

**CRIME CAN'T
SURVIVE IN A
COMMUNITY
THAT CARES!**

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**NEIGHBOURHOOD
SUPPORT
AREA**



**safer
communities
together**

Over The Fence Lines

The quarterly newsletter of Neighbourhood Support Rotorua Inc
349-9470 nsrotorua@clear.net.nz www.nsrotorua.info

A Note From The Chair, Pauline Evans:

Greetings Members, Neighbours and Supporters a lot has happened recently at the office of Neighbourhood Support Rotorua, I thought you might appreciate an update.

We have accepted the resignation of one of our co-ordinators, Ron Taylor. Ron has been a valued member of our Team since 2007 and we are very sorry to see him step down at this time. His resignation was effective as at end of July 2015. NSR expresses their heart felt thanks to Ron for the hours of effort he has put in to ensure the ongoing success of our organisation. Ron has left big shoes to fill. We extend our sincere thanks and best wishes to both Ron and Sharon.

On the subject of finding a replacement for Ron I have to tell you that we are no longer able to pay for a second member of staff. Only a few short months ago we were hoping that our new partnering agreement with the Rotorua Lakes Council would reflect a financial understanding with which we could all move forward to enhance and improve the service and effectiveness of NS in Rotorua. That outcome didn't happen to the extent that we were hoping for; however we fared better than many other applicants so that means fundraising has to be a very high focus and this is where we at the office need your support more than ever.

A very high proportion of funders will not give funds to organisations for operational costs or salaries, and this is where most of our funding is needed. We have pared all our costs back, there is no extra "fat" or add on costs that we can eliminate. Without the continued support of our other major partners, NZ Police, RECT, Lotteries, we would be in a dire situation.

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We wish to acknowledge the support from the following:

Rotorua Police	Rotorua Lakes Council	Rotorua Rentals	Infinty Foundation
Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust	Lotteries	Dudfield Bryce Printers	

A Note From Bruce:



Recently our colleague, Ron Taylor, had to step down from the role of Co-ordinator based at Ngongotaha due to health reasons. Ron has contributed greatly to expanding the network of Groups in Ngongotaha and the rural north area. Our best wishes for a speedy recovery and we wish to record our appreciation for the great work undertaken. At present there will be no one based in Ngongotaha and only myself at Rotorua Police Station.

Also we have a change of Police Liaison Officer with Senior Sergeant Denton Grimes moving to District and Senior Sergeant Courtney Brunt replacing him. We are most appreciative of Denton's assistance over the last couple of years and look forward to working similarly with Courtney. Welcome!

So far this year the Neighbourhood Support streets crime level is similar to last year. This means crime has not increased in those streets. However ask any victim of a burglary, theft or stolen vehicle how they feel. I recently was working with two households who had their home violated by a young offender who didn't care about the affect he had on his victims. As a member of a Neighbourhood Support Group please be aware of any victims of crime in your Group and provide them with support and encouragement.

If you have any change of circumstance check that your insurance is still valid, don't wait until you make a claim.

One member recently raised concern about overflowing rubbish bags in their street. Although not crime related it is a health and safety issue. Householders should fill rubbish bags only to the indicated line and then secure them. Don't overload them and leave them open. The collectors endeavour to tidy up spills as much as they can but it would help your neighbourhood to do things right first and not to overfill your rubbish bags.

Safer Plates Project

Very shortly a combined Neighbourhood Support Rotorua/Rotorua Police project is to be launched which is designed to reduce number plate thefts by replacing mounting screws with tamper-proof screws. This will be done by teams at venues where the management of the parking area agree to host the project. Screws will be replaced by the team members on a donation to Neighbourhood Support basis to cover the cost of the special stainless steel screws.

Already a number of you have volunteered to be part of the team. If anyone who can work tidily and have a cordless screwdriver/drill is interested in joining the team please contact the office, 349-9470 or nsrotorua@clear.net.nz.

A Message From Courtney

Kia Ora,

I have recently taken over from Denton Grimes as the officer in charge of Community and Youth Services in the Rotorua area.

Like you, I live and work in our beautiful city, and want our community to be safe, and feel safe. We all have a part to play in that – with one way being to report ALL suspicious activity. A phrase we often use in the Police is



‘See Something – Say Something!’.

An example might be that you see someone carrying a television down the footpath, someone taking particular interest in your neighbour’s house, or even witness a heated argument between a couple on the street. If it’s happening now, call the Police on 111. We in the Rotorua Police are in the business of preventing crime, and this is one of the ways you can help us!

Until next time...

Senior Sergeant Courtney Brunt
Community and Youth Services, Rotorua Police

AGM Results

At the AGM held on 28th June all proposed rule changes were agreed to and those nominated to the committee were all re-elected. Through an oversight one name was missing from the nominees and at the first meeting that person, Rowan McKinley-Sadgrove, was co-opted onto the committee. Also at that first meeting Pauline Evans was re-elected Chair, Ann Wattam as Minute Secretary, the role of Treasurer was filled by Erney Searle and that of Deputy Chair by Mike West. The other members of the committee are: Keith Granger, Charlie Brown, Alana Whiteman, Patrick Hunter, Jan Owen and Rowan McKinley-Sadgrove.

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How can you help? Putting it bluntly – we need funding.

We would like to hear from you with any suggestions you might have for fundraising. Some suggestions that we have received :

- Members set up an automatic payment of \$1.00 per week
- Sausage sizzles at Bunnings or similar
- Garden party – could be an annual event
- Car rally

Finding a major sponsor – although this has the most appeal to raise serious levels of funds, we have nothing to offer a sponsor – they cannot have access to our database for marketing, so why would they give us dollars ?? Maybe sponsoring of our newsletter would hold appeal? The sponsor would have to be an organisation in line with our core values and ethics.

Some funding can be raised for projects – here again we need to be organised as funders have set deadlines, often not falling in line with required funding. We cannot go retrospectively to funders for past project funding.

I hope I am not sounding too negative – our outlook is far brighter than other organisations who were not given any funding. We will have to get smarter in the way we operate. This will include how we support Bruce our current co-ordinator.

I look forward to hearing suggestions from you, and if anyone has any skills in presenting applications for funding please let me know – we really could do with the help !!

Tips Regarding Burglaries:

Prevention is better than a cure

- Register your details with your Neighbourhood Support Group, keep them up to date!
- Ensure all doors are locked and windows are closed when you leave your house
- Report any suspicious activity in your neighbourhood, it may prevent your neighbour being burgled
- If you can afford it, fit window security stays, patio bolts to ranch sliders or a burglar alarm

- Mark your property with an invisible marker pen
- Record your equipment's serial numbers, brand and model.
- Photograph jewellery and other valuable things
- Store your serial numbers and photos in a secure place, check out the free online database www.snap.org.nz .
- Advise a trusted neighbour when you go away, have them also clear any junk mail/newspapers and cancel your newspaper
- Support neighbours affected by crime.