



President's Report

July 2015 –June 2016

Year's Highlights

- New design Tattler which has given our community a greater voice. Thanks to Jenny Ralston, Karen Pinnell and Kay Miller
- Continued growth in use of both venues through hard work and follow up – Euan Harris
- Maintained high quality childcare programs and created a sustainable Before School Care Program – Adam Hendry
- Reviewed Childcare Supervisor wage rates and created a new wage band approach for casual, permanent, on call and senior childcare supervisors – Jessica Fa'aea, Julie Seevens, Kay Miller
- Repainted exterior of Brooklyn Community Centre- Perry Aspros
- Mural on front entrance of BCC – Kay Miller, Ellen Coup, Ridgway After School Arts Class
- Improved financial reporting and analysis – Julie Seevens, Phil Bolton, Phil Duncan
- Progressed website upgrade – Dinesh Gupta, Euan Harris, Brad Tattersfield
- Improved cleaning standards – Euan Harris, Beth Beard, Perry Aspros
- Grassed Vogelhorn Green – Kay Miller, Euan Harris, Emerald Lawns
- Improved Vogelhorn Garage as storage area – Kay Miller, Euan Harris
- Achieved A grades in accounting study – Julie Seevens
- Negotiated new three year contract with Wellington City Council – Kay Miller, Phil Bolton
- Met new reporting standards for charitable organisations – Phil Bolton

It has been a tough year as President for several reasons including the months needed to set up and maintain the Tattler in its new format, managing community expectations around the Brooklyn Hub project and Vogelhorn Green, and the nine month process to get the mural completed. Significant time was spent getting legal advice regarding employment matters and getting sufficient information from which to carry out a pricing review. This was all self-inflicted pain as, apart from the Hub project, they were projects I had initiated. What has kept me going is the community appreciation and genuine support from the staff, in particular Julie Seevens who provided ongoing objective advice and excellent data essential to decision making. Phillip Bolton has been an incredible source of inspiration around employment law and in particular our requirements around taking leave.

What became clear is that updating the Tattler was timely and that we need to now review how we manage and staff childcare given the growth and complexity.

The new Tattler has created the biggest stir in our community awakening everyone to its purpose and usefulness. The feedback from readers, contributors and advertisers continues to be outstanding outweighing the few negative comments we had and making the effort worthwhile.

Perry Aspros has continued his stellar service to BCA and the exterior of the BCC is testimony to this. He recently advised BCA that he wanted to step back from his workload and be active in the Brooklyn Residents Association. This is an excellent decision given Perry's wider community knowledge and we are looking forward to seeing BRAI grow in its membership and activity. Thankfully he will still be part of our daily lives living next door to the Community Centre and being a member of our Council. We have been able to employ a handyman to take over some of the work load.

We reached a critical point this year in that necessary increases in staff hours and pay over the past 3 years tipped the balance in terms of long term sustainability. This meant an intensive review of all income and expenses was required and took up much the 2nd part of the year with conclusions only being reached in July 2016.

Assuming that nothing was certain, and given WCC's budget constraints, I spent a lot of time preparing for the WCC funding round. In June BCA was grateful to eventually receive the essential operational grant and also continued management of Vogelhorn Hall and Green.

Also in June, we said farewell to Jenny Ralston from the BCA Council and welcomed Nick Ruane who brings extensive skills to our team and is President of the newly formed Brooklyn Lions. This is an exciting and sensible connection and BCA is proud to be able to host their monthly meetings at the Community Centre. Thankfully Jenny will keep her finger on the pulse of the Tattler. Due to poor health, John Barnhill was unable to take up his role on the Council this year.

For our financial performance see the Treasurer's Report for this period.

Kay Miller

President BCA

12 September 2016