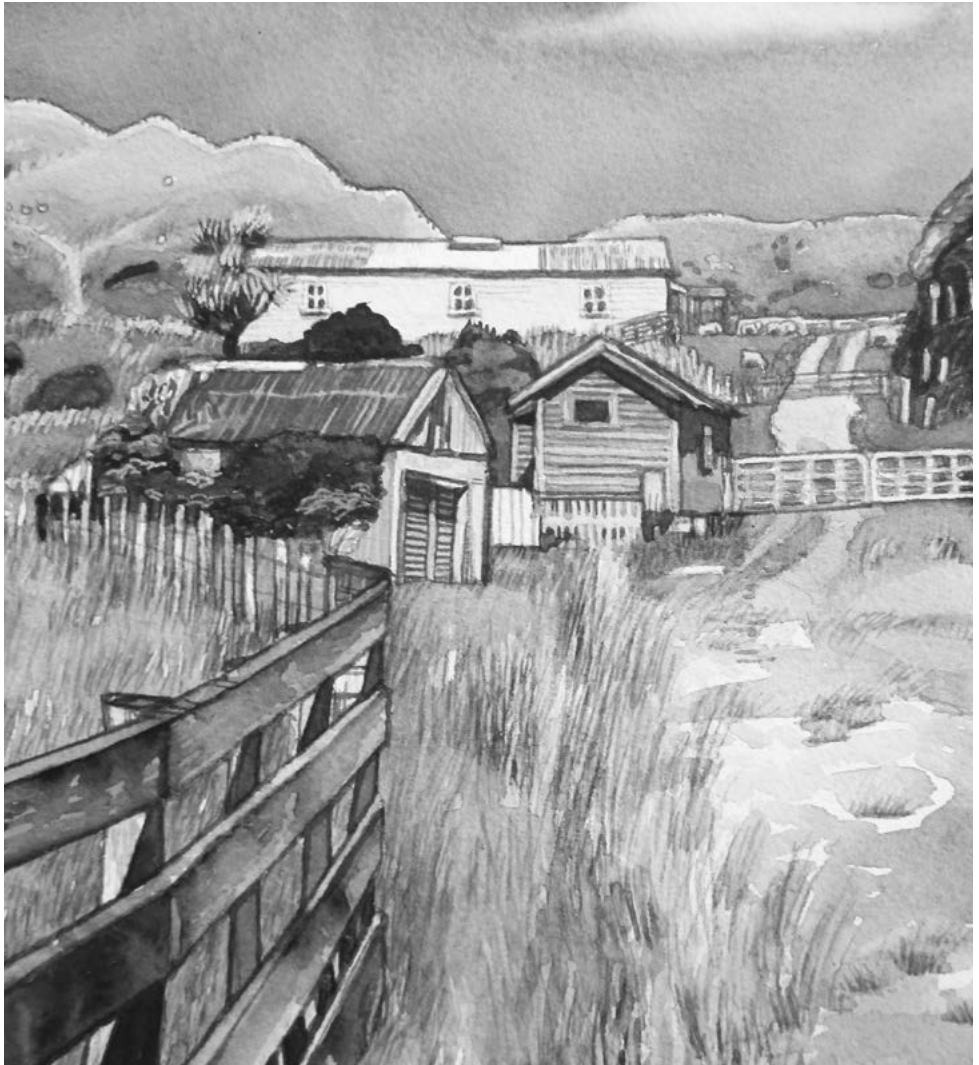


Kōrero

News and stories from Pukerua Bay

Vol 2, Issue 5
November 2022



Detail of Pukerua Bay Farm, by Joya de Geus

Kia ora

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

It's a joy and a privilege to bring you the thoughts, ideas, activities, and enterprise of so many members of our community. Your editorial team is deeply grateful to all the contributors, advertisers, and sponsors who make *Kōrero* possible. It really does 'take a village'.

This month's cover image is by local artist, Joya de Geus. We're keen to feature more local artists as another way of celebrating the amazing talent here in Pukerua Bay. If you'd like to contribute, please send us a good-quality image, along with a short bio. Your image needs to work in portrait and be suitable for printing in black and white.

With the holiday season upon us, we have an item from Kelly McClean on how we can have a good time close to home (page 4). There's also a lovely, summery poem from Gill England (page 9). Christmas on the Field is back and this time, there's a chance to take part in the inaugural Pukerua Bay Surf Roller Board Competition (pages 10–11).

This year saw the start of a new community group – a keen group of gardeners (page 5). New members are very welcome.

We have an update on the Pukerua Bay Community Garden and Food Forest and again, we share a warm invitation for you to get involved (page 14).

Our Village Plan has been adopted and is online, with an early outcome being the very successful community climate change workshop (pages 6–7). There will be lots to come out of this initiative – we'll keep you up to date here and on the community website.

People may debate the extent to which the slips around Pukerua Bay are related to climate change, but not the extent to which they cause heartache and disruption, especially to those most directly affected. We hope that the measures being taken to address them bring relief (page 15).

Our first issue for 2023 will be loosely based on the theme of water. Does that spark any thoughts? As always, we'd love your contributions.

From all the *Kōrero* team, we wish you a wonderful summer and, if you are going away, safe travels.

*Kia hora te marino, kia whakapapa
pounamu te moana, kia tere te
kārohirohi i mua i tō huarahi.*

May peace be widespread, may the sea
glisten like greenstone, and may the shimmer
of light guide you on your way.

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

Meet Joya de Geus

We're delighted to share two recent art works by local artist, Joya de Geus (cover and below).

Joya originally trained as a graphic designer. She developed her skills in drawing and watercolour painting during five years living on the Chatham Islands, painting the landscape and portraits of the islanders. Moving to Europe, where she lived for fifteen years, Joya studied art at graduate and post-graduate level at universities in France, Holland, and Italy. Returning to New Zealand, she began teaching art part-time and became involved with the Wellington art scene, participating in various exhibitions and events.

Appreciation of Joya's clean and often highly detailed watercolours steadily grew and, in 2008, she won first prize at Watercolour New Zealand's national exhibition. She then spent 18 months in Holland, painting on commission, before moving to Pukerua Bay, to her home among the trees. Joya raised her children here, while continuing to teach and paint. She is an active participant in arts events all over Porirua and Kāpiti.

Joya's watercolours are characterised by their lightness and multiple transparent layers. Combined with her passion for colour, these elements can be found in all facets of her work, from landscapes, life drawing, portraits, lino cuts, and lithography to larger batik paintings.

Nature and the environment have always played a big part in Joya's work. This inspired two years' work

with Greenpeace and is evident in both the subjects of her work and her predominant use of the blues and greens that define the landscape of Aotearoa New Zealand.

You can't fully appreciate Joya's beautiful images on our pages, but we encourage you to see for yourself! Currently, her work is on display at the Watercolour New Zealand exhibition at the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts, 1 Queens Wharf, Wellington; or you could arrange to visit Joya by email joydegeus@gmail.com or phone (04) 239 8005.



Mana Island, by Joya de Geus

Summer fun in Paekākāriki

Paekākāriki is a beautiful and surprising place to explore with the whānau. Like many others in Pukerua Bay, we love making memories there with friends from up and down the coast.

Paekākāriki Holiday Park, at the south entrance of Queen Elizabeth Park, is only 15 minutes' drive away from home and offers all the vibes of summer, including that feeling of remoteness when getting around by foot or bike. We enjoy camping together in a big group (shout out to the Sunshine Crew!) with daily, organised, family-friendly outdoor activities that usually involve swimming, biking, and walking.



We had a bit of a fail last year when we took five young kids on the intermediate-advanced level coastal and inland bike trails at Queen Elizabeth Park, which is code for having to carry bikes the whole time! I definitely recommend the Kāpiti cycleway instead!

Avoiding hours and hours driving to a far-flung beach town is such a dream; plus, if necessary, folk can still commute to work from Paekākāriki, making it easy on annual leave. Bring on summer!

What to do in Paekākāriki

- Camp at Paekākāriki Holiday Park – heaps of family-friendly activities, including swimming in the stream, feeding eels, the bouncy pillow, and trampolines
- Coastal, inland, and Kāpiti cycleway bike trails
- Visit Paekākāriki beach
- Campbell Park playground and skate park
- Day walks through Queen Elizabeth Park
- Escarpment walk to or from Pukerua Bay
- Explore Paekākāriki's busy cafes and shops
- Visit the newly refurbished Paekākāriki Art Studios
- Check out the historic train museum
- Head to a gig or market at St. Peter's Hall

Nā Kelly McClean



Pukerua Bay Gardeners



Chilean bellflower (Lapageria rosea) in Marge Hurst's garden, blooming for the first time after about 15 years

We are a local, homegrown club with a small 'face-to-face' group and a wider online membership. Some members have been gardening here for a long time, some are newer gardeners, and some are new to the Bay.

Earlier this year, our founding member, Marge, took the first step and hosted us at her garden. We got to see the inspiring range of plants Marge has collected and established in her time in the Bay and foraged some beautiful Clivia seeds. We have since met at three other gardens and would love to visit others in the Bay, so we're looking for volunteers to host.

We meet about once a month on a Saturday morning at 10am at someone's garden. It's around the last Saturday of the month, but we fit in with other things we have going on, local events, and the weather. We share ideas and bits of plants and intel on what the wind does. We don't do 'house and garden'; just your usual garden that looked better today than yesterday and will hopefully look even better tomorrow. I see that our beautiful gardens are a work in progress,



Clivia gardenii in Marge Hurst's garden



Hibiscus in Pauline Morse's garden

and that makes me enjoy my own more.

Our online members are pretty active. We ask each other for help and share photos, tips, seedlings, coffee grounds ... that sort of thing.

I'm loving getting to know enthusiastic gardeners from other parts of the Bay who I wouldn't normally meet. We could do more, like trips away to special nurseries and other gardens or events. The Kāpiti Garden Trial is coming up in January...

Our Facebook page is Pukerua Bay Gardeners: [facebook.com/groups/344274124363519](https://www.facebook.com/groups/344274124363519)

Story nā Kay Shapland and photos nā Marge Hurst

Village Planning

At this year's AGM, the Residents' Association formally adopted our Village Plan.

The Plan sits on the community website at pukeruabay.org.nz/village-plan/. It sets the vision that Pukerua Bay will be "A friendly, caring, and vibrant community in a beautiful natural setting, supported by good local infrastructure and facilities."

Three key values emerged in consultation: whanaungatanga, manaakitanga, and kaitiakitanga. These are reflected in our top four priorities: protecting our beach and marine environment; the natural environment; making Pukerua Bay a safe place to walk and cycle; and ensuring it is a desirable place to raise children. There are themes and suggestions for action around:

- five key areas: infrastructure; recreational facilities and activities; the natural environment; movement in and around the Bay; and social connections
- long-term issues and objectives: the impact of Transmission Gully, Te Araroa, and the Northern Growth Plan; housing; climate change, and our twenty-year vision.

The Village Plan is a living document that will continue to develop through further consultation and through the work of those who pick up the ideas and make them real. This process is exemplified by the community climate change workshop, an idea that emerged through development of the Plan and now has a life of its own. Keep an eye on the community website for more developments!



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 **Labour**

Community climate change workshop



One of the groups discuss the actions we can take



Kelly and Barbara collating the ideas from the table groups

Thanks so much to everyone who came to the community climate change workshop in the Pukerua Bay School and Community Hall on Sunday 16 October!

The purpose of the workshop was to build climate resilience, rangatiratanga, awareness, understanding, and connectedness, all in the spirit of kaitiakitanga. We set out to:

- undertake a strengths-based stocktake of what we are already doing to promote kaitiakitanga in Pukerua Bay
- raise awareness about climate change impacts and local environmental activities
- identify people who want to take the conversation further.

Forty-five people turned out on a lovely spring day to discuss this important kaupapa and plan next steps. It was great to see the Northern Ward councillors, Mayor Anita Baker, and our school principal, Chris Els, in attendance.

Participants came up with a rich range of suggestions for positive action, which

we'll write more about in forthcoming issues of *Kōrero*. These included:

- a workshop series on consumption, the circular economy, and energy
- more involvement in the Pukerua Bay Food Forest
- a community pantry for food giving and exchange
- a community shed for sharing tools and making and repairing
- improving household resilience (for example, by supporting the installation of water tanks and solar panels)
- learning from other community initiatives (for example, visiting Ōtaki to find out about its work on sustainability).

These and the other ideas generated at the hui dovetail very well into the Village Plan. Neither the Plan nor the focus on climate change is a 'one-off', and we look forward to following up with interested folk in the New Year.

Nā Kate Dreaver, Moira Lawler, Kelly McClean,
Barbara Nebels, and Conor Twyford

Haere rā, Pukerua Bay

It's been an absolute pleasure to be in the Bay for the past ten years, as deputy principal of our fabulous school. People thought we were mad moving to Kāpiti Coast from the beautiful Golden Bay, but there are many similarities, and the move has given our children a lot more opportunities. I have made many friends here and it has been such fun to teach and support the Pukerua Bay tamariki. I have learnt so much, and there is no better location to dig deep into the local curriculum.

I started here with Tara (TJ) in 2013, and we worked well together to ensure we moved with the times, putting social and emotional competencies at the forefront of everything we do. More and more, these essential skills of communication, creativity, collaboration, kindness, respect, critical thinking, citizenship, and unity determine whether we succeed in the workplace and in life.



My first class here was in Tahī, where we were kaitiaki for the skink garden. I loved working with Gay Hay, building skink houses and looking after these little creatures. I started up a Young Gentlemen's Club (later to become the Caring Club), and we made regular visits to Harbour View Care Home. A highlight was when the residents came to watch our school production. It's so rewarding seeing our students succeed, not only in school but in the wider community. The children taught the care home residents how to use iPads, which was very entertaining at times. They played board games, read their own writing, sang songs, and just chatted about stuff.

Another highlight was starting the school choir. The choir takes in about a third of the school, so it's very popular, particularly with the junior students. The children have performed at assemblies, Christmas on the Field, Harbour View Care Home, Matariki, and Art Splash.



Roots of Empathy rootsofempathy.org/ is an awesome programme, teaching children to care and think about others. It can include making pets a part of school, and that's now very evident at Pukerua Bay! On any given day, you will find three or four school dogs entertaining the tamariki. We have also had guinea pigs, budgies, and visits from our neighbour's cat.

I really enjoyed teaching students how to read through Reading Recovery and leading Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L). Our KURA values – Kindness, Unity, Responsibility, and Achievement – are well ingrained in what we do.

This year, I have been teaching a beautiful bunch of kids aged 6–7 years, and they are so full of energy and enthusiasm. But after 20-plus years in the classroom, it's time I put on my big-boy boots and helped make changes in a larger schoolwide sense.

The role of a principal is challenging, and you will never please everyone. I helped support Tara and Chris in their roles as first-time principals and this has given me good insights into how I will start in my new position. All you can do is your best and work towards ensuring teachers have everything they need to be successful in their roles. I'm really looking forward to taking up my role as principal in Lower Hutt.

I will look back on my time here at Pukerua Bay with fond memories and take my learning with me. Thank you to all the kind parents and caregivers that have made my time here so enjoyable.



Love's mashup

This is the springtime of your life

There's an apple in your eye

Jasmine growing in your mind

Plants and seeds and rocks and things

You feel so dizzy dancing

No clouds are in the way

Your heart beats for Cherie Amour

Dear Lord, day by day

There is a season, yearn yearn

Sweet and sour days of summer

Mean burn baby burn.



Christmas on the Field is back!

Save the date! 26 November 2022

Whānau, friends, and community. Sun, hills, trees, and grass. Good food and great music! Sam Yamoah's photo captures the sense of fun and relaxation that was Christmas on the Field, 2020.

For details of what is happening this year, when, and how to get involved, go to:
facebook.com/PKBHub

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4 Divisions

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- Oldest and youngest competitor wins spot prize
- Man on man contest format with called standing poses
- 16 spots per division
- Time trial sets heat seedings from 1 – 16



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- Surf balance roller boards provided for training and competition
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Disclaimer: Enter at your own risk



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- Jess & Alan Walker

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Pukerua Bay Community Garden and Food Forest

At the recent climate change workshop, the Community Garden and Food Forest was identified as one of the existing resources in our community that could be developed.

The Community Garden and Food Forest is connected to other local groups, like the Residents Association, RSA, Pukerua Bay Hub, and school, and is already running environmentally focused workshops and community events. To expand our activities into more climate-focused programmes, like workshops, composting, and community food resources, we'd love more involvement from Pukerua Bay locals.

We're about:

- **Community:** A connected community is a resilient one. Working in the garden is a relaxed way for people to get to know others and enjoy being in the fresh air.
- **Food:** As well as making good fresh food available at any time, the garden also provides a way to help boost food resilience in the event of emergency.



What's happening right now?

The kūmara patch has been planted and the strawberries, coriander, sage, and parsley in the veggie patch are ready for picking. Help yourself and leave some for others.

The garden is a space for everyone, so come and enjoy it! Walk the dog, explore with the kids, or take a quiet break on the swing.

Unfortunately, there has been some vandalism causing damage to fruit trees, so we'd love more people to visit the garden to keep an eye on things. If you see anything of concern, please let us know.

To get in touch with us, or join our mailing list, message us on [facebook.com/PukeruaBayCommunityGarden](https://www.facebook.com/PukeruaBayCommunityGarden) or via email pukeruabaycommunitygarden@gmail.com

Our regular working bees are held from 10am to 12pm on the last Wednesday and second Saturday of the month.

Story and photos nā Jane Comben
with Gillian Candler and Gay Hay

Pukerua Bay slips update

Porirua City Council (PCC) and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency are working on the repair works required for several slips in Pukerua Bay. In most cases, Waka Kotahi is managing the slips alongside SH59, and PCC is looking at the slips and issues on Pukerua Bay's residential streets. A lot of work is happening to identify and understand the geotechnical issues, risks, and any other contributors. This also helps us prioritise actions within our means.

Below is an update on some of the key issues:

- **14 Ocean Parade:** A slip below Pukerua Beach Road affects the retaining wall above this PCC-owned land. Short-term holding measures have been carried out to protect the retaining wall and road. Adjacent road voids have been repaired and are due to be sealed. Longer-term planning is underway for a permanent solution.
- **3 Haunui Way:** There is a slip between this property and Pukerua Beach Road. PCC are working with the property owners involved. The slip continues to move, and the road is being cleared, as required. The underlying cause is being investigated, including testing the nearby three-waters infrastructure. Wellington Water and PCC are monitoring a possible impact on the public sewer line and have measures in hand to address this.
- **Pukerua Beach Road (opposite #22):** A slip in the gully alongside the footpath is being investigated and made safe. Temporary retaining measures have been programmed and PCC are working with geotech advisors on permanent measures.

- **End of Haunui Road (around #57):** Over several months, PCC have been assisting the property owners to reinstate services lost to this slip, so they can move back into their home. PCC are considering what longer-term remediation is appropriate.
- **Zigzag pathway between Pukerua Beach Road and Ocean Parade:** This is open but ongoing clean-up is required and has been programmed with Downer.
- **Slip below SH59 lookout, affecting the Brendan Beach accessway:** Waka Kotahi is dealing with the shared pathway at the State Highway, and this is open on a diverted alignment. The PCC Parks Team is dealing with the path to Brendan Beach, which remains closed for now.
- **SH59 – below the concrete footpath, just south of the lookout:** Waka Kotahi is dealing with the repair work required here.
- **SH59 – slip below the footpath, between shops and Wairaka Road:** PCC is investigating the repair work required.
- **SH59 – above the footpath, between Te Ara Road and Takutai Road:** Waka Kotahi did an initial clean-up and is planning longer-term remediation. They have been asked to ensure access along the footpath is maintained if, and as, further sand flows out.

PCC are aware there are other slip issues in this area and are continuing to monitor and plan for these issues. If you have any questions, please email roadmaintenance@porirua.govt.nz

Nā Claire Giblin for Porirua City Council

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Next issue

For our next issue, we’re looking for items loosely themed around the topic of water, be it the many ways in which it brings us pleasure, the ways in which the quality of our water is being threatened, or the ways in which water can threaten our quality of life. We welcome your contributions of stories, photos, poems, or articles, and of course, any community notices.

Kōrero relies upon its advertisers and sponsors to keep going. Please get in touch if you’re interested.

The copy deadline for the next issue is **16 January**. Our email address is newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz



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Our team

Kōrero is brought to you by Kate Dreaver, Jonathan Harker, Anne Johnston, Iain MacLean, Moira Lawler, Nikky Winchester, and Mel Galletly.

It is supported by the Pukerua Bay Residents’ Association and by all our valued contributors, sponsors, and advertisers.

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 opposite); \$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.



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 lots of useful information, including a local business directory.

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



If you would prefer not to receive a newsletter in your letterbox, please let us know. And, if you have suggestions for the website, please email: newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz

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Michael Beaumont	Mowing and gardening	021 0239 4689 michaelfbeaumont@hotmail.com

Events calendar

23 November: Pukerua Bay Community Garden and Food Forest working bee, 10am–12pm.

26 November: Christmas on the Field, Pukerua Bay School, Rāwhiti Rd.

10 December: Pukerua Bay Community Garden and Food Forest working bee, 10am–12pm.

13 December: Residents’ Association meeting, 7.30–9.00 pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd.

28 December: Pukerua Bay Community Garden and Food Forest working bee, 10am–12pm.

14 January: Pukerua Bay Community Garden and Food Forest working bee, 10am–12pm.

25 January: Pukerua Bay Community Garden and Food Forest working bee, 10am–12pm.

11 February: Pukerua Bay Community Garden and Food Forest working bee, 10am–12pm.

14 February: Residents’ Association meeting, 7.30–9.00 pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd.

To list an event in the March issue, please email by 16 January: newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz



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