

Cashmere Residents' Association

Annual General Meeting 2014

Chair's Report

It has been a good year for CRA. We have broken even financially while increasing events, communications, reach and integration for Cashmere community association. This with a \$200 city council contribution to our April meeting: thanks for that, CCC.

In the hard times of Christchurch we have weathered our share and are watching with enthusiasm the rebuild around us. We have a stable, reliable, hard-working committee who I would like to thank, as this team is the key to everything CRA does well: Leona Murahidy, Peter Oliver, Ralph Roden, Anne Hodge, Joan Earl, Eve Harding and Jan Webster. And I thank you all, Cashmere neighbours, for supporting our association.

As Chair, the primary task is ensuring that able volunteers keep meeting minutes and financial reports up to date. For this I must thank Anne Hodge and Peter Oliver who stepped up when CRA needed them, from last year's AGM. Peter wants to set a time limit, however, so if anyone might be available for Treasurer in a year's time, please consider it and let us know. Full training is provided, with humour.

We must thank our Cashmere Social Secretary and Newsletter Editor, Leona Murahidy for providing the human and literary glue of our community so generously. CRA works well and is the most enjoyable group I have ever served with, largely due to Leona's dedicated work and hosting. She keeps the committee happy, at ease and together through thick and thin. Thank you very much Leona. Cashmere owes you.

The former, shared Co-Chair model of Joan Blatchford and Terry Young got us through the Vision and Values Project, which Spreydon-Heathcote Community Board partnered to lift CRA into the digital age and in capacity. As things go though, the last one standing inherited the Chair and Secretary roles combined, which are still being separated effectively from their handing to me. The committee values the ability to elect and reallocate roles, to optimise functioning between general meetings - a flexibility to incorporate change.

The portfolio system that Vision and Values proposed needs more committee volunteers to work, and we have reverted to a standard format committee for now. If parks, road use or storm-water interest you, for example, we have watchdog roles available and can supply bark and reasonable bite. What resource consent matters we have time to deal with currently, we do as a committee whole. We need specialists for monitoring the infrastructure faults. Joan Earl extracts the community board highlights for CRA committee, providing an independent view where Cashmere action is needed.

Newest to committee is Jan Webster, representing Bowenvale community. Jan succeeds Peter Hart, who kept us in touch with Landsdowne Terrace area until he and family left there. Thank you Peter, and farewell. Bowenvale Neighbourhood Network is new and embraced closely by CRA. All see remedy here, for a far-flung location where earthquakes have been damaging and services are stretched very thin. Cashmere has rallied to support everyone affected by the 2010-2011 natural disaster. Welcome Jan, and welcome Sue Alexander, CRA members and Bowenvale coordinators. Whatever assistance we can be, please do ask. CRA is here for you and the neighbourhood.

Cashmere Residents' Emergency Support Team (CREST) formed last year and meets monthly here at the church, or at Cashmere Primary, to network resources for

community response. Bowenvale and CREST are hosting community barbecues on Sunday November 1st – at Sunvale Reserve from 3 to 5pm, and at this church from 5 to 7pm respectively – to exercise the community soup kitchen idea for preparedness. We may never experience more earthquakes in our lifetime here, and we hope that we don't, but we know what to do now regardless! Cashmere community hubs are being prepared for emergencies and this church centre is the first.

Cashmere suburb assists neighbouring areas as best it can, with Somerfield and Cracroft nearest to us. Somerfield Community Emergency Response Team (SCERT) was formed one week ago, to develop St Marks Methodist as a hub. We congratulate Somerfield and stand in solid support to their preparedness planning.

Independent emergency electricity supply for both local hubs forms the front end of our 'Community Response Team' work today. Diesel generators are projects the community will resolve, when council's ability to source these is being tested.

The proposed Cycle Park for Cashmere Valley is a lively topic and CRA warns that intersection improvement on Cashmere Road must come first and not as an afterthought. Congestion is worsening from the west, for years, and hundreds of new houses will follow the Cycle Park development, we are certain. CRA remains vigilant.

We thank our commercial sponsors, a growing list led by Cashmere Cuisine, Kaizuka Cafe, Cracroft-Chase Vineyard and One Stop Liquor, and too many to name. All local cafes are supporters of CREST. Thanks again.

It is 6pm so I have to cease writing to get to AGM. It is a busy and exciting time here.

Questions and suggestions are invited for the CRA year ahead.

Thank you everyone for attending AGM tonight.

We promise you increased and improving service.

Rik Tindall

CRA Chair

21 October 2014