: "Incinerators contribute to the smog problem with consequential effects on short and long term respiratory illnesses such as influenza, emphysema and asthma. Owning and using an incinerator is like having your own poison factory in the backyard".

PLANS TO COMPUTERISE LIBRARY

How do you computerise the records of Victoria's most popular Library? That was the task facing Margaret Findlay, in her preparation of the "Report of the Automation Consultancy for the Kew Municipal Library".

After all, Kew's tiny population of 30,000 wallow in their 100,000 items to choose from. 17,800 borrowers take out 405,000 books each year, and at peak times the processing is red-hot with over 2,000 issues and returns per hour! The report's answer, and recommendation, is that the upgrading of the recording system will take three years, and cost $254,000.

The computerisation of the readers' identification cards, as they come up for replacement during 1991 and 1992, would be the easy part. Less easy is the smooth transition of records of books and other Library stock, and an alteration of furniture, stationery and staff training, "without breakdown of the existing service".

The report recognises this, making use of existing staff for data entry for membership and new book cataloguing where new procedures will take the place of existing operations. However, an allowance is made for employment of temporary staff for the major task of data conversion".

And ongoing maintenance of the new computer system? The report claims: "It is expected that the maintenance costs for the hardware and software will be approximately 11 to 15% of the purchase price". But against this: "The present budget item for photocharging, which in 1989-90 was $3,000, will no longer be necessary. Also, new photocharging stationery which was purchased every seven years for $20,000 will not be made".

Meanwhile, new additions to Library stock include "Bowling: steps to success" by Robert Strickland, an informative volume on the popular sport of Indoor bowls; and "Badminton" and "Squash", both part of the Sports Action series.

"Strength training for Australian Rules", by Bruce Walsh, is another interesting and topical book, while "Mental toughness training for sports" by James E. Loehr explains how you can develop both your mind and body to play your best.

Kew Library has a wide range of books on the topic of sport. There are "how to" manuals; rule books of various games; and books describing sports injuries. A popular section of books is a collection of biographies of athletes.

COMPOST BINS FOR SALE

Kew Council has agreed to a scheme to sell compost bins to residents.

Backyard composting is one way in which residents can help to minimise the amount of waste disposed of by the community.

A reduction in waste results in an immediate saving of approx. $34 for each tonne of material that does not have to enter a tip. There are also longer term savings associated with increasing the life of existing tips and deferring the need for future tips.

By backyard composting residents can not only contribute to these overall savings to the community but can produce a valuable material to nourish their own gardens.

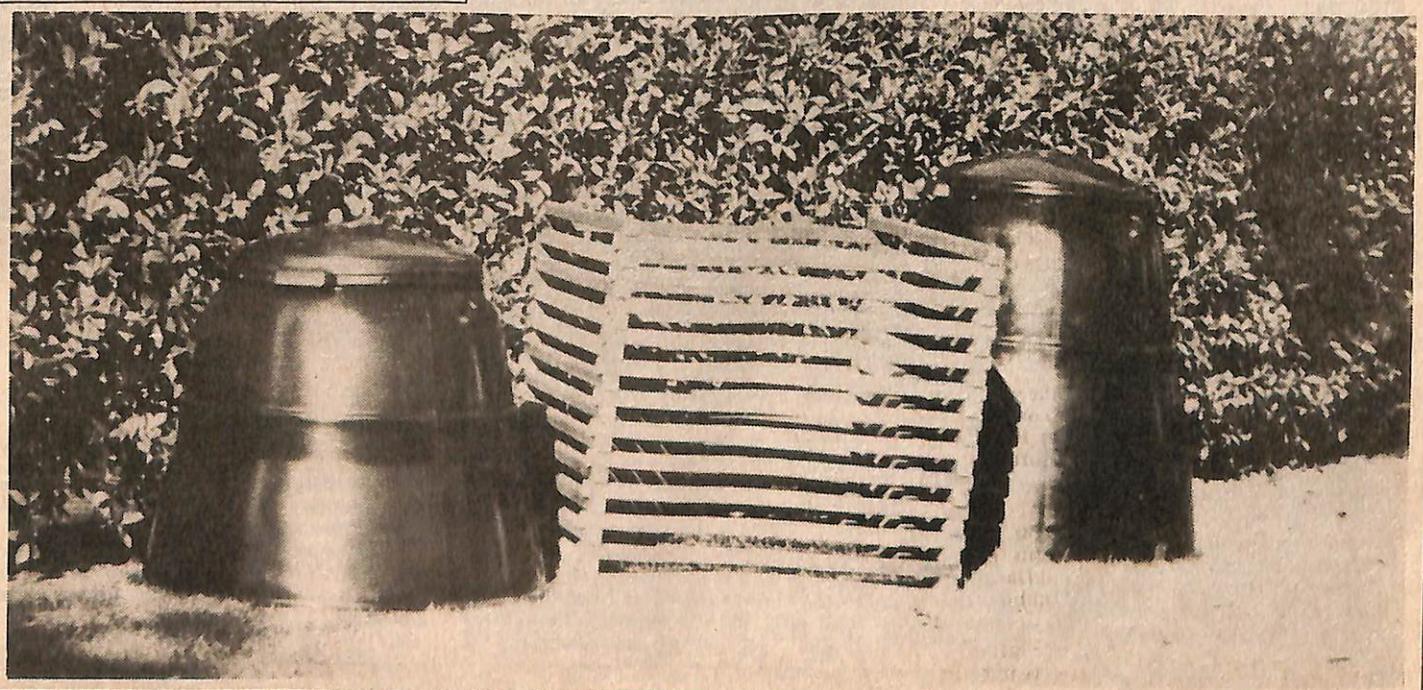
Three compost bins are available to residents through this scheme.

Two of the bins are of the enclosed type with lids, and are of different sizes: 210 Litre (at $37.00) and 280 Litre (at $45.00). These bins are manufactured by Palamont Rotor and are only available through Council. They are covered by a 6 year guarantee by the manufacturer.

The third bin is an open type constructed of slats made of recycled general plastic. This bin has a volume of 380 litres. It is manufactured by Smorgons and is available for $80.00. This bin is delivered in kit form.

All prices include delivery. Detailed advice on how to successfully use a compost bin will be provided with each purchase.

Orders for these bins, with payment, may be forwarded to the Council's Engineering Department. As the scheme involves the placement of a bulk order with the manufacturers there will be some delay in delivery.



TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Area 4 (bounded by Wills Street, Yarra Boulevard, Studley Park Road and Princess Street)

At its meeting on 15 May 1990, the Council resolved to circularise a proposal for an Interim Traffic Management Scheme for Area 4 to all residents living in Area 4, to assess the level of community support for the proposal.

The Interim Scheme is reliant on regulatory (No Right Turn/No Left Turn) signs to prevent turns from the surrounding arterial roads into the local street system during peak hours to prevent the intrusion of commuter traffic bypassing delays at Kew Junction.

This circular will be distributed to all residents in Area 4 during June/July 1990 and comments both for and against the scheme will be encouraged.

Area 5 (bounded by High Street, Valerie Street, Asquith Street, Earl Street and Princess Street)

The construction of additional works in Area 5 is due to commence in July 1990. This work includes the replacement of existing angled slow points in Disraeli Street and Childers Street with road humps, intersection realignment of Loch Street/Park Crescent, modifications to the existing intersection treatment at Derby Street/Eglinton Street to increase deflection to Derby Street traffic and the permanent installation of the Pakington Street/Malmsbury Street roundabout.

Area 6 (bounded by Cotham and Burke Roads and High and Charles Streets)

The Area 6 Consultative Committee has conducted a review of the existing traffic management scheme and has proposed alterations and additions to the existing scheme.

The proposed amendments were circulated to all Area 6 residents during May 1990 seeking comments from the community. There has been a generally good response to the amended scheme.

All written responses will be evaluated and summarised and then reported to the Area 6 Consultative Committee.

The Community will be given the opportunity to address the Committee or Council prior to a decision being made on the amended scheme. Residents will be kept informed of the progress of the scheme.

Area 7 (bounded by Barkers Road, High Street South, Studley Park Road and Walmer Street)

Detailed designs of proposed traffic management treatments for Area 10 will be prepared during June/July 1990 for consideration by the Area 7 Consultative Committee.

Once the Committee has finalised design and priority details, construction will proceed, which is expected to commence during late 1990.

Area 10 (bounded by Cotham Road, Glenferrie Road, Barkers Road and Burke Road)

A proposed Traffic Management Scheme for Area 10 was circulated to all Area 10 residents during May 1990 as the basis for community consultation. Residents were encouraged to make written submissions to the proposal to register comments both for and against the scheme.

There has been a high response to the scheme of at least 150 individual submissions, including a number of petitions and joint letters. The responses generally express a divergence of views to the proposed scheme.

All written responses will be evaluated and summarised and then reported to the Area 10 Consultative Committee.

The community will be given the opportunity to address the Committee or Council prior to a decision being reached on the scheme. Residents will be kept informed of the progress of the Scheme.

Residents are invited to contact Council's Special Projects Engineer, Mr Russell Fairlie, on any traffic management matter, by telephoning 860 5232.

YOUR SAY ON JUNCTION

Early responses from the Kew Junction Study questionnaire indicate that locals would like to see some improvements.

Within two weeks of the distribution of 2000 pamphlets, 174 had been returned to the Kew City Council; and some strong trends of opinion had become evident.

The quizzing of local opinion has come about because of a changed character of the Junction in recent years. While there are presently around 16,000 square metres of retail services, the floorspace for business, government and professional services has jumped to almost 38,000 square metres.

Says the study: "It is the increasing dominance of office developments and non-retail uses, together with a perception of declining viability in retail premises, which has prompted the Council concern for the future of the area".

And this concern seems to be shared by respondents to the questionaire. Almost ⅔ of these early questionaires, voted to "ban further office development".

And at the same time, 76.4% ticked "yes" to the suggestion: "Do we need more variety of shops". The "no" box was ticked by 17.8%. The respondents were selective about the new activities they favoured. New retail development was favoured by 56.3%; cinemas by 63.8% and new gourmet food and eating areas by 63.8% as well. On the other hand, the respondents voted 52.8% against 24-hour convenience shops, and 68.9% against larger one-stop shops.

On the crucial question as to whether the centre as a whole should be expanded, 49.9% said "yes", 34.6% voted "no", and 10.6% did not answer at all.

A high percentage of the replies highlighted the lack of both long term and short term parking for both workers and shoppers. Parking associated with retail complexes, preferably underground rather than multi-level (48.3% to 36.2%), was the most favoured. Less than half the respondents felt that walkovers and underpasses would be a good idea, yet the proposal for an overhead pedestrian crossing at the corner of High St and Walpole St drew a greater positive response, at 51.1%. The response for traffic signals at the same crossing was 47.8% in the affirmative.

The idea of a road link between Princess St and Walton St was greeted with a 40.2% yes vote; 31% no vote, and a high 28.7% "no answer" response.

All the landscaping suggestions — such as paving, seating and planter boxes — were greeted with "yes" responses. 50.5% approved of the idea of a baby care centre at the Junction, and 69.5% were bursting to say that public toilets were needed north of High Street.

The commercial areas strategy committee will continue to review the responses and develop some possible strategies for further public comment.

CYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIANS — TOGETHER OR APART?

The asphalt pathway along the grid of the Outer Circle Railway Line between Owen St and High St is being re-surfaced and widened to 2.4 metres. Although the new path is designed for both pedestrians and cyclists, the latter will be advised to dismount and walk their bicycles along that stretch. This is part of overall signposting which advises dismounting for cyclists at places where their paths meet road intersections, and at places where their paths meet pedestrian paths.

Residents along the pathway had expressed concern about the mix of pedestrians and bicycles, requesting a separate pathway for cyclists, as well as pedestrian priority on the existing asphalt path.

In a report to the Council, the Operations Engineer considered: "that the proposed interim surfacing works and signing of the existing asphalt path will overcome concerns raised. On completion of these works, the use of the paths will be monitored". The ultimate goal is to provide a shared pathway, 2.4 metres wide, all the way along the Outer Circle Reserve, and linking it to the Chandler Highway.

COUNCIL REJECTS MET SAFETY ZONE PLAN

The two possible options for the construction of a safety zone for passengers boarding the number 69 tram, in Glenferrie Road, have been rejected by the Council. At the present time, many passengers — including school children — have to brave the traffic at the busy Cotham Road-Glenferrie Road corner, in order to alight or board a tram.

Vic Roads has suggested two ways of making road space available for a "safety zone" adjacent to the tram terminus. One option would require the acquisition of a 1.35m strip of land along the west side of Glenferrie Road, a site occupied by the Sacred Heart Church. The church has strongly opposed that suggestion. The second option is the removal of on-street parking along the east side of Glenferrie Road, to accommodate the "zone". But the Cotham Village Traders have opposed this idea, because of the impact on their businesses.

The Council, at its May meeting, decided to reject both options, and propose to Vic Roads that a zone should be considered which affects neither side of Glenferrie Rd.

Meanwhile, the Council has expressed concern about safety at three sets of pedestrian operated signals along Cotham Road, near Marshall Avenue, Florence Avenue and Normanby Road. It has written to Vic Roads, to request the installation of "overhead mast arms" at the three sites. The problem is the limited visibility of the signs for motorists travelling along Cotham Road. Two accidents were reported at these sites during 1989.

PACKING TONNES OF CARS IN

After discussion with Kew Primary School, Holy Trinity Church and nearby residents, the Kew Council has decided to make some changes to parking restrictions on the west side of Pakington St. No alterations have been made to arrangements on the east side of the road.

The existing "One hour parking, 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday; 8am to noon, Saturday" zone is being moved from a point 15 metres north of High St to a spot 50 metres further north. A "No Standing Any Time" zone will cover the 15 metres of the flagged school crossing; and for the 36 metres that follow in a northerly direction after the crossing, the one hour parking restriction will be replaced by a sign reading: "15 minute parking, 8.30-9.15am and 3.15-4pm, Monday to Friday".

Meanwhile, the two hour parking restriction along Westbrook St has been extended northwards to Cadow St and various changes have been made to the parking restrictions along the carpark access road, adjacent to the Library.

SHE'S WON TATTS

Cr Daryl Oldaker, Deputy Mayor of Kew, presented the Tattersall's Award for Enterprise and Achievement to Mrs Janet Bowen-Pain on 25th May. The citation on the award was "for services to the Royal Guide Dog Association"; and Mrs Bowen-Pain nominated the Association as beneficiary of the $2,500 that accompanied the award.

She has spent 17 years "puppywalking" the guide dog pups. During that time she has reared seven guide dogs for the Association, as well as caring for two brood bitches, including "Meg", who has so far produced 29 puppies, many of whom have graduated as guide dogs.

Says 85 year old Mrs Bowen-Pain, "Caring for guide dog pups is the same as minding a child. They're with you all the time". Her devotion to her puppies is well known to local churchgoers, who have become used to seeing her sitting with her current pup in the front pew with the children, each Sunday.

Representing the benefactors of the award, Tattersall Sweep Consultation, was its Chief Executive Mr David Jones.

ATTEMPTS TO COUNTER ELM DISEASES

Kew's population of elm trees is now under threat! It's official. The Superintendent of Parks and Gardens has suggested some radical ways to counter the threat of the twin problems of Elm Leaf Beetle and Dutch Elm Disease; the dreaded Dutch Elm Disease, which has destroyed all Britian's elms, has reached New Zealand, and the Beetle is eating its way along the Mornington Peninsula.

In Kew's parks and streets, 100 elm trees grow, especially in Eglinton Reserve, Victoria Park and Outer Circle Railway Reserve; there are significant numbers in private gardens, and in public areas not under the Council's control, such as the Yarra River environs; north side of Studley Park Road and around the Willsmere Hospital.

The Superintendent of Parks and Gardens wants to reduce the population of the two beetles, the Elm Leaf Beetle and the Elm Bark Beetle which spreads the fungal Dutch Elm Disease. He commented: "There are two separate problems, and although eradication is considered impossible, management of both problems can be achieved".

He has suggested several measures, including: improving the maintenance of the trees, to keep them healthy; destroying all prunings from such maintenance immediately; reducing the "density of the elm population" by removal of unmanageable and unhealthy trees and sucker growth, and replacing with other suitable species; and locating and maintaining a regular check of all elm trees, both publicly and privately owned, so that symptoms of disease are promptly diagnosed — and appropriate action taken.

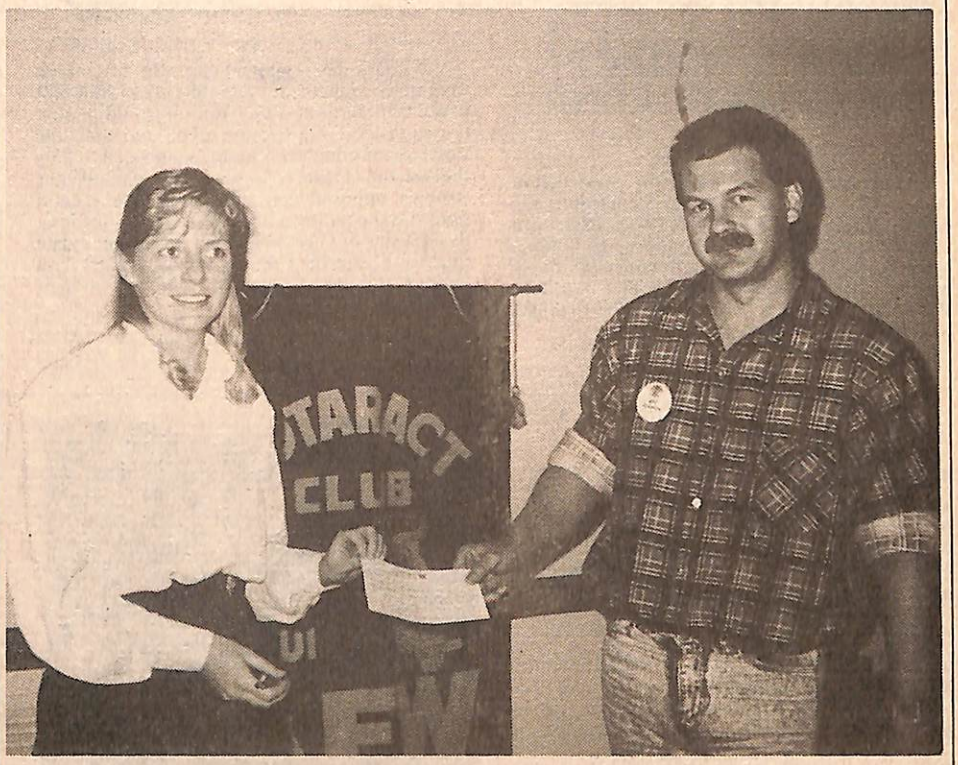
Meanwhile, some local environmentalists are wondering if such diseases will stop at the most vulnerable tree — the elm with its broadest leaf. They argue that other wide-leafed varieties may also be under various threats.

ROTARACT DONATION

Kew Rotaract Club recently presented the "Make a Wish Foundation" with a cheque for $470. Club President, Mr Michael Dickinson, made the presentation to a Foundation representative, Dianne Walker.

As part of the club's community service programme this year, members conducted a drinks' stall at the Kew Festival, to raise the donation for the Foundation.

Kew Rotaract is a "community service organisation" which is open to men and women between the ages of 18 and 30. Its postal address is PO Box 125, Kew.



BAND PLAYERS WIN

Kew Band has enjoyed a busy start to the year, travelling to Tasmania for a successful concert tour. It also competed in the National Band Championships at Easter, and performed creditably.

Soloists with the Band have achieved good results in competitions. Wendy Steele won the junior "Champion of Champions" title in the Victorian State Solo championships, and David Thompson won the National Trombone championship.

Currently, the Band is organising a car raffle as its major money raising effort for the year. It has thanked residents for their support. Full details are available from Jack Kelly, on telephone 459 1329.

OUR GLAD'S PLAY!

After three successful seasons, the Viola Musical Theatre, based in Kew, has chosen the musical play "Katinka", by Rudolph Friml, as its next production. This is an operetta made famous by Gladys Moncrieff. It is a melodious show, with romantic and colourful settings. It is intended to accompany the production with an orchestra and a ballet! The season dates are 12,13,19 and 20 October, all at 8pm.

If residents are interested in the Viola Musical Theatre, they could contact its director, Mr David Keane, on telephone 383 1486. He stresses: "A warm welcome is assured to prospective members and their friends".

ASTHMA FOUNDATION STRETCHES LEGS

A brand new programme has been commenced by the Asthma Foundation; and this innovation for Australia is being organised in Kew first. "Fitness Walking", partaken by adults along the tree lined streets of Kew, can be done at the participants' own paces.

The Foundation describes it as "a good intensity exercise that is essentially free of pain and injury. Done three to four times a week, with approximately 45 minutes duration, it can be as satisfying as a vigorous workout".

Accompanying the fitness walking is lung function testing before and after the walk; and about five minutes of gentle exercise to music.

Casual bookings are welcomed by the Asthma Foundation, at a cost of $3 per session. Residents can contact Nicky Ritchie or Kate Peppard at the Foundation's office, at 2 Highfield Grove, Kew. The phone number is 861 5666.

MUSIC INITIATIVE

Located in Kew, the two year old Academy of Indian Music and Cultural Studies has commenced its own weekly radio programme. The Academy began its first hour-long programme on 4th June, at 3 MBS, Kew-based classical music station.

The 10pm programme is known as 'Melbourne Ragas and Rhythms'. In the first edition of the show, South Indian music by Balachander and Nageswara was followed by North Indian music of Ravishankar, Shivkumar Sharma and Brijbushan Kabbra. A highlight was a private recording of Indo-Australian music by Vasumathi Subramaniam.

Meanwhile, a "new subscriber drive" from 15 June to 17 June resulted in hundreds of new subscribing listeners. The station played special music, and attracted interest through raffle draws and free CDs or LPs for newcomers.

ADULT LITERACY AWARD

To recognise the UN Year of Literacy, the Soroptimist International Club of Chisholm is offering a $500 award to a person "conducting an innovative programme" within the municipalities of Box Hill, Camberwell, Malvern, Hawthorn and Kew. Closing date for applications is 31st July 1990, and application forms are available from Mrs Sheila Rodeck, on telephone 861 5333.

The 25 year old club has been involved in local, regional and international service projects. Women holding a responsible position within their chosen occupation are invited to membership as a representative of that occupation.