

The Paekākāriki Community Trust (PCT) meets at 7.00pm on the first Wednesday of every month – you're welcome to attend. The Trust works to refurbish and maintain St Peter's Village Hall in Paekākāriki, and to manage it as a community centre and resource for the whole community. The Trust Deed can be found on the website. [St Peter's Village Hall – Paekākāriki.NZ \(paekakariki.nz\)](https://www.paekakariki.nz)

The Trust and its loyal army of volunteers continues to evolve as new people move to the village and want to become involved. We are always looking for new volunteers (including Hosts for Hall events) and new Trustees. We welcome enquiries. Please contact us at paekakarikicommunitytrust@gmail.com

GENERAL UPDATE

See more details on all these below. It's rarely "business as usual" at St Peter's Village Hall. To comply with fire safety regulation required the upheaval of clearing the basement and relocating the bike library in 2023. After much work we thought we would coast towards gaining a new fire detection system and allowing everything to return to normal. This was not to be, as we discovered when the 100-year-old concrete bunker adjacent to the Hall revealed that it had allowed water to intrude over many decades and to rot a substantial piece of the west wall.

KCDC promptly and freely admitted ownership of the bunker, agreed it was a hazard and committed to demolishing it, fixing the bank and contributing towards repairing the west wall. All the repairs have now been completed. The building team, led by Francis Mills and Derek Borland, have completed refurbishment of the basement, including rewiring, new lighting, a fire detection system and storage. Both the Bike Library and the Green Room are back and operating from the basement again. Thank you everyone for your patience.

Fundraising necessarily continues to be the focus of Trust activities. Fixed costs, including land rent, insurance, electricity and water supply, cleaning, and day to day maintenance costs are in the vicinity of \$70,000 per year. That's before upgrades (e.g., fire safety, lighting and sound systems, unanticipated repairs like basement rot and refurbishment, and less regular costs such painting, stage curtain cleaning and applying of fire retardant, etc.).

MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADE

Scheduled exterior painting of the west wall became a far bigger task than first anticipated. Preparation work for painting uncovered significant structural rot in the west wall framing. The rot was caused by poor construction of the adjacent defunct toilet block. Since the toilets had belonged to KCDC, they agreed to demolish the 'bunker' and make good at their cost. This work has now been completed and looks fabulous. KCDC also agreed to make a contribution towards PCT's costs for rot repairs of the Hall basement area, which involved removing some internal wall and ceiling linings. We are grateful to the Council for its financial support.

We decided this work provided the opportunity to renew all linings in the big basement room (including acoustic treatment to the ceiling); and replacing all lower west wall weatherboards. The structural rot repairs and weatherboard replacement was carried out by a building contractor and the finishing work is being undertaken by volunteers, led by Derek Borland. The plan is completion by Christmas. The Green Room and the Bike Library are operational again.

The process for completing an up-grade of the Hall's fire safety is almost complete. The KCDC's code of compliance now allows full use of the basement area. The Trust is currently up-dating fire safety procedures for the Hall and its users, with the assistance of the Fire Service.

SOUND AND LIGHTING SYSTEMS

The Hall's lighting and sound equipment has had a much-needed up-grade, including a new lighting controller and new lights for the stage and Hall; and new sub speakers available for hire within the hall. The lighting is working well and we hope to complete some of the sound up-grades in the coming year (e.g. replace wall speakers and purchase some new audio components). Together, these up-grades means the Hall is ready to provide support to many different types of shows. We would like to thank Grant Lees for his expert lead in this process and funders for their support.

2024 PAEKĀKĀRIKI ART SHOW

The annual Paekākāriki Art Show, held in ANZAC weekend of this year, included a diverse and stunning selection of art works from many well-known lower North Island artists. This was the 10th show and continues to evolve from the successful model developed by Paekākāriki artist Ronda Thompson. It showcased a wide range of artistic styles from well-respected artists from previous exhibitions, and exciting new artists.

Its earnings of almost \$12k were made possible by the enormous amount of work put in by community volunteers and artists who ensured opening night was great fun, the weekend show ran smoothly, artists sold their works and buyers took home amazing treasures.

The 2025 art show will be held in late March to avoid clashes with larger art shows in Wellington. Unfortunately, one of those larger shows was held the week before the 2024 show, which may have affected sales. Look out for more information over the next few months.



2024 BOOK FAIR

This year's legendary Book Fair, held over the weekend of 13-14 July, was an even more successful fundraiser than usual. It was also a fun event. The fair, which was kicked off almost 10 years ago, continues to grow. As with other big fundraising events, it can only proceed because of our army of enthusiastic and

hardworking volunteers, so thank you! And thank you to Ian and Jenny Clark and Eric Rodler for their enthusiasm and organising efforts.



SATURDAY MARKET DAY AND PAEKĀKĀRIKI CHRISTMAS FETE

While Market Day has expanded in popularity since its inception, with the variety of stallholders ever widening, the number of stallholders has recently fallen. Booking levels fluctuate across seasons – with demand falling over the winter. We would like some new stalls, with new ideas and products. If you are interested in having a stall please contact the Trust at marketbookings.pct@gmail.com.

The market is a fun event – stallholders continue to tell us that this is one of their favourite markets, as they feel looked after by the organisers (Eric Rodler and Grant Lees) and because of the market's friendliness.

This year's Christmas Fete promises to be even more successful than the inaugural Fete in 2023. The 2024 Fete will have more than 50 stallholders and will extend down both sides of Beach Road. It will include children's activities, entertainment, food, and Christmas-themed stalls. Make sure you come along on 14 December as it's sure to be a fun community day. Thank you Jan Borland and her team for their enthusiasm and hard work.

2024 PAEKĀKĀRIKI FILM FESTIVAL

This year's Festival, led by Andrew Armitage and his team, proved as popular as ever, though in a shortened version. Attendance was strong and film goers were treated to a choice of delicious hot and cold snacks at the festival café. The festival continues to be an important fundraiser for the Hall, thanks to the hard work of the team. Next year's festival is timetabled to start on June 1, 2025 and continue on Sundays for the rest of June. The programme will be released closer to the time.

PAEKĀKĀRIKI BIKE LIBRARY

Jan Nisbet and her team continue to run our much-loved Bike Library. Like other users of the basement, the Bike Library was significantly affected by the requirement to upgrade fire safety in the basement. However, it is finally now back where it belongs in the basement. The Bike Library can be contacted at: bikelibrary@outlook.com

BUSINESS AND FINANCES

Along with upkeep of the Hall, our core business is Hall bookings. It is a very busy event location - most weeks we receive around four new bookings and most months there are around 8-10 hosted events, plus up to 20 regular classes or activities. These can be anything including funerals, weddings, concerts, meetings, classes, fundraising etc. Thanks must be given to our Bookings Admin people, Jan Borland and Helen Gardiner, for their huge commitment to the endless admin work involved in the operation of the Hall and to the Hosts who make events more pleasurable and less stressful for the wide range of groups,

whānau and individual users. Full financial reports are available on our website.

The Trust is now required to register for GST, given that Trust income from activities such as Hall hire and annual fund-raising activities have surpassed the \$60,000 threshold. For the time being, Trustees have decided to absorb GST costs and keep hire charges at current rates. The Trust will continue to monitor the impacts of GST and any need to adjust costs in the future.

USER FEEDBACK

Given the hard work of Trustees and, more especially, Hosts to ensure successful and fun events, it is great to get some positive feedback. Here are some recent reviews that warm our hearts.

Everyone taking care of our village treasure is an absolute gem. The level of care and attention given to us from first contact right through to the show was second to none. From the many hosts who allowed us to gain access for film crew/lighting to assess the venue, to chalk board writing x 2 because of the rain and an epic last minute rally together helping us light the show beautifully for our concert film. Special shout out to the hosts for all your help with all the above details and much more! The equipment provided and the space is such a blessing and is taken care of with such pride. It was an absolute joy to have our hometown show here.'

We had our wedding at St Peters Village Hall and it was a perfect venue. Jan and Derek are fabulous hosts, helping us with all our questions. The hall has a beautiful wooden floor, shuttered windows and green/cream detailing which makes for a great base to stage a beautiful event. The hall is well equipped with everything you need for 100 guests including tables, chairs, crockery, glassware etc. The stage was awesome for the band later in the evening. The outdoor space with the marquee was perfect for afternoon drinks. A great experience from initial booking through to the big day and we highly recommend.

An amazing venue, 200 capacity so always an intimate show, don't hesitate to book if you see one of your favourite acts scheduled to play here, only 45 mins train ride from Wellington.

I was very lucky to have stumbled across this hall while looking for a venue for a 40th birthday party. Its a well kept, well loved and well looked after hall with most of the amenities you could need to put on a low key party. Lots of bench space and the shelves overhead in the kitchen were perfect for my needs. 2 fridges came in handy. Lots of tables and chairs available for use. I used my own screen and sound system just to keep costs down. Easy to clean. I was very happy with my time here and everything made this so easy. My only 'complaint' is that a key wasn't available for me. I understand there are concerns from the past but I had always made it clear we wouldn't sleep overnight at the hall so we would need to lock it up and be able to leave and return the next morning. I had to text for someone to come back to open up for me. Not a biggie but I did have to wait until a reasonable time to wake someone up on a Sunday morning. Otherwise this beautiful little hall was perfect and I am very thankful to the committee and the township.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Website: Look at the St Peter's Village Hall website: [St Peter's Village Hall – Paekākāriki.NZ](http://StPeter'sVillageHall-Paekakariki.NZ)
(paekakariki.nz)

Contact Details: paekakarikicommunitytrust@gmail.com

PCT Members:

Helen Gardiner and Julie Warren (co-Chairs), Francis Mills; Robyn Mills (Treasurer); Grant Lees; Paul Riley; Sean Treacy; and Jamie Young-Drew. Trust activities are supported by Francie Broatch (Minutes Secretary).

Date of 2024 AGM:

Our Annual General Meeting was held at 2.00pm on 1 September, during which the Chair, Ian Clark, presented his Annual Report and his resignation. The Trust sadly farewelled Ian and thanked him for his hard work over the past several years. Jamie Young-Drew was nominated and appointed a new Trustee.