

11. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY WARDENS

Officer responsible Parks & Waterways Manager	Author Ali Taylor-Hayhurst, Education Co-ordinator, DDI 371-1633
Corporate Plan Output: Sponsorship and Volunteer Services	

The purpose of this report is to request the appointment of the following persons as Honorary Wardens:

Jean Leadson	3/139 River Road	River Warden
Avalon Gough-Jones	24 Bidwell Place	Nga Puna Wai Reserve
Sarah Manual	71 Arran Crescent	Edmonds Factory Garden
Roy Prime	340 Ferry Road	Edmonds Factory Garden
Ann Prime	340 Ferry Road	Edmonds Factory Garden

The majority of wardens are people who live near a park or river or have an interest in a particular area. Often the known presence of an honorary warden in a local area keeping watch on rivers and parks acts as a deterrent to possible offences. An existing warden, Council staff, or a community or special interest group usually recommend new wardens. All prospective wardens are interviewed by a Park Ranger, who will either endorse or decline the recommendation prior to their name being submitted to Committee for formal appointment. Work is currently being undertaken on a more formalised application system, based on appropriate sections of the Christchurch City Council Volunteer Guidelines published in September 2000.

Although new wardens are continually being appointed, overall numbers tend to remain fairly static. In the twelve month period to 31 January 2001 eleven wardens left the programme, for reasons of ill health, retirement or resignation due to a shift out of the city. A further three passed away.

On the evening of Thursday 15 March communication training is being held for the wardens involved at New Brighton Pier. This interactive two-hour session will focus on the basics of communication and involve practice of skills. The opportunity will be offered to all wardens to participate in such sessions later in the year. Previous training held two years ago proved successful.

In July each year a function is held for wardens to show the Council's appreciation for the contribution they make to the Christchurch environment. This is particularly relevant in this, the International Year of the Volunteer.

Honorary Wardens are the Parks and Waterways Unit's eyes and ears in the community and do a tremendous public service in reporting incidents and damage on parks and rivers, and any continuing problems.

From both an information and communication point of view and to ensure our parks remain safe and user-friendly, the role of Honorary Wardens is seen as a vital ingredient to the effective provision of parks in Christchurch.

Recommendation: That the above persons be appointed as Honorary Wardens pursuant to Christchurch City Bylaw 120 Clause 5 (ii) and Christchurch City Bylaw 118, Clause 4, relating to the control of parts of the Avon and Heathcote Rivers, certain foreshore and adjacent areas and the city's parks and reserves.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.