

Friends of PMM Newsletter

DECEMBER 2022

**WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



The David Johnstone Pukemokemoke Bush Trust

Dear Friends and Supporters.

2022 has been another huge year at Pukemokemoke with new planting and the completion of the expansion of the carpark.

We have been fortunate to have been able to secure donations for these projects and the labour provided by our friends and supporters.

Our life has been made easier with the new Case tractor from Giltrap Tractors and more recently adding a carryall tray. I hear lawn mowing is a dream now!

The weather has been inclement this year. Initially, very dry conditions causing the delay in planting of the 1000+ plants by a month. But once conditions were favourable a great turnout to the planting working bee was had. Jeremy had everything organised and on the day it went like a military operation. Then the rain came, relentless rain which has been great for the plantings- this should see them well into the summer months. With this rain there have been a number of floods through the Reserve and car park area. At times the carpark looked like a lake. Due to the flooding an extra rail was nailed to the bottom railings to try and mitigate the loss of metal into the neighbouring paddocks.

The Reserve is a popular place with the Public. There have been injuries and some have required helicopter retrievals.

Term 3 saw Tauhei School come every Friday and do their whole schooling for the day at the Reserve. I had the honour of catching up with them on a Friday- big smiles on the children's faces and respect for the Bush. They have helped out by picking up debris off the car park after the floods and protecting the bush. They continued in Term 4. I hope they incorporate this into their curriculum and we see them again next year and future years.

This brings me to the Educational Fund. The funding has been secured for this Project. A website has been built, many thanks to Gina for all her hard work, and applications forms are here.

Also a give a little page has been set up for any donations to Pukemokemoke - <https://www.pukemokemoke.nz/> - go and have a look at it- brand new!

Our future projects are continuation of the board walk. We are looking into having the materials already delivered up to the top, which should make the project more manageable. Also, ongoing continuation with planting- new areas and in fill plantings.

Finally, I would like to say a big Thank You to all who have been involved in Pukemokemoke Bush Reserve this year. Your time is valuable and very much appreciated. If it was not for you we would not have such a special gem.

Stay safe over the holiday season.

Regards,
Harpal Singh-Thandi
Chairperson

Wishing You all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year