

PUKEHIKI HALL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

November 2014

A lot has been happening over the past two months, so it seemed a good idea to keep everyone up to date with a general *Newsletter*. Financially we have done very well, with the Hoedown making a profit of over \$2400, the Dreamworks film company contributing a further \$1700 for their hire of the hall and the furniture, and the volunteer marshals for the Targa Race netting a further \$900. A big thank you to everyone who generously contributed food for the Hoedown - especially the Bloem family for the pig !

Our recycling Centre: - *Thanks for the great response !!*

We are now over two months into the three month trial for the recycling centre. On the whole the centre is working very well, and the volume has far exceeded our expectations.

However there are issues relating to:

- Inappropriate items and general rubbish left on the site
- Not enough capacity in the yellow bins
- Need for anchoring bins to the ground to prevent them being blown over in NW gales
- Need for items to be kept loose (i.e. not in plastic bags), and need for tins and plastic bottles to be washed out,
- Glass bottles and jars to be sorted according to colour, (i.e. brown, green or clear).

I attended a review meeting with Ian Featherston (DCC waste Manager), and Christine Neill (Peninsula Community Board) on Tuesday (18th). Ian is hoping to secure a further 6 yellow bins along with a steel container. We are exploring options for anchoring the bins to the ground.

The “inappropriate use” has been disappointing. We suspect that individuals from the urban area have been the culprits, leaving things like mattresses, bedding, clothing, bird cages, and polystyrene packaging; however this “abuse” has declined markedly in the last few weeks.

We will be putting up a sign urging people to be more responsible.

There seems to be some confusion among local people as to what can go in the yellow topped bins, so I have reproduced below a section from the DCC website The abbreviations they use refers to the type of plastic.

What goes in the yellow-lidded wheelie bin?

Plastics

- 1 – PET: Such as soft drink and water bottles, salad domes, biscuit trays, shampoo bottles, detergent bottles, squeeze bottles, fruit punnets, fruit juice bottles, liquid soap containers, household cleaners and vitamin containers.

- 2 – HDPE: Such as milk bottles, vitamin containers, fruit juice bottles, detergent bottles, sunscreen bottles, shampoo bottles, dishwashing powder container and household cleaners.
- 3 – PVC: Detergent bottles.
- 4 – LDPE: Squeezy bottles, ice cream container lids and plastic plates and cups.
- 5 – PP: Dip containers, ice cream containers tubs, margarine containers, plastic plates, cups, large yoghurt containers and cutlery, and squeezy bottles.
- 6 – PS: Large yoghurt containers, yoghurt pottles, polystyrene meat/fresh produce trays, dip containers, ice cream container tubs and lids.
*Does not include foamed polystyrene hot drink cups and polystyrene packaging
- 7 – Other: Squeezy bottles, plastic plates and spreadable butters

Paper and cardboard

- Newspaper, letters, envelopes, magazines, receipts, egg trays, telephone books, wrapping paper, advertising material, toilet roll inners, boxes and cartons.
*These items go straight into your recycling wheelie bin.
- Shredded paper needs to be in plastic supermarket bag, with the handles tied.

Cans and Tins

- Aluminium tins and cans, steel tins and cans, aluminium trays and foil, aerosol cans, metal pie trays, foil.

We believe some locals could have thought that scrap steel or aluminium could be put in the bins, however that is not the case. You will notice that polystyrene meat/fresh produce trays can be recycled, but not polystyrene packaging. Unfortunately we have had a quantity of polystyrene packaging in the bins lately.

We need to stress that the site has been extremely well utilised by local people, and Council has been surprised and heartened by the positive response by local people. We ask that people crush cardboard boxes before placing them in the bins as this will significantly increase the number of items that can be placed in them. Plastic milk containers as well as steel and aluminium tins and cans can also be crushed to some extent.

Dreamworks Production “The Light between Oceans”

Although the rental contract with Dreamworks to hire the hall stated that we were to keep their presence a secret, there would have been few people who could have missed the major exercise unfolding at the Hall. Beforehand I had no idea of the sheer scale of this project. We had numerous plumbing issues, but were able to get around these, and kept transporting extra water to keep the tanks topped up. We also installed a booster pump to increase the water pressure and enable the toilet cisterns to fill quicker. Thanks go to Gerald Newbury, and son Conan for helping so much at the beginning of the period. For the hire of the hall, and hire of chairs that went to St Bathans for filming, we gained over \$1700. Overall the Dreamworks team were thrilled with our hall, although one senior person refused to use the men’s toilet until a discrete curtain was put on the window. – Thanks to Morag for the curtain, and averting a catastrophe!

Targa

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to be marshalls for the Targa Race held recently. Through your efforts \$900 was raised for the hall restoration. Thanks go to Graeme and Rata Garside, David and Di Stevenson, Bill and Lenni Allen, Morag Brown and Phil Norris, Laura O'Brien, Mark McCaughan, Gil Samuels, and Richard Lawrence. Thanks also to Lions club members Tom Mulder, Les Slade, and Greg Ashton, as well as Myles Thayer.

Hall Building Projects:

Your "Building" sub-committee has been progressing the next stages of restoration. The building firm, Stevenson & Williams will be constructing a new footing for the front wall, (beginning of February). This is needed before other restoration work on the front wall can be started.

I have been undertaking "excavation trials" under the floor to see how realistic it is to manually remove the clay to allow the builders sufficient space to re-pile the front of the hall, and install new floor bearers. The work involves using a kango hammer to loosen the clay, and then shovelling it into bins mounted on a sled. A rope is used to pull the sled to the back of the hall so the fill can be tipped down the bank. This manual method will work out to be a lot cheaper than getting a machine to excavate from the front end of the hall. This would require a big trench to be dug in the front of the hall to accommodate the machine. We will probably hire some students over the summer break, as well as running some "working bees" to progress the work further. *Claustrophobics should not apply !!*

We are currently looking at different options to improve water storage, and to increase water pressure in the hall.

Next Hall Meeting – now postponed !

We have postponed the Hall meeting that was previously scheduled for Tuesday, 2nd December. This will be now held in the new year.

John Ware

President