

# **Cashmere Residents' Association**

Annual General Meeting 2015

## **Chair's Report**

Greetings and thank you to all members and supporters of Cashmere Residents' Association, to everyone who helps with the CRA Newsletter deliveries. It is a pleasure to report another year's progress for Cashmere community. We are maintaining momentum, breaking new ground, and a checklist of the year's activities follows.

### **Committee**

Cashmere Secretary and Newsletter Editor, Leona Murahidy hosts committee meetings most months, and has published April and October newsletters with the capable help of Ralph Roden - many thanks to you both. Strong connection with the association's long history is maintained by your unfaltering presence. It is a fond thanks and farewell to outgoing Treasurer Peter Oliver, and a warm welcome to incoming Treasurer Anne Hodge. Peter has provided very professional service for two years, an audited set of accounts last year, and this year's Financial Report. Thank you very much Peter. Anne has been with us for two years too, recording meeting minutes until now. Thank you for this work and for accepting the Treasurer role, Anne. Thank you too Joan Earl, for summarising the community board agendas and proceedings to us each month and opening discussion of these. Jan Webster represents Bowenvale residents on committee and maintains a key information hub at the Centaurus Road shops. Many thanks Jan! Eve Harding represents Ngaio Marsh House and hosts CRA committee meetings whenever she can. Thank you Eve. A warm welcome this year to Carolyn Scandrett, who is taking over minute duty from Anne. Thank you Carolyn for volunteering to join the committee. There remains room for one or two more, if anyone else is interested tonight. The meetings are the third Wednesday night monthly and we try to keep them brief and enjoyable.

### **Community BBQs**

Following successful community barbecues run late last year, here at the church hall and by Bowenvale residents at Sunvale Reserve, this year a preparedness focus is on Thorrrington School. On Thursday December 10th we'll repeat last year's collaborative dinner-time Christmas event there, with the school and local church groups, for the wider Cashmere area. Watch the Cashmere News Diary email to be kept up to date, confirming the 5pm start time. Thanks to Christchurch City Council and Spreydon-Heathcote Community Board for supporting this Neighbourhood Week activity.

### **CREST**

Cashmere Residents' Emergency Support Team continues to meet monthly here at the church, preparing basic community responses to any future disaster. Two years old, CREST is now a mature collaboration between the Cashmere Presbyterian Centre, Cashmere School and Cashmere Residents' Association, ably assisted by Christchurch City Council Civil Defence Emergency Management and the Rotary Club of Cashmere. The working party of organisational representatives is developing systems for mobilisation of resources if ever there is a need. CREST committee membership is by invitation and commitment to be available. With the help of the Leadership in Communities (LinC) Project we have just provided an outline Cashmere Community Response Plan to around two thousand homes, with the response hub location and contact details listed. Hub leadership roles are being defined, to manage volunteers in sub-teams. We now seek a local electrician to advise on hub emergency power supply.

## **Cashmere Road**

Traffic flows and safety at the bottom of the hill are quite concerning at times. CRA lodged a submission on the planned Cashmere Cycle Park last year, to have the Worsley's Road intersection upgraded ahead of any further development there. Increased housing to the south-west means a constant flow of vehicles that can be difficult to enter at rush hours on Cashmere Road. Working with Cracroft and Westmorland residents' associations, together the time might be right to bring some improvement to this. We need your views on whether roundabouts or traffic lights are required along Cashmere Road, or any other mix. Please let the committee know. We support the search for cycle safety measures for the area.

## **Building heights in the District Plan**

A request for assistance from a resident saw CRA back their submission on the city council District Plan Review, to have hill views protected as much as possible. The maximum building height is 9 metres, as a result, with 8-9 metres discretionary. What the Hills look like from the Plain is as important as residents' ability to see out, so large structures are prevented. We have helped council set the Port Hills policy in this regard. It is hoped there will be no exception for retirement home constructions.

## **Heritage protections in the District Plan**

CRA has lodged submissions to assist neighbouring residents have important local structures listed: the Waltham Park war memorial gates at Wilsons Road bridge; three sets of gates at Barrington Park - two bearing Spreydon Borough memorials; and Coronation Hall at Spreydon Domain. All the gate-posts are built from Port Hills volcanic rock, so all can see the historical connecting fabric to be avidly maintained.

## **Flood protections in the District Plan**

CRA has lodged a submission to have proper research done for flood-risk areas of Christchurch and a plan of measures that might include stop-banks and a tidal barrage near the Christchurch Estuary mouth. We won't be a minority view on this forever.

## **Representation Review**

CRA has lodged submissions with neighbouring residents from Spreydon, Somerfield and Lower Cashmere, to soften the blows of change for next year's local elections. Reducing the proposed ward number from 16 to 14 allows communities to stay whole within wards. It would retain the Hagley-Ferrymead Community Board, with all of Woolston together within one ward area. Communities of interest are much better expressed with 14 wards. We'd like to work closer with Cracroft and Westmorland.

## **Barrington Issues Group**

A monthly forum of residents in the broader area has been running for almost two years, addressing public transport, urban density and flooding problems etc, as the Barrington Issues Group. BIG meets at Whareora, 8 Athelstan St, 2nd Tuesday by 9pm.

Thank you to our local sponsors, a growing list including Cashmere Cuisine, Kaizuka Cafe, Cracroft-Chase Vineyard, One Stop Liquor, Garden City 2.0, Computer Help, and any others I may have missed. All local cafes are supporters of CREST. Thanks again.

Questions and suggestions are invited for the Cashmere year ahead.

Thank you everyone for attending CRA AGM tonight.

We will continue to deliver you increased and improving service.

Rik Tindall

CRA Chair

27 October 2015