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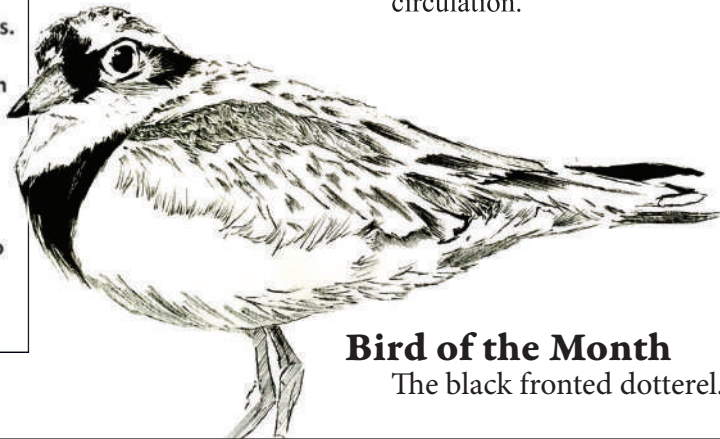


Hutt News Where Are You?

A number of Normandale residents are up in arms over the Hutt News not reaching letterboxes in our suburb. Despite brushoffs of viewing online copies, many in Normandale appreciate the ink on their fingertips and are wondering why the suburb has been excluded when others still receive physical copies.

If not, you are certainly not alone, and we at the Normandale Residents' Association would love your support in petitioning the Hutt News to service our suburb once again. Email editor@huttnews.co.nz stating that you have not been receiving the Hutt News and would, in fact, like to receive them. If we can get enough numbers specifically asking for the Hutt News, hopefully we can get our hill back into circulation.

Have you been receiving the Hutt News at your household?



Bird of the Month

The black fronted dotterel.



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NORMANDALE TIMES

Published by the Normandale Residents' Association



SEPTEMBER 2022

MEET THE CANDIDATES WESTERN WARD 2022

Our friends at the Maungaraki Community Association will be holding a Meet the Candidates event for the upcoming local election. Meet the people running for City Council and if you can't make it in person, there will also be a live stream of the event. Feel free to come along and pose a question to your potential representatives, and hear some answers on what these candidates plans are for Normandale, the Western Hills, and Lower Hutt as a city.



When: Wednesday 14th September 7:00 -8:30pm

Where: Maungaraki Hall (135 Dowse Drive)

(see our Facebook page Residents of Normandale for a link to the livestream)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Local Elections- Voting opens 16th Sept- 8th Oct
- Clean up Jubilee Park 17th September
- St. Aidan's Garage Sale 29th October, starting at 9am (see our next issue for full details)
- Recycling Weekend 5-6th November
- Inorganic Rubbish Collection Day 12th November



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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this paper do not necessarily reflect those of the committee. *Note: Copy deadline is the 25th of preceding month.

The next NRA meeting will be held on Thursday 15th September 7:30pm- all association members welcome. (Location TBA)

In Memory of Caroline Dunbar



Caroline Dunbar was a true person of service. She, and her husband Des, lived 46 years in the Normandale Community and her life was characterized by caring and giving. Her qualities of selflessness, good humour, strength, kindness, compassionate support to all who needed have always been apparent.

One family, new to Normandale, and refugees to New Zealand, recalled how Caroline's example of community has stayed with them, as well as her example of a true welcome.

"When my children were young, Caroline would often leave something yummy on the doorstep to help with our family meal, or phone to say 'I have too much for us of the casserole, or cake. Would you like some?' When I turned 40, Caroline dropped off a beautiful meal for us, with candles on a French bread roll, and came the next morning to do the dishes."

Caroline on her 80th birthday (above)

"At St Aidan's on the Hill she served both spiritually and practically, teaching Sunday School, and for Mainly Music she compiled a varied music programme each week. Caroline led worship services and gave of herself to the people and the many practical tasks associated with maintaining St Aidan's as a much used community facility."

Sandie Matcham recalls that Caroline was on the Normandale Residents Association (NRA) committee for about 11 years, many of those as 'Note taker' - she never wanted to be anything

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In Memory of Caroline Dunbar

as grand as a 'Secretary'. She was a good organiser, helping anyone if their task was overwhelming them. She was always early to meetings to let everyone else in, regardless of the weather. Caroline joined in all NRA activities; she distributed the packets of Normandale Times to our deliverers and was always at events like collecting litter for Clean Up Normandale, planting rhododendrons, and the Inorganic Rubbish Collection.



Caroline (bottom right) with the Mainly Music Team

A favourite memory is of Caroline on the unstable heaps of rubbish on the old rickety lorry, getting off to load other people's rubbish, and then climbing back on - in the days before Health and Safety at work! Caroline was a wonderful cook, always supplying the most wonderful treats at the NRA AGMs and Christmas get-togethers.

Others recall how Caroline was a supervisor for Normandale Playcentre. She was always a happy leader, and the children loved her. In later years, she was a keen participant and teacher for Senior Net. The number of people and organisations she helped are too numerous to name. At her funeral, Caroline's son Gavin explained that Caroline was born in her family's farmhouse in Oteramika in Southland in 1939. She often rode her horse to primary school, and after Southland Girls High School she found her vocation for nursing in the early 1960s.

In the mid-1960's she began her big OE in Australia and then, by ship, to London where the course of her life was to change. She and her friend Tina visited NZ House in Haymarket looking for a flat—and moved into 2 Forty Lane, Wembley Park on the 1st of January 1966 - where it just so happened Des was already in residence. They married in 1967 and honeymooned in Europe.

Caroline and Des were married for 55 years and raised three sons in Martin Grove. They have supported each other in good and difficult times, and in sickness and health. Their sons and partners and three grandchildren now live in Wellington, Dunedin and London.

Although she is no longer with us, our memories of the remarkable woman, wife, mother and friend she was will live on. "Caroline, we miss you so much. You were a true friend and continue to live in our hearts."

(Compiled by Viv Ball, with contributions from friends and relations.)