

CASHMERE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

12 November 2013

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Thank you for your support of Cashmere Residents' Association, for delivering our community Newsletters, and especially to committee members who have put in extra time this past year: Treasurer Hilary Marks, who endured earthquake house damage but has now opted to move away, was equally ably replaced by Peter Oliver – thanks Hilary; Leona Murahidy, our social and minutes Secretary – 'the heart of the ship'; Ralph Roden, Eve Harding, Peter Hart and newcomer Roy Bickers – we simply could not function without your long-term and loyal dedication to community organisation here. The CRA committee always welcomes new blood and fresh ideas for serving residents better in the area. It is a great group, where I have found the utmost enjoyment of all the experiences around local government.

Thank you for your community service, to outgoing city councillors Sue Wells and Barry Corbett with whom we have worked well on a range of concerns. Congratulations to the new councillors, Phil Clearwater and Tim Scandrett, and to the renewed community board: CRA looks forward to working with you all further, for the good of Christchurch - our treasured home of diverse heritage.

The past year has been one of steady work by Cashmere Residents' Association, with our financials held stable but with an increased effort towards meeting the Vision and Values project objectives set or found. Primarily we increased our general meeting and Newsletter frequency, from two to three – April, July and October. This was a trial run, but we have secured council funding to repeat the extra April meeting in 2014. We thank Christchurch City Council for this, and for extending our Newsletter print runs accordingly, although we do lament the abrupt loss of its colour publication in 2013. Electronic media established through V&V have been developed to a professional standard, which should continue in 2014. CRA has gained many new members and a lot of renewals from the 2013 step up of activity. CRA members reside all over the hills area, and on the flat land on our side south of the Opawaho/Heathcote River, which confirms the great value placed on community and identity in historic Cashmere.

This year we successfully nominated Sandra Laffey for a Community Service Award, for Sandra's steadfast and clear-headed response on behalf of the parents of her Kidsfirst young charges, on 22 February 2011. Congratulations, thank you and well done Sandra!

The October 2013 AGM set a goal of moving from consolidation to further strengthening our community organisation. Thus, CRA has now initiated an email "Cashmere News Diary," twice per month approx, to keep residents informed of local events and resources. There is always potential for a more substantial "Cashmere News" publication, if we get to work with local businesses, schools and organisations to bring this about. CREST - Cashmere Residents' Emergency Support Team – was inaugurated to coordinate local networks and volunteers, for meeting any local need in the event of any future emergency, in 2013.

The three residents' meetings of the past year have been well-attended and featured interesting guest speakers on topics of relevance to Cashmere. Our thanks go to all attendees, including our gracious guest speakers, for increasing community activity this way. Thanks also to the city council staff and community board for their ongoing support of CRA efforts. All present tonight are invited to volunteer or nominate, to keep the Cashmere Residents' Association committee and work program dynamic and strong. What we do is guided entirely by what members ask and help us to do.

Thanks again for your support of Cashmere Residents' Association.

Rik Tindall, CRA Chair, 332-1069 / 027-406-0077.