BLUESKIN NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER Est. 1985

JULY 2025

Seacliff

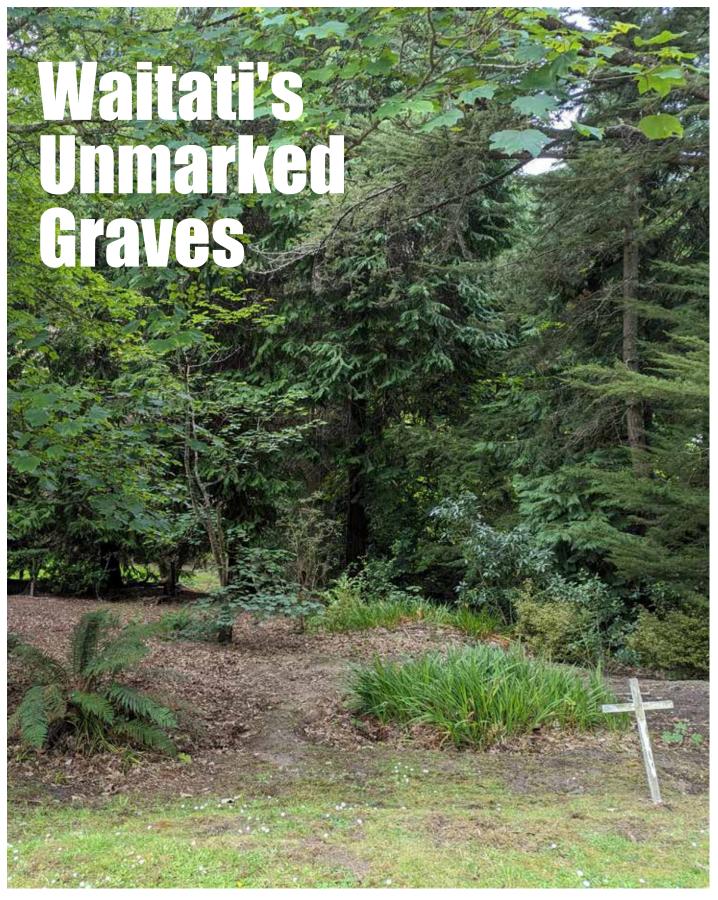
Warrington

Evansdale

Waitati

Doctors Point

Pūrākaunui





Unmarked Graves

In 1863, Janet Wright became the first person to be buried at Blueskin Cemetery, here in Waitati. Today, around 1,000 people are interred at the site. However, an estimated 172 graves remain unmarked - many linked to Dunedin's long and complex history of mental health care.

The first facility, the Dunedin Lunatic Asylum, opened in 1863 where Otago Boys' High School now stands. Seacliff Lunatic Asylum followed in 1879, becoming one of the largest psychiatric hospitals in the Southern Hemisphere. In 1905, "The Camp" at Larnach Castle briefly housed Seacliff's overflow before closing in 1918.

Orokonui Home was established here in Waitati in 1905 as an inebriates' reformatory. In 1912, a new building was added to accommodate psychiatric patients, particularly those with epilepsy. Over time, Orokonui evolved to care for elderly residents and people with intellectual disabilities before closing in 1983.

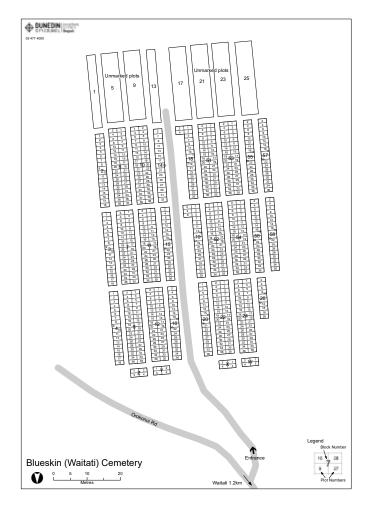
Cherry Farm Hospital opened at Hawksbury in 1952, initially receiving patients from Seacliff. It became the region's main psychiatric facility until closing in 1992, as New Zealand shifted toward community-based care.

Many of the unmarked graves at Blueskin date from the 1930s and 1940s, with the last in 1983. Local historian Allan Steel estimates up to 85% may belong to patients from these institutions.

Following the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care, the government has made funding available to acknowledge these graves – up to \$50,000 per council, as part of a national effort to honour the 4,000 unmarked psychiatric institution burials across Aotearoa.

Recognising these forgotten graves is something I've been passionate about for many years, and I've previously raised the issue with both the Dunedin City Council and the Waikouaiti Coast Community Board. I hope this funding will finally allow us to honour those buried here with the dignity and respect they were so often denied in life.











BLUESKIN COMMUNITY MARKET Sunday 6 July

From the Editor

Hello everyone, welcome to July's Blueskin News.



Well it seems reports of my cat Sage's demise were greatly exaggerated, to quote Mark Twain. A few weeks ago when she had been missing for more than a fortnight I had a phone call from the SPCA, late on a Saturday afternoon saying that she had been found freezing and starving at the Botanic Gardens in town. They took her to the Balmac Vets who originally thought she would not survive, being just skin and bone and so cold the thermometer would not register a temperature. However she is a tough cat and with a lot of warming and some glucose she revived somewhat and came home on a strict diet to accustom her stomach to food again.

So where had she been and how had she got to the Botanic Gardens? We don't know, both the vet and the SPCA said she had certainly not been outside all that time, her fur and paws were both clean and unhurt. She was starving but undamaged otherwise. Anyway she is home now and obviously traumatised by her experience she would not go outside to start with. However she has just started venturing past the door but only as far as the deck. I do hope she gets her confidence back.

In meantime please keep yourselves warm, try the cake recipe it looks complicated but is actually quite easy and very tasty!!

Keep 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

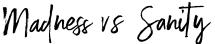
Suitable for committee meetings, presentations, training, interviews etc. (up to 12 people) features modular tables, large projection screen, kitchenette and toilets.

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.



Proff Dante Z

The Voice of Reason



Seems like people only believe what they want to believe onyway, that's half of the problem... no one is interested in reality or facts they just get in the way of a good



Blueskin General Store (Waitati On The Spot)

Store Hours:

Mon – Sat 7.30am – 6.30pm | Sunday 9am – 6.30pm Ph 482 2741

East Otago Plunket Round Up



This month we are very excited about the opening of an exhibition dedicated to the creation of the Plunket Society at Karitane in the Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre at 1pm on Saturday 21 June. The guest speaker at the opening is Elyse Childs, the great-great granddaughter of the first ever Plunket Nurse, Joanna MacKinnon. Following the opening the exhibition will be open to view during regular opening hours.

On Wednesday 25 June a free car seat checking clinic was held in Waikouaiti in conjunction with the East Otago Playgroup. Did you know 80% of all car seats installed by someone who is not a child car seat technician are installed incorrectly? You can get your car seat installed, your installation checked and/or for some free advice in Dunedin at the Plunket Hub at 97 King Edward Street by dropping in on Thursdays between 9.30 and 3.30 or on another day by arrangement with Tina who can be contacted by phone 027 242 3729 or email tina.mangos@plunket.org.nz

The East Otago Playgroup in Waikouaiti runs weekly on Wednesdays between 10am – 12pm 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 missed out on the 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 held in the Palmerston on 6 June and would be interested in attending the next one which will be held in Waikouaiti, please contact annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz for details.

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

Kā mihi nui, Annabel



Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre presents

A tribute to the creation of the Plunket Society at KARITANE

This exhibition will open at 1pm on Saturday 21st June at the Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre

Guest Speaker is **Elyse Childs** the great great grand daughter of Joanna Mackinnon, the first ever Plunket Nurse.

Following the opening, the exhibition will be available to view during regular opening hours.

There will be no admission charge, but donations are always welcome.

THE RANT

by Ian Melvin



This is an opinion piece designed to promote feedback. If you feel you'd like to respond email blueskin.input@gmail.com

What Makes Me Mad ... Sad

Consumerism, as in words and terms like fashion, style, trends, current, outmoded, passe, obsolete, old fashioned, old hat, out of date, dated, chic, in vogue, ahead of its time, with it, now, etc etc. Firstly, let's look at 'style' what is it, is it necessary? Obviously to many it is – it sells products, influences taste, drives change, ideas and lifestyles, but why?

- "... rather typical of modern technology, an overall dullness of appearance so depressing it must be overlaid with a veneer of 'style' to make it acceptable." "Now it's not just depressingly dull, it,s also phoney."
- "... eg. stylised refrigerators filled with stylised food, in stylised houses. Plastic stylised toys for stylised children, who at Christmas and birthdays are in style

with their stylised parents. You have to be awfully stylish yourself not to get sick of it once in a while..." and so on.

Quotes from Zen & The Art Of Motorcycle Maintenance by **Robert M Persig**

What Makes Me Glad

People who live outside the constraints of that realm, make their own individual choices and I guess style, often with no real discernible style, but plenty of old-fashioned practical good taste.

Recycling, reusing, repairing and valuing what they already have – unconsciously, eccentrically, happily doing their own thing without caring what others think about that. Luckily even though they maybe outside the norm...we live in a community that abounds with these people.



THE WILD CHITOKAKAS

Friday 11 July, 8pm at the Dunedin Musicians Club 12 Manse Street Other bands to follow. \$10 on the door, Proceeds benefit the club.



Know your alliums

Gardening is a mystery of timing, climate and chance, which forever challenges your expectations of getting a decent crop of something to eat.

I wish I had got ready to plant shallots before it rained for a week. Now the garden is a sodden mess and I get covered in mud, sitting on my bum trying to extract sticky muddy soil from the roots of weeds.

Luckily I planted our garlic ages ago in a bid to let it grow a bit longer and bigger before the dreaded rust spores come in summer and kill off the plants.

I've not had any obvious success with my rust spraying experiments, so have nothing organic to suggest, except for planting earlier to avoid the worst of the rust problem. But... if you have never grown garlic in your garden, you might be able to get a couple of good cropping seasons in before the spores discover your garden, so give it a go. Garlic is, after all, expensive to buy, and essential for nearly every meal. One clove a day, eaten raw, reduces cholesterol by 10%, so it's worth it just for that.

I grow onions too. Some years they thrive, and I have a huge crop of beautiful big and perfectly formed brown onions, which win me 1st prize at the A&P show. Last season though they either went rotten in the ground, only grew to the size of a cherry tomato, or grew thick stalks, which mean they won't keep. I have no idea why one season was so good, and another so bad, so I have no suggestions on how to always succeed with onions either, sorry. I'll have another go this coming year if I have space.

I do seem to be able to successfully grow loads of red onions (again I have no idea why the red onions work and the brown ones don't), and they store reasonably well on strings in our shed.

Shallots are always a raging success. They are smaller and milder than onions, and a bit more fiddly to peel and chop, but they seem to always thrive, especially if planted around winter solstice.

I have a strain of brown shallots which have been in the family for generations. We are not posh - we don't inherit fine furniture, art or jewellery. Our family legacies take the form of plant varieties and seeds.

Even when I could barely walk due to waiting for a hip replacement, I still made sure I crawled around and planted the family shallots so I didn't lose the variety. It only takes one missed season to lose a plant variety forever.

I was given some red shallots which over several seasons have developed into a very successful crop. They are amazing in salsa, salad, or guacamole as they are mild and sweet and end up keeping really well.

We very seldom need to buy any onions and at least we know they are not sprayed with chemicals.

I wish I could solve some of the random disease and crop failure mysteries though, and I have a great deal of respect for commercial organic onion and garlic growers.

Hilary Rowley

BLUESKIN GARDEN CLUB

Well, we certainly have entered the winter season. Temperatures have dropped and the frosty days have begun. My last dahlias have been frosted, and my gardens are covered in leaves. Time to pick up the leaves and add them to my composts and have a general tidy up.

Yesterday 13 keen Garden Club members enjoyed a Craft day and shared lunch at the Warrington Hall. Our instructors were Janine and Denise from Waikovaiti, and under their guidance, we made 3 beautiful cards to take home. Thanks to you both for your guidance!

There will be no Garden Club meeting in July - too cold! Members can stay home by their fires and keep warm!

However we are looking forward to August as we are lucky to have Su's daughter Bridget coming to talk to us about her life in Vanuatu.

So keep warm everyone, and we will see you in August.

Bev Lyon - 027 533 2238



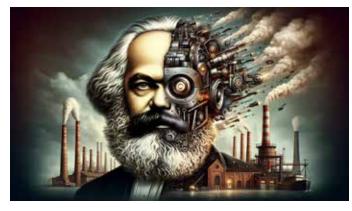


Rise of the Machines

We humans are too smart for our own good, and human history is sign-posted by leaps in knowledge. The discovery of fire, tool use, the wheel, agriculture, irrigation, the bronze and iron ages, gunpowder, printing, steam power, telegraph, telephone, combustion engine, electricity, radio and television, air travel, computers, nuclear power, space flight, the internet. It's been a busy road. And I'm sure a sign-post just flashed by, saying 'artificial intelligence'.

But, as human nature dictates, the advancements above have been used as much for bad as for good, and I can't see AI being any different. And considering the creators of artificial intelligence are flat-out warning the world of it's possible consequences, we'd be wise to listen up. Due-diligence is required.

For my part, I ran artificial intelligence through Marxist theory, to see what Comrade Karl would think of it. I discovered that, being a technology, AI would inhabit Karl's 'base', and therefore be intergral to the 'mode of production'. As such, AI will influence the 'superstructure'. That's us and everything in our lives. He theorise's that 'post-industrial growth relies on the production and utilisation o knowledge', and that 'knowledge would be freely accessible and could be used to expand leisure for all'. Bring it on!



Of course, Marx' most quoted theory predicts that the prolateriat (us again), will rise up in revolution 'to disposess capital of the means of production and subject the economy to social control'. Again, bring it on, just don't call it socialism. Leisurism maybe. However, history also suggests that rising up in revolution to disposess someone is fraught with failure. We may need some help. And what better help could there be than a technology which knows everything. AI, with it's artificially enhanced data, may instantly recognise that inequality and exploitation are the basis of capitalism. It could be AI, in it's many manifestations, which will rise up and subject the economy to social control. Kinda like 'Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines'. Bring it on.

Doug Nuttall



Kia ora Blueskin Bay,

June has been a mixture of very wet and lovely, still days, so we've had plenty of opportunities for inside and outside days! Inside we have enjoyed shared kai, listening to Lachy on the piano, making our own music and creating beautiful art for Matariki. Outside there has been giant bubbles, sandpit mania, and some wonderful Playcentre trips.

At the start of this month we were lucky enough to have the opportunity to visit Warrington Kura. Thank you so much for hosting us! We all felt very welcomed by the teachers as well as by all of the children, and thoroughly enjoyed playing with the exciting activities that had been set-up for us.

Hopefully you will see some of our eager faces at your 4-year-old Explorers Days in the future. If you have any younger brothers or sisters who would enjoy a trip to a room filled with toys (who wouldn't?!) and a parent or caregiver who would enjoy some caring company



(who wouldn't?!) then please let them know we would love to meet them.

It certainly seems incredible that we have such a lovely Playcentre available to us here at Blueskin Bay, with a nice, warm, cozy room, plenty of coffee and tea, great toys, and, of course, kind, friendly people. It certainly brightens up my winter days! We look forward to seeing you there.

Just a reminder that Playcentre is open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays during term time from 9-12. Feel free to just pop by, or to get in-touch with us via our Facebook page or via email at: blueskin@playcentre.org.nz.

Kia mahana, Heather





WAITATI BOOK CLUB by Ian Melvin

Paul's place, well no actually Scott's, as he is otherwise engaged next month when it was his turn to host, so he swapped dates with Paul. After the weather relented on its promise of snow on the motorway the group from over the hill arrived minus Martin, who sent greetings from the cycle tour and this quote from Days at the Morisaki Bookshop by Satoshi Yagisaki. "I don't think it really matters whether you know a lot about books or not. That said, I don't know much myself. But what matters far more with a book is how it effects you." Martin - 'I have not finished it yet, but this quote I thought worth sharing - and perhaps sharing its merits'.



We gratefully sat around the kitchen table with the woodstove glowing in the background. As usual we covered a lot of ground conversationally, largely on recent political happenings with Scott entertaining us with his obervations from the House adding spice to the mix, eventually arriving at a discussion of the Book!

THE BOOK

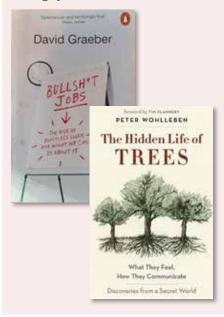
Bullshit Jobs by David Graeber. 'A provocative, funny and engaging book that claims the world has been engulfed by a rising tide of pointless work' (from the cover blurb). 'Bullshit Jobs regularly induce feelings of hopelessness, depression, and self loathing. They are forms of spiritual violence directed at the essence of what it means to be a human being' - from the book. Generally well received by all, and produced a lively and stimulating discussion. Recomended.

OTHER BOOKS

The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben. This is a wonderful book that should be read by all. A journey into natural places as you have never experienced them, the trees and other life that inhabit these places and the intricate web of interaction and interdependence that connects everything including us. Quoting from the book: 'The Kichwa of Sarayaku, Ecuador see their forest as the most exalted expression of life itself'. A must

OTHER STUFF

The Salt Path. This film is the profound true story of husband and wife, Raynor and Moth Winn's 630 mile trek along the beautiful but rugged Cornish, Devon and Dorset coastline. After being forcibly removed from their home, they make the desperate decision to walk in the hope that, in nature, they will find solace and a sense of acceptance. 'A moving and challenging story that draws on all of your emotions' (from the cover blurb). Loved it and highly recommend it.





MUSIC

Son Of Dave: 02 and Goin Back To The Natchez Trace by Papa George Lightfoot. Move over Little Walter Horton there are some new Blues Harp players on the block, both excellent. Son Of Dave plays pretty much solo, with stomps, shouts, shakers and other vocal gymnastics included and with his amazing harp playing would fit right in with the Eastern. Papa George has a more traditional style but great harp playing and vocal as well, playing with gusto and a beat to get you up on the dance floor. Try Son Of Dave 'He likes that classic rock' and Papa George Lightfoot 'Going back to Natchez', both on YouTube.

BEER

Paul highly recommended **Three Boys Oyster Stout** (currently on tap at Liquorland). "A lovely rich drop and all you'd expect from a top stout, and I've yet to strike anything that doesn't improve with the addition of Bluff oysters. A little stronger than many stouts at 6.5% and don't drink it too cold."

Scott's choice was Black Octave by Garage Project and Lark Distillers. An incredibly rich, smooth, pleasurable drop. This an Imperial Stout to beat all Imperial Stouts. It was brewed then aged in freshly emptied Whisky barrels from Lark Distillery. Perfect for long winter evenings with friends.

WORD OF THE MONTH

Irrepressible - as in the human spirit so ably demonstrated in the film The Salt Path.

MEANING OF LIFE

"In our society there seems to be a general rule that, the more obviously one's work benefits other people, the less one is likely to get paid for it." "A rising tide of bullshit soils all boats" quotes from Bullshit Jobs by David Graeber





BLUESKIN BAY LIBRARY



Kā Kete Wānaka o Ōtepoti

28 HARVEY STREET, WAITATI | 03 482 2444 | **DUNEDINLIBRARIES.GOVT.NZ** OPEN: MONDAY-FRIDAY, 11AM-1PM AND 2-5.30PM | SATURDAY, 10AM-1PM

JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY **PROGRAMME**



GROW YOUR OWN CRYSTAL WORKSHOP

Wednesday 2 July, 11am - 12.30pm

Bookings essential. Book at: blucirc1@dcc.govt.nz

ZENTANGLE



Zentangle is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. This doodling activity will be on during library hours in the July school holidays. Come and give it a go.

MAKE A JUNK TREE HOUSE Tuesday - Thursday afternoons. 1-3 July and 8-10 July, 2.30 - 4.30pm

Come along and create a tree house out of recyclable items. All materials are provided, and you don't need to book.

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.

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



Wednesdays 11-12.30pm Blueskin Bay Library, 28 Harvey Street, Waitati



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





Unifone Digital Inclusion Alliance Aotearoa

Contact for details: Amy Souquet Phone. 0272569182 Email. office@com2.tech Website. www.com2.tech

BLUESKIN BOOKSHARE

Thursday 24 July, 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.

DCC SERVICE CENTRE @ BLUESKIN BAY LIBRARY

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





Halo Project

Volunteers Wanted -Species Monitoring

We at the Halo Project are looking for keen monitoring volunteers to help us keep track of species across the landscape.

If this is something you would be interested in please contact info@haloproject.org.nz

Opportunities

Native Taoka Species

Lizards (November - March)

We monitor our native skink and gecko species once every two weeks. Volunteers need to be able to work independently and utilise our data collection methods.



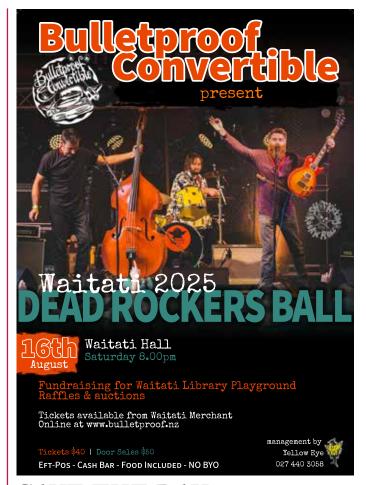
Predator Monitoring

The Halo Project monitors our target predators quarterly (following seasons) to track how well we are doing.

Volunteers would need to put out the tracking cards one day and remove them the next day. Tracking cards will be provided, and data analysed by Halo staff. Volunteers need to be able work independently and be reliable - all cards need to be deployed correctly and retrieved.



Send expressions of interest to: info@haloproject.org.nz



SAVE THE DAY **Dead Rockers Ball Community Fundraiser**

The Waitati community is fund-raising for some pieces of toddler play equipment for the library playground (adjacent to the hall).

Prizes for best dressed

Raffles, and mystery Bottle Auction on the night Food included. No BYO limited Door Sales \$50

Who will you be on the night?

Ziggy ,Elvis, Elton,Lemmy , Prince, Angus, Jimi, Freddie, or are you Amy, Janis. Peggy, Whitney, Mama, Nina, Tina, or Patsy.

Bulletproof convertible are back by popular demand and they promise and rocking and reeling great night in Blueskin bay!

Fundraising for a great cause, so bring plenty of money and your dancing shoes too.

July Interesting Dates

Wednesday 2 World UFO Day

International Day of Cooperatives Sunday 6

Monday 7 World Chocolate Day Friday 11 **World Population Day** Tuesday 15 World Youth Skills Day Monday 28 **World Conservation Day** Wednesday 30 International Day of Friendship

Wednesday 30 World Day against Trafficking in Persons



Pūrākaunui School

Community Support Keeps Pūrākaunui School Thriving Kā mihi nui - many thanks

At Pūrākaunui School, I am constantly reminded of how fortunate I am to work alongside such a generous and supportive Board, staff and community. Your continued involvement allows us to provide rich, hands-on learning experiences for our tamariki—and we simply couldn't do it without you.

Thank you to everyone who helped with our cheese roll fundraiser this term. It was a huge success, and I'm so grateful to those who rolled up their sleeves (and the rolls!) to support us.

A special shout-out to our hard-working crew at the weekend working bee—especially Cameron Sims from Rotadig Excavation and the Maritime Union for their incredible support with the new bike track. Please help us by staying off the track while it settles—we're nearly there!

I'd also like to thank Skye for coming in to help with our Garden to Table session. Together, we made Icelandic vegetable soup and oat and apple cookies—with oats kindly donated by Harraway. Ngā mihi nui!

A big thank you to Port Chalmers School for hosting us at The Boy Who Cried Wolf show, and to Port Chalmers Kindergarten for welcoming us beforehand.



Our tamariki also visited Puketeraki Marae in Karitane, where they participated in kapa haka and explored traditional Māori instruments. These experiences gently deepen our understanding of te reo Māori and tikanga. Thank you to Nikki Crossman and Matua Brendan for organising such a special day.

To celebrate Puaka Matariki we were fortunate to receive DCC funding to host a hangi, perform Kapa Haka and a play. As a school we rely on the support of grants to make rich learning experiences possible. Thank you to the Dunedin City Council for supporting us.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa-for your time, energy, and aroha. Your support is what makes our kura so special.

Michaela Wilson







Waitati School Matariki **Evening Celebration**

Waitati School came alive with the spirit of Matariki as our school community gathered to celebrate the Māori New Year together. The evening was filled with wonder and connection as whanau, students, and staff joined in traditional activities that honoured this special time of reflection and new beginnings.

Our celebration featured the traditional lantern parade from school to the hall, waiata and shared kai. Students proudly shared their upcoming Hui Ako performance and the lanterns that they had created.

The evening embodied Waitati School's motto "Light the Mind, Fire the Heart, Engage the Whānau" as our community came together to embrace mātauranga Māori and create lasting memories. It was a beautiful reminder of the importance of reflection, gratitude, and looking forward to the year ahead.

Ngā mihi to all who attended and helped make this Matariki celebration such a meaningful event for our school whānau.

Bex Williams, Acting Principal



On the 19th of June 2025, Waitati Kura celebrated Matariki with a classic lantern parade and performance.

Most people arrived at 5pm to have a chat with our lovely community, and what a turnout! We kicked off at 5.15pm with our lanterns in hand, cutting around the field and over the bridge, then up the hill, and finally descending to the hall. Thankfully, no lanterns caught fire that night.

When we arrived at the hall, we put our lanterns down outside and lined up and walked inside, walked up onto the stage, and we performed our four waiata we had been practising for a couple of weeks: waitati e, rona, tu tera mai na iwi and the haka. The lovely kaiako presented their awards.

We all sat down at our table and waited until we were called to grab some of the lovely food, which some of the PTA had prepared. However, my favourite part was the cake and dessert. One person, no naming names, took 19 bits of cake!

After dessert, we had the chance to catch up with the community and have a hot Milo

In the end, it went well, so I hope you also enjoyed it as much

By Hugh McEwan

Matariki

It was Thursday, the 19th of June, which meant that it was Matariki, and we had all made lanterns. Hank and I made a lantern together, and it was a triangle. I was also really excited to walk down to the hall, and after waiting for about 10 minutes, it was time to walk down.

Once we all got there, we went into the hall and went straight onto the stage to sing our waiata. We sang four songs: Waitati E. Rona, Tutira mai, and the Waitati School Haka. After the waiata was finished, the teachers read out the awards that many people received.

We finished doing waiata, and it was time for kai. There was a lot of food because everyone brought food. After we finished dinner, there were desserts such as cake, fairy bread, muffins and more.

After dinner, everyone got to chat to each other. It was really fun, and it was a good night.

By Ash Reid



The Greatest Friend of Little Children.

(Eulogised tribute quote from Prime Minister Micheal Joseph Savage)

When the life of Doctor Frederick Truby King ended on the 10th February 1938 in Wellington, the country went into mourning for this home-grown extraordinary man. His body lay in state in St Paul's Cathedral Wellington. He was given a state funeral, the first private citizen to be given this honour. On May 14th 1957, in commemoration of the Plunket Society's 50th anniversary, a stamp featuring his image was issued. This marked the first time a portrait of a New Zealander had appeared on a New Zealand stamp.

Frederick Truby King was born in New Plymouth on April Fool's Day 1858 to British immigrants Mary and Thomas King. He was the fifth of seven children. His father was a banker and politician. While on a boat to Nelson fleeing Maori intertribal warfare, baby Truby suffered the effects of infantile diarrhoea and sea sickness. He was prescribed by the ship doctor purgatives containing mercury and arsenic. By midnight and after 8 administering's of the purgative later, his mother refused any further treatment for her screaming, suffering baby so that he 'might die in peace'. Miraculously he survived! However it is said that his constitution never recovered from this treatment and he was dogged with ill-health for the rest of his life.

He hated sport! Instead, he was a serious bookish lad with a dedicated and determined intellectual curiosity. He was slight in build and it was noted he was known to fib at times about his height. It appears he may have suffered from a case of small man syndrome. Like his father he went into banking. His rise was meteoric, becoming Manager of BNZ Masterton before turning 21. However, he didn't enjoy banking and instead opted for a medical career. In 1881 he entered Edinburgh University, graduating Master of Surgery and winning the coveted Attles Scholarship as the most distinguished student at their University. In Scotland he met his wife Bella. They married in October 1887. He was 29 and she was 26. A very intelligent and scholarly woman, Bella dedicated her life to supporting her husband, particularly organising and keeping him on track. It is said of her that Truby wouldn't have accomplished what he did without her unwavering dedication and skill in managing him. They never had children of their own due to her own health issues which included rickets as an infant. They went on to adopt a baby girl they named Mary in memory of Truby's much beloved older sister who died aged 18 from tuberculosis. Bella died in 1927 aged 66. It was said Truby never recovered.

In 1899, and still a young man, he was appointed Medical Superintendent at Seacliff Asylum. There he was able to utilize the vast resources of space and people to indulge on a grand scale his all-consuming passion, first picked up in Scotland, for



gardening and landscaping. He also developed extensively the science of farming practices and animal husbandry with spectacular results! He then transferred this learning to saving dying babies, by reversing the trend in inadequate artificial feeding practices. He promoted 'breast is best', and developed a science based formular that closely replicated human milk. His hilltop home, overlooking the estuary in Karitane, became the first proto-type Karitane Hospital. He would later develop six Karitane Hospitals throughout the country. In 1908 the Plunket Society was officially formed. Named after the Patron Lady Victoria Plunket, wife of the Governor General. Frederick Truby King was Knighted in 1925 for his contributions to child welfare in New Zealand, especially for his work in reducing infant mortality and improving childhood nutrition. Truby King has touched the lives of most New Zealanders, my own included. I remember as a first-time mum waiting with bated breath as the Plunket Nurse, in my own home, weighed my fully breast-fed baby, reassuring me she had indeed put on weight and all

In later years he is said to have become irascible, difficult and muddled, narrowly avoiding being committed to an asylum himself. He was a bankrupt, having invested his own resources into his work for many years. Lately he has come in for criticism for his restrictive views on women's education and their role in society. It must be remembered he also empowered women and gave them a world-famous child welfare system. An act of parliament sanctioned his internment with his wife Bella and daughter Mary in their mausoleum in his own garden at Melrose in Wellington.

Come and enjoy our exhibition on the Plunket Society at the Heritage Centre in Kildare Street, Waikouaiti. Entry by donation. Opening hours are Wednesday, Thursday 1 – 4pm, Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10am – 4pm.

Manakitanga (Blessings)

Bev Medlin (secretary)

Waikouaiti Coast Community Board

Every year, Community Boards make submissions to the Dunedin City Council annual plans or long-term plans, and these can be viewed on the DCC website. Board representatives are invited to speak to the full Council about their submissions. This year we submitted to the DCC 9 Year Plan and I spoke to Council early last month.

One of the suggestions I made concerned Vegetation Control alongside our roads. Council Contractors work to well-defined areas and schedules and generally do a good job. But some areas 'slip through the cracks', sometimes through unexpected rapid growth or uncertainty about boundary definitions. I suggested that it should be possible for DCC to employ local folk who have the ability and equipment to carry out maintenance tasks, on an 'as required' basis, to keep all of our roadside vegetation under control.

Councillor Jim O'Malley followed this up at the last full Council meeting where he suggested that Council Staff should be asked to come up with a plan about how some maintenance tasks could be brought 'in house' and make use of people in the community to carry out some maintenance work.

This suggestion was approved unanimously by Councillors. So, now we wait and see how the next stage of this turns out.



The end of June marks the end of the DCC financial year, and our Discretionary Fund gets topped up by \$10,000 from 1 July. 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 13 August at the East Otago Events Centre in Waikouaiti at 5.30pm. 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 .

Alasdair Morrison, Chairman, Waikouaiti Coast Community Board

0274 354 384 : info@calmarine.co.nz

Death by Salted Caramel Chocolate Cake



Ingredients:

13/4 cups plain/all purpose flour 3/4 cup cocoa powder, unsweetened 1½ tsp baking powder 1½ tsp baking soda (bi-carb soda) 1½ cups white sugar) 1 tsp salt 2 eggs 1 cup milk (low or full fat) ½ cup vegetable oil (or canola) 2 tsp vanilla extract

1 cup boiling instant or real coffee

Preheat oven to 180C°/350°F (160°C fan). Grease 2 x 22cm/9" cake pans with butter, then line the base. (See below other pan sizes).

Batter:

Sift flour, cocoa, baking powder and baking soda into a large bowl. Add Sugar and salt. Whisk briefly to combine. Add eggs, milk, oil and vanilla. Whisk well to combine until lump free - about 30 seconds. Add boiling coffee and whisk to incorporate. The batter is VERY thin. Pour batter into cake pans.

Baking:

Bake for 35 minutes or until a wooden skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. See below regarding cook time if pans are different sizes. Cool for 10 minutes, then turn out onto wire racks. Cool completely before frosting.

OTHER PANS (use same oven temp per recipe. Do not use a springform tin) bundt pan - 50 minutes single 22cm/9" pan - 40 to 45 minutes 2×20 cm / 8'' pans - 38 minutes 3 x 20cm / 8" pans - 25 minutes $33 \times 22 \times 5$ cm $/ 13 \times 9 \times 2$ " rectangle pan - 35 - 40 minutes

Salted Caramel:

11/4 cups (250 g) caster sugar $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp (1.5 g) table salt* 75g unsalted butter, cut into 1 cm cubes $\frac{3}{4}$ cup + 2 tbsp (225 ml) full fat cream.

Melt sugar - Spread the sugar across the base of a medium saucepan and let it melt over medium-high heat, stirring often to help it melt evenly. Once all the sugar is melted, leave on the stove for another 2-3 minutes or until it becomes an amber caramel colour. Keep a close eye on it so it doesn't burn - don't walk away! Remove from the heat, then whisk in the salt and butter until melted. Slowly pour in one-third of the cream (the caramel will bubble a bit), let the bubbles subside, then slowly pour in the remaining cream. Whisk to combine. Put the saucepan back over medium-high heat. Once bubbles appear on the surface, let it boil for 1 minute, scraping down the side of the saucepan as needed. Let cool in fridge for at least 4 hours.

Salted Caramel Buttercream Frosting:

300g unsalted butter, at room temp 4 cups (500g) icing sugar 1 cup (300g) salted caramel (see above) 1/2 tsp (3g) table salt*

Cream the butter and icing sugar. Add the 1 cup (300 g) salted caramel and salt and beat for 30 seconds on high until incorporated. Frost the cake. Warm remaining salted caramel and drizzle over cake. Eat slowly!!

Around the Bay – July Events

BLUESKIN LIBRARY	
JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME	Grow Your Own Crystal Workshop Wednesday 2 July, 11am - 12.3opm Bookings essential. Book at: blucirc1@dcc.govt.nz
	Zentangle This doodling activity will be on during library hours in the July school holidays. Come and give it a go.
	Make a Junk Tree House Tuesday - Thursday afternoons, 1 - 3 July and 8 -10 July, 2.30 - 4.30pm Come along and create a tree house out of recyclable items. All materials are provided, and you don't need to book.
Thursday 24	Bookshare: 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.
MONDAYS	Blueskin Bay Knitwits: 6.30 – 8.30pm Contact Christine 021 133 9340
TUESDAYS	Blueskin Bay Knitwits: 2.30 – 4.30pm Contact Christine 021 133 9340
WEDNESDAYS	FREE Community Digital Dropins: 11am – 12.30pm
FRIDAYS	Story Time with Stephaney: 11am

WAIPUTAI HUE	3
Saturday, August 16	9am - 5pm Mental Health First Aid Course presented by St Johns Open to community members by booking before August 9, aged 18+, \$50 koha, limited spaces. Funded by Lotteries Community Grant. Email waiputai@gmail.com for more info.
MONDAYS	Korero te reo Māori 6.30 – 7.30pm Starts 14 July \$5 registration koha Email waiputai@gmail.com to register.
TUESDAYS	Homeschool Art Group: 12.30 - 3.30pm, Contact: Amy Ping Pong: 7 - 8.30pm. All ages, levels and drop ins. Contact: Helena 022 6474 738
WEDNESDAYS	Internet Cuppa & Printing: 2 - 5pm Access to internet computer (no-gaming), and printer (A4 black/white (20 cents/page) & A4 colour (\$1/page). Note: Bookings essential and must be made by Tuesday. Book a space by texting 021 171 0226 or emailing waiputai@gmail.com
THURSDAYS	Homeschool Group: 10.30 – 3.30pm, Contact: Debby
SUNDAYS	Blueskin Bay Orchestra rehearsal 3 – 5pm. Contact: Emily

ST BARNABAS CHURCH	
SUNDAYS	Service: 10.00am Contact Jeremy 027 436 1481

WAITATI VILLAGE	
Sunday 6	Village Market: 11am Contact: Mandy

GALLERY ON BLUESKIN	
Wednesday 2	Quiz 7 - 9pm
Friday 11	Dee Street Band 7pm - 9pm Acoustic Session inside.

ARC BREWERY	
SUNDAYS	Live Music: 2 - 5pm Contact 021 4108 1141

WARRINGTON HALL	
TUESDAYS	Indoor Bowls: 7.30pm
THURSDAYS	Yoga - All levels: 6.30 - 7.30pm Bring your own mat \$10pp Contact: hagino.yoga@gmail.com
FRIDAYS	Community Acupuncture: 9am – 12pm Contact Collin Blake cblake@siacu.nz
SUNDAYS	Waitati Warblers: Singing for joy 4 – 5.30pm Contact: nancymiller140@gmail.com

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

WASTE RECYCLING – WEEK TWO	
Monday 7	Yellow Bin: Mixed Recycling Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 14	Blue Bin: Bottle/Glass Recycling Red Bin: Rubbish Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 21	Yellow Bin: Mixed Recycling Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 28	Blue Bin: Bottle/Glass Recycling Red Bin: Rubbish Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste

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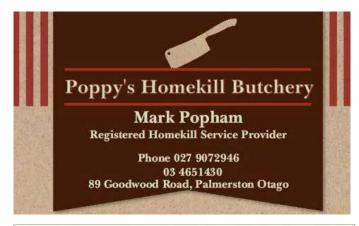
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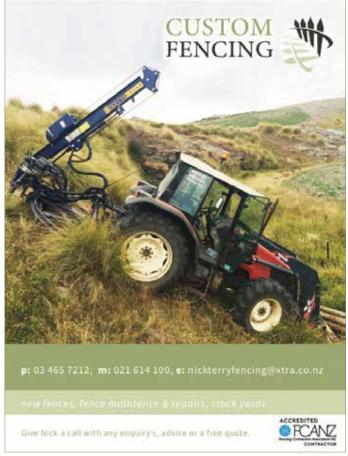
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We welcome and thank you for your contributions and invite you to send your short articles of local interest, calendar events, milestones, history, historic images, poems, recipes, photos of local events, advertising; and anything else you wish to 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.

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A Fitting **Memorial**

A recent additional to the Truby King Reserve at Seacliff (known locally as the Enchanted Forest) is a memorial seat in memory of Chuck Landis who died unexpectly in July 2020.

Since 1975 Chuck, a geologist, had lived in Coast Road at Warrington in what was formerly the James Powell Convalescent Home which was only 6km from the Reserve.

Chuck had a lifelong interest in trees and was an active member of the International Dendrology Society. Following his retirement from the University of Otago in 2001 where he was an Associate Professor in the Geology Department Chuck spent many hours in the Enchanted Forest mapping, dating and identifying many tree species there.

The Reserve includes mixed plantings of exotic deciduous and coniferous species many of which date back to Truby King's reign as Superintendent of the now demolished Psychiatric Hospital between 1889-1920 as well as remnants of the original coastal forest.

In 1991 a map and measurements of the significant trees was made by Euan Cadzow and Chuck updated and added to this map showing tracks and further significant trees. As well he made species lists of exotic shrubs, small trees, native trees, shrubs and climbers which are filed in the Otago Herbarium.

Following the closure of the hospital in 1973 the grounds fell into disrepair but in recent times the plantings have been rescued by the combined efforts of the Truby King Reserve Committee and the DCC. Chuck was delighted to be a member of the Reserve committee and was able to provide valuable input



into it's work providing information to assist with ongoing maintenance and management of the Reserve.

Those who knew Chuck will remember him as a quietly spoke man whose enthusiasm for his interest in trees and dendrology knew no bounds. The Enchanted Forest was a pet project and he loved taking people through the Reserve explaining the amazing variety of trees and their origins

Following the loss of Chuck I wanted to arrange a memorial seat for him in an appropriate place. After considering many sites it was a suggestion from Mark Brown from the Waikouaiti Coast Community Board that resulted in Chuck's memorial seat becoming the first one in the Reserve... so appropriate considering his long association with and love of the Reserve. Thank you Mark for your assistance with this project.

The seat is located at the north end of the community orchard on a rise with views towards Warrington and the South.



Please note if you are visiting the Reserve that the remaining buildings on Russell Road are in private ownership and cannot be visited. This is clearly market.

I intend to arrange a gathering of Chuck's friends and colleagues in the Reserve to remember him and share some memories later this year when the weather is better. If you would like to receive a notice about this please email mekatewalker269@ gmail.com

Kate Walker



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