

Kōrero

News and stories from Pukerua Bay

Vol 4, Issue 3
June 2024



Local musician Will McClean is taking his music to the world. Photo credit: Francesca Sewell

Kia ora

Mānawatia a Matariki!
Happy Māori New Year!

Our cover photo sets the theme for this issue: music and Matariki. It features Will McClean, whose first gig was performing at our 2019 Matariki celebration. On page 4, you can read about Will's life of music with his whānau at home and how now, having taken his music from Pukerua Bay to the rest of Aotearoa, he is getting ready to take it to the world. Will, our love and thoughts are with you.

Members of our community have incredible, diverse careers. Nicholas Giles-Palmer is a skilled pianist who has long been the répétiteur for the Royal New Zealand Ballet (p.3). Jonathan Harker works in IT during the day and is a professional trombonist at night (p.5)!

As Claire Conradie reflects, music can be a way of finding and sharing joy (p.9). Long-term resident Ray Brown knew this, using music to share his love of this “earthly paradise” (pp.8–9). As Murray Kilpatrick tells us, members of the Pukerua Bay Folk Club have been doing it for over 30 years (p 7)!

The kaupapa for Matariki this year is Tupuānuku (Pleione), the Matariki star connected to Rongo-mā-Tāne, the atua of agriculture. How appropriate that the Community Garden and Food Forest is participating this year, with storytelling events involving the use of a crankie. These will sit alongside other special events organised by Ahu Charitable Trust and the Pukerua Bay Hub, sponsors of this issue of *Kōrero*, with the highlight

being Te Ara Matariki, the starry walk.

Tupuānuku encourages us to attend to our wellbeing through tending to that of the taiao (natural environment). What better time to be thinking about purchasing one of the Community Garden's tea towels, paying a visit to the Raumati South Repair Café, or attending the Climate Action Group's forthcoming workshops? We also need to care for each other, so do check out Pukerua Bay's updated Emergency Hub Guide and the Residents' Association's submission on Council's 10-year plan (p. 15).

So many of our local initiatives have been an outcome of our participation in Porirua's Village Planning Programme, including *Kōrero* itself. We join with the Residents' Association in grieving Council's decision to end the programme and urging it to reconsider. In the meantime, we hope *Kōrero* can play a part in giving residents a voice in shaping our community and continuing to live our shared values.

The next issue will come out in August, with the theme of hauora (health and wellbeing). What does hauora mean to you? And how can we promote hauora for ourselves and each other?

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

Romeo, Juliet, Foxtrot, Tango



As long as I can remember, I've always been attentive to the synergy of sound with movement. I'm a répétiteur for the Royal New Zealand Ballet (RNZB), a position I have held now since 1998. This is my third and longest tenure with this company since 1982.

For many years, I was a pianist for classes and rehearsals, and a music librarian, editing cuts and interpolating music into the orchestral scores. A big job, especially for a four-act production like *Le Lac de Cygnes* (*Swan Lake*) or *La Belle au Bois Dormant* (*The Sleeping Beauty*). I now work part-time, playing for the company's daily class most days.

In the ballet studio, the language of the steps and positions is French, and combinations are demonstrated clearly and rhythmically by the class director.

My focus is very much on the steps, rhythm, tempo, and accents, in the same way as all the dancers.

Rehearsals and ballet class move along at a very rapid pace, so I need to be music-ready when they're ready. It could be music from *Romeo and Juliet*, a foxtrot or tango, or whatever I choose, but I wait for my cue from the director – “Ready... and ...” – and then I play. I have a very expansive repertoire from Bach to Beyoncé and all in-between ... and I know so-o many waltzes!

Back in 1986, I was invited to work as répétiteur for the Central Ballet in Beijing and the Beijing Dance Academy but, due to family commitments, I decided not to take up the offer until 11 years later, in 1997. I then spent three months working in Beijing; the experience was incredible on all levels.

My accompanying skills came in useful playing for hundreds of ancient films for the New Zealand Film Archive. My job was to source and accompany the restored films, some films being a few minutes in duration and others full features at 120 minutes or more.

As well as China, my music has taken me through the east coast and midwest of the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. And how many times have I travelled around New Zealand? I haven't been counting!

Nā Nicholas Giles-Palmer

A life of music



When we were first asked to write an article for this Matariki issue of *Kōrero*, I wondered where to start!

The boys' dad – my husband Mike – was a musician and surrounded by music all his life. Hailing from a large Plimmerton

From Pukerua Bay to the world



Hello! Will checking in (younger and perhaps the cooler brother).

For the entirety of my childhood, Mum was blasting songs from across the spectrum of musical genres, cementing my love and curiosity for it. I genuinely mean it when I say that for the entirety of my childhood, music was playing out of our speakers. Ask any of my friends if there was ever silence in our home, and I can accurately guess their responses.

Eventually, the levels of inspiration

family, Mike was one of 11 children, with most of the siblings playing an instrument or singing. We moved here as a young couple over 30 years ago, and had our sons here, who both attended Pukerua Bay preschool, kindy, and school.

My son Will has gone on to become an established hip hop artist in the Wellington music scene, his roots firmly in Pukerua Bay, with our seaside village mentioned in many of his lyrics. His formative years were spent in his downstairs bedroom, built by friends and the local community after Mike died in 2005.

Nā Sara McClean

reached such heights, I decided to pursue the creation of music, and now a career in the music industry.

Music and art in general play such an important role in helping us humans understand and process what we are feeling, and I am forever grateful to have had guidance from the soundtrack of our childhood to pave the way.

I have had the privilege of sharing the stage with New Zealand legends such as Che-Fu, Troy Kingi, and Summer Thieves. However, I will never forget that my first official gig took place at the 2019 Matariki celebration in the Pukerua Bay Hall.

Nā Will McClean

Will's beautiful song, "Man on a Mission", features his friends and whānau and is dedicated to his dad. Check it out: youtube.com/watch?v=aaHeSjL_8bQ

Nerd by day, trombonist by night

When I was in intermediate school in Palmerston North, my brother played the trumpet in a summer holiday music programme. They played an arrangement of "Herod's Song" from *Jesus Christ Superstar* with some pretty raucous trombone parts, so ... that was the instrument for me, thought I! My folks got me a second-hand trombone for my 12th birthday, and it was easy to avoid chores by practicing, at least one or two hours every day after school. By high school I was getting lessons, and it's a well-worn truism that if you keep doing something for long enough, you'll get good at it. By seventh form (Year 13) I got my LTCL and auditioned for the music school at Victoria University (now the New Zealand School of Music), where I studied performance trombone for three years. While there I caught the low bug, and I've played bass trombone ever since.



My contrabass trombone.

I love playing in the pit, which is where they put the orchestra in a show, opera, or ballet (but also because we're a bit naughty). It's a privilege to be a part of something bigger than the music, where the audience gets caught up in it. If you've never been to an opera, come and see Puccini's *Tosca* in September; it will sock you right in the feels, and can even move grown plumbers to tears.



My bass sackbut.

Over the years, I've ended up collecting several trombones. In addition to my tenor, bass, and contrabass trombones, I play a bass sackbut – a replica Renaissance trombone with a long slide handle – with early music ensembles like *The Queen's Closet* and *Tudor Consort*. Last year I bought a cimbasso, a valve contrabass trombone for the tuba parts in Italian operas. It is one of only three or four in New Zealand. Operas usually hire Auckland Philharmonia's instrument, but after playing it five times in the last five years, it was easier for me, and cheaper for opera companies, to get my own. (I'll be playing it in the pit if you come to Tosca!) I also have a cheap novelty soprano trombone, which is basically a trumpet with a slide instead of valves. It's for playing *The Last Post* on the balcony at 6am on ANZAC Day, and maybe my five-year-old daughter might like to have a toot on it.

My life would be very different if I hadn't learned an instrument. I wholeheartedly recommend it. It's never too late, and it's a lifetime of fun, camaraderie, and discovery.

Nā Jonathan Harker

Find out more

Orchestra Wellington, 2024 Season.
orchestrawellington.co.nz

Wellington Opera, 2024: *Tosca*, by Puccini
wellingtonopera.nz

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Bringing back the colour

The Pukerua Bay Folk Club



Murray Kilpatrick and Sue Rose sharing the joy of music.

With few exceptions, the Pukerua Bay Folk Club has been meeting in Murray and Julie Kilpatrick's home in Donlin Road, on the first Thursday of every month for the past 29 years. The club is run as a participatory sing around, where everybody is invited to do something, with the occasional invited guest. The club is supported by people from as far away as Levin, the Hutt Valley, and central Wellington. The evenings always conclude with chat, tea and coffee, and scones made by Julie.

The club actually has a much longer history, operating from the original school room sited opposite the Plimmerton Fish and Chip shop, during the mid- to late 1960s. Several well-known Pukerua Bay residents regularly attended in those days. Amongst them were Frank Beaufort, his daughter Louise, Helen Drury, Jon and Tina Callwood, and Meg Campbell. After several years, the club moved to Johnsonville, to the home of the late Joan Prior. When the club could no longer meet at Joan's home it quietly reappeared in Pukerua Bay. It eventually

found a home in the very large lounge of Joy O'Dwyer's home, at the north end of Rāwhiti Road. It remained there for some years, hosted by the inimitable Frank Beaufort. Eventually, Joy decided to shift further up the Kāpiti coast at the same time as Julie, myself, and our two daughters moved to Donlin Road. We accepted the invitation to run the club in our home and have been doing so ever since.

The New Zealand folk scene is a big, interconnected community with international connections. For some, it all began during the folk revival of the mid-1950s and '60s. Back then, music took place in coffee bars such as the Balladeer, the Monde Marie, the Chez Patee, and others around Wellington. On every long weekend, there were, and still are, participatory festivals held all around the country. Nowadays touring artists from NZ and overseas quite regularly perform in various clubs and other venues, including our own.

The Pukerua Bay Folk Club provides a welcoming venue for anybody, whatever their level of experience, to share a song, tune, poem, joke, or story of their choice in a friendly environment, and to meet with others.

Nā Murray Kilpatrick
musicianmurray@gmail.com



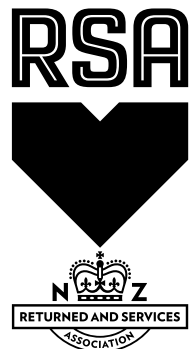
Our friend and neighbour, Ray Brown. Photo nā Ivor Earp-Jones.

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Facebook: **Pukerua Bay RSA and Community Club**



Remembering Ray

Raymond Frederick Brown (1926–2023) was born in Woolwich, south-east London, on 31 July 1926. He lived in Pukerua Bay from 1953 until the early 2020s and was well known as a raconteur, firewood forager, tennis player, scout leader, poet, composer, and musician. His best-known song is ‘Pukerua Bay’, which he would sing anywhere, anytime.

Pukerua Bay

*On the west coast of New Zealand
There's a happy little bay,
Where the people are such homely folk
In a friendly sort of way.
They help you with your troubles
And share your cares away.
That happy place, that homely place
Is Pukerua Bay.
Now, I've been through many cities
And knocked on many doors,
But I've never known such friendliness
This friendliness of yours.
I wandered down a winding path
And there before my eyes,
Nestling in between two hills
An earthly paradise.
I never thought that I would find
A place to settle in.
My wandering feet now came to rest,
My heart began to sing.
I had a vision of a home
And children at their play.
My wildest dreams now came to be
In Pukerua Bay.*

Ray Brown, 1958

Be the joy

I started guitar lessons when I was nine years old. I was spectacularly average but took part in talent shows and the church band. We moved to a small flat before coming to New Zealand, and I reluctantly sold my beautiful guitar. I hadn't played in several years, but it was still heartbreaking to see it go.

I've watched the Taylor Swift Eras Tour movie four times. (Judge me if you will, but I love it.) I admire the effortless way she plays, and it tickled a forgotten part of my brain. Then recently, I was listening to an online sermon where the pastor picked up a guitar and started playing an old hymn. I realised how much I miss my guitar.

Is there something in your life that you've packed away, that you feel an urge to start up again? Something you enjoyed as a younger version of yourself. Maybe it's time to try it again. If it brought you joy once, what's to stop it from bringing you joy again?

There's a verse from Philippians 4:4–5: “Rejoice in the Lord always, I will say it again, rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.” God tells us to rejoice, to find joy in everyday things. Relishing a sunny day, watching the raindrops run down the window, or finding that past pleasure of playing the guitar again.

Embrace the thing that brings you joy. Life is too short not to enjoy yourself. And if you can't find the joy, be the joy for someone else.

Nā Claire Conradie

Nau mai ki te hui ahurei o Matariki 2024

Welcome to Matariki Festival 2024



Music, stars, and storytelling are always a big part of our Matariki celebrations. Photo nā Mark Tantrum.

Ko Matariki hunga nui, whakapiri mai, whakatata mai, nau mai, hoki mai.

Planning is well under way for this year's local celebration of Matariki to be held on 22 June from 4–8pm.

Once again, we're planning family-friendly activities, yummy kai, and Te Ara Matariki, the starry night walk. There will be performances from 5–7pm at the Pukerua Bay School and Community Hall, as well as local art and light displays around Pukerua Bay.

We're partnering with the school and local storytellers to present some exciting entertainment, including kapa haka, dance, reo, and music performances. The Community Garden's crankie will be a special feature – make sure you get to their tent!

Te Ara Matariki will start at 7pm, heading from Pukerua Bay School to Kōawa Ngāro Secret Valley. Please explore Kōawa Ngāro Secret Valley responsibly. Bring a lantern, headlamp, or torch; wrap up warm; and wear sturdy

footwear. Children must be supervised at all times.

For up-to-date details of what is happening, when, and how to get involved, please go to Matariki Celebration 2024: facebook.com/PKBHub

E tū Tupuānuku e

This year, our focus is on Tupuānuku, the whetū (star) connected to anything associated within the soil, including cultivated and uncultivated foods grown in the ground.

E tū Tupuānuku e

Tiritiria te oneone

Kia matomato ki raro

Ka tīnaku, ka tupu, ka tāmaota ngā māra e.

Behold Tupuānuku

Till the soil

So everything becomes lush

Germinate, grow, and let the gardens be abundant.

A crankie in the garden



Brian and Peter with the crankie they made.

Peter Stevenson, Welsh storyteller, story collector, writer, illustrator, and crankie maker, turned up to our Belly of the Whale Story Circle for the first time back in 2017. Since then, he has been a regular visitor, except for Covid time.

During his visits, Peter stays with me in Pukerua Bay for a week or two and has visited our Community Garden

and Food Forest. He saw the potential for a Community Garden crankie. This summer, he painted a roll of wallpaper with the story of Taramainuku and Matariki. Brian Sullivan built a framed box to hold the crankie's scroll in position and from which to operate it. (Look out for reuse of cotton reels).

The crankie will be a feature of our Community Garden celebration of Matariki. Ralph Johnson will tell the story and Brian will manage the crankie. We hope you will come along and enjoy this old style of storytelling. Ara Swanney will teach us to make stars from harakeke so we can go home and share this kōrero with our whānau.

Ko Judith Frost-Evans ahau (In The Belly of the Whale Storytelling)

Get your Community Garden fundraiser tea towels!

The Community Garden whānau want you to know that their beautiful fundraising garden tea towels are now available.

\$50 for two or \$30 for one.

For details, see: facebook.com/PukeruaBayCommunityGarden or PukeruaBayCommunityGarden@gmail.com



Your local councillor

Josh Trlin, councillor for the Pāuatahanui General Ward



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

- Have an idea to improve our city?
- Concerned about an issue within our community?
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New beginnings for well-loved things

Matariki is a time of new beginnings, and a fitting way to mark it is to get something repaired rather than biffing it.

Increasingly our household products are made to be thrown away rather than repaired – planned obsolescence. This is a major problem for consumers and the environment, creating unnecessary waste and pollution.

Enter the Raumatī South Repair Café!

I visited the April café and was completely blown away.

A team of volunteers ran the event like clockwork. Over 20 fixers were fixing shoes, bags, jewelry, tools, electrical

items, clothing, sewing machines, bicycles, computers – over 254 items looked at in a single day. If an item can't be fixed on the day, advice is given on options.

Morning tea is available – quite the family outing.

Information on the consequent waste reduction is fed into a national database to support the movement of repair cafes.

The next Repair Café is on 16 June 10am–1pm at the Raumatī South Memorial Hall, 16 Tennis Court Rd. Go – you won't regret it.

Nā Moira Lawler (Pukerua Bay Climate Action Group) 0211955330

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Next steps for climate action in the Bay

The Pukerua Bay Climate Action Group is planning a series of workshops over Spring. If you're interested in participating or even leading one, connect with us via pukeruabay.org.nz/climate-change or facebook.com/groups/pukeruabayclimateaction

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Residents' Association submission on Council's 10-year plan

The Residents' Association (PBRA) has made a submission to Porirua City Council (PCC) on its 2024–2034 Long Term Plan <https://pkb.nz/b/6ph>

In general, the PBRA supported PCC's continued focus on maintaining existing water infrastructure, given the number of leaks around the city. We supported the introduction of compulsory water meters for all properties in the city. They are a proven conservation tool, and their installation will reduce the ultimate cost of repairing so many leaks.

We generally supported the changes to kerbside rubbish and recycling, particularly the proposal to separate the different colours of glass at the kerbside to ensure it can be recycled. Our main reservation was that the rubbish scheme being proposed seemed to be a one-size-fits-all approach. The extra \$240 added to rates is about the same as one black rubbish bag a week and doesn't provide any incentive for people to reduce the amount of waste they send to the landfill. Some people will pay more compared to putting out a black rubbish bag every few weeks or even months.

We were disappointed to see the Village Planning Programme being dropped. The Village Plans, which have been the result of widespread consultation with the community, have given us invaluable information on where the community can focus its activities to make Pukerua Bay a better place.

We told the Council it should return to the original principles, which relied on dedicated community development staff within PCC and placed less emphasis on funding capital projects.

Nā Iain MacLean for the
Pukerua Bay Residents' Association

International award

In 2010, the Village Planning Programme received a gold award from the International Awards for Liveable Communities. The judges said, "This program engages and empowers residents in each sector of the city to develop and implement plans in their own way to reflect the distinct identity of each village. It is a groundbreaking partnership between the city council and the communities it serves."

Emergency Hub Guide online

Some of you have attended practice sessions for the hub that will be set up at the School and Community Hall in the event of an emergency. At those sessions, you've helped update our local guide. Our latest version is now available at wremo.nz/get-ready/community-ready/community-emergency-hubs/find-your-hub/porirua/

You can learn about how the hubs work and how you can take part at wremo.nz/get-ready/community-ready/community-emergency-hubs/

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Aroha mai, aroha atu – caring for one another

Next issue

The theme for the next issue is **hauora** (health and wellbeing). We welcome your contributions of stories, photos, poems, articles, or 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 **8 July**. Our email address is newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz



Kāpiti homeopathy for children

Our group of well-experienced homeopathy practitioners is offering charitable clinics for children aged 12 and under. We will be operating the clinics one Saturday every month.

Contact
kapitihomeopathyforchildren@gmail.com for information and appointments.

Our team

Kōrero is brought to you by Kate Dreaver, Gill England, Carla Guy, Jonathan Harker, Anne Johnston, Moira Lawler, Iain MacLean, Kelly McClean, and Nikky Winchester.

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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Events calendar

11 June	Residents' Association meeting, 7.30–9.00pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd
16 June	Raumati South Repair Café, 10am–1pm, Raumati South Memorial Hall, 16 Tennis Court Rd, Raumati South
22 June	Pukerua Bay Matariki celebration (see pages 10–11 and 20)
9 July	Residents' Association meeting, 7.30–9.00pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd
6 August	Residents' Association meeting, 7.30–9.00pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd
10 September	Residents' Association meeting, 7.30–9.00pm, RSA, Wairaka Rd

To list an event in the August issue, please email by 8 July: newsletter@pukeruabay.org.nz

**NAU MAI, HAERE MAI
KI PUKERUA BAY**



Matariki **2024**

SATURDAY 22 JUNE 2024, 4–8PM
PUKERUA BAY SCHOOL
& COMMUNITY HALL

KAPA HAKA ★ MUSIC ★ ART STARS ★ STORY TELLING
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