

Pinehaven Progressive Association

Annual Presidents Report 2013 – 2014

Welcome everyone.

As I began to prepare this annual president's report and reflected on the passed year I was distracted by the birdsong and frantic antics of the tuis but also reminded about how blessed I am to be living in such a wonderful place as Pinehaven. On our door steps we have a library, decile 10 school, tennis club, the reserve catering for many open space activities, a community hall catering to a wide range of interests and the home of the PPA. How lucky we are.

This year there have been a number of events and issues the community and PPA have been involved with.

- The most dramatic of those being the Flood plan and release of the proposed flood mitigation work. This resulted in a number of community meetings presented by both concerned residents and the Upper Hutt and Wellington Regional councils. A discussion regarding the safety of our aging pine population has also generated some comment, and remains an ongoing concern.

- Other developments in the spotlight –
 - the councils annual plan that proposed the sale of surplus land,
 - the proposal by Forest and Bird to try and establish a city wide green belt,
 - the establishment of a southern area emergency response plan and
 - a draft of a plan change addressing the locating of utilities and renewable energy generation.

All of which we have involved ourselves with and follow with interest.

The PPA continues to have a constructive relationship with the council and we have seen some major upgrades to infrastructure in particular upgraded sewer mains for several streets and new footpath work.

Other things the PPA has been involved in are, repairs to Pinehavens noticeboard, the use of the hall as a polling booth, release of periodic issues of the news letter Pinehaven News. Thanks very much to Carol Dixon for undertaking the newsletter and to committee members for its distribution. The web site continues to evolve with more than 4,000 visits. Feed back from visitors has been really positive.

We continue to make improvements to the Hall This year we have begun an upgrade of the kitchen and bathroom facilities and adding more storage. We maintain and make any improvements to the hall, all on the smell of an oily rag and with generous contributions from members of the community. Despite the lower than hoped voluntary PPA annual subscriptions, we remain in a fairly healthy financial position.

The community garden is just hanging in there and the mowing of the lawns was dealt a blow with Dave Faulkner unable to continue. He did a fantastic job of keeping the place presentable. A huge thank you to Dave.

I have mentioned several names through this address and would like to extend a thank you to all my fellow committee members and others who have given of their time and expertise through the year. It is very much appreciated.

As you walk around the area you notice real estate seems to change hands with relative ease, I like to think that Pinehaven has a reputation of being a desirable place to live and I encourage all new and existing residents to continue to make use of all there is on offer here.

In closing I would like to borrow a phrase from a previous president “ lets not forget how lucky we are and lets continue to make Pinehaven a People Haven”.

David Brown

President – Pinehaven Progressive Association

