



Winter 2026 Newsletter

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At a time when everyone is busy and stretched, it's worth reflecting on how your Westshore Community Association is tracking. We're often described as one of the region's most active community groups, driven by a commitment to building a vibrant and connected community. There's plenty more we want to achieve, and you can help by renewing your membership (or joining) to strengthen our voice, or by having a chat with us about the committee. Fresh members and new ideas keep us moving forward at a time when many community organisations are finding it tough.

SUPPORT OUR OWN – IT'S IN OUR BEST INTERESTS TO DO SO

A recent Westshore Facebook post re supporting our pharmacy generated 23 comments, 133 reactions, and over 750 views – by far our highest engagement for May and June. It's clear that as a community, we highly value having a local pharmacy. However, that great online sentiment isn't translating into customers. Our Westshore pharmacist, Karen Ng, reports a recent dip in retail sales, likely due to the new Chemist Warehouse opening in Napier. We all know local stores can't compete with big box prices, yet we still use them because of simple convenience. But there are even stronger reasons to support our local pharmacy:

- **Healthcare when you need it:** With GP appointment wait times often stretching to three weeks, our local pharmacists are highly trained medical professionals right on our doorstep, ready to help immediately.
- **More than just retail:** A pharmacy isn't just a shop – it's an essential community health hub. Losing these services would impact Westshore far beyond the cost of paying a few cents more for retail items.
- **Investing in our own resilience:** Yes, big-box retail has its place. But paying a fraction more locally is a direct investment in keeping vital health services right here in our neighbourhood.



Often, we only truly realise the value we receive when they are no longer there.

If you didn't already know, Karen and the team can provide these professional health services directly:

- **Vaccinations:** Walk-in COVID-19 boosters and annual flu jabs (Free if eligible). Plus, by appointment: MMR, RSV, Shingles, and Boostrix (Whooping Cough/Tetanus/Diphtheria – free for pregnant women).

To be absolutely clear:

The pharmacy is not at any immediate risk, this is simply a reminder of what's important to us.

- **Consultations & Assessments:** Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) antibiotic supply (women aged 16–65), Emergency Contraceptive Pill (ECP), and cardiovascular screening for Sildenafil supply (men aged 36–69).
- **Specialist Care:** Vitamin B12 injections (prescription only), Maviret Hepatitis C dispensing & counselling and private Pharmacogenomics (PGx) assessments.
- **Daily Support:** Compliance medication packaging and Opioid Substitution Therapy.

COASTAL PROTECTION UPDATE

HBRC decision delay

We had hoped to share the outcome of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) decision to adopt our coastal protection recommendations this month but the decision has been postponed until July.

Despite the delay, we fully expect our recommendation to go ahead and be put up for formal adoption within the HBRC 2027 Long-Term Plan. What we are advocating for is simply worldwide best practice – and based on the information provided, pure common sense. It's also a very economical, low cost solution that, again, in the light of our information, will progressively return our beach over the medium term. Is it a guaranteed solution? Nothing is, but there's no reason it won't work.

Want to read the report? If you haven't received a copy of our formal recommendations yet, drop us an email and we'll get a copy across to you. And as soon as we know – so will you.



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MEMBERSHIP

The Westshore Community Association membership is only \$10 per year and if you haven't renewed and/or wish to join, just scan this barcode or email us. And if you want to give a little more to support our efforts, we would be eternally grateful.



WESTIE QUIZ NIGHT

We thought it would be fun to have a local quiz night at the Westshore pub! So if you're one of the many that enjoys quizzes, look out for details on our Facebook page.

COMMUNITY SECURITY UPDATE

The graph below shows us:

- **Car break-ins & theft:** On the rise. This is currently our main area of concern.
- **Illegal driving:** Thankfully, this seems to be on the decrease.
- **House break-ins:** Remains our lowest residential threat statistically, four in the festive season/early new year but a concern as they are the most traumatic type of offence.
- **Shop break-ins:** Continue to happen, though infrequently.

The Westshore Community Association continues to monitor illegal and suspicious activity and are in frequent contact with the Police who are incredibly supportive of our efforts. We've briefed them on this recent activity and are currently in discussions with the Napier Community Patrol to see how we can increase physical security presence in our area.



Check this guy out - at 2:18am, calmly walking around, talking on the phone, casually trying car door handles as he goes. The lesson here is simple: thieves are largely opportunists. Don't give them an easy target. A quick reminder on the basics:

- **Lock up:** Double-check your vehicle and house doors are locked.
- **Park smart:** Secure your vehicle on your property (off the street if you can).
- **Clear the lawn:** Remove any temptations or tools from your front yard.

All straight forward stuff, but it works; and if you see anything suspicious, don't let it slide. Report it immediately to the Police on 105, or email us at securewestshore@gmail.com and we'll take it from there.

Let's keep the squeeze on these guys and keep our neighbourhood safe.

2025	Car break-in or theft	Car burnout or drifting	Cars racing/damaging reserve	House break-in	Shop break-in
January					
February					
March	1	1	1		
April	2	2		1	
May	1	1			
June	1	1			
July	2	3			
August		1	1		1
September		1		1	
October		2	3		1
November	1	1	3	1	
December	2	5	2	1	
2026	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
January	1				
February	3	2		2	1
March	1	1		1	
April	5	1			
May					
June	1	1	4		

WESTSHORE ENHANCEMENT PLAN

Great to see the footpaths in northern Charles Street being upgraded. The enhancement plan we drew up for Westshore several years ago still points to various initiatives that remain outstanding. We are in constant contact with NCC in relation to this as we'd like to see our environment in general in a much more presentable state.

NCC is planning to do about 500m a year until Charles Street is complete, working on the footpaths that are in the worst condition first. We've requested another catch up with NCC to get a staged plan for footpaths, and also traffic calming and landscaping.



TE TAHA - 'THE GAP'

- **200 plants in:** Our biggest volunteer turnout yet, smashed the planting weekend, with perfect weather followed by some great rain to settle them in.
 - **Dotterel protection:** Three new traps are going in ahead of the breeding season, managed by the Save the Dotterels group.
 - **Weed clearance activity:** Is resulting in a massive, freshly cleared space.
- Thanks to everyone for pitching in!



COMMITTEE MEMBERS WANTED!

Being on the committee doesn't take a huge time commitment. We have some exciting, progressive plans to make Westshore an even more vibrant seaside community, and we need positive locals to help make it happen. Let's have a no-obligation chat - drop us a line.

ST ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Looking for a welcoming space and a listening ear, our door is always open. Come as you are and see what St Andrew's has to offer!

- **Sunday Service (9:30am-10:30am):** A family-friendly service; children's activity table provided.
- **Morning tea:** Have a hot drink and chat after the service.
- **St Andrew's Op Shop:** Open Tuesday to Friday, 9:30am-3pm.