



The Inlet

Newsletter for Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet

DECEMBER

2020

The Inlet is a newsletter that brings together local and regional news affecting the Pāuatahanui Inlet and its environs.

The Inlet comes out three times a year and current or back issues can be downloaded from our website.

The newsletter includes items of concern that affect the area as well as general interest topics for everyone.

Please contact us if you would like to contribute to The Inlet.

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FROM THE CHAIR

2020 will be a memorable year. COVID-19 has had a big impact on our lives and activities, especially during the period of level 4 lockdown.

GOPI has been impacted. We had to postpone and then cancel the Inlet Photo Competition, and we learnt to conduct committee meetings by Zoom - which none of us had heard of before the lockdown.

However, the Inlet benefitted from two positive effects from the lockdown. Firstly, the amount of road and harbourside litter reduced significantly and indeed stopped. Unfortunately, once the lockdown eased, the litter returned. Sadly, some consumers of fast food takeaways and drinks seem to think it's fine to throw the containers out the window once the contents are consumed or no longer wanted. Grays Road seems to be a particular target for such behaviour. And, for health and safety reasons, we can't pick all of this garbage up as part of our Inlet Clean-Up day - much of it is on the road verge.

The second effect was the reduction in road traffic and powered watercraft. Both contribute pollutants from road run-off, and noise and disturbance, all of which have an adverse effect on wildlife, especially birdlife. But that brief pause is over and the pollution and noise and disturbance are back again.

During the rest of the year we have been busy on other tasks. In the latter half of the year the GOPI Committee made numerous submissions on:

The resource consent application by Inlet Sunsets Ltd for subdivision in Pāuatahanui;

The GWRC Parks Plan;

The Plimmerton Farm Plan Change No 18;

The Review of the Navigation and Safety Bylaws;

The PCC Climate Change Strategy; and on

The Proposed PCC Reviewed District Plan.

An article in this newsletter (*page 2*) summarises the content of these submissions.

The Committee decided to donate 72 copies of author Gillian Candler's book *New Zealand Nature Heroes* to schools in the area. This book is a gem and covers a wide



From the Chair cont...

range of environment and conservation issues, and it also has all sorts of activities for young conservationists. (see page 11)

We also organised the annual Inlet Clean-Up (see page 5)

I wrote in the August newsletter about the urgency of having the Harbour Strategy and Action Plan both reviewed and working. It's a really important means of setting priorities and coordinating the actions of the various agencies and Ngāti Toa. Sadly, there has been no sign of the review. We understand that differences among the various agencies and Ngāti Toa are yet to be resolved. Hopefully this will be done soon (Wendy Walker, the CEO of Porirua City, has the job of facilitating this) and that in 2021 the revised strategy and action plan will become a reality.

Meanwhile we have embarked on a big project with Porirua City that should help improve the condition of the Inlet. As you may know, we received a Grant from DOC to engage in harbour edge planting in areas that need it. The focus of the project is to restore the poorly vegetated buffers at key sites around the Inlet and to re-establish saltmarsh on the beach margins. This should help reduce some of the pollutants from road traffic and, importantly, add much needed protection for feeding and breeding areas. We currently envisage predator and weed control, and planting in the Kakaho estuary, the Camborne walkway, areas adjacent to the Te Ara Piko walkway, and in Ivey bay and Brown's Bay. This initiative is covered in more detail on page 6.

The project is now being finalised. Porirua City has already started on some planting. There will be opportunities for community volunteers to help do some of the work next year.

So 2021 looks positive in terms of tangible activities that will materially help the condition of the Inlet.

On behalf of the Management Committee, I wish you an enjoyable, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Lindsay Gow (Chairperson)

OUR SUBMISSIONS FOR 2020

All submissions were made jointly with Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust. The text of all submissions is available [here](#).

Application for development by Inlet Sunsets Ltd, 39 Paekakariki Hill Road, Pāuatahanui

We reported on this in our August Newsletter. Since then the Hearing Panel has issued its decision.

We proposed that an adaptive management plan was needed to deal with the climate change induced risks for this vulnerable part of Pāuatahanui Village. The Panel decided this wasn't necessary. Instead it decided that the site should be raised by 3.2 metres above mean sea level (using imported fill) to lower the risk and effects of eventual inundation. They also decided against PCC advice and ordered that the Council, not the landowners, should be responsible for rigorous monitoring and management of the stormwater and swale system in perpetuity. This latter condition, put forward by us, will hopefully set a precedent for other developments.

Greater Wellington Regional Council - Parks Network Plan

On 25 June, GWRC adopted its Draft Parks Network Plan on which GOPI made submissions. We had some notable success in recommending decisions to terminate farm leases on Belmont Park and to engage in revegetation. GWRC adopted this proposal and we see it as a major and much needed means of improving the water quality entering the Inlet. The Draft Plan was then open to submissions (for the second

2020 Submissions cont....

time around) and we made another submission reinforcing the importance of terminating farm leases on Belmont Park and engaging in revegetation, especially in riparian areas.

Plimmerton Farm Plan Change 18

Since our report on this in our August newsletter, lengthy hearings were held in mid-October. GOPI and PHACCT submitted that the development of Plimmerton Farm and its related management will have potentially adverse and irreversible effects on the water and drainage systems, on the ecology of the area, on the Taupō Swamp and on the Harbour ecosystem including the Inlet. Many submitters supported and made submissions covering these issues in more detail. Expert witnesses from Forest and Bird, the Queen Elizabeth II Trust and DOC provided detailed and compelling evidence.

The initial decision on this plan change has just been released. It provides for an amended Plan Change to be approved and made operative. This will allow for the development of housing and commercial activities of this large area of land north, and to the east, of Plimmerton Roundabout.

The decision has incorporated amendments to a number of provisions that will add further protection to water bodies including streams, wetlands and the harbour. The most significant amendment is that any land use and subdivision developments have to work within the provisions of a new mechanism called a 'Strategic Framework Resource Consent'. This strategic consent will provide a detailed structure plan for all of Plimmerton Farm, and will require that all development proposals:

1. Recognise, protect and enhance significant indigenous biodiversity and natural wetlands, while recognising and providing for *Te Mana o te Wai* (the fundamental importance of water).
2. Recognise *Te Mana o te Wai* for receiving waters while minimising changes to the hydrological regime of Taupō Swamp, Taupō Stream, Kakaho Stream and *Te Awarua-o-Porirua*.
3. Achieve high-quality, well-connected built forms (i.e. housing, commercial and community buildings) that integrate with all transport modes and in particular promote active transport modes (eg. walking and cycling).
4. Provide effective ongoing management, monitoring and compliance in relation to ecological, biodiversity, stormwater, earthworks, urban design, transport and landscape effects. Provide effective ongoing management, monitoring and compliance in relation to ecological, biodiversity, stormwater, earthworks, urban design, transport and landscape effects.

The concept of *Te Mana o te Wai* is threaded throughout the Plan and it requires a "waterbodies first" approach, together with involvement of *Tangata Whenua* in interpreting the application of this provision.

Other major changes include:

1. Removal of simply 'maintaining' water quality. This has been changed to 'improving' and achieving the requirements of *Te Mana o te Wai*;
2. Ensuring areas of significant biodiversity outside identified *Significant Natural Areas*, and *Biodiversity Offsetting and Restoration Areas* should be identified and protected;
3. More protection for wetlands and areas contributing to wetlands;
4. Recognition of *Te Mana o te Wai* in receiving waters affected by earthworks.

2020 Submission cont....

GOPI advocated for a number of the ideas that are incorporated in the amended Plan. The plan now goes to the Minister for the Environment. If he approves it, it will immediately become operative.

Navigation and Safety Review

The GWRC is updating its bylaws relating to Navigation and Safety. GOPI was invited to submit on the draft review of the bylaws. We submitted on two subjects. The first was asking for a reduction in the speed of powered vessels with the aim of protecting sea bed growth, particularly the remaining sea grass in the harbour. We were especially interested in reducing the speed of jet skis, or banning them from certain vulnerable areas as they are able to navigate shallow areas and more easily damage sea bed growth.

The second submission proposed the physical reinstatement of the Pāuatahanui Wildlife Refuge which was gazetted in 1956. This Refuge, an area at the eastern end of the Inlet, still exists legally but the posts marking its boundaries have been lost. Also it is not shown on the appropriate documents that inform boat users that it is a 'no-go' area. The Refuge excludes powered vessels apart from those which accompany the Paremata Yacht Club boats where they pass into the Refuge waters.

The second submission regarding the Wildlife Refuge was accepted, but the first submission, on speed reduction, was not.

Climate Change

In October the Porirua City Council produced its Climate Change Strategy and asked for submissions on it. GOPI supported the Porirua City Climate Change Strategy and, in particular, the 'adaptation' part of the strategy.

However, we noted that work on adaptation was not going to be started immediately. We submitted that adaptation is of immediate importance and work on this needs to start now.

We also noted that the Strategy did not include any ecosystem or harbour components in the section on adaptation. We argued that this is a major omission and needs to be remedied.

We further submitted that, although longer terms are mentioned in the Strategy, it is effectively only a short term action plan, and given the time frames over which climate change effects are likely to become more severe, this is not sufficient. We proposed a sequence of time frames with a short term of up to five years, which is in the document now, a medium term of 15 years, and a longer term of 50 years - and maybe extending to the end of the century.

Porirua City Proposed District Plan

This proposed plan resets all the provisions affecting development in both the urban and rural parts of the city. It is a big rewrite of the current provisions.

In the foreword to the Plan, the Mayor said: *'This Plan marks an important milestone in the history of the City and comes at a time when housing choices are wider than ever before, care for the environment is set on a much clearer trajectory than previously, with the effects of climate change becoming ever more apparent, and the building of relationships across the city grows stronger with increasing ethnic diversity.'*

We strongly supported these sentiments, especially care for the environment as it relates to the protection and enhancement of the harbour, its ecosystems and those of its contributing catchments. But we considered that the plan, especially its objectives and policies, needed strengthening to effectively deliver on the Mayor's sentiments. We said that if the harbour and its catchments are protected and enhanced, then this will be a significant contribution to care for the environment.

We made submissions on virtually all parts of the Plan. One of the issues we proposed in the stormwater

2020 SUBMISSIONS Cont....

section to change the requirement of *water neutrality* to one of *water positivity*. *Water neutrality*, which requires *no more peak flow water leaving a site than left it before development*, is a good start. But we think *water positivity* is better: *it means that post development peak run-off is less than the pre-development peak flow rate*. This approach will, we said, have even more beneficial effects on the harbour and the Inlet.

We now await hearings on the Plan - hopefully some time in the early part of the New Year.

ANNUAL INLET CLEAN-UP

Held this year on Sunday 22 November, our annual clean-up went very well. 43 volunteers entered the event and they included the Mayor along with some Whitby scouts and geocashers who have supported this worthwhile exercise for several years. Even the sun appeared, accompanied by a light cool breeze. Most of the attendees were local people from the Porirua area but a few came from further afield such as Palmerston North, Waikanae, Silverstream, Petone, Ngaio and Wellington. We think these were the geocashers taking the opportunity of making a record of their visit.

All areas of the Inlet's shoreline were traversed and it was gratifying to find that less rubbish was collected than had been the case in previous years.

Conservation Volunteers New Zealand supplied the rubbish bags and reusable gloves - a gardening glove that can be washed and worn again so, no plastic to add to the landfill. Rotary organised the barbecue trailer from Toyota, and the sizzled sausages, for those who were able to stay to the end.

Many thanks to all those who helped and contributed to the day.

From the left: Andre van Halderen, unknown, Janet Ryan, Lindsay Gow and Mayor Anita Baker at the registration table.
(Photo: Caroline van Halderen).



A sample of the rubbish removed from Browns Bay.
(Photo: Ray Ryan).

From the right: Mayor, Anita Baker, Janet Ryan and Henry, from Geocashers, who was a helper and found an unusual folding table during his search.
(Photo: Ray Ryan).



GOPI WINS FUNDING FOR RESTORATION WORK



In January GOPI was advised of a potential opportunity to make a direct positive effect on the Inlet if it were to apply for funding under the Department of Conservation's Community Fund. The driver for the application would be to undertake restoration planting in several pockets of the Inlet's shoreline where some weed control had already been carried out by Porirua City Council. The recommendation was for planting of intertidal zones that would enhance those areas where that work had already been done, thus improving the biodiversity at those sites.

After a meeting with Nigel Clarke of the Council a proposal was drafted, and duly submitted, as an application to the DOC Community Fund, in April. The scope of our application was for a three-year programme of activities. We had then to sit tight and await the outcome.

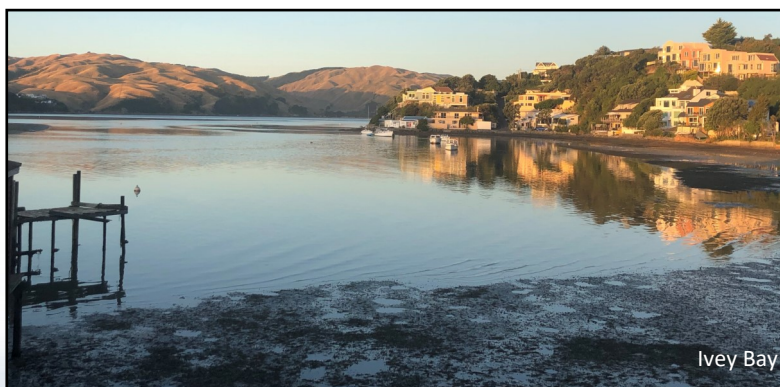
On July 6 the letter arrived advising us that the application had been accepted but that, due to an oversubscribed turnout, only two years of funding was available. However, this still amounted to nearly \$42,000, which is a very substantial amount for our organisation to receive. It will cover year one and two comfortably and, through other initiatives and further applications in year two and three, we hope to make up the shortfall.

This restoration project meets the objectives of a 2015 Porirua Harbour Estuary Restoration Plan and is complimentary to the PCC Long Term Plan for controlling sedimentation by means of riparian planting throughout the region.

The scope of the project includes clearance and ongoing control of weeds, a phased programme of planting plus pest monitoring and trapping. The work is to be conducted in six areas around the Inlet (Horokiri estuary, Kakaho estuary, Motokaraka Point, Camborne Walkway, Browns Bay and Ivey Bay) and the species under consideration are sea rush, oioi and salt-marsh ribbonwood among others.

Some work on weed clearance has already begun but the planting regime is set to begin in the autumn of 2021. In the meantime planning will go ahead to obtain the significant number of plants needed and to corral groups of volunteers from local organisations and the community to help with the actual work.

We will of course keep you posted on the progress of this initiative.



(Photos by Andre van Halderen)

FEATURE ARTICLE

As explained in the previous article, the Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet have been successful in recent months with a funding application to the Department of Conservation. We requested funding to carry out a three-year programme of restoration planting and weed control at specific locations around the Inlet. In the end we were given a grant to accomplish the plan over a two-year timeframe but this, together with the balance of financial requirements raised by other means, has allowed us to undertake much of the plan as originally envisaged.

Our planning has already begun and we are excited by the proposition of helping some habitats around the shoreline to re-claim their former natural state, typical of our harbour.

With that in mind our feature article this time focuses on what it means to restore a natural habitat.

RESTORATION PLANTING



Photo: from GWRC Guide to Restoration Planting

Restoration planting is the enhancement of an area of natural habitat either to replace species that have been lost completely, or to add them to an area that has been depleted of vegetation, usually by human interference.

Pāuatahanui Inlet is considered a *Site of Special Wildlife Interest* by the Department of Conservation, in particular, at its eastern end, is the last remaining large area of saltmarsh in the southern North Island. Saltmarsh, as a key part of the Inlet food chain, is one of the most productive habitat types worldwide and the importance of it was highlighted in our [April](#) issue of *The Inlet*. In that issue we described the food chain of the Inlet and how the saltmarsh provides a basic food source for microscopic plants and animals and the invertebrate fauna that are at the bottom of the food chain.

For many years the Inlet and its wetlands have been under threat from siltation and there is the future prospect of global sea level rise that may inundate the estuarine saltmarshes, further reducing the overall area of what is a most vital part of the Inlet's food chain. Smaller areas around the shores of the Inlet that were saltmarsh have already disappeared, and it is some of these that we would like to restore if at all possible.

Restoration generally is something that requires careful planning to ensure the effort put into the

Feature Article cont....

restoration work does not go to waste. The fear is that the plants don't survive where they were planted, they are attacked by pests and disease or they become overrun by invasive plants that compete with them for space. So it is important to identify a number of factors before the restoration work begins.

Important considerations are: choosing the right locations; selecting species that grow naturally in the chosen areas; sourcing seeds and plants, preferably from the same locality; propagation techniques that can differ between species; nursing the young plants until they are mature enough to be translocated; times and timeframes for planting; organising professional teams and/or community groups to carry out activities; preparing the areas for planting; techniques for transplanting of the plants into selected locations and ongoing monitoring of pests, weeds, and local conditions to ensure the new plantings survive. All activities need to have an overview in terms of personnel management, health and safety of the work teams and costs for the complete programme undertaken.

Prior to any of these considerations of course is the need to determine the project's objectives. In other words, what is the aim of the restoration? For GOPI it is: *'to restore poorly vegetated buffers at key sites and reduce the effects of increasing road traffic and human activity on wildlife habitats, including the nesting and feeding areas of birds.'* Part of this aim is to re-establish saltmarsh on estuarine margins, and with that objective in mind both site selection and species selection can be easier to identify.

In selecting the site for restoration one needs to keep in mind such features as accessibility, exposure to wind and sun, established vegetation, particularly weeds, and groundwater conditions. An assessment of the ecology can determine the types and species of plants that will be used. Lowland forest, for instance, is quite different from estuarine margins, even though they may be adjacent to each other. Both were represented around the Inlet in pre-human times and remnants of them can still be found that give clues about the plants to use.



It is desirable to restore a habitat as naturally as possible and this requires having an idea of the species that would have grown there prior to human habitation. Sourcing seed from plants that are already growing in the area is preferable as they are likely to do better in the chosen site. Such species will be adapted to the prevailing conditions and will establish quickly and more successfully than outsiders.

For our purposes we will be planting the main species that make up saltmarsh habitats as found in the Wildlife Reserve. These are *Juncus maritimus* (sea rush) and *Aplasmidium similis* (oioi) [pictured left] both of which grow around the shores of the harbour where tidal fluctuations submerge the plant roots twice a day with the ebb and flow of sea water. Bordering these, in the transition between the high tide mark and the freshwater zone will be *Plagianthus divericatus* (Saltmarsh Ribbonwood) *Coprosma propinqua* (mingimingi) [pictured below] and *Pennantia corymbosa* (kaikōmako).



The selected site or sites need to be surveyed to establish the prevailing conditions, what weeds are there, what threats there are from animal pests, and environmental elements, such as wind, frost, sunshine and local water conditions. Weed control is vital to ensure that the new plants are not overtaken by unwanted species with invasive growth habits. Examples such *Tradescantia* (wandering willie) [pictured next page], *Clematis vitalba* (old man's beard) and *Calystegia sp* (convolvulus or morning glory) grow quickly and cover the ground and plants so that seedlings have little chance to establish. Such weeds need to be removed before planting occurs, and usually, a year in

Feature Article cont...

advance to ensure that the area is clear of them. Hand weeding, which is preferable but labour intensive, and chemical treatment are the normal options, but be aware of the local restrictions on the use of herbicides. Their use must be controlled to avoid native plants that are already there.

If there is a risk that invasive animals will attack the new plants a control regime is needed, aimed at possum, hare and rabbit which are the main culprits for plant attack.

Finally, it is important to determine what protection may be needed against sun, wind and adverse ground conditions to give the young plants the best chance to become established.

Once the sites, the plants and the required preparation have been decided upon, the action begins. Ground preparation should be considered if it is difficult to dig the required planting holes. Stony or compacted soils make the job difficult, as do saturated soils where the water table is high. The season, time of day and timeframes to get all the plants in the ground, will have to be worked out. To avoid desiccation of young plants, before roots have been established, late autumn or early spring is better, while, for frost-sensitive species, a spring or early summer schedule is more appropriate. For the latter, an ongoing watering schedule may be required. In both cases spring is also the season for weed growth so this will need regular visits to ensure it is kept under control. Grasses are particularly troublesome because, while they provide shelter for young plants, rapid spring growth can tangle with the young plants and even weigh them down.

Planting technique is important to ensure the young seedlings get the best start. Details like spacing, hole-size, depth of planting and care in placement are all vital for a successful result. What often happens is plants are placed too shallow and leaning over. While some species are able to adapt to this casual approach, many fail because they fall over or become lost among ground-cover. Sometimes stakes are useful for taller plants while others might need a surrounding shroud to keep pests at bay.

Once the planting programme is complete, ongoing monitoring is necessary to ensure the plants have taken, that they don't dry out, the weeds are not returning and pest management is maintained. If traps are used to control pests, these need to be checked regularly on a three-four day basis, removing any captures and resetting the trap for the next invader.

Sometimes the planting programmed is arranged in stages, getting quick growing species in the ground first to provide some shelter for slower growing trees and shrubs that are put in later between the first specimens. This will mean a continuation of planting for some time, maybe a year or two.

In all cases a record of progress is needed to gauge the success of the programme. This will include noting losses, establishment of the new plants, weed and pest management, and natural regeneration. This will help people undertaking future initiatives to know what worked and what didn't.

This article is really only an introduction to the subject of restoration planting and there is a lot more detail that can be found from various sources. On our website we have included a document that goes into the subject in more depth, focusing on the Wellington region. This also includes links to other webpages and information sources to which one can refer for further reading. Our link is: [Restoration Planting Guide](#).

Good luck to you if you want to explore this exciting and rewarding subject further, and perhaps plan your own restoration programme to enhance a local habitat for the good of the environment and public enjoyment.



TE ARO PIKO UPDATE

Progress on this valuable walkway around the Grays Road side of Pāuatahanui Inlet continues step by step, albeit more slowly than one would wish. Last year and this, the section from Motukaraka Point westwards to the Kakaho estuary was constructed and now is open to pedestrians and cyclists, extending the relatively safe length of path available for exercise and enjoyment of the Inlet. It is already a popular location for many people.

Some work has begun on the remaining section, from Kakaho towards the jet ski club at the end of the Camborne Walkway. Cones currently mark this section and some machinery can be seen alongside the road.

Completion of a short section from Kakaho westwards was stalled awaiting funding from the Council to realign Grays Road. We have now received confirmation that the contract to complete this section has been awarded and progress is again underway.

Work on the current preparation phase of construction will largely be completed by Christmas with some minor finishing touches to occur in January.



Final section of walkway under construction, looking towards Camborne.



New walkway through the saltmarsh at the Kakaho estuary.

In the new year work will begin on re-aligning part of Grays Road so that it is moved inland by a short distance. The pathway itself will then be constructed on the landward side of the existing sea wall, eliminating any need for further reclamation, over and above that proposed under the original contract.

Needless to say we are keen to see this pathway come to fruition as it will give visitors and locals a safe walking route around two thirds of the Inlet, with only SH58 having limited off-road access to the harbour.

(Photos by Michael Waldron)

ON THE HORIZON

The 2021 Photographic Competition is planned to get underway in the New Year and will, we hope, not be interrupted by any unforeseen events as in 2020.

So, time to dust off your lenses, charge your batteries, find some good weather and explore the Inlet for opportunities that meet the five categories of the competition: Scenic, Nature, Recreation, Human Impact and Artistic.

In the new year we will publish the important dates for this competition on our website, along with further information as it comes to hand. The rules of the competition can be viewed [here](#).

We look forward, as always, to seeing the many wonderful images submitted by all contestants in this most popular of events.

NEW GILLIAN CANDLER BOOK

We have, in the past, reported on earlier books by the renowned author Gillian Candler, often in collaboration with artist Ned Barraud. The past titles are referred to on our website under [Recommended Publications](#).

In this issue of *The Inlet* we are pleased to advise our readers of Gillian's latest work: *New Zealand Nature Heroes*. It is a collection of stories about a range of scientific endeavours by both true scientists and several enthusiasts who have achieved success in 'citizen science' endeavours. It includes some well known names such as Don Merton, acknowledged as the saviour of the black robin, and George Gibbs, who is an expert in New Zealand weta and was the author of *Ghosts of Gondwana* about the evolution of New Zealand's unique wildlife.

Each hero, as this new book calls them, is introduced, along with their field of study and the achievements they have made. It is extensively illustrated and gives a real appreciation of how anyone with an interest, and the right approach, can contribute in meaningful ways to the understanding of New Zealand's natural world and its fragile ecosystems. Each section includes a realistic activity for children to undertake that will, hopefully, inspire them to make their own genuine contribution in the field of science.



Discussions with the Porirua Harbour Trust Education initiative have highlighted a joint approach that would ensure this book reached the right sector of our community, the 36 schools of our area and the children living in the Inlet's catchment.

In response, GOPI has purchased 72 copies of this book and passed them on to the PHT who will be distribute them accordingly.

PLEASE SIGN UP A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOUR

Sign up a neighbour, friend, or another family member. Just explain to them that membership numbers really count in giving us a strong voice to argue for what we all value about the Inlet. Membership forms can be downloaded from our website <http://www.gopi.org.nz/assets/membersForm/Membership-new.doc> or copied from the one at the back of this newsletter. Better still, if you've received this newsletter by email, just forward it to others with a note encouraging them to join.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS FOR THE PĀUATAHANUI INLET

Pollution: Discharges of contaminants to air, land, storm-water drains, streams, rivers or sea and for after hours consent enquiries: Greater Wellington Regional Council – 0800 496 734 (24 hours)

Boating infringements: Greater Wellington Regional Council – 384 5708 (24 hours)

Illegal fishing activity: Ministry for Primary Industries – 0800 476 224 (24 hours)

Pāuatahanui Wildlife Reserve: Department of Conservation – 0800 362 468

Let us know what you have reported so we can keep an accurate record and follow up if necessary.
235 5052 (Chair, GOPI) or pauainlet@gmail.com.

MESSAGE FROM GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Season's greetings! We are sending you this email because you are on the Restoration Day mailing list and we thought your group might be interested in some great citizen science opportunities coming up in 2021. These are outlined below. Please feel free to share this with anyone else you think might be interested.

Newsletters

- You can check out the Greater Wellington community newsletter Tātou Rohe [here](#), and if you're interested in receiving these regularly via email, click [here](#) to register for it on our website.
- The NZ Coastal Restoration Trust also produces newsletters twice a year that are likely to be particularly interesting to those working in coastal environments. Check them out [here](#).

Freshwater monitoring training with Mountains to Sea Wellington

Doing some restoration and want to know what impact you're having? Or curious about the effect of some land based activities on your local stream? Monitoring is a great way to get some answers to your questions. Mountains to Sea Wellington are hosting a free hands-on night class series on freshwater monitoring. The course is designed to help you work out why waterways need to be monitored and what sampling tools and techniques are best for you. It will train you to confidently and independently monitor, based on your freshwater interests and time availability. The course is delivered over 4 weeks beginning March 1, 2021 in Elsdon, Porirua.

Topics include:

- Why monitor?
- Water quality
- Plants and algae
- Invertebrates
- Habitats
- Litter tracking
- Preparing for field work
- Online tools

The course concludes with a one-day field session to put the learning into practice. If you are interested in this training, you can register your interest here: mountainstoseawellington.org/freshwater-citizen-science-registration-form/ or contact freshwater@mtsw.org.nz for more information.

Fish monitoring workshop

Join Mountains to Sea Wellington in April 2021 to learn the easily accessible methods of monitoring freshwater fish in your local waterway. This two-day, field-based, practical workshop focuses on trapping, spotlighting, E-dna, species identification, fish care, data management and resources. Register your interest here: <http://mountainstoseawellington.org/freshwater-citizen-science-registration-form/> or contact freshwater@mtsw.org.nz for more information.

Jo Fagan

Senior Biodiversity Advisor
Greater Wellington Regional Council



Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet

www.gopi.org.nz
pauainlet@gmail.com

Membership Form: new members

To join the Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet, you can pay your subscription either online or by post. **IF YOU ARE PAYING ONLINE, PLEASE REMEMBER TO FILL IN THIS FORM WITH ALL DETAILS, AND EMAIL OR POST IT TO US.**

| Online payment | Postal payment |
|---|--|
| 1. Pay your sub via e-banking into our Westpac account 03-1533-0009387-00. In the 'Particulars' or 'Reference' columns, YOU MUST write your surname AND initials AND the period of your sub (1-yr or 5-yr). 2. Then fill in this form and either email it to us at pauainlet@gmail.com or post it (see next column for our postal address) | 1. Write a cheque made payable to 'Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet'. 2. Then fill in this form and send it, along with your cheque, to: Membership Secretary, Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet, Box 57034, Mana, Porirua 5247. |

Please fill in your details for our records. If you are filling in this form electronically, **click** at the beginning of a dotted line and then type.

Name:

Address:

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E-mail: Phone:

Please put next to the subscription you are paying (electronic completion – **highlight** the box and type lower case x.) We are also very grateful for donations. (We are a registered charity for tax purposes: registration number CC47523.)

| | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| One-year individual (\$12.00) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Five-year individual (\$50.00) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| One-year family (\$15.00) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Five-year family (\$60.00) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Donation: \$ | Do you require a receipt for your sub? <input type="checkbox"/> or your donation? <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Date subs paid: | Reference appears as: | | (e-banking only) |
| We'd like to send you newsletters and notices via email. May we do this? <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |

Please tell us which of our activities you would like to be part of.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Annual Clean-up day | <input type="checkbox"/> | Submissions to local bodies | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Three-yearly cockle survey | <input type="checkbox"/> | Our educational programmes for schools | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Website and video clips | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: | |

NOW EMAIL OR POST THE FORM. THANK YOU AND WELCOME