

KOITIATA COMMUNITY COUNCIL - MAY 1987CHAIRMAN'S REPORTFOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1987

The purpose of this Newsletter is to let residents and Batchholders know what is going on in our Community, I hope for its future and benefit. First of all, on behalf of you all, special thanks to Mr Logan McIndoe for all his work while he was Chairman.

Since the last Chairman's Report, the current Hall programme has been completed.

CAR POOL.

A Meeting of the Community was held on the 1 December 1986 and it was agreed, by all, that to get people to Doctors or Hospital in the event of an emergency, a car pool would be a big asset to our Community. It was moved, seconded and passed that the car pool be formed. Since then, all residents have been given a typed list of phone numbers of the six people in charge, and back up phone numbers as well, so there should be no reason to lack transport.

If you are a weekender and have a real emergency, contact a permanent resident and they will know who to contact, and will phone for help. I must say the response to form the car pool was terrific, and the Council is really grateful to all those people who attended, and to those who put their names forward for cars and drivers. Also special thanks to members of the Wanganui Health Board Watch Committee for their help.

The three sections your Council purchased for future development have been levelled for a recreation area. Unfortunately the levelling was completed much later than was intended, which caused a few problems.

RECREATION AREA.

Owing to the late levelling completed at the end of October, we never had a chance to put some dirt on top of the area to try and stop sand blow, so Massey College recommended we sow grass seed and keep it well watered. Unfortunately, the day after sowing, we struck a strong nor wester and we lost a lot of new seed. But with the continual watering some seed came up, and with the wet sand, stopped our sections finishing up on Wainui Street. At this point I must thank all those who helped with the watering. Bill Cornish for the use of his water bore and time, Ray Vicars for the loan of his water pump, Martin Fritchard for wiring up the power to the pump and installing a time switch. Special thanks must go to Arnold Nation for the loan of his sprinklers, alkathine pipe, and fittings.

During the watering, the half horsepower motor burnt out and Arnold at his own expense, brought us a new motor (approximately \$300.00), so the watering would not stop. Also we thank him for all the time he has spent watering and doing running repairs on the gear and with Eddie Ramsdales help sowing seed etc.

FIRE TEAM.

A volunteer fire team was formed of seven men and we have had quite a few practices together and on the 28 February 1987 we had a combined exercise with the Marton and Ratana Fire Brigades, which was a big help to us, and I am sure this exercise was a big advantage at our recent fire. I must thank the ladies who put on a wonderful morning tea for the three fire teams after the exercise.

NEW ZEALAND FIRE SERVICES.

As your Chairman, with the big changes taking place at the Forestry Depot which is now practically unmanned, I together with the Rangitikei County Council Secretary, Mr Stringfield, wrote to the New Zealand Fire Services explaining our concern at the fire protection of the Community. The New Zealand Fire Services District Fire Officer (Wanganui), Mr Peacock, Regional Fire Officer (Palmerston North), Mr Smith and his Deputy, Mr Christensen, paid the area a visit and with myself made an inspection of the residential area and fire equipment. They explained that our Community can not come under the New Zealand Fire Services because of Marton and Ratana Brigades being so close, but we all agreed we definitely deserved help and they placed us on a priority list for fire gear and a fire appliance, as one became available surplus to their requirements. Since then the gear has arrived and the fire appliance is at Palmerston North awaiting book clearance. The cost for the engine is twenty dollars for Change of Ownership so I hope this appliance will be another asset to the Community. To make use of that asset we will need more people to know how to handle and maintain the machine. The New Zealand Fire Services will put on two one day courses on fire fighting, one in May and one in September. Anybody wishing to attend, please contact me for further information.

BEACH ROAD STOCK.

It gives me great pleasure to thank the Rangitikei County Council for their efforts with the up grading of the Beach Road verges, so that the cows are now driven off the road where possible. A big improvement for us and our cars and, of course, the road.

RUBBISH DUMP.

Over the last two months there has been a big improvement and with a little more thought from everybody by dumping their rubbish over the pit head, the improvement can continue. Also, being a dry dump, if dumping fish or meat etc, take a shovel and dig a hole and make sure it is buried. This means less flies and smell.

Special thanks to Ron Eustace who lately has been giving his time, keeping the dump clean with tractor and blade.

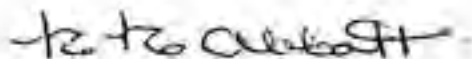
FIRE.

As stated earlier, there was a fire at Mr and Mrs D. Taylor's on the 11 April 1987. The fire team and helpers did a wonderful job of fire fighting and I have been asked to pass onto the fire team and helpers from the Deputy Fire Officer, Marton, the Chief Fire Officer Ratana and the District Fire Officer, Wanganui, congratulations on their efforts. The following day after the fire, residents helped clean up the mess and gave bedding and household items etc and installed a builders box for power. The ladies supplied morning and afternoon tea to all who helped - a really wonderful Community spirit. It really made me feel humble and proud to be a resident of Koitiata Beach Settlement.

BOWLING GREEN AREA.

There will be a Meeting on Monday 1 June 1987 at 10 a.m. at the Koitiata Community Hall for all to discuss the viability and costs of any future development on the area. This concerns everybody, so please attend.

Last but not least, I wish to thank the Koitiata Community Councillors for their ideas and help, and also the Rangitikei County Council and their representatives who attend our Meetings. Also our Riding Member, Mr T. Lethbridge. Without their help and interest in our area, we would not have made the progress we have made.



Noel N. Abbott
CHAIRMAN

5 May 1987