

Key projects and work undertaken in the 2022-23 year

Street groups for emergencies

A network of strong street groups has been set up and will be further developed.

Experience shows that such neighbourhood groups create resilience in emergency events and can definitely save lives and property. The PRA goal is to have a street group for about every ten houses where members keep contact details and relevant information confidential. PRA keeps a record of coordinators and their contact details for first responders.

We have already had an emergency situation where this system has been successful with vulnerable people being safety checked in rapid time by first responders.

Emergency Management

Being prepared for emergencies has continued to be a focus of regular communication to our community by PRA.

In addition to the Street Group project we actively work with PCC and Wellington Regional Emergency Management Organisation. They ensure that our emergency hub and resources are up to date and accessible. These include PRA-purchased emergency radios, hub guidelines, access to drinking water and other resources and information to assist in emergencies.

PRA works with these organisations to integrate our community efforts into overall professional emergency planning.

Science in the Swamp

Preparatory work is under way for a major project with Plimmerton School and Friends of the Taupō Swamp and Catchment. This starts in October this year with Drone day.

The team at Cratos will use drones to continue their coverage of our wetlands to identify predator activity, invasive plants and areas of damage. Students will use this footage and other resources to study the swamp ecosystem and learn how to carry out testing and monitoring to ensure the health of our vital wetland. Students will publish their findings in many forms and an art work will be created by senior students.

We thank Hutt Mana Charitable Trust and PCC for their generous support.



Karehana Park enhancement

A garden area has been created in Karehana Park to remember the work of Roger Johnston who sadly passed away this year. Roger was the project manager through all phases of Karehana Park redevelopment over several years.

The area has seating and a picnic table with a paved area and planting. PRA sold more than 40 engraved pavers to local families and installation is planned for later this year. Drainage works by Wellington Water may impact on timing and PRA is keeping paver purchasers in the loop.

We also acknowledge the generous support of local plumbers Peter Clarence, Leon Smith and Craig Henderson to this project.

The Big Plimmerton Spring Clean

Due to inclement weather the Big Plimmerton Spring Clean 2022 had to be cancelled on two occasions.

In conjunction with St Andrews Church Plimmerton we will be holding this year's clean up on Sunday October 29th starting outside the church on Steyne Ave at 9am and finishing no later than 12 noon. Come along anytime from 9am. Rubbish bags, protective gloves a route map (taking no more than 45 mins) and a ride in the fire brigade van to your starting point and/or finishing point. Sausage sizzle and other delights await you upon your return. Folks of all ages and sizes are most welcome.

Kiwi Rail communication

The three-year KiwiRail PACE project has impacted this community. PRA has kept residents well informed about upcoming intensive work periods, night construction and any works causing disruption.

PRA has worked intensively with KiwiRail and PCC to ameliorate some of the effects of the construction disruption.

PRA also worked with KiwiRail and students from Plimmerton School who, with a professional art teacher, created a rail themed mural for the rail underpass.

Waka Kotahi SH59

PRA participated in formal consultation with Waka Kotahi regarding the future of SH59 following the opening of Transmission Gully. We sought feedback from our community on WK's proposal to inform our formal response.

We continue to liaise with Waka Kotahi on various matters, in particular traffic light phasing, signage and safety issues.



District Plan Variation 1

PRA publicised the consultation on PCC District Plan Variation 1, which had a key focus of housing intensification, including the rezoning of many properties in Plimmerton and Camborne. We encouraged all residents to make formal submissions on the proposed changes, and were pleased by how many chose to do so.

PRA also made a formal submission and presented to the hearing panel. We then followed up with some additional information for the commissioners.

Overall, we were disappointed by the huge complexity of the formal process and the general response of the council planners to submissions from “lay” submitters such as residents and community groups.

The 'Plimmerton Community Menzshed Inc' [PCMI]

This was established as a separate entity early in the year. PRA had retained Shed surpluses during its 4 years under our umbrella and these were calculated and transferred to PCMI as part of a formal transfer of funds and assets completed in September 2022.

The Shed building was moved by PCC some 20 metres north to allow the railway underpass to form a straight line of sight from the Domain. PCMI opened operations in its new location in January and held its first AGM on 30 July.

PRA continues to work closely with the Shed team, especially on promotion and sponsorship matters, and the Shed supports activities run by PRA such as the Big Spring Clean and actively works to assist community and environmental volunteer groups.

Incorporated Societies Act

We have started work on revising our constitution to comply with the 2022 legislation for Incorporated Societies. This requires a major revision of the PRA constitution.

Anti tagging mural facelift

Our first (very successful) anti tagging mural by artist Xoe Hall at the entrance to Plimmerton near South Beach has been restored and preserved.

Communication through thick and thin

The PRA comms team has kept information flowing about emergency, police, health, civic and community matters.

We thank Violet Rowe and Sue Ineson for their work on our website, Sam Duff for managing our social media, Allan Dodson for managing our Gmail account, Anne Johnston for her graphic design work and Carolyn Williams on our exec committee.



Plimmerton Boating Club relationship

PRA has worked to set up a system where PRA members can access the fantastic facilities of PBC. This will get into top gear after the August AGM.

Financial members will be able to retrieve a card with their membership name and number from the club when visiting.

PRA executive committee meetings will now be held at PBC on the first Monday of each month in the downstairs meeting room at 5pm. We are grateful to PBC for offering us this facility, and we also thank Plimmerton School for allowing us to use their facilities over several years.

Stihl Shop relationship development

PRA is working with the owner of the new Stihl Shop in Porirua's mega centre. Stihl have kindly sponsored a fantastic prize for this year's subscription draw winner.

Tommy's Real Estate relationship

We acknowledge the support of Euon Murrell and the team at Tommy's Real Estate who generously assist PRA with our printed materials and signage for many events. Their support has been invaluable over more than a decade.

Maintenance and repairs

We thank our PCC liaison Bill Inge for his rapid response and practical assistance over many years.

We also remind residents who spot something that has been vandalised or needs attention to advise PRA as we may already be working with the appropriate people to get things remediated. We work with agencies, council and organisations in a positive way and value the relationships we have built up over many years.



Thanks to the current executive committee

I'd like to thank all executive committee members (Dave Anderson, Carolyn Williams, Warrick Procter, Robin Jones, Robynne McIntyre, John Meeuwsen and Don Gray) for their contributions during the year. We were pleased to welcome Jenny Brash (former Mayor and GWRC councillor) as an additional executive committee member during the year.

All executive committee members have agreed to stand again this year, with the exception of Warrick Procter. We thank Warrick for his contribution over several years and wish him well for the future.

David Verrinder
Chair

Plimmerton Residents' Association Inc
August 2023

