



FRIENDS OF TE HORO HALL

Te Horo Hall, 56 School Road, Te Horo ♦ tehoro.hall@gmail.com

Newsletter No 2, September 2023

Greetings and welcome to the second edition of the *Friends of Te Horo Hall* newsletter from the Te Horo Community Hall Society Incorporated.

Earthquake Strengthening Plans Moving Ahead

As reported last time, just over 93% of respondents to our survey want us to earthquake strengthen the Hall to keep open Te Horo's only community facility well into the future.

The Hall Committee looked at several quake-strengthening options and has now agreed on a steel portal design as the most cost-effective solution which also best fits the Hall's character. Engineering drawing are currently being finalised before we approach builders and steel fabricators for firmer costings.

Once we have all that, the Committee can start the much-needed fundraising. Based on some great advice from long-time local resident, *Jim Matheson*, the Committee is now developing a funding plan to help generate donor support for the Hall. The last major work done on the Hall was back in 2007 and there are several areas needing attention. However, earthquake strengthening remains the Committee's top fundraising priority.

With increased community awareness about the need to earthquake strengthen the Hall, we've had a few enquiries from local businesses wanting to help. This is fantastic as the Committee is very keen to work with local entities wanting to support the Hall.

Mac Engineering Donation 😊

First up for local business support, a huge shout out goes to *Regan & Elise McMurchie* at **Mac Engineering** in Otaki for donating and installing two sturdy metal protective guards for the Hall's heat pumps. The large evaporator units were vulnerable against an outside wall and are now secure and well protected thanks to the very generous support of Mac Engineering.

Come to our Twilight Christmas Event



We haven't been able to bring together a Christmas market at the Hall this year. Instead, the Committee is planning a different festive event that should be a lot of fun for everyone.

On **Friday 1 December, from 5:30 pm**, the Hall is hosting a Twilight Christmas event based on the popular monthly drinks and nibbles plus live music, fun activities, and lots of friendly banter. This very much picks up on ideas from our community survey and is a great way for *Friends of Te Horo Hall* to get together and celebrate another busy year.

Book your diaries now! Further details to follow.

2.

Equipment Gifted from FIFA World Cup

After the Wellington Stadium Women's World Cup games, FIFA gifted numerous items of furniture and equipment to local communities via Kapiti Rotary. The Hall was fortunate to receive two large whiteboards on stands (perfect for our Community Emergency Hub), two large storage cabinets, four café style tables, and a laminator, all in excellent condition. Thank you to **Kapiti Rotary**, in particular *Marilyn Stevens* for thinking of us, and to *Rod Clifton* at **Rod Clifton Motors** for the loan of a truck that was perfect for the job.



New whiteboards for Te Horo Hall

Community Emergency Hub and Friends of Te Horo Beach

Following on from the very successful Te Horo Community Emergency Hub exercise on 30 July in collaboration with Kapiti WREMO, the Hall will be hosting several key emergency readiness events during October.

On **Tuesday 3 October at 6.45pm**, Friends of Te Horo Beach are meeting at the Hall to discuss community-led emergency planning. WREMO's *Renee Corlett* (a terrific contributor to the Te Horo Hub) will help the group identify what assets and resources are available in an emergency and to start building an emergency guide for the Beach community. If you are keen to come along please RSVP to: fothb15@gmail.com

This is followed by an open workshop at the Hall on **19 October at 6.30-8pm** where all Te Horo locals can find out more about our tsunami risk and how the latest computer models can help identify safer and quicker evacuation routes. Speakers include Dr Ian Dawes (Greater Wellington Regional Council), Dr William Powers (GNS Science), and Renee Corlett (WREMO). Event details: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1919028361831534>

Te Horo will also be taking part in the WREMO Tsunami evacuation practice on **Saturday 28 October at 10am-2pm**. Event details: <https://www.facebook.com/events/284372180848647>

Stronger Connections with Te Horo Fire Station

Te Horo Hall shares common infrastructure with the neighbouring volunteer fire station including water, sewage and a backup generator connected to the Hall which was used at the recent community emergency exercise. Subsequently, Committee representatives and *Peter Wood* (Te Horo Community Emergency Hub Co-ordinator) met with Fire Chief *Bryan Sutton* and some local firefighters to discuss ongoing co-operation. The meeting was very successful with agreement to support each other in several areas including regular cleaning of the septic tank and replacing the Hall's leaky concrete water tank.

Nga mihi nui.
