



Neighbourhood Support

Waitakere



New Starts for Neighbourhood

Neighbourhood Support Waitakere has undergone a number of exciting changes recently. We have a new executive committee, a new partnership agreement with the Waitakere City Council and our office in Te Atatu was formally opened at a Community Open Day.

At the AGM in March, Les Duffield was elected as Chairperson, replacing Georgia Ball, and Alistair Graham as his deputy. Jo Quatermass returned as the Secretary and Glynis Renata was elected Treasurer. The new committee (below from left) is Graeme Smith Alistair Graham, Robyn Sutherland, Mary Harrison, Ray Fillery, Glynis Renata, Peggy Fillery, Korstiaan Prins, Jan Main, and Les Duffield.



Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse and Waitakere Area Commander Inspector Gary Davey at the NSW open day.



The NSW office at the Te Atatu Police Station held an open day to officially open the office and thank our strategic partners and volunteers for all the work they do for us. It also celebrated the signing of the partnership agreement with the Waitakere City Council. More than 50 people attended, including representatives from the NZ Police, the Fire Service, Waitakere City Council, Civil Defence and community groups.

"It was wonderful to have all our strategic partners together to celebrate these two milestones in the development of NSW, and to thank our many volunteers and the other organisations we are proud to work with", outgoing NSW chairperson Georgia Ball said.

"We look forward to a great future working together to build safe and supportive communities in Waitakere", she said.

Community Partnering Agreement

NSW also signed a Community Partnering Agreement with the Waitakere City Council. "It recognises, formalises and strengthens the relationship we have with the council. It confirms our shared vision for Waitakere and gives a framework for working together into the future", said NSW secretary Jo Quatermass.

The agreement also aims to recognise the contribution made by the Council and NSW to the community of Waitakere, and to provide a framework for working together. It also establishes a framework for support, including financial support and capacity building.

Since the agreement was signed, NSW has also signed a funding agreement with the Council which guarantees a generous minimum funding for each year until 30 June 2012. This means that for at least the first 18 months of the new super-city, Council funding is guaranteed.

NSW and the council are working together on a joint plan to give a practical expression of the agreement. That plan would demonstrate a commitment to building stronger communities, with the capacity to establish resilient communities that care for one another and have pride in them-





Connecting Communities

Greetings from the new Chairperson, Les Duffield.

This year's AGM saw the election of a new Committee to guide the organisation. The Committee is a very proficient-looking group and I look forward to working with them in reviewing our Strategic Plan and moving ahead to implement it to consolidate work to date and continue the growth of NSW.

An important function is to secure the funding required for our staff and general management roles, the events that present themselves to us, the specialist roles we have undertaken for particular funders and to give continued support to our Strategic Partners, Waitakere City Council, the Police, Civil Defence and the Fire Service.

We say farewell to Georgia Ball our previous Chairperson, and to Roi our City Coordinator. We have reshuffled our present staff for a trial period to see if we can survive but we are always looking for volunteers to help.

Although this is quiet period for us as winters looms, we will still be recruiting new groups, particularly in the areas where we are thin on the ground. This will mean some street meetings and are we looking very soon to arrange a conference/training meeting for all Street Contacts.

If I could steal one of our Community Constable's saying, with just a slight change - **CRIME FLOURISHES WHEN GOOD PEOPLE DO NOTHING**. So, be good neighbours and look after each other. I can honestly say we do make a difference.

Les Duffield
Chairperson

On the Beat—Your Community Constable Faga Siaki—Te Atatu



Talofa!

2010 has started off well and the plan is to keep it that way for as long as possible. One issue starting to rear its ugly head in the community is "tagging". It effects us all - emotionally, physically and even financially.

The Waitakere Tag Out Trust are instrumental in helping the police by using 6 new PDA devices to capture new tags, log their GPS location and enter it directly onto a database. This means that for every prolific "tagger", we have their "tag" on file. Should a prosecution occur, Tag Out Trust can print out a map of the location of all recorded tags the "tagger" may have done.

So to ensure the success of this system, the community is being called upon to assist where they can by calling the Waitakere City Council or Tag Out Trust to report any tagging in their area. You may be able to identify a "tagger" in your area that we do not know, or a new one starting up.

I also want to remind parents that if your child is riding a bike to school that you ensure they have a bike helmet, which not only fits your child but is approved. A hard hat, baseball cap, welding mask or a scarf are not approved bike helmets. So please ensure the safety of your child to and from school when riding their bikes.

If you that drive your children to school, remember to use safety belts. For children under the age of 8 a child restraint seat is to be used, with exceptions of size and height for some children. This responsibility falls on the driver of the vehicle, most probably **YOU**.

So until next time, be safe, be well and God Bless :)

HOW TO CONTACT US

Neighbourhood Support Waitakere aims to ensure that everyone in our community feels included and safe.

Has your street got a good Neighbourhood Support group, working together to support each other?

Has your street got a serious problem with unwanted visitors, graffiti, car racing or noise?

Are your vulnerable residents well supported and cared for?

Do you tell your neighbours if you are going away?

Can you volunteer a little time to work in the area around your home?

We would love to hear from you!

Phone our office on 09 834 5815.

You can become involved in a number of ways:

- Become a volunteer: organise your street or assist us with administration. We would love your help!
- Become a financial member—\$12 a year.
- Become a sponsor: If you can sponsor goods, money or raffle prizes, we would be grateful for any donations.





Asian Support Group at Ambrico Park

The Waitakere Asian Support Group together with Neighbourhood Support Waitakere and NZ Police held an informal sausage sizzle and “meet your neighbours” at Ambrico Park on Saturday 27th March 2010.



With the outcome of people who came from a diverse variety of different nationalities, it was good to come together and meet greet one another. Some residents raised concerns which were addressed by Councillor Peter Chan and the New Lynn Community Board Member Wayne Davis.

Local Police Sergeant Grant Watson and Constable Karn spent time talking to residents and encouraging them to join Neighbourhood Support Waitakere. New Lynn Pacific Island Wardens Bill & Mark joined in greeting people and supervising the youngsters in the park.

Six residents have expressed their interest in becoming a street contacts for Ambrico. A number of residents have signed up to become members on Neighbourhood Support on the day, which will receive resources and information about crime activity throughout Waitakere City. Some residents exchanged phone numbers and addresses with one another and are keen to do a similar event later in the year.

This will help keep their neighbourhood safe and improve communication between residents and NZ Police.

Ambrico Place has been subjected to a number of crime related problems over the last year including, bag snatching, burglary and car thefts etc.....

A big “thank you” to the chefs, and to all those that came along on the day! “Get to know your neighbour and help keep our community safe.”

Change of Leadership

NSW City Co-ordinator Roi Stephens has resigned and Samantha Farquhar has been appointed to fill that role.



Samantha was previously the co-ordinator for Junior Neighbourhood Support programmes. Picture shows Roi at right, and Samantha in centre with New Lynn Community Constable Karn and Sergeant Watson.

Get to know your neighbours

Are you passionate about your neighbourhood and think you have something to offer? Why not become a volunteer for Neighbourhood Support Waitakere?

That’s exactly what Linda Lewis of Herald Island did 10 years ago, She became a street co-ordinator for her area. And, she says that she has got so much out of the role—she has met new people, made friends and received “lots of warm fuzzies” from seeing people in her neighbourhood talking to each other and their children playing in a safe environment.

The role can be as big or small as the amount of time and energy you have to put into the role. “There are a lot of people who want to help, but don’t know how”, Linda said.

Communication is the key to being a successful street co-ordinator—and a good neighbour. Talk to your neighbours. Let them know if you are having a party, or have seen anything suspicious happening. Often, just knowing that you are not the only one that something has happened to can help. And sharing information stops bad things from continuing to happen, she said. It also gives people the information and confidence to take ownership of the area they live in.

Once you make the decision to be a Street Co-ordinator, contact the NSW office. The details are on page 2. The office can provide you with a lot of information and support about how to start getting your neighbours on board. A common way of doing this is having a street party, or rallying your neighbours around to fight a problem like graffiti or damage being done to houses. NSW has limited funds, but can help you contact your neighbours and provide advice and support.

The office can also help with information packs, leaflets, stickers and fact sheets. It will also provide you with information about what is happening around your area and what to do in different situations. The police cannot always come immediately if something suspicious is happening in your neighbourhood, as they may be dealing with a major incident.

“We need to share the load. Local knowledge makes a huge difference”, Linda said. When you take a lead, your neighbours will follow, she said.

Linda has also been responsible for a huge amount of fundraising for NSW by organising regular book fairs. The book fairs are also useful in letting the community know that NSW is alive and well, and busy supporting the people of Waitakere, she said.

Why not become a volunteer and help your community become a supportive and vibrant place to live?





West Harbour School “adopts” Jadewynn Reserve

Students at West Harbour School have painted murals to be hung at Jadewynn Reserve. They hope the paintings will reduce the amount of tagging and anti-social activity taking place there. At the unveiling, the children proudly showed off their handiwork.



Afterwards, the students and their teachers shared lunch in the park. Jadewynn Reserve (including Manutawhau Reserve) has had a lot of community involvement in recent years, and this sense of ownership has assisted in the reduction of antisocial behaviour occurring there.



An Open day was also held at the park to allow neighbours and others in the community to express their concerns about the park and provide feedback about the new artwork. It also assisted in getting the community to support the school’s work and take ownership of their local park.

