

Chairman's Report to Annual General Meeting 2023

Welcome to our 2023 Annual General Meeting of the Kingsland Business Society Incorporated, also known as The Fringe District.

It's been a busy year for the Fringe District Management team and board.

With post Covid doom and gloom and murmurings of a downward recession across Aotearoa, Claire and Kate have been pounding the streets and getting an update of the state of play in Kingsland.

A few businesses have fallen and new members have been brought into the fold, making us acutely aware of how tough business has been over the last few years.

With this in mind we have taken a Pause, Pivot, Adapt and Proceed approach to The Fringe District moving forward.

An example of this is our choice of direction to move away from our annual community event "Eden park Xmas" due to an increasingly busy schedule around Xmas for Eden Park to focus on more events and initiatives such as a smaller Xmas event in the plaza coupled with our super sized Xmas tree, business coaching throughout the year, Friday Flavours and Date Night Babysitting in the hospitality precincts as well as improving The Fringe Districts surrounds to follow our mantra of being 'The Place To be'.

The Board has agreed to move forward with the upgrade of festoon lighting in the Kingsland and Morningside Villages as well as budgeting over the next 2 years to install gateway signage of "The Fringe District into Kingsland, Morningside and Eden Park increasing our presence as a collaborative Business Improvement District and bringing back a sense of belonging.

2024/25 we have budgeted for an increased spend in security with the option of addition CCTV linked with Eden Park and the Police operations centre as well as the option of additional green scaping in the Village.

The next year will be exciting with a lot we can sink our teeth into and make some visual change.

A big thank – you to Jazz who leaves our board to set up her new business Island Base in Onehunga.

Claire Baxter-Cardy as our Fringe District manager continues to bring her endless energy, and sunny disposition to facilitate our Strategic plan and initiatives and we as a board are incredibly happy with the results we have achieved over the last few years.

Kate Brooks has joined the management team since 25 October 2022 and hit the ground running taking charge of our social media and website and has been an asset supporting Claire.

I would like to acknowledge our voluntary Board Members for contributing their time, passion, skill sets, and leadership given to our business community and neighbourhood over the past 12 months.

We have a great mix of industries on the Board and look forward to the addition of Sanjay from Kingsland Liquor joining the team.

We thank Albert-Eden Local Board for their continued support of our community, and also Auckland Council for their continued support.

I look forward to the continued roll out of the great initiatives in play by our team.

Steve Gillett, Chairman