

5. COMMUNITY BOARD CONTRIBUTION TO HERITAGE WEEK, 15-22 OCTOBER 2004

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Roger Cave, Community Secretary, DDI 941-6502
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The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's consideration to providing funds towards this year's Heritage Week.

Background

This festival is now in its 12th year and is steadily growing in popularity and support.

The theme for 2004 is "People, Places and Pursuits" and historical milestones we will be highlighting this year are:

- 150th anniversary of the death of John Deans – his legacy is the gifting of Riccarton Bush to the people of Christchurch.
- 100th anniversary of the completion of Christ Church Cathedral
- 75th anniversary of the Edmonds Band Rotunda
- 50th anniversary of the Christchurch Regional Planning Board

The objectives are:

- To increase the public awareness of the value of the built heritage of Christchurch as a vital component of the unique identity of the city through events, projects and positive publicity
- To create an annual celebration aimed at involving residents and visitors in a series of social, cultural and educational events which focus on the built, environmental and social heritage sites of Christchurch.
- To promote the efforts of community and commercial groups and organisations and profile their appropriate events and projects as part of Carter Group Heritage Week.
- To highlight heritage successes and issues.

Core funding for Carter Group Heritage Week comes from the Christchurch City Council with additional funding from The Community Trust and sponsorship from Carter Group of Companies as the naming sponsor. Tenth Dot Management Ltd has again been appointed to provide programme co-ordination, marketing and promotion.

Current

At the March 2004 meeting of the Board's Environment Committee, heritage consultant Jenny May discussed various ideas which the Board might like to embrace.

- 2004 is the 150th anniversary of the death of John Deans and the 90th anniversary of the Riccarton Bush Act (1914) and the placing of the Bush in a Trust and gifted to the people of Canterbury. To mark this occasion the Board could consider a lecture session that would examine these topics:
 - The history and significance of the Bush, Putaringamotu, to Waitaha, Ngati Mamoe and Ngai Tahu
 - The Deans family and Trust associations – what the Trust has achieved
 - A history of the Bush/Putaringamotu
 - A discussion of the Art and Industry proposed installation "Echo" for the biennale to be held there in September/October – speaker – curator of the installation
- Launch of the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Heritage Awards which would be held in 2005. The launch could be held at Riccarton House in conjunction with the above lecture series. This would give the Board six months to develop the awards and find sponsors/partners.
- Promote the Riccarton Racecourse Teahouse restoration project and the Hornby Primary School War Memorial Tower.

- Cemetery tours
- The (metropolitan) Heritage Week Committee is also looking to stage a soiree at Riccarton House.

Proposed Partnership Opportunity

Informal discussions with the Executive Officer and Administration Officer of the Riccarton Bush Trust have identified an opportunity for the Board to co-sponsor/host the various (Jenny May) heritage ideas at Riccarton House.

The evening lectures and the launch of Heritage Awards for 2005 during Heritage Week are seen as being a positive contribution that the Board can participate in.

Coupled with this would be the promotion of the Riccarton Racecourse Tea House, Hornby Primary School War Memorial Tower, and cemetery tours.

Community Board Funding Options

Last year the Board's Environment Committee administered and funded the very successful mall/library displays based on the communities of Riccarton, Upper Riccarton, Hornby and Halswell.

The Chairperson of the Board's Environment Committee (Neville Bennett) is prepared to support the (officer) recommendation that the Board commit Environment Committee's 2004/05 Project Funds as the source of funds required.

As well as funding the Riccarton House activities and the Heritage Awards the monies will also enable professional persons to be employed.

These funds have a current balance of \$40,000.

Conclusion

The contribution that the Community Board can make to this year's Heritage Week will be significant, based around activities at Riccarton House.

A partnership opportunity exists with the Heritage Week organisers and the Riccarton Bush Trust.

The Board will achieve, I believe, a high profile from being the financial contributor into the partnership.

As well as celebrating the Heritage Week theme, the Board will enforce the importance of Riccarton House and the launching of its 2005 Heritage Award scheme.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Community Board allocate an amount of \$7,500 from their Environment Committees 2004/05 Project Funds to Heritage Week 2004 and that the Environment Committee be tasked with approving Heritage Week activities and the funding required to the maximum amount identified above.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the Officer's recommendation be adopted.