

Northwood News

Northwood Residents Association – August 2016

THE FAIR IS COMING . . .



Read about the work
that Northwood
Residents Association
has been doing...

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If you are new to Northwood, welcome.

We hope you enjoy this place and hope you will feel part of our community. There has been plenty happening behind the scenes this year so grab a coffee and read on inside...

Comments from the Committee

If you are new to Northwood, welcome.

Your committee has been working hard for Northwood in a number of different areas. We have been busy identifying and working on our footpaths and walkways.

We have made progress in resurfacing wooden walkways to lessen the chance of injury. We've also reacted to requests to ask that footpaths be kept clear of overhanging foliage. We see this as important for all of us as we walk around this great place.

We are also working on a couple of local issues that affect some of our residents. There is currently discussion going on around the parking in Breton Close. While every member of the public can make a direct request to council for a change near their property, NRA is in a position to be able to organize a local group meeting to make the best possible decision for all. We encourage any resident who has an issue to contact us to at least discuss.

We are also looking again at the Main North Road intersection. We think some improvements can be made especially for pedestrians.

We have another working bee coming up soon. Please make an effort to participate. It's amazing how good you will feel doing something constructive for your community and environment.

We will soon be ramping up our planning for the Northwood Fair in November. If you'd like to help with this great event, please contact us.

A few residents have asked about membership. Our constitution requires the annual subscription to be set each year. Its currently \$10 per year per household

Any comments? Drop us a line on our new website, we'd love to hear from you.

The NRA Committee

Name	Address	Phone
Clive Smith - (Chair)	46 Mounter Avenue	323 7527
Lois Flanagan (Deputy Chair)	20 Mistral Road	323 9148
Alistair McTaggart - (Treasurer)	28 Pewter Place	323 6449
Robyn Pay, JP (Secretary)	16 Redfern Street	323 8826
Louise Wilson	9 Amamoor Street	323 8623
David Couper	80 Beechwood Drive	029 527 2564
Bruce Campbell	9 Northwater Drive	323 6602/027 542 0333
Sharyn Foote	49 Beechwood Drive	323 5782

Join NRA, contact a committee member and tell them about your thoughts on local issues. Write an article for Northwood News, send an email to northwoodresidents@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook -



The Committee thanks Fuji Xerox for their continued support of the Northwood News

Focus on a Local – Gill Waugh

The Northwood resident for this newsletter edition is Gill Waugh. Gill is the Senior Pastor at the Christchurch North Salvation Army Church, which is on the corner of Main North Road and Donegal Street. Gill, her late husband Neil (who sadly passed away only 11 months ago to cancer), with their two sons, had moved down from West Auckland to Christchurch three and a half years ago to become Co-Pastors. Gill lives with both of her sons: Caleb who is nearly 21, and 23-year-old Ethan, his partner Nive and their 14 month-old toddler.

Gill and the team are based in Belfast (794 Main North Rd), during the week and are kept busy with the foodbank, budgeting, connecting with people around their needs, advocacy, one-to-one coaching, life skills and more. The office is open from Monday-Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm and the foodbank runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.30-12.30pm. Access to the foodbank is by appointment with people encouraged to ring the church in the mornings and make a time. Also available is the Healthy Fruit & Vege Co-op where for \$15 you can receive 8kgs of fresh fruit and vegetables. Anyone can pre-order by dropping into the Centre by 10.30am on a Monday with your money and then pick up their order on a Wednesday. They also have bread available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from approximately 11.30am for people to take to help them spread out the groceries for the week.



Gill, with the team, leads the 10am Sunday Service in Northcote School Hall (Tuckers Rd) where anyone is welcome to attend and share in the service. The service is family-oriented, informal and welcoming. Family events such as movie and games nights are organised on a regular basis, and special events on Mother's and Father's day. They no longer have the room at the centre at Belfast to hold these services, and are in fact looking long term at building something that fits their needs better. Gill and her team support people in Belfast, Casebrook, Northcote and Redwood.

Later this year when the Salvation Army hosts a stall at the Northwood Fair on Sunday 6 November, they will have games available for children to play such as "guess the jelly beans in the jar", and will use the opportunity to connect and get to know residents. They are keen to learn about issues facing the community which they may be able to support.

Important to Gill is her strong faith in God, her family and building relationships with people in her community. Gill is grateful to the community for the support the Salvation Army receives as together they work with others in the community to support and care for people.

It was an honour to meet Gill. We need people like her and her team to support vulnerable people in our community. If you would like to volunteer your time, the Family Stores are always needing volunteers, call into the Family Store in Cranford Street and ask for the Manager. Any donations can also be dropped directly to the Cranford Street store. If you would like to donate any non-perishable food, drop items into the Belfast Salvation Army Centre. They are always needing plastic bags!

Is there someone in Northwood that you would like to see in Focus on a Local? Please contact Louise Wilson on 323 8623.

NRA Website

The NRA has been working hard on a new website! You can find our new website using this address: <http://www.northwood.org.nz/>

The website, launched in May 2016, has a fresh new look that is completely different to what we've had in the past. We were highly involved in the process of the design and put immense thought into the needs of our residents so that the information on the website would be a one-stop information shop for our locals about their surroundings.

The website has a lot of information concerning the local area as well as links to what NRA believe to be relevant key Christchurch information such as links to the Police, neighbourhood support, Neighbourly etc. The site is also where you can now access the most recent newsletter, see a calendar of events and make contact directly with NRA around supporting the community.

The website also supports us in the use of Facebook and we look to update the Facebook page often with any timely information that the community needs to know.

Neighbourhood Clean Up

Northwood Residents Association will be running the next "Neighbourhood Clean Up" on **Saturday, 27th August**. The clean-up will focus on trimming back overgrown vegetation and clearing fallen leaves etc. from underneath existing plants.

This is a new initiative by your Committee and will be a regular activity run by the NRA to show residents, visitors and CCC that we care about Northwood and are prepared to give some personal time to help maintain our neighbourhood to the standard that we expect.

To join us at the clean-up on **27th August**, meet at the **north side of Northwood Park alongside the Kaputone Stream down to the reserve area by Crombie Green**. Please remember to bring your gardening gloves and a smile.

Any enquires please phone Bruce Campbell, one of our Committee members, on 027 542 0333 or 323 6602.

Safety Underfoot

NRA has been proactive regarding pedestrian safety around Northwood. If you have been over the bridge on Northwood Park – Englefield Reserve, you will notice the new non-slip mesh which has been applied to the wooden surface.

Since then NRA has requested feedback from the community regarding other areas of concern. Several residents have identified other wooden walkway surfaces that are very slippery in winter conditions.

NRA has worked at getting these surfaces remediated. We have already improved the walkway on Springwater Avenue. We hope you have noticed and appreciate this change.

NRA reminds residents that they should continue to take care in wet and icy conditions. While these measures improve the surface, they cannot guarantee a completely non-slip surface.

Footpaths around Northwood

NRA has had several calls concerning shrubs and trees that are growing over footpaths. We need to remind residents that some of your neighbours are people who have access issues when trying to negotiate footpaths that are overgrown. It actually becomes a safety issue if the other side of the footpath is sloping away.

If your property has hedges and foliage that overhang the concrete footpaths around Northwood, could you please ensure that the full footpath width is available for wheel chairs, prams, mobility scooters and the general public.

Christchurch City Council has a defined policy around this as follows:

Private property

Under the Local Government Act, property owners are required to trim trees or shrubs obstructing a footpath, road, street sign or waterway. The Council will contact property owners about obstructions. Property owners have a limited time to clear any obstruction before the Council will arrange for the work to be done and charged to the property owner.

Talk to your neighbour if their tree or shrub is causing issues. The Council will not act or give advice on behalf of one resident against another or mediate in disputes.

For further information contact the Community Law Centre, a lawyer or the Citizens Advice Bureau.

NRA encourages all property owners to follow this policy and this is a timely reminder to get your hedges cut back. We strongly advocate that every property owner takes this responsibility seriously and does the right thing. We recommend regular maintenance throughout the year to ensure that this policy is adhered to. If you think your neighbour is not complying and may be unaware of their responsibility, please consider talking to them about it.

In cases where owners are not compliant, NRA will advise the Council. From that point onwards, the by-law will be enforced.

Finally, we would like to thank the majority of residents who play their part in ensuring their shrubs are kept trimmed allowing us all unimpaired access past your property.

If you have any comments to make regarding this, please drop us a note through the Contact Us page on the NRA web site: <http://www.northwood.org.nz/>

Annual General Meeting

The Northwood Residents Association held its AGM on 13 April 2016 at the Northwood Villas. Thanks to those who attended and to the Villas for hosting us.

A number of community members including Matt Doocey – MP for Waimakariri, Pauline Cotter - CCC Councillor, Mike Davidson – Chair of the Shirley Papanui Community Board, Aaron Keown – Community Board Member and Gavin Stanbury from BARA were in attendance.

The AGM covered topics such as the election of NRA committee members, the chairman's report from Clive Smith, an update on the BERP, the Treasurer's report, fees for the new year, and addresses by both Matt Doocey and Mike Davidson.

If you would like a copy of the minutes from the AGM, please contact us via the website.

Eucalyptus Gum Trees on Saracen Avenue

NRA has been working with local residents to look at constructive ways of improving the residential environment around the six large gum trees on Saracen Avenue.

Many of us walking past these trees would have noticed the large amount of debris that falls from these trees throughout the year. In windy weather, local properties and gardens have been littered with gum nuts, leaves, twigs and huge strips of bark.

Because of this, there is a small number of residents who have to regularly clear the debris from their properties and also the adjacent berms, footpaths and road gutters. We think that this is unfair and that things need to change.

NRA has begun discussions with CCC regarding this situation. After meeting with residents and listening to their issues, NRA has begun a programme to reduce this issue and possibly stop it completely.

In the short term, we have asked the CCC arborists to review the maintenance programme for these trees and begin an assessment of them. So far, the council has responded to this initial request very positively. Within a short period of time, they have cleared the debris from the street gutters.

Additionally, arborists have removed loose and hanging bark from the trees and this has alleviated the immediate issue for our residents.

While NRA is pleased with the initial response, it does not address the issue of continued debris of leaves and gum nuts being shed in high winds. We see these measures as short-term and believe it will require continued regular maintenance by the council to keep the trees from shedding bark into residents' properties.

Because of the proximity to houses, the sheer size of these trees and extent of branches overhanging the footpath and road, NRA proposes to open discussion with CCC around a more appropriate tree planting programme with a possibility of removing these trees. NRA acknowledges that, while removal of large trees is contentious, a suitable planting programme could enhance this area of Northwood so we can all enjoy it.

NRA is interested in your comments on this issue. Please contact us by leaving a comment on our website or phoning one of our committee members.

Northwood Fair

We are starting to get ready for the annual Northwood Fair which is held on the first Sunday in November at Northwood Park.

The NRA provides the fair as part of the Christchurch City Council's Neighbourhood Week and for us it's the culmination of a celebration of our community.

If you would like more information or you are interested in becoming a stall holder please get in touch with us at northwoodfair@gmail.com

Keep an eye on our website for updated fair information - <http://www.northwood.org.nz/>

Northwood News Advertising

Would you like to advertise your local business in the Northwood News?

NRA reserves the right to decline an advert should there not be sufficient allocated space. NRA expects the advertiser to provide an 'as is' high quality advert(s) of differing sizes if possible at least two weeks prior to publication.

Payment is required prior to publication, and where possible, direct credited to our bank account. You will be given our bank account details and an advertising number upon confirmation to use as a reference. When depositing money please ensure that your name (or your business name) is clearly identified.

Advertising Rates (which are per issue and subject to change):

¼ page advert - \$25

½ page advert - \$50

Whole page advert - \$75

Contact Sharyn Foote on 323 5782, or thenorthwoodnews@gmail.com with any advertising enquiries.

Street Coordinators Needed

We are on the hunt for two new street coordinators to help deliver our newsletter.

The newsletters come out on a quarterly basis and, depending on the area you deliver to, could take up to 30 mins to deliver.

The locations we need new Coordinators for are:

- Woodbank Estate (except Crombie Green and Panache Place)
- Upper Mounter Avenue (starts at No 34) + Ross Place and Bering Street.

If this is something that you are interested in helping with, please contact Pam Anderson on 323 5253.



MATT DOOCEY

MP FOR WAIMAKARIRI

Thank you for the opportunity to attend and speak at the Northwood Residents' AGM. I'm always here to help, so look out for my monthly community clinic in Northwood on the first Friday of every month. For more information on these, please ring my offices at the numbers below.

KAIAPOI OFFICE: 156B Williams St

P 03 3270514 E Kaiapoi@parliament.govt.nz

www.mattdoocey.co.nz

RANGIORA OFFICE: 130A Percival St

P 03 310 7468 E Waimakariri@parliament.govt.nz

 www.facebook.com/MattDoocey

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Matt Doocey, 130A Percival St, Rangiora.


www.national.org.nz



Annual Membership and Subscription to 31 March 2017



The vision of our association is:

*To nurture and facilitate a dynamic, friendly community that is
resilient and sustainable*

By joining the Northwood Residents Association you are helping us make our vision a reality!

If you would like to become a member of our Association, please complete your details below and either post to a committee member or pop in their mailbox (along with payment of \$10 per household).

- ☐ We are already members
☐ I/we would like to become a member/s of the Northwood Residents Association.

My/our details are:

Name:
 Address:
 Email:
 Telephone:

My option of payment is by:

Internet Banking to: ☐ Our bank account number 03 1355 0518081 00

example:

Mary & Joe	Bloggs	55 Janal Place
Particulars	Code	Reference

NB. It is unnecessary to include comments such as "subscription/subs" etc.

Cash enclosed ☐

Cheque ☐ Made out to 'Northwood Residents Association'

Graffiti

Take responsibility and report graffiti as soon as you notice it. Call the graffiti hot line (03) 941 8666 with details of the location and surface type – provide a photo if you can.