

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Having had our April Club meeting last night, I am pleased to report that we have had two firm objectives set for our proposed new Building. Your committee has unanimously voted to recommend to the AGM to proceed with this project. Also after a good discussion on pros and cons of the 3 sites, building position selected. Initial focus was on the site behind (west of) trees adjacent to the cook shop and blacksmiths shop. However, merits of the site (eastern) main access road and clubrooms came to the fore. This site has now been chosen.

The precursor to all this is Ecan's River engineers approval and general consent. At this stage we are confident of both. We await their comments.

Also previously noted, a possible storage scheme for Portacom type buildings is in the air. Consent for this is crucial from our landlords, Ecan. This request sent in same letter as above. We hope to have reply for next month's Committee Meeting. I will put in an apology for this meeting as I will be out of the country at that time.

Probably the most important facet to the building project is finances. In this matter we are pleased to advise of an offer of a loan to the club to cover amount required above cash earmarked already. We will introduce this at the AGM. The next key steps for building are:

- 1- Ecan Approval, in principle, and location
- 2- Commission structural engineers to do dismantle and rebuild specifications and Plans. This part actually is the real X factor. So will be important to get started immediately after acceptance at AGM.
- 3- Submit structural engineers report and all other details, specs etc. to CHCH City Council for building permit. This is no mean task. It will involve every part of building from below ground footing, concrete foundation, all structural steel, Fixtures and Fittings, roof, cladding etc.
- 4- When all above under way and/or complete we will have to confirm actual purchase of building as it stands.

Then all we have to do is dismantling Truck to Keating Park, and then re-erect! I will not gloss over this, as there will obviously be a lot of work to do. The Whole club's efforts will be needed. As you will note, we are in the seriously politically correct/health and safety driven year 2016. We will be only allowed to do so much on demolition site. That may be restricted to removing cladding and insulation. Probably the rest, Perlins gurts etc. and roof will have to be done by professional demo contractors. Roll on AGM!

In regards to other issues: - Well there sure have been some choice Vintage Auctions lately. If only I was considered responsible enough to take the family cheque book to Don Robertson's Auction!!! Boy I could have filled a truck by the look of the catalogue. Speaking of Auctions. We would be pleased to accept all and any saleable items for our Club's Major September Auction at Keating Park. So if you or someone else you know has some interesting gear for the sale, please recommend them to our Auction. Commission Rate is probably half that of most big commercial auction company's. And guaranteed to be a good day out. Please contact Stuart Sanders, Myself or any club officers regarding entries. Further information on following pages.

After the AGM, Storage/Vehicle parking will be chargeable. As previously discussed and debated at several Club meetings and committee meetings over the last couple of years. We have come up with a reasonable round up of these. Most having been at Keating Park for several years. We believe to be a very modest charge for the safe keeping of some of your treasures.

Mention the word burning pile to some club members recently, and you may come up with mixed reactions! But I can advise that this year's "burn up" although alarming (literally) at one stage, has a

happy (for us anyway) ending. It goes like this: Before burning we have a standard checklist of people to ring and advise/request go ahead. These are- Harewood Fire Station, Airport, City Council, Ecan etc. On ringing the City Council they put us onto the Park Ranger for our area (The Groyne's) who just happened to be driving right past our gate at the time. "I will just come in an inspect". Insecure/bad thoughts passed through the mind at that point. In the past irresponsible have piled rubbish, plastic, furniture etc. on our heap. All of which has to be removed before burning. A \$2000 fine can be issued on the spot for burning "improper" materials. That's why we need to stress –NO RUBBISH. We are entitled to burn only VEGETATION, BRANCHES, and FOREST WASTE. THAT'S ALL! Right back to momentary, insecure thoughts. The Park Ranger is now within minutes driving around our heap, in all its glory. Good news though. Due to the diligence of our Keating Park Works and helpers, the Pile got the thumbs up, and permit written out on the spot.PHEW! So it burned on Friday. By 6pm well burned down. A liberal sprinkling of water doused over and all around surrounding grass and then left for the night. Club Signee (President) gets ring from Fire Dept. about 10.30pm. "Your name and No are on our permit record (unhappiness indicated in voice). There are 3 fires burning well with no one present, adjacent to McLean's Island Rd." Oh S....! A quick call to fellow member followed by quick trip to the Park. Sure enough greeted by sight of fire engines and tankers dealing to by then well burning heaps. We really could have been in "it" then. Fortunately for us, fire was at our neighbour's grounds – not ours. Much joy on checking, our fire was well burnt down. No red embers or flames showing. For good measure a good dousing given to it anyway. This was three good lessons for us. 1- A big fire never goes out in one day. 2- We must not let burning heap build up too big. 3- Our tanker trailer, complete with \$700 new "Robin" pump is the best 700 bucks we've spent!

Yes you will be aware our AGM is on the 29th May. Our club really needs to form a good new committee, and executive officers. We have some exciting projects coming up, which will need your governance and guidance. If you wish to be part of this and are available for these positions, please make sure another club member knows your intentions. No one else will know to nominate you if they don't know you are keen. A big rally in 2018 and major building projects looming. We need an effective committee and executives. Also it's my strong hope that the Keating Park Committee will come back positively.

Myself: - I have been positively encouraged by the way the present committee have pulled away from some negatives last year. Indeed the tone of recent meetings is convivial and pleasant. Long may this continue? But due to continuing work time and other commitments I will not be standing for the Presidents Role next term. So big thanks to all club members that have surrounded and assisted me the last couple of terms. From the President's position, it is always easy to see "who does what". Our club is lucky to have these workers/organisers. So do come along and continue their good work.

Regards
Wayne