

Paekākāriki Community Trust

Newsletter November 2025

Kia ora tātou

The Paekākāriki Community Trust (PCT) meets at 7.00 pm on the first Wednesday of every month - you are 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 - Paekakariki.NZ (paekakariki.nz)

The Trust and its loyal and valued volunteers continue 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

We have had a quieter year after last year's extremely busy year refurbishing the basement and doing the mahi required to bring the hall up to fire safety requirements. However, even a quieter year is busy as we continue improving amenities and carry on our regular fund-raising activities.

Fundraising necessarily continues to be the focus of the Trust activities. The big fund-raisers – the Art Show, Film Festival and Book Fair – held in the first 6 months of the financial year were again successful although takings were a little lower. This is not surprising given significant job losses in Wellington and a wider cost-of-living crisis. In fact, these events were more successful than anticipated.

The Film Festival

The Film Festival was led by Andrew Armitage and his team and proved as popular as ever though in a shortened version. One innovation was to include a movie that helped celebrate Matariki. This will continue next year. Attendance was strong and film goers were treated to hot soup and popcorn at the festival cafe.

The Art Show

Due to a change in timing, we had two Art Shows in the last financial year. Takings from the shows, led by Robyn Mills, were slightly down on the previous year due to general economic conditions. As is usual we had approximately 70 artists for each show. Our featured artists were Sarah Pou for 2024 and Dianna Fary in 2025. The 2026 Paekākāriki Art Show will be held over ANZAC weekend.

The Book Fair

The Book Fair (led by Eric Rodler and Julie Warren) was very well attended with people coming from across the region to find a huge range of books to choose from. It is particularly pleasing to have a wide range of children's books available and to see children taking away ten or more books at a time! As with any other big fundraising events, it can only proceed because of our army of enthusiastic and hardworking volunteers, so thank you all!

Monthly Markets

The monthly markets, led by Grant Lees, have continued as usual, with several new stall holders increasing the appeal of the market. An average of 23 stalls were booked for each Market Day over the last year. A new initiative has been to have more live music from local musicians at each Market - this has been very successful with great feedback from stall holders and customers. We are always looking for new stalls with new ideas and products. If you are interested in having a stall, please contact the Trust at marketbookings.pct@gmail.com

Christmas Fete

Our first Christmas Fete (established and led by Jan Borland) was a huge success with fifty stall holders, music, and children's entertainment plus Mother Christmas!

The 2025 Christmas Fete is led by Francie Broatch who is ably supported by her team of amazing volunteers. An even wider range of stall holders and entertainment promises to make this year's fete equally fun.



Sounds and Lighting Systems

We continue to improve the hall's amenities. For the last two years we have made significant improvements with the audio and lighting systems and, importantly, improved their usability.

The Pelorus Trust have generously helped with this endeavour. Thanks to Trustee, Grant Lees for his expert lead in this process and funders for their support.

The Bike Library

The Bike Library is thriving after its shift back into the refurbished basement and raised \$4k for the Trust. It continues to provide the community with a valuable service - bikes and their maintenance. The Bike Library can be contacted at bikelibrary@outlook.com

Hall Bookings

Along with the upkeep of the hall, our core business is hall bookings. It is a very busy 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. The venue is used for many different events including funerals, weddings, concerts, gigs, meetings, classes, fundraising etc. An important new initiative to improve hall operations was the employment of a part-time bookings officer in 2025. This task had become too large to expect a volunteer to fulfil.

Between 1 April and 31 March 2025 there were a total of 363 bookings.

We acknowledge and thank our amazing volunteer hall hosts and all the other community volunteers, without whom the hall would be unable to operate.

Finance

Our surplus primarily arose from needing to register for GST on having reached the GST gross taxable income threshold of \$60k. The Trust was able to claim back GST on all capital purchases since acquiring the hall. This resulted in a net GST refund of \$68k after paying for professional tax advice.

This year the Trust's operating loss of \$6k was much the same as the last four years. The fund raising and Bike Library activities totalling \$39k covered the operating loss with net operating income from all activities being \$33k. When added to the one-off GST receipt of \$68k, this resulted in the surplus of \$101k.

The Trustees chose not to increase any hall or other charges for GST as that new cost is mostly covered by GST credits claimed on expenditure.

Trust Membership

The composition of the Trust continues to change as people leave, and new members bring new ideas and enthusiasm. If you are at all interested, please talk to a PCT Trustee or email: paekakarikicommunitytrust@gmail.com

Date of 2025 AGM

Our Annual General Meeting was held at 7.00 pm on 26 August during which one of the co-chairs, Julie Warren, resigned from the Trust. An earlier resignation from Trustee Francis Mills was also accepted. The Trust had formally farewelled Francis earlier in the year and at the AGM Trust members farewelled Julie as well and thanked her for her hard work and contribution to the Trust over the past several years. Mark Rickard was nominated and appointed a new Trustee.

PCT Members

Helen Gardiner (Chair), Robyn Mills (Co-Deputy Chair and Treasurer); Jamie Young-Drew (Co-Deputy Chair); Grant Lees; Paul Riley; Sean Treacy; Paddy Kennedy; Mark Rickard. Trust activities are supported by Francie Broatch (Minute Secretary); Eric Rodler (Accountant); Jude Walcott (Bookings Administrator) and Helen Keivom (Hall Cleaner). Also, a special thanks to Rod Parkin who generously gives his time across many of our activities.

General Information

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

Contact details: paekakarikicommunitytrust@gmail.com