

Normandale Residents Association AGM

This will be held on the 18th June, 2020.

The guest speaker will be Hutt City Council CEO Jo Miller. Jo will discuss how her experience on the Doncaster Metropolitan District Council in the UK will help set the course for Lower Hutt.

Due to COVID-19, this may be a 'virtual' meeting held using either Skype or Zoom. More information will be provided nearer the time.



Teddy bear sighted! Just one of the many that have popped up around Normandale. Send in one of your sightings if you've got one - or feel free to post it up on our Facebook page.



Word of the month: **Pellucid**

- A. clear in meaning
- B. a type of anchor
- C. a yellow colour
- D. purposefully vague

Last month's word: **Potable**

C. Safe to drink

Experienced female

Painter

Interior, exterior, roof

Gardener

Section tidying, vegetation control—large and small

Catharina 589 0556

Or text 021 0271 7751 and
I will phone you

Enjoy the little things!

Hi everyone, our thoughts are with you all in these crazy times! We hope you are all well and safe at home, if you are an essential worker – THANK YOU!

While our day to day life has changed drastically we are still working (from home) and finding that we are still listing and selling houses. So if we can help with anything Real Estate oriented or if you just want to have a chat I'm only a phone call away.

In the meantime we hope you can stop and enjoy the little things in life that we normally miss in our busy day to day lives – going for walks, talking with the birds, spending time with our families and pets. Stay safe

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NORMANDALE TIMES

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MAY 2020

Lockdown In Normandale

In March, the Minister of Civil Defence declared a state of national emergency due to COVID-19. A national lockdown for COVID-19 was also initiated.

We normally think of Civil Defence emergencies in association with earthquakes, tsunamis, or weather-related issues. But now we have something completely different on our hands.

The Community Emergency Hub at St. Aidan's Church is not appropriate for this kind of emergency, as we do not need to get together, but to stay apart. However, checking on your neighbours is still an essential component of emergency management at a community level.

Many more people have been walking the paths and tracks. People have commented that they have found tracks they didn't know existed before. Normandale is blessed with many different types of paths, from those interlinking roads in lower Normandale, to cross country tracks and cycle ways (also suitable for walkers) in upper Normandale. There is no map showing all of these, and producing one has long been on the committee's 'to do' list.

Since it looks like we have several more weeks (months?) to go before life returns to 'normal', what are you doing to stay social while apart? Are you using technology, or is this thought to be too difficult? The NRA is holding their committee meetings via Skype so we can all see each other, and hopefully not talk over each other too much.

Some streets are setting up group chats in apps like WhatsApp to keep in touch safely, share thoughts, and even shopping lists. These can get inundated with cat videos and brownie recipes- but it can also help to check in with each other and avoid loneliness. Members set their own rules on what they discuss and can also leave the group if they wish to.

For those who don't have cell phones, or don't like technology, there's always the land line, and at least one neighbour checking in via a written note up to the window.

If you have any ideas or suggestions you would like to share, anything you have been doing to keep in touch with family, neighbours or friends, let us know and we will post them on our website and other social media. Email to: ntimes@hotmail.com

As for all civil defence emergencies, Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) has lots of ideas and advice on its' website www.wremo.nz

The next NRA meeting will be held via Skype, Thursday 21st May. All association members welcome.

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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed therein do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Thanks, Bev!

Special thanks goes out to Beverly Walter, one our our faithful deliverers, who has now left our little hill and moved (literally) up in the world to Wairarapa. Here's a little piece from her about her experience here in Normandale- cheers Bev, you will be missed.

"I actually can't remember how long I've been delivering the newsletter - perhaps 4 years? It might have been longer... There was an opening after someone else could no longer do it, and it seemed like a great way to get a little bit more exercise. Living at the bottom of Miromiro Road, it meant a nice loop up to the top of the hill and back down. I moved into my little two bedroom cottage about 7 years ago, and thought the house would be all I needed. As a single woman, I'd have a bedroom to sleep in and a spare 'art' room. However life throws strange things at you sometimes, and 2 years later I had met my partner - a man who came with a pre-made family of 4 boys. A year later he moved in. The following year, my mum lost my dad and she moved in too for almost a year, whilst she looked for a place. At one point, we had my mum sharing bunk beds with child 3, whilst child 4 slept in our walk in wardrobe. Children 1 and 2 slept in a sofa bed in the lounge. THANK GOODNESS this was only during school holidays, and everyone took to it like it was a complete adventure. Like camping, just inside our a 'tiny house'.

Most of the time though, it was just my partner and me, our cat and three chooks, so the house worked perfectly. We never did manage to tame our jungle of a garden, but always felt secure in our little treetop sanctuary. Everyone that braved the walk up our stairs, puffed when they got to the top, then gasped at our view. She is in a pretty special little spot. We loved Normandale and it was purely the growing boys and a need for more space that caused us to move. Now that they are all teens, the littlest one no longer fits in the walk-in! So now we find ourselves in sunny Wairarapa. Featherston allowed us the space we all needed and enough land to increase our menagerie, the kids are already in love with the dog and excited for spring to get a few more chickens. I think Miromiro Road will always be special to me, as it was my first house and where my partner and I started our lives together. I will miss that view but not the hills, thanks for the memories and I hope the new deliverer has as much joy living in the great little community as we did."

- Bev Walter

Remembering Bill McCauley

Mr. Bill Macaulay, a member of a well known Normandale family who lived at 132 Miromiro Road, has passed away in his 90th year at Te Omanga Hospice.

Bill grew up in Normandale from 1930, and was one of the last pupils of the first Normandale School. The old school building is now used as the Normandale playcentre.

The last operating year of the school was 1937, when Bill was just 6 years old.

His father, Hector G Macaulay, was the school secretary at the time.

From there Bill attended Hutt Central School.

On leaving school, Bill worked for Dishmaster in Petone, later Cory Wright & Salmon, and then to went on to establish in 1959 Macaulay Metals, Machinery and Scrap. He was a self made, shrewd, and tough business man.

He had a long association with the Petone Rugby Football Club, and was a former President, and a Life Member. He was also a member of the Wellington Racing Club, a horse owner, and member of the Hutt Bowling Club.

Bill was 8 years older than myself when I was paper boy in the 1950's. I can remember his father, Hec, building a new house over the top of the old one. This project went on for many years until completion.

Many of Bill's family still reside in the region.

- John Dobson, Normandale resident.



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