



Churton Park Gazette

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Churton Park Community Association Inc

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Cancellation of summer events

We are disappointed to have had to cancel plans for the community fun day on 20 November at Churton Park Reserve. We had hoped that it would bring families across our community back together after the isolation and disruptions created by Covid. Unfortunately, there was not enough interest in helping to organise the event.

Where to from here

CPCA continues to bring our community's needs to the attention of councillors, council planners and our Member of Parliament but this is all "behind the scenes" and events that promote neighbourliness are also needed. Events are popular but each one needs a small team to share its organisation. Without help from our wider community, none of these events can happen. Whether you are a new or established Churton Park resident, please work with us, with whatever time you can commit. Talk to Brian Sheppard, or any of our Committee members, to see how you could be involved. There's no need for a long-term commitment. Even one-off help would be great.

Churton Park clean-up day

A big thank you to families and the students of Churton Park and Amesbury schools for their enthusiastic support of the clean-up day. The youngsters set a great example, competing with each other to see who could collect the most rubbish. They were horrified at the behaviour of adults who had been too lazy to take their used bottles, wrappers and other rubbish away with them. Together, we made a big difference to our reserves and local streets so well done to everyone who took part.

Thanks to Churton Park Community Walkers for distributing the Gazette

The Churton Park Community Walkers deliver the Gazette to every letterbox in Churton Park. That's a lot of shoe leather so thank you all for your help.

Emergency response planning

The Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office (WREMO) has indicated that, in the event of a major natural disaster, communities will be expected to look after themselves for up to seven days. In order to care for ourselves, WREMO expect our community to establish and operate the Churton Park & Glenside Community Emergency Hub. This is a place for the community to coordinate our efforts to help each other during and after the disaster.

Kevin Arlidge is CPCA's emergency management coordinator, in collaboration with the Glenside Progressive Association. He is liaising with the WREMO Emergency Management Advisor, Heather McCaskill, to ensure that we are adequately prepared. Our Emergency Hub is in the hall at Churton Park School and contains all the resources needed, including radio communications but not food, blankets etc. The Hub Guide is being updated to ensure that it is current.

The Hub will require eight personnel to operate effectively or 24 when needed for full-time cover. Kevin is seeking volunteers for this work. If you are interested in assisting, Kevin can be contacted at:

krarlidge@gmail.com.

The Churton Park & Glenside Community Emergency Hub Guide can be found at:

<http://www.getprepared.nz/assets/Hub-Guides/Churton-Park-Glenside.pdf>

Rules review

Your committee is considering a review of the CPCA constitution to ensure it is still relevant. Recently, the Registrar of Incorporated Societies advised that new regulations are being developed to support the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. It is intended that they will be finalised and issued no later than September 2023. The regulations will require CPCA to re-register with the NZ Companies Office between October 2023 and April 2026. Any review of our constitution will be undertaken during this period and will be referred to residential members before we re-register.

Keeping safe over summer

NZ Police www.police.govt.nz offers simple advice to keep our properties safe, especially when we go away for holidays. Check under the section on advice and services, which also includes safety advice for new arrivals.

- Help out your neighbours when they are going away, e.g. by bringing in their mail, mowing their lawn, or parking in their driveway. A 'lived-in' house is less likely to get burgled.

- Find ways to connect and bring your neighbours together. Discuss issues affecting your community.

- Look out for your neighbours and reach out to people who may not have a support network.

- If you're concerned about the welfare of someone in your community, don't hesitate to let Police know.

Call triple one (111) when you need an emergency response from Police, Fire or Ambulance or call 105 for Police Non-Emergency.

Fire prevention

The Fire and Emergency NZ website:

<https://www.checkitsalright.nz>

offers advice to avoid out-of-control fires, which destroy the homes of our native wildlife and our environment every year. It urges that:

- Before you light a fire, check it's safe as dry and windy conditions can make it risky to light a fire or do work that can create sparks or heat.
- Always check if you can light a fire safely first. If you're working outdoors, check how to reduce your fire risk.

Revegetation Group news

With warm soil throughout the autumn, the recent plantings have responded well. New planting areas were established at the north end of Lakewood Reserve, on both sides of the stream. Some of these are on areas that WCC had found difficult to mow. In addition, the obsolete tree cages around five swamp cypress trees have been removed and the low branches removed. WCC arranged for the removal of a large number of flowering cherry trees in the reserve. Although they look pretty for a short time, they are a really invasive pest tree, with the prolific seeding rate.

In Wingfield Reserve, a second block on the valley floor, which had been planted in 2009 but not survived, has been cleared of blackberry and replanted. Also in that valley, a large pine tree has recently blown down, damaging earlier mature plantings, including the kahikatea grove. We hope that WCC will have funding to remove this tree.

A total of 830 plants have been planted this season.

Contact: John Morrison 477 1020

Predator Free Churton Park

You may have noticed pink triangles along the Stebbings stream and other council reserves. They mark (cat-safe) predator traps. Please don't disturb the traps as rats reproduce quickly and a single rat can kill many native animals. If you see they have a catch, email:

pfchurtonpark@gmail.com.

This is the breeding time for our native wildlife so, if you have a backyard trap, please set it regularly with fresh peanut butter, chocolate spread or meat trimmings. Some people don't reset their traps as they hadn't caught anything but please keep trying. It can take rats a while to get used to new things, and the attractive peanut butter scent is weakened after few days, or after rain.

Churton Park Community Association (Inc) Membership Form

All Churton Park residents are invited to join, and assist the modest budget of the Association.

Subscription (please tick appropriate box)

\$20	\$25	\$30	\$
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Please complete the details below and return with your remittance to:

The Treasurer, Churton Park Community Assn (Inc) 8 Tattenhall Grove Churton Park

Name.....

Address.....

Phone number.....

Email.....

Alternatively by direct credit to ASB Account Number 12-3223-0079397-00, with your identification.

Please also email the information and details of your payment to: secretary@churtonpark.org.nz

Your financial membership enables us to carry out communication, advocacy and community support