

# BLUESKIN NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER Est. 1985

AUGUST 2025

Seacliff

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Warrington

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Evansdale

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Waitati

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Doctors Point

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Pūrākaunui



## WUTHERING HEIGHTS 2025



# Bulletproof Convertible

present



Waitati 2025

## DEAD ROCKERS BALL

**16th**  
August

Waitati Hall  
Saturday 8.00pm

Fundraising for Waitati Library Playground  
Raffles & auctions

Tickets available from Waitati Merchant  
Online at [www.bulletproof.nz](http://www.bulletproof.nz)

Tickets \$40 | Door Sales \$50

EFT-POS - CASH BAR - FOOD INCLUDED - NO BYO

management by

Yellow Eye

027 440 3058



## From the Editor

**Hello everyone, my hands and feet are freezing!**

This is the first winter I've spent in New Zealand for several years. Apart from the Year of Covid, I usually go to the UK for at least the whole of July, having done so since the 1990s. Originally, I went to see my parents, then to take my disabled sister away for a holiday, and now to visit my grandson. This year, I decided to wait until 2026 to make the long trip again, having spent so much time there last year and seen my family here over Christmas. I don't regret the waiting, but talking to family on WhatsApp and seeing my grandson Ruben splashing around in a paddling pool in the sunshine does make me wish for a bit of warmth.

It has had its rewards, though. In the past, I found it far easier to turn on the heat pump if I was chilly. July and the bright, frosty cold days, as well as the grey, damp ones, along with the high price of electricity, have encouraged me to use my woodburner every day. I've gone through two loads of wood and learned how to light a fire economically – you don't need a whole packet of firelighters and a bag of supermarket kindling to get it going. Building it properly is the answer! I blame my UK upbringing for this lack of knowledge; everyone there has central heating, and if you have a fireplace, a fire is for special occasions, not a necessity. So, I've come to love the glow as well as the warmth, and when it's lit, the house feels somehow more welcoming.

Spring is just around the corner – well, nearly; advertising for the Spring Flower Show has convinced me of that, as well as the large camellia in the garden in full bloom. I'm looking forward to it.

This spring will also bring elections for our local Council and Community Boards. These elected officials do a great job in looking after our community interests, and we should all take an interest in who represents us. To this end, we would like to ask local nominated people to send in a 150-word profile and photograph for a special section of the News in September.

Enjoy this month's read.

**Keep warm, safe, and happy, Bernie**

## Blueskin Bay Community Spaces

### Warrington Hall

Available for birthdays, family gatherings, exercise classes, dances and dos etc, at reasonable rates. Hire includes a fully equipped kitchen and tables and chairs – we have a large viewing screen and a new sound system.

**Contact Lyn 482 2896 or Rowena 482 2667**

### Waitati Hall

Suitable for large meetings, weddings, parties, concerts, dances etc (up to 120) features kitchen, toilets, stage, sound system and large projection screen.

**Contact Blueskin Nurseries on 482 2828**

### Waitati Hall Meeting Room

Suitable for committee meetings, small gatherings, demonstrations etc (up to 20 people) features kitchen and toilets.

**Contact Blueskin Nurseries on 482 2828**

### Blueskin Bay Library Meeting Room

Suitable for committee meetings, presentations, training, interviews etc. (up to 12 people) features modular tables, large projection screen, kitchenette and toilets.

**Contact Blueskin Bay Library 482 2444**

**blucirc1@dcc.govt.nz**

### Waiputai Hub – Stephenson St, Warrington

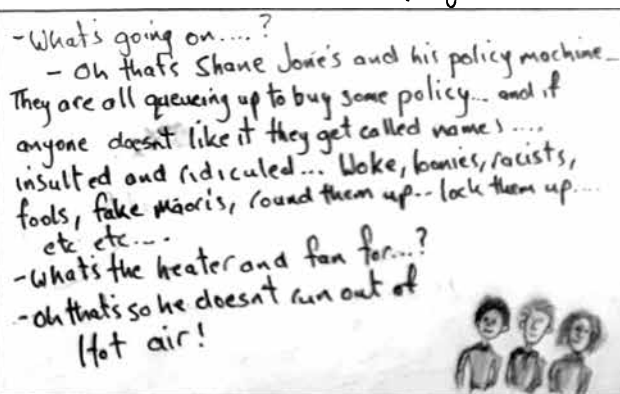
Warm and cosy meeting space, community gatherings, classes, children's parties, and workshops for up to 20 people. Features include small kitchen, comfy couches, tables and chairs, fenced grounds including playground for under 5s and toilets. Available to hire for workshops, courses, children's parties or family events etc. at a reasonable hourly rate. **Booking enquiries to waiputai@gmail.com or Nancy 482 1198 or 021 171 0226.**

Hire charge is usually applicable, details can be obtained on request.

## Madness vs Sanity



## The Sproglets



**BLUESKIN COMMUNITY MARKET**  
**Sunday 3 August**  
**The Wild Chitokakas will be playing!**



# East Otago Plunket Round Up



The East Otago Playgroup in Waikouaiti continues to run weekly on Wednesdays between 10.00 and 12.00 at the Plunket Rooms in the East Otago Events Centre, providing the opportunity to connect with other parents and caregivers and to give your child a chance to socialise, play and build connections with other children. A number of families regularly travel over from Blueskin Bay to join this friendly and welcoming group.

If you would like to attend a First Aid Course aimed specifically at parents /caregivers on CPR, choking and other common basics such as burns RSV, meningitis, poisoning, allergic reactions and more the next one will be held in Waikouaiti in August, please contact [annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz](mailto:annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz) for details.

East Otago Plunket is hosting a quiz night as a fundraiser to be held at Waihemo Lodge on Tuesday 26 August at 7.30pm. \$15 entry per team, with up to 6 people in a team. Bring cash for entry fee and raffle tickets! Please put together a team and come along to support us.

Need parenting support? Call PlunketLine – free 24/7 From sleep struggles and starting solids to teething, crying, big emotions, and toddler meltdowns – PlunketLine is here to support every whānau, any time of the day or night. Plunket nurses can also help with your questions around development, like crawling, walking, talking, and toileting. You don't need to be a Plunket client to call. PlunketLine is for anyone caring for a baby or young child – parents, grandparents, aunties, caregivers too. Did you know we have interpreter support in many languages? Just ask when you call us. Call 0800 933 922 – Free 24/7 for every whānau in Aotearoa.

If your child needs a Plunket appointment, or for any other clinical enquiries please call 0800 184 803.

**Kā mihi nui, Annabel**



**WAIHEMO LODGE PALMERSTON**

## Quiz Night

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> August**



**\$15 per team**  
**Maximum 6 people**  
**7.30 start**  
**Bring cash for Raffles – great prizes!**  
**\$100 prize for winning team**

Hosted by East Otago Plunket  
Thank you for supporting our community services in East Otago!  
Contact: [annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz](mailto:annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz)

## BLUESKIN GARDEN CLUB

**Spring is around the Corner. The daffodils and tulips will have popped through by now, their beautiful flowers will be following.**

Our annual Spring flower Show is not far away. It is being held on the weekend of the 13-14 September at the Waitati Hall, so keep that in mind.

Our club meeting for August is going to be held in the Waitati Library on the 14 August at 7pm, and will be a presentation on life in Vanuatu to be given by Sue's daughter Bridget. All are welcome to attend this interesting evening.

Hope to see you all there!

**Bev Lyon – 027 533 2238**



## A Chat GP Rant

**Having endured numerous rants in the Blueskin News I set Chat GP a task – The Stupidity of Polarised Political Opinions – a 250-word polemic by Chat GP.**

In an age where information is abundant and nuance is within easy reach, the stubborn rise of polarised political opinions is not just disheartening—it is idiotic. It is the intellectual equivalent of choosing to live in a cave with a flashlight while sunlight blazes outside. Right and left, conservative and liberal, red and blue—these identities have become dogmatic cults rather than political positions. People chant slogans instead of considering policies. They cling to party lines like lifeboats in a sea of nuance, terrified of the complexity that real thinking demands. Worse still, polarisation is performative. Opinions aren't adopted through critical reflection, but through tribal loyalty. Social media is flooded with knee-jerk outrage, memes in place of arguments, and sanctimonious hashtags. To disagree is not to debate; it is to be the enemy. This is not democracy. This is stupidity masquerading as principle. Polarised thinkers reject compromise, forgetting that democracy depends on it. They are allergic to self-doubt, confusing conviction with wisdom. They forget history's cruel lesson: that blind certainty often leads to catastrophe. To hold a nuanced view is now seen as weakness. But in truth, it is strength. Only the thoughtful dare stand in the murky middle, resisting the gravitational pull of simplistic extremes. If society is to survive its own noise, we must stop cheering for "sides" and start thinking for ourselves. Complexity is not the enemy—dogma is. And until we recognise that, we are doomed to the stupid, screaming stalemate of polarisation.

Written by **Chat GP**, submitted by **Chris Hinton**





## Indoor winter foraging

**Indoor foraging is a fun winter activity. It takes place in op shops and uses all your well-honed, sharp-eyed foraging skills to hunt out treasures.**

Even if you work full-time, it's possible to get a bit of op shopping in as quite a few are open on weekends.

Over time, the quality of op shop donations has spiralled downwards, along with the quality of the stuff the shops are selling. Once you could buy beautiful tail coats or 1950s dresses. In the 90s, Alex and I made a business of buying merino knitwear at \$2 fill-a-bag, remaking it into fashion garments and selling it at markets and a street stall we had outside a bank on Saturdays.

The rise of fast fashion has meant there are much lower-quality garments coming through as they are now made from acrylic, polyester, polar fleece, and polyamide. Wool blankets were a great resource for making warm outerwear, but now they are too expensive to recycle, though perfectly good as blankets.

What I look out for are good-quality duvet cover sets, made from pure cotton by luxury brands. They're so much cheaper and nicer than crappy polycotton chain store ones. We've also recently found some feather and down

duvet inners in beautiful condition for around \$30; to buy them new could cost up to \$400, and the money we spend goes to a charity.

Our concrete kitchen floor eats crockery and glasses for breakfast. I think because people like to have a set of six of something like plates or cups, if they break one, the other five get donated. So we choose a theme and buy our china to match that theme. I've been through crockery with pictures of the royal family or the Pope until they get too expensive, then onto souvenir china with pictures of the Leaning Tower of Pisa or Sydney Opera House. Our latest cheap craze is cups and plates with spots on them; any colour or size of spots will do; they must have been in fashion five or ten years ago, so there are plenty to choose from.

There is no need to ever buy a new toaster, electric jug or iron as these go for around £5 and have been tested for safety by an electrician.

Alex and I were planning a big cocktail party so we went round all the op shops buying all the odd cocktail glasses for 50p to £1 each. We have a couple of big boxes of them, and no tears are shed if anyone drops one. They get packed away until the next cocktail party.

Having a theme is a good way to get some focus in the vast amount of stuff available. I like red, so I keep an eye out for red things, like a red kettle, red enamel fry pan, red kitchen gadgets, red tea pot ... then donate any double-ups which don't match my theme. It's much easier to hunt for stuff in an era which is still turning up in large quantities. Mid-Century is now too expensive, even cool bright '70s stuff has become the realm of "antique shops". The 80s is the new cool and it is still everywhere.

We noticed that in Southland op shops everyone is donating crystalware. It was

probably the wedding present of choice when people now in their '80s were getting married and now they are dying or downsizing, and after a lifetime of "keeping it for special occasions" their kids throw it all out. Use your best stuff, or one day complete strangers will buy it from an op shop for £1, and get to drink wine wantonly from your Waterford crystal heirlooms.

My sister struggled to get her husband into the op shops on their road trips, until he discovered the CD collections. He started hunting out the music he had loved in earlier times, and then playing it in the car for a bit of instant gratification, and a sing-along. Now she can spend more time foraging without him standing around bored and tetchy.

Clothes, unless they are organised by size, are a nightmare. My technique is to run your hands along the clothes until you find a fabric that feels and looks like good quality, then check the size. Don't buy anything just because it's cheap, it has to fit your style, and fit in your wardrobe. Theoretically, I have a one in, one out policy so I don't get overwhelmed with stuff. Anyone who has seen my wardrobe will know this is not really happening enough.

Op shops have got much more expensive, but remember, they are raising money for charities, and so what you buy is like making a donation with the benefit of getting something fun and interesting back. I don't mind at all paying more for a quality item, it is still a fraction of the new price, and so much better than buying crap from a big box brand with no social conscience.

Do donate good quality items too, keep it circling around, and most of all, enjoy your indoor foraging experience.

**Hilary Rowley**



**Cancer Society  
Daffodil Day**

**Daffodil Day this year is Friday 29 August.**

**There will be two stalls locally. Freshly picked daffodils, baking, raffles and other goodies will be available from 8am – 2pm at "On the Spot" Waitati Store and from 10am – 4.30pm at Waitati Merchant.**

**If you would like to donate items to sell, fresh baking and preserves, bring to either stall by 10am. Daffodils will also be available at Blueskin Nurseries.**

**Thank you to members of Blueskin Garden Club, "On the Spot" Blueskin Store, Waitati Merchant, Blueskin Nurseries for your continued support. Thanks also to our supportive community.**

**Any enquiries to: Daffodil Day Co-ordinator, Glenys Clements E: [p.g.clements@xtra.co.nz](mailto:p.g.clements@xtra.co.nz) Ph; 027 273 8749**





## Blueskin Bay Bands Gazebo Fundraiser

**Local acts putting on a show on 30 August to raise money for new tent cover**

Have you ever been to local events like the Brewer's Convention, Waitati Music Festival or Mini-Fest? If so then you have seen a very large blue gazebo covering the stage or otherwise providing much-needed shelter. This gazebo belongs to local good guy Morgan Farrant, who has tirelessly brought it along, set it up and packed it down (with much help from The Crew), and hauled it home on his own accord.

After 12+ years of making the rounds, the cover is stuffed and needs replacement. So, 5 local bands are coming together at Waitati Hall to help raise funds.

Doors open at 5.45pm and the music gets underway at 6pm sharp, so don't be late! The lineup includes **Ticket for Non Groovers, The Wild Chitokakas, Dougie and the Moon Rocks, Psycho King Dogs and Pesk!**

This is a 100% non-commercial community gathering with all donations going directly to the cause. Koha entry, \$10 suggested – additional donations welcome. See you there!



## NOT A RANT

from the other side of Mihiwaka



This is an opinion piece designed to promote feedback. If you feel you'd like to respond email [blueskin.input@gmail.com](mailto:blueskin.input@gmail.com)

As a lapsed "Waitatian", or Blueskin Bay export if you prefer, I was asked recently to write a few lines about the things which make me glad, mad, sad or even happy. To be fair to readers some disclosure to begin with: I was not born here but made Te Waipounamu my home over 4 decades ago. I am in Aotearoa by choice and have happily gone through the official channels to become a "Kiwi in Otago" at the very first opportunity. In fact, that honour was bestowed on me in the now long forgotten Silverpeaks County Council offices accompanied by cucumber sandwiches, custard squares and English tea. Received a pair of iconic Redband gumboots soon after! I committed to being a Kiwi 'no matter what' ... and who knows what it might turn out to be in the current global political mess? Still feeling good about that early move, by the way.

What makes me happy and glad? Well, give me a fair world where people aren't jerks, trees get planted more often than corporate excuses, and no one gets put down unless it's a nap. I thrive on compassion, caring for people, nature and the planet. Basically, you could call me a cross between a (Halo?) tree planting volunteer and your auntie's golden retriever. I appreciate good friends who don't bail when I start talking about compost, and a family that hasn't disowned me despite my obsession with recycling and manual work that involves more dirt than dignity. In short, my mission here could be described as "Living life to the fullest without messing up anyone else's vibe". Of course, one's existence is not always a straight path and there are challenges and scary cliffs along the way.

That is perhaps the reason why my dislikes could fill a warehouse - not that they get in the way of my enjoyment of life. But let's start with the basic niggles: 1) The style of politics on the rise serving only a few. 2) Religion used as a stage for moral grandstanding, narrow mindedness and bigotry. 3) The re-arming of the military like we are itching for a sequel to World War II. 4) Human's endless parade of waste—emotional, material, and intellectual. 5) Throw in destructive behaviour dressed up as patriotism. 6) Aggression masquerading as leadership. 7) Small-mindedness handed down like it's a family heirloom. 8) Deluded thinking and self-aggrandisement. 9) Lies and deception have found a new home in fake news while most social media has evolved into a digital gladiator arena where truth goes to die and egos go to inflate. 10) Last not least the word "unprecedented" which is being bandied about these days with reckless abandon. Does anyone ever think what one unprecedented event after another unprecedented event eventually leads to? It's like watching a clown car crash in slow motion—funny until you realise you're in it.

I guess you could say I'm a bit of a soulfulness junkie. I love living in small, interesting places with real communities while dodging greed like it's gluten. I enjoy to be treated to nice food so good it could make a monk start beatboxing (my family are great cooks). I love spending time with fellow villagers, musicians, artists, fantastic artisans and inspiring young people—it's like being in a magical guild where everyone's got paint on their hands, unbridled youthful enthusiasm or sawdust in their beard. Books that take me to a new level? Yes, please—I want my mind so elevated it needs a seatbelt! When I'm not helping others, or raving about good service like it's a lost art, you'll probably find me soaking up the silence on a beach, wandering through a forest, or having a heart-to-heart with the sea. I just try to be respectful, helpful, and in love with the kind of beauty you can't buy—or ruin.

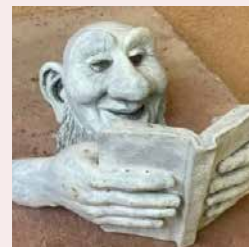
I hope ... No, I dream that one day, community leaders and politicians worldwide will miraculously come to their senses, maybe after bumping their heads seriously on a low-hanging rainbow of wisdom. That we'll all enjoy world peace, enough food and clean water for every belly and fish, and a planet treated with more care than my grandma's best china. I dream that more schools actually teach "useful stuff", people picking careers because they love spreadsheets, or plumbing, or interpretive dance - not because it pays for a bigger toaster. Decisions to be made with actual people in mind—not just profit margins and shareholder tantrums. Let's ditch the toxic obsession with infinite growth (seriously, even mould knows when to stop), and build a world that's free, respectful and a lot more sane. Covid was a chance to pause and to engage in a reset choosing quality over quantity.

Why don't we do what we know we should do?



# WAITATI BOOK CLUB by Ian Melvin

Ross kindly offered to be our driver on the long and winding road from Purakanui via Waitati for Scott and myself before stopping en route to collect Peter in town and then on to Company Bay. Grateful thanks to Ross for that, and to Paul and Ruth our hosts who welcomed us into their gemütlich home for what was an enjoyable evening with the usual wide ranging exchanges and confabulations on beer, whisky, local body elections etc etc.



## THE BOOK

**Zen And The Art Of Motorcycle Maintenance: Robert M Persig.** From the cover blurb: “*narration of a summer motorcycle trip across America’s northwest, undertaken by a father and son, that becomes a profound personal philosophical odyssey into life’s fundamental questions*”

Marc (abbreviated version) – It is a reflection of its time and I can see how it made such an impact on its release. The exploration of subjectivity and objectivity and their stance to one another is familiar. Frankly the path taken to reconcile them here is, to my mind, unnecessarily complex, and lost its way at times. Adherence to the classical perspective systems are unquestioned, adhered to for forms sake, and rigid dualistic thinking prevails. The romantic perspective seemed very 70s, a reaction to squareness. Resolving the tensions between the two – that’s quality? All in all a good reminder to foster flexibility in one’s perspectives and values.

Ian – Nobody found this one an easy read. It was challenging on many levels. Two members have yet to finish it, overall a book to make you think and a mixed bag of appreciation levels transpired from the group.

## BEER

Marc reporting from Neuss, Germany. We drank a **Green Monster Lager** in Singapore, seaweed is an ingredient, quite refreshing, with a lingering taste of malt.

Martin from his cycle trip in Europe. In Eastern Serbia, travelling to Romania, tasted my first Montenegrin beer I think! **Nikšićko**, a dark at 6.2% 500ml for under NZD \$2.00, such cheap drinking. Again a mass produced offering, with a hint of caramel and a hint of roasting, sweet. Quite acceptable, but has to be cold – sacrilege!



## MUSIC

From the recycle bin at the dump – **Jay McShann: After Hours.** Classic blues/jazz piano, and growly blues vocals. I love this. To listen look for Jay McShann – After Hours, tracks Tain’t Nobody’s Biz’ness If I Do and Man from Muskogee

## OTHER STUFF

**Marlon Williams: Te Whare Tiwēkaweka Concert Tour.** A concert at the Regent, a stunning triumph, selling out the Regent for a full te reo concert. Well done Dunedin! If you didn’t make it then try this: Marlon Williams – Kāhre He Manu E with Lourde on YouTube.

## WORD OF THE MONTH

**Kulturbærer** – Swedish word that translates as culture bearer, as in a culture bearing book, challenging cultural value assumptions.

“The success of Zen And The Art Of Motorcycle Maintenance seems the result of this phenomenon.” “...the book also appeared at a time of cultural upheaval on the matter of material success. Hippies were having non of that!”

## MEANING OF LIFE

A line from Thoreau: “You never gain something but that you lose something.” “... what man, when he gained power to understand and rule the world in terms of dialectic truths, had lost...” “... he had exchanged an empire of understanding of equal magnitude: an understanding of what it is to be part of the world, and not an enemy of it.”

Quotes from **Zen And The Art Of Motorcycle Maintenance.**



on the  
spot

**Blueskin General Store (Waitati On The Spot)**

Store Hours:

Mon – Sat 7.30am – 6.30pm | Sunday 9am – 6.30pm

Ph 482 2741



# BLUESKIN BAY LIBRARY



28 HARVEY STREET, WAITATI | 03 482 2444 | [DUNEDINLIBRARIES.GOV.T.NZ](http://DUNEDINLIBRARIES.GOV.T.NZ)  
OPEN: MONDAY – FRIDAY, 11AM – 1PM AND 2 – 5.30PM | SATURDAY, 10AM – 1PM

## COM2TECH COMMUNITY DIGITAL DROPINS

ADVICE AND LEARNING SUPPORT AROUND PURCHASING, MAINTAINING AND USING YOUR DIGITAL DEVICES EFFECTIVELY AND SECURELY FOR YOUR LIFESTYLE AND CAPABILITIES.  
CELLPHONES - IPADS - TABLETS - LAPTOPS - PC'S



**Mondays 10am-12pm**  
Valley Project, 262 North Road, NEV



**Thursdays 10am-12pm**  
South Dunedin Community Network Hub  
278a King Edward Street, South Dunedin



**Wednesdays 10am-12pm**  
Central Library, 1st floor computer suite room,  
Moray Place



**Tuesdays 11-12pm**  
Blueskin Bay Library, 28 Harvey Street, Waitati



**Fridays 3.30-5.30pm**  
Mosgiel Library, 7 Hartstonge Avenue, Mosgiel

Also  
Supported  
by:



Contact for details: Amy Souquet  
Phone. 0272569182  
Email. [office@com2.tech](mailto:office@com2.tech)  
Website. [www.com2.tech](http://www.com2.tech)

## STORYTIME WITH STEPHANEY

**Fridays, 11am (except school holidays)**

Introduce your child to the wonderful world of books and language. Visit the Library for half an hour of stories, rhymes, and songs, both old and new. Suitable for pre-school children and their caregivers.



## BLUESKIN BAY KNITWITS

**Mondays, 6.30 – 8.30pm**  
**Tuesdays, 2.30 – 4.30pm**  
**Contact Christine 021 133 9340**

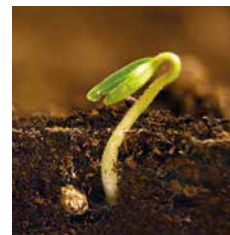
All ages and experience levels are welcome.



## BLUESKIN BOOKSHARE

**Thursday 28 August, 3.30 – 4.30pm**

Join us for tea and a chat about what you're currently reading and get ideas for what to read next. All welcome.



## SEED LIBRARY

We have a seed library at the library but unfortunately, we seem to be depleted of seeds. If you have seeds that you would like to share, please drop them off at the seed library.

## COMMUNITY CABINETS

If you have taonga you would like exhibited in one of our two community cabinets which are situated by the seed library, pop by the library and have a chat to the library staff.

## DCC SERVICE CENTRE @ BLUESKIN BAY LIBRARY

Open until 5pm weekdays for: dog registrations, Bokashi buckets, parking fines, rates, 75+ parking permits and Bee Cards.



# Pūrākaunui School

## Celebrating Community and Welcoming New Faces

Our Matariki celebration last term was a very special event—one that truly captured the heart of our Pūrākaunui School community. Families, whānau, staff, and tamariki gathered to mark the Māori New Year with warmth, joy, and a real sense of belonging. I felt incredibly proud to be part of it.

Together, our tamariki performed both a play and kapa haka, sharing their creativity, teamwork, and cultural pride. They also performed beautifully at the East Otago Kapa Haka Hui – a moment that filled us all with pride. We were also privileged to visit Puketeraki Marae, where we enjoyed rich learning and warm hospitality. Another highlight was the shared hangi, lovingly prepared by tamariki and whānau. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Dunedin City Council for their generous contribution towards the kai.

Events like these reflect the values we hold close: whanaungatanga (building relationships), manaakitanga (care for others), kotahitanga (unity), and ako—where young and old learn together, each contributing and growing.

This term we are excited to welcome our new kaiako, Anna Melville, who brings strengths in play-based and child-led learning. With Anna's support, we continue to offer rich, collaborative learning opportunities that nurture every child—socially, emotionally, and academically—while keeping community at the heart of all we do.

**Ngā mihi mahana, Mikaela Wilson**



## POP UP TRANSFER STATIONS Rural Skip Days

Due to high costs and declining use, community Rural Skip Days have come to an end.

There are alternative ways to dispose of your waste and recycling! Make the most of the kerbside collection service, take larger items to the Green Island Landfill or other transfer stations, or donate quality items to charity shops.

If you are part of a community organisation wanting to host swap or sell landfill diversion events, chat to us about a Waste Minimisation grant.



03 477 4000  
www.dunedin.govt.nz

## Community Defibrillator

**AED 24/7 are seeking donations.**

It has already been two years since the AED24/7 group applied for grant funding and installed a community defibrillator in the old bus shelter by Richies Crossing. Time has whizzed by and the red cross have contacted our group to remind us that we must replace the pads on the unit and that this will cost \$200.

We are hoping that we can share the cost rather than spending hours applying for a grant. If you are able and willing to donate - any amount will help. This equipment is available for anyone to use so please spread the word that it exists. There are clear instructions on the unit and you are also guided through how to use it, in an emergency. We believe its a crucial facility so near to the beach plus the other unit is in the shop, which may be closed when it is needed.

Can you spare \$10, \$20 or \$50? Deposit to BNZ bank a/c 02-0900-0015005-000 - ref. defib donate. Thanks in advance for your support.

**Katie Peppercorn**





## Dead Rockers Ball Waitati Fundraiser Edition 26

**Waitati Hall, Harvey Street  
Saturday 16 August**

**Bulletproof Convertible head back to Waitati, one of our favourite places to play! This time we are raising money for the Library Playground a great community cause and we are stoked to be part of it.**

You may know how this works, but if you don't this is for you.

**Tickets:** Get physical tickets from the Waitati Merchant or online here at [www.bulletproof.nz](http://www.bulletproof.nz) No fees charged

**Doors:** Open at 7.30pm show starts at 8pm finishing at 11ish.

**Dress:** Waitati you are really good at this! Come as a dead rock star, come in your grandad's suit or your mum's ball gown from 1982. Or go old school rock with a denims and leather. Just be comfortable and get ready to rock.

**Refreshments:** Eft-pos and cash bar available serving Beer, Wine and Cider also heaps of non alco options. Snacks and food are included as part of the ticket price .

**No BYO thanks**

**Fundraising:** Raffles and auctions, proceeds going to the Waitati Library Playground

Bulletproof Convertible, a Dunedin-based three-piece swamp rock outfit featuring original songs, guitar, double bass and drums, soaking in rhythm. Full noise, 50's influenced and danceable as all hell. Dark Surf meets dirty R'n'R Rebel.

A unique collection of musicians; Silas Waring – Guitar, Alex Ramsay – Drums and Paul Southworth – Double Bass. Together they produce an all-original sound, familiar, driving, relentless and danceable.

Silas Waring's songwriting delivers broken characters framed in locations and situations known to all of us yet understood by few. His uncanny ability to visualise a scene is compelling, he draws you in with a picture and before you know it you are singing the hook along with the band all the while grooving and bumping to the beat.

## Pop-Up Clinic

with **Rachel Brooking**,  
MP for Dunedin

**Monday 4 August  
11:00am – 1:00pm**

Blueskin Bay  
Public Library  
28 Harvey St, Waitati

*Come and talk to  
me about your  
issues or concerns  
or just come and  
say hello!*



Authorised by Rachel Brooking MP,  
Parliament Buildings, Wellington



**Labour**

## NUTS and BOLTS



**Midwinter Poetry readings by:**

**TALIA MARSHALL  
RICHARD REEVE  
KIRSTIE MCKINNON  
DUNCAN EDDY  
NICK ASCROFT**

@ Waiputai Hub

10 Stephenson Street, Warrington  
koha for heating, hot drinks and kai  
**Saturday 9 August 2025, 7 pm-9:30pm**

# Up In Arms

The world is increasingly up in arms. Arms are up and flapping in Europe especially, but we and Australia intend to put our arms up and flap them also. It's really catching on, and that's because upping your arms and flapping them is how things get done. History confirms it. We humans love nothing more than a good arms-flap. Today, NATO's 32 countries intend to up, and then flap, their arms in joint ferocity. Apparently, they haven't been upping and flapping their arms nearly enough. Meanwhile, others' arms have been up and flapping for a while.

Mindyou, putting your arms up for a flap isn't cheap. In 2024, NATO members spent \$1,506B flapping their arms. Their intention is to up those arms to \$3,750B, thereby increasing their ability to flap. And that's because the USA (the world's biggest flappers, who last year spent \$960B flapping its' arms, \$60B on F-35 jets alone), are tired of having so many flapping-arms up, while others' arms are up only slightly, and hardly flapping at all.

But of course, the ability to flap ones arms is dependent on Gross Domestic Product. Big GDP means lots of arms up, lots of flapping. Small GDP means hardly any arms up, hardly any flapping. NZ's GDP is \$252B (US) We spend NZ\$3B on our arms. Over the next 4 years, we'll up our spend to NZ\$12B

(2% GDP). US' GDP is \$27.72T, and they spend \$962B (3.5%). In 4 years, who knows. But the reality is, in the flapping of upped-arms race, we're running at the tail of the field.

Which begs the question: is this a good race to lose? The fact is, we could spend our entire GDP on upping our arms, and still be toward the back of the flapping-field. So why bother? The answer of course, is that arms-flapping is a team sport. It's not how many arms you up and flap, but who you flap them with. Not to mention who you flap them at. And any look at arms-flapping history confirms this: upping your arms and flapping them, seldom ends well.

**Doug Nuttall**



**Fisheries New Zealand**

Tini a Tangaroa

## LOCAL COMMUNITY MEETING AND CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

### *Mātaítai reserve application at Puketeraki, East Otago*

Under regulation 17 of the Fisheries (South Island Customary Fishing) Regulations 1999, Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki have applied for a mātaítai reserve offshore of Puketeraki, East Otago.

The proposed area includes approximately 47.5 sq km of South Island fisheries waters enclosed by a line drawn between Cornish Head and Purehurehu Point (west of Heyward Point) and the seaward boundary of the East Otago Taiāpure-Local Fishery. The southern boundary of the proposed area between Potato Point and Purehurehu Point is the mean high-water mark.

A copy of the application and a map of the proposed area are available on the Ministry for Primary Industries website ([www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations)), or by contacting Fisheries New Zealand at the below address or [FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz).

#### **About mātaítai reserves**

A mātaítai reserve is an identified traditional fishing ground which tangata whenua have a special relationship with. Mātaítai reserves are limited to fisheries waters and do not include any land area. Mātaítai reserves do not change any existing arrangements for access to private land.

Mātaítai reserves do not change the recreational fishing rules. However, the Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki for a mātaítai reserve may propose changes to the rules at a later date. These are called mātaítai reserve bylaws. Any proposed bylaws will be consulted on separately with the public and relevant stakeholders. They need to be approved by the Minister of Oceans and Fisheries.

Commercial fishing is generally banned in a mātaítai reserve, however the applicants have proposed conditions to allow some commercial fishing activities to continue. The proposed conditions are set out on the Ministry for Primary Industries website ([www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations))

Under regulation 18, Fisheries New Zealand invites written or electronic submissions from the local community on the application. The local community is defined as those persons who own land in the proximity of the proposed mātaítai reserve, or have a place of residence in the proximity of the proposed mātaítai reserve and have been in occupation for a cumulative period of no less than three months in the three consecutive years immediately prior to June 2025.

Under regulation 19, a public meeting will be held with the local community to discuss the application. This meeting will be held at the **Puketeraki Marae at 520 Apes Road, Karitane at 7:00pm on Thursday 21 August 2025.**

#### **Further consultation**

A further notice will be advertised after the local community consultation period has ended inviting written or electronic submissions from persons who take fish, aquatic life, or seaweed or own quota, and whose ability to take such fish, aquatic life, or seaweed or whose ownership interest in quota may be affected by the proposed mātaítai reserve.

#### **Submission process**

Submissions on the proposal can be made up to **5:00pm, Thursday 4 September 2025.** You can email your submission to [FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz).

While we prefer email, you can post your submission to:

Spatial Allocations  
Fisheries Management  
Fisheries New Zealand  
PO Box 2526  
Wellington 6140.

#### **Submissions are public information**

Note that all, part, or a summary of your submission may be published on the MPI website. Most often this happens when we issue a document that reviews the submissions received.

People can also ask for copies of submissions under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The OIA says we must make the content of submissions available unless we have good reason for withholding it. Those reasons are detailed in sections 6 and 9 of the OIA.

If you think there are grounds to withhold specific information from publication, make this clear in your submission or contact us. Reasons may include that it discloses commercially sensitive or personal information. However, any decision MPI makes to withhold details can be reviewed by the Ombudsman, who may direct us to release it.



**Te Kāwanatanga  
o Aotearoa**  
New Zealand Government

MPI 6028



# 2025 Spring Flower Show

Blueskin Bay Garden Club

Saturday 13th &  
Sunday 14th September,  
Waitati Hall

- Entries to be accepted at the Hall – Saturday 10am to 1pm.
- No Charge.
- Own containers accepted. Some small bottles available.
- Entrant will be responsible for reclaiming their own containers.
- No arranging of exhibits in the Hall.
- Open to the public Sunday from 10am, entry free.
- Prize Giving at 3pm Sunday.
- Entries not to be removed until after the prize-giving.
- Plant Stall & Raffles on Sunday.

## TROPHIES FOR

Blueskin Garden Club trophy for Champion Bloom  
Blueskin Women's Guild Trophy – Family with Most Points in the Show  
Agnes Beatty Trophy – Most Points in Floral Design  
Phil Crossan Trophy – Most Points in Junior Section  
Blueskin Nurseries & Women's Guild Trophy – Most Points in Flowering Shrub Section  
Ruth Spears Memorial Trophy – Most Points in Cut Flower Section  
Blueskin Garden Club Trophy – Most Individual Points in Show  
Blueskin Garden Club Trophy – Champion Exhibit – Children  
Blueskin Garden Club Trophy – Champion Exhibit – Adult  
David Sumpter Memorial Trophy for Champion Rhododendron

## CHILDREN'S SECTION

Entries in the Children's section **MUST be the work of the child named.** While Children may enter Adult Sections, points gained there will not be included for the Junior Trophy.

The trophy is for points gained in the Children's Section **ONLY.**

Preschool – under 5 years of age

Children aged 5 and 6 years

Children aged 7 and 8 years

Children aged 9 and 10 years

Children aged 11 to 14 years

1. Decorated Pine cone
2. Sand Saucer, must be on a saucer, use wet sand
3. Puti Puti (Flax flower)
4. A 440gm can decorated with natural materials

## ADULT'S SECTION

### CLASS A – Daffodils

#### Daffodil – Trumpet

1. One stem – petals white – trumpet any colour
2. One stem – petals white – trumpet white
3. One stem – petals yellow – trumpet yellow
4. One stem – petals yellow – trumpet any colour

**Daffodil – Large Cup** (cup more than one third length of petals)

5. One stem – petals & cup yellow
6. One stem – petals yellow – cup any colour
7. One stem – petals and cup white
8. One stem – petals white – cup any colour

#### Daffodil – Small Cup

9. One stem – petals yellow – cup any colour
10. One stem – petals white – cup any colour

### Daffodil – Other Varieties

11. One double daffodil – one colour
12. One double daffodil – bicolour
13. One multi headed daffodil
14. One double headed daffodil
15. Miniature – any colour – one bloom
16. Miniature, multihead
17. One – any other variety
18. One split corona – white petals, coloured corona
19. One split corona – any other colours
20. Three stems of different daffodils

### CLASS B – Bulbs

1. Hyacinth – 1
2. Muscari (match heads) – 6
3. Tulip – any variety – 1
4. Freesias – any colour – 1
5. Iris – Dutch – any colour – 1
6. Iris – Miniature Dwarf Bearded – any colour – 1
7. Iris – Tall Bearded – any colour – 1
8. Fritillaria – small variety – 1
9. Trillium
10. Any other Bulb/Corm flower – 1

### CLASS C – Cut Flowers

1. Polyanthus – any colour – 1 truss
2. Polyanthus – 3 colours – 1 truss of each
3. Primroses – single one colour – 6 stems
4. Primroses – single mixed – 6 stems
5. Primroses – double – one colour – 6 stems
6. Primroses – double mixed – 6 stems
7. Primula denticulata – 1 stem
8. Pansies/violas – 3 on a saucer – any colour
9. Violets – not more than 6 stems
10. Lavender – any variety – 3 heads
11. Hellebore – any colour – 1 stem
12. Hellebore Feotidus – 1 stem
13. Mixed varieties of any 6 flowers in one vase
14. Any cut flower not mentioned – 1

### CLASS D – Flowering Shrubs and Tree

1. Rhododendron – 1 head – large flower
2. Rhododendron – 1 head – small flower
3. Rhododendron – 1 head – miniature flower
4. Camellia – Single 1 flower
5. Camellia – Double 1 flower
6. Camellia – Miniature 1 sprig
7. One Branch of any Shrub – small flower
8. One Branch of any Shrub – large flower
9. One Branch of any Proteacea – e.g. Banksia
10. Any Flowering Climber
11. One branch of any flowering tree

### CLASS E – Floral Design

1. Washed Ashore, no bigger than A3 size
2. Adult Sand Saucer, must be on saucer
3. Curvaceous
4. All things Bright & Beautiful
5. Miniature Arrangement – no larger than 10cm square, includes container.

### CLASS F – For Mainly Men

1. Trash & Treasure

### Garden Club contacts:

Glenys – 027 273 8749

Lyne – 021 145 5023

# Waikouaiti Coast Community Board

## The Buses

**The Transportation Department of Otago Regional Council is in the process of re-tendering a number of bus routes throughout the wider city. One of those is our one – Route 1 : Dunedin – Palmerston. This is something that is done every few years. A couple of us met with ORC Transportation Staff a few weeks ago to discuss what the future holds.**

It was pleasing to note that the patronage on our route is generally satisfactory, and is better than some others. Our discussions included the suitability of current timetables and how they might be improved. There was also discussion about how to provide a decent service for Warrington, where the population is increasing with the advent of new housing.

They, and we, would like to hear from bus users about how things are at present and how things could be improved, perhaps with some tweaks to the timetable.

Please feel free to contact me by email (address below) or give me a call if you would like a chat.

We are now into the Council's new financial year and our Discretionary Fund has been topped up to the usual annual amount of \$10,000. If you, or someone you know, has a community project that could do with some funding assistance then you can complete a funding application form which can be found on the DCC website, or give any board member a call if you need some clarity.

Our next formal meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th August at the East Otago Events Centre in Waikouaiti at 5.30 pm. If you wish to come along and speak at the Public Forum, please contact Rebecca Murray on 477 4000 or send an email to [Rebecca.Murray@dcc.govt.nz](mailto:Rebecca.Murray@dcc.govt.nz).

**Alasdair Morrison**

**Chairman, Waikouaiti Coast Community Board**

0274 354 384 : [info@calmarine.co.nz](mailto:info@calmarine.co.nz)

## Community Unites to Restore Doctors Point Beach Reserve

**In a display of community collaboration and environmental stewardship, 3,000 native plants were introduced to the wetland and hillside areas of Doctors Point Beach Reserve this June. The initiative, spearheaded by the Doctors Point Beach Trust Society through a partnership with Trees That Count and the Halo Project, brought together a team of volunteers, from postgraduate mathematics and physics students from the University of Otago, Runway Play, the North East Valley Project, and passionate locals.**

The planting focused on reintroducing native species such as harakeke (flax), carex, and tī kōuka (cabbage trees), vital to stabilising wetland ecosystems and restoring biodiversity. These efforts align with the long-standing mission of the Doctors Point Beach Trust Society, which has safeguarded the reserve since the 1950s. The Society itself is rooted in a visionary act by early 20th-century doctors who purchased the land to protect it for future generations of Ōtepoti/Dunedin residents. These plantings complement the earlier plantings by the Beach Society member, Murray Johnston.

Plants were sourced from nurseries that prioritise ecological integrity, such as the Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki nursery, and supplemented by seedlings grown through the horticulture training programme at the Otago Corrections Facility—a meaningful initiative that pairs environmental restoration with rehabilitative opportunity.

New walking tracks now wind through the replanted areas, inviting visitors to explore the evolving landscape. While not manicured, they offer a chance to experience the rugged beauty of the reserve firsthand; firm shoes and strong ankles are advised!

As volunteers worked, they were rewarded with a unique encounter: a rare Velvet worm sighted at nearby Waitati Beach Reserve—a gentle reminder of the ecological treasures these restoration projects protect.



### Dunedin City Council Funding

Applications are now open for funding in the waste minimisation sector.

Funding up to \$500 is available to not-for-profit, schools, registered charitable and voluntary community groups who want to implement small waste minimisation projects, events or initiatives.

Open 1 February - 11 December annually



[www.dunedin.govt.nz/wmf](http://www.dunedin.govt.nz/wmf)



# Around the Bay – August Events

BLUESKIN LIBRARY	
<b>Thursday 28</b>	<b>Meet the Neighbour:</b> 6 – 7pm Geoff Markby and Lizzie Potter, co-founders of Nature School Dunedin, will talk about their outdoor educational programme at Doctors Point.
<b>Thursday 28</b>	<b>Bookshare:</b> 3.30-4.30pm, join us for tea and a chat about what you're reading and get ideas for what to read next. All welcome.
<b>MONDAYS</b>	<b>Blueskin Bay Knitwits:</b> 6.30 – 8.30pm Contact Christine 021 133 9340
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>Blueskin Bay Knitwits:</b> 2.30 – 4.30pm Contact Christine 021 133 9340
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>FREE Community Digital Dropins:</b> 11am – 12.30pm
<b>FRIDAYS</b>	<b>Story Time with Stephaney:</b> 11am

WAIPUTAI HUB	
<b>Saturday 9</b>	<b>7 – 9.30pm   NUTS and BOLTS</b> Midwinter Poetry Reading with renown poets: Talia Marshall, Richard Reeves, Kirstie McKinnon, Duncan Eddy and Nick Ascroft. Cost: Koha for heating, hot drinks, and kai
<b>Saturday 16</b>	<b>9am - 5pm   Mental Health First Aid Course presented by St Johns</b> Open to community members by booking before August 9, aged 18+, \$50 koha, limited spaces. Funded by Lotteries Community Grant. Email <a href="mailto:waiputai@gmail.com">waiputai@gmail.com</a> for more info.
<b>MONDAYS</b>	<b>Korero te reo Māori</b>   6.30 – 7.30pm Starts 14 July   \$5 registration koha Email <a href="mailto:waiputai@gmail.com">waiputai@gmail.com</a> to register.
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>Homeschool Art Group:</b> 12.30 – 3.30pm, Contact: Amy <b>Ping Pong:</b> 7 – 8.30pm. All ages, levels and drop ins. Contact: Helena 022 6474 738
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>	<b>Internet Cuppa &amp; Printing:</b> 2 – 5pm Access to internet computer (no-gaming), and printer (A4 black/white (20 cents/page) & A4 colour (\$1/page). <b>Note:</b> Bookings essential and must be made by Tuesday. Book a space by texting 021 171 0226 or emailing <a href="mailto:waiputai@gmail.com">waiputai@gmail.com</a>
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	<b>Homeschool Group:</b> 10.30 – 3.30pm, Contact: Debby
<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>Blueskin Bay Orchestra rehearsal</b> 3 – 5pm. Contact: Emily

ST BARNABAS CHURCH	
<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>Service:</b> 10.00am Contact Jeremy 027 436 1481

GALLERY ON BLUESKIN	
<b>Wednesday 6</b>	<b>Quiz</b>   7 – 9pm
<b>Friday 27</b>	<b>Jazz Night</b>   7pm – 9pm

ARC BREWERY	
<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>Live Music:</b> 2 – 5pm Contact 021 4108 1141

WARRINGTON HALL	
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>Indoor Bowls:</b> 7.30pm
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	<b>Yoga – All levels:</b> 6.30 – 7.30pm Bring your own mat   \$10pp Contact: <a href="mailto:hagino.yoga@gmail.com">hagino.yoga@gmail.com</a>
<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>Waitati Warblers:</b> Singing for joy 4 – 5.30pm Contact: <a href="mailto:nancymiller140@gmail.com">nancymiller140@gmail.com</a>

WAITATI HALL	
<b>MONDAYS</b>	<b>Steady As You Go:</b> 1.30pm Age Concern <b>Gentle Yoga:</b> 6 – 7pm Bring your own mat   \$10pp Contact: <a href="mailto:hagino.yoga@gmail.com">hagino.yoga@gmail.com</a> <b>Table Tennis:</b> 7.30pm til late Contact: Nigel 021 236 2818 <b>Community Acupuncture:</b> 9am – 12pm Contact Collin Blake <a href="mailto:cblake@siacu.nz">cblake@siacu.nz</a>
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>NIA Dance Class:</b> 11.30am-12.30pm \$10 Contact: Clare Reilly 021 177 5350
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>	<b>Energetic Yoga Restore &amp; Rejuvenate</b> 6 – 7pm   Bring your own mat   \$10pp Contact: <a href="mailto:hagino.yoga@gmail.com">hagino.yoga@gmail.com</a>
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	<b>SHINE BRIGHT – Pilates for Back and Posture:</b> 11am – 12 noon. Casual \$18, concession 10 sessions \$130 Contact: Sabine 021 207 0664
<b>SATURDAYS</b>	<b>NIA Dance Class:</b> 4 – 5pm \$10 Contact: Clare Reilly 021 177 5350

WASTE RECYCLING – WEEK TWO	
<b>Monday 4</b>	<b>Yellow Bin:</b> Mixed Recycling <b>Green Bin:</b> Food Scraps/Garden Waste
<b>Monday 11</b>	<b>Blue Bin:</b> Bottle/Glass Recycling <b>Red Bin:</b> Rubbish <b>Green Bin:</b> Food Scraps/Garden Waste
<b>Monday 18</b>	<b>Yellow Bin:</b> Mixed Recycling <b>Green Bin:</b> Food Scraps/Garden Waste
<b>Monday 25</b>	<b>Blue Bin:</b> Bottle/Glass Recycling <b>Red Bin:</b> Rubbish <b>Green Bin:</b> Food Scraps/Garden Waste

## Rachel Brooking

MP for Dunedin

Rachel.BrookingMP@parliament.govt.nz

544 Great King Street, Dunedin

03 474 1973

📞/RachelBrookingMP



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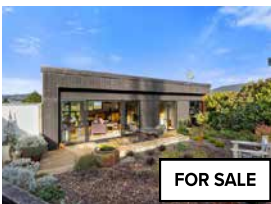
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Kirsty Coulter

Property Consultant

027 311 4445

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[www.ashfordlandscaping.co.nz](http://www.ashfordlandscaping.co.nz)

[paul@ashfordlandscaping.co.nz](mailto:paul@ashfordlandscaping.co.nz)

Paul: 021 069 5258





# CLASSIFIEDS

## WARRINGTON PHYSIOTHERAPY

For your new acute/chronic injury rehabilitation  
Open Tuesday - Friday. Contact Jennifer on 022 397 8108  
or [warringtonphysiotherapy@gmail.com](mailto:warringtonphysiotherapy@gmail.com)

## EAST OTAGO PLAYGROUP

Coffee group for parents and children. 10am - 12pm every  
Wednesday during School Term at Waikouaiti Plunket Rooms,  
East Otago Events Centre. Ph. Annabel 027 2291 608 for more  
info or just drop in.

## LANDSCAPING, GARDENING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Anything from small jobs to garden transformations! Your  
friendly, local experts. Contact Baden on 022 152 9523 or [info@oxleypropertycare.com](mailto:info@oxleypropertycare.com)

## WAIPUTAI HUB

Having a Birthday Party or a Gathering. Why not rent the cozy and  
friendly Hub at \$15 hour. Call Nancy on 021 171 0226 for further  
info, or email [waiputai@gmail.com](mailto:waiputai@gmail.com)

## BLUESKIN PLAYCENTRE

Open Mon, Tues, Wed from 9 -12 during term time. Come and  
visit us! We are located at Waitati Primary School.

## LILLIPUT LIBRARIES

28 Brown St, Waitati, Coast Rd and Watson St, Warrington

## WAIKOUAITI COAST HERITAGE CENTRE

Come and visit. For \$5 per adult you can tour our Category  
1 listed 1869 BNZ bank building set up as a residence and  
bank. 200 Main Road Waikouaiti. Open 1 - 4pm Wednesday &  
Thursday and 10am - 4pm Friday - Sunday.

## WAIKOUAITI / PALMERSTON



Borrow toys for children aged 6 months to 8 years. Open  
Saturdays 10 - 11.30 at Waikouaiti Racecourse, Clackmannan  
Street email [wptoylibrary@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:wptoylibrary@yahoo.co.nz)



## St John's Mental Health First Aid Course

**Waiputai Hub | Sat 16 August | 8.30am - 4.30pm**

Our core Mental Health First Aid course will teach you the  
skills and knowledge to recognise and respond to someone  
experiencing mental distress. Whether for your workplace or  
community, this is the foundational course required to be a  
certified Mental Health First Aider.

Be prepared and confident to make a difference when it  
matters most.

During this course, you will:

- Engage in in-depth discussions, lessons and scenario-based activities to build your confidence
- Develop practical tools to strengthen your own mental fitness
- Learn to recognise signs of mental distress in both non-crisis and crisis situations
- Gain the skills to provide initial support and guide someone toward professional help

Open to Blueskin Bay Community members, aged 14+  
(Limited spaces)

Partially sponsored by a Lottery Community Grant

Cost: \$50 or koha to partially cover cost

To book and for info: email [waiputai@gmail.com](mailto:waiputai@gmail.com).

## YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome and thank you for your contributions and invite  
you to send your short articles of local interest, calendar events,  
milestones, history, historic images, poems, recipes, photos of  
local events, advertising; and anything else you wish to share  
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A6 = 148 x 105 Quarter page advertisement \$75

A7 = 105 x 74 Business Card size \$30

Classified Ad \$5 (Free for under 18 or non-profit)

## CONTACT US

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## Chris Robertson (PART 1)



**Most true Dunedinites will know the iconic gothic fashion label Nom\*D, (of Plume boutique store on George Street). Created by successful team Margarita and Chris Robertson. Broadly appreciated by Dunedin creatives and members of the black brigade as ‘The New Zealand look’. The store has been in business since the mid-70s.**

### 3rd generation Waitatian

Chris grew up in Waitati, a sign-writer by trade. His earliest memory was his head resting on the edge of the kitchen table, while his nappy was changed. His mother was creative and resourceful, she painted that table black then white, then she applied an effect rubbing bits of paint here and there for a mottled look. Her name was Beatrice Daisy McCutcheon. Her mother had birthed her on the footpath walking to the doctors in Winton. Right beside a field of daisies in fully bloom, hence the middle name.

Beatrice meet Charlie Robertson working at the mental hospital. He was a builder, a cook and a contractor. Charlie had lots of stories about the residents of Seacliff. Chris told me they had a painted chocolate box lid by Lionel Terry, infamous murderer that was incarcerated there. It was an image of Mitre Peak.

Charlie and his three brothers had also grown up in Waitati, at the bottom of Manse Road, along from a dairy farm. As a boy, Chris spent a lot of time there, he and friends got into mischief lobbing turnips at passing cars.

Chris’s Grandfather was remembered as a poet and a writer, Angus Cameron Robertson. His bronze star adorns the City of Literature walk of fame in the Octagon, near the Robbie Burns statue. He was also a merchant seaman who had sailed here from the Isle of Skye in Scotland.

Charlie also travelled to Scotland to connect to his roots, he spent time there working. He came back on the first dredge ship headed to the Otago Harbour. The first delivered to New Zealand in fact. During that time he was the ships carpenter so he developed the new ships joinery and was paid as he worked on it. They didn’t have accommodation so he built wooden huts on the deck to live in during the trip.



### Waitati schooldays, my favourite time on earth.

Some of that was to do with Vernon McArley, he was a fantastic teacher and headmaster, he always played sport with the students.

‘I started in 1955, we were in the old bluestone school, I think the year I left they were just starting to chop it down to start using the new school they had built beside it.’

‘We played under the Big Tree, the biggest tree in Waitati, in the corner at the back of edge of the school property. It was an enormous macrocarpa, bare earth beneath it. Just perfect for playing marbles, and consequently was full of marble holes.’ Chris had a pretty big bag of marbles, he was good at it. A Champion bag of marbles, that’s like a status symbol.

Another early memory was his mother taking him to see the movie ‘Forbidden Planet’. It was full colour and the latest science fiction feature film. He still has a Robbie the Robot figure amongst other collectibles.

‘At school we played a great deal of sport .... all sort of sports really. I got invited to cricket matches, a social game of cricket that they had at the school up the road. They pulled me into those senior games because I was current cricket ball record holder in the Eastern District schools. I lobbed the ball – 194 feet 11 ½ inches. Doesn’t sound very far but it’s a lot further than the Palmerston cricket wicket keeper could throw it. (Or at least a yard). How far is a yard? 4 inches shorter than a metre.’

*to be continued next month....*







**Kia ora Blueskin Bay, it really feels like we've made it to the heart of winter, with its dark, cold blanket wrapping around the houses and poking thin tendrils at the door. It has certainly made adventures outside much more brisk and warm houses all the sweeter.**

Thankfully, Blueskin Playcentre has remained warm, dry and inviting, so we have been hibernating in there. The coffee is as enjoyable as ever and the toys much appreciated by all, especially as they're inside, providing easy entertainment.

As part of our cultural celebrations, we did collectively brave the wintry weather to visit the Chinese Gardens together, and despite the chill in the air and the ice underfoot, it was actually really pleasant inside and everybody had a lot of fun. I think we all came away feeling that was a morning well spent.

Of course, the best mornings of all are at Blueskin Playcentre. The last week of term was made extra special by Kimberleigh taking us all to the Czech Republic with individual passports, flight tickets and plane seats all organised! The children thoroughly enjoyed pretending to take a flight, a highlight being the complementary snacks. Thank you Kimberleigh for all the organising and also thank you to all the parents who brought in such fabulous cultural food to share over the term, very delectable!

As always, Blueskin Playcentre is open from 9-12 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings during term time. We're located down the long shared drive of Waitati School, so feel free to pop on by and see what Playcentre is all about.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

**Kia mau tonu, Heather**



**Meet the Neighbour  
Thursday 28 August  
6 – 7pm  
Blueskin Bay Library**



Geoff Markby and Lizzie Potter, co-founders of Nature School Dunedin, will talk about their outdoor educational programme at Doctors Point. The programme is tailored for Primary school students from year 4, aimed at giving children a range of outdoor experiences to build confidence, develop skills and learn about the environment.

