

Pinehaven Progressive Association

Annual Presidents Report 2014 – 2015

Welcome everyone, in particular all new residents.

At this same time last year as I was preparing my report I noted how distracted I had become with the birds and beauty of Pinehaven as my backyard. I'm happy to say the same thing happened this year. The recent long weekend has been stunning, and I have taken advantage of the weather to get some color plants in to compliment the wonderful bush green backdrop.

Through the year, it's been great to see the Community hall continue to be well utilized by the many groups for example The Lighthouse Church who again put on a very enjoyable Christmas Concert, Brownies and Guides, yoga and on one occasion for a wedding. The hall was also well attended for our Fish and chips evening which was held on neighbours day and which is becoming a regular event, although it was a bit chilly outside with the weather a bit unpredictable.

Improvements to the bathrooms and kitchen are progressing, all be it slowly. The community garden is still available for use and the call is out for a green thumb to drive it. The lawns though, have been looking good now that we have our own lawnmower, thanks kindly to Mitre 10 & Masport's contribution and of course the committee members on the mowing roster.

This year we continued to be confronted with issues that have the potential to change the face of Pinehaven. There has been much debate about The Flood Management Plan and the Urban Growth strategy thanks to the Save Our Hills group of residents. The PPA has presented submissions on both these, and I hope you as individuals have also taken the time to put in submissions.

We along with Forest & Bird have also been working with the council regarding tree protection in the residential conservation areas, now that the blanket tree protection has been removed. This could have quite an impact on many aspects including the opportunity to transform to a more native back drop and remove

hazardous tree situations. There will be an opportunity to comment on the plan in the near future. Forest & Bird are continuing their endeavor to have hills around pinehaven form part of an Upper Hutt green belt and land bridge across the valley' a plan the PPA supports.

While on the subject of trees, the PPA has organized a new group, the Old Man's Beard Busters. This year we were able to access, cut and poison 25 separate growth locations of this invasive plant. These will be monitored for regrowth this year. So if you see any around the area call OMB Busters.

There have been a couple of noticeable changes in Pinehaven, the first being the consruction of the new round about, which seems to have overall been well accepted. The second is the construction of the Bike tracks at the school which the PPA, due to a comfortable financial position, was able to donate to. Well done Pinehaven School and while we're at it take a bow for another successful Arts and Craft Exhibition.

I would like to now offer my thanks and appreciation to my fellow office holders and all the committee members (and a few partners).

The website, financial oversight, production & distribution of a regular news letter, hall bookings and maintenance and all the little things that make the PPA function would not happen without you.

As I said at the beginning, constant distractions, a couple of tui's harassing a kereru, I'm going to go out and watch them sort it, and marvel at how lucky we are.

Thank you all.

David Brown

President – Pinehaven progressive Association

