

## GCA Chairman's annual report 2017-18

The year started with a mix of new and existing committee members which made for a good transition. The committee set out a plan of work for the year and has been updating the community on progress with the plan throughout the year.

In addition to this year's AGM, all of the expected monthly meetings were held with well written minutes drawn up by our hard working Secretary who also tracked and managed our correspondence. Our Treasurer has prepared monthly financial reports, dealt with GST returns, issued invoices, paid accounts and arranged for the production of our annual statement.

The committee met informally on a couple of occasions to plan work priorities and this, along with running through the agenda before the monthly meetings, has provided the committee with some 'together time' to consider issues and make, I believe, better decisions as a result.

Adopting the Glenorchy Community Vision as a guide for decision making has enabled decisions made at our meetings to be made on behalf of the 80 odd residents who participated in that process rather than just the views of the 7 strong committee.

We lost a lot of knowledge and experience, a good committee member and mate when Dweeb died.

We appreciate the fact that Danelle has joined the committee as an active participant for the last 6 weeks.

The committee have devoted a lot of effort to engaging with Queenstown Council to counter the '*we never know what you want*' mantra repeated when we disagree with something they are proposing and there has been a concerted effort to put the community's position forward in a professional, well reasoned and authoritative manner.

In particular, as a result of our efforts, Council have :-

- adopted our waterfront plan for implementation and will start by improving the car park at the northern end
- established a governance committee for the airstrip with GCA representation
- undertaken baseline water and environmental monitoring to inform the wastewater debate
- listened to our priorities around rendering water chlorination unnecessary
- agreed to alter the proposed location of the emergency generator that would have significantly impacted on residents
- supported a funding bid for new toilets by the waterfront
- increased the annual grant for the operation of the GY pool.

Early in the year we presented the Community Vision to Council's senior management team and have constantly pressed home our top priorities for action, most recently in our submissions to their newly proposed long term plan.

Apart from QLDC we have made representations to the Otago Regional Council - both with individual councillors and at long term plan hearings; have met with electoral candidates then subsequently with our new constituency MP; worked with Civil Defence on a plan for Glenorchy and made comment on tourism impacts to Destination Queenstown and on the subject of donations from film companies to Film Otago/Southland.

We spent our annual grant this year on clearing a significant amount of vegetation at the waterfront to re-open the magnificent views and forming a walking track from the Wharf Shed to the Board Walk entry.

The swimming pool was open for one of longest seasons to date and has been financially sustainable due to the Increase in pool annual grant, pool key payments, and lower cost heating

solutions. We purchased a cleaning robot but the pool simply could not operate without the hours of effort put in by unspoken heroes who undertake all the cleaning, maintenance and administration.

Other notable activities during the year have been a well attended public meeting about water chlorination; holding a meeting on waste minimisation; submitting to Council's waste plan and ongoing discussions around location of waste bins and standards of service for waste collection; advocating for QLDC to take ownership of the Bible Terrace from the current landowner; removal of willows causing lagoon creek to back up and flood and planting several hundred native plants by the waterfront.

Inglorious activities were clearing dumped deer carcasses from near the Bucklerburn and a virtual absence of attendees at a meeting to establish a community garden.

Plans are underway to repair the wooden Glenorchy signs near the one mile roundabout and as you enter the township and a meeting was held with Paul and Debbie Brainerd to ensure the planting on council land in front of Camp Glenorchy will provide both unobstructed access along the reserve and a wonderful avenue of trees.

Actions for the future months will be to:-

Look at actioning some of the other recommendations that arose from the community visioning exercise :-

- producing a report on energy generation at the head of the lake to improve our resilience
- reducing the negative impacts of tourism on our town
- looking at options and strategies to diversify our economy
- looking at how the GCA operates, communicates and engages with the community

Our priority list for QLDC includes:-

- township traffic management to reduce the impact of tourism growth on our community
- the upcoming review of the Glenorchy township rules in the district plan
- determine the best option for viewing and parking in the Bennett's bluff area
- green waste and other recycling options for the town
- drawing up reserve management plans to prompt investment in and better utilisation of public land
- improvements to the marina and looking at a future location for the town wharf

And lastly we need to draw the ORC into active engagement so we can effect change to ensure the Rees and Dart rivers do not threaten the town or our roads; that we have agreed successful long term outcomes around biodiversity, water quality and pest management and we secure a framework for managing our wastewater that enables a range of options to be utilised.



John Glover  
Chairman June 2018