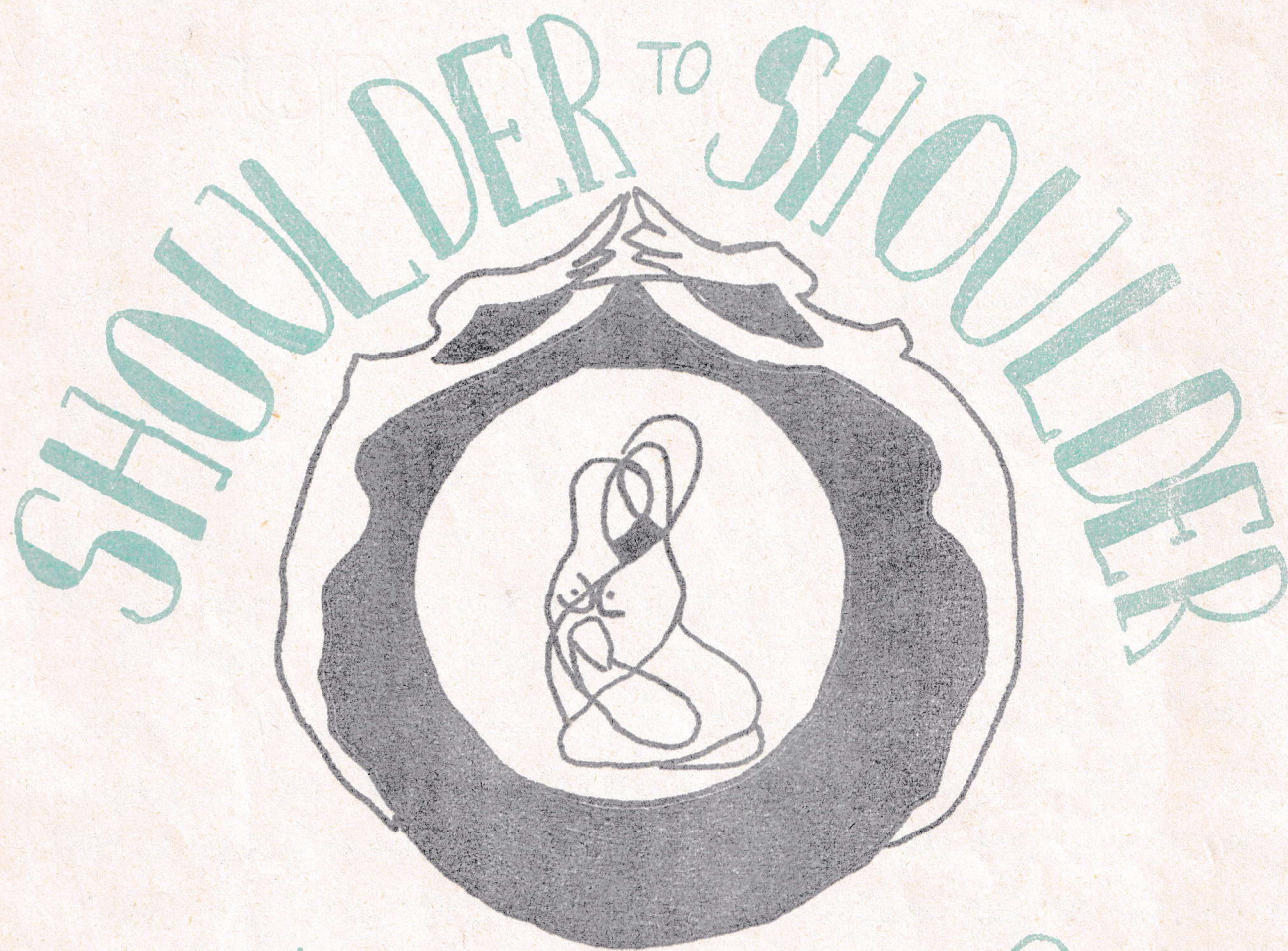


lyn 318 Bellier St.

KENSINGTON WOMEN'S • GROUP •



NEWSLETTER
NO. 9.

-CHILD CARE CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED-

89 MCCracken ST, KENSINGTON.

Editorial - "COMMUNITY Or Catastrophe?"

What is being a member of the community all about? Is it always agreeing with what's going on and praising people with powers? Or, is it being afraid to voice your opinion and being classed as an idiot? Or, is it shut your mouth and go along with what is going on?

Well, as far as I'm concerned, it's being part of what's going on around you, helping where you can, and having your say. But, in this community, it seems to be the same people running committees, who have been around for the last 10 years. Then, the question arises. Why? Well, no-one else will take the responsibility, but is this true? Or, is it that some people haven't the intelligence or the education? Or is it, that, these people are easily indoctrinated to the ways they are expected to go?

It seems to me that, in this community, people go around patting each other on the back and saying, "well done". What is happening? We have a Community Health Centre, churches, schools, Holland park Community Centre and lots of other organisations and groups.

But why have we still got the same problems now as we had 5 years ago? Okay. On one level, Government funding hasn't exactly treated us kindly. There are lots of things around here, that we've tried to get funding for - e.g. the C.S.D.O., and many more things we need, for example, a Preventative Youth Worker. Isn't it time we ALL got together and put pressure on the Government, not as individuals, but as a whole community?

If people can see things around them, being done, they will rally around in support, but it has to be something big that will be noticed and people have to understand what their supposed to be fighting for.

Here is one example. Kids between 12 yrs and 17 yrs have nothing

"Community or Catastrophe" Continued

around here to keep them occupied. So they just hang around and then are abused and condemned for what is not their fault. We could go on. Everyone is talking about it and everyone is aware. As well, the workers in the area feel they can't take on any more responsibilities, so it's up to the parents. Well! Why should parents have to be forced into this? Remember, they have those kids 24 hours a day and they need a break too. Plus, the majority have kids in different age groups that they have to care about. So who does try and do something for the kids? Well wake up Kensington, you have a long way to go.

If we are supposed to be a community which is progressing, well let's see something to shout about. Because, when this community has really got something going that is noticeable, where people in Kensington can see, then you will find they will support it's community.

I'm amazed at people who have come into this area with fantastic ideas, and tried their best to do something. They have gone to the right places and people for support, and told, "oh yes, great!" But that support has never been followed through, and then the person or persons has got pissed off and left the area, and put their time and energy somewhere else.

Well, I don't blame them, as all some people want around here is power. We have a worker in this area now who is doing a fantastic job and who knows what it's all about. They have been rubbished a fair bit too.

So stop rubbishing people who are doing a good job, and look at yourself and see what you are doing first. Also, the reasons why you are doing it, "think about it", and when we all take a good look at ourselves, maybe, the genuine people can get together and do something worthwhile.

So, come on, Community Health Centre, Holland Park, Youth Workers, Holy Rosary, Kensington Women's Group, Uniting Churches, Schools, Migrants Groups, Tenants Union. Have a think about what you are doing. Is it enough, why are you doing it? We're interested, are you? Then maybe we can put pressure on the Government.

A WARM AND FUZZY FAIRY TALE

by Claude M. Steiner*



Once upon a time, even longer than long ago, there lived a very warm and happy family; a Father named Father, a mother named Mother, and their two adorable children, Brother and Sister. To appreciate how really warm and happy this family was, you have to understand how things were in those days. You particularly have to understand about the Warm Fuzzys.

It was the custom then, to give every child, at birth, a wonderfully marvellous bag of their very own. The bag was quite small, and made of the softest, fuzziest material you could imagine.

It never felt heavy or full, and yet anytime you put your hand inside, you would find a Warm Fuzzy there.

Finding a Warm fuzzy in your bag was just about the nicest in the world. In fact, the only feeling even nicer was when you gave your Fuzzy to someone else.

Warm Fuzzies were about the size of a little girls hand, and while they came in many different colours, they were all equally warm and soft and fuzzy.

When you took a Fuzzy out of your bag and gave it to someone else, it would smile a soft smile, sigh a deep sigh, and blossom right there and then, into a large Shaggy Warm Fuzzy, just the right size to put around a shoulder or lay in a lap.

There, it would immediately snuggle up even closer and make you feel warm and fuzzy and good all over.

Getting plenty of warm Fuzzys was important to everyone's well being, because without them, you would gradually develop a sickness in your back which would cause you to shrivel up and die.

There was little danger of that happening in those days, however, because it was so easy to get Warm Fuzzys.

Anytime someone felt like it, they could just walk up to you and say, "I'd like to have a Warm Fuzzy".

Thoughts
around, around
Vapour thin, they twist and turn
And Disturb

I need to be me,
Not the me that he wants
But
The me I know I am.

Why the fight?
Freedom is a Right!!!

I don't need to Rhyme
I feel the need to scream
There is an oppressive heat.
It doesn't weigh at my heart
just
my head.

You can kill a butterfly
just by
stroking its
featherlight wings.
People drift, and dart
In a myriad of confusions.

I am nothing but a specimen
I struggle as the pins go in
And heavy hands crush my nothingness
into nothingness.

The black hands mould my shape
the mystery called me
into a figment of his imagination,
not the me
that,
I understand.

DeeJay.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

You would then reach into your bag and give them one, and watch them smile and grow warm and fuzzy all over. Most of the time they would give you a Fuzzy in return and you could grow warm and fuzzy together.

Some people enjoyed giving their Fuzzys away, even when not asked. And everyone, in their own way, was equally free, with their Fuzzys because there was always plenty to go around.

No matter how often, or how fast you reached into your bag, you always found another Fuzzy. Because of this, everyone could always feel warm and fuzzy anytime they wanted to, and it was easy for them to stay happy all the time.

Or at least until the old Witch moved into the neighborhood. She came in an old, rusty, wagon, intent on selling her magic health potions and enchanted happiness solves.

But, as you can imagine, everyone was too happily warm and fuzzy to care about her wares. This made her frustrated and angry. Being a clever old witch, she soon devised a devious plan.

On the last truly happy morning, she found Father watching Mother who was busily playing with Daughter.

"Look, Father," whispered the witch in a voice which creaked like her own rusty wagon wheel, "look at Mother giving all her Fuzzys to Daughter. If she keeps that up much longer her bag will run dry and there won't be any more for you."

Father could not believe his ears. All of his life there had always been enough Fuzzys for everyone. "Do you mean to tell me that the supply of Fuzzys is limited?" he asked.

"Absolutely!" replied the witch. "It happened only last week to the people on the other side of the mountain, and it was dreadful to behold. The worst part is, you never know exactly when it will happen. One day you will reach into your bag, and there will be nothing there! And once your bag runs dry, that's it, forever! It won't be long before you're left to shrivel up and die!"

With that she hobbled away to her wagon, laughing, cackling at the trick she had pulled.

Father could hardly believe the witch's story at first, but it did make him fearful and suspicious. He decided to start counting every time Mother gave a Warm Fuzzy to someone else. The more she gave, the more he counted, and the more he worried, because he was particularly fond of Mother's Fuzzys, and he never wanted to be without them. Even if there was only a small chance that the witch told the truth, he didn't think it was right for Mother to meet all her life.

CAPRICORN

LIBRA

SAGITARIUS

CAPRICORNIA NS HAVE Watch OUT FOR THE LOSS OF
A RATHER COOL AND SOME MONEY. MAKE GUESTS
RESERVED NATURE. THIS WELCOME. RESERVE ENERGY.

WEEK THEY WILL BE
LUCKY WITH GAMBLING
BUT THEY MUST LEARN
TO USE THAT MONEY
WISELY. GOOD NEWS NOV 15TH
AQUARIUS

YOU MUST THINK
CAREFULLY BEFORE
MAKING ANY DECISIONS
A SURPRISE GIFT AT THE
BEGINNING OF THE WEEK

LUCKY NO. 12.

PISCES

AS ALL PISCES HAVE
THEIR HEAD IN THE CLOUDS

FREQUENTLY, THEY DON'T TAKE
THINGS SERIOUSLY AS THEY

SHOULD. A FRIEND FROM THE
PAST WILL RING WITH DIS-

TURBING NEWS.

ARIES

MAKING MONEY IS VERY

FAVOURABLE THIS WEEK TRY IN BUSINESS. WATCH OUT

TO BE UNDERSTANDING AND FOR TUESDAY 6TH NOV. THINGS

DON'T GAMBLE LUCKY

TAURUS

TAUREANS ARE VERY GOOD

MIGHT HAPPEN. SOMETHING

BEING SO WELL ORGANIZED
YOU WILL BE READY FOR THOSE
UNEXPECTED VISITORS.
BY A LOTTERY TICKET.

SCORPIO

DON'T SIT BACK AND
GIVE ORDERS. WATCH
OUT FOR A PISCAN.

LUCKY COLOUR: PINK.

GEMINI

YOU SHOULD NOT TRY
TO AGREE WITH EVERY

BODY AT ONCE. TRY
TO CONTROL YOUR
TEMPER.

CANCER

DON'T STAY AT HOME

GET OUT AND ENJOY

YOURSELF. CONTACT

FRIENDS YOU HAVEN'T SEEN

FOR AWHILE. LUCKY COLOR: GREEN

LEO

YOU WILL HEAR SOME

GOOD NEWS SOON. DON'T

TAKE ANY NOTICE OF

CRITICISM. LUCKY NO. 11

VIRGO

TRY BEING A LITTLE MORE

INDEPENDANT. LUCKY

WEEK AHEAD FOR YOU.



Because Mother liked Father very much, and respected his wishes, she began withholding her Fuzzys from others, and reserved most of them for him.

They to became suspicious and were careful to count their own Fuzzys. They gave them less and less when asked and almost never, just because they felt like it. They began to object whenever they felt Father and Mother were giving too many Fuzzys to each other

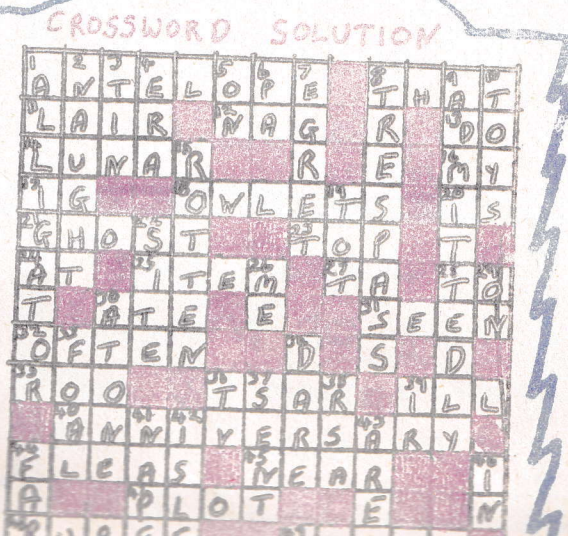
* do Mother, Father, Brother and Sister realise that the witch has tricked them?

* how serious does the situation become?

* REPRODUCED, AND RE-REPRODUCED FROM THE 'CATALYST' NEWSLETTER OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES WORKERS, VOL I. NO. IV, 1975.

Deadline for next issue
of S.T.G. ~ NOV. 20TH.

Gossip Kills!!
REALLY



ITALIAN DINNER NIGHT

FRIDAY 23rd Nov. 6p.m.

EVERYONE WELCOME -
GOOD COMPANY, FUN, AND FRIENDS.

KENSINGTON WOMEN'S GROUP

DISCUSSION GROUP
EVERY WEDNESDAY.

AT 10.30
OR THEREABOUTS.

DROP IN CENTRE

OPEN EACH DAY

9-6pm.

89 MCCrack

DROP IN!



WANTED TO BUY-

WARDROBE & CHEST
OF DRAWERS.

Ring Bev. - 3766354

DRAMA GROUP

Every Monday 11.a.m.

YOUR CHANCE TO BE LEGITIMATE
DRAMATIC



NEXT SHOPPING

DAY = Nov. 22nd
Meet at house. It's FUN!!!

NEWSLETTER COLLECTIVE?

ARE YOU
INTERESTED TO
HELP? We met
every wednesday around
noon.

This Issue was
brought to you by-
Bev, Val, Maurzen, Jean, Lyn,
Denise, Therese and Marg.



Letter to David
1964

On Saturday the 27th Oct, we had a get-together. We all met at the house at 12 o'clock. It was a cosy house. There was, fried rice, meat curry, fish cutlets, and salad. While I cooked the curry, and made the salad, the rest of the girls played Bingo, and when everything was ready we all had lunch. The girls said they enjoyed the lunch, but Kathy Gibbs, kept running to the toilet all the time, after she had her lunch, and we were all laughing at Kathy going to the toilet. I guess the curry didn't agree with her, so I said no more curry again, except for our Drama Teacher who is coming to teach us drama on Monday the 5th Nov. I promise to give him curried sandwiches (Ha! Ha!) Anyway after lunch we were still playing bingo & Maureen didn't give me peace, she was covering my card before the numbers were called, and I couldn't keep my mouth shut as every number that was called I was saying 'yes' and I didn't know, I thought I had won and shouted Bingo and it was Maureen who had covered my card again, I really felt like punching her, but I'm too scared of her. (Not really). Maureen pulled her down from her chair, and she broke the ashtray. We really had fun. So why don't you come along, next time we get together. You can have fun, and most of all we could make you feel happy.

Friends are people, who make you feel happy.

Therese Weinmeister



Following the format that this newsletter placed on the needs of youth in Kensington, a group of interested people met at Macraehen st. a date was selected for a meeting which is the subject of this report.

Members of the community were invited to attend at twelve, on Nov. 1st. Initially there were discussions about the appropriateness or otherwise, of police behaviour and attitudes towards Ken Kids. It was considered by the group that the kids did not get onto the juvenile justice merry-go-round. The kids very easily found themselves in this position, by simply being 'flat kids'. This situation very often arises because the kids are simply hanging around.

What about Holland Park, for some reason the kids choose not to go there unless they are playing one of the sports that the centre offers. Attempts are being made by the park to attract the kids because they are concerned about their needs.

one has to find them. There were no children from the community. And, the kids generally found themselves dealing with the long run of the law.

The kids that we are particularly concerned about is the 12-16 year olds, while the times of concern are the weekends and after school.

It is very easy, however, to sit around and discuss "problems" endlessly. Action is needed. The group decided to meet after three weeks (Nov 15th, 12 noon) and other interested persons are invited to attend.

To this meeting, every person is bringing their own contribution regarding what they consider the situation to be, and what perhaps it could, or should, be. Those that have access to statistic type information such as the numbers of kids in the area, of kids using Holland Park, etc. are collecting that. The purpose of these contributions is to investigate the possibility of a youth workers, and other feasible alternatives.

Denise Jones.

Child Care !!! —

Dear Friends,

Hello once again from all the staff at the centre. We would like to thank all the Volunteer helpers who have cooked the lunches and helped out with the children over the last few weeks. Their help has been extremely valuable and much appreciated by all staff.

EQUIPMENT— As you have probably noticed we now have new equipment for the backyard, as well as some more new equipment inside: home corner furniture, puzzles, manipulative aids, etc.

The planks, tressles and ladders, enable growth and development of the children's physical abilities through climbing, balancing, swinging, jumping and sliding.

We also have a carpenter in the centre doing various small and large jobs. Robert will be "renovating" the old shed — building a larger lock-up shed and structurally fixing the other part where we intend to build a sandpit.

The children not only greatly enjoy their play in the "home corner" but are learning, through dressing up and role play. If you have any old hats, men's coats, old saucers, plastic jugs & bowls etc, you don't need, and feel the children could use, they would be appreciated.

FUND RAISING— We are having a cake stall at the end of November (date to be announced). Any other ideas for fund raising would be appreciated by Lyn.

FEES— Just a reminder, if anyone is absent for one week without notice, we have a holiday fee of \$5.00. Any other time, full fees are to be paid. Our financial situation is much healthier now, that we have adopted this policy.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS— the centre will be closed on December 21st and reopen again on January 14th. (child care only). If anyone needs child care over this period, see one of the staff, and we will try to help if possible.

Please feel free to come into the centre anytime and share your child's experiences, or chat to the staff.