



New era for Ōmokoroa community policing

By Matthew Farrell

The umbrella group which oversees Community Patrol and Neighbourhood Support in Ōmokoroa has farewelled three stalwart members.

Glenn Whittaker, Carol Dodd and Tony Hawkins have given a combined 27 years of volunteer service to peninsula residents through the award-winning Ōmokoroa Community Policing Group Charitable Trust.

They were each presented with a memento at the Trust's well-attended AGM on Sunday 21st July, marking the appreciation of the community for all the work they have done in establishing and growing the OCPG into the organisation it is today.

"What you have achieved here was ahead of its time and is a model for other areas," said Senior Constable Jennie Wright - the area's community police officer 12 years ago.

"A resilient community responds to Police and doesn't tolerate crime. High standards in society can't be maintained without people like the three of you," said the current Tauranga community officer, Senior Constable Paul Wrigley.

"It says a lot that you go out there, sometimes in the

dark, to keep your area safe. Without these key people in communities, Police wouldn't be as effective as we are," said Senior Sergeant Eddie Lyttle.

Glenn Whittaker recalled the lack of response to a 111 call following a knifepoint robbery of the Beach Store which led to the formation of the community patrol.

"The idea wouldn't have worked if people hadn't volunteered. Thank you for everybody's efforts," said Glenn. Mayor Garry Webber said Glenn had a happy knack of putting people in places they didn't know they were going.

OCPG organises Police Information Centre volunteers at the Ōmokoroa Library and Service Centre. Two new PIC volunteers are required.

The trust also manages a Graffiti Busters reporting service which liaises with the District Council contractors to get tagging removed speedily.

There are now approximately 200 volunteers including six new trustee appointments and a growing committee including new Community Patrol team leader Matthew Farrell, Jim Boyes as co-ordinator of the PIC and Graffiti Busters, and Cathy Taylor who coordinates Neighbourhood Support with Annabelle Reyes. For more details see Page 29. ■

Give us a sign



L-R: Neighbourhood Support volunteers Cathy Taylor, Noel Benstead and Annabel Reyes check out the new branding materials.

By Matthew Farrell, Lizard News

Neighbourhood Support New Zealand has a colourful new logo, and Ōmokoroa has been chosen as a flagship community to launch the rebranding in Western Bay of Plenty.

The design features a nod to the country's emergency services partners, and a better representation of neighbours, members and supporters who make up the growing organisation.

"The bright colours reflect the positivity and energy created when people work together to create safer, caring communities. New Zealanders want to be part of neighbourhoods where people know and support each other. Increasing numbers of people say they feel isolated or lonely. Knowing you are part of a neighbourhood that looks out for each other helps people feel more connected," says Neighbourhood Support NZ CEO, Tess Casey.

All street signs and letterbox stickers will eventually be replaced. Ōmokoroa coordinator Cathy Taylor (021 704 686) feels peninsula residents are fortunate to have been offered an exciting opportunity to launch the rebranding in the district. For more details see Page 29 and read more next month. ■



L-R: OCPGCT chair Pat Harrison, Senior Sergeant Eddie Lyttle, Glenn Whittaker, Tony Hawkins, Carol Dodd, Senior Constable Jennie Wright, Senior Constable Paul Wrigley. PHOTO: Matthew Farrell.

Welcome to

anebike

Your Electric Bike Specialist



powered by **BOSCH**

NZ's favourite Rail Trail eBike - The Moustache X-Road

Developed by Moustache for us in here in NZ, the **Xroad** with its combination of mountain bike tyres and urban comfort, is our biggest seller and is now a huge hit in Germany & France. **These sell out fast - Order Now!**

MOUSTACHE

the smiling machines from France

Anebike has the largest range of Moustache eBikes

Why is Moustache the most sought after eBike in NZ?

- the smartest eBikes designed from the ground up and assembled in France
- ergonomics for supreme comfort thanks to top international bike designer Emmanuel Antonot
- powered by the reliable, powerful and efficient **Bosch** eBike system
- large range from chic urban rides to smashing downhill mountain machines
- since 2013, Moustache customers have enjoyed exemplary product support with service & parts ex New Zealand - not off-shore like so many other brands.



JUST LANDED.

Moustache Xroad in Full Suspension!



The ultimate NZ Rail Trail electric bike now has even more comfort. The new Xroad FS models have air suspension front AND rear for a truly luxurious ride. Those suffering from back or wrist pain need not look any further than these magnificent comfort bikes. Please call to book a time and ride one of these exclusive electric bikes.

anebike.co.nz

Welcome to Anebike (pronounced an-e-bike)

The simplest way of learning what an e-bike can do for you is by demonstration. Once you've ridden an e-bike, you'll experience first hand, "What A Difference Anebike Makes"

call 07 570 0217
or text 0277 871577
email anebike@xtra.co.nz