



www.electra.co.nz  
**Electra**

A weekly feature on the  
communities in  
Horowhenua & Kapiti

# Caring for Our Community



## This week's feature—Altrusa Club

The Altrusa Club of Levin is part of a world-wide service association of business, executive and professional women, united in personal development and fellowship.

Founded in Nashville, Tennessee, in the United States, in 1917, it now boasted a world-wide membership over 14,000, in more than 500 clubs. Members volunteered their energies and expertise in a wide variety of projects, dedicated to the betterment of the local community, with a special focus on literacy in the community.

Local organisations benefiting from such Altrusa projects locally had included the Otaki Health Camp, Levin's Adventure Playground, Birthright, Victim Support, Red Cross, Flowers for Teachers, Waitarere Surf Lifesaving Club, Meals on Wheels, Fire Service.

Robyn Pescini, Altrusa Levin's president, said that in quick response to news of the disastrous flooding in February, local Altrusans collected and delivered cleaning materials to Victim Support and a fund was begun to directly benefit affected families.

"The fund climbed to over \$3000 with donations coming in from other New Zealand Altrusa Clubs. In addition, Altrusa International forwarded a donation of US\$1000 directly to the Horowhenua Mayoral Relief Fund. Dennis Cole of Horowhenua District Council confirmed this donation formed part of funds disbursed to farmers and families."

The regular monthly programme meeting encouraged networking, sharing information and fellowship, and new women members were made very



*Mixing it with the lifeguards of Waitarere beach, the ladies of the Levin Altrusa Club hand over a cheque to support the lifeguards' work.*

welcome. Levin Altrusa Club members came from varying age groups and business backgrounds, and put their skills and talents into organising fundraising events and providing social services. Previous fund raising events had included garden strolls, book fairs, Little Theatre nights and catering, to name a few. "As a club we are always looking for a new venture."

Altrusa Levin was a dynamic local group which had grown to 43 members. The focus for the club was literacy and this had resulted in the club supporting many literacy-based programs over the 30 years that the club has been active in the community.

Catherine Campbell, a foundation member, said: "Over the 30 years I have been in Altrusa in Levin,

there have been many highlights with all the projects we have been involved with and, to me personally, it has been an ongoing enjoyment and commitment to service in the community."

For further information about Altrusa, contact Robyn Pescini, Altrusa Levin President on (06) 368 6393.

## Adventure of the week Kimberley Reserve



Inland from Levin at the end of Kimberley Road is a large reserve on the banks of the Ohau River. There is a large picnic area with a swimming hole in the river.

## The Energy Chain



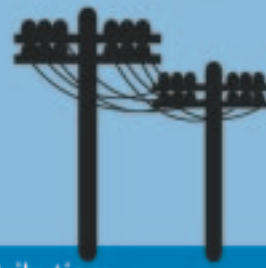
### Generation:

- Electricity is generated from hydro, coal, natural gas, geothermal resources and wind by companies such as Contact Energy, Genesis Energy, Mighty River Power, Trust Power and Energy on Line
- 60% - 70% is hydro
- The majority of hydro generation comes from the South Island
- Most electricity is consumed in the North Island



### Transmission:

- Excess electricity is transferred from the South Island to the North Island via the Cook Strait cable
- Crown owned company Transpower owns and operates the national grid and is responsible for the transmission of electricity throughout New Zealand
- Electra distributes electricity from Transpower to users in the Kapiti/Horowhenua



### Distribution:

- Electra is an electricity lines company. It owns the wires, poles and connections points through which electricity flows in the Kapiti-Horowhenua
- Ownership of lines companies ranges from community and consumer trusts (like Electra Trust) to publicly listed companies such as PowerCo
- Lines companies earn revenue from charging energy retailers for the distribution of electricity over their power lines



### Energy Retail:

- Energy retailers sell electricity to consumers (These companies also generate electricity)
- They use the power lines owned by the lines company to transport this electricity to their customers
- Customers are free to choose which energy retailer they purchase their electricity from.
- A number of energy retailers use Electra's lines to deliver electricity to households and businesses in the Kapiti/Horowhenua.

**NEXT WEEK: What to do if your power goes off?**

To contact Electra  
Ph. 0800 ELECTRA (0800353 2872)

LINE WORK  
POWER CONTRACTORS  
Providers of electricity lines services

Oxford Finance  
FC Corporation Limited  
Phone 0800 263 264 We can finance your next vehicle

Stones  
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

This page is proudly sponsored each week by Electra and its subsidiary companies