

Information Session/Workshop - Waihoru Spreydon- Cashmere-Heathcote Community Board NOTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Thursday 24 July 2025
Time: 4:30 pm
Venue: Linwood Boardroom,
Gate B, 180 Smith Street,
Woolston

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Sunvale Reserve

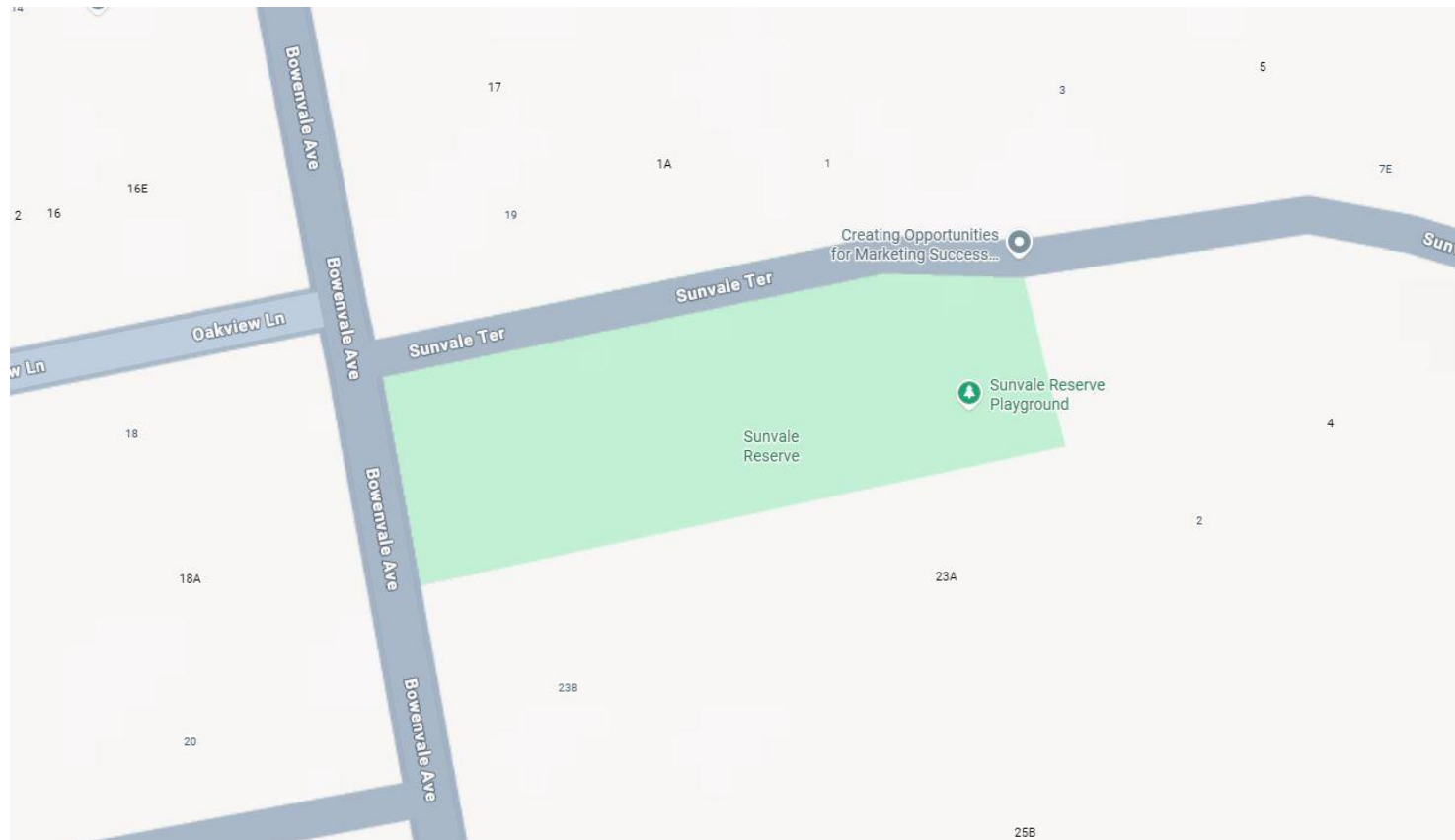
Corner of Sunvale Terrace and Bowenvale Avenue

Presentation Walter John (Jack) Vallance 24/07/2025

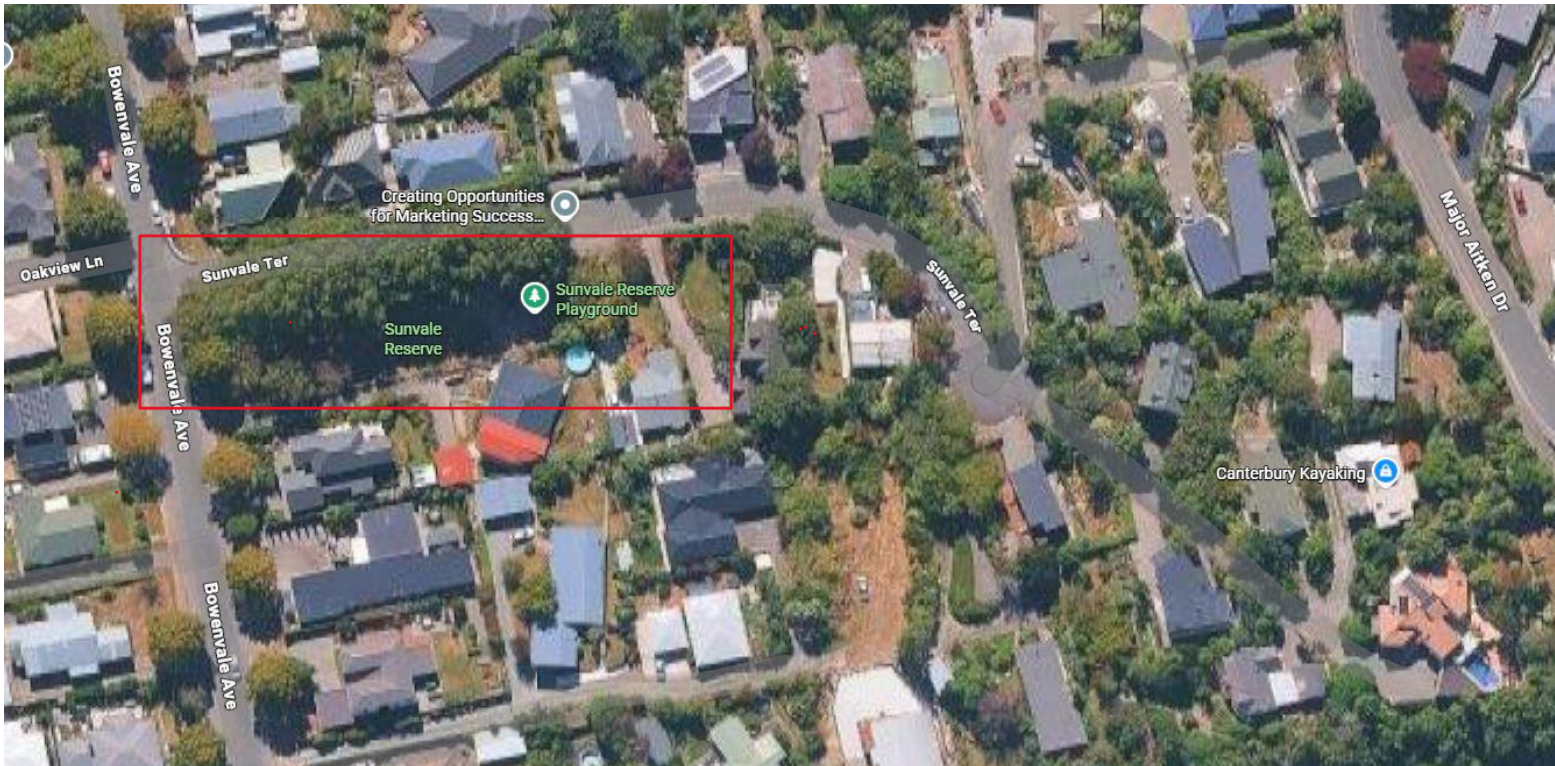
Good afternoon Board members.

We are at the meeting this afternoon to present some history associated with the purchase of the land associated with the established Sunvale Reserve located on the corner of Sunvale Terrace and Bowenvale Avenue.

We appreciate your time to consider the historic information of the site so that it maybe considered that the Reserve be renamed from Sunvale to the Vallance Reserve to reflect and preserve the legacy of the Bowenvale pioneers for future generations.



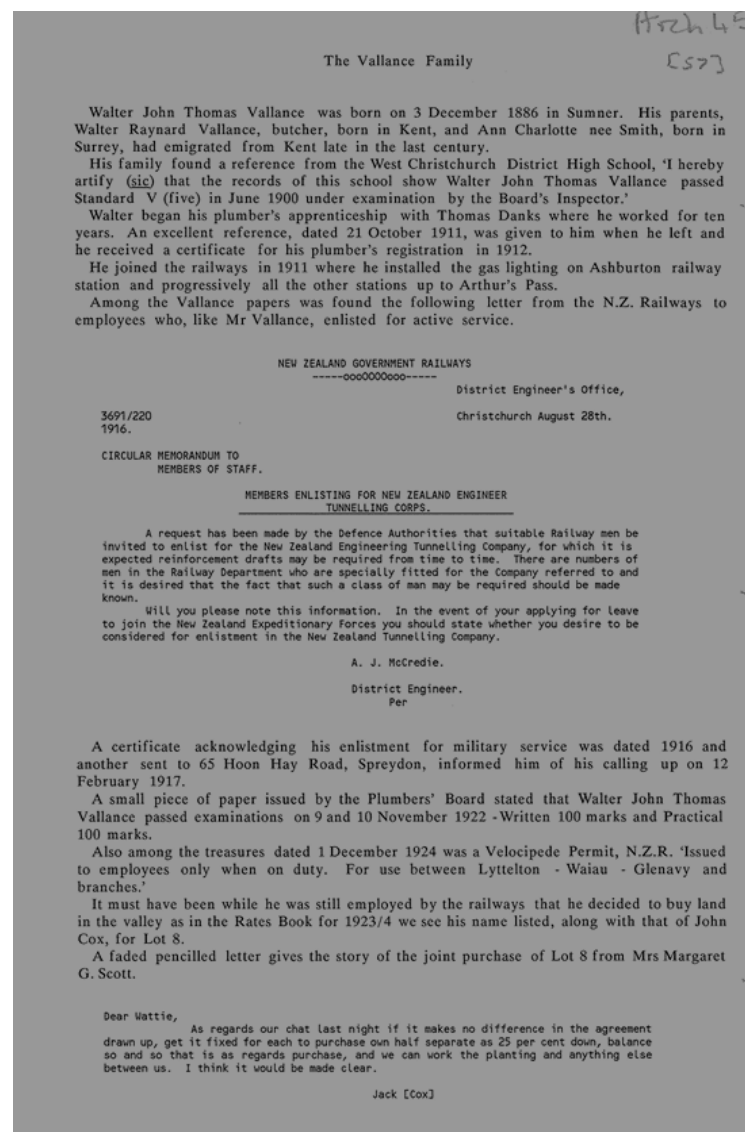
Location of the
Sunvale Reserve
(corner Bowenvale
avenue and Sunvale
terrace)



Aerial view of the
Sunvale Reserve



Street view of
Sunvale Reserve



The following pages capture the story of the Vallance Family as documented within 'Early Days in Bowen Valley (now Bowenvale Valley)' as recorded by Beverly Brooker (April 1993). This publication captured the stories of the following pioneering Bowen Valley families:

- George Billcliffe
- Boskell
- Campbell
- Fineran
- Knowles
- Simcock
- Vallance



[52]

It then transpired that the Vallance land was on the southern portion of Lot 8 and that purchased by John (Jack) Cox was on the northern division so that the Cox land bordered on Lot 9 which had been purchased by the Campbell family.

Walter Vallance resigned from the Railways on 9 March 1925 as is documented by the excellent reference given to him at this time.

On 9 July 1927 he married Eva Henwood from Kaiapoi at St Mary's, Addington. Walter was now 40 years and his wife 32 years. There is a studio photograph of Eva at this time and it shows her to be a very good looking woman. They settled in Bowen Valley where daughters, Valerie and Patricia, and son Walter John Jnr were born. The children all inherited their mother's dark hair and their father's tall, slim stature.

A sketch of the house plan, a two-storied dwelling with (to begin with) minimal facilities, and later a photograph of Jack Cox constructing it, are in the family archives. At that time there was no sewerage in the valley and a limited water supply. When the Vallance children were young, they can remember having to help their mother 'bury the dog' in the years before the nightsoil was collected. What a relief it must have been when the sewerage was at last connected by O'Donnell and O'Sullivan.

Many have told of the valuable contribution 'Wattie' Vallance made helping the farmers with not only the plumbing necessary for their growing crops but also establishing the important water supply to their glasshouses. His versatility with the soldering iron was constantly in demand. With help from the Boskell brothers, Len Cox and a Mr Kiernan, Jack Cox and Wattie Vallance were able to get their land broken in and tomatoes planted. Along with others in the valley they began supplying Haywards, who seemed to need huge quantities of this crop for manufacturing their tomato sauce, etc.

Son Walter John Jnr, known as Jack, used to help his father in times of emergency when heavy frosts caused burst pipes. He also recalls collecting the daily milk for the family from Mrs Simcock's cows. She used to call him 'Whitebait' because of his acute slimness and pale complexion as a child. Patricia used to be sent to Mrs Simcock for cherry plums and blue diamond plums for jam making. She was not above eating a few of the cherry plums on her return journey but recalls her first attempt at eating the larger purple blue diamonds - ugh!

Jack Vallance, as a child, was fascinated by the huge worms, from memory a foot long, which seemed to be busy in the valley soil. A few are still seen occasionally in the upper reaches. Mosquitoes were plentiful as they bred in any water lying around and it was not until spraying was done with kerosene that they were eradicated. It seems that the blue-flannel-clad patients from the sanatorium 'cottages' up the hill were only too pleased to do this job and the farmers were happy to reward them with tomatoes and fruit in season. It is not known whether the hospital authorities were aware of this as they discouraged the patients' mixing with the local people.

It was a full, happy life for the children in the valley. The mushroom season was a busy time when they were all out in the early morning up the hills gathering in the harvest before going to school. Many hours were spent fossicking for cartridge cases in the ground on Lot 11. This was then used for sheep and cattle pens but had been the old rifle range. Later it was purchased by Irvine Welch from Mrs Scott, the original owner, but apparently the new generation still looked for buried treasure for some years to come. The boys had their special place on the hill for tobogganing and later, when the Fineran home's steep driveway was sealed, they used this for their trolleys, despite skinned knees and numerous bruises from the many spills at the bottom. Many happy hours were spent at the frog pond, which could be reached through the property of Simeon Simcock of whom the young ones were a little wary!

Eva Vallance was an expert raspberry picker. Daughter Pat was not, so she took over the running of the house during the school holidays while her mother and sister Valerie earned extra money through raspberry-picking on Wilf Richardson's property.

One vivid memory of their childhood was mentioned by Patricia and Jack. Their father brought home a parrot! Another incident they recalled was the finding of a baby's body under the willow trees in the swamp at the foot of the valley.

Young Jack said he could remember Mr Cox, on the next property, leaving his large crop of pumpkins to mature under the macrocarpa hedges which stretched along the boundary of his land from road level up to the top of the hill. Both Wattie Vallance and Jack Cox grew tomatoes on the top area of their land and Jack Vallance can remember a type of 'flying fox' on which the boxes of ripe tomatoes were hooked. The momentum gradually increased as the heavy containers got nearer the bottom and when they landed, it was with a considerable thump, often squashing the contents. Haywards, however, were not bothered

2

(59)
by this as they just scooped the pile of tomatoes into their truck, mashed or not, saying that as they were to be used for sauce-making, the condition of the harvest was immaterial!

Important services were brought to the valley by men still remembered by name. Bread was delivered in a motorbike and side-car by Boon's driver Claude Gallop, the postman was a familiar figure and, like Claude Gallop, a genial character. Mr Smith was the coal merchant who delivered coal for the ranges still used in the farmhouse kitchens in the 1920s and early 1930s.

The original Vallance building remained on the property for many years. Wattie Vallance was a man who was apt to undercharge for the work he did - often made no charge - so money was never very plentiful, his wife having to work hard and be a good manager as they brought up their family. One valuable thing which Eva Vallance did over the years was to build up the story of Bowenvale in photographs. Whenever a picture of the valley was published in newspapers she made sure the family had a copy and these are a wonderful record for them today.

Despite the low financial position, the Vallance family were the proud owners of a Jewett motorcar. They have a photograph of the young family proudly clustered around this model, which was not a familiar one in New Zealand.

As the years went by, Wattie's distressful breathing problem left him with less and less energy. It was referred to as asthma but his children have wondered if this lung problem was caused by lead poisoning brought about by the handling of so much lead pipe, often in confined spaces, over a long period. Others in the valley have mentioned 'he was a very sick man' but always willing to help a neighbour when needed. Eva Vallance's jet black hair soon turned white with the strain of managing the property and their finances.

Elder daughter Valerie married Ian Evans, a sheep farmer, and Patricia married Lenard A'Court, a police constable. Both parents died on the day after their 76th birthdays, Wattie on 4 December 1962 and Eva on 12 December 1970.

Many years later when the Vallance land was split up for housing, a piece was sold to the Council for a children's playground. This is situated on what is now the corner of Sunvale Terrace and Bowenvale Avenue. Another piece of the land has been built on and is occupied by Wattie Vallance's grandson, carrying on the Vallance name in the valley and keeping it alive to remind us of the families of those hardworking first settlers.

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Snippet (highlighted) from the captured history of 'Early Days in Bowen Valley' detailing the character of Walter John Thomas (Wattie) and Eva Vallance and the selling of the portion of land for the playground on the corner of Sunvale Terrace and Bowenvale Avenue.



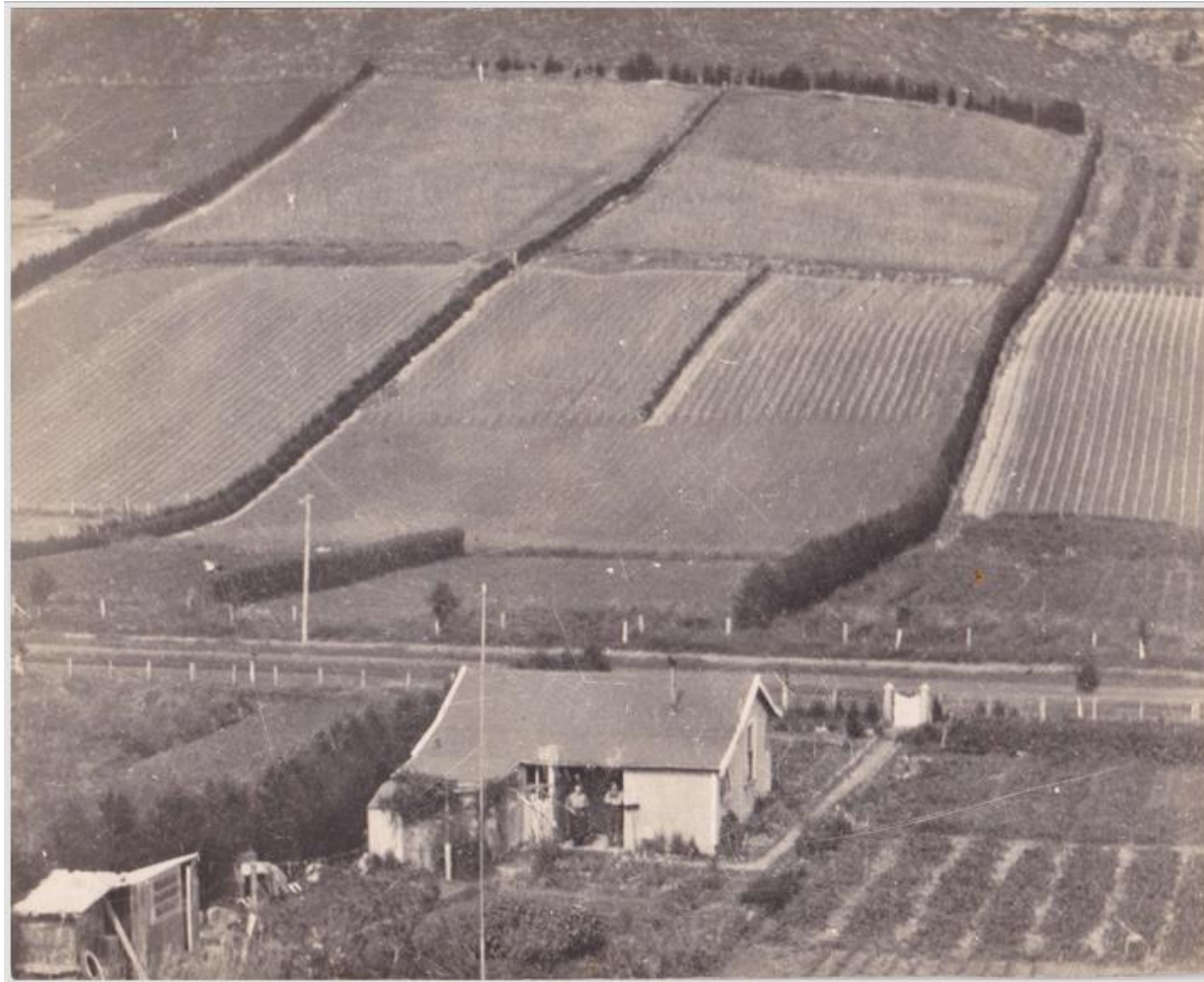
Aerial photo of the
Bowenvale Valley
1946 (land owned
by the Vallance
Family highlighted)



Aerial photo of the
Bowenvale Valley
1964 (land owned by
the Vallance Family
highlighted)



Photo of the Bowenvale
Valley 1994



The Vallance family home and
market garden



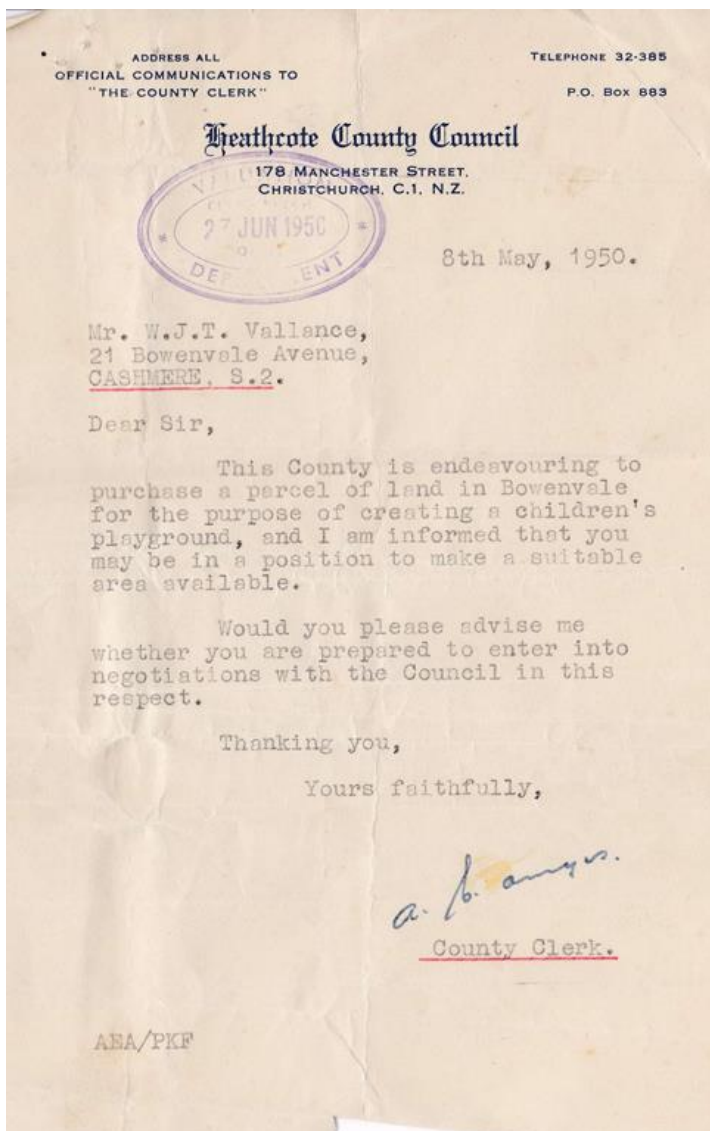
Walter John Thomas
and Eva Vallance with
Valerie and Patricia
(daughters)



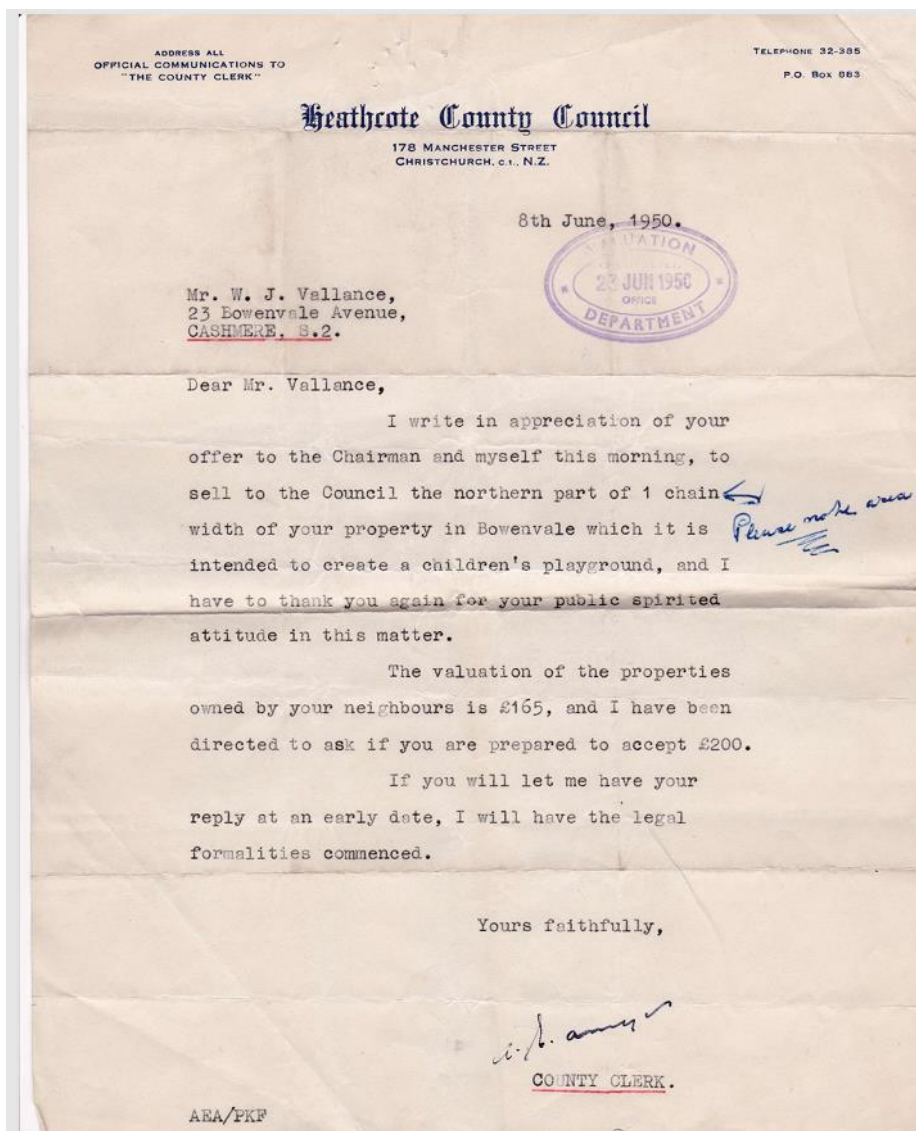
Walter John Thomas and Eva
Vallance

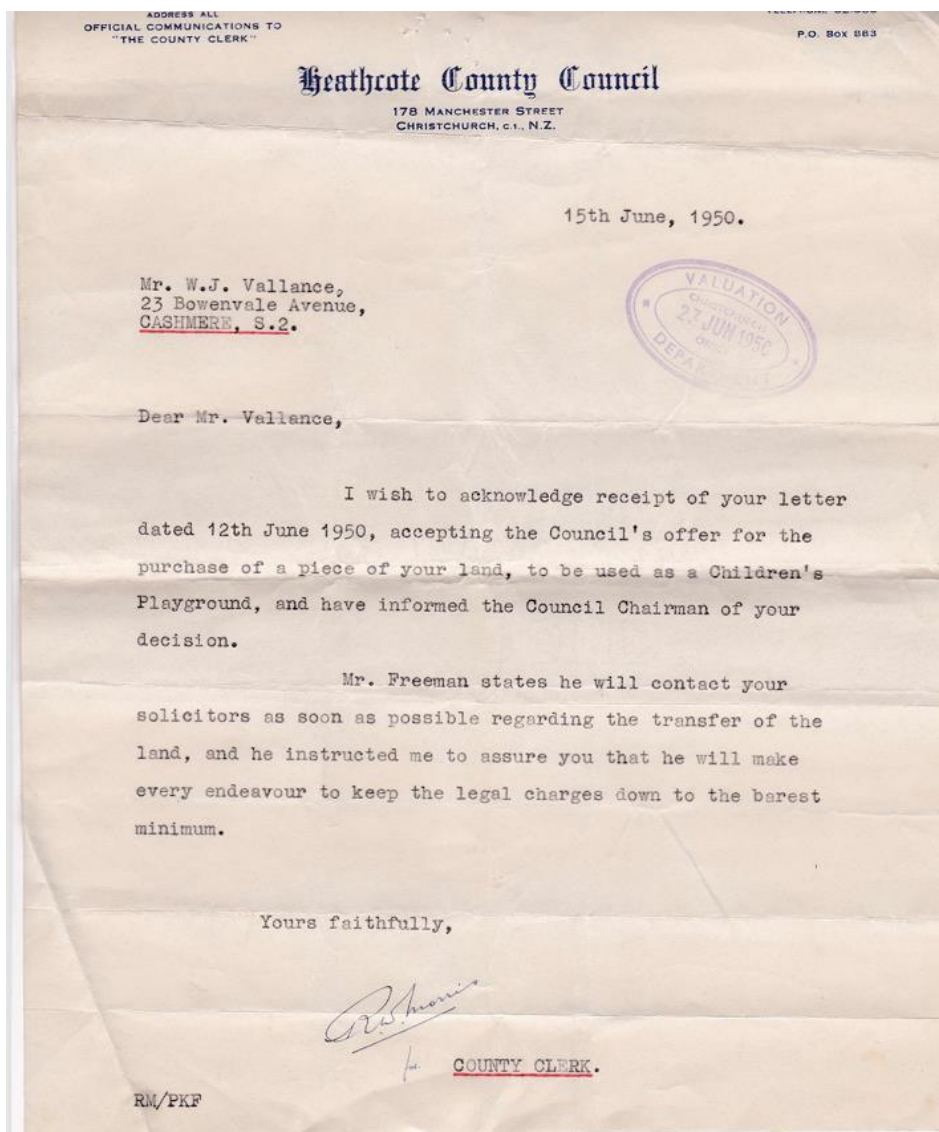
D.P.6440 Survey of Bowenvale Avenue. Declared at Christchurch on 22nd June 1922 Details of Rates taken from Archives for period 1922/3 to 1929/30	
Lot 17 ---	Lot 1, D.P.6136 1923/4 SHRUBSHALL, Arthur H.
Lot 1 D.P.6440 1 pt. 1924/5 McCARRIGAN, Edward 1 pt. 1923/4 SMITH, Sydney Gerald 1 pt. 1923/4 RENNELL, Bernard 1 pt. 1923/4 TAYLOR, Edgar 1 pt. 1927/8 BOSKELL, Louis Claude	Lot 22 D.P.6440 1924/4 SHRUBSHALL, Arthur H. 22 1925/6 DAVIDSON, William Ernest Lot 7 1923/4 TAYLOR, Edgar 1924/5 * * & Others 7 1925/6 TOOMER, Maude Edith
Lot 2 pt. 1924/5 MICHELLE, Joseph Harvey 2 pt. 1924/5 KENNEDY, Henry, 2 pt. 1924/5 COX, Matthew 2 pt. 1927/8 BOSKELL, Sarah A. Butler	
Lot 3 1923/4 WOODS, Orlando Bartrum Charles 3 1927/8 BOSKELL, James Leonard	Lot 8 pt. 1923/4 COX, John 8 pt. 1923/4 VALLANCE, Walter, John Thomas
Lot 4 pt. 1923/4 McCONNELL, Sydney Charles Hodley 4 pt. 1924/5 LARGE, Alfred Joseph	Lot 9 1924/5 CAMPBELL, Sydney Robert
Lot 5 1924/5 MITCHELL, George Henry & Martha	
Lot 6 1924/5 COX, John 1925/6 HOOPER, Albert John	Lot 10 1924/5 CHRISTENSEN, Cecil Robert
Lot 12 1923/4 KAY, John	Lot 11 1924/5 SCOTT, Mrs Margaret Greig
Lot 13 1922/3 FINERAN, Charles Joseph	Lot 21 1923/4 BOSKELL, Mrs Sarah A Butler
Lot 14 1922/3 BILLCLIFF, Mrs Thomasina Emily J 14 1926/7 FINERAN, Mrs Frances Jane 14 1926/7 FINERAN, Charles J. 14 1927/8 FINERAN, Charles J. Jnr. 14 1929/30 KNOWLES, George Albert	Lot 20 pt. 1924/5 JACKSON, Henry 20 pt. 1924/5 JACKSON, Samuel 20 pt. 1924/5 HENDERSON, Mrs Emily Maude 20 pt. 1925/6 WINDRESS, Garbutt 20 pt. 1927/8 BLACK, Leslie H. 20 pt. 1928/9 BLACK, Robert 20 pt 1929/30 BLACK, Gladys Lillian
Lot 15 1922/3 BOSKELL, Clarence Allen	Lot 19 1924/5 SCOTT, Mrs Margaret Greig
Lot 16 1922/3 SINCOCK, Simeon	Lot 18 pt. 1924/5 SCOTT, Mrs Margaret Greig Lot 18 pt. 1924/5 SINCOCK, Simeon & Maggie

1922 rates record of land owned by Walter John Thomas Vallance within Bowenvale (land owned by the Vallance Family highlighted)



The following pages are records and correspondence between Walter John Thomas Vallance and the Heathcote county Council associated with the land transaction with the establishment of the Sunvale Reserve





TELEPHONE 34-626
P.O. BOX 660

MEARES WILLIAMS HOLMES & BOOKER
BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS

G. H. HOLMES
R. E. BOOKER
J. R. WILLIAMS

AND AT AKAROA

98 Gloucester Street,
Christchurch, C.1, N.Z.

23rd June, 1950

Mr. W.J.T. Vallance,
Bowenvale Avenue,
CASHMERE

Dear Mr. Vallance,

Mr. F.W. Freeman has sent us a tracing of a further sub-division of your property comprised in Lot 1 of the Plan, the northern portion of which he informed us has been sold by you to the Heathcote County Council for the purpose of a Children's Playing Area.

We should be glad if you would kindly call and see us the next time you are in town and we will be able to discuss the matter.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours truly,

MEARES WILLIAMS HOLMES & BOOKER
per: *[Signature]*

REB:ML

Mr. W.J.T. Vallance,
Bowenvale Avenue,
CASHMERE.

IN A/C. WITH MEARES WILLIAMS HOLMES & BOOKER
SOLICITORS
CHRISTCHURCH

REB:SH

1950
June/July

YOU TO HEATHCOTE COUNTY
COUNCIL.

To our charge for perusal and approval
of Memorandum of Transfer (Consider-
ation £200) and obtaining execution.
Completing settlement giving Notices
of Sale, and attendances incidental.

2	2	-
£2	2	-

OUR BILL OF COSTS,
MEARES WILLIAMS HOLMES & BOOKER,

per: *[Signature]*
20/10/50

PAID
BY DEDUCTION
Date: 20/10/50
FILED: MEARES & HOLMES
£6

Mr. W.J.T. Vallance,
Bowenvale Avenue,
CASHMERE.

IN A/C. WITH MEARES WILLIAMS HOLMES & BOOKER
SOLICITORS
CHRISTCHURCH

1950.

STATEMENT.

August	10	By Wilding & Acland				200	-	-
Octr.	20	To Costs as per bill re Heathcote County Council	2	2	-			
	25	" Cheque you herewith for balance	197	18	-			
			£ 200	-	-	£ 200	-	-

E. & O.E.,
Christchurch,
25th. October, 1950.

Summary

- 1922: Walter John Thomas Vallance purchased part of Lot 8 in Bowenvale Avenue where a market garden was established growing tomatoes and produce
- May 1950: Heathcote County Council was looking for land to establish a playground so that the children of the local community had a safe area to play. Walter John Thomas Vallance offered a portion of his land to the Heathcote County Council.
- June 1950: Letter of intend of the transfer of a portion of the Vallance land for the Heathcote County Council to establish a playground was drafted at an agreed value of 200 pounds. The County Clerk acknowledged and thanked Walter John Thomas for his 'public spirited attitude in this matter'.
- August 1950: Transfer of ownership of the land was completed and the agreed portion of land was vested with the Heathcote County Council

We are requesting if it is possible to consider renaming Sunvale Reserve to Vallance Reserve under the Christchurch City Council Naming Policy 2023 (i.e. clauses 2.2, 3.23, 3.26, 4.29) to acknowledge and preserve the legacy of the pioneering history of the Bowenvale Valley for future generations. The renaming of the reserve would:

- recognise the public spirited attitude of the Bowenvale pioneer, Walter John Thomas Vallance: *Clause 2.1 (d)*
- reflect and acknowledge the history of Bowenvale pioneers. The Vallance Reserve would be recognised alongside the former pioneers where their names take pride within the Bowenvale community (i.e. Maurice Knowles Lane and Fineran Lane): *Clause 2.1 (e)*
- ensure that the naming of the Reserve is meaningful and identifies the connection of the pioneers with the Bowenvale Community: *Clause 2.1 (c)*

Thank you for time and we appreciate your consideration associated with this request.

Neighbourhood Building Project

Increasing participation in the community

Addington & Waltham



NEIGHBOURS
AOTEAROA

Three Shifts



NEIGHBOURS
AOTEAROA

1) New leaders emerging & growing confident



NEIGHBOURS
AOTEAROA

2) Wider variety of connection opportunities



NEIGHBOURS
AOTEAROA

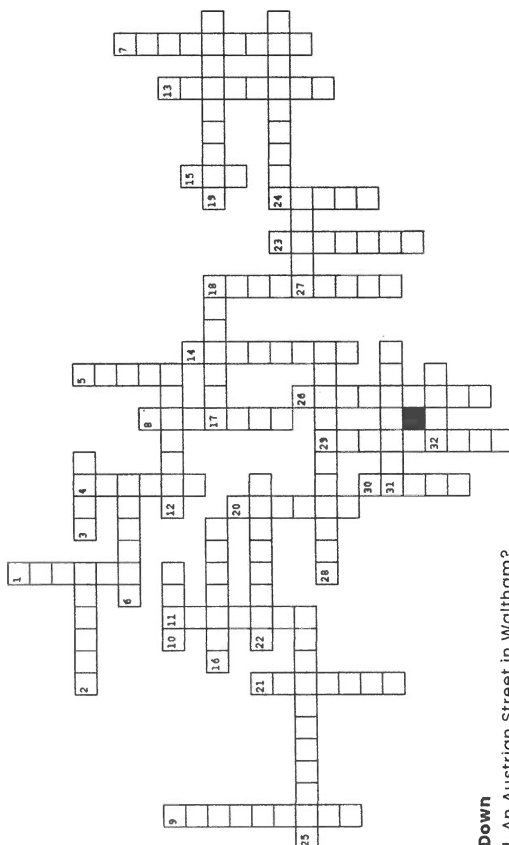
3) Wider variety of people are getting involved



NEIGHBOURS
AOTEAROA

THIS IS WALTHAM CROSSWORD

AUGUST 2025



Down

1. An Austrian Street in Waltham?
4. Flooring from this "Kingdom" company in Wilsons Rd
5. Daniel's Place
7. Not just for sick puppies (three words:2,3,4)
8. The street where the noisy donkey cuts the hay?
9. Author William "makes peace" on this Place
11. Road from Lancaster Park to Waltham Park
13. King Harold got an eyeful there in 1066
14. Reinforcing steel in Waltham Rd
15. Pumping this for a challenge in Opawa Rd
18. They work the yellow metal in this Place
20. Hollands Japanese car brand
21. Canterbury and Lapidary Club on Waltham Rd
23. Denomination of a local Christian church
24. Is this Place home for the Footrot Flats ram?

Across

26. Catholic Co-educational College
29. Sydenham community of tiny tots
30. The road to the tunnel and the boats
2. An extra "O" makes this street a fool
3. One Stop Shop
6. This social-housing complex suits Tommy 10..... at the Waltham Pool
12. Recycling op-shop
16. Our favourite suburb
17. Done at The Zone Ten-Pin
19. The park where jade was once found
22. This local business is on the Kanvas with a "K"
24. The Waltham Cottage
25. Eastern laundry doesn't do a wet wash
27. do this at Washington Park
28. The Bard's Road
31. An "Oriental" river terrace
32. Sounds like further up at Kennards

Facebook.com/whatsupwaltham

WhatsupWaltham@gmail.com

What's up, WALTHAM

August 2025

Waltham's Community Newsletter

Issue 1



WELCOME TO WALTHAM!

The Waltham Community Newsletter is a brand new, volunteer-led project that hopes to support all the things that makes our neighbourhood special.

It is coming to life thanks to a group of passionate and dedicated neighbours, with support from community-focused organisations.

Anyone who lives, works or studies in Waltham is invited to submit content for the monthly newsletter, add their events to the public

Waltham calendar and join in the fun on Facebook.

Email
WhatsupWaltham@gmail.com
for more information

CONTENTS | NGĀ IHIRANGI



Photo: The neighbours' newsletter group discusses how to get this project off the ground. L-R: Janet, Jayne, Dianne, Ron, Nancy, Kelly. Photographer: Wilby.

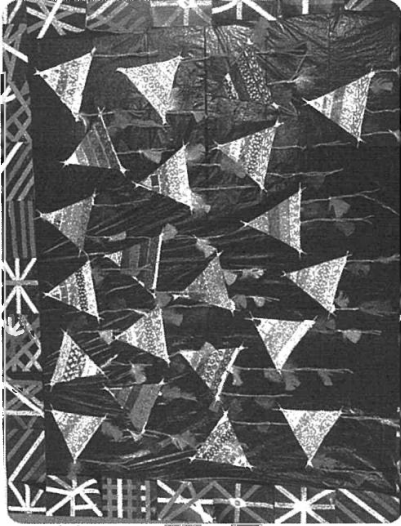
MATARIKI-INSPIRED ART



"Twinkling in the winter sky just before dawn, Matariki (the Pleiades) signals the Māori New Year."

"For Māori, the appearance of Matariki heralds a time of remembrance, joy and peace. It is a time for communities to come together and celebrate."

Read the full story by Paul Meredith at teara.govt.nz



On the 19th of June, Waltham Primary School held their yearly Matariki Celebration.

Friends and whanau came to remember the past, present and future. This included kapa Haka, Waiata, a shared breakfast and celebrating the children's artistic responses to their learning.

Here are the children's creative arts celebrating Matariki.

-BY KELLY



YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD'S FAVE RECIPES

HONEY SLICE

- 1 Cup Self Raising Flour*
 - ½ Cup Coconut
 - ½ Cup sugar
 - 2 Tbsp Honey
 - ½ Cup Chopped Dates / Sultanas etc.
 - ½ Cup Rolled Oats**
 - 1 ½ Cup Cornflakes
 - 125g Butter
 - ¼ Cup chopped Walnuts***
- Notes from Dianne**
*can substitute with GF Flour
**If Gluten intolerant can substitute with extra flour / cornflakes
***can substitute with sunflower seeds or pumpkin seeds

This recipe is easy to adjust to gluten free by using GF flour and cornflakes instead of self raising and oats.

It is great for the lunch box as-is, but for a special occasion icing makes a nice addition.

SUBMITTED BY DIANNE

Icing

- 1 Dessertspoon (2 tsp.) butter
- 2 Tbsp Lemon Juice
- 2 Cups Icing Sugar
- 1 Tbsp hot water (approx)

Steps

Melt butter & juice

Add icing sugar & enough water till required consistency. Mix well.

Steps

Combine flour, rolled oats, coconut, lightly crushed cornflakes & sugar. Mix well.

Add nuts & fruit.

In a separate bowl, melt butter and honey until mixture is combined.

Add to dry ingredients.

Press into sponge roll tin or square tin.

Bake 180 deg 25-30 minutes until golden brown.

Let cool and enjoy!



YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD'S FAVE RECIPES

WEST AFRICAN GROUNDNUT STEW

Serves 8

- 3 Tbsp. oil
- 2 lbs beef cubes, rolled in flour
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1-3 tsp. chili powder to taste*
- 4 medium-sized onions, sliced
- 1 clove of garlic, minced
- 1-2 tsp. salt, to taste**
- 3/4 cup. tomato paste
- 6 cup. water
- red pepper, if desired***
- 1/2 cup. chunky peanut butter
- 2 T. oil

Steps

In a large, heavy pot brown the beef cubes in the 3T. oil.

While browning, add the nutmeg and chili powder.

When the meat is browned, add the onions, garlic, tomato, water, salt, and red pepper. Simmer until meat is tender (I let it go 1 1/2 hours).

A half hour before serving, heat the peanut butter and 2 T. oil together in a small saucepan for 5 minutes, stirring. Slowly add the peanut butter mixture to the stew and simmer over low heat for 20 minutes.

Check for salt. Serve over rice.

May be served with curry condiments, such as peanuts, sunflower seeds, coconut, chopped scallions/onions, chopped tomatoes, diced fruit, etc.

Notes from Janet

*the original recipe calls for 1 tablespoon but I'm a wimp so I used 1 tsp, you may want more

** the original recipe does not call for any added salt, but I think it needs it.

***I recommend 1/4-1/2 tsp. to start, unless you love spicy food

"The following recipe is from the More with Less Cookbook by Doris Janzen Longacre which is a collection of suggestions by Mennonites on how to eat better and consume less of the world's limited food resources

"This version is from eggandtwig.com and I have added my own edits."

SUBMITTED BY JANET

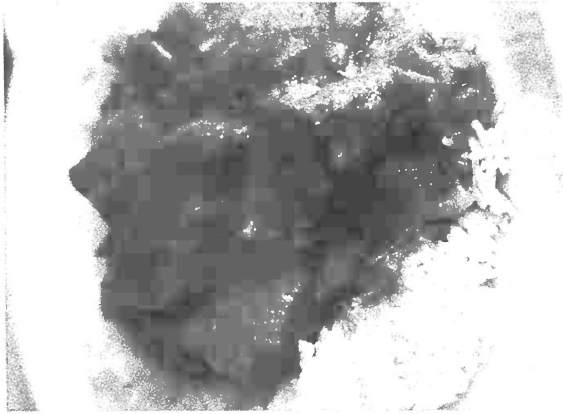
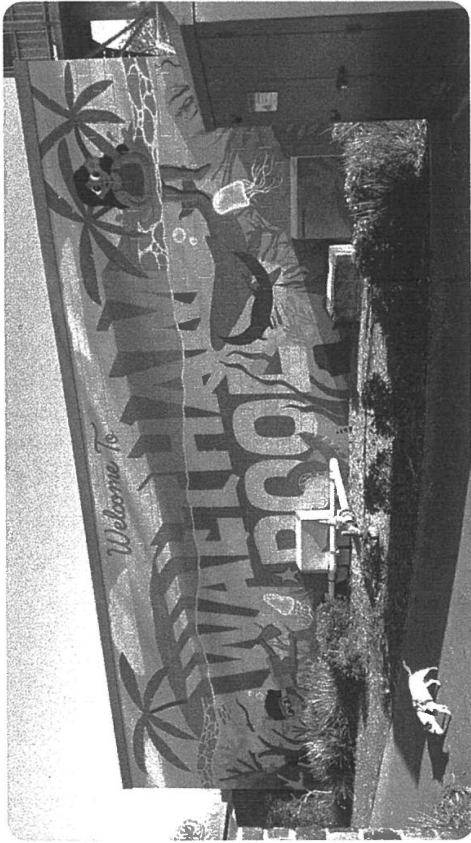


Photo: eggandtwig.com

MAKING A SPLASH

YOITSKOPHIE.COM



Kophie Hulsbosch - AKA MEEP - is a Christchurch-based artist whose work spreads across a diverse range of fields, including graphic design, illustration, painting, graffiti, and clothing design.

This output is heavily influenced by hip-hop culture, low-brow art, and the issue of sustainability.

A past pupil of Waltham Primary School, she has also done some amazing wall art in the school grounds behind the admin block.

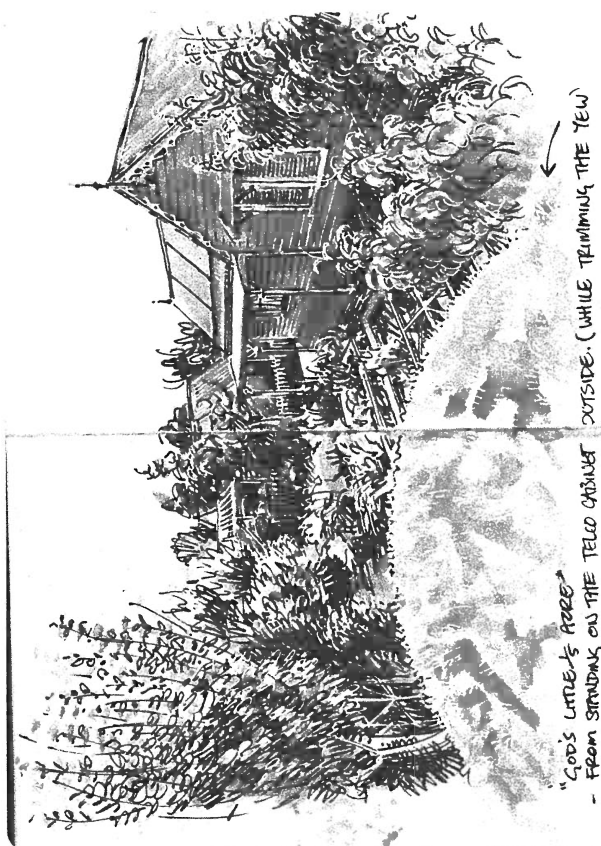
Thank you so much for brightening up Waltham Kophie!

Here she is earlier this year rolling on the base coat for her fantastic new mural on the pump shed of the Waltham Swimming Pool.

-BY RON



FOR ART'S SAKE



"God's little house"
- from Stroud on the Tello Cabaret

"This place is on the corner of Vienna and Hasting St East, built about 1870 shortly after the original English vicar owned farm was subdivided into small lots for worker accommodation."
- RON



Photo left: "Feelin' cute, might bite later"

Taken at Willowbank Wildlife Reserve by Nancy

Photo right: A fresh afternoon - the perfect weather for social sports in the park.

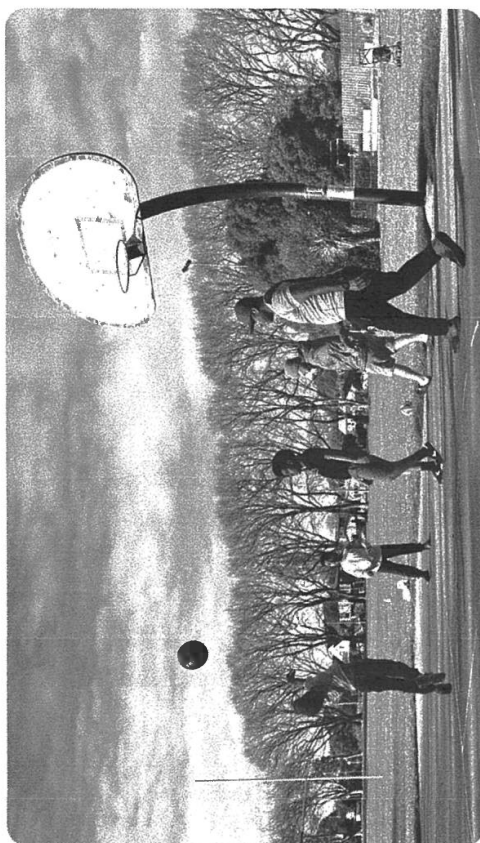
By Jess.



Whārangī 9

Page 9

SOCIAL SPORTS SUNDAYS



Some amazing residents have worked together to create "Sports Sundays" in Waltham Park.

Neighbours are now working together to turn it into a regular Sunday activity - at least when it's not raining!

It started with an awesome community basketball tournament, which then sparked a casual community kick-about.

Everyone is invited to bring their favourite sports games, with football/soccer*, basketball and ultimate frisbee being enjoyed so far!



The little ones took great delight in knocking over the cones with the footballs!



Whārangī 4

Page 4

FOR ART'S SAKE

THE SILENT GIFT

Lina loved the quiet mornings on the farm. Before the world fully woke up, the sky would blush with soft pinks, and the wind would carry the scent of dew and earth. It was her favorite time to walk barefoot through the fields, a warm mug in her hands and peace in her heart. But this morning was different. The ground gave a sudden, low rumble beneath her feet.

The still air cracked with a deep roar. Lina looked up just in time to see a brilliant streak of light tear across the sky. It moved faster than anything she'd ever seen, crashing down at the far end of the field with a blinding flash and a deep thud.

She froze, staring at the rising plume of smoke. Then, heart racing, she ran. What she found at the edge of the field stole her breath? A trench had been carved into the earth, scorched and steaming. At the end of it lay a massive diamond cut so perfectly it looked like it belonged in a museum, not a muddy farm. It was enormous, taller than her father's old tractor and wide enough to shade a small house. The sunlight hit its surface and danced in a hundred tiny rainbows.

People came quickly. Scientists, reporters, even police. Everyone had questions, but no one had answers. The diamond wouldn't budge. It hummed gently when approached,

and a soft glow shimmered just beneath its surface, like a heartbeat made of light. But Lina didn't care about the cameras or the noise. Each day at sunset, after the crowds died down, she'd sit nearby and talk to it.

She told it about her mother, who had passed two springs ago. About how the seasons changed the rhythm of the land. About how sometimes she felt invisible in the big, noisy world.

The diamond never answered. But it always listened.

Then one evening, as golden light spilled over the horizon, the gem pulsed brightly. Lina stepped forward, placed a hand on its smooth surface, and whispered, "Thank you for listening. And for choosing my field." With that, the diamond shimmered then vanished. No flash, no sound. Just gone. In its place, where grass had never grown, bloomed a perfect circle of wildflowers. Reds, blues, golds colors she'd never even seen before. The scientists called it unexplainable. The reporters moved on.

But Lina knew the truth. The gift had never been about treasure. It had been about being heard.

BY TARA, YR 8

COME PLAY WITH US!

ALL AGES
ALL ABILITIES
ALL WELCOME

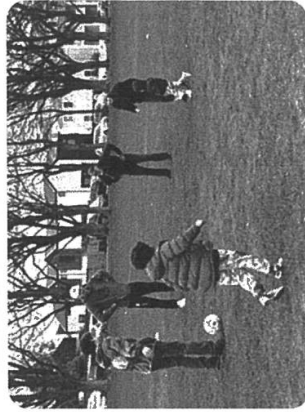
Sundays 1:30pm*

Waltham Park

*weather dependant

Did you know?

While many assume "soccer" is an American invention, the term actually originated in England — as a slang shortening of "association football."



Thanks to everyone who has given energy to this idea.

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Whārangī 8

WOOSH: BEYOND THE BELL



Photo: Three of the incredible WOOSH staff Pam, Theresa and Darcy

Children were at a loose end on the streets of Waltham in 1991, and so an afterschool programme was set up.

-BY RON

At the time every child in Waltham School was enrolled and able to attend for a gold coin (if they had it).

The local Community Board came to the party and staffs were employed. WOOSH supported standards and accreditation for the OSCAR sector, and became pivotal in guiding other providers in best practice.

WOOSH won an Aotearoa wide award for its quality practice with tamariki and their whanau.



Waltham Out of School Hours

BEFORE SCHOOL, AFTER SCHOOL AND HOLIDAY CHILDCARE

WOOSH caters for children from 5 – 14 years of age, running from the Lapidary Club, beside Waltham School every morning and afternoon in term time, and 9 weeks of Holiday Programmes each year. The long-standing staffs are all local people who are trained in child development, child protection, health and safety and who hold first aid certification (just in case).

WOOSH runs a range of activities meeting physical, social, intellectual, creative and educational needs of children, and follows the Te Whāriki curriculum which is structured around five interconnected strands; Mana atua (Wellbeing), Mana whenua (Belonging), Mana tangata (Contribution), Mana reo (Communication), and Mana aotūroa (Exploration).

WOOSH welcomes all children and their whanau

-FACEBOOK.COM/OUTOFSCHOOLCARE

PET OF THE MONTH

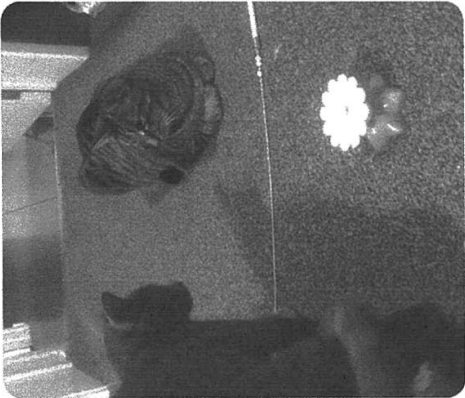
AUGUST 2025

I would like to share my two favourite furry family members, Tinker and Jonny.

Both are rescues and indoor felines. 3yr old Tinker, a large, shy but loveable girl. She enjoys spending time in the outdoor catio area and demanding treats as often as she can.

Jonny a very recent addition, is 14 months young and is slowly coming out of his shell. He has a very chilled temperament and an appetite of a lion.

Both of them are bonding nicely and are causing chaos throughout the early hours of the morning.



Thank you, Kelly,
for sharing your
furry family with
us!



Submit your pet for September!
Email whatsupwaltham@gmail.com



Community Parks Rolling Renewal

Presenter:

Bridie Gibbings, Manager Operations – Community
Parks Development

What is the rolling renewal program

- Renewal funding is capital expenditure used to replace or refurbish assets and maintain existing levels of service.
- It **does not cover asset upgrades**, routine maintenance, or new developments.
- Budgets are set through the Long-Term Plan (LTP) process.
- Funding is generally allocated by asset type within different park categories, for example:
 - Regional Parks Planned Building Renewals
 - Community Parks Buildings, Green Asset Renewals

7/23/2025

How do we determine what is renewed

- Staff monitor asset condition and performance, prioritising renewals based on life expectancy, condition, and replacement costs.
- Assets are typically renewed at the end of their useful life.
- Renewal programmes are split into specific projects or three-year delivery packages, reviewed annually to reflect changing priorities. The **first year is fixed** due to committed work, while years two and three allow some flexibility to swap projects, though new items cannot be added within the existing budget.

7/23/2025

How do we determine what is renewed

The following factors guide the prioritisation of the renewal programmes:

- **Asset condition:** Priority is given to assets in the worst condition (rated 4 or 5).
- **Safety:** Assets that present safety risks are addressed first.
- **Community Use and Demand:** Frequency and type of use are considered.
- **Asset Criticality:** The asset's importance to park operations and the broader park network.
- **Cost of Renewal:** Feasibility and funding availability.
- **Project Alignment:** Coordination with other planned projects may impact the timing.
- **Asset Age:** Lifecycle stage and remaining useful life.
- **Legal Requirements:** Compliance with relevant regulations.

7/23/2025



Example A – Green Asset Renewal

- Before – Bare patches in garden, weeds and dead plants
- After – Infill planting to bulk up garden bed, fresh soil and garden mulch



Example B – Playground Renewal

- Before – Old play equipment, showing signs of rust with limited accessibility and play elements
- After – New accessible equipment that meets modern safety standards

