

### A YEAR OF ADVOCACY AND ACTION FOR THORNDON AND PIPITEA 2024-2025

Over the past year, we've been busy making sure our community's voice is heard. From local projects to city planning, we've spoken up, pushed for consultation, and worked to keep decisions practical and people-focused.

It's been a busy year!! Here are some highlights of how we've been working to keep Thorndon and Pipitea safe, connected, and heard:

**Thorndon Quay:** Backed the Thorndon Collective in a lively meeting with Council staff over ongoing project issues.

**Stormwater Surprise:** A sump clean in Hobson St went sideways, sparking a Council investigation into wider drainage and maintenance issues in the area.

**What's Under the Road Matters Too:** We raised concerns about flashy upgrades to Thorndon Quay while underground infrastructure is left wanting.

**Hill Street Speed Bumps:** Locals called them "scars from the war on cars." Thanks to feedback, modifications were made.

**Bus Stop Battle:** We challenged the removal of the Sar Street stop on Hutt Road—consultation was lacking and we let WCC know.

**Pavement Art Meets Local Knowledge:** WCC installed art-work marking an old stream—but residents had different evidence. A reminder of why good consultation matters.

**St Mary Street Flooding:** A new courtesy crossing has created stormwater issues—still unresolved. We're keeping the pressure on.



**Queen's Park Boost:** Helped shape a funding bid for improvements through the George Denton Trust.

**Tinakori Road Safety:** Raised concerns over slippery painted surfaces, backed up with great video evidence—thanks Nimesh, Thorndon General Store!

**WCC's Regulatory Processes:** Submitted concerns on inadequate consultation.

**Engaged with residents:** Balanced parking solution for Glenmore St & Tinakori Rd near the Botanic Garden.

**Ombudsman:** Provided feedback on WCC transparency and LGOIMA processes.

**Walkabout:** Assessing Botanic Garden access options with Crs Free & Calvert.

**Communication:** Published Summer Newsletter, updated website and Facebook.

**LGOIMA:** Logged a request on stormwater flows (St Mary St); no overflow calculations revealed by WCC in the face of evidence.

**Challenged:** Utilising evidence challenged the 6-week one-way traffic proposal for Davis St, leading to detour cancellation, local knowledge transfer and design modification.

**Road safety concerns:** Submitted feedback to WCC on Molesworth St, Murphy St & Mulgrave St changes.

**Raised issues:** Tinakori Rd traffic mismanagement affecting Cottleville Terrace.

**Represented Thorndon:** Wellington Residents' Associations Network meetings.

Wellington City Council  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

**Puka Tuihono FIXiT**  
FIXiT

If you come across a problem with graffiti, parking, street lights, water & drainage, street cleaning, issues on a road or footpath, noise, or something else, you can report the details using WCC's FIXiT app. on your phone or by using the form at <https://services.wellington.govt.nz/report/>

The app allows photos, pinning the location on a map, and room for a meaningful description of the problem. We encourage all residents to download and use this app.

## BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING: VOLUNTEERING CONNECTS YOU TO OTHERS

**"VOLUNTEERS DO NOT JUST DO THE WORK; THEY MAKE IT WORK." - CAROL PETTIT.**

### The Power of Volunteering: How Giving Back Benefits You and Your Community

One of the greatest advantages of volunteering is the positive impact it has on the community. Volunteers are often the backbone of a thriving society, helping to bring people together and support those in need. Whether it's a small act of kindness or a dedicated commitment, volunteering allows you to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. But the benefits go both ways—giving your time not only helps the cause you support, but it also enriches your own life. It's a chance to meet new people, expand your social network, and develop valuable skills.

### Building Friendships and Connections

Volunteering is a fantastic way to form new friendships and strengthen existing ones. Working together toward a shared goal fosters connections and creates a sense of belonging. This is especially valuable if you're new to a community, as it helps you build relationships, discover local resources, and engage in fun, fulfilling activities with like-minded people.

### Mental and Physical Health Benefits

Volunteering doesn't just help others—it also boosts your overall well-being in several ways:

**Increases self-confidence** – Giving back fosters a sense of purpose, accomplishment, and pride. The more you contribute to a cause, the more fulfilled and optimistic you'll feel about your own life and goals.

**Combats depression** – Social isolation is a major risk factor for depression, but volunteering keeps you connected and supported. Building strong relationships through volunteer work can reduce stress and provide emotional stability, especially in tough times.

**Improves physical health** – Studies show that volunteers, particularly older adults, experience lower mortality rates and improved health outcomes. Volunteering has been linked to reduced symptoms of chronic pain and heart disease, proving that helping others can also help you stay healthier.

### The Happiness Effect

Many studies highlight the link between generosity and happiness. Research from the London School of Economics found that people who volunteer regularly are significantly happier than those who don't. The study revealed that volunteering monthly increases the likelihood of being "very happy" by 7%, while those who volunteer every two to four weeks see a 12% boost. Simply put, the more you give, the more joy you receive.

### Passion and Positivity Are All You Need

When it comes to volunteering, your enthusiasm and willingness to make a difference matter more than anything else. Whether you have an hour a week or a few days a month, your efforts can leave a lasting impact—on both the community and yourself. So why not start today?

(Kindly shared with permission from GSA)

## Joining the TRA helps support our community work

<https://www.thorndon.org.nz/join-us/>

Published quarterly by Thorndon Residents' Association & distributed throughout Thorndon and Pipitea. Proudly supported by Tommy's Real Estate. Email [contact@thorndon.org.nz](mailto:contact@thorndon.org.nz) with comments, suggestions or advertising.

## NEW HERITAGE CAMPUS

Relocation of staff into the new Archives New Zealand building on the corner of Mulgrave and Aitken Streets signals the Heritage Campus coming to life and the transition of holdings to their new home.

Due to the immense scale of the move, access to holdings will be affected during the transition period. This will also impact the Wellington reading rooms at Archives New Zealand and the National Library.

Closer collaboration and shared spaces are a key benefit of the new Heritage Campus. A shared reading room service, located in the National Library building, would be one of the ways Archives New Zealand and the National Library will work together.

As part of preparations for moving into the new archival building, Archives New Zealand's Wellington reading room will be closed all of July and August 2025.

From 1 September 2025, public access to Archives New Zealand, Wellington holdings will be available through the Katherine Mansfield Reading Room (KMRR) on level 1 of the National Library.

The Judith Binney Room will be transformed into a secure hold out space — connected to the KMRR — for Archive New Zealand's Wellington holdings. An issues desk will be shared in the KMRR and the research and reference desk in the General Reading Room.



**MUSICAL PUNCH OVER LUNCH: WINTER  
CONCERT SERIES AT OLD ST PAULS,  
34 MULGRAVE ST, PIPITEA**

The musical offerings are diverse and begin on 8 May – 24 July 2025.

Concerts commence at 12.30pm – 1.15pm. Entry by donation. Bring your lunch.

A list of the concerts can be found at

<https://www.visitheritage.co.nz/whats-on/wellington>

**TGIF LUNCHTIME CONCERTS: WELLINGTON  
CATHEDRAL OF ST PAUL, CNR HILL AND  
MOLESWORTH STREETS**

Concerts commence at 12.45pm, every Friday from February 2025 to December 2025. There are some Fridays where concerts are not scheduled due to the Cathedral's other calendar commitments.

Entry by donation. Food is not permitted.

A list of concerts can be found at

<https://www.wellingtoncathedral.org.nz/tgif>

**CALENDAR REMINDERS**

**Friends of Queens Park**

Sunday 18 May, Saturday 14 June, Sunday 20 July, Saturday 30 August

10AM – 12 Noon weather permitting. Meet near the top of the Park Street steps. All very welcome; just turn up. See more here:

<https://www.thorndon.org.nz/queens-park-a-forgotten-gem/>

**Thorndon Farmers' Market**

8.30 – 12.30 every Saturday

Wellington Cathedral car park, 2 Hill Street

**HELP QMC BRING A LIFE-SAVING AED TO  
THORNDON – QUEEN OF HEARTS!**



**PROGRESSIVE, IT'S OUR TRADITION**

Every second counts in a cardiac emergency. That's why students from Queen Margaret College are fundraising to install a publicly accessible automated external defibrillator (AED) on Hobson Street, right outside the college, for the Thorndon community.

Led by Year 13 student Madeleine Wilson, and in partnership with Embracing Hearts and Wellington Free Ambulance, this AED provides lifesaving support for someone's friend, neighbour, or loved one. The students have made amazing progress in raising funds, but they need your help to reach the finish line.

Please consider donating online at

<https://ft.qmc.school.nz/#queenofhearts>

and together we can support our community.

**WELLINGTON GIRLS' COLLEGE  
COURT COVERS**



Work has progressed on the installation of a large canopy over the college's sports courts adjacent to Moturoa St.



**FEEDBACK - ROADING IN THORNDON/PIPITEA**

Since 2023 the suburb has experienced significant change to parts of its roading infrastructure; kerbside parking, carriageway layouts, cycle lanes, bus stops, intersections, pedestrian crossings, etc.

How are these working for you? What's working well? What's not? Any suggestions? Please be invited to share thoughts with the Association.

Email: [contact@thorndon.org.nz](mailto:contact@thorndon.org.nz)



**BECOME A MEMBER AT [WWW.THORNDON.ORG.NZ](http://WWW.THORNDON.ORG.NZ)**



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Newman Terrace, Thorndon

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Thorndon Specialist



We featured this property in the last Thorndon Residents Newsletter, on behalf of the vendor and myself thank you for your help getting it **SOLD**.

**Well qualified buyers missed out on this property.**

**I have two qualified buyers who want to buy in Thorndon!**

If you would like to discuss this opportunity in a confidential / no obligation manner, please contact Barry O'Brien on 021 969 808 or email [barry@tommys.co.nz](mailto:barry@tommys.co.nz).

**Barry O'Brien**  
The Peoples Agent



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