

Plimmerton Residents' Association Newsletter

What's new in Plimmerton?

October 2016

Plimmerton Heritage Trail opens in Plimmerton

On Saturday, 24 September, our new heritage trail was launched. The project team of Andrew Deller, Mary Beckett and Deirdre Dale have worked for over a year researching and writing about 35 historic sites here. Each site now has a distinctive identification plaque and is shown on the map in the village centre. Stories from their research about these sites can be found on www.plimmerton.nz

Guest speaker at the unveiling was Mary Casey and each of the team related interesting tales they had uncovered in their research. They thanked local historian extraordinaire Allan Dodson for his input and advice. Bill Inge and the PCC team were also given due thanks for their professional assistance. Designer Anne Johnston ... who designed the plaques, map and the web pages featuring the stories and photos ... was thanked for her amazing work. The blessing was given by Taku Parai from Ngāti Toa and he expressed appreciation for in-depth and ongoing consultation by the project team. "Taku spoke representing Ngāti Toa, Takapuwahia and Hongoeka in his role as PCC Kaumatua", PRA Chair Colin Bleasdale said. "We very much enjoyed having him give the karakia and certainly respect and appreciate the deep connection that Ngāti Toa have in this whenua."

This project was in Plimmerton's village plan for 2015-2016 and was jointly funded as a village planning project by PCC, and PRA, working in partnership ... a real team effort.

Great ideas have been suggested to build on the team's efforts ... video of sites around the trail, downloadable material from the website, murals in the rail underpass alerting visitors to the trail, guided tours by our knowledgeable team and working with schools to encourage use of this valuable resource. The team is currently migrating their research onto our new website and will consider some of these ideas when they come up for air!

Drains, potholes and slippery slopes ... maintenance issues reviewed **If you spot something liable to cause trouble call PCC's hot line 237 5089.**

In our latest scheduled meeting with PCC to review progress on maintenance these points were amongst those covered: Holes and depressions to trip up unwary walkers, blocked drains which are flood hazards, foliage hanging over footpaths endangering pedestrians, slippery steps needing greenery cutback and water blasting, Slow Zone monitoring of driver behaviour, cleaning of the paved area round café corner which should be a regular quarterly occurrence, signs reminding people to pick up dog poo, planned road resealing here in summer with subsequent road marking repainting and so on ... please send photos of things needing urgent maintenance to PRA at plimmertonra@gmail.com so we can back up your phone requests.

Do your bit with the loppers and secateurs

Can we encourage everyone to get out and trim vegetation outside their property? Overgrown footpaths are forcing people with pushchairs, kids and dogs in tow to walk on our narrow winding roads. Especially in streets like Gordon, Motuhara and Airlie etc. where there are stretches of narrow road with no footpath.



Big Spring Clean date late November /early December?

Our annual spring clean of Plimmerton to prepare for summer is being planned right now. The organiser David Verrinder would love to hear from representatives of primary, secondary and early childhood centres so we can engage the whole community. (Analysis of the rubbish collected shows a large proportion is soft drink bottles, fast food wrappers ... evidence of youthful eating habits!)

Parents are welcome to let us know days and times that suit so the whole family can spend a morning together cleaning up their community, being chauffeured by our local fire brigade and enjoying the free sausage sizzle that follows. Contact David at plimmertonra@gmail.com

Emergency management hub activation ... success!

On 10 September our emergency hub exercise encouraged 40 people to participate with enthusiasm. A debriefing will be held soon and a repeat exercise might be held next year.

Two people signed up on the day for WREMO emergency management training which is brilliant. When an emergency does happen the more trained people we have in our midst the better.

Good news about our four hand held radios (to be purchased for Plimmerton by the PRA) Alan reader tells us, "Our radios will not just have local coverage but through links to the repeater station we will be in touch with search and rescue and marine channels which will make our communications much more effective."

Rail authorities and GWRC, PCC tackling erosion

We are assured that meetings are taking place and plans are being drawn up for erosion mitigation in key areas of Plimmerton's coast line. PRA is actively encouraging this and pressing to have ideas presented.

Rail authorities also confirm that they will be dealing with the ballast that breaks through the rail fence in front of the railway station in their December work schedule. We await with interest.

PRA subscriptions and participation review ... help us to brainstorm

A team is working on the vexed issue of subscriptions. We have more than 200 families as active financial members and others who generously donate to specific projects. More than 475 people bought pavers and donated to the fantastic upgrade of Karehana Park. But there are 2000 people on the local Facebook Page so why the gap in numbers? The review will cover these issues and look at communication opportunities.

This year's subscriptions and donation dollars have been used by the PRA to benefit everyone in this wider community including the trapping of rats on Plimmerton's broad perimeter to support the Pest Free Plimmerton initiative, creation of Plimmerton's Heritage Trail which is a top notch resource for children of all ages as well as residents and visitors, emergency management training, exercise and equipment which will be a huge asset in any disaster scenario plus all the other ongoing improvements and maintenance of assets.

How do we get wider community buy in and sharing of the responsibility? People with ideas are welcome to join our think tank. No meetings or tedium and no massive time commitment ... just a positive forum for getting some creative solutions.

Sounds like you? Yes! Contact us at plimmertonra@gmail.com

Taupō Stream's sub-aqua club soon to submerge



The group attacking the noxious weeds in Taupō Stream will shortly don waders and gloves to remove the weed from the deeper parts of the stream. Plimmerton School students are doing a great job with their regular weed removal immersions.

Taupō Crescent community space progress to report

Michael Pennington's plan is being tweaked for final approval by PCC's parks team. It includes some exciting features such as a natural contour slide and improved landscaping. As soon as we have the final plan we will publish it on the website and Facebook. The steering group will then prioritise developments and get this project under way.

Pest Free Plimmerton progress

Linda reports from the Pest Free Plimmerton team. "Our residential pest free Plimmerton community has grown with 15 more traps in backyards this month. As a result we have already caught more rats than last month 40 up from 35 for the whole of August. This result shows that the rats are still out there and we have a way to go yet. Since May the grand rat total is 270! Our PFP volunteers are poised to put out the big DoC200 traps, sponsored by the PRA, on the rural periphery on the hills around Plimmerton. Thanks to all those who have offered to check the traps - we will be in touch soon to get you started. New residential trap sponsors and volunteers to check traps are always welcome. Just email us at pestfreeplim@gmail.com and keep reporting your kills."

Spotted on Sunday 25 September: intrepid Pest Free Plimmertonians heading out to the bush on our perimeter ... in beanies, boots and puffer jackets ... to install the DoC 200 traps. Great work guys, thanks from everyone here.

Bring back the birds ... spotted this week in Plimmerton ... a bellbird!

Plimmerton School Craft Beer Fair Saturday 15 October 4-8pm

Get your tickets from the PTA page www.plimmerton.school.nz

Tickets only \$25 includes curry and first glass!

Climb the steps to Plimmerton Tennis Club and have some fun

What's happening in the best venue in the village?

Opening day for this season ... Saturday 1 October at 2pm

- Club days start Sunday 9 October at 2pm
- Club nights, Thursdays 5.30pm, starting 6 October
- Contact Roger Watkin **027 677 1273**
- Junior coaching contact Heidi heids74@gmail.com Term 4 Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- Junior convenor Tracey Dyer **233 8073**
- Interclub contact Graeme Easton **027 448 0199**.

Pauatahanui Inlet ... annual clean-up Sunday 9 October

Wet or fine you are invited to join the Guardians of Pauatahanui Inlet (GOPI) for their annual spring clean. Meet at Brown's Bay car park at 10.30am. Wear strong shoes or boots and be prepared for fine or not-so-fine weather. After the clean-up workers will be treated to a bbq courtesy of Plimmerton Rotary.

Plimmerton Boating Club celebrates with *Hit Radio!*

Local band *Hit Radio* are performing at the club on 1 October to celebrate opening day weekend. Great band and every song a guaranteed hit! Tickets \$10.

Opening day races from 10am on Sunday 2 October.



Pacific Yogaflow with Deidre-Lee Allen

“Join us for just \$20 a week and attend up to eight classes a week!”

Classes are Monday 9.15am and 6pm, Wednesday 9.15am, 6pm and 7.15pm, Friday Saturday and Sunday 9.15am. Book a mat pacificyogaflow@gmail.com

Garden trail coming up! Saturday 27 November 9.30am-4pm

Rotary Club of Plimmerton presents another Pauatahanui Garden trail as a fundraiser for the amazing Te Ara Piko pathway.

Tickets just \$30 and available soon. Contact mcaulayruth@xtra.co.nz

Athletics opportunities for local kids

Mana Athletics Club is based in Whitby and caters for kids from five years of age. Track and field competition is offered over summer for kids over seven. Our first club night is Tuesday 11 October at Adventure Park at 6pm. On line registrations

<http://tinyurl.com/manathletics>

Find out more <https://www.facebook.com/mana.athletics/>

Virtuoso Strings Orchestra ... fundraiser 15 October

Porirua's Youth Orchestra is holding a fundraising concert on Saturday 15 October at Aotea College 7-8.50pm. Tickets \$20 available from Whitby Pharmacy, Northern Music (Porirua), Take Note (Tawa) and at the door. Come along and be amazed by our local talent. Lucky ticket prize.

Bodywise Mindful Movement Tuesdays 6.30pm

Local resident Irene van de Coolwijk holds classes in Feldenkrais which she says will, “help you slow down and really let go, increase self-awareness, move with more ease and create positive change in yourself and your world.”

If that is what you need call her **027 2477 191** and report to Unit 1, 9 Northpoint Street on Tuesday evenings.

Croquet NZ champs to be held in Plimmerton

From 2-6 November Plimmerton Croquet Club will co-host NZ North Island Association championships with Paraparaumu Club. Together the clubs have capacity for 32 players and the public are invited to watch this exciting competition with elite players in action.

Plimmerton Croquet Have-a-go-day Saturday 12 November

New players will be welcomed and shown the basics before coaching classes are established. Please note, flat shoes must be worn at all times so as not to damage the lawn surfaces.

Housesitters available over summer from New Year

A local family is looking for two houses to look after from early January for two and three months. If you are planning a long trip then this could be the answer.

Contact sandy@nztravelbrokers.co.nz

Our website: <http://www.plimmerton.nz/>

and our email: plimmertonra@gmail.com

Support your community - it's the best!

