

**11. RICCARTON/WIGRAM COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
REPORT OF 19 MAY 1999 MEETING**

RR 9963

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Roger Cave, Community Secretary
Corporate Plan Output: Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Vol 1, 3.1 text 6	

The purpose of this report is to submit the outcomes of the Community Affairs Committee meeting held on Wednesday 19 May 1999.

The meeting was attended by Bob Shearing (Chairperson), Paddy Austin, Mary Corbett, Alison Wilkie and Mike Mora.

In attendance were Martin Maguire (Community Advocate), Denise Galloway (Community Development Adviser), Kate Rathbun (Community Recreation Adviser) and Roger Cave (Community Secretary).

1. GILBERTHORPES OUT OF SCHOOL CARE AND RECREATION (OSCAR) PROGRAMME

Gilberthorpes OSCAR was established in 1997 as a result of a research project which identified a need for an after school programme based at Gilberthorpes Primary School.

Families who participated in the survey indicated that they would prefer a professional organisation to manage and run the programme. In the past a community programme had tried, but unfortunately failed due to lack of resources.

OSCAR Development in Christchurch (Inc) (ODC) was contracted by the Council and the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board to provide a professionally managed programme which would reflect and meet the needs of the local community who attended the Gilberthorpes Primary School.

The programme has over the last two years catered for 20 children per session. However, there is currently a waiting list for each afternoon and the programme is at a point where it can now extend its services and resources to include a maximum number of 30 children, and thus meet the needs of a larger group.

On behalf of OSCAR, Ms Margreet Stronk was in attendance. A very comprehensive evaluation report (for the 1998/99 year) was presented and discussed by members.

Whilst the Committee was very supportive of the OSCAR request to increase the programme roll (and the financial implications of this), there was strong concerns expressed about Central Government funding to this important sector (of child education).

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Community Board accord the request for Gilberthorpes After School Programme increased programme costs of \$8,500 a high priority for consideration by the Finance and Policy Committee.
 2. That the Community Board write to the Minister of Social Welfare to lobby Central Government for more secure funding to be put into after school programmes; and that the Minister be appraised of the Board's involvement in local programmes to identify local government intervention necessary to this important educational sector.

2. HORNBY YOUTH WORKER

As a result of a research project (1996) on the "Needs of Youth in the Riccarton/Wigram Wards", the Board contracted the Community Development Network Trust (C.D.N) to provide a youth worker in the Hornby area for a period of eighteen months. The contract was extended in 1998 to include funding to the end of October 1999.

A recent decision by the Board to allocate more financial assistance has enabled this project to continue for the period to June 2000.

The Hornby youth worker, Lael Schwartzfeger, was in attendance to present his evaluation report covering the initial contract period of eighteen months.

Working through the network of local schools, Lael has been able to identify the needs and interests of young people and then direct them into positive groups or organisations.

Lael also discussed future projects that C.D.N wished to pursue over the next year and beyond.

3. INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE OLDER PERSON COMMUNITY BOARD CRITERIA FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Board had set aside \$5,000 to fund community groups in their celebrations of this commemorative year.

The Committee **agreed** to accept the following guidelines:

Firstly, re-advertise scheme stating applications for funding must be lodged by 26 July 1999.

- The client-base of groups applying must be predominantly from the Riccarton and Wigram Wards.
- Application accepted from non-profit organisations only.
- Applications must be in writing and include a budget and explanation of the proposed project.

- Summary report from group outlining event and the benefits to the local community.
- Money must be spent in the 1999 calendar year.
- Decision on the allocation of funding to be made by the Community Affairs Committee.

It was envisaged that the majority of projects will be in the form of small community-based events or programmes.

Liaising with recognised community organisations (some listed below) would be followed.

(Council) Elderly Persons Housing Tenants
 Older Persons Leisure Group
 Holmes Park Croquet Club
 Age Concern
 Grey Power
 Hornby Good Companions Club
 Hornby Day Care for the Elderly

4. HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES IN THE RICcarton/WIGRAM WARDS

The Community Recreation Adviser (Kate Rathbun) presented a report on the current provision of, and demand for, holiday programmes in the Riccarton/Wigram area.

Holiday programmes are managed by the Recreation and Arts Team, Leisure Unit. Currently the majority of programmes are delivered by the team “hands-on”, although we are moving towards encouraging and resourcing local community groups to take on more service delivery, as detailed below.

There are many benefits to the local community of holiday programmes. These include personal benefits to the child, community/social benefits, economic benefits and environmental benefits.

Based on Council policies, the key target groups of children whom the Leisure Unit seeks to provide holiday programmes for are:

- Children from lower socio-economic communities
- Programmes based on or near schools with a decile ranking of 1-4.
- Children with disabilities

The Recreation and Arts Team aims to provide children with a quality and varied programme in a safe, nurturing and enjoyable environment.

The demand for holiday programmes across the city is huge, and growing at a steady rate. Current provision of holiday programmes is not meeting this demand. Holiday programmes need to be locally based to be accessible.

One of the factors contributing to the demand in holiday programmes, is the introduction of the OSCAR subsidy.

This introduction of this subsidy has made holiday programmes more accessible.

Hornby After School Programme is planning to start a one week holiday programme as from the July holidays in 1999. This programme will be based at Hornby Primary School, and cater for approximately 30 children.

This programme comes at a time when the Hornby community is in real need of a holiday programme.

Existing programmes in the area are the OSCAR programme at Gilberthorpes Primary School and a subsidised YMCA programme in Hei Hei.

Present demand indicates there is a need for a holiday programme in the Upper Riccarton area. It is proposed that a new programme be established at Riccarton Primary School. It is proposed that the programme would be contracted to the YMCA. The programme would cater for 40 children and operate from 9am – 3pm.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Community Board accord the request for \$7,920 towards the establishment of a holiday programme based at Riccarton Primary School a high priority for consideration by the Finance and Policy Committee.
 2. That the Community Board accord the request for \$8,000 towards the establishment of a holiday programme at Hornby Primary School a high priority for consideration by the Finance and Policy Committee.

**5. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
BROOMFIELD / HEI HEI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKERS**

As a result of a needs analysis of the Broomfield area, the Family and Community Development Division of Anglican Care was contracted by the Christchurch City Council and the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board to provide two community development workers to address the outcomes and recommendations as stated in the report.

The project has been going for eight months and already the two Community Development Workers have initiated and facilitated programmes focused on recreation, health, development of skills and support, thus breaking down the isolation experienced by many in this area.

The initial contract budget included money for salary, plus administration and programmes. As programmes and groups have developed so have the need for increased resources.

The Committee **agreed** to make a grant of \$3,341 (maximum) from its Community Initiatives Fund to enable further resources to be purchased.

**Chairperson's
Recommendation:**

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2. That the Community Board write to the Minister of Social Welfare to lobby Central Government for more secure funding to be put into after school programmes; and that the Minister be appraised of the Board's involvement in local programmes to identify local government intervention necessary to this important educational sector.
3. That the Community Board accord the request for \$7,920 towards the establishment of a holiday programme based at Riccarton Primary School a high priority for consideration by the Finance and Policy Committee.
4. That the Community Board accord the request for \$8,000 towards the establishment of a holiday programme at Hornby Primary School a high priority for consideration by the Finance and Policy Committee.