



A DECADE OF POSITIVE VISION  
AND PRACTICAL ACTION

GREY LYNN 2030

EDITOR – BRIGITTE SISTIG

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“Our true destiny...is  
a world built from the  
bottom up by competent  
citizens living in solid  
communities, engaged in  
and by their places.”

David W. Orr

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# Foreword

It is my great honour to have been asked to write this Foreword. The 10th anniversary of any Transition initiative is always worth great celebrations, and Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community is no exception. I want to deeply honour the vision, the determination, the imagination, the guts it takes to sustain any project for such a long time. To be able to look after each other, to sustain momentum and to keep innovating is a real achievement. On behalf of the rest of the Transition movement, now active in over 50 countries around the world, thank you to everyone who is, and who has ever been, involved in Grey Lynn 2030. Truly.

One of the many things I love about the Transition movement is the space it creates for people to come together

and reimagine the future. We need to talk about the future, because for many around the future looks like it is inevitably going to be awful. All too often anyone who suggests a different kind of future, a positive future might be possible, is dismissed as 'utopian'. But Transition is not about creating utopias. It's about telling the Stories of How It All Turned Out OK. Not perfect, but OK. A future which has broken its dependence on fossil fuels, which has rebuilt vibrant diverse local economies, which has overcome the 'epidemic of loneliness' which blights our communities today, which is more equal, more democratic, more beautiful. It's not 'utopian', because we can already see it happening in countless places around the world, and we know it works.

Transition invites us to tell a new

story about the place we live, and to ground that story in our practical actions, so that over time, say 10 years, it starts to become a key part of the story that place tells about itself, and that other people tell about it. I've seen it over and over. If the Transition movement is anything it is a network of stories. And all that you have done, even on those days when you thought that a particular small project was too small to really impact anything, those stories have spread, and you have no idea who they have touched and inspired.

So, I raise a glass to your endeavours, to your achievements, to the purpose and passion that has led you to this celebration. All power to your next 10 years. Thank you.

Rob Hopkins, October 2018

## Contributors



**Rob Hopkins**, PhD, Co-founder of both Transition Town Totnes and Transition Network. He is an Ashoka Fellow, a keen gardener, one of the founders of New Lion Brewery in Totnes and a Director of Totnes Community Development Society.



**Dr Tom Henfrey** is an action researcher who has been actively involved in research and practice on Transition and related fields since 2008. He currently works as Research Coordinator for ECOLISE, the European Network of Community-led Initiatives on Sustainability and Climate Change.



People who have been actively involved in **Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community** in various groups, and who contributed to this book in some way.



# Introduction

Aotearoa New Zealand has a long tradition of story-telling. When stories are shared, and people gather to listen, we connect with each other. Telling stories has always been a way to express feelings and pass on information and tradition and culture. Stories of transition help us understand and become inspired by the endless possibilities within our own communities. This book is a living story of the ever-evolving Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community.

In many ways the real authors of this book are all the people who shared their stories. Where possible, stories in this book were written collaboratively.

When I started researching the 10-year history of Grey Lynn 2030, I had no idea that so many people had been involved. I quickly realized that it would take a community research project

to provide a historic account of the many activities initiated by Grey Lynn 2030. However, with the given timeframe and resources available, I decided to go ahead and find out as much as I could. I drew on many sources of information, inviting many people to share their record of events, accessing the greyllyn2030 website, old documents and various photo collections. Some people had moved on, left Grey Lynn and were living out of Auckland. There were so many lovely photos, but few of good enough quality to publish. Many photos were lost on old phones or hard drives that were unrecoverable. Thankfully, a few have been of good enough quality to include.

As you meander through this book of living stories about the past decade of positive vision and practical action, you may reminisce in some of the moments of Grey Lynn 2030's Transition

towards a vibrant, sustainable community.

This really brings me to the purpose of the book, which is one of wanting to stimulate story telling. When browsing through this book, you may find a photo or a quote from a person you know, or a group you participated in, and this may bring back memories, which can then be shared with others. My wish is that this little history book of a vibrant community will inspire others, especially the younger generation, and generations to come, to know of the power of ordinary people and the value of community.

Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community will continue to grow, because it is the future. The future is being created now, and these stories offer inspiration and clear direction towards a vibrant and self reliant community.

Brigitte Sistig, Auckland, 2018



Brigitte Sistig, MHSc, researched, coordinated and edited this book. She is the chair of Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community Trust.

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“The brilliance of the Transition Movement comes largely from its narrative. This should not be surprising for much of human brilliance shines from our stories and tales, providing the glimmers and flashes of hope in the face of the shadow of death. It is the foreknowledge of our own inevitable end, and the desire that life should nevertheless go on, that creates such strong narrative desire in humankind.”

Eric Lindberg

# 10 Years of Grey Lynn 2030 at a Glance

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## **Grey Lynn Farmers Market**

*2008/2009 Vincent Dickie*

A weekly market that offers local fresh food and zero waste education, as well as a community gathering place on a Sunday morning.

## **Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away (GLWA)**

*2008/2009 Lynn Green*

An action group comprised of passionate locals, tackling issues around waste minimisation and by promoting reduction of food waste and alternatives to plastic.

## **Wilton Street Community Garden**

*2008/2009 Mandy McMullin*

A local volunteer group which enjoys community spirit while digging the soil to create edible gardens.

## **Water**

*2009 Suzanne Kendrick*

A group of locals who care about their natural environment and quality of drinking water.

## **Local Government Group**

*2009 Pippa Coom*

A group focusing on writing submissions to Council concerning issues relevant to Grey Lynn.

## **Traffic Calming**

*2009 Pippa Coom*

In response to West Lynn residents' concerns about the safety of pedestrians and cyclists, the group looked at ways to manage the road environment to ensure motorists' speeds were appropriate for the area.

## **Green Screen**

*2009 Steve Edwards, taken up by Suzanne Kendrick, followed by Charlotte Gordon*

Community movie screenings organised by Grey Lynn 2030 to stimulate discussion and community action.

## **Grey Lynn Business Association**

*2010 Pippa Coom and Suzanne Kendrick*

A group of local business owners who are committed to sustainable business practice and offer mutual support.

## **Choir**

*2011 Philip Griffin*

A group of locals who enjoy singing and putting on memorable performances at community events.

## **Energy Focus**

*2011 Chris Olson*

A group of local experts and keen learners, who are committed to finding local solutions to the world energy crisis.





Left, (l to r), top row to bottom: Chris Olson, Colinda Rowe, Nicola Donald, Suzanne Kendrick, Louise Johnstone, Marianne van der Haas, Winnie Lenihan, Fionna Hill, Betsy Lawrence - Workshop with Envision, 21 March 2015.



### **Grey Lynn Urban Environment**

*2012 Suzanne Kendrick*

A group focusing on writing submissions to Council concerning the Auckland Unitary Plan.

### **Car Boot Market**

*2013 Suzanne Kendrick*

A monthly market where anybody can sell, swap and reuse or recycle, supporting Grey Lynners to move toward becoming zero waste.



### **Plastic Bag FREE July**

*2014 Waste Away group*

A passionate group of Waste Away members, who link in with the worldwide movement of reducing plastic in our environment.



### **Trash to Trade**

*2016/2017 Suzanne Kendrick, carried out by Brigitte Sistig*

An initiative that encourages and supports upcycling, focused on local business waste management and creating upcycling businesses.

### **RePurpose Community Recycling Centre**

*2011/workshops in 2015, opened 2017, Grey Lynn 2030 Trust, championed by Colinda Rowe*

Grey Lynn 2030's commitment to reducing waste and participating in the Auckland-wide Resource Recovery Network.

### **Repair Café**

*2017 Colinda Rowe and GLWA*

Auckland-wide pop-up events, bringing people together to share practical skills and saving items from going to landfill.

### **Sew Grey Lynn**

*2018 Lynn Green*

A place where people can come together and make beautiful reusable bags and other items from recycled fabric.

*\*Listed below the name of each group are the year of inception and start, as well as the name of the main instigator of the group/project.*



# Transition Towns

## Global Transition Movement

In 2006, permaculture teacher Rob Hopkins and a small group of collaborators initiated Transition Town Totnes as a pre-emptive, community-led response to the twin challenges of peak oil and climate change. The approach quickly spread to other communities in South West England, across the rest of Britain and Ireland, and then to other countries around the world. Today, Transition is a global movement of over 1000 reported local initiatives in at least 43 countries.



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Left: Spanish Transition Hub at the Social Currency el Puma, Sevilla, 9 March 2013.

Right: Breakout group at the 'Civil society and municipalities: building sustainability through collaboration' conference, in collaboration with the Transition Network's 'Municipalities in Transition' project, Brussels, Belgium, 20 September 2018.

Transition originated in 2004 as an end-of-course project by students on a two-year permaculture design course at Kinsale Further Education College in Ireland. Inspired by a visit from peak oil activist Colin Campbell, the project used permaculture, a form of ecological design rooted in ethics of earth care, people care, and fair shares, to come up with a strategy for the community to prepare itself for life after cheap oil (Hopkins, 2005).

In 2006, Hopkins, and his family, relocated to Totnes in South West England, a small market town with a long-established reputation for countercultural thought and action. Adding climate change as a key concern, he and a small group of collaborators founded Transition Town Totnes. Inspired by their work, communities elsewhere began to set up Transition initiatives of their own. The Transition approach spread rapidly to elsewhere in South West England, across the UK, and then in numerous other countries across the world (Bailey et al., 2010; Feola & Nunes 2013).

At the core of the Transition approach is the idea of relocalisation as a key method for building community resilience (Hopkins, 2010). Prioritising use of locally available resources to meet locally determined needs directly reduces throughputs of energy and materials and promotes reliance on renewable and reusable resources, along with use and reinvigoration of the local skills base. It also makes the direct consequences of production and consumption visible, creating feedback loops that both empower and oblige people to take responsibility for the impacts of economic activity (Henfrey & Penha-Lopes, 2015: 59-60).

Complete localisation is neither possible nor desirable; many specialised forms of economic activity are best organised at larger scales. Resilience itself is a multi-level phenomenon, in which access to wider systems of provisioning buffers any local shortfalls that might occur (Henfrey & Giangrande, 2017). Collaboration and other forms of social, cultural and intellectual exchange are also important, at all levels up to the global (North,

2010). Maximising self-reliance on a local and regional scale favours interchanges based on cooperation and solidarity rather than the competition, exploitation and dependency that more commonly arise under international capitalism (Henfrey & Kenrick, 2017).

Transition does not offer a specific blueprint for relocalisation, rather a set of ingredients for communities to apply flexibly and creatively according to the specific aspirations, skills and potential of their local place (Hopkins & Thomas, 2016). Local groups undertake a range of activities, including awareness raising, food production and provisioning, community-owned renewable energy projects, complementary currencies, and collective visioning of alternative futures (Transition Network, 2018). Transition initiatives and Transition-inspired methodologies vary in prominence from place to place and may become relatively small, but influential, actors in a wider local matrix of transformative community-scale projects and networks (e.g., Henfrey, 2017).

Transition so far shows significant achievements, and

perhaps even greater long-term potential. A series of Local Economic Blueprint studies demonstrate substantial potential value to local economies of relocalisation in key sectors such as food, energy and housing (Ward et al., 2013). The rise of Transition-inspired social enterprises including public transport schemes, bike projects, sustainable housing programmes, community pubs and bakeries, and reskilling and employment programmes, shows the potential for a radical restructuring of economic life in order to serve the needs of people and planet rather than capital (Ward, 2013; Lewis & Conaty, 2013). Detailed evaluation of specific Transition projects, shows, in addition to carbon emission reductions and financial savings, profound social benefits to participants (Beetham, 2011). This supports the view that collaborating at community scale not only has direct benefits, it increases the social cohesion and capacity for collective action necessary for community resilience (Wilding, 2011).

Tom Henfrey, October 2018

*“If we do nothing, we still get to a post-carbon future, but it will be bleak. However, if we plan the transition, we can have a world that supports robust communities of healthy, creative people and ecosystems with millions of other species.”*

Richard Heinberg



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Spanish Transition Hub  
at Transition Thrive  
training, 14 June 2014.

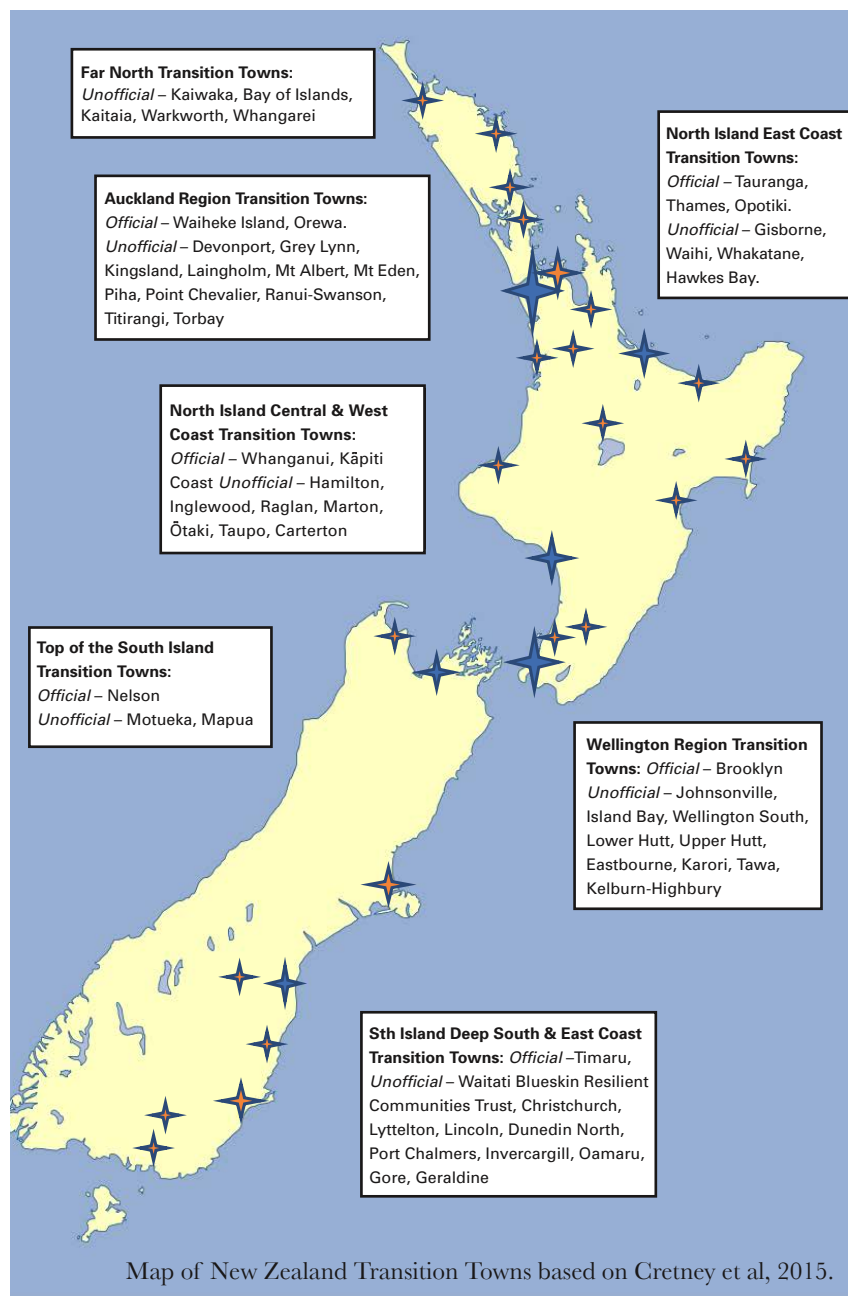


# Transition in Aotearoa New Zealand

As Transition spread beyond Britain and Ireland, it took root most quickly in the white-dominated anglophone world, with Aotearoa New Zealand among the early adopters (Seyfang, 2009). Interest took off nationally in 2007, following a visit from peak oil expert Richard Heinberg and two subsequent workshops at the Taupo Ecoshow (Transition Towns New Zealand Aotearoa, 2008). Several dozen local initiatives quickly sprang up (Hopkins, 2007), and consolidated after the global financial crisis and subsequent oil price spike (Cretney, 2015).

At the time of writing in late 2018, the online directory of Transition Network, the global coordination and support body for the Transition movement, lists nine active initiatives in Aotearoa New Zealand (Transition Network, 2018), but this number includes only those self-registered on the site. The Transition New Zealand Aotearoa site lists over 71 initiatives known to exist, or to have been in existence, in September 2012 (Transition Towns New Zealand Aotearoa, 2012). It is likely this represents a maximum figure. A nationwide survey conducted by researchers at Victoria University during 2012 and 2013 indicated that many groups had ceased to operate (Cretney, 2015).

Detailed case study research with two local initiatives, Transition Town Lower Hutt and Brooklyn Food Group (which started life as Brooklyn Transition Town) showed two very different patterns of group development (Cretney et al., 2016). Lower Hutt had sought to follow as faithfully as possible their understanding of the vision and scale of the original Transition model, undertaking an impressive range of projects in awareness-raising and practical action, but these achievements came at some cost at both individual and group level. Only a small number of activities persisted over time; conflicts over vision, aims and strategy arose in the core group, leading to departures at times slowing activity, while many core participants reported becoming overwhelmed and burntout. Brooklyn Transition Town, in contrast, scaled down its activity to a relatively small number of food-related projects. In the view of some, this reflected a loss of touch with the transformative ambitions of Transition; in the others, it kept activity at a scale that could





be realistically maintained without either individual or collective stress. Both groups, however, remained active forces for ongoing change in their communities.

Elsewhere in the country, findings from research on recovery from the earthquake that caused severe damage and disruption in Christchurch in 2011 endorsed the view, central to Transition, that positive action at the scale of the local community is a vital part of long-term processes of building resilience (Cretney & Bond, 2014). Community organisations such as Project Lyttleton, whose approach closely parallels Transition, were a vital complement to, and indeed enabler of, government responses through the military and fire brigade. Projects of these initiatives became integrated into the disaster relief effort. For example, provision of food and support to elderly residents, child care and conduct of repairs were all coordinated through an existing time bank. The networks of social connection and solidarity established by community groups allowed rapid mobilisation of civic action, which took diverse and often creative forms. Perhaps most importantly, these groups supported alternative narratives on disaster and recovery that challenged the predominant 'business as usual' discourse in ways that will be vital to a broad transition away from fossil fuel dependency.

In these ways, and in its continued flourishing in places like Grey Lynn, the national Transition movement in Aotearoa New Zealand exemplifies both the challenges and great potential of Transition worldwide.

Tom Henfrey, October 2018



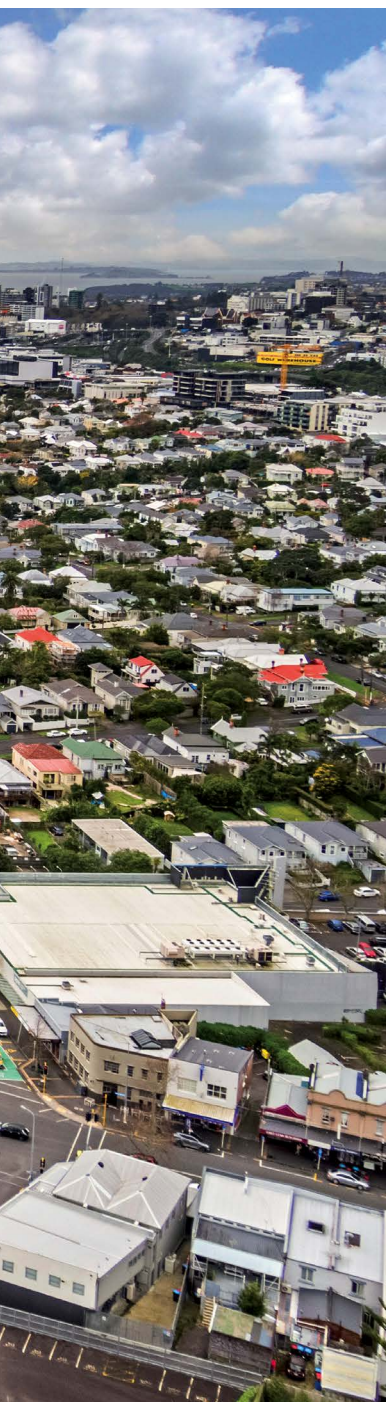
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Grey Lynn 2030 took part in the Sustainable Business Network's Sustainable City Showcase in 2013. It was a chance to show off the many initiatives groups from around Auckland had underway and to connect with passionate sustainability champions from the community and business. Far left is Ellen Schindler from Transition Town Point Chevalier and Suzanne Kendrick from Grey Lynn 2030 seated, far right.









# Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community

Grey Lynn 2030 is the Grey Lynn Transition Town – it is a focal point for locals to lead and get involved in projects that help build a resilient and sustainable local community.

It all began with two people arriving, separately, at the Richmond Road Countdown carpark in Grey Lynn on Waitangi Day 2008. Realizing that the supermarket was closed, they started chatting and found out that they had been thinking about similar questions. What makes a community a great place to live in? How can we encourage people to take actions that support and sustain a healthy local environment and community? Dianna Tawharu, Nick Bain and his partner Carolyn Cox got a few friends together and continued sharing their visions. They were joined by Gary Marshall and Finn Mackesy, who had just started running an Auckland-based modular urban Permaculture Design Certificate. Finn had recently been involved in setting up the neighbouring Point Chevalier Transition Town. Gary had heard about Melbourne 2030, and suggested the time frame was a good fit. Positive Vision – Practical Action became the driving motto, which attracted Lynn Green to join the group.

Several evening conversations and ‘planning meetings’ around Carolyn’s and Dianna’s kitchen tables took place, mapping out where to start, what the structure might be and how to build momentum and interest.

Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community was born, and people were ready for action, promoting the idea of creating a self-sustaining suburb in the city.

The next step was to engage the wider community on what they wanted their neighbourhood to become, starting with a public meeting at Wellpark College, where it became obvious that people had a lot of ideas about creating their ideal future community.

People wanted more opportunities to meet their neighbours; they wanted a local farmers market, roadside verges planted to encourage biodiversity, invigorated and safer streets for pedestrians, children and cyclists, waste reduction, community gardens and local waterway restoration. The process involved collectively building up a vision of how our neighbourhood could look if it supplied more of its own needs, relied less on oil and imported products, contributed less to climate change emissions, and most importantly, developing a guide for how we are going to get there.

A number of focus groups formed following the early public meetings. Vincent (aka Vinnie) Dickie started the idea for a Grey Lynn Farmers Market. The Waste

## Grey Lynn suburb

Grey Lynn, an inner residential suburb of Auckland, New Zealand, is located three kilometres to the west of the city centre. It encompasses the surrounding neighbourhoods that are in the west side of the Waitematā Local Board area (including Westmere, Ponsonby, Freemans Bay, Herne Bay and St Marys Bay). Grey Lynn is the overarching name for a suburb with four different areas, called by locals the West Lynn village or shops, Grey Lynn village or Surrey Crescent shops, Arch Hill and Richmond Road.

If you are interested in learning more about Grey Lynn, there are two wonderful books, both available at the Grey Lynn Library: “High hopes in hard times – A history of Grey Lynn and Westmere” by Kaaren Hiyama (1991); and “The Grey Lynn Book – The life & times of New Zealand’s most fascinating suburb” by Matt McEvoy (2015).

Left: Grey Lynn 2030 Trustees in 2012: (l to r) Charlotte Gordon, Sarah Guppy, Colinda Rowe, Chris Olson, Lynn Green and Pippa Coom, front row: Suzanne Kendrick.

Right: Grey Lynn Park Festival, 2008, showing the very first Grey Lynn Farmers Market sign. It was designed and painted by Curtis Walker specially for the Festival. The lady in blue with the blue hat and plants is Margaret Jones, a veteran organic gardener and activist.



Away group was established by Lynn Green, and several successful waste collection days took place over the next few years, as well as the Waste Away stall at the Grey Lynn Farmers Market.

Monthly public meetings attracted more people, and Pippa Coom and Suzanne Kendrick both joined. They built on the original ideas and helped make it happen. Suzanne established the Grey Lynn 2030 website, regular newsletter and Facebook page, which quickly attracted over 5,000 friends.

When Mandy McMullin, co-founder of Wilton Street Community Garden, joined the Steering Committee, a regular Sunday morning gardening group was set up. 'Green Screen' events, showing films with an environmental focus followed by discussion, was another forum for community building.

During the first couple of years, monthly meetings included inspiring speakers. In May 2009, Warren Snow spoke on the benefits of community-led Resource Recovery Centres. Grey Lynn 2030 is actively involved in the project for such a centre to be established in our neighbourhood in the future.

Grey Lynn 2030 Week, organised by Pippa Coom and team, started in March 2010. It included a West Lynn Street Party and the first Twilight Market. The week promoted local retailers and highlighted local initiatives that were working towards the Grey Lynn 2030 vision. From these, Pippa Coom and Suzanne Kendrick started the Grey Lynn Business Association.

A strong community spirit flourished and groups continued to emerge where people shared interests and skills, such as the Traffic Calming Group, the Grey

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has”.*

Margaret Mead

## The Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community Trust

“The charitable objects of the Trust will be to act as a participatory community organisation within the greater Grey Lynn area promoting and engaging in building neighbourhood spirit and cooperation while working towards a vision of a self-reliant, positive, resilient, vibrant, connected and sustainable community. In particular the Trust shall carry out one or more of the following objects independently of any other object:

- 3.1 Foster a local identity that is associated with sustainable living;
- 3.2 Build local resilience in terms of food, energy, employment, resource management and economics;
- 3.3 Seek out methods for reducing energy usage as well as increasing our own community's;
- 3.4 Foster and support a diversity of projects which emerge from the community via focus groups;
- 3.5 Build networks with and support other organisations and groups consistent with this charitable purpose;
- 3.6 Identify gaps in knowledge related to community resilience and to make available information and



Lynn Community Choir and the Energy Focus Group. Grey Lynn 2030's influence broadened to include writing submissions to the council on issues concerning Grey Lynn's potentially changing infrastructure and social fabric.

For about four years, Grey Lynn 2030 managed informally with minimal funding from donations and fund-raising events. In late 2011, the Grey Lynn 2030 Trust Deed (see below) was developed and, in May 2012, became the Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community Trust. Initial Trustees were Suzanne Kendrick, Lynn Green, Charlotte Gordon, Pippa Coom, Dianna Tawharu, Chris Olson, Sarah Guppy and Colinda Rowe.

After the establishment of the Trust more initiatives were started, such as the Grey Lynn Urban Environment Group (GLUE), a response to the Auckland Unitary Plan. The Car Boot Market began in 2013 on the last Sunday of the month at the Returned Services Club car park and has become a Grey Lynn fixture. A Plastic Bag FREE campaign has been a regular event for the Waste Away group since 2014. Interest in participating in the proposed Auckland Resource Recovery Network, a focus of the Trust since 2011, led to the RePurpose Community Centre trial in 2017. In conjunction, the upcycling Trash-to-Trade competition was introduced to Grey Lynn by Brigitte Sisig, who joined the Trust in 2016.

In 2017, funding from the Department of Internal Affairs enabled Grey Lynn 2030 to contract a coordinator to recommence the monthly newsletter and create a stronger media presence.

One of the lessons of this decade of positive vision and practical action, is balancing staying tuned to the needs of the community while working in with local authorities. Delays in creating a platform for actioning community ideas impacts on the morale and energy of the group, and it takes perseverance to keep going. The Trust's Deed helped the group to remain focussed on a positive vision that is closely aligned to their objectives, and to be vibrant and inspiring, so that they can continue to engage strong local support and encourage practical action.

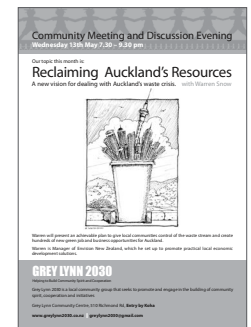
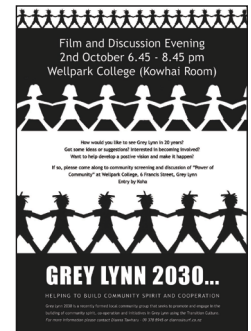
Ten years on, Grey Lynn 2030 has contributed to a resilient community and remains active and full of enthusiasm. New ideas are being discussed and new groups are continuing to emerge where people are passionate about issues such as upcycling, food forests and energy. Grey Lynn 2030 will continue to nurture and support these ideas and groups so that people can help shape our community's future.



## Deed's Objectives (signed 11th May 2012)

methodologies that facilitate positive change within the community;

- 3.7 Raise awareness, care for and enhance the natural resources of water, soil, habitats and wildlife;
- 3.8 Create and maintain social media such as a website, twitter and facebook for our community to inform and to interact with the members of our community as well as with other community groups;
- 3.9 Support and encourage community gardens to bring the community together, provide community composting facilities and local food production;
- 3.10 Act as the point of contact for organisations wishing to engage with the community;
- 3.11 Provide other support and assistance consistent with this charitable purpose; and
- 3.12 To carry out such other charitable purposes within New Zealand as the Board may determine from time to time."



Top: Poster for the October 2008 Grey Lynn 2030 community meeting at Wellpark College, screening the film "The power of community".

Middle: Poster for the inspiring talk by Warren Snow about "Reclaiming Auckland's Resources - A new vision for dealing with Auckland's waste crisis", held at the Grey Lynn Community Centre in May 2009.

Bottom: In 2013 Grey Lynn 2030's achievements were acknowledged by being awarded the Waitematā Local Board Good Citizens Outstanding Community Group Award.

# Grey Lynn 2030 Steering Committee/Trust



**Dianna Tawharu**

“It all started with a few questions: What makes a community a great place to live in? How can we encourage people to take actions that support and sustain a healthy local environment and community?”



**Carolyn Cox**

“My partner Nick and I were involved in the first few meetings of what became Grey Lynn 2030. We moved to Mt Albert soon after - but are still regulars at the Farmers Market every Sunday.”



**Gary Marshall**

“I was invited to come to some of the initial meetings and thought it was a great opportunity to walk the talk. It was great to be there at the beginning and to see it still going all these years later.”



**Finn Mackesy**

“I got involved from the very beginning because I saw the opportunity to share my learning from recently setting up another local transition initiative and connect with some like-minded people. My involvement was brief but enjoyable and rewarding.”



**Lynn Green**

“I believe that everything is connected, therefore I am a piece of a larger system. My actions, teaching by example, sharing my knowledge, and maintaining hope for a more sustainable future contribute to the change I want to see in the world.”



**Suzanne Kendrick**

“The Transition movement connected me with a brilliant way to run community groups. It was well thought out by Rob Hopkins who has a long history of community development. The idea was to start projects, and as they became successful, the groups would move away and become independent. We started lots of groups, all with a vision of how we wanted Grey Lynn to be in 2030.”





**Pippa Coom**

“Grey Lynn 2030’s unofficial motto is Margaret Mead’s quote “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has”. That really sums it up for me. A huge amount has been achieved over the last 10 years through positive vision and practical action. I’m grateful to have been part of it.”

*“Emerging at the other end, we will not be the same as we were; we will have become more humble, more connected to the natural world, fitter, leaner, more skilled and, ultimately, wiser.”* Rob Hopkins



**Mandy McMullin**

“I joined the committee in 2008 when international Transition Towns were taking off and it was exciting to be part of that. Because the model was flexible, we did what we chose. It was fun and hard work.”



**Chris Olson**

“Grey Lynn 2030 provided me with a space to discuss my concerns about the environment and climate damage, caused by our energy consumption, with like-minded people and work toward finding local solutions.”



**Sarah Guppy**

“I joined the steering committee of Grey Lynn 2030 after becoming involved in the Wilton Street Community Garden. What I learnt from this was the importance of understanding and communication. I felt happy and curious to be part of a global endeavour at a local level.”



**Colinda Rowe**

“Grey Lynn 2030 has given me the opportunity to be involved in activities around waste reduction that I am passionate about. These events have been fun to do and make a positive difference to our community.”



**Charlotte Gordon**

“Grey Lynn 2030 has exposed me to incredibly smart, dedicated and passionate people, who are a real force in this community. I’m proud of what has been achieved and excited to see what the future holds.”



**Brigitte Sistig**

“Community networking and a renewed shift towards applied sustainability in the Grey Lynn villages has been rewarding and enjoyable. Being part of Grey Lynn 2030 installs hope for future generations and the wellbeing of our community.”

# Interview with Lynn Green

Lynn Green joined the Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community in 2008 and has taken an active part in many initiatives over the years. She is still a Trustee, continuing to contribute to the Grey Lynn 2030 community.

Lynn Green was one of the first stall holders when the Grey Lynn Farmers Market first opened in September 2019. She still sells Local Honey and staffs the Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away stall.



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*Q: How and when did you get involved with Grey Lynn 2030?*

I had felt disconnected from my community and was interested in learning about community groups and how to be an activist on waste reduction issues. With my background in sustainable horticulture and through my studies and research into Zero Waste NGOs, communities and diverting food waste from landfill, I felt ready to participate in something meaningful and community minded.

In 2008, Tara Brogan told me about a group that I would be interested in. In August that year, I met with Dianna Tawharu, Finn Mackesy and Gary Marshall, who had recently formed Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community. The meetings were short and concise with easy agreements and the slogan Positive Vision – Practical Action suited me to a tee as I am a hands-on grass roots person.

*Q: Describe your experience being part of Grey Lynn 2030*

I initiated the Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away group in 2008. The group attracted a strong passionate core of Wasters who for many years got together and “talked rubbish!” Katha Bauer, Angie Baur, Lisa Cohen-Smith, Marianne van der Haas, Winnie Lenihan, Colinda Rowe and

Nadine Wakim, people who walk the talk! We had a strong sense of group identity; meetings worked well; we sorted batteries and bras, laughed and formed lasting friendships.

Highlights have been events such as the E-Waste Day, collecting food waste from Revel Café, participating in the Demystifying Packaging project and road show, street parties, Waste Away at the Grey Lynn Park Festivals and the Uplift Bra collection at the Grey Lynn Farmers Market.

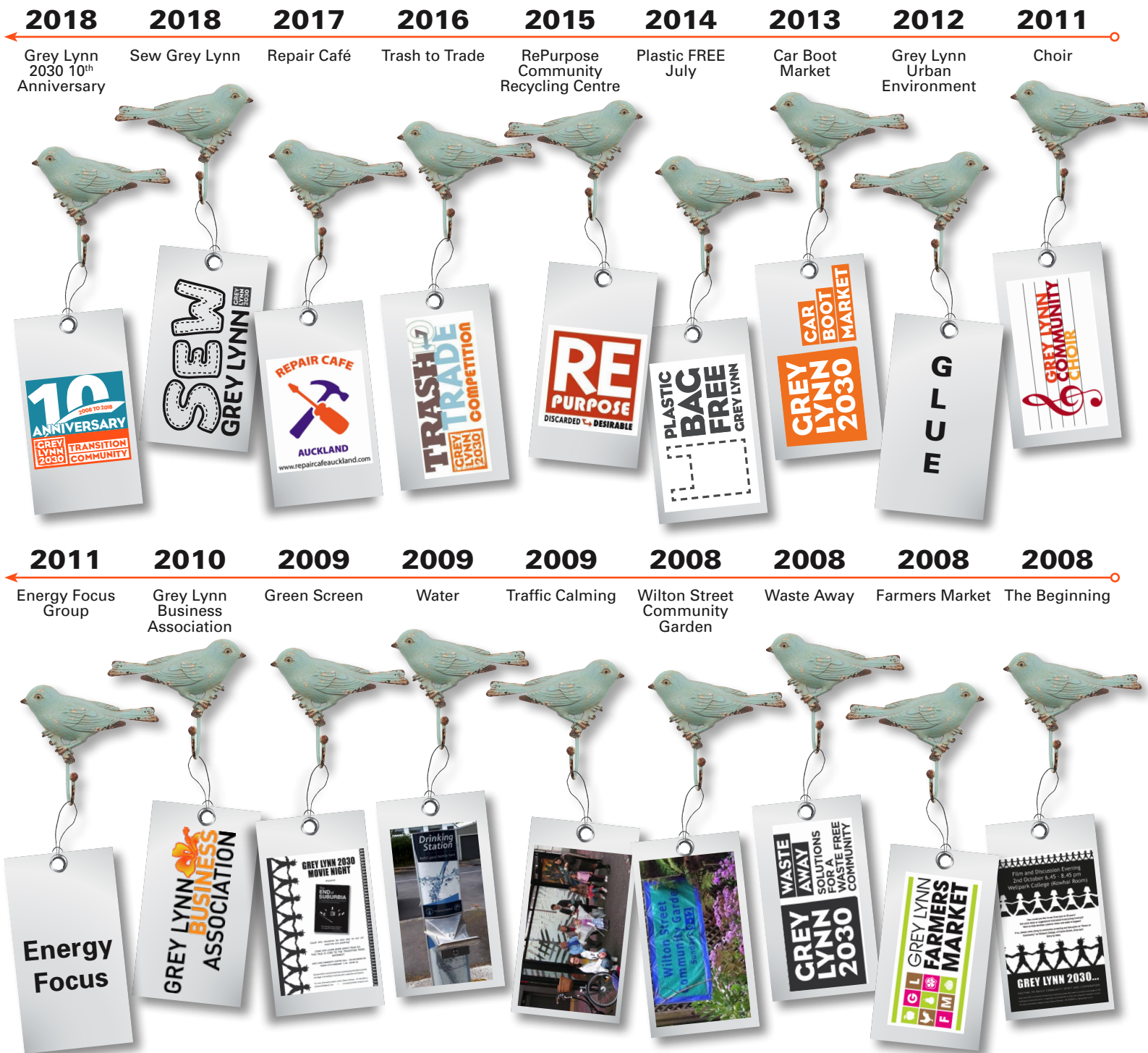
I supported the beginnings of the Farmers Market, where I have been selling local honey and hosting the Waste Away community table since its beginning in 2009. I supported the Grey Lynn 2030 Energy Focus Group and initiated the Sew Grey Lynn group this year. Being a practical person, I handed out flyers, visited local businesses to put up posters, which I still do, and wrote the early newsletters. I stepped into the role of “silent” Trustee in 2012 and “woke up” in 2018, supporting the other Trustees in projects.

Today the plans for my future are to: be kind to people, go the extra step, live in integrity with my beliefs, volunteer in my community, keep holding the vision, take action to make a positive difference and keep asking what can I do next?

*“You must be the change you wish to see in the world”*

Gandhi





Dates given in this timeline indicate the inception of the groups born out of Grey Lynn 2030.  
Many of the Grey Lynn 2030 group logos were created by Isla Osborne in 2014.







# Grey Lynn Farmers Market

Every Sunday morning, the Grey Lynn Community Centre transforms into the farmers market, a vibrant community meeting place where locals stock up on fresh produce, sample local delicacies, listen to live music and catch up with friends.



The idea for the Grey Lynn Farmers Market (GLFM) emerged at the first public Grey Lynn 2030 meeting in October 2008. Vincent (aka Vinnie) Dickie provided the creative spark and dynamic energy necessary to develop the project and was contracted by the first GLFM committee. The local community donated time, money and resources to get it off the ground. Over 300 people pledged between \$20 and \$1,000, which helped raise the first \$8,000 to get the market started. Fifteen banana boxes of citrus fruit were collected from local backyards, juiced and sold at the Grey Lynn Park Festival in 2008, raising a further \$3,500. Strong support from the community, along with funding from many local businesses and the Waitematā Local Board were essential in the establishment phase and continue to be valuable.

The response was overwhelmingly positive when the market first opened its doors on Sunday 6 September 2009. Over a thousand people turned up! To prevent over-crowding they staggered entry, only allowing people in as others left.

From the beginning, the market's management committee employed a part-time market manager and, since 2011, a market assistant to ensure the smooth running of the market every Sunday and provide a point of contact for customers and stallholders.



Maintaining the GLFM's status as an authentic farmers market means that most stallholders are producers, the produce is food and grocery-based (so no jewellery or t-shirts), and the produce is grown or produced locally (within two hours' drive of the market). This means, at times, having to turn away some stall holders, despite the market needing the income for its survival.

A farmers market is an earthy and organic experience. The people who come to sell at a market create something from scratch. They grow vegetables, they raise hens, they harvest honey, they bake sourdough or raise seedlings. Stallholders provide a great variety of delicious and nutritious produce and locally produced artisan foods, including free range eggs, local honey, kombucha, nut milk, fresh juices, specialty cheeses, artisan olive oil, meat, fish, homemade pies, bread, pastries and certified organic fresh produce. Four stallholders have been with the market from the beginning: Local Honey with Lynn Green, George's Gardens with George Vezich and his team, Fresh Gardens with Sally Yu and Hunter Xian, and Heirloom Organic Seedlings with Rob Velseboer and Murray Joyce.

The other essential ingredient for keeping a farmers market going – so the early committee members learned – is to find out what works as a stall, and what is the formula that keeps customers coming back?

This page, left: Vincent Dickie, instigator and developer of the Grey Lynn Farmers Market, fundraising for the market at the Grey Lynn Park Festival in November 2008.

Right: Four stallholders, who have been with the market from the beginning, celebrating the Farmers Market's 8th birthday: (l to r) Hunter Xian (Fresh Gardens), George Vezich (George's Gardens), Rob Velseboer (Heirloom) Organic Seedlings and Lynn Green (Local Honey) with birthday cake by Bread and Butter and Hakanoa ginger beer.

Facing page: The local "Good Medicine" Doctor Fiona Gordon getting her organic kale from Trevor Crosby from Sanctuary Gardens Mahi Whenua (Māori meaning for nurturing the land), who has been a community table stall holder for many years. In the background, the queue for George's veggies.

There is always something happening at the Grey Lynn Farmers Market; people love going there, buying their veggies for the week and catching up with friends.



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It's hard to believe now, but at one stage, the Grey Lynn Farmers Market was in dire straits and nearly closed its doors. A few years after opening, the GLFM stallholder numbers were low, and customers were thin on the ground. The problem was that the market was held inside the hall, so people driving or walking past couldn't see the signs for a Farmers Market. Putting up a few stalls outside on the curb and investing in some blackboards in the surrounding streets helped to promote the market, which increased customer numbers.

For the first few years, the Kraftbomb Market ran in the Community Centre on the fourth Sunday of the month. This meant that the Farmers Market could not be held on that week and this caused confusion, and consequently a loss of customers. The GLFM committee realized the need for consistency to offer a true farmers market where people source their weekly produce supplies.

So, for a while, the market operated across Richmond Road in the carpark outside the then Community Law Centre office, with stalls set up under gazebos for protection from the weather, although it did not rain one single time, according to Callum. Eventually, the Grey Lynn Farmers Market became a weekly fixture in the Community Centre.

The Farmers Market is community-owned and

operated. Members of the incorporated society are "Friends of the Market". These Friends have provided much needed support in challenging times. One of the toughest times was the discovery of the Queensland fruit fly in Grey Lynn (February 2015). Strict restrictions on the movement of vegetation out of Grey Lynn kept away customers from outside the controlled area and made business complicated and marginal for stallholders. The market survived the fruit fly challenges through the efforts of many dedicated volunteers, who held on to the original vision of a local market and worked at solutions to keep produce available and customers returning.

Over the years, the market featured in a variety of locations. Colourful farmers market stalls have featured in Grey Lynn street festivals, lining Richmond Road and Surrey Crescent. And in 2013, as part of Orangutan Caring Week, a special palm-oil-free market was held in front of Auckland Zoo.

The committee and managers have all been passionate about waste minimisation and are continually looking for opportunities to improve their practice and ways of reducing their impact on the environment. Stallholders are encouraged to use minimal and compostable packaging. Sustainability, zero waste and ethical food are core drivers of the Grey Lynn Farmers Market's identity. It specialises in local products (sourced within

150 – 200km radius), fair-trade, organic, free range, and non-GMO products.

Fast forward to today and you'd never recognise what was the quiet, creaky market during times of hardship, when friends and the committee had to make pity purchases to support stallholders. Now the market has customers lining up waiting at the doors at 8:30am to get the best pick of the vegetables. There are lines for the popular stalls, music every week, and new stalls starting up and establishing themselves. This is really what the committee had always hoped for, that the market would operate as an asset to the local community, helping people shop locally and get to know where their products come from. It also offers a platform for people to launch food businesses. The market provides an alternative to supermarkets, giving customers the opportunity to interact and build relationships with the producers of their food. Most market visitors are regulars who plan their weekends around their market shopping.

The Farmers Market has an important role as a business incubator, enabling individuals with a food business idea to try it out and develop their product, with the support of the market and fellow stallholders. The market regards stallholders as partners and aims to support their aspirations. Stallholders also provide support for each other and often collaborate.

A community trading table is available for selling produce from community and home gardens. Volunteers from Sanctuary Gardens and Kelmarna Gardens can often be seen there. It is a great place to pick up seasonal and sometimes rare or uncommon fruit and vegetables. This contributes to a local food economy and helps reduce food waste.

There is always something interesting happening at the market. Over the years, there have been a variety of events and workshops associated with the market, including story-telling, gardening tips, cooking lessons, sauerkraut fermentation, bread making, sustainability and permaculture workshops, cycle repair, a pop-up rat trap shop, market birthdays, special Christmas markets, and most recently, a series of business incubator seminars on establishing a small food business.

The market has grown and evolved over the last nine years and it is well placed to continue as a valued part of the Grey Lynn community over future decades.

# Market Managers

**Vincent Dickie:** *"Returning home to New Zealand after years of travelling the world left me with a deep desire to share my colourful experiences locally. At my first Grey Lynn 2030 meeting, I literally put my hand up and, with no idea of what would be involved, I volunteered to set up the local farmers market. I knew first hand that markets are vibrant places that, beyond commerce, foster community connections and offer a great cultural experience. Being part of Grey Lynn 2030 and the Grey Lynn Farmers Market were a pathway to make new connections and foster deeper connections in the community."*

**Charlotte Gordon, GLFM manager 2011 – 2013**

*"I gained an enormous amount of respect for the stallholders and the creativity and commitment behind their work. Selling at a market is not glamorous work. It involves getting up early, hauling crates, and still greeting customers with a cheery smile."*

**Carol Gunn, current Farmers Market manager:**

*"I love the wonderful organic mix of people and products. We plan for each market but there are always plenty of surprises and delights on the day – it's all part of the fun of the market."*

**Callum McAlpine, Market Assistant 2011 - 2018**

The longest serving employee was the first market assistant, Callum McAlpine. Callum started in 2011 as an enthusiastic 15-year-old "sign-boy" and went on to take on more and more responsibilities, until he left for his big OE in August 2018. He quickly became known as a market personality, who could be heard chatting in fluent French, Italian and a smattering of Spanish with stallholders and customers. Remarkably, Callum never missed a single market in the whole time he was there.

*"I never saw the market as a job. It was always a pleasure to get up bright and early on a Sunday morning and head to the market. It wasn't for the money, it was for the people. Every week, you'd see the same, smiling faces, and yet the interactions and experiences were always different. The market had become my second family and you can't get that sense of community anywhere else."*



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## Market Managers

2009	Paul Dalton
2010	Judith Whiting
2010	Monica Stoinescu
2011	Charlotte Gordon
2013	Sarah James
2013	Louise Carr-Neil
2015	Frances Haszard
2016	Dave Watson
2017-	Carol Gunn

## Market Assistant

2011-18	Callum McAlpine
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# Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away

Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away is a group of committed volunteers who take action to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill from our community.

Left: Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away stall at the Grey Lynn Park Festival, November, 2010.

Right: The Waste Away crew cleaning up at the Grey Lynn Park Festival, November, 2010.



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At the inaugural Grey Lynn 2030 community meeting in October 2008, Lynn Green brought the idea of a 'Waste' group forward. A group of people passionate about waste and practical solutions began developing a framework of actions to address their vision of reducing waste to landfill.

The initial focus for the group was the E-Waste Action Day, successfully held in the then Woolworths Grey Lynn car park, in March 2009, prior to the local inorganic collection date, diverting 12 tonnes of E-Waste.

Subsequent activities targeted food waste by selling worm farms and bokashi buckets at the Grey Lynn 2030 meetings. For two years, 2009-2011, the group did a weekly collection of café/restaurant food waste and coffee grounds from Revel Café on Karangahape Road. The waste was composted at Kelmarna Gardens. 10 tonnes of food waste were diverted from landfill. Three other local cafés were introduced to the practical solutions of food waste diversion using worm farms, bokashi buckets and compost bins.

When the Grey Lynn Farmers Market opened in September 2009, the Waste Away group secured a space there to promote the reduction of food waste and plastic that ends up in landfill, which is still operating to this day. This expanded to include a Reuse/Donate Depot for glass jars, egg cartons, bras for the Uplift Project, fabric and household batteries.

Recycling at local events such as the annual Grey Lynn Street Party and Grey Lynn Park Festival has been provided by group members over the years, prior to the launch of Auckland Council's Zero Waste Events team.

GLWA has been an active member of the Auckland Community Zero Waste Alliance and the Zero Waste Network (formerly CRN) for many years. They have also provided submissions and been active participants in workshops with Auckland Council around the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and the Resource Recovery Network development.

Lynn Green stepped down from heading the group in 2012, and Colinda Rowe stepped up to take the group ahead until 2017, when Brigitte Sistig stepped in. One focus became the reduction of plastic, advocating for New Zealand to become plastic bag free. The group has held several annual Plastic FREE July events, supporting Grey Lynn businesses to use alternatives to plastic bags/packaging. Sewing events are currently held on a regular basis under the new Sew Grey Lynn group, sewing shopping bags from reused material, which are very popular among Grey Lynn businesses customers.

Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away continues to advocate for a less plastic-filled world, food waste reduction and to engage with locals on issues of waste management that are important to our community.

"We get together at our meetings and talk rubbish!"



# E-Waste Action Day



The first major project for the newly formed Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away group was the E-Waste Action Day on 21 March 2009, offering a local and free of charge e-waste collection. This date was picked to precede the Auckland City Council's annual inorganic collection, thereby providing an ideal opportunity to engage with the community through positive, direct action. The event

was advertised through a flyer and a news story in the local Harbour News paper.

On a perfect Saturday in the Woolworths' Richmond Road carpark, a team of dedicated volunteers ensured the smooth and safe running of the drive-through collection.

Over 12 tonnes of computer equipment were collected from 320 drop-offs over the course of six hours and diverted from going to landfill. Computer Recycling Limited processed the computer gear; functioning components were recycled, unusable parts were safely and sustainably disposed of, and a total of six revamped iMac computers were gifted to Grey Lynn Primary School.

Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away recorded data from all aspects of the event in the hope that it would one day prove useful to support the establishment of a permanent, local e-waste collection centre.

The extremely successful E-Waste Action Day in March 2009, (l to r) Carol Downer, Kim Maree, Rachael Cotton, Katha Bauer, Alex, Sunshine Yates, Garry Stevenson, Bill Puru, Emma Torckler, Ritchie Sims, Woolworths Staff, Lynn Green, Michael Solomon and Jamie Oxley.

## Reuse to Reduce

Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away (GLWA) partnered with the Auckland Zoo to co-host a 'Reuse to Reduce' market as part of the 2014 Zoo's Conservation Week activities. The concept was to increase awareness of how to reduce waste going to landfill, reuse, recycle and upcycle.

The group was keen to explore the possibility of a local Resource Recovery Centre and this project would provide them with experience in coordinating a large, public event; build relationships with Auckland Council through the zoo; and also expand their understanding of what goods were readily available for repurposing.

One month before the market, Auckland Zoo arranged for the delivery of two large containers to their carpark for the collection and storage of donated items. A mega banner was hung from one of the containers, promoting the event and encouraging public involvement. All incoming goods were immediately priced and categorised within the containers, which prepared the group for quick and efficient set-up on the day.

The market generated a vast and varied array of goods that sprawled under a number of gazebos provided by Auckland Zoo. All unsold items were gifted to Auckland Migrant Action Trust to sell at their monthly market.

After expenses, little profit was left to share between Auckland Zoo and GLWA, however it was an invaluable exercise, which increased the group's network and experience working towards resource recovery.



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Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away managing stalls with second-hand goods sprawled under a number of gazebos provided by Auckland Zoo as part of the 'Reuse to Reduce' Conservation Week Market at the Auckland Zoo, 1 November 2014.

# GLWA at the Farmers Market

The Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away stall at the Grey Lynn Farmers Market, championing zero waste for the market, stall holders and customers, since the market started in September 2009.

Most Sunday mornings, tucked away in the corner by the entrance to the Grey Lynn Farmers Market (GLFM), you will find the Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away (GLWA) table. Never far away is Lynn Green, the founding member of the group and the Local Honey stallholder. The group volunteers, cheekily self-referred to as 'wasters', are there to talk with market visitors about practical ways of moving toward household waste minimisation. Products to support a zero waste lifestyle, including keep cups, reusable bags, honeywraps, bokashi buckets and worm farms to divert food waste from going into landfill, are available for purchase, which in turn supplements funding of the various activities run by the group.

Since July 2010, the stall also provides a CFL light bulb, household battery and mobile phone collection point.

The pink bin has so far collected thousands of clean bras in good condition for the Uplift Project, which distributes them to women in the Pacific Islands, Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia, who through hardship and



location are unable to purchase bras.

The Reuse/Donate Depot – a swap table for glass jars, egg cartons and reusable bags – reaffirms the community's commitment to move toward zero waste.

Additionally, encouraging market stall holders to reduce their packaging use and/or use more environmentally friendly packaging is all part of GLWA's presence at the Farmers Market.

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## Sew Grey Lynn

Sew Grey Lynn is a social group, where people come together and make beautiful reusable bags and other items from recycled material in line with Grey Lynn 2030's commitment to actively moving toward zero waste.

One of the Sew Grey Lynn bags made it into the Grey Lynn Library's Plastic Bag FREE July (2018) display, arranged by Claire Gummer, one of the lovely librarians.



Lynn Green is a longstanding Grey Lynn 2030 member and the inspiration behind Sew Grey Lynn. Lynn wanted to learn sewing in the company of friends with a focus on environment and sustainability. Without hesitation, an enthusiastic group got together in the month prior to Plastic FREE July 2018. They spent an afternoon sorting and cutting donated fabric and sewing together the first bags!

During the following meeting, they sewed 'giveaway' bags for West Lynn retailers in support of their endeavours to become single-use plastic bag free for one day (1st July 2018). A week later, the group joined the nationwide Boomerang Bag Sewing Working Bee. During the month of July, they sewed 125 bags and donated them to participating West Lynn businesses.

The group continues to meet regularly to sew bags, but also has ideas for other community sewing projects. They meet upstairs at the Grey Lynn Returned Services Club. Everyone is welcome to bring a sewing machine and sew, drop off fabric, help with measuring and cutting, or just come in for a chat.



# Plastic FREE July



**P**lastic FREE July is a global movement which began in Western Australia in 2008. Since 2014 Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away (GLWA) has promoted Plastic FREE July and used this platform to raise awareness of the effects of plastic pollution, encouraging the use of reusable shopping bags, coffee cups, drink bottles and straws, and campaigning for a nationwide levy/ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags (SUPB).

On the last day of July in 2014, local businesses were urged not to offer plastic shopping bags for the day. The two local Countdown supermarkets backed the initiative by removing plastic bags and offering reusable bags to customers who spent \$50 or more. Other activities supporting the campaign included displaying signage in shops promoting the day. Volunteers outside the supermarkets talked with customers about plastic pollution and reusable alternatives, and the movie “Bag It” was screened at the local community centre.

Similar activities were organised in 2015 with locals being asked to “ditch their dirty habits and put the ‘green in Grey Lynn’”. Volunteers were once again stationed outside the supermarkets, applauding customers who remembered their reusable bags. Locals completed the sentence, “I choose reusable bags because...” and photos of them holding their handwritten signs were posted on Facebook. It was also in 2015 that the plastic bag installation was first displayed on the corner of Williamson Avenue and Great North Road. Plastic bags were sewn onto ribbon



and hung between the lamp-posts along with posters both stating and visualising the harm caused by single-use plastic bags.

In 2016, an agency was commissioned to design posters reinforcing the message of the harm plastic bags wreak on wildlife. Generic versions were also created which could be used by any group wanting to use them.

In 2017, BYO Bag took place in the old ASB Bank on Great North Road. Guest speakers included the Mayor of Auckland Phil Goff and Green Party MP Denise Roche. Hands-on activities such as making reusable bags from old T-shirts, and riding a bicycle to generate power to run the sewing machine used to make the bags, made the event fun and interactive.

This year, the Grey Lynn Business Association joined the GLWA, offering free alternatives such as paper bags and reusable bags during the month of July. Shop window displays and a children’s art competition on the theme of ‘No More Plastic Bags’ made the message accessible to other facets of the community. A new GLWA sub-group Sew Grey Lynn sewed 125 bags to hand out to customers on 1st July.

In August 2018, the New Zealand Government announced the ban of SUPBs by July 2019. GLWA is proud to have contributed to this important change. However, there are more plastic issues to address, which the group will continue to engage with effectively within their community.

Left: Colinda Rowe sewing a reusable bag from recycled fabric while one of the 2017 Plastic Bag FREE event visitors is peddling the bicycle that powers the sewing machine; onlookers are Pippa Coom and a young visitor.

Right: Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away plastic bag installation, first displayed on the corner of Williamson Avenue and Great North Road. in July 2015.

After hearing David Engwicht speak, Barbara Grace organised an afternoon tea party in the bus stop in Richmond Road, in August 2009, which was featured in the *The Aucklander*, a supplement of the *New Zealand Herald*.

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A flourishing and well-maintained berm in Grey Lynn, planted in 2010, and still looking glorious in August 2018.

# Traffic Calming

The Grey Lynn Traffic Calming group responded to West Lynn residents' concerns regarding the safety of residents around traffic, and the desire to be able to walk and cycle safely.

Residents in West Lynn had been concerned about traffic safety; speed and volume of traffic, and the safety of children, pedestrians and cyclists. In June 2009, Grey Lynn 2030 held a meeting, hosting Australian David Engwicht, artist, street philosopher, story teller, and author of "Mental Speed Bumps – the smarter way to tame traffic". David proposes that streets with seating and retail shops, where locals linger and interact, sends a message to motorists that this is primarily a social area and increases the likelihood of them slowing down.

In July 2010, the Grey Lynn 2030 Traffic Calming group undertook a survey of residents. Results of the survey highlighted concerns for safety on local streets. In conjunction with Walk Auckland they presented a proposal to the Western Bays Community Board for traffic calming initiatives, based on David's ideas, and



traffic calming days in conjunction with Grey Lynn street parties. The group did not remain active.

However, Grey Lynn 2030 continues to support improvements to slow traffic and initiatives designed to encourage walking and cycling.

# Berm Bombs

Planting berms establishes a "bio-corridor"; a perfect habitat for birds, bees, native lizards and insects in urban streetscapes. Preparing the soil and planting also provides an opportunity to meet the neighbours.

Grey Lynn 2030 started Berm Bombs in 2010 with the intention to create a beautiful urban landscape, supporting a rich biodiversity of flora and fauna. Streets, where plants, birds, bees and insects flourish, nature is visible and celebrated by the community. Planted berms also help to reduce storm

water runoff and soil erosion, improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Groups got together to help each other prepare the soil, and plant self-seeding flora with plant species that support local bird, bee and insect populations, and therefore pollination. Plants like borage and swan plants which attract bees and butterflies and rosemary, thyme and parsley for use in the kitchen. A Berm Bomb flashmob gardening event unofficially kicked off the Grey Lynn 2030 Week in 2010.

Grey Lynn 2030 encouraged people to plant only what they were willing to take responsibility for, and avoid trees and structures, according to Auckland Transport guidelines. When walking through the streets of Grey Lynn, you will still find spaces years later where small patches of berm plantings buzz with wildlife, thanks to the efforts of a bunch of "berm bombing" residents.





# Green Screen

'Green Screen' shows films that are relevant to Transition issues, bringing our community together and creating a forum for discussion and debate. The community screenings continue to provide inspiration and calls to action.

During a Grey Lynn 2030 public meeting in February 2009, Steve Edwards floated the idea of hosting documentaries relevant to the philosophy behind Transition Towns. The first screening was "End of Suburbia", organised by Suzanne Kendrick, and held on 27th February 2009, at the Grey Lynn Community Centre (GLCC).

Over the years many documentaries with an environmental message were shown, followed by healthy audience discussion. Examples include "Garbage Warrior", about a man who builds houses out of plastic bottles, "The Vanishing of the Bees", describing colony collapse disorder, "The Garden", fighting to save the biggest community garden in the US, and "This Way of Life", an award-winning New Zealand documentary.

Green Screens have provided inspiration and calls to action. After showing "Tapped" for World Water Day in 2010 (in collaboration with EcoMatters) Suzanne Kendrick was inspired to get drinking fountains installed by Auckland City Council at West Lynn.

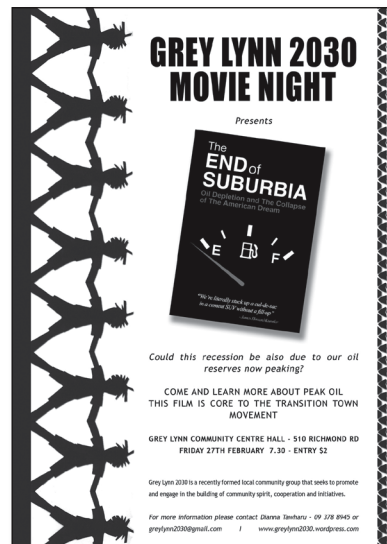
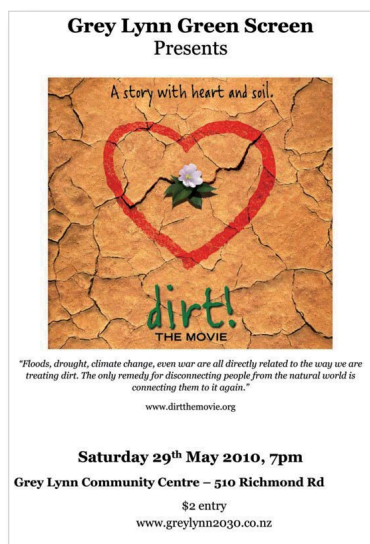
Green Screen was re-launched by Charlotte Gordon in May 2012 with the film "Dirt", drawing the biggest Green Screen audience yet! Almost 60 people completely filled the Garden Room at the GLCC, making it a true cosy community movie evening.

Green screen folded with the departure of Charlotte Gordon in 2013 and was revived by Brigitte Sistig at the Grey Lynn 2030 AGM in March 2018 with the film "A Dangerous Future", an episode of the 8-part Emmy award-winning documentary (The Years of

Living Dangerously) that explores the impact on climate change. The topic was timely with the nearing submission deadline for the overall Auckland Plan 2050, including the development of a climate action plan.

Currently Green Screen runs bi-monthly in connection to Grey Lynn 2030 related activities. Inviting a local expert speaker to each Green Screen was introduced this year, an additional attraction, stimulating lively discussion afterwards. The movie "Bag It" was shown again during Plastic Free July this year, which reached a wide audience, and brought the issue of "No more plastic bags" to a local primary school. Networking and resource sharing are all part of these community events.

Thank you to all those who have assisted with Green Screen over the years. Grey Lynn 2030 intends to continue linking Green Screen evenings with the organisation's related activities or other topical community issues.



Right: Poster announcing the first Grey Lynn Green Screen event on 27 February 2009 at the Grey Lynn Community Centre, showing the movie "End of Suburbia".

Left: Poster announcing the film "Dirt" on 29 May 2010, which drew the biggest Green Screen audience yet(!), making it a true community movie evening.

# Wilton Street Community Garden

From humble beginnings a vibrant community garden was created. Beyond the bountiful harvests, its real value lay in its innate beauty and the relationships that flourished between the volunteers who cultivated and cared for it.



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Left: A generous donation of garden boxes from the late Peter Nuske allowed food to be grown on parts of the site that were suspected of having been contaminated, (l to r) Lincoln Watson, Dave Gilbert, Margot Zeier, Sarah Guppy and Vonney Ball. Background: Angela Fraser. Foreground: Sam, the terrier.

Right: The garden in full bloom in November 2012. The beautiful blue sign was made by Wilton Street artist Angela Fraser.

In early 2008, neighbours Mandy McMullin and Kate Walsh were walking past the vacant, overgrown site, filled with rubbish, behind the Gypsy Tea Room and The Wine Vault when the idea to transform the lot into a community garden came to them. This conversation was the beginning of the garden.

With the blessing of the owners and leaseholders of the two separate titles, the transformation of the neglected lot began. As the site was privately owned, no council support was available. However, this had the corollary effect of reducing potential constraints on the development. The first year was hard slog; clearing of weeds and rubbish was all done by hand by a group of dedicated volunteers turning up every weekend. Beneath the jasmine they discovered a few mature trees and a trellis fence which later formed the backbone of the garden. At one point, a 4WD was used to tow out an old wire fence embedded in the undergrowth. By Christmas 2008, enough space had been cleared for the first community picnic.

During this time Grey Lynn 2030's community activities began to flourish, and the garden came under the organisation's umbrella, receiving considerable support. A regular group of volunteers gathered each Sunday, spades in hand, to till the soil and discuss ideas,

with a friendly dog keeping watch from a corner of the garden. From 2009, the garden took on a momentum of its own.

A grant from the (then) Auckland Regional Council community grants programme provided for a mega jumbo bin, which the staff volunteers of the BNZ Closed for Good programme filled with 10 cubic meters of rubbish from the site in October 2009. Soon after, the boundary fence was built by Murray Watt, builder, with pickets donated by Silver Fern Landscapes and The Wine Vault manager. A generous donation of garden boxes from the late Peter Nuske allowed food to be grown on parts of the site that were suspected of having been contaminated by its previous use as a carpark.

The generosity of the community was key to the continued development of the gardens. A special addition was the beehives brought in by "The Bee Lady", Carol Downer. Before long, Wilton Street Community Garden honey was being sold at the Grey Lynn Farmers Market, along with seedlings. In 2010, the Year of Biodiversity, a funding grant from the Western Bay Community Board allowed for the purchasing of garden furniture, fruit trees and native plants for the lizard garden. The late Judith Holtebrinck from The Mount Eden Village People



offered inspiration and support. An uprooted and discarded banana tree was retrieved from the roadside, planted and given a new life. Not only did it take root, but it thrived and eventually produced the most beautiful lemon-tasting bananas!

One of the most beneficial projects was the making of three large compost stalls. After a local flyer was distributed, food waste poured into the community compost from local cafés, businesses and residents, including regular donors from as far away as Point Chevalier. Dave Gilbert devotedly ran the community compost for three years, churning it out to supply soil for the garden beds. The result was a compost so full of worms and rich in nutrients that it was aptly referred to as “Grey Lynn Gold” – the not-so-secret secret behind the bountiful harvests.

If the garden could talk it would make a long fireside conversation. The large fig tree was central to the garden, always a reminder of the changing of the season; the first fig of late summer a joy. Produce was shared – whoever worked was rewarded, no matter how small the harvest of the day.

The garden linked with other local activities and had strong ties to the Grey Lynn Farmers Market and Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away group. Local composting and soil testing events were hosted and the “pollinator palace” was built by local children. Due to its handy location, high visibility, picnic tables and lovely ambience, the garden became a popular local meeting place, functioning like a small local park. A place where submissions were prepared, open days, birthdays and Christmas celebrations were held. It was a very sociable place and there was always something going on.

“The garden became our common purpose, greater than our individual selves, a beautiful, shared, safe and loved space that the whole community enjoyed and was proud of.”

Exchange with other community gardens, including Point Chevalier, St Columba, Kelmarna, UNITEC Sanctuary, Devonport and West Auckland allowed for rich cross-fertilization. Over the years many people visited, several from overseas community gardens or Transition Towns, including people from Nelson, Waiheke Island and France.

Sadly, in 2014, The Wine Vault building was sold, and

“The garden became our common purpose, greater than our individual selves, a beautiful, shared, safe and loved space that the whole community enjoyed and was proud of.” Mandy McMullin

the new owner reclaimed their land. This resulted in the garden being too small to support the majority of community garden activities and thus Grey Lynn 2030 discontinued its involvement.

Guardianship of the garden has changed over the years and has included Mandy McMullin who coordinated the garden for four years, followed by Sarah Guppy, Fiona Hill, and currently Marnie Hunter and Jane Admore. Guardians garden cooperatively and share any produce with those involved. Passersby are welcome to come in and enjoy a picnic in the garden.

Thanks to the many friends and neighbours who worked in the garden, visitors passing through and to the many others who contributed and supported the garden over the years.



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Grey Lynn 2030  
Christmas Barbeque  
at the Wilton Street  
Community Garden  
with roasted kumara  
and garden salad  
picked from the garden,  
November 2011.

# Grey Lynn Business Association

We support and promote the vitality, prosperity and sustainability of the businesses and our relationship with the communities of Grey Lynn. Our work ensures Grey Lynn remains a great, safe community, because Grey Lynn isn't just a place – it's a state of mind!



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Left: GLBA's call for a community meeting in response to the proposed Auckland Unitary Plan - Nick Pinchin and Soala Wilson were both integral to the GLBA's work on the 2012 'Grey Lynn Plan', which focused on developing a community response to the Auckland Plan regarding the future of the Great North Road/Surrey Crescent Shopping Precinct.

Right: GLBA street party in West Lynn village, March 2013.

Grey Lynn Business Association (GLBA) was born out of the July 2010 monthly Grey Lynn 2030 meeting. Pippa Coom and Suzanne Kendrick led the initiative, highlighting the importance of the Business Association sharing the Grey Lynn 2030 vision of sustainability. GLBA is run by local business people with the aim of promoting and protecting the people, community, and businesses of Grey Lynn. The unique character of Grey Lynn, with its relatively small commercial area and many sole traders working from residential premises, suited a low carbon footprint approach in keeping with the goal of sustainability. The first chair of GLBA, Paul Dalton, completed the incorporation of GLBA on 12 November 2010.

A start-up growth fund of \$10,000 was granted to GLBA from Auckland Council in 2011 to assist with establishing communication networks and addressing strategic issues. The committee began with a focus on issues of concern around Grey Lynn village. These included liquor outlets and beautification, including a planting programme. Security was also a concern and an alliance with local Neighbourhood Watch groups was established to help address this problem.

In response to the 2012 proposed Auckland Council Unitary Plan, the Grey Lynn 2030-based Grey Lynn Urban Environment (GLUE) group worked closely

with GLBA to create the 'Grey Lynn Plan'. This is a master plan of the village centre and remains the foundation document for on-going shaping and design of Grey Lynn village and the section of Great North Road from Surrey Crescent through to Karangahape Road. The plan has received acknowledgment and praise from Auckland Deputy Mayor, Penny Hulse. Following on from the Auckland Council Unitary Plan, came the 10-year plan and Local Board plans which focused on economic development. GLBA invested considerable time consulting with members and

In 2015, facing proposals by Auckland Transport (AT) to change parking and bus stops, GLBA developed a closer association with Grey Lynn village retailers, liaising with local retailers via the Surrey Crescent Working Group (SCWG) and advocated successfully against some of the less desirable proposals. Following this, GLBA co-opted a representative of the SCWG to their board, to facilitate liaison with non-member Grey Lynn village retailers.

GLBA has continued attending to local business needs in various ways. Since 2013, an annual seminar series including guest speakers has been popular and instrumental in attracting new members. Another way GLBA has supported local businesses has been by arranging numerous public meetings concerning



proposed changes to by-laws and other local issues.

In 2016, Waitematā Local Board agreed to support the principle of community-led design. The Board provided a fund to the Grey Lynn Residents Association in July 2016 to develop design criteria for the two kilometre stretch of Great North Road up to Karangahape Road, based on the 'Grey Lynn Plan'.

Late in 2016, GLBA held a meeting to review its direction. A new vision statement was formed, 'Building a stimulating and resilient community' reflecting on the resilience businesses can achieve through mutual support during periods of major change imposed upon them. This was clearly demonstrated the following year, when work undertaken by AT to West Lynn village, Surrey Crescent, Old Mill and Garnet Roads raised community and business concerns. Access to top retail strategists First Retail Group was made available to GLBA by AT, providing some degree of compensation for the disruption to retailers.

GLBA has utilized opportunities to engage local businesses with Auckland-wide activities and events such as the Rugby World Cup in 2011. GLBA adopted the Manu Samoa team and received a grant from the Samoan Tourist Authority and Auckland Council to put on events, including street parties. Soala Wilson coordinated Grey Lynn Working Bees throughout the following year to beautify Grey Lynn and maintain the work that was carried out in preparation for the Rugby World Cup.

Other fun events GLBA supported in the community include the wonderful annual street parties. The first one was held in West Lynn village in March 2013, and in Grey Lynn village the following year. These were always colourful events with a great variety of music, food and festivity. A feature of 2015 was the Sustainable Business Walk, which attracted wide media attention. It was a walk starting off at Bread and Butter Bakery and ending at Kokako Roastery, linking up local businesses that use sustainable practices. That year, Ponsonby News stepped up with a generous allocation of column space, which is greatly valued and used to promote Grey Lynn 2030 community news and events. The World Masters Games in 2017, attracted many tourists to Auckland. GLBA took the opportunity and organized the Grey Lynn Carnival, held in Grey Lynn village. The international brand Totally Locally based

on Buy Local principles was adopted for the event and generated a great deal of interest in local shops.

GLBA has been fortunate with stable membership and a paid coordinator since 2012. Charlotte Gordon became the first paid coordinator, initiating a regular newsletter and developing the GLBA website. The following year Megan Rees took over, bringing with her a superb creative flair for event management. Julie Mitchell followed in 2016, bringing a new set of skills to the association.

Lisa Mackay was elected as Chair at the AGM in November 2011 with Tracy Hickman elected as Treasurer and Mary Ansell Secretary. Lisa was followed by Jennifer Northover until November 2017 when two co-chairs were elected, local retailers, Jacob Faull of Nature Baby and Irene King of The Floral Studio.

To this day, GLBA has not transitioned to Business Improvement District status as all other business associations in the Waitematā Local Board area have. However, it is formally recognized as a significant operator and has a local board representative on the GLBA Board.

Grey Lynn Business Association has been unwavering in its goals, providing inspiration to other communities. This is evident in the businesses attracted to the area who share similar values. The shared values of environmental awareness, sustainability and people centricity are what sets Grey Lynn business precincts apart from other urban business districts.

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GLBA street party in Grey Lynn village, with Suzanne Kendrick (co-founder of GLBA) in the foreground to the right, March 2014.

# Energy Focus Group

The Grey Lynn 2030 Energy Focus Group attends to issues of local energy supply and demand and a circular economy. It provides a space to discuss ideas, learn from experts, and create proactive and inspiring projects for the local community.

A core strategy of the Transition movement is to address the potential effects of peak oil, climate destruction, and economic instability. As one of Grey Lynn 2030's commitments to building a resilient community, the Energy Focus Group started organising local projects to raise awareness of these issues and provide information about possibilities to improve energy efficiency and local energy generation. The group began in June 2011 and a few of the memorable projects are described in the following paragraphs.

A series of 'Energy' talks were organised at the Grey Lynn Farmers Market in summer 2012, including "Future trends in NZ electricity generation" by Josh Butterfield from Vector, "Solar Photovoltaic panels at home" by John Gorman and "Community Council & Government – what we can do to make energy work together" by Eion Scott from Auckland City Council. These discussions were an informative addition for people picking up their vegetables and weekly food supplies from the market.

To provide a global context to climate change and fossil fuel issues, Grey Lynn 2030 organised Richard Heinberg from the Post Carbon Institute to present at The Auckland University Business School, Waikato Regional Council and Baycourt Theatre in Tauranga. The group also organised for Nicole Foss from The Automatic Earth to present her message about global energy supply constraints and finance at the Grey Lynn Returned Services Club. Attendances at both presentations were full to overflowing and created lively discussion.

In July 2012, Auckland Council developed an Energy and Climate Change Mitigation Strategy to transform Auckland into a sustainable, low carbon and energy resilient city. Grey Lynn 2030 Energy Focus Group submitted comments to the draft document "Powering Auckland's Low Carbon Transformation" which was regarded as a bold and promising vision for Auckland.

Our local energy resilience story has only just begun with Auckland Council and regional energy distribution

company Vector both promoting increased energy efficiency and renewable supply, electric vehicles and reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to meet our commitments to the Paris Agreement.


Many people have been involved in the Energy Focus Group and special appreciation is due to Grey Lynn 2030 along with Tilda Bostwick, Gerry Drum, Cristian Mires and Chris Olson. Grey Lynn 2030 Energy Focus Group is currently being revived and is looking forward to continuing working towards a low carbon renewable energy future for Grey Lynn.

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Richard Heinberg's visit to New Zealand in September 2012; flyer advertising the event, organised by the Grey Lynn 2030 Energy Focus Group.

POST CARBON INSTITUTE AND SUSTAINABLE POPULATION AUSTRALIA PRESENT:

**RICHARD HEINBERG:**  
**LIFE AFTER GROWTH**  
NEW ZEALAND TOUR






Richard Heinberg is a Senior Fellow of the Post Carbon Institute and is widely regarded as one of the world's foremost Peak Oil educators. He is the author of ten books including End of Growth.




**Richard will bring his challenging and compelling messages on resilience, sustainability and a healthy future. He'll ask and answer some of the most challenging questions we face today.**

**1-3pm Sunday 30 September 2012**  
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Fisher & Paykel Appliances Auditorium,  
Level 0, 12 Grafton Road (Behind the Owen G Glenn Building)

For more info: Tilda Bostwick 021 123 7183 email: tcbostwick@gmail.com



# Grey Lynn Community Choir

The Grey Lynn Community Choir, like all choirs, was a complex organism brimming with varied, multifaceted personalities. A wonderful quality of choirs is how these disparate elements combine to make lovely music.



Grey Lynn Community Choir singing at their first public performance after only five rehearsals at St Columba Church, Grey Lynn, on 4 December 2011.

Grey Lynn Community Choir first met on October 31st, 2011 at the Grey Lynn Community Centre. The idea of a community choir came from Suzanne Kendrick, with Philip Griffin the original Musical Director. A group of prospective choristers gathered on that first night, some already in other choirs and looking for new outlets, some having never sung before and some drawn in by the full force of Suzanne's persuasive talents. Choirs are a group of diverse personalities drawn together in the desire to sing and make music.

Philip had great vision for the choir and taught in a wide variety of musical styles, including classical, world music, gospel and modern pop music. Under his directorship, the choir sang in English, Māori, ancient Spanish, Russian, Macedonian and Samoan, incorporating various unfamiliar scales and time-signatures. They performed original compositions by Philip and other choir members, written specifically for the choir.

Over the years, the choir performed at different venues, singing at the Dawn Chorus on the Auckland waterfront and in the street at Grey Lynn community activities. There were Christmas concerts and concerts

combined with other choirs. On one memorable occasion in 2013, an offshoot of the choir sang and filmed a flash-mob at the College Hill New World supermarket, agitating for a ban on single-use plastic shopping-bags.

After three years as musical director, Philip left for Brisbane, and Margaret Lindsay was elected to take his place. From there on, the choir was joined by instrumentalists for periods of times, such as pianist Kathryn Mansell, who brought her keyboard along every week. There were also talented members playing violin, flute and recorder as soloists and in ensemble work. Choir members came and went, but despite this, there was a core group of really committed people who enjoyed singing together. Hoping to attract new members, the choir added the title "In Voice" in 2017 and grew to just over 20 members. Many younger members left for various reasons in 2018, and it became difficult to prepare multi-part music with the limited numbers remaining. So, the choir disbanded for now, however they had a lot of laughs and fun along the way. Thanks to all the people who came along and contributed and shared their talent.

Water fountain on the corner of Richmond Road and Francis Street in West Lynn which was installed in 2010.

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# Water

The Grey Lynn 2030 Water group concerned itself with the restoration of a local stream and finding local solutions to prevent plastic water bottles going into landfills.

Grey Lynn 2030 Water group began its first project in 2009 with restoration of the local stream, Edgars Creek. The creek was thought to begin in Castle Street, however the group discovered it in Francis Street Reserve, flowing across into Wellpark Reserve. Restoration work began with community planting days, clearing weeds and replanting along the banks. Surprisingly, native fish were discovered in the stream.

The Water group also focused on wider issues such as bottled water. In recognition of World Water Day 2010, together with EcoMatters Environment Trust, Oxfam and TAPAC (The Auckland Per-

forming Arts Centre), Grey Lynn 2030 held a screening of “Tapped”, a documentary looking into the unregulated and unseen world of the water industry.

This generated discussion about local action to achieve a plastic water bottle-free New Zealand. One idea put forward was to install public water fountains to refill water bottles. Grey Lynn 2030 wrote a proposal for a ‘village pump’, which was endorsed and funded by Western Bays Community Board. West Lynn proudly became the first community to have a drinking station in the Waitematā area. It is located on the corner of Richmond Road and Francis Street. The Water group ceased in 2010.



## Grey Lynn Urban Environment Group

Grey Lynn Urban Environment Group (GLUE) was formed in response to the Draft Auckland Unitary Plan. Public feedback was called for, regarding the proposed new ‘rulebook’, which replaced former regional and district plans with one document for the whole of Auckland. In September 2012, Grey Lynn 2030 called a public meeting to discuss how to best protect the special character of

Grey Lynn, and GLUE was formed.

The aim of the group was to advocate for urban design that positively promoted healthy sustainable communities and protected the unique and special heritage character of Grey Lynn. The largest remaining concentration of Edwardian and Victorian wooden houses in the world is in Auckland’s inner city suburbs.

Another important aspect was to advocate for urban design, which promoted sustainable and healthy communities. Examples included design for safe active modes of transport, efficient public transport, development of green space and restoration of natural and cultural heritage sites.

The group drafted Grey Lynn 2030’s submission and encouraged other Grey Lynn groups to make submissions. GLUE was one of the stakeholder groups that provided early feedback to the Waitematā Local Board towards the development of the Draft Auckland Unitary Plan. This concluded the work of GLUE.



An example of Grey Lynn’s urban character.



# Grey Lynn 2030 Car Boot Market

The Car Boot Market is a place for anyone who wants to sell, swap or just give away things they no longer need. It's all about reducing waste through reusing and recycling.



The Grey Lynn Car Boot Market began on Sunday 26 August 2012 in the carpark of the Grey Lynn Returned Services Club (RSC). The idea for the car boot market follows one of Grey Lynn 2030's fundamental principles, reducing waste. It was initiated by the then Grey Lynn 2030 trustee, Suzanne Kendrick, to enable the local community to reuse and recycle unwanted items and to provide an income stream for Grey Lynn 2030's day-to-day running costs, and community projects. In this way a circular economy was created.

The Car Boot Market is held from 8.30am until 11.30am on the last Sunday of the month. It is a place for anyone who wants to sell, swap or just give away things they no longer need. Only second-hand items and no brand-new items are accepted, as the market is based on the philosophy that exploiting our planet's resources and consumerism, contributes to our current economic crisis. Stall holders, also referred to as "booties", who are selling a few of their personal items are welcome; professional market sellers are not.

The monthly Car Boot Market is a great local alternative to organising one's own garage sale. Advertising is taken care of by the Car Boot Market manager through Facebook and several event pages. It is set up to make it easy for people to recycle their used items, avoiding material going to landfill. Don Mathewson from the RSC joined the organizing team from the start. He helps out by setting up the Car Boot Market signs around the neighbourhood a few days before the market, which serves as a reminder and helps encourage patronage. Don also helps out on the day ensuring the smooth running of the market.

In support of local Grey Lynn cafés, there is no coffee van on site, as there is no shortage of places to get great coffee in Grey Lynn!

A big shout out to the Grey Lynn RSC for the generous use of their car park for the Grey Lynn 2030 Car Boot Market. Without such a central spot within the Grey Lynn community, the market would never have been the success it has been, and still is to this day.

**SHOP.SELL.SWAP**  
**CARBOOTMARKET**  
LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



**RSC CARPARK, FRANCIS ST**  
**8.30-11.30AM** GREY LYNN 2030 BOOTIES  
GREYLYNN2030.CO.NZ  
TO BOOK AND RESERVE A SPACE CALL  
**SUZANNE 027 360 4564**

**SHOP.SELL.SWAP**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**CARBOOTMARKET**  
LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH



**RSC CARPARK, 1 FRANCIS ST**  
**8.30-11.30AM** GREY LYNN 2030 BOOTIES  
GREYLYNN2030.CO.NZ  
TO BOOK AND RESERVE A SPACE  
**SUZANNE 027 360 4546**

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An early morning start to get a bargain at the Grey Lynn 2030 Car Boot Market in the car park of the Grey Lynn Returned Services Club.

# Repair Café

In today's world, repair skills are no longer appreciated and thus are being lost. Repair Café seeks to change this trend by bringing people together to repair household items and share valuable knowledge and skills.

Happy Repair Café visitor Charlotte Gordon, who had her special cup fixed at the first Grey Lynn 2030 Repair Café event in the St Columba Church Hall, February 2017.

Repair Cafés are free pop up events where local people bring in their broken and damaged belongings and local volunteer experts do their best to repair them. It is all about connecting local people, sharing skills, saving money, and reducing the amount of material that ends up in landfills.

The original concept was initiated by a Dutch woman, Martine Postma, who held the very first Repair Café in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, in 2009. In just nine years, Repair Café events are held in over 18 countries around the world.

An event in Bayswater in 2016 was the launch pad for the Repair Café movement in Auckland. This event was quickly followed by other groups around Auckland. Grey Lynn 2030 has held two Repair Cafés. The first was in February 2017, followed by another in February 2018, jointly run by Grey Lynn 2030 and Transition Town Point Chevalier. The Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away group supported this event by offering visitors information on waste reduction and sustainability. Both events have been a great way for locals to connect with each other, engendering a positive atmosphere and inspiring other community groups to hold their own events.



Repair Café Auckland is a Global Action Plan Oceania and Shore to Thrive partnership, grown with the support of an Auckland Council's Waste Minimisation and Innovation Fund grant. Repair Café Auckland provides access to shared resources and knowledge available to organisations and community groups hosting Repair Cafés in their own neighbourhoods. A training day for neighbourhood groups to learn more about the concept and how to hold an event was held in 2018. This attracted around 14 community groups from all over the Auckland region.

The events held to date have resulted in many hundreds of items being repaired, rather than being thrown out. From hairdryers, toasters and jugs, to favourite pieces of clothing and treasured pieces of furniture; countless items have been given a second life. Many of the expert repairers picked up new tips and tricks from their peers during the events. Visitors have shared some lovely heartwarming stories about some of the repairs completed. These events have also created spaces where locals can meet and learn repair skills of their own, or just enjoy a cup of coffee and a chat while their items are being repaired. Grey Lynn 2030 is open to hosting more of these events in the future.

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Map of Auckland-based Repair Cafés, which are pop-up events happening in many areas since 2016.





# Trash to Trade

Trash to Trade is an exciting community initiative, promoting the utilization of business waste as a resource for upcycling useful saleable items and diverting waste from going to landfill.

**T**rash to Trade is a competition run by Grey Lynn 2030 in alignment with their Resource Recovery Network participation. It is an exciting community initiative, promoting the utilization of waste as a resource and hopes to encourage everyone to give upcycling a try.

In 2016 Grey Lynn 2030 received a grant from the Waitemata Local Board to work alongside the local business and education sector, encouraging social entrepreneurs and artisans to turn business waste into creative, practical products, available for sale or hire. Tyres, fabric, banners, furniture, wood pallets are all examples of waste materials that can be upcycled in attractive and useful ways.

Trash to Trade was launched in October 2017 at the “Talking Trash” event during the Grey Lynn Farmers Market’s sustainability month workshop series. Local artists supported the event by sharing their stories about upcycled products. A video of the launch was made by Lyn Collie (a Grey Lynn-based internationally award-winning filmmaker) and received 1,900 views. This helped promote the inaugural Trash to Trade competition.

In the six months leading up to the competition, time was spent encouraging upcycling artisans, and engaging local businesses in identifying their business waste to be upcycled. Three competition entry categories invited participation from Young Makers to New Designers and Established Artisans. Entries needed to include an upcycled product prototype, business plan and an identified market.

The Trash to Trade competition was held on Sunday, 29th April 2018 in the upstairs rooms of the Grey Lynn Returned Services Club (RSC), while the Car Boot Market was open. A diverse range of contestants showcased outstanding creations. A steady flow of visitors came to view the upcycled products, engage with artisans and hear the makers’ stories. As one visitor commented “It was both encouraging and inspiring to see what people can do with things that are regarded as ‘useless!’”



Some of the unique upcycled products created by Andrew Palace, Metal As Anything and Adriana Avendaño Christie from Pallet Kingdom.

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Judges included established upcycling artist, Andrew Palace, from Metal As Anything, and leading social entrepreneur and upcyclist Adriana Avendaño Christie from Pallet Kingdom. The winners received \$500 each (donated by Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away) towards furthering their business, as well as free mentoring sessions by participating business experts. All entrants are followed up regularly, receiving ongoing support.

Valued partnership with the Grey Lynn Business Association (GLBA), individual GLBA traders, artisans and the educational sector have been established, and a data base of ‘makers and businesses’ has been created. Trash to Trade attracted interest among Zero Waste and Resource Recovery Networks, providing potential future collaborative opportunities for Grey Lynn 2030.

# RePurpose Community Recycling Centre

Reducing the amount of household waste that goes to landfill is one of the key principles of the Grey Lynn 2030 Trust, which commits members to continuously increase their knowledge and skills in the area of Resource Recovery.



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Participants of the Envision / Waste MINZ Auckland Resource Recovery Network Study Tour visiting the Onchunga-based RePurpose Community Recycling Centre (RCRC). RCRC site manager Agnes Granada (with hat) and volunteers Ema Teutau and Folola Finau in the green vests. 25 August 2017.

Grey Lynn 2030 is known for its waste reduction initiatives. In 2015 an opportunity arose to further their commitment of working toward zero waste by joining the Auckland Council's plans for a Resource Recovery Network (RRN). To better understand how Grey Lynn 2030 could be involved with the RRN, Matthew Luxon from Envision was engaged to complete a feasibility study. During the course of this study, Grey Lynn 2030 connected with the Earth Action Trust group, who have similar objectives about waste reduction. The two groups made a joint application to the Waste Minimisation and Innovation Fund (WMIF) to set up a one-year trial Resource Recovery Centre (RRC). Funding of \$80,000 was granted from Auckland Council for what was named RePurpose Community Recycling Centre (RCRC).

Finding a suitable location in central Auckland within budget proved challenging. Towards the end of 2016, Auckland Council advised of an available 500 m<sup>2</sup> metal yard in Onchunga and assisted in preparing the site for operation. However, power and water options to the site proved unfeasible. Nine 20-foot containers and a porta-loo were set up on site in a marketplace arrangement. Earth Action Trust brought in items, including household goods, clothes, books, games, and a few pieces of furniture

to start trading. A site supervisor was employed, and two volunteers recruited to run the centre on Thursdays and Saturdays between 10am and 3pm. A party to celebrate the June opening was held on 22 July 2017.

Effective advertising was essential as the site had no street frontage. The centre featured in the Onchunga News and educational site tours were offered. News of the centre spread. Several Pacific Island customers purchased goods to send back home. Many customers became regular visitors and appreciated stock changes. Second-hand goods were taken into the local communities of the two groups to sell at places like the Grey Lynn Car Boot Market and the Wesley Market.

An upcycling idea to create gift baskets filled with quality second-hand goods proved popular. Baskets were sold to be donated to a former refugee child at various markets and events hosted by Grey Lynn 2030 and via Give a Little.

At the end of the trial, goods remaining on site were re-homed to community groups with similar objectives. The trial provided valuable experience, and skills in running a Resource Recovery Centre. The learning it provided can be applied to future endeavours in Resource Recovery initiatives.



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## Websites

[www.greylynn2030.co.nz](http://www.greylynn2030.co.nz)  
[www.transitiontowns.org.nz](http://www.transitiontowns.org.nz)  
[www.transitionnetwork.org](http://www.transitionnetwork.org)  
[www.transitiontowns.org.nz](http://www.transitiontowns.org.nz)  
[www.ecolise.eu](http://www.ecolise.eu)



**WE'VE HAD ENOUGH!**



90% of New Zealand seabirds have eaten plastic\*

\*These of plastic pollution in seabirds to plastic, persistence, and increasing. (New Zealand Environment and Conservation, 2010)

**PLASTIC BAG FREE**

GREY LYNN 2030 WASTE AWAY PRESENTS

**BYOBAG** Think beyond Plastic

**Sunday 2 July!** THE BUNK HALL GREY LYNN

RAISING AWARENESS FOR INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC BAG FREE DAY

**FAMILY FRIENDLY INTERACTIVE FREE SAMPLES FOOD TRUCK MUSIC FUN GUEST SPEAKERS**

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER MAYOR OF AUCKLAND PHIL GOFF**

Along with Denise Roche, Green Party MP, Kirsty Lamson, ZeroWaste in NZ

When + Where Sunday, 2 July 11.30am to 2.30pm The Bank Hall (Old ASB) 592 Great North Road

GREY LYNN 2030 WASTE AWAY SOLUTIONS FOR A WASTE FREE COMMUNITY

POCKET ECOSTORE

THE FUTURE CRYSTAL

**TRASH 2 RE-TRADE COMPETITION**

All welcome to attend the final showcase on **29/04** at the Grey Lynn BSC, 10am-12pm

We invite artisans, local businesses, schools and individuals to take part in Trash to Trade 2018.

**ENTER HERE: GREYLYNN2030.CO.NZ**



**Why Upcycling?** Create something unique, save money, prevent waste from going to landfill, repurpose

**Waitemata Local Board** **GREY LYNN 2030 WASTE AWAY SOLUTIONS FOR A WASTE FREE COMMUNITY** **GREY LYNN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**West Lynn Creative Neighbourhood**

**West Lynn Street Party & Twilight Market**

Come and enjoy local produce, food, entertainment and music.

**Thursday 5 to 8pm 25 March**

**FREE event for all the family**

Photo credit: West Lynn Creative Neighbourhood. Photo credit: West Lynn Creative Neighbourhood. Photo credit: West Lynn Creative Neighbourhood.

GREY LYNN 2030 FUNDRAISER

**THE CLIMATE BLOCKBUSTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF McLIBEL**

**\$20.00**

**THE AGE OF STUPID**

**BRIDGEWAY THEATRE**

**122 QUEEN STREET NORTHCOTE**

**19TH AUGUST 8PM FOR 8.30PM START**

Tickets available from The Wine Vault  
At the shop 453 Richmond Road or online [www.thewinevault.co.nz](http://www.thewinevault.co.nz)

Try going a day without plastic. In this touching and often flat-out funny film, follow "everyman" job ber as he embarks on a global tour to unravel the complexities of our plastic world.

**bag it**

Proudly presented by **GREY LYNN 2030 WASTE AWAY SOLUTIONS FOR A WASTE FREE COMMUNITY**

**Celebrating Plastic Free July**

**Thursday 17th July**  
7.30pm, Grey Lynn Community Centre

**Come along and bring a friend!**  
**KOHA ENTRY - INCLUDES NIBBLES**

www.bagitfilm.com

**EARTH DAY 2018**  
**SUNDAY 22 APRIL**

**GREY LYNN 2030 WASTE AWAY SOLUTIONS FOR A WASTE FREE COMMUNITY**

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER TODAY AND BE IN TO WIN A PRIZE PACK



**GIL FEM**



Grey Lynn 2030 Green Screen presents...



**No Impact Man**

Sunday 27th March 7.30pm in the Garden Room, Grey Lynn Community Centre, 510 Richmond Road. \$2 entry

A guilty New York liberal decides to practise what he preaches for one year, turns off the electricity, stops making garbage, gives up TV, cars and take-out and becomes a walking, bicycling, composting, tree hugging, polar bear saving local-food eating citizen all while taking his baby daughter and caffeine-loving and retail-obsessed television-addicted wife along with him.

Upcoming Green Screen Movies  
Sunday 16th May 2011: The Garden  
Sunday 29th May 2011: A Grade Awakening: The Oil Crash  
Sunday 26th June 2011: Mondo Vice

**WEST LYNN StreetParty & Twilight Market**

**THURSDAY 4 to 8pm 21 MARCH**

**LIVE MUSIC STREET FOOD LOCAL ART & CRAFT SHOPS OPEN LATE**

Brought to you by the Grey Lynn Business Association to celebrate Neighbours' Day Aotearoa.

GREY LYNN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

**GREY LYNN 2030 PRESENTS**

**Repair Café**

Toss it? No way!

**Repair...**

- a toaster that no longer pops
- a zip that no longer closes
- a wheel that no longer turns

**mal katos uma fafetoaiga all welcome**

**KIDS' CORNER**

**Repair Café is repairing broken items, together with guidance from an expert. No charge for repairs. DONATIONS WELCOME.**

**SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2017 10am-2pm**

**St Columba Hall | 92 Surrey Cres | Grey Lynn**

**FOLLOW OUR STORY** **REPAIR COSTS** **INFORMATION**

Repair Café is an international movement which creates free meeting places to repair items together. CLOTHES | FURNITURE | ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES | TOYS | BIKES | ETC. [www.repaircafe.org](http://www.repaircafe.org)

**Shop Local this Christmas**

**West Lynn Richmond Road**

**Late night shopping hours**  
Week nights until Thursday 23 Dec

**Local fashion, dining, wine, gifts, books, pampering, produce, Christmas organic, treats and lots more**

Check individual stores for opening times and Christmas treats for Customers

In association with the Grey Lynn Business Association and Grey Lynn 2030 visit [www.greylyn2030.co.nz](http://www.greylyn2030.co.nz) for more details

**Community gardens tour**

Depart from Wilton St community garden  
Sunday 2nd October, 11am - 2.30pm  
Free event, contact Mandy 361 3811 for info

An informative session on planting and composting followed by a walking tour departing at 12.30. Explore community gardens that operate locally in Grey Lynn.

You are invited to a week-long festival of artistic, cultural, culinary and environmental events. Grey Lynn Creates celebrates creativity and sustainability in our community.

Visit [greylyncreates.co.nz](http://greylyncreates.co.nz) for details

A Grey Lynn 2030 event, part of the West Lynn Festival supported by the Grey Lynn Board

**REAL** **greylyncreates**





***A Decade of Positive Vision and Practical Action*** is an inspiring, living story of the Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community, showing how we can restore and establish community networks to create a healthy and vibrant community.

*“In a troubled world where dark clouds are gathering on the horizon, we must never forget to tell stories of defiant positivity and engaged collective action. Yes, the challenges we face can be daunting, but if you look in the right places you’ll see that the seeds of a new world have already been sown. In this inspiring publication, that is precisely what you will get: a source of grounded hope that another, better, more resilient and humane world is possible. The Transition Community of Grey Lynn is a shining example of the awesome power of grassroots community action.*

*This book is both an antidote for despair and a call to action. We’re all in this together and every contribution counts.”*

Dr Samuel Alexander, Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute, University of Melbourne

*“As our world faces extreme challenges and uncertainty, we will find many of our answers in natural systems and village-level organisation. The first ten years of Grey Lynn 2030 provide an inspirational arc of initiatives that have appeared, grown, receded, revived and repurposed – much the same way that healthy living systems function – and in doing so have both enriched the lives of the people in the community as well as enhanced the city which encompasses them.”*

Phil Stevens, Chair, Living Economics Educational Trust, New Zealand

Grey Lynn 2030 is a local response to the principles of the international, grassroots Transition movement. The goal of Transition is to bring people together to explore how we – as communities – can respond to the challenges and opportunities of climate change and peak oil. Transition Towns work on the understanding that communities have within themselves the innovation and ingenuity to create positive solutions to the converging crises of our time. Grey Lynn 2030 is a participatory community organisation promoting and engaging in building neighbourhood spirit and cooperation while working towards a vision of a self-reliant, positive, resilient, vibrant, connected and sustainable community.

*“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”*

Margaret Mead

