

19. ST MARTINS/HEATHCOTE RIVER DAY

Officer responsible Community Advocate, Beckenham	Writer Ollie Clifton, Asst Community Development Adviser
Corporate Plan Output: Community Activities 3.1 text 23	

The purpose of this report is to recommend the Board allocate \$1,000 from its 1999/2000 Discretionary funds towards the running of the St Martins/Heathcote River Day on 26 February 2000.

In March 1999 St Anne's Anglican Church (St Martins) ran a community raft race on the Heathcote River. This event, although organised on a very limited budget of approximately \$500, attracted a crowd of several hundred people, and received a lot of support from local businesses by way of goods for spot prizes, and free promotion.

St Anne's, with assistance from Beckenham Service Centre staff, are planning another community raft race on the Heathcote river on 26 February. Other complementary events and activities are planned to run in conjunction with the raft race, thereby creating a "River Day" community event for the St Martins/Opawa/Waltham communities.

In addition to the raft race, possible events and activities are:

- Organised water fights by age group
- Canoes (slalom)
- A large water slide
- Races of other crafts
- Model boats
- River exploration/treasure hunt; finding points of interest along the river by boat/cycling/walking, a family/group event.
- Tug of war across the river (if approved)
- Food stalls etc
- Live band/music

Organising all the aspects of the "River Day" will take more time than St Anne's staff have, hence it is intended that an event co-ordinator will be employed for 40 hours to achieve this. A draft budget is outlined below:

Co-ordinator wages (40hrs x \$15/hr)	\$600
Publicity/promotion	\$300
Band	\$50
Miscellaneous	\$50
	\$1,000

Expenses such as spot prizes, posters/flyers, and first aid will be met through St Anne's Church and sponsorship/donations from local businesses etc.

This project links to the Council's Recreation and Sport, Community Development and Social Well-Being, Children's, and Youth Policies. The following Board objectives are met by this project:

- 6.1 Identify, liaise with and promote co-ordination between community initiatives, which seek to enhance the physical and mental well being of local people of all ages.
- 8.1 Identify, liaise with and support individuals and groups who serve and build the community.
- 8.2 Support neighbourhood-strengthening initiatives such as the provision of and participation in community events, and the activities of residents' groups, volunteers and community cottages.

Recommendation: That the Board allocate \$1,000 from its 1999/2000 Discretionary funds to St Anne's Anglican Church for the running of a St Martins/Heathcote River Day on 26 February 2000.

The Chairman

Comments:

While I support the proposal, I would have liked to see other community groups involved in the planning and running of the activities on the day.