

# BLUESKIN NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER Est. 1985

MARCH 2025

Seacliff • Warrington • Evansdale • Waitati • Doctors Point • Pūrākaunui



*The wooden Tigger couch outside the Waitati Gallery is a great place to play!*



*The Thornicroft Road Annual Street Gathering and Gregory and Anita's roadside garden on Brown Street, Waitati*



## More good fairies ...

Thank you to the person who wrote an article in the February Blueskin News about our track cutting around Warrington. While we are happy to do this locally (as we live here) we are actually part of a wider group of volunteers known as “The Green Hut Track Group”. The group is financially supported by the DCC, DOC and other related parties such as the High Country Trust with funding, to buy machinery and fuel. There are no paid employees.

We meet every Wednesday (weather permitting) and while there are about 25 - 30 members in the total group, being voluntary, a usual muster is about 12 - 15 people depending on the volunteers' other commitments. At present we have two lady volunteers. The area we cover includes the Silver Peaks, Flagstaff, Swampy and Silver Stream catchments. Presently most of the group is working hard on the tracks in the Silver Peaks in relation to the up coming Three Peaks foot race.

While the majority of the volunteers are residents of Dunedin who can work all over the region, our local section concentrates on the tracks north of Dunedin such as those off Mountain Road, Pipeline, Burns, Rustlers and Careys Creek (and of course the beach tracks.)

We are always happy to have others join us. While regular turn out is expected, it is not a compulsory commitment every Wednesday, as we all have busy lives. Come and have a go.

**Pete Smith** 027 482 2576



## ... yet more good fairies

### Estuary Track Volunteers Needed

The Orokonui Estuary Care Group needs your help with its planting and weeding programme. After virulent spring growth some previous plantings are becoming hard to find. Anyone who has a weed eater would also be welcome.

The mahi sessions happen on a Sunday between 10am and 12 noon once or twice a month. Gloves and tools are provided as is real coffee and cake. A regular commitment is not required so you can fit it in when you can.

The work aims to restore the Estuary habitat for wildlife and to enhance water quality. It is much appreciated by the thousands of walkers who enjoy the track.

Please contact Chris on [chrisbaillie77@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbaillie77@gmail.com) if you are willing to be put on the mahi day notification list or if you have any questions.

**Chris Baillie**





## From the Editor

Hello everyone, I hope you are enjoying our fabulous summer now it seems to have actually arrived!

With the good weather I have finally been spending time in my garden! Over the past couple of years I have watched it go from a show-piece to a mini jungle with couch and other spreading perennial weeds encroaching. I'm not sure why but I saw the job as increasingly overwhelming, Every couple of days I'd assure myself that I would make a start tomorrow, then something small would crop up and that would be an excuse not to put the boots and gloves on and get out there. Wandering around there were still beautiful things to be seen but half an acre is a lot of space and where to start?

About three weeks ago on a sunny afternoon I put some tools in a bucket donned my gardening gloves and just started in on a small patch just in front of the house. The difference in just a couple of hours was so satisfying. Clean bare mulch with trimmed grasses and small shrubs, unrecognisable from the messy weedy patch it had been. Next day I moved onto an adjoining patch, a pebble garden filled with weeds, again a couple of hours made such a difference.

So now that is the pattern of my days, I still get the small inside things done (except the vacuuming) but I spend an hour or two pulling grass and digging out dandelions and it's both satisfying and enjoyable. My back has nearly stopped aching and I have callouses on my knees but the garden is looking better for it and I have stopped looking at the whole picture just concentrating on a small area at a time and looking forward to the next small bit I will recover. Maybe I should join the garden club!!

**Keep safe and happy Bernie**

### BLUESKIN NEWS AGM

Our AGM will be held at 7.30pm, Thursday 27 March 2025, at the Waitati Hall.

If you are excited by our community - its news, history, events and characters and want to play a more active role in sharing stories with locals come along to our AGM to find out more. We are as usual looking for new Committee members, it's not onerous, one evening a month and we are a fun bunch.

All welcome.

## 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.

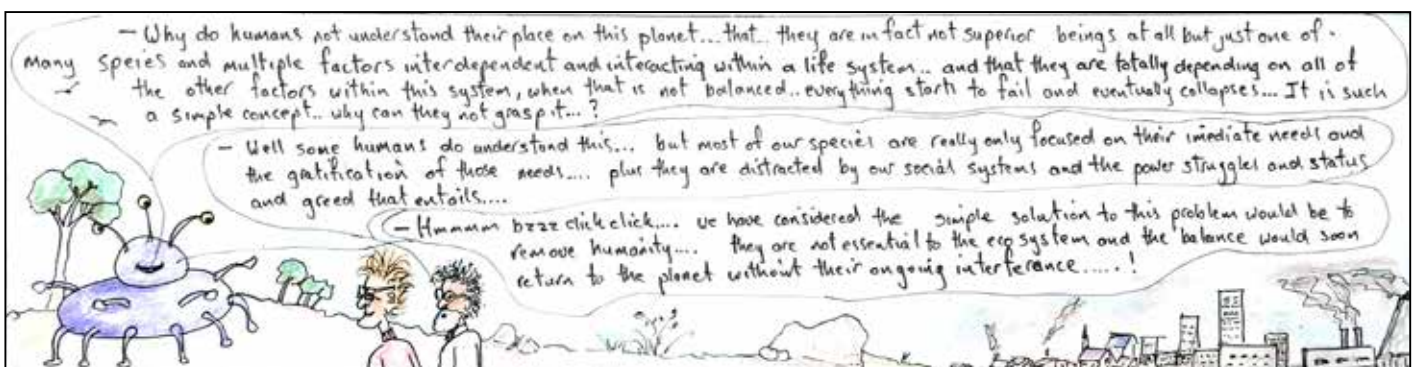


**BLUESKIN  
COMMUNITY  
MARKET**

**Sunday 2 March**

## Madness vs Sanity

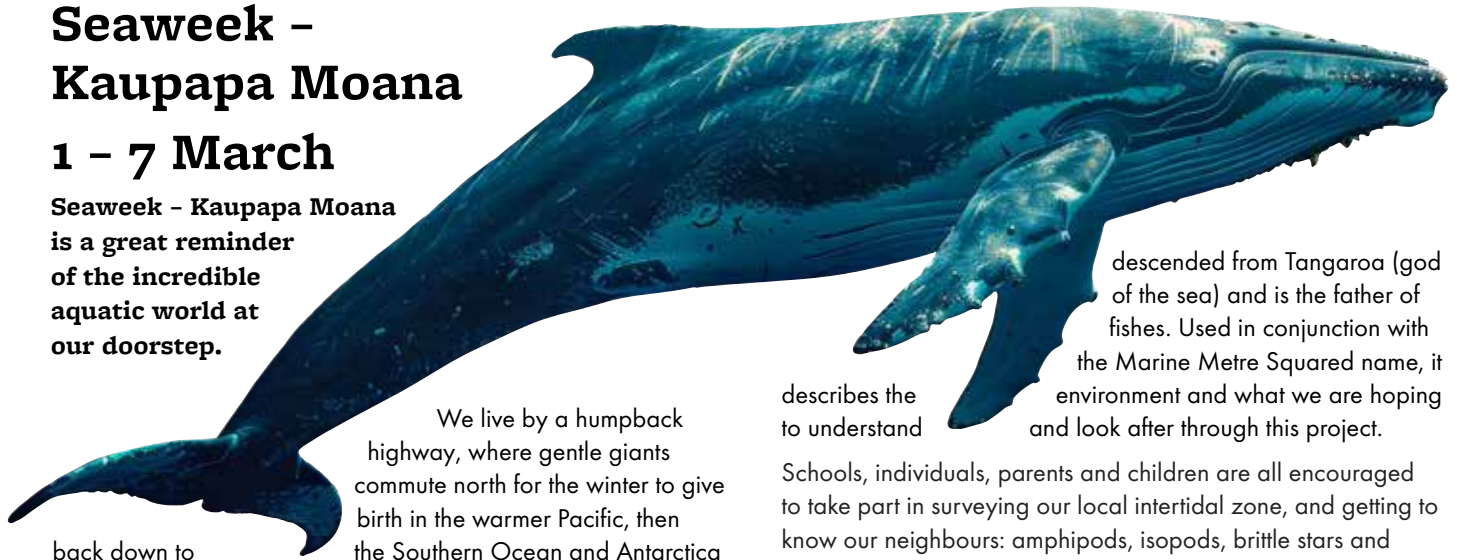
The aliens confer with Dante Z and Prof. Slivowitz...



# Seaweek – Kaupapa Moana

## 1 – 7 March

Seaweek – Kaupapa Moana is a great reminder of the incredible aquatic world at our doorstep.



We live by a humpback highway, where gentle giants commute north for the winter to give birth in the warmer Pacific, then back down to the Southern Ocean and Antarctica to feed. You may be lucky enough to spot one at any time of the year, but there are certainly creatures closer to home that we can investigate.

The Marine Metre Squared Project - Ngā Tini o te Waitai (MM2) is a citizen science project by the New Zealand Marine Studies Centre. It's an easy way to survey the plants and animals living on our seashore and contribute to scientific research.

Ngā Tini o te Waitai means “the multitudes of the sea water”. Waitai is salt water or sea water. Tini means crowds or a great number. Tini also connects to Tinirau, who in Māori mythology

describes the to understand

descended from Tangaroa (god of the sea) and is the father of fishes. Used in conjunction with the Marine Metre Squared name, it environment and what we are hoping and look after through this project.

Schools, individuals, parents and children are all encouraged to take part in surveying our local intertidal zone, and getting to know our neighbours: amphipods, isopods, brittle stars and sea cucumbers to name a few. Coastal health is crucial to the health of our kai moana, and us, and the more people who get involved with science and Mātauranga, the better. Check out [MM2.net.nz](http://MM2.net.nz).

You can also celebrate the multitudes of the sea and peek beneath the waves by catching the Australia Ocean Film Festival at Rialto Cinemas. Screening March 27, this breathtaking collection of the world's best short ocean films is always dazzling and eye-opening. Check out the trailer on Youtube.

**Tessa Rose**

## BLUE SKIN GARDEN CLUB

**Garden club members met at Orokonui Ecosanctuary on Friday 14 February to socialise and enjoy a very tasty morning tea.**

From there we traveled to Port Chalmers where we looked through the Maritime Museum. We were impressed with the intricate models of the early ships that traveled New Zealand waters from the early 1800's till more recent times.

After this we enjoyed lunch at the local cafes, and then on to St Leonards where we had 3 lovely gardens to visit. We saw beautiful roses, dahlias, hostas, lilies and annuals, and came away with lots of ideas to try out in our own gardens. We all had a lovely day!

Next month we are planning to travel a little further afield and visit some out of town gardens. If you would like to join us, contact Bev at 027 533 2238.

**Bev Lyons**





# Very Properly

I try to write very properly. It's very better than not writing very properly. 'Very properly' (while probably not a very proper verbalisation), is very probably gonna become very spoken very fastly. Quite how very fastly, I don't quite know, but quite probably it's gonna be very fastyer than other very fastly things. That's very really fast. I mean, it's gonna be very farstly fast. And before we even know it, getting things done 'very properly', could very possibly catch on. Let's very hopefully hope so.

But I don't feel very hopefully. Coz if things aren't done very properly very fastly, things are very fastly gonna become very bader. I mean, very badly bader. You think things couldn't get very bader? Wait till things get very badly bader. Which is more than very probable. I mean, really very probably probable. And that's because, all around the world, very lots of things aren't getting done very properly at all. But that's very probably gonna change. Mark my very verby words. I mean, the probability of things getting done 'very properly', is very probably probable.

So, here's how to get things going 'very properly' very fastly. Firstly, we build a very French Riviera in Gaza. You know, hotels, cafes, golf courses, swimming pools. The weather is very nearly always very sunny. Imagine the very happy holiday snaps. If we go in really fastly and build some thing very properly, I mean really very 'very properly', then everyone will see how 'very properly' can very easily be very good for everybody. Well, not everybody, but we'll very probably do some very good work on that. I mean, probably the very best work ever. I'll get the very best people to very fastly get to work on that very problem. That's how 'very properly' works. The very best people working on the very biggest problems very fastly very properly.

**Doug Nuttall**



## 11th Waitati Music Festival – a success!

**Mr. Bland would hopefully be super proud that he gifted Bland Park in his will to our community, for the purpose of recreation as over 1,000 people including babies, children, tweens, teens, grown-ups and never growing ups had such fun on Saturday 25 January at the 11th Waitati Music Festival.**



Music poured from three stages, colourful artworks decorated the whole field and as well as musical entertainment, people were invited to join in with crafty workshops, paint on two vehicles, hut weaving, watch chainsaw sculpting, clowns, dancers and spray artists at work. Although we had a nervous lead in due to 50% of ticket sales occurring in the last few days (weather watchers!), by lunch on Friday we had sold enough tickets to cover the minimal costs and were able to relax slightly. A further flurry of sales resulted in a total of 700 tickets sold which has meant we have been able to better support all bands, performers and artists.

Our Zero waste plan enabled diversion of 95% of the items placed in the bins away from landfill because a team of people sorted, cleaned, recycled and composted. There was also a reduction in total weight of waste and we believe this is due to the adherence of our no glass policy – thanks to everyone for helping with our zero waste mission.

Sponsors, grant applications and volunteer labour are the reasons why the ticket price is low for a festival of this size. We want to thank everyone who helped, especially the DCC (yes you read that right!) who gave us consent to hold the event, eventually waived the \$1,800 consent application fee, and awarded us a community events and a waste minimisation grant. We also want to thank the Otago Community Trust, Waikoutiti Coast community board, Community Organisation Grant Scheme (COGS) and Creative Communities NZ who awarded us grants. Donations were gratefully received from the Waitati Equestrian Center, Emerson's, Arc Brewery, Fire Watch Otago and Cargills Contractors, along with in-kind donations from Gravity Events, Hire Pool, Unity Sound and Dakins.

As leader of the gang, I would like to thank our brilliant committee members for taking specific lead roles and working tirelessly to plan, gather resources and build teams to make the festival happen and run safely and smoothly (including security, ticketing gates, medics, waste warriors, kidzone, stage leads and infrastructure builders). Thanks also to the volunteers that help on the day in exchange for a ticket.

There are always things we can do better, we have had a de-brief and have taken notes for future endeavors. Maybe you have some feedback or hope to join our team – you could e mail us at [waitatimusicfestival@gmail.com](mailto:waitatimusicfestival@gmail.com).

**Katie Peppercorn**



# Pūrākaunui School

## One Waka. One Crew. Many Journeys.

We were delighted to welcome our new tumuaki, **Mikaela Wilson**, along with a new whanau to our school, with a mihi whakatau last week. A huge thank you to everyone who attended, and especially to Brit for the wonderful catering.

It has been a pleasure getting to know Mikaela, and the board, staff, and students look forward to supporting her in her new role. We know she will be greatly missed at Waitati School—she is truly a taonga, as we have been told!

We also warmly welcome Anna Melville as a regular teacher aide. Anna has already been a fantastic asset to our school as a casual teacher aide and after-school carer, and we are fortunate to have her on board supporting our teaching more regularly this year.

### From Mikaela:

How beautiful is this school! Tū meke! The tamariki are very engaged in their learning, fun to be around and obviously you can't beat the view.

I would like to say how grateful I was for the beautiful mihi whakatau (welcome) on my first day at Pūrākaunui school. I would like to thank the fabulous Waitati Kura kaiako and tamariki, my whānau, Niccy Taylor, and Nikki Crossan – Kaitoko from Kāti Huirapa Rūnaka ki Puketeraki for their tautoko that day.



## ... even more good fairies

Sitting on the beach this afternoon after a lovely swim in the surf at Warrington, I got to thinking about our lifeguards. There they were all decked out in red and yellow and happily watching everyone enjoy the surf.

The lifeguards are mums and dads, school pupils, students of varying ages from 14 years and upwards. No matter what the weather these folk are there every weekend in the summer with the flags flying from 12 noon until 5pm. However, their day starts earlier than that, they arrive and get the IRB out, make sure they have rescue tubes, first aid supplies, put out the flag on the clubhouse and then down to the beach to put up the flags. No matter what the weather these volunteers are there to watch you and your families and make sure everyone is safe in the water. Thank you each and every one of you for giving so freely of your time to keep us all safe. Don't forget to swim between the flags and also to thank the lifeguards when you are at the beach.

### A grateful swimmer



These future lifeguards all won medals at the Southern Regional Champs held in Warrington recently. Their parents are all lifeguards.

I to r: Nicholas Duncan, Jonathan Duncan, Finn Hastie, Jonty Hogben and Paul Schwefel



## Macbeth at the Opera House

The Opera House is excited to host the Barden Party again for the Dunedin Fringe 2025, Sunday 23 March.

Unlike last year's boohoo romantic tragedy of love found and rudely torn asunder, this year's offering is full of murder, ambition and betrayal, sassy, sexy bluegrass flair and (hopefully) more murdering! That's right it's Macbeth, set against the looming Opera House! It will be a blast, as the Barden Party always is. Tickets are \$30 or \$25 from the Dunedin Fringe Festival website.





## For the Love of Walnuts

**Rats love walnuts.**

**Kaka love walnuts.**

**Possums love walnuts.**

**The humans of Blueskin Bay love walnuts.**

There are not many walnut trees available for public nut gathering in the bay. Seacliff has a beautiful grove of stately walnut trees, but their nuts are very small and you need to be super quick to beat the possums and rats to them.

The walnut tree outside the Blueskin Library has huge walnuts; it is a variety called Wilson's Wonder, which have large thin shelled walnuts with a lovely flavour, but is not all that well suited to our damp climate, and the black outer husk is inclined to get stuck to the nut shell and it makes them go mouldy easily.

If picked up and cleaned you can get some good edible nuts, but very brown hands (as a teenager I used to fantasise about soaking myself in a bath of walnut skins to try and develop a suntan). Wilson's Wonders do very well in the dry Central Otago climate, but not so well here.

The library walnut has been getting itself in trouble for being too close to the library and shading its windows, and too close to the boundary with the house next door. I am hoping it will just be pruned rather than felled as they take years to begin fruiting (going nutty). I do wish that we had some plantings of better walnut varieties for our climate, somewhere public where community members can get a dose of lovely walnutty omega 3 for free.

It is hard to find a place big enough for a walnut tree, where the tree won't impact gardens, roads and buildings. I was thinking ... how about Bland Park? Perhaps a wee grove in the far south-eastern corner, or a lovely line of them up the Southern boundary?

Walnut trees are low maintenance, they work well in public spaces and their generous nut bounty is so good for people with benefits to cholesterol levels, heart function, gut health and brain power.

Walnuts generally fruit better with a pollinator, though they can still manage to get fertilised by wind blown pollen. The library tree must have a lover somewhere in the Waitati village to mate with.

"Rex" is a commonly planted South Island, commercial variety, but though prolific, it has small nuts, another possibility is "Lara" which has a high yield and larger nuts.

I have a walnut tree purchased from the Blueskin Market which is looking for a public home if anyone knows of one.

**Hilary Rowley**

## Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre

If you are in Waikouaiti, or coming past please consider a visit to the Heritage Centre. Just look for the full-sized replica of the Cobb & Co Coach on the main street, outside the historic BNZ. Just behind the old bank is the very modern Heritage Centre (opened in 2021) offering a fascinating glimpse of the area's rich history, opportunities to research families and a gift shop. The stock in the shop is regularly changed. There is local art, novelty items, irresistible chocolates, and our latest edition is a collection of beautiful teas, something to everyone's taste.

Please put in your diary, Easter Saturday 19 April 10am-2pm, the Heritage Centre's Open Day! We are offering free entry into the old BNZ Bank which is undergoing a massive restoration. Come step back in time to the Victorian era. A worthwhile experience for history buffs of all ages. Look forward to seeing you!

**Bev Medlin**



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)

### What Makes Me Mad and Sad

International and National issues would cover pages of Sadness and Madness and leave a big hole of emptiness...

### What Makes Me Glad

I'm glad there are words like kindness, empathy, tolerance and awareness in our vocabulary. I look around me and see people in need of help. Yes I can walk somebody's dog, take some flowers to an unwell friend and ask and listen. There is a lot of talking in our world, too many words, opinions. Taking time out, slowing down and practicing some of these concepts is a way to turn our communities into better places.

# WAITATI BOOK CLUB by Ian Melvin

February has been a busy month for Bookclub ... firstly a very enjoyable gathering at Ross and Barbara's with partners including a garden tour and talk about her various willow and other weaving projects. This was much enjoyed and appreciated by all of us and then our first meeting for the year at Paul and Ruth's abode at Company Bay, the first time in quite a while with all members present. Paul fired up the BBQ and we were able to sit out in the garden until a cool breeze chased us inside where the cordial discussion and confabulations continued. Ross handed out our next set of books, grateful thanks to him for the mahi in organising that. Following this there was a round the Harbour bike ride with refreshment stops and a ferry crossing to Port Chalmers with the bikes. All in all a very promising start to the 2025 Bookclub year - big thank you to all the organisers and hosts for the mahi and generosity of time and spirit



## THE BOOK

**Four Letters of Love** by **Niall Williams**. Me: yes a love story, sort of, but so much more. First time reading this author but will certainly look for more from him. Described by the Times as “*a life-affirming paean to human folly, to fate, and to the miracle of love*”. Even the intro by John Hurt is worth a read, and to some extent echoes my own feelings about this book. Overall we were pretty evenly divided on the merits of this book, not that unusual in the group and reflective of our differing tastes and personal perceptions of life and what makes a good read I guess.

## OTHER BOOKS

**American Dirt** by **Jeanine Cummins**, a timely read considering what is currently occurring in the US. A brilliant window into the world of a mass forced immigration of refugees into the States from the south. Reasons why this is happening and their stories and the dangers and difficulties they face and why they just keep on coming. This is a must read for all of us really - to try and understand this situation from their point of view. Not great literature perhaps but a bloody good read!

*“hard to imagine there will be a more urgent or politically relevant novel this year”* Observer.

## BEER

**Paderborner Pilger (NaturTriib)** My favourite summer beer this year is a Lager (or Export beer in Germany), cloudy with just the right Hop/Malt balance, nicely rounded, refreshing and satisfying on a warm day cold from the fridge or cool from the cellar as they say in Germany. Very affordable from Centre City New World.

## MUSIC

**Dangerous Acquaintances** by **Marianne Faithfull** a nod to acknowledge the passing of a singer songwriter, actress, survivor and Icon. Of course everyone knows **Broken English**, her comeback album but this is also a very good album. It is getting a lot of airplay in my truck recently - somewhere between Leonard Cohen and maybe Grace Jones with her distinctive growly voice reflecting a life well lived with lyrics to match.

Try ‘As Tears Go By’ (the original) and from this album ‘Tenderness’ and, in my view, her best song ‘Working Class Hero’ live on YouTube.

## WORD OF THE MONTH

**Time.** “Time does not pass, but pain grows by this is the condition of life my father maintained. Time only exists if you have a clock. In our house the batteries in the clock on the windowsill had long since leaked the acid of Time and so my father and I lived in a kind of spell, marked by the rattle of dead leaves at the door, or the sudden gaiety of a spring shower at the window.”

## MEANING OF LIFE

“Life is a mystery, we cannot understand it. Once you accept that it hurts less,” a pause, and then “or should do ”

quotes from **Four Letters of Love** Niall Williams





**Kia Ora Blueskin Bay,**

**We've had a wonderful start to the year with lots of families attending. It made me realise how lucky we are having such a kind, approachable and helpful community. I feel quite at home at playcentre, but we were all new to playcentre at one stage, so I asked some parents what questions they had before their first visit. The main questions were: What is playcentre about? Where do we park? and Will people be welcoming? (They will!)**

Playcentre is a community run centre providing a space for 0-6 year-olds to play, learn and grow with their whānau alongside other families from our community. At Blueskin Playcentre we also pay through fundraising for an Early Childhood Educator.

Kimberleigh is our lovely Educator. She's great at setting up different optional activities for the week. For example, for Valentine's Day, the children were able to decorate their own heart-shaped biscuits (admittedly, my son ate half of his before he'd even started decorating!) and make heart-shaped ladybirds, which were cute.

The best place to park is in the gravel carpark opposite Waitati Kura, and then to walk down the shared school drive until you reach the playcentre building. Open the black gate, stroll along the covered deck, where there are coat pegs to hang your things on and plenty of space to leave a pram if you have one, then pop your shoes off, open the door, and come on in!

There's no cost to playcentre and it's pretty informal. You might imagine it's a lot of mums there, but actually there's also many dads and grandparents too.



We really look forward to welcoming you on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday anytime between 9am - 12 noon. Feel free to check us out on Facebook or email us [blueskin@playcentre.org.nz](mailto:blueskin@playcentre.org.nz) with any questions.

**Aroha nui, Heather**



## East Otago Plunket Round Up

**The East Otago Playgroup in Waikouaiti runs weekly during school term time 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.**

The first Plunket organised First Aid course for this year is to be held in Waikouaiti on Tuesday 6 March from 10 - 11.30am. These courses are specifically tailored to parents of babies and toddlers covering primary assessment, CPR, choking, RSV, meningitis, poisoning, burns and more. Spaces are limited so email [annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz](mailto:annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz) to register.

Look out for our annual autumn bulb fundraiser launching in March on [www.facebook.com/otagoplunket](https://www.facebook.com/otagoplunket)

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

**Kā mihi nui, Annabel**



# The Flying Fox Fair

The original Flying Fox was built sometime in the late 70's early 80's by Paul Clements. Murray Grimwood arrived in Waitati around the late 80's and Murray added a metal brace.

Fast forward to 2023. The fox was getting lower and lower to the ground. Peter Norrish our caretaker replaced parts to keep it going but we noticed one end of the flying fox lifting out of the ground. It was at that point, we had to close it down. Paul Clements, along with the Fire Brigade, heard about our poor fox and offered to make a new one. Several months later, we learnt that because of new safety rules, we would need to find an Engineer to sign off any new flying fox, which meant going to a commercial company.

We got invoices from playground businesses and started applying for money. Thanks to Sam Pickford, we have found a local engineering firm, Otago Engineering, AJ Grant who makes flying foxes and are able to work with us to install the flying fox like the original one.

It wasn't until we were studying Identity (Tuakiri) at school with the students that we discovered how much the kids missed their flying fox. We decided a Fair would be one way we could get the money together that we still needed after receiving grants.

The Fair on Sunday 16 February was just magical. The sun shone hot and bright. From the bouncy castle, toffee apples and candyfloss, to the variety of goods on sale, a digger, horse rides, raffles and animals. Most of all, as with all good gatherings, was catching up with friends and family. Thanks to the community for supporting us. Thanks to our amazing parents, grandparents, students, Board, and Kaiako for pulling together to make a truly amazing Waitati Fair. It was Andy Becroft that said the Fair echoed of past Waitati School events.

I am unsure how much money we made at the time of writing this article, but I am confident we have enough to finish installing a new flying fox. If the old one lasted 45 years, we can be sure future generations will enjoy this new Flying Fox.





## KORORĀ/LITTLE BLUE PENGUIN

A calendar of kororā behaviour in Ōtepoti

**DEC - MARCH**

- Kororā are moulting
- Vulnerable to predators as they remain on land until their feathers regrow - a stressful time!
- Fasting while on shore - vulnerable to starvation





**APR - JUN**

- Pairs come ashore to prepare their nests
- Nests made in burrows, under vegetation, in rocky crevices, among boulders, or inside caves

**JULY - OCT**

- Egg laying
- Typically one or two eggs per nest
- Eggs incubated by both parents for around 40 days





**SEP - DEC**

- Raising young
- Parents remain with chicks for 3 weeks
- Parents take turns caring for chicks for 12 more weeks

**WHAT ARE THE THREATS?**

- Dogs - please keep them on a lead or near the water's edge
- Cats - please keep your cat indoors at night
- Mustelids
- Starvation





**WHERE ARE THEY?**

- Ōtama Kaiapara/Doctors Point anywhere between carpark and Pāhakarua beach
- Waiapu/Teaone (Whānauwāwā) / Long Beach anywhere between carpark and secret beach



# Swingers Lane

Nestled in the bustling CBD of Waitati lay a masterpiece of kiwi ingenuity and childhood joy. What began as two swings and a nice wee bench in the shade, has now become seven swings and three superbly crafted benches.

Among these seven swings you will find various branches (or perches) to jump from, whereby the difficulty (or danger) increases. This includes the dangerswing (follow the arrow) and deathswing (swinger beware, follow the ladder) perches.

Although not without its setbacks, Swingers Lane has and continues to fill the hearts of young and old alike.

## Waitati's roving reporter.



# Community Board Update

## Where did summer go? Into autumn already.

The new red, yellow and green kerbside wheelie bin system has been in operation for just over six months. How has it been for you? There were some issues regarding collections on rural roads - have these been resolved for you? Please do let me know.

There are still many complaints about roadside vegetation maintenance. We pass these to DCC when we receive them and they are usually resolved, but council finances are stretched, and the vegetation issue is well over budget. You can phone DCC on 477 4000 to lodge a complaint and, if you do, please make sure you receive a reference number so that your issue can be followed up. The DCC 9 Year Long Term Plan will be out for consultation for a month from 1 April and it includes a proposed increase in funding. It will help to highlight the vegetation problems if you make a submission to the plan - quite easy using the form on the council website - [www.dunedin.govt.nz](http://www.dunedin.govt.nz)

How are things for you with Route 1 bus service - Dunedin to Palmerston. In the Otago Regional Council forward plans there is a suggestion to increase fares. How would this affect you? Please do let us know.

We still have money in our Discretionary Account. 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 9 April at the Warrington Lifesaving Clubrooms, starting at 5.30pm. If you wish to come along and speak at the Public Forum, please contact Rebecca Murray on 477 4000 or give me a call.

## Alasdair Morrison

Chairman, Waikouaiti Coast Community Board  
0274 354 384 | [info@calmarine.co.nz](mailto:info@calmarine.co.nz)

# BLUESKIN SHOW 2025 See you on Sunday 6 April | 10am - 2.30pm

## TIMETABLE

*(Approximate - we are in the country after all)*

## IN THE ARENA

**10am:** Bagpipes to officially kick off the day

**11am:** Kids Activities with Tahu from Orokonui Ecosanctuary

**Sack Race** - in the Show Ring

**3-Legged Race** categories for boys & girls, age groups

**Gumboot Toss** - in the Show ring

**12-12.30pm:** Jay the Juggler Show followed by Balloon

**1.30pm:** Tug-O-War Matches - Waitati vs Warrington Enter your teams by 12.30pm in Show Ring

**1.45pm:** Lollie Scramble - with Tahu

**2pm:** Firewood Raffle Draw- must be here to win!

**11am - 2pm:** Live Music from The Wild Chitokakas, Dougie and the Moonrocks, and DJs

## ALL DAY

Lots of Family Fun - Rides, Music, Food & Drinks

**Food stalls** - Waitati School cooking up a storm on the BBQ and Warrington School manning the Café, with homemade cakes, sweets and tea.

Lots of kid's activities including the Noddy Train, entertainment with Tahu from Orokonui Ecosanctuary, Face Painting and a Bouncy Castle.

Waitati Community Market stallholders will be joining the show.

## CARBOOT SALE

Large 6m x 4m sites  
Gates open at 8.30am for setup

Car boot site \$10 includes gate entry for 1 person (pay cash on arrival)  
Extra persons \$3 gate charge  
Other stalls and businesses

## LOCAL BUSINESSES AND FOOD STALLS

Commercial area - businesses/companies on show \$25 includes 2 gate entries

Businesses selling product eg food vendors \$45 includes gate entries

The Committee of the Blueskin A & P Society would like to thank you for coming along to the show and we would welcome any comments you may have regarding this and future shows to:

**Phil Kelly** [philip.kelly@otago.ac.nz](mailto:philip.kelly@otago.ac.nz)

**Matt Sumpter** 021 071 0895

**Sally Brown**

[sally@blueskinnurseries.co.nz](mailto:sally@blueskinnurseries.co.nz)





## Kia ora from the Junior Room at Warrington School!

We have had a wonderful start to the school year, diving back into our routines and focusing on Structured Literacy and Mathematics. Our afternoons have been filled with excitement as we enjoy swimming to cool off in this lovely warm weather.

We are also thrilled to announce the commencement of our "Explorers Group" for four-year-olds, which will begin this Friday, 21st of February, from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. We kindly ask that you bring along a drink, a snack, and a sunhat. We look forward to welcoming any four-year-olds who are planning to start at Warrington School!

**Kā mihi nui, Wendy Russell**



## Warrington Indoor Bowls Club

**Warrington Indoor Bowls season starts on Tuesday 8 April, 7.30pm. in the Warrington Hall, Stevenson Street, Warrington. We welcome all new bowlers.**

The first month there will be free coaching provided by our head coach Cliff Porteous who has been an Otago Representative Bowler and is willing to share his extensive knowledge.

If you wish more information contact:

**Graeme Thorburn (Secretary)**

agrjthorburn@xtra.co.nz or 03 473 8503 or 027 416 2613



## Family Dramas

**I've been wondering what kind of book the Bible is. Some folk think it's some kind of science book with instructions for making the universe. Since I'm really a physicist, I don't think it is. Some people think it's a history book, but I suspect historians don't think that. Some people seem to think it's a book of rules, but you're half way through the second book before the rules really start to come out. That stuff about the apples at the start hardly counts. I've even heard the suggestion it's a theology book, but it's not like anything the university sets. I've come to the conclusion that it is that high point in literature, the written narrative. It's a series of stories about families living their lives in the presence of God. Often, not very successfully.**

At St Barnabas in Warrington, it is our habit to spend our evenings in Lent discussing some theme or other, so this year we've picked the families of the Bible, and I'm waiting for people to choose their favourite families. It could be fun, but I keep thinking of trying to explain what went wrong. When Adam & Eve eat the forbidden fruit, he gets in first and blames her, so she's left with only the snake to point at. One of their sons, kills the other. Elsewhere Joseph, his father's favourite, gets sold by his brothers, to some passing strangers as a slave, because he's such a pain in the neck. After that there's drunkenness, incest and prostitution. It could be really interesting, or it might be just like Shortland Street.

We will start on Tuesday 11 March at 7pm, come along if it sounds fun. Other Tuesdays are: 18 March, 25 March, 1 April and 8 April.

**Jeremy Nicoll**

St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Warrington



# Around the Bay – March Events

BLUESKIN LIBRARY	
<b>Seaweed, March 1-9</b>	We will have the badge maker and fun activities from 3.15-5pm for the week 3-7 March. Come along and create a badge of your favourite sea creature. More details soon via Facebook Community pages.
<b>Thursday 27</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>FRIDAYS</b>	<b>Story Time with Stephaney:</b> 11am
Two cabinets are available to display your passion, art or hobby. Please talk to the Blueskin Bay library staff if you have anything you would like displayed in our public cabinets. Past displays have included: pottery, knitting, garden trophies, cat memorabilia and lots of other bits and pieces.	

WAIPUTAI HUB	
<b>MONDAYS</b>	<b>Music Lessons with Marian Poole:</b> 2 – 6pm Contact: 021 0842 5948
<b>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>Homeschool Art Group:</b> 12.30 – 3.30pm, Contact: Amy <b>Table top role playing games (Dungeons and Dragons, etc.):</b> 4 – 6.30pm   All ages Drop in any time FREE/KOHA <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>Pilates:</b> Casual session   6.30pm   \$18 Contact: Sylvia 021 109 9302
<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>Blueskin Bay Orchestra rehearsal</b> 4pm – 6pm. Contact: Emily

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

GALLERY ON BLUESKIN	
<b>Wednesday 5</b>	<b>Quiz   7 – 9pm</b>
<b>Sunday 16</b>	<b>D Street Band   Afternoon in the Courtyard</b>
<b>Wednesday 26</b>	<b>Live Jazz Nights</b>

WAITATI VILLAGE	
<b>Sunday 2</b>	<b>Village Market:</b> 11am Contact: Mandy

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

WARRINGTON HALL	
<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 (winter) 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>TUESDAYS</b>	<b>NIA Dance Class:</b> 11.30am-12.30pm \$10 Contact: Clare Reilly 021 177 5350 <b>Yuan Qigong:</b> 5.30-6.30pm Movement and Meditation for Deep Relaxation Single class \$15 or \$120 for 10 sessions. Contact: <a href="mailto:jaybodymindqi@gmail.com">Jay bodymindqi@gmail.com</a>
<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>FRIDAYS</b>	<b>Community Acupuncture:</b> 8 – 11am Contact Collin Blake <a href="mailto:cblake@siacu.nz">cblake@siacu.nz</a>
<b>SATURDAYS</b>	<b>NIA Dance Class:</b> 4 – 5pm \$10 Contact: Clare Reilly 021 177 5350

WASTE RECYCLING – WEEK TWO	
<b>Monday 3</b>	<b>Yellow Bin:</b> Mixed Recycling <b>Green Bin:</b> Food Scraps/Garden Waste
<b>Monday 10</b>	<b>Blue Bin:</b> Bottle/Glass Recycling <b>Red Bin:</b> Rubbish <b>Green Bin:</b> Food Scraps/Garden Waste
<b>Monday 17</b>	<b>Yellow Bin:</b> Mixed Recycling <b>Green Bin:</b> Food Scraps/Garden Waste
<b>Monday 24</b>	<b>Blue Bin:</b> Bottle/Glass Recycling <b>Red Bin:</b> Rubbish <b>Green Bin:</b> Food Scraps/Garden Waste



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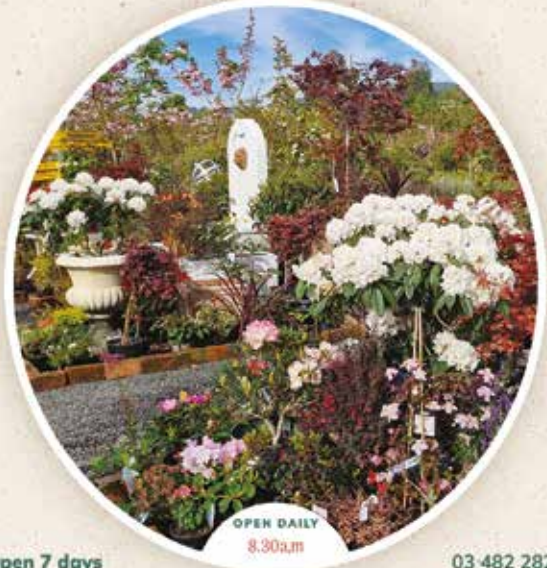


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Open Mon, Tues, Wed from 9 -12 during term time. Come and visit us! We are located at Waitati Primary School.

### 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.

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### LILLIPUT LIBRARIES

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### WAIKOUAITI COAST HERITAGE CENTRE

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### PIANO LESSONS

Beginner and advanced, all ages, all welcome. Your place or mine. Places available on Tuesday. Rates TBA. Please text in first instance Marian Poole, RMTNZ, ATCL, PhD, Music Journalist 021 084 25948

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# BLUESKIN BAY LIBRARY

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Open: Monday - Friday: 11am-1pm; 2-5.30pm, Saturday: 10am-1pm

## What's On

### Seaweed

Seaweed, March 1-9:

We will have the badge maker & fun activities after 3.15-5pm for the week 3-7 March. Come along and create a badge of your favourite sea creature. More details soon via Facebook Community pages.



### April School Holidays – A Sneak Peak

April 14-17

Pop along and make an Easter bunny card with card and an egg carton.



### 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 preschool children and their caregivers.

### Blueskin Bay Knitwits

**Mondays, 6.30 - 8.30pm**

(contact Christine 021 133 9340)

**Tuesdays, 2.30 - 4.30pm** All ages and experience levels welcome

### Fossils, skulls and other biological curiosities

Thursday 17 April, 11.15am-12.30 pm

A show and tell with artist Bruce Mahalski and items from his Museum of Natural Mystery. FREE



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### Bookshare

Thursday 27 March, 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.

### Games Galore & Lego

Every weekday, 2 - 5pm & Saturdays 10am - 1pm

Come along and join in the fun of board games for all ages.

## DCC Service Centre @ Blueskin Bay Library

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



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Kā Kete Wānaka o Ōtepoti

### 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 with your community. Where possible, please try to limit articles to 250-300 words max, about half a page. Any opinions or views published in the Blueskin News are those of each contributor solely and not necessarily those of the Editor or Blueskin News Committee.

### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

To submit your classified ads, calendar entries & article submissions for publication please send your text and any photos to: [blueskin.input@gmail.com](mailto:blueskin.input@gmail.com) by the 15th of each month

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A4 = 210 x 297 Full page advertisement \$300  
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### CONTACT US

Editor Bernie Cornford Email [blueskin.input@gmail.com](mailto:blueskin.input@gmail.com)

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# BLUESKIN BAY LIBRARY

## Community cabinets

We have two cabinets in the library available for community displays. If you have a special something that you would like displayed in one of the cabinets, pop in and have a chat to the library staff and we will make arrangements to display your taonga.



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**Kaspersky is \$79**  
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Microsoft have advised w10 is ending support mid 2025 & to run with 11 your pc needs to be no older than 4yrs to comply!

THE WIDER BLUESKIN BAY AREA IS ON SHOW

*Blueskin Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc.*



# BLUESKIN SHOW DAY

Celebrating our wildlife & community

**SUNDAY 6th APRIL 2025**

*A fun day out for the whole family 10-2.30pm*

**RIDES, Races & family fun**

*Tahu & Orokonui ecosanctuary will be hosting childrens activities*

**JAY THE JUGGLER & BALLOONS**

**FIRE & EMERGENCY DEMOS**

**Local schools & businesses**

**LIVE MUSIC**

The Wild Chitokakas

Dougie and the moonrocks

**Carboot**

**BOUNCY CASTLE**

**APPLE PRESS**

**Pony Rides \$3 entry**

Children 12 & under

**NO DOGS FREE (CASH ONLY)**

*For more details please contact*

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*Matt Sumpter 0210710895*

*Katie Peppercorn 0211485535*

