

## Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

This year has been one of steady, practical progress for the Thorndon Residents' Association (TRA). Guided by our Constitution, particularly our objectives to **improve local amenities, strengthen community, provide information, represent residents, and co-operate with aligned groups** (Constitution, Objectives 2.1–2.5), the Association has continued to advocate for Thorndon and Pipitea with purpose and persistence.

### 1. Improving amenities and facilities (Objective 2.1)

Throughout the year, the TRA worked closely with Wellington City Council (WCC), Wellington Water, and other agencies to address issues affecting daily life in our neighbourhood. Examples include:

- Ongoing engagement with WCC on **Botanic Garden parking changes**, including multiple meetings with officers and councillors.
- Advocacy on **traffic safety**, including Murphy St/Molesworth St, Tinakori Rd/Thorndon Quay signal issues, Davis Street/Thorndon Quay intersection safety, and requests for post-construction audits.
- Active involvement in **Variable Speed Limit (VSL)** proposals around Queen Margaret College and St Mary's College, including submissions and on-site walk-throughs (January–March).
- Raising questions about proposed **Murphy Street wastewater interceptor works**, ensuring residents and schools were informed and consulted.
- Engagement with WCC to re-engineer **stormwater overflow** at the bottom of St Mary Street; issues arose after the installation of a raised pedestrian courtesy crossing.

These engagements reflect our commitment to ensuring Thorndon's infrastructure remains safe, functional, and resident-centred.

### 2. Encouraging a sense of community (Objective 2.2)

Community connection remains a core part of our work. This year we:

- Delivered **seasonal newsletters** (Autumn, Winter, Spring, Summer), keeping residents informed and connected. We greatly appreciate the volunteers who assist in this.
- Co-ordinated on a **public forum with mayoral candidates**, enabling residents to hear directly from those seeking office.
- Supported the **Friends of Queen's Park** and encouraged participation in regular working bees/gatherings.
- Continued to maintain and improve the **Emergency Response webpage**, ensuring residents have clear and up-to-date guidance in a crisis.

These activities help maintain Thorndon's strong neighbourhood identity and sense of belonging.

### 3. Providing information about Thorndon (Objective 2.3)

The TRA continued to act as a trusted source of local information:

- Updates to members on issues, road closures, or safety concerns.
- Guidance to residents and local organisations on resource consents, parking issues, and council processes.
- Improvements to our **Google Workspace platform**, including new Super Admins to ensure continuity and security.

Our aim is to ensure residents have timely, accurate information about matters that could affect them.

#### 4. Representing residents' views to council and government (Objective 2.4)

Advocacy remains a major part of the TRA's work. This year we:

- Made submissions on **traffic resolutions, Variable Speed Limits**, and the **Planning Bill**, including concerns about the removal of character precinct protections.
- Raised concerns at WCC CEO and senior leadership team levels, including infrastructure and roading issues.
- Engaged directly with councillors across various issues, including Cr Young, Cr Pannett, Cr Calvert, Cr Free, Cr Randle, and Cr Tiefenbacher.
- Worked with the Thorndon Quay Collective to escalate safety issues and joined them at meetings with senior WCC leadership, and more recently the Mayor.
- Provided evidence and FIXiT submissions on cycle-vehicle conflict zones, sharrows, and pedestrian safety.

These efforts ensure the views of Thorndon residents are heard clearly and consistently, as required by the Constitution (Objective 2.4).

#### 5. Co-operating with aligned organisations (Objective 2.5)

The TRA continued to collaborate with groups whose objectives align with ours:

- Ongoing engagement with **Queen Margaret College, St Mary's College, Wellington Girls' College**, and **Thorndon Primary School**.
- Participation in **WRAN** (Wellington Residents' Association Network) meetings throughout the year.
- Collaboration with the **Thorndon Society**, including encouraging submissions on the Planning Bill and heritage issues.
- Joint advocacy with the **AA** on Thorndon Quay and other traffic issues.
- Participation with **LIVE WELLington**; advocacy for a liveable city by design.

These partnerships strengthen our collective voice and improve outcomes for the community.

#### 6. Governance and administration

Your Committee met regularly throughout the year, as required by the Constitution (Clause 5.7).

We also:

- Maintained membership above the statutory minimum (Clause 5.6.7).
- Continued to manage finances prudently, in line with Clause 8.4: "*The funds of the Association shall be used solely for the objectives of the Association.*"
- Responded to ad-hoc public inquiries and actively supported residents navigating issues.

#### Financial summary for the year

- **Income:** \$1,960
  - \$1,000 WCC Social & Recreation Fund grant
  - \$840 subscriptions
  - \$120 donations
- **Expenditure:** \$1,307
  - Including \$862 for IT support/hosting
- **Cash surplus:** \$653
- **Closing balance:** \$6,111

These results reflect careful stewardship and ensure the Association remains in a strong position to support its objectives.

#### Conclusion

This has been a year of sustained advocacy, practical problem-solving, and community connection. The TRA remains committed to representing the interests of Thorndon/Pipitea residents with integrity, clarity, and persistence.

We extend our sincere thanks to:

**All Committee members** for their commitment and steady governance.

**Melissa (Secretary)** and **Roger (Treasurer)** for their significant contributions throughout the year.

**Anita**, from i4websitedesign, who manages our site with care and professionalism.

**Maxine**, who manages our Facebook presence and community engagement.

**Chrissy**, for coordinating & editing the newsletter

**Our volunteers**, including newsletter deliverers and those supporting community events.

**Tommy's Real Estate**, for their ongoing support.

**The Backbencher Gastropub**, which provides us with discounted venue support.

**WCC's Social & Recreation Fund**, whose grant helps sustain our operations.

**Residents, businesses, councillors, schools, and partner organisations** who have worked with us to improve outcomes for Thorndon and Pipitea.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our work this year.

**Richard Murcott**

Chair

28 April 2026

<https://www.thorndon.org.nz/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ThorndonResidentsAssociation>