

Key projects and work undertaken in the 2024-25 year

Emergency Preparedness

Recent emergency events elsewhere in New Zealand have underlined the need for Street Groups in Plimmerton and Camborne. PRA continues to support the creation of more Street Groups in areas that are not yet covered. PRA has been setting up a new emergency radio network for the Plimmerton and Camborne areas. This has included installation of a set in the Plimmerton Volunteer Fire Brigade van and training sessions for users. Brochures on Emergency Preparedness have been distributed to all households in the area. In addition, PRA members have built emergency exit tracks to higher ground for schools in the Plimmerton area.

PRA continues to push for integrated overall emergency planning for the area and our community as recommended by the Cyclone Gabrielle reports.

Harakeke Fence Stage II

The KiwiRail PACE project involved the construction of a long fence separating the railway from Steyne Avenue. Unfortunately, this fence almost immediately became a target for taggers. The fence had to be painted and treated with anti-graffiti paint and the PRA commissioned a design for the installation of flax murals to beautify the fence and discourage tagging. The second stage of this project was funded by contributions from residents and completed and opened in November. A board listing the sponsors of the project has been installed.

Around 30 people attended the Harakeke Fence opening on 16 November 2024. A local historian explained the importance of flax in this area. Our Mayor Anita Baker unveiled the sponsor board and sponsors were given a certificate of appreciation by PRA.

Big Spring Clean

On Sunday 24th November 2024 residents and volunteers from St Andrew's Church congregation, Mana Lions and PRA were out in force for our annual Plimmerton & Camborne Big Spring Clean. Plimmerton Volunteer Fire Brigade were the crew drivers and Porirua City Council provided gloves, bags and rubbish collection gear. While many worked clearing up our streets, beaches, parks and environs, the St Andrews Church and Mana Lions volunteers provided delicious refreshments for the workers.

Plimmerton Railway Station

PRA has supported keeping this historic railway station building occupied and in use. Metlink and PRA have collaborated on a sign showing the names of those who contributed to the station building restoration.



Roading and Traffic

PRA has continued to be actively engaged with NZTA Waka Kotahi on the operation of SH59, which runs through Plimmerton/Camborne. This has included liaison on traffic light phasing at the Steyne Avenue railway crossing and Grays Road intersections. Speeding down narrow roads such as Sunset Parade and Moana Road has become a problem and extra signage and traffic calming measures have been recommended to the Council.

Plimmerton School Legacy Project

This was a huge success and senior students interviewed locals and researched 36 local volunteer organisations. They presented their findings with great enthusiasm to a large crowd of parents and residents. This gave PRA publicity for several of our major projects and further developed our relationship with the school staff and students.

Science in the Swamp Project

The Taupō Swamp and Catchment area has a high national and international biodiversity rating and significance. PRA has continued working on this project with the Friends of the Taupō Swamp and the Plimmerton School.

Village Planning and Relationship with Council

In order to reduce costs the Porirua City Council has had to cancel much of the greatly appreciated support it previously gave to Village Planning activities. While this is disappointing, PRA believes that the Council can benefit from each community group doing more of the things it can no longer fund itself.

In particular, PRA has a stake in the assets it has created and funded and needs to be consulted about their maintenance and future and given the ability to help where it can. For instance, we would be prepared to assist with further maintenance work on the waterfront seating originally conceived by PRA and we have offered to assist with dog park maintenance.

PRA has been actively engaging with PCC managers to raise awareness of the village assets needing ongoing maintenance, and is also seeking more effective liaison on general maintenance issues.

PRA has ongoing liaison with PCC regarding Moana Rd/Sunset Parade driver behaviour improvements and safer conditions for motorists and families using this busy area.

PRA executive committee members participated in two hui to discuss the ongoing role for Porirua's villages, liaison between communities and with PCC, and approaches to emergency management.

PRA prepared a submission on the proposed PCC Freedom Camping bylaw.



Plimmerton Domain

PRA continues to support the development of the fenced dog exercise area. A proposal to increase tree planting to provide additional shelter at this part of the Domain was prepared in collaboration with Plimmerton Rotary, but so far has not been accepted by the Council.

Heritage Trail

This trail continues to be promoted to schools, residents and visitors through leaflets, the PRA website and various tours.

Liaison with external agencies

PRA has continued to facilitate liaison between agencies such as NZTA Waka Kotahi, KiwiRail, and GWRC and the community to keep residents informed on issues of significance.

Recently PRA has been liaising with a logging contractor planning to harvest a forestry block on The Track, following concerns from residents regarding the route being taken. This work is currently on hold while further investigation is carried out.

The Plimmerton Heights Extension and Plimmerton Farm developments are underway. We are registered to receive updates from the developer so any matters of interest can be passed on to the community.

Hongoeka Marae

On Saturday 25 January our PRA committee along with the PVFB and Plimmerton Boating Club committee were honoured to be welcomed onto Hongoeka Marae with a formal pōwhiri. We also learned the history of the beautiful meeting house (whare tūpuna) and were invited to share kai and conversation afterwards. We very much appreciated the warmth and sincerity of the welcome from the Hongoeka community.

Plimmerton Boating Club relationship

We congratulate PBC on its centenary and thank the club for its continued support of PRA. Meetings are now held on the first Monday of the month at 5pm at PBC. All residents are welcome to attend these meetings, but please let us know beforehand by email plimmertonra@gmail.com as meeting arrangements are subject to change.

Plimmerton Community Menzshed Inc [PCMI]

We continue to enjoy a close working relationship with PCMI, collaborating on various projects.



PRA Constitution

A new constitution has been drafted to comply with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. This was circulated to financial members for comment in March, and has been recirculated along with a resolution to be put to the 2025 AGM. Members will be asked to approve this constitution for registration with the Companies Office.

Communication through thick and thin

Our comms team, enthusiastically led by Carolyn Williams, has continued to keep the community well informed. Regular newsletters, emails and Facebook posts, informing the community with timely, accurate information about developments impacting our community. They also step up when emergency, police, health, civic and community matters arise.

Special thanks to Allan Dodson and Violet Rowe who use their skills to keep you all up with the play. If you have communication expertise and can spare some time to assist, please talk to Carolyn on our exec committee or email plimmertonra@gmail.com.

Acknowledgements

First, I'd like to thank our very generous sponsors, **Stihl Shop Porirua** and **Tommy's Real Estate**.

Alastair and his team at Stihl Shop Porirua have once again kindly sponsored a fantastic prize for this year's PRA subscription draw winner, and are offering a generous discount voucher for PRA financial members.

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

Thank you both!

I also thank our Pāuatahanui ward councillors, especially Josh Trlin, Nathan Waddle and Ross Leggett who've regularly attended our meetings and assisted us with council liaison.

And lastly thanks to all current executive committee members (Dave Anderson, Carolyn Williams, Robin Jones, Robynne McIntyre, John Meeuwssen, Jenny Brash and Don Gray) for their contributions during the year.

David Verrinder
Chair
Plimmerton Residents' Association Inc

August 2025

