

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT ROTORUA Inc.

Chairman's Report 2016 – 2017

Committee	Pauline Evans, Keith Granger, Patrick Hunter, Constable Rowan McKinlay-Sadgrove, Erney Searle, Ron Taylor, Ann Wattam, Constable Mike West, Constable Alana Whiteman.
Co-Ordinator	Bruce Quedley
Asst. Co-Ordinator	Jan Matthews
Police Liaison	Senior Sergeant Courtney Blunt

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Neighbourhood Support Rotorua for the 2016-2017 year.

Personnel : NSR employ a staff of two, Bruce Quedley - Coordinator and Jan Matthews as assistant coordinator.

The Neighbourhood Support Rotorua committee is a mix of volunteers - our staff, serving Police officers and civilians, who all volunteer their time and knowledge to the ongoing effective and efficient operation of NSR. Our staff and committee organise our volunteers who assist with newsletter distribution and pamphlet circulation to supermarkets, retailers and the CBD for such publications as " Beat the Thief and "handbag safety awareness".

I would like to express our thanks to Erney Searle, Erney has held the position of Treasurer on our committee and is stepping down this year.

Administration : NSR has a strong profile in our City due mainly to the dedication of our team Bruce and Jan. They work very hard to ensure a high profile for NSR through meeting attendances, group set ups, pamphlet drops, newsletter assembly and distribution, and all the while working closely with the Police and other partners, to ensure we have a top of mind awareness in Rotorua. This year they added into their already busy schedules a stand at the Rotorua Home Show, continued with the safer Plates number plate screw replacement programme and had a huge involvement in the Kai-Roto Community Project in Western Heights, which is ongoing.

The number of homes that have joined NSR in the past year continues to grow with currently 9,142 households members of NSR. The database requires constant updating however as there are fluctuations in numbers when a street contact is lost. Replacement of personnel in this instance is vital as there needs to be someone in a group willing to take and distribute information such as newsletters to groups.

Changes to our distribution of information, based on the Privacy Act, has caused some frustrations this year. Information we were once able to offer to groups has had to be reduced, or changed to ensure we are not breaking the law. We do appreciate this has caused some delays however NSR has always been sensitive to the information we receive and how we disseminate that information.

We act with the Police; we are not the Police. For crime related information that is urgent there is only one call that needs to be made and that is to the Police.

Regular e crime alerts have again proved popular and in our world of technology they prove to be the fastest method of getting to a number of contacts effectively and quickly. The information relayed back following these alerts is encouraging. Again however our information out is only as good as our information in, if you have changed your details please let Bruce and Jan know.

Police Our committee and the work we do, is further enhanced with the difference that the Area Commander's Liaison Officer, Senior Sergeant Courtney Blunt, has made to our work. He has taken a keen interest in our organisation and has offered his help and support, thank you for your involvement. Our strong relationship with the Police is vital to the success of our organisation. The Police supports NSR with office costs such as desk space, telephone and photocopier costs, but it is the intangible support the communications, information sharing and trust that we have in each other that ensures we can do our work and continue to reach out to everyone living and working in our District.

I would like to acknowledge the time commitment and support that retired area commander Bruce Horne afforded NSR and indeed the passion is still evident from his replacement Inspector Anaru Pewhairangi, and Police Prevention Manager Stu Nightingale.

Rotorua Lakes Council: The RLC is another of our valued partners, not just for the financial support they have pledged to NSR but for the ongoing encouragement and support they continue to offer. Rosemary Viskovic is the Strategic Development Manager – Sustainability and Social Developments for Rotorua Lakes Council and she attends as many of our committee meetings as she is able, with valuable insights and updates providing a contact from the RLC to NSR.

Without the continued support of RLC we would be reduced to the very stressful reality of further fundraising applications – a huge distraction for our not for profit organisation.

Our other funders Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust and Lotteries NZ, are an essential part of our ability to work in and on our business, rather than having the all too common problem of not having enough funds. We were fortunate to have a partnership with Markat Promotions for the production of a Rotorua booklet this results in funding to NSR of \$3000.00. Again this year there were a few street groups who held raffles, made donations and gave funds willingly and we thank you for thinking of us, all of your donations do make a difference.

Thank you to all our funders, you do make a significant difference to enable us to work for Rotorua.

Summary

2016- 2017 year was a positive productive year for Neighbourhood Support Rotorua.

Database maintenance is ongoing with encouraging new household numbers.

E crime alerts to households, motels and business enhance our network and assist the Police.

Trusted and professional team of employed staff and the support of our volunteers.

The ongoing confidence and financial support provided by our principal funders.

Looking forward we do have ongoing projects we are committed to e.g. Safer Plates, Kai-Roto Community Project, with new projects and relationships to be formed such as Rotorua Multicultural Council, the new households in newer subdivisions, while still working with the Police to target “hotspot” suburbs.

Conclusion

It is with thanks that I reflect on another busy and fulfilling year. I sincerely thank the staff and committee of Neighbourhood Support Rotorua – you all do an excellent job.

To Bruce and Jan your roles as our frontline personnel are paramount to our success. You work a lot of the time in sole charge positions and you do so with professionalism and accuracy.

I thank you both for the tremendous work you do for our community.

I am absolutely convinced that if our organisation did not exist we would all be the poorer for it. Crime never sleeps; we cannot become complacent.

It is only through someone, somewhere caring enough to call the Police to initiate that first enquiry – it may prove to be a false lead, or it could be the one missing piece of the puzzle that we have all be searching for, make that call, be alert and care about each other.

Pauline J Evans
Chairman
Neighbourhood Support Rotorua
2nd June 2017