

Neighbourhood Support Rotorua Inc.

Chairman's Report 2015 - 2016

Committee : Charlie Brown, Pauline Evans, Keith Granger, Patrick Hunter, Erney Searle, Jan Owen, Ann Wattam, Constable Rowan McKinlay-Sadgrove, Constable Sam Parata, Senior Sergeant Courtney Brunt, Constable Mike West

Co-Ordinator Bruce Quedley

Sub Co-Ordinator Jan Matthews

Treasurer Erney Searle

Police Liaison Officer Senior Sergeant Courtney Brunt

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Neighbourhood Support Rotorua Inc. (NSR) for the 2015-2016 year.

Personnel With the resignation of Ron Taylor in July 2015, NSR was unable to fill his position due to a funding shortfall. Funders approached included Rotorua Lakes Council, Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust and Lotteries NZ. Funding was secured, interviews were held and Jan Matthews, was offered the role of sub co-ordinator, accepted the position and started with NSR in March 2016.

Jan has had a close working relationship with the Police having been a Police volunteer, she has a working knowledge of the Police station and is known to many in the station. We see this as a definite advantage and in the short time Jan has been on board she has fitted in well and added value to our NSR team.

Administration One of the strengths of NSR is its people. Bruce Quedley runs the office efficiently, he is a very capable and detail driven employee. Bruce continues to ensure NSR is linked in a positive way to the Police, Rotorua Lakes Council, and many of the other partners and agencies we interact with in the course of our work. Couple this with the energy and fresh approach our sub co-ordinator, Jan Mathews, has brought to the role, and NSR have a very focused and enthusiastic team.

Together they produce the newsletter and ensure its distribution, produce e crime alerts, attend set up group meetings, presentations to interested groups, and handle queries and calls from numerous neighbours throughout the year.

Working together they have achieved key performance indicators, ensuring growth in groups to meet the expectations and standards set down by our partners such as the Rotorua Lakes Council and the Police. The total number of new households added for the period is 272.

The managing of groups is a never ending task, and is essential that group member lists and street contact details are updated and current.

The database must be maintained to the most current standard we can obtain so in times of disaster the information we hold may be the difference between someone being rescued or forgotten. I remind all our members and partners the information we hold is private and will only be released to the appropriate agencies, being Civil Defence or Police in times of emergency.

NSR is a recognised community focused organisation and as such has been in demand to attend numerous meetings throughout the year. Police meetings, Civil Defence, Fire Service, Greypower, Rotorua Lakes Council, Safe Rotorua, many group set up meetings and neighbours functions.

NSR operates under a committee structure. There are sworn Police Officers and civilians making up the committee. We have been advised of two committee members stepping down from the committee this year. One is Jan Owen. Jan your common sense approach on many topics will be missed and NSR thanks you for your support. The other is Constable Sam Parata who is now stationed in Tokoroa, thank you for your contributions Sam.

Projects Although we were understaffed some projects were undertaken such as the initiative to bring a Safe as Houses programme to the Western Heights community. A recent project has been successfully completed in Koutu, this was the blueprint to set up Western Heights, however on a very much larger scale. The sheer volume of information that is being processed and collated and then delivered back to the Western Heights community is staggering. This is an important aspect of this programme as the whole point of the project is it driven by the community. This is an ongoing project.

We are aware that funding organisations want to see us out in the community raising funds through our own initiatives. Two projects that have been successful in achieving funding have been the Safer Plates programme, run by NSR but heavily supported by the Police. An initiative to help stop criminals in the theft of car number plates, this scheme was run at two supermarkets and the support and encouragement will ensure we will widen this project to hardware outlets in the future.

The second programme was the compilation and delivery of 3000 NSR booklets. This booklet was our first attempt at reaching out to our community with our own information resource. With the positive feedback we have received regarding our publication, in association with Markat Promotions, it is an initiative that we would look at repeating in the future.

Police NSR is in a privileged position, not only do we have a presence in the Police station, but it is my opinion that we hold a position of trust throughout the Police. The strong relationship we have with the Rotorua Police is vital to the successful running of NSR. Our role is one of a support group and it is our ability to concentrate our efforts on the trouble spots and to share information with the Police that has enabled us to grow and support the Police in all of their endeavours.

Conclusion 2015 – 2016 has been another busy year for NSR. Limited office staff numbers meant some tasks were not completed as quickly as we would have liked. That being said there were no lapses in the servicing of groups, the sharing of information through the newsletter or e crime broadcasts, and to most the office was “business as usual”. The committee sincerely thanks the support and efforts Bruce Quedley gave NSR throughout the year.

We continue to strengthen our relationship with the Rotorua Police.

We enjoy a high level of professionalism from our employed staff and the support of our volunteers.

The financial support provided by our sponsors and partners is vital to our existence and we thank all funding agencies, and members who through street group barbeques and raffles throughout the year continue to give us their support.

Neighbourhood Support Rotorua is an organisation that embraces all of our Rotorua community and I continue to be very proud to have a part to play in this organisations success.

Pauline J Evans
Chair
12 June 2016