

CHAIR REPORT - September 2015

Focus Paihia and Community Events and Achievements.

Another huge year for Paihia and Focus Paihia, there has been both happy and sad times.

Sadly Andrew Thomson passed away early Boxing Day 2014, a huge loss to our community and the Trust. Andrew surprised us all with his achievements at his funeral, a quiet achiever some would say, I would perhaps say a very humble and great man. He had been awarded an OBE in 1993 for services to education and was awarded Emeritus Professor on his retirement. What wasn't a surprise was that he was also a champion of social justice in his homeland of Glasgow as well as here in Paihia. He is missed by us all.

Paihia and it's community shone at the Community of the year awards;

'Individual, Local Hero's': Annette Roberts, Heinz Marti, Greg Jones, Bruce Rogers, Vern Witehera, Trevor Grass

Community of the Year Awards 25th, February 2015. Paihia Community 1st. place! A lot of great work put into this presentation by Andrew Thomson, and Tiffany Holland our Coordinator.

The National Trust Power Awards in Wellington 27th -29th. March 2015. Focus Paihia Community Charitable Trust, 1st place! Again, great work put into this presentation by Andrew Thomson and Tiff Holland.

Pontoon project was driven by Tiff Holland in February, now stored away from the winter weather, thanks Blake and Bruce. Will be back on the water as soon as spring is evident.

Mountain Bike Park- A management agreement signed with DOC, 3 trails already marked out, donations being sought, give generously. Acknowledge the work of Robin and Tiff Holland, Sarah Greener and Roger Dold for the effort. Will hear more detail on this later. Fundraiser night Tuesday at 35 Degrees.

David Engwicht Workshop; May 1st & 2nd was very successful, good attendance and participation with many great projects emerging. Project drivers presented to the Board on 25 May, for approval. Most are now underway.

1. Village Green - Henk Kuiper, Brian Rapheal and the entrance just completed
2. Community of the year entrance sign/carving – Tania McInnes
3. Waitangi Projects – Darl Tana
4. Bird Corridor - Craig Salmon (also BBA traps being sponsored by ITM and FP)
5. International Community Volunteers website – Andy Larsen
6. Bollards – Katja
7. Maintenance day on 26 Sep. – Heinz Marti
8. Bird Picture Boards – Brad Windust and Ray Smythe

9. Op Shop – Focus Paihia Board painting next week, thanks to Jacques for all his work making the furniture and Patrick for the design.

All these projects are made possible and are in some way if not entirely funded by the Op shop, without the volunteers none of this would be possible, a huge thank you to all of you. Kath, Geoff, Gill and Sandy for their management of the shop.... you guys are the engine room of our funding, thank you.

Mall – Mall makeover underway, David Engwicht and Patrick Crawshaw running the project.

The Town Custodian program is approved and all go again this season, great work by all custodians and a special thanks to Vern for his tireless work and his continued efforts presenting our town in pristine condition.

Strategic planning workshop for the trustees over two days, thanks to Tania McInnes for facilitating and helping with that, it is great to stop and reflect on the past and then look to the future with a sound basis to guide us.

New Trustees..... Marty Robinson and Darl Tana

New trustee is being sought – Focus Paihia Māori Representative.

Great year working with Council and staff.

Would like to thank the trustees Geoff Williams (Secretary), Sarah Greener (Treasurer), Craig Salmon, Marty Robinson, Darl Tana and of course Tiff Holland our Co-ordinator, all these people do an incredible job, thank you.

Last but not least thanks to the community of Paihia and especially all those that volunteer their time, not only for their ongoing support of the Trust but for making this a great town to live in and a place to be proud of....

Thank you one and all.

Grant Harnish

Chair

Focus Paihia Community Charitable Trust