



TRAIL BLAZER

The newsletter of the Friends of the Greytown Trails Trust

July 2011



Welcome to your first issue of **Trail Blazer**, the newsletter of the Greytown Trails Trust - keeping you informed about all the action down at the Trail, and letting you know about things you can get involved in. Above are some of the committee admiring the work done a few weeks ago when 300 tonne of 'crushed pit metal' was laid, forming the first 500m of the Trail. Thank you to John Gray (second from the right) for all the time and tremendous earthworks you've done to get us this far.

Now we're hoping to see the wider community getting involved. The Arbor Day planting is the perfect opportunity - see our top story. To join the Friends (for the price of a donation) & receive this newsletter as a PDF, please email me. And watch out for our new website: www.trails.greytown.com. coming soon. Happy Trail Blazing!
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Join us for our Arbor Day planting

We're hoping for a great turn out on Arbor Day, for a mass planting of natives to beautify the opening section of the Greytown Trail. All you need is a trowel or spade and some muscle power, and head to the Transfer Station at the end of Cotter St, Greytown. The Greytown Community Board has kindly donated \$250 for plants, and we are still gratefully receiving any flaxes and grasses you can spare - we are focusing on these rather than trees because of their low maintenance and ground covering qualities. Kuranui horticulture students got the ball rolling with their planting near the entrance late last year (above). We'll be working there again, and you'll be able to see the first 500m of the Trail and get a picture of what the rest will look like. And if you've still got some energy by the afternoon, the Greytown Lions are having a planting at their Trail off Udy St at 1pm. See you there!



Arbor Day Planting, Cotter St, Greytown, Sun 3 July, from 10am.

Generous donation from Greytown Trust Lands Trust

The Trails Trust was delighted to receive \$20,000 from Greytown Trust Lands Trust recently. Trails Trust Chair Gerad Taylor: "The Greytown Trust is a very important funder in the community, enabling many worthwhile projects to be completed. This significant donation shows they recognise the benefits for the community at large, of the Greytown Trail." The money will be used on surfacing and fencing 'Stage 1' of the Trail, from Cotter St to Woodside Rd.

Lincoln students to help on the Trail

In the spirit of Christchurch's now famous volunteer Student Army, local students attending Lincoln University, Canterbury, have put their hands up to work on the Trail during their semester breaks. The *Lincoln Lend a Hand* initiative is offering its services to individuals and companies nationwide as a fundraiser for the Van Asch School for the Deaf, and the Burwood Spinal Trust. Students originally from Wairarapa will spend several days working on the Trail in early July. Thanks for your valuable input on our project.





Admiring the Trail near the Cotter St entrance: Jenny Tosswill (Trust Secretary); Gerad Taylor (Chair); Bruce Eglinton (Greytown Lions); Cllr. Viv Napier; Max Taylor; Bob Tosswill (Trustee); Margaret Cole (Administrative Officer); and John Gray (Trustee).

DID YOU KNOW....?

The Greytown Trail will follow the 5km route of the Greytown-Woodside branch rail line which opened in 1880. Greytown had its own station at the end of Cotter St, which was moved to its current position opposite Woodside Station, when the line closed in 1953. At its peak, the branch line employed six people, and ran up to six trains each way daily, moving people, livestock, timber & general merchandise.

VOLUNTEERING NOTES & THANKYOU'S

Do you have landscaping skills? Please contact Jenny if you can help in this way (details below). Almost \$3500 has been donated by individuals to the Trail to date. And many people have donated flaxes and grasses, for beautification of the area, including some lovely trees from Helen Cook. Sincere thanks to all.

News from the ground....

It's exciting seeing the recently laid 300 tonne of metal on the site - it will obviously be a great surface for all those anticipated intrepid walkers, cyclists and pram pushers. It's a high quality product which was secured at an excellent price. Thank you Holcim NZ Ltd. We are now moving on with fencing, a major that's likely to take a good few weeks, due to our rocky land! Over one hundred posts have been laid out to the Oak Avenue. Don Bell (GWRC), who has been involved in the Papawai stream project, is advising us on landscaping and planting. We plan to plant the bunds near the Transfer Station mainly in grasses, flax and shrubs, as this is a simple and low maintenance option.

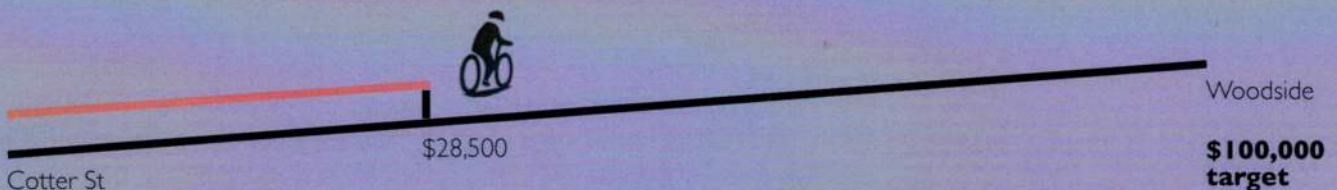
Fresh 'metal' from the mountain to the valley

Future Trail users may be crunching over sections of the Rimutaka mountains, if a partnership with Hawkins Infrastructure comes to fruition. There are plans for the company, which is currently tasked with the major SH2 Rimutaka development, to donate 300 tonnes of metal from the site to surface the Trail. This would see another approximately 500m of the Trail completed. It seems like a great plan - and it would be keeping it local all the way!

HOW TO DONATE

Remember that **\$50** buys 10 fenceposts & **\$100** buys one of the 65 rolls of wire we need. To make a donation, contact Treasurer Jenny Tosswill: jennytosswill@hotmail.com. Cheques made out to Greytown Trails Trust can be sent to R & J Tosswill, Woodside Rd, Greytown.

Thank you for your superb support:
 Bill Hammond Transport; Bruce Buchanan Ltd; Farmlands; Goldpine; Greytown Community Board; Greytown Primary School; Greytown Sport & Leisure Society Inc.; Holcim NZ Ltd; Pope & Gray Ltd; Lamb Peters Print; Greytown Trust Lands Trust & Kuranui College.



The Greytown Trails Trust was established in 2010 to promote cycle and walkways in Greytown, and develop the five kilometre council-owned 'rail corridor' which runs from the end of Cotter Street (near the Transfer Station), to Woodside Station.

