

BLUESKIN NEWS

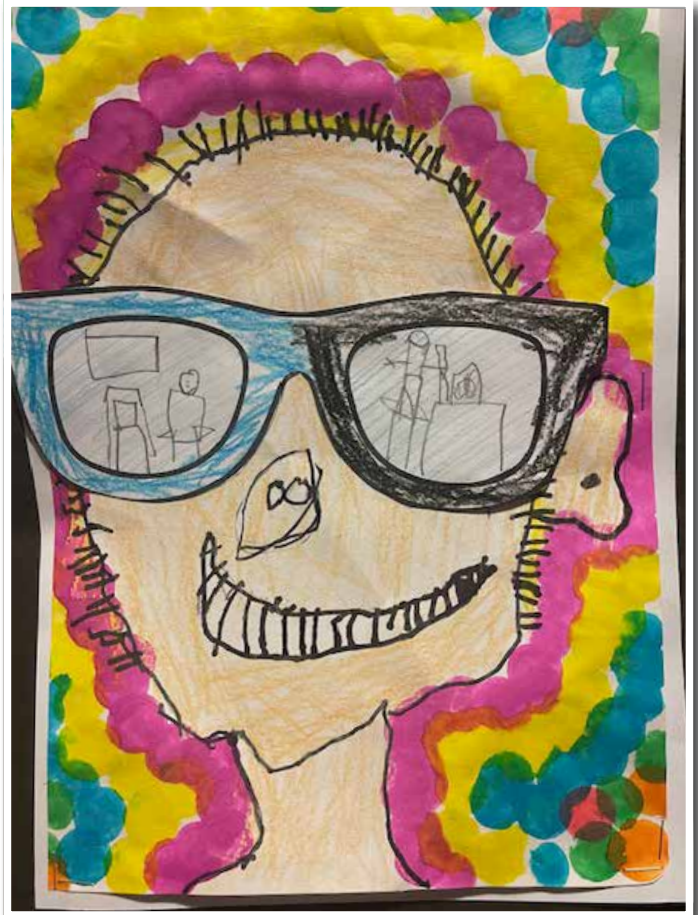
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER Est. 1985

DECEMBER 2024

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



WARRINGTON SCHOOL



Music and Art Around the Bay

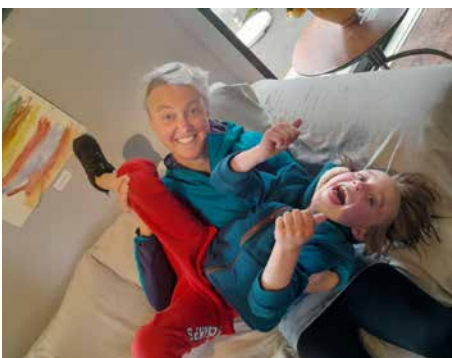
Dougie and the Moonrocks and Pesky - Amee and Raff at the Equestrian Centre



Skin and Bone at Arc Brewery



Thornicroft Road Exhibition



From the Editor

No words of wisdom this month, just a few jokes to invoke a bit of Christmas Spirit!!

- What do gingerbread men use when they break their legs?
Candy canes.
- What did the snowman say to the aggressive carrot? "Get out of my face."
- What do you call an old snowman? Water.
- Why are mummies such big fans of Christmas? Because they enjoy wrapping.
- What do you call a snowman with a six-pack? An abdominal snowman.
- What is green, covered in Christmas lights and Christmas bulbs, and goes ribbit? A mistle-toad.
- How did Joseph and Mary weigh baby Jesus at birth? They had a weigh in the manger.
- What did Adam say on the day before Christmas? "It's Christmas, Eve!"
- Why did the scarecrow get a big Christmas bonus? Because he was outstanding in his field.
- What is a vegan's favorite Christmas song? Soy to the World!
- What did the wise men say after they offered up their gifts of gold and frankincense? Wait, there's myrrh.
- What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite.
- What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney? Claustrophobia!
- What do you call Santa when he stops moving? Santa Pause.
- Enough I hear you say! So I'll finish with wishing you all a very happy Christmas from the Blueskin News Committee. Thanks to everyone for your contributions over the past year and a big thank you to all our advertisers without whom there would be no Blueskin News. The Committee would especially like to thank Matt and Mel from Harvey Street Merchant for their support and their wonderful community spirit. We wish them well for the future.
- We'll be back in February.

Our AGM will be held at the Waitati Hall on Tuesday 28 January at 7.30pm, all welcome. We are always looking for new input on the Committee.

Keep safe and well Bernie



Christmas at St Barnabas Church

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve	Tuesday 24 9pm Carol Service Followed by Spoken Eucharist
Christmas Day	Wednesday 25 10am Christmas Day Service
Every Sunday	10am Service

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.



Warrington Hall Committee wish to say thank you to everyone who has used the hall this year - either regularly or as a one off.

The hall is available for lots of different community events as well as family get togethers, celebrations etc. This year the committee have hosted a community get-together in January. This was very successful and the photos of days gone by have been much admired by folk using the hall. In May we hosted a quiz night which was also very well attended - in fact the hall was full. A big thank you to everyone who came along and helped to raise funds for a new picnic table for Warrington School pupils. On 11 December the Hall will be open to all to come along and see Nick Beckwith's amazing bird/wildlife photography. See this edition for all the details. Finally, on behalf of the Hall Committee all the best for the holiday season, safe travel if you are heading away and happy 2025.

Lyn Hastie, Secretary



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 Sad

The News ... Trump Wins Election. Wars continue unabated, climate events occur more and more frequently causing untold misery and destruction. Meanwhile much of the world continues determinedly consuming wastefully on unnecessary trivia and self indulgence while others are homeless or can't afford the basics.

What Makes Me Mad

That we have a government disregarding all of the above and mindlessly and carelessly pulling out the rug from under Māori, and those in our community most in need.

What Makes Me Glad

The Blueskin News and the crew – volunteers working each month, putting it together, delivering and distributing it. All the many contributors in the community who help put the filling in the sandwich, sending in photos, updates from schools and community groups, and events happening around us. Those who offer up opinions, poems, recipes, informative insights into our community, environment, lifestyle, history, all of which keep it fresh and interesting. A big thank you from me to all of those who answered my requests for the Rant, keep them coming please. Our committee – especially our chair Mandy for being Mandy (I think everyone knows what I mean here); Craig for taking the minutes, proof-reader extraordinaire and the voice of reason guiding us through the messy bits when needed; Clare for keeping our finances on track; Doug for being Mr Reliable and for those wonderful column's; and mostly to Bernie our editor and star player, making the BSN what it is, not even letting overseas travel get in the way. To the rest of the group for their input and help making it happen and all of you for putting up with me! Lastly and importantly thanks heaps to all of our advertisers for their ongoing support, without you we wouldn't have a newsletter and we would all be the poorer for that.

Editor's Note: Thanks Ian, for your vote of thanks, your enthusiasm and great contributions to each month's edition.

11th Waitati Music Festival

The 11th Waitati Music Festival is all ages and three stages of awesome alternative music and happening on the 25 January 2025 and we hope you will join us to celebrate awesome alternative music, arts and sound system culture. The event runs from 11am to 11pm and tickets are only \$40 if you purchase them before 31 December. In January tickets are \$50 and if you wait until the day, they are \$70. Children under 15 are free but must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Bands include: LEFT OR RIGHT, RHYTHMONYX, HA THE UNCLEAR, GUSTO GUSTO (Aus), DUNEDIN ELECTRIC COMPANY, SAELYN, SOGG, THE BEATNIKS, IVY, BIN DAY, GRACE GEMMELL, SIVLE TALK, SKULLDUBBERY, GUTTERLOVE, DOUGIE & THE MOON ROCKS, SAURIAN, THE MENTALIST COLLECTIVE, BOG, PRETTY DUMB, PKD, MEA CULPA, FOTA, BRACKISH. DJs include JUNGLE FARI, RASPOUSABLE, KARAKA, HIPPIECRITE, NIHILISM, NEVERMIND, SHOBA, KTB, BENT COPPA, EKTOPIK. Poets include: WILD CARDS AOTEAROA, VICTOR BILLOT, CHRIS YOUNG, DUNCAN EDDY, J.GODFREY SMITH, MAC MACDONALD, RICHARD REEVE, ANTON SANGIE. Comedians include HARRIET MOIR, DEMELZA RAY.

To help us with our Zero Waste mission to avoid adding to the landfill please bring a mug, plate and cutlery for the food trucks as we provide washing up facilities on site. Avoid bringing food with plastic or foil wrappers. Only bring cans or plastic bottles because glass hurts.

There will be lots of art, a graffiti battle, kids' zone, kids parade, food & coffee trucks. To keep the ticket cost low and kids free, we have had grant support from The Otago Community Trust, Dunedin City Council, Community Organisation Scheme (COGS) plus sponsorship support from Gravity Events, Unity Sound, Dakins and the Waitati Equestrian Centre. Waitati Music Festival is a not-for-profit gig organised by volunteers.

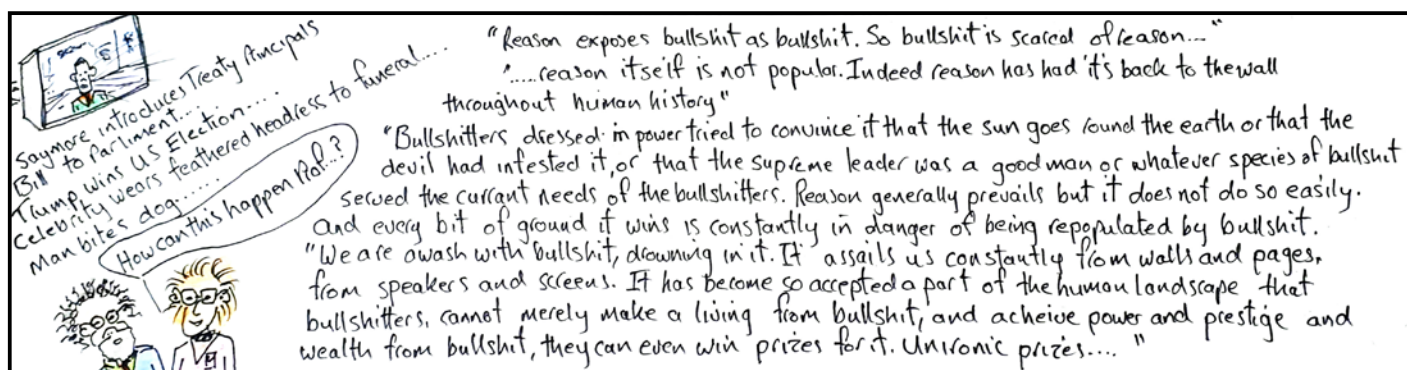
See you on the dance floor!

Ngā mihi,

Katie Peppercorn

Madness vs Sanity

From 'Double Happiness: How Bullshit Works' by Joe Bennett



Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre

October seems like it was a busy month for the heritage centre, what with the Labour weekend plant sale and hosting a large group of Dunedin gardeners for morning tea. One of our volunteers also gave a presentation in Dunedin to an audience of heritage enthusiasts.

Our plant sale was a huge success as usual, even though we had to move everything indoors due to inclement weather, nobody seemed to mind that it was a bit crowded at times. The Devonshire teas in the main bank chamber were a hit as well, it was lovely to see the room full of people sitting chatting over a cup of tea/coffee and enjoying a creamed scone made by Bev. Jan and Sue had three raffles running as well. Overall, we raised just under \$4500 on the day. This sum was added to the following week with about 45 keen gardeners here for morning tea, so of course we took the opportunity to offer remaining plants from the sale to them.

We hope to continue being busy in the lead up to Christmas, we have more stock arriving, so do call in and see what we have to offer, this includes a number of 2025 calendars and a range of lovely tea towels, ideal for posting to friends and family, along with lots of other gift ideas.

We plan to be open every day in the week prior to Christmas, and there's plenty of parking here too.

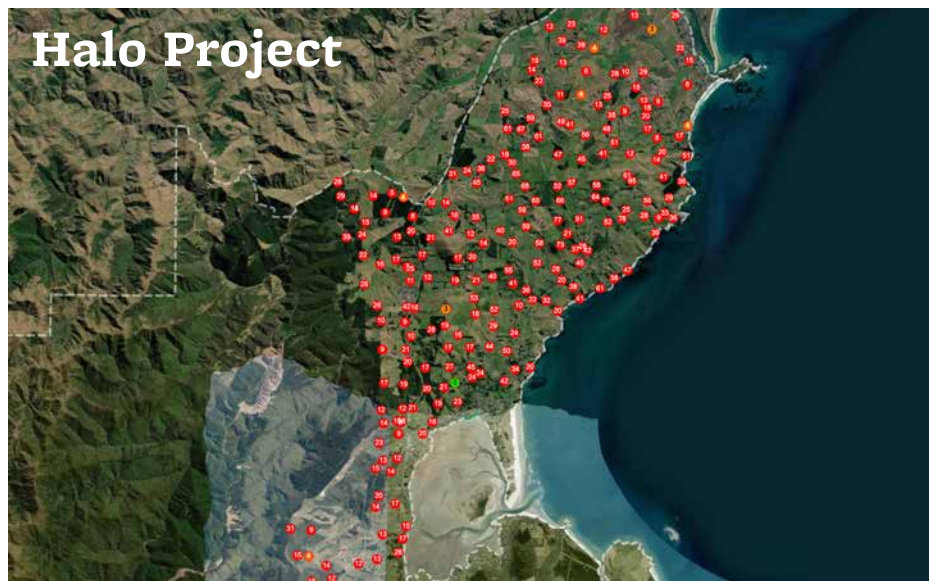
Shirley McKewen, Treasurer



The Halo Project Predator Free team have been hard at work servicing the automatic self-resetting AT220 trap network in the Karitāne Coast area recently. Since these traps were last serviced in April, they have removed another 1,472 possums and 1,461 rodents. This brings the total predators removed from this area by these devices to 6,166! The circles in the map show the number of predators removed by each device since they were installed in late 2023.

The Source to Sea team have been getting stuck into pest plants, surveying at biodiversity hotspots such as Aramoana, Heyward Point and Ōtama Kaipapa/ Doctor's Point. They have identified an abundance of pest plant species that are considered a threat to our native fauna,

Halo Project



in line with the Otago Regional Council Regional Pest Management Plan. You can read more about these pest plants by visiting www.orc.govt.nz/pesthub.

The Source to Sea team are eager to hear from community or business groups who would like to participate in a pest plant removal volunteer day. These events are happening until winter 2025 and present an opportunity for team building in the sunshine, with a delicious sausage sizzle lunch provided! Reach out to info@haloproject.org.nz if you'd like to join them.

The Halo Project highly recommends an application called 'Aotearoa Species Classifier'. They use this app to identify pest and native plants when completing their surveys. A photo of the plant is uploaded, and an identification is suggested, alongside a probability score of how likely the identification is of being accurate. Encouragingly this app can also be used to identify animal species! You can download it from the 'app store' on your phone.

East Otago Plunket Round Up



The East Otago Playgroup in Waikouaiti runs weekly during school term time on Wednesdays 10am – 12pm at the Plunket Rooms in the East Otago Events Centre and a number of parents regularly come over from Blueskin Bay to attend this. Come along and join in to connect with other parents and caregivers and to give your child a chance to socialise and build connections with other children. A festive Christmas session will be held on 18 December before the group takes a break over the Christmas holiday period, please come and join in the fun.

Did you know that Plunket organises swimming/water confidence classes at Moana Gow Pool in Hawksbury Village for children aged between 6 months and 5 years? If you would like more information or to put your name down for lessons in term 1 next year email annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz

Plunket also organises First Aid courses specifically tailored to parents of babies and toddlers covering primary assessment, CPR, choking, RSV, meningitis, poisoning, burns and more. If you would be interested in registering for one of these next year (a small fee of \$15 applies) email annabel.kuzma@plunket.org.nz

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

Ngā mihi nui, Annabel

*Waiputai
Festive
Fete*

*Whānau friendly community gathering,
Live music, Food, Stalls, BBQ, & Caroling
Live performances by*

**The Paper Moon Jazz Band
with Dell Mcleod
& with Sue Bourne
&
The Blueskin Bay Orchestra
&
The Warblers**

**Sunday, December 1st,
1-5p.m.
Waiputai Hub, 10 Stephenson St.,
Warrington**

All welcome



Pūrākaunui School

One Waka. One Crew. Many Journeys.

We have had an action-packed term 4! We had an after-school celebration to open our new whare kai (kitchen) and share the seven incredible murals we have created with artist Manu Berry as part of the Creatives in Schools project. We have also been on a two-night camp down the road, where we dug our own longdrop, chopped wood for the fire to cook over, went horse riding, climbed a waterfall, built rafts and bivouacs, and all sorts of other kinds of outdoor fun!

At the end of this year, our Principal, Nicky Bell, will be moving on after three years as our Tumuaki. We would like to thank Nicky for her tireless mahi leading Pūrākaunui school for the last three years. Nicky has made our kura all the richer for the energy that she has put into it. We are very sad to see her go but feel fortunate to have shared the last three years of our journey with her and wish her the best for her future endeavours.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Mikaela Wilson as the new Tumuaki of Pūrākaunui School, starting in term 1 2025. Mikaela, who currently teaches at Waitati School, brings 18 years of experience in education. She has held a variety of roles at Waitati School, including team leader, Board of Trustees member, office manager, and mentor to student teachers.

Sarah Williamson

**Waiputai Disability
Equipment Library**

**A network for good
things to be put to a
good use**

**Lenders and Borrowers
wanted**

email waiputai@gmail.com

The joys of making music – all under Blueskin Skies!

*He waka eke noa! We are all in this together!
Ehara taku toa i te toa takitini. My strength is not the strength
of one, it is the strength of many.*

Magic happens when you people and music get together! There is a wonder when a diversity of people and of music meet. It is about coming together and being together; singers and players and most importantly, an appreciative audience. The effort, practice and the overcoming of challenges (for singers and players and conductors alike), all comes together.

"The most unique thing about music is sharing". (Igort Levit)

It was a warm and receptive audience of all ages who came to hear the Blueskin Bay Orchestra and the Waitati Warblers in a shared concert on 3 November in Waitati Hall.

"The true beauty of music is that it connects people. It carries a message, and we, the musicians, are the messengers". (Roy Ayers)

The music ranged from **Ka Waiata** and **Under African Skies** from the Warblers to excerpts from Bizet's **Carmen Suite** and Beethoven's **Pastoral Symphony** from the orchestra and the well-known **The Wellerman** and the hit **Africa**, sung and played by the two groups joining together.

"You don't get harmony when everybody sings the same note". (Doug Floyd)

"If everything was perfect you would never learn and would never grow" (Beyoncé)

Behind all this music-making are two people whose many talents are generously shared.

Nancy Miller has been directing the Warblers for many years, making the trek each week from the city and now from Mosgiel, to practices in Warrington each Sunday afternoon.

Emily Sterk, a Warrington local, brings the Waiputai Hub to life, also on a Sunday afternoon, interweaving the sounds of a variety of musical instruments.

Collaborating together with singers and players takes time and commitment – we did it!

"Musicians don't retire. They stop when there is no more music in them". (Louis Armstrong)

Murray Fletcher



Harvey Street Merchant

Kia ora Blueskin community, Rafferty and I (Amea) have recently purchased the beloved Harvey Street Merchant. We're a few weeks in now and things are ticking along nicely.

Raff used to be a produce manager and this skill set is proving to come in handy as we expand the range of organic produce in the store. We have a regular delivery of certified organic produce as well as some locally sourced spray free options. I've been busy building up the inventory and have added some organic canned goods, some NZ made cereals, Tio Pablo (a NZ made Mexican range), new gelato flavours, and Juicies. We've also got some new cleaning, health and wellbeing products, including Solid Toothpaste, Finding Wellness cleaning products and essential oil rollers, and the Kara Kawa range (soaps, solid shampoo, etc.). There's loads more new things in store and more on the way.

Our dream is for the store to be YOUR local grocery store, providing healthy staple and treat-yourself options, while also stocking great locally made gifts. We're keeping our margins on the low-ish side and our products varied in the hopes that we can meet everyone's needs. I want the shop to be for the community and I want it to support our sustainability efforts.

Pop in sometime – Amea



Hat-Holding Democracy

The people have spoken. My inbox was full of it. Predictable stuff. 'A dark day for democracy' they said. 'He's a tyrant' they said. Yes, I agreed, while pointing out that modern history is littered with dark days for democracy. And history is littered with popular tyrants. We had our own 'dark day' a year ago. And we have our own popular tyrants. But Trumps' romp to rule the worlds most powerful democracy, is real 'hold onto your hat' territory.

But them's the rules. Democracy, created to give voice to the people, means accepting the choice of the majority. And throughout the worlds' democracies, the tactic is always the same. Lie, cajole, and make promises you never intend to keep. Attract that majority. Back in 1891, Sebastian Melmoth said 'Democracy means simply the bludgeoning of the people by the people for the people'. And in 1944, American humorist E. B. White opined that 'Democracy is the recurrent suspicion that more than half the people are right more than half the time'. Well, I suspect we're all about to be bludgeoned.

Most political analysts contend that people vote with their wallets. Democracy therefore, is fraught with individualism, that self-importance trait developed since the French revolution. So democracy, by definition, is ideological and easily manipulated. Our election was bought for a \$25 tax cut. Americas' was bought by a promise of prosperity and greatness. My concern of Trump 2.0 is how he's to achieve this. Believing anthropogenic climate change is a deep-state hoax, Trumps' 'drill baby drill, frack frack frack' comments, should concern every individual on the planet.

In 1947, Winston Churchill said 'democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried'. The world's most powerfull democracy demonstrates nothing to discredit his statement.

Doug Nuttall



Our gorgeous, noisy, cheeky kaka, swooping around noisily in juvenile gangs, they are beautiful to see, but I have a NIMBY issue with them – just not in my backyard. Our neighbours thought they would generously share their walnuts with the kaka, but instead the kaka gang swooped by and stripped, cracked, scoffed and left the tree bare...bastards.

I refuse to ever put food out for them. A couple of years ago I put left over crackers, seeds and crusts out for the seed eating birds. Having been attracted to our garden they repaid my kindness by turning our silver beet into lace work (very pretty thank you birds), and ravaging pea plants, bean plants and corn seedlings among others...bastards.

I only feed the honey sippers now.

When there are berries in the garden, they have to be covered long before they even start to ripen or the black birds eat them up before you even know you have ripe fruit. Even with covers, blackbirds are born clever and can live for a maximum of 21 years. They learn where your raspberries are and have a little foraging map in their heads that says "oh, those raspberries must be getting ripe on Orokonui Road, I might check them out". Then they use every trick they have learned to get in under or through the nets. We were taking to a woman on the beach today who called pukekos "ferrets of the bird world". Ferrets kill chooks for fun, pukekos rip apart your vegetable plants for fun... bastards.

I love birds but I also love my food crops.

Here are some maximum life spans of common local birds to show how clever it is possible for them to become over a few seasons, and will keep returning to the scene of the crime at your place for years, and teach their kids too.

Blackbird 21 years	Thrush 11 years	Kereru 15-20 years
Sparrow 12 years	Starling 17 years	Rosella 10-20 years
Magpie 21 years	Kaka 42 years (in captivity)	Pukeko average 9 years

Grape netting is fairly readily available 2nd-hand from all those Central Otago vineyards. It needs mending, I use fishing line to mend it so the mends lasts longer.

I saw some clever supports for berries made with steel rebar topped with pieces of black polythene hose to make hoops as a non snag netting support.

I usually use warratahs with tin cans sitting on the top of each to drape the netting over before pegging it round the bottom with tent pegs. I have a bad habit of stealing all our camping pegs and using them in the gardens which causes relationship issues when we go camping.

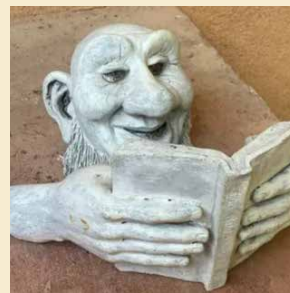
I also use fibreglass bendy poles as hoops covered in insect mesh to keep out birds (including pukekos), white butterflies and many other little insect bastards.

When it comes to garden netting, treat it like covid... go hard and go early.

Hilary Rowley

WAITATI BOOK CLUB by Ian Melvin

After watching a fairly arduous confronting film at the Italian film festival I tootle my way up and over the hill to Peter's place in Helensburgh. Arriving, I sadly miss the usual enthusiastic welcome from Pip the dog who is no longer with us. We settle into a very genial evening, minus Scott and Paul, who were otherwise engaged. Interesting discussions ensued regarding club issues, pub nite and or a slide evening, further reading choices etc. Drifting on to previous lives and life experiences, Marc in a pipe factory in Holland, Martin in a plastic press factory in Christchurch and so on it seems we have all travelled a similar road at some point and had a variety of interesting and entertaining stories to tell of those times... very enjoyable. Mention was also briefly made of 'The book'...



THE BOOK

***The High Mountains of Portugal* by Yann Martel** (author of *Life of Pi* Booker Prize winner)

A surrealistic patchwork of extreme scenarios linked together by an under-running theme (sort of) navigating a very early model Renault into the so called highlands of Portugal on a quest, not having a clue how one of these contraptions works. Combining the graphic details of a post mortem along with the overlap of Christianity and the novels of Agatha Christie, a man living with a chimpanzee in a remote village in Portugal. Yet somehow it works, a little weird, a little comic, entertaining and enlightening even. Peter and I for once in agreement on books read, we both enjoyed it, Marc not so much, others were somewhere in the middle.

OTHER BOOKS

***Raw Spirit In Search of the Perfect Dram* by Iain Banks**

A Sottish author's unique journey around his native land, his goal to find the perfect dram and the perfect dram must be a single malt.

"He finds people engaged in a centuries old tradition where eccentricity is the norm, it's a journey of a thousand 'cheers' and subsequent wobbly walks, of unpronounceable place names, daft customs and superstitions ... will Banks prevail? It's a tough job, and as he puts it: someone's got to do it, and I am damn sure it's going to be me." from the cover blurb.

MUSIC

Bonnie Raitt: *The Glow* 1979

From the pile- classic Bonnie Raitt, slide guitarist blues queen, the voice of a black American soul/blues singer in the body of a skinny red haired white woman. With a hard arse band featuring Little Feat's Bill Payne on keyboards, David Sanborn on sax and the legendary Paul Butterfield on harmonica. This is no blues record, pure R&B, Soul, and Jazz. Standout tracks are Isacc Hayes: Your Good Things About To End and the Bill Payne lead funk with her slide guitar fitting right in there - The Boy Can't Help It. Both available on YouTube.

BEER

Marc: Emerson's this year acknowledged the South German tradition of 'Oktoberfest' by brewing three German style beers '**Das Bock**' is a strong beer available only at the tap room but worth the trouble of seeking out. It has a good depth of flavour, with the right measures of sweetness and malt - recommended. (I can fully endorse Marc's sentiments here!)

OTHER STUFF

Wilding a film from the British and Irish Film Festival

Isabella Tree and her husband Charlie Burrell strive to breathe new life into their ailing estate by returning it to the wild. Documenting a ten year cycle of recovery and what changes ensued, with the why and how that process progressed. Wonderfully filmed! Everyone should see this movie just to comprehend the importance of understanding the principle of connectivity and how that affects everything including us. Available online at [Flicks.co.nz](https://www.flicks.co.nz) or Met film-trailer for a taster.

WORD OF THE MONTH

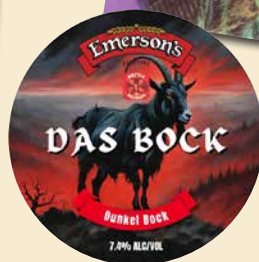
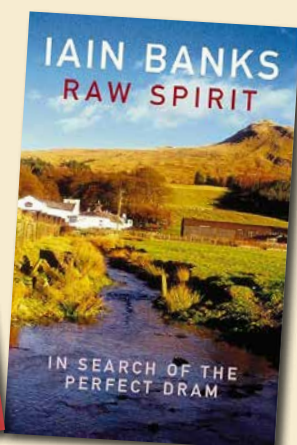
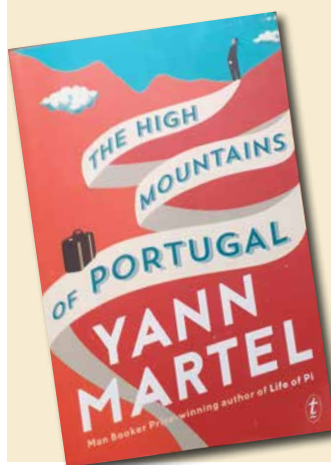
Contemplation - "Peter has learned the difficult animal skill of doing nothing. He's learned to unshackle himself from the race of time and contemplate time itself. As far as he can tell that's what Odo spends most of his time doing: being in time, like one who sits by a river, watching the water go by. It's a lesson hard learned, just to sit there and be."

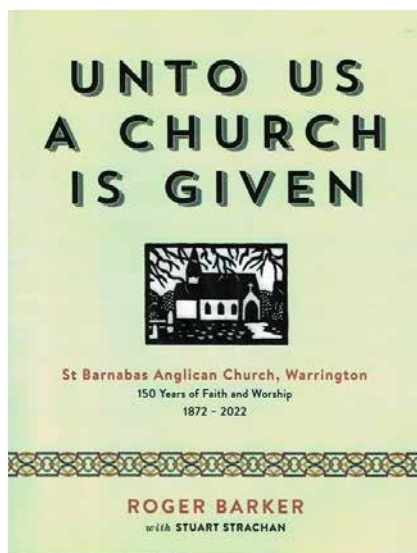
Quote from ***High Mountains of Portugal***

MEANING OF LIFE

"This is where a stiff Whisky really does make all the difference. No matter how funk-up the world may get, a good dram will at least make it more bearable, and A-flippen men to that."

Quote from ***Raw Spirit***





REVIEW

This comprehensive history of St. Barnabas Anglican church, Warrington, is one of the most detailed accounts of any church in New Zealand from its foundation to the present day.

It is a testimony to perseverance and achievement. It takes us from the origins of Captain and Mrs. Pitt, who donated the land over 150 years ago, right up to the members of the present congregation and their Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Dr. Jeremy Nicoll. With Stuart Strachan's assistance, the information has been obtained from a variety of sources including Vestry Minutes, Parish and Diocesan Records, Hocken Collections, Newspapers and, of course, the many letters and reminiscences left by the individuals, past and present, who have contributed to this wonderful history.

There is a real insight into the lives of the founding families, the Pitts, the Smiths and the Gellibrands, their struggles and successes, their sorrows and their joys. Through the imaginative writing of Roger Barker, the narrative transports us to the very times in which the clergy and parishioners were living.

An outstanding feature of this history is how much so many people have given generously of themselves down the ages to the present times through their involvement with the church. Their loyalty, devotion and active roles in the parish are still contributing to the life of St. Barnabas today.

We still have copies to sell and contact Louise at labooth@xtra.co.nz. The cost of the book is \$45.

Louise Booth



Waikouaiti Coast Community Board

So, where did the year go? Is it because we're busy, or because we get a bit older, but "it doesn't seem like a year since last Christmas"?

We are now into the 'Dunedin City Council 9 Year Plan: 2025-2034'. This is the time when anybody can make suggestions and have input into the Council's financial plans. [It is usually a 10 Year Long Term Plan but, due to some uncertainty about the incoming Government's statements relating to 3-Waters, all local councils decided to have an Annual Plan last year, followed by the current 9-Year Plan]. Apologies if this all seems like a bit of gobbledygook, but it's one of the joys? of being involved in local government.

We have two major issues in our northern region. These are the future of the Wastewater Treatment Plants for Warrington and Waikouaiti/Karitane, both near the end of their useful lives and with Resource Consents expiring. The solution will cost many millions, and I'll give you more details early next year.

We are also addressing the issues relating to roadside vegetation. You may be aware that, when Council decided not to sell Aurora Energy, it was made clear that there would not be any money available for 'nice to have' projects. We will be presenting some suggestions to Councillors in the next few months.

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.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and may the New Year bring what you desire.

**Alasdair Morrison, Chairman,
Waikouaiti Coast Community Board.**

Litterbug

by Duncan Eddy

The detritus
blowing around
in the wind
remembers your name.

The pile of trash
you dumped
by the bus stop
at Matthews Track
contains an envelope
with your full name,
address and
date of birth,
and your dog's
name,
breed,
and registration number.

One day I saw
an old car battery
sitting abandoned
in the sand
near the base
of Mapoutahi,
with the all bits
that stop
the acid from splashing out
removed,
and I wondered
what kind of person
would leave a car battery
at the beach?

And there's a guy who sits
drinking cider
in his truck
on his way home from work
who throws the empty green plastic
bottles
down the bank
into the bushes
and he thinks that no one knows.

We know.



Blueskin Bay Orchestra
presents

🎵 Christmas Carols 🎵
at
ARC BREWERY
Sunday 15th Dec 2024
4pm





Kia Ora Blueskin Bay!

Wow, we're having a great summer at playcentre! Playcentre has been humming with many merry wee voices accompanied by their friendly whānau. Sometimes I just can't believe how much fun we all have there.

I'd like to do a big shout out to Nat this month, for her caring, welcoming nature. She's always ensuring that the parents and grandparents are being well looked after, helping make everyone coffees and organising morning teas. Thanks Nat, we're very lucky to have you there.

Cara and her little elves have also been very busy at Playcentre creating a wonderful gingerbread play house with fairy lights and a letterbox that goes direct to Santa! It looks fabulous.

Just a reminder that Playcentre is open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays during term time from 8:45 until 12:15, and our official last day this year is the 18th December. So when you feel like you need a change of scene in the next couple of weeks and are not sure where to go, Playcentre is the answer! We have a huge range of toys to keep the imaginations of babies to six-year-olds fully engaged and a great space to play in. There's no cost involved with attending and there's free coffee! You'd even get to meet Nat. We'd love to see you there! Have a wonderful December with a very Merry Christmas!

Heather



Waitati

SCHOOL UPDATE



Our beautiful swamp filled with water, one of the most favourite places to play at Waitati School.



Kapuka, our Year 1 class - Fire Lighting in the swamp with Nathan.



Hike from Orokonui Ecosanctuary past our school creation installation back to school.



Our new music studio, filled with the sounds of music. Lovey with Miamh and Robbie.



The sandpit - a place for creative play.



Community Service at Orokonui Ecosanctuary.



Matariki celebration.



Year 6-8 William Pike Programme at Ross Home - community service.



Performing at Polyfest 2024. Watētē Kapa Haka Roopu.



Creative Waitati School Passion Projects performance. The Clown Troupe.

BLUESKIN GARDEN CLUB

On Saturday 2 November our club hosted 128 keen gardeners from 43 Otago and Southland garden clubs to a 'kindred day' - a day when we get together, listen to interesting speakers, buy plenty of plants and visit lovely gardens.

We are indebted to Glenys as chief organiser with the help of other garden club members for all the work that was involved.

A big thanks to our speakers as well, Sally Brown from Blueskin Nursery and Gillian Vine from the ODT. The five gardens visited were the Taste Nature Garden in Blueskin Road, Fiona and Dave's up Double Hill Road, and Alan and Wendy's, Lyne C's and Lesley and Pete's at Warrington. It was a great day.

After this our garden club members and partners had a celebratory meal and evening at Marg and Hartley's house in Doctors Point. Thank you both for opening your house to us all!

Bev Lyons



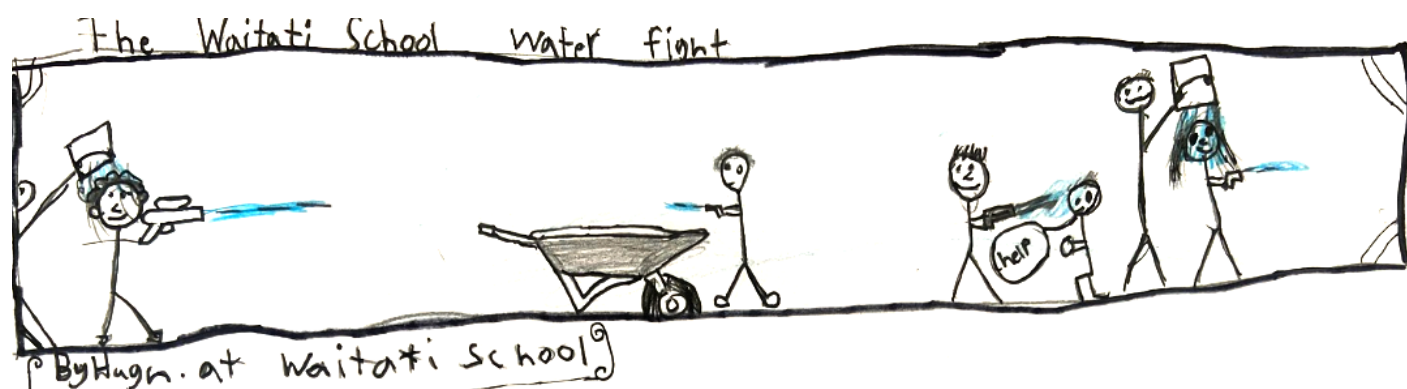
CELEBRATIONS



The new mural at the hub



Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Campion - married 9 November



Beginner Aerials Starts in Blueskin Bay



Aerial silks is amazing to watch but have you thought about trying it yourself? Blueskin Bay residents now have that chance thanks to Brophy Aerials moving their school to the Equestrian Centre on Waitati Valley Road.

This unique circular space has been used for a range of events and is now the temporary home for the aerial school until at least April 2025. Its height and large beams means it is perfect for hanging aerial equipment and there are now a range of weekly classes being taught. More importantly, for anyone interested in giving it a try, there is a new beginner's class starting on Wednesdays at 6pm which is targeted at Blueskin Bay locals.

Aerial School director, Rochelle Brophy, says there is often a misconception that you need to be flexible or super-strong already but that is not the case. "The thing is, aerials helps you develop strength and flexibility and it's way more fun than going to the gym."

"There's people of all ages doing aerials and we don't throw beginners in the deep end. There's lots you can do on silks that is floor based, using knots to hold you, and we work at your level."

The new class is for adults and/or teenagers from 12 years up but parents are welcome to come with their young adult and do it together.

"We have a lot of fun, classes are small and you don't have to sign up for a whole term, so we make it very accessible."

For more information you can email brophyaerials@gmail.com or call/text 021 0233 4565.

Rochelle Brophy



St Barnabas Church Book Launch



BLUESKIN BAY LIBRARY

28 Harvey Street, Waitati, 9085 • Ph 03 482-2444 • www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz

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

What's On

Summer Holiday Activities

From Christmas cards and gift tags, to tree houses and thumb printing we have lots of activities planned for these holidays. To get things started we have...

Jay the Juggler & Magician – 7 December, 10.30am

Recycled cards & gift tags – 16-20 December, all day

Junk tree house – 13-25 January, all day



Children's Summer Reading Programme

If you haven't already registered for the 2024-25 Children's Summer Reading Programme, come in, sign up and pick up your booklet along with a stash of goodies for the summer holidays. Set your own reading goals and fill the booklet with the details of what you've read and go in the draw for some cool prizes, and the end of summer grand draw.

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

(contact Christine 021 133 9340)

Tuesdays, 2.30 - 4.30pm

All ages and experience levels are welcome.



Bookshare

Thursday 19 December, 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*

From chess to checkers, Cluedo to Monopoly we've got the lot. Come along and join in the fun of board games for all ages. Or, drop-in and build something awesome with our great new Lego pieces.

*Suitable for ages 5+.



Christmas Gift Workshop

Hair Drying Wraps

Sunday 8 December, 10.30am-12noon

Hilary and Janet are back with an easy project to turn a towel into a hair drying turban. So much easier than a towel and quickly dries hair ready for a hair dryer or just to comb and go.

\$20 will give you a lesson, all materials, a pattern and instructions to take home, and of course your own head wrap. If you have an overlocker, by all means bring it. They can be constructed with just a sewing machine, some machines will be available for use. They make great gifts. Phone **482 2444** to book your place.



Christmas & New Year Library Hours

Get your holds sorted and stock up with your reading material and DVDs for Christmas and the Children's Summer Reading Challenge because the library will be closed from Tuesday 24 December through to 5 January, reopening **Monday 6 January**.



DCC Service Centre

@ Blueskin Bay Library

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


dunedin public libraries
Kā Kete Wānaka o Ōtepoti

Our very own Warrington Sealions

As local residents we are proud to be an important player in sealion conservations.

Each summer our local mum Joy gives birth to a pup on the Warrington Spit. Now her daughter Hope has been returning to Warrington to pup and other sealions are visiting and even delivering pups on our lovely sandy beaches in amongst the protective pine trees

Residents will be watching for notices erected to remind about their presence for the 4 – 5 weeks of the Christmas holidays. Department of Conservation summer rangers visit and coordinate local volunteers to monitor their position and keep signage current.

We can all help these special creatures to have peace while they pup by reminding visitors to stay 50m away from marine mammals, have dogs on leads as signage advises.

Pinch points are the carparks – which unfortunately is where the sea lions often choose to be! Visitors need to stop and leash the dog, **before opening a car door**. Visitors may allow their dogs to bounce out of the car and immediately approach the resting animals. While they are extremely unlikely to hurt people, a barking dog is easy game for sealions and the bacteria in sea lion saliva would be lethal to land mammals such as dogs, who have no resistance to the marine bacteria.

Sea lions are sand animals and walk on four “leg-like flippers”. Females are sandy colored, males are dark and huge. They will naturally interact with humans who shout, wave arms or towels, or shoo them – but otherwise they are disinterested and happy to rest on the sand. On the other hand, Fur seals wriggle along the ground, hang out on rocks, not sand and are more likely to scarper, heading at pace towards the sea, when disturbed.

You can find out more about these differences on the DoC website – there are some lovely pictures there too.



GET SET FOR SUMMER SAFETY



Otago
Regional
Council

SAFER BOATING

Make sure safety is your first priority if you're going out on the water this summer. Before going out, check the weather conditions, your vessel and all your gear, including safety and communication equipment.



BOATING SAFETY CODE

1. **Wear your lifejacket**
2. **Take two waterproof ways to call for help**
3. **Check the marine weather forecast**
4. **Avoid alcohol**
5. **Be a responsible skipper**

IF IN DOUBT, DON'T GO OUT



HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FRESHWATER PESTS

Lagarosiphon, didymo and lake snow are the three major freshwater pests present in Otago, and they can spread from a single drop of water or plant fragment. When you're out on the water this summer – boating, paddle boarding, kayaking, or swimming – make sure before you move between waterways, you always **Check, Clean and Dry** any clothing and equipment to prevent freshwater pests hitchhiking from one waterway to another.

When you leave a waterway, check there's no plant material attached to your boat, trailer, clothes or footwear.

Let's all do our bit to protect Otago's waterways.

CAN I SWIM HERE?

Every summer ORC's environmental monitoring team checks 36 popular swimming spots around Otago for bacteria and/or algae to see if they're safe to swim in.

SWIM SMART CHECKLIST:

- Avoid swimming for 48 hours after heavy rain, as runoff can be washed into waterways.
- Follow any warning signs.
- Check the water is clean and clear.
- Stay away from any pipes, culverts, and flocks of birds.
- Check for hazards.
- Learn how to spot toxic algae and know the hotspots for blooms in Otago.

Check your local swim spot and plan your trip with the latest information.

**STAY SAFE
THIS SUMMER**

Find out more: orc.govt.nz/summersafety

Around the Bay – December Events

BLUESKIN LIBRARY	
Summer Holiday Activities	Jay the Juggler & Magician 7 December, 10.30am Recycled cards & gift tags 16-20 December, all day Junk tree house – 13-25 January, all day
Sunday 8	Christmas Gift Workshop Hair Drying Wraps: 10.30am – 12noon
Thursday 19	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
FRIDAYS	Story Time with Stephaney: 11am

WAIPUTAI HUB	
Sunday 1	Festive Fete: 1 – 5pm Performances by Paper Moon Band, Sue Bourne, Dell McLeod, Blueskin Bay Orchestra & the Warblers Free entry All welcome
TUESDAYS	Homeschool group – Art Workshops: 12.30 – 3.30pm. Contact Amy Table top role playing games (Dungeons and Dragons, etc.): 4 – 6.30pm All ages Drop in any time FREE Ping Pong: 7 – 8.30pm. All ages, levels and drop ins. Contact: Helena 022 6474 738
WEDNESDAYS	Homeschool Group: 10.30am – 1pm, Music Workshop. Contact: Emily
THURSDAYS	Pilates: Casual session 6.30pm \$18 Contact: Sylvia 021 109 9302
FRIDAYS	Introduction to Te Reo: 6 – 8pm. Contact: Nancy Todd
SUNDAYS	Blueskin Bay Orchestra rehearsal 4pm – 6pm. Contact: Emily

GALLERY ON BLUESKIN	
Wednesday 4	Quiz 7 – 9pm
Sunday 8	Christmas Lunch 12-2pm bookings recommended
Saturday 14	Cocktails and Clothes Swap 3 – 6pm DJ with KTB
Sunday 15	Christmas Lunch 12-2pm bookings recommended and SUPERGLUE the Band – live music in the courtyard 12.30 – 2.30pm
Saturday 21	Doug and the Moonrocks with Tiny Pieces of Eight – live music in the courtyard 5 – 9pm
Sunday 22	Christmas Lunch 12 – 2pm bookings recommended
PLEASE NOTE – the first Quiz in January 2025 will be on the 8 January	

WAITATI VILLAGE	
Sunday 1	Village Market: 11am Contact: Mandy

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

ST BARNABAS CHURCH	
Tuesday 24	Christmas Eve 9pm Carol Service Followed by Spoken Eucharist
Wednesday 25	Christmas Day 10am Christmas Day Service
SUNDAYS	Service: 10.00am Contact Jeremy 027 436 1481

WARRINGTON HALL	
Wednesday 11	Birds 7.30pm All welcome, supper to follow.
THURSDAYS	Seasonal Hatha Yoga: 6.30 – 7.30pm Bring your own mat \$10pp Contact: hagino.yoga@gmail.com
SUNDAYS	Waitati Warblers: Singing for joy 4 – 5.30pm (winter) Contact: nancymiller140@gmail.com

WAITATI HALL	
MONDAYS	Steady As You Go: 1.30pm Age Concern Gentle Yoga: 6pm Bring your own mat \$10pp Contact: hagino.yoga@gmail.com Table Tennis: 7.30pm til late Contact: Nigel 021 236 2818
TUESDAYS	NIA Dance Class: 11.30am-12.30pm \$10 Contact: Clare Reilly 021 177 5350 Yuan Qigong: 5.30-6.30pm Movement and Meditation for Deep Relaxation Single class \$12 or \$80 for 8 sessions. Contact: Jay bodymindqi@gmail.com
WEDNESDAYS	Yoga Restore & Rejuvenate 6.30 – 7.30pm 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
FRIDAYS	Community Acupuncture: 8 – 11am Contact Collin Blake cblake@siacu.nz
SATURDAYS	NIA Dance Class: 4 – 5pm \$10 Contact: Clare Reilly 021 177 5350

REMINDER

This is a community newsletter and we would love to hear from YOU.

Photos, articles, history, opinions, paintings, poems, cartoons, recipes...

Cut off date 15th of month prior

Send to blueskin.input@gmail.com

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monthly :

First Wednesday is Quiz night until 9pm
Last Wednesday is Live Jazz night until 9pm



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Whether your looking to sell or to buy, I'd love to help. Give me a call and let's have a chat. Kirsty: 0273114445



847 Mount Cargill Rd, Waitati



2 Halkirk St, Karitane



Section - 2 Okahau Terrace, Warrington



36 Cottle St, Upper Junction

We couldn't have asked for a better agent! Kirsty truly knows her stuff and went above and beyond during every step of the process. Her communication was exceptional —always prompt, clear, and professional. We felt fully supported from start to finish, her expertise made what we assumed would be a stressful experience, so much easier.
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Summer Gardening

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Enjoy a delicious lunch & coffee while strolling through the garden centre.



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Festive Hours

Thank you for your support throughout the year.
We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas & best wishes for 2025.

from all the Blueskin Team

Christmas Hours
We are Closed
25th & 26th December
1st & 2nd January
closing early on 24th & 31st

**Our famous
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CLASSIFIEDS

MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels are coming to Blueskin Bay and volunteer drivers are needed. Please email waiputai@gmail.com for more information about how to volunteer or about the service.

BLUESKIN PLAYCENTRE

Open Mon, Tues, Wed from 9am -12pm 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.

LANDSCAPING, GARDENING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

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

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For your ACC/chronic injuries. Open Tuesday - Friday. Friday appointments free for those with a community services card. Contact Jennifer on 022 397 8108

WAIPUTAI HUB

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

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WAIKOUAITI COAST HERITAGE CENTRE

Come and view our Gift Shop, interesting and different gifts for all, as well as unique work by local artists and craftspeople. You can also visit our heritage display which illustrates many aspects of local history. For \$5 per adult you could tour our Category 1 listed 1869 BNZ bank building set up as a residence and bank. 200 Main Road Waikouaiti. Open 1 - 4pm Wednesday & Thursday and 10am - 4pm Friday - Sunday.

FOR SALE

Sunburst sailing dinghy for sale, Waitati, wood construction. Phone for details, Clive 021 0257 4890.

WASTE RECYCLING - WEEK TWO

DECEMBER	
Monday 2	Blue Bin: Bottle/Glass Recycling Red Bin: Rubbish Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 9	Yellow Bin: Mixed Recycling Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 16	Blue Bin: Bottle/Glass Recycling Red Bin: Rubbish Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 23	Yellow Bin: Mixed Recycling Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 31	Blue Bin: Bottle/Glass Recycling Red Bin: Rubbish Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
JANUARY	
Monday 6	Yellow Bin: Mixed Recycling Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 13	Blue Bin: Bottle/Glass Recycling Red Bin: Rubbish Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 20	Yellow Bin: Mixed Recycling Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste
Monday 27	Blue Bin: Bottle/Glass Recycling Red Bin: Rubbish Green Bin: Food Scraps/Garden Waste

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.

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

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A4 = 210 x 297 Full page advertisement \$300
A5 = 210 x 148 Half page advertisement \$150
A6 = 148 x 105 Quarter page advertisement \$75
A7 = 105 x 74 Business Card size \$30
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Warrington Surf Life Saving Life Membership Awards

**Mark Familton and Philip Clayton
receive their Life Membership
Awards.**

Clockwise: Mark Familton, Philip Clayton;
Philip Clayton, Mark Familton; Mark
Familton and family; Sally Clayton, Philip
Clayton, Abby Clayton; and Lyne Carlyle,
Karyn Becconsall, Sally Clayton, Abby
Clayton.



Warrington Hall Committee
Community Event

WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER | 7.30PM | FREE

A photograph of two birds, likely black and white stilts, in flight over a body of water. The birds have long legs and are shown in profile.

BIRDS
a presentation by
Nick Beckwith

At Warrington Hall – bring a plate
to share for a celebratory supper after.

SAT 21 DEC

A graphic of a globe showing the Americas. The text "TINY PIECES OF EIGHT + DOUGY + THE MOONROCKS AT THE GALLERY WAITATI" is overlaid on the globe. Arrows point from the globe to the dates "SAT 21 DEC" at the top, bottom, left, and right.

TINY PIECES OF EIGHT
+
DOUGY + THE MOONROCKS
AT
THE GALLERY
WAITATI

EARLY START: 5PM
EARLY FINISH: 9PM

SAT 21 DEC

A vibrant, stylized illustration for the Waitati Music Fest '25 poster. The background features a bright blue sky with a large, multi-colored rainbow arching over a sunburst. Several birds are flying in the sky. In the distance, a mountain range is visible, with a small white tower on the left. The foreground is a green field with yellow stars. In the center, a stage is set up with a band performing. Four people are dancing in front of the stage. A large speaker is on the left, and a striped umbrella is on the right.

Waitati Music Fest '25

Bland Park
All ages free entry
under 14y

25 January
11am-11pm

\$50 | *\$40 presale*
tickets | *\$70 at gate*

RHYTHMONYX • LEFT OR RIGHT • HA THE UNCLEAR • GUSTO GUSTO
DUNEDIN ELECTRIC COMPANY • SAELYN • SOGG • THE BEATNIKS • IVY
BIN DAY • GRACE GEMMELL • SIVLE TALK • SKULLDUBBERY • GUTTERLOVE
DOUGIE & THE MOONROCKS • SAURIAN • THE MENTALIST COLLECTIVE • BOG
MATTHEW ROBERTSON • PRETTY DUMB • MEA CULPA • PSYCHO KING DOGS
FOTA • BRACKISH • EKTOPIK • PRAXIS • SKUMPY • KARAKA • RASONSABLE
SHOBA • KTB • JUNGLE FARI • HIPPIECRITE • NIHILISM • NEVERMIND • BENT COPPA
DEMELZA RAY • HARRIET MOIR • WILD CARDS AOTEAROA • VICTOR BILLOT • CHRIS YOUNG
DUNCAN EDDY • J. GODFREY SMITH • MAC MACDONALD • RICHARD REEVE • ANTON SANGIE

 creative
COMMUNITIES nz

 GRAVITY
EVENTS

 DUNEDIN
CITY COUNCIL | kaunihera
a-rohe o ōtepoti



 COGS
Community Organisation
Grants Scheme

 OTAGO
Community Trust

 ZERO
waste

 LOVENZ
RECYCLE WITH CARE

 humanitix.com/nz

 waitatimusicfest

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