

KENSINGTON WOMENS GROUP



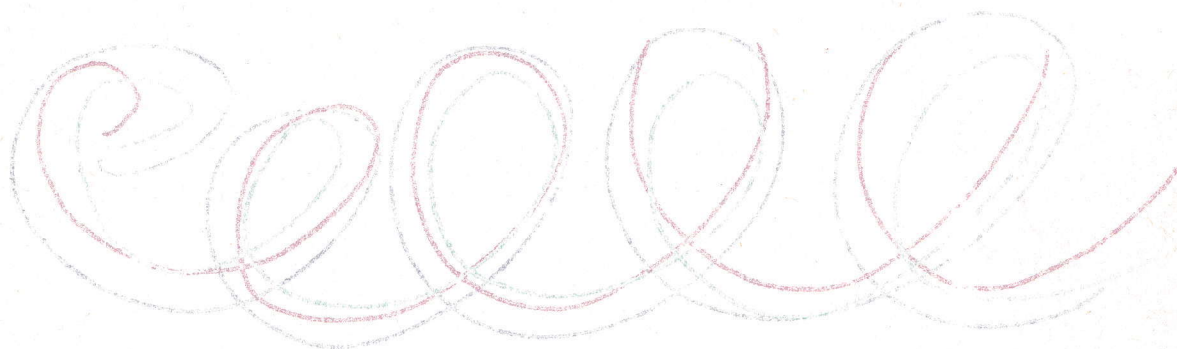
NEWSLETTER

VOL. 2. NO 14

CHILD CARE CO-OPERATIVE LTD.
89. M^cCRACKEN ST. KENSINGTON
PHONE: 3767280

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*This issue was put together and compiled
to by: Val Martin, Madrasa Tegan, P. J. J.
Wernimster, Mary Kelly, Debbie Burke, Dany, Kim,
Michelle Turvey, Terry Fagan, Lyn & Co.

WE REGRET THAT DUE CIRCUMSTANCES
BEYOND OUR CONTROL, THAT WE CANNOT
BRING TO YOU THE INTERVIEW ON "DRUGS
IN KEN." EDITOR.

editorial

the

house

89 McCracken Street

IN THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS, THE KENSINGTON WOMEN'S GROUP - CHILD CARE CO-OP LTD. HOPES THIS WILL BE A BIGGER YEAR THAN WE HAVE HAD. OR YOU COULD SAY OUR BIGGEST YEAR. SINCE WE TOLD YOU A BIT ABOUT THE HOUSE EARLIER THIS YEAR, WE THOUGHT WE WOULD LET YOU KNOW WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE. THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE WOMEN'S GROUP & CHILD CARE OUR NOW DEVELOPING, AND THERE IS A CLOSER FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN PARENTS AND WOMEN.

AS WE ARE ALL GAINING AND ENJOYING OUR ACHIEVEMENTS TOGETHER. WE NOW HAVE NEW DIRECTORS CONSISTING OF PARENT, WOMEN, AND STAFF. AND THE WORK LOAD HAS BEEN DIVIDED INTO SUB COMMITTEES, SO THAT IT IS EQUALLY SHARED. WITH EACH COMMITTEE MEMBER TAKING SOME RESPONSIBILITY

WE NOW HAVE A FINANCE COMMITTEE WHO WILL TAKE THE WHOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL THE FINANCES IN THE HOUSE. WE ALSO HAVE A STAFFING COMMITTEE, WHO WILL HELP

CONT P. 4.

the house cont..

THE STAFF, AND ALSO WORK THEIR JOB DESCRIPTION OUT FOR THEM. ALSO WE HAVE A VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE, FUND RAISING COMMITTEE, AND A SOCIAL COMMITTEE WHICH IS RUN BY THE WOMEN'S GROUP.

SINCE ONE OF OUR CHILD CARE STAFF HAS LEFT, WE DID HAVE A ~~PROBLEM~~ PROBLEM TRYING TO EMPLOY A CHILD CARE WORKER ON SUCH A SMALL WAGE.

BUT NOW WE HAVE TWO PART TIME STAFF WHO WILL START WORK THIS WEEK. AND WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME, BARBARA WHILEY AND JENNY KEHOE OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS, TO MCCRACKEN ST AND KENSINGTON. WE HOPE THAT YOU ARE ALL UP TO DATE NOW WITH WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS MORE ABOUT THE HOUSE, VIA THE NEWSLETTER, PLEASE WRITE IN.





Kensington Women's Group

Child Care Co-operative Ltd.

89 McCracken St.

We are planning to hold a stall at the Maribyrnong Trash n' Treasure on Sunday 1st June, to raise funds towards the running of the car and to subsidize family camping.

We would appreciate any items of usable furniture, clean clothing, electrical goods, plants, bric-brac, etc., which are of no further use to you.

If you cannot deliver your goods to 'house', we can arrange to pick them up.

For further information please see

Michal or Marg at the 'house' or
phone 376 7280 anytime between
7am - 6pm. Monday to Friday

DOING IT TOGETHER (cont.)

(1)

The need for a group of this kind was actually recognized in 1974 by Social Workers and Teachers within the area. They realized that because a number of families were on low incomes meaning that both parents had to work, there was no-one at home to supervise young children in the after school hours. Also, due to the nature of overcrowded small premises, and the number of young children in the Housing Commission flats where play space was limited and often dangerous, there was a need for supervised activities for children.

The Save the Children Fund was contacted by the municipal social worker and she offered

to pay the salary of one part time child care supervisor and \$100 a month running costs. The programme proved to be extremely successful and by 1976 there were two child care workers, (part-time), and a Kombi Van bus. This enabled the size of the group to expand and introduced the children to a range of activities which their limited environment did not allow.

One of the workers thus employed, became very involved with the Women's Group and she gave them a great deal of support, encouragement and practical assistance.

DOING IT TOGETHER"

(2).

started with only four children, but had steadily increased to between 25-30, which was considered the maximum which could be managed while ensuring a personalized approach. As the submission for premises was a joint one, the club arranged for the use of the house between the hours of 2-6 p.m., and used it as a base for any activities. The club has become known as a safe interesting "place" for children to play as well as something they enjoy going to. The activities have included regular trips to Brunswick baths, excursions to the country, local parks, the docks and other

areas of interest. The children have joined the local library; have taken part in craft activities, and have been introduced to musical instruments, as well as a whole range of play activities. There was always a recognition however, that although the activities were important and rewarding in themselves, they would have little effect on the emotional development of the child in the limited hours they took place. Therefore, efforts were made to involve parents, and local community members as much as possible, so the children would have a sense of continuity. Many mothers actually become involved in the activities.

DOING IT TOGETHER

Women's Group through their initial contact and participation with the After School Club. Overall the Club has acted as a stabilizing force within the Women's group for its activities

have continued regardless of any external pressures, or internal difficulties which were taking place.

NEXT ISSUE SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS

Thank you —

Rob Turner for donating a spare wheel for our car.

and

David and Tony for doing the plumbing for free



THE MURRINDINDI CAMP

EASTER '8

Afterthoughts - SUE!

We were the late starters of the camp (not due to cowardice!) arriving around 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. The couple of days we spent there were a great experience and re-awakened our pre-baby enjoyment of the exercise of community with nature.

The absolute rusticity of this camp (no such luxuries as refrigeration, showers or toilet!) made its escape from the city atmosphere complete, and the kids enjoyment made all these "little conveniences" worthwhile.

Many thanks to Marg and her assistants for organising the camp for us and let's hope we'll have more in the future.

I'd advise all you "city-slickers" to come back to nature with us next time - you'll love it!

DEBBIE BOORKE

THE CAMP

P. 10.

A group of women and children went on a camp holiday for six days during the easter break-up, as I was one of the mothers who had never been camping in my life before, it was quite an experience, they say there is a first time for everything, well this was my first time, I didn't know what to expect, All the other mothers and kids slept in sleeping bags, but me being the grandmother of them all, I had to have a bed which was duly organised for me.

Well, as I said we had six lovely days, the weather was ideal, but very cold in the mornings and at nights, no more cooking over a hot stove for us mums, we thought, but cooking over a hot open fire.

Talk about smoke gets in your eyes, all we did was move around the fire to get away from the smoke. We had really good fun and plenty of laughs, especially when one of the boys went into the icy cold river every day for a shower with his jocks on, but the best laugh was when he ducked one of the women in with all her clothes on, good on you Marg for all the work and organising you put into the camp we really enjoyed ourselves and a good time was had by all, so roll on the next camp, which I hope won't be too long in the future.



SOME DAYS
MARY WORE
AN APRON
(IN THE CAMP)



Mary King.

← FALSE TEETH AT
NIGHT SITTING ON A
CAN OF BEANS

I BET NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN MARY WITH A DIRTY FACE-
WE'LL ONE NIGHT MARY FELL OVER AND HER FACE WAS PETRED!

THE CAMP

CONT.... P. 11.

THE CAMP

I WOULD LIKE TO GO AGAIN BECAUSE I LIKED THE CAMP IT WAS THE FIRST TIME WHEN I SLEPT IN A TENT I LIKED WHEN WE SLEPT IN THE BUSH ONE DAY THERESE GOT THROWN IN THE WATER BY GERALD THERESE WAS ALL WET MICHELLE PUSHED GERALD IN TOO AND GERALD WAS GOING TO GET MICHELLE BUT MICHELLE LOCKED HER SELF IN THE CAR IT WAS FUNNY BECAUSE THERESE GOT THROWN IN THE WATER DEBBY TOOK ME AND CAROL UP TO THE MOUNTAINS TO SEE THE WATERFALL IT WAS BE BEAUTIFUL by KERRY TACARI



Kerry
←

THE MURRINDINDI - ITS GOING TO GET YOU, snakes, by the hundreds patrol the campsite at night, enclosing us by a huge circle of venom, leeches glue themselves to your body not letting go, and a variety of spiders, triaculas, redbacks, scorpions, and giant bull ants, threaten to creep into your tent at night and harass the living daylight out of you.

Huge bushfires are a common feature followed by flooding rains which wash you out.

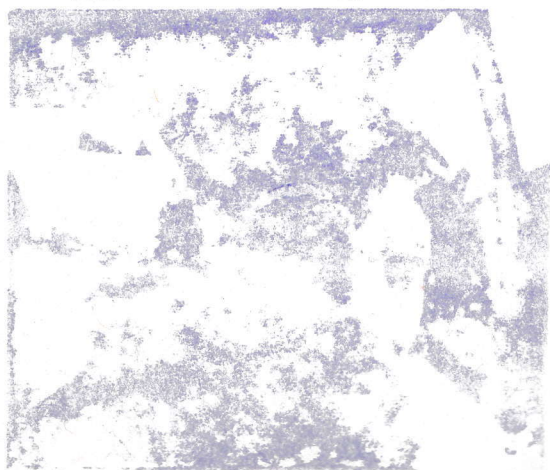
As well, we dine and drink tea in a smoked atmosphere - everything is smoked, toast, soup, & tea. There's not much to do, except, fishing, beautiful

"I think
one must finally
take one's life
in one's arms."

from *After the Fall*

Arthur Miller

WINNERS



WINNERS -

Winners have different potentials. Achievement is not the most important thing. Authenticity is. The authentic person experiences self-reality by being, knowing, and becoming a credible person who is responsive. Authentic persons actualize their own represented uniqueness and appreciate the uniqueness of others.

Authentic persons — winners — do not dedicate their lives to a concept of what they imagine they should be; rather they are themselves and as such do not use their energy in putting on a performance, maintaining pretence, and manipulating others. They are aware that there is a difference between being loving and acting loving, between being stupid and acting stupid, between being knowledgeable and acting knowledgeable. Winners do not need to hide behind a mask. They throw off unrealistic self images of inferiority or superiority. Autonomy does not frighten them.

All people have moments of autonomy, if only fleeting. However, winners are able to sustain their autonomy over ever increasing periods of time. Winners may lose ground occasionally and may even fail. Yet, in spite of setbacks winners maintain a basic self confidence.

Winners are not afraid to do their own thinking and to trust their own knowledge. They can separate facts from opinions and don't pretend to have all the answers. They listen to others and evaluate what they say, but come to their own conclusions. Although winners can admire and respect other people, they are not totally defined, demolished, bound or awed by them.

Winners do not play "helpless" nor do they play the blaming game. Instead, they assume responsibility for their lives. They do not give others a false authority over them. Winners are their own bosses and know it.

A winners timing is right. Winners respond appropriately to the situation. Their responses are related to the message and preserve the significance, worth, and well-being, and dignity.

WINNERS CONTINUED.

is a season and for every activity a time.

a time to be aggressive and a time to be passive,
a time to be together and a time to be alone,
a time to fight and a time to love,
a time to work and a time to play,
a time to laugh and a time to cry,
a time to confront and a time to withdraw,
a time to speak and a time to be silent,
a time to hurry and a time to wait.

To winners, time is precious. Winners don't kill it but live it here and now. Living in the now does not mean that winners foolishly ignore their own past history or prepare for the future. Rather winners know their past, are aware and alive in the present, and look forward to the future.

Winners learn to know their feelings and limitations and to be unafraid of them. Winners are not stopped by their contradictions and ambivalences. Being authentic, they know when they are angry and can listen when others are angry with them. Winners can give and receive affection. Winners are able to love and be loved.

Winners can be spontaneous. They do not have to respond in predetermined, rigid ways, but can change their plans when the situation calls for it. Winners have a zest for life, enjoying work, play, food, sex and the world of nature. Without guilt they enjoy their own accomplishments. Without envy they enjoy the accomplishments of others.

Although winners can freely enjoy themselves, they can also postpone enjoyment, can discipline themselves in the present to enhance their enjoyment in the future. Winners are not afraid to go after what they want, but they do so in appropriate ways. Winners do not get their security by controlling others. They do not set themselves up to lose.

A winner cares about the world and its peoples. A winner is not isolated from the general problems of society, but is

to improving the quality of life.

Even in the face of national and international adversity, a winner's self-image is not one of a powerless individual. A winner works to make the world a better place.



FROM "BORN TO WIN"

BY JAMES AND JONGEWARD

• NEXT ISSUE

- LOSERS - "like the
frog-prince in the fairy tale
losers are spellbound, and live
their lives being controlled by
others."

THE CAMP

CONT. 1/3

serenity, walks and a peaceful atmosphere. Finally, we are threatened by rands from bushrangers, with guns, we have to remain on guard - cannons loaded - beware of the Murrindindi - except in this case the Women's group realised, that none of this really happens and such fears are a thing of the past. Many asked these sorts of questions on deciding to come. We arrived late on Thursday night 'in the dark' & everyone helped to put up the remaining tents. 10 Adults & 10 kids & loads of fun - MARCO WELSH

My first experience of camping in the bush was on our easter camp. It was so relaxing and peaceful, it felt strange. No set times for eating and sleeping, sitting around an open fire, washing in ice cold water, no clocks or T.V. and just sitting around talking, or walking, or just sitting peacefully on your own.

We also had lots of sing songs & fun around the fire at night, it was great.

BUT I did have one shock, I was cleaning my teeth down the river, when I suddenly slipped and fell in it was so cold I didn't know what happened when I realised I was hanging onto my false teeth like grim death and my false teeth which has 3 teeth on the plate was stuck to my other hand, I eventually got myself out and called for help. Anyway, what happened was my hand got infected and with Dr. Mary and Sr. Debbie on hand, they cleared it up for me. Which was lucky cause if I had have had to go to hospital I could have been in an embarrassing situation explaining

The Camp cont. P. 17

that my false teeth missed so much that it was great and I'm looking for another and getting away from London.



MAUREEN
FAGAN.



I think the Easter Camp was great for the peace and beauty of the bush. Was unusual. The best part of the camp were the people, many who made an effort really enjoyed themselves. I wasn't looking forward to coming back to city, but it was inevitable. I'd like to thank everybody who made the camp possible, all the people who attended. Mary for all her hard work. I had a terrific time and I can't wait until our next family camp.

Michelle Turner

RAFFLE RESULTS

- 1st A teenager from the community centre.
- 2nd Cheryl Franklin
- 3rd. Michelle's sister? (forgot her name)

Thanks to those who supported it by buying & selling tickets. The money subsidise the easter camp.

NEXT DIRECTOR
MEETING AT
HOUSE

MAY 12, 7-30 P

ALL WELCOME

NEXT GENERAL MEET
MAY 19th 5-30

CASEROLE TEST - COFFEE
and hear about the house

The Camp CONT. P. 17

that my false beam pleased all
that it was great and I'm looking
another and getting away from E.



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NEXT DIRECTOR
MEETING AT
HOUSE

MAY 12, 2.30 PM

ALL WELCOME

NEXT GENERATION
MAY 1st 5.30 PM

CASERO

and hear about the house

The Camp P. 18

As you know Marg and Mureen went 2 days ahead to set up the tents. For the camps. I was to go too. But as I needed a bit of a rest. I stayed back. I bet you Mureen must to have been scared.

But when I asked her if she had been scared. She said she wasn't. Mureen and Marg came back, and took some of the kids and parents.

Michelle, myself and the rest left Ken. On Friday when we reached the camp. It was such a lovely sight! With all the tents up. a camp-fire was lighting. Some were near, their tents.

Some were by the campfire. We had a cup of soup, with bread. The soup was really good. Thanks to the person, made the soup.

The first night at the camp. I couldn't sleep. Suddenly I heard footsteps, near our tent. and I screamed! Then I heard Helen saying, "don't worry Therese, It's only me" Anyway I think most of us enjoyed camping. and I liked camp-life.

So if you like camping. Why don't you join us on our next camp.

For more news on our next camp, ask Marg, or any women from the Ken. Women's group.

Therese



gardenng 26.10.19.

This Month we are going to have a try at hanging baskets. It doesn't matter if you haven't any garden at all, hanging baskets will add glamour and enhance any room.

The first thing to do is to choose a container there is glass, plastic and fibre containers available these may be purchased from certain plant shops or you may choose a wire container and line it with bark. This type is very popular and inexpensive. The soil used in hanging baskets should be very rich, because the plants must draw the food from the small quantity of soil within the container, indoor plant medium is suitable and can be purchased from garden shops.

The next step to take is to choose a plant. There is a large variety of plants to choose from, suitable for hanging baskets, natural trailers are seen at their best advantage in a basket. Hedera (or ivy) has the greatest variety of basket subjects (just to name a few) There is Hedera Canariensis gold with gold to light green specks on the leaf, Hedera glacier, grey green leaves variegated with white and pink edge in winter, and Hedera gold dust flecked gold and light green, also ferns make excellent basket subjects, they need more watering than most other plants, the most popular would probably be (Maiden fern) In summer take the basket down and stand it in water for a day or two, if hung in a draught or in a very sunny room it will dry out too quickly. Regular watering is ~~not~~ necessary to maintain good growth, as the plant increases size, additional feeding is needed, a light application of balanced fertiliser.

continued

sprinkled on the surface about once a month
this should be ~~sufficient~~ sufficient, remember the soil
should be moist not wet. I would just like
to mention another plant that makes an idea
basket subject, its name is Ribbon Grass, it
is very attractive and easily grown, it is a
good idea to ask friends for cuttings, the
way you can build up your indoor garden
and have a much larger variety of plants
Well, I hope you have enjoyed this section
and untill next month

Happy Gardening

Ribbon Grass



Onoclea



Fern

WHAT'S ON

Pottery
Tuesday's
1pm-2pm.
You're Welcom

HOUSE IS
OPEN
EACH DAY
9-6pm.
WELCOME

Drama
Friday at
10am. meet
at house

Women's
Group
Discussions
Every Wed.
10.30 on-
wards

SHOPPING
10am, THURS.
ON PENSION
WEEKS MEET
AT
HOUSE

DRIVER
EDUCATION
WED.
1pm.

Newsletter
Collective
We need more
help see
Maureen?

Day Trips
Family camping
B-B-Q's
Dinners, etc.
see
Marg

K.W.C.
DROP IN
CENTRE
89, McCracken
ST. KEN.
3767280

We have
printing and
plating facilities
you, or your are
welcome to
use them

FUN
FRIENDS
ACTIVITIES
INFORMATION
3767280

BACK TO
FRESH AIR
WE
HAVE CAMPING
GEAR TO LEND
YOU