

# Book Report

After discussions at the AGM, the PPA have written to the Upper Hutt Library asking what the policy is regarding stock levels and choices of books at our library as a number of residents felt that there was a reduced number of books and a limited selection. We received a very quick and positive response from the Acting Manager who states that "the library staff are committed

**Pinehaven Home Group** Kate Turner 528 4415 **Pinehaven Playcentre** Angela Browne 971 9804 **Pinehaven Library** 528 2208 **Pinehaven School** John Masson 528 4365 **Pippins** Christine Pettengell 972 7600 Silverstream Petangue Club

to providing quality services at Pinehaven, and ask that borrowers make their wishes known to the staff working there." This is the solution in a nutshell. We are very lucky with the regular Pinehaven staff, both Sue and Shirley go out of their way to help customers. So if you

feel we need more of a particular genre, or that the books could be turned over more regularly then have a chat with them.

**Requests:** Remember that you can request any book be sent from the central library to Pinehaven and if you make that request at the branch rather than online then there is no charge for this service.



Gill McIlhone

**Cubs & Scouts** 

City Councillor—resident Pat Christianson 528 2710

**Lighthouse Church & Drop In** 

**Brownies** 

Tania Lock

John Cavill

Girl Guides

Anne Elzenaar

**Indoor Bowls** 

George Moen

Rita Bota

Shirley

Yoga

Barry Yandle

**Pinehaven Tennis Club** 

Maria Christensen 970 7630

528 2691

938 6072

529 8994

527 8383

971 8115

939 0442

528 4639

528 7045

#### **Community Contacts** Pinehaven News After School Care

Pinehaven Progressive Association

976-5995 President: Ella Kahu Secretary: Dominic Baron 970-9147 January 2007

www.ppa.org.nz



been forested with pine trees since Sir Francis Chichester and his business partner G.D.M Goodwin first planted a million

of them in 1925.

On pages 43-46 of the Upper Hutt Leader edition of November 29, 2006, the Upper Hutt City Council gave an overview of their "Urban Growth Strategy" for public consultation. Tucked under the heading "Guildford/Silverstream Spur" on page 44 was a brief paragraph mentioning a plan for developments in the forested area from Silverstream to Pinehaven and Blue Mountains and Whiteman's Valley that is owned and farmed by the Goodwin Estate. SKM are undertaking the development planning and assessments of the site. The brochure they have produced to explain their proposals was initially distributed at the Urban Growth Strategy consultation meeting held in Silverstream on 5th December. A few Pinehaven residents including PPA committee members attended that meeting but none had realised the extent of the proposed developments in our area.

As a result, the PPA asked the developers to come and present their ideas in more detail at a meeting in Pinehaven. As you can see from the enclosed brochure, the development is extensive and so the meeting has been advertised widely and is open to all

residents of Pinehaven, Silverstream, Blue Mountains and Whiteman's Valley. The council have assisted in convening the meeting and we have invited all the councillors and of course the mayor to attend. Also invited are Ralph Goodwin and Rick Griffin, directors of the Guildford Timber Company who own the land.

The PPA are keen to promote the widest possible discussion of the project so that the community can influence its shape and future direction. If you are interested in the future of Pinehaven, then you need to be at this meeting. The enclosed brochure is also available on our web site, www.ppa.org.nz.



Pinehaven School Hall

**Thursday 8th February** 7.30pm

**Tea/Coffee Provided** 

### President's Report 2005-2006

The PPA's AGM held back in October was attended by 18 residents; not a bad level of attendance by AGM standards! There has been no newsletter since, so here, belatedly, is the President's report from that meeting summarising 2005-2006.

### **President's Report**

As I write this, the tuis are fighting over the last of the kowhai flowers, the trees are bursting with new bright green growth and I am reminded of how lucky we are to live in this beautiful valley. Sadly, this year has seen the loss of a number of Pinehaven's early settlers: Win Malcolm in July and Ian Hutchings and Charles Walker in October. Looking at Pinehaven now it is difficult to imagine what it must have been like in their early years when access from Silverstream was on a rough track through farmland.

Congratulations to Pinehaven on the victory in the latest battle in the Great Library War. The council's 'independent review' was noncommittal regarding the future of our branch, and it was no surprise when the long term plan once again proposed closure. This time the mobile library service was also threatened, highlighting the 'centralisation at all costs' mentality of the current council. The public consultation meeting held in the School Hall was attended by close to a hundred people and was a lively and memorable occasion. The PPA once again organised a detailed submission, accompanied by a petition of over 400 signatures. Many people sent individual submissions and a number of impassioned speeches at the council hearings added yet more pressure. Finally the voices were heard and the council voted not to close either Pinehaven library or the mobile. We live in the hope that this time the lull between battles will last more than a year!

The PPA hall continues to be well used. It stays

in one piece thanks primarily to the handyman skills of Max Christensen and Dave Brown. A busy working bee in May saw the grounds tidied and many small maintenance jobs attended to, including new spouting and a new floor in the storage room. We applied for and received a council grant of \$800 towards a new roof but much more is required. Two organic gardening seminars were held at the hall and both were well attended, despite challenging weather. Plans and ideas for a community garden continue to be developed. In November the storm water pipe running down the boundary proved inadequate and caused some aggravation with neighbours. The council rightfully took responsibility for the issue and acted quickly to replace the ageing pipes.

Other achievements around the community include the entrance notice board receiving a long overdue coat of paint and a bright Welcome to Pinehaven sign courtesy of Concept Visual Media. In March the council took it upon themselves to arbitrarily remove the library swings, in anticipation of the library's closure one suspects. When it was declared that there were no plans for replacement, the response from Pinehaven families was rapid and raucous! Following the flood of complaints, council staff quickly backtracked and new swings were installed. Sadly, the bright blue soft fall surface and smaller metal frames are a poor replacement for the original bark and solid wooden structure.

The PPA was represented at the school gala with a display of historical photos and sales of a CD of photographs and documents of Pinehaven. Sales have continued throughout the year with the latest order coming from England! Thanks as ever to the stalwarts on the committee.

Ella Kahu

## Collection Time

The Pinehaven Progressive Association is a voluntary organisation which aims to protect and improve our unique community. Financially

we depend entirely on donated funds and so each year we collect subscriptions from the residents of Pinehaven. In particular we need funds to replace the roof of the community hall at an estimated cost of \$10,000! The suggested amount is \$5 per household but you are, of course, free to give as much as you wish!

Unfortunately, due to the committee members' busy lives, we were not able to collect the subs at the end of last year as usual. Therefore the collection will take place between the 10th and 25th of February. Please keep an eye out for a collection envelope in your letterbox soon. If you miss the collection, envelopes can be dropped off at the school or given to a committee member. All collectors will be identified with a PPA badge. And speaking of collectors...



It is a huge job visiting each of the over 600 homes in Pinehaven and the committee would really appreciate some volunteers to help collect from a part of their street. If you are interested in spending a pleasant couple of hours visiting your neighbours (while collecting money) then please call anyone on the committee listed on this page.

The PPA's web site has undergone a revamp thanks to the efforts of Martin Paulo and Dominic Baron, our new webmaster. You can catch up on past newsletters, read about Pinehaven's history, access our yahoo usergroup and keep up with current news and events. Remember too that copies of the Pinehaven CD are still available for \$10 each by contacting me at ella@kahu.org.



#### PPA Committee 2006-2007

President: Ella Kahu 976 5995

Vice President: Dave Brown 973-9947

Secretary: Dominic Baron 970-9147 Treasurer: Kerry Hinton 528-0252

Committee:

Rita Bota 939-0442

Max Christensen 970-7630

Pat Christianson 528-2710

Jane Mehaffey 972-9138

Glenys Peterson 528-4990

Barry Yandle 528-7045



Thanks to Sharlene Grooby for her work throughout last year, and welcome onboard to Wyndham Road resident, Jane Mehaffey.

Page 3 Page 2 Pinehaven Progressive Association January 2007