

## **Grey Lynn 2030 Annual Report 2020/21 – Delivered by Brigitte Sistig, outgoing chair**

Looking back one year, we had the Annual General Meeting on 11 March, and the next day the newly elected Trustee Grant Hewison joined Brigitte Sistig (chair) in a presentation to the Auckland Environment and Climate Change committee. By 25 March, New Zealand was in Lockdown Level 4, an experience to come that was new for all of us.

Like any other organisation, COVID-19 determined many of the activities of Grey Lynn 2030 Trust.

The “Adopt Your Street” initiative was set up by GL2030 in the week leading up to the first COVID-19 Lockdown as a way of keeping in contact with members of our community during this time. Over 30 Volunteer “Street Coordinators” checked in with neighbours on their street via a WhatsApp group during this time.

On 4 April, the GL2030 chair called an extraordinary Trustee meeting which was held on 6 April, followed by six weekly meetings. In addition, the following community support initiatives were set up.

Applaud our Essential Workers, Grey Lynners were invited to join a worldwide initiative to thank our healthcare workers and essential services, and to show solidarity at this time. Each Saturday at 7pm, starting from the 4 of April, Grey Lynn residents were invited to stand by their front gate and cheer as loud as they could: playing instruments, clapping, banging pots and pans, cheering, singing and loads more!

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, the [Lockdown Photography Challenge](#) Facebook Group started and remained active throughout COVID-19 Alert Levels 4 and 3. GL2030 created a video slideshow featuring the images and videos people took across Lockdown as a form of documentation of this unique period in history. The video gained more than 2,700 views in total. Some of the images were included in the New Zealand book “[Hope from Lockdown – A collection of pictures and stories](#)” and the Auckland Central Library catalogued our slideshow in the “COVID-19 – A Snapshot in Time Archive”.

The Grey Lynn Community Resilience Forum was set up with the intention of offering local community and business stakeholders a platform to share resources and develop plans and strategies in the face of an increasing economic crisis as well as community safety in a COVID-19 world that respect the environment and our people. Six meetings were held between 7 May and 3 September 2020 and 13 organisations joined. The main outcomes were mutual support and a platform to share, which saw participants starting to collaborate in various projects.

GL2030 applied for the MSD grant for COVID-19 Community Awareness and Preparedness Grant Fund (CAPGF) to help look after vulnerable people in our community and also support the local market food stall holders in these uncertain times. We partnered with the Grey Lynn Farmers Market stallholders to deliver fresh food to 50 families that the Auckland Women’s Refuge help look after, this morning! Building community resilience in ACTION!

Staying connected with the wider community on the main purpose of a Transition Town initiative, Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away and GL2030 members supported the Online School Strike 4 Climate on 15 May with various online activities.

The Trust participated in the annual Grey Lynn Festival on 21 November, and Mary-Anne Parker, GL2030 treasurer and secretary, organised the GL2030 table. We contributed to the festival's sustainability kaupapa with a poster for bringing your own cutlery etc. It was a great chance to talk with festival visitors about a more sustainable Grey Lynn future.

For the 4<sup>th</sup> year, GL2030 was fortunate enough to acquire a Department of Internal Affairs Community Matters grant for a coordinator. Our new communications and events coordinator Connor Cahill-Fahey joined the Trust in April 2020, taking care of social media and setting up our Instagram account. Connor compiles the GL2030 monthly newsletter and assisted in writing submissions to various Government discussion papers.

## **UMBRELLA FUNCTION OF THE TRUST**

The Auckland Library of Tools (ALoT) is currently still under the umbrella of GL2030. ALoT continues to flourish and recently moved to new premises with support from Waitemata Local Board.

In September 2020, GL2030 agreed to umbrella the 'Local Living Compost Hub and Centre for Regenerative Learning' run by Dignan Street Community Garden (DSCG) with their remaining Auckland Waste Minimisation Fund grant, as they were transitioning out from their initial umbrella group Grow Sandringham.

The GL2030 Car Boot Market, now managed by Suzanne Kendrick's daughter Florence Boyd, still contributes financially to the Trust and in turn the market manager gets paid a monthly fee from that account.

The Grey Lynn Waste Away (GLWA) led Cup Project began in late 2019. However, the launch was deferred from 22 March to the 1 July due to COVID-19 Lockdown and was completed at the end of April 2021. Waitemata Local Board kindly granted a small fund for the completion of project, which was umbrellaed by the Trust.

Unfortunately, due to time constraints, GLWA members were unable to run our popular Trash to Trade initiative last year, which we would like to see happening again soon.

## **TRUSTEES**

Tom Greer, co-founder of ALoT was with the Trust for two years and resigned in March this year. We thank him for his collegiality and support of the Trust's mission.

Brigitte Sistig is resigning from the GL2030 Trust at the 2021 AGM and will continue the work with Grey Lynn Waste Away.

Acknowledging here all gone before me as a member of the GL2030 Steering Committee or Trust (since 2012), especially Dianna Tawharu, who initiated the GL2030 Transition Community Steering Committee in 2008; Finn Mackesy and Gary Marshall, who helped set up the group at the beginning; Vinnie Dickie who envisioned and got the well-known and still going strong Grey Lynn Farmers Market (GLFM) established; Lynn Green, who started Grey Lynn 2030 Waste Away and still manages the stall at the GLFM; Pippa Coom who served at the Waitemata Local Board for many years and is now an Auckland Counsellor and Deputy Chair of the Environment and Climate Change committee. She started the Grey Lynn Business Association (GLBA, recently rebranded as Grey Lynn & Around) together with

Suzanne Kendrick, who also runs the monthly Grey Lynn 2030 Car Boot Market since 2012. Charlotte Gordon, who worked as coordinator for GLBA and as market manager for the GLFM for 3 years. Chris Ohlson and Nina Campbell, who both facilitated the Grey Lynn 2030 Energy Group at times, and last but not least Colinda Rowe, who was active in the GLWA group with Plastic FREE July initiatives since 2012 and served the Trust in several roles during her time, leaving the Trust in early 2018 after the successful completion of the RePurpose Community Recycling Centre trial in Onehunga in collaboration with Earth Action Trust.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped and contributed to any of the projects supported by the Trust or Grey Lynn Waste Away, which I was involved in since 2016. A special thank you to the Waitemata Local Board, who supported several projects with partial funding in my time.

Acknowledging here Trustees Mary-Anne Parker (chartered accountant and current secretary and treasurer for the GL2030 Trust) for working in this capacity for the Trust, and Grant Hewison, PhD (lawyer and policy consultant), who joined the Trust at last year's AGM for the purpose of bringing GL2030 Trust and Waitemata Low Carbon Network together, which may come to fruition in the near future.

This is an opportunity for me to step back, reflect and see what's next, now I am stepping down as chair and resigning from GL2030 Trust. It has been a pleasure and provided ample opportunity for me to learn and grow, which I am grateful for. I thank you all for your tremendous support and no doubt, we will connect again.

Wishing the Grey Lynn 2030 Trust all the absolute best for their future endeavors and may it continue to be a platform for community-led initiatives and be a leading light for our community.

Brigitte Sistig,  
GL2030, outgoing chair