



## **Annual General Meeting – 28 January 2024**

### **Chairperson's Report**

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Albert Town Community Association, especially our local body representatives of QLDC and UC Wanaka Community Board.

2023 has been an extremely busy year for ATCA and what has been achieved is due to the hard work by the Committee. Like good cheese and wine, some things take time, and at times I feel that things don't move fast enough but have to understand that determination and tenacity does eventually bring results, even though the pace may seem to be frustratingly slow.

Our projects this year include –

Getting the foundations for rubbish bins outside the commercial premises – I sincerely hope the rubbish bins are going to follow very soon. Thanks Lyal for your efforts in this.

Gunn Road Bike Park – planting done and irrigation installed and park upgraded. Project done in conjunction with Bike Wanaka and Te Kakano.

ATCA website has been revamped and will be regularly updated. Thanks to Steph Johnson and Abbie Barnes for their time and effort.

Adopt a Drain project – Run in conjunction with Wai Wanaka. The run off from the gutter is saved into a sieve and then analysed to understand what is entering our waterways. Tania and her daughter Jess have undertaken this project.

Three additional historical plaques – two marking the punt sites and the third at Deans Bank. More are planned for the future and thanks to Bruce for running with this project.

We surveyed the young people in Albert Town. It was fantastic to hear what they like about the town they live in. We are looking at installing a bus shelter for the MAC students in Allison Avenue.

Irrigation system at the lower lagoon was completed and has made a big difference to the health of the plantings of native and orchard trees. Chris Aspinall has worked hard on this project.

The predator trapping programme at the lower lagoon continues and the upper lagoon is now trapped. In total predators caught is 111 rats, 24 possums, 65 hedgehogs, 1 ferret and 5 mice at the lower lagoon and 6 rats and 6 mice from the upper lagoon in the short time it has been operating.

And the very popular Christmas Party in the Park. This takes a lot of work from all of the committee led by Sue Grant.

As well as these projects we ran a Safer Streets community meeting in conjunction with UC Wanaka Community Board. This was in response to Gunn Road and Allison Ave residents concerned about traffic speeds. Traffic safety is a concern throughout Albert Town streets. However, I would add that

the new roundabout on SH6 in conjunction with the lights on the bridge are generally working well and the pain is worth the gain.

Submitting RFS's to QLDC is a never ending task – broom eradication, uneven footpaths, McMurdo Park irrigation problems, overgrown footpaths, rubbish and dog poo bin requests, extending the footpath in McMurdo Park, overgrown trees obscuring visibility on streets fill in the time quite nicely.

Noisy neighbours have been a problem in two streets in Albert Town over several months and ATCA have worked with some of these very frustrated residents and also liaised with the Police and noise control to help the situation.

We are working with the new management of Riverside Park to come to a suitable arrangement for a community building. I see it as a “wine and cheese project” but where there is a will, there is a way.

Planning for a two way bridge across the river is becoming a priority and will be high on the list when we meet the Mayor and CEO next month. Also, the entranceway to Albert Town and the verges. Both these projects need to be addressed with Transit but we will persevere.

ATCA has chosen not to get involved in the MacDonalds discussion. We believe this to be a matter of personal choice whether you shop there even though the proposed location is not ideal. Only one local person has commented on their concerns about the proposal to us.

Thank you to Wanaka Lions who regularly donate \$500 to ATCA and to Te Hau Toka Southern Lakes Wellbeing for donating \$1,000 for Party in the Park. Also to the residents who donate to us. We sincerely thank you for your support. Stuart does a great job being Treasurer. Thanks also to Harcourts for doing printing for us.

A massive thank you to Steph who does our newsletter for us. You are an absolute gem. Also, to the ATCA committee who work so hard and are always willing to take on new projects. You should all be proud of your contribution to community.

Diana Manson from Parks and Reserves at QLDC is so supportive of ATCA's work. Thank you Diana.

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Sue is stepping down as Vice Chair after five years in the role and on committee for a total of ten years. You are a great community worker Sue and I really value your honest opinions on everything and also your hospitality hosting meetings.

Ed is stepping down this year. Thanks Ed, particularly for your lagoon and trapping work and to your family for supporting lagoon workdays.

Tom is stepping down as Minute Secretary. Thank you Tom for your work especially considering a new little one arrived during the year.

Lyal Cocks is our valued QLDC rep on ATCA. Lyal is a real get it done person who really walks the talk. Thank you Lyal.

And again, thank you Stu for supporting me in my ATCA work. I can't do it without you.

