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AGM
22ND OCTOBER 2013
TUESDAY, 7.30PM
NGAIO UNION CHURCH
on corner of Crofton and Kenya St



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EARTHQUAKES & STORMS what was your story?

Were you in a supermarket avoiding products falling off shelves?
Were you in the city centre swaying uncomfortably in a high rise
thinking about getting home as soon as you could? Did you end
up with a neighbour's trampoline in your garden? Did fallen trees
restrict your access? Did you manage to contact family members?

Luckily, our suburbs were relatively unscathed by these events -
but they make you think about being prepared.

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NGAIO 2013

NGAIO CROFTON DOWNS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013

It is my great pleasure to present this report to the Ngaio and Crofton Downs communities (my last) on the activities of the residents association this year. 2013 marks 90 years since a group of concerned citizens formed themselves into the Ngaio Progressive Association to work towards the betterment of the suburb, and here we are all these years later still doing the same thing! 2013 also marks 30 years since incorporation and most exciting of all 2013 is the year we changed our name. Now known as the **Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association** we meet monthly, at 7.45pm on the first Wednesday in the Supper Room of the Ngaio Town Hall. This newsletter is our annual communication to you - so read on to discover what we have been doing! Thank you to Wellington City Council for financial assistance in publishing this report, and our Committee for delivering it to your letterbox.

We have three strategic goals: communicating effectively with residents; advocating for residents with local and regional councils; and enhancing our environment.

Each year we set targets for these goals, and we have achieved and not achieved these for 2013 as follows:

Communicating

At the AGM last year there was unanimous support to change our name so we have been beavering away to make this happen. Our amended incorporation certificate was issued in March. Now known as the **Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association** this coincided with a total makeover of our website including updating our local walking tracks map. Visit www.ngaio.org.nz for information about Ngaio and Crofton Downs. The site is a great resource for newcomers to the area containing as it does information on our local history, links to community services, local businesses and recreational groups, a photo gallery and downloadable copy of our updated local walks map and of course notes from our meetings and NCDRA news stories, so we feel well equipped to tackle the next decade.

Interaction with residents is ongoing. At our AGM last October we invited the numerous green groups across the suburbs to update the community on their activities. It was fascinating to hear about the greening of our environment and resulted in our best attendance at AGM for many a long year! For **Parks Week** we led a short walk ending at the Orleans Makererua Reserve.

We have updated our local map with all the walking tracks that surround us - see the website. We intended to have a party to celebrate 30 years of association, our name change and catch up with members old and new but illness caused the cancellation of this function. On a similar flat note, as a result of re-organisation at Council the traditional junk drive will be a thing of the past, although we are looking into how we may manage this differently. We will host our tri-annual **Meet the Candidates** evening on 3rd October for the local body ward and mayoral aspirants (see box) which is always a lively affair.

Advocating

In 2013 we made submissions on the WCC Draft Annual Plan, GWRC Bus Review, Our Capital Places and the Draft Engagement Policy. We didn't submit on The Right Mix Alcohol policy (no consensus) and we opted for the status quo on Local Government reform. We attended bus/alcohol/train meetings, and enjoyed the attendance of various guests at our monthly meetings as well as attending track/scout/Trelisick Park/Otari meetings. It is a source of some concern to me that while train issues meetings were very well attended by residents, the equally important changes to the bus routes and timetabling meetings were virtually ignored. These changes will be implemented slowly in the next 2-3 years, so if you catch the bus in Ngaio Crofton Downs, I really do urge you to give feedback on the timetabling at: www.gw.govt.nz/draft-timetables

Enhancing our environment

I am delighted to advise you about the newest track in our community, known as "Silversky" an amalgamation of Silverstream Road, Sky Farm (the original name of a Kilminster farm in the area) and the Skyline Walkway. We have a number of tracks on our wish list and this year a group of motivated Crofton Downs residents independently but in conjunction with WCC got stuck in and have created a track from Downing Street up to the Chartwell walkway which links to the Skyline walk. The next stage is to be from Downing Street down to Silverstream Road. This long anticipated walkway will be an excellent link through to either the Huntleigh or Thatcher Crescent walkways. Do look on our website for that printable map of local walkways!

We have continued with our planting programmes and have hosted the planting of 300 native trees in Cummings Park after pine tree removal; refreshed the Ngaio signs as well as new planting here and have planted and weeded as we can.

But we can't do it all! Every year I make a plea for more volunteers/paid up members. \$10 gives you voting rights at our AGM (see box) and strengthens our hand when dealing with Wellington City Council. One of the trends we are noticing is that people do want to be involved in their community at a grass roots level and so are banding together to form local gardening/track/special interest groups which is fantastic for neighbourhood cohesiveness. There are advantages though of belonging to a larger group.

We offer experience, history and a bigger picture. So please, grab a membership form from our website, or fill in the box on this newsletter, or attend our AGM (all executive positions already have nominations so you won't be nabbed or nobbled). This year we have two speakers from WCC speaking on 'large scale sub division processes' and our local parks and reserves management plan. I promise you it will be riveting! Empower us to continue to work on your behalf, for the betterment of our whole community. Ninety years can't be wrong!

Lastly, I would like to thank the members of the NCDRA Committee for their commitment and ongoing enthusiasm. But the more the merrier! Come along to our monthly Committee meetings and become part of things!

NCDRA COMMITTEE

Trevor Lloyd, Darien Mahony, Frank McGuire, Deborah Olson, Fiona King, Ritchie Wards, Nick Watson, Robin White, & Julia Williams

Viv Chapple
President



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Please complete and take to Ngaio Pharmacy.

**IF YOU DON'T VOTE
YOU CAN'T COMPLAIN**

**MEET THE CANDIDATES
MAYORAL & WARD**

**Thursday at 7.30pm
3rd October 2013
NGAIO TOWN HALL**

**make an informed choice
about your future**

Hosted by the NCDRA