

Glenside Progressive Association Inc.

PRESIDENTS REPORT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2007

It is with pleasure I provide this report for the year July 2006 to July 2007. Our activities for the year are listed under banner headlines. These headlines refer to the matters important to residents that came out of the community workshop in 2001.

Getting to know the neighbours

1. We welcomed three families with a gift, the newsletter, personal visit and acknowledgement in the newsletter.
2. A community bar-b-que was held in March.
3. The Assn. supplied the following brochures and information to residents:
 - “Getting Ready For A Flu Pandemic” encouraging everyone to prepare an emergency kit and maintain a telephone list for their street (220 delivered).
 - “Making Guy Fawkes Safe”, encouraging people to talk to neighbours before lighting up (220 delivered).
 - “Year of the Veteran” bookmarks in recognition of our returned servicemen and women (100 delivered).
4. Nine newsletters were delivered, a total of 1980 copies.
5. A community farewell was held for Sue Natrass. She left after 18 years living at Glenside Reserve. Photographs of the reserve and Sue’s home were presented to her.
6. Residents from Churton Park and Johnsonville warmly supported us at Assn. meetings. These were Dennis Hamblin, Rex Johnson and Joan Garman.

Visibility of Glenside

7. The three Glenside signs were erected at Westchester Drive East, Middleton Road North and Middleton Road South.
8. Sixteen articles on Glenside were published in newspapers, three with photographs.
9. The Assn. complained on behalf of residents about the non-delivery of local newspapers in our areas. This is still an issue for rural residents who don’t receive the local newspapers, City Life News, The Northern Courier, The Norwester or The Wellingtonian. We need to pursue this issue as residents advertise in the papers.

Retain and enhance Glenside character

Protection of heritage

10. A submission was made in support of the WCC District Plan Listing for the Halfway House and Max Dorset's house.
11. A poster of The Halfway House was provided to NZ Police with a request to keep observations on the property.
12. Several Halfway House windows were smashed overnight January 20/21. That night Twigland Gardeners World was broken into and Police caught the teenagers responsible. We notified WCC about the damage. Several complaints were made to WCC about the unkempt lawns and fire risk. The lawns are now well maintained.
13. We requested archaeologist Karen Greig's final report on the Glenside Road archaeological site, which has not been sent. She has been on maternity leave. We need Council to keep us informed of any proposals for this site.

“Umbrella” to Glenside Streamcare Group (Protect living streams)

14. The Association manages the Streamcare Group funds. I attended a WCC biodiversity workshop and asked that funding be allocated to the education of Councillor's and staff officers about their role to protect and minimise the impact on biodiversity.

Glenside planting

15. Robyn Young continues to maintain the Glenside Road corner beautifully. Please support her by helping out.
16. The Assn. discussed meeting with WCC over planting an avenue of trees down Westchester Drive East however this did not progress due to other commitments.
17. Through the newsletter the Assn. encouraged people to join the Kereru Discovery project as kereru are regularly sighted in Glenside. As a result we had our first reports of kereru at Lady Jane Cattery and on Glenside Road. (The project identifies trees to plant to encourage kereru).

Input into Council planning and projects/overview of Council developments

18. In November 2006 there were troubles on Glenside road with heavy trucks moving onto the road dumping fill. No traffic safety signs were out. No consents were issued for the movement of the earth. Compacting machinery with stone chips flying across the road could have caused injury to people. The Assn. complained about the lack of consents to WCC Dougal List but the WCC did not take any action to rectify the issue and the fill was permitted to continue without consent.

19. The Assn. submitted to the Rural Representation review. Our survey identified there are 18 landowners with 21 rural land titles and of these 15 of the 18 supported being in a Wellington Rural Community Board, or some specific form of rural representation. (See September 2006 newsletter for a summary of the issues).
20. No Assn. rep. attended the Northern Ward community meeting due to conflicting work commitments.
21. The Assn. receives updates on our submission regarding the DP Plan change 33 to the Ridgelines & Hilltops rules. Rodney Callender's business interests submit that ridgeline and hilltop rules are not required as they form part of the reserve agreement. However we note the reserves agreement only refers to Stebbings Valley, not to our side of the Marshall ridgeline and doesn't extend to other landowners.

Glenside Reserves Management Plan

22. Ian Woodmore reviewed the Reserve Act and provided a report on the relevant legislation and compared it with the Glenside Reserve. The Reserve titles provided by WCC do match those on the WCC District Plan and the Glenside Reserves are Recreational Reserves under the Act. The Reserves are on the District Plan as Open Space. (They are Open Space B). The Reserve must have a Management Plan and a Trust Board can run it. The Reserve can be used for several purposes and it can be leased for a period of 10 years. This did raise the question of whether the buildings can be leased or rented.
23. Discussions were held with Mr. Athol Swann of the Otari-Wilton Bush Reserve Trust. The Truby King Trust report was obtained and Rex Johnson met with the Truby King trustees at one of their committee meetings.
24. Discussions were held with WCC to establish the Glenside Reserves Trust Fund, develop Village Green concept and restore The Halfway House. The Northern Reserves Management Plan team attended an Assn. meeting. The message we received is that our request for a Trust will be built into the plan.
25. Future effort must be placed on this plan and the future of the Reserves and Halfway House as a priority. The proposed Westchester Link might encroach on the reserve north of Westchester Drive East. Reserves can be traded off for development.

Traffic safety and other safety issues

Road signage

26. The Assn. successfully sought the relocation of Max Dorset's bus stop off the corner shoulder into a lay-by.
27. Ian Woodmore asked for the Richmond Hill sign to be located across the road rather than right at the bottom of the road where it obstructed everyone's view. The new sign was provided however the old one was left in its original location!
28. Repairs were made to the "gateway" signage at the Middleton Road/Rowells Road bridge after the Assn. logged a complaint.
29. The Assn. asked for, but did not get the 30km speed reduction signs at Piebald cutting. The sign was removed when the road improvements were made in 2003/2004.
30. In September there was an arson on the landfill road. There was confusion in a 111 call to Police about the location, as the road is not named. The Assn. and Grenada Village Assn. lobbied WCC to have the landfill road named however this has not occurred.
31. The Assn. asked for a new name for Westchester Drive East as it is confusing with two roads in nearby suburbs having a similar name. It was explored by WCC but not agreed to.

Drainage/flooding

32. Residents monitored the Middleton Road slump project, which reduced the road to one lane for many months. The slump was an outcome of the floods of November 2003 and February 2004. Much Assn. effort was reporting faulty traffic lights.
33. The culvert outside Lady Jane Cattery was completed which has stopped surface flooding on Middleton Road in wet weather. The Assn. had regularly asked for this to be done since road improvements were carried out in 2003.
34. The Assn. sought, but did not get the creek bed cleared at the bottom of the waterfall steps outside Paul Boden's house on Rowells Road, which overflows on the road and undermines it. This road is the only access for Paul and Max.

Middleton Road Walkway

35. I was invited to speak at the Tawa Community Board meeting at their launch of the Tawa to Porirua walkway along Porirua stream about our efforts to establish a walkway along our part of the stream. It's hoped that one day the links will enable a safe recreational walk from Glenside to Pukerua Bay.
36. The Assn. monitored the delay in resealing Middleton Road after the retaining wall had been erected south of Richmond Hill. We established that it would have cost \$5000 for a footpath or walkway to be installed at the same time and are disappointed this wasn't done as the Assn. was informed walkways would be developed, as works were required.

Policing and patrolling

37. The Assn. welcomed Snr Sgt Marty Parker of Johnsonville Police to a meeting.
38. I attended community meetings with community groups to set up Community patrols in the northern suburbs. Glenside was the first suburb to sign up a volunteer. We need more helpers and I encourage you to give it a go and patrol once a month.

Educate public about Glenside

39. Inquiries were made about costs for a historic calendar however there was reluctance from printers to get into this field. They preferred the CD types of calendar, which could be used as a postcard. It was considered too expensive to do this.
40. Quotes to re publish the Onslow Historian booklet about the history of Glenside ranged from \$1500 to \$2500 for 200 copies and again we had no funds for this.
41. Rex Johnson undertook to look at putting a website together about Glenside.

Historic Glenside in the newsletter

42. A folder of newsletters was supplied to Herbs Café and is available to patrons.
43. A series of reminiscences commemorating the 70th anniversary of the railway deviation and tunnel in Glenside was published in the newsletter and will continue throughout the year.

General business

44. Our submission on the Churton Park School rezone asked that it follow the Reedy property boundaries instead of cutting through the middle of their property and also asked that people within 800 metre walking distance were not cut out of the zone. We also provided other suggestions to encourage children to walk. The Board of Trustees, who thanked us publicly in their newsletter, supported these suggestions.

Thanks

45. Many thanks to those who made their homes available for meetings and to those dedicated people who attend Assn. meetings. We need six residents for a quorum. This enables the voice of the community to be heard. Please let the team know if your home is available for a meeting.
46. Twigland Gardeners World provide excellent support to the Streamcare Group in the form of discounts on tools and to the Assn. such as donating daffodils, soil mix and a significant financial contribution. I thank Peter Dunshea for his loyalty and financial support.
47. Thank you also to OfficeMax and Remax/Leaders Johnsonville for photocopying the newsletter, a saving of \$440 annually.
48. Thank you to Fletcher Construction, Placemakers Kaiwharawhara (Paul Boden) Paul Taylor and WCC for their significant contributions to our Glenside signs.
49. Finally, I would like to thank Jane Needham, Suzanne Hendry and Barry Blackett for their contributions to the community in time and effort. The team review the finances, deal with e-mails, 'phone around and in Barry's case, review submissions and attend Council meetings on your behalf.
50. Thank you to residents who ring me, visit, and wave me down as I drive about to bring to my attention any matter your think needs to be dealt with to make Glenside a better place to live, work and play.

Claire Bibby, President Glenside Progressive Assn. Inc.