

Welcome to this summary of Living Streets Aotearoa's activities from April 2012 to March 2013.

Living Streets Aotearoa (LSA) continued to operate at full speed during 2012-13 with volunteers running the organisation. I would like to thank all the people who have worked with Living Streets Aotearoa over the year and hope this report demonstrates that we are making positive changes for pedestrians.

The executive has had regular phone meetings and, during April 2012, met face-to-face in Wellington. Part of the latter was devoted to undertaking a [Community Street Review](#) with some local members and this was submitted to Wellington City Council.

LSA hosted the [Greening the Rubble](#) project for the year and administered their \$100,000 budget for turning Christchurch vacant sites into things of beauty. Greening the Rubble has now fully found its feet as an independent organisation. Thanks to executive member Rhys Taylor for being instrumental in this.

Walk-4-Wellbeing has also been running in Christchurch thanks to Meg Christie and the Christchurch branch. Thanks also to Meg for her work writing and coordinating our submissions on various government proposals.

LSA decided to hold our next conference in Nelson from 29-31 October 2014 in conjunction with the [Cycle Advocates Network](#) . [Walk21 in Sydney](#) is being held in Sydney from Oct 22-24, so we may get extra attendees coming over after that and may be able to get one or two of the speakers from further afield also.

Much of LSA's work has focused on a number of campaigns for changes in the law or practice. This includes our Mode Equality Campaign which aims to change the law so turning drivers give way to pedestrians crossing the road. A concise one-page statement and a flyer explaining the idea are available on the webpage [Mode Equality campaign](#) . Peter Kortegast and Chris Teo-Sherrell promoted the campaign at the 2013 TRAFFINZ conference. During 2013-14 we aim to raise general public awareness of the merits of the proposal and have been

- mentioned in a political party's manifesto;
- discussed on transport blogs, talkback radio, TV;
- the subject of a newspaper editorial, and
- been added to NZTA (Tim Hughes) to do list.

We have also been campaigning for [lower speeds](#) around schools and in areas where there are a lot of pedestrians. Although some councils are making good progress (e.g. Hamilton), others are lagging behind in implementing best practice (e.g. Palmerston North). The Safer Journeys Road Safety Strategy 2010-2020 has speed as a major focus for the next 2 years and a National Speed Management Plan is

under development. LSA is providing input to this.

A further campaign we are building is the [No Exit Streets Campaign](#) from The International Pedestrians Federation. It aims to have signs erected indicating whether you can walk or cycle through streets that are No Exit for motor vehicles. It's a small thing but can help to make walking a preferred way to get around. Auckland Transport has adopted this for action but we need to get more Road Controlling Authorities doing so.

We have had the '[Don't Tread on our Toes](#)' Yellow Feet reprinted and we have lots of the 'Please [Cut Back your Overhanging Vegetation](#)' flyers ready for you to deliver. Just ask us if you would like some of these to use when you are out and about. They are a courteous way to remind vehicle and property owners of their obligations to not obstruct pedestrian paths and to raise the profile of Living Streets Aotearoa. If you would like some of either of these please contact Andy.

We celebrated UN Global Road Safety Week with our new partners [BRAKE](#) the Road Safety charity. There is a great book on 'How to become a Walking Advocate at the Walk Boston site which we will adapt for NZ.

LSA (Wellington) supported and actively participated in that city's Walk-to-Work day. Mishra Suryaprakash has been representing LSA at quarterly meetings of the Safe and Sustainable Transport Reference Group organised by Wellington City Council. Ronis Chapman has been attending meeting quarterly meetings with NZTA, MoT and CAN. There have been a number of submissions written.

Gay Richards is running our North Shore branch which has had regular meetings, a new bridge and path built and also helped run a Walk-to-Work event with Auckland Transport. Andy Smith has been running the Waitemata branch with regular meetings in the Leys Institute at Ponsonby.

Currently, LSA has 165 paid up members including 35 organisations. Our Facebook group has 213 members and we have an email list of 3000 contacts that receive our e-Bulletin. We spent \$4600 running the organisation which included conference telephone calls and reimbursing volunteer expenses.

In the coming year we hope to build the local groups and get them to identify and work on projects to turn roads in their areas into Living Streets.

We join Living Streets Aotearoa to influence civic policy toward a pedestrian focus. We do this by meeting each other, swapping ideas and educating others through words and deeds.

Thanks again for your support
Andy Smith - President.