

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 NATIVE PLANTS OF CHRISTCHURCH

The following letter was received from Di Lucas, Lucas Associates, regarding the development of the Native Plants of Christchurch booklets:

“Back in 1996 your Board supported the Lucas Associates in the development of the booklet, “Indigenous Ecosystems of Otautahi Christchurch, Set 2: Plants of the coastal plains of Hagley/Ferrymead and Burwood/Pegasus”. As you know, this was followed by three further booklets to cover the whole city, including the Port Hills (Set 4). Last year this national award-winning series was complemented with a commission by the Governors Bay Community Association to produce a booklet, “Indigenous Ecosystems of the Lyttelton Harbour Basin.

In producing these guides we have been careful to provide data on what is natural to each area. We deliberately did not provide any direction on use of the plants, knowing that in a city context there are many ways plants can be incorporated, whether rather “wild”, or, very controlled and styled; whether natives alone, or, in a mix with exotics. Some guidance on more wild use has already been produced, in particular, the “Streamside Planting Guide” brochure.

There seems to be little understanding or information on more styled use of native plants would suit many home gardens and small public spaces. There is perhaps a fear amongst some people that to use natives is to have a wild and messy planting, and that to achieve styled plantings, exotics need to be used. We wish to demonstrate the potential use in styled design of local native plants.

I suggest Christchurch is leading the way in understanding our local native biodiversity. We would like to assist in improving the use of native plants in design, to show the public some of the many different and exciting ways they can arrange the local plants. We are therefore seeking your support to produce design guide booklets. I would like to make a 5 minute presentation to your Board to show the booklet mock-ups.

The general native plant design guide for the plains of Christchurch, focuses on the typical awkward places in peoples gardens, and suggests innovative designs for these places using local plains plants and materials. Trees, shrubs and groundcovers will all be included, with selections used in various designs.

The plains design guide and a second book, “Design Guide for Christchurch”, are proposed to be produced shortly. The ferns book is for both hills and plains. That there are some 74 species of local native ferns is a surprise to more people. People don’t think of Christchurch as naturally such a lush place. There is potential for the various ferns to be grown in gardens of all types, and in pots, or, revegetation projects. Ferns have wide appeal, but the local flora is unknown to designers and to the public.

The fern guide book provides information on the range of local ferns, and suggests some uses by incorporating them in various types of plantings, including inter-mixed with exotic plants. It is a non-threatening information tool to encourage awareness and use of local unknown diversity.

To design and produce the booklets, financial support is sought.

- 1. \$2,500 is sought from your Board for the Plains Planting Design guide.*
- 2. \$1,500 is sought from your Board toward the Fern guide for the hills and plains, for which we will supply 100 copies of the booklet.*

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with the Board and present our proposal.”

Chairperson’s

Recommendation: For discussion.

5.2 MILLENNIUM TRIBUTE TO NEVILLE PICKERING

The following letter was received from the Ascot/Freeville Residents’ Group, regarding funding to cover costs of their millennium project:

“The purpose of the funding request is to cover the costs of installing a monument to commemorate the 1974 Commonwealth Games and our Christchurch Mayor, Neville Pickering, for his vision and fortitude. The launch of the monument will be held on 5 February 2000 at 11.00 am, unveiled by Mrs Lexie Pickering, followed by a petanque party with wine and cheese.

The proposal (design as attached, see page 39) is to set a suitable quarry stone in concrete, with two plaques:

- 1. A circular bronze plate 400mm in diameter depicting the Commonwealth Games emblem, with the New Zealand features in coloured baked enamel.*
- 2. A bronze plaque 400mm x 250mm with the wording:*

“Monument to commemorate 1974 Commonwealth Games and to our Christchurch Mayor, Neville Pickering, for his vision and fortitude.”

A planted area of flaxes and hebes about the stone and two park style seats.

As a group we would provide labour to assist in the setting in concrete, and the plantings etc under supervision.

The Parks Unit have agreed to offer a suitable quarry rock, with a small charge to deliver to site, it is also envisaged they would provide plants, materials etc.

The costs are as follows:

Two plaques (Decra Art Ltd), estimated at \$700 each plus installation \$1,400

Parks Unit delivery of quarry rock, supply materials required to set rock, plants etc. Unknown

While the total costs are now known at this stage, it is envisaged the total should not exceed \$2,500. We will cover the cost of the petanque party.

We trust that you will view this joint project favourably and agree to provide the funding required.”

Chairperson’s

Recommendation: For discussion.

5.3 FUNDING APPLICATION - A CHRISTMAS WISH FROM KINGSLEA RESIDENCE

The following letter was received from Fran Erickson, Kingslea Residence, regarding a funding request for a drama production:

“I refer to a letter from Walter Friedel, Community Secretary, dated 5 November 1999.

The following is the budget of costs to be paid by Kingslea Residence in respect of the drama production preparation and actual performances:

Budget

<i>Payments - Te Rakau Hua O Te Wao Tapu</i>	<i>\$25,000.00</i>
<i>Hire plants</i>	<i>100.00 *</i>
<i>Hire entrance awning</i>	<i>400.00 *</i>
<i>Hire folding tables</i>	<i>586.70 *</i>
<i>Hire portable toilets</i>	<i>372.00 *</i>
<i>Full Board - 12 members of the production crew</i>	<i>8,800.00</i>
<i>Total Hire Cost (excl GST)</i>	<i><u><u>\$35,258.70</u></u></i>

I would appreciate consideration for financial support for the hire costs related to the actual public performances. These costs marked with an asterisk total \$1,458.70 (excl GST). If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.”

Chairperson’s

Recommendation: That \$1,000 be allocated to Kingslea Residential Centre for the preparation of its drama production and performance.