

# **The Greenhithe Residents Association**

## **Chairman's Annual Report 2019**

2018/2019 has been the most challenging of the 19 years that I have served as Chairman of this Assn. We have been most fortunate to have had an active and committed committee to whom Greenhithe should be most grateful.

Our Executive have been stars. Our new Secretary Ivy Lu, has excelled in the role and kept me on my toes. She, custodian Michelle Heald and Hall Committee Exec member Christopher Deane have worked successfully on establishing our web-site as a more informative reference point, a streamlined hall booking system and at a reduced cost. Michelle has been an exemplary ambassador for our organisation with her management of both halls in the midst of a building program. I also thank my Deputy Trish Cassone for her constant support and encouragement.

Particular mention is required of our retiring Treasurer Elaine Utting whom has managed the hall booking transition, the building renovation accounts, the reporting to committee and funding bodies and all of our legal obligations with efficiency and great patience.

The stress point for the committee this year has been the Community Hall renovations. Due to previous defective building and serious rot, part of the hall had to be demolished and rebuilt. This caused a \$42,000 cost over-run from what was an adequate funding pool. Disappointingly a number of aspects of the original project had to be postponed! These will be addressed as and when funds become available. Unfortunately, the most likely funding sources have already been taped, so this may be a slow process.

The Old School Building has required \$15,000 of essential maintenance to the exterior which has been funded and almost completed. It is being painted by the GCT men's workshop group, for which we are grateful.

We are most grateful to the Upper Harbour Local Board for a \$45,000 grant toward the Community Hall and a further \$10,000 grant toward the renovation of the Old School Building. Thanks' must also go to the Coco Trust for their \$10,000 grant toward these projects. Other funders, mentioned at the last AGM, were Foundation North \$40,000, Lion Foundation \$20,000 and \$25,000 from 5 local businesses. We are most fortunate to have the guidance of Local Board members Margaret Miles and Uzra Casuri Balouch whom regularly attend our meetings and Councillor John Watson who has often gone in to bat for us on Auckland Council and Auckland Transport matters.

We continue to enjoy a working partnership with the Greenhithe Community Trust on matters like Emergency Response and Men's workshop.

We thank retiring committee members Simon Gordon, David Willmott, Wayne Tibbott and Elaine Utting for there service to the committee and Greenhithe. We welcome new nominees Michelle Heald, Steven Oh (Treasure) and Leon Vaudrey as there is still work to be done! There are still two committee vacancies open.