



Photo: Horsesham Downs Community Hall Committee, winner of The Celia Wade-Brown award for community 'can-do'.

## Congratulations to the Winners of the Golden Foot Awards 2010!



The Golden Foot Awards were held on August 1st in Wellington, with the awards presented by Fran Wilde, chair of Wellington regional council. The evening highlighted innovation, creativity, clever use of technology, behaviour change theories and sheer determination to achieve the goal of greater walking conditions, and more people choosing to walk.

This year has seen great developments for walking, with improved walking facilities, more organised programmes to provide motivation and support, and projects to improve safety and confidence.

Judges remarked at the difficulty of their task, with notably high calibre finalists, however winners were chosen, and they were:

**Whakatane City Council** - Best Practice Walking Facility award for the Warren Cole Walk and Cycle Way. **Nelson City Council** won the award for Top Commitment to Walking by an Organisation. **Cycle Aware Wellington** took the Best Walking Promotion for their Cruise the Waterfront project and the Best Small Walking Project Award went to **Sport Bay of Plenty** for Green Prescription Mt Challenge.

*continued on back page...*

## Local Body Elections – what you can do for walking ...

This year we all have the chance to vote for our local Councillors for the next three years. Voting papers are sent out in September, with results announced on 9th October.

Below are some ways you can do your bit to make sure that the people making the decisions that affect our local communities have walking high on their agenda:

1. Ensure you and your friends send back your voting papers before midday on 9th October.
2. Find out which candidates support walking, cycling and public transport, and vote for them
3. Go to candidates' meetings, write letters to editors, post on facebook, twitter etc and raise transport and walking as election issues.

### Great questions to ask candidates:

1. What are your transport policies?
2. What have you done, and what will you do, to make our town more walking-friendly?
3. Do you support safer speed limits in shopping and residential streets?
4. If your Council uses STV, remember only to vote for the candidates you want to see elected. Ranking all the candidates could help a candidate you don't want!

## New Faces on Living Streets Executive Council

The AGM was well attended by members and interested delegates from the Walking Conference. Three new members were elected on to the Executive Council to replace retiring members Carina Duke, Grant Schofield and Nina Arron. We welcome Meg Christie, who works at the Canterbury District Health

Board, Willemijn Varmaat, who works at Victoria University, and Chris Teo-Sherrell, a Palmerston North City Councillor. Retiring president Peter Kortegast has escaped to Canada, but is still on the Executive. Andy Smith from Walk Auckland replaces Peter as our new President.



The Living Streets AGM earlier in August.

## in this issue:



**page 1 & 8:** Learn about NZ's most innovative walking projects, the 2010 Golden Foot winners.

**page 4:** 'Dollars and Sense', the 4th Annual Walking Conference.

**page 3:** Step back in time - a walking trip in Nepal.

**page 7:** Updates from the regions - see what's going on in your area.

*Pai te haare maa raro  
- walking is good!*

# Contacts

## Director

Liz Thomas | 04 385 8280  
liz.thomas@livingstreets.org.nz

## President

Andy Smith | 03 546 3666  
andy.smith@livingstreets.org.nz

## Walk Auckland

Andy Smith | 09 361 2133  
andy.smith@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets North Shore

Gay Richards | 09 445 6568  
gay.richards@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets Manukau

Donna Wynd | 021 2377 779  
manukau@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets Hamilton

Judy MacDonald | 07 855 2019  
hamilton@livingstreets.org.nz

## Walk Taupo

Jackie Gartner | 07 378 6960  
taupo@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets Palmerston North

Chris Teo-Sherrell  
chris.teosherrell@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets Wellington

Paula Warren | 04 388 8625  
paula.warren@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets Lower Hutt

Jan Simmons | 04 568 7943  
lowerhutt@livingstreets.org.nz

## Bike Walk Marlborough

Robin Dunn  
marlborough@livingstreets.org.nz

## Walk Nelson Tasman

walknelson@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets Canterbury

Chrys Horn | 03 338 0313  
canterbury@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets West Coast

Rosie McGrath | (03) 768 1160 ext 716  
rosie.mcgrath@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets Dunedin

Judy Martin | 03 465 8437  
dunedin@livingstreets.org.nz

## Living Streets Queenstown

Robin.rawson@livingstreets.org.nz

## National Office

Level 7 ANZAC House  
181 Willis Street  
PO Box 25 424  
Wellington  
Phone (04) 385 8280  
Fax (04) 385 4962  
info@livingstreets.org.nz

**Editor & Designer:** Freda Wells

**Editor:** Lily Linton

ISSN 1177-8369 (print)

ISSN 1177-8377 (online)

Disclaimer: views expressed in Footprints are not necessarily those of Living Streets Aotearoa

# From the Director's Desk



Liz Thomas, Director

Since the last edition of Footprints hit the streets, Living Streets has run the biennial NZ Walking Conference and the second Golden Foot Walking Awards, and held our 2010 AGM. It's been a busy time!

I enjoyed hearing about all the interesting, innovative and inspirational Golden Foot Award entries, all showing how much good work is being done around the country to make streets walking-friendly, and encourage people to leave their cars at home and take to their feet. Those of you who came to the Awards presentation ceremony or the Walking Conference in Wellington will have come away with a spring in your step and lots of good ideas to take back to your communities.

Finding money to fund organisations like Living Streets is an ongoing task. This year NZTA has reviewed the Demand Management and Community Programmes activity class in the National Land Transport Programme. This is the activity that funded Living Streets and the Cycling Advocates' Network for the last three years to develop a network of groups around the country with the skills to participate in their local transport planning. Our contract with NZTA finished in June 2010.

Living Streets submitted a funding bid to NZTA for a Safer Walking Programme to build on the previous three years work. The new programme takes account of the priority areas in the new Government Policy Statement on Land Transport and the Safer Journeys strategy, with a focus on safety and congestion relief. We heard recently that it is likely that the programme we submitted, which helped inform the scope of the project proposal, will change. NZTA will put the new project out to tender in September. We are now waiting to see what the new proposal looks like, and whether we will put in a tender for the work.

In the meantime, we have reviewed staffing and closed our Auckland office. We have regretfully said farewell to three staff members - our Auckland Networker Kelvin Aris, Project Officer Janet Lawson, and

Administrator Lily Linton who had been with Living Streets since 2006. Janet has other things to take up her time now, with the birth of the lovely Elinor in February. Lily has taken the opportunity to return to the warmer climes of her home city, Auckland, where I am sure she and Kelvin will continue to keep the pedestrians interests on the new Supercity's agenda. Time will tell how super the city is for walking!

Living Streets is now a leaner (but not meaner!) organisation and will continue to push for walking-friendly communities everywhere. We still have a foot on the mainland with Fiona in our Christchurch office, and our stalwart Executive Council members. We still have dedicated walking advocates and Walking Action groups in Auckland as well as around the country, who are all doing excellent work to promote more walking in their communities, and better walking environments and public spaces.

We continue to support the advocates and groups with advice and resources on our website [www.livingstreets.org.nz/advocacy\\_tools](http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/advocacy_tools) and space for them to advertise their meetings and activities [www.livingstreets.org.nz/regions](http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/regions). Come what may, we are all dedicated to keeping walking on the agenda, and to working for the choice to walk safely to work, shops, school or round our neighbourhoods, and to enjoy pleasant public spaces. We continue to look for opportunities to make things better for people on foot, and to find the funding to do it well.

On another note, last month was the first birthday of my grand daughter Ruby, and I'm pleased to say that she is taking her first tentative steps and will very soon join the ranks of the walkers. Hopefully she will follow in her grandmother's footsteps and become an outspoken advocate for people on foot!

~ Liz Thomas



Above: Happy walking, Ruby!

# Government News

## Model Communities

Congratulations to Hastings and New Plymouth Councils who were selected from more than 20 councils to receive about \$3 million dollars each to develop walking and cycling in their areas.

This initiative is similar to the Demonstration Towns project in England which saw six towns receive funding over three years to significantly increase their cycling levels. The project was so successful in demonstrating that investment in cycling brought about measurable change that a further 140 million pounds was allocated to the project, and 11 more towns were funded.

Model Communities looks at walking as well as cycling, and it is hoped that the fantastic proposals the Councils put forward will transform the two communities into places where walking and cycling are the first transport choice. The rest of the country will be assisting and encouraging this project in the hope that successes in New Plymouth and Hastings will result in more money being made available for other communities around the country. And we will all be able to learn from their experiences. Exciting times! You can check out what's happening on the NZTA website: [www.nzta.govt.nz/planning/process/model-communities.html](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/planning/process/model-communities.html)



## Would you like to see your business in Footprints?

The Footprints team is looking for people who are interested in advertising in our quarterly newsletter to help cover its production costs.

If you have a corporate event or walking related product to promote get in touch: [info@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:info@livingstreets.org.nz) or telephone us on 04 385 8280.

We are interested in advertising for urban design, community, health, transport, consultants, products, events ... we'd love to hear from you!

Contributions, articles and feedback can be sent to the editor at: [footprints@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:footprints@livingstreets.org.nz). Read past editions of Footprints online: [www.livingstreets.org.nz/newsletter](http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/newsletter). The content deadline for the November edition of Footprints is: 18th October 2010.

# It's those pesky pedestrians!

When I was first elected to Hamilton City Council in 2004 there was no organised voice for people in the city who move about on foot, although most of us walk every day of our lives.

At annual plan submissions we sometimes heard from people concerned about the difficulties getting across some of our busiest streets, Council's response tended to be patchy.

Cyclists, on the other hand, were organised. Cycle Action Waikato advocated for safer cycling routes and succeeded in getting Council to undertake a ten year cycling network programme at \$1.2 million per year.

So when Liz Thomas from Living Streets came to town and met with a group of interested people, it seemed like an idea whose time had come.

Five years down the road we now have a flourishing local branch of Living Streets who work with council to make the city more pedestrian-friendly. It is largely in response to their advocacy that council is putting significant funding over three years into improving "pedestrian hotspots" where pedestrians are most at risk.

Living Streets supports Council's vision of a city where, "getting about on foot or by bike is easy, our streets are aesthetically attractive, welcoming and encourage walking and cycling".

We may not always agree with Living Streets submissions or solutions and we appreciate their frustration at the slowness of change. But when we go out to consult the community we know that there will be a group of engaged, informed people who are familiar with the issues and keen to contribute.

Do we want Living Streets to continue? Absolutely!  
*Daphne Bell, Hamilton City Councillor*

*Director's note: Living Streets Hamilton is one of our most active groups, and members put in a huge amount of time and energy improving safety for walkers as well as organising events and developing a walking map.*

"Walking is good for solving problems - it's like the feet are little psychiatrists."

~ *Pepper Giardino*

# Lucky Pancake & other walking stories

The Feet First programme has proven a fun and effective way to encourage year 1 – 8 school students to walk to school safely with a caregiver, friend, or group during term time.

Feet First also runs a picture book competition, to encourage thinking creatively about getting active, with the winning school receiving a \$500 sports voucher. Information about the 2010 Picture Book Competition and the entry pack are available at [www.feetfirst.govt.nz](http://www.feetfirst.govt.nz), competition closing November 12.

The rich collection of stories are a source of inspiration for all schools who want to encourage walking. This year we're again looking for stories about walking or travelling safely and actively to school from all around New Zealand.

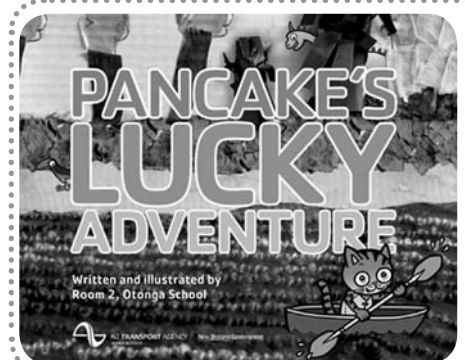
Feet First's successful picture book competition in 2009 encouraged schools and whanau to consider active transport and think about how to manage vehicle congestion around school gates.

The winner (very hard to select) was Otonga School in Rotorua for their book, 'Pancake's Lucky Adventure'. This has been published and distributed to every Year 1 – 8 school library in New Zealand.

Lucky Pancake was a fantastic adventure story incorporating amazing collage artwork by Otonga School's Room 2 students. Pancake went skateboarding and kayaking and even tried some scuba gear!

Five other entries were highly-commended in the 2009 competition (full listing: [www.feetfirst.govt.nz/picture-book](http://www.feetfirst.govt.nz/picture-book)); Thorndon School Enviro Group - Mr Grey's New Way • Nelson Central School (Room 9) - Kowhai's Travel Decision • Gate Pa School (Room 5, Year 3) - Alien Goes to School • Mornington School (Room 6, Years 3 and 4) - The Imagining Game • Te Puru School - Who Made the Footprints?

*Pai te haare maa raro - walking is good!*  
Raewyn Baldwin, Senior Advisor Education  
NZTA: [Raewyn.Baldwin@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:Raewyn.Baldwin@nzta.govt.nz).



Above: The 2009 winning entry from Otonga School, 'Pancake's Lucky Adventure'.

# Conference Highlights – Walking Saves Dollars and Makes Sense

‘DOLLARS AND SENSE OF WALKING’ WAS THE THEME OF THE 4TH NEW ZEALAND WALKING CONFERENCE, ORGANISED BY LIVING STREETS THIS MONTH.

‘Dollars and sense of walking’ was the theme of the 4th New Zealand Walking Conference, organised by Living Streets Aotearoa in Wellington this month.

The conference attracted an audience of over a hundred people. Presentations were made by government, city councils, NZTA, urban planners, transport consultants, university lecturers and the Rugby World Cup organisers, all discussing the benefits of good, modern urban walking environments.

Mayor Kerry Prendergast welcomed the delegates to Wellington, and Peter Kortegast, President of Living Streets Aotearoa formally opened the conference, followed by a lively kapa haka group from Kelburn Normal School.

Keynote speaker Martin Wedderburn (Colin Buchanan Consultancy in the UK) talked about the report ‘Streets Paved with Gold’, and introduced the ‘Urban Realm Tool Kit’, which gives measurement values to key areas such as climate change, economic growth, quality of life and the environment. He showcased three successful case studies in London which provided more walking space and valuable benefits to the community.

Wedderburn also discussed parking, saying “car drivers spend more in shops because

they can carry more, but walkers visit more often.” This theme was developed on day two by keynote speaker, Julie-Anne Genter of McCormick Rankin Cagney Consultants. Her theme was that ‘space is money’, arguing that too much money is wasted on car parking, and should be re-directed into a more balanced environment. Tracey Allatt

(BECA) agreed in her presentation about allocating road space. The main obstacle to developing wider footpaths, cycle lanes, and bus lanes is parking for cars, she said.

Nigel Cass (General Manager of Tournament Services for Rugby

New Zealand 2011) said walking will be heavily promoted at next year’s tournament. “The opportunity of walking to and from all our venues is critical,” he said.

Everyone enjoyed Tom Beard (Wellington City Council) exploring the types of people who roam cities and the way they do it. He quoted 19th century French poet, Charles Beaudelaire, “For the perfect flaneur, for the passionate spectator, it is an experience of joy to set up house in the multitude, amid the ebb and flow of the movement, in the midst of the fugitive and the infinite”. He explained

that flaneurs are people who pay attention, and look out for little details about the history of the city.

Transport Minister Steven Joyce said he enjoys walking to relax. He believes in the benefits of increasing active modes of transport, and realises it’s important to get the balance right across the board. “If we can get demonstrable gains as to how many more people are walking, then we may be able to achieve something significant,” he said.

NZTA talked about importance of benchmarking in the two Model Communities, so that increases in walking and cycling resulting from the funding can be assessed. This will provide the data the Minister is looking for to measure the benefits of investing in walking and cycling.

Timekeeper and MC, Greg Ellis from the Improvisors kept things moving and rewarded good (and bad!) behaviour with fair trade chocolate bars for sustenance. He also appeared in another guise at the conference dinner where barefoot delegates on a treasure island enjoyed a riotous evening of hilarity in the company of two disreputable pirates.

There were many fascinating ideas discussed at the conference, all reinforcing the message that walking makes good economic sense. The conference presentations are now on the website: [www.livingstreets.org.nz/conferences](http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/conferences).  
~ Liz Thomas

**“For the perfect flaneur, for the passionate spectator, it is an experience of joy to set up house in the multitude, amid the ebb and flow of the movement, in the midst of the fugitive and the infinite.”**

~ *Charles Beaudelaire*



**Above:** Full house - delegates stop for a refreshment break between presentations. **Left:** Kelburn Normal School’s kapa haka group gave an energetic performance, setting the tone for a lively conference atmosphere.

# On foot in Nepal

BY PAT REESBY

Two years ago I went trekking in Nepal. Less than a hundred years ago, foot (and hoof) transport was all there was in this remote country.

Even in the Kathmandu Valley, there were no motor vehicles until 1924. Now the capital has traffic congestion, blaring horns and foul air from dirty fuel. My group flew by small plane to Pokhara, quieter and more laid back, with bicycles, ponies, cows and buffaloes sharing the streets with cars. Apparently Pokhara didn't even have the wheel until 1961 and that was for ox carts.

A bus took us to Naya Phui for the start of Annapurna trek. But what the maps list as 'major roads' are definitely not for cars, with steep stretches of centuries old stone steps negotiated by sure-footed donkeys and mules, very different from the New Zealand bush. Somehow I'd imagined we'd be eating packed lunches out in the open, but meals

were instead served at tea houses along the way. People who live in the hill country, tending their rice paddies and vegetable gardens, carry just about everything they need – anything from building supplies to crates of live hens - on pack animals or their own backs, mostly with only a band around the forehead for support.

Small children carried even smaller siblings and looked incredibly happy, despite owning very little. One little boy had found two long sticks and was playing at being a trekker with 'walking poles'! I decided our over-indulged Kiwi kids could learn a few lessons from the Annapurna youngsters. Certainly no one was able to drive them to school.

I also trekked from Lukla in the Solo Khumbu region to Tengboche monastery, which at just shy of 4,000 metres was high enough for me. Porters passed by with enormous loads. One was said to be carrying

72 large bottles of Everest beer on his back.

I was thrilled to see my first yak. They thrive only above 3,000 metres, and if one is mated with a cow, the result is known as a zopkyo, also used as a pack animal.

Buddhism permeates the Khumbu area and trekkers must remember to keep the mani walls, prayer wheels and chortens on their right as they pass by. A side trip to Khumjung where Sir Edmund Hillary established a successful school was a highlight. Again, the only way there was by walking.

Everywhere I was impressed and humbled by these brave and cheerful people for whom walking is not a leisure activity but a daily necessity. In fact I'm returning later this year.

But new roads are being built, forests are cut down for fuel and to construct new trekking lodges ... and if we're not careful, the very things that attract walkers to Nepal will be spoiled for ever.



*Pat Reesby is retired (hurrah for the SuperGold card) and lives in Khandallah, conveniently close to Mt Kaukau. Between 2002 and 2007 she lived without a car, relying mostly on walking and public transport. The experience prompted her to write a self-published novel, 'The Glideway'. She now owns a car again but prefers to walk wherever she can.*



**Captions: Top row left to right:** Donkey's are the main mode of transporting goods; a man carrying chooks and eggs deftly across a bridge; Pat at Tengboche Monastery; A local (in barefeet no less!) with a heavy load; **bottom:** harmonious co-existence of buffalo, bicycles and motorbike on the same road.

## Firms wake up to workplace wellness

REGULAR EXERCISE WILL LEAD TO BETTER PERFORMANCE FROM STAFF IN THEIR VARIOUS ROLES.

New Zealand companies are always shamed by OECD statistics pointing out NZ's low productivity.

Health experts advise workers take a break during the day with some exercise. They'll return to work energised and more productive, this is supported by many research studies.

Far-sighted employers are trying to follow the latest advice. Fidelity Life CEO, Milton Jennings jogs most lunch breaks, was reminded of the importance of a healthy lifestyle at a high-level management course a couple of years ago. At the

beginning of the course all the participants were given a physical, and afternoon tea was carrots and celery sticks. The message was to have "a healthy body and a healthy mind", the course also recommended meditation and relaxation exercises.

Exercise during the lunch break is encouraged, there is a daily walking group, and an Olympic swimming pool 50m away. A gym is also planned in the Fidelity building.

The fit CEO says he is trying his hardest to get his staff exercising, but admits you can lead a

horse to water but you cannot make it drink.

Our bodies are not designed to be sitting at a desk all day, says Re:ab's personal trainer Kirsty Gregg. Her advice? "Build some strength as well as doing cardiovascular exercises." She thinks you can do enough in just 20 minutes a day, five times a week if done right.

And what better way to get some daily exercise than walking all or part of the way to work?

*Source: Gill South, New Zealand Herald online.*

---

# News from the Regions

## Living Streets North Shore

We have been busy making submissions on the Takapuna Strategic Framework and a management plan for Fort Takapuna | O Peretu and Narrow Neck reserves. It is exciting to see the emphasis on improving pedestrian networks outlined in these two draft plans. Our submissions applaud this and suggest where further improvements for active transport could be made. These submissions can be accessed from our webpage on Living Street's website.

We nominated Bayswater School for a Golden Foot Award for their commitment to walking and congratulate the school on being named as a finalist. Moving into spring, work progresses on the Round the Shore route. We have a great network that we keep in touch with via email. We continue to meet monthly and would love to see more members and interested people at these meetings.

## Walk Auckland

Walk Auckland has been concentrating on a slippery footpath surface on K Rd and Queen Street, our audit is being used to investigate a solution. We're also collecting information on all the three-sided crossings in the city. One of our top seven priorities is to ensure all four sides have crossings: [www.walkauckland.org/news/item/29/top-7-things-that-walk-auckland-campaigns-for.htm](http://www.walkauckland.org/news/item/29/top-7-things-that-walk-auckland-campaigns-for.htm).

We have applied to Lotto for funding to print flyers about overhanging vegetation and cars parked on footpaths.

Andy Smith

## Living Streets Hamilton

Since May, we have been involved in further street audits of particularly nasty streets and crossings in Hamilton, and look forward to action being taken on these areas in the near future. These have been conducted by Beca in consultation with Hamilton City Council, and followed a similar format to the first round conducted earlier in the year.

On a lighter note: we recently had an item in the Hamilton Press pointing out that the Wintec Wall (a large grey eyesore in the middle of Hamilton, subject to many appeals for public art over the years) is technically a road. We therefore suggest that it should be dealt with under the road marking budget rather than the public art one, and have proposed a number of safety suggestions including a central white line, double no parking lines at the footpath side, and of course, a pedestrian crossing straight up the middle to allow access to the

Wintec Campus at the top.

We can lay claim to having the steepest street in New Zealand, and possibly in the world!

We're also keen to promote the idea of productive trees on road verges and in public parks, and are beginning discussions with a view to trying a pilot project in a suitable neighbourhood. This would make going for a walk even more pleasant during the harvest seasons.

We are involved in ongoing discussions on NZTA projects dealing with pedestrian and cycle access along Hamilton's state highways, and are working with both Cycle Action Waikato and CCS Disability Action to present a wide-spectrum approach to the problems. Together with these same groups, we will be providing feedback to the Council regarding the 2010 Access Hamilton strategy, again in combination with both Cycle Action Waikato and CCS Disability Action.

We hope to work with Sport Waikato again over spring and summer to get another series of walks going. The focus will be on "hidden Hamilton" with the hope of using gully walks and some of our many walking paths that run through suburbs and are not well-known outside the immediate areas.

Judy McDonald.

## Living Streets New Plymouth

Our group is one or so months young. We set up at an exciting time, just before New Plymouth was chosen as one of two recipients for the Walking and Cycling Model Community Funding. We've had two meetings so far, and have a few immediate projects:

- Street audits by Walking Action Group (WAG) members and interested residents from our local walking areas to identify ways to enhance the walkability of the area, looking at surface improvement, traffic flow management, aesthetic enhancement, or provision of amenities such as benches, shelters, bins, public toilet or signage to make commuting on foot a desirable choice. The results will be shared with the NP District Council and will also include any point of relevance to non-motorised commuters to add to local maps. Printing our own walking maps is also a possibility.
- With our mayoral elections in October we want to organise a mayoral candidate public meeting in September to ask candidates how they intend to address walking issues. Prospective Councillors will be surveyed through questionnaires, one of our members has already compiled a draft survey.

- Identifying dangerous road crossings in the vicinity of schools and looking at having these staffed by volunteers at peak traffic times.
- Compiling a Walking Directory and calendar of dates and events relevant to walking.

We have close contacts with the North Taranaki Cycling Advocacy Group and aim to work together on projects when relevant. Happy walking, Joëlle Xavier, Health Development Coordinator - Sport Taranaki

## Living Streets Lower Hutt

Living Streets Lower Hutt made a verbal submission on Vision Seaview Gracefield. Most of our recommendations have been incorporated in the accepted plan. We are pleased that Greater Wellington regional council has, in conjunction with a consortium of others (including notably a private benefactor who made a very generous financial contribution at exceedingly short notice, after being approached by the Wellington Natural Heritage Trust), purchased a piece of land at Baring Head. This will enable the extension of the Great Harbour Way to connect with the Wainuiomata Coast Road, and possibly the Wairarapa in future, holding potential to be a great walking and cycling asset for the region, and a fabulous tourist attraction.

~Lisa

## Living Streets Palmerston North

Our principle activity has been collecting signatures for the nationwide petition calling for lower speed limits around schools. This has been very well supported with many people being amazed that a 30 or 40 km/h speed limit isn't already in force as in so many other countries.

~Chris Teo-Sherrell

## Living Streets Wellington

All our committee were able to attend the walking conference, and left inspired and informed. Thanks to the organisers for a great few days.

We recently made a submission on the proposed 30kph speed limit for the Golden Mile. The graph on the relationship between pedestrian deaths and crash speed, that was part of the information provided in the pedestrian advocacy training course last year, was given to all councillors. So hopefully they will now be much more aware of the need to keep traffic speeds low. The councillor who was chairing the meeting sent the following note afterwards:

# Meetings

*"Just a quick email to say thank you both to LSA for your submission in support of reducing the speed limit on the rest of the Golden Mile to 30 kph. I have little doubt that Councilors will support the proposal. I hope we will then follow up in the next year with reducing the speed limit throughout the CBD on non arterial roads. I think a consistent people friendly speed is the way to go."*

So while submission writing and presenting can sometimes be hard work, we are making progress. Strongly supporting good initiatives is as important as opposing bad ones.

Paula took the train to Carterton to present our submission on the Wairarapa corridor plan. Her submission focused on getting progress with pedestrian issues, an area that is very dependent on councils who often have little funding available, and the need to help Wairarapa councils make progress in the small provincial towns that are dotted up the main highway. She felt the discussion had with the hearing committee was useful, however the final report had no mention of any walking issues under the walking and cycling heading. Mike is a member of the Regional Transport Committee that was considering the report, and was disappointed by the lack of time given to that agenda item - which prevented members from even asking all the questions that they had. We are now reviewing next steps regarding how to address this inadequate submission process.

## Walk Nelson Tasman

While Walk Nelson Tasman members were disappointed that Nelson was not chosen to be a NZTA model communities, it was great to see both Nelson City Council (NCC) and Tasman District Council recognised in the Golden Foot Awards. NCC was a deserved winner of the Top Commitment by an organisation award. Nelson's CBD is probably the most walker friendly in New Zealand. Walk Nelson Tasman members also had a lot of input into NCC's new engineering standards which will result in a significant improvement in Nelson's walking infrastructure. Tasman District Council is focusing on improving accessibility in Tasman District and is currently auditing all disabled carparking and related infrastructure. Judy Cox has been doing a great job representing walkers' interests in a series of community forums looking at transport link improvement options between Stoke and Nelson. We hope one of the outcomes is an improvement to

Rocks Road's footpath. While it's a beautiful place, the current footpath is narrow and poorly designed.

## Living Streets Canterbury

The last few months have been preparing for the new walking map project, which is being funded by the Canterbury Community Trust. The walking map will be for the Phillipstown/Charleston /AMI stadium area and we hope it will be useful during the Rugby World Cup and to AMI stadium in the future.

We have also been busy fundraising for us to attend the Walking Conference in Wellington. A very big thank you is due to Meg Christie who took the lead on this and along with husband John, provided us with a wonderful venue and lots of homegrown, organic food for the organic lunch and dinner that we provided for paying guests. We must also thank the paying guests who were very generous with their donations over and above what they were charged for the meal. Cheers | Chrys and Cindy

## Living Streets Dunedin

We have been involved with the campaign to transform John Wilson Ocean Drive into John Wilson Ocean Promenade. This kilometre of asphalted road stretches above St Kilda Beach up to the spectacular views at Lawyers Head. Since its closure to traffic for a sewage outfall upgrade in 2006 it has been increasingly used for all sorts of active recreation, and walkers and cyclists now wish to preserve this single kilometre for these activities, rather than return to its car-dominated previous existence.

If you'd like to know more about this, go to: [johnwilsonocean.wordpress.com/2010/07/18/welcome/](http://johnwilsonocean.wordpress.com/2010/07/18/welcome/) or email [johnwilsonpromenade@gmail.com](mailto:johnwilsonpromenade@gmail.com).

## Walk Auckland

2nd Tuesday of the month, 5:30pm  
Leys Institute Hall, 20 St Marys Rd, Ponsonby.  
Upstairs in the Supper Room. Meetings: 14 Sept, 12 Oct, 9 Nov. [www.walkauckland.org](http://www.walkauckland.org)

## Living Streets Manukau

Meets as required.  
Contact Donna Wynd: 09 378 0953.

## Living Streets North Shore

Last Thursday of the month, 5.30pm.  
Meetings held at The Coffee Club, cr Lake Rd & The Strand, Takapuna. Next meetings 26 August, 23 Sept, 21 Oct. [gyrichards@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gyrichards@xtra.co.nz), mob: 021 1747 066.

## Living Streets Hamilton

Second Thursday of the month at 5:30pm,  
29 Claude St. Next meeting: 9th Sept.

## Living Streets New Plymouth

Meets at the Cancer Society Building, 71 Lorna Street, at the back of the Hospital main car-park. Contact: [Joelle@sporttaranaki.org.nz](mailto:Joelle@sporttaranaki.org.nz).

## Walk Taupo

Meets as required. [Taupo@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:Taupo@livingstreets.org.nz)

## Living Streets Palmerston North

Meets as required  
[chris.teosherrell@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:chris.teosherrell@livingstreets.org.nz)

## Living Streets Lower Hutt

Meets last Monday of the month, 5:30pm  
50 Udy Street, Petone  
[lowerhutt@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:lowerhutt@livingstreets.org.nz)

## Living Streets Wellington

Meeting info: [www.livingstreets.org.nz/regions/wellington](http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/regions/wellington).  
[paula.warren@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:paula.warren@livingstreets.org.nz)

## Walk Nelson Tasman

Meets bi-monthly, usually Friday 9.30am  
[walknelsonstasman@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:walknelsonstasman@livingstreets.org.nz)

## Bike Walk Marlborough

Meeting info: [marlborough@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:marlborough@livingstreets.org.nz).

## Living Streets Canterbury

Join us! Contact Cindy and Chrys for where to meet: [canterbury@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:canterbury@livingstreets.org.nz)

## Living Streets Dunedin

Meets every second Wednesday of the month, 5:30pm. Meet at the Terrace outside Crocodile Cafe, Botanic Gardens. Contact Judy Martin: [dunedin@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:dunedin@livingstreets.org.nz)

## Living Streets West Coast

Meets as required  
[Rosie.McGrath@livingstreets.org.nz](mailto:Rosie.McGrath@livingstreets.org.nz)



# 2010 Golden Foot Awards – & the winners are... (continued from page 1 ...)

The Celia Wade-Brown award for community 'can-do' was given to **Horsham Downs Community Hall Committee.**

Floor to ceiling displays around the room outlined the innovative programmes. Programmes include those designed to increase safety and frequency of children walking to school, for communities and individuals to celebrate and participate in walking. Programmes to help those recovering from illness to regain their confidence and others to get commuters out of cars thereby making the city and themselves healthier with a lively morning stroll. Employees and students clocked up walking kilometres in challenge style programmes.

The judges were particularly impressed with cyclists promoting a courtesy code for happier and safer co-existence of cyclists and walkers on shared paths.

There were fabulous examples of the shared walk and cycleways being developed around the country as councils wise up to the myriad benefits of providing good walking accessways, showing practical and beautiful walkways enhanced with art, and fitting well with both environment and community.

Nelson City presented a mix of infrastructure, regulation and programmes showing an exciting ongoing commitment to enhancing walking in the city.

Judges applauded the community 'can-do' determination that had the Horsham Downs Community Hall Committee raise the money, and donations in kind, to get their 4.5 kilometre walkway built, and provide a safe school walking route from their rural community to Hamilton (image below). Bayswater school also took on a walkway, adopting, enhancing and promoting a route adjacent to

their school.

Read about all the finalists on our website [www.livingstreets.org.nz/walking\\_awards2010](http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/walking_awards2010).

The Golden Foot Awards celebrate initiative and action by New Zealanders, and provides inspiration and motivation towards continued improvement of walking facilities and projects.

Thank you to the sponsors for their generous support: Greater Wellington Regional Council, ViaStrada, Dunedin, Christchurch and Auckland City Councils.

Congratulations also to all those who didn't get shortlisted for the awards, but have shown in their applications commitment to helping more people all around the country to walk more often.

*Jenny-Kaye Potaka*



1



4



2



5



6



3



7



8

1. Winner and finalists of the Best Small Walking Project Award. 2. A Nelson city Stepping out activity. 3. Winner and Finalists of the Top facility award.

4. Green prescription achievers on Mauao | Mt Maunganui. 5. Winner and finalists of the Best Walking Facility award. 6. Reading the of finalists presentations. 7. CAW (Cycle Awareness Wellington) - Winner of Best Walking Promotion for their 'Cruise the Waterfront' project. 8. The closing panel (from left to right are Robyn Davies of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland, Julie-Anne Genter of McCormick Rankin Cagney Consultants and Martin Wedderburn of Colin Buchanan Consultancy, UK. **Cover page:** Horsham Downs Community Hall Committee, Winner of the Celia Wade-Brown award for community 'can-do'.