

# Friends of PMM Newsletter

OCTOBER 2023



## The David Johnstone Pukemokemoke Bush Trust

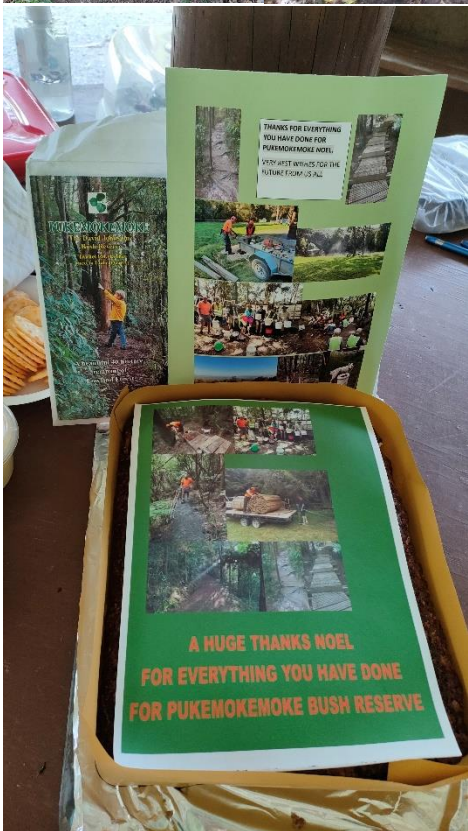
Dear Friends

The last two working bees in September and Saturday just gone involved mainly track work. As you may be aware Noel our Track Manager is sadly (for us) moving to Omokoroa in November, so Saturday was his last working bee. He has left us detailed instructions on what needs to be done and we got a start on building the track down along the fenceline from the Lookout at the top. This can be a very slippery area so it will be good to have that hopefully completed in the next couple of months. While most of us were involved in track work Gina and rangers, after carrying washers up to the top of the Maunga went down to do some weeding, Cara also assisted with this. Following the working bee, we were joined by Chris and Marlin (who were unable to do the working bee) to farewell Noel with an afternoon tea. Unfortunately, Warwick was unable to attend since he is moving to Wellington. Harpal talked about Noel's involvement with Pukemokemoke over the last 12 years and presented him with a card and a voucher for which he was very grateful. He talked of how he first came to Pukemokemoke driving a busload of people there and saw the signs for a Working Bee. Since he had just finished building the Te Araroa Trail, he was ideal for the job and his offer to help was snapped up! From then on he has been heavily involved with track building – under his guidance over a km of track has been built and 400-500 metres of steps. Noel has continued to drive for Go Bus and will be driving buses in the Bay of Plenty as well as getting involved with the Men's Shed and helping with walking tracks over there. Hopefully he will have time to go sailing too!





Pictures from September's Working Bee



October's Working Bee and Noel's farewell



Thanks again to everyone who donated items or money towards helping with replacing what was stolen from the container. We are in the process of getting the container more secure so it is harder for people to break into it and will get an alarm system installed. We will have security cameras hidden as well so you will see signs about that up soon....

You have received an email regarding the next round of grants being available from the Education Fund so if you know of any groups that may be interested, please pass on the details.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of September a group of friends and family of Jock Crawford gathered at Pukemokemoke to plant a rimu tree in remembrance of a very special person who did so much for the Reserve. His tree is located behind the fence surrounding the log haulers site about halfway along on the right when you look towards the track going up behind the pavilion.



Our next working bee is on the 18<sup>th</sup> November.  
Hope you can make it!