



Gutbusters - Ready to run p31

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Scoundrel or hero?

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Should a Ngaio reserve be named for a prominent defender of rights, or for a disgraced lawyer? When that name is Bruce Carran, you arguably have both. A Ngaio historian, Peter Dyer, is keen for public feedback on naming a reserve in the historic Tarikaka Settlement "Carran Park". In 1928 the Tarikaka railway

houses were built as part of a programme of around 4000 houses built by New Zealand Railways in the twenties for their workers. But in 1988 NZ Railways put the Tarikaka houses up for sale. The tenants formed the Ngaio Railway Housing Trust, with a dream of securing the houses as first-time homes. NZ Railways had their own valuation figures, while the tenants were hoping for a sale based on lower government valuations.

But while negotiations with NZ Railways were playing out, rents were being raised, and tenants feared they would not be able to raise their deposit. The issue went to the High Court, who ruled in 1993 the rent hike was illegal, says Mr Dyer. He says Mr Carran, who died in 2004, was a major player in the housing purchase, eventually settled in 1989. On the minus side, Bruce Carran is today more prominently

linked with the multi-million dollar collapse of the Druids Friendly Society in the nineties. In 1993 National MP Nick Smith used parliamentary privilege to allege that Carran, the society's lawyer, had either defrauded the society or used them as his own personal bank. Carran was later found guilty of professional negligence and misconduct by the Law Practitioners' Disciplinary Tribunal.

Continued on p15

WIN

A copy of 'You Shut Up!', a parenting guide by teenager Eva-Maria Salikhova.

see p2

Newlands in training for a repeat performance

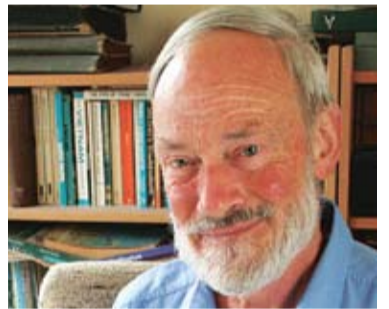


BRING IT ON: Reigning Wellington Dragon Boat Festival mixed teams 2009 champions Newlands College are already in training for the February 28 event in the Wellington Harbour. Running over two days of the weekend, this event is yet another popular occurrence in the fit-to-burst Wellington events calendar. The mixed team beat the WaiCol Eels by just 0.7 seconds last year in the grand final, and, as always, are hoping to place higher than long-time rival college Onslow. Corporate teams race on the Saturday while Sunday is left for college teams. Action runs from 9am-5pm each day and a good vantage point is along the Frank Kitts Promenade.

Photo: Kate Bleasdale / NW dragon boats01 090210



Round the Bays see p15



Kelburn book see p5



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