



ZANZ

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First General Meeting Held on 27/10/96 at Pakuranga Community Centre.

Dear Friends

At the outset, on behalf of your association and its managing committee I wish you and your families a very happy and prosperous New Year 1997. May Ahura Mazda guide us in the right path.

Thanks to our united effort we have overcome the many hurdles and at last we have established Zarathushtrian Association of New Zealand. With our united effort and committed committee members I am confident we will grow from strength to strength.

Special thanks to Tehmus Mistry for sponsoring this first issue of the ZANZ Gazette and for compiling and sponsoring the Zarathusties in New Zealand directory.

Ushta-Te

Yazdi Mistry (President)

Managing Committee's First Meeting

The managing committee had their first meeting on 5th November 1996, at Imagetext Board Room (courtesy Darius Mistry), to elect the officers. The following officers were selected:

Yazdi Mistry - President

Godrej Engineer - Vice President

Benaifer Behdin - Treasurer

Kersi Daruwalla - Secretary
 Darius Mistry - Committee Member
 Bilkish Vazifdar - Committee Member
 Tehmus Mistry - Committee Member

Committee members are also responsible for the management and co-ordination of certain areas.

Yazdi Mistry - Fundraising, Liaising with other Associations, Co-ordinating Functions

Godrej Engineer - Dramatics Group, Settling of New Zarathusties in NZ

Kersi Daruwalla - Community Projects/Activities

Darius Mistry - Youth Activities, Prayer Classes

Bilkish Vazifdar - Youth Activities, Community Projects/Activities

Tehmus Mistry - Communications, News Letter, Religion

At the meeting Bilkish & Darius gave an up date on the youth activities and the Prayer sessions. It was decided that we should start collecting funds for the youth activities. Suggestions were taken. Attendance at these sessions was questioned, and ways to encourage people to attend these bi-monthly youth meets discussed.

Godrej took the responsibility to be in touch with the new Zarathusties coming into NZ to help them settle in comfortably.

Tehmus briefly described the work he has initiated to start an International Zarathushtrian WEB site and communication forum on the Internet.

Yazdi discussed fund-Raising and cooperation with other religious and community groups. Yazdi is in communication with TVNZ to set up a forum for them to present Zarathushtrism in NZ on Air.

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Youth Activities

First Session The first meeting was held at the Highland Park Library on 13/10/96. Approximately 15 parents and 15 kids attended it. Darius started the session with Prayers, which at this stage were kept only till the Navjote level. Bilkish and Darius then requested parents and kids to come up with ideas of what they would like to see happen at these sessions. This was a really interesting session from wild to the absolutely wacky. Events such as hikes, picnics to the serious stuff like Rock-Climbing & canoeing, to the really wacky stuff like Scuba Diving and some real bold Parsis suggested Sky Diving.

Darius and Bilkish took down notes and would jointly come up with an itinerary with dates and events and would have a parent take turns at taking the responsibility for co-ordinating the events for that session.

Second Session (3/11/96) The prayer session was held at Bilkish's house in Cockle Bay, from where a group of 12 parents and 8 kids headed off for a very interesting and tiring hike to the Hanua Falls. The scenic beauty on the trek was awe inspiring and the group had a fabulous time of getting lost on the trek and in the bargain losing a few kilos off their thighs. Everyone who attended the hike wanted to do it again, fairly soon.

Third Session (17/11/96) this was a session on International Communication. As usual we started the session at the Highland Park library, with Prayers for the first 30 minutes. After the prayers Darius initiated a discussion on how we as a community should have a strong communication channel established with our fellow Zarathusties worldwide. With the medium of Internet, it has become as easy as making a phone call but at one tenth the cost. Tehmus then initiated a discussion on what he has done so far to develop the Internet Zarathushtrian WEB Forum where, he will host a WEB home site to have links world wide with other interesting relevant sites for Information gathered on the Zarathushtrian Religion.

It was decided that those who had access to Internet will pair up with those who did not, to get more familiar with the medium of Internet. Darius even suggested that the common old letter writing medium is still very popular and some of us should adopt that medium. Darius also read a letter he has received from a Swedish Professor who is doing a PhD. on the Zarathushtrian Religion through a Swedish University.

Please Note Both Bilkish and Darius are putting in a lot of their own time and effort to organise these activities

for the Zarathusties in New Zealand. But their ideas and enthusiasm can be replicated ten folds if others in the community also supported them by not only by offering them a helping hand when called upon to do so; but most importantly by attending these sessions they are organising in large numbers and supporting their efforts.

A big thank-you to both Bilkish and Darius for putting in such tremendous efforts and selfless service for the young of our Community. Please thank them personally when you meet them next time and make sure you get the next dates right so that you turn up on time for the event.



Youth at Interfaith service on 20/10/96

FIRST FUND RAISING

Thanks to Godrej Engineer, a group of fifteen Zarathushtrian parents and youngsters turned up for an inventory count at the Big Fresh Supermarket for 2½ hours. This activity alone will earn the association \$400.00 towards youth activities. Efforts worth noting were from Simonel Karai who is 8 month pregnant, and still turned up with her husband and stood throughout the event counting the boxes. Thanks to all those who so graciously turned up on a Sunday evening and a special thank-you to Simonil Karai. (Since then Simonil and Zarathust have become proud parents of a baby boy).

If others want to be kept informed of these activities, please register your interest with either Kersi Daruwalla our secretary, or any other committee member.

Picnic in December

On Saturday the 28th of December 1996 a Barbecue picnic was organised at Cornwall Park. As usual all Zarathusties were invited. It turned out to be a great success. There were around 89 people and everyone

had a good time, especially the youngsters who had a great time. The picnic started at 11am. and ended at 5pm. A big thanks you to Secretary Kersi Daruwalla and President Yazdi Mistry for organising the event. With a request for a repeat performance as soon as possible (before winter sets in!!).

Regular Prayer classes will be held at Highland Park Library. First class for the year will be held on the 9th of February and then on every alternate Sunday. Classes start at 10 am. and end at 12pm. Please contact Darius Mistry or Bilkish Vazifdar for more details.

There is also a youth picnic day planned, however details are not confirmed yet. . Please contact Darius Mistry or Bilkish Vazifdar for the details.

Enter the Ashem Vohu and Yatha Ahu Vairyo crossword puzzle and win some cool prizes. The due date for all entries is 15/3/97.

Up Coming Youth Activities

NAVROZ Dinner & Dance

To be held on 22ND March
At 7:00 p.m.

Address:

**Fencible Lounge
29 Moore Street
Howick**

Join in an evening of fun,
entertainment and a sumptuous
dinner with family and friends.

Adult Price \$15 (Member)
Adult Price \$20 (Non-Member)
Children between the age of 3 to 12 at \$1
per year of age.

It is imperative that you confirm by
Wednesday 19th march so catering
arrangements may be made.

“No show” after confirming attendance
will entail full payment.

Everybody is requested to bring exact due
amount.

Up Coming Events

Picnic at Maratai Beach

On Saturday 15th February (time 11am.) let us all go and enjoy the sun and the beach, before winter sets in. Bring your own food and let's all share in the fun and games.

Jashan

We are planning to hold a Thanksgiving Jashan on 22nd February at Howick community centre at 11:30am. Please confirm your attendance before Wednesday the 19th of February through Yazdi Mistry 376-0317, Kersi Daruwalla 486-5265 or Bilkish Vazifdar 535-8491.

Community News

Congratulations to Zarathust and Simonil Karai on the birth of their son Zack Gev Karai on 17/12/96.

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