

Kinloch Community Association

2023-2024 President's Report

I am pleased to report to the membership that your association has had a very active, positive and constructive twelve months and that you have been well served by a great executive team who give their time willingly for the betterment of the community, always having Kinloch interests top of mind.

During the year, Deb and Baz Borlase retired from the executive due to their other commitments and we were fortunate to be able to co-op Victoria Deaker and Murray Quelch to replace them. Victoria and Murray are offering themselves for election to the committee at this AGM. The association recognised the big contribution made by Deb and Baz to the KCA and they continue to offer their help and support.

Your association has also continued to grow with membership numbers at a record high, and our engagement with the wider membership and community also continuing to grow and exceed past expectations. It is exciting to be part of this growth.

Our flagship "Whats Up" e-news, our socials, both Facebook and Instagram and our recently launched new updated and refreshed website have ensured that the KCA is the vehicle that is working for a strong community. My thanks to an excellent communications team that has been led by Robert Hutton with expert skills being introduced with Victoria Deaker joining the executive.

One of the ideas that we took on board from the last AGM was the publishing of our committee minutes and these are now available to members from our website following completion of the required approval and ratification process.

The other idea discussed at the last AGM was the Membership Structure of the association and whether we should continue with the subscription model or offer free membership. The committee gave this consideration but decided, given our incorporated society/charity status, we require members to be consenting to join. In addition, subscriptions help fund good things we are able to do for the community and provide a clear message that we have a strong and growing membership and can therefore fairly claim to represent the community.

Following last year's AGM the new team held a strategic planning session and among other things reviewed and updated our sub-committee structure.

Sub-Committees

Finance and Secretarial

Finance has been led by Nick Hume who provides as Treasurer, timely and accurate reporting of our financial position.

It is pleasing to note that our Income increased to \$34,161 this year and our expenses decreased to \$11,979 leaving a surplus before depreciation of \$22,183 and a surplus for the year of \$6,641

As mentioned above, our membership is up following a successful membership drive over last summer and subscription income increased to \$10,405 compared to \$6786 in the 2023 year.

Bene Ryan has taken care of our Secretarial matters and is the person who manages our correspondence and minutes.

Kinloch Streams Reserves

This subcommittee has been very well led by our Vice President, Ross McConnon. We renamed the committee which was previously known as the Whangamata Stream Track Committee to the Kinloch Streams Reserve Committee following our agreement with DOC which not only encompasses the Whangamata Stream Track but also the Okaia and OtakeTake Stream trails.

Ross and his team have had an outstanding year and received wonderful support from the community with regular working bees not only to weed, clean and mow but also with new plantings. We are particularly grateful to Johnathon from Misty Acres Nursery for donating a huge number of plants and just during the month of August we planted over 5000 new plants in the Whangamata and Okaia stream areas.

The Whangamata Stream Track is our flagship and is a wonderful asset for our village. You will notice a new logo to recognise its importance and your associations commitment to its ongoing improvement.

Kinloch Ratepayers Sub-committee

Able led by Wendy Alexander this committee has had a very busy year developing a relationship with the Taupo District Council and working with regular input through myself as a Kinloch Representative Group member to what is known as the KRG meetings every second month. Through this active involvement we remain informed and aware of issues and opportunities affecting Kinloch, enabling us to give both feedback and be supportive of growth and improvement at Kinloch.

In addition, the committee has successfully submitted on your behalf to the proposed final stages of the Seven Oaks subdivision (this application is currently on hold and being revised by the developers following many submissions)

2024 has been the year that the Long-Term Plan for the TDC has been scheduled for review and reestablishment. Through the TDC consultative process around the new Long-Term Plan, our Ratepayer committee put together on behalf of the KCA both a comprehensive written and verbal presentation to the Long-Term Planning process ably led by Ron McPhail. We used our surveys both done during this year and extensive work

that was completed over four sessions with the community two years ago to back up our submission. This ensured that the views and concerns of the community we represent were heard and considered.

The Ratepayers committee has also conducted surveys for the Henry Hall Trust as they seek to provide new commercial space for Kinloch and possible future community centre options.

While the work of Ratepayers is perhaps not as visible as say the plantings in the streams it is a hugely important role your association plays in trying to make sure that the village grows with some order and continues to be the wonderful place, we all love.

Events Sub-committee

Another busy successful year where we bought all the events the KCA offers under one sub-committee chaired by Elwyn McGoram a past president who still gives effortlessly to our association and community.

The Kinloch Poker run is a key fund raiser and well-loved annual event which sees fifty odd boats take a tour of the western side of the lake before descending on the Waihaha Marae grounds for a BBQ lunch returning for prizegiving at the Kinloch Hall.

It is always a fantastic family day and with the weather on our side Elwyn and his team turned on another memorable day in 2024 in difficult circumstances as our major sponsor unfortunately went into liquidation in the days leading up to March 9th.

Not to worry! Everything still worked well and I can assure you that the 2025 event is well advanced in planning with new major sponsors for March 8th 2025. Make a note of that date and try and fit it in as it is a great day and helps support our community.

The Kinloch Plod had a record year in 2024 and will run again in January 2025.

Guy Fawkes is also planned again for Saturday 9th November and your association is pleased to offer this well attended community event to raise funds through a collection for the Kinloch Fire Brigade who keep our village safe.

This year, to assist the committee with the safe management of the event we have engaged Rusec Security to keep our younger community members safe and ensure everyone has a great night.

Christmas Carols is another favourite annual event organised by the KCA, and, for as long as most can remember been organised by Karen Burling. Karen retires this year from the committee but has put in place the blocks to make sure the 2024 Christmas Carol event proceeds as usual on Sunday 22nd December.

In addition to all of the above, we have continued to co-ordinate personal to marshal major running events held in the village. This also provides a big revenue sum and life member, Linda Malcolm, has for many years done an outstanding job making this all work. This commitment is in addition to all the other support initiatives Linda is involved with around Kinloch. It is likely she leaves the village soon, so we again thank her and wish her the very best.

Membership

With our growing membership, Ross has led the further refinement of our membership database and tidied up a few instances where some have not been invoiced for a year or two.

It seems that many in our growing community do not know what the KCA is, or does, which is something we have found out during our recent membership drive.

Your association with its volunteers is working to keep the community what it is and to help nurture and make things better for everyone. We rely on your support and would ask that you help spread the word and make sure your friends, family and neighbours join. Family membership is only \$30 per year but if we can include everyone it makes our voice stronger. It is easy to join from the What's Up e-news or directly from our website.

Communications

Robert Hutton took over the communications sub-committee on joining the executive this year and has put in place solid foundations to get our key channels updated and refined.

During the year he has been joined by Victoria who has extensive social media skills and our growth on these channels is largely because of her excellent work.

These include our very well subscribed e-news "What's Up" in Kinloch which we provide free to all the community. We ask that those who value this informative regular publication support us by joining the KCA as mentioned about.

Also driving our messages out is a highly successful Facebook site now with over 3200 followers it is the place to go to get up to date information on what is happening in your association and community. A new addition is our Insta presence and that is set to develop in the months ahead.

This year we have also launched a new and updated website which for detailed information is a great source of knowledge.

Security Cameras

Ross and Martyn Coe have been working on upgrading our security systems and have successfully negotiated with the Taupo District Council to provide the necessary connection points at the soon to be upgraded entry into Kinloch Road from Whangamata Road. This will allow the relocation of cameras to this point and therefore provide an even more comprehensive coverage of our video capture system.

Safety

We are pleased to advise that for another year, KCA has active engagement with Rusec Security and others who provide invaluable safety support, in liaison with NZ Police, to ensure Kinloch remains safe over the coming Xmas and New Year Period.

Acknowledgement

At this AGM we bid farewell to two committee members who have given their time freely over a long period to Kinloch in one form or another. Karen Burling and Martyn Coe are stepping down and, on your behalf, I want to acknowledge their contribution and wish them well. Karen was recognised at our last AGM.

Martyn has had a long association with many aspects of Kinloch and has been a very committed member of the KCA, always prepared to drive down from Auckland and attend the Ratepayers meetings and the executive meeting. His wise council and knowledge will be missed.

I wish also to thank all the executive members. As I said at the start, I believe the membership has been really well served by this committee. Your association is in very good heart, and we look forward to growing again in 2025.

I wish all members a great summer, may your lines remain tight, and your fires burn great steaks.

Tim Brittain
President