

Plimmerton Residents' Association Newsletter

What's new in Plimmerton?

February 2017

Step back in time ... Plimmerton Heritage Trail walking tours

Have you noticed the flash blue/green signs around Plimmerton? Would you like to walk around and learn more about the history of our village? The Heritage Trail team is offering three introductory tours over coming weeks. As the entire trail is long you will see a selection of sites. Come to the Heritage Trail map (next to The Family Store on Steyne Ave) ready for a **10.30 am** start. Each tour will take about one hour. Starting this week!

- Sunday 5 February Deirdre Dale **233 8842, 021 813 400**
- Sunday 19 February Mary Beckett **233 1655, 021 201 7014**
- Sunday 5 March Andrew Deller **021 0259 6529**

Suitable for people of all ages, children welcome, wear walking shoes! Ring today to secure your spot.

Festival of the Elements

This Monday 6 February, Waitangi Day, Te Rauparaha Park in Porirua

11am till 5pm with music, art, ethic foods and all the fun of the fair.

Rats on the run! Now introducing ... Pest Free Mana and Camborne

Linda reports: Thanks to the support of PCC, Pest Free Plimmerton is expanding into Camborne and Mana. Angela is our newest pest destruction agent (PDA!) for this area. She has rat and mouse traps for Mana and Camborne residents. She tells us that she has caught 10 rats and six mice in her backyard in recent months, so there are plenty out there.

To get your trap contact Angela at pestfreemana@gmail.com. Angela is also looking for keen volunteers to help distribute traps in the area and would love to hear from you. Happy trapping. Let's bring back the birds.

PS: Does your cat wear a bell on his collar and stay in at night? Give the birds a chance.

House concert 14 Taupo Crescent Friday 10 February 7.30pm

You are invited to an evening with *Vic Manuel* and the *Vas Brothers* at Plimmerton's *Up Close and Personal House Concerts*.

Vic is a well-known Australian song writer who now lives in Wellington. This is his first NZ gig, and the only opportunity you'll get to hear him and his band from across the ditch, *Vas Brothers*! Original songs in the country/ folk style, as featured on You Tube.

\$10 at the door. Booking essential as space is limited. Book by text **021 10236 1951**.

Zonta shapes up with a big programme for 2017

Zonta Club of Mana welcomes new members to join in their many activities to benefit women locally and abroad. They offer awards and scholarships to local young women in partnership with Whitireia and they carry out fund raising programmes to support local social initiatives. You can find out more from their membership convenor Pam Johnson **027 291 5269**. The club meets at Plimmerton Boating Club and their next meeting is on Tuesday 7 February.



Mana U3A has exciting 2017 programme lined up Learning is forever ... and it's not expensive!

Book yourself in for their two one-day seminars this term. A seismologist will explain the mysteries of earthquakes and the other tells you all you need to know about using the internet and how to use cloud storage. They have regular courses in travel, art, gardening, books creative writing and science. Join their 200-plus members for interesting trips and experiences.

Brian advises that U3A also has an interesting discussion group called our changing world where current events are thrashed out! Call him today to find out more 233 0709. First meeting coming up, Thursday 16 February.

Sales person wanted at Big Mac Slabs

Steph and her team at Big Mac Slabs are looking for a team member who can work weekends. If you have your own transport and driving licence, a good back and positive can-do attitude, e email your CV to admin@bigmacslabs.co.nz

Anglers and artists, Mana Art Society ... bailed out by boating club!

Carolina brings us up to speed: The art society's clubrooms were badly damaged during the floods of 15 November and will be out of action for some months. While repairs are carried out the club has accepted an offer from Richard at Plimmerton Boating Club to use their downstairs room. From 1 February classes and groups will meet there on Wednesday mornings from 10.00am-12.30pm and on alternate Thursday evenings for life drawing. We hope all our members will make use of this excellent facility. Any non-members are welcome. Please contact us through our website <http://manaarts.weebly.com/>

The club is very grateful to Richard and Plimmerton Boating Club for their support.

AFS urgently seeks host families for Finnish exchange students

Heidi asks for our help in finding host families for three college students from Finland for this year. Time is running out so if you are interested please call Joanna 0800 600 300 or 04 903 2276 without delay.

Heidi and her family are here for three months exploring NZ culture and way of life. She was an exchange student here in 1990 and tells us that she has felt like part of the community ever since. "I would like other Finns to have the opportunity to learn about NZ and fall in love with it," Heidi says.

Climb the steps to Plimmerton Tennis Club ... and have some fun THE best kept secret in the village? What is happening in tennis!

Anna, club secretary, says that's there's lots going on behind the hedge: new members are very welcome at our small friendly club with the lowest fees in Wellington (and the best location). Three junior interclub and two senior mixed interclub teams are playing competition on Saturdays. Join us for casual tennis Thursday evenings at 6pm and Sundays at 4pm. We offer coaching at all levels with Frances Glover from Tennis Inc. To enrol in coaching call 238 4111. For membership call Roger 027 677 1273

We are working closely with PCC to upgrade our court surfaces. And we are proudly sponsored by Jason Clark from Clark and Co Realty in Steyne Ave.

More details at <http://www.sporty.co.nz/plimmertontennis>

Fishing Competition Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 February

Briefing 7pm Friday at the Plimmerton Boating Club.

Public fish auction both afternoons at 4pm Saturday and 5pm Sunday.



Plimmerton Toy Library

Julie and the toy library volunteers invite you to use their great service: Plimmerton Toy Library offers a wide range of toys for children aged six months to five years, there's something for everyone, for a very small hire charge. Julie says, "We operate out of the Plunket Rooms on Steyne Ave during term times on Tuesday nights, Thursday mornings and Saturday mornings. New members and volunteers are always welcome. Stop in and see us on Thursday 9 February between 9.30 and 10.30am and Tuesday 14 February from 6-6.30pm. We will also be there on Saturday 18 February from 9.30-10.30am. Come and meet us and introduce your children to our toy selection.

You can find us on Facebook or email plimmertontoylibrary@gmail.com"

Slow Zone around village centre

Judi from PRA reminds us: These signs were installed to remind people that we want safe roads here for everyone ... parents with push chairs, kids coming and going to school on scooters and skateboards, Plunket and Toy Library parents and littlies, people in mobility scooters, cyclists, people with disabilities and all the rest. Some drivers are still speeding down Motuhara Road and through the crossing with some scary near-misses being reported. Some drivers speed around café corner and along Sunset and Moana every day disregarding the safety of other road users and pedestrians.

*Police request that all speeding incidents are immediately reported to them using *555. If you cannot report it till later use the Report a bad driver form on the police web site. If someone is driving dangerously police ask that we call 111. Get the rego and make of car so they can track them down. If the persistent speeders do not curtail their aggressive driving we are advised that a 30kph limit (as is in many places, including Paraparaumu) will be introduced in the village.*

Taupo Stream ... weed better clean this up

Project manager David Verrinder updates the pond weed situation: Taupo Stream clean up teams are back into tackling the weed in the lower reaches of the stream through Plimmerton Domain. School kids are working on the stretch from the bridge across to Big Mac Slabs to Mainline Steam and the PRA waders are tackling the area north up to Taupo Swamp.

An aerial spray of various parts of Taupo Swamp and Plimmerton Domain will be carried out by Greater Wellington Regional Council on the next windless day. They want to reduce the negative impact of blackberry, willow and pampas on the ecology of the wetlands. A spray plan is available from their biosecurity officer katrina.merrifield@gw.govt.nz

Call 237 5089 ... Call 2375089 ... Call ... 2375089

Report maintenance issues ... blocked drains, slippery slopes and potholes

Foliage hanging over footpaths impeding pedestrians, drains filled with sand and debris, slippery steps needing greenery cutback and waterblasting ... anything creating a hazard please call PCC's hotline as soon as you see something likely to cause trouble.

Please send photos of things you see needing urgent maintenance to Plimmerton Residents' Association at plimmertonra@gmail.com which we will take to our meetings with PCC staff.

Plimmerton Boating Club presents Winter Wilson 8 February... plus

Folk music from acclaimed duo Winter Wilson. Koha at the door. Usual drill dinner from 6pm and show. Bookings at manager@plimmertonboatingclub.org.nz

Quiz nights start 23 February. Register on the night. Prizes every month and major prizes the end of the year.

16 February Rachel Darwick performs. <http://www.racheldarwick.com/home>



Bush business and Motuhara matters

Isabella Cawthorne reports in on lizard monitoring training, weed busts, a bush care guide and old and keeping old man's beard out of the area.

- Seasonal news: "old man's beard, the pernicious smotherer and blight of NZ bush, has been seen around the edge of Motuhara Bush. Until now it's avoided invasion, so if you see some in your garden kill it quickly before its flowers turn to windblown seeds. Check out Weedbusters website for info. Old man's beard weed busts are happening in other bush areas of Plimmerton - come and give us a hand. Contact motuharaneighbourhood@gmail.com
- Motuhara Bush Care Guide update: the draft of this document being reviewed by a group of residents. This guide will provide locals with info about the bush and how to keep it healthy, and be the basis for both DIY and collective activity around Motuhara.
- Weed yanking: someone has been pulling cape ivy from banks around Motuhara Road, leaving it on the road and clogging up the gutters. Please, if you are frustrated by weed invasions contact motuharaneighbourhood@gmail.com and channel your energies into one of the organised weed busts.
- Love lizards: we need to know about native lizard populations and DoC is looking for locals to be part of a monitoring programme. Finding lizards is great fun, especially for kids (and older kids.) The introductory session is coming up soon... Thursday 16 February at DoC's Kapiti office in Porirua (please RSVP).

Contact Amy Brasch on brasch@doc.govt.nz or call 04 4708 434.

Andy's Gardening services

Check out this link to Andy's services. See before and after photos and read the testimonials. <https://www.facebook.com/plimmertongardener/?ref=bookmarks>

March newsletter will be printed and delivered to your letterbox

The next issue of *What's new in Plimmerton* will look at what is going to happen in Plimmerton over the next 12 - 24 months and will report on progress during 2016.

Volunteers needed to deliver newsletters in the last week of February

If you fancy a walk in the fresh air with your kids and dogs or a couple of mates then contact us about helping to deliver newsletters in the last week of February.

Plimmertonra@gmail.com

This will help us to reconnect with people who have changed email addresses and also pick up new people in this area. We would really like every person who lives here to be an active member of the PRA ... everything we do benefits all residents and visitors.

our website: <http://www.plimmerton.org.nz/>

and our email: plimmertonra@gmail.com

Support your community - it's the best!

