

BLUESKIN NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER Est. 1985

MARCH 2024

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

CELEBRATIONS



Happy 1st Birthday Morgan



Happy 60th Birthday Lynley Copland
Pictured with her newest grandbaby



Congratulations to Michael and Sinead Harland
Married at their home on 3 February



Happy 60th Anniversary of your meeting in
Queenstown Mike and Anne, and Happy 77th
Birthday Anne

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plus lots more ...



Pūrākaunui School

One Waka. One Crew. Many Journeys.

We have had a wonderful start to 2024, with a positive buzz in the air as we have welcomed some new students and our new Teina Kaiako, Brendan Seal. Matua Brendan worked part time with us last year and has now joined us full time, teaching the Teina (junior) class in the mornings and the whole school some afternoons. We feel incredibly lucky to have Brendan on board with us, and to have such great student to teacher ratios which enable us to spend time focussing on individual needs and strengths

Our school was successful last year in applying for funding to take part in the 'Creatives in Schools' programme. This programme is an opportunity for schools to work with creative professionals to deliver inspiring learning experiences for ākonga and students. During Terms 1 and 2 we will partner with local creative Manu Berry to create a series of murals that reflect our WAKA and CREW values:

Wonder	Community
Awareness	Respect
Knowledge	Equality
Achievement	Wellbeing.

In addition to our artistic endeavours, we are introducing elective programs this year. Every student has had a chance to select their own Friday Elective programme (Hard Materials, Gardening, Food Technology, and Arts & Crafts) and we look forward to fostering our students' passions in these sessions.



Editor's Note

Hi everyone, welcome to March's issue of the Blueskin News. And supposedly to the beginning of Autumn. A couple of my trees are already changing colour but I fear this is more because of the lack of rain than a change in the seasons.

On that point the Fire Service is warning of the danger of fire around our homes and how we can minimise it (page 9), also the DCC has issued voluntary water restrictions for areas to the south and north of Blueskin Bay and although we aren't specifically included in the affected areas it seems like a good idea to heed them ourselves. Tips on water saving can be found at www.dunedin.govt.nz/services/water-supply/saving-water-tips.

On a lighter note there seems to be lots to look forward to in the next couple of months: the Craft Show at the Events Centre in Waikouaiti and a Poetry afternoon at the Warrington Hub on the first weekend of March; the South Dunedin Street Festival and an exciting concert in the Waitati Hall on 16 March; and Blueskin on Show on 7 April at the Showgrounds. This last is a great day out for the whole family and a chance to show off your skills at fruit and vegetable growing and preserving (see schedule page 10).

Meanwhile, congratulations to the community members celebrating on the front cover, I'd love to have a page like this every month. Also to Pūrākaunui School who look very busy and seem to enjoy a celebration. We will be featuring a different local school in colour for the next few issues.

Finally, a puzzle – 'If you have a bee in your hand what is in your eye?' – think about it!

Keep safe Bernie



Blueskin Bay Community Spaces

Warrington Hall

Available for birthdays, family gatherings, exercise classes, dances and dos etc, at reasonable rates. Hire includes a fully equipped kitchen and tables and chairs.

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

Halo Project

The Halo Project would love your help to monitor and learn about the local kororā/little blue penguins that reside along our coastline!

They are opening their bi-annual, burrow searching events to the public for the first time to help raise awareness of these vulnerable creatures. This will enable our community to effectively advocate for these animals by better understanding their density, location and vulnerabilities.

This is a great opportunity to visit some stunning spots, connect with passionate people and spend a couple of hours doing something unique and rewarding – the data collected contributing to our long-term population monitoring.

Suitable for a range of abilities and ages. Please RSVP to info@haloproject.org.nz

Kororā/little blue penguins spend a lot of time on land each year to breed, raise their young and moult. During February and March, they are 'moulting' which means they are growing an entirely new coat of feathers. While they are regrowing their feathers, they are unable to swim for food which can put them at risk of starvation. We can support them by keeping dogs on a lead and away from penguin habitat – rocky shorelines, crevices and caves, and supporting predator control in coastal areas.

Kororā/little blue penguin facts:

- They are the smallest penguin in the world at around 30cm tall, weighing approximately 1kg.
- They are the most common penguin on the shores of Aotearoa.
- They are primarily nocturnal on land, returning to their nest sites at dusk.
- Their conservation status is 'at risk-declining'.
- The main predators of penguins are sharks, sea lions and leopard seals.
- They often return to where they are hatched which makes our coastline a very special place.



Market Power

I first lived in Dunedin in 1977. I was part way through an apprenticeship with the New Zealand Electricity Department, heading to become the worst electrical fitter in NZED history. The day Elvis died (16th August), 2 tradesmen bound me with electrical tape and locked me in a cupboard. The lesson escapes me.

Despite failing to grasp electricity (except accidentally), I fondly remember those 4 years working in Te Wai Pounamu's isolated spots. Benmore, Aviemore, Waitaki dams. Over Dansey's Pass to sub-stations at Livingstone and Naseby. The Roxborough dam. Time at Manapouri power station, traversing mountain roads to Doubtful Sound to witness West Arm's water surge into Fiordland (they had drilled a 10 km tunnel!). Controversial when built, Manapouri remains an incredible feat of engineering. All this means I retain a keen interest in NZ's electricity sector. Oh how things have changed.

Neo-liberalism, introduced in the 1980's, disbanded the NZED and created a mish-mash of de-centralized entities. Transpower remains government owned, while Genesis, Mercury and Meridian have 51% Government shareholding. Contact is 100% private. Swept up in the frenzied belief in the power of the market, privatisation was employed to improve NZ's electricity

sector – make it more efficient ... more profitable ... cheaper for consumers (how's that going?). Finance Minister Bill English said during John Key's reign "... one of the theoretical strength's of the market is its ability to clear away inefficiency".

And our coalition government are at it again. They have repealed the Investment in Decarbonizing Industry Fund, believing a comprehensive emissions trading scheme (read ... The Market!) will entice industries to decarbonize. Once again they are abdicating responsibility to a "theoretical strength", while ignoring the obvious – capitalism and its markets are driving us toward climate catastrophe.

US economist James Carville famously said in 1992, "it's the economy, stupid". Yeah well... I'd say to him and his ilk, "it's the environment, stupid".

Doug Nuttall

BLUESKIN GARDEN CLUB

Hello to all the gardeners and garden lovers out there.

With the increase in temperature I am noticing my garden is now extremely dry so I am having to water regularly. There is a lot of work harvesting to be done in February -the reward for all the hard work we have put into the garden. We are especially enjoying the new seasons carrots, sugar snap peas and top 100 tomatoes.

Our February garden club activity saw many of our members attending the South Island Dahlia Show held at the Waikouaiti Hall followed by visits to local gardens and a Devonshire tea at St. John's Church in Beach Street.

Our March activity will also be about dahlias. We are fortunate to have Stuart Brown coming to talk to us on how to grow beautiful dahlias. This will be held in the Waitati Hall on March 14 from 7pm. All are welcome.

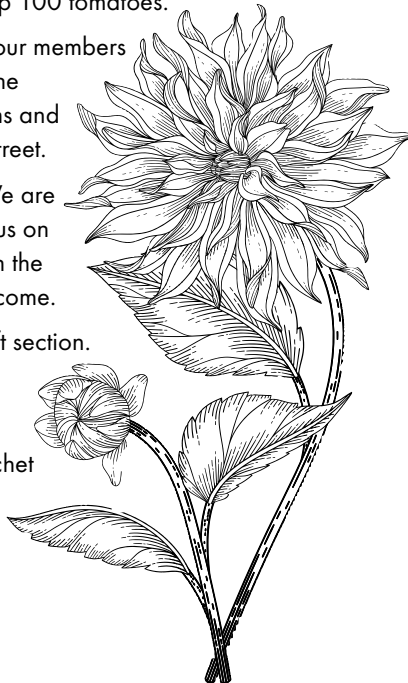
Now, a heads up for the Spring flower show craft section.

The classes this year are:

1. A dressed doll in any medium.
2. 3 dish clothes each one different- knitted, crotchet or sewn.
3. A child's jumper 0-5years.
4. A pair of socks.

So get busy everyone!

Bev Lyons



Warrington Indoor Bowls

Our 2024 season will open on Tuesday 2 April at 7.30pm in the Warrington Hall.

Come and challenge yourself to a game requiring far more skill the non-players realise! There is no age restriction for players and all equipment is provided.

At the recent NZ Master Games Indoor Bowls in Dunedin twelve players who began their bowling career at Warrington Club were medal winners! What does that say about our club!

See you on 2 April. For more information contact 482 2849

Ruth Porteous

Peeling yourself off the couch

Heya, fellow couch potatoes! Let's talk about that "exercise" thing. Yeah, I know, it can be right up there tucked behind those old envelopes, "taxes" and 5796 emails on the list of round-to-it things. However, hopefully here's some down-to-earth tips to help kick our collective butts into groove and get moving more.



First things first, let's ditch the guilt trip. We've all been there, promising ourselves we'll hit the gym tomorrow and then feeling like a failure when tomorrow becomes next week. Instead of beating yourself up, embrace the fact that you're human. Laugh at your excuses, then throw them out the window like yesterday's pizza box... Mmmm pizza.

So..., how to get moving? Find your exercise soulmate. No, not a fitness guru who can run marathons in their sleep (I wish), but an activity that doesn't feel like torture, and maybe fun. Whether it's getting outside for a walk, busting out a groove in your living room (look up YouTube dance workout), walk chats instead of snack chats, or popping on some headphones and getting out in nature, do what makes you happy. Bonus points if it makes you laugh out loud - laughter burns calories!

Recruit a buddy. Misery loves company, right? Drag a buddy along for the ride, preferably someone who's down to earth and understands we all gotta start somewhere. Together, you can turn exercise into a hilarious adventure filled with awkward yoga poses and failed attempts at push-up-ferps.

And finally, reward yourself. Not with a pack of chocolate biscuits (tempting, I know), but with something that makes you feel good. Maybe it's a bubble bath, 15

min me time, read a good book, or a treat from any one of our fine venues and shops around the bay. Whatever floats your boat, use it as motivation to lace up those sneakers and hit the go button. I know two folks that go to an exercise class then have a catch-up coffee together and enjoy some peanut butter and a damn fine chat. Look around, there's some great local exercise classes/groups, some superb beaches and forests right at our fingertips.

So there you have it, folks - a foolproof (kinda, well it's a start) guide to getting off your butt and into your leg warmers and flouro pink aerobics suit. Life's too short to take yourself too seriously. Embrace the silliness, sweat it out! Nah, just get moving. Start small, increase a little over time. Your future self will thank you and you might just enjoy yourself a little.

Dell



Looking to uplift your life?

One Day Yuan Qigong Retreat, Waitati 10 March

Did you know there are 9 Yuan Qigong teachers in Dunedin and 4 of them are living in Waitati?

Yuan Gong is a comprehensive Qigong system. It is a practice of beautiful moving and still meditations, using the body, mind, breath and Qi (energy). Its foundations rest in Chinese tradition, but western scientific and psychological findings are incorporated, so Yuan Qigong is a comprehensive discipline.

This system has been taught in Dunedin and Waitati for over 10 years already. This year, we, your local teachers, will continue to offer day retreats, workshops and classes for you to either further deepen your ability to uplift your life, or to experience Yuan Qigong and its benefits for the first time.

Practicing Yuan Qigong helps us to deeply relax, to increase mental clarity, it improves internal strength and stability, and helps us understand the patterns of thought that inadvertently support negative emotions and illness.

This year will be a big year for us as Yuan Tze, the founder of this system, will be leading a 10 day retreat in November 2024, open to everyone, at Knox College in Dunedin. Something to look forward to!

Join us on our first one day retreat of the year!

When? Sunday 10 March | 9.30am – 4.00pm

Where? Waitati Hall

Cost? \$65 waged or \$40 for students and low income

For more information and to book, visit our website or e-mail us:

Website: www.yuanqigongdunedin.co.nz

E-mail: qigongdunedin@gmail.com

Sabine Margesin



INDUSTRIAL STRENGTH POETRY

Readers

Richard Reeve • Kirstie McKinnon • Nick Ascroft
David Karena-Holmes • Michael Steven

Waiputai Hub Warrington

10 Stephenson Street | 12:30pm | Saturday 2 March



Wild Dunedin

The 9th Wild Dunedin Festival is Coming in April. The Wild Dunedin team are thrilled to announce that our popular Festival is on again in the school holidays 19 – 28 April.

This year our Festival is focusing on huarere/weather. What makes Dunedin's weather special? How can I plan my vegetable garden and orchard for the changing weather? Why are clouds important for Orokonui Ecosanctuary? These and many other questions will be answered for you along with the opportunity to visit many home and community open gardens including Jason Ross's garden at Waitati and the Puketeraki Māra Kai, workshops on composting and permaculture, deals on wildlife tourism trips, and much more.

Because it's in the school holidays, the Festival is a great opportunity for friends and family to visit Dunedin for 10 days of fascinating events celebrating Ōtepoti as the wildlife capital of Aotearoa.

Old favourites such as Suzy Cato's event for children with the Wildlife Hospital, Wildlife ER, sessions on bees, including one at Blueskin Nursery, yoga, plogging, diving in a kelp forest, deals on indoor bouldering, bird watching and sessions on bird photography – there's something for everyone at this year's Festival.

A highlight of the 2023 Festival, the hugely popular Art Play in Nature at Chingford Park is on again, bigger and better. Artists Janet de Wagt, Pamela Brown and Kerry Mackay will work with all ages to create a giant tapestry/collage on the Bridal Lawn using nature's materials such as autumn leaves, twigs and cones. Conservation groups, musicians, displays, and food and coffee will make for a wonderful day celebrating nature.

Libraries, Tūhura Otago Museum and Toitū are all hosting many events, there will be fine dining at three restaurants, boat trips, a session on making gin, and opportunities to help yellow-eyed penguins. Bookings are open for a Wild Night Masquerade at Larnach Castle with transport provided from town, in support of yellow-eyed penguins.

To book for the Wild Night go to www.wilddunedin.nz.

The programme will be launched on 15 March, printed and online, and bookings for all other events can be made then. We'll be handing out programmes and doing free face painting at the South Dunedin Street Festival on Saturday 16 March. Programmes will be available at all public libraries and mobile libraries.

To keep up to date and see the programme when it's live, become a Friend of Wild Dunedin on the website. Follow us on Facebook NZ Festival of Nature.

WAITATI BOOK CLUB by Ian Melvin

We have changed our meeting day to Friday to try and work in with Scott's busy schedule and lo and behold it seems to have worked, well this time anyhow, as the two of us set off over the hill to Purakaunui and Ross's place, for the first meeting of the year. With Scott being on the ground and in the thick of it at Waitangi this year it was very interesting to hear his impressions of what turned out to be an historic and momentous occasion.

THE BOOK

Lumen: by **Ben Pastor (Maria Verbena Volpi)**. A nun is murdered in Nazi occupied Cracow and Wehrmacht Captain Martin Bora must investigate. Peter chose this book and started the ball rolling in our discussion by apologising as he felt it didn't meet his expectations being badly written with many historical errors etc. But somehow the seemingly unimpressive books lead to the most lively discussions. Many enjoyed it for a variety of reasons, exactly why our discussions are so rewarding – that others see merit in aspects of the story or how it is written that you may have overlooked.

OTHER BOOKS

Kapiti Coast Poems, a wonderful little book of poetry found in the shelves of a second hand bookstore somewhere... written by an eclectic variety of locals from the area, includes one by **Sam Hunt** and the following:

Shadows On The Floor by **Frank Beaufort**

Along with the men and boys
And women and boys
There are shadows on the floor
Shadows that jiggle and jump
And dance and cavort
And probably sing (very quietly)
To the music made by the train
And have an altogether better time
Than the people standing above.

From the list of contributors:

Robert Lamb – I've got one leg, two bikes, eighteen tattoos, a retarded cat, and a doubtful past... say when!

Tony Bartinshaw – Born 1954 , not a bad year!

BEER

Beer – a gift from my neighbor and friend Roger, a fellow appreciator of good beer and single malt whisky.

Badass Beverages Disko Inferno Schwarzbier - Black Label 4.5 % abv. Took it along to book club and thoroughly enjoyed it. Everything you could possibly ask of a dark beer 'pulses to the beat of subtle chocolate notes', 'uplifting chorus of noble hops...' etc etc blah blah bla...

MUSIC

Bought at Whare Flat – **Wiser** the long awaited album from **Tall Folk** a local duo **Lara Robertson** and **Jack Ringhead**. This is a very good album, not one song on here doesn't shine. Highly recommend this, great harmonies, great band, great songs! You can try on *Empire Radio* – *Tall Folk* – *YouTube*.

OTHER STUFF

With Louise's help, Sue organised a small gathering of friends and supporters in the library meeting room to hear and watch on the big screen Scott's maiden speech in Parliament. This was great fun as with drinks in hand we cheered him along and also the other two Green Party speakers. Great way to mark and share the occasion, he did himself and us proud by the way. Grateful thanks to Sue for organising.

WORD OF THE MONTH

Shopping

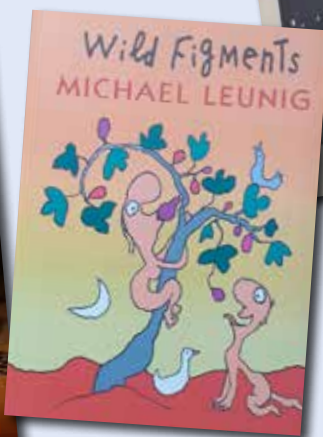
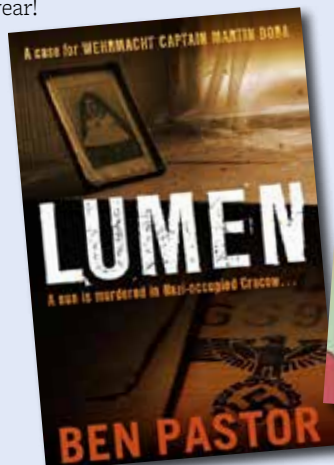
"...the shop was too elegant, the changing room too small, the trousers too tight, the mirror was too awful, the sales person poked her head in too soon, he tripped over too easily, and rolled out into the shop too clumsily , the cleaner swept him out too unthinkingly, he landed in the industrial waste bin too rapidly, was dumped at the rubbish tip too brutally, where he found a pair of trousers that fitted absolutely perfectly..."

MEANING OF LIFE

"A HERBAL remedy for LIFEACHE"
"You suffer from life ache, Your whole life is sore, it hurts when you move it. Herbal Remedy: take a patch of grass, a mild day, and two large green trees, lie on the grass beneath one tree and contemplate the other tree, nap from time to time, or gaze occasionally at the grass. Pain will subside, lifeache cannot be cured, but you can learn to MANAGE THE SYMPTOMS."

For Janet – but I'm sure she knows this already.

Quotes from **Wild Figments** by **Michael Leunig**





Rachel Dawick

New Album – *'London Labour and the London Poor'*

"The first attempt to publish the history of a people, from the lips of the people themselves – giving a literal description of their labour, their earnings, their trials,

and their sufferings, in their own "unvarnished" language; and to portray the condition of their homes and their families by personal observation of the places, and direct communication with the individuals."

(Mayhew's Preface to *'London Labour and the London Poor'*)

Rachel Dawick is a New Zealand folk artist whose previous album, *'The Boundary Riders'*, was finalist for the NZ Tui Award Folk Album 2015. She returns after living in London for the last four years with her new folk album and book *'London Labour and the London Poor'*, based on Henry Mayhew's work from the mid 1850's when he took to the streets to interview east Londoners, releasing these interviews as part of a series of articles in the Chronicle Paper and later as a three volume book. The songs focus on the voices of the people themselves – ranging from Jack Black, the Queen's Rat Catcher, the teenage Mudlark, the Rhubarb and Spice Seller, The Acrobat, the Punch & Judy Man and many more – all to recreate a snapshot of life on the streets. This socio-political work by Mayhew is a fitting album for today's times as the same issues arise, voices that seem to echo the past. This album will be released in New Zealand over March – May 2024 before being released in the UK at the end of 2024.

Dawick's previous album and book *'The Boundary Riders'* explored the 'hidden voices' of the working class women who left the UK to NZ in the 1800s. This three year research into local archives and hidden stories of NZ's working class women was released on 19 September 2014 (NZ Women's Vote Day 1893).

Waitati Hall will once again host international artist and musician Rachel Dawick

Saturday 16 March | 7.30pm | Doorsales \$20

*Don't miss out
she only comes over from the UK once in a blue moon!*

The album took her on a musical journey from Tui Award finalist for best NZ Folk Album in 2015 to being selected as one of forty Musical Theatre at the BEAM festival in London on 8 and 9 March 2016 – a showcase of emerging British Musical Theatre Writing. Since 2017 she has been part of BML (Book Music Lyric) as a lyricist and composer in London developing her skills in Musical Theatre Writing, before finding herself in London during Covid teaching in schools. It has been here that she has developed her material and developed a picture of London past and present.

Waikouaiti Coast Heritage Centre

Here at the WCHC we are settling into another year of visitors, building restoration and a probable change of long-term volunteers.

In 2023 we saw over a thousand visitors come through our doors, a first for us, not unexpected as each year since opening the new building we have seen a steady increase in numbers. We have particularly enjoyed having groups coming to Waikouaiti to visit the heritage centre and to see and learn about the district. Our recent group was from the Taieri, who were most effusive in their praise of both our premises, wishing they'd had more time to spend with us.

Work continues behind the scenes on the restoration of the old bank building, we recently had an expert in heritage tiling come to appraise our roof as well as a builder to examine our roof timbers and give an estimation on the verandah renovation (or not). There has also been a suggestion for a regular monthly day for cleaning the interior of the building. If this interests you (a couple of hours only) then please contact me or call in to the Heritage Centre. We are also extending an invitation to all locals to undertake a **FREE guided tour of the building on Easter Saturday (10am – 3pm)**. An opportunity for a before and after restoration experience.

Finally, our probable change of long-term volunteers relates to Bill and Kay Lang, who have been hugely influential in our achievements over the past twelve years. All going well they plan to return to Australia later this year to be closer to family. John Scott has kindly agreed to take over the role of Collections Manager, John is well known for his facebook page illustrating the history of the East Otago area. Other volunteer members of our group have taken on roles that either Kay or Bill have had responsibility for. As always, we encourage more local people to join our group becoming involved in learning about the area's history and meeting interesting heritage centre visitors. Just get in touch to find out more.

Shirley McKewen, Treasurer



WARNING Hot and dry weather

Fire and Emergency New Zealand's Otago District Manager Phil Marsh asks that people are cautious in these conditions and do not carry out activities that pose a fire risk, such as mowing, welding, and driving through long grass. "But if you must mow your lawn or undertake any farm activity that's likely to generate sparks, do it first thing in the morning when it is still cool," he says.

People can also take simple steps to make their properties easier to defend against fire. These include:

- Clearing flammable material from 10m around homes and buildings.
- Moving firewood stacked against houses
- Clearing gutters of dried leaves etc that will easily catch fire
- Clearing flammable material from under decks
- Trimming trees and bushes and removing the trimmings
- Keeping grass short (using a trimmer with a nylon line is safer in these conditions than a mower or trimmer with a metal blade that could create a spark)

Go to www.checkitsalright.nz for further tips on how to stay fire safe.



Wowzers, how is it March already?!? We hope 2024 is treating you well so far!

Quick Quiz - do your plans for the year include any of the following?

- Spending more quality time with your kids?
- Growing your village and getting to know your community?
- Adding some awesome games and play ideas to your parenting arsenal to reduce the temptation of screens?
- Supporting your child's learning and development through play?
- Having fun?

If yes, then maybe Blueskin Playcentre is just the place for you! We are a small parent-led Playcentre, located next to Waitati Kura. Our families live in the Blueskin area and enjoy being involved in our Playcentre community. We have a love of the natural environment, playing outside, music, art, messy play and child-led learning. Visitors are always welcome so why not come and check it out?

This year we have a new educator joining us. Kimberleigh is a Mum of three young children, as well as an Early Childhood Teacher, so she brings a wonderful blend of professional expertise and lived experience to the role. 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. So if you've exhausted your ideas for keeping the wee ones busy at home, then come on down for something new and exciting!

We are open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays during term time 8.45am - 12:15pm. 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!

Hei konā mai, Cara



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

The Treaty of Waitangi is a flawed document.

Throughout its 184 years there have been debates, interpretations, rulings, judgements, and protests over its meaning. The process is evolving and nuanced and has brought many benefits.

What makes me happy?

- Being part of a 1500 strong hiko that marched to the Octagon on Waitangi day in support of the Treaty.
- Hearing te reo scattered in everyday language.
- Being part of a NZ that can say sorry for its past wrongs and attempt reparation.
- Hapū that walk the talk like Kati Huirapa who have demonstrated great commitment over many years to protecting the moana from Karitane to Blueskin Bay.
- Books that are uplifting and speak to me (*This pākehā life: An unsettled memoir* by Alison Jones)
- Marae that open their doors in crisis (cyclones, earthquakes, covid)

What makes me sad?

- People who feel threatened by Māori initiatives and wish to derail the Treaty process. Māori initiatives are rarely exclusive. From the earliest days of the Waitangi Tribunal that stopped sewage flowing into the Manukau harbour to present time where Ngai Tahu is leading construction of a Health hub in Caversham, they bring benefits to many.

So let us celebrate our founding document with all its flaws, remembering that it provides just one of many pathways leading to the same outcome: respect and dignity for all.

Sue Hensley

(5th generation Kiwi, tangata tiriti)



Kia Ora Whānau o Waitati, Back to school for 2024. The first day back is always a special day. Children's faces glowing with smiles some with nervousness, some with tiredness after getting up early, a shock to the system after the relative quietness of the holidays faced with other children, and teachers with a list of things to do.

Our overarching provocation this year is Turangawaewae. Where we stand, identity, connectedness, character. Identity of ourselves, knowing who we are as learners and citizens, and Tuakiri, Identity with others. We have such richness in the amazing small rural schools of North East Otago it will be great to come together more often.

This term we begin our third Creatives in Schools project, a contestable well-being programme delivered by the Ministry of Education in partnership with the Ministry of Culture and Heritage Te Manatū Taonga and Creative New Zealand. This year we work with Jamie Prout and Lovey Crossman-Nixon. Whaia te pae tawhiti kia tata/ Explore beyond the distant horizon and draw it near. We are writing music, producing and sharing it.

We have Swamp School open once a week with Nathan Parker where children experience the richness of our environment. Of course at Waitati School those 8 years and above get to play in the swamp every break time.

"We could have never loved the earth so well if we had not had childhood in it." **George Eliot.**

Our ceramics studio opens once a week for children with Steven our local ceramic artist coming in to teach the children and of course we have Bee Club once a week, thanks to Pete. All options for children coming to Waitati School. Don't forget our Ceramics Studio is open to the community Wednesday evenings. If you are interested please email our office.

Our Year 7-8's are going to Stewart Island in a couple of weeks which will give them a rich experience of another New Zealand environment. While there they will begin their 2024 William Pike Challenge adding in several outdoor challenges and community service.

We continue to learn read and writing and learn math every day. The explicit teaching allows children confidently learn implicitly in a rich environment using their self directed skills.

2024 fundraising – We would love to re-install our Flying Fox. I was wondering if anyone had any stories about the Fox? I am guessing it was installed 50 years ago? If you do could you email them in to office@waitati.school.nz. A much loved asset of Waitati. If you are able to donate or support our fundraising efforts, we would be ever so grateful.

BLUESKIN ON SHOW

Produce Schedule

Organised by the Blueskin Garden Club

Blueskin A&P Society 'Blueskin on Show Day.'

7 April 2024

Entry Requirements

- All sections are open to all age groups
- Entries for produce etc is between 9.30am and 11am on the day.
- All vegetables, fruit and flowers must have been grown in your own garden.
- Please bring your own containers for display and water for flowers
- Display of entries will open to view after 11.30am
- Entries must be collected between 3pm and 3.15pm

Please note any unclaimed produce will be donated to the Waitati Anti Scurvy pantry at the Library

Produce Section

Vegetables

1. carrots 3
2. onions 3
3. potatoes 3
4. garlic 3
5. beetroot 3
6. pumpkin 1
7. silverbeet 1 bunch
8. any other vegetable

Preserves

1. jar of pickles
2. jar of relish or chutney
3. bottle of savoury sauce
4. jar of jelly
5. jar of jam
6. jar of preserved fruit
7. jar of preserved beetroot
8. any other preserve not mentioned

Fruit

1. eating apples 3
2. cooking apples 3
3. pears 3
4. tomatoes 3
5. cherry tomatoes 3
6. small bowl berry fruit
7. any other fruit not mentioned

Flowers

1. Tussie Mussie – flowers and herbs
2. Rose – one stem, single bloom
3. Rose – one stem, multi bloom
4. Hydrangea – one head
5. any other flower not mentioned
6. a vase of mixed NZ natives

Novelty

1. biggest root vegetable
2. character carrot
3. longest bean
4. fattest rhubarb

Other

1. a basket of mixed fruit and vegetables

A Display Box of Garden Produce grown at local schools and play centres

Visit the Blueskin Garden Club marquee to purchase Plants

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

Public Holidays

Monday 25 March - closed for Otago Anniversary Day

Friday 29 March - closed for Good Friday

Saturday 30 March - the Library is open 10am - 1pm

Monday 1 April - closed for Easter Monday

Easter Activities

26, 27, 28 March

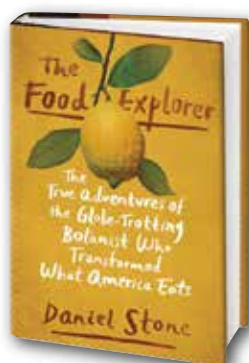
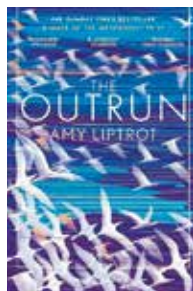
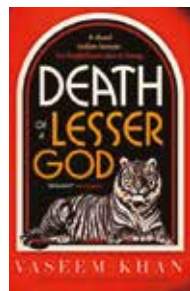
Hop in to the Library for some Easter themed craft activities.



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.



Bookshare

**Thursday 28 March,
3.30-4.30pm**

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

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+.

Suggest an Item

We welcome your suggestions of items that should be added to our collections. Pick up a **Suggest An Item** form from the Library and use it to pass on your thoughts and ideas to our selection staff.

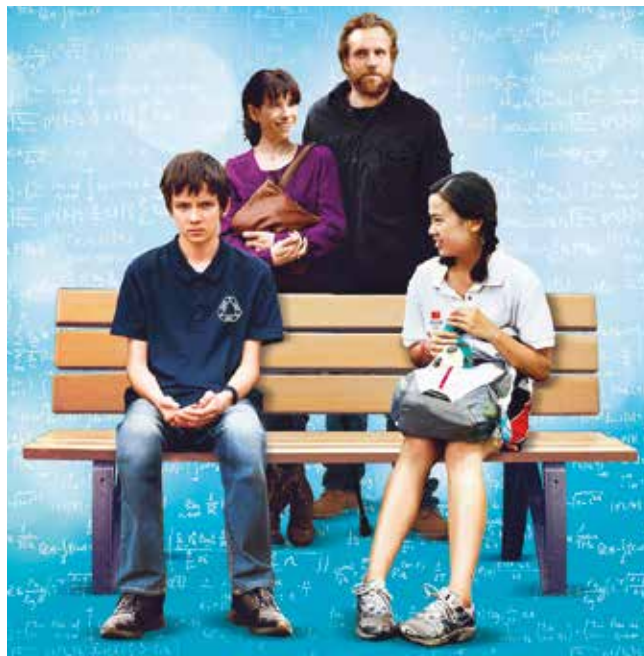
If your suggestion is purchased, a hold will be placed for you, provided you have ticked the hold option.

Please check our **New Items** (www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/collections/new-titles) before placing your request.



Beamafilm

There are over a thousand great movies to stream for free if you are a Library member. Titles are now searchable on the library catalogue. This month's staff pick: X+Y.



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.

George Street Orchard Inspiration

I joined a New Zealand edible gardening face book group a year or so ago, but I got annoyed by all the people chatting about things it is impossible to grow down here. Braggers! They were discussing their banana crops, kumara growing techniques, and the diseases of passion fruit vines. "In my dreams" I thought, and created a South Island edible gardening page, hoping to avoid kumara envy.

For my most recent birthday my sister gave me a voucher for a guided tour of the George street orchard. I saved our trip for when I thought there might be a good range of fruits to see. We went for our tour a few days ago, and if I could only use one word to describe this orchard, it would be "inspiring".

Rory Harding has planted a huge variety of fruiting plants in the backyard of his big brick house on George Street. The garden is surrounded on all sides by brick wall (which must hold a lot of warmth), but it is shaded by a 2 story motel on the North side, and the 2 story brick house on the West side, and yet still manages to be a super-intensive and productive garden.

Some apples are grown using the espalier method, and every bit of under story has something productive growing in it.

His method of finding the right place for each tree and shrub is to move it around, or buy another one and plant it in a better position. He then chops down and chips the remains of any which don't live up to expectations. They then become part of the mulch layer.

I was super impressed with the passion-fruit vine, which was growing in the sunniest corner of the garden and had a feijoa tree as a forest canopy layer to protect it from frost.

There was also a grafted avocado tree in this corner. He had tested avocados grown from seed (which can take 30 years to produce fruit), to see if they could cope with the climate, before forking out for an expensive grafted plant which will fruit much sooner. Rory also had a mandarin in this favoured corner (I bet he wishes he had more favoured corners).

The funniest thing for me was to spot some kumara growing happily in a sunny spot of ground used as a vegetable patch between the trees. I am not sure that he will get much of a crop, but I am pretty impressed all the same. I am surprised there wasn't a banana tree tucked away somewhere, though there was a hardy variety of pawpaw or papaya. I am pretty sure that if it is possible to grow something in this garden, then it would already be thriving there.



I might try a passion-fruit vine somewhere at ours, perhaps under the veranda. I'd love to try a mandarin. At least we have a lot more space, but I think we also have more frost.

I guess you just have to try, experiment, move things around, and find that ideal spot. I might even try growing some kumara and brag about it on my Facebook group.

Hilary Rowley

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Gosh! That was HUGE fun!

The night started off with the duo Nouveau Retro singing some bluegrass style songs, including a fun country version of Radiohead's Creep and an original banjo piece. Harmonies. Gotta love harmonies. Nicola and Nikki braved the keyboards and the microphone and proved to be the catalysts for encouraging people to perform. Nick, who of course needs no introduction, wowed the crowd with his historical wind instruments and pieces. Jaws were dropped, is all I can say. Thankfully, the lovely people of the Blueskin Gallery plied those dropped jaws with food, drink and sound mixing. And then.... drum roll... Pip on keyboard, Emma on violin and vocals, Nick on viola, Jenny playing bass on cello, the two Nikkis on vocals, there was a harmonica at some stage, a fabulous jam session where songs were invented, reinvented, restyled, regurgitated and so on, you get the picture.

If you want to be a part, be assured that it's open to all levels of musicianship, and all types, contact Jenny on 027 582 1300. Next Open Mic Night is Sat 9 March, spaces are starting to fill, but there are some spots available. There's a rumour that Elton John may make an appearance, but you didn't hear that from me.

Jennifer Gleeson



Around the Bay – March Events

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

BLUESKIN LIBRARY	
Tuesday 26, Wednesday 27 Thursday 28	Easter Activities: Hop in to the Library for some Easter themed craft activities.
Thursday 28	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	
Saturday 2	Industrial Poetry Afternoon: 12.30pm Readings by renown NZ poets, including Richard Reeve, Kirstie McKinnon, Nick Ascroft, David Karena-Holmes, & Michael Steven. FREE.
TUESDAYS	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 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	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 3	Village Market: 11.00am Contact: Mandy

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

WAITATI HALL	
Sunday 10	One Day Yuan Qigong Retreat 9.30am – 4pm. \$65 waged or \$40 for students and low income. Contact: Sabine 021 207 0664
Saturday 16	International artist and musician Rachel Dawick 7.30pm Doorsales \$20
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 3	Live music in the courtyard: 1 – 3pm
Wednesday 6	Quiz: 7 – 9pm
Saturday 9	Open Mic Night: from 7pm
Sunday 10	Music in the courtyard: Paul Allen and Bella 1 – 3pm
Wednesday 13	Mingle and Games: from 7pm
Sunday 17	Live music in the courtyard
Wednesday 27	Gentle Jazz with Paper Moon

WASTE RECYCLING – WEEK TWO	
Monday 4	Paper and Plastic Recycling Yellow Bin at your gate early
Monday 11	Bottle Recycling Blue Bin at your gate early
Monday 18	Paper and Plastic Recycling Yellow Bin at your gate early
Monday 25	Bottle Recycling Blue Bin at your gate early

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11 MAGAZINE ROAD, WINGATUI



233 LEITH VALLEY ROAD, LEITH VALLEY

JUST SOLD



12 SOUTER STREET, MOSGIEL



36 BAY ROAD, WARRINGTON



24 SOPER ROAD, WINGATUI

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FOR SALE
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FOR SALE
20 Kilgour St, Seacliff

A helpful, honest agent, Kirsty has been great in helping us navigate the sale of our very loved home. She's gone above and beyond with advice and help. Thanks Kirsty!
5 Stars - Verified by RateMyAgent



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Property Consultant
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Coffee group for parents and children (under 5)
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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
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Fundamentals Of Meditation - Theory & Practice

*"The teachings have changed my life. The gnostic
approach is to work with loving kindness which brings
understanding and insight that leads to a greater clarity of
being."*

*Two of the many aspects of life that require attention are
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breath and relaxation we begin a journey I wish all to be
part of.*

*We live in a time that requires wisdom, peace, clarity of
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Colleen Robb

If you wish to engage on a marvellous journey, you
are invited to enrol for our 12 week Fundamentals of
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For further details contact **Colleen Robb** ciga.
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**Sunday,
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A6 = 148 x 105 Quarter page advertisement \$75
A7 = 105 x 74 Business Card size \$30
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WAITATI YELLOW BIN RECYCLING TALK & BEESWAX WRAP WORKSHOP

Thanks Rowan from EnviroWaste for the Q&As and Jennie Upton for running free beeswax wraps workshop. Also thanks to the DCC waste minimisation grant to OneCoast for the funding.



NEW KERBSIDE BINS

From 1 July 2024, we're improving your kerbside recycling and rubbish service.



Look inside your new bins for an information booklet and a benchtop food scraps bin.

Remember - only put your new bins out for collection from 1 July 2024.

BETWEEN MID-MARCH AND MID-JUNE YOU'LL RECEIVE:

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THE WIDER BLUESKIN BAY AREA IS ON SHOW

Blueskin Agricultural & Pastoral Society Inc.



BLUESKIN SHOW DAY

Celebrating our wildlife & community

SUNDAY 7th APRIL 2024

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