



Pukehina Beach Ratepayers Association Inc.

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2017 Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE PBRA CHAIRMAN John Cook

Welcome, Pukehina Beach Ratepayers. During this past year your Ratepayers Association has had a quiet year, after a number of hectic years ensuring protection of our assets and services offered at Pukehina Beach and its surrounds.

The Community Patrol Car and the Neighbourhood Support programs are functioning well.

The Community Emergency Response Plan is ongoing and we will update you on some of the protracted developments at the AGM.

The damage to the dunes this year has been more severe than usual but not sufficient to initiate refurbishment activity.

The Estuary Walkway is finally underway, albeit with some rocky beginnings. WBOPDC has appointed a Project Manager who is liaising with three Association Committee members as a sub-committee.

The Association is well served by its Committee members and they give their time willingly. A \$20 membership fee is a small fee to pay for all the voluntary work undertaken on your behalf so please consider becoming a member.

Our membership is diminishing and it is timely that WBOPDC is required to conduct a Representation Review, to be completed by

the end of 2018. With more and more properties occupied by permanent residents we encourage Ratepayers to come along to the AGM to hear how this process works and how we might express our views about different forms of Local Government Representation. The AGM will be a great place to start the conversation.

Having given 10 years to the Association, it is time for me to step down. Subsequently, I will not be seeking re-election as Chairman.

The Committee wish you a safe festive season and look forward to welcoming you to the Annual General Meeting to be held at the Pukehina Community Hall: 2nd January 2018, 1.30 pm.

WAIHI ESTUARY WALKWAY

John Cook Stu Brickland Mike Piper

The Estuary Walkway project has commenced with the resolve of the District Council and your Association. The bulk of the track has been mulched, ready for surface preparation, apart from the Esplanade which is to retain its grassed surface in the meantime. Unfortunately, the Contractor engaged to carry out the project on behalf of the Council and the Association, failed to notify us when work was commencing so we were unable to intercept the machinery operators before they went along the Esplanade where residents had

PUKEHINA BEACH PARADISE, CREATED BY NATURE, CARED FOR BY THE COMMUNITY

plantings they wished to have protected. This has resulted in some remedial work needing to be carried out on the estuary edge, which was always part of the Resource Consent requirements.

Geoff Canham, the Project Manager, is attempting to engage with as many neighbours to the Walkway, with respect to any issues they might have. He can be contacted on 021 142 6539 or geoff.canham@geoffcanhamconsulting.co.nz

It is important to advise that the Department of Conservation, as a signatory to the Memorandum of Understanding, is conducting a survey of properties along the Esplanade and have signaled they will take appropriate action to any encroachment on their land. If you are unsure of your position with respect to this we recommend, if you haven't already done so, to contact Geoff in the first instance.

DUNE REFURBISHMENT

This winter and spring has seen significant damage to the fore-dunes from several easterly storms the district has encountered. Many sand ladders are still hanging but we are confident sand build up will soon restore the beach to its normal shape. The Dune Refurbishment Fund is set aside for events where property is at risk, not just to be used



for sand push-ups to restore access to the beach.

What is concerning is a number of new property owners believing they can create their own access to the beach with the use of heavy machinery. This is unacceptable and undermines the planting work carried out by owners and volunteers.

Owners who have been diligent in the past with their plantings have reaped the benefits of dune protection on the front of their properties. Coast Care, a sector of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, have continued their awesome role in promoting the planting of protective species along the dunes, both in front of residences and along the Dotterel Point. Please take the time to stroll from the Surf Club down through the Point and observe the great restoration work that has been done.

CIVIL DEFENCE

Carol Forrester

Over the last year we have achieved quite a lot, and also learnt more about Civil Defence in regards to our community.

It is important to understand that that we have now established a Community Led Centre as opposed to Civil Defence set up center. This means any member of the community receiving a text alert or following a large earthquake any of our team can activate our plan and open up the Pongakawa Hall for whoever wishes to use it. NB. Our local Beach hall is secondary and is only used if we are unable to reach the Pongakawa Hall adjacent to the Pongakawa School on Old Coach Road

We have already had a REAL LIFE practice run that saw our center used by more than 30 people until an all clear was received from Civil Defence Head Quarters. We have since been able to make minor adjustments and will continue to do so when and as necessary. We would like to thank all who assisted in any way with our event.

You will have noticed 3 evacuation signs placed at significant points along the beach informing the general public of what to do in emergency events. Our team have also delivered pamphlets to every property in our community with further emergency management information. We are very grateful to those who made this possible.

I am personally undertaking C.D. training to upskill myself in order to be called on in any National events that may occur and will share this knowledge with our community team members.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT NEWS

Joy Walker

Another busy year in Pukehina with more and more permanent residents moving to our piece of paradise. Overall we have had a safe year but there have been a couple of unsolved burglaries of late so I urge everyone to report any suspicious behaviour to the Police no matter how trivial it may seem.

We are a strong community where everyone looks out for everyone else. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Neighbourhood Support team leaders who do a great job of keeping us safe.

I would welcome more volunteers who would like to look after a sector for the group. It is not a demanding role and does not take up much time. Just send me an email and I will respond with relevant details.

I would also encourage property owners to supply me with their contact details i.e. Pukehina address, phone and email. These details will only be used in case of emergency, for example, if someone finds one of your windows broken or a water leak. Just email me at joy.walker@raywhite.com and I will put your contacts on file. Wishing you all an enjoyable festive season

"If you don't know your neighbours, start today and say giddyay".

DOGS ON THE BEACH

Everyone enjoys responsible dog owners who do the right thing and exercise their dogs on our beach within the rules and dispose of their droppings properly. It is up to the good judgement of owners to put their dogs on a leash in public spaces if there is any chance the dog may be distracted, or cause a nuisance. For ecological reasons (protection of nesting habitat) the bird sanctuary west of the surf club is off-limits. Your dog should be wearing the red registration tag.

Dog control problems phone: 5718008

HORSES ON THE BEACH

Horses may be ridden on the north-west trail at low tide on the inter-tidal flats. Pukehina Parade Poutuia Park access way looping back to exit at Rogers Road. Do not ride on the sand dunes.



Horse Riding Map

MAKETU VOLUNTEER COASTGUARD

Coastguard Maketu covers the marine area from East of Papamoa Beach, directly off Motiti Rd, Papamoa in a straight line heading Northeast of Motiti Island, East to Plate Island then South towards Pukehina and directly off Rogers Beach Road. Whether you have a kayak, personal water craft, waka, sail or power boat, you must know the rules, have the right equipment, and be a responsible skipper.

N.B. All Personal Water Craft (Jet Ski) used in Bay of Plenty waterways will need to be registered with the Regional Council or other participating Council. This will ensure operators causing a nuisance, as well as stolen vessels, are easier to identify.

FREEDOM CAMPERS

Dotterel Point Reserve, Midway Park, Motunau Park and Poutuia Park are available for freedom campers in **self-contained motorhomes and campervans only**. There is a 3 night maximum stay in any 4 week consecutive period at these sites. The 4 consecutive weeks begin from the first overnight stay.

Any concerns please phone: WBOP DC 5718008



COMMUNITY HALL

For hall bookings contact

Rex: 07 533 4345

The Hall is always popular for weddings, family reunions, meetings and was even used as a Civil Defence safe refuge during the April storm surge. It is also used regularly for bowls on a Wednesday night at 7.30 pm; new members most welcome.

PUKEHINA COMMUNITY PATROL

Rex Cameron



There are six team members rostered on patrol for weekly duty throughout the year. The Te Puke police support us with training and are very pleased with the difference it is making in the Pukehina area.

In April this year we were able to replace our vehicle with support from WBOP DC.

We are always looking for more people to join the group -please phone 5334345 if you are interested.

BEACH BIKES

Free Bike Numbers are available at 20 Pukehina Parade – we encourage all bike users to number your bike.

PBRA work hard to monitor bike useage on the beach and in order for everyone to enjoy beach life be mindful of how you behave on your bike. We rely on the goodwill of locals and visitors to observe PBRA obligations and guidelines.

- It is illegal for non MOT registered bikes to be on the road at any time and it is illegal to have passengers on quad bikes.
- Use designated beach access ways.
- **Drive bikes on the beach in a considerate manner that does not endanger other beach users; 15kmh or less**
- Avoid driving more than one meter above high tide mark, to protect sand dunes and plantings.
- Public vehicles are prohibited on the spit west of the Surf Club
- Report inappropriate behavior to Rex 533 4345 or phone the Police.

PUKEHINA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

Errol Watts Chief Fire Officer



Pukehina Fire Brigade is currently in a very strong position with 16 volunteers delivering a quality emergency and medical service to the community. The skill level of the Brigade is ever increasing with every member giving up their own time to attend training courses during the year. These courses range in duration from one to six days in addition to weekly Wednesday night trainings. We attend roughly 100 call outs per year. If you see the volunteers out training or passing by the Fire Station be sure to give them a toot or a thumbs up.

Help us to help you

Ensure your gate and/or mail box is numbered and can be clearly seen

If practical, somebody is waiting at the gate or driveway for the emergency vehicle.

Make sure Christmas and holiday season Beach bon fires are set below the high tide mark.

Observe all fire restrictions **Note: The Restricted Fire Permit season lasts from 1 October to 30 April. This means you need a fire permit to burn any open air fires in the region. Western BOP District Council: <https://pumicelands.co.nz/>**

On behalf of the Fire Brigade I wish you and your families a safe, relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

Western Bay of Plenty District Councillors; Maketu – Te Puke Ward
Kevin Marsh and John Scrimgeour

Kevin and John are regular attendees of the monthly Pukehina Beach Ratepayers Association meetings during the year. They welcome contact either directly or through the PBRA.

EMERGENCY RADIO

Emergency Management Bay of Plenty (EMBOP) has set up a radio network in and around the Western Bay of Plenty. Should communication systems fail in an emergency scenario, this infrastructure will serve as a backup means of communication between locations.

A big thank you to the two local couples who trained earlier this year, and are now providing weekly monitoring for the Pukehina Beach Emergency Radio.

KONTIKI FISHING

<http://www.fishing.net.nz/>

Be mindful of swimmers, surfers, surfcasters and other kontiki fishermen. Approach the latter for advice on where to set and find out which way the current's going (if not using a GPS-equipped kontiki). Practice beach etiquette because it can spoil a great day out for other beach users.

VOLUNTEER DOC SEAL WARDENS

Bev Nairn 5334247 (Northern end of beach) and Katrina Dunn 027555067 (Southern end of beach) are now our official DOC volunteers who are trained to manage and respond when required.

UPCOMING EVENTS / NOTICES

- Fire Brigade Annual Beach Santa Parade (DTBC)
- Fire Brigade Annual Food bank appeal (DTBC)
- Pukehina Beach Surf Rescue Door Knock happens on January 1st from 10am onwards. Donations will be greatly appreciated.
- Pukehina Fishing Club 'Take a kid fishing' – DTBC
- Pukehina Community Fun Run, Walk and Cycle – from the community hall down to the surf club and back – DTBC
- Tennis Court Keys available from Pukehina Store (Pukehina Parade) at a cost of \$20 or see Alex White First National 027 483 9250
- Receive an alert for any major emergency by subscribing to : www.bopcivildefence.govt.nz

PUKEHINA SURF RESCUE



The 2017/18 Season is underway with the Junior Surf programme (Nippers) running every Sunday morning from 10.30am. Bring the family down to learn about being safe at the beach and improve water confidence, competition training and have heaps of fun. Members 14 years and over can train to be a volunteer Lifeguard.

Contact Troy on [022 458 3764](tel:0224583764) or Boyd on [027 341 4439](tel:0273414439) or visit www.pukehinasurfrescue.co.nz for more information.

Lifeguards will be patrolling during the weekends between the first weekend in December until the last weekend in February plus during all the usual holiday periods. Please use the patrolled area at the Surf Club and stay safe.

And please remember to save some change for New Year's Day which is our major annual fundraiser when our lifeguards and nippers walk the beach to collect money to support the operations of the club

PUKEHINA CAMPGROUND

The motor camp has undergone major renovations including: all new Ablution blocks, Fencing and a nearly completed brand new Sewerage System. We can offer: Cabins, Caravan sites and Tent sites. Look out for our new camp ground sign arriving soon! Inquiries phone John 0274128175

1 PIECE OF RUBBISH



1 Piece of Rubbish is an international people's initiative.

The Idea: We are all capable of picking up 1 Piece of Rubbish per day.

For cleaner streets and beaches and hopefully a cleaner future...

Over to you!

Pukehina Fishing Club Inc.

Caters for surf casters, long line and boating community. All new members welcome to this small friendly group: Single \$20, Family \$35, Seniors \$15.

Club Day is the first Friday of the month starting time 5 pm - weigh in at 5 pm Saturday. For further information contact Chairman Rob McGinley 0275333021

THE NEW BEACH ENTRY SIGN



Now the new sign has been installed and elevated, it is much safer for camp ground users exiting the camp ground. Although, we cannot emphasize enough, "all drivers please observe the speed limits around this area".



PUKEHINA BEACH RATEPAYERS AGM

2nd January 1.30 pm Pukehina Community Hall 2018

Voting Procedures:

1. Only paid up members can vote
2. Only ratepayers/ owners of property at Pukehina Beach may become Members
3. Membership may be in either one or joint names. Where there is joint membership - that is only one subscription has been paid per property, only one vote will be allowed.
4. Members who own more than one property may, if the required additional subscription(s) have been paid, have more than one vote allowed to them.

The AGM registration is as follows: At the meeting, provide your Name and Pukehina address, or if different, the address the rate demand is sent to. This will allow the Treasurer/Secretary to confirm that you are a ratepayer and a financial member of the association. On confirmation of being a financial member the Treasurer/Secretary will provide you with a batten to display to register a vote, or to move or second a motion. Non-members are allowed to speak with the chairman's permission.

\$20 joining fee for annual subscription

Our bank details:
Account name: Pukehina Ratepayers' Association. Westpac, Te Puke bank account number: 03 0474 0429781 000.

The PBRA are keen to see a more comprehensive and inclusive representation of membership for the association. A proposal to include a ratepayer levy within the annual rate demand is a consideration that will be discussed at the AGM.

The Pukehina Beach Ratepayers Association Inc. committee would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Meri Kirihimete me ngā mihi o te tau hou ki a koutou katoa.

