

Neighbours Day Aotearoa 29-30 March 2014

Kiwis the country over proved once again that neighbourliness is definitely a part of NZ's DNA.

Neighbours Day Aotearoa (NDA) is about turning strangers into neighbours and streets into neighbourhoods / Atawhaingia te Pa harakeke. It's about thousands of kiwis taking the time to engage in small and local acts of neighbourliness.

The big picture? NDA is about encouraging neighbourly activity 365 days of the year. We can all choose to be a great neighbour. It's simple, it's worth it and we'll all be better off for it.

What can your Neighbourhood Support Group do on that weekend?

Last year a number held a barbeque or street party. Have a think about it and let us know what you are planning.



Got a great idea for a community project??

The Neighbourhood Matching Fund has been created by the Rotorua District Council to support people to carry out projects that bring people together to build stronger neighbourhoods and communities by providing resources for one off self help projects.

If you want to bring people together in your neighbourhood to work on a neighbourhood project, that enhances and strengthens your neighbourhood and means families and whanau will work, play and talk together, or renews and improves places and spaces in your streets, then you may be eligible for funding from the Neighbourhood Matching Fund.

You have two options a small grant up to \$1000 which you can apply for any time over the next 10 months or for a grant up to \$20,000 which you can apply for in February. All funding must be matched by an equal amount of resources coming from your neighbourhood such as volunteered time and donated materials.

If you have an idea, or someone you know has been talking about doing something in their neighbourhood, then call Carole Parker at RDC 348-4199 and we can see how you may be able to get some money to help. Or check out the Rotorua District Council website, search for funding on <http://www.rdc.govt.nz/>



NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT ROTORUA

c/- Rotorua Police Station,
Private Bag 9044,
Rotorua 3044

Phone: 349-9470

Email:

nsrotorua@clear.net.nz

Website:

www.nsrotorua.info

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING
DO SOMETHING
RING THE POLICE, DIAL 111**



OVER THE FENCE LINES ISSUE 1 2014

A Note From Bruce

Welcome back with the first issue of 2014, time really flies.

Last year closed with less residential reported crime in the Rotorua Police Area and less in the Neighbourhood Support Group areas. The percentage reduction wasn't as great as the Police achieved overall so there is still great room for improvement.

Looking at burglaries around 40% of those in Neighbourhood Support areas were due to insecure premises or garages/out buildings. Keep up your security, close/lock/secure doors and windows and help reduce the number of burglaries even more!

Just a reminder report any crime or suspicious behaviour to the Police immediately. After notifying the Police you can then let your Street Contact Person know, so they are aware of any problems in the area. The Police appreciate help from the public to fight crime. **Street Contacts are not your initial reporting point, the Police are!**

Recently in Cochrane St a Neighbourhood Support member observed 3 youths breaking into a neighbour's house. They reported it and were able to direct Police to where they went. Good on you!!

Over The Fence Lines Newsletter Changes

As you will have already noticed the size of our newsletter has changed. Also the frequency of the newsletter will reduce from 6 issues per year to 4. This is to reduce production costs due to the very tight funding climate we operate in.



Operation Sign Up

We will undertake Operation Sign Up during the first half of this year with the help of Service Clubs and volunteers. As explained in earlier issues of Over The Fence Lines many of our street signs are weathered/damaged/missing, this project is to upgrade the signs in the Rotorua suburban areas. If Groups wish to renew weathered signs themselves please contact the office on 349-9470 please leave a message if no one answers.



Some may have noticed Ron delivering postcards to some areas. We have identified areas where there is no recorded Street Contacts for previous Groups. Those areas will have their signs removed. The postcards Ron is delivering is to advise this.

We endeavour to be as careful as possible but sometimes we do get it wrong and if you receive a postcard and belong to an active Group with a Street Contact please let us know and accept our apologies if this occurs. We need to be notified of all Groups details to keep our records up to date.

As part of this projects we will be issuing letterbox labels and invisible marker pens to registered household in each Group. Distribution will be through Street Contacts.

Thanks go to our funders Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust, Rotorua Rentals, Rotorua District Council.

Te Pou Kapua Te Koutu - Safe As Houses

Treasure Rotorua –Safe Communities group are launching a safety project named Te Pou Kapua-Safe as Houses 11am on 9th March at Kapenga Park Koutu.

This project is designed to encourage personal, family and wider neighbourhood support networks to improve safety and reduce crime related incidents.

The project will include household visits to nearly 500 residents of Koutu community, offering information advice and free resources such as security lights, non slip bath mats, property marker pens, rug tape and others.

A joint project between partner agencies Neighbourhood Support, Rotorua Police, NZ Fire Service, Rotorua District Council, Civil Defence and ACC, the launch will take place at a community fun day combining fun activities, food stalls and entertainment, including a 'Koutu's got talent' and scooter competition. This event is open to all Koutu whanau and other interested groups and agencies.

Life Tube Programme.

This service is a valuable tool when emergency services attend a call out. The Life Tube is a small white cylinder, 8cm high by 4cm diameter, with a screw cap. Inside there is an information sheet that contains all necessary information about the person's medications, medical conditions, other relevant details and contact details of next of kin. The owner completes this information sheet and puts the sheet back into the Life Tube.



The tube is kept in a prominent easily identifiable and accessible place, usually the refrigerator. The bright red sticker contained within the Life Tube is then placed on the refrigerator door. In the event of an emergency, the police, ambulance, fire service, friend, caregiver or even a neighbour will be alerted by the sticker, that vital information is contained within a Life Tube inside the refrigerator. Many people also keep a second Life Tube in the glove box of their car.

St John Ambulance, NZ Police & the Fire Service are all aware of the Life Tube and it's purpose. This service is rapidly growing throughout New Zealand and has become a nationwide recognised health information resource.

The Life Tube is available through Age Concern branches nationwide for \$4.50. One off orders by post incur 50c additional postage cost. The Age Concern Rotorua can be contacted on 347-1539.

Community Patrols

Community patrols are voluntary groups of people giving some of their time and taking responsibility within their own community to help the Police make the local community safer for everyone.

"Seeking Community Patrollers for the Eastside of Rotorua".

We are looking for volunteers in Rotorua who would be interested in becoming Community Patrollers for the eastside of Rotorua. Anyone who is interested could you please email Samuel.Parata@police.govt.nz

With your contact details. If you have any queries please contact me on 021-192-0221 or 07-213-1723.

Regards

Constable Sam PARATA, Bay of Plenty Police