



# VILLAGE NEWS

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 2

GRENADA VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Due to COVID-19, it is with regret that we consider it necessary to cancel this year's Children's Christmas Party.

This decision has been made for a number of reasons but primarily for the safety and wellbeing of the community and through the need to manage a lot of people together in a small space.

The Grenada Village Community Association has held this Party for the past 37 years with 60-70 children and their families enjoying this very special afternoon. We usually have approximately 120-140 people in the hall or on the porch looking in. With these volumes, as well as excited children, it would be impossible to maintain any form of personal spacing.

We had considered having a slightly different version outside in the play area with just the food and games and the adult's raffle, but if the weather was against us and it had to be cancelled on the day, it would be extremely difficult for everyone particularly with all the preparation that goes into holding such a substantial event.

We are considering arranging a children's related gathering of some sort during next year such as an Easter bunny party or a mid-winter Christmas party or something similar. This would give us another 6 months to see where the country is with COVID however this is still very dependent on the COVID circumstances at the time.



## CHRISTMAS CAROLS



**When: Monday 7 December 2020 - 7.00pm to 8.00pm**

**Where: Children's Play Area, Mandeville Crescent**

We have decided to go ahead with the community Christmas Carols but with a slight change from previous years. For the past 27 years, the Salvation Army Band led by Ross McMillan has played at our carol singing and he has confirmed the band are going ahead with their normal arrangements albeit a little different than past years. Because we are currently at Alert Level 1, most of their functions will be held outside and if not, distancing will be managed indoors.

Based on this, if the weather is good we intend to hold the Carols outside in either the play area next to the hall in Mandeville Crescent or maybe in the adjacent tennis courts. If the weather is not good, we would move into the hall but have a special arrangement with the seating. We would set chairs up as people arrived so that we could manage spacing and also to create family bubbles.

This way, if the weather is good and it is held outside, the usual 50-60 residents would be able to come along. However, if it is wet or windy, then everyone would be fully aware beforehand that it would be held in the confines of the hall, leaving them to make their own decision as to whether they wish to come along or not.

The evening is multi-denominational and is a great occasion. Please note that the above arrangements may need to be amended if Alert Levels change between now and Monday 7 December 2020.

## GVCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Grenada Village Community Association Inc. is to be held at **7.30pm on Wednesday 25 November 2020** in the Community Hall, 4 Mandeville Crescent.

An invitation is extended to all residents to attend this meeting. This will also enable you to catch up on the Association activities during the past year. We particularly would like to see some more residents from the northern section of the Village as this is where the major development is now taking place.

We really appreciate your support, so please come along.

## COMMUNITY HALL

The Grenada Village Community Hall is well overdue for a major renovation and we have been in discussion with Wellington City Council about this for some time. An extensive maintenance schedule for the work has been identified, however the after effects of COVID-19 and the lockdown has caused a considerable amount of delay in all the work they had programmed to be carried out this year.

The Council have confirmed that our renovation is now to be carried out in their next financial year commencing 1 July 2021.

In addition to this, we are hopeful that the tennis courts will also receive a major upgrade as a considerable amount of work is now required on the perimeter fence, the gate and the asphalt surface of both courts.

## BUS SERVICE

Effective from 25 October 2020, the bus timetable for Grenada Village has been tweaked slightly.

The changes have been made to improve the timetable reliability based on real travel time data and to make it more accurate. The adjustments include minimal changes to the departure times at origin and changes to arrival at destination to better reflect the actual run times. In practice, the bus will still arrive at its destination at the usual time. For example, the 3.55pm from Island Bay actually arrives in Grenada Village at 5.29pm but the timetable currently inaccurately states 5.15pm.

There are no changes to the physical route and the

northbound Guadeloupe Crescent loop remains.

These changes should significantly improve the ability to depend on the timetables and result in much less frustration due to late buses and missed connections.

It is recommended that commuters check the new timetable, use Journey Planner, or the Real Time Information to see how or if they will be affected on a specific journey.

## NEW ROAD SIGNS

Back in November 2019, the Association requested Wellington City Council to give due consideration to installing two 'Give Way' signs in Grenada Village at the intersection of Mark Avenue with Guadeloupe Crescent (north end) and Trinidad Crescent. Vehicles travelling out of Guadeloupe Crescent or Trinidad Crescent had visibility issues and residents had advised there had been several 'close-calls'. The intersection was regarded as difficult and dangerous. Part of the problem related to visual sightlines being impaired due to parked vehicles close to the intersection along with overgrown foliage blocking general visibility.

After an in-depth investigation, the Council have advised that a 'Give-Way' sign will be installed in Guadeloupe Crescent but a 'Stop' sign will be installed in Trinidad Crescent. Furthermore, broken yellow 'No-Stopping' lines are to be installed on the corners of Mark Avenue and Trinidad Crescent, and vegetation has been cut back to assist the sightline.

## WCC GRANT RECEIVED

We recently received a \$1,000 grant from Wellington City Council for 'operational support'. The Council has funding available each year (maximum \$1,000) for local resident or progressive associations to assist with their operational costs. This grant is to be placed against our general administration running costs which include stationery, printing, postage, photocopying, submissions and other miscellaneous items.

We would like to thank the Wellington City Council for this grant. .

**Absolutely Positively**  
**Wellington City Council**  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

## HALL HIRE

The Community Hall is available for hire for various social activities.

Charges levied by the Association are \$12.00 per hour for financial members and \$20.00 per hour to non financial members.

No adult private parties are allowed due to the close proximity of houses, unless agreed under specific arrangements..

For more information contact

Dawn Patterson

**Telephone 478 4221**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2019/2020

Bruce Patterson (Chairman)	478 4221
Elena Ivanova (Treasurer)	021 841 986
Paul Emley (Secretary)	478 7044
Dawn Patterson	478 4221
William Nobelen	478 1091
Steven Archer	478 6352
Susan McFadyen	021 060 8385

## NEWLANDS VOLUNTEER FIRE STATION

At 7.00pm on Saturday 31 October, the fire siren of the Newlands Volunteer Fire Station completed three cycles as a final salute to the Station which has served the area for nearly 60 years. This was the end of an era and a swan-song to the rich history of the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade at this site. It was an emotional night for the team.

The station has been temporarily relocated to a building in Hurring Place (behind the Newlands Bus depot) while a decision is made by Fire and Emergency New Zealand on a permanent location. The building is Fire and Emergency's ICT (technological) hub and the brigade will co-share the site with them.

Not long after 7.00pm came the massive shift to the new premises and around 2.30am, it was all completed. On top of all this, just after midnight they had a call-out to attend a domestic flooding incident in Thorndon.



In October the brigade received a brand new fire appliance. It is a 2020 Iveco type 1 pumping appliance that is largely computer operated and carries additional equipment. It also carries 200l of water and foam. The previous truck had, for the last 10 years, served the community well.



## VANDALISM

The community hall has been targeted with disturbing acts of vandalism this year.

In March the garden at the side of the hall was attacked. Four of the six Lancewood (Horoeka) trees that were two metres high and developing nicely were ripped out. One tree was carried down the driveway and thrown over a neighbour's car, one tree was thrown to the side, one tree

was snapped off, and the other disappeared completely.

In August, two further trees were ripped out and thrown over the high fence into the tennis courts. The garden was trampled on.

Later in August a glass bottle was thrown into the tennis courts smashing into small fragments and shards. This was very difficult to clean up.

In October, the hall and the emergency water tank were both spray-painted in black with graffiti.

## BITS & PIECES

Grenada Drive from SH1 to the roundabout is scheduled to be re-sealed in November. This had been programmed to be completed back in March but was delayed because of COVID, but then delayed further to await more favourable weather.

The two southbound bus stops in the northern end of Mark Avenue have now had bus shelters erected. This has taken some time, but now they are there.

We had hoped that the strip of land by the roundabout going around the corner towards Havana Rise above the bus depot would have been landscaped and planted this year but unfortunately, it is now too late in the season to put in reasonably sized trees and shrubs. We will continue to discuss this with Transit NZ and the council to ensure that it will be completed as soon as it can. In the interim, in an effort to tidy this area up, the long grass has been mown and the broken orange plastic fencing has been removed.

A new walking track down into Seton Nossiter Park from Woodridge has just been opened. The entry point from White Pine Avenue meanders down into the valley. It has been named 'Lindsays Track' after Lindsay Cuthbertson who has maintained this as an informal track for many years. The naming of this track after Lindsay reflects his great passion for the outdoors and his strong advocacy for wild places.

## PLAYGROUP

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Grenada Village Playgroup has been in recess since March 2020.

The playgroup (which is normally held weekly every Thursday morning during the school term between 9.30am and 11.00am at the Grenada Village Community Hall) is not operating while the Alert Level restrictions remain in place.

When these restrictions are lifted, the situation will be re-evaluated and hopefully the sessions will be able to recommence. This will however be dependent on a parent coming forward and running the sessions either solely or on a shared basis using a roster system (has worked well in the past). Full details of what would be required to run the sessions and guidance for the first few weeks would be provided to that parent.

If no-one came forward to do this, the decision may reluctantly have to be made that the playgroup remains in recess.

For further details, please contact Dawn Patterson. Tel (04) 478 4221.

## ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

The financial year of the Association is 1 October to 30 September each year. A copy of our 2019/2020 membership form is included in this newsletter. A further copy of the form can be downloaded from the Grenada Village website: [grenadavillage.org.nz](http://grenadavillage.org.nz). Alternatively, telephone Dawn on 478 4221 for a copy.

All Grenada Village residents are invited to financially assist the Association by contributing the \$10 per household annual subscription that enables us to carry out our various activities on behalf of the Grenada Village community.

Our Internet banking is Westpac Johnsonville – Grenada Village Community Association Inc. Account No. 031 536 0001444-00. This is stated on the membership form.

## WEBSITE

The Grenada Village website is: [www.grenadavillage.org.nz](http://www.grenadavillage.org.nz). The site provides information on the amenities and facilities available to residents within the suburb.

## TENNIS COURTS

As in past years the tennis courts in Mandeville Crescent will remain locked to prevent them from being misused, particularly by those from outside the area. Access is provided to financial members of the Grenada Village Community Association by obtaining a key from any of the key-holders listed below.

### The key-holders are:

Bruce Patterson Tel: 478 4221  
William Nobelen Tel: 478 1091  
Barry Kooistra Tel: 477 3472

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These are not general public courts. We are responsible and accountable for the management and administration of them as well as some general maintenance. If you wish to play, all we ask is that you assist us with their day-to-day upkeep by becoming a member of the Association.

## WCC - PLANNING FOR GROWTH

The Wellington City Council 'Planning for Growth' team recently held a Spatial Planning Workshop for all Wellington residents associations.

Two of the main points that came out of that meeting were that it was agreed Wellington should have a higher density centre. It was also agreed that before increasing the population density in any suburb, its infrastructure, amenities, green space, transport and schools must be adequate.

Although Grenada Village is not part of the planned intensification at this point, Johnsonville is affected on a major scale and it is vital that the required infrastructure is in place before it occurs.

A recent survey stated that up to half a million expats could return home to New Zealand in the next few years to escape the COVID-19 pandemic.

## COMMITTEE COMMENT

As the next issue of 'Village News' will not be published until February/March, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

This newsletter is produced by the Grenada Village Community Association Inc. A few articles such as the hall hire, website, association membership, or the tennis courts. are mainly for information purposes and need to be repeated in most issues for the benefit of new residents to the area.

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