Ngaio Progressive Association 2003 Annual Report

It is with great pleasure that I present the Annual Report of the Ngaio Progressive Association (NPA). Along with those residents from Ngaio, Crofton Downs and Chartwell who serve on the Committee, I feel a sense of pride in what we have been able to do for this fine suburb during this past year. I also want to acknowledge the hard work of our two WCC councillors, John Morrison and Judy Siers. Together with the WCC, we are all working with the interests of local residents at heart.

After the last AGM the NPA Committee developed four strategic goals to guide its work. These were:

1. The WCC's Community Planning Project for Ngaio will be supported
2. Communication with residents and members of the Ngaio community will be effective
3. The suburb will be enhanced by plantings
4. WCC will be aware of untidy areas, and unsafe roads and walkways in the area

Targets for each of these goals were set for 2003. The focus of this Annual Report is on our progress in relation to those targets.

Goal 1

The WCC's Community Planning Project for Ngaio will be supported.

Targets for 2003

- The 1996 NPA Vision document will be used as a basis for community consultation
- The WCC's Startegic Review process will be supported
- The NPA will participate in on-going consultation

Comment

The WCC's community consultation process began at the end of 2002. The NPA made available its 1996 Vision document for the meetings. It was most timely that this document was reviewed. After a series of Ngaio Community Planning Workshops facilitated by the WCC in early 2003, "A Vision for Greater Ngaio" was published.

NPA representatives have continued to participate in the Community Forums and the various sub groups that were set up after the Planning Workshops finished.

Goal 2

Communication with residents and members of the Ngaio community will be effective

Targets for 2003

- The NPA website will be promoted
- There will be regular items in local papers
- There will be two Annual events – the Community Picnic and the Junk Drive

Comment

A NPA website, **www.ngaio.org.nz** has been developed and material is being regularly added to it. This is an exciting and challenging development and one the Association is keen to promote.

There have been regular items in the local papers, and the Community Picnic, which was held in early March in Cummings Park, was more popular than ever. The well-patronised, and eagerly-awaited Junk Drive is to be held on 18th of October,



Goal 3

The suburb will be enhanced by plantings

Targets for 2003

- Streamside planting in Cummings Park will be completed
- More grasses will be planted at the foot of the rock bank near the Ngaio end of Khandallah Road
- The Awarua Street entrance to Cummings Park will be planted

Comment

One of the most obvious signs that the NPA has been at work around the suburb is the planting which has been done in recent weeks. There was further streamside planting in Cummings Park and the planting of more grasses on the eastern side of Khandallah Road. The NPA also assisted the WCC with the planting of over 800 shrubs just north of the Ngaio sign on Khandallah Road. Over 40 local residents came to help and the Saturday morning activity was an outstanding success. Many comments were passed about the pleasure of working on a well-planned and clearly-defined community project.

Goal 4

WCC will be aware of untidy areas, and unsafe roads and walkways in the area

Target for 2003

- The worst areas will have been identified for the WCC

Comment

In August and September NPA members again walked the streets and updated the audit done in 2001. The "rule of thumb" is that a footpath must be wide enough for an adult to push a buggy along without being troubled by overhanging foliage, obstructions or broken surfaces.

The Association is aware of many flights of steps in the area, which are now getting old and not in good repair. It would be useful if the WCC developed an overall strategy for upgrading suburban steps (and signposting them) in the same way that it reviews other suburban amenities on a cyclical basis.

The audit also showed problems with gutters and drains in many areas, particularly where storm-water outlets join the street gutter.

Our targets have been generally met. But the strategic goals are still there and there will be new targets set by the incoming committee – communication can always be improved and there will always be areas to be planted. It should, however, be possible, by working more closely with the WCC, to eliminate untidy areas and unsafe roads and walkways.

Other matters

The Committee of the NPA has met on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.45 pm in the Drop-in Centre, Ottawa Road. The fifteen members consider:

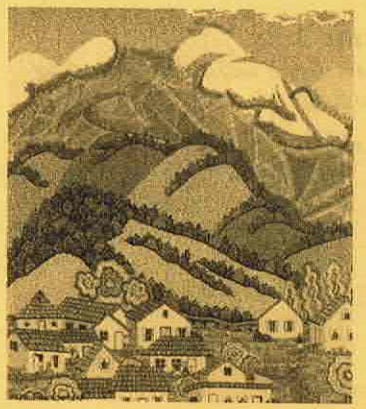
- issues such as the increasing number of cars parked on roads, eg Cockayne Road is difficult for both vehicular and foot traffic (when cars are parked on the footpath)
- topics on which the WCC has asked for feedback, eg the draft Outer Green Belt Management Plan, Suburb Review, proposed changes to street parking provisions
- matters raised by local residents, eg the access to Crofton Downs via Silverstream Road where the increased use of yellow lines may help to improve traffic flows.

The Committee has also considered District Plan changes, eg Change 24:The Rezoning of Land at Downing Street and Silverstream Road, Crofton Downs, and kept pressure on the WCC, eg for resolution of the problems surrounding access to the Heke Reserve from Collingwood Street.

The NPA continues to work enthusiastically on behalf of all those who live in Wellington's most attractive suburb.

Mary Munro

Chairperson



Thank you to Harcourts
6 Dekka Street, Khandallah, 479 7911
for photocopying this report.

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ARE YOU PREPARED?

Contact the Wellington Emergency Management Office (WEMO) to find out how on: 460 0650

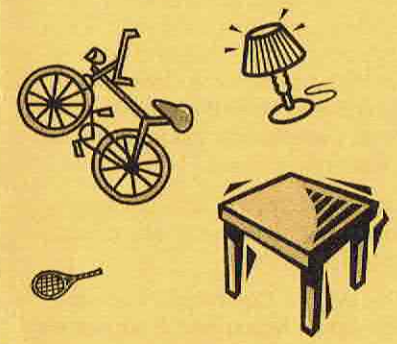
NGAIO CIVIL DEFENCE

on the Richter scale is a huge earthquake, like the series that hit Fiordland recently. Fortunately for a sparsely populated area, damage to property was minimal although huge landslides have greatly altered the landscape.

If a similar earthquake hits Wellington this would be *major disaster.*

Ngaio Progressive Association 2003

JUNK DRIVE



SATURDAY, 18TH OCTOBER

BRING IT ON!

- All junk to be placed on the footpath by 8 a.m. on the day
- No garden rubbish, recyclable material or very heavy or bulky items please
- If you need help, please phone Trevor on 4795 438
- If you can help collect junk, please phone the above number
- Donations are welcome. $5 is suggested. We will check your letterbox when we pick up your junk. Alternatively, you may leave your donation at the Ngaio Pharmacy, in a marked envelope.

NGAIO PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION AGM

- Wednesday, 29th October 2003, 8 p.m. Ngaio Town Hall
- Speaker: Jane Hill, WCC Libraries Manager, speaking on "Library services of the future".

www.ngaio.org.nz

Please turn over for the Annual Report of the Ngaio Progressive Association