The Inlet

Newsletter for Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet

AUGUST **2025**

__The Inlet__ is a newsletter that brings together local and regional news affecting the Pāuatahanui Inlet and its environs.

__The Inlet__ comes out three times a year and current or back issues can be downloaded from our website.

The newsletter includes items of concern that affect the area as well as general interest topics for everyone.

Please contact us if you would like to contribute to __The Inlet.__

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Inside this issue:

FROM THE CHAIR

I have two topics of current interest to be relayed to our readership.

Undesirable National Environmental Policy Changes

We (GOPI and Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour and Catchments Community Trust) have been involved this year in reacting to what we see as undesirable changes the Government is making to environmental policy settings. We submitted against the Fast Track Approvals Bill and have recently made submissions on proposals to change and seriously reduce freshwater quality standards. The article on page 7 covers this issue.

The proposals set potentially damaging changes to existing baseline measures that include making the four core attributes of nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E.coli levels optional. Suffice to say that if these freshwater proposals go ahead, and especially if they precede the further changes to resource management law set for later in the year, they will undermine years of work developing the freshwater quality standards and measures recommended by the Whaitua process. This exemplary work was undertaken by the Greater Wellington Regional Council and involved examination of critical issues and advice from scientific experts and community representatives. It set the stage with its carefully considered and bespoke standards and measures designed to significantly improve the water quality in the contributing catchments of Te Awarua-o-Porirua.

Recently, and after an unhelpful communication from the Government that said they were basically wasting their time, GWRC decided not to proceed with changes to its Natural Resources Plan. These changes, which we strongly supported, would have implemented the Whaitua recommendations.

As I write this, an amendment* to The Resource Management Act is proceeding through Parliament. It incorporates provisions that allow the relevant Minister (currently Chris Bishop) to use a new regulation-making power, which allows him to modify or remove provisions of a Regional Policy Statement or a regional or district plan. It has not been subject to select committee scrutiny or public consultation. It sets out various requirements that must be satisfied to justify this action. The principal one is that the provisions of the relevant plan have a negative impact on economic growth, development capacity, or employment.

From the Chair cont...

In commenting on this, The Environmental Defence Society says:

> 'This is alarming overreach.
>
> It gives the Minister an ability to rewrite bits of plans that he doesn't like, at his discretion.
>
> It tries to create a different purpose to the RMA, one that gives primacy to economic growth, development capacity, or employment but only for the Minister.
>
> It ignores the environmental rationale of provisions and enables the Minister to trample on environmental protections at will.
>
> It undermines policy, and plan-making processes, policies and plans that have undergone extensive community consultation and testing, including by the Courts.'

So, the current environmental-policy atmosphere looks bleak and it doesn't bode well for the new replacement to the Resource Management Act due to be unveiled later in the year.

*Amendment paper No 347 to the Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Bill).

Transmission Gully Motorway's Environmental Works Not Finished

At our AGM in June, Craig Nicholson from the New Zealand Transport Agency updated us on the work that is needed to complete the environmental requirements of the Transmission Gully resource consents. His presentation (see link in the AGM article page 3 below) showed:

> NZTA has taken over responsibility for completing the work.
>
> There is quite a lot of work still needed including riparian and stream works and dealing with wider planting failures.
>
> This will take two or three more years.
>
> Millions of dollars more will need to be spent.

On the plus side, it seems the risk of sediment incursions from TGM into the Inlet is now very low as the stormwater treatment systems are working satisfactorily and indeed were operational before the motorway opened. This is good news as the TGM project has resulted in too much sediment entering the Inlet over its construction period. Hundreds of resource consent exceedances were recorded and one successful prosecution was undertaken by the Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Work still needed includes removal of temporary works and associated stream rehabilitation which requires:

> Fixing culverts that prevent fish passage in Duck Creek and Wainui Stream;
>
> Improvements in new culverts to allow fish passage;
>
> Remediation of short dry reaches of stream diversions;
>
> Additional riparian margin planting to improve aquatic habitat; and
>
> Additional stream mitigation in lower Wainui and Te Puka streams.

Further work covers completion of maintenance tracks, resolution of final property boundaries, completion of property agreement obligations, shared-use path construction and other community matters.

From the Chair cont...

Work has yet to be started on the important saltmarsh wetland to be constructed on the stream side of Lane's Flat.

The ecological work involved over 550 hectares of new and retired habitats and mitigation planting, and some 50 km of riparian margin planting. Not all this has been successful with some 37% requiring remedial action. The measures of success are listed in Craig's presentation.

In addition to the ecological work needed, it turns out that the pavement of the motorway will need progressive rehabilitation work. So the TGM Motorway Project is yet to be completed and it will be some time before its full financial cost will be known. But, hopefully, its environmental footprint and impact on the Inlet will, from now on, be minor.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM was held at the Baptist Church in Whitby, 7:30pm on 18 June. All told, 27 people attended.

The meeting was chaired by Lindsay Gow who, after introductions and the passing of the minutes for 2024, gave a brief outline of the Annual Report for the year 2024/25. This focussed on the key activities of the past year, these being our communications, submissions, strategic planning, restoration planting, clean-ups and a new series of videos about the Inlet.

Our ongoing communications with councils, environmental organisations, Ngati Toa and local resident groups continued the focus on promoting protection of the Inlet's natural, historical and cultural values. As part of this, our newsletter and website content keeps people uptodate with our activities, while our three submissions this year were responses to issues of concern with proposed changes to local water resources. We had another successful Inlet Clean-up day in March and we continued our work to increase the ecological health of the Inlet through shoreline restoration planting at various locations.

The annual report also referred to our Special General Meeting, held in March, to discuss the future strategic direction of GOPI. A document was tabled for this meeting which listed the projects we had currently been involved with and, after extensive discussions, it was concluded that all such activities should continue unabated but with some enhancements and added details of the financial implications associated with each of them.

This meeting also gained approval for a revised Constitution to meet new requirements of the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. The revised Constitution is on our website.

Of particular interest, late last year, was the initiative to produce a new series of videos as a sequel to the Living Waters of some years ago. *Wai Ora - Living Waters Series II* will showcase the fauna and flora of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour and its catchments, explain and explore the issues and threats affecting the harbour ecosystem and provide harbour communities with video footage and commentary on these issues and their solutions.

The Financial Report was presented by our Treasurer, Marg Glover. Marg primarily addressed the successful outcomes of the financial support we've had via last year's grants for our revegetation projects and the purchase of A24 rodent traps to surround the Inlet with protection from predators.

The annual reports were accepted by unanimous vote and both Strategic Plan and the Annual Report and Financial Statements can be viewed from here on our website.

Annual General Meeting cont...

The election of the new committee was the final task with all current members being re-elected, except for Alistair Webb who resigned during the year. He was recognised and thanked for his invaluable contribution to GOPI during his tenure. We were pleased to accept the nominations of two new members, Judi Jones and Grenville Gaskill, raising our team strength to 10. We introduce them in the following item.

After the AGM we were excited to introduce Craig Nicholson, our guest speaker for the evening, who gave a presentation on developments to address the negative issues left over after completion of the Transmission Gully Motorway. Craig is the Principal Project Manager, NZTA, responsible for the work which is to be carried out over the next three years.

Craig's presentation is summarised by Lindsay Gow at the front of this newsletter, but the full version is well worth looking at and has been put up on our website HERE.

OUR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We have two new committee members this year who were elected to the committee at the AGM. We welcome them aboard and wish them well as they negotiate their new roles within our organisation. We asked them to provide a brief background and portrait image so that they can be introduced to our wider membership.

Judi Jones

Judi joined the GOPI committee in June 2025 and is keen to contribute to protecting and enhancing the health of the Inlet.

Judi moved to Paremata (from Auckland, via Taihape) in 1987 and has lived close to the Inlet since then. Her professional background was as a Complaints Commissioner and Ombudsman in the energy and telecommunications sectors, both in NZ and Australia. Since moving here she has participated in a number of GOPI activities including Inlet clean-ups, the cockle count and planting days. She is also supporting the Rotary Club of Plimmerton in their five-year plan to plant areas around the Inlet.

As a grandparent, Judi believes strongly in the concept of being a good ancestor and wants to leave her four grandchildren a vibrant, natural world.

Grenville Gaskell

Grenville joined the GOPI committee in June 2025 and has been a Paremata resident since 2021. He has had a career in the banking, energy and trustee sectors, most recently as Chief Executive of the New Zealand Wind Energy Association.

Introduced to GOPI through participating in recent revegetation and Inlet clean-up activities, he has seen first-hand the outstanding work the Group does to protect and enhance the ecological, recreational and cultural values of the Inlet.

A concern for the impact we are having on the environment and, in particular the declining health of the Inlet, has led Grenville to seek committee membership so he can contribute more meaningfully to its preservation and restoration.

RESTORATION PLANTING - IVEY BAY

A very big thank you goes out to all the volunteers involved in our restoration planting day on 15 June. We couldn't have wished for a more beautiful day in which to get outside and enjoy the work. A total of 250 rushes and about 250 trees and shrubs were planted, a tremendous effort by all concerned. Rushes were the sea rush (*Juncus kraussii*) while trees or shrubs included kawakawa (*Piper excelsum*), five finger (*Pseudopanax arboreus*), kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) and whairangi (*Melicope ternata*).

Two areas of Ivey Bay were chosen for this project. One was an extension of the previously planted saltmarsh zone around the Ivey Bay shoreline. Earlier plantings have established well and look to be naturally expanding. So it made sense to help this process further by adding another section around the shore. It was hard work as the Inlet-edge here is quite rocky but, with good teamwork and dedication, the job was done in a couple of hours.

*The area of the shore at Ivey Bay where sea rush was planted.**

*Volunteers scaling the slopes for the revegetation of hillside scrubland near the kindergarten.**

The second area was different from anything we have undertaken before. Identified by Andre van Halderen, a shrub-covered hill-side road boundary north of the kindergarten was being overtaken with exotic weeds, shrubs and wattle trees at various stages of maturity. Working with PCC, much of this invasive undergrowth had been cleared prior, in readiness for a replacement biota and that was the aim of the session on 15 June. It was certainly very hard work with the steep terrain but everyone handled the conditions well.

The new rushes are very visible from the road and the new trees and shrubs will slowly establish over the next couple of years to become visible from the footpath alongside SH58, above the kindergarten. It will be very gratifying to watch everything grow, so we'll be keeping a keen eye on the site to see how these latest plantings develop.

Once again thanks to all involved and, to those who couldn't make it this time, there will be more planting events to come. An occasional check on our website should identify when these events will take place.

And… thank you to GWRC for the funding and to PCC for the rushes and the efficient logistical support.

(Photos courtesy of Andre van Halderen)

GOPI COLLABORATES WITH ROTARY

The Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet is providing support to a Rotary-led, five-year Inlet-restoration initiative that mirrors the work GOPI has been doing for the last three years.

Planting rushes and ribbonwood at Motukaraka Point on 6 August, organised by Rotary.
Photo: Judi Jones

There have been two planting events at Motukaraka Point this season, starting in June, with a mix of over 2,000 shrubs and rushes dug into the saltmarsh zone and shoreline boundary of the Inlet. The most recent of these being on 6 August, just passed. This has added to an already impressive spread of new vegetation along the shore.

These initiatives complement previous restoration planting events carried out by GOPI and others.

The Rotary-organised events are the result of a collaboration between Porirua City Council, Ngati Toa Rangatira, Greater Wellington Regional Council and several community organisations and are in accordance with the aim of GOPI's Strategic Plan to foster and encourage a collective approach towards developing initiatives with other organisations supporting the new Harbour Accord.

How Motukaraka Point looks now - 14 August 2025
Photo: Andre van Halderen

ADVANCE NOTICE

A third event this year, organised by Rotary, with support from GOPI, is planned for:

6 September 2025

Please put this in your diary if you would like to take part.

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL SUBMISSION

The Ministry for the Environment is consulting on proposals to amend the 2020 National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management and the 2020 National Environmental Standards for Freshwater Regulations.

The proposals are designed to:

Rebalance freshwater management objectives;

Rebalance Te Mana o Te Wai;

Provide flexibility;

Address water security and water storage;

Simplify wetlands provisions;

Simplify fish passage provisions;

Change requirements for synthetic nitrogen application.

In achieving these objectives undesirable changes to key freshwater standards are proposed.

Given this, GOPI and the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Catchments and Community Trust have submitted our views on these proposals, summarised as follows:

> The Porirua Harbour and Catchments Community Trust (The Trust) and the Guardians of Pāuatahanui Inlet (GOPI) oppose any proposal to fast-track changes to freshwater national direction under the current RMA framework. The Trust and GOPI emphasise the importance of adhering to proper legislative processes, ensuring statutory clarity, and engaging in meaningful public consultation. Rushed reforms could lead to policy instability and undermine the substantial efforts already made by regional councils to implement changes required by the current law.
>
> The Trust and GOPI reaffirm our support for the enduring principles of Te Mana o te Wai and reject proposals to remove its provisions. Our submission emphasises the need to retain key freshwater target-state attributes, namely nitrogen, phosphorus, sediment and E. coli, as mandatory. While we acknowledge the value of flexibility in setting these attributes, we believe that such flexibility must be clearly defined, evidentially based and supported by robust science and, importantly, further supported by strong safeguards to prevent misuse and environmental degradation.
>
> Regarding specific proposals, we advocate for maintaining the nitrogen cap, maintaining wetland mapping and preserving robust fish-passage regulations. Overall, The Trust and GOPI call for a balanced, evidence-based approach that prioritizes the health of freshwater ecosystems and the well-being of communities.

The full submission, which goes into details of the proposal, is available to view on our website HERE.

2025 COCKLE SURVEY

The 12th Pāuatahanui Triennial Cockle Survey will be held this year on Sunday 2 November at 1 pm.

Cockles form a large part of the Inlet's marine fauna and monitoring the size of the population is one important tool for assessing the ecological health of the Inlet.

Our programme is recognised as a prime scientific activity in the Porirua Harbour Accord — both for the information it provides and for the opportunity it offers the community to be actively involved in implementation of the Accord. The Cockle Count involves sampling, counting and measuring cockles at 30 different sites around the Inlet, with each sampling site led by a team leader with two or three team members (or possibly more) to help.

To run the Survey we need to recruit more than 100 volunteers on the day. To achieve that, we need to promote the Survey as widely as possible in the community.

Participating in the Survey is an interesting and worthwhile activity offering a chance to meet others with the same interests. It is also ideal for secondary school students, particularly those studying biology and ecology. We appreciate any help you can provide by coming along or passing this message on to those who you think might be interested.

For those of you who are prepared to take on the role of team leader (and especially those who have participated in previous years) please let us know via email pauainlet@gmail.com. If you have been a team leader before, you will know that it is not an onerous task and there will be 2-4 helpers to assist. Prior training will be provided both via a YouTube video, available before the day in question, and an in-person training session starting at 12 noon on 2 November, i.e. an hour before the general start time.

All in all we need 30 team leaders.

So please let us know if you are willing!

One of the transects being sampled

Counting and measuring the cockles

FEATURE ARTICLE

In the April newsletter we introduced a two-part feature article describing some of the invertebrate animals found in Pāuatahanui Inlet. Here is the second instalment of this feature.

The quantity of invertebrates in the Inlet is colossal, making it a challenge to select even a small number of them to represent the different groups, or phyla. The aim here, as with the first instalment, is to give a flavour of the types of animals that make up this diverse category, describing some that will be familiar to most, while introducing others that are not normally even thought of.

The phyla described here include some very well-know examples that are clearly visible among the life that exists in the harbour. But these do not form the major biomass of the Inlet. Other, less well-known, species are very much more numerous and some statistics are attached to the examples below to illustrate the real dominance that these species command.

INVERTEBRATES OF THE INLET - Part 2

Annelida

Everyone is familiar with the earthworm. A quick glance at this common garden animal highlights the segmented nature of annelid worms in general, looking like the body is made of rings or segments strung together. Towards the head end there is some specialisation in function, with segments that are differentiated from the rest of the body. The remaining segments look very much alike. There are two major sub-groups within the phylum. The earthworm is an *oligochaete,* having a small number of stiff hairs along the body length used for locomotion. Not all oligochaete are terrestrial, with at least one example living in the Inlet's intertidal zone. However, there is insufficient information on this species to give a description.

By contrast, the Inlet contains huge numbers of the other major sub-group of annelid worms — the *polychaete* or bristle worms. These have many paddle-like appendages ending in stiff hairs or bristles along each side of the body giving them a ragged appearance (hence the alternative name, ragworm). There are around 25 species in Pāuatahanui Inlet with most being deposit feeders in the intertidal zone, obtaining food by sifting through the sediments. They are a major link in the food chain of the Inlet and an important food source for wading birds. Because of the prevalence of these worms they may exceed the biomass of cockles.

As an indication of the numbers, a mudworm called *Microspio maori* has been estimated to exist in densities ranging from 2600 to 6300 per m^2 on the intertidal sand flats. Each 17mm-long worm lives in a vertical burrow just below the surface and feeds from the surface sediments.

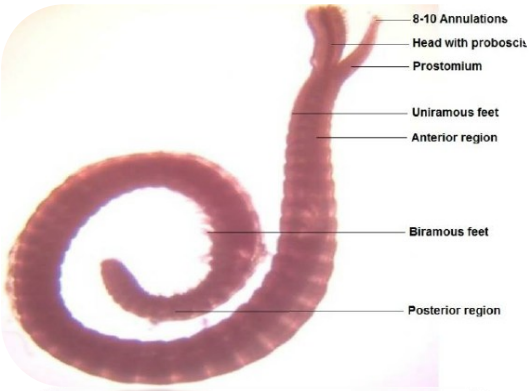
Another species, *Axiothella serrata,* is also very common to sandflats of sheltered coasts, enclosed inlets and estuaries, and is often associated with beds of seagrass. In Pāuatahanui Inlet it is found in densities of up to 500 per m^2. It is also a surface or subsurface deposit feeder, but up to 70mm long, and secretes J- to U-shaped tubes lined with loose sand particles that extend about 15cm below the surface. They are sedentary in nature

A group of preserved Microspio maori [photo from Annelida.net.nz

Feature Article cont...

and evidence of this species can be seen by irregular castings, 1-2cm high, deposited on the sand surface. (No picture available).

Polychaetes like the above feed on bacteria, other micro-organisms and plant material within the sediments but not all are so inclined. A group of species from the family *Goniadidae*, of which the one identified in Pāuatahanui Inlet is *Goniada emerita*, are predatory. They have a proboscis (an elongated appendage on the head) with hardened jaw-like structures designed to feed on other living animals, mostly other smaller polychaetes. These are free-living worms that move within finer sediments between the low tide and subtidal regions of the shoreline.



Goniada emerita, under a microscope. © siva Raj (Link)

Evidence of a further species of polychaete can often be found on the shells of cockles, illustrating once again the importance of our famous bivalve to the Inlet environment. This is *Boccardia acus* which bores into shells of various molluscs leaving tunnels that cover the surface. The remains of these can sometimes be found on shells left behind on the shore.

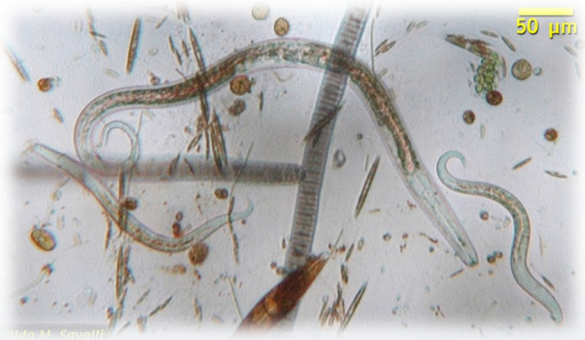
Live Boccardia acus on Austrovenus stutchburyi. © Geoffrey Read

Boccardia acus worm bores in cockle shells © Javier. iNaturalist Canada [Licensed CC by 4.0.]

Nematoda

Nematodes or roundworms are a huge group of worm-like animals without segmentation. Many are parasitic but most are free-living, found in almost every aquatic environment. These animals are the most numerous of the *meiofauna* to be found in the Inlet. (The term *meiofauna* loosely defines a group of organisms by their size — larger than microfauna [mostly microscopic] but smaller than macrofauna [crabs for instance]).

In 2023, NIWA reported finding 26 completely new species of nematode worms living in Pāuatahanui Inlet,



Free-living marine nematodes ©udo M Savali (BIO385-Nematodes)

Feature Article cont…

half of more than 50 species now identified there. Most are very tiny, being only around 1mm long, and they live in the sediments, both intertidal and deeper, in absolutely huge numbers. They may make up 40% of the Inlet's biodiversity. There are no specific species to identify here but all are similar to look at as the above image shows.

Nematodes feed on bacteria, algae, fungi and a range of living and dead tissues thus playing an important role in the decomposition of plant and animal matter.

Arthopoda

The most successful and numerous of all invertebrates are the arthropods, animals with external skeletons, which include the six-legged insects, the eight-legged spiders and mites, and the, mostly marine, crustacea such as 10-legged crabs, lobsters and shrimps. There are also less well-known groups like the amphipods, isopods and copepods. In the Inlet the major arthropod representatives are the crustacea, mostly visible crabs, and the almost invisible copepods.

Tunnelling mud crab © James Bailey (CC BY-NC) [from iNaturalist]

There are several species of crabs in the Inlet with perhaps the most commonly seen example being the tunnelling mudcrab *Austrohelice crassa*. (There is an article about this animal on our website here.) More than likely, it will be the tunnel entrance that you first see, where the mudflats, exposed as the tide recedes from its maximum, often show many holes where the crabs hide from predatory seabirds. Often you will see small piles of mud close to the tunnel entrance. This is the material cleared out after inundation from a previous high tide. If you walk along the Te Ara Piko walkway beside Grays Road, and look down as it passes over some of the mudflats, you may even see some of the crabs on the surface. They are timid and will often scuttle for cover when they detect movement from above.

Stalk-eyed crab ©Shaun Lee (CC BY-4.0) [From INaturalist]

While *A. crassa* is found in well-drained, compacted sediments above mid-tide level, another burrowing crab, the stalk-eyed crab *Macrophthalmus hirtipes,* is found in waterlogged areas below the mid-tide level. It can sometimes be seen standing on an exposed pebble when the tide is out, with perhaps one or more limbs raised as if airing itself. It can be recognised by its prominent stalked eye (although crabs in general have eyes on stalks for good all-round vision) and usually bright colour. The differences in location of these two species are related to feeding and burrowing adaptations, with *M. hirtipes* less tolerant of brackish or fresh water than *A. crassa*, and therefore not found near the stream outlets.

A third species of note is the hairy-handed crab, *Hemigrapsus crenulatus,* another tunneller which is found lower down on the shore. This species is much more camouflaged than the others, being a greenish-brown colour.

All three crabs take microscopic plants and organic debris from the sediments as their food source, while both *H. cranulatus* and *M. hirtipes* are a major food source for the rig shark.

Feature Article cont...

Copepoda

Harpaticoid copepod © Vicente Franch Meneu [CC BY-NC] from iNaturalist Photo 91418889.

While the crabs of the Inlet are fairly obvious when exposed by the outgoing tides, there is another group of crustacea, the copepods, that are largely invisible to the casual observer. Ranging in size from about 0.2mm up to 20cm copepods are one of the most numerous animals in aquatic communities, found globally in every freshwater and marine environment, sometimes as part of the plankton. There are an estimated 14,000 different species. Those of interest to us are the *Harpacticoida*, free-living in the muds, silts and sands of the seabed and representing the second-largest meiofaunal group in Pāuatahanui Inlet, after the nematodes. Most are only 1-2mm long but, despite their small size, several studies have been made of these creatures in the Inlet, including by the late Dr John Wells who was Chair of GOPI in the early years.

Despite their small size it is interesting to note that all species of harpacticoid copepods go through a life cycle of 11 moults, with two larval stages before reaching adulthood. This is unusual for meiobenthic fauna which usually develop directly from the egg stage.

One named species found in our harbour is *Porirualia megarostrum* which is super abundant with numbers in the range of 263,000/m^2.

Copepods are another very important group for the food web of the Inlet. They feed on microscopic algae and bacteria and are themselves eaten by other invertebrates and juvenile fish.

Echinodermata

Our final specimen species is one of the Echinoderms. These are the sea urchins and starfish but they are not very common in an estuarine environment. The only one of note for us is *Patiriella regularis* or New Zealand common cushion star. This native is, however, one of New Zealand's most common rocky-shore starfish, abundant in shallow water around both mainland islands and found from intertidal to subtidal zones on rocky sections of the shore. It normally has five arms but can be found with four or six and comes in a large range of colours. It has an arm spread of up to 60mm with a disc radius of about two-thirds the length of the arms.

Patiriella regularis © Saryu Mae, (CC BY) https://www.inaturalist.org/hotos/229881373

Cushion star diet is varied, including barnacles and other invertebrates as well as algae. To capture food the cushion star inflates its cushion and then deflates on top of the prey.

There are some smaller groups of animals that have minor representation in the Inlet but are not well documented and, therefore, hard to identify and describe. What has been included in these two articles, however, is probably extensive enough for everyone to appreciate how fascinating this category of living organisms can really be.

ON THE HORIZON

Cockle Survey

Don't forget this triennial event will take place later this year.

Date: Sunday 2 November. (Fallback date: 16 November)
Start Time: 1pm

Further details will be announced closer to the time. We will publish updated information on our website.

JOIN THE GUARDIANS

Have you seen our newsletter and would like to join the Guardians?

Do you know someone else who would like to join?

You can sign up a neighbour, friend, or another family member using our on-line Membership Form. Just explain to them that membership numbers really count in giving us a strong voice to advocate for what we all value about the Inlet. Individual membership costs just $12 annually.

We currently have around 130 members.

Our on-line Membership Form is available on our website at https://gopi.org.nz/join-us/.

Alternatively you can request a membership form to be sent to you by emailing pauainlet@gmail.com
We will either email or post one to you.

NOTE: From August 2025 we do not include an application form in our newsletter.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS FOR PAUATAHANUI INLET

Pollution: Greater Wellington Regional Council – **0800 496 734** (24 hours)

(for discharges of contaminants to air, land, storm-water drains, streams, rivers or sea)

Boating infringements: Greater Wellington Regional Council – **384 5708** (24 hours)

Illegal fishing activity: Ministry for Primary Industries – **0800 476 224** (24 hours)

Pāuatahanui Wildlife Reserve: Department of Conservation – **0800 362 468**

NOTE: Let us know what you have reported so we can keep an accurate record and follow up if necessary.

235 5052 (Chair, GOPI) or ***pauainlet@gmail.com*.**