

BLUESKIN NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER Est. 1985

FEBRUARY 2024

Seacliff

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Warrington

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Evansdale

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Waitati

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Doctors Point

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Pūrākaunui

Waitati Hall Kitchen Upgrade



BEFORE



AFTER



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plus lots more ...

WARRINGTON – JOY'S NEW PUP

These photos were taken with a zoom lens and in the company of a DOC ranger, you should not go nearer than 20m.



GARDEN CLUB CHRISTMAS DINNER



EMILY STERK & THE BLUESKIN BAY ORCHESTRA



Editor's Note

Hi everyone, welcome to our first BSN for 2024. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year, though that now seems quite a time ago.

As you might have noticed we have refreshed the look of the BSN, we are keeping the colour wraparound, but need you to make it worthwhile. Send in photos of your activities, gardens, creations, pets, artworks – we'd love to show them to our community.

We also had our AGM on 25 January, our Committee comprises Chair: Mandy Mayhem, Deputy Chair: Doug Nuttall, Secretary: Craig Marshall, Treasurer: Clare Brown, Editor: Bernie (in perpetuity), Members: Ian Melvin, Melanie Borrell, Gisele Laven, and Camellia Lisle. Thanks to you all for stepping up.

How are you enjoying our summer? According to a friend of mine summer happens on 24 February and only for one day. I personally think it happens when our tamariki go back to school – we've had a few good days but interspersed with days of 13° and 14° and rain. Hardly what I remember from my childhood!

This particular match of rain and sun has been great for the veggie patch and fruit trees, everyone seems to have a glut of plums and it seems a wicked waste not to use them. Try making a cake layering soft brown sugar on the bottom of a springform pan lined with baking paper, then plums stoned and halved cut side down, then a sponge cake mix on top. Cook for 35 minutes and turn out for a gooey fruit topped cake. You can actually do this with almost any fruit, gooseberries work particularly well.

Enjoy this month's issue, there's lots of good stuff in it.

Keep safe Bernie

**He taonga rongonui te aroha
ki te tangata**

**Goodwill towards others
is a precious treasure**

RURAL SKIP DAYS Pop up Transfer Station

Warrington Beach Carpark | 24 & 25 February | 10am – 5pm
These are cash only collections.

(Waste must not be left at the site outside these times)

NO LARGE ITEMS: i.e. engines, metals, tanks, metal drums, whiteware, demolition materials*, or large items of vegetation**

NO UNACCEPTABLE WASTE: i.e. hazardous waste, animal remedies, herbicides, medicines, medical waste, gas bottles, wire, asbestos or petrol tanks

NO LIQUIDS: i.e. liquids including oil

* demolition materials – the maximum size of demolition material is 1m in any direction. Material is to be clean and contain no asbestos.

** vegetation – no complete hedgerows or similar.

Fees apply. See website for details.



DUNEDIN | kaunihera
CITY COUNCIL | a-rohe o
ōtepoti

03 477 4000
www.dunedin.govt.nz

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.

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 text 021 171 0226.

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



BLUESKIN BAY ONLINE is a FREE searchable Local Business Directory developed to support local businesses across Blueskin Bay.

We aim to list as many local businesses, and trades & services as we can find – to make it easier for you to find and support them too!

If you would like to advertise your business, email your details to: **blueskinbayonline@gmail.com**

or complete the contact form at
www.blueskinbayonline.co.nz

It's as simple as that

Let's keep supporting our local businesses

Paul Clements QSM



Waitati Volunteer Fire Brigade were proud to hear that Senior Firefighter Paul Clements was awarded the Queen's Service Medal a few weeks ago for his services to Fire Emergency New Zealand and the community.

Paul was a career firefighter in Dunedin for 45 years, from 1967 to 2012. Simultaneous to that he has been a volunteer firefighter at Waitati VFB for more than 50 years. He earned his second gold star for 50 years of volunteer service to FENZ and the community in 2018. He is still an operational Senior Firefighter at Waitati today and is a vital part of our team providing leadership and wisdom that we value.

Paul helped create one of the country's first peer-support programs for firefighters more than 30 years ago. He provided peer support helping firefighters to regain their mental and physical wellbeing after traumatic incidents in both their professional lives and their private lives. This is a scheme that is now considered vital and fundamental to the wellbeing of firefighters and is available across the country.

Paul deployed to Christchurch after the earthquakes to provide peer support to the emergency personnel that both lived in ChCh and had been sent there as part of the rescue and recovery operations.

Within the Fire Service and then FENZ, Paul also spent almost 30 years on the sport council, using sporting recreation to help build a team spirit and healthy outlook among firefighters.

Paul has been an active member of Special Rigs for Special Kids for 25 years, helping to organize this important event, overseeing catering and carrying kids in a fire appliance at the event.

Due to the sheer span of his service as a firefighter and his additional commitments through peer support, the Sport Council, and Special Rigs for Special Kids, very few people in New Zealand will have rescued, protected and rehabilitated more lives than Paul Clements.

He has also been heavily involved as a volunteer with DOC, Scouting NZ, Waitati Kura, our ANZAC Day remembrance, the Blueskin Youth and Amenities Group, Warrington Surf Life Saving Club, Habitat for Humanity, Quarantine Island/Kamau Taurua Community Council, Victim Support, Moana House and the Dunedin Fire Brigade Restoration Society

But we think what stands out about Paul's work as a volunteer in so many groups is the sheer labour he has contributed. Sitting on a board is one thing, but Paul has, week in and week out for more than 50 years, shown up somewhere and lent his physical strength and will to a hard job to make the world a better place for somebody else.

Often the work has been dangerous. And often it has been remote, requiring time away from his family while volunteering at Port Craig or Quarantine Island.

Paul's record shows that he is not a Tuesday-night volunteer, he is a seven-day-a-week, twelve-months-a-year, fifty-plus-years-in-a-row volunteer.

We're sure his gentle demeanour and infectious will to get a job done has encouraged more people than we could ever count, to also volunteer a part of their lives to the betterment of New Zealand.

Despite a diagnosis of cancer less than two years ago, Paul in his early 70's, returned to service as soon as he was able. Which was at a time well before he was considered recovered. Most people at that age would think it's time for a rest, to do a little less. But Paul took it as a message of the value of life and chose to continue on with his dedication to his many communities.

Paul has been so silent and reserved about his work, denying himself recognition at every opportunity, so very few people are even aware of the scope of his contributions to his community.

Craig Meade

Waitati Hall Kitchen Upgrade

Community Halls in our wider area are owned by Dunedin City Council Property Department, and they are responsible for the upkeep of the exterior of the buildings. Day-to-day operation of the halls and upkeep of the interior is the responsibility of the Hall Committees.

Our committee, Waitati Hall Society Inc, has been preparing for the upgrade of our hall kitchen for some considerable time, and I'm pleased to say the job is now complete. (See the before and after photographs on the front cover).

I have to thank a number of people who helped to make this significant job possible:- Lani Morrison at Bunnings for assistance with the initial design layout and supply of the Kaboodle kitset furniture; Matt Sumpter for the Kaboodle installation; Danny Watson for the plumbing; Stu Hardisty and the team at Control

Focus Ltd for the electrical work; The Carpet Court team for the new vinyl floor covering; Brett Robertson for the painting; the DCC Property team for their invaluable assistance; the Highlander Cleaning Services Team for the big cleanup job at the end; and our committee treasurer Brian Hailes for keeping the funds flowing. The hall will be available for normal operations again from 1 February.

Alasdair Morrison, committee member and Project Manager for the kitchen upgrade.

Wascally Wabbits

I bought a gun. I went to Gun City. OMFG! It's like ... gun city in there. Wall to wall arsenal essentials. Their marketing team really nailed it.

I said to the Gun City Guy, "I don't have a gun license and have no wish to get one. But I have rabbits". "Ah...", he said, and sold me a state of the art spring-loaded air-rifle. He up-sold me on some ammo (400 rounds), practice targets (300), and I left Gun City \$500 lighter but feeling like Sylvester Stallone. And I was thinking, "look out you rascally rabbits".

Turns out, buying the state of the art spring-loaded air-rifle was the first and only step that's easy when it comes to rabbit control. What quickly became apparent was step two. I needed to get smarter than a rabbit. Hardly rocket-science, surely.

Now the thing with rabbits is, they're small, and fast. On top of which, they have acute senses of smell, sight, and hearing. To cap it off, they have an instantaneously activated flight-mode, a generationally honed life-preservation technique they employ to good effect. Handicapped by my air-rifle's range-effectiveness (inside 20m), the rabbits were winning. I needed a strategy.

First, I ditch the scope. Inside 20m, it's a hindrance, costing precious milliseconds. And the barrel-sight on the new rifle is state of the art good. Second, I stalk like life depends on my seeing a rabbit before it senses me. When I see one, I go completely still. It's gonna sense me. Flight-mode is imminent. But I've eliminated two of its powers. I'm silent and motionless. It only has smell left. And here the rabbit makes its mistake. Fooled by my immobility and silence, flight-mode deactivates after five or six hops, and the rabbit stops to rescan the area. It stands sentinel still and foolishly tall. I have 2 - 3 seconds at most to swing-sight-trigger. If I miss, that rabbit will be in it's hidey-hole for days.

So, four weeks after my trip to Gun City, my kill-count stands at six. As evil as that sounds, I'd suggest residents of Doctors Point, Waitati, and the lower hillsides would love to rid their property of six. As dear old Elmer Fudd always said, "Oh...those wascally wabbits!!!".

Doug Nuttall



Madness vs Sanity

Truth/factual information =
fair and factual information from
proven sources that are accurate and
valid..... from mediums without intent
or agenda's...outside of informing us....
Dubious information =
The evergrowing grey area where
truth/fact is taken and deliberately
or accidentally reconstructed or
misconstrued to advance a cause or
cloud an issue, to favour an agenda
.... as in political groups, commercial
interests, religious etc... often
dishonestly ignoring evidence or
information that doesn't suit or
align with their intent. The growth
of this area of dubious information
has lead to an increase in the numbers
of people who are either confused,
frustrated or embittered... latching
onto the areas below....
Rabbit hole/ Conspiracy theories/
misinformation/ fake news =
Non factual constructions from dubious
sources... usually intended to promote
the interests of those responsible....
shared/spread through online groups
often designed to appeal to the
disaffected fringes who feel ignored...
or not being taken seriously....
ie. ripe for the picking.....



East Otago Creative Artisans

We are holding an exhibition on the weekend 2/3 March in the Events Centre, Waikouaiti.

We are looking for clever artists, potters, metal and wood creations, embroiderers and quilt makers, etc to exhibit their beautiful work. If you make something different and would like to take part, please contact me. We have a large space to fill, so larger pieces and those for outdoors (exhibited indoors) would be great too. We will also include recycled items. So think outside the box.

The exhibition is static so you don't need to sit for two days with your pieces. They will be safe with our crew and we can arrange pickup and delivery.

Our last exhibition in Dunedin, before Covid, was very successful and we hope this one will be too. We have a couple of months to think and work on our exhibits, so get cracking. I will need to know what is coming up, so please contact me on email: reywabrown@slingshot.co.nz or phone 022 254 7620.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Reywa Brown



Playcentre



"Whānau tupu ngāhahi – families growing together"

Another wonderful month was experienced by all the Playcentre members. Thank you ALL for a fabulous year, it wouldn't have been the same without each and every one of you.



Sadly, this marks the end of Bea being our wonderful educator, as she is going to be completing further study next year. Bea, we want to say a special thank you to you for always ensuring that the Playcentre is a happy and welcoming place to be for all our whānau and tamariki. We loved and appreciated your child-led approach, how you got to know every child's interests, your creativity, and how you kept them engaged with all sorts of activities from sandpit extravaganzas to pottery adventures. Your smile lit up the Playcentre room and was a beacon to everyone. Thank you from us all for your time, energy and Bea-ness.

We are delighted to introduce Kimberleigh as our new educator to Blueskin Playcentre next year. She is a Mum of three young children with an Early Childhood Teacher's qualification. Kimberleigh is very much looking forward to getting to know everybody, and is particularly enthusiastic about setting up some new creative activity stations to greet the children each week. Passionate about teaching all ages and enthusiastic at developing her te reo Māori and tikanga understanding, I think we're very lucky to have Kimberleigh join us.

We would like to wish you all a fabulous summer, and look forward to seeing you all next year! Our first day for 2024 is Tuesday 30 January, and we'll be open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays during term time from 8:45am – 2:15pm. If you'd like to arrange a visit, then please find us on Facebook (Blueskin Playcentre), at www.playcentre.org.nz/centre/blueskin/, or at blueskinplaycentre88@gmail.com.

We hope to see you soon!

ONECOAST RESOURCE RECOVERY

OneCoast tackles waste

February is month one of OneCoast's series of waste reduction activities. These have been funded from a DCC Waste Minimisation Grant, and February is about reducing single use plastic usage in the home, particularly the kitchen. We hope some of these activities can give you some ideas and mean a bit less plastic in your lives and in the environment.

There are also two talks from **Rowan Cooke** from Enviro NZ clearing up some of the mysteries about what can go into our yellow recycling bins and answering questions about the new bin system. March will be Slow Fashion Month, and April will be about Repair and Remaking. These events are free. If you would like to register interest in these and future workshops please email chair@onecoast.org to be kept up to date.

February Down with Plastic Events

Thursday 8 Feb: 10am | East Otago Events Centre, Waikouaiti – Rowan Cooke from Enviro NZ with a presentation about correct kerbside recycling and the new bin system. Followed by morning tea and a general discussion about reducing plastic waste.

Saturday 10 Feb: 2pm | St John's Church Hall – Household cleaners and beeswax wraps, other plastic free cleaning ideas.

Tuesday 13 Feb: 3pm | Waitati Hall – Rowan Cooke from Enviro NZ with a presentation about correct kerbside recycling and the new bin system. Followed by beeswax wraps workshop

Saturday 17 Feb: 1 pm | St John's Church Hall – Fermentation demonstrations: eg. kefir, sauerkraut, sourdough, kombucha – plastic free food preparation.

Wednesday 21 Feb: 7pm | Warrington Hub – Beeswax wraps workshop and chat on single use plastic reduction.

Saturday 24 Feb: 10am | East Otago Events Centre – First Waikouaiti Crop Swap www.cropswap.co.nz. Followed by morning tea and discussion. Information about keeping green waste out of landfill.



WAITATI BOOK CLUB by Ian Melvin

The Year ended with pubnite: at Marc's suggestion we went down No Name Alley to The Steamer Basin brewery and tap bar, where on a balmy evening we sat outside chewing the proverbial fat and imbibing some of the wares. 'Cream Summer Stout', 'Peachy Pale' and 'Strong Blonde 8.2%' all met with approval from the fellows. Later we moved upstairs and shared some of the Whiskys and Port we had brought along with mein hosts Karen and Paul. They joined the general discussion and gave us an interesting and entertaining insight into their back history and their present venture. A very enjoyable evening big thanks to Marc and our accommodating hosts.

This year began with a potluck meal with partners, hosted by Robyn and Martin at their abode, we were sadly not in attendance because of a nasty lurgy. Marc: it was a convivial evening, excellent company, stimulating conversation and a lovely spread of diverse food. It has got the bookclub off to an excellent start for this year!

THE BOOK

Last Orders by **Graham Swift**, another controversial Booker Prize winner! It met with general approval, some reserved and others enthusiastic. From the cover blurb '...is a resonant and classic exploration of the complexity and courage of ordinary lives...' Ian: I highly recommend this, apparently the film is even better.

OTHER BOOKS

bird and sugar boy by **sofie laguna**
One of two young adult fiction novels I read this summer – this one resonated. "Sugar Boy gave me the name BIRD, otherwise I'm James Burdell. I live with my dad who has a big tattoo that says 'live to ride'. He is so strong he can lift up a car, but he can't tell me what he's thinking. Maybe he's thinking about my mother who shot through." "Sugar Boy is my best friend. We hang around down by the river, in the bush tunnel, or beside the railway tracks riding our bikes fast enough to beat the train. There's only two of us but we are the whole team." "I don't know what would happen if I didn't have Sugar Boy..." Think a shortened version of a modern day 'Tom Sawyer, Huck Finn' set in Australia.

BEER/WHISKEY

Beer – **Sunshine brewing: Baltic Porter**, not the best Porter I have tried but right up there.

Whiskey – note the spelling only Irish whiskey, the original whiskey has the 'e'. **Powers Irish Whiskey: Three Swallow** as featured in Malachy McCourt's book *A Monk Swimming*. Haven't tried this yet but a big fan of Irish Whiskies so it's on the list. Will report back on this, apparently the oldest known distillery in Ireland and definitely predating any Sottish distilleries!

MUSIC

Whare Flat highlights: locals **Dodd and Egenes**, John Dodd and John Egenes who recently played at the Gallery.

Terry Ebeling (Whirling Eddys) and **Erin Morton** (Delgirl) a seemingly unlikely duo that worked incredibly well. Try Whirling Eddys' 'all my loving' or Delgirl's 'take me to the railway by the sea' on YouTube. **Monty Bevans** who also played at the Gallery. The standout highlight was British Musical Collective **Mishra** who were represented by two members as a duo. Try Mishra 'a wiser hand' or the duo Mishra 'if we listen' both on YouTube.

OTHER STUFF

One of our member's Peter celebrated his 60th year on planet earth recently and was presented with a bottle of single malt Scotch Whisky as is tradition in Book Club to mark the occasion and the achievement. On 1 Feb one of our members will give his maiden speech in Parliament, Scott sadly can't be here on the day but we all wish you well with that, and will definitely be raising a toast to you afterwards

WORD OF THE MONTH

Farewell – "... then I throw the last handful and the seagulls come back on a second chance and I hold up the jar shaking it, like I should throw it out to sea too, a message in a bottle, Jack Dodds, save our souls, and the ash that I carried in my hands, which was Jack who once walked round, is carried away by the winds, whirled away by the wind till the ash becomes wind and the wind becomes Jack what we're made of..."

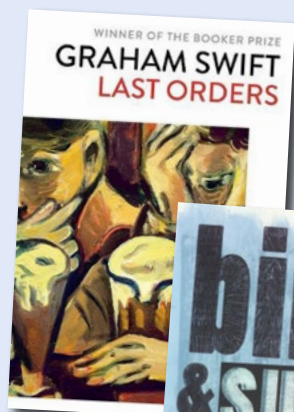
Quote from *Last Orders*: Graham Swift

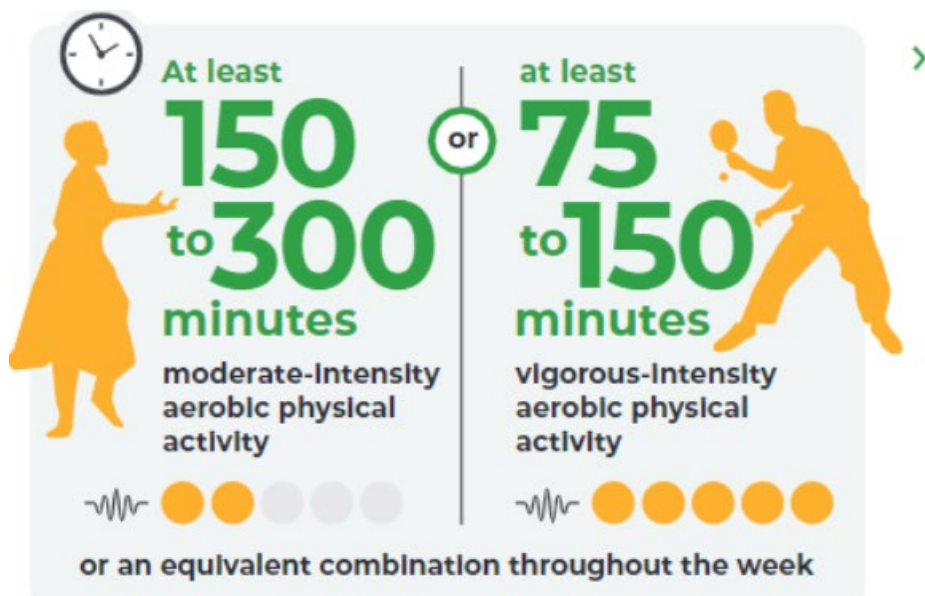
MEANING OF LIFE

"...You're a big dreamer, James. Don't fall into that trap. Stick with reality – it's the way things are' My dad says this to me a lot. Big dreams are the way I want things to be – reality is the way things... actually are. It's important to understand the difference."

"... making ends meet. Sometimes I think the ends are just hanging, looking for each other, just swinging dangerously in the wind. Like electrical cords that belong in the wall."

Quotes from *bird and sugarboy*: sofie laguna





Move it or Lose it

You may have heard the phrase “Move it or lose it” before, perhaps from a school bully wanting you to get off a prime seat or a parent trying to encourage you to get off the couch and do something. While rest is essential and necessary for living, being active is also crucial.

The World Health Organization has established global standard physical activity guidelines¹ to prevent and improve many things, including chronic illness, early death, depression, and pain. Following these guidelines reduces the risk of dying within the next decade by 50%. The minimal recommended physical activity guidelines are 150 minutes of moderate cardio (75 minutes of high intensity), 2-3 weekly strength training sessions, and daily stretching.

While some people are surprised by how little or how much exercise is recommended, any exercise is better than none, especially if you are in pain. Although it may cause some pain at the start, the pain should decrease in 24 hours. If it doesn't, you might have gone too hard, which is what professionals call “too much too soon”.

Start where you are and gradually increase. If you walk faster than 3kmph, you will be walking faster than the Grim Reaper².

You don't have to meet the 150 minutes of moderate cardio in the first week if you haven't exercised for months. Start where you are, even if it's only walking 5 meters to your letterbox, and gradually increase the distance. Moderate cardio is when you are slightly out of breath, while high-intensity aerobic is when you are panting hard and can't even talk. Doing moderate cardio for a few weeks is recommended before going high.

Sitting too long is worse for you than smoking, so choose an exercise you love, put on great tunes, and get out the door. How to motivate yourself is a question for next time, but for now, do what you love.

It is always best to consult with a medical professional before starting any form of exercise if you have any reason to think you should. I am a Pilates instructor with a studio on the fringes of Blueskin Bay, currently doing a Diploma of Clinical Pilates and about to embark on a PhD on Osteoarthritis. Three years ago, I was pretty much bedridden from pain, but now I am pain-free. You can contact me at dell@piwakawaka.com.

Dell McLeod

1 Bull FC, Al-Ansari SS, Biddle S, et al World Health Organization 2020 guidelines on physical activity and sedentary behaviour British Journal of Sports Medicine 2020;54:1451-1462. www.bjsm.bmj.com/content/54/24/1451/

2 Stanaway F F, Gnjjidic D, Blyth F M, Couteur D G L, Naganathan V, Waite L et al. How fast does the Grim Reaper walk? Receiver operating characteristics curve analysis in healthy men aged 70 and over BMJ 2011; 343 :d7679 doi:10.1136/bmj.d7679 www.bmj.com/content/343/bmj.d7679



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 – Glad

The speed issue on our roads, streets and highways, locally here in Waitati and other areas in general.

How many of us have crossed the road to get to the Waitati store and had our hearts in our mouths doing so as traffic suddenly comes around the corner at up to 100 kmh or more? Even pulling out from the shop onto the road can be a stressful experience at times. Why are we all not calling for a 60 or 70km limit on this section of road?

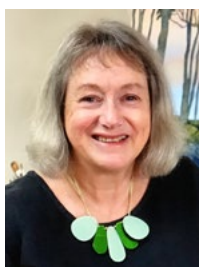
The main street in Waitati is also problematic at times as are many other streets in the village. The Council is talking about reducing speed limits, and many support this, well those who walk or cycle around the village or have children who do, probably do at any rate. Crossings outside the gallery and near the library and from the school to the school parking area with speed bumps would help as well.

Many of the speeders are locals, our friends and neighbours – why is this? In many places there are no footpaths and severely restricted forward vision because of humps and hollows and blind corners.

What pleases me is it seems others feel the same way and wish for change, let's push for that to happen. For those that don't agree try walking from Michies Crossing to the beach and back on a busy Sunday or cross the road to the shop on foot and imagine doing this as an older person, or a child, or someone who has a physical impairment that slows them down. It's a little easier to understand why this is a problem when you are not behind the wheel of a vehicle causing the problem.



A movement class



Are you thinking of trying some new exercise for 2024 or have you recently moved to Blueskin Bay and would like to meet new people?

Nia is a movement class suitable for anyone. It is easy to do with simple steps and stances, with movement that engages the whole body. While moving to a wide range of world music, as the teacher, I will lead you into new patterns of easy choreography designed to explore agility, flexibility, stability, mobility, strength and

balance. Good for the body, brain gym for the mind, release for emotions, rest for the spirit.

The first step into the hall is probably the hardest! Once you have decided to join in with this lovely group of men and women, who come to class regularly, you will be welcomed and enjoy the energy that the class creates to move in unison.

It's not a performance, but an invitation to connect with how your own body moves and adapting the movements to suit your body. There is no right or wrong, nobody is watching you, so you can relax into the joy of moving. The class starts off gently and gradually builds. Each person decides how much energy they want to exert, so all levels of fitness are catered for, as long as you listen to your own needs. If you can walk, then you can do a Nia class. Seated option is also possible.

My name is Clare Reilly. I heard of a Nia class in 2008 in Christchurch through a friend. I resisted going for months, but

when I joined that first class, I immediately knew that this was something that I could be excited about doing regularly and have been going ever since!

When I moved to Waitati in 2017, I knew I couldn't be without Nia, and had taken the necessary training to become a Nia teacher.

I also only knew one person in Blueskin Bay when I moved here from Christchurch, so it was a bold step for me to start a new class in the community in 2018. It's been the best experience for me to meet and create a Nia community here, and I'd love you to come and find that connection too. Cost per class is \$10.

Classes at Waitati Hall:

Starting 3 February

Tuesdays 11.30am – 12.30pm

Saturdays 4pm – 5pm

Text me 021 177 5350 or take that first step into the hall.

Clare Reilly



Dealing with a shipload of zucchini

One little seed, no bigger than the finger nail on your pinkie finger, yet it can grow a super tanker load of food. What could possibly go wrong?

Zucchini are fabulous versatile vegetables, but plant too many and you will soon be begging for people to take them off your hands. For this reason they are a great morale booster for a beginning gardener.

I've discovered a few more methods of keeping my zucchini crop for later use. One method is to wait until the fruit get really big, then peel, chop into chunks and freeze in a large zip lock bag. I spread the bag out flat in the freezer as much as possible, so that the chunks don't stick together, and it becomes a free flow bag so I can pick out the amount I need for winter cooking, or for making dog food.

I now grow bush marrows which were bred to be kept for the whole winter. When your marrow has grown large enough to sink a rowing boat, cut it from the plant leaving a decent length of stalk. Carefully lay in the sun for a couple of days, turning frequently, to cure the skin. Then place your marrow on a jute sack in a cool, dark, dry place, not touching anything else. Check occasionally, as they go rotten sneakily. If one starts to go rotten use it immediately or chop up and freeze.

Young zucchini make excellent zoodles (zucchini noodles). I was lucky enough to find a spiralizer in an op shop, but a potato peeler with a julienne strip cutting blade will do the job. Plunge your freshly cut zoodles into a pot of boiling water until the water comes back to the boil. Strain, plate up and cover with a freshly made pasta sauce or pesto. Sprinkle with parmesan, delicious.

Don't let your ship be sunk by a tsunami of sneaky zucchini.

Note: Bush marrow seeds can be purchased from Koanga.

Hilary Rowley

February Important Dates

Friday 2	World Wetlands Day
Sunday 4	World Cancer Day
Tuesday 6	Waitangi Day
Thursday 8	Safer Internet Day
Friday 9	Chocolate Day
Saturday 10	Chinese New Year
Saturday 10	World Pulses Day
Sunday 11	Promise Day
Sunday 11	International Day Of Women And Girls In Science
Monday 12	Hug Day
Tuesday 13	World Radio Day
Tuesday 13	Pancake Day
Wednesday 14	Saint Valentine's Day
Wednesday 14	International Epilepsy Day
Thursday 15	World Hippo Day
Saturday 17	Random Act of Kindness Day
Wednesday 21	International Mother Language Day
Thursday 22	World Thinking Day



SAVE THE DATE BLUESKIN ON SHOW Sunday 7 April

Organising the 2024 Blueskin On Show day is well under way.

Blueskin on Show is a community event run by the Blueskin A&P Society. It is country day out at Bland Park where local businesses, groups and the community come together to display their goods and fundraise through various activities. Tahu from the Orokonui Eco-Sanctuary runs childrens events, the Blueskin Garden club is organising the very popular Fruit & Vegetable Competitions, The Waitati Fire Brigade will be putting on displays and kids activities, Warrington and Waitati Schools will once again be catering for the starving hoardes along with many more groups and businesses.

If you would like to be part of this day, please contact one of the Blueskin A&P Committee.

The registrations for display sites are progressing well but there is still plenty of space for more so if you want to display your wares, sell goods please let us know.

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

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

Commercial area selling product
eg food vendors
\$45 includes 2 gate entries

Matthew Sumpter 021 071 0895
Alasdair Morrison 027 435 4384
info@calmarine.co.nz
Phil Kelly 021 279 7737
kelp29p@registry.otago.ac.nz



Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre

It has been an interesting start to the new year with physical work finally beginning on the old bank building.

Mike Jackson who lives in the Catlins is an expert in plaster and heritage buildings, there is nothing he doesn't know about the topic. He was here for a week immediately after the new year and made short work removing the old stucco from the front wall to expose the original stonework and to then place a poultice over it to help with the healing of the wall ie remove any remaining water and minerals. The poultice stays in place for about a year before he will return to complete the work. Hopefully we can successfully access more funding to complete work on all the other walls in the meantime. The Alexander McMillan Trust covered the cost for this first part of the work.

In addition to having Mike undertake this work, the Heritage Centre was busy through December, and we saw over 200 visitors, before closing for the Christmas/New Year break. Sales were brisk and our bank balance is looking healthier as a result, something I, as Treasurer, am pleased about. This month will see a lot of new stock arriving to replace what was sold prior to Christmas, so I do hope you will consider paying us a visit sometime over the summer and look us over.

The Heritage Centre has also received a lot of items from locals for consideration of our curator as to their suitability for adding to our heritage collection. Space for storing items is always a difficulty, so we need to be circumspect as to what we can include. There is no sense in having several of the same item i.e. a specific book or farm implement for example. But it is always interesting.

If you have an interest in meeting people and/or history, then maybe you will consider becoming a volunteer. I am happy to meet with you and provide an overview of our activities and answer any queries you may have. Call into the Centre during opening hours and mention your interest.

Shirley McKewen, Treasurer

New Kerbside recycling



From 1 July 2024, the DCC will introduce kerbside food scraps and garden waste collection along with wheelie bin collection services for rubbish, replacing the current prepaid plastic rubbish bags.

If you are on a kerbside collection route, we'll deliver two new bins to your home before the service starts. In March, April or May 2024, you'll receive either:

a 140L green-lidded bin for recycling food scraps and garden waste collected weekly,
OR a small 23L green-lidded food scraps bin (for households on properties with 3 or more houses/units that have little or no garden). This bin will be collected weekly.

AND every household gets a new 140L red bin for rubbish collected fortnightly, replacing the DCC black bags.

Every household will also get a small kitchen bench top bin for collecting food scraps, and an information booklet. Keep using your blue crate for glass and your yellow-lidded recycling wheelie bin collected fortnightly, on alternate weeks, as usual.

You can choose to add a 240L garden waste wheelie bin to your kerbside collection, for an additional charge, from 1 July 2024. Ordering and pricing details coming soon.

For more information www.dunedin.govt.nz search for kerbside recycling.

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

Waitangi Day

Tuesday 6 February - the Library will be closed

Storytime with Stephaney

Fridays, 11am

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.

Bookshare

Thursday 22 February, 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.

Explore the Digital Library

Beamafilm Did you know we offer over a thousand great movies to stream for FREE if you are a Library member?

1. Go to **www.beamafilm.com**
2. Click **Sign Up** on the top right corner of the website.
3. Select **Use your participating library card**.
4. Start to type **Dunedin Public Libraries** and select it.
5. Enter your library card number
6. Create your Beamafilm account.



This month's staff pick: *The Gardener*.

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. Check with the Library for dates during the summer holidays.

Games Galore & Lego*

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

Come along and join in the fun of board games for all ages. From chess to checkers, Monopoly to Twister we've got the lot. Or, drop-in and build something awesome with our great new Lego pieces. *Suitable for ages 5+.

Wunderkammer

Who let the cats out?

I have some good friends which include family, cats, and books. As many of you know, I love real live cats as well as anything to do with cats. I am known as the crazy cat lady for a reason!

This cat collection is a small selection of over 100 ornamental cats collected over many years which I have displayed over every surface possible in my house. It is a nightmare to dust.

The cats are an international bunch and most of them have been found in op shops over the years, while others have been gifts. The glass cat with kittens in its tummy came from my father's home and of course when I was packing up his house, I had to have the cat ornament.

Enjoy the crazy cat collection and if you feel inclined make a donation to Dunedin Cat Rescue. **Louise Booth**



Seed Cabinet & Anti-Scurvy Pantry



If you've had a bountiful summer harvest, please remember the Anti-Scurvy Pantry for your surplus and save a few seeds for our next seed swap in July.

DCC Service Centre @ Blueskin Bay Library

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

Bee Cards

Catching the bus with the Bee Card is much easier and quicker.

The tag on tag off bus card gives bus passengers cheaper fares in nine regions around New Zealand, including Otago. Pick up and top up at the Library.



Kā Kete Wānaka o Ōtepoti

The Treaty of Waitangi

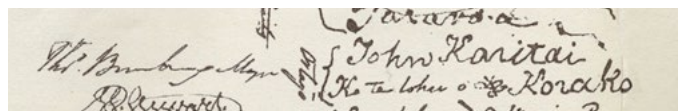
As a descendant of the Rangatira Karetai, who signed Te Tiriti on 13 June 1840 on board HMS Herald in the harbour at Pukekure now known as Taiaroa Head, it's hard to believe he could have foreseen the world we now live in. At his time, of course, there were very few settlers, only a small minority of the population, quite the opposite of what we've become.

With Major Thomas Bunbury and Mr Edward Williams on board as the King's representatives, this was HMS Herald's third port of call in Ngai Tahu territory. They had called first at Akaroa then Port Pegasus on Stewart Island where on 5 June they proclaimed sovereignty 'by right of discovery'.

Karetai was a distinctive Rangatira, well liked by both Māori and Pakeha, he had lost his left eye and knee cap during a battle with Te Rauparaha in 1833 at the top of the South Island. The other signatory here was Korako, also a local chief.

By 1847 most of the acquired land had been sold to settlers, and Governor Grey asked the government to take over "all surplus and unoccupied land" and offer it for sale to prospective settlers. This included a large portion of Ngai Tahu's South Island land.

William Martin, Chief Justice at the time said "It was a shocking breach of good faith pledged at Waitangi". As a consequence



most NZ Māori still live without the land which had been taken from them. Health, employment, housing, education and prisons all tell the story of people who have suffered from this broken promise.

Hopefully we now move past this period of grievance politics and find a common future together. In 1840 at the signing at Waitangi Governor Hobson said to each chief "We are now one people". In 1980 Governor General Beattie said "We are two peoples in one nation".

While the Treaty is not perfect the claim that changes are needed in the interests of unity is disingenuous. Te Tiriti has stood as NZ's founding document for 184 years. I believe changes to alter its meaning need to be avoided. Would Britain rewrite the Magna Carta or America the Declaration of Independence to appease the leaders of two minor political parties?

With the Act leader's statement that the Treaty allows privileges to one culture, while neglecting the rest, he is clearly appealing to his base in the affluent Epsom electorate. This is composed of mostly Europeans and Asians, who boast average household incomes of \$130,400 pa, the highest of all NZ's electorates (Statistics NZ).

So on this Waitangi Day we should ask ourselves, are we coming to the end of a period of inter-racial understanding?

Gisele Laven

BUILDING FUTURE DUNEDIN

You can now have your say on Dunedin's new Future Development Strategy and help shape how the city grows for the next 30 years.



The DCC and Otago Regional Council are jointly developing a Future Development Strategy for the city, in partnership with mana whenua and supported by Waka Kotahi and Kāinga Ora.

The Strategy replaces the current Dunedin Spatial Plan and outlines strategic directions for the city's growth and development for the next 30 years.

It discusses how we will meet the city's housing and business space needs and what infrastructure is needed to support our growth and development, including transport infrastructure and services, 3 Waters, parks and recreation facilities and natural hazards protection infrastructure.

It also includes a statement of hapū and iwi values and aspirations for urban development.

Public consultation is taking place from **31 January to 28 February 2024**. The draft strategy is available to view online, and at the DCC Civic Centre, libraries and the ORC. Public information sessions to explain the draft strategy and answer questions are also planned for early February.

As part of the consultation, we're encouraging people to provide feedback on the options identified for long term growth, and the infrastructure needed to support growth and achieve key outcomes that will support a well-functioning urban environment, such as reducing emissions, building resilience to natural hazards and protecting and enhancing biodiversity values.

Hearings for those wishing to speak to their submission will be held in early April and a final Dunedin Future Development Strategy is expected to be released mid-2024.

<http://www.dunedin.govt.nz/future-development-strategy>



Around the Bay – February Events

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

BLUESKIN LIBRARY	
Thursday 22	Bookshare: 3.30 – 4.30pm. Join us for tea and a chat about what you're currently reading and what you might read next.
EVERY DAY	Games Galore & Lego: Every weekday, 2 – 5pm & Saturdays 10am – 1pm
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	
Contact waiputai@gmail.com or text 021 171 0226 for more information and for all bookings	
Wednesday 21	Free OneCoast Workshop – Making Beeswax Wraps: 7 – 8.30pm. Tutor: Jenny Upton. Contact OneCoast for further info.
TUESDAYS	Homeschool Group: 10 – 2pm Contact: Debbie Ping Pong: 7 – 8.30pm. All ages, levels and drop ins welcome. 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: 12 – 3pm Contact: Amy Pilates: Casual session 6.30pm \$18 Contact: Sylvia 021 109 9302
SUNDAYS	Blueskin Bay Orchestra rehearsal 5pm – 7pm. Contact: Emily

WARRINGTON HALL	
TUESDAYS	Indoor Bowls: 7.30pm
THURSDAYS	Seasonal Hatha Yoga: 6.30 – 7.30pm Bring your own mat \$10pp Contact: hagino.yoga@gmail.com
SUNDAYS	Waitati Warblers: Singing for joy 5 – 6.30pm (summertime) Contact: nancymiller140@gmail.com

WAITATI VILLAGE	
Sunday 4	Village Market: 11.00am Contact: Mandy

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

WAITATI HALL	
Tuesday 13	Rowan Cooke from Enviro NZ: 3pm with a presentation about correct kerbside recycling and the new bin system. Followed by beeswax wraps workshop
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
TUESDAYS	NIA Dance Class: 11.30am-12.30pm \$10 Contact: Clare Reilly 021 177 5350
WEDNESDAYS	Yoga Restore & Rejuvenate 7.15pm 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: 10am – 2pm Contact Collin Blake cblake@siacu.nz
SATURDAYS	NIA Dance Class: 4 – 5pm \$10 Contact: Clare Reilly 021 177 5350

GALLERY ON BLUESKIN	
Sunday 4	Music in the courtyard: Paul Allen and Bella 1pm
Wednesday 7	Quiz: 7pm
Saturday 10	Open Mic Night: 7pm - 8.30pm
Wednesday 14	Mingle and Games: 7pm
Sunday 18	Jazz in the courtyard: Paper Moon 1pm
Sunday 25	Music in the courtyard: Dee Street Band 1pm
Wednesday 28	Jazz in the courtyard: Paper Moon 7pm

WASTE RECYCLING – WEEK TWO	
Monday 5	Paper and Plastic Recycling Yellow Bin at your gate early
Monday 12	Bottle Recycling Blue Bin at your gate early
Monday 19	Paper and Plastic Recycling Yellow Bin at your gate early
Monday 26	Bottle Recycling Blue Bin at your gate early



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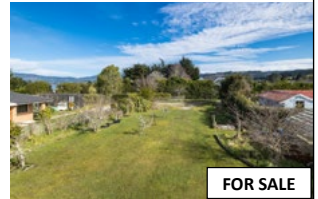
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Hope everyone had a great start to the New Year. I've had lots of new buyer enquiries for the area - I'd love to help you if you are considering a move. Give me a call and find out how my 18 years experience in the area can help you.



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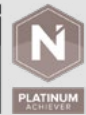
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You can also visit our heritage display which illustrates many
aspects of local history. For \$5 per adult you could tour our
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We welcome and thank you for your contributions and invite you to send 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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Halo Project

We are excited to move forwards with our Predator Free work on the Karitāne Coast. More than 160 possums were removed from this area during our first week in 2024!

The Predator Free team have begun work in the important native bird and pakake/ sea lion birthing habitat of Warrington Spit where we are installing chew cards and tracking tunnels to help us understand predator numbers in this area before the roll out of predator control devices. If you would like to participate in this work, please reach out to info@haloproject.org.nz.

The Source to Sea team has completed their planting for 2023. A total of 230,599 native seedlings have been planted throughout the region since work began in 2021. The Source to Sea Project is currently seeking corporate sponsorship. If you would like to hear more about this opportunity to be involved in the great work we are doing, please contact Source to Sea Project Manager Jennifer Lawn at jennifer@haloproject.org.nz.

The Halo Project would like to thank volunteers who contributed 9,687 hours across both projects in 2023. It is only thanks to community support such as this that we are able to achieve our shared goals of enhancing, protecting and connecting with our landscape.

Warrington Spit Common Bird List

We used ebird.org to find this list of the most sighted native birds at Warrington Spit.

Bird	Conservation status
Kuaka/Bar-tailed Godwit	Declining
Tarāpuka/Black-billed Gull	Declining
Tōrea/South Island Oystercatcher	Declining
Karoro/Southern Black-backed Gull	Not threatened
Tarāpunga/Red-billed Gull	Declining
Tara/White-fronted Tern	Declining
Tētē-moroiti/Gray Teal	Not threatened
Tōrea pango/Variable Oystercatcher	Recovering
Pohowera/Double-banded Plover	Declining
Pūtangitangi/Paradise Shelduck	Not threatened
Kawau tikitiki/Spotted Shag	Nationally vulnerable
Poaka/Pied Stilt	Not threatened
Kawaupaka/Little shag	Relict
Spur-winged Plover	Not threatened
Taranui/Caspian Tern	Nationally vulnerable
Tauhou/Silvereye	Not threatened
Matuku moana/White-faced Heron	Not threatened
Kuruwhengi/Australasian Shoveler	Not threatened
Pārerā/Grey Duck	Nationally vulnerable
Warou/Welsh Swallow	Not threatened
Pūkeko	Not threatened



Trapinator



DOC200 Trap

Warrington Hall

On Sunday, 14 January the Hall Committee hosted a community get-together, an afternoon to reminisce of days gone by. We were amazed at how many folk showed up (approximately 70) and they all seemed to enjoy the afternoon.

Several people brought along photos and other items of interest which were put out on tables to be gone over. Our new sound system was put to use and Pete our Chairperson welcomed everyone then Daphne Henderson gave a talk on days from the past. Thanks Daphne it was most interesting to hear of days long ago.

We had a continual showing of photos on the screen and most of these were provided by long term resident Paul McHoull – thanks Paul. Christine had literally hundreds of photos from the Warrington Playcentre. In the near future we will have a get together of ex-Playcentre families where we will lay out the photos and put names to all of them. Also a good chance to use the hall and have a get together.

Liz brought along her late father's (Reg Stevens) Charity Cup trophy. This was for an annual game of cricket between Waitati and Warrington locals. Held at Bland Park it went from 1983 until it stopped in 1994. Maybe it's time to have another game to once again award the trophy after 30 years absence?

There were lots of other photos and books on display and this caused a lot of chatter and amazement about what used to happen in Warrington.

Ruth and Cliff Porteous had 2 indoor bowls on display and local bowlers hope that some of the folk present may wish to join us in late March to come along and spend Tuesday nights playing in the hall.

The Hall Committee would love to see the hall used a lot more. It is available most days/ nights to use. We, the committee do the administration but the hall belongs to all of us locals and we hope you will consider starting up a group or a one off to make the most of this great facility in our area.

Lyn Hastie, Secretary.

