

From the archives

A History of the Out of School Care Network

In 1990, in continuation of their work within the community childcare field, the Auckland Community Childcare Association (ACCA) identified the establishment of not for profit out of school care services a priority in its programme for that year.

Interest in out of school care and recreation (OSCAR) was high and meetings were attended by childcare professionals, service providers and representatives from affiliated groups and organisations.

Following a workshop held in June that year in Auckland with Judy Finlayson from the Out of School Care Network in Sydney, the OSCN formalised its structure.

Accordingly, a subcommittee, the Out of School Care Network, (OSCN) was formed under the umbrella organisation, ACCA. By the end of 1991 the Network had a paid membership system, was producing its own newsletter and providing resources, support and information to new services requiring help.

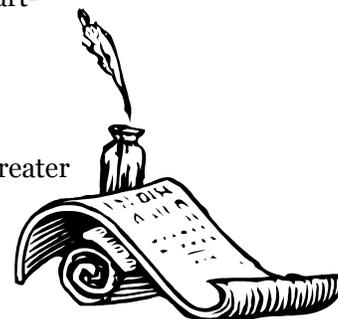
With significant volunteer support, notably in co-ordinator's position the OSCN was able to secure funding through COGS to expand its services. In January 1992 the OSCN used the COGS grant to contract with a development consultant to further define the Network structure. The focus for the contract was to explore funding options, develop resources and liaise with numerous groups in an effort to raise the profile of the Out of School Care and Recreation Services generally. As a direct result of the consultant's work a substantial grant was received in October 1992 from the Lotteries Board, Community Development fund to allow for co-ordination and further development for OSCN services.

The OSCN was incorporated in January 1993 completing its transition into an autonomous body separate from the Auckland Community Childcare Association (ACCA). A part-time OSCN field worker was hired at the same time to work directly with community groups wishing to establish out of school care and recreation (OSCAR) services.

Currently the OSCN has over fifty members (well over 100 contacts on their mailing list) representing OSCAR services and affiliated groups across the greater Auckland region including North Shore, Manukau, Waitakere and the Districts of Rodney, Franklin and Papakura.

In the past year the Out of School Care Network has provided direct resources and information to over fifty groups requesting assistance.

Written for OSCN information pack, 1993



Founding Members

Among the ranks of our first members are many organisations that are still with us:

Cockle Bay School Community Child Care Trust

Birkdale Beachaven Community Project

Youthtown

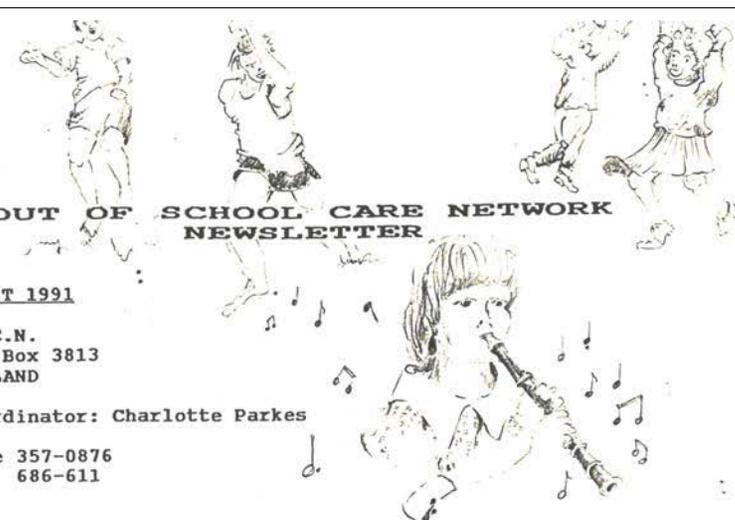
Glen Eden Community House

Devonport Community House

Ponsonby Community Centre

Hibiscus Coast Community House

Gladstone Primary School



**OUT OF SCHOOL CARE NETWORK
NEWSLETTER**

AUGUST 1991

**O.S.C.N.
P.O. Box 3813
AUCKLAND**

Co-ordinator: Charlotte Parkes

**Phone 357-0876
886-611**

NETWORK NEWS

The Out of School Care Network (O.S.C.N.) began to meet in 1990 out of concern for the need to establish and support quality community out of school care services. Resource officers from North Shore City and Auckland City Councils now meet once a month with service providers and the Auckland Community Childcare Association to discuss how best to support and promote o.s.c. in Auckland. These meetings also provide an opportunity for people setting up new services to get first-hand advice and information from the 'experts' - those who have done it before! O.S.C.N. is also in touch with community and recreation advisors from Manukau and Waitakere City Councils and the Auckland Regional Council. We hope that eventually local networks will be set up in all four cities; we also have a very committed member who travels all the way from Orewa in Rodney County, so who knows - tomorrow the world!!

Overseas Inspiration

One of our initial ventures was to organise a forum addressed by Judy Finlason from the Network of Community Activities in New South Wales. This Network has one branch entirely responsible for co-ordinating community out of school services (they call them O.O.S.H. over there - 'Out of School Hours') Judy's talk and an excellent video showing a variety of services running in Sydney, gave us lots of ideas for promoting o.s.c. here. We especially liked her story of the woman who hired a horse and cart to pick up children from school in order to persuade the local authority to provide a proper van for her service!

We have ordered some of the publications and a copy of the video as the beginnings of a resource library. Soon we hope to have our own locally produced material as well.

Mutual Support

O.S.C.N. has decided to remain under the umbrella of the Auckland Community Childcare Association. A.C.C.A.'s co-ordinator will continue to work for both groups and hopefully we'll be able to raise some funds to employ an o.s.c. co-ordinator before long. Both co-ordinators will be employed by A.C.C.A. and will share office space and facilities. Charlotte is looking forward to having some company!

Newsletter

We plan to make this newsletter a regular feature of the Network - hopefully to come out every two or three months or as necessary. It will be most effective with input from groups or people who are involved with hand-on provision of o.s.c. services - so please send in any contributions. You can advertise, ask for help, offer ideas, write a short piece about your own service (or lack of one!) This is your newsletter so let's make it work.

O.S.C. ESTABLISHMENT MANUAL

Sally Cargill from the Network has bravely undertaken to collate material for an Out of School Care Establishment Manual. The manual will include sample forms, contracts and constitutions that can be easily adapted to individual organisations' needs. We are holding a working session to design a model employment contract and parent contract to go in as well. Sally is also looking for up-to-date budgets, if anyone can help there.

DATA BASE

We have had several requests for a list of available o.s.c. services in Auckland. So far a definitive list does not exist - Charlotte just adds new contacts to her mailing list as we hear of them. Evan Audley has offered to set up a mailing list which we hope will eventually be a comprehensive data base of o.s.c. and related services.

LEAFLET * LEAFLET * LEAFLET

A copy of our first leaflet is enclosed with this newsletter. We are planning to distribute it as widely as possible through schools, libraries, C.A.B.s, childcare centres, and eventually we hope, work places. If you would like more copies, contact Charlotte.



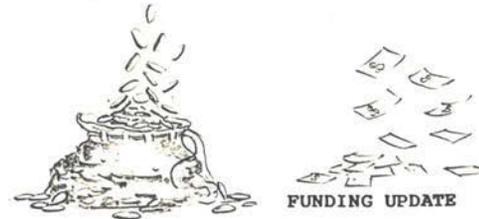
WHAT OUT OF SCHOOL CARE SERVICES???

We were intrigued to read in Auckland City Council's *Draft Annual Budget and Plan* that the 1991/92 budget includes funding for out of school care. As far as we know Auckland City does not directly provide any out of school services, except for one at Freeman's Bay which is required to be run on a cost-recovery basis in any case. O.S.C.N. presented a submission to the Finance and Administration Committee asking for the matter to be clarified and also suggested that if Council is not prepared to run its own services, it could make available grants for community o.s.c. services, to be distributed through the local Area Offices. It was a good opportunity to discuss o.s.c. with an influential Council committee, and we're still waiting to hear if extra funding will be available



O.S.C. MUSHROOMING IN AUCKLAND

O.S.C.N. is hearing about new services being set up all the time - in fact at the moment Charlotte estimates that she hears from people interested in setting something up at the rate of about one every week or so! It is especially heartening to hear from supportive school principals and Boards of Trustees, who are prepared to consider how they can help families outside of school hours. Mr Ken Travers from Woodlands Park Primary School in Titirangi who rang O.S.C.N. recently, says that as far as he is concerned, the school is a part of the community and if it can help to meet a community need in this way he is very happy for it to do so.



FUNDING UPDATE

Information on funding sources was included in a newsletter from the Auckland Community Childcare Association last year. If you would like a copy of the hand-out give Charlotte a ring. Here are some deadlines coming up for important funding bodies:

North Shore City Council Grants Schemes for community, recreation and sporting groups close on September 1st. For information and application forms contact Glennys Adams, community advisor, phone 486-1422

J.A. Redwood Trust closes September 1st. c/- Guardian Trust, P.O. Box 1934 Auckland.

Norman Kirk Memorial Trust closes August 31st. P.O. Box 10-345, Wellington.

Willi Fels Memorial Trust closes August 15th. c/- AMP Perpetual Trustee Company N.Z. Ltd, P.O. Box 897, Dunedin.

Sir John Logan Campbell Residuary Trust closes 15 October c/- Guardian Trust, P.O. Box 1934, Auckland

SUPERVISOR WANTED

Wanted: part-time person to run an out of school care programme in Westmere School hall between 2.30 & 5.30 Monday - Friday, for children aged 5 - 11 years. Successful applicant will be responsible for establishing a programme and setting up administrative systems.

Most important will be an ability to work with children across the age range to provide a caring and stimulating environment.

Interested people contact Peter Kerr, phone 765-203 for more information and job description, before 16 August.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Working Session to draft model staff employment contract and parent contract 22 August, 9.30 - 12.00

O.S.C.N. Committee meeting 13 August, 9.30 - 11.00

Both meetings will be at the Ponsonby Community Centre, 20 Ponsonby Tce. Anyone is very welcome to attend.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE OUT OF SCHOOL CARE NETWORK?

The aim of O.S.C.N. is 'To support, co-ordinate and promote quality, accessible out of school care to meet local community needs.' Some of our ideas for achieving this are outlined in this newsletter. There are lots of other projects to be taken up in time. Membership is open to anyone who runs and/or supports non-profit, community based out of school care services. If you would like to join please fill out the form below and send it to the address on the first page.

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Out of School Care Network Membership Form

Name

Postal Address

.....

.....

Phone number

Please circle if membership is for a group

individual

If for a group, please name a contact person

.....

Position in group

Phone number (if different from above)

I enclose \$15.00 (group membership for one year)
\$ 5.00 (individual membership for one year)
\$. (donation)

Circle as applicable

