

Kōrero

News and stories from Pukerua Bay



Vol 1, Issue 5
December 2021



Summer in the Bay. Photo credit: Fricke Delle

Kia ora

Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete me te Tau Hou. Season's greetings for Christmas and the New Year. Welcome to the fifth issue of *Kōrero*.

Kōrero was born a year ago, with the intention of building community connection, sharing some of the great things happening in our place, and kicking off conversations about how to make it even better. We've aligned its development with redevelopment of the community website pukeruabay.org.nz so that it becomes the 'go to' place for local information. We're deeply thankful for the ongoing support of our sponsors, advertisers, and amazing contributors. With the additional support now of a grant from the Hutt Mana Charitable Trust, we're keen to continue with the kaupapa through 2022.

Covid-19 has made this another challenging year for our community, our nation, and for people around the globe. Unfortunately, it has meant that several events that have become treasured parts of the Christmas season in Pukerua Bay have had to be cancelled. However, we are optimistic that they will be back next year. In the meantime, as Jenny Dawson reminds us (pages 4), we have lots to appreciate!

Part of what we can appreciate is the talents of our local writers. In this issue, you can enjoy a poem by Clarrie Macklin, based on his father and uncles' childhood stories of fishing with their father at Wairaka Rock (page 4). "Strawberries" is a beautiful short

story by Judith Frost-Evans that asks an important question (pages 6). And, in an exciting first for *Kōrero*, Gay Hay's generosity means we can offer you the opportunity to receive one of her amazing books in exchange for a creative work of your own (page 3).

Our Village Plan consultation showed that care for the natural environment continues to be one of our community's top priorities. The messages from Ngā Uruora (page 9) and from Millie and Blake (page 10) remind us that we have lots of opportunities for kaitiakitanga!

If you live in Pukerua Bay, you are part of our Residents' Association! Check out pages 12–13 for a roundup of the last year's activities.

Our next issue is planned for February 2022. Picking up on Jenny's message, its overarching theme will be gratitude. So, what are you grateful for? What can you tell us about that? We'd love to hear from you. And, do contact us if you have activities planned in our community.

This is *your* newsletter! If you would like to contribute, advertise, provide sponsorship, or offer feedback, please go to page 14.

Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa.

Let us keep close together, not wide apart.

We acknowledge mana whenua of Pukerua Bay, Ngāti Toa Rangatira. For Ngāti Toa news, see ngatittoa.iwi.nz



Kua tu te haka a Tānerore.

The dancing of Tānerore has begun.

Tānerore is the son of Tamanuiterā, the sun, and Hineraumati, the summer maiden. He is credited with having originated the haka. This whakatauki refers to the shimmering appearance of the air in the heat of summer, a movement that is echoed in haka and waiata by the quivering of hands.

Let us hope that Tānerore will dance with us this summer!



Special gift offer!

Gay Hay is well known to many in our community for her tireless efforts in helping tend our natural environment and her beautiful picture books. Gay has kindly offered some of her books as a gift to anybody who offers *Kōrero* a creative work based upon one of the animals, birds, or plants that live in Pukerua Bay. It might be a picture, poem, or a different clever idea of your own. This could be a fun activity for children in the leadup to Christmas – but anyone can take part. We have 11 books on offer, so get your entries in and get your hands on one of them!

Please drop off your entries to 2 Pukerua Beach Road any time this summer. Don't forget to leave your name and contact details so we can give you your book!



A huge mihi to all our advertisers and sponsors!

Our mission is for *Kōrero* to reach everyone in our community. Without the generosity (and trust!) of our advertisers and sponsors, we couldn't do it. So far, our major sponsors have been Euon Murrell (Tommy's), Pukerua Bay RSA and Community Club, and Kylie Lyne (Clark and Co.) We are also very thankful for having been awarded a grant by the Hutt Mana Charitable Trust.

A Christmas message

Meri Kirihimete!

Coming up very quickly is the season of magic, and fun, and annual get-togethers with family and friends. I know this is not always the reality for everyone, but I get excited about Christmas or, as a Norwegian relative of ours used to sing, playing his squeezebox, “I yust go nuts at Christmas”. I look forward to the anticipation, the excitement, and the hope, especially in this year when, again, the “f” word (“frustration”) has been on our lips too often.

As a person of faith, of course I get caught up in the various celebrations leading to, and on, The Day. I enjoy how several religions have significant events at this time and, if I am really lucky, I might get invited to join in their festival with a Buddhist, or Jewish, or Pagan, or even Zoroastrian friend. It is a rich season of the year, despite Covid and the climate emergency.

I am deeply aware that I do not have kids at home, and I am self-employed (in the kind of work that easily adapts to Zoom), so past months have not been as challenging for me as for some. However, I do know too well how hard this season can be for families and for those who face this poignant time with a special person absent. Some of us, just by nature, need to become hermits in December, and that is okay. Like most people, I have to be intentional and even bloody-minded about staying free of the impact of advertising, but the wonderful ideas of making or growing

gifts can require initiative and energy that isn't always there. In my bubbling anticipation, I sympathise deeply with those who dread the “festive season”.

Yet for all of us in Pukerua Bay, after a crazy and divisive year or two, maybe we can simply ensure that we take the time in December to be grateful: for life, for the measure of health that we have, for friendships, for this place. Pause here to add your own gratitude topics ...

The events that are growing up around Matariki are showing us the value of celebrating in the dark days. Even as the sun-filled days get longer, let us share words of gratitude this Christmas.

Nā Reverend Jenny Dawson



Christmas tūī.



Service at Pukerua Bay Beach, 2009.

Hermit

*past the headland
my steps
scrape over
fallen stones*

*as if
the falling to bits
of his
corrugated iron shack
never left*

*my uncles tell
of his wrinkled palms
hanging out kingfish
to dry*

*their stories
still recited
by water that slaps
in the gulch
between two boulders
where my grandfather
pulled snapper ashore
with steel cable
and bare hands*

*they once
spoke to him
by this stony beach
above the hum
of asphalt
being laid
ever closer*

*I, too,
escape
where concrete
is yet to conceal
his favourite
driftwood seats
or the wave-battered rocks
that held my
grandfather's feet*

Nā Clarrie Macklin



*Hut where Nobby Clark lived from 1945 until 1966. Photo credit: Dominion Post (Newspaper): Photographic negatives and prints of the Evening Post and Dominion newspapers. Ref: EP/1960/0279-F. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.
natlib.govt.nz/records/30646986*

Ti Kouka Yoga



Friday morning Yoga classes in Pukerua Bay

45 min beginner class 9.10 - 9.55am
60 min gentle flow class 10.15 - 11.15am

For more information
please get in touch by email
tikoukayoga@uscmann.ch
or call/text 022 392 0877

Strawberries

Long ago, in the early world, there lived the first man and the first woman. They loved one another dearly but one day they quarreled. Although later neither could remember the reason, the pain grew stronger with every word that was spoken, until finally, in anger and in grief, the woman left their home and began walking to the east, towards the rising sun.

The man sat alone in his house. The anger left him and all that remained was terrible grief and despair.

A spirit heard the man crying and, taking pity on him, told him that a woman was walking to the east, towards the rising sun.

The man went after his wife but could not overtake her. Everyone knows that an angry woman walks fast!

The spirit decided to try to slow the woman down but found the woman walking, her footsteps fast and angry and her gaze fixed straight ahead.

There was pain in her heart. The spirit saw some mānuka bushes and made them burst into fragrant blossom. But the woman's gaze remained fixed. Her footsteps didn't slow. She looked neither left nor right and she didn't see or sense the fragrant flowers.



The spirit caused the trees of the forest to burst into blossom one by one and ripen into fruit. But the woman's gaze remained fixed, and still she saw nothing but her anger and her pain.

Then the spirit caused a green carpet to grow along the path, starred with tiny white flowers. Each flower ripened into a berry that was the colour and shape of the human heart. As the woman walked, she crushed the tiny berries and their delicious aroma rose to her nostrils. She stopped and looked down, and she saw the berries. She began to walk slowly, picking berries as she went and after a time, she saw her husband coming along the path behind her. She stopped and together they picked and ate the fruit. Finally, they returned home, with a new taste of peace and happiness.

Where in Pukerua Bay have you seen tiny, delicious strawberries?

Nā Judith Frost-Evans

In the Belly of the Whale School of Storytelling

Judith is a biographical counsellor, museum host, and storyteller. She leads In the Belly of the Whale School of Storytelling, based here in Pukerua Bay. If you would like more information or to take part in a workshop, you can find the group's website at inthebellyofthewhale.org/kapiti-story-circle or contact Judy on judytravelling@hotmail.com or by phone: 04 239 8346 or 021 112 1244.

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Village Plan update: emerging themes

Work has begun on analysing the results of the Village Plan pkb.nz/village-plan consultation so far. We're noticing lots of support for the simplified version of the current vision with its focus on community and the environment. There's also continued support for the same four priorities as in the previous two plans. Both the priorities and the vision seem to reflect three themes:

- *manaakitanga* (kindness, compassion, hospitality, and mutual respect);
- *kaitiakitanga* (guardianship of the natural environment); and
- *whanaungatanga* (belonging and connection).

Reading through the comments, the same three themes continue to predominate. We're thinking that these might become our community values, sitting at the heart of our revised Village Plan and aligning with our vision. They can be the yardstick by which we make decisions about what we do as a community.

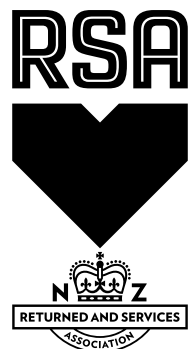
What do you think? If you have any thoughts or comments, please feel welcome to get in touch via secretary@pukerubay.org.nz or jot them down and drop them off at 2 Pukerua Beach Road.

COME ALONG AND JOIN THE PUKERUA BAY RSA & COMMUNITY CLUB

OPEN: 4.30 – 11PM THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
4.30 – 8PM SATURDAY

WHERE: 5-7 WAIRAKA ROAD

For more information, email pukbayrsa@gmail.com or call 04 239 9083.
Facebook: **Pukerua Bay RSA and Community Club**



*Right: Santa greets the crowds in Christmas 2019.
Photo credit: Ivor Earp-Jones*



Message from the Hub

Sadly, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we're not able to host Christmas on the Field this year. But we've got lots of great occasions to look back on and there will be lots more in the future, including Christmas on the Field, which will come back next year, even bigger and brighter than ever!

Meri Kirihimete from the Pukerua Bay Hub team!



Pukerua Bay's Ngā Uruora team takes a well-earned break.

Ngā Uruora

Ngā Uruora – Kāpiti Project has a small, dedicated group of regulars who grow native trees, which we plant on the Pukerua Bay end of Te Araroa Track (the escarpment path), returning regularly for care and maintenance. We would love any other locals to join us on our working bees, held on the second Tuesday morning of each month. It's a wonderful spot to be in and to be doing some great work for the planet, the community and, of course, to *Help bring Kāpiti Island's dawn chorus back to the coast!*

Save the skinks!

29.09.21

Dear members of the Pukerua Bay Community,

We are Pukerua Bay School students from Rua. We are writing this letter to you to help save the skinks, because there are not many left in New Zealand.

Our skink garden has no skinks in it because everybody in the school has run through the skink garden and scared them away. (A skink garden is a place where skinks can safely breed and live.) We are trying to rebuild the skink garden.

If you have a cat, please put a bell on your cat(s). Perhaps you can lock your cat flaps at night to stop your cats from getting out and killing lizards.

If you do not have a cat, you can still help by putting rat and possum traps around your garden. And maybe plant some native plants. You could hand this letter to someone you know who has a cat.

Your sincerely Rua, Pukerua Bay School

Nā Millie and Blake,
keen to help the lizards in Pukerua Bay



Photo credit: Gregory H. Sherley, New Zealand
Department of Conservation

The Whitaker's Skink

Whittaker's Skink (*Oligosoma whittakeri*) is a very rare threatened species that is endemic to New Zealand. The cliffs of Pukerua Bay are home to the last known mainland population. We can help protect them by keeping our dogs on their leashes when walking around the coast.

Your local councillor

Josh Trlin, councillor for the
Northern Ward / Pukerua ki te Raki



Kia ora! My name is Josh Trlin. I'm one of your local Northern Ward councillors and I want to hear from you.

- Have an idea to improve our city?
- Concerned about an issue within our community?
- Want to know more about the work your council is doing?
- Got a problem you need council help to solve?

Drop me a line and let's have a chat.



JoshTrlinPorirua
josh.trlin@labour.org.nz
027 374 0114

CHRISTMAS TIME @LE MER beauty in the bay

info@lemerdayspa.co.nz

GET IN ON THE CHRISTMAS / NEW YEARS FUN AND SAVINGS

We've got you covered this Festive Season with our Christmas Holiday Promotions available from now until Feb 2022 to fill Christmas stockings, hang from Christmas trees and to lavish your secret Santa's with extra love and tranquility this Christmas. Be the first to know by emailing "JOIN" to info@lemerdayspa.co.nz

EMAIL "JOIN" TO : INFO@LEMERDAYSPA.CO.NZ

Thank you! for the continued support and love this year! For referring friends and family and letting us join you on your skincare and beauty journeys. We really appreciate all the support you have shown our small business in the years past and the years to come ❤️

We hope your Christmas brings you joy and wonder, filled with beautiful memories of family and friends, fun & laughter.

Terehia & Shanel

Pukerua Bay Residents' Association

It's been another busy year for the Residents' Association! Some of our activities are carried out directly by the committee. Others involve our enabling others to achieve the goals outlined within the Constitution and our Village Plan. Here's a quick round-up of some of what we reported on at this year's AGM:

- We have a Northern Ward and a Regional Councillor at each of our meetings. We appreciate the insight they give us into their work and their willingness to investigate our concerns.
- We surveyed the village on the review of our Village Plan and are using the information to draft a revised Plan.
- We established *Kōrero* and re-designed the community website.
- We continued and expanded Waste Free PKB.
- He Ara Pukerua continues to explore diverse ways of sharing the story of Pukerua Bay with the community.
- The Community Garden and Food Forest has thrived as both a physical place and a space for the community to come together and enjoy each other's company.
- In response to the second lockdown, we partnered with the Hub to revive the Covid-19 co-ordinating group. Fortunately, this was not required for long.
- We consulted with NZTA/Waka Kotahi on the Ara Harakeke Shared Pathway Extension, with work on upgrading the pathway from Haunui Road to State Highway 1 completed in June.
- We made submissions on the Council's long-term and district plans.
- We consulted with the Council on concerns regarding overgrown vegetation and the slip on Takutai Road, and on a proposed alteration to the junction of State Highway 1, Wairaka Road, and Teihana Road.
- We held a community meeting on Kāinga Ora's District Plan submission advocating for a high-density residential housing zone in Pukerua Bay.
- We made a successful defence of Porirua Council's Village Planning Programme and look forward to being part of its re-design.
- We supported the construction of the 'Surfers' Seat', a project led by David Pepperell.

For more detail on our activities, check out the AGM reports at:

pukeruabay.org.nz

Ngā mihi o te Kirihiomete me Te Tau Hou ... wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Your committee: Paul FitzGerald (Chair), Iain MacLean (Deputy Chair), Moira Lawler (Secretary), Margaret Blair (Treasurer), Jonathan Harker (Webmaster), Mel Galletly, Pauline Morum, Kate Dreaver, Nikky Winchester, Lenka Horanska, and Kelly McClean.



Community Garden and Food Forest Spring Festival, 30 October: Judith and John get set for a day of fun.



Heritage talk, 30 October: Miria Pomare retells the history of Ngāti Toa, explaining the significance of Pukerua Bay from the iwi's perspective.

Aroha mai, aroha atu – caring for one another

Next issue

The theme for the next issue is gratitude. We warmly invite you to contribute:

- a photo or picture with a suggested caption
- a poem or short story
- your thoughts and recollections about things for which you are thankful.

If you are a community group, you can also list an item in the events calendar.

Please email newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz by **11 January 2022** if you would like to contribute a story, photo, poem, ad, or other material.



98 Rawhiti Road, Pukerua Bay

Hours 8am-1pm
(Tuesday - Saturday)

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& Pies

Editorial team

Kōrero is brought to you by Kate Dreaver, Jonathan Harker, Anne Johnston, Iain MacLean, Moira Lawler, Nikky Winchester, and Mel Galletly. We thank the Pukerua Bay Residents' Association for its support.

Advertising and sponsorship

Kōrero comes out approximately every eight weeks. We need your support to keep it going. Please consider donating or placing paid advertising.

Advertising rates for **five issues** start at just \$50 for a local listing (see below); \$80 for a card-sized ad; \$160 for a half-page ad; and \$220 for a full-page ad.

Advertising rates for **one issue** are \$20 for a card-sized ad, \$40 for a half-page ad, and \$60 for a full-page ad.

You can **sponsor** an entire issue for \$300.

Community notices are very welcome, but please consider a koha.

Kōrero

News and stories from Pukerua Bay

OUR SKINK: The image of the Whitaker's Skink on our banner, and in the Residents' Association logo, was created by local artist, Pauline Morse.

Pukerua Bay Community website and directory

The Pukerua Bay community website pukeruabay.org.nz holds a plethora of useful information, including local community groups and activities.

If you would like to be included in the directory or if you have suggestions for other content, please email:

newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz

You can download a PDF of this and past issues of *Kōrero* from the website at pkb.nz/korero or via this QR code.



Please support our supporters!

Mark Minenkoff	Registered electrician	027 449 4651
McClean Electrical Services Ltd	Registered electricians	027 306 7119
Damian Harris	Plumber	021 2444942
Gabriele	Piano and marimba lessons	021 073 4386 uriele@urielepianomusic.com

Events calendar

- 9 December:** Ahu Charitable Trust ki Pukerua Hub AGM, 7.00–9pm, Sandbar, Mana Esplanade.
- 14 December:** Residents' Association meeting, 7.30–9pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd. Intended guest: an MPI fisheries officer to discuss enforcement of our marine protection measures.
- 15 December:** Last day of school for 2021.
- 25 December:** Te Kirihirote – Have a good one!
- 3 February:** First day of school for 2022.
- 8 February:** Residents' Association meeting, 7.30–9.30pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd. Intended guest: a member of PCC's planning team to discuss the future of Pukerua Bay.

To list an event in the February issue, please email by **11 January:**
newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz



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