

Presidents Report

It gives me great pleasure to present my report for the 2016/17 financial year to you, the members.

Your committee members have put in a great deal of effort during the year and I wish to convey my thanks to them on your behalf. They are all volunteers who make a significant contribution to their community.

We are losing some members. Lindsay Fraser has been our treasurer and has brought considerable skill and discipline to our financial management. He has also been very active in many other areas including the recent security camera upgrade. Julie Jennings a previous secretary and committee member has also been a very active member. She has coordinated many of the social events in recent years. Simon Bendall also steps down and we appreciate his contribution and expertise on our Community Plan.

The year saw many successful events. The mid-winter dinner held at The Lodge at Kinloch was a big success with very positive feedback from those attending. Other events include Guy Fawkes, Christmas carols, kid's disco and the Easter egg hunt to name just a few. These all require considerable organisation by the committee and I thank them for that work.

Issues relating to the Eastern Reserve were very much to the fore over last summer, I will not cover them again but they required considerable committee time. Two very positive aspects though, come to mind, firstly the way the community came together to protect what they valued and secondly the way people stepped up and made major contributions in the fight to have the decision reversed. I would particularly like to thank Carolyn and Mark Comber, Bruce Holyoake, Larry Grigg and members of the action group led by John Wordsworth. I can however think of perhaps another twenty people who also deserve mention.

This year we spent considerable amounts on upgrading the Whangamata Stream Track and security cameras. Both upgrades included considerable community involvement. John Leybourne and Russell Burling carried around 100 loads of pumice on their tractors involving many hours of voluntary work. Tina Woolcott from Landscaping Direct Limited generously provided the pumice. Lindsay Fraser has spent many hours creating the specifications for the security cameras and overseeing their installation.

We have recently installed a bridge so that walkers and bikers can cross the stream and complete the loop track without needing to go on to Whangamata Road. I would like to thank Lynley McCaughan for her project management, Pete Masters and Bike Taupo for their construction expertise. Finally I would like to thank Lindsay and Karen Fraser who very generously paid for the bridge.

I would also like to acknowledge those other residents outside the committee, who working with us or alone spend time for the benefit of the community. Their contributions, often not acknowledged are many and varied but make a real difference.

The pest control initiative which commenced last year was as timely local addition to what is becoming a major national initiative. This project and its volunteers have our full support and we watch with interest as the birds start to return. The group has a Facebook page and I urge you to view that and become involved if you can.

Often unseen is the large amount of time required just to run the organisation and our facilities. I thank the secretary, treasurer and all the committee for their efforts. Running the organisation and its website, Facebook page, security cameras and other facilities are a constant challenge.

The Committee has proposed Linda Malcolm for life membership. Linda was a longstanding and extremely hardworking committee member. For over 10 years Linda has managed the volunteers for the on road and off road events in Kinloch. With the number of volunteers required the size of this job and the hours involved cannot be understated. As with many activities which require volunteers it has become harder each year for Linda to fill the quota. We spend the money we receive from those events in Kinloch. We believe Linda is a most worthy recipient of life membership.

The Kinloch Community Plan is another important local initiative. The growth in Kinloch has been significant and further subdivisions will clearly increase the population even further. We need to be active in communicating our wishes on how we want Kinloch to develop and ensure that we have the resources in place to accommodate the projected growth. This takes us into new areas including education. At this AGM we will update you on the status of this review.

John Crowley