

General Manager/Chairperson Report 2018 -2019

From the GM

As I start to write this report for the AGM, I am a little shocked that this is my 10th end of year report and AGM, as my first was as an employee rather than a contractor.

It is always interesting to look back and reflect on the past year. This year saw several changes to the Wiri Board with 3 new members joining at last year's AGM, and the loss of 4 members throughout the year for a variety of reasons. I would like to pass on my thanks to the members of the board for their guidance and support.

I would like to make a special mention to our Chair Richard Mason who is standing down from the board after 15+ years of involvement. Richard was part of the neighbourhood patrols that formed the Wiri Business Association. He supported the association in becoming a BID (Business Improvement District) and was an integral part of the 2017 expansion. Richard was Treasurer for the first 7 years of my involvement, and Chair for the past 3 years. Richard has been an outstanding mentor for me, as he has a remarkable passion for business and business development, especially for businesses in Wiri. I can honestly say that without Richard's support and dedication to Wiri the business association would not be here today.

The most noticeable difference for me in the 10 years with Wiri has been going from a part time 10-15 hours per week position to being a full-time manager with two staff. Simone has been with us for two years now in her role as office support, keeping the database up to date and completing security compliance checks. Marie joined the team this year as our Comms/ Events Coordinator, so if you have anything of interest to promote to other local businesses, Marie is the lady to talk to.

Here is a snapshot of our activities in the past year:

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- [CCTV Network](#)
- [Events and workshops](#)
- [Expansion](#)
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- [Waste Audits](#)

[Advocacy](#)

We have presented several submissions to Auckland Council, Manurewa and Otara-Papatoetoe Local Boards and Auckland Transport. After years of advocating to Auckland Transport and the Local Boards, it has been a pleasure to see the changes to the intersection on Kerrs and Druces Roads with the traffic lights being installed.

[Communications](#)

As I said earlier, we have appointed our communications expert Marie, and during the past year we have produced 3 Wiri Links (newsletter hand delivered to every business) and too many online communications to count.

Community

Working with Wiri Central School, MIT and AUT South Campus teaching students about the importance of work ethic. Along with local businesses and Wiri Central School, WBA has helped with the organisation and labour supply for street and stream clean-ups.

Our boardroom is regularly used to host community functions and meetings free of charge.

Crime Prevention & Graffiti Management

This year our security subcommittee completed another in-depth tendering process for the WBA security contract. Conroy Security have been appointed to supply security patrol, and they put a car past every business a minimum of 5 times per night. Illegal rubbish dumping is still a major problem in Wiri, but with a 25-28% decrease since last year. We will continue to monitor and work with Auckland Council and Local Boards to overcome this problem.

CCTV Network

This project is underway and we hope to have the contract assigned and started before Christmas this year. Although graffiti is a dwindling problem, it is an issue that, if you don't keep on top of it, will come back with a vengeance. We aim to have all graffiti visible from the road removed within 24 hours of being reported.

Events and Workshops

Throughout the year we have hosted 18 networking events, plant visits and workshops with guest speakers, such as Mike King, Shamubeel Equb, and the Manukau Institute of Technology new trade school.

Partnerships and Sponsorships

Apart from our partnerships with the Manurewa Local Board and Auckland Council, our strongest partnerships are the ones we have with the Vodafone Events Centre, Second Nature Trust, Barfoot and Thompson Commercial Division, and Wilkinson Environmental. On behalf of the board I would like to thank them for their continued support.

Waste Audits

Our free waste audits are designed to assist businesses to identify local recycling opportunities. In the past year, we have identified a potential 666 tonnes p.a. of rubbish that could be recycled, and have implemented a 8.54 tonnes p.a. diversion from landfill.

As you can see, it's been a full-on year! I am looking forward to implementing the 2019 – 2024 Strategic Plan and completing the CCTV project, while also spending time with you all at our networking events.

Audrey Williams

From the CHAIR

After so many years on the board, it will be a little strange being a part of the Wiri Business Association, but not being a board member. I could not have spent my time on the board without believing in the benefits the association brings to Wiri. I would urge all my fellow business and property owners to make the most of what the association has to offer businesses. I would like to thank all the people who have helped guide and build the association over the past year, as well as past and present board members for their time and contribution.

Richard Mason