

Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association Newsletter

14 August 2014



Kia ora everyone. Thanks for signing up to our website newsletter. This is the first one of the year.

It's farewell from our President

Our young president Ritchie Wards is resigning, having moved to the Wairarapa earlier this year. We will miss his enthusiasm on the committee.

New blood needed

The committee now needs "new blood" as we are all getting a bit older and meetings don't always get a quorum. It is vital we keep going because we are an incorporated society and can use our account books to help groups such as the Silversky Track get council funding. We also do lots planting around the streets and parks and keep an eye on new subdivisions and other local issues. Let us know if you can help or come along to our 1 October meeting to check us out. It is in the side room of the Ngaio Town Hall from 7:45 pm.

Meet the Candidates meeting – 2 September, Ngaio Town Hall

We are holding a Meet the Candidates meeting in the Ngaio Town Hall on Tuesday, 2 September at 8:00 pm for Ohariu electoral candidates. Ritchie Wards is chairing. If you are coming, can you come a bit earlier to help set up the chairs? There is a meditation group in the hall until 7:15 so things will be a bit frantic. Tea and biscuits afterwards and the chance to talk to the candidates.

Our AGM

We expect to hold our AGM at Crofton Downs Primary School later this year to celebrate all the restoration work happening in that part of our patch. Let us know if you would like a ride – email ngaioipa@gmail.com.

Welcome to Ngaio card

We are preparing an information card for new residents and hope to have it finished by the end of the year.

Walking track map

We are updating our walking tracks map of Ngaio and Crofton Downs to include the Silversky extension and Chartwell Reserve. Copies of the current map are available in the library.

Planting bees

We decided not to have an official planting bee this year. This hasn't stopped Trevor Lloyd though. He has been busy weeding the track through Heke Reserve and, along with others, putting gravel on muddy parts. He has also planted around the Collingwood Street entrance.

Fruit trees around Ngaio

Imagine the streets of Ngaio planted with fruit trees that children could pick on their way home from school and the community could enjoy. A couple of enthusiastic local women who are keen to see this happen came to a recent meeting to tell us all about it. They have identified sites in Heke and Tarikaka Streets and found "tree guardians" to nurture the seedlings. Wellington City Council is supporting the idea and is planting plum, apple or pear trees, providing compost and running pruning workshops for tree guardians. If you want to be part of the Council scheme next year, let us know, or contact Jane Schaverien 021 1674577. Or you can follow the lead of some Abbott St residents, buy your own trees and plant them on your own berm.

Neighbourly

Have you heard of the new website, Neighbourly? It helps members connect with others in their community and join special interest groups – such as the weekend dog walkers who go down the gorge to La Cloche for coffee. There are already 1200 suburbs on board, Ngaio among them. We have registered as a local organisation and plan to post updates about our events and other issues affecting local residents on it. Once registered with the website you get daily or weekly updates with posts from local residents.

More at: <https://www.neighbourly.co.nz>

Community patrols?

Community constable Hamish Knight came to a recent meeting to enlist our support for community patrols for the Khandallah to Wilton area, which isn't covered at present. Community patrols are voluntary groups of people giving some of their time and taking responsibility within their own community to help the Police make the local community safer for everyone. Community Policing NZ would organise the patrols and provide support. Let us know what you think!

Facebook

We support the Ngaio Facebook page and the Crofton Downs Facebook group by posting updates from time to time. If you are a Facebook user, check them out.

Ngaio - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ngaio/151277024975843>

Crofton Downs - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/122068984494170/>

Silversky Track

Last year a keen group of Crofton Downs Residents built a walking/cycling track from Downing Street up to the 4 wheel drive track near the transmitters. They are now working hard extending the track to Silverstream Road. We were pleased to help them get Wellington City Council funding for this project.

Chartwell Reserve

A group called the Green Belters is developing a picnic area near the top of Chartwell Drive. It's a lovely area to explore, and you may even see beehives and horses. They had a planting bee on 9 August.

Bus review

We are taking an active interest about proposed changes to bus routes through Ngaio and Khandallah. Email Greater Wellington Regional Council PTPlanReview@gw.govt.nz if you would like further details.

Predator Free Community

A Crofton Downs group has won \$5000 from Wellington's Halo Project to provide predator traps throughout the residential area. By trapping rats and stoats (not cats or kids) they will help create a predator-free suburb that is a safer haven for native birds.

More at: <http://halo.org.nz/groups-keen-enhance-zealandia-halo/>

Bedtime reading

Bells Track newsletter June 2014

<http://halo.org.nz/bells-track-june-2014-update/>

Trelissick Park Group newsletter July 2014

<http://www.trelissickpark.org.nz/Newsletters/Gorge%20Gazette%20Jul14.pdf>

Compiled by

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