

Neighbourhood Support Waimea Inc

February 2020 Newsletter



Greetings and welcome to this February newsletter.

We have been preoccupied with the Australian wildfires over the last few months. I find it incredible that these fires started on a day when I returned from Queensland back in October. While we waited in the departure lounge in Cairns, we saw the breaking news on television showing out-of-control wildfires in Northern New South Wales. As we know from our own experience, the fires cannot simply be doused as the problem does not cease there. Our thoughts and best wishes are with all those affected, including the many, many animals.

Theme of the Month

This month Neighbourhood Support New Zealand have set the theme for the month as **“Love Where You Live - Encouraging neighbourhood improvement + beautification”** So, we have an article contributed by Keep Richmond Beautiful who are keen to let you know what they do to contribute to the beautification of our town and surrounds, and welcome your interest, especially those who would like to volunteer some help. See the article below.

Road Safety Near School Children

With holidays all but a memory and schools reopening, it is timely that we remind ourselves to be extra careful near schools and school buses. The younger children are so easily distracted, and we want all of them to be safe. Remember: “Motorists need to be extra careful when passing a stationary school bus where children are getting on or off. Always reduce your driving speed to 20km/h when passing the bus and keep an eye out for children who are walking to catch the bus or leaving it.”

Source - <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/safety-and-the-school-bus/index.html>

IMPORTANT: A New Structure for Neighbourhood Support

In previous newsletters I have indicated that we have been working with Neighbourhood Support Nelson examining the feasibility and process for working more closely with them. The working group which includes representatives from Waimea has concluded that the best way forward, for several reasons is to merge the groups to form a new Top of the South Neighbourhood Support organisation. The important points are set out below including a

Notice of Motion to be put to a Special General Meeting on 24th February to formalise our intention to merge. More details below...

Message from Marty

This month our big news is that our Coordinator Marty Price has resigned so that he can take up full-time employment. He will be sorely missed but the committee wishes him well in his new position and we want to express our sincere thanks for his work over the last eight years. His friendly disposition and genuine interest in everyone's well-being have meant he has been a huge asset. So, here is final message to you all.



Hi all,

Well after almost 8 years working as coordinator of Neighbourhood Support Waimea Inc I have decided to move on from this role, a role that I truly have enjoyed doing, one that I believe has a place in our community. I became coordinator in November 2012 when it was first established.

Community Police Constables used to do it prior in the Richmond area which began in the late 80's. There were 25 active street groups and I straight away got stuck into setting up more groups and after 4yrs in the role I reached 180 street groups and have stayed around that mark right through to 2019. Over the years it has not been an easy task to keep going, funding has always played a big part in keeping NS Waimea going.

Our Executive Committee have over the years been superb and the amount of volunteer hours they each have put in is phenomenal and I thank them for their support.

Another part of our survival goes to the many local businesses/sponsors for their support and this has been appreciated so much.

For me having two part-time roles, two very different jobs meant I had a lot more pressure on me as the years proceeded and that is why I decided to move on; it has not been an easy decision but it has been one for me and my family moving forward.

I hope that the communities and streets continue to look out for each other, continue to support each other in times of crisis and keep talking, never lose that communication amongst each other.

Ensure you phone police when you are supposed to and let them make the decision on what to do from then.

The Police in Richmond have always been welcoming and insured I had a room to work out of. I have met many great cops throughout my 8yrs in this role who do amazing work, thank you to Jody, Marty, Mal, Glyn, Susan, Sheree, Quintan and many, many more for your support, trust me, the list goes on.

There have also been many agencies over the years that I connected with and they were great to engage with to get that work done. Thank you especially to Age Concern, TDC, Richmond Community Patrol, Police and many more.

Thank you all in the Community & Police for your commitment, kindness and most of all letting me engage with you throughout these 8yrs.

As we say in Ireland, Slaintse and see you around

Marty Price



Extraordinary general meeting on 24th February at 7.30 pm to agree a new organisational structure for neighbourhood support in our area

Planning is well advanced to develop a single integrated neighbourhood support organisation for our communities to operate by 1st July 2020. It will work in a similar manner to other integrated neighbourhood support groups such as Canterbury, which have proven to be dynamic and successful.

Top of the South Neighbourhood Support would take up the work currently done by Waimea, Marlborough and Nelson. (Discussions are being held with Motueka.) It would be a trust formed under the Charitable Trusts Act. The new trust would supersede Neighbourhood Support Waimea Inc.

Top of the South neighbourhood support would be strongly committed to street groups. There would be local area coordinators very similar to the work by Marty Price over the last eight years in Waimea. Its purpose will be to support neighbourhood safety, security, connectivity and resilience. We believe that the benefits to each of you in the community of forming a single combined organisation will be:

1. **Greater efficiency**- better information will be more readily available to you through the planned new website and the new *Gets Ready* app (for those interested). *Gets Ready* enables rapid communication of information to you from emergency services in the event of an emergency event. Coordinators will also be available to continue to support street group meetings;
2. **Combined expertise** to support your information needs This includes bringing together relevant information from the Police, Civil Defence and Fire and Emergency that that we can brief you on;

3. An **ability to support relevant local community events**. At Waimea our very limited finance and small volunteer committee limit our ability to respond to such initiatives; and
4. **Enhanced relationships** with other complementary organisations working in the community.

Top of the South Neighbourhood Support would have a board of up to 10, supported by a manager. (Policies and rules are currently being drafted for consideration by a formation steering group).

Neighbourhood Support Waimea is not currently sustainable because donors are increasingly reluctant to support a small organisation, such as ours. We are also reliant on a very few and shrinking committee of volunteers. A combined organisation can better meet your needs.

I invite you to an extraordinary general meeting on 24th February at 7.30pm to consider the following **draft resolution**:

1. Neighbourhood Support Waimea Inc (NSW) agrees to join the new Top of the South Neighbourhood Support Trust (TSNS), wind-up NSW and transfer its assets, liabilities and information to TSNS.

The extraordinary general meeting will be held in the studio behind Impressions Picture Framers & Art Supplies in Richmond. Access is from the library rear car park.

Keep Richmond Beautiful

Keep Richmond Beautiful works very closely with the Tasman District Council helping to make rates go further by doing voluntary work that might not get done through lack of resources.

Our year starts in February, and through to May we do weed control/elimination and build 'nice to have' items such as picnic tables, rest seats, and walking tracks mostly in the Richmond foothills and out to Rabbit/Moturoa Island.

From late May to September we concentrate on planting and each year plant about 9000 plants being mostly native bush/trees.

From September, we go back to plant care and dealing with noxious weeds such as Old Man's Beard, Banana Passionfruit, Barberry and quite a list of other weeds. During this time, we also do more builds.

We finish for the year mid-December.

Our working bees are every Wednesday morning at 9am through to midday meeting at the site of the task. An email is sent out at end of the previous week giving details of the working bee.

Our members get pleasure and reward from meeting up and doing tasks that over the years achieve quite a stunning transformation.

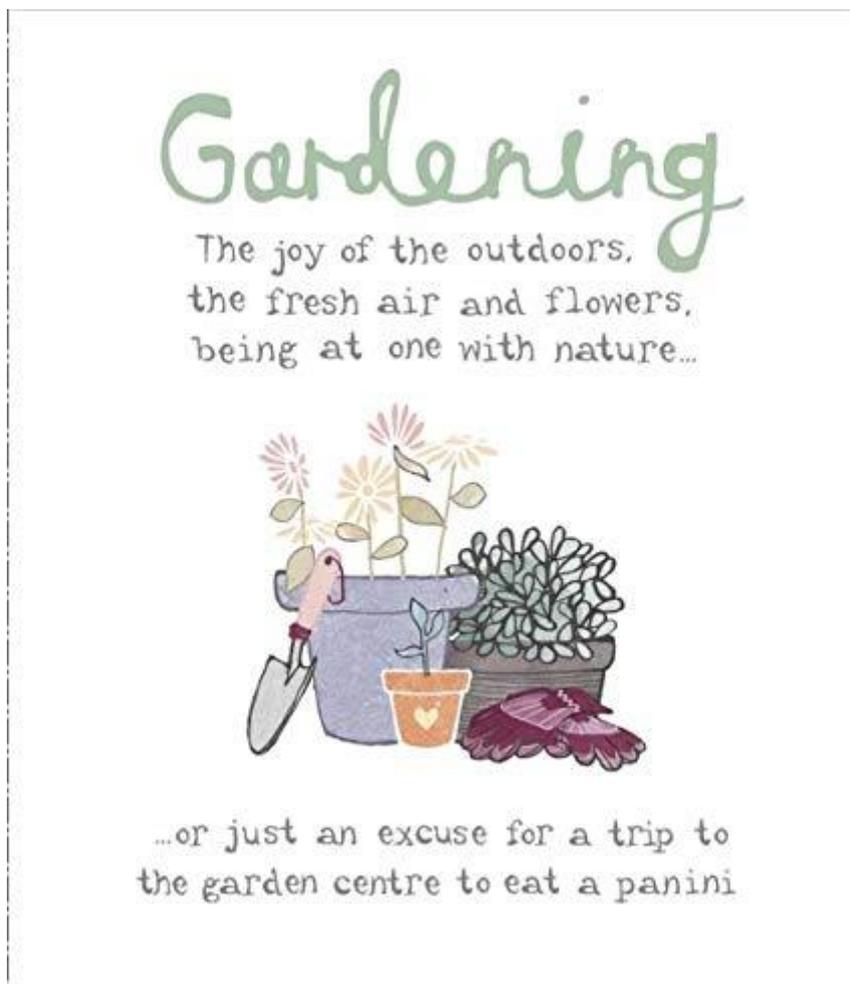
Also, our morning tea (which lasts more than ten minutes and is a great chat time) is supplied by the Council and includes biscuits some members bake.

We have a Facebook page, and anyone interested in joining us can do so through the Facebook Page.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Ron Argue (Chairperson of Keep Richmond Beautiful), Email: rpargue@xtra.co.nz

, Phone: 03 544 0841, Mobile: 021 262 1901

Just for a Laugh



Water Restrictions

Water restrictions have come into force. For updates refer to the TDC website, <https://www.tasman.govt.nz/my-property/water/water-restrictions/>

Please conserve water wherever you can.

Coping with Dry Weather Gardening

- Mulch with organic matter (such as straw, granulated bark, and composted leaves).
- Train your plants to cope with less water by gradually increasing the days between watering.
- Fix leaky taps, hoses and fittings.
- Plant more shelter.
- Remove weeds.
- Water early in the morning, or in the evening.

Source: <https://www.gogardening.co.nz/plants-for-/12-0-1251/hot-plants-for-dry-places>



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Next Meeting: Special General Meeting

7.30pm, Monday 24 February 2020, Impressions Studio, Petrie Car Park, Richmond.

Apologies to Glenys Della Bosca, email delabos1@yahoo.co.nz



Nelson & Tasman
 Wendy Pearson & Debbie Watson



Ph 03 541 9667

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Closing Comments

2020 not only opens the new decade, but for Neighbourhood Support locally, a time of transition. We are sorry to say farewell to Marty Price, but we totally understand his need to move on, and we will shortly welcome our new Coordinator – more information in the March newsletter.

The Committee is excited to see that all the background research and preparations that have been going on are nearing completion. We have a busy few months in the immediate future, so we continue to hold monthly meetings to be sure that everyone is kept up to

date. Personally, I am excited by the developments as volunteers are hard to find, so I believe the planned changes are a practical solution which allows for an efficiently managed organisation together with the guidance of a Coordinator for our street groups.

So, I am excited. I hope you will be too.

Glenys Della Bosca

Editor



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