

Plimmerton Village Plan, 2017-2018



This is a one-off newsletter, delivered to your door.

*There are **5** GOOD reasons for this!*

1. Are you on our mailing list?

Do we have your [current email address](#) so we can keep you in the communication loop? If you have changed your email or if you are new to Plimmerton, *please email plimmertonra@gmail.com and let us know your name/phone/address.*

Our mailing list is kept confidential and used only by PRA's webmaster to bring you community, police and civil defence information.

(This free service also includes a monthly newsletter, Facebook page, and an informative revitalised website - all provided for the community by volunteers.)

2. Pay your subs ASAP to win great prizes at the AGM on 15 May!



It's still only \$15 for a full year's financial membership of the PRA for your whole family or household. Crazy stuff. Your subs and donations contribute to all the projects outlined inside. For those new to Plimmerton we've outlined some highlights of the past 12 years since village planning started here. It shows where your subs and donations are used and why your continued support is so important to the programme's success.

STILL
ONLY
\$15!

Please direct credit Westpac 03 1533-0019155-00 or drop a cheque in to Plimmerton Deli. Include your name, phone numbers, residential address/email in the three internet banking fields.

Member donations are also greatly appreciated. *(Tax receipts available for amounts over \$5).*

Pay before 15 May and go into the draw for great prizes including a quality framed print of this Samuel Brees watercolour from the 1840s.

3. Plimmerton's 2017-18 Village Plan...outlined inside!

Go to the back page to see the other 2 reasons we are getting in touch with you... →



1. Taupō Plimmerton Heritage Trail

A team of volunteers researched and published information about 35 historic sites here... a two year effort. Their stories are on our new website with historic photos and artworks. They worked with a graphic designer to produce this material and also signage for every site plus a trail map which now hangs in the village centre. The trail was officially launched in September 2016. School children produced murals for our rail underpass to promote the trail. And a group was set up in March to encourage and co-ordinate development of ongoing heritage initiatives.

2. Website redevelopment

When we set up the original community website eight years ago we were creating a forum for community members to share information and ideas in Plimmerton. The world has changed since then and the website has been redesigned this year to create a more flexible communication platform. Project teams can now input material directly. Previous content is being sorted and migrated to the new website or archived.

3. Taupō Crescent community space

Residents working with PCC have revitalised this old playground area as a community space. They started by clearing, planting and re-fencing the area. A landscape plan was commissioned. Local children brightened the park with a mural and picnic furniture was installed (soon to be concreted).

4. Safety and security... security cameras

PRA has researched and sought assistance from independent advisers for this project. Working with Police, security cameras will be installed to record licence plates of vehicles entering and exiting Plimmerton. Footage will be accessed only by Police for post-crime investigations. Rigorous efforts have been made to develop a memorandum of understanding with legal advice sought and commitment to privacy principles.

5. Emergency preparedness... radios and training for disasters

We work with WREMO (Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office) to promote training courses so our community has trained people to lead in emergency situations. The setting up and running of Plimmerton emergency hub has been trialled and open days held for residents. Four hand-held radios have been purchased and put through extensive field trials and residents are being trained in their use for emergencies.

6. Pest-Free Plimmerton support... *Bring back the birds*

We are supporting Pest-Free Plimmerton. PRA purchased 30 large DOC approved traps for use in perimeter bush areas. Local children spent school holidays this year producing two murals for our rail underpass to celebrate the success of Pest-Free Plimmerton.

7. Environmental projects

Ongoing initiatives include Taupō Stream pond weed eradication, anti-tagging working bees, lizard garden planting, Big Spring Clean and support of other community groups and programmes (such as Motuhara Bush plan).

8. Karehana Park

After three years' work the massive refurbishment of Karehana Park was completed in 2015. With 2016 a rest year, enhancements will be added in the coming year.

9. Encouraging responsible dog ownership

Signs have been designed and produced to encourage people walking their dogs here to behave responsibly and pick up after their pets. These signs will be installed around the coastline on walkways, streets and beaches.

What's happening in 2017

Maps and printed material for people visiting the heritage trail, website and presentations, walking tours, work with schools to maximise use of research, historic mural opening and plaques, use of the history resource on the website, other activities arising from the Taupō Plimmerton Heritage Group.

*Project leaders: Andrew Deller, Mary Beckett, Deirdre Dale
Graphic designer Anne Johnston and community artist Rachel Benefield*



Compilation of clubs and groups directory, business listings, additions to heritage and natural history content. Ongoing refinement and content development. PRA-related documentation - including meeting minutes, financials, reports etc will be available on the new website.

Project leaders: Warrick Procter, Sandy Werner with web designer Anne Johnston



Fundraising for playground equipment, implementation of landscaping plan, ongoing planting and maintenance.

Project leader: Robin Jones with community volunteers, PCC, community artist Rachel Benefield and landscape designer Michael Pennington.



Installation and evaluation. Liaison with funding agency Trust House Foundation.

Project leader: David Verrinder with PRA team, security consultant and NZ Police

Further training on emergency equipment and setting up emergency hub.

Project leader: Alan Reader with WREMO, community volunteers and communications consultants



Ongoing support and promotion of Pest-Free initiatives.

Project leaders Linda Kerkmeester and Heather Evans with community volunteers and ecological experts



Establishment of 'crew shed', recruiting volunteers of all ages, secure storage of equipment, with consolidation of environmental projects. Planning and investigation under way. *Project leader and team - watch this space!*

Installation of shade trees for play area, paver stories, other action tbc.

Project leaders: Allan Dodson and Roger Johnston

Investigations and planning are under way to develop a dog exercise area. Responsible dog owners need a space where they can safely exercise and train puppies and where dogs and owners can socialise.

Project leader: Carolyn Williams with community and PRA volunteers





Why pay subs and make donations?

Some of you who may be new to Plimmerton may not know how much has been accomplished since village planning started here in 2004 in partnership with PCC. Member subs, donations and sponsorship helped to pay for these great services in addition to PCC Village Programme investment. Some highlights and major projects include:



Bridge balustrade

A stunning brushed steel bridge balustrade was created for the entrance to Plimmerton. The wave forms represent key sites on the coastline in our area. In collaboration with Ngāti Toa artists from Hongoeka, a landscape architect and graphic designer worked with local experts to make the vision a reality.



Pedestrian-friendly waterfront walkway

Traffic safety and pedestrian access were your main concerns. Before 2004 heavily-laden quarry trucks roared through the village and walking around Beach Road meant dodging between cars on a crumbly road edge. Residents wanted a safe, vibrant walkway around the coastline and safe roads and footpaths for everyone. Traffic-calming measures were introduced which enabled building of the macrocarpa promenade around Beach Road and the paved area known as café corner.



Seating (and picnic spots) for sea and sunset enjoyment

Residents wanted seats unique to Plimmerton to relax and enjoy our coastline. After two years of design work by Massey University Industrial Design students and production by local craftsmen and manufacturers your chosen seats were installed in 2010. Peaceful green picnic areas were complemented with picnic tables. These much-loved, and well-used, seats and picnic areas were funded by project donations, a community grant and PCC in a successful partnership.



Signage at beach entrances

Decades of inconsistent signage was replaced with unique purpose-designed signage for all beach entrances. Local landscape architect Linda Kerkmeester and graphic designer Anne Johnston developed the signs set in galvanised frames reflecting the reed and flax designs used in other fences in the village.



Plimmerton Station revamp

This was a huge project with more than 2000 hours of work by local tradesmen and teams of volunteers, supervised by project managers Dave Anderson and Allan Dodson.

The old station had been boarded up for decades making a gloomy entrance to Plimmerton. A mammoth effort saw the station restored and opened with great fanfare in 2010.



Accessible parking

Linking Plimmerton domain to the village by a rail underpass has allowed easy access and encouraged development of recreational and sporting facilities. It also provides a large number of commuter car parks, a short cut to the industrial estate, and access to the Ara Harakeke Walkway for cyclists and walkers.



Karehana Park

This was the major project here from 2013 till 2015 led by local residents Roger Johnston and Allan Dodson with PCC. It was tackled in stages starting with pathways from Cluny Road through the park to Airlie Road and the playground. The path has sets of donated pavers inlaid which paid for construction. Brent Touhy Construction sponsored development of the popular pétanque court and picnic area. Locals sponsored seating and picnic tables. Planting at both entrances was completed by volunteers. The old concrete conduit through the park was removed and the original stream reinstated and opened again to the sea. The playground was redesigned with a scooter and bike track.



Website

Our new website is live at: www.plimmerton.nz

- Read about community projects past and present being updated at: www.plimmerton.nz/community-projects/
- A section has been created for the Taupō Plimmerton Heritage Trail with detailed information and photos for each of the 35 sites: <http://www.plimmerton.nz/heritage-trail/>
- Other sections like Nature and History will be added to over time.
- We are gathering details for a new, simplified clubs and groups directory and a business directory. Go to www.plimmerton.nz/business-directory/ or www.plimmerton.nz/clubs-and-groups/ to add your information.





How are projects funded?

PRA committee members work with Porirua City Council, other community groups and volunteers to complete these projects. Project managers may seek input from professional advisers and people here offer their expertise in many fields. They support other groups in the community where this is appropriate. Projects are funded in the following ways:

Projects	PRA			PCC	
	Subs & member donations	Project donations & sponsorship	External grants	Village Programme	Operations
Taupō Plimmerton Heritage Trail	✓			✓	✓
Website redevelopment	✓			✓	
Taupō Crescent community space	✓			✓	✓
Security cameras			✓		
Emergency preparedness	✓				✓
Pest Free Plimmerton	✓	✓ via PFP		✓	
Environmental projects	✓			✓	✓
Karehana Park	✓	✓			✓
Encouraging responsible dog ownership		✓		✓	
Slow Zone and road safety	✓			✓	✓

Who is looking forward to 2017-18



Crew shed workers... keen to weed, mow, remove tags, plant shrubs, clear litter, and keep Plimmerton looking sharp



Taupō Plimmerton Heritage Group... bursting with ideas



Taupō Crescent residents... getting stuck into their community space



Dogs and owners... excited about a safe place to socialise

How does Plimmerton Residents' Association work?

PRA committee is a group of elected representatives who work to make things better for people living here and for visitors to our area. They are all volunteers who are also involved in many areas of community and professional life. The committee is supported by a number of ex-officio project managers who help organise and run projects.

Meetings

Committee meetings are held on the last Monday of each month in Plimmerton School staffroom. Residents are welcome to attend.

If you would like to put forward ideas please email plimmertonra@gmail.com to be allocated time on the agenda. Meetings are constructive and positive. Come along with ideas and solutions. The Association cannot champion every cause but will give support where appropriate.

See the list of meeting dates and minutes on www.plimmerton.nz/meeting-minutes-and-dates/ Meetings are attended by Porirua City Council (PCC) and Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) representatives and we appreciate their guidance and expertise on council matters. Project teams meet regularly to progress initiatives.



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4. Invitation to AGM 15 May, starts 7.30 pm at Plimmerton Boating Club

Pest-Free Plimmerton guest speakers will inform and entertain... residents Linda Kerkmeester and Heather Evans will show the effect our successful backyard trapping is having on local wildlife and how the programme is now expanding into the wider Porirua area. Their mentor Kelvin Hastie (Wellingtonian of the Year 2016, Environment) will describe how we fit into the bigger pest-free picture. You'll enjoy *Bring back the birds...* Sandy Werner's beautiful presentation of how our wildlife responds to the eradication of pests.

You'll learn more about the Taupō Plimmerton Heritage Trail and the newly-formed heritage group. After the business and community news, meet up with neighbours and friends over supper!

5. Community involvement... project managers and volunteers!

Your experience and enthusiasm can help to make your community a better place. If you have a few hours a month free and/or a particular area of interest in this community then talk to us. If you'd like to be involved or stand for PRA committee, let us know: plimmertonra@gmail.com.

Monster Raffle



Bring (at least) \$5, maybe \$10, to the AGM for your lucky raffle tickets! Magnificent gift basket raffle. Huge thanks to Sheryl from Black Rose Florist and Roger from Plimmerton Deli for their support and generosity.

Pay your subs and go into the draw to win these great prizes

Thanks to our generous AGM sponsors

- 3 FREE Yogaflow classes with Deidre-Lee
- Topor bistro and bar voucher
- Lighthouse Cinema tickets
- New Plimmerton Thai meal voucher
- Plimmerton Boating Club dinner voucher
- Beau Cadeaux gift voucher
- The Big Salami's prized 10 trip coffee ticket