

## Glenside

### Progressive Association Inc.

#### PRESIDENTS REPORT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2009-2010

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It is with pleasure I provide this report for the year July 2009 to July 2010. Our activities are listed under the headlines:

- **Getting to know the neighbours**
- **Visibility of Glenside**
- **Retain and enhance Glenside character**
- **Traffic safety and other safety issues.**
  - **Educate people about Glenside**

These headlines refer to the matters important to residents at the community workshop in 2001.

#### Getting to know the neighbours

1. **Newsletters:** Eight newsletters were delivered to the community at a combined total of 1760. We appreciate the services of OfficeMax and Geoff Warren of Remax/Leaders Johnsonville for photocopying these on alternate months.
2. **Glenside Community E-mail group:** We have 52 residents on the e-mail group and these people receive additional news about Glenside between newsletters and keep the secretary and myself informed of matters of importance to the community.
3. **Support from others:** Thank you to Rex Johnson in Australia, our website administrator, who keeps our website safe and secure and regularly loads up items for us. Thank you also to our other supporters, Dennis Hamblin of Johnsonville (Halfway House Trust Deed) Joan Garman and Eileen Doile of Burdendale Road (regular meeting attendees), and the Hensch family of Khandallah.
4. **Social event:** This is the first year we were unable to host a community event. This was due to the Assn being very busy with the Westchester Hearing.

#### Visibility of Glenside

5. **Website:** There has been a steady use of the website e-mail address from people such as family historians, local residents and other interested people seeking information about our community.

The NZ Police Museum liked the information on the website about our Traffic Safety initiatives. One of the Museum Volunteers accompanied me on a tour of Glenside roads. The Museum has used Glenside community in their Road Patrolling display that opens on 17 August.

Very little new information was put on the website this year. This was due to several impacts including

- our website administrator moving from Australia back to New Zealand
- myself taking up full time work which required a lot of travelling
- uncertainty over the future of the website due to Council funding being withdrawn.

Now that we are assured that the community net future is secure, our first priority has been to update existing information on the website. We are currently preparing an improved layout for the Halfway House information.

6. **Newspapers:** About 33 articles about Glenside were published in newspapers. Most referred to Streamcare, historic Glenside or the Westchester Link. This is slightly more articles than published last year. Many of the articles were generated as a result of information in our newsletter, which is sent to newspaper editors.

I would like to acknowledge Ted Neylon who faithfully delivers me his copies of the newspapers every week so that I am kept informed.

7. **Northern Suburbs Liaison:** Where possible I attend the monthly Northern Suburbs Liaison meeting held at the Johnsonville community centre. This lunchtime meeting enables networking to take place with Government agencies, City Council representatives, schools, Church groups and community groups. I present our newsletter and provide a brief summary of activities in our community.
8. **Combined Northern Ward Assns:** No meetings were held this year.
9. **Residents Association's inaugural conference:** Jan Voss and Suzanne Hendry represented our Assn. at the Conference. They each provided a summary of the event at one of our meetings. As a result of their feedback I have initiated a planning spreadsheet to help keep us focused on our projects and how they are progressing.

## **Retain and enhance Glenside character**

### ***Protection of heritage***

10. **Gravesite:** Jan Voss and Barry Blackett and I ensured the c1841 Gravesite was protected as best as possible in the Westchester Appeal conditions.
11. **Archaeology:** The report on the Glenside Road/Stebbing Road corner archaeological site has been provided to the Historic Places Trust. The Trust have been asked to register the site on their archaeological database.
12. **Halfway House:** During trial planting of the Halfway House stream banks last week, some bottles and china were uncovered. These have been investigated by the archeologist Mary O'Keefe.
13. **Loss of significant early settler tree:** The big holly tree believed to be planted by the first immigrant family to set foot ashore at Petone (from the 1840 ship "Aurora") was cut down on 15 April. Peter Russell made strong presentations to Council and to the landowners not to destroy the tree. There is currently no protection on the hawthorn hedge planted by the same family and someone from the community needs to get this protected or it could be destroyed in the same way.

### ***Protect living streams***

14. **"Umbrella" to Glenside Streamcare Group:** The Association continues to manage the Streamcare Group funds and champions the group's activities through the newsletter and website.

In September

2009 we had a Streamcare Group display in St Paul's Cathedral during the Transition Towns and Conservation Week Expo. This year resident Donna Sherlock arranged a Streamcare Group display in the Wellington City Council Library.

**Ecological Corridor:** An exciting development this year has been to commence discussions on creating a formally recognized ecological corridor along the stream from Glenside Reserve, down Middleton Road to Takapu/Tawa.

This initiative began as a result of our network with the Green Forum, a group of ecologically minded people that meet regularly in Wellington. Green Forum representatives (from Forest and Bird and the Dept of Conservation) met with our residents and Council at a Glenside Progressive Assn. meeting.

An area of the website has been set aside for an "eco corridor" information source. Completing priorities have put this work on hold and we will follow this up when our Halfway House planting project is completed.

**Porirua Harbour Seminars:** In October 2009 JanVoss, Donna Sherlock and Joan Garman attended a series of seminars on the Porirua Harbour.

15. **Halfway House planting project:** Wellington City Council have provided 500 toitoi, flax and small trees for the Halfway House stream banks. The community planting day will be at 9:30 am on Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Johnsonville Lions Club will be assisting.

#### ***Input into Council planning and projects/overview of Council developments***

16. **Middleton Road Walkway:** Good progress has been made with Regional Council incorporating the proposed Middleton Road walkway/cycleway into the Ngauranga Triangle project. We now need to monitor the submission process to keep it there, and have it funded.

17. **Westchester Drive East:** The Appeal has been led well by Jan Voss, our secretary with the support of Barry Blackett and Zena Kavas from the Streamcare Group. All three have done a wonderful service to the community in keeping focused on the tasks, liaising with the lawyer and attending many meetings on behalf of residents.

The community rallied around to support the fundraising and we have raised over \$6000. Thank you to Renee Lee and Matthew Tunnell, who organized the sausage sizzle and to the volunteers who helped out on the day. Thanks also to Mike Bell, who managed the Trade Me sales on behalf of the residents who provided items to sell.

18. **Submissions.** The Assn. coordinated submissions on the Ohariu Gospel Trust resource consent. We made submissions on District Plan Change 72 & 73 (zonings); the Annual Plan (Westchester funding and Halfway House) and Community facilities (walking tracks).

#### **Traffic safety and other safety issues**

19. **Interchange signs:** You may recall that in July 2009, after the latest arson near the motorway interchange, I spoke to Bruce Patterson, Grenada Village Residents Assn. asking him to hurry Council along with directional signage for the former landfill road. After several on site meetings with City Council we now have good directional signs on the interchange to the suburbs of Glenside and Grenada Village. We also have street signs for Grenada Drive and Westchester Drive East. It has

ten years for Council to take action on our request for this street signage.

20. **Community patrolling and police:** A good relationship between Glenside residents, the Johnsonville Police and our community patrollers resulted in the recent arrest of a burglar. This person had committed numerous offences in the Titahi Bay area and in rural Glenside.

Police members with an interest in community intelligence (information) have suggested that our Assn. and Johnsonville Police make a joint presentation at the 2012 Research Symposium on our good relationship. Johnsonville Police have said they would be happy to work with us to support this initiative.

This year we commenced a regular “Community Patrolling Corner” in our newsletter. Thank you to Jacqueline Bligh for supporting this initiative and providing information.

### **Educate public about Glenside**

21. **Onslow Historic Society:** I met the descendants of Frank Johnson, an early pioneer of Glenside and Johnsonville at the Onslow Historic Society AGM. These lovely Canadian ladies were taken on a tour of Glenside and the places associated with Frank Johnson. They have provided me with some good information for our website and featured in the local newspaper.
22. **Glenside history book:** The Assn. has sold all but four of our 50 copies of the book about Glenside that was republished in 2008 by the Onslow Historic Society.
23. **The newsletter:** The newsletter is provided to residents, Councillors, MP’s and journalists. There has been a change of management at Café Thyme, the folder of newsletters is not currently displayed there for people to read.
24. **Website:** In the last year articles of historic interest were put on-line including the story of Burdendale road.

### **Proposals for the year ahead**

**Planning programme:** To keep us task focused and enable us to track our progress a spreadsheet of activities is kept regularly updated. We do need assistance from residents to take on some of our projects. Please let us know how you can assist.

**Thank you to the families of Ahmad, Voss & Beatson, Sherlock & Growcott, Hendry and Bell for making their homes available for meetings. Thank you to those good people in our community who attend meetings, provide feedback, review documentation; plant trees, pick up rubbish; report crime; volunteer and share thoughts on ways to make Glenside a great place to live, work and play.**

*Claire Bibby, President Glenside Progressive Assn. Inc. July 2010*